



Pen City Current

Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017 | 8 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 197

FM has \$50K unclaimed Powerball ticket

Ticket was sold June 6 at Casey's on east end of town

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Dig deep in your wallets, look under the car seats, check the sofas. Someone pur-

chased a \$50,000 winning Powerball ticket in Fort Madison and it's still unclaimed.

According to Mary Neubauer, Vice President for External Relations with Iowa Lottery, the ticket was purchased for the June 10th Powerball drawing at the East end Caseys at 1208 Avenue H.

"It's been more than two months now that that ticket has been sitting out there unclaimed," Neubauer said. "But don't worry, there is still plenty of time to claim the

prize."

She said Powerball tickets in Iowa expire 365 days after the draw day. If that day were to fall on a holiday or a weekend, their would be additional time added. She said this particular ticket would expire on June 11, 2018.

"A couple of months is little unusual for a prize that

See **WINNER**, page 8

Former ISP site option for regional ed. center

Site would require \$200K state study

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A group of about 15 economic and education officials took a tour of a section of the former Iowa State Penitentiary as part of diligence work in putting together plans for a regional education center.

Officials from local banks, industries, schools and economic development officials toured the former habitat section of the prison industries facilities where cabinets and materials were constructed for all Habitat For Humanity projects across Iowa.

ISP Executive officer Rebecca Bowker escorted the group through the facility which is located under the old prison gymnasium. Some



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Bryan Langerud, plant manager at Pinnacle Foods, south of Fort Madison looks over a library in the former Habitat industries complex at the former Iowa State Penitentiary. Langerud, along with, left to right, Rebecca Bowker, Jason Huffman, Dennis Fraise and Matt Morris, among other busines, industry and educational leaders, toured that section of the prison as part of ongoing research into a regional education center in Lee County.

of the rooms toured were the prison library, several cabinet construction rooms, an industrial sewing room and other auxilliary rooms used in the industries programs. 14,000 square foot.

Several rooms still had boots and books and construction materials just where they were

left when the units were closed down.

The group has been touring regional education centers to get a sense for how successful programs are put together and find out what kind of programming is in place and what types of funds are going to be needed to get the pro-

gram up and running.

Bowker said a study, required by the Department of Natural Resources and administered through the state's Department of Administrative Services, would need to be completed before any additional physical progress could take place.

"The study was researched in 2015 would cost \$150,000 to \$200,000 and would be administered by DAS, but that includes the whole campus and all the structures," Bowker said. "Maybe a smaller study could be done

See **STUDY**, page 8

Boom rattles windows Tuesday

Top theory is military fighter jet

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Local authorities are chalking a large boom this morning to a sonic boom most likely from a jet overhead.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said he was making a call to the Federal Aviation Administration to see if a jet was overhead but hadn't heard anything definitive.

The sound seems to have been more audible over the Montrose area.

Steve Cirrina, the Lee County Emergency Management Services director said he heard the noise this morning a little after 11 and ran outside of his home in Montrose.

See **BOOM**, page 4

Advertiser Index

| | | | |
|--|-------|------------------------------|--------|
| Big Buckle Bash | P.6 | Kensington..... | P.8 |
| Boulders Inn & Suites | P.6 | KLM Realty | P.5 |
| Classifieds | P.5-6 | Pen City Current | P.5 |
| Eternelle' Beaute' | P.6 | River City Motors | P.5 |
| Great River Regional Waste Authority | P.3 | Riverview Games | P.6 |
| Griffin Muffler & Brake Center | P.2 | Rodeo Park Rehab | P.6 |
| Holy Trinity Catholic | P.5 | Thomas Klann State Farm..... | P.6 |
| Hope Associates Real Estate | P.5 | Trailways Travel..... | P.4 |
| Hill Side Inn | P.6 | Tri-State Rodeo | P.7 |
| Lee County Bank Mobile | P.4 | West Liberty Foods..... | Ps.5,8 |
| Lee County Health Dept. | P.8 | | |

News Index

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| For the Record..... | P.3 |
| From the front..... | P.8 |
| Local News..... | Ps.2, 4 |
| Lottery Numbers..... | P.3 |
| Weather..... | P.8 |

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Local News

FMCH recognizes patients' Guardian Angels

Surgical unit, ER nurse recognized for service

BY PCC STAFF
FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Community Hospital Foundation is pleased to announce the recognition of these FMCH Guardian Angels. Jessica Teeter (Cardiopulmonary), Arsenia Smith (Medical-Surgical Unit) and Janice Brown (Medical-Surgical Unit): "I had a hard time putting my gratitude into words. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for being there in my time of need. I feel so blessed that my Mother was in your loving care during her final moments. I feel so blessed that I was able

wasn't nice and I was so embarrassed. Genessa should have not dealt with that behavior. Genessa was so nice to myself and my daughter. Hats off Genessa you ROCK. The Guardian Angel program allows patients to recognize outstanding FMCH employees by giving a monetary donation to the FMCH Foundation. Employees receiving the honor are awarded a Guardian Angel pin and certificate. If you would like more information about the FMCH Foundation or how you can nominate someone as a Guardian Angel, contact Carrie Green, FMCH Foundation Executive Director at 319-376-2747.



Janice Brown



Genessa Meir



Aresenia Smith



Jessica Teeter

For the Record/Lottery Numbers

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
 08/14/17 - 9:01 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 1200 block of 38th Street. 08/14/17 - 1:06 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a property damage accident at the intersection

of 7th Street and Avenue D.
Lee County Sheriff's report
 08/14/17 - 11:05 a.m. - Lee County Deputies arrested Lawrence Edward Sherrill, Jr., 59, of Keokuk, in the 400 block of South 4th Street on a warrant for violation of probation.

Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue
 08/14/17 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one medical call and one gas leak.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

A worker with Keokuk Contractors washing down a ditch Tuesday morning as part of construction work being done on Avenue G just south of the former Iowa State Penitentiary..

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Charles Vandenberg, Editor
 (319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager
 (319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

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Pen City Current
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 P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

Nissa Rung, Advertising
 (319).520.8953
n.rung@pencitycurrent.com

Shawna Ross, Advertising
 (319).470.0622
sross@pencitycurrent.com

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Iowa Lottery WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

| Game | Draw Days | Sales Cutoff Time | Approx. Drawing Time |
|------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Lucky for Life® | Mon & Thu | 8:30 pm | 9:38 pm |
| Mega Millions® | Tues & Fri | 8:59 pm | 10:00 pm |
| Powerball® | Wed & Sat | 8:59 pm | 9:59 pm |
| Hot Lotto® | Wed & Sat | 8:18 pm | 9:40 pm |
| Pick 3 - Midday | Daily | Noon | 12:20 pm |
| Pick 3 - Evening | Daily | 9:40 pm | 10:00 pm |
| Pick 4 - Midday | Daily | Noon | 12:20 pm |
| Pick 4 - Evening | Daily | 9:40 pm | 10:00 pm |



8/15
 7 16 20 66 73
 Lucky Ball: 7
 Megaplier: 2



8/15 MID-DAY
 5 0 2
 8/15 EVENING
 6 2 0



8/15 MID-DAY
 7 3 4 0
 8/15 EVENING
 3 1 7 1

Local News

Officials say booms are not uncommon

BOOM - Continued from Page 1

"It was pretty large bang and shook the windows so I ran outside and I heard a jet overhead," Cirinna said.

"We get these things about once a year or so and in the past I've called around to Scott Air Force Base (Illinois) and other places and they always say 'We don't know of anything,' so who knows."

He said he didn't call around to bases this time, but also said the area is in an active meteor shower and he's heard of occurrences where meteors, if they get inside the atmosphere, can create sonic booms, but he's betting it was a military plane.

"That's the only explanation I can give you, but I have heard of meteors causing booms like that, but I'd bet it was a jet."

"They're not supposed to fly over heavily populated areas, but I don't know how firmly they stick to those guidelines," he said.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

This doe and her fawns found their way to some ice cream this past weekend as they poked outside the timberline just northeast of the Putt-A-Round parking lot. They stayed long enough to get a feel for the spectators then darted back into the woods.

Task forces continues busy August with another Keokuk bust

Third narcotics bust in the past five days

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man on misdemeanor drug charges.

It's the task force's third bust in less than a week in the Keokuk area.

David Eugene Thomas, 57, of 923 South 14th Street, Keokuk, Iowa was arrested on August 14th,



THOMAS

2017 at the Keokuk Police Department on misdemeanor drug charges. Thomas is charged with possession of marijuana, a serious misdemeanor, and maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor. If convicted, Thomas faces up to 3 years in a state correctional facility.

The arrest of Thomas stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the use of illegal drugs in the Lee County area. A search warrant was served

in connection to this investigation and items that support the charges were discovered.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, Keokuk Police Department, Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation. The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

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From the Front/Weather

Committee looking at ISP site as one option

STUDY - Continued from Page 1

that would cost less, but I can't speak to that. So there are some significant costs associated with it but right now our budget doesn't include that \$200,000 study at this time."

She said the prison is currently spending \$1,000 per day in utility costs inside the secure perimeter so a project like this would help the

prison with its resources. Bowker said the infrastructure is in place that could be used for a project like this.

"It's a decent space with some basic stuff in there that you may need. We did talk about parking, there is a separate what we used to call a wagon gate where they used to roll in the old gallows, that would probably be

the door that would have to be modified for whatever program you would use. That would be the entrance and somehow parking would have to take place in there," she said.

Lee County Economic Development Chief Operating Officer Dennis Fraise, said the visit was just part of the overall research on the possibility of a Lee County regional education center. The LCEDG has taken a facilitating role with the project.

The center would be a facility for high school and adult education trade course and continuing education courses. The project would require the collaboration of industries, business and educational centers including county high school and Southeastern Community College.

“
The whole idea is to just shake the bushes. I think everyone's preference would be to have a nice facility like those we toured, but we have to do our diligence because you get questions like, 'Why don't you repurpose a building'...

-Dennis Fraise, LCEDG COO

"The whole idea is just to shake the bushes. I think everyone's preference would be to have a nice facility like those we've toured, but we have to do our diligence because you get questions like why don't you repurpose a building and that's a whole different set of worms," Fraise said.

"There some plusses. It has the garage doors and

some of the things that would be good, but can you overcome the stigma. That's the psychology aspect of it."

Fraise said the prison, if and when the \$200,000 study was completed and showed some feasibility, would probably be eligible for some state and federal grants to offset some of the costs of the renovations, but

he said more research would need to be done to see if that made financial sense.

"There's a possibility of that. No one is suggesting it's a perfect scenario, but it's part of our group's due diligence. We don't want to leave any stone unturned. Let's go look at it. Let's get a cost estimate. It's just part of the process."

He said the original timeline was to have something up and running by the 2019 school year.

"But that's just us sticking our finger in the wind and not knowing things - like how to pay for it."

The group was scheduled to also tour the former Midwest Academy near Keokuk, but that tour was postponed until a later date.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

THU 17 Aug
Light rain
High – 74.4° F | Low – 68.4° F

FRI 18 Aug
Clear skies
High – 78.7° F | Low – 68.7° F

SAT 19 Aug
Clear skies
High – 83.2° F | Low – 66.6° F

SUN 20 Aug
Moderate rain
High – 86.9° F | Low – 73.2° F

MON 21 Aug
Moderate rain
High – 83.7° F | Low – 74.3° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

Ticket missing more than two months

WINNER - Continued from Page 1

size," she said. "That's a significant amount of money and that ticket is usually claimed quickly. But maybe this person is doing the right thing and getting their ducks in a row."

She reminded all players to double check their tickets because some players check jackpots and don't look for other winning combinations like this one. This winning ticket matched four of the first five winning numbers and the powerball.

"The longer it sits out there, the more we get worried it will get lost or thrown away."

Winning tickets of this size can be claimed at any Iowa Lottery office in the state with the closest being Cedar Rapids. Neubauer said lottery officials write a check that day for the winning amount.

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