



# Pen City Current

Friday, December 6, 2019 | 9 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 254

## Deputy seizes \$20K in cash, cocaine

*Florida man charged with trafficking after traffic stop*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A Lee County Sheriff's deputy seized close to \$15,000 in suspected cocaine early Thursday morning after stopping a vehicle from Florida for speeding.

The deputy made the stop on Hwy. 2 near Donnell-



**GARDNER**

son at 240th Street discovered \$5,000 in cash and the drugs.

Brayam David Chaparro Gardner, 30, of Ruskin, Fla, was detained and taken to the Lee County Jail charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. After further investigation additional charges of possession with intent to deliver cocaine, a Class B felony; violation of drug tax stamp, a class D felony and possession of marijuana, a serious misdemeanor, were added.

The deputy, who wasn't named in the release, had

recently completed a drug interdiction training course, which educates law enforcement on detection and enforcement of drug trafficking.

"He was stopped for speeding, but the reason for the search was based on admissions of the driver, and observations of the deputy," said Lee County Narcotics Task Force Commander Chad Donaldson.

He said Lee County doesn't see a lot of cocaine, but with the major highways in the county, he isn't surprised to see it from someone in transit.

See **TRAFFICKING**, page 2



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

From left to right: Christmas Hoarder Xander Abel, Partridge Olivia Shields, and a Lord A' Leaping and Lady Dancing, played by Aaron Greenhalge and Mallory Troutman work up a dress rehearsal for 12 Days of Christmas at the Old Fort Players Wednesday night.

## Song comes to life in "12 Days of Christmas"

*Holiday OFP production comes to life this weekend*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The nostalgia that traditionally accompanies most renditions of the 12 Days of Christmas gets thrown out the window this weekend.

The Old Fort Players holiday production "The 12 Days of Christmas" goes curtain up starting Friday night at 7:30 p.m. The show will run Friday through Sunday for the next two weeks at the Old Fort Players playhouse at 725 Avenue G.

Showtimes on Friday and Saturday are 7:30 p.m. with 2 p.m. Sunday shows. The show is produced by Connection Bank and directed by OFP veteran Kelly

See **OFP**, page 9

## Eighth Street could be closed for months

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Repairs being done to a downtown building could result in the closure of Eighth Street until spring.

Structural repairs on the outside of the building owned by Bryan Humphrey at the corner of Eighth Street and Avenue G are being done to secure the brick, but Fort Madison's Building Director Doug Krogmeier said it's his understanding shoring is being done inside the building as well.

City officials put additional barricades on the Avenue G side of the building last week. Krogmeier said those were added as another safety precaution.

"In our conversations with the engineer, if something significant did happen while they're shoring up the inside, it could cause an air pressure change that could blow out some windows," Krogmeier said,



**KROGMEIER**

"They are going to put in a shoring wall from the ground floor to the roof and when that's done we should be able to open Avenue G up."

But Krogmeier said until all the other repairs completed properly, 8th Street will remain closed.

He said, per conversations with the engineer that Humphrey has hired, the shoring wall should stabilize the building and then the additional repairs can be done.

See **BUILDING**, page 9

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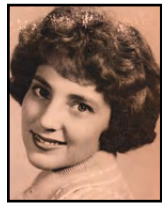
# Obituaries/For the Record

## OBITUARIES

### JEANNETTE MARIE PENCE

Jeannette Marie Pence, 78, of Lomax, Illinois passed away Monday, December 2, 2019 at the Great River Hospice House, West Burlington, Iowa.

She was born on April 10, 1941 in Burlington, Iowa the daughter of Chester and Lois Bridges McCoy. On July 15, 1962 she married Larry G. Pence in Gladstone, Illinois. He survives.



PENCE

Jeannette was a 1959 graduate of the former G & O High School. Following high school Jeannette graduated from the Burlington Beauty Academy. Mrs. Pence wrote the Lomax News for the Henderson and Hancock County Quills.

She was a member of the Lomax-Carman Senior Citizens, Lomax Christian Church and the Glitzy Gals Red Hat Society. Jeannette never missed a chance to send birthday, get well or uplifting cards to friends and family. Mrs. Pence enjoyed helping with Girl Scouts, camping, bird watching and gardening. Her family was the most important part of her life.

Survivors include her husband, Larry; four children, Stephanie (Todd) Skidmore of Plain City, Ohio, Stacia (Scott) Thompson of New London, Iowa, Bradley Seats of Colorado and Mercedes Seats of Macomb, Illinois; six grandchildren, Mikayela Thompson, Connor Skidmore, Cameron Skidmore, Gavin Thompson, Carson Skidmore and Mylee Chenoweth.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three sisters, Betty Thorndike, Bonnie McCoy and Shirley Darnell and one brother, Gary McCoy.

A memorial service will held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December 7, 2019 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in LaHarpe with Rev. Maxine Dennison officiating. Friends may call after 1:00 p.m. Friday at Banks & Beals in LaHarpe where the family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. A memorial fund has been established for the Lomax Christian Church, Great River Hospice House and her grandchildren's education. To leave a condolence please visit Jeannette's obituary at [banksandbeals.com](http://banksandbeals.com).

#### Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

12/04/19 – 9:12 a.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2400 block of Henry Laydn Drive.

12/04/19 – 1:28 p.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1800 block of Avenue L.

12/04/19 – 11:25 p.m.

– Fort Madison Police

responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue D.

12/05/19 – 6:32 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2500 block of Hwy. 61.

### Lee County Sheriff's Report

12/05/19 – 3:50 a.m.

– Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brayam David Chaparro Garner,

30, of Ruskin, Fla., near the intersection of Hwy. 2 and 240th Street on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

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

### Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

12/04/19 – Fort Madison Firefighters responded to two medical calls.

## Additional charges could be added in Thursday drug bust

### TRAFFICKING - Continued from Page 1

"Anytime we have someone trafficking in controlled substances though our jurisdiction it's possible considering the major highways through Lee County," he said.

"You never know what can turn up during this type of contact. But for our area, meth and marijuana are common. We don't commonly come

across cocaine in this amount."

The arrest will prompt a consultation with intelligence networks and the Division of Narcotics Enforcement to see if any additional charges are warranted, Donaldson said.

The drugs have been sent to the state crime lab for testing and the investigation into the incident

continues.

"We haven't got the lab results back yet, but we suspect it's cocaine."

Gardner is currently in the Lee County Jail and no bond has been set, as he hasn't seen a judge.

All charges carry a presumption of innocence until the defendant is proven guilty in a court of law.

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## Scene Around the Area/Local News



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

### Nepal fundraiser

Malissa Cain, and her son, Mason, 10, of West Point look over the art work at the art exhibit Wednesday night at the Holy Trinity Catholic Elementary School. The exhibit was put on to help raise funds for Ernie Schiller's next trek to Nepal to help rebuild the education facilities in the earthquake ravaged country.

### Extension to hold beef quality training

ST. PAUL - Iowa State University Extension and Outreach of Lee County will be hosting a Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) training at Grandpa's Gun Club (2293 Saint Paul Road, West Point, IA) on Monday, December 16 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm for beef producers and agribusiness professional to obtain their BQA certification.

Patrick Wall, ISU Extension and Outreach Beef Specialist, will be presenting on best management practices and new trends in the beef industry. This session will help individuals achieve certification and emphasize how to continue to produce safe, high quality beef.

There is no cost to attend this training, but preregistration is required by Friday, December 13 at noon. Please contact the Lee County Extension Office at 319-835-5116 to reserve your spot today.

ISU Extension and Outreach is part of an educational network supported by Iowa State University, local county governments, and the United States Department of Agriculture. ISU Extension and Outreach works to provide learning opportunities for citizens of Iowa by providing unbiased, research-based information that will improve quality of life.

### HTC readies for homecoming week

FORT MADISON - Next week is a busy and exciting Homecoming Week at Holy Trinity Catholic.

Homecoming Week begins Monday, December 9th.

Coronation is Friday, December 13th at 5:45 p.m. in the HTC High School Gymnasium.

Varsity Girls/Varsity Boys Basketball vs. Notre Dame - first games begins at 6:30.

HTC will honor the Marquette and Aquinas Alumni Class of 1995 and the Holy Trinity Class of 2010.

At right is the 2019 Homecoming court. Front row left to right are candidates: Claire Graham, Ambrosia Dustin, Nicole Pothitakis, Samantha Pothitakis, Ashlyn Haas, Elle Rashid.

Back row from left to right are King candidates: Brandon Delaney, Matthew Hellige, Jacob Mohrfeld, Quentin Schneider, Mason Holvoet (not pictured: Caleb Denning)



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## Sports/Lottery Numbers

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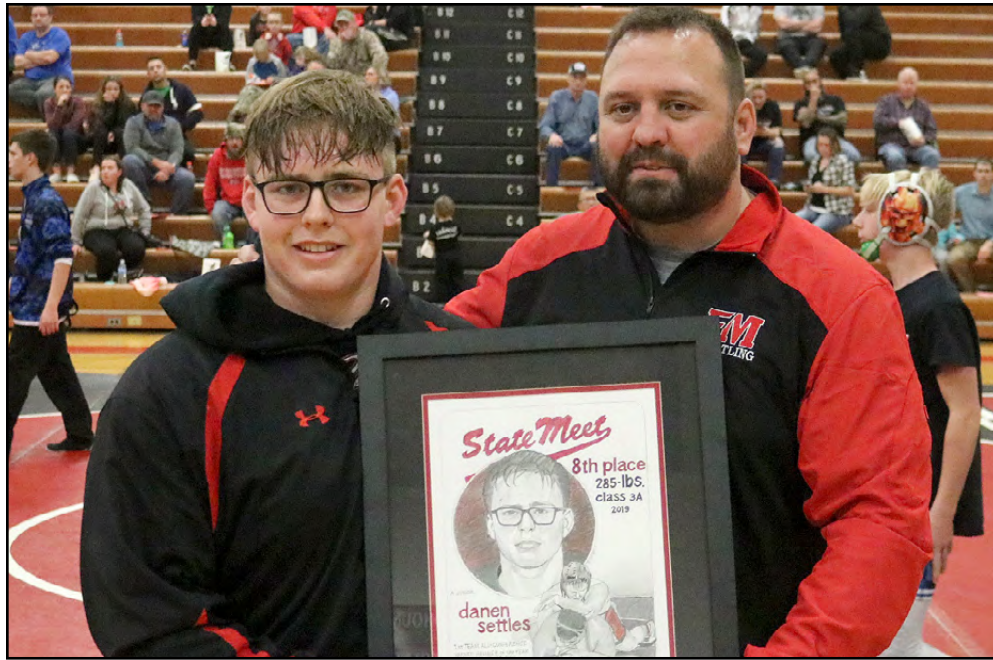


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Danen Settles is presented with his MPR plaque after finishing in 8th place in the Class 3A 285 lbs at last year's state tournament.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison Jakob McGowan comes out of a roll by Quincy's Kayden Garrett in the 152 lb match Thursday night at Fort Madison High School. McGowan would score the fall on Garrett out of the reversal just seconds after this move.



### IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

#### Lotto Drawings

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Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Lotto America™	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 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



12/4  
8 27 44 51 61  
Powerball: 14  
Power Play: 3



12/4  
34 38 45 47 51  
Star Ball: 10  
All Star Bonus: 2



12/4 MID-DAY  
2 9 7  
12/4 EVENING  
0 2 7



12/4 MID-DAY  
2 6 7 5  
12/4 EVENING  
2 3 9 4

**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**



Sports

# Hounds jump on Quincy in wrestling opener

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – It was the start the Hounds were looking for this year.

The lights went down in the Hound Dome and AC/DC's Thunderstruck gave a premonition of what was to come as the Bloodhounds rolled Quincy 57-18 to open the season.

At 145 lbs, Tanner Settles thunder-stuck Quincy's Diego Roberts 35 seconds into the match for a quick 6-0 lead. The pins would be the story for four of the first five matches with the quickest coming when Chance Hocker grabbed up Quincy's Gage Bringer and rolled him over for the pin in just 12 seconds at 182 lbs.

At 152 lbs Jakob McGowan was tied with Kayden Garrett at 2. Garrett got McGowan in a rolling cradle in the third period, but McGowan turned the roll completely over and was able to wrench Garrett's shoulders to the mat before he could roll out of the hold for a fall at 5:05.

Mason Schau and Nathan Steffensmeier had two of the most compelling matches of the night. Schau trailed the Blue Devils' Neil Kozlowski 5-4 going into the third period after Kozlowski was awarded a penalty point for Schau's full nelson hold. Schau then rebounded with :36 left with a 2-point take down and then wrestled to

a near fall for three more points to get the win with just seconds remaining.

"He made a couple tactical errors where he got an escape point and then he put a full nelson on so he made some silly errors, but he kept battling and chipping away," Smith said.

Steffensmeier was trailing Kaleb Vahle 6-7 with less than a minute left in the third period. On a restart at the six minute mark, Steffensmeier rushed Vahle and got him off balance for a take down and then was able to press the pin with :53 left in the match.

Vahle had a shove and some words for Steffensmeier after the match.

"He was stalling on me and I knew I had him, what he did after the match was his choice," Steffensmeier said.

"It's my senior year and I was thinking I've been here before and then the night came and the nerves hit me, but as soon as the whistle blows, that's gone."

After Hocker's pin, the Hounds had a 27-0 lead. Fort Madison would get their first loss when Thomas Culp was able to slip away from a close take down from Diego Lozano and reverse him to score two points. Lozano had scored an escape in the 2nd period, but Culp's 2-1 lead would hold out for Quincy's first 3 points of the night at 220 lbs.

JC Lackey would get

a fall in the third period over Jarrett Settles, but 5th ranked Danen Settles would right the ship for the Hounds at 285 with a pin of Xaivious Benjamin in just :41.

Dominick Demming and Emmett Kruse rolled all over the mat at 106 lbs with Demming pushing his way out of a Kruse near fall with about a minute left in the 2nd period. Kruse had Demming pushed to the mat, but Demming was able to use his legs to push out and over Kruse scoring a reversal and a near fall in the move. Kruse trailed 7-9 going into the third period. Demming would get a take down to go up 7-11, but Kruse would be awarded a penalty point for a headlock and then scored a take down on the restart with :09 left in the match and time ran out.

At 113, Matt Steffensmeier got the pin series going again with a fall over Zach Newell 14 seconds into the



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Tanner Settles gets a cradle on Quincy's Diego Roberts just :35 seconds into the meet at Fort Madison Friday night. The Hounds won 57-18 to open the season.

2nd period. At 120, Blake Peter would score a pin over Owen Kruse and then Fort Madison would get pins from Gage Roberts (126 lbs), and Gavin Wiseman over Garrick Homan in just :45 seconds.

Will Larson rounded out the night with a pin after scoring a take down in the first period. Larson would

get two more take downs in the first and second periods, riding Brayden Oenning all over the mat before settling in with a pin at the 5:14 mark.

"He did a good job of sticking with that guy, he was a good wrestler and moved tight," Smith said of Larson's match.

Smith said the Hounds

brought good energy and that will help bring some momentum into this weekend's loaded Independence Invitational where nationally-ranked schools will be on the mat.

"That helps you get some good momentum. They did a good job of bringing some energy tonight," Smith said.

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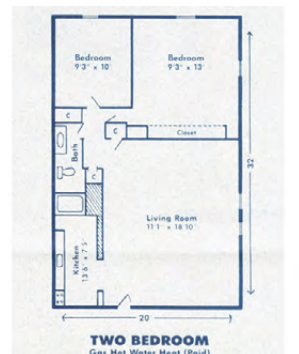


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# Current-Lee/Weather

## CURRENT-LEE

LEE COUNTY – The following is a list of current events and happenings in Fort Madison and north Lee County as submitted to the Pen City Current.

### The Enchanted Forest

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Enchanted Forest again this year in the Old Lee County Bank Building at 803 Avenue G. Businesses have sponsored Christmas trees that will be on display each Saturday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

### West Point Wine Walk

The West Point Wine & Beer Walk is tonight from 5 to 8 p.m. in and around the square in West Point. Glasses are still for sale at City Hall, Katie's Cuts, 4th Street Pub, Corner Tap and Sonny's for \$15.

### Santa at Harvestville

Come meet with Santa on Saturday at Harvestville Farm. Share holiday wishes and get that important photo with St. Nick. This is a free event from noon to 4 p.m. at the farm at 1977 Hwy. 2 just east of Donnellson.

### American Legion

The December 3rd meeting of the Fort Madison American Legion Post 82 has been moved to Tuesday December 10th. The meeting will be held at 7 pm at the Eagles Club in Fort Madison.

### Tree of Love Gatherings

Lee County Health Department is once again hosting a series of gatherings to help and support those dealing with the loss of a loved one over the holidays. Each Event is Wednesday's during the month of December from 2 to 3 p.m. at #3 John Bennett Drive in Fort Madison. Call 372-5225 for more information.

### Customer Appreciation Party

Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course will be holding a Customer Appreciation Party on Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a free keg, food and soda, as well as door prizes.

### Partners Annual Dinner

The Fort Madison Annual Dinner is set for Feb. 21, 2020.

### Holiday Window competition

Businesses are being encouraged to take part in the Fort Madison Partner's Holiday Window Display Competition. Decorate a window, send a picture, get likes on Facebook and the business with the most hits wins. Deadline to sign up is Nov. 27. Windows will go on Facebook starting Dec. 4 with voting from Dec. 4-11th. The winner will be announced Dec. 13.

### Weekly Book Sale

Friends of the Fort Madison Public Library is holding a weekly book sales from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday's at the Public Library.

### Visit with Santa

Dollhouse Dreams, 820 Avenue G is hosting an afternoon with Santa on Dec. 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children will be able to visit with Santa, get a photo, make an ornament, and write a letter for Santa to take back to the North Pole.

### Enchanted Forest

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce's Enchanted Forest will be held in the Lee County Bank building following the Lighted Parade, and on Nov. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with Santa expected from 10 a.m. noon. The Forest will also be open on Saturdays Dec. 7, 14,

and 21 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Businesses are encouraged to bring and decorate a tree for \$25.

### Kensington events

The Kensington is offering Senior's Only Community Bingo on the second Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. The event is free for seniors and cash prizes are awarded. Caregivers Connection is held the 4th Tuesday of every month at noon. Call 319-372-4233 to reserve your seat.

### FM Day at Carver Hawkeye

It will be Fort Madison Day at Carver Hawkeye Arena on Dec. 29 at 3 p.m. Tickets for the game include a t-shirt for \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. A bus ticket for a Trailways ride to the game is \$5. Tickets can be purchased through Dec. 11 at the Partners office.

### Ornament workshop

The Fort Madison Public Library is hosting a Christmas Ornament Workshop on Dec. 24 from 9:30 to noon at the library with a visit from Santa Claus.

### Cook the Book

The Fort Madison Public Library is hosting a Cook the Book featuring Christmas recipes from around the world on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the library.

## 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

FRI 06 Dec



Clear  
High- 38.8° F | Low - 30.5° F

SAT 07 Dec



Clear  
High- 41.6° F | Low - 38.3° F

SUN 08 Dec



Light Rain  
High- 46.2° F | Low - 45.9° F

MON 09 Dec



Snow  
High- 50.1° F | Low - 19.5° F

TUE 10 Dec



Cold and Sunny  
High- 19.0° F | Low - 11.6° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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**Education News/From the Front**

**Steampunk finds way into “12 Days of Christmas”**

**OFP** - Continued from Page 1

Shields.

Olivia Shields plays the Christmas Partridge tasked with keeping all the ‘players’ of the annual Christmas song together, but finds planning for the annual song a little rougher than anticipated.

But Shields doesn’t just take a perch and call out for accompaniment, she slaps a little modern funk on the role with help from a blossoming friendship with an aloof steampunk “Swan-a-swimming” in Juniper Strickland.

The swan steps in to lend a helping hand to make sure the partridge upholds the tradition of the song as parents, grand parents, great-grandparents...and great...great...great...great grandparent partridges aren’t disappointed.

Four calling birds are a “hoot” but are tough to wrangle as they staff a call center, while the partridge tries to convince them to be part of the annual song. The birds are played by OFP veteran Jim French, who also MCs a Cow-medy Club, 8-year-old Caris Greenhalge, 8-year old Tate Kafar, and Sunshine Zioui, who’s been in two other OFP shows.

Mallory Troutman and Aaron Greenhalge come to the rescue, albeit a bit shorthanded as they are missing eight more ladies dancing and nine more lords a leaping. But all is not lost as adaptations abound that you don’t want to miss.

Caris Greenhalge and Alex DeSotel play a couple of turtledoves and Rosie Strickland plays the mom of Shields’ partridge. Jadi Zioui is back as a great-grammy partridge and one of the snooty french hens, who actually hail from Paris. The hens find a strange bird in the mix in newcomer Chris Greenhalge.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Olivia Shields, the Partridge... of the pear tree, tries to convince four “calling birds” to step away from their call center to participate in the annual song 12 Days of Christmas in the holiday OFP production of the same name. The show goes live Friday and runs for the next two weekends.

And as the partridge tries to keep the show together, the antagonist, a Christmas hoarder in horns played nicely by Xander Abel, slips in and throws another wrench at the young bird by swiping decorations and the coveted five golden rings. Abel has been in more than a dozen OFP youth, summer and adult productions.

While the mayhem of keeping the annual song together escalates, a group of about five mice peak and poke cutely around the set played by Elise Greenhalge, Allena Kellum, Jaxson Kellum, Lainey Schuelka, and Iley Troutman.

The partridge comes into her own as her swinging, swimming swan friend convinces her all is not lost and a “new” song can become part of the holiday tradition.

Richar Abel is the assistant director and a full crew has set up a colorful, festive production that is perfect for all audiences. As the song represents gifts of the days of the holiday, the show is a gift for all that like community theater.

Tickets are available now at [www.oldfortplayers.com](http://www.oldfortplayers.com), just click the Book Now button, or at the playhouse prior to showtimes. Don’t forget a little extra for snacks and beverages.

**Owner has other property barricaded downtown**

**BUILDING** - Continued from Page 1

“I see it as a crutch. It’s a structural leg that will hold the rest of the building in place. We’re getting that done first. We haven’t come to a conclusion on how the brick repair is going to go, but that shoring needs to be done first,” Krogmeier said Thursday.

“It’s my understanding they’re doing some of that shoring now.”

Humphrey also has a building on 9th Street north of the alley between avenues G and F in which part of the garage exterior collapsed. The city still has barricades under where a tarp exits in place of a southern second floor wall.

Krogmeier said Humphrey was given the same order to clean that up, but he said he’s not concerned if that garage were to fall down.

“If this other comes down there’s an animal there and we’re focusing on that right now.”

Currently 8th Street is blocked off from the alley between avenues H and G north to Avenue G, with a rental lift sitting in the barricaded area and wooden supports and plywood holding some of the exterior wall in place.

**Alliant Energy offers innovation scholarships**

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Applicants will be asked to write a short essay that identifies a problem in their community, then presents an innovative solution using science, technology, engineering and/or math.

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Applicants must be age 24 or under and enrolling for the first time in undergraduate study. They must also be a dependent child of a current Alliant Energy customer, or a current customer themselves.

Apply by February 17 at [scholar-apply.org/alliantenergyinnovation](http://scholar-apply.org/alliantenergyinnovation).

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**Tree of Love Gatherings**

Lee County Health Department would like to invite you to a series of gatherings that will take place in LCHD’s lobby.

Sessions are offered to help bring people together during the holidays & to support those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. You are welcome to join any or all the gatherings. Gatherings are free & open to the public.

**If you have any questions, please contact**  
**Lee County Health Department**  
**#3 John Bennett Drive, Fort Madison**  
**(319)372-5225**

<b>#1: Traditions</b>  Wednesday, December 4 <sup>th</sup> 2:00-3:00pm	<b>#2: Listen</b>  Wednesday, December 11 <sup>th</sup> 2:00-3:00pm	<b>#3: Connect</b>  Wednesday, December 18 <sup>th</sup> 2:00-3:00pm
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