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INSIDE TODAY:

City of Fort Madison looking to fill board, commission, and committee vacancies.

See page 10

Pen City Current Monday, August 5 2019 | 13 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 172

City could name police chief Monday

Appointment could come after discussion on general fund

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON – A new police chief could be named Monday night at a special meeting of the Fort Madison City Council.

The council will be in a special meeting to go over a five-year general fund projection being prepared by City Manager David Varley, but after the meeting the council has scheduled a closed session under Iowa Code to discuss a personnel matter.

After the closed session, the council is scheduled to vote on the appointment of a new police chief. It is unknown if the closed session is to discuss the appointment prior to the vote, or for another personnel issue.

The closed session is on the agenda under Iowa Code 21.5 (1)(i) which allows a governmental body to enter closed session "to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session."

Last week Varley said the firm hired to generate a pool of candidates for the position turned over it's list to the city's Civil Service Commission who narrowed the

pool to six candidates. That list included names of officers currently on the Fort Madison Police Department.

However, Varley has the authority under city code chapter 7.1.2 to appoint the police chief subject to approval of the city council. Varley initially pared the list down to three, none of whom were on the Fort Madison Police Department, and has now selected a candidate for the council's consideration Monday night.

Varley said the narrowed field of candidates all asked for confidentiality in during the interview processes.

Lee County Sheriff' Stacy Weber has been serving as interim police chief since former Police Chief Tim Sittig resigned at the end of May. The city has been paying the county from funds that were allocated for the police chief's salary for the sheriff's department's services.

Rashid building back in front of city council

Head Start now interested if building can be gifted

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON – The future of the Idol Rashid building will be back in front of the Fort Madison City Council on Tuesday night.

The building located at 3421 Avenue L, previously used as a city library, now is home to the Fort Madison Food Pantry. The pantry shared the lease with the United Way of the Greater River Region until that lease ended in April 30 of this year.

Several proposals have been bandied about including selling the building to Head Start and donating the building to the Food Pantry.

In a memo to the council, City Manager David Varley said he's been working with the granddaughter of the Rashids on the issue. The city has to obtain the Rashid family's permission to sell or donate the building.

According to Iowa code, the city can't donate the building to a non-governmental agency and if it decides to sell the property, it must do so at fair market value.

See COUNCIL, page 5

News Index

Current-Lee	.Ps.9-1
From the front	P.
Local News	.Ps.5,1
Lottery Numbers.	P.
Obituaries	
-Edna Lucille Garmo	e
-Leland Edward Lind	quist
-Michel R. Sanderso	n
Opinion	P.
Weather	D1

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Many RiverFest goers attend the Sunday morning Charity Breakfast. This year's event was staffed by the American Legion Post with all proceeds going to the Honor Flight Program.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



Fort Madison's
Anthony Beckert
holds a 3-foot albino alligator Sunday
morning at RiverFest 2019. The
alligator was part of
the Kachunga and
the Alligator Show
that ran four-days at
RiverFest 2019.

Advertiser Index			
Art of YogaP.3	Montrose Dog BoardingP.3		
ClassifiedsPs.5-8	North Lee County Relay for LifeP.2		
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family DentistryPs.5,10	Professional ServicesPs.7-8		
Fort Madison Community HospitalP.3	Public NoticesP.5		
Great River Regional Waste AuthorityP.9	The KensingtonP.10		
Green Oak DevelopmentPs.11-13	Scotts Miracle-Gro Company		
Lee County Health DepartmentP.4	West Point Sweet Corn Festival		

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

LELAND EDWARD LINQUIST

Leland Edward Linquist, 77 of Keokuk died Saturday, August 3, 2019 at Lexington Square in Keokuk.

He was born May 3, 1942 the son of Iner and Esther Heinze Linquist in Kahoka, MO. On March 27, 1967, he was united in marriage to Karen Simpson in Quincy, IL. She survives.



Other survivors include two daughters, Kandie (J.D.) White of Keokuk and Robin (Carl) Bay of Wayland, one son, Kevin (Whitney) Linquist of Cedar Rapids, three grandchildren, Whitney (Corey) Wagaman, Megan White, and Daniel (Samantha) Brotherton, five great grandchildren, Cameron, Charlotte, Coryn, Wrenley and Arwen, one sister, Vivian Perry of Memphis, MO, along with nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother in law, Larry

Perry. Leland graduated from Kahoka High School with the class of 1960.

He was a proud veteran of the United States Army and served during the Vietnam War.

He was employed with Steel Castings and retired in 2006.

He enjoyed fishing, rabbit hunting, working puzzles and watching western movies.

Graveside service with military rites will be held 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk with Pastor Ken Simpson officiat-

There will be no visitation.

On-line condolences may be made to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome. com.



I plan to submit ____ entry(ies) in the West Point Sweet Corn Festival Parade. Please reserve a place in the following division(s):

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NAME _____ PHONE NO.____

OTHER _____

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Mail entry to Parade Committee, P.O. Box 305, West Point, Iowa 52656 or Email WPCornFest@GMail.com. Entrants should meet at the corner of 3rd St. and Avenue E. (Presbyterian Church) no later than 11:15 a.m.

Visit Us Online: www.WestPointSweetCornFestival.com

OBITUARIES

MICHEL R. SANDERSON

Michel R. Sanderson, 57, of Bonaparte, Iowa passed away at 4:39 a.m. Thursday, August 1, 2019, at the Van Buren County Hospital in Keosauqua.

Born June 26, 1962, in Keosauqua, Iowa, the son of Kenneth and Naomi (Garmoe) Sanderson. On July 16, 1982, he married Christina Adam at Hickory Grove Baptist

Church near Stockport, Iowa.



SANDERSON

Survivors include his wife: Chris, three children: Kimberly Sanderson of Farmington, Iowa, Samantha Sanderson of Montrose, Iowa and Matthew Sanderson of Bonaparte, Iowa; three grandchildren: Alexys, Deston and Zoey. Also surviving are his mother: Naomi Sanderson of Hillsboro, Iowa; one sister: Mary (Russell) McDaniel of Stockport, Iowa; one brother: Bill (Lynda) Sanderson of Hillsboro, Iowa; one sister-in-law: Tina Sanderson of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. and several

nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father: Kenneth; brothers: Mark, Lynn and Kenneth Jr. and sister: Melinda.

Mike attended Harmony High School, he worked for Hawkeye Steel in Houghton for ten years, then City Carton in Mt Pleasant for two years, then at the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Mount Pleasant for the past twenty-eight years. He also did carpentry and remodeling as a side job with his brother Bill and they were always in high demand. Mike enjoyed hunting, fishing, traveling, old western movies, racing and he made sure to include his children and especially his grandchildren in these

The family will meet with friends from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 6, 2019, at the Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson.

A Celebration of Mike's Life will be held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 6, 2019, at the Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson.

Following the service his body will be cremated.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established in his memory.

Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at www.schmitzfuneralhomes@windstream.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.

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Opinion

Divorced and widowed and leaning on God

I he tall, handsome, dark haired man found Sharon in her shop where the Quarter Maybe More Store in Mt. Pleasant is now. She had a used furniture business. He asked her where the restroom was. Sharon led the man down a hallway. That's where he kissed her for the first time. He smelled like Aqua Velva. Sharon melted on the

It all started five years before when a friend of Sharon's invited her to a Bible study in Winfield on Sunday afternoon. There she met Evangelist Gary Bortz and his wife, Olive. Olive was much older than Gary, and was sometimes confused as his mother.

Over the course of five years, Olive passed away. After one of the Bible studies, Gary said to Sharon, "I've been thinking about asking you out for supper."

"Oh?" Sharon said, like he was commenting on the weather.

She had Gary pick her up at her daughter's house in Trenton. She didn't want to be seen with Gary in Mt. Pleasant because of gossip, so they drove to the Second Street Cafe in Ottumwa. (Both Gary and Sharon are from Ottumwa.) Over chicken fried steak, Gary casually mentioned, like it was something he had just thought of, that he was looking for someone to help him with his ministry.

Sharon said, "Well, I can help you pray about it."

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



Gary cleared his throat, "I mean you." Sharon just about fell off her stool.

He said, "I'm going to Kansas City this weekend to speak. I'll call you when I get back on Sunday night."

When Gary dropped her off, she jumped out of the car and ran to her daughter's house like her pants were on fire. She heard him holler, "I think more of you than you realize!"

Sharon didn't leave her apartment that weekend. She prayed and asked God, "What have You done? Are You answering my prayers?" She was divorced and had been asking God to put a Godly man in her life. She heard God say, "This is the man for you."

Sunday came and went. There was no phone call from Gary. Sharon thought, "Well, that's the end of that."

On Monday, Gary walked into her used furniture store in Mt. Pleasant. He had been delayed in Kansas City. That's when he asked where the restroom was and kissed her for

the first time.

During their engagement, Gary began coughing up blood. He had cancer and needed to have his left lung removed. Sharon stayed with him the whole time, and the gossip really started. Before his surgery, Gary asked Sharon to marry him. She said, "I will only marry you if you get up off of that bed after surgery a healthy man." Which he did. Sharon was younger than Gary and sometimes confused as his daughter.

Sharon and Gary had five good years together. She traveled around the country helping with his ministry. She was his secretary and, along with Gary, prayed for people. Gary had the unique ability of knowing where he was going at all times. Sharon rode along and just enjoyed being with him.

Gary's cancer returned. He requested that they have their picture taken before he lost his hair again from the chemo therapy. Gary never saw that picture. He also had his funeral arrangements made and his will updated so that Sharon would be taken care of if he passed away. Gary died on Easter weekend, 2006.

Sharon is praying for another Godly man to come into

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-andframes.com.

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From the Front/Classifieds

Public hearing set to start Old Hwy. 61 rehab

COUNCIL - Continued from Page 1

However the city can donate the property to the Lee County Supervisors, who don't have such restrictions on donating the building.

City Councilman Matt Mohrfeld suggested during a meeting earlier this year, that the city donate the building to the Food Pantry due to the importance of that service in the county.

Varley had previous discussions with Head Start to purchase the building, but those discussions stopped under new regional Head Start leadership. But Varley points out in the memo that the Head Start is now interested again in the building if it can gifted to them.

Varley said he's reached out to DuPont to see if they are interested in purchasing the building.

"They stated they might be interested, but it's a long shot," he wrote. "They also said that they would prefer that something like a daycare-type facility not be located so close to their plant."

The city has been trying to divest itself of the property for the financial savings from maintenance and upkeep.

The Rashid family has the ultimate authority to sign off on any ownership changes in the property.

In an unrelated issue, the council will also vote to order construction and set a public hearing for Aug. 20, on the reconstruction of Avenue H (old Highway 61) from 2nd Street to 6th Streets.

The state turned over jurisdiction of the corridor to the city in exchange for \$13.9 million dollars when the bypass was constructed. Plans included redoing several intersections, including the 27th Street and Avenue L intersection, which was completed in 2018. Plans also included redoing the intersection at Avenue O and Ortho Road.

Original plans called for four segments starting on the west side of the city and working east. However, plans changed and the city decided to go from the east and tackle 2nd Street to 6th Street, moving progressively west. The city had originally planned to have the entire stretch rehabbed by 2027.

In other action, the council will vote on applying for a \$125,000 REAP grant to help with the costs of Phase 4 of the P.O.R.T. Trail which will extend the trail from Avenue L on the west side of 48th Street to River Valley Road. The total cost of Phase 4 is estimated at \$415,000. The total P.O.R.T. trail project is estimated at six years at a cost of \$2.7 million.



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Pick 4 - Midday Pick 4 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: TUESDAY,
August 6, 2019
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.
LOCATION:
Correctional Center

AGENDA

2530 255th Street,

Montrose, IA

Pledge of Allegiance Approve Agenda Approve Tuesday, July 23, 2019 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims

Public Input Safety Update

Consider Approval of Contract with The Master's Touch for Tax Statement Mailing

Consider Approval of Maintenance Agreement with J & S for Treasurer's Office Copier

Review and Consider Approval to Award Quote for Metal Culvert Stock Pipe

Review and Consider Approval to Award Quote for 2020 Tandem Axle Belly Dump Trailer

First Reading of Parking Ordinance

Consider Approval of Eastern Iowa Tourism Association Dues

Consider Approval of Cancellation of Warrants Outstanding

Consider Approval of Additional Funding for Lee County Narcotics Task Force CAMP Grant For the Period Ending June 30, 2019

Consider Approval of Lee County Narcotics Task Force FY2020 Byrne JAG Grant for \$36,000

Personnel Action: A. Step Increase-Sheriffs Office B. New Hire-Conservation

C. New Hire-Veteran Affairs Commission D. New Hire-Secondary

Roads E. New Hire-Health De-

partment

Reports:

A. Manure Management Annual Update-JWC Swine in Des Moines Township

B. Manure Management Annual Update-GRANAT in Washington Township

C. Commission of Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting Commission or Committee Reports Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

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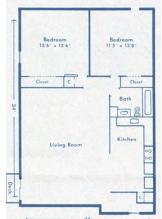


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Obituaries/Current-Lee

OBITUARIES

EDNA LUCILLE GARMOE

Edna Lucille Garmoe, 86, of Montrose, Iowa, passed away at 1:38 p.m. Saturday, August 3, 2019, at the West Point Care Center in West Point, Iowa.

She was born on January 13, 1933 in Unionville, Missouri the daughter of Fredric Clyde and Ruth Edna (Choate) Thompson. On September 30, 1952, she married Willard Preston Garmoe. He preceded her in death on April 4, 2009.



GARMOE

Survivors include her two sons: Willard (Margie) Garmoe, Jr. of West Point, Iowa, Russell Eugene (Sabine) Garmoe of Kileen, Texas; three daughters: Evelyn Peggy (Gary) Calvert of Argyle, Iowa, Debra Susan Garmoe of Fort Madison, Iowa and Cheryl Velinda Baumgart of Hockley, Texas; ten grandchildren: Ben Baumgart, Rebecca Horn, Kathy Garmoe, Williard Preston Garmoe III, Paul Starks, Nathan Starks, Carrie V. Stice, Christopher Garmoe, Dominick Garmoe and Brandon Garmoe; sixteen great grandchildren; two sisters Louise Carr

and Shirley Burroughs; and two brothers: Fred (Joann) Thompson and Joe (Jackie) Thompson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband: Willard; three brothers: Hubert in infancy, Norman and Clyde Thompson, one grandson and one sister Nellie Pohlpeter .

Lucille worked as a secretary and clerk at Woolworths. She enjoyed quilting, crocheting, reading, watching television and most of all, spending time with her grandchildren.

Friends may call from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 7, 2019, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson.

Her family will receive friends from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, August 8, 2019, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson.

A Funeral Service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, August 8, 2019, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson with Father Dennis Hoffman officiating.

Burial will be at Montrose Cemetery in Montrose, Iowa.

A memorials have been established in her memory for the Montrose Fire and Rescue or Lee County Hospice.

Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at www.schmitzfuneralhomes@wind-stream.com.

CURRENT-LEE

Beautification Day

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce is putting together a Beautification Day on Monday, Aug. 5 as a precursor to the inaugural arrival of the American Cruise Lines ships docking in Fort Madison on Tuesday Aug. 6. Meetup is at the Fort Madison Partner's Office, 614 9th Street at 9 a.m. Gloves and trash bags will be provided.

Downtown Summer Market

Fort Madison businesses will be hosting a Downtown Summer Market from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 15 along Avenue G. For more information contact Darla at 319-371-8385 or by email at darlarae71@yahoo.com.

LCHD clinics

The Lee County Health Department is holding a children's immunization clinic at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2330 Plank Road in Keokuk from noon to 4:30 p.m. Free lead testing is also available. The clinic is open to children with no private health insurance, or insurance that doesn't cover vaccines.

Cemetery Fall Clean-Up begins Aug. 12

The City of Fort Madison Cemetery Dept. will begin Fall Clean-up starting Monday, Aug. 12. All items must be removed from the gravesites before that date. Any items left will be disposed of during the cleanup. No items are to be placed on the graves until Aug. 19. Call City Hall with questions at 372-7700 ext. 206.

Old Settlers hosts River City 6

The Old Settlers Association will be hosting the River City 6 with their gold era music from the 1930s to present day and show tunes for the season final Music in the Park on Aug. 25.

HTC Elementary Open House

The Holy Trinity Catholic New Elementary School committee will be holding an open house on Friday Aug. 9, from 3 to 6 p.m.. Guided tours will be held at the school located at 413 Avenue C in West Point.

Girls on the Run

The Fort Madison YMCA will holding a Girls on the Run program from Aug. 27-Nov 2. The program is dedicated to creating a world where every girls knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to pursue her dreams. Registration deadline is Aug. 23 and can be done at the YMCA or online at fortmadisony.org.

YMCA Youth Soccer

No Plastic Bags in the recycling bins

When recycling, be it at one of our convenient drop off sites, or putting out your residential recycling bin for the pickup, please **DO NOT** put items in plastic bags. They are not recyclable at Great River Regional Waste Authority.

For a complete listing of what we do recycle, contact your local City Hall, or one of our facilities for a service guide. Check with your local retail stores such as Hy-Vee or Walmart for their recycling capabilities. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation concerning this issue!!





Ft. Madison Main Office: 2092 303rd Ave Fort Madison, IA 1-319-372-6140 Keokuk Transfer Station: 111 Carbide Lane Keokuk, IA 1-319-524-6175

Visit Us Online!

www.grrwa.com

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Local News/Weather

CURRENT-LEE

Fall Little Tykes Soccer and Lee County Soccer leagues are currently forming with registration ending Aug. 17 for Lee County and Aug. 24 for Little Tykes. Registration is \$20 for Little Tykes and \$25 for Lee County for members, double for non-members. Practice and games are held at Baxter Sports Complex. Volunteer coaches are also needed for both leagues. Call Noah Dean at 372-2403 or email to noah.dean@fortmadisony.org with questions.

Farmer's Market

Farmer's Markets at the Fort Madison Depot will start Monday June 3 and run every Monday through Sept. 30 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Old Santa Fe Depot. Every second Monday is Kid's Day at the Market.

Cook The Book

The Fort Madison Public Library will be holding a 'Cook the Book' on Aug. 13th beginning at 5:30 p.m. featuring award-winning recipes from the Iowa State Fair.

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.

Free Hot Dogs!

Pilot Grove Savings Bank will be giving away free hot dogs for lunch on Friday, August 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Three will also be a chance to purchase Tough Enough To Wear Pink shirts in support of the Lee County Relay for Life. 101.7 the Bull will be on hand for a live remote.

North Lee County Relay for Life

The annual Relay for Life takes place this year on September 27th from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. and will feature Maddie Poppe in Concert. This year's theme is "idols of strength'.

Weekly Book Sale

Friends of the Fort Madison Public Library are holding weekly book sales on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. the library.

LCHD Senior Health Clinics

The Lee County Health Departent will hold senior health clinics on Aug. 6 at Twin Oak Apts., Denmark, 9:00am-10:30am. LCHD will also host Family Connections, at Evangelical Free Church, Keokuk, 5:00pm-6:00pm, Childcare provided, for more information

City looking to fill spots on boards

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The City of Fort Madison is accepting applications for vacancies on all appointed boards, commissions and committees. Applications can be found at www.fortmadison-ia.com or through the City Clerk's office at 811 Avenue E. This application process is an effort to ensure diversity and representation of our community. Interested persons should submit completed applications to the City Clerk's office during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age. These are uncompensated positions. All applications are subject to the open records laws of the State of Iowa.

Members are needed for the following boards and commissions:

Airport Commission

Board of Adjustment

Historic Preservation Commission

Library Board

Parks Board

Planning and Zoning Commission

Southeast Iowa Port Authority

Regional Revolving Loan Fund

FREE ADMISSION

August 12th at 1pm

at the Fox Theater, Downtown Fort Madison



presented by





210 Avenue H • Fort Madison • 319.372.224



GONE FISHING!

Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Friday, August 9 through Tuesday, August 20 so our team can enjoy some time this summer.

Breaking news will be published online when possible. Our free e-Edition will be back Wednesday, August 21.

Thank you for reading!



www.PenCityCurrent.com

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 05 Aug



Moderate Rain High – 83.6° F | Low – 71.3° F

TUE 06 Aug



Moderate Rain High– 83.3° F | Low – 67.7° F

WED 07 Aug ———



Clear Skies High– 82.3° F | Low – 70.7° F

THU 08 Aug ———



Moderate Rain High – 76.7° F | Low – 64.9° F

FRI 09 Aug



Partly Cloudy High– 78.0° F | Low – 66.1° F

<u>OpenWeatherMap</u>

Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry is proud to welcome

Dr. Stephanie Heyland

Dr. Heyland will see patients on Tuesdays, and Thursdays at Fort Madison West & our West Burlington office on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning August 12th

Scheduling Patients Now



Fort Madison Family Dentistry West 319-372-4882

Burlington Dental Associates 319-753-2515





For Sale Condominiums



River View Condo

Farmhouse Design

3 Bedrooms—3 Full Baths—

2 Car Garage

Finished 9ft Walk-out Basement

2,900 sqft Finished

500 sqft Storage

Price: \$324,900



Pond View Condo



Move in Ready
3 –4 Bedrooms—3 Full Baths—
2 Car Garage
Finished Walk-out Basement
2,900 sqft Finished
500 sqft Storage



Woodland View Condo

Price:\$336,000

Custom Design Inside

3 Bedrooms—3 Full Baths—

2 Car Garage

Finished Walk-out Basement

1,680 sqft Finished

Price: \$340,000





Riverview Condo

Custom Design the Inside

3 Bedrooms—3 Full Baths—

3 Car Garage

Finished 9ft Walk-out Basement

2,800 sqft Finished

500 sqft Storage

Price: \$330,000



Phone: 319-470-2540 Email: jillian@greenoakdevelopment-ia.com

Woodland Heights



- Finished Basement & Single Level Condominiums
- Landscape Additions Pond, Fountain, Fire Pit, Seating Areas
 - 2-4 Bedrooms & 2-3 Car Garage Units
 - River, Forest, & Pond Views
- High-end Finishes—Quartz Counter Tops, Master Suites, Custom Wood Product Cabinetry
- Year Round Landscape & Building Maintenance Provided
- Zero Entry Private Patio & Deck, Large Windows,

