

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, July 18, 2022 | 11 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 129



www.pencitycurrent.com

Meller donation ready



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The former Iowan Motel property in the 5000 block of Avenue O is just days away from being officially donated to Lee County. The property owned by Glen Meller at Circle M Inc., is being donated for the home of the county's new Health Department. Meller pulled down the structure that was in place to make room for the new health department.

PCC Staff

LEE COUNTY - On Monday, the Lee County Board of Supervisors is poised to sign a contract that will bring the former Iowan Motel property under control of the county.

At last week's meeting the county officially accepted a quit claim deed from the Glen Meller family to acquire the property, but a contract is being required before the deed can be recorded with the county. The contract outlines the two parties responsibility in the property transfer.

The county has been working with the Meller family to acquire the property for the location of the Lee County Health Department and other future developments. The property has a valuation, according to the Lee County Treasurer's office of \$117,000.

The property at 5001 Avenue O, has gone through six transfers of ownership since 1999 with a highest sale price, with the functioning motel on the property, of \$1.58 million to Ramji Corporation in May of 1999.

See MELLER, page 4

CITY COUNCIL

City to OK first phases of Marina improvement work

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison City Council will be considering finalizing its contract for a portion of the improvements to the marina Tuesday night.

Klingner & Associates has submitted a letter to the city indicating the improvements to the marina including dredging and removal of sediment, and the im-

proved jetty wall, have been completed. The letter recommends the city accept that portion of the improvements to the marina area, and issue final payment.

The initial contract with DeLong Construction out of Washington, Iowa, was for \$1.98 million and after nine change orders approved during the process of the work, the final contract came in at \$2.13 million. The city has a one-year warranty

on the work done by DeLong.

The city is voting on Klingner's recommendation to pay \$1.84 million of the contract while holding the rest until the final walk though is done in March.

[The council will also be considering paying a \$667,449 obligation to Cessford Construction for rock used in improving the jetty wall at the marina.

See COUNCIL, page 4



More than hair bands made 80s important

I did a time warp this weekend.

Seemed like everything on the radio was 80s hair band. I even went to Putt-A-Round and played around and ate an ice cream.

I came home and watched Black Rain with Michael Douglas and Andy Garcia, and my wife.

I even used an early 80s tool at Ivanhoe Park as part of the Kiwanis group's clean up this weekend. It's on a long handle and it has a circular metal thingy with another metal circle with metal teeth that spins next to the other one when you push using every one of the 650 skeletal muscles in your body.

Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise gave me two of them because I thought it would be a good work out. But now I hate that thing with the heat of a solar flare. I'm sore. My abs hurt, my arms hurt, my shoulders hurt. Guess it really was a good workout.

I'd think people that used that in the 80s are the one's who invented motorized edgers. Wussies.

Anyway, the 80s weren't so bad. Long hair was for sale and I was buying. The new jeans your mom just bought you quickly became shorts and any t-shirt, and I mean any t-shirt, got the sleeves cut off and the length cut off just below the belly button.

I finished high school halfway through the 80s. Took a trip to Florida where my older brother lives, fell in love with this short little waitress at the restaurant

See 80s, page 8

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WEATHER

MON 18 Jul Warm & Sunny, 87° F/ 68° F
TUE 19 Jul Sunny & Hot, 90° F/ 73° F
WED 20 Jul Warm & Sunny, 89° F/ 68° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 07/16..... 711 28 30 49, Star Ball: 1 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 07/16..... 13 14 34 37 43, Lucky Ball: 18
MEGA MILLIONS 07/15..... 8 20 26 53 64, Mega Ball: 15 Megaplier: 5
PICK 3 07/14, 07/15, 07/16 MIDDAY 171, 721, 514
PICK 3 07/14, 07/15, 07/16 EVENING 234, 236, 383
PICK 4 07/14, 07/15, 07/16 MIDDAY 0086, 9904, 3292
PICK 4 07/14, 07/15, 07/16 EVENING 6563, 6219, 7547
POWERBALL 07/16..... 3 18 23 32 57, Powerball: 21 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

EARL L. GRELK

Earl "Toad" Lee Grell, 72, of Franklin, IA passed away on Friday, July 15, 2022 at 9:45 AM at his home due to his illness of lung cancer.

He was born on October 20, 1949 in Ft. Madison to Orville and Eva Lorene Rouse Grell. On April 9, 1977 he married Sheila Kaneer in Quincy, IL. Earl was a truck driver, mostly working for Feinberg's during his career and also worked for Johnson Trucking. He enjoyed his family and playing cards with them. His greatest love were his grandchildren and spending most of his time with them. Survivors include his wife, Sheila Grell; one son, Ricky Grell, three daughters, Sheena (Larry) Thetford, Lea Grell and Tabatha Cassidy; seven grandsons, Josh (Sophia) Grant, Trent & Ethan Thetford, Aaron, Zeke & Ashton Happs and Dylan Grell; three great grandchildren, Maddie & Joshee Grant, Michael Maynard and one on the way; one sister, Joyce Smith; two brothers in law, Chuck Kaneer & Frank Haven; several nieces and nephews, cousins, step grandchildren; brother in law, Michael Monical; and his beloved dog, Draco. He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Joanna Balmer & Evelyn Radel; two brothers, John & Tom Grell; mother and father in law; sister in law, Sherry Monical and a son in law, Michael Cassidy.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Friends may call after 2 PM on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will meet with friends from 4-6 PM.

A memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



GRELK

OBITUARIES

MARK H. POLLPETER

Mark H. Pollpeter, 84, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 7:50 a.m. Thursday, July 14, 2022, at Mercyone Des Moines Medical Center, in West Des Moines, Iowa.

He was born on July 4, 1938, in West Point, Iowa, the son of Alphonse J. and Gertrude R. (Boeding) Pollpeter. On September 26, 1964, he married Dorothy R. Kempker at St. James the Less Catholic Church in St. Paul, Iowa.



POLLPETER

Survivors include his wife: Dorothy; son: Kent (Tina) Pollpeter of Urbandale, Iowa; daughter: Brenda (William) Dunker of Ankeny, Iowa; four grandchildren: Grace and Griffin Dunker of Ankeny, Iowa, Anna and Henry Pollpeter of Urbandale, Iowa; three sisters: Jane Bell of Franklin, Iowa, Alice (Gary) McCannon of West Point, Iowa and Monica (Steve) Burke of Denmark, Iowa and one sister-in-law Barb Pollpeter of Fort Madison, Iowa. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother James Pollpeter and brother-in-law Carl Bell.

Mark was a graduate of Saint Mary's High School. He served in the United States Air Force. He worked as a correctional officer at the Iowa State Penitentiary. After retirement, he worked part time at the Fort Madison Community Hospital. Mark was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point and the West Point American Legion Holtz-Geers Post #668. He enjoyed golfing, gardening, yard work and especially enjoyed his grandchildren and family.

His body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Home.

Visitation will begin at 12:00 p.m. Monday, July 18, 2022, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point, where the family will receive friends at 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. A parish rosary will be recited at 4:00 p.m. and a Christian wake service will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at Saint Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point with Father Dan Dorau as celebrant.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point, Iowa with full military rites presented by the West Point American Legion Holtz-Geers Post #668.

A memorial has been established in his memory for Calvary Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com. Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

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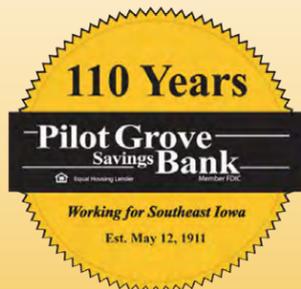
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PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Red all over

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Obituaries/Iowa News

State launches 988 suicide line

BY PCC STAFF

(Des Moines, IA). The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces the launch of 988, The National Suicide Prevention Line (NSPL) three-digit number to call for individuals in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. Iowans who contact 988 will be directly connected to trained crisis counselors who provide crisis de-escalation and connect individuals to the services and supports they need, when they need it.

An easy to remember three-digit number will not only make it easier to connect to support in a crisis, it will also:

- Reduce the burden on law enforcement and emergency medical resources so they can better respond to other public safety needs.

- Provide access to mobile response through warm handoffs, reducing confusion on how to access the service and enhance mobile response efforts statewide.

- Increase the number of contacts answered by Iowans knowledgeable about local behavioral health services, providing a personalized experience during a time of crisis and allowing for in-state quality assurance.

“The national launch of 988 coincides with the significant work we’ve been doing here in Iowa since I took office to enhance and improve our historically fragmented crisis response system. Iowa families - all families - should have quick and easy access to necessary mental and behavioral health care resources when they need them, and 988 will serve as a centralized resource

for Iowans to utilize during their times of need.” said Governor Kim Reynolds.

Iowa has two NSPL Centers, CommUnity and Foundation 2. Foundation 2 is staffing to answer the majority of 988 calls, and CommUnity is staffing to answer the majority of 988 chats and texts. Both Centers will be equipped to answer calls, chats, and texts. Iowa’s Lifeline Centers will provide follow-up to individuals contacting 988 who are at risk of suicide and consent to follow-up. Crisis counselors will provide seamless coordination with other community-based crisis services, including warm handoffs to mobile response teams throughout the state.

HHS also operates Your Life Iowa, which provides free, 24/7 support available for anyone dealing with mental health concerns, thoughts of suicide, substance use, problem alcohol use, or problem gambling. In State Fiscal Year 2022, Your Life Iowa responded to 41,111 contacts that were received via phone text and chat. These numbers represent 185% increase since 2020.

“The pandemic exposed and magnified the strain families are facing today. Connecting Iowans to quick and reliable support for emotional distress through 988 marks a sea change in how we approach crisis response”, said Iowa HHS Director Kelly Garcia. “The need for these resources is increasing, we see it in our data and in our existing services. Your Life Iowa had a record number of contacts in May of this year. Our teams are ready to answer more calls, texts, and chats, and to be a lifeline when Iowans use 988.”

OBITUARIES

VERNON GARNER

Vernon “Skip” Garner, 78 of Donnellson, IA died Thursday, July 14, 2022 at his home surrounded by his loved ones.

He was born November 22, 1943 in Quincy, IL the son of Charles and Neva Chambers Garner.



GARNER

On February 18, 1972, Skip was united in marriage to Letha Bender in Kahoka, MO. She survives.

Other survivors include two daughters, Shelly Curran of Keokuk and Melissa Mays of Fontana, CA, three sons, Troy Garner (Joanne Dixon) of Belton, MO, Kevin Garner (Stevie) of Argyle, IA and Chuck Garner (Jess) of Dysart IA, four grandchildren, Tyler Mueller (Jenny) of Farmington, IA, Caylie Cherry (Angel) of Montrose, IA, Jordan Mays of Fontana, CA and Alexis Garner of Dysart, IA, and two great-grandsons, Ian Martin of Farmington, IA and Rowan Cherry of Montrose, IA. He is also survived by one sister, Patty Campbell of Marion, IL and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Skip had been employed at Holland Trucking as a diesel mechanic and later at St. Louis Gear in quality control. He was the owner and operator of L&L Kart Mart and S&L Collectibles. In his younger years, Skip enjoyed spending time outdoors fishing at the family cabin in Meredosia, IL. He loved rebuilding motors in his garage, was an IKF tech specialist and had built hundreds of motors for karters. He was passionate about anything that had to do with racing. He was the IKF National Champion in the senior sportsman class. He especially enjoyed attending racing events. Most of all, nothing was more important to Skip than his family.

A Gathering of Remembrance will be held from 5:00-7:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 19 at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City 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. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

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From the Front

Master plan in the works for all 10 acres of donation

MELLER - Continued from Page 1

In October of 2021, the county entered into talks with Meller and his Circle M Inc., to acquire the property as the future site of the LCHD after a building committee recommended the location for its more central location and access to major highways in the county. The committee was assembled after a portion of the county's America Rescue Plan Act funding was allocated to construction of the new facility.

In October, county ARPA Administration Chuck Vandenberg and Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohfeld arranged a meeting with Meller and company representatives to discuss the issue. Vandenberg said it took Meller all of about 10 minutes to agree to donate the property once he heard the county's plans for the property.

"He was on board pretty much from the get-go when he heard what the county wanted to do with the property, specifically the health department," Vandenberg said.

"And he's been right there every step of the way, including removing the standing structure, the steel and much of the remaining rock that was on the property. All at no charge to the county. He really wants to be a part of something that benefits everyone in the county.

"And because of that we agreed to put his name on it. This is going to be a legacy donation from his family to the people of Lee County. The Mellers have been a part of this county's growth for decades. Now they come in with this. It's just a great story for the Mellers, for Fort Madison, and for Lee County as a whole."

According to the contract, the county will be responsible for the property, if the contract is approved on Monday, beginning Wednesday July, 20th. A warranty deed will be processed by the county after the quit claim is received to take official ownership.

County officials are currently looking at a \$5 million to \$5.4 million construction project that would create an 11,000 square facility that would eventually house the new Lee County Health Department, the county's Fort Madison bay for the Lee County EMS staff, and

potentially other county staff. The county has allocated the remaining ARPA funds to the project, which currently total between \$3.6 million and \$3.7 million dollars. A Community Development Block Grant could also contribute more than a half million to the project.

The county is currently considering bonding for the rest of the work, while continuing to look for additional funding streams including possible donations.

Carl A. Nelson Co. out of Burlington is the construction manager for the project.

The property in its entirety is just under 10 acres and Carl A. Nelson will be doing a master plan for the property, in addition to the overseeing the construction of the facility.

In other action Monday, the board will consider:

- hiring a full time replacement paramedic for Lee County EMS.
- reappoint Liza Alton to the Lee County Conservation Board.

City to consider 25-year lease for marina

COUNCIL - Continued from Page 1

Funding for those specific projects is coming from FEMA reimbursements, city contributions and state and federal grants associated with the project.

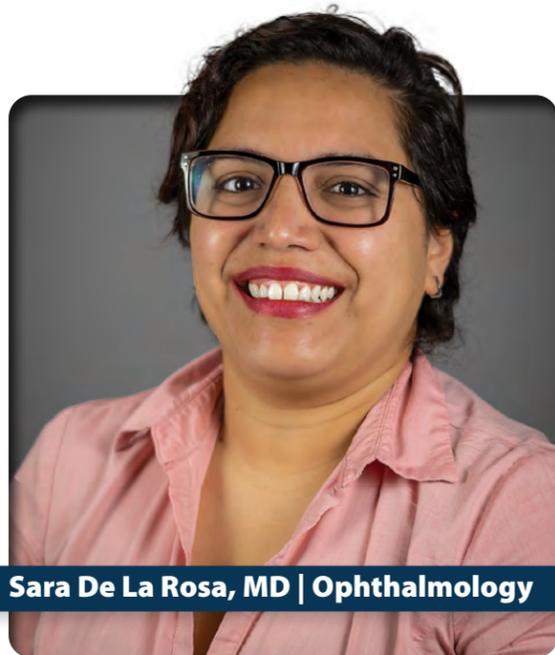
In a related issue, the council will also hold a public hearing regarding a proposed 25-year lease agreement with the Southeast Iowa Aquatic Restoration Group, Inc, which has agreed to operate and maintain the marina facility. Since the lease is for more than three years, a public hearing is required by Iowa Code.

Following the hearing the mayor would be authorized to sign the lease agreement with SIARG for the Riverview Marina.

In other action, the council is scheduled to:

- discuss and vote on a first reading to amend City Code under general penalties to add a \$750 per day infraction for "ongoing conditions" related to a cited municipal infraction.
 - discuss and vote on a resolution to award a contract not to exceed \$500,000 to Reid's Landscaping for beautification of the newly constructed Rodeo Trail up 15th Street. The funds come from a donation for the Great River Health System-Fort Madison Community Hospital Community Foundation dedicated to trail amenities.
- The contract would be made up of five monthly \$100,000 payments and was awarded after bids were received for the work. Payments would start in July and end in November.

See a glaucoma specialist close to home



Sara De La Rosa, MD | Ophthalmology

Dr. De La Rosa specializes in glaucoma and other medical conditions of the eye and eye injuries including:

- Cataracts
- Chronic dry eye
- Corneal abrasions
- Eyelid surgery
- Lesion removal
- Retina conditions – diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, retinal vein occlusion

Dr. De La Rosa is fluent in Spanish. She enjoys trying new foods, reading mysteries and watching movies.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: Monday,
July 18, 2022
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
(CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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If you would like to pose a question to the Board, please use the Chat feature and wait for the Chairman to address you. If you are participating by phone, please wait until everyone is done speaking before addressing the Board. Please keep your microphone muted to cut down on background noise. If you are participating by phone, press #6, this will mute your phone.

Pledge of Allegiance
 Approve Agenda
 Public Input
 Consider Approval of Real Estate Contract with Meller Family

Consider Approval of Settlement Agreement and Release with Century Link

Consider Approval to Replace Full-time Paramedic

Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Boonies Bar & Grill, Fort Madison

Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Charleston Board of Trade

Consider Approval to Re-Appoint Liza Alton to Conservation Board

Consider Approval of Monday, July 11, 2022 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of

Claims for Payment Personnel Actions:

A. Step Increase Correction-Maintenance Department

B. Step Increase Corrections-Auditor's Office (2)

C. Step Increase-Conservation

D. Step Increases-EMS (2)

E. Step Increase-Secondary Roads

Reports:

A. Sheriffs Monthly Report

Commission or Committee Reports

Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING

CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

Contact Title VI Administrator

319-372-3705

County Website:

www.leecounty.org

are not part of the published agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGEN-DA

1. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to approve the agenda, as written.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to approve the consent agenda:

• Minutes of July 5, 2022;

• Resolution approving Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget Transfers;

• Setting public hearing for 5:30 P.M., Tuesday, August 2, 2022, concerning rezoning 1629, 1633, and 1641 - 33rd Street from R-4, Single Family Dwelling District, to I-1, Limited Industrial District;

• Claims dated July 14, 2022 and June Financial

Report; and

• Payroll of July 15, 2022.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Concerning the Proposed Sale of 1301 Avenue I (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2022-45)

Open Public Hearing Auction Property

Close Public Hearing

3. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution selling city-owned property at 1301 Avenue I to (blank) for a cost of \$(blank) and authorizing the Mayor's and Clerk's signatures on a Quit Claim Deed.

Concerning A Proposed Lease with Southeast Iowa Aquatic Restoration Group, Inc.

Open Public Hearing

Close Public Hearing

4. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to

adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on a Lease Agreement with Southeast Iowa Aquatic Restoration Group, Inc., for property known as Riverview Marina in Riverview Park.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

5. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Title 1, Administration, Chapter 4, General Penalty, Section 2, Procedures and Penalties for Municipal Infractions to add a civil penalty for each day of an ongoing violation.

6. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution accepting Public Improvement Project 2020-01, Marina

Improvement Project as complete. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2022-46)

7. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution accepting the 2021 Riprap and Rock Procurement with Cessford Construction for material used in the Marina Improvement Project. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2022-47)

8. (Blank) moved and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution awarding a contract for the Rodeo Park Trail Beautification Project with Reid's Landscaping, Inc., of West Burlington, Iowa, in the amount of \$500,000. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2022-48)

OTHER

9. (Blank) moved and

HELP WANTED

Notice of Job Opening
Extended Deadline
July 14, 2022

The Lee County Recorder's Office has a job opening for a Regular, Full-Time Records Clerk. The deadline for applying has been extended from July 5 to July 21, 2022.

The application form and job description can be downloaded at www.leecounty.org, obtained at the Lee County Recorder's Office, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison, Iowa, or by calling the Recorder's Office at 319-376-1070.

Completed application should be sent or delivered to Nancy Booten, Lee County Recorder, 933 Avenue H, P.O. Box 190, Fort Madison, Iowa, 52627 or emailed to nbooten@leecounty.org. IP-ERS and benefits available. All applications should be received by the Recorder's office by 4:30 PM on Thursday, July 21, 2022.

Real estate or legal experience is preferred.



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CLOSES: TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 AT 1PM



Fort Madison, Iowa - Land is located 4 1/2 miles south of Fort Madison on Highway 61, then 1/4 mile west on 270th Street.

48.04 Surveyed Acres, 1 Tract

Auctioneer's Note: Here is a piece of farmland with development potential. Offering tillable land adjacent to the railroad and just off Highway 61.

FSA indicates: 44.47 acres tillable.
 Corn Suitability Rating 2 is 35.8 on the tillable acres.
 Located in Sections 27 & 28,
 Jefferson Township, Lee County, Iowa.
Property is Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) Certified: Certified as part of the Fort Madison Industrial Site as a General Industrial Site.

FRANCES L. SCHMITZ
Julie L. Pulkrabek - Closing Attorney for Seller
 Contact Mason Holvoet of Steffes Group,
 319.385.2000 or 319.470.7372



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 Steffes Group, Inc., 2245 East Bluegrass Road, Mt. Pleasant, IA

Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

(blank) SECONDED to approve the reappointment of Melinda L. Blind, as City Clerk, term expiring July 1, 2024.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND CITY MANAGER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

OPEN DISCUSSION/FUTURE MEETING

ITEMS/ COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

The next City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF
WEST BURLINGTON
Regular City
Council Meeting
Wednesday,
July 20, 2022 - 6:00 PM
West Burlington
City Hall
122 Broadway Street

TENTATIVE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL
PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF AGENDA
CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve minutes from the Regular City Council meeting on July 6, 2022

2. Approve payment of Claims as listed on the July 20, 2022, Expense Approval Report for \$376,419.15

3. Approve payment to Snyder & Associates for engineering services related to the Mt. Pleasant Street Water Tower Project - \$9,309.22

4. Approve the purchase of repair clams and fittings from Municipal Supply - \$14,699.49 plus shipping

COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS

- ADMINISTRATOR:
- PUBLIC WORKS:
- POLICE DEPARTMENT:
- FIRE/BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

- CLERK/FINANCE/IT:
- OTHER STAFF REPORTS:
- COUNCIL REPORTS:
- COMMUNITY REPORTS:

- CITIZEN INQUIRIES

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider the purchase of a pipe and cable locator for the Public Works Department from USABluebook

2. Consider Pay Request #14 to Boomerang for Mt. Pleasant Water Tower Project - \$162,355

3. Consider the second reading of an Ordinance establishing the July, 2022 Tax Increment Financing District for the West Burlington Urban Renewal Area

4. Consider approving a quote from LL Pelling Co. to sealcoat N Sunset and Frontage Rd and the frontage road to the West 3 Lift Station - \$36,984.00

5. Consider quote from MJ Daly Construction to install sidewalks on Melville Ave.

OLD BUSINESS
CITIZEN INQUIRIES
ADJOURN
WORK SESSION

1. Council will hold a Work Session following the regular meeting to discuss the 2022 4th of July Celebration

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ELECTRICAL TECHNICIANS

Conagra Brands in Fort Madison is hiring Electrical Technicians on 2nd and 3rd shifts with an **INCREASED** starting wage! Find more details and apply online at careers.conagrabrands.com today!

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- \$.45 2nd shift pay differential and \$.65 3rd shift pay differential
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Conagra Brands in Fort Madison is hiring for the following positions! Find more details and apply online at careers.conagrabrands.com today!

- Production Team Leader
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- Sanitation Team Leader

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- Wealth: competitive salaries, incentive opportunity, matching 401(k) and stock purchase plan
- Growth: online courses, virtual and classroom development experiences

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LEE CHD Family Support Worker/Administrative Assistant

Lee County Health Department is seeking a full-time Family Support Worker/Administrative Assistant to provide in-home parent education & support services to families enrolled in our Healthy Families America home visiting program model. Bachelors degree is preferred. Knowledge/experience in early childhood development; skills in promoting positive parent-child interactions; ability to use a family-centered approach with culturally diverse population, & experience in data entry & documentation. Extensive data collection & documentation is required. Please send or email resume to Missy Park, Program Manager at LCHD, PO Box 1426, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or to mmagee@leecountyhd.org by July 20, 2022. LCHD is an EOE.

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Opinion/From the Front

Looking back let's us smile
about what has become

80s - Continued from Page 1

where I bused tables. She was like 28 or something and her boyfriend didn't like me very much because I wasn't shy about letting her know.

I was not a good late teen. I was a jackass. The 80s were a decade of beer and the occasional blunt. The only good thing about marijuana is that it inevitably led to heavy political discussion over Taco Bell. I guess you could say I honed my political beliefs illegally. That probably makes sense to the conservatives who couldn't find the humor in my rant about I-44.

The 80s shaped who I am. It helped me sift through all the crap that I didn't want... by doing everything I shouldn't do.

There were fights, but they were with fists and we weren't worried about someone pulling a gun and shooting you and then saying they were standing their ground. There were girls, there were parties, and there were jobs. Lots of jobs.

I made friends, most of which are gone now. Some of those friends are dead. I would give anything to have made better decisions around them. The 80s showed me what can happen when you don't pay attention to the better angel sitting on your shoulder.

The great thing is that at the age of 53, I can say I'm a better person for being who I was fresh out of high school and tinkering with college. I'm not infallible. I still hiccup occasionally, but I'm more responsive to the needs of others.

Sometimes I stay out later than I should trying to recapture my youth. I do that with quite a few of you readers. But when you see me out, even if I don't know you, one of my greatest joys is meeting new people. So come up and grab my arm. Say Hello. It'll take me six times to remember your name. Has nothing to do with the ganja of the 80s, I just see too many faces in this business.

The 80s were wonderful and I'm sure many of you think the same way. Rush is a favorite of mine, but anyone that doesn't mind playing golf with music playing knows when I'm pulling up behind because Winger, or Journey or Whitesnake.... something like that is playing.

But my greatest gift from the 80s is that it framed who I am now. I'm much closer with my family, because now they don't think of me as a self-righteous ass with nothing but immediate gratification in mind. I know I need to work to get ahead and I know how to work to get ahead.

I know family takes precedent over everything, during the 80s I did just about anything to not be around family. Now I can't get enough of them. When I hear the music of that decade it takes me back to a place of fondness, but the smile comes from knowing I'm not that dude anymore.

The other side of life is just over the hill and I don't mind peering over at it as long as I can reach back when I want to - But that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current. He can be reached at charles.v@pencitycurrent.com.

74 and so much more

I turn 74 this month. I'll take and tell you, what Ginnie and I went through with COVID 19, I could see the end, and it wasn't pretty. It made me realize that life is so fragile—one little hiccup and you're on your back, not knowing if you'll recover or not. COVID, or a substrain of it is on the rise. My doctor tells me everybody will eventually get COVID, it's the severity that varies.

Feeling like death warmed over, my doctor also told me my symptoms were in the "mild-to-moderate" range. Holy cow! I can't imagine what "severe" is like—in the hospital, intubated and fighting for life? I felt like I was fighting for life the way it was. I've never ever been so sick. But at least the doctor was letting me know that I didn't really have it all that bad, and it was just a matter of toughing it out. I needed to know that.

Being that sick made me aware of my mortality, and realize that my life's work is not done. What do I want my life's legacy to be? Well, I want this book I've been working on, "Task Force IED," to get published. I would hate for something to derail it and the book not get out there. I better keep plugging away.

Do you know what you want your legacy to be? If you bought it today, would your life's work be done? Are you ready to meet your Maker? How do you want to be remembered?

I swallowed my pride and put it out on social media that we needed prayers. The response was overwhelming. Thank you, everyone, for your prayers.

A friend of mine asked if I'd be open to Reiki (pronounced "Rake-ee") Healing. When someone offers free healing, accept it! Reiki is an old Japanese alternative medicine that involves manipulating spiritual, emotional, and physical energies. (She also does Reiki on animals.) I was to lay back, listen to a You Tube tape of soothing music, verbalize that I am open to healing, and then let her do the work—over the phone. Ginnie partook also. The procedure took half an hour. 15 minutes into it, I felt the skin across the bridge of my nose tighten, then my nasal pas-

EMPTY
NEST

By Curt Swarm



sages open up. I also noticed the sick feeling in my gut was gone.

During "debriefing" the Reiki Healer told me that she could feel the heat in my upper body, and the pain in my chest, legs and feet. I did feel better and more relaxed. If I'm open to people praying for me, I'm open to Reiki.

I lost weight while sick, mainly because I didn't eat much. Nothing tasted good, like my morning coffee. Even just a little bit of food made me feel full. I slipped below my goal weight of 180 lbs with ease, all without exercising. I'm sure I'll gain it back, but one little perk to being so sick is weight loss. Tough way to do it, but no one's said, "You look like skin-and-bones yet." (Except Ginnie.)

Ginnie, trying to get me to eat, cooked up a storm. (She wasn't quite as sick.) There were chocolate-chip cookies (loaded), grilled cheese sandwiches with tomato soup, meatloaf, homemade chicken and noodles, Mom's staple: macaroni and tomatoes (not goulash), egg casserole (eggs from our neighbors' chickens), summer-strawberry dessert, and my all-time favorite—sloppy Joes. (I call'm Joppy Sloes.) Man-oh-man. It's a miracle I lost weight! I'm spoiled, I know.

For my birthday we're going to go horseback riding in Shimek State Forest. When we were in Wyoming, we did some horseback riding. Ginnie really likes it, so let's give it a try here in Iowa. Being old people, we require well-broke in, gentle horses that know the trail and follow the leader. Maybe some horse sense will work its way up. Learning to move my hips in rhythm with the horse, is like going along with the ebb-and-flow of life. Sorta.

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



Lunch Specials
July 18-22
11am - 1pm

Monday, July 18
Carved Ham, Cheese Potatoes

Tuesday, July 19
Minit Steak, Mashed Potatoes

Wednesday, July 20
BBQ Pork, Potato Salad, Baked Beans

THURSDAY, JULY 21
FRIED CHICKEN DINNERS

Friday, July 22
Grilling on the Sidewalk

Lee County Health Department
Back-to-School Immunization Clinic

August 9, 2022

9:00am-Noon and 1:00pm-4:00pm

3 John Bennett Dr
Fort Madison, IA 52627

Appointments are strongly encouraged.
Walk-ins will be taken in order of arrival so wait times may vary.
Masks are required for those over the age of 2.

This Immunization Clinic is aimed at those children needing back-to-school immunizations specially those entering Kindergarten, 7th Grade & Senior Year.

For questions or to schedule an appointment please call (319)376-4767 or (319)372-5225.

#3 John Bennett Drive, Ft. Madison, Iowa 52627
(319)372-5225 or (800)458-6672 ~ www.leecountyhd.org





July 1st – August 5th

(no meals July 4th)

FM

Sit & Eat Service – Monday thru Friday
For all kids 18 years old and younger.



10:45-11:05

- **Lincoln Elem**
14th St & Ave E
(playground)

11:15-11:35

- **FM High School**
20th St & Ave C
(by pool)

11:00-11:30

- **ECC**
23rd & Ave J
No meals July 4-8
- **YMCA**
220 – 26th St
No meals on Fridays

11:50-12:10

- **Victory Park**
23rd St & Ave F
(playground)

12:30-12:50

- **Richardson Elem.**
33rd St & Ave L
(playground)

1:00-1:20

- **Salvation Army**
1415 Ave M
(south side)

Central Lee Sports Boosters

GOLF OUTING 2022

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2022

GREEN ACRES GOLF COURSE

in Donnellson, Iowa

SHOTGUN START: 10 a.m.

FORMAT: Best Ball

ENTRY FEE: \$400 per team

22 team limit, 4 players per team

**Registration fee includes golf, golf cart,
and lunch & dinner.**

**Prizes will be awarded for the top three teams in
each flight. Door prizes and silent auction for all.**

All proceeds go to the Central Lee Sports Boosters

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Send Registration to:

Eric Van Ausdall

1692 Hwy 2
Donnellson, IA 52625

217-430-4650

eric@myconnectionbank.com

Team Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Player 1: _____ Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____ Player 4: _____

Central Lee Sports Boosters

GOLF OUTING 2022

SPONSORED BY



The Central Lee Sports Boosters is working to raise funds to complete Phase I of the athletics facility improvement plan developed in 2022. Your sponsorship will help improve batting cages, track & field events, and the football & soccer field, while expanding the press box at the football field!

SPONSORSHIPS

PREMIER SPONSOR (\$1,500):

This is the headline sponsor with naming rights for the golf outing. The premier sponsor has the opportunity to display their banner at the venue, have their business as a hole sponsor, and have their logo and name displayed on all marketing materials and social media posts for the event.

HOSPITALITY SPONSOR (\$750):

The golf outing includes lunch, dinner, and beverages for event participants. Our hospitality sponsors will be recognized during lunch and dinner, and also be included near the areas beverages are served. Hospitality sponsors are allowed signage at the lunch, dinner, and beverage locations.

HOLE SPONSOR (\$150):

Each hole will have display signs showcasing businesses and organizations serving as a hole sponsor. Multiple businesses/organizations may be displayed on each tee box throughout the course.

ON-COURSE GAMES (\$250):

Part of what makes a golf event like this a memorable experience are the on-course games/contests. These sponsors will be recognized on the course, in the program, and during the awards ceremony. On-course games include, but are not limited to, long drive, longest putt, and closest to the pin. We can even customize an on-course game to highlight your business!

RAFFLE PRIZE SPONSORS:

At the conclusion of the golfing event, sports boosters will conduct a raffle/silent auction. To create a fun experience for both golfers and non-golfers, the booster club needs sponsors for the items! Businesses will be recognized by the individual item they donate and during the awards ceremony.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Eric Van Ausdall - eric@myconnectionbank.com | **Scott Fogarty** - scottjfoarty@gmail.com