

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and **Read** all over

Monday, March 11, 2024 | 6 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 45



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

## OFP bringing Opal back

**SPRING:** Veteran troupe brings back popular show to Fort Madison playhouse

FORT MADISON - Old Fort Players is proud to present "Opal is A Diamond". With support from Jess Sutcliffe State Farm Insurance, "Opal" is a riveting tale of resilience and redemption, where the titular character, a woman of abundant good nature, becomes the unsuspecting victim of a baser individual's instincts. The culprit, an oily and unscrupulous politician vying for reelection as mayor, underestimates Opal's determination and spirit. Faced with adversity, Opal refuses to be a mere bystander and, with the support of both new and old friends, decides to take matters into her own hands by running for office herself.

Despite the odds stacked against her, Opal's genuine appeal to the voters proves embarrassingly effective, prompting her opponent to resort to foul play to maintain his grip on power. As the plot thickens, the audience is kept on the edge of their seats, alternating between uproarious laughter and nail-biting suspense, until a surprising twist of fate leads to a happy and satisfying conclusion. With a blend of seasoned favorites and emerging talents, "Opal" promises to deliver a captivating theatrical experience. Returning 10 years to play Opal is Shelley Dowling along with Karen Schumaker as Rosie.

Courtesy image

Old Fort Players is bringing Opal back to the stage this month for a 10th-anniversary production sponsored by Jess Sutcliffe, State Farm.

Other cast members reprising their original roles are Joe St. Clair (Miggy), Jim French (Chuck).

New to the cast of "Opal is A Diamond" are Jan Jud (Mayor Hector Bissell), Ty Wayne Clute (Bob Royce), Cheryl Hardin (Mary Loden), Joe Harmon (Tony), Brad Hart (Ole). "Opal is A Diamond" is produced by Special Arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing The Dramatists Play Service Collection ([www.dramatists.com](http://www.dramatists.com)). Performances are sched-

uled to run March 15-17 & 22-24, 2024.

This performance is open to all age ranges and is sure to bring a bucket of family filled laughs.

The theater is located in downtown Fort Madison at 725 Avenue G. Send a Facebook message, send an email to [oldfortplayersfm@gmail.com](mailto:oldfortplayersfm@gmail.com) or call 319-372-9559 for more information. Like them on Facebook (Fb@oldfortplayers) to keep up with everything that's going on at the theater.

### EDITORIAL



## Cheeseburger tour requires dietary rest

tea with ginger, cinnamon, white rice, apple cider vinegar, avocado oil, and a full lemon.

That's what I'm drinking now. Because eating 13 gourmet cheeseburgers in 36 hours is not smart. It's not digestively smart, emotionally smart, it wasn't logistically smart, or even financially smart.

But.

It... was... AWESOME!

The pictures are scary as we took many selfies and pictures of each other diving in. Those will stay in our phones, but the burger photos I've been sharing. Something a little different for the weekend.

I've been fuller in my life, but not very often. This tea better work on activating the digestive system. When we walked in after the trip, my sister-in-law was laughing and asked if we had bigger bellies. My nephew said he gained seven pounds. LOL.

But he kept eating the tots and cheese curds, dufus.

A buddy of ours hooked up with us in Des Moines Friday for Luchales Fine Foods

See TEA, page 6

### BUSINESS NEWS

## Burlington lands new Amazon last-mile facility

Micro distribution center to move into warehouse in Flint Ridge Business Park near Sports Complex

BURLINGTON – The Greater Burlington Partnership is delighted to announce that Amazon is entering into an agreement to open its first facility in

Burlington, a site that will support last-mile deliveries in the region. This facility will be approximately 38,600 square feet located in the Flint Ridge Business

Park at 715 West Burlington Ave. Launch plans for the facility are in the early stages, with renovations to the existing structure slated to start in the coming weeks.

"This last-mile facility will allow us to better serve customers in the southeast Iowa," said Jason Vangelis, manager of economic

development for Amazon. "We're grateful for our partnership with the Greater Burlington Partnership, City of Burlington, and Des Moines County to launch Amazon's first facility in the area, and we look forward to sharing more details about this facility

See AMAZON, page 3



Nephew Hayden, left, and John get into their Brazilian burgers from Ames "Cafe Beaudelaire" Saturday afternoon.

### INDEX

Business Directory.....P.5  
**BUSINESS NEWS**.....P.3  
**CLASSIFIEDS**.....P.5  
 Complete Rental.....P.3  
 Fort Colony Family Restaurant.....P.4  
 Fort Madison Family YMCA.....P.4  
**FROM THE FRONT**.....P.3,6  
 Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.3  
**IOWA NEWS**.....P.3  
 LCK Roofing.....P.4

**LEE COUNTY NEWS**.....P.4,6  
**LOCAL NEWS**.....P.4  
 Mohrfeld Solar.....P.4  
**OBITUARIES**.....P.2-3  
 • Tracy L. Krogmeier, 61  
 • Michael M. Phelan, 84  
 • Donald C. Pollpeter, 8  
 • Jeffrey A. Rooney, 56  
**OPINION**.....P.6  
 Pen City Current.....P.4-5

Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.2  
 Pothitakis Dental Group.....P.2  
 Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C.....P.6  
 Public Notices.....P.5  
 RonDavoo.....P.4  
 Sonny's Super Market.....P.6  
**SPORTS**.....P.4  
 Tony Wolfe Insurance Services.....P.4  
 YMCA Test Kitchen & STEM Lounge.....P.4

### WEATHER

MON 11 Mar.....Sunny and breezy, 69° F/43° F  
 TUE 12 Mar.....Mostly sunny, 68° F/48° F  
 WED 13 Mar.....Partly sunny, 70° F/50° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 03/09.....41 43 49 55 67, Powerball: 20  
 LOTTO AMERICA 03/09.....3 27 33 37 52, Star Ball: 9 All Star Bonus: 3  
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 03/09.....12 19 22 42 46, Lucky Ball: 17  
 MEGA MILLIONS 03/08.....19 20 22 47 58, Mega Ball: 1 Megaplier: 3  
 PICK 3 MIDDAY 03/07, 03/08, 03/09.....110, 915, 666  
 PICK 3 EVENING 03/07, 03/08, 03/09.....979, 826, 926  
 PICK 4 MIDDAY 03/07, 03/08, 03/09.....6459, 0903, 0997  
 PICK 4 EVENING 03/07, 03/08, 03/09.....7204, 1030, 0615  
 POWERBALL 03/09.....30 36 49 52 63, Powerball: 16 Power Play: 5

### SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today  
 Paid & Free Options Available!





# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### JEFFREY A. ROONEY

Jeffrey A. Rooney, age 56 of Montrose, passed away on Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 2:35 PM at Unity Point Health in Rock Island, IL.

He was born on January 10, 1968 in Keokuk to Albert and Naomi Brown Rooney. On July 11, 2020 he married Karen Westfall in Montrose. Jeff worked for thirty years at the Burlington and Keokuk Walmart Stores. He loved raising chickens and sold and delivered eggs to numerous people and various restaurants in the area. Survivors include his wife, Karen Westfall of Montrose; four children, Cera Rooney of Hamilton, IL, Mera Rooney of Chatum, IL, Trentin Rooney of Hamilton, IL and Nia Rooney of Chatum, IL;

Five brothers, Robin (Kim) Rooney of Adel, Michael (Louise) Rooney of Montrose, Kurt (Amanda) Rooney of Burlington, Tommy Rooney of Ft. Madison and Patrick Rooney of Peru, IL; six sisters, Cheryl (Allen) Lindgren of Burlington, Jeri (Mike) Massick of Burlington, Linda Whaley of Ft. Madison, Patty (Harold) Wilson of Montrose, Marcie Rooney of Ft. Madison, and Rebecca Rooney of Crestview, FL; numerous nieces and nephews. Step Children, Stephanie Fraise of Donnellson, Melissa Fraise of Panama City, FL, Dana Andrews of Dalesville, AL, Lisa Estrada of Montrose and Kyle Fraise of Buma, TX; twelve step grandchildren and one step great grandson. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Connie Pranger; his brother, James Rooney; his nephew, Jamie Huett and his great nephew, Drake Huett.

Friends may call after 2 PM on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will meet with friends from 4-6 PM. The funeral service will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 10:30 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home with Pastor Kevin Hardcastle officiating. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted with to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

A memorial has been established for DAV (Disabled Veterans of America) and online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).



ROONEY

## OBITUARIES

### DONALD C. POLLPETER

Donald Carl Pollpeter, 88, of rural West Point, Iowa, passed away at 6:34 p.m. Thursday, March 7, 2024, at the University of Iowa Health Care Medical Center Downtown, Iowa City, Iowa.



POLLPETER

He was born on December 26, 1935, in West Point, Iowa, the son of August and Wilhelmina (Lohman). On October 18, 1959, he married Phyllis Agnes Pranger at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point. She preceded him in death on September 8, 2020.

He is survived by his seven children: Scott (Sandi) Pollpeter of Tampa, Florida; Diane (Joel) Thompson of Solon, Iowa; Michael (Teri) Pollpeter of Walnut Shade, Missouri; Roger Pollpeter of Anamosa, Iowa; Steven Pollpeter of Wever, Iowa; Brian (Jodi) Pollpeter of Lacey, Iowa and Dean (Amy) Pollpeter of Ankeny, Iowa; eighteen grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren and one brother: Dennis Pollpeter. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by his parents; wife: Phyllis; siblings: Margie Johnson, Sr. Ann Pollpeter, Ralph Pollpeter, Elmer Pollpeter; niece: Karen Brzostoski and great nephew: Chris Thompson.

Don was a graduate of St. Mary's Catholic High School. He served in the United State Army Reserves for six years. He owned and operated Pollpeter Farms, Inc. for seventy years. Don was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the West Point Knights of Columbus where he had served as past Grand Knight. He enjoyed farming, gardening, wine making and baking rhubarb cakes.

A visitation will begin at 12:00 noon, Friday, March 15, 2024, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point, where the family will receive friends from 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 6:00 p.m.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 16, 2024, at St. Mary's Catholic Church with Father Dan Dorau as celebrant.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

Memorials have been established in his memory for St. Mary's Catholic Church or West Point Fire and Rescue.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).

## GENTLE, CARING DENTISTRY

# FOR YOUR WHOLE FAMILY



POTHITAKIS  
DENTAL GROUP



- Family Dentistry
- Teeth Whitening
- Dental Implants
- Extractions

Now accepting new patients

Ft. Madison East  
(319) 372-3614

Ft. Madison West  
(319) 372-4882

West Burlington  
(319) 753-2515

New London  
(319) 367-2311

Mediapolis  
(319) 394-3255

Burlington  
(319) 752-7993

[www.DrMarkDDS.com](http://www.DrMarkDDS.com)

## Making Dreams Come True Since 1911



Meet our loan officers  
from left to right:  
Scott Piper,  
Brett Wrieden,  
Justin Menke,  
and Nichole Nagel

Call today to talk to  
one of our  
home loan officers  
& make your dream  
come true!

— 319-469-3951 —

Pilot Grove  
Savings Bank

Donnellson | Fairfield | Fort Madison | Houghton | Keokuk | Mt. Pleasant | Packwood | Pilot Grove | West Burlington | West Point | Winfield

[www.PilotGroveSavingsBank.com](http://www.PilotGroveSavingsBank.com)



# Obituaries/From the Front

## OBITUARIES

### MICHAEL M. PHELAN

Michael Martin Phelan, 84, of Ft. Madison, Iowa, passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

“Bubbles,” as he was known to his friends, was born on September 24, 1939, in Ft. Madison, Iowa, to J. Francis and Mildred (Martin) Phelan. Mike was a graduate of the Ft. Madison High School class of 1957, and the University of Iowa class of 1961. He went on to earn his Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Drake University Law School in 1965, and soon after passed the Iowa Bar Exam. Mike went on to practice law in Lee County as a partner, solo practitioner, and mentor for over 40 years.

Mike was a member of several area organizations. One of his favorites was the Tri-State Rodeo. Over the years, he was proud to serve on several committees, becoming Rodeo Chairman in 1976 and 1977. Mike was an avid golfer, who spent endless hours playing the area courses. He was a member of the golf team during high school and college, as well as a member of the Fort Madison Country Club, and board member for the Sheaffer Golf Course. Mike loved being outdoors and enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time at his cabin in the Green Bay Bottoms. Mike was married to Sharon (Larsen) Anderson, with whom he had three children. They later divorced.

Survivors include two sons, Dan (Elizabeth) Phelan of Dalton, GA, and Dave (Kathy) Phelan of Waukesha, WI; one daughter, Kelly (Kraig) Snyder of Cedar Rapids, IA; seven grandchildren, Ainsleigh Phelan, Bannon Phelan, Erin Phelan, Michael Phelan, Frankie Sue (T.J.) Rieniets, Austin Snyder, and Jackson Snyder; two great grandchildren, Goldie Rieniets & Rocky Jo Rieniets; two sisters, Patsy Dailey of Kansas City, MO, and Kathleen Kelly of St. Louis, MO. Mike was preceded in death by his parents and brother, John F. Phelan Jr.

The funeral mass will be at 10AM Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at Sacred Heart Church, Fort Madison, with the Rev. Gary Beckman officiating. Burial will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery. There will be a celebration of life at the Fort Madison Elks Lodge following the burial.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for Sheaffer Golf Park Community Foundation. Online condolences may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).



PHELAN

## OBITUARIES

### TRACY L. KROGMEIER

Tracy Lynne (Woodley) Krogmeier, 61, of rural West Point, Iowa, passed away peacefully at home at 2:40 a.m. Saturday, March 9, 2024.

She was born on January 17, 1963, in Lee County Iowa, raised by Larry and Carolyn (Hawes) Fuger. On September 25, 1998, she married Orville Krogmeier at the Des Moines County Court House.

Tracy was a 1981 graduate of Central Lee High School. She went on to work for Huffman Welding, Silgan Containers, Heatilator and Lee County Salvation Army. She enjoyed DIY projects, fishing, mushrooming, playing euchre, riding horses, traveling, drawing and painting. She was game for anything, with few exceptions.

She is survived by her husband: Orville Krogmeier; foster mother: Carolyn Pundt of Argyle, Iowa; foster father: Larry Fuger of Florida; son: Dakota (Marissa) Krogmeier of Dubuque, Iowa; step-children: Jamie Parker and Luke Krogmeier, both of Ottumwa, Iowa; siblings: Rick Woodley of West Point, Iowa, Toni Farmer of St. Louis, Missouri, Robin Ashton of Topeka, Kansas, John (Michelle) Fuger of Waupaka, Wisconsin, Matt (Heather) Fuger of Donnellson, Iowa; several nieces, nephews and step-grandchildren. Also surviving are special long time friends: Cindy Arnaman, Pam Hodge, Denise Ramsey, Diane Gasaway, Gina McKeehan, Mary Taylor, Seleda Franklin and Jan Beach.

She was preceded in death by her brother: Don Woodley, Jr.

A visitation will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Thursday, March 14, 2024, at Argyle Presbyterian Church in Argyle, Iowa.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, March 14, 2024, at Argyle Presbyterian Church with Pastors Tony Keefe and Donna Palmeter officiating.

Following the memorial service, a luncheon will be held at the church.

The family request memorials be made to the Keokuk Dimond Center - Social Services Fund (domiciled in Fort Madison Salvation Army building) or the Denmark Fire and Rescue.

Tracy's family would like to express their appreciation for all the thoughtfulness extended to them during Tracy's illness. Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com)



KROGMEIER

# Burlington Amazon facility to occupy former Dura Plastics building

## AMAZON - Continued from Page 1

and the good jobs we'll offer in the future.”

Amazon supports more than one million employees worldwide who are innovating and working to serve customers throughout several global fulfillment centers, retail locations, data centers, corporate offices, tech hubs, and headquarters locations. Hourly employees in customer fulfillment and transportation generally earn between \$17 and \$28 per hour.

“We look forward to the positive impact this significant development will have on our commu-

nity and the opportunities it will create for the local workforce,” said Jeremy Hess, Director of Economic Development, Greater Burlington Partnership.

“This is a huge win for the region! We are very thankful Amazon has chosen to invest in our city and region through its capital investment and job creation. The City of Burlington thanks its Economic Development partner, the Greater Burlington Partnership, for its outstanding efforts to continually develop workforce opportunities. Truly we are all partners in success. What a great day!” said John Billups, Mayor Burlington.

Occupying the former Dura Plastics building, the facility will undergo immediate interior and exterior renovations for the last-mile operation. Last-mile facilities are the final stops in Amazon's transportation network before packages are delivered to customers' doorsteps. Employees sort packages according to delivery routes who finish the shipping cycle by delivering goods like books, household items and toys.

This location will feature advanced automation technologies, and the wages offered will surpass the regional average.

**LET US DO THE MATH!**

- 145 YEARS OF COMBINED EXPERIENCE
- LOCAL FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS FOR 61 YEARS
- 7 LICENSED AGENTS
- WRITING IN 3 STATES

**FJ Fullenkamp INSURANCE** Trusted Choice  
 Est. 1963  
 307 5th Street West Point  
 319-837-6178 or 800-292-2208 | [www.FullenkampIns.com](http://www.FullenkampIns.com)  
 Open M-F 7:30 - 5:00

**SICK OF RISING PRICES?! US, TOO!!!**

**Complete Rental PRICE BEAT GUARANTEE**

Show us an advertised price or quote

**WE'LL BEAT IT BY 15%**

\*Not valid with any other discounts

**5636 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA • (319) 372-8105**  
Located right across the road from Jim Baier Ford in Fort Madison

**Charles Vandenberg, Editor**

(319).371.1670  
 Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com

**Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager**

(319).371.4125  
 Lee.V@PenCityCurrent.com

**Copyright © 2024 by Pen City Current**

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

**PEN CITY CURRENT**  
 It's Black & White and Read all over

**Member LION Publishers**

[www.lionpublishers.com](http://www.lionpublishers.com)



Pen City Current, [www.PenCityCurrent.com](http://www.PenCityCurrent.com), and Pen e-Saver are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Monday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

**Founded in 2016**  
 P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA



## Local News/Sports

# Cemetery clean up set for this month

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Cemetery Department will begin Spring Clean Up at Sacred Heart, Elmwood, Oakland & City Cemeteries on Monday, March 25 through Friday, March 29, 2024. ALL items must be removed from the gravesites before Monday, March 25. Any items

left will be disposed of during cemetery clean up. No items are to be placed on the graves until Saturday, March 30, 2024.

For further information, call (319) 372-7700, ext. 206 or email [cityclerk@fortmadison-ia.com](mailto:cityclerk@fortmadison-ia.com). Thank you for your cooperation!

### KEOKUK NEWS

# Keokuk Art Center features Women of the World in March

KEOKUK - Throughout the month of March, the public is invited to attend an informational and creative series: "Women of the World." Each unique program will be held from 11 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Angela Gates will present the second program "Historic Women of Keokuk." Angela was born and raised in Quincy, Illinois and earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology degree at Western Illinois University in Macomb. During her years in Macomb, she met her husband, Eric. The couple moved to Eric's hometown of Keokuk in 2006 and are raising two wonderful children here. Angela works at the Keokuk Public

Library where she assists patrons with genealogy and local history research. She is also involved in the Lee County, Iowa Historical Society and other local history interests and is passionate about telling the stories of those who have gone before us.

The Keokuk Art Center and Keokuk Public Library is hosting a 3D extravaganza for anyone interested in learning more about 3D printing. Kyle Combs will share his expertise and 3D printing protocols will be shared. Thanks to the generosity of the Keokuk Community Foundation grant, this 3D printer is available for Keokuk Public Library and Keokuk Art Center patrons.

Please register in advance by contacting the public library at 319-524-1483.

### CENTRAL LEE GOLF

# Herdrich to lead Hawks boys

## Kirchner, Gram will lead Lady Hawks through spring season

PCC Staff

DONNELSON - Central Lee's golf teams will be hoping for some decent numbers to allow for improvement and team growth this season.

The Hawks boys' squad is coming off a 7-3 dual season and will feature two juniors and two sophomores from last year's team. The girls team went 2-4 last year and are returning Mercedes Kirchner for her senior season and Sydney Gram in her junior campaign.

Head Coach Mike Unger has a 163-96-1 record coaching the girls and is 219-122-3 in boys action closing in on 400 career wins.

For the Lady Hawks Kirchner and Gram will lead a group of six girls, many of which haven't played a lot of golf.

"We've got four players coming in that are just learning the game and I'm not sure of their ability. Official practice starts on Monday," he said.

"With only two players with experience and the other four learning the game it will be hard to compete as a team. I hope the experience players will have some individual success."

He said New London and Mediapolis should be the teams to beat in the Southeast Iowa Superconference South division.

Senior Bo Herdrich and Cale Clark will lead a group of six boys. Caleb Larson and Mylan Lowenberg are both sophomores who could help the Hawks to some dual wins this year. Newcomers included freshmen Carson Morrison and Carter Jones.

"With the return of four experienced players and some newcomers that I haven't seen a lot of, we should be able to compete for the conference title," Unger said.

He said the depth of the roster should be able to help keep team scores low and he has hopes the freshman will be able to contribute.

The boys season kicks off March 28 at Keokuk, while the girls season starts on April 4 with a boys, girls dual at home vs. Holy Trinity Catholic.

**LCK ROOFING AND REPAIR**  
Gutters & More  
JASON STOTT  
OWNER/OPERATOR  
(319) 371-2554  
lckroofingandrepair@gmail.com  
SENIOR/MILITARY DISCOUNTS

**Fort Colony**  
Family Diner  
Open 7 Days A Week  
DAILY SPECIALS  
Breakfast All Day  
(319) 372-5759  
5102 Ave. O, Fort Madison, IA 52627

**Ron Davoo**  
Always fresh, always friendly.  
fried chicken & pizza pies  
FRESH, NEVER FROZEN  
JUMBO  
MARINATED TENDERS  
hand-breaded with our special seasoning  
Open Monday-Saturday 11AM - 8:30PM | Closed Sunday  
Ron Litchfield  
Owner/Pizzapreneur  
605 South 10th St, Burlington, Iowa 52601  
Phone (319) 752-5767 / Cell (319) 572-2495  
Email: RonLitch1176@msn.com https://www.facebook.com/RonDavooPizza/

Follow Us  
@pencitycurrent

**the YOUTH SPRING SOCCER**

**Little Tykes Soccer**  
Little Tykes Youth Soccer League is open to girls and boys 3 to 6 years of age.

**Lee County Soccer**  
Lee County Youth Soccer League is open to 1st - 6th grade boys and girls.

**Spring Soccer Registration Fees:**  
\$30/members \$50/non-members  
Registration Deadline: March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE  
220 26th Street | Fort Madison, IA  
fortmadison.org  
programdirector@fortmadison.org  
319-372-2403

FORT MADISON FAMILY YMCA

**STABLE. PREDICTABLE.**  
That's what you can expect from a Wellmark Medicare supplement plan.  
Call today to find coverage that's right for you.  
**319-372-5201**

**Tony Wolfe Insurance Services**  
Fort Madison, IA 52627  
Tony@tawins.com

An Authorized Independent Agent for **Wellmark Iowa**

This is a solicitation of insurance. Wellmark Medicare supplement insurance plans are not affiliated with any government agency. To be eligible, you must reside in the service area of the plan. Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Are you ready to lower your electric bills?

**Mohrfield Solar**  
Energy Audit  
Solar System Design  
Solar System Installation  
System Monitoring  
P: 319-372-5536  
E: Mohrfield@mohrfieldelectric.com

**the Y TEST KITCHEN**

**Cottontail Dash**  
Fun Run/Walk  
Riverview Park | Fort Madison, IA  
Saturday, March 30th, 2024  
7:30am Check-In 8:00am Start  
FREE WILL DONATION  
FREE Event T-Shirt for the first 100 Participants

All proceeds will go to YMCA Test Kitchen Music and Cooking programs!  
Join the Facebook Event for complete details and event updates



## Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Lee County, Iowa**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Agenda**  
**DATE: Monday,**  
**March 11, 2024**

**HELP WANTED**

**Come join our team!**  
**Now hiring**

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE TECH**

Lee County Facilities Department is seeking a qualified applicant for the position of Building and Grounds Maintenance Tech. Applicants must have good mechanical skills and be willing to perform labor indoors and outdoors in all weather elements. Basic understanding and work experience in mechanical and electrical systems, HVAC, plumbing, painting, grounds keeping (including mowing and snow/ice removal), power equipment operation and maintenance, and best safety and construction practices.

Must be capable of performing duties inside the Lee County Correctional Facility Complex, working with and around inmates. Must hold a valid driver's license and be insurable on the County's insurance.

Starting salary will be \$21.74/hour. Excellent benefit package including health, dental, vision, and life insurance and IPERS retirement.

Please call Lee County Deputy Auditor Sherri Yasenchok at 319-372-3705 with any questions or for more information. Application and full position description may be found online at [www.leecounty.org](http://www.leecounty.org). Please submit cover letter, resume, and completed County application to:

Lee County Auditor's Office  
 Attn: Sherri Yasenchok  
 933 Avenue H, PO Box 190  
 Fort Madison IA 52627  
 Or email to [syasenchok@leecounty.org](mailto:syasenchok@leecounty.org)

Applications will be accepted through Monday, March 11, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. Complete background check and post-offer physical required.

Lee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the County will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities and encourages both prospective and current employees to discuss accommodations with the employer.

**MEETING**  
**CONVENING TIME:**  
**10:00 A.M. (CDT)**  
**LOCATION:**  
**933 Avenue H**  
**Fort Madison, IA**

**---AGENDA---**

Lee County Board of Supervisors  
 Mar 11, 2024, 10:00-11:30 AM (America/Chicago)

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

<https://www.meet.goto.com/134249629>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code: 134-249-629

United States: + 1 (224) 501-3412

Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://meet.goto.com/install>

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 Resolution of Support for Community Project Funding Application for Buildout and Equipment for Lee County Career Center

Consider Approval of Letter of Support to Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks for Community Project Funding Request Application for X32 Pavement Replacement

Consider Approval of Revised Haul Road Agreement with ITC Midwest

Consider Approval of 28E Agreement with Iowa State Penitentiary for Food Services

Discussion and Possible Action for Funding of Keokuk EMS Building

Discussion and Possible Action for Funding of Health/EMS Building

Consider Approval of Budget Amendment for FY24 and Set Public Hearing Date

Consent Agenda  
 • Monday, March 4, 2024 Board Minutes  
 • Claims for Payment  
 • Tax Abatement Reso-

lution  
 Personnel Actions:  
 A. Step Increase - Sheriff's Office  
 B. Reclassifications - Maintenance Department (2)  
 Reports:  
 A. Treasurer's Report of

Fees Collected  
 B. Sheriff's Monthly Report  
 C. Auditor's Report of Fees Collected  
 Commission or Committee Reports  
 Adjourn  
 Workshop to Follow

Regular Meeting - Discussion on Dust Control

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**CITIZENS WELCOME**

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

Contact Title VI Administrator  
 319-372-3705  
 County Website:  
[www.leecounty.org](http://www.leecounty.org)

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Call Lee at 319.371.4125 today to advertise!

**Never Shiver. Don't Sweat.**



**Just call**

**Heat & Air Guy**

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328  
 Burlington: 319-752-4328  
 All Areas: 877-380-4328

24 Hour Service • FREE Estimates • Servicing All Makes

[www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com](http://www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com)

Patrick Profeta  
 General Manager

**Keokuk Auto Credit**  
 We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments

[www.keokukautocredit.com](http://www.keokukautocredit.com)

1728 Main  
 Keokuk, IA 52632

Office: 319-524-2334  
 Fax: 319-524-2373

**DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY**  
 Est. 1977

Photo Correction  
 Business Cards  
 Flyers  
 Office Supplies  
 Vinyl Banners  
 T-Shirt Printing

Coffee Mugs  
 Posters Art Supplies  
**Printing**  
 Office Furniture  
 Trifold Brochures

621 Avenue G  
 Fort Madison, IA

319.372.2721  
[doddprinting.com](http://doddprinting.com)

ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

General Insects  
 Termites

Mice  
 Bed Bugs

**Cullen**  
 PEST CONTROL

**(319) 372-1060**

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378  
 Email: [cullenpest@hotmail.com](mailto:cullenpest@hotmail.com)  
[www.cullenpest.com](http://www.cullenpest.com)

Residential  
 Commercial

"Cause who needs bugs?"

Auto Detailing . Car Wash . Sign Rental

**Turbo Wash**

(319) 372-WASH (9274)  
 Fort Madison

Gift certificates available

Locally owned & operated



**Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.**

Jess Sutcliffe, Agent  
 2623 Avenue L  
 Fort Madison, IA 52627  
 Bus: 319-372-5982  
[www.fortmadisoninsurance.com](http://www.fortmadisoninsurance.com)

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements.

State Farm  
 Bloomington, IL  
 2001878

**State Farm**

**YOUR AD HERE**

**319.371.4125**

**DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY**  
 Est. 1977

Photo Correction  
 Business Cards  
 Flyers  
 Office Supplies  
 Vinyl Banners  
 T-Shirt Printing

Coffee Mugs  
 Posters Art Supplies  
**Printing**  
 Office Furniture  
 Trifold Brochures

621 Avenue G  
 Fort Madison, IA

319.372.2721  
[doddprinting.com](http://doddprinting.com)

ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

**Click here to place your ad online 24/7**



## From the Front

# To do this tour you need to be logistically skilled

**TEA** - Continued from Page 1

where a smashburger with Boetje's stone ground mustard, onion, tomatoes, and cheese made the list. We cut the burgers in half at this point because we made the mistake of starting with full burgers each at Mt. Pleasant's Jefferson Street Grill and Morgan's Corner in Ottumwa.

Luchales was after we stopped at the Wood Iron Grill in Oskaloosa and then DutchFix in Pella.

When I looked at "The Dominie" I got a flashback to Disney World about 15 years ago.

Lee and I took the girls there when Kelsey was very young. Lee got the meal package and we were always running from point A to point B throughout the day making sure we didn't miss our reservations at these wonderful restaurants. But even looking at a menu made me nauseous.

We went over Kelsey's birthday in October and she got these monster cupcakes with candles in them everywhere we went. Disney insists on fun. We told them when we booked the vacation that she was diabetic, so a more diabetic friendly diet would be appreciated, but insulin's a wonderful drug. In hindsight, we would have done it differently.

The Dominie is a double decker burger with Dutch spiced beef roast shredded and packed in between the patties. Then they put pickles, mayo, and fried gouda cheese curds on it. We were smart and left off the mayo. We also ordered one for three of us and made this high school kid named Jack sign our t-shirts. I think he thought we were fun, although he may have thought something else.

This burger was phenomenally juicy and flavorful. Keep napkins in hands and, if you go in with family, split it unless the hollow leg or tapeworm dynamic is in play. It was definitely something you should shoot for when in Pella smelling the tulips..or just looking through windows.

My favorite burger, and I think it's a consensus, was the 60/40 burger at Brick City Grille in Ames. They take 60% ground chuck and 40% ground - bacon. Yep, ground bacon and the flavor of the bacon in the burger jumps out at you as a very well-seasoned patty. That's what I was looking for - the best taste in the "burger" not the crazy toppings. My first priority was the burger itself.

My brother took notes of each place we stopped so I'm sure this is going to transition into the kitchen at some point.

Some other burgers we tried were the Tap Room's Fiesta Burger. It was one of the burgers that came with toasted bread and no bun. I just don't think a burger is really a burger without the bun.

However, we stopped at the Uptown Bar and Grille in Grimes where we found a breakfast burger that was off the hook. This thing had bacon, two ½ lb. burger patties, cheese, fried egg, and I think it had a thin layer of hash browns on it - and then peanut butter. Yep, peanut butter. Hayden had to find a burger with peanut butter and he found the best one.

We cut it in half, along with the Original Uptown Burger, and we all had half a burger. But biting into that breakfast burger, thank God, the yolk didn't come pouring out or I would have thrown my chair back and stood up all in one motion in a terrifying sequence of a yellow river of whatever the hell that stuff is.

Can't do it. The burger was delicious and the peanut butter and bacon work. But our next stop was at Café Boudelaire on campus at Iowa State. We ordered a couple burgers there and I was not really paying attention. They came to the table, with a bun that had three bumps on it. Not sure what kind of Brazilian bread that was, but when I cut in, out poured the yellow nightmare. I felt the sinking feeling in the back of your mouth that gives you the hint things are getting ugly. I turned my head and Keith, the guy we hooked up with said, "Ummmm, keep cutting".

I choked it back and cut the burger and quickly slid the plate with the pool of yolk on it over to him. Can't do that.

So the weekend was filled with laughter and cholesterol. I posted some pix to PCC and got mixed reviews. Was looking for something a bit different, but I get it's not newsie. We'll be back this week with the regular newshole. But I do think there's some value in letting the local readership in on where some of the best burgers are. We have t-shirts signed by waiters and waitresses and some high school kid named Jack. You can bet he won't forget that dude from Fort Madison - But that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current and can be reached at [Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com](mailto:Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com).



The kitchen manager at Uptown Grille in Grimes shows off the morning's breakfast offerings. The burger on the left is a peanut butter bacon burger with a fried egg. It was worth the trip.

## ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW



*Fighting to get you  
the compensation you deserve.*



320 North 3rd Street, Suite 100, Burlington, Iowa 52601-0337  
1603 Main Street, Keokuk, IA 52632

[www.PothitakisLaw.com](http://www.PothitakisLaw.com)



Lunch Specials  
March 11 - 15  
11am - 1pm

*Monday, March 11*

*Roast Beef Sandwich, Cheese Potatoes*

*Tuesday, March 12*

*Spaghetti, Garlic Toast, Applesauce*

*Wednesday, March 13*

*Beef Enchiladas, Spanish Rice*

*Thursday, March 14*

*Fried Chicken Dinners*

*Friday, March 15*

*Fish & Shrimp Dinners*