

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Tuesday, July 16, 2024 | 9 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 119



www.pencitycurrent.com

Labor temple rent ruffles BOS

SUPERVISORS: Discussion goes down party lines at Monday's meeting

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A conversation about raising the rent for a local labor union in Fort Madison turned into a philosophical debate with Lee County Supervisors about renting property to any entity.

The county received a recommendation to increase the rent charged to UFCW to \$1,200 per month from the current \$400. The move was on the agenda for discussion which caught the attention of the union who attended the meeting. The discussion was prompted by an item in the county's annual audit that showed the county needs to pay property taxes on property they rent or lease to private entities.



SCHULZ

Supervisor Matt Pflug said the county should support the union and leave the rate as is.

"If we are collecting rent, which we are, we now have to start paying property taxes on that property. We're getting \$4,800 a year and I know there was a figure thrown around of \$1,000 a month. Property taxes run about \$2,600. I think we should support the unions of Lee County, which I think we do on this board," he said.

"I say at \$400 a month we just leave it alone."

He said if the rent is too high for the union, they could leave, which would leave the county without a tenant. However, the

See BOARD, page 5

COMMENTARY

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



Time out

Everybody needs a timeout. When I was a kid, "timeout" was just becoming fashionable, like when the hula hoop took the country by swirl. Instead of a spanking, a "timeout" might be awarded to a misbehaving child (like me), where I was assigned to go stand in a corner, or be sent off into another room by myself where I was to "think about" what I had done. To spank or not to spank was the big controversy, like it was with bottle feeding a newborn or breast feeding. The benefits or adverse effects of corporal punishment are still debated today, whether it be child or adult.

Today, a "timeout" might carry a different meaning like, "Lets have a timeout from each other," where two people decide to spend some time apart to see if they miss one another or not. Ginnie and I are in a brief timeout, although not for adverse reasons. Once a year, usually about this time, midsummer, she goes to spend time with her three sisters in Missouri. They goof around, shop, eat good food, and visit their 97-year old father in assisted living. It's a "timeout" for them, away from their husbands and families, sister time to spend together. This means I'm home alone for three days, or in a "timeout" that I sort of enjoy, because I know it's temporary. I isolate, read, sleep a lot, get a few projects done, and generally enjoy the peace and quiet.

Ginnie has ensured I have plenty to eat. She spent the day before she left in a tizzy preparing food. There's breakfast casserole, sloppy Joes, chicken enchiladas, left over potato salad, and death-by-chocolate brownies. Dang! I'm trying to keep the food in order: breakfast casserole for breakfast, obviously; sloppy Joes for lunch; and chicken enchiladas for supper. The death-by-chocolate brownies are fill-in as needed. Poor me.

You might know the garden is hitting hard while Ginnie is gone. The cucumbers are multiplying like rabbits, the green beans are elongating like earthworms, and the tomatoes are blushing brides. Vegetables are so life-like. Thank goodness we have friends

See SWARM, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

On a warm summer's evening

Shoppers at the Fort Madison Farmer's Market in Central Park work down the tables of baked goods and fruit on a steamy Monday evening. The market runs Mondays into October in the park.

CITY NEWS

Big Muddy expert to give lecture July 23 at FM library

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Mississippi River is one of the biggest formative influences on the city of Fort Madison and continues to impact our lives on a regular basis. Learn more about the river that runs right past our front

doors from Dean Klinkenberg, author of "Beneath the Surface: Uncovering the Hidden Worlds of Big Rivers" at the Fort Madison Public Library on Tuesday, July 23 at 6 p.m.

Big rivers are one of nature's greatest gifts, yet much of what makes them special is often hidden in front of us.

We see them as a threat when they run high but otherwise value them mostly for what we can move on top of them or the wonderful views they provide. In this presentation, Klinkenberg will peel back the layers in big

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WEATHER

TUE 16 Jul.....Slight chance of thunderstorms, 85° F/ 67° F
WED 17 Jul.....Sunny & cooler, 79° F/ 58° F
THU 18 Jul.....Sunny and cooler, 77° F/ 58° F

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

RICHARD G. LAIBLE

Richard Gordon Laible, 86, of Keokuk, IA passed away Sunday, June 16, 2024, at his home.

He was born April 29, 1938, in Omaha, NE the son of John Wallace and Mildred Marie Street Laible.



LAIBLE

On June 6, 1958, Richard was united in marriage to Frances Lavonne Douglass in Wichita, KS. She preceded him in death on January 11, 2018.

Richard had been employed most of his life as an auto mechanic. He most recently had worked for St. Charles Missouri Schools.

Richard was one of the Jehovah's Witness, baptized on December 21, 1975.

Richard enjoyed building Ham radios, model trains, model cars and rockets. He loved to watch any type of tech building videos on YouTube and was an avid race car fan. His faith was an active and vital part of his life. He read his Bible on a daily basis and found great strength in it.

He is survived by two sons, Bruce Laible (Sofana) of Seattle, WA and Dohnald Laible (Shannon) of St. Peters, MO, three daughters, Sandra Snow (Joseph) of Sturgeon, MO, Susanne Graham (Greg) of Newalla, OK and Sarah Hollandsworth (Robert) of Keokuk, seven grandchildren, Bentley Laible, Lincoln Laible, Catrina Seymour (Kyle), Corey Bean (Alexandria), Curtis Crosby (Kristina), Tegan VanWagner (Dakota) and Gretchen Graham (Tristan) and seven great-grandchildren, Madelynn Seymour, Logan Seymour, Shawn Graham, Jude VanWagner, Axton Crosby, Akari Bean and Joshua Crosby. He is also survived by one brother, Warren Laible of Texas, one sister, Christine Harrell (Steve) of Wichita, KS and his best friend, David Mann.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Frances, his parents and one sister, Jeanne Kirk.

There will be a memorial service at Kingdom Hall, 929 Main St., Montrose, IA at 3 p.m., Saturday, July 20, 2024. If you wish to join the service on Zoom please contact Sarah Hollandsworth for information.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of New York at www.donate.jw.org (worldwide work).

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

OBITUARIES

ANNA WEIRATHER

Anna Weirather, 98 of Ft. Madison, passed away on Sunday, July 14, 2024 at 6:50 PM at River Valley Place in Ft. Madison.

She was born on April 26, 1926 in Wever to Adrian and Merle Schrader



WEIRATHER

Glasgow. Anna married Keith Peterie in January of 1946 and he passed away in December of 1989. She then married Frank Weirather in December of 1996 and he passed away in May of 2017. Anna was a homemaker and a member of Donnellson United Methodist Church, the Moose Lodge and the Eagle's Club. She enjoyed bowling and playing cards. Her family was most important to her and she loved baking apple pies for them.

Survivors include one daughter, Judy (Vic) Conlee of Montrose; one son, Mike (Donna) Peterie of Ft. Madison; five grandchildren; eight great grandchildren, one great great grandchild; one step daughter, Beverly Weirather of Rock Island; one step son, Mark (Beverly) Weirather of Keokuk and several step grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Vickie and both husbands.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 11 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Elaine Foley officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at 11 AM. Burial will be in Evangelical Cemetery, Donnellson.

A memorial has been established for the Donnellson Methodist Church and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

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Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA A. STATON

Patricia Ann Staton, age 74 of Folsom, CA, passed away on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 7:42AM at Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Roseville, CA.

She was born August 6, 1949, in LaHarpe, IL, to Donald Preston and Augusta Myers Griffiths, Sr. Patricia was a 1967 graduate of Nauvoo-Colusa High School, and after graduating, she attended University of Illinois in Champaign for two years, where she studied dance and moonlighted as a singer in local bands. She met Joseph Michael Staton at U of I, and, on October 12, 1969, they were married in Colusa, IL. Their first child, Sean Christian Staton, was born in 1970. Patty, as she was fondly known, worked as an aerobics instructor, among other jobs while Joe finished his degrees and joined the US Air Force. Off to see the world, the family was stationed at Lakenheath AFB near London, England for close to four years, and shortly after the birth of their second child, Sunny Kristen Staton, in 1976. Upon return to the States, the family relocated to Northern California, where Patty would remain for almost two decades. Racquetball was a passion of hers for sometime. She and Joe divorced in the mid-1980s. She finished her Bachelor's degree in Sociology from California State University Sacramento, and held various jobs working with contracts and editing. Her writing skills were quite notable, assisting colleagues with thesis writing and editing as well. An avid reader and lover of words, she enjoyed a gripping Steven King novel almost as fiercely as a competitive game of Scrabble. She shared a keen sense of humor with her brother, Bill, and wrote clever poetry and prose that can still be discovered today amongst her most cherished possessions. Patty moved to Colorado in the late 1990s to be closer to more of her family. She devoted many years to caring for her mother. Her favorite role, and one that she was most proud of, was that of Mother. She was caring and nurturing, and loved her children and her family beyond measure. She was quick to help out friends and neighbors in any capacity that she possibly could, and she often looked for opportunities to do so. In her later years, she moved back to California to reconnect with old friends and to be closer to Sunny and her west coast grandchildren. She purchased a house in Orangevale, CA, and renovated it from top to bottom, just as she had always wished to do - design a house just the way she wanted, with many photographs that reminded her of Colusa, IL, and family throughout the years. Patricia's final residence was a memory care development in Folsom, CA.

Survivors include her son, Sean Staton of Virginia, and his three children, Sean, Jr. of Maine, and Austin Joseph and Savannah of Virginia; her daughter, Sunny Mitchell, her husband Jeff, and her two children, Hannah and Lukas, of Folsom, CA; and two brothers, Donald and his wife, Meredith Griffiths of Nauvoo, IL, Ruth Griffiths, wife of her brother, Allan, and William and his wife Becky Griffiths of Ft. Madison, IA.

She was preceded in death by her Father and Mother; her brother, Allan Griffiths; and her maternal and paternal grandparents

The family will receive friends from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Saturday, July 27, 2024 at Schmitz-Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo.

A graveside service will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 27th at Meyers Cemetery, rural Niota.

A memorial fund has been established. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Patricia's obituary at banksandbeals.com.



STATON

OBITUARIES

DOTTIE E. LUDWIG CHAPLIN

Dottie Elizabeth Ludwig Chaplin, 78 of Foley, AL formerly of Keokuk, IA passed away July 2, 2024 at South Baldwin Regional Medical Center in Foley, AL.

She was born April 29, 1946 in LaHarpe, IL the daughter of Floyd D. and Viola Ruth Sheets Reed. She graduated from Carthage High School.



CHAPLIN

Dottie was first united in marriage to Rodney Ludwig. He preceded her in death. On February 14, 2007 she was united in marriage to John Chaplin in Keokuk, IA. He survives.

Other survivors include two sons, Shane Stair of St. Louis, MO and Chad Ludwig (Amiee) of Bossier City, LA, one daughter, Andrea Stair Boyd of Kahoka, MO, one step-son, Justin Chaplin (Heather) of Cantril, IA, ten grandchildren, Amanda Boyd, Rob Boyd, Lana Boyd, Madison Boyd and Danielle LaFrenz (Christian) all of Kahoka, MO, Bethany Lehmkuhl (Isaac) of St. Charles, MO Colin Ludwig and Brooklynn Ludwig of Bossier City, LA, Selena Pezley (Trevor) of Columbia, MO and Makayla Stair of Keokuk and three great-grandchildren, Madelynn Mattocks, Sophia Mattocks and Waylon LaFrenz all of Kahoka, MO and two step-grandchildren, Kelsey Chaplin and Kailey Chaplin of Cantril, IA. She is also survived by one brother, Lee Reed (Lynn) of Dripping Springs, TX.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her first husband, Rodney Ludwig, Lacey Boyd and one aunt, Dorothy Sheets.

Dottie had been employed by Sheller Globe for thirty-five years, until her retirement in 2007.

She was a member of the First Christian Church in Keokuk and URW Local 444.

Dottie enjoyed shopping and exploring new stores and finding unique items. She found joy and peace at the beach and loved spending time there. Above all, Dottie adored her family and spent every chance she could with them.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, July 20 in the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk, IA with Pastor David Turner officiating.

Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association or to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements

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

River has many secrets

LIBRARY - Continued from Page 1

river systems and show how they create and sustain life—life in many forms and in abundance. Big rivers give life because they are a complete system that moves and circulates water and

nutrients to life from the smallest microorganisms to the largest predators.

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We need big rivers, for the life they create and sustain, for their beauty, for the sanctuary they offer from the stresses and demands of modern civilization. Klinkenberg will help us see big rivers in new ways and will offer practical steps we can all take to go deeper into the world of big rivers, without getting wet.

Dean Klinkenberg is a St. Louis-based writer with a singular obsession with the Mississippi River. He has driven virtually all of the Great River Road, hiked and canoed

the river on multi-day expeditions, and cruised on the American Queen steamboat as a guest lecturer.

He is the author of the forthcoming book, *The Wild Mississippi: A State-by-State Guide to the River's Natural Wonders*. His other books include *Road Tripping the Great River Road* and *the Frank Dodge mysteries*, which explore another side of the river's world.

Dean is a longtime partner in the Mississippi River Network (MRN), a coalition of organizations advocating for healthy and resilient river ecosystems.

If you need more information or have questions, contact Sarah Clendinning, (319) 372-5721, SarahClen@fortmadison.lib.ia.us.

Contact Tracy
to Schedule Your
COMPLIMENTARY
REVIEW

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From the Front

Schulz said subsidizing union rent could be "corrupt"

BOARD - Continued from Page 1

county would then not have to pay property tax on the building. The first floor of the building is taken up by the Newberry Center which does not pay rent for that space.

Ron Fedler said he was a member of that union and the union doesn't use it every day, but essentially for meetings.

"I agree with Matt, even if we have to pay property taxes, we're still left with some extra money," he said.

"I feel we give them a place and still not lose money on it. If we raise it too high, they will find another place and we'll get nothing from it."

Supervisor Tom Schulz asked if the county was supplementing the utilities.

Penny Logsdon, a union representative, said they pay just the \$400 per month, but they have also done some maintenance at their own cost.

She said having someone in the space creates awareness for the county for problems that might arise and it keeps the building in use.

"We have taken good care of it and, if there's a problem, we let you know immediately, which would not be the case if the upstairs were empty," Logsdon said.

She said the county wouldn't be able to get \$1,000 a month for the rent without any kitchen amenities and no elevator.

Schulz said he perceived it as a "very dangerous" thing to use public facilities for private entities.

"Some would say an entity that has political connections in a building and leasing it to them at what is clearly a subsidized rate," he said.

"There is no place you can rent that square footage for any kind of office for \$400 a month. If we are doing that, are we not violating the law?"

Schulz went so far as to say it may be "corrupt" for the county to be subsidizing the rent to the labor union.

County attorney Ross Braden, who was in attendance, said he hadn't looked closely enough to comment on the issue other than to say the county was profiting from the lease.

Schulz said with the other expenses involved, including part of the utilities and maintenance and now property taxes, the county probably isn't making a profit. He asked for a legal opinion on the county's leasing boundaries.

Supervisor Chuck Holmes said the county could work a compromise in the lease and come up with a rate that was favorable to both sides.

Schulz said Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise came up with an \$860 figure that was more reflective of the county's financial responsibility to the property monthly.

Chairman Garry Seyb said he would like to see the building committee look at county rentals and compare the rates of all county buildings to "going rates" for comparable properties.

"We have to be consistent in how we do business and everyone knows we are looking at our budget very tightly," he said.

"I'm going to go back to the budget, that's my job, looking out for the taxpayers regardless of who's in that space."

Fedler said there is quite a bit of open space in downtown Fort Madison and to say that the county could rent it out to someone else at \$1,000 a month is a stretch.

Seyb said the county formed a building committee for this specific purpose and they should make a recommendation to the board. No supervisors serve on the building committee.

"I personally, I don't believe we should be in the rental business. If we've got a space that is not being utilized and has no future county use, why are we owning it? Why are we insuring it?" he asked.

Pflug said the county isn't losing money and is supporting the unions.

Schulz said it's a dangerous statement to make as a supervisor.

"Should we support local newspaper, the local taxidermy shop? A union is an entity that's not part of the government. I'm okay with the concept of supporting people and unions and I'm fine with unions, but when you say a taxpayer who may not even believe in unions is therefore somehow on the hook to support them...I'm sorry, but that's corrupt."

Seyb also asked for the county's legal interpretation.

Braden said initially he didn't think the county should be in the landlord business, but said the county can't subsidize a private entity so they should be generating income to cover the county's costs regardless of who's in a space.

Braden said he would bring the county a more comprehensive legal opinion on the county renting property.

In other action, the board:

- approved an \$8,000 contract with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission to help draw up an ordinance around utility projects proposed for the county going forward. The board and SEIRPC have been in discussions the last few weeks about creating an ordinance setting up some regulations for private companies who want to build utility projects in the county.

- approved a financial assurance, or Local Government Guarantee, with the Great River Regional Waste Authority to cover closure and post closure costs of the landfill. The guarantee is part of the Iowa code for landfills that past a financial test outlined in Iowa Code Chapter 113.14. That cost is currently estimated at \$405,000.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PROPOSAL
OF THE CITY OF FORT
MADISON, IOWA TO
ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED
\$12,000,000 GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS
OR CAPITAL LOAN
NOTES, ELECTION
CALLED; PROJECT
DETAILS**

On July 2, 2024 the City Council of the City of Fort Madison, Iowa, took action to call an election on November 5, 2024 upon the proposal to issue Not To Exceed \$12,000,000 General Obligation Bonds or Capital Loan Notes for the purpose of designing, constructing, equipping, and furnishing a new fire station/emergency services building, including related site improvements. The total project cost is estimated at \$12,000,000. The an-

nual increase in property taxes as the result of the issuance on a residential property with an actual value of one hundred thousand dollars is estimated not to exceed \$128.62.

This notice is given by order of the City Council of the City of Fort Madison, State of Iowa, as provided by Section 384.26 of the Code of Iowa.

Dated this 5th day of July, 2024.

/s/ Justina M. Cullen, City Clerk, City of Fort Madison, State of Iowa

**FORT MADISON
CITY COUNCIL
7/2/2024**

At 5:30 P.M., Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 2, 2024. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members

Thele, Roller, Sparrow, Gray, Yager, Rink and Andrews present.

On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 6/18/2024; Liquor License Renewals: Faeth's L.C., Loyal Order of Moose #671, Lost Duck Brewing Co.; Claims dated 6/26/2024, June Library Claims; Payroll of 6/14/2024 and 6/28/2024.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-47 accepting the submitted plat of survey and waiving subdivision requirements (Title 11 - Subdivision Regulations) for Darin M. & Jill Y. Cordray. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-48, accepting the submitted plat of survey and waiving subdivision requirements (Title 11 - Subdivision Regulations) for William F. & Beverly J. McGregor.

At 5:35 P.M., Mohrfeld opened the public hearing concerning rezoning properties located in the 2300 block of Avenue G (2301, 2331 and 2333 Avenue G) from B-2, Business District, General Retail & R-4, One-Family Dwelling District, to R-6, Multiple-Family Dwelling District. Krogmeier described the rezoning procedure. Developer and property owner, Michael Mohrfeld, presented the redevelopment design. With no other oral or written comments, Mohrfeld closed the public hearing at 5:49 P.M. On motion, Council approved the first reading of an ordinance rezoning properties located in the 2300 block of Avenue G from B-2, Business District, General Retail & R-4, One-Family Dwelling District, to R-6, Multiple-Family Dwelling

District.

The Best You Coalition and Fort Madison Prevention Coalition provided a community update on substance abuse awareness and education resources.

The Old Fort Preservation, Inc. provided an update of the future design of Old Fort Madison and their fundraising efforts.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-45 approving the Mayor's signature on a Statement of Completion for the AWOS Replacement Project at the Fort Madison Municipal Airport and approving Partial Payment Application #3 in the amount of \$12,396.20 to Voltmer, Inc. of Decorah, Iowa. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-46 calling a special city election on the proposed

issuance of not to exceed \$12,000,000 General Obligation Bonds or Capital Loan Notes (Fire Station/Emergency Services Building) (for a general corporate purpose).

On motion, Council approved the bid from Norris Asphalt Paving Company, of Ottumwa, Iowa, of \$3.30 per square foot for the 2024 Asphalt Overlay Program. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on a Professional Services Agreement with SCS Engineers Environmental Consultants & Contractors of West Des Moines, Iowa, for engineering services of the closed city landfill. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's reappointment of Melinda Blind to the Housing Authority, term expiring June 3, 2026.

The meeting adjourned

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

at 6:39 P.M.
/s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld,
Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Justina M.
Cullen, City Clerk

| EXPENDITURES | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| General | \$67,303.86 |
| Special Rev. | 85,202.41 |
| Road Use | 26,103.32 |
| Debt | 0.00 |
| Capital | 0.00 |
| Water | 21,067.32 |
| Sewer | 33,588.93 |
| Slid Waste, IWC | 20,321.93 |
| SW Utility | 799.95 |
| Total | \$254,387.72 |

| PAYROLL 6/14/2024 | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| General | \$226,775.85 |
| Road Use | 26,515.69 |
| Water | 35,266.55 |
| Sewer | 32,399.47 |
| Solid Waste | 16,876.87 |
| Airport | 425.71 |
| Storm Water | 3,147.68 |
| Total | \$341,407.82 |

| REVENUES | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| General | \$66,776.25 |
| Special Rev. | 267,872.36 |
| Road Use | 166,368.27 |
| Debt | 15,997.33 |
| Capital | 46,394.97 |
| Water | 242,271.38 |
| Sewer | 306,272.30 |
| Slid Wst & IWC | 79,232.97 |
| Sewer | 16,759.44 |
| Total | \$1,207,945.27 |

| PAYROLL 6/28/2024 | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| General | \$219,918.63 |
| Employee Benefits | 7,780.26 |
| Road Use | 27,728.02 |
| Water | 35,114.93 |
| Sewer | 32,330.91 |
| Solid Waste | 16,756.01 |
| Airport | 288.76 |
| Storm Water | 3,160.53 |
| Total | \$343,078.05 |

PAYROLL 6/14/2024

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| GENERAL | \$ 226,775.85 |
| ROAD USE | \$ 26,515.69 |
| WATER | \$ 35,266.55 |
| SEWER | \$ 32,399.47 |
| SOLID WASTE | \$ 16,876.87 |
| AIRPORT | \$ 425.71 |
| STORM WATER | \$ 3,147.68 |
| Total | \$ 341,407.82 |

PAYROLL 6/28/2024

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| GENERAL | \$ 219,918.63 |
| EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | \$ 7,780.26 |
| ROAD USE | \$ 27,728.02 |
| WATER | \$ 35,114.93 |
| SEWER | \$ 32,330.91 |
| SOLID WASTE | \$ 16,756.01 |
| AIRPORT | \$ 288.76 |
| STORM WATER | \$ 3,160.53 |
| Total | \$ 343,078.05 |

CLAIMS - 7/2/2024

| | |
|--|-----------|
| ACCESS LEASING SYSTEM, PRINTER LEASE | 795.46 |
| ACCESS SYSTEMS, MONTHLY MAINT/FIRE-WALL | 8,834.72 |
| ACCO, MANHOLD ASSEMBLY | 1,006.13 |
| ALEXIS FIRE EQUIPMENT CO, DRAIN VALVE | 330.58 |
| ALL AMERICAN SANITATION, PORTA-POTTIE RENTAL | 575.00 |
| ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC | 5,476.98 |
| ALTORFER INC., SKID-STEER HOSES/ROLLER | 2,349.69 |
| AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, PHONE CASES | 696.75 |
| AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING, CODIFICATION | 1,394.85 |
| ANSER IOWA, ANSWERING SERV | 232.00 |
| BARCO MUNICIPAL PRODUCTS, TRAFFIC CONES | 493.23 |
| BURLINGTON MUNI WATER, BACTERIA SAMPLE | 2,050.00 |
| CITY OF FORT MADISON, LEACHATE DISCHARGE | 2,594.26 |
| CORE & MAIN LP, BLUE TUBING | 1,196.75 |
| CUMMINS SALES & SERVICE, TRUCK REPAIR | 1,381.69 |
| DMACC, CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING | 900.00 |
| DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, CLIPBOARDS | 50.70 |
| DOUDS STONE, LLC, ROADSTONE | 18,236.45 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| DUNKIN GARAGE & TOWING, TOWING | 200.00 |
| ELLIOTT EQUIPMENT CO., FOLD UP STEPS (GB TRUCK) | 1,285.31 |
| EMD MILLIPORE CORP, TESTING SUPPLIES | 927.75 |
| ESO SOLUTIONS, ANNUAL SUPPORT | 8,915.59 |
| EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING, WEEKLY SAMPLE | 710.48 |
| FARM & HOME SUPPLY, UNIFORM ALLOW | 359.95 |
| FLOYD'S EZ WAY, RUBBISH REMOVAL | 703.50 |
| FORT MADISON WATER DEPT, WATER | 21.10 |
| FRENCH-RENEKER-ASSOC., PROF FEE | 2,350.00 |
| GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEM, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES | 145.06 |
| HACH COMPANY, COUPLING | 55.95 |
| HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, LOCK NUT/WASHERS | 454.86 |
| IOWA MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICERS, DUES | 20.00 |
| J&C EMBROIDERY, UNIFORM | 50.00 |
| JIM BAIER INC., VEH REPAIR | 1,211.73 |
| JL TIME & ATTENDANCE CO, MAY TIMECLOCK | 181.70 |
| KEN LOBBERECHT, PRE-PAID ERROR | 400.00 |
| LEE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEV, CITY COMMITMENT | 20,000.00 |
| LEE COUNTY RECORDER, RECORDING FEE | |

| | |
|--|------------|
| LYNCH DALLAS, P.C., PROF FEE | 2,745.57 |
| MICROBAC LABORATORIES LLC, SLUDGE SAMPLE | 4,523.50 |
| MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY, HEAT | 679.91 |
| MIDLAND SCIENTIFIC INC., TESTING SUPPLIES | 207.01 |
| MIGUEL LANDEROS, NUISANCE | 1,210.00 |
| MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC., METER PARTS | 3,223.57 |
| POSTMASTER, FORT MADISON, BILL/PAST DUE MAILINGS | 1,963.02 |
| QUARRY CREEK ELK AND BISON, CLOTHING ALLOW | 323.00 |
| RAGAN COMMUNICATIONS INC, SIREN REP | 66,398.80 |
| RAINBO OIL COMPANY, HYDRAULIC FLUID/DEF | 986.45 |
| REHRIG PACIFIC COMPANY, POLYCARTS | 11,486.80 |
| SCS ENGINEERS, AR DEPT., PROF FEE - LANDFILL | 4,217.13 |
| SELECTIVE INS. CO, FLOOD INS @ 1001 RIVERVIEW | 2,275.00 |
| SINCLAIR TRACTOR, TOGGLE SWITCH | 116.73 |
| STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY, WATER SAMPLE | 21.00 |
| SYN-TECH SYSTEMS, FUEL SYSTEM REPAIR | 42.00 |
| THACHER TREE CARE, TREES REMOVED FOR LARGE LOAD | 5,500.00 |
| THE SHREDDER, ON-SITE SHREDDING | 126.00 |
| TRUCK REPAIR INC., HOSE FOR VAC TRUCK | 219.85 |
| TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, PCI SERVICE FEE | 315.00 |
| UMB BANK, N.A., SERVICE FEES | 250.00 |
| UPS, POSTAGE | 45.31 |
| USA BLUE BOOK, TESTINGS SUPPLIES | 489.55 |
| VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC, PROF FEE | 23,319.22 |
| VESTIS, UNIFORMS/SHOP TOWELS | 28.57 |
| VOLTMER, INC., AWOS REPLACEMENT | 12,396.20 |
| WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED, CHEMICALS | 9,600.00 |
| TOTAL | 239,329.41 |
| GENERAL | 52,408.32 |
| SPECIAL REVENUES | 72,580.34 |
| ROAD USE | 26,103.32 |
| WATER | 21,067.32 |
| WASTEWATER | 33,588.93 |
| SOLID WASTE | 20,321.93 |
| AIRPORT | 12,459.30 |
| STORM WATER | 799.95 |
| TOTAL | 239,329.41 |

LIBRARY CLAIMS -

JUNE 2024

| | |
|--|----------|
| ACCESS SYSTEMS, INK | 74.15 |
| ALLEN R. MCCAULLEY, MILEAGE | 134.00 |
| AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, LID | 848.86 |
| BAKER & TAYLOR, SHELF MATERIAL | 1,988.58 |
| BLACKSTONE PUBLISHING, SHELF MATERIAL | 115.98 |
| CENGAGE LEARNING INC./GALE, SHELF MATERIAL | 266.40 |
| DES MOINES REGISTER, SUBSCRIPTION | 730.22 |
| DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, PAPER | 163.88 |
| ELM USA, EXTENDED WARRANTY | 425.00 |

VEHICLES FOR SALE

Dodge 2014 Grand Caravan SXT 3.6LVVT for sale. New tires, newer battery. Includes working dvd player for rear seats. AC. Asking \$7k OBO. Call 435-251-0052. Located in Keokuk.



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| | |
|---|-----------|
| BRARY MATERIAL | 739.00 |
| PETTY CASH - SARAH CLENDINENG, SHELF MATERIAL | 167.83 |
| QUILL LLC, TONER CARTRIDGE | 87.69 |
| TECHSOUP, COLOR PRINTER | 479.99 |
| U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, POSTAGE | 1,000.00 |
| TOTAL | 15,058.31 |
| GENERAL | 14,895.54 |
| SPECIAL REVENUES | 162.77 |
| TOTAL | 15,058.31 |

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For the Record/From the Front

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

07/12/24 - 10:23 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the Fort Madison area.

07/12/24 - 2:00 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jacob Terrell Davis, 28, of Robertsville, Mo., in the 4800 block of Avenue O, on a charge of 1st-degree theft. He was held at Lee County Jail.

07/13/24 - 1:40 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Tyler Riley McFadden, 26, of Fort Madison, in the 1900 block of Avenue F, on a charge of trespassing.

07/13/24 - 3:24 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Tyler Riley McFadden, 26, of Fort Madison, in the 1900 block of Avenue F, on a charge of trespassing.

07/13/24 - 3:53 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Norman Monroe Bell, 63, of Fort Madison, in the 3100 block of Avenue L, on a charge of public intoxication. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/13/24 - 7:45 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 2000 block of Avenue L.

07/13/24 - 10:44 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2700 block of Avenue N.

07/14/24 - 6:25 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Tracy Ann Purinton, 56, of Fort Madison, in the 300 block of Avenue B on a charge of domestic abuse assault. She was held in Lee County Jail.

07/14/24 - 8:49 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Leon Dwight Wilson, 58, of Fort Madison in the 1300 block of 30th Street, on a charge of domestic assault. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/14/24 - 9:53 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Terri Dawn Bishop, 55, of Fort Madison in the 2000 block of Avenue D, on a charge of domestic assault. She was held in Lee County Jail.

Keokuk Police Report

07/03/24 - 9:17 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 200 block of Boulevard Road.

07/03/24 - 10:54 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Michelle Lynn Litty, 48, of Keokuk, in the 2100 block of Timea Street, on warrants for failure to appear. She was held at Lee County Jail.

07/03/24 - 3:07 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of Palean Street.

07/03/24 - 5:48 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested a 17-year-old male juvenile in the 100 block of Concert Street, on a charge with interference with official acts. He was released to a parent.

07/04/24 - 12:36 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Robert Jo Howes, 18, of Keokuk, in the 600 block of N. 15th Street, on a charge of simple assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

07/04/24 - 12:53 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Logan Scott Howes, 22, of Fort Madison, in the 600 block of 15th Street, on a charge of simple assaults and going armed with intent. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/04/24 - 1:15 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Sean Michael McCarty, 23, of Keokuk, in the 100 block of Messenger Road, on a charge of assault while displaying a dangerous weapon. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/04/24 - 4:30 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Eric John Reid, 48, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of N. Park Drive, on a charge of 4th-degree theft. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/04/24 - 4:48 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 300 block of N. Park Drive.

07/04/24 - 9:34 p.m. - Keokuk

Police arrested Dylan James Burke, 30, of Hamilton, Ill., in the 100 block of N. Water Street, on a charge of OWI. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/04/24 - 11:35 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 100 block of N. 7th Street.

07/05/24 - 1:01 a.m. - Keokuk Police cited Rachel Renee Acker, 36, of Keokuk, in the 1800 block of Palean Street on a charge of illegal fireworks.

07/12/24 - 10:27 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Main Street.

07/12/24 - 11:35 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Main Street.

07/12/24 - 11:36 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Main Street.

07/12/24 - 7:50 p.m. - Keokuk Police cited Carter James Cochenour 20, of Keokuk, in the 100 block of N. Water Street, on a charge of possession of alcohol under legal age.

07/12/24 - 7:52 p.m. - Keokuk Police cited Heaven Lynn Dove, 19, of Keokuk in the 100 block of N. Water Street on a charge of possession of alcohol under legal age.

07/12/24 - 7:54 p.m. - Keokuk Police cited Gavin Robert Horton, 19, of Fort Madison, in the 100 block of N. Water Street, on a charge of possession of alcohol under legal age.

07/12/24 - 7:59 p.m. - Keokuk Police cited Hailey Grace Lake, 19, of West Point in the 100 block of N. Water Street, on a charge of possession of alcohol under legal age.

07/13/24 - 5:13 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident

in the 800 block of Johnson Street.

07/13/24 - 10:02 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2600 block of Main Street.

07/13/24 - 10:13 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Earl Rondnell Simmons, 49, of Keokuk in the 3500 block of Main Street on a warrant for voluntary absence from custody.

07/13/24 - 11:29 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Cheyenne Nicole Crenshaw, 25, of Keokuk, in the 1300 block of Main Street on charges of OWI-1st offense and driving while license revoked. She was held in Lee County Jail.

07/14/24 - 3:38 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Wyatt Daniel Brown, 18, of Hamilton, in the 200 block of S. 6th Street on a charge of eluding. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/14/24 - 8:26 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Wyatt Daniel Brown, 18, of Hamilton, in the 2000 block of Main Street, on a charge of 5th-degree theft. He was held in Lee County Jail.

07/14/24 - 6:41 p.m. - Keokuk Police cited Kerrie Logan Ash, 36 of Keokuk, in the 1400 block of Palean Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

07/12/24 - 9:15 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brett Lee Traman, 35 of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on warrants for obstruction of emergency communication, trespassing and violation of a no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on bond.

07/14/24 - 3:32 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Amber Elizabeth Wolfe, 31, of Hamilton, Ill., at the sheriff's office on a warrant for a hold.

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

Time out has new meaning

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

like the Snavelys who are delighted to take excess produce off our hands. Of course, I know how to cook fresh green beans and bacon better'n Ginnie. I don't spare the bacon or onions, like Ginnie does. All of these fresh garden vegetables, plus the pre-prepared food, and I may gain weight while Ginnie's gone. I plan to sweat it off in the exercise room.

Stormy, our tomcat, has mixed feelings about Ginnie's absence. She spoils him to no end by constantly giving him treats, something I won't do. But she shuts him out of our bedroom at night because she doesn't like him sleeping on our bed. I sort of enjoy the company of Stormy on the bed in Ginnie's absence, so the bedroom door is wide open. Stormy doesn't know what to think about his new privilege, but complains anyway.

The chipmunks wish Ginnie had not left. Our yard is riddled with chipmunk holes and pathways. The best way to get rid of

them, I've determined, is to shoot them with a small caliber rifle. Ginnie hates for me to do this, thinking the poor little chipmunks are cute. With her gone, I'm free to open fire. So it's a three-day open season on chipmunks.

I sit in my recliner with a Kindle book in my hands. I just completed something I have never done before. I read three of Abraham Verghese's books, "The Covenant of Water," "Cutting for Stone" and "The Tennis Partner" back-to-back, twice. They are that intriguing and well written, and are influencing my writing. I look out the picture window and see the BNSF freight train heading east full of coal. The hump of coal is barely visible above the tall corn. There's a sadness to it. I'm ready for the "timeout" to be over.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526 or email him a curtswarm@yahoo.com. Curt is available for public speaking.

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