

CHILD CHAMPIONS



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Twelve groups and individuals were honored Wednesday by the Quad County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children for advocacy efforts on behalf of Lee County Children.

HONOREES: Groups, individuals honored for advocacy on behalf of county children

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - a;ldkjf;lakjdafoiufapoifdoifap-fudsMONTROSE - Champions for children advocacy in Lee County were recognized Wednesday afternoon at the Lee County Career Advantage Center.

The event coincided with Child Abuse Prevention Month and served as an update on the progress of groups associated with the Quad-County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children.

Arin Jones, Coordinator for the Quad-County CPPC,

said the event helps showcase the area efforts to bite into what are considered poor data around child abuse and neglect in the county.

Jones said a state and federal grant has allowed work to be focused in Lee County on bringing the county out of its last-in-the-state standing in child abuse and neglect. The county is currently 99th out of 99 counties and has been for several years.

But efforts are underway, thanks to the grant and the work of those associated with programs such as Child

See ADVOCACY, page 6

COUNTY NEWS

Supervisors to push annexations to IEDA board

FORT MADISON – The Lee County Board of Supervisors is taking action to force the City of Fort Madison to take possession of half a road that has been the center of sour grapes between the two entities.

At Tuesday’s regular meeting of the county board, County Engineer Ben Hull presented a letter to the board he was forwarding to the Iowa Economic Devel-

opment Authority’s City Development Board outlining the city’s responsibility to annex part of two stretches of road because the city owns property adjoining the roadways.

The two roads are a section of X32 and a portion of 302nd Avenue. The section of 302nd Avenue is the portion of the road that runs along the west side near the PORT Trail. The county and

city were at odds about drainage issues that surfaced when the trail was put in, causing icing and potential damage to the roadway due to water draining across the road.

Hull said the 302nd Avenue annexation was done by the city in the 1980s, but the abutting half of the road was never

See ROADWAYS, page 6

LCCD to cut ribbon on Heron Bend shelterhouse

DERBY: Free fishing derby for area youth will be part of ribbon-cutting May 3

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY - Lee County Conservation invites the public to celebrate spring with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and Youth Fishing Derby at Heron Bend Fishing Area on Saturday, May 3rd.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. with a ribbon-cutting for the newly completed shelter house, followed by a fun and free fishing derby for kids.

The new shelter house at North Heron Bend Fishing Area was completed earlier this year, but is now being formally unveiled with warmer weather finally here. The structure—made possible through a generous sponsorship and hands-on support from Lee County Pheasants Forever—features picnic tables and a covered space for year-round public use, making it ideal for gatherings, picnics, and outdoor programs.

“We are thrilled to officially celebrate this new addition to Heron Bend,” said Heather Huebner, Director of Lee County Conservation. “Lee County Pheasants Forever not only funded this project, but also volunteered their time and effort to help build it. Their commitment to conservation and our community is truly appreciated.”

Immediately following the ribbon

See DERBY, page 4



INDEX

AG NEWS..... P.2
Business Directory..... P.5
CLASSIFIEDS..... P.5
Connection Bank..... P.2
EDUCATION NEWS..... Ps.2-4
FROM THE FRONT..... Ps.4,6
Fullenkamp Insurance P.2
James Healthcare & Associates, Inc..... P.3

Jim Baier, Inc..... P.5
IOWA NEWS..... P.2
LEE COUNTY NEWS..... Ps.4,6
LOCAL NEWS Ps.4,6
Mohrfeld Solar..... P.3
National Association of Letter Carriers...P.8
Pen City Current..... Ps.2,5
Pothitakis Dental Group..... P.6

Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C. P.4
Public Notices..... P.5
SCENE AROUND THE AREA..... P.2
SmokeyBear.com..... P.6
Turnwater Bar and Grill..... P.4
United Way of the
Great River Region..... P.7

WEATHER

FRI 18 Apr..... Partly sunny, then chance of storms, 79° F/ 47° F ☁️
SAT 19 Apr..... Chance of showers, 59° F/ 47° F ☁️
SUN 20 Apr..... Showers, 62° F/ 46° F ☁️

IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 04/16..... 7 36 40 47 59, Powerball: 9
LOTTO AMERICA 04/16..... 2 5 45 47 48, Star Ball: 8 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 04/16..... 1 34 38 43 47, Lucky Ball: 3
PICK 3 MIDDAY 04/16..... 0 5 3
PICK 3 EVENING 04/16..... 4 1 4
PICK 4 MIDDAY 04/16..... 3 6 1 8
PICK 4 EVENING 04/16..... 5 3 2 1
POWERBALL 04/16..... 20 24 42 43 49, Powerball: 19 Power Play: 3

SUBSCRIBE

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



Lee County Farm Bureau Ag News/Education News



Courtesy Photo

Central Lee mentors, students earn designation

LEE COUNTY - Eighteen members of the Central Lee FFA met the rigorous requirements of the Iowa FFA degree in 2025. They were recognized at the 2025 State FFA Convention held in Ames, Iowa. Requirements include an outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experience program, success in the classroom, several hours of community service, and a lengthy list of FFA activities above the chapter level. This year's successful candidates and Advisors from Central Lee are, front(L-R) Ms. Madeline Wellman (student teacher/Advisor), Jayden Mueller, Charlee Clay, Lily Thomas, Audrey Sturdivant, Aubrey Weber, and Mr. Tom B. Boeck, FFA Advisor. Back(L-R) Riley Gregory, Lily Smith, Ward Fraise, Brody Moeller, Will Ferris and Sydnie Larson. Not pictured Owen Swan, Mylan Lowenberg, Taylor Jones, Kylie Fortune, Colton Taft, Nathan Newberry, and Peter Seyb. We congratulate all candidates for their commitment to the FFA organization. This degree makes them eligible for the American FFA degree. #CTEworksforCL

#HyperLocalSuperFresh

Naig sends E15 letters to Trump Administration

WAUCOMA, Iowa (April 16, 2025) – Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig announced today that he has authored two letters that were delivered to the Trump Administration and Congressional leadership in support of nationwide access to E15 (Unleaded 88). The homegrown, cleaner burning fuel saves drivers money at the pump, and Iowa is the national leader in ethanol production. Secretary Naig made the announcement during remarks delivered to the shareholders of the Homeland Energy Solutions ethanol plant during their annual meeting in Waucoma.

The first letter, which was sent to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin, advocates for an emergency waiver under the Clean Air Act to allow the nationwide sale of E15 fuel during the 2025 summer driving season.

EPA has previously recognized the need for such action and the precedent for granting emergency waivers exists. Such an action would align with President Trump's "Declaring a National Energy Emergency" executive order, and with our broader national interest in achieving energy dominance, independence and security.

"Allowing continued access to E15 this summer is critical for American consumers and our rural economy. Drivers deserve a more affordable, lower-emission fuel option at the pump, especially during peak travel months. At the same time, rural communities and farm families are facing significant uncertainty due to unstable global markets, tariffs, and the potential loss of key agricultural export opportunities. While these market conditions may be temporary, the impact on corn demand and farm income is very real.

Year-round E15 sales can help absorb some of that shock by strengthening domestic markets for biofuels and corn growers—offering an immediate, commonsense way to support American energy and agriculture alike," wrote Secretary Naig.

The second letter, sent to Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA), House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD), and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), requests the immediate consideration of bi-partisan legislation that allows for the permanent and year-round nationwide sale of E15.

This long-overdue reform would end the annual cycle of uncertainty that currently surrounds the availability of E15, and provide a clear path forward for retailers, farmers and fuel producers. The change would also be good for consumers, who benefit from additional options at the pump, lower fuel prices, and reduced emissions. For example, in 2024, Iowa drivers saved \$38.5 million in fuel costs by choosing E15 rather than E10.

"We must move beyond temporary, stop-gap solutions. Congress has the opportunity to make E15 permanently available all year long, across the country, and should do so quickly. The need for this legislative fix is underscored by current headwinds in agriculture. From trade challenges to geopolitical instability, American farmers—especially corn growers—are navigating unpredictable and potentially volatile markets. Expanded domestic biofuel demand through E15 helps offset some of that uncertainty, providing a stable, value-added market for corn and reinforcing America's energy dominance," wrote Secretary Naig.

Looking for Stability?

Make Your Move to Fullenkamp Insurance today!



We have a long track record with the companies we represent, including:

- Nationwide –61 years
- IMT Insurance – 50 years
- Progressive – 40 years
- United Fire Group – 40 years
- Continental Western Group – 40 years
- Auto Owners Insurance – 19 years

**Auto • Home • Health
Business • Life • Farm • Crop**

*Serving Southeast Iowa, Northeast Missouri,
& West-Central Illinois for 61 years*



Fullenkamp
INSURANCE
EST. 1963



307 5th Street West Point | 319-837-6178 or 800-292-2208 | www.fullenkampins.com
Open Monday through Friday 7:30 - 5:00

The average person is on their device 3+ hours per day.

Reach your customers wherever they are with digital ads.

**Call Lee (319)371.4125
or Chuck (319)371.1670**

PEN CITY CURRENT

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



CONNECTION BANK

We've got this.

www.myconnectionbank.com

Burlington • Fort Madison • Montrose • Keokuk

Member FDIC

Charles Vandenberg, Editor
(319).371.1670
Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager
(319).371.4125
Lee.V@PenCityCurrent.com

Copyright © 2025 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

Pen City Current, 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

Education News

Fort Madison Jr./Sr. High students make honor rolls

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Junior and Senior High School released the honor rolls for the third quarter A and B Honor rolls. Pen City Current congratulates the district and the students on these achievements.

7th Grade A Honor Roll

Kinsley Bohnenkamp, Jaxon Brooks, Piper Denning, Kair-ringtuhn Donald, Charlee Ellis, Olive Hantzeas, Nyla Helt, Emmett Ireland, Keith Kirby, Victor Krogmeier, Himnesh Patel, Gunner Perry, Addison Pezley, and Caden Rehm.

7th Grade B Honor Roll

Cierra Applegarth, Gianni Bagby, Amelia Bruhl, Sophia Daman, Emily Dillon, Lily Eaton, Jayden Fedler, Henry Grossman, Hunter Hale, Conner Hellige, Patricia Howard, Briley Johnson, Natalie Lamb, Valentino Maestro, Landon Marshall, Jace Menke, Nilie Menke, Dean Moffett, Isabelle Pranger, Samuel Ramsey, Kaliya Richardson, Eric Roberts, De’Shon Robinson, Nathan Sherwood, Isabella Spear, Zacory Spears-Franklin, Olivia Stevenson, Niko Taylor, Jacqueline Vincent, Thomas Watson, Akron Weisinger, Owen Weisinger, and Raymond Wright.

8th Grade A Honor Roll

Landry Benda, Peyton Burch, Hannah Cook, Serenity Clark, Lucia Darnell, Cavin Denney, Kenlie Durbin, Kean Eid, Zackary Hermes, Kian Koering, Eloise Lamb, Macyn Lampe, Ryker Peters, Vance Schuessler, Jada Shrum, Adelynn Spear, Charlie Sutton, Deshawn Townes, and Reid Zeh.

8th Grade B Honor Roll

Caycin Bowen, Zachary Burnett, Ava Featheringill, Gemma Fraise, Leah Gelsthorpe, Aubrielle Gnann, Aubryianna Gustafson, Jasmine Herring, Kayda Huebner, Hayden Janic, Cooper Kokjohn, Zane Lorence, Zoey Marshall, Addalee Mason, Liam McEntee, Brynnlee Moss, Parker Overberg, Brynley Pixler, Ariston Potter, Makenzie Pugliese, Gabriel Raldiris, Ethan Rube, Brian Sherman, Chloe Smith, Michael Steele, Savannah Tanner, and Colton Tripp.

9th Grade A Honor Roll

Olivander Anderson, Jessiline Barker, Max Barnes, Kerrigan Bentley, Stefan Berlett, Ashlan Blanchard, Cade Blind, Aiden Booth, Addison Breckon, Elijah Broadhurst, Morgan Brooks, David Castan, Fayth Chamness, Olivia Chapman, Madison Curtiss, Brynlee Dixon, Maxwell Dixon, Rose Durand, Braydyn Fraser, Lillith Gasaway, Jordyn Grisham, Ezekiel Groves, Betty Hendrix, Ila Holmes, Reece Huey, Owen Huffman, Charles Ireland, Jr., Aurelio Jaciunde, Kimberly Jones, Mia Larsen, John Lawson, Liam MacLearn, Claire Marmion, Jordyn Marshall, Tatum McLey, Tatum Menke, Autumn Muldoon, Logan Nelton, Alia Osorio, Chelsea Patton, Dahlia Puga, Keelynd Ross, Noah Schin-stock, Briley Sholl, Lyla Smith, Charlise Spears-Franklin, Elaina Steffensmeier, Seth Strum, Pieper Terrell, Moses Thacher, Jordan Thompson, Camille Walker, Jacob Walker, Lawrence Watson, Jayla Weeks, Kaitlyn Winn, Drew Woodbury, Nikita Yurchenko, and Ryder Zeh.

9th Grade B Honor Roll

Jace Applegarth, Akilah Cain, Noah Daman, Payton Fields, Brecklyn Fraise, Jose Gastelum, Madison Mauck, Signe Nelson, Chloe Roberts, Eli Shallcross, Emma Shehan, Savannah Shipley, Clifford Stewart and Emma Wilcox.

10th Grade A Honor Roll

Iris Arevalo, Jayla Bass, Rowan Benda, Avery Bousset, Christine Britton, Connor Cale, Isaiah Coon, Nathan Cottrell, Erin Cowles, Rosario Delgadillo, Alyvia Drummer, Aurora Dunn, Karsen Dublin, Jackson Emmett, Lanie Fincher, Ava Fuget, Xander Gable, Brenna Gathers, Eva Genck, Estherlyn Gnann, Madilynn Gracey, Alexys Hartman, Audrey Hemm, Connor Horn, Charley Huebner, Makenzie Johnson, Rainer Johnson, Zoe Johnson, Iyov Kelly, Mira Koser, Nolan Lamb, Adelyn Lampe, Kylie Lumino, Addisyn Lumsden, Mia Mason, Owen Menke, Elanor Moffett, Isaac Newton, Mason Overberg, Isabella Palmer, Torey Potter, Liam Prier, Cole Quittem, Emma Ramsey, Jonah Santiago, Molly Schulte, Alaina Schwerin, Taisiia Skoryk, Zoey Smith, Emmalyn Snaadt, Hayden Stancil, Hailey Tory, Reilynn Turnbull, Jake Wehrle, Hunter Wiegand, Natalie Wright, Andrea Yrigoyen, and Lucille Zimmerman.

10th Grade B Honor Roll

Chase Best, Conner Blindt, Urijah Brooks, Rylee Bryant, Javier Gomez-Lee, Alessandra Gonzalez, Cora Gorham, Gavin Hasenclever, Marshall Heitmann, Lucas Helmick, Finley Johnson, Brooklynn Lawson, Kathryn Locke, Alexander Peck, Peyton Pet-tigrew, William Scanlan, Beau Wagner, Terrence Warth, Precious Wilson.

11th grade A Honor Roll

Ladriel Anderson, Maleena Bentley, Beverly Brogdon, Shane Bryant, Skyler Cale, Zoey Counts, Megan Curtiss, Dayonna Davis, Addison Dean, Karson Dixon, Aiden Dostalek, Madalyn Emmett, Kayleigh Fawcett, Addyson Fowler, Conner Fowler-Wolf, Holden Fraise, Kadence Gobble, Nolan Guzman, Jackson Haessig, Jake Haessig, Ellie Huebner, Markus Holbert, Mackenzie Huebner, Elayna Hutson, Hanna Kirchner, Brenden Kniffen, Justice Lightfoot, Addison Link, Mason McLey, Edin Mehmedi, Halle Menke, DJ Meredith, Jakayla Nelson, Wyatt Orr, Isabelle Patton, Tatum Peters, Karlyna Plate, Kaydynce Plate, McKenna Queen, Gabrielle Quick, Alyssa Rife, Kelli Roberts, Addison Rump, Avery Rump, McKayla Schinstock, Johnathan Shallcross, Gavin Shrum, Savannah Sissel, Brianna Six, Laila Smith, Mara Smith, Kayreena Sterling, Elliana VanNorman, Kayden Warner, Marlee Weiler, Hadley Wolfe, Mia Woodbury, Gerald Woodsmall.

11th Grade B Honor Roll

Colton Boyer, Ella Boyer, Isabel Broadhurst, Lillian Buckner, Caleb Dillon, Addysen Genardo, Martin Hornbaker, Jason Janic, Brook Johnson, Brandon Klein, Austin Nesheim, Wyatt Orr, Logan Pomberg, Veronica Pranger, Ames Schinstock, Lily Schuelka, Daniel Seager, Ethan Southward and Kevin Tripp.

12th Grade A Honor Roll

Chase Allen, Lucy Arevalo, Ava Barnes, Yana Berova, Klaire Bohnenkamp, Kenden Bowie, Olivia Buckner, Gavin Callahan, Nicholas Carle, Nolen Carle, Brody Cashman, Ricky Chamness, Hunter Cook, Alyssa Crowther, Julian Dear, Danika Dotson, Connor Enger, Raminata Fofana, Sydney Fraise, Chandler Fullenkamp, Laci Gathers, Lillian Gelsthorpe, Cade Goodrich, Henry Graham, Marley Grizzle, Jackson Guzman, Kayden Hansen, Jonathan Hasenclever, Ethan Huffman, Taylor Huffman, Autumn Hummell, Cole James, Isaiah Jenkins, Sabrina Jennings, Calvin Johnson, Shelby Johnson, Hailey Kemper, Emilee King, Ruby King, Casey Kline, Mason Koser, Allison Lamb, Peyton Lambert, Austin Lantry, Brylie Lorence, Decee Marshall, Aurora Martineze-Eid, Morgan Miller, Haley Mitchell, William Moffett, Alexis Muldoon, Kassara Muldoon, Kaylee Newton, Brandon Osborn, Kemee Peterson, Felicia Ralph, Naomi Ramatowski, Evan Richmond, Tateum Schelich, Katelyn Sissel, Mackenzie Smith, Zayne Speer, Briahna Sprague, Noah Swigart, Ava Taylor, Emily Tran, Dianna Vincent, Brady Wade, Alexa Walz, Alexander Wamsley, Thomas White, Gul Yoruk, Chuxuan Zhao, and Leon Ziegtrum.

12th Grade B Honor Roll

William Bausewell, Benjamin Blanchard, Kaylynn Boe, Kaden Durbin, Jake Ehlers, Micah Fraise, Joseph Fuller, Claire Goldie, Marcus Guzman, Kalib Heidbreder, Cruz Hunold, James Janic, Alexa Johnson, Dayton Lamar, Justin Maitner, Sabrina Mehmed, Mia Mesecher, Jesus Oronia, Richard Pennington, Aleister Raines, Jacob Shottenkirk, Michael Stephens, Haley Tedrow, Augustus VanHynning, Bailey Vaughn, Aaron Warner, Jason Williams and Mason Winter.

BACK PAIN?

Do You Have Hip Pain? Are You As Stiff As a Board When You Try to Get Up From a Chair? Have You Run Out of Hope?

How 5 Lies About Low BACK PAIN May Keep You Hurting, Frustrated & Exhausted...Forever!

NEW Scientific Breakthroughs Often Make Short Work of Low Back Pain...Just What Big Medical Centers and High Priced Clinics Are PRAYING You Never Figure Out On Your Own!

Hi, I'm Dr. Jason James, and if you've got any kind of back, hip or leg pain, your worries may be over in just a few minutes. Why? Because I'm the owner of James Healthcare & Assoc. clinic, and I've discovered what may be the best healing secrets for "bad backs"— EVER!



Dr. Jason James, D.C.

I'd be stupid to make such a claim if I couldn't back it up. But I am so confident we can help your back, I insist on giving you a 100% SATISFACTION PLEDGE at James Healthcare. I hate empty promises, and I also hate the lies most folks have been told about their backs. That's why it's important I expose these MYTHS about back pain.

MYTH #1: Sciatica (pain down your leg) is always caused by a herniated disc!

No way...even though most doctors will sell you a \$3,000 MRI at the first sign of leg pain. But they don't tell you about a 5-inch muscle in the hip that can squeeze the sciatic nerve. And it feels EXACTLY like you've got the worst slipped disc on earth. It's a major discovery and...



The good news is that it can be easy and inexpensive to correct! How? Just keep reading! But first, here's a picture to show you where the pain comes from:

MYTH #2: Stiffness from Arthritis means you're getting old...and it must be the reason for all your pain and stiffness!

Not true, because thousands of folks with arthritis in their backs have absolutely NO PAIN! Then why do YOU feel like your back will snap if you bend forward or twist too fast? Because the truth is:

Your stiffness may be caused by a hidden, even more dangerous problem than arthritis, and it can lead to a hip replacement!

You see, most folks believe that something mysterious (like maybe an "arthritis fairy"?) waved a wand over them, and they're cursed... doomed to suffer forever.

But did you know that many arthritis problems are CAUSED by a combination of unseen imbalances in the spine and surrounding muscles? It's the most common cause of hip replacements but not that hard to correct if we catch it in time. It's like the tires on your car...

If the alignment is off just a teeny-weeny bit, at first you don't notice, but over a few thousand miles you start to see signs of wear...that is, if you're lucky enough to catch it before a flat on the freeway ruins your day. In your spine, you're lucky if you catch untreated imbalances before they ruin your spine! How to fix them? Just look at Myth #3.

MYTH #3: Your Back is "Out"!

Sure, that's exactly how it feels. But guess what, we found that's usually not the case. It sounds good, but we now know better. You see, there are 7 different reasons for that painful, locked-up and stuck feeling that causes so much misery:

- low-grade spasm
- pelvis torque and tension
- imbalance of hips

- fallen or dropped arches
- stiff vertebra joint
- adhesions in leg muscle
- pinched nerve

It's NOT just your spine, and it's NOT just your muscles. As a matter of fact, if one of the major muscles that stabilize the spine is partly spasmed, a "2nd stringer" will have to carry the load. But this is a serious problem...

It's like having your plumber doing all the dangerous electrical work!

Sure, he may get it done, and it may work at first, but how long until there's a fire? Or your back locks up? Which leads me to our next myth:

MYTH #4: "It's Only a Muscle!"

Boy, it's scary how many people think muscle problems are no big deal. Unfortunately, tight, bound-up, and spasmed or tight muscles can wear out joints faster than you can say, "Charley Horse"!

That's why it's important to examine the spine AT THE SAME TIME as the muscles that control it. It's also why we've had such outrageous success with even the worst backs at James Healthcare. Because we deal with BOTH the spine and muscles at the same time. We have spine doctors (chiropractors), pain doctors (nurse practitioners) and muscle professionals (therapists) and together they deliver an outstanding way to help "bad backs". This ties in to Myth #5 and the diagram:



MYTH #5: "Muscle Relaxants" will help your muscles heal! Good grief, NO!

Your muscles tighten up for a reason, and muscle relaxants are like turning back the clock on a time bomb...you know it's still going to blow up! Sure, you may feel better now, but you'll pay later...and pay "in spades"! So don't fall for these lies about your low back. They'll keep you hurting, frustrated and exhausted forever!

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER:

Turn over in bed without pain waking you up?

Get up in the morning without being as stiff as a board?

Be able to stand for as long as you want without sitting down for relief?

Lean forward over the sink without that "stabbing" in your back or leg?

James Healthcare & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Dr. Jason James, DC
Dr. Mack Kohnke, DC
Ashley Neuweg, ARNP
612 MAIN STREET • KEOKUK, IA

319-524-3339

SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH:

A hidden muscle may be causing your SCIATICA! Does Your Back Seem "Too Old" for Your Own Body? Not everyone qualifies for treatment, so help us see if you do. If you check off even one box, drop what you're doing and call James Healthcare NOW. And bring this coupon when you come in for your 39-Point "Back-Pain Track-Down Exam". Now check off what describes you:

☐ Tension...always tight across the beltline

☐ Bent—crooked off to one side and can't stand up straight if your life depended on it

☐ Trigger Point...zinging pain to butt-cheek

☐ Stiff as a board...creak and groan when you first get out of bed in the morning

☐ Traitor...can't trust your back and what it's going to do—or when!

☐ Vice-like...constantly locked down tight!

☐ Shooting...vicious but short-lived

☐ Lumbago...hard to pin it down—just seems to hurt all the time, but it's hard to say where

☐ One-sided...right at that "bone" on one side

☐ Jack hammer...pounding off and on like a heartbeat or a toothache in your back

☐ Aching from 1-5 years

☐ Chronic pain for over 5 years

No one will try to sell you anything, and you make no commitment...you just find out what's wrong!

Call NOW! (319) 524-3339

James Healthcare & Associates, Inc.

612 Main Street

"I broke my back when I was 41 years old and have had problems from then on, until June 2017. Dr. James gave me my life back! I have very few back problems now. It is great to be able to do my everyday duties without back problems."—Roger Kirchner

Are you ready to lower your electric bills?

MOHRFELD Solar

- Energy Audit
- Solar System Design
- Solar System Installation
- System Monitoring

P: 319-372-5536
E: mohrfeld@mohrfeldelectric.com

Local News/From the Front

Holy Trinity Catholic earns second Catt Award for registration

REGISTRATION: Designation honors private system for percentage of seniors registered to vote

DES MOINES – Holy Trinity Catholic earned it’s second Carrie Chapman Catt award for the achieving 90% senior voter registration at HTC High School.

The Carrie Chapman Catt Award program, created and administered by Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate, encourages eligible high school senior students to register to vote. Secretary Pate recently announced that as part of the initiative, 4,737 high school students registered to vote across 60 counties during the 2024-2025 school year.

Established in 2019, the Carrie Chapman Catt Award was created by Secretary Pate to encourage voter registration in Iowa high schools. The prestigious Carrie Chapman Catt Award goes to Iowa schools that register at least 90 percent of their eligible students to vote, with schools also earning recognition for registered 70 percent and 50 percent of eligible students. Studies show that students who report being encouraged to vote or taught how to register to vote in high school are more likely to vote and be more invested in elections throughout their lifetimes.

To wrap up the 2024-2025 school year, Secretary Pate is celebrating the 120 schools that signed up to host voter registration drives and the 62 schools that received recognition as part of the award program.

- 40 schools registered at least 90% of eligible

seniors, earning the Carrie Chapman Catt Award trophy

- 5 large schools (with more than 300 students) registered at least 100 eligible seniors, earning the Capitol Award trophy
- 8 schools registered at least 70% of eligible students, earning a banner award
- 9 schools registered at least 50% of eligible students, earning a certificate award

“It is a privilege to have a small part in instilling a sense of civic duty among Iowa’s high school students,” said Secretary Pate. “Registering to vote is the first step in ensuring you have the opportunity to exercise your fundamental right to vote, and I am thrilled to congratulate the almost 5,000 new registered voters who are establishing that they are not just leaders of tomorrow, but leaders already today.”

Easter Brunch!

at

TURNWATER



FORT MADISON, IA
BAR AND GRILL

APRIL 20TH
9:00AM - 2:00PM

Pheasant’s Forever a big part of improvements

DERBY - Continued from Page 1

cutting, the Youth Fishing Derby will take place from 9 to 11 a.m., with a free lunch provided afterward. Young anglers can test their skills, win prizes, and enjoy time outdoors with family and friends. Fishing poles will be available to borrow, and no pre-registration is required.

About Lee County Conservation

Lee County Conservation is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the natural resources of Lee County for the benefit of current and future generations. Through its management of parks, wildlife areas, and recreational facilities, the organization provides residents and visitors with opportunities to connect with nature and enjoy the outdoors.

About Lee County Pheasants Forever

Lee County Pheasants Forever is a local chapter of Pheasants Forever, a national organization committed to the conservation of pheasant, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education, and land management policies and programs. The chapter is actively involved in enhancing local wildlife habitats and supporting community-based conservation efforts.

We Fight for You!



P

POTHITAKIS
LAW FIRM P.C.

ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW

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

www.PothitakisLaw.com

Best Lawyers
BEST
LAW FIRMS
USNews
RANKINGS



TURNWATER



FORT MADISON, IA
BAR AND GRILL

JAKE MCVEY

FRIDAY
APRIL 18TH
7:00-10:00 PM

Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY
TREASURER'S OFFICE

The 2025 Iowa Property Tax Credit Claim application to be filed this year for credit on your 2024 taxes-payable Sept 2025 and March 2026 are out. They are available on our Lee County website and in the Fort Madison and Keokuk offices. Both offices are open to pick up applications Monday-Friday 830am to 430pm.

Please note who is eligible and the total household income for the year 2024 below:

- Iowa Residents.
- Total household income is less than \$26,219.00 and age 65-69 on December 31, 2024, or
- For a claimant who is at least 70 years of age and total household in-

come for everyone living in the house is less than 250% of the federal poverty level (see last page of application for federal poverty level guidelines) on December 31, 2024.

• Totally disabled and age 18-64 and total household income is less than \$26,219.00 on December 31, 2024.

"Totally Disabled" means:

1. You are unable to engage in any substantial gainful employment.
2. The unemployment is due to a physical or mental impairment that is: Medically determined and expected to last 12 months or longer or result in death.

If you were between the ages of 18 and 64 on December 31, 2024, and totally disabled, you are required by the State to provide currently dated

proof of your disability and must be included with your claim which is:

A current statement from the Social Security Administration that in 2024 you were receiving a disability benefit due to 100% disability.

Claims without proper documentation will be denied and returned. Please make sure you have signed and dated your application, and all the required documentation is attached before returning it to our office. The deadline to apply is June 1, 2025. Contact our office at 319-372-3405 with any questions.

Place your ad
online 24/7

VROOM. VROOM.
Get Pre-Approved in Seconds.

**maybe even faster than this car gets to 60, just sayin'!*



Jim BAIER, INC.

www.JimBaier.com

Click here to visit us online now

Follow Us @pencitycurrent



BUSINESS DIRECTORY



209 7th Street, West Point • 319-214-0415

OPEN 24/7 by Access Control

Other times by appointment

**YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP
FOR ALL THINGS PRINTING!**

Advertising
Vinyl Banners
Office Supplies
Large Format Printing
Copy & Digital Services
Business Cards & Forms

Graphic Design
T-Shirt Printing
Promotional Products
Faxing & Email Service
Full Service Print Shop
Coffee Mugs & Gift Items

DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY
EST. 1977

621 Ave G • Fort Madison, IA • 319.372.2721 • doddprinting.com

FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON & SURROUNDING AREA

Your Neighborhood Hardware and Rental Store!

KEMPKER'S

True Value **RENTAL**

1904 Avenue H Fort Madison | 608 S 9th St Burlington | 1405 E Washington St Mt Pleasant

Visit us online: kempkerstruevalue.com

YOUR AD HERE

for as little as \$50 per month

Call Lee at 319.371.4125
or email classifieds@pencitycurrent.com



Patrick Profeta
General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit

We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments

www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main Keokuk, IA 52632 | Office: 319-524-2334 Fax: 319-524-2373



Sara Hennigar, APMA™
Financial Advisor
Joshua Denning & Associates
A private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC
319.372.8923
701 Avenue G, Fort Madison, IA 52627
sara.j.hennigar@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/sara.j.hennigar

Securities offered by Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2025 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

Ameriprise Financial

Proud to support the neighborhood

Being a good neighbor means being there for my community. As your local State Farm® agent, I'm ready to help whenever you need me. Give me a call.

State Farm

Jess Sutcliffe LUTCF®
Agent
2623 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627-3840

Bus: 319-372-5982
fortmadisoninsurance.com



State Farm
Bloomington, IL

Generations of Great Service

- 24 Hour Service
- FREE Estimates
- Servicing All Makes



Full Service HVAC Company
Serving Fort Madison, Burlington, and surrounding areas with over 30 Years Experience!

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

www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com

Auto Detailing • Car Wash • Sign Rental

Turbo Wash

(319) 372-WASH (9274)
Fort Madison



Gift certificates available

Locally owned & operated

From the Front

County wants city to take half of roadways

ROADWAY - Continued from Page 1

annexed into the city and the county has been maintaining the road. The county owns the property on the other half of the road and would maintain ownership of that half of the road.

The city and county have agreements in place for maintenance of roadways that have split ownership, which is not uncommon in areas where city jurisdiction butts up against county property.

The section of property along X32 is a more recent annexation, Hull said. But the roadway there wasn't annexed into the city either.

According to Hull and Lee County Attorney Ross Braden, state law requires the city to annex their half of the roadway into the city. The City Development Board is the committee within the IEDA that has authority to make that happen, hence the letters from the county.

"This has been discussed to a great degree. Everyone knows that we've had a long road to get to this point regarding when the trail was put in on county right of way," he said. "We have put forth, among other things, that the city acknowledge that those roads need to be annexed and be their maintenance."

Hull said the county has been maintaining the road for more than 40 years which should have been maintained by the city. He said the city has been plowing snow on 302nd during deliberations over the stretch of road, but the city declined to do that this year.

Hull said several meetings, along with correspondence from Braden, have taken place and a handshake agreement was reached with city staff over the issues. However, the Fort Madison City Council declined to accept the agreement.

As part of the handshake deal, Hull said the county agreed to sealcoat the road,

which he did.

He said the annexation in question is for roads only and not any private property.

Supervisor Tim Wondra asked if it was normal for the city to have annexed the road when they annexed the adjoining property. Hull said he didn't know if it was normal, but according to the state it was "proper".

Braden said in 1993, the state clarified code and any roadway that has common boundaries with the city has to be annexed or the county can notify the City Development Board and that board would put forth action to have the roadway annexed.

The annexation would result in the city and county each owning half of the road and Hull said the current 28E in place for shared maintenance of roadways, which has been in place since 1993, should reflect those roadways. He also said it would be a good idea to revisit the 28E for clearer understanding and benefits for both sides on all roadways in the agreement.

Supervisor Garry Seyb said the road is as good as it will be.

"It's not like were turning something over that's in disrepair and they would have to spend a lot of money on right now," he said.

Hull said the City Development Board will set a hearing and give the city a chance to be heard, and then make a determination that Braden said would be binding under state code.

The city has pushed back, stating the roadway is not suffering and the county should be on board with the benefits of the PORT Trail and support the project.

The board voted 5-0 to have Hull forward the correspondence to the City Development Board for action.

Coalition gets new grant to help continue advocacy efforts

ADVOCACY - Continued from Page 1

Abuse Prevention Council, Lee County Health Department, Empowering Families, and the Best You Coalition.

Only 19 counties in the state are eligible for grant funding and Lee County was one of the four counties to receive funds based on data and risk factors, Jones said.

"The grant is coming to an end, and now there's some forward stuff going on," she said.

Emily Biddenstadt, of LCHD, said a new round of grant funding has been awarded to the coalition so the good work being done in the area can continue.

Jones said a big focus now is looking at resilience and the biology of stress. "The hope end is to build resilience to the stressors on physical health, social health, and educational health," she said.

"And we can do that through building nurturing relationships that are stable and safe in a safe community. That's why we're tying in the child champions."


Jones said that 43% of children in Lee County are in single family homes which hits at the heart of financial stability for kids. Lee County ranks 95th out of 99 counties in that demographic with the state average at 32%.

The Child Champions recognized by the coalition on Wednesday included area School Resource Officers Allyson Dade of Keokuk PD serving Keokuk Community School District, Jeremy Boecker of Fort Madison PD at Fort Madison Community schools, and Kyle Haney of the Lee County Sheriff's serving at Central Lee schools.

The Fort Madison school district was also awarded as a group for their partnership with the children's collaborative including service to Parent Cafes, Poverty Simulations, and Handle with Care initiatives. Hoerner YMCA was honored for its service to youth and the free Teen Center program as well as contributions to the Child Abuse Prevention Council. Commercial Contracting Services of Keokuk was also recognized for its support of Keokuk Parent Cafes as well as partnerships with Best You Coalition, Empowering Families, and Lee County Health Department.

John McCannon. Christa Bronnenberg, Tervor McDaniel, Dara Sanders of West Point Public Library, and Lee County Supervisor Garry Seyb were all individually honored.

Make Your Oral Health a Priority in the New Year



POTHITAKIS DENTAL GROUP

5 convenient locations to serve you.


Ft. Madison
(319) 372-4882

Burlington
(319) 752-8142

New London
(319) 367-2311

West Burlington
(319) 753-2515

Mediapolis
(319) 394-3255



www.DrMarkDDS.com



Smokey Bear is within us all.

For wildfire prevention tips, visit SmokeyBear.com





Save The Date

MAY 2
2025

SHEAFFER MEMORIAL
GOLF PARK



1760 308th Ave,
Fort Madison, IA 52627

Website: <https://unitedwaygrr.org/>
Phone Number: 319-524-4504
Email: director@unitedwaygrr.org



Across the Nation, Letter Carriers are banding together to



and we are asking YOU to help join our Cause!

on the second Saturday of May, we are collecting bags of donated non-perishable food items that you set next to your mailbox. Then we deliver the food to our local food banks to help families in need!

Non-perishable Foods include, but not limited to:

Canned/dry Packaged Soups
Beans (canned/dry)
Oils and Spices
Sweeteners (sugar/honey)
Canned Goods (fruit, veggies, meat)

Snacks (granola bars / Jerky)
Powdered Milk
Canned Juices
Beans (canned and dried)

Rice (Brown/white)
Crackers
Cereal (Ready to Eat)
Pasta
Bottled Water