The United Way of the Great River Region handed out close to $125,000 on Wednesday as part of their annual fundraising disbursement. The event was held at the First Christian Church in Keokuk and 26 agencies were allotted funds in 2018.

**Twenty-six agencies get funds from UWGRR**

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**

KEOKUK - More than 26 county agencies were given funds as part of the annual United Way of the Great River Region on Wednesday. Funds totaling more than $125,000 were handed out as part of the annual luncheon held at the First Christian Church.

Jason Dixon, the new president of the group said the group is still working through the merger process that began in March of 2016 when the United Way agencies throughout Lee County, Iowa, Hancock County, Illinois and Clark County, Mo. banned together under the new flag and consolidated services and fundraising activities.

Dixon said the group is looking at the future of the fundraising campaigns and is open to new ideas.

"We would eventually like to have some events in each county, with the potential of increasing the amount of assistance we can provide. But we're still working through a lot of this merger," Dixon said.

New director Karen Thie, who was hired in December after Jaclyn Lansing left the post this summer, said the agency was able to help 26 groups this year.

"We obviously had a lot of applications this year. We gave different amounts based on need and the grant process. We would like to be able to give all these agencies more money but we work with what we have," she said.

Several fundraisers are being planned this year including the annual golf outings and corporate campaigns. Officers from local industries were also recognized at the event for spearheading United Way campaigns. Officers from local industries were also recognized at the event for spearheading United Way employee campaigns throughout the year. This said this year's corporate campaign will begin in September.

Granting Grant a second look

**By Curt Swarm**

It's been a tough winter. But tough winters, with the accompanying housebound syndrome and flu, is perfect for you know what—yes, reading! Here's my recommendation for keeping the howling north wind and frigid temperatures at bay. "Grant," by Ron Chernow. I read Chernow's "Hamilton" and "Washington," so it was only fair that I should follow up with "Grant." It's 1,100 pages long. No fooling. It took me well over a month to read, and my satisfaction is akin to the feeling one gets after completing a 10,000 piece puzzle. Just reading the monster was an accomplishment. But boy, oh boy, did I receive an education.

Like most people, I had a "ho-hum" attitude about Grant, largely formed from my public-school education—that being he was a do-nothing drunk president and Northern Army General whose victories were mainly due to superior numbers. I had even read a book years ago that unabashedly theorized that Grant was complicit in the plot to assassinate Lincoln. God forgive me. Grant hero-worshipped Lincoln and was crushed by his death. Grant's only goal was to complete the job Lincoln had started. Grant led the charge to ratify the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution that abolished slavery, established citizenship, and granted voting rights to all people born in the United States.

British historian James Bryce assigned Grant "the front rank of presidents with Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln." The historian Sean Wilentz stated, "The evidence clearly shows that Grant created the most auspicious record on racial equality and civil rights of any president from Lincoln to Lyndon B. Johnson." Grant oversaw the creation of the Justice Department, whose first duty was to bring thousands of indictments against the Klu Klux Klan.
Central Lee hands FMHS boys tough loss

DONNELLSON - The Central Lee Hawks came back from a 10-point deficit to knock off Fort Madison Saturday night in high school boys basketball action.

Central Lee senior Evan Doyle connected on two free throws with 1:11 left to tie the game at 59 and then the Hawks tied up Fort Madison's inbound pass which went back to Central Lee. Senior Jared Brisby then scored inside on the Hawks possession to take a two-point lead with about 45 seconds remaining.

For Madison scored inside on their next possession when junior Logan Rashid found Trevor James-Kokjohn under the basket.

Central Lee got the ball in quickly and found Isaac Moeller on the run for a layup to go up by 2 63-61. The Hounds turned the ball over past the half-court line and Brisby raced to the other end where he was fouled before getting to the hoop. The senior converted both for a four point lead with just over a second remaining and the Hounds couldn't get a shot before the buzzer.

The Hounds found themselves behind early on being down by as much as four in the first quarter, but back-to-back 3-balls by senior Kaleb Cresswell put the Hounds up 15-13 with about 1:40 left in the first quarter. Cresswell, who finished with 15 points in the first half, all on 3-pointers, was held to just two points in the second half.

The Hounds, in the middle of a 13-0 run, got a couple of free throws from James-Kokjohn and a 3-pointer from Brandon Keester off the bench to stretch the lead to 22-15 in the second quarter. Cresswell would hit again from long range to make it a 10-point lead and then the two teams traded buckets the rest of the way through the period. Central Lee got a couple of 3-pointers from Doyle and junior Sam Himer to help the Hawks cut the lead to eight at 36-28 at the end of the half.

James-Kokjohn hit from the right side outside of the arc for a 39-28 lead to start the second half. The Hawks chipped away at the lead and had it down to eight points with 2:19 left in the period before the Hounds were whistled for four straight personal fouls, letting the hosts score six unanswered. The run had the game 48-46 before Keester hit again from long range giving the Hounds a 51-46 lead. Rashid scored on a drive in the lane, but Central Lee's Jake Frase hit a 3-pointer from the left to make it a four-point game going into the final period.

The Hounds got four open looks on the first posses-

See FMHS BOYS, page 6
### Lottery Numbers

**Scene Around Town**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers</th>
<th>Draw Days</th>
<th>Sales Cutoff Time</th>
<th>Approx. Drawing Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucky for Life®</td>
<td>Mon &amp; Thu</td>
<td>8:30 pm</td>
<td>9:38 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mega Millions®</td>
<td>Tue &amp; Fri</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>11:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerball®</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
<td>8:04 pm</td>
<td>9:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lotto America®</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
<td>8:59 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 3 – Mid-Day</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>12:20 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 3 – Evening</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>9:40 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 4 – Mid-Day</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>12:20 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 4 – Evening</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>9:40 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Great River Regional Waste Authority**

- **Ft. Madison Main Office:**
  - 2092 303rd Ave
  - Fort Madison, IA
  - 1-319-372-6140

- **Keokuk Transfer Station:**
  - 111 Carbide Lane
  - Keokuk, IA
  - 1-319-524-6175

---

**Thank you to all of our customers who helped us reduce our environmental footprint in 2017!**

Great River Regional Waste Authority is looking forward to continuing our efforts to manage our environmental footprint and help educate our communities on ways to help in 2018!

**Things to remember in 2018 when recycling:**

- Please do not place plastic bags in recycling bins.
- Rinse & Clean all food jars and cans before placing in recycling bins.
- Flatten boxes for better storage and volume reduction. *Empty all boxes before recycling.*
- Place all recyclable products loose in bins.
- Do not recycle wrapping paper.
- Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste.

[Click Here](#) for more guidance!

**For your convenience:**

- Convenient Drop-Off Locations in 10 cities
- Curbside Recycling Bins are available at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations
- HHW Collection Available by appointment during regular business hours at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations

---

**Iowa Lottery Winning Numbers**

- **Kumar Wickramasingha** accepts a check on behalf of Elliott Test Kitchen from Jason Dixon of the UWGRR at Wednesday’s luncheon.
- **Fort Madison YMCA Executive Director Ryan Wilson** accepts a check from Jason Dixon of the UWGRR at Wednesday’s luncheon.
- **Sara Clendening** of the Fort Madison Public Library accepts her funding check from Jason Dixon of the UWGRR at Wednesday’s luncheon.

---

**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**

- **1/28 MID-DAY**
  - 4 5 8
- **1/28 EVENING**
  - 0 3 7
- **1/28 MID-DAY**
  - 5 8 1 0
- **1/28 EVENING**
  - 1 2 4 6

---

**Visit Us Online!**

- [www.grrrwa.com](http://www.grrrwa.com)
- [facebook.com/grrrwa](http://facebook.com/grrrwa)
Bloodhound girls still looking for first win

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
**PCC EDITOR**

DONELLSON - Some tenacious defense from the Fort Madison Bloodhounds gave Central Lee some fits in a 35-26 Hawks win Saturday at Central Lee.

The Hounds held MacKenzie Northup, the second leading scorer in the Southeast Iowa Superconference South Division at 16.9 point per game, to just six points on the night, but the points came early and knocked the Hounds on their heels out of the gate.

“We had a pretty good game plan, but the Northrup girl came out and hit a couple threes at the start,” said Head Coach Charlie Knipe.

Northup’s long balls were the key to an 8-2 first quarter. The Hawks are averaging about 17 points per quarter, so the half-court zone defense was able to keep the Hounds within reach most of the game.

“We ran a 2-3 and tried to keep them off the boards and we were pretty successful. We just missed a lot of baskets,” Knipe said.

The Hounds hung with Central Lee in the second half being outscored only 12-9. Senior Taylor Shannon scored three unanswered with about two minutes remaining in the 2nd quarter to cut the lead to 7 at 10-17, but freshman Mya Merschman hit a 3-pointer with :20 left in the half. Senior Kamryn Bailey got the ball inside with .04 left and was fouled by the Hawks’ Daly Brisby, but only sank the front end of the two freebies and the Hounds trailed 11-20 at the end of the half.

The Hounds shooting went cold in the third quarter going just 2 for 12, despite the buckets in transition. Neither team could find the basket in the first half.

Shannon having five steals in a period of about two minutes in the middle of the period. Fort Madison couldn’t convert

See FMHS GIRLS, page 6
Buffalo61 Bar & Grille

Now Hiring

The Buffalo61 Bar & Grille is now hiring for all positions:

- Cooks
- Servers
- Bartenders
- Hosts

Experience is a must.

Must be able to work in a fast-paced environment where outstanding customer service reigns and must be available beginning mid-to-late February for training.

Fill out an application or turn in your resume at The Buffalo, 2016 South Main Street, Burlington, IA 52601.

No Phone Calls.

---

NOW HIRING (Fort Madison)

General Operator

Job # 189528W-00

We Offer Competitive Wages and Comprehensive Benefits Package

Apply Online at: www.dupont.com/careers

Under Search Jobs: Click - US Experienced Professionals under "SEARCH JOBS" Enter job # for information and requirements

On-line applications accepted for a limited time

DuPont is an Equal Opportunity Employer

DuPont supports the "I Hire Vets" program

Text 319.371.7753

---

Place your ad online 24/7

G\S

HOMES FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath centrally located at 1933 Avenue I in Ft. Madison. Refrigerator and stove provided. $550/month. Please call (319) 371-4040 for more details or appointment to view. Leave a message if no answer.

---

ARE YOU AT A CROSSROADS?

Walk down the path toward a new opportunity.

One of North America’s fastest growing food processing companies has immediate openings for highly motivated individuals to join their team!

---

Make one of these New Homes your New Home today!

---

Check out any of our beautiful homes!

----
Tough 3rd quarter defense not enough for FM