County attorney wants victim’s advocate in 2019

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - Lee County could have a victim/witness coordinator in place next fall if all pieces fall into place.

At Tuesday’s regular meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors, Lee County Attorney Ross Braden and First Assistant Jonathan Stensvaag approached supervisors about the possibility of hiring someone to advocate for victim’s rights in the county.

Braden said an application process for a grant to fund the position’s salary is due on Sept. 28, so the county needs to move quickly.

He said the found the county currently has 222 victims in case management and that doesn’t include assistant county attorney Bruce McDonald’s files which are not indexed in the case management system. He said with those files figured in, the count is probably closer to 250.

“It’s important for our office to establish a relationship with these people and maintain communication, not only because the victims deserve that attention and not only because it’s mandated by code, but because it helps us in the long run when we prosecute the cases,” Braden said.

“We are processing cases and showing up in court. We simply don’t have the time or resources to give the community what it needs in establishing the rapport and maintaining this communication with victims of crimes.”

He said prepping witnesses and victims, especially children, takes a lot of time to develop a rapport and the trust with the individuals.

Braden said the grant would cover a salary of approximately $39,000, but asked the county to pay for the benefit package.

He said 70% of the counties in Iowa have at least one victim/witness coordinator. He said of the 30 that don’t have the officer, 26 of those counties have a population less than 20,000 people. Lee County has about 34,000 residents.

Funds for the position wouldn’t be available until Oc-

No outlaws here
These Pigs ride straight

Iowa’s only chapter of the International Renegade Pigs Motorcycle Club is based in Fort Madison

FORT MADISON - The Renegade Pigs don’t need you - but you just might need them.

This Iowa chapter of the International Renegade Pigs Motorcycle Club is very specific about who they are and what they do. They find solace in each other in an otherwise demanding world of everyday life.

You may see these men riding down the road and think that Fort Madison is now home to Hell’s Angels, but you’d be better off just dropping the “Hells’.

“Those are what we like to call 1% gangs,” said Adam Benda, the president of the group. “That’s the term given to outlaw clubs.”

But these guys are no outlaws. As a matter of fact, they’re mostly former military or police officers who’ve taken up careers in public safety. They now don leather vests with three patches on the back indicating their membership in Renegade Pigs as well as their every day life.

They find solace in each other in an otherwise demanding world of everyday life.

“I love what we do and I love the club,” said Benda.

“Those are what we like to call 1% gangs,” said Adam Benda, the president of the group. “That’s the term given to outlaw clubs.”

But these guys are no outlaws. As a matter of fact, they’re mostly former military or police officers who’ve taken up careers in public safety. They now don leather vests with three patches on the back indicating their membership in Renegade Pigs as well as their every day life.

“I love what we do and I love the club,” said Benda.

“In other words, we’re not outlaws. We’re just bikers.”

Benda said the three-patch identifiers is not confusing to the public.

“Nobody thinks that Fort Madison is now home to Hell’s Angels,” he said. “They see us as a club.”

Benda also does the three-patch identifiers on the back of his leather vest, with the term given to outlaw clubs.

“This Iowa chapter of the International Renegade Pigs Motorcycle Club is based in Fort Madison.”

Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC
LCEDG already at halfway point of fundraising

"We truly need everyone to own a piece of our future successes. Be a part of the momentum and action making a difference. Invest in Lee County's future," he said.

Jenny Steffensmeier of Steffensmeier Welding & Mfg., a gold division co-chair and secretary of the LCEDG board of directors, talked about her evolution with the LCEDG and how she’s made a commitment to economic development.

"I did not pour over my books before I came here and I can’t go down a list and tell you I’ve got x amount of dollars because of my involvement here, but I can tell you with certainty that I have a commitment to economic development.

"We all have lots of reasons to do what this organization is doing. Making us vibrant communities where our families want to live," Dennis Fraise, COO of LCEDG, said the world is changing around us whether we like it or not, and Lee County is no different.

He said said five years ago the staff was looking at a roomful of strangers. He said 37 investors took a leap of faith and wrote checks totaling $1.3 million.

Fraise said 1 in 4 jobs and $250 million in wages comes from industry in Lee County. Lee County typically leads the state in unemployment, despite the low levels now, and are typically in the top four in generational poverty, and he said workforce became a mantra for the group.

"You’ll see educators, stakeholders, and industries in the same room," Fraise said. "We have tough conversations and we’ve taken schools into industries and industries into schools and mixed them up and we’ve worked to get them to speak a common language."

He said Grow Lee has garnered state and national attention and Gov. Reynolds goes around the state and uses Grow Lee as an example.

"Grow Lee exists today because of you. We built a state and national award-winning workforce development program because of you and your hard work."

He said 4,000 students participated in Grow Lee and STEM activities and five years ago that number was 6.

Scott Smith, of Frank Millard & Co., Inc., said the Iowa Fertilizer Plant came because Orascom, the IFC parent company, and the State of Iowa worked with a team at LCEDG.

"Within that team was the Board of Supervisors... within that team was the City of Fort Madison... within that team was the City of Keokuk," he said.

Smith said the existing industries are growing and see more growth in the coming years and the influencers in the room are part of that growth.

"We have a great story to tell because everyone in this room is on the same page and you’re going to get the return on your investment," he said. Matt Morris, president and CEO of Connection Bank, talked about the relationships between the Fort Madison and Keokuk Economic Development corporations and the LCEDG and how that has improved over the past five years.

Morris said state officials and Lee County didn’t have a good relationship either, but over the past five years the group has taken large strides to improve the communication between all the organizations, including putting a member of both city economic groups on the LCEDG board.

He said he and Connection Bank chose to be involved in LCEDG because the group said what they were going to do and they did it.

Ann Menke, a co-chair, then unveiled that $875,000 of the money has already been raised in the campaign through 24 private donations.

At left, Ann Menke, a campaign co-chairperson for the Lee County Economic Development Group, and Matt Morris unveil the to-date total investments for the Lee County 2023 Forward Together fundraiser breakfast Tuesday morning.
Experience the Difference
From small repairs to major diagnostics...We Service All Makes & Models!

WHY CHOOSE US?

Ask Patty Female Friendly Certified
Clean, comfortable waiting room with FREE WIFI
Free Pick Up & Delivery in Ft. Madison

Up-To-Date Equipment
Industry Accredited, Dependable & Friendly Staff
ASE Certified Technicians

Honest & Reliable Service
Online Scheduling & Digital Inspection Reports
Text reminders & updates

Customer Referral Program
Earn credit with Griffin’s Gratitude Rewards Card*
6 Mos. Same As Cash

INTRODUCING:
36 months/36,000 miles
PARTS & LABOR
Nationwide Warranty

Custom Exhaust Work with Over 35 Years Experience!
From 1927 Fords to 2019 Dodges & Everything in between!

Mention this coupon at time of service!

$25 OFF
Any Repair or Maintenance
Order $250 or More

$50 OFF
Any Repair or Maintenance
Order $500 or More

$75 OFF
Any Repair or Maintenance
Order $750 or More

Excludes tires and batteries. Cannot combine with any other offers. One time use. Valid for a limited time only!

GET UP TO $15
BY MAIL WITH PURCHASE & INSTALLATION OF QUALIFYING FILTERS WITH OIL CHANGE SERVICE.

OIL CHANGE
Includes FREE Seasonal Check Up:
√ Battery √ Suspension
√ All Fluid Levels √ Radiator & Coolant
√ Tires Lights √ PLUS Road Test

*For faster service, please call ahead for an appointment. Cannot combine with any other offers. Valid for a limited time only!

319-372-2478
535 Avenue G
Fort Madison, IA
Monday thru Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

Like us on Facebook!

www.griffinmuffler.com

Pen City Current - Wednesday, September 19, 2018 - 3
Silgan expansion in full swing

FORT MADISON - It's an exciting time for Silgan Containers Corporation in Ft. Madison. The addition of a brand new quick-top lid production line is in full swing and represents an investment of over $10 million and an additional 20% more capacity to produce lids for aluminum food containers. Additional production capacity increases are being discussed for 2019 and beyond which means new jobs right now and the possibility for more in the future for Lee County and the surrounding areas.

The plant has been abuzz with activity over the last few months. Foundation work began in late June and the new line is projected to be running at full capacity before the end of the year. At the same time, six new offices are currently being added and the training room is being expanded to handle the growing employee population. “The growth we have going on right now is really exciting” said Plant HR Manager Tim Ewing. “We have hired 22 people so far this year and we’re still recruiting skilled mechanics and electricians to join our team,” Ewing said the plant is on track to hire six to eight more mechanics and four electricians over the next several months.

The Ft. Madison plant is located in the Jefferson Industrial Park south of Highway 61 on 263rd Ave. It was built and began operation as Central States Can Company in 1975 and was purchased and expanded by Armour-Dietro in 1978, changing its name to Fort Madison Can Company. Silgan Containers Corporation was founded in 1987 by former Continental Can Company executives Phil Silver and Greg Horrigan with the purchase of 13 can making facilities owned by Carnation Company. The Ft. Madison plant was the first acquisition of the new Silgan venture in 1988.

The plant produces aluminum cans and lids for the protein or canned meat market in both the human and pet food side of the container business. Operating on a continuous four crew basis, the Ft. Madison facility produces seven different sizes of cans on four lines and eight different Quick-top end from 10 press lines and ships to over 30 customer locations both in the U.S. and abroad. The plant produces over 650 million cans per year and over $3 billion quick-top lids, with the capability of producing nearly 11 million lids every 24 hours!

ATTENTION

SHOPKO PHARMACY PATIENTS

Get an instant charge account, $100 limit with no credit check when you transfer your prescription files to us. We can fill all your medicines together once a month, then mail or deliver them to you, or have them ready for pick up. Get billed the following month & pay over time.

Transferring prescriptions is easy because one call and we take care of it all.

RASHID PHARMACY WELCOMES JULIE GERDES

Rashid Pharmacy knows how important relationships are between the Pharmacy and the patient. Knowing your patients is one of the most important parts of the medical profession so that’s why we are excited to bring on Shopko’s #1 technician. Julie has been taking care of Shopko patients for 20 years and we want her to continue that here at Rashid Pharmacy.

Rashid Pharmacy would love to be your pharmacy and show you why we have been the #1 pharmacy in all southeast Iowa newspaper polls since the beginning.

County OKs Keokuk ask to abate taxes on 14 properties

COUNTY - Continued from Page 1

Tober 2019. The funds require a 25% match, which would be at least $8,500. Braden said the benefits package would be between $20,000 and $22,000. He said the funds work as a reimbursement program where the state reimburses the county for that portion of the salary on quarterly payments.

“It is the responsibility of the county and the county attorney to make sure victims have their rights protected and make sure they get proper justice. So often I hear so much about the rights of the person accused of the crime and I feel for years victims are almost like a secondary citizen. This is a very important step forward for us as a county doing our job to protect the rights of victims in the county,” said supervisor Ron Fedler. In other action, supervisors

- approved forgiving taxes on 14 properties in Keokuk as requested by the city officials so the city can begin dealing with the properties. Several hiccups in the abatements took place when legal paperwork on the property certificates didn’t include proper entities. The tax abatements amounted to just over $21,500.
- approved hiring Scott Edwards as a new full time building and maintenance technician.
- approved a tax suspension for property at 402 Avenue A in Fort Madison.
For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

09/14/18 - 12:51 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of Avenue H. 09/14/18 - 7:30 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1400 block of Avenue D.

Lee County Jail

08/18/18 - 12:23 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident at the intersection of 14th Street and Avenue E. 09/16/18 - 7:54 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 3100 block of Avenue H. 09/16/18 - 8:26 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1500 block of Avenue D. 09/16/18 - 10:32 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2600 block of Avenue L. 09/15/18 - 11:07 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2300 block of Avenue N. 09/15/18 - 10:08 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 600 block of Ninth Street. 09/16/18 - 5:39 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 1400 block of Avenue H. 09/18/18 - 6:26 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident at the intersection of 14th Street and Avenue E. 09/16/18 - 7:54 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2200 block of Avenue M. 09/17/18 - 4:51 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue M. 09/18/18 - 8:20 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 800 block of 29th Street. 09/17/18 - 6:16 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 2100 block of Avenue J. 09/17/18 - 7:35 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Samantha Dawn Schnider, 20, of Fort Madison in the 4900 block of Avenue J, on a charge of public intoxication, disorderly conduct and under age consumption. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released. 09/18/18 - 1:22 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Nathaniel John Mortimer, 39 of Keokuk, in the 1200 block of Avenue H, in Fort Madison on a warrant for forgery. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/16/18 - 8:15 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested, 47, Fort Madison in the 1600 block of 330th Avenue on charges of violation of temporary restraining orders and violation of a no contact order. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/14/18 - 9:21 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a three-vehicle accident in the 3500 block of Hwy. 216. Where an as of yet unidentified vehicle collided with a vehicle driven by Leona H. Durso, 81, of Hamilton, Ill., who vehicle struck a trailer attached to a vehicle driven by Mark Alan Hawkins, 52, of Montrose. No injuries were reported and no citations were issued at the scene. 09/15/18 - 5:20 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Linda Darlene Bruce, 64, of Keokuk, at the Cellar in Keokuk on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on her recognizance. 09/16/18 - 2:44 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Joshua Evan Jensen, 29, of Burlington at the sheriff's office on a warrant for contempt of court. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/13/18 - 3:21 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Christopher Lee Davis, 31, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/16/18 - 5:40 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Troy Damann Burke, 41, of Fort Madison at the sheriff's office on a warrant for a judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/17/18 - 10:15 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brittany Marie Goldie, 24, of Keokuk at the south Lee County Courthouse on charge of first-degree harassment and criminal trespass. She was released on bond. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Help GRRWA Keep Your Community Hazard-Free!

Household Hazardous Waste Unit is open
Monday through Friday
8am - 4pm
800-216-2370
Call for an appointment

Backyard composting improves soil quality & makes for healthier plants!

These backyard compost bins were made by students at the Keokuk Christian Academy & are now available for purchase.

Contact the administration building at 1-319-216-2370 to purchase one today!
Veteran’s Breakfast at Sunnybrook
Each month on the third Tuesday of the month, Sunnybrook Assisted Living hosts a Veteran’s Breakfast from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at 5025 River Valley Road in Fort Madison.

Toxic Clean-Up Event in Mt. Pleasant
Great River Regional Waste Authority (GRRWA) is bringing their Toxic Clean-Up Mobile Event to the city of Mt. Pleasant and rural areas. Residential household hazardous waste disposal will be available this Friday, Sept. 21 from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm by appointment only.

Chamber Ladies Golf Outing
The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce’s Ladies only golf outing will be held Sept. 21 at Sheaffer Golf Course. To register email the chamber at chamber@fort-madison.com

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for $15. Add a photo for $5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of $10 per 25 words and $3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.
OPEN HOUSE Extravaganza

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

5:00-6:00
1235 Avenue E, Fort Madison
Hostess: Lori Sproul
KLM Realty
Listing #20169898

5:00-6:00
1 Storms Court, Fort Madison
Hostess: Judy Holtenhaus
KLM Realty
Listing #20171348

5:00-6:00
1733 Avenue L, Fort Madison
Host: Todd Morrow
KLM Realty
Listing #20170641

5:00-6:00
3215 Avenue L, Suite #1, Fort Madison
Hostess: Jill Kruse
KLM Realty
Listing #20170556

5:00-6:00
2311 Avenue L, Fort Madison
Hostess: Carla McEntee
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20169748

5:00-6:00
911 29th Street, Fort Madison
Hostess: Kara Morrow
KLM Realty
Listing #20171240

5:00-6:00
2528 Avenue K, Fort Madison
Hostess: Tami Staek-Jurgensen
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20169748

5:00-6:00
123 Avenue B, Fort Madison
Host: Dan Roach
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20170743

5:00-6:00
2879 Elfrakewest Drive, Fort Madison
Hostess: Deb Sylvester
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20171225

5:00-6:00
306 4th Street, Franklin
Host: Corey Fraise
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20171390

5:00-6:00
3315 Avenue L, Fort Madison
Hostess: Tami Staek-Jurgensen
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20169748

5:00-6:00
104 South Oak, Donnellson
Hostess: Jill Kruse
KLM Realty
Listing #20168508

5:00-6:00
306 2nd Street, West Point
Hostess: Kara Morrow
KLM Realty
Listing #20171238

5:00-6:00
306 2nd Street, Fort Madison
Host: Dan Roach
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20170743

6:15-7:15
1528 36th Street, Fort Madison
Hostess: Tami Staek-Jurgensen
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20169748

6:15-7:15
4911 River Valley Road, Fort Madison
Hostess: Lori Sproul
KLM Realty
Listing #20170836

6:15-7:15
511 33rd Street, Ft. Madison
Hostess: Nicole Panther
KLM Realty
Listing #20170556

6:15-7:15
27 29th Place, Ft. Madison
Hostess: Kara Morrow
KLM Realty
Listing #20171238

6:15-7:15
104 South Oak, Donnellson
Hostess: Jill Kruse
KLM Realty
Listing #20168508

6:15-7:15
3219 Avenue K, Fort Madison
Hostess: Carla McEntee
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20170695

6:15-7:15
3315 Avenue L, Fort Madison
Hostess: Dan Roach
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20170743

6:15-7:15
508 2nd Street, West Point
Hostess: Lori Sproul
KLM Realty
Listing #20169830

6:15-7:15
508 2nd Street, Fort Madison
Hostess: Jill Kruse
KLM Realty
Listing #20170556

6:15-7:15
508 2nd Street, Fort Madison
Hostess: Lori Sproul
KLM Realty
Listing #20170836

6:15-7:15
27 29th Place, Ft. Madison
Hostess: Kara Morrow
KLM Realty
Listing #20171238

6:15-7:15
1716 Avenue I, Fort Madison
Hostess: Carla McEntee
Fraise Auction & Real Estate
Listing #20169748

6:15-7:15
508 2nd Street, West Point
Hostess: Lori Sproul
KLM Realty
Listing #20169830

6:15-7:15
511 33rd Street, Ft. Madison
Hostess: Nicole Panther
KLM Realty
Listing #20169994

6:15-7:15
27 29th Place, Ft. Madison
Hostess: Kara Morrow
KLM Realty
Listing #20171238

CANCELLED
YOUR AD HERE
(319)371.4125

FARMERS MARKET
Every Monday 4-6pm
Fort Madison Depot • 814 10th Street
• Fresh fruits & vegetables
• Homemade pastries & pies
• & so much more!

SHOP the Classifieds
PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM OR CALL (319)371.4125

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Because your wedding gown is Precious
IRIS CITY CLEANERS
319 365 9707 • 888 485 9707
www.IrisCityCleaners.com

We will:
• Mow and landscape your yard
• Move small loads
• Hall away unwanted items
Call now for estimate!
Jason 623-440-4177

Runge’s
Mow it or Move it
Lawn care and household clean up
Call now for your estimate!
623-640-4177
ingerenow.com

YOUR LOVED ONES DESERVE THE BEST
REHABILITATION & SKILLED NURSING
WHEN GOING HOME AFTER A HOSPITAL STAY ISN’T AN OPTION.

Call to schedule your personal tour
319-372-8021

Shoppers can find:
• Flower Arrangements
• Quality Silk Flowers
• Houseplants
• Gift Baskets
• Local Art

YOUR AD HERE (319)371.4125

State Farm Financial Services
3051 306th Street
State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, IL

Intimate and Meaningful
Bridal & Baby Showers
Anniversary & Birthday Parties
Receptions & Retreats
Unforgettable Celebrations

BOULDERS INN & SUITES
4901 AVE O FT MADISON IOWA 319-246-1401
EVENTS @ BOULDERSINFORTMADISON

Don’t Let Your Business Slip Away
If someone is hurt on your property, is your business protected?
Umbrella coverage can help reduce the risk of paying claim costs beyond where your business insurance liability limits stop. Schedule a SuperCheck® today because when your world is protected – it’s business as usual.

SHOPS 319-372-2721 • doddprinting.com

Like us on Facebook
LARRYHOLTKAMP.COM
(319) 372-9145
1301 37th St
Fort Madison

LARRYHOLTKAMP.COM
(319) 470-1927 Cell
(319) 372-9145

LARRYHOLTKAMP.COM
(319) 470-1927 Cell
(319) 372-9145
1301 37th St
Larry Holtkamp
Agent

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
2623 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627

Your Business
Bridal & Baby Showers
Don’t Let Your Business Slip Away

Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services PC109 (4-17)

Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services PC109 (4-17)

Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services PC109 (4-17)

Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services PC109 (4-17)
We’ll be happy to help you polish up your smile so you can share it with the world.

**Fort Madison Family Dentistry West**
Appointments with Dr. Pothitakis available
Wednesdays & Thursdays, 8am-5pm
4723 Avenue J, Fort Madison, IA 52627
319-372-4882

**Fort Madison Family Dentistry East**
Appointments with Dr. Dingeldein available
Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays, 8am-5pm
726 Avenue G, Fort Madison, IA 52627
319-372-3614

Both offices are open Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm and are now accepting new patients.

Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis
Family Dentistry

[www.drmarkkdds.com](http://www.drmarkkdds.com)
Club becomes a brothel for those chosen

From the Front

We don’t actively go out and look for nobody. People come to us and we turn a lot of people away because you have to be like-minded to who we are.

-Randy Strunk
Renegade Pig

BIKERS - Continued from Page 1

perceptions,” he said. “Most three-piece patches are considered 1% outlaw clubs. We’re looked at differently because we wear three. Outlaw clubs notice that we wear that and there’s some friction, but because of that other people also notice and automatically we’re on the wrong side of this.”

Randy Strunk, one of the original members with Benda, said the club meets once a month and travels to sanctioned activities throughout the year. But while riding in town, it’s important for people to know who they are and what they are about.

“We want this town to know that it’s our home,” Strunk said. “Speaking for myself, I want to feel this makes me feel good to have a bunch of cops just drove into the town knows that when myself, I want to feel this is our community and that’s what I’m about. Our motto is family first, work second, and club third. But these guys are a spin-off of my family.”

Justin Smith said he was looking for something that had the same values he had. After talking with Adam, he was encouraged to check out a club meeting. “I drove up to the meeting and it was cold and somebody looked out and said, ‘Wholly crap somebody up here!’ They said, ‘Come on in the group.’ I ended up having dinner with them and met everyone and I eventually ended up training with my friend for what I call a ‘Dirty Sally,’ and my Dirty Sally is a Harley Davidson Ultra Classic,” he said with more laughs.

Club members can only be considered for membership if they ride a Harley Davidson, a Victory, or Indian American made motorcycles.

Smith came in with Tim Mason and the two prospected together and became friends. Tim Mason, who is a former military, but is the only club member who is not in public safety, is a civilian by profession.

Mike Fullenkamp, a firefighter with the Fort Madison Fire Department said the group and the riding is therapy for him. Fullenkamp said Benda’s wife and his wife hung out together, which opened up a chance for him and Adam to start chatting about motorcycles. Fullenkamp said he never owned or ridden a bike before. Then Benda started tagging him in all the Renegade Facebook posts and he started to get an appetite for a motorcycle.

“I think that’s one that I liked and one day he showed up at my house with a trailer and we went to look at it. I fell in love with it and we loaded it up that day, drove it back and it was the best thing I ever did,” Fullenkamp said.

“I was in the military and I miss that brotherhood. We have it at the fire station, but not as much. I see the tight-knit group these guys have. You can’t explain it, you go on these rides and you have the wind in your face. It’s therapy and when you do it with guys like this it’s a brotherhood, it’s a group, it’s love...it’s family. This is kind of one of those things that’s changed my life.”

Strunk and Benda tried to get a club going after taking part in an event in Springfield honoring law enforcement officers who had died that year.

“I’m pretty out there and I say it like it is,” Strunk said. “They begged and we looked at each other like two school girls and fell in love with it and realized this is where we need to be.”

They found a club in the Quad Cities, but wanted to form their own. Renegade Pigs national charter requires a minimum of five members in a club and the club only has a few members.

The Kensington

Senior Living & Memory Care

2320 Ave H, Fort Madison IA | KensingtonEvenson.com

10 - Pen City Current - Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Sure, it’s hot now. But the days are already getting shorter. Are you ready for the Fall’s, the swirling and the smell of Fall? You won’t have to worry about dust, dirt roads or having popped up this weekend. The dinosaurs walk and smelling life in The Kensington. Aren’t you considering your apartment home and move in time before fall because? You’ll get one month free, if you want to come in time for the third month. The offer is good until September 30th. Just don’t wait too long — availability is limited.

For more information about this hot deal please call Tim Mason (319) 372-4292, or send an email to VMatlock@Kensington-Evenson.com

Anthony B Fullenkamp
Senior Advisor
1233 Ave H
Ft Madison, IA 52627
319-372-8001

Edward Jones
Making Sense of Investing

MKT-5894I-A

Snowy days are right around the corner

... so now’s the time to plan ahead!

Sure, it’s hot now. But the days are already getting shorter. Are you ready for the Fall’s, the swirling and the smell of Fall? You won’t have to worry about dust, dirt roads or having popped up this weekend. The dinosaurs walk and smelling life in The Kensington. Aren’t you considering your apartment home and move in time before fall because? You’ll get one month free, if you want to come in time for the third month. The offer is good until September 30th. Just don’t wait too long — availability is limited.

For more information about this hot deal please call Tim Mason (319) 372-4292, or send an email to VMatlock@Kensington-Evenson.com

The Kensington

Senior Living & Memory Care

2320 Ave H, Fort Madison IA | KensingtonEvenson.com

Join our Facebook Family!