New county ATV/UTV rules pass first reading

County residents piled into the Lee County Supervisors meeting Tuesday morning to hear and discuss options regarding the new proposed ATV/UTV ordinance under consideration by the county.

New law requires two more meetings before passage

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – The county is just a couple weeks away from instituting an ordinance allowing the use of ATVs and UTVs on the county’s secondary roads. About 50 piled into the meeting room at the Lee County Sheriff’s office during the Lee County Board of Supervisor’s meeting Tuesday morning to hear what direction the board is moving.

The ordinance would, for the first time legally, allow for the recreational vehicles to be used on county gravel roads as long as they are permitted by the state through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, as well as the county recorder’s office.

Several at the meeting complained that requiring the county registration would eventually hurt the county because people coming to the area to ride wouldn’t be able to if they didn’t register with the county.

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County Attorney Ross Braden said he wasn’t sure how that would work, but he said based on the ordinance, riders would have to have a Lee County registration.

John Garrels said county registration could limit incoming ridership, as well as possibly open the county to liability for charging a fee above and beyond what state requires in it’s laws.

“If we need to register these in Lee County, do we also have to register in Des Moines County and Van Buren County, but if I’m not mistaken if we have statewide licensing that’s good for the whole state. I think we’re severely limiting our ability to attract people coming to the county to ride if we have county by county licensing,” Garrels said.

“But someone also needs to look into whether or not that opens the county to liability again.”

See ORDINANCE, page 8

Drug search yields man wanted for last week’s chase

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – A Keokuk man who led local authorities on a chase that exceeded 100 mph a week ago is now in custody.

Steven Wesley Spoores Jr. 30, who’s last known address was Keokuk, was arrested this afternoon, when deputies with the Lee County Sheriff’s Dept discovered Spoores in home where a drug search warrant was being executed.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said deputies, along with officers with the Lee County Narcotics Task Force, and an agent with the state’s division of Narcotics Enforcement executed a warrant in the 3600 block of 235th Avenue in Keokuk.

As a result of the search warrant and discovery of Spoores, deputies also arrested David Markell, 23, of Keokuk for harboring Spoores.

Deputies had been searching for Spoores for about eight days after he led officers on a chase on Feb. 19 in south Lee County.

Officers were attempting to pull Spoores over when he pulled away and accelerated going southbound on Hwy. 61 at high speeds. At one point stop sticks were deployed, but Spoores was able to navigate the puncture devices.

“We stopped it when it became apparent the public was at risk,” Weber said.

“We got into areas where traffic was getting heavy in the afternoon and we didn’t want anyone getting hurt so we pulled the pursuit.”

Weber said Spoores is facing “several” charges associated with the chase including eluding, reckless driving and numerous other traffic offenses.

There was also a warrant for his arrest for assault and false reporting to a peace officer.

Weber said Spoores may also be charged with drug charges after four grams of methamphetamine were also discovered in the search at Shady Acres.

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"I think we're severely limiting our ability to attract people coming to the county to ride if we have county by county licensing,” Garrels said.

"But someone also needs to look into whether or not that opens the county to liability again."
RHONDA KAY PITTS

Rhonda Kay Pitts, 47, of Denmark, Iowa, passed away at 7:20 a.m. Tuesday, February 26, 2019, at Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, Iowa.

Born on July 1, 1971 in Memphis, Tennessee, the daughter of Buck and Linda June (Asher) Stines, Jr. On July 7, 1995, she married Mike Pitts. They later divorced.

Survivors include her mother: Linda Neff of Denmark, Iowa; one daughter: Kayla (Frankie) Gonzalez of Tuscaloosa, Alabama; one son: Dustin Pitts of Athens, Alabama; three grandsons: Logan, Reece and Tristan; two sisters: Lori McMillan of Burlington, Iowa and Shellie (Bart) Bell of Fort Madison, Iowa; six nephews and several great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father: Buck Stines, Jr. and step father: Charles C. Neff.

Rhonda worked as an Licensed Practical Nurse.

Her body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation. Burial will be held at a later date.

A memorial has been established in her memory.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

On-line condolences to the family may be made at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

DAVID STEWART SEELEY


Born on February 6, 1952, in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, the son of Judson Beeler and Kay (Cottrell) Seeley. On June 12, 2015, he married Catherine Iona Fadem in Westminster, Maryland.

Survivors include his wife: Cathy of St. Paul, Iowa; two daughters: Hannah Seeley of Baltimore, Maryland and Margaret Kathrynn (James) Fallen of Brinklow, Maryland; one son: Benjamin Eli (Dawn) Seeley of Beresford, South Dakota; five grandchildren: Mia Fallen, Mac Fallen, Juliann Seeley, Benjamin Eli “Trip” Seeley III and Colton Seeley; two sisters: Sandy (Steve) Kassmeyer of West Point, Iowa and Lisa (John) Harris of Laurie, Missouri; one brother: Jeff (Beth) Seeley of Carrollton, Texas and seven nieces and nephews: Michael Kassmeyer, Beth Richards, Carl “Jep” Johnson, Alex Johnson, Lauren Seeley, Jadson Seeley and Hayden Seeley.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one son: Judson McLendon “Mac” Seeley.

Dave attended Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas and Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. He was a lifelong farmer and was an avid Iowa Hawkeye and NASCAR fan. Dave enjoyed golfing, traveling to the Lake of the Ozarks and most of all, spending time with his family.

A private family graveside ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, March 2, 2019, at Sharon Cemetery, rural Farmington, Iowa.

The family will receive friends from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, March 2, 2019, in the basement of Sharon Presbyterian Church, rural Farmington.

Memorials have been established in his memory to Every Step Hospice or the American Cancer Society.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

On-line condolences to the family may be made at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.
### MICHAEL B. GLENN

Michael B. Glenn born February 25, 1945 in Des Moines Iowa, passed peacefully on February 23rd, 2019 at the VA hospital in Iowa City, Iowa.

Mike enjoyed a rambunctious childhood with his twin brother and five other siblings. Following graduation from Dowling High School, Mike enlisted in the Marine Corps and served two tours in Vietnam where his battalion was in the first opposed landing.

After the war he studied journalism at Drake University before finding the union hall. He was a proud member of the IBEW and was a delegate at the national level. Through the union, emergencies and storms led him to rebuild miles of power lines as a journeyman lineman.

This work took him around the world including Saudi Arabia and Iran where he met his wife Della of 40 years. While in Iran, during the revolution, he suffered a traumatic head injury in a car accident. He was airlifted on the last Pan Am Flight home.

Six months later Mike and Della were married in Marlows, England. Shortly after, they moved to Grimes, Iowa where he continued his work as a lineman and began their family. They moved to Fort Madison, Iowa where he was employed by Union Electric and had two more children.

He was very active in the community including; Aquinas School board member, St. Mary’s Parish Council, coached several youth sports, rodeo volunteer and Fort Madison Saddle Club Board member. Mike was known to call every one of his large extended family members each year on their birthday.

Mike was very active in the community including; Aquinas School board member, St. Mary’s Parish Council, coached several youth sports, rodeo volunteer and Fort Madison Saddle Club Board member. Mike was known to call every one of his large extended family members each year on their birthday. He enjoyed coffee, playing with his granddaughter, cards, golf, and crossword puzzles. Mike supported his three children in all aspects of their lives, attending their activities and instilling his strong work ethic. After retiring from the union, he continued to work hard for the family business and Tri Oak Foods.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents Steve and Theresa Glenn, his twin brother Patrick Robert Glenn and sister Mary Jo Ellis. He is survived and loved by his wife Della Glenn, children Phillippa (Ben) Harris, Graham Glenn and Alexandra Glenn. Granddaughter Magnolia Joan Harris. Siblings James (Kathy) Glenn, Grace Draman, Terry Cebuhar, Mark Glenn, sister in law Joan Gayle Glenn and many nieces, nephews and cousins. A celebration of life will be held in June.

### ROBERT DEAN TOOPS

Robert Dean Toops, 91, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Monday, February 25, 2019 with his only son, Jeff, by his side at the Montrose Health Center. "Dean" was a life-long resident of Fort Madison, Iowa, graduating from Ft. Madison High School in 1946. He married his high school sweetheart, JoAn K. Roof on June 2, 1951. Dean and JoAn were married 54 and ½ years until her passing on November 30, 2005.

Playing music was foremost in Dean’s life as he started his musical "career" in grade school and was playing clarinet in the Ft. Madison City Band when he was in 8th grade and continued playing with City Band until the early 1980’s. Dean enjoyed playing both saxophone and clarinet as he went on to play in many area bands and road bands. He eventually formed his own band in 1970 called "The Commanders" which played all over the Tri-State area including many clubs, senior centers and riverboats.

Dean worked for forty plus years at Sheaffer Eaton Textron where he was a Quality Control Engineer for 25 years. Dean was a veteran of the 34th Division of the Iowa National Guard, serving nine years in the 113AAA Battalion. He was on active duty for a year and a half (and honorary member) of the 7th Armored Division.

Dean was a 50-year member of the Stella Masonic Lodge 646 and a 50-year member of the American Federation of Musicians #265 out of Quincy, IL. He is survived by his son Jeffrey, daughter-in-law Robin and two grandsons, Maxwell and Seth all of North Huntingdon, PA; he is also survived by many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, 1-brother & 1-sister.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. No services are planned at this time. Online condolences to Dean’s family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

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Fort Madison hoopsters make All-Conference

HTC’s Box, FMHS’ Rashid and Fedler all make 1st team All-Conference squad

FORT MADISON – Several area basketball players were named to their respective all-conference teams in lists released this week. Holy Trinity Catholic High School senior Emily Box was a first team Southeast Iowa Superconference South all-conference selection and received votes for Player of the Year. Box was tied for third in scoring with West Burlington’s Annika Harris with 14.4 points per outing. She led the conference in rebounds with 9.6 boards per game and was second in the conference in blocks with 58 on the year, behind Van Buren’s Taryn Scheurmann’s – 81.

Senior Taylor Boeding and junior Ashlyn Haas were named 2nd team all-conference. Boeding averaged 11.1 points per game and led the conference in 3-pointers made with 62 and 3-pointers attempted at 190. Haas averaged 9.3 points per game. Seniors Mya Lawlor and Eryn Anderson were named honorable mention.

Fort Madison’s Jayden Fedler and Logan Rashid were both named first-team all-conference in the Southeast Conference. Fedler, a junior finished 2nd in the conference in scoring with 14.5 points per outing for the Bloodhounds. Rashid, a senior, was fourth in the league in scoring at 13.5 points a game. Fedler was fourth in the conference in rebounds with 6.0 per game.

Senior Brandon Keester, junior Parker Denning and freshman Dayton Davis were named Honorable Mention. Keester, Denning, Fedler, Rashid, Jace Burgher, Michael Mosena, Julian Navarro, Max Slater, and Jordyn Gerdts were all named academic all-conference.

Senior Braxtyn McGhghy was named 2nd team all-conference for the Lady Hounds. McGhghy averaged 3.7 points per outing and connected on 123 3-pointers on the year for the 2-20 Lady Hounds. Sophomore Maddie Rashid, Brandy Walker and Nadia Boeding all made honorable mention, while junior Anna Kester also was named honorable mention.

Kester, McGhghly, Dallyn Wondra, Josie Pumphrey and Dezire Kline all made academic all-conference. Holy Trinity’s junior Matt Hellige was named 2nd team all-conference for the HTC boys. Reed Feheke and Quentin Schneider were each named honorable mention.

Hellige averaged 12.1 points per game in the Southeast Iowa Superconference South Division, and hauled in 89 rebounds for the Crusaders.
FORT MADISON – The following is a list of events and happenings going on in Fort Madison as submitted to the Pen City Current.

State Farm – Thomas Klann Agency announces February “Quotes for Good”
State Farm – Thomas Klann Agency is excited to help out another Non-Profit Organization in our community. In February 2019 we will be giving back to Lee County K-9 Association by donating $5 for every new Auto Insurance Quote in the month of February 2019. So tell all your non-State Farm family/friends/coworkers to reach out to us for a quote and share this event to spread the word! If you are a current State Farm auto insurance customer, reach out to us for a Life Insurance or Disability Income conversation and we will donate $5 for that also. Contact Jess or Sam at 319-372-5982, 2623 Ave I, Fort Madison, or email: jess@fortmadisoninsurance.com or samantha@fortmadisoninsurance.com.

Blood Drives
The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center will be hosting a blood drive Feb. 26th in the gym at Holy Trinity Catholic High School from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m and Fort Madison Community Hospital from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the lower level conference room.

Evening with Chuck Long
Former Iowa standout and NFL quarterback Chuck Long will be at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course on Thursday Feb. 28, 2019 for a presentation, including a social hour and dinner with doors opening at 4:30. The social hour and dinner will be from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Long will speak at 6 p.m. with a question and answer to follow. For more information, contact Ryan at 319-528-6214 or by email at mccillan@sheaffergolf.com.

RiverFest Line-Up Reveal Party
The 2019 RiverFest Line-Up Reveal party will be held on March 2 beginning at 8 p.m. RiverFest’s 2019 entertainment lineup will be revealed and Ghost of Judas will be playing. Raffles, Ticket sales and giveaways are planned for the event.

United Way Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser
The United Way of the Great River Region is hosting it’s 9th annual Spaghetti Dinner at the Hawkeye Restaurant on March 11. Carry out or dine-in options available. Serving times are from 5 p.m. to 6:30, and 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information contact Director Karen Thie at 319-524-4504.

St. Patrick’s Day celebration
The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce will be holding a St. Patrick’s Day celebration on March 16 including a parade, games, music and fun. Parade entry forms are available by contact the Chamber at 319-372-5471.

Fort Madison YMCA’s Shamrocked 2019
The 2nd annual Shamrocked will be held on March 16 starting at 8 a.m. with a free-will donation pancake breakfast, followed by a Bike & Brew after the St. Patrick’s Holiday Parade. For more information, contact the YMCA at 372-2403.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater
The Fort Madison High School Music Department will be presenting it’s annual Dinner Theater on March 22-23. Doors open at 6 p.m with the show beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets available at Dana Bushong’s at 805 Avenue G.

Senior Community BINGO at The Kensington
Each month on the second Wednesday of the month, The Kensington hosts Senior Community BINGO at 2 p.m. in their dining room at 2210 Avenue H in Fort Madison. All seniors are welcome and cash prizes are awarded.

Caregivers Connection at The Kensington
The Kensington hosts this monthly gathering to help educate attendees about all dementia types. Held at noon the 4th Tuesday of every month in The Kensington’s private dining room, 2210 Avenue H in Fort Madison. Call 319-372-4233 to RSVP or for more information. The next luncheon will be held January 22, 2019.

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. Effective Jan. 1, 2019 non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of $10 per 25 words and $3 per photo. To place your listing, call Chuck at (319)371.1670 or Lee at (319)371.4125.

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.

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Keokuk, Iowa

Lee County Attorney’s Office has an immediate opening for the collections clerk position (40 hours per week).

The position’s successful applicant is preferred (but not required) to have the following:

1. Completion of some college level administrative support courses or any equivalent combination of training and experience.
2. Knowledge of legal terminology, legal format, and legal forms.
3. Knowledge of modern office practices, procedures, and equipment.
5. Knowledge of Iowa Courts Online.
6. Knowledge of Iowa Department of Transportation transcripts.
7. Ability to prepare accurate and timely documents, correspondence, and reports.
8. Ability to learn and/or operate the county Attorney’s Office computer programs.
9. Ability to understand and follow written and oral instructions.
10. Ability to use Microsoft Outlook, Word, and Excel.
11. Ability to work in a fast-paced environment.
12. Ability to multi-task.
13. Ability to communicate with others using tact and diplomacy.
14. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, attorneys, co-workers, and the public, as well as law enforcement personnel.
15. Ability to maintain a large filing system of current and closed files.
16. Must be able to travel to North Lee County Office and/or courthouse on occasion.

The position is represented by the Public Professional & Maintenance Employees Local No. 2003, IUPAT. The starting wage is $16.02 per hour. Great County Benefits.

The deadline for submitting a resume is March 11, 2019.

Please send resume to Ross Braden
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Keokuk, IA 52632
or e-mail rrbraden@lee County.gov

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Riders say registration with state is enough

Braden said the state code limits the county's legal exposure in accidents involving the vehicles.

Many in the audience said Van Buren County doesn’t require the county registration, only the state DNR registration.

Jason Smith, with Midwest Performance, said he’d had discussions on legalized riding.

“When Van Buren first legalized it, it scared me to death. My first thought was a 16-year old kid with no shirt on, hat backwards flying down the gravel road, drinking, and being stupid,” Smith said.

“That was my first concern. It was going to give my industry a bad name, but it hasn’t been that way at all.”

Smith said they need to keep the registration simple. “My opinion is if your state registered where you can run that VIN and see who owns that machine in your state with a valid driver’s license just like a vehicle, than your legal,” he said.

Supervisor Gary Folluo said held like to see a sunrise to sunset time frame for running on gravel roads. Most in attendance disagreed with that time frame.

Steve Armstrong, of Armstrong Tractor in Donnellson, talks with supervisors at Tuesday’s meeting about how legalizing ATVs and UTVs on county roads will be good for the county.

Steve Armstrong, of Armstrong Tractor in Donnellson, talks with supervisors at Tuesday’s meeting about how legalizing ATVs and UTVs on county roads will be good for the county.

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THU 28 Feb

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FRI 1 Mar

Snow

High– 25.0º F | Low – 21.1º F

SAT 2 Mar

Light Snow

High– 14.9º F | Low – 1.6º F

SUN 3 Mar

Clear

High– 8.0º F | Low – 0.8º F

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