Flooding is starting to come up in the middle of Riverview Park in Fort Madison. Other low lying areas near the river are also starting to see water back up. The intersection of 11th Street and Avenue I has been blocked off. The National Weather service is predicting Burlington to crest at 20’-1” on Saturday, while Keokuk is predicted to crest at 19’-9” Friday into Saturday.

During Gov. Kim Reynolds’s Condition of the State address, the Governor endorsed the program and encouraged the Department of Corrections to find some funds to build the fence around the construction sites. Norris said the site will consist of gravel pads where contractors can put in footings and the homes will be built on blocks that can be lifted up so trailers can come in and pick up the homes and deliver them around the state.

He said it would neat if Fort Madison was able to get one of the first homes. But initially the homes will be more expensive as everyone gets acclimated to the program, and that may make it difficult to get one of the first to southeast Iowa.

“I think it would tell a great story to have one of the first homes, and that may or may not happen. One of the big challenges is it will cost a ton of money at first,” he said.

“If not one of the first four, it could be one of the first batch in the first year or two of the program. Fort Madison has a long history of corrections going back to the pre-state, territorial days. It’s just a great story for the city to have the DOC and the offenders giving back to the community in some sense.”

There is currently no appropriations in the legislature.
Letters to the Editor

FMCSD stands by decision to hire Carl A. Nelson

Dear Editor,

As members of the Fort Madison Community School Board, we are continually humbled by the generosity of the volunteers, donations, and philanthropic work that make the community of Fort Madison so great. The opportunities that have been offered to our youth, with support from all of our community partners, is admirable.

Our district has many community partners and these partners will always be important to us. As a school board, it is our duty and mission to prepare all students for success through advanced curriculum and proper learning environments. That need is what drives us!

As members of the Fort Madison Community School Board, we were encouraged to pursue a construction manager to help facilitate the process for a successful bond referendum. We interviewed two construction managers to help facilitate the process for a successful bond referendum. We interviewed two construction managers to help facilitate the process for a successful bond referendum.

The construction management agency hiring decision was made based on the following:

- Carl A. Nelson & Company's proposal was significantly less than the Baxter Construction proposal.
- Carl A. Nelson & Company reported that they had completed 32 Construction Management as Agent projects for public entities and Baxter Construction provided no references for public projects completed as Construction Management as Agents.
- At the time of the selection, Carl A. Nelson & Company had worked for 15 public school districts all with positive references and within the local tri-state area.
- Carl A. Nelson & Company reported they had completed 96 major projects in Fort Madison.
- Carl A. Nelson & Company gave real examples of cost-saving recommendations they made on three projects that saved their clients over $800,000 showing the value of their services, by example.

The mission of the Fort Madison Community School District is “to ensure all students learn the academic and life skills necessary for personal success and responsible living.” Our end goal in establishing a new, unified elementary school is to better enable us to fulfill that mission. We believe that by providing our students with modern educational environments, it will ensure academic excellence during their years with Fort Madison Community School District and the years to follow. Sincerely,

Tim Wondra & Dianne Hope
President & Vice President
Fort Madison Community School District

Resident thanks those who have supported referendums

Dear Editor;

This is a letter of gratitude to those whom have supported the past school bond referendums and a request for others to join in supporting the current proposal.

I am grateful for Fred Bindenwald and others like him, who, after weighing all the facts, decided to vote for the bond. I may not always agree with his political views, but I appreciate his thoughtfulness and logic on this issue.

Marcia Scruggs,
Fort Madison

Clean Home. Clean Planet.

Do your part during this year's Spring Cleaning activities by making sure you're choosing products safe for our planet.

Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

- Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste materials, construction debris, and electronic waste
- Use environmentally-safe cleaning products
- Reduce • Reuse • Recycle
- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too!

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

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

Clean Home. Clean Planet.
OBITUARIES

BONNIE LEE METTERNICH

Bonnie Lee Metternich, age 85, a lifetime resident of Nauvoo, Illinois, passed away Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at Unity Point Hospital in Keokuk, Iowa. She was born on May 5, 1933 in Ft. Madison, Iowa, the daughter of Delbert John and Ida Mae Walter Lutz. On May 7, 1952, she married William Joseph Metternich. He preceded her in death on April 13, 2001.

In her high school years, she worked at the Hotel Nauvoo as a waitress and later years at Schaeffer Pen in Ft. Madison, Iowa. She was a devoted farm wife, and kept busy with livestock, gardening, canning and raising grapes, apples, peaches and produce to sell at Farmers’ Market in Iowa.

The family was involved in Nauvoo Trailblazers Saddle Club, driving a team of ponies, pulling a wagon, with their five children on horseback. Bonnie read meters for WIEC and served as a Sonora Election Judge. She was a member of the Nauvoo Presbyterian Church, serving as a trustee on horseback. Bonnie read meters for WIEC and served as a Sonora Election Judge.

Mae Walther Lutz. On May 7, 1952, she married William Joseph Metternich. He was born on May 5, 1933 in Ft. Madison, Iowa, the daughter of Delbert John and Ida Lee Metternich.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents, Delbert and Ida Lutz; her husband, Joe; brother, Billy Ray Lutz.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 23, 2019 at Schmitz-Banks Funeral Home in Nauvoo with Mark Anderson and Mark Lowman officiating. Burial will be in the Nauvoo City Cemetery at Nauvoo, Illinois. Friends and family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. A memorial fund has been established for the family.

City officials have said they could potentially use TIF revenues to pay the bonds and not directly impact tax payers, which could keep the cost from being paid from general fund revenue. “O’Donnell said officials believe the scrap value could offset any dollars spent on the project, which include $200,000 to move it from the Quad Cities last year.

City spent $200,000 moving barge

Said Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2900 block of Avenue I.

Lee County Sheriff’s report 03/20/19 – 8:25 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Shawn Michael Stark, 32, of Keokuk in the 1400 block of Keokuk, on warrants for possession of controlled substance, child endangerment – no injury, and possession of a controlled substance use in a structure or vehicle. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report 03/19/19 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls, one burn complaint, one motor vehicle accident, and one assist.

03/20/19 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls, one burn fire alarm and one oil spill clean up.

Pen City Current - Sunday, January 7, 2019 - 3
**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

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Call (319)571-4125

**Classifieds**

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— AND NEVER LOST MONEY.1 —  
Banking on the market to fund your retirement can be risky. I can help you lock in solid gains and protect yourself from downside risk. Call me today.

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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  
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800-216-2370  
Call for an appointment  
GRRWA logo

**Open Mic Night**
HELP WANTED

COMMUNITY GARDEN COORDINATOR NEEDED
RSVP: United Way of the Great River Region is seeking a Community Garden Coordinator.

Do you like to garden and work outdoors? Do you like to plan, plant and harvest food?

We are seeking an individual who will plan, plant, cultivate, harvest and lead other volunteers in our Community Garden (garden is located at 2006 Avenue L, Fort Madison, Iowa behind Hy-Vee).

Must enjoy working outside, gardening and harvesting. Will direct garden activities with other volunteers and may require some bending, stooping and lifting of 10 lbs. or less. Times: 1 hour, 2 times per week.

If interested and for more information, please call Tammy at 319-372-8043.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health, education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Hancock, and Lee Counties. All donations are tax-deductible.

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Lee County Conservation
Part-Time Conservation Aide (Temporary)
Lee County Conservation Center, Montrose, IA

Part-Time Laborer Parks and Cemetery
Will perform manual work in the grounds and building maintenance within the park and cemetery department, under direct supervision.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS
• Some experience in building and grounds maintenance.
• Must have a current Iowa driver’s license.
• Skill in operating some of the listed tools and equipment; power and tractor mowers, backhoe, carpentry and plumbing tools, etc.

Applications can be picked up and submitted at Fort Madison City Hall 811 Ave. E, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Lee County Conservation
Part-Time Beach Concessionaire (Temporary)
Pommler Park Beach, West Point

Fuel Dock Attendant
Public Works Parks and Marina
Will provide retail service to customers at the fuel dock and handle the day-to-day dock store responsibilities. Carry out the day-to-day maintenance of the marina facility and grounds using discretion and independent judgment. Provide information and assistance to the boating public as needed.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS
• Must have a current Iowa driver’s license.
• 6 months Customer Service/ Cashier Experience (Marina/Fuel Dock Preferred).
• Perform physical labor.
• Stand for long periods of time.
• Able to lift at least 50 lbs.

Position is seasonal. 28 hours a week Monday through Sunday.

Applications can be picked up and submitted at Fort Madison City Hall 811 Ave. E, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Lee County Conservation
Part-Time Beach Concessionaire (Temporary)
Pommler Park Beach, West Point

Hourly Starting Pay: $10.00

All applications should be directed to Lee County Conservation, 2652 HWY 61 Montrose, IA 52639. Deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 29, 2019. Applications are available online at www.leecounty.org.

Lee County is an equal opportunity employer.
HOMES - Continued from Page 1

for funding of the project so a private/public partner- ship has been created, which resulted in a non-profit Homes for Iowa to manage the finances. The pro forma is to do 875 homes in 10 years. To do all of that, and that includes a lot of assumptions, we would need $3 million in start up and potentially $4.75 million in lines of credit.

He said the non-profit had its first meeting on March 13.

Checklists will be in place for people interested in the homes who would contact a governmental agency in the area or a member of the ICGO and start the process. That would include making steps such as making sure a lot is available and financing was in place.

Funds from the purchased homes would then be recycled into the program. Norris said he hopes at some point that would create an internal funding stream and outside funding wouldn't be needed.

"Once their side is ready, we would take a down payment and put the order in with Homes for Iowa and Iowa Prison Industries and the house would start to be built. In the meantime on that site a crawl space or basement would be put it, grading, utilities -- anything they need to do get the house delivered. The COG would be the go between for the buyer and Prison Industry and Homes for Iowa."

There has been some push back from outside labor advocates who say the $1/hour wage isn't sufficient for the work being done.

Norris said that's an issue for the state Department of Corrections to determine, but he said the offenders will come out of the program with skilled training in areas such as plumbing, HVAC, carpentry, and trim carpentry and there is value to that.

CURRENT-LEE

FORT MADISON – The following is a list of events and happenings going on in Fort Madison as submitted to the Pen City Current.

LCHD Senior Health Clinics
Senior Clinics will be held on March 26 at the Rose Michael Gardens from 8:30 a.m. to 10, Park View Apartments in West Point from 10:30-12:00 p.m. and Evangelical Free Church in Keokuk from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. On March 28, the clinics will be held at SunnyBrook in Fort Madison from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and at LCHD from noon to 3:30 p.m.

Step into Iowa History
A presentation on prisoner of war camps in Iowa during World War II will be held on Tuesday, March 26, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fort Madi- son Public Library. Linda McCann will be present- ing.

FMAAA youth spring break sessions
Fort Madison Area Arts Association will be holding their annual Spring Break on March 28-29th at the FMAAA. $12/day or $20 for both days. Classes are from 1 to 3 p.m. and a snack is included Call 319-372-3996 to register.

YMCA Little Tykes Spring Soccer
Registration is currently underway for the 2019 season, which runs April 2 – May 9. Registration deadline is March 10 for regular fees of $20 for members, $40 for non-members. From March 11-17th participants can register but fees are $10 higher. Volunteer coaches are needed. Call the YMCA at 319-372-2403 for more information.

LCHD Hospice Volunteer Training
Training will take place on four Tuesday evenings starting April 2 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at LCHD office. No fee for the training sessions, which are open to the public. To register call 319-372-5225.

FMAAA Expressions Art Auction
The annual fundraiser for the Fort Madison Area Arts Association is set for April 6, at 5:30 p.m. at the Quality Inn & Suites in Fort Madison.

Glo Crazy for Education 5K
The Glo Crazy for Education 5K run will take place April 6th beginning at 8 a.m. at Baxter Sports Complex in Fort Madison. Registration begins at 6:30 and refreshments are available at the Sports Complex after the run. Fort Madison Service Clubs Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary and FMHS Key Club organize the event. To register click here: https://www.pemcitycurrent.com/2019glorun/.

Pictured is a model of the homes that are scheduled to start being constructed at the Newton Correctional Facility to help replenish low to moderate income housing stock in Iowa.

He said the DOC is anxious to get the program rolling because at Newton there aren’t enough jobs for the offenders to keep them busy and this would help with that problem.

"Newton and DOC officials are excited about it," he said. "Not only does it give offenders jobs while they’re in, but when they get out and have skills they are employable and that is shown to reduce recidivism, or the offender returning to jail."

The groups have established price range for the homes at around $60,000. He said out of the gate, the homes will cost much more than that to build, but once all the initial training is done, that should be marketable price.

Norris, through SEIRPC, had initially approached the Department of Corrections to see if they could build homes in Fort Madison, but he said the logistics didn’t work out and Newton became the place of interest.

In South Dakota, offenders are turning out a home every six months and sometimes shorter. Norris said sometime crew variations can affect the time to build, but there may be an opportunity to do some prefab work if crews can get homes cycled through and build up inventory.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

FRI 22 Mar
Clear
High– 47.3º F | Low – 31.7º F

SAT 23 Mar
Mostly Sunny
High– 46.9º F | Low – 41.6º F

SUN 24 Mar
Moderate Rain
High– 58.2º F | Low – 55.1º F

MON 25 Mar
Moderate Rain
High– 61.9º F | Low – 49.6º F

TUE 26 Mar
Moderate Rain
High– 43.7º F | Low – 35.4º F