



## Tips for watching eagles

Special section helps you get ready for Bald Eagle Days. **INSIDE**

### Dow breaks 25,000

Wall Street's love of tax cuts drives Dow. **ECONOMY, PAGE A9**



### Farm Show coming

Q-C ag event begins Jan. 14 **PAGE A3**



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### ELMORE CORNERS | 'WE WANT THIS TO BE A BEAUTIFUL CORRIDOR'



JEFF COOK PHOTOS, QUAD-CITY TIMES

Paving equipment is used for a road that will intersect Elmore Avenue north of 53rd Street in Davenport. The city seeks to create an overlay district that would guide development near Rhythm City Casino Resort, creating areas for entertainment, housing and commercial development.

# Region around Rhythm City: Welcome to Elmore Corners

Davenport's goal: Large development for area near casino

DEVAN PATEL  
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The Rhythm City Casino Resort stands a bit isolated near the intersection of Interstates 74 and 80, but the city of Davenport has some ideas for how it can bring more life to the region.

The city commissioned Vandewalle & Associates to design an overlay district for the area that creates a vision for what the city would like to see for the area. The results were unveiled Tuesday during the city's management update.

The intersection of Elmore Avenue and Veterans Memorial Parkway creates four corners for large-scale development so the region conceptually could be re-branded Elmore Corners.



Signs advertising land for sale is a common sight along Elmore Avenue north of 53rd Street in Davenport.

"This is where two interstates meet and we want to make sure that when people are coming into Davenport either through (Interstates) 74 or 80 that they are seeing the best that we have

to offer," management analyst Sarah Ott said. "We want this to be a beautiful corridor."

Overlay districts are specific areas in which additional regulations or requirements are im-

posed. In this case, design standards are being created for this area, but no rezoning would be proposed.

Elmore Corners would have six districts. One would aim to develop an entertainment district at the intersection of the interstates. Ott said uses could include sports entertainment, music venues or a water park resort and additional hospitality.

With the TBK Bank Sports Complex — BettPlex — down Veterans Memorial Parkway, the area also could serve as a hub for families looking for additional entertainment.

"We want them to know 'Let's go to Elmore Corners,'" Ott said. "There's a lot to do there."

To the west of the casino, Ott said a small office park is envisioned that could also include additional casino-related entertainment.

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### GENDER BIAS CASE

# Woman drops suit against campaign

Davidson was Trump organizer in Davenport

RYAN J. FOLEY  
Associated Press

IOWA CITY — A former organizer for Donald Trump in Iowa who filed a legal complaint accusing the campaign of gender discrimination has decided not to pursue a lawsuit, her attorney says.

Elizabeth Mae Davidson received a right-to-sue letter from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a requirement before suing an employer for alleged discrimination, attorney Dorothy O'Brien said. But Davidson, now a 28-year-old University of Iowa law student, is no longer interested in pursuing the case and opted not to bring a case against the campaign, she said.

"My client is not going to say another word about it," O'Brien said.

Davidson's complaint, filed in January 2016 days before the first-in-the-nation Iowa caucuses, made national news and put Trump on the defensive. She alleged that male campaign employees were given better jobs, more opportunities and higher pay than female workers. She also accused Trump of commenting on her looks, saying he told her and another volunteer during an introduction in the summer of 2015 that "You guys could do a lot of damage." Trump has denied making that remark and the campaign has called her complaints without merit.

The campaign fired Davidson, a part-time organizer who was based in Davenport, following an article in the New York Times that described her as "one of the campaign's most effective organizers" in an otherwise amateurish operation. The article noted that Davidson had opened the

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# Gov. Reynolds: Boosting workforce is top priority

ERIN MURPHY  
Times Bureau

DES MOINES — When she steps to the speaker's podium next week in the Iowa House to deliver her first condition of the state address, Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds will spend much of her time talking about ways to boost the credentials of Iowa workers without post-high school education or training.

Reynolds said helping Iowa workers improve their skills will be a top priority of her administration in 2018.

The 2018 session of the Iowa Legislature, which begins Monday, will be the first since Reynolds took over as governor this past year.

"Probably my top priority is workforce (and) taxes, but it's workforce, workforce, workforce. Because that provides opportunities for Iowans. It provides an opportunity for a better quality of life," Reynolds said.

Since a 2012 state report indicated Iowa does not have enough qualified workers to fill middle-skill job openings throughout the state, Reynolds, former Gov. Terry Branstad before her, and state lawmakers have worked on myriad state policies and programs designed to help workers obtain more education or training in order to obtain a higher-paying job.

The 2012 report, from the

state workforce development department, said half of the jobs in Iowa require "middle skills," but only a third of workers possess those middle skills.

Reynolds is pushing the state's Future Ready Iowa program, which has the goal of 70 percent of the state's workforce having post-high school education or training by 2025. Created in 2016 with a grant from the National Governors Association, the program provides guidance for students and workers and promotes partnerships between educational institutions and businesses with middle-skill job openings.

Please see **WORKFORCE**, Page A2



ROD BOSCHART, TIMES BUREAU

Gov. Kim Reynolds discusses the importance to Iowa's economy of having skilled, educated workers to fill high-demand jobs of the future during the Excellence in Education Summit in Des Moines.

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