

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 | 10 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 90



www.pencitycurrent.com

LCEDG moves on KL Megla building

DEAL BACK ON: Port Authority could step in as owner if board approves action

BY **CHUCK VANDENBERG**
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – The Lee County Economic Development Group is moving forward with plans for the former KL Megla building in Montrose.

The building was the focal point of Joint Education Center for Lee County before the Central Lee School District tapped the brakes on plans citing a lack of communication.

Iowa code gives school districts authority over what instruction takes place within their respective districts, and Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier said

the district wouldn't move forward with the center at that time.

LCEDG met again Tuesday with officials from Fort Madison, Central Lee, and Keokuk school districts, a new potential Lee County manufacturer, local businesses and industries, the Southeast Iowa Regional & Economic Port Authority, and Southeastern Community College officials.

According to a joint release out of the meeting, the LCEDG has agreed to a new purchase agreement for the facility and land.

See **MEGLA**, page 8

FMEA CONTRACT

District, teachers reach deal

BY **CHUCK VANDENBERG**
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison teacher's union and the school district reached a new tentative pay contract agreement in less than four hours of negotiations Monday night.

Initial proposals were presented at 4 p.m. and after a short break, the Fort Madison Education Association met with district Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater, Board President Dianne Hope, board member Josh Wykert and attorney Emily Ellingson and reached a settlement the same night.

The teacher's union proposed an \$800 increase on the base pay scale with incremental step movements along teacher tenure and education. They also asked for an increase in the health insurance benefit, which the district isn't required to negotiate under the 2017 Iowa Code Chapter 20 overhaul.

The district countered with a \$394 base increase with no step movement.

The two proposals were about \$300,000 off, but the two sides quickly came around on a compromise where the district would pay \$500 on the base with step movement, which represents a 2.7% increase. The district also agreed to add \$138 to the stipend teachers receive toward health care coverage through Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield.

"We appreciated the district's willingness to move from the initial offer this year, and that's why the process went faster," said FMEA President Cory Byrne.

"For the first time in a quite some time, we feel like this is a fair settlement."

Fort Madison Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater said everyone worked very

See **PAY**, page 8



SLATER



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Work continues on the 15th Street portion of the extension of the PORT trail up to the Tri-State Rodeo grounds. The trail is being constructed on the west side of the street and traffic has been divided on the right side.

LEE COUNTY NEWS

Saturday night UTV accident sends two to area hospitals

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – A Saturday evening rollover involving a 4-wheel utility vehicle resulted in two people being sent to area hospitals.

According to reports from the Lee County Sheriff's office, deputies responded to the 2600 block of 160th Avenue at about 9:45 p.m. Saturday where the UTV

driven by Todd Edward Daughters, 49, of Fort Madison lost control when the vehicle left the roadway, entered a ditch and became airborne flipping end over end, coming to rest on its wheels.

A passenger in the vehicle, Mabelle Renee Pezley, 50, of Fort Madison, was ejected from the vehicle and found by deputies unconscious south of the UTV's

final resting spot.

Pezley was taken by AirEvac to Iowa City for injuries she sustained in the accident. Daughters was taken by deputies to Fort Madison Community Hospital and treated for minor injuries.

The accident remains under investigation and further charges could be forthcoming.

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap

WED 28 AprRain, 70° F/ 62° F
 THU 29 AprRain, 61° F/ 49° F
 FRI 30 AprSunny and Clear, 61° F/ 40° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 04/26.....8 22 33 37 38, Lucky Ball: 10
 PICK 3 04/26 MIDDAY.....9 3 0
 PICK 3 04/26 EVENING.....5 6 4
 PICK 4 04/26 MIDDAY.....6 5 2 1
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Obituaries/For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

04/26/21 – 7:08 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited William David Leonida Hunsaker, 23, of Donnellson, at 48th Street and Bluff Road in Fort Madison on a charge of driving under suspension.
 04/26/21 – 7:08 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident at 48th Street and Bluff Road.
 04/26/21 – 8:57 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism reported at the police department.
 04/26/21 – 10:56 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Joseph Theodore Gene Gray, 36, of Fort Madison in the 5400 block of Avenue O, on a charge of 5th-degree criminal mischief.
 04/26/21 – 1:42 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Anthony Paul Thomas Ourth, 29, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of Avenue L, on a warrant for pro-

bation of violation.
 04/26/21 – 3:47 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Kyle Forrest Nielsen, 31, of Fort Madison, in the 1100 block of 21st Street on a charge of driving while barred.
 04/26/21 – 5:09 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Kai Luv Kempker, 27, of Fort Madison, in the 1400 block of 38th Street, on a charge of driving while barred.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

04/24/21 – 9:21 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a report of a UTV accident in the 2600 block of 160th Avenue. According to the report deputies arrived to find two occupants in the UTV a male driver, Todd Edward Daughters, 49, of Fort Madison, and Mabelle Renee Pezley, a female passenger. Pezley was ejected from the vehicle when it flipped end over end, was found unconscious, and was transported to University

of Iowa by AirEvac due to injuries. Daughters didn't request treatment, but was transported by deputies to Fort Madison Community Hospital.
 04/25/21 – 7:22 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle vs. deer accident in the 2700 block of Hwy. 16. According to reports, a vehicle driven by Lany Rae Burke, 24, of Denmark, was heading eastbound and swerved to miss a deer losing control going into the ditch. No injuries were reported. Burke was cited for no proof of insurance.
 04/26/21 – 5:31 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Stephanie Nicole Devitt, 29, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. She was taken to the Lee County Jail.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

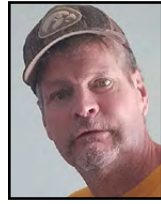
04/26/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one motor vehicle accident and one medical call.

OBITUARIES

DONALD W. MCINTYRE

Donald W. McIntyre, 54, of Ft. Madison passed away at 7:07 AM at the Ft. Madison Community Hospital ER.

He was born on July 11, 1966 in Burlington to Donald E. and Rena Walton McIntyre. On August 25, 2012 he married Kelly Twiss in Donnellson. Don worked construction. He loved going to Vinnie's to enjoy cold beverages, play pool and darts.



MCINTYRE

Survivors include his wife, Kelly McIntyre of Ft. Madison; his children Seth and Sabrina McIntyre of Ft. Madison; step children and step grandchildren; two sisters, Jean and Debbie; three brothers, Mark, Rodney and Bobby; nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 3 PM at Ivanhoe Park. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

ELINOR L. SCHNEIDER

Elinor L. Schneider, 93, of Mt. Pleasant, IA and formerly of Fort Madison, passed away at 3:05 p.m. on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at Savannah Heights in Mt. Pleasant.

She was born on March 30, 1928 in Donnellson, IA to Rudolph & Goldia Lowenberg Krehbiel. She married William J. Schneider on January 26, 1952 in Fort Madison, IA. He preceded her in death on August 4, 2017. She worked at the Sheaffer Pen Company, was a homemaker and enjoyed traveling.



SCHNEIDER

Elinor is survived by: 2-sons: David (Julie) Schneider of Mt. Pleasant, IA & Donald (Gail Baldwin) Schneider of Davenport, IA; 3-grandchildren: Ingrid Schneider, Elise Swanson & Megan Schneider; 1-great granddaughter: Ezrae Swanson. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband & 1-brother.

A visitation will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will immediately follow at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor Pam Unruh officiating. Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Cemetery. A memorial has been established for the Richard Proenneke Fund at the Donnellson Library. Online condolences to Elinor's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.



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Obituaries/Local News

OBITUARIES

ROY L. WAGNER

Roy Lee Wagner, 80, of Montrose, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at his home in Montrose.

Roy was born on January 5, 1941, in Charleston, IA, the son of Elmer and Mildred (Johnson) Wagner. On February 24, 1962, he was united in marriage to Jerri Nelle in Fort Madison, Iowa. They were later divorced. She preceded him in death on November 30, 2020.



WAGNER

Roy was employed as a welder at Fruehauf for many years until his retirement. He also worked as a commercial fisherman on the Mississippi River. Roy was the definition of an outdoorsman, and enjoyed spending time hunting, fishing, and in his younger years, trapping. He also enjoyed hunting for mushrooms and Indian artifacts. He was a man of many talents and could build or fix almost anything. Roy hand-crafted knives, bows and hatchets, and made his own wine. He was best known for his strong work ethic and love for his family.

Roy is survived by his daughter Janet (Eric) Rudd of Washington, Missouri; five grandchildren: Danielle (Jacob) Chesnut, Brady and Matthew Rudd of Washington, Missouri, and Sheldon and Sheena Wagner of Montrose, Iowa; four great-grandchildren: Peyton, William, Jackson and Silas Chesnut of Washington, Missouri; four siblings: Bill (Nancy) Wagner of Denmark, Iowa, Glenn Wagner of Franklin, Iowa, Judy Bressette of Franklin, Iowa, and Blanche (Rich) Reynolds of Franklin, Iowa; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Roy is preceded in death by his parents, his son Ron Wagner, and great-grandchildren Reagan and Abraham Chesnut.

Roy's life will be celebrated with a graveside service at 10 am on Saturday, May 1, 2021, at the Montrose Cemetery in Montrose, Iowa, with a fish fry at Sheldon Wagner's shop (2826 Highway 61, Montrose, Iowa) directly following the service.

Memorials may be directed to Montrose Riverfront, Inc.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk, Iowa, is in charge of arrangements.

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

OBITUARIES

ARTHUR PRADO

Arthur Prado, 62, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 10:27 a.m. on Monday, April 26, 2021 at his home. He was born on November 9, 1958 in Fort Madison, IA to Desiderio "Lelo" & Lucy M. Salazar Prado. He married Bridget E. Cline on August 23, 1980 in Fort Madison, IA. He worked for the City of Fort Madison Street Department, Fruehauf, the Nauvoo Cheese Factory and also at Hope Haven over the years. He was a member of the Fort Madison Mexican Fiesta Committee and enjoyed fishing, mushroom & deer hunting, watching westerns on TV and spending time with his grandchildren.



PRADO

Arthur is survived by: his wife: Bridget Prado of Fort Madison, IA; 1-daughter: Jenna Prado of Fort Madison; 2-sons: Aaron & Nicholas Prado of Fort Madison, IA; 3-granddaughters: Jasmine & Taylor Prado & Hadley Adams; his mother: Lucy Prado of Fort Madison, IA; 3-sisters: Juanita Kirby of Burlington, IA, Genevieve (Darryl) Thompson of Fort Madison, IA & Angelita Prado of Fort Madison, IA and a good friend, Lyle Meeker of Donnellson, IA. He was preceded in death by his father.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 with the family to receive friends from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. His body will be cremated following the visitation and a private family burial will be held at Sacred Heart Cemetery with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. A memorial has been established in his name. Online condolences to the Prado family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

FMHS prom cruise set for Wednesday

FORT MADISON – The 2021 prom court candidates, along with spring sports team members from Fort Madison High School will be having a cruise in honor of prom week.

The cruise will take the same route as the graduation cruise last May.

Students will start at the high school at 6:30 p.m. and will head up Avenue A, turning left on 26th Street at Holy Trinity Catholic. The route will then head

south to Avenue G, where they will take a left turn and go through downtown to 4th Street.

The route then heads north to Old Settlers park, then back down Avenue E to the west back to the high school.

Students in the prom court and spring sports are encouraged to be a part of the cruise, and residents are encouraged to line the cruise route in support of the high school students.

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Monday Sports

Clay Crushers bring home hardware

LEE COUNTY – The Fort Madison Clay Crushers hosted their own invitational this past Saturday at the Tri State Gun Club. Nine teams were represented and 225 individual trap shooters competed in five divisions.

We had three squads bring home team trophies. The rookie squad brought home a second-place finish with a score of 131. Squad members were Cade Blind, Tyler Carson, Gabe Keppel, Luke Kruse and Konnar McFadden.

The IA squad brought home a first-place trophy with a score of 197, including Ben Blanchard, JJ Hasenclever, Owen Krogmeier, Albert Kruse and Spencer Barnes. The JV team brought home their third straight first-place trophy with a score of 236/250. That squad includes Brett Azinger, Drew Dravis, Edward Schroeder, Trevor Edwards and Trey Edwards.

Individual medalists for the day were; Konnar McFadden- 1st Place Rookie, Jake Ehlers- 2nd Place I/A, Edward Schroeder- 1st Place JV, Trey Edwards- 2nd Place JV, Drew Dravis- 3rd Place JV & Anna Schroeder- Ladies 3rd Place Varsity.

Overall Squad Results: Rookie: 1st- Van Buren, 2nd- Ft Madison

IE: 1st- Van Buren #1, 2nd- Centerville, 3rd- Van Buren #2

IA: 1st- FM, 2nd- WBND, 3rd- BHSJV: 1st- FM, 2nd- Ottumwa, 3rd- Centerville

V: 1st- Ottumwa, 2nd- BHS, 3rd- WBND

Overall Individual Results

Men: R- 1. Konnar McFadden- FM, 2. Talon Huling- Van Buren, 3. Hunter Philp- Van Buren
IE- 1. Mason Yocum- Mt. Pleasant, 2. Will Adam- Cardinal Pekin, 3. Jager White- Centerville

IA- 1. Hunter Strong- Davenport, 2. Jake Ehlers- FM, 3. Brayden Roscum- WBND

JV- 1. Edward Schroeder- FM, 2. Trey Edwards- FM, 3. Drew Dravis- FM

V- 1. Kaleb Schmiege- BHS, 2. Jacob Bailey- Mt. Pleasant, 3. Zach Ross- Ottumwa

Ladies: Intermediate Combined- 1. Morgan Robertson- Centerville, 2. Lily Schmidt- Davenport, 3. Mackenzie Robertson- Centerville

JV- 1. Addison McGehearty- Mt. Pleasant, 2. Carly Shondel- Centerville, 3. Emily Butler- Centerville

V- 1. Jenna Smith- Mt. Pleasant, 2. Maddie Caston- WBND, 3. Anna Schroeder- FM

Lady High Gun- Jenna Smith 49/50

Men High Gun Hunter Strong 50/50 and 25/25 in the shoot off.

Edward Schroeder was also 50/50

This coming Saturday they will be competing in the SCTP Regional Shoot in Ackley, IA.

Hound boys stay perfect in SEC

BY PCC STAFF

WASHINGTON – Fort Madison exploded for six first half goals enroute to 10-3 win over Washington on the road Monday night.

Tate Settles had 10 saves on the night against the three allowed goals for the Bloodhounds.

The Hounds are getting production from all sides of the front with Xander Wellman and Reiburn Turnbull, who has been seeing time in the net, teaming up for two of Wellman's goals on assists from Turnbull.

Mitchell Pothitakis scored three goals, one unassisted, one on key passes from Jacob Pothitakis and Will Gager and the hat trick came off a penalty kick just a minute into the second half.

Jacob Pothitakis got the favor returned when Mitchell and Wellman brought the ball to him for a goal with eight minutes left in the first half giving Fort Madison a 4-0 lead.

Washington scored quickly in the first half with just :30 gone, but Pothitakis answered on the penalty shot. Wellman would get one of his three goals on the night 20 minutes later. The Demons would score two inside of the next six minutes, but Gager would answer just a minute later.

Wellman would get his hat trick with 8:50 left in the match on an assist from the Pothitakis boys.

Fort Madison is now 7-1 on the year and 6-0 in Southeast Conference action. The Hounds only loss was to Class 1A No. 2 Burlington Notre Dame in the early going of the season. The Bloodhounds are two games in front of Fairfield in the conference and already have a win over the Trojans.

Mitchell Pothitakis leads the state in assists with 18 on the year and in points (46). He's also tied for first in penalty kicks attempted with six. Wellman is currently 3rd in the state in shots with 50, four off the pace of West Central Valley's Collin Mumford. Jacob Pothitakis is tied for 7th in the state in shots on goal with 28, seven off the pace.

The boys take on Central Lee tonight with an approximate 7 p.m. start time in a girls/boys varsity double header.

Fort Madison lost the junior varsity game in a penalty kick shoot out 4-3. Washington won the PK dual 3-2 with Conner Gehling snaring two of the Demons five penalty kicks. Oliver Santiago and Aiden Boyer each scored in the penalty kick overtime. Boyer had two goals in regulation and Nathan Bowen had the other score for FM.

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Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Monday, May 3 & Tuesday, May 4 so we can enjoy some much-needed down time. The e-Edition will resume on Wednesday, May 5. Thank for reading!

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Monday Sports

Pothitakis goal lifts FM girls in final seconds

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Claire Pothitakis’ goal with just 20 seconds left lifted the “one-goal curse” from the Fort Madison Lady Hounds girls soccer team.

The goal, the senior’s second of the night, gave Fort Madison a 4-3 win over Washington in Southeast Conference action Monday night at Baxter Sports Complex.

“The “one-goal curse” is finally over, thanks to a tremendous effort from the team and a goal from Claire Pothitakis with 20 seconds left in the game,” head coach Carrie Burken said. “It was a really back-and-forth game. Each team was in the lead at various points of the game. The difference really was our determination to do everything we could to win.”

The Demons knocked in an “own goal” letting the ball slip into their own net just nine minutes into the match for the only point of the first half. Both defenses held strong with Bloodhounds keeper Kailyn Guzman not recording a save

The second half started much the same way with no scoring for the first 20 minutes. Washington would tie things up at the 21:43 mark with a goal on Guzman. They would take the lead eight minutes later 2-1.

Pothitakis would get free in the front with 10:41 left to knot the score at 2 each. Alaina Simpson would score two possessions later coming in front the side at the 7:31 mark to give Fort Madison a lead at 3-2.

Washington wasn’t done on the offensive side sliding another ball into the net with 4:41 left in the game setting up Pothitakis last second heroics to seal the win.

“Normally I talk about special players, but I really can’t this time. Things that don’t show up on the stat sheet are the pass which led to the cross, which in turn led to the winning goal. It doesn’t show how many times we were first to the ball in midfield. This was a team effort and a team win,” Burken said.

Brandy Walker had an assist and a shot in the game. Simpson had a goal on her only shot on the keeper. Guzman gave up three goals and registered eight saves, all in the second half.

Taylor Crabtree had a shot on goal as did Coree James. Pothitakis had an assist and four shots on goal in the Hounds (2-4, 1-4) win. The Fort Madison girls host Central Lee at Baxter Sports Complex in a girls/boys double header starting at 5 p.m Tuesday.

Washington falls to 3-3 (2-3) with the loss.

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Get started!
Go to

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/iowa

Applications only accepted during posting dates. Call ISP at (319)372-5432 ext 41823 or 41824 for info. To find us, Filter results by selecting Location (Fort Madison), and/or Job Category (Corrections).

Tips for a successful application: Set up an account using current contact information and an email you check regularly. From the menu select "Notify me of Job Openings" select categories you are interested in. Fill out the application completely, attach a resume, and check your account for additional info needed or notices regularly.



300 miles

>> How a silver lining forms
>> It starts at sea.
>> Tropical waters heat up.
>> Warm air soars skyward.
>> Cold air rushes to the void.
>> Cold air warms up.
>> Cycle repeats.
>> Faster and faster—a 50,000 foot engine of air.
>> At seventy four miles per hour it earns a name.
>> Harvey, Irma, Katrina.
>> Then landfall.
>> Roads rendered useless.
>> Buildings destroyed.
>> Families stranded.
>> But for a brief moment,
>> A silver lining appears.
>> People see neighbors instead of strangers.
>> And labels that divide are forgotten.
>> But when rains ease,
>> when clouds part,
>> silver linings need not fade.
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>> Let's connect with one another.
>> Let's find our love for each other.
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The Lee County Maintenance Department is seeking a qualified applicant for the position of Part-time Custodian, working approximately 28 hours per week. Work involves keeping county buildings clean and orderly; mopping floors; emptying waste baskets; cleaning and restocking restrooms; and dusting, among other tasks. Work requires the safe operation of hand maneuvered vacuum machines, as well as the careful use of cleaning chemicals. Must be capable of performing duties inside the Lee County Correctional Facility Complex.

Application forms and the job description can be downloaded at www.leecounty.org or may be obtained at the Lee County Auditor's Office, 933 Avenue H Fort Madison Iowa or by calling the Auditor's Office at 319-372-3705

Completed application should be sent or delivered to Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor, 933 Avenue H, P.O. Box 190, Fort Madison, Iowa, 52627 or emailed to dfraise@leecounty.org. IPERS and benefits available. All applications should be received by the Auditor's office by 4:30 PM on Friday, May 14, 2021.

Lee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer



HELP WANTED

LEE COUNTY
SECONDARY ROADS

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN SUPERVISOR

Lee County is raking applications for an Engineering Technician Supervisor to work out of our Fort Madison, Iowa office. Duties will include: to direct and oversee the work of a small crew of engineering technicians, perform research and fieldwork for land surveys, engineering surveys, and construction surveys; drawing plans and preparing specifications, conduct inspections of work performed by contractors, and preparing right-of-way descriptions and drawings for the purchase of land to improve and construct roadways and operate survey equipment.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

To apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org or request one from the Engineer office, and return your completed application, along with a resume to: Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, IA 52627, or email it to engineer@leecounty.org Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

If you have any questions please contact Lee County Engineer, Ben Hull, at (319) 372-2541 or email him at engineer@leecounty.org.



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From the Front

All options on table with property

MEGLA - Continued from Page 1

“Future plans for the building and land could include a career exploration center, manufacturing facility, and an advanced manufacturing business park,” the release indicated.

“Purchasing the property will allow time for Lee County Economic Development Group, its stakeholders, and partners to develop the best and highest use of the property. Conversations and planning continue with a wide range of groups to develop the property.”



FRAISE



NORRIS

LCEDG President Dennis Fraise has been vocal about moving forward with what has transitioned from a joint education center to a career exploration center.

On Thursday the Southeast Iowa Regional Economic Port Authority convened to discuss the status of the building and their potential ownership role. The port authority

has the ability to purchase and own the building which would provide for additional tax incentives.



SIREPA partners with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission for administrative services. SIRPC Executive Director Mike Norris said there are economic advantages and risks to the authority owning the building.

But he said the 60-day purchase agreement is assignable to the port authority and the partners in the education center effort are pursuing the port authority collectively to secure financing and purchase the facility.

The purchase cost would be offset with an initial investment of \$100,000 from the LCEDG, and \$20K each from Fort Madison Economic Development Corp. and Keokuk Economic Development Corp. Fraise has said that fundraisers are being planned to make up the rest of the cost of the building.

Norris said the role would be the best project opportunity the authority has had.

“Since late 2014 when I started working with SIREPA we’ve tried to prepare for something like this. This isn’t without risks, but compared to other things they are probably relatively low,” Norris said.

He said the worst-case scenario would be to get the loan and the authority wouldn’t be able to satisfy the loan and it would go into foreclosure. He said then bank would take it back and try to sell it.

As a property of the authority, they would be not property taxes assessed against the facility because the PORT authority operates as state entity that wouldn’t tax itself, which would be a substantial savings.

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W-2319018

District adds to union’s health benefits package

PAY - Continued from Page 1

collaboratively as part of a Labor/Management committee that helped smooth the path in the negotiations.

“We appreciate the process of negotiations with FMEA and all of our association groups. Everyone has worked very hard to create our collaborative environment in the FMCS D,” Slater said.

“Each association participates with the district in a Labor Management group of regularly scheduled articulation meetings that explore topics related to work environment, climate and culture. This process is in its fifth year and will continue into the future.”

Slater said although the district isn’t required to negotiate insurance benefits, the FMCS D has been working towards increasing insurance benefits for employees for the last several years.

“We were excited to announce the increased insurance allocation,” Slater said.

Fort Madison School board president Dianne Hope said the agreement still has to be ratified by the association, but said she felt very good after the meeting.

“It was a very collaborative discussion and a very good meeting,” Hope said.

She said the Labor/Management groups help open dialogues between the district and the respective associations within the district.

The contract is a one-year agreement.

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- 🐾 **Bloodhound Fire Pit**
- 🐾 **Dana Bushong Necklace**
- 🐾 **American Girl Dolls**
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- 🐾 **Speer's Farm Basket**
- 🐾 **Golf Gift Certificates**
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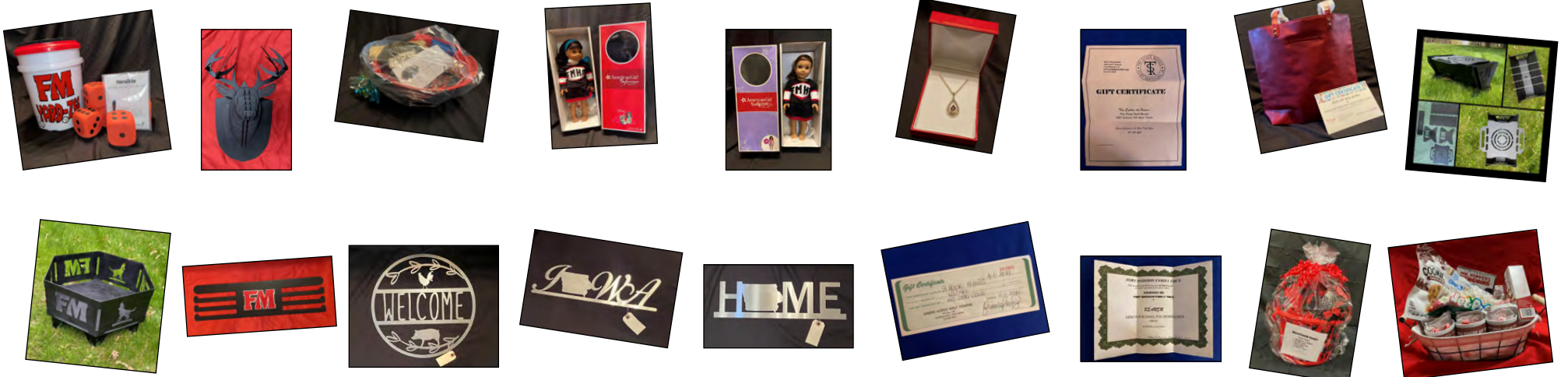
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 Mrs. McClellan's Kindergarten Tippy Planter


 Mrs. Billingsley's 1st Grade Photo Project

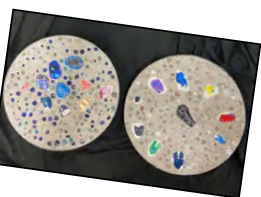
 Mrs. Billingsley's 1st Grade Cookbook


 Mrs. Cashman's 2nd Grade Tote Bag (2019-20)


 Mrs. Terrell's 3rd Grade Jenga Set


 Library Handmade Bean Bag and Book Basket by Mrs. Carter


 Mrs. Bailey's 1st Grade Coffee Mug Set and Hot Cocoa Basket (2019-20)




 Speer's Farm Finds Basket Donated by Speer's Farm Finds

 Metal Signs Donated by Huffman Farm and Home


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 Necklace Donated by Dana Bushong Jewelers


 Burlington Weekend of Fun Basket


 Billy Simms Autographed Football Donated by Billy Simms Restaurant


 Color Street Gift Basket Donated by Mani's with Sammie


 Gift Certificate to Kim's Confections Donated by Brian Steffensmeier


Classroom Projects


 Ms. Martin's Kindergarten Dr Seuss Basket and Portrait


 Ms. Howard's 1st Grade Jenga Set W/ Photo Project


 Mrs. Wheeler's 2nd Grade Classroom Faces Blanket


 Mrs. Wibbell's 3rd Grade Student Photography Collage


 Mrs. Woolever's 3rd Grade American Flag Painting


 Movie Night Basket Created by Lincoln's Ms. Loots, Ms. Pollpeter, & Ms. Settles


 Bloodhound Basket Created by Ms. Forbes


 Mrs. Hellige's Kindergarten Barn Quilts (2020-21 AND 2019-20)

 Mrs. Cashman's 2nd Grade Classroom Guess Who Game

 Ms. Nagel's 2nd Grade Checkers Set


 Mrs. Bothell's 3rd Grade Stepping Stones


 Mrs. Saathoff and Mrs. Ridgeway's Online Students Outdoor Fun Basket


 Specials Cooking Basket by Mr. Rump, Mrs. Price, & Ms. Harting





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