

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 | 10 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 203



www.pencitycurrent.com

Panel takes first look at ARPA projects

Committee finesses plans for county's share of stimulus money

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – With the Nov. 1 funding deadline in the mirror, a panel overseeing the county's usage of \$6.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds set broad priorities on requests for funds Monday.

The county has nearly 40 requests for funds totaling more than \$11 million.

The county has already allocated close to \$2 million in matching funds to the Southeast Iowa Regional and Economic Port Authority to help trigger a \$5.5 million broadband infrastructure project through Danville Telecom in Lee County.

Another priority of the panel appears to be building a new Lee County Health Department. Five-year-old architectural renderings and designs for the project carried a \$2.6 million price tag in 2016. However, new plans could include a drive thru vaccination add-on as well as possibly housing a Lee County EMS ambulance facility at the building. With con-

See FUNDS, page 9



Courtesy Photo

Scooter's Coffee employees made a stop at the PAW Animal Shelter last week and brought treats for all the animals at the center. PAW Director Sandy Brown said 110 dogs were all given "Pup Cups" from employees and management at the Fort Madison coffee outlet.

FORT MADISON NEWS

Chamber sets up Hawkeye FM Day

Tickets for Iowa vs. Western Illinois game go on sale Wednesday

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce has once again partnered with the University of Iowa Athletics to secure premium seating for the community to enjoy an Iowa Men's Basketball game. This year, we will cheer on the Iowa Hawkeyes as they take on the Western Illinois Leathernecks on Wednesday, December 29th at 7:00 pm.

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, November 10th at 9:00 am at the Fort Madison Partners office, located at 614 7th Street.

A number of businesses in the community have stepped up but we are seeking more sponsors to help us provide a long sleeve t-shirt with every ticket purchase. "We are excited to have the community sitting in the stands of Carver Hawkeye Arena all sporting a Fort Madison Day t-shirt!" exclaims Savanna Collier, Chamber Director. Tickets will be available for \$10 for children and \$15 for adults. The Chamber is also partnering with Burlington Trailways to offer a bus ride to Iowa City for the game. Bus tickets will cost \$10 per person.

Tickets and t-shirts will be available before Christmas and will make the perfect gift for that Hawkeye fan in your family.

To ensure prompt delivery, the opportunity to purchase tickets runs through Friday, November 19th at 3:00 pm. Tickets ordered after November 19th are not guaranteed a t-shirt with their ticket purchase. The Fort Madison Partners office is located at 614 7th Street and is open M-F 8:30 am – 4 pm. On Tuesday, November 16th, the office will stay open until 6:00 pm to accommodate those who work late. To make other arrangements, please call 319-372-5471.

Other perks are being negotiated at this time with the Athletic Department at the University of Iowa.

TRAGEDY: Complaint alleges Meredith confessed to crime

Affidavit gives some details in Wednesday fatal shooting

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A Fort Madison teen charged in a Wednesday shooting on the city's west side was apparently invited to the home by the boy he allegedly shot and killed.

Dimari D.J. Meredith is currently in custody at the Southeast Iowa Juvenile Detention Center after being charged in the shooting death of 15-year-old Deeunta Ceaser at Ceaser's grand-



CEASER



MEREDITH

mother's home in the 4200 block of Avenue L at just after 5 p.m. Nov. 3.

According to a criminal complaint filed in North Lee County Court Thursday, three different witnesses told police officers that Meredith and Ceaser were the only two in a bedroom in the home

at the time of the shooting.

Officers reported that Meredith ran from the scene as Fort Madison Police and emergency crews were providing lifesaving measures. He was apprehended by additional police presence about two blocks from the scene.

The affidavit revealed that Meredith told officers during interviews at the police station that he had been kicked out of his home by his mother and

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WEATHER

TUE 09 Nov.....Overcast, 42° F/ 33° F
WED 10 Nov.....Overcast, 47° F/ 41° F
THU 11 Nov.....Rainy and Cool, 35° F/ 28° F

OpenWeatherMap

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 11/07.....15 18 24 30 42, Lucky Ball: 10
PICK 3 11/07 MIDDAY.....9 0 0
PICK 3 11/07 EVENING.....6 6 9
PICK 4 11/07 MIDDAY.....4 6 7 7
PICK 4 11/07 EVENING.....7 6 2 5

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

RICHARD W. VARNER

Richard Wayne Varner, 82 of Keokuk, IA died Sunday, November 7, 2021 at Blessing Health Keokuk.

He was born May 12, 1939 in Keokuk, IA the son of William Ralph and Myrtle Florence Stephenson Varner. On November 27, 1961 Richard was united in marriage to Joyce Elaine Riddle in Keokuk. She preceded him in death on August 14, 1992.

In his younger years, Richard had been employed at Phillips 66 in Alexandria, MO and Morse Chain in Keokuk.

Richard enjoyed tinkering around the house with things, working on mowers and cars and trying his luck at the casinos. He also enjoyed entertaining his friends in his kitchen over a hot cup of coffee and solving the world affairs. Most of all, Richard loved spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Richard is survived by one daughter, Penny Barnes of Keokuk, one son, William Varner of Keokuk, three grandchildren, Tiane Sparrow, Kyler Barnes and Cody Varner, three great grandchildren, Kennedy and Hank Sparrow and Knox Barnes and one sister, Helen Thorn of Keokuk.

Besides his wife, he is also preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Charles "Jack" Varner, Earl "Pete" Varner and John Varner and four sisters, Cora Varner, Marie Brown, Lucille Watson and Norma Varner and one daughter-in-law, Kerry Varner.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with Calvin Stevens officiating. Burial will be in the Hickory Grove Cemetery.

Visitation will be held after 1 p.m., Thursday at the funeral home with family meeting with friends from 6-8 p.m.

Memorials may be made to FOKAS (Friends of Keokuk Animals) or Keokuk Animal Services

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigen-memorialhome.com.



VARNER

OBITUARIES

MARY "EILEEN" KIRCHNER

Mary "Eileen" Kirchner, 81, of Houghton, Iowa, passed away at 2:01 a.m. Saturday, November 6, 2021, at the Henry County Health Center in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

She was born on March 17, 1940, in St. Patrick, Missouri, the daughter of William F. and Nola M. (Logsdon) Boudreau. On October 17, 1959, she married Charles A. Kirchner in St. Patrick, Missouri. He preceded her in death on August 4, 1999.

She is survived by her two daughters: Karen (Kenny) Mehmert of St. Paul, Iowa and Kathy (Marty) Menke of Houghton, Iowa; five sons: Kevin (Jamee) Kirchner of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Chuck (Sue) Kirchner of Palatine, Illinois; Brent (Rachel) Kirchner of Coralville, Iowa, Brian (Heather) Kirchner of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Kyle (Gina) Kirchner of East Dubuque, Illinois; grandchildren: Kameron (Jamie), Quinn (Madonna), Mitchell, Cole, Alyssa (Adam) Justin (Abby), Cody (Rycki), Nicholas (Trisha), Dana (Erik), Dylan (Selena), Cal, Christy, Allyson, Bailey, Lainey, Brevin and Bradin; great grandchildren: Danika, Gabby, Devan, Jack, Mateo, Kinsley, Gentry, Berken, Clara and Grace; sisters-in-law: Joanne Boudreau and Dorothy Kirchner and brother-in-law: Robert (Rita) Kirchner. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband: Charlie; one son: Chris; granddaughter: Kelsey and brother: Eston.

Eileen graduated from St. Patrick High School in St. Patrick, Missouri, a year early in 1957. She also attended Mount St. Clare College in Clinton, Iowa for one year. She then moved with her husband Charlie and kids to the Houghton area in January of 1974. She always helped to provide for her family working several jobs and finally settling in at Staats in Mt. Pleasant where she worked for twenty-seven years until she retired at the age of seventy-seven.



KIRCHNER

Eileen was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, the Altar and Rosary Society of the Church and the Daughters of Isabella.

She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, homemaker, and seamstress. If anyone had a piece of clothing that needed altering or made from scratch, she was the woman to call, grabbing her sewing machine and getting to work. She was extremely creative making gifts for her family and cooking amazing food, especially her homemade noodles. Like all mothers and grandmothers she enjoyed spending time with her kids, grandkids, and great grandkids. She also enjoyed playing Euchre and Back Alley Bridge with her card club and of course drinking several cups of Folgers instant coffee a day.

Later in life she discovered quilting, allowing her to create several special friendships with fellow quilters and making a quilt for all of her kids and grandkids. After living in the country for years, she moved into town in Houghton in 2016 making her new house feel like we lived there all of our lives. Her faith kept her strong all the way to the end, praying several Hail Marys in the hospital.

May she rest in peace in Heaven united with her one true love Charlie, her parents, brother, son, and granddaughter.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at St. John's Catholic Church, where the family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. that evening. A parish rosary will be recited at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at St. John's Catholic Church in Houghton with Father Dan Dorau as celebrant.

Burial will be at St. Patrick Cemetery in St. Patrick, Missouri.

Memorials have been established in her memory for St. Patrick Cemetery or Houghton Fire and Rescue.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com. Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

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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.



DAILY FLIGHTS CHICAGO AND ST. LOUIS
SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL AIRPORT

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PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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Obituaries/Education News

OBITUARIES

WILLARD P. "JUNIOR" GARMOE

Willard Preston "Junior" Garmoe, 68, of West Point, Iowa passed away at 2:50 a.m., Monday, November 8, 2021, at his home.

He was born on May 3, 1953 the son of Willard and Lucille (Thompson) Garmoe.



GARMOE

On April 16, 1983 he married Margie Pollmeier, in Fort Madison, Iowa.

He is survived by his wife Margie, his two children: Kathryn E. Garmoe of Waterloo, Iowa, Preston (Clarissa Sanchez) Garmoe of Solon, Iowa; three grandchildren: Lydia, Isaac and Gideon Garmoe; one brother: Russell Eugene (Sabine) Garmoe of Temple, Texas; three sisters: Evelyn (Gary) Calvert of Argyle, Iowa, Debra Susan Garmoe of Fort Madison, Iowa, Cheryl Velinda Baumgart of Hockley, Texas; several aunts and uncles.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Junior spent 20 years in the United States Army, reaching the rank of ISG. He was a field artillery paratrooper with over 100 military jumps. He worked for Tri-State Furniture for 20 years then owned and operated Jr's Appliance Repair.

He enjoyed deer hunting with his family and searching for Indian artifacts in the creeks near his home. Junior enjoyed taking trips with his grandchildren. Junior was a member of Pheasants Forever, Fort Madison Knights of Columbus where he was a past Grand Knight, the Gallitzin Assembly 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, West Point American Legion Holtz Geers Post #668, USAA and NCOA. He was an Assistant Boy Scout Leader for many years where he was awarded the Silver Beaver Award. Junior enjoyed helping others.



His body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday November 12, 2021 at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point with Fr. Dennis Hoffman as Celebrant.

The family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the mass at the church. Burial will be at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Fort Madison with full military rites by West Point American Legion Holtz - Geers Post #668.

A memorial has been established in his memory for Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center or PAWS Animal Shelter.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com. Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

First-generation grads honored last week at SCC

WEST BURLINGTON - Southeastern Community College students, faculty, staff and graduates participated in the 2021 National First-Generation College Celebration from November 4 - 8. The event celebrated students who were the first in their families to attend and graduate from college.

Over 60% of the student population at SCC identifies as the first-generation college students.

First-generation college students took part in a variety of activities and provided testimonials on what it means to be a first-generation student.

SCC student organizations also celebrated first-generation faculty and staff. Window signs were displayed in the offices of first-generation faculty and staff to build connections among students and staff. Thanks to funding from the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and Center for First-Generation Student Success, first-generation students were given t-shirts.

SCC's TRIO programs spearheaded the event. TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) and TRIO Upward Bound (UB) are two federal funded grant programs from the Department of Education that provide services to first-gen college students.

SCC President Dr. Michael Ash is a first-generation college student, himself.

"Being the first generation in your family to go to college is a big deal," Ash said. "It can be overwhelming trying to navigate the ins and outs of college when you don't have anyone at home to help you out or share their experience. That's why we always want to celebrate our first-gen students for making the commitment."

During Dr. Ash's tenure, SCC's TRIO SSS and TRIO UB grant programs have been renewed and expanded, along with a partner program through Indian Hills Community College. TRIO programs serve students on both the Keokuk and West Burlington campuses with dedicated spaces and equipment, including computer labs, study rooms and group collaboration areas.

TRIO SSS provides college success programming for 225 first-gen college students at SCC. In addition to access to dedicated facilities, program participants receive personalized advising services, career counselling and transfer assistance.

TRIO Upward Bound serves 63 high school students in the Burlington, Ft. Madison, and Keokuk school districts. It allows students to participate in pre-college advising services to assist in gaining access to post-secondary education. Many students from the UB program transfer to SCC each year.

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police report

11/05/21 – 12:29 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Whitney Kay Mackey, 29, of Fort Madison, in the 4500 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for failure to appear – assault causing bodily injury. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/05/21 – 2:32 a.m. – Fort Madison police cited Misty Dawn Kirchner, 47, of Fort Madison, in the 1800 block of Avenue E, on a charge of driving while barred.
 11/05/21 – 3:27 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2600 block of Avenue I.
 11/05/21 – 8:24 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the alley of the 2400 block of Avenue I.
 11/06/21 – 12:00 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Taj Michael Kite, 32, of Fort Madison, no location given, on a charge of driving while barred. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/06/21 – 12:00 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Russell Arlo Young, 45, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of Avenue H, on a warrant for 5th degree theft. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/06/21 – 11:50 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2500 block of Avenue I.
 11/06/21 – 2:18 p.m.

– Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue L.
 11/06/21 – 6:51 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of 37th Street.
 11/06/21 – 7:38 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue B.
 11/06/21 – 7:51 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Randall Dean Sommerfeld, 58, of Fort Madison, in the 1800 block of Avenue L, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/07/21 – 2:24 a.m. – Fort Madison police cited Trenton Darius Gosnell, 25, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 24th Street and Avenue C, on a charge of driving while barred.
 11/07/21 – 11:59 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 800 block of Avenue E.
 11/07/21 – 12:00 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3400 block of Avenue L.
 11/07/21 – 1:57 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 6100 block of Reve Court.
 11/07/21 – 2:35 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft at the

intersection of 18th Street and Avenue M.
 11/07/21 – 10:00 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Joshua Edwin James Ruble, 36, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 30th Street and Avenue K, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 11/07/21 – 10:07 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Alex Michael Yaley, 30, of Fort Madison, no location given, on charges of driving under suspension and operating a non-registered vehicle.

Lee County Sheriff's report

11/04/21 – 5:30 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff deputies arrested Terry Marvin Stewart, Jr., 27, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of 2nd degree criminal mischief \$1500-\$10,000. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/04/21 – 1:04 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff deputies arrested Austin Deane Salter, 37, of Keokuk, in the 3100 block of Hwy. 61, on charges of driving under suspension and violation of a no-contact order – domestic. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/04/21 – 2:00 p.m.

– Lee County Sheriff deputies arrested Glenn Thomas Green III, 28, of Farmington, in the 700 block of Avenue F, on a warrant for failure to appear – citation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/04/21 – 4:29 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff deputies arrested John Herman Soper, 49, of Mt. Pleasant, in the 100 block of North 7th Street, on a warrant for pre-trial release violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/04/21 – 11:30 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff deputies arrested Michael William Blint, 46, of West Point, in the 1600 block of 253rd Avenue, on a charge of domestic abuse assault – 1st. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Hancock County Sheriff's Report

11/02/21 – Sheila A Farro, age 49, of Augusta, IL was issued a Notice to Appear at a future court date for a Suspended License.
 11/03/21 – Matthew H. Middleton, age 32, of Quincy, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges

of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine and Driving While License Revoked. Middleton was released on his own recognizance and given a future court date.
 11/04/21 – Derrick R L Howe, age 36, of Warsaw, IL was arrested on a Hancock County warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Stolen Property. Howe was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 11/04/21 – Mitchell T Haimes, age 60, of Davenport, was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine. Haimes was released on his own recognizance and given a future court date.
 11/06/21 – Bryan K Dameron, age 42, of Carthage, IL was arrested on an Adams County warrant charging him with failure to appear on original charges of criminal trespass to vehicles. Dameron remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his extradition to Adams County.
 11/06/21 – Landon A Griffin, age 22, of Oskaloosa, IA was arrested on a Mahaska County, warrant charging him with dangerous drugs. Griffin was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 11/06/21 – Kenneth J Vahle, age 51, of Quincy, IL was issued a notice to appear at a future court date for speed.
 11/07/21 – Oshiana L Wade, age 27, of Hamilton, IL was arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Wade was released after given a notice to appear at a future court date.

Those listed above are arrested on a suspicion of charge and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

11/05/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to five medical calls, one life assist and one ring removal.
 11/06/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls.
 11/07/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one motor vehicle accident, one burn complaint and one false alarm.



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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
DONNELSON CITY
COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 1ST, 2021
7:00PM
CITY HALL**

The regular meeting of the Donnellson City Council was called to order by Mayor D. Ellingboe, with Council Members Estrada, Weber, Marshall, Moeller present, Schneider was absent.

Motion by Marshall, second by Weber to approve the agenda: all ayes.

Citizen comments - None

Motion by Moeller, second by Weber to approve the minutes of the October '21 meetings: all ayes.

Motion by Weber,

second by Estrada to approve the October '21 financial reports: all ayes.

Motion by Marshall, second by Weber to approve the October '21 disbursements and November '21 bills to be allowed: all ayes.

Motion by Moeller, second by Weber to set December 6th 2021 @ 7:00pm for public hearing to amend FY22 budget: all ayes.

Motion by Moeller, second by Weber to approve Resolution No 2021-20 Resolution to approve FY2021 City Annual Financial Report: RCV all ayes.

Motion by Weber, second by Moeller to award Annual Examination for FY2021 to Rachele K Thompson, CPA: all ayes.

Motion by Moeller, second by Weber to set

December 6th 2021 @ 7:00pm for public hearing to amend Code of Ordinances with Legislative Changes: all ayes.

Motion by Moeller, second by Weber to set December 6th 2021 @ 7:00pm for public hearing to amend Code of Ordinances with updated language for water and sewer connections: all ayes.

Motion by Moeller, second by Estrada to set budget workshop for December 6th 2021 @ 6pm in council chambers at city office building: all ayes.

Motion by Weber, second by Estrada to approve disc golf proposal at Westview Park: all ayes.

Police Report - There were 68 calls for service in October 4 traffic stops

and 34 building checks.

There being no other business to come before the Council, motion by Moeller, second by Estrada, Mayor Ellingboe declared the meeting adjourned: all ayes.

Dave Ellingboe, Mayor
Rebecca Schau, City Clerk

Summary of All Receipts: General \$103,618.26 Capital Equipment Reserve \$0 Road Use Tax \$9,830.97 Employee Benefit \$10,450.74 Local Option Sales Tax \$9,330.93 Debit Service \$0 Rathbun \$0 ARPA \$0 Water \$20,514.30 Water Sinking USDA \$1,816.00 Sewer \$27,330.35 Sewer Sinking \$0.

Summary of All Disbursements: General \$23,651.29 Capital

Equipment Reserve \$0 Road Use Tax -\$2,059.31 Employee Benefit \$2,322.33 Local Option Sales Tax \$8,761.41 Debit Service \$0 Capital Project Fund \$0 Rathbun \$0 ARPA \$2,000.00 Water \$17,124.88 Water Sinking \$1,816.00 Sewer \$6,059.29 Sewer Sinking \$0

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**PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County
Conservation Board
Meeting Notice
Agenda
November 9, 2021
Lee County
Conservation Center
2652 Hwy 61
Montrose, IA 52639
4:00 p.m.**

1. Call To Order
 2. Approval of Minutes from October 19, 2021 and October 27, 2021 (Workshop)
 3. Public Input
- This is the time of the meeting that a citizen may address the Board on any matters pertaining to the Lee County Conservation Board. The Board cannot take formal action at the meeting on matters not included on the regular agenda, but may ask the staff to research the matter or have the matter placed on a subsequent agenda.

Honor your family members that answered the call to serve in our special Veterans Day edition on Thursday, November 11th.

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Please include photo (color or black & white), veteran's name, branch of service, tour(s) of duty, your name and contact information in case of questions.

A brief personal message (10-15 words) is also welcome.


Submissions are due by the end of the day Tuesday, November 9th.

SAMPLE LISTINGS

(NOT SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE)



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Korean War



SSGT Ezekiel "Zeke" James Ross
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PUBLIC NOTICES

- 4. Approval of Bills
- 5. Approval of Financial

- Report
- 6. Discuss and Take Possible Action on Camping Fee Increases
- 7. Update Bank Account Information
- 8. Review and Discuss Potential Updates to LCCB Bylaws
- 9. December Meeting Date—December 1st or 2nd

- 10. Staff and Director Reports
- 11. Board Members Comments
- 12. Adjournment Workshop to Follow Hearing and vision assistance available upon request. Citizens are welcome to all LCCB meetings.

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What you'll need to be successful:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent
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From the Front

County child care projects get a reset with Gov's announcement

FUNDS - Continued from Page 1

struction costs sharply on the rise, that project could now be close to \$3.5 million.

The county has allocated just under \$2.8 million for county projects and that project would eat up that fund if the project was totally funded.

But Supervisor Garry Seyb, Jr., said it was his hope that other funding sources would come to bear on the project.

"Are you talking about bonding?" asked Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise.

Seyb said he hasn't been on the board long enough to answer that question. Supervisor Ron Fedler said the county could bond up to \$750,000 without going to a vote and the county is currently paying about \$80,000 per year to the state to lease current space at the Iowa State Penitentiary's John Bennett Center.

Budget Director Cindy Renstrom said several county projects will be paid for in the next couple of years so some long-term debt will fall off the county's books.

"We got a lot of bond debt in the next three to five years that we'll be done with, so I would definitely consider as one extra source of revenue, a bond of less than \$750,000 along with the ARPA money for the health department," Fedler said.

The county was looking at building the health center on ground near the sheriff's office, which the county already owns. However, mandated response times for the Lee County EMS would require them to have a bay closer to Fort Madison's city limits, possibly on the west side.

Panel member Mike Norris said the group should also keep an eye on future infrastructure legislation for possible funding streams to help with costs, but he said other grants to build a health department could be limited at this point.

Other priorities include digitizing county records to allow the public to access records without necessarily coming into the county office. Lee County Conservation projects totaling about \$1.6 million were moved into the tourism category to take pressure off the county projects category. A request from PAW Animal Shelter and an economic diversity group out of south Florida were moved down the priority list.

Housing priorities focused on Great River Housing Trust which asked for \$650,000 for gap funding for housing projects. Southeast Iowa Community Action also requested \$228,000 for housing assistance. A Tribulations Ministry also asked for \$300,000 to help start a homeless center in Keokuk.

"Again, these are groups that maybe we should have come in and talk to us and then see where they are at in planning," Seyb said.

"I think it in all cases, we're going to have to have some kind of contract that's protecting the county so when they come back to us on an audit we're able to show this is how we spent the money and where we spent the money," Seyb said.

"And those that do receive money from us and don't spend it the way we anticipate, we have that ability to go back and collect."

He pointed to the number of requests for child care centers, especially those in private homes. The county has allocated \$650,000 to child care projects, but has received more than \$1 million in requests.

"With some of the amounts that are being asked for, we need to be cautious in what we fund and how we're funding it," he said.

"I personally think we need to take pause. I don't want to count anybody out or anybody in."

Seyb pointed to additional state aid coming to child care providers from the state under a new proposal from Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds that includes in excess of \$10 million in added child care facility and training support.

Seyb said whomever the county provides funding to has to have some skin in the game and the county needs to see a long-term benefit in the projects, especially those asking for more than \$100,000.

Fedler said the county could look at funding projects, but not for the total amount asked.

Seyb said requests for stipends and bonuses and things like that without a plan for sustainability may not be a wise use of the funds.

The group is scheduled to meet monthly before making recommendations to the board for funding approval.

Suspect was invited over by boy who was killed

AFFIDAVIT - Continued from Page 1

walked to Ceaser's grandmother's home after calling the boy and asking him if he could come over.

The complaint says that Meredith initially said he was asleep in the room and didn't know what happened. The affidavit indicated that Meredith then gave several other statements to police as to how the event transpired, before eventually allegedly confessing to officers that he had shot Ceaser while the boy was sitting at the foot of his bed.

Gun residue tests were performed on both of Meredith's hands and both came back positive, according to Fort Madison Detective David Doyle, who completed the criminal complaint.

A search warrant executed at the residence turned up the gun, a Ruger 9mm semi-automatic pistol, and additional ammunition that matched a shell casing recovered at the scene.

Meredith is currently being held on a \$1 million cash only bond. He is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on Nov. 12 at the North Lee County Courthouse. He is being charged with 1st degree murder.

District 8B Associate Judge Ty Rogers has appointed the public defender's office to represent Meredith in the case.

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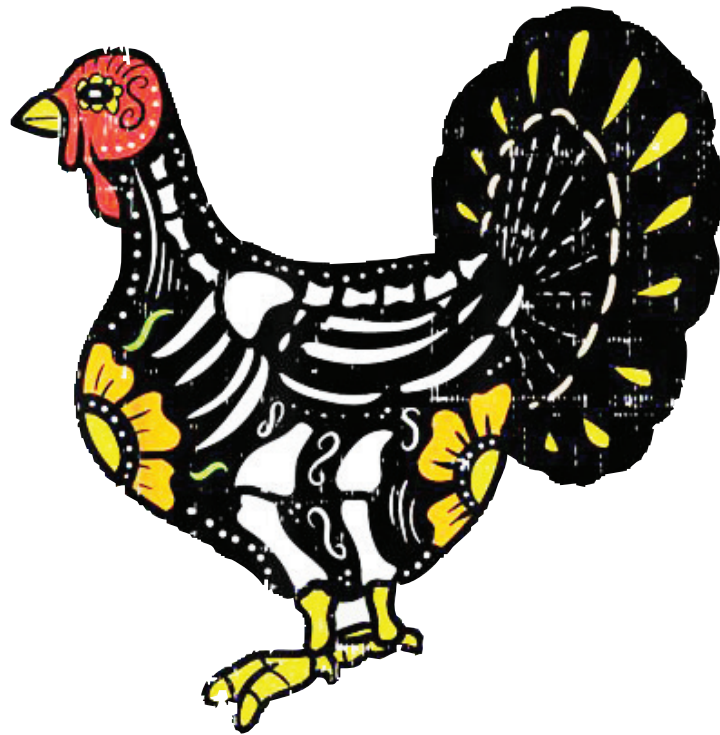
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