

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, February 18, 2022 | 10 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 43



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Gov. inks 2.5% ed. funding hike

Local officials say increase doesn't hold up to inflation

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES – Today, Governor Kim Reynolds signed into law the first bill of the 2022 legislative session. House File 2316 increases the state's public education budget for fiscal year



CROZIER

2023 by 2.5% per pupil, resulting in \$159 million in new money for Iowa's public schools.

However, local officials say the funding doesn't go far enough to assist schools with inflationary pressures and cost-of-living increases.

"Providing a quality education for the next generation of Iowans is one of our most important responsibilities," Reynolds said. "The state's significant and responsible funding increases year-



SLATER

over-year for more than a decade helps ensure that Iowa has the strong public education system necessary to support the success of our students and our state."

Fifty-six percent of the state's entire budget funds public education alone. In fiscal year 2023, which begins July 1 of this year, that amount will total

See **SCHOOLS**, page 8

LEE COUNTY

Conservation draws up new district logo

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Conservation Board and staff are excited to unveil their new logo that several staff members and local artist, Karina Brownlee, have been developing over the past couple of months. The Board approved the logo for immediate use at the last Board meeting on February 8th. The LCC team was ready to update the logo because they wanted something more modern, easily recognizable, and a simple representation of their mission.

"Karina did a great job providing us options and I am really happy with the one the team chose! It is a great representation of our past and our future," said Heather Huebner, LCC Executive Director.

The team involved in the logo development chose a Black-Eyed Susan because it is a common prairie flower that can be seen all over Lee County. There was a time when Lee County would have been covered in native tallgrass prairie and woodlands, and LCC is committed to promoting the conservation of our local natural resources.

Though the former logo served its purpose well for many years, the Lee County Conservation team believes their new logo will bring them into the new era, which comes with another exciting change for LCC – a Volunteer Program. The LCC teams hopes to offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities in the coming year, including trail maintenance, invasive species removal, painting picnic tables, and even putting in a new playground (or two!). More information on this program is still to come, but those interested can join the mailing list by emailing conservation@leecounty.org to get the latest news.

Caroline Veihl, the LCC Administrative and Outreach Coordinator said, "I feel like the old LCC logo was a nice representation of our mission, but it was very busy and hard to read. The new logo is vibrant

See **LOGO**, page 3



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison senior Jakob McGowan gets control of Sean Mwangi of Waverly-Shell Rock in the final seconds of McGowan's 5-3 win in first round wrestling at the IHSAA State Wrestling Tournament Thursday in Des Moines. Head Coach Ryan Smith and Asst. Coach Andrew Cartwright react in the background.

FM's McGowan advances with win over No. 6 at 170

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES – Jakob McGowan looked at the clock about a dozen times during his first round match at the IHSAA State Wrestling Tournament in Des Moines Thursday.

It's nothing that Head Coach Ryan Smith likes to see from his wrestlers, but it did the trick as McGowan held off 5th-seeded, and 6th-ranked Sean Mwangi of Waverly-Shell

Rock 5-3 to advance to Friday's 2nd round of the championship bracket at Wells-Fargo Arena.

"It was a tough match. I think he was seeded 5th and I'm 10th. I went out there and did my thing and wrestled hard. I knew he liked to do a blast double and he'll cross ya and then sit there," McGowan said after advancing Thursday.

See **STATE**, page 4

INDEX

Business Directory.....P.7
BUSINESS NEWS.....P.4
 Cape Air.....P.2
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.5-7
 Complete Rental.....P.5
CURRENT-LEE.....P.3
EDUCATION NEWS.....P.8
FOR THE RECORD.....P.2

FROM THE FRONT.....Ps.3-4,8
 Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.4
 Full Steam Staffing.....Ps.5,8
 Getting Ahead.....P.9
 Lee County K9 Association.....P.10
 Lee County Health Department.....P.5
LEE COUNTY NEWS.....Ps.3,8
LOCAL NEWS.....Ps.2-3

Pen City Current.....Ps.6-8
 Pothitakis Dentistry.....P.8
 Public Notices.....Ps.5-6
 RonDavoo.....P.3
 Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.....P.5
 Sonny's Super Market.....P.3
 Southeast Iowa Regional Airport.....P.8
SPORTS.....P.4

WEATHER

FRI 18 Feb.....Clear Skies, 33° F / 9° F
SAT 19 Feb.....Clear and Cold, 24° F / 13° F
SUN 20 Feb.....Clear Skies, 48° F / 20° F

OpenWeatherMap



IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 02/16.....14 15 17 21 25, Star Ball: 9, All Star Bonus: 4
LUCKY FOR LIFE 02/16.....1 2 7 32 40, Lucky Ball: 16
PICK 3 02/16 MIDDAY.....4 2 4
PICK 3 02/16 EVENING.....2 7 1
PICK 4 02/16 MIDDAY.....2 6 2 1
PICK 4 02/16 EVENING.....7 1 2 3
POWERBALL 02/16.....22 30 40 42 48, Powerball: 16, Power Play: 2

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For the Record/Local News

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

02/16/22 – 10:25 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue G.

02/16/22 – 7:41 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Belinda Lorene McWhorter, 31, of Fort Madison, in the 800 block of Avenue E, on a charge of driving while barred.

Lee County Sheriff Report

02/16/22 – 8:14 a.m.

– Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Hunter John West, 18, of Argyle, in the 1100 block of Madison Avenue, on warrants for 2nd degree attempted burglary and 2nd degree criminal mischief \$1,500-\$10,000. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

02/16/22 – 12:34 p.m.

– Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Christian Suade Bozeman, 23, of Ottumwa, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on 2 warrants for failure to appear/contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.

02/16/22 – 3:43 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested a 17-year-old male juvenile, at the Juvenile Detention

Center, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was held at the Juvenile Detention Center.

02/16/22 – 4:14 p.m.

– Lee County sheriff deputies arrested IC Frederick Christy, 34, of Argyle, in the 1700 block of 320th Street, on a charge of contempt – violation of a no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

02/16/22 – 5:45 p.m.

– Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Candi Isabella Kay Medina, 28, of Fort Madison, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on 3 warrants for failure to appear, 2 warrants for pretrial release violation, and 1 warrant for possession of a controlled substance. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

02/17/22 – 1:44 a.m. – Lee County sheriff

deputies arrested Kaleb Dalton Leffler, 20, of Keokuk, at the intersection of 270th Avenue and 340th Street, on a charge of 1st offense OWI. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Those listed above are charged with a suspicion of a crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



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Lozano's pix to take over FMAAA for March exhibit

BY LORI ILLNER GREENE

FMAAA Director

FORT MADISON – Sam Lozano is a Fort Madison native now living in the Chicago area. Fort Madison Area Arts Association is pleased to bring Lozano's work to Fort Madison for display during the month of March. The exhibition entitled Light Shining Through begins on Friday, March 4th with an Opening Reception from 5pm-7pm at the Art Center located at 825 Avenue G in Fort Madison. Kozlowski Law Group of Burlington, Iowa is generously supporting the exhibition.

Lozano has been observing the Chicago downtown area for over 10 years – quiet, patient, with a relentless curiosity. He creates images with an eye on the oddities of life, and a sense of surprise at discovering a hidden world in plain sight. From the urban backdrop of Chicago, he has tried to capture moments that peel away the protective layers that people put in place, revealing an inner dignity and melancholy beauty behind otherwise ordinary scenes. A religious icon painted on a street food truck aims a benevolent gaze on unknowing passersby. A beatific glow surrounds an otherwise anonymous group of workers commuting to the office. Sam's work attempts to remind us of what may have been lost and forgotten – that there is ethereal beauty everywhere we look. We can find it in the middle of pain, loneliness, and in spontaneous outbursts of joy. Beauty is found in quiet moments of solitude, even in the middle of one of the world's busiest cities.

In addition to an amazing body of work on view this month, FMAAA is delighted to announce the resumption of Lunch ala Art at the end of the month. Reservations are highly encouraged for the luncheon scheduled for Friday, March 25th at noon. Please call 319-372-3996 to reserve your spot. Lunch is \$9/person for this monthly event held March through November each year. While the artist will be unable to be on hand for this month's gallery talk due to a previous commitment, Sam Lozano's work will provide a spectacular backdrop for the gathering and for FINALE the next day. FINALE is a performance series held monthly for local musicians and poets to showcase their talents. We hope you can join us for this free event on Saturday, March 26th from 6pm-9pm to have one final look at work derived from Lozano's keenly aware view of the world around him.

Current-Lee/Business News

CURRENT-LEE

Lee County K9 Association and FMPD Hy-Vee Chili Supper – Support your local Lee County K9 Unit and FMPD by enjoying a wonderful chili supper. February 24th, 4-7pm at Fort Madison Hy-Vee. Free will donation!

Getting Ahead Open House Meet & Greet – Come meet the graduates of Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' by World. Talk with graduates and learn what the program has done for them, see what Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' by World can do for you, learn how you can become involved. Thursday, March 3, 6-8pm, First Lutheran Church, 1101 Blondeau, Keokuk. Refreshments will be served.

Hope Revealed Through Bible Prophecy – A continuing series of presentations of hope for today's world from Fort Madison Seventh-day Adventist Church. FREE admission, Bibles, books, DVD, Bible study materials, child care up to 12 years, and refreshments provided. The seminar starts Friday, March 4, 7pm at the Quality Inn & Suites, 6169 Reve Court, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Women of Faith are Invited to the Worldwide Live-Streamed IF: Gathering 2022 at FUMC of MP – We invite you to IF: Gathering to be held Friday, March 4th from 6-9:30 pm and Saturday, March 5th from 9am-

4pm. The event will be held at First United Methodist Church at 309 N Main St, Mount Pleasant, IA 52641. The information is available on First United Methodist Church, Mt. Pleasant Facebook page or at: https://firstmethodistonline.org/if-gathering-2022?fbclid=IwAR0_1H6jydUv6cj5m_jlv87vdp_gbRi0t44Ng4WZ-moG0cyWvG99Fasrr5OI. If you do not have computer access, call the First United Methodist Church office at 319-385-1740.

Submit your event to appear in our next Current-Lee Calendar of Events. Your event will run once for FREE. Or run your listing daily through your event for as low as \$10! Email your listing to Lee at Lee.V@PenCityCurrent.com or call 319.371.4125 for more information.



New logo to roll out for Lee County Conservation District

LOGO - Continued from Page 1

and unique, and I believe the Board, staff, and hopefully future volunteers, too, will be proud to wear it.”

People will begin to see the new logo in use all over the county, as LCC replaces old park signs and staff uniforms and works to remodel their websites for better accessibility.

Lee County Conservation manages 30 individual parks, wildlife areas, historic sites and water recreation access points – encompassing some 2,796 acres across the county. The mission of the Lee County Conservation Board is to promote conservation of local natural resources and to provide parks and conservation areas, outdoor recreational opportunities, and environmental education for the public.

Link Wealth earns Ameriprise award

FORT MADISON –Steven W. Link, CRPC® a Private Wealth Advisor and Jordan L. Brown, a Financial Advisor with Link Wealth Advisors, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. in Ft. Madison, have earned the 2021 Ameriprise Client Experience Award.

Link Wealth Advisors was honored with this award because of their ability to consistently deliver personalized, goal-based advice and exceptional client service. Award recipients earned an overall client satisfaction rating equal to or greater than 4.9 out of 5.0* and maintained stellar business results. The award represents an elite group of Ameriprise advisors recognized as



BROWN

leaders for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of their clients.



LINK

As a private wealth advisory practice, Link Wealth Advisors provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and is delivered in one-on-one relationships with their clients. For more information, please contact Steven W. Link or Jordan L. Brown at 319.372.7554 or visit their Ameriprise office at 702 Avenue F.

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From the Front

Sokolik, Thacher end run in Thursday wrestling

STATE - Continued from Page 1

Smith said McGowan didn't slow down the entire match.

"Jakob has an ability to wrestle every second of the match and that's good because if you take a snooze on someone up here, it's not going to end well," Smith said

"He wrestled every second of the match. It was nip and tuck. It looks like he's in trouble and then he hits that switch and that kept him out of danger."

McGowan will now take on 3rd-ranked Colin Driscoll in the quarterfinals. Driscoll (28-6) of Waukee was seeded 4th in the 170 lb. draw and is 3rd in the final IAWrestle rankings. With a win, McGowan would secure a spot on the podium for the top eight positions. With a loss, he would slip into the consolation bracket and face Waterloo East's Eli Sallis (27-9).

McGowan appeared to have scored a takedown at the circle in the early going of the first two minute period, but the officials said the action took place out of the circle. About a minute later, Mwangi got control of McGowan in the center of the ring, but only momentarily and was awarded 2 points for a takedown. However, the two officials conferred and waived the points off, leaving the match at 0-0.

"Thankfully, the ref reversed his decision because the same thing happened to Jakob earlier and he didn't get those points - so it was good to see them converse and reverse that. You don't see that happen very often," Smith said.

In the second period, McGowan chose to start on the bottom and, after 1:10, scored an escape and then converted the move into a control position for two points on the takedown to lead 3-0. Mwangi would record an escape out of a restart with just a few seconds left in the 2nd period to cut the lead to 3-1.

Mwangi would start down in the third period to try and catch a quick escape point, which he did 33 seconds into the period. On the regroup, McGowan was able to take advantage of both wrestlers falling in the grasp to gain an advantage with less than a minute left and a 5-2 lead. Mwangi would escape again for the 5-3 score with :24 left in the regulation.

The two would end up twisted together in front of the chairs of Smith and assistant coach Andrew Cartwright, who were both out of their chair shouting coaching instructions. Mwangi seemed to be close to gaining control, but McGowan grabbed his ankle in the final five



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Bloodhound junior Daniel Sokolik tries to break free from the grasp of West Des Moines Valley's Trystin Irvin in opening round wrestling Thursday at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

seconds to prevent the two-point control that would have tied the match up, and was able to run the clock out.

McGowan said it was pretty neat wrestling in that environment and was looking forward to the quarterfinals.

"I feel good about it. This kid's just one seed above the other kid," McGowan said, "They say he's good on his feet."

Daniel Sokolik, wrestling in his first ever state tournament, lost in the first round and then again in the first round consolations.

The first match against Trystin Irvin, a Valley West Des Moines junior who's ranked No. 2 in the state at 220 lbs.

Sokolik got behind early with a takedown at :17 into the match and then Irvin was able to move him into two nearfalls for an 8-0 lead after the first period. Sokolik was able to fight off the pins in the first period, but a second period takedown nine seconds off the whistle turned into a fall, sending the junior into consolation wrestling.

He took on Western Dubuque's Dakota Hoffman (36-4) in the consolation bracket. Hoffman had an 8-0 lead early on after a takedown at 1:23 and then two 3-point

nearfalls. Hoffman had Sokolik in a package, but the Bloodhound was able to use his legs and roll the hold over for a 2-point reversal and had his opponent on the ropes before the period break.

Hoffman went right back to work with another pin and nearfall, but Sokolik again fought off the fall for the rest of the period, but trailed 13-2. The third period started with Sokolik on top and Hoffman escaped, but Sokolik would score a takedown five seconds later. The junior couldn't make hay of the hold so he let Hoffman go in hopes of getting another quick grab and 2 points looking for a position he could score a pin with.

Hoffman was cautioned for stalling at :37, but then got a final takedown with :15 left to seal the win, 17-4.

Sokolik said the matches just added to his experience and he would be back next year, hopefully wrestling at heavyweight.

"It was a great experience. At the beginning of the season, I didn't think I'd even be here. I just came out to help with football," Sokolik said.

"But then I get to come here and do this. Next year I'm coming back as a heavyweight. I'll have to put on about 25 to 30 pounds of muscle to get to 250. I don't wanna be fat, so I'm gonna have some work to do."

Thacher, who dropped both his matches at 195, said he wasn't mentally prepared well enough.

"It means a lot just being here, but I kinda felt like I was in a funk in my matches. I think I could've won if I was in the right mindset. I just think I got in my own head a lot. But it was a good learning experience."

Thacher, just a sophomore, suffered a pin at the hands of Andrew Reed of Southeast Polk, the 3rd-ranked wrestler at 193 in 3A, in 1:26 of the first period. He then fell to Evan Surface, a senior out of Epworth Western Dubuque, halfway through the second period.

Thacher said it wasn't the environment that distracted him.

"I don't think the crowd affected me. I think I got in my own head a lot. I'd like work on the mental part of it more - try to get past the mental barrier, but I think it was a good learning experience."

Smith said the losses will hurt, but both Thacher and Sokolik have the right mindset and will use them to lead into next year and try to return to the tournament.

"They both are loose and goofy in a good way. They're disappointed but they're not going to throw a fit about it - and the good thing is they both have another chance. They've felt the environment. It's a huge experience and they'll help be leaders for the future," he said.

Our mission is to protect health, prevent disease, and promote the health and well-being for all persons in Lee County.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
January 31, 2022**

The Lee County Board of Supervisors met at the Lee County Administrative Building in Fort Madison on Monday, January 31, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Matt Pflug, Garry Seyb, Ron Fedler, Rich Harlow and Rick Larkin.

The Board opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Harlow, to approve the agenda with the addition of a request from the Treasurer to replace a clerk. Motion carried.

There was no Public Input.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Pflug, to reduce the amount recommended by the Compensation Board by 50 percent. After much discussion from many people in attendance, Fedler called for the vote. Roll call: Fedler-aye, Pflug-nay, Larkin-nay, Harlow-nay and Seyb-nay. Motion was defeated. Moved by Seyb, seconded by Harlow, to accept the Budget Director's proposed budget and publish the proposed budget, including a 45 percent raise for the Sheriff and those tied to his salary, and a ten percent raise for all other employees. Roll call: Seyb-aye, Harlow-aye, Fedler-nay, Larkin-aye and Pflug-nay. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Larkin, to approve the Lee County Treasurer accepting ACH deposits on behalf of the Lee County Auditor, DBA Lee County EMS. Motion carried.

Moved by Larkin, seconded by Harlow, to allow the County Treasurer to fill an open clerk position. Motion carried.

Moved by Larkin, seconded by Seyb, to approve updates to the Lee County EMS Handbook. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Harlow, to approve a Class B Beer Permit and an Ownership Change for Tri State Gun Club, Montrose, for the period February 16, 2022 through February 15, 2023. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Larkin, to approve nine tax abatement resolutions. Roll call:

Seyb-aye, Larkin-aye, Fedler-aye, Harlow-aye and Pflug-aye.

RESOLUTION #2022-42

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Adam Kraus 2499 Hilton Road Keokuk IA 52632

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.
Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-43

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Matthew and Sarah Burns 2554 351st Street Keokuk IA 52632

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review

pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-44

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Clint and Amanda Huebner 2448 218th St West Point IA 52656

For exemption from taxation according to the

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provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-45

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee

County, Iowa; and, WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: David R. Mason 602 Academy Ave Fort Madison IA 52627

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board

of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-46

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that

Scotts MiracleGro in Ft. Madison has 2 new opportunities on our Maintenance Team!

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Electrician/Mechanic

Some things you'll do in this role:

- Program, repair and maintain programmable logic controller (PLC) systems used within a industrial high speed packaging plant
- Perform detailed mechanical and/or instrumentation/electrical troubleshooting, repair and preventative maintenance duties on plant process, utility, and packaging equipment.
- Perform multi-discipline maintenance and/or electrical work. Maintain equipment documentation for all equipment and revise per modifications.

What you'll need to be successful:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- PLC technician /Electrical educational courses
- 5 to 7 years in electrical maintenance field preferably in a manufacturing setting
- In depth mechanical/electrical aptitude, schematic reading/interpretation

Maintenance Mechanic

Some things you'll do in this role:

- Troubleshoots production machinery and equipment for electrical and mechanical malfunctions. Assists in the teardown and rebuild of machines.
- Performs scheduled preventive maintenance tasks and periodic inspections on production machinery and equipment. Lubricates and cleans parts. Adjusts devices positions and controls.
- Troubleshoots mechanical failures. Repairs or places defective parts. Dismantles devices to gain access to and remove defective parts. Installs parts into devices. Starts devices to determine their performance.

What you'll need to be successful:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- 3-5 years maintenance experience in a manufacturing environment.
- Must have basic computer skills, hydraulics and pneumatics aptitude.
- Must read and interpret Hydraulic, Pneumatic and Electrical schematics.
- Mechanical troubleshooting skills, electrical troubleshooting skills.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

they hereby approve the application of: Nicholas and Carmen Weirather 1835 295th Street Argyle IA 52619

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-47

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Kyle Helling 2213 St Paul Road West Point IA 52656

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-48

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: The Chief LLC 2737 346th Street Keokuk IA 52632

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-49

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax

Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and, WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Juan Caudillo 3073 County Road 103 Fort Madison IA 52627

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022-50

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Derek and Amanda Olsen 3468 265th Avenue Keokuk IA 52632

Section 404.3, 3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 31st day of January, 2022.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Matt Pflug, Chairman; /s/ Garry Seyb, Vice-Chair; /s/ Ron Fedler, Member; /s/ Rich Harlow, Member and /s/ Rick Larkin, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Monday, January 24, 2022 Board minutes. Motion carried.

Moved by Larkin, seconded by Harlow, to approve the payment of claims. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Fedler, to approve a step increase for Jackson Jones, Correctional Officer, from \$19.49/hr. to \$20.91/hr., effective 2/18/22; transfer for Bob Jones, EMT, from full-time to part-time, rate of pay did not change, \$20.16/hr., effective 2/1/22; new hire for the Ambulance Service, Calista Ortiz, EMT, \$15.82/hr., effective 1/17/22 and new hire for the Ambulance Service, Matthew Wheeler, EMT, \$15.82/hr., effective 1/17/22 Motion carried.

Received and filed the Commission of Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting for December 29, 2021; Commission of Veteran Affairs Quarterly Report for October 2021 through December 2021; a Manure Management Annual Update for Pieper Pork Plantation in Cedar Township and the Recorder's Report of Fees Collected for December 2021.

Committee Reports: Larkin reported on an Economic Development Board meeting, an EMS Advisory Board meeting, an Emergency Management Board meeting

and a Conference Board meeting. Harlow reported on a Children First Board meeting and an Employee Safety Committee meeting. Seyb reported on the Economic Board meeting, a Regional Planning Board meeting, and the Ambulance, Emergency Management and Conference Board meetings. Pflug reported on the Safety meeting and the Emergency Management and Conference Board meetings.

At 11:30 a.m. a motion was made by Fedler, seconded by Harlow, to adjourn. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Matt Pflug, Chairman Attest: Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor

Claims paid January 31, 2022

A Next Deg Comm, svcs 91.08
 Ability Ntwrk, svcs 1545.58
 A Abueg, svcs 150.00
 Advd Crctnl Hlth, svcs 10792.17
 Agriland, fuel 382.81
 Alliant Enrgy, svcs 2954.41
 K Belmonti, svcs 343.63
 Benco Dntl, svcs 186.08
 Blessing Hlth, svcs 130.00
 Bnd Tree Med, svcs 3383.87
 Brotcke Well, svcs 7000.00
 Capital One, veh 199882.07
 CenturyLink, svcs 90.95
 CVS Caremark, svcs 79.09
 Dodd Prtg, svcs ... 403.94
 Dble A Glass, svcs.. 297.00
 Drake Hdwr, equip 709.00
 EMSLRC, edu 70.00
 Farm/Home, svcs .. 33.98
 Floyds, svcs 75.00
 FM Water, svcs 3941.93
 City of FM, svcs 3937.50
 Four Oaks, svcs ... 1446.15
 L Fraise, rent 26.00
 N Granaman, svcs 1346.15
 Grt Prairie, svcs 150.40
 Horse/Hound, svcs

..... 971.82
 Huffman Wldng, svcs 40.99
 ICCS, edu 135.00
 IA Div Lbr Svcs, prmts 270.00
 IEMA, svcs 150.00
 IA Wrkfrc Dvlp, chgs 2466.92
 Jays Auto, svcs 51.40
 Kempkers, svcs ... 263.14
 Keo Water, svcs 960.94
 Klingner Assoc, svcs 2596.40
 Khlmrgn Hlg, svcs .. 146.85
 R Kuntz, svcs 200.00
 LeeCo Atty, svcs .. 555.06
 LeeCo Lbr Assc, ctrb 25362.50
 Lynch Dallas, svcs 1853.50
 Mail Svcs, svcs 1014.65
 McFarlands, svcs 288.78
 R Meller, svcs 200.00
 MidAm Enrgy, gas 3427.89
 Optum Rx, svcs .. 1129.48
 Otto-Matic Wtr, svcs 60.00
 Penn City Assc, dues 300.00
 Henry Pieper, svcs 3846.25
 Prairie Farms, svcs 312.80
 Qdnt Finance, svcs 4000.00
 Quill Corp, svcs ... 149.98
 River Hills, svcs 475.85
 Scndnvn Cmtry, svcs 27.50
 Sec/State, dues 30.00
 M Shaffer, svcs 500.00
 Shive-Hattery, svcs 1080.00
 SIADSA, svcs 2400.00
 SE IA Reg Med, svcs 100.00
 Spectra Build, svcs 16001.82
 P Spiekermeier, svcs 17.10
 Staples Cr Pln, svcs 147.76
 Stryker Sales, svcs 48.10
 US Cell, svcs 640.34
 VM Instrl, svcs 10.35
 Vanguard Appr, svcs 8055.00
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From the Front

ESSER funds are paid through reimbursements

SCHOOLS - Continued from Page 1

more than \$3.6 billion. Eighty percent of the education budget goes to preK-12 schools including more than \$3.5 billion for state foundation school aid and nearly \$29.5 million for transportation equity, according to the state's release.

Additionally, the state's investments in STEM education, work-based learning, and registered apprenticeship programs enhance the educational experience for Iowa students.

More than \$700 million in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds remain unused by Iowa's public school districts for pandemic relief. Information and guidance on the relief packages are available on the Iowa Department of Education website here.

However, Fort Madison Community School District Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater said those funds are issued as reimbursements. She said the district has allocated most of their ESSER Funds and has to spend them before the funds can be accessed.

"For example, the FMCSO will be using \$2 million dollars of ESSER funds this summer to do a heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC) project for the FMHS gym. The district is excited to upgrade the system in our main high school gym which includes air conditioning!" Slater said

"The dollars however will not show as expended until after the project is completed late this summer and we apply for reimbursement the following quarter which will be in the Fall of 2022," she said.

"We are grateful for the federal ESSER dollars that have allowed FMCSO to begin our Jump Start summer and after school programs, added pre-school classes, increased the number of teachers to lower elementary class sizes, buy additional cleaning supplies, purchase large TV systems for classrooms, and providing hot spots for families needing internet services for learning to name a few examples of how FMCSO is utilizing federal ESSER dollars to provide what's best for kids."

Slater said those funds are available to use through June 2024.

Central Lee Community School District Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier said the district is thankful for the additional spending authority, but said it falls well below the rate of inflation.

"I appreciate the legislature working to pass this in a timely manner so we can set our budgets for FY23. With 7% inflation, 2.5% is not adequate. Our expenses for next year will certainly exceed the new dollars for the district," Crozier said.

"I understand the legislature wants to pass tax cuts - we believe they could have passed tax cuts and adequately funded public education. While you will hear claims of substantial investment in public education, Iowa ranks 40th in the nation in increased funding over the past ten years."

Slater had a similar reaction to the per pupil funding increase.

"The district appreciates the work of Iowa legislators and the governor for budgetary support. 2.5% (Student Sup-

plemental Aid) for FMCSO financially results in 1% of new money which is \$150,285 for the 2022-2023 school year," Slater said.

"However, CPI, inflation, cost of living, etc. hovers around 3%. SSA would need to be at 4.75% in order for the district to capture 3% of new money to keep up with the previously mentioned increases with inflation and costs."

Reynolds also issued information today about how teachers, law enforcement officers, and child care workers can claim their pandemic-related \$1,000 retention bonuses, which she announced last month.

"I can't thank each of these dedicated public servants enough for their persistence during one of the most difficult times in our state and nation," said Gov. Reynolds. "This is one way we are able to thank them for coming to work each day to positively impact our children and keep our communities a safer place."

\$1,000 premium pay lump-sum payments will be disbursed through different funding sources and therefore have different processes and tracking requirements.

Teachers: The Department of Education will work to issue payments to qualifying teachers at public schools, accredited nonpublic schools, independently accredited nonpublic schools, and state-operated schools through their respective employer.

Certified Peace Officers: Local law enforcement agencies will request payment on behalf of their qualifying employees through Iowa Grants Online. Submissions will be reviewed by the Iowa Law

Enforcement Academy prior to payment via mailed individual check by the Department of Administrative Services. Certified peace officers employed by the State of Iowa will receive payment through their regular state paycheck.

Corrections Personnel: Qualifying Department of Corrections corrections officers and medical personnel will receive payment through their regular state paycheck.

Child Care Workers: Qualifying child care workers will be able to apply through the Department of Human Services' web page starting later this month.

Crozier announced last week that Central Lee would be using a portion of ESSER funds to give teachers and staff bonuses, in addition to the \$1,000 state-guaranteed bonuses, resulting in a \$2,000 bonus for teachers.

"We appreciate the additional bonus for our teachers. With our action last week though, our district made sure we honored all employees who have worked hard over the past two years."

Slater said the retention bonus is a good step forward to reward work during the pandemic.

"The \$1,000 retention bonus in HF236 is a positive in recognizing the work of Iowa school district teachers," she said.

"There are many other non-teacher personnel who daily demonstrate hard work and dedication, and who also come to work each day to positively impact our children. This includes our support personnel, administrators, associates, social workers, guidance counselors, nurses, secretaries, bus drivers, food service workers, mechanics, and custodians."

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