

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, September 25, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 176



www.pencitycurrent.com

Central Lee balks at JEC



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

The former KL Megla building is close to being purchased for a Lee County Joint Education Center, but the building is in Central Lee's school district and the administration there doesn't currently support the effort.

SUPERINTENDENT: Crozier says district has been left out of some discussions

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A move to purchase a building in Montrose to house a future joint education center was snagged Thursday by Central Lee Community School District.

Fort Madison Community School District's Board of Directors unanimously approved a memorandum of understanding at Monday's meeting supporting moving forward with Phase 1 of the project, which includes the purchase of the 30,000-square foot former KL Megla building near Montrose.

The building is located across from Dollar General on Hwy. 61 in the Central Lee Community School District and will require a purchase investment in excess of \$1 million.

The Lee County Economic Development Group's Board of Directors' voted Thursday morning to approve moving forward with the purchase through the Southeast Iowa Regional Economic & Port Authority.

The port authority can either issue revenue bonds, give out loans, or guarantee loans for capital expenses within its territory. They cannot however exercise eminent domain or levy taxes.

According to LCEDG President Dennis Fraise, the LCEDG board voted to support non-educational operating expenses for the first two years, raise funds to retire the mortgage on the building, and establish a charitable trust for the education center.

But Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier issued a statement on Thursday following a Pen City Current request for comment on the district's position regarding the joint education center.

Crozier wrote, "The Central Lee Community School District



CROZIER



FRAISE

Board of Education did not approve the MOU, as it was never shared with the district."

He also wrote the district will not grant authorization for Fort Madison or Keokuk school districts to operate high school classes on property within in the district.

Iowa Code 274.1 gives the district exclusive jurisdiction in all school matters over the territory of the district.

Crozier added Central Lee is interested in expanding programs and partnering with neighboring schools, but for that to happen other parties "must fully include our school district in conversations and planning, something that has not consistently taken place in the past".

Fraise said everyone has had the opportunity to be involved in the discussions to this point.

"We are raising private funds and there are no tax payer dollars involved. Everyone has been involved, or had the opportunity to be involved, in the ongoing discussions on the joint education center over the past several years. For anyone to suggest otherwise is inaccurate," he said.

Crozier's statement also said Central Lee would require that Southeastern Community College, another entity that's been part of the discussions, assume full ownership of the building and programming for the district to consider the project.

"As a school district, we believe strongly in workforce develop-

See **CENTER**, page 8

UNEMPLOYMENT

State jobless claims fall again last week

DES MOINES - The number of initial claims in Iowa, filed between Sunday, Sept. 13, and Saturday, Sept. 19, was 6,601. There were 5,912 initial claims by individuals who work and live in Iowa, and 689 claims by individuals who work in Iowa and live in another state. The number of continuing weekly unemployment claims for Sept.13-19 was 63,291, a decrease of 2,131 from the previous week.

The U.S. Department of Labor adjusted last week's initial claim number down to 4,652 (a decrease of 310) and continuing claims to 65,422 (a decrease of 231 for a total decrease of 541). Iowa Workforce Development relies upon the weekly data released by the U.S. Department of Labor to report its numbers and as such, adopts the revisions to the previously published data.

A total of \$3,981,000 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits was paid during the week of Sept. 13-19, 2020 which were retroactive payments as the program ended July 25, 2020. Since April 4, 2020, a total of \$1,604,382,343 in FPUC benefits has been paid.

A total of \$4,272,802.69 was paid in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits during the week of Sept. 13-19, 2020.

A total of \$5,727,140.83 in benefits has been paid in Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits for the week of Sept. 13-19, 2020. Since May 27, 2020, a total of \$72,563,697.32 in PEUC benefits have been paid.

A total of \$1,082,962.31 in benefits has been paid in State Extended Benefits for the week of Sept. 13-19, 2020. Since July 21, 2020, a total of \$7,586,455.32 in Extended Benefits have been paid.

IWD has reinstated the work search requirement. Those who will be required to begin work searches will be notified by IWD. We have also posted updates on our website regarding this requirement.

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WEATHER

FRI 25 Sep.....Sunny and Warm, 81° F/ 56° F
SAT 26 Sep.....Partly Cloudy, Hot, 85° F/ 62° F
SUN 27 Sep.....Light Rain, 73° F/ 57° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 09/23.....6 15 37 41 42, Star Ball: 6, All Star Bonus: 5
PICK 3 09/23 MIDDAY.....812
PICK 3 09/23 EVENING.....693
PICK 4 09/23 MIDDAY.....5192
PICK 4 09/23 EVENING.....7668
POWERBALL 09/23.....817 49 52 59, Powerball: 1, Power Play: 2

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Birth Announcements/Ag News

USDA offers up more COVID farm relief

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18, 2020 – President Donald J. Trump and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced up to an additional \$14 billion for agricultural producers who continue to face market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19. Signup for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP 2) will begin September 21 and run through December 11, 2020.

“America’s agriculture communities are resilient, but still face many challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. President Trump is once again demonstrating his commitment to ensure America’s farmers and ranchers remain in business to produce the food, fuel, and fiber America needs to thrive,” said Secretary Perdue. “We listened to feedback received from farmers, ranchers and agricultural organizations about the impact of the pandemic on our nations’ farms and ranches, and we developed a program to better meet the needs of those impacted.”

Background:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will use funds being made available from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and CARES Act to support row crops, livestock, specialty crops, dairy, aquaculture and many

additional commodities. USDA has incorporated improvements in CFAP 2 based from stakeholder engagement and public feedback to better meet the needs of impacted farmers and ranchers.

Producers can apply for CFAP 2 at USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices. This program provides financial assistance that gives producers the ability to absorb increased marketing costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Producers will be compensated for ongoing market disruptions and assisted with the associated marketing costs.

CFAP 2 payments will be made for three categories of commodities – Price Trigger Commodities, Flat-rate Crops and Sales Commodities.

Eligibility

There is a payment limitation of \$250,000 per person or entity for all commodities combined. Applicants who are corporations, limited liability companies, limited partnerships may qualify for additional payment limits when members actively provide personal labor or personal management for the farming operation. In addition, this special payment limitation provision has been expanded to include trusts and estates for both CFAP 1 and 2.

Producers will also have to certify they meet the Adjusted Gross In-

come limitation of \$900,000 unless at least 75 percent or more of their income is derived from farming, ranching or forestry-related activities. Producers must also be in compliance with Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation provisions.

Applying for Assistance

Producers can apply for assistance beginning Sept. 21, 2020. Applications will be accepted through Dec. 11, 2020.

Additional information and application forms can be found at farmers.gov/cfap. Documentation to support the producer’s application and certification may be requested. All other eligibility forms, such as those related to adjusted gross income and payment information, can be downloaded from farmers.gov/cfap/apply. For existing FSA customers, including those who participated in CFAP 1, many documents are likely already on file. Producers should check with FSA county office to see if any of the forms need to be updated.

Customers seeking one-on-one support with the CFAP 2 application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to offer assistance. This is a recommended first step before a producer engages with the team at the FSA county office.



MYERS

FORT MADISON – Clara and Joshua Myers of Fort Madison are proud to announce the birth of their son Hudson Tiberius Myers, on Sept. 4, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are John and Stacey Taylor of Fort Madison; Don and Kathi Myers of Fort Madison; and Shawn Wilson of Quincy, Ill.

Great-grandparents are Denise Miller of Fort Madison; Lynn and Tina St. Clair of Kahoka, Mo.; Frank and Mary Allen of Lakeview, Ark.; and Don and Karen Myers of The Villages, Fla.

CLARK

KEOKUK – Kayla and Andy Clark of Keokuk are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Vada June Clark, on Sept. 10, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Vada is joined at home by Andrew Jr.

Grandparents are Teresa and Louis Clark of Keokuk, Wendy Matlock of Keokuk; and Mark Matlock of Keokuk.

Great-grandparents are Joe and Carol Ryland of Keokuk; Mary Lou Brunstein of Keokuk; Sandy Clark of Hamilton, Ill.; Dennis and Laury Clark of Hamilton, Ill.; and Evelyn McDowel of Quincy, Ill.

AILES-JONES

KEOKUK – Christal Ailes-Jones of Keokuk is proud to announce the birth of her daughter Da’Mia Mo’Net James Ailes-Jones on Sept. 7, 2020 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are Beverly Ailes of Keokuk; and the late Christopher Jones of Omaha, Neb.

Great-grandparents are James Ailes of Keokuk and Flora Demier of Stockbridge, Ga.

WALLJASPER

DONNELLSON – Samantha and Dustin Walljasper of Donnellson are proud to announce the birth of their son Ryker John Ralph Walljasper, on Sept. 13, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital

Ryker is joined at home by Axton, Meika and Brantley.

Grandparents are Wendel and Wendy Walljasper of Donnellson; Angela Wilkerson of Burlington; and Chuck Stout (deceased) of Burlington.

Pen City Current congratulates all these families on their wonderful news.

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PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

HARVEY “BUD” HUFFMAN

Harvey “Bud” Huffman Jr, 72 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at the Great River Medical Center, West Burlington, Iowa. He was born February 12, 1948, a son of Harvey B. Sr. and Darlene

E. (Alliman) Huffman. On July 4, 1972, he married Karen Wagner in Fort Madison.

Bud was a 1966 graduate of Fort Madison High School. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and served during the Vietnam War. He was a meat cutter for 35 years and worked at several local grocery stores, including Nafef’s, Skinner’s, Easter Foods, and County Market. He worked an additional 15 years as a guard at the Iowa State Penitentiary. He was an avid outdoors man and especially enjoyed hunting, fishing, and mushroom hunting. His family was most important to him!

He is survived by his wife, Karen Huffman of Fort Madison; one son Michael Huffman of Fort Madison; one brother Scott E. Sr. (Luanne) Huffman of Fort Madison; one granddaughter Taylor Huffman, several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister Marcine “Marcy” E. Huffman.

His family will greet friends from 9:30 – 10:30 am Monday, September 28, 2020 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. A memorial service will follow and begin at 11:00 am Monday, September 28, 2020 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, with Pastor Dean Graber officiating. Burial with full military rites will be at Soldiers Circle, Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established for PAWS Animal Shelter, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Masks are requested and social distancing will be observed. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Huffman family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.



HUFFMAN



OBITUARIES

JUNE M. ODELL

June Marie Odell, 84, of Keokuk, IA, died Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at her home.

She was born on June 22, 1936 in Mount Carroll, IL, the daughter of Lee and Dorothy (Randecker) Rogers. She graduated from Mount Carroll High School with the Class of 1954.

She furthered her education at Illinois State University and received her Bachelor’s Degree in Education in 1958.

June had been employed with the Keokuk School District and taught fourth grade at Torrence Elementary School for thirty years, retiring in 2000.

She was a member of the St. Paul United Church of Christ in Keokuk. She was also a member of the Keokuk Area Hospital Auxiliary and spent many hours volunteering at the Hospital.

June enjoyed golfing, walking and playing cards with her friends, especially rummy, poker and bridge. She also enjoyed feeding the squirrels in her backyard and over time they would come up and eat out of her hand. It was said that you couldn’t take the teacher out of June. Her grandchildren would come to her house after school and June would continue their education with “Great-ma” School. After retirement she shared her love of teaching by volunteering at Hawthorne Elementary school. Most of all, June enjoyed spending time with her family.

She is survived by one daughter Dawn (Jeff Arntzen) Bakken of Keokuk, one son, Lee (Julie) Odell of Sherwood, OR, nine grandchildren, Amber (Dustin) Vorwaldt of Wever, IA, Eric (Candice) Pollpeter of Keokuk, IA, Amy (Christopher) Garza of Des Moines, IA, Katie (Bill) Overton of Salem, OR, Megan (Max) Odell of Portland, OR, Hunter Odell of Sherwood, OR, Jordan (Kelsey Skender) Diaz of Fredonia, IA, Madeline Odell of Sherwood, OR and Jonah Diaz of Fort Leonard Wood, MO, seven great-grandchildren, Parker, Logan and Cooper Pollpeter of Keokuk, Cyrus and Odell Garza of Des Moines, James and Elyse Diaz of Fredonia. She is also survived by one sister, Diana (Ralph) Bunday of Brookville, MO and one brother, James Rogers of Cadiz, KY.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

A memorial service will be held on October 17 at 5 pm at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Milo VanVeldhuizen officiating.

Visitation will be held from 3 pm – 5 pm on October 17 at the funeral home with the family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the St. Paul United Church of Christ.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorial-home.com.



ODELL

Pen City Current obituary policy

The 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.

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Volleyball

Holy Trinity, Centra Lee move to SEISC finals at SCC

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – It's been a busy week for the Holy Trinity volleyball team.

Four matches last Saturday in the Keokuk Tournament.

Three matches on Monday in the Crusaders' own tournament.

Two matches in pool play in the SEI Super-conference tournament on Thursday, and more coming in the tournament's final rounds this Saturday.

"It's tough," Holy Trinity coach Melissa Freesmeier said after

Thursday's wins over Lone Tree and Van Buren County. "Every night we're coming out into a dogfight."

The Crusaders, who dropped out of the No. 1 spot and fell to No. 3 in the Class 1A rankings that were released Thursday afternoon by the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union, defeated Lone Tree 25-13, 25-9, then downed Van Buren 25-19, 25-12.

Holy Trinity was coming off a loss to Central Lee on Monday night, and Thursday's matches were a good way to bounce back.



"I thought we cleaned some things up, things we didn't do on Monday night. But the kids kept pushing points," Freesmeier said. "Monday was a little frustrating, but I thought Central Lee played a great match. So we needed to turn it around in two days. I think our kids' mindset is getting there. We're starting to do the things we need to do to score points."

The Crusaders started slowly in the opening match against Lone Tree. They led just 10-9 early, and were up 16-12 before closing the match by scoring nine of the final 10 points. Kassi Randolph had five

kills in that final run as Holy Trinity started to figure out the Lions.

That momentum carried into the second game. Holy Trinity raced to an 11-1 lead with a strong start that included four kills by Claire Pothitakis and four by Natalie Randolph. Leading 22-9, the Crusaders closed the match with a kill and a service ace by Kassi Randolph and a kill from Pothitakis.

Van Buren, which swept Lone Tree in the middle match, kept that momentum going into the match against Holy Trinity, racing to an early 10-7 lead. But the Crusaders scored 12 of the next 14 points to settle in and control the rest of the game.

Holy Trinity took an early 8-1 lead in the second game and never



relinquished control.

"Van Buren's got some hitters in there," Freesmeier said. "We didn't give up any big runs tonight. We just did the little things to run our offense, get things going."

Now the Crusaders head into Saturday's six-team event at Southeastern Community College in West Burlington.

"We need to take care of our side of the net. We need to find the open spots in the defense," Freesmeier said. "We need to consistently serve aggressively, and keep the ball in play. We need to pass the ball well. If we can do all of those things, we have a good chance."

Central Lee girls advance

Central Lee won both

games in their pool play with wins over Hillcrest 25-9, 25-11, and Notre Dame 25-16, 25-23.

Mya Merschman had 23 kills on the night and nine blocks. Abby Wellman had 13 kills and 15 digs for the Lady Hawks. Macy Watkins had 71 assists in the four sets.

Holy Trinity will get a bye in the first round on Saturday as the No. 1 seed. New London will also get a bye as the No. 2 seed. The Tigers will face the winner of WACO (17-1), who popped into the top 15 at No. 13 in Class A, and Central Lee. WACO is 3rd seed and Central Lee is the 6th.

HTC will await the winner of 4th-seed Winfield Mt. Union and 5th seed West Burlington. That match starts the bracket at 4 p.m.

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20% Off All Concrete Equipment

September Reservations Only

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 9/15/2020

The Fort Madison City Council met in adjourned session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Bowker, Miller, Andrews, Lair and Rink. Council Members Morawitz and Cangas were absent. Andrews arrived at 5:39 P.M. Lair participated telephonically.

This meeting was held with Council, staff and some members of the public present but was also available electronically (pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.8) due to social distancing issues because of COVID-19.

On motion, Council approved the agenda. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 9/1/2020, August Manual Claims, Claims dated 9/10/2020, August Financial Report; Payrolls of 8/28 and 9/11/2020; Liquor License Refund of \$211.25 to Holy Trinity Catholic Schools for the Tri-State Rodeo; and Liquor License Renewals: Vel's Amigos, effective 9/22/2020 and Simple Table, effective 10/1/2020.

On motion, Council approved Ordinance No. D-068, amending Title 7, Police, Title 2, Misdemeanors, Section 21, Disorderly Conduct, to revise language defining noise and public urination violations.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-55, approving the filing of an application for the Iowa Department of Transportation's Federal Recreational Trails Program for construction of Connecting Fort Madison! Phase IV - 48th Street Trail Connection. On motion, Council adopted Resolution 2020-56, ordering construction,

setting public hearing and bid letting for PIP 2020-08, Phase 2, Parking Lot Reconstruction and Storm Water Improvements.

On motion, Council accepted the Civil Service Commission's Certified Police Officer eligibility list. On motion, Council approved Change Order No. 3 for PIP 2018-04, Reconstruction of Old Hwy. 61, 2nd to 6th Street, Change Order No. 1 for PIP 2020-01, Parking Lot Reconstruction

EXPENDITURES		REVENUES	9/15/2020
General	\$42,077.79	General	\$222,308.93
Special Revenue	29,721.50	Special Rev.	219,634.15
Road Use	56,077.94	Road Use	26,901.95
Capital	319,541.79	Debt	48,655.67
Water	65,710.51	Water	1,894.06
Sewer	24,213.90	Sewer	2,002.27
Solid Waste/IWC	15,437.26	Solid Waste/IWC	1,068.09
SW Utility	259.98	SW Utility	167.07
	\$553,040.67		\$522,632.19
PAYROLL	8/28/2020	PAYROLL	9/11/2020
General	\$179,201.56	General	\$174,031.24
Employee Bnfts	7,558.10	Marina	632.99
Marina	632.99	Old Fort	3,541.96
Old Fort	4,424.69	Road Use	25,925.98
Road Use	26,086.24	Tourism	1,220.37
Tourism	1,422.08	Water	29,793.35
Water	29,439.02	Wastewater	39,721.05
Wastewater	39,723.80	Solid Waste	11,964.17
Solid Waste	11,432.03	Airport	486.54
Airport	312.77	Storm Water	3,734.51
Storm Water	3,809.18	Total	\$291,052.16
	\$304,042.46		

CLAIMS	SEPTEMBER 15, 2020
ABC FIRE EXTINGUISHER, EXTINGUISHER ANNUAL INSPECTION	106.30
AHLERS & COONEY, PC PROF FEE - WATER REVENUE	1,916.00
AIR ADVANTAGE, AV FUEL	1,870.00
ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC	770.71

and Stormwater Improvements; and Change Order No. 4 for PIP 2018-01, Replacement of Avenue I Over Dry Creek Bridge.

Council discussed the City's financial status and budget. At 7:00 P.M., the meeting adjourned until October 6, 2020, at 5:30 P.M. /s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

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	\$553,040.67		\$522,632.19
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Employee Bnfts	7,558.10	Marina	632.99
Marina	632.99	Old Fort	3,541.96
Old Fort	4,424.69	Road Use	25,925.98
Road Use	26,086.24	Tourism	1,220.37
Tourism	1,422.08	Water	29,793.35
Water	29,439.02	Wastewater	39,721.05
Wastewater	39,723.80	Solid Waste	11,964.17
Solid Waste	11,432.03	Airport	486.54
Airport	312.77	Storm Water	3,734.51
Storm Water	3,809.18	Total	\$291,052.16
	\$304,042.46		

CLAIMS	SEPTEMBER 15, 2020
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, MASKS/LABEL TAPE	209.43
ANSWER IOWA, ANSWERING SERVICE	198.00
ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES, UNIFORM	556.99
AT-SCENE LLC, SUBSCRIPTIONS	2,800.00
ATLAS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, ANY-	

WHERE LICENSE	561.60
BITUMINOUS MATERIALS & SUPPLIES, HFE-90	1,222.27
BLACKBURN MFG CO, PARTS	201.68
BROWN SUPPLY CO. INC., PIN/BEARINGS	204.60
BUILDING MATERIALS INC, BUILDING SUPPLIES	575.04
CITY OF FORT MADISON, LEACHATE DISCHARGE	1,603.82
CORE & MAIN LP, LID	948.76
CULLEN CONSTR. & EXCAVATION, EXCAVATE BLOCKAGE	1,150.00
CULLEN PEST CONTROL, MONTHLY SERVICE	2,013.00
CURE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, MONTH AGREEMENT	3,141.25
DAILY DEMOCRAT, POSTINGS	486.90
DESTATTE, JOHN, COCKADE	53.50
DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, NOTE BOOK-LET/FLAGS	34.36
DOUDS STONE, LLC, ROADSTONE	1,549.57
ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS, BATTERY	41.50
ESO SOLUTIONS, INC., SYSTEM SUPPORT RENEWAL	1,653.15
FASTENAL COMPANY, PARTS	62.03
FLOYD'S E-Z WAY, TRASH PICK UP	466.10
FORT MADISON COMM. HOSPITAL, MEDICAL	293.00
GALL'S, AN ARAMARK COMPANY, FOAM HANDLE	337.35
GREAT RIVER REGIONAL WASTE, TRASH	13,067.07
GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEM, TRASH LINERS	135.92
HACH CHEMICAL CO., TESTING SUPPLIES	1,619.75
HELLIGE LAWN CARE, TRIMMING HEADSTONES	2,550.00
HOLT SUPPLY COMPANY, FLANGE/RED BUSHINGS	34.59
HOLTKAMP FLOORS DECOR & FURNITURE, FLOORING	570.58

HOWARD R GREEN COMPANY, PROF FEE - PARKING LOTS	38,254.05
HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, TRUFUEL OIL	455.79
HUMBURD'S AUTO SERVICE, MOUNT TIRE	143.62
IDEAL READY MIX COMPANY, INC, CONCRETE	3,050.25
IOWA MUNICIPAL WORKERS, COMP INSTALLMENT 3	3,458.00
JONES CONTRACTING CORP, PAY EST - FMCH TRAIL	290,510.83
KEMPKERS TRUE VALUE, PARTS/RENTAL/SHIPPING	1,693.10
KLINGNER & ASSOCIATES, P.C, PRO FEE - DEPOT	9,367.60
LISA WELLMAN, ADOPT-A-GARDEN REIMBURSE	33.47
LISCO, PHONES	2,116.34
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT, INC, PUSH COVER BUTTON	150.53
MADISON TURF & TIMBER KIT-DECK 52"	1,694.70
MARTIN EQUIPMENT, WHEEL	504.40
MASTERCARD, TRAINING EXPENSES	1,860.68
MCFALL, ANDREW, CLOTHING/SAFETY BOOTS	267.47
MCFARLAND, GLOVES	83.94
MCMASTER CARR SUPPLY CO, VALVES/FITTINGS	150.02
MENARD - WEST BURLINGTON, SUPPLIES	289.39
MENKE PROFESSIONAL AUTO PARTS, WIPER BLADES	36.32
MES-MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERV, GEAR REPAIR	952.37
MIGUEL LANDEROS, NUISANCE	110.00
MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, BORED WATER LINE (AIRPORT)	6,850.00
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY COMPANY, METERS/CURB BOX	11,382.75
MWCNC, DRILL SHANK	25.00
O'REILLY AUTO PARTS,	

PARTS/SUPPLIES	826.10
POHLPETER, BILLY, SAFETY BOOTS	149.75
PRO-PAVING LLC, SEAL COAT PROJECT	27,076.50
PRODUCTIVITY PLUS ACCOUNT, DOZER PARTS	1,746.37
QUARRY CREEK ELK AND BISON BOOTS - V SLATER	476.00
SE IA REGIONAL PLANNING COMM, GRANTS - AVE H 6-10	3,000.00
SENSAPHONE, ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	240.00
SERVICE MASTER OF FORT MADISON, JANITORIAL SERVICE	1,267.78
SHIELD TECHNOLOGY CORP, RECORDS LICENSE	2,000.00
SHOTTENKIRK SUPERSTORE, REPLACED HEADLAMP	2,298.90
SINCLAIR TRACTOR, OVER PAYMENT	1,358.71
STANLEY CONSULTANTS INC, PROF FEE - HENRY LADYN	15,420.00
TESTAMERICA INC., WEEKLY TESTING	348.00
TIM'S REPAIR SHOP, TANK/FILTERS	340.81
TRUCK REPAIR INC., STROBE LAMP	157.51
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, MONTHLY SUPPORT	252.50
ULINE, OFFICE SUPPLIES/FURNITURE	1,783.26
UPS, SHIPPING	13.99
USA BLUE BOOK, ELBOW/CASE	241.66
WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED, CHEMICALS	6,488.00
WINDSTREAM, INTERNET/PHONE	249.48
TOTAL	482,180.76
GENERAL	26,756.76
SPECIAL REVENUE	19,418.92

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

ROAD USE.....40,149.45
 CAPITAL PROJECTS
319,541.79
 WATER.....30,544.99
 WASTEWATER
21,906.84
 SOLID WASTE
14,361.42

AIRPORT.....9,240.61
 STORM WATER...259.98
 TOTAL482,180.76

MANUALS - AUG 2020
 ALLIANT ENERGY,
 ELECTRIC.....58,542.96
 DOG WASTE DEPOT,

DOG WASTE BAGS
435.56
 JON BLACKERT, BLACK
 POWDER650
 LISA YEARGIN, REFUND
 PET LICENSE80
 MIGUEL LANDEROS,
 NUISANCE1,483.11

PERMAR SECURITY
 SERVICES, MONTHLY
 SECURITY196.53
 POSTMASTER, FORT
 MADISON, PAST DUE
 WATER BILLS208.25
 RATHBUN REG'L WA-
 TER ASSOC, WATER

.....43.57
 VERIZON WIRELESS,
 HOTSPOTS.....320.08
 WEX BANK, FUEL
 USAGE.....8,899.85
 TOTAL70,859.91
 GENERAL15321.03
 SPECIAL REVENUES

.....1018.4
 ROAD USE.....15928.49
 WATER.....35165.52
 WASTEWATER..2307.06
 SOLID WASTE...1075.84
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
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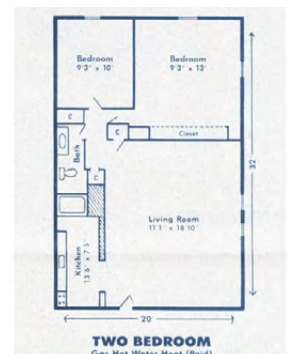
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AUTISM SPEAKS

From the Front

Central Lee will consider if SCC owns building, programming

CENTER - Continued from Page 1

ment. However we do not believe in wasting taxpayer money to purchase and renovate a building that may or may not meet our needs. To that end, Central Lee does not support the Joint Education Center at this time," Crozier's release read.

"We would also need a sound financial model demonstrating how the project is sustainable over time. As of today, the project does not appear to meet this standard."

Fraise said LCEDG's top challenge is workforce and the joint education center is an avenue to increase workforce and training. He said the only thing keeping the project from moving forward is Central Lee's support.

"We are extremely disappointed in that response," Fraise said Thursday afternoon.

"We're concentrating on what's best for kids and the big picture. Everyone of our industries is supportive of the idea and we have letters from all of them. And our board voted today to overwhelmingly support it.

"All we want is that if they don't want to participate - and we want them to be a part of this - but if they don't, then simply do not stand in the way."

Fraise said if Central Lee allowed the project to move forward, the district would not shoulder any costs or risks of the project. He said the port, LCEDG, Fort Madison Economic Development Corp. and Keokuk Economic Development Corp. have all committed to help with funding.

He also said Keokuk and Fort Madison schools would pick up the educational costs of the high school programs.

"We have a viable financial plan. LCEDG, FMEDC and KEDC have all stepped up and put aside funds to allow these programs.

He said the purchase agreement with KL Megla's corporate offices in Germany is ready to be executed.

Fraise said the hope is that all districts in Lee County would be a part of the joint education center as the county is facing dire workforce issues.

"We know where our industry stands. Those 4,000 jobs and \$250 million in wages are our backbone," he said.

"The last couple plant closures Scotts and ConAgra went our way. Others states and communities lost and we gained. But if we don't address this head on, we run the real risk of seeing our industrial base dwindle."

In the last 30 days, the county was informed of 130 layoffs at Siemens-Gamesa and the closing of Bagcraft in October, which will eliminate another 104 jobs.

The joint education facility would be used initially to supplement high school curriculum around building trades, welding, and business programs. Programming is being planned to start in the fall of 2021.

Fort Madison Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater issued a statement Thursday evening after receiving the Central Lee statement from Crozier.

"The planning for a Lee County Joint Education Center has been in the planning stages for over five years. This planning has involved all three public school districts in Lee County, business, industry, Southeastern Community College and Lee County Economic Development Group," she said.

"How extremely disappointing to get to the stage of fruition and read this statement. With our continued focus on what's best for kids, it is our hope that a Joint Education Center for Lee County can continue on its path to provide needed classes and experiences for our youth and for the future of Lee County."

Slater said Wednesday, the reason for relocating the programs, in what has been called a Phase 1, "is that is would be cost neutral for the districts, as the districts already possess the equipment and staff for these programs."

Phase 2 would potentially include programs that don't currently exist in Lee County, in a partnership with Southeastern Community College. The focus would be to create credit bearing courses or academies that would result in concurrent enrollment for students.

All call to SCC President Dr. Michael Ash was unreturned. Fort Madison school board director Dianne Hope said the

center would be a "phenomenal" development.

"This is phenomenal situation for our students to share resources. For the county its quite the development," she said.

Close to 25 county industries participated in a survey assembled by LCEDG and 68% indicated they are having trouble finding qualified workers for open positions.

The 25 employers accounted for 4,146 full time time employees, 31 part time and 330 temporary positions. Forty-eight percent indicated they see a benefit to JEC and SCC's Keokuk Industrial Tech facility working to train future workforce.

The industry officials were also questioned as to how the see their company supporting a program that created a talent pipeline from the JEC to the SCC Keokuk Training Center.

Of the respondents, 91% said they would hire from that pool. Other responses included mentorships (64%), teaching/coaching a class (45%), Internships for high school students (45%), and apprenticeships (50%). Twenty-seven percent said they would support the program financially.

Crozier said he's unaware of any financial support industries.

"There has been no evidence of financial commitment from any industries shared with school districts," he said.

Keokuk Superintendent Christine Barnes said the Keokuk board hasn't approved the memorandum, but will hear more about it at work session on Tuesday.

She said the Central Lee statement was disappointing.

"After all three Lee County Schools have worked together for the past five years on developing a joint education center, this statement is very disappointing," she wrote in an email to Pen City Current Thursday evening.

"The location of this center is ideal for all three districts as well as for their students. This building would have been funded by local business and industry donors, not taxpayer dollars. The possibility of creating a joint Career Technical Education Center in order to bridge the gap between school and work will provide many benefits for both Lee County students and county employers."



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