

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Thursday, February 13, 2020 | 7 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 42



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## SUPERVISORS

### County may ink workforce liability deal

*Formality shares fund responsibility with three other area counties*

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A Lee County Supervisor has asked the county to sign on to a Local Workforce Development Area agreement to share responsibilities under the 2014 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

At Tuesday's Lee County Board of Supervisor's meeting, Rick Larkin, the county's liaison to the board, asked the board to have the agreement put on the next agenda.



LARKIN

More of a formality than anything, but agreement places responsibility for the regional workforce group equally among Des Moines, Lee, Henry and Louisa counties.

The WOIA is a federal law that replaced the previous Workforce Investment Act of 1998 in 2014 under President Barack Obama, as the primary federal workforce development legislation to bring about increased coordination among federal workforce development and related programs.

Larkin said the group has been undergoing some structural changes as the federal and state landscape has changed, and is basically starting from scratch.

He said under the agreement the four counties would share in responsibility for misspent or unrecoverable funds.

"We're starting from scratch and going back and changing the structure of the board. The CEOs, which are the supervisors, are running this and watching over everything," Larkin said.

The group is comprised of supervisor liaisons from each of the four county boards.



### Johnny on the spot

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

City crews work on side streets at Avenue E and 6th Street late Wednesday afternoon as steady snow fell on the city beginning at about 10 a.m. creating some slippery travel in and around the city.

## SCC

### STEMFest on again at SCC Feb. 22

PCC STAFF

WEST BURLINGTON — The annual Southeast Iowa Regional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Festival (STEMFest) will take place at SCC's West Burlington campus on February 22, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The family-friendly event is a joint effort among SCC, the Southeast Iowa STEM Region, the Lee County Economic Development Group, Greater Burlington Partnership, local businesses, manufacturers and area educators.

STEMFest presents careers and opportunities in STEM-related fields through hands-on activities led by exhibitors across the region. Participants explore these pathways through robotics and healthcare simulations, as well as electronics and renewable energy exhibits.

SCC Work-Based Learning Specialist Leanne Krogmeier says this is a great event for everyone in the family.

STEMFest is free and open to the public.

## VOTER REGISTRATION: School has more than 90% of eligible students registered

### FMHS one of nine schools with Catt Award

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

DES MOINES – Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate is encouraging Iowa high schools to conduct voter registration drives on Tuesday, March 3. Every school that registers at least 90 percent of its eligible students to vote receives the Carrie Chapman Catt Award, named after the Iowan who was a national leader in the women's suffrage movement. Nine schools across the state have already qualified for the Catt Award. The deadline for this school year is April 1, 2020.

"Schools are required by state law to conduct voter registration drives, but we want this to be a fun activity and hopefully inspire some competition between

the schools," Secretary Pate said.

A new state law allows 17-year-olds to register to vote in Iowa. Students can also participate in the June primary election if they will be 18 years old on or before the November 3 general election. There are approximately 5,000 17-year-olds registered to vote in Iowa.

"As a former social studies teacher, I applaud this effort to connect with students and build the skills they need to become engaged citizens and lifelong voters," said Ryan Wise, director of the Iowa Department of Education.

Along with March 3 being a significant date in the presidential nominating process in several states, there are dozens of special elections across Iowa that day.

The nine schools that have already

qualified for the Carrie Chapman Catt Award this year include:

- Ballard High School
- Fort Madison High School**
- Isaac Newton Christian Academy (Cedar Rapids)
- South Page High School
- Newman Catholic High School (Mason City)
- Nashua-Plainfield High School
- Prairie High School (Cedar Rapids)
- Rivermont Collegiate (Bettendorf)
- Walnut Creek Campus (West Des Moines)

Three other schools have registered at least 75 percent of eligible students, and eight schools have registered at least 50 percent. They will also receive statewide recognition.

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## WEATHER

THU 13 Feb.....Overcast and Cold, 3.9° F/ 0.2° F  
 FRI 14 Feb.....Clear Skies, 18.6° F/13.5° F  
 SAT 15 Feb.....Light Rain, 33.1° F/ 28.8° F

OpenWeatherMap

## IOWA LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 02/11.....	4 6 32 52 64, Mega Ball: 6	Megaplier: 2
PICK 3 02/11 MIDDAY.....	3 6 5	
PICK 3 02/11 EVENING.....	0 3 0	
PICK 4 02/11 MIDDAY.....	8 0 5 3	
PICK 4 02/11 EVENING.....	1 9 8 6	

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### MARY JO COLE

Mary Jo Cole, 75, of Keokuk, IA died Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at the Ft. Madison Community Hospital in Ft. Madison, IA.

She was born February 8, 1945, in Hardin, IL the daughter of Charles and Jesse Blackorby Foster.

She was united in marriage to Wilburn "Butch" Cole in Keokuk. He preceded her in death on February 7, 2020.

Mary had been employed at Caterpillar and as a CNA throughout the years.

Mary was an avid Elvis fan. She loved trying her luck at the casino and also collected casino coins.

She is survived by one son, Thomas Foster (Kelly Hudson) of Brighton, IA, one daughter, Bobbie Jo Pulliam (Joe) of Bloomington, IL and one step-daughter, Dawn Walters of Madison, WI, four grandchildren, Jesse Foster, James Foster, Kayla Pulliam and Krista Pulliam and one step granddaughter, Victoria Walters, one sister, Ida Mocolan (John) of Peoria, IL and three brothers, Jesse "Frank" Foster (Robin) of Missouri, George "Ted" Foster (Charlotte) of Muscatine, IA and Fred Foster (Linda) of Louisiana.

Besides her husband, she was also preceded in death by her parents, one brother, Tom Foster and one sister, Marguerite Sue Cole.

According to her wishes, there will be no services.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

## OBITUARIES

### THOMAS D. WARD

Thomas "Tommy" Dean Ward was born July 1, 1966 in Chicago, IL to Betty (Schmollinger) Ward and Wayne Ward. He passed away peacefully surrounded by those he loved on February 8th at Blessing Hospital in Quincy.



WARD

He grew up in Chicago with siblings Billy and Cheri. When he was a child the Ward family moved to Keokuk, IA and opened the Gypsy Dell Supper Club. He grew up working in the family business. He worked for many years at Shottenkirk in Fort Madison selling cars to loyal customers in the community. On the weekends, he spent his time keeping customers entertained as a bartender at the Gypsy Dell. Tommy will be forever known to his family as a fantastic storyteller, a barterer, a jokester, a tinkerer, a musician, a prankster, and a loving family man. We all know Tommy never met a stranger and there was never a dull moment when he was around.

He is survived by his life partner Mary Reittinger, two children Alison Ward (Ross Jenkins) of Keokuk and Benjamin Ward at home, granddaughter Amelia Jenkins, stepson Liam Reittinger of Iowa City, one brother William Ward of Keokuk and his cousin Ziggy who is like a brother. Many cousins, nieces, and nephews who all loved him and will miss him very much.

He is preceded in death by his mother Betty, his father Wayne, and his sister Cheryl (Atterberg) Ward.

A celebration of life event will be scheduled for this spring. Funeral arrangements are in care of Duker & Haugh Funeral Home at [www.dukerandhaugh.com](http://www.dukerandhaugh.com).

### GREGORY J. STARK

Gregory John "Buzz" Stark, 58, of Hamilton, IL formerly of Keokuk, died Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at his home.

He was born on May 25, 1961 in Keokuk, IA, the son of Patsy Ruth Stark. He was raised by his mother and his stepfather, Charles Best.

On June 27, 2001, Gregory was united in marriage to Sheila Williams in Keokuk, IA. She survives.



STARK

He is also survived by two daughters, Jessica (Shea) Jones of Hamilton, IL and Amanda (Tony) Smith of Keokuk, three grandchildren, Drake and Abigail Jones both of Hamilton and Cylas Smith of Keokuk, one sister, Audrey Burgess of Kahoka, MO, two brothers, Terry Best and Dennis Best both of Keokuk.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Danny Stark and Charles Lonnie Best.

Over the years Buzz had been employed at Service Master, worked with his brother, Danny in construction and most recently had worked for Meyers Septic and Driveway in Keokuk.

Buzz enjoyed coin collecting, mushroom hunting and going fishing. He was a good mechanic and enjoyed working on cars. Buzz liked to take drives around the area and always traveled the back roads to see places off the beaten path. Most of all, Buzz loved spending time with his grandchildren.

A Gathering of Remembrance to celebrate Buzz's life will be held from 5 pm - 7 pm Friday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with the family meeting with friends at that time. Burial will be at a later date in the Scandinavian Cemetery in rural Keokuk.

Memorials may be made to the family.

On-line condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

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Left to right: Chris, Erin, Judy, Jill, Brian, Shelby, and Desiree



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# Sports

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Weather forces Bloodhounds to forfeit Regional wrestling duals at North Scott

FORT MADISON - The snow that hit the area for most of the day Wednesday forced the Fort Madison Bloodhounds to forfeit their regional dual wrestling match(s) at North Scott.

According to FMHS Activities Director Jeremy Swink, when he informed Iowa High School Athletic Association officials the roads were unsafe in this part of the state he was given two options: forfeit or reschedule for Thursday. With individual districts on Saturday the school opted to forfeit rather than forcing wrestlers from FMHS and the other schools to wrestle that close to districts. Cedar Rapids Kennedy was given the win 1-0 and then North Scott downed CR Kennedy in the finals.

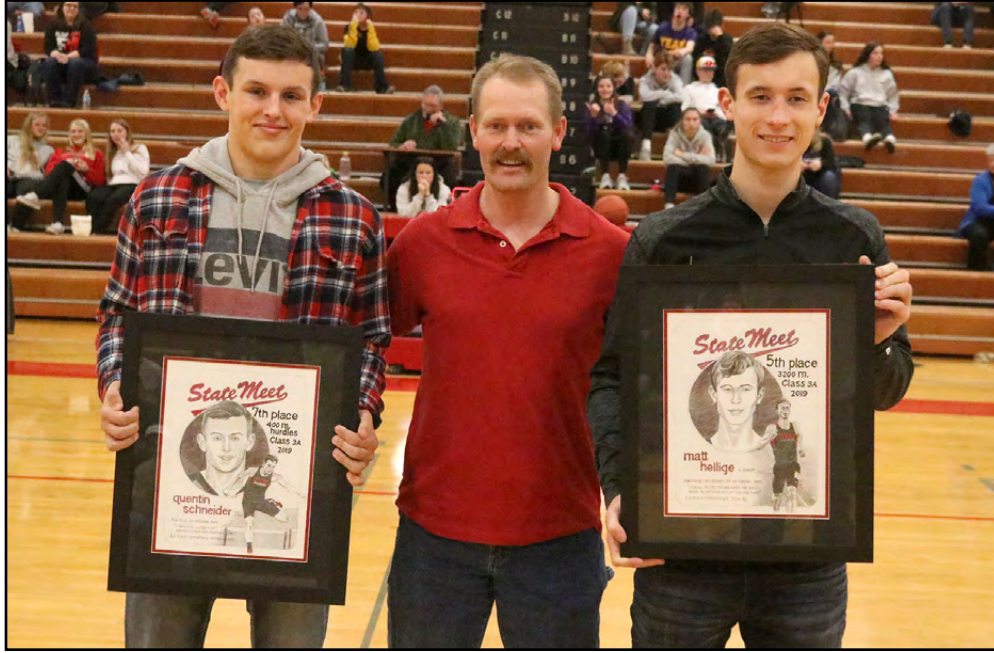


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Quentin Schneider, left, and Matt Hellige, right, stand with their state track meet plaques that will hang in the Fort Madison High School Multi Purpose Room. Schneider finished 7th in the 400 meter hurdles in 2019 and Hellige finished 5th in the 3000 meter run at the state track meet in Des Moines. Co-Head Coach Chad Hannum presented the plaques.

### Hawks edge Cardinal Monday

ELDON - Brayden Wyrick led the Hawks seventh graders with 20 points in a 30-29 win over Cardinal of Eldon on Monday. Hunter Edlin had four points and Drake Weber, Ostyn Moore and Chase Johnson each had two points in the win.

In a 5th quarter Cale Clark scored two points.

On Tuesday, Wyrick again was the top scorer for Central Lee with 17 points. Johnson had six, while Weber and Kegan Damico each had four points.

Central Lee plays at Danville on Feb. 18 and are at home on the 20th vs. Holy Trinity Catholic.

### Hound 8th graders beat Washington

WASHINGTON - Carson Rashid got into double figures Monday night to lead FMMS eighth graders to a 39-32 win over Washington in the 'A' game. Leif Boeding had nine points in the win. Hunter Cresswell, Ben Ramatowski, Nathan Bowen, and Jamarkus Kline each had three points in the win. Cade Denning, Marin Rose, Aiden Benda and Henry Morris all scored two points in the win. Rashid also has seven boards to lead FMMS.

Fort Madison also won the 'B' game behind a nine-point effort of William Bennett. Kline and Oliver Santiago each had four points and Richard Stocker had two. Kline had five rebounds in the game.



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## For the Record

### For the Record

#### Fort Madison Police Report

02/10/20 – 11:35 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 1300 block of Avenue F.  
 02/10/20 – 11:43 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1500 block of 27th Street.  
 02/10/20 – 2:00 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue H.  
 02/10/20 – 4:36 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 3000 block of Avenue N.  
 02/10/20 – 5:14 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1300 block of Avenue F.  
 02/10/20 – 5:31 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4500 block of Avenue O.  
 02/10/20 – 6:28 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1500 block of Avenue H.  
 02/10/20 – 3:48 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Wade Lee Shaffer, 18, of Fort Madison, in the 2200 block of Avenue G, on a charge of domestic abuse assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 02/10/20 – 8:50 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited and released Tracy Lynn Meyers, 52, of Fort Madison, in the 3000

block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.  
 02/11/20 – 4:40 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited and released Tyler Ronald Hatfield, 26, of Keokuk, in the 2600 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.  
 02/11/20 – 8:52 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1900 block of Avenue H.  
 02/11/20 – 12:24 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3200 block of Avenue L.  
 02/11/20 – 12:36 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3900 block of Avenue O.  
 02/11/20 – 1:33 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2500 block of Henry Lady Drive.  
 02/11/20 – 2:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1400 block of 34th Street.  
 02/11/20 – 6:02 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 1500 block of Avenue H.  
 02/11/20 – 11:42 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited and released Daniel Dale Parsons, 58, of Donnellson, in the 2300 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.  
 02/12/20 – 2:08 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited and released Kory M. Postle, 32, of Montrose in the 3000 block

of Avenue N, on charge of driving under suspension.

#### Lee County Sheriff's Report

02/07/20 – 1:54 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 1800 block of Hwy. 61. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Ronald Anthony Ellis, 22, of West Burlington, was headed southbound and left the roadway when he fell asleep. Ellis declined medical treatment. No citations were reported.  
 02/10/20 – 2:06 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Andrew Michael Schweitzer, 36, of Cedar Rapids, at the sheriff's office on a charge of violation of a no-contact order. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 02/11/20 – 1:19 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Andrew Philip Boylan, 26, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office on a charge of being a fugitive from justice. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

#### Hancock County Sheriff's Report

Hancock County Sheriff Scott Bentzinger reports the following arrests for the week of January 27th, 2020 through February 2nd, 2020  
 02/04/20 – Brandon R Lindsay, age 25, of Dallas City, IL was

arrested on a Henderson County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Unlawful Use of a Weapon. Lindsay was released to Henderson County.  
 02/04/20 – Taylor A McCall, age 20, of Keokuk, IA was arrested on a No Valid Driver's License. McCall was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 02/04/20 – Lacey J Preston, age 35, of West Point, IA was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine. Preston was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 02/04/20 – Eddie D Hollis, age 25, of Niota, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Operating an Uninsured Vehicle and Speeding. Hollis was released after given deferred payments and future court date.  
 02/05/20 -Derrick E Aronhalt, age 45, of Washington, IL was arrested on a Tazewell County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Driving While License Revoked and Driving Under the Influence. Aronhalt was also arrested on a Peoria County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure

to pay on original charges of Theft and Driving on a Revoked License. Aronhalt was released to Tazewell County Authorities.  
 02/06/20 – Brian J Slowick, age 48, of Nauvoo, IL was arrested and charged with Violation of Bail Bond. Slowick remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance.  
 02/06/20 – Randy E Hobb, age 33, of Warsaw, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Residential Burglary, Theft, Criminal Trespass to Vehicle, Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Criminal Trespass to Residence. Hobb was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 02/07/20 – Jason L Davis, age 40, of Keokuk, IA was arrested and charged with Disorderly Conduct and Burglary. Davis remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance.  
 02/07/20 -Nathan J Kull, age 40, of Keokuk, IA was arrested on a Hancock County warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/Failure to Pay on original charges of Burglary. Kull was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 02/07/20 – Matthew AL McLaughlin, age 25, of Gibbs, MO was arrested and charged

with Driving While License Revoked and Possession of Methamphetamine. McLaughlin was released on his own recognizance and given a future court date.  
 02/08/20 – Jason M Rowland, age 41, of Fairfield, IA was arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence. Rowland was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 02/08/20 – Steve J Finton, age 37, of Warsaw, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Speeding and Driving Under the Influence. Finton was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 02/08/20 – Robert L Hicks, age 48, of Hamilton, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Criminal Damage to Property and Disorderly Conduct. Hicks remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his initial court appearance. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

#### Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

02/10/20 – Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls and one boat investigation.



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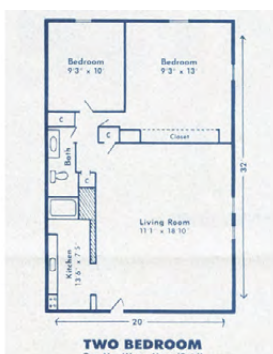
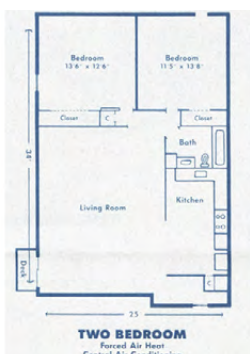
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