



Pen City Current

Friday, February 22, 2019 | 7 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 54

LCEDG takes another public funding hit

County joins cities in further funding reductions for group

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Economic Development efforts in the county suffered another paper cut Thursday when Lee County Supervisors nicked the budget of the Lee County Economic Development Group by \$10,000.

Supervisors have been hinting for several years now that the board should scale back its contribution to the LCEDG.

Supervisor Chairman Gary Folluo said he'd like

to see the county's contribution cut to \$100,000 annually. With the \$10,000 reduction, the county is allocating \$200,000 to the LCEDG in the next budget year beginning July 1, 2019.

"I think Lee County needs to always be involved in economic development, but I would be comfortable getting the contribution of taxpayers down to \$100,000 over time, certainly not all at this time," he said.

The county originally committed \$400,000 per year and that was eventually whittled down to \$210,000 last year.

"This has been kicked around and proposed by several different people over time. With the way the



FOLLUO

state is moving through the legislature, the backfill is in jeopardy every year. That fund will probably be around \$180,000 for us."

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Folluo originally proposed cutting the funding \$25,000 on Thursday. He said he knows next year the state funding level to the county will drop, as well as other bills in front of the legislature that could hurt rural and general basic county funding.

Folluo said the LCEDG is getting more participation from industries and businesses in Lee County, which was the goal when they set the program up. The fund-

See FUNDING, page 5



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

He's baa-aaack

Former Fort Madison High School vocal director Allen Chapman made a special guest appearance at the Show Choir rehearsal Thursday night at FMHS. Chapman is back as part of the 30th anniversary of the high school's show choir program. See Sunday's Pen City Current for the rest of the story.

Winter squeezing city, county snow removal budgets

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – With chances of snow around 30% each day for Sunday through Thursday, according to the National Weather Service, city and county officials are hoping for the lighter end to ease the squeezing of snow removal budgets.

County Engineer Ben Hull said this year has been hard on his snow and ice control budget, and on staff.

"Generally, we had budgeted for snow and ice control at \$221,000 this year and so far this year we've spent \$300,000 and that doesn't include the snow we had this weekend," Hull said Thursday afternoon.

He said the secondary roads budget is in line but that specific line item is taking a hit. Hull said they started the winter with just under 200 tons of salt and contracted for 1,450 tons more. To date, county crews have used right at 1,600 tons of salt on county roads, when over the past 10 years the county has averaged around 950 tons. Hull put in an order for more salt last week.

"This is historical salt usage. This year is the most we've used in 10 years, with the next highest being last year when we put down 1,250," he said.

"With the frequency and varying types of precipitation and temperatures, we've had a bigger impact on

See WINTER, page 3

YMCA readies for annual Shamrocked event

Pancakes, pedals, and pubs on the slate for March 16th

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison YMCA will host their second annual "Shamrocked" Breakfast,

Bike & Brew event on Saturday, March 16th starting at 8:00am at the Fort Madison Elks Lodge and ending at 4:00pm at Kinnick South with awards following.

The Pancake Breakfast will kick off the event at the Fort Madison Elks Lodge from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The breakfast is open to the public and is offered at a

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OBITUARIES

DAVID W. CAMPBELL

David W. Campbell, 53, of Nauvoo, Illinois, passed away at 6:41 p.m. Monday, February 18, 2019.



CAMPBELL

Born January 12, 1966, in Los Angeles, California, the son of Neal and Nancy (Tomer) Campbell.

Survivors include his wife: Roberta Damon; son: Chancellor Campbell; his parents: Neal and Nancy of Nauvoo, Illinois; sister: Christian Campbell – Cluff of Fischers, Indiana.

David was an avid animal lover.

A Celebration of his Life will be held for friends and family at 6:00 p.m. Friday, February 22, 2019 at his sister's home, 185 Robinson Street, Nauvoo, Illinois.

In memory of David's love of animals a memorial has been established to Villalobos, a pitbull rescue.

Schmitz – Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.sbbfuneral-home.com.

ALICE I. GABEL

Alice I. Gabel, 80, of Donnellson, passed away on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 10:35 AM at the Great River Medical Center.



CAMPBELL

She was born on May 27, 1938 in Lewistown, MO to Hugh and Naomi Cain LaVelle. On June 27, 1959 she married Everett J. Gabel at Sacred Heart Church in Ft. Madison. Alice and her husband farmed together for numerous years. She also was a bus driver and cook for Central Lee School and also worked at Hy-Vee, Ajax and Sheaffer Pen. Co. She was a member of Sacred Heart Church and enjoyed needlework, sewing and country music. Her great love was being on the farm and spending time with her family.

Survivors include her husband, Everett Gabel of Donnellson; two daughters, Barb (Flavian) Boeding of West Point and Janet (Craig Fedler) Hellweg of West Point; one grandson, Justin Knight of Donnellson; two sisters, Stella (Jack) Smith of St. Peters, MO and Dorothy Menge of Jacksonville, IL; nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son in law, Marty Hellweg; two brothers, Tommy and Jerry LaVelle and a sister, Jean Schneider.

The family will meet with friends on Sunday, February 24, 2019 from 2-4 PM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. There will be a rosary recited at 4 PM at the funeral home. The funeral mass will be held at 10:30 AM on Monday, February 25, 2019 at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. Burial will follow in Everhart Cemetery, rural Donnellson.

A memorial has been established for Everhart Cemetery and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries 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.

Denning named to Forbes top advisors list

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – Joshua R Denning, CRPC®, CLTC® a Private Wealth Advisor with Ameriprise Financial in Fort Madison, was named to the list of “Best-in-State



DENNING

Wealth Advisors” published by Forbes magazine. The list recognizes financial advisors who have demonstrated high levels of ethical standards, professionalism and success in the business.

The rankings are based on data provided by over 11,000 of the nation's most productive advisors. Denning was chosen based on assets under management, industry experience, regulatory and compliance record and revenue produced over a three-year period.

Denning is part of Joshua Denning & Associates a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

Denning graduated from St. Ambrose College with a degree in Finance/Economics

As a Private Wealth Advisor, Denning provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and provided in one-on-one relationships with his clients. Denning has 21 years of experience with Ameriprise Financial. For more information, please contact Joshua R Denning at 319-372-8923 or visit the Ameriprise office at 701 Avenue G, Fort Madison, IA. You can also visit ameriprise.com or ameripriseadvisors.com/joshua.r.denning.

United Way hosting 9th annual spaghetti dinner

KEOKUK - It's Spaghetti Time!! United Way of the Great River Region is hosting its 9th annual Spaghetti Dinner at Hawkeye Restaurant on Monday, March 11th. There are two dine-in seating options available: 5:00-6:30 pm and 6:30-8:00 pm. or carry out/drive thru 5:00-6:30 pm and 6:30-8:00 pm. Dinner includes spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread stick, small side salad, a delicious homemade dessert and drink and will be served by our “celebrity” wait staff. There will also be a wine pairing available for purchase from Hawkeye Restaurant.

Tickets are available at United Way of the Great River Region office (511 Blondeau) in Keokuk, United Way Resource Center in Fort Madison (3421 Avenue L), as well as any UWGRR Board members and staff.

WP Library hosting WWI display

The West Point Public Library will host the World War I Honor Roll traveling display March 7 – April 4 during regular hours. This display features thousands of names and corresponding photos the State Historical Society collected from Iowa families who lost loved ones during the war.

The society sent out an initial call, in 1920, and again in 2017 to shore up the official records during the war's 100th anniversary. This display is the results of that research as well as a tribute to a generation of Iowans who sacrificed their lives to the cause of freedom.

To learn more about the display and Iowa's World War I casualties go to iowaculture.gov/honorroll.

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For the Record/Lottery Numbers

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

02/19/19 – 9:12 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Howard Green Burgess II, in the 1900 block of Avenue E, on a warrant for probation violation and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 02/19/19 – 10:05 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Kelsey Jane Bunker, 27, of Galesburg, Ill., in the 4900 block of River Valley Road. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 02/19/19 – 6:34 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 3100 block
 02/20/19 – 3:40 a.m. – Fort

Madison Police cited Jessica Kay Allen, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of Avenue G. She was released upon citation.
 02/20/19 – 3:16 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a shoplifter in the 1800 block of Avenue H.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

02/19/19 – 11:05 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 1900 block of 235th Avenue. A vehicle driven by Perry Thomas Schneider, 19, of Fort Madison, slid on slippery road conditions and struck a 911 sign, a mail box, and county traffic sign.

No injuries or citations were reported at the scene.
 02/19/19 – 2:09 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Douglas Anthony Schreiber, 26, of St. Paul, in the 700 block of Avenue F in Fort Madison on a warrant for violation of parole. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 02/20/19 – no time listed – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Vincent Edward Crayton, 49, of Fort Madison, at Wever Junction, on a warrant for fraudulent practice between \$1,000 and \$10,000. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

City, county both had to order more salt

WINTER - Continued from Page 1

supplies, staff, and funds.”

Fort Madison Public Works director Larry Driscoll said he's at about 81% of his budget for snow and ice removal.

“The city did buy about \$25,000 worth of salt this year, Driscoll said. “We did have 700 tons of salt on hand before the winter season and we are down to 100 tons of salt or about three more snow events.”

Driscoll said snow storms with 1 inch of snow typically cost the city about \$7,500. Each storm that is over two inches costs the city about \$11,500, and anything over three inches is about \$15,000.

“The cost to clean the downtown area is \$4,500 and that is completed when we have 3” or more. My snow budget is \$100,000 and that will be for salt, sand, fuel, manpower, and when we hire someone to help haul the snow away,” Driscoll said.

Hull said county snow removers have worked a lot of overtime keeping the county's roads clear. At one point he said staff worked 25 out of 26 days and some of those days were 14 hour days. Crews will come into work at 4:30 a.m. and sometimes be on the road until 6 p.m.

Hull said staff has been battling the snow for about seven weeks in a row, even on days when there is no snow to remove.

“Until this past week, it's been seven weeks solid battling this,” he said. “The other days from not having to push snow and ice, we've been hauling salt and sand for replenishment.”

The county also had a snow plow tip on its side after sliding on icy conditions, but Hull said that didn't affect the budget too heavily. He said the truck had light body damage but had to have some fluids and things checked from the spill.

He said the overall roads budget is still in line.

“It doesn't mean the overall budget is blown,” Hull said. “We budget across several categories across several years and pro-rating salaries. Some of that salary we used on snow removal would have been spent elsewhere. But overtime from the storms that occurred over the weekend added to our salary line.”



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Lotto America SM	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



2/20

27 49 50 51 52
 Powerball: 2
 Power Play: 2



2/20

12 15 16 21 46
 Star Ball: 7
 All Star Bonus: 3



2/20 MID-DAY

9 1 1

2/20 EVENING

8 0 9



2/20 MID-DAY

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Sports/Current-Lee



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison YMCA Sailfish State Qualifiers will be heading to Marshalltown, Iowa to compete March 2nd and 3rd. 10 qualifiers with 21 individual events and 1 relay between them. Pictured left to right: Max Dixon; Rowan Benda; Karson Dixon; Will Hayes; Kadence Gobble; Abby Steffensmeier; Olivia Kraus; Isabella Patton, and Brynlee Dixon. Not pictured: Jacob Mohrfeld.

CURRENT-LEE

FORT MADISON – The following is a list of events and happenings going on in Fort Madison as submitted to en City Current.

State Farm – Thomas Klann Agency announces February “Quotes for Good”

State Farm – Thomas Klann Agency is excited to help out another Non-Profit Organization in our community. In February 2019 we will be giving back to Lee County K-9 Association by donating \$5 for every new Auto Insurance Quote in the month of February 2019. So tell all your non-State Farm family/friends/coworkers to reach out to us for a quote and share this event to spread the word! If you are a current State Farm auto insurance customer, reach out to us for a Life Insurance or Disability Income conversation and we will donate \$5 for that also. Contact Jess or Sam at 319-372-5982, 2623 Ave L Fort Madison, or email: jess@fortmadisoninsurance.com or samantha@fortmadisoninsurance.com.



YMCA's Shamrocked registration ends March 1

YMCA - Continued from Page 1

free will donation. Proceeds from the breakfast will assist in the upkeep and maintenance of the Fort Madison YMCA facility.

Bikers participating in the Bike & Brew will meet at the Fort Madison Elks Lodge at 10:30am and bike to the Cabaret to participate in the St. Paddy's Day Parade. From there, participants will ride to a number of locations in Fort Madison where they will complete challenges such as fun tasks or answer trivia questions. Ultimately ending the ride at Kinnick South where prizes will be awarded to the winning teams.

Cost to participate in the Shamrocked Bike & Brew is \$50 for teams of 5 or \$15 per person.

Early registration is open now through March 1st, forms are available at the YMCA or online at www.fortmadison.org. Registration will remain open through 10:30 a.m. on the day of the event.

Call Noah Dean, Program Director, at 319-372-2403 or visit the Fort Madison YMCA's website or Facebook page for more information.

Got a news tip?
Call Chuck (319)371.1670

Kindergarten Kick-Off

Learn more about your child's educational opportunities for the 2019-2020 school year.



Kindergarten Round-Up Day

- Friday, March 8th at HTC Elementary in West Point
- Please call Eileen at 319-837-6131 ext. 106 to schedule a one hour appointment for you and your child.

Kindergarten Information Night

- Tuesday, February 26th at 6:30 p.m. at HTC Elementary in West Point
- Join our kindergarten teachers and other parents for an opportunity to learn more about the advantages of Holy Trinity Catholic and our new state-of-the-art elementary school.



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Founded in 2016



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From the Front

LCEDG has lost \$60K in public funding over two years

FUNDING - Continued from Page 1

ing stream of LCEDG is set up for a private/public partnership.

"We're in our second five-year stint of raising funds and we've had good participation and it exceeds that past five years."

Dennis Fraise, chief operating officer for LCEDG, said after the meeting the cut brings the total of public contribution cuts to \$60,000 in the past year. Fort Madison cut its contributions by \$25,000 last year and then didn't make that contribution and Keokuk followed suit cutting its contribution by \$25,000.

"The flip side of that is in our capital campaign we were gonna increase from \$1.3 million to \$1.45 million," Fraise said.

But he said LCEDG will be paying \$50,000 this year for site preparation studies to get a 2nd certified site underway in Lee County. A current site managed by the Fort Madison Economic Development Corporation is also working toward state site certification. The only currently certified site in southeast Iowa is in Middletown near the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant.

According to the Iowa Economic Development Authority, a credentialed Iowa Certified Site has relevant site-related data and documentation accumulated and is designated as "development ready".

LCEDG board chair Dave Schwartz said the group was empathetic to budget constraints.

"Going forward that's

part of our ability to reach and do what we can do to represent Lee County in a lot of different facets. So I guess, if minimize is the right word, we'd like to go forward with as much of our budget as we can," Schwartz said.

He said the uptick in participation from private sources is attributable to the work being done and cited the Iowa Fertilizer Co. as a product of that.

Board member Jenny Steffensmeier cautioned the board on not pulling back on the momentum that LCEDG and the county is seeing in terms of economic develop-

ment.

"My two cents is that we have momentum going right now. It feels like we have traction and buy-in and some really important work that's being done," she said. "And I haven't been around all these years, but who was doing this before. If we're not doing it, who's doing it?"

Fraise also said LCEDG has great momentum right now.

"I guess my charge would be if there's ever a time to keep your foot on the gas, I think this is it from a workforce standpoint, and from a traction stand point," he said. "We have great momentum right now. Our public/private partnership is outstanding and a real model for the state and I



FRAISE

“

I think Lee County always needs to be involved in economic development, but I would be comfortable getting the contribution of taxpayers down to \$100,000 over time, certainly not at this time.”

-Gary Folluo,
Chairman, Lee County Supervisors

would like to see us continue that momentum," he said.

Supervisor Ron Fedler recommended a compromise and suggested the \$10,000 cut instead of a \$25,000 cut.

Supervisor Rick Larkin, who ended up voting for the cut, said he didn't think the time was right to be adding additional cuts to the board, especially in light of the work being done and the other cuts from public groups.

"You know the governor doesn't come down here once or twice a year just because we're doing economic development, but because we're doing the best economic development in the state," Larkin said.

"Just thinking economic development from public and private sectors, I think that's a good combination and sends a positive message. And I don't think we should be cutting their budget right

now."

In other action, the board reduced the Department of Veterans' Affairs budget by reducing some travel expenses that Folluo said were a little inflated, amounting to about \$2,000.



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Must enjoy working outside, gardening and harvesting. Will direct garden activities with other volunteers and may require some bending, stooping and lifting of 10 lbs. or less...Times: 1 hour, 2 times per week.

If interested and for more information, please call – Tammy at 319-372-8043.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health, education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Hancock, and Lee Counties.

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United Way of the Great River Region

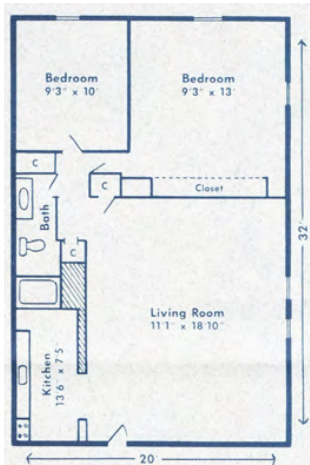
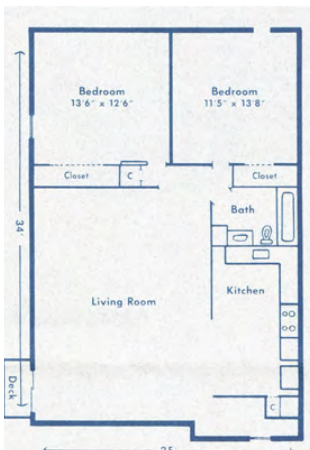
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Education News/Weather

SCC foundation offering \$400K in scholarships

WEST BURLINGTON - The Southeastern Community College Foundation is accepting scholarship applications for students who plan to attend SCC in the fall of 2019. The deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m., March 1.

The Foundation has more than 500 scholarships totaling an estimated \$400,000 available to students for the upcoming school year.

Anyone who plans to attend or is considering attending SCC in the fall is encouraged to apply by visiting SCC's homepage at www.scciowa.edu.

"About 60% of students who apply receive an award, which are much better odds than most scholarships," explains Becky Rump, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. "Just one hour spent completing the application could get you an award." Scholarships range in size from \$500 to full tuition and books and are available to a wide variety of students. Awards are categorized by program of study, county of residence, academic accomplishment, financial need, minority group, career goal, and more.

Rump continues that the SCC Foundation's online application automatically matches qualifying students with funding opportunities.

"You don't have to sift through all 500 scholarships and fill out multiple forms. Just apply once, and you're matched with a scholarship. Maybe two!"

To be considered for funding, an applicant must, in addition to completing the online application: 1) provide at least one email address of a qualified individual who will write a reference letter; 2) submit a copy of their latest educational transcripts to the college's Enrollment Services office; and 3) complete the online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Rump warns that the number one reason applications are rejected is because they are incomplete. Applicants ought to double-check their applications for complete information before submitting, and check in with the person selected to write a referral to make sure they complete the letter.

Questions about SCC Foundation scholarships can be directed at any time to Julie Glasgow at (319) 208-5062 or jglasgow@scciowa.edu.

For complete scholarship details and to find a link to the online application head to https://www.scciowa.edu/foundation/sccf_scholarships.aspx.

For more news or to learn about Southeastern Community College, visit: <http://www.scciowa.edu/rss/news/index.html>.

Alliant grant helps fund ISU digital lab

AMES - Many companies are hesitant to embrace new business methods and technologies that could improve and expand their business. The new ISU Digital Manufacturing Lab powered by Alliant Energy will provide Iowa manufacturers a place to experiment with new approaches in a risk-free setting.

A grant from Alliant Energy will fund the efforts conducted by Iowa State University's Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS). CIRAS will open the new lab this summer in the ISU Research Park. Alliant Energy will use the space to provide advice and counsel to businesses, while also collaborating with ISU faculty and students on research opportunities and internships.

"Affordability and success go hand-in-hand," says Terry Kouba, president of Alliant Energy's Iowa energy company.

"When our industrial and commercial customers are more successful, it gives us greater flexibility to control costs for all of our customers."

"The next new idea or machine could hold the key to success that a growing company needs," said Joel Schmidt, vice president of business development for Alliant Energy.

"This lab provides the perfect opportunity to refine a new approach before it is introduced into the workplace."

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

FRI 22 Feb

Clear
High- 31.0° F | Low - 27.3° F

SAT 23 Feb

Light Snow
High- 35.2° F | Low - 33.5° F

SUN 24 Feb

Light Snow
High- 27.6° F | Low - 13.9° F

MON 25 Feb

Clear
High- 13.1° F | Low - 11.8° F

TUE 26 Feb

Light Rain
High- 36.9° F | Low - 25.4° F

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