



# Pen City Current

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2019 | 8 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 42

## Depot move chopped in charged budget session

*Greenwald says move hurts city: "Shut her down...board her up."*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The proposed new Amtrak depot in Riverview Park was just one of many budget items that fell victim to a suffocating city budget.

In an emotionally charged marathon budget workshop lasting more than three hours, the Fort Madison City



GREENWALD

Council carved out expenditures that put about \$500,000 back into the city's general fund.

The relocation of the Amtrak Depot came front and center quickly when Councilman Chad Cangas said he was ready to wash his hands of the Amtrak depot.

"I just haven't seen the commitment from Amtrak to this community to invest any more money in that project," Cangas said at the beginning of the meeting.

City Manager David Varley had proposed several options including abandoning the depot project, closing Old Fort, cutting staff, trimming budgets, and reclaiming a

\$177,000 revolving loan fund for the general fund.

Dumping the depot puts about \$350,000 back into the city's general fund, which Varley said was in dire condition.

Of that money, \$91,500 will be saved from Quality of Life bonds and that money has to be earmarked in the budget for parks and other quality of life expenditures. \$135,000 will go back to the city's hotel/motel tax funds, \$200,000 was allocated from the proposed 2019/20 fiscal year budget and will be left in the budget. There was \$63,500 that was already spent on engineering fees through a grant that will have to be reimbursed out of the

See CUTS, page 6



Photo by Tyler French/Radio Keokuk

Flames shoot from the backside of Keokuk City Hall Tuesday night. Fire broke out in the building at approximately 7:30 p.m. The first floor is considered a loss, but some computer equipment was saved. Staff will meet tomorrow at 8 a.m. in the parking lot.

## Monday fire damages Keokuk City Hall

Courtesy of Radio Keokuk

KEOKUK – According to Radio Keokuk, the Keokuk City Hall crews are on the scene assessing damage as a result of a fire that started in the

back of the building at about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday night.

Keokuk Mayor Tom Richardson is on the scene. Preliminary information is that firefighters were able to contain the

fire to the back portions of the building, but there is substantial smoke and water damage. Radio Keokuk personnel on the scene said the fire appeared to be extinguished at 8:15.

The entire first floor was determined to be a total loss, but computer servers were saved. The city staff has scheduled an 8 a.m. meeting Wednesday morning in the parking lot.

## Computer glitch hampers stand-off with gunman

*Law enforcement waits almost three hours for search warrant*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – A computer update is to blame for a delay in getting an emergency warrant issued in a police stand-off in Keokuk early Tuesday morning.

Lee County Attorney Ross Braden brought the issue to Lee County Supervisors at Tuesday's regular meeting.

Keokuk police were dispatched to the 100 block of S. 19th Street in Keokuk shortly before 11 p.m. Monday night responding to a domestic abuse call involving a gun.

Upon arrival, the Lee County Sheriff's Department, Iowa State Patrol and Tactical Response Units were called to the scene. Law enforcement at the scene then contacted Braden for a warrant at about 12:45 a.m. Tuesday.

Braden said he attempted to file a search warrant request using a remote access to his county files via a laptop computer. He said the warrant request had to be forwarded to Keokuk Police Department where District B Judge Clinton Boddicker was on site to review and authorize the warrant.



BRADEN

See BRADEN, page 2

### Advertiser Index

Classifieds .....	P.5
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry .....	P.5
Great River Regional Waste Authority .....	P.8
Griffin Muffler & Brake Center .....	P.8
Harvestville Farm Mercantile .....	P.2
Lee County Health Department .....	Ps.7-8
Pilot Grove Savings Bank .....	P.4
Professional Services .....	P.5
Test Kitchen Education Foundation .....	P.3
The Kensington .....	P.2

### News Index

Area News .....	P.2
Business News .....	P.3
Current-Lee .....	P.8
From the front .....	Ps.2,6
Local News .....	Ps.3,6
Lottery Numbers .....	P.8
Obituaries .....	P.2
<b>–Noble D. Hadnot</b>	
Sports .....	P.4
Weather .....	P.6

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## Obituaries/From the Front

# County attorney denied access to county server

**BRADEN** - Continued from Page 1

But Braden said his request was blocked by a restricted access message from Lee County servers. He then went to his office in Fort Madison to send the message from there.

"I thought it was a remote issue so I went to my office at 2 in the morning," Braden said "Thinking I would surely be able to log into my computer in my office and I could get it into the hands of the Keokuk PD, the chief and the judge. Meanwhile there was an armed person who allegedly discharged a firearm in a house at or in the direction of his live-in girlfriend.

Braden said when he got to his office, he received the same message and couldn't get access to files, so he had to go back home to West Point where he was able to piece together a warrant from some formats he had on his laptop and sent them via his personal email account to the Keokuk police department.

He said the process took about two hours to get the warrant in the right hands.

After investigating the issue Tuesday, Braden said the county server had been set to do updates from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m., and that has been corrected to allow him and select others to have access during those times.

"I think it was an oversight that was immediately remedied once the issue came up," he said. "This is the first time since we began allowing remote access, that the issue has come up."

Lee County Chief Deputy Will Conlee, who was on the scene, said the girl in the house was able to escape, so the warrant was needed to enter the premises and secure the weapon.

Braden said the weapon the girl described was an AK-47 assault rifle.

"We can't have that where in the middle of the night our access is limited and our guys are out there with a gunman," Braden said.

## OBITUARIES

# NOBLE D. HADNOT

Noble D. Hadnot, 74, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 8:06 p.m. on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at Bellevue Medical Center in Bellevue, NE.

He was born on October 14, 1944 in San Angelo, TX to Cecil & Emma Belle McGill Hadnot. He married Inez M. Washington on June 30, 1973 in San Angelo, TX.



HADNOT

He was a barber, carpenter and roofer in his younger years and retired as a mechanic at the Dial Corporation in Fort Madison in 2008. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was a Deacon of Holy Spirit Christian Church in Fort Madison. He enjoyed gardening, fishing & hunting.



Noble is survived by: his wife: Inez Hadnot of Fort Madison, IA; 1-son: James Smith of San Angelo, TX; 3-daughters: Kentasha (James) Ferris of Hutchinson, KS, Mariah Hadnot of San Angelo, TX & Zina Franklin of San Angelo, TX; several grandchildren, including Afeni Magnus, Mercedes Magnus, Isaiah Phillips, twins Noble Phillips and Joshua Phillips, & Emma Belle Phillips; several great grandchildren, including Felicity Irvin & Persophone Irvin; 1-sister: LaFaune Porter of Houston, TX & 2-nieces: Jacqueline Trahan & Raina Porter; 2-sister-in-laws: Mary Floyd & Theronne Washington; 2-brother-in-laws: Eddie Washington & Lucious Washington, Jr; 2-cousins: Carolyn Caywood & Sherry Bell and a host of family & friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; 1-sister: Myrtiss Holmes; his in-laws: Inez & Lucious Washington; 2-brother-in-laws: David Washington & Douglas Washington and 2-sister-in-laws: Gloria Campbell & Barbara Washington.

The family will receive friends from 11:00 to noon on Friday, February 8, 2019 with the funeral service to immediately follow at noon at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory in Fort Madison with Pastor Hosea Winters officiating.

His body will be cremated following the funeral service and burial will take place at a later date in San Angelo, Texas. A memorial has been established in Noble's memory. Online condolences to Noble's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

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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.

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## Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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**Business News**

# River Rocks opens today in Kingsley

*The Palms owners move into former Atlas, Alphas location*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A new eatery will throw open its doors just off the banks of the Mississippi River Wednesday.

River Rocks, the newest occupant of the bar and restaurant at the former Kingsley Inn, will be open starting 11 a.m. Wednesday with a sit down menu with bar food and dinner selections.

Danielle Keefe and Brett Matlick of Keokuk are the owner/operator of the eatery. Keefe said there's an excitement in the air about something new downtown and on the east side of Fort Madison. The two also operate The Palms restaurant on the west side of town.

Matlick said he came down and saw the view out the window over the Mississippi and was hooked on the idea.

"I didn't want to compete with The Palms so we're not going to do steaks or seafood or anything like that, but I came down and looked out the window and said, 'Oh man, I gotta try it. Look at that view,'" Matlick said.

He said he came upon the idea after someone from the Fort Madison Lions Club mentioned the space was open.

"That was in December and here we are six weeks later ready to open."

In addition to the bar and food, the two are adding a game room to the north end of the restaurant.

"That's kind of a neat thing we're adding so if parents bring the kids and the parents want to chat for a while the kids can go back there and play."

Keefe said the menu will consist of quicker foods like burgers, chicken sandwiches, and wings but they will have some different items like the "overgrown potatoes" which are a baked potato that can be stuffed with a different variety of toppings.

"We are doing our own take on pho which is a vietnamese soup with rice noodles typically with beef or chicken. Plus it's on the healthier side like our impossible vegan burger. It's the first time we've tried anything like this," she said.

She said the menu will be changed up frequently.

"We can always add things to it later. It's nothing to change these menus up. I want to do some combos with a soup/salad or other combinations like that for lunch," Keefe said.

Matlick said the east side of the restaurant will be more of a sports bar feel, while the west side will be



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

From left to right Brett Matlick, Danielle Keefe, Isaac Seay, Jamessa Erb, and Sarah Campbell, get ready for a Wednesday opening in downtown Fort Madison. Matlick and Keefe are the owner/operators of the establishment which will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

“*I didn't want to compete with The Palms, so we're not going to do steaks or seafood or anything like that, but I came down and looked out the window and said, 'Oh, man - I gotta try it.' Look at that view.*”

-Brett Matlick, owner River Rocks

the sitdown restaurant.

The bar will be fully stocked with six draught beers with four dedicated to local Iowa craft beers. The other three will have regular domestic pilsners.

Initially, River Rocks will be open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Keefe said they want to react to the business flow and the hours may change at some point.

Happy hour is from 3 to 5 p.m. with drink specials.

A ribbon cutting has been set for 10 a.m. on Feb. 15. The event will be a joint ribbon-cutting with the new Kingsley Inn BNB style hotel that is also close to opening on the other side of the building.

She said staff will probably be 15 to 16 people including hostesses and kitchen staff. The restaurant will also offer catering, private parties and take out orders.

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**Sports**

# Nikes shake off Holy Trinity in second half



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Holy Trinity's Adam Rauenbuehler leans in on a Notre Dame defender in the second half of Monday's loss.

*Crusaders trailed by just four with seconds left in first half*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A gritty first half wasn't enough for the Crusaders as Burlington Notre Dame rolled to an 80-49 win in Southeast Iowa Superconference boys basketball action Monday.

The Crusaders trailed by four 29-25 with under a minute left in the first half as some soft shooting by the Nikes and some physical play inside by Holy Trinity kept the game close. But a 3-pointer by Notre Dame's Nick Skerik from the right baseline with about four seconds left pushed the lead to seven going into the locker room.

The bucket seemed to take the wind out of the Crusaders sails, and spur the Nikes in the second half as they rolled to a 21-12 third quarter advantage.

Junior Reed Fehseke who put in 20 on Friday night was held to just two points on the night. The Nikes played a stingy man to man defense and Holy Trinity couldn't get Fehseke any open looks.

With Notre Dame keeping an eye on Fehseke on the perimeter, the Crusaders were able to rotate the ball around to senior Blake Crabtree, who was able to get off three 3-balls in the second half, but HTC couldn't get much going offensively the rest of the night.

"I thought we played a really good first half and then we gave up that three at the end," Head Coach John Hellige said.

"We just wanted the kids to play with some grit tonight and I thought they did that. We're down 30 points with less than a minute to go and I've got kids diving on the floor after the ball. If we have that effort against

any teams outside of Notre Dame, New London, WACO we're in those games."

Notre Dame jumped out to a quick 15-7 lead in the first quarter and then the teams traded buckets for the final two minutes of the opening period for a 21-11 Notre Dame lead.

But HTC was able to navigate a 3/4 press the Nikes used for most of the second half to score in transition and cut the lead to four in the second period outpacing the Nikes 12-6.

Junior Quentin Schneider led Holy Trinity with 14 points including going 6-of-9 from the free throw line. Crabtree finished with 13 points.

Junior Matt Hellige fouled out with about three minutes left in the game and scored seven points on the night. Adam Rauenbuehler went 5-10 from the free throw line and finished with seven points. Senior Kyle Bredemeyer had four points and Brant Holtkamp finished with two on the night.

Axel Tjaden led four Notre Dame players in double figures with 20 points. Riley Koenig had 17.

Holy Trinity takes on Central Lee on the road tonight in a boys jv/varsity matchup with games beginning at 6 p.m.



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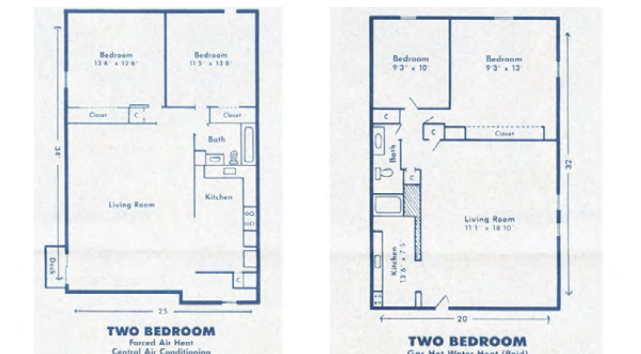
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## From the Front/Weather

# City Council sharply limits external spending from budget

**CUTS** - Continued from Page 1

savings.

The city's minimum working capital in the proposed budget stood at \$350,000, which Varley said wasn't enough to cover one month of cash flow. Closing the depot puts that working capital back at \$732,067.

Councilman Matt Mohrfeld indicated if the council voted on the depot at that point, it would fail. "That depot's really cool,

but when it comes right down to it, we're not going to pass it. I guarantee you there's four people that don't think we have the money for it, that also think it's very cool," Mohrfeld said.

After Mohrfeld's comment Mayor Brad Randolph, who has championed the depot relocation and made a commitment to former Mayor Steve Ireland to see the project

through, told the council it was time to abandon the project.

"As much as this pains me to say, I think it's probably, you're going to hate this, but I think it's time to let the Amtrak go. I can't, in good conscience, justify it anymore."

Councilman Chris Grewald told the council that if the depot project was abandoned, the city should get out of all proj-

ects that weren't a good investment of taxpayer dollars.

"Shut her down," Grewald said referring to the city. "Let's board her up. Then I think you have to re-examine...you can't justify the fort, you can't justify so many things. If Amtrak isn't worth \$40,000 a year, the Fort's worth \$90K? I'm sorry, that's just a tough pill for me to swallow."

Councilman Bob Morawitz said it's subsidizing a private business

and he'd rather put that money into existing businesses.

Varley said the one big thing that made a difference was the \$300,000 annual loss from riverboat gambling and the reduction in sales tax revenues have resulted in a different picture than when the project began.

After the council had spent close to 90 minutes hashing out options Varley had put forth, he asked if he could make a couple comments. He said the city had to start looking inward in lean times and then possibly look back outward when city revenues improve and stabilize.

Varley said it didn't make sense to him to give organizations outside the city financial support, when departments heads like Fire Chief Joey Herren have to continue to operate lean.

"Our number one priority is to our own gosh-darned departments. Its frustrating for me to sit here and see us say we're gonna give away to other people - \$25K here... \$27K here. It's like - 'screw you Joey you don't get the money.' He has trouble getting foam for the trucks, they're cut to the bone. They've had the same budget for five years," Varley said.

Toward the end of the meeting, Randolph started taking what amounted to straw polls on options to give Varley direction in finalizing the budget for presentation in two weeks.

No official votes on any of the issues were taken, but the polling results were documented by Varley for budget adjustments.

One of the first was to cut a certain amount of money from Old Fort operations. Morawitz said if the city was still interested in bringing Viking Cruise Lines to the city, they couldn't cut funding to the Fort. The council was split on cutting funding to the Fort.

Randolph said the city was spending too much on the Fort.

"We are spending way too much money on the Fort for what we're getting. You want to talk about return on investment stuff...? We're spending too much money on that Fort."

He asked Varley to look at where the city can cut back on Fort subsidies.

The council, fresh off a consensus to abandon the depot project, indicated their preference to not contribute to the city fireworks display, the Mexican Fiesta, the Riverfront Business District, nor the Southeast Iowa Economic & Regional Port Authority for a savings of \$10,900.

The council gave a consensus to not eliminate any positions in the city. Mohrfeld went after a full-time position at the library saying the parks department works with two full-time and two part-time staff while the library works with three full-time and four part-time.



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*...the most experienced Hospice in Lee County*

### **Our Hospice Services Include:**

**24/7 on-call nursing staff • Skilled Nursing Services • Social Worker Visits  
Music/Massage Therapy • Homecare Aide Assistance • Spiritual & Grief Support  
Volunteer Services**



**We are proud to provide our Hospice Services in  
Lee, Des Moines, Van Buren & Henry counties in Iowa  
and Hancock & Henderson counties in Illinois**



# **LEE CHD**

**Lee County  
Health Department**

## *Touching the Community with Care*



**#3 John Bennett Drive • PO Box 1426  
Fort Madison, IA 52627  
(319)372-5225 or (800)458-6672**

[www.leecountyhd.org](http://www.leecountyhd.org)

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# Current-Lee/Lottery Numbers

## 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](mailto:jess@fortmadisoninsurance.com) or [samantha@fortmadisoninsurance.com](mailto:samantha@fortmadisoninsurance.com).



### Fish & Shrimp Fry this Friday

The FM Eagles Club is hosting a Fish & Shrimp fry this Friday to benefit the Fort Madison Food Pantry. Dinner is served 5-7:30pm. Music by The Hillsiders starts at 5pm. 50/50 Drawing. Live Auction starts at 6:30pm. Auction items include 4- 2019 Cardinals’ box seats tickets; Sheaffer Golf Course Greens Fees & Cart, 25 Punch Card, and 10 Punch Card; and more! Desserts provided by The Kensington, Kim’s in West Point, & others! 4821 Avenue O (Behind Burger King), Fort Madison.



### Local artist on display at SCC

SHOW YOUR CAR SOME love

- Ask Patty® Female Friendly Certified
- Customer Friendly Digital Inspections
- 36 Months/36,000 Miles Nationwide Warranty
- Griffin’s Gratitude Reward Card

**Don't Delay**

Take care of your car today!  
Griffin’s makes it easy with 6 months same as cash!

**CarCareONE**  
6 MONTHS SPECIAL FINANCING ON PURCHASES OF \$199 OR MORE\*  
\*when you use your CarCareONE credit card  
\*Subject to credit approval. Minimum monthly payments required. See Griffin's for details. Credit is extended by Synchrony Bank.

**February Specials**

**\$10 OFF** Oil Change  
Includes free seasonal check up

**Up to \$40 OFF**  
preventative maintenance flushes  
\*see store for details

**\$25 OFF** Any Repair or Maintenance Order \$250 or More

**\$50 OFF** Any Repair or Maintenance Order \$500 or More

**\$75 OFF** Any Repair or Maintenance Order \$750 or More

Excludes tires and batteries. Cannot combine with any other offers. One time use. Valid for a limited time only!



**319-372-2478**

535 Avenue G  
Fort Madison, IA

Mon - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

**f Like us on Facebook!**

[www.griffinmuffler.com](http://www.griffinmuffler.com)



## CURRENT-LEE

Lori Illner Greene will have her art work on display at the Southeastern Community College Art Gallery, 1500 W. Agency Road in West Burlington from Jan. 28-Feb. 15. The gallery showing will feature her “Raptors and Other Birds of Prey” series.

### Evening with Chuck Long

Former Iowa standout and NFL quarterback Chuck Long will be at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course on Tuesday, Feb. 12 for presentation, including a social hour and dinner with doors opening at 4:30. The social hour and dinner will be from 5 to 6 and Long will speak at 6 p.m. with a question and answer to follow. For more information, contact Ryan at 319-528-6214 or by email at [mcmillan@sheaffergolf.com](mailto:mcmillan@sheaffergolf.com).

### Ribbon-Cutting

A ribbon cutting for The Kingsley Inn and River Rocks Bar & Grille will be held on Feb. 15 at 10 a.m.

### Fort Madison Partners Annual Dinner

The Fort Madison Partners Annual Dinner will be held Feb. 22 at McAleere Hall in Fort Madison. A night of gaming, food and fun has been planned. Contact Partners at 372-5471 for more information.



## IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

### Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Lotto America™	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

<p><b>Lucky FOR LIFE</b> THE GAME OF A LIFETIME®</p> <p>2/4 14 24 30 37 38 Lucky Ball: 12</p>	<p><b>PICK 3</b> iowa</p> <p>2/4 MID-DAY 6 7 8 2/4 EVENING 4 4 2</p>	<p><b>PICK 4</b> iowa</p> <p>2/4 MID-DAY 4 9 4 8 2/4 EVENING 1 1 9 9</p>
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**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**

Touching the Community with Care

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