



Pen City Current

Thursday, May 9, 2019 | 8 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 109

Officials look at Viking dock funding options

Mayor would rather Viking finance the project for city

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Options of funding a dock on the west end of Riverview Park that would secure a Viking Mississippi River cruise in Fort Madison were varied at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

The dock, which is estimated at a cost of \$1.7 million, is part of the negotiations that are current-



RANDOLPH

ly ongoing with the city and Viking Cruise Lines.

City Manager David Varley said Viking has agreed to pay \$500,000 toward the cost of the project leaving the city to fund the additional \$1.2 million. The cost of construction is estimated at \$1.21 million, but a 30% contingency fund coupled with design and engineering costs of 7% push the total to \$1.7 million.

Originally, Viking had agreed to pay a dock rental of \$1 per passenger for each docking, but Mayor Brad Randolph said the cruise lines will either pay

the rental or pay the \$500K up front, but not both.

He also said the city won't spend another dime on the project until they know for sure it's a go. The city has already secured a feasibility study with Smith-Group out of Madison, Wis. for just under \$25,000.

Varley said the numbers are pretty solid because SmithGroup is one of the top two companies in the country doing this kind of work and have built docks all over the world.

He said the agreement would not be exclusive, so anytime Viking wasn't docked in FM, other entities

See **FUNDING**, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Construction crews from Hall's tear down the former Lee County Conservation District Wednesday afternoon. The district paid \$10,000 to have the building razed after seeking bids this spring on the work. A lightning strike hit the building about five years ago.

Youth project brings color to LCCD building

Leadership Group organizes project to highlight conservation efforts

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – A drive by the Lee County Conservation District offices at Heron Bend shows some nifty art decorating all the windows facing the highway.

It's not vandalism, it's actually volunteerism.

Area youth, under the direction of the Lee County Leadership Group, painted conservation themes on the conservation district building's west side windows.

And the really neat part is the conservation district staff can still see out their windows.

Elementary students from the county were encouraged to submit artwork with a conservation theme to the Leadership Group. The group selected seven winners who had their artwork converted to a special vinyl material.

The vinyl used for the drawing surfaces only shows the artwork from one side of the window. Lee County Conservation District Director Nathan Unsworth, said he was excited the project was chosen by the leadership group.

"Lee County Conservation was really excited to hear this project was chosen by the leadership group," Unsworth said Wednesday.

"The project was a fun way to engage children and encourage them to think about the environment in a new way. We try to connect people to the outdoors through various types of programming, and this was just another idea to help foster that connection to the outdoors."

See **PROJECT**, page 6

Historian to look at Victorian mourning customs

Fort Madison library to host event May 23 at 6 p.m.

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - Historian Kathy Wilson will be presenting a program on death and mourning customs in the Victorian era at the Fort Madison Public Library on May 23, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Kathy believes learning about the past can be fun as well as interesting. To prove that point, she draws on more than 20 years of

experience to create programs that engage and entertain as well as educate her audiences.

Victorians had a different attitude about death than we do in the 21st Century. People died at home surrounded by loved ones, families picnicked in cemeteries on Sundays, took photos with deceased (what's up with that?) & made jewelry from their hair (yes, really!). They also worried about being buried alive or someone stealing their bodies. This program explores

See **HISTORIAN**, page 8

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Obituaries/Business News

OBITUARIES

ELIZABETH ERIN NELSON

Elizabeth Erin "Beth" Nelson, 37, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 4:17 p.m., Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at Great River Hospice House, West Burlington, Iowa.

Beth was born on June 1, 1981, in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, the daughter of Kevin and Cindy (Randolph) Frueh. She married Travis Nelson.

Survivors include four children: Taylor, Carter, Olivia and Aubree; her parents: Kevin and Cindy; one brother: Eric (Liz) Frueh of Donnellson, Iowa; her grandmothers: Bonnie Randolph of New Boston, Iowa and Jeanne Frueh of Donnellson, Iowa. Also surviving are several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her brother: Kristofer; and her two grandfathers: Henry J. Frueh and Russel Randolph.

Beth was a 1999 graduate of Central Lee High School. She worked with her family in their antique business. She was a member of Saint Mary the Assumption Catholic Church. Beth enjoyed animals, being outside, going on vacation with her children, and outings with her friends. Beth especially loved being involved in her children's activities.

Friends may call from 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Friday, May 10, 2019 at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson.

Per Beth's wishes a private family service will be held with burial at Evangelical Cemetery, Donnellson. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in her memory for her children's education.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be made at www.schmitzfuneral-homes.com.

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.

State Farm's Klann earns underwriting designation

FORT MADISON - Thomas Klann, Agency Owner, State Farm has earned the Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU)



KLANN

professional designation from The American College of Financial Services.

Candidates for the CLU designation must complete a minimum of eight courses and 16 hours of supervised examinations. They must also fulfill stringent experience and ethics requirements and participate in continuing education to maintain professional recertification.

This prestigious course of study provides professionals with in-depth knowledge relevant to the insurance needs of individuals, families and

business owners. The CLU professional can provide reliable advice on a broad range of financial planning topics including life and health insurance, pension planning, insurance law, income taxation, investments, financial and estate planning, and group benefits.

Thomas Klann started his State Farm career in 2012 after graduating from the University of Northern Iowa with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. Thomas has remained committed to his education earning professional designations with the American College of Financial Services (Financial Services Certified Professional & Retirement Income Certified Professional), The College for Financial Planning (Life Underwriting Training Council Fellowship), and America's Health Insurance Plans (Long-Term Care Professional). Thomas uses his education to

support his passion for the community he lives and works in. Thomas adds, "We believe that we have an obligation to our current and future customers to always be learning. As we see changes in technology, the economy and the way customers want to do business, we know it's our responsibility to make sure there plan keeps up with it. It is about holding more than just a state required insurance or securities license. It is about really understanding the products and services. And really understanding what our customers want and need." When asked what is next on his path Thomas replies, "I have signed up to start the Chartered Financial Consultant-ChFC designation with the American College. State Farm supports me in continuing my learning path and I support my amazing team in their learning path. We expect it to be a lifelong pursuit!"

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319-367-2311

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

THU 09 May



Overcast
High- 56.0° F | Low - 46.5° F

FRI 10 May



Scattered Clouds
High- 59.8° F | Low - 47.9° F

SAT 11 May



Overcast
High- 61.0° F | Low - 51.5° F

SUN 12 May



Light Rain
High- 64.6° F | Low - 47.4° F

MON 13 May



Overcast
High- 64.5° F | Low - 48.7° F

OpenWeatherMap

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Pen City Current

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For the Record/Business News

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

05/03/19 – 9:19 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 900 block of 15th Street.
 05/03/19 – 3:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue H.
 05/04/19 – 8:43 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue L.
 05/04/19 – 11:51 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1800 block of Avenue L.
 05/04/19 – 2:15 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2600 block of Avenue L.
 05/04/19 – 4:36 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of Avenue J.
 05/05/19 – 1:51 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1400 block of 31st Street.
 05/05/19 – 10:11 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of

a stolen vehicle in the 1500 block of Avenue G.
 05/05/19 – 10:54 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1600 block of 20th Street.
 05/05/19 – 10:59 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Avenue G.
 05/05/19 – 12:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1200 block of Avenue H.
 05/05/19 – 12:39 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2300 block of Avenue J.
 05/05/19 – 7:15 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3100 block of Avenue L.
 05/06/19 – 1:16 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2700 block of Avenue I.
 05/06/19 – 1:39 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 2100 block of Avenue C.

05/06/19 – 4:41 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 700 block of Avenue G.
 05/06/19 – 5:36 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2000 block of 303rd Avenue.
 05/07/19 – 9:26 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1300 block of Avenue E.
 05/07/19 – 11:12 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft on Oak Drive.
 05/07/19 – 5:16 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue G.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

05/07/19 – 1:00 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Mercedes Diamone Scott, 30, of Chicago, Ill., at the Champaign County Sheriff's office in Urbana, Ill., on warrants for failure to appear/contempt of court. She was held in custody.
 05/07/19 – 9:31 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle

accident. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Salvador Gonzalez, 68, of Fort Madison and a vehicle driven by Joshua Allen Wade, 32, of Fort Madison struck each other's driver's side mirrors while passing east and westbound in the 1200 block of Avenue E. Gonzalez failed to stop and was followed by Wade until law enforcement pulled Gonzalez over. Gonzalez was cited for failure to provide insurance. No injuries were reported.
 05/07/19 – 1:44 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 2300 block of Hwy. 16. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Michael Dean Buehne, 60, of Sigourney, was struck in a sideswipe by a vehicle driven by Curtis James Richers, 53, of Wever, after Richers swerved across the center line to avoid a mailbox. No injuries or citations were reported.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

05/07/17 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls.

Dr. Goronga joins FMCH Clinic

FORT MADISON – The Family Practice Clinic at Fort Madison Community Hospital is pleased to welcome Family Practitioner, Dr. Tatenda Goronga. Dr. Goronga is Board Certified in Family Practice.



DR. GORONGA

Dr. Goronga was inspired to go into medicine by her mother, who was a nurse in Zimbabwe. Her mother dedicated her career to promoting HIV/Aids awareness, which had touched many of their family and community members. Her mother set the example for providing excellent patient care.

“It is important to me to really connect with my patients, to get to know them as a person and not a diagnosis. My job becomes more pleasurable and my patients become more compliant when that happens,” expressed Dr. Goronga. “I enjoy treating the whole family. I think by taking the time to really listen to my patients, ask them questions about their lives, it becomes a win-win for both of us – it makes my job more enjoyable and sometimes all they need is someone to listen.”

Dr. Goronga received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Windsor University School of Medicine in Saint Kitts. She completed her Residency training in Family Medicine at the University Of Oklahoma School Of Community Medicine.

Dr. Goronga felt FMCH was a good fit for her, getting a strong sense of support and connection with everyone she met while visiting.

Dr. Goronga will join Dr. Kathy Anderson, Dr. Ruth Barosy, Dr. Amy Huber, Dr. Michael David, Dr. William Napier, Dr. Chase Newton, Dr. Josh Siruck, Dr. David Wenger-Keller and Nurse Practitioner Amy Wallis in the care of patients of all ages.

Dr. Goronga is accepting new patients. To make an appointment with Dr. Goronga, call 319-376-2134.

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Sports/Local News

Stepped up patrols for Memorial Day

PCC STAFF

Memorial Day and the traditional beginning of summer are quickly approaching. Unfortunately, with the increase in summer traffic we will also see a rise in traffic crashes and fatalities. Last year there were four traffic fatalities on Iowa roadways over the Memorial Day weekend; four deaths that may have been prevented. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in 2017 there were 10,076 unbuckled passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes nationwide. A majority of those lives could have been saved if they had been wearing seat belts. The national Click It or Ticket campaign will take place May 20 - June 2, 2019. State and local law agencies across the state will be stepping up seat belt enforcement with the goal of protecting you and your family.

Seat Belt Myth Busters

Vehicle Type: There seems to be a misconception among those who drive and ride in pickup trucks that their large vehicles will protect them better than other vehicles would in a crash. Fifty-nine percent of pickup truck occupants who were killed in 2017 were not buckled compared to 42 percent of car occupants.*

Seating Position: Too many people believe they are safe in the back seat unrestrained. Forty-six percent of all front-seat passenger killed in 2017 crashes were unbelted but 56 percent of those killed in the back seat were unbelted.*

The Iowa Department of Public Safety and the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau want to remind all drivers of the importance of seat belt use. Buckle up every trip, every time!

Algrim finishes 8th at SE Conference meet

HTC's Robu takes 6th at girls' SEISC meet

BY PCC STAFF

WASHINGTON – Fort Madison junior Blake Algrim shot an 88 and carded and tied for the second best score on the back nine at Washington Golf and Country Club Tuesday night.

Algrim shot a 42 on the back nine, which was the fifth lowest score of the meet. Algrim carded a triple-bogey 7 on the 18th hole after going with three pars and four bogeys before the 7.

Keokuk's Luke Davis led the Chiefs with a 91 followed by Jordan Sisk with a 94.

The Hounds finished fourth in the five team field with team score of 395. Keokuk finished fifth with a score of 407.

The Bloodhounds senior Tommy Wade shot a 91 with a 46 out and 45 on the back nine. Senior Logan Rashid shot a 105. Tyler Wade and Max Slater each recorded a 111 on the day and Brandon Keester shot a 112.

Washington's Brock Sobaski and Brady Knutson each shot a 76 to tie for medalist and runner-up. Knutson shot a 1-over 36 on the front but carded a 40 going back. Sobaski had the lowest back nine score with a 37.

Mt. Pleasant won the meet with four-player best score of 328. Washington was second carding a 358 and Fairfield was third with a 364.

Holy Trinity Catholic's Ali Robu shot a 104 Wednesday at the girls Southeast Iowa Superconference tourney at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course in Fort Madison.

Mediapolis' Ruthie Jahn shot an 88 for medalist honors. New London's Summer Mallot came in with a 96 for runner-up.

Robu started the front nine with a par 5, but played double bogey golf the rest of the way around the front for a 53, before shooting a 51 on the back nine.

Columbus won the team scoring with a 404 on the day. Danville shot a 443 for second place.

UW seeking Salvation Army help

FORT MADISON - TheUnited Way of the Great River is seeking volunteers who will sort and organize donations, check and assess the condition of the items that are brought in to the Salvation Army and make sure appliances and electronic items work.

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.

United Way of the Great River Region serves all of Lee, Hancock, and Clark Counties. All donations are tax-deductible.

Because you got the mom everyone wishes they had

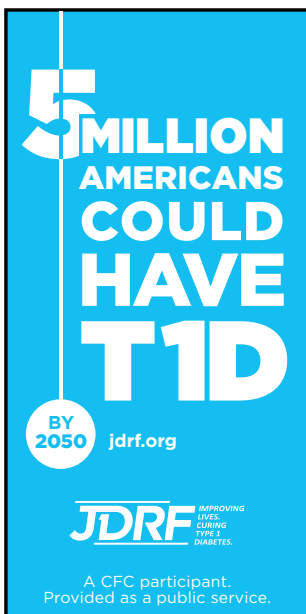
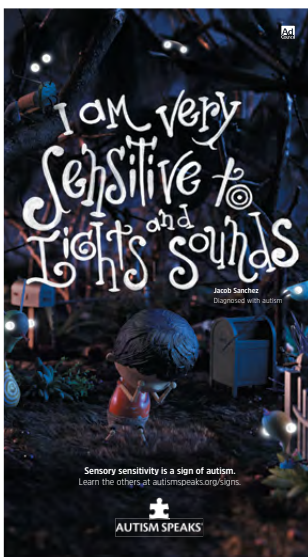
Lots of great Mother's Day gift ideas!

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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

5/7
3 6 34 54 63
Mega Ball: 19
Megaplier: 3

5/7 MID-DAY
9 4 9
5/7 EVENING
6 6 1

5/7 MID-DAY
5 1 4 3
5/7 EVENING
7 9 0 7

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Celebrations/Current-Lee

Celebrations

HOUSTON-VANCE

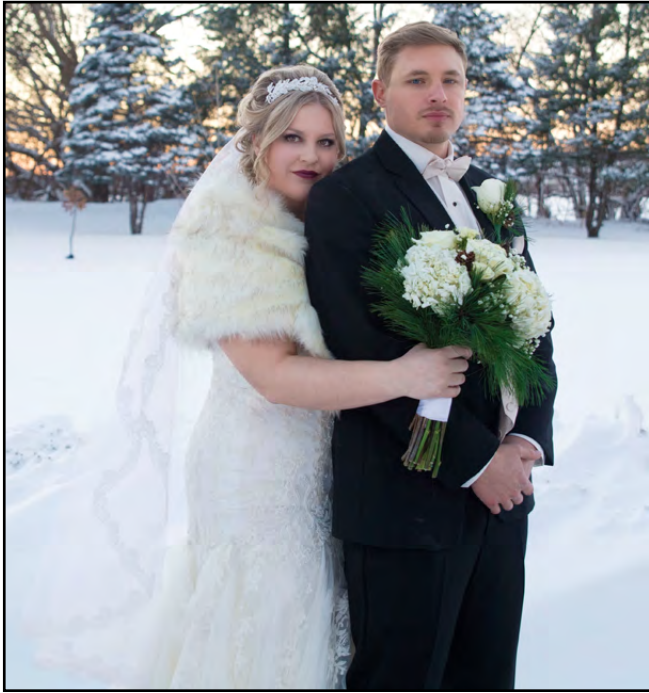
FORT MADISON – Amanda Leigh Houston and Ross Mathew Vance were married on January 19, 2019, at Madison Baptist Church in Fort Madison.

Parents of the couple are Jeff and Paula Houston of Fort Madison, and Tracy and Janet Vance of Fairfield, formerly of Fort Madison.

The bride is a 2012 graduate of Fort Madison High School and obtained her Associate of Science degree in Business Administration from Southeastern Community College. She is a licensed cosmetologist and is the owner/stylist at Style by Design in Burlington.

The groom is a 2009 graduate of Fort Madison High School and obtained his Associate of Arts degree at Iowa Central Community College. He is employed by the City of Fairfield Wastewater Department.

The couple have made their home in New London.



Mr. and Mrs. Vance

Birth Announcements

THOMPSON

KEOKUK – Mr. and Mrs. Amos and Susan Thompson are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Brynlee Isabella Thompson, on April, 20, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital

Grandparents of the couple are Jeff and Colleen Brown of Keokuk; and Holly Thompson of Keokuk.

Great-grandparents are Lynn Thompson of Keokuk; and Karen Streets of Muscatine.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

GENDRON

FORT MADISON – Mr. and Mrs. Tyler and Cassidy Gendron are proud to announce the birth of their son Liam Michael Gendron on April 11, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are Brian and Diana Davis of Donnellson; and Tom and Lisa Gendron of Donnellson.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

BALES

DONNELLSON – Mr. and Mrs. Shawn and Kelsey Bales are proud to announce the birth of their son Hudson Howard Bales on April 16, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Hudson joins Bennett at home.

Grandparents are Howard and Tina Menke; Jeff and Billie Jo Bales; and Paula Bales, all of West Point.

Great-grandparents are Rachel Siemens of Niota, Ill.; and Sandra and Jack Cook of Ottumwa.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

MACK

FORT MADISON – Traci Fuller and James Mack are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Devinity Jolea Mack, on March 25, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Devinity is joined at home by Eveona.

Grandparents are Evonne Plate of Fort Madison (deceased), Dean and Elaine Fuller of Burlington; Dean and Jody DeWitt of Fort Madison; and James Steele of Keokuk.

Great-grandparents are Darwin and Joanna (deceased) Bertram of Argyle; Dean (deceased) and Jean Fuller of Nauvoo, Ill.; Gloria Fuller (deceased) of Burlington; June Mack (deceased) of Fort Madison; and Orville and Rose Mack of Oklahoma City, Ok; Charles and Melva DeWitt of Wever; and Donald (deceased) and Ida (deceased) Steele of Keokuk.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

KREBILL

DONNELLSON – Mr. and Mrs. Ryan and Elisha Krebill, of Donnellson, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Grace Ann Krebill, on April 12, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grace is joined at home by Drake.

Grandparents are Deb Krebill of Arygle; Bruce and Jane Krebill of Donnellson; and Dale and Becky Shipe of Warsaw, Ill.

Great-grandparents are Lester and Barb Groene of Donnellson.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

CURRENT-LEE

Mother's and Father's Day Craft

Fort Madison Public Library will host a Wacky Wednesday May, 8, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. for youth ages 5-12 to make crafts for Mother's and Father's Day.

Salute to Small Business Breakfast

The Fort Madison Chamber's annual Salute to Small Business breakfast will be held Thursday, May 9 at Quality Inn & Suites sponsored by Huffman Welding & Machine/Farm & Home beginning at 7:30 a.m. Contact that chamber at 372-5471.

LCHD children's immunization clinic

The Lee County Health Department will be hosting a children's immunization clinic on May 9, at the Trinity United Methodist Church from noon to 4:30 p.m. The clinic is open to children with no insurance, Medicaid or private insurance that doesn't cover vaccines. Free lead testing is also available. Call 372-5225 for more information.

Senior Health Clinic

Lee County Health Department will host a senior Health Clinic at River Terrace in Keokuk from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m..

Success through Service

A half-day leadership conference will be held at Quality Inn & Suites in Fort Madison on Friday, May 10th, with featured speakers Ann Menke of Menke & Co., Matt Morris, of Connection Bank, and Craig Smith of Sterzings.

Relay for Life Trivia Night

Rich Pickel Trivia and Lee County Bank's Relay for Life team are hosting the Relay for Life Trivia Night Friday, May 10th at the Elks Lodge 719 Avenue F. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with trivia starting at 7 p.m. \$10 per person or \$80 per table. Contact Shauna Stuart at stuart@leecountybank.com for more informations.

Barley Hops

The annual tasting event will be held May 17th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Baxter Sports Complex. Pre-sale of glasses takes place Friday, May 10th from 5 to 8 p.m. at Bufalo61 Bar and Grille. Glasses are just \$10

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for \$15. Add a photo for \$5. Effective Jan. 1, 2019 non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of \$10 per 25 words and \$3 per photo. To place your listing, call Chuck at (319)371.1670 or Lee at (319)371.4125.

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CAUTION

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS



Annual Golf Outing

Friday, May 10 • Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course

Click here for your registration form

From the Front/Classifieds

Art project could become an annual competition

PROJECT - Continued from Page 1

Members of the Leadership Group that helped organize and produce the project were: Katie Wells – Fort Madison Community Hospital; Ashley Thomas – Great River Health System; Amanda Shaw – First Community Bank; Ryan Krebill – Conagra Brands, Inc; Tom Wills – Keokuk Municipal Waterworks; and Becca Crew – Advance Home Health.

Wells said it was the group's hope that the project would attract attention to the building and help bring people in to learn more about the LCCD programming. But she added working with the children brought a smile to her face.

"It was really fun to be a part of this project. The engagement of the youth was really what made this project so worthwhile," she said.

"Seeing the faces of the children when they were announced as winners and their art work was unveiled was very rewarding to our Leadership group. The art

work really improves the appearance of the building, our hope is that it attracts more community members to stop in and learn about programming they offer."

Unsworth said he's had a great reception from people who've seen the work.

"The response has been great, so far. Everyone is very impressed with the student's artwork and how it looks on the Conservation Center," he said.

"This project is a trial run. We are not sure how long the coloring will hold up on the vinyl window covering as they will be subjected to intense sun light. However, it could be something that we turn into an ongoing project with the artwork getting replaced every year or so."

The project was funded by the Three Rivers Conservation Foundation and Lee County Conservation.

Student winners included: Lily Smith, Central Lee 5th Grade (Fish Picture); Hunter Snyder, Central Lee 2nd Grade (Fox Picture); Grady Crew, Central Lee Kindergarten (Flower Picture), Ellie Hellman, Holy Trinity 4th



Student winners of the LCCD window art contest are pictured here with their winning pieces.

Grade (Goldfinch); Jack Benner, Central Lee 4th Grade (Deer Picture); Malani Roach, Holy Trinity 1st grade (Butterfly Picture); and Jaliann Hawk, Central Lee 3rd Grade (Water Scene Picture).

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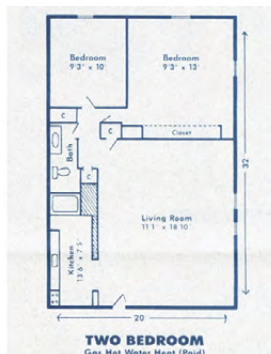
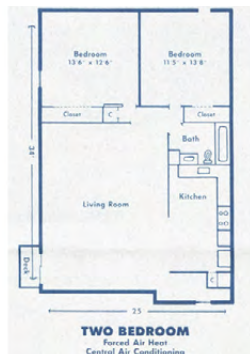
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From the Front/Local News

Historian specializes in 18th, 19th century social history

HISTORIAN - Continued from Page 1

the Victorians' fascination with death & the culture they developed to memorialize the dead. It is also a timely presentation, the Thursday before Memorial Day, a holiday that began shortly after the American Civil War during the Victorian Era as a way to remember the many soldiers killed in that war. Over the years, it has developed into a day to remember and honor all those who have served in the military but its roots lie in customs from the 1860's.

A professional historian and educator, Kathy Wilson received her BA in History from Bemidji State University in Minnesota, before traveling to England where she completed her Masters at the University of York. She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Iowa and specializes in 18th and 19th-century British-American social history.

For additional information about this program, contact Sarah Clendineng, (319) 372-5721, Sarah-Clen@fortmadison.lib.ia.us at the Fort Madison Public Library.

Morawitz wants more research before city moves ahead

FUNDING - Continued from Page 1

would be able to use it. Viking is expected to start cruising in 2022. They would cruise July through October with initial cruises projected at two per week through Fort Madison.

Councilman Mark Lair asked if the funding would come from a bond that would require a vote.



MORAWITZ

Varley said a general obligation bond funding is not the easiest thing to do, but could be done and would require the vote.

Randolph said establishing a solid partnership with Viking is paramount going forward.

"The key for the city is to make sure we have a good partnership and that we don't feel like we're spending money where we could end up losing money if something happened down the road."

He said options have included dollar-for-dollar matches as well as having Viking finance the whole deal and have the city pay them back with interest over 20 years.

"Under that deal our upfront liability would be minimal and if for some reason Viking's cruises didn't go as well as they liked in years three, four or five, they're on the hook for the infrastructure costs. Whether they would do that deal or not, I don't know."

Randolph threw out some estimated numbers if Viking were to finance the whole dock project over 20 years. He said the city would be looking at very roughly \$100,000 per year.

Councilman Bob Morawitz said he would want to see where the city would see a return on the investment.

"If we do the deal at all we're going to end up spending \$100,000 a year – or even it's \$50,000, where are we going to make \$50,000 a year off this. What's our return on our investment?" Morawitz asked.

Rusty Andrews said it was a valid question with an intricate answer.



ANDREWS

"Its the same question we asked of the Amtrak Depot" Andrews said.

Randolph said it's similar to most incentives the city gives and hopefully results in stimulation.

"We're counting on a stimulation of the economy because the boat is here.

If you're asking me if that's going to put \$100,000 in the city's pockets every year, I can't guarantee you that," Randolph said.

Varley said there are incentives included as part of the ticketing fare that are intended to keep people in the ports of call.

"It would have to be looked at as a community-wide benefit and that's what the council will have to make a decision on," Varley said.

Morawitz said he would like to see more research on the impact of cruises on city economies, even if that research comes from overseas.

The council agreed to keep moving forward with discussions and research and to bring the item back for further discussion.

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