



Pen City Current

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 | 14 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 26

City to discuss budget, general fund woes tonight

Report says working capital won't meet monthly cash flow needs

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – After a lengthy discussion last week about city budget planning, the Fort Madison City Council will be holding a budget workshop after its regular meeting on Tuesday.

According to a report that was part of the City Council packet distributed last week, the city's general fund is in a "dire situation".

Several City Councilman at the Jan. 2 meeting expressed concern that there wasn't more of a discussion about budgets and the budgeting process prior to the budget planning meeting that's typically held in February.

However, this year the general fund, according to the report, is in worse shape than previous years, and City Manager David Varley has reiterated that the budget is extremely tight.

According to data included in the councilmen's report, the city's enterprise funds, such as the water department and other departments that charge fees for services, are pretty healthy. However those departments do not rely on the city's general fund for operations.

Varley has said that his goal for working capital in the general fund is 30 to 35% of expenditures in the fund. Preliminary figures for the 2019-20 budget show that number to be at 5.3%. The report indicated that figure wouldn't cover monthly cash flow to meet the city's obligations, "let alone provide funds for any type of emergency or backup".

The report lists some options for either increasing revenue or decreasing spending that is occurring in the general fund. The report indicated the options are necessarily supported by staff but are listed to show options available to them.

See **MONEY**, page 2

City puts snow protocols in effect



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

City crews work on removing snow from the streets at the intersection of Avenue F and Seventh Street on Monday morning. A parking snow emergency was in place the past two days and a snow abatement notice has been issued by the city that will require all public sidewalks to be cleared before 6 a.m. on Thursday.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The city of Fort Madison is enacting a snow abatement ordinance in addition to parking restrictions, due to the heavy snowfall over the weekend.

According to city Building Director Doug Krogmeier, the city is publishing the notice of the abatement on Tuesday and residents will have 24 hours to

clear all public sidewalks on their property. After the notice has been published for 24 hours, residents will have an additional 24 hours before the city will begin to have contracted providers start clearing sidewalks and property owners will be billed for the service.

The notice that will be published Tuesday will give property owners until Thursday, Jan. 17 at 6 a.m. to have all snow removed from the sidewalks. If side-

See **SNOW**, page 2

CROSS-TOWN SHOWDOWN

HTC takes FM boys down in OT

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Something was burning and there was cake all over the place, but the Holy Trinity Crusaders boys basketball team worked a 50-49 overtime win over visiting Fort Madison Monday night.

The non-conference cross-town rival matchup was supposed to have been played on Saturday, but Jack Frost made an appearance and mucked things up, forcing the Monday night girls/boys double header.

Oh...and about ten grand was made auctioning off cakes during the breaks.

But on the hardwood, the Crusaders' Quentin Schneider hit the front end of a one with :04 on the clock to give HTC the 50-49 advantage. His second free throw hit the back of the rim and popped lazily back toward the free throw line. Schneider was back tracking off the miss, but raced to the ball and tied it up with Fort Madison's Jayden Fedler.

The Hounds had 1.2 seconds left on the clock and no time outs and Denning threw the ball over the head of Fedler and into HTC's hands to seal the win.

Fort Madison was without senior point guard Logan Rashid during the final stretch when he fouled out with 1:12 left on the clock. But Holy Trinity's leading scorer, Matt Hellige, was also sent to the bench with five fouls just seconds before Rashid left.

Schneider had given HTC the lead in OT 48-45 when he scored on a drive from the left baseline where he was

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OBITUARIES

DONALD DEAN JOHNSON

Donald Dean Johnson, 88, of Troy, Missouri formerly of rural Argyle, Iowa passed away at 9:35 p.m. Friday, January 11, 2019, at his home.

Born on May 6, 1930, in Farmington, Iowa, the son of Wayne B. and Neva (Capleman) Johnson. He married Carlotta Schmitz on March 4, 1950, in Keokuk, Iowa.



JOHNSON

Survivors include his wife: Charlotte; one son: Don (Donna) Johnson of Troy, Missouri; one daughter: Charlene (Dennis) McFerren of Farmington, Iowa; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren; one sister: Shirley (Allan) Case of Argyle, Iowa. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter Rhonda Markey; two sisters: Pearl Severin and Iris Johnson; and one brother: Carl Johnson.

Don was a member of the Embury United Methodist Church. He owned and operated Johnson Trucking of Donnellson, he later retired as a truck driver for Wal-Mart. Music was his passion. While in California, Don opened for Johnny Cash. He was a leader of the Don Johnson Trio, singing on the radio and throughout the area for many years. Don and his wife rode their motorcycles in every state except Hawaii. He was a former member of Black Hawk Masonic Lodge #618 AF & AM in Donnellson. Don enjoyed hunting and fishing, and he once said, "life is a special event".

Friends may call and meet with the family from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Thursday, January 17, 2019, at the Embury United Methodist Church.

A funeral service will be at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, January 17, 2019, at the Embury United Methodist Church with Pastor Lane Van officiating.

Burial will be at Embury Cemetery.

Following the burial, a luncheon will be held at the Embury United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial been established to the Embury United Methodist Church or Embury Cemetery.

Schmitz Funeral Homes of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

Caroline Hoyer named to dean's list

BY PCC STAFF

Boston College recently announced that Caroline (Carly) Hoyer has been again placed on the Dean's List First Honors in recognition of her out-

standing academic performance. Boston College Office of Academic Affairs noted that her grade point average recognizes the achievement of undergraduate students each semester, where students are

classified into two groups: First Honors (3.700-4.000 GPA) and Second Honors (3.500-3.699 GPA).

Carly is a graduate of Notre Dame High School in Burlington, where she was named Valedictorian of her graduating class, among various other honors. Carly is the daughter or Gary and Lynn Hoyer of Fort Madison.

City looking at ways to bring general fund back in line

MONEY - Continued from Page 1

Some of the highlights of that list include reducing hours at city hall or the city library, reducing capital expenditures, adopting a franchise fee, hiring freezes, closing the Old Fort, leasing or closing the marina, reducing city staff work week to 36 hours from 40, eliminating Spring and Fall cleanups, eliminating sidewalk replacement assistance, reducing/eliminating contributions to outside agencies and increasing/adding city fees and charges.

Early 2019-20 fiscal year numbers show a general fund balance of \$2,657 with the hotel/motel funds and the docks/marina fund showing negative balances at the end of the year. The budget includes revenues of \$5.6 million and expenditures of \$6.1 million, with a \$100,000 payment to capital improvements for streets and a \$200,000 payment to the Amtrak platform project.

The regular council meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. with the budget workshop to follow the regular meeting.

As part of the regular city council meeting:

- the council will be looking to approve 10 abatements for new condos in the Woodland Heights subdivision.
- the council will hold a public hearing on the proposed sale of city property located at 1136 Avenue H to MM Real Estate through a quit claim deed for \$13,500.
- the council will consider a resolution setting a public hearing and bid letting for a public improvement project consisting of a bridge deck overlay and the surrounding approaches and sidewalks on Avenue G, and a similar resolution for a bridge deck overlay construction on 14th Street over French Creek.

With more snow projected, clean up could get costly

SNOW - Continued from Page 1

walks aren't cleared and no requests for an appeal or hearing has been made, the city will clear the snow and the costs will be assessed against the property owner and the property.

Krogmeier said obviously the city doesn't want to bill property owners for the service, but the sidewalks have to be cleared. He said the abatement only applies to public sidewalks and not sidewalks that go from

the street to the doors or private driveways, just public walkways.

"I would prefer that everybody does their own, but at some point we have to act and get these cleared," Krogmeier said. He said the city will charge a minimum \$50 to remove the snow, but heavier jobs can come with higher rates if it takes more than an hour or so to clear the snow.

"I'm going to have several crews working, but with the next round of snow coming, if we don't get to all of it before that hits, and they're projecting just as much if not more this weekend,

that bill could get pretty expensive if we have to remove snow from both weekends," Krogmeier said.

Some areas of north Lee County received close to a foot of snow on Saturday and Sunday, and the Fort Madison Police Department enacted a snow emergency to allow city workers to clear the streets. Vehicles are supposed to park on the odd side of the street on even days to allow city crews to clear the sides of streets with even numbered addresses and vice versa on odd numbered days.

The National Weather Service out of the Quad Cities is projecting another large system that could produce heavy snow accumulations in southeast Iowa on Friday and Saturday as well as possible wintry mix with little accumulation on Wednesday night into Thursday.

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Obituaries/Lottery Numbers

OBITUARIES

JOHN EDWARD KRAFT

John Edward Kraft, 75, of Nauvoo, Illinois, passed away at 2:25 p.m. Sunday, January 13, 2019, at Great River Medical Center in West Burlington, Iowa.



KRAFT

Born January 27, 1943, in Nauvoo, Illinois, the son of Guy Waltie and Verona (Dusenberry) Kraft. On March 5, 1966, he married Peggy Reidner at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Nauvoo, Illinois.

Survivors include his wife: Peggy of Nauvoo; four daughters: Suzanne Smith of Fort Madison, Iowa, Renee (Tim) Watznauer of West Point, Iowa, Kathy (Robert) Hornung of Montrose, Iowa and Jennifer Kraft of Nauvoo, Illinois; nine grandchildren: Steven Smith, Erica (Travis) Eastin, Danielle (Bryor) McMillen, Brittany, Brandon, Mykayla, Ashton (Kailie) Hornung, Kaitlyn Hornung, and Addison Markey; two great-grandsons: Mason & Griffin Eastin; one great-granddaughter on the way; three sisters: Betty (Larry) Hopp of Nauvoo, Illinois, Marietta (Bob) Gavillet of Carthage, Illinois, and Johanna (Ron) Nussbaum of Chatsworth, Illinois; three brothers: Guy C.P. (Janice) Kraft of Texas, David (Joan) Kraft of Nauvoo, Illinois, Robert (Barb) Kraft of Niota, Illinois. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son: John E. Kraft Jr.; one son-in-law: Tony Smith.

John served in the United States Navy as a machinist from 1960 to 1964. He was a mate on the USS Dahlgren that took missiles out of Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He worked in construction for thirty-four years. John was a member of the Nauvoo American Legion Post #711. He enjoyed butchering meat, fishing, hunting, gardening, going to farmer's markets, being outdoors, and woodworking.



Friends may call after 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at Schmitz - Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo, Illinois, where the family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. that evening.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, January 17, 2019, at Schmitz - Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo with Pastor Mark Lowman as Celebrant.

Burial will be at the Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Cemetery in Nauvoo, Illinois, with Full Military Rites presented by the Nauvoo American Legion.

A memorial has been established in his memory.

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.

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.

OBITUARIES

TERRY LEE HAMELTON

It is with contrite spirit and a broken heart, that the family of Terry Lee Hamelton, Sr. announces his passing on Friday, December 28, 2018. He will be sadly missed and warmly remembered by all that knew him.



HAMILTON

Terry Hamelton, Sr. was born on November 24, 1947 in Keokuk, IA, where he resided until moving to Arizona in 1990.

He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army from December 10, 1968 to December 9, 1974. While in the Army, he served as gunner, crew chief and pilot of the Apache Helicopter, where he earned several medals including two purple hearts.



Terry served many jobs in his lifetime to support his family. The two he enjoyed and talked about was his time at Griffin Wheel in Keokuk and his five year job as a bus driver for Mesa and Apache Junction, AZ, which he could tell many stories of his adventures.

Terry could tell many of his adventures of his military life and of course his many jobs adventures. Everyone he knew loved to hear about his various adventures. He'll be remembered as being a man of integrity, compassion, great humor and his selflessness.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela Hamelton of AZ, nine children, Denise Hamelton, Cindy Boddecker, Michael Kopsicker, Terry Hamelton, Jr., Jerry Hamelton, Elizabeth Davis, John Hamelton, Michelle Brown, and Christine Strode, along with numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, three brothers and two sisters.

He was preceded in death by his mom, Viva and father, Floyd Hamelton.

A graveside service with military rites will be held at 1 p.m., Wednesday at the Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk, IA with Reverend Jeff Bixby officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Keokuk National Cemetery for the upkeep for our many brave soldiers who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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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

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1/13 EVENING
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Sports

Schneider sinks free throw to give HTC win

BASKETBALL - Continued from Page 1

fouled by Fedler and completed the three-point play, but Fort Madison would tie it up when freshman Dayton Davis hit a couple of free throws after HTC junior Reed Fehseke fouled him trying to swat a shot from behind with Davis penetrating off the dribble right.

With :04 left in the game Schneider penetrated from the right side of the lane and drew contact from the Hounds' Parker Denning to set up the game winning free throw.

The game got to the extra session tied at :43. Senior Adam Rauenbuehler took the ball from half court and penetrated through the Fort Madison right side where he threw up a scoop shot off-balance that rolled around the rim and came out and ended up in a jump ball with :02.2 on the clock.

"We were trying to attack and be aggressive and we wanted Reed (Fehseke) or Adam going to the rim or trying to find somebody or creating something and it worked out. I thought it was going in, but it came out," Head Coach John Hellige said.

The Hounds struggled to get the ball in but threw to center court just prior to a 5-second call on the inbounds. The ball was tied up again on the throw in and Fort Madison's coach Ryan Wilson called a timeout with :01 left in regulation.

Fort Madison tried to throw the ball in deep but it was picked off by Holy Trinity to end regulation.

Hellige said it was a bittersweet win because he's an FMHS alum.

"I'm a Fort Madison graduate and still love the Bloodhounds. It's bittersweet to get the first win over my alum. But just being three or four blocks down the road, a lot of these guys are friends and play at the Y together and have known each other for years."

The game was nip and tuck most of the way with 12 different lead changes and ties in the game. The first quarter alone had four lead changes and two ties. It was clear that Fort Madison was going to try to work Fedler in the middle, but Holy Trinity collapsed effectively making it difficult for Fedler to get going.

"We just tried to cover him up and we just hoped that (Brandon) Keester and Rashid wouldn't get too hot from the outside, which has hurt us the last few games with them," Hellige said.

Fedler would score 12 points in the first half, all off inside moves and rebounds, but Holy Trinity would hold him to just three points in the second half.

Holding a 13-12 first quarter lead, the Crusaders raced out to a 17-12 lead in the early going of period 2. Jordyn Gerdes would score on an inside move with the Hounds using both Gerdes and Fedler underneath to give HTC a different look inside.

Keester would then hit a high-arching 3-ball to knot the score at 17. A bucket by Denning off a nice look

from Rashid put Fort Madison up by two. Brant Holtkamp would score off a dribble drive from the left side to tie it back up on the next possession.

The Bloodhounds would then go on an 8-0 run capped by a Fedler bucket on a put back of his own miss. Hellige would score just before halftime to cut the FMHS lead to 27-21.

The Hounds would go cold from the field after the break, converting just three of 16 shots from the field to allow HTC to close the gap to 30-33. Keester hit a couple of 3-balls and Rashid added a short jumper in the lane for Fort Madison's only points in the period. But HTC countered with only 9 points in the quarter and still trailed by five 30-35 to start the final period.

Rauenbuehler hit to start the fourth quarter and close the gap to three, but the shooting woes continued from the Hounds missing their first five shots in the fourth period. Schneider converted two free throws to close it to one point at 35-34.

Denning and Davis would then convert back-to-back buckets for Fort Madison to push the lead back out to five 39-34. Rauenbuehler and Schneider would return the favor to close the deficit to one at 38-39.

Keester would score inside after yanking down a Rashid miss, but Hellige would score at the other end to make it 40-41 where John Hellige used a time out.

Out of the break, the Crusaders would get a stop on a Fedler miss and then Hellige would score on the next possession working inside. Denning and Fedler collapsed on Hellige, and Denning was whistled for a foul as Hellige dumped in a half-hook working underneath. Hellige made the freebie to give HTC its first lead of the half at 43-41.

Rashid would get fouled driving the lane with just :43 seconds left in the game and would connect on both free throws to set up Rauenbuehler's acrobatic attempt at the end of regulation.

Wilson said the Hounds were just outplayed by Holy Trinity.

"We got outplayed. They outplayed us the majority of the game. We came out flat and committed 15 turnovers against a half-court 2-3 zone. They wanted it more," Wilson said.

"You never want to lose to your cross-town rival. It's a pride thing and you want to be the best in town."

Wilson said the Hounds got a good game out of freshman Miles Dear who saw extended minutes with Davis and Rashid on the bench in foul trouble.

"He plays and practices hard and he knows the game. We got into some foul trouble and when we get into situations like that he stepped in and wasn't afraid to shoot, played good defense, and helped us tonight."

Schneider said he looks forward to the game against Fort Madison.

"This is a fun game and I love playing in it," Schneider said. "It's always a good game with them. You know



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Holy Trinity's Matt Hellige scores on a move inside against Fort Madison's Jayden Fedler (55) in the Crusaders 50-49 OT win Monday.

the crowd will be in it. We talked on the court and had a lot of fun. It was everyone's effort that made the game great, not just what happened at the end."

Schneider plays football and runs track for the Bloodhounds so some of the players on the Hounds squad are his teammates in other seasons.

John Hellige said the second half strategy was to hold Fedler to six points and then try to get out and run.

"Our focus at halftime was to slow down Fedler. He had 12 in the first half and we wanted to hold him to six in the second half and we held him to four. So I think that was a big difference," he said.

Fedler led Fort Madison with 16 points, while Keester and Rashid had 11 and 10 respectively. Denning had six and Davis had four, with Gerdes rounding out the scoring for FMHS with a bucket.

For the Crusaders, Hellige finished with 16 and Schneider had 13. Rauenbuehler had eight points, while Fehseke had five, Holtkamp had four, and Blake Crabtree and Kyle Bredemeyer had two each.

The Bloodhounds shot just six free throws on the night, converting four, while HTC went to the free throw line 23 times shooting just 52%.

Fort Madison (5-9) travels to Burlington for a girls/boys doubleheader Tuesday night, while Holy Trinity (4-9) has won four of their last five and heads to New London for a double header.

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Sports/Weather

Lady Crusaders cruise to win over Fort Madison

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity Catholic had five players in double figures as they rolled cross-town Fort Madison 69-22 Monday in girls high school basketball action.

Holy Trinity's Taylor Boeding went for 21 to lead all scorers including five 3-balls, three in the second half, as the Crusaders press off made baskets caused Fort Madison fits from the outset.

HTC opened up a 15-0 first-quarter lead before Fort Madison would get on the board with a Maddie Rashid running jumper. Fort Madison would commit seven first-quarter turnovers trying to navigate the zone-trap press of Holy Trinity.

The Lady Crusaders would push the lead to 20-6 when Boeding would score off a steal in transition and would lead 22-6 at the end of one on a Box bucket with time expiring in the quarter.

Hound senior Braxtyn McGhghy would start the scoring in the second period with a bucket from about four feet away in the lane. HTC would go cold from the field missing their first four shots until Boeding hooked up a 3-ball from the wing to make it 30-10.

Junior Ashlynn Haas would connect on a three to make it 33-10 and senior Emily Box would score on back-to-back trips down the floor for a 37-10 halftime lead.

Head Coach Tony Johnson would keep the pressure on the Hounds in the third period and the Hounds wouldn't be able to mount any sort of comeback, being held to just 10 points in the third period, while HTC raced to a 54-20 lead at the end of three.

Boeding would open with another 3-ball to start the 4th quarter and Box would score on consecutive trips down the floor for HTC while Fort Madison got a 3-ball from Eleesha Estrada as its only bucket in the final period.

Boeding, who's been in double figures the last four games for HTC, and has shot about 37% from the 3-point line over that span, said it's natural for her to play catch and shoot. But she also was able to get the ball inside to Box and senior Eryn Anderson from the point guard spot.

"I knew that tonight would be a good night to get everyone involved and playing selfishly wasn't in the deck of cards that needed to be played," Boeding said.

A streaky 3-point shooter, Boeding said she's been working this year, watching tape and following games to see what she's doing right and what's not working.

"I've noticed that I've gotten into a rhythm and I've been watching myself on tape as to what I'm doing when I make threes and what I do when I miss, and I'm trying

to focus on the things that work," she said.

Fort Madison coach Todd McGhghy said the 1-3-1 zone press of the Crusaders caused problems, but the girls also failed to execute once they got past the half court.

On several occasions, the Hounds would make passes where no one was there to take the pass. McGhghy said nothing new was in place, there was just poor execution.

"Tony does a great job, They don't do anything fancy, they just execute us. With all due respect, I don't think they're 40 points better than us, but I don't want to take anything away from Tony and his girls."

Johnson said HTC wasn't looking past the 1-13 Bloodhounds.

"We never take any games easy. The good thing for us is we had Friday off so we had a good practice and then the girls got two days of rest because of the weather."

He said Boeding controlled the offense well, while still

trying to look for her shots.

"We've been flipping her and Mya at point guard and letting Taylor get acclimated to it. But if they're going to give us Box down underneath we're going to go to that. Tonight they were trying to play a matchup zone so we were trying to get it inside to Eryn and Box as much as we could."

In addition to Boeding's 21, Box added 16, Lawlor and Ashlynn Haas and Anderson each scored in double figures with 10 points. Avery Hopper, who was back after a lower-leg injury, scored two.

McGhghy led Fort Madison with seven points. Maddie Rashid added five. Sara Bernhardt, Kylee Cashman, Jasmine Bass, Eleesha Estrada, and Brandy Walker all had two points for Fort Madison.

The Crusaders head to New London on Tuesday for a girls/boys doubleheader and the Bloodhounds head to Burlington for a girls/boys doubleheader.

Now is the Time to Start Preparing Our World for a Better Future

JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

Implement these simple steps to create a healthy footprint!



5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 15 Jan

Light Snow
High- 31.3° F | Low - 25.9° F

WED 16 Jan

Overcast
High- 22.9° F | Low - 6.7° F

THU 17 Jan

Overcast
High- 26.2° F | Low - 15.6° F

FRI 18 Jan

Overcast
High- 21.1° F | Low - 15.3° F

SAT 19 Jan

Rain
High- 3.9° F | Low - -6.2° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)



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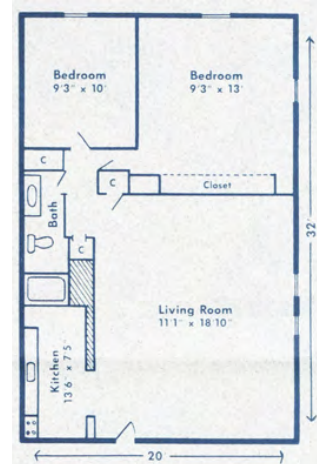
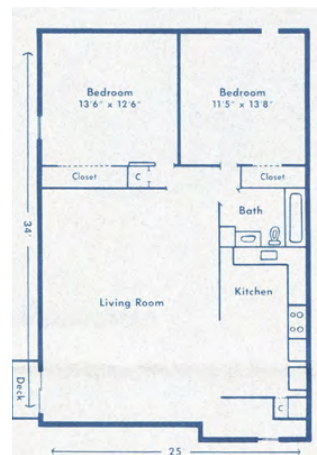
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