



Pen City Current

Wed., August 21, 2019 | 9 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 176

County forges ahead with rural parking law

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – A new law that could restrict parking in rural areas of Lee County moved to a final reading on Tuesday.

However, at Tuesday's regular meeting, the Lee County Board of Supervisors advanced the ordinance to allow more time for rural residents to give their input on the proposed rule.

The ordinance would allow the county, at the recommendation of the Lee County Engineer, to establish certain areas on county roads under its jurisdiction as no

parking zones. The zones would be marked with appropriate signage.

The ordinance would effect the roughly 10,000 people in the county who live in unincorporated areas.

The ordinance would require the county engineer to make the recommendation and the board would have to vote on a resolution designating the no parking zone on a case-by-case basis.

Supervisor Ron Fedler said since word of the new ordinance got out after the board approved the first reading

See **PARKING**, page 2

Fraise named new president of LCEDG

Jamie Baier named group's new Chairman

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Economic Development Group has made some changes moving into the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Former COO Dennis Fraise has been named the president of the group moving forward, while former marketing manager Dana Millard was named Economic Development Project Director.



FRAISE

"I'm excited to be part of the team that will be leading economic development efforts in Lee County," Fraise said. "Working together, we can accomplish great things and ensure a bright future for our young people and Lee County."

Jamie Baier, president of Jim Baier Ford in Fort Madison was named the new chairman of the organization.

"We have assembled a dynamic board of directors and a great team to lead Lee County EDG into the future. Both Dennis and Dana have been with our organization for six years and we've updated their titles to reflect their value and responsibilities they have within the organization" Baier said.

In addition to Baier's new position, the rest of the executive board includes: Vice Chair Scott Smith of Frank Millard and Co.; Secretary Jenny Steffensmeier of Steffensmeier Welding & Mfg.; Treasure Michael Mohrfeld of Morhfeld Electric; and Past Chair Dave Schwartz of Quality Inn & Suites.

Other board members for the 2019-20 board included Phil Hecht, Scott Piper, Mike Klauser, Bryan Langerud, Mickey McHale, Darrell Allman, Mike Norris, Andrea Rogers, Bob Huffman, Gary Folluo and Rick Larkin.

Lee County EDG will host an annual update on Thursday, August 22nd at Meyers Courtyard in Keokuk with keynote speaker Governor Kim Reynolds.

Visit Lee County EDG's website, www.LeeCountyEDG.com for additional information on Lee County EDG's progress and results.

Colleen and Ralph Krogmeier stand in front of the Hinterland Dairy that opened for retail cheese curd sales in July. The Donnellson dairy farmers have taken part of their family farm and turned it into a farmstead cheese processing plant.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Krogmeiers have curds on the whey

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON – Out of sight doesn't necessarily have to mean out of mind.

Ralph and Colleen Krogmeier of Donnellson have taken their first generation dairy farm and spun off a small, quaint retail outlet for their newest product – cheese.

But the farmstead is literally and figuratively a Hinterland. The term is a European term used to describe land that is off from what is typically visible – usually off from coastal areas.

The Krogmeiers operate a fully functional dairy farm on about 400 acres approximately four miles west of Wilson Lake on fertile farmland nestled quietly between Fort Madison and Donnellson.

In 2017 the family framed up a building that would house a cheese production center and a retail outlet.

Ralph Krogmeier said the transition came about when milk prices started to sag. And instead of getting out of the dairy business, the family expanded and built a small, fully pasteurized farmstead cheese production facility as part of the group's new venture, Hinterland Dairy.

Fresh cheese curds are produced two or three times a week in the facility and then sold locally on site or at Hy-Vee in Fort Madison, Harvestville Farms, Appleberry Orchard, Sonny's in West Point, and at farmers' markets in Montrose and Fort Madison.

The operation is called a farmstead because the cheese has to be made with milk produced on the farm by cows owned by the farmer.

The Krogmeiers now have two farms where the cows on the original farm, about 110, produce milk that is sold to Prairie Farms. The cheese production

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Final vote to come Tuesday

PARKING - Continued from Page 1

last week, he's had many county residents approach him about the rule, including former supervisor Don Hunold.

"Apparently a lot of people in my district were not aware of this ordinance or new law, and I could not go any place with somebody telling me they did not support this, in that they felt this was not what the county should do," Fedler said.

He added the Hunold reached out to him and told him the ordinance could end up causing more problems for the county than solutions.

"He said he felt that way because if this was passed and somebody came to us and wanted no parking for whatever reason and we approved it - he asked what happened when someone else comes and you don't think it's justified and you deny them. Do we open the county to a discrimination lawsuit?"

Fedler said he asked residents to come to the meeting and speak but they declined because they didn't want people to know they were against it and retaliate.

The issue seemed to have surfaced in Denmark with people who were concerned about parking problems on the town's west side near Dravis Automotive.

Fedler said the county shouldn't be picking sides in a personal argument between two property owners.

Fedler said for 30 years there really hasn't been any parking concerns until these issues cropped up.

County Engineer Ben Hull said the ordinance would give the county some options for enforcement in trouble areas. Supervisor Chair Gary Folluo asked Hull if he's had any other complaints.

"I've not had any requests from the public but I can think of several areas where this could be a useful tool," Hull said.

"We do have areas where they park on gravel roads and some of the conversations we've had with (Lee County

Sheriff) Stacy (Weber) it's difficult for his guys to determine and then section of Iowa code we go to is pretty obscure," Hull said.

Hull said it wouldn't just be for vehicles, but any kind of obstructions. He said he has the power to order moving the vehicles or obstructions.

"I think this would be a good tool to have," Hull said. "I would agree completely that you have to be very fair and thoughtful in the way it's implemented, and not just at the request of one person."

"This isn't a blanket ordinance, we can pick and choose where we want to do this," said Supervisor Matt Pflug. "However, if we don't act on this situation, does it continue to fester? That concerns me a bit."

There was also discussion on Denmark Fire and Rescue getting to calls in town, but Fedler said there were a few problems but the emergency crews could get to the calls.

"One guy told me, well then because all the streets are narrow are we going to have the whole town of Denmark no parking for rescue? Then you really will have some anger," Fedler said.

Supervisor Rick Larkin said he would vote in favor of the ordinance to move it to the third reading and give residents more of a chance to contact supervisors with their thoughts on the proposed law.

"I don't look at this to settle a neighborhood argument over who's right and who's wrong, where we can park and where we can't," Larkin said. "You get into that, you're gonna be like Fort Madison. There's a lot of people upset about parking there, and parking down both sides of the street and you can't get down the middle, that goes on all the time. I don't know you ever solve the parking issue."

Supervisor Rich Harlow said he wasn't voting in favor of the ordinance because he thought a resolution to the issue could be found outside of a new law.

The ordinance moved to a third reading with Folluo, Pflug and Larkin voting in favor of the ordinance, and Fedler and Harlow voting against it.

The ordinance requires three readings before being published and then enacted. The third reading is set for the supervisors' Aug. 27 meeting.

Hoyer making her name behind the camera

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - Her dream job would be to host a travel show on television simply because, well... she loves television and loves to travel.

That makes perfect sense, but a lofty goal for sure. But don't count out 2011 Holy Trinity Catholic graduate Colby Hoyer. She's taken a few healthy steps in that direction.

Hoyer, the daughter of Gary and Lynn Hoyer of Fort Madison, is now a producer of a reality television program on the HGTV network called "Going for Sold".

The show follows the adventures of Jon Pierre and Mary Tjon-Joe-Pin as they renovate houses into affordable homes in their hometown of Houston, Texas. Jon is a real estate agent who's knowledge of the Houston market helps the buying and selling of the flipped homes. Mary is former flight attendant-turned designer.

The show airs Thursday nights at 10 p.m. Central on HGTV.

Hoyer said the production gig is the most exciting thing - to date - that she's done with her double major in anthropology; and film, television and theater from the University of Notre Dame.

During her junior year she applied for several different internships on advice from a friend. Red Arrow Industries, a production company out of Knoxville, was one of those companies and invited Hoyer out for a summer internship.

Hoyer said after heading back to Notre Dame for her senior year, the company called her during the spring semester and offered her a job. She said she had a few other offers, but she loved the people and the company at Red Arrow, and went to work.

"This is really exciting. Red Arrow found Mary and Jon online and thought they had a great story and fantastic chemistry both on and off the camera," she

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Obituaries/Lottery Numbers

OBITUARIES

ROBERT H. KASSMEYER

Robert Henry "Bob" Kassmeyer, 74, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 12:05 a.m. Thursday, August 8, 2019, at the West Point Care Center in West Point, Iowa.

He was born on July 9, 1945, in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Frank Henry and Leona Elizabeth (Krittenbrink) Kassmeyer. On December 23, 1978, he married Valencia Hill.



KASSMEYER

Survivors include his wife: Val of West Point; two children: Shannon McGowan of West Point and Nicole (Aaron) McGowan Ludwig of West Point; five grandchildren: Ashley McGowan, Dominic Abbey, Kyndon Boatman, Brodey and Jakob McGowan; three great grandchildren: Diamond, Delila and Daelyn Garcia; two brothers: Ralph (Doris) Kassmeyer of West Point and Steve (Sandy) Kassmeyer of West Point; five sisters: Sr. Ladonna "Jeanette" Kassmeyer F.S.P.A. of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Francine (Jim) Edwards of Boonville, Missouri, Diane (Tom) Hughes of Belpre, Ohio, Nancy (Dennis) Washburn of Centerville, Iowa and Judy (Gary) Arnold of Holts Summit, Missouri; sister-in-law: Vanessa (Bill) McFarland; brother-in-law: Ryan (Debbie) Hill and several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter: Deborah Kassmeyer.

Bob attended St. Mary's School in West Point. He was a farmer and worked for Cessford Construction for over thirty years. He was a member of St. Mary the Assumption Catholic Church and the Farm Bureau. Bob loved his dogs: Buster and Betsy, John Deere tractors and his Gator.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Monday, August 12, 2019, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point, where the family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A Parish Rosary will be recited at 4:30 p.m.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point with Father Dennis Hoffman officiating.

DOROTHY M. DAVIS

Dorothy Maher Davis, 78, of Ft. Madison passed away at 2:18 AM on Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at The Madison.

She was born on July 12, 1941 in Russellville, Alabama to Grady and Eva Pennington Berryman.

Survivors include a daughter, Bonnie Maher of Bartlett, TN; one son, Steven Maher of Ft. Madison; three grandchildren, Kristi Maher, Melody Maher and Colin Maher; one sister, Ellen Ruehling and one brother, L.H. Berryman.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no formal services at this time. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

OBITUARIES

DOROTHY M. RAMSEY

Dorothy M. Ramsey, 93, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at her home. She was born on May 6, 1926 in Fort Madison, IA to Robert & Georgia Hirstine Heidbreder, Sr. She married Donald L. Ramsey on September 18, 1948 in Kahoka, MO. He preceded her in death on May 8, 1996.



RAMSEY

She worked at Gleason's and was a cook in several restaurants for many years. She loved cooking, gardening, cross stitch, embroidery, playing cards and watching sports.

Dorothy is survived by: 1-daughter: Lisa Ramsey of Fort Madison, IA; 5-grandchildren; 2-great grandchildren; 1-sister: Esther Womack of Fort Madison, IA; 1-sister in law: Leah (Leon) Malard of Bismarck, ND; 1-brother in law: Richard Ramsey of Port Lavaca, TX and her beloved nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by: her parents, husband, 2-daughters: Rebecca & Beverley, 4-brothers & 7-sisters.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A graveside service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 24, 2019 at Soldiers' Circle in Oakland Cemetery with Rev. Les Featheringill officiating. A memorial has been established for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Online condolences to Dorothy's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.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.

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4 3 5 1

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Sports

Sandburg wins Kempker's Open by three strokes

Plays first 18 at 5-under to get into championship flight

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Rob Sandburg shot a one-under 35 on the final nine holes of Saturday's Kempker's Open to win the championship flight.

Sandburg shot a sparkling 67 on the first 18 to qualify him for the top spot in the championship flight. The 35 gave him a combined 102 on the 27-hole format. Matt Cox had the best final nine with a three-under 33, but was on par with a 72 on the first 18.

"It feels good to finally get that one," Sandburg said. "When you play Sheaffer's and hit your driver down the middle you can score."

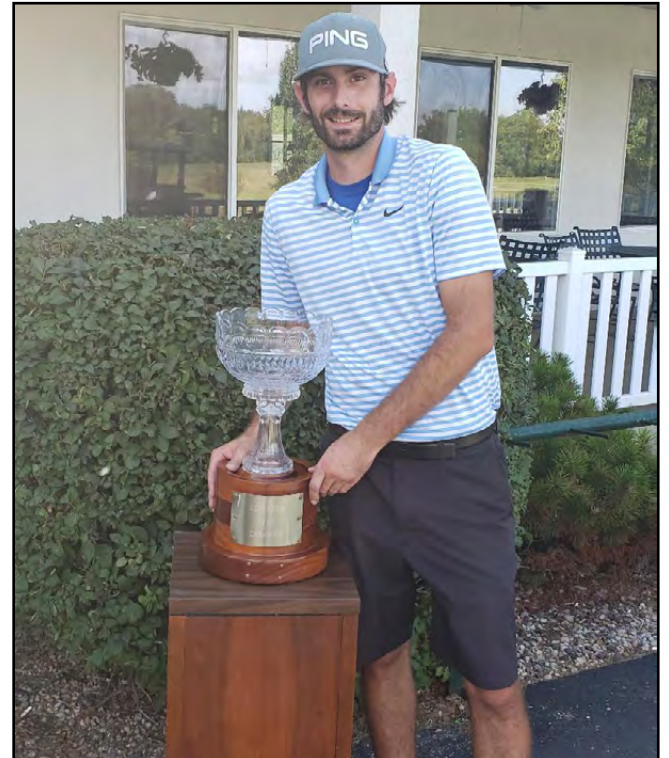
Rob Sandburg poses with the 2019 Kempker's Open trophy

after winning the annual tournament Saturday at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course. Sandburg shot a course best 67 on the first 18 and then carded a 35 in the championship flight final nine for a 102 to beat out Matt Cox with a 105. Courtesy photo.

Cox finished second in the championship flight with a 105. Zach Swink was third at 107. Jim Nelson and Tyler Dick both carded a 108. Kip Stuart shot a 109 for 6th, and TJ Widbin and Nick Parrish both came at 110 to round out the top 8.

In the first flight, Brad Wade, Steve Quittem and Adam Moyers all had 73s to take the top 3 spots. Doug Snaadt, Jeremy Beelman and Doug Frenz each shot a four-over 76 to win the second flight.

Jason Eastin, Kevin Bogert and Daryl Wolff carded 79s to take the top three spots in the third flight, while Tyler Gustafson, Kyle Ott and Jason Harper finished 1-2-3 in the fourth flight with 83s.



Rob Sandburg poses with the 2019 Kempker's Open trophy after winning the annual tournament Saturday at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised the Lee County Conference Board Chairman, Gary Folluo, has scheduled a Conference Board meeting at the South Lee County Courthouse Board Room on Tuesday, August 27th, 2019 at 6:30

p.m.
The purpose of the meeting is to discuss appointing a new Lee County Assessor. The agenda will include:
Approve agenda
Approval of previous meeting February 28th, 2019.
Discuss procedure to

appoint a new Assessor
Set meeting date to appoint a new Assessor
Adjourn
Teresa Murray
Lee County Conference Board Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Green Bay Levee & Drainage District will hold a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 29, 2019, at Heartland Co-op, east of Wever.

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The starting wage is \$14.96 per hour.

The deadline for submitting a resume is September 6, at 4:30 p.m.

Please send resume to Ross Braden, Lee County Attorney at P. O. 824, Keokuk, IA 52632 or e-mail to rbraden@leecounty.org



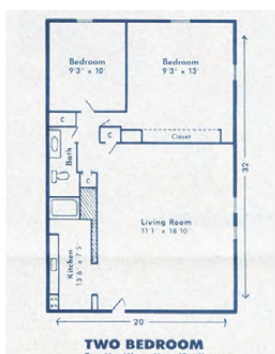
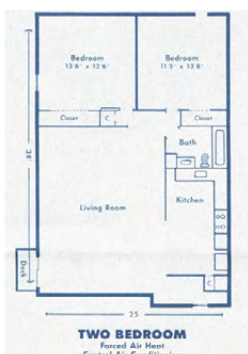
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From the Front/Weather

Hinterland Dairy a result of sagging milk prices

CHEESE - Continued from Page 1

facility has about 40 cows of its own that produce milk that is made into cheese.

“These are actually two separate Grade A milking facilities,” Krogmeier said. “So far we’re selling all the cheese curds we can make. But we’d rather go slow and get it right, than knock ourselves to death.”

He said they started July 9 with the first batch of cheese. The building was framed up in 2017 and became fully functional in 2019.

The farm currently has six part-time employees and three full timers which include Ralph, Colleen, and their youngest daughter, Shannon.

The Krogmeiers purchased the property in 1985.

“The building we milk in actually was an old air-

plane hanger owned by Leonard Wilson, who also developed Wilson Lake. This was his farm and he had an airstrip that went cattywampus to where we now milk cows,” he said.

“We’ve added some hoop structures where we keep most of the cows. At night we let them out on pasture weather permitting so they get to go outside.”

On Sunday morning, the Krogmeiers had just hosted one of the agri-tours from the American Cruise Lines on Sunday morning.

“We tried to keep it presentable, but it is what it is. You get a lot of animals around and you’re going to have smell and flies,” Krogmeier said.

“But the tour group was a great group. We had one

gentleman who said he liked that smell because it reminded him of when he was growing up.”

Krogmeier said the dairy farm business is in transition and with last year’s prices for milk dropping, about 10% of the dairy farmers in the state quit.

In 2009 it hit 12 dollars per hundred weight, which is like 12 cents a pound. He said current prices are in the 17 to 18 cent range and last year was under 14.

“It was tough. We were fortunate to get the bills paid but we didn’t make a dime,” he said.

“Part of the reason we built the cheese plant was we had enough income to keep everyone employed and happy, but we needed something else to add value to the milk. We’re hoping the return on the resources, meaning labor, capital, management – is better this way than just milking more cows,” he said.

Krogmeier said the family wants the market to be local with deliveries a couple times a week to keep the product fresh, while keeping the company close to its base.

Future plans include an aged cheddar curd and possibly a product called quark, which is originally a European unripened cheese that Colleen says is close to a cross between cream cheese and Greek yogurt.

“You can substitute for anything that would take cream cheese. You can use it as potato topping, mix fruit with it, cheesecake, lasagna. Very versatile, high protein, high probiotics..a really healthy, fresh product,” she said.

Colleen said she’s hoping to have the retail market, located at 2149 Franklin Road, open through the end of the year and will be offering holiday baskets and have possibly some online ordering available when the temperatures cool to allow better shipping.

The company’s website is located at www.hinterlanddairy.com/. The outlet is open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. They will probably close the on-site retail outlet January-March.

“Our cheese curds might be a bit pricier, but they are very good and we hope they’re gone within a week – either in the fridge or ate up in two days and gone,” Ralph Krogmeier said.

“If we can do a good job of making a good product and hopefully get it sold – for the present, we’re pretty happy,” Ralph said.

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THU 22 Aug	Broken Clouds High– 73.3° F Low – 59.1° F
FRI 23 Aug	Overcast High– 72.2° F Low – 60.0° F
SAT 24 Aug	Light Rain High – 75.3° F Low – 67.2° F
SUN 25 Aug	Overcast High– 76.0° F Low – 72.2° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

Local News

HTC grad producing HGTV show

HOYER - Continued from Page 2

said. “We pitched them to HGTV and they loved Mary and Jon instantly. That’s when Red Arrow set out to produce the series.”

Then the reality of reality television set in.

“I went to Houston and there the real work began last year in the heat of the summer,” she said.

“The easiest way to describe what I do as a producer is to say we organize and manage all the things you see on camera before the cameras get there. We coordinate with Jon, Mary and their construction crew as they work through each renovation, and then we decide which parts of that renovation make it into the show.”

Hoyer served as a field producer on six of the seven episodes in 2018 and 19. She was working on a different series when the pilot episode was filmed.

She said eight years ago she had no clue she would be where she is now, living in Knoxville and traveling to Houston to produce the show.

“If you would have told me growing up I was going to move to Knoxville and produce television I would have laughed –

loudly,” she said Wednesday from her home in Knoxville.

“I love this and the challenges it brings, and I’m happy with the way things are going. This is giving me tons of opportunities.”

Hoyer said she got her inspiration from Anthony Bourdain and Samantha Brown. Bourdain hosted the award-winning CNN travel program “Parts Unknown” and died last year. Brown is a Travel Channel host who’s programs focus on weekend getaways and vacations such as “Girl Meets Hawaii”, and “Great Vacation Homes”.

“Honestly Anthony Bourdain and Samantha Brown were my idols, but Ellen is my girl,” Hoyer said of Ellen DeGeneres.

Hoyer stopped short... just short...and laughed at the idea of a “Colby” show on the horizon saying she’s very happy doing what she is and continuing to learn the business of television with Red Arrow.

“My dream job would be to host a travel show. I love to travel and I love the television industry. How great would it be to get paid to do that,” she said.

“But these are fun shows that teach you



Photo courtesy Red Arrow Industries



Former Fort Madison native Colby Hoyer poses with her camera in front of construction materials off the set of HGTV’s “Going for Sold” airing on Thursday nights at 10 p.m. Colby is a former Holy Trinity Catholic graduate and works as a producer out of Knoxville, Tenn.

something, too. You want that as a producer. It’s really a double win when you get to produce a show for people that are legitimately good people. Mary and Jon are super kind and extremely welcoming. You just want to keep doing it.”

Hoyer said her parents have also has a profound influence in her life.

“They’ve always encouraged me. I have a great job and I’m doing fine and I can support myself. But they always encouraged me to do what I love and everything else will come along.”



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