

# TSR Iowa's Outstanding event

**TOURISM AWARD:** Tri-State Rodeo joins Harvestville Farms in those honored



Courtesy image

Representatives of the Tri State Rodeo are presented the Outstanding Event award at the Iowa Tourism Conference last week in Des Moines.

Submitted article

FORT MADISON — The Iowa Tourism Office presented 24 awards recognizing excellence in the tourism industry during the 2024 Iowa Tourism Conference last week in Des Moines.

"These awards recognize the hard work and dedication of our tourism industry partners and the appeal of Iowa as a destination," said Amy Zeigler, state tourism office manager. "We look forward to building on the positive momentum for continued success in 2024."

Awards, divided into metro and rural distinctions, were made in 13 categories. Local winners were the Tri-State Rodeo and Harvestville Farm.

Outstanding Event

Tri-State Rodeo, Fort Madison (Rural)

"We are so proud of our local winners," said Chi Eastin, Fort Madison tourism director. "Last year's 75th Tri-State Rodeo was an excellent event from the fantastic weather to the

See **TOURISM**, page 2

## FM NEWS

# City partners embark on new visioning

• FM Partners, FMAAA, and city begin collaboration to plan for next 10 years

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Community partners including the Fort Madison Partners, City of Fort Madison, and Fort Madison Area Arts Association are kicking off a communitywide effort to develop a 10-year vision and new strategic plan for Fort Madison entitled 'Find your Fort Madison'.

A strategic planning team has been formed to manage and oversee the process. The visioning and planning process will involve extensive public input through a questionnaire, a community event, and small group interviews to ensure a vision and strategic plan are developed that reflect the needs of our community.



GOBBLE

The strategic planning team is currently seeking your opinions through an online questionnaire available at <http://tinyurl.com/FtMad2024>. For those unable to complete the questionnaire online, hard copies will be made available at the Fort Madison Library and the Newberry Center.

"As the city continues to grow and evolve, it is crucial to have a clear vision in place to guide its development and ensure its long-term success," said Tim Gobble, Executive Director Fort Madison Partners.

"By taking the time to create an updated visioning plan, Fort Madison can proactively address challenges, leverage opportunities, and build a vibrant community that meets the needs of its diverse population. It fosters collaboration, innovation, and sustainable growth that will benefit current and

See **SURVEY**, page 3

## LEE COUNTY

# Keokuk man convicted on felony sex charges

LEE COUNTY - On March 27, 2024, Matthew Wayne Sly, 30, of Keokuk, plead guilty as charged to Enticing a Minor Under 16 for Sexual Purposes, a Class D Felony punishable by up to five years within the Iowa Department of Corrections.

Sly also plead guilty to five charges of Phone Dissemination of Obscene Material to Minors, an aggravated misdemeanor, each punishable of up to two years within the Iowa Department of Corrections. These offenses also carry Sex Of-

fender Registration requirements.

According to court affidavits, from August 24, 2023 through August 28, 2023, Sly did entice and arrange to meet a person he reason-

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## WEATHER

THU 28 Mar..... Mostly sunny and cool, 59° F/ 38° F ☀  
FRI 29 Mar..... Mostly cloudy with slight chance of rain, 68° F/ 49° F ☁  
SAT 30 Mar..... Mostly sunny and cool, 64° F/ 41° F ☀

## IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 03/26.....18 25 34 39 48, Lucky Ball: 12  
MEGA MILLIONS 03/26.....7 11 22 29 38, Mega Ball: 4 Megaplier: 2  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 03/26.....8 8 0  
PICK 3 EVENING 03/26.....4 3 1  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 03/26.....0 0 6 7  
PICK 4 EVENING 03/26.....3 4 0 3

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## Obituaries/From the Front

# FM, Keokuk tourism officials working with Travel Iowa

**TOURISM** - Continued from Page 1

great performers and contestants. It was a record breaking year where everything just came together. The Rodeo Operating Committee truly deserved this award.”

Outstanding Retail Experience

Harvestville Farm, Donnellson (Rural)

“This was Harvestville Farm’s second year in a row for winning at the conference. They have found their niche and strive to bring a unique farm experience to their visitors,” said Eastin.

Eastin has also won at this conference in 2022, being awarded Outstanding Marketing Collaboration for work with the Lake Cooper Loop (Metro), Outstanding Lodging Property for the Kingsley Inn (Metro) and Fort Madison as the Outstanding Community (Metro). “Southeast Iowa has made a huge name for itself at the Iowa Tourism Conference in the last 3 years and we’re not slowing down. Travel Iowa has urged us to “Think Big” and that’s exactly what we are doing in the Fort Madison Tourism office.”

The Fort Madison and Keokuk Tourism offices are working with Travel Iowa to promote area museums, retail, hotels, rental properties, campgrounds and events by adding those listings to their website. Annually, two million people visit the Travel Iowa website, [traveliowa.com](http://traveliowa.com). “We want to make sure that southeast Iowa is utilizing the free services that the state office is offering so please create your free listing and promote your business!”

Find more information on free marketing with Travel Iowa at <https://industrypartners.traveliowa.com/free-marketing/> or by contacting Chi Eastin at the Fort Madison Tourism office. [tourism@fortmadison.com](mailto:tourism@fortmadison.com).

## OBITUARIES

# VERNA L. LEININGER

Verna Louise Leininger, 84, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Monday, March 25, 2024 at the West Point Care Center, West Point, Iowa. She was born September 4, 1939 in Iowa, a daughter of Walter and Opal (Still) Corsbie.



LEININGER

She earned a scholarship and attended the University of Iowa, where she studied home economics. She was a talented seamstress, and started her career at Interiors Unlimited making custom drapes. She soon began her own business, making custom drapes for other businesses in the area as well. Verna was a wonderful cook. She worked at the Kensington for 10 years becoming affectionately known as the Pie Lady.

Verna was an avid gardener, taking great pride in growing and continuing her father’s heirloom tomato line. She enjoyed “saving” plants destined for the compost pile. She was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church.

She is survived by five children: Suzanne Boak of Orrville, Ohio; Kathleen (Tom) Holtkamp of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; Steven (Mary) Leininger of Sterling, Ohio; Michael (Theresa) Leininger of Seville, Ohio; Lisa (Russ) Holtkamp of West Point, Iowa; two sisters: Judy Johnston of Belton, Missouri; Jane Sugars of Fort Madison, Iowa; eleven grandchildren: Adam Hanzie, Josh (Jill) Hanzie, Lauren Boak (Zach Myers), Jordan (Deidre) Holtkamp, Derek (Karli) Holtkamp, Zach Leininger, Austin (Jordan) Leininger, Justin Leininger (Rilee Koprivec), Jessica (Phil) Cordova, Jacob Holtkamp (Megan Tarmichael) and Nick Holtkamp (Maddy Gooden); six great grandchildren: Lucas and Ava Hanzie, Hayden and Dawson Holtkamp, Flynn and Vivian Holtkamp; brothers-in-law, Frank (Melanie) Leininger of Franklin, Iowa and David (Kathy) Leininger of Wooster, Ohio, several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, one grandson Joseph Leininger, and one brother-in-law Samuel “Dick” Johnston.

Her family will greet friends from 9:30 - 11:00 am Saturday, April 6, 2024 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, where a celebration of her life will follow and begin at 11:00 am at the funeral home. Burial will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Leininger family and an online guest book may be found at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).

### Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City 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. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

# Sly pleads guilty on six counts

**GUILTY** - Continued from Page 1

ably believed to be a 14-year-old minor with the intention of committing an illegal sex act on said person.



Sly

During this time period, Sly also sent obscene materials and videos to the person believed to be a 14-year-old minor. Jury trial commenced on March 26, 2024, and after one day of evidence presented by the Lee County Attorney’s Office, the defendant plead guilty

to all six counts with no sentencing concessions being made.

The incident was investigated by the Des Moines County Sheriff’s Office, and the case was prosecuted by the Lee County Attorney.

The Lee County Sheriff’s Office, Keokuk Police Department and the Fort Madison Police Department assisted with the investigation and arrest.

Sentencing is being held on May 20., at the Lee County Courthouse in Keokuk.

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## Sports/Iowa News

# Jobless benefits now funneled through ID.me verification

DES MOINES – Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) has announced a successful testing period for ID.me, the new identity verification method used in the state’s unemployment system.

As previously announced, ID.me will become the requirement for all claimants starting April 1, 2024, improving the process for securely verifying the identity of Iowans who file for unemployment benefits.

Since January 2, 2024, over 21,000 claimants have successfully used ID.me when filing a claim with IWD (through online self-service, video chat, or in-person verification options). Over 96 percent of participating claimants were able to complete verification on their first attempt and in less than five minutes on average. Since January, the use of ID.me has also already helped IWD identify and halt over 1,200 fraudulent attempts to obtain benefits.

ID.me is the next-generation digital identity network that simplifies how individuals securely prove and share their identity online. ID.me’s identity verification solution is certified against federal digital identity standards and is being used by Iowans to prove their identity when filing an initial or weekly unemployment claim.

“Our goal at Iowa Workforce Development is to help ease the path to reemployment for Iowans who have lost their job, and central to that goal is having a responsive and modernized system. ID.me has already enhanced our ability to verify claims safely and securely for the Iowans who need them, while also helping us remain a good steward of the UI trust fund,” said Beth Townsend, Executive Director of Iowa Workforce Development. “We look forward to expanding the use of ID.me to improve claims processing times and strengthen our ability to stop fraud attempts earlier in the process.”

While filing for unemployment, claimants are prompted to use ID.me to verify their identity. The addition of ID.me streamlines the overall claims process and cuts down on additional verification steps that previously occurred after a claim was filed.

IWD will continue to provide three verification options for ID.me to improve accessibility and offer claimants the choice to find the best verification option that works for them.

Visit this link to learn about the three options for using ID.me (Online Self-Service, Video Chat Agent, In-person Verification).

The in-person verification option for ID.me is available at all local IowaWORKS offices and is intended for claimants who do not have a personal mobile device, laptop or computer.

For security reasons, claimants will also be asked to log into their ID.me account each week they are filing a claim. (However, claimants only need to complete the first-time identity verification process once during their benefits cycle; after that, they simply log back in).

Claimants can visit this link to learn more about the identity verification process when filing for benefits. In rare cases where claimants do not possess a device (mobile phone, laptop, tablet, etc.), and do not possess government-issued identification, IWD will work with them on an alternative method for verification. However, IWD anticipates the vast majority of claimants will be able to successfully use ID.me, as they are today.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison Bloodhound football players Henry Morris, left, and Teague Smith, right, signed letters to play college football Tuesday evening. Morris is headed to Wartburg College, while Smith is headed to University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

## Community survey open until April 15

**SURVEY** - Continued from Page 1

future generations.”

Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld said visioning is creating a better future today.

“Investing in an updated visioning plan is not just about planning for tomorrow,” Mohrfeld said. “It’s about shaping the future of Fort Madison today. Together, we can create a city that thrives, inspires, and embodies the values of progress and prosperity. Let’s envision a brighter tomorrow for Fort Madison.”

The partnering groups are working with the Institute for Decision Making (IDM) at the University of Northern Iowa to facilitate the planning process. IDM has a 37-year track record of providing hands-on community and economic development planning with communities and organizations across the state.

The survey will be open through April 15th.

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Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Monday, April 1 through Friday, April 5 so we can enjoy Spring break.

The e-Edition will resume Monday, April 8.

News will still be published to our website & social media channels.

**Thank for reading!**

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### PUBLIC NOTICES

minimum the location of the utility, a clear legend, legible and adequate dimensions, all drainage structures within the vicinity of the utility (including culverts), and a realistic design that reflects actual site conditions.

3. The County Engineer will review the application and site and determine if the design is realistic in reference to actual site conditions and determine if there are any clear zone or safety issues with the design.

Upon approval of the application, the Utility Permit will be issued by the County Engineer contingent upon the applicant's agreement to pay the following costs:

a. Length of the installed utility within County R.O.W. will be charged at \$50 per mile of utility (a minimum fee of \$50 will apply if under a mile in length)

b. Each Road crossing will be charged a \$50 fee

c. Each field review by the Engineer or his representative in excess of the first field visit upon receipt of the application shall be charged a \$50 fee in the event location plans are not adequate per number 2.

4. Hold Harmless. A copy of a certificate of insurance naming Lee County as an additional insured for the permit work or proof of self-insurance shall be provided to the County Engineer prior to installation. The minimum limits of liability under the insurance policy or proof of self-insurance shall be \$1,000,000.

5. Non-Conforming Work. The County Engineer may halt the installation at any time if the applicant's work does not meet the requirements set forth in this Utility Permit.

6. The location, construction and maintenance of the utility/tile line installation covered by this application shall be in accordance with all

county, state, and federal laws; franchise rules and regulations; regulations and directives of the Iowa State Commerce Commission, Utilities Division; the Department of Water, Air and Waste Management; all rules and regulations of Lee County and any other laws or regulations applicable or which may be hereinafter enacted.

7. Construction signing shall comply with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Flagging operations are the responsibility of the permit holder. The original placement of signs and removal on completion of the work shall be accomplished by the permit holder.

8. The applicant shall use above ground reference markers in the R.O.W. boundary to locate all above ground appurtenances and to locate line and changes in alignment. All markers shall be conspicuous and not less than 48" tall. Markers shall be maintained in good repair and clear of vegetation by the applicant.

9. All tile locations encountered during construction shall be protected in accordance with I.A.C. 199-9.2(479).

10. No underground utility lines shall cross over a driveway or cross-road drainage structure.

11. A joint assessment of the road surfacing may be made by the applicant and the County Engineer both before and after construction. After construction, granular surfacing shall be added to the road at the applicant's cost, if necessary, to restore the road to its original condition.

12. Areas within the R.O.W. damaged by the installation shall be repaired and restored to at least its former condition by the applicant or the cost of the repair work caused to be performed

by the County will be assessed against the applicant.

13. Areas disturbed during construction which create an erosion problem shall be solved by the applicant in a manner approved by the County engineer.

14. The permit holder shall be fully responsible for any future adjustments of its facilities within the established highway right-of-way caused by highway construction or maintenance operations by Lee County irrespective of whether or not additional right of-way is acquired in connection with such highway improvement. The permit holder agrees to do this promptly on order by the Board of Supervisors. If the permit holder is unable to comply promptly, the County may cause the work to be done, and the permit holder will pay the cost thereof upon receipt of statement.

15. The County will endeavor to give the permit holder sufficient notice of any proposed construction or maintenance work, on either existing or newly acquired right-of-way, that is likely to expose, cover up, or disturb its facility, in order that the permit holder may arrange to protect its lines. The County will inform contractors, and others working on the job, of the location of the lines so that reasonable care may be taken to avoid damaging the lines. The County assumes no responsibility, however, for failure to give such notice.

16. The permit holder shall take all reasonable precautions during the construction and maintenance of said installation to protect and safeguard the lives and property of the traveling public and adjacent property owners and shall save the County harmless of any damage or losses that may be sustained by the traveling public or maintenance

operations.

17. The permit holder agrees to give the County forty-eight (48) hours notice of intention to start construction on the highway right-of-way. Said notice shall be made in writing to the County Engineer.

18. The permit holder shall be responsible for any damage that may result to said highway because of the construction operation or maintenance of said facility and shall reimburse the County any expenditure that the County may have to make on said highway because of said Permit Holder's facility having been constructed, operated and maintained thereon.

19. The permit holder shall indemnify and save harmless the County from any and all causes of action, suits at law or in equity, or losses, damages, claims, or demands, and from any and all liability and expenses of whatsoever nature for, on account of, or due to the acts or omissions of said Permit Holder's officers, members, agents, representatives, contractors, employees or assigns arising out of or in connection with its (or their)

use or occupancy of the public highway under this permit.

20. Non-compliance with any of the terms of the County policy, permit or agreement, may be considered cause for shutdown of utility/tile line construction operations or withholding of relocation reimbursement until compliance is assured, or revocation of the permit. The cost of any work caused to be performed by the County in removal of non-complying construction will be assessed against the permit holder.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Driveway and Entrances Policy for the Lee County Secondary Road Department:

Dated at Lee County, Iowa, this 29th day of January 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Schulz, seconded by Holmes to award the bid for the Keokuk Ambulance building

to Schickedanz Construction in the amount of \$1,064,000.00. Motion carried. Discussion on financing was tabled.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Holmes, to approve the Consent Agenda that included the January 22, 2024 Board minutes, the claims for payment and ten Tax Abatement Resolutions. Roll call: Fedler-aye, Holmes-aye, Schulz-aye and Seyb-aye. Motion carried.

#### RESOLUTION # 2024-35

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Ryan and Elisha Krebill 1639 Primrose Road Donnellson IA 52625

For exemption from

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taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-36

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Dale and Cheryl Enger 1777 Lost Creek Road Wever IA 52658

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/

Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-37

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Martin and Grettel Munford 30616 Hawk Drive Farmington IA 52626

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-38

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the

County; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Taylor Development 3533 Hwy 218 Keokuk IA 52632

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-39

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Patrick and Susan Pickford 1384 Lakeview Drive Wever IA 52658

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND AP-

PROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-40

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: William Jr and Kaci Stewart 2217 48th Street Fort Madison IA 52627

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-41

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee

County, Iowa; and, WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Robert and Mariellis Hasenclever 3207 180th Street Fort Madison IA 52627

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-43

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Ames Business Group LLC 2200 River Road Keokuk IA 52632

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said

applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-44

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Braden Glasscock 2375 320th Street Keokuk IA 52632

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

### RESOLUTION # 2024-45

WHEREAS, the Board

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**PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Douglas Gruener 1857 Otte Road Fort Madison IA 52627

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of

January, 2024.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member and /s/ Ron Fedler, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Holmes reported on a Workforce Development Disability Meeting and a 401k Committee Meeting. Fedler reported on the Assessor and EMA budget meeting and a Lee County Cattleman's Association Meeting. Seyb reported on the SEIRPC board meeting and a Farm Bureau meeting.

At 11:10 a.m. it was moved by Holmes, seconded by Fedler, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 5, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Building in Fort Madison.

Garry Seyb, Chairman  
Attest: Denise Fraise,

Lee County Auditor	467.82
RK Dixon Co, equip	72.06
Donnellson Tire, svcs	206.00
R Fedler, exps	65.00
Floyds EZ Way, svcs	145.00
FM Chmbr, dues	185.00
FM Water, svcs	3824.16
Foundation 2, svcs	513.15
D Fraise, exps	40.00
GrtAmer Financial, equip	176.70
S Hansen, svcs	450.00
Henderson Prod, splys	398.59
Huffman Welding, equip	1673.25
J Huling, exps	251.44
HyVee, splys	708.00
ICCS, mtrls	147.00
Ideal Rdy Mix, mtrls	5578.95
IL Dept/Pub Hlth, svcs	500.00
IA Narc Off Assc, reg	675.00
ISAC, reg	210.00
Jet Gas, fuel	10519.53
Jireh Inc, fuel	1174.82
Johnson Co ME, svcs	2611.64
Dvnprt Printing, splys	

**Claims paid  
January 29, 2024**

Access Energy, svcs	852.89
Access Systems, svcs	377.94
Airgas USA, splys	85.93
Alliant Energy, svcs	2604.11
Amazon, splys	112.11
Ape & Sons, Rock	985.00
Applied Concppts, equip	257.50
AssuredPartners, svcs	3618.00
Jim Baier, parts	64.75
Blessing Hlth, svcs	100.00
B Bonar, svcs	200.00
Bound Tree Med, splys	951.29
C Burk, publ	200.00
Caldwell Appraisal, svcs	3375.00
Central Svcs, splys	156.58
CenturyLink, svcs	99.23
Electrical Engrg, parts	1745.59

P Kaltefleiter, exps	17.60
Keokuk Water, svcs	640.28
King-Lynk Fnrl, svcs	3255.00
Kohlmorgan Hlg, svcs	500.00
R Kuntz, svcs	400.00
Lee Co Auditor, Ctrl Pur	170.84
Lee Co Treas, costs	10616.49
Liberty Utility, gas	2890.51
McKesson Med, splys	86.91
Menards, splys	240.96
MidAmer Enrgy, gas	2914.03
MW Grp Bnfts, svcs	225.25
Frank Millard Co, svcs	425.00
Nat'l Research, svcs	1853.84
O'Reilly Auto, splys	4.99
Optum Phrmcy, splys	460.54
PCC Ambulance, svcs	11073.24
Pen City Current, publ	1305.00
M Pflug, exps	40.00
V Pierrot, svcs	200.00

Prairie Farms, splys	448.20
Pitney Bowes, pstg	845.73
Rapids Repr, splys	25.00
Rathbun, water	164.00
B Roberts, svcs	1057.00
RSM US, svcs	330.00
Sanofi Pasteur, splys	93.34
J Schmitz, svcs	220.41
SIACC, svcs	978.96
SIADSA, svcs	7050.19
Stericycle, svcs	995.00
Supreme Radio, equip	6164.55
Trinity Muscatine, svcs	14340.92
Vanguard Appr, svcs	8640.00
Verizon, svcs	309.24
Vigen Mmrl, svcs	2660.00
A Wagenhauser, exps	33.85
M Walker, svcs	200.00
Washington Co, svcs	12727.48
West Pt Lmbr, splys	46.70
West Pt Utility, svcs	401.51
Winners Circle, svcs	120.97

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## Sports/Iowa News

# Randolph return to front line gives Hounds options

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP  
PCC Sports

FORT MADISON - The offense of Fort Madison's girls soccer team put up plenty of goals last season, and that was without one of the Bloodhounds' best offensive players from 2022.

The return of senior Natalie Randolph from a knee injury that kept her out last season means the Bloodhounds have a lot of offensive options to build on an 11-6 season that included a trip to the regional final.

The Bloodhounds had four or more goals in five of their wins last season, and they figure to have more of a potent offense this season.

Randolph had 19 goals in 2022, and now she's back on a front line that includes sophomore Hadley Wolfe (21 goals in 2023), junior Teagan Snaadt (20 goals last season, 16 goals in 2022) and sophomore Halle Menke (three goals, team-high 11 assists last season).

"We have two 20-goal scorers back from last season and now we add Natalie back into that mix," coach Carrie Burken said. "They all have different strengths, so that will make it harder for the defense. The defense will have to adjust to different types of goal scorers. So with that many different options, it will be harder for the defense to focus on just one player."

The key, Burken said, will be the four getting accustomed to being together on the field.

"Natalie's played with Teagan before, but hasn't with Hadley and Halle," Burken said. "So getting them used to playing together is important."

Burken has an experienced group, even with the loss of Camille Kruse and Laura Mehmert, who graduated. Mary Kate Bendlage and Taegan Denning, two starters from last season as juniors, aren't playing this season.

"We have pretty much everyone back from last season," Burken said. "Some people will have the same role as last year, so there's an easy transition. But some people will be in different positions, maybe some different responsibilities."

"We have six seniors, which is good, but we also have a lot of freshmen, which is nice. We're bringing in a lot of athleticism and talent, and that's exciting because they'll get to develop with the seniors."

Randolph isn't the only player coming back from a knee injury. Irelynd Sargent, who started 15 matches in 2022, also returns after missing last season and will be a key part of the Bloodhounds' defense.

"Obviously, coming back from an ACL injury, it can make you a little tentative," Burken said. "But they haven't looked that way. They both missed last season, so



Courtesy photo

The 2024 Fort Madison Lady Bloodhound girls soccer team.

they're ready to be back. They're hungry.

"Irelynd, it's important to have her back for defensive stability, just to have an experienced person back there. Natalie is another goal scorer and she has a lot of experience as well."

Taylor Johnson is back at goalkeeper. The senior had 109 saves last season, and eight of the Bloodhounds' wins were shutouts.

"I think it's helpful to know that she's back there," Burken said of Johnson. "Everybody loves that she's back there, because they know she's going to make stops. She's so good back there."

Burken likes the blend of experienced players.

"I think what's exciting is we're starting to see some of the younger players, the juniors, start to step into some of those leadership roles, and really help out the younger players," she said. "I like the mix of this team."

## Pella's Van Kooten takes reins at State Historical Society

DES MOINES - Valerie Van Kooten of Pella has been named the new administrator of the State Historical Society of Iowa, beginning April 5.

"We are very excited to have Valerie joining the State Historical Society of Iowa in this leadership role," said Adam Steen, director of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services, which oversees the historical society. "Her experience and record of high-level achievement will be major assets as the historical society continues its dual mission of preservation and education into the future."

"I am immensely humbled to take the reins of the State Historical Society of Iowa, as I have loved this institution since I was a little girl," Van Kooten said. "I am grateful for growing up in a very history-oriented family, which gave me a love for our state and the knowledge that Iowa's history must be preserved and

promoted. I look forward to working with the dedicated staff at the museum, archives and library, and historic sites."

Van Kooten comes to the historical society with a wealth of experience in Iowa history, historic preservation, capital campaigns, executive leadership and more.

Currently, she is the owner and founder of Van Kooten Grant Consulting, working with clients to identify and fulfill needs, sustainability and funding sources while crafting and advising about grant applications.

Previously, she served as the executive director of Pella Historical Museums where she spearheaded a capital campaign that raised \$2.7 million in 13 months, and renovated the Scholte House and Gardens, the Boyhood Home of Wyatt Earp and many features in the Historical Village. She has also worked

in public relations at Rolscreen Company (now Pella Corporation), and taught technical writing and history at Central College before becoming Central's grant writer.

In addition, Van Kooten has considerable experience in membership, grants and donation programs. She served on the Iowa Economic Development Authority's Enhance Iowa Committee for four years; was chairperson of the Community Attraction & Tourism committee; served on the State Association for the Preservation of Iowa Cemeteries grants committee; and is chair of the Marion County Pioneer Cemetery Commission. She also was a Humanities Iowa speaker for nearly 20 years, giving presentations about women's fashion in Iowa, 1850-2000.

Van Kooten is a graduate of Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in Journalism/Mass Communications and has taken journalism master's degree classes at Drake University. She also holds a Grant Professional Certification (one of only 475 in the United States).

She lives in Pella with her husband, Kent, and has 3 sons and 4 grandchildren.



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