

# Grants boost CTE at FMHS

**CAREER TECH:** Lamb says 3-of-4 students on one of district's career tech pathways

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison School District is keeping the pedal down on its Career Technical Education programs.

The district received more than \$150,000 in statewide grants during a competitive process this year and the funds will go toward automotive, agriculture, health care, and con-

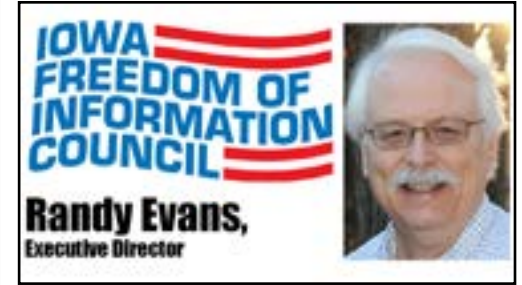
struction programs already in place at the high school.

FMHS Co-principal Patrick Lamb said the district won five grants but applied for 13 as part of \$1.7 million the state set aside in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) that was part of the federal response to the pandemic.

Lamb said the funding is the tail end of the ESSER funds

See **GRANTS**, page 7

**COMMENTARY**



## Iowa officials forget they work for us

The Legislature took an important step last week in voting to toughen penalties for state and local officials who violate a key government transparency tool, Iowa's open meetings law.

Unfortunately, lawmakers' actions may not be enough to reverse the love for secrecy that too many government boards and councils demonstrate. The latest example comes from Des Moines.

City officials moved discussion of possible changes in Des Moines' "standard development agreement" away from a meeting of the City Council that any interested citizen could attend. The discussion was held, instead, during two private meetings of council members the public did not know about.

Des Moines is not the only place where elected officials have shown a preference for private discussions rather than public debate. Members of the Dav- enport City Council, rocked by scandal and lawsuits, are Iowa's government secrecy poster children.

Assurances by Des Moines leaders they believe in Iowa's "sunshine" laws ring hollow when you read the findings from Des Moines Register reporter Virginia Barreda's investigation. I encourage Des Moines officials, and government leaders across the state, to reread the first two sentences of Iowa's open meetings law. It provides clear guidance on open meetings of government boards and councils.

The key sentences state, "This chapter seeks to assure, through a requirement

See **EVANS**, page 4



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Workers from Silgan Containers Corp. work on a home on Westwood Drive Tuesday afternoon as part of the Fort Madison Partners' annual Paint-A-thon, which continues through this week restoring several homes in Fort Madison.

**IOWA NEWS**

## Burlington fertilizer spill reaches Hawkeye Creek

DES MOINES - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is investigating a fertilizer spill in the City of Burlington in Des Moines County.

On April 22, the DNR Field Office in Washington was notified of a liquid fertilizer spill in Burlington. At approximately 5:00 p.m. a truck driven by Jeff Boyer was hauling fertilizer when a 700 gallon plastic tank containing

ammonium phosphate fell off near the intersection of West Street and Roosevelt Avenue in Burlington. The driver stopped, but left the scene shortly after.

Local authorities responded to the scene. Further investigation revealed an unknown amount of the fertilizer spilled onto the street and continued into a nearby storm sewer which discharges into Hawkeye Creek. DNR staff

later observed fertilizer contamination at Hawkeye Creek, which flows through the City of Burlington to the Mississippi River.

City officials are working to capture the creek flow and clean it through the Burlington Wastewater Treatment Plant.

No dead fish have been observed at this time.

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**WEATHER**

WED 24 Apr.....Sunny, 61° F/40° F  
THU 25 Apr.....Mostly sunny, 64° F/51° F  
FRI 26 Apr.....Showers, 67° F/62° F

**IOWA LOTTERY**

DOUBLE PLAY 04/22.....11 15 25 32 39, Powerball: 23  
LOTTO AMERICA 04/22.....19 28 33 38 52, Star Ball: 7 All Star Bonus: 2  
LUCKY FOR LIFE 04/22.....33 36 39 40 47, Lucky Ball: 15  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 04/22.....3 8 5  
PICK 3 EVENING 04/22.....6 2 6  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 04/22.....17 10  
PICK 4 EVENING 04/22.....0 9 3 5  
POWERBALL 04/22.....12 16 33 39 52, Powerball: 1 Power Play: 2

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# Obituaries/For the Record

## OBITUARIES

### SHARON K. LUETGER

Sharon Kay Luetger, 80, of Lomax, Illinois, passed away at 11:08 a.m. Friday, April 19, 2024 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington, Iowa.



LUETGER

Sharon was born July 16, 1943 in Burlington, Iowa, the daughter of Elmer and Irvil (Hoskins) Sly. She married Gary Lee Luetger. They later divorced. She is survived by her longtime companion, Maurice Stambaugh.

Sharon was raised in the Burlington area. She worked for IAAP in Middletown, Iowa for many years. She later tended bar in Burlington, as well as raising hogs. She enjoyed working and providing for her family. She also enjoyed cats, gardening, watching hummingbirds and spending time with family.

Besides her longtime companion, Maurice Stambaugh, survivors include three children: Kent (Melissa) Luetger of Biggsville, Illinois, Rodney Luetger of Lomax and Wendolen (Brad) Scott of Gibson City, Illinois; nine grandchildren: Amie Abbot, Eric Luetger, Brad Bell, James Andries, Emily Andries, Nicholas Andries, Sierra Newman, Spring Botimer and Ashlynn Botimer; 21 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews, including a special niece: Marti Trosen.

She was preceded in death by seven siblings: Erma, Albert, Glen, Betty, Marge, Gerald and Audrey and one daughter-in-law: Terri Lynn Luetger.

A graveside service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at Crane Cemetery, near Lomax, with Clarence Waldinger officiating.

Banks & Beals Funeral Home of Stronghurst is assisting the family.

A memorial fund has been established for the American Macular Degeneration Foundation. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Sharon's obituary at [banksandbeals.com](http://banksandbeals.com).



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## OBITUARIES

### THOMAS G. OPPENHEIMER

Thomas G. Oppenheimer, 86, of Ft. Madison, passed away on Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 4:58 PM at his home.



OPPENHEIMER

He was born on January 10, 1938 in Ft. Madison to John Paul and Myrtle Louise Moertel Oppenheimer. On November 14, 1959 he married Sherry Mathena in Ft. Madison. Tom was a brick mason and owned and operated Oppenheimer Construction and Quality Time Pools. He loved horses and being outdoors. Tom also enjoyed drawing, antique cars and playing golf.

Survivors include his wife, Sherry Oppenheimer of Ft. Madison; one daughter, Sabrina (Scot) Miller of Springville, IA; five grandchildren, Heather (Clint) Oppenheimer Smith, Rachel Oppenheimer, Robbie Oppenheimer, Jared Oppenheimer and Derek Oppenheimer; one sister, Mary Lou Huffaker of Arizona and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Shaun and Jody; four brothers and one sister.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The family will hold a celebration on June 8, 2024 at 1 PM at Tom and Sherry's Home. A memorial has been established for Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center and online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

04/18/24 - 9:43 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Octavio Velazquez-Zeferio, 36, of Fort Madison, in the 3000 block of Avenue M, on a charge of 1st offense domestic assault - bodily injury. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/18/24 - 3:24 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 4200 block of Avenue L.

04/18/24 - 5:14 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Clyde E. Shoemaker, 45, homeless, in the 2700 block of Avenue N, on a charge of violation of a domestic no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/18/24 - 5:49 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Patti L. Clark, 44, homeless, in the 2700 block of Avenue N, on a charge of violation of a domestic no-contact order. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/18/24 - 8:53 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 1200 block of 35th Street.

04/19/24 - 7:54 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at 35th Street and Avenue L.

04/19/24 - 10:02 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue H.

04/20/24 - 2:19 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 700 block of 14th Street.

04/20/24 - 11:48 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 4900 block of River Valley Road.

04/21/24 - 4:48 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested John Lawrence Crossen, 63, of Donnellson, in the 2400 block of Henry Ladyn Drive, on charges of simple assault and 3rd degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/21/24 - 6:04 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 1900 block of Avenue H.

04/21/24 - 6:08 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 1400 block of Avenue F.

04/21/24 - 11:26 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Kimberly Ann Lee, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 2300 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for probation violation - controlled substance, and charges of possession of marijuana - 2nd, controlled substance methamphetamine, and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/22/24 - 7:12 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 5100 block of Avenue O.

04/22/24 - 1:11 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Candace Jade Guihan, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 900 block of Avenue G, on a Lee County warrant for 3rd degree theft. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/22/24 - 4:14 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Avenue F.

04/22/24 - 4:35 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1800 block of Avenue L.

04/22/24 - 11:10 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Macy Lebeck, 19, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of 23rd Street, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance - 1,2,3rd.

### Keokuk Police Report

04/10/24 - 4:37 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a three-vehicle accident at 2nd and Bank Streets. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Charles Bennett, 66, of Keokuk was southbound at 2nd and Bank and passing through the intersection. A vehicle driven by Paul David Smith, 75, of Burlington, was northbound at 2nd and Bank and was stopped at a stop sign. Bennett failed to stop at the stop sign at 2nd and Bank and struck Kay's vehicle broadside. Kay's vehicle was shoved into Smith's. The passenger side of Kay's struck the front end of Smith's. Bennett fled the scene. Kay's vehicle was lowered from the scene. Smith's vehicle was driven from the scene. Bennett was

04/18/24 - 8:55 a.m. - Keokuk drug task force arrested Kenneth Joe Irvin, 55, of Keokuk, in the 1800 block of Orleans Avenue, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance - 3rd, and keeping a vehicle or premises for controlled substance. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/18/24 - 9:00 a.m. - Keokuk drug task force arrested Tasha Renee Tripp, 40, of Keokuk, in the 1800 block of Orleans Avenue, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, keeping a vehicle or premises for controlled substance, and drug trafficking - 5GM-100KG methamphetamine. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/18/24 - 9:14 a.m. - Keokuk drug task force arrested Brandon James Adams, 35, of Keokuk, in the 1800 block of Orleans Avenue, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, keeping a vehicle or premises for controlled substance, and drug trafficking - 5GM-100KG methamphetamine. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/18/24 - 10:10 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 1600 block of Hwy. 218 S. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Louise V. Sladek, 75, of Illinois, was traveling southbound in the right lane and attempted to make a righthand turn onto J40, turning into oncoming traffic and was hit on the driver side of her vehicle by a vehicle driven by Anthony Neal Perrigan, 27, of Mississippi, that was in the lefthand lane also traveling southbound. No injuries were reported. Both vehicles sustained disabling damages and were towed from the scene. See RECORD, page 7

# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### LINDA K. DAUGHTERS

Linda Kay Daughters, 78, of Keokuk, died Friday, April 19, 2024 at her home surrounded by her family.

She was born in Winchester, IL on October 25, 1945 the daughter of Helen Dawdy and was raised by her grandparents, Ray and Cecil Dawdy in White Hall, IL. When she was ten years old she was raised by her aunt and uncle, Doris and Harry Sanderson in Donnellson, IA.



WAGNER

She attended and graduated from Harmony High School in Farmington, IA.

At the age of eighteen she joined the United States Navy and served in the Hospital Corps and was a Wave in San Diego for three years. Linda then went to the Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Chicago and was chief Commander of her Unit. She then spent three years at the Balboa Naval Hospital.

Linda moved to Keokuk to attend Southeastern Community College to enter the nursing program in 1973 and later became a Registered Nurse in 1975.

In 1966 and again in 1969 she was united in marriage to Curtis Daughters in Keokuk. They later divorced.

She was of the Baptist faith, when married to Curtis they had three children, Timothy, Todd and Tara. Curtis's mother, Elaine also played a large part in her life.

Linda had been a Clinical Supervisor at the Keokuk Area Hospital for forty years before her retirement.

She thoroughly enjoyed watching her children in sports and also served as the president of the Keokuk Sports Boosters.

Linda is survived by two sons, Timothy C. Daughters of Burlington, IA, Todd E. Daughters (Machelle Pezley) of Argyle and one daughter, Tara Lynn Daughters of Greenwood Village, CO, and one grandson, Elic Jaden Daughters.

She was preceded in death by her mother, grandparents, Ray and Cecil Dawdy and her aunt and uncle, Doris and Harry Sanderson.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Friday at the Evangelical Free Church, 2315 S. 7th Street, Keokuk with Pastor Jeff Higbie officiating. Burial with military rites will be in the Keokuk National Cemetery, Keokuk.

Visitation will be held Thursday after 2 p.m. with family meeting with friends from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Evangelical Free Church in Keokuk.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.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.

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## OBITUARIES

### ROBERT L. WAGNER

Robert Lee "Bob" Wagner, 77 years, of Donnellson, Iowa died Sunday, April 21, 2024 at his home. He was born October 1, 1946 at Fort Madison, Iowa, a son of LeRoy and Elizabeth (Merschbrock) Wagner. On January 10, 1970, he married Phyllis Ann Lovett at Fort Madison, Iowa.



WAGNER

He was a 1964 Fort Madison High School graduate. During high school, he worked as a jockey. He was a veteran of the United States Army, serving during the Vietnam war. He worked at DuPont for 33 years, retiring in 2002. For another 15 years, he worked part-time with his brother-in-law at Grout Scouts. He enjoyed driving his truck in the morning and visiting with family and friends, hunting and fishing, Young Guns trap shooting, youth education gun safety and the St. Louis Cardinals. Bob loved spending time with his grandchildren and was a positive influence on many children over the years.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Wagner, of Donnellson, Iowa; children Teresa (Darren) Baker and Bobbi Jean (Darin) Metsker, both of Montrose, Iowa; seven siblings: Beverly (Bill) McGregor, Betty

Ann Sokolik, Karen Huffman, Nancy Cangas, Steven "Toby" (Tracy) Wagner, and Cindy (Clint) Hocker, all of Fort Madison, and LeRoy "Junior" (Angie) Wagner of Waukee, Iowa; the Lovett Family; three grandsons: Craig (Gaby), Brent (Alex) and Gage; three great grandsons: Jackson, Weston and Waylon; aunts, uncles, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and four siblings: Richard "Dick" and Janet and in infancy, Ronald and Dale.

Per his wishes, he will be cremated. Family will greet friends from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm Thursday, April 25, 2024 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison, Iowa. A Celebration of Life will be planned for a later date. A memorial has been established for the Young Guns Trap Club of the Tri-State Gun Club of Montrose, contributions may be left at or mailed to Barr Memorial Chapel, 1919 Ave F, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Wagner family and an online guest book may be found at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).



Lunch Specials  
April 22-26  
11am - 1pm

Monday, April 22  
Tenderloins, Tater Tots

Tuesday, April 23  
Chicken Fajitas, Spanish Rice

Wednesday, April 24  
Burnt Ends Sandwich, Cheese Potatoes

Thursday, April 25  
Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, April 26  
Grilling on the Sidewalk

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## Sports/From the Front

# Now Des Moines officials skirting open meetings laws

**EVANS** - Continued from Page 1

of open meetings of governmental bodies, that the basis and rationale of governmental decisions, as well as those decisions themselves, are easily accessible to the public. Ambiguity in the construction or application of this chapter should be resolved in favor of openness.”

Here is the good news from the Legislature:

Lawmakers gave final approval to significant changes in the penalties the courts can impose on government officials who violate the open meetings law. The bill now is awaiting Gov. Kim Reynolds' signature or veto.

The existing law sets fines of between \$100 and \$500 for board members who violate the statute. Lawmakers voted to increase those fines to between \$1,000 and \$2,500. Lawmakers voted to change the penalties for intentionally breaking the law from the current \$1,000 to \$2,500, raising those to between \$5,000 and \$12,500 in the proposed law.

Senator Scott Webster, a Bettendorf Republican, told reporters the bill is important because it would ensure “when city councils and city governments and county governments are having conversations, that

those are done in the open and not done in the privacy or darkness of the night.”

The bill received resounding support: The House approved it 87-6; the Senate vote was 46-0.

Now, the disappointing news:

Des Moines Mayor Connie Boesen and her City Council colleagues apparently are oblivious to the sentiments among lawmakers and the ongoing controversy over secret discussions and decision-making by the Davenport council.

In Des Moines, council member Josh Mandelbaum has tried for months to engage the council and city staff in a discussion of the project agreements the city signs with developers in return for receiving city taxpayer assistance for their projects. In November, he urged the council to reexamine the city's expectations before committing tax money for real estate developments.

He said the council often mistakenly assumes these projects will not occur without financial help from the city. Because of that thinking, the city gives taxpayer incentives without seeking the maximum benefit, he said.

For example, Mandelbaum said that with millions of dollars in tax money involved, the council should

require developers receiving city tax assistance to pay prevailing wages to construction crews.

Boesen responded at the November meeting, “This isn't the setting” for such a discussion. Outgoing Mayor Frank Cownie agreed. Instead, he suggested the city manager initiate discussions about what the city could request for future projects.

Fast forward to February 19. The Register disclosed last week the City Council had been scheduled to discuss the “standard development agreement” during a public council work session that morning. But the public meeting was cancelled, supposedly because of a conflict in members' schedules.

The discussion apparently was held during two private, back-to-back meetings that morning. Each gathering was attended by less than a quorum of council members. The public was not notified of the gatherings. One was from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.; the second was from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

That conflict in members' schedules conveniently kept interested citizens from listening to the discussion. Had only one meeting been held with a majority of council members present, Iowa law requires the public to be notified at least 24 hours in advance and be allowed to attend. With fewer than half of the members at any of the two gatherings, those requirements did not apply.

Documents provided to the council during and after the two meetings included proposed changes to the standard development agreement and the tax increment financing policies the city uses to guide negotiations with developers.

The Register interviewed me about its findings, because of my role as executive director of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council, an organization that advocates for public access to government meetings and records. I did not sugar-coat my view of the council's tactics: “It's obvious what's occurring here is that by having less than a quorum present at any one time, they don't have to let the public in. And that lets them work out any disagreements without the public watching.”

These types of private meetings tend to happen when the issue is controversial or embarrassing or when there are strong opinions surrounding an issue.

Those wise lawmakers a half-century ago who wrote the first public meetings law understood — even if Des Moines city leaders do not — that carrying out the government's business in public view is in the public interest, even if it causes inconvenience and embarrassment at times.

Randy Evans can be reached at [DMRevs2810@gmail.com](mailto:DMRevs2810@gmail.com).

## Lowenberg, Snaadt medal at HTC Invite

FORT MADISON – Central Lee sophomore Mylan Lowenberg was medalist at the Holy Trinity dual meet at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course, while HTC's Teagan Snaadt was medalist in the girls' event Friday in Fort Madison.

Lowenberg shot a four-over 40 on the back nine to win the boys' event. Lowenberg birdied the 340 yard par 4 and parred four of the last five holes. Runner-up medalist was the Hawks' Caleb Larson who shot a 42 to lead Central Lee to the win.

The Hawks put up a team score of 169 to Holy Trinity's 199. Blake Mohrfeld shot a 47, and Andy Mehmert had a 48 to lead the Crusaders. Luke Hellige carded a 50, while Nathan Box and Max Kruse each had a 54.

Carson Morrison shot a 43 for Central Lee, while Bo Herdrich and Kaden Swan both recorded 44s for the Hawks.

Snaadt shot a 51 for the Lady Crusaders and Emma Mohrfeld carded a 59 after shooting a 39 over the first seven holes. Elizabeth Griffin shot a 63 and Adalyn Kruse finished with a 69 for HTC.

The Central Lee girls were led by Marie Young's 62. Sydney Gram and Reegyn Scott each shot a 63.

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# Lee County News/Classifieds

## LCCD to host Trivia in the Tall Grass

MONTROSE - Trivia enthusiasts and nature lovers alike are invited to participate in an evening of fun and competition at the upcoming "Trivia in the Tallgrass Prairie" fundraiser, hosted by Three Rivers Conservation Foundation. Set against the stunning backdrop of Heron Bend Conservation Area, this unique event will blend intellectual challenge with the beauty of nature, creating an unforgettable experience for attendees.

Scheduled for Friday, June 14th, doors will open at 6:00 PM, and the competition will kick off at 6:30 PM. Teams of six are encouraged to register online at the cost of \$150 per team. Participants are also welcome to bring their own food and beverages. Whether you're a trivia aficionado or simply looking for a fun night out with friends, "Trivia in the Tallgrass Prairie" offers something for everyone. Compete against other teams, showcase your knowledge across various categories, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow participants in this exciting outdoor setting.

Proceeds from this event will directly benefit Lee County Conservation's environmental and outdoor recreation initiatives, furthering their mission to preserve and protect local natural resources.

Space for "Trivia in the Tallgrass Prairie" is limited, so interested participants are encouraged to register early to secure their spot. To register a team please visit <https://forms.gle/TGApNJb3ck2sjBb9> or contact Lee County Conservation at 319-463-7673.

**Event Details:**

What: Trivia in the Tallgrass Prairie

Where: Heron Bend Conservation Area (2652 Hwy 61, Montrose, IA 52639)

When: June 14th, doors open at 6:00 PM, trivia begins at 6:30 PM

Team Registration: \$150 per team (up to six individuals)

Contact: 319-463-7673 or [conservation@leecounty.org](mailto:conservation@leecounty.org)

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/events/783581953679091>

About Lee County Conservation: Lee County Conservation manages 29 individual parks, wildlife areas, historic sites, and water recreation access points - encompassing some 2634 acres across the county. The mission of the Lee County Conservation Board is to promote conservation of local natural resources and to provide parks and conservation areas, outdoor recreational opportunities, and environmental education for the public.

## Wade leads Hounds to 4th at Fairfield

FAIRFIELD - Brady Wade led the Hounds to a 4th-place finish at the Southeast Conference meet in Fairfield Friday. Wade shot a 44 and Cole Quittem shot a 49 to lead the Bloodhounds to a 199.

Washington won the event with a 145 led by Teague Mayers' even par 35, including four birdies on the front nine. Rajan Roth and Drew Conrad were right behind with a couple 36s and Luke Beenblossom shot a 38 to help the Demons roll.

The Hounds' Cade Denning and Colton Bower each shot 53s to round out the scoring for Fort Madison.

Washington leads the round-robin conference format with a 588. The team rankings eliminate each team's worst round for the total. Fort Madison is currently in fifth place with a 765.

**Got a news tip?**  
Call Chuck (319)371.1670

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING NOTICE**

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE LEE COUNTY COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24,

2024 AT THE VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE AT 701 AVENUE F, FT MADISON, IA AT 12:00 NOON.

The agenda includes: 2 requests for Veterans financial assistance, March 2024 monthly financial report, minutes, monthly

client report, and quarterly report.

**PUBLIC NOTICE THE MOUNT PLEASANT CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON WEDNESDAY,**

**APRIL 24, 2024 AT CITY HALL 307 E. MONROE STREET, SECOND-FLOOR MEETING ROOM AT 5:30 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call.
2. Consent Agenda: To the Public - All items with an asterisk (\*) are routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion and a roll call of the Councilmembers.

There will be no separate discussion of items unless the Mayor, a Councilmember or citizen so request, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered in its normal sequence on

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

General Insects  
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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

the Agenda.

3. Receive & file communications. Megan Brincks, Executive Director, United Way of Southeast Iowa

4. Approve agenda.

\*5. Approve minutes of previous meetings.

\*6. Approve payment of bills.

\*7. Receive report of Officers.

8. Old Business

a) 5:30 p.m. Public Hearing on proposed 2024/2025 Budget.

b) Resolution authorizing adoption of the 2024-2025 Budget for the City of Mount Pleasant and authorizing its filing.

c) Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) agreement for the construction of H Eugene Way.

d) Authorize Mayor to sign Nuisance Property and Abandoned Building Remediation Assistance Loan Program Agreement for IWU old gymnasium.

e) Authorize the Mayor to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission to complete open building/zoning projects for the City of Mount Pleasant.

f) Designate the State as temporary electrical permit inspector.

\*g) Renewal of a Class F Retail Alcohol License for Veterans Club of Henry County Iowa, at 300 W Monroe Street.

9. New Business

a) Approve purchase of software system for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

b) Discussion of RAG-BRAI events with Mt. Pleasant Chamber and Main Street Mt. Pleasant and approve request for funding and use of City property.

c) Resolution approving purchase agreement to purchase 304 S Jefferson Street.

d) Resolution setting Public Hearing on ordinance amendment for

Flexible Business Space.

e) Authorize the City to sign a contract with LL Pelling Co. to chip and seal Cottrel Gym Parking Lot at 310 E Madison Street.

f) Authorize the City to sign a contract with Norris Asphalt to asphalt a portion of Forest Home Cemetery Road on S Walnut Street.

g) Authorize the City to sign a contract with Norris Asphalt to asphalt S Harrison Street from Washington Street to Clay Street.

h) Authorize the City to sign a contract with Norris Asphalt to asphalt S Jackson Street from Washington Street to Clay Street.

i) Resolution authorizing the appointment of Braden Harp to Fire Department Reserves.

j) Resolution authorizing the appointment of DeAnn Scott-Harp to Fire Department Reserves.

k) 5:30 p.m. Public Hearing on appeal of dangerous animal.

1) Resolution to affirm, modify or reverse dangerous animal.

10. Public Forum.

11. Adjourn to meet in regular session on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES  
KEOKUK CITY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
April 18, 2024  
501 Main Street  
5:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on April 18, 2024, at 501 Main Street.

Mayor Kathie Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were seven council members present, two absent. Tyler Walker, Shelley Oltmans, Devon Dade, Steve Andrews, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Carissa Crenshaw and Roslyn

Garcia were absent. Staff in attendance: Interim City Administrator Dave Hinton, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Public Works Director Brian Carroll, Police Chief Zeth Baum, Water Pollution Control Manager Tom Wills, Code Enforcement/Housing Casey Barnes and Bridge, Cemetery, Parks, and Sanitation Manager Bob Weis.

**MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE:** Updated on local events, hospital, and bid farewell to Councilperson Oltmans.

**CITIZEN'S REQUEST:** Erika Barrett expressed interest in vacant 1st Ward Council Seat and inquired about interview process.

Motion made by Tillman, second by Walker to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of a Special City Council meeting of April 4, 2024, holding a public hearing for the Proposed Property Tax Levy.

- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 4, 2024;

- Cash Receipts & Treasurer's Report for March 2024;

- **RESOLUTION NO. 54-2024:** Approving a Liquor License for Black Sails LLC, 1324 Main Street, Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service – effective May 1, 2024;

- **RESOLUTION NO. 55-2024:** Approving a Liquor License for Hy-Vee Fast & Fresh, 3001 Main Street, Class B Retail Alcohol License – effective May 6, 2024;

- Approve Sidewalk Display Permits for 2024-2025;

- Approve Special Event Permit for Bubble Run, April 28, 2024 @ Rand Park; Flags Over Our Mississippi on Main Bridge, June 14, 2024; and Juneteenth, June 20-22, 2024, Parade on Main Street, 5k ending in Rand Park;

- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5399-5401; Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:40 p.m. on the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Budget. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on April 6, 2024.

Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:40 p.m.

Motion made by Tillman, second by Bryant to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 56-2024:** "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE

**FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET."** (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:41 p.m. proposing the sale of real estate at 1108 Franklin Street owned by the City of Keokuk. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on April 10, 2024.

**COMMENTS:** Mayor Mahoney gave overview. Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:43 p.m.

Motion made by Walker, second by Andrews to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 57-2024:** "A RESOLUTION DISPOSING OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1108 FRANKLIN STREET BY THE CITY OF KEOKUK, IOWA." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:43 p.m. approving the Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant Application. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on April 11, 2024.

**COMMENTS:** Sara Hecox from SEIRPC gave overview of grant.

Need For The Activities Was Identified:

The City of Keokuk needs revitalization of neighborhoods within the community. This revitalization will stabilize housing units in the neighborhood and improve the quality of life for citizens.

How the Proposed Activity will be funded:

Community Development Block Grant – Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant through the Iowa Economic Development Authority. The City of Keokuk has a 15% local match or \$262,500.

Date Application is Due: The CDBG application for Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant is due May 14, 2024.

Requested Amount of Federal Funds:

City of Keokuk will request \$1,750,000 from the Iowa Economic Development Authority Community Development Block Grant – Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant.

Federal Funds That Will Benefit Low-and Moderate-Income Persons:

The grant funds will benefit the Low-and Moderate-Income persons in the area where the project is located. The US Census Data for the City of Keokuk indicates that 61.9% of the community

is LMI.

Housing projects will benefit households at or below 80% of the MFI for Lee County.

Where the Activity will be conducted:

The project will take place in the community of Keokuk located in Des Moines County. The targeted neighborhood's boundaries are 4th Street – 9th Street and Main Street – Franklin.

Minimize Displacement of Persons:

During construction of the project, there should be no residents that will have to be displaced.

Plans to Assist Persons Displaced:

City of Keokuk will adopt a Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance agreement to comply with Community Development Block Grant requirements and will update as needed.

Nature of the Proposed Activity:

The developer, Sky and Sea Properties, plans on developing 7 units. Four 2-bedroom units and three 1-bedroom units are planned for the upper floors. These will be rented to LMI tenants for the 5-year affordability period.

The Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant is to implement the plan that MSA provided the City of Keokuk in November 2023. The activities that will be included in the grant are; parks and recreation, pedestrian walkways, housing rehab, and street improvements.

Sara Hecox also discussed the Housing Needs Assessment with the council.

Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:57 p.m.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 58-2024:** "A RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATION FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION GRANT FROM THE IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR A PROJECT LOCATED AT 4TH STREET-9TH STREET AND MAIN STREET-FRANKLIN STREET." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Bryant to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 59-2024:** "A RESOLUTION ELIMINATING THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE POSITION AT CITY HALL." (7) AYES, (0)

NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Walker to approve filling the 1st At Large Council Person seat by appointment. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

**STAFF REPORTS:** Carroll informed that cemetery tune up at Oakland Cemetery has been postponed a week due to rain and gave trail update; Baum updated on legislation regarding traffic enforcement.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Oltmans bid farewell to the community and updated on KEDC and Keokuk Neighborhood initiative.

Motion made by Dade, second by Walker to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

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If you have any questions, please contact Lee County Engineer Office at (319) 372-2541 or email them at [engineer@leecounty.org](mailto:engineer@leecounty.org).



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## From the Front/For the Record

# Three-fourths of FMHS students are on CTE pathway

**GRANTS** - Continued from Page 1

and the district was fortunate to be able to secure funds to help more students be ready for life after high school.

The district has been at the forefront of vocational or career tech education for close to 10 years and is doubling down on those efforts with this additional funding.

"About half our kids intend to go onto a 2-year or 4-year school when they graduate. That's one number we look at, and then the CTE completers are another," Lamb said. "We're ahead of the state average in that data, which doesn't surprise me with the emphasis we've placed on that starting with (former FMHS Principal) Greg Smith."

He said FMHS Automotive instructor Jeff Gerdes came to him and asked if the district could apply for a Hunter Automotive Technologies grant to bring wheel certifications to students interested in automotive.

"Give some credit to Jeff. He came to us and wanted help writing the grant for Hunter Tech. I figured while we're at it might as well try to write a few more. So we wrote 13 and were awarded five and we're pretty pleased. Looks like the state did a nice job of allotting those."

The district also received a \$10,400 grant as part of an OSHA 10 certification for credentials in workplace safety and compliance. A Snap-On™ Precision Management grant will provide \$51,700 to support mastering instruments and hand tools, including safety and proper usage, and follow-up assessments.

A Beef Quality Assurance grant will provide a birthing system for student to enhance knowledge in animal care, or husbandry, and food safety. There's also an American Heart Association grant for about \$9,000 to provide basic life support instruction and credentialing.

Lamb said the district has a nice vari-

ety in CTE programming and will likely be expanding that in the future as far as students being able to obtain credentials in the fields. Food safety and welding are two other areas that can provide students a path to careers right out of high school.

"That's the real purpose for these credentials in general - to give kids the skills necessary to have success out of high school," he said.

The district works with NC3, which is the National Coalition of Certification Centers, to have access to testing platforms recognized by industry leaders in various sectors. The end-goal being a pool of workers ready when they graduate.

"Anytime they can partner with states on that, they're going to do that," he said.

Lamb said currently 3 out of 4 of the students at FMHS are considered a CTE "Completer" meaning they have taken a full line of courses in at least one CTE pathway. He said there are obviously crossover kids who are planning on attending a 2- or 4-year college after high school, but will go in with that much more information and possible credentials in line.

"Kids that want to go into a medical field are more than likely to end up going to college, as well. We have quite a bit of interest there. Ag is another area with a fairly significant number of students who take courses and are involved in FFA, who may end up going to college for a wide array of things in the ag industry - sales, business, medical," he said.

"We're going places with the CTE and fantastic instructors. They are giving that relevant experience and, hopefully, with future grants, we can add on to that certification that employers can take advantage of."

## For the Record

the scene. Sladek was cited for improper or erratic lane change.

04/18/24 - 3:48 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Shane Michael Rockelman, 50, of Keokuk, at South 17th and Johnson Streets, on a charge of driver's license denied/revoked - OWI.

04/18/24 - 5:16 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident at 15th and Concert Streets. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Nicholas Daniel Wyse, 17, of Keokuk, was traveling southbound on North 15th Street and stopped at a stop sign at the intersection of 15th and Concert Streets. Wyse then proceeded to pull away from the stop sign and struck a vehicle driven by David F. Morton, 52, of Warsaw, causing minor damages to both vehicles. No injuries were reported. Wyse was cited for no insurance and failure to obey a traffic control device. Both vehicles were driven from the scene.

04/18/24 - 5:16 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a property damage accident at North 15th and Concert Streets.

04/18/22 - 10:00 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Austin Michael Stanley, 27, of Keokuk, in the 1300 block of Blondeau Street, on a charge of driving while barred.

04/19/24 - 12:00 a.m. - Keokuk police arrested a 15-year-old male juvenile, hometown not reported, in the 2200 block of Middle Road, on a charge of minor use tobacco/vapor products. Disposition unreported.

04/19/24 - 11:26 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 300 block of North Park Drive.

04/19/24 - 11:36 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a property dam-

age accident in the 300 block of Messenger Road.

04/19/24 - 12:39 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Charles Bennett IV, 66, of Keokuk, at South 2nd and Bank Streets, on a charge of driving under suspension.

04/19/24 - 12:46 p.m. - Keokuk police arrested a 12-year-old female juvenile, hometown not reported, in the 2000 block of Orleans Avenue, on a charge of minor use tobacco/vapor products. Disposition unreported.

04/19/24 - 6:10 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Jena Kay Cable, 22, of Keokuk, was traveling eastbound in the inside line of the 3000 block of Main Street when it attempted to change lanes and merge into the outside lane and struck a vehicle driven by Amber Lee Barnes, 30, of Hamilton. No injuries were reported. Both vehicles sustained minor damages and were driven from the scene. Cable was cited for improper lane change.

04/19/24 - 6:10 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 2800 block of Main Street.

04/19/24 - 7:26 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1200 block of Johnson Street.

04/20/24 - Keokuk police had no activity to report.

04/21/24 - 1:48 a.m. - Keokuk police arrested Mindy Sue Gundy, 59, of Keokuk, in the 100 block of South 7th Street, on an arrest of affi-

davit and a charge of driving under suspension. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/21/24 - 8:57 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 300 block of North Park Drive.

04/21/24 - 10:33 p.m. - Keokuk police arrested David Lee Spring, 40, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of North Park Drive, on charges of 3rd degree theft greater than \$750 less than \$1500, possession of drug paraphernalia, and interference with official acts. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

### Lee County Sheriff Report

04/19/24 - 7:15 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Taylor William Scott, 31, of Fort Madison, in the Johnson County Courts, Iowa City, on a judgment entry/mittimus warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released after weekend service.

04/20/24 - Lee County sheriff deputies had no activity to report.

04/21/24 - Lee County sheriff deputies had no activity to report.

04/22/24 - 11:46 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested David Lee Spring, 40, of Keokuk, in the 700 block of South Main Street, Keokuk, on a warrant for violation of a domestic no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognition.

Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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