

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Friday, August 30, 2024 | 9 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 139



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Koch closes on IFC

\$3.6 BILLION: Koch Ag & Energy secures Wever facility for \$3.6 billion

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEVER – Koch announced today that it has closed on the purchase of the Iowa Fertilizer Co in Wever.

The \$3.6 billion sale divests OCI Global from its ownership interest in the facility.

The sale marks the end of a controversial nine-month federal review after Koch Ag & Energy Solutions announced in December that they had made an offer on the large-scale US greenfield nitrogen fertilizer facility.

The deal required multiple regulatory and shareholder approvals and drew the ire of Iowa State Auditor Rob Sand

who said OCI was going back on their commitment to increase competition in the fertilizer field by selling to Koch.

In 2012, OCI received more than \$110 million in state incentives, about \$130 million in property tax exemptions through a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with Lee County, as well as \$300 million in tax benefits through the sale of disaster bonds for construction of the facility.

Iowa Fertilizer was the first greenfield nitrogen fertilizer plant built in the United States in more than 25 years, and the largest private construction project in Iowa's history,

See IFCo, page 8

COUNTY NEWS

Life-safety event closes Aspire center

Iowa Dept. of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing investigating incident

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON - A state official said surveyors from the Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing are on site for an investigation at Aspire Senior Center in Donnellson

Stefanie Bond, Communications Director for DIAL, said surveyors are completing a recertification and complaint investigation at the facility at 901 State Street.

She said when the survey is complete, the department will complete a report that outlines the findings and post it to the Health Facility link on the department's Health Facilities website.

"Surveyors were onsite for this investigation on the evening of Aug. 27 when deficiencies were identified," Bond wrote in an email to Pen City Current.

"One deficiency was a life-safety issue, which required the facility to implement their emergency plan and safely relocate their 16 residents to other health facilities. The facility has informed DIAL that all the family members of the affected residents have been notified about the relocation of their loved ones."

Bond said the department cannot release any details regarding the investigation until the report is finalized, which they anticipate will be next week.

DIAL officials were on hand Tuesday night overseeing the transfer of the 16 patients at about 8:30 p.m.

Donnellson Police Chief Brad Roberts confirmed the closure and transfer of patients, but directed all questions to the DIAL officials.

Attempts to reach Aspire Administrator Talisa Jacobs have gone unreturned.

Aspire is owned by Beacon Health Management. Beacon is based out of Tampa, Fla., and has 26 properties throughout Iowa and Georgia.

Calls to Beacon's office Florida went unanswered.

A win to start the season

Central Lee's Ken-na Sandoval celebrates a sideout in the first set of the Hawks' 3-1 win over Fort Madison Tuesday night in Fort Madison. The game christened the Fort Madison district's new gymnasium that was part of a \$36 million elementary school and junior/senior high expansion.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

LIBRARY NEWS

Arrival of fall brings new slate of FM library activities

As the crisp fall air sets in, the Fort Madison Public Library is unveiling two new programs designed to cater to diverse interests and enhance community well-being. This season, library patrons can look forward to Geri-Fit, a specialized exercise program for older adults, and a monthly Spanish conversation class. These programs aim to foster both physical fitness and cultural engagement, providing valuable opportunities for growth



CLENDINENG

and connection.

Geri-Fit: Energize Your Fall

Geri-Fit is a new exercise initiative tailored specifically for older adults, designed to improve physical health

and foster a sense of community. As we age, staying active becomes essential for maintaining overall health and independence.

Geri-Fit offers a solution with its low-impact,

high-benefit workouts that focus on enhancing core strength, balance, and endurance. Each session aims to improve mobility and strength while also offering a social component to engage participants in a supportive environment.

Classes will be held three times a week in the library's multipurpose room on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10am

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WEATHER

FRI 30 Aug..... Warm with chance of thunderstorms, 81° F/ 60° F
SAT 31 Aug..... Sunny and warm, 82° F/ 61° F
SUN 01 Sep..... Sunny and warm, 80° F/ 53° F

IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 08/28..... 911 31 52 54, Powerball: 25
LOTTO AMERICA 08/28..... 7 28 41 46 52, Star Ball: 4 All Star Bonus: 3
LUCKY FOR LIFE 08/28..... 4 7 8 17 34, Lucky Ball: 6
PICK 3 MIDDAY 08/28..... 7 8 3
PICK 3 EVENING 08/28..... 6 9 9
PICK 4 MIDDAY 08/28..... 8 2 1 7
PICK 4 EVENING 08/28..... 6 3 5 5
POWERBALL 08/28..... 5 33 47 50 64, Powerball: 20 Power Play: 2

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From the Front

Library has National Hispanic Heritage Month book ideas

LIBRARY - Continued from Page 1

to 11pm.

Monthly Spanish Conversation Group: Connect and Converse

In addition to Geri-Fit, the library is launching a monthly Spanish conversation group designed to promote language learning. This group is perfect for both native speakers and those looking to practice their Spanish skills in an interactive and supportive setting.

Learning a new language, especially one as widely spoken as Spanish, opens up numerous opportunities for personal and professional growth. This group offers a platform for participants to practice speaking, listening, and comprehension skills through structured conversation and cultural discussions.

This group meets on the second Monday of each month at 6pm in the library's conference room. This is not a Spanish language instruction class but a chance for those learning Spanish to practice conversations and those who already speak Spanish to keep their skills sharp. We do not currently have an instructor and will just be talking amongst one another and possibly watching a brief Spanish language video. If any fluent (or even advanced) Spanish speakers are interested in helping out, contact Sarah Clendineng (319) 372-5721.

Join the Fun

Both Geri-Fit and the Spanish conversation class offer unique ways to stay active and engaged this fall. For more details on how to participate, contact the Fort Madison Public Library at (319) 372-5721. Don't miss out on these, and other exciting programs for all ages—your library has something special for everyone this season!

Some Books to Try During National Hispanic Heritage Month

- The Sons of El Rey by Alex Espinoza (F ESP)
- The Haunting of Alejandra by V. Castor (F CAS)
- The Dangers of Smoking in Bed: Stories by Mariana Enriquez (FVFB ENR)
- Mexican Gothic by Silvia Moreno-Garcia (F MOR)
- Tu Casa mi casa: Mexican Recipes for the Home Cook by Enrique Olvera (641.5972 OLV)
- Authentic Mexican: Regional Cooking from the Heart of Mexico by Rick Bayless (641.5972 BAY)
- Living Beyond Borders: Growing Up Mexican in America (YA F LON)
- Lupe Wong Won't Dance by Donna Barba Higuera (JF HIG)
- Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan (JF RYA)
- Danza!: Amalia Hernández and el Ballet Folklórico de México y Duncan Tonatiuh (EF TON)
- Too Many Tamales by Gary Soto (EF SOT)
- Upcoming Events at the Fort Madison Public Library -

The library will be closed on September 2 for the Labor Day holiday.

Pre-School/Toddler Story Hour –Wednesday morning at 10:30 beginning September 4.

Teen Volunteer Opportunity – Tuesday, 3:30-5:00 for ages 12-19, except for September 10.

Minecraft –3:30-5:00, all ages on Mondays.

Once Upon a Wednesday –Join us for a variety of adventures on September 11 from 3:15-4:15 on September 25 from 1:00-2:00.

Thursday Crafternoon –Thursday, 3:00-5:00, for ages 14-adult. This program is an opportunity to spend some time working on an in-depth project for the whole month.

All Booked Up! - The library's book discussion group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. On Thursday, September 5, we will be discussing "Lessons in Chemistry" by Betty Garmus. October's book will be "Devolution" by Max Brooks.

Spanish Conversation Group – An informal Spanish conversation group will be meeting at the library on the 2nd Monday of the month at 6pm beginning September 9. This is not a class but a chance for people who are learning to speak Spanish or already speak it to practice their conversation skills.



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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

THOMAS H. PIEPER

Thomas H. Pieper, 73, of Eagle, Wisconsin, and formerly of Fort Madison, Iowa, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, August 26, 2024, at his home.

Tom was born on December 28, 1950, in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Henry and Pauline (Bentler) Pieper. He grew up in the Fort Madison area and on July 21, 1973, was united in marriage to Suzanne Fisher in Fort Madison. Tom and Sue were blessed with a son, Ryan. Tom worked in agriculture for most of his career and was proud of his farming heritage. He started farming in Iowa and later purchased a farm in Missouri where he spent the majority of his working years. Wherever Tom was, he was amongst friends. He had a warm and outgoing personality and conversation came easy to him. Whether it was a friend or neighbor stopping by the garage to say hello while he tinkered or striking up a conversation at a local store, Tom was always welcoming and willing to chat. Tom was generous and helpful and would truly do anything he could to help a loved one, friend, or stranger in need. He was also skilled with his hands. He could fix pretty much anything. After moving to Flagstaff, Arizona, Tom worked as an apartment maintenance supervisor and started a handyman business. Most recently, Tom and Sue retired and moved to Eagle, Wisconsin, to be closer to their family. Tom was a loving husband, father, and grandfather and he will be deeply missed but forever remembered by those he leaves behind.

He is survived by: his wife of 51 years, Suzanne Pieper of Eagle; his son, Ryan (Kristen) Pieper of Mukwonago, Wisconsin; his grandchildren, Ruby and Grant; his siblings, Kathy (Bill) Real of Brownsville, Texas, Judy (Mark) Hunold of West Point, Iowa, Karl (Sue) Pieper of Fort Madison, Iowa, Bev (Rus) Steffensmeier of Donnellson, Iowa, and Craig (Shelly) Pieper of Wever, Iowa; and his sister-in-law, Sherry (Stu) Haas of Glendale, Arizona. Tom is also survived by a number of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents.

A Time to Greet Friends will be held for Tom from 5:30 - 6:30 pm Monday, September 9, 2024, at Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison, Iowa. Mass Of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 am Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at Sacred Heart Church, Holy Family Parish, Fort Madison. Burial will be at Gethsemane Cemetery, Fort Madison. Gibson Family Funeral Homes of Eagle and Palmyra, Wisconsin, and Barr Memorial Chapel of Fort Madison, are serving the family. To place an online condolence, please visit gibsonfuneral.com or barrmemorialchapel.com.



PIEPER

OBITUARIES

PETER EGLEY, SR.

Peter Egley Sr., 85, of Keokuk, IA passed away Thursday, August 29, 2024 at his home.

Peter was born on April 23, 1939, in Rock Island, IL, the son of George and Mary Alice Ross Egley.



EGLEY, SR.

At the age of three, Peter's family moved to a rural setting near Wayland, MO, where he attended Oak Ridge School a one room school between Kahoka and Wayland. He later attended Kahoka High School and at the age of 50, he proudly earned his GED.

Peter proudly served his country as a soldier in the United States Army.

He spent decades honing his skills as a carpenter, working with various contractors before establishing himself as a self-employed craftsman. His work brought him immense satisfaction, and he continued to take pride in his craftsmanship until he was 80 years old.

In 1957 Peter was first married to Cora Lee Ferguson. To this union, Sherry and Carla were born. They later divorced. On August 18, 1962, he married Janet Sue Jones, with whom he had three sons, Todd, Bob, and Peter Jr. She preceded him in death on June 29, 2008.



Peter is survived by his three sons, Todd Egley (Laura), Robert Egley (Sue), and Peter Egley, Jr., four daughters, Tanya Jones, Sherry Evans (Lindall), Carla Smith (Jim), and Renee Harmon, twelve grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother, Robert Egley (Barb) and many nieces and nephews.

Besides his wife he was also preceded in death by two brothers, Kenny Egley and Johnny Egley and one sister, Janet Haage.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., Tuesday, September 3, the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Dana Jurgens officiating. Burial will be in the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

Visitation will be held two hours prior to the service with the family meeting friends from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorial-home.com.

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Sports

Bloodhounds hit gridiron with new faces, same standards

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Head football Coach Derek Doherty may be going through the biggest shuffle in personnel in his six years leading the Bloodhounds.

Not only are the Hounds dealing with the loss of more than a dozen seniors who saw significant playing time last season in District 4, Class 3A action, but he's also replacing five-year offensive coordinator Justin Menke.

Menke left the squad after celebrating the birth of his second child and will be replaced with Alabama native Dylan Mussleman.

Doherty said he envied how calm and collected Menke was, never getting too high and too low, but he said Mussleman is similar, but has a little more fire and sense of urgency.

"Justin taught and Dylan demands. Dylan's a smart kid. I've learned a lot from him and we talk all the time. When I met him six years ago it was like finding a long lost brother – we are so like-minded," Doherty said.

"He's been a great asset to the team."

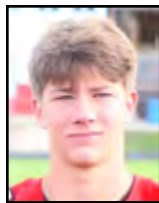
Menke called most games from the booth, but Mussleman will be on the sidelines. Doherty said that's a preference issue and he's fine with both tendencies.

He said the summer has been spent working out the kinks of the new personnel and it spills onto the field as well.

"We've talked in our coaches' groups about how everything's changed but nothing's changed - the faces, the names, and we graduated a really awesome senior class and we lost a couple kids to transfer," he said.

"It is what it is, but our standards stay the same and that's the big thing. How we operate inside of Fort Madison football has stayed the same."

Doherty said the Xs and Os may be different, but the athletes again are buying into the program.



GUZMAN

The Hounds scrimmaged again to open the season last Friday night with Mediapolis and his squad isn't as wide-eyed as they used to be. Fort Madison has scrimmaged with the Bulldogs for the past five years and Doherty said he appreciates that relationship.

The Hounds open the season Friday night with Burlington coming to Jim Youel Field. The Grayhounds and Bloodhounds have developed a strong rivalry with tight games the last three years.



MUSSELMAN

Senior quarterback Marcus Guzman has been an integral part of all three games and will be looking to get Fort Madison off to a good start Friday night.

Guzman has dropped a few pounds to increase speed and take some pressure off joints, but Doherty said he's getting to understand how to be a better athlete on the field.

"Marcus has made some great changes. He was doing some of his own lifts outside of what we're doing. He understands the athleticism piece of it. He may not have the muscle mass he had last year, but he's still an impressive looking kid."

Guzman threw for just under 1,500 yards last year with eight touchdowns and nine picks. He was also the team's leading rusher, which is a regular characteristic for the Bloodhound offense. He ran for 536 yards and 13 scores, giving him 21 TDs on the year.

Fort Madison lost its back-up quarterback Caleb Bolander to transfer and they lost a key component of the offensive and defensive line in CJ Arnett, who transferred to a Missouri High School over the summer.

The rest of the offense will be relatively inexperienced, filling the holes left by such names as Aiden Benda, Ike Thacher, Arnett, Teague Smith, Henry Wiseman, Jamarkus Kline, Hayden Segoviano, and others.

But Doherty is high on several newcomers including Noah VanNiewall who has the makings of a monster on the line at 6'3" and listed at 335 lbs.

"If we can get Noah max intent, max effort on every single snap, he's going to be a problem for other teams. He's a young guy, only a sophomore. Physically, he's got it. Mentally if we can get him to stop taking plays off, he's going to be a problem if we can get him going."

Justin Maitner will help anchor the Hound line, most of whom will go offense/defense. Doherty said Maitner is one of the fastest kids on the team, and is a wide receiver-turned lineman. Thacher was another skill player that moved into the scrimmage interior and leaves some big shoes to fill. Doherty credits line coach Josh Wykert with finding gold in

See **HOUNDS**, page 8



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Being part of a sports team is a great way for your child to build social, physical, mental, and emotional skills. Support your child with these tips:



Before the Game:

make sure they receive a pre-participation physical exam before the season begins. This is best done by a licensed healthcare provider who will review answers to questions about current health status and past medical history, while also doing a physical examination.



During the Game:

use positive reinforcement while on the sidelines, showing respect for the other players, officials, and your child - modeling the behavior you want your child to imitate.



After the Game:

listen to your child and address any mental, emotional, or physical concerns.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
May 28, 2024**

The Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Iowa, met on Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the County Administration Building, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Present: Garry Seyb, Tom Schulz, Ron Fedler and Matt Pflug.

Absent: Chuck Holmes
All votes are unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

The Board opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Pflug, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

At 10:01 a.m. Seyb opened a public hearing for comments on an amendment to the FY24 County Budget. There were no comments received prior to the hearing and none from those in attendance. At 10:02 a.m. a motion was made by Pflug and seconded by

Schulz to close the public hearing.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Schulz, to approve Resolution #2024-83. Roll call: Pflug-aye, Schulz-aye, Fedler-aye and Seyb-aye.

**RESOLUTION
2024 - 83**

Resolution - Adoption of Budget Amendment FY2024 - 83

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing has been completed concerning the Proposed Lee County Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 in accordance with the Iowa Department of Management guidelines and, per Iowa Code Section 331.434, Subsection 5;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Iowa, the Public Hearing is acknowledged and the Budget Amendment as presented is hereby adopted.

Dated at Ft Madison, Iowa on the 28th day of March 2024.

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

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Schulz, to approve Resolution #2024-84. Roll call: Pflug-aye, Schulz-aye, Fedler-aye and Seyb-aye.

RESOLUTION #2024 - 84

Resolution for Amended Appropriations FY2024

Whereas, Resolution #2024-74, dated March 25, 2024 must be updated to correctly reflect the adjustments to appropriations for each of the different county officers and departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, in accordance with Section 331.434, Subsection 6, Code of Iowa.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved, by the Lee County Board of Supervisors to amend Resolution #2024-74 as stated below:

Dated at Ft Madison, Iowa on the 28th day of May 2024.

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

Public Input: Andrew Johnson, West Point, asked the Board to consider implementing a comprehensive plan of the County. Two residents of Henry County, Leland Graber and Bill Crawford, came to the meeting to discuss the proposed Lee County wind farm. Rusty Andrews with Mohrfeld Electric, asked the Board to look at the depth rule for fiber optic cable that the County has on their permits.

Moved by Schulz, seconded by Pflug, to appoint Mark Klesner, Scott Edwards, Sherri Yasenochok, Cindy Renstrom, Chris Brown, Nancy Booten, Kevin Harter, Roslyn Garcia and Denise Fraise to the committee that will be studying the feasibility of closing one courthouse. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Schulz, to approve Resolution #2024-82. Roll call: Pflug-aye, Schulz-aye, Fedler-aye and Seyb-aye.

RESOLUTION #2024-82

BE IT RESOLVED this 28th day of May, 2024 the appointment of the COUNTY COMPENSATION COMMISSION IN EMINENT DOMAIN

REALTORS

Melissa Peitz
..... Donnellson
Penny Logsdon.... Keokuk
Daniel B. Fraise
..... Fort Madison
Cynthia Otte
..... Fort Madison
Corey Fraise
..... Fort Madison
Donna Amandus.. Keokuk
Kara Morrow
..... Fort Madison

**OWNERS OF CITY/
TOWN PROPERTY**

Bobby Reid..... Montrose
Dave Ellingboe
..... Donnellson
Helen Fowler Montrose
Lisa Hansen.....Houghton
Rebecca Bowker
..... Fort Madison
Lane Cox Keokuk
Vicki Kokjohn.. West Point

FARMERS

Larry Lang Donnellson
Steve Newberry Argyle
Dave Houston..... Wever
Chris Lindner Keokuk
Harry Mabeus..... Wever
Dusty Wellman
..... Donnellson
Mary Weisinger
..... Fort Madison

BANKERS

Matt Morrison
..... Pilot Grove
Matt Morris.. Fort Madison
Kevin Adams
..... Fort Madison
Tamara Dietsch
..... Fort Madison
Morgan Kokjohn
..... Fort Madison
Jill Lebeck... Fort Madison
Josh Kirchner..... Keokuk
Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Ron Fedler, Vice-Chair; /s/ Matt Pflug, Member and /s/ Tom Schulz, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Fedler, to approve a contract with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission for administration of CDBG Grant Funds for the Health/EMS Building, at a cost not to exceed \$35,000. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Schulz, to approve the Consent Agenda that included the May 20, 2024 Board minutes and the claims for payment. Motion carried.

Moved by Schulz, seconded by Pflug, to approve a step increase for John Gram, Correctional Officer, from \$21.77/hr. to \$25.13/hr., effective 4/30/24. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Pflug reported on an Employee Safety Committee

| LEE COUNTY IOWA Expenditures by Department FY2024 | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Department | Budget | Appropriation | Amended Appropriation |
| Board of Supervisors | 3,960,995 | 3,960,995 | 3,960,995 |
| Auditor | 960,189 | 895,189 | 960,189 |
| Treasurer | 826,528 | 826,528 | 826,528 |
| County Attorney | 1,103,729 | 1,103,729 | 1,103,729 |
| Sheriff | 5,244,576 | 5,229,576 | 5,244,576 |
| Recorder | 549,879 | 549,879 | 549,879 |
| Pioneer Cemetery | 40,662 | 40,662 | 40,662 |
| GIS | 168,331 | 168,331 | 168,331 |
| Safety/Risk Management | 110,294 | 110,294 | 110,294 |
| Information Technology | 1,017,224 | 1,017,224 | 1,017,224 |
| Secondary Roads | 10,772,223 | 10,772,223 | 10,772,223 |
| Veteran Affairs | 149,258 | 149,258 | 149,258 |
| Conservation | 2,159,508 | 2,159,508 | 2,159,508 |
| Board of Health | 5,019,654 | 5,019,654 | 5,019,654 |
| GR/CPC/Court/Comm. Housing | 885,701 | 882,225 | 885,701 |
| Human Services | 47,500 | 47,500 | 47,500 |
| Medical Examiner | 268,380 | 268,380 | 268,380 |
| Ambulance Service | 5,349,371 | 4,742,774 | 5,349,371 |
| Maintenance | 695,834 | 695,834 | 695,834 |
| Building Repair & Maintenance | 450,287 | 450,287 | 450,287 |
| Non-Departmental (Includes Transfers) | 7,200,635 | 7,200,635 | 7,200,635 |
| TOTAL | 46,980,758 | 46,290,685 | 46,980,758 |

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

meeting. Fedler reported on a wind farm community meeting. Schulz reported on an Opioid Committee meeting. Seyb reported on a Friends of Lee County Childcare meeting, a Regional Planning Board meeting and a meeting with Fitch Consulting for consulting services of EMS.

At 11:15 a.m. it was moved by Pflug, seconded by Fedler, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Building in Fort Madison.

Garry Seyb, Chairman
Attest: Denise Fraise,
Lee County Auditor

**Claims paid
May 28, 2024**

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| ABC Fire Extng, maint | 234.10 |
| Access Energy, svcs | 549.49 |
| Ace Hardware, splys | 10.18 |
| Airgas USA, splys | 133.72 |
| Alliant Enrgy, svcs | 1004.99 |
| Amazon, exps | 50.06 |
| J Baier, svcs | 125.00 |
| Bound Tree Med, splys | 1838.96 |
| J Brevick, edu | 300.00 |
| BTNCO, svcs | 301.80 |
| Cntrl IA Juv Dtntn, svcs | 3843.15 |
| CenturyLink, svcs | 90.95 |
| Electrical Engrg, svcs | 697.70 |
| Daniels Jntrl, svcs | 4328.41 |
| Dejongs, svcs | 1200.00 |
| Discnt Tire, svcs | 166.90 |
| Dodd Prtg/Stat, splys | 29.94 |
| Electronic Engrg, parts | 18.58 |
| Fastenal Co, equip | 54.84 |
| Floyds EZ Way, svcs | 60.00 |
| FM Water, svcs | 4095.49 |
| D Fraise, exps | 40.00 |
| Z Fuller, exps | 162.63 |
| L Gaus, edu | 300.00 |
| N Granaman, svcs | 1818.97 |
| Grt Prairie AEA, svcs | 170.00 |
| GrtAmer Financial, equip | 944.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Heartland Bus, svcs | 8663.28 |
| H Higbie, rfd | 50.00 |
| Huffman Wldng, equip | 185.93 |
| HyVee, splys | 1966.56 |
| IA DOT, svcs | 75575.00 |
| IA Prison Ind, splys | 631.18 |
| Jet Gas, fuel | 614.53 |
| JJD Cntrctng, svcs | 46633.60 |
| J Kemper, exps | 160.13 |
| Keo Hsing Auth, svcs | 7901.46 |
| Keokuk Water, svcs | 445.65 |
| G Knisley, exps | 497.92 |
| Khlmrgn Hlg, svcs | 245.00 |
| Lee Co Atty, svcs | 558.07 |
| LeeCo Auditor, Cntrl Pur | 6420.10 |
| LeeCo Hlth, svcs | 14594.69 |
| LeeCo Treas, svcs | 2963.39 |
| Mail Svcs, svcs | 1299.73 |
| Memorial Hsp, svcs | 387.00 |
| Meyers Plmbng, svcs | 150.00 |
| MidAmer Energy, gas | 449.79 |
| MW Grp Bnfts, svcs | 493.00 |
| MtHamill Elvtr, splys | 19.58 |
| JJ Nchting Co, parts | 148.40 |
| O'Reilly Auto, parts | 159.47 |
| OMG Midwest, svcs | 28469.74 |
| Optum Rx, splys | 1123.35 |
| PCC Ambul, svcs | 9990.44 |
| Pen City Current, publ | 292.50 |
| T Pezley, exps | 213.99 |
| K Rokosz, svcs | 201.39 |
| L Roxberg, rent | 300.00 |
| G Seyb, exps | 65.00 |
| Shottenkirk, svcs | 2869.25 |
| SIEDA, cntrb | 3339.61 |
| Solutions, svcs | 18950.00 |
| S Sproul, svcs | 160.00 |
| EVanAusdall, rent | 250.00 |
| VB Co Hosp, svcs | 13155.89 |
| Verizon, svcs | 389.26 |
| Vigen Mmrl, svcs | 2400.00 |
| L Wessel, svcs | 730.00 |
| B Wright, edu | 300.00 |
| B Wyatt, svcs | 200.00 |

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES OF THE
BURLINGTON, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL**

**WORK SESSION
June 10, 2024**

The Burlington City Council met in an informal work session at 4:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall with Mayor Billups, Council Members Bailey, Graham-Murray, Scott and Weiss present.

The following items were moved from the regular agenda to the consent agenda: Resolution

Approving Sidewalk Work at Burlington Junction Railway and Resolution Approving an Amended 28E Agreement Between the City of Burlington and Burlington Area Convention and Visitors' Bureau for Hotel/Motel Revenue Sharing. Items discussed at the informal work session are listed on the work session agenda on file in the office of the City Clerk. No action was taken.

Adjournment: 6:00 p.m.
Approved: June 17, 2024
Chad Bird, City Manager
Jon D. Billups, Mayor

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE BURLINGTON,
IOWA CITY COUNCIL
Meeting No. 12
June 17, 2024**

The Burlington City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall, 400 Washington Street, with Mayor Billups, Council Members Bailey, Graham-Murray, Scott and Weiss present.

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: The following citizens spoke against the PRIDE Month Proclamation that was proclaimed at the June 3, 2024 City Council meeting: Pastor Freddie Starling of 517 S. 7th Street; Pastor Winters of 905 S. 10th Street, Matt Shinn of 613 N. 5th

Street; Nathan Williams of 1500 Silverleaf Avenue and Joe Skelton of 2683 Division Street. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

**CONSENT AGENDA:
To the Public:**

All matters listed under Item I., Consent Agenda, having been discussed were considered to be routine by the City Council and were enacted by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items. If discussion was desired, that item was removed from the Consent Agenda and was considered separately.

Introduced By: Weiss
Seconded By: Scott

MOTION: To approve all items listed under Item I., Consent Agenda.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Billups reviewed the items listed on the consent agenda to the viewing audience. Mayor Pro-Tem Graham-Murray announced those individuals appointed to various City commissions and boards. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")
CARRIED

HEARINGS:

1. Statement: Consideration of an Application for an Upper Story Housing Conversion Grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Community Development Block Grant Program for a Project Located at 106 Washington Street, Burlington, Iowa

COMMENTS: Sara Hecox with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission (SEIRPC) reviewed with Council and the viewing audience: Need For The Activities Was Identified: The City of Burlington has identified that the city needs additional affordable rental housing units and would benefit from the revitalization of underutilized properties. A private

developer, Jennison Industries, Inc., is proposing the rehabilitate the third floor of the property at 106 Washington Street to provide safe, affordable rental housing in Burlington. How the Proposed

Activity will be funded:

The activity will be funded by a Community Development Block Grant – Housing Conversion Program through the Iowa Economic Development Authority. The developer, Jennison Industries, Inc. will fund the remainder of the project. Date Application is Due: The CDBG application for Housing Conversion is due June 30, 2024. Requested Amount of Federal Funds: City of Burlington will request \$550,000 from the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Community Development Block Grant – Upper Story Housing Conversion for construction of the units. Federal Funds That Will Benefit Low-and Moderate-Income Persons: At a minimum, 51% of the grant funds will benefit Low-and Moderate-Income persons in the area where the project is located. The current US Census Data for the City of Burlington indicates that 51.4% of the community is LMI. Where the Activity will be conducted: The project will take place in downtown Burlington on the third floor of 106 Washington Street. Minimize Displacement of Persons: During construction of the project, there should be no residents that will have to be displaced. The upper floors are vacant. Plans to Assist Persons Displaced: After the grant is funded the City of Burlington 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, Jennison Industries,

Inc, plans on developing 5 units. One 3-bedroom unit, one 2-bedroom unit, and three 1-bedroom units. These units will be on the third floor of 106 Washington Street and be rented to LMI tenants for the affordability period. She further presented the housing needs assessment with the City Council and the viewing audience. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Weiss
Seconded By: Scott
Motion to Close **CARRIED**

Introduced By: Weiss
Seconded By: Billups

Resolution Approving an Application for an Upper Story Housing Conversion Grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Community Development Block Grant Program for a Project Located at 106 Washington Street, Burlington, Iowa

DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")
CARRIED

2. Statement: Consideration of an Ordinance Vacating and Selling a Portion of Alley Right-of-Way Located Adjacent to the Property Locally Known as 834 Jefferson Street, Burlington, Iowa

COMMENTS: Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that the ordinance will approve the vacated portion of the alley right-of-way to be sold to the adjacent property owner, MIZS Realty Iowa LLC in the amount of \$500.00 and shall be combined with the adjacent lots under the ownership of the purchaser and shall not remain a separate lot. He stated that the City Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 4, 2024 and voted 4-0 with 1 abstain to recommend approval of the vacating of the described right-of-way based on petition of the adjacent property owner, lack of City use, main-

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PUBLIC NOTICES

tenance of an electric utility easement over the vacated right-of-way, and existing use of the right-of-way by the petitioner. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Bailey
Seconded By: Scott
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Bailey
Seconded By: Scott
Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the First Reading of an Ordinance Vacating and Selling a Portion of Alley Right-of-Way Located Adjacent to the Property Locally Known as 834 Jefferson Street, Burlington, Iowa
DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")
CARRIED

3. Statement: Consideration of an Ordinance Vacating and Selling a Portion of Alley Right-of-Way Located West of the Property Locally Known as 119 South Plane Street, Burlington, Iowa
COMMENTS: Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that the City Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 4, 2024

Introduced By: Bailey
Seconded By: Scott
Motion to Close CARRIED

and voted 5-0 to recommend approval of the vacating of the described right-of-way based on petition of the adjacent property owner, lack of City utilities, and ownership of land on both sides of the alley right-of-way by the petitioner. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Graham-Murray
Seconded By: Scott
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Graham-Murray
Seconded By: Bailey
Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the First Reading of an Ordinance Vacating and Selling a Portion of Alley Right-of-Way Located West of the Property Locally Known as 119 South Plane Street, Burlington, Iowa
DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")
CARRIED

4. Statement: Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 136 Excavations of the City of Burlington Municipal Code
COMMENTS: Nick

MacGregor, Assistant City Manager for Public Works, stated the amendments to Chapter 136 Excavations involves Public Works oversight of the right-of-way work and permitting process. He stated that staff has dealt with several issues as contractors have applied for permits to install communication utilities. He stated that changes include increasing the bonding requirement from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and the cost recovery for corrective work that is either improperly done or left unfinished. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Graham-Murray
Seconded By: Scott
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Graham-Murray
Seconded By: Scott
Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 136 Excavations of the City of Burlington Municipal Code
DISCUSSION: None.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")
CARRIED
5. Statement: Consideration of Sale of Property Locally Known as 1001 South 6th Street, City of Burlington, Iowa with Conditions
COMMENTS: Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that the City acquired the property at 1001 South 6th Street through the abandoned building program. He stated that the home was in poor condition and was demolished; the garage was in decent condition and remained on the property. He stated that a bid was received from the neighboring property owner to purchase the property and make repairs to the garage. He stated that the property at 1001 South 6th Street shall be sold to Sharon Porter in the amount of \$500.00. He stated that the property shall be combined with the adjacent lot at 1003 South 6th Street under ownership of Sharon Porter and on contract to Tracey Beal. He reviewed the conditions of the sale of property to the City Council and the viewing

audience. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Scott
Seconded By: Bailey
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Scott
Seconded By: Weiss
Resolution Approving Sale of Property Locally Known as 1001 South 6th Street, City of Burlington, Iowa with Conditions
DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")
CARRIED

RESOLUTION:
Introduced By: Scott
Seconded By: Weiss

1. Resolution Approving a Formal Partnership Between the Cities of Burlington and West Burlington for Program Expenses in the Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities Program
DISCUSSION: Chad Bird, City Manager, stated that the agreement between the City of Burlington and the City of West Burlington in support of the City of West Burlington's application to the University of Iowa. He stated that the cities have full support for the Iowa

Initiative for Sustainable Communities. He stated that the program brings together students from many of the graduate programs at the University, depending on the projects selected, teams of graduate students in law, engineering, planning, design, art, communications, and more, come together to work on as many as 15 unique and specific programs, plans, and public policy issues for partner communities. He stated that a list of projects will be submitted and by this fall the University will notify the cities of projects that they feel they can effectively take on in the next academic year. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")
ADOPTED
Adjournment: 6:24 p.m.
Approved: July 1, 2024
Katie Music, CMC, City Clerk
Jon D. Billups, Mayor
(See recording on file in the office of the City Clerk for complete discussion and documentation.)

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Sports/From the Front

Hounds tap next men up to start 2024 season

HOUNDS – Continued from Page 4

shallow water.

“We keep saying he makes chicken salad out of chicken crap,” Doherty said. “Not that the kids are that, but we put them in a really tough position. Here’s another skill guy, Josh Wykert, do your best and he comes through.

Doherty also mentioned Chase Allen, another senior that could help stabilize the line of scrimmage on offense and defense. Nolan Lamb, Hunter Cook – another 300 lb. plus lineman, who could also see time.

“We’re not deep at positions. We’re either senior or sophomore, we have a very small junior class, maybe five juniors. And we have some freshmen we’ll put out there,” he said.

Senior Triston Marshall

will be the featured back as far as that goes, but Fort Madison is known for mixing things up laterally in the backfield and other players such as Brody Cashman, Tateum Schelich, Noah Swigart will see time with the ball.

The Hounds should present a 3-man front on defense, but Doherty said there will be different looks.

Caden Barnes is also returning and could see time at linebacker with Marshall and in the backfield on offense.

Another sophomore, Marshall Heitmann, is also on Doherty’s radar.

“He’s done everything right. He’s starting to learn to be physical and I think wrestling helped him this year. But he’s starting to

bring it and we’re excited about him.”

Henry Graham will handle the kicking duties again this year. The senior was 13/14 in PATs last year platooning with Leif Boeding.

Doherty said the Grayhounds will come again with a big line and try to dominate the line and run the football, but he said he won’t be surprised if Burlington mixes things up more than in years past.

“This is a rivalry, and a friendly rivalry. We knew, for the most part, what we were going to get with them. But they have a new head coach and they will have some new formations,” Doherty said.

The Hounds scouted Burlington’s preseason scrimmage and said the Bloodhound defense needs to be ready for everything.

“We have to be disciplined and play Fort Madison football,” he said. “We’re going to be in a dog fight. That’s the message.”

The game kicks off at 7:30 p.m. at Richmond Stadium.

Wever facility joins Koch fertilizer fleet in US, Canada

IFCo - Continued from Page 1

adding more than 3,500 jobs during the construction period.

“This acquisition marks another significant investment in the growth of our fertilizer business,” said Mark Luettner, president of Koch Ag & Energy Solutions. “In the past 15 years, we have invested \$2 billion in our North American production facilities to enhance reliability, expand production and improve logistics for our customers. This investment enhances our ability to serve customers long-term by providing additional flexibility to adapt to their nitrogen preferences.”

Since commissioning in April 2017, the facility has revitalized a core industry in the United States reflecting OCI’s continued investment in the plant’s ongoing development, and in the surrounding region’s distribution and logistics infrastructure to support the Midwest’s agriculture industry, OCI global said in a statement released Thursday.

“The successful closing of the IFCO transaction is the latest example of OCI’s steadfast commitment to creating value for its shareholders. This milestone further reinforces OCI’s standing and record as a successful developer, operator, and investor. Looking ahead, we will continue to deploy our distinctive knowledge, management expertise, and entrepreneurial spirit into further value-accrued ventures,” said Nassef Sawiris, Executive


Chairman of OCI.

Ahmed El Hoshy, CEO of OCI echoed the comments.

“We are exceptionally proud of OCI and the IFCO operating team’s remarkable achievements in converting a cornfield into a world-class global nitrogen facility and in revitalizing a core industry in the United States. KAES today is opportunely positioned both strategically and geographically to leverage and diversify its extensive platform, and to create significant opportunities to drive the facility’s future growth. We have been impressed by the entire KAES team throughout this process and wish them the best of luck in their onward journey,” said El Hoshy.

The Wever facility joins the existing Koch Fertilizer fleet, which includes four nitrogen production facilities in the U.S. and one in Canada plus an extensive terminal network. The company and its affiliates also have partial ownership of three nitrogen facilities in Trinidad and Tobago, as well as a phosphate production facility in Morocco.

“We are excited about the opportunities the Wever facility provides to better serve existing and new customers,” said Scott McGinn, executive vice president of Koch Fertilizer. “The plant’s location allows us to extend our product offerings to new customers in the eastern U.S. and provide all customers with expanded products and services.”



HAPPY Labor Day
Honoring the American Worker

Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Monday & Tuesday, September 2 & 3 due to the Labor Day holiday

Breaking news will continue to be published to our website www.PenCityCurrent.com and through our social media channels as it happens.

The e-Edition will resume publication on Wednesday, September 4.

Please celebrate safely.

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5-6 Grade
\$30.00/Player

LEAGUE INFORMATION

Players will be placed on their individual teams once the registration deadline has passed. To ensure your child receives a shirt, registration form *and* payment must be received *before* the deadline on Friday, September 6th. Each team will have a Parent Representative (please note if interested) this year who, along with our coaches, will communicate practice times, game schedules, etc. Games will be played on Sunday afternoons beginning on September 15th at Baxter Sports Complex, located at 909 48th Street in Fort Madison. The Fort Madison High School players/staff will provide coaching for teams again in 2024. For the 1st and 2nd Grade there will not be certified referees so there will need to be Parent Rep(s) who step in and control the game. Please remember the most important part is to have fun, grow, and learn!

For more information, please visit Fort Madison Football Inc. on Facebook, or on our website at www.bloodhoundfootball.com.

Contact: Erin Wykert 319-372-2932 (ewykert@gmail.com)
Derek Doherty 319-470-6093 (Derek.doherty@fmcfsd.com)

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Deadline: Friday, August 30th

PLAYER INFORMATION—Print Legibly

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ Birth Date: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Shirt Size: Youth S (6-8) Youth M (10-12) Youth L (14-16) Youth XL (18-20)

Adult S Adult M Adult L Adult XL

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

I, _____, being of sound mind and health, understand that with any sport or activity comes an inherent risk of injury, and that protective equipment does not prevent all injuries to players. With this in mind, I give permission for the above-named child to participate in all league activities. Furthermore, I do hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify, and agree to hold harmless Fort Madison Football Inc., Baxter Sports Complex, and the organizer, sponsors, and/or supervisors, from any claim arising out of any injury to my child. I also understand that all equipment issued to my child is property of Fort Madison Football Inc., and that I am responsible for the equipment in the event that it is intentionally damaged or lost.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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