FM school district picks up 5-year support levy

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Weighted down by declining enrollment and reduced state funding, the Fort Madison Community School District will begin participating in an instructional support levy program for the next five years. At Monday’s regular meeting of the school district board of directors, the board voted unanimously to participate in the program which will generate approximately $34,000 in increased revenue, however details of the final levy won’t be known until the March 20 meeting as the board is also looking at a Cash Reserve Levy. Just keeping at status quo funding with declining enrollment would set the school levy for the 2017-2018 school year at $13,945/$1,000 assessed valuation. With the ISL, which requires a property tax component, the levy is bumped to $13.95. If the school were to consider a $300,000 cash reserve levy addition, the new proposed levy would be $14.45/$1,000.

Sandy Elmore, the district’s finance director said the board needs to make a decision on how to move forward by the March 20 meeting so she can publish the proposed budget and submit it to the state. “This year the low supplemental state aid of 1.1% would result in $14.3 million for us so that means we qualify for the budget guarantee amount, which is based on last year’s figures and we’ve lost so many students the state would have had to go over 4% for us to see any of what’s called new money. So we’re going to be at $14,733 million on budget guarantee. That means $500,000 in new money, but it shifts the burden to a levy and we would have to levy to get that $500,000.”

Elmore said then increasing the levy to accommodate the Cash Reserve Levy, which was recommended on the advice of the district’s bond counselors would push the levy to $14.45/$1,000. A look at other area schools still has Fort Madison in the lower half of the other districts almost all of whom have ISLs in place already. In other action, the board set June 27 as the next referendum date on a bond issue to construct a new elementary school. That date will require that all documentation and petitions be submitted prior to May 12 to get on the ballot. The board had an extended work session with Iowa Association of School Board’s Harry Heilingenthal as part of Project Lighthouse, a continuing education program aimed at focusing goals and priorities of the school board to be in line with district staff and creating a common goal approach to the district.

Loebsack talks tax policy, American jobs on Scotts facility tour

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Plant officials at the local Scotts Miracle-Gro facility in Fort Madison gave U.S. Rep. Dave Loebsack an education into the world of weed control. Loebsack toured the facility’s labeling and bottling areas as well as chemical mixing stations, labs, and storage areas with department heads in the afternoon and then talked briefly with the media following the tour. He said he enjoyed the tour because he frankly didn’t know a lot about the facility, but was impressed by the workforce, the American made products and the company’s efforts for organic products.

Leslie Malinski, the plant’s Director of Liquid Operations, gave Loebsack a slide presentation that outlined the company’s commitment to its customers, communities and workforce. “This is an important plant in the area,” Loebsack said. “They employ a lot of people and I’ve never been here before. I enjoy the learning process as I was a teacher for more than 20 years and I even enjoy it more now as a congressman,” he said. “I learned a lot about the workforce. They do a really good job of recruiting here. And although they have a lot of seasonal employees that get called back the next year, they also have a lot of full time employees and retention is pretty high.” Malinski told Loebsack the plant filled more than 62 million bottles in 2015 and spent about $3.5 million in capital outlay in 2016. She also explained that the Fort Madison plant supplies most of the products for the northern half of the United States and into Canada.

Loebsack said he likes to get out and visit area businesses and industries that focus on American products, and it’s efforts like Scott’s that America needs to be looking at going forward. “I always try to go somewhere where the focus is on making things in America and we need to do more,” Loebsack said. “I think the American people are demanding that, and I think that’s what happened in the last election. People are tired of all the competition from abroad and companies going abroad and they wanted a change.” With the political climate as it is, Loebsack said efforts need to focus on growing jobs in America and things like the Border Adjustment Tax, which would tax products coming into America at...
Available for St. Patty’s Day

Dave’s Famous Corned Beef Brisket or Round!

America’s Cut Pork Chops $7/11

Fresh Shoulder Pork Steak 5 lbs. for $10

Fresh Ground Pork $1.99/lb. Limit 10 lbs. Please

10 lb. Box Asian Catfish Fillets $34.95

Coupon • Coupon • Coupon
Breaded or Unbreaded Pork Tenderloins 10/$10
Limit 30 Please Sold in Pcs. of 10 Only
Expires 3-20-17

TAX TIME FREEZER SPECIAL

1/2 Beef 200 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - $897
All Cuts Boneless Except T-Bones
Chuck Roast, Arm Roast, Ribeye Steak, Brisket, Round Steak, Swiss Steak, Sirloin Tip Roast & Steak, Rump Roast, Sirloin Steak, T-Bone & Ground Beef

1/2 of 1/2 Beef 100 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - $447
All Cuts Boneless
Chuck Roast, Arm Roast, Ribeye Steak, Brisket, Round Steak, Swiss Steak, Sirloin Tip Roast & Steak, Rump Roast, Sirloin Steak, T-Bone & Ground Beef

Front 1/4 Beef 100 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - $439
All Cuts Boneless
Chuck Roast, Arm Roast, Ribeye Steak, Brisket & Ground Beef

Hind 1/4 Beef 100 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - $477
All Cuts Boneless
Round Steak, Swiss Steak, Sirloin Tip Roast & Steak, T-Bone, Sirloin Steak & Ground Beef

1/2 Hog 64 lbs. $139
Whole Hog 128 lbs. $268

$2.00 OFF 3 lb. Box Snack Sticks or Wiener
4 Varieties Expires 3-20-17

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HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00am-6:00pm, Sat. 9:00am-5:00pm, Closed Sunday

Ad Effective: 3-7-17 thru 3-20-17
Jan Rockwell is FMAAA March exhibit artist

BY BRIAN RIGGS
Fort Madison Area Arts Association

Jan Rockwell, from Macomb, Illinois, will show throughout the month with “Journey of the MIND.” A reception will occur for Jan on March 10th from 5-7pm at 825 Ave G. E. I. Dupont is the sponsor for the exhibition. Many may know Jan under the Earth, Air, and Water artist slot found many years at Art-in-Central Park. She shares a booth with her husband Dean a potter. When it comes to painting, Jan is well versed in many styles including watercolor, oil, acrylic, and collage. Late ly she has been gravitating toward encaustic and palette knife painting. Jan will present at FMAAA’s Lunch-ala-Art program when it returns March 31st at noon. SubArena will be the food vendor. Call the gallery at 319-372-3996 to reserve a slot. Jan has had solo shows at Foster Gallery in Peoria, West Central Illinois Art Center in Macomb, WIU Student Gallery in Macomb, and Metro Center Community College in Omaha. She has been on a whirlwind tour of exhibitions of late showing in our tri-state area. She has had juried group exhibitions at Wichita Art Center, Galesburg Civic Center, Buchanan Art Center, and Illinois Watercolor Society in Oak Park, IL. “Journey of the MIND” is an exhibit of recently completed work on paper, panels or canvas. Many of the pieces are collaged with papers, encaustics (hot wax and pigment), and transfers (acrylic medium and image),” said Rockwell. “The work is an exploration of the elements of art, focusing on color and surface texture. Landscapes are suggested and abstracted through various techniques. Paint is mainly applied using palette knives creating thick, buttery, engaging contrasts. “Often the initial paint or sub-surface collage directs the path and eventually dictates the subject in the painting. The placement of one stroke of color encourages the mixture and placement of another. As an atmosphere develops, the “mindscape” emerges and travels from the sub-conscious or memory into its own reality. The abstract image allows a viewer to bring to the painting a personal interpretation of time and place.” Her website is, www.earthairwater.com; Rockwell is an innovative painter and has been a past cover artists for Expressions Art Auction. No foolin’ Expressions Auction occurs on April 1st at Comfort Inn & Suites. Ascend “Journey of the MIND” at FMAAA gallery Tues-Sat from 10am-5pm.
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda
Tuesday, March 7, 2017
Convening Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Correctional Center, 2530 255th Street, Montrose, IA 52639
AGENDA
Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
9:01 a.m. Public Hearing to Approve FY 18 County Budget
Consider Approval of Resolution Approving FY 18 County Budget
Approve Tuesday, February 28, 2017 Board Minutes
Consider Approval of Claims
Public Input
Consider Approval of Contracts with Iowa Fertilizer Company for Security Services with Lee County Sheriff's Department
Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Public Hearing to Enter into Installation Agreement with WatchGuard Video for Body Cameras and In-Car Systems for Sheriff's Office
Consider Approval of Class C Beer Permit for Tri State Outdoor Products, Wapello
Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Archives 2, Waverly
Consider Approval of Grant Application for CAMP Grant with the Governor’s Office of Drug Control Policy
Personnel Actions:
A. Step Increases-Recorder’s Office (3)
B. Part-time New Hire-Treasurer’s Office
C. Step Increases-Health Department (2)
Reports:
A. Recorder’s Report of Fees Collected
B. Manure Management Annual Update-Fulkenlamp Farms-Marion Township
C. Manure Management Annual Update-Kruse Bros. Inc.-Marion Township
D. Treasurer’s Report of Fees Collected
Commission or Committee Reports
A. Argyle Sanitary District FY 18 Budget Hearing Consider Approval of Argyile Sanitary District FY 18 Budget Adjourn
AGENDA
FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Date: TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017
Time: 5:30 P.M.
Place: City Council Chambers, City Hall
INVOCATION
ROLL CALL
PUBLIED MEETING
PLAISE NOTE: This is not a recorded meeting. To receive information, you must contact the City Clerk or City Administrator. This is an opportunity to discuss issues with the Council or to make a public comment.
ONDE to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Title 10, Zoning, Chapter 1, 3(A) Additional Parking Regulations and certain sections of Title 9, Traffic, Chapters 1, 7 and 11, to update definitions of commercial vehicles, provide an exception for recreational vehicles to be driven on residential streets and amend parking regulations for commercial vehicles, trailers and food trucks.
ONDE to approve the third reading of an ordinance amending Title 10, Zoning, Chapter 19, 3(A) Additional Parking Regulations and certain sections of Title 9, Traffic, Chapters 1, 7 and 11, to update definitions of commercial vehicles, provide an exception for recreational vehicles to be driven on residential streets and amend parking regulations for commercial vehicles, trailers and food trucks.
ONDE to approve the third reading of an ordinance amending Title 5, Zoning, Chapter 1, 3, 8, and 10, with the request of Horan’s Cabaret to paint Avenue G in front of 1537 Avenue G for St. Patrick’s Day.
ONDE to approve the Mayor’s signature on an Iowa Economic Development Authority Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Multi-Family Unit Production Rental Disaster Recovery Fund Contract for the Cattrell and old Lee County Bank buildings.
(SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2017-13) DISCUSSION ITEMS - None
DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS PRESENTATIONS BY LIAISONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ADJOURNMENT
9. MOVED and SEC- ONDE to adjourn until Tuesday, March 21, 2017, at 5:30 P.M.
PUBLIC NOTICE
The Fort Madison Airport Commission will not meet in March.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
The Fort Madison Airport Commission will not meet in March.
You’ll be over the moon for one of these beautiful homes.

Call us today for a showing!

2BR • 1BA • 1 car garage
733 sq. ft. • 9,116 sq. ft. lot
Country living in the city! Large fenced lot with garden including blackberry bushes, grapes, rhubarb, and asparagus, along with apple and peach trees. Large shop attached to the garage and a storage shed. Sit on the front deck and enjoy the country scenery! In Farmington.
Listing #20163103 • $39,999

3BR • 2 BA • 2 car garage
1,168 sq. ft. • 0.54 acres
Lovely family home comfortably situated at the end of a cul de sac, where you can enjoy the woods and the privacy! There is an inviting deck off the back of the home overlooking the woods and beautiful vinyl fencing. There are newer mechanicals and a newer roof, 2 fireplaces and lots of storage!! Don’t miss out on this beauty.
Listing #20163951 • $139,000

5BR • 2.50BA • 2 car garage
2,834 sq. ft.
14,868 sq. ft. lot
Amazing family home on a large corner lot in Farmington, IA. 2 fireplaces, beautiful woodwork, a beautiful open front porch, a large yard and an oversized garage!!
Listing #20164117 • $127,500

2BR • 1BA • 1 car garage
1,224 sq. ft.
7,250 sq. ft. lot
A house with character! Wrap-around porch, original hardwood in formal dining room/living room combo, main floor laundry, nice size eat-in kitchen including appliances, dining room has original fireplace, basement and 1 car garage.
Listing #20162543 • $53,000

5BR • 1.75BA • 1 car garage
1,904 sq. ft. • 1,903 sq. ft. lot
Great family home on large corner lot in the middle of Ft. Madison. Large living / dining area with original craftsman woodwork and built-ins, 14 x 22 garage on the alley with 2 additional storage sheds. Nice front porch, rear deck, and a great sunroom on the East.
Listing #20162346 • $86,950

3BR • 1.50BA
1,460 sq. ft.
3,625 sq. ft. lot
Reasonably priced home has had new doors installed, new bathroom fixtures, and freshly painted. With it’s vinyl siding and fenced rear yard, it’s ready for your family!!
Listing #20162025 • $25,500

5BR • 2.50BA • 2 car garage
2,834 sq. ft.
14,868 sq. ft. lot
Amazing family home on a large corner lot in Farmington, IA. 2 fireplaces, beautiful woodwork, a beautiful open front porch, a large yard and an oversized garage!!
Listing #20164117 • $127,500

2BR • 1BA • 2 car garage
930 sq. ft. • 7,280 sq. ft. lot
This 2 bedroom home in Montrose has been a rental property and sells as is. Priced way below assessed value to sell quickly!
Listing #20164279 • $38,500

2BR • 1.25BA
1,119 sq. ft. • 0.17 acres
Brick rancher on Ave E close to Old Settlers Park, has full basement mostly finished, picket fence, newer windows, roof, etc.
Listing #20162502 • $88,900

PENDING

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903 Avenue G • Fort Madison
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www.seia.rapmls.com
Looking for a cozy place for just you two?
We’ll help you find something perfect. Call us today for a showing!

5BR • 3BA
3,119 sq. ft.
14,500 sq. ft. lot
From the period wrought iron fencing to the amazing stained oak staircase...from the impressive arches to the large wrap porch, this beautiful turn of the century (20th) home offers all the beauty and elegance of that era. This is a beautifully appointed home with all the modern conveniences. There is an extra large lot for your family to enjoy!!
Listing #20162159 • $164,000

2BR • 1BA • 2 car garage
1,330 sq. ft.
7,250 sq. ft. lot
Immaculate, well-kept ranch has family room with fireplace on the main floor, finished Rec Room, 2nd laundry room, 1/2 bath, and storage room with shelving all in the basement. All windows are vinyl replacement.
Listing #20162507 • $109,900

2BR • 1.50BA • 2 car garage
1,366 sq. ft.
3,300 sq. ft. lot
Immaculate, well-kept ranch has family room with fireplace on the main floor, finished Rec Room, 2nd laundry room, 1/2 bath, and storage room with shelving all in the basement. All windows are vinyl replacement.
Listing #20162507 • $109,900

2BR • 1BA • 2 car garage
1,366 sq. ft.
3,300 sq. ft. lot
Immaculate, well-kept ranch has family room with fireplace on the main floor, finished Rec Room, 2nd laundry room, 1/2 bath, and storage room with shelving all in the basement. All windows are vinyl replacement.
Listing #20162507 • $109,900

3BR • 1BA • 1 car garage
928 sq. ft.
1,087 sq. ft. lot
Very nice maintenancefree home by Lincoln School with a 75 X 145 fenced yard, nice patio, fire pit and child's play set! Some very nice built-ins, some original hardwood flooring, full basement including laundry area. Also find extra parking, garage and carport area on the paved alley.
Listing #20164148 • $72,500

3BR • 3.50BA • 3 car garage
3,723 sq. ft.
Splendor in the woods...with privacy...AND a view...AND an AMAZING home. Call today on this brick beauty perched atop a hill overlooking Ft. Madison with a view of the Mississippi River and almost 6 acres of ground. Offered are 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, a formal living & dining room, a large great room/kitchen/breakfast room combo and a study/den with beautiful cherry cabinetry & bookshelves lining the walls. All of this with STUNNING hardwood floors. This beautiful home offering top-of-the-line features throughout.
Listing #20160805 • $460,000

2BR • 1BA
1,144 sq. ft.
3,625 sq. ft. lot
Move-in ready with many updates including kitchen WITHappliances, fresh paint, newer electrical (100 AMP breaker), new water lines at street and more! The home is clean as a whistle and ready to move in!
Listing #20161431 • $42,500

2BR • 3BA
2,754 sq. ft.
3,550 sq. ft. lot
Gorgeous, turn-key home with large patio minimum maintenance. UPDATES GALORE!!! Practically perfect in every way, this 1841 home includes the latest improvements while keeping its Victorian charm.
Listing #23006122 • $99,999

3BR • 3BA
982 sq. ft.
1,087 sq. ft. lot
This is a beautifully appointed home with all the modern conveniences. There is an extra large lot for your family to enjoy!!
Listing #20162159 • $164,000

2BR • 1,75BA • 2 car garage
679 sq. ft.
6,500 sq. ft. lot
Nice, small home. Seller has purchased and remodeled. Excellent condition.
Listing #20164161 • $62,500

2BR • 1,50BA • 2 car garage
1,366 sq. ft.
3,300 sq. ft. lot
Price REDUCED! Rare opportunity to own a renovated home at a great price!! Large, shaded yard and a 2 car garage. Located in a nice neighborhood on a corner lot. Seller is motivated and offering a 1 year AHS Home Warranty!
Listing #20163035 • $52,000

2BR • 1BA
1,144 sq. ft.
3,625 sq. ft. lot
Move-in ready with many updates including kitchen WITHappliances, fresh paint, newer electrical (100 AMP breaker), new water lines at street and more! The home is clean as a whistle and ready to move in!
Listing #20161431 • $42,500

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Listing #20160805 • $460,000

(319) 372-4040
903 Avenue G • Fort Madison
www.hopeassociatesre.com
www.seia.rapmls.com
3BR • 3BA • 3 car garage
1,635 sq. ft. • 4.3 acres
Amazing cedar log sided home in a quiet and private setting, a well-appointed guest house, and 26x32 metal building. The main home offers beautiful hardwood flooring with a awesome open floor plan. Enjoy summer evenings on the nice walk-out patio area. This is a dream home!!!
Listing #20161863 • $299,000

3BR • 2.50 BA
2 car garage • 2,400 sq. ft.
10,150 sq. ft. lot
Lovely tri-level home on a quiet cul de sac offering numerous upgrades. There are 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths, a large living room, dining room and open kitchen with newer stainless steel appliances and a breakfast bar. Newer windows, HVAC, new floor coverings on main and lower level and freshly painted throughout. The large backyard is completely fenced and has a 24 x 16 patterned concrete patio. Don’t miss out on this wonderful family home.
Listing #20163404 • $167,500

3BR • 1.75 BA • 1 car garage
888 sq. ft. • 9,450 sq. ft. lot
RARE RANCH with large fenced back yard and attached garage! Updated windows and kitchen, newer HVAC and water heater. Family Room in the basement. Just waiting for your own personal touch!
Listing #20163423 • $74,900

3BR • 3BA • 1.75 BA • 1 car garage
8,700 sq. ft. lot
Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24’ X 36’ insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.
Listing #20163776 • $129,500

3 BR • 1 BA • 1 car garage
1,248 sq. ft. • 0.37 acres
Well-kept ranch on a beautiful, large corner lot in West Point, IA. New wooden privacy fence surrounding the entire back yard. There is also an attached garage and storage shed. A large wooden deck leads to the front door where you can sit and enjoy those beautiful Iowa summer sunsets! PLUS a covered deck in the back for those rainy days. This house is a rare find.
Listing #20164234 • $119,900

3 BR • 1.75 BA
3 car garage • 2,052 sq. ft.
Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24’ X 36’ insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.
Listing #20163776 • $129,500

4 BR • 1.75 BA
3 car garage • 2,052 sq. ft.
Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24’ X 36’ insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.
Listing #20163776 • $129,500

4BR • 2.50BA • 1 car garage
3,960 sq. ft. lot
Beautiful 2 story home located just off Highway 61 north of Fort Madison. Formal living and dining room, nice kitchen with breakfast room all open to a main floor family room, relaxing, private screened porch that opens onto the large deck that spans the back of the home. Basement boasts recently finished family room and tons of storage.
Listing #20164530 • $175,000

Land
14.65 acres • 638,514 sq. ft.
Just outside city limits, perfect for housing development or small farm for horses or small livestock, over half tillable. City water is available. 30’ X 60’ building is totally insulated, heated and air conditioned with 200 amp service.
Listing #20162574 • $249,000

Land
50.82 acres
2,213,719 sq. ft.
Ideal 50 acre m/l parcel to develop. Close to new 4-8 Middle School and Baxter Rec Plex. TREMENDOUS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY.
Listing #20162779 • $559,020

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FORT MADISON – On February 28, 2017, Cub Scout Pack 7 of Fort Madison held their annual Blue & Gold banquet. During the ceremony five WEBELOS scouts earned the highest honor that can be achieved in Cub scouting – the Arrow of Light, and officially became members of Boy Scout Troop 7 of Fort Madison.

Loebsack says border tax is risky for U.S. firms

LOEBSACK - Continued from Page 1

almost 20%, could be detrimental to the economy and American jobs. "Whatever tax policy changes we adopt, we have to make sure it creates jobs. We've been hearing a lot from the Republican's Border Adoption Tax, that's basically a 20 percent tax on anything imported. There's other things we can do. I think we need to change laws to remove incentives from taking companies overseas. But I have a hard time increasing the costs of goods for Americans and that's what would happen if we tax those products coming in," he said.

"I hope we can get past the three tweets a day and start focusing on helping people."

Old tanks

U.S. Rep. Dave Loebsack and Dale Heidbreder, a member of Scotts' leadership team, talk about storage tanks that were used back when the facility was a Breck hair product manufacturer. Loebsack was in the area touring Scotts and Griffin Wheel in Keokuk.

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