Supervisors approve third request for courthouse funding

Costs have shot passed estimates by 36% on south building

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

MONTROSE - A request for additional funding has been approved for continuing work on the South Lee County Courthouse, but in an amount smaller than was discussed last week.

John Hansen of Midwest Construction Consultants, requested up to an additional $4,000 for tuckpointing, staining, and electrical work on the courthouse. E & H Restoration out of Davenport was awarded the tuckpointing contract originally for $311,425.

On two separate occasions in October, the board approved a total of approximately $110,000 in additional funds for the tuckpointing work. The tuckpointing work is now at just under $426,000, a 36.7% increase over the original contract.

Work to replace the roofing on the courthouse began in September with original contracts from two companies, Meyers & James Roofing of Keokuk and Hopkins Roofing of Pella, totaling $258,000.

Supervisor Gary Follios said the costs, even though higher than original estimates, and bids are within the five-year plan approved for the buildings.

"But in the five-year plan, we knew it was going to be $1.5 to $2 million to address the things in that five-year plan. We knew that," he said. "A lot of the issues that we had been addressed by the maintenance department before we even started these projects."

Supervisor Matt Plagl agreed with Follios and took it a step farther and said this is what the taxpayers said they wanted.

"I think what they're saying is that they're willing to spend a million or whatever, but they weren't willing to spend 8, 10, 12 million what ever on a new building. That's the message they sent...that we'll spend the money, but we need to get these buildings up to snuff."

Supervisor Ron Fedler said he remembers Hansen and Ed Soenke message they sent...that we'll spend the money, but we need to get these buildings up to snuff.

Supervisor Lee Vandenberg said he remembers Hansen and Ed Soenke message they sent...that we'll spend the money, but we need to get these buildings up to snuff.

"Year one was a whirlwind and I don't see year two slowing down much," Vandenberg said. "It's been wonderful working with area businesses trying to help provide a still-emerging service to the readers and businesses in the area."

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Obituaries/Current–Lee

OBITUARIES

JEAN WICKHAM

Jean Wickham, 64 years, of Montrose, Iowa died at 10:30 pm Monday, December 4, 2017 at her home. She was born January 7, 1953 in Charleston, West Virginia, a daughter of Charles P Jr and Romaine (Henderson) Samples. On November 22, 1981, she married Tom Wickham. They were married 36 years.

Jean earned an Associates Degree from Southeastern Community College. She worked many places during her life. Locally she enjoyed her time as a receptionist and assistant to Dr. DeGala in Keokuk.

She loved Montrose and was active with the Montrose Watermelon Festival. She enjoyed photography, crafts, and keeping in touch with family and friends through Facebook. She loved her boys (dogs), Bama and Stewie.

She is survived by her husband, Tom Wickham of Montrose; one son, Ron Allen of Wever, Iowa; two daughters, Rona (Kevin) Borrego of Sylacauga, Alabama and Trish (Stacey) Welch of Warsaw, Illinois; one brother, Charles P (Patti) Samples III of Jackson Hole, Wyoming; five grandchildren: Tresha, Will, Logan, Riley, and Colby; five great grandchildren; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Roger and John Samples.

Her family will greet friends at visitation from 9:30 - 11:00 am Saturday, December 9, 2017 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison, Iowa. Funeral services will follow and begin at 11:00 am Saturday, December 9, 2017 at the funeral home, with Pastor Dean Graber officiating. Burial will be at Montrose Cemetery, Montrose. A memorial has been established to assist the family, contributions may be left at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Online condolences to the Wickham Family may be made at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

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IOWA LOTTERY
WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Draw Days</th>
<th>Sales CutOff Time</th>
<th>Approx. Drawing Time</th>
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<td>8:50 pm</td>
<td>9:38 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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Megaplier: 4

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IOWA’S MEGAMILLIONS WITH MEGAPLIER
12/5 14 15 37 42 67
Lucky Ball: 22

Pick 3 Iowa
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1 1 7
12/5 EVENING
0 3 4

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12/5 EVENING
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into southern and western Lee County. As much as we’ve tried to get to as many events in the county and cover as much schools, governments, and business in the area as we can, it’s a big area to cover. This year we’d like to add another reporter on a part-time or possibly full-time basis to bring some of these newsworthy events into our readership.”

He said the four-day fundraiser will be indicative of the value area readers place in the product and help determine plans going forward.

“We’re excited about our growth possibilities in year two and we think the news value, coupled with our different approach to advertising and marketing for our customers make us uniquely positioned for 2018.”

Vandenberg said some fun and valuable new products are planned for the new year, but wouldn’t elaborate.

“You’ll just have to come along for the ride. So...stay tuned,” he said.

To subscribe, simply click here and select the $50 annual option. There are several payment options to choose from, and $7.50 will be moved into a scholarship account.

Soroptimists to meet Thursday

By PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Soroptimist International of Fort Madison will be having their regular meeting at noon at Atlas Steak & Smokehouse.

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**For the Record**

Fort Madison Police report
12/04/17 - 10:44 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny theft in the 300 block of 7th Street.
12/04/17 - 11:21 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny theft in the 700 block of 18th Street.
12/04/17 - 12:06 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny theft in the 1300 block of Avenue G.
12/04/17 - 12:08 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny theft in the 1300 block of Avenue G.
12/04/17 - 1:38 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny theft in the 300 block of Seventh Street.
12/04/17 - 4:14 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1900 block of Avenue H.
12/04/17 - 8:52 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Brandon Eric Bowman, 20, of Fort Madison, in the 4000 block of Avenue L on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
12/04/17 - 10:23 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jeffrey Lee Rains, 41, of Fort Madison, in the 2600 block of Hwy 2, on a warrant for failure to appear, eluding, interference with official acts, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

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

Lee County Sheriff’s report
12/04/17 - 10:06 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Travis Lee Blint, 33, of Fort Madison on a charge of driving while barred. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
12/04/17 - 2:39 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on Hwy 218 northbound. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Althea Johnson, 51, of Chicago slid across the median and across the southbound lanes and came to rest in field. Minor injuries were reported to one passenger. Johnson was cited for failure to maintain control and failure to use a booster or child safety seat.

Soroptimists to meet Thursday

By PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Soroptimist International of Fort Madison will be having their regular meeting at noon at Atlas Steak & Smokehouse.
SPORTS

HTC girls falter in 4th quarter

Crusaders commit 36 turnovers in loss to West Burlington

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
POC EDITOR

WEST BURLINGTON - West Burlington Head Coach Tony Johnson has led the Crusaders through a tough spot this season. Saturday night at West Hancock High School an 11-5 fourth quarter run by the Falcons couldn’t get back in the game falling 51-57 in Southeast Iowa Superconference boys’ basketball action to move to 1-3 on the year.

With a 42-38 lead going into the final period, the Falcons scored six unanswered to start the period before HTC sophomore Reed Fehseke converted a 3-pointer from the right wing to put the Crusaders back on top by one 45-44. But West Burlington’s junior Jonah Marlow answered with a bucket that would give the Falcons an advantage they wouldn’t relinquish as the Crusaders would only manage four free-throws the rest of the way failing to convert on any shots from the field.

The Crusaders also lost senior Colbin Thornton in the fourth quarter when Thornton drove from the left side and was called for a charge. Thornton fell to the ground with several other bodies on the play and hurt his wrist and wouldn’t return. “Yeah, he hurt it on that play. We hope to have him back on Friday,” said Head Coach John Hellige. “Obviously losing your sole senior really hurts in that stretch, but I was proud of our underclassmen. I thought they stepped up and played hard.”

The Falcons rushed out to a 5-0 start in the first quarter and looked to be outmaneuvering the Crusaders, but speed and some clutch outside shooting, coupled with sophomore Matt Hellige’s play inside the lane against some much taller opponents, kept HTC in the game.

Fehseke nailed a 3-pointer with just over four minutes to play in the opening period to knot the game at 10, but the Falcons’ Tanner Snodgrass answered with a three of his own and Colten Hohenthaner converted a bucket before Thornton answered with another 3-pointer to make it 16-13 Falcons.

The Crusaders would only manage four free-throws in the fourth quarter when Thornton drove from the left side and wouldn’t return. "We thought they stepped up and played hard," said Coach Johnson. "One of the good things is we know we’ve got five games in so I’m not panicking yet.”

Coach Tony Johnson pointed to miscues and forcing the tempo of the game as the main reasons for the loss.

"We turned it over 36 times, they shot 46 free throws, we shot 11. There’s your game,” said Johnson. "Many of the Crusaders turnovers were on their own end of the court in transition. I like to control the tempo, but we were out of control tonight,” he said.

The biggest thing was 46 free throws, we just committed too many fouls. Hopefully, we’ll play a little better Friday and get home for once, it’s been a long time.”

Johnson said a scheduling hiccup resulting in WACO being played on the road instead of at home earlier this year, so the 2-3 Crusaders have spent the last five games on the road, but play Friday night at home against Cardinal of Eldon.

"It’s been good for us,” he said. "One of the good things is we know we’ve got 10 or 11 at home now. Another good thing is that the conference is pretty evenly balanced and anyone can beat anyone else on any given night. We’re only five games in so I’m not panicking yet.”

WEST BURLINGTON - Holy Trinity used speed and a bit “craftiness” to hang around with West Burlington on Tuesday night at the Falcon’s gym.

However, the Crusaders got caught up in an 11-5 fourth quarter run by the Falcons and couldn’t get back in the game falling 51-57 in Southeast Iowa Superconference boys’ basketball action to move to 1-3 on the year.

Above, HTC’s Ashlynn Haas brings the ball up the court for the Crusaders in Tuesday’s 52-60 loss to West Burlington. Below, Eryn Anderson looks to score inside while the Falcons Ilyiah Moore trails the play.

Bloodhounds can’t find way to win across the river

Cresswell leads FM with 14 in loss

BY PCC STAFF

WARSAW - The Fort Madison Bloodhound basketball jinx when playing across the river in Illinois is still intact.

The Bloodhounds mounted a second half comeback but came up short in a 45-51 loss to West Hancock Tuesday night at West Hancock High School in Warsaw.

Senior Kaleb Cresswell put up eight fourth quarter points including a 3-pointer as the Hounds battled back from a 27-15 first half deficit. Senior Treavor James-Kokjohn added three points and junior Logan Rashid chipped in with three 4th quarter points before FMHS ran out of clock.

Cresswell led the Hounds with 14 points followed by James-Kokjohn’s 13. Rashid finished the game with 7 points and Lorenzo Riles, who was playing in his first game since joining the squad two weeks ago, went 4 of 4 from the free throw line for four points on the night. Shaymouhr Redd-Donald added three points and Brandon Keester and Jayden Fedler each added a bucket for the Hounds.

Logan Dorothy led all scorers with 20 points, followed by Drake Hammel’s 12.

Coming into the game, James-Kokjohn was second in the conference in scoring at 20.5 points per game. Cresswell was fourth at 12.5 a game. Keester and Rashid were 6th and 7th at 10 and 9 points per game respectively. James-Kokjohn leads the conference in rebounds at 14.5 per outing for the 2-1 Hounds.

The Hounds travel to Centerville in a junior varsity varsity double header on Saturday beginning at 1 p.m.
Hounds sweep three-team meet at Hound Dome

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Bloodhound wrestlers swept a three-way meet with Mediapolis and Iowa City Liberty on Tuesday night.

The Hounds got a pin from Harlan Steffensmeier at 152 over Caden Benz (0:49) and a 15-11 decision by Nathan Steffensmeier over Daryun Kreft (15-11) and took advantage of eight forfeits en route to a 57-18 win over the Bulldogs.

In the tussle with Iowa City Liberty, Aaron Steffensmeier pinned Klein Thoenszen at 2:23 and Harlan Steffensmeier got a pin over Ashton Barker in 54 seconds to highlight the wins for the Hounds. At 170 pounds Chance Hocker pinned Liberty's Jacob Ganoe in just 15 seconds and then Sam Hayes, at 220 lbs., pinned Andres Estrada in just 16 seconds.

The Hounds also got pins from Elton Kruse at 106 lbs., Mason Schau at 113 lbs., and Dayne Cordray at 120 lbs.

Complete results from the meet are below.

Fort Madison (FOMA) 57.00 Mediapolis (MEDI) 18.00
145: Aaron Steffensmeier (FOMA) over (MEDI) (For.) 152: Harlan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Caden Benz (MEDI) (Fall 0:49) 160: Keaton Poe (FOMA) over (MEDI) (For.) 170: Brennan Swafford (MEDI) over Gunther Johnson (FOMA) (Fall 3:00)
182: Lennon Luze (ICL) over (MEDI) (For.) 195: Alex Lauber (FOMA) over (ICL) 200: Brennan Breuer (FOMA) over (MEDI) (For.) 220: Danen Settles (FOMA) over Andres Estrada (MEDI) (Fall 2:59)
285: Danen Settles (FOMA) over (MEDI) (For.)

Iowa City Liberty (ICL) 16.00
145: Jared Alger (ICL) over Will Larson (FOMA) (MD 11-3) 138: Kaile Williams (ICL) over Nathan Steffensmeier (FOMA) (Dec 9-3) 132: Jared Alger (ICL) over Will Larson (FOMA) (Fall 0:54) 160: Jacob Morgan (ICL) over Keaton Poe (FOMA) (Dec 6-2) 170: Chance Hocker (FOMA) over Jacob Ganoe (ICL) (Fall 0:15) 182: Gavin Luze (ICL) over Lennon Barker (FOMA) (Fall 2:59) 195: Alex Lauber (FOMA) over (ICL) 200: Sam Hayes (FOMA) over Andres Estrada (ICL) (Fall 0:16) 212: Nick Miller (ICL) (Fall 1:13) 113: Mason Schau (FOMA) over Brody Fishman (ICL) (Fall 0:49) 120: Dayne Cordray (FOMA) over Mike Layeye (ICL) (Fall 1:04)
126: Ryan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over (ICL) (For.)

Sports/For the Record

CRUSADERS - Continued from Page 4

their own 8-5 run with Marlow accounting for six points to make it 30-38 HTC at the end of the third.

Hellige said West Burlington made adjustments throughout the game to stop HTC’s momentum at different points, specifically switching up defenses to slow Hellige in the paint and Felseke on the perimeter.

“I think they started keying just a little bit. Matt’s a little crafty for his size under there and sometimes teams underestimate that,” Hellige said. “I think they made an adjustment and covered him up there. He’s a good coach and good coaches adjust - and good teams adjust.”

“I was proud of our effort,” Hellige said. “We keep taking steps in the right direction and grow a little each day. I feel like they’re learning our system. We were taking little steps forward every time. Our plays were way out of whack the first two games and we’re still not there, but we're getting closer.”

Holy Trinity ended a four-game road stretch with the loss, but gets its first home test on Friday night as Cardinal of Eldon rolls into town.

CRUSADERS

Above, HTC senior Collin Thornton goes up for a shot in the first half against West Burlington. At left, sophomore Matt Hellige looks for a passing lane or room to drive against several Falcon defenders. The Crusaders lost 51-57 to fall to 1-3 on the year.

Photos by Chuck Vanderberg/PCC

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Board starting to divide on costs

COURTHOUSE - Continued from Page 1

that was by the architect, but last week I heard you and Ed admit that it was going to be higher than that," Fedler said. "The estimate for tuckpointing was 90K and we're five times that much. If tuckpointing estimates were that far off, how far off is the $1.5 million total. It's common sense. Its going to be far more than the

Hanson said he was not part of the study at that point. Supervisor Don Hunold said he was voting for the extra $4,000 but cautioned everyone that the costs are already out of line.

"I'm just saying these bids original and estimates are so far off it's not even funny," Hanold to the folks and said we're looking at building a new courthouse what do you think, these were the numbers we used instead of these super-realistic numbers. All of a sudden we're damn close to a million dollars - we're not there yet - but we're gonna get there and that's just one building."

"Why are we second guessing the tax payers here. They spoke," Pflug said.

At that point, Board Chair Rick Larkin cut Fedler voting against the extra spending.

After the meeting, Pflug said he represented the whole county and was moving the direction taxpayers had indicated.

"We represent the tax payers is all I'm saying. They spelled out what they wanted here and this shouldn't get back into whether I want one building or buildings in both cities," Pflug said.

"We have to do what tax payers have asked us to do. It's not like we're spending an ungodly amount of money here. We knew this going into it that it would take x amount of money to get these buildings fixed. I do represent the whole county and that's where I'm coming from and I think we'll get where we want to be. Let's remember what they voted on. They didn't want an $8.5 million building, they wanted us to fix these." County Budget Director Cindy Renstrom asked the board for a budget amendment hearing to move a $475,000 appropriation into the local option sales tax funds to cover the costs of the repairs. The board voted 5-0, to set the public hearing on the amendment for Dec. 19 at 9 a.m.

In other action, the board approved, 5-0 to enroll in the National Association of Counties, which will allow county employees to utilize the services of the national group as well as providing a health discount card for residents of Lee County. The cost to enroll was $500 but that was picked up by the regional county association.

approved, 5-0 to hire a full-time replacement maintenance foreman for the Secondary Roads department for an employee that was retiring.

approved 5-0 to appoint Larry Kruse and Kathy Gabel to the county compensation board.

approved, 5-0 an amended sheriff's fee resolution that corrected a fee for acquiring a firearm from $15 per year to $40 for five years.