Harlan Steffensmeier is state champ
Central Lee senior brings home Class 3A gold from the Well

Above, Steffensmeier stands atop the podium for the Class 3A 152 lb wrestlers and gives a look up to his family in the stand. At top, Head Coach Ryan Smith gets to present all 152 lb wrestlers with their medals and then gets to drape the first-place medal over the head of Harlan Steffensmeier; left, Harlan celebrates in a bear hug with Smith and assistant Coach Derek Doherty after downing Cayd Lara, in a 5-4 decision.
Title is dream come true for champ

“I always dreamed I could do it and I did.”

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES - Harlan Steffensmeier likes to count by twos. Whether it’s a takedown, or a reversal, or a near fall…or moving up the podium in increments of two at the IHSAA State Wrestling Tournament, Steffensmeier is now the best 152 lb wrestler in the state of Iowa.

Steffensmeier beat Fort Dodge’s Cayd Lara 5-3 to win the title. Lara is the wrestler who had been rated No. 1 and 2 throughout the year. Steffensmeier hovered at No. 4 and 3, according to Iowa Wrestling and The Predicament.

Ironically, it was counting by ones that almost took him down. After he went down, he knew the last few penalty points were unjustified. “You know, all week I just out-wrestled all of them. That’s the byproduct of Iowa coach comes up and when the University of Iowa coach comes up to me and says, ‘you beat him anyway-great job, ’” he said.

Head Coach Ryan Smith stood up at the edge of the mat during the match and told Harlan to not let the refs beat him. “I said don’t let the ref beat you. If Lara beats you that’s fine, but don’t let the refs win it,” Smith said.

Steffensmeier didn’t receive much attention in the rankings or accolades during the year, but never lost focus of what he needed to do. “It’s beautiful, man. The kid just worked his tail off and beaten great people and doesn’t get much respect,” Smith said. “I usually don’t get too excited about those things, but I know he’s the best 152 in the state when he’s dialed in. This is validation for him to know that, too. A small town kid, good student, works hard, and is now a state champion.”

Steffensmeier’s father said he was dialed in…the whole weekend. But he said the last few penalty points were unjustified. “You know, all weekend he was focused. He knew what he had to get done. He didn’t shrink from the challenge. He took on the best in the state and beat ‘em. He earned it,” Steffensmeier’s father said. “The finals match, I thought the ref made some really bad calls. I got texts right away and when the University of Iowa coach comes up to me and says, ‘you beat him anyway-great job,’ you know it was bad. But Harlan just out-wrestled him. He out-wrestled all of them.”

“This is a sport that takes an enormous amount of dedication and years of training. And there’s no guarantee you’re going to get the title,” Gary Steffensmeier said. “Other people want that title. You have to believe in yourself and your training and believe in what’s taking place and then execute.”

Harlan has committed to the U.S. Air Force Academy to wrestle and then work to become a fighter pilot. His father said this process will help him succeed there.

“That’s what you have to understand about the importance of sports. It’s not about the winning piece. That’s the byproduct. It’s about the process and now he can duplicate it. He didn’t shrink from the challenge. He took on the best in the state and beat ‘em.”

-Gary Steffensmeier
Harlan’s father

Lee County Health Department has a number of programs to help you in every stage of your life. To learn more about the following programs visit us online by clicking this ad.
Steffensmeier advances to the title match with a 9-4 win over Jacob Herrmann of Waverly-Shell Rock on Friday night.

Steffensmeier controlled the match most of the way with a few hiccups in the third period that allowed Herrmann to get him to the mat, where the senior from Central Lee quickly escaped.

In the afternoon session Friday, he faced West Des Moines Valley's Grant Stotts, the top-rated wrestler in the quarterfinals. The first period went scoreless. Steffensmeier started the second period down and was able to escape and quickly went after one of Stotts' legs and worked him into a takedown on the left side of the mat for a 3-0 lead. Stotts was able to score a reversal with just 0:08 left in the period. Steffensmeier, on top to start the third, was able to roll Stotts around just missing a pin, but did get a 3-point near fall to set the score.

Harlan now becomes the 14th state champion for the Fort Madison High School wrestling team. The senior attends Central Lee High School, but wrestles in the FMHS shared program.

Previous FMHS champs include:
- 1968 - Larry Blanos - 127 lbs
- 1974 - Randy Lampe - 98 lbs
- 1980 - Pat Pickford - 112 lbs
- 1986 - Gary Steffensmeier - 112 lbs
- 1987 - Gary Steffensmeier - 119 lbs
- 1993 - Jason Crooks - 171 lbs
- 1994 - Jason Crooks - 189 lbs
- 1994 - Victor Martinez - 125 lbs
- 1995 - Nick Flach - 125 lbs
- 1996 - Nick Flach - 135 lbs
- 2004 - Russell Weakley - 103 lbs
- 2005 - Russell Weakley - 112 lbs
- 2006 - Gordon Johnson - 195 lbs

Harlan Steffensmeier locks up Cayd Lara in the middle of the third period for a takedown in Steffensmeier's 5-4 decision to win the state championship at 152 lbs.

A congratulatory celebration will be held at FMHS Sunday at 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

**CHAMPS - Continued from Page 2**

Steffensmeier said.

Steffensmeier was down 0-2 in the first period when Lara was able to throw the taller Steffensmeier to the mat as both wrestlers slipped out of the circle. No points were originally given on the takedown, but after a conference between two of the officials, two points were given. Harlan returned the favor in the second period when he caught Lara's leg on the way off the left side and registered a takedown just before the two slipped off the mat.

Lara is the younger brother of Triston Lara, who knocked Steffensmeier out in the 138 lb semifinals last year. He finished seventh as a freshman at 106, and fifth as a sophomore at 120.

Steffensmeier and Cayd Lara squared off this year on Jan. 13 at the J-Hawk Invitational in Cedar Rapids with Lara coming out with a 6-3 decision. Lara got a 2-point nearfall call and forced Steffensmeier into what Smith called some "high risk" moves that Lara was able to fend off.

Steffensmeier advanced to the title match with a 9-4 win over Jacob Herrmann of Waverly-Shell Rock on Friday night. Steffensmeier controlled the match most of the way with a few hiccups in the third period that allowed Herrmann to get him to the mat, where the senior from Central Lee quickly escaped.

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BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - After a deal fell through last year to turn over operations of the municipal swimming pool to the Fort Madison YMCA, a new agreement will be in front of the city officials this week that could make the transition a reality.

City Manager David Varley added the agreement to the city council agenda at this week’s Tuesday meeting and wrote in a memorandum that the agreement is for one year initially. The contract calls for a review of the agreement after the first year, and if all parties are satisfied with the arrangement, it could be extended in five-year increments.

“This idea was discussed last year, but we were not able to have a contract ready in time for the season,” Varley wrote. “This is basically the same contract and it is like a landlord-tenant lease. It is a one-year contract so both parties can evaluate the situation and decide if we want to continue with such an arrangement in the future.”

YMCA Executive Director Ryan Wilson said the YMCA is waiting on approval from the city and the YMCA has already taken action to approve the proposed contract.

Under the agreement, the YMCA would be responsible for all operational costs during the season from May 1 to Sept. 3, 2018 as well as providing up to $1 million in liability insurance. Those costs would include routine maintenance, labor, and goods for sale.

The city would be responsible for all capital improvement expenses. The city would carry the property insurance and has agreed to make some upgrades to the pool.

See POOL, page 10

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 18 Feb
Clear Skies
High – 46.8º F | Low – 40.2º F

MON 19 Feb
Heavy Intensity Rain
High – 60.2º F | Low – 32.8º F

TUE 20 Feb
Moderate Rain
High – 37.1º F | Low – 31.9º F

WED 21 Feb
Light Rain
High – 32.9º F | Low – 29.6º F

THU 22 Feb
Moderate Rain
High – 36.5º F | Low – 33.2º F

OpenWeatherMap
Pheasants Forever raffle tickets available now

LEE COUNTY - Raffle tickets for Lee County Pheasants Forever 25 Gun Raffle are available from any club member or at the banquet. Tickets are $10 each and are limited to 3,000. The raffle will be held during the chapter’s annual banquet on February 24, 2018. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support the Tri-State Young Guns and Fort Madison Clay Crushers High School Trap Shooting Teams. For more information about the raffle, go to http://www.leephgf.org/raffles/.

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for $15. Add a photo for $5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of $10 per 25 words and $3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

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<th>Numbers</th>
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<th>All Star Bonus</th>
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Great River Regional Waste Authority is looking forward to continuing our efforts to manage our environmental footprint and help educate our communities on ways to help in 2018!

Things to remember in 2018 when recycling:

- Please do not place plastic bags in recycling bins.
- Rinse & Clean all food jars and cans before placing in recycling bins.
- Flatten boxes for better storage and volume reduction. *Empty all boxes before recycling.
- Place all recyclable products loose in bins.
- Do not recycle wrapping paper.
- Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste. Click Here for more guidance!

For your convenience:

- Convenient Drop-Off Locations in 10 cities
- Curbside Recycling Bins are available at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations
- HHW Collection Available by appointment during regular business hours at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations

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Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.
BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES - Bloodhound wrestling will add one more name to the list of grapplers who’ve wrestled for a state title.

On Friday night, senior Harlan Steffensmeier, who wrestles for Fort Madison out of Central Lee High School, advanced to the state title match with a 9-4 decision over Jacob Herrmann of Waverly-Shell Rock.

Cayd Lara of Fort Dodge and Steffensmeier will clash in Saturday night’s finals, which start after the grand march at 6 p.m. He’s the first wrestler to make it to the title match since 2014 when FMHS’s Bryce Meyer wrestled on Saturday.

It took Steffensmeier about 15 seconds to get a hold of Herrmann’s leg in the first period. With Herrmann hopping around trying to get out of the hold, Steffensmeier was able to twist him to the ground for a quick take down just .25 seconds into the match. Steffensmeier kept trying to hook Herrmann’s leg while staying on top of him after the take down and roll him into a cradle and :40 later got a 2-point near fall and kept Herrmann under wraps for the rest of the period.

The two started neutral in the 2nd period with both standing. Steffensmeier was able to score another takedown for the only points of the period, as Herrmann was not able to get untangled from Steffensmeier the whole period.

Head Coach Ryan Smith had Steffensmeier start down in the 3rd period and he was able to register an escape just :21 into the period. But then Herrmann took to the offensive and was able to get the Bloodhound on two separate takedowns for four points.

“'I got in, I just didn’t capitalize and finish,” Steffensmeier said.

Steffensmeier escaped from each takedown to score two of his own, with the last one coming at :29 left in the match, to set the final score at 9-4.

Smith said Steffensmeier’s first win in the morning session, a 6-2 decision, against West Des Moines Valley’s top-ranked Grant Stotts was almost perfect.

“That first match, it was just excellent. Harlan had perfect execution on his feet, on top, on the ground, and on the mat. He was able to beat Stotts and get the state title,” Smith said.

Steffensmeier has control here in the first period of his semifinal match against Jacob Herrmann of Waverly-Shell Rock.

In the second period, Steffensmeier tries to get under Herrmann to set up a roll over.

Steffensmeier gets his weight and leg around Herrmann in the second period just before bringing him to the ground for a takedown.

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BY PCC STAFF

CARTHAGE - A slow start for the Hounds was enough for Illini West to hold off Fort Madison in a 42-38 loss in Tuesday night’s regular season finale for the Hounds.

Seniors Treavor James-Kokjohn and Kaleb Cresswell paced Fort Madison with 11 points each in the low-scoring affair. Cresswell scored the only points for Fort Madison in the first quarter with a 3-ball, but Illini West put up nine.

Fort Madison outscored the hosts in the second period 12-11 with James-Kokjohn leading the way with seven.

Kennedy Gooding, Carter Boyer, and Jackson Boyer combined for 14 for the Chargers for the third period to push the lead to 34-27. The Hounds held Illini West in check in the fourth quarter but couldn’t overcome the early deficit.

Logan Rashid had seven points and Parker Denning put in six in the loss, Brandon Keester had two points, and Shemyouhre Redd-Donald scored a point for the Hounds.

Fort Madison opens district play at Iowa City Liberty on Monday with a 6 p.m. start time.

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**YMCA soccer registration opens Monday**

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The YMCA youth soccer registration period will open Monday and continue through March 16th for early deadline registration.

Programs this year include:

- 5 Week Little Tykes Program - 3-6 year olds
- 6 Week Lee County Program - 1st-6th graders

Practices begin the week of March 26th

Little Tykes Fee - $20 Members; $35 Nonmembers

Lee County Fee - $25 Members; $45 Nonmembers

The deadline to re-register is Friday, March 16th
The Fort Madison City Council met in regular session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, at City Hall, 811 Avenue G. Mayor Randolph presided with Council Members Morawitz, Ring, Andrews, Seidl, Lar and Cangas. Council Member Greenwald was absent.

On motion, Council approved the agenda as written. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda.

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1. Minutes of 1/16/2018;
2. Resolution No. 2018-08, approving the Consent Agenda;
3. Written.

On motion, Council approved and accepted the bid of Klauser Construction, Inc., for crack sealing concrete streets for $.71 per

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Public Notices/Classifieds

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#### ROAD USE
- **15996.78**
- **8914.68**

#### SOLID WASTE
- **43169.52**
- **20,576.15**
- **2,674.57**

#### CAPITAL PROJECTS
- **890,377.26**
- **90,406.52**
- **9,500.00**

#### WASTEWATER
- **$ 376.81**
- **$ 183.56**
- **$ 9,600.61**

#### SPECIAL REVENUES
- **$ 2,999.22**
- **$ 2684.09**
- **$ 225.13**

#### TOTAL
- **$ 191,418.05**
- **$ 1,156.37**
- **$ 197.20**

#### LIBRARY CLAIMS
**JAN 2018**
- **AMAZON.COM, LIBRARY MATERIALS**
- **$ 187.63**
- **BAKER & TAYLOR, LIBRARY MATERIALS**
- **$ 1,272.28**
- **CENGAGE LEARNING, LIBRARY MATERIALS**
- **$ 74.72**
- **CLENDENING, SARAH, MICROSOFT STUDIOS**
- **$ 65.00**
- **DAILY DEMOCRAT, MONTHLY AD**
- **$ 141.14**
- **DEMCO, MANUAL...30.56**
- **FARONICS, MAINTENANCE REPAIR**
- **$ 197.20**
- **J&S ELECTRONIC BUSINESS, CLOUD BACKUP**
- **$ 10.78**
- **KEMPKERS TRUE VALUE, MEDICOM, PHONE & LONG DIST**
- **$ 213.49**
- **KEMPERS TRUE VALUE, MEDICOM, PHONE & LONG DIST**
- **$ 213.49**
- **PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE, LIBRARY MATERIALS**
- **$ 50.00**
- **PETTY CASH - SARAH CLENDENING, CHIPS...7 RECORDS BOOKS LLC, LIBRARY MATERIALS**
- **$ 191,418.05**

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City manager says contract is win-win-win situation

POOL - Continued from Page 4

the pool in the first year of the deal. They will not charge the YMCA for water, sewer, or trash removal, and will mow the lawns.

The city also will pay a management fee of $20,000 to the YMCA with half being paid by July 1, 25% by Aug. 1 and the remainder by Sept. 3.

The city will also compensate the YMCA for any operating deficit up to $35,000. However an incentive is in place to provide additional compensation amounting to 25% of the difference between the $35,000 and that actual operating deficit. Varley said that clause would encourage the YMCA to operate efficiently. If the first year operating deficit was $31,000, the city would pay the remainder by Sept. 3.

Operating loss at their choosing, to allow an outside group operate it.

“This is a win-win-win situation,” Varley said. “The community wins by having the recreation experts run the facility instead of the City, which is really not in the recreation business as such. The YMCA wins by having two pools to operate for economies of scale and to be more creative with their recreation offerings.

The City wins by not having to dedicate so much of its resources, including personnel, to operation of the pool.”

OBITUARIES

ZULA NADINE FEATHER

Zula Nadine Feather, 81, of Warsaw, IL died Friday, February 16, 2018 at the Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL.

She was born on December 8, 1936 in Warsaw, IL the daughter of George R. and Loretta M. Phillips Boyd. She graduated from Warsaw High School with the Class of 1954.

On April 2, 1982 Zula was united in marriage to Ronald Feather in Quincy, IL. He preceded her in death on August 13, 2012.

After high school Zula worked for Sheaffer Pen in Ft. Madison. She later worked at Keokuk die casting for fifteen years and was a school bus driver for the Warsaw and Hamilton School districts for 10 years. Zula became co-owner, with her husband, of a semi-truck and for 20 years they leased the truck and both drove for Allied Van Lines and United Van Lines. Zula loved driving their truck and traveling around the country. They had been to forty-eight states and also to Canada.

She is survived by two sons, Kevin Graham and Keith Graham both of Warsaw, IL one step-son, William Feather of Paloma, IL, one granddaughter, Autumn Boitschev, two great-grandsons, Ethan and Evan Boitschev, one brother, Dale Boyd and wife, Nancy of Bettendorf, IA, one sister-in-law, Sylvia Boyd of Quincy, IL one brother-in-law, Delbert Mock of Gettysburg, PA and several nieces and nephews. Besides her husband, she was also preceded in death by one sister in infancy, Sharon Boyd, one brother, Eldon Boyd and one sister-in-law, Barbara Mock.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Keokuk National Cemetery. The procession to the cemetery will leave Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk at 9:45 a.m.

There will be no visitation.

The Vigen Memorial Home is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

JULIA RENAE KAY

Julia Renae Kay, 64 of Keokuk, IA died Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at Lexington Square in Keokuk.

She was born March 20, 1953 in Keokuk the daughter of Chester and Wilma Snyder Kay. She graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1971.

In her younger years, she had been employed as a beautician. She later had worked at Shaffer Pen and Freuhauf both in Ft. Madison, IA and had worked on several different river boats while she lived down south.

Julia enjoyed antiquing and attending auctions. She also enjoyed playing Bingo and the company of her very close friends at the River Terrace. She loved to read books and especially enjoyed western love stories. Julia enjoyed spending time outdoors fishing and walking.

She is survived by one son, Brian Ross (Kristen) of Phoenix, AZ, one sister Jean Roberts of Keokuk, two brothers, Ronnie Kay of Montrose, IA and Bud Kay of Idaho and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Terry Jones and her special love, her dog, Oliver.

There will be no services.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

Lee County Health Department - Hospice

Hospice Volunteer Training
Providing Comfort on the Journey Home

March 6 - March 27, 2018
4 Tuesday Evenings
6:00-9:00pm
Lee County Health Department office

No fee to the general public. To register, call Lee County Health Dept.-Hospice at (319)372-5225 or (800)458-6672 by March 2nd.

Volunteers are needed in Iowa counties of Lee, Henry, Van Buren, Des Moines and in Illinois counties of Hancock & Henderson.

Lee County Health Dept.-Hospice

#3 John Bennett Drive ~ PO Box 1426
Fl. Madison, IA 52627
www.leeCountyHd.org ~ LIKE us on Facebook
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis is now seeing patients on Wednesdays in the downtown Fort Madison office.

Schedule your appointment today

Fort Madison Family Dentistry
726 Avenue G, Fort Madison, IA 52627
319-372-3614

Dr. Jonathan Dingeldein
Mon-Thur: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Friday: 8:00am - 12:00pm

Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis
Wednesday: 8:00am - 5:00pm

www.drmarkdds.com
Artist Trax will be offering pottery classes March 3, 10 and 24th at the studio located at 827 Avenue H. The classes will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

FORT MADISON - Artist Trax Studios is pleased to present Pottery Classes with Noah! The beginner classes will focus on the basics, getting the budding artist used to working with clay and texturing it into a unique shape. Once complete, the creation will dry and then be fired in the kiln.

You can choose to make your creation functional by adding a glazing option or just admiring it as is! Classes are available March 3rd, 10th, & 24th. Choose from 5pm to 6pm or 6pm to 7pm. Grab your best friend and your favorite beverage and sign up to present Pottery Classes with Noah!

Class size is limited and private classes are available.

The classes will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. 827 Avenue H. The classes will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

WASHINGTON D.C. – Congressman Dave Loebsack today introduced legislation to encourage high school juniors and seniors to experience a course in career and technical education at a local community college. To help students better understand their options for post-high school, Loebsack’s legislation, the Collaboration for Today’s Education (CTE) Act, establishes a grant program within the Department of Education to provide students with the experience of taking a class in the career and technical education fields at a local community college. The legislation has been endorsed by the National Education Association (NEA).

"Whether it is at a university, community college or receiving a certificate, getting an education beyond high school is more important than ever in our 21st Century economy," said Loebsack. "Getting an education in career and technical fields often leads to vital, high demand, high paying jobs that many students do not know exist and may align with their passions. Having students explore career and technical education programs will help encourage them to seek careers in these high demand professions that they may not otherwise consider."

"We thank Congressman Loebsack for introducing a bill that will strengthen high school students’ achievement in career and technical education (CTE) programs by exposing them to CTE programs at community colleges," said Marc Egan, Director of Government Relations at the National Education Association. “We know that CTE students graduate from high school at a higher rate and have higher earnings over time; this bill will only enhance these outcomes for students.

Specifically, The CTE Act establishes within the Department of Education a grant program awarded to secondary schools who establish a unique collaborative with a local community college to encourage students in their junior and senior years of high school to experience career and technical education courses.

To be eligible, a secondary school must form a partnership with a community college. The secondary school receiving the grant may use it to reimburse third parties, including the community college with which the secondary school has partnered. One year after the grant is awarded the school must submit a report analyzing the effect the grant had on encouraging their students to experience CTE. Two years after the enactment of the bill, the Secretary of Education must submit to Congress a report detailing the results of this grant program.

BY PCC STAFF
FORT MADISON — Whether hoping to find a fresh start, a similar job or a new career direction, over 100 job seekers visited the Comfort Inn & Suites in Fort Madison from 10:00 — noon Friday for a Targeted Job Fair for the recently separated employees of Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy of Fort Madison.

Forty-five local employees participated in the fair hoping to fill current openings at their facilities. “One of our industry’s biggest constraints in growth is their ability to find quality employees,” commented Dana Milward, Marketing Manager at Lee County EDG.

“Though it’s unfortunate, there are many great local companies with openings that these employees might be a good fit for,” said Dana Milward, Marketing Manager at Lee County EDG.

IowaWorks of Southeast Iowa hosted the fair and is assisting the affected employees; offering resume workshops, career counseling, training in a new career and assistance in filing unemployment insurance benefits as part of the local and state Rapid Response team. Contact Deb Fox at 319-753-1671 x31452 or Fox, Debra debra.fox@iwd.iowa.gov for more information.