LEE COUNTY - March 26-30 is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Iowa. Lee County Emergency Management Agency, the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the National Weather Service have joined together to promote severe weather awareness and preparedness during this week.

Changing seasons bring unsettled weather. Steve Cirinna, Lee County Emergency Management Coordinator, encourages everyone to be prepared and know how to stay safe during and after the storm. You never know when a storm may hit, creating potential electrical hazards, damage to your home or property, or injuries. The best solution is to plan ahead and be prepared.

For each day during Severe Weather Awareness Week it is suggested that you review a different subject that will help you get prepared for the anticipated storms that will strike our area.

Monday – Severe Thunderstorms
Tuesday – Receiving
See WEATHER, page 8

Kensington earns quality honor

Kensington Quality Initiative

FORT MADISON - On Friday, The Kensington in Fort Madison was recognized by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living for its achievements through the Quality Initiative Recognition Program, which honors member facilities for their individual work in achieving AHCA/NCAL Quality Initiative goals. The Kensington met all four of the quality initiative goals.

"The entire team at The Kensington is honored to be recognized for this incredible achievement," said Rachel Benda, Executive Director of The Kensington. "We are proud to improve care for our residents. Our commitment to quality will continue."

Specifically, The Kensington accomplished goals in areas including reducing staff turnover.

See HONOR, page 8

City council to vote on trash container plan

Plan would give customers options with solid waste

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison residents may soon have a new option for their trash removal that could save them money while helping clean up the city.

In a proposal to be voted on Tuesday, city councilmen will be voting on whether or not the city should purchase 4,300 containers for city residents to use in place of private garbage cans.

City Manager David Varley is recommending the city move forward with the project at a cost not to exceed $267,000.

The new program will allow residents to purchase either a 65-gallon or 95-gallon roll-away container at $15 and $37.50 per month respectively. The cost is $258,270 for the trash containers and $8,730 for delivery and public information about the change of service.

“We believe that supplying city-owned garbage containers would help eliminate the garbage that is not being put into private containers (such as on the ground), will make solid waste more productive in recycling, and will help make the city a cleaner place to live,” wrote Varley in his recommendation to the council.

“We also believe it will be more convenient for our customers and will give them choices they don’t have now.”

The containers are being offered by Rehrig Pacific Company with delivery and public information campaigns coming from Municipal Connection.

Varley said the cost of the program has already been saved through delayed major equipment purchases and reduced labor. He said the money is now in the solid waste fund to pay for the new program and the containers.

He said the new program will also allow customers to enjoy a “pay for what you use” program.

In other action Tuesday, the council will:

• vote to authorize the issuance of $1.7 million in Water Revenue Capital Loan Notes for the purpose of paying costs associated with the water tower rehabilitation project.

• vote on a resolution ratifying a settlement agreement with the Teamsters Local 238, Water Department

• vote to receive and file the city’s audit for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2017.
**OBITUARIES**

**LOUIS “LOUIE” GAIL LARSEN**

Louis “Louie” Gail Larsen, 69, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 11:29 a.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018 at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City, IA. He was born on October 31, 1948 in Keokuk, IA to Warren & Ruth Fisher Larsen. He married Victoria A. Fisher on August 14, 1979 in Las Vegas, NV. He worked in the construction industry for many years and retired from the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant. He was a member of Holy Family Parish and enjoyed mushroom hunting, old tractors & cars, working with his model steam engine collection, going boating and being at home. He was raised on a farm and loved farm life.

Louie is survived by: his wife, Vicki Larsen of Fort Madison, IA; 1-brother: James (Ann) Larsen of Montrose, IA; 5-nieces & nephews: Debbie (Mike) Beman of Rockford, IL, Tommy (Miranda) Fisher of Keokuk, IA, Donna (Kurt) Warner of Rockford, IL, Sarah (David) Mitchell of Keokuk, IA & Kris (Terri) Fisher of Keokuk, IA and several great nieces & nephews. He was preceded in death by: his parents & 1-brother: Lauren “Butch” Larsen.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 with the family to receive friends from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. with a rosary to be recited at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at St. Mary & Joseph Church with Rev. Mark P. Spring officiating. Burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk, IA. A memorial has been established for P.A.W. Animal Shelter or Heifer International. Online condolences to Louie’s family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

**KEVIN ALLEN WITTENMYER**

Kevin Allen Wittenmyer, born October 17th, 1951 to Kenneth A. & Ada M. Wittenmyer in Bowling Green, OH, passed from this life after a courageous 13-year battle with Hodgkin's Lymphoma on March 15th, 2018.

Kevin married Ruth Anne Colbertson in Toledo, OH on May 18th, 1974. He worked for Champion Spark Plug/Federal Mogul for 47 years. He and his family moved to Burlington, IA in August, 1993. In life, he loved gardening, amassing a large collection of over 100 different hosta species, visiting lighthouses throughout the country, and visiting amusement parks with his family, especially Cedar Point in Sandusky, OH.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth & Ada Wittenmyer and his sister Karyn Hilding.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth, four sons, Ian M. (Tabetha), Jared T. R. (Michelle), Andrew M., & Nicholas M. Wittenmyer, four grandchildren, Bella S. Riepe, Marivee B. & Solomon W. Wittenmyer, and Harper A. Wittenmyer, and two brothers, Roger (Diana) & James Wittenmyer, nieces, nephews, and their children.

There will be a private visitation for family prior to cremation. Cremation has been entrusted to the care of Prugh-Thielen Crematory. In lieu of flowers, please forward all memorials to Prugh-Thielen Funeral Home at 3940 Division Street. Memorials have been established for the Burlington Public Library, PAW Animal Shelter in Fort Madison, IA, or the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Prugh–Thielen Funeral Home is in care of the arrangements. Condolences can be sent to the family by visiting Kevin’s obituary at www.prughthielencares.com.

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**LCHD holds FM children’s immunization clinic Thursday**

FORT MADISON - Lee County Health Department will hold a Children’s Immunization Clinic Thursday, March 22, 2018 at Lee County Health Department’s new facility located at 3 John Bennett Dr., Ft. Madison from 12 noon until 5:30pm. The facility is located on the OLD Iowa State Penitentiary grounds.

The clinic is open to children who have no insurance, are insured by Iowa Medicaid/CO or those who have private health insurance that does not cover the cost of vaccines. No appointment is necessary.

Free lead testing is available for ALL children ages 6mos to 6 years that reside in Iowa. Please call 1-319-372-5225 with questions or visit our website at www.leecounty-iad.org.

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**#HyperLocalSuperFresh**

Attend the MELISSA & DOUG Toy Tester (Pet Play) Experience! MARCH 24 • 10-1 CHILDREN AGES 3+

Come join us for a special, interactive experience as Melissa & Doug introduce new products and provide parents with new perspectives on the power of play!

On March 24th at 10:1, we’re transferring our doors into a Toy Testing Lab, where kids ages 3+ become official Melissa & Doug Toy Testers for the day, using the power of their imaginations to test out four Melissa & Doug toys, share their feedback, and help us figure out which toys are the best in coming up with new ways to play! Plus, they will go home with Inspiration Kits full of ideas and activities to keep the fun going!

Melissa & Doug believe that toys should be a launch pad for imagination and wonder. And we are so excited to join them on their mission to Take Back Childhood and give kids more unstructured time and space to imagine, create, explore, and think!
**CURRENT-LEE**

**HTC TAPS 8th Annual Bunny Hop Event – March 31st, 2018**

WEST POINT – HTC Bunny Hop 5K Run/Walk or 10K Run event. Saturday, March 31st beginning at the West Point Library. Registration begins at 8:00a.m. The race begins at 9 a.m. Pre-registration before March 23rd is $20 & includes t-shirt. Registration on or after March 23rd is $25. Drinks and light snacks will be provided for participants. Medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place finishers in each age group. Registration forms can be found here or www.holytrinityschools.org. Click here to download & print your registration form.

**Glo Crazy for Education run set for April 7**

FORT MADISON - A 5K run/walk will be held on April 7 at Baxter Sports Complex beginning at 8 p.m. Proceeds from the event will go to the Elliott Test Kitchen in Fort Madison. The event is being put on by Fort Madison service clubs including Fort Madison Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs as well as the Fort Madison High School key club. Registration can be done at www.pencitycurrent.com/glo-crazy.

**IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game Drawings</th>
<th>Draw Days</th>
<th>Sales Cut-off Time</th>
<th>Approx Drawing Time</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Mon &amp; Thu</td>
<td>8:30 pm</td>
<td>9:36 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mega Millions®</td>
<td>Tues &amp; Fri</td>
<td>8:56 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerball®</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
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<td>9:55 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lotto America™</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
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<td>10:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pick 4 - Evening</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>9:40 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lotto America**

- 3/16
  - 3/16 13 26 33 52
  - Mega Ball: 11
  - Megaplier: 3

- 3/17
  - 22 57 59 60 66
  - Powerball: 7
  - Power Play: 2

**For the Record**

**Fort Madison Police report**

03/14/18 - 8:44 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident at the intersection of 20th Street and Avenue G. 03/14/18 - 10:11 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue Q. 03/14/18 - 11:54 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of personal injury accident in the 500 block of 48th Street. 03/14/18 - 2:50 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 600 block of 5th Street. 03/15/18 - 2:06 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Kimberly Michelle Brewer, 37, of Fort Madison, in the 2600 block Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension. She was released upon citation. 03/15/18 - 3:13 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of 48th Street. 03/15/18 - 4:49 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Parker E. Hamilton, 31, of Fort Madison in the 1100 block of Avenue E, on a warrant for 5th-degree theft and assault on a peace officer. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 03/15/18 - 7:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Dustin Chauncey Brecourt, 36, of Mesa, Ariz., in the 500 block of 19th Street, on warrants for failure to appear, 1st-degree theft, 2nd-degree theft and driving while suspended and violation of a no contact order. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 03/16/18 - 12:20 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Kimberly Michelle Brewer, 37, of Fort Madison in the 3000 block of Avenue F, on a charge of driving under suspension. He was released upon citation. 03/16/18 - 1:17 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Timothy Aaron Williams, 35, of Donnellson, at the Mt. Pleasant Correctional Center on a warrant for court-ordered hold. He was held in custody. 03/16/18 - 4:32 a.m. - Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report 03/15/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters issued one burn permit. 03/16/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls.

**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**
Absentee ballots for school bond issues available now

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor, announces that absentee ballots for the Special School Bond Election to be held Tuesday, April 3, are currently available in the auditor’s office.

You may vote in person at the Auditor’s Office located at 933 Avenue H in Fort Madison daily from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, through April 2, for voters in Central Lee Community School District and through Tuesday, April 3, at 11:00 a.m. for voters in Fort Madison Community School District.

Eligible voters wishing to vote early may complete THE IOWA OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM available from the Lee County Auditor or by downloading the form at http://aes.iowa.gov. The request for an absentee ballot may be hand delivered to the Auditor’s office in Fort Madison or mailed to the Lee County Auditor, P.O Box 190, Fort Madison, IA 52627.

A voter may also request a ballot on paper no smaller than 3 inches by 5 inches and must contain the voter’s name, mailing address, date of birth, signature, the name of the election for which the voter is requesting a ballot and one of the following: Iowa driver’s license number, Iowa non-operator’s ID number or 4-digit PIN number for voters that do not have an Iowa DOT issued number. Requests must be received by 5:00 p.m., Friday.

Requests may be faxed to 319-372-7033 or emailed to auditor@leecounty.org. However, the original request document must be received by the Auditor’s Office. If mailed, it must be postmarked by Friday, March 23, 2018. The original request can also be hand delivered to the Auditor’s Office no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day in order for the ballot to be counted.

Voted ballots may be returned by mail, but must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 2nd and received by Monday, April, 9, 2018. Prepaid postage is affixed to all ballot return envelopes. The voter’s ballot may be hand delivered to the County Auditor’s Office before 8 p.m., Election Day, April 3, by the voter or any person the voter designates.

Anyone having questions regarding absentee voting may contact the Auditor’s office at 319/372-3705.

Baxter Sports Complex hosting youth baseball/softball leagues

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Baxter Family Foundation will be the title sponsor of the Youth Baseball/Softball League at Fort Madison’s Baxter Sports Complex this year.

The Baxter Sports Complex staff will now be coordinating the baseball/softball leagues for area children ages 8-12. The YMCA will continue to coordinate the T-ball and Youth Coach-Pitch League for children ages 4-7.

Baxter Family Foundation’s sponsorship will help offset the cost of the program and allow Baxter Sports Complex to enhance the programs for the area’s baseball/softball leagues, while keeping the participation cost to a minimum. Founded by Tony Baxter and his family, The Baxter Family Foundation, has made many numerous contributions over the years in support of area youth programs, in an effort to provide opportunities for those who might not have the means to participate otherwise.

The Fort Madison Youth Baseball/Softball League will hold open registration for the 2018 season from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 24th at Baxter Sports Complex, located at 909 48th Street. Registration forms are also available on both the Baxter Sports Complex website (www.fortmadison-sportscomplex.com) and Facebook page. Completed forms can be dropped off at Baxter Sports Complex, or mailed to: Baxter Sports Complex P.O. Box 587 Fort Madison, IA 52627 Registration will remain open until April 6th. For more information please contact Baxter Sports Complex at (319) 372-2932.

Spring Cleaning
Keep it green!

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too! Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

- Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste materials, construction debris, & electronic waste
- Use environmentally-safe cleaning products
- Reduce • Reuse • Recycle
- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa
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Schedule your appointment today. www.drmarkdds.com
Now Hiring Line Mechanics in Ft. Madison

Silgan Containers is currently seeking Line Mechanics at our Fort Madison plant. This is a full time position with a very competitive benefits package.

As the largest provider of metal packaging in the United States, Silgan Containers is trusted by America’s most respected brands. If you have mechanical experience and a willingness to learn, Silgan might be the perfect fit for your new career. Must be able to work rotating 12 hour shifts and mechanical experience in a manufacturing environment is a plus.

• Starting pay over $21/hr with the possibility of over $25/hr within the first two years plus quarterly bonus opportunities
• Competitive benefits package includes 401(k) match, multiple healthcare plan options, dental, vision, educational assistance and much more
• Rotating 12-hour shift schedule allows for training at your own pace
• High school diploma or equivalency required, trade school preferred
• Quality training provided for those willing to learn but must pass a written and practical mechanical aptitude test

If you are interested in more information about this exciting opportunity visit silgancontainers.com/careers or contact:

Tim Ewing, Plant Human Resources Manager
319-372-8491 x4760 or
tewing@silgancontainers.com

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IRS penalty tax. Additionally, there is a charge for the Simple7 Income Rider once it is activated.

We are looking for safe, dependable drivers to join our fleet of regional freight haulers.

We Require: A Class A CDL and a minimum age of 23 years.

We Offer: A $1500 sign on bonus, bi-annual safety bonuses, health insurance, vacation time (up to 4 weeks), a Christmas Club, a Simple IRA retirement plan with company match and very competitive wages.

We Operate: Late model equipment, 100% dry van freight. 99% no touch freight. Upper Midwest Lanes. No East or West Coast!

Time home as well!

Our drivers are through Fort Madison a couple times per week and off on weekends! Call or E-Mail us today!

See our website for additional details.

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We will get you ready to: “Giddy Up & Go Home!”

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Larry Holtkamp
LARRYHOLTKAMP.COM

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Larry Holtkamp
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In the News!
WEATHER - Continued from Page 1

Warning Information
Wednesday - Tornadoes
Thursday - Family Preparedness
Friday - Flash Flooding
The highlight of Severe Weather Awareness Week is the annual tornado drill scheduled for Wednesday, March 28. A test tornado watch will be issued, by the National Weather Service, at 10:00 am, followed by a test tornado warning at 10:15 am. Schools, businesses, state and local governments and individuals are strongly encouraged to participate in the drill. The weather service will activate the all-hazards weather radio system and Emergency Alert System (EAS). The Cities of Denmark, Keokuk and Fort Madison are planning on activating their outdoor warning sirens. The sirens will be turned on and confirmed that they are working and then be turned off. Lee County Emergency Management will also send out a test alert via AlertIowa. Signing up for AlertIowa is easy and free. You can go to www.lee-countyems.com and click on the AlertIowa logo and follow the instructions.

In the event of a severe weather in Iowa on Wednesday, March 28th, the drill will be postponed until Thursday, the 29th of March according to Cirrina. “The drill can be postponed by the National Weather Service if severe weather is threatening other parts of the state since this is a state-wide drill. We do not want to confuse anyone with a test if there is a true threat to life or property and we want citizens to take immediate action to protect themselves.”

All residents, no matter where you live, are urged to purchase an all-hazards weather radio from a local retailer if they have not done so already. As the siren system is an outdoor warning system and may not necessarily be heard by those who are indoors or are not nearby a siren, the weather radio is designed to work indoors. Plus there are many areas in the county such as the rural areas and housing developments outside the city limits who cannot hear the outdoor warning sirens. There are also communities and cities in Lee County that are not covered with an outdoor warning system. If individuals need assistance programming their radio they can contact Lee County Emergency Management, 319-372-4124, for assistance.

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management has information on individual and family preparedness at www.AlertIowa.gov. You can also follow Lee County Iowa Emergency Management on Facebook and Twitter for helpful tips and other information.

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Quality senior assisted living
A little help goes a long way.

The Kensington is a proud Silver Quality Award winner.

Making memories for tomorrow...
The Kensington is devoted to making each day special for residents and their families. Our team focuses on helping residents make the memories they want to make and help provide life residents experiences to remember!

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~ Festival & Fair Trips
~ Annual Traditional Events
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Kensington hits all quality goals
Senior Vice President of Quality and Regulatory Affairs. "We applaud these organizations for making a difference in the lives of their patients and residents."

The Quality Initiative was launched in 2012 by AHCA/NCAL as a national effort to build upon the existing work of the long term and post-acute care profession. The initiative aims to further improve quality of care in skilled nursing centers and assisted living communities by challenging members with specific, measurable targets. This initiative compliments the National Quality Awards, of which

HONOR - Continued from Page 1

WEATHER - 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 18 Mar
Light Rain
High– 48.7º F | Low – 44.3º F

MON 19 Mar
Light Rain
High– 45.0º F | Low – 33.3º F

TUE 20 Mar
Light Snow
High– 46.1º F | Low – 27.5º F

WED 21 Mar
Light Snow
High– 38.6º F | Low – 30.5º F

THU 22 Mar
Light Rain
High– 46.1º F | Low – 34.4º F

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 18 Mar
Light Rain
High– 48.7º F | Low – 44.3º F

MON 19 Mar
Light Rain
High– 45.0º F | Low – 33.3º F

TUE 20 Mar
Light Snow
High– 46.1º F | Low – 27.5º F

WED 21 Mar
Light Snow
High– 41.1º F | Low – 27.5º F

THU 22 Mar
Light Rain
High– 46.1º F | Low – 34.4º F

OpenWeatherMap

This initiative compliments the National Quality Awards, of which

continue from page 1...