

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Thursday, May 19, 2022 | 10 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 93



www.pencitycurrent.com

## Child care study needs data

**SURVEYS:** Group looking for respondents to complete child care surveys

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A push to dig deep into child care issues in Lee County has generated a countywide survey for families and business owners to help the advocacy groups create a plan going forward to help address shortages in the county.



KRAMER-RIESBERG

Breanna Kramer-Riesberg, the coordinator for Empowering Families, has put out the polls and they are available

until June 15.

Kramer-Riesberg is encouraging all business owners, upper management, human resource personnel, parents and caregivers, and child care providers to take their respective surveys. The surveys can be taken by clicking on the following links:

The business owner/management/HR survey at <https://surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoEmployer>.

The parents and caregivers survey at <https://surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoParent>.

The child care providers survey at: <https://surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoChildCare>.

See **SURVEYS**, page 8

**YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED ON CHILD CARE**

Child care has been identified as an urgent need in Lee County. We need your feedback to understand the challenges families have around child care.

For Business Owners, Upper Management, or HR  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoEmployer>

For Parents & Caregivers  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoParent>

For Child Care Providers  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoChildCare>

THE SURVEY WILL TAKE 10-15 MINUTES TO COMPLETE. AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE 15TH.  
Questions? Contact: [bkramer-riesberg@leecountyhd.org](mailto:bkramer-riesberg@leecountyhd.org) or call Breanna at (319) 372-5225

The above links are to surveys that need respondents to help Empowering Families coordinate data on local child care services and opportunities.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

### BUSINESS NEWS

## Millard steps down from post at LCEDG

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Lee County Economic Development Group announced a personnel change on Wednesday.

Dana Millard, the group's Economic Development Project Lead and former marketing director, is leaving the group after nine years of service.

Millard submitted her resignation last week and will be leaving Lee County EDG on May 26th to pursue being a full-time business owner with Dana's Dogs LLC., and a growing marketing venture.

"I am excited about this next chapter both for me and where Lee County EDG is going. However, unfortunately, it is not

See **RESIGN**, page 8

### IOWA NEWS

## Reynolds puts \$25M into child care incentive

DES MOINES – Gov. Reynolds announced today a new Child Care Business Incentive Grant Program to encourage employers to offer child care as a benefit to their employees.

The Child Care Business Incentive Grant Program will provide a total of \$25 million to support child care projects across the state. \$20 million will be utilized to support local infrastructure investments to build or expand child care capacity, and \$5 million will be used to support arrangements between employers and child care facilities to expand and reserve child care slots. Potential projects could include the creation and development of an on-site child

See **GRANTS**, page 4

### FORT MADISON

## Pandemic free meal program ends at FMCS D June 30th

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Community School District officials announced this week that the current Universal Free School Meals program is set to end June 30 and families need to prepare for eligibility guidelines for free and reduced meal programs.

Congress did not extend child nutrition waivers that have allowed schools to provide free meals for all students nationwide since March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, local

school districts are preparing to transition back to area eligibility for summer meal programs and income eligibility for the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP) next school year. Families will need to carry a positive balance in their child's school meal account when school begins this fall. Students that qualify for free or reduced price meals are encouraged to apply.

Under the current federal waivers that allow for free meals, more students are eating at school, especially breakfast. \*In August 2021 to December

2021, an additional 2.68 million healthy breakfasts (+33.6%) and 619,463 (+2.2%) healthy lunches were provided to Iowa students, compared to the same time period in 2019. In 2019, the NSLP participation rate was 64% and SBP participation was 19.7%, ranking Iowa 49th in the country for breakfast participation. \*Information is based on fall 2021, and school year 2018 – 2019 school lunch and breakfast claims reported by the Iowa Department of Education.

See **MEALS**, page 8

### INDEX

Business Directory..... Ps.6-7  
**BUSINESS NEWS**..... P.8  
Cape Air.....P.4  
**CLASSIFIEDS**..... Ps.5-7  
Complete Rental.....P.3  
Denmark Heritage Days.....P.10  
Fort Madison Family YMCA.....P.8  
**FROM THE FRONT**.....Ps.4,8

**IOWA NEWS**.....P.4  
Lee County Health Department.....P.2  
**LEE COUNTY NEWS**.....Ps.4,8  
**LOCAL NEWS**.....Ps.4,8  
Lucy Saltzgover Trivia Night Benefit.....P.9  
**OBITUARIES**.....P.3  
• Carolyn J. Meinhardt, 87  
• Melanie S. Shipley, 68

Pen City Current..... Ps.7-8  
Pothitakis Dentistry.....P.3  
Public Notices..... Ps.5-7  
Southeast Iowa  
Regional Medical Center.....P.8  
United Way of the  
Great River Region.....P.5  
Welch's Insurance.....P.3

### WEATHER

THU 19 May..... Light Rain, 82° F/ 60° F  
FRI 20 May..... Broken Clouds, 73° F/ 63° F  
SAT 21 May..... Light Rain, 63° F/ 52° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 05/17..... 5 16 29 31 32, Lucky Ball: 14  
MEGA MILLIONS 05/17..... 7 21 24 41 65, Mega Ball: 24  
PICK 3 05/17 MIDDAY..... 797  
PICK 3 05/17 EVENING..... 874  
PICK 4 05/17 MIDDAY..... 7672  
PICK 4 05/17 EVENING..... 2455

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### MELANIE S. SHIPLEY

Melanie Sue Shipley, 68, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 12:37 a.m. on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington, IA. She was born on August 1, 1953 in Fort Madison, IA to Wesley Evan & Vivian Jean George Burch. She was the international secretary at the Sheaffer Pen Company for more than 25 years and later was the payroll secretary for W-M Johnson Truck Line for more than 23 years. She was a member of the Santa Fe United Methodist Church for many years and loved sports & country music, especially George Strait. Melanie is survived by: 1-son: Matt (Sonja) Shipley of Fort Madison, IA; 1-sister: Kathy (Sterck) Barnes of Leawood, KS; 1-brother: Wesley "Dick" (Janice) Burch of Wever, IA; 4-grandchildren: Savannah Shipley, Rhett Shipley, Elijah Barnes & Caden Barnes and niece & nephews: Karah Pope, Bryce Barnes & Brett Burch. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A visitation will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The memorial service will immediately follow at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Dean Graber officiating. Burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery. A memorial has been established for the Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House. Online condolences to the Shipley family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).



SHIPLEY

#### Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

## OBITUARIES

### CAROLYN J. MEINHARDT

Carolyn Jane Meinhardt, 87, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 4:43 AM at Savannah Heights in Mt. Pleasant.

She was born on May 20, 1934 in Fairfield, IA to Carrol and Lucinda Jones Rinabarger. She married Marlin Meinhardt and they later divorced. Carolyn did clerical work for Principle Financial in Des Moines. She enjoyed watching TV, listening to old country western music and was an avid Cubs fan.

Survivors include a daughter, Linda Webster of Des Moines; one sister, Joanne Gregory of Ft. Madison; two nephews, Curtis Gregory of Vernon Hills, IL and Stanley Gregory of Ft. Madison; three half siblings, Nina, Marie and Frank. She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Donald.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and a burial will take place at a later date in Fellows Cemetery in Keosauqua.

Online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

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**Charles Vandenberg, Editor**

(319).371.1670

[charles.v@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:charles.v@pencitycurrent.com)

**Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager**

(319).371.4125

[lee.v@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:lee.v@pencitycurrent.com)

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# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

## Lee County News/From the Front

# Ag Secretary candidate to make Lee County campaign stop

**SUB ARENA:** Sandwich shop again the hot stop for Democratic candidates in primary, general elections

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – John Norwood, the Democratic candidate for Iowa Secretary of Agriculture will have two meet and greets in Lee County on Saturday, May 21st.

He will first stop at Sub Arena, 2805 Avenue L, Fort Madison, from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm. His second meet and greet will be at the Lost Canvas, 719 Main Street, Keokuk, 4:00 pm to 5:00



NORWOOD

pm.

He was elected Polk County Soil & Water Commissioner in 2018 with a three-priority platform of modernizing Iowa's ag plumbing, fixing degraded soils, and diversifying what we grow and raise.

As Secretary of Agriculture, John will work to diversify our rural and agricultural economies in ways that support soil health as we broaden what we grow and raise in response to severe weather, and animal and insect infestations. John believes Iowa should lead the world in sustainability.

Norwood was born in the Boston area and spent a decade in California, including a 3-year

term as executive director of an agricultural land trust where he protected vital agricultural lands from development.

John moved to Iowa in 2002 and focused his business skills in areas such as Iowa-based food production, specialty animal feeds, and community-based, manure fed renewable energy production.

Since 2018, Norwood has mentored more than 30 small business owners. Norwood is known for his independent thinking, drawing the best ideas from across the political spectrum and seeing "people as neighbors, not adversaries."

If you have any questions, call Mary Jo Riesberg, chair of the Lee County Democratic Party at 319-526-3160.

## Program incentivizes employer child care opportunities

**GRANTS** - Continued from Page 1

care center or a partnership with an existing child care center to create new child care slots paid for by a local employer.

"I've heard from both parents and employers that child care is a barrier to work in our state," said Gov. Reynolds. "One of the top recommendations from my Child Care Task Force was to incentivize employer investment in child care. This program will do just that by encouraging employers to help deliver child care solutions to their employees, thereby bolstering opportunities for recruitment and retention of workers."

"Creating flexible options for child care at work not only helps families, but it also makes it easier for employers to recruit and retain the skilled workforce they need," said Beth Townsend, Director of Iowa Workforce Development. "It is vital to our economic growth that we provide parents with reliable and affordable child care options, especially those who are looking to reenter the workforce."

"Access to quality child care is critical to the success of working families," said Kelly Garcia, Director of Iowa's Department of Human Services. "This program underscores Iowa's commitment to working families by putting child care where it's convenient for parents, children, and employers."

In March 2021, Gov. Reynolds launched the Child Care Task Force to address the child care shortage in Iowa. While Iowa is a national leader in the share of households with all parents working, 23 percent of Iowans live in a "child care desert," and Iowa has lost 33 percent of its child care businesses over the past five years. It's estimated that Iowa's child care shortage costs the State's economy roughly \$935 million annually in lost tax revenue, worker absences, and employee turnover.

Gov. Reynolds has directed state agencies to implement many of the report's recommendations, investing more than \$500 million of state and federal funds to address the crisis. Investments include the Child Care Challenge Fund grants, which will help to create an estimated more than 9,000 new child care slots across the state, as well as the Child Care Stabilization Grants and Recruitment and Retention Bonuses for Child Care Workers.

Information on the Child Care Business Incentive Grant Program is now available here. The state will begin accepting applications on [Iowa-Grants.gov](https://www.iowa-grants.gov) starting on Friday, June 17th. Applications must be submitted by Monday, July 18th.

Federal ARPA funds are being allocated for this grant program.

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## Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
AMENDED  
AGENDA  
KEOKUK CITY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
May 19, 2022  
501 Main Street  
5:30 P.M.**

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call.
4. Mayor's Correspondence:
  - Minutes of the Council Workshop & Regular City Council meeting of May 5, 2022;
  - Cash Receipts & Treasurer's Report for April 2022;
  - Third Quarter Financials;
  - Resolution approving Ownership Updates for Casey's Marketing Company Liquor Licenses;
  - Resolution approving a Liquor License for Lucky's Irish Pub & Grub (Back Alley Band-off premise), 528 Blondeau Street, effective May 27-28, 2022 – Class C Liquor License with Outdoor Service & Sunday Sales;
  - Resolution approving a Liquor License for Keokuk Yacht Club, Inc., 2029 River Road, effective June 8, 2022 – Class C Liquor License with Outdoor Service & Sunday Sales;
  - Resolution approving ownership updates for Casey's Marketing Company for Liquor Licenses;
  - Special Events Permit for Lucky's Irish Pub & Grub, 528 Blondeau Street, Back Alley Band Finale, Friday, May 27, 2022 9:00 p.m. – 2 a.m.;
  - Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5271-5273;
7. Motion to approve the second reading of an Ordinance amending Section 9.28.040 dealing with parking regulations.
8. Consider resolution allocating Hotel/Motel funds for the Big Dam Street Festival.
9. (a) Consider resolution appointing UMB Bank, N.A. of West Des Moines, Iowa, to serve as paying agent, note registrar, and transfer agent, approving the paying agent and note registrar & transfer agent agreement & authorizing the execution of the agreement (General Obligation Capital Loan Notes for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Press Project).
- (b) Consider resolution approving & authorizing

a form of loan agreement & authorizing & providing for the issuance of \$ 1,765,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2022, & levying a tax to pay said notes; approval of the tax exemption certificate & continuing disclosure certificate.

10. Consider resolution approving CSO Long Term Control Plan.
11. Motion to set May 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for a goal making session in the City Council Chambers.
12. Motion to appoint Council Person Dan Winn to the Architectural Review Committee and Linda Marsden as the liaison between the organization and the Council.
13. Boards & Commissions:
14. Council Liaison Reports:
15. Staff Reports:
16. New Business:
17. Adjourn Meeting

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES  
KEOKUK COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP  
May 5, 2022  
5:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mahoney, Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Winn, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Greenwald.  
ABSENT: Bryant.  
STAFF PRESENT: O'Donnell, El Anfaoui, Helenthal, Broomhall, Hinton, Weis, Beird, Clark as well as other city employees.  
Council reviewed and discussed an analysis of EPA response letter. John Hall from Hall & Associates, Ed Aske a consultant, and Dave Schechinger of Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. participated via go to meeting. John gave a summary of options to satisfy request from EPA.  
Council discussed items on council meeting agenda.  
Adjourned meeting at 6:09 p.m.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES  
KEOKUK CITY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
May 5, 2022  
501 Main Street  
6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on May 5, 2022 at 501 Main

Street. Mayor Kathie Mahoney called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There were nine council members present, none absent. Carissa Crenshaw, Linda Altheide, Roslyn Garcia, Dan Winn, John Helenthal, Steve Andrews, Linda Marsden, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Cole O'Donnell, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Public Works Director Robert Helenthal, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Sewer Department Manager Michael Clark, Bridge, Park, Sanitation & Cemetery Manager Bob Weis, Police Chief Dave Hinton, Street Department Manager Tom Beird, and Water Treatment Plant Manager Tom Wills as well as other city employees.

**MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE:** Informed of upcoming events in Keokuk and opening of Dog Park.

**CITIZEN'S REQUEST:** James Johnson, City of Keokuk employee, commented on letter circulating on Facebook. David Whitebread voiced concerns regarding controversial monument constructed in cemetery.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Greenwald to approve the agenda including the consent agenda. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Special Council meeting of April 14, 2022;
- Minutes of the Safety Committee meeting of April 21, 2022;
- Minutes of the Council Workshop & Regular City Council meeting of April 21, 2022;
- RESOLUTION NO. 62-2022: Approving a Liquor License for Chintz's, 1310 Main Street, effective May 20, 2022 – Class C Liquor License;
- RESOLUTION NO. 63-2022: Approving a Liquor License for Dr. Get Wells Bar & Grill, Class C Liquor License with Outdoor Service & Sunday Sales, May 20-24, 2022, Special Event (block party) outside establishment;
- RESOLUTION NO. 64-2022: Approving a Liquor License for Walgreens #05886, 1215 Main Street, effective May 22, 2022 – Class E Liquor License with Class C Beer Permit, Class B Wine Permit & Sunday

Sales;

- RESOLUTION NO. 65-2022: Approving a Liquor License for Santana's Mexican Restaurant, 3753 Main Street, effective June 8, 2022 – Class C Liquor License with Sunday Sales;
- Special Events Permit for Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce, Brewery recruitment and taste

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testing, May 14, 2022 3:00-5:00 p.m., SE Iowa Development Center, 1417 Exchange Street;

- Special Events Permit for Dr. Get Wells, set up May 21, 2022 9:00 a.m. tear down May 22, 2022 2:00 p.m., Live Music 6 p.m.-1 a.m., 1100 Main Street, block party in the

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

River Road, July 4th 8:00 a.m. set up until Midnight/clean-up;

• Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5269-5270; Old Business:

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Bryant to remove from table a resolution designating The Standard as life insurance carrier for the City of Keokuk. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bryant, second by Helenthal to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 66-2022:

"A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE STANDARD AS LIFE INSURANCE CARRIER FOR THE CITY OF KEOKUK." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

New Business:

Motion made by Marsden, second by Garcia to approve the initial reading of an Ordinance amending 2.04.030 of the Keokuk Municipal Code

Meetings – time - order of business.

Roll Call Vote: (9) AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Winn, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Bryant, and Greenwald.(0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Winn to waive the 2nd and 3rd reading of the Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote: (9) AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Winn, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Bryant, and Greenwald.(0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Winn to adopt and give final approval of ORDINANCE NO. 2024 AMENDING 2.04.030 OF THE KEOKUK MUNICIPAL CODE MEETINGS – TIME – ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Altheide to approve the initial reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Municipal Code dealing with Health and Sanitation.

Roll Call Vote: (9) AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Winn, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Bryant, and Greenwald.(0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Garcia to waive the 2nd and 3rd reading of the Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote: (9) AYES – Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Winn, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Bryant, and Greenwald.(0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Winn, second by Garcia to adopt and give final approval of ORDINANCE NO. 2025 AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE DEALING WITH HEALTH AND SANITATION."

(9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bryant, second by Marsden to approve the initial reading of an Ordinance amending Section 9.28.040 dealing with parking regulations.

Roll Call Vote: (9) AYES

– Crenshaw, Altheide, Garcia, Winn, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Bryant, and Greenwald.(0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion by Winn, second by Bryant to waive the 2nd & 3rd reading of the Ordinance. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Winn to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 67-2022:

"A RESOLUTION SETTING START TIME OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2022." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Marsden to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 68-2022:

"A RESOLUTION SETTING DATES OF A CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 7 TO THE AMENDMENT AND RESTATED

TWIN RIVERS URBAN RENEWAL PLAN IN THE CITY OF KEOKUK, STATE OF IOWA." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 69-2022: "A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE \$1,840,000\* (DOLLAR AMOUNT SUBJECT TO CHANGE) GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES, SERIES 2022; AND APPROVING THE FORM AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A NOTE PURCHASE AGREEMENT." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Winn to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 70-2022: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT WITH AHLERS

AND COONEY P.C." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Marsden, second by Altheide to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 71-2022: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING LEE COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF KEOKUK, LEE COUNTY, IOWA UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT, AS AMENDED BY THE DISASTER MITIGATION ACT OF 2000." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Garcia to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 72-2022: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR RECODIFICATION AND UPDATES TO TITLE

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

20 ZONING OF THE KEOKUK MUNICIPAL CODE.” (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Garcia to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 73-2022:

“A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 ELGIN PELICAN NP STREET SWEEPER.” (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS: Final notification appointing Kathy Goldie to the Veterans Memorial Commission, 5-year term to expire 6/1/2027. Mayoral appointment of James West to Historic Preservation Commission, term to expire 9/1/2023. Motion to approve all By Helenthal, second by Marsden. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried. Second notification for LeeAnn Shaffer-Smith to the Civil Service Commission, 6-year

term to expire 4/1/2028. First notification for Ed Kiedaisch to the Architectural Design Review Commission, 2-year term to expire 6/19/2024.

STAFF REPORTS: Wills updated regarding industrial pre-treatment program surveys. Broomhall gave an update on permit issued and 518 Main development agreement. Helenthal updated on public works operations and runway lighting project at airport. Hinton reported on UTV/Golf Cart ordinance. O'Donnell updated on ADM consent order, solar project, scheduling goal making sessions and grant application for federal funds to repair S. 18th Street leading to National Cemetery.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Altheide to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

### PUBLIC NOTICE Meeting Notice

**CITY OF FORT MADISON Board of Adjustment WILL MEET ON May 25th • 6:00PM AT THE Council Chambers at City Hall 811 Ave E. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING: AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of minutes 1/12/22 meeting

3. Case File #22-02: Special Use Permit to allow 2x4's For Hope to construct two "Tiny Homes" at 2833 Ave J.  
4. Adjournment

### PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING NOTICE

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LEE COUNTY COMMISSION OF VETERAN AFFAIRS WILL BE ON TUESDAY, MAY 24,

2022 AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HALL, LOCATED AT 727 MAIN ST, KEOKUK AT NOON.

The purpose of the meeting is to review applications for the advertised PT position.

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rob Sand promised to wake up the watchdog. When Sand and the State Auditor's office come on behalf of taxpayers with questions about how the public's business is being conducted, they will not walk away.

### Re-elect Rob Sand as State Auditor

*Paid for by the Lee County Democratic Party*

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DeJear for Iowa

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### Re-elect Michael Fitzgerald State Treasurer

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From the Front

# Survey critical to child care studies in Lee County

**SURVEYS** - Continued from Page 1

Companies are asked to fill out just one survey per company. Lee County recently received a \$10,000 grant as part of a \$15,000 rural child care market study conducted by First Children's Finance, as well as two (Blended Early Learning in Education Foundations (BELIEF) grants that were awarded to Keokuk and Fort Madison school districts to investigate early child care. The studies funded by the grants are being conducted in the same time frames and should provide critical data in mapping out how the county should move forward.

Kramer-Riesberg said the study is a joint effort between Children First, Empowering Families, and the school districts to better understand the challenges and develop a plan for quality, accessible child care.

"The more responses we get, the better data we will have, and the more informed decisions we can make moving forward," Kramer-Riesberg said.

"This issue impacts our families the most, and your voice is important. The community is listening and your input is needed right now to make changes happen. If you can, remind your friends, family, employers, and child care provider to fill out the survey, too."

She said the group is looking for both registered and non-registered child care providers. Anyone who regularly watches children for friends or family members who are at work should take the survey, Kramer-Riesberg said.

All responses will remain anonymous.

"We just want to get a good picture of who is providing care and the support that is needed to provide that care," she said.

Employers of any staffing range are also asked to fill out the surveys to gather necessary information to gauge the impact child care has on employers and the workforce.

She said results should be available in mid to late July and the group will share the market study results widely in the community.

"This is a major concern for families, businesses, and providers right now and we want them to access and use this information for the greater good of our communities," Kramer-Riesberg said.

"I hope that every parent/caregiver fills out the survey. Even if your kids aren't currently in child care – take the survey. Even if your parents watch your kids while you work – take the survey. We need a deep understanding of what the need is around child care. I understand that everyone's situation is different – there is not a one-size fits all approach to child care. So we want to see all types of situations represented through this survey. Analyzing responses from all three surveys will help us better plan for large-scale changes and investment into the child care system."

# CDC report shows benefits of school meal programs

**MEALS** - Continued from Page 1

The standards for child nutrition meal programs reflect the recommendations from the 2020 – 2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, emphasizing the incorporation of whole grains, lean sources of protein, low-fat dairy products, fruits, and vegetables, and limiting saturated fat, sodium and calories.

According to the journal article in the National Library of Medicine titled, "The contribution of the USDA school breakfast and lunch program meals to student daily dietary intake" school breakfast and lunch accounts for up to 58% of a school child's daily energy intake.

The Center for Disease Control identifies that students who participate in school meal programs have better overall diet quality than nonparticipants, and eating school breakfast is associated with better attendance and better test scores. Time constraints and stigma are some of the reasons students go without eating. The stigma barrier was eliminated with the waivers that allowed for free meals for all students the past two years.

While this change is set to impact students this summer and next school year, the School Nutrition Association of Iowa (SNAI) has been working hard to develop a recommendation for legislators to continue the waivers and free meals for all students for school year 2022 – 2023.

To learn more about SNAI and to express your support for the waiver extensions to your legislators please visit [www.snaiowa.org](http://www.snaiowa.org). You can also find valuable information about the association between academics and meal pattern behaviors from the Center for Disease Control at [www.cdc.gov/healthyschools](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools).

# Reception planned to recognize Millard's 9 years

**RESIGN** - Continued from Page 1

feasible for me to continue with Lee County EDG," Millard said last week.

In the announcement released Wednesday from Lee County EDG Executive Administrative Assistant Carmen Salazar, the group wished Millard success in her future and thanked her for her service.

"For the past nine years, Dana has been a valued team member and colleague who has been an integral part of the success and accomplishments of Lee County EDG. We wish her well and much success in her new endeavor," the release indicated.

The departure leaves a staff consisting of Dennis Fraise as President and Director of Operations, and Salazar.

A reception will be held for Millard on Wednesday, May 25th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Lee County EDG offices.

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Trivia provided by Rich Pickle Trivia



**WHAT:** Benefit to help pay for the cost of bringing Lucy home to rest.

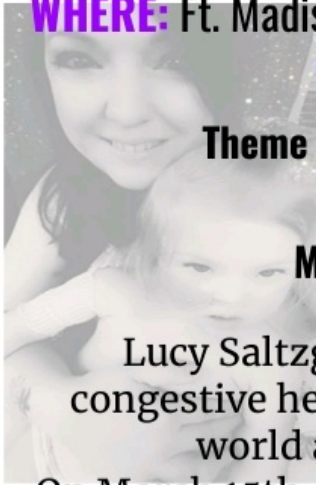
**WHEN:** Saturday, May 21, 2022 Beginning at 7PM

**WHERE:** Ft. Madison Eagle's Club

**Teams/tables of 8 will be \$120 (\$15 per player)**

**Theme baskets will be up for silent auction and winners announced after the final round of trivia.**

**Monetary donations are welcome and most appreciated!**



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All proceeds will be used to help bring Lucy home to her final resting place close to family, friends, and loved ones.

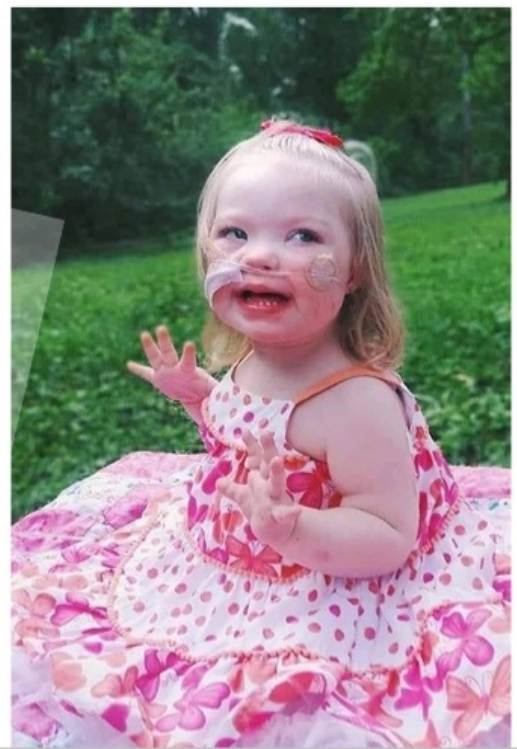
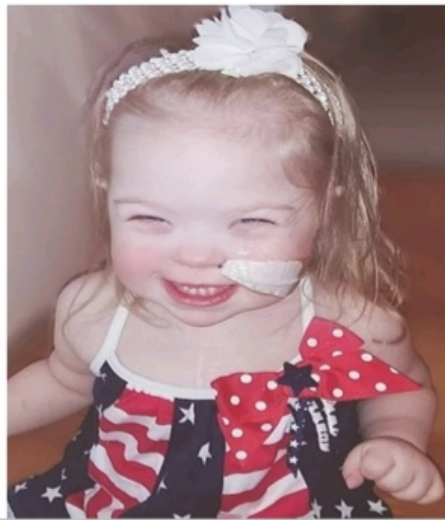
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# DENMARK HERITAGE DAYS

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 Kids' Train Rides  
 Kettle Corn

### FRIDAY

**Tractor/Gas Engine Registration** 7 a.m.  
**Town Wide Yard Sales** 8 a.m.  
**Live Music in Shelter House** 7 p.m.  
 by Stump Town.

### SATURDAY

**Breakfast at Fire Station** 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.  
**Town Wide Yard Sales** 8 a.m.  
**Custom Cars & Pickups** 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
**Wiffle Ball Game** 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
**Sidewalk Chalk Contest** 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.  
**Tractor Parade** 1 p.m.  
**Silver Steppers** 2:30 p.m.  
**Pedal Tractor Pulls** 2:30 p.m.  
**Live Auction** 4 p.m.  
**Pork Meal in Shelter House** 5 p.m.  
**Live Music in Shelter House** 5:30 p.m.  
 by Lonesome Fugitive

### SUNDAY

**Breakfast at Church** 7:30 a.m.  
**Church in Shelter House** 10 a.m.  
**Ham Ball Dinner at Church** 11 a.m.  
**Tractor Parade** 1 p.m.

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