

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 | 11 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 92



www.pencitycurrent.com

Search for city manager to start

BUDGET AMENDMENT: Extra expenses reduce ending balance by \$1.33 million

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison City Council will begin the process of looking to replace former City Manager David Varley in June.

Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld sent the council and city staff a memo on Tuesday with some starting points on how the city could go about putting together the vision.

“I kind of gave a vision of the hiring process for the new city manager.

He said June 6 there would be a work session with

Mike Norris of Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission to help the city sort that out.

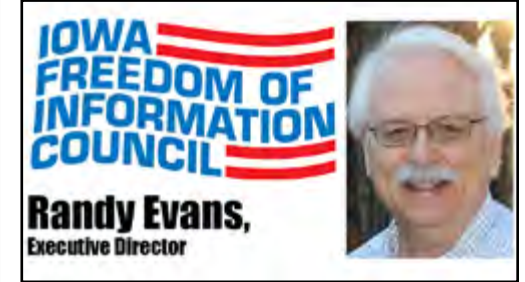
“We’re gonna walk through what we want in a city manager starting with a big picture, what we want the town to be, how the attributes of a city manager work from that.”

Then he said a group would be appointed to move forward to get the person hired.

He said city staff and council should create their own views around what the position would look like and the characteristics of the person and the position.

See CITY, page 5

OPINION



More secrecy at schools draws FOIC lawsuit

In 2017, the Iowa Legislature responded to concerns from Gov. Terry Branstad and amended Iowa law to ensure when government employees are forced out of their jobs the reasons must be made public and not shrouded in secrecy.

The goal was commendable. The governor was right. People deserve to be told “why.” It is called public accountability.

Since then, the transparency promised six years ago has diminished.

Since then, government employers have been more interested in avoiding embarrassment or uncomfortable questions.

Since then, government has been less interested in informing the people of Iowa in whose name government exists and operates.

Last week, the nonprofit organization I lead stepped up to try to stem this tide of secrecy-over-transparency. The Iowa Freedom of Information Council and I sued the Centerville school board, challenging the legality of its closed meeting in February that ended a two-month suspension of the Centerville High School guidance counselor and baseball coach.

Ryan Hodges was placed on leave around Dec. 1 last year following allegations of inappropriate behavior with a minor. School officials refused in December and again in February to share with the public the nature of Hodges’ actions. They refused to say whether the investigation found the allegations to be true or whether the investigation found no factual basis for

See EVANS, page 8

Work delayed

The 2x4s for Hope project at the northeast corner of 29th Street and Avenue J work has been postponed until May 27th due to some construction procurement delays. Those who had planned to volunteer to help build the tiny homes are asked to help on Memorial Day Weekend. A ribbon-cutting will be held June 4.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

HOLIDAY EVENT

Old Fort “Musters” events for Memorial Day weekend

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Old Fort Madison is hosting its first event for the 2023 season on Memorial Weekend. Muster On The Mississippi is a military timeline event covering the span of history from ancient times until today. Reenactors will portray different periods including Rome, Dark Age s Anglo-Saxon Medieval England, 16th-17th Century Ireland War of 1812, American Civil War, WW 1 & WW 2 and the Modern Day Soldier. They will be present to

explain soldier’s daily lives, clothing, equipment and weapons.

Join Old Fort Madison staff & volunteers and the North Lee County Historical Society for a Memorial Day service on the Fort Madison Battlefield at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 29. The service will be accompanied by three shots from Old Fort Madison’s howitzer cannon. The Old Fort will be open from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Monday.

“We’ve been working extremely hard to get the Fort ready for the tourist season. I’m excited to start marketing

Old Fort Madison and the great events that will be hosted there this summer,” said Fort Madison Tourism Director Chi Eastin.

“We’re also hopeful that the area’s residents will come and tour the Fort and bring their families and friends. That is a great way to help support the Fort if they weren’t able to volunteer or give a donation.”

This event is ran by Old Fort Madison. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Eugen Watkins at drwatkins1813@gmail.com.

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap
WED 17 May.....Mostly sunny and warm, 77° F/ 53° F ●
THU 18 May.....Mostly sunny and warm, 81° F/ 59° F ●
FRI 19 May.....Partly sunny with chance of showers, 72° F/ 49° F ☁

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 05/15.....9 16 33 38 41, Star Ball: 8 All Star Bonus: 3
LUCKY FOR LIFE 05/15.....113 17 34 41, Lucky Ball: 11
PICK 3 MIDDAY 05/15.....7 2 6
PICK 3 EVENING 05/15.....7 6 6
PICK 4 MIDDAY 05/15.....3 5 6 2
PICK 4 EVENING 05/15.....1 8 3 6
POWERBALL 05/15.....1 26 28 55 58, Powerball: 25 Power Play: 2

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OBITUARIES

HARVEY G. HALE

Harvey G. Hale, 80, of Fort Madison passed away on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 2:46 PM at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington surrounded by his loving family.



He was born on January 29, 1943 in Macomb, IL to Glen and Alletia Belknap Hale. On May 5, 1974 Harvey married the love of his life, Jill Rossiter in Denmark and she preceded him in death on November 15, 1995. Harvey worked for the street and sewer department for the City of Ft. Madison and retired after thirty one years of service. He loved to fish on the river, watch NASCAR and was a friend to everyone he met. Most of all, Harvey enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Survivors include his son, Brian Hale and his wife, Stephanie of Ft. Madison; two grandchildren, Sophia and Hunter Hale of Ft. Madison; two sisters, Glenda Dochterman and Wanda McKay both of Keokuk; brother in law, Jim (Rhonda) Rossiter of Gillette, WY and sister in law, Debbie Jenkins of Mesa, AZ and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife and two sisters.

The funeral service will be held on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 11 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Pastor Jeff Metcalf officiating. Burial will be in Oakland Cemetery. The family will meet with friends from 9:30- 11 AM prior to the service.

A memorial has been established for his grandchildren's education fund and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

OBITUARIES

LUCILLE E. SARTORY

Lucille E. Sartory, 93, of Warsaw, passed away on Friday, May 12, 2023, at River Hills Village in Keokuk.

Lucille was born on June 24, 1929, in Niantic, Illinois, the daughter of Elisha Orville and Susan Alice (Plunkett) Oakleaf.



On November 27, 1948, she was united in marriage to James H. Sartory at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Warsaw. He preceded her in death on June 24, 2006. Lucille was a beautician for many years and retired in 1983. She served as an Election Judge for Rocky Run/Wilcox Townships and Assistant Postmaster for Sutter Post Office until its closing. Lucille was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, a Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, a Member of Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Warsaw, The Alter and Rosary Society and was a former Troop Leader for the Boy Scouts when her sons were growing up. Lucille's greatest loves were her family and friends. She enjoyed cooking and baking and large family dinners and took pride in her flowers and keeping a neat yard. She always enjoyed attending her kids and grandkids sporting events and took pride in any of their accomplishments. Her last few years were spent at River Hills Village where she was well cared for in their memory care ward.

Lucille is preceded in death by her parents; her husband James; five brothers: John Oakleaf, Glen Donald Oakleaf, Virgil Oakleaf, Everett Oakleaf and Daniel Oakleaf; two sisters: Mary Ellen Oakleaf Mumper and Mercedes Oakleaf Justus; two sons: Francis J. Sartory and Victor W. Sartory; two stillborn children; and her step-mother Violet A. Jaconson Oakleaf.

Lucille is survived by her daughter Nanette M (Kent) Wollbrink; two daughters-in-law: Victoria Valentin Sartory and Jane McNally Sartory; six grandchildren: Amy Wollbrink (Nick) Walters, Michael (Megan) Wollbrink, Andrea Sartory (Adam Bailey), David Sartory, Brooke de Schietere (Cedric) and Blair (Joseph) Glauber; eleven great grandchildren: Madison Walters (Bryce Wilson), Jacob Sartory, Jonah Sartory, Stevie Harrison, Molly Wollbrink, Mallary Wollbrink, Maxwell Wollbrink, Joseph Glauber, James Glauber, Victoria de Schietere and Charlotte de Schietere; and many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 12 PM (Noon) on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Warsaw, with burial to follow at Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk, Iowa. Visitation will be held on Thursday from 10 to 11:30 am at Printy Funeral Home in Warsaw directly before the service.

Memorials may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association or Donor's Choice.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.printy-funeralhome.com.

Printy Funeral Home of Warsaw is in charge of arrangements.

Miller-Meeks introduces new broadband bill

WASHINGTON D.C. - U.S. Representatives Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA-01) and Debbie Dingell (MI-06) introduced the Facilitating DIGITAL Applications Act, legislation that would require National Telecommunications and Information Administration to periodically report to Congress on whether the Departments of Interior and Agriculture have established an online portal for the acceptance, processing, and disposal of the common form application to deploy a communications facility on federal property. This will help expedite and improve tracking of broadband deployment on federal lands.

"Since I was first sworn into Congress, I've been fighting to expand broadband services. Covid exposed the divide between cities and more rural areas and proved the need for reform," said Miller-Meeks. "I'm proud to lead this legislation, which will simplify and expedite broadband expansion."

"We recently passed once-in-a-generation investments to upgrade connectivity infrastructure and improve access to broadband for all Americans as we live in an increasingly connected world. We need to make thoughtful, targeted improvements to permitting applications that will ensure we have an effective, streamlined system in place to deploy the benefits of these laws. The Facilitating DIGITAL Applications Act will assist in modernizing our system for accepting, processing, and disposing applications to establish new communications facilities and infrastructure, helping us to get these important projects underway and reaching the people who most need them more efficiently," said Dingell.

BACK PAIN?

Do You Have Hip Pain? Are You As Stiff As a Board When You Try to Get Up From a Chair? Have You Run Out of Hope?

How 5 Lies About Low BACK PAIN May Keep You Hurting, Frustrated & Exhausted...Forever!

NEW Scientific Breakthroughs Often Make Short Work of Low Back Pain...Just What Big Medical Centers and High Priced Clinics Are PRAYING You Never Figure Out On Your Own!

Hi, I'm Dr. Jason James, and if you've got any kind of back, hip or leg pain, your worries may be over in just a few minutes. Why? Because I'm the owner of James Healthcare & Assoc. clinic, and I've discovered what may be the best healing secrets for "bad backs" — EVER!



Dr. Jason James, D.C.

I'd be stupid to make such a claim if I couldn't back it up. But I am so confident we can help your back, I insist on giving you a 100% SATISFACTION PLEDGE at James Healthcare. I hate empty promises, and I also hate the lies most folks have been told about their backs. That's why it's important I expose these MYTHS about back pain.

MYTH #1: Sciatica (pain down your leg) is always caused by a herniated disc!

No way...even though most doctors will sell you a \$3,000 MRI at the first sign of leg pain. But they don't tell you about a 5-inch muscle in the hip that can squeeze the sciatic nerve. And it feels EXACTLY like you've got the worst slipped disc on earth. It's a major discovery and...

The good news is that it can be easy and inexpensive to correct! How? Just keep reading! But first, here's a picture to show you where the pain comes from:



MYTH #2: Stiffness from Arthritis means you're getting old...and it must be the reason for all your pain and stiffness!

Not true, because thousands of folks with arthritis in their backs have absolutely NO PAIN! Then why do YOU feel like your back will snap if you bend forward or twist too fast? Because the truth is:

Your stiffness may be caused by a hidden, even more dangerous problem than arthritis, and it can lead to a hip replacement!

You see, most folks believe that something mysterious (like maybe an "arthritis fairy?") waved a wand over them, and they're cursed... doomed to suffer forever.

But did you know that many arthritis problems are CAUSED by a combination of unseen imbalances in the spine and surrounding muscles? It's the most common cause of hip replacements but not that hard to correct if we catch it in time. It's like the tires on your car...

If the alignment is off just a teeny-weeny bit, at first you don't notice, but over a few thousand miles you start to see signs of wear...that is, if you're lucky enough to catch it before a flat on the freeway ruins your day. In your spine, you're lucky if you catch untreated imbalances before they ruin your spine! How to fix them? Just look at Myth #3.

MYTH #3: Your Back is "Out"!

Sure, that's exactly how it feels. But guess what, we found that's usually not the case. It sounds good, but we now know better. You see, there are 7 different reasons for that painful, locked-up and stuck feeling that causes so much misery:

- low-grade spasm
- pelvis torque and tension
- imbalance of hips

- fallen or dropped arches
- stiff vertebra joint
- adhesions in leg muscle
- pinched nerve

It's NOT just your spine, and it's NOT just your muscles. As a matter of fact, if one of the major muscles that stabilize the spine is partly spasmed, a "2nd stringer" will have to carry the load. But this is a serious problem...

It's like having your plumber doing all the dangerous electrical work!

Sure, he may get it done, and it may work at first, but how long until there's a fire? Or your back locks up? Which leads me to our next myth:

MYTH #4: "It's Only a Muscle!"

Boy, it's scary how many people think muscle problems are no big deal. Unfortunately, tight, bound-up, and spasmed or tight muscles can wear out joints faster than you can say, "Charley Horse!"

That's why it's important to examine the spine AT THE SAME TIME as the muscles that control it. It's also why we've had such outrageous success with even the worst backs at James Healthcare. Because we deal with BOTH the spine and muscles at the same time. We have spine doctors (chiropractors), pain doctors (nurse practitioners) and muscle professionals (therapists) and together they deliver an outstanding way to help "bad backs". This ties in to Myth #5 and the diagram:



MYTH #5: "Muscle Relaxants" will help your muscles heal! Good grief, NO!

Your muscles tighten up for a reason, and muscle relaxants are like turning back the clock on a time bomb...you know it's still going to blow up! Sure, you may feel better now, but you'll pay later...and pay "in spades"! So don't fall for these lies about your low back. They'll keep you hurting, frustrated and exhausted forever!

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER:

Turn over in bed without pain waking you up?

Get up in the morning without being as stiff as a board?

Be able to stand for as long as you want without sitting down for relief?

Lean forward over the sink without that "stabbing" in your back or leg?

SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH:

A hidden muscle may be causing your SCIATICA! Does Your Back Seem "Too Old" for Your Own Body? Not everyone qualifies for treatment, so help us see if you do. If you check off even one box, drop what you're doing and call James Healthcare NOW. And bring this coupon when you come in for your 39-Point "Back-Pain Track-Down Exam". Now check off what describes you:

- Tension...always tight across the beltline
- Bent—crooked off to one side and can't stand up straight if your life depended on it
- Trigger Point...zinging pain to butt-cheek
- Stiff as a board...creak and groan when you first get out of bed in the morning
- Traitor...can't trust your back and what it's going to do—or when!
- Vice-like...constantly locked down tight!
- Shooting...vicious but short-lived
- Lumbago...hard to pin it down—just seems to hurt all the time, but it's hard to say where
- One-sided...right at that "bone" on one side
- Jack hammer...pounding off and on like a heartbeat or a toothache in your back
- Aching from 1-5 years
- Chronic pain for over 5 years

No one will try to sell you anything, and you make no commitment...you just find out what's wrong!

P.S. Why You MUST Not Wait! Because of appointment availability, we can only honor this \$27 offer or bringing in a new or gently used winter coat through October 31, 2022. So don't say, "Well, maybe I'll be better tomorrow." Don't put your life on hold. Don't call in sick again. Live your life pain free! Tie your own shoes for a change.

Call NOW! (319) 524-3339
James Healthcare & Associates, Inc.
 612 Main Street

"I broke my back when I was 41 years old and have had problems from then on, until June 2017. Dr. James gave me my life back! I have very few back problems now. It is great to be able to do my everyday duties without back problems."—Roger Kirchner

James Healthcare & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Dr. Jason James, DC
 Dr. Mack Kohnke, DC
 Ashley Neuweg, ARNP
 612 MAIN STREET • KEOKUK, IA

319-524-3339

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

JANE M. KOELLNER

Jane M. Koellner, 86, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 8:15 p.m. on Sunday, May 14, 2023 at The Kensington. She was born on August 25, 1936 in Fort Madison, IA to Albert & Rose Otte Pollmeier. She married William H. Koellner on August 30, 1958 in Fort Madison, IA. He preceded her in death on March 9, 2018. She was a homemaker and worked at Lampe Drug Store in Fort Madison. She was a member of Holy Family Parish and PEO. She enjoyed baking, cross stitch and playing bridge.



KOELLNER

Jane is survived by: 2-sons: Tim (Pam) Koellner of Hollister, MO & Mark Koellner of Fort Madison, IA; 3-daughters: Ann (Tony) Pesnell of Tucson, AZ, Kelly (Ernie) Marsan of Huntington, CT & Sarah (Tony) Hughes of Urbandale, IA; 1-granddaughter: Hannah Hughes of Urbandale, IA; 7-step grandchildren; 12-step great grandchildren; and 1-sister: Jeanette (Ed) Rapiet of Auston, TX. She was preceded in death by: her parents, husband, 1-granddaughter: Shelby Hughes, 1-step granddaughter: Falynn Lewis and 1-sister: LaVerne Menke.

A visitation will be held from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral mass will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2023 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church. Burial will be held at Gethsemane Cemetery. A memorial has been established for Holy Family Parish. Online condolences and a video tribute of Jane's life may be viewed at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.king-lynk.com.

OBITUARIES

MARY ANN E. WEIRATHER

Mary Ann Elizabeth Weirather, 87, of Keokuk, IA died Sunday, May 14, 2023 at the Memorial Hospital in Carthage, IL.

She was born on June 20, 1935 in Keokuk, IA, the daughter of Philip J. and Viola K. (Fischer) Weirather. She received her elementary education at St. Mary's in Keokuk and graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1958. She attended Keokuk Community College.



WEIRATHER

She was a member of the All Saints Catholic Church in Keokuk and also a member of the Ladies of All Saints. She had been a volunteer at Keokuk Area Hospital for many years.

She had been employed as the church secretary at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hamilton and later at All Saints Catholic Church where she worked for twenty-two years until her retirement.

Mary Ann loved to cook, bake and work in her flower garden. She was a fan of NASCAR, especially Jeff Gordon, and enjoyed watching Iowa Hawkeye football and St. Louis Cardinal baseball as well as other sports on TV. She also enjoyed music and loved her ice cream and chocolate every night.

Mary Ann is survived by her caretaker, Connie (Tom) St. Clair and family, several nieces and nephews and several close friends including, Emily Rose of Warsaw, IL and Pam Getz of Ankeny, IA. She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Harry P. Weirather and William F. Weirather and one sister, Helen Lowenberg.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Father Marty Goetz officiating. Burial will be in the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

Memorials may be made St. Vincent's School or the St. Jude Children's Hospital.

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

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IT'S TIME



Colorectal cancer screening saves lives!

The recommended age for colorectal cancer screening has been lowered from 50 to 45 because colorectal cancer cases are on the rise among young and middle-age people. Colorectal cancer is one of the only cancer screening tests that can prevent cancer by finding precancerous polyps in the colon or rectum and removing them before they become cancer or find cancer early when it may be easier to treat. There are several screening options available. So, if you are over the age of 45, or at high risk for colorectal cancer, talk to your doctor about when to start getting screened and which screening option is best for you.



Right place. Right care. Right here.

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It's Black & White and Read all over

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

05/11/23 - 9:20 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Tyrell Devon Smith, 29, no hometown reported, in the 800 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for parole violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/11/23 - 11:17 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2100 block of Avenue I.

05/11/23 - 12:44 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Danielle Roberts, 41, no hometown reported, at the intersection of 21st Street and Avenue F, on a warrant for failure to appear - driving suspended. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/11/23 - 7:25 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Paul Raymond Perkins, Jr., 18, no hometown reported, in the 1600 block of 20th Street, on a Bremer County warrant for assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/12/23 - 12:54 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Leanna Hope Simpson, 29, of Fort Madison, in the 3900 block of Bluff Road, on a warrant for failure to appear - 1st offense OWI. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/12/23 - 1:14 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 4600 block of Avenue J.

05/12/23 - 7:03 a.m. - Fort

Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 600-700 blocks of Avenue H.

05/12/23 - 8:10 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 48th Street and Avenue L.

05/12/23 - 2:34 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 200 block of Avenue F.

05/12/23 - 6:06 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Roy James Vowels, 33, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of Avenue B, on a charge of threat of terrorism. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/12/23 - 7:33 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue L.

05/12/23 - 8:07 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2700 block of Avenue N.

05/13/23 - 12:04 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary at the intersection of 28th Street and Avenue J.

05/13/23 - 11:04 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2400 block of Avenue G.

05/13/23 - 11:44 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 3200 block of Avenue L.

05/13/23 - 1:41 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the

600-700 blocks of Avenue H.

05/14/23 - 5:56 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of Avenue G.

05/14/23 - 5:55 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested David John Franck, Jr., 52, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of Avenue E, on a charge of disorderly conduct - threat. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/15/23 - 8:01 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of 14th Street.

05/15/23 - 12:00 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Georgina Ann Gordon, 29, of Fort Madison, in the 4600 block of Avenue J, on a charge of 1st offense domestic abuse assault. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/15/23 - 1:42 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Terry Marvin Stewart, Jr., 28, of Fort Madison, in the 4600 block of Avenue J, on a charge of 2nd offense domestic abuse assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/15/23 - 3:46 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.

05/15/23 - 3:59 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3000 block of Avenue J.

05/15/23 - 4:56 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to

a report of larceny/theft in the 6000 block of Avenue O.

Lee County Sheriff Report

05/11/23 - 3:44 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Kristina Nicole Boe, 37, of Cedar Rapids, at the sheriff's office, on a temporary hold warrant. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later transferred to another company.

05/11/23 - 5:38 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Paul Thomas Fields, 37, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a temporary hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/11/23 - 5:46 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Kevin Eugene Nims, 57, of Sperry, at the sheriff's office, on a temporary hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/12/23 - 1:05 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Joshua Isaac Daniels, 39, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of disorderly conduct - fight/violence. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/12/23 - 11:30 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jenny Lynne Leis Rook, 36, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold warrant. She was taken to Lee County Jail and released after weekend service.

05/12/23 - 11:53 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Martha Marie Harrell, 49, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a charge of contempt of court/

failure to appear. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on her own recognizance.

05/12/23 - 11:06 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Kristina Nicole Boe, 37, of Cedar Rapids, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of probation. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/12/23 - 11:48 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Louis Brian Riesberg, 27, of West Point, at the intersection of Hwy. 2 and Main Street, Donnellson, on charges of 1st offense OWI and speeding. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.

05/13/23 - 4:12 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident in the 3100 block of 243rd Avenue, Montrose. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Matthew Ryan Davis, 34, of Montrose, lost control and crashed into a ditch. No injuries were reported. Davis was charged with OWI and taken to Lee County Jail. The vehicle sustained disabling damages and was towed from the scene.

05/13/23 - 4:43 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Matthew Ryan Davis, 34, of Montrose, in the 3100 block of 243rd Avenue, Montrose, on a charge of 2nd offense OWI. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.

05/14/23 - 3:42 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Chevy Allen Frueh,

40, of Fort Madison, in the 2400 block of 53rd Street, Fort Madison, on charges of possession of a controlled substance - 1,2,3rd and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/15/23 - 8:05 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested William Elroy Frantz III, 50, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/15/23 - 11:44 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Roderick Vaughn Taylor Rice, 44, of Ottumwa, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/15/23 - 8:38 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jacobe Alexander Heule, 35, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

05/13/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls, one lift assist, one police assist and four fire alarms.

05/14/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls, one false alarm.

05/15/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls, one false alarm and one car accident.

Those listed above are arrested on suspicion of a charge and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Tuesday, May 16
Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Corn

Wednesday, May 17
Pork Loin, Loaded Potatoes, Green Beans

Thursday, May 18
Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, May 19
Lunch on the Sidewalk

Business News/From the Front

Culp promoted at CANCO

PCC Staff

BURLINGTON - Carl A. Nelson & Company (CANCO) is pleased to announce a leadership transition that will prepare the 113-year-old design-build, construction management and general contracting firm for the future.



CULP

During its annual meetings May 10 and 11, the Board of Directors voted to appoint Chris Smith to the role of president. He succeeds Tim Seibert, P.E., who has led CANCO in that role for the past 16 years. Seibert remains with the company, and is stepping over to the role of Chairman. Succeeding Smith as Vice President of Operations (Burlington), will be Dan Culp. Culp previously was director of business development, and will retain that role through the transition.

As president, Smith will be responsible for overall company management and will continue to help lead projects where he is currently engaged.

"I am honored to lead such a great group of professional and talented team members," Smith said. "I look forward to continuing our core values of Fairness & Honesty, Quality Workmanship, and Service Second to None."

Smith, of rural Danville, Iowa, has been with CANCO since 1998, when he graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in construction engineering. He was promoted from Project Manager to

the role of Vice President of Operations in 2015.

Seibert, who resides in Burlington, Iowa, joined CANCO in 1994 as a Project Manager, coming to the firm after seven years with a company in Springfield, Illinois. He was promoted to the position of Vice President of Operations in 1996, and to the role of President in 2007. A licensed professional engineer in Iowa and Illinois, Seibert is a 1981 graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in construction engineering. He earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Illinois-Springfield, in 1987.

"Leading the fine people of CANCO since 2007 has been an honor and would not have been possible without your support," Seibert said in an email to employees announcing the transition.

He will continue with the company as chairman, and serve in the role of project executive on CANCO's industrial, commercial and institutional projects.

Culp, a resident of Fort Madison, Iowa, started with CANCO in 1995 after earning a degree in construction engineering from Iowa State University in 1989, and six years of experience with firms in Dallas and Indianapolis. Beginning in the role of Project Manager, Culp was promoted to Director of Business Development in 2011. As Vice President of Operations (Burlington), he will take over responsibility for project management, estimating, and Nelson Design, Inc., the firm's in-house design arm, while retaining responsibility for marketing and business development.

City goes with different engineer for road project

CITY - Continued from Page 1

Varley announced his resignation from the post on March 29. It was effective May 2.

Varley didn't give specifics on the reason he left the post, but said it was just time to step away.

Mohrfeld didn't set a timeline on getting a person in place to fill the position, which carried a salary of about \$126,000.

The council will meet again on June 6 with an earlier start time to allow for the meeting, the work session for hiring the new city manager, and an appointment to the Council's 5th ward to replace former councilman Chad Cangas.

In other action, the council:

- approved budget amendments for the 2022-23 fiscal year. Total expenditures budgeted were \$36.4 million and, after the amendments, those expenses totaled \$47.3 million. Additional revenues in transfers totaled \$7.28 million leaving a fund balance on June 30, 2023 of \$12.73 million, down from the

original budgeted ending balance of \$14.07 million.


- approved an engineering agreement with French-Reneker Associates of Fairfield for design services for Phase 4 of the PORT trail.

- approved an engineering agreement with Warner Engineering Associates Inc. of Mt. Pleasant for design and construction engineering services for the upcoming Avenue L 20th to 30th Street Roadway Rehabilitation Project.

- approved a contract with Parkview Veterinary Clinic for animal impound services at a cost of \$22,200 per year. The fee represents a 34.5% increase over the previous year, but the city has not seen an increase in that vendor fee for 29 years. The new contract is for three years.

- approved the appointments of Jamie Carle and Richard Thele to the Fort Madison Housing Authority.


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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
AGENDA
FORT MADISON
PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Thursday, May 18, 2023
5:30 P.M.
Sheaffer Meeting Room
and Online**

Optional Electronic Meeting
The option of attending the meeting electronically is being offered. You can participate in the meeting via telephone and can comment on an agenda item by joining the Zoom meeting. Using your telephone, dial (312) 626 6799 and enter the meeting ID (828 1506 8281) when prompted. If

you have trouble connecting to the meeting, please call (319) 372-5721.

- I. Excused absences
- II. Approval of Agenda –
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of minutes
 - a. Meeting April 20
 - V. Approval of the Bills
 - VI. Correspondence
 - VII. Director’s Report
 - a. Financial
 - b. Personnel
 - c. Programming
 - d. Collection Development
 - e. Operations
 - f. Facilities
 - g. Professional
 - VIII. Unfinished Business
 - a. Possible action on library cameras and key card access system after

presentation by the two companies with the lowest estimates.

- IX. New Business
 - a. Election of Officers
 - b. Review Credit Card Policy
 - c. Review Building Maintenance Fund Policy
- Next Meeting June 15, 2023

**PUBLIC NOTICE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
CENTRAL LEE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
DONNELLSON, IOWA
52625
DISTRICT OFFICE
SPECIAL MEETING
May 17, 2023
GUESTS MAY JOIN**

VIA ZOOM
(<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87168898534?pwd=bHIOMVJ0ajB-VWlFXbStsUE1aWll-2dz09>)
7:30AM.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call
2. Contract Approvals (Effective 2023-2024): (Motion)
 - a) Amanda Schinstock - High School Special Education Teacher
3. Adjourn

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES OF THE
BURLINGTON, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL**

**WORK SESSION
April 10, 2023**

The Burlington City Council met in an informal work session at 4:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall with Mayor Billups, Council Members Critser, Graham-Murray, Maupin and Wilson present. Items discussed at the informal work session are listed on the work session agenda on file in the office of the City Clerk. No action was taken. Adjournment: 5:53 p.m. Approved: April 17, 2023 Chad Bird, City Manager Jon D. Billups, Mayor

**CITY COUNCIL WORK
SESSION AGENDA
Monday, April 10, 2023,
4:30 p.m.,
Thomas J. Smith
Council Chambers,
City Hall,
400 Washington Street**

- A. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
1. Creation of Homelessness Task Force
 2. Klein Building, 2910 Madison Avenue
 3. Dankwardt Park Playground Update - Eric Tysland
 4. Board & Commission Reports
- B. PROPOSED REGULAR AGENDA: for April 17, 2023 (RM32) APRIL 17, 2023 - 4:30

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

PM - CITIZEN'S ACADEMY - Q&A WITH CITY COUNCIL

1. Congratulations to the Graduates of the 6th Annual Citizen's City Academy

2. PROCLAMATIONS:
* Crime Victims' Rights Week - Sgt. Chad Zahn
* Earth Day - Eric Tysland

* Library Week - Brittan Jacobs

* Poetry Month - Brittan Jacobs

3. Public Hearing, Consideration of Consolidated Transit Grant Application

4. Public Hearing, Consideration of Plans and Specifications for the 2023 HMA Street Resurfacing Project

5. Public Hearing, Consideration of Sale of Property Locally Known as 415 South 5th Street, City of Burlington, Iowa with Conditions

6. Public Hearing, Consideration of Sale of Property Locally Known as 1209 Stowe Street, Burlington, Iowa with Conditions

7. Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the Second Reading of an Ordinance Vacating an Ingress Egress Easement Located within the Great River Subdivision

8. Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Various Sections of Chapter 170 Zoning Code of the City of Burlington Municipal Code

9. Resolution Approving a Bond Purchase Agreement for the Sale of General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, Series 2023A

C. PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA: for April 17, 2023 (RM32)

1. Resolution Approving Nuisance Abatement for Various Properties

2. Resolution Amending Septic Haulers Fees Effective July 1, 2023

3. Resolution Establishing Solid Waste Fees Effective July 1, 2023

4. Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between the Burlington Police Department and the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force

5. Resolution Approving an Agreement with Helms and Associates for Mussel

Monitoring

6. Resolution Authorizing a Contract Between the City of Burlington and the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission for Technical Services for the Housing Upper Story Conversion Grant Through IEDA, CDBG Program

7. Set Date for Public Hearing: May 1, 2023
a. Consideration of Sale of Property Locally Known as 710 South 10th Street, Burlington, Iowa with Conditions

D. FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Fire Department Annual Report (April 24th)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Minutes for the Lee County Conservation Board Meeting
April 11, 2023
Lee County Conservation Center
2652 Hwy61
Montrose, IA 52639

1. Called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll call: Alton x Pollpeter x Moore x Patrick x Benjamin x
Staff Present: Huebner, Oldfield, Jacobs, Steele, Risser Supervisor: Holmes

2. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Pollpeter to approve the meeting agenda.

2nd: Alton
Motion Carried

3. Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2023

Motion by Alton to approve the minutes

2nd: Pollpeter
Motion Carried

4. Public Input
None

5. New Board Member Oath

Emily Benjamin sworn in by Lee County Auditor Officer, Kimberty Spear

6. Approval of Bills

Alton inquired about the purchase of chairs for the cabins and Oldfield responded that the new chairs (2) were purchased to replace broken ones at the cabin.

Motion by Alton to approve the bills

2nd: Pollpeter
Motion Carried

7. Approval of Financial Report

Huebner stated that the financial report percentages appear low compared to where we are at in the fiscal year. This is due to money not coming out for the skid loader, trail, or concrete project, which are all spring projects. Those funds should be coming out in the next month or so. Motion by Alton to approve the financial report

2nd: Pollpeter
Motion Carried

8. Discuss and Take Action on Season Hire #1

Alton asking about the seasonals that would be hired and what their duties would be and Huebner replied and explained that one seasonal (Logan Hasak) would be full time in the field while Jackson Van Hamme and Christian Vincent would split time between the field and beach concessionaire. Motion by Pollpeter to hire seasonal #1 Christian Vincent

2nd: Alton
Motion Carried

9. Discuss and Take Action on Season Hire #2

Motion by Alton to hire seasonal #2 Logan Hasak

2nd: Pollpeter
Motion Carried

10. Discuss and Take Action on Season Hire #3

Motion by Pollpeter to hire seasonal #3 Jackson Van Hamme

2nd: Alton

Motion Carried

11. Discuss and Take Action on Step Increase-Park Ranger and Conservation Tech

Motion by Pollpeter to approve step increases

2nd: Alton

12. Discuss and Take Action on Updated FY24 Budget

Huebner explained updated budget with revised wages at 3.5% increase instead of a 7% wage increase and the removal of the IT line item in the budget. Holmes stated that IT costs have been removed from all budget, but the same services are still available. Huebner also stated that power costs have gone up and that the budgeted amount for the new truck went down roughly by \$10,000. Huebner also explained the use for the \$50,000 for Denning to come out of the trust for tree removal and a possible culvert. Pollpeter asked about gravel for the parking lot and drive at Denning conservation area and Huebner agreed that gravel would also come out of this line item. Holmes asked about Denning trust money and Huebner stated that it is from rental money from Denning and that it must get spend back at that location. Huebner also stated that \$35,000 for Wilson Lake would be put towards the new pond construction.

Motion by Alton to approve the updated FY24 Budget

2nd: Pollpeter

Motion Carried

13. Staff and Director Reports

Steele stated that they have had 5 field trips so far this season along with 7 public programs. Steele gave updates on future birding outings and ideas for new programs and mentioned his upcoming hikes including one coming up at Shimek state forest.

Oldfield gave the parks report with 15 walk up camping nights along with 22 cabin rental nights. Oldfield spoke on the addition of 10 new concreted campsites with 6 new being put in at Pollmiller along with 4 new sites being put in at Chatfield. Oldfield also gave an update on the spring trout release at Wilson Lake. Alton asked about trout release numbers and future release schedules. Patrick asked about future releases. Oldfield replied that the DNR will be changing from a spring and fall release at Wilson lake to possibly only a fall release.

Huebner stated that there was 251 people for the prairie egg hunt and Heron Bend and thought the changes to the schedule for the even went well and mentioned the sponsor of the event (TLC Associates). Huebner also mentioned that this Saturday there will be a Hunters Education class at Heron Bend along with an earth day volunteer day on April 22nd that will take place at Heron Bend and Wilson Lake. Hueb-

ner stated that the projects will include staining, tree planting, clean up, and more. Huebner went on to discuss a planting day for purple cone flower and swamp milkweed that will be coming up in the future and mention the May 6th fishing clinic at Chatfield and the Clark dedication that same day along with the June 10th ribbon cutting for the Wilson Lake playground. Huebner states that EE will also have their hike a park series and summer camps coming up.

14. Board Member Comments

Pollpeter asked about parking lot at Denning. Huebner stated that it will come out of trust money for Denning. Alton brought up EE helping with parties and the possibility of guiding private trips.

Steele replied that he had thought of this, but didn't know if the staff could meet the demand. Patrick asked about possible maps for locations trails and activities to be done in parks with a possible use of QR codes. Huebner mentions having scavenger hunts and other activities in parks. Alton agrees that maps are needed.

15. Adjournment

Motion by Pollpeter to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 pm.

2nd: Alton
Motion Carried

Richard Moore, LCCB President

Heather Huebner, LCCB Director

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From the Front

Transparency needed in public school staff investigations

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

the accusations.

School officials claimed they were not required to make public any of those details because Hodges submitted what they insisted was a voluntary resignation.

Our interest in the Centerville case is not motivated by some prurient interest in the details of what he is accused of engaging in with more than just one female student. Our concerns come from a belief residents of the Centerville district, the people who pay the taxes and sent their kids and grandkids to the schools there, deserve to know what went on at Centerville High School.

They deserve to know how their elected school board and the district's administrators responded to the allegations brought to their attention by female students during the two-month investigation. The public deserves to know what outside investigators learned about allegations of predatory behavior by Hodges.

They deserve to know why, after Hodges had been on administrative leave for two months, he

was allowed to depart without any "documented reasons and rationale" being made public about the sudden end of his employment, a disclosure the Branstad-era amendment added to the public records law.

They deserve to know why, if the allegations against Hodges were baseless, he was not allowed to return to work with his name cleared. They deserve to know why, if the allegations against Hodges were true, the school board did not begin the firing process. After all, the taxpayers had been continuing to pay his full salary and provide insurance for the two months he was not allowed to work during the investigation.

And equally important, potential future employers deserve to know what baggage Hodges might bring to a new school district after being accused of violating parental trust — and possibly Iowa law, too.

Such baggage has not always been easily knowable for prospective employers, or the public. Consider the case of Cody LaKose.

He was arrested in March at Regina High School in Iowa City, where he was a teacher. The criminal

charges involve allegations, backed up with cell-phone text messages, that LaKose groomed and then had an ongoing sexual relationship with an underage female student at Central DeWitt High School in 2017.

LaKose taught there from 2010 until December 2018, when he abruptly resigned in the middle of his contract. He and the Central DeWitt district signed an agreement to resolve "all issues arising out of LaKose's employment with the district."

Just as with Ryan Hodges in Centerville, Central DeWitt officials never provided details about LaKose's conduct or what those issues were.

Instead, Central DeWitt continued to pay LaKose and provide him with insurance benefits for the remainder of the school year. The district also agreed to provide him with "mutually agreeable letters of reference" he could present to prospective employers.

The Central DeWitt district did not report his sudden resignation, or the background leading to it, to the Iowa teaching licensing board. Having a license in good standing — and the absence of transparency about his departure — allowed LaKose to obtain teaching jobs in the Cedar Rapids schools and then at Regina High School.

The opaqueness about LaKose's departure shows what can occur when secrecy wins out over transparency — and when school officials are more concerned about getting a problem employee out of their district and less concerned about the potential for the person committing misconduct somewhere else in the future.

A footnote to the LaKose case should outrage parents everywhere:

While Central DeWitt Superintendent Dan Peterson insisted he could not say what LaKose did that led to his resignation, after LaKose's arrest in Iowa City Peterson posted the criminal complaint filed against the former employee on the school district's website. That posting included the name of the girl who went to police last year when she was worried LaKose might try to take advantage of students in another district the way he took advantage of her.

It is hard to understand why the superintendent chose to share that detail. But it should not be hard to understand why there is a need for more transparency about resignations that are not strictly voluntary.

Randy Evans can be reached at DMRevans2810@gmail.com.

Lee County Health Department

May COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Schedule

Who Qualifies for a Bivalent vaccine?

- If you haven't received ANY COVID vaccines
- If you haven't receive ANY COVID boosters
- If you are 65+ and it has been FOUR months since your last vaccine
- If you are severely immunocompromised and it has been FOUR months since your last vaccine

Moderna Bivalent and Pfizer Bivalent will be available

Pediatric Clinics 6-months-11 years old
Appointments Required. Call 319-376-4767 to schedule

Trinity United Methodist Church
Thursday, May 11, 2023
12:00pm-1:00pm

Lee County Health Department
Thursday, May 25, 2023
12:00pm-1:00pm

Clinics for those 12 years and older

Donnellson Public Library
Monday, May 8, 2023
12:00pm-2:00pm


Keokuk Public Library
Monday, May 15, 2023
1:00pm-3:00pm

Montrose Public Library
Wednesday, May 17, 2023
10:00am-11:30am

West Point Public Library
Thursday, May 18, 2023
2:00pm-3:30pm

Lee County Health Department
Monday, May 22, 2023
2:00pm-4:00pm

Fort Madison Food Pantry
Wednesday, May 24, 2023
10:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-3:00pm



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JUNE 2, 3, 4, 2023

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Town Wide Yard Sales 8 a.m.
Live Music in shelter house 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

by Jefferson Connection

SATURDAY

Breakfast at Fire Station by Fire auxillary 7:30 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.
Town Wide Yard Sales 8 a.m.
Flag Raising by Boy Scouts 9 a.m.
Sidewalk Chalk Drawing Contest 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Custom Cars & Pickups 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Tractor Parade 1 p.m.
Silver Steppers 2:30 p.m.
Pedal Tractor Pulls 3 p.m.
Live Auction 4 p.m.
Live Music in shelter house 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

by Jive Radio

SUNDAY

Breakfast at Church 7:30 a.m.
Church in the Park 10 a.m.
Ham Ball Dinner at Church 11 a.m.
Live Music in shelter house by
Brenden Tapp 11 a.m.
Cornhole Tournament by River City Baggers 11 a.m.
Tractor Parade 1 p.m.

General Information
319-470-3805
Vendor Information
Call 319-470-0050
319-470-8670
Car Show
319-759-4331

LIKE US ON
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DAILY ACTIVITIES

Homemade Ice Cream
Book Sale
Horse Drawn Wagon
Rides
Flea Market

WWW.DENMARKHERITAGEDAY.COM

TUNNEL TO TOWERS

5K



RUN & WALK



DONNELSON, IA



RUN. WALK. HONOR.

TUESDAY,
JULY 4

RACE STARTS AT 7:30AM

DONNELSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

616 N. Main Street
Donnellson, IA 52625

donnellson@t2t.org



FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION,
VISIT US AT T2T.ORG



@TUNNEL2TOWERS #T2TRUN