

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Wednesday, July 19, 2023 | 7 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 124



www.pencitycurrent.com

PACT Act deadline nears

DEADLINE: County official says all veterans should inquire before Aug. 9

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – The Veterans' Affairs office in Lee County has seen a marked resurgence since former Deputy Auditor Nikki Sugars took over, but a new law aimed at helping veterans get needed medical help is now the focus of the office

Sugars said the PACT Act is drawing new lines on what the Veterans' Administration considers a presumptive condition, among others is Agent Orange.

The Act was signed into law by President Joe Biden on Aug. 10, 2022 and expands health care and benefits for Vietnam-era Veterans.

Those who served in the Republic of Vietnam from Jan. 9, 1962-May 7, 1975, Thailand from Jan. 9, 1962- June 30, 1976, Guam or American Samoa from Jan. 9, 1962-July 31, 1980, Laos from Dec. 1, 1965-Sept. 30, 1969, Cambodia from April 16, 1969-April 30, 1969 or the Johnston Atoll, from Jan. 1, 1972-Sept. 30, 1977

See PACT ACT, page 7



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Construction work continues on the Fort Madison High School, which will be a 7-12 grade facility starting with the 2024 school year. Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater gave an update Monday during the FMCS D School Board meeting saying construction was about 57% complete.

RANDY EVANS

Government goes astray in blocking employee legislation

One of the photographs of my father that I clearly remember appeared on the pages of the Bloomfield Democrat about 60 years ago.

Pop was standing chest-deep in a hole that had been hastily dug in the street on the Bloomfield city square. His face was grim. There was urgent work to be done,

because much of Bloomfield was without water.

An underground main had broken a block from the city's water tower. Water was gushing into the street and flooding basements of nearby businesses.

There, in that hole with water pooled at his ankles, Pop shoveled muck and mud to expose the leaking pipe so it could be

repaired.

In contrast with my dad, I had a soft working life. I spent much of my career in an air-conditioned office. The old photo shows Pop was not so lucky. He was a working stiff for the City of Bloomfield water department, wielding a shovel or hanging

See EVANS, page 2

HTC NEWS

Holy Trinity taps Gendron to fill post

Sales, training veteran takes over development at HTC Foundation Board

PCC Staff

FORT MADISON - The Holy Trinity Catholic Schools Foundation Board is excited to announce the hiring of Thomas Gendron as Director of Development. Gendron brings a wealth of experience in building trusting relationships through his professional roles in training and development, management, and sales.

"We're thrilled with the passion and energy Tom will bring to his new role," says Foundation Board President, Justin Pieper.

"Our school community is extremely fortunate that he has chosen to devote himself to strengthening the relationships between our alumni and their educational heritage, while also working within our region to be a champion for the importance of sustainable access to faith-based education."

Gendron said he's honored to serve the system.

"When the board approached me for this opportunity, I quickly felt called to serve our community. Holy Trinity Catholic Schools has held a special place in my heart, and I'm honored to work towards helping to ensure that future generations will be able to thrive while experiencing the values of Catholic education."

Tom currently resides in Donnellson with his wife, Lisa, who has been a high school science teacher at Holy Trinity, and previously Marquette, for a total of 30 years. You may reach Tom via phone, at (319) 470-3194, or email, at tom.gendron@holyltrinity-schools.org.



GENDRON

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WEATHER

WED 19 Jul Mostly sunny & warm, 83° F/ 66° F
THU 20 Jul Sunny & warm, 85° F/ 61° F
FRI 21 Jul Sunny & warm, 81° F/ 61° F

OpenWeatherMap

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 07/17.....25 28 29 40 51, Star Ball: 10 All Star Bonus: 4
LUCKY FOR LIFE 07/17.....2 4 17 30 45, Lucky Ball: 12
PICK 3 07/17 MIDDAY.....0 13
PICK 3 07/17 EVENING.....2 8 2
PICK 4 07/17 MIDDAY.....2 4 6 2
PICK 4 07/17 EVENING.....5 13 7
POWERBALL 07/17.....5 8 9 17 41, Powerball: 21 Power Play: 4

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Lee County News/From the Front

Task Force gets Keokuk man on meth charges

LEE COUNTY - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of Keokuk man on felony and misdemeanor drug charges.

Jason Michael Dye, age 44, of Keokuk, is charged with: Delivery of more than 5 grams of methamphetamine, a class B Felony, Drug tax stamp violation, a class D Felony, Possession of methamphetamine, Serious Misdemeanor, and Possession of drug paraphernalia, a Simple Misdemeanor.

The charges came after an investigation in which Dye is alleged to have been distributing methamphetamine in the Lee County area. Dye was found in possession of controlled substances and drug paraphernalia upon his arrest.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force was assisted by the Lee County Attorney's Office and the Keokuk Police Department.

The defendant in this case is presumed innocent until proven guilty. The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.



DYE

Texas setting up employees for disaster

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

onto a jackhammer, before later moving up to operate the city's water treatment plant.

His work days ranged from freezing, to sweltering, to all manner of conditions in between. He usually could take time for a few gulps of water from a jug during scorchers or for some hot coffee from a Thermos when he needed to thaw out.

But in Texas, not all working stiffs are not as fortunate as Pop was. We have the Texas Legislature and Gov. Greg Abbott to thank for that.

Summers are getting hotter — much hotter — and these severe heat waves are expected to occur more frequently.

Scientists tell us the Earth experienced its hottest June in history. Across a large swath of the South, from California to Florida, people have endured a string of days with temperatures over 100 degrees. The "heat index," what scientists describe as the "feels like" temperature, has hovered around an uncomfortable 115 degrees.

In Texas, two dozen people have died from heat-related causes in recent weeks. Last year in that state, public health officials put the total number of deaths from excessive heat at 300. Nationally, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports an average of 700 people die from dangerously high heat each year.

That is why it defies common sense and public safety for Texas political leaders to enact a new law that now blocks cities and counties from adopting regulations to require business owners to provide one 10-minute break every four hours for their employees who work outside.

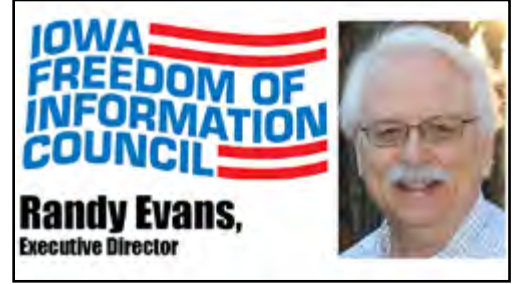
Think about the roofers, the carpenters, the landscapers, the farm workers, the delivery drivers, and those shovel-wielding people like Pop. They cannot park behind a desk while the air-conditioning holds the room at a comfy 72 degrees.

"Banning required rest breaks for construction workers in the Texas heat is deadly," the labor group Texas AFL-CIO said in a social media post.

David Cruz of LULAC, the League of United Latin American Citizens, a Latino civil rights organization, told the Guardian news site: "In the midst of a record-setting heatwave, I could not think of a worse time for this governor or any elected official who has any kind of compassion to do this."

Their comments are not hypothetical hand-wringing.

The National Weather Service warned people in recent weeks, "Oppressive and persistent heat will become increasingly dangerous and potentially deadly in south and south-central Texas, especially to people repeatedly exposed for long durations. Many locations in those parts of Tex-



Randy Evans, Executive Director

as have already experienced a yearly record number of hours of dangerously high heat

index readings."

A 35-year-old utility lineman died from apparent heat-related complications after working all day in 100-degree heat while restoring storm-damaged electrical service in Marshall, Texas. A 66-year-old mail carrier collapsed in a Dallas, Texas, yard while delivering mail during a day when the heat index reached 112 degrees.

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration is working on rules all employers would have to abide by to protect their workers from heat-related dangers on the job. But such regulations are still more than a year away.

There has always been debate over the role government should take in regulating workplace safety, motor vehicle safety and water quality. These regulations, though controversial with some, have been embraced by lawmakers and administrators because they serve the greater good.

It should be the same for accommodations to protect workers during times of extreme heat.

Advocates for restricting local governments' regulatory powers defended the new Texas law. They said it eliminates a "hodgepodge of onerous and burdensome regulations" on businesses.

Of course, what the advocates do not address are a couple of hard-to-ignore details:

One way to eliminate the burdensome hodgepodge would have been for lawmakers to enact a statewide requirement for the 10-minute breaks. It's also worth noting that a statewide law would have had zero effect on employers who were already voluntarily providing regular time for outdoor workers to seek shade and drink water.

Cruz, the LULAC official, said the local regulations lawmakers struck down had minimal cost for Texas businesses: 20 minutes per day to protect their employees from serious injury or death.

"We have to take a stand for what is humane," he told reporters.

The New Republic magazine was not so polite. Its article on the new Texas law carried this headline: "Texas GOP Offers Workers the Freedom to Boil Alive."

Randy Evans can be reached at DMRevs2810@gmail.com.

Got a news tip?
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PEN CITY CURRENT
It's Black & White and Read all over

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Obituaries/Scene Around Town



Courtesy image

Pen City Cruisers raised funds through their 50/50 raffles and silent auctions at their car shows to donate to Fort Madison Community School District family lunch accounts. Three of these donators are Fort Madison Alumni. We want to thank them for their donation and generosity. Pictured are (L-R): Member Ron Tanner, Member Chad Schneider, FM Food Service director Tiffany Fullhart, Member Kim Krogmeier, and Member Jess Weiler.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

07/17/23 - 12:21 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to the report of larceny/theft in the 300 block of 6th Street.

07/17/23 - 3:32 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Lance Allen Blair, 31, of Fort Madison, in the 4500 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving while license denied/revoked - OWI.

07/17/23 - 3:53 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to the report of vandalism in the 800 block of Avenue E.

07/17/23 - 7:09 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to the report of a burglary in the

4600 block of Avenue J.

Lee County Sheriff Report

07/17/23 - 10:02 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Randy Allen Davis, 60, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

07/17/23 - 10:15 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Kory Lee Wade, 43, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Fort Madison

Fire & Rescue Report

07/15/23 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to six medical calls, three fire alarms, and one motor vehicle collision.

07/16/23 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to five medical calls, one lift assist, and one fire alarm

07/17/23 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to five medical calls.

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

OBITUARIES

ALBERT C. CAMPBELL

Albert "Al" Carl Campbell, 80, of Hamilton, IL, died Sunday, July 16, 2023 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL.

He was born October 23, 1942 in Waterloo, NE the son of Willard and Vance Denission Campbell.



CAMPBELL

On July 21, 1967 Al was united in marriage to Susan J. Zetterman. They would have celebrated fifty-six years together this summer.

Al graduated from Midland Lutheran College in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts in education. He taught 7th and 8th grade science in the Fort Madison school district for more than twenty years and was named Teacher of the Year in 1983. He retired from the school district in 1999. In addition to teaching, Al spent many summers painting houses in the Keokuk area.

Al was a member of the Keokuk Yacht Club, Southside Boat Club and was on the Hickory Grove Cemetery Board of Directors.

Al was an avid Nebraska Cornhuskers fan. He enjoyed his garden and loved growing tomatoes and sharing them with his friends. Al also enjoyed playing cards with his neighbors, driving his convertible and you could always catch him at the Southside around 4 p.m.

Al was a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather. He enjoyed life and loved sharing family meals and gatherings with close friends and family.

He is survived by his two children, Laura (Matt) Rockey of Island Lake, IL and Matt (Kelly) Campbell of Keokuk, four grandsons, Ryan and Gavin Rockey and Sullivan and Reese Campbell. He is also survived by several brothers and sisters-in-law and many nieces and nephews.

Al was preceded in death by his loving wife, Susan, on December 13, 2018, his parents and two brothers.

A Gathering of Remembrance will be held from 2-4 p.m., Saturday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with the family meeting with friends at that time. Following the service friends are invited to join the family for a celebration of Al's life at the Southside Boat Club in Keokuk.

A private family burial will be held Sunday at the Hickory Grove Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to PAW Animal Shelter or to the Hickory Grove Cemetery.

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

Lunch Specials
July 17-21
11am - 1pm



Monday, July 17
 Tenderloin, French Fries, Pudding

Tuesday, July 18
 Chicken Fajitas, Rice, Corn & Black Bean Salad

Wednesday, July 19
 Tater Tot Casserole, Applesauce

Thursday, July 20
 Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, July 21
 Lunch on the Sidewalk

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— OPEN HOUSE —

Wednesday July 19th

4:30—6:30 pm

New Construction Homes



**1 Green Oak Court
Fort Madison, IA**



**236 Ave E
Fort Madison, IA**



- **3 Bedroom—2 Full Bath—2 Gar Garage**
- **Finished 9ft Basement**
- **New Maytag Appliances Included**

Price: \$242,000



- **3 Bedroom—2 Full Bath**
- **Finished 9ft Basement**
- **New Maytag Appliances Included**

• Price:\$198,000

Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject to change as finalized by the City Clerk. For a final official copy, contact the City Clerk's office at (319) 753-8124.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BURLINGTON, IOWA CITY COUNCIL Meeting No. 35 June 5, 2023

The Burlington City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall, 400 Washington Street, with Mayor Billups, Council Members Critser, Graham-Murray and Maupin present. Council Member Wilson was absent.

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

PROCLAMATION:
* Reflections of Resilience Day - Tristan Kilpatrick

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: Dean Phenise of 2117 Northern Drive thanked the City Council for doing a good job. Rev. Fred Starling of 517 South 7th Street invited the City Council and members of the public to the Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 17,

2023 at DeEdwin and Gladys White Memorial Park. LaVonna Ben-namon of 501 Division Street stated that she was excited for the attention that the event is receiving and that the citizens were coming together. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

CONSENT AGENDA:
To the Public:

All matters listed under Item I., Consent Agenda, having been discussed were considered to be routine by the City Council and were enacted by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items. If discussion was desired, that item was removed from the Consent Agenda and was considered separately.

Introduced By: Maupin
Seconded By: Billups
MOTION: To approve all items listed under Item I., Consent Agenda.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Billups reviewed the items listed on the consent agenda to the viewing audience. He announced those individuals appointed to various City commissions and boards. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing

additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.
(VOTE: 4 - "AYES")

CARRIED HEARINGS:

1. Statement: Consideration of Sale of Property Locally Known as 1013 South 13th Street, Burlington, Iowa with Conditions

COMMENTS: Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that 1013 South 13th Street is a vacant lot that the City owns. He stated that a bid was received from the property owner to the north. He stated that Elle Fisher has submitted a bid for \$500.00 to expand her lot size. Mark Walz 1018 South 14th Street asked what the time frame would be for building on the lot. Tysland stated that the conditions of the sale include building on the lot or combining it with an adjacent lot. He stated that the bid was received from the adjacent property owner to expand her lot. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Maupin
Seconded By: Critser
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Maupin
Seconded By: Critser
Resolution Approving Sale of Property Locally Known as 1013 South 13th Street, Burlington, Iowa with Conditions
DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 4 - "AYES")

ADOPTED

2. Statement: Consideration of an Ordinance Rezoning the Property Locally Known as 2900 Division Street from R-2 Single-Family Residential (Transitional) to C-1 Limited Commercial Zoning District

COMMENTS: Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that the City Planning Commission held a public hearing on May 2, 2023 regarding the rezoning of the property at 2900 Division Street. He stated that the commission voted (7-0) to recommend approval of the requested rezoning. He stated that the recommendation was based on the current and planned uses for the property, location adjacent to existing limited commercial zoning district and access to the sites from the primary street (Division Street). He stated that it is recommended

to modify the Future Land Use Map designation of the Comprehensive Plan to Neighborhood Mixed Use (NMU) as a part of this rezoning. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Maupin
Seconded By: Critser
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Maupin
Seconded By: Graham-Murray

Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the First Reading of an Ordinance Rezoning the Property Locally Known as 2900 Division Street from R-2 Single-Family Residential (Transitional) to C-1 Limited Commercial Zoning District

DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 4 - "AYES")

CARRIED
3. Statement: Consideration of an Ordinance Rezoning the Property Locally Known as 504 South Adams Street from R-2 Single-Family Residential (Transitional) to C-1 Limited Commercial Zoning District

COMMENTS: Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that the City Planning Commission held a public hearing on May 2, 2023 regarding the rezoning of the property at 504 South Adams Street. He stated that the commission voted (6-1) to recommend approval of the requested rezoning. He stated that the recommendation was based on the historical and current use of the property as limited commercial, location near other existing limited commercial zoning districts, minimal impact on neighboring residential properties based on the past use of the property and based on the Future Land Use Map designation of the Comprehensive Plan as Neighborhood Mixed Use. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Graham-Murray
Seconded By: Maupin
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Graham-Murray
Seconded By: Maupin
Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the First Reading of an Ordinance Rezoning the Property Locally Known as 504

South Adams Street from R-2 Single-Family Residential (Transitional) to C-1 Limited Commercial Zoning District

DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 4 - "AYES")

CARRIED
4. Statement: Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Section 5. Land Use / Design Requirements of Ordinance No. 3360, Burlington Crossing PUD

COMMENTS: Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that the property is located North of Market Street between Columbus Drive and Legacy Drive where Uptown Village Apartments are currently being constructed. He stated that the City Planning Commission held a public hearing on May 2, 2023 and reviewed the requested PUD amendment. He stated that the commission voted (7-0) to recommend approval of the PUD amendment based on the request of the developer, continuity with surrounding land regulations, and conformance to the provisions of the Zoning Code. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Critser
Seconded By: Graham-Murray
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Critser
Seconded By: Graham-Murray
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Critser
Seconded By: Graham-Murray
Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the First Reading of an Ordinance Amending Section 5. Land Use / Design Requirements of Ordinance No. 3360, Burlington Crossing PUD

DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 4 - "AYES")

CARRIED
5. Statement: Consideration of a Proposal to Enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement and to Borrow Money Thereunder in a Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$1,342,034

COMMENTS: Chad Bird, City Manager, stated that the City is proposing to borrow money and enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement with the Iowa Finance Authority and will issue in accordance therewith Sewer Revenue Bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$1,342,034 to provide funds to pay the costs of

planning, designing and constructing improvements and extensions to the Municipal Sanitary Sewer System project. He stated that the SRF program has 0% interest primarily for planning and design engineering work. Nick MacGregor, Assistant City Manager for Public Works, stated that the project is the Mississippi River Interceptor Relocation project. He stated that the project will relocate the line that runs along the bluff and located sometimes underneath the river into or around Main Street. He stated that this first portion will cover the consultants to do the environmental work, survey work, hydraulic studies and analysis. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Critser
Seconded By: Graham-Murray
Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Critser
Seconded By: Graham-Murray

Resolution Taking Additional Action with Respect to a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement and Authorizing, Approving and Securing the Payment of a \$1,342,034 Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement Anticipation Project Note (IFA Interim Loan and Disbursement Agreement)

DISCUSSION: None.
(VOTE: 4 - "AYES")

ADOPTED
RESOLUTION:
Introduced By: Critser
Seconded By: Graham-Murray

1. Resolution Authorizing the Filing of a Grant Amendment with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning for STBG Funds for the 2023 Madison Avenue and 9th Street Paving Project STBG-SWAP-0977(656)-SG-29

DISCUSSION: Nick MacGregor, Assistant City Manager for Public Works, stated that the resolution will approve an amendment to the Madison Avenue and 9th Street Paving Project. He stated that the amendment would request for a material change of the northern part of the project between Angular Street and South Street from concrete to asphalt. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the

HELP WANTED

WATER TREATMENT PLANT FULL-TIME OPERATOR

GENERAL PURPOSE

Operates and repairs all pumps and appurtenances necessary to produce high quality and adequate quantity of water to meet system demands. Performs routine maintenance on equipment, collects and analyzes water samples, and completes inspections.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:
1. Graduation from high school diploma or GED equivalent
2. Valid Iowa driver's license
3. Obtain a Grade II Water Treatment License in the State of Iowa
4. Ability to perform basic laboratory analyses

Apply at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA or email applications to jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com by Friday, July 21, 2023.

Applications can be found on the city website at www.fortmadison-ia.com



WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FULL-TIME LABORATORY TECHNICIAN/OPERATOR

GENERAL PURPOSE

Performs routine laboratory work analyzing wastewater and sludge samples. Maintains the quality control program, inventory of chemicals, and monitors industrial waste for billing purposes.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:
1. Graduation from high school diploma or GED equivalent
2. Valid Iowa driver's license
3. Obtain a Grade II Wastewater Certification in the State of Iowa.
4. Certified Laboratory Assistant preferred
5. Ability to perform complex laboratory analyses

Apply at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA or email applications to jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com by Friday, July 21st.

Applications can be found on the city website at www.fortmadison-ia.com



Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

office of the City Clerk.
(VOTE: 3 - "AYES" - Billups, Critser & Graham-Murray ADOPTED 1 - "NAY" - Maupin)
Adjournment: 6:06 p.m.
Approved: June 19, 2023
Katie Music, CMC, City Clerk
Jon D. Billups, Mayor
(See recording on file in the office of the City Clerk for complete discussion and documentation.)

5:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on June 15, 2023, at 501 Main Street. Mayor Kathie Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were seven council members present, two absent. Carissa Crenshaw, Roslyn Garcia, Shelley Oltmans, Steve Andrews, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Linda Altheide and John Helenthal were absent. Staff in attendance: City Adminis-

trator Cole O'Donnell, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Public Works Director Brian Carroll, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Water Pollution Control Manager Tom Wills, and Bridge, Cemetery, Park & Sanitation Manager Bob Weis.
MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE: Informed of events taking place in and around Keokuk.
CITIZEN'S REQUEST: Deborah Letcher spoke on behalf of KARE organization reminding of events to celebrate Juneteenth and giving

thanks to all that made it possible. Lewis Huffman approached council regarding firework event at South Side Boat Club and possible fueling station. Erika Barrett addressed concerns regarding a large turbine to be stationed in Estes Park.
Motion made by Oltmans, second by Tillman to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
• Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of June 1, 2023;

• RESOLUTION NO. 241-2023: Approving a Liquor License for Casey's General Store #2595, 326 Main Street, Class E Retail Alcohol License – effective July 1, 2023 (pending fire inspection);
• RESOLUTION NO. 242-2023: Approving a Liquor License for Casey's General Store #2636, 3530 Main Street, Class E Retail Alcohol License – effective July 1, 2023 (pending fire inspection);
• RESOLUTION NO. 243-2023: Approving Ownership Update for Walmart Supercenter #1431 Liquor License;
• RESOLUTION NO. 244-2023: Approving a Liquor License for Columbia Room, temporary premise transfer of Class C Retail Alcohol License to Keokuk Catholic Schools, effective July 1-2, 2023;
• RESOLUTION NO. 245-2023: Approving Amendment to Liquor License for American Legion, add a 5-day permit to include Outdoor Service, July 5-July 9, 2023, for concert;
• RESOLUTION NO. 246-2023: Approving a Liquor License for The Bar 914, 914 Main Street, Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service – effective July 7, 2023;
• RESOLUTION NO. 247-2023: Approving a Liquor License for The Hawkeye, 105 N. Park Drive, Class C Retail Alcohol License with Catering and Outdoor Service – effective July 7, 2023;

A PURCHASING POLICY FOR THE CITY OF KEOKUK FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Garcia, second by Bryant to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 250-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM THE HOTEL/MOTEL TAX BASED ON AN AMOUNT ESTIMATED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Oltmans, second by Crenshaw to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 251-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INVESTMENT POLICY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 FOR THE CITY OF KEOKUK." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 252-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PETTY CASH AND CHANGE FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS.
Motion made by Oltmans, second by Crenshaw to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 253-2023: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVANCEMENT OF COSTS FOR AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AND CERTIFICATION OF EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE CITY FOR PAYMENT UNDER IOWA CODE SECTION 403.19." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Greenwald, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 254-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH AHLERS & COONEY, P.C." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Garcia to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 255-2023: "A RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT TO REPLACE SIDING ON RAND PARK TOOL SHED." (7) AYES, (0) AYES. Motion carried.
Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 256-2023: "A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH MB-MRE LLC D/B/A/ GREEN OAK DEVELOPMENT."

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• RESOLUTION NO. 248-2023: Approving a Cigarette Permits for July 2023- June 2024 for Dollar General;
• Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5344-5346; Motion made by Garcia, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 248-2023: "A RESOLUTION SETTING FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 SALARIES FOR PERSONNEL OF THE CITY OF KEOKUK EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.
Motion made by Oltmans, second by Garcia to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 249-2023: "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING

Public Notices/From the Front

VA office encouraging county vets to check out new law

PACT ACT - Continued from Page 1

are eligible to enroll in VA Health Care.

The act also expands eligibility for health care and benefits for veterans who participated in certain nuclear response and cleanup activities in the Enewetak Atoll from Jan. 1, 1977-Dec. 31, 1980, Palomares, Spain from Jan. 17, 1966-March 31, 1967 and Thule Greenland from Jan. 21 1968-Sept. 25, 1968.

Most of the expanded care applies to toxic exposure and includes two new Agent Orange presumptive conditions including Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) and hypertension.

PACT, or the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics, allows veterans to file and would consider the presumptive conditions to be applicable back to the date of the signing. But only until Aug. 9. After that, Sugars said any benefits will be linked to the Intent to file.

But she said don't wait because veterans will be leaving money on the table. "What it did for our Vietnam Vets was huge. It ex-

panded the areas you could have had exposure. They're calling it presumptive and if you were in those areas those given times, you had exposure to agent orange," Sugars said.

"That presumption takes one step out of our process because we don't have to prove the connection. We just have to prove they were there, and they have a current issue that's presumptive."

Younger veterans are also impacted for service in the Gulf War era and post 9/11 era. Toxic exposure can be air pollutants from burn pits, oil well fires, sulfur fire, sand and dust; chemicals such as Agent Orange or other herbicides, pesticides, contaminated water supplies, solvents; radiation; warfare agents; or occupational hazards.

"There's a deadline of Aug. 9, 2023 to make a claim to be able to go back and use the signing of the act as the date of the claim," Sugars said. "Normally we do an Intent to File and that's the date of the claim."

"Let's say you file on Aug. 9 and you're found 100% compensable. That's \$3,000 a month and it goes back a year - so \$36,000. That's a ton of money sitting there."

We want to get as much of that as we can for our vets and, in turn, for our county."

County veterans who think they may now fit this new presumptive service and are presenting with issues, are encouraged to contact the Veterans' Affairs office in either Fort Madison or Keokuk to get an "Intent to File" submitted.

"I would just encourage everyone to come in. You may have something you're not even aware is compensable and it could help," she said.

Keokuk and Fort Madison offices in the courthouses are open Monday and Thursday from 9 to 3. Fridays are currently alternating between the two cities from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This Friday, Aug. 21 will be Keokuk hours, and then Fort Madison the following Friday. You can also call in to set up an initial visit at 372-5853 in Fort Madison.

Sugars said veterans should bring in the DD2-14 which are discharge papers. She said bringing that in will allow them to get the ball rolling. From that point, it's a matter of filing the intent, gathering all the necessary information, and then a follow-up interview in the office.

PACT ACT: VIETNAM ERA VETERANS COLD WAR ERA VETERANS

The PACT Act, signed into law August 10, 2022, expands health care and benefits for Vietnam era Veterans.

PACT Act Health Care Eligibility
Veterans who served in these countries during specific time periods, are eligible to enroll in VA health care effective August 10, 2022.

Republic of Vietnam January 9, 1962 - May 7, 1975	Thailand Any U.S. or Royal Thai base January 9, 1962 - June 30, 1976
Guam or American Samoa (or in their territorial waters) January 9, 1962 - July 31, 1980	Laos December 1, 1965 - September 30, 1969
Cambodia at Mimot or Kreek, Kampong Cham Province April 16, 1969 - April 30, 1969	Johnston Atoll (or on a ship that called there) January 1, 1972 - September 30, 1977

Toxic Exposure Screenings
As a general matter, there are several types of possible exposures or hazards Veterans may have experienced during their military service, including:

- Air Pollutants
- Chemicals
- Radiation
- Warfare Agents
- Occupational Hazards

ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022: VA will begin incorporating toxic exposure screenings. Every Veteran enrolled for VA health care will receive an initial toxic exposure screening and a follow-up screening at least every five years. Eligible Veterans not enrolled. Eligible Veterans who have not enrolled will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.

PACT Act Benefits
The PACT Act adds two new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

- Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)
- High blood pressure (hypertension)

PACT Act Benefits
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- Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)
- High blood pressure (hypertension)

4 EASY WAYS TO APPLY FOR VA HEALTH CARE

- Apply online at va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction
- Call the toll-free hotline 877-222-8387 Mon - Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET
- Mail a completed, signed Application for Health Benefits VA Form 10-10EZ
- Bring a completed, signed VA Form 10-10EZ to the nearest VA Medical Center or clinic

4 EASY WAYS TO GET STARTED WITH CLAIMS

- Learn more at va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/
- Call the Benefits hotline (for specific questions) at 1-800-827-1000
- Visit a VBA Regional Office va.gov/benefits/offices.asp
- Work with an accredited VSO va.gov/opa/assess/accr/creditation/index.asp

Learn more and sign up at va.gov/PACT
Download the VA Health and Benefits App
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)
Find a VA at va.gov/find-locations/

The above flyer outlines the PACT ACT signed into law last summer. Lee County Veterans' Affairs administrator Nikki Sugars said veterans who get an intent to file in before an Aug. 9, 2023 deadline could get benefits under the law backdated to August of 2022, if they are found to have a compensable issue based on the expanded guidelines for toxic exposures.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 257-2023: "A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING AMENDMENT." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 258-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING ENCROACHMENT FOR HOTEL IOWA - KEVIN KUCHELMAN, 401 MAIN STREET." (7) AYES, (0)

NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 259-2023: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR STREET AND SIGN ASSET & DATA TRACKING SERVICES." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Crenshaw to approve resignation of Linda Altheide, 2nd Ward Councilperson. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

appointment. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS: Second notification for William Smith, John Shields, and Kimberly Farias to the Veterans Memorial Commission, 5-year term to expire 6/1/2028.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS: Garcia thanked public safety for Little League Fun Days and gave update on Oakland Cemetery Initiative 5k event; Bryant updated on Great River Regional Waste Authority.

STAFF REPORTS: Wills informed digester cleaning is complete;

Broomhall updated on software for obtaining permits online and property concerns; Carroll reported Rand Park pond is stocked with fish and new fountain installed, additionally informed of pavement issue at 3rd and Des Moines Street.

NEW BUSINESS: Garcia reminded a stop sign is needed at 21st and Des Moines Street; Tillman addressed concerns regarding Tumelty baseball park.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Bryant to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Summer Swim Lessons

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