

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 | 7 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 164



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

## County lands \$600K CDBG

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT:** IEDA informs county officials Tuesday of grant award

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC Editor

LEE COUNTY – Lee County officials were notified today that they have secured a \$600,000 Community Development Block Grant for the future Lee County Health Department/EMS facility.

The county garnered the assistance of the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission in applying for the grant more than a year ago. They were notified this morning by the Iowa Economic Development Authority that the grant had been awarded.

Lee County Supervisor Garry Seyb said it was welcome news as the board works to secure enough funding to build the \$5.5 million facility.

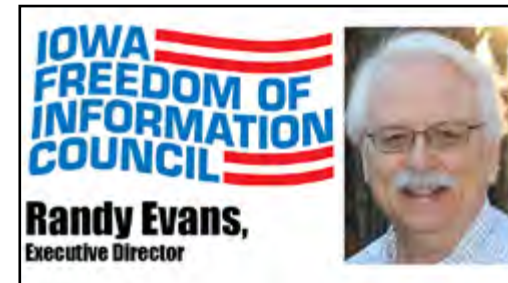
“This positions us very well for a successful outcome to something we’ve been working on for two years,” Seyb said Tuesday morning.

The grant is part of funding that will be added to the \$975,000 the county received from the USDA Rural Development office securing \$1.575 million of the needed construction costs.

The county has also been given a 7.7 acre plot of land from

See **GRANT**, page 3

### EDITORIAL



## More to service than winning elections

Back where I came from, you do not expect to have a bomb-sniffing dog circle your car when you pull into the parking lot for Sunday church services.

But that is what occurred. After the dog’s sensitive nose checked our car, a man on the front step gave us a quick once-over with his hand-held metal detector. Then an usher directed my wife, our youngest daughter and me into a pew in the second row of the sanctuary of the simple brick building with a thin spire.

Of course, until that day in April 2011 I had never been to church when a former president of the United States was teaching the Sunday School lesson. It is easy to become flummoxed — even for an editor who has conversed with presidents and quizzed many wanna-be’s — when Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter slide into the pew beside you.

Memories of that morning at Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains, Ga., the Carters’ hometown, were refreshed recently. On Sunday, the oldest former president in United States history turned 99. Three months earlier, on July 7, the Carters celebrated their 77th wedding anniversary, a distinction that surpasses any other presidential couple.

Too many of us judge our leaders simply by their political affiliations, instead of their character. We expect those who lead to solve every problem that comes along. But even people who considered Jimmy Carter’s presidency to be mediocre, at best, surely would agree his post-presidency has been outstanding.

See **EVANS**, page 7



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

### On the high seas

From left to right, Kevin Zachmeyer, Lori Amberger, and Kevin Rink stand on the Fiesta Deck of a cruise during Old Fort Players’ production of Four Old Broads On The High Seas. The production set for those 18 and older takes the stage this Friday.

### KIWANIS

## Fort Madison Kiwanis club staves off disbanding

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Kiwanis Club will go on.

The group voted Monday to hold onto the group after declining membership and lack of volunteer support prompted

the group to hold a vote on disbanding.

Joe Bowen, the most senior member of the Fort Madison social organization, pleaded with the group to persevere. The 55-year-old service group is also responsible for sponsoring the Key Club at the Fort Madison High School.

In addition to volunteer service in the

community that includes adopting Ivanhoe Park on the city’s west side, the group provides scholarships to area students and contributes funding to Spastic Paralysis, a national Kiwanis effort.

Peanut sale fundraisers and a large

See **CLUB**, page 2

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### WEATHER

WED 04 Oct...Partly sunny with chance of afternoon storms, 79° F/ 58° F  
THU 05 Oct.....Sunny and cool, 76° F/ 48° F  
FRI 06 Oct.....Mostly sunny and chilly, 59° F/ 41° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 10/02.....4 5 21 36 51, Star Ball: 3 All Star Bonus: 2  
LUCKY FOR LIFE 10/02.....9 10 21 38 46, Lucky Ball: 12  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 10/02.....5 7 5  
PICK 3 EVENING 10/02.....6 8 8  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 10/02.....3 5 7 6  
PICK 4 EVENING 10/02.....7 9 9 6  
POWERBALL 10/02.....12 26 27 43 47, Powerball: 5 Power Play: 2

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## Iowa News/From the Front

# Kiwanis to re-energize memberships

**CLUB** - Continued from Page 1

annual carnation sale effort have both been canceled in recent years as volunteers become harder and harder to find.

Outgoing president Samantha Vidal wrote in an email to the club in September that the board was to consider disbanding.

"I have some unfortunate news to report. We are below 15 active members and have been for quite some time. We have continuously demonstrated that we do not have the manpower available to keep our community commitments. Due to this, the board has decided to pursue disbanding the club. We are working with Kiwanis International to make sure protocol is followed & any remaining funds are distributed appropriately. We will have a final vote on this matter October 2nd at our noon meeting. I want to personally thank all of you for your time & commitment over the years!" Vidal wrote.

On Monday, the board didn't have the votes to reach the bylaw thresholds to disband the organization so the group's efforts will continue.

The group is considering changing the meeting day from its current Monday noon lunch meeting to a different day to possibly attract more of its members on a

regular basis and attract new membership.

The club was instrumental in helping raise funds for a new youth disc golf course in Ivanhoe Park and has taken on some needed landscaping in the park. Last summer they held a cookout in the park for residents to come experience the new disc golf course. For the past year, they've held clean-ups in the park monthly.

Other projects the group has been involved in include the Glo Run that benefitted the Test Kitchen in Fort Madison, now under the leadership of the YMCA. The group has sponsored movie days for children in the community as well as free swim days at the Fort Madison Pool.

The group meets every other week and has speakers from around the community to inform membership of happenings in the area.

The group has a rich history that includes helping bring an annual circus to the community and more than five decades of community service. They currently have 29 members listed in the membership directory with about a dozen currently active. Kevin Adams, assistant vice president at Lee County Bank, was installed as the new president with Vidal as Past President, and Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise as President Elect.

Anyone interested in joining the club can contact those individuals for more information.

# Miller-Meeks voted no on vacating Speaker's chair

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D. (R-IA) released the following statement after voting NO on the motion to vacate the chair, a procedural vote to remove the Speaker of the House:

"The motion to vacate the chair delays the House proceedings and as history shows, it diminishes any progress the majority governing body has made thus far. Importantly it risks putting the gavel in the hands of Democrat Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries. Under Speaker McCarthy's leadership, House Republicans have passed appropriations bills covering over 70% of discretionary spending and two trillion in spending cuts, passed legislation to give the largest pay raise to service members in two decades and clawed back billions from the Biden Administration's woke agenda. House Republicans have passed the strongest border security HR 1 to secure our border, stop fentanyl and human trafficking. Under Speaker McCarthy's leadership, we passed energy legislation HR 2 to lower food and fuel costs for average Americans, passed the Parents Bill of Rights, prohibiting biological boys from participating in girls' sports, ended the pause in repayment of college loans and put people to work if receiving social benefits. We worked to avoid a government shutdown. But, Matt Gaetz and his minions are single-handedly derailing our progress and eroding our ability to pass appropriation bills, hold committee hearings, investigate the Biden family corruption, issue subpoenas and work to secure the border and reduce crime. Dismantling our leadership ruins our ability to work for the American people and I now see why Matt Gaetz is referred to as Biden's favorite Republican."

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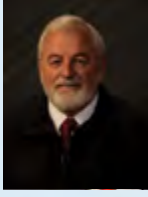
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# Obituaries/From the Front

## OBITUARIES

### CAROLYN J. BRACKENSICK

Carolyn Jane Brackensick, 92, of Niles, Michigan, formerly of Warsaw, Illinois, and Tucson, Arizona, passed away on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at Woodland Terrace in Niles, Michigan.



BRACKENSICK

Carolyn was born on November 1, 1930, in Chambersburg, Illinois, the daughter of James and Idabelle (Watkins) Crawford. On August 6, 1950, she was united in marriage to Gerald William "Jerry" Brackensick in Chambersburg, Illinois. He preceded her in death on June 8, 2001.

Carolyn graduated from Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois, and attended Gem City Business College in Quincy, Illinois. She was a teacher in Warsaw and Hamilton, Illinois, for many years until her retirement. She always stayed interested and engaged in her former student's lives. Carolyn was a devoted member of First Presbyterian Church in Warsaw and was active with all church-related events. She was a member of BPW (International Federation of Business and Professional Women) and enjoyed spending her free time reading. She enjoyed attending her grandchildren's activities from baseball games to dance recitals.

Carolyn is survived by two sons: James A. (Cindy) Brackensick and Jay W. (Nikki) Brackensick; grandchildren Hunter Brackensick, Spencer Breitenstein and Maggie (Willie) Moore; and great-grandchildren: Xander Ryder, Lane Breitenstein, Saylor Breitenstein, and Fayth Marie Moore.

Carolyn is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Gerald William "Jerry" Brackensick, her brother William Crawford, and her sister Joann Browning.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be directed to the donor's choice.

The family would like to thank the staff of Woodland Terrace Assisted Living in Niles, Michigan, for their thoughtful care for the last eight years.

Tributes and condolences may be left at [www.printyfuneralhome.com](http://www.printyfuneralhome.com).

Printy Funeral Home of Warsaw was in charge of arrangements.

## OBITUARIES

### ROBERT E. TEESDALE

Robert Eugene Teesdale, 58, of Fort Madison, Iowa, passed away at 7:00 a.m. Monday, October 2, 2023 at his home.

Robert was born March 17, 1965 in Memphis, Tennessee, the son of Robert Terry and Ruth (Kinney) Teesdale.



TEESDALE

Mr. Teesdale was a graduate in Nauvoo-Colusa High School, where he enjoyed participating in basketball and baseball. Following high school he attended Wichita Automotive & Electronics Institute in Wichita, Kansas. He worked as a welder and in construction all of his life.

He was an avid outdoorsmen and enjoyed hunting, camping and especially fishing.

Survivors include one daughter: Michelle (Sheldon) Martin of Donnellson, Iowa; his mother: Ruth Teesdale of Colusa, Illinois; four grandchildren: Mariah, Macy, Landon and Layna Martin; one nephew: Terry (Brittany) Teesdale of LaHarpe and one niece: Nichole Beach of Fort Madison.

He was preceded in death by his father and sister: Angela Ruth Kershner.

Cremation has been entrusted to Banks & Beals Funeral Home.

A visitation will be held from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. Saturday, October 14, 2023 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City, Illinois.

A memorial fund has been established for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Robert's obituary at [bank-sandbeals.com](http://bank-sandbeals.com).

#### 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.

# Officials tell Keokuk EMS building designers to look again

## GRANT - Continued from Page 1

the Glen Meller family where the former Iowan Motel used to sit on the city's west side, about ¼ mile from Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center's Fort Madison campus.

Seyb said that donation kicked off the county's project and can't be minimized against the other grants the county's been able to procure.

"The Meller donation was an amazing gift from a family that's been an important part of the county's infrastructure for years. That's what started this project and we'll never minimize that."

The county is now waiting on one other substantial funding piece in a \$2.1 million appropriation from Congress that is part of the proposed 2023 Ag funding bill. That funding was approved as part of the Ag bill at the urging of Congresswoman Mariannette Miller-Meeks

(R-IA). The funding would come from the USDA as part of the bill that provides funding for the country's agricultural infrastructure.

That bill is caught up in Congress. It wasn't part of the stop-gap funding measure that was approved last week. That measure ends before Thanksgiving and just provides funding to keep the government operational.

"We have one substantial block of funding remaining with the Miller-Meeks funding. We have a lot of confidence in receiving that, as well. This \$600,000 is significant for the Lee County Health department and EMS bay in Fort Madison, which is sorely needed," Seyb said. "This is just another thing that will build confidence in the board's decision. We're not looking at bonding for the building and, hopefully, we'll get the funds we need to get there."

The \$2.1 million congressional earmark would give the county \$3.7 million. The county also has remaining ARPA funds that have been allocated to the project and

a fund has been set up with the North Lee County Community Foundation that is securing private donations to finish off the project.

County officials were hoping to bid the project this fall, but Supervisors put that off until Congress can work its way through the budget dispute and get a budget passed so the funding was allocated. When that happens Carl A. Nelson, the project construction manager will put the project out for bid.

The county is also working on finalizing preparations for a new EMS facility in Keokuk. Property has been purchased and the county has created an urban revitalization zone where the current facility is located at 16th and Blondeau and carried an initial price tag of \$1.4 million, but county officials are asking engineers with Poepping Stone and Bach to go back to the drawing board to find savings in the building, including going from a steel structure to wood, which is what the county did to reduce costs on the health department/EMS project.



## Sports

# Crusaders sweep Central Lee in SEISC matchup

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP  
PCC Sports

DONNELSON — The chemistry of Holy Trinity's volleyball team is at its best at the most important time of the season.

October is a month that always seems to belong to the Crusaders, and they started their final push toward the postseason with a strong 25-13, 25-9, 25-9 sweep of Central Lee on Tuesday night.

The Crusaders (22-4 overall, 6-0 SEI Superconference South Division) put together one of their most consistent matches of the season.

"Tonight, it really showed how far we've come," said senior Natalie Randolph, who had seven kills and 18 assists. "The last few weeks have been good, but not great. Tonight showed how far we've come as a team, how much better we are together."

"I really think we're moving things around," said sophomore Presley Myers, who had 11 kills and five blocks in a dominating show in the middle. "We can run from the outside, we can run from the right side. I think just moving the ball around works really well."

The Crusaders were tested by Central Lee (8-23, 0-6) in the Superconference Tournament semifinals, but never let the Hawks get anything going in this match.

"Tonight, we didn't let them make big runs," Holy Trinity coach Melissa Freesmeier said. "They can do that on you. We didn't make a lot of unforced errors."

"I thought we got better tonight as a team, and this is the time of the season when you want to be doing that."

"They can move the ball around," Central Lee coach Amy Cook said. "And not many things drop on them. So they're just a good team. Historically, they're a good team."

The Crusaders showed their offensive balance. Mary Kate Bendlage and Anna Bendlage each had eight kills. Taegan Denning added three kills.

It comes, the players said, from the way they work together.

"We're so close," Myers said. "Outside volleyball, inside volleyball, we're always together. I think just being so close to each other really helps our game."

"I feel like all of us have great chemistry," Randolph said. "And it transfers onto the court."

Myers controlled the net right away, with

two kills in Holy Trinity's first three points. She also had two kills and a block early in the second set that gave the Crusaders a lead they wouldn't surrender.

"Presley is a great asset in the middle," Randolph said. "She's been clicking, we've been clicking, so it's really good."

"Her and her setters, they're clicking," Freesmeier said. "It takes a while to get in the groove. She's starting to show confidence, like everyone else on the team is. And when you've got confidence in each other, it helps."

Central Lee couldn't keep pace with the Crusaders after midway through the first set, but Cook said it was a good education for her team.

"We've had a lot of changes the last three days," she said. "I know we lost the game. But I know our girls had fun. So I'm actually pretty pleased like that."

"Holy Trinity, they're good. So playing them shows what we need to fix. So we're going to concentrate on that in practice."

The Crusaders were especially relentless on defense. Randolph, Mary Kate Bendlage and Teagan Snaadt had 11 digs. Denning had nine digs. Adalyn Kruse had two digs and four blocks. Bendlage and Denning each had a block.

Denning was 14-of-14 serving with two aces. Randolph was 16-of-17 serving with an ace. Anna Bendlage was 11-of-11 serving. Mary Kate Bendlage was 10-of-11 serving with an ace. Kruse was 6-of-7 serving with an ace. Snaadt was 7-of-8 serving, and added six assists.

Taylor Jones led Central Lee with nine kills and four blocks, and added 10 digs. Ellie Lake had 11 assists and 11 digs. Jayden Mueller had 21 digs. Lila Shepard had two kills and four digs. Kylie Fortune had three kills and a block. Brooklyn Jones had two kills and three digs. Makayla Howard had four digs. Josie Newton had five digs and two blocks.

Holy Trinity has a chance to go through the South Division undefeated in Thursday's Senior Night home match against Danville.

"It would be great to do that," Freesmeier said. "We have to show up every night in this conference, and Thursday night is no different."

"There's going to be so many emotions with Senior Night," Myers said. "People think it's an emotional, sad night. But it's really a celebration for this team."



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Holy Trinity's Presley Myers (17) attacks from the middle in Tuesday's 3-set sweep over Central Lee at the Hawks' gym. Below, Central Lee's Taylor Jones (19) tries to return the favor in the second set.



**Lunch Specials**  
**October 2-6**  
**11am - 1pm**

**Monday, October 2**  
**Chicken Fajitas, Spanish Rice**

*Tuesday, October 3*  
*Beef & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Corn*

**Wednesday, October 4**  
**Smoked Ham, Cheese Potatoes, Beans**

**Thursday, October 5**  
**Fried Chicken Dinners**

**Friday, October 6**  
**Lunch on the Sidewalk**

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
AGENDA  
KEOKUK CITY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
October 5, 2023  
501 Main Street  
5:30 P.M.**

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance:
3. Roll Call.
4. Mayor's Correspondence:
5. Citizen's Request.
6. Consent Agenda.
- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of September 21, 2023;

**HELP  
WANTED**

Lee County IT has two open IT Technician positions, one based in our Keokuk office and the other in Fort Madison.

Work involves the coordination and monitoring of the County's information technology functions including the support of in-house or third-party computer applications and management of County's LAN/WAN network; computer hardware including PCs, printers, cabling; operating systems including Windows 10, Windows 11, various versions of Windows Server, and IBM i; and the Vertical telephone system.

Successful applicants will have three or more years of relevant experience; be well organized; possess excellent communication skills; and be disciplined, ambitious, and self-motivated. The Keokuk position will be based in our South Lee County Courthouse office after appropriate amount of training in our Fort Madison office.

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The application form can be obtained online or at:

Lee County Auditor's Office  
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Please submit cover letter, resume, and completed application to [kharter@leecounty.org](mailto:kharter@leecounty.org) or:

Kevin Harter, IT Director  
933 Avenue H  
Fort Madison, Iowa 52627

Post-offer background check, physical, and Board of Supervisors approval are required.

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- Minutes of the Safety Committee meeting of September 21, 2023;
- Cash Receipts & Treasurer's report for August 2023;
- Resolution approving a Liquor License for Off Premise Outdoor Service for Lucky's Irish Pub & Grub, 528 Blondeau Street, Class C Retail Alcohol License, October 13-14, 2023 (pending dram);
- Resolution approving a Liquor License for Southside Boat Club, 625 Mississippi River Drive, Class F Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service – effective October 31, 2023;
- Special Event Permit for Lucky's Irish Pub & Grub, 528 Blondeau Street, 2nd Annual Fall Fling, October 13-14, 2023;
- Special Event Permit for Hoerner YMCA, 2126 Plank Road, Fun Run, Saturday, October 28, 2023, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.;
- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5365-5367;

7. (a) Now is the time and place for a public hearing granting of easement for Decker Manufacturing in Kindustry Park. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on September 26TH, 2023.

(b) Consider resolution granting of easement for Decker Manufacturing in Kindustry Park.

8. (a) Now is the time and place for a public hearing for a permanent encroachment for ADA ramp on the public sidewalk along the 10th side of building at 928 Main Street for Alcohol & Drug Dependency Services of Southeast Iowa. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on September 27th, 2023.

(b) Consider resolution granting a permanent

encroachment for an ADA Ramp for Alcohol & Drug Dependency Service of SE Iowa, 928 Main Street.

9. (a) Now is the time and place for a public hearing to dispose of municipality owned real property at 604 Grand Avenue by the City of Keokuk, Iowa. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City one September 13, 2023.

(b) Consider resolution disposing of municipally owned real property located at 604 Grand Avenue by the City of Keokuk, Iowa.

10. Motion to approve the initial reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 2.08.010(b) Council compensation.

11. Consider resolution approving agreement with Impact 7G to assist in the

application for funds for cleanup at Elkem Carbide property.

12. Consider resolution setting deposit fee for Victory Park restrooms.

13. Consider resolution awarding contract for grading plan preparation closed landfill.

14. Consider resolution awarding contract for topographic survey & preparation drawing for

closed landfill.

15. Consider resolution approving Street Financing Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023.

16. Consider resolution setting a public hearing to consider the vacation & disposal of platted unimproved portion of H Street & the alley in Block 72, Mason's Lower Addition, City of Keokuk, Lee County Iowa.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

17. Consider resolution proposing disposal and transfer of real estate at 517 S. 7th Street interests of the City by sealed bid and authorizing public notice.

18. Consider resolution certifying a designated city officer to sign notice to redeem tax sale.

19. Consider resolution setting deposit fee for campground electricity.

20. Consider resolution approving construction of a storage building by the Keokuk Saddle Club on leased land at Joyce Park.

21. Consider resolution amending the sidewalk café' administrative guide to adjust barrier height.

22. Boards & Commissions:

23. Council Liaison Reports:

24. Staff Reports:

25. New Business:

26. Adjourn Meeting.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES  
KEOKUK CITY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 21, 2023  
501 Main Street  
5:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on September 21, 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, Tyler Walker, Roslyn Garcia, Shelley Oltmans, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Steve Andrews and John Helenthal were absent. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Cole O'Donnell, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Water Pollution Control Manager Tom Wills, Chief of Police Zeth Baum, Bridge, Cemetery, Park, and Sanitation Manager Bob Weis.

**MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE:** Informed of local events. Law enforcement officers Mason Schau and Philip Dunlap

were sworn into office.

**CITIZEN'S REQUEST:** Lori Walker, Union President for Steele Workers Local 444 at Henniges Automotive, informed of Games for Hunger food drive and requested to display a sign. Marty Fox expressed concerns regarding a property on Franklin Street.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Greenwald to approve the agenda, including the consent agenda. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of September 7, 2023;

- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5362-5364;

Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:47 p.m. to review a proposed subdivision, a portion of 365 Carbide Lane formally known as Carbide First Addition. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on September 13TH, 2023.

**COMMENTS:** Broomhall gave overview.

No further comments were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:48 p.m.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 297-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING PRELIMINARY PLAN CARBIDE FIRST ADDITION." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Walker, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 298-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL PLAT CARBIDE LAND FIRST ADDITION." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Garcia to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 299-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING PLAT OF SURVEY - AUDITOR'S PARCEL." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:50 p.m. to consider

vacation of a 17'x158'-7" platted unimproved street in Kitzmann's 2nd subdivision and an adjacent 20'x158'-7" platted unimproved public right of way located between Walte Lane and Lofton Drive. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on September 13TH, 2023.

**COMMENTS:** Broomhall gave overview.

No further comments were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:53 p.m.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Garcia to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 300-2023: "A RESOLUTION VACATING AND DISPOSING OF A PLATTED STREET IN KITZMANN 2ND SUBDIVISION, CITY OF KEOKUK, LEE COUNTY, IOWA." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:54 p.m. to consider a permanent encroachment of a 10" x 24" stone wall with columns on the public sidewalk for Lucky's Pub & Grub, 528 Blondeau Street. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on September 13TH, 2023.

**COMMENTS:** Hal Hall from Lucky's Pub & Grub gave overview of project and discussed with council.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to recess public hearing and continue at the October 5, 2023, council meeting.

Roll Call Vote: AYES - Oltmans, Bryant and Greenwald. NAYS - Crenshaw, Walker, Garcia, and Tillman. Absent - Helenthal and Andrews. Motion to approve recess failed 3-4.

No further comments were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 6:29 p.m.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Tillman to change the design criteria that columns fit the 36" criteria.

Roll Call Vote: AYES - Crenshaw, Walker, Garcia, and Tillman. NAYS - Oltmans, Bryant

and Greenwald. Absent Helenthal and Andrews. Motion to approve design change approved 4-3. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Tillman to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 301-2023: "A RESOLUTION GRANTING A PERMANENT ENCROACHMENT FOR A SEATING WALL AT LUCKY'S IRISH PUB, 528 BLONDEAU STREET." (6) AYES, (1) NAY- Oltmans. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Bryant to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 302-2023: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURE AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH WYNN COMPANY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1209 FRANKLIN STREET." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Tillman to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 303-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH BLUE LINE SOLUTIONS. Council discussed contract. Greenwald made a friendly motion to approve the contract conditional on an amendment to the verbiage Exhibit C Section 2, Garcia and Tillman accepted the friendly motion. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Tillman, second by Garcia to start the speed penalty 11 MPH and over.

Roll Call Vote: AYES - Crenshaw, Walker, Garcia, Oltmans, Tillman and Bryant. NAYS - Greenwald. Absent: Helenthal and Andrews. (6) AYES, (1) NAY - Greenwald. Approved 6-1. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 304-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING FIRST RIGHT TO REFUSAL AGREEMENT IN KINDUSTRY PARK WITH DECKER MANUFACTURING." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Walker to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 305-2023: "A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON GRANTING OF EASEMENT FOR DECKER MANUFACTURING IN KINDUSTRY PARK." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 306-2023: "A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR OCTOBER 5, 2023, FOR A PERMANENT ENCROACHMENT FOR ADA RAMP ON THE PUBLIC SIDEWALK ALONG THE 10TH STREET SIDE OF BUILDING AT 928 MAIN STREET FOR ALCOHOL & DRUG DEPENDENCY SERVICES OF SOUTHEAST IOWA." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 307-2023: "A RESOLUTION WAIVING PERMIT FEES FOR THE HOERNER YMCA." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

**BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:** Final notification re-appointment for Mark Pfafe and Thomas Dreasler to the Airport Commission, terms to expire 10/20/2029. Final notification re-appointment for Phil Dunek to the Board of Adjustment, term to expire 04/01/2028. Final notification re-appointment for Ray Bradley, Jr., Fred Seay, Jr., Sandy Seabold and Michael Price to the Human Rights Commission, terms to expire 09/19/2026. Second notification re-appointment for Steve Worster to the Joyce Park/Tumelty Commission, term to expire 10/01/2029. Final notification re-appointment for Brenda Best, Brent Haage and Jay Kruse to the Keokuk Housing Authority, terms to expire 09/05/2025. Motion made by Garcia, second by Greenwald to approve all the above. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

**COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:** Greenwald informed of event at Kilborne Park hosted by Keokuk Cultural and Entertainment District. Bryant commented on safety meeting and would like to see better attendance in the future.

**STAFF REPORTS:** Broomhall reported on building and zoning and the acoustics in council chambers; Baum updated on new director for LeeCom.

Motion made by Tillman, second by Walker to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MEETING MINUTES  
City of Mount Pleasant  
Public Safety Committee  
August 15, 2023  
9:00 am**

**PRESENT:** Terry McWilliams, Jeff Batey, Matt Crull, Mayor Steve Broomhall, Brent Schleisman, Lyle Murray and Drew Schumacher

**ABSENT:**

Lyle gave an overview of his department's activities. He has two officers that will be retiring by the end of the year, Rich Lanphier (December 31) and Mark Stalder (December 31). He also reported the number of calls has been steady. The department has one officer graduating from the Police Academy this weekend. This will make the department fully staffed for a short time. Lyle also reported that the new police vehicle should arrive this week.

Drew reported that the Fire Department has been steady. The new tower truck should be here by the first quarter of 2024. Staff levels are becoming more difficult to recruit. Hopefully, the junior firefighter proposed program will help with recruitment. Drew also informed the committee that on October 7th & 8th the Fire Department is hosting a 2-day state training session at McMillian Park.

Prepared by:  
Date:  
Approved by:  
Date:

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## From the Front

# One simple gesture can help change the world

**EVANS** - Continued from Page 1

Plenty of Republicans live in and around Plains, a farming community of 600 people, and they would verify that conclusion. The Democrat known for his toothy smile is beloved in Plains, despite his politics.

After losing to Ronald Reagan in 1980, Carter returned to Plains, promising never to trade on his fame to enrich himself by joining corporate boards or giving speeches for fat fees. Instead, he was determined to make the world healthier, safer and a better place for the downtrodden and the needy among us.

That was why the Evanses were in Plains in 2011.

After leaving the White House, the Carters began volunteering for what was then a little-known Georgia nonprofit group called Habitat for Humanity. It helps build and renovate affordable housing. The initiative was founded the same year Carter was elected president.

Habitat now stretches around the world, thanks in no small part to the Carters. For 35 years, they devoted at least one week a year to building houses with teams of volunteers they inspired. By the time advancing age forced them to put down their hammers and take off their nail aprons in 2019, the couple had become the face of Habitat's volunteer force.

Their week-long housing construction effort each year was called the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project. They and a combined total of 100,000 other volunteers have built 4,300 homes across the U.S. and in a dozen countries overseas, too.

That was how Katie Evans, fresh from receiving her degree from Iowa State University, became acquainted with their legacy in 2008.

She was part of AmeriCorps, the federal government's initiative that encourages community service and volunteerism. After Hurricane Katrina, she and other AmeriCorps team members were sent to the

Gulf Coast. Habitat for Humanity's Carter Work Project was held there in 2008, and it attracted thousands of volunteers who came to build much-needed houses in communities devastated by the storm.

Katie and her crew kept the volunteer builders supplied with construction materials. She marveled at the stamina of the Carters, then in their early 80s. She was impressed with their determination to make a difference for people

whose lives were torn asunder by Katrina.

Three years after first seeing the Carters in action, this kind-hearted Evans offspring moved to Americus, Ga., 10 miles from Plains, and joined Habitat for Humanity's headquarters staff.

When she was packing for Americus, I was aware the Carters sometimes dropped by the Habitat offices. I sent a note to Jimmy, telling him how impressed Katie had been with the couple's work along the Gulf Coast. I suggested

he might welcome her to Georgia if their paths happened to cross at Habitat headquarters.

Surprisingly, Carter sent a note asking Katie to call his secretary. That led to a telephone conversation with Jimmy and Rosalynn and then their invitation for Katie and parents to join the couple some Sunday for church.

Now you know why we came to be seated next to the Carters in their pew at Maranatha Baptist Church on that pleasant spring morning 12 years ago. As he

had for many years, Jimmy taught the Sunday School lesson that morning, too.

He concluded it as he always did by asking everyone there to do one good thing for one other person during the week ahead. It might be calling a friend who is lonely, mowing the lawn for an elderly person, or taking a cake or cookies to a neighbor. Through one simple gesture like that, he said, people can help can change the world.

Whether you are a Democrat, a Republican

or an in-betweener, one of Jimmy Carter's fundamental principles should guide each of us, too:

"I have one life and one chance to make it count for something," he said some years ago. "My faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can, with whatever I have, to try to make a difference."

Happy birthday, Mr. President.

Randy Evans can be reached at [DMRevans2810@gmail.com](mailto:DMRevans2810@gmail.com).

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