

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, July 19, 2024 | 9 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 122



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# CAC grant makes cut



Courtesy photo

A rendering of the improvements at the Lee County Career Advantage Center shows a new entrance and parking lot on the south side of the current facility.

## \$2 MILLION: Miller-Meeks gets funds for Career Center into appropriation bill

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Lee County has once again attracted federal funds for improvements to health care and economic vitality. Last week the Southeast Iowa Regional and Economic Port Authority was informed by Congresswoman Mariannette Miller-Meeks' staff that the group has been initially approved

for a \$2 million appropriation from Congress to further develop the property at Lee County Economic Development Group's office in Montrose. SIREPA Administrator Mike Norris said there was a little glitch in the information and some in the area were told that the application from SIREPA wasn't approved, but he got a call Friday while on vacation indicating the funds indeed had

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## STATE NEWS

# Groups can now apply for state, local opioid funding grants

State grants come as Lee County opens grant to area prevention groups

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES—Governor Kim Reynolds today announced that

Iowa's opioid treatment and recovery providers can begin applying for \$13 million in grants to expand or improve facilities or develop sober-living housing options in a statewide effort to better serve Iowans impacted by the ongoing opioid epidemic.

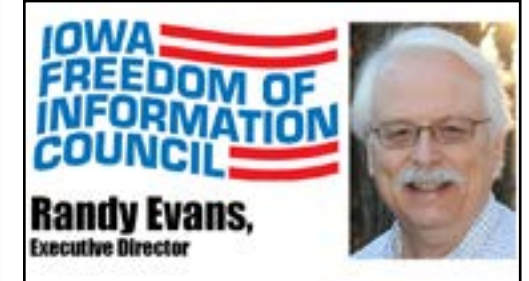
The governor announced the funding opportunities in May as part of a larger \$17.5 million in-

vestment to help providers address increased demand for opioid-related services and meet the additional needs of Iowans.

"The battle against substance use disorder is all too familiar for families struggling through the opioid epidemic," stated Governor Reynolds. "This funding for projects that

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## COMMENTARY



# Abortion ruling raises lots of big questions

Through the years, justices on the Iowa Supreme Court typically avoid harsh or overzealous language in their decisions.

That is why two separate dissenting opinions jumped out Friday when the court issued its long-anticipated decision on the Legislature's latest attempt to ban nearly all abortions in Iowa.

By a 4-3 split, the Supreme Court decided the 2023 law is a rational response to a legitimate state interest, protecting the lives of unborn children. The law prohibits abortions once "cardiac activity" in the fetus is detectable by ultrasound, usually about six weeks after conception. The law provides exceptions for rape or incest, when the fetus has an abnormality incompatible with life, or when the pregnancy endangers the mother's life.

The authors of the two dissents were Chief Justice Susan Christensen of Harlan and Justice Edward Mansfield of Des Moines. They were joined by Justice Thomas Waterman of Davenport. Their 56 pages of analysis and commentary provide important insight into this divisive issue.

Christensen and Mansfield called the decision "simply wrong" and "a giant step backward." They reminded colleagues on the court, and the public, "The rights of Iowans did not freeze once our state constitution took effect."

The Chief wrote: "Is it any wonder why Iowa is not flush with legal history demonstrating that a medical procedure specific to women is a deeply rooted part of our state's tradition? ... There were no women members of the Iowa constitutional conventions, which occurred in 1844, 1846 and 1857 and no women members of the legislature during that period. While African-American males received the right to vote when

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## WEATHER

FRI 19 Jul .....Sunny, 79° F/ 58° F  
SAT 20 Jul .....Partly sunny, 78° F/ 62° F  
SUN 21 Jul .....Partly sunny, 79° F/ 63° F

## IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 07/17 .....3 24 49 56 60, Powerball: 17  
LOTTO AMERICA 07/17 .....6 9 15 44 49, Star Ball: 3 All Star Bonus: 2  
LUCKY FOR LIFE 07/17 .....7 18 20 39 46, Lucky Ball: 10  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 07/17 .....4 9 6  
PICK 3 EVENING 07/17 .....7 0 7  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 07/17 .....8 5 4 5  
PICK 4 EVENING 07/17 .....8 3 7 6  
POWERBALL 07/17 .....24 27 32 47 66, Powerball: 26 Power Play: 2

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### WILLIAM L. GREENSLAUGH

William Louis "Louie" Greenslaugh, 95 of Keokuk, IA, formerly of Hamilton, IL passed away Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Ft. Madison, IA.



GREENSLAUGH

He was born April 14, 1929 in Keokuk, IA the son of Clarence and Minnie Weber Greenslaugh. Louie graduated from Hamilton High School with the class of 1947.

Louie was first united in marriage to Bernice Elaine Millsbaugh in 1949. They divorced. In 1979, Louie was united in marriage to Kathleen Congden. She preceded him in death in 2003.

He had been employed by Hubinger's in Keokuk, for thirty-seven years, until his retirement in 1992.

Louie was of the Catholic faith. He was a member of Grain Millers #48 Union. Louie enjoyed spending his evenings watching television, especially Wheel of Fortune and Bonanza. He loved traveling to Branson, MO and watching live music shows. Louie had a quick wit and great sense of humor and was a friend to many.

He is survived by his children, Larry Greenslaugh of Hamilton, IL, Jamie Greenslaugh (Suzy Hepker) of Hamilton, IL, Bill Greenslaugh (Mary Meinhardt) of Hamilton, IL, Mary Lu Jones (Terry) of Quincy, IL, Diane Mercer (Wade) of Burlington, IA and John Greenslaugh of Carthage, IL, eleven grandchildren, Desiree, Michael, Heather, Amber, Ryley, Kaitlyn, Zach, Nick, Troy, Tracy and Amanda and nine great-grandchildren, Londyn, Jazzlyn, Ryan, Hannah, Lucas, twins, Hayden and Kinnick, Hunter and Miles.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, Barb Gibson (Ted), one grandson, Jeremy Greenslaugh and one brother, Joe Greenslaugh.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, July 22, 2024 at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA. Burial will be in the Oakwood Cemetery in Hamilton, IL.

Visitation will be held prior to the service from 9 - 11 a.m., Monday, at the funeral home with family meeting with friends at that time.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.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.

## OBITUARIES

### MATTIE H. KARRIKER

Mattie Hope Karriker, 21, of Waterloo, IA passed away Saturday, July 13, 2024 at MercyOne Waterloo Medical Center.

She was born August 5, 2002 in Virginia the daughter of Keith and Melissa Rowlett Karriker.



KARRIKER

Mattie was a member of Hope City Church in Waterloo. She volunteered at the animal shelter and homeless shelter. She enjoyed baking, fishing and reading.

She is survived by her mother, Melissa Kensett (Jason) of Ft. Madison, her father, Keith Karriker of North Carolina, a sister, Elianna Kensett of Ft. Madison and extended family members.

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

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the family.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorial-home.com](http://www.vigenmemorial-home.com).

### DAWN M. CLARK

Dawn Marie Clark, 64, of Montrose, IA, passed away on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at her home.

She was born on October 17, 1959, in Detroit, MI, to Donald and Mary Nay Zimmerman. On December 24, 1976, she married Michael Clark in Apache Junction, AZ. Dawn was a store keeper at the Old Fort and also worked at Dollar General, where she was known by many people. She also enjoyed gardening and crafts.



CLARK

Survivors include her husband, Michael Clark of Montrose; three children, Ronda Barnes of Dallas, TX, Mandy Dahlstrand and Zachary Clark, both of Ft. Madison, IA; seven granddaughters; two great granddaughters; one sister, Thelma Smith of PA; and two brothers, Donald Zimmerman of Rhode Island and Curt Zimmerman of Iowa. She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no formal services held at this time. Online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

Contact Tracy  
to Schedule Your  
COMPLIMENTARY  
REVIEW

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It's Black & White and Read all over

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## For the Record/From the Front

### For the Record

#### Fort Madison Police Report

07/17/24 - 4:42 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 800 block of Avenue G.

07/17/24 - 5:03 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1700 block of Avenue H.

07/17/24 - 8:28 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of 35th Street.

07/17/24 - 1:38 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the

700 block of Avenue H.

07/17/24 - 3:11 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1900 block of Avenue H.

07/17/24 - 3:35 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue M.

07/17/24 - 4:35 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1100 block of Avenue F.

07/17/24 - 6:47 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 4500 block of Avenue O.

07/18/24 - 3:40 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2600 block of Avenue L.

07/18/24 - 4:13 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3100 block of Avenue M..

07/18/24 - 5:53 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3000 block of accident.

07/18/24 - 7:46 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident on Tammy Lane.

## Miller-Meeks has helped secure close to \$8 million for Lee County

### FUNDING - Continued from Page 1

been set aside for the project.

“There was a little miscommunication on it, but we were told Friday that we made it through and it now is part of the draft appropriation bill in Congress,” Norris said Thursday.

The funds are intended to be used to build out and equip the Lee County Career Advantage Center. Included in the project are four new classrooms, a vocational learning area, a new entrance and parking lot; and purchasing industrial tech and healthcare training equipment.

SIREPA was the applicant for the appropriation and owns the building working in close partnership with LCEDG and Southeastern Community College to build out, operate, and equip the center.

The funds still need to be approved as part of votes in both chambers of Congress and be signed by the president. They then would be allocated as expenses are incurred in the project as draw downs, Norris said.

“We would incur expenses and then typically you can make a draw based on that,” he said.

SIREPA has a funding agreement with LCEDG for the current building that was created prior to SIREPA buying the building. The two entities share an account and bills for the facility are paid from that account.

The application for the grant indicated that Southeast Iowa needs a dedicated

career center that matches industrial training needs with primarily high school students. The center is projected to train more than 150 students annually. The center also provides adult learners with opportunities for training and placement.

The center is also projecting to place 80 adults and students combined per year with area industries and businesses.

The original application requested \$2.2 million with budget lines of \$894,000 for the classrooms, \$363,000 for the new entrance and parking lot; \$670,000 for equipment, \$190,000 for engineering and an \$85,000 contingency.

In June, Miller-Meeks released a list of 15 projects that she was going to submit for the congressional appropriation. In that list was also \$875,000 to help Insight of Flint, Michigan, stand up the shuttered Keokuk Hospital as an outpatient facility and Emergency Room operation. That funding also made it into the draft of the appropriation bill.

Over the past two years, Miller-Meeks has helped secure close to \$8 million in capital infusion for Lee County, including the Lee County Health Department/EMS facility in Fort Madison, sewer separation funding for the City of Fort Madison, the 18th Street extension to Keokuk National Cemetery, and now SIREPA and the hospital funding.

**A summer of the alebrijes with Sheri Lozano**

**what is an alebrije?**  
Alebrijes is the style of Mexican folk art featuring vibrantly painted animal figures.

**when?**  
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2-4pm

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## Sports/From the Front

# \$10M set aside for substance abuse facility upgrades

**GRANTS** - Continued from Page 1

support prevention, treatment and recovery can provide addicted Iowans a pathway to sobriety and a productive, fulfilling life.”

The \$10 million Iowa Opioid Treatment and Recovery Infrastructure Grant will assist opioid treatment and recovery providers with physical infrastructure and capacity building. Grants can be used for new construction and expansion of current treatment and recovery facilities, as well as the rehabilitation of existing structures.

The application period for the Iowa Opioid Treatment and Recovery Infrastructure Grant is open now through September 30, 2024. More information about the program, including how to apply, is available at [iowaeda.com/recovery-and-treatment-grant](http://iowaeda.com/recovery-and-treatment-grant).

The Iowa Recovery Housing Fund includes a total of \$3 million to provide grant funding to eligible nonprofit organizations for the development of sober recovery housing. The goal is to increase long-term housing security for persons in recovery from substance use disorder as well as survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking.

The Iowa Recovery Housing Fund application period opens July 29 and will remain open through October 31, 2024. More information about the program, including eligibility requirements, is available at [iowafinance.com/irhf](http://iowafinance.com/irhf).

The grants leverage federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and will be administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA), the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA), and the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.

An additional \$1.5 million will be used for programs that focus on opioid addiction prevention. Over the last several years in Iowa and nationwide, there has been a dramatic increase in the prescription rate of opioids for surgery patients as part of their post-operative pain management plan. Addiction can be an unintended consequence of patient overuse and misuse.

Iowa HHS will launch a \$1 million education initiative for Iowa health care providers, with a focus on surgeons, to support alternative post-op pain management plans that are less reliant on prescribing opioids. Over-the-counter pain medications coupled with additional non-opioid pain management methods can be as effective and avoids the risk of introducing opioids. The goal of the project is to reduce the number of opioid prescriptions for surgery recovery and increase access to an opioid-minimizing approach to surgery and recovery. A request for proposal (RFP) will be issued by HHS on August 1, 2024, and the program will begin later this year.

Additionally, Iowa HHS will utilize \$500,000 in ARPA funding to launch a comprehensive multi-media opioid overdose prevention campaign this fall. The campaign will leverage new and existing ads and public service announcements, and may include radio, newspaper, and bus ads; billboards; digital banners and social media; and community engagement and toolkits, with messaging focusing on the dangers of purchasing fake pills and the risks of fentanyl.

The remaining \$3 million of the state’s investment in opioid prevention, treatment and recovery, will support the completion of the YSS Ember Recovery Campus in Cambridge, a residential addiction treatment center for teens age 12 to 18. The facility is scheduled to open later this year.



Courtesy photo

From left to right: 1st Place - Anthony Barnes, Fort Madison; 2nd Place - Rob Needem, Kirksville, Mo. 3rd Place & Big Bass - Ryan Culbertson, West Point; 4th Place - Jeff Eaves Fort Madison. 2nd Big Bass – Kritter Hayes, Keokuk, IA.

## Barnes takes 2nd LCAA event

KEOSAUQUA - Anthony Barnes of Fort Madison was fishing lights out on Lake Sugema to finish at the top of the leader board for the second time this summer. With temperatures reaching in the nineties and with stiff winds anglers caught fish on drop baits, frogs and buzz baits. Water temperature ranged 80-82’ degrees. Barnes finished with 91.25 inches.

Rob Needham, Kirksville, Mo. was second place with five fish at 85.25 inch-

es of largemouth bass. Included in his fish limit was a nice 20.625 incher .

Third-place finds angler Ryan Culbertson, West Point, IA. with a 84.50 inch bag of fish including the Big Bass of the tournament with a golly whopper 21.50 inch bass. It has been said he caught them on a special proprietary home-made bait he keeps as a secret.

Fourth place Jeff Eaves of Fort Madison, finished with a very respectful 57 inches.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES OF THE  
PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE BURLINGTON,  
IOWA CITY COUNCIL  
Meeting No. 11  
June 3, 2024**

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 Bailey, Graham-Murray, Scott and Weiss present.

**BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL**

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

\* Juneteenth Day - Tiana Carter

\* PRIDE Month - David Kroll

**COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:** Fred Starling of 517 South 7th Street invited the City Council to the Juneteenth Celebration on June 15, 2024. 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: Scott  
Seconded By: Graham-Murray

**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. Mayor Pro-Tem Graham-Murray announced those individuals appointed to various City commissions and boards. Chris Roepke of 2228 Madison Avenue requested the removal of the Resolution Approving the Certified Local Government National Register Nomination Evaluation Report Form for the Property Located at 1201 Valley Street, Burlington, Iowa for discussion at the close of the meeting. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

**CARRIED**

**ORDINANCES:**

Introduced By: Bailey  
Seconded By: Billups

1. Motion to Amend the Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Section 157.04 Service Entrance Wiring

and Requirements of Chapter 157 Electrical Code of the City of Burlington Municipal Code

**DISCUSSION:** Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that there were no changes to the Ordinance Amending Section 157.04 Service Entrance Wiring and Requirements of Chapter 157 Electrical Code of the City of Burlington Municipal Code from the first reading. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

**CARRIED**

Introduced By: Graham-Murray  
Seconded By: Scott

2. Motion for Waiver of Preliminary Consideration and Adoption of the Second Reading and for Final Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Section 157.04 Service Entrance Wiring and Requirements of Chapter 157 Electrical Code of the City of Burlington Municipal Code

**DISCUSSION:** None.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

**CARRIED**

Introduced By: Graham-Murray  
Seconded By: Scott

3. Motion to Amend the Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Section 161.07 Minimum Structure Standards for all Dwellings of Chapter 161 Housing Code of the City of Burlington Municipal Code

**DISCUSSION:** Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that

there were no changes to the Ordinance Amending Section 161.07 Minimum Structure Standards for all Dwellings of Chapter 161 Housing Code of the City of Burlington Municipal Code. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

**CARRIED**

Introduced By: Graham-Murray  
Seconded By: Scott

4. Motion for Waiver of Preliminary Consideration and Adoption of the Second Reading and for Final Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Section 161.07 Minimum Structure Standards for all Dwellings of Chapter 161 Housing Code of the City of Burlington Municipal Code

**DISCUSSION:** None.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Introduced By: Weiss  
Seconded By: Bailey

1. Resolution Updating the Personnel Manual Salary Schedule for Non-Union Employees Effective July 1, 2023

**DISCUSSION:** Adam Schaefer, Police Chief, stated that the Police Department seeks to establish the position of a training officer within the Police Department. He stated that the position would be tasked with coordinating, organizing and executing training programs for both sworn officers and civilian staff. He stated that the position will include duties as a Public Information Officer and a community engagement liaison. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

**ADOPTED**

Introduced By: Scott  
Seconded By: Billups

2. Resolution Approving the Certified Local Government National Register Nomination Evaluation Report Form for the Property Located at 1201 Valley Street, Burlington, Iowa

**DISCUSSION:** Eric Tysland, Development and Parks Director, stated that the resolution supports placing the property located at 1201 Valley Street, Burlington, Iowa, locally known as Burlington High School (Apollo School), on the National Register of Historic Places. He stated that this action will aid in the redevelopment of the property. He stated that the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed the nomination evaluation report form at

their May 14, 2024 meeting and approved the submittal of the form for the property. Chris Roepke of 2228 Madison Avenue asked the council to not vote on the resolution so that more discussion can take place. He stated that his concerns included the developer not receiving money for the project after being placed on the national register. Tysland stated that this was requested by the developer of the property. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")

**ADOPTED**

Adjournment: 6:07 p.m.  
Approved: June 17, 2024  
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.)

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
Monday,  
June 10th, 2024  
6:30PM  
City Hall**

The regular meeting of the Donnellson City Council was called to order by Mayor Dave Ellingboe, with Council Members Marshall, Weber, Wagner & Newton present. Moeller was absent. City staff present were City Clerk Rebecca Schau, Police Chief Brad Roberts, Public Works Director Todd Herdrich & Librarian Sunny Robbins. Others in attendance – Nadine Allen, Jim Ramsey, Christina Carroll & daughter.

Motion by Newton, second by Weber to approve the agenda: all ayes.

**Citizen comments** – Resident expressed concern with a letter she received regarding the chickens on her property as they are her daughters 4H project. Another resident expressed concern of someone dumping fish in the ditch near where they live.

Motion by Marshall, second by Newton to approve the minutes of the May '24 meeting: all ayes.

Motion by Weber, second by Wagner to approve the May '24 financial reports: all ayes.

Motion by Marshall, second by Newton to approve the May '24 disbursements and June '24 bills to be allowed: all ayes.

Motion by Weber, second by Wagner to approve cigarette permit for Dollar General: all ayes.

Motion by Marshall, second by Newton to approve cigarette permit for Caseys: all ayes.

Motion by Marshall, second by Weber to approve cigarette permit for Green Acres: all ayes.

Motion by Newton, second by Weber to approve building permit @ 716 Orchard for ramp: all ayes.

Motion by Marshall, second by Newton to approve Special Class C Retail Alcohol License for Donnellson Ball Association: all ayes.

Motion by Marshall, second by Weber to approve Class C Retail Alcohol License for R&T Stumble Inn: all ayes.

Motion by Weber, second by Newton to approve Resolution No 2024-07 A Resolution authorizing the filing of an application for the Iowa Department of Transportation's State Recreational Trails Program for Construction of Westview Park Trail Phase II: RCV all ayes.

Resolution No 2024-08 A Resolution setting salaries and wages for city employees for FY2024-2025 – tabled until 6/25/24 @ 6pm

Motion by Marshall, second by Weber to approve Chapter 28E Agreement to Provide Police Services between City of West Point, Iowa and The City of Donnellson, Iowa: all ayes.

Mayor appointed Marcus Ledbetter to Board of Adjustments

Motion by Wagner, second by Newton to advertise for fulltime Deputy City Clerk, pay based on experience: all ayes.

June 25th 2024 @ 6pm there will be a special meeting at the Donnellson City Office Building to finalize FY 2024.

**Police Report** – There were 82 calls for service, 27 traffic stops and 7 citations. 41 building checks were done during the day & nighttime hours. Five arrests were made (2 - domestic abuse assault, 2 – drug related charges and 1 driver license status) The department assisted the Lee County Sheriffs Office with the annual sex offender sweep in the county.

**Water / Sewer Superintendent Report** – Those that have not returned their lead service line surveys are encourage to do so as soon as possible.

**Clerk Report** – The city has switched their accounting software to Gworks Cloud, residents are encouraged to sign up for their online account to control their billing preferences and view balance

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**Classifieds/Public Notices**

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on account.  
There being no other business to come before the Council, motion by Marshall, second by Newton, Mayor Ellingboe declared the meeting adjourned: all ayes.  
Dave Ellingboe, Mayor  
Attest: Rebecca Schau, City Clerk

Summary of All Receipts: General \$36,072.21 Capital Equipment Reserve \$0 Road Use Tax \$10,984.79 Employee Benefit \$1,313.83 Local Option Sales Tax \$11,526.47 Debit Service \$30,987.49 Rathbun \$0 ARPA \$0 Water \$20,964.15 Water Sinking USDA \$1,816.00 Sewer \$27,824.83 Sewer Sinking \$143,229.55. Summary of All Disbursements: General \$99,024.92 Capital Equipment Reserve \$0

Road Use Tax \$3,122.46 Employee Benefit \$1,408.22 Local Option Sales Tax \$7,281.89 Debit Service \$30,987.49 Capital Project Fund \$0 Rathbun -\$0 ARPA \$0 Water \$45,493.77 Water Sinking \$1,816.00 Sewer \$153,899.49 Sewer Sinking \$143,229.55.

ACCESS, Copies ..... 58.46 AFLAC, Aflac ..... 80.76 ALLIANT ENERGY, Electric..... 5,192.39 BRAD ROBERTS, Reimburse..... 20.00 CESSFORD CONSTRUCTION CO, Rock ..... 643.24 CITY OF WEST POINT, Chiefs Wages / Fuel ..... 3,409.30 CULLEN PEST CONTROL, Annual ..... 180.00 DAILY DEMOCRAT, Proceedings ..... 96.28

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KOHELMORGAN HAULING, Trash Service ..... 5,440.00 Lee County Floral, Class ..... 160.50 LYNCH DALLAS, P.C., Attorney ..... 579.85 Mastercard, Supplies ..... 1,354.06 MCFARLAND - SWAN OFFICE CITY, Supplies ..... 97.98 Microbac Laboratories Inc, Testing ..... 17.50 MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, Gas ..... 75.34 MT. HAMILL ELEVATOR, Weed Spray ..... 410.00 MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, Hydrants ..... 6,347.61 PLAYAWAY PRODUCTS, Audiobooks ..... 2,055.42 POETS & WRITERS, Magazine ..... 11.00 POPULAR WOODWORKING, Magazine ..... 18.00 RATHBUN REGIONAL WATER, Bulk Water

..... 6,460.80 RSM US PRODUCT SALES, IT ..... 103.00 T.H.E. COMPANY, Belt ..... 16.95 T-MOBILE, Cellphone ..... 120.10 TODD HERDRICH, Reimburse..... 50.00 USA BLUE BOOK, Supplies ..... 646.95 USPS, Postage..... 193.45 VERIZON BUSINESS, Data Plan..... 40.01 VERTICAL COMMUNICATIONS, Phone ... 56.22 WEX BANK, Fuel.. 948.19 WINDSTREAM, Internet ..... 291.52 Payroll..... 15,797.15 Total ..... 200,576.36

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## From the Front

## Court says no fundamental protection for abortion

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

the states ratified the 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1870, women of all races had to wait until 1919 for that right. It was not until 1998 that the citizens of Iowa voted to expressly include women in the language of the Iowa Constitution's inalienable rights clause."

Christensen continued: "Unfortunately, this statute — and the majority's decision allowing it to take effect — not only brings that progress to a halt but also takes a giant step backward.

... Women are once again relegated to their traditional (and outdated) roles as only child-bearers and mothers, forced to live their 21st century lives by 19th century standards and mores."

The court's majority pointed to Iowa history to conclude there is no fundamental protection for abortion. But Mansfield had this footnote: The 1857 constitutional debates lasted 39 days and filled 1,061 pages. "Yet the word 'woman' or 'women' appears only 16 times. By comparison, the

debates contain 38 references to 'horse' or 'horses.' That Iowa no longer exists today."

Mansfield added: "We can't ignore the morality code of mid-19th century Iowa as some sort of unconstitutional anachronism, while treating the abortion law of mid-19th century Iowa as some sort of constitutional guidepost for today."

The legal debate before the court hinged on what legal standard the justices should use in judging the 2023 abortion law. The majority concluded the

law can stand if there is a "rational basis" for showing the restrictions relate to "a legitimate state interest." The dissenters believed the court should balance the government's interest in preventing abortions against the liberty interests of pregnant women by weighing whether the restrictions create an "undue burden" for women and girls.

"I fail to see how a woman's right not to procreate can have no constitutional protection," Mansfield wrote. "The decision not to have children is as fundamental as the decision to

have children. Could the Iowa Legislature limit family size?"

He went on: "At the sixth week, a woman may not even know she is pregnant and has almost certainly not sought medical care for her pregnancy. The six-week mark does not allow enough time for a woman to make a decision whether or not to carry a pregnancy to term. ... So, the net effect of the six-week ban is that it forbids many women from ever making a truly voluntary decision to have children or not."

Christensen was trou-

bled by what she called the "proclaimed interests" of the statute, the government's vital interest in protecting unborn human life. "To a lesser degree, it also mentions the 'protection of maternal health and safety,'" she wrote.

"While the statute outlines exceptions that allow for abortions in situations involving rape, incest, certain fetal abnormalities incompatible with life, miscarriages or medical emergencies, they are crafted in such a way that the application rings hollow," the Chief wrote. "Frankly, in many of these situations, they serve as another example of how this statute prioritizes the unborn over the living, placing pregnant women in grave harm in the process."

Christensen added: "The State offers no reason why pregnancies that result from rape or incest can be terminated after a fetal heartbeat is detected, while other pregnancies must continue. Terminating any pregnancy results in the loss of potential life, regardless of how those pregnancies were conceived."

News in recent months has reported on problems pregnant women faced in states with a near-total ban on abortions when there are serious problems with the woman's health or the viability of her unborn child, she wrote. "Nothing promotes life like a forced hysterectomy preventing a woman from ever becoming pregnant again because she could not terminate a doomed pregnancy under the medical emergency exception."

Christensen and Mansfield warned about further changes that could come to Iowa because of the court's decision and the legal reasoning the justices used.

Other states with near-universal abortion bans have seen a decline in the number of OB/GYN physicians who choose to practice there, she said. "This trend will affect all pregnant women in Iowa — not just those seeking an abortion."

Christensen added: "Today's ruling casts doubt on the stability of rights like contraception, interracial marriage, and same-sex marriage should constitutional challenges to these rights come before us."

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

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