

In the Middle

April 2021 NEWSLETTER



Mayors Message

We are a proud community for the public, private, and volunteer partnership with MercyOne and numerous others to provide 10,284 vaccination shots over the past 5 weeks! These clinics have been recognized as a model of efficiency by consistently delivering 240 injections per hour in a well-organized and pleasant experience. Hats-off to the leaders at MercyOne and the Peosta Community Centre for this outstanding success!

These large-scale vaccination clinics will continue as long as the demand supports them. Stay tuned to MercyOne's COVID-19 Vaccination website <http://bit.ly/382g8uR> for future plans and to register for your vaccination in Peosta or at any of their other clinics.

We had good attendance at our 2nd Annual Perspective | Possibilities | Promise event on March 22 at the PCC. We saw a lot of conversations between residents, business leaders, city staff, elected officials, and of course the professionals from RDG that are helping us create our future vision. These kinds of forums are essential in our commitment to make sure your local government is responsive to your needs.

The comprehensive plan that was highlighted in this event is our way to document Peosta's high-level vision for the city. Consistent themes that people who participated in the Zoom meetings, webinars, interviews, listening sessions, and public meetings were:

- The need for a more connected Peosta, linked together by trails and paths.
- A desire for a central district – a town center – where people could get together, grab a coffee or lunch, listen to a concert, and grow together as a community.
- A significant new central park, possibly as part of the town center, that would provide the kind of public space that we experience in other communities but lack in Peosta.

As the community vision crystallized, the undeveloped land between Burds Road and Highway 20 west of Cox Springs Road drew special attention as a site where all these could come together into a development truly unique to Peosta.

However, these kinds of special areas rarely develop without guidance and coordinated planning. That's where the tool that we refer to as a "Planned Unit Development," also known as a PUD for short, comes in. This tool allows us to establish the vision and framework that will guide and coordinate the work of private developers. The PUD documents how different land uses on the site should be located and how they relate to each other and their surrounding environments. It gives us the opportunity to be proactive, clearly stating and illustrating what we want to create, rather than simply reacting to ad-hoc applications. It is the city's way to promote development that is consistent with the comprehensive plan and the character of the city.

Vital public spaces and activity centers depend on people living in and around them, and housing development is essential to their life. As you remember, we completed a housing study in the first half of 2020 to better understand our needs. The data for Peosta, in common with nearly every city in America, shows a need for a greater variety of housing types. The cost of the housing that we have traditionally built is not affordable to many young families, forcing our children to leave Peosta to buy their first home. The same lack of variety means that many of our older residents who want to downsize also cannot find what they need here. We recognize that nearly all of our industrial park employees, people who could add their skills and energy to our community, also live outside of Peosta. It is a clear quality of life amenity when families can stay together through all phases of life, and the comprehensive plan and our first PUD aim to address that need.

A multi-use town center is ideally positioned to provide product choice, meeting these new housing needs and

preferences while preserving the integrity and scale of existing neighborhoods. Some of these new forms include innovative small-lot single-family homes, attached units and townhomes, villas, condominiums, and carefully designed multifamily buildings. The proactive PUD approach will help us manage these trends and make sure that their locations reinforce each other and the community, and address the concerns that people in surrounding neighborhoods have about issues like scale and traffic.

The related public hearing on April 13 provides yet another valuable opportunity for the City Council to hear what is most important to you before making any decisions as your elected representatives.

Lastly, it is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to our first City Administrator Whitney Baethke. Whitney and her husband Tyler have made the difficult yet understandable decision to relocate closer to family that we all know is very important to them. Whitney stepped into this newly-created position in October 2018 as, using her term, a young whipper-snapper. She came with a diverse set of planning and leadership experiences at both local and federal levels, spanning public, non-profit, and private corporations. What is noteworthy is how she led the city through transformational change. Her tenacity to get things done resulted in the design and initial construction of our wastewater treatment facility, the city's new branding, our comprehensive plan, and our soon-to-be-complete city website, amongst many others. She has elevated our proficiency in municipal finance, operations, planning, and economic development. Whitney was instrumental in attracting multiple new businesses and expansions of existing businesses as well as the public-private partnership that we now know as College Suites. What may end up being her greatest achievement will likely not be realized for many years. We will know it as our new city center, and we will remember her leadership in creating that vision.

As our first City Administrator Whitney has provided clarity of purpose and supported the many diverse needs of each department, demonstrating what could be achieved with proper motivation and guidance. She has fostered a culture of transparency, accountability, and empowerment. As a direct result the City Council has shifted it's focus to be more strategic, considering the longer-term needs of our growing community.

We share in Whitney's excitement for the new opportunities in front of her. We thank her for proving the value of the City Administrator role. She has made life-long friendships here and she will be missed. We will not forget her leadership in preparing Peosta for the growth that is inevitably coming.

Please join me in wishing Whitney and her family the very best in this next chapter of their lives.

Be Safe and Be Happy!



Jim Merten, Mayor



City Council Meeting

April 13th-PCC Banquet Room 6:00pm

April 27th-City Hall 6:00pm

Visit the City of Peosta [website](#) for Agenda and Minutes.

Public Hearing

April 13th

6:00pm

Peosta Community Centre Banquet Room



Mayor Jim Merten, City Council Members, and City Staff attended the Groundbreaking Ceremony on March 25th, 2021

NICC Student Housing

Construction of the new Student Housing project has began! College Suites will offer fully furnished

Garage Sales

April 22, 23, 24th

City-Wide Clean UP

(Large Garbage Pick UP)

Saturday, April 24th

student housing for future NICC students that will range from studio to four-bedroom apartments. Commons area, study rooms, fitness area, grassy interior courtyard for various games, outdoor patio, lounge/recreation center, outdoor parking, and much more will be offered to residents. A **waiting list** for prospective NICC Students is available now for anyone who is interested for the 2021/2022 school year.

College Suites Information

City-Wide Clean Up/Large Garbage Pickup

Citywide Spring Cleanup Day is on Saturday, April 24th. Please have all items to be picked up at the curb by 7:00 am. Bi-County will make one trip through town.

Each appliance, computer monitor, television, or tire to be picked up will require a sticker.

Appliance: \$12.00

Car Tires: \$6.00

Truck Tires: \$12.00

Tractor Tires: \$27.00

All Monitors & Televisions: \$17.00

There are 3 ways to pay and register .

- PAY AND REGISTER ONLINE [HERE](#) (Your Sticker will be mailed to you)
- Register [HERE](#). Drop your payment in the City of Peosta Drop box which is located in the upper level of the Peosta Community Centre parking lot. (Your Sticker will be mailed to you once payment is received)
- Call City Hall to over the phone. (Your Sticker will be mailed to you)
- If you have any questions or need assistance in registering and paying please call City Hall at (563) 556-8755, email swinandycityofpeosta.org. REGISTRATIONS AND PAYMENTS ARE DUE BY 4:00 PM ON APRIL 21 to allow for proper mailing time

***Items that won't be picked up: yard waste, stockpiled daily garbage, rocks, concrete, large amounts of building and construction materials, railroad ties, paint (unless the can is completely dried out and open), chemicals, motor oil, shingles, fencing, fluorescent bulbs.

Spring Garage Sales

FIDELITY BANK & TRUST in Peosta will be sponsoring the Spring Garage Sales which will be held April 22th, 23rd, and 24th. Please stop by Fidelity in Peosta to pick up a registration form and register your sale. Fidelity will create a list with addresses and maps for shoppers. This is a FREE service that Fidelity offers to Peosta residents. **Registration Deadline for is Wednesday, April 14th. You can register online or by stopping by Fidelity Bank and Trust (Peosta Branch).**

[Register Online](#)

Public Works News

Compost Site is Open

The compost site is at the end of Kapp Court (which is located off of Kapp Drive). Please observe signs directing where the materials should be placed. **The Compost Site is available for Peosta City Residents only.** Construction building material is prohibited.

Materials Accepted

- Tree Branches
- Leaves
- Garden waste
- Grass clippings

Materials Not Accepted

- Garbage
- Demolition or Construction Materials

CITY-WIDE



Drop-Off Recycling Program

Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency is offering a drop off recycling container for residents at no charge. Recycling container is located at the end of Kapp Court (next to compost area)

Storm Drains

Please help keep City Storm drains clean by cleaning up garbage and recycling on windy Garage pick up days. Storm drains can become clogged with leaves, tree branches, garbage and recycling, which can lead to storm drain back-ups that flood streets. We appreciate everyone's help keeping our streets clean. Thank you!

Friendly Pet Reminders

Spring weather is here finally! More residents are getting outside and it's important that we keep our streets, sidewalks, and grassy areas clean. Pet owners are required to clean up after dogs when taking them for a walk. Let's work together so that walking through town is enjoyable for all. Thank you for being a courteous pet owner.

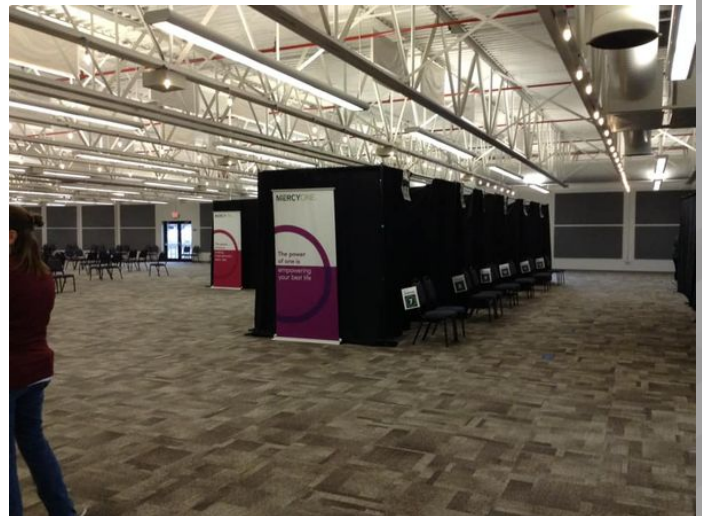
Reminder: All dogs within City limits need to be licensed and the annual cost of a dog license is **\$15** per dog. If you add a furry friend to your family during the year please contact City Hall for licensing.

[Purchase Dog License Online](#)

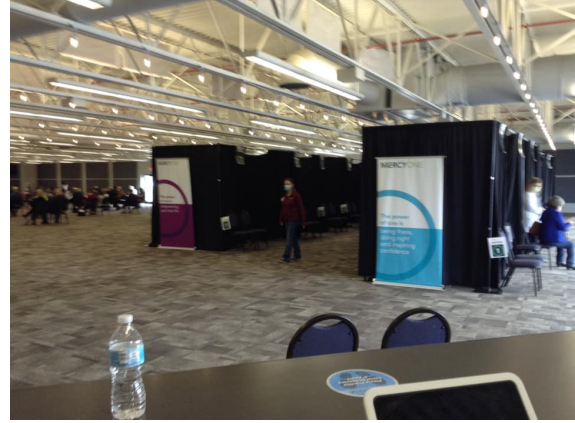
City Project/Construction Update

You may have noticed activity on the lot next to the Farm Bureau. The developer of College Suites, Wes Schulte, owns that property and is simply storing excess dirt from College Suites there until plans for that lot are finalized. Stay tuned for more!

Dean Ludwig
Public Works Supervisor



The PCC is thrilled to have the opportunity to serve our greater community by hosting vaccination clinics. Thousands of eligible residents were vaccinated by MercyOne in our Banquet Room this past month as we continue to collaboratively fight this pandemic anyway we can! We are proud to embody a mission that includes all elements of health & wellness.



Summer Day Camp Program

Registration is now open! This program offers super fun activities to keep the kids busy, active, and moving this summer. The number one goal is to HAVE FUN! Children ages 5 -12 are welcome to participate in the Day Camp Program.

[Day Camp Information and Registration Form](#)

T Ball Registration

Ages 5 and 6 year old's

\$30

Registration deadline is May 1st at 8:00pm

[T Ball Registration form](#)

[Online Registration](#)

[April Fitness Calendar](#)

Nerf Wars

April 17th

7pm-8:30pm

\$3 for members/

\$5 for non-members



For more information email
ttroutman@cityofpeosta.org

[Register Online](#)

[Waiver/Information sheet](#)



Dr. Robin Mundt
8554 Kapp Drive Suite B
Peosta, IA 52068

1-844-VET-DCVS (838) 3287

The Peosta Business Spotlight for April is Dubuque County Veterinary Services. This Veterinary office hosts about 2,200 square feet which allows for two big exam rooms. Dr. Robin Mundt and her staff offer affordable, primary care for your pets. Dubuque County Veterinary Services is a primary care facility for dogs, cats, and exotics. Appointment times vary between some early and late evening times with possible appointments on Sundays. Emergency care available for current registered clients.

Robin grew up in Mudlake right outside of Dubuque and she is a graduate of Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. While in school she was a animal control officer for the City of Ames. She started working for PetMed after graduation until November of 2020 when she decided to open a clinic in Peosta. She has 14 years experience as a vet (24 in the industry) with dogs, cats, and small exotics. Over the years she has worked on everything from tigers to rattlesnakes. Robin currently lives in



Dubuque County Library PEOSTA / NICC BRANCH

8342 NICC Drive
Peosta, IA 52068
Phone | 563-556-5110
ext.2224
Email | [library@dubcolib.
lib.ia.us](mailto:library@dubcolib.lib.ia.us)

April Calendar



Kids Book Group

Join Miss Kayla to discuss a children's book each month at this Book Discussion Group geared towards 3rd – 5th Grade.

April title: Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly.

April 28th.

May title: Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson.

May 26th. (Register by April 16 to receive a library copy) **Registration**

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

Art with Preschoolers (Ages 3-5)

This process-focused program will introduce developmentally appropriate art activities designed to encourage imagination and increase hand strength.

April 20th. May 18th. Registration

Craft Club

Join us for a fun, hands-on craft for children! This program is best suited for Kindergarten through 4th Grade. The Children's Craft Club will be held virtually on Zoom. Supply bags for the crafts will be provided if pre-registered.

April crafts: Easter egg wreath, salt paint Easter egg, scented salt dough. **April 6th, 13th & 27th.**

May crafts: Eggshell planter, bubble art flower card, wildflower seed bomb. **May 11th, 18th & 25th.** (Register by April 16th to receive supply kit) **Registration**

Fairy Tale Club

Join us for a fairy tale story followed by a craft to go along with that week's tale. This program is best suited for children 1st – 5th grade. The Fairy Tale Club will be held virtually on Zoom. Supply bags for the crafts will be provided if pre-registered.

April fairy tales: Tom Thumb, The Little Mermaid, The Firebird. **April 8th, 15th & 29th.**

May fairy tales: The Pied Piper, Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves, Beowulf. **May 13th, 20th & 27th.** (Register by April 16th to receive supply kit) **Registration**

Family Trivia

Join us for monthly Family Trivia, about a variety of topics. These programs will be offered virtually, and registration will be open until the day before the program.

April 17th. May 6th & 22nd. Registration

Homemade Toys for Toddlers (Ages 18 m. – 3 yrs.)

Together you and your child can make fun and developmentally appropriate toys and games from things around the house or in the recycling bin.

April 14th & 28th. May 12th & 26th. Registration

Star Wars Day Party

May the Fourth be with you as we celebrate all things Star Wars. Open to the whole family, we'll have crafts and activities related to the beloved movie franchise. Costumes, lightsabers, and Baby Yodas are welcome! Supplies will be provided for the crafts if you register by Friday, April 16.

Register **HERE**

Tuesday, May 4: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Science Club (1st - 4th Grade)

Each month we'll have a topic, experiment, or project related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). In May, we'll be learning about the plant cycle and making "alfalfa friends".

Supplies will be provided if you register by Friday, April 16.

Register [HERE](#)

Wednesday, May 5: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Saturday, May 15: 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Monday, May 17: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

(563) 556-8755

[City of Peosta Website](#)

