

Community CALENDAR

Sunday, September 24, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Richland Town Square
Registration 8 - 12
Awards 3 p.m.

Sigourney American Legion Post #19
Meets 7:00 p.m. Third Tuesday of every month at Memorial Hall

Wilson Memorial Library
Mondays 10-6pm
Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays 10-5pm
Fridays Closed
Saturdays 8-12.

Richland Public Library
Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday: 2:30-6:00
Friday: Noon-5:00
Saturday: 10:00-1:00
Closed Sunday and Monday. For more information call the library at 319-456-6541.

Sigourney Public Library
Summer Programs in June:
Preschool: Mondays, 11:30 am - 12 pm
4th, 5th, and 6th Grade: Tuesdays, 1-2 pm
2nd and 3rd Grade: Wednesdays, 1-2 pm
1st Grade and Kindergarten: 1-2 pm
Family Movie Matinee: June Fridays after the 9th, 2-3:30 pm

Hedrick Public Library
Monday 2:00 to 6:00;
Tuesday 2:00 to 5:00;
Wednesday 12:30 to 4:00;

Thursday 2:00 to 6:00; Friday 2:00 to 5:30; Saturday 9:00 to 11:00
Curbside-pick up available: call the library for details.

Sigourney Kiwanis
Serving the community since 1969. Kiwanis meet Wednesdays, from 12 to 1 p.m. at Keokuk County Bowl, visitors are welcome.

Old Keota Business
Anyone having old photos of former Keota businesses, please contact Larry Gale Sanders. The photos will be used in a Keota Business Pictorial Album.

Keota Food Pantry
The food pantry in Keota is open on the last Sunday of the month at the United Church of Faith, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Anyone needing food is invited.

Pekin Ministerial Association Lord's Cupboard
Located at Richland United Methodist Church, 106 W South St. Richland, (319) 456-2251. Open Tuesday and Wednesday 9-11 a.m. and Thursday 6-8 p.m.

City of Keota Public Meeting
Public meetings will be held on the First and Third Monday of each month, at 7 p.m. at Keota City Hall. Special Meetings will be posted at City Hall.

Keota School Board
The Keota School Board meets the second Thursday of each month, typically at 6

p.m.
Keota VFW Auxiliary
The VFW Auxiliary meets the third Tuesday of each month, typically at the VFW building.

Keokuk County Historical Society
Open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Arrangements for visiting other days can be arranged by calling 641-622-3005, please leave a message and a volunteer will return your call. Come and see our museum or do genealogy research.

Keokuk County Supervisors
The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors meets weekly on Mondays at 8:30 a.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous-Sigourney
AA Meetings at Community Outreach Center-Sigourney: Wednesdays at 8 p.m. for more information, call (319) 461-6869.

Narcotics Anonymous-Sigourney
NA Meetings Community Outreach Center-Sigourney: Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Food Pantry-Sigourney
Food Pantry Community Outreach Center-Sigourney: Call the Lord's Pantry at 641-224-2588 or contact a minister

Keokuk County Public Health
The Public Health Office is accepting the following donations: masks, gloves, gowns, including homemade masks and cleaning supplies as well as Durable Medical Equip. Items accepted: Medi-Planners, crutches, reachers, grabbers, wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, stool risers, shower benches, canes and side rails.
For more information on mRNA COVID-19 vaccine booster please call the office at 641-622-3575

Alcoholics Anonymous-Keota
AA every Monday at 7 p.m. at the Good Neighbor Fellowship Church on Broadway.

Alzheimer's Support
Alzheimer's Support Group meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Presbyterian Church in Washington at 6:30 p.m.

Take off Pound Sensibly
Weekly meetings Tuesdays, 4:30pm - 5:30 pm
Keokuk County Extension Office, 641-777-1653

KCED Business Mixer
Refreshments and Networking at First Resources Corp.
Thursday, April 27th, 5:00-7:00 P.M.
117 N. Main St
Sigourney, IA
Email: sadc@sigourney.com for more information

MENUS

Goodwin Senior Dining Center (Wellman)

Call (319) 646-2711 for details
Thursday, July 27
Ham Balls, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, Strawberry Fluff Pie, Bread & Butter, Milk
Friday, July 28
Sloppy Joe on a Bun, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Chocolate Chip Bar, Milk
Monday, July 21
Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, Toss Salad, Fruit & Brownie, Milk
Tuesday, August 1
Baked Potato w/Chili or Cheese Sauce & Broccoli, Fruit, Chocolate Chip Bar, Milk
Wednesday, August 2
Swedish Meatballs, Buttered Noodles, Spinach, Apple Crisp, Ice Cream, Bread & Butter, Milk

Milestones (Sigourney and Delta)

Thursday, July 27
Baked Chicken, Creamy Noodles, Baked Spinach Casserole, Fruit, Wheat Roll
Friday, July 28
Baked Ham, California Blend Vegetables, Scalloped Potatoes, Cornbread Muffin
Monday, July 21
Andy's Meatloaf w/ketchup, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Broccoli w/Cheese Sauce, Cinnamon Apple Slices, Garlic Wheat Roll
Tuesday, August 1
Turkey & Cheese on Wheat Bread, Lettuce Leaf, Tomato, Mayo, Creamy Cucumber & Onion Salad, Copper Penny Salad, Fruit
Wednesday, August 2
BBQ Baked Chicken, Sweet Potatoes, Green Peas, Fruited Pudding, Garlic French Bread

Keokuk County Sheriff's Office

July 01 - July 20, 2023
July 1
Dylan Dwayne Miller, of Wellman, was cited for Speeding
July 3
Christopher Kumm, of Ottumwa, was cited for Driving Under Suspension and Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability
Nicholas Allen Weber, 33, of Kinross, was arrested for Driving While Barred and cited for Failure to Maintain Registration/Plates, Operating w/o Registration/Plate, and Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability
Zoe Catherine Hahn, 20, of Sigourney, was arrested for Theft Fourth Degree.
Haleigh Denise Oxley, 25, of Wellman, was arrested for Domestic Assault Abuse Causing Bodily Injury- First offense.
Dana Lee Porter-Grimm, 48, of Sigourney, was arrested for Possessions of Controlled Substance.
July 5
Keeper Mason Grooms, of Sigourney, was cited for Failure to Obey Stop Sign/Yield Right of Way
Carly Ann Shondel, of Mystic, was cited for Permitting Unauthorized Person To Drive
July 7
Keeper Mason Grooms, 20, of What Cheer, was arrested on warrants for Eluding, Driving While Suspended, Interference with Office Acts, Possession/Purchase of Alcohol by Person 18/19/20-Second Offense, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.
July 9
Eric Jordany Valentin, Cortijo, of Sigourney, was cited for Operating w/o Registration/Plates and Failure to Use Seatbelt - Adult
July 12
Heather Marie Hopp, of Keota, was cited for Speed in 55<Zone (6-10 over)
July 14
Edgar Hernandez, of Ottumwa, was cited for Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability, No Valid Driver's License and Speed in 55<Zone (6-10 over)
July 15
Lawrence Leonard Boyd, 61, of Davenport, was arrested for Driving While Barred and Eluding.
July 18
Kearstan Cheyanne Schmidt, of Sigourney, was cited for Operating w/o Registration/Plate
July 19
Johnathon Steven Miller, 29, of Washington, was arrested on a Warrant out of Muscatine County.
Wesley Allen Muntz, 45, of Fairfield, was arrested for arraignment on original charge of Theft Second Degree.
Amy Nicole Thompson, 40, of Moulton, was arrested for Possession of Controlled Substance-Third or Subsequent and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Births, Engagements, Weddings, and Anniversaries

- story (no photos) runs for FREE
- story with black and white photo - \$10
- story with color photo - \$20

* Some restrictions may apply. If the story is an invitation to a celebration or request for cards, it must run as an ad.

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ELECTION from pg. 1

comp premium costs the city \$1830 yearly, the general liability costs \$603 yearly, the liability for the trucks costs \$311 yearly, and the fire station's property insurance costs \$689 yearly.

"The town of Richland's got a great fire department," state senator and Packwood firefighter Adrian Dickey said, eliciting a round of applause. "It's not because of that building, and it's not because of those trucks, it's because of these men and women that protect this community. And I don't give a damn what the cost difference is between two policies! I don't. You're not paying them. If they say 'We don't want this one' you pay the policy so they don't have the physicals. Period...There is a pissing match between the city council and the mayor towards the fire department. And if they just say 'Screw you' and leave, guess what your property rates are gonna do? If your property rates are going up and you don't have any fire department, period, then don't plan on (Packwood and other departments putting out fires). You're making a big assumption if you think we're going to come and cover without you talking to us first...We're not going to provide fire protection for the City of Richland if you screw over your own damn department that you have here right now. So think twice about getting protection from somebody else, when we got a very good department here right now and it's really come down to the cost of some physicals that they may not want to take."

Ehrenfelt then thanked everyone who had shown up in support of the fire department. "It's a disgrace that the people that need to be here are not," said one attendee.

Ehrenfelt noted that, between the 25 men on the department, there are 287 years of service. He explained that it takes 200 hours of training to become a firefighter and

that each firefighter spends a minimum of 24 hours working, spends 12 hours at meetings, and shows up for 50-60 calls every year. Ehrenfelt explained that, currently, the department's equipment is paid for by the township trustees, while day to day expenses are covered by the department's 501c3.

Ehrenfelt again explained his desire to create a fire board to make decisions about how the fire department is run, with the City of Richland, Richland Township, Clay Township, Dutch Creek Township, and Black Hawk Township each given a seat at the table. He sees the plan proposed by the city, where the townships are given a seat on an advisory board but all final decisions are made by the city council, as unfair.

Beam asked Ehrenfelt about the fact that the 28e Agreements between the townships for fire protection had not been filed with the state. Ehrenfelt stated that they can be easily filed and that the township was working on it. The controversy over the fire department's vehicles possibly being bought with the city's tax number was brought up; Ehrenfelt stood by his belief that, because the trustees wrote the grant and title, license, insure and maintain the vehicles, they are still property of the trustees.

One attendee asked Hadley and Beam how the situation with the fire department will be resolved, noting that there had been constant meetings and saying the community was sick of hearing about it. "I personally want us to all work together for our community and for everybody's sake. And if that takes the city giving a little and the fire department giving a little to work together, that's what is going to happen," said Beam. "This is my opinion, so it doesn't mean a whole lot, but from what I'm seeing and what I'm viewing, it looks to me like some people on

the city, and in some situations on the fire department, they're butting heads. And they're not wanting to work together. They're not listening to each other. They just want it my way or the highway."

"I'm all for doing what I can to make it work. A lot of the leg work has been done already. I don't think we need to reinvent the wheel, I think we just need to sit down and iron some things out, and that's gonna take a little bit of work," said Hadley. "But it's also going to take enough people deciding to do that within the confines of the council."

One attendee asked what they needed from the public. "There's an election coming up," said Hadley, leading to cheers from the crowd. Hadley stated that people would have to be patient until the November election, although he did recommend they reach out to the council members who did not attend the meeting.

"But they don't listen to us," said one attendee.

"Micheal, we've had enough," said another.

"Mitch gave every (member of the council) the opportunity to sit down and show them the vision. Micheal and Brei are the only ones who took him up on that offer. The other three refused."

"Tom will not allow this type of thing, the vision to be shown to the city council," said Richland firefighter John "Bob" Capps. "Second of all, those two, they're here. Now, I understand Alisa. I get it. But when you have something like this, that you got the public this involved now, and they're not here? That's a slap in your face. That's the way I see it...Come election, I'm running for mayor."

"Here's another thing to consider. It's why we want a fire board and we want all taxpayers represented, not just the city, but every township. Everybody should have

a say in this. The city council and even the trustees...that position changes every two years. Or every four years, whatever. The positions are always swapping," Capps said later in the meeting. "But when you have one entity over everything...and they don't like you, they can tell you 'Oh you can't do that.' They've already done it to Mitch...You know, I'm willing to get up at two in the morning to go to your house and do whatever I got to do to save your child. So who is Tom Hoekstra to tell me I can't do that? Who is he to tell Mitch that he can't do that? That's why it should not be up to one entity."

One attendee questioned how the city can fire a volunteer. Another attendee brought up frustrations towards the city, in his view, wanting to prioritize fighting fires in the city over in the country, something he sees as a slap in the face. Hadley brought up a story of the Richland fire department managing to handle three separate fires at the same time, stating that no firefighter is going to leave someone else hanging.

"The firemen are there to help their community and do what they can for their community because they love their community and they want to help their community. That's the frustrating part of all this, for me," said Hadley. "Having been on the department for 17 years before just having enough dead bodies in front of you that I just had enough, that was it, knowing and training a lot of the guys who are on the department, Mitch included, and other guys on there, I know what the intent is. I know where their heart is. And my goal is to work with them to make this as stupid easy as possible...I want to make this easy and streamlined. And I think, at some level, it's going to take things changing with the personnel in those positions come November."

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