

Blue super moon set to shine

JOE BENEDICT
Editorjdc@dailygate.com

Tonight look up to the sky and you will see an uncommon celestial event. The moon will be full for the second time this month and that is called a 'blue moon.'

Its not a common occurrence, hence the saying "once in a blue moon."

In fact, according to information from NASA, a blue moon happens every two or three years. The last one was also in August, in 2021 and if you should happen to miss this one, the next blue moon will be in May of 2026.



There's another note that makes this full moon special. According to Space.com, It is also a so-called "supermoon" and the second supermoon of the month. A supermoon comes when the full moon is within 90 percent of its closest approach to Earth, or perigee.

The moon's orbit is not exactly circular, but elliptical, as most bodies orbiting another. It's perigee is 221,942 miles away and the moon will be at that point at noon today, Aug. 30, meaning the night's moonrise will be very close to that perigee.

Space.com continues by saying that the term supermoon is not an astrological one, but actually was coined by an astrologer. Astronomers' have a more scientific term for the event, "perigean full moon," but it just does not roll off the tongue like supermoon, so that, relatively new term, has made its way into our language.

The supermoon is not overly rare, according to Space.com. Out of the 12 or 13 full moons per year, usually four of them are supermoons. There may be a few as two in a year or as many as five.

But since this is also a blue moon, that makes it uncommon. The term blue moon also has nothing to do with the color of the satellite. Unless there's some atmospheric forces to change the hue of the moon, then it will be its normal yellow to white color as it rises. That moonrise is set to take place at 7:50 p.m. tonight.

Try to get out and see the moon rise, because that is when we will see the moon illusion, according to Space.com. The moon, when it is close to the horizon looks enormous. The fact that the moon is closer to Earth than other times in its orbit will amplify this effect.

How often does it seem that clouds interfere with something we want to see in the sky? So far, the forecast for this event seems to be clear skies and even cool temps to get out and enjoy the sight.

Just for good measure, there's a third element to sky watching tonight. The full moon will see the planet Saturn about five and a half degrees to its upper right.

Insight remains committed to Keokuk hospital reopening despite challenges

ERIKA BARRETT
dgcnews@dailygate.com

Insight, the company that acquired the Keokuk Hospital from Blessing earlier this year, remains committed to reopening the facility as a rural emergency hospital (REH) despite the challenges involved. Keokuk City Administrator Cole O'Donnell confirmed that he and Mayor Kathie Mahoney had an in-person meeting with Insight representatives, including their medical director, to discuss the progress of the hospital's reopening.

According to O'Donnell's

report to the Council on Aug. 17, during the meeting, a former hospital employee who helped maintain the building accompanied the team from Insight on a tour of the hospital, allowing them to inspect "every nook and cranny" and "learn all the different secrets about it."

O'Donnell stated that Insight is still committed to opening the hospital as an REH. "At this point, they hope to have it operational by December or January," he said.

However, the timeline is dependent upon funding. "It's dependent upon some grants

they're looking into and at other capital possibilities," O'Donnell said.

Once the emergency room is up and running, Insight hopes to expand its outpatient services and is looking at a variety of methods to accomplish its vision.

Insight also has a long-term goal of bringing back the hospital as an inpatient facility, but this will require additional legislation at the federal level for them to get some designations. O'Donnell cautioned that this

SEE HOSPITAL, PAGE 9

Two Best of Keokuk awards presented

Property owners take pride in ownership

JESSICA MARTIN
For the Daily Gate City

A one man band in terms of home renovations and a family legacy were both awarded Best of Keokuk Awards by the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce (KACC) on Aug. 24.

"Both winners are incredibly kind, deserving members of our community," Jessica M. Martin, Executive Director of the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce, said. "They represent what it means to have pride in ownership and in our community."

Gaston Gagnon and his wife Linda won a Best of Keokuk award specifically for their most recent home purchase and renovation at 300 Belknap Place. However, Gagnon was nominated for several residential property renovations, including the recently sold home at 252 Boulevard Road, and he is touted as doing all of the work to bring a property back to life.

He and his wife, who is a Keokuk native, moved back to the area from Denver, Colorado, where Gagnon ran a residential renovation company on a larger scale. The two enjoy renovating smaller one-story homes to sell that others may have given up on or are nearly too far gone and this is their seventh property in Keokuk, Gagnon mentioned. Gagnon said the home at 300 Belknap Place will be for sale within the next couple of weeks.

"I do it to pass my time, I can't just sit around and do nothing," Gagnon jokingly said. "If anyone knows of another similar property, we are ready to take on another."

Dairy Queen, at 2656 Belknap Boulevard, also won a Best of Keokuk Award for exterior updates and Michael Daughters, the new owner, was honored with a certificate on Aug. 24 from KACC. Daughters purchased the business from his parents in 2022 after they owned it for 31 years. His sister Brooke Daughters is the manager and both grew up



COURTESY PHOTO

300 Belknap Place has been an eyesore for years. Then Gaston and Linda Gagnon came along and purchased the home, transforming it into a lovely little cottage. They were named by the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce as Best of Keokuk winners for August.

working at the location.

Daughters said they have updated the roof, patched and painted the parking lot, and more. As well as provided an updated menu for the drive-thru window.

"This is my whole life, so it felt right to buy the business," Michael Daughters, Dairy Queen owner, said. "This town has been really great to us."

The location is open from February to mid-October each year.

New entries for the Best of Keokuk Award, sponsored by the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce, will be accepted through Sept. 30, for this year's competition. There will be award recipient announcements made for September and October winners.

The contest, which was formerly known as the Keokuk Pride Award, recognizes the homeowners, businesses, and organizations in the area that demonstrate pride in the surrounding community through exterior

maintenance, and/or improvement of property (either public or private) that serve the community at large. It is given to promote and encourage positive influences through betterment of our community aesthetic.

Examples of eligible projects could include facade restoration, playground enhancements, updates on roofs, windows, repairing or building a fence with added landscaping, exterior painting of the home, business, or location, additions, and more. Any entries that enhance the curb appeal of a home, business, or organization's location will be considered.

Several locations can be awarded each month and will be provided a prominent lawn sign to be displayed for up to two weeks, as well as a photo will be taken with the winner to be shared on social media and with local media. Entries should include

SEE BEST, PAGE 9



CIRCUS

Flotsam River Circus stop featuring local food vendors.

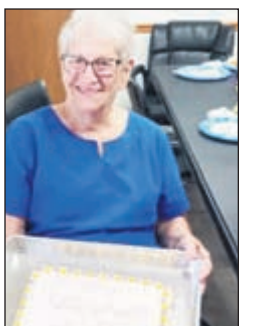
P3



SPORTS

Central Lee's Aubree Boyd gets big chance.

INSIDE TODAY NOTABLE



In Clark County, Paula Schantz retires from the Clark County Health Department after many years of service. See page 10.

DEATHS

George L. Eichacker, 93, Las Vegas, Nev.: Page 5
Cecil Neff, 92, Nauvoo/Keokuk: Page 5
Elmer L. Woodsmall, 70, Kahoka, Missouri: Page 5

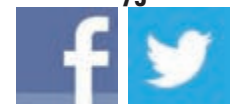
INSIDE

ADOPT-A-PET	14
CLARK COUNTY	10
CLASSIFIEDS	11-12
COMICS	8
CROSSWORD	3
FYI	5
OBITUARIES	5
OPINION	4
SPORTS	6-7

No. 170, 176th Year

FIND US!

www.dailygate.com

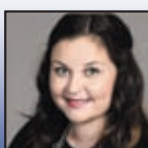
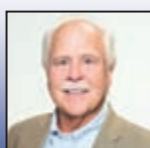
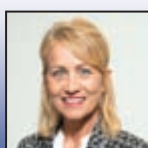
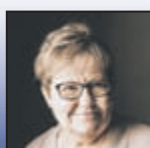
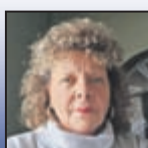
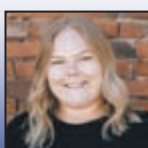


We are ready to list your property HERE next!



423 Main Street
Keokuk, IA

319-524-2331



Jordan Leroy
319-795-1356

Becky Sowers
217-257-5838

Candy Berquam
319-795-6478

Vicki Briscoe
319-520-7100

Paul Westermeyer
319-520-7004

Celley Derr
319-670-1966

Jan Filkins
319-520-7536

John Filkins
309-224-8996

Steve Stegrist
309-337-0861

Maddie Marlin
319-670-9300



Vicki Cramer-Briscoe Managing Broker

www.thepeoplesrealestate.com or homesnap.com



BEST: Award winners named

FROM PAGE 1

before and after photos of the improvement project (however if you are nominating someone else, an after photo will suffice), along with a brief description about the project and how it has enhanced the neighborhood/community. Projects must be started, underway or completed by May 1, 2023, and must not have been awarded a Keokuk Pride or Best of Keokuk award in the past.

The deadline for entries for the September award is Sept. 19, but entries will be accepted throughout the duration of the contest until Sept. 30. September's winners will be awarded on Tuesday, Sept. 26, and October's winners will be awarded on Oct. 24. A maximum of three photos can be submitted online.

Entries can be submitted at the form at keokukchamber.com/bestofkeokuk or by mail to: Best of Keokuk



COURTESY PHOTO

Dairy Queen owner Michael Daughters was named a Best of Keokuk winner for the upgrades to the exterior of the ice cream place. He purchased the business last year from his parents, who owned the Keokuk Dairy Queen for 31 years.

Award c/o Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce, 1026 Main St., Keokuk, IA 52632. For 2024, annual nominations will be accepted between May 1 and Sept. 30, with the final awards

presented by Oct. 31. For more information, or to fill out a nomination form go to keokukchamber.com/bestofkeokuk, email membership@keokukchamber.com, or call (319) 524-5055.

McDonald's looking for outstanding educators

For the Daily Gate City

Local McDonald's restaurants will again celebrate area teachers this Fall with the launch of the fourth-annual McDonald's Outstanding Educator Awards. Nominations will be accepted online through September 15 at www.surveymonkey.com/r/moeducator23.

Since launching this award program in 2020, locally-owned McDonald's restaurants have given more than \$35,000 in cash and prizes to 185 educators across local communities.

Community members can nominate outstanding teachers in grades K-12 and the award honors educators who exhibit the ultimate dedication to their students and go the extra mile to contribute to the improve-

ment of education. "Year after year, our local educators amaze the community with their commitment to our children," said Emily Mast, local McDonald's Owner/Operator. "We want to hear the stories of local teachers who make a difference every day in the lives of their students so we can help celebrate them!"

Two tiers of prizes will be awarded at random—45 educators will receive a \$100 Visa gift card and five educators will receive a \$1,000 gift card to use toward their classroom. All winners will receive a Best Teacher Ever coffee mug, Outstanding Educator certificate, and McDonald's food vouchers to "teach it forward" to parents with outstanding students through-

out the year. Mast says she is honored to celebrate local educators with this award for a fourth year, especially as teachers are constantly adapting to whatever is thrown at them while ensuring that the children in local communities succeed. In addition to funds for their classrooms and a Best Teacher Ever coffee mug, the McDonald's Outstanding Educator Award winners can recognize good behavior and academic success among their students with vouchers for free McDonald's items.

For more information or to submit a McDonald's Outstanding Educator Award nomination, visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/moeducator23.

Chicago TV news crew robbed at gunpoint while reporting on a string of robberies

CHICAGO (AP) — A Chicago television news crew reporting on a string of robberies ended up robbed themselves after they were accosted at gunpoint by three armed men wearing ski masks.

Spanish-language station Univision Chicago said a reporter and photographer were filming just before 5 a.m. Monday in Chicago's West Town neighborhood when three masked men brandishing firearms robbed them, taking their television camera and other items.

"They were approached with guns and robbed. Mainly it was personal items, and they took a camera," Luis Godinez,

vice president of news at Univision Chicago, told the Chicago Tribune.

Godinez said the news crew was filming a story about robberies in the West Town community that was slated to run on the morning news. He said the footage they shot was in the stolen camera, and the story never made it on the air.

Chicago police identified the victims as a 28-year-old man and 42-year-old man. Police said the pair was outside when the three men drove up in a gray sedan and black SUV. After the armed robbers took items from the news crew they fled in their vehicles.

No injuries were re-

ported and no one is in custody, police said.

Godinez said Univision Chicago, the local TV affiliate of international media company TelevisaUnivision, is not disclosing the names of the reporter and photographer to protect their privacy.

"They're OK, and we're working on it together as a team," he said.

The episode was the second robbery this month involving a Chicago news crew, after a WLS-TV photographer was assaulted and robbed on Aug. 8 while preparing to cover a weekday afternoon news conference on Chicago's West Side, the station reported.

HOSPITAL: Working towards opening

FROM PAGE 1

is only a possibility and is dependent upon the legislation. "It's only a possibility that they're thinking about it should everything fall in line," O'Donnell said. "I don't want anybody to think, or get the false impression that Insight is here to open an inpatient facility. That is something that they hope to do but may not come about depending upon the legislation."

Federal regulations have outlined REH requirements. Currently, all candidate hospitals must have 50 beds or less and be located in a federally defined rural area. According to an article published by The Hawk Eye, in October 2022, Keokuk saw 1.5 inpatients and 22-24 ER patients per day before the hospital closed.

Once the Insight-acquired Keokuk

Hospital reopens and as an REH, the following conditions apply to the location:

Annual per-patient average of 24 hours or fewer spent in the hospital

24-hour emergency services

Maintain a transfer agreement with a level I or II trauma center

Eliminate acute inpatient services but maintain a fully staged Emergency Department with a lab, radiology, and pharmacy

Blessing Hospital is the closest level II trauma center

to Keokuk, located in Quincy. The closest level I is the University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City.

Even with the addition of an REH in Keokuk, the hospital's primary objectives would be to "treat and street" (quick discharge) or "stabilize and transfer" (airlift or ambulance transfer) more

patients needing more intensive or long-term care.

Insight is still awaiting news about funding from Governor Kim Reynolds' office (the city recently asked residents to submit letters asking the state for funding on behalf of Insight).

According to O'Donnell, there is no information about which level I or II hospital Insight will work with for a transfer agreement or how much maintenance on the building is required before Insight opens the hospital.

During the Aug. 17 City Council meeting, Mayor Kathie Mahoney announced that Insight had entered a float into the Labor Day Parade, which was later confirmed by O'Donnell, who added Insight also planned to participate in the city's annual Main Street Merchant Trick or Treat night.

Earn a coaching authorization

For the Daily Gate City

Want to coach a sport in an upcoming season?

Get authorized and be ready to take the field, court, or where ever your athletic passion takes you.

Get certified today from the comfort of your home or office and be ready to make a difference in our young athletes.

The Coaching Authorization Certificate course is held online starting

Oct. 2. Come to campus only one day to learn

the basics. This one day face-to-face will be held Saturday, Oct. 14.



KEOKUK FIRE DEPARTMENT

CIVIL SERVICE ENTRANCE EXAM

The Keokuk Fire Department will be conducting a civil service entrance exam **September 30, 2023 or October 7, 2023 (TBD)**. If you or someone you know would like to apply for employment at the Keokuk Fire Department, **please use the following link to fill out a KFD employment application.**

Link: [Employmentapplication\(2-pp\).\(cityofkeokuk.org\)](http://Employmentapplication(2-pp).(cityofkeokuk.org))

Dates & times will be posted soon.

Applications must be completed and turned in by Friday, September 15th at 4:00pm

Completed applications can be mailed or dropped off at: 111 South 13th Street, Keokuk, IA 52632

KEOKUK AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

GOLF OUTING

Team Up & Tailgate

SEPT 13

Team ENTRY



GAMES · BBQ · TAILGATING

Choose any sports team to represent for the Team Up & Tailgate theme. There will be games, prizes for winners, a raffle and barbecue from Smokin' J's Barbecue. For questions, email membership@keokukchamber.com. Tailgating & Check-in 9 a.m. // Shotgun Start 10 a.m. DEER RUN GOLF COURSE, 1 DEER RUN DR., HAMILTON, IL

COME & JOIN US



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

REGISTER TEAMS | KEOKUKCHAMBER.COM/EVENTS