

CITY OF MUSCATINE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SHINING A LIGHT ON FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS

MUSCATINE, Iowa – At the May 1 City Council meeting, Muscatine Mayor Brad Bark officially proclaimed May 11–17 as Food Allergy Awareness Week — a powerful step toward education and understanding in our community.

Leading the charge is Junior Miss Pearl City 2025, Harper Wittmer, whose heart for service and advocacy is truly remarkable. Through her initiative, "Painting the World Teal for Food Allergy Awareness," Harper is not only spreading knowledge but also creating safer, more inclusive spaces for children and families living with food allergies.

A recent recipient of the 2024 Giles Joslyn Youth Initiative Award from the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine, Harper continues to inspire through action — from fundraising and giving school presentations to influencing policy and reimagining events like Halloween to ensure every child feels safe and seen.

One young leader. One big mission. Endless impact.

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Food Allergy Awareness Week is observed annually serving as a crucial time to raise awareness about food allergies and anaphylaxis, which can be a life-threatening condition. [Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Connection Team \(FAACT\)](#) and [Food Allergy Research & Education \(FARE\)](#) are key organizations dedicated to this cause, providing resources and support for those affected by food allergies and their families.