

JOHNSTON Living Weekly

FREE!

WWW.IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM

A BIG GREEN UMBRELLA MEDIA PUBLICATION

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

SEEN IN JOHNSTON



FOUNDATION PRESENTS FUNDS FOR VISION SCREENER: School nurses received a \$7,360 grant from the Johnston Community School Foundation for a second vision screener to share among all school buildings. The Johnston Lions Club contributed \$1,000 for the project, while Advanced Eye Care Center PC donated \$500. ■

JOHNSTON WEATHER FORECAST

WED. HIGH 14 | LOW -8
Cold with snow and flurries

THURS. HIGH 18 | LOW 3
Plenty of sunshine, but cold

FRI. HIGH 27 | LOW 21
Cloudy; a few snow showers

SAT. HIGH 24 | LOW 1
Cloudy and breezy; a.m. snow

SUN. HIGH 12 | LOW -1
Plenty of sunshine, but cold

CHARTER BANK

Chart Your Success With Us!

5526 N.W. 86th St., Johnston • 331-2265

Member FDIC CharterBanker.com

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE FREE DIGITAL VERSION OF THIS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER, SCAN THIS QR CODE.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

HOW AND WHY WE DONATE

Rachel Peterson is community engagement coordinator for a domestic and sexual violence crisis services organization. Her work involves requesting, sorting and transporting physical donations. She sent me a column to consider running in CITYVIEW. The timing didn't work, but her thoughts do, as she made me rethink how and why I donate. She said she has learned quite a bit.

"I learned that heat kills bedbugs," she shared. "I learned that our shelter goes through 400 rolls of toilet paper annually, and, most importantly, I learned that we, as a society, desperately need to reassess how and why we donate."

She claims "proof of privilege" is found in the things people donate to the shelter, and it has become clear that many donors do not understand the difference between need and want.

"A hotdog toaster — yes, they're real, look it up — is not going to help a person who is moving out of a shelter into an apartment where they don't even have forks. A yoga ball — deflated, no pump — isn't going to do anything for women who have to rely on donations to get tampons."

She wrote how she now understands that some people use donation bins as a way to unload their clutter, all while feeling good about their seemingly charitable act.

"Stained clothes. Broken toys. Half-empty body wash. The haunted-looking clown doll — initially amusing, then infuriating. Why did anyone think that this was something a domestic violence survivor might need?"

Peterson "lost it" when she got a call asking if the shelter had any use for puppets.

"No, our clients don't need puppets. They need things like deodorant and shampoo. Unopened, unused deodorant and shampoo. Items that can help them rebuild after a crisis. And yet, people are donating items that have no place in the reality of the people we serve."

The reality is that not all donations are helpful, she said, and in many cases, they create additional burdens for the organizations receiving them.

"For those who dislike throwing things away, I understand. I'm the



same way. But nonprofits don't have the time, resources or staff to fix a broken blender or scrub a stain out of a sweater."

Peterson said, when these items are donated, volunteers are tasked with throwing them away. Even so, she understands, better than most, how thoughtful giving can be inspiring.

"Church groups and small businesses have come together to collect new toys and pajamas around the holidays... Quilting clubs donate handmade quilts... A young woman comes by like clockwork to drop off a box of diapers or a few tubes of toothpaste. These acts of giving stand out because they show empathy, respect and an understanding of the value these items bring to survivors' lives."

Those are honest words that may make us all rethink how and why we donate. Thank you, Rachel.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
President and Publisher
Big Green Umbrella Media
shane@dmcityview.com
515-953-4822, ext. 305



JOHNSTON
Living Weekly

A publication of Big Green Umbrella Media, Inc.
8101 Birchwood Court, Suite, D, Johnston, IA 50131
www.iowalivingmagazines.com



News contact

Tammy Pearson
515-953-4822, ext. 302
tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com



Advertising contact

Andrea Hodapp
515-953-4822, ext. 322
andrea@iowalivingmagazines.com

FUNERAL NOTICES

Funeral notices can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com

DAYNA LYNN FLINT

Dayna Lynn Flint, 65, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025, at UnityPoint Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Visitation and rosary service were held Feb. 7 at Iles Westover Chapel. Funeral services were Feb. 8 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Additional services will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at Baue Funeral Home in Cave Springs, Missouri. Burial will follow at St. Charles Memorial Gardens.



Dayna was born Aug. 22, 1959, in St. Charles, Missouri, to Donald and Joyce (Monroe) Ohlms. She graduated from St. Joseph's Academy in St. Louis and St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. She was a medical technologist at DePaul Hospital, where she met her future husband, Jerry Flint. When Jerry went to graduate school at the University of Kentucky, they married, and Dayna worked at the University of Kentucky Medical Center and supported the family. Once Jerry's career began, the family moved to several places. Dayna concentrated her efforts on her family and volunteering. One of her most memorable experiences was living in Singapore where she organized her daughter's education and supported the Singapore American School and Tabitha Foundation Cambodia.

When Dayna returned to the United States, she volunteered for several organizations, including PEO International, PTA as vice president of fundraising, Junior League Des Moines, Junior League St. Louis, Girl Scouts of America, and National Charity League. In her 40 years of volunteering, Dayna's leadership helped raise more than \$8 million.

She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, reading and traveling with her family. She visited more than 30 countries and most of the United States.

Survivors include her husband, Jerry Flint; daughter, Bayley Flint Johnson and her husband, Matthew; siblings Cheryl (Peter) Perkins and Todd (Erin) Ohlms; and nieces and nephew, Abby Perkins and Joseph and Grace Ohlms. Dayna was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorial contributions are suggested to P.E.O. International STAR Scholarship (JM-JYVA Des Moines Chapter), the Chaminade Donald J. Ohlms "Red Devil" Memorial Scholarship, or the Iowa Health Care Association Foundation.

Online condolences are welcome at www.IlesFuneralHomes.com. Arrangements are by Iles Westover Chapel. ■

COMMUNITY GREETINGS

Johnston Community Greetings would like to welcome anyone new to Johnston with a welcome bag including discounts at local businesses and city information. Contact Missy Shepherd by phone, text or email at 515-991-5014 or mshepherdgreetings@gmail.com. ■

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- **Monday, Feb. 17:** City Office Buildings and Library closed for Presidents' Day
- **Tuesday, Feb. 18:** City Council Work Session, 6 p.m.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 18:** City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 19:** Senior Advisory Board Meeting, 5 p.m.
- **Thursday, Feb. 20:** Library Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, Feb. 20:** Board of Adjustment Meeting, 6:30 p.m. ■

JOHNSTON PARTNERSHIP NEEDS

The Johnston Partnership provides food and personal hygiene products to those in need, as well as children's seasonal clothing. Their current needs at the pantry are dry black beans, applesauce cups, pet food and winter coats (all ages/all sizes).

Donations can be dropped off at 5870 Merle Hay Road, Suite C, Johnston, during open hours. For more information, visit <https://johnstonpartnership.org/donate/>. ■

WE WILL RUN YOUR JOHNSTON NEWS ITEMS FOR FREE.

Email your news by Friday at 5 p.m. to: tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com or call 515-953-4822, ext. 302

SEEN IN JOHNSTON

JOHNSTON HIGH SCHOOL'S WRESTLING SENIOR NIGHT WAS JAN. 16.

PHOTOS BY DAN MENNEN



Coach Joe Gibbons, Jashua Anglo, Coach Jeff Helgeson and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg



Joe Gibbons, Kolby Gibbons, Pam Gibbons and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg



Doug Darling, Nick Darling, Arla Darling and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg



Batina Sehic, Sandy Sehic and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg



Robert Roethler, Mason Roethler, Nicol Roethler and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg



Damon Staker, Carson Staker, Tara Staker and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg



Tay Thompson, Johnny Thompson, Shandrel Thompson, Lynsie Thompson and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg



Matt Kauffman, Xander Kauffman, Nikki Kauffman and Coach Aaron Tecklenburg

VALENTINES FOR PUPS

Celebrate Valentine’s Day with your pup, and the adoptable dogs from Hope Animal Rescue of Iowa will receive your love as well. The entire month of February you can purchase a Valentine for your dog from Woof Pack Resort & Spa in Johnston, and the proceeds will go to Hope Animal Rescue of Iowa. The Valentine includes home-made Valentine treat from Em’s Homemade Dog Treats, Valentine tennis ball and Valentine bandana. Price is \$10. Support this local rescue by purchasing your pup a special Valentine. Contact 515-416-4255 or info@woofpackresort.com. ■

SPECIAL CENSUS HIRING FIELD REPRESENTATIVES, SUPERVISORS

The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring for the Special Census in Johnston. Field representatives earn \$25.50/hour, and field supervisors earn \$29.50/hour. These temporary roles offer flexible hours, paid training, and the chance to positively impact our community — perfect for college students, retirees, or anyone seeking a side hustle. Applications close Friday, Feb. 14. Applicants must be 18 and older and U.S. citizens. For information and to apply, visit www.cityofjohnston.com/1506/Special-Census-2025. ■

DSF SPRING AUCTION UPCOMING

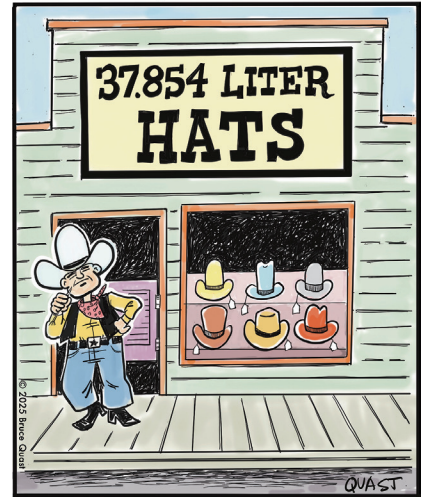
The Dragon Scholarship Fund’s annual Spring Auction is just around the corner, taking place from March 2-8. This key fundraising event is vital in supporting scholarships for Johnston High School seniors, helping them pursue their future goals.

This year’s auction will feature more than \$20,000 in community donations, including items and experiences from dining; entertainment, concerts and theater; sports tickets, memorabilia and activities; to health and beauty. Click on the QR code to register as a bidder. New items will be added up until the opening day of the auction. Registering now ensures you will be informed once the site is open for bidding on all items. For more information, visit www.dragonsf.org. ■



COMFORTABLY DUMB

By Bruce Quast



Cowboys adopt the metric system



“Here’s our plan to increase sales- change the instructions to read: Lather, rinse, repeat, then repeat again!”

CITYVIEW CHOCOLATE WALK

LIKE CHOCOLATE? LIKE COCKTAILS? THEN YOU’LL LOVE THIS EVENT!

FRIDAY, FEB. 21 • 5–9 P.M.

at West Glen Town Center

CHOCOLATEWALK.DMCITYVIEW.COM

Pre-Event Ticket Price \$25 (\$35 at the door)

EVENTS IN THE AREAEMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM**CAP THEATRE PRESENTS
“DISNEY’S BEAUTY AND THE
BEAST JR”****Through March 2****CAP Theatre, 201 First Ave. S., Altoona**

Featuring 28 youth actors on the Melissa Grooters Stage, CAP Theatre presents “Disney’s Beauty and the Beast JR.” Friday shows begin at 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday matinees begin at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors and \$10 for students. Class Act Productions (CAP) Theatre is a children’s community theatre in Altoona that strives to give young people, regardless of experience, the opportunity to be part of and appreciate live theatre.

“MEN ON BOATS”**Through March 2****Des Moines Playhouse, 831 42nd St., Des Moines**

Tickets for “Men on Boats” may be purchased online at dmplayhouse.com, by phone at 515-277-6261, and at The Playhouse ticket office. The year: 1869. The crew: a maniacally talkative youth, an old Civil War vet who doesn’t like people, an overexcited Brit, and a hunter who wears only beaver skins, to name just a few. Led by John Wesley Powell, a one-armed crazy-faced explorer with an excitable soul, this motley bunch faces treacherous Colorado River rapids and the unexplored American frontier. Governed by ambition, hunger, and downright insanity, they must decide when to press on and when to give in to the dangers of exploration. Note: This play contains adult language. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. A pre-show talk is 30 minutes prior to curtain. Tickets start at \$29. ASL translations can be provided with advance notice. These services are free and reasonable accommodations will be made. Requests should be made through The Playhouse

ticket office. Closed captioning is available using the GalaPro app.

**2025 FRIENDLY SONS OF ST.
PATRICK PRE-PARTY AND PARADE
March 15 and March 17**

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick is back with their St. Patrick’s Day celebrations. Join them on Saturday, March 15, from 2-6 p.m. at The Shop DSM, 901 Cherry St., Des Moines, for a Pre-Paddy Party, featuring live music from Black Dirt Ramblers, a food truck and cash bar for an at-will donation. The parade is on Monday, March 17, and begins at noon. Participants will proceed from E. First Street, west on Grand Avenue to Eighth Street, with the parade officially ending at Eighth and Grand Avenue. The after party will be in the Des Moines Marriott Downtown Hotel. Visit www.friendlysonsiowa.com for more information.

DSM BOOK FESTIVAL**Saturday, March 22, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.****Franklin Event Center****4801 Franklin Ave., Des Moines**

Readers and book lovers in central Iowa will be thrilled to find an outstanding array of authors appearing at this free, fun-filled event, presented by Beaverdale Books and Beaverdale Neighborhood Association. In addition to author programs, panels, workshops and children’s activities, the event will offer attendees the opportunity to have their books signed, visit with publishers, and enjoy mingling with fellow book lovers. For the complete schedule, visit <https://beaverdalebooks.com/dsmbookfestival/>.

Four headlining presentations will be offered in the venue’s large theater, including fiction writer Claire Lombardo, historian Alexis Coe, award-winning Hanif Abdurraqib and AViD author C.J. Box. ■

RECIPE

SHARE A HEARTWARMING BREAKFAST

(Family Features) A cozy morning at home sharing a delicious breakfast. For many families, it's a picture of perfection. Whether your brunch favorites include pastries and pancakes or fruits and French toast, enjoying a meal together is a heartwarming way to start the day.

Now, you can savor all your favorite flavors inspired by wish kids. This Bananas Foster French Toast recipe is made with the freshness and irresistibly soft texture of Butterbread from Nature's Own, which partnered with Make-A-Wish on a \$500,000 donation to highlight and support wish kids through 2026.

Since 1980, the global nonprofit has granted more than 375,000 wishes in the U.S. to children with critical illnesses, helping them build the strength and hope needed to fight their illnesses. Granted wishes can be life-changing, bringing a sense of normalcy to families that can impact entire communities. ■

BANANAS FOSTER FRENCH TOAST

Total time: 30 minutes

Servings: 4

French Toast:

- 4 eggs
- 2 cups half-and-half
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 stick butter
- 1 loaf Nature's Own Butterbread

Bananas Foster Sauce:

- 1/2 stick butter
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 3 bananas, sliced lengthwise and quartered

Directions:

To make French toast: In mixing bowl, combine eggs, half-and-half, cinnamon, sugar and vanilla. Beat until



well blended.

On nonstick griddle or griddle pan on medium heat, melt butter.

Dip each bread slice into egg mixture until fully coated (two times each). Place on griddle and cook until each side is slightly brown.

To make bananas foster sauce:

Melt butter and brown sugar together; add cinnamon. Once melted into caramel, add sliced bananas.

Continue spooning sauce over bananas in pan.

Plate French toast and spoon bananas with sauce on top of each French toast stack.

IOWA GOLD STAR MILITARY MUSEUM

515-252-4531

HOURS:

SUNDAY: CLOSED
MONDAY: CLOSED
TUES. - FRI.: 9AM - 3PM
SATURDAY: 10AM - 2PM

AT CAMP DODGE ★ 7105 NW 70th STREET, JOHNSTON

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR & TOWING 515-251-5839

70% of women will outlive men by 10-15 years

DOES YOUR HUSBAND HAVE ENOUGH LIFE INSURANCE?

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

TIMOTHY OSBORNE
515-333-7182

IOWA GOLD STAR MILITARY MUSEUM PROGRAMS

• **Saturday, Feb. 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum presents Iwo Jima - 80th Anniversary. Presentations from Living History Detachment will be featured from 10:30-11:30 a.m. followed by a free guided tour at 11:30 a.m. From 1-2 p.m., enjoy a presentation on Iowa native and Marine veteran Harold "Pie" Keller – Guest Speaker: Brent Westemeyer. Displays and mini presentations will be offered throughout the day.

• **Saturday, March 1, 11 a.m.**, The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum presents author Enfys McMurry, who will be discussing her book, "Disaster at 39,000: How Small-Town America Came Together at a Time of Crisis." In May 1962, a plane fell from the sky over the heartland of America — Centerville and Unionville, Missouri, shaking the confidence of airline passengers nationwide. McMurry will discuss her extensive research and the minute-by-minute account of the final moments of Continental Airlines Flight 11. Books will be available for signing by the author. ■

POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION

Visit polkcountyiowa.gov/conservation/events/ for information about upcoming programs offered by Polk County Conservation and for registration links.



STORY TELLEBRATION

Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Feb. 19, Owl Moon; March 19, Spring is Sprung; April 23, It's Raining. Join volunteer storyteller Carmen Epstein for a fun, interactive tale tailored toward children ages 2 to 6 that explores the wonders of the outdoors. During each program, participants enjoy interactive stories and an activity. No registration required for this free event. ■

WE WILL RUN YOUR JOHNSTON NEWS ITEMS FOR FREE.

Email your news by Friday at 5 p.m. to:
tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com or call 515-953-4822, ext. 302

AMEGA
GARAGE DOORS
& OPENERS, INC. CALL US
515-633-2119
AmegaGarageDoors.com

YOUR EXPERT SOURCE FOR
GARAGE DOORS
REPAIRS • NEW DOORS • OPENERS

JOKE OF THE WEEK

 What do you call a space magician?
A flying saucerer!

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Sturdy vintage oak parlor table with glass ball and claw feet. Photos and details can be found on the Des Moines Craigs List under "Antiques". Table is in great condition, just needs some minor refinishing. Bargain priced at \$150. Call 515-770-2307. No texts please.

SERVICE: Quality home cleaning by insured individual. Call 515.675.8144.

FOR SALE: Two older-model gun cabinets with drawer storage. You haul. Call 515-993-5202 and make offer.

FOR SALE: 26 glass aquariums with lights. Various sizes. Some heavy wood stands available also. You haul. Best Offer Good start up for a fish store 515-993-5202

LOOKING TO BUY VINYL RECORDS: Paying cash for 60's-90's rock and jazz and blues. Please call Brian at 515-326-5033.

SEND IN YOUR FREE CLASSIFIED AD BY MONDAY AT 10 A.M. TO BECKHAM@DMCITYVIEW.COM

LIST 50 WORDS OR LESS FOR FREE.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE DIGITAL EDITION OF JOHNSTON LIVING MAGAZINE FREE!

Scan the code below, or visit
www.iowalivingmagazines.com.

JOHNSTON FEBRUARY 2025

Living

A Special BOND

Local grandparents share why being close to their grandkids is so important to them.

Meet Marijya Whitney
Education
Johnston Climate Change
Committee makes impact
COMMUNITY
Italian crusted salmon with
creamy truffle Caesar salad
RECIPE
FEB 22
DATE

