

WAUKEE *Living Weekly*

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 A BIG GREEN UMBRELLA MEDIA PUBLICATION

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

SMITH AND KLEINWOLTERINK NAMED 2021 FIREFIGHTERS OF THE YEAR

The Waukee Fire Department awarded Firefighter/EMTs Blake Smith and Cole Kleinwolterink with its 2021 Firefighter of the Year honors. To receive this award, individuals need to go above and beyond their daily requirements of the job.

Blake Smith joined the Waukee Fire Department as a part-time employee in August 2017. He has served as a full-time firefighter/EMT since October 2020. Last year, Smith was on the department's Hose Committee, planned multiple trainings, was a quiet leader at training sessions and is currently in paramedic school. Blake is a team player who is very deserving of this honor.

Known as "K-wink" around the fire station, Kleinwolterink has continually pushed himself and the organization to be better since he



Firefighter/EMT Blake Smith receives the Firefighter of the Year award.

started as a paid-on-call employee in 2019. He was promoted to a full-time firefighter/EMT in July 2020. In 2021, he served on the department's Ambulance Committee, attended multiple outside training opportunities and spent countless hours researching and planning training sessions for colleagues.



Firefighter/EMT Cole Kleinwolterink receives the Firefighter of the Year award.

Two members of the Waukee Fire Department also marked service milestones: Lt. Dan Wood was recognized for 20 years of service and Chandler Thayer for five years. Ben Bruening, Josh Hutton, Chief Clint Robinson, Chet Shaffer and Blake Smith also received Lifesaving Awards. ■

WAUKEE WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 56 | LOW 49
Cloudy



SATURDAY HIGH 60 | LOW 25
Thunderstorms, some severe



SUNDAY HIGH 40 | LOW 24
Partly sunny, much cooler



MONDAY HIGH 41 | LOW 19
Cloudy



TUESDAY HIGH 48 | LOW 27
Mostly sunny



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

BEFORE YOU START POLISHING YOUR HALO...

I generally avoid giving press to survey results, as they are often ploys from public relations companies to avoid purchasing advertising and gain free publicity for their clients. Even so, this one was too good to pass up.

Are you ready? Of the 50 states, Iowa ranks No. 46 in sinfulness. That means 45 other states have greater problems than Iowans with issues like anger and hatred, jealousy, excesses and vices, greed, lust, vanity and laziness. The study was issued by WalletHub, a website that offers credit scores and reports. Just keep that in mind.

What defines sinful? WalletHub says they examined the aforementioned issues using many relevant metrics, which are too lengthy to list here. For the study, all 50 states were compared across 47 indicators of immoral or illicit behavior, from violent crimes per capita to excessive drinking to



the share of the population with gambling disorders. Each metric was graded on a 100-point scale, with a score of 100 representing the highest level of sinfulness. Of course, one person's sin may be another's virtue, but please play along.

What are the most sinful states, according to the study? Nevada, California, Texas, Florida and Louisiana, in that order.

And the least sinful? Idaho, Wyoming, Vermont, South Dakota and good old Iowa.

But before you start polishing your halo, you should know that

all is not virtuous in the Hawkeye state. In the excessive drinking metric, Iowa ranked No. 4. That's not exactly something to say cheers to, unless, of course, you are in the excessive drinking industry.

Overall, though, we Iowans fared well in this survey. Our more-sinful neighbors may call us flyover country, but we don't mind. We have room to breathe, lower stress levels and faith in our Midwestern values. And we are quite trusting, so much so that we even believe survey results that make us look good.

Cheers!

Have a great week, and thanks for reading.

Shane Goodman

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ENTER THE EASTER COLORING CONTEST

The annual Waukeee Parks & Rec Easter Coloring Contest is now for all ages. Help Waukeee Parks & Recreation spread Easter cheer around the Downtown Triangle by participating. Go to <https://www.waukeee.org/DocumentCenter/Index/200> to download the 2022 coloring pages and entry form. Entry forms must be returned with coloring pages. Deadline is April 6. Entries can be placed in the drop box by the front door of the Waukeee Public Works Building or mailed to Waukeee Parks & Recreation Department, Attn: Melissa Stotz, 805 University Ave., Waukeee, IA 50263

Winners will receive an egg'cellent Easter basket filled with goodies. Entries will be displayed at Waukeee Hardware Store: ages 4 and younger; Charter Bank: ages 5-7; Heartland Cooperative: ages 8-10; and Old Station Craft Meats: ages 11 years and older. ■

THE IOWA CLINIC TO BRING MULTI-SPECIALTY MEDICAL CENTER TO KETTLESTONE

On Feb. 22, 2022, The Iowa Clinic closed on 7.6 acres of land in the premier, mixed-use Kettlestone Development located on the northwest corner of Tallgrass Lane and Grand Prairie Parkway. The Clinic will break ground on a new multi-specialty medical center, the largest of its kind in Waukeee, and is tentatively set to open its doors in mid-2024.

“The Iowa Clinic is uniquely positioned to bring our model of multi-specialty coordinated care to a larger location in Waukeee — serving the needs of growing families,” said The Iowa Clinic CEO Ben Vallier. “Conveniently located near Interstate 80, we hope to improve the lives of area residents and neighboring suburbs with quality medical providers across our 40-plus specialties.”

“The Kettlestone Development was a vision set forth in Waukeee several years ago. The City invested in planning, design and infrastructure that set the stage for today’s rise in economic development interest in the area,” said Waukeee Mayor Courtney Clarke. “We are excited with this announcement as The Iowa Clinic is a perfect addition to Kettlestone. We look forward to the organization offering expanded healthcare services to the ever-expanding Waukeee community.” ■

SPORTS SCHEDULES

WAUKEE:

Monday, March 7

2 p.m. **TRACK:** Girls Varsity @ University of Northern Iowa

Tuesday, March 8

2 p.m. **TRACK:** Boys Varsity @ University of Northern Iowa

WAUKEE NORTHWEST:

Monday, March 7

2 p.m. **TRACK:** Girls Varsity @ University of Northern Iowa

Tuesday, March 8

2 p.m. **TRACK:** Boys Varsity @ University of Northern Iowa

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GARDENING

TAKE A COLOR-THEMED APPROACH FOR MORE ATTRACTIVE ARRANGEMENTS

By MELINDA MYERS

Growing dahlias is a must for anyone who loves cutting and arranging flowers. But there are hundreds of beautiful dahlia varieties to choose from, and that can be overwhelming. To make the selection process easier, choose compatible colors that will look good together in the garden and in arrangements.

The combination of peach and burgundy is both striking and sophisticated. Peach-colored flowers add a fresh and soothing feel to the garden. Dahlia American Dawn is a blend of peach, mango and papaya with plum-purple highlights. Good partners include other varieties in the same warm, sunset tones, such as dinnerplate dahlia Belle of Barmera, decorative dahlia Great Silence and ball dahlia Maarn.

Planting dahlias in a perennial garden ensures non-stop color from July into October. The fluttering, melon-colored blooms of HS Date work particularly well, due to this variety's maroon foliage and open growth habit. Complete your peach and burgundy theme with the dark-hued flowers of Rip City. These large, velvety flowers are almost black in the center and soften to wine-red toward the petal edges. Add ball dahlia Jowey Mirella for blooms that are smaller in size yet equally striking.

For another eye-catching color combination, narrow your selection to dahlias with purple and hot-pink flowers. Historically, purple was associated with royalty, spirituality and knowledge. While pastel purple evokes a sense of calm and serenity, deeper tones add drama and excitement. Dinnerplate dahlia Lilac Time is an heirloom variety with fluffy, lavender blooms that can measure eight to ten inches across. Be sure to also include flowers in juicy grape and violet hues such as dahlias Thomas Edison, Cartouche and Purple Taiheijo.

Complement these moody purples with vivid pink dahlias. Burlesca is a cute little pompon dahlia with tightly rolled petals that reveal hints of peach, burgundy and violet. Fascination's rose-pink, semi-double flowers



Photo courtesy Longfield Gardens

contrast beautifully with the plant's dark foliage, and the blossoms are irresistible to bees and butterflies. Ball dahlia Rocco is an all-star variety that is long lasting in both garden and vase.

If you prefer pastels to brights, choose dahlias in shades of pale yellow, soft pink and cream. The enormous flowers of dinnerplate dahlia Café au Lait are a must. Complement them with ball dahlias such as peachy Linda's Baby or buttery Boom Boom yellow. Decorative dahlia Fluffles have taffy-pink petals that fade to white, while Milena Fleurs are a mélange of pink, peach and pale butterscotch.

When you start with flowers in compatible colors, designing floral arrangements becomes so much easier. You'll have all you need to quickly create a centerpiece for any gathering, an impressive bouquet for your own home, or an informal handful of blooms to share with friends.

For more tips about cut flowers, read the Longfield Gardens article [How to Design a Cutting Garden](http://www.longfield-gardens.com) (www.longfield-gardens.com). ■

EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM

'LIVING AMERICAN COMPOSERS'

Sunday, March 6, 3-4 p.m.

Franklin Junior High, 4801 Franklin, Des Moines

The Central Iowa Wind Ensemble will be performing its "Living American Composers" concert. The brilliance and legacy of a composer's musical output is often not fully realized until long after death. This concert features stunning works by American composers who are alive, well and composing music for bands, orchestras and choirs. The works on this program represent the energy and "joie de vivre" of the American spirit that inspired these artists to write such amazing music. Those American composers include John Williams ("Jaws," eight of the "Star Wars" movies, "E.T." and the first three "Harry Potter" films), Michael Miller, Samuel R. Hazo, and Robert Jager (from 1962 to 1965 he was arranger/composer for the U.S. Navy Armed Forces School of Music).

Admission is free. Tickets are available at <https://www.ciwe.org/living-american/>.



JURASSIC QUEST

Friday and Saturday, March 11-12, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.;

Sunday, March 13, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Iowa Events Center, 730 Third St., Des Moines

Tickets are available online at <https://www.jurassicquest.com/events/des-moines-ia> and cost \$22 for kids and adults and \$19 for seniors. Ticket for unlimited rides for kids is \$36, which includes entry. General admission includes live shows, arts and crafts activities, dinosaur and marine exhibits. Tickets for individual and premium activities will be available on-site (from \$6).

Off peak hours are weekdays (all day) and weekends after 3 p.m. Free entry for children younger than 2.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Thursday, March 17, noon

Downtown Des Moines

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick are staging their annual parade in downtown Des Moines, beginning at noon, starting at 15th Street and Grand Avenue, heading east to Eighth Street. New this year is a Block Party at 13th and Grand, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Your \$5 admission gets you access to watch the parade, food trucks, live music, a beer tent and more. More information is available at www.friendlysonsiowa.com.

HOOPS AND HOPS

Thursday through Friday,
March 17-19

Cowles Commons

Des Moines Performing Arts (DMPA) announced the return of the immensely popular event, Hoops and Hops, on Cowles Commons. Now in its fifth year, this three-day free event invites basketball fans to enjoy all the NCAA tournament action starting Thursday, March 17. Times are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday, 1-10 p.m. Friday and noon to 10 p.m. Saturday

Admission is free, and fans can purchase food from local food trucks including: The Big Red Food Truck, Roadside Tacos and Big Mamas Bistro while enjoying a beverage from the Iowa Craft Beer Tent or the Iowa Spirits Bar. Guests will be able to stay warm inside the heated tent with large-screen TVs broadcasting the games or enjoy their own game of pickup on one of two half-court basketball courts being assembled on Cowles Commons.

Fans of all ages are welcome and encouraged to wear their favorite team's colors. Guests are asked not to bring coolers or outside food. ■



RECIPE

MAKE YOUR ST. PATRICK'S DAY SPREAD GREEN WITH ENVY



(*Culinary.net*) Freshen up your St. Patrick's Day menu with easy, light sandwiches inspired by the traditional color of the festivities. These open-faced noshes can be perfect for lunch, snack time or even as an appetizer for get-togethers with friends and family.

Layered with a smooth cream cheese and mozzarella mixture then topped with crisp cucumber and a stem of green bell pepper, these St. Patrick's Day Sandwiches are easy and cute, which makes them a fan favorite at nearly any green gathering. They're also sprinkled with lemon juice to add a little acidity and create a nice, light bite.

Plus, this recipe is quick to make. When you're in a rush to get everything on the table for the party, it's easy to throw together and get on the platter in next to no time.

The sandwiches pop off the plate with their bright, seasonal garnishes. While sure to attract attention and have your loved ones asking "Where did you get this idea?" they're also an easy way to sneak a few vegetables into your kids' diets.

Find more festive recipes and ideas at Culinary.net. ■

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SANDWICHES

Yield: 8 sandwiches

8 ounces plain cream cheese spread, softened
1 cup finely shredded mozzarella cheese
salt
4 English muffins
24 slices cucumber
8 thin slices green pepper
fresh cilantro leaves
lemon juice
lemon slices, for garnish (optional)

Directions:

In bowl, mix cream cheese spread, mozzarella cheese and salt well.

Split English muffins in half. Cut each muffin half into shamrock shape.

Spread cheese mixture over each muffin half.

Place three cucumbers on each "shamrock," one on each "leaf." Use green pepper slice as stem. Place cilantro leaf on top of each sandwich.

Sprinkle sandwiches with lemon juice and add lemon slices, for garnish, if desired.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Join Waukee Mayor Courtney Clarke on Thursday, March 10, 5:30-7 p.m. for the State of the City Address. She will recap recent Waukee successes and share details regarding future City priorities, projects and partnerships. Appetizers and refreshments will be provided. The event will be held at the Waukee Innovation & Learning Center, 295 S.E. Ashworth Road. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the presentation begins at 6 p.m. Admission is free. RSVPs are appreciated online at <https://waukee-services.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/24928>. ■

FAMILY FUN BOWLING

Special family-friendly glow-in-the-dark bowling with concert lights and black lights are offered at an alcohol-free event with family-friendly music on Sunday a month, noon to 2 p.m. at Warrior Lanes. Deadline for registration for each Sunday event is the Friday prior by 6 p.m. Cost is \$64.95 per lane, up to five bowlers, and includes a large one-topping pizza and pitcher of soda. Dates are Sundays, March 20, April 10, May 15, June 12, July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 16, Nov. 13, Dec. 11. ■

WASP FOR SENIORS RETURNS IN MARCH

After a long hiatus, the Waukee Police Department's WASP (Waukee Area Seniors & Police) program will resume on Wednesday, March 30 at 9 a.m. Officers encourage seniors to stop by the Community Center for coffee and breakfast. The program will continue to take place on the last Wednesday of every month at 9 a.m. This program is designed to help reduce criminal victimization of the elderly. Call the PD at 515-978-7979 with any questions. This is a free program.. ■

THANK YOU

I am honored to be voted favorite insurance agent in Dallas County for the Iowa Living 2022 Residents' Choice Reader Poll. I will continue my commitment to building positive and supportive relationships and am grateful for a community that allows me to do so.



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SAFETY CITY PROGRAM REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

Incoming Waukee Community School District kindergarten students can participate in the Waukee Police Department's annual Safety City program. Attendees will learn about safety from officers and volunteers during this week-long course. Online-only registration is available at www.Waukee.org/registration under "Youth Camps & Activities."



A miniature city will be used to teach students correct street crossing techniques along with vehicle safety by using tricycles as automobiles. Safety City will also include lessons on: bullying, pedestrian rules, street crossing, traffic lights, Waukee Safe House Program, window safety, poisons and drug abuse, bus rules, calling 911, fire safety, respect for authority, seatbelts, and bike safety.

The cost of the program is \$50 per student; participants receive a new bicycle helmet and a T-shirt. Students also get to ride a school bus and tour the Waukee Public Safety Building.

2022 Safety City Sessions

Session 1: June 13-17, 9-11:30 a.m. OR 1-3:30 p.m.

Session 2: June 20-24, 9-11:30 a.m. OR 1-3:30 p.m.

Session 3: June 27-July 1, 9-11:30 a.m. OR 1-3:30 p.m.

Safety City is very popular, and sessions are limited to 40 participants.

Early registration is encouraged. Citizens can call 515-978-7979 with questions. ■

LIBRARY PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK

Looking for ways to give back to your community, enhance the Library, and make a big impact in just a few hours per month? Consider joining the Waukee Public Library Friends Foundation Board of Directors. You'll work with other service-oriented members of the community to find ways to fund and enrich the Waukee Public Library and its mission to provide beneficial resources and services to the Waukee community and surrounding areas. Make a positive impact in 2022 and join the Friends Foundation Board today. Email waukeepfoundation@gmail.com for more information on how to apply. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. To find out more about the Waukee Public Library Friends Foundation, go to waukeepubliclibrary.org. ■

CLASSIFIED ADS

LOOKING TO BUY: Vinyl Records. Will pay cash for your 60s, 70s and 80s rock as well as jazz and blues. Please call Brian at 515-326-5033.

FOR SALE: Three wheel double baby/toddler Stroller. \$35. Call or text for photos. 515-238-3198.

FOR SALE: 2005 Saturn Relay FWD. Gold with Gold leather interior. Fully loaded/Quad seating/Multi Disk CD player/DVD. 213,000 miles. Asking \$750. Call 515-238-3198. Located 5 miles from Grimes.

BABY BED FOR SALE: Has changing table on one end, 5 drawers for storage. Well Built. Needs a home to put it to use. Call 515-238-3198.

BUNK BEDS FOR SALE: Twin bottom/single top. Really nice. \$200 takes them away to a usable home. Text or call 515-238-3198 and I can return photos for viewing.

WANTED: Broken appliances & A.C.'s, 10 years old & under, repair hopefuls. Call 515-238-3343.

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JOKE OF THE WEEK



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