

ANKENY Living Weekly

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A BIG GREEN UMBRELLA MEDIA PUBLICATION

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SEEN IN ANKENY



The Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Latitude 41 Lawn and Landscape Services of Iowa at the Chamber office on April 26.

ANKENY WEATHER FORECAST

WEDNESDAY HIGH 92 | LOW 70
Clouds and sun, hot and humid



THURSDAY HIGH 90 | LOW 69
Partly sunny, breezy and warm



FRIDAY HIGH 83 | LOW 58
Cloudy and warm, a p.m. t-storm



SATURDAY HIGH 76 | LOW 51
Considerable cloudiness



SUNDAY HIGH 69 | LOW 49
Mostly sunny and breezy



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

ANYONE HAVE A BAND-AID?

Some things are difficult to open, and I am not simply referring to problems people with arthritis have to deal with. It seems like many products are challenging to use because of their packaging. Some have improved, like Band-Aids. Many of you remember the old system with the red string that you had to pull to open the package, which almost always yanked out. Other products could use improvements as well — like plastic gallon milk jugs. Sure, the cap is easy to screw off, but that seal with the tiny tab that rips off in my hand is more than irritating.

Garbage sacks are another challenge. It's like those things are ironed together. I carefully attempt to open them, only to realize that I am working from the wrong end. You may have similar problems with the bags in the produce aisle at the grocery store. Ughh.

How about starting a new roll of cellophane or packing tape? Worse yet, when the roll rips

off, and you try to restart it? I struggle to get under the tape, and when I do it inevitably tears off sideways to the edge, and I have to start all over again.

If you take any over-the-counter medications wrapped in foil packages, you likely know the effort it takes to get those tiny pills out. And if you are not careful, you get a foil cut on your fingertips. Ouch.

Hot dog packaging drives me crazy, too. I am not fond of hot dogs to begin with, but trying to open a package without a knife or scissors results in hot dogs on the floor, packaging water on my shirt, and an empty wrapper in my hands.

When our kids were young, they were fans of juice boxes. If I was fortunate enough to find a box with a straw attached to it, I then had the task of inserting the straw into the tiny hole without cracking



it and making it unusable. I was glad when the kids learned to do this on their own.

I continue to struggle with anything that deals with plastic wrap used in the kitchen. I can't seem to get it to stick to the bowl, but it most certainly sticks to my hands and to itself, leaving me with numerous rolled balls of plastic to dispose of.

And finally, Christmas time brings the challenge of unwrapping items sealed in hard plastic. Of course, a sturdy scissors is required, but one must then carefully avoid the newly created sharp plastic edges that are sure to draw blood — and require some of those handy Band-Aids.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading.

Shane Goodman

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SEEN IN ANKENY



The Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Eat the Frog Fitness at 2875 N. Ankeny Blvd., Suite 15, on April 15.

JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL

Ankeny Community Network is holding a Juneteenth Festival on Saturday, June 18, 3-10 p.m. at The District at Prairie Trail, S.W. District Drive. Juneteenth is a federal holiday commemorating the actual end of slavery in the United States. It marks the date — June 19, 1865 — when a Union general arrived in Galveston, one of the last Confederate holdouts, with word of President Abraham Lincoln's 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. Join the celebration, which will feature entertainment and food. ■

KID ZONE FOR FAMILIES

Ankeny Community Network hosts Kid Zone for families the first Saturday of the month currently at Miracle Park, 310 N.W. School St., Ankeny, weather permitting. The next event is Saturday, June 4, 1:30-4 p.m. Come and go as you wish. For more information, contact Tierra Mayberry by text or call at 515-240-3594. ■

GOLF FORE EDUCATION

The Ankeny School District Foundation Golf Fore Education fundraiser is Wednesday, June 29, with a noon shotgun start at Briarwood Golf Club, 3405 N.E. Trilein Drive, Ankeny. More information on sponsorships and registration can be found online at ankenyschoolfoundation.org/golf-fore-education. ■

ARTIST SHOWS AT THE ANKENY ART CENTER

The Ankeny Art Center, 1520 W.W. Ordnance Road, is dedicated to promoting and supporting Iowa artists. By engaging emerging artists in the area, the Center can change its art exhibitions about every eight weeks. Opening receptions and exhibits are free and open to the public. Enjoy free food and drink during the receptions and chat with the artist.

- **Robert Kennon exhibit dates:** June 7 - July 27. Reception: Thursday, June 9, 5-7 p.m. Fine art prints.

- **Momentum Art Program exhibit dates:** June 7 - July 27. Reception: Thursday, June 9, 5-7 p.m. Group show.

Starting in June, The Ankeny Art Center's hours are changing. The new hours will be Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. ■

DAY CAMP FOR KIDS K-5

The Ankeny Presbyterian Church, 317 S.E. Trilein Drive, Ankeny, is hosting its Day Camp for kids in grades K-5 from June 27 to July 1. Cost is \$50 per camper, and payment is due by June 15. Scholarships are available. Registration is online at heartlandcamps.org/ankeny. ■

PAINT YOUR OWN BOWL

On May 14, the Ankeny Art Center, 1520 S.W. Ordnance Road, will be holding its second annual Paint Your Own Bowl workshop. For \$45, participants come to the Ankeny Art Center and paint their own bowls. Then, on June 18, they return to fill that bowl with unlimited ice cream and toppings at the Center's Ice Cream Social. ■

FUNERAL NOTICES

Funeral notices, which run free of charge, can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com.

RICHARD KEITH HENN

Richard Keith Henn, 79, of Ankeny died April 28, 2022. A celebration of life was held Thursday, May 5 at Ankeny First United Methodist Church, 206 S.W. Walnut St. Richard was born in Belmont and graduated from Belmont High School in 1961. He then went to Drake University in Des Moines where he studied accounting. He married Karen Nielsen in August 1965. He graduated from Drake in 1966 and went to work for John Deere in accounting and computer programming. He was promoted to Deere's world headquarters in Moline, Illinois, but gave up this position to move his family back to Ankeny where they have lived for more than 50 years.

Richard is survived by his wife of 56 years, Karen; his children, Kimberly (Glenn) Hammer, Kevin (Kylie) Henn and Kyle (Stacy) Henn; grandchildren and siblings. ■



JEAN ANNIS KNUDSEN

Jean Annis Knudsen, 95, of Ankeny, died at Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines on May 2, 2022. Jean was born in Moravia. She attended community schools in Moravia, graduating in 1943, then attended AIB in Des Moines. She married Al Knudsen in 1946. They had two daughters and two sons. Her husband and son Dennis preceded her in death.

She worked for 40 years before retiring in 1986. During her career, Jean held many positions including secretary at Lutheran Services, secretary at Preferred Risk Insurance Company and office manager at the Iowa Utility Association. Jean was active in numerous organizations throughout her life including St. Mark Church, WDM Women's Club, Le Cercle d'Amis Sorority and serving as a volunteer at Lutheran Hospital.

She is survived by daughters Jan (Bob) Swanson and Kathy (Dennis) Johnson; son, John (Sabine) Knudsen; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

A private family graveside service was held May 7 at Resthaven Cemetery in West Des Moines. A celebration of Jean's life will be held at a later time. ■



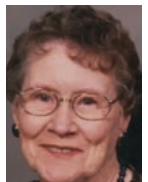
DIANA NICCOLA PIAGENTINI HOUGE

Diana Niccola Piagentini Houge, 90, of Ankeny died May 3, 2022. Diana was born in Des Moines. A visitation for Diana will be held Tuesday, May 10 from 11 a.m. to noon at Ankeny Funeral Home, 1510 W. First St., Ankeny, followed by a funeral service at noon. Diana will be laid to rest in Ankeny Memorial Gardens. ■



MARLYS PUCHTA

Marlys Puchta, 93, died on May 4, 2022. A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 11, at Ankeny Memorial Gardens. She is survived by her daughter, Gayle (Charlie) Gorman; son, Bradley (Doreen) Puchta; daughter, Yvette (Kerry) Johnson; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. ■



FUNERAL NOTICES

Funeral notices, which run free of charge, can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com.

REV. JUDITH ANN SHORT

Rev. Judith Ann Short, 80, died April 29, 2022, at Rock Creek Senior Living in Ankeny. She and her husband lived on the south side of Des Moines for many years, and she continued to live there after his death before moving to her townhouse in Ankeny in July of 2020. Judi was born on July 12, 1941, in Omaha, Nebraska. She married James Short on Oct. 5, 1962. She retired in 2000 from the State of Iowa where she worked in the IPERS Department for 39 years. Judi was a member of the Park Avenue Christian Church and, in December of 2012, she was ordained as an independent Christian clergy authorized to perform all ministerial duties.



Judi was preceded in death by her husband. She is survived by her sisters, Irene and Maggie; several family members and loving friends. A graveside service was held Wednesday, May 4 at the Masonic Cemetery in Des Moines. The family respectfully requests no memorials. ■

GARY BISSIG

Gary James Bissig, 34, of Ankeny, died May 4, 2022. He was born in Mason City and graduated from Mason City High School in 2006 and then Iowa State University with an advertising degree in 2011. He married Jacob James McLaughlin on July 10, 2021. He worked for the Hach Company in Ames.



He is survived by his husband, parents, brother Brad (Tara) Bissig, sister Amy (Adam) Pedersen, grandmother, Charlotte Bissig and many uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews. Funeral services were Tuesday, May 10 at First Christian Church in Perry. Burial will be in the Violet Hill Cemetery in Perry. Carris Family Funeral Home & Cremation Care was in charge of arrangements. ■

PEGGY PURDY

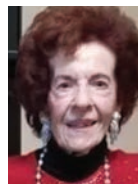
Peggy Purdy, 84, died May 4, 2022. A celebration of life service will beheld at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, also at Memorial Services of Iowa Funeral Home, 4208 N. Ankeny Blvd., Ankeny. She was born in Sac City and raised in the Des Moines and Ankeny area. Peggy retired from Ramsey Home after 17 years of service. After retirement, she went to work in the cafeteria at North High School.



Peggy is survived by her husband of 66 years, Don; her daughters, Linda (Joel) Jensen, Donna (Randy) Mulder, Sue (Monte) Roberts and Carla (Jerry) Gumpert; 11 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren. ■

DORIS MAE SMITH

Doris Mae Smith, 95, of Ankeny died May 4, 2022. A funeral service was held Tuesday, May 10 at Ankeny Baptist Church. Burial followed at Ankeny Memorial Gardens. Doris was born in Coatsville, Missouri. She married Robert Vernon Smith on June 1, 1945. She is survived by two sons, Garry (Shelly) Smith and Greg Smith; a daughter, Vicki Rich; sister, Jeanette Smith; brother, Ronald Childs; eight grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; and three great-great granddaughters. She was preceded in death by her husband; son, John Smith; two grandsons; and five siblings. ■



EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM

IOWA CUBS

Following are the May home games for the Iowa Cubs.
For more information, visit www.iowacubs.com.

- **Friday, May 13** at 7:03 p.m.; **Saturday, May 14** at 6:08 p.m.; and **Sunday, May 15** at 1:08 p.m. vs. Omaha Storm Chasers (Royals)
- **Tuesday, May 17** at 6:38 p.m.; **Wednesday, May 18** at 12:08 p.m.; **Thursday, May 19** at 12:08 p.m., **Friday, May 20** at 7:08 p.m., **Saturday, May 21** at 6:08 p.m., and **Sunday, May 22** at 1:08 p.m. vs. Columbus Clippers (Indians)
- **Tuesday, May 31** at 6:38 p.m. vs. St. Paul Saints (Twins)



ON STAGE

- **Through May 15:** “Girls’ Weekend 2” by the Iowa Stage Theatre Company at the Stoner Theater, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines; dmpa.org.
- **May 17 - June 5:** “Hamilton” at the Des Moines Civic Center, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines; dmpa.org.
- **Through May 15:** “Tiny Beautiful Things,” Tallgrass Theatre, 2019 Grand Ave., Suite 100, West Des Moines; tallgrasstheatre.org.

CONCERTS

- **May 14:** Pork Tornadoes at 7 p.m. Pella Opera House, 611 Franklin St., Pella; pellaoperahouse.org
- **May 14:** Led Zeppelin 2 at 7 p.m. Wooly’s, 504 E. Locust St., Des Moines; woolysdm.com
- **May 14:** Des Moines Choral Society concludes their 42nd season with “Choral Masterworks: Glory, Remembrance & Hope” at 7:30 pm. St. Ambrose Cathedral, 607 High St., Des Moines; dmchoral.org
- **May 14:** Kiss the Tiger at 8 p.m. xBk, 1159 24th St., Des Moines; xbklive.com
- **May 14:** Psychostick at Lefty’s Live Music, 2307

University Ave., Des Moines; leftyslivemusic.com

- **May 15:** Flower Moon Bloom at Briar Patch Amphitheater. Deadline Stringband will play during the total lunar eclipse. Gates open at 6 p.m. 2103 Warren Ave., Bevington; briarpatchamphitheater.com
- **May 16:** Gordon Lightfoot at 8 p.m. Hoyt Sherman Place, 1501 Woodland Ave., Des Moines; hoytsherman.org
- **May 17:** Portrayal of Guilt with Yautja at 8 p.m. xBk, 1159 24th St., Des Moines; xbklive.com

FUN RUNS, RIDES, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS

- **May 17:** Gators on the Green. Blank Park Zoo’s annual golf tournament will raise funds to save animals in the wild. Legacy Golf Club, 400 Legacy Parkway, Norwalk; blankparkzoo.com/events/calendar/gators-on-the-green
- **May 19:** IHYC Golf Classic at Otter Creek Golf Club. Join Iowa Youth Homeless Centers (IHYC) in the fight against youth homelessness — and have fun while doing it. 4100 N.E. Otter Creek Drive., Ankeny; yssc.org/events/ihycgolfclassic
- **May 21:** ARL Pedal for Paws supporting homeless pets at the Animal Rescue League (ARL). Win prizes and enjoy fun activities during this 18-mile round trip party bike ride around Des Moines. arl-iowa.org/events
- **May 21:** Pigtails Ride on HTT. This women-specific 48-mile bike ride starts and ends in Ankeny’s The District at Prairie Trail and travels the High Trestle Trail; pigtailsride.com
- **May 14-15:** Pillage the Village Pirate Festival at Sleepy Hollow, 4051 Dean Ave., Des Moines; sleepyhollowrenfaire.com
- **May 15:** Valley Junction Arts Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. along Fifth St., West Des Moines; valleyjunction.com
- **May 17:** Nick Colletti at Funny Bone Comedy Club and Restaurant, 560 S. Prairie View Drive, Suite 100, West Des Moines; desmoines.funnybone.com ■

RECIPE

CELEBRATE SPRING MOMENTS WITH A TACO FEAST FOR THE SENSES

(Family Features) Busy calendars loaded with holidays, celebrations, parties and reunions make spring a perfect time for gathering with family and friends. Plus, springtime itself is worth celebrating thanks to warmer temperatures and longer days. Making the most of those joyous occasions calls for a menu filled with variety to keep everyone coming back for more.

Few options say “variety” quite like this epic taco party feast from Ericka Sanchez, creator of “Nibbles and Feasts.” Pay homage to Hispanic-style culinary and cultural traditions by loading your table with an array of family favorites like taquitos, tacos, rice, guacamole, pico de gallo and more. Add in the wholesomeness of Real California dairy like Cotija and Queso Fresco cheeses and cremas for a top-notch feast.

Elevating your dishes starts with these delicious options, but freestyling the menu is what truly makes it your own. Mix up proteins based on your loved ones’ preferences from carne asada and carnitas to shredded chicken and meatless options. Sprinkle, drizzle and layer cheeses according to your own cravings then finish with a range of toppings for customized classics. ■

EPIC TACO PARTY FEAST

Recipe courtesy of Ericka Sanchez (@nibblesfeasts) on behalf of Real California Milk

Top row, left to right:

- Cheese taquitos
- Salsa verde
- Real California Cotija Cheese, crumbled
- Pico de gallo
- Potato taquitos
- Real California Queso Fresco, crumbled
- Real California Crema
- Tequila with chili salt (optional)

Middle row, left to right:

- Carne asada tacos
- Real California Queso Fresco, crumbled
- Chicken street tacos
- Real California Chipotle Crema
- Carnitas tacos with hard shells

Bottom row, left to right:

- Real California Cotija Cheese, crumbled
- Real California Crema
- Mexican rice
- Carne asada tacos
- Guacamole



To assemble top row: Place cheese taquitos in pan, salsa verde in bowl, Cotija cheese in bowl, pico de gallo in bowl, potato taquitos on plate and Queso Fresco in bowl. Garnish potato taquitos with pico de gallo, guacamole, Queso Fresco and crema. Optional: Add tray with tequila, cups and chili salt.

To assemble middle row: Place carne asada tacos on plate, queso fresco in bowl, chicken street tacos on plate, chipotle crema in bowl and carnitas tacos on serving tray.

To assemble bottom row: Place Cotija cheese and crema in bowls, potato taquitos on serving tray, Mexican rice in bowl, carne asada tacos on plate and guacamole in bowl. ■

SEEN IN ANKENY



The Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Home Instead at 7017 Hickman Road, Urbandale, on April 7.

K-8 SUMMER CAMPS

Ankeny Art Center's Summer Camp program for area students grades K-8 continues to grow. These camps give children the opportunity to keep learning throughout the summer and keep those creative juices flowing. 2022 Summer Camp weeks are: Tuesday, June 14 - Friday, June 17; Tuesday, June 21 - Friday, June 24; Tuesday, July 12 - Friday, July 15; and Tuesday, July 19 - Friday, July 22. For details and registration, visit ankenyardcenter.com/k8-summer-camp. The Art Center is located at 1520 S.W. Ordinance Road. ■

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Heartland Church Vacation Bible School will be held June 13-15 at Heartland Church, 1212 N.W. 36th St., Ankeny. It will be family style again this year. Come with your family at 5:15 p.m. for dinner. The VBS program runs 6-8 p.m. The theme will be "God's Monumental Love." Register your pre-k through fifth graders online at heartlandankeny.com. It is free. If a parent, guardian or grandparent is not able to accompany the children, send an email to Pastor Chantelle, chantelle@heartlandstaff.com, or Pastor Drew, drew@heartlandstaff.com, for special arrangements. Heartland Church will be hosting a carnival on Thursday, June 16, from 6-8 p.m. There will be inflatables, games, food and fun. ■

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.

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

LIST 50 WORDS OR LESS FOR FREE.

ADVERTISE IN THE ANKENY LIVING WEEKLY!

Contact Aaron Burns at aaron@iowalivingmagazines.com

JOKE OF THE WEEK



You used to be able to get air for free at gas stations, but now it's 50¢. That's inflation for you!