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NEW PICKLEBALL AND TENNIS COURTS OPEN



A First Serve Celebration was held on Monday, Oct. 16 to open the new Crown Point Courts south of Crown Point Community Center, 6300 Pioneer Parkway. Pickleball and tennis courts are available. The last community survey indicated these courts are much needed in the community as more adult recreation activities were requested. The four pickleball courts and two tennis courts replace two tennis courts installed in 1978, which had been resurfaced twice, the last time at a cost of \$26,000. The new courts are part of Phase I of the Crown Point renovation. ■

JOHNSTON WEATHER FORECAST

TUES. HIGH 68 | LOW 50

Mostly sunny

**WED. HIGH 68 | LOW 50**

Some sun, then turning cloudy

**THURS. HIGH 62 | LOW 44**

Mostly cloudy; breezy

**FRI. HIGH 69 | LOW 46**

Sunny and nice

**SAT. HIGH 67 | LOW 43**

Sunny and windy



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

OH, DEER

I collided with a deer recently. Or maybe the deer collided with me. I am not sure who hit whom, but I do know one thing: I am the only one standing. And, regardless of how tough I may think I am, watching a deer die on the side of the road isn't something I care to see again.

I saw the first deer — and what I improperly thought was the only deer — and slowed down. Then four more popped out. Three ran by me, but one chose to stop and stare. You know the “deer in the headlights” saying? This one wanted a good look at my license plate.

The last time I hit a deer was more than 30 years ago. I was driving home from college on a rural road near a wooded area. As I rounded a turn, a big buck was suddenly racing alongside me. It was so close that I could have rolled down the window and pet it. I didn't. Instead, I slowed down, that buck took a sharp right in front of the vehicle, and I ran over it. Thump. Thump. When I looked in the rearview mirror, the deer stood

up, shook it off, and ran back into the woods. I doubt that it lived through the ordeal, but can you imagine being run over and getting back up?

Of course, deer get the worst part of these confrontations, but my truck bumper was a close second on Friday night. After the collision, I pulled over to the side of the road and walked along the highway, searching in the dark for my license plate and grumbling while I picked up dozens of pieces of broken plastic. When I was a young boy, bumpers were made to endure these types of “bumps” with minimal damage. Sure, those massive chrome projectiles may not have been pretty, but they didn't crumble on impact and result in a few thousand dollars in repairs. I used to mock those who put big grille guards on the front of their trucks. “Just slow down and pay attention,” I would say. Well, I just got my truck back from the



body shop two weeks ago, having a rear bumper and tailgate repaired due to a trailer smashing into the rear. Now I have to take it back in to have the front end fixed. Grille guards suddenly don't look so silly.

I am also rethinking those deer warning whistles that attach to vehicles. Every vehicle seemingly had those when I was a kid. Some say they work. Some say they are a farce. I say for \$4.97, they are worth a shot.

After hitting the deer, I counted more than 20 others on my drive home. At times, they can be so peaceful and serene. Other times, they are menacing rodents. Either way, they are not going away, and we are going to have to learn how to co-exist — preferably without the body shop involved.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman

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Living Weekly

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HOMECOMING RECAP

BY THE JOHNSTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

This year was a very busy yet successful Homecoming for Johnston High School. We started the week off on Sept. 17 with stadium painting where school teams and clubs painted murals outside of our Dragon Stadium. We had over 20 groups and clubs participate, which led to a vibrant and colorful stadium entrance. The night continued with Rock Around the Clock, an event which originated at Johnston schools and was later adopted by many others in the state. This event entails teams of 8-12 students playing against each other in a series of minute-to-win it games. This year we amassed over 45 teams, breaking a participation record since before COVID.

Later in the week, high school students gathered around various Johnston buildings to clean up the grounds and also worked hard to fill the sidewalks with school spirit. Thursday was our busiest day with the Homecoming parade, outdoor movie night, and Powderpuff. The parade surpassed expectations with over 40 different community members, clubs, teams and businesses taking part in



The Homecoming parade surpassed expectations with more than 40 different entries.



Rock Around the Clock had the biggest turnout yet with 45 teams participating.

the parade and hundreds of excited Johnston families showing up to support them. It was a fun-filled night, with lots of candy, for the community!

Over at the Town Center, we watched "The Secret Life of Pets" with a pre-show performance from the high school's very own a cappella group, Unaccompanied Minors. We also had our Boy Scouts selling popcorn as well as our Student Council selling baked goods. To end the busy night, a game of Powderpuff was reintroduced to the students. We had a great turnout of both participants and spectators. After a year off, the JHS Executive Board worked together to bring Powderpuff back in a new way. We are hoping this lively tradition is here to stay!

On Friday, all of our buildings held pep assemblies to raise school spirit throughout the district. Many of our fall athletes, such as our football players, cross country runners, and golf players visited our various elementary schools to connect with the younger



The Homecoming dance was complete with a light-up dance floor, giant sparklers, and a spirited crowd.

Dragons. JD the Dragon made rounds with the cheerleaders and dance team at the elementary schools and then was spotted later that night at the football game against Waukee. Our homecoming week ended with a Night in New York. The dance was complete with a light-up dance floor, giant sparklers, and a spirited crowd. To sum it all up, we had a busy but enjoyable Homecoming week with activities for students and community members. ■

BELGIAN WAFFLES FUNDRAISER

Saturday, Nov. 4, 8-11 a.m.

Johnston High School

Commons

Enjoy an all-you-can-eat Belgian waffles breakfast with sausage links, flavored syrups, butter, non-dairy whipped topping, coffee and juice sponsored by the Johnston Band Parent Association. Cost is \$10 per person in advance and \$12 per person at the door. Kids younger than 5 eat free. Tickets are available at the Johnston Fareway on the mornings of Oct. 21 and Oct. 28 or online. Scan the QR code for the link. ■



LIONS CLUB TRUNK OR TREAT

Oct. 30, 5-7 p.m.

Johnston Lions Club, 6501

Merle Hay Road

Join the Lions Club for a family-friendly trick-or-treating event. Stop by to see the kid-themed trunks and get some sweet treats from community partners. ■

TREE BRANCH AND LIMB DROP OFF

The City of Johnston provides residents an opportunity to get rid of branches and limbs each fall. Residents can drop these off, at no cost, at the Public Works Facility, located at 6400 N.W. Beaver Drive, between Nov. 16-18. There is no fee; however, participants are asked to bring ID for proof of residency. Drop-off hours are Thursday, Nov. 16, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 17, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Nov. 18, 7 a.m. to noon.

Branches should not be larger than 18 inches in diameter. Larger sizes will not be accepted because of their inability to be recycled through the chipper. Residents are asked to have the end cut off their branches stacked at the end of their vehicles for easy removal. Items such as ropes, chains, wire and fence posts can cause damage to the equipment and injure City staff if pulled into the chipper. ■

JOHNSTON PARTNERSHIP'S CURRENT NEEDS

The Johnston Partnership provides food and personal hygiene products to those in need.

This week's greatest needs are baby food, baby wipes, deodorant, shampoo and toothpaste. Donations can be dropped off at 5870 Merle Hay Road, Suite C, Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m., and on Thursdays and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This week, and every third week of the month, they collect for the Friday Food bag program that serves food insecure students at all nine Johnston schools. They are currently doing about 200 bags per week. Their needs are: Ramen noodles, macaroni and cheese, granola bars, individual shelf stable milk, individual peanut butter and fruit cups. ■

JOHNSTON KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes at the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast Oct. 28, 7:30-11 a.m., at Johnston Middle School, 6501 N.W. 62nd Ave. Tickets are \$7 in advance or \$8 at the door. For advance tickets, email johnstonkiwanis@gmail.com or pay via Venmo @Johnston-Kiwanis and pick up tickets at the event. Serving will be in the cafeteria. Enter the northwest side of building at door 6. ■

CURBSIDE YARD WASTE COLLECTION END DATE

The fall season is here, which means it's time to start raking up the leaves and dealing with yard waste. As a reminder, the Compost It! program's curbside collection of yard waste will end on Nov. 20 and 21 on your regular collection day.

To have your yard waste collected until the end of the season, be sure to tag it, bag it or wheel it. ■



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SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY AT ART IN THE BARN

Mark your calendars — the 11th annual Art in the Barn fundraising event is happening on Friday, Oct. 20, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Simpson Barn, just west of Johnston Public Library. Peruse and purchase work from more than 20 local artists and enjoy appetizers, wine, boutique beer, and live music included with the \$20 ticket price. Tickets for Art in the Barn are on sale now at the library or online at johnstonlibrary.com/art-in-the-barn and will be available for purchase at the door on the night of the event. Come for the art, come for the entertainment or come to catch up with your neighbors.

If you can't make it to Art in the Barn but are still interested in supporting the library, please consider donating to the Johnston Public Library Foundation. The mission of the Johnston Public Library Foundation is "to enhance and improve the Johnston Public Library." Board members — our neighbors, business and community leaders — work to generate community support for collection development, programs and technology and building initiatives that are beyond the means of the library's operating budget.

In 2023, the Library Foundation invested funds to support children's Summer Reading programming, new outdoor patio furniture at JPL, an outdoor musical garden, and branded book bag prizes for the year-long Ultimate Reading Challenge for Adults. Your generous gifts have made these projects possible.

More information about Art in the Barn is available online at johnstonlibrary.com/art-in-the-barn or by calling Johnston Public Library at 515-278-5233. We hope to see you on Friday, Oct. 20, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Support your library, enjoy local art, and have some local fun. ■

ASD HALLOWEEN HOEDOWN FUNDRAISER

Oct. 26, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

The Simpson Barn, 6169 Northglenn Drive, Johnston

Enjoy games, food, prizes, crafts and music at the Adventures in Social Development (ASD) event. Donations are needed for the fundraiser, including gift cards or baskets and bags of candy for game prizes. Donations are also needed for the facility, including tables, end tables, chairs, desks and couch.

Scan the QR code to register.

Social Skills Classes and Drama troupes start Nov. 2.

Learn more at www.adventuresinsocialdevelopment.org ■



CITY MEETINGS

• **Wednesday, Oct. 18:** Senior Advisory Board Meeting, 5 p.m.

• **Thursday, Oct. 19:** Library Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

• **Thursday, Oct. 19:** Board of Adjustment Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

• **Wednesday, Oct. 25:** Park Advisory Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

• **Monday, Oct. 30:** Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7 p.m. ■

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

The City of Johnston uses CivicReady to send emergency alerts and other notifications. Subscribers can register to receive emergency alerts via phone call, text message, and/or email. Non-emergency messages will be sent by text and/or email. Sign up at <https://public.alertsense.com/signup/?regionID=1615>. ■



HISTORY OF JOHNSTON PROGRAM

Johnston Station Historical Society and Johnston Public Library have partnered on a History of Johnston program that included a series of presentations at the Johnston Public Library. The final session of the series is Sunday, Nov. 12, 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the Johnston Public Library, 6700 Merle Hay Road. Hear the story of the city, from the start of the city, presented by John Brown; to growing pains by Don Coates; to the growth and accomplishments of the City by Mayor Paula Dierenfeld. ■

EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM**AREA LIVE PERFORMANCES****ACTORS, INC. - AMES COMMUNITY THEATER**

120 Abraham Drive, Ames

actorsinc.org**Nov. 9-11, 17-19, 25-26:** "Avenue Q"**ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE**

1932 S.W. Third St., Ankeny

ankenycommunitytheatre.com**Sept. 29 through Oct. 8:** "The Addams Family"**Dec. 1-10:** "A Gift for Rebecca"**CLASS ACT PRODUCTIONS**

201 First Ave. S., Altoona

captheatre.org**Nov. 3-5, 10-12, 17-19:** "The Wizard of Oz: Youth Edition"**DES MOINES PERFORMING ARTS**Des Moines Civic Center, Cowles Commons, Stoner Theater, Temple Theatre, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines
dmpa.org**Nov. 4:** "The Adventures of Tortoise and Hare: The Next Gen"**Nov. 10:** "Blippi: The Wonderful World Tour"**Nov. 14-22:** "Yippee Ki Yay"**Nov. 28 through Dec. 3:** "Girl from the North Country"**Dec. 12-17:** "The Wiz"**Dec. 21:** "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical"**Dec. 22-23:** "Cirque Dreams Holidaze"**DES MOINES COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE**

831 42nd St., Des Moines

dmplayhouse.com**Dec. 1-17:** "All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914"**Dec. 2-17:** Kate Goldman Children's Theatre: "A Charlie Brown Christmas"**DMACC ANKENY CAMPUS THEATRE**

2006 S. Ankeny Blvd., Ankeny

dmacc.edu/theatre/ankeney/Pages/welcome.aspx**Oct. 20-23:** "Eleanor and Dolly"**Nov. 11-13, 18-20:** "Failure: A Love Story"**HOYT SHERMAN PLACE**

Historic Sherman Hill, 1501 Woodland Ave., Des Moines

Oct. 24: Des Moines Storytellers Project: "Family"**IOWA STAGE THEATRE COMPANY**

Stoner Theatre, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines

iowastage.org**Nov. 10-12, 15-19:** "Chipmunk'D"**Dec. 8-17:** "A Christmas Carol"**SIMPSON COLLEGE**

513 N. D St., Indianola

simpson.edu/academics/departments/departments-theatre-arts**Oct. 26-28:** "Good Kids"**Nov. 17-18:** "Into the Woods"**TALLGRASS THEATRE COMPANY**

2019 Grand Ave., Suite 100, West Des Moines

tallgrasstheatre.org**Nov. 10-19:** "Wicked Queen"**Dec. 15-17:** "Home For The Holidays, A Christmas Cabaret"**DANCE & PERFORMANCE ARTS****Oct. 27-29:** "Jekyll and Hyde" at the Temple Theatre, 1011 Locust St., Des Moines; desmoinesperformingarts.org**Oct. 28:** "Dracula" by Iowa Dance Theatre, at 2812 E. 29th St., Des Moines**Nov. 8:** "Contra Tiempo" at the Des Moines Civic Center, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines; desmoinesperformingarts.org**Nov. 11:** Hurley & Dancers at the Iowa State University Scholarship Concert. Betty Toman Dance Studio Theater, Forker 196, ISU Campus; tandemtheatreanddance.org/hurley-dancers**Nov. 18-19:** "The Nutcracker" by the School of Classical Ballet and Dance, 1509 42 St., West Des Moines; myscbd.com ■

RECIPE

IMPRESS FRIENDS AND FAMILY WITH A QUICK APPETIZER

(*Culinary.net*) If you're looking for a new dip for your next get-together and tired of the same boring salsas and layered dips, this Cowboy Caviar may quickly become a family favorite.

Also known as Texas Caviar, this bean salad can be a hit with loved ones at birthdays, holidays, graduations, reunions and more. It serves well with tortilla chips but can be enjoyed in a variety of ways. Plus, it's a breeze to make and can be even simpler when prepared the night before your big event. ■

Cowboy Caviar

- 1 can (15 ounces) sweet corn
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans
- 1 bunch cilantro
- 3 Roma tomatoes
- 2 jalapenos
- 1/2 red onion
- bell peppers (mix of green, red, orange and yellow, as desired)
- tortilla chips, for serving

Dressing:

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 lime, juice only
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste

Directions:

Drain and rinse corn and black beans; dry well. Finely chop and dice cilantro, tomatoes,



jalapenos, onion and bell peppers.

To make dressing: Combine olive oil, red wine vinegar, honey, paprika and lime juice. Season with salt and pepper, to taste.

Mix vegetables with dressing. Serve with tortilla chips.

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TALK IT UP, LOCK IT UP

Gun Safety Saves Lives. Gun injuries are one of the leading causes of death for children and young adults in Polk County. We talk about car seat safety and the importance of wearing bicycle helmets, yet we haven't talked about gun safety. It is more important than ever, that we come together to improve the safety, health and wellbeing of our children.

Polk County Health Department, along with partners, launched an educational campaign to reduce the number of gun-related injuries among youth in Polk County. The campaign is called, "Talk it Up, Lock it Up."

Their prevention approach includes normalizing conversations about gun safety and safe storage among family and friends. It is important to talk about gun safety in relation to places where a child or young adult may spend time. The approach also includes conversations about safe firearm storage during physician visits, and increasing access to safe storage devices, such as trigger locks.

Free trigger locks are available for pick up at PCHD, law enforcement agencies, and community organizations including Johnston Public Library and Johnston Police Department. Visit PCHD's website to see pick up sites.

You can play a part. Start talking to your friends and family about safe gun storage. Gun Safety Saves Lives. Talk it Up, Lock it Up. ■

FUNERAL NOTICE

Funeral notices can be emailed to tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com

CLYDE BRADFORD

Clyde Vernus Bradford, 87, of Johnston, died Monday, Oct. 9, 2023, at Kavanagh House with his family at his side. He was born Jan. 16, 1936, in Columbus Junction. He was a U.S. Navy veteran serving during the Korean War. He was an over the road truck driver/owner operator his entire career. In retirement, he lived with his spouse in Martina Place, Mesa, Arizona. He was loved by his many friends and enjoyed playing tennis and pickleball.



Survivors include wife, Carol J. Bradford; son, John (Kelly) Bradford; daughter, Peggy (Mike) Harmeyer; stepson Roger (Allison) Gulling; seven grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren; and 17 step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Judith J. Bradford; parents, Allen and Neva Bradford; son, Ron Bradford; and stepson Donnie Gulling.

Clyde was cremated and no services are planned. Iles Grandview Park Chapel was in charge of arrangements. ■

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED: St. Paul Presbyterian Church of Johnston, IA is looking for a dependable, mature, caring, and experienced child care provider. Must be 16 years or older. Hours: Sundays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. & Wednesdays from 6:45-8:15pm. Starting pay is \$18/hr. Full description: <https://shorturl.at/qvBRS>. Contact 515-257-3024 or office.sptualpres@gmail.com.

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FOR SALE: Softball/Baseball Pitching/Hitting net. \$20. Call/Text 515-238-3198.

FOR SALE: Nice bunk beds. Solid built. \$175. call or text 515-238-3198 and I can send photos.

FOR SALE: 2 tents — a 3-man and a 4-man Eddie Bauer. 3 adult sleeping bags — 2 heavy weight and 1 medium weight. Large dry bags. Coleman 2-burner camping stove. Best Offer. ALSO 13 1/2-foot WE-NO-NAH single-person canoe. Phone 515-480-8299.

BICYCLES WANTED: Any condition is ok. For parts or repair. Will pick them up. Phone 515-238-3343.

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