

POLK CITY *Living Weekly*

WWW.IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM



A BIG GREEN UMBRELLA MEDIA PUBLICATION

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.

Light Up Polk City!

The holidays are right around the corner, and the annual Light Up Polk City event is Friday, Dec. 1, from 6-8 p.m. on the town square. The square lights will be turned on, the North Polk fifth-grade band will play, Santa will visit, and there will be carolers, a horse-drawn carriage, and even reindeer. This popular and fun event brings a large crowd to the square. If you are a business on the square and plan to welcome visitors into your business with snacks, giveaways or activities or a business not on the square but you would like to participate, let Go Polk City chamber know. For businesses not on the square, an area will be provided to tailgate and showcase your business, have snacks, giveaways or activities. Call 515-984-3098 or email admin@polkcitchamber.com. ■

POLK CITY WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 40 | LOW 28

Partly sunny

**SATURDAY HIGH 39 | LOW 27**

Cloudy with light flurries

**SUNDAY HIGH 43 | LOW 25**

Cloudy

**MONDAY HIGH 44 | LOW 31**

Mostly sunny; breezy

**TUESDAY HIGH 48 | LOW 29**

Mostly sunny; windy



TORRES TEAM
Helping you find your place!
515-984-0222 TorresTeamIA.com

FROM THE PUBLISHER

A PHONE WITHOUT A CHARGER?

I bought a new smart phone this week. As you know, they are not cheap. That you may not know is that they no longer come with a charging device. The cord, yes. The brick that plugs into the wall, no. That is another \$20. I haven't purchased a new phone in almost five years, so I am told this is commonplace now. That doesn't make it right.

I learned about this problem when I asked my salesperson at the store if everything was in the box needed to charge the phone. He answered every other feasible question in his reply but avoided that one. So I asked again, adding that this was a yes/no question. I did not want to get home and find out I needed to buy something else to charge my phone. He eventually answered and told me I needed to purchase a \$20 brick, noting that the manufacturer was not including them as they were trying to avoid waste since many people already have the brick. Sure.

When I looked this up on the world wide web, that excuse was

perpetuated with a statement that the omission of the charging brick was "to reduce the environmental impact." Uh huh.

This scenario reminded me of the time I bought a clothes dryer in our first home, only to learn later than it didn't come with a power cord. I was baffled that any appliance could be purchased without the necessary cord to operate it. Imaging buying a toaster without a cord. Or a vacuum cleaner. Or a TV set. How about a refrigerator? Or a lamp? Or a hair dryer?

To be fair, some electric ranges, dishwashers and microwaves don't come with power cords. The reasons, according to the manufacturers, are that electrical codes and regulations vary across regions and that some of these appliances should be hardwired to the home circuit.

Those excuses may be justifiable for some large appliances, but smart phones? The



last I looked, I didn't need to hard wire my phone. And when I buy a product in America, I expect that it will have the appropriate charging plugs for those of us who wave the red, white and blue.

Of course, my old chargers won't work for the new phone. So I threw them in the box of other cords and chargers and wires that I will seemingly never use. Even with appliances, we are told to not use the old, unsafe cords and to buy new ones. Yep.

So, we buy charging bricks for smart phones separately, and we hopefully realize this before we have the units at home so we don't have to make separate trips to the store. But if you do have to make another trip, at least you can do a load of laundry while you are gone. Maybe.

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



POLK CITY
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

Dan Juffer
515-371-2290
dan.juffer@dmcityview.com

2023 DNR FIRE ASSISTANCE GRANT AWARDED TO POLK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

More than \$415,000 in 50% cost-share grants have recently been awarded to 131 of Iowa's rural fire departments to aid their efforts in protecting Iowans and their property from wildfires. The grants offer valuable funding assistance for wildfire suppression, personal protective and communications equipment. The Polk City Fire Department is among those receiving a grant. The grants are made possible through Iowa DNR Forestry, in cooperation with U.S. Forest Service - State and Private Forestry.

Gail Kantak, fire supervisor with DNR Forestry, reminds all fire departments of the importance of submitting Wildland Fire Reports whenever they respond to a wildland



Photo from Polk City Fire Department Facebook page

fire or provide assistance to a prescribed or controlled wildland fire. Departments returning these reports receive priority points when the Fire

Assistance grant applications are scored. These wildland fire reports are compiled locally and nationally and are reported to Congress. ■

SPOTLIGHT: POLK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

309 W. VAN DORN ST.

Emergency number: 911 | **Station number:** 515-984-6304 | **After Hours Phone:** 515-286-3333

The following information about the Polk City Fire Department can be found on the department's website, <https://www.polkcityia.gov/fire-department>:

"The mission of the Polk City Fire Department is to minimize the loss of life and property of our

residents and neighbors through education, prevention, and by delivering the highest level of fire and emergency medical services."

QUICK FACTS:

- Year founded: 1946
- Response area: approximately 70 square miles in the northwest

quadrant of Polk County

- Number of calls: Approximately 800 calls per year
- Join: The Polk City Fire Department continues to look for motivated individuals who would like to be a part of the tradition. For inquiries, email

EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM

Through DEC. 31: Santa's Rock N Lights. Holiday-themed light show occurring daily from 5-9 p.m. at Living History Farms, 11121 Hickman Road, Urbandale; lhf.org/event/santas-rock-n-lights.

Through DEC. 31: Holiday Hullabaloo. Now in its second year, experience a family-friendly holiday event with festivities and entertainment every weekend through the dates posted. Horizon Events Center, 10320 Hickman Road, Clive; horizoneventscenter.com.

DEC. 1-17: "All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914." Des Moines Community Playhouse, 831 42nd St., Des Moines. dmplayhouse.com.

DEC. 2-17: "A Charlie Brown Christmas." Des Moines Community Playhouse's Kate Goldman Children's Theatre. dmplayhouse.com.

DEC. 7-10: BDM Presents "The Nutcracker." Hoyt Sherman Place, 1501 Woodland Ave., Des Moines; balletdesmoines.org

DEC. 7-9: "The Nutcracker." Iowa Dance Theatre presents at Des Moines Civic Center, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines; dmpa.org

DEC. 8-9: Winter Solstice Market. 6-9 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. 116 S. First Ave., Winterset Courthouse Square; madisoncounty.com/special-events.

DEC. 8-17: "A Christmas Carol." Stoner Theatre, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines. iowastage.org.

DEC. 9: Santa 5K run. 521 E. Locust St., Des Moines; fleetfeet.com/s/desmoines.

DEC. 14: Christmas with Lorie Line. 7 p.m. at Hoyt Sherman Place, 1501 Woodland Ave., Des Moines. hoytsherman.org.

DEC. 15-17: "Home For The Holidays, A Christmas Cabaret." Tallgrass Theatre Company, 2019 Grand Ave., Suite 100, West Des Moines. tallgrasstheatre.org.

DEC. 17: Michael W. Smith Christmas at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Hoyt Sherman Place, 1501 Woodland Ave., Des Moines. hoytsherman.org.

DEC. 21: "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Des Moines Civic Center, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines. dmpa.org.

DEC. 22-23: "Cirque Dreams Holidayze." Des Moines Civic Center, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines. dmpa.org.

DEC. 31: New Year's Eve Pops: Cirque De La Symphonie. Des Moines Civic Center, 221 Walnut St., Des Moines; desmoinesperformingarts.org ■

RECIPE

A REGIONALLY INSPIRED SNACK

(Family Features) If you're in need of a quick snack everyone can share while mingling, opt for this Chocolate Cherry Pecan Snack Mix that takes just 20 minutes to prepare. It includes chocolate-glazed pecans tossed with yogurt-covered raisins, pretzels and dried tart cherries — a staple of the North.

When it comes to pecans, great taste is just the beginning. They're the ultimate supernut due to their flavor, versatility and nutritional benefits. Next time you're shopping for holiday ingredients, remember you can pick up a bag to add to favorite appetizers, snacks, meals, desserts and more all holiday season long. ■

CHOCOLATE CHERRY PECAN SNACK MIX

Recipe courtesy of Emily Caruso of "Jelly Toast" on behalf of the American Pecan Promotion Board

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

Servings: 20

- 1 large egg white
- 1/4 cup light brown sugar
- 1 1/2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon water
- 1 1/2 cups pecan halves
- 1 cup dried tart cherries
- 1 cup small pretzels
- 3/4 cup yogurt-covered raisins

Directions:

Heat oven to 325 F.

In bowl, whisk egg white, brown sugar, cocoa powder, vanilla extract and salt until well blended. Add water to thin mixture slightly. Fold in pecan halves until well coated. Spread mixture onto parchment-lined baking



sheet.

Bake 15-20 minutes, or until mixture is well set. Stir mixture several times during baking. Allow pecans to cool completely and transfer to bowl. Mix in dried cherries, pretzels and raisins.

POLK CITY LIBRARY

1500 W. Broadway St. • 515-984-6119 • polkcitylibrary.org



STORY TIME

Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Join Ms. Allyson at the library for stories, songs and an activity or craft. Choose the day that works best for you. Register online at our website for one of the programs each week. Every story can be logged in our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program.

CHAIR YOGA

Mondays, 9 a.m.

Join Rachel via Zoom. We will be broadcasting the class on the big screen in the library, or you can join us from home. Yoga is for everyone and every body. Yoga is not for flexible people but for people who want to become more flexible. This chair yoga practice will include breathwork, mindfulness and simple, easy movements to release tension, reduce pain and restore your body to optimum movement. Props needed are an armless chair, like a kitchen chair, and a small hand towel or kitchen dish towel. Find the Zoom link by clicking on the calendar event on our website at polkcitylibrary.org.

GERI-FIT® STRENGTH TRAINING WORKOUTS

Tuesdays, 9 a.m.

Strength training workouts that work for all ages and fitness levels. Geri-Fit is challenging, effective, and safe to do. The Geri-Fit® program requires a set of light dumbbell weights, a sturdy chair and water to drink during the workout. Ages 50 and older. Stretch bands and a Zoom link are available upon request.

LADIES' WEDNESDAY COFFEE

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to noon

Ladies, join us for coffee and conversation.

SIT N STITCH

Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.

Bring your current project and join us for stitching and conversation.

MEN'S FRIDAY COFFEE

Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon

Gentlemen, drop in for coffee and conversation. Enjoy spending time and having a few laughs or interesting discussions with other men from around the area. ■

WE WILL RUN YOUR POLK CITY NEWS ITEMS FOR FREE.

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

KIWANIS ANNUAL AUCTION

Kiwanis of Polk City will have its yearly silent auction Nov. 23 through Dec. 3. Check out the many items that would make great Christmas gifts. They have Mary Kay items, pontoon rental, golf simulator certificates, restaurant gift certificates, haircut certificates, handmade quilts, workout memberships and much more. Bids can be made at www.proxibid.com/dvorak. ■

KIWANIS HOME LIGHTING CONTEST

The Kiwanis Club of Polk City is hosting a home lighting contest. Polk City residents are invited to celebrate the holidays by lighting up their home and joining the friendly competition. Proceeds from the event will go to the Friends of the Parks in support of a future ice skating rink in Kiwanis Park. Register by Dec. 15. Voting is Dec. 16-29. Cost is \$25 to enter. Prizes are \$100 for Kiwanis First Place and \$100 for People's Choice.

Follow the QR codes to register, to vote, and to view a map of participating homes. ■



REGISTER



VOTE



MAP

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: General electric glass top double oven range. It is electric, has air-fry, conv bake, warming burner, self & steam clean. used for 1 1/2 months \$850.00. Call 515-745-5002.

FOR SALE: 2006 Chevrolet Silverado truck 4x4, V8, crew cab, 148,000 miles, great condition. Call 641-757-0731.

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

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

WANTED: Electronics, stereo receivers, guitar or amps, speakers, radios, etc. Any age or condition for parts or repair. Call 515-445-6023.

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

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

LIST 50 WORDS OR LESS FOR FREE.



Just Right FOR YOU

GRIMES • DALLAS CENTER • PERRY • ADEL

FOR WWW.RACCOONVALLEYBANK.COM

FLOORING SPECIALISTS

WE'VE MOVED!

COME CHECK OUT OUR NEW SHOWROOM!
4925 NW JOHNSTON DR., JOHNSTON

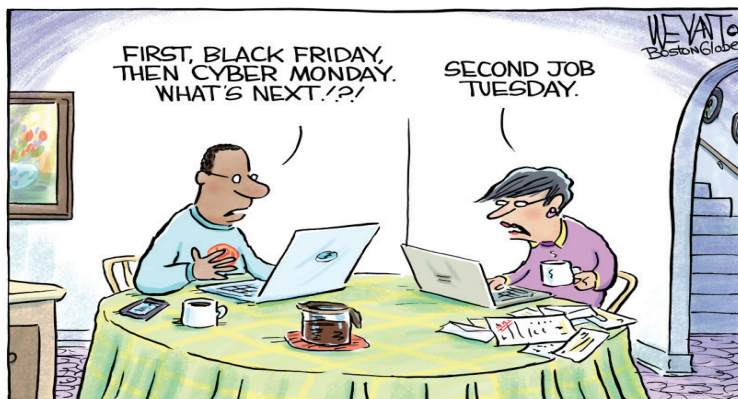
Family-owned, local business
operating since 1999.



THE FLOORING GUYS

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT 4925 NW JOHNSTON DR., JOHNSTON

515-508-0024 • www.theflooringguysdsm.com



CITYVIEW'S WINTER EVENT IS BACK!

FIRE & ICE

AN INTERACTIVE WINTER PUB CRAWL IN VALLEY JUNCTION

SATURDAY, JAN. 20 • 1-4 P.M.

**BREAK THE WINTER BLUES, GET OUT
AND HAVE FUN ON A SATURDAY
AFTERNOON IN VALLEY JUNCTION!**

**FOR \$25 TICKET PRICE*, YOU GET 10 TICKETS
TO SAMPLE WINTER SPECIALTY DRINKS!**

*\$35 AT THE DOOR



TICKETS AT FIRE-AND-ICE.DMCITYVIEW.COM