

# POLK CITY Living Weekly

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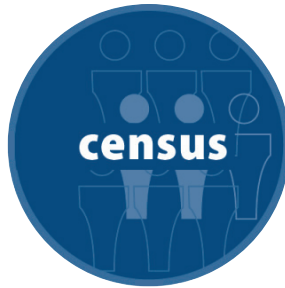


A BIG GREEN UMBRELLA MEDIA PUBLICATION

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## POLK CITY INITIATES SPECIAL CENSUS

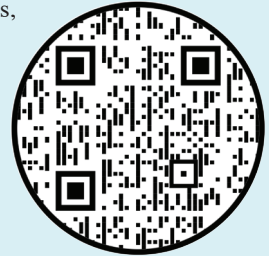
Polk City is growing. The mayor and city council have decided to take the steps necessary for a Special Census. As of 2020, the population was 5,543 residents. City officials estimate the city has grown with more than 1,000 additional residents since March of 2020. Polk City receives road use tax money based on its official census. The additional money Polk City can receive in road use tax will significantly offset the cost of the special census. The special census is scheduled for Sept. 16.



All residents will receive information in the mail beginning in August. The city encourages everyone to participate, as the additional road use tax funds help reduce the property tax burden on residents. For more information and timeline, visit [www.polkcitya.gov](http://www.polkcitya.gov). ■

## CENSUS TAKERS NEEDED

Residents are needed to become U.S. Census Bureau workers to help Polk City with this year's Special Census. Earn extra income, enjoy flexible hours, and serve your community. Apply at: [www.census.gov/about/census-careers/jobs/regional-community/community.html](http://www.census.gov/about/census-careers/jobs/regional-community/community.html). All are welcome to apply, including retirees, college students, people looking for temporary employment, people looking for a second job and people available to work flexible hours.



### POLK CITY WEATHER FORECAST

**FRIDAY HIGH 44 | LOW 23**

Cloudy with a.m. showers

**SATURDAY HIGH 46 | LOW 25**

Breezy with plenty of sun

**SUNDAY HIGH 56 | LOW 36**

Sunny and mild

**MONDAY HIGH 69 | LOW 45**

Mostly sunny, nice and warm

**TUESDAY HIGH 69 | LOW 45**

Mostly sunny and breezy



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

# THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

Signs. Signs. Everywhere there are signs. And, at least in Iowa, they are mostly written in the English language. For me, that's a good thing, as what I learned in three years of Spanish classes didn't stick very well. But, for those who can't read the English language, it's certainly not easy.

Imagine moving to a foreign country and having every street sign, every store sign, every menu, every single word in a language you are unable to read. And then imagine having to communicate with those who speak another language to get instructions on how to do the simplest of tasks and not break the law. It would not be easy.

The solution through the years on how to address this in America has clearly changed. In the earliest days of the United States, and through most of its history, those who were new to the country were expected to learn the English language and realized the need to do so to

survive. In recent decades, in many parts of America, signs and other communication tools are provided in two or more languages. What changed?

Asking for the answer to that question simply leads to finger-pointing and creates a deeper divide in America. Maybe it's time for another solution. Maybe it's time to work toward creating an answer that could accommodate most everyone in a positive way. What if we simply gave the English language back to the English, and we devised a new language — the American language? We are kind of doing this now anyway, so why not make it formal? I realize it would be a lot of work, but imagine a new language that would be a combination of the many vernaculars spoken here now. It would likely be quite similar to the English language but with



words and phrases from other tongues, too.

I am convinced that we would be better off as a society if we focused more on how we are alike rather than how we are different. We are spending an incredible amount of both public and private money and time right now to deal with the language barriers. What if we used that money and time to create one language and then hold all Americans accountable for using it?

It may be a pollyannaish idea, but it also just might help to extract at least one wedge that divides our country — and we all might learn a little more about each other, too.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■



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## MCCANN TO SPEAK ABOUT HER BOOK AT LIBRARY

Iowa native Linda Betsinger McCann will be speaking about her newest book, "Rosie the Riveters of Iowa," at the Polk City Library on March 20 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited, and there is no admission charge. Rosie the Riveter was the nickname given to the women who worked during World War II. The women were needed in factories and other companies to take the place of the men gone to the war. Iowa had 70 companies with military contracts during the war, so women were very much needed to assist in meeting the needs of the military. Linda was able to speak with 35 women who had worked as Rosies, and she shares their memories. Linda will have copies of her books for sale. The books are \$20 each, and she can only take cash or checks.

She will also speak March 23 at 10 a.m. at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at Camp Dodge in Johnston about her book about prisoners of war in Iowa. ■

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## BIG CREEK VOLUNTEER DAY

Friends of Big Creek is hosting a volunteer day Saturday, April 27, 8 a.m. to noon, to help spruce up the playground at Big Creek State Park, 8550 N.W. 142nd Ave., Polk City. For more information about Friends of Big Creek or joining the board, email [friendsofbigcreek@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbigcreek@gmail.com). ■

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## NEW BUILDING PERMIT PROCESS

In January, the city was able to take the steps necessary to bring its building department in-house. With this change comes a much easier, more streamlined way of doing things when you are ready to take on your home projects. The city recently rolled out the online platform in which residents can submit permit requests along with any necessary documents that might be needed for their projects. This is a one-stop shop for permitting, complete with a place to request inspections right in the portal. For a link to the platform, visit <https://www.polkcityia.gov/administration/pages/building-permits>. ■

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## LIVE BURN TRAINING DATE SET

The Polk City Fire Department will be conducting a live fire training burn at 1600 W. Broadway on Saturday, April 6. There will be multiple fire department apparatus and firefighters training from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is a great training opportunity for your local firefighters to get real-life scenarios on an actual structure. Multiple scenarios will be conducted, and the structure will be burned to the ground once the training is finished. Contact Fire Chief Karla Hogrefe with any questions. ■

## CITY DATES TO NOTE

- **March 11 and 25:** City council meeting, 6 p.m., city hall
  - **March 15 and 29:** Recycling and garbage pickup
  - **March 18:** Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, 6 p.m., city hall
  - **March 29-31:** The library will be closed for Good Friday and Easter.
  - **March 29:** City hall will be closed for Good Friday.
  - **April 7-13:** National Library Week
  - **April 22:** Polk City Cleanup. Have items to the curb by 7 a.m.
  - **May 18:** Cops & Bobbers ■
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## RESIDENT INPUT SOUGHT ON HOUR CHANGES FOR BRUSH DROP-OFF SITE

The city council will be discussing possible changes to the hours the brush drop-off site is open at the March 11 city council meeting and encourages resident feedback. The city has had issues with both illegal dumping and individuals who do not live in Polk City using the facility. The cost to manage the brush has significantly increased over the past five years, and the Council is evaluating ways to decrease costs and stop illegal use of the facility. ■

## POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION EVENTS

Visit <https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/conservation/events/> for information

**Wild Night Life & Hike**, Friday, March 8, 6 p.m., Jester Park Nature Center. Join us for a campfire program about the wild night life in Jester Park. A short hike will follow as we search for some of these nocturnal animals. Stay for s'mores. Registration required by the day before. Cost is \$5. For ages 5 and older.

**Homeschool Programs**, Friday, March 22, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. (The Rainforest, 1.5 hours); Friday April 12, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. (The Desert, 1.5 hours), at Jester Park Nature Center: This program series will be delivered in a flexible format that is specially designed for homeschool students. These programs will immerse children and parents in the

natural world and drive us to learn, discover and appreciate our environment. Registration is due two days before the event. The program is free and recommended for grades K-5.

**Pony Tales**, Friday, March 15, 11 a.m., and Monday, April 15, 1 p.m., Jester Park Equestrian Center: Enjoy listening to a pony-themed story while the ponies of the Equestrian Center are listening nearby. A pony meet and greet will follow. We will meet at the outdoor picnic shelter or the arena concourse depending on the weather. Bring a blanket or camp chair to spread out on the lawn. This event is free. Registration is not required but is encouraged. ■

## ATTENTION SALES PROFESSIONALS!

# Are you frustrated in your current sales position?



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## CITYVIEW



**Call me, Jolene Goodman, on my cell at 515-326-0082.**

**LET'S GET TOGETHER FOR A CUP OF COFFEE. MY TREAT.**

## POLK CITY LIBRARY

1500 W. Broadway St. • 515-984-6119 • [polkcitlibrary.org](http://polkcitlibrary.org)

**Family Bingo**, Monday, March 11, from 2-3 p.m. Who doesn't love bingo or winning prizes? Registration is required.

**Drop-In Craft**, Tuesday, March 12, 2-4 p.m. Drop in and work on a craft with your family. We will set up the craft and the supplies, and you just need to bring your creativity. Parents and guardians are required to stay with their children.

**Coloring Night at Fenders Brewing**, Wednesday March 13, 4-9 p.m. Drop in any time. Come for a night of relaxation and fun with friends at Fenders Brewing.

**Kids Movie**, Wednesday, March 13, 2-4 p.m. Come enjoy a movie and some yummy popcorn at the library. Parents and guardians are required to stay with their children.

**Music and Movement**, Thursday, March 14, 10 a.m. Come shimmy and shake with your child. Dance and sing while building pre-reading skills with rhythm and rhyme.

**Adult DIY: Fairy Lanterns**, Thursday, March 14, 6 p.m. Come craft with us. We'll be making sparkly, decorative lanterns that might just be lit by the fae. Ages 17 and over, registration required.

**Teen D.I.Y. Diamond Painting**, Thursday, March 14, 2-3 p.m. Middle school and high school students will enjoy diamond painting keychains and/or stickers. Diamond painting is similar to paint by numbers except that you are working with tiny rhinestones that stick to the canvas or particular item you are painting. Registration is required.

**K-5th STEM Book Club**, Tuesday, March 19, 4-4:45 p.m. We will be exploring the use of colors and how they fit into the scientific world. Pick up your free book, "Uni the Unicorn, Let's Clean Up the Forest" by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, before the book club meeting or you can pick it up on the day of the meeting and hear it read then. Register online.

**Messy Munchkins**, Thursday, March 21, 10 a.m.

Does your toddler or preschooler always make a mess? It is actually a great way for them to learn. Visit us and let your child explore sensory tables we will put out. Have your child wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty.

**Monday Book Club**, "James Herriot's Cat Stories" by James Herriot, Monday, March 18, 2 p.m. Some of the Yorkshire vet's favorite tales about one of his favorite animals — each memoir as memorable and heartwarming as the last.

**Adult Coloring**, Tuesday, March 19, 5-7 p.m. Join us for a relaxing evening of coloring. Colored pencils and gel pens will be provided. You are also welcome to bring your own. Ages 17 and older.

**Rosie the Riveter with Linda McCann**, Wednesday, March 20, 6 p.m. This Women's History month, join the Polk City Library and Linda McCann to discuss Iowa's "Rosies," the women who went to work as part of their civic duty during World War II. Linda was able to speak with 35 Iowa women who had worked as Rosies and will share their experiences.

**Adult DIY Card Crafting**, Monday, March 25 at 6 p.m. Join Jane and Kim in making handmade cards that are fun to create and are treasured by the recipients. There will be a \$5 material fee payable that night. Beginners are welcome. Feel free to bring scissors and adhesive if you have them and prepare to have a good time!. Ages 17 and older. Register online at [polkcitlibrary.org](http://polkcitlibrary.org) one month in advance.

**Iowa's Lost History from the Titanic with Darcy Maulsby**, Thursday, March 28, 6 p.m. What do an orphan train rider, a kidnapper, a missionary, a wealthy businessman, a wedding guest, a betrayed wife, a farmer and an immigrant recruiter have in common? All had ties to Iowa, and all were passengers aboard the ill-fated Titanic on the fateful night of April 15, 1912, when the famous ocean liner sank. Come listen to Iowa storyteller Darcy Maulsby discuss Iowa's connections to one of the most famous ships in history. ■



## EVENTS IN THE AREA

EMAIL YOUR EVENT INFORMATION TO  
TAMMY@IOWALIVINGMAGAZINES.COM

Quadcon Comic and Toy Show is coming to Des Moines.

**DES MOINES COMIC AND TOY SHOW**

March 23-24

Merle Hay Mall, 3800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines

[quadcitycon.com](http://quadcitycon.com)

This free event will be inside Merle Hay Mall. Quadcon is planning on having 100 vendor and artist spots, so get ready to get your steps in to see the available cards, comics, posters, toys, games and art.

**DES MOINES ST. PADDY'S MARATHON**

March 16

E. Locust Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Des Moines

[iowaruns.com/desmoinessstpaddys5k](http://iowaruns.com/desmoinessstpaddys5k)

A marathon, half-marathon and 5K will be offered. All finishers will receive a new 2024 pint glass, a finisher medal for all half-marathon and marathon runners, and the chance to celebrate eight years of the Des Moines St. Paddy's Race.

**JUDY NIEMACK JAZZ CONCERT**

Sunday, March 17, 2 p.m.

Caspe Terrace, 33158 Ute Ave., Waukee

Jazz critic Dan Morgenstern said it best — "If you want to know what real jazz singing can be (but rarely is), listen to Judy Niemack." Niemack has perfected her beautiful voice, fearless improvisational skills, impressive musicianship and exceptional versatility for more than 40 years and on many critically-acclaimed recordings. She also enjoys a worldwide reputation as a jazz vocal teacher and author of several "must-have" vocal jazz

improvisation books. Niemack will be accompanied by pianist John DiMartino, who appeared at Caspe Terrace several years ago with vocalist Jay Clayton. For more information and tickets, visit <https://jazzatcaspe.weebly.com/tickets.html>.

**THE BUSINESS EXPO**

Tuesday, March 26, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Meadows Gymnasium, 2555 W. First St., Grimes

The public is invited to the 14th year of the Business Expo. Check out some local businesses and what they have to offer. Look for plenty of free goodies from Grimes Chamber member businesses, a face painter, and a balloon artist. Free admission and kids are welcome.

**ELKS SPRING STYLE SHOW FUNDRAISER**

Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

West Des Moines Elks Lodge, 2060 N.W. 94th St., Clive

Go shopping and enjoy lunch at the Elks Spring Style Show Fundraiser. Many fabulous vendors and terrific door prizes are included. Cost is \$15 for admission and funds benefit the Elks' veterans projects. Fashion show starts at 11 a.m. with shopping and lunch to follow. A 50/50 raffle will also be held. Must be present to win prizes.

**CLIVE'S CRAFT, VENDOR AND BOUTIQUE SHOPPING EVENT**

Saturday, March 9

2100 N.W. 100th St., Clive

[www.horizoneventscenter.com/event/clives-craft-vendor-and-boutique-shopping-event](http://www.horizoneventscenter.com/event/clives-craft-vendor-and-boutique-shopping-event)

Shop at an estimated 150-plus in-home business booths to help get you ready for spring and summer.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

March 16, noon

Grand Avenue, downtown Des Moines

[www.friendlysonsiowa.com](http://www.friendlysonsiowa.com)

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick brings Des Moines its St. Patrick's Day parade, this year with a new route. The parade will proceed south on Robert D. Ray Drive to Grand Avenue and then west to Eighth Street with the parade officially ending at Eighth and Grand Avenue. ■

## RECIPE

# CELEBRATE ST. PAT'S WITH A TRADITIONAL IRISH DISH

*(Family Features)* If St. Patrick's Day inspires feelings of hearth and home rather than leprechauns and green beer, you can celebrate tradition with warm, filling recipes that harken back to Irish heritage.

Share a sweet way to complete the meal in style with Irish Apple Cake, a classic dessert to top off a filling celebration. This version is easy enough to prepare with a handful of everyday ingredients for the cake, a crumbly topping and homemade custard for the finishing touch. ■

## IRISH APPLE CAKE

### Cake:

- 3 cups self-rising flour
- 1/2 tablespoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ginger
- 1 stick butter, cubed
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 4 apples of choice, peeled and cubed
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup half-and-half

### Topping:

- 1/2 stick butter
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1 cup brown sugar

### Custard:

- 6 large egg yolks
- 6 tablespoons sugar
- 1 1/2 cups half-and-half
- 2 teaspoons vanilla

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 F. Grease and flour 9-inch round springform pan.

**To make cake:** In large bowl, sift flour with cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and ginger. Using fork, cut butter until mixture resembles crumbs. Add sugar and apples; mix



well. Stir in eggs and half-and-half until mixture reaches thick, dough-like batter. Pour batter into prepared pan.

**To make topping:** In bowl, mix butter, flour and sugar to create crumbled mixture. Sprinkle on top of batter in pan. Bake 1 hour. Check with toothpick to make sure middle is completely done. If not, bake 5-10 minutes. Let cool on rack.

**To make custard:** Whisk egg yolks and sugar. In saucepan, bring half-and-half to boil. Add one spoonful half-and-half at a time to egg mixture, whisking while adding. Once whisked together, return to saucepan and stir over medium heat until thickened, about 4 minutes. Remove from heat and whisk in vanilla.

Serve custard over cake.

## KIWANIS PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND EGG HUNT

Kiwanis will host its annual Pancake Breakfast and Egg Hunt at Lakeside Fellowship Church, 1121 W. Bridge Road, Polk City, on Saturday, March 23, from 8-11 a.m. The Easter Egg Hunt will follow at 11 a.m. A freewill donation will be accepted with all proceeds going towards Kiwanis North Polk Senior Scholarships. ■

## WEEKLY EVENTS AT THE POLK CITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

**Story Time Mondays and Tuesdays**, 10 a.m. Join us 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, too.

**Chair Yoga**, Mondays, 9 a.m. Join Rachel Snyder via Zoom. We will be broadcasting the class on the big screen in the library or you can join us from home. Chair yoga is a gentle practice in which postures are performed while seated and/or with the support of a chair. No experience is necessary. The Zoom link can be found on our online catalog at polkcitlibrary.org.

**Geri-Fit® Strength Training Workouts**, Tuesdays at 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. If you would like to participate from home via Zoom, please let the library know ahead of time so we can email you the link.

**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. ■

## EARTH DAY FAMILY 5K RUN/WALK AND PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Funds raised at the Polk City Friends of the Parks' annual Earth Day Family 5K Run/Walk and the Pickleball Tournament being held in conjunction with it will go toward costs of resurfacing the tennis and pickleball courts at Miller Park. The event is Saturday, April 20. For information about the events, visit <https://www.polkcityfriendsoftheparks.com/earth-day-5k>. ■

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** Vertical cloth blind. 40" x 36". It is a very light gray color. \$75. Text or phone 515-321-0301.

**WANTED:** Stereo & electronic radio stuff receivers speakers guitar amp etc. Any age or condition is OK. Call 515-238-3343.

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

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

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

**SEND IN YOUR FREE CLASSIFIED AD BY WEDNESDAY AT 10 A.M. TO [BECKHAM@DMCITYVIEW.COM](mailto:BECKHAM@DMCITYVIEW.COM)**

LIST 50 WORDS OR LESS FOR FREE.

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