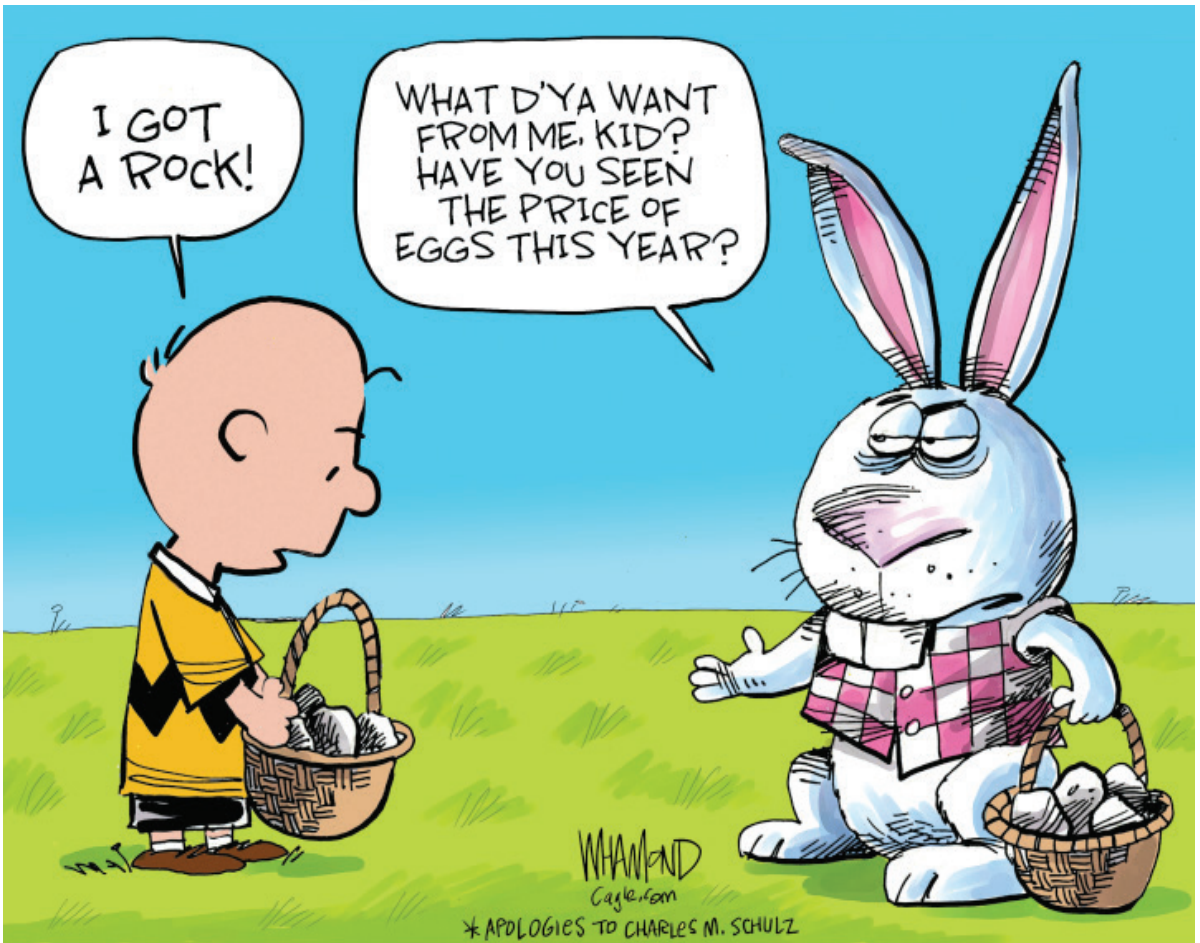


POLK CITY Living Weekly

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POLK CITY WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY HIGH 67 | LOW 36
Sunny; breezy in the morning



SATURDAY HIGH 58 | LOW 38
Intervals of clouds and sun



SUNDAY HIGH 53 | LOW 41
Cloudy with showers in places



MONDAY HIGH 48 | LOW 33
Rain at times



TUESDAY HIGH 54 | LOW 31
Intervals of clouds and sun




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FROM THE PUBLISHER

THIS LITTLE PIGGY...

Chances are, regardless of what generation you are from, you had a piggy bank in your youth. Maybe you still do. I can still hear the noise from the coins dropping through the slot. For many of us, that was the sound of money.

The piggy bank of my youth was small, plastic and pink, and it had a local bank's logo imprinted on it. I took great pride in filling that thing up. I doubt it held 50 pennies, but I sure thought I was rich. My piggy bank had a plastic plug in the bottom of it that would allow for the coins to be removed.

My brother had a ceramic piggy bank that didn't have a plug in it. He would have to carefully fish out the coins through the slot with a butter knife. It was a tedious task. Of course, a hammer would have been the faster method, but that would have been the end of the piggy bank. Some say the expression "breaking the bank" comes from this action. Others disagree. Regardless, Mom would

not have allowed us kids to purposefully break things.

But what about the pig? Do you ever what it has to do with banking or saving? Why not a horse? Or a cow? Or a rooster?

Piggy banks apparently date back 600 years. This was a time before banks as we know today existed. In those days, people stored their money at home, often in jars made of a clay called pygg. When people would save their coins, they would do so by dropping them into one of these clay jars that were referred to as a "pygg pot." Makes sense now, huh?

According to The Financial Brand, the first true piggy banks — terracotta banks in the shape of a pig with a slot in the top for depositing coins — were made in Java in the 14th century. Not many of these Indonesian piggy



banks survive today, since, like my brother's bank, they needed to be cracked open to get to the coins. As such, unbroken Javanese piggy banks are rare. In Great Britain, a 650-year old Majapahit terracotta piggy bank was offered for sale at \$10,000. That's a lot of coin.

Today, in many German-speaking countries, giving piggy banks as gifts is a cherished custom, as pigs are associated with good fortune. Based on today's market prices, Iowa's hog farmers may disagree.

Did you have a piggy bank? Do you still? Send me a note and let me know.

Have a great week, and thanks for reading. ■



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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. ■

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. ■

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

Meet at the Museum on the Square on May 30, 6:30 p.m., for a half-mile walking tour of Beebe Town for the Founder's Day Celebration. Learn about Polk City's early businesses and the fires that destroyed many of them and visit the Beebe family cemetery. This event is hosted by the Big Creek Historical Society. ■

CITY DATES TO NOTE

- **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. ■

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 experience 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. ■

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 ward 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.polkcitryfriendsoftheparks.com/earth-day-5k>. ■

POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION EVENTS

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

OLDER, WISER, LIVELIER, SENIORS: AFRICAN WILDLIFE ADVENTURES

Tuesday, April 2, 11 a.m., Jester Park Nature Center: Jim and Cindy Pease have been on and led several trips to Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa. This presentation will share photos and stories of the incredible wildlife and natural history of the grasslands and savannas of eastern Africa. This program is for ages 12 and older, free, and does not require registration.

MINDFULNESS AND MOVEMENT

At 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, Jester Park Nature Center: Sometimes we forget we are part of nature, sharing water and air with all other beings on the planet. Controlling our breath and moving our bodies in focused ways can bring back a connection with the natural world. This class will offer ways to connect with breath, body and the earth, regardless of experience with yoga. Instructors will vary each month. Bring a yoga mat and wear comfortable clothes. This Rooted in Nature program is in sponsorship with UnityPoint. Registration is due the day before. Cost is \$15, and the program is for ages 12 and older.

NATURE CENTER AFTER DARK: HAWAIIAN LUAU

Friday, April 12, 6 p.m., Jester Park Nature Center: Here's your chance to visit the Jester Park Nature Center after dark. The hour will include storytelling, crafts, open Nature Center exhibits, and a short program on the theme of the night. Feel free to wear your grass skirts and Hawaiian leis. No registration required for this free event for all ages.

HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

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

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.

WOMEN IN THE WOODS WITH WINE

Tuesday, April 16, Light the Night: Enjoy the sights and sounds of nature with a glass of wine before we light up the night — with fire. Learn tips and tricks so that you can easily master or improve fire building. Show off your new skill as a pro firestarter at your next camp, cookout or bonfire. Dress for the weather as the program will take place outdoors. This program is for women, female-identifying, or non-binary adults ages 21 and older who are interested in getting outside. Become more comfortable and knowledgeable about the natural world as you unwind and have fun. Registration is due by March 17. Cost is \$15.

STORY TELLEBRATION

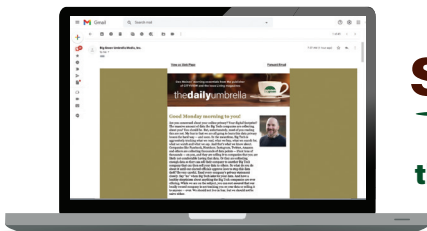
Wednesday, April 17 (April Showers), 10 a.m., Jester Park Nature Center: Join volunteer storyteller Carmen Epstein for a fun, interactive tale tailored toward children ages 2 to 6 that explores the wonders of the outdoors. During each program, participants enjoy interactive stories and an activity. No registration required for this free event. ■

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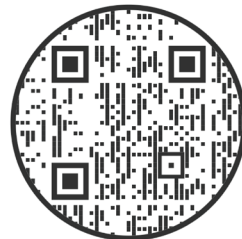
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EVENTS IN THE AREA

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IOWA TRAIL RUN SERIES (Photo courtesy of Iowa Trail Run Series)

IOWA TRAIL RUN SERIES

Several locations

iowatrailruns.com

April 6 and April 13

The Iowa Trail Run Series is back for 2024. Races in April, which include the first race of the season, will be at Center Trail Des Moines with a 4-mile and 8-mile race on April 6. They return to the beginning of the Iowa Trail Run Series with a 5K, 10K and half-marathon at the Sugar Bottom trail in Solon on April 13.

DRAKE RELAYS

Drake Stadium, 2719 Forest Ave., Des Moines

godrakebulldogs.com

April 24-27

The Drake Relays bring premier track and field athletes from around the country and some of the best in-state high school track athletes to Des Moines.

IOWA WILD

Wells Fargo Arena, 233 Center St., Des Moines

iowawild.com

April home games:

April 5 at 7 p.m. vs. Hershey Bears (Washington

Capitals)

April 6 at 6 p.m. vs. Hershey Bears

April 9 at 7 p.m. vs. Rockford Icehogs (Chicago Blackhawks)

April 17 at 7 p.m. vs. Grand Rapids Griffins (Detroit Red Wings)

April 19 at 7 p.m. vs. Grand Rapids Griffins

IOWA BARNSTORMERS

Wells Fargo Arena, 233 Center St., Des Moines

theiowabarnstormers.com

April home game:

April 20 at 7:05 p.m. vs. Arizona Rattlers

DES MOINES BUCCANEERS

Buccaneer Arena, 7201 Hickman Road, Urbandale

bucshockey.com

April home games:

April 5 at 7 p.m. vs. Fargo Force

April 6 at 6 p.m. vs. Fargo Force

IOWA CUBS

Principal Park, 1 Line Drive, Des Moines

iowacubs.com

April home games:

April 2 at 6:38 p.m. vs. Toledo (Detroit Tigers)

April 3 at 12:08 p.m.

April 4 at 6:38 p.m.

April 5 at 7:08 p.m.

April 6 at 3:08 p.m.

April 7 at 1:08 p.m.

April 16 at 6:38 p.m. vs. Louisville (Cincinnati Reds)

Reds)

April 17 at 12:08 p.m.

April 18 at 12:08 p.m.

April 19 at 7:08 p.m.

April 20 at 3:08 p.m.

April 21 at 1:08 p.m.

April 30 at 6:38 p.m. vs. Omaha (Kansas City

RECIPE

EASY EASTER EATS

(Family Features) Even if Easter hosting duties fell on your plate this year and added one more thing to your holiday to-do list, that doesn't mean it has to be difficult. After all, Easter is a time meant for fun and fellowship with the food just one part of the celebration.

Building the menu around simple, one-pan dishes can keep the focus where it needs to be: spending time and creating memories with family and friends. These dishes call for short lists of ingredients, many of which you may already have in your pantry, and simple preparation to create a full spread perfect for sharing with loved ones. Plus, using only one pan makes cleanup a breeze, so you can get back to the festivities quickly. ■

BLUEBERRY CRUMBLE

Finish off your feast with an adaptable dessert like this blueberry crumble. Made using just five ingredients and ready in about an hour, you can swap the blueberry pie filling and yellow cake mix for any combination that suits your guests' tastes like apple pie filling with spice cake or cherry pie filling with chocolate cake; the sky's the limit when it comes to satisfying that sweet tooth.

Ingredients:

- 1 can blueberry pie filling
- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 bag (4 ounces) chopped pecans
- 1 stick butter, melted
- 1/4 cup oil
- whipped cream, for serving (optional)
- vanilla ice cream, for serving (optional)

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 F.

Spread pie filling on bottom of 9-by-11-inch pan.



Sprinkle cake mix and pecans on top. Do not mix.

Drizzle melted butter and oil on top of cake mix and pecans. Do not mix. Lift pan and tilt from side to side until cake mix is completely covered in butter.

Bake 1 hour until golden brown and bubbly.

Serve with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream, if desired.

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Contact Dan Juffer at
dan.juffer@dmcityview.com

JOKE OF THE WEEK



*What do you call a
nose with no body?
No body nose!*



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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **National Library Giving Day** is April 3.
- **Saturday, April 6**, the library will be closed due to fire department training burn on an adjacent property.
- **National Library Week** is April 7-13.
- **Fareway Round-up for the Friends of the Library** is April 15-20.

ACTIVITIES

- **Adult Crafternoon: Acrylic Painting**, Tuesday, April 2, 2 p.m. Make flower bouquets with buttons, floral wire and salt shakers. All supplies will be provided. 17 and older, registration required.
- **Wednesday Adult Book Club, “Klara and the Sun” by Kazuo Ishiguro**, Wednesday, April 3, 7 p.m.
- **Babble and Brew**, Thursday, April 4, 10 a.m. Playtime for them, coffee and conversation for you.
- **K-5th Comets Kids Club: Scrapbooking with Rhonda George**, Monday, April 8, 4-4:45 p.m. Children will need to bring 10-15 photographs from home to cut and glue with. Registration required.
- **Coloring Night at Fenders Brewing**, Wednesday, April 10, 4-9 p.m.
- **Friends of the Library Meeting**, Wednesday April 10, 6:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in supporting the library is welcome and encouraged to attend.

- **Music and Movement**, Thursday, April 11, 10 a.m. Come shimmy and shake with your child. Dance and sing while building pre-reading skills with rhythm and rhyme.
- **Adult DIY Wire Tree Suncatchers**, Thursday, April 20, 6 p.m. Ages 17 and older, reservation required.
- **Monday Book Club**, “The End of Her” by Shari Lapena, Monday April 15, 2 p.m.
- **K-5th STEM Book Club**, “Let’s Clean Up the Forest” by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, Tuesday, April 16, 4-4:45 p.m. Pick up your copy of the book starting April 1 while supplies last. Read, then join us for some fun science experiments that correlate with the book. Registration required.
- **Adult Coloring**, Tuesday, April 18, 5-7 p.m. Ages 17 and older.
- **Messy Munchkins**, Thursday, April 18, 10 a.m. 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.
- **Plant Swap**, Thursday, April 25, 5-7 p.m. Stop by the library to trade plants, seeds, and tips with other enthusiastic gardeners! Registration is requested, but not required. ■

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

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

HELP WANTED: Looking for a handyman or carpenter to tear an old fence down and rebuild in Van Meter. We have the material and have started work but would rather pay someone to do it. It is wood covered with chicken wire attached to railroad ties. if interested please call 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

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