

Our Village Voice



Brook Run Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 57607, Des Moines, IA 50317
Website: www.brookrun.fun Email: brookrunna@gmail.com

June 2025
Volume 3, Issue 2



Polk County Announces: Aging in Place Program

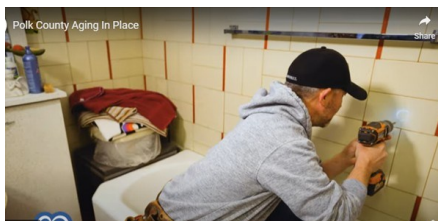
Tom Hockensmith-Polk County Board of Supervisors

Polk County proudly announces the launch of the Polk County Aging in Place Program, a pioneering initiative aimed at helping income-eligible seniors maintain their independence. By providing cost-effective and transformative

home modifications, the program seeks to improve safety, accessibility, and functionality for older adults within their own homes, reducing the need for relocation to nursing homes or assisted living facilities. Supervisor Tom Hockensmith said, "Polk County has always been proud of the work we do to support the seniors of our community and this grant allows us to take that work even farther by helping keep seniors safely in their homes for longer."

The program, generously supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and implemented with the help of local Occupational Therapist, Sydney Marshman, Happy at Home Consulting. These projects may include installing grab bars, replacing door handles with lever-style versions, adding handrails, repairing floors, eliminating trip hazards, and building wheelchair ramps.

Dave Williamson, Program Manager, Polk County Public Works, adds, "We are fortunate to collaborate with outstanding partners at both federal and local levels. This program supports some of our community's most vulnerable members. We take great pride in facilitating such an essential service."



Program Qualifications:

- Applicants must be at least 62 years old. If more than one person resides in the home, at least one must meet this age requirement.
- Available to owner-occupied homes and renters.
- Income must not exceed 80% of the median income as determined by HUD guidelines.
- Applicants understand that in order to be eligible for assistance the property must be free of garbage, debris, refuse, building materials, etc. Property must not be in violation of any local nuisance ordinances.
- Applicants will allow an Occupational Therapist to do an in-home assessment to determine fall risk, eligible modification and cost.

For information about applying or participating in the Polk County Aging in Place Program, interested parties are encouraged to call 515-286-3356 or email Housng.services@polkcountyiowa.gov.

For more information visit: <https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/aging-in-place/>



Sarah Boese, Deputy County Administrator
Polk County Board of Supervisors
515-286-3895 (office), 515-664-7869 (cell)
111 Court Ave, suite 300
Des Moines, IA 50309



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Our Village Voice Staff

- Bert Moody - Editor & Designer
- Chantelle Cadek- Copy Editor
- Sara Moody-Copy Editor/Photos
- Laurie Thompson - Marketing

Regular Contributors:

Tom Hockensmith Linda Westergaard
Elizabeth Ruddy (Kid's Korner)
Mayor Connie Boesen Pam Schwartz

Guest Writers/Photographers:

Jamie Taylor Logan Josh Wilson
Michelle Haacke Samantha Meier
Taylor Sellers



We publish quarterly, so if you have information, photographs, or ideas please send them to our email address: brookrunna@gmail.com or contact our Editor, **Bert Moody**.

Great Info That Brook Run Can Use!

Newsletter Updates

from Des Moines Mayor Connie Bosen



Summer is quickly approaching, and the City of Des Moines has been hard at work finding ways to make Des Moines a better place to live, work, and play. I am excited to share some recent updates regarding improvements throughout our city.

Final Sanitary Sewer Connection Eliminates Future Sewage Overflow into Des Moines River

In early May, the final connection of the Ingersoll Run Outlet Sewer at 22nd Street and High Street was made, finalizing the last of several EPA-mandated CSO removal projects. Thanks to the joint effort of the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority and the City of Des Moines, we can avoid the prior potential issue of untreated wastewater entering the river during severe weather or heavy rain. The completion of this project allows our waterways to be cleaner and safer, aiding in our mission to continually better our environment and public health in the City of Des Moines.



DSM Parks and Recreation's Growing ParkScore Reflects Continued Commitment to Community

The City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department has raised its score from 65.4 in 2024 to 70.1 in 2025 on the Trust for Public Land's annual ParkScore Index®. These scores evaluate municipal park systems across five categories: acreage, access, investment, amenities, and equity. In 2024, I signed the Trust for Public Land's 10-Minute Walk Park Commitment, pledging that all Des Moines residents should have a park or open space within a 10-minute walk of their home. This score is a reflection of those efforts as we continue to work towards providing public parks for our residents to enjoy.

Potholes

Over the past couple years, the City of Des Moines Public Works Department has done some concrete patching of isolated locations where the concrete street needs repairs. In case you were not aware – All residents can report any potholes in their neighborhood and throughout the city. This can be done by calling the Public Works Call Center at (515) 283-4950 or using the City's app, myDSMmobile at: <https://www.dsm.city/mydsmmobile/index.php>

As we meet the halfway point of 2025, I am excited about all we have accomplished thus far and all there is to come. I encourage you all to stay connected and engaged with your city government and each other.

Kid's Korner

Information Submitted by Elizabeth Ruddy

Make a Summer To Do List

There are SO many fun activities and events in our community that don't cost any money! Free Flicks, Jazz in July, Public Library Events, and so much more. Get out there and explore!

PLEASANT HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUMMER EVENTS

	Hands-On Reptiles Tuesday, June 3 rd 10:30 AM Doanes Park Youth Center		Mikayla Oz-Magician Tuesday, July 1 st 10:30 AM Library Program Room
	Dragon Training Academy Tuesday, June 10 th 10:30 AM Library Program Room		Science Heroes Tuesday, July 8 th 10:30 AM Library Program Room
	Chalk the Walk, Bubbles, and Story Walk Tuesday, June 17 th 10:30 AM Copper Creek Lake Park		Game Show Party Tuesday, July 15 th 10:30 AM Library Program Room
	Pleasant Hill On Wheels Wednesday, June 18 th 10:30 AM Doanes Park Playground		Juggler with the yellow shoes Tuesday, July 22 nd 10:30 AM Library Program Room
	Eulenspiegel Puppets Tuesday, June 24 th 10:30 AM Library Program Room		Tie-dye all-ages drop in Thursday, July 24 th 2-6 PM Library Program Room
	Illustrator Workshop Wednesday June 25 th 4:00 PM Library Program Room **REGISTRATION REQUIRED		Aloha Wind Hula Tuesday, July 29 th 10:30 AM Library Program Room

SUMMER READING 2024

Color Your World

ALTOONA LIBRARY

JUNE 1 - JULY 31

READING CHALLENGES, PRIZES, AND PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES!

JAZZ IN JULY

AT HOYT SHERMAN PLACE

DES MOINES ART CENTER

Plan Your Visit

We can't wait to welcome you! Please find all the information you need below to plan your visit, including our hours, location, exhibitions, and more.

Admission is always free.



LEVEL UP AT YOUR LIBRARY

IREAD readprogram.org

★ JOIN US FOR 2025 ★

FREE FLICKS

MOVIES IN THE PARK

DSM.CITY/FREEFLICKS

JUNE 6	JUNE 20	JULY 4	JULY 11	JULY 18	AUG 9	AUG 15	AUG 22
FIRE ARM 2715 DEAN AVE 7 PM	NAHAVOGIAN AQUATIC CENTER LOT	CAPTAIN ROY'S	WOODLAWN PARK	BIRDLAND POOL LOT	EWING PARK 8 PM	EVELYN K. DAVIS PARK	GRAY'S LAKE PARK SE LOT



News from Linda Westergaard

City of Des Moines Council-Ward 2

SCRUB EVENT: Next event is June 21 for Des Moines residents. The June event is a MEGA SCRUB event and a full list of what is accepted during a MEGA scrub can be found on the City of Des Moines web site: www.dsm.city. MEGA SCRUB allows residents to get rid of items like aerosols, acids, antifreeze, batteries, cell phones, motor oils, poisons, pool chemicals, to name just a few of the items. Be sure to take your ID or a utility bill for proof of residency.

LIBRARY OF THINGS: You must be 18 years old to borrow an item from the Library of Things. There is no age restriction for checking out board games.

- You can borrow board games and items from the Library of Things for up to three weeks, with up to two automatic renewals if there are no holds on the item.
- When you place a hold on the item, it will be shipped from the Central Library to the library of your choosing, where it will be ready to be picked up in 1-2 business days.
- Some items do require additional supplies, such as batteries, so please read the description carefully before borrowing an item.

Join us for our beloved Music in the Garden concert series!

The best view in town can be yours for local and regional musical acts.

Thursdays | June 5 – August 7, 2025

Doors open at 6pm | Music starts at 6:30pm

Sound thanks to Ripple Productions.

Flora Café will be serving refreshments and wood-fired pizzas until 8:15pm.

Please feel free to reach out to me at anytime with questions or concerns. I can always be reached at 515-988-4288 or through my city email, lindaw@dmgov.org. I will always work to do what is best for you and your neighborhood.



News from the BRVOA

www.brookrunvillage.com

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING: Wednesday, June 2, 3, 4, 2025 at 6:00pm

via Zoom Link

(<https://weitz.zoom.us/j/96052099622?pwd=kWOHar4MoYvUciaKJYpJ3lqWoXRqVq.1>)

BROOK RUN VILLAGE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Pam Schwartz, Secretary

Stream Restoration Project Moves Forward

Planning is in high gear on Brook Run's stream rehabilitation project. The latest update suggests contracts could be let in August and the first phase, tree clearing, beginning in October, followed by creek reconstruction in spring 2026. The effort is aimed at rebuilding badly eroded areas along the neighborhood's waterways with designs to stem future erosion, thereby protecting property and mitigating the flow of silt into Brook Run's storm water retention ponds. About 50 owners with properties in the project areas have granted easements for work on their lands. The project is a collaboration involving financing and professional services from Polk County Water Resources, the City of Des Moines, state and federal authorities, and the Brook Run Village Owners Association.

The BRVOA board can also be contacted by email at BrookRunVillage@gmail.com.

Board of Directors: Doug - Steve - Jason - Pam - Marty

BRVOA Board of Directors

Doug Miller, of 3502 Village Run Drive
Pam Schwartz, of 3613 Brook Run Drive
Jason Bahr, of 5115 Walnut Ridge Drive
Marty Chebuhar, of 3717 Brook Run Drive
Steve McClure, of 3615 Park Side Drive

Property Manager

McAfee Realty, Inc.
1410 E Diehl Ave., Suite B
Des Moines, IA 50320
Website: www.mcafeerealty.com
Phone: (515) 251-4570

2025 Quarterly Calendar of Events

- ◆ **BRVOA Annual Meeting**
June 2, 2025 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **Eid al-Adha** June 7, 2025
- ◆ **BRNA Garage Sales** June 13-14
- ◆ **Flag Day** June 14, 2025
- ◆ **Father's Day** June 15, 2025
- ◆ **BRNA BOD Meeting**
June 17, 2025 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **Juneteenth** June 19, 2025
- ◆ **1st Day of Summer**
June 20, 2025
- ◆ **Juneteenth Neighbors Day**
June 21, 2025 at 12:00pm
Western Gateway Park
- ◆ **Canada Day** July 1, 2025
- ◆ **Independence Day** July 4, 2025
- ◆ **Ashura** July 6, 2025
- ◆ **BRVOA Monthly Meeting**
July 7, 2025 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **BRNA Quarterly Meeting**
July 15, 2025 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **BRNA's Fun in the Run**
July 26, 2025 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **BRVOA Monthly Meeting**
August 7, 2025 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **BRNA BOD Meeting**
August 19, 2025 at 6:00pm
- ◆ **Labor Day** September 1, 2025

SAVE THE DATE

BRNA Garage Sale
JUNE 13 - 14, 2025

A Brook Run 2025 Graduate

Photo and Story Submitted by her Mother, Samantha Meier

Johanna Johanson is graduating from Southeast Polk High School this year. She has lived in Brook Run her entire life with her mom (Samantha) and her dad (Mike). The family also includes, two



sugar gliders (a small, omnivorous, arboreal, and nocturnal gliding possum), two dogs and three cats .

Her career goal is to be a farm animal veterinarian, specializing in cows, and she will be attending Iowa State University this fall majoring in animal science.



News You Can Use

Supplied by Our City Council Representative

Linda Westergaard-Ward 2

Free Flix movie series

The popular LED movie screen is soon to be traveling through the park system. The first movie event of the year is Friday, June 6. You won't want to miss this first event, as

we are partnering with DMFD to host the movie at their Admin building on Dean Ave. Not only the fun of a free movie outdoors, but a chance to tour the fire department, meet our awesome fire professionals and see the fire apparatus up close. The website to all of the movie dates and locations for the year:

www.dsm.city/departments/parks_and_recreation-division/programs/free_flicks.php

Rendezvous on the River

The popular, free concert series starts on Friday, June 6 at Riverview Park. If you have not attended one of these free concerts, it is a must do for your summer bucket list of activities. View all of the concerts and events at Riverview

Park in 2025. is:

www.riverviewevents.org/new-page

“Life in The Run”

What has been going on in the Brook Run Neighborhood

Brook Run Park Clean-up Day



Brook Run neighbor Phyliss Kulisky got in amongst the trees to clean-up the trash that was stuck there.

On Saturday April 12th the BRNA called for neighbors to meet at the BR Park to clean-up to get it ready for our kids and their spring & summer fun. Thanks to Niki Moore for setting this event up and everyone that joined us to help.



The Brook Run Park looking beautiful after clean-up



BRNA President Chantelle Cadek and her son Jameson working hard.



Brook Run neighbor Luke DeSmet showed up ready to help out and work including bagging up a dead raccoon.

Mark Your Calendar — 2025 Fun-in-the-Run



Photos from the 2024 Fun-in-the-Run



Make Plans to Join Us!!



WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER

Our 2025 Agenda:

- City of DSM-Party Pod
- Live Music: Chad Carr
- Kids Express Train
- Games*Fun*Food
- City Officials
- DSM Fire & Police
- Door Prizes
- Plus much more.....



Congratulations to the SE Polk Vocal Music Program

Story from Michelle Haack and Jamie Taylor Logan. Photos from Josh Wilson

We're thrilled to announce that our fall musical, *The Addams Family*, once again won top honors through the IHSMTA, along with numerous additional accolades.

- Outstanding Musical Production
- Outstanding Ensemble
- Outstanding Achievement in a Principal Role: August Nau as "Gomez Addams"
- Outstanding Achievement in a Principal Role: Grace Corwin as "Alice Beineke"
- Outstanding Achievement in a Principal Role: Maddie Davis as "Morticia Addams"
- Outstanding Achievement in a Principal Role: Peyton Haacke as "Uncle Fester"
- Outstanding Achievement in a Principal Role: Shea Baxter as "Wednesday Addams"
- Special Recognition in Student Orchestra
- Triple Threat Participant, Shea Baxter
- Triple Threat Participant, Maddie Davis
- Triple Threat Participant, Peyton Haacke

Congrats to everyone involved, on or off the stage!

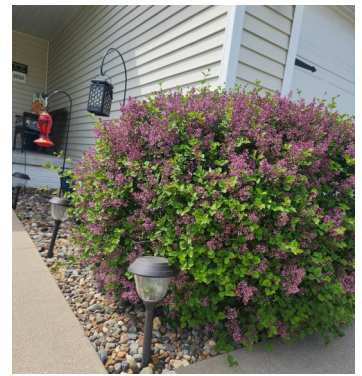


May Yard of the Month Winner

Terry Wilson & Barb Bailey—3050 E 52nd

Terry and Barb have lived in Brook Run since 2019. They believe that they have some of the best neighbors in the community! Terry is a retired bridge inspector for the Missouri DOT and currently does bridge inspector consulting. Barb works at Wellmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield.

Terry gets credit for all of the yard work and he enjoys his work in the yard and garden.



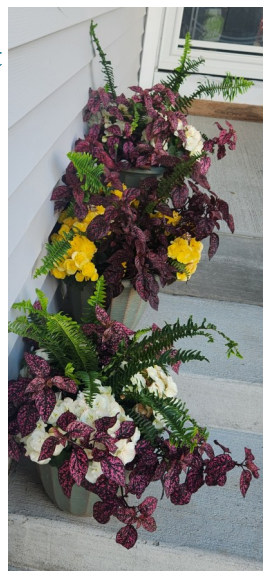
“Yard of the Month Winners”

If you have someone in mind for this award please email us at: brookrunna@gmail.com

June Yard of the Month Winner

Mark & Becky Sapp—3490 Brook Landing Ct.

Mark and Becky moved to our neighborhood in 2021. Their family make-up is: Mark, Becky, Josh, Landyn, Emmett the Great Dane and Toby (mix/ smaller dog). Mark is coil line operator. Becky is a school nurse for Southeast Polk schools. Mark does most of the lawn work and watering. Becky takes care of the birds and deck plants. Plants: Hostas, Lillies, Lilac bushes, Dailies, Petunias. Spring is their favorite time of year. They love bringing their yard back to life. They love the "home" feeling of Brook Run and feel that they have the best neighborhood around, sharing that Fun in the Run and all the activities separate us from other neighborhoods. They said it has been so much fun living here!



Brook Run Neighborhood Business Partners

Please support the businesses that support us!!

Contact our Advertising Manager to place your ad here:

Laurie Thompson at brookrunna@gmail.com

DOUBLE TAKE LAWN SERVICES

Curb appeal that gets a 2nd look

2025



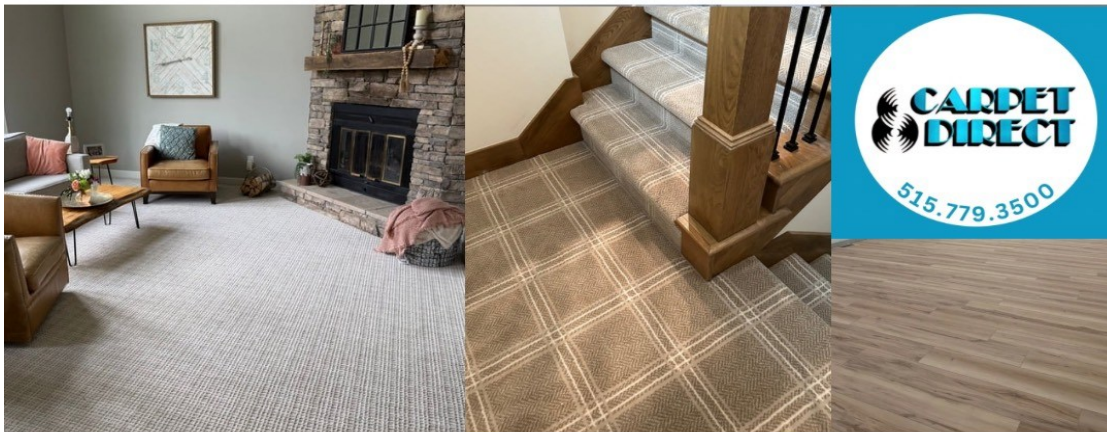
Website: www.dtlawnsdsm.com Email: office@dtlawnsdsm.com Phone: 515-380-2960

WHEN YOU WANT QUALITY

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YOUR LOCAL FLOORING SOURCE

2025



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TODAY'S FASIONS MADE AFFORDABLE

A Brook Run
Neighbor





Brook Run Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 57607, Des Moines, IA 50317

2025 BRNA Board Members:

Chantelle Cadek - President

Taylor Sellers - Secretary

Niki Moore - Special Events

Open Position - Membership

Tye Reiman - Neighborhood Relations

Laurie Thompson - Communications

Bert Moody - Treasurer

Save the Dates:

- ◆ June 13-14 - Brook Run Garage Sales
- ◆ June 17 - BRNA BOD Meeting
- ◆ July 15 - BRNA Quarterly Meeting
- ◆ July 26 - 2025 Fun-in-the-Run



Des Moines Police Department
Neighborhood Liaison
SPO Dao Meunsaveng
515-333-7399

Report Date: May 29, 2025

56-Service Calls

10-Cases made

3- Arrests

4-Ticket Issued

Please let me know if there is anything I can help with in your neighborhood.

Email me: DMeunsaveng@dmgov.org



Cucumber-Pasta Salad

Recipe Supplied by Chantelle Cadek



Ingredients

- 8 oz. penne pasta
- 2 medium cucumbers, sliced thin (peeled or not - your preference)
- 1 medium onion, sliced thin (I use Vidalia, but you can use any!)
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, pressed
- 1 c. sugar
- 3/4 c. white vinegar
- 1 tbsp. yellow mustard
- 1 tbsp. dried parsley
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. black pepper



Directions

1. Prepare pasta according to package directions. Drain and rinse in cold water.
2. Prep Veggies: Peel cucumbers, if desired. Slice into thin slices (I like to use a mandoline). Peel and slice onion into very thin slices.
3. Mix pasta, cucumbers, onions, and oil until thoroughly coated.
4. In a separate bowl, combine remaining ingredients and mix well.
5. Pour over salad. Toss to coat.
6. Cover and chill 4 hours or overnight, stirring occasionally.



For 2025 we want your business to sponsor the BRNA.
Business Memberships helps sponsor neighborhood events.

AND IT BRINGS YOU GREAT CUSTOMERS!!

- Fund the Fun - \$100.00 per year
- Super Supporter - \$200.00 per year
- Premier Sponsor - \$300.00 per year
(\$50.00 Discount if you're a Brook Run Resident)

Get Each Package Details at www.brookrun.fun