

Our Village Voice



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

March 2026
Volume 4, Issue 1



News from the Polk County Board of Supervisors

Tom Hockensmith-District Four Supervisor

Submitted by Sarah Boese



I am extending an invitation for people to participate in a community forum that will help shape Polk County's vision for the next 3-10 years.

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- Chantelle Cadek- Copy Editor
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- Laurie Thompson - Marketing

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Elizabeth Ruddy (Kid's Korner)
Mayor Connie Boesen Pam Schwartz
Aimee Marsco

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Sarah Boese
Chantelle Cadek

Your voice matters.
Help identify key priorities for the county.

Scan ME!

Scan for more info. For questions, please call 515-286-3120

WWW.POLKCOUNTYIOWA.GOV

Polk County has hired a strategic planning company – The Ingenuity Company – to create a new strategic plan for Polk County. Joe Benesh is the President & CEO of The Ingenuity Company and will be leading this effort. The community forums are critical to gathering information about what our local residents and partners want to see Polk County government focus on and invest in. We hope to have about 12 participants per location and would love if you can attend one.

The location will be the Four Mile Community Center, 3711 Easton Blvd, Des Moines. The dates and times to choose from are below. Please select a time and RSVP to Sarah Boese (contact information below left).

- March 2, 1:30-3:00
- March 2, 3:30-5:00
- March 16, 1:30-3:00
- March 25, 9:00-10:30
- March 25, 3:30-5:00

<https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/>

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

Please click on the QR code that will take you to a survey link on our website. Please feel free to distribute the Information Sheet and the QR code with your contacts or organizations so we can gather even more feedback.

Please let me know if you have any questions!



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**.

City News That Brook Run Can Use!

Information Updates

from Des Moines Mayor Connie Bosen February Update



T.M. Franklin Cownie City Administration Building Ribbon Cutting

Prior to the City Council meeting on Monday, February 9, there was a ribbon cutting to announce the official opening of the T.M. Franklin Cownie City Administration Building. The building is located at 1200 Locust Street on the western side of downtown Des Moines. The new facility occupies the Eastern half of the building.



All City Council meetings will now take place in the new building. You can double-check locations of specific departments on our city website as all intended departments have completed their move to the City Administration Building. I know that this new building will allow us to serve our residents more effectively and efficiently. To learn more about all City services and how to access them, you can visit [DSM.city/Services](https://www.dsm.city/Services).

Connecting with Students at Roosevelt High School



Earlier this month, I had the privilege of visiting and speaking to Amber Graeber's intersectional feminism class at Roosevelt High School. I was honored to be apart of this weekly guest speaker series where I spoke about my career, and shared more about the journey that led me to becoming the first female mayor of Des Moines.

It is always a joy to spend time at our local schools and interact with students, teachers, and administrators. I am always inspired by the fresh perspectives of the next generation as they prepare to become leaders.



News from the BRVOA

www.brookrunvillage.com

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING:

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 6:00pm

HOT NEWS!! About Our Ponds

Submitted by Pam Schwartz, Secretary

From Brook Run Village Board of Directors

NOTICE: Due to planned stream renovations and pond dredgings, fishing will not be permitted in Brook Run Village ponds this year.

ALSO please use caution in Brook Run when driving, biking or walking as there will be construction traffic and heavy equipment use around the stream restoration project areas.



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

New Property Manager

HRC Association Management

Phone: (515) 280-2014

hoa@hrcassociationmanagement.com

2026 Quarterly Calendar of Events

- ◆ **First Day of Women's History Month** March 1, 2026
- ◆ **First Day of Irish American Heritage Month** March 1, 2026
- ◆ **Holi** March 3, 2026
- ◆ **BRVOA Monthly Meeting** March 4, 2026
- ◆ **Daylight Savings Time Begins** March 8, 2026
- ◆ **BRNA Board Meeting** March 17, 2026
- ◆ **St. Patrick's Day** March 17, 2026
- ◆ **Eid al-Fitr** March 20, 2026
- ◆ **Palm Sunday** March 29, 2026
- ◆ **Passover** April 1, 2026
- ◆ **BRVOA Monthly Meeting** April 1, 2026
- ◆ **Good Friday** April 3, 2026
- ◆ **Easter Sunday** April 5, 2026
- ◆ **BRNA Quarterly Meeting** April 21, 2026
- ◆ **Earth Day** April 22, 2026
- ◆ **First Day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** May 1, 2026
- ◆ **First Day of Jewish American Heritage Month** May 1, 2026
- ◆ **Cinco de Mayo** May 5, 2026
- ◆ **BRVOA Monthly Meeting** May 6, 2026
- ◆ **Mother's Day** May 10, 2026
- ◆ **BRNA Board Meeting** May 19, 2026
- ◆ **Memorial Day** May 25, 2026

Just in Time for St. Patrick's Day

Submitted by Laurie Thompson

"My mom used to make this for me when I was little kid"



Easy Lucky Charms Cereal Bars

Ingredients

- 4 T butter
- 8 ounces mini marshmallows
- 6 cups Lucky Charms cereal

Directions

1. Melt butter over medium heat, add marshmallows and stir until melted.
2. Remove from heat and stir in cereal. Wet fingers to smooth out treats.

Sprinkle on extra marshmallows if desired.



Brook Run's Good Neighbor Award

Written by Chantelle Cadek

The Brook Run Neighborhood Association was proud to present Sandy and John Selby with our first ever "Neighborhood Legacy Award". You may best know the Selby's as the Pirate Potter House (or Halloween House!) on Brook Ridge Court. Sandy and John have dedicated countless hours and resources over the years to bringing neighbors together through numerous events.

Widely known across the city and area for their holiday decorations, the Selby's have hosted a Halloween haunted house with donations directed to our neighborhood association as well as many other charities over the years. To this day, they still work with the association to put on community events that help make our neighborhood thrive!

Please join us in thanking the Selby's for their dedication to our community!



BRNA President Chantelle Cadek presents the "Good Neighbor" award to Sandy Selby

"Life in The Run"

What has been going on in the Brook Run Neighborhood

What is Going on in Brook Landing?

Brook Landing HOA management has changed to Kimberley Development Corporation. For more information, check out their website <https://kimdev.com/> or contact them via phone at 515.963.8335 or via email at info@kimdev.com.



Happenings at SE Polk High School

Written by Aimee Marasco (Family & Consumer Sciences Educator-SE Polk High School)

Our Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Chapter celebrated National Career & Tech Education Month in February! We were able to attend CTE Day at the Capitol and meet with our legislators to advocate for school funding, especially for CTE and career tech student organizations. Pictured are FCCLA Officers Mackenzie K.,



Caitie A., Jeremy T. LeVaigh W. and Nevaeh C. Also pictured are Southeast Polk FCCLA and DECA State Officers, who are also from Southeast Polk, with Senator Mike Pike. FCCLA members are gearing up to compete at our State Leadership Competition in Cedar Rapids at the end of Spring Break. We are taking a record 21 students to compete in S.T.A.R. Events, Iowa Events, and Knowledge



Bowl competitions. We have 2 students running to be state officers for the coming year. Brook Run's own Jordan Evans will be competing in Iowa Events and the Knowledge Bowl, so wish her luck!

Our Knowledge Bowl Team of 5 members also qualified to attend the National Lifeskills Competition as the first team from Iowa in a very long time (I am for sure since before 2020!). If we can fundraise for it, students will be traveling to Florida in April to compete representing Iowa and Southeast Polk!

To help fund our competition trips, FCCLA is fundraising like crazy! Your next fun opportunity to help FCCLA is at our Paint Event on March 7th at the High School!

\$15 to paint an 11x 14 acrylic painting of a night sky & forest. 3-4:30 pm, all ages welcome -- we will have signs to help you find our room! That is the same afternoon as the Rhythmettes Showcase as well, so lots to do at the high school that afternoon!

FCCLA is also selling socks from We Help Two -- each pair sold helps fund our activities, donates a pair of socks to Caring Hands of Altoona, and funds clean water projects in Rwanda.

If you would like to donate or sponsor our competitors as we pay for travel expenses, that would always be most appreciated.

You can follow us on Instagram [@sep.fccla](https://www.instagram.com/sep.fccla), email aimee.marasco@southeastpolk.org or reach out to Aimee Marasco in the Brook Run Facebook group if you'd like more info.

Family Paint Party
SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH
3-4:30 PM
SOUTHEAST POLK HIGH SCHOOL
7945 NE UNIVERSITY AVE
PLEASANT HILL, IOWA

REGISTER HERE
\$15/PERSON FOR CANVAS & SNACKS
LIMITED TO 26 SEATS
PROCEEDS GO TO SOUTHEAST POLK FCCLA
ALL AGES WELCOME - NIGHT MOON & TREES

"Info You Need to Know"

FAMILY FUN NIGHT
PIONEER COLUMBUS COMMUNITY REC CENTER
SATURDAY MARCH 7 • 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

Inflatables Laser Tag
Live Magic Face Paint
Fire Truck K9 Dogs
& More

\$10 DSM.CITY/FAMILYFUNNIGHT



To Think About
Volunteering for
the BRNA Board
for 2026!!





News from Linda Westergaard

City of Des Moines Council-Ward 2

Submitted by Kenzie Geiger (City Manager's Office)

Tiny Trees Giveaway is Open!

The Tiny Trees Giveaway is officially open for the year, allowing residents to place orders for up to five tree seedlings to plant on their own property. These seedlings are given out for free thanks to the City's Tiny Trees program, coordinated by the Public Works Department's Forestry Division. Tens of thousands of trees have been given away since the program debuted in 2017, and I love that it supports your role in expanding our urban forest and increasing species diversity.

The eight tree species to choose from this year include:

- Kentucky Coffeetree
- Northern Pecan
- Sugar Maple
- Sycamore
- Aroniaberry
- Redbud
- Wild Plum
- White Pine



Orders will be accepted through Sunday, April 19, or until inventory runs out. Residents can pick up their orders at the Tiny Trees Giveaway on Saturday, April 25, at Polk County River Place (2309 Euclid Avenue) from 8 a.m. to noon. You can learn more about the program at [DSM.city/TinyTrees](https://www.dsm.city/TinyTrees).

Thank you,
Linda Westergaard

NOW HIRING

2026 SUMMER POSITIONS

JOIN OUR TEAM

AQUATICS

GRAY'S LAKE

INTERNSHIPS

MOBILE RECREATION

PARKS MAINTENANCE

SUMMER CAMP

Pay: \$13.50 - \$19+

Ages 15+

DSM.city/ParkJobs

Apply Today!

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



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



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CHOICE FLOORS
YOUR LOCAL FLOORING SOURCE!

Experience Seamless Flooring Solutions!



A Brook Run Neighbor





Brook Run Neighborhood Association
 P.O. Box 57607, Des Moines, IA 50317

2026 BRNA Board Members:

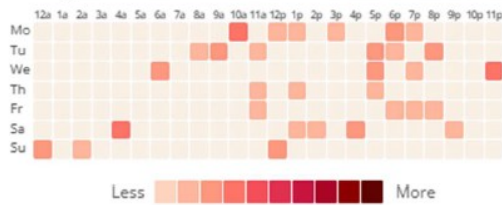
- Chantelle Cadek** - President
- Taylor Sellers** - Secretary
- Open Position** - Special Events
- Open Position** - Membership
- Tye Reiman** - Neighborhood Relations
- Laurie Thompson** - Communications
- Bert Moody** - Treasurer

**Des Moines Police Department
 Neighborhood Liaison
 SPO Bill Lu
 515-416-2810
 Email me: LUXiaotian@dmgov.org**

TRENDS between 20 Jan '26 to 02 Mar '26 Compare



Advanced Trends (Time of Day / Day of Week)
 You may need to zoom out to see all data for the current selection.



Incidents (39)

Cases (7)

Notable investigations:

No shooting/firearm related cases made

Incidents: Medical calls, suspicious activity, Noise and parking complaints

Cases: Runaway reports and identity theft

Arrests: NONE

Tickets: NONE

Accidents: 2, No pattern that is concerning

Report Date: March 2, 2026

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

DMPD Neighborhood Officer Xiaotian (Bill) Lu

Join the BRNA for 2026

NAME/BUSINESS NAME: _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Membership Levels:

Note: Brook Run Neighborhood Association is a non-profit organization. Your membership could be eligible for a matching gift from your employer.

- ◇ \$25.00 Individual/Family Membership
- ◇ \$50.00 Neighborhood Business Membership
- ◇ \$100.00 Outside the Neighborhood Business Membership
- ◇ \$200.00 Super Supporter
- ◇ \$300.00 Premier Sponsor

Fill out this cut-out and send a check to BRNA, P.O. Box 57607, Des Moines, IA 50317. Online Payments via PayPal is available at www.brookrun.fun on the middle of the Home Page. You can also make payments via Venmo to @BrookRunNeighborhoodAssoc.



**For 2026 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