

SEPTEMBER 2024

MONTHLY PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Report compiled by
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City Manager's Office

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515 Clark Avenue, Ames, IA 50010



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Hunziker Youth Sports Complex Lease: The City's leases for the Hunziker Youth Sports Complex property expire in February 2025. Staff from the City Manager's Office, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Housing, and Water & Pollution Control departments have been reviewing the existing documents to prepare a lease renewal. Once prepared, the draft will be presented to the Ames Youth Sports Complex organization, which has operated the complex since it was constructed in 1994. The new lease is expected to consolidate the two separate existing leases into a single document, clarify groundskeeping expectations, and revise the site plan and road maintenance obligations to reflect current conditions. Staff anticipates a Council review of the new lease this winter.

FIRE

Fire Prevention & Safety Grant: The Ames Fire Department received a \$247,292 Fire Prevention & Safety grant through FEMA's Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) program. The grant money will be used to replace the department's 30+ year old fire prevention safety trailer, nicknamed the Safe House. The grant was a joint request between the City of Ames and Iowa State University, and both partners will split the 5% financial match requirement of the grant.

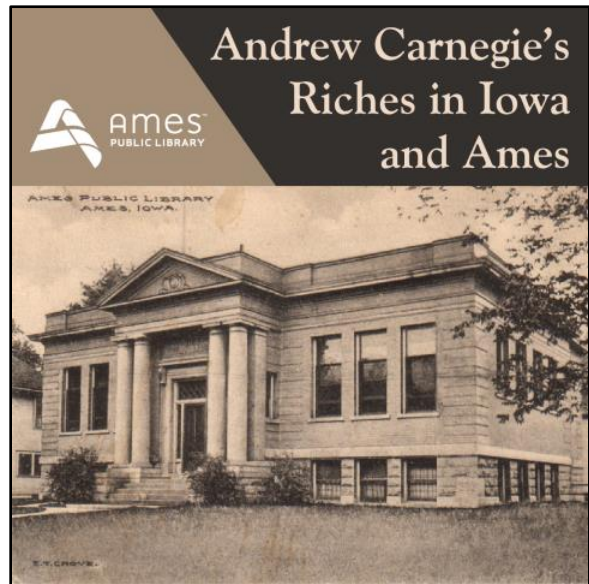
New Firefighters: The Ames Fire Department had all seven new firefighter recruits graduate on Friday, September 6, from the department's 10-week fire academy. The newest firefighters are now out on shift serving the public alongside their new crews.

LIBRARY

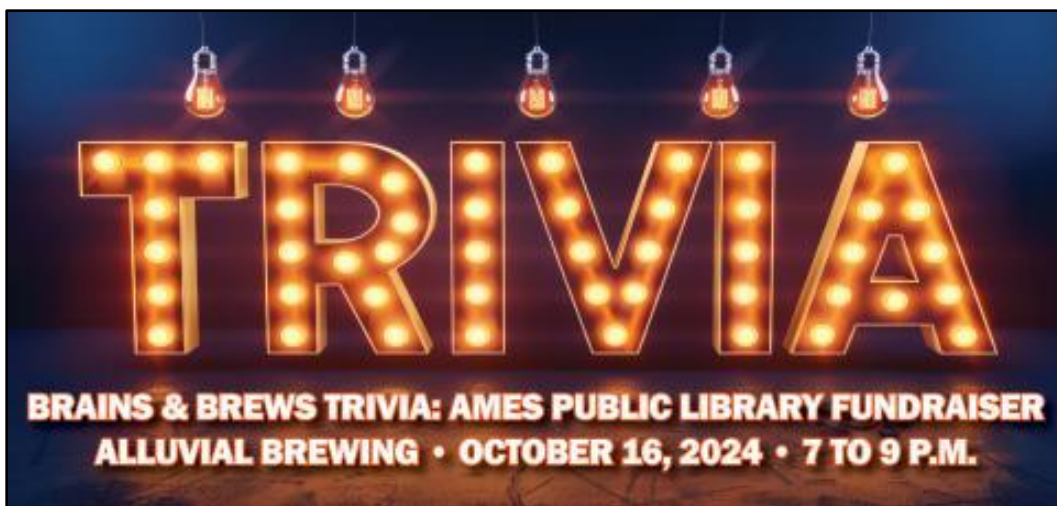
120 Years of Ames Public Library: Ames Public Library opened on October 20, 1904. This October, the Library will celebrate its 120-year anniversary with a display and a special presentation!

Stop by the Library during October 1-31 to see an exhibit in the entryway featuring photos and facts about the 120-year history of the Library and its building.

On October 22, the Library will host an event called “Andrew Carnegie's Riches in Iowa and Ames” at 7:00 p.m. Shana Stuart of the Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project will explore how the Ames Public Library secured a Carnegie grant to open the community's library in 1904. Stuart will share the library's significance within the broader context of Carnegie library funding in Iowa, delve into the impact of this grant on the Library's development, and look at its place among other Carnegie libraries in the state.

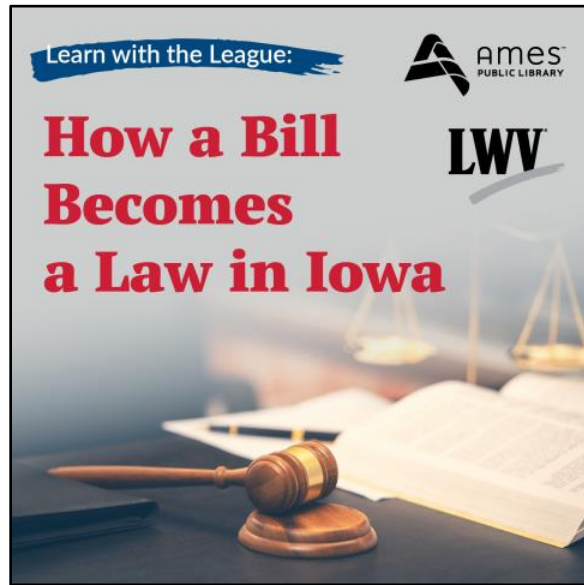
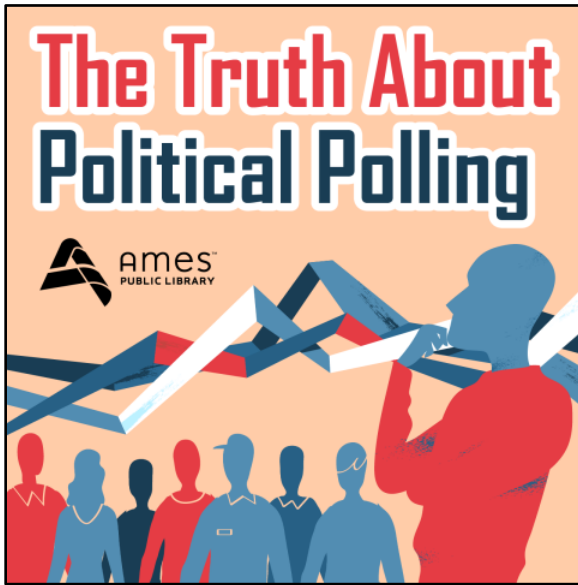


Brains & Brews Trivia Fundraiser: Ames Public Library Friends Foundation and Alluvial Brewing are teaming up to provide a fun-filled night of trivia to support programs, materials, and special events at Ames Public Library! Brains & Brews Trivia Fundraiser will be held Wednesday, October 16, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Alluvial Brewing. Find out more or register a team of up to six people at <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/APLFFTrivia>.



Voting & Civics at the Library: Ames Public Library offers a variety of events and resources for voters, especially as this fall's general election is approaching.

In October, the Library will hold events on Fact Checking Like a Pro, How Bills Become Law in Iowa, and information about political polling. The space will also be used by community organizations for candidate forums and serve as an official voting site for satellite voting and voting day.



The Library's voting information page at www.AmesPL.org/learn-explore/civics-center/voting has dates and information for these events along with important dates for absentee ballot voting and links to voter resources.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Aquatics: Furman Aquatic Center closed for the season on September 2. Season attendance totals for the last three years are shown below.

Furman Aquatic Center Total Season Attendance		
2022	2023	2024
78,918	89,129	84,916

Fall swim lessons began on Sunday, September 29 at the Iowa State University (ISU) State Gym. This is the first year that swim lessons will be held at the ISU State Gym Pool on Sunday mornings. Currently there are 158 people registered for this session.

Auditorium Hosts First Open Mic Night: On August 29, 2024, The Auditorium hosted its first ever “Open Mic Night” event. Over 20 performers took the stage for a total of three hours of entertainment. Performances ranged from musical performance, comedy, dance, and performance

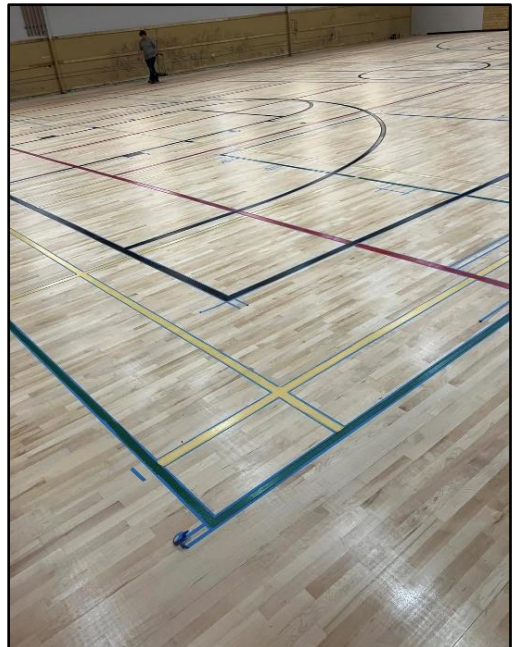


art. This was a very enjoyable evening, and most audience members stayed for the duration of the event. While it is not something that can be done every month, the Auditorium will consider doing this event once a year. This month, on September 26, the Auditorium is expanding the open mic night format to a full open jam. The sign-ups have been open a few weeks and there are individuals already signed up. Staff are hopeful that these two events will become yearly traditions.

Community Center Gym Flooring: Due to warping issues with some areas of the Gymnasium floor over the course of the last year, staff determined it was necessary to move up the full floor restoration project to this fiscal year. After putting the project out for bid, Egan Supply was awarded the contract, and the work took place from September 9-13. Contractors repaired sections of the floor where cupping and warping was present and cut a 2” relief gap between the floor and the West wall to prevent future warping issues. Upon examination by the contractor and Parks and Recreation staff, it was determined that the source of the warping was from moisture that was accumulating behind the wall mats along the West wall of the gymnasium. Mold and water streaks were discovered behind the wall mats when they were removed. The wall was treated and repainted and Parks Staff re-mounted the wall mats with spacer boards to allow proper ventilation of the floor and the walls. This should alleviate future moisture accumulation on the West wall.

After the damaged boards were repaired, the entire gymnasium floor was sanded to bare wood. All court lines were repainted, and the floor was top coated with sealer. The newly sanded floor no longer has a dark amber hue, and in turn has received a lot of compliments for both looking great and making the gymnasium appear brighter.





CITY OF Ames
CITY AUDITORIUM

Students get 2-for-1 admission with valid student ID

FIFTH AND CLARK
Fridays!

Admission \$5

7:00 PM | AMES CITY AUDITORIUM
520 6TH STREET

- September 13, 2024
Ben Schrag and The Cautionaries with Ella & Alex
- September 20, 2024
Hey, King with Day's Live Music
- October 4, 2024
The Jenny Kohl's Band with Ella Slade
- October 11, 2024
Lani
- November 15, 2024
The Bird Hunters with Danny Grause
- November 22, 2024
The Finesse

Alcohol and Concessions For Sale From:
Apres bar.co

CONTACT US 515 Clark Ave
Ames, IA 50010
515.239.5365

Fifth and Clark Fridays Kicks off in September: The Auditorium’s “Fifth and Clark Fridays” concert series kicked off on September 13 with a performance from Ella and Alex and Ben Schrag and the Cautionaries. The second show was held on September 20 and featured Day’s Live Music and Hey, King! The fall leg of the series will continue with The Jenny Kohl’s Band with Ella Slade on October 4, Lani on October 11, The Bird Hunters and Danny Grause on November 15, and a special holiday themed performance from The Finesse on November 22. Admission for these shows is only \$5 and students can still receive 2-for-1 admission by showing their student IDs at the door!

Free Movie Night at Bandshell Park: Parks and Recreation hosted its 7th annual “Free Movie Night” Event at Bandshell Park on August

30, 2024. This year, the 1980s classic “Honey I Shrunk The Kids” was shown. Approximately 400 people attended this year’s event. Despite competing with an Ames High home football game, the attendance was still close to average for the event. The event was sponsored by Duck Worth Wearing, Pyfferoen Dentistry, and Perfect Games.

Homewood Golf Course: As of September 23, 2024, Homewood Golf Course has had 22,403 rounds played. By that date last year, Homewood had 20,254 total rounds played. The table below shows the current clubhouse rental hours and revenue amounts compared to the same time frame last fiscal year.



	July 1, 2023 – September 23, 2023	July 1, 2024 – September 23, 2024
Paid Event Hours	34	34.25
Revenue from Paid Events	\$3,570.00	\$3,596.25
Non-Paid Events Hours	16	17

Homewood Golf Course hosted a public demonstration for a VertaCat golf cart on September 10, 2024. The VertaCat golf cart is an inclusive golf cart with top-of-the-line technology to get people with any disability back on the course. VertaCat’s exclusive electric stand-up assist system allows you to swing while being strapped in by the chest, waist, and knees. Eight City staff members and six members of the public attended. Staff is reviewing the feedback prior to making a purchasing decision.



Intermediate Sound Design Class Wraps Up: The Auditorium completed its first ever Intermediate Sound Design course on August 27, 2024. Thirteen students participated in the course in person and virtually. The course met on Tuesday nights throughout the month of August for two hours for a total of eight hours of instruction. The course was led by Auditorium, Bandshell, and Community Center Manager Craig Kaufman who spent over a decade working professionally as a Theater Sound Designer. Overall, the course was a success and staff will explore the possibility of offering similar courses in the future.



Second Annual Scholarship Duck Derby: Parks and Recreation held the 2nd Annual Scholarship Duck Derby at Furman Aquatic Center on the final day of operations, Monday, September 2. A total of 588 rubber ducks were adopted and raced around the lazy river. The top 36 participants in the race were able to take home prizes donated by local businesses. First National Bank was a returning Community Sponsor, and The Mucky Duck Pub was a new Mighty Duck Sponsor this year! The local Retired Volunteer Senior Program (RSVP) also provided 4 individuals to help onsite during the derby. A total of \$4,065 was raised through this event and will benefit the Parks and Recreation Scholarship Fund which assists youth and families with program registration fees and annual swim passes. A video highlighting the event can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPoLek6hJQY>.

Wellness: Several wellness classes began in September with the following registrations:

Program	Registrations
Line Dance	24
Beginner West Coast Swing	16
Intermediate West Coast Swing	17
Taekwondo	123
Healthy Foot	5
Yoga Basics	7