**Independence Turns 175! June Events**

**Independence, IA** Independence is turning 175 this year and showing a year long party to celebrate! Events have kicked off already, but there are so many more to come!

June is full of events for everyone. On June 11th there are several fun events happening. Start the day at the second Saturday music series at the Farmers Market located by the mill from 8 am to noon. Donnie Heffernen will be the featured musician that day. Then walk down to the river walk to Chalk it up Independence! This is the second year of the event and local and regional artist of all ages will show off their talents by creating chalk murals of their own and participating in a community mural. It goes from 9 am to 5 pm on June 11th and 12 pm to 6 pm on June 12th. On the 11th there will be music by Casey Homan from 1-3 pm and food by Boyds Food truck from 1 pm to 5 pm.

Also on the 12th is the opportunity to tour the Lou Mansion at an open house from noon to 4 pm. After many hard years of work, the mansion has been completely restored and furnished. Don’t miss this great opportunity! 

Independence is also featured in a stained glass by local artist going on exhibit at the VFW on Wednesday, May 15th from 5 to 7 pm. The first street bridge will be shut down from 2nd Ave NE to 2nd Ave SW. Music will be provided by Casey Klein and food trucks will be available as well as the downtown bars and beverages will be open. The information will be read prior to 7:30 pm and Mayor Pro tem John Kurtz will add the crowd and the making a toast to the 175th birthday of Independence. Free glasses and beverages will be provided to all can participate in the toast.

For watching events come in July and throughout the rest of the year.

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**Hazleton, IA**

*Family Fun June 10-11*

The Hazleton Commercial Club has put together a fun-packed two day event starting Friday evening with craft and food vendors, a “Kar Jam” Tournament starting at 2 p.m., with live music by Casey Klein from 6-8 pm. Saturday June 11th 9-11 a.m. is the 175th Celebratory Toast in the park with music by DJ Ozzie. This year we are looking at add playground upgrades for Hazleton Bark Park.

With the park full of paws, the Indee Bark Park is looking to expand their ground and undertake a $21,000 project. This project would include adding an agility portion for dogs as well as some doggie playground equipment.

**BY BRAYDEN CARLSON**

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**The Indee Bark Park to expand, add playground upgrades**

**BY BRAYDEN CARLSON**

The Indee Bark Park is a 2 1/2-acre dog park that was fully paid through the fundraising efforts of local community groups. It cost about $26,000. After several months of construction, the park opened. With a 2 1/2 membership fee and a $3 daily pass for those without a membership, the Indee Bark Park sees a lot of people and even more events.

It has been approximately three years since the installment of the Indee Bark Park and the Director of Parks and Rec Bob Bently shared the plans for the busy park.

“This year we are looking at add playground upgrades for Hazleton Bark Park.

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**The votes are in for the ‘22 Buchanan County primary elections**

**Election official Cheryl Hand worked at 2nd Ward on June 7, absence ballots from the 2018 pri-See ELECTIONS, page 11**

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**The Indee Bark Park and the Director of Parks and Rec Bob Bently shared the plans for the busy park.**