



'Tomahawk Hills' becomes first new JCity subdivision in over 20 years

Local developers complete 6 homes, 3 more under construction

BY TIM HASTINGS
Tomahawk Hills Subdivision developers Rob and Laura Spiller have completed six homes in a new planned 23-home subdivision overlooking a lake in northwest Johnston City. The construction project is the first new subdivision for Johnston City in over 20 years.

"We've got six completed and . . . another three started," Rob Spiller confirmed. "We're currently building two two-bedroom/single bath/single-car garage homes, and we're digging the footing for a three-bedroom/double bath/double-car garage home."

"We're also selling lots," Spiller said. "If they don't sell, we'll build on them. I'm guessing it would be a couple of years before the subdivision is finished."

Although home sales are their priority, the Spillers are also renting homes in Tomahawk Hills. "These two-bedroom homes are very attractive to seniors

who want to downsize," Laura Spiller suggested. Rental properties feature a front porch, utility room, linen closet, and vinyl flooring.

The Spillers employ three individuals full time and also hire subcontractors. Laura Spiller acknowledged, "I can pretty well guarantee we have a full week of work every week for three to four workers in addition to subcontractors for drywall and painting—and we appreciate the help." MKE Carpentry of Johnston City does outside framing and shell work on the homes.

Rob Spiller also shared possibility of another expansion, as he owns property near Tomahawk Hills that could also be developed.

Tomahawk Hills subdivision is adjacent to the Durham subdivision. To view properties in the subdivision, continue east on Marilyn Street after the intersection of Durham and Marilyn.



ABOVE: Rob and Laura Spiller in the Tomahawk Hills subdivision they're developing. RIGHT: Brian Obright finishes drywall in a new home in Tomahawk Hills. (Tim Hastings photos)



Local Rotary Club officials Sidney Stephens (Left Center) and Alysa Bunting (Right Center) present donation for Lunch Bunch to Doug Hancock of JCity Church (L) and Keith Fletcher of JCity Center (R).

New Rotary Club begins serving community by donating to local nonprofits

According to the website of Rotary International, "Rotary clubs bring together people across generations who wish to create lasting change in the world, in their communities, and in themselves." The charter members of Johnston City's new Rotary are doing just

that by donating to local organizations serving our community.

The Rotary was active in Johnston City in the 1930s but not in recent years. The Murphysboro Rotary Club worked with local leaders for more than a year to re-establish a chapter here

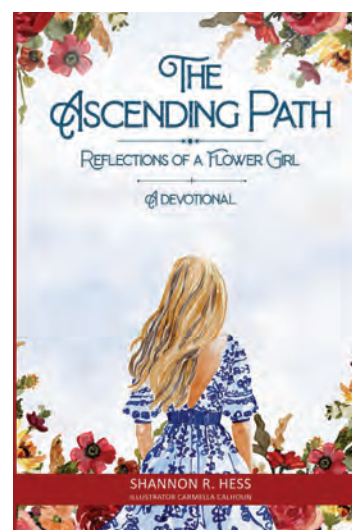
The Johnston City club was officially recognized by the international organization on May 31, 2024, and held its first official meeting at the office of Indigo Realty last month. With help from the Murphysboro chapter and local businesses, the club began gathering funds and donations for Manna Mission in June.

After learning that Lunch Bunch needed gas money for the bus transporting food and volunteers to the city park each day, the Rotary bought gift cards at local gas stations for Johnston City's summer meals program.

The Rotary Club typically meets at 4 pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The default location is 900 W. Broadway (Indigo Realty). Anyone interested in joining is welcome to attend.

Experienced flower girl fills devotional with floral imagery

BY TIM HASTINGS
Johnston City author, Shannon R. Hess unveiled her new book, *The Ascending Path: Reflections of a Flower Girl*, during a public reception at Andresen's Event Center on Friday afternoon, June 7. The event followed a wedding theme, complete with a reception table and bridal favors. Young volunteers arranged and distributed nosegays of roses, peonies, purple statice, and eucalyptus.



Commenting on the title, Hess shared, "I was the first girl born in my family, and I was flower girl in many weddings. I thought it was such a beautiful metaphor—using petals to lead the bride to the groom. I hope these devotionals will lead the church to her groom—Christ."

"The book is especially for flower lovers," adds

Hess. A flower lover herself, with extensive flower gardens at her home, the author added. "It's about the ways I feel the Lord speaks to me in the garden."

Hess identified "Only One Root" as one of her favorite selections in the book. "It's about making sure there's only one root left in our heart—Jesus," Hess summarized. "There's no bitterness

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



Shannon R. Hess, left, points guests to the refreshment table at her book signing June 7, at Andresen's Event Center.

Johnston City IL Rotary Club

Come join us at **Rotary**

EVERY 2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAY*

4:00 PM

900 W BROADWAY JOHNSTON CITY, IL

NOT A MEMBER YET? COME AND JOIN.

ALL ARE WELCOME

*in July only. 1st, 3rd Wed. beginning in Aug. Call 618-952-5200 for more information.

Flower girl... (CONT. FROM P. 1)

or anger. Nothing else; just Jesus!" Hess echoed her hope that her newly printed devotionals will lead readers to Christ just as a flower girl's petals lead a bride to her groom.

The *Ascending Path: Reflections of a Flower Girl*, published by House of Acts Press, is available in hardcover or paperback. The 182-page book, illustrated by Carmella Calhoun contains devotional entries, prayers,

personal stories and includes journal prompts and space for readers to pen their own thoughts and responses. The book is available for purchase at Amazon.com.

A Johnston City native and mother of three (including two sons serving in the U.S. Army), Hess is also the author of *Dreaming with a Healthy Heart* (available from Amazon). She maintains a blog at shannonrhess.com and

publishes "Grace Journeys Letter," a monthly children's letter "snailmailed" to subscribers. The letters document the adventures of a missionary named Grace, who journeys around the world sharing the good news.



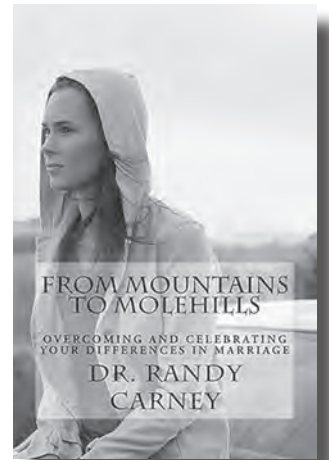
Scan to find *The Ascending Path* on Amazon.



Local pastor's book helps couples 'overcome, celebrate' differences

BY TIM HASTINGS

Randy Carney, pastor of JCity Church, has authored several books on marriage, including *From Mountains to Molehills: Overcoming and Celebrating Your Differences in Marriage* published in 2016. Randy states this practical advice at the outset, "The most important commitment you can make in your marriage is to overcome whatever comes your way."



The book includes results of an informal survey Randy conducted to determine if a husband or wife could become interested in one of their spouse's pastimes. He discovered a number of wives who've successfully come to appreciate the sports their

and Elizabeth who learn to complement their differences. Because Elizabeth expresses her feelings from many different angles, Ralph learns to listen patiently. And because Ralph is a problem solver, Elizabeth learns to identify a primary concern with which Ralph could help her.

"If you have survived some type of trial with your husband or wife," Carney contends, "you should be encouraged to think that you can face other trials."



Randy Carney and his wife Rhonda have been married over 50 years. Dr. Carney was called as pastor of JCity Church in April 2023.

A Thompsonville native, Randy Carney holds advanced degrees in chemistry and theology. Carney has decades of experience in both ministry and education, serving in various roles, including pastor, classroom instructor, seminar leader, school administrator, curriculum writer, and college provost.

husbands watch. Several of the wives reported becoming avid fans of a team or player.

"Move from viewing your differences as a reason to engage in combat," Randy advises, "to viewing those differences as glorious fireworks celebrations."

From Mountains to Molehills offers 14 chapters of classic advice for successful marriage. In the chapter titled, "Appreciate the Differences That Make the World Go Around: Male and Female Delights," Randy observes, "We do need to understand that we [male and female] are different. One is not better than the other—just different." He gives the example of a fictitious couple named Ralph



Scan to find Randy Carney's books on Amazon.

Check out ARROW NEWS UPDATES on Facebook & YouTube. Like and subscribe to notified of new broadcasts.

See www.JCity.Center for links.

FREE GOSPEL MUSIC CONCERT
featuring
The Anthem Edition
(formerly *The Old Paths*)
and
Righteous Reign
Saturday, August 10, 6:00 pm
Washington Avenue Baptist Church
Corner of Washington & 9th St.
in Johnston City
A love offering will be received.

Christ & Community First
City Church
FREE WILL BAPTIST
Broadway & Monroe (609 Monroe)
618-983-5254 | jcitychurch.com
Randy Carney, pastor

Sunday School 9:30 | Morning Worship 10:30 | Wed. Night 7:00

OPINION

Pageant Principles

BY JIMMY DEAN

Memorial Day week, I was privileged to serve as one of five judges for the Ms. Herinfesta Pageant.

This was my fourth time judging a pageant in southern Illinois, and for sure, these events don't get any easier. I avoid using the term "beauty pageant," because I try and judge more on overall qualities rather than just looks.

I've always tried to treat pageants as if I were on a jury. I take notes, and watch how they act when they are not being interviewed and how they present when taking part in the questions, swimsuit, and evening gown competition.

Melissa Morgan, her daughter Olivia, and Nina Helleny ran the Herrin pageant like clockwork. Upon arrival, we judges were secluded in a room, and even had an escort back to the room at intermission and after it was over—measures taken to ensure that no overzealous parent or friend tries to influence a decision.

The 10 contestants ranged from a high school junior to two recent college graduates pursuing careers as lawyers. I only knew one of the contestants, and not

personally, but only through her family members.

Time flew by. We turned in ballots for each category, and these were tallied after each event.

With all scores tallied, it was a tie between two contestants. That's how close the voting was. No judge knew how the others voted.

We voted on the two and a winner was crowned. I will not reveal how my voting went; however, in talking afterward to two other judges, our picks proved very similar. It goes to show how one little misstep in a contest can make a huge difference.

My wife, daughter, and granddaughter were in the audience, and I asked them to take notes and compare them with mine afterward. Surprisingly, we came close in our scoring, and in identifying tendencies that either helped or possibly hurt a contestant's scoring. Although mentally tiring, I enjoyed the opportunity and felt overall satisfied with my judging.

Among the four pageants I have judged, I find these commonalities.

- When introduced, contestants say they are "proudly sponsored" by either a particular business, or by family and friends.

- The evening gowns, swimsuits, and other apparel cost a lot of money. Discovering the pricetag is not for the faint of heart.

- Even though the emcee (at this event, Steve Falat—possibly the best in the business) asks the audience to hold their applause until it's over, this never happens. Each contestant's family and friends try to outdo the others.

- Sometimes contestants give eye-opening answers to their questions. Interviewing a girl in an earlier pageant, I observed that she was super nervous. Aware of the pressure she was under, I tried to throw her a softball question and calm her down. "Who is the President of the United States?" I asked. She didn't know the answer. Fortunately, at this year's event, all contestants responded well.

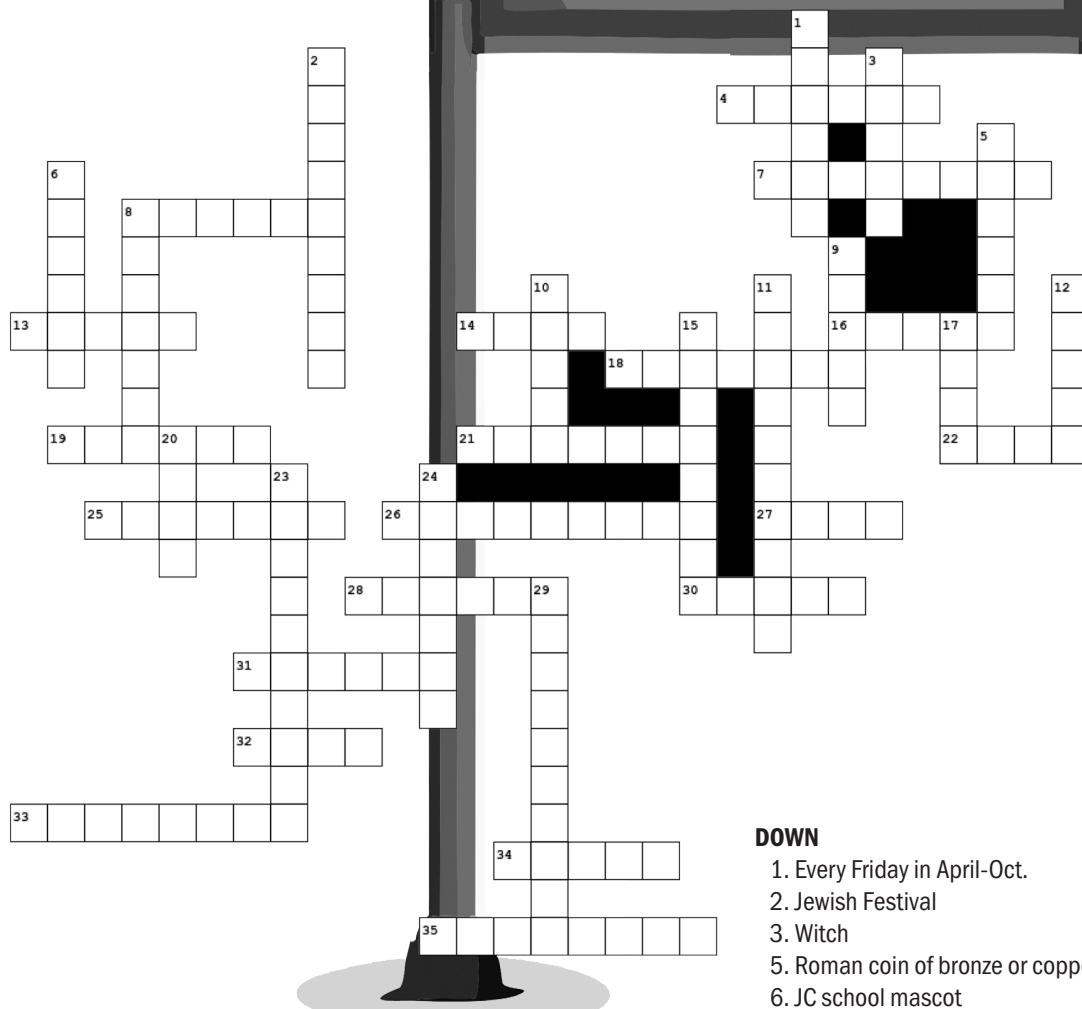
- Pageant finalists typically receive scholarship money and other prizes, but the primary focus of the winner is to represent her hometown or region.

Good luck to the winner and all the others.



Jimmy Dean is a freelance writer and former Mayor of Johnston City. He can be reached at jrdean@mchsi.com.

JOHNSTON CITY STREETS



ACROSS

4. NC city w/baseball movie
7. An Apostle's male child
8. Foreign policy doctrine (1893)
13. Contains name of popular car rental co.
14. Semi-precious stone
16. John & John Quincy
18. Our town's name with no "T"
19. Franklin county seat
21. An IL seed company

DOWN

22. Ark builder
25. A current JC Councilman
26. JC Elementary school
27. Man with manners (short form)
28. Tavern pork
30. Cold water fish
31. Scientist with gravity
32. Common evergreen
33. Our only boulevard
34. Calvin and _____
35. Green space vista
1. Every Friday in April-Oct.
2. Jewish Festival
3. Witch
5. Roman coin of bronze or copper
6. JC school mascot
8. Miss Monroe
9. Ain't life _____?
10. Life-sustaining liquid
11. Our nation's father
12. Hair utensil
15. Roasting on an open fire
17. _____ St. USA
20. 27th Pres. & 10th Chief Justice
23. Synonym for wealth
24. Girl's name meaning rock or wanderer
29. John Wayne character

Our Nation's Success as a Republic Depends on Faithfulness to God

BY BARRY ROBERTSON

This month we celebrate the 248th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence from Great Britain. This was the greatest legal document ever penned. Of the 56 signers, 29 held seminary degrees. Look at some quotes from our founders:

"You will do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are."
—George Washington

"I...(rely) upon the merits of Jesus Christ for a pardon of my sins."
—Samuel Adams

"The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity."
—John Adams

"The doctrines of Jesus are simple, and tend all to the happiness of man."
—Thomas Jefferson

"The religion which has introduced civil liberty is

the religion of Christ and His apostles...This is genuine Christianity and to this we owe our free constitutions of Government."
—Noah Webster

Considering these statements, it only makes sense that the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence declares, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

On the last day of the Constitutional Convention, a lady asked Benjamin Franklin, "Well Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?"

"A republic," replied Franklin, "if you can keep it."

His words remind us that if God has given us this republic, we can give it away by turning away from God. Maybe God's worse declaration to us comes from Judges 17:6 and 21:25:

"... everyone did what was right in his own eyes."

When we look at the great chasm between political parties today, the sexual immorality practiced since the sexual revolution of the 60s, along with the extreme weather conditions of late (the floods, droughts, fires, hurricanes and tornadoes) surely, we can see God's protecting hand lifted off America. Not to worry though, 2 Peter 3:9 tells us, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

If we would turn from doing what's right in our eyes and start doing what God says is right, we would see the tides of revival run through this nation again.



Barry Robertson has served as pastor of Washington Avenue Baptist since 2010.

Summer Reading Program



JULY 11 - Water Fun Day, Fire Department (wear clothes that can get wet), 2 pm

JULY 18 - Movie Time, Library, 2 pm

JULY 25 - Olympics, Library, 2 pm



Family Worship Center
400 W. 13th St.
Johnston City, IL,
(618) 952-1280
Pastors Brad & Kelly Dexter

First Baptist Church
401 E. 7th St.
Johnston City, IL 62951
(618) 983-6455
Larry Stevens, pastor

***First Christian Church**
505 E. Broadway Blvd.
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-6474
Adam King, pastor

***First United Methodist Church**
400 W. Broadway
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-5150
Sherry Cisneros, pastor

***Heritage Fellowship**
(Church of God of Prophecy)
308 W. 12th St.
Johnston City, IL 62951
Pastors Gaylon & Dawn Stewart

***JCity Church**
(Free Will Baptist)
609 Monroe
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-5254
Dr. Randy Carney, pastor

Johnston City United Pentecostal Church
1101 W. 10th
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-5938
Brandon Abernathy, pastor

***St. Paul's Catholic Church**
1103 Washington Ave.
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-5073
Father Brian Barker

***Stiritz United Methodist Church**
Sherry Cisneros, pastor

***Washington Ave. Baptist Church**
9th and Washington
Johnston City, IL 62951
Barry Robertson, pastor
618-694-2995

Other Ministries

***JC Kids' Lunch Bunch**
c/o JCity Church (see above)

***JCity Center for Hope and Renewal**
504 E. Broadway Blvd.
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-952-1272

***Manna Mission**
306 E. Broadway Blvd.
Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-6262

**Active members of Johnston City Ministerial Alliance*

Community Calendar

Special Events

JULY 11
Water Fun Day, Fire Depy, 2 pm

JULY 18
Movie Time, Library, 2 pm

JULY 22-24
Community VBS at Washington Ave. Baptist, 5:30-8:00 pm

JULY 25
Olympics, Library, 2 pm

Daily Events

M-F
JC Kids' Lunch Bunch, free meals for anyone, City Park by Scout Cabin, 11:30-12:30

Weekly Events

MONDAYS
SIMI (Southern Illinois Men of Integrity), 7 pm. Call 618-952-1272 for details.

THURSDAYS
Food pantry open, First Christian Church, 505 E. Broadway, 3:30-5:30 pm

FRIDAYS
Farmers Market, 3-6 pm

Monthly Events

1ST TUESDAY
Business Leaders Mtg., Andresen's, 9:00 am

1ST TUESDAY
Lions Club, JCity Church, 6:00 pm

3RD TUESDAY
Lions Club, Andresen's, 9:00 am

2ND MONDAY
Library Board Mtg., Public Library, 6:30 pm

2ND & 4TH TUESDAYS
City Council Mtg., Scout Cabin, 5:00 pm

2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAY
Rotary Club, Indigo Realty, 900 W. Broadway, 4:00 pm

3RD MONDAY
Planning Commission Mtg., JCity Church, 4:00 pm

3RD THURSDAY
Commodity Distribution/Food Pantry, First United Methodist, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm (emergency food available every Thu.)

3RD THURSDAY
School Board Mtg., Unit Office, 1113 Grand Ave., 7 pm

For details, calendar updates, see Facebook.com/JCityCenter



T-Moes Pizza is hiring delivery drivers. Apply on site.

The Johnston City C.U.S.D. #1 is accepting applications for the following positions:

Lincoln Elementary School Paraprofessional, Washington School Library Media Aide, High School Bowling Head Coach, Volunteer High School Flag Team Coach, Middle School Cross Country Coach, Assistant Middle School Girls' Basketball Coach, 5th and 6th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach, Volunteer Middle School Flag Team Coach, Volunteer Middle School Dance Team Coach (see jcindians.org for details)

OPAA! is now hiring Director of Nutrition Services, Kitchen Manager, Kitchen Staff. Find links for info and to apply for these positions on jcindians.org.



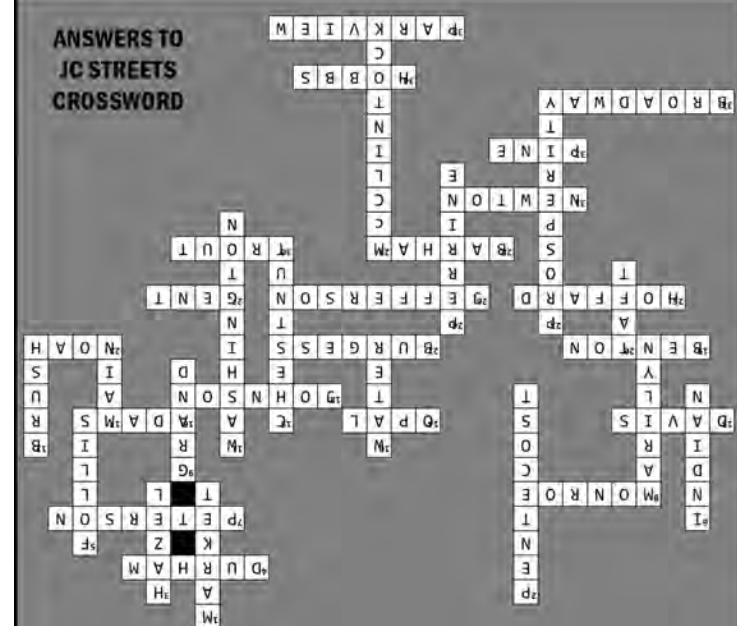
Home Auto Life Health
Office: (618) 983-8000 Fax: (618) 983-8001
1109 Grand Ave.
Johnston City, IL 62951
arkinsurance@ark4me.com



A Heart Tending, Head Fixing, Marriage Mending Ministry

Partnering with JCity Center for Hope & Renewal to provide mental health services & counseling at 11264 Rt 37, Marion and 504 E. Broadway, J.C. Most major insurance plans accepted. For appointments, call 618-997-2129.

www.ccmrocks.com



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To submit news items, story ideas, events, employment/volunteer opportunities, donations, please call 618-952-1272 or email jcitycenter@gmail.com. All items for publication must pertain to events, individuals, or jobs located within Johnston City, Illinois.

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JCity SPORTS NEWS

Johnston City golfers help raise \$15K for local nonprofits

Golfers from Johnston City, both young and old, recently participated in a golf scramble to benefit three area nonprofits. The 10th Annual Caring Counseling Ministries Golf Scramble was held June 21 at Hickory Ridge in Jackson County.

Twenty-two teams, including at least four with Johnston City connections, endured the sweltering heat. Down Home Comforts was one of many businesses who donated items for a silent auction. Other businesses sponsored individual holes or teams, including Banterra Bank's Johnston

City branch. A new car from Watermark Ford and a tractor from Little Tractor were displayed but unclaimed as hole-in-one prizes. Take Action Today and JCity Center (with help from Lunch Bunch) prepared a complementary BBQ lunch (with all the fixings). With the help of generous corporate sponsorship, the event grossed \$15,605.12, which will be divided among the three nonprofits (CCM, Take Action Today, and JCity Center).

The Banterra team won first place in the tournament, scoring a sizzling 14



(ABOVE) JCHS student golfers: Seth Rice, Ty Clark, Chase McReynolds, Logan Smith. (TOP R) Galen McGinty, Josh Glass (MID R) Ron Gibbens, Darren Lindsey. (RIGHT) Roland McBride tees off with David Mishler, Doug Hancock, Dave Nelson. (Photos by Michelle Bertinetti & Keith Fletcher)



under par. The team consisted of Ron Gibbens and Darren Lindsey (both retired state employees), Josh Glass from Banterra, and Galen McGinty (a financial advisor). Another local financial advisor, Sidney Stephens (Edward Jones), also played on a team, as did Johnston City residents, Doug Hancock and Dave Nelson. Members of the JCHS golf team, Logan Smith, Ty Clark, Seth Rice, and Chase McReynolds,

went tee-to-tee with the older golfers, coming in sixth with 5 under par.

Organizers have already started planning next year's tournament and are considering scheduling the event earlier in the year to avoid the heat. Keith Fletcher, director of JCity Center for Hope and Renewal says, "This fundraiser makes up a big part of our

annual budget. Because the other two partnering agencies have a presence here, everything we receive through this event helps Johnston City." Those interested in playing or helping sponsor the next scramble should contact the Center (618-952-1272).

WE SERVE

THE JOHNSTON CITY LIONS CLUB
meets the 1st Tuesday, 6:00 pm
@ JCity Church (609 Monroe)
and the 3rd Tuesday, 9:00 am
@ Andresen's, 9:00 am

Anyone interested in joining is welcome to attend a meeting.

FOR INFO, CALL 618-663-8368 OR 618-922-8005

JC COMMUNITY BIBLE SCHOOL
AT WASHINGTON AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
JULY 22-24, 5:30 PM TO 8:00 PM

REGISTER IN ADVANCE USING THE QR CODE HERE OR BY VISITING THIS WEB SITE!

https://vbapro.events/p_early/e5c390
LIGHT SUPPER PROVIDED EACH NIGHT.

HAPPY
INDEPENDENCE DAY
4th JULY

Edward Jones

Ashton Stephens
Financial Advisor
504 West Broadway
Johnston City, IL 62951
Bus. 618-983-6317
ashton.stephens@edwardjones.com

The churches of Johnston City working together as the "hands and feet of Jesus"

JCMA
JOHNSTON CITY MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

Helping residents of the Johnston City School District
Call 618-952-1272 for information

JC Manna Mission
THRIFT STORE
306 E. Broadway Blvd., Johnston City, IL 62951
618-983-6262
Mon. & Wed.: 9:30-4:00 • Tues.: 9:30-5:30
& First Sat. Monthly: 9:30-12:30

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