



What we learned from Iowa women’s basketball practice

SPORTS, 1B

IOWA CITY Press-Citizen

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Harvest festival coming to Iowa Capitol

Reynolds announces date of celebration for America’s 250th

Maya Marchel Hoff
Des Moines Register
USA TODAY NETWORK

Iowa will host a fall festival spanning the State Capitol grounds in Des Moines as its signature event to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Gov. Kim Reynolds announced.

The “America’s Harvest Festival,” set

to be held in October, will highlight Iowa’s agricultural roots while featuring historical reenactments, music, entertainment, food and handcrafted goods from Iowa vendors.

“The event will bring to life the people, innovations and agricultural achievements that have made our state essential to the country’s independence, strength and prosperity,” Reynolds said during a Wednesday, July 8, media conference outside of the Iowa State Capitol. “It honors generations of families who are deeply connected to our land and their legacy in caring for it.”

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Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds announces Iowa’s America 250 celebration based on recommendations from the task force July 8 in Des Moines. The result, America’s Harvest Festival will be Oct. 24 this year.
TRAVIS LACOSS/
THE REGISTER



A 3D rendering for the Burlington Street Bridge Replacement Project was presented to the Iowa City City Council on Dec. 9, 2025. Construction on the project is expected to begin in 2029. PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF IOWA CITY

Laying foundations

Aging bridge closer to replacement with \$23M grant

Liam Halawith Iowa City Press-Citizen | USA TODAY NETWORK

Federal funding will account for nearly half of the money needed to replace the aging Burlington Street bridge in Iowa City.

The city was awarded a grant of more than \$23 million to support the project, which is estimated to cost more than \$57 million. The city announced the funding award on July 8 after being informed by U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley’s office on July 7, according to a city news release.

The funding comes from the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program.

The USDOT awarded \$1.73 billion in grant funding to 127 infrastructure projects across the country.

“We’re grateful to the USDOT for recognizing the importance of this crucial replacement of the Burlington Street Bridges over the Iowa River,” said City of Iowa City Public Works Director Ron Knoche in the release. “This is a vital project that will improve the safety of the bridge and enhance mobility for the thousands of local, regional, and state motorists, cyclists and pedestrians who use

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Teen seeks move to juvenile court

Now-18-year-old accused of shooting 5 on Pedestrian Mall

Liam Halawith
Iowa City Press-Citizen
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Cedar Rapids teenager accused of shooting and injuring five people on the Iowa City Pedestrian Mall had a history of weapons charges starting in 2022, a recent testimony revealed.

During a July 10 hearing to consider moving the trial to juvenile court, Juvenile Court Officer Tony Dielschneider testified that Damarian Jones, now 18, of Cedar Rapids, was convicted in juvenile court on three separate counts of being a minor in possession of a firearm. The April 19 shooting marks his fourth offense.

The charges date back to 2022. Jones’ most recent charge prior to the shooting was in March 2025. He finished his last probationary sentence on July 24, 2025.

Dielschneider recommended that the case not go to juvenile court because of the nature of the case and the limited services the court can provide since Jones is 18. Most services, the court officer said, require the case to be disposed of by the court before the defendant turns 18.

“Given the nature of the charges

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