

# NEWTON NEWS

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## COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Newton Fest kicks off summer with popular family-friendly activities, huge gatherings and live music performances across three days



### Sandwiches Made Right unexpectedly closes its doors, then reopens

An ambitious owner steps down, an angry community speculates and a mystery man keeps restaurant in business

**By Christopher Braunschweig**  
Newton News

Closed. Gone fishing. That is what the marquee said early last week inside Sandwiches Made Right, a restaurant that has been serving Newton customers for almost 100 years. The doors were locked, the lights off. No one sat at the front counter watching staff

prepare the loose meat sandwiches, known colloquially as Maid-Rites. All the while the community was left wondering what happened. For all they knew, business was good. Anybody who passed a glance at the restaurant on any given day would see the place packed with people, or the drive-thru window traffic backed up into the 200 block of First Avenue West.

Speculation over why the restaurant closed soon found its way online, leading many to point fingers without full knowledge of what really happened. To make matters worse, a customer complained of a bad experience at the restaurant shortly before it closed, which only fed into the wild theories.

**MADE RIGHT** | 2A

### Inmate found unresponsive at Jasper County Jail

**By Christopher Braunschweig**  
Newton News

An inmate of the Jasper County Jail is in critical condition at a Des Moines area hospital after staff found the individual unresponsive earlier this morning in a single-occupancy cell, according to a media release from the county sheriff's office. The identity and gender of the inmate were not released.

**JAIL** | 2A

### RUFF DAYS JUST GOT BETTER

Therapy dog at Newton fire station to play an important role in mental health of first responders

**By Christopher Braunschweig**  
Newton News

The newest member of the Newton Fire Department has a ruff job. When the fire station gets a call from dispatch, she gets to take a nap while the others suit up. And every so often she has to socialize with all the firefighters and paramedics. This new employee is awful

demanding, too. She insists everybody scratches her ears or gives her a belly rub. Not even the chief asks for that! Captain Steve Ashing says her name is River, and when the four-month-old German Shepherd puppy is fully grown she will play an important role at the fire department as a therapy dog. Even now the pup is

**PUP** | 3A



Christopher Braunschweig/Newton News  
Captain Steve Ashing stands with River, a German Shepherd puppy and a therapy canine in-training, outside the Newton Fire Department.

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