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Fairbank ISLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

Compiled by Fairbank Community Club ~ Designed and Printed by Oelwein Publishing Co.

VOLUME 4, NO. 8

Fire Prevention Week is October 8th-14th, 2023



Photo Courtesy of the Oelwein Register

Back Row left to right: Cody Kleitsch-Captain, Ryan Westemeier, Chris West-Chief, Justin Ritter, Jordan Cowell, Tim Zimmerman, Kevin Bodensteiner-2nd Assistant Chief, Ryan Rausch-2nd Lieutenant, Mike Pint, Bryce Kleitsch, Collin Woods-President, Chance Beierschmitt, Adam Bachman
Front Row left to right: Conner Jones, Jason Kayser-FF Training Officer, Father Ray Atwood, Brad Gordon, Cindy Woods, Alexis Rausch-EMS Training Officer/Secretary, Jake Schwartz-1st Lieutenant, Janice Martins-Treasurer, Elaine Zimmerman, Matt Johnson, Courtney Rochette,
Not Pictured: Ayla Nelson-EMS Training Officer, Ted Vorwald, Rob Gipper, Drake Mangrich-1st Assistant Chief, Kim Gray, Dick Chapman, Carson Woods, Amy Kauffman, Nick Curley, Gabe Oldfather, Shawn Davis

As much as we all love to serve our community, we prefer you to be safe more! Practice fire safety and talk about it with your kids! The fire department will be going around to Fairbank Elementary and the rural elementary schools on Tuesday & Wednesday during fire prevention week, make sure to ask them what they learned!

FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 2023
5:00PM-8:00PM

- FIRE PREVENTION WEEK POSTERS FROM FAIRBANK ELEMENTARY AND RURAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
- LEARN HANDS ONLY CPR
- TAKE A TOUR THROUGH OUR STATION, TRUCKS AND AMBULANCE
- LEARN ABOUT OUR NEW "R3" PROGRAM INVOLVING GRAIN BIN RESCUE
- LEARN HOW TO PROPERLY USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER
- GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN IN FIRE GEAR
- GOODY BAGS FOR THE KIDS (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE!

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Fairbank ISLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

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fairbank-ia.org/newsletters.php

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fairbankislander@gmail.com

or drop off at:
Fairbank Public Library
 P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629

For information, call:
 Melaine Buzynski 319-404-7116
 or the Fairbank Library 319-635-2487

Homecoming in a Small Town

A big thank you to all of our communities for helping to make “Homecoming in a Small Town” a success at Wapsie Valley. Although it was a short week, due to not having school on Monday or Tuesday, there were a lot of projects packed into a few days. We concluded the week with our second annual all district parade, pep rally and special activities in which our elementary

students traveled to the high school to participate in the homecoming fun. We also want to thank all of our staff and student ambassadors for all the planning and hard work that went into making Homecoming 2023 a fun time. Without the help of everyone, events like this are not possible. Our next all district gathering will happen on November 10

as we honor those Veterans who have and are serving our country. Thank you again to our communities for all the support you provide not only during special times of the year but all year around. Please enjoy some pictures from “Homecoming in a Small Town.”

Sincerely,
 Chris Hoover
 Superintendent



Queen Lexie Lansing and King Braden Strottmann



Pictured: Ava VanDaele announcing the Queen and King winners



Queen Candidates L-R: Lexie Lansing, Anna Curley, Reagan Barnes, Liza Riordan, Kate Risse, and Kali Lampe



L-R Front: Veronica Wittenburg, Gwen Forsyth, Addisyn McElhose, Ava Auel, Mikayla Bixeman. L-R Back: Ela Adamson, Norah Oldfather, Madyson Richards, Maren Jones, Ella Weepie, Kylie Strottmann



King Candidates L-R: Tucker Ladeburg, Drew Sauerbrei, Aidan Shannon, Ian Buzynski, Braden Strottmann, and Jackson Adair



HAPPY GOLDEN BIRTHDAY
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October 6, 2017
 celebrating 6 years.
 We love you and can't wait to celebrate you.
 Love, your biggest fans!



Open House for Lorraine Corcoran's 85th Birthday.
Saturday, October 28, 2023,
2 to 4 pm
 at Knights of Columbus, Oelwein, IA.
 Please no gifts.



"HAPPY GOLDEN BIRTHDAY ELLIANA!"
 October 4th, 2019
 Our happy-go-lucky, always keeps us on our toes, middle child!
 We Love You!
 Mom & Dad



SWEET AND SEVENTY!
 Happy birthday (on 10/13) to one of the very best--Pat Pint!
 Love,
 Your family



Wasn't it Yesterday?

by J.D. Francis

As I sit alone on 1 of the 7 empty barstools in my lower level, I'm doing battle with loneliness and the loss of a friend. I'm helpless in fighting fire with fire, knowing it's a war I can't win, when I'm up against the reality of life itself. The room is dimly lit, but I still see it plain, the door that will never again, swing both ways. I've always believed that every person you meet, comes into your life for a reason. Tonight, I'm lacking the wisdom to understand why a person would come into your life and leave, never to return, and that too...be for a reason.

The bright light is piercing with the understanding that nothing in this life is permanent, or will remain the same for

very long. That's a street that can be travelled in both directions.

Every morning the sun rises in the sky, creating daylight, and yet falls deep beyond the horizon and darkness is born. Like an old friend, the sun never fails to return. We often set out on our various journeys, but every road we travel will eventually lead us home again. Wind up a clock and the pendulum will swing to its final stroke, only to eventually fall silent. We simply wind it up again and it faithfully serves at our beck and call. Light up a citronella candle on a cool winter's night and it will burn warm through the evening. Blow it out and simply relight it at the mercy of your next whim and de-

sire and it comes to life for your pleasure.

When winter comes calling, the grass, the leaves, and the beautiful flowers will all die. Geese will fly away and woodland creatures will scatter, to hibernate in a deep sleep for an entire season. Soon, without fail, life, color, and beauty, all return with the coming of the new spring. As if following the cadence of a love song, a gentle rain will cleanse the earth, only to paint in colorful brush strokes, a seductive rainbow across the endless blue sky.

Oh, I'm painfully aware of life's trials and tribulations, its faults, strengths and weaknesses, but tears will dry and laughter will make way for our next journey.

Tonight, the realities in life are holding me hostage and have taken complete control. From the moment we're born, and without any defense, our youth gets stolen away, one passing year at a time. We say hello to a friend and soon after, say goodbye, expecting that soon, like the sun, the candle, the clock, the drying tears, or another coming season, that friend will return with another hello.

It's an empty feeling when comes that day, the scale has tipped off-balance and that last spoken word of goodbye, waits sad and lonely, never again to hear that next hello.



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Grotto Bus Trip - Huge success

Immaculate Conception Faith Formation Commission hosted a bus trip to Algona and West Bend on Tuesday, September 12th. Parishioners and out of town guests from Sumner, Winthrop, and Independence enjoyed visiting the POW Museum and the Nativity Scene in Algona and the Grotto in West Bend.

First stop was the Camp Algona POW Museum. During World War II Algona Iowa was the site of a base camp for prisoners of war, This camp was the "home" for 10,000 German prisoners from April 1944 to February 1946. This unique museum features artifacts and information relating to the American military personnel and German prisoners brought together by war. We were also allowed to visit the world famous Nativity Scene created by German prisoners at Camp Algona.

Lunch was enjoyed at the Pizza Ranch in Algona and then off to West Bend, where a tour was given at The Shrine of The Grotto of the Redemption!

The Grotto is a composite of nine separate grottos, each portraying a scene in the life of Christ. Father Paul Dobberstein (1872-1954) started construction of the grotto in 1912. He labored 42 years setting ornamental rocks and gems into concrete. The theme of Redemption gives unity to this sacred space!

A lot of history and social companionship was enjoyed on this trip by parishioners and also with the new friends who joined us!




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FAIRBANK ELEMENTARY

This month at Fairbank Elementary has been a fun and exciting one, and we are gearing up for another month of football, fall, fire prevention, and fun. Homecoming was a great time for all of our students. They were able to spend some time with the high school students doing different activities as well as another glimpse into the school spirit and support for all jr. high and high school programs. It was great to work together with other staff and buildings for our students to have that experience.

In October we are looking forward to fire prevention week. Our theme for this year is «Cooking Safety Starts with You.» Our wonderful fire department has reached out to partner with our school to help bring awareness



to our students about cooking safely. Students are working hard on showcasing what they know about this already in a friendly poster competition. We also have a fun day of truck tours for our youngest Warriors as well as Blanks Children's Hospital Fire House Trailer for all of our students to tour and have some hands-on experiences with cooking safety.

We are also excited about parent-teacher conferences coming up! We are trying something new this year and our students are going to showcase their work in student-led conferences. Parents: Don't forget, your students need to attend with you!

I hope you all get to take some time to enjoy the harvest, the fall colors and everything else beautiful about fall before the cold winter gets here!

Holly Myers
- Fairbank Elementary Principal.
The Warrior Way-

There are five key components to the Warrior Way: Be kind, be respectful, be responsible, be safe, and always do your best.

Attention Fairbank Utility Customer! FAIRBANK MUNICIPAL UTILITIES Resolving customer complaints

All of us at Fairbank Municipal Utilities do our best to make sure your utility service is as good as it can be. So, if you have a complaint, we'd like to resolve it as quickly as possible. By calling (319) 635-2869, you can reach a utility representative qualified to assist in

resolving complaints as they arise.

If your complaint is related to service disconnection, safety, or renewable energy, and Fairbank Municipal Utilities does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board at 1375 E. Court Ave. Room 69, Des Moines, IA, 50319-0069, 1-877-565-4450 or email at customer@iub.iowa.gov

Deadline for November publication is October 25th.

Please contact Melaine at 319-404-7116 Or email fairbankislander@gmail.com

Please send us your celebrations. Celebrations are free to submit.

CITY WIDE CLEAN UP DAY October 9, 2023 STARTS AT 7:00 AM

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- DIRT
- LIQUIDS
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- CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL
- SHINGLES
- TIRES

ALL APPLIANCE TAGS MUST BE BOUGHT BY 5:00 PM ON Friday, October 6, 2023.

There will be a metal bin located behind City Shop the week before cleanup day for metal items. Everything else will be picked up on the curb. Metal will be picked up on the curb as well but will be left and picked up last.

PLEASE DO NOT ABUSE

Fairbank Cemetery needs your help. Saturday Oct 21st.

Please meet at the Fairbank cemetery at 8:00am to help with straightening gravestones. Weather permitting. Questions can be directed to Ken Little 319-238-2828 or Benny Reu 319-404-1001.



**ALL ARE WELCOME TO
St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Readlyn, IA**

Fall Dinner

Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023

at St. Matthew Church 3-6 p.m.

MENU: Roast Beef, Turkey, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Stuffing, Fresh Corn, Sauerkraut, Orange Salad, Cranberry Salad, Rolls, Pies and Bars

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NOTE: NEW TIME, LOCATION & MENU

CITY OF FAIRBANK

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Buchanan County:

American Legion
109 East Main Street
Fairbank, IA 50629

Fayette County:

Oran Community Hall
5054 Main Street
Oran, IA 50664

Polls will be open 7:00am-8:00pm on November 7, 2023

To vote from home:

Visit <https://sos.iowa.gov>

Complete a State of Iowa Absentee Ballot Request Form

Submit to your county auditor

Buchanan County Auditor Office
PO Box 317
Independence, IA 50644

Fayette County Auditor Office
PO Box 267
West Union, IA 52175

A written application for a mailed absentee ballot must be received by the voter's County Auditor no later than 5pm fifteen days before the election.

Rev. Scott Jans, Artist

(Fairbank Artist Series)

By Betty Brandt Passick,
bbpassick@comcast.net

Rev. Scott Jans, pastor of Lord of the Harvest Church, has been an artist since about 1960 and has created hundreds of pieces of art that can be found in many sites around Fairbank.

His art primarily depicts Fairbank storefronts, banks, railroad depot, street scenes, and prominent homes from the town's 160-plus years history.

Parkview Assisted Living displays the largest number of Scott's acrylic paintings. The facility was built in 2004. Pencil and ink drawings became available at the Fairbank Historical Society soon after its founding in 2009. A significant number of pieces of art are scattered in homes in the area.

Around 2000, he began creating art in the small studio behind his home. In 2006 he hosted the first local art show, which continued for about five years, featuring as many as eight artists.

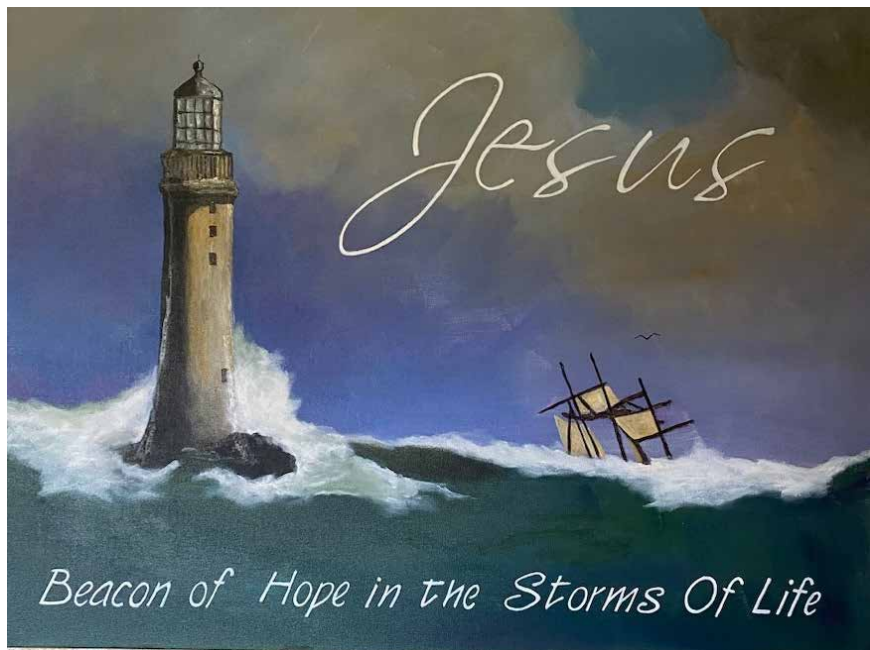
A few years ago, he made the decision to no longer sell his art, but to paint only as he felt inspired. Each piece would depict a beloved Scripture. He called them: "Brush with God ministries." The idea came from Deuteronomy 6:9, "Write them on the



doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

His intent was that each painting would act as a daily reminder of obedience, to keep God's words close and teach them to future generations.

With each piece he gives away, he



asks only that the recipient consider making a donation to a favorite Christian ministry.

A couple years ago Judy Kane took him up on his offer.

During a visit with Scott and Nancy at their home, she saw an acrylic painting he had completed of an ocean scene with a lighthouse.

Judy has long had a deep love of

lighthouses. "The painting spoke to me," she said.

Ever since, it's hung on a living room wall of her home.

At least until recently, when her sister Janet visited from Ohio and promptly fell in love with the painting.

Judy was reluctant to give up the painting until she contacted Scott who offered to paint her another.

He is working on a replacement now.

###

MORE PHOTOS FROM HOMECOMING



High School cheerleaders with the elementary students



High School band with the elementary students

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“The Magic of the Cornfield”

By Betty Brandt Passick
bbpassick@comcast.net

This past summer, as I drove around northeast Iowa to attend county fairs and arts and book festivals, recollections of my primary family’s experience on a farm southwest of Fairbank kept popping into my head.

In March 1954, our family of seven moved onto an eighty-acres farm, regionally called the Shannon farm. We resided there for about two years, until I was nine years old.

We had relocated from a farm in the Westgate area, a dozen miles northeast. How we ended up on the Shannon farm was a mystery to me. Eventually, I reconciled it probably had to do with the fact our farming grandparents (Mom’s parents) had recently sold their Westgate farm, retired, and moved into a house in a nearby town. No longer obligated to assist with their farming operation, Mom and Dad uprooted us to this available farm.

In time, I met the Shannons – Vince and Lucielle, a husband and wife, who lived on a neigh-

boring farm, and Vince’s single twin brother, Joe. The farm had been in the Shannon’s family since Grandfather John Shannon, an immigrant from England, bought the property in the late 1800s. Mom and Dad had rented the Shannon farm on a 50-50 basis.

The farmstead buildings consisted of an enormous red barn, a machinery shed/corn bin, pump house, plus several old railroad cars, stripped of their wheels, to house pigs and chickens.

Peering from the backseat window of our 1950’s Dodge automobile on the day of our arrival, I thought the sun-faded red caboose at the top of the quarter-mile lane had greeted us like a ‘big red hog.’

The final structure on the farm was a small white house, built in the 1800s, when houses were deemed an ancillary facet of farm production, Mom said. Almost from the first day she fumed that the residence was too small for our growing family. We got our drinking water from a cistern. The two-seater outhouse lay twenty feet behind



the house.

Each day on the farm was a beehive of activity. Awakened by the crow of the rooster at daybreak, the sound of cows mooing quickly followed. Our herd of dairy cows that had meandered from the pasture stood at the barn door waiting to be

relieved of their milk. The sows soon joined the raucous chorus, squealing erratically, demanding to be fed.

In the springtime fields were plowed and planted. We had brought with us our F12 McCormick, whose engine had to be started by inserting a crank

in its nose. After several revolutions of the crank, the tractor began to pop with such a clamor I had to cover my ears. Many days I watched as Dad drove off the farmyard for a day of plowing – first to our fields, then Vince’s.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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*“[Jesus] said to him,
‘Truly, I say to you, today
you will be with me
in paradise.’”*
(Luke 23.43)

English Standard Version)
Grace to you and peace from God the
Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!

For some of us, the above words from
the Gospel are decently familiar. We re-
member that when they crucified Jesus,
He was not alone. Rather, two criminals
were there with Him, one on each side.
The one mocked Jesus, saying, that if He
were the Christ then He should save them
all. The other robber, however, called him
to account: their sentence was just, but
not Jesus'. Then he said, **“Jesus, remember me when You come into Your king-
dom.”** (Lk. 23.42) Jesus’ response to him, we read above.

October is a month when we, aware or not, think about death. It’s already been
a while since we’ve been able to go into the store and see Halloween masks, fake
knives, blood, and the like. Although there are many costumes that are in good fun,
many - even some I wore as a child - play on the idea of death. They bring to mind
the fear of death and causes of it. Then we also have the ghosts, spirits, and whatnot.
How, as Christians, should we respond to these things?

One response is to not be afraid. Although through the corruption of sin, our
mortal bodies will fail, Jesus made it so that our deaths are not eternal. Rather,
when He returns He will raise our bodies from their graves and renew them as they
were intended to be in Eden. Just as He rose in a glorified body, so shall all who
believe in Him. In the meantime, when we die we don’t actually *die*. Rather, as our
Lord promised, we go to be with Him in paradise. At the moment of death, the
Lord sends His angels to take the souls of believers to His side to live in peace and
blessed rest.

As we travel through this month and are confronted with death and darkness, let
us remember that we have been called out of darkness into Christ’s marvelous light.
(1 Peter 2.9) Though all things change and decay, we need not be afraid. Our Lord
has all things, even us, in His keeping.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jacob Swenson
St. John’s Lutheran, Fairbank



Church Services

	<p>United Methodist Church 107 N. 2nd Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2932 Worship Service: 9:15 AM</p>
	<p>St. John Lutheran Church (MISSOURI SYNOD) 208 N. 4th Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2181 Pastor Jacob Swenson Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service: 10:00 AM</p>
	<p>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church 302 W. Main Street Fairbank, Iowa 319-635-2211 Father Ray Atwood Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM Wednesday Mass: 8:30 AM 1st Saturday Mass: 8:30 AM</p>
	<p>Lord of the Harvest Prayer and Praise Center 101 South 4th Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 Rev. Scott Jans Worship Service: 9:00 AM</p>
	<p>First Baptist Church 304 Grove Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 Rev. Mike Anderson Worship Service: 9:00 AM Sunday School: 10:00 AM</p>

If there are any changes or corrections, call Kathy Risse (319) 635-2122.

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* Source: Top 100 Farm Lenders Ranked by Dollar Volume, FDIC, Data as of 4Q 2021.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

CITY HALL OFFICE CLOSED DUE TO OFF-SITE TRAINING

City Hall will be closed on Thursday, October 19, 2023, through Friday, October 20, 2023, for offsite training. We will open regular business hours Monday, October 23, 2023. If you need assistance, please call 319-635-2869 and leave a message. We will return your call when time allows. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Nicole Myers serving as WHC Chief Clinic Officer

WAVERLY, IA – Waverly Health Center (WHC) is pleased to announce Nicole Myers as the new chief clinic officer of WHC. She has been a nurse since 2009 after earning her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Allen College. Ms. Myers has clinical experience in the areas of general medical surgical nursing and clinic nursing. She also has experience working as a clinical analyst supporting efficient clinical work through the use of electronic medical records and other clinical systems. She has

been managing multiple specialty and rural health clinic practices since 2014. "We are very pleased that Nicole has returned to Waverly Health Center where she started her career. Her previous roles and experience made her an ideal candidate to provide strategic and operational direction for our family practice, women's health and behavioral health services," stated Jodi Geerts, WHC chief executive officer. Ms. Myers has been serving in the role since May.



CITY OF FAIRBANK NEWS

FALL GARAGE SALES

City-wide garage sales are scheduled for Saturday October 7, 2023.

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Sign up at the library in order to be included on the map. Cost is \$10.00 to cover maps, posters, and advertising.

Sponsored by the Fairbank Community Club.

CITY WIDE CLEAN UP DAY

Scheduled for Monday, October 9, 2023. Please stop at City Hall if you are needing an appliance tag. All appliance tags need to be purchased by 5pm on Friday,

October 6, 2023.

UTILITY PAPERLESS BILL &/or AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL

The City of Fairbank offers paperless utility bills and/or automatic withdrawal. Please contact City Hall at 319-635-2869 for more information.

GARBAGE & RECYCLING PICK-UP REMINDER

Cans need to be at the curb on or before 7am in order for trash and recycling to be picked up. Containers need to be 4 feet away from any other object including each other. Yard waste cannot be mixed with trash.

Drive routes may change week to week due to weather.

YARD WASTE RULES

Please make sure items are going to the designated area. A key is available at City Hall during office hours (M-F 9am – 5pm) to check out or the gate will be open on Saturday.

Compost Brush Pile (residential only)

Grass Clippings Restricted to nothing over 6 feet long and 4 inches wide

- Leaves Small Branches
- Flowers Twigs
- Pumpkins/Apples
- Plants
- Bush/Shrub trimmings
- Pinecones
- Wood Ashes
- Sod Chunks

Commercial use is restricted to the compost pile only.

Not Allowed: Plastic, lumber, furniture, bricks, rocks, tree stumps, stump grindings, etc.

Surveillance – Cameras are up to monitor what is being dropped off. If a person is caught disobeying these rules, they will be penalized, and they will be responsible for haul away fees.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 319-635-2869. Thank you for your corporation.

MercyOne Babysitter's Training— Developed for Youth like You!

The course is fun and fast-paced with hands-on activities, exciting video, role-plays and lively discussions.

You'll learn to be the best babysitter on the block. Plus, you'll gain the confidence to make smart decisions and stay safe in any babysitting situation.

You'll learn how to:

- Supervise children and infants
- Perform basic child-care skills such as diapering and feeding
- Choose safe, age-appropriate games and toys
- Handle bedtime and discipline issues
- Identify safety hazards and prevent injuries
- Care for common injuries and emergencies such as choking, burns, cuts and bee stings
- Communicate effectively with parents
- Find and interview for babysitting jobs



Impress parents by earning your Babysitter's Training certificate from the MercyOne.

Brought to you by:



Babysitter's Training Available at:

Location: Fairbank Fire Department
Course date and time: Saturday, October 14th, 2023 – 9 AM to 1 PM
Price: \$10 for those who live within the Fairbank Fire District
\$20 for all others

Recommended for kids age 10-15
Drop off or mail the registration form at the Fairbank City Hall
PO Box 447
Fairbank, IA 50629

For more information contact Kevin Bodensteiner at 319-284-0635.

Space is limited so reserve your seat by October 11, 2023.

Lunch will be provided

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 DOB: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

I give my child permission to participate in the MercyOne Babysitter Training.

Name Parent/Guardian: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Signature: _____

Return this portion with payment to the Fairbank City Hall by October 11th.



Thank you!

The family of Andy Harter has been blessed with overwhelming support and comfort from family, friends, co-workers of past and present and those in the communities who knew him. We would like to thank you for reaching out to us with words of kindness, the sharing of memories, and the money that was received for his memorial fund. Andy was a man of few words, a language full of witt and a heart full of all things teaching sports, history and non relevant facts. His memory will go on in all things around those who knew him whether it be reminiscing about something he taught about, the way he taught it or the passion he shared for it. Again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

With much love,

The Harter/Crawford Family

CORNFIELDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Next, he planted corn and beans with the two-row planter. After seedlings began to appear in the field, he began the arduous job of attaching the cultivator to the McCormick. That task finally completed, off he went again to the fields, this time appearing as though sitting atop a bright red centipede with blades protruding from its sides like extra legs.

We siblings learned early that life and death were parts of the cycle of life. Sometimes, baby animals were born dead. Dad had the occasional run-in with an aggravated mother cow too, if she became separated from her from her new calf in the pasture. The temperamental bull was another ongoing challenge. It was always uncertain who the winner of the human versus animal clashes was going to be.

By early summer the straw and hay in the fields needed to be cut, baled, and brought back to the farm on wagons for unloading to an escalator that deposited them to the haymow of the barn. Corn and beans got harvested in the fall. Baling and harvesting required the help of every able-bodied member of our family, plus the Shannons. The women alternated cooking meals for the crew. The days were long and hard.

Mom's job largely seemed to raise a vast vegetable garden and can all that produce in her little kitchen. There, she also did the laundry, along with mending our clothes on her Singer sewing machine.

Moreover, she seemed to have sole responsibility for the chicken house. I followed her around as she fed and plucked eggs from the nests of pecking hens. We ate a lot of chicken for our midday meals on Sundays after attending the morning service at the Missouri Synod Lutheran church in town.

I largely assisted her with housework and watched over younger brothers.

Looking back, though farming entailed a lot of hard work we siblings had ample time for play.

Dad was the primary instigator of fun in our family, renowned in his primary family for pranks he had pulled since a young man. We loved him for the kid he was in an adult body.

Within weeks of our arrival on the farm, he attached a thick, thirty-foot long rope to the limb of the most massive

maple tree I'd ever seen. At the bottom of the rope, he fastened an old car tire and thereafter, we siblings spent countless hours pushing each other on the swing. With each thrust, I remember soaring higher and higher, feeling untethered in the wind, suspended somewhere between heaven and earth.

The sandy black soil beneath the tree provided a superb location for the boys to play with toy tractors, wagons, and graders. They built small farms and an extensive road system to connect them, complete with lakes and rivers. From scrap lumber they crafted bridges. Their vision of their place in the world was a sight to behold.

I saw the world in much the same way though constructed by words. I seemed to forevermore be recording the events of our days together in stories that floated inside my head.

Many days, we older siblings climbed the ladder to the haymow, then scaled another twenty feet to stacks of fresh hay and straw bales, where for hours we watched pigeons fly in and out of the immense open door through which the bales had made their way up the escalator weeks earlier.

Sometimes, just for fun we rode cows and pigs around the barnyard like horses – well, at least they did. I thought the size and strength of the adult animals too intimidating.

We even considered a walk through a cornfield during the late summer months – fun.

To me, the cornfield represented pure magic.

Somehow, by simply placing a seed in the ground and covering it with a layer of soil, a plant would emerge and grow eight feet tall. In the fall, the corn and stalks were harvested to feed the animals. How supernatural is that? I thought.

In general, the cornfield enlarged my evolving understanding of life in all its many forms.

The first lesson happened at the very entrance to the field, when I observed the stalks along exterior rows were intermittent, yellowish, and shorter than those of the interior rows. I imagined heavy rain after planting had washed out some of the seeds. A late spring frost had further stymied growth of the seedlings. Without a solid root system, full maturation put

plants under additional threat from the elements.

I parlayed the observation to human beings: It matters when and where a person's life begins. Experiences throughout a lifetime affect development and maturation. Growing up with loving, supportive people – family and friends – renders a certain protection from the vagaries of life.

This made me think differently about our parents and grandparents... What was their life story?

A split second later came another lesson. Remarkably, just beyond the first few corn rows, the tall foliage blocked all view of the farm buildings – including the gigantic barn. The canopy of wide green leaves and yellow tassels even obscured the radiant summer sun. How ironic, I reflected, that one could feel 'lost' only a few hundred yards from home.

Underfoot, signs existed that critters had recently passed by: deer, raccoon, rabbits, and snakes.

Grasshoppers and crickets jettisoned around us.

Dense clumps of tiny flying moths found entrance into our moist nostrils and mouths.

A unique ecosystem existed within the cornfield, much more than one who had never stepped foot inside a cornfield might imagine.

Walking deeper into the field, thick leaves jutting from stalks scraped against my skin, so sharp that I looked for cuts on my arms and legs. I only found a scuff or two. For the first time, I considered that all hurt might not be visible to the naked eye.

The stalks supported the weight of one or two large corn ears midway up the trunk, each swaddled by layers of green husk with pale green silk sticking out at the top to catch pollen. The husk acted as a raincoat for the ears, protection from the elements.

This led me to wonder if there might be more to people than appeared on the surface. Surrounded by my four brothers, ages twelve to four years, I contemplated the individuals we were becoming. Layered and complex.

Mature corn ears smacked my upper body that felt as solid as bumping up against one of my older brother's biceps.

Their bodies had grown muscular from bailing hay, milking cows, and pitching manure. It was harder to see the changes occurring in myself.

The tops of some of the corn ears presented with black mold. A few bores, army worms, and cutworms feasted on leaves and kernels at the top of others... more evidence of life forms. I peered at the sky and wondered about life forms way out there. The universe suddenly appeared vast. We siblings had a lot yet to discover and learn.

Initially, I was easily disorientated in the cornfield. A couple times, just to fool with me, my brothers covertly exited the field. Eventually, I called out to them to help me find my way out. Within seconds, the brother who was closest to me in age would reappear. I still remember the wide grin spread across his face. How they loved to tease me.

Exiting the field, I realized I had not really ventured very far into the thick vegetative space at all, only about ten or fifteen feet. This taught me another life lesson: When I feel overcome, I might not be as lost as I think. Persevere, and I could probably find my way through most any circumstance that comes my way.

So it was, in about my ninth year of life that I began to perceive how my siblings and I were like hybrid seedlings, in the process of growing tall, strong, and mature. Each of us, designed for a purpose only God could ordain... That was another mystery to unravel: Who or what was God? Really.

Ultimately, the Shannon farm could not sustain the needs of our growing family. By fall of the second year, Dad had obtained a job at John Deere in Waterloo, and we moved into a spacious two-story house in Fairbank. The farm sale followed a few months later.

We siblings took with us the lessons we had learned from our years on the farm, four farms in total.

As for me, I have remembered the magic of the cornfield.

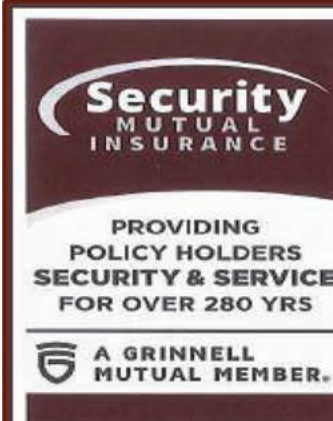
It was where I began to acknowledge how much I lived within my head.

I seemed wired for story.



Lew Boehme
319-415-5547

Mitch Coffin
319-415-2472



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Wapsie Valley FFA Is Ag Demo State Champion

By Reese Peine
Chapter Reporter

Wapsie Valley FFA members Ella Shares, Addisyn McElhose and Lily Schwickerath traveled to Des Moines for the Iowa State Fair. Here, the members competed in the ag demonstration contest through the Iowa FFA. These members presented about grain bin safety to fair goers and were judged on their presentation. The Wapsie Valley FFA won Champion Demonstration at the state fair and have been rewarded with a premium, plaque and ribbon.

Wapsie Valley FFA members present their demonstration to Iowa FFA state officers at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, Iowa on August 13th, 2023.



Wapsie Valley FFA Members Participate in Tri-State Ag & Dairy Expo

By: Reese Peine
Chapter Reporter

On Thursday, September 14th, Wapsie Valley FFA members traveled to Calmar for the Tri- State Ag & Dairy Expo, where members from 39 Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin high schools participated in the judging of dairy and dairy products in different contests.

Along with the contests, the expo offered different sessions such as, agricultural topics including Iowa State University biosecurity trailer, Hoard's Dairyman judging as well as a grain bin rescue demonstration along with the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety. NICC dairy science and agriculture students helped with the preparation for these contests

The Wapsie Valley FFA members who competed in the non-reason dairy cattle judging were Noah Richards, Kaiden Belinsky, Destry Peine, and Wally Kaufman were placed 15th as a team. Members who placed 16th team were Luke Riordan, Andrew Matthias, and Dayton Jergens.

Congratulations to all those who competed at the Tri-State Ag & Dairy Expo!



Wapsie Valley FFA Members who competed at the Tri- State Ag & Dairy Expo (left to right) Destry Peine, Noah Richards, Kaden Belinsky, Andrew Matthias, Wally Kaufman, Luke Riordan, and Dayton Jergens.

THE FAIRBANK COMMUNITY CLUB IS SPONSORING:

The Annual Fall FAIRBANK CITY-WIDE



Oct. 7th, 2023
Starting at 8 a.m.

Interested in Signing Up?

Please stop by the Fairbank Library & fill out your entry form!
You can also check out the Community Club Facebook page for online registration.

ALL ENTRY FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED
BY OCTOBER 4TH AT 5p.m.

Maps will be distributed to local businesses on Thursday

2023-2024 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ATTENTION: RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

Need help with your heating bill?

The 2023-2024 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter season. The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

If you are not sure where to apply, Dial 2-1-1, or visit <http://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/where-apply> to contact your local community action agency, or write to: LIHEAP, Iowa Department of Human Rights, Capitol Complex, Des Moines, IA 50319.

WHEN TO APPLY:

- * **Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled:** October 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024
- * **All other households:** November 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024

WHAT TO TAKE:

- * **Proof of Income** (for all household members age 18 and over). Depending upon your household income type, income documentation from the past 30 days, the last 12 months, or last calendar year, whichever is easier or more beneficial for you.
- * **Proof of Social Security Numbers for all household members** (documentation required.)
- * **Most recent heat bill**
- * **Most recent electric bill**

WAGE EARNERS: Please bring copies of your check stubs for the 30-day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIXED INCOME: This income may include: Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS: Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified. Additional income not listed here may be required.

INCOME MAXIMUMS	
Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$29,180
2	\$39,440
3	\$49,720
4	\$60,000
5	\$70,280
6	\$80,560
7	\$90,840
8	\$101,120

For households with more than eight members, add \$10,260 for each additional member.

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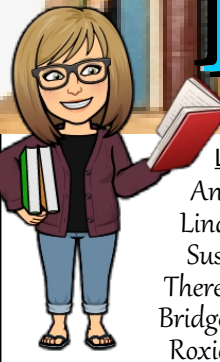
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Fairbank Public Library



LIBRARY STAFF

Angela Berg, Director
 Linda Letson, Librarian
 Susan Frost, Librarian
 Therese Steggall, Librarian
 Bridget Seemann, Librarian
 Roxie Wenner, Custodian

212 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629
 Phone: 319-635-2487 Fax: 319-635-2487
 Email: library@fairbank-ia.org Website: Fairbank-ia.org
 Like us on Facebook!

Monday 1-5 pm
 Tuesday 1-5 pm;
 Wednesday 9 -11 am
 1-5 pm
 Thursday 1-6 pm
 Friday 1-5 pm
 Saturday 9-12



**Fairbank Public Library
 Holiday Gift Basket
 Fundraiser**

November 1-31, 2023



The fundraiser will run through November 30th at 5 pm. Gift baskets, along with who donated the items, will be displayed throughout the Library and a silent auction will be held. We will also have all the baskets on display on Thursday, November 9th at the Fairbank Legion for "Ladies Night Out!" We will be raising money for new materials and programming for the library.

We are looking for local businesses to put together theme baskets or gift certificates/cards for the silent auction. We greatly appreciated the items you have donated in the past. If you wish to donate again this year, please have the items dropped off at the Library on or before November 1st. Thank you for your support of the Fairbank Public Library.

Angela Berg, Library Director



BOOK SALE

SALE HOURS:

Wednesday, Sept. 27	1 - 5pm
Thursday, Sept. 28	1 - 6pm
Friday, Sept. 29	1 - 5pm
Saturday, Sept. 30	9am-12pm
Monday, Oct. 2	1 - 5pm
Tuesday, Oct. 3	1 - 5pm
Wednesday, Oct. 4	9-11am/1-5pm
Thursday, Oct. 5	1 - 6pm
Friday, Oct. 6	1 - 5pm
Saturday, Oct. 7	9am-2pm

Free Will Donation!

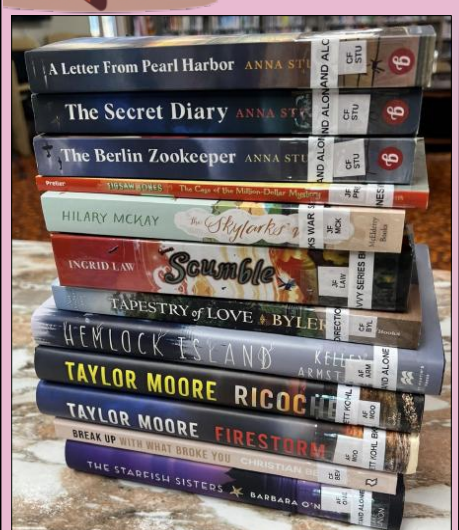


STORY HOUR

Wednesday Mornings starting at 10:00 a.m. on the following days:

- October 4th - No Story Hour - Library's Fall Book Sale!
- October 11th
- October 18th
- October 25th
- November 1st
- November 8th
- November 15th
- November 22nd
- November 29th
- December 6th

Come and check out our **New Books!**



If you're curious about the museum's history, you'd have gotten along famously with its founder, Henry Grout. The Waterloo native was curious about the world around him. That curiosity, along with his generosity, has been on display for generations of inquisitive museum visitors.

You can see Grout's interest in everything from his occupations in the 1880s through his retirement in 1918. Railroad worker. Farmer. Miner. Realtor. Traveling Salesman. State Legislator.

He loved to travel, to collect reminders of places he visited, and to share his finds with children in the community. By the time of his death, Grout had collected over 2,000 objects. He established an endowment and named trustees to care for his collection, which was displayed for many years at the local YMCA (now River Plaza building on 4th Street.) The current building (503 South Street) was completed in 1956 and opened to the public as a not-for-profit museum. The Grout Museum District is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday 10am to 5pm.

The Fairbank Public Library has a Grout Pass Available!
 Check it out and plan your visit today!

In Loving Memory

- Thelma Fink**
 An Evil Heart from Gary Fink
- Jerry H. Shannon**
 The Survivorfrom Gary Fink
- Bamboo Kingdom**
from Rick & Cindy Woods
- Home In The Woods**
from Randy, Jodi & Carson Woods
- Grandpas Are The Greatest**
from Shane & Sheri Kelly Family
- Tapestry of Love**
from Adam, Julie,
 Sylvia & Weston Costello
- Roger Kane**
- Circe**
from Adam, Julie,
 Sylvia & Weston Costello

COME JOIN US FOR

COFFEE DONUTS & FELLOWSHIP

**SUNDAYS
OCTOBER 15 &
OCTOBER 29
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION HALL
9:30AM-11:30AM**

*Everyone Welcome
Free Will Offering*

Hello Ladies!

*Join us for
our 3rd
Ladies Night Out!*

**Thursday, November 9th, 2023
5p-8p**

Fairbank American Legion

**WILEY COYOTE GRILL FOOD TRUCK
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PLAYGROUND FUND
FAIRBANK LIBRARY HOLIDAY GIFT BASKET FUNDRAISER
20+ VENDORS TO SHOP FROM**

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FAIRBANK VENDOR EVENTS
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

Contacts- Tammy Erickson or Alexis Rausch

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Deadline for November publication is October 25th.
Please contact Melaine Buzynski at 319-404-7116
Or email fairbankislander@gmail.com
Please send us your celebrations.
Celebrations are free to submit.

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- ♦ volunteer for events
- ♦ join us for meetings
 - 3rd Wednesday
 - January, March, May, July, September, & November
- ♦ sponsor an event



Taylor Swift coming to Oelwein!
 TAYLOR SWIFT ERAS TOUR CONCERT FILM
 Tickets are \$19.89+ tax for adults, \$13.13 + tax for children and seniors.

Show Times: October 13th- 15th at 7 pm
October 19th- 22nd at 7 pm
October 26th- 29th at 7 pm
October 31st at 7 pm
November 2nd- 5th at 7 pm

Advance ticket sales available at the box office.
 No passes, no refunds.
 No large bags or strollers allowed.

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Review or change your plan from October 15th to December 7th

Amy Rechkemmer

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Call or E-mail me, I'll help answer all your health insurance plan questions!

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 Agent



Positivity in the Workplace

(Buchanan County, IA) Creating a positive work environment is something all businesses and industries strive for, but how do they get there? What are some of the tools that can help a business create a positive work environment? Buchanan County Economic Development (BCEDC), Buchanan



employees who are happier at work show as much as a 31% higher level of productivity, are more resilient and suffer less burnout which results in lower turnover rates overall. Presenter Marcie Van Note will provide tools to help employees and employees create and tap into positivity in the workplace including:

- Examining how happiness drives success not vice versa
- Sharing Success Stories – Who gets it – how it matters
- Discussing what causes people to get stuck in a rut of negative thinking
- Applying the Ripple Effect to demonstrate how negativity and happiness spread in the workplace
- Exploring techniques to train the brain to be more positive
- Review how to reduce multi-tasking to improve productivity and reduce stress

Demonstrating how to stay Above the Line® to eliminate victim thinking

Marcie Van Note has a master's degree in Training and Performance Improvement. She has volunteered at many organizations including Association of Talent Development (ATD) and recently received a Lifetime Achievement award. Marcie works tirelessly to ensure employees and businesses work together to become successful. Marcie's style is described as engaging and original. She has the ability to get everyone involved in the learning process through interaction, humor, life experiences and passion. Marcie's personal philosophy is that learning is an ongoing process — never, ever stop learning.

Tickets are \$25 and include lunch. To find out more information and a link to sign up for this lunch and learn go to www.growbuchanan.com/lunch-learn or contact BCEDC Director Lisa Kremer at director@growbuchanan.com or call 319-334-7497.

Happy 90th Birthday Bob Nuebel



October



October 18, 2023 @ 11:30 AM

Tableware and beverages provided.

Sponsored by IC Parish Life Committee



Add a "PS"



To help a neighbor

"PS" is Project Share – a program that assists needy households in paying their winter energy bills. You can help this effort by adding a regular **Project Share** contribution to your utility payment, or by making a direct donation to Project Share. These funds are distributed to your neighbors in need.

A local social service agency carefully identifies those residents who qualify, and a local committee oversees Project Share to guarantee that all contributions are handled equitably and efficiently.

Adding a "PS" – a **Project Share** contribution to your utility payment each month is a simple way to share some warmth with those who need it.

City of Fairbank

PO Box 447

P: 319-635-2869



Yes, I'd like to help a neighbor with a tax-deductible contribution to Project Share.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

I will contribute \$ _____ per month to Project Share. I understand this amount will be billed to me monthly.

I have enclosed a \$ _____ donation to Project Share.

GUEST CHOREOGRAPHER DESIGNS PIECES FOR NORTHEAST IOWA DANCE ACADEMY'S COMPETITION SEASON

OELWEIN: The Northeast Iowa Dance Academy Competition & Performance Team brought in Guest Choreographer Katherine "Kat" Cheng on August 18th with her assistant Emily Jo Jordan to develop choreography for the NIDA 23/24 team. She choreographed 6 solo pieces, 2 duet pieces and 3 group numbers including routines in Large Group Senior Contemporary, Small Group Senior Lyrical and Large Group Junior/Teen Contemporary/Lyrical, before leaving again on August 21st.

The NIDA dancers appreciated the skilled training Kat provided and the opportunity to rehearse the new routines under her guidance. The dancers will continue to clean and perfect their routines under the guidance of Anna Kerns on Sundays throughout the competition season.

Kat has had the honor to work with many esteemed choreographers over the years. Kat Cheng is a professional dancer/choreographer based out of Los Angeles. She has been able to tour internationally with artists such as Mariah Carey, Sabrina Carpenter, in Danny Ezralow's show, Pearl, and in the MAC Industry Tour. Some of her television and commercial credits include, dancing with Ariana Grande, Jennifer Hudson,



Kat Cheng-Guest Choreographer

and Snoop Dog on Mariah Carey's Magical Christmas Special, on the VMA's with Olivia Rodrigo, the MTV Movie and TV Awards with Chloe & Halle, on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon and NBC's New Years Eve, performing with Doja Cat and Bebe Rexha, and with companies such as VOGUE Portugal, Vanity Fair, Athleta, J.Crew, Nikon, Shein, and Mott & Bow Jeans. She has also appeared on, The L Word: Generation Q on Showtime, and The Idol on HBO Max.



Left To Right: Sara Cook, Kennedi Benesh, Karlynn Sandhagen, Addison Mustard, Hazel Fauser, Emily Jo Jordan, Kat Cheng, Parker Spece, Mallory Gissel, Julia Kuennen, Harper Slessor, Brynley Tripp

Kat can also be seen in music videos for Avril Lavigne, Tinashe, Banks, Christina Aguilera, Michael Buble, Jackson Wang, Panic at The Disco, Tiesto, Jacob Collier, and Lindsey Stirling, to name a few.

She also had the honor of choreographing pieces for Khalid and Mariah Carey's song, Fall In Love At Christmas as well as Dillion Francis's music video, Don't Let Me Let Go.



What's Cook'in

*It's not wise to gripe and gripe,
because you'll find it's true,
that those inclined to beef too much,
are always in a stew!*

Jack Cheese Oven Omelet

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8 bacon strips, diced | 1 c. 2% milk |
| 4 green onions, sliced | ½ tsp. seasoned salt |
| 8 large eggs | 2½ c. Monterey Jack Cheese, divided |



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large skillet, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp. Drain, reserving 1 tbsp. drippings. Set bacon aside. Saute onions in drippings until tender; set aside. In a large bowl, beat eggs. Add milk, seasoned salt, 2 cups of the cheese, bacon and sauteed onions. Transfer to a greased shallow 2-qt. baking dish. Bake, uncovered, 35-40 minutes or until set. Sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Mexican Casserole

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 lbs. ground beef | 1 can cream of celery soup |
| 1 onion (diced) | 1 pkg. taco seasoning |
| 1½ c. Minute Rice-uncooked | 1 bag Cheese Doritos |
| 2 c. tomato juice | 1 lb. cheddar cheese (grated) |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup | Optional: garnishes |

Brown ground beef, drain. In medium bowl, add all other ingredients except Doritos and cheese. Add to hamburger and simmer 10 minutes. Put ½ of mixture in a cake pan. Top with some of the Doritos and ½ of the cheese. Add the other ½ of mixture and top with more Doritos and the rest of the cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-15 minutes until cheese melts. OPTIONAL: Garnish with chopped tomatoes, shredded lettuce, and sour cream,

Yummy Pretzel Dessert

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2½ c. pretzels (crushed) | 2 c. Cool Whip |
| ¾ c. margarine (melted) | 1 lg. pkg. Strawberry Jello |
| 3 T. sugar | 2 c. boiling water |
| 1 (8 oz. pkg.) cream cheese | 2 (10 oz. pkgs.) frozen strawberries |
| 1 c. sugar | |

Combine the first 3 ingredients and press into a 9x13 inch pan. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees, then cool. Combine cream cheese, sugar and Cool Whip, then spread over cooled pretel mixture. Dissolve Jello in boiling water, add strawberries. When thickened, pour over cream cheese mixture. Refrigerate.



We need recipes to publish. If you would like to share your favoriterecipes, you can drop them off at the Fairbank Library or email them to: Fairbankislander@gmail.com



TRICK-OR-TREAT

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 31, 2023
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Streets will be closed at the following intersections:

- Collins Rd & Christians Trail
- 6th St. & Front St.
- 6th St. & Forest St.

JERRY H. SHANNON

Nov. 18, 1943 – Sept. 3, 2023

FAIRBANK — Jerome Herbert Shannon, 79, of Fairbank passed away Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023, at MercyOne Hospital in Oelwein. Jerry was born Nov. 18, 1943, on the family farm in rural Fairbank. He attended and graduated from Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Fairbank and was a lifetime member of Immaculate Conception Catholic church. Jerry married Holly Wilcox June 1, 1968, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Strawberry Point. Together they first made their home in Oran and later bought and moved out to the family farm where Jerry spent the rest of his life. He was a lifetime farmer raising row crops and hogs, horses and various other animals. Jerry especially loved horses and enjoyed going to the Waverly Horse Auction whenever he could convince Holly to come along. Besides farming Jerry also worked at Speedy Manufacturing in Oelwein for a number of years and then at Clay Manufacturing in Cedar Falls. He belonged to the Fairbank Knights of Columbus and was faithful about attending meetings and helping with the various fundraisers. Jerry always had a friendly smile and always enjoyed visiting with friends and family. Above all Jerry loved spending time with his family, especially those grandchildren.



He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Holly; one son, Rick Shannon of Fairbank; one daughter, Sherry (John) Wiley of Elkader; three granddaughters: Kaitlyn, Alivia, and Shannon; one sister, Janice (Ralph) Stanek; two sisters-in-law: Janice Wuebben and Joan Walz, along with many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded by his parents, Herbert and Mary Shannon; one son, Mike Shannon; one brother, Charles Shannon and his wife, Rose; one sister, Karen Grantham and her husband, Robert.

Visitation was 3 – 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7 followed by a KC rosary at 7 p.m. at Woods Funeral Home, Fairbank.

Funeral Mass was at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 8 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank.

Interment was at the Immaculate Conception Cemetery following Mass.

Lunch was served following the Mass at the Parish Center.

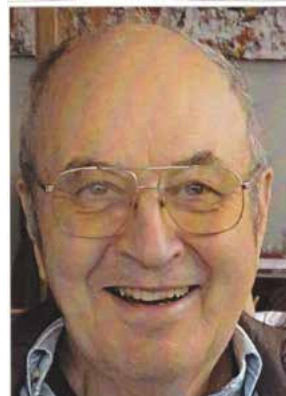
Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.

Online condolences can be left at www.woodsfuneralhome.net.

WARREN IVAN FINCH

died July 14, 2023

On July 14, 2023, after his year-long valiant battle with cancer. Warren Ivan Finch embarked on his final check ride flying west with the night. While his adventures took him around the world, made him knowledgeable about history, woodworking, education and finance, Warren's deep affection for Iowa never waned.



Before embarking on his adventures, in 1960 he graduated from Wapsie Valley High School, Fairbank, Iowa, followed by receiving Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Science from Iowa State University. He married Myra Jane Hayward in 1965. He served in the United States Army in Alaska as a Nike Missile Battery Commander. From 1969-1992 he was an award winning teacher and school administrator in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District serving at all levels. After retirement from education he began a career in finance.

In 1997 after 29 years in Alaska, Warren and Myra moved to San Juan Island, Washington State. He loved flying his own planes keeping them meticulously maintained, logging many hours traveling between Alaska, the San Juans and his beloved Iowa. Warren and Myra traveled internationally having seen much of the world and making lifelong friends along the way. Warren flew cancer patients for treatment and educated those who feared flying.

He was an accomplished woodworker and basket maker. He presented his friends with gifts of Maloof-style rocking chairs, Nantucket baskets, a Celtic harp for Avon and intricate cutting boards. He designed and supervised projects for a local Boy Scout Troop. Nearly all of the wood used in his woodworking was harvested and milled on his Iowa farm with

the help of his dear friend, Gerard Keniston. Warren took great pride in the family farm, setting aside 50 acres in a conservation easement that remains to this day.

All of this does not begin to describe Warren. He was curious about the world his whole life, was very well read and had deep knowledge of United States and European history. He was devoted to his friends, helpful and supportive, often quietly and anonymously so, without expecting credit.

He was an artist, a craftsman, a teacher, a mentor, could be an imposing presence and a man of impeccable character and infinite kindness. As he aged he became more liberal, less tolerant of bigotry and believed living life well was the best revenge!

He is preceded in death by his mother, Daisy Eleanor, his father, Ivan and his brother, Wendell. He is survived by Myra his wife of 58 years, his son Aaron of Portland, Oregon, his honorary son, Jason Mendes of Tulsa, Oklahoma, his sister-in-law, Loie Hayward of Dysart, Iowa and his woodworking partner and best friend, Katy Doran of Friday Harbor, Washington.

So... on his final check ride, flying west with the night and straight on 'til the morning sun, surely we shall all meet again.

Memorial Service: 11:00 AM Saturday, October 21, 2023 at Woods Funeral Home, Fairbank.

Military Rites: Fairbank American Legion Fortsch-Duffy Post 552

Inurnment: Fairbank Cemetery

Memorials may be made to Stillpoint School P.O. Box 576 Friday Harbor, WA 98250

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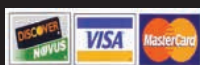
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CITY COUNCIL MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday September 11, 2023. Mayor Pro Tem R. Woods called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Erickson, and T. Woods. Absent: Mayor Cowell, Williams, and Coffin. Also, present at City Hall: Nick Kuker, Public Works; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.

Erickson/T. Woods to approve the agenda. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. Coffin Arrived at 6:01 PM.

Jim Fink and Russ Myers were present during the public comment section to talk about the ongoing issue with the traffic and their excessive speeding and noise going in and out of town. They admitted that it had been better when the officer was patrolling. R. Woods explained that the new city limit signs were out so that has helped with any confusion about where tickets can be written. He reminded them that once the Main Street project was finished, they could start the process of a speed study to see about getting the speeds decreased. Speed cameras were brought up and it could be researched. Williams arrived at 6:07 PM. R. Woods said they would have the police department keep working on the issues and that the possibility of speed cameras would be looked into.

T. Woods/Coffin to approve the minutes of the August 28th Regular Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Erickson/T. Woods to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Receipts for the month of August were: General, \$18,341.05; Special Revenue, \$27,289.33; Capital Projects, \$35.72, Permanent Funds, \$22.71; Proprietary, \$170,201.25; and Transfers In, \$27,055.00. Disbursements for the month of August were: General, \$67,930.42; Special Revenue, \$8,288.78; Proprietary, \$137,726.29; Capital, \$7,491.20; and Transfers Out, \$27,055.00. Balance on hand at close of business on August 31, 2023, was \$5,131,392.68.

The ordinance additions that were read at the last meeting needed a second reading. Ordinance 353 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Adding a New Subsection for a Four-Way Stop added the four-way stop to the intersection of Forest and Second Street North. Ordinance 354 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Stop Signs added a stop sign to Fifth Street for vehicles traveling south to Washington Street South. Ordinance 355 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Water Service Pipe added a clear explanation of the customer being responsible for the installation, connection, and maintenance of the water service pipe from the main to the building served which was established in 2017 with council motion. Ordinance 356 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Floodplain Management updated the current ordinance to include new provisions concerning HVAC equipment and updated the Floodplain Administrator to the Mayor due to the city currently not having a public works director. Ordinance 357 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Adding Chapter 123 - Mobile Food Vendors due to the increase of mobile food vendors in Fairbank. Ordinance 358 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Adding Chapter 94 - Water

Emergency Response Program since the city currently didn't have anything for possible water issues and the DNR encourages it. And the following two ordinances as part of legislation changes: Ordinance 359 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Liquor Licenses and Cigarette and Tobacco Permits and Ordinance 360 - An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Fiscal Management. Williams/T. Woods to approve the second reading of the referenced ordinances. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/Coffin to approve the waiver of the third readings of the referenced ordinances. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Coffin/Erickson to approve the final adoption of the referenced ordinances. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

T. Woods/Erickson to approve the payment of bills. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, Supplies	\$ 90.18
B & K AUTOMOTIVE, Services	\$ 114.50
BROCK BEESECKER, Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 200.00
ANGELA BERG, Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
BLACK HAWK WASTE DISPOSAL, Services	\$ 5,830.68
BLACKHAWK AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS, Services	\$ 460.56
BMC AGGREGATES L.C., Supplies	\$ 195.84
BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC., Ambulance Supplies	\$ 256.38
BUTLER COUNTY REC, Electric	\$ 81,698.56
BUTLER COUNTY REC, Services	\$ 6,072.10
AKAISHA BUZYNSKI, Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 200.00
CARRICO AQUATIC PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$ 35.46
CARRIE YOUNGBLUT, Lesson Refund	\$ 35.00
CASEY'S GENERAL STORE, Gas	\$ 1,225.04
CEDAR VALLEY PUMP, LLC, Equipment	\$ 1,800.00
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Natural Gas	\$ 2,321.65
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Reservation	\$ 5,544.54
CRITICAL HIRE, PLC, Testing	\$ 120.00
D & S PORTABLES, INC., Rentals	\$ 380.00
DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT, Supplies	\$ 1,240.61
DAVIS LAWN SERVICE, Services	\$ 1,554.00
BEN DELAGARDELLE, Reimbursement	\$ 80.00
DGR ENGINEERING, Services	\$ 735.00
DON'S TRUCK SALES, Services	\$ 110.78
FAIRBANK POSTMASTER,	
Postage September Utility Bills/Box Rent	\$ 353.80
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Electric & Gas	\$ 7,129.07
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Utility Deposit Applied	\$ 200.00
FEHR GRAHAM, Engineering Fees	\$ 32,928.50
IAMU, Services	\$ 1,100.00
IMAGE TREND, INC., Annual Fee	\$ 400.00
IOWA CODIFICATION, INC., Services	\$ 513.00
IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC., Water	\$ 11,900.03
JETCO, INC., Supplies	\$ 1,688.15
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, Supplies	\$ 173.60
MICHELLE LAUBE, Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
LITTLE WAPSIE COMMUNICATIONS, Static IP Addresses	\$ 20.00

MICROBAC LABORATORIES, INC., Testing	\$ 727.50
MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$ 1,076.24
AMANDA MORRIS, Reimbursement	\$ 70.00
NSB/HSA - H S A Payroll Deductions	\$ 190.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 8/1/2023	\$ 10.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 8/15/2023	\$ 9.08
NE SECURITY BANK, Non-Sufficient Check Charges	\$ 8.00
OELWEIN PUBLISHING, Publications	\$ 275.30
MICHAEL PINT, Supplies Reimbursement	\$ 105.03
QUICK MED CLAIMS, Ambulance Billing	\$ 298.71
RANDY'S LAWN CARE & SNOW, Services	\$ 2,275.00
ROBERTS, STEVENS, PRENDERGAST, Attorney Fees	\$ 675.00
ROTO ROOTER SEWER-DRAIN SERVIC, Services	\$ 320.00
BENNY RUEHS, Services	\$ 200.00
SCHIMBERG CO., Supplies	\$ 210.98
SECTOR, LLC, Camera Software	\$ 1,562.88
STAN'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR, Services	\$ 75.25
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies	\$ 93.32
SUBSURFACE SOLUTIONS, Supplies	\$ 133.72
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMP, Life Policies	\$ 82.70
TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL CORP, Supplies	\$ 1,053.00
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA, August Sales Tax	\$ 2,134.07
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, August Water Excise Tax	\$ 1,167.85
U. S. TREASURY, 941 Taxes	\$ 5,143.91
URBAN SERVICES, Services	\$ 750.00
USA BLUEBOOK, Supplies	\$ 793.44
VAN METER INC., Supplies	\$ 675.75
VERIZON WIRELESS, Cell Phones	\$ 142.71
VISA, Avaya Phone System/Email Accounts/Conference	\$ 1,011.14
WELLMARK, September Premium	\$ 3,976.87
ROXANNE WENNER, Services	\$ 120.00
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE, GS Alarm Phone Line	\$ 67.16
WOODS CONSTRUCTION, INC., Services	\$ 4,253.40

The Library Board Approved the Following Bills on September 6, 2023:

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, Books & Supplies	\$ 205.95
BAKER & TAYLOR INC., Books	\$ 1,210.39
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Electric & Gas	\$ 145.31
GORDON FLESCH COMPANY INC, Services	\$ 33.47
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 8/15/2023	\$ 0.92
PRATT'S PEST CONTROL, Services	\$ 45.00
VISA, Avaya Phone System/Email Accounts	\$ 52.88
ROXANNE WENNER, Services	\$ 160.00

During the department reports Nick stated that Butler County REC was in earlier that day and the reenclosures were finished and online and they changed out a transformer on Front Street. Main Street paving was maybe happening on Friday, but more information will be known after the construction meeting happening on Tuesday. R. Woods asked if the dead ash trees along Collins Road could be looked at by public works and either trimmed or taken down.

Williams/Coffin adjourn at 6:17 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Ron Woods, Mayor Pro-Tem

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Wapsie Valley CSD Regular School Board Mtg September 18, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance

1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:31 PM

A. Directors: Wolfe, Sauerbrei, Aiello, Van Daele, Auel (virtual)

B. Administration: Chris Hoover, Principal Forsyth, Murphy, & Myers

C. Board Secretary: Kim Arndt, Others: Madysen Richards, Carmen Wille, Vaughn Gross, Mark Moine, Joshua Sieglaff, Jonathan LaCroix, Mae Wedemeier, Jackson Adair, and virtual participants.

2. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the amended agenda eliminating discussion on the track project as presented. Motion carried 5-0

3. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve fundraisers for FFA fruit and national convention trip to Indianapolis as presented. Motion carried 5-0

4. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to approve KCL Engineering to put HVAC gymnasium upgrades out for bid as presented. Motion carried 4-0 Aiello-absent

5. Public Comment - Robotics will be hosting a competition this year per Vaughn Gross. Robotics is more expensive with new supplies.

6. Spotlight-Mae Wedemeier & Jackson Adair presented information on outsourcing the schools lunch program. Feasibility study will be done to determine if

it will be sustainable financially.

7. Consent Items - Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Wolfe and open enrollments: Mckinley Gage kindergarten daughter from Oelwein Augusta Ingersoll 5th grade son & 8th grade daughter from Oelwein, & Heidi Schultz's 3rd, 4th, 12th grade sons & 9th grade from Summer-FYI Nicole Reaves kindergarten and 5th grade sons to Oelwein, Gary & CJ Wilson 12th grade student to Oelwein, & Nicole Christopher kindergarten son to West Central as presented. Motion carried 5-0

8. Board - Sauerbrei-have gotten great feedback regarding facility updates. Wolfe discussed Bill of Sale for Rural 3 prepared by Beecher Law Firm at no charge.

Superintendent - Report included outsourcing lunch program, thanks to all involved with homecoming, & activity dates.

PK-6 Principal Hurley/Forsyth: Homecoming, Professional Development, Back To School Night, School Ambassadors, Leader in Me, & Activity Report

9. Personnel - Resignations - Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the following resignations as presented: Zach Kuhlmann-JH Basketball Coach, & Shelby Hill - Special Education Associate and thank them for their service at WV. Motion carried 5-0

Contracts: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve Mike Duffy-Part Time Custodian-\$15.24 P/H Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the following volunteers as presented-Motion Carried 5-0

Tammy Erickson-PTO-Art, Debra Heineman, Laura LaMasters, Susan Frost, Marilyn Steggall-Elementary Classrooms

10. New Business-Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve Joseph Little's bid of \$3,650 for the 2010

Chrysler Van as presented. Motion carried 5-0 Will bring early retirement options for fiscal year 2023 to the meeting in October

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the Wegner quote of \$10,035 for Choir risers as presented.

Motion carried 5-0 Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the Cooperative Sponsorship agreement with Waverly CSD for Orchestra for the 23-24 school year as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to table the SAVE/PEEL/Management expenditures for FY24 as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve Martin Gardner HVAC gymnasium upgrades for professional services and architectural design phases (\$58,600) as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the quote from Phillips Floors (\$16,673.65) with \$6,000 being donated by WV Archery Club for a multi-purpose netting system in the Multi-Purpose room as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the District Developed Special Delivery Plan as pre-

sented. .

Motion carried 5-0 Moved by Sauerbrei Seconded by Aiello to approve the Cooperative Sponsorship Agreement with Oelwein for

Dance for the 23-24 school year as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve FY23 Special Education Allowable growth of -\$317,277.71 as presented. Motion carried 5-0

11. Board Talking Points - No comments Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to go into closed session at 8:13. Roll call-Sauerbrei-Aye, Aiello-Aye,

Van Daele-Aye, Auel-Aye, & Wolfe-Aye. Motion carried 5-0 Board will go into a "Closed Session to evaluate a licensed employee" as provided by Iowa Code 21.5(1)

To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

Moved by Van Daele, Seconded by Aiello to come out of closed session at 8:40. Roll call-Sauerbrei-Aye, Aiello-Aye, Van Daele-Aye, Auel-Aye, & Wolfe-Aye. Motion carried 5-0

12. Moved by Van Daele, Seconded by Sauerbrei to adjourn at 8:40 PM. Motion carried 5-0 Respectfully, Kim Arndtz

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(319) 635-2869

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