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# Fairbank ISLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

MARCH 1, 2023

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

VOLUME 4, NO. 3

## “Wanted: Wetland decoys created by Mike Geary”

By Betty Brandt Passick,  
[bbpassick@comcast.net](mailto:bbpassick@comcast.net)

Mike H. Kossack is asking for your help. He grew up in Fairbank, and his dad, Mike Geary, made and sold numerous wetland decoys. Since his father's death in 2020, Mike has been trying to locate and buy back enough decoys to be able to give to his grandkids and other family members so they can have a part of his dad's legacy. The decoys are identifiable: some have initials, and others have a gold Ducks Unlimited Medallion. If you can help, contact Mike at [mike@ausborning.com](mailto:mike@ausborning.com).



# Casino Night!

A fun time was had by all at the Annual Casino Night at Fairbank American Legion on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the Legion for sponsoring this, and all your other fun events. You help the winter months go by faster!!

## Blood Drive March 21st

The Fairbank Community Club is again sponsoring the Fairbank Community Blood Drive on Tuesday, March 21 at the American Legion Hall. The Life Serve team will be there from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

Appointments are encouraged. You can text LIFESERVE at 999-777 or call: 800-287-4903. You can also visit: [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org)

The recent winter weather has affected the travel plans of many midwestern families. However, it is also affecting your local blood supply. There have been many appointment cancellations. Donor centers have opened late and/or closing early and many mobile blood drives have been completely canceled.

With each cancellation it lowers the amount of blood on the shelf for local hospitals. Hospitals that treat traumas need to have a sufficient amount of blood products on hand in order to treat trauma patients. A single automobile accident can use up to 50 red blood cell units.

Trauma patients aren't the only patients who are relying on the steady blood supply. Cancer patients are the number one recipients of blood products and can use up to eight platelet units per week. Other surgeries needing blood products include organ transplants, heart surgery, child birth, anemia, and more.

Human blood cannot be manufactured, which means the only way your local hospital can receive blood is from generous blood donors. 100% of the blood products needed by your community will come from LifeServe blood donors who donate with LifeServe in the communities we serve. Please take time and schedule a donation today and save a life tomorrow!

## Pat Shannon Memorial Euchre Tournament set for March 18

The Fairbank Fire & EMS Association is preparing for the 7th Annual Pat Shannon Memorial Euchre Tournament which will be held on Saturday, March 18, at the Fairbank Fire Station, starting promptly at 11:00am.

Anyone who is interested is urged to come as a team, or come alone and they will pair you up! The cost is \$10.00 per person.

A free will offering will get you snacks, beverages and Irish Stew. There will be several raffle items and prizes for the tournament winners. 100% of the profits will go to local people who are suffering or in need.

It will be a day of FUN! The public is urged to come and celebrate St. Patrick's Day and Pat Shannon's life!





### A Note from the Island Queen . . .

Winter is on the downhill and spring is in sight. I really hope the groundhog seeing his shadow was a mistake and we can see some warm weather soon! I personally

think January and February can feel long and cold. Winter has been lasting for what feels like an eternity.

However, when March comes around the temperatures begin to rise, the sun shines a bit more and moods slowly become brighter. With that said, spring sports are kicking off and I couldn't be more excited!

In addition, Easter is just over 4 weeks away. While traditions

and rituals may vary in this time of waiting, these weeks could be a great opportunity and time for a challenge or even building a healthy habit! For some, this might look like devoting more time to prayer, doing a good deed for a friend or stranger, donating to charity, or possibly abstaining from certain distractions and temptations. However this might look for you, lets just embrace this season and make the most of it!

## Annual Venison Dinner set for March 11

The Fairbank Gun Club will hold their Annual Venison Dinner on Saturday, March 11th at the Fairbank American Legion Hall.

The menu for the evening includes: Venison, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Bean Casserole, Mac n Cheese, Rolls and Beverages. They will be serving from 4:30 to 7:00 pm.

After the dinner, stick around for the Live Auction, Raffles, Games and Prizes. This is a fundraiser, with all proceeds going toward scholarships, youth hunter safety courses, donations to various clubs, local schools, a summer fishing derby, conservation projects, and general upkeep for the club.

Hope you will make plans to attend!

## I.C. Church holding annual Fish Fry

The Immaculate Conception Church in Fairbank will be holding their annual Fish Fry on Friday, March 31, from 4:30 to 7:30pm. The event will take place at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center.

The menu includes: Cod Fish, Baked Potato, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Roll and Dessert. You can dine-in at the Center, or carry-out will be available. The cost for meals are: Adults \$15, age 6-10 \$7, and age 5 and under is free. Make plans to take advantage of this great meal!



## Fairbank Aquatic Center hiring for 2023 season

The Aquatic Center in Fairbank is currently looking for applicants interested in working during the 2023 season. Positions available include: Lifeguards, Swimming Lesson Aids, Concession Workers, Lead Lifeguard, and Management.

On-line applications can be obtained at <https://forms.gle/rUmkbEpk1Q7JgFB8>. All applications

received by March 20th will be given first priority.

Information and job descriptions can be found at <http://www.fairbank-ia.org/aquatic-center.php>. Contact [fairbankac@gmail.com](mailto:fairbankac@gmail.com) with any questions.

Information on Lifeguard certification can be located at Wartburg College's The W or University of

Northern Iowa, Recreational Services.

Join the team! The City of Fairbank will reimburse your training costs (1/2 the first year and 1/2 the second year). Recertification cost will be reimbursed for current lifeguards.

**REUNION**  
Wapsie Valley High School  
Class of '61

The Wapsie Valley Class of '61 Family & Friends are planning a get together Saturday, June 10, 2023  
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Save THE Date 06/10/23

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For information, call:  
Fairbank Library 319-635-2487  
or Kathy Risse 319-635-2122

## Wapsie Valley preschool signup going on now

Reprinted from the Oelwein Daily Register

Preschool, transitional and kindergarten enrollment at Fairbank and Readlyn elementaries is on-line using a Google form this year. The Google form opened on Friday, Feb. 24. If you haven't already, you can enroll now to reserve your child's spot.

To enroll, preschoolers must be age 4 on or before Sept. 15, 2023. Transitional kindergartners or kindergartners must be age 5 on or before Sept. 15, 2023.

All-day and half-day preschool options will be available. The program offers state-certified teachers and associates, hands-on learning with an academic and social focus, indoor and outdoor learning, and modern facilities and technology.

The link is available via email, a bimonthly newsletter, Wapsie Valley Elementary's Facebook page, and the Wapsie Valley website.

If experiencing issues with the form or lacking internet access, call the school office, Fairbank Elementary, 319-635-2071, or Readlyn Elementary, 319-279-3323.



Congratulations Dawson Schmit on your 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at State!

WAPSIE PROUD!



# PAWS Receives BCEDC Start Up Loan

(BUCHANAN CO.) Buchanan County Economic Development Commission (BCEDC) is providing a Loan to Premier Animal Wellness & Surgery, P.C. (PAWS) as the newest start up in Independence. Dr. Brenna Gray is the owner of PAWS. PAWS will operate initially from a small temporary space and accommodate routine wellness visits, medical appointments, limited surgery and dentistry.

According to Gray, "PAWS will provide companion animal veterinary services, with a focus on providing high quality care and client education. Services will expand once the move is made into a permanent facility in Independence. It is our team's goal to continue serving the local community by caring for your family pets."

The BCEDC is a nonprofit economic development organization whose mission is facilitate economic development in Buchanan County. The BCEDC offers low-interest loans to help establish

and grow businesses. Recognizing that PAWS will have a positive impact on our communities, the BCEDC awarded them a low-interest loan. BCEDC Treasurer Terry Toale explained, "Loans are offered at 3% interest and there is 6-month grace period before the 1st payment is due and before amortization kicks in. This allows companies to establish a positive cash-flow and helps ensure business success. We are pleased to be able to help PAWS get established."

PAWS owner Brenna Gray expressed her appreciation for the loan, "The BCEDC loan is a great help as we have worked quickly to continue to provide small animal services to Independence and Buchanan County. It has helped create the environment we needed to move forward with this business."

Businesses interested in securing a BCEDC Revolving Loan can call BCEDC Director Lisa Kremer at 319-334-7497 or email [director@growbuchanan.com](mailto:director@growbuchanan.com).



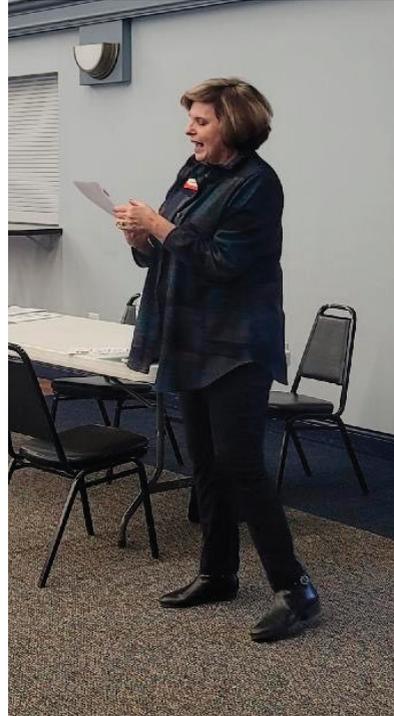
Pictured (L. to R.): Ben Stanford - BCEDC Board member, Review Committee member, and Mayor of Quasqueton; Lisa Kremer - BCEDC Director; Brenna Gray - Owner; Krist Drees - Staff; Courtney Woodson - Staff; and Brad Bleichner - BCEDC Board member and Mayor of Independence.

## Grant Writing 101 - Huge Success!

BUCHANAN CO. - Buchanan County Economic Development (BCEDC), Buchanan County Extension, Independence Area Chamber of Commerce and the Jesup Chamber of Commerce held the first workshop of the calendar year and it was well attended with great reviews! Jane Goeken of Iowa State University presented Grant Writing 101 to over 40 participants at the Heartland Event Center.

This workshop was an opportunity for the sponsor organizations to provide valuable professional training to those throughout the county. According to one participant, "It was a very inclusive and eye opening class that clearly explained the process of grant writing and gave helpful suggestions to find opportunities as well as how to succeed in applications." Another commented that "the workshop had tons of useful resources and insights."

This is the first of a series of workshops and lunch and learns that will be presented over the year. Be watching Facebook and emails for the next event coming soon!



Jane Goeken





Sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church

### Friday, March 31, 2023

4:30-7:30 PM

Immaculate Conception Parish Center, Fairbank

**MENU:**  
Cod, Baked Potato, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Roll, Dessert



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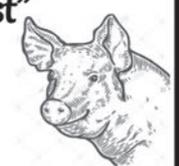


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# NIDA students train with guest choreographer

OELWEIN: The North-east Iowa Dance Academy brought in Rich Ashworth of Epic Dance on January 28th and 29th to set choreography for the Level 5 Tap recital routine and teach a Master Tap Class that was open to all the NIDA Tap Students.

Rich Ashworth is an educator, choreographer and performer currently residing in Milwaukee, WI. His technical abilities and historical knowledge have made him a valuable resource in the urban and rhythmic dance communities around the country. He has

performed and toured with several internationally celebrated dance companies including Chicago Tap Theatre where he served as a choreographer and rehearsal director. The routine will be performed by the Academy's Level 5 Tap class at the North-

east Iowa Dance Academy's upcoming recital to be held on May 26th and 27th at the Williams Center for the Performing Arts in Oelwein. The theme of this year's recital is "ICONS" and the public is invited to attend. Tickets go on sale this spring.



(L. to R.) June Bahe, Ainsley Koch, Hazel Fauser, Rich Ashworth, Mallory Gissel, Kennedy Benesh and Holly Lickiss.



LEVEL 5 TAP CLASS: (Front Row l. to r.) Addison Penhollow, Aryeana Bolender, Ariana VanDenHull, Ellianna Meike, Alison Steggall, Isabella Weig, Karlynn Sandhagen, Karlee Fuelling and Addison Mustard. (Back Row l. to r.) Mackenzie Christian, Iszy Fauser, Elsie Fauser, Jory Mortenson, Rich Ashworth, Autumn Sullivan, Lauren Beyer, Elizabeth Recker, Audra Cook and Grace Recker.



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# Atom Bombers hold monthly meeting

By: Morgan Jipson

On February 12th, 2023 the Atom Bombers 4-H club met up at the I.C. Church Hall for the monthly meeting. Brock Kleitsch called the meeting to start at 5:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was led by Jake Brennan. The roll call question for this meeting was "What is your favorite candy for Valentines Day?" There were 21 present members and 9 guests at the meeting. The secretary's report was given by Destry Peine and the treasure's report was given by Brody Kleitsch.

All market animals soon need to be weighed and registered for fair, and the YQCA training course will need to be completed by all 4-H members going into fair. This course teaches 4-H members how to take care

of the animals that they are showing at the fair. This course is very educational and a helpful tool to teach kids about the caring of animals. To all the 4-Hers showing hogs, swine pickup is on April 1st. You will need to go to the fairgrounds and get the swine you are showing at fair.

The next Atom Bombers meeting will be on March 12th, 5:00, at the I.C. Church Hall. This meeting was adjourned at 5:17, and the 4-H pledge was led by Destry Peine. At the end of the meeting Reece Peine gave a presentation on how to make a T-shirt quilt. Destry Peine also gave a presentation on how to make a rabbit carrier. Refreshments were provided by Jake Brennan and Reece and Destry Peine.



Reece Peine displays a t-shirt quilt that she made.



Destry Peine gave a presentation on making a rabbit carrier.



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# Living on the Edge...

by Pat Pint

Just yesterday, I happily ran into my old friend and former co-worker, Ellen. We keep in touch via birthday cards and occasional e-mails.

She was pushing her grocery cart with her right hand, and her left arm was cradled in a black arm sling.

"Ellen, it's great to see you! What the heck happened? Does it hurt?" I wondered.

She grinned, "Good to see you too! I broke my arm a month ago. Yes, it constantly throbs, but not nearly as bad as it did a couple of weeks ago. At least I'm able to drive now."

"So, how did it happen?" I asked "Which version do you want?" Ellen asked.

"How many versions are there?" I quizzed.

"Well, there's the one I tell the grandkids, another one to my own kids. I prefer the account I give to my friends, and then the honest truth I had to tell the ambulance crew that took me to ER," she said.

"In a hurry? How bout I take you to lunch? I'm anxious to hear all the variations," I replied.

We settled into a nearby diner. "Okay, Ellen, spill it."

"My grandkids need to think I was saving an abandoned baby from the railroad tracks. As I was picking up the crying baby, a train was approaching, and in my haste, I tripped on some gravel and busted my arm. A

small price to pay to save that infant."

I congratulated her on her sacrifice. "How about the kids story?"

"I explained I was on a sturdy stool washing outside windows. The wind caught the paper towels, and as I was reaching for them, I lost my balance and fell."

"That sounds plausible," I countered.

She snickered, "the situation I like best; I was working a shift at Hooters. George Clooney stopped in and starting chasing me across the restaurant. My five inch heels caught on a chair leg, and over I went."

I laughed.

Ellen continued, "when I told my sister of that episode, Sue wisely advised me to next time, simply let George catch me."

She sighed. "The real truth is boring. The house doors were locked, and though we had extra keys, the locks were jammed. Rather than break down the door, I insisted on climbing through an unlocked kitchen window. Obviously, I'd be a terrible burglar. As I climbed to the top rung of the ladder and tried to put my leg over the ledge, I fell backwards. It was painful, stupid and much more expensive than replacing the door."

I tried my best to comfort her. "Actually, it wasn't a bad idea," I reasoned.

Ellen concluded, "I guess that's what happens when a 28-year-old mind takes over a 68-year-old body."

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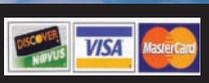
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# FAMILY FUN NIGHT

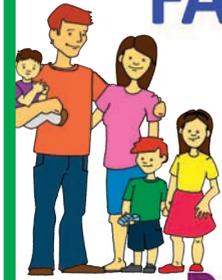
Friday, March 31st

Time: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Where: Fairbank Elementary Gym

Cost: \$3.00 per person

Parent / Adult needs to accompany child(ren)



**DANCING**  
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**Food**

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\*Autographed Green Bay Packers Item

\*Minnesota Vikings Autographed Football by Dalvin Cook

\*Riverside Casino Overnight Stay

**\$3.00 Meal**

Hotdog or 1 slice of Casey's/Kwik Star Pizza, chips, cookie, and drink (juice box or bottled water)

**Cookie Walk, Face Painting, Temporary Tattoos**  
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# What's Cookin'



From the kitchen of Arnola Siggelkow

March is always a welcomed month. Many signs of spring – warmer days, trees starting to bud, animals coming out of hibernation, and observing Lent and St. Patrick's Day. A month to say "good-bye" to winter.

Here is a colorful salad which brightens your plate and it contains the vitamins A, C, and K and is rich in fiber and antioxidants.

## Spinach Strawberry Salad

Makes 8 servings. (For a smaller salad, just halve the ingredients.)

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 2 bunches spinach, rinse and tear in small pieces | 1/4 c. white wine or balsamic vinegar |
| 4 c. sliced strawberries                          | 1 1/2 tbsp. poppy seed                |
| 1/3 c. sugar                                      | 1 1/2 tbsp. sesame seed               |
| 1/2 c. vegetable oil                              | 1/2 tsp. paprika                      |



Toss spinach and strawberries in a large bowl. Mix together the sugar, vegetable oil, vinegar, sesame seed, poppy seed, and paprika. Pour dressing over spinach and berries and toss. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Variation: Feel free to add any of the following to the salad - sliced almonds or pecans, blueberries, and/or crumbled feta cheese.

Tuna is another healthy food. Here is a favorite family recipe using tuna.



## Tuna Noodle Casserole

Makes 6 servings.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup                        | 3 c. dry noodles, cooked al dente, drained (I like to use curly noodles) |
| 1/2 c. milk   | 1 tsp. salt  |
| 1 1/2 c. frozen peas (or 1 can green peas, drained) | 1/2 tsp. pepper  |
| 2 small cans tuna, drained                          | 1 tbsp. butter, melted   |
|   | 1/2 c. crushed cracker crumbs  |

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Mix soup, milk, tuna, cooked and drained noodles, peas, salt and pepper together. Put mixture into greased 1 1/2 quart casserole dish. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until bubbly. Mix melted butter and cracker crumbs and put on top of hot casserole. Bake 5 or 10 minutes more until crumbs are starting to brown.

This tasty tuna casserole and the spinach salad make a delicious Lenten meal.

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Cash to spare,  
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and friends who care!



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St. Patrick's  
Day

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# “What did Fairbank locals know about Mobster Louie La Cava, and when did they know it?”

by Betty Brandt Passick,  
bbpassick@comcast.net

In July 1921, Charles J. Grantham (1892-1962) became the seventh owner-editor of the weekly Fairbank newspaper, *The Fairbank View*. He promptly changed the name to *The Four County Advocate*. Photo: Courtesy Oelwein Daily Register.

Grantham was a single man of thirty years with training as a printer who hailed from Custer, South Dakota.

His conversations with A. W. Alexander, the previous owner, likely put aside any qualms Grantham might have had about the ability to make a living from publication of the newspaper. Charles Thompson had been editor of the *View* for eighteen years (1895-1913).

Still, as World War I veteran, Grantham knew the world had changed. He had returned home to a new America, and an uncharted, uncertain era had begun. During his premier walk-about in Fairbank, meeting business owners and those who stopped by the café or barber-shop, Grantham would have learned the community of Fairbank was still reeling from the loss of their men and boys. Citizens were hard at work planning the next WWI memorial. Building a monument similar to the Civil War monument in Indian Town was being envisioned.

He learned two new automobile dealerships had recently appeared on Main Street. Stopping by the Ford enterprise, founder W. P. Rechkemmer Sr. undoubtedly boasted to Grantham of his five employees and the sale of eighty cars in a single year. Truly, the war had taken the country out of a recession and into an economic boom – even in small town America.

Passage of the Eighteenth Amendment prohibiting the sale, manufacture and transportation of alcohol had led to a national rise of organized crime, speakeasies, gangsters, increased violence, and massive political corruption. Over time, Grantham would learn Fairbank had grown its own crop of wanna-be-millionaire bootleggers: Levendusky, Allen, Fink, and McCuniff.

The challenge Grantham faced was that newspapers, too, had undergone significant change, becoming Twitter feed to the communities they served. More than ever, the cost of a subscription was tied to the mix of local, state, national, and world news. As editor, he alone would be responsible for the *Advocate's* success.

Largely, Grantham followed the business model of his predecessors, publishing business advertisements, state and government updates, the comings-and-goings of its citizenry, along with birth and death notices.

Bill Hahn, Fairbank marshal from 1916-1949, also provided him with the names of those arrested for making ‘panther piss’ in a still out back of the barn.

Keeping abreast of major stories in



Grantham, 1959  
(Photo courtesy of Oelwein Daily Register)

newspapers across the country surely made Grantham wonder how long it would take before the darkest elements of Prohibition arrived in his small town.

In March 1926 came news of the blood-curdling murder of Phoebe Jane Vigoletti, the 46-year-old Italian homemaker who was strangled in her Oelwein home – only ten miles from Fairbank. Her body was dumped on the same site as that of an unnamed Italian male, who had been stabbed 84 times in 1919.

Both murders would remain cold cases, a strong indicator of how much people feared retaliation by members of the Black Hand, a gang that heralded from New York and Chicago – and before that, Italy.

Word on the street was the Black Hand had been trying to extort money from Oelwein businesses for years, but owners said they weren't going to pay for protection. Oelwein had a large Italian population.

The U.S. economy continued to ride high during the decade that became known as the Roaring Twenties. Economists warned a correction was overdue. The biggest predictor: stock prices were wildly inflated compared to the prospect of future dividends.

One can only wonder if John Adams' ‘invisible hand’ was already in play when the Buchanan County sheriff oversaw the sale of the *Advocate*, according to a note in the *Oelwein Register*, August 1928. Mr. Cavanaugh, previously a writer for the *Des Moines Register*, had purchased the *Advocate*.

The Wall Street Crash happened in October 1929. The economy's collapse became a slaughter really, with stocks valuations dropping sixty to eighty percent.

James F. Cooley from Clermont, Iowa eventually took on the job of resuscitating the *Advocate*, though he became quite ill, and the paper would go silent for weeks at a time.

Robert Goodsell from Nashua, Iowa



LaCava-Capone article, the California newspaper

purchased the newspaper a year later. His first job after school had been with the *Minneapolis Journal*. The *Advocate* was his first experience as owner of a newspaper.

While the name ‘La Cava’ appeared from time to time in Chicago and New York newspapers, it's doubtful Goodsell was aware Fairbank had become a haven to Louie La Cava or that he was bookkeeper, lieutenant, and sometimes hitman for Al Capone.

La Cava had first showed up in town after marrying an area girl, Josephine Necker, in Chicago around 1920. Her sister Mary had also married a Chicago man, who worked for the railroad. The O'Malleys moved into a bungalow near the depot. The La Cavas often stayed with them when visiting Fairbank.

Fairbank locals who were interviewed as part of the research for the historical novel, *Gangster in Our Midst* (2017), remembered the olive-skinned Italian American stood out amid the town's Germans, Irish and Swedes.

La Cava was an Italian American, who generally wore a dark suit with a fedora perched atop his head. He was stocky and always had a fat lit Cuban cigar between his lips – and drove a big shiny black Lincoln.

People said he was a friendly guy, though he kept a pretty low profile, at least at first. Eventually, he began to brag he was “bookkeeper to Al Capone.”

News of La Cava's connection to Chicago Kingpin Al ‘Scarface’ Capone spread like wildfire. Most people kept their distance while others remained ambiguous about him. La Cava seemed a nice guy, attended the Catholic church – even took the town kids for free to see a ‘talkie’ at the Opera House on the Saturday nights he was in town. And in the early years, he

was in town a lot.

The Feds apparently didn't have the evidence to convict Capone for murder, extortion, or any of the other heinous crimes he had allegedly committed. Instead, they charged him with income tax evasion. His trial at last was scheduled for mid-1931.

Every newspaperman worth his salt followed the trial. It's unknown whether Goodsell was among those reading the articles of a journalist writing for the *Berkley Daily Gazette*. This California journalist had been tracking Capone's stormy relationship with La Cava.

The final article in the three-part series was published June 17, 1931: **GAMBLER BANISHED FROM CHICAGO BY KING CAPONE, RETURNS TO AID IN MOVE TO PUT AL BEHIND BARS.**

Ostensibly, Capone had banished La Cava from Chicago around 1925 for failure to ‘fix’ a Cicero, Illinois' election. Now, in 1931 the table was turned, and La Cava was about to testify as Capone's bookkeeper about Capone's income for 1925-1929. La Cava's testimony would help put the country's most notorious gangster in prison.

Goodsell published news of La Cava's appearance at Capone's trial in the *Advocate* – perhaps the first proof the good people of Fairbank had that La Cava was indeed bookkeeper to Capone.

Capone was convicted of tax evasion and sentenced to eleven-plus years in prison, plus fines and court costs.

La Cava had also been secretary to Johnny ‘The Fox’ Torrio, the New York mobster who had convinced Capone to relocate to Chicago in the early 1920s and forcibly take over brothels, gambling, and booze sales and distribution.

**NIBSTER  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8**

About the same time, La Cava relocated from Manhattan to Chicago, along with his primary family – parents, a sister, and brothers – when La Cava became a lieutenant in Capone’s army.

Torrio’s trial on tax evasion followed in 1939. Again, the Feds served La Cava with a subpoena to testify about Torrio’s income. Torrio was found guilty of tax evasion and sentenced to prison.

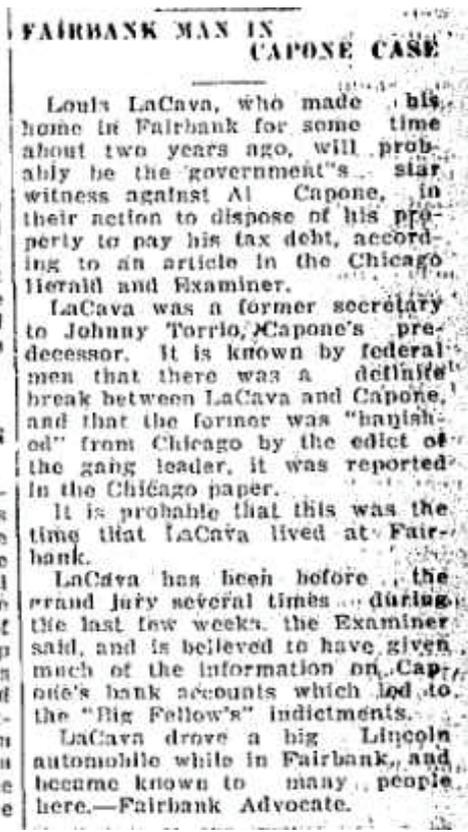
Collapse of the U.S. economy turned into the Great Depression, which would continue for a decade. As many as a quarter of Americans became unemployed. Among Fairbank businesses to close was the Farmers State Bank in December 1931.

Unfortunately, Goodsell was only able to keep the Advocate afloat for ten months. The paper announced it was closing in January 1932.

Thus, Fairbank residents learned through the Oelwein Register of the September 1933 attempted robbery by six gunmen, armed with machine guns, of the First National bank of Oelwein.

The Waterloo Courier reported the police shootout with John Dillinger’s associate, Tommy Carroll, on June 7, 1934, when Carroll was killed at a Waterloo gas station. In 1934 Dillinger became Public Enemy #1.

It’s unlikely, however, that any newspaper in Iowa – or even the Midwest – was aware of the gangland murder of Louie’s younger brother, Joseph La Cava, at age



**LaCava-Capone article, the Fairbank Advocate**  
40, in 1937.

Marshal Bill Hahn probably knew Louie La Cava best of anyone in the town. The two men often hunted and fished together. Verlie (Hahn) Trower, Bill’s daughter, said inviting La Cava on these outings was her father’s way as town marshal of keeping track of what Louie might be up to next.

It’s uncertain if Hahn was aware the La Cava brothers were listed in Who’s Who in Organized Crime in Chicago.

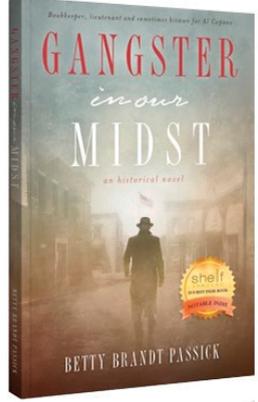
**Gangster(s) in Our Midst:  
The Untold Story**



Fairbank, Iowa became a haven for mobster Louie La Cava in the early 1920s. Now, take a deeper dive into the notorious gangsters of the Midwest, with stories shared by local residents.

Author: Betty Brandt Passick

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near you – soon!**



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Interested in learning more about the gangsters who roamed the Midwest in the 1920s-30s? Plan to attend “Gangster(s) in Our Midst: The Untold Story” – coming to a library near you soon.

Back to the Granthams... Charles continued to reside in Fairbank after sale of the Advocate in 1928, and remained an active member of the community. Around 1930 he designed and built the first hanging foot bridge to the island and promoted amateur boxing matches on the island for many years thereafter.

He moved the movie theatre, previously housed on the second floor of the Opera House, to the upper floor of the post office building (corner of Main and Second Streets), where he continued show-

ing movies to the general public.

In 1935 he married a Fairbank girl, Bethel Ellis (1894-1986), who after the paper’s closing became a correspondent for the Oelwein Daily Register, reporting Fairbank news until about 1947.

Sixty residents signed Charles’ application in 1938 in support of him becoming Justice of the Peace.

He saw the local men, boys – and women – go off and fight in a second World War.

He served on the town council for many years. Members of the council were pallbearers at his funeral in 1962. Both Granthams are buried in the Fairbank cemetery.

**March**

**Community Potluck**  
BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH!

**Please Join Us!!!**

**MARCH 15th, 2023**  
**at 11:30 am**

Tableware and beverages provided.  
**Sponsored by IC Parish Life Committee**

**FAIRBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**January 1-31, 2023 Report**

**Ambulance Calls:** 11  
**Car Accidents:** 1  
**Fire Calls:** 0  
**Hazmat, Co & Other:** 0  
**Fire Training:** New Ranger and tool review.  
**EMS Training:** Crew Resource Management

~ Bryce Kleitsch was approved for membership as Firefighter/EMT. He is taking EMT classes to start his journey. Fire department bylaws were reviewed and discussed, as well as updating our emergency contacts list for members.  
~ The Polaris Ranger arrived and was put into service

*Outgoing Chief, Brad Gordon  
Fairbank Fire Department*

**1st Annual Wapsie Writing Contest**

Do you consider yourself a storyteller? Do you have a great story you’ve always wanted to put to paper and share with others?

Showcase your storytelling ability in the **1st Annual Wapsie Writing Contest**.

Subject: Of your choosing  
Length: 100-1500 Words  
Genre: Nonfiction, Fiction, or Poetry  
Format: MS Word

3 Age Categories:  
Adults — 19 years and older  
Youth — 12 to 18 years  
Children — under 12 years

Judging: by Committee  
Winners/Stories (each category): Published in *Fairbank Islander*.

Submission: [bbpassick@comcast.net](mailto:bbpassick@comcast.net)

**Deadline:**  
**March 15, 2023!**

# COLLEGE NEWS

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

The University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls has released its Dean's List for the fall 2022 semester. Area students earning academic recognition are listed below:

**FAIRBANK:** Ashley Gonzales, Traeton Kaufman, Joslynn Miller, Trevor Sauerbrei, Bridget Seemann and Bobbi Thomas.

**READLYN:** Collin Bergmann, Joseph Burke, Abby Sheppard, Damian Spratt and Austin Warnke.

**JESUP:** Ashley Butters, Kennedy Collins, Kristin Hoey, Isabella Kresser, Carson Lienau, Noa Marting, Dylan McCombs, Hailey Nie, Kamden Ochsner, Jase Pilcher, Jordyn Ruroden, Lukas Struelke and Clair Thoma.

**WESTGATE:** Macy Miller.

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

The University of Northern Iowa has released the names of 2022 Fall Graduates. Area students include:

**READLYN:** Joseph Burke (BA Psychology); Abby Sheppard (BA Elementary Education); Damian Spratt (BS Technology and Engineering Education-Teaching, and BA General Studies).

**JESUP:** Noa Marting (BA Elementary Education).

## ALLEN COLLEGE - UNITY POINT

The administration and faculty of Allen College are pleased to congratulate students named to the Allen College Dean's List at the completion of the fall semester of the 22-23 academic year. These students must complete at least 12 semester hours and achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or above. Area students are:

**FAIRBANK:** Katelynn Sauerbrei (Nursing-BSN)

**READLYN:** Carley Schmitt (Nursing-BSN)

**DUNKERTON:** Kacey Fettkether (Nursing-BSN); Morgan Weepie (Nursing - BSN).

**JESUP:** Shaye Caldwell (Nursing - BSN)

## UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE

The University of Dubuque congratulates the following student on being appointed to the fall semester 2022 academic Dean's List:

**JESUP:** Payton McHone.

## DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Des Moines Area Community College (DMAC) President Rob Denson has released the names of students on the Fall 2022 Dean's List. Area students who earned this academic distinction include:

**FAIRBANK:** Carson Woods (Mortuary Science)

# Church Services



	<p><b>United Methodist Church</b></p> <p>107 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2932 Worship Service: 9:15 AM</p>
	<p><b>St. John Lutheran Church</b> (MISSOURI SYNOD)</p> <p>208 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2181</p> <p><b>Pastor Jacob Swenson</b></p> <p>Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service: 10:00 AM</p>
	<p><b>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church</b></p> <p>302 W. Main Street Fairbank, Iowa 319-635-2211</p> <p><b>Father Ray Atwood</b></p> <p>Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM Wednesday Mass: 8:30 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass: 8:30 AM</p>
	<p><b>Lord of the Harvest</b> Prayer and Praise Center</p> <p>101 South 4th Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629</p> <p><b>Rev. Scott Jans</b></p> <p>Worship Service: 9:00 AM</p>
	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b></p> <p>304 Grove Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629</p> <p><b>Rev. Mike Anderson</b></p> <p>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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2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

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# Fairbank Public Library

**LIBRARY STAFF**

Angela Berg, Director  
Linda Letson, Librarian  
Susan Frost, Librarian  
Therese Steggall, 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](mailto:library@fairbank-ia.org) Website: [Fairbank-ia.org](http://Fairbank-ia.org)

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**HOURS:**

Monday 1:00 – 5:00 pm  
Tuesday 1:00 – 5:00 pm  
Wednesday 9:00 – 11:00 am  
1:00 – 5:00 pm  
Thursday 1:00 – 6:00 pm  
Friday 1:00 – 5:00 pm  
Saturday 9:00 – 12:00 noon

**BOOK Club**

Tuesday Mar. 14th at 2 PM

**March Book Club**  
**Switchboard Soldiers**

By author:  
Jennifer Chiaverini

**April Book Club**

**How Lucky Book Overview**

By author:  
Will Letch



A Naturalist from Fontana Park will be visiting the library on the following **No School Days** at 1pm:

Wednesday March 1st  
Wednesday April 5th

**STORY HOUR**

Wednesdays at 9:15 am on these dates:

Mar. 8 – Dinosaurs  
Mar. 15 – St. Patrick's Day  
Mar. 22 – Colors  
Mar. 29 – Pancakes  
Apr. 12 – Spring

Candy Drawing was held on Valentine's Day!

Congratulations to **Brenda Coffin** for winning the contest!



Brielle and Braylee using the library computers after school!

*In Loving Memory*

- Sherry Duffy**  
*Really Good, Actually* .....from Adam, Julie & Sylvia Costello
- Howard Meaney**  
*Just the Nicest Couple* .....from Adam, Julie & Sylvia Costello
- Darrel Cox**  
*The Power of Awe* .....from Adam, Julie & Sylvia Costello
- Send For Me* .....from Randy, Jodi and Carson Woods
- Dinosaurs Learn to be Kind* .....from Parkinson & Ryherd Families
- Triple Cross* .....from Gary Fink
- The Blackout Book Club* .....from Mike & Sandy Tagtow
- John Griese**  
*Rock Paper Scissors* .....from David & Patricia Chase
- 3 Days to Live* .....from David & Patricia Chase
- Laura Heilmann Ott**  
*Good Night, Sister* .....from David & Patricia Chase
- The Devine Donut Shop* .....from David & Patricia Chase
- Dennis Lau**  
*Countdown to Midnight* .....from Gary Fink

**THE YEARBOOK PROJECT**

The Fairbank Library is looking for a few Yearbooks to complete our collection. We are in need of the following:

**Fairbank Falcon Year Book** 1957  
**Wapsie Valley Year Books** 1968 1969 1970

Please contact the Library at 319-635-2487 if you would like to donate a copy. Thanks!

**Grout Museum District**

You can now check out a **Grout Museum Pass** at the **Fairbank Public Library**.

This will allow you to visit the Grout Museum attractions and will allow you free entry for you and your family.

Contact the Library to check out the pass!

**Blind Date With A Book**

You shouldn't always judge a book by its cover. Put your trust in fate and choose a book without knowing the title, maybe you will fall in love!

We had a lot of patrons take advantage of our blind date books! We still have a few books available if you would like to participate!

Books from some of our favorite blind dates!

### Wapsie Valley Education Foundation Successful Fundraising Efforts



Thank you for making the 20th anniversary of WVEF's annual fundraising event such a great success. Since the beginning, the foundation has had support from area families and businesses to supplement educational resources within the district. And this winter's fundraising efforts was no exception. Special thanks to Grumpy's staff and Mike and Samantha Keeran and to Jim and Bev Collins of Sunrise Catering.

Thank you again . . . Wapsie Valley Board of Directors

In January 2023, the board met to review teacher submitted "enrichment grants".

After setting aside funds for WVEF sponsored scholarships, over \$32,000.00 was approved for the following:

#### WV Elementary Buildings

Project	Amount
<b>Transitional K/Kindergarten Readlyn &amp; Fairbank</b> Projectors and software that interface with whiteboards as well as tablets	Short Throw Display \$5,565.00
<b>Elementary Grades Readlyn/Fairbank</b> Full week in March focused on promoting literacy	Literacy Week \$2,000.00
<b>5th Grade - Readlyn and Fairbank</b> Increase seating options for collaborative reading	Collaborative Classroom Seating \$6,000.00
<b>6th Grade -Fairbank</b> Promote creating, problem solving, and developing skills, talents, thinking, and mental rigor	21st Century Skills Development \$2,000.00
<b>3rd Grade - Readlyn &amp; Fairbank</b> Brain Pop is an online subscription used in classroom	Brain Pop \$460.00
<b>3rd Grade - Fairbank</b> Projectors and software that interface with whiteboards as well as tablets	Short Throw Display \$1,779.00
<b>2nd Grade - Readlyn &amp; Fairbank</b> Brain Pop is an online subscription used in classroom	Brain Pop \$625.00
<b>Special Ed/Title One Readlyn and Fairbank</b>	Phonics Intervention \$592.28
<b>5th and 6th Grades - Readlyn</b>	Noise canceling Headphones \$450.00
<b>Physical Education Readlyn &amp; Fairbank</b> Replace and Update equipment all grades.	PE Equipment \$2,000.00
<b>Elementary Buildings Total</b>	<b>\$21,471.28</b>

#### WV Junior and Senior High School

<b>Agricultural Educations</b> Purchase of online curriculum that is part of iCEV (an online resource for Career and Technical Education classes)	Principals of Small Engines Tech Certification \$1,650.00
<b>English Department</b> Funding to purchase additional books	Mental Health and Mindfulness in Literature and Real World \$250.00
<b>English/Languish Arts - Grades 7-12</b>	Classroom Books \$1,200.00
<b>P.E. - Grades 7-12</b> Replace/replenish broken or worn out P.E. Equipment	Update P.E. Equipment \$2,000.00
<b>Industrial Technology - Grades 10-12</b> Grant money will go towards funding to purchase laptop computers that are needed to update the CAD lab.	Computer Aided Design (CAD) lab \$2,000.00
<b>Family and Consumer Science – Grades 10-12</b> Utilized in Quilting and Clothing Construction Classes	3 computerized sewing/embroidery machines \$1,797.00
<b>Art Room – Grades 7-12</b>	Shelving for Art Room \$541.13
<b>Math Classroom – Grades 7-12</b>	Flex Seating and White Boards \$851.14
<b>English – Grades 7-12</b> Update curriculum for teaching grammar and movie critique field trip.	Curriculum Updates and Adventure \$500.00
<b>Amount for Junior/Senior High School</b>	<b>\$10,789.27</b>
<b>Grand Total for All Buildings</b>	<b>\$32,260.55</b>



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## CURTIS EUGENE BATE

July 10, 1987 ~ January 22, 2023

Curtis Eugene Bate, 35 years old of rural Jesup, IA, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, January 22, 2023. Curtis was born in Waterloo, IA, on July 10, 1987, the son of Kevin Douglas Bate and Bonnie Jean (Hill) (Bate) Duffy. He graduated from Jesup Community Schools with the class of 2005. He soon became employed at the Target Distribution Center in Cedar Falls, IA, where he had worked the past 15 years. Curtis was a master chef and enjoyed sharing his grilling and smoking talents by stimulating the taste buds of his family and friends. Camping, kayaking and golfing were some of the other hobbies he most enjoyed.

Curtis is survived by his daughter: Madison Bate; and friend, Noah Dougan of Waverly, IA; his mother, Bonnie Duffy of Jesup; his father, Kevin (Cindy) Bate of Hazelton, IA; one brother, Derek (Steffanie) Bate of Sumner, IA; his maternal grandparents, Ralph & Beverly Hill of Jesup, one niece, Anika; two nephews, Julian and Riley and his loyal dog, Andi.

Curtis was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Harry & Nadine Bate; his step-father, Galen Duffy; and his step-mother, Carol Bate.

Funeral services were held January 28, 2023 at White Funeral Home in Jesup, with burial at Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery, Fairbank, IA. Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may be posted at [www.White-MtHope.com](http://www.White-MtHope.com).



## ARNOLD SCHELLHORN

October 30, 1926 ~ February 17, 2023

Arnold Schellhorn passed away Friday, February 17, 2023 at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo after a battle with dementia. He was born October 30, 1926, in the rural area near Fredrika, Iowa, the son of Wilhelmina (Warnke) and Henry Schellhorn. He was baptized at the Evangelical & Reformed Church in rural Sumner and was confirmed at St. Peter Lutheran Church in rural Bremer County.

In his early years, he lived on the family farm near Grove Hill, where he attended rural grade school. He walked or rode his bicycle 4.5 miles one way to Readlyn for his freshman year of high school. After that, he worked at home to help with the family farming duties. On November 18, 1947, he married Lorna Sell at St. John Lutheran Church in Buck Creek. He and his bride lived in rural Bremer County and near Oelwein before moving to Oran in 1954, where he would build his family home.

Arnold's work history included working at Rath Packing Company in Waterloo, before settling in at Lorber Construction in Oran where he worked for approximately 50 years. For several years in the 1970's, Arnold would "moonlight" repairing shoes one night a week for Duffy's Shoe Store in Oelwein. It was also around this time that Arnold and Lorna operated a lunch trailer for approximately 6 years, named the "Tummy Stuffer", which they pulled to auctions and provided hot food/concessions for the auction attendees.

After "retiring", Arnold still enjoyed staying busy doing small carpentry projects for various people around town upon request. He wanted to be a friend to all he met and desired that all persons he met would also consider him as their friend. To say the least, he was usually pretty quick with a joke to put a smile on other peoples faces.

Arnold and Lorna were known for dancing several nights a week. They enjoyed fishing (but never took much time to do so) and enjoyed playing cards, laughing, and having fun with other couples. They also enjoyed boating/water skiing in the summer, and ice skating/sledding in the winter with other families in the Oran area. Arnold enjoyed being a work mentor to his grandsons as well as being with all his grandchildren and attending their activities.

Arnold was a life-long and active member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Oran. The church was a big part of his life, as he served on all council positions in addition to mowing the church lawns and doing church custodial work. He began opening the church for the Sunday services every Sunday beginning in approximately 1958 and continued doing so for more than 55 years.

He was an Oran Fire Department member for several years and served as the Assistant Fire Chief for approximately 3 years. He was a district officer for Aid Association for Lutherans and Thrivent for several years and was secretary of the Oran sanitation District for many years.

Arnold is survived by two sons: Galen (Elaine) of rural Sumner and Alan of Oran; three grandchildren: Aaron (Lindsay) Schellhorn of Melbourne, Florida, Travis (Katie) Schellhorn of Independence, and Anna (Kyle) Lillmars of Englewoods, Colorado; one step-grandchild: Kerri (Curtis) VanEe of Waverly; three great-grand daughters; and four step great-grandchildren.

Arnold is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 67 years, Lorna; one son: Ronnie John (died in infancy); two sisters: Adeline Schellhorn and Ester Niemeyer; seven brothers: Marvin and Lavern (both lost in infancy), Roland, Willhart, Erwin, Lorenz, and Orlyn.

Funeral service was held February 23, 2023 at St. Peters Lutheran Church in Oran, with interment at Grove Hill Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation. Woods Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



## DWAYNE OTT

January 27, 1935 ~ February 16, 2023

Dwayne A. Ott, 88 of Fairbank, passed away Thursday, February 16th at the Denver Sunset Home. Dwayne was born on January 27th, 1935, at home near Fairbank to August and Viola (Reiter) Ott. Dwayne grew up and remained in the rural Fairbank area where he also attended and graduated from Fairbank High School.

On April 27th, 1957, Dwayne was united in marriage to Geraldine (Gerry) Fisk at St. John's Lutheran Church, and he shared his life with her until her passing in 2003. This union was blessed with two children, Dennis and Donna. Dwayne served time in the US Army from 1957 to 1959 before returning to the family farm. He served on the St. John's and Lord of the Harvest church boards as well as the Oran Creamery.

Dwayne was a lifelong dairy farmer, and there was nothing else he enjoyed more than farming, fixing things, and the mountains. Every summer when the farming had slowed down, Dwayne and Gerry would travel to the Rocky Mountains. Dwayne had a fondness for Estes Park and his trips to the mountains held a special place in his heart.

In 2003, Dwayne stepped back from farming for the next generation of family to enjoy it like he had for so long. On April 24, 2004, Dwayne was remarried to Laura Heilmann and together they continued to travel, including trips to his beloved mountains.

Dwayne is survived by his son Dennis (Roxanne) Ott of Fairbank; daughter Donna (Randy) Brown of Mountain Home, Arkansas; four grandchildren: Joshua (Brittany) Brown, Bethany (Ryan) Clark, Darcy (Christian) Kroemer, Amy (John) Scott; and six great-grandchildren: Jocelynn Brown, Caleb Brown, Charles Scott, Melanie Scott, Bristol Kroemer, and Conroy Kroemer; a brother-in-law John Shields Jr.; and a stepson Rob Heilmann.

Dwayne was preceded in death by his parents, August and Viola Ott; his sister Edna "Toot" Shields; a stepdaughter Dawn Zaruba; his first wife Gerry; and his second wife Laura.

Funeral services were held February 22, 2023 at Woods Funeral Home in Fairbank, with interment at Fairbank Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### FAIRBANK CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in a budget workshop at 5:00 PM and then regular session following at 6:00 PM on Monday January 23, 2023. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, and T. Woods. Absent: Coffin. Also, present at City Hall: Ben Delagardelle and Nick Kuger, Public Works; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

The budget for FY2024 was discussed during the budget workshop. The Council discussed all aspects of the City's proposed budget numbers and reviewed previous year's information from the utility departments.

Mayor Cowell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Erickson/R. Woods to approve the agenda. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

There were no public comments during the public comment section.

Williams/Erickson to approve the minutes of the January 9th Regular Meeting. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Jon Biederman from Fehr Graham attended the meeting to present the preliminary results from the Main Street Bid Letting held last Wednesday the 18th of January. There were 7 bids that came in with the lowest coming from Wick's Construction, Inc. out of Decorah, Iowa. That bid was for just over \$3.9 million total which included the amounts that the city, the DOT and ADA would all be responsible for. The DOT has not gotten the final numbers yet for the breakdown, but the city's portion is estimated at just under \$2 million which is just under the amount that was estimated for the city to spend. No word on who the subcontractors are and are still planning on a start day in the end of March depending on March. The DOT will set that date.

Biederman also presented the council with an agreement with Fehr Graham for the 4th Street Sidewalk Project called "Walk Safe Fairbank" and the Right-of-Ways. This project was awarded federal funding help from a Tap Grant approved in May of 2022. He stated that the agreement allowed them to start determining the right-

of-way lines and to get the concept statement together which is required in order to receive the federal grant funds. R. Woods/Williams to approve the Agreement with Fehr Graham for 4th Street Sidewalk and Right-of-Ways. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

There was also another agreement on the agenda with Fehr Graham for the Hwy 281 Construction Engineering. Biederman stated that the previous agreement was for the design purposes only and that this one covered the construction engineering portion of the project. The DOT informed him that they are taking care of the paving portion at no cost to the city so the cost for this was substantially less than anticipated. Williams/T. Woods to approve the agreement with Fehr Graham for Hwy 281 Construction Engineering. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Lisa Kremer and John Welsh were both present again for this meeting to answer any questions the council might have about the catalyst grant opportunity that they were seeking for the 1897 Café building. The pre-application is due January 27th, and a letter was needed from the city on an award amount. A decision on how the city planned to fund their portion could be decided at a later date but it was determined that there are TIF options, loan options, and In-Kind options available. Those details could be entertained later when and if the grant is accepted to even be able to be applied for. Lisa stated that the biggest thing with these catalyst grants is them seeing that the city is committed to the project. Councilwoman Erickson stated again that she feels the project is worthwhile and that she supported giving the full \$100,000 match of moneys and in-kind moneys. It was stated that the council could write the letter for a lower amount and could always decide to give more. Erickson/R. Woods to submit the letter stating that the city approves to award \$75,000 of In-Kind dollars and matching dollars to John Welsh for his pre-application submittal for a Catalyst Grant. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the 2023 City of Fairbank Lawn Treatment Program with Davis Lawn Care. The quote was for \$4,285.00 which was only \$259.00

higher from last year and still included all the Spring, Summer, and Fall applications of fertilizer, grub preventer, and broadleaf spray. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

The Fire Department building roof was discussed again. Mayor Cowell stated that Legacy Roofing did lower their original quote down \$2,545.65 after receiving a discount on the shingles. The fire department did plan on replacing roof for around \$25,000.00 so both quotes were within that amount. The council felt that they would like to get more input from the fire department on which quote they would like to go with. Williams/T. Woods to table deciding until the fire department could attend a meeting and discuss their thoughts. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Two quotes for a panelview screen for the jetco panel at the wastewater treatment plant were received. A quote from Jetco for \$6,980.00 and one from EP Electric Pump for \$8,736.69. Ben stated that the touch screen went out awhile ago and that an ethernet switch went out as well. He said that they found the core of the problem that had been creating issues over the years with electronics going out. After the generator would go into maintenance mode it would start up and it was too much for the electronics to handle the surge of electricity causing random electronics to stop working. Williams/T. Woods to approve the Jetco quote for the new screen and ethernet switch. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

An agreement was received from Northern Natural Gas for the city to review and approve if they felt necessary. The agreement if entered allowed the city to pay a lower rate than an interim rate that the commission set which is much higher than the final rate that is projected to be. This agreement would be in effect until a final order approving the final rates was agreed upon. The Deferred Collection Agreement explained that until the process of negotiating transportation rates could be agreed upon, we would pay the estimated cost so that the city wouldn't have a huge credit or bill to pay at the end of this. R. Woods/Erickson to approve the Deferred Collection Agreement with Northern Natural Gas Company. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

The rebate program called Muneebuck\$ that was

brought up at the last meeting was discussed. Ben stated that he did not quite have an answer for the council about their question from the last meeting on how the insulation rebate would be measured in the new program. He should have more information by the next meeting. Williams/T. Woods to approve tabling a decision on the new rebate program until more information can be obtained. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

The council agreed on changing the section in the personnel manual that stated that any unused vacation would be lost if not used. Erickson/T. Woods to approve amendment #5 changing the verbiage in the personnel policy under section 5.4 to allow an employee to roll 5 days of vacation and then anything more than that an employee can get paid out for up to 5 more days. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

The pool board vacancies were discussed again and it was agreed upon to increase some of the employee wages by \$1.00. Councilwoman Erickson said that she would work on getting a job description written up regarding a possible 6-month seasonal parks and recreation employee. The council asked the office to go ahead and start advertising for employees.

Possibilities on a solution for the eliminated burn pile were discussed. A few options were mentioned and the idea of holding a public hearing on the topic was brought up. This will be discussed at future meetings until a possible solution can be found.

R. Woods/Erickson to set the next budget workshop for Monday, February 13, 2023, at 5:00 PM. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

During the department updates, Ben Delagardelle wanted to recognize Nick Kuger for passing his Wastewater 1 Certification and Ben passed his Water Distribution Test 1. They wrapped up the electric inspections earlier that day and both attended the pool class.

Williams/T. Woods to adjourn at 7:07 PM. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Bill Cowell, Mayor

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk



# Business Directory

“Support Your Local Businesses ~ they're the heartbeat of America”

## Automotive

### B & K Automotive

BRIAN MOHLIS  
101 6th St., Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2058

## Building & Repairs

### Fairbank Floor Covering, Inc.

CARPET - VINYL - CERAMIC - WOOD  
LYNN PLASTER  
301 East Main St., Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2056

### Fairbank Plumbing & Heating

BRAD & ADAM BACHMAN  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(641) 330-1233 (319) 635-2229

### Legacy Roofing of Iowa

LEWIS BOEHME & MITCH COFFIN  
(319) 415-5547 (319) 415-2472  
lew@legacyroofingia.com  
mitch@legacyroofingia.com

### Gingerich Roofing Solutions, LLC

DAN GINGERICH  
Specializing in Commercial Roof Coatings  
and Roof Restoration  
(319) 505-3938

### Modern Building Products

RICK & CINDY WOODS  
511 N. 4th Street N.E.  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2355

### Woods Construction Inc.

RON, CAROL,  
COLLIN & CHRIS WOODS  
505 2nd Street N.E.  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2308

## Family Needs

### Fairbank Elementary School

505 Forest Street, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2071

### Fairbank Housing Inc.

Quality Housing for Senior Citizens  
and Disabled Regardless of Age  
(319) 635-2124

### Fairbank Public Library

212 E. Main Street, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2487

### Helping Hands Clothing Closet

2029 Viking Ave. - Hwy. 58  
Sumner, Iowa  
(see their ad for hours)

### Little Wapsie Communications

121 Main St., PO Box 159  
Readlyn, Iowa 50668  
(319) 279-3375  
Email: office@littlewapsie.com

### Schmidtke Video Systems

DUANE SCHMIDTKE  
303 N. Water St., Fairbank, IA  
(319) 238-6114

### Wapsie Valley High School

2535 Viking Avenue  
Fairbank, Iowa  
Ph. (319) 638-6711  
Fax (319) 638-7061

## Financial

### Fidelity Bank & Trust

Adam Schaufenbuel - V. Pres., Waverly  
Morgan Niewoehner - Loan Officer, Oelwein  
Ph. (800) 403-8333

### Financial Decisions Group

NEIL WILKINSON  
903 N. Frederick Ave.  
Oelwein, Iowa 50662  
(319) 283-1514 office (319) 440-2868 cell

### Northeast Security Bank

120 Main Street  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2811

## Food & Restaurants

### Aronia Berry Services of Iowa

DEAN & DONNA MANGRICH  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 240-4104 (319) 240-5627

### Costa's Sports Bar & Grill

BENI RUSHITI and NITA NUHJI  
99 E. Main Street, Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2449

### Fairbank Food Center

JENNIFER DAVIS  
102 N. 4th St., Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2139

### Fairbank Locker & Processing

Award Winning Products  
104 Grove St., Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2595

### His Hands Food Pantry

5002 Main Street  
Oran, Iowa  
(319) 638-4357

## Hair & Beauty

### Visions Salon & Spa

101-A 4th St. South,  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2547

## Health & Well Being

### Fairbank Chiropractic

DR. NATHAN STEINBRONN, D.C.  
101 South 4th St., Suite C, Fairbank, IA  
(310) 849-5155  
Steinbronndc@gmail.com

### Parkview Assisted Living

114 Forest St., Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2585  
www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com

## Insurance

### Ozark National Life Insurance

JOE KLEITSCH  
319-635-2297 home  
319-269-1443 cell  
joseph.kleitsch@ozark-national.com

### Security Mutual Insurance

ERNIE BRICKMAN  
234 Main St., Readlyn, IA  
(319) 279-3893 (319) 267-2035

### VanDaele Insurance, LLC

CHAD & AMBER VAN DAELE  
119 E. Main St., P.O. Box 467  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2526

## Lawn & Garden

### Davis Lawn Service, LLC

SHAWN DAVIS  
104 Industrial Drive  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 239-5011

## Machine & Repair

### DHK Welding

LAYNE HILSENBECK  
2688 Y Avenue, Fairbank, Iowa  
(563) 608-1400

## Municipal

### Fairbank American Legion

109 E. Main St. Street Fairbank, Iowa  
319-493-7393

### Fairbank Aquatic Center

511 W. Main St. Street Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2533

### Fairbank City Hall

BRITTANY FULLER, City Clerk  
116 E. Main Street Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2869

### Fairbank Fire Department

301 Grove Street Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2981  
Emergency: Call 911

### Fairbank Police Department

116 E. Main  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 269-1020  
Emergency: Call 911

### Fairbank Post Office

201 E. Main Street  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2772

### Fairbank Sewage, Streets, Water, Electric & Natural Gas

(319) 635-2869

## Real Estate

### Advanced Realtors, LLC

LORI BEIERSCHMITT  
814 S. Frederick Avenue  
Oelwein, Iowa 50662  
(319) 283-2242  
advancedrealtors@qwestoffice.net

### Woods Agency

SHARON, JOHN,  
RON & CHRIS WOODS  
Fairbank, IA | (319) 240-3212

## Recreation

### AJ's Camper Rentals

AMANDA JIPSON  
1080 102nd St., Fairbank, IA  
(319) 404-6475  
ajscamperrentals@gmail.com

### Gavin Marine

SALES - SERVICE - PARTS  
TOM HYDE  
101 Industrial Drive, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 231-8242

### Myer's Polaris

304 E. Main Street Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2311

## Specialty Businesses

### Brainard Hollow

“A Junkin’ Destination”  
KATIE TRIMBLE  
210 E. Main Street, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 231-9856

### Floral Images & Gifts

PEGGI SUCKOW  
209 E. Main Street, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2037

### Fairbank Historical Society

MUSEUM  
103 E. Main Street, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 269-6795

### Woods Funeral Home

RANDY & JODI WOODS  
400 Lakeside Drive, Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2207

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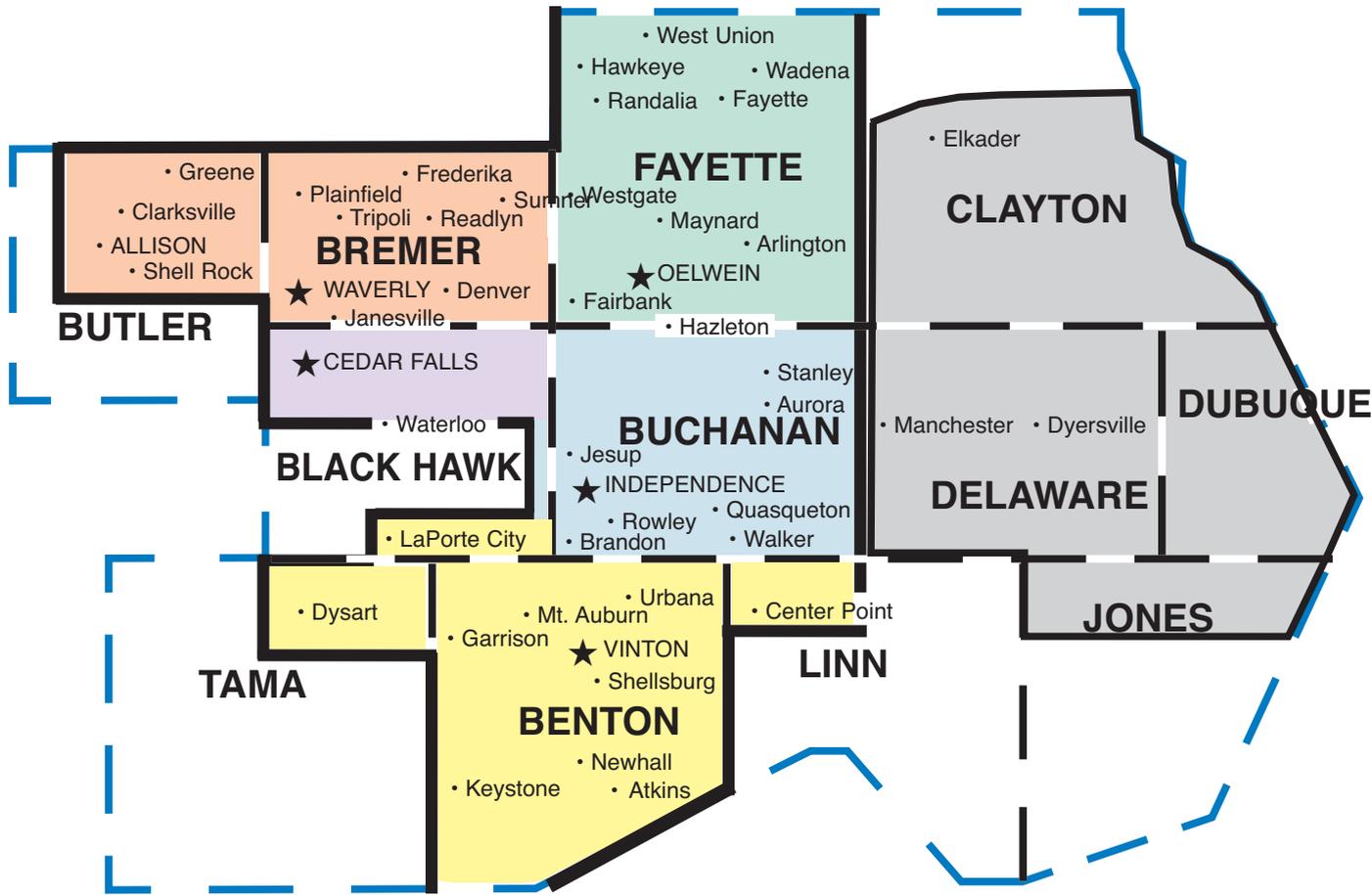


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