SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

OCTOBER 1, 2025 Compiled by Fairbank Community Club - Designed by Waverly Newspapers and Printed by Oelwein Publishing Co.

VOLUME 6, NO. 10



City-wide clean up day will be on Monday, Oct. 6, 2025 at 6 a.m. All items must be placed curbside.

If you have any questions, please call Kluesner Sanitation at 563-927-5977.

All appliance and electronic tags are \$20 per unit and must be purchased by 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 3.

See page A15 for more details.



#### Fairbank City Trick-or-Treat

Fairbank's city wide trick-or-treat will take place on Frilay, October 31, 2025 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tentative back-update for potential school events will e Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Streets will be closed at the following intersections:

- Collins Rd and Christians Frail
- 6th St. and Front Street
- 6th St. and Forest St.



#### **School Board Election**

The school board election will take place on Tuesday, November 4, 2025

REMINDER: Regardless of what district you live in, you can vote for Wapsie Valley school board members in district 2 and 3. There are five on the ballot this cycle.



You may or may not have heard about the "Journey of Faith" initiative that is affecting the Catholic churches in the archdiocese of Dubuque. What does that mean for IC and how can you get involved?

September was full of informational sessions and if

you were able to attend any of these sessions, thank you if not, there's STILL time to get involved.

The members of IC family that are on the "Journey in Faith" team will be holding a meeting October 5th at the Parish Hall right after mass. It's a time to hear

and voice YOUR views. This is not a time to sit on the sidelines, this is the time to stand for what you believe.

You are invited to go on the website to see more information the address is www.dbqjourneyinfath.org or scan code on this page.



See CHURCH, A10

## Wapsie Valley crowns royalty during homecoming week



TAYLOR NOHRENBERG | OELWEIN DAILY REGISTER

Pictured is 2024 Hoco Queen Kylee Moulds, 2025 Queen Maren Jones, 2025 King Hunter Curley and 2024 King Dallas Tisue following the coronation Thursday, Sept. 18.

BY TAYLOR NOHRENBERG

renorter@oelweindailvregister.com

Wapsie Valley held their annual Homecoming coronation Thursday, Sept. 18, crowning this year's Homecoming King and Queen.

2024 royalty, Dallas Tisue and Kylee Moulds, joined the crowd for the passing of the crown, which was awarded to Hunter Curley and Maren Jones.

An auction was held for goodies and baskets created by clubs, organizations and others in the district for the Wapsie Valley Education Foundation. Funds gathered from the night's auction and Fri-

See HOMECOMING, A12

A2 OCTOBER 1, 2025

#### A NOTE FROM THE MAYOR



MAYOR JASON KAYSER

Fall is here and winter will be here soon. With that will come snow removal. A friendly remainder that vehicles have to be off the streets when snow removal is in progress. Fall is also when the departments and council evaluate future goals and projects. If there is anything you would like to your city to focus on, please contact a council member, city hall, or myself. Please have a safe Halloween and LET's GO WAPSIE!



## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 5-11, 2025

The Fairbank Fire Department would like to introduce this year's fire prevention week theme and schedule of events.

October 5th- October 11th "Charge into Fire Safety, Lithium-Ion Batteries in your Home"

This year we would like to get the word out there on the happenings during fire prevention week. We spend lots of time in the community, the schools and the daycare to help spread awareness of fire safety. Here is our list of events.

**Tuesday October 7th:** We will spend the day at Fairbank Elementary.

Wednesday October 8th: We will spend the day at the rural Amish schools and in the evening beginning at 6pm, host Operation EDITH (Exit Drill In The Home). Operation EDITH is an event that involves the fire department driving around in trucks looking for homes with their porch light on. Having your porch light on indicates that you have practiced your escape plan with your family, that you know what to do in the event of a fire and where your safe spot to meet up is. Kids love seeing the trucks and we love families staying safe. Please practice this and be ready to see us Wednesday night at 6!

**Thursday October 9th:** We will spend the morning at Little



COLIRTESY PHO

Members of the Fairbank Fire Department are pictured (from left, front row) Ryan Westemeier 2nd lieutenant, Collin Woods, president; Jake Schwartz, first lieutenant; Chris West, fire chief; Kevin Bodensteiner, 2nd assistant chief; Cody Kleitsch, captain. Back rows, Elaine Zimmerman, Brad Gordon, Justin Ritter, Rob Gipper, Carson Woods, Ted Vorwald, Conner Jones, Cindy Woods, Jordan Cowell, Janice Martins, Kim Gray, Nick Curley, Mike Pint, Tim Zimmerman, Father Ray Atwood, Dick Chapman, Matt Johnson, and Jason Kayser. Not pictured, Chance Beierschmitt; Adam Bachman; Jenna Beck, secretary; Shawn Davis; Bryce Kleitsch, treasurer; Drake Mangrich, 1st assistant chief; Amy Kauffman; Gabe Oldfather; Alexis Rausch, EMS Training; Ryan Rausch, Fire Training Officer; and Courtney Rochette.

Island Daycare.

This week is intended to not only teach your children about fire safety and prevention but to also get them comfortable with firefighters, especially firefighters in their protective gear which can be very scary to some kids. During our visits we will read books, do activities, spend time with the kids and present the winners of this years Fire Prevention Posters. This week is always a lot of fun, stay involved

and ask your kid(s) questions about their day, we can't wait to spend it with them!

The Fairbank Fire & EMS Association

## Fairbank SLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Sponsored by: Fairbank Community Club Fairbank, Iowa 50629

Mailed free of charge to everyone with a Fairbank or Oran zipcode.

#### **Out-Of-Area Subscriptions**

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<u>Mail address and check to</u>: Fairbank Islander 301 Catherine St., Fairbank, IA 50629

\*\*\*The Fairbank Islander is also available for viewing on-line at the Fairbank Library website:

fairbank-ia.org/newsletters.php

E-mail News & Advertising to: 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

#### **DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER**

Deadline for the September publication is Oct. 27
Please contact Melaine at 319–404–7116 or email fairbankislander@amail.com

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#### Ball diamond project update

The Fairbank Ball Diamond project is done for what we set out to accomplish! If you have not seen them check them out. There are a few things to tidy up with some grass seed that will get done this fall yet!

We recently just added Fully electronic LED scoreboards! This will allow us to host numerous tournaments!

I hope you noticed we did host a few tournaments this year that brought numerous people to town. The tournament on the Sunday of Fairbank days had me amazed! I did not know we could get that many people in the fairbank ball park! I estimate about 1,200 people that day alone!

What we accomplished is we fully upgraded our drainage with roughly 2,000 ft of tile. (without this I believe we would have lost over 60% of our



little league games this year with how wet it was). We then laid down a lime/ clay mixture that truly sheds water and holds up! We then added 20 ft. foul poles! The last step was brand new LED scoreboards on both fields that are located on the 1st base line in the outfield.

I don't have the words to thank every person that helped with this project! When I started this project in February of 2024. I never thought we would be able to accomplish this in a year and half. I had this staged out to take five years. The support to make this happen in town was beyond amazing. IF you donated or helped in any way I thank you so much! I would like to list every business and person that contributed but I'm afraid I don't have enough space to list them all! I do have a thank you board being made to list all business and volunteers ect. That will be displayed next spring!

I hope to have future plans and upgrades to share with you in the near

Submitted by Michael Gruetzmacher, City Council Member & Little League Coordinat





#### BIRTHDAY

#### Elliana Rausch



Happy Birthday Elliana Rausch on

#### **BIRTHDAY**

#### Madilynn Rausch



Happy Birthday Madilynn Rausch on October 20.

#### BIRTHDAY

#### Tate LeRoy Westemeiér



Happy 4th Birthday on October 21 to Tate LeRoy Westemeier We Love you so much!

#### **BIRTHDAY**

## Happy 16th Birthday Brock Berg!



Love You! Dad, Mom, Braylee and









Join us to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of

Mike & Kathy Miller

OCTOBER 1:00-4:00

**OPEN HOUSE** FAIRBANK AMERICAN LEGION NO GIFTS PLEASE

FAIRBANK ISLANDER 1, 2025

### Fairbank and Readlyn 2nd Graders explore agriculture at the National Cattle Congress on Sept. 18

On Thursday, September 18, Fairbank and Readlyn second graders took a hands-on journey into agriculture during their field trip to the National Cattle Congress. Students had the opportunity to see and learn about dairy cows, beef cows, swine, sheep, and chickens while exploring the grounds. Highlights

of the day included making and tasting homemade butter, visiting the Sunrise Children's Petting Zoo, and stepping back in time with a tour of a one-room schoolhouse. The trip was made possible thanks to the support of the Fairbank and Readlyn PTOs, who generously covered the cost of this memorable experience.











#### Fairbank Elementary Caps Off Homecoming Week with Spirit and Celebration

Fairbank Elementary wrapped up Homecoming week with smiles, laughter, and memories that will last well beyond the season. Students and staff enjoyed a variety of activities organized by high school students and staff, highlighting the strong sense of community within the school district. The week concluded with a spirited pep assembly, where the energy and enthusiasm in the gymnasium were nothing short of electric.



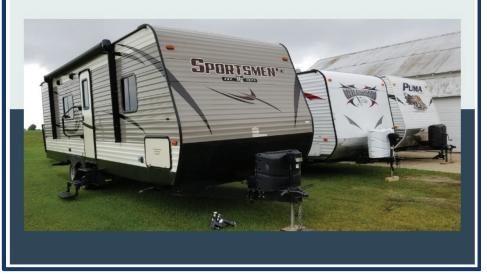






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## DON'T BE SHY Announce your wedding or engagement in THE FAIRBANK ISLANDER

Just email **fairbankislander@gmail.com** or call **319.404.7116** to start spreading the good news!



#### City Of Fairbank City/School Election polling locations

#### **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 a.m. to 8 p.m. on November 4, 2025

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 5 p.m. fifteen days before the election.



#### Celebration of life Marilyn Patricia (Goeller) Burnett Bates

October 14, 1928 -September 13, 2025

A Celebration of Life for Marilyn was held on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at the Immanuel United Methodist Church in Des Moines, Iowa

Marilyn passed away on May 8. 2025 in Des Moines at the age of 96 years. She was born to John and Austa



(Kimbal) Goeller on October 14, 1928. She graduated from Dunkerton High School. After graduation from State Teacher's College she married Norman Burnett of Fairbank and taught kindergarten and first grade at Dunkerton starting in 1950. In 1953 she continued teaching in Des Moines and retired in 1993 after working at the Brenton Bank.

She is survived by one son, Bob (Alyce) Burnett of Johnston, Iowa and two nieces Judy (Mel) Neil, Fairbank and Cindy (Tom) Hagenow Readlyn along with several grandchildren, other nieces, nephews, and relatives.

She was proceeded in death by one son, Craig Burnett, her parents, a sister Eileen (Russell) Castor and brother Wendell (Norma) Goeller.

Condolences can be expressed at www. HamiltonFuneralHome.com



#### CORRECTION

In the September issue of the Fairbank Islander we included this photo as 50th class reunion. We apologize for this error.



On Thursday evening, August 14, a few members of the Wapsie Calley Class of '71 gathered at Grumpy's Bar & Grill in Readlyn to see classmate Barb (Brandt) Wandling. Barb, who now lives in Florida, was here visiting family. She contacted Al Schellhorn, Oran, to see if he could help the gang together. Eleven classmates and some of their spouses attended. Seated: Rex Blaylock, Al Schellorn, Denny Frost, Mary Kay (Allen) Frost and Suzanne Heineman. In back: Deb (Sprague) Smith, Jill Heinze, Barbara (Kehe) Blaylock, John Heinze, Deb (Steggal) Brase, Barb (Brandt) Wandling, Jim Risse, Kathy Risse, Donna (Kaufman) Mangrich and Connie (Poock) Meyer.

### Celebration of life

#### **Roberta Irene Clemens**

April 30, 1931 -September 5, 2025

Roberta Irene Clemens, 94 of Fairbank passed away on Friday morning, September 5, 2025 at Buchanan County Health Center in Independence. Roberta was born April 30, 1931 in Bryantsburg, the daughter of Robert and Mary Burke. She attended school and



graduated at Hazelton Community Schools. On February 2, 1951 Roberta married the late Alvin Teague who passed away July 19, 1974. She married the late LeRoy Clemens on April 16, 1977 who passed away in 2007. Roberta had a long full life, she spent her days taking care of the home and family as their kids grew up. Roberta really enjoyed her crafts, from painting to sewing she enjoyed it all. Singing and dancing were on the list of things she loved to do as she was a member of the choir at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank. Also on the list of things she loved was watching and supporting her family at horse shows. More recently her son and her enjoyed a trip to Ireland to look into their heritage.

Survived by: two daughters Connie Nabholz, and Lynn (Junior) Lenth, a son Gary Teague, three; grandchildren Lynde (Rory) Johnson, Traci (Travis) Blanchfield, and Crissy (Joey) Kuennen, four great grandchildren; Gatlin Johnson, Tyler Schachtner, Maizie and Kenzlie Kuennen, one brother Leonard (Bud) Burke.

Preceded in death by: Her parents Robert and Mary Burke, her two husbands; Alvin Teague and LeRoy Clemens, two grandchildren Chad Lenth and Kendal Teague, two brothers and four sisters.

Visitation was: 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9 and from 9-10 a.m. Wednesday, September 10 at Woods Funeral Home.

Funeral Mass took place at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, September 10 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank, Iowa

Interment: Woodlawn Cemetery in Oelwein Lunch was served at the Parish Center following the services.

Memorials may be made to Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank or Cedar Valley Hospice.

Online condolences can be left at www.woodsfuneralhome.net

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A6 OCTOBER 1, 2025 FAIRBANK ISLANDER



#### BY TAYLOR NOHRENBERG

reporter@oelweindailyregister.com

According to a February 2025 Iowa Health and Human Services report, Iowa Emergency Medical Services have demonstrated great strength in ensuring the continuation of essential services many area residents provide. Among those EMS squads

#### Fairbank FD opens search for EMTs

looking to build their roster is the Fairbank Fire Department.

Fairbank EMS Division Chief Kevin Bodensteiner and his group of 16 volunteers ranging from Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) to the basic Emergency Medical Responders (EMR) and Technicians of various ages are looking to add more to the Fairbank service.

"What's affecting us more is the availability of EMTs during the day, that's a big thing, so we'd really like to focus on those folks that would be available during the daytime during the week so they can make that call and have that impact on the community," Bodensteiner said. Bodensteiner is the crew's Advanced EMT and has been in the career since 2008. He also instructs the beginners or others looking to continue their education.

The challenge he sees is mainly in rural areas with volunteer departments and the time commitments associated with the position as many leave the area for work. The campaign is aimed at gaining enough interest to host an on-site training with Bodensteiner starting in January 2026 at the Fairbank Fire Department.

"With that I need a minimum of 10 people to have that class," he said. "It's the basis when you work through Hawkeye Community College... We'd definitely like to keep it local and more convenient."

Statistics from that IHHS report show a "noticeable shift" in the age of EMS clinicians in Iowa, with the higher percentages in the range of 17-30 years of age than in previous years, a continuation of a trend that started in 2023. The report also states that "more than 10% of responders holding multiple EMS positions across the state" and that rostered positions dropped from 2024 by 4.7%.

Those who may be interested in the position must be 18 years of age, possess a high school diploma or GED, hold a valid driver's license, pass a background check and drug screening, be able to lift and carry heavy objects (patients and equipment) and complete an approved EMT training program and obtain state certifications.

"For the right individuals, it's an awesome opportunity to serve their community, and we have such an appreciation to be able to respond to people when they're having an emergency situation, knowing that somebody's close to be able to take care of them," he said.

Fairbank Fire Department's EMT program will host an informational meeting Tuesday, Oct. 7, at 6:30 p.m. at the fire station, 301 Grove St, Fairbank.

#### CIDE DEST.

#### ENRBANAT SPRE DEST.

### Be a lifeline: Volunteer with the Fairbank Fire Department!



Are you looking for a way to give back to your community, gain invaluable experience, and potentially start a rewarding career path? Consider

TRE RESCUE EMS

#### becoming a Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)!

#### Why become a Volunteer EMT?

- Impact Your Community: Become a vital part of the emergency response team, providing essential services in your own neighborhood.
- Gain Valuable Experience: Develop critical medical skills and hands-on experience, a huge asset for future careers in healthcare, emergency medicine, or firefighting.
- Personal Growth: Develop confidence, leadership, and resilience while helping others during challenging times.

#### What you'll do:

- Provide vital emergency medical care and transport to those in need.
- Work alongside experienced EMTs and healthcare professionals.
- Learn life-saving skills like CPR, airway management, and trauma care

#### Requirements to join

- At least 18 years of age.
- Possess a high school diploma or GED.
- Hold a valid driver's license.
- Pass a criminal background check and drug screening.
- Ability to lift and carry heavy objects (patients and equipment).
- Complete an approved EMT training program and obtain state certifications.

#### Ready to answer the call?

To learn more about the Fairbank Fire Department EMT Program, join us for an informational meeting on Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm at the Fairbank Fire Department.

The Fairbank Fire Department is also planning to host an EMT class in Fairbank starting in January 2026.

#### Rosary Rally in the IC Prayer Garden Oct. 11

A Rosary Rally in the IC Prayer Garden will talk place on Saturday, October 11 at 10:00 a.m.

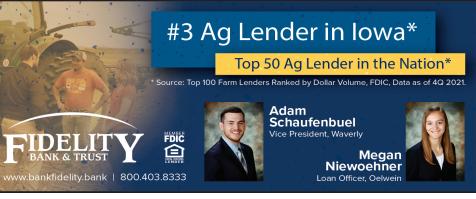
Join us as we pray for our nation and for our church.

We will be saying the rosary on the anniversary of the last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. Over 100 years ago more than 70,000 people gathered that day to pray the rosary and witnessed the miracle of the "Dancing of the Sun". On the 11th, over 23,000 rosary rallies are being held across the United States in remembrance of that day.

We will be praying with them for the conversion of our nation, but also for the future of Immaculate Conception Parish....We would love to fill the prayer garden that our prayers for IC will be heard!!

Thank you to all who joined us for the rosary this summer. We appreciated your support. This event will be held outside, so please dress for the weather and bring your own chair. In the event of inclement weather, the rally will be held in the church hall.





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#### **United Methodist Church**

107 2nd Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 904-505-5230

**Pastor Daniel Search** Worship Service: 9:15 AM



#### St. John Lutheran Church

(MISSOURI SYNOD) 208 N. 4th Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2181

Pastor Grant Tapken Worship Service: 10:00 AM



#### **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



#### Lord of the Harvest

Prayer and Praise Center 101 South 4th Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 Saturday Night 7:00 PM Sunday Service: 9:00 AM Worship Service: 9:00 AM



#### First Baptist Church

304 Grove Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629

#### Rev. Mike Anderson

Worship Service: 9:00 AM Sunday School: 10:00 AM



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**A8** OCTOBER 1, 2025 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

#### **Michael Gruetzmacher** seeks reelection for Fairbank City Council

My name is Michael Gruetzmacher, I hope most of you know me! I am currently on the City Council. I am running for reelection this year. I would like to give you a brief overview of what I want to accomplish and what I have accomplished while on council for the last year and half. I believe we as a council need to spend our money wisely while improving our town. I think we need to focus on current residents while planning for the future with our youth and future residents.

While on council I have headed a complete remodel of the Fairbank Ball Diamonds! This consisted of doing all the research, planning, and fundraising. I was able to secure over \$70,000 in grants and donations. I physically helped lay 2,000ft of tile in two days with 3 other volunteers! (I hope you noticed how well they drain now) We resurfaced both infields as well as cemented in all base anchors. We just recently added full LED electronic scoreboards to both diamonds! We will continue improving our ball diamond with a brand new batting cage added to the north diamond this fall! (This project did not cost the taxpayer a penny)

I spearheaded Ragbrai coming to town this year. When it was announced they were staying overnight in Oelwein. I did a little digging and found the ride director's phone number to advocate for them to come to town. Long story short they chose to come to Fairbank! Where I personally helped plan layout, safety plans ect. This took a lot of my summer up and I would



**MICHAEL GRUETZMACHER** 

do it all over again! We estimate it brought roughly \$100,000 dollars into town for non-profits & Local Businesses.

I am currently working on improvements to Veterans Park. I have helped secure a \$20,000 grant for a new shelter! I have another grant pending to hope-fully get some bathrooms up there as well. The long term goal for that park is a new shelter next spring! I then want to see two pickleball courts with fences and lights. I also want to see a basketball court there for our youth and others to use. I think we can secure a very good portion of the cost of these projects through researching for grants which I am currently doing.

I will continue to run our youth programs in town as I truly enjoy giving back to our community and our

I hope this helps you understand me and what I stand for. If you have any questions please feel free to

Thanks, Michael Gruetzmacher

#### Community members enjoy on day bus trip sponsored by IC church

50 people from around the area (Fairbank, Readlyn, Oran, Jesup) attended a one day bus trip that was sponsored by Immaculate Conception church in Fairbank.

The first stop was SS Peter and Paul Church in Petersburg. Larry Kruise, one of the parishioners of this beautiful church, graciously gave us a tour and shared the history of the church.

The second stop was the Cathe-

dral of St Rafael in Dubuque. Msgr. Knepper lead the tour which included the crypt under the church where several bishops are buried.

We then headed to Iowa's oldest bar and restaurant "Breitbach' s country dining" in Balltown where we enjoyed a delicious meal. Owner, Mike Breitbach welcomed us and gave a us a little history about the restaurant.

Our last stop was the Promised

Land Winery near Guttenberg. Owners Cindy and Pat Wachendorf were there to greet us. Wine samples were available for those that were wanted. Along with some shopping in one of their little boutiques.

The day was filled with laughter, fellowship, good food, and some new made friends.













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#### **4-H ATOM** BOMBERS



FROM THE DESK OF CAMBREE HAPPEL

Atom Bombers 4H club met Sunday September 14th for our first meeting of this enrollment year. We met at Riya Kelly's house where she took us on a hay rack ride to Mike and Casey Richards dairy farm operation. Club Members enjoyed listening to Casey Richards and getting to pet the newest calf's on the farm. We ended our meeting with camp fire smores and voting on new club officer positions

4H enrollment is now open for the 2025-2026 school year. Call Buchanan County extension office or go to 4Honlie to enroll.

National 4H celebration week is October 5th through 11th.

We will be hosting a winter clothing drive at Red Rock Farms on October 18th and 19th!

















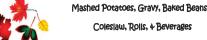




SUNDAY, October 19

IC Church Mass 10:00AM Serving 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Roast Beef, Ham



Colesiaw, Rolls, & Beverage Ice Cream & Dessert

Adults: \$10 Ages 5-11: \$5

4 & under Free Carry Outs Available

Raffle tickets- \$5.00 ea. Sold before & during event Top Prize \$500 & (5) \$100 Prizes Drawing at 2PM!

Need not be present to win!!



Salsas, Canned goods

Please join us!!!

A10 OCTOBER 1, 2025

## Sending holiday cheer to our soldiers



We are asking for our community's help to come together to show our gratitude to the brave men and women serving overseas. The holidays can be tough when you are away from your friends and family. With everyone's help we are planning to send care packages to the 5 soldiers from our Wapsie Valley Community to remind them that they are loved and appreciated and remembered as they celebrate the holidays away.

These men and women are proud to be serving their country, so Santa's elves are busy compiling lists and gathering addresses to bring some Holiday cheer to all of them.

Donations can be made by visiting local businesses where donation cans have been set out. An account has been set up at Northeast Security Bank entitled "Care Packages" where donations are also accepted. All tips from Thirsty Thursday during the month of October at the Fairbank American Legion will be donated to this effort.Come on down and have a beverage to support this cause.

Follow the American Legion Facebook page for updates and a link to order shirts, sweatshirts and hats to support our soldiers. Contacts for this are Dawn Johnson 319.415.9736 Jody Dellagardelle 319.269.3343 or David Mauer 319.238.2289

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## Uncertain future Fairbank IC Church

CONTINUED FROM AT

When you get to the web site you will see a pull down on the top right hand side on the screen, this is where you can offer your feed back on the plan, what could be done differently, explain what IC means to you. Feedback forms can only be submitted via email. Every member and friend of IC is encouraged to submit a feedback form, including children. Let them know how important IC is to you. Let them know the things you've been involved with, maybe it's Bible study or the live nativity, community potluck, date night . Perhaps you were married here or baptized your children here. The list goes on and on. You can submit a form every day if you would like

October is also "pack the pew" month. October numbers are very important as they are reported back to the diocese. as they plan for the next phase.

It matters, YOU matter, it is time to come home.

Always "Proud to be IC"



COURTESY PHOTO

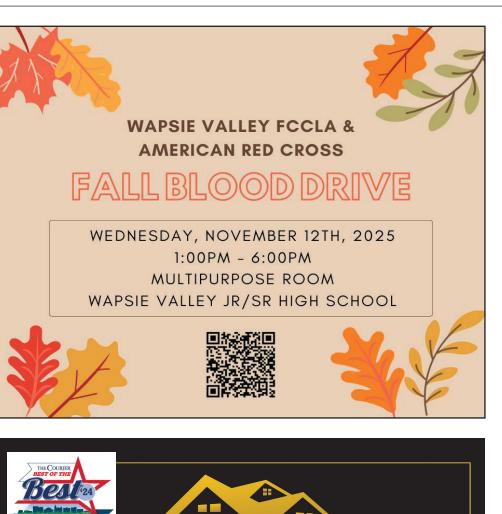
When you get to the web site you will see a pull down on the top right hand side on the screen that looks like the one pictured.







At POE1, we believe in cultivating communities and growing the local economy. We have been using biotechnology to create sustainable solutions from local agricultural products for 35 years – ensuring that rural farm families can continue to do what they love for generations to come.



LEGACY ROOFING





**Lew Boehme** 

319-415-5547

#### Tired of Streaming? Change the Way You Watch TV!

Find Everything You Watch, All in One Place with Personal Service You Can Trust!

Schmidtke Video Systems is your **LOCAL** DISH Authorized Retailer for over 40 years!

Here at Schmidtke Video Systems, we take the time to listen to your needs and get you the right entertainment solutions. We're close to home, a familiar face and offer the best service, value and technology for you and your family!





**Mitch Coffin** 

319-415-2472

Enjoy built-in Amazon
Prime Video, Netflix,
YouTube and more.

prime video NETFLIX

YouTube



Requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey, or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. Netflix and Amazon Prime Video streaming memberships required. Recording hours may vary; 2,000 hours based



TV · Satellite · Antenna 319-319-1562 Fairbank, lowa



Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions: 2-year commitment: Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or advertised price (and subject to change): Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), DISH Protect and transactional fees. Premium Channels: 3 Mos. Free: After 3 mos., you will be billed \$30/mo. for Showtine, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call or online occancel. Remote: The DISH Voice Remote requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. Google Assistant Smart Home features require Google account and compatible to a trademark of Google LLC. Other: All packages, programming, features and functionality and all prices and fees not included in price guarantee are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., if selected, you will be billed \$9.99/mo. for DISH Protect Silver unless you call to copyed After 2 wasts, then carried the protect silver unless you call to copyed After 2 wasts, then carried the protect silver unless you call to copyed After 2 wasts, then carried the protect silver unless you call to copyed After 2 wasts, then carried the protect silver unless you call to copyed After 2 wasts, then carried the protect silver unless you call to copyed After 2 wasts, then carried the protect silver unless you call to copyed After 2 wasts, then carried the protect silver unless you call to constant protect silver unless you call to constant protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the protect silver unless you can be a supplied to the pro

A12 OCTOBER 1, 2025

## A Journey into Journalism

### Fairbank Elementary students at the Waverly Newspaper

In an age where information travels faster than the speed of light and the importance of responsible journalism cannot be overstated, a group of eager Wapsie Valley students set out on an enlightening adventure to the Waverly Newspaper. Their objective? To immerse themselves in the world of journalism and how they can contribute to the Fairbank Islander newspaper, a community staple that keeps residents informed on local happenings, events, and issues that impact their lives.

Look for their stories in the November issue of the Fairbank Islander.

DEANN MEYER PHO

Melaine Buzynski (General Manager) far left, Amy Buzynski (Title 1/Tag Teacher) left and Carrie Wright (Graphic Designer) far right. In the middle, Fairbank Elementary Students; Cale, Jace, Kasen, Bodin and Jensen.



## Wapsie Valley crowns royalty during homecoming



IENNI GROSS PHOTO

Right: The Wapsie Valley 2025 Homecoming Court is, from left to right, Norah Oldfather, Ari Behnke, Maren Jones, Briggs Boehme, Ava Auel, Tanner Bergmann, Maya Barnes, Hunter Curley, Taylor Buhr and Reece Hagenow.

CONTINUED FROM

day's 50/50 raffle will go towards scholarships and brighter futures. The highest bid of the night, \$520, was for a custom Warrior LED sign.

Congrats to the royalty and hope you all had a great Homecoming week, Warriors!





#### Fairbank PTO is proud to present Cory Greenwood and his band on Oct 10



Fairbank PTO is proud to present Cory Greenwood and his band on Oct 10 at Fairbank Elementary School. Cory is one of the top student speakers in the area.

Cory teaches students resilience and tools to overcome challenges and pursue their dreams, while creating a positive school culture. He focuses on kindness and showcasing every student as unique and has gifts and talents that are valuable. We will explore some of those and then students will be challenged and empowered to use what they have to help those around them. To be the heroes in their classrooms, homes, friend groups, etc. – not the villains. 45 minutes will fly by as we cheer, dance, laugh, learn, and grow together.

OCTOBER 1, 2025 A13

#### Renowned ballet artist Erin **Arndorfer leads master** class and sets new works at **Northeast Iowa Dance Academy**

The Northeast Iowa Dance Academy (NIDA) proudly welcomed accomplished ballet artist and choreographer Erin Arndorfer for a special residency, offering students an opportunity to learn from and be inspired by a professional in the

During her visit, Arndorfer led a Master Ballet Class, where NIDA dancers trained under her expertise in classical ballet technique, artistry, and performance quality. Students gained valuable skills that will elevate their growth both inside and outside the studio.

In addition to teaching class,

Arndorfer also set three original pieces of choreography with NIDA dancers. One of the works will be a featured routine for the Senior Competition Team, offering dancers the chance to bring a professionallevel piece to regional and national stages.

"We were happy to host Erin and give our dancers the chance to learn from such a talented and passionate artist," said Anna Kerns, Director of NIDA. "Experiences like this help our students see the bigger world of dance and challenge them to reach new levels in their training."

The Northeast Iowa Dance Academy remains committed to enhancing student opportunities by connecting them with professional artists and educators from across the country. Bringing Arndorfer to Oelwein reflects the studio's mission to inspire young dancers and strengthen their technique, creativity, and performance.

For more information about upcoming classes, performances, or guest artist opportunities at NIDA, please contact: info@ nidacademy.com or call 319-238-8169.



(Senior Competition Small Group) L-R: Parker Spece, Ellie Meike, Ella Weig, Elzsie Fauser, Erin Arndorfer, Addi Mustard, Sara Cook and Julia Kuennen.



(Junior Team): 1st Row: Clara Zieser, Natalie Stahley, Georgia Gosse, Caroline Reck. 2nd Row: Adelina Castro, Lea Oberbrockling, Hattie Kelley, Haunna Hall, Bella Jacobsen, Scarlett Reck. 3rd Row: Toula Ehlers, Lyla Kruger, Lauren Matthias, Maebry Henderson, 4th Row: Hannah Maloch, Maelyn Hickey, Erin Arndorfer, Maddi Moser, Scarlett Benesh, Zola Fauser, Severa Smith

WAPSIE VALLEY SCHOOL CORNER



**CHRIS HOOVER** SUPERINTENDENT

Hello Warriors! The 2025-26 school year is off and running.

#### **School Board Elections**

In November, the Wapsie Valley School Board will be holding elections for 3 board positions. District 2 (Brent Sauerbrei- will not be rerunning), District 3 (Angie Auel- is rerunning), and District 5 (Jeannie Wolfe- will not be rerunning) are up for reelection. Just a friendly reminder that you must be from that specific district to run for the position. PLEASE NOTE: You do NOT have to be from a specific district to vote for the candidates. You may vote for any candidate in any district. It does not matter which district you live in when voting. Below are some key dates for the 2025 School Board Elections.

Tuesday, November 4, 2025: School Election Day. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

#### Iowa School Performance **Profiles**

Each school in Iowa receives an overall score based on its performance on accountability measures. Schools also receive a score for each group of students, such as students with disabilities (student groups must have 20 or more students to receive a score). The measures are:

- Chronic Absenteeism and Attendance Growth: This includes two indicators: o Chronic Absenteeism: The percent of students who miss 10 percent or more of school days for any reason, excused or unexcused - for vacation, health conditions, suspensions, etc.
- English Language Growth (ELPA21): For students whose first language is not English, this measures a student's progress in obtaining English language

- proficiency across the domains of reading, writing, listening and speaking. This measure is based on Iowa's English language proficiency assessments, ELPA21 and the Alt ELPA.
- Graduation Rate (High Schools): The percent of students who graduate from high school within four or five years.
- Growth: This examines student growth by looking at assessment scores over time to determine whether a student performed better or worse than their academic peers (students at the same grade level with similar scores).
- Participation Rate: The percent of students who participate in state assessments. While this indicator doesn't directly impact school accountability scores, low participation does impact the Proficiency indicator and school rating categories.
- Postsecondary Readiness (High Schools): This includes two indicators:
- -The percent of students earning college credit while in high school.
- -The percent of students participating in work-based learning while in high school.
- Proficiency: The percent of students in a school who are proficient in English language arts (ELA), math and science based on assessment results.

The rankings that are given to schools are: Exceptional, High Performing, Commendable, Acceptable, Needs Improvement, and Priority. Exceptional is the highest ranking while priority is the lowest.

I am happy to report that the Wapsie Valley School District, as a whole, received rankings that were higher than any other year previously. Fairbank Elementary, the Junior High/High School, and our Rural buildings have all been labeled as 'Commendable' (deserving of positive recognition due to its merit or virtue). Readlyn Elementary has been labeled 'High Performing' (consistently achieving outstanding outcomes). All of these rankings are outstanding accomplishments on behalf of our students, staff, families, and community! Congratulations to all!

Thank you for your continued support of the Wapsie Valley School District. It is greatly appreciated!

> Chris Hoover Superintendent



**A14** OCTOBER 1, 2025

**LIBRARY STAFF** Angela Berg, Director Susan Frost, Librarian Therese Steggall, Librarian Erin Hill, Librarian Brock Berg, Custodian

Can You

Help Us?

Please consider donating your

extra Wapsie Valley Clothing

Items to the Fairbank Library

Wednesdays at 10:00am!

212 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629 Phone: 319-635-2487

Email: library@fairbank-ia. org

Fax: 319-635-2487

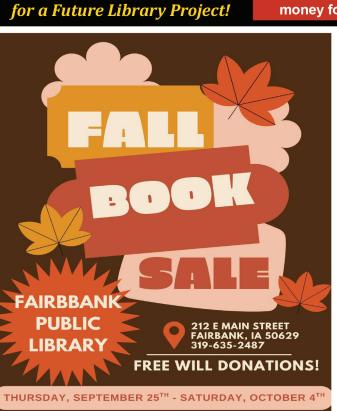
Website: Fairbank-ia.org

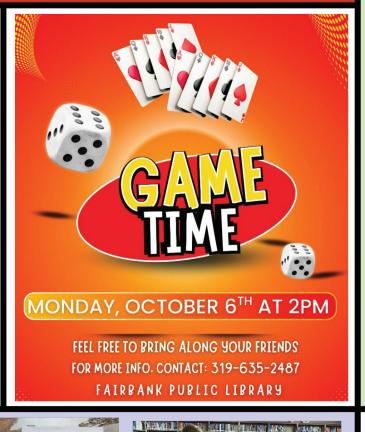
Like us on Facebook!



#### Fairbank Public Library -Gift Basket Fundraiser Baskets Needed!

The Fairbank Public Library is having a Holiday Gift Basket Fundraiser again this year on November 12th. The fundraiser will run through December 12th at 5pm. 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 13th at the Fairbank Legion for "Ladies Night Out!" We will be raising money for new materials and programming for the Library.





#### In Loving Memory

#### Loyola Kleitsch

For Richer For Poorer

.. from Larry & Laura LaMasters

A Great Fall

Monday 1-5 pm

Tuesday 1-5 pm;

Wednesday 9 -11 am 1-5 pm

Saturday 9-12

Thursday 1-6 pm

Friday 1-5 pm

...... from Jack & Connie Rechkemmer

#### Jim Schneider

The Secret Life of a Sea Turtle

...... from Randy, Jodi & Carson Woods

Chick Chick Tricka Treat

..... from Paula Schares

Songs of Summer

.. from Rick & Cindy Woods

The Marvelous Now

... from Ron & Carol Woods Squash and Pumpkin

..... from Bob & Jackie Schneider Families

#### Roberta I. Clemens

Into the Rapids ...... from Ruth Wenger Sweet Valley Twins .. from Ruth Wenger I Hate Every Thing!

. from Jack & Connie Rechkemmer

The Paradise Petition

...... from Randy, Jodi & Carson Woods

The Christmas Express ...... from Ruth Wengerl

#### **Dawn Haislet**

Cricut Craft

...... from the Fairbank Community Club

**Zelma Fink** 

.....from Gary Fink





























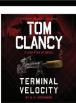














#### To help a neighbor

"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
$\label{eq:permonth} 1 \text{ I will contribute $$} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ per month to Project Share.} \\ \text{I understand this amount will be billed to me monthly.}$	
1 I have enclosed a \$	donation to Project Share.



#### CITY OF FAIRBANK CLEAN UP DAY

All items must be placed curbside at your normal garbage pickup location by 6:00 a.m.

All small items must be in a garbage bag or box

No items shall be put out more than 48 hours in advance.

#### ITEMS ACCEPTED FOR PICKUP:

- Box springs, mattresses, bed frames
   Sofas, tables, chairs, dressers, desks, bookshelves
- Bathroom fixtures, toilets, sinks
- Children's toys
- Paint cans (must be open and dry)
- Outdoor patio furniture, garden tools, gas powered items (must be fully drained of fuel, oil, or hazardous materials)

#### PURCHASE A TAG AT CITY HALL FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- APPLIANCES Air conditioners, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, dryers, freezers, furnaces, humidifiers, microwaves, refrigerators, stoves, washers, water heaters
- ELECTRONICS Televisions, computers, monitors

#### UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- Items on trailers, building materials, excessive remodeling materials
- Roofing, shingles, bricks, concrete
- LP tanks, vehicles, vehicle parts
- Chemicals, hazardous materials, wet paint, items of excessive weight or length
- Yard waste, including trees and branches

#### EXCESSIVE AMOUNTS OF MATERIAL MAY NOT BE TAKEN. All items must be small enough to be picked up by one person. All items will be collected at the

small enough to be picked up by one person. All items will be collected at the discretion of Kluesner Sanitation.

Please make sure items are placed curbside by 6:00 a.m. Call Kluesner Sanitation with questions at 563-927-5977.

#### **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. If you have a complaint, we'd like to resolve it as quickly as possible. By calling (319) 6352869, 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 Commission at 1375 E. Court Ave. Room 69, Des Moines, IA, 50319-0069, 1-877-565-4450 or email at customer@iuc.iowa.gov

#### 2025-2026 IOWA HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ATTENTION: RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEATING BILL?

The 2025-2026 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has been established to help qualifying low-income lowarhomeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating 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 you can **Dial 2-1-1**, visit <a href="https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/liheap">https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/liheap</a> to locate and contact your local community action agency, or write to:

LIHEAP

lowa Department of Health & Human Services

Capitol Complex

Des Moines, IA 50319

#### WHEN TO APPLY:

- Elderly (60 & over) and/or disabled: October 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026
- · All other households:
- November 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026

#### WHAT TO PROVIDE:

- 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 provide 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 provide copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

#### SELF-EMPLOYED/FARMERS:

Please provide a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

Note - Additional countable income and/or income verification not listed above may be required for eligibility determination

INCOME Household	MAXIMUMS  Annual
Size	Gross Income
1	\$31,300
2	\$42,300
3	\$53,300
4	\$64,300
5	\$75,300
6	\$86,300
7	\$97,300
8	\$108,300
For households with more than eight members,	

Pianist
IC Church is seeking a pianist, a paid position. Interested? Please contact Glenda at

319-635-2211

A16 OCTOBER 1, 2025 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday September 8, 2025. Mayor Pro-Tem R. Woods called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Absent: Mayor Kayser. Also, present at City Hall: Hunter Robinson, Police Chief; Nick Kuker, Public Works Director; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.

T. Woods/Erickson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There were no public hearings.

Gruetzmacher/Williams to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: August 25th Regular City Council Minutes, Treasurer's Report for August 2025, and the payment of bills. The bill listing will be placed at the end of the minutes. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The Treasurers Report for the Month of August 2025: Revenues - General, \$41,003.97; Special Revenue, \$24,651.89; Capital Projects, \$20,887.63; Permanent Funds, \$17.21; Proprietary, \$167,946.23; and Transfers In, \$808,055.00. Disbursements - General, \$65,636.47; Special Revenue, \$6,824.07; Proprietary, \$177,490.34; Capital Projects, \$6,617.88; and Transfers Out, \$808,055.00. Balance on hand at close of business on August 31, 2025 was \$5,784,962.41.

There were no comments during the informal public comment section. Gruetzmacher/Erickson to approve Change Order #2 on the Fourth Street Sidewalk Project. More topsoil was needed for the project and some additional clearing and grubbing needed. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

T. Woods/Gruetzmacher to approve the payments to the lowa Department of Transportation for the Main Street Braicet. The finel vide unite in the formal public project. The finel vide unite in the fourth of the project of the project. In the payments to the lowa Department of Transportation for the Main Street Braicet. The finel vide unite in the fourth of the project. The finel vide unite in the fourth of the project. The finel vide unite in the fourth of the project. The finel vide unite in the fourth of the project

None.

Gruetzmacher/T. Woods to approve the payments to the lowa Department of Transportation for the Main Street Project. The final sidewalk invoice was \$135,549.86 and the final road project invoice for Main Street was \$2,018,829.53. The sidewalk portion of the project was slightly higher than what was estimated, and the street project portion was slightly less than what was estimated by the city engineers after contingency. Ayes: Five. Navs: None.

was \$135.549.86 and the final road project invoice for Main Street was \$2.018.829.53. The sidewalk portion of the project was slightly higher than what was estimated, and the street project portion was slightly less than what was estimated by the city engineers after contingency. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The EMS Levy (Essential Service Tax) was discussed. This levy was on the ballot in 2024, but it did not pass. Since then, members of the Fairbank Fire Department have been working with other communities in Buchanan County along with the city attorney to clean up the 28E Agreement and help get the information out about this proposed levy. The updated information and the agreement were presented to the council for them to review. More information will be discussed over the next few weeks before this next election as the EMS Levy will be on the ballot for Buchanan County residents in November.

Chris Woods was present to talk about a sign donation from the Fairbank Development Corporation. He explained that someone had donated noney to them and that they would like to put a couple of Welcome to Fairbank signs in town. The plan is to do at least one but if there is enough money to do two, they would like to. They will be arched, and it was proposed to place them over a sidewalk. The Riverside Park (gazebo park) walking path was suggested as well as the sidewalk by the Fairbank Ball Diamond. Chris said that if everything goes well and weather cooperates, they could be done yet this year. T. Woods/Erickson to approve this sign donation and that the Development Corporation can move forward with the process and plan to return to show the council the final plans. They thought they looked great. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. Abstain: Williams and R. Woods are both part of the Fairbank Development Corporation. During the council/mayor comments, Councilman R. Woods had some questions for Nick regarding the Christian's Trail Project. Nick stated that he was preparing for reput was pushed that day. Nick stated that four of the ei

\$161.00 \$161.00 \$7,777.00 \$ 75.00 \$ 65.52 \$ 75.00 \$ 64.06 \$1.273.26

\$1,273.26 \$1,050.00 \$630.50

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\$419.51 \$102.50 \$ 45.00 \$102.50 \$ 45.00 \$306.02 \$ 95.00 \$216.65 \$392.51 \$2,500.00 \$1,200.00 \$472.50 \$102.50 \$102.50

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\$ 87.13 1,404.50 \$182.00 \$2,787.92 \$1,446.04 \$1,365.00

9,310.63 2,561.53 \$161.49 \$585.00 \$170.18

\$118.80 \$547.35 \$200.00 \$198.28 \$114.07 \$ 45.00 \$150.00 \$ 0.74 \$133.44 \$ 52.71

City of Fairbank, Electric & Gas
City of Fairbank, Utility Deposit Applied
Izabella Farley, Lifeguard Reimbursement
Fehr Graham, Engineer Fees
Brittany Fuller, Cell Phone Reimbursement
Garana, Inc., Economic Development Grant
Gordon Flesch Company Inc, Services
Jayden Griese, Lifeguard Reimbursement
Marlyn Helmuth, Reimbursement
IA Dept of Transportation, Main Street Project
IMFOA, Training
Iowa One Call, Locates
Iowa Pump Works, Supplies
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc., Rural Water
Iowa State University, Training
Iowa Surveillance Team, Services
Ipers, Benefits
John Deere Financial, Supplies
Maren Jones, Lifeguard Reimbursement
Kennedy Kane, Lifenone Reimbursement
Kirkwood Community College, Training
Kluesner Sanitation, LLC., September Pick-Up Fees
Nick Kuker, Cell Phone Reimbursement
Kwik Trip Inc., Gas
Michelle Laube, Cell Phone Reimbursement
Little Wapsie Communications, Static IP Addresses
Metering & Technology Solution, Equipment
Meyer's Custom Chevy, Supplies
Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Testing
Midwest Concrete Inc., Fourth St TAP Grant Payment #2
\$97,097.76
Modern Building Products, Supplies
Ella Morarend, Lifeguard Reimbursement
Ne Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 8/1/25
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NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 8/1/25
NE Security Bank, Payroll P \$6,648.82 \$200.00 \$102.50 \$13,210.50 \$75.00 \$30,000.00 \$114.14 \$102.50 \$151.44 \$2,154,379.39 \$450.00 \$68.530.88 \$9,719.11 \$144.00 \$150.00 \$150.00 \$165.96 \$102.50 \$110.00

\$452.07
Kalle Voy, Lifeguard Reimbursement \$102.50
Waterloo Bucks, Tickets for Little League \$760.00
WBC Mechanical, Supplies \$698.00
Wellmark, September Premium \$3,025.28
Weston Schares, Lifeguard Reimbursement \$92.50
Windstream Enterprise, Gas Alarm Phone Line \$68.26
The Fairbank Library Board Approved the Following Bills on September 3, 2025:

2025:
Amazon Capital Services, Books & Supplies
Baker & Taylor Inc., Books
Brock Berg, Services
City of Fairbank, Electric & Gas
Gordon Flesch Company Inc, Services
Pratt's Pest Control, Monthly Pest Control
Jim Shampine, Services
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 8/15/25
US Cellular, Hotspots
Visa, AVAYA Phone System/Microsoft Email Accounts
Ronald Woods, Mayor Pro-Tem
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

Addendums: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the following addendums-Valerie Westphal-Lead Cook-\$14.43 P/H-includes \$.45 increase, Emily Schmidt-BA+15 step 4 to BA+24 step 4-\$47,203 (base)+\$5,545 (TSS)=\$52,748, Angie James-MA/22 to MA +15 step 22-\$61,587 (base)+\$9,898.15 (TSS)=\$71,485.15 as presented. Motion carried 4-0

8. New Business-Will bring early retirement options for fiscal year 2026 to the meeting in October. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Kaufman to approve FY25 Special Education Allowable growth of -\$290,707.53 as presented. Motion carried 4-0 Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Auel to approve the purchase of 2024 Chevy Express -12-passenger van \$45,180 as presented. Motion carried 4-0 Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to keep the Fairbank walk-in freezer shell and replace all inside parts (\$18,100) as presented. Motion carried 4-0 Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the Shared Curriculum Director with Keystone AEA for 39 days (\$26,949) for the 25-26 school year as presented. Motion carried 4-0 9. Board Talking Points-None 10. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to go into closed session at 6:45 PM with a roll call vote-Auel-Aye, Kaufman-Aye, Sauerbrei-Aye, & Wolfe-Aye Closed session 21.5 (i) 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. Exited closed session at 6:53 PM.

11. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel-Roll call vote Auel-Aye, Kaufman-Aye, Sauerbrei-Aye, & Wolfe-Aye to provide district paid family health insurance, family dental insurance and family vision insurance effective data is

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday August 25 2025. Mayor Kayser attended the meeting via Microsoft Teams and called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Members present: R. Woods, Williams Erickson, T. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Nick Kuker, Public Works Director; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.
Williams/T. Woods to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
There were no public hearings.
Gruetzmacher/Erickson to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: August 11th Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the agenda. Motion carried. There were no public hearings. Gruetzmacher/Erickson to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: August 11th Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

During the informal public comment, Kevin Bodensteiner the Fairbank Assistant Chief of EMS was present along with Dan Walter from Buchanar County EMS Association to talk to the council about the proposed EMS Essential Service Levy. It did not pass in 2024 and they are preparing for the 2025 election as it will be on the ballot and will need 60% of votes to pass They hope to get more information out to the public and encourage everyone to reach out if there are any questions. Gruetzmacher/Erickson to approve Resolution 2025-30 – Resolution Authorizing and Approving a Certain Loan Agreement, Providing for the Issuance of \$1,000,000 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds Series 2025, and Providing for the Levy of Taxes to Pay the Same. This resolution was the final step in the approval process for the loan agreement and it authorized the issuance of the bonds. Ayes: Four. Nays: None Abstain: Williams. Councilman Williams abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest, as he is employed by the financial institution involved in the awarded bid.

Gruetzmacher/Williams to approve Resolution 2025-31 – A Resolution Declaring the Property Located at 506 Patterson Street, Fairbank Buchanar County, lowa, to be a Nuisance, Safety Hazard, Dangerous, and Dilapidated Authorizing Demolition; and Clarifying Demolition Purposes and Asbestos Notice for Bidding Purposes. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Bryce and Cody Kleitsch from Section 6 Inc. dropped off a quote o \$5,300.00 to remove the house located at 506 Patterson Street, which also included removal of the park shelter at Veteran's Park in the council agree the quote was fair and expressed support to move forward with the project he quote was fair and expressed support to move forward with the project he council many films abstained due to

few specific security cameras for Lonnie Brewer and Ken Schnor. Motion carried.

During the council/mayor reports, Councilwoman Erickson stated that the music in the park that past Thursday went very well. Councilman Gruetzmacher stated that slow-pitch softball was over and that the score-boards were getting installed next week. He also stated that Midwest Concrete Inc. offered to donate the concrete needed for the batting cases. Mayor Kayser said that the Fourth Street Sidewalk Project had moved fast and that the city was chosen randomly to review the easements acquired for the project and that the audit went very well.

During the department reports, Nick said the trash basket was installed in the northeast lift station. The gas project in Oelwein is almost finished and some of the homeowners are moving into them next week already. Lonnie and Ken attended a water class. He also stated that he had been working with Chris West, the Fairbank Fire Chief, on getting a gas barrel for a nonethanol blend gas needed for some of the city's equipment.

Williams/Gruetzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm. Motion carried. Jason Kayser, Mayor

Jason Kayser, Mayor Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

\$17.35 Epson America \$132.00 FAIRBANK FOOD \$5.56 FRANKLIN COVEY \$6,401.25 Hawkeye Alarm \$1,440.00 HELPING HANDS RPR \$107.36 HILLYARD \$839.08 INDEED \$500.23 IASBO \$540.00 IADRS \$1,544.12 IA REGIONAL UTILITIES \$300.74 IXL LEARNING \$3,413.00 Kendall Hunt \$2,210.00 KENWORTHY, STOREY \$2,317.58 KLUESNER SANITATION \$640.00 LEXIA LEARNING \$399.00 LITITLE WAPSIE COMM \$175.08 LOCKSPERTS \$35.19 MATT CNSTRCT \$100.00 MENARDS \$22.43 Menards \$574.32 MODERN BUILDING \$334.22 NE IA TELEPHONE \$340.00 NORTH BUTLER \$2,000.00 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE \$161.00 PAPER CORP \$4,555.60 RAISA A HALLELUJAH, LLC \$700.00 READLYN TELEPHONE \$184.91 SAM'S CLUB \$1,279.92 SULLIVAN, HEATHER \$19.60 Teachers Pay Teachers \$2.14 Thrift Books \$160.62 TIMBERLINE \$159.44 U.S. POST OFFICE \$187.60 UBIQUITI STORE \$6.00 VITALSOURCE \$468.94 Walmart \$909.37 WEBSTAURANT STORE \$1,059.24 WEEDS ON FIRE \$5,745.00 GENERAL FUND TOTAL \$128,681.76 Employee Benefit Systems \$5,464.30 WORLD INSURANCE \$7,256.35 MANAGEMENT TOTAL \$12,720.65 Accurate L & DC \$315.05 BLUUM OF MINNESOTA \$6,939.30 CASSILL MOTORS \$45,180.00 DKW TREE SERVICE \$1,200.00 GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL \$299.94 HUDL \$8,500.00 PRIMARY SYSTEMS \$14,500.00 STEEGE CNSTRCT \$156,547.65 WILSON RESTAURANT \$538.18 YOUNG PLUMBING & HEATING \$1,433.84 SAVE TOTAL \$235,453.96 ACCESS SYSTEMS \$3,362.45 Amazon \$299.98 GIGFIRE \$70.00 HAPARA \$5,998.20 LOCKSPERTS \$174.27 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE \$100.00 ROTO-ROOTER \$175.00 SAM'S CLUB \*\$311.52 PPEL TOTAL \$8,868.38 Amazon \$261.54 WEFT TOTAL \$12.71.31 Amazon \$645.63 APLINGTON. PARKERSBURG \$90.00 ATLANTIC COCA-COLA \$239.18 BSN SPORTS \$1,450.00 GIFIRST TECH CHALLENGE \$1,534.90 GLEN \$3,362.54 CACESS SYSTEMS \$3,362.54 CACESS SYSTEMS \$3,362.55.00 WEST MUSIC \$285.81 GALLUP TRUST TOTAL \$471.31 Amazon \$645.63 APLINGTON. PARKERSBURG \$90.00 ATLANTIC COCA-COLA \$239.18 BSN SPORTS \$1,500.00 IA ORGHES \$1,500.00 IA

tive June 1, 2026 and terminating when Kim Arndt reaches medicare eligibility. Kim's retirement effective date is June 30, 2026 as presented. Motion carried 4-0 12. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to adjourn at 6:54 PM. Motion carried 4-0 Respectfully, Kim Arndt ACCESS SYSTEMS \$67.89 AGVANTAGE FS \$4.00 ALLIANT ENERGY \$207.96 Amazon \$1,501.84 ARNOLD MOTOR \$84.60 BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$74.77 BUTLER COUNTY REC \$4,963.05 CAROLINA SUPPLY \$38.97 CASEY'S \$50.25 CHEMSEARCH \$235.36 CITY LAUNDRY \$1,476.87 CITY OF READLYN \$2,618.27 COLUMN \$170.66 CRESCO FIRE SAFETY EQUIP \$1,001.35 CY & CHARLEY'S \$314.96 DPTMNT OF INSPCTS, APLS & LCNSNG \$40.00 DIAMOND VOGEL \$208.40 DON'S TRUCK \$525.04 Employee Benefit Systems \$75,109.63 EMS DETERGENT

WAPSIE VALLEY CSD Regular School Board Mtg September 15, 2025 Pledge of Allegiance 1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at

Regular Scriool board wing September 15, 2025 Pledge of Allegiance

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

A. Directors: Auel, Kaufman, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Aiello (excused)

B. Administration: Principal Forsyth, & Murphy. Supt. Hoover & Myers (excused)

C. Board Secretary: Kim Arndt, Others: Vaughn Gross-virtual

2. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the amended agenda adding 9d. Approval of Fairbank walk in Freezer repairs, & 9e. Approval of Shared Curriculum Director with Keystone AEA as presented. Motion carried 4-0

3. Moved by Auel, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the FFA fruit sales fundraiser and their National FFA convention in Indianapolis for the 25-26 school year as presented. Motion carried 4-0

4. Public Comment - None

5. Consent Items-Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Auel and open enrollments: Melissa Swalin request to open enroll her kindergarten daughter to Jesup effective 25-26 school year, Ethan Hannan request to open enroll his 10th-grade daughter to WC and Savanna Dudley Hannan request to open enroll his 10th-grade daughter to WC and Savanna Dudley Hannan request to open enroll his kindergarten son to WV from Oelwein effective 25-26 year, Jamie Pavelec request to open enroll her kindergarten son from Oelwein to WV effective 25-26 year, Melissa & Tommy Stewart request to open enroll heir 4th-grade twin sons, 5th-grade daughter, and 10th-grade son to WV from WC as presented. Motion carried 4-0

6. Board-Nothing to report Superintendent-Report included, HVAC update. ISASP, Track & Football Field update, Fairbank playground, & Readlyn before/after school program. District & Principals: Report includes: Homecoming, Professional Development, Back To School Night, School, Field trips, Building lighthouse teams, Worked based programs, Buchanan County Color Guard, Student leadership group, & Activity Updates.

7. Personnel - Resignations-Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Kaufma

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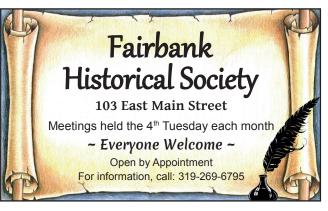
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**A18** OCTOBER 1, 2025 FAIRBANK ISLANDER





WITH ASHLEA (KLEITSCH) JONES

#### Why should we take interest in interest rate decisions?

As I write this, the Fed has not announced interest rate cuts but the rumor mill assumes we will see a cut in September. Some think a cut of .25bps, some think a "mega" cut of .50bps, is on the table. By the time this article prints, the September 16 or 17 Fed meeting decision will be two weeks past and we will know whether the cuts came through as anticipated.

So, whether they cut, remain the same, or raise rates, why do interest rates matter to us?

Interest rates effect the influence of borrowing money for large financed purchases. Lower interest rates, for example, encourage people to obtain loans for vehicles, homes, home improvement projects, etc. Lower interest rates also tend to foster growth in businesses from expansion plans to hiring more workers. On the surface, lowering interest rates has a positive effect on the overall day-to-day economy.

The stock market typically responds positively to lowering rates as long as the context behind the decision is that the economy is on the right track to absorb growth and expansion. The market can, however, have negative reactions if the context of the lowering is due to economic strain like a slowing job market or inflation.



#### Things that make the rate cut in September likely:

Slowing economic growth and cooling labor market reports

#### Why the Fed may continue to wait:

- Some inflation reports show optimism while other inflation concerns remain in the midst of tariff negotiations
- There is still economic data to be reported in the coming days so "they might not know until they know" as reports come in right up until the Fed Meeting on Sept 16-17.

Projections from economists are that there will be a cut in September, another in December, and more scattered throughout 2026 and 2027.

While cheaper is rarely better, in the world of financing money and boosting the economy "cheaper money" from lower loan terms would be a positive impact on your everyday person.

As active fiduciary advisors, times like this keep us on our toes. We will be watching closely to see what decisions are made and what new or ongoing asset classes are to gain from said decisions. No matter who is President or what is going on in the world, there are things to be done to put our clients in the position to win over the long term.

We appreciate, more than ever, our ability to be autonomous and nimble on behalf of our clients so we can represent their ambitions in concert with the moving parts of the world. Sometimes it is easy, sometimes I notice new grey hairs in the mirror... but we love to help people win so we never back down from the challenges. Let us help you bring confidence to the commotion!

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones

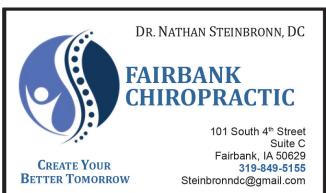
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