SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

**DECEMBER 4, 2024** Compiled by Fairbank Community Club - Designed by Waverly Newspapers and Printed by Oelwein Publishing Co.

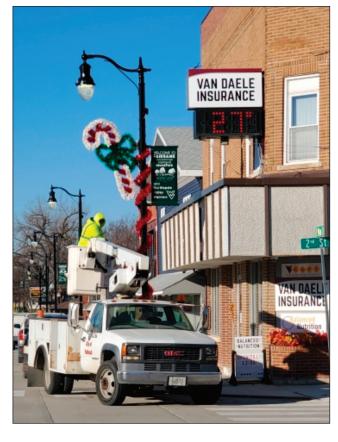
**VOLUME 5, NO. 12** 







# SHIMMER AND SHINE





COURTESY PHOTO

Fairbank City worker Nick Kuker helping assist with setting up new holiday lights.

The city of Fairbank is dressed up with new holiday lighting this year. Featuring Christmas tree and candy cane shapes, the new decorations went up Tuesday, Nov. 26.

The updated holiday décor cost

\$20,637.40 but was largely funded by a \$15,000 anonymous donation through the Fairbank Development Corporation, according to city hall.

The city sold some of its old lights to the cities of Oran and Westgate,

bringing in \$800 toward the new lights. The remaining \$4,837.40 was paid out of the city's electric fund.

The new lights can be seen along downtown Main Street, on the bridge and in Riverside Park.

# Community Parkview Assisted Living annual Christmas on Dec. 12 with live music

Come join us at the Community annual Parkview Assisted Living Christmas on Thursday, Dec. 12 at 1:30 p.m. at the Fairbank Parkview Living. Assisted Entertainment provided by Chet Reagan Music with Mandy McCleary, you don't want to miss this performance. Everyone is invited, bring a friend. Sponsored by the local community churches.



Chet Reagan Music with Mandy McCleary will provide entertainment at the annual Community Parkview Assisted Living Christmas.

**A2** DECEMBER 4, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

#### A NOTE FROM THE MAYOR



**MAYOR JASON KAYSER** 

It's hard to comprehend that it is already December and the beginning of the holiday season, and a wrap on my first year as your Mayor. It is an honor to serve all of you! In January's article I will highlight some of the highs and lows, and accomplishments and challenges we faced in 2024.

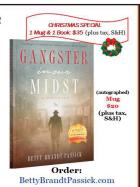
As winter approaches, another friendly reminder that vehicles need to be off the streets during snow removal so the crews can get the city plowed and cleaned up. That being said, we have completed the rollout of the Alert Iowa texting program in partnership with

Buchanan County Emergency Management. There is information in this month's Islander on registering for this free program. In addition to local and state-wide weather and emergency alerts, you will also receive important information from the city such as snow emergencies, road closures, event cancelations due to weather or other disruption, and any incidents that may disrupt your normal routine.

Finally, BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!" A HUGE thank you again the anonymous person(s) who donated the new decorations for our new light poles! A big thank you also to the City utility employees who installed the decorations and lights on Main Street and the volunteers who decorated the light poles in Riverside and West Bentley parks. Your work is appreciated, and the city looks

Have a great holiday season everyone!

# Give a Piece of FairbankHistory! Gangster in Our Midst 15 oz Commemorative Mug & Book





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\*\*\*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

### SHIMMER AND S





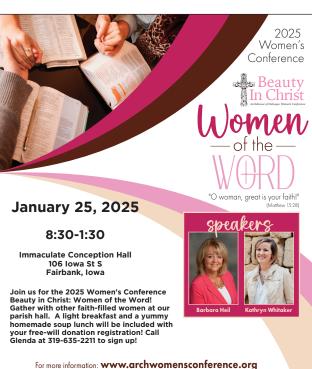


#### **EARLY DEADLINE!!**

Deadline for the January publication is December 19. Please contact Melaine at 319-404-7116 Or email fairbankislander@gmail.com







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**DECEMBER 7. 2024** FROM 8:00 AM TO 9:00 AM **FAIRBANK PUBLIC LIBRARY!** 

#### Wapsie Valley FFA members recognized at National FFA Convention

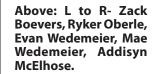
Wapsie Valley FFA members were able to experience the 97th National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis, Indiana October 22nd- October 25th, 2024. They had the opportunity to connect with fellow members and industry professionals from across the nation.

In addition to attending the National FFA convention, members were able to explore career opportunities in agriculture through touring Kinze Manufacturing in Williamsburg, Iowa and Ozark Fisheries in Martinsville, Indiana. During the time spent at convection, Zack Boevers was recognized with a Silver Rating in the National FFA Creed Speaking Contest. Before heading home, members were able to experience a keynote address from Dr. Temple Grandin.

Overall, the trip was made very memorable and full of triumphs.







Right: Zack Boevers was recognized with a Silver Rating in the National FFA Creed Speaking Contest.

Left: L to R- Zach boevers, Ryker Oberle, Evan Wedemeier, Mae Wedemeier, Addisyn McElhose.





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**A4** DECEMBER 4, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

# Wapsie Valley chain crew is represented the Class A and 8 Man championship football games



COURTESY PHO

Wapsie Valley chain crew is represented the Class A and 8 Man championship football games. They were nominated by officiating crews throughout the season for their great work. Thank you guys for your work all season. Barney Wiersma, Joey Jones, Mike Buenzow, Jeff Brunscheon, John Schutte





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#### **EXCITED FOR CHRISTMAS**



COLIRTESY PHO

Mrs. Studebaker's classroom at Wapsie Valley's Fairbank Elementary. Front: Ayden Neegaard, Owen Franck, Dixon Begley, Asher Jans, Charles Scott. Back: Charlie Klenzman, Collins Odneal, Violette Myers, Coralyn Downs.





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FAIRBANK ISLANDER

# Celebration of life Barbara J. Miller

August 23, 1943 -November 11, 2024

Barbara J. Miller, 81, of Fairbank, Iowa, died peacefully on Monday morning, November 11, 2024, at her home.

Memorial Service: was at 5:00 P.M. Sunday, November 17, 2024, at the Jamison-Schmitz Funeral Home, Oelwein with Rev. Paul C. McManus officiating.



Gathering of family and friends was 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. Sunday at the funeral home

Final Resting Place: Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery, Fairbank, Iowa, at a later date. Online obituary at www.jamisonschmitzfuner-

Barbara Jean Dinnebier was born August 23, 1943, in Waterloo, Iowa, the daughter of Edward Paul & Johanna C. (Schmitt) Dinnebier. She received her education at Immaculate Conception High School in Fairbank, graduating in the class of 1961. Barb was united in marriage to Thomas William Miller on June 9, 1962, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank, Iowa. They lived in Fairbank and were blessed with three children: Mischelle, Scott and Thomas. Barb was a school bus driver for Wapsie Valley Schools for 20 years.

Barb was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

She enjoyed walking, quilting, and attending all of her grandchildren's many events.

Barb is survived by her husband of 62 years: Tom Miller of Fairbank; 3 Children: Mischelle Fink of Oelwein, Scott (Mary Clare) Miller of Brookings, South Dakota & Tommy (Jaye) Miller of Jesup; 8 Grandchildren: Kyle Fink, Hannah Fink (fiancé: Sam Flesburg), Amelia Miller-Bredl (Sean), Edward "Eddie" Miller, August "Gus" Miller, Johanna Miller, Zoe Miller & Jack Miller.

#### Celebration of life Rolla King

July 12, 1932 - August 17, 2024

Rolla King, of Sunrise Beach, MO, formerly of Fairbank, IA passed away on August 17, 2024. Rolla was born in Oelwein, IA on July 12, 1932, son of Rolla Winslow King and Margret Lucy (Michelson) King.

He graduated from Fairbank High School in 1949. After graduating, he joined the US Army, serving in the Korean War. After serving in the Army, he married Arlene D. Schlie of Waterloo. They had three sons and three daughters during their 63 years of marriage.

Rolla was an avid fisherman, hunter, and enjoyed

He is survived by two sons: Michael King of Sunset Beach, MO and Bruce King of Des Moines, IA; and three step-daughters: Cathy Stonehocker of Grimes, IA, Sandra McDowell of Perry, IA, and Cynthia Hopkins of Des Moines, IA.

Rolla was preceded in death by his parents Rolla W. King and Lucy King; a brother, Ray N. King; a sister, Dora Lee Toothman; and a son, James King.

Rolla was interred at Iowa Veterans Cemetery in

# Celebration of life Barbara A. Gruetzmacher

March 20, 1959 -November 5, 2024

Barbara "Barb" Ann Gruetzmacher, age 65, of rural Oelwein, Iowa passed away Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo. She was born March 20, 1959 the daughter of Willis "Bud" and Lenora (Hahn) Ross in Waterloo. Barb grew up



in Fairbank and attended and graduated from Wapsie Valley Community Schools, Class of 1977. While in high school Barb played softball and had a moment of fame by hitting a grand slam homerun to send her team to the state playoffs. She was also well known for her incredibly fast typing skills. After high school she enrolled at Hawkeye Institute of Technology. Barb was a very driven person and held many different secretarial jobs over her working career. She may have been better described as an administrative assistant because Barb was much more than a secretary at each of her places of work. She started out working for Jim Gerres from there to Penn Mutual and then Peoples Clinic then to Principle Life Insurance and completed her working career at Oran Mutual Telephone Company retiring in April 2024.

Barb married Tracy Gruetzmacher September 12, 1987 at St. Peter Church in Westgate, Iowa. They made their home in rural Oelwein where they raised their son Michael. Barb and Tracy loved spending time at their campsite in Prairie du Chien. While there they enjoyed being with family and friends, fishing and boating on the Mississippi. Barb was an excellent cook but was known to make quite a mess in the process. Barb enjoyed playing cards and also the game of Cribbage, in 1976 she entered a Cribbage tournament at the Fairbank Legion and beat the local experts. She also enjoyed watching wildlife and was known for her many pictures of them from the window of their home. While still living at home she was often referred to as "Bud's son" fixing mechanical things around the house. She was very true to her faith in God, reading the bible daily. She was a lifetime member of the Fairbank United Methodist Church. Barb played the organ there from 7th grade until her health would no longer allow her to and all the while she refused to accept money for doing it. Above all Barb loved her family and was always there for them, especially her grandchildren, Ayden and Legend. She will be missed by so many but none more than her family. Barb is survived by her husband Tracy, her son Michael and his wife Christy, her grandchildren; Ayden and Legend, one brother, Lonnie (Laura) Ross and one sister, Peggy (Steve) Niemann, her mother-in-law, Doris Gruetzmacher, a brother-in-law, Terry (Renae) Gruetzmacher, a sister-in-law Kim Kurt (significant other Jim) along with many nieces and nephews. Barb was preceded in death by her parents and her brother David and his wife Kyong Ross, her father-in-law, Bruce Gruetzmacher and brother-in-law. Todd Gruetzmacher.

Visitation was from 3:00-7:00 PM Thursday, November 14, 2024 at Woods Funeral Home. Funeral Service was 10:30 AM Friday, November 15, 2024 at United Methodist Church, Fairbank.

Interment: Fairbank Cemetery, Fairbank.

In lieu of flowers memorials can be directed to the family for later designation.

#### Celebration of life Jerry Van Daele

March 8, 1948 -November 23, 2024

Jerry Van Daele, 76, of rural Fairbank passed away Saturday November 23, 2024 at his home, surrounded by his loving family. Visitation was from 1:00-4:00 PM on Sunday December 1, 2024 at the Geilenfeld-Buehner Funeral Home in Oelwein. Funeral



services will began at 10:30 AM on Monday December 2, 2024 at the funeral home with Pastor Scott Jans officiating. Interment will be in Fairbank Cemetery at Fairbank. Memorials may be directed to the family for designation for track construction at Wapsie Valley High School. www.geilenfeldfh.

Jerry Robert Van Daele was born in Oelwein on March 8, 1948 to parents Robert and Maxine (Gardner) Van Daele. Jerry graduated from Wapsie Valley High School with the class of 1966 and then attended the University of Northern Iowa for two years in Accounting. On October 19, 1968 he was united in marriage with Lynn Marie Kane at St. John's Lutheran Church in Fairbank. Jerry served his country honorably in the United States Army Reserve from 1966-1972.

Jerry was a life-long farmer. Moving back to the family farm in 1979, he enjoyed working side by side with his sons. Throughout his life, Jerry worked with other leaders and board members to support and improve his community both present and future. Jerry was employed at Chamberlain Manufacturing for 27 years. During his time he served on the Credit Union Board, Credit Committee, and Cafeteria Committee. While working in Waterloo Jerry also delivered tires for Don's Trucks in Fairbank. When Chamberlain Manufacturing closed he started ITSI in Cedar Falls. Education was always a priority. Jerry was the longest serving member of the Wapsie Valley School Board and shepherded the school during a time of elementary and rural facility transitions. Jerry was a founding member of Parkview Assisted Living before assisted living became common. Over the years Jerry supported his church as an education leader, board member and janitor. Faith was very important to Jerry. Jerry's joy was spending time with grandchildren, family and friends. Long conversations with anyone were a specialty.

Left to celebrate Jerry's life are his wife Lynn; his children: Dr. Douglas (Vance) Van Daele of Iowa City, Aaron Van Daele of Fairbank and Eric Van Daele of Fairbank; his grandchildren: Ryan, Gracee, Sophia and Vance Douglas; his in-laws: Rick (Deb) Kane, Rod (Karen) Kane, Lori (Rod) Zuck, Lou (Jeff) Milks, Rustie (Lori) Kane, Lanett (Sharon Duclos) Kane, Lisa (Rick) Meier, Robbi (Kelly) Kane, Ross (Laura) Kane and Rollie (Melissa) Kane; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; his father and mother-in-law Ralph and Verla Kane.

#### **SEND OBITS TO**

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A6 DECEMBER 4, 2024
FAIRBANK ISLANDER

#### Nativity scene from the 1940s still on display

BY BETTY BRANDT PASSICK

bbpassick@comcast.net

Doreen (Hein) Wilson says she still displays the cardboard nativity under her tree every Christmas that her father, Martin Hein, won through a local charity fundraiser in the 1940s. It came with small figurines for placement on a front apron that folded up into the stable. A hole in the back of the nativity allowed for insertion of an electric bulb to light the scene.

"Daddy won it through a Fairbank 'punch card' charity fundraiser," she added.

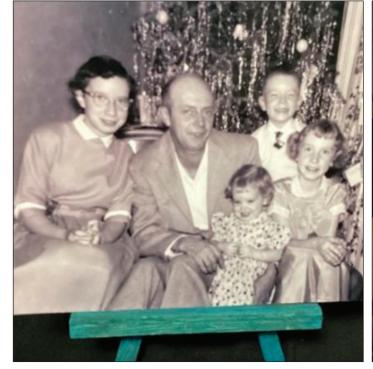
The punch cards were distributed to customers at Fairbank businesses. With each visit and donation to the charity, the card got punched.

Another item Martin won through the fundraiser was a 36-inch papier-mâché Santa that stood next to their Christmas tree for many years. Brother Lou inherited the Santa.

Martin (and Helen) Hein were co-owners of Hein Brothers Construction with Martin's brother Otto Hein and his wife Ettalena. They established the business shortly after Otto's return from World War II. Martin was killed in 1964 at age 45 in a work-related accident. The youngest child, Marty, was only a few years old when his father died. The family resided in a house south of the railroad tracks (south of the Baptist Church). The home was demolished several years ago.

COURTESY PHOTO

(1950s) Doreen, Martin, Deborah (on Dad's lap), Lou, and Elaine.







#### COLUMN BY JD FRANCIS

# The feel of Christmas

As we put away blessings, on higher shelves

Each of us wrapped in our own lifelong gains

Forgetting the unfortunate, or those living in pain

The feel of Christmas is so much different for some

Presents remain unopened..Christmas songs unsung

An empty chair means a loved one's not coming home Loneliness shares no signs..of feeling alone

The glow of anticipation, of presents 'neath the tree

Hopes and dreams await patient, an eager child to see Shouldn't it be this way for all, dear Father I pray

The sick, lonely, and abused, must it be this way?

My lighted candle's burned away, dark without fire

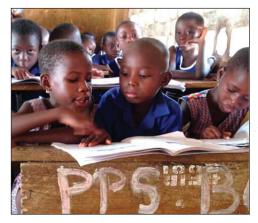
But gave entirely of itself.. for my benefit and desire

My confusion, my question, now answered in prayer For both the blessed or unfortunate, Your presence is there...

#### **COIN DRIVE FOR GHANA**

The sixth grade students, Draiven Russell, Mallory Gissel, and Gentry Decker, from the Wapsie Valley Fairbank Elementary were asked to choose a project to work on during their ELP (Extended Learning Program) class. They have chosen to lead a service project to help less fortunate children in Africa.

The girls invited Brenda and Kirk Haefner, affiliated with the Africa Youth-Now Foundation, out of Cedar Rapids, to come and speak on behalf of their foundation and share with our school the ways our coins can make a big difference to the kids in Ghana. They shared with us how they are working on starting a library for the community that they serve. This past week we kicked off the Coins For Ghana Coin Drive. While each class is collecting coins, the girls will be busy keeping class totals. The class who collects the most, will receive a trinket from Ghana. Our mission is to raise enough money to send with Brenda and Kirk as they go back to Ghana



in March. They can use our money that we raised to buy books to put into a library for the children to enjoy.

This fundraiser goes until December 19th. If you would like to contribute to this project, please drop off your coins in the main office at the Fairbank Elementary. You may donate your coins to a class of your choice.







COURTESY PHOTO

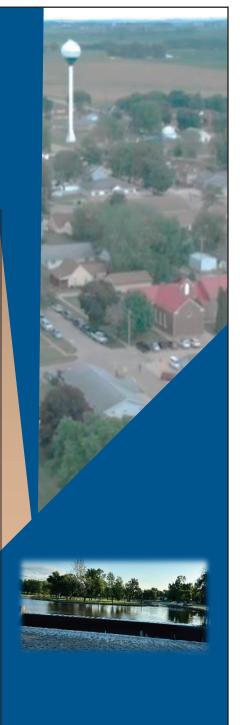
Above left: Draiven Russel, Gentry Decker, Mallory Gissel and Hunter Hutschenreuter work on their project for children in Africa. Above right: Brenda Haefner with Africa Youth-Now Foundation out of Cedar Rapids spoke to the school on the ways coins can make a big difference to the kids in Ghana.

# Help Wanted FAIRBANK, IOWA

# PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE

Help Wanted City of Fairbank

Come join our Team! Due to an upcoming retirement, we will have an opening and an employment opportunity for someone that wants variety in their workday. This employee would be closely working with our other employees to maintain our water, wastewater, electrical, natural gas, streets and parks. Experience is welcome but a great learning attitude is required. Pay will be based upon experience and qualifications and whether part-time or full-time. For full-time employment, the wage will range between \$45,000 and \$60,000. The hired individual will need to acquire or have a valid Class B CDL driver's license, with a good driving record. Full and part-time employment applications will be considered. Please contact Fairbank City Hall for more information and a list of benefits. The City of Fairbank will pay for and help you receive any certifications that may be necessary for the position. The City of Fairbank is an equal opportunity employer.







#### **United Methodist Church**

107 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Fairbank, lowa 50629 319-635-2932

Worship Service: 9:15 AM



#### St. John Lutheran Church

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

Worship Service: 10:30 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

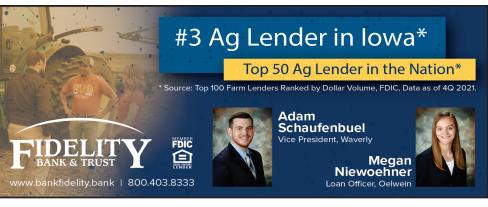


#### First Baptist Church

304 Grove Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629

#### Rev. Mike Anderson

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





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**A8** DECEMBER 4, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

#### **ATOM** BOMBERS



FROM THE DESK OF **CAMBREE HAPPEL** 

On November 10 Atom Bombers 4-H club met at Wapsie Pines Christmas Tree Farm. We had a tour given by LaVerne Leistikow. He talked about the jobs they had to do all throughout the year, and the different types of Christmas trees they grow.

We had 17 members present, and 8 guests. Rachel Kaufman gave a presentation on her piano skills. Wally Kaufman gave a presentation on the history of show cattle. Snacks were provided by the Kaufman family. Our next meeting will be our Christmas party.

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FAIRBANK, IOWA





Above left: Atom Bombers 4-H club enjoys tour at the Wapsie Pines Christmas Tree Farm. Above right: Rachel and Wally Kaufman both gave presentations in November.



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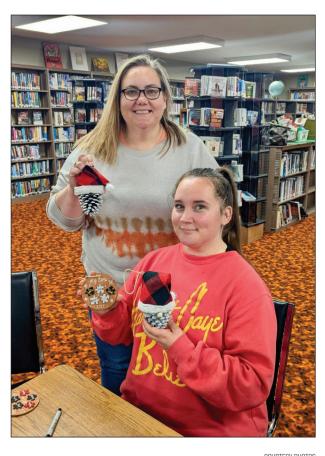
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# Holiday craft night at the library





Gnomes, ornaments, and laughter filled the air at craft night on Nov. 20 - the perfect holiday kick-off! Special Thank you to Erin for helping put this together!









NING BLACK FRIDAY - Friday Nov. 29th and every weekend through December 15th • 9am-5pm MR & MRS CLAUS (BLACK FRIDAY WEEKEND ONLY) LARGER WARMING SHED PLUS AND OUTDOOR

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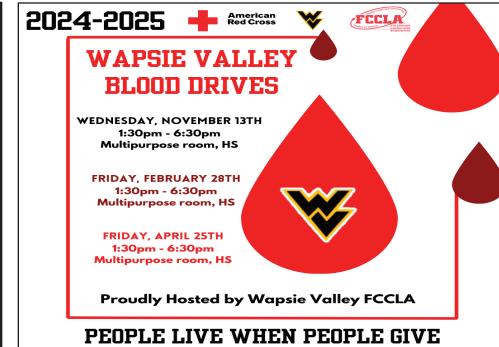
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**A10** DECEMBER 4, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

#### WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

#### Area athletes to watch for this sports season

BY GIDAL KAISER

sports@oelweindailyregister.com

WAPSIE VALLEY

#### **Boys wrestling**

Kanen Decker, Sr.: Saturday night. The last session. It's the north star for Decker, who placed fifth last season and has a 111-36 record with three consecutive state appearances. A third-place match berth becomes the stars when one shoots for the moon. But the rocket seemingly has enough power to follow a mentor of his and reach the moon.

Coach: Brian Krall (Third season)

Postseason: 1-2, 1A dual tournament; Kanen Decker (fifth, 4-2, state), Wally Kaufman (third, district), Sawyer Krall (fourth, district), Dallas Tisue (0-2, state)

Key returnees: Decker (Sr.), Jonah Frost (Sr.), Landan Frost (Jr.), Kaufman (Soph.), Tisue (Sr.), Krayton Zimmerman (Soph.)

Newcomers: Hayden Hilsenbeck (Jr.), Caleb Hogan (Soph.)

Dec. 5 Denver/Maquoketa Valley 6:15 p.m. Dec. 7 Chris Davis Invitational (Wapsie Valley) 10 a.m. Dec. 12 Oelwein triangular 6:15 p.m. Mount Vernon Invitational 10 a.m. Dec. 14 Columbus Catholic triangular 6:15 p.m. Dec. 19 Battle of Waterloo (Young Arena) 9 a.m. Dec. 20-21 East Marshall/AGWSR 6:15 p.m. Jan. 9 Tripoli Invitational 10 a.m. Jan. 11 Jan. 14 Lisbon 7 p.m. Sumner-Fredericksburg triangular 6:15 p.m. Jan. 16 MFL MarMac Invitational 10 a.m. Jan. 18 Jan. 23 BCI UW triangular 6:15 p.m. Aplington-Parkersburg triangular 6:15 p.m. Jan. 28 NICL (Aplington-Parkersburg) 9 a.m. Feb. 1

Regional Duals TBA

District (TBA) 10 a.m.

State Duals (Coralville) TBA

State individual (Des Moines) TBA

#### Girls wrestling

Feb. 4

Feb. 8

Feb. 15

Feb. 19-22

Ella Schares, Sr.: Injury woes limited Schares last season, who has always shown fight and promise the previous two seasons. Schares, who is 33-40 because of said injury issues, begins at a better weight class for her this season and hopes to hit certain benchmarks en route to the goal — her first state tournament berth. She's also helped carry forth a growing trend as more Wapsie Valley girls join the Sumner-Fredericksburg/

See SPORTS PREVIEW, A11



The 2024-25 Wapsie Valley wrestling team is, from left to right: Front row, Kiptyn Cox, Kayden Bentley, Cooper Frost, Brayden Berinobis. Second row, Krayton Zimmerman, Wally Kaufman, Sawyer Krall, Dallas Tisue, Kanen Decker. Third row, Jonah Frost, Greyson Miller, Hayden Hilsenbeck, Caleb Hogan, Landon



The Sumner-Fredericksburg/Wapsie Valley girls wrestling team is, from left to right: Front row, Emerie Parkes, Kiana Hilsenbeck, Malenna Sander, Kylie Belinsky and Kaydnce Cowell. Back row, Isabel Christensen, Ella Pitz, Ella Schares, Jamie Jones, Cami Judisch and Brae-Ivn Suckow. Not pictured: Macyn Schultz.

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#### WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

# Area athletes to watch for this sports season

CONTINUED FROM A10

Wapsie Valley co-op.

Coach: Alicia Jones (Third season) 2023-24: 10-1

Postseason: Isabel Christensen (2-2, state; fourth, regional), Cameryn Judisch (1-2, state; regional champion), Braelyn Suckow (1-2, state; third, regional)

Key returnees: Christensen (Sr.), Jamie Jones (Jr.), Judisch (Sr.), Ella Pitz (Sr.), Ella Schares (Jr.), Braelyn Suckow (Soph.)

Newcomers: Kylie Belinsky (Soph.), Kaydnce Cowell (Jr.), Kiana Hilsenbeck (Fr.), Emerie Parkes (Jr.), Maleena Sander (Jr.), Macyn Schultz (Soph.)

Independence Invitational 9 a.m.

Dec. 3 Central Elkader Invitational 5 p.m. Dec. 10 Waverly-Shell Rock Invitational 4 p.m. South Winneshiek Invitational 5:30 p.m. Prairie Invitational 9 a.m. Dec. 21 Denver Invitational 10 a.m. Aplington-Parkersburg/Columbus Catholic 6:15 p.m. Jan. 9 Central Elkader Invitational 4:30 p.m. Jan. 10 Jan. 16 Columbus Catholic/North Tama 6:15 p.m. Oelwein Invitational 10 a.m. Sumner-Fredericksburg Invitational 6 p.m. Jan. 21 Northern Iowa Invitational (Mason City) 10 a.m. Class 1A regional tournament TBA Feb. 6-7 Class 1A state tournament (Coralville) TBA

#### Boys basketball

Nov. 23

Tanner Bergmann and Briggs Boehme, Jrs.: The first Warriors losing season since 2015-16 at least gave Marty McKowen an inside-outside building block to reconfigure around. Boehme was something known after contributing as a freshman but moved to the forefront with a teambest 311 points and 92 assists. Bergmann jumped to varsity as a sophomore and put up 249 points and a team-best 173 rebounds and 35 blocks. McKowen will fill in role spots around them as Wapsie hopes to shake off a one-season aberration.

Coach: Marty McKowen (41st season, 653-306)

2023-24: 3-19 (0-8 NICL East)

Postseason: 0-1, District 4-1A

Key returnees: Bryar Bellis (Soph.), Tanner Bergmann (Jr.), Briggs Boehme (Jr.), Jayden Griese (Sr.), Blake Hesse (Jr.), Landen Moulds (Soph.), Weston Schares (Sr.)

Newcomers: Braden Bantz, Brody Bantz (Sr.), Brock Berg, Griffin Brown, Mason Curley, Dawson Fenton, Elijah Heasley-Eike, Gavin Henry, Carter Kaufman (Jr.), Daniel Matthias, Ryker Oberle, Andrew Wehling, Tate Wilkinsen

Dec. 6 at Dike-New Hartford 7:45 p.m.
Dec. 10 Union Community 7:45 p.m.
Dec. 13 at Denver 7:45 p.m.
Dec. 17 at Sumner-Fredericksburg 7:45 p.m.
Dec. 20 at Oelwein 7:45 p.m.
Dec. 21 Cedar Valley Christian (UIU Shootout, Fayette) 4:30 p.m.

at AGWSR 7:45 p.m.

Jan. 5 at Gladbrook-Reinbeck 7:45 p.m.
Jan. 7 at Tripoli 7:45 p.m.

Jan. 10 Columbus Catholic 7:45 p.m.

Jan. 14 at Jesup 7:45 p.m.
Jan. 17 at Union Community 7:45 p.m.



The 2024-25 Wapsie Valley boys basketball team is, from left to right: Front row, Brody Bantz, Bryar Bellis, Brock Berg, Dawson Fenton, Daniel Matthias. Second row, Andrew Wehling, Gavin Henry, Braden Bantz, Blake Hesse, Ryker Oberle, Elijah Heasley-Eike. Third row, Griffin Brown, Weston Schares, Briggs Boehme, Tanner Bergmann, Landen Moulds, Tate Wilkinsen, Mason Curley. Not pictured: Ryce Burgart, Jayden Griese, Carter Kaufman, Jayden Griese, Tyler Schoer.



GIDAL KAISER | OELWEIN DAILY REGIST

Wapsie Valley girls basketball, from left to right: Front row, Abby Mann, Kalle Voy, Ava Meyer, Jaylin May. Second row, Brinley Schellhorn, Martha Rulapaugh, Lariaunna Rochette, Sadie Hogan, Brinley Boehme. Third row, Kennedy

Jan. 28 Oelwein 7:45 p.m. at South Hardin 7:45 p.m. Jan. 31 Feb. 4 Jesup 7:45 p.m. Feb. 6 Aplington-Parkersburg 7:45 p.m. Feb. 7 at Hudson 7:45 p.m. at Grundy Center 7:45 p.m. Feb. 10 Feb. 17 District tournament TBA (1A/2A) Feb. 20 District tournament TBA (1A/2A) District tournament TBA (1A/2A) March 1 District tournament TBA (1A/2A) March 10-14 State (Des Moines) TBA (1A/2A)

Turkey Valley 7:45 p.m.

Waukon (UIU Shootout, Fayette) 12:30 p.m.

Sumner-Fredericksburg 7:45 p.m.

#### Girls basketball

Jan. 18

Jan. 23

Peyton Curley, Sr.: One of the emotional lynchpins and the team's leading returnee in points (215), steals (50) and assists (42), Curley got a jump-start on being the top producer and a key leader

last season after a teammate's injury. Freshman season produced 10 wins for Curley and her then-teammates, which becomes the benchmark after 15 combined victories the past two years. A relatively experienced group makes up a good chunk of the roster around her.

Coach: Tim Kelly (First season) 2023-24: 8-12 (3-5 NICL East) Postseason: 0-1, Region 1-2A

Key returnees: Maya Barnes (Jr.), Peyton Curley (Sr.), Bailey Murphy (Soph.), Kenzie Snyder (Sr.), Taylor Schneider (Soph.)

Newcomers: Kennedy Kane (Jr.), Jaylin May (Sr.), Ella Morarend (Soph.), Gracie Sebetka (Soph.)

Nov. 26 at New Hampton 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 3 at AGWSR 6:15 p.m.
Dec. 6 at Dike-New Hartford 6:15 p.m.
Dec. 10 Union Community 6:15 p.m.

at Denver 6:15 p.m. Dec. 17 at Sumner-Fredericksburg 6:15 p.m. Dec. 20 at Oelwein 6:15 p.m. Dec. 21 Osage (UIU Shootout, Fayette) 3 p.m. Jan. 5 at Gladbrook-Reinbeck 6:15 p.m. at Tripoli 6:15 p.m. Jan. 7 Jan. 10 Columbus Catholic 6:15 p.m. Jan. 14 at Jesup 6:15 p.m. Jan. 17 at Union Community 6:15 p.m. Sumner-Fredericksburg 6:15 p.m. Jan. 23 Oelwein 6:15 p.m. Jan. 28 Jan. 30 Crestwood 7:30 p.m. at South Hardin 6:15 p.m. Jan. 31 Feb. 4 Jesup 6:15 p.m. Feb. 6 Aplington-Parkersburg 6:15 p.m. at Hudson 6:15 p.m. Feb. 7 at Grundy Center 6:15 p.m. Feb. 10 Feb. 13 Regional tournament TBA (1A) Feb. 15 Regional tournament TBA (2A) Feb. 18 Regional tournament TBA (1A/2A) Feb. 21 Regional tournament TBA (1A/2A) Feb. 26 Regional tournament TBA (1A/2A)

State (Des Moines) TBA (1A/2A)

March 3-8

**A12** DECEMBER 4, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER





At POET, we believe in the power of agriculture to play a key role in solving global challenges. By embracing the Earth's inherent rhythm and creating energy from its surface, we will compose a brighter future for our children and grandchildren. | poet.com/fairbank



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

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

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Agent



Our team is happy to get working for you.



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fairbank islander DECEMBER 4, 2024 A13



#### "Financial Fitness"

WITH ASHLEA (KLEITSCH) JONES

How is it already December?! So much to do, so little time!

This time of year can bring a lot of joy mixed with a little angst. Finishing up fieldwork, planning for holiday gatherings, Christmas shopping... anything that can be put off for later gets tagged with "try me after the first of the year".

Something that we, as financial advisors, keep on our radars this time of year are RMDs or Required Minimum Distributions. Penalties for failure to take these distributions are 25% of every dollar not taken, so if you're due to take yours, it isn't something you want to put off until "after the first of the year". Especially with Inherited IRAs, which must be taken out within 10 years of the decedent's death.

Account owners and beneficiaries of the following accounts apply:

- Traditional IRAs
- SEP IRAs
- SIMPLE IRAs
- 401(k) plans
- 401(b) plans
- 457(b) plans
- Profit sharing plans
- Other defined contribution plans
- Roth IRA beneficiaries



The age you must begin distributions is changing in the future but at the time of this writing it is 73. The amount you are required to withdraw is based on your prior end-of-year balance divided by a life expectancy factor published by the IRS. If you're working with an advisor, they will have taken the liberty of calculating and executing the RMD on your behalf. If you're doing it on your own, there are tons of helpful calculators online to make sure you're taking the right amount.

Now, what to do with these funds? Some people earmark them for Christmas shopping or family vacations. Some use them for income. Some simply transfer them to a brokerage account to continue to invest in the market. Growing in popularity is using the RMD for charity gifting.

Even if you're still working and saving, charity giving can benefit both the recipient and the donor. When you donate cash to an IRSqualified 501(c)(3) public charity, for example, you can generally deduct up to 60% of your adjusted gross income. For most of us in small communities, we'd rather see our hard-earned money go to deserving organizations that directly serve us and our communities rather than to distant government taxation. Fire departments, churches, legions, memorial funds, etc. are often completely reliant on these generous gifts.

Whether you are in a saving phase, drawing from your portfolio, or even legacy planning, there are ways to make your money reflect your values.

Let us help!

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones

Financial Advisor Prime Capital Investment Advisors Cedar Rapids, Iowa pciacedarrapids.com (319) 269-7143



**A14** DECEMBER 4, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER



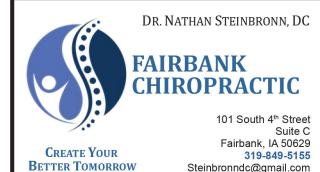




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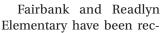


**DECEMBER 4. 2024 A15** 

#### WAPSIE VALLEY SCHOOL CORNER

#### Student Iowa **Performance Profiles**

Wapsie Valley Community Schools is celebrating impressive growth achievement as reflected in the recent Iowa Student Performance Profile. With strong performance across the district. our schools are setting the standard for academic excellence and student





**CHRIS HOOVER** SUPERINTENDENT

ognized as High Performing schools, highlighting the exceptional work happening at these schools in fostering a positive learning environment and supporting student achievement. The Junior High/High School and Rural Buildings have earned Acceptable ratings, reflecting solid academic progress and a commitment to continuous improvement. (The rural schools automatically get the same designation as the JH/HS as they do not have enough students to populate their own

We are doing the right things, at the right time, with the right people. This success is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, staff, and families. The growth we are seeing is a direct result of collaboration and a focus on meeting the unique needs of each student.

The Iowa Student Performance Profile, which measures key areas such as student achievement, growth, and readiness, is an important tool for assessing school performance. With continued support and dedication, Wapsie Valley is poised for even greater success in the future. Well done,

Our community can be proud of these accomplishments as we continue to work together to ensure every student's suc-

#### **Iowa School Finance**

This month's article on Iowa School Finance focuses on the

The General Fund is the primary fund for school districts and is used to finance most of the operational costs. It covers salaries, benefits, instructional materials, classroom supplies, transportation, and other day-to-day expenses necessary for the functioning of the district.

Revenue Sources: The bulk of funding for the General Fund comes from the state's school aid formula, which includes property taxes, state general fund appropriations, and sometimes local option sales tax revenue. Additionally, the district may levy a tax rate that contributes to the General

**Restrictions:** The funds in the General Fund can only be used for instructional and operational purposes. They cannot be spent on capital projects or debt service.

#### 2. Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL)

The PPEL fund is used for capital improvements and maintenance of school buildings and facilities, as well as the purchase of equipment, vehicles, and technology.

Revenue Sources: The PPEL is funded by a specific property tax levy (often capped at a certain amount per \$1,000 of property value). In addition to the regular PPEL levy, some districts may also receive funds from the Secure an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE) Fund, which is a portion of sales tax revenue.

Use of Funds: PPEL funds can be used for building repairs, construction, purchase of school buses, equipment (e.g., computers), technology infrastructure, and other long-term physical improvements.

Next month I will discuss the Management, Nutrition, and SAVE funds and how they work.

Thank you for your support and please let me know if you have questions or concerns.

#### **LEAD Buchanan is a new** community leadership program

Buchanan County, IA - LEAD Buchanan is excited to announce the launch of its 2025 Community Leadership Program, designed to inspire and cultivate the next generation of community leaders across Buchanan County. Beginning in January 2025, LEAD Buchanan will host monthly training sessions to enhance leadership skills, foster collaboration, and encourage civic engagement.

2025 The Community Leadership Program is designed to cultivate leadership skills and foster community engagement in our younger generation throughout Buchanan County. Starting January 21, 2025, LEAD Buchanan will host monthly training sessions in different locations throughout the county for emerging leaders in the area, with a variety of topics tailored to build essential leadership qualities and skills. Sessions will take place the third Tuesday of each month from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM at various locations across the county.

About LEAD Buchanan LEAD Buchanan is a countywide leadership development program dedicated to fostering leadership in Buchanan County, Iowa. Its mission is to inspire individuals to take active roles in their communities, strengthen local organizations, and build a brighter future through collaborative leadership. The program is open to all residents of Buchanan County that want to develop their



leadership skills and make a positive impact on their community.

LEAD Buchanan is designed to empower individuals to become active, effective leaders in their communities by focusing on personal growth, collaboration, and service. Each month's session explores a different theme, ranging from community history to healthcare, with topics that cover essential leadership skills like communication, conflict resolution, and ethical decision-making. Participants will have the opportunity to learn from experts in each field and apply their skills in real-world scenarios, strengthening their ability to lead in various sectors of Buchanan County. The program includes hands-on training, group discussions, and practical activities designed to foster leadership skills. In addition to the structured sessions, there will be a special volunteer activity month in July, where participants will engage in community service projects to put their leadership skills into practice.

**LEAD Buchanan 2025 Topics** Include:

Volunteerism Topic: Community History Leadership Topic: Assessments

Volunteerism Topic: Education Leadership Topic: Leading to Others and Show Authenticity

Topic:

Agriculture Leadership Topic: Leading to Inspire and Empower Others Volunteerism Topic: County o u r i s m

Volunteerism

Leadership Topic: Leading with **Integrity and Ethics** Volunteerism Topic: Civic Organizations Leadership Topic: Managing and

**Resolving Conflict** Volunteerism & Education Public Service Leadership Topic: Leading to

Listen and Understand Volunteerism Topic: Healthcare in Buchanan County Training Topic: Effective Communication and Public

**Graduation Ceremony** 

Pick an event(s) to volunteer at in your community

Applications are open until December 9th, so apply now!

For more information or an application for LEAD Buchanan, please visit www.growbuchanan. com/lead/ or contact Buchanan County Economic Development Director Lisa Kremer at director@growbuchanan.com

# Local News & Updates

The Fairbank Community Club held their latest meeting on November 20, 2024. The meeting was called to order by President Tammy Erickson, with 18 members present. The group was happy to welcome a new member, Courtney Rochette, who is the manager at Outer Banks.

Treasurer's report was given by Amanda Jipson and Fairbank Islander report was read by Kathy Risse.

OLD BUSINESS
Applied Gorgos Science

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Garage Sales: It was announced that the city-wide clean-up days have been set for April 7 and October 6, but the club intends to keep the garage sale dates the first weekend in May and October.

Fall Cemetery Project: A small six person team gathered at the Fairbank Cemetery on Oct. 5th to continue with the on-going repairs needed on several old monuments. A lot was done, and a spring date will be determined, depending on the need for more repairs.

determined, depending on the need for more repairs.

Vendor Fair: The latest Vendor Fair was held at the Legion on Nov. 14th. There were 29 vendors and a great turn-out of guests. The club is looking for a spring date to do another fair, as the vendors wanted to come back. A potential date of March 27th was discussed. Money raised at these events has been earmarked for future city projects. Music in the Park: The group is working on summer ideas; no plans for a winter date

at the Legion.
Shelter at Veterans Park: Since the club raised \$1,000 from the recent Vendor Fair, a motion was made and seconded to donate this money towards the new shelter to be constructed at Veterans Park.
Fire Appreciation Dinner: The club is making plans for an Appreciation Dinner to honor the Fire Department and EMT's, to take place sometime in the spring.

honor the Fire Department and EMT's, to take place sometime in the spring.
Christmas Events: Santa will be at the Fairbank Library on December 7th. Treat bags will be donated by the club.
Membership Dues: 2025 dues (\$30) are still being collected. Checks can be made out to Amanda Jipson (1080 102nd St., Fairbank, IA 50629) or payment can be made through Venmo @ FairbanklowaCommunityClub.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Cornhole Tournament: A tournament is planned for January 12th or 19th, whichever date works for the Legion. Sign up will be at noon, with bags flying at 1:00. Planning on 8 teams (32 people) with random partner drawer.

drawer.

Nomination of Officers: Officers meetings will be held the first Monday (Jan./March/May/July/Sept./Nov.) at Outer Banks, starting at 6 p.m. Voting on officers will take place at January meeting.

Bell Ringers: Buchanan County Salvation Army is asking for donations of time to be bell ringers county-wide. If interested, get a hold of Amanda Jipson for information.

Minutes in Paper: It was decided by the

club that the minutes of each meeting be made more transparent to the community, so they are aware of the many good things that the club is a part of. A summary of min-utes will be submitted to the Fairbank

slander. Sign Contact: Ted Vorwald is in charge o

Sign Contact: Ted Vorwald is in charge of the mobile advertising sign which has been sitting at Riverside Park. Randy Woods offered to store the sign in the future. Advertising in Fairbank Islander: The 24/25 advertising started with the June '24 issue. This advertising is supposed to be paid in advance, but there are still some accounts that have not been paid. This money needs to be collected soon. Invoices will be sent out. This is the money that makes it possible to have our monthly newspaper, so we ask these advertisers to please

makes it possible to have our monthly newspaper, so we ask these advertisers to please see that their accounts are up to date. Thank You's: The club thanks Wapsie Pines Tree Farm and Kathy Risse for their donations of wreaths which were raffled off at the Vendor Fair.

Legion Donation: It was decided to donate \$1,000 to the Fairbank American Legion for providing the club with a place to meet and to hold Community Club events. Their help is much appreciated!

Before adjournment, the closing \$10 drawing was won by Randy Woods. The next Community Club meeting will be held Jan. 15, 2025 at the Legion. Doors open at 5:00, meeting starts at 6:00 pm. We would love to have any new members that are interested in joining.

A16 DECEMBER 4, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Tuesday November 12, 2024. Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Kayser stated that he wanted to extend his and the council's condolences to Councilman Michael Gruetzmacher, his dad, and family on the loss of his mom and he also thanked Councilman Tyler Woods for his service to our country. Members present: Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Absent: R. Woods. Also, present at City Hall: Brian Delagardelle, Water/Wastewater Operator; Nick Kuker, Public Works; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.
Williams/Gruetzmacher to approve the agenda. Motion carried. There were no public hearings.
Gruetzmacher/Williams to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: October 28 Regular Meeting Minutes, Treasurer's Report for October 2024, Fry24 Annual Urban Renewal Report, and the Payment of Bills. The bill listing will be placed at the end of the minutes. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Treasurers Report for the Month of October 2024; Revenues - General, \$70,049.16; Special Revenue, \$39,826.03; TIF, \$37,467.10; Capital Projects, \$36.95; Permanent Funds, \$20.73; Proprietany, \$165.15.12; and Transfers In, \$27,055.00. Disbursements - General, \$66,301.61; Special Revenue, \$4,224.04; Proprietary, \$165,330.23; and Transfers Out, \$27,055.00. Balance on hand at close of business on October 31, 2024 was \$5,520,270.71.

During the informal public comment, a resident was present to talk about the goals that the city had compiled. Councilman R. Woods arrived at 6:02 pm. Mayor Kayser thanked her for comment and input.

The goals on creating the list was to provide some possible projects and directions the council could work towards for the city in the future. Some items may fall off and the list ranging from important to not as important helps create a timeline that would help during budget preparations. The intension behind the list was not to complete them all right away or

T. Woods/Erickson to approve Resolution 2024-27 – Resolution Naming Depositories. This resolution increased the maximum dollar amount of deposits allowed at NE Security Bank. Ayes: Four. Abstain: Williams. Nays: None.

None.

An architectural contract for \$9,600.00 was presented to the council from Martin Gardner Architecture for the Fairbank Public Library as they are looking into a possible building remodel or addition. R. Woods/Williams to approve signing the contract pending Attorney Prendergast's review and approval. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mayor Kayser stated that the council needed to approve an alternate to him on the Fayette County EMA Commission. He suggested Drake Mangrich. Erickson/R. Woods to approve Frake Mangrich as an alternate to the Mayor on the Fayette County EMA Commission. Motion carried.

Brian Delagardelle submitted a letter of resignation to the council on November 7th with the last day of work scheduled for December 26th of

this year. Brian stated that when he came to work for Fairbank part-time, he had never imagined it would be for as long as it has. He stated that he was grateful for the opportunity to serve the community but was ready to retire. Him and Nick Kuker have been working very close to help with the transition of him leaving. He was thanked tremendously by the council for all he has done and had to step up to over the years. Gruetzmacher/R. Woods to accept the resignation of Brian Delagardelle. Motion carried. With Brian resigning, a third public works employee was discussed. Mayor Kayser stated that he had been in conversations with Nick Kuker and that he was interested in stepping into the Public Works Director position. It was thought that having three public works employees was still needed. T. Woods/ Gruetzmacher to approve posting for an open public works position pending the utility committee reviewing the ad. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. During the council/mayor comments, Councilman Gruetzmacher stated that the Ball Diamond Project should be completed by April 1st.

During the department reports, Janice Martins was present to talk to the council about the EMS levy vote not passing. They plan to get together in December and start working on getting information out for the next election. She thanked Fairbank for their votes and that they had thought about getter. Angela Berg, the Library Director, was present and stated that they had 22 baskets so far for the Library fundraiser and that they had already received a \$500.00 donation. The library will be meeting on December 4th for their first budget meeting. Brian stated that the skid loader was delivered that past week and presented the council with information regarding an extended warranty option if they are interested. They got the snow fence installed the Christmas lights put together and are ready, got streets swept, and stated that Lonnie was signed up with the DNR for a Water Distribution 1 class. Mayor Kayser stated that he would be gone for the next council

stated that Lorinie was signed up with the DINR for a water Distribution I class. Mayor Kayser stated that he would be gone for the next council meeting.

Williams/T. Woods to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 pm. Motion carried. Bills for the Month of November 2024

Access Systems, Services \$180.01

Amazon Capital Services, Supplies\$382.88

APGA, Annual Dues \$445.00

APGA SIF, Online Access \$19.00

Arnold Motor Supply, Supplies \$25.23

Barco Municipal Products, Inc., Supplies \$309.47

Bodensteiner Implement Co., Supplies \$384.60

Bound Tree Medical, LLC., Ambulance Supplies \$408.58

Lonnie Brewer, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$75.00

Buchanan County Abstract Co., Abstract Update \$360.00

Buchanan Co Senior Center, Annual Donation \$500.00

Butler County Rec, Electric \$40,458.37

Butler County Rec, Services \$1,029.90

Casey's General Store, Gas \$743.24

Clayton Energy Corporation, Natural Gas\$2,752.76

Clayton Energy Corporation, Reservation\$5,569.54

Danko Emergency Equipment, Supplies \$1,365.25

Davis Lawn Service, Supplies \$130.00

Brian Delagardelle, Cell Phone/Clothing Allowance Reimbursement \$330.72

Don's Truck Sales, Services \$112.09

Brian Delagardelle, Cell Phone/Clothing Allowance F \$330.72
Don's Truck Sales, Services \$112.09
Dorsey & Whitney LLP, UR Plan Amendment \$5,610.50
Dakota Drish, Clothing Allowance\$91.50
Echo Group, Inc., Supplies \$185.28
Engineered Equipment Solutions, Supplies \$222.78
Fairbank Community Club, Member Dues\$30.00
Fairbank Firemen's Fund, Training Reimbursement\$100.00
Fairbank Postmaster, Utility Billing Postage \$162.40
City of Fairbank, Electric & Gas \$4,105.01
City of Fairbank, Utility Deposits Applied \$400.00
Feld Fire, Supplies \$64.10
Courtney Frush, Lesson Refund \$60.00

Brittany Fuller, Mileage Reimbursement\$302.13
Gordon Flesch Company Inc., Services \$20.6.89
Grainger, Inc., Supplies \$23.20
Hawkeye Fire & Safety Company, Supplies \$339.40
Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport, Training \$712.32
IMWCA, 23-24 Audited Premium \$743.80
lowa Regional Utilities Assoc., Rural Water \$8,970.39
lowa Rural Water Association, Annual Membership \$355.00
lowa Utilities Board, Direct Assessments \$709.00
John Deere Financial, Supplies \$70.51
Kettek, Inc., Equipment\$6,139.50
Kirkwood Community College, Training\$63.00
Kluesner Sanitation, LLC., November 2024 Pick-up Fees \$7,534.80
Winat, Inc., Supplies\$1,850.69
Krivachek Janitorial Supply, Supplies \$219.14
Nick Kuker, Cell Phor Training Reimbursement\$109.92
Kwik Trip Inc., Gas \$83.34
Michelle Laube, Cell Phore Reimbursement\$75.00
Little Wapsie Communications, Static IP Addresses/SW Phone \$64.06
MercyOne Watertoo Medical Center, Drug Testing \$30.00
Michels Trucking, Services \$600.00
Michels Trucking, Services \$600.00
Michels Trucking, Services \$600.00
Michels Trucking, Services \$600.00
Michels Rupple Control Static IP Addresses/SW Phone \$64.06
MercyOne Watertoo Medical Center, Drug Testing \$30.00
Michels Tucking, Services \$600.00
Michels Tucking, Service \$600.00
Michels Tuck

REGULAR MEETING

REGULAR MEETING
The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday October 28, 2024. Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, and Erickson. Absent: T. Woods and Gruetzmacher. Also, present at City Hall: Brian Delagardelle, Water/Wastewater Operator; Nick Kuker, Public Works; Lonnie Brewer, Public Works; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk. Williams/Erickson to approve the agenda after removing agenda item 7A — Hearing Request from Jeremy Klendworth Regarding Nuisance Abatement. Motion carried.

Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk. Williams/Erickson to approve the agenda after removing agenda item 7A – Hearing Request from Jeremy Klendworth Regarding Nuisance Abatement. Motion carried. There were no public hearings. Erickson/R. Woods to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: October 14, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting. Motion carried. Ron Miller was present to inquire if there were any plans to go back over the streets that were done this year with seal coating to get the excess rock picked up especially before it snows. He suggested distributing it back into the middle of the road so it could be packed down. Brian stated that they had plans to get the street sweeper out and would go over those roads.

Mayor Kayser was thinking of getting the list of goals and projects from the planning session out to the public. He wanted some input from the council and then maybe something would be ready to approve by the next meeting. Williams/R. Woods to approve the quote for drain covers for the pool from Carrico Aquatic Resources, Inc. for \$4,998.62. Ayes: Three. Nays: None.

During the council/mayor comments or concerns, Mayor Kayser stated that someone had asked him why there wasn't a stop sign on Fourth Street at the junction of Front Street. He stated that the issued nuisance abatements over the summer for grass etc. had pretty much all been resolved, and that he had planned to start the dilapidated building process to deal with some of the empty homes in town. Himself and Brittany signed up for free texting through the county but there had not been any research done with it yet. He also stated that he was going to get a group together to look over the sidewalks in town.

During the department reports, Brian stated that he had met with a representative from ICAP for an insurance audit that past week and they looked around the parks and took some pictures. They removed the teeter totters after it was suggested and he had also met with First any 12 to year the part was sugge

Soon.
Williams/Erickson to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm.
Motion carried.
Jason Kayser, Mayor
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

#### **SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

Wapsie Valley CSD
Regular School Board Mtg
November 18, 2024
Pledge of Allegiance
1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the board to order at 6:33 PM
A. Directors: Aiello, Kaufman, & Wolfe. Auel, Sauerbrei (excused) Declare a quorum.
B. Administration: Supt. Hoover, Board Sec. Arndt (virtual) & Principals: Murphy, Forsyth, & Myers (left at 6:48)
C. Others: Amy Buzynski, Brett Bergman, Vaughn Gross, Rachel Kaufman, Garett Shannon, Landen Moulds, T.J. Joecken, Logan Sauerbrei, Dawson Fenton, Blake Hesse, & virtual participants.
2. Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Aiello to approve the agenda as presented Motion carried 3-0
3. Public comment - Baseball players would like Tom Joecken rehired as baseball coach for the 25 season. Mr. Gross discussed robotics competitions, FCCLA increased participants & fundraising for FCCLA due to program not being funded.
4. Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Brent Sauerbrei as presented. Motion carried 3-0
5. Spotlight in Education-Rachel Kaufman-Discussed

the Extended Learning Program and how beneficial it

6. Board-None

6. Board-None
Superintendent-Hoover: Report included Iowa School
Performance Profile ratings-WV has made progress,

Performance Profile ratings-WV has made progress, and Declining Enrollment.

District/Principals: Report includes Parent Teacher conferences, Veteran's Day Program, Run Hide Fight presentation, Professional Development, Field Trips, Leader In Me, SIAC meeting, PLC, Career Fair, Blood Drive, & Activity Updates.

7. Personnel - Resignations - Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the resignation of Clint Munk-HS Golf Coach, & Casey O'Donnell-JH/Boys Basketball Coach and thank them for their service to Wansie

Boys Basketball Coach and thank them for their service to Wapsie Valley. Motion carried 3-0 Contracts: Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve a contract to Casey O'Donnell-Assistant Boy's Basketball Coach-Base 1/Year 0-\$2,707.00, & Caitlin McElhose-Cheerleading Sponsor-Base 1/Year 1-\$1,504.00 as presented. Motion carried 3-0 8. Old Business-Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Aiello to approve the reconsideration & reopening of the bid for prior action sale of the 2008 Chevy Uplander Van as presented. Roll call-ALL AYES

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to accept the bid of \$355 from John Kleitsch with the vehicle disclaimer for the 2008 Chevy Uplander Van as presented. Motion carried 3-0 Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the services of Martin Gardner Architecture firm for Phase III HVAC upgrades for JH/HS (\$65,750.00) as presented. Motion carried 3-0 9. New Business-Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve to approve the SBRC Special Education Administrative Costs (\$5,230.02) associated with the LIED Center Consortium Program for the 25-26 school year as presented. Motion carried 3-0 Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the 24-25 Dance agreement with Oelwein as presented. Motion carried 3-0 Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Aiello to approve the JH Girls Wrestling program for the 24-25 season as presented. Motion carried 3-0 Will wait until a future meeting to discuss Architecture needs for the track/football project.

10. Board Talking Points-None
11. Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Aiello to adjourn at 7:34 PM. Motion carried 3-0 Respectfully, Kim Arndt

National Handwashing Awareness Week December 1st - 7th

#### Did you know?

- A large amount of **food illnesses** come from unwashed hands
- Handwashing can reduce **respiratory** illnesses by 21%
- Handwashing can reduce diarrheal illnesses by 58%
- If everyone routinely washed their hands, this could save 1 million **lives** each year



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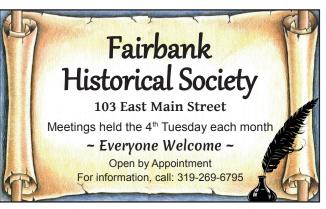
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A18 DECEMBER 4, 2024

FAIRBANK ISLANDE

# Immaculate Conception Church hosting live nativity tour on December 8







AICHELLE WEEPIE 2023 PHOTOS

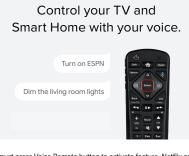
Immaculate Conception Church is hosting a live nativity December 8th. Tours of nativity will start at the church at 4:30, 5:00 and 5:30 PM. Each takes about 20 minutes and there will be cookies and hot cocoa after each tour.

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#### CITY OF FAIRBANK SNOW REMOVAL REMINDER

As we are approaching winter weather season, when Fairbank is experiencing snowfall and snow removal is needed, do not park vehicles on the roadways or citations may be issued.

Information on snow removal operations is listed below. This can also be found in the City Code. A copy is available at City Hall to review, or an online version is available on the City of Fairbank website (www.fairbank-ia.org/city-council.

69.11 SNOW REMOVAL. No person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley, or City-owned off-street parking area during snow removal operations unless the snow has been removed or plowed from said street, alley or parking area and the snow has ceased to fall.

(Code of Iowa, 321.236[1])

135.12 DUMPING OF SNOW. It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or

place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2])

136.03 REMOVAL OF SNOW, ICE AND ACCUMULATIONS. The abutting property owner shall remove snow, ice, and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice, or accumulations within a rea-



sonable time, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax. The abutting property

owner may be liable for damages caused by failure to remove snow, ice, and accumulations promptly from the sidewalk.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2b & e])



#### What's Cook'in

"We may live without poetry, music and art; We may live without conscience and live without heart; We may live without friends; we may live without books; But civilized man cannot live without cooks!

#### **Butterscotch Bubble Bread**

2 loaves frozen bread dough 1/2 c. melted butter 1 small box butterscotch

pudding & pie filling 1 c. brown sugar

1 tsp. cinnamon

1 tsp. vanilla

½ c. milk



Put the bread dough in the refrigerator overnight to thaw. In the morning, cut into cubes and place in a lightly greased 9x13 pan. Mix the other ingredients and pour over the bread cubes. Cover the pan with a thin towel and let dough rise in a warm place. Bake at 350 degrees 25-30 minutes. Loosen the edges with a knife and invert on a cookie sheet while they are still warm.



#### **Chocolate Crinkle Cookies**

1 c. unsweetened cocoa powder

2 c. white sugar ½ c. vegetable oil 4 eggs

2 tsps. vanilla extract 1 c. flour

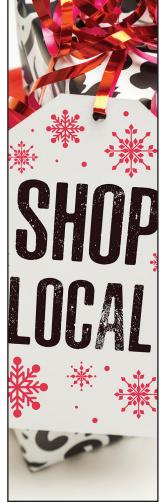
2 tsp. baking powder ½ tsp. salt

1 c. powdered sugar In medium bowl, combine cocoa, white sugar, and vegetable oil, and mix well. Beat in eggs one

at a time, then stir in the vanilla. In separate bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder and salt; then stir into the cocoa mixture. Cover dough and chill for at least 4 hours. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line cookie sheets with parchment paper. Roll all the dough into one inch balls. Roll each ball in the powdered sugar before placing on cookie sheet. I like to press down the cookie dough (just a little) with a fork. Bake in preheated oven for 10 to 12 minutes. Let stand on the cookie sheet for a minute before transferring to wire racks to cool. This was always a favorite Christmas cookie at our house!

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







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