

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Oelwein, IA 50662  
Permit # 81

# Fairbank ISLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

JUNE 4, 2025

Compiled by Fairbank Community Club - Designed by Waverly Newspapers and Printed by Oelwein Publishing Co.

VOLUME 6, NO. 6

## Few quick points for RAGBRAI 2025

- Event will be on Main Street (closed just like Fairbank Days)
- If you would like to have a food booth for your non profit or business please reach out( Michael Grutzmacher 563-608-5383)
- The town route will be coming into town on walnut st by the ball diamonds and turn right on Fairbank st. By the clinic. They will then take 281 out of town towards Oelwein
- We will have more for you come the July edition including a Map with location of everything!
- Reach out if you would like to sign up to volunteer that day also by messaging our Facebook page or sending an email.
- Check our Facebook page out Ragbrai Fairbank for the latest info!
- If you have any other questions feel free to reach or send an email to: fairbankragbrai@gmail.com

## Welsh Building's history remains with renovation



TAYLOR NOHRENBURG | OELWEIN DAILY REGISTER

John Welsh is pictured with his extensive photobook of the entire renovation process, a culmination of a year of thorough, intentional work.

BY TAYLOR NOHRENBURG  
reporter@oelweindailyregister.com

It's almost unrecognizable following John Welsh's extensive year-long renovation of his grandparent's historical 1897 Cafe that sits prominently in Fairbank's downtown corridor.

New windows, ceiling, several roof repairs, floor beams, stair relocation — the whole works and a ton of blood, sweat and tears transformed the space that John knew when he was young and as a space that housed antiques collected by his grandparents, Morris and Wilma. For over 20 years, the building, located at 115 Main Street East, housed items of the past as plans were building in John's mind that would change the Cafe's foreseeable future.

"I think a lot of the wow factor is the before and after with all the glass," John said. "When I finally decided to rip the front of this

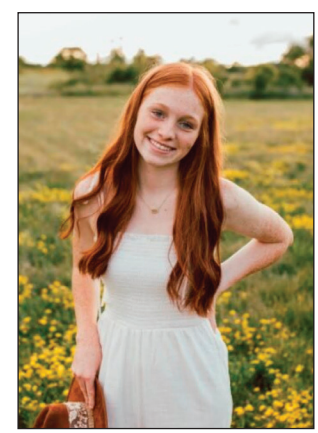
See WELSH, A2

## Six candidates seek the 2025 Miss Fairbank crown

This year's candidates for Miss Fairbank are Ava Auel, Ela Adamson, Ella Schares, Kiley Schmitz, Kalle Voy, and Norah Oldfather. Miss Fairbank 2024, Kennedy Kane will crown her successor at 7:00 pm on the Fairbank Island on Thursday, June 26th. Candidates will have completed an application and individual interviewing process prior to the crowning, as well as a small group interview and a community service project. You can learn more about each candidate in their short biography below, and we'd like to thank the Fairbank non profit organizations for sponsoring each candidate. Any questions regarding the Miss Fairbank competition can be directed to the committee members Alexis Rousch, Emily Little, Emily Martins, and Taylor Odneal at missfairbankcomp@gmail.com or through the Fairbank Island Days Face-



Ava Auel



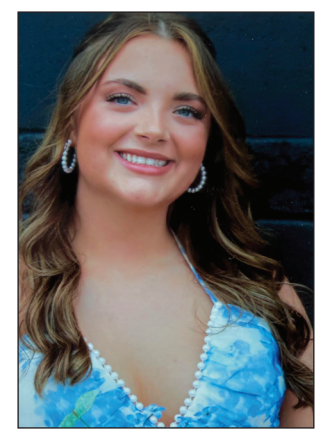
Ela Adamson



Ella Schares



Kalle Voy



Kiley Schmitz



Norah Oldfather

See CANDIDATES, A5

# A NOTE FROM THE MAYOR



**MAYOR JASON KAYSER**

May was a very active month here in the city. We continue to have RAGB-RAI meetings and planning sessions to ensure that we are the best town they visit! Like many others, Christy and I were honored to attend the sendoff ceremony and reception for our newly deployed soldiers who are set to begin their year-long overseas tour on May 29th. We are proud of these young servicemen and servicewomen and wish them the best. I also attended a couple of meetings to finalize all the loose ends at the Welsh Building and Farmer's Kitchen Restaurant. We had a ribbon cutting on Friday the 23rd and we are excited for this new business. The food

is excellent!

Again, the city looked great for Memorial Day! Thank you to our city employees, veterans, and volunteers who installed flags around town.

The aquatic center is open and running. As we hear of other communities closing their facilities because of lack of use and expense, I want to let you know, the City Council has not considered this option, and I encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful amenity that we have.

## Fairbank Aquatic Center now open



The Fairbank Aquatic Center is now open for the season. Operating hours are Monday - Friday from 1pm - 7pm and Saturday & Sunday from 1pm - 6pm, Hours may vary at times for events.

# Welsh Building's history remains with renovation

CONTINUED FROM A1

out [the facade], we did it three days before Fairbank Days and it tore the whole front of the store open and I built a temporary wall in there."

The old windows and awning that was once there is no longer as the building joined the modernity that is today with large glass black-framed windows that let in the perfect amount of sunshine into the large, homey space. The iconic red brick, both tuck-pointed and relaid by John when necessary, remains in all its red glory.

Welsh Construction, John's main business, had quite a large task at hand. The building was set for renovation following the award of a \$100,000 Iowa Economic Development Authority Community Catalyst Building Remediation grant and a city match of \$75,000. The building was so well done that the IEDA wanted to feature the property in the next year's statewide Catalyst training as well.

The building recently wrapped up the final touches put on the by the new owner Tami Pries of The Farmer's Kitchen, a new restaurant to be coming to Fairbank in June featuring breakfast, lunch, bakery items and more. The Buchanan County Economic Development Commission provided Tami \$25K towards in a revolving loan fund.

"Tami came into the picture here maybe six months ago," he said. "She came and proposed what she's got going on, and



TAYLOR NOHRENBURG | OELWEIN DAILY REGISTER

**Above left: Modern meets history with the 1897 Cafe on Fairbank's downtown corridor. John Welsh made sure to include the elements that made it feel like so during the extensive rehab over the past year. Above right: Before the drastic transformation into the modern world.**

we thought it'd be a good fit. I think it would be great for the town. She's going to offer a lot of things that I think the town needs and will enjoy."

A residential general contractor by trade, John was up to the task to give the building its glory back — and as the grandson of the building's owners, who have supported John in his journey.

"They're excited to see it back open and what we'd done with it," John said.

With a project as large as this being completed in a year, and the details put in to restore some of the historical features, it's almost unbelievable the transformation.

John said he managed to keep the main features of the old shop to bring back the his-

tory: sanding and polishing old marble countertops, refinishing the floor, the old bar and counter and turning the old elevator space into a new restroom.

Refurbishing items was at the forefront to help in cost savings. John said he travelled to La Crosse, Wis., to retrieve Marriott booths that were reupholstered with brown fabrics that fit with Tami's farmhouse style.

New accents and a fresh feel didn't distract from the love put into the building that will assist in the creation of many memories from passersby, Fairbank citizens and those looking for ice cream on a hot summer's day.

"I'm excited to have it done, but it was also a great project," John said. "It was nerve wracking at times, but it was fun."

**Deadline for the July publication is June 23. Please contact Melaine at 319-404-7116 or email fairbankislander@gmail.com**

**Fairbank ISLANDER**  
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.

E-mail News & Advertising to:

[fairbankislander@gmail.com](mailto: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

**S.S.G. Caleb Erickson PFC Tanner Curley**  
**PFC Rachel Rulapaugh PFC Matilda Miller S.G. Jayce Gray**  
**GOD SPEED TO OUR WAPSIE VALLEY SOLDIERS!**

**It's your future. Let's protect it.**

**Chris Boehme**  
Crop and Farm Specialist  
The Osborne Agency

1400 First St West  
Independence, IA  
319.334.9274 Office  
319.231.2415 Cell

**FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Auto - Home - Life - Annuities - Business - Farm & Ranch - Crop

**Gingerich Roofing Solutions, LLC**

Specialize in Commercial  
Roof Coatings  
Roof Restoration

Don't Replace Your Roof - Restore It!

**Call 319-505-3938** Free Estimates  
Bonded & Insured

**B & K AUTOMOTIVE**

Complete Auto Repair

**(319) 635-2058**

101 6th Street  
P.O. Box 252  
Fairbank, IA 50629

Serving the Community for 26+ Years!

**WCI Trucking LLC**

Connor & Randy Woods  
**Ph. 319-231-2805**

**WCI TRUCKING**

**Gavin Marine**

Sales ~ Service ~ Parts

Large inventory of parts  
to get you back on the water!

We handle your insurance claims for you!

**TOM HYDE** 319-231-8242  
GavinMarine.com 101 Industrial Drive  
gavinmarine@windstream.net Fairbank, IA 50629

# JUNE



# 26-28

## THURSDAY

## SATURDAY

- 5 INFLATABLE PARK MAIN STREET
- 5:30-8:30 COPS & BOBBERS ISLAND
- 5-5:45 HUSTLE & 5K REGISTRATION
- 6 HOUSEHOLD HUSTLE & 5K PARKADE
- 6 BEER GARDEN & MUSIC ISLAND
- 7 QUEEN CORONATION ISLAND
- 8-10:30 TEEN SWIM PARTY AQUATIC CENTER

- 9-2 VENDOR SHOW MAIN STREET
- 9-12 CAR SHOW REGISTRATION BENTLEY PARK
- 10-12 TRACTOR SHOW REGISTRATION CHURCH
- 10:30 PARADE THEME CADILLAC STYLE
- 11 INFLATABLE PARK MAIN STREET
- 11-11:45 CORNHOLE REGISTRATION ISLAND
- 12 CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT ISLAND
- 12 FOOD VENDORS PARKADE
- 12 BEER GARDEN ISLAND
- 12-4 MUSIC ISLAND
- 12-2 FACE PAINTING ISLAND
- 12-2 FOOD STAND BENTLEY PARK HOST: COMMUNITY CLUB
- 12 CAR SHOW BENTLEY PARK
- 12-3 TRACTOR SHOW GAZEBO PARK
- 1-2 MONEY IN HAY ISLAND HOST: NSB
- 1-2 PEDAL PULL GAZEBO PARK
- 7 SAMMY KERSHAW CONCERT HOST: LITTLE ISLAND DAYCARE
- 10 SCRAMBLED MESS MEAL PARKADE

## FRIDAY

- 5 BEER GARDEN ISLAND
- 5 CHICKEN DINNER BEHIND COSTAS HOST: ATOM BOMBERS 4-H CLUB
- 5 INFLATABLE PARK MAIN STREET
- 5 RIVER GOLF BEHIND COSTAS
- 5 FOOD VENDORS PARKADE
- 5 MUSIC ISLAND
- 5-7 FACE PAINTING ASSISTED LIVING
- 6 LITTLE ISLAND ROYALTY PARADE, & CONTEST ASSISTED LIVING
- 9 NOT QUITE BROTHERS CONCERT



2-FOR-1 CONCERT SPECIAL  
PRE-SALE TICKETS  
ONLINE \$50

[www.fairbankislanddays.com](http://www.fairbankislanddays.com)

### THANK YOU SPONSORS


- |                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| VERIDIAN CREDIT UNION      | BART BROS         |
| REIHER ENTERPRISES         | GAVIN MARINE      |
| KLEITSCH MOBILE WELDING    | CODE RED REPAIR   |
| LITTLE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT | NORTH IOWA SEED   |
| LEAH LYNN INTERIORS        | AJ CAMPER RENTALS |
|                            | SANDEE'S          |

# It's Baseball Season



## Fairbank-Wapsie Little League Schedules

### 3rd - 4th Grade Softball

June 4th @ Waverly (White)  
June 9th vs Don Bosco  
June 11th @ Sailor Nation (4)  
June 16th vs Cedar Falls  
June 18th @ LPC (Red)  
June 23rd vs Janesville (Black)  
June 25th @ Readlyn

### 3rd - 4th Grade Baseball

June 5th @ Readlyn  
June 10th vs Denver (Maroon)  
June 12th @ Janesville  
June 17th vs LPC (Black)  
June 19th @ Waverly (Gold)  
June 24th vs Jesup (Orange)  
June 26th BYE

### 5th - 6th Grade Softball

June 4th vs Jesup (Blue)  
June 9th @ Hudson  
June 11th vs Denver (Gold)  
June 16th @ Jesup (Orange)  
June 18th vs Denver (Gold)  
June 23rd @ Sailor Nation (5)  
June 25th vs Cedar Falls

### 5th - 6th Grade Baseball

June 5th vs Don Bosco  
June 10th @ LPC  
June 12th vs Denver (Gold)  
June 17th @ Oelwein  
June 19th vs Columbus (5)  
June 24th vs Janesville (Gold)  
June 26th BYE



**BOOK YOUR OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TODAY!**

1080 102nd St  
Fairbank, IA 50629  
Call or text: 319-404-6475  
Email: [ajscamperrentals@gmail.com](mailto:ajscamperrentals@gmail.com)  
Website: [ajscamperrentals.com](http://ajscamperrentals.com)



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

Just email [fairbankislander@gmail.com](mailto:fairbankislander@gmail.com) or call  
**319.404.7116** to start spreading the good news!



**Woods Funeral Home**  
*Our family serving your family, since 1959*  
400 Lakeside Drive Fairbank  
**319-635-2207**

# Six candidates seek the 2025 Miss Fairbank crown

CONTINUED FROM A1

book page.

## Ava Auel

Ava, the daughter of Jason and Angie Auel is an active member of Wapsie Valley Football Cheer Leadership Team, yearbook, musical productions, and archery. She is also a member of the student government, and is on the prom committee. Ava was recognized on the honor roll, and has received her varsity athletic letters for golf, football cheer, and basketball cheer.

Outside of school, she represents the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church as the head CCD Teacher for 7th grade. She also volunteers with the high school blood drives and the WV Athletic Boosters. Some of her hobbies include playing the piano, camping, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

After graduation, she plans to work as a CNA, take college courses this summer, and eventually attend a university for medical school in hopes of becoming an OB-GYN or Pediatrician. Ava's sponsor for Miss Fairbank is the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

## Ela Adamson

The daughter of Greg and Erin Adamson, Ela is involved on the Wapsie Valley Football Cheer Team, and served as the social team leader. She also enjoyed volunteering in the Readlyn Elementary School as a classroom helper. Some of Ela's hobbies include babysitting, spending time with family and friends working at the Little Island Child Care Center.

Upon graduation from Wapsie Valley, Ela would like to attend Kirkwood to further her education in business and marketing, then advance to a four year university to receive a bachelor's degree. Ela's sponsor is the Little Island Child Care Center.

## Ella Schares

Ella Schares, the daughter of Jake and Corrine Schares, participates on the softball and wrestling teams, and purposefully participates in the Wapsie Valley FFA chapter. She currently serves as chapter Vice President and has earned her Greenhand, Chapter, and Iowa Degrees along with being named the All-Star Sophomore FFA Member. Ella has also completed over 170 hours of volunteer work in the Silver Cord program, and earned yearly Academic Achievement Awards.

Ella was crowned as the 2024-2025 Bremer County Beef Queen after serving the previous year as Bremer County Beef Princess. She stays actively involved with the Bremer County Cattlemen's Association and helps at the Bremer County Fair through the Rainbow Clovers 4-H Club. Some of her other hobbies include staying active through sports, helping on her family's farm, babysitting, and being outdoors.

After graduation from high school, Ella would like to attend Allen College to earn her nursing degree to work as a labor and delivery nurse. The Fairbank Community Club is her sponsor for the Miss Fairbank competition.

## Kiley Schmitz

Kiley, the daughter of Kurt and Jackie Schmitz, is a member of the Wapsie Valley track, volleyball, and basketball teams. She is also a member of the high school choir, involved with the prom committee, and is a member of the leadership club. Kiley has been academically recognized on the honor roll, and serves as a 7th grade mentor. Outside of school, you can find Kiley teaching religious education and helping out at the Fairbank American Legion.

Kiley enjoys running half marathons, crafting and sewing, playing on her club volleyball team, and works at Balanced Nutrition in Fairbank. After high school graduation she would like to attend cosmetology

school, and has dreams of opening her own beauty salon someday. The Fairbank American Legion is Kiley's queen candidate sponsor.

## Kalle Voy

Kalle is the daughter of Kevin and Danielle Voy. She is a member of Wapsie Valley volleyball, basketball, softball, and track & field teams. She is high school football team manager, is actively involved in the FFA chapter, and enjoys volunteering her time within the Silver Cord program. Kalle serves as the treasurer of the Luther League youth organization and participates in youth group.

Some of her other hobbies include cooking, baking, crafting, hanging with family and friends, playing sports, and doing nails. After graduation from high school she plans to attend cosmetology school to earn her degree, and then work at a salon. The Fairbank American Legion Auxiliary is sponsoring Kalle.

## Norah Oldfather

Norah is the daughter of Gabe and Stephanie Oldfather. She participates in Wapsie Valley musical productions, is a football team cheer co-captain, plays basketball and golf, is on the prom committee, and serves as a student ambassador. Norah was elected into the National Honors Society and is currently applying for a guaranteed Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) scholarship for the University of Northern Iowa. She helps in the WV concession stand, has helped the legion with memorial day preparations, and enjoys volunteering in the 4th grade classroom.

Outside of school activities, she enjoys kayaking, watching movies with friends and shopping. Upon high school graduation, Norah plans to attend University of Northern Iowa to major in elementary education. Her sponsor for the Miss Fairbank competition is the Fairbank Fire & EMS Association.

## Celebration of Life

### Jeanne Hermsen

June 20, 1956 - May 26, 2025

Jeanne F. Hermsen, 88, passed away with family by her side on May 26, 2025 at Lexington Estates, in Independence, Iowa.



Jeanne Frances Robinson was born on December 4, 1936 in Fairbank, Iowa to Norman and Mary F. "Peg" (Kane) Robinson.

She attended Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Fairbank and graduated in 1954.

On June 20, 1956, Jeanne married James Herbert Connell in Mannheim-Sandhofen, Germany, where he was stationed. In the late 50's Jeanne and Jim returned to the states and finally settled in Iowa. They followed Jim's passion of flying and working in the aviation field, and operated multiple airports during their marriage. Jeanne managed the bookkeeping and assisted with managing their aviation business from 1968-1983. Jeanne and Jim had six children together and many are still working in the aviation industry. They later divorced in 1984.

Jeanne also worked at Walnut Grove in Independence from 1973-1997 where she ended her working career as Depot Manager.

On September 20, 1994, Jeanne married Merlin Gilbert Hermsen. Merlin did not have any children and loved that he could share hers. Merlin died on November 21, 2020.

Jeanne served on the Independence City Council for 2 terms from 1999-2005 and 2010-2013. She was a member of St. John's Catholic Church, Rosary Society and Catholic Daughters of America.

Jeanne is survived by her 6 children, Michael (Ava) Connell, Decorah, IA, Patrick (Anna) Connell, Kingman, AZ, David (Kris) Connell, Lakeville, MN, Kathleen (Rocky) Hettinger, Gilbert, AZ, Dianne (Chip) Davis, Urbandale, IA, and Krista James, Independence, IA, thirteen grandchildren, eight step grandchildren, twenty-three great grandchildren, a brother; Randy (Suzie) Robinson, Fairbank, IA, two sisters; Sharon Robinson, Oelwein, IA, Denise Robinson, Boone, IA, and a sister-in-law; Coral Robinson.

Jeanne was preceded in death by her parents; Norman and Peg Robinson, her first husband, Jim Connell, her second husband, Merlin Hermsen, a sister, Eileen Smith, brother, Norman Robinson, and a step-granddaughter, Ashley Cooper.

Visitation: 4:00-6:00 PM Sunday, June 8th with a 3:30 PM Rosary at Woods Funeral Home and from 9:00-10:00 AM Monday June 9th also at the funeral home.

Mass of Christian Burial: 10:30 AM Monday, June 9th at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank, Iowa.

Interment: Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Fairbank, Iowa

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.

Lunch will be served at the Parish Center following the service.

## Celebration of Life

### Donna M. Higgins

March 7, 1936 - May 5, 2025



Donna is survived by her loving children; Brian (Mary) Higgins of Fairbank, Terry "Joe" (Denise) Higgins of Oelwein, Tammy (Keith) Curley of Fairbank and Sherry (Denny) Annis of Fairbank. 16 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and one on the way, two great-great

grandchildren, two sisters; Delores (Henry) Schares, Doris Randall and a brother, Rex (Glenda) Kane along with many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one son, Brad "Willy" Higgins, two grandsons, Corey Annis and Dylan Welsh. Three brothers; Ronald in infancy, Ralph and Roger Kane, one sister, Dorothy Duffy, two sisters-in-law, Verla Kane and Bev Kane and two brothers-in-law, Lucky Roberts and Jack Duffy.

A special thank you to Glenda Kane and Justin Annis for the loving daily care they gave Donna this

past year and to Cedar Valley Hospice for their support during this difficult time.

Visitation was: 9:00-11:00 AM Thursday, May 8th at Immaculate Conception Parish Center, Fairbank.

Mass of Christian Burial was: 11:00 AM May 8th at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank.

Interment: Immaculate Conception Cemetery

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.

Lunch followed after the service at the Parish Center.

Online Condolences can be left at [www.woodsfuneralhome.net](http://www.woodsfuneralhome.net)

## SEND OBITS TO

[fairbankislander@gmail.com](mailto:fairbankislander@gmail.com)

# SPORTS & RECREATION

## Wapsie Valley breaks records, snags points at 1A meet

BY GIDAL KAISER  
sports@oelweindailyregister.com

DES MOINES — Jaylin May waited until it was over to cry.

Wapsie Valley's Wartburg-bound senior teared up around 3 p.m. Saturday after the Class 1A 400-meter relay ended with senior anchor Peyton Curley hitting the line and the Warriors clocking 50.96 seconds to place fifth. Curley earned her third consecutive top-5 400 relay medal while May earned her second; Wapsie was fourth in 2023 and third last season.

Curley tried to not stare at May for too long to avoid crying herself while hugging teammates Austin Franck and Haley Stuber.

A day earlier they clocked 44.01 while qualifying for the final two hours after placing sixth in the 800 relay behind the same quartet. They ran in the same order for the 800 — Stuber, May, Franck, Curley — and clocked 1:47.37, five-thousandths of a second behind Council Bluffs St. Albert for fifth.

"I think we were all determined to get a medal this year," Curley said of that race. "Austin and Haley stepped in in the beginning of the season for us and they were a great addition. We all worked well together."

The 800 relay hit a season-best mark by a second.

"It's crazy. I think the adrenaline really helped us a lot," May said. "Knowing that was me and Peyton's last 4x2, we just had to give it our all. Kinda sad, but I'm glad we made it this far."

May's only foray into the 100 dash finals also produced a personal record (12.53) to place sixth. It was .02 seconds behind fifth and .06 ahead of seventh. She ran out of lane 1, right against the rail.

"I always have a really good start; I just need to work on holding it out, and I think that was one of the best (I've done)," she said after that race. "And I did PR, so that was really fun. I'm just happy I got to experience another high school 100 one more time. I really enjoyed it."

May offhandedly remarked she nearly became emotional halfway through the

race.

"As I was running, yeah," May laughed. "About halfway through, I was going through the motions and was locked in."

"Then I was like, 'Oh my gosh. This is my last open 100 ever in high school.' As I was running. I thought I should enjoy it more."

Adalynn Kane placed 18th in the 1,500 in 5:05.97 while the rest of the girls' relay entries placed within the top 20.

The Warriors collected 10 points to tie for 28th on the girls side.

The boys scored four to tie for 41st. The 800 relay placed sixth in 1:30.64, while the 400 relay (44.23) placed eighth.

The 400 was .02 off seventh and the 800 was .03 off fifth.

"I thought I had him. That was stressful," senior Weston Schares said after the 800.

Schares also praised his 400 teammates. Braden Bantz, Bryar Bellis and fellow senior Brayden Dana ran the 400.

"It's a medal. It's nice to be here, too, running on the last day," Schares said. "The last two years, I think we got ninth and 10th, which was kind of a bummer. But it was fun to finally get a medal."

The 800 was Bantz, Schares, Cadyn Dana and Kiptyn Cox.

"A lot of work on handoffs. That was our big thing," Schares said. "If you want to go top eight, you have to have really good handoffs."

The other three relays placed between 10-14 while Bellis (100, 20), Garett Shannon (110 hurdles, 21) and Hayden Hilsenbeck (23, discus) placed in the top 25. Schares was 12th in the 200.

Senior Hayden Szurley won four top-3 medals in the para-ambulatory running events as head coach Justin Davie smiled from ear to ear after every race. Szurley ran 15.36 in the 100, 31.87 in the 200, 1:10.73 in the 400 and 2:52.35 in the 800 across all three days.

**Class 1A state track and field meet**  
**Thursday-Saturday**  
**Drake Stadium**  
**Des Moines**  
**Team scores**  
**Boys**  
Wapsie Valley, T41, 4  
**Girls**



Wapsie Valley's sprint medley relay team — Haley Stuber, LeeAnn Oltrogge, Peyton Curley and Jaylin May — poses with their baton after Saturday's race.



Wapsie Valley's Weston Schares, Braden Bantz, Bryar Bellis and Braden Dana pose after the 400 relay.

Wapsie Valley, T28, 10  
**Boys Para**  
Hayden Szurley, T5, 28  
**Individual results**  
**Wapsie Valley**  
**Boys**  
**100-meter dash**  
20. Bryar Bellis 11.65  
**200**  
12. Weston Schares 22.99

**110 hurdles**  
21. Garett Shannon 16.00  
**Discus**  
23. Hayden Hilsenbeck 116 feet, 3 inches; 35.43 meters  
**Relays**  
6. 800 1:30.64 (B. Bantz, K. Cox, C. Dana, W. Schares)  
8. 400 44.23 (B. Bellis, W. Schares, B. Dana, B. Bantz)  
10. 1,600 3:28.13 (B. Bantz, K. Cox, D. Tissue, W. Schares)  
12. Sprint medley 1:36.02 (B. Bellis, B. Dana, K. Cox, B. Bantz)  
14. 110 shuttle hurdle 1:03.64 (G. Shannon, G. Henry, T. Wilkinson, M. Weepie)  
**Boys Para ambulatory**  
Hayden Szurley  
100: 3, 15.36 200: 3, 31.87  
400: 2, 1:10.73 800: 2, 2:52.35  
**Girls**  
**100**  
6. Jaylin May 12.53  
1,500  
18. Adalynn Kane 5:05.97  
**Relays**  
5. 400 50.96 (H. Stuber, J. May, A. Franck, P. Curley)  
6. 800 1:47.37 (H. Stuber, J. May, A. Franck, P. Curley)  
11. 1,600 10:15.46 (A. Wierck, B. Boehme, K. Moulds, A. Kane)  
13. Sprint medley 1:54.20 (H. Stuber, L. Oltrogge, P. Curley, J. May)  
19. Distance medley 4:26.32 (P. Curley, L. Oltrogge, K. Moulds, A. Kane)  
20. 400 shuttle hurdle relay 1:12.57 (A. Franck, H. Stuber, E. Morarend, K. Voy)



Above left: Wapsie Valley's Hayden Szurley gets out of the blocks during the para-ambulatory 100-meter dash Saturday. Above right: Wapsie Valley's Peyton Curley, right, and Jaylin May hug after the seniors ran the final race of their prep careers.

Parkview Assisted Living Invites You To

# DONUTS With DADS



**Friday June 13, 2025** 10am - 11:30am  
114 Forest Street  
Fairbank, IA 50629

Come & enjoy donuts, coffee, tea or juice with your dads, uncles, grandpas or friends

RSVP to Betty 319-635-2585 or [parkviewassistedliving@gmail.com](mailto:parkviewassistedliving@gmail.com)

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## Church + Services




**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. 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  
1<sup>st</sup> 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




**Lew Boehme**  
319-415-5547

**Mitch Coffin**  
319-415-2472

**#3 Ag Lender in Iowa\***  
**Top 50 Ag Lender in the Nation\***

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




**Adam Schaufenbuel**  
Vice President, Waverly



**Megan Niewoehner**  
Loan Officer, Oelwein

MEMBER FDIC

[www.bankfidelity.bank](http://www.bankfidelity.bank) | 800.403.8333

**Balance Made Easy.**

Balance your retirement goals with your life insurance needs with The Balanced Program from Ozark National Life. You may even qualify for substantial tax savings with a Roth IRA. Let me show you how!




**Joe Kleitsch**  
Home: 319-635-2297  
Cell: 319-269-1443  
[joseph.kleitsch@ozark-national.com](mailto:joseph.kleitsch@ozark-national.com)




Wholly Owned Subsidiary of National Western Life Insurance Group

**Parkview Assisted Living**

114 Forest St  
FAIRBANK, IA.



\* 2 Daily Homemade Meals  
\* Weekly Housekeeping & Linen Washing  
\* Emergency On-Call System  
\* 24-Hour Security and Staff Availability  
\* Utilities and Cable Included  
\* Secure P.O. Box Included

*Caring for Our Family, One Loving Heart at a Time*

Contact us at 319-635-2585  
Stop in anytime for a tour

Check us out on Facebook or our website:  
[fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com](http://fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com)  
*We'd Love to Welcome Your Loved One HOME!*

Located directly across from Island Park, along the Little Wapsie River



**FAIRBANK**  
Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Brad, Adam & Ben Bachman

**641-330-1233      319-635-2229**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!**

# HAPPY RETIREMENT - THANK YOU

## Fairbank Elementary Retirees

This year, Fairbank Elementary is saying farewell — and a heartfelt thank you — to four remarkable staff members who are retiring. Each one has left a lasting mark on our school community through their dedication, kindness, and unwavering support for students and colleagues alike.

Mrs. Dianne McClain is retiring from Fairbank Elementary, leaving behind a legacy of compassion, consistency, and care. As a dedicated and instrumental associate, Mrs. McClain has touched the lives of countless students and staff with her steady presence and kind heart.

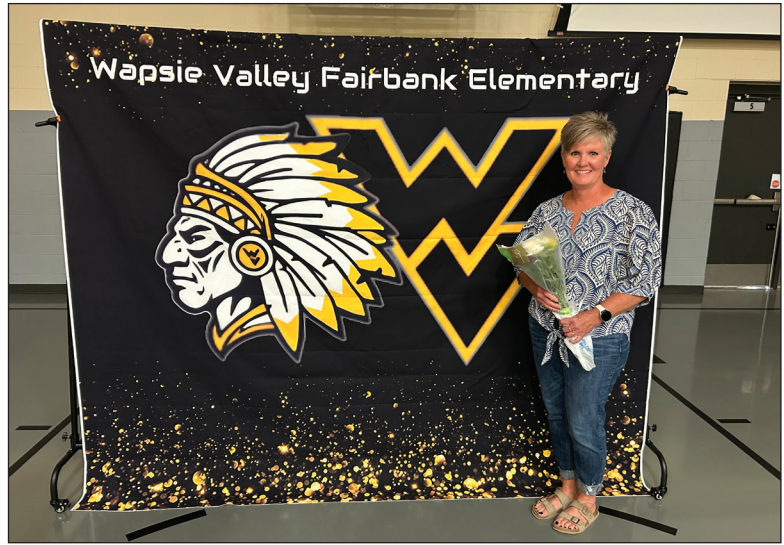
Her quiet strength and unwavering support have been a source of comfort and encouragement throughout the building. Whether assisting in the classroom or lending a listening ear, she has made a meaningful difference in the daily lives of those around her.

Mrs. McClain's contributions will not be forgotten, and her absence will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of working with her. We wish her a joyful and relaxing retirement, filled with the same warmth and kindness she brought to Fairbank Elementary each day.

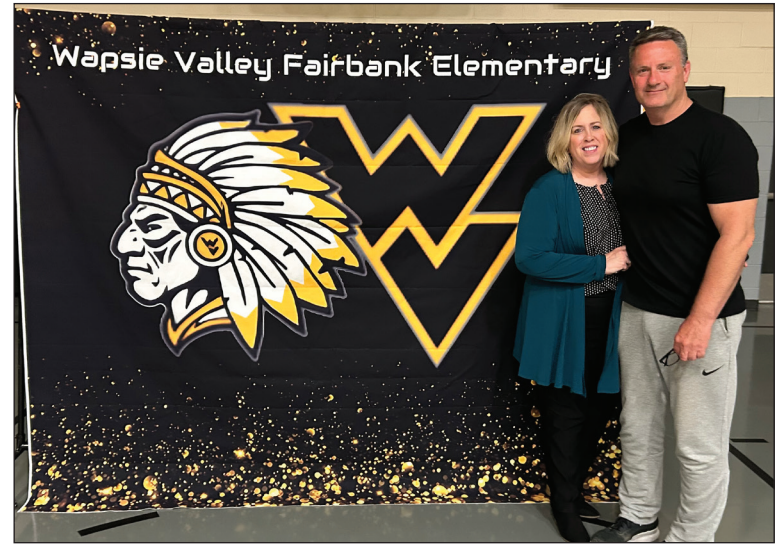
After 27 incredible years of service, Mrs. Roxie Gipper is retiring from Wapsie Valley, leaving behind a legacy of dedication, hard work, and heartfelt care. Throughout her time with us, Mrs. Gipper wore many hats — and wore them all with grace and commitment.

She served as a cook in all four buildings, making sure students were nourished and cared for. In the summers, she took on the vital role of janitor, helping to prepare our schools for the year ahead. She also served as a classroom associate and, most memorably for many, as a beloved K/1st grade teaching assistant at Rural #1.

Mrs. Gipper's adaptability, compassion, and unwavering work ethic have touched countless lives and helped shape the Wapsie Valley community. We



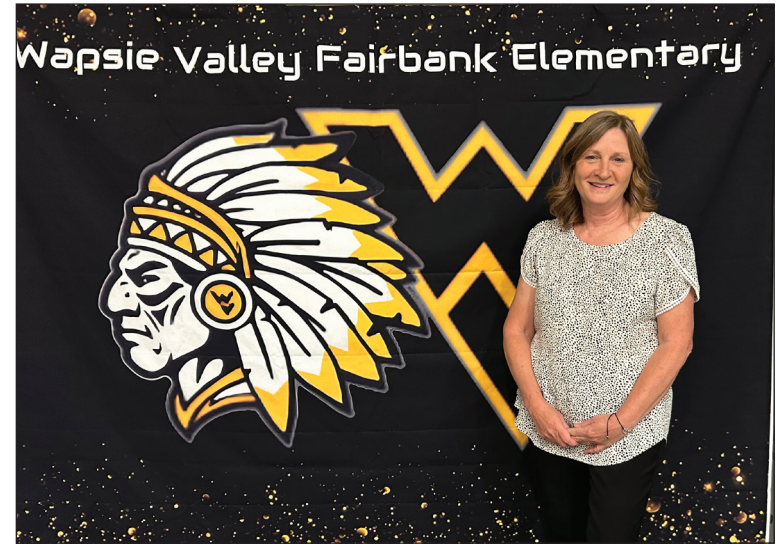
Mrs. Roxie Gipper is retiring from Wapsie Valley.



Mr. Brian Weepie is retiring from Wapsie Valley.



Mrs. Dianne McClain is retiring from Fairbank Elementary.



Mrs. Kathy Bachman is retiring from Fairbank Elementary.

are grateful for every moment she spent with us and wish her nothing but joy and relaxation in her well-earned retirement.

After 33 years of shaping strong bodies and stronger character, Mr. Brian Weepie is retiring from Wapsie Valley. As a dedicated physical education teacher at Fairbank and Readlyn Elementary, he inspired generations of students to embrace movement, sportsmanship, and healthy living.

Whether in the gym, on the field, or coaching, Mr. Weepie brought energy, enthusiasm, and heart to everything he did. His passion for teaching and his ability to connect with students have made a lasting impact on

our school community.

We thank Mr. Weepie for over three decades of commitment, encouragement, and positive influence. He leaves behind a legacy that will continue in every student he taught and every colleague he worked alongside.

Wishing you all the best in retirement, Mr. Weepie — may it be as active and fulfilling as the career you so generously gave to Wapsie Valley.

After 20 impactful years at Wapsie Valley, Mrs. Kathy Bachman is retiring — leaving behind a legacy of passion, leadership, and unwavering commitment to students. As a teacher, she poured her heart into the classroom, guiding and inspiring ev-

ery student who walked through her door.

But Mrs. Bachman's influence didn't stop there. She was also a driving force behind our PTO, helping to create countless opportunities that enriched the lives of all Wapsie Valley students. Her energy, organization, and vision brought ideas to life and made our school community stronger.

Mrs. Bachman's dedication both inside and outside the classroom will be deeply missed, but her impact will continue to shape our halls and hearts for years to come. We wish her all the best in this next chapter — may it be filled with the same joy and purpose she brought to Wapsie Valley every day.

Together, they represent decades of service, countless memories, and a legacy that will continue to shine in the halls of Fairbank Elementary. While we will deeply miss their presence, we celebrate their achievements and wish them nothing but happiness, rest, and adventure in retirement.

the-scenes efforts created a clean, safe, and welcoming environment for students, staff, and visitors alike.

More than just a custodian, Ms. Fagerlind has been a steady and positive presence in our building — and she will be greatly missed.

Thank you, Ms. Beth, for your time, your care, and your commitment to Readlyn Elementary. Enjoy every moment of retirement — you've earned it!

### Wapsie Valley Jr. Sr. High School Retiree

We are celebrating the second well-earned retirement of Mrs. Deb Buenzow, a dedicated associate at Wapsie Valley Jr./Sr. High School whose support has made a lasting difference in the lives of both students and staff.

Mrs. Buenzow brought patience, kindness, and a quiet strength to her role each day. Whether assisting in classrooms or lending a helping hand to colleagues, she was always ready to step in with care and commitment. Her ability to connect with students and support teachers has been truly valued and appreciated.

As she retires once again, we extend our deepest thanks for her years of service and the positive impact she's had on the Wapsie Valley community. Enjoy this next chapter, Mrs. Buenzow — you've certainly earned it (twice)!

### Readlyn Elementary Retiree

After 7 years of dedicated service as a custodian at Readlyn Elementary, we are excited to wish Ms. Beth Fagerlind a joyful and well-deserved retirement!

Beth's hard work, attention to detail, and pride in keeping our school looking its best have not gone unnoticed. Her behind-



Mrs. Deb Buenzow is retiring from Wapsie Valley Jr./Sr. High School.



Ms. Beth Fagerlind is retiring from Readlyn Elementary.



**HAPPY RETIREMENT - THANK YOU**

**Marilyn Steggall retires from Wapsie Valley Fairbank Elementary**



Wapsie Valley Fairbank Elementary is forever grateful to Marilyn Steggall for all of her years volunteering at our school. She and her husband, Ronny, started volunteering after they retired. They have listened to students of all ages read to them. After Ronny's passing, Marilyn continued volunteering totaling over 15 years. She assisted Mrs. Bachman with spelling, reading, and writing. She also helped on school picture day, PTO events, WV Education Foundation Board Member, and occasionally substituting as an associate. Students love her kind, gentle, and caring personality. She has been known to give extra clues with difficult spelling words and giving treats for all holidays. Marilyn is an outstanding example of being a true supporter of Wapsie Valley and giving back to her community. Thank you, Marilyn, for giving us your time and talents.

**2025 Wapsie Valley's Prom King and Queen**



**Natalie Gray and Andrew (Chuck) Matthias.**

COURTESY PHOTO

**MEDICARE QUESTIONS?**

**I CAN HELP!**

**Call me, your LOCAL Expert!**  
it's almost . . . **OPEN ENROLLMENT!**

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

**Amy Rechkemmer**  
319-635-2526 | amy@vandaeleins.com

**VanDaele Insurance**  
119 E Main St. Fairbank, IA

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

"Currently we represent 9 organizations which offer 29 products in your area. You can always contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Programs for help with plan choices."

**C AND K GARDEN SOLUTIONS LLC**  
2508 Viking Ave., Fairbank IA 50629  
Phone: 319-939-4112  
Email: ckjeanes@gmail.com

Garden Tilling – Plowing – Cultivating  
Lawn Mowing – Snow Removal - Backhoe

**PROUD TO BE LOCAL**

**POET**

At POET, 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.  
[poet.com/fairbank](http://poet.com/fairbank)

**POET**



# Meet the CLASS of 2025

## COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.  
Wapsie Valley High School Gymnasium

## MOTTO

"Better late than never, but never late is better"

## SONG

"Revival" by Zach Bryan

## COLORS

White and Pink

## FLOWER

Carnation



CHASE  
ACKERMAN



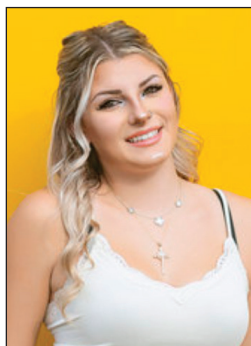
DANICA  
AIELLO



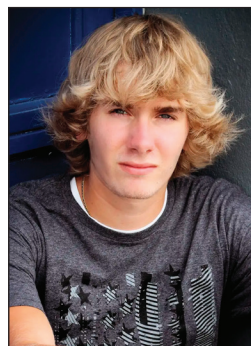
FREDRICK  
AUEL



BRODY  
BANTZ



MIKAYLA  
BIXEMAN



NOAH  
BROCKMEYER



GAVIN  
BROWN



PEYTON  
CURLY



BRAYDEN  
DANA



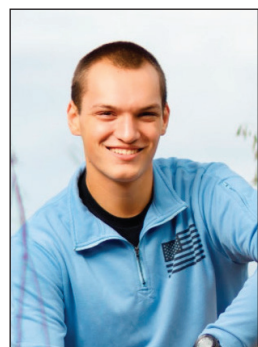
KANEN  
DECKER



KAYLEE  
EVEN



CLAIRE  
FAGERLIND



JONAH  
FROST



NATALIE  
GRAY



JAYDEN  
GRIESE



ADDISON  
HERSHEY



MACY  
HUEBNER



AVERY  
JONES



KENNEDY  
KANE



ROBERT  
LEE



JOSHUA  
LESTIKOW



ANDREW  
MATTHIAS



JAYLIN  
MAY



ALEXIS  
MCCONNELEE



ADDISYN  
MCELHOSE



GARRETT  
MILLER



# Meet the CLASS of 2025



**KYLEE MOULDS**



**BIANCA NELSON**



**AIDAN OLDFATHER**



**LEEANN OLTROGGE**



**LOGAN ROCHETTE**



**WESTON SCHARES**



**CALEB SCHNEIDER**



**TIMOTHY SEEMANN**



**MACKENZIE SNYDER**



**LYDIA STUBER**



**HAYDEN SZURLEY**



**DALLAS TISUE**



**HAILEY WEHLING**



**LUCAS WILKE**



**Oran Mutual Telephone Company**

**319-638-6006**

**Internet that is...**

- Faster than we leave on the last day of school! (LeeAnn Oltrogge)
- Faster than opening my college acceptance letter! (Claire Fagerlind)
  - Faster than leaving the school parking lot! (Peyton Curley + MacKenzie Snyder + Avery Jones)
  - Faster than the blink of an eye! (Caleb Schneider)
- Faster than the speed of light! (Freddie Auel + Jayden Griese)
  - Faster than lightning! (Garrett Miller + Alexis McConnelee)
- Faster than a student closing tabs on the chromebook when the teacher walks by! (Addison Hershey)
  - Faster than me eating my Box Combo at Cane's! (Jaylin May)
    - Faster than fast! (Joshua Leistikow + Brody Bantz)
    - Faster than Lightning McQueen! (Aidan Oldfather)
    - Faster than responding to the group chat! (Kennedy Kane)
  - Faster than pressing "Skip Ad" on a YouTube video (Timothy Seemann)
    - Faster than my brain on a math test! (Kaylee Even)
  - Faster than hungry kids running to the lunch room! (Mikayla Bixeman)

omtc@orantelco.com

5038 Main Street  
Oran, Iowa 50664



**We offer:**

- \* Weed Control
  - \* Fertilization
  - \* Lawn Mowing
  - \* Core Aeration
  - \* Grub Preventer
  - \* Spring & Fall Cleanups
- ... and much more!

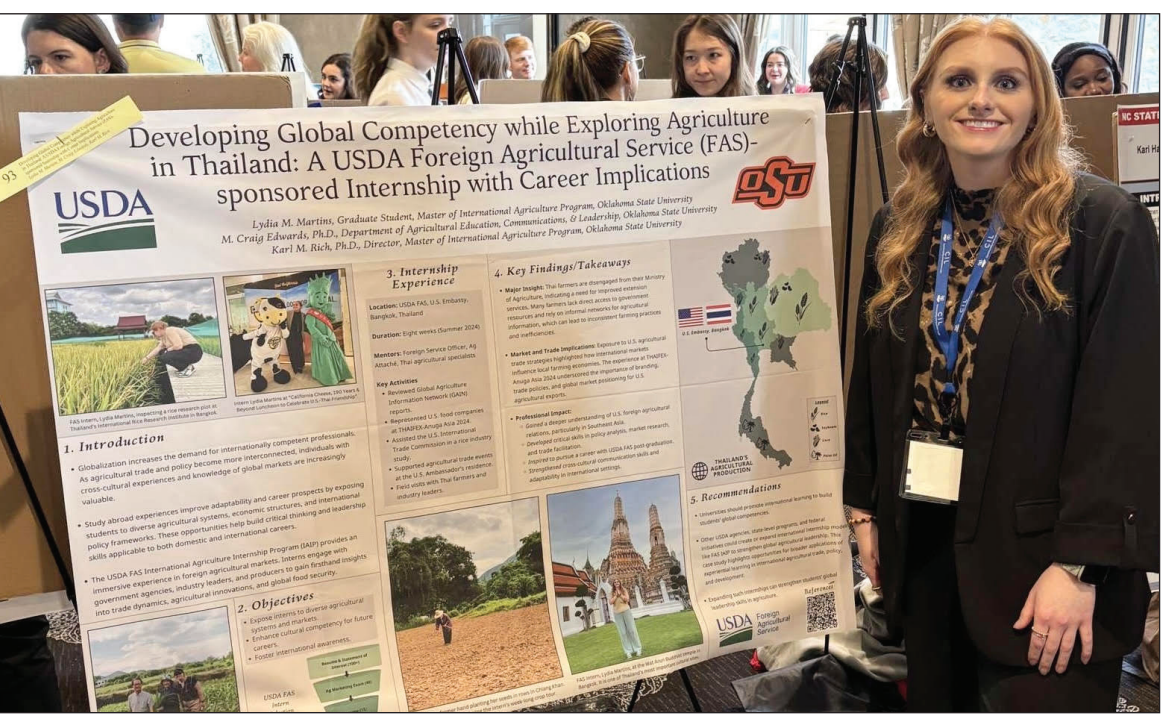
**Knowledgeable and helpful.  
Locally owned and operated.**

FAIRBANK, IOWA

# Martins graduates from Oklahoma State University with Master's Degree

Lydia Martins, daughter of Doug and Janice Martins, recently graduated on May 9th, 2025 with a Master's Degree in International Agriculture from Oklahoma State University (OSU). After receiving an undergraduate degree from Iowa State University, she completed the two year Master of International Agriculture Program (MIAP) with a 4.0 GPA from the Ferguson College of Agriculture at OSU in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

In 2024, Lydia spent the summer months interning for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service located in the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. After the completion of her internship, Lydia was selected by the Association for International Agriculture Extension Education (AIAEE) to present about her academic and professional experience in Thailand. In April of this spring, Lydia's professional poster presentation received 3rd place in her selected category at the AIAEE conference in Scotland. Martins plans to stay at Oklahoma State University to further continue her educational career this fall by pursuing a PhD in Agricultural Education, Communications, and Leadership. Congratulations, Lydia!



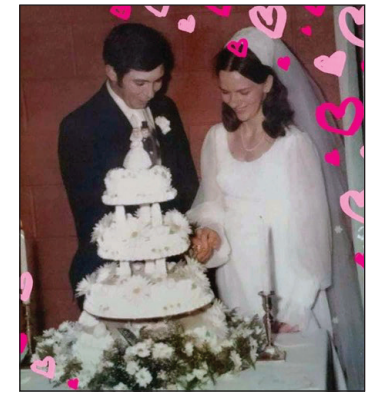
## ANNIVERSARY



## ANNIVERSARY

### Norman and Pat Pint celebrate 50th anniversary on June 7

Happy 50th Anniversary, Mom & Dad! Thank you for showing us what love, laughter, and loyalty look like. With all our love, Chris, Amy, David, Eric & Bethany



## BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday Cortney Matthias. Celebrate big on June 15th. Love, your biggest fans.

# Happy Birthday



COME JOIN US FOR

# COFFEE DONUTS & FELLOWSHIP

**JUNE 8 & 22**

Sponsored by Parish Life

EVERYONE WELCOME FREE WILL OFFERING

# June POTLUCK

Please Join Us!!!

June 18, 2025 @ 11:30 AM

Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, Fairbank

Sponsored by IC Parish Life Committee

ISLAND DAYS

# ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

EAST OF IC CHURCH FAIRBANK, IOWA

REGISTRATION 10A-12P

SHOWTIME 12P-2P

AWARDS 1:30 PM

CONTACT BILL DIXON 563.920.0772

MORE INFO AT FAIRBANKISLANDDAYS.COM

# Wapsie Valley third grade students visit the Mississippi River Museum

Wapsie Valley third grade students had an exciting fun-filled day learning at the Mississippi River Museum. They are so thankful that the Wapsie Valley Education Foundation funded their trip. Students were able to touch stingrays with two fingers. They felt slimy and smooth. Other animals that amazed them were the octopus, Big Mama the alligator, and the otters! Otters are able to recognize their caregivers, and when they see them they do flips. They learned how turtles flirt with each other by waving their claws into the other turtle's face. Students also enjoyed a tour of the William Black Dredge, which was in service

from 1934-1973. It was made from scratch in only 3 months. Women were not allowed to work on the boat, it was a superstition that if a girl was on the boat, it would sink. They worked long hours during the week, so on Friday, if they deserved a treat, they would have a fish fry and homemade ice cream. This dredge would burn up to 7,000 gallons of oil daily. The Black was capable of dredging 80,000 cubic yards of material per day. The museum challenged us to pick up one piece of trash a day. This will help protect wildlife from eating trash or plastic that harm them. We all need to do our part to help our environment.



## FAIRBANK FIRE AND EMS ASSOCIATION



Since 1865, this department has been providing protection to Fairbank and surrounding areas. This week the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) and the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) sponsor are sponsoring NATIONAL EMS WEEK! In the 1960's the

FFD fully embraced emergency medical care as the first provider in the area, and still to this day provide advanced emergency medical care and transportation. Thank you for serving!  
 Jason Kayser EMT/FF of 31 years, Cindy Woods EMT of 24 years, Brad Gordon, EMT/FF and future Paramed-

ic of 21 years, Fire Div. Asst. Chief Drake Mangrich EMT/FF of 20 years, Robert Gipper Paramedic/FF of 20 years, EMS Div. Asst. Chief Kevin Bodensteiner Advanced EMT/FF of 16 years, Chief Chris West AMR/FF of 14 years, Courtney Rochette EMT/FF of 11 years, Collin Woods EMT/FF of 7 years, Dick Chat-

man, EMT of 6 years, Amy Kaufman RN of 6 years, Elaine Zimmerman RN of 6 years, Alexis Rausch RN of 6 years, Janice Martins EMT/FF of 4 years, Kim Gray RN of 3 years, Bryce Kleitsch EMT/FF of 2 years, Jenna Beck, EMT 1 year, and Dr. Katie Baker, Medical Director of 4 years.

**Security**  
MUTUAL  
INSURANCE

PROVIDING  
POLICY HOLDERS  
SECURITY & SERVICE  
FOR OVER 280 YRS

A GRINNELL  
MUTUAL MEMBER.



319-279-3893  
 319-267-2035  
 securitymutualins.com

234 Main Street ~ Readlyn, IA



Fairbank, we are ready to serve you.

**LITTLEWAPSIE COMMUNICATIONS**

SUPPORT Local BUSINESS

OMTC  
Oran Mutual Telephone Company  
Oran: 319-638-6006

Locally owned by Oran Mutual Telephone Company & Readlyn Telephone Company

RTC Communications  
Readlyn: 319-279-3375

www.littlewapsie.com

# Fairbank Public Library



### LIBRARY STAFF

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

212 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629

Phone: 319-635-2487 Fax: 319-635-2487

Email: [library@fairbank-ia.org](mailto:library@fairbank-ia.org) Website: [Fairbank-ia.org](http://Fairbank-ia.org)

Like us on Facebook!

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



# STORY TIME!

WEDNESDAYS  
AT 10:00 AM

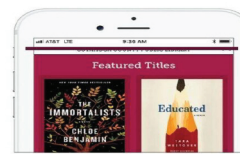
JUNE  
Library Fun!

Wed., June 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Story Time Fairbank Public Library
Thur., June 5 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	Summer Reading Kick Off Fairbank Elementary Gym
Wed., June 11 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Creature Feature Fairbank Public Library
Thur., June 12 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	Summer Reading Fairbank Elementary Gym
Wed., June 18 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Story Time Fairbank Public Library
Thur., June 19 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	Summer Reading Fairbank Elementary Gym
Wed., June 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	Story Time Fairbank Public Library

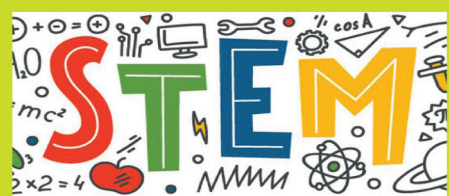


### Try Libby.

The one-tap reading app.



Brought to you by your local library and built with by OverDrive.



Watch for more information on STEM Fridays!



For Supporting Our Spring Book Sale!

## In Loving Memory

### John Woods

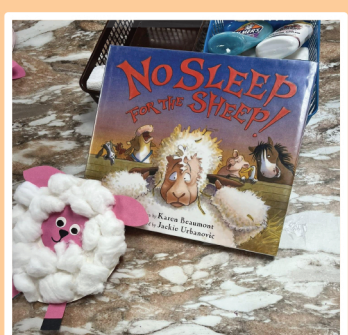
- The Best Daddy of All* ..... Adam, Julie, Sylvia, Weston & Ophelia Costello
- Stalactite & Stalagmite* ..... Adam, Julie, Sylvia, Weston & Ophelia Costello
- Hidden in Smoke* ..... Darrel & Therese Steggall
- Count My Lies*..... Kenny & Lamar Little
- Cross My Heart* ..... Kenny Wenger
- Rolling Toward Clear Skies* ..... Darrel & Therese Steggall
- The Summer of You and Me* ..... The Link Family
- James* ..... Christian & Leah Woods
- Make It Easy* ..... JJ & Emily Little
- The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits* ..... Tim & Darla Recker
- Bonded in Death* ..... Andrew, Abby & Harper Mitchell
- Nemesis* ..... The Link Family
- Lethal Prey*..... Rick & Jeannette Jones
- The Wonder Boy* ..... Larry & Rosemary Bachman
- Open Season*..... Vince & Shelly Recker
- Sunrise on the Reaping* ..... Kenny Wenger
- Great Big Beautiful Life* ..... Sam & Ben Erhardt
- The Wild Robot* ..... Asher Kane
- The Sky's the Limit*..... Audra Kane
- Alive and Wells* ..... Emily & Austin
- The World's Fair Quilt*.....Austin & Emily
- The Journey of Karoline Olsen* ..... Darrel & Therese Steggall
- Anywhere You Go* ..... from Barb & Dale Babinat Wille
- The Maid's Secret* ..... Rhonda & Scott Swanson
- Witness 8* ..... Roxanne Woods Erhardt & Bob Jerdee
- Pete the Cat Rocks On!*...Kate Swanson
- Paddington's Easter Egg Hunt* ..... Grant Swanson
- Little Blue Truck's Springtime!* ..... The Link Family
- Plants* ..... The Link Family
- Play With Jay* ..... Sam & Ben Erhardt
- Gwendolyn Grace*.....Grace Swanson
- We Are The Dinosaurs* .....Michael, Caitlyne & Bristol Bohke
- This Book Bubbles Over*.....Alice Kane
- Brown Girl. Brown Girl* ..... The Link Family
- Dirt + Water = Mud*..... Emma Swanson
- Campfire Tales*.....Pat & Julie Lansing
- The Story of the Great Lakes* ..... Pat & Julie Lansing

- Old School* ..... Pat & Julie Lansing
- No Brainer*..... Pat & Julie Lansing
- Elvis & Romeo* ..... Collin & Sydney Woods
- Orson and the World's Loudest Library* ..... Corey & Racinda Cripe
- This is Our City* ..... Jenna Cripe
- The Great Dinosaur Sleepover* ..... Nellie Cripe
- Money Doesn't Grow on Trees* ..... Kat Cripe
- The Wonder of Thunder* ..... Roman John Rummelhart
- Detoxify* ..... Alexa, Ben & Roman Rummelhart
- Good Luck, Ice Cream Truck!* ..... Andrew & Abby Mitchell Family
- How Do I Wonder* ..... Andrew & Abby Mitchell Family
- Pete the Cat Construction* ..... Juliann Cripe
- Destruction* ..... Juliann Cripe
- Meet July* ..... Beni, Nita, Emma & Ella Rushiti
- OH, Carrots!* ..... Beni, Nita, Emma & Ella Rushiti
- Tough Luck* ..... Beni, Nita, Emma & Ella Rushiti
- Take a Hike - Dr. Suess* ..... Beni, Nita, Emma & Ella Rushiti
- The Most Magnificent Team* ..... Beni, Nita, Emma & Ella Rushiti
- The Next Place* ..... The Woods Family
- Darlene Hogan**
- How Sweet It Is*.....Therese Steggall
- Dream Big* .....Therese Steggall
- And Then Comes Summer* ..... Therese Steggall
- On The Hunt* .....Therese Steggall
- Darlene Nation**
- The Puppy Place* .....Randy, Jodi & Carson Woods
- Virginia Steil**
- Let Me Be The One* .....Lori Foster
- Donna Higgins**
- The Mistletoe Mystery* ..... John & Sue Frost
- A May Basket for Frannie* .....Lindsey Miller
- Will the Pigeon Graduate* ..... Lindsey Miller
- The Missing Half* .....Amos, Angela, Brock & Braylee Berg



Please consider donating your extra Wapsie Valley Clothing Items to the Fairbank Library for a Future Library Project!

# LIBRARY FUN!



# THANK YOU!



# Island Days Little Prince/ Princess & King/Queen Competition

Attention boys and girls ages 4-9!

The annual Island Days crowning ceremony for our grade school children is right around the corner! If you are between the ages of four and nine and wish to participate, please fill out the form below and return it back to the Fairbank Library along with a picture of yourself by Friday, June 20th. Additional copies will be available at the library. Any questions, please feel free to contact Alexis Rausch 712-301-5067 or Taylor Odneal 319-239-5616

## Island Days Little Prince/Princess & King/Queen Competition

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings/Family members: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests/Activities/Sports you are involved in: \_\_\_\_\_

Hazleton Amish Community

# Benefit Supper & Auction

All proceeds will go towards Community medical expenses.



Fish & Chicken, Potato Salad & Noodles,  
Homemade Ice Cream & Pie & Fresh Strawberries



## Friday, June 27, 2025

Make plans to join us the last Friday of every month this summer!

**Supper** serving 4:00 to 7:00 pm

**Auction** starts at 6:30 pm

We are still looking for auctions donations!

Please no electronic devices.

If you'd like to donate or have questions, call 319-238-1705.

**Raffle Drawing** at 8:00 pm

We will be raffling off 3 items to be announced at the event.

Must be present to win.

## Wapsi Valley Produce Site

1500 120th Street, Hazleton, Iowa 50641

### REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday May 12, 2025. Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. 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 removing item 7. G. Resolution 2025-16 – Resolution Establishing Employee Salaries from the agenda so the administrative committee can do further review of the resolution and to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Gruetzmacher/Williams to open the public hearing on the FY 2025 budget amendment. Motion carried. There were no comments received orally or in writing. Gruetzmacher/T. Woods to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

Gruetzmacher/T. Woods to approve Resolution 2025-15 – Resolution Approving City Budget Amendment #1 and Certification for Fiscal Year 2025. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Gruetzmacher/T. Woods to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: April 28th Regular City Council Minutes, Treasurer's Report for April 2025, Approval of Cigarette Permit for Casey's General Store, Approval of Special Class C Retail Alcohol License for the Farmer's Kitchen and for Lucky Wife Wine Slushies, Setting the next regular Council Meeting for Tuesday May 27, 2025 at 6:00 PM, 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 April 2025: Revenues - General, \$164,907.22; Special Revenue, \$35,541.17; TIF, \$35,825.39; Capital Projects, \$33.66; Permanent Funds, \$117.63; Proprietary, \$230,920.63; and Transfers In, \$27,055.00. Disbursements - General, \$78,220.87; Special Revenue, \$5,652.01; Proprietary, \$182,267.80; and Transfers Out, \$27,055.00. Balance on hand at close of business on April 30, 2025 was \$5,992,007.15.

There were no comments during the informal public comment section.

Gruetzmacher/T. Woods to approve the quote from Prairie Road Builders, Inc. for the 2025 Street Repairs but have them remove items 9-14 for now. The estimated cost is just under \$30,000.00. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

A quote came in from Kluesner Construction for work needed on Christians Trail for \$41,240.00 which included an asphalt overlay from Amy Ave to Valley Drive. The council felt that they needed to gather more information regarding that project and what all would need to be done besides the asphalt work. Kluesner Construction also submitted two more quotes, one for asphalt maintenance for the walking paths located in Riverside and West Bentley Parks for \$4,166.84 and the other one for crack sealing of cracks and curb lines on city streets for \$10,911.60. R. Woods/Williams to table the quotes from Kluesner Construction until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Williams/Gruetzmacher to approve the first reading of Ordinance 372 – Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances for the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Repealing

Section 110.17 – Gas Main Extensions to Subdivisions Outside Corporate City Limits, Section 110.18 – return of Refundable Investment, and 110.19 – Gas Service Line Costs Outside of Corporate City Limits. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

T. Woods/R. Woods to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 372. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Gruetzmacher/T. Woods to approve and pass Ordinance 372. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Gruetzmacher/R. Woods to approve the first reading of Ordinance 373 – Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fairbank, Iowa, by Amending Provisions Pertaining Natural Gas and the Charge for the Gas Meter. The charge for the gas meter for gas customers outside of the City limits will change from \$4.00 to \$10.00. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The yard waste key and security at the yard waste area was discussed. The Council suggested that they felt that the goal was to be able to leave it unlocked. A better camera would help with that. T. Woods/Gruetzmacher to purchase another camera for the area. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

With the new Microsoft update happening at the end of the year, one laptop from the police department and two desktop computers in City Hall will need to be replaced. Williams/T. Woods to approve the purchase of one laptop for \$375.00 and two desktop computers for \$575.00 apiece from Premier Technology for a total price of \$1,525.00. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

A resignation notice was received from Police Chief Drish effective June 30, 2025. In the letter, he thanked the Council for everything from the last five years and stated that he planned to help with the transition if needed. Gruetzmacher/R. Woods to accept the resignation of Dakota Drish as the Police Chief for the Fairbank Police Department in the City of Fairbank. Motion carried.

During the council/mayor comments, Councilman Williams stated that the memorial trees on the island that need moving were ok'd by the families and that if there are any issues with the trees being re-planted, they will be replaced. He also met with others regarding an alternate location for the concert for Saturday night of Fairbank Days and they determined that Main Street would be the best alternate location. Councilwoman Erickson thanked the public works guys for getting the sign up for the Fairbank troops that are getting deployed. Councilman Gruetzmacher stated that everything ran very smooth with the big softball tournament that past Saturday and that the bathrooms finally were able to handle the large crowd thanks to the work that the public works department did that last year. Mayor Kayser stated that a ribbon cutting will be taking place on the 22nd for the 1897 café building and that they are looking into speed bumps to get installed by the pool.

During the department reports, the City Clerk stated that plans for the final bill for the Main Street project are in the works, and it looked like the debt will be issued in August so we can get the money and get the bill paid in early September. The bill has not been finalized yet but it is very close but there is no reason to accrue more interest if we are not paying until September. Those discussions will be starting in late June - early July. Nick stated that the drinking water inspection with the DNR went really good and that they did discuss the plans for

closing the wells as they want to see that done. Public Works were able to get some training and learned a lot about their locators and gps system. The locators that the city owns are twelve and six years old and they recommend a ten-year life for locators. Purchasing a new one to replace the older one will be investigated soon. Lonnie was in his second week at wastewater classes that he's taking to obtain his wastewater one certification. Otherwise, they had been very busy getting the pool ready for opening day.

R. Woods/Williams to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. Motion carried.

Bills for the Month of May 2025  
Amazon Capital Services, Supplies \$ 45.42  
Black Hawk Health Department, Annual Food License \$ 150.00  
Lonnie Brewer, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$ 75.00  
Butler County Rec, Electric \$ 43,741.66  
Carrico Aquatic Products, Summer WT Management \$ 2,175.00  
Casey's General Stores, Gas \$ 1,231.37  
Clayton Energy Corporation, Natural Gas \$ 8,071.93  
Clayton Energy Corporation, Reservation \$ 5,716.82

Crossroads Mobile Maintenance, Services \$ 1,698.58  
Delta Dental of Iowa, May Premium \$ 21.96  
Fairbank Postmaster, May 2025 Utility Bills Postage \$ 190.40  
City of Fairbank, Electric & Gas \$ 4,648.04  
City of Fairbank, Utility Deposits Applied \$ 600.00  
Farm Win Co-Op, Lease \$ 2.00  
Fayette Co Emergency Management, 2nd Half EMA Dues \$ 504.86  
Fehr Graham, Engineering Fees \$ 982.00  
Addilyn Fuller, Services \$ 30.00  
Brittany Fuller, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$ 75.00  
Gordon Flesch Company Inc, Services \$ 245.23  
Grainger, Inc., Supplies \$ 26.62  
Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport, Training \$ 474.88  
Iowa One Call, Locates \$ 26.20  
Iowa Prison Industries, Supplies \$ 301.07  
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc., Water \$ 8,275.64  
Iowa Sport Supply, Supplies \$ 782.00  
Iowa State University, Training \$ 314.00  
John Deere Financial, Supplies \$ 24.68  
Cam Jones & Morgan Lickiss, Utility Deposit Refund \$ 200.00  
Kirkwood Community College, Training \$ 93.00  
Kluesner Sanitation, LLC., Services \$ 8,384.80  
Nick Kuker, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$ 75.00  
Kwik Trip Inc., Gas \$ 17.50  
Michelle Laube, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$ 75.00  
Little Wapsie Communications, Static IP Addresses/SW Phone \$ 64.06  
MercyOne Waterloo Medical Center, Drug Testing \$ 30.00  
Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Testing \$ 594.00  
Miller Hardware, Equipment \$ 500.00  
Modern Building Products, Supplies \$ 2,724.79

Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co., Supplies \$ 36.47  
Myers Polaris, UTV \$ 27,272.98  
Oelwein Publishing \$ 539.26  
Michael Pint \$ 21.39  
Plumb Supply Company \$ 148.13  
Pratt's Pest Control \$ 45.00  
Premier Technology \$ 664.90  
Quick Med Claims \$ 217.05  
Randy's Lawn Care & Snow \$ 625.00  
Roberts, Stevens, Prendergast \$ 1,950.00  
Secretary Of State \$ 60.00  
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 4/1/25 \$ 10.00  
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 4/15/25 \$ 8.75  
NE Security Bank, Utility ACH Service Charge \$ 10.00  
NSB/HSA- H S A Payroll Deductions \$ 100.00  
Ken Schnor, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$ 75.00  
Storey Kenworthy/Matt Parrott, Jerseys \$ 504.00  
Sun Life Assurance Comp, Life Policies \$ 50.98  
Superior Welding Supply Co., Supplies \$ 140.03  
T & R Service Company, Equipment \$ 3,340.00  
Team Laboratory Chemical Corp., Supplies \$ 2,496.25  
Treasurer-State of Iowa, April 2025 Sales Tax \$ 3,139.75  
Treasurer State of Iowa, April 2025 Water Excise Tax \$ 1,424.98  
Turf & Landscape, Inc., Services \$ 455.00  
U. S. Treasury, 941 Benefits \$ 4,316.97  
U.S. Bank, March & April 2025 PEFA Commodity \$ 14,953.80  
Utility Safety & Design Inc., 2025 Public Awareness Mailing \$ 585.00  
Verizon Wireless, Cell Phones \$ 178.26  
Visa, AVAYA Phone System/Microsoft Email Accounts/Postage \$ 466.66  
Wapsi Valley Softball, Tournament Fees \$ 500.00  
Wellmark, May Premium \$ 3,025.28  
Winat, Inc., Supplies \$ 289.43  
Windstream Enterprise, Gas Alarm Phone Line \$ 68.36

The Fairbank Library Board Approved The Following Bills On May 7, 2025:  
Amazon Capital Services, Supplies \$ 374.16  
Baker & Taylor Inc., Books \$ 806.72  
Angela Berg, Reimbursement \$ 43.50  
Brock Berg, Services \$ 220.00  
City of Fairbank, Electric & Gas \$ 183.99  
Irvine Water Conditioning, Services \$ 168.53  
Modern Building Products, Supplies \$ 11.49  
Overdrive, Inc., eBooks \$ 1,000.00  
Pratt's Pest Control, Services \$ 45.00  
Roberts, Stevens, Prendergast, Attorney Fees \$ 112.50  
NE Security Bank, Payroll Process Fee 4/15/25 \$ 1.25  
US Cellular, Hotspots \$ 0.60  
Visa, Microsoft Office/AVAYA Phone System \$ 52.72  
Jason Kayser, Mayor  
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

**Wapsie Valley CSD  
Regular Meeting Minutes & Bills  
May 19, 2025**

Pledge of Allegiance  
President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:41 PM  
Directors: Auel, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Aiello, & Kaufman (excused) Declared a quorum  
Supt. Hoover, Secretary Arndt, & Principals Forsyth, & Murphy. Myers (excused)  
Others Present: Mae Wedemeier, Gwen Forsyth, Bella Farley, Claire O'Donnell, & Vaughn Gross  
Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
Public Comment: Vaughn Gross - Discussed four day work week and cell phone policy.  
Spotlight on Education-Mae, Gwen, Bella, & Claire discussed the valuable information they received from attending the two Student Improvement Advisory Committee meetings.  
Consent Items: Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Kaufman including MacKenzie & Rachel Klendworth request to open enroll their 6th and 8th-grade sons into WV from Sumner-Fredericksburg after a family move, Melanie Billington request to open enroll her 3rd grade son to Dunkerton after a family move effective June 2025 as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
Communication & Reports: Board: Great job with commencement. Thanks to the great team we all work with.  
Superintendent Hoover: It's School Board Recognition month!! Thanks to all board members for your support and deduction to WV! Report includes HVAC, Football/Track project, Retirement Awards, & Events, & Personal Electronic Devices. District & PK Principals: 6th-grade JH orientation, Student Engagement Leadership, Concerts, Awards night, Professional Development, Graduation, Successful Academic Model Implementation, Retirees, & Activities.  
8. Personnel-Resignation: Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the resignations of Liz Bergman-JH Girls Basketball, Beth Dixon-Part-time custodial, & Casey O'Donnell-JH Football as presented and thank them for their service to the students and staff at WV as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
9. Contracts: Moved by Sauerbrei, seconded by Auel to approve 25-26 Teaching contracts with an increase of \$2,500 for all teachers that are brought up to the state minimum from \$47,500 to \$50,000 and \$2,000 increase from \$60,000 to \$62,000. All other teachers will receive a flat increase of \$2,000 plus an educational-longevity increase based on each employee's indexed percentage from the 25-26 salary schedule, the total package is 3.16%, a 3.00% increase for 25-26 support staff contracts, Logan Flack - JH Baseball Coach-\$1,805, Chris Hoover-25-26 Superintendent \$165,280.89 (Contract) + \$300 (cell annually) \$165,580.89, Kim Arndt - 25-26 School Business Official \$104,385.81 + \$13,333.80 (difference family/single insurance) + \$300 (Cell) = \$118,019.61, Tina Kaufman-25-26 Human Resource Director/Central Office Employee \$58,656 + \$300 (Cell annually) = \$58,956.00, Holly Myers-25-26 Fairbank Principal

85,416.48 (Contract) +\$13,333.80 (difference, family/single insurance) + \$300 (cell annually) \$99,050.28, Alyson Forsyth-25-26 Readlyn/PK-6 Rural Principal \$88,619.60 (Contract) +\$13,333.80 (difference family/single insurance) + \$300 (cell annually) \$102,253.40, Timothy (TJ) Murphy-25-26 7-12 Principal \$91,822.72 (Contract) +\$13,333.80 (difference family/single insurance) + \$300 (cell annually) \$105,456.52 as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
10. New Business: Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the 25-26 Facility Operations & Maintenance Manager Agreement with Janesville as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
Moved by Sauerbrei Seconded by Auel to approve the Sharing Agreements with Central Rivers for 25-26 Curriculum Director, \$26,949 (39 days), & Special Education Director, \$45,600 (76 days), Technology Services, \$77,250 (3 days a week), Work Based Learning Coordinator, \$13,129 (19 days), Work Experience Coordinator, \$13,129 (19 days) as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the epoxy floor quote from Lifetime Coatings, \$11,200 for the JH/HS locker rooms as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the 2026 early graduate for Sam Platte pending all requirements are made as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve increasing Teacher Substitute pay from \$120 to \$130 per day effective the 25-26 school year and approving a Teaching Substitute contract for 25-26 school year for Jason Helgens at \$130 per day as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the 25-26 28E CAPS Agreement with Tripoli as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
11. Board Talking Points: None  
12. Moved Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to adjourn at 7:05 as presented. Motion carried 3-0  
BILLS: ACCESS SYSTEMS \$222.43 AGVANTAGE FS \$6,370.16 AHLERS & COONEY \$556.00 ALLIANT ENERGY \$327.24 Amazon \$464.72 BEST BUY \$695.93 BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$233.18 BUTLER COUNTY REC \$3,270.36 CASEY'S \$48.39 CEDAR FALLS CSD \$9,450.35 CHEMSEARCH \$221.65 CITY LAUNDRY \$1,360.60 CITY OF FAIRBANK \$6,261.22 CITY OF READLYN \$2,697.95 COLUMN SOFTWARE \$234.40 CONTINENTAL RESEARCH \$353.66 COURIER COMM \$221.40 EAST-CENTRAL IA REC \$1,070.86 ELITE SPORTS \$364.00 Employee Benefit Systems \$80,396.78 EMS DETERGENT \$17.35 FERGUSON \$109.89 Flinn Scientific \$117.77 FREDERIKA LOCKER \$1,160.00 hand2mind \$2,759.97 HAWKEYE COMM CLGE \$718.12 HERSHBERGER, MARY BETH \$53.13 HILLYARD \$926.80 Home Science Tools \$274.17 IA REGIONAL UTILITIES \$462.23 JOANN FABRICS \$60.00 JOSTENS INC \$261.90 KLUESNER SANITATION \$640.00 LITTLE WAPSIE COMM \$175.08 LOCKSPERTS \$134.83 MARCY PRO \$51.24

Menards \$67.34 MENZEL, EMMA \$148.68 MICHAEL, BLAKE \$625.00 MILLER, CATHERINE \$85.00 MODERN BUILDING \$79.94 MURPHY, TJ \$100.00 MYSTERY SCIENCE \$1,695.00 NORTHWESTERN CLGE \$2,270.00 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE \$161.00 Prairie Meadows \$338.24 RABER, EDNA \$53.13 RAISA A HALLELUJAH \$1,400.00 READLYN TELEPHONE \$187.99 RENAISSANCE \$1,512.20 RIVERSIDE INSIGHTS \$453.60 SCHOOL BUS SALES \$462.73 SCRIBNER, RACHEL \$761.60 SUPERIOR WELDING \$2,875.59 TAYLOR PHYSICAL THERAPY \$375.00 TIMBERLINE \$285.66 U.S. POST OFFICE \$2.19 Walmart \$185.47 WV Archery \$300.00 WAVERLY CSD \$29,172.15 WEEDS ON FIRE \$2,292.00 Z'S PIZZA \$52.50 General Total \$168,685.77 Employee Benefit Systems \$5,431.20 Management Total \$5,431.20 BLUUM OF MINNESOTA \$2,629.50 MARTIN GARDNER ARCHITECTURE \$2,793.12 SAVE Total \$5,422.62 ACCESS SYSTEMS \$1,663.30 Amazon \$508.29 BIRDY BOUTIQUE \$575.00 BSN SPORTS \$18,498.00 CEDAR FALLS CSD \$1,488.20 Central Rivers AEA \$657.14 DKW TREE SRVC \$1,600.00 FERGUSON \$979.96 Krall, Jill \$295.00 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE \$100.00 STICKFORD ELECTRIC \$447.39 YOUNG PLMBG & HTNG \$1,353.15 PPEL Total \$28,165.43 Amazon \$637.41 BLUUM OF MINNESOTA \$1,687.74 BRAIN POP \$275.00 CORAL RIDGE ICE RINK \$48.00 Dollar Tree \$58.75 MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM \$945.40 Teacher Synergy \$16.25 Teachers Pay Teachers \$46.24 Thrift Books \$77.71 WVEF Total \$3,792.50 WEST MUSIC \$649.00 Gallup Trust Total \$649.00 4 SEASONS FUND RAISING \$1,940.30 ALLISON, GAIL \$210.00 Amazon \$583.68 APLINGTON-PARKERSBURG \$550.00 BOUND \$120.00 BSN SPORTS \$1,221.00 Buzynski, Melaine \$200.00 Central Rivers AEA \$112.50 CHICK-FIL-A \$10.11 COLUMBUS CATHOLIC HS \$145.00 CZECHMIX'S COOL TUNES \$275.00 DENVER CSD \$365.00 DIKE-NEW HARTFORD CSD \$350.00 DOESE PHOTOGRAPHY \$24.00 EASTERN IA LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP \$882.00 EDGEWOOD LOCKER \$10,515.00 ELITE SPORTS \$1,013.13 Endene, Massoma \$350.00 Fairfield Inn & Suites \$423.36 FRANCK, JASON \$70.00 GOLF WATERLOO \$120.00 Greenhouse Megastore \$215.45 GRUNDT CENTER CSD \$350.00 Hampton Inn \$5,342.40 HIGHLAND PARK \$90.00 HONORS GRADUATION \$54.00 HUDSON CSD \$325.00 INDEPENDENCE CSD \$225.00 IA FCCLA \$372.00 IGHAU \$15.00 IA SPORTS SUPPLY \$914.00 JESUP CSD \$220.00 JOSTENS INC \$1,047.35 KAUFMAN, WALLACE \$32.16 LISBON CSD \$100.00 MAY, JAMES \$50.00 MICHELL'S \$104.65 MISSISSIPPI RIVER MUSEUM \$652.65 NASHUA-PLAINFIELD HS \$110.00 NEW HAMPTON CSD \$100.00 PEYTON, JAYDEN \$350.00 Pheasant Ridge Golf Course \$80.00 PIZZA RANCH \$452.38 Prairie Links Golf & Event Center \$480.00 PRIES PROMO \$85.00 SHANNON, HEIDI \$58.90 SKILLS USA \$80.00 SOUTH WINN COUNTRY CLUB \$60.00 SOUTH WINNESHEIK CSD \$90.00 Subway \$234.00 TAYLOR PHYSICAL THERAPY \$127.50 Waterloo Community Playhouse \$590.00 WAVERLY CSD \$75.00 WEEPIE, ELLA \$500.00 WV FFA ALUMNI \$2,100.00 X-GRAIN SPORTSWEAR \$919.00 Activity Total \$36,081.52 COCA-COLA \$453.02 EMS DETERGENT \$376.65 KWIK TRIP \$13.92 MARTIN BROS. \$16,312.17 PRAIRIE FARMS \$2,699.98 WILSON RESTAURANT \$849.36 YOUNG PLMBG & HTNG \$229.50 Lunch Total \$20,934.60

**Wapsie Valley CSD  
Special Board Meeting  
Minutes-VIA Phone  
May 23, 2025**

President Wolfe called the Special Meeting of the Board to order at 7:32 AM.  
A. Directors: Auel, Aiello, Kaufman, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Declared a quorum  
B. Supt. Hoover Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0 Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Auel to approve the 5-12 Band Teacher for 25-26 school year, Jaylyn Gibbs - \$38,339 (Base Contract) + \$11,661 (TSS) = \$50,000 as presented. Motion carried 5-0  
4. Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Sauerbrei to adjourn at 7:32 AM. Motion carried 5-0

**Wapsie Valley CSD  
Special Board Meeting Minutes  
May 12, 2025**

Pledge of Allegiance  
President Wolfe called the Special Meeting of the Board to order at 5:35 PM.  
A. Directors: Auel, Aiello, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Kaufman-Phone  
B. Supt. Hoover, Secretary Arndt, & Virtual participants  
Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0  
Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the 25-26 Tentative Agreement including an increase of \$2,500 for all teachers that are brought up to the state minimum from \$47,500 to \$50,000 and \$2,000 increase from \$60,000 to \$62,000. All other teachers will receive a flat increase of \$2,000 plus an educational-longevity increase based on each employee's indexed percentage from the 25-26 salary schedule. The total package is 3.16% as presented. Motion carried 5-0  
Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve a 3.00 % total package increase for Support staff for the 25-26 school year as presented. Motion carried 5-0  
Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve a 3.16% increase for the Business Manager, Director of Maintenance, Principals, & Superintendent for the 25-26 school year, Human Resource will not receive an increase as she received an increase in January of 2025 as presented. Motion carried 5-0  
Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve Emergent Architect firm for their services for the Football/Track project as presented. Motion carried 5-0  
7. Board Talking Points-Graduation is Sunday at 2:00 PM. Prom went well.  
8. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to adjourn at 6:23 PM. Motion carried 5-0

# 2024 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR FAIRBANK WATER SUPPLY

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. All of the water is purchased. Purchased water comes from IA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC (WAVERLY). Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCL - (MCLG)	Compliance		Date	Violation	Source
		Type	Value & (Range)			
Lead (ppb)	AL=15 (0)	90th	4.10 (ND - 135) 1 sample(s) exceeded AL	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3 (1.3)	90th	0.0436 (ND - 0.107)	2022	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
950 - DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM						
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4.0 (MRDLG=4.0)	RAA	2.36 (2 - 2.9)	2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

### DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -- The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L - picocuries per liter
- N/A - Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected
- RAA - Running Annual Average
- Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- SGL - Single Sample Result
- RTCR - Revised Total Coliform Rule
- NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).



### REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday April 28, 2025. Mayor Kayser 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: Dakota Drish, Part-time Police Chief; Nick Kuker, Public Works Director; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.  
T. Woods/R. Woods to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There were no public hearings.  
Williams/T. Woods to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: April 14th Regular City Council Meeting Minutes, Approval of the Cigarette Permit for Casey's General Store, and Setting a Council Work Session for 5:00 pm on May 12, 2025 for Ragbrai 2025. Motion carried.  
There was no informal public comment.  
Midwest Basements visited City Hall to investigate the radon issue, and they were not able to come up with a solution. It was discussed to see about getting some more ventilation.  
The request for the installation of natural gas services for a new addition on Outer Road was discussed. Attorney Prendergast stated that she would work on the agreement and there should be something ready to review at the next meeting.  
A new TIF Committee Member needed to be approved by Council, since the passing of TIF Committee Member John Woods. Williams/T. Woods to approve Christian Woods as a TIF Committee Member. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Abstain: R. Woods.  
R. Woods/T. Woods to approve Resolution 2025-13 - Resolution Approving Bid and Authorizing Execution of Contract and Performance and/or Payment Bonds for the Walk Safe Fairbank Sidewalk Project Using Federal Funding Through Iowa's Transportation Alternatives Program. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Abstain: Gruetzmacher.  
T. Woods/Gruetzmacher to approve the agreement with IDOT for snow removal on Hwy 281. The department agreed to pay the city \$4,097.55 for maintaining that portion during the snow season. There were no changes from last year. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.  
The current budget year is ending June 30, 2025, and there are some changes needing to be amended to the numbers passed and approved in the spring of 2024. Gruetzmacher/Williams to approve Resolution 2025-14 - Resolution Setting Time and Place for a Public Hearing for an Amendment of FY 2024-2025 City Budget. The public hearing will be on Monday, May 12th at 5:50 pm at City Hall, 116 East Main Street, Fairbank, IA. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.  
The discussion was held on where a good alternate location would be for the concert on Saturday night of Fairbank Days due to the possibility of rising water in June and being on the island because it is a bigger venue coming to town. There was no decision made.  
During the council/mayor comments or concerns, Councilman Gruetzmacher asked when the porta potties would be delivered. D & S Portables, Inc. will be called. Mayor Kayser talked about the Ragbrai public safety meeting that was going to happen that Wednesday. He also stated that he had met with the administration committee to start to go over wages and that they also reviewed the personnel policy and would have some minor changes for the council to review. Mayor Kayser also discussed adding some verbiage to the agendas under Informal Public Comment that would help establish some rules regarding the public speaking during meetings.  
During the department reports, City Clerk Fuller informed the council that the 1897 Café Building project was finalizing soon, which would mean that the remainder of the grant through the Iowa Community Catalyst Building Remediation Grant would be paid out at that time to J.S.W. Enterprise, LLC. She also spoke about the Main Street Project finalizing and said that she would be working with Maggie Burger from Speer Financial, Inc regarding paying for the project. More information for the council will be given at future meetings. Nick stated that he was having a drinking water review with the IA DNR that week and that they were able to pick up the new UV. He also got the road information from Kluesner Construction for possible projects for this summer and wanted the council to review it. Police Chief Drish stated that he had no major updates from the police department but that they were all doing their annual firearms qualifications later that week.  
Williams/Gruetzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm. Motion carried.  
Jason Kayser, Mayor  
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk



# SHOP Local



**FINANCIAL DECISIONS GROUP®**  
SINCE 1960  
YOUR INSURANCE & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS

903 N. Frederick Avenue, Oelwein IA 50662  
(319) 283-1514 | cell (319) 440-2868  
(877) 370-6345 | fax (319) 283-1557  
nwillkinson@fdg.net | www.fdgoelwein.net



**Neil Wilkinson**  
MSFS, ChFC, CLU  
Investment Adviser Representative

Securities and investment advisory services offered through Royal Alliance Associates, Inc. (RAA), member FINRA/SIPC. RAA is separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of RAA.

Live for Today. Plan for Tomorrow.

**MYERS POLARIS INC.**  
Sales, Parts and Service for UTV/ATV and Snowmobiles



304 E. Main Street  
Fairbank, IA 50629  
**319-635-2311**  
www.myerspolaris.com



TYLER WOODS, Sales Manager

**F.A.B. BUILDERS LLC**  
Bonded & Insured for your Protection

**SPECIALIZING IN METAL ROOFING SIDING • DECKS • REMODELING**

**FREEMAN SCHWARTZ**  
Free Estimates 1340 Fairbank Amish Blvd.  
319.238.9751 Hazelton, IA 50641

The "What" Berry Farm? ... **Aronia Berry! LLC**  
FAIRBANK, IA



**Frozen Aronia Berries**

Call: 319-240-4104 or 319-240-5627

Dean & Donna Mangrich OWNERS



**NSB**  
NORTHEAST SECURITY BANK  
Planting Dreams. Growing Success.

MEMBER FDIC

120 Main St | Fairbank | 319-635-2811  
WWW.BANKNSB.COM



**HIS HANDS FOOD PANTRY**  
5002 Main Street  
Oran, Iowa

We Serve the following communities:  
Denver, Fairbank, Fredericka, Maynard, Oran, Randalia, Readlyn, Sumner, Tripoli, Westgate

Brief application required. HOURS:  
Tuesdays 5-8 P.M.  
Fridays 9 A.M – 12 Noon

**319-638-4357**

**DHK Welding Inc.**  
563.608.1400 Fairbank, Ia

Stainless and Aluminum Repair / Machining /  
CNC Plasma Cutting / Sandblasting /  
Powder Coating / Portable Welding

**Fairbank Historical Society**  
103 East Main Street  
Meetings held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month  
~ Everyone Welcome ~  
Open by Appointment  
For information, call: 319-269-6795

Energizing Caffeinated Tea-Bombs  
Healthy & Delicious Meal Replacement Shakes  
Caffeine Free & Kids Options



**Balanced Nutrition**

Serving the community  
1 tasty drink at a time :)

319-635-8012 119 East Main Street  
Fairbank, IA 50629



# WOODS

## CONSTRUCTION INC.

### FAIRBANK, IA.

*"Serving Fairbank & the surrounding area since 1967"*



Offering a diverse portfolio of services:

- ▶ New Home Construction & Design
- ▶ Remodeling & Additions
- ▶ Light Commercial Buildings
- ▶ Agricultural Buildings
- ▶ Earth Moving









Visit our website or give us a call to schedule a consultation!  
505 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NE • Woodsconst.com • 319-635-2308





## “Financial Fitness”

WITH ASHLEA (KLEITSCH) JONES

### The Game of Life...

At the end of each year, I have had the pleasure of partnering with Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Nitz, and other Wapsie Valley staff to host a “Game of Life” experience for our High School Seniors. The point of the game for the students preparing to enter their college and workforce careers is to experience the cost of everyday decisions and to get clarity on the differences between “needs” vs. “wants” when it comes to their spending. This was our third year and each group that participates is different, and has their own unique experiences. Our hope is that they gain a few valuable ideas that may help set them up to create a stronger financial foundation. When our kids and our communities are financially stable and confident, we all thrive!

About two weeks before the game, the kids are asked to select their top three ideal professions. From there, a bunch of work begins behind the scenes to gather income, student loan expenses, and other data to generate a “starting salary” for each specific scenario. The seniors also have a randomly generated personal life as it relates to marriage, divorce, kids, child support, pets, etc, baking the appropriate expenses into their scenarios.

The morning of the game, the seniors are each given their synopsis: “Here is your life!” This is one of my favorite parts...for a few minutes they all digest the scenario they’ve been given and proclaim whether or not they have a fair hand before the game has even started. It’s a chaotic few minutes but it is funny to sit back and listen.

To begin, their first stop is the bank. The kids are expected to write checks and to balance their accounts after deducting taxes and a student loan payment. From there, they move on to their big purchases: a home, a vehicle, the insurances for the home and vehicle, as well as health, and life insurances. After those stops \*and a few mild meltdowns\* they can move into smaller purchases – like childcare – Ha! The bills never stop coming!

There are also tables for subscriptions, convenience store purchases, utilities, clothing, and charitable giving. We have amazing volunteers\* who come every year to help work each station and sometimes even try to up-sell the kids as a salesperson would in real life. Going face-to-face with a salesperson can be its own learning experience. Of all the tables, there is one very important table: the S.O.S. At any time, the kids can veer away from the game and seek help if they’re in a pickle. Lastly there are “fate” and “cop” cards where our volunteers arbitrarily stop by to hand out random expenses that life throws at us.

Afterwards, the students come do a short, post-game-debrief with me. We talk about budgeting, saving, and investing (if they have any money left to invest). We discuss how it’s easier to pay yourself first instead of scraping up leftovers at the end of the month and bounce around ideas of how to do that without feeling like you’re eating into a comfortable lifestyle. We also talk extensively about advocating for yourself. There are almost always solutions to problems without letting the stress of money degrade your sense of self-worth. Some solutions are easy, some are complex, but ALWAYS advocate for yourself and ask questions. Maybe you need to sell that brand new truck you bought and buy a used mid-sized car. Maybe you need to cancel a few subscriptions or sell that designer bag you bought. Maybe you even need to pick up a second job. Anything to gain traction, get your feet back under you, and win the game! It is so fun to listen to their comments, let them brainstorm, and sometimes just watch them try to process how much your decisions can impact your confidence and comfort financially.

We raise a good crop of great kids in our small communities and if we continue to support them, there is no limit to what they can achieve and give back to the community! Happy last month of school to our WV seniors!! Go make the most of the opportunities in front of you and don’t forget your roots!

*\*SHOUTOUT TO THE AMAZING VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE THIS EVENT HAPPEN! WE HAVE A GREAT RETURN RATE OF VOLUNTEERS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS AND WE ALWAYS GAIN A FEW EXTRA FACES EACH YEAR. YOU GENEROUSLY POUR YOUR TIME AND EFFORT INTO THIS EVENT AND IT DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED!*

*YOU CAN’T HAVE A GREAT COMMUNITY WITHOUT GREAT PEOPLE!!*

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones

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



Scan Here to Learn  
More About Me!



# SHOP Local

**COSTA'S**  
SPORTS BAR & GRILL

Beni Rushiti  
Nita Nuhiji

(319) 635-2449  
99 East Main Street  
Fairbank, Iowa 50629

DR. NATHAN STEINBRONN, DC

**FAIRBANK CHIROPRACTIC**

101 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite C  
Fairbank, IA 50629  
319-849-5155  
Steinbronndc@gmail.com

CREATE YOUR  
BETTER TOMORROW

**SUNRISE**  
STRUCTURES AND  
RENOVATION LLC

Marvin Yoder  
319-284-0231

1581 Dillon Ave.  
Fairbank, Iowa 50629

New Construction  
Pole Barns  
Garages  
Metal Roofs  
Bonded & Insured  
Free Estimates

**INSURANCE HEADQUARTERS INC.**  
**VAN DAELE INSURANCE, LLC**

greatrates@vandaeleins.com

**For all your insurance needs!**

Farm \* Home \* Auto \* Commercial  
Crop \* Health \* Life Insurance

119 E. Main Street ▪ PO Box 467 ▪ Fairbank, IA 50629  
**319-635-2526** Fax: 319-635-2162

**FAIRBANK COMMUNITY CLUB**  
**MEMBERSHIP \$30**

VENMO CODE

OR

MAIL TO:  
COMMUNITY CLUB  
C/O JEAN BELLIS  
P.O. BOX 526  
FAIRBANK, IOWA 50629

Want To Get Involved?

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

# BUILDING

OUR REPUTATION ONE CUSTOMER AT A TIME

We've been helping homeowners and contractors complete their projects with premium building materials and lumber. We pride ourselves on the quality of our product selection, as well as our commitment to value and great service.

**Andersen** AW  
WINDOWS • DOORS

**ROYAL**  
Building Products

**THERMA TRU**  
DOORS

When it comes to your next project, come to us!

**fiberon**  
Deck it right the first time.

Shop Online. Ship-to-Store.  
**Best**  
FREE SHIPPING!

**JUNE SPECIALS OF THE MONTH**

**Special of the MONTH**

**5<sup>97</sup>**  
While Supplies Last!  
Stanley InstantChange Utility Knife  
393681

**Special of the MONTH**

**29<sup>97</sup>**  
While Supplies Last!  
Best Garden 5/8" x 50' Contractor Hose  
755310

## MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS

511 4TH STREET, HWY. V68 NORTH • FAIRBANK • 319-635-2355

Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00 to 5:00 • Saturday: 7:00 to Noon • www.modernbuildingproductsia.com



I NEED LISTINGS!! THINKING OF SELLING? CALL ME! 319-238-1700



**125 EASTLINE ST N, WESTGATE**  
**\$130,000**  
4 Bedrm Ranch, 1 bath, Sun Rm Addition, House has NEW Paint, Carpets, Vinyl, Newer Windows & Steel Roof, Newer Furn. & A/C, Det gar., edge of town.



**24878 PLEASANT ST, ORAN**  
**f/k/a Oran School Bldg**  
Has rental income already, with some updates; each classroom can be used as efficiency apartments or small business rental space. So many updates done by current owners. Call for details!!



**419 2nd AVE NE, OELWEIN**  
**\$139,900**  
Nicely Updated 1,5 story, 3 bd, 1,5 ba, main flr laundry, updated kitchen, open staircase, 1 car att gar., open front porch & g/s doors to enjoy your deck & spacious corner lot.



**16283 50TH ST., OELWEIN**  
**\$275,000**  
Bigger than it looks Ranch, 2 Car Tuck Under Garages, 3 L Bedrms, 2 baths up, ¾ bath LL, Lg Family Rm, Extra Gar/Hobby Shop.

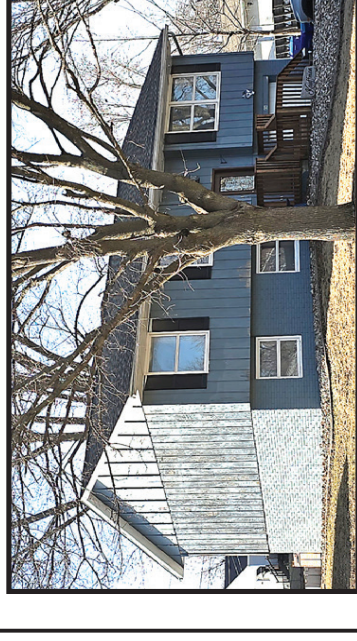
Corner Lot to Build on **Corner of 2nd St NW/8th Ave NW**  
**\$10,000**



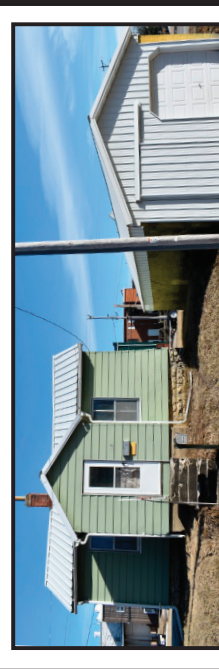
**730 PROSPECT ST., LAMONT**  
**\$219,900**  
Move into Luxury Character! 4 bed, 2 baths, New Updates!



**1115 2ND ST. SE, OELWEIN**  
**\$195,000**  
3 Bedrms, 1.5 Baths, 2 Car Garage



**816 2ND AVE. NE, OELWEIN**  
**\$149,000**  
2.5-3 Bedrms, 1.25 Baths, Heated Gar. Appliances Included.



**107 WASHINGTON ST. WEST UNION**  
**\$28,000**  
Fixer Upper, 2 Bdrm., 2 Car. Det. Gar., Cash Buyers Needed!



# ADVANCED, REALTORS®, LLC

**814 S. Frederick, Oelwein 283-2242**  
**Lori Beierschmitt, Broker/Owner**  
**Cell: 319-238-1700**



REALTOR.COM REALTOR.COM REALTOR.COM