SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

JUNE 5, 2024

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VOLUME 5, NO. 6

Winners of 2024 **Wapsie Writing** Contest announced



ALYSSA RINEHART 1 YEAR CHILD CATEGORY

BY BETTY BRANDT **PASSICK**

bbpassick@comcast.net

The winners of the 2024 Wapsie Writing Contest-selected by judges who are published authors, poets, creative writing teachers, and avid book readers. The annual contest aims to provide an opportunity for people of all ages to

express and share their creative writings.

This year, over 30 stories and poems were submitted in the three age categories: adult (19 years

See CONTEST, A5

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 lpm - 6pm, Hours may vary at times for events.

Four candidates vying for Miss Fairbank 2024 on June 20

This year's candidates for Miss Fairbank are Kennedy Kane, Logan Rochette, Natalie Gray, and Peyton Curley. Miss Fairbank 2023, VanDaele will crown her successor at 6:30 pm at the Fairbank Island Park on Thursday, June 20th. Candidates will have all completed an application and an 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. Any questions regarding the Miss Fairbank competition can be directed to the commitmembers Rousch, Emily Little, and

Emily Martins.

PEYTON CURLEY

Peyton, the daughter of Nick and Jo Curley is an active member of Wapsie Valley athletics being a member of the volleyball, softball, basketball, and track and field teams. She is also a member of National Honor's Society, serves as the secretary for student government, and is on the prom committee. Peyton was recognized on the honor roll, Oelwein Daily Register's Athlete of the Week, KWAY's Honorable Mention Athlete, IGHSAU Academic Team, and 2nd Team Basketball All Conference, Outside of school, she is a member of

See CANDIDATES, A11



NATALIE GRAY





LOGAN ROCHETTE



PEYTON CURLEY

Island Days Little Prince and Princess candidates

Join on on Friday, June 21 at 6:00 PM Riverside Park for the 2024 Island Days Little Prince and Princess crowning.

The Kiddy parade will kick off the event starting at 6:00 PM followed by commencing of the winners of the Little Island Royalty.

Learn more about each candi-

date in their short biography everything with his dad.

Oliver Little is the son of Jj and Emily Little and brother to Ellison. Oliver is four years old and will be going to preschool in the fall, he loves tractors, going to the river, gardening and fixing anything and

Madilynn Rausch is the daughter of Ryan & Alexis Rausch and the sister to Elliana and Aurora. Madilynn is six years old and will be going into first grade, she loves to dance, play outside, ride her

See LITTLE, A8

Wapsie Valley Archery Team score at Nationals

Archery Team Score at Nationals 3257, ranked 117 out of 252 high school teams. Our school team high was set at state this year at 3287 by the High School Team. Not a and we were missing 2496 HS girls)

archers. Fun Fact: The seniors last attended nationals as 4th grad-

Lucas Wilke 278 (Ranked 546 out of 2513 HS boys)

Kaliya Lampe 276 bad score at nationals (Ranked 499 out of Madyson Richards

Logan Rochette 274 Jaxon Morse 274 Bianca Nelson 272 Danica Aiello 272 Robert Lee 272 Ethan Biretz 269 Natalie Gray 267 Leena Fuller 265

See ARCHERY, A3





A2 JUNE 5, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

A NOTE FROM THE MAYOR



MAYOR JASON KAYSER

July 4th 1969. The Fairbank community began a commitment to aquatic recreation with the opening of our original pool. At that time, the pool was open from 1:00pm to 9:00pm with a "Moonlight" teen swim on Sunday nights until 11:00pm. There were also swimming lessons. Since that time, the city



Above and right: Here are two photos from opening day on July 4, 1969.

constructed the current aquatic center in 2004 and broadened the services the center provides. Swim team cooperation with Oelwein, swimming lesson students from 12 surrounding communities, concessions, doggie dips, and much more! I swam there as a child (every day. All day!), worked as a life guard

through college, served on the Pool Board, and on the new Aquatic Center committee. I know first had the benefits of the Center and a true asset to the city! I highly encourage you to take advantage of this facility!

With that being said, PLEASE DRIVE WITH EXTREME CAUTION near the aquatic center this summer. Many people walk or ride bicycles to the center, and parked vehicles can cause blind spots. If you are in the area of 5th and Main street, expect children at any time. Also, as you are aware, this is a very active community with many walkers joggers, and bicyclists all over town. Please use caution at crosswalks and residential streets.





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fairbank-ia.org/newsletters.php

E-mail News & Advertising to: fairbankislander@gmail.com

or drop off at:

Fairbank Public Library P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629

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



What's Cook'in

A diet is the penalty we pay for exceeding the feed limit!

A simple, hearty dish featuring ground beef, instant rice, and a vibrant mix of veggies. It's a one-pan wonder, perfect for easy midweek dinners and packed with comforting homestyle taste.

Beef Skillet Fiesta

1 lb. ground beef

1 can tomatoes 1 can whole corn

1 T. salad oil

1/4 C. diced onion

1 1/4 C. water and bouillon cube

2 tsp. salt ½ C. thin strips green pepper

1 tsp. chili powder 1 1/2 C. Minute Rice

1/4 tsp. pepper Brown ground beef in oil, high heat. Add onion and reduce heat. Add seasonings, tomatoes corn and boullion. Bring to boil. Add green pepper, boil again. Stir in rice and remove from heat. Cover and let stand for 5 minutes. Stir and serve.



Quick and easy, this is the best chocolate cake ever!

Miracle Whip Cake

2 C. flour 1 tsp. Vanilla

3/4 C. Miracle Whip 1 C. sugar ½ C. cocoa 1 C. cold water 1½ tsp. soda

Sift the dry ingredients together. Make a hole in middle. Add Miracle Whip, water and vanilla. Mix well. Pour into 9x13" cake pan that has been greased and floured, or into 2 round layer cake pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Top with your favorite frosting!

We need recipes to publish. If you would like to share your favorite recipes, you can



June 19, 2024 @ 11:30 AM

Tableware and beverages provided.

Sponsored by IC Parish Life Committee



Wapsie Valley Archery Team score at Nationals

ONTINUED FROM A1

Marshall Weepie 264 Gavin Brown 263 Emerie Parkes 263 Jayden Marvets 261 Zachary Boevers 260 Landon Cummings 259 Mikayla Bixeman 256 Kali Ackerman 255 Hayden Szurley 249 Landyn Buhman 249 Elijah Heasley-Eike 221



Hello everyone I hope you guys are having a great month of May! Wapsie Valley has wrapped up school and it's finally feeling like summer! I graduated from highschool and I will be attending Iowa State next year studying kinesiology. Track just competed down at state, I ran the 4 by 800! Wapsie definitely represented well and came back with some hardware! I hope everyone enjoys their summer and spends lots of time with their family and friends!

From Ava

Happy **Graduation!**



DAYNE BATES

Correction: The wrong photo ran in the last edition of the Fairbank Islander of Dayne Bates.

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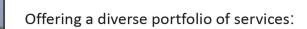
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FAIRBANK JUNE 20-22, 2024

MORE INFO AT FAIRBANKISLANDDAYS.COM

5 CARNIVAL MAIN STREET

5-5:45 TRIATHLON REGISTRATION PARKADE

5-7-FOOD STAND ISLAND

THOSTED BY LITTLE ISLAND DAYCARE)

6 TRIATHLON PARKADE

6 BEER GARDEN & MUSIC ISLAND

6:30 QUEEN PRESENTATION ISLAND

ERIDAY

5 BEER GARDEN ISLAND

5 4-H CHICKEN DINNER BEHIND COSTAS

(HOSTED BY ATOM BOMBERS 4-H CLUB)

5 CARNIVAL MAIN STREET

5 RIVER GOLF BEHIND COSTAS

5 FOOD VENDORS PARKADE

5-8:30 SIX PACK JACK ISLAND

6 LITTLE ISLAND PRINCE & PRINCESS KIDDIE PARADE & CONTEST RIVERSIDE PARK

9-12 TYLER RICHTON & THE HIGH BANK BOYS **FIREWORKS AFTER DARK**

10-12 TRACTOR SHOW REGISTRATION IC CHURCH

45ANK

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Ruler Richton, 10:30 PARADE THEME: OUT OF THIS WORLD

9-12 CAR SHOW REGISTRATION BENTLEY PARK

9-2 VENDOR SHOW BRAINARD HOLLOW

11 CARNIVAL MAIN STREET

4/4/11/11/11/11

11-12 CORNHOLE REGISTRATION ISLAND

12 FOOD VENDORS PARKADE

12 BEER GARDEN ISLAND

12 CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT ISLAND

12-2 KID GAMES ISLAND

(MONEY IN HAY BY NSB, DUNK TANK, CONTESTS)

12 FOOD STAND BENTLEY PARK

(HOSTED BY COMMUNITY CLUB)

12-3 CAR SHOW BENTLEY PARK

12-3 TRACTOR SHOW IC CHURCH

12-4 GTP ROCK ISLAND

1-2 **PEDAL PULL** RIVERSIDE PARK

4:30-8:30 MITCHELL BOEVERS ISLAND

9-12 NOT QUITE BROTHERS



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ANDAELE







Winners of 2024 Wapsie Writing Contest announced

CONTINUED FROM A

and older), youth (12-18 years), and child (11 years and under).

The winners are judged to have poems and stories that are the most creative and original and demonstrate a quality of beauty and intensity of emotion for their age category.

The ability to convey ideas through narrative and writing is a fundamental skill in so many fields—even in this new era of ChatGPT and artificial intelligence. Through this annual contest join me in celebrating the achievements of these talented and creative people, and thank all the entrants (and their families) and the judges for their participation.

Alyssa R., 11 years (Child Category)

Cedar Falls, IA, St. Patrick Catholic School

I am a writer, and I love writing, and I write multiple stories per month, and through the process of writing, I get to explore the characters' lives. I most enjoy positive stories where I can help my characters achieve good outcomes and that is what inspires me to write. As a young author, I'm proud to share my work with a broad readership. This contest means that I can join a community of writers, and tell stories that have never been told before.

"Mistake"

Mistakes are a common thing. Some mistakes are bigger than others. Some people make more mistakes than others. I, Abigail Swarthenberg, age twelve, have made a lot of mistakes, but my most recent one is the one that I most regret.

I was at the public library, reading a book. It was an adventure novel, which is my favorite type of book to read. I was very deep into the book. So deep, in fact, that nothing could pull me out of the realm of the book.

Then an announcement came on over the library loudspeaker.

"The library will be closing in five minutes.

Please take your books directly to the book checkout and exit the building. Thank you for reading with us today," the voice in the loud-speaker said, then ended with a "click".

Oh, whatever, I thought to myself. It isn't like I need to hurry or anything. I'll just finish this chapter and then go check out. They're just trying to rush everybody out of the library so they can finish their work earlier than usual.

So, I kept on reading. Every minute, the loudspeaker protested against my not going to check out my book, but I didn't care. The book was too good to put down! I just had to finish the chapter and then I'd go check out. There were only eight more pages, and I'm a very fast reader. I could finish on time. At least, that was what I thought. But now I know very well that I'd overestimated my reading skill.

"The library is now closing," the loudspeaker finally said.

Click! After the final announcement had been made, I stretched, closed the book, got up, and walked over to the check out. The lights were off, and there wasn't a soul to be found in the library but me.

"I wonder where everyone is," I said to myself. "Oh, well. The librarians probably haven't left yet, and even if they have, I'm sure there's someone on duty to make sure that nobody is stealing any of the books."

So, I walked to the book check-out counter. There was a computer that was used to scan the code on a book and check it out. The computer was turned off. I pressed the power button, but it wouldn't turn on. Frantically, I swerved the mouse around. What if I wasn't able to check out my adventure novel?

Finally, I just gave up. I walked over to the counter where there was usually a librarian. Nobody was there. I walked behind the counter to search for a librarian to help me with the checkout computer. Still no one. There weren't any

cars in the parking lot, since I had taken the city bus there.

That was when I decided that I would just have to check out the book next time and I would have to leave. No one was there to help me and the computer wasn't working, so what else could I have done?

I walked over to the door and pulled on its handle. I wouldn't budge. I hadn't thought that they would lock the doors after closing hours. I pulled on it again and again. It wouldn't move. After that, I tried the other doors. They were all locked, and there wasn't a key in sight! What was I going to do?

I had to find a way out. I'd promised my parents I'd be home by seven. It was just about seven o'clock right now, and at this rate, I wouldn't get home until tomorrow morning! The situation seemed hopeless, until I saw one way out. And that was not an easy way. More like a dangerous way, if anything.

The library had a second floor, which had windows, which might not be locked, and the fire escape was just below one of the windows! I would have to jump from the window to the fire escape, and then climb down. It was the only way, and if there was a way to get out, I would do it. I had no choice. Well, I did have another choice. and that choice was to sit in the library until tomorrow morning.

I ran up the stairs to the second floor. I found the window above the fire escape, and it seemed to be a miracle that it wasn't locked. I quickly opened it, then sat on the window sill as my heart pounded wildly. The fire escape seemed much farther beneath me than I had remembered. Maybe that was only because I was scared, though.

Oh well, here goes, I thought. I jumped.

I fell about six or seven feet before I reached the fire escape. I'd fallen on my leg. It hurt, but I hadn't broken it. The metal fire escape was very slippery. It had rained a while ago when I



KAILEIGH J.13 YEAR CHILD CATEGORY

was reading my book.

I slid down the slippery fire escape until I reached the bottom. The bus wouldn't be in service until morning, so I had to walk all the way home. When I got there, I told my parents the whole story, and from then on, I always left the library at the five minute warning. After that, I didn't make so many mistakes.

Kaileigh J., 13 years (Youth Category)

Evansdale, IA, Waterloo Community Schools District / Bunger Middle School

The inspiration to write my story came from Luna. This little kitten that I had when I was nine. I was struggling to figure out what I should write my school essay about while I was sitting in literacy class in November. It was a personal narrative and I've always struggled with thinking of things to write about. I thought, "What significant things have happened in my life that changed how I think?" And I thought about Luna. She was the sweetest little kitten, and I still miss her a lot.

Winning this contest means a few different things to me. I'm very proud of myself, but at first I was shocked when my favorite teacher called my mom and I and told me I had won. This story was difficult for me to write, not because of deadlines or requirements but just the pure emotion that came with it. I'm very grateful for my teachers that helped me with this and my parents as well. Thank you!

"Luna"

That day just felt different. I don't know if it was the fact that I woke up late, or that I couldn't find my hairbrush, but something about that

day was... off. I walked to the driveway, and I slipped on the ice on the sidewalk. I cursed under my breath and got back up to walk to the car. It was freezing outside, given it was mid-January. I hopped into the car, possibly as cold as the outside.

My dad got into the car, buckled his seatbelt, and before I knew it we were at Poyner already. It felt like time was going at double speed, but the snow was falling in slow motion.

I walked into the school, and maybe my body was there but my mind wasn't. I was thinking about normal fourthgrader things, like what we were doing in class and what would happen at recess.

"...Kaileigh?" Mrs. Mason asked me. She put the phone down, the phone I didn't notice she had picked up.

I wasn't paying attention, "Er... huh?" Yet again, I wasn't there, and couldn't focus. My mind was blank.

"Go to the office with your things."

I grabbed my back-pack. "How come?" I stuffed my folder and the book I was reading into my bag.

Mrs. Mason looked up from her desk and said, "Your parents are here to bring you home,

they called you from the office." I stood up and slung my backpack over my shoulder. A few of my friends look over or turn to me, curious about what's happening.

"Lucky!"

"No fair, can I come with?"

"Where are you going?"

I felt a bit confused like something was off. I assumed it was a doctor's appointment that my parents forgot to tell me about or something along those lines, "I have no idea."

I distinctly remember one person saying, "Have fun!" I shrugged it off and opened the classroom door, waving to my friends and teacher. As I was walking to the office I felt my stomach drop a bit. I thought about the worst things, a family member dying or some-

thing being wrong with one of my nephews. I was overthinking the whole way to the office, dead

silent as I walked into the small room to see my dad standing there with a half-effort smile.

"Something's wrong," I kept telling myself. It was strangely quiet when my dad signed me out of the office, he only said a few words to the secretary. We finally got outside, and by then my breathing was a bit heavy and my mind was racing at the speed of light to make up new scenarios about the worst things that could happen.

I was worried, to say the least. My dad and I reached the car, and to my surprise, my mom was in the car. Oh no, oh no, oh no, oh no. I was thinking even faster, anxiety off the charts.

My mom was there too, and it was a rare occurrence that both of my parents came to something as unimportant as a doctor's appointment

"What happened?" I asked my dad, getting into the car and buckling my seatbelt.

My mom looked at me with a sad expression, and I noticed her tearstreaked cheeks.

"Kaileigh, we have to tell you something," I nodded and prepared for the worst. "Luna..."

She cleared her throat and I knew. I knew that our kitten, Luna had been sick for a while. I knew that it had been getting worse. I knew that she could barely eat, and she always threw up.

"No..." My voice was quiet, pleading.

My mom continued. "We... we have to put her down, she's really sick," and my tears started falling. A choked noise came from my throat, and I was crying, hard. "Please, no... Luna," I cried, in an attempt to voice my distraught through my tears. My dad put a hand on my shoulder, and my mom sighed. Thinking back on it, this must have been so hard for them, to keep tough faces for their crying ten-year-old.

I must've cried for a good five minutes before

See CONTEST, A5

A6 JUNE 5, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

Winners of 2024 Wapsie Writing Contest announced

CONTINUED FROM A5

my dad cleared his throat. "Sweetie, she's really sick," his voice broke. "We don't want to let her suffer." I swallowed, nodded, and didn't say anything. My heart felt like it was breaking into a million pieces. My dad drove out of the school driveway, and the whole ride was silent. Time moved in slow motion. My head was resting on the cold window, but at that moment I couldn't care any less.

We got to the veterinary, and my breath got stuck in my throat. I rubbed my eyes with the sleeve of my pink coat, and my nose, throat, and eyes burned from crying so hard. I opened my door slowly and climbed out of the car. My heart ached, and I could barely breathe at all. We walked into the vet, and my parents talked to the receptionist. My chest tight-

and tightened like I was going to explode. We walked into a different room, and then waited and waited. It felt like an hour just sitting in the little room with 2 chairs, a bench, a counter, and a few paintings of cats and dogs. I sat on the bench with my head in my knees, completely silent. My mom rubbed her hand up and down my back in an attempt to comfort me.

What felt like hours passed, sitting in that little room that smelled like NyQuil. Finally, a man with blue scrubs on walked into the room with a bundle of blankets in his arms. He said a few words to my mom, and I looked up from my knees, shifting so my feet were on the floor again. Inside the bundle of blankets was a sad little kitten, with huge eyes. I started bawling and held the tiny cat in my arms. My dad looked really sad



BETH K.

and was petting Luna with his index and middle finger on the top of her head. Her black, orange, white, and brown fur stood up slightly, she looked scared. I held her for a long time, then kissed the top of her head and whispered "I love you."

The vet took her into a different room, and I walked outside the glass sliding door. Outside, it was beyond cold. It felt as if the tears were freezing on my face. Snow fell into my hair, my eyes, all over my face. I hadn't noticed my dad was out there too until he hugged me. I

hugged back. I kept thinking and thinking, "I knew something was wrong, I had a bad

feeling, and it was

The drive home was possibly one of the saddest moments in my life. Mixed thoughts of "It was my fault," or "I knew something was wrong."

Should've listened to my instinct.

Beth K. (Adult Category)

Oelwein, Iowa

I wrote Friday Night Lights in my head driving home from my job at the Readlyn library one beautiful fall evening when I could see so many lights of all kinds in the darkening sky-streetlights, distant stadiums and towns, nearby farms... I wrote it down as soon as I got home.

I'm excited to have won! I'm busy and don't make time to write as much as I should, and I need to work on that. Congratulations to all of stadium halogens still the other winners. Keep on writing.

"Friday Night Lights" The last Friday of

September

I shut down the computers extinguish the fluorescents let the authors rest.

I step from the dark library into the rising

Indigo and violet the last hint of dusk.

Small town streetlamps along Main.

The cross on the church illuminated by the highway

The harvest moon Hangs in the east Luminescent.

Asphalt unspools in the headlights

Gossamer fog in the valleys, silvered by the lunar glow.

Wagons and combines in the fields move through an aura of platinum dust cities of light.

Here and there other small communities visible only by the halo of

miles away.

Farms; flickers of brightness in a sea of

An open window, a tv flickering the soft glow of a barn aisle the bluewhite glare of a machine shed lit up in the gathered dark.

Here and there bright bursts of worklights cast arrays of bins and silos in a daylight brilliance--

Cornfield Cathedrals. The spool of silver road curves along the river into the silvered night.

I turn down a dusty

Watch for deer

Wonder at the flicker of a high-above airplane, headed for Dallas or

And watch for the welcoming yard light of the home plac

Watch for the 2025 Annual Wapsie Writing Contest to be announced in early January. Contest rules are posted at BettyBrandtPassick.com.



FEATURING: "Fairbank's Own"

Lina Owens

Country Singer / Songwriter Nashville Recording Artist

Bring your lawn chairs and coolers and and join the fun at the Gazebo Park in Fairbank!

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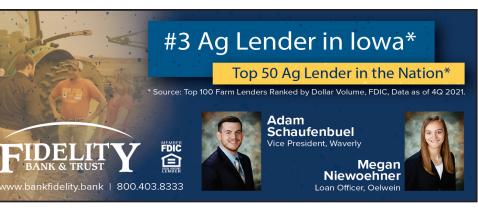
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Pastor Jacob Swenson

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Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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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



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Rev. Mike Anderson

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A8 JUNE 5, 2024

Island Days Little Prince and Princess candidates

CONTINUED FROM A

bike, color and hang out with her friends.

Elliana Rausch is the daughter of Ryan & Alexis Rausch and the sister of Madilynn and Aurora. Elliana is four years old and will be going into preschool, she enjoys gymnastics, swimming, singing, coloring and playing outside.

Louis Beck is five years old and will be heading into first grade. Louis is the son of Neal and Jenna Beck and brother to Jensen and Jayden. He is always full of energy and loves to run and ride his bike, go swimming, play nerf guns, wrestle, play with legos and being creative. Louis is a little sweetheart and cares about people.

Jayden Beck is five years old and will be heading into first grade. Jayden is the son of Neal and Jenna Beck and sister to Jensen and Louis. She loves to play house with her babies, play outside, ride her bike, go swimming and play school. Jayden has a very loving heart.

Grayson Odneal is six years old and will be going into first grade. Grayson is the son of Kyle and Taylor Odneal and brother to Collins, Hudson and Cooper. He loves to attend Ninja-U, play t-ball and bas-

ketball, play outside, catching frogs and playing his nintendo switch.

Collins Odneal is four years old and will be going into preschool. Collins is the daughter of Kyle and Taylor Odneal and sister to Grayson, Hudson and Cooper. She loves attending Ninja-U, playing with her barbies, dancing, and going outside.

Dixon Bagley is 4 years old and will be entering preschool. The son of Matt and Makayla Begley and sister to Dixon, he enjoys playing outside, farming and anything tractors!

Grace Bagley is 8 years old and will entering third grade.

The daughter of Matt and Makayla Bagley and brother to Dixon, she enjoys reading, crafting, playing softball, spending time with family and playing with Great Papas mini cow Opal.

August Krum is four years old and will be entering preschool. Son of Allen Krum and Jamie Pavelec, brother to Jacob, Elijah, Navaleigh and Calliope. August enjoys watching videos, sonic, and spiderman.

Hoyt Hutschenreuter is seven years old and will be entering the second grade. Hoyt is the son of Ronald and Stefanie Hutschenreuter and brother to Hunter. Hoyt enjoys wrestling, baseball, the outdoors, hunting and fishing.

Elsie Weepie is eight years old and is a second grader at Wapsie Valley. Weepie is the daughter of Chelsey and Nick Weepie. She loves art and music, spending time on the Mississippi river, playing with her cousins and softball.

William Weepie is six years old and is a Kindergartener at Wapsie Valley. Weepie is the son of Nick and Chelsey Weepie. He enjoys playing with his cousins, going to the Mississippi River, Mindcaft and Linky Box



COLLINS ODNEAL



GRACE BAGLEY



JAYDEN BECK



ELSIE WEEPIE



ELLIANA RAUSCH



MADILYNN RAUSCH



DIXON BAGLEY



AUGUST KRUM



LOUIS BECK



GRAYSON ODNEAL



WILLIAM WEEPIE



OLIVER LITTLE



HOYT HUTSCHENREUTER





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Joan R. Rourke

April 12, 1929 -May 4, 2024

Joan R. Rourke, 95 of Fairbank, IA, died on Saturday, May 4, 2024. at NewAldaya Lifescapes in Cedar Falls, IA.

Joan was born on April 12, 1929, in Gilbertville, IA, the daughter of Victor T. and Stella K. (Schares) Schaefer. She attend-



ed the Immaculate Conception (Now Don Bosco) Catholic School in Gilbertville, IA. In 1947, Joan graduated from high school and moved to Waterloo, IA. She soon started working in the billing department at the Rath Packing Company in Waterloo.

Joan enjoyed going out dancing with friends, and one night met Patrick O. Rourke at the Electric Park Ballroom. They were married on September 27, 1954, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Gilbertville, IA. Together they made their home on a farm just outside of Fairbank, IA. In 1956, Joan stopped working at Rath Packing to raise her children.

She and Patrick raised their four children on the farm and loved watching their family grow throughout the years. She loved taking care of her family and looking after her grandchildren. She often hosted holiday parties at her house and enjoyed the countless hours of cooking for the family. She made sure to teach her grandchildren her recipes and how to cook.

Joan was a woman of strong faith and principles. She valued her relationships with not just her family, but also her neighbors and friends. She was a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank, IA. For over ten years she volunteered at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Oelwein, IA making quilts for the needy, and also with Cedar Valley Hospice in Independence, IA.

She is survived by her children; Larry (Jill) Rourke, Dunkerton, IA, Tom (Kim) Rourke, Fairbank, IA, Julie (Bill) Delagardelle, Dunkerton, IA, and Jane (Eric) Zangerle, Swisher, IA, ten grandchildren: Kayla (Tyler Scribner) Rourke, Emily (Jacob) Vsetecka, Andrew (Cassie) Rourke, Kelly (Thomas Sadler) Rourke, Troy Rourke, Jenna (Neal) Beck, Phillip (Morgan)Delagardelle, Jacey Zangerle, and Ted Zangerle, nine great-grandchildren: Jaycee, Max, Mackenzie, Caroline, Henry, Jensen, Louis, Jayden, Brooks, a sister, Cleola (Kitty) Robb, Raymond, IA, a brother, Thomas (Carol) Schaefer, Gilbertville, IA, a sister-in-law, Marilyn Schaefer, Gilbertville, IA, and many nieces and nephews.

Joan is preceded in death by her parents, Victor and Stella Schaefer, her husband, Patrick Rourke, a granddaughter, Dyana Rourke, a sister, Lois Schares, and a brother, Roman Schaefer

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 3 PM on Thursday, May 9, 2024, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank, IA. Inurnment will was at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Fairbank. A Celebration of Life will be held at the American Legion Hall in Fairbank after the services on Thursday.

Karen Betts

August 31, 1944 -May 10, 2024

Karen Betts age 79 of Palo and formerly from Fairbank passed away Friday, May 10, 2024. She was born August 31, 1944 the daughter of Kenneth and Myrtle (Cummings) Betts. Karen grew up in Fairbank where she attended and gradu-



ated from Wapsie Valley Community Schools. She continued her education at North Iowa Area Community College graduating with an Associates Degree focusing on Social Work. Karen worked for a number of years at Goodwill helping others with mental challenges. She also worked at Parkview Assisted Living in Fairbank while her mother was a resident there. Karen loved to travel so she took to the open road as an over the road truck driver for a number of years. She tried retiring for a short time and decided that just wasn't for her so she went back to work at Full Circle in Independence doing just what she went to college for helping others. Karen was an avid Chicago Cubs fan, loved reading old westerns and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She is survived by her son Kory (Kim) Betts, four grandchildren; Joshua (Krystal) Betts, Ryan (Megan) Loe, Austin Betts and Nicholas Betts, eight great-grandchildren and one brother, Howard Betts. Karen was preceded in death by her parents and a sister and brother-in-law, Mildred and Glen Larson.

Visitation was on Saturday, May 18, 2024 at Woods Funeral Home with an Memorial Service. Interment: Fairbank Cemetery at a later date. Memorials: May be directed to the family for later designation

SEND **OBITS TO**

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Jodi Sue Fischels

March 4, 1966 -May 16, 2024

Jodi Sue Fischels age 58 of Fairbank passed awav. Thursday May 16th, 2024. She was born March 4th, 1966 in Independence, Iowa the daughter of John Beverly (Strempke) Wroten. She lost her mom at the age of six but was



fortunate enough to gain another one when her dad married Kathie Oberheu. Unfortunately, she was taken too soon as well in 2006. Jodi grew up in Fairbank, attended and graduated from Wapsie Valley Community Schools in 1984. After high school she went on to Hawkeye Community College for nursing. She worked as a home healthcare nurse/ LPN until 2008 when her battle with Lupus forced her to retire. Iodi had her first child in April of 1990, Allyssa Nourse. Soon after that she met Troy Fischels. They were married on August 28th, 1993. In December of 1995 they added a son, Layne Fischels. Despite her ongoing struggles with Lupus since she was a teenager and many other complications, Jodi lived her life to the fullest. She went on many trips with her husband and family no matter how she was feeling and never complained. Jodi was able to see the birth of her first grandchild, Gage Fischels in 2010 and see both of her children grow and go on and marry amazing people that she knows will take care of them in her absence. She was and will always be a loving wife, amazing mother, doting grandmother and best friend anyone could ever have. Her family and friends were everything to her and she will be forever missed.

Jodi is survived by her husband, Troy, one daughter, Allyssa (Daryl) Nourse and one son, Layne (Olivia) Fischels, one grandson, Gage Fischels, her father, John Wroten, one brother, Nick (Leah) Wroten, one sister, Justina Wroten (Brett), her father and mother-in-law, Pete and Nancy Fischels along with numerous nieces and nephews as well as her dog Nevaeh and her cat Sergio. Jodi was preceded in death by her mother, Beverly and her step-mother, Kathie Wroten.

A Celebration of Jodi's life was held on June 2nd 2024 at the Fairbank American Legion from 12:00-3:00 pm. In her memory we ask that you wear something purple to support Jodi and others who are battling life with Lupus.

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FAIRBANK ISLANDER

4-H ATOM BOMBERS



FROM THE DESK OF **ALIVIA WEEPIE**

The May Atom Bomber's 4-H meeting was held on May 5th at the IC hall in Fairbank.

A fun game "Guess the order of items" started off the evening.

Meeting called to order by President, Brock Kleitsch. Rollcall question "What is your favorite ice cream?" was answered by the six members present. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gavin Gross, 4-H pledge led by Brock Kleitch.

No secretary or treasurer report.

Upcoming fair dates discussed. All animals must be registered by May 15 to be able to be taken to fair. June 15 is the deadline for all other entries to the fair. More information regarding clinics and fair schedule on the ISU Extension and Outreach May Newsletter. Update on new barn signs were given and more information will be sent out to members via Facebook.

Alivia Weepie gave a presentation /game on Animal Gestation periods.

Ended the meeting with snacks and refreshments by Alivia and Gavin.

Next meeting June 9th.



COURTESY PHOTO

The May Atom Bomber's 4-H meeting was held on May 5 at the IC hall in Fairbank. Right: Alivia Weepie gave a presentation/game on Animal Gestation periods.







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FAIRBANK ISLANDER

Four candidates vying for Miss Fairbank 2024 on June 20

the Immaculate Conception Church, has helped with several Fairbank Fire Department fundraisers, and aided with Wapsie Valley's sidewalk painting fundraiser. Several of her hobbies include both reading and baking. After graduation, she plans to attend a four year college, hopefully Minnesota. After completing a major of studies that is right for her, she wants to acquire her nail technician license from cosmetology school. Peyton's sponsor for Miss Fairbank is the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

NATALIE GRAY

The daughter of Christian

and Kimberly Gray, Natalie participates in volleyball, basketball, softball, archery, FFA, prom committee, honor society, and silver cord. Some of Natalie's honors and accomplishments include being crowned FFA Sweetheart Oueen, receiving the Iowa FFA Degree, IGHSAU Academic Achievement, 2022 Most Energetic Player and Best Attitude, 50 Silver Cord Hours 2021-2023, and honor roll. Some of Natalie's hobbies include spending time with friends and family, reading, playing sports, volunteering at Otter Creek Animal Shelter and Red Rock Farms as well as working at the Readlyn Veterinary Clinic. Upon graduation from Wapsie Valley, Natalie would like to attend

Iowa State University University of California Davis to further an education in animal sciences then advance her education to complete a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. Natalie is sponsored by the Fairbank American Legion

KENNEDY KANE

Kennedy Kane, the daughter of Mick and Karolyn is a member of the volleyball and basketball teams as well as a member of the FFA chapter, prom committee, National Honors Society, and silver & red cord programs. She enjoys helping at FFA community events such as the county fair, omelet breakfasts, tractor pulls, and parades. Kennedy has been recognized on the honor roll for the National Merit Scholarship through the PSAT. Outside of school she enjoys spending time with friends, boating, hiking, kayaking and playing volleyball. After graduation from high school, Kennedy would like to attend University of Northern Iowa or University of Iowa to major in biochemistry in hopes to further her education to become an orthodontist or a pediatrician. She is sponsored this year by the Fairbank Community

LOGAN ROCHETTE

The daughter of Courtney Rochette and the late Luke Rochette, Logan is an active member of the Wapsie Valley Archery team where she has

competed at both state and national competitions throughout high school. She also is a member of the prom committee. Logan has been recognized on the honor roll for several semesters. Logan enjoys kayaking, spending time with friends and family and doing activities outdoors. Once she graduates high school, she plans to enter a two year degree program at Hawkeye Community College where she would like to become a radiology technician after completing a degree from Allen College. Logan's sponsor for the Miss Fairbank event is the Fairbank Fire & EMS Services

Laborshed study to be conducted in Buchanan County

The Buchanan County Economic Development Commission (BCEDC) is partnering with Development Workforce (IWD) and Iowa Economic Development Authority to complete a Laborshed employment study for the Buchanan County area. This study will geographically define which commucontribute Buchanan County's workforce, regardless of political boundaries. This defined area is called a Laborshed area and is based upon commuting patterns.

The purpose of this Laborshed study is to measure the availability and characteristics of Buchanan County area workers. Laborshed studies are useful tools for economic development teams and existing or prospective employers to understand the local labor market, make informed expansion and site selection decisions. and maintain/recruit

high-quality workforce. For the success of this study, we are sending letters randomly selected households asking residents to take a confidential online survey. Survey guestions will cover topics such as: employment status, current and desired wages, current and desired benefits, education level, and type of occupation, among other things. However, Iowa Workforce Development will not be asking survey takers for identifiable information such as: name, social security number, or date of birth. Participation in this workforce study is greatly appreciated regardless of employment status whether you are currently employed, unemployed, a homemaker, retired, etc. Your input is highly valued.

Following the conclusion of the online surveying efforts IWD will conduct telephone surveying in the area through a third-party vendor. The survey call orig-

inates out of Missouri and the incoming number will have the 573-area code. The same survey questions asked in the online survey will be asked of those who participate in the survey on the phone and again, no identifying information will be collected. All the survey answers collected will be combined and reported together. Individual answers are completely confidential.

Every Workforce Development conducts Laborshed studies across the State. The results of each analysis are publicly available online at workforce.iowa.gov/laborshed. If you have any questions about the Laborshed project, please contact Bridget Weddle at bridget.weddle@ iwd.iowa.gov or 515-281-7525 or Lisa Kremer, Executive Director, BCEDC, director@growbuchanan. com or call 319-334-7497.

Thank you for your support and participation.

gavinmarine@windstream.net

CITY REMINDERS

PET LICENSING: Reminder all city residents with pets over the age of four months are required to be licensed by the city. This license is to be renewed annually. The cost is \$10.00 per animal if purchased on or before June 30th of each year. On July 1st an additional \$5.00 penalty attaches. If the animal is purchased July 1st or later, the license can be obtained for \$10.00 with a dated bill of sale proving the date of purchase. Also, to be licensed, you must show proof that the animal has been vaccinated against rabies. It is prohibited to have animals running at large within the city limits.

GOLF CART PERMIT: Reminder all Golf Carts are required to be licensed to be operated within the city limits. This license is to be renewed annually. The initial cost is \$30.00 per vehicle. New owners must have vehicle(s) inspected by the police department prior to receiving permit. Once a person has purchased a permit, the annual renewal is \$20.00.

FLOWERS ON MAIN: Please call City Hall if you are interested in sponsoring flowers on Main Street this year. \$50 per basket. Thank

TREE DONATIONS: The City of Fairbank is continuing to replace trees that were destroyed from the storm of August 2021. If you are interested in donating a tree for one of the parks, please contact City Hall at 319-635-2869 for more information.

UTILITY PAPERLESS BILL & AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL: The City of Fairbank offers paperless utility bills and/or automatic withdrawal. Please contact City Hall at 319-635-2869 for more information.

CITY YARD WASTE RULES

Please make sure items are going to the designated area. A key is available at City Hall during office hours (M-F 9am - 5pm) to check out. Compost Brush Pile (residential only) Grass Clippings Restricted to nothing over 6 feet long and 4 inches wide, Leaves Small Branches, Flowers Twigs, Pumpkins/Apples Plants, Bush/Shrub trimmings Pinecones, Wood Ashes Sod Chunks

Commercial use is restricted to the compost pile only.

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

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







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

A12 JUNE 5, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

DEADLINE FOR JULY 2024 PUBLICATION IS JUNE 25

Please contact Melaine Buzynski at 319–404–7116 Or email fairbankislander@gmail.com Please send us your celebrations. Celebrations are free to submit.







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Hoping the beginning of your summer is amazing and everyone has fun Readlyn Days & Fairbank Days plans! We are squeezing a few weekend getaways in between Travel Ball, Rec Baseball, & T-Ball with all 3 little Jones kids + Cody starting 7 on 7 & summer workouts with Football ... oftentimes we don't even know what day it is, but we are loving every minute of it!

In early May I went to Kansas City to attend our firm's "Prime Week" for internal and industry wide training. Leaders from private investment firms, Goldman Sachs, Charles Schwab & more were there to provide guidance and best practices no matter what the future of the markets hold. The synergy of being around some of the brightest minds in the industry is always my favorite part.

There are tenured advisors, brand new advisors, our compliance team, our marketing team, our investment team, our entire C-Suite team, & more in attendance so there is no doubt that we are aligned in making our clients' interests our #1 priority.

Markets are still positive for the year (as of when I write this) so while the Fed continues to hold steady on interest rates, our investment team's eyes remain on other factors like inflation, international tensions, domestic elections & other GDP related data. Breaking news, opinions, and predictions are plentiful; however, our team of analysts works very hard to shut out the noise, stick to the data, and tactically position our clients for all types of economic environments. We appreciate their constant insight and transparency and are very proud of their commitment to our clientele.

One last interesting fact about our firm: We have a BAND!

"Toxic Assets" is comprised of a few advisors, leaders from our trading desk & our accounting department, even our Chief Compliance Officer! They have won "Battle of the Bands" time and again in Kansas City competitions and they're an absolute blast to be around...



Best of all: their lead singer, Brad Holdhusen, has agreed to come play in Fairbank for a Special Edition of Music in the Park! He has come up from Kansas City to work with me and attend a Music in the Park once before and he is ecstatic to come back to the big stage as a headliner. We can't wait!!

Save the date:



Music in the Park:

Prime Capital Investment Advisors Edition



Thursday, August 1st

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

@ The Gazebo Park, Fairbank



Food truck will be available!!



Brad Holdhusen an advisor from our Overland Park office and an incredible solo guitar player and vocalist.



Hope to see you there!

We have a lot of fun but we DO work our butts off too!!

Find our market commentary with up-to-date industry information on our YouTube channel!

A14 JUNE 5, 2024 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

LIBRARY STAFF 212 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629 Angela Berg, Director Linda Letson, Librarian Susan Frost, Librarian Therese Steggall, Librarian

Bridget Seemann, Librarian Roxie Wenner, Custodian



JUNE 2024 Fairbank Public Library **Summer Schedule**

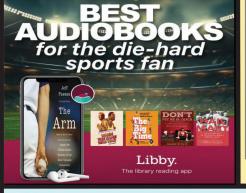
June 5 Creature Feature Fairbank Library, 10 am Fontana Fairbank Elementary Gym, 1 pm June 12 Story Hour Fairbank Library, 10 am June 13 Wind Chimes Fairbank Elementary Gym, 1 pm June 18 Day Camp: Chef for a Day Fairbank Library, 10 am

June 19 Story Hour Fairbank Library, 10 am June 20, 21, 22 Closed Fairbank Library June 26 Story Hour

Fairbank Library, 10 am Window Clings Fairbank Elementary Gym, 1 pm



Quilt Winner will be announced in the July Islander!



Phone: 319-635-2487 Fax: 319-635-2487 Email: library@fairbank-ia. org Website: Fairbank-ia.org

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MEMBER PRACTICE AREAS:

Litigation, Wills, Trusts, Estate Planning & Probate, Adoption, Collections

Join us on Monday, June 24 at 5:00 pm for our

"Lawyers in Libraries Program"

sponsored by: The Iowa State Bar Association's Legal Access Committee

This program will focus on information about financial power of attorney, health care power of attorney, living wills and the Final Disposition Act. "Lawyers in Libraries" is a joint effort by the Iowa State Bar Association, the State Library of Iowa, Iowa Legal Aid and the Polk County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project to help provide free legal information to lowans across the state. This spring and summer, lawyers are making one-hour presentations followed by question-and-answer sessions at local public libraries throughout the state.

> **ISU Extension and Outreach Buchanan County 2024**

SUMMER CAMPS

Grades K-4th - come join the fun hands-on activities, games, and much more this summer!

June 4	Art Explosion
	Jesup Library - \$10
June 6	Win A Gold
	dence Library - \$10*
	Chef for the Day 2
	irbank Library - \$15
June 20 <i>Up, L</i>	Down, Spin Around
	Jesup Library - \$10
	Chef for the Day 2
	lence Library - \$15*
	Chef for the Day 2
	Jesup Library - \$15
July 2	Win A Gold
	Jesup Library - \$10
July 9	Art Explosion

* Independence Library will cover the cost upon registration.



Payment is due 4 days before camp. Registration is complete when payment is received.

Contact Fairbank Library for information on how to register.

Thursday 1-6 pm Friday 1-5 pm Saturday 9-1 In Loving Memory

Mary Lou Fink

The Boy Who Cried Bear

Monday 1-5 pm

Tuesday 1-5 pm; Wednesday 9 -11 am 1-5 pm

..... from Gary Fink

Norbert Delagardelle

Lost Birds

..... from Fred & Leslie Frost

Jodi Fischels

My Fourth of July

. from Amos, Angela, Brock & Braylee Berg









New Books Added May!













Fairbank Library - \$10





















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'55 Chevy Convert: Restored and with all 4 wheels



COLUMN BY JD FRANCIS

For most of my life, I've had this feeling, if it's bad, it's going to happen to me. I recall my dad always saying, "I don't

know if you are the unluckiest person in the world, or the luckiest." Unlucky, I guess, because bad things have happened to me over the years, but lucky, because those bad issues always seem to turn out alright. I can strike up a "case in point" in 1984.

Out of happenstance, I answered an ad in an auto, Wheeler Dealer magazine in response to a '55 Chevy convertible for sale. This ad seemed to fit, as I wanted to restore one, and it happened to be close by in Waterloo. I am not one

for driving long distances (ask Lon Peterson) but I will drive to Waterloo. The picture in the magazine reflected that the car needed totally restored and that was obvious by the price of \$4,000.00. When I got to the location to look at the car, it was clear to me this person was a make-shift, cobbler who knew nothing about restoring cars. The important thing to me was that the body was reasonably intact, with little rust. I intended to completely dismantle and restore the old Chevy, so I had to start



over with the car anyway. I left the guy a deposit check and told him I'd be back in a while to pick it

I went back to Waverly and had a friend, Joe McCumber, take me back to Waterloo in my car so that I could drive the '55 Chevy back, and he'd drive mine. Everything was "mission accomplished" with no problems. I paid the guy, and hopped in the car and started it up. The last thing I asked the guy, while sensitive to his mechanic ability, was "are all of these wheels bolted on tight?"

He assured me they were. Joe and I took off for Waverly.

I was driving down the highway on 63 North, half-way to Denver, when the front end of the car slammed down and the driver's front wheel passed me up, rolling down the highway. I managed to get most of the car off to the side of the road. At about this time, I was a bit on-edge. Joe pulled up behind me and asked me what we were going to do. I rather calmly explained that we weren't going to do anything. I hopped in the passenger seat of my car and asked Joe to drive me home. I left the car sit on

the side of the highway. The car wasn't yet in my name, and I didn't take title or ownership yet, so there was nothing to track me to the car. When we got to my house, I called the owner and told him where he could pick up his Chevy on the highway, as the front wheel fell off the car. He was shaken. He told me he had already spent the money on the check I had just cancelled. I told him I no longer wanted the car, and reminded him about me asking if the wheels were fastened securely.

As it turned out, apparently he wanted to sell that car as bad as I originally wanted to buy it. He asked me to make him another offer on the car. I tuned in close to that kind of language and thought things over quickly. I paid him \$4,000.00 an hour previously, so I re-offered him \$3,000.00. It seemed like a thousand-dollar discount was fair and reasonable under the circumstances. He accepted my offer. I called a repair shop and had the car towed to their station where, I picked it up the

next day. I recall my dad always wondering if I was the unluckiest person in the world, or the luckiest. Well, your front wheel passing you up on the highway seems unlucky to me. But then again, a thousand dollars was a fair amount of "grease" for my white knuckles on the steering wheel adventure. How do you call it, unlucky or not?

2023 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)		Yes/No	
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	1.93 (1.75 - 2.14)	2023	No	Water additive used to control microbes

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

- 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 into 1.1.

- 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.
- 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 presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water posed a health risk. More information about contaminants potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. FAIRBANK WATER SUPPLY is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that I levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. It are concerned about clevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

This water supply obtains its water from the dolomite of the Devonian aquifer. The Devonian aquifer was determined to be highly susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials provide little protection from contamination at the land surface. The Devonian wells will be highly susceptible to surface contaminants such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminant spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the flows Department of Natural Resources, and is available from the Water Operator at 641-792-7011.

This water supply obtains some or all of its water from another public water supply. It is a consecutive water supply, where an originating parent supply provides drinking water to one or more downstream supplies.

For questions regarding this information or how you can get involved in decisions regarding the water system, please contact FAIRBANK WATER SUPPLY at 319-635-2869.

CONTAMINANT	MCL - (MCLG)	Compliance		Date	Violation	Source
		Type	Value & (Range)		Yes/No	
0990701 - IA REGIONA	L UTILITIES ASS	OC (WAVE	RLY)			
01 - S/EP FROM WELL	#1					
Gross Alpha, inc (pCi/L)	15 (0)	SGL	1.4	12/09/2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50 (50)	SGL	1.30	03/20/2023	No	Discharge from petroleum and meta refineries; Erosion of natural deposit Discharge from mines
Barium (ppm)	2 (2)	SGL	0.0382	03/20/2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	SGL	0.7	03/20/2023	No	Water additive which promotes stroiteeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	8.57	03/20/2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added t water during treatment process
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10 (10)	SGL	4.500 (4.300 - 4.500)	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
02 - S/EP FROM WELL	#2					
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	9.85	03/02/2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added t water during treatment process
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10 (10)	SGL	4.400 (4.300 - 4.400)	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion on natural deposits

GARAGE SALE

Huge Garage/ Basement/Driveway Sale

Our sister passed way a year ago. She had a ton of craft supplies and many household items that her husband has asked us, my sisters and I, to help get rid of. These items are priced to sale! A lot of items are brand new and still in their packages . Everything is well cared for and from a pet free, smoke free, bug free environment. This sale will be well worth your time!

Cash or Venmo Only

This sale will be on Friday, June 7th from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday, June 8th from 9:00 am to

Location: 613 Christians Trail, Fairbank

You can see a list and 150 pictures if you go to EstateSales.net

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Wapsie Valley CSD Regular Meeting Minutes & Bills

May 20, 2024
Pledge of Allegiance
1. President Wolfe called the Work Session to order at 6:02 PM.
A. Directors: Auel, Kaufman, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Aiello (excused) Declared

quorum . Administration - Supt. Hoover, Secretary Arndt, & Principals Forsyth,

B. Administration - Supt. Hoover, Secretary Articl, & Principals Forsyth, Murphy, & Myers
C. Others Present: Russell Reiter
2. Facilities Projects-Russell Reiter shared spreadsheet with order of importance and costs of projects.
3. Other Business: None

 Moved by Auel, Seconded by Saureberi to adjourn the work session at 6:35 PM. b:35 РМ. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:37 PM Directors: Auel, Kaufman, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Aiello (excused) Declared a

Guorum
Supt. Hoover, Secretary Arndt, & Principals Forsyth, Myers, & Murphy
Others Present: Brett, Bergman, Vaughn Gross, Ron Sadler, Dave & Ellen

Doese
Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the amended agenda adding after public comment to set public hearing date for facilities projects as presented. Motion carried 4-0
Public Comment: Vaughn Gross - would like Career & Technical Student Organizations salary added to Schedule B for the 24-25 school year.
Public Hearing: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Kaufman to set a public hearing date between June 4 nad June 14 for facilities projects as presented Motion carried 4-0
Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Kaufman to approve Doese Photography to take school/activity & sponsorship pictures for 24-25-26-27 school years. Motion carried 4-0

Ron Sadler-Shared Transportation Director discussed the benefits of own-

Ron Sadler-Shared Transportation Director discussed the benefits of owning diesel buses opposed to leasing buses. Consent Items: Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Kaufman including Anna Raber requesting to have her 4th-grade daughter attend WW Rural 1 effective the 24-25 school year as presented. Motion carried 4-0 Communication & Reports: Board: Great job with commencement and awards night. Superintendent Hoover: It's School Board Recognition month!! Thanks to all board members for your support and deduction to WV! Report includes HVAC, Retirement Awards, & Events. District & PK Principals: 6th-grade JH orientation, Student Engagement Leadership, Concerts, Awards night, Professional Development, Graduation, Successful Academic Model Implementation, Retirees, & Activities 10.Personnel-Resignation: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the resignations of Gina Wiersma-Silver Cord Advisor, Kate Nitz-Yearbook Advisor, & Kobe Risse-Junior High Football & Junior High Boys Basketball effective 5-31-2024 and thank them for their service to the students and staff at WV as presented. Motion carried 4-0 11. Contracts: Moved by Auel, seconded by Kaufman to a approve a 2.65% increase for the 24-25 Teaching Contracts, & Support Staff Contracts. The following contracts were also approved: Tom Joecken-Varsity Baseball-Base 4/Year 11-\$3,443, Collin Bergmann-Assistant Baseball Coach-Base 2/Year 5-\$2,190, Logan Flack-Junior High Baseball Coach-Base 1/Year 0-\$1,805, Austin Jeanes-Head Softball Coach-Base 1/Year 2-\$1,805, Austin Jeanes-Head Softball Coach-Base 1/Year 2-\$1,805, Austin Jeanes-Head Softball Coach-Base 1/Year 2-\$1,805, Katelyn Cusick-Silver Cord Sponsor-Base 1/Year 1-\$752, Jenni Gross-2024 Football Cheerleading Sponsor-Base 1/Year 1-\$752, Jenni Gross-2024 Football Cheerleading Sponsor-Base 1/Year 0-\$1,504 as presented. Motion carried 4-0

will receive approximately \$15,674 in operational sharing dollars for this position to offset cost. Moved by Sauerbrei Seconded by Kaufman to approve the Sharing Agreements with Central Rivers for 24-25 Curriculum Director, \$23,575.09 (40 days), & Special Education Director, \$46,088.02 (80 days) as presented. Motion carried 4-0 WV will receive approximately \$31,348 of operational sharing funds to offset these costs. Moved by Kaufman, Seconded by Auel to approve the 24-25 Sharing Agreements with Jesup for 24-25 Transportation Director, \$29,187.49 (20%), and Social Worker, \$32,436.36 (40%) as presented. Motion carried 4-0 WV will receive approximately \$31,348 of operational sharing funds to offset these costs. Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve tuition reimbursement resolution as presented. Motion carried 4-0 Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the bid from Prairie Farms for WV milk needs for FY25-27 as presented. Motion carried 4-0 13. Board Talking Points: 6th-grade students said lunch was great when attending 7th-grade orientation.

14. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to go into closed session at 7:41 PM Roll call-ALL AYES Principal increase- Closed session 21.5 (i) To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Out of closed session at 8:14 PM 15. Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve a 4.0% increase for the Director of Maintenance-David Dennler, 3.5% increase for the superintendent Chris Hoover, Business Manager Kim Arndt, Principal Alyson Forsyth, Holly Myers, & Timothy (TJ) Murphy, and \$3,500 plus 2.65% for Human Resources Director Tina Kaufman effective July 1, 2024 as presented. Motion carried 4-0

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday April 22, 2024. Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Hyde. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Dakota Drish, Police Chief; Brian Delagardelle, Water/Wastewater Operator; Nick Kuker, Public Works; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk. Williams/T. Woods to amend the agenda to add resignation submitted at the end of the meeting. Motion carried. Erickson/Hyde to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried. Erickson/Hyde to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Williams/R. Woods to open the public hearing on the proposed FY2025 Budget. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. No comments were received. T. Woods/Hyde to close the public hearing on the FY2025 Budget. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Hyde to close the public hearing on the FY2025 Budget. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

R. Woods/Williams to approve Resolution 2024-11 – Resolution Approving City of Fairbank's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2025. The tax rate set by the city was \$9.00003. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Erickson/Hyde to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: April 8, 2024 Special City Council Minutes and April 8, 2024 Regular City Council Minutes. Motion carried. The last item that needed to be discussed regarding updating some of the city's ordinances was garbage collection and rates. With the new services starting on July 1st the council agreed to raise single and family garbage rates by \$2.00 each per month.

Regarding the concession stand at the ball diamond, Mayor Kayser said he had talked to the state food inspector and that he was told that the concession stand could work under the pool's food license if there was no cooked food processed. Michael Gruetzmacher thought the startup costs could come out of the little league funds and he offered to help work it along with his wife and his parents. It was agreed that there needed to be more information obtained as far as a budget and processes. He will meet with the parks committee. Buying or finding a popcorm machine needs to be decided yet. Councilman Hyde suggested working out a schedule and getting the parents involved with volunteering at the stand.

Since the city had been running for quite awhile now with no Director of

Public Works. Councilwoman Erickson stated that her and the administration committee and the Mayor discussed hiring one so there could be a proper chain of command within the public works department. Erickson/T. Woods to hire Brian Delagardelle as the Public Works Director. Ayes: Five.

Nays: None. Councilwoman Erickson also stated that in these discussions they had talked about hiring Nick Kuker as the assistant to the Public Works Director since Brian Delagardelle could not be the direct supervisor over Ben Delagardelle. Since an unexpected resignation letter was received at the beginning of the meeting, T. Woods/R. Woods to table hiring an assistant until after the resignation of a public works employee was discussed since it could change flow of a needed chain of command. Ayes: Five. Nays: Nane.

it could change flow of a needed chain of command. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the first reading of Ordinance 363 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Water Rates. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

R. Woods/Hyde to approve the first reading of Ordinance 364 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Sewer Rates. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

T. Woods/Williams to approve the first reading of Ordinance 365 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Gas and the Charge for Posting Delinquent Utility Accounts and the Charge for Reconnection. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the first reading of Ordinance 366 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Electric and the Charge for Posting Delinquent Utility Accounts and the Charge for Reconnection. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Williams/Erickson to approve the first reading of Ordinance 367 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Rates for Collection of Solid Waste. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Rentals needed from D & S Portables, Inc. for this summer were discussed. Williams/Erickson to have three this summer and place the bathroom facilities in West Bentley Park, Riverside Park, and one at the south ball diamond at the Fairbank Ball Diamond. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

During the council/mayor comments or concerns, Mayor Kayser shared an

event with the council that will be put on by the lowa League of Cities and he also mentioned that the easements for the Fourth Street sidewalk were finished with two signed already. He mentioned the special election and wished good luck to both candidates. Councilman T. Woods and Councilwoman Erickson briefly talked about the pipeline meeting that they attended and said that there should be some town meetings starting regarding the topic. Councilman Williams said that Rick Trotter with Little Wapsie Communications asked if a couple city representatives could attend their meeting on May 6th.

During the department reports, Brian said that the milling on the west side of the bridge had begun, and that asphalt is scheduled to be done next Tuesday. The water connection at Grove Street and Fourth Street hopefully will be completed Thursday or Friday. They got the innerduct installed and the wired pulled along Lakeside Drive and have been doing some electric inspections and they believe four poles will need to be replaced soon. Police Chief Drish gave an update on the recent police activity and stated that he had completed all his firearms and rifle recertifications. He again thanked the council for their support and stated that he was proud of his department and that it seems they all really enjoy working for the City of Fairbank. Michael Gruetzmacher stated that ball season would be starting in two weeks and that he was working on ordering shirts. Brian also mentioned there was a pretty big sewer issue at the ball diamond that they had been fighting for a few years that they finally got cleaned out and should be good now. Signs will be put up to remind residents not to flush feminine products.

event with the council that will be put on by the lowa League of Cities and he also mentioned that the easements for the Fourth Street sidewalk were

good now. Signs will be put up to retained to the council at the start of the meeting. At the end of the meeting, he was asked if the submission was still valid, and it was. T. Woods/R. Woods to approve the resignation of Ben Delagardelle from the Public Works Department for the City of Fairbank. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Erickson/R. Woods to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 pm. Motion carried.

Jason Kayser, Mayor Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

10.00 NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 4/15/24 \$

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday May 13, 2024. Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Dakota Drish, Police Chief; Brian Delagardelle, Water/Wastewater Operator; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk. Erickson/Gruetzmacher to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There were no public hearings.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: April 22, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes, Automatic Renewal of Liquor license for Casey's Marketing, Cigarette Permit for Casey's Marketing, Fireworks Permit for Fairbank Days, Agreement with IA DOT for Snow Removal, Setting the next Regular Council Meeting for Tuesday May 28, 2024 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.

Ing will be placed at the end of the minutes. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.
There was no informal public comment.
T. Woods/Williams to approve the second reading of Ordinance 363 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Water Rates. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.
Williams/T. Woods to approve the second reading of Ordinance 364 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Sewer Rates. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.
Gruetzmacher/R. Woods to approve the second reading of Ordinance 365 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Gas and the Charge for Posting Delinquent Utility Accounts and the Charge for Reconnection. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Nays: None. Williams/Gruetzmacher to approve the second reading

of Ordinance 366 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Electric and the Charge for Posting Delinquent Utility Accounts and the Charge for Reconnection. Ayes: Five.

Nays: None.

T. Woods/Erickson to approve the second reading of Ordinance 367 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Rates for Collection of Solid Waste. Ayes: Five. Nays: Notice.

A representative for the Fayette County Carnival will be asked if they could attend the next regular council meeting for more discussions on a possible sponsor-

meeting for more discussions on a possible sponsorship from the city.

R. Woods/Gruetzmacher to approve the proposal from Prairie Road Builders for \$22,983.40 for seal coating needed for the 2024 summer season. Ayes: Four. Abstain: Williams. Nays: None.

Brian stated that there were about ten concrete light pole bases along Main Street that were already cracking. He had been in contact with the city's engineers, and they said they would be able to review them during the final walk through. The poles are stable for now but need to be reviewed for potential issues down the road. After training courses were taken, it was recommended by the City Clerk that the Deputy Clerk's position be

paid out hourly instead of salary and with that a resolution was needed to make the change. T. Woods/Williams to approve Resolution 2024-12 – Resolution Setting Deputy Clerk's Pay Restructuring. Ayes: Five.

paid out hourly instead of salary and with that a resolution was needed to make the change. T. Woods/ Williams to approve Resolution 2024-12 – Resolution Setting Deputy Clerk's Pay Restructuring. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Discussions took place about whether the City Clerk could be paid for council meetings. The council seemed interested, so a resolution will be drafted and will be added to the next regular council meeting agenda for further discussions.

The current budget year is ending June 30, 2024, and there are some changes needing to be amended to the numbers passed and approved in the spring of 2023. Erickson/T. Woods to approve Resolution 2024-13 – Resolution Setting Time and Place for a Public Hearing for an Amendment of FY 2023-2024 City Budget. The public hearing will be on Tuesday, May 28 at 6:00 pm at City Hall, 116 East Main Street, Fairbank, IA. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

During the council/mayor comments or concerns, Mayor Kayser stated that the city had received some interest in the open public works position, and he also mentioned starting goal planning sessions for the city sometime in July.

During the department reports, Fire Chief Chris West, Kevin Bodensteiner, Janice Martins, and Collin Woods were present on behalf of the Fairbank Fire and EMS Department. Chief West gave a brief update and Kevin explained to the council information regarding an afflitation agreement they have been working on with Oran. Any approvals or more questions will be addressed at the next regular council meeting. Brian updated the council on the Main Street Project. Paving should be done in the next couple of days pending weather with an opening of the intersection at Fourth and Grove sometime next week. Aspro was going to be working in town and the repainting would be happening as well. A concrete slab would be poured next to the police office for a drug take back box after some planning with Sherriff Buzynski from Buchanan County. They had been working on some new gas services and getting some of their equipment Miliams/Gruetzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 7:03

Wiliams/Gruetzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm. Motion carried.

Bills for the Month of May 2024

Access Systems, Services \$182.16

Aero-Mod, Supplies \$312.31

Amazon Capital Services, Supplies \$69.25

Arnold Motor Supply, Supplies \$12.58

Atlantic Bottling Co., Park Concessions
Black Hawk Waste Disposal, Services
BMC Aggregates L.C., Supplies \$512.48

Buchanan County, Special Election 4/23/24 \$3,532.94

Butler County Rec, Electric \$42,766.74

Butler County Rec, Services \$1,153.50
Carrico Aquatic Products, Supplies \$2,300.00
Casey's General Store, Gas \$801.71
Central Salt LLC., Supplies \$2,450.43
Clayton Energy Corporation, Natural Gas 0 588.60 Clayton Energy Corporation, Natural Gas 9,588.69 Clayton Energy Corporation, Reservation 4,839.49 & Amaleah Cowell, Utility Deposit Refund Jordan & Amaleah Cowell, Utility Deposit Refund \$200.00
Creative Impact, Supplies \$44.00
D & S Portables, Inc., Services \$750.00
Brian Delagardelle, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$75.00
Display Sales, Supplies \$4,028.00
Kirk Drew or Britney Hershey, Utility Deposit Refund \$200.00
Dakota Drish, Mileage Reimbursement \$131.52
Elite Sports, LL Shirts \$882.50
Fairbank Foot Center, Park Concessions \$133.28
Fairbank Postmaster, Utility Bills May 24
City Of Fairbank, Electric & Gas \$4,215.62
City Of Fairbank, Utility Deposit Applied \$200.00
Farm Win Co-Op, Lease \$2.00
Fayette County Auditor, Special Election 4/23/24 \$1,795.61
Fehr Graham, Engineering Fees \$12,208.50
Brittany Fuller, Cell Phone/Mileage Reimbursement \$220.00
Services \$220.00
Services \$114.14

Brittany Fuller, Cell Phone/Mileage Reimbursement \$282.25
Gordon Flesch Company Inc, Services \$114.14
Grainger, Inc., Supplies \$129.83
Groebner & Associates, Services \$657.72
Haynes Equipment Co., Supplies \$1,804.00
Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport, Training \$474.88
IAMU, Services/Safety Training \$2,151.38
Iowa Codification, Inc., Services \$285.00
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Training \$420.00
Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc., Water \$9,035.28
Iowa Sport Supply, Supplies \$1,101.00
Iowa State University, Training \$200.00
IPERS, Benefits \$4,910.50
John Deere Financial, Supplies \$408.76
Kay Park Rec Corp., Supplies \$140.00
Kirkwood Community College, Training \$120.00
Wilnat, Inc., Supplies \$854.72
Nick Kuker, Cell Phone Reimbursement \$ Wilnat, Inc., Supplies \$854.7 Nick Kuker, Cell Phone Reimbursement elle Laube, Meal/Cell Phone Reimbursement \$ 95.08 Life med Safety, Inc., Inspection \$ 99.00 Little Wapsie Communications, Static IP Addresses \$

Lumber Ridge Home Source, Shipping/LL Supplies \$127.40 \$127.40
Marc, Supplies \$197.73
Mediacom, SW Plant Phone Line \$ 4
Metering & Technology Solution, Equipment

2,185.68
Michael Pint, Supplies Reimbursement \$54.97
Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Testing \$824.75
Modern Building Products, LL Supplies \$53.77
Modern Building Products, Supplies \$626.32
Myers Polaris, Services \$53.82
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 4/1/24 \$

NE Security Bank, Utility ACH Service Charge 10.00

NSB/HSA - H S A Contributions \$ 625.00

NSB/HSA - H S A Payroll Deductions \$ 100.00

Oelwein Publishing, Publishings \$616.48

Pratt's Pest Control, Monthly Pest Controls \$235.00

Premier Technology, Services \$115.00

Quad County Fire School, Training \$90.00

Quick Med Claims, Ambulance Billing \$453.66

Randy's Lawn Care & Snow, Services \$2,925.00

Benjamin Reams, Utility Deposit Refund \$200.00

Roberts, Stevens, Prendergast, Attorney Fees \$4,425.00

Hunter Robinson, Utility Deposit Refund \$200.00 Hoberts, Stevens, Prendergast, Attorney Fees 4,425.00
Hunter Robinson, Utility Deposit Refund \$200.00
Roto Rooter Sewer-Drain Service, Services \$877.50
Rydell Of Independence, Services \$62.48
Sam's Club Mc/SYNCB, Supplies \$222.94
Scott Pharmacy, Ambulance Supplies \$2,046.03
Corey Simon, Utility Deposit Refund \$200.00
Storey Kenworthy/Matt Parrott, LL Shirts \$361.00
Stuart. C. Irby Co., Supplies \$213.50
Sun Life Assurance Comp, Life Policies \$82.70
Superior Welding Supply Co., Oxygen \$124.54
Team Laboratory Chemical Corp., Supplies \$819.50
Treasurer-State Of Iowa, April 24 Sales Tax 2,615.10
Treasurer State Of Iowa, April 24 Water Excise Tax Treasurer State Of Iowa, April 24 Water Excise Tax 1,106.22 U. S. Treasury, 941 Taxes 1,106.22
U. S. Treasury, 941 Taxes
U.S. Bank, April PEFA Commodity
Urban Services, Services
Utility Safety & Design Inc., Mailings
Verizon Wireless, Cell Phones
Visa, AVAYA Phone System/Microsoft Email Accounts / Meals/Flags
Websites To Impress, Inc., Services
Wellmark, May Premium
Roxanne Wenner, Services
Windstream Enterprise, Gas Alarm Phone Line
\$67.74 67.74 Kathie Wolfgram, Rebate \$325.00 The Library Board Approved the Following Bills on May 1, 2024: 1, 2024: Amazon Capital Services, Supplies \$358.97
Angela Berg, Mileage \$170.30
Baker & Taylor Inc., Supplies \$746.96
City Of Fairbank, Electric & Gas \$173.92
IAMU, Safety Training \$ 74.62
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 4/15/24 \$1.15 Overdrive, Inc., EBooks \$500.00
Pratt's Pest Control, Monthly Pest Controls 45.00 45.00
Sam's Club Mc/SYNCB, Supplies \$ 39.98
Visa, AVAYA Phone System/Microsoft Email Accounts /365 Subscription \$152.06
Roxanne Wenner, Services \$160.00
Jason Kayser, Mayor
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk **A17** JUNE 5, 2024

Area Veteran leads initiative to clean, straighten and refurbish tombstones

BY BETTY BRANDT PASSICK

bbpassick@comcast.net

"One definitely comes home from the military with a new perspective on things in life that most people see every day but don't take any notice of," said Benny Ruehs.

Born and raised in Jesup, he joined the U.S. Air Force shortly after graduating high school, and for the next six years he served in Germany, specializing in hydraulics systems, servicing F-4 fighter jets used in Viet Nam, and the B-66, a radar jammer.

He was honorably discharged from the military in 1970 and ten years later relocated to a place north of Fairbank. Around 2000, he joined the the Knights of Columbus, a service organization that supports Catholic families and parishes throughout Iowa that undertakes numerous works of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism in their communities and

Benny became the Fairbank American Legion Post 552



Above: Michael Gruetzmacher, Christie Kayser, and Vince Haislet. Right: Benny Ruehs at work in the Fairbank Cemetery straightening a tombstone with the aid of a skid loader owned and operated by Kenny Little (not pictured).

commander about ten years ago, as well.

One day he noticed a number of the stones in the Immaculate Conception Cemetery were really dirty and moss-covered. He purchased a power washer and went to work cleaning them—then



straightened the stones. Benny estimates he's given sixty hours to that cemetery alone, before moving on to the cemetery two miles west of Oran.

At some point he realized the care of the cemeteries required more time than he was able to give, so he elicited the help of the Fairbank Community Club.

"I was tickled to death when FCC president Tammy Erickson announced in the April Fairbank Islander that a

Fairbank Cemetery cleanup was scheduled for Saturday, April 13—and a large number of people showed up to work on the stones in the public Fairbank Cemetery north of St. John's Lutheran church.

To date, a lot of the tombstones in the town's two cemeteries have been cleaned, straightened and refurbished, thanks to the following individuals: (I. C. cemetery) Joe Bovy, Bob Byersdorfer, Jack Duffy, Don Menuey, Orvald

Ott, Brian Ott, Jerry Plaster, Tony Salisbury, Jerry Shannon, Mike Tagtow, Maurice Welsh, and John Woods; (Fairbank Cemetery) Bob Bellis, Adam Michael Gruetzmacher, Vince Haislet, Christie Kayser, Emily (Nus) Kriens, Bill Land, Kenny Little, Lamar Little, J. J. Little, Mathew Myers, Jeff Nus, Mike and Trish Pint, Kathy Risse, LeAnne Sigglekov, and Carson Woods.

Benny's grandson, Seth Gregorsok, 15, who has helped multiple times at the public cemetery, will clean every stone in the cemetery located on 20th Street for his Eagle Scout service project. This is among the cemeteries in the area without a church associated with it.

Benny says his ultimate goal is to get more young people involved in the care of the cemeteries.

"If we don't take care of the stones, who's going to?"

Anyone interested in helping with the project should contact Kenny Little at 319-238-2828 or Adam Costello at 319-239-5298.



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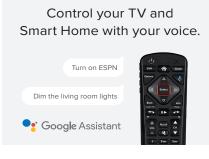
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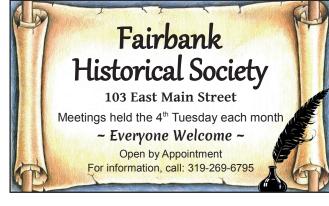
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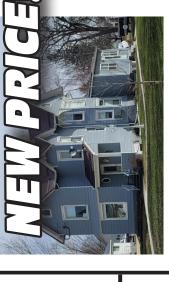
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