SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

AUGUST 5, 2020 Compiled by Fairbank Community Club ~ Designed and Printed by Oelwein Publishing Co.

**VOLUME 1, NO. 3** 

# City finishes river embankment project below the dam

In July of 2017, the City of Fairbank suffered greatly from severe storms that produced heavy flooding. West Bentley, East Bentley and Island Park are just a few of the locations that suffered tremendous damage. The days following the flood, everything was cleaned up as soon as possible. A big Thank You to all the volunteers and the City workers for helping put everything back together again.

On August 10, 2017, Governor Kim Reynolds requested a major disaster declaration for public assistance for the period of July 19-23, and on August 27, President Trump declared that a major disaster existed in the State of Iowa. This declaration made public assistance available to the state and local governments for reimbursement of the costs incurred to repair and replace damages that occurred during the storm in Mitchell, Chickasaw, Bremer, Buchanan, Fayette, Dubuque, Clayton, Winneshiek, and Al-

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 



# NORTHEAST SECURITY BANK OF FAIRBANK DRESSING CASUAL FOR A CAUSE

Our employees take pride paying to dress casual making it possible to donate to a local cause in their communities. Our Fairbank location choose to donate to "His Hands Food Pantry." Pictured (left to right) Vice President Andrew Williams from Northeast Security Bank of Fairbank, John Rich and Roger Burgart from His Hands Food Pantry.



# Modern Building Products raffle winners

The Spring season just got a little more golden for Modern Building Products and customers Kurt Welsh and Larry Lamasters.

On June 6, Kurt Welsh and Larry Lamasters were chosen as winners of the Modern Building Products \$500 Shopping Giveaways. Welsh and Lamasters were selected at random from more than 250 entries submitted at the store from February 16-June 1, 2020.

Rick Woods said that Modern Building Products is delighted to provide two of its customers with the opportunity to make their Spring projects a little more exciting. "Everyone has a few extra chores this time of year and we're glad that Kurt and Larry will be able to choose whatever tools they want to get the job done. We thank all those who entered the giveaway for their participation."

Modern Building Products is located at 511 4th Street North, Fairbank, and has been serving customers in the Fairbank area for 38 years. Modern Building Products offers a complete line of hardware, plumbing, electrical and lumber supplies along with a rental center for everyone from the do-it-yourself homeowner to the professional. Modern Building Products has been a Do it Best Corp. member since 1994.

Based in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Do it Best Corp. is the only U.S.-based, member-owned comprehensive and fully integrated hardware, lumber and building materials buying cooperative in the home improvement industry. With annual sales nearing \$4 billion, Do it Best Corp. serves thousands of member-owned locations across the United States and in more than 50 other countries.





Kurt Welsh Larry Lamast

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#### FAIRBANK ISLANDER

A MESSAGE FROM

# Mayor Mike



By Mike Harter

Welcome to August! August is normally a very exciting time with school starting, seeing old friends you haven't seen all summer, and getting back into the routine of going to classes, and for some students practicing for football and volleyball. The 2020-2021 school year will probably be different for sure. A year that will have lots of unknowns, and trying to defend off the Corona Virus. My wish is that everyone in the community be Safe and Stay Healthy.

Even though much of our country has been opened up, people still need to be smart about their choices in what they choose to do. Please continue to practice social distancing, and please wear a mask when around others. If you aren't feeling well or have a fever, PLEASE STAY HOME!

# DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE ISLANDER IS AUGUST 25



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or email to: f.library@mchsi.com

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lamakee counties.

The City of Fairbank worked with an agent from Iowa Homeland Security Emergency Management Department who then worked with FEMA on helping get reimbursed for the costs that were incurred. The total estimate that was calculated from the damages needing to be repaired in the City of Fairbank was \$42,160.97. Of that allowed reimbursement, 75% was the Federal share, 10% was the State share, and 15% was our own local share.

With those numbers, the city greatly benefited from the help that was offered due to the disaster declaration. One of the bigger repair projects yet to be completed as of this year was the river embankment project, just southeast of the dam. The City had been working with FEMA and many others on the completion of the project. This project required perfect weather cooperation and over the last few years it was hard to get a period long enough with no rain and lower water levels.

At the beginning of this summer, everyone involved in the project was ready for when

the weather would cooperate. With a very favorable seven day forecast at the end of June, the rip rap was placed, and the flood gate was opened. This allowed for the water level in the upper portion of the river to drop down so that when they shut the gate to do the work it would take some time before the water ran back over the dam.

The City of Fairbank is happy to say that on July 8th it was go time for the concrete to be placed. The project went smooth and will help keep the embankment from eroding away.







Photos show some of the damage done by the flood waters in 2017.













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## By Robert Shields Buchanan County received its name in honor of former Senator from Pennsylvania and Secretary of State, James Buchanan, who was instrumental in Iowa becoming a state. While serving as Secretary of State under President Polk, Buchanan helped to nearly double the territory of the United States through land purchases West Union AYETTE Fayesteville MIKK Taylorsville Strawberr rges Rapids reely's Gri Cedar Eals Mount Independence BU

Before Fairbank was on the Map

and treaties like the Oregon Trea-

ty and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The territory of the United States now stretched across the continent for the first time. James Buchanan was America's 15th president, from 1857 to 1861. Buchanan, a Democrat, believed in state's rights. During his tenure in office, he allowed seven southern states to secede from the Union and the nation teetered on the brink of civil war. Because of this and his views on state's rights, he was considered one of the worst Presidents in US history and it was believed that his presidency was a major cause of the Civil War. After the start of the war there were many in Buchanan County that thought the county should change it's name, and lobbied for this, but there wasn't enough support to do so.

Buchanan County was surveyed in the 1840s and again in the 1850s. It is astonishing how accurate these early land surveys were with surveyors using only a solar compass, marking pins (stakes), and a gunter chain, (a chain with 100 links, each link measured 7.92 inches long to measure distance, 80 chains equaled a statute mile). Surveyors divided Buchanan County into "Congressional Townships", who's boundaries are six miles on each side, where possible. Each

Township is then divided into Sections of 1 mile square (640 acres), each Section divided into 1/2 Section (320 acres), and each ½ Section divided ¼ Section is (160 acres), the smallest division being ¼ of a Quarter Section which is 40 acres.

Clarence Bacon Everett, eldest son of Franklin J. & Sara L. Everett, was born in the village of Fairbank, Buchanan County, Iowa, September 5, 1855, the first white child born in the village. At the age of 16 he joined a government survey party in surveying the border lines of the states of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and the boundary between the United States and Old Mexico.

In January of 1848 the first townships or "Districts" were first organized in Buchanan County as the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Districts. Fairbank Township would be located in the 1st District. Later in July of 1848 the boundaries were changed slightly and District One, was changed to Washington Township, District Two, changed to Liberty Township, and District Three, to Spring Township. Between this time and 1860 all the Township boundaries were changed to the present 16 Townships we have today.

On March 5, 1855 Alton Town-

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4** 





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Buchanan County American Legion Commander, Bob Hocken [on right], presents Legionnaire of the Month to Jason Kastli of the Fairbank Legion. Jason served in the Navy on a submarine and joined the Legion seven years ago. He currently oversees the Legion Hall rental, besides being involved in other Legion activities.

~ A Well Deserved Award ~



#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

ship was created in the far northwest corner of the county. On June 2, 1862 the name of Alton Township was changed to Fairbank Township by a decision of the Board of Supervisors.

The total population of Buchanan County in the 1850 Census was 513. By the 1852 Census of Buchanan County, the population was 1,023, less than the population of the City of Fairbank today.

One of the early settlers in Fairbank in 1853, was Frederick C. Patterson, born 23 July, 1818 in Rochester, New York. On December 6, 1838 he married Lydia Baldwin, in Oakland Michigan. Lydia was born in Monroe County, New York, on 15 March, 1820. Frederick and Lydia appear on the 1850 Census in Grattan Township, Kent County, Michigan, along with two children Amelia B, born 1842, and Phebe J., born 1846, both born in Michigan. The 1856 Census of Buchanan County has Frederick and Lydia living in Alton Township, along with a third child George Alton Patterson, born in Michigan also. I believe the original name Alton, for Alton Township came about because the Patterson family lived in and still had family in the Alton area of Kent County, Michigan, where they had lived before coming to Iowa. Within a couple days after Bacon and Everett platted the Village of Fairbank in 1855, Frederick Patterson platted the Patterson Addition to the Village, almost doubling its size.

The family moved multiple times over the next 40 years. In 1860 they were living in Iron County, Missouri with a 6 month old daughter Edith who was born in Missouri. In 1870 the family was in Madison County Illinois. Returning back to Iowa in 1876, they were now living in Oran Township as appears on the 1880 Census. Frederick and Lydia retired to live in the town of Fairbank a couple years later.

Frederick died, 29 December, 1895 at the home of his son, George C. Patterson, in Lisbon, Iowa at the age of 78.

Lydia B. (Baldwin) Patterson died 19 February, 1908 at the home of her daughter Edith Everett, wife of F. G. Everett. Lydia had fallen a week earlier, receiving a broken hip and a severe cut on her head. She never regained consciousness.



# Announcing fall wedding plans

Announcement is being made of the en- in Omaha, NE. gagement and upcoming wedding of Emily Ann Erhardt and Austin Christopher Bauer.

Emily is the daughter of Tim and Roxanne Erhardt of Fairbank. She is a recent graduate of Augsburg University in Minneapolis and is currently employed as a music therapist at Omaha Music Therapy

Austin is the son of Adam and Jennifer Bauer of Charles City, IA. He is a graduate of NIACC and is working as a shift supervisor at Starbucks in Omaha.

The couple will exchange vows September 19, 2020 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank.

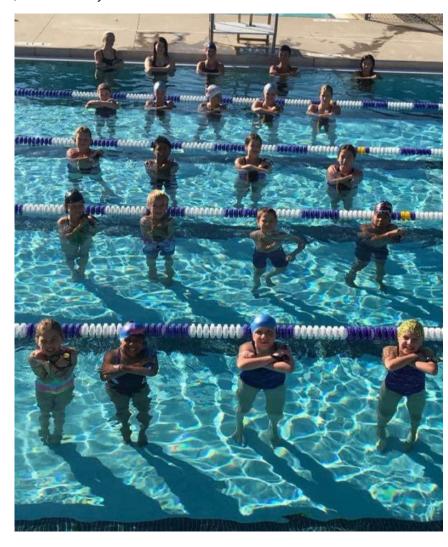
# "Swim Camp" held at Fairbank **Aquatic Center**

Sharks Swim Team hosted "Swim Camp" at the Fairbank Aquatic Center in July. Coached by Kaitlyn Baerg, twenty-five swimmers completed workouts and drills to improve their skills and speed on the competition strokes of Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, and Butterfly.

Sharks Swim Team, a part of the Big Six Swim Club, is a USA summer swim team based out of Oelwein, with a satellite practice location in Fairbank, Iowa. Summer season typically runs 6 weeks beginning June 1, with intra-squad meets occurring in the towns of Oelwein, Independence, Waverly, Laporte City, Dysart, and Dike.

Over the past several vears. Shark Swim Team members have achieved qualifying swim times which have allowed them to compete and

place in relay and individual events at both Silvers (regional) and the Iowa State Swim Meet. The Sharks are hopeful to resume a normal season next summer and welcome new team member and coach candidates.



# "Genealogy Makes You Stop and Think About all the Joys and Sorrows"

Interview with Granddaughters Linda (Lehmkuhl) Kastner and Geraldine "Deane" (Lehmkuhl) Fink

## by BETTY BRANDT PASSICK

Many people from the Fairbank area will remember retired farmer Elmer Cummings, but may not know some of the twists and turns his life took.

Elmer was born in 1877 and grew up on a farm near Dunkerton. He was one of ten children born to Alexander and Martha

(Fox) Cummings. In March 1902, he married Edith (Goeller) Cummings (born in 1881), at Fairbank. They farmed near Oelwein a year or so before homesteading in Pine River, Minn.

"Elmer traveled to Minnesota via train with his mules and farm equipment—Edith joined him later. He had to chop trees to build a house and farm for 5 years before he could come back to Iowa and buy a farm," Deane said. "I wish I had asked him or grandma more questions about this adventure."

She has several pictures of the inside and outside of the cabin and the farm. Her son Roger Fink wrote a song, "Minnesota Homestead," which tells this story. The refrain goes like this:

Left our home to try to start a
better life
Homestead plot, seven
chickens and a cow
Once this contract's through
we'll find a way to go
Back to Iowa somehow

Eventually, Elmer and Edith-and their two children, Martha and Lawrence—returned to farm north of Fairbank. Esther, Myrtle, and Vera were born there. Most of the siblings remained in the Fairbank area. Martha married Rowland Bradley and farmed west of town; Myrtle married Kenneth Betts and he ran the barber shop (and she, a restaurant) on Main Street; Lawrence married Blanche Scoville, and they lived on Elmer's farm for several years when Elmer and Edith lived in a smaller house nearby. Esther married Lester Thiessen and their family had an appliance store in Cedar Falls.

In 1935 Vera married Melvin 'Mud' Lehmkuhl. His family--(grandpa) W.G. (Bill) Lehmkuhl and his 3 sons, Wilber (Web), Elmer (Tod), and Mud--owned Lehmkuhl Bros. Hardware on Main Street. All four



1902 Wedding Photo, Elmer F. (1877-1970) and Edith (Goeller) Cummings (1881-1953)



50th Wedding Anniversary photo.

worked there as it expanded.

Mud and Vera lived in the apartment above the hardware store, where their 3 children were born: Geraldine, Dale (who died at age 3), and Linda. Deane said she has fond memories of visits to Elmer's farm, where the cousins spent a lot of time. "Grandpa Elmer loved kids--and his mules, and when he worked the fields with his mules, he fixed a way that I could ride along. He never scolded me, because, being a town kid, I didn't know not to chase the sheep, but just kindly explained why. He let me milk his Jersey cows and didn't get mad when I piled lots of hay for them to eat. He made sleds for us kids to use on one of the big hills in the winter. One was from an old car that had a pointed hood. He turned it upside down and it worked perfectly. He loved to go swimming with us in the Little Wapsie that wandered through his farm. I was fortunate to have a country grandpa--and a city grandpa."





Homsteading in Minnesota, 1903.



Elmer Cummings' transportation, 1965. Pictured with grandson Howard Betts (standing) and daughter

"Grandma Edith was a lovely, quiet woman; a homemaker who raised 5 children. She was a really good cook. They both attended the Baptist church."

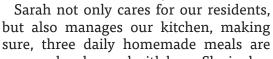
When Elmer retired to Fairbank in 1950 and became custodian of Fairbank's parks and gardens, he and Edith then moved into the two-

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# **Parkview Assisted Living** honors 15 year employee

Parkview Assisted Living would like to acknowledge and thank Sarah Seemann for 15 years of dedication and heartfelt care to our residents. We are so proud to have you as part of our work family and we hope that you keep up the good work for many years to come. We so very much appreciate your dedication to Parkview residents and our community.





prepared and served with love. She is always wearing a smile and ready to help out whenever needed. Parkview is very lucky to have her as part of our team.

#### Parkview has apartments available for move in now.

Parkview Assisted Living is nestled in a quiet small town setting in Fairbank, Iowa. Our small town feel resonates throughout our building. Opening the doors in 2004, Parkview has 18 private apartments, each with their own kitchenettes, walk in showers, and large living areas. Each apartment has its own individual key for added security and privacy.

When a resident moves in, they move in with their own belongings so as to make their apartment their own. An on-site beauty shop means residents can get their hair done without ever leaving home. Residents and their families have the peace of mind, knowing there is always a nurse on call.

Parkview employs 13 staff members at the present time. Staff is available to our residents at all times of the day. Residents wear pendants to easily access staff if help is needed. Parkview staff pride themselves with giving their best and providing loving care to the residents.

We offer three daily homemade meals, weekly housekeeping and linen service. Staff can also do personal laundry if the resident chooses or the resident may choose to do their own. Parkview staff can also help with medications. Our residents choose how much assistance is needed, paying special attention to individualized care.

Parkview leases the apartments on a month to month basis. There is no buy in fee, we only ask for a deposit. Our base fee for an apartment includes heat and utilities, water, internet, emergency pendant and basic cable.

Stop by for a tour anytime. We would be happy to sit down and talk to you about the services offered at Parkview Assisted Living.

## LIVING ON THE EDGE

My sister called me the other day. We were discussing important events, like the merits of seeded watermelon over non-seeded, wallpaper versus satin latex paint and the value of left-overs.

"I had a productive day, ' Susan announced. My fridge looked as if it was hosting a Tupperware party. So, I mixed and matched and came up with three wonderful meals."

I'll admit, that was impressive. I do my best to label containers, but when the strawberry juice oozes from one shelf to another, I wipe the lids and content label off, and it's another mystery to solve.

"For instance, I had some green peppers, shredded cheese and tatertots, and some meatloaf, used some cream of something soup, and voila, a casserole," she said.

Me, I prefer refrigerator roulette. The oleo/sour cream/yogurt containers must contain something edible. I contend that if you add enough cheese, chocolate or whipped topping, it can pass as a meal.

Susan added, "Tonight, I am using previously baked chicken, salsa and green beans and making enchiladas. I am going to mash up baked beans, add a spice or two, for a side."

I've always admired her ability to sort, label and avoid clutter. I think it's the Aries in her.

Susan was always the organized one in the family. Every picture she has ever taken is neatly labeled, in a photo album, and the albums are indexed. Her closet looks like a Better Homes and Garden event. (Not that I'm hurt or anything, but Martha Stewart has yet to call for my

I chalk up my messiness and lack of organization to being a Libra. I call it balance. She calls it chaos. I name it multi-tasking, she claims it's being unable to focus. She favors primary colors like red, blue, green and yellow. My favorite color is plaid. Susan loves an indexed plat book, to me it seems like a geographical puzzle.

Back to meal planning, my daughter Missy inherited my sisters' ability to plan ahead. I called her and asked her about dinner plans.

'Oh, mom, it's all in the crock pot. Tomorrow's meal is in the fridge, and Wednesday's is in the freezer," she explained.

How about you, mom?" I quickly said, "Sorry, gotta cut this call short, Your dad needs help in the garden.

Not sure she believed me, but I had my eye on left-over lasagna and boiled sliced ham. Just throw some more cheese over it, bake for 30 minutes and hope Roger is really hungry.

# Parkview Resident Spotlight!

## **Vernette Jurgensen**

My birthday is August 31st I was born and raised in Sumner, Iowa

> I have 3 children (1 deceased), 6 grandchildren (2 deceased) and 5 great-grandchildren

I was a farm wife and had my own flower shop. I enjoyed designing floral arrangements, gardening and canning.

My favorite foods are asparagus, chocolate pie and angel food cake! I have lived at Parkview for a little over a year.

A quote to live by:

"A hug says a 1000 words!"



#### **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION RAFFLE**

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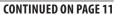


# 4,068 Prairie Plugs planted at the Readlyn Stormwater Wetland

The City of Readlyn received funding from the State Revolving Fund and IDALS Water Quality Initiative funding with the building of the new sewer plant. The City submitted a project request to improve water quality runoff. This project involved turning ag land on the south side of town into a wetland. Two thirds of Readlyn's stormwater runoff go to the southwest corner of town and across several acres of farm ground. The City saw this as a great opportunity to improve water quality with this project.

Wapsie Valley 5th grade wrote a grant to Northeast Iowa RC&D in May 2019 to purchase \$5000 worth of prairie plugs to work with the community to plant at the Readlyn Stormwater Wetlands. The schedule of planting was delayed due to weather impacting construction of the wetland. Then the planting was planned for May 2020, but COVID-19 caused another delay.

Bremer County Conservation staff worked together to create a planting event for June 24, 2020. Wapsie Valley students and families, Readlyn residents, Iowa State Extension, NRCS, SWCD, Bremer County Nature Alliance, boy scout troops, 4H groups, and public were all invited to come plant. Fifty-six people helped plant the 4,068 prairie plugs from June 24-26, 2020 for a total of





Ari Behnke, Derek Matthias, Elis Behnke, Sam Platte



Claire O'Donnell, Austin Franck, Ava Auel, Dana Harskamp





Anna Sweeney, Kassidy Federspiel



Jody Busch, Maren Jones, Dave Larson



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#### **Wapsie Valley High School**

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#### **Fairbank Police Department**

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#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5**

story house Elmer owned east of the Baptist

In 1953, grandmothers Mathilda 'Tillie' Lehmkuhl and Edith Cummings died. Linda said: "We were so young—I was only 8 years old—Deane was 17. I regret not asking them questions. I didn't expect they would remember. I now know different. Genealogy makes you stop and think about all the joys and sorrows."

After Elmer married Gertrude 'Gertie' Ohl Crouse, they moved into the apartment

above the Post Office, another building Elmer owned. Linda recalled: "He had his loom all set up there and made lots of rag rugs on it. I would love to watch him work that loom. He was a very interesting man, always pulling tricks on us as kids with such a serious look. We never knew what to expect."

He and Gertie then moved into another house Elmer owned east of the Methodist church. Gertie was another interesting woman who had also bore and reared five children. Elmer maintained a large weedless garden and loved to give away vegetables, and helped Gertie can produce, too.

"When Elmer got to an age that he lost his driver's license, he got a horse and buggy and used that to get around town," Linda

Elmer died in 1970. He and Edith are buried in the Fairbank cemetery. Gertrude Cummings is also there; she died in 1985.

I would like to interview and write articles about long-time residents (town & farm) of the Fairbank area for publication in the Fairbank Islander. Please contact me to nominate yourself, or someone else: bbpassickauthor@comcast.net.

What's Cookin Broccoli and cauliflower, members of the cabbage family, are high in fiber

and vitamins and low in calories (25 calories per cup). Broccoli is considered one of the world's healthiest foods and contains cancer preventative amino acids. Broccoli and cauliflower are often used together in savory casseroles and tasty salads.

#### **Broccoli and Cauliflower Casserole**

- 4 cups broccoli florets (fresh or frozen, cut into bite-size pieces)
  4 cups cauliflower florets (fresh or frozen, cut into bite-size pieces)
- 4 tablespoons butter (divided)

- 1/4 tsp. garlic powder 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper 1/4 tsp. onion salt
- 1 cup sharp cheddar cheese (grated)
- ½ cup panko bread crumbs
- Combine 2 tablespoons butter with panko crumbs, set aside
- Boil cauliflower for 2 min., add broccoli and boil another 2 min. Drain wel
- In saucepan, melt 2 tbsp. butter, add flour, stirring until smooth. Add milk whisking constantly over medium heat until thick and bubbly. Stir in cream cheese, salt, onion salt, garlic powder and black pepper. Stir until smooth. Add cheddar cheese. Toss with broccoli and cauliflower.
- Spoon mixture into greased casserole dish. Top with panko crumbs and/or
- Bake at 375 degrees 20-25 min. or until heated through and bubbly

#### **Broccoli-Cauliflower Salad**

- Serves 6-8
  3 cups fresh broccoli florets (cut into bite-size pieces) 3 cups fresh procool florets (cut into bite-size pieces
  3 cups fresh cauliflower florets (cut into bite-size pieces
  1 cup green seedless grapes (halved)
  1 cup red seedless grapes (halved)
  2 cup red onion (thinly sliced)
  1 cup celery (diced)
  1 cup mayonnaise

- ½ cup sugar 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar 8 bacon slices (fried crisp and crumbled) ½ cup slivered almonds
- Prepare vegetables and grapes
- Mix mayonnaise, sugar and vinegar together. Add broccoli, cauli grapes. Refrigerate at least 2 hours.
- Prepare bacon and set aside.
- Just before serving, add crumbled bacon to salad mixture Top with slivered almonds



Aug. 5th . . Library Board Meeting, 4 pm

Aug. 10th. . City Council Meeting, 6 pm

Aug. 17th. . WVCSD Board Meeting, 6:30 pm

Aug. 20th. . "Thirsty Thursday" at the American Legion starting at 4 pm

Aug. 24th. . 1st Day of School (tentatively)

Aug. 24th. . City Council Meeting, 6 pm

Aug. 25th. . Fairbank Historical Society meeting Sept. 12th. .Fairbank City-Wide Garage Sales

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A10 - AUGUST 5, 2020 FAIRBANK ISLANDER

# Fairbank Housing Inc. has served our town for nearly 50 years

#### by Maurice Welsh, Manager

Fairbank Housing Inc. consists of 24 rental units, designated for elderly or people with disabilities. They were financed by the Farmers Home Administration, now known as USDA Rural Development. Three different loans were secured from the Federal Agency.

The property on the east and west sides of town was purchased through the sale of individual shares to Fairbank resi-

The first six units were built in 1972 and another four units were built in 1975. These were on the east side of town. Two Laundry Rooms are included, with a washer and dryer in each. Tenants can do their laundry at no cost to them.

The west site, which consists of 14 units, was completed in 1982. It has one Laundry Room with two washers and dryers.

The west site has a Family Room, which was furnished by the former Lions Club.

Fairbank Housing has received a number of \$10,000.00 grants funded through INRCOG's Local Housing Trust Fund. The grants have mostly been used for installation of tub size walk-in showers with glass doors. At the present time, 19 of them have been installed.

The tenant's rent is based on their income. Rental assistance is allowed, as well as utility allowance.

This organization has a board which meets quarterly and they are given a financial report. They also have an annual meeting and report.

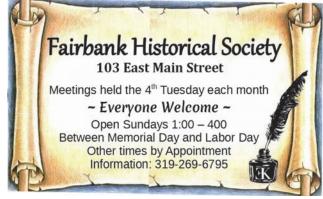
As manager of Fairbank Housing, I wish to thank Fairbank residents for buying shares and for serving on the board over the years, a few dating back to 1972.



Fairbank Housing units on east side of town









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Price subject to change as finishes are selected





#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

167 hours dedicated to this project.

Bremer County Conservation naturalists are planning on using the wetlands for education classes along with future monarch tagging events. The City of Readlyn is a great example of how communities can positively impact our environment and water quality. Enjoy a walk at the wetland later this fall!

**DEADLINE FOR** THE NEXT **ISSUE OF THE ISLANDER IS AUGUST 25** 





Maren Jones, Ava Auel



Carol Peine, Angie Auel



Brad & Adam Bachman

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A12 - AUGUST 5, 2020 FAIRBANK **ISLANDER** 

# The Show Will Still Go On

#### By: Joslynn Miller

This fair season, at the Buchanan County Fair, was not one most 4-Her's would have hoped for. 4-Her's look forward to showcasing their livestock and non-livestock projects all week and of course, the carnival. The Atom Bombers 4-H Club, based in Fairbank, had to adapt to this change. The Atom Bomber's work hard to get their projects show ready and this is recognition of their dedication.

The Atom Bombers have 13 families in their Club this year. The members get together for monthly meetings, more recently, over zoom. In our meetings we prepare for fair and do other fun activities. This year's Buchanan County Fair was July 7th-11th. The leaders of the Atom Bombers Club are Brenda Kleitsch, Angie Auel, and Cheyney Hershey.

One of the youngest members Kennly Happel, says that her favorite thing is spending time with her "fair friends" that she doesn't get to see throughout the school year. Kennly loves to show sheep, however, she is not old enough to show at the County Fair, so she has been showing at open shows.

Destry and Reese Peine show hogs and cattle at the Buchanan County fair. Reese says her favorite thing about fair is hanging out with friends and camping. Destry says his favorite thing about fair is showing his livestock and spending time with friends.

Clayton and Olivia Hershey are very fond of showing their animals. When asked, Clayton said, "My favorite thing about fair is showing my dog, Izzy. I like the agility competition.". Olivia stated her favorite thing about the fair was showing her goats.

Morgan Jipson and Joslynn Miller showed both livestock and non-livestock projects. Morgan's favorite thing to show was her pig Seymour, who won Grand Champion Rate of Gain. Joslynn's favorite thing about showing is learning new things about every animal she shows.

Another 4-Her, Wally Kaufman, tells about his favorite parts of being in 4-H. Wally says he liked meeting new people and learning new things, like responsibility, caring for his livestock and working hard.

Cece and Charlie Sweeney not only like to show their livestock, but they like to show with their friends as well. Charlie explains that his favorite animal is his pig and he loves to see other peoples' livestock as well. Cece Says that her favorite part of the fair is showing her goats with her friends.

Espyn, Gentry, and Kanen Decker report having a very exciting fair season. Kanen says that his favorite memory is winning overall showmanship his second year showing and his favorite part about showing is the competition. Gentry and Espyn were both clover kids this year and chose to wait until next year to show their projects, but they can all agree, they love spending time at the fair with friends.

Brock, Brody, and Kaylee Kleitsch are very involved 4-her's. Brock and Brody both say their favorite animal to show is their steers. While Kaylee's favorite part about fair is seeing her



Kennly Happel (right) and her younger sister Cambree Happel



Morgan Jipson(left) and Joslynn Miller(right)



**Destry Peine** 

fellow 4-her's projects.

Landon and Wyatt Sullivan both love fair time because they get to show their favorite pets. Wyatt says he loves to show his rabbit Cinnamon and Landon says his favorite thing to show is his dog, Rizzo.

There were a few 4-Her's who chose not to show this year. Although they didn't show they still have fair favorites. Elle Voy loves to see all the non-livestock projects that are created. Furthermore, Anna Sweeney's favorite thing to have shown are goats and



**Reese Peine** 

horses. Other 4-Her's, Ava and Stella Auel, like showing rabbits and doing the carnival rides, while Freddy Auel likes hanging out with friends. Additionally, Hayden Ryherd's favorite fair project was showing his cow, Jumper, and watching all the livestock shows. While Bella Ryherd's favorite part of the fair is learning new skills by doing projects.

Although fair might not have been the same, 4-her's still made the most of it. We made memories and had fun, which is most important of all.



Clayton Hershey(left) and Olivia Hershey(right)



**Charlie Sweeney** 



Cece Sweeney



Kanen Decker(left) and Gentry Decker(right)



Espyn Decker(left) and Gentry Decker(middle)



Brock Kleitsch(left) and Brody Kleitsch(right)



Landon Sullivan



Kaylee Kleitsch

# Wapsie Valley FFA Officer Team Attends C.O.L.T.

#### By Mary Bodensteiner, Chapter Reporter

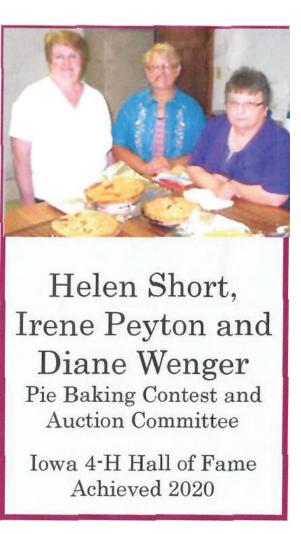
Each year district and Iowa FFA officers plan and facilitate Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) Conferences for FFA members in the Northeast District. Independence High School welcomed FFA chapters from all over the district on July 21, 2020.

While at Independence, district and state officers lead four interactive workshops for FFA Chapter leaders for the annual COLT Conference. The workshops were focused in the areas of advocating for the agriculture industry, connecting with stakeholders, recruiting for the local chapter, and working as a cohesive team. FFA leaders also received training relative to their specific officer duties within the local chapter.

The new 2020-21 Wapsie Valley officer team, consisting of Kaylee Kleitsch (President), Nick Grober (Vice President), Courtney Schmitz (Secretary), Ethan Oltrogge (Treasurer), Mary Bodensteiner (Reporter), and Austin Hessey (Sentenal), were privileged to attend and to have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills. They also learned about tools that will allow them to be successful in whatever they take part in throughout high school and beyond. All the officers walked away being better prepared to handle anything their new office requires of them in the upcoming school year.



Wapsie Valley FFA Officers Attend COLT: (Left to Right) Kaylee Kleitsch (Senior), Nick Grober (Junior), Courtney Schmitz (Senior), Ethan Oltrogge (Senior), Mary Bodensteiner (Junior), and Austin Hessey (Sophomore).



# Local women honored by Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame

The Pie Baking Contest and Auction Committee, consisting of Diane Wenger, Irene Peyton and Helen Short, raised over \$150,000 for the Buchanan County 4-H in the past 20 plus years. This year, 2020, is the 44th Annual Pie Baking Contest. Sadly, 2018 was the last year Diane was able to assist and she passed away in October of 2018.

Diane Wenger was a 4-H member, which she passed on to her children. Both Matthew and Ann were in 4-H from the age of 9 until they graduated, and Diane was an active volunteer with 4-H through the Atom Bombers 4-H Club. Diane's real contribution to 4-H in Buchanan County was the Annual Pie Baking Contest and

Auction. Each year, she, along with Irene and Helen, would arrive at 5 a.m. to fire up the ovens, supervise the pie baking, and organize the judging and auction.

Helen Short began volunteering with 4-H when her oldest son became a member and more involved when her other two sons enrolled. In the early 90's, she was asked to help with the Annual Pie Baking Contest and Auction. She not only watched her own family participate, but also joined a great committee. Helen, Diane and Irene had a lot of fun watching families, sometimes three generations, making their fresh fruit pies to help the 4-H program. Watching the judges sample the pies and struggle to choose a winner was sometimes agonizing.

Irene Peyton has been a part of the Buchanan County 4-H program for over three decades, including as the leader of the Atom Bombers Club. Irene judged record books, assisted with the clothing selection, and served as a member of the Buchanan County Agriculture Extension District Council. Irene has helped make the Annual Pie Baking Contest and Auction a success for over 25 years. She continues to enjoy the fair and watching all the kids work hard on their projects.

Buchanan County 4-H will forever be grateful for the late Diane Wenger's volunteerism and Helen Short's and Irene Peyton's continued support.

# Fairbank City-Wide Garage Sales to be held September 12

The Fairbank Community Club will sponsor their annual Fall Community-Wide Garage Sales on Saturday, September 12th. Anyone wishing to have a sale can pick up a registration

form at the Fairbank Library. The cost is \$10.00, which covers advertising costs and the expense of printing maps with a listing of each sale and the type of items that are offered.

The registration form needs to be filled out and returned to the library no later than 5 pm on Monday, September 7th to be included on the maps.

A14 - AUGUST 5, 2020

# 212 E. Main Street

Angela Berg ~ Beth Dixon ~ Linda Letson



What You Wish For

.... by Katherine Center

A Long Bridge Home

by Kelly Irvin The Medallion . by Cathy Gohlke **Deadly Touch** 

by Heather Graham The Book of Lost Names

A Walk Along the Beach

. . . . . by Debbie Macomber The Last Wife . by Karen Hamilton How Sweet It Is

. . . by Robin Lee Hatcher

A special thanks to Marilyn Steggall for her donation to the library which was used to purchase 2 news chidren's language books.



**Texas Outlaw** 

..... from Gary Fink

Lavern Wachal

City of Gold

from Northeast Security Bank The Medallion

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1:00-5:00	pm	Wednesday
1:00-5:00	pm	Thursday
1:00-5:00	pm	Friday
Closed		
Closed		Sunday

#### The Library is Now Open!

Masks are recommended but not required.

You can still call for curb side pickup if you feel safer.

No children in the library without an adult.

Computer time is limited to 15 minutes, and we ask that you refrain from sitting at the tables.

If you have been sick or are feeling ill, please wait to come inside the library until you are feeling better.

Please remember to practice social distancing inside the library and use the available hand sanitizer.

Please call the library at (319) 635-2487 if you have any questions or need assistance with getting books or our services.

You can also request books through the catalog found on our website Http://fairbank-ia.org/library.php or by emailing the Library at f.library@mchsi.com

The Library Board will meet again on Wednesday, August 5th at 4 pm.

#### FAIRBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT

June 1 Report

Ambulance Calls:

Carbon Monoxide Calls: 0

Car Accident w/ Injuries: 1

Fires: 1 (mutual aid)

Flash Flood: Sandbagging efforts EMS Training Hours: Approx. 24

Fire Training Hours: 40

- We have resumed business meetings and trainings at the Fire Station. We are offering an option of attending the business meetings via a Zoom link.
- We are proceeding with our family picnic on July 28 in the grassy area east of the Aquatic Center. Social at 5:30 meal at 6:30 and family swim at 7:15. Menu of burgers, hotdogs, potato salad and any side dish people chose to share. ALL City employees and council members are encouraged to attend. Formal invitations will not be mailed for this event.
- We have added 7 additional EMS providers to our ranks. Collin Woods and Janice Martins are now certified EMTs and Chris West, Chance Beierschmitt, Cody Kleitsch, Nick Curley and Adam Bachman have obtained their Emergency Medical Responder certification. This is a huge addition to enhance our ambulance call response.
- Huge shout out to Jesup, Oran and Readlyn Fire Dept. members for showing up to help with sandbagging.

Submitted by: Brad Gordon, Fire Chief



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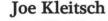




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# Church Services



#### **United Methodist Church**

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

Worship Service: 9:15 AM



#### St. John Lutheran Church

(MISSOURI SYNOD)

208 N. 4th Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2181

#### Pastor Jacob Swenson

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



#### Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

302 W. Main Street Fairbank, Iowa 319-635-2211

#### Father Ray Atwood

Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM Wednesday Mass: 8:00 AM 1st Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM



#### Lord of the Harvest

Prayer and Praise Center 101 South 4th Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629

Rev. Scott Jans

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

If there are any changes or corrections,call Kathy Risse (319) 635-2122.

## SPIRITUAL TREASURE

The headline reads: "Forrest Fenn's treasure found in New Mexico." 89-year-old art and antiquities collector Forrest Fenn buried a treasure chest filled with one million dollars in gold coins in order to attract people to the wilderness and explore for riches. The chest weighed 20 pounds and its contents weighed another 22 pounds. An anonymous individual from "out East" found it this summer.

Some people will go to tremendous lengths to find earthly treasure. What about spiritual treasure? How far are you willing to go to obtain the riches of God's Kingdom? We have been hearing Our Lord's words in Matthew 13 the last several weeks at Mass. Jesus has compared the Kingdom to seed and wheat, and now He compares it to a treasure, a pearl, and a fish net. These comparisons are meant to help us understand the message of the Kingdom of Heaven. The kingdom is God's rule over the earth. It is "hidden" from the eyes because God's kingdom is spiritual. It consists of truth and love, holiness and grace, justice and love, peace and righteousness. These are kingdom values meant to bring God's life and love to a cold and dark world.

If the kingdom is like a treasure, then we are like spiritual prospectors. A prospector is someone who leaves home, and spends his life searching for treasure. He purchases tools and goes to work trying to mine rivers and caves for shiny objects that he can trade for clothes, entertainment, a house, education, and anything else his heart desires. Treasure is resources for life.

Kingdom prospectors are those disciples of Jesus who, in the ordinary course of their lives, live by values of truth, love, justice, and peace. They are the eyes and ears, hands and feet of Jesus, bringing His power into our world. They leave their old sinful ways behind, and sacrifice what is necessary to obtain kingdom treasure. Their reward is eternal glory in Heaven, and for this reward they will sacrifice anything. As summer continues, be a kingdom prospector, and seek kingdom values for kingdom rewards.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Rev. Ray E. Atwood



# God's peace be unto you through our Lord, Jesus Christ!

If you're like me, you tend to keep magazines and newspapers a little bit too long. In my case, they end up in a basket on the coffee table. If you're like me, today is your lucky day. Last month, I invited you to remember a word that we'd talk about this month. Stop reading here and go find last month's article, if you have it. (Everyone else, keep reading because I'll tell you the word in my next sentence.) The word we left off with last month, which we're going to talk about today, is: Lord. As in, "I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord."

If we page through our English New Testaments, we find this word "Lord," all over the place. It is a translation of the Greek word *kyrios* (pronounced sort-of like "curious"). This word has two basic meanings in Scripture. First, it means someone who is in charge of things by virtue of being the owner or maker of said things; for example, the "Lord" of the vineyard in Matthew 20

and 21. Second, it can also mean someone who is in a position of authority. For example, after Jesus was crucified the chief priests and Pharisees addressed Pilate as *Lord* in Matthew 27. In Jesus, both these meanings come together.

He is Lord, first, because He created us. It says in the Psalms, "By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made and by the breath of His mouth all their host." (33:6) In the Gospel for Christmas Day we hear, "All things were made through Him." (Jn. 1) St. Paul said, "There is... one Lord, Jesus Christ, from whom are all things and through whom we exist." (1 Cor. 8:6) The witness of the Scriptures is that Jesus is our Lord and Master because He created us. He created our father Adam by forming Him from the dust of the earth and Eve from Adam's side. He created us by knitting us together in our mothers' wombs. (Ps. 139) Jesus is Lord because He is the creator of all that exists, even us. We

also say, however, that Jesus is our Lord.

With this word, we confess that Jesus is not just Lord because He is the Creator. He is our Lord because He redeemed us. "Redemption" is another Bible word. It means, in short, to buy something. It means to pay a price to secure deliverance for something that, formerly, was held captive. When we confess that Jesus is our Lord, we are confessing what the Scriptures teach, namely, that Jesus has bought us back from the captivity of sin. When you or I go to the store, we rescue food from the shelf with the exchange of money. Jesus, however, did not spend money to buy us. He shed His blood and gave His life as the payment for you and me.

What does that mean, though, that we were held captive in sin? What is sin; why did Jesus have to die? I invite you to join me next month.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jacob Swenson

A16 - AUGUST 5, 2020 FAIRBANK **ISLANDER** 

# Rain Garden planted at Wapsie Valley Fairbank Elementary

Wapsie Valley 5th grade wrote a grant to Northeast Iowa RC&D in May 2019 to build a rain garden on the southwest side of their basketball court. The rain garden will serve as a way to stop water from sitting on the basketball court which is a problem for the school. The area

was planted with native plants that will provide an area to study insects.

Wapsie Valley combined this project with the Readlyn Stormwater Wetland planting to save cost on shipping the plants. The schedule of planting was delayed due to weather impacting construction of the wetland. Then the planting was planned for May 2020, but CO-VID-19 caused another delay.

Thanks to Wapsie Valley staff, they removed the sod from the rain garden site. Then on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 Mrs. Bockholt and the Auel family planted the rain garden. Wapsie Valley staff will help water the garden in the summer months, then the 6th grade class will help with maintaining the site once school begins.

The rain garden will be a great outdoor classroom for teachers to use.





# "Writing a Memoir" Workshops - Available via Zoom

by Betty Brandt Passick

What does an author do when book signing events are canceled during a pandemic?

Many of my author friends are busy writing new books.

I am currently writing a sequel to Gangster in Our Midst (2017), which will hopefully be ready for publication by fall 2020. I didn't get to include everything there was to say about this 'story' in the first book, so I pretty much always knew there would be a second.

Additionally, even before the first case of coronavirus was discovered in the U.S. in January 2020, I had decided to teach a workshop to help others write their life stories. I published our family's book of history, We Are Eight, a Memoriam, in 2015.

"Writing a Memoir" workshops are available via Zoom video conferencing only during the pandemic. Most recently (July 7), the Independence Public Library hosted the workshop free of charge.

I tell workshop attendees: In reality, one goes through the same steps, whether writing a ten-page memoir or 400 pages, like We Are Eight.

We Are Eight includes the pieces one thinks would be included in a memoir: genealogy, obituaries, personal stories, and photos.

I took the book a few steps beyond what's considered a normal memoir.

We Brandt siblings knew from the time we were old enough to hold a spoon in our hand we were "100 percent German." Mom and Dad—and most of our grandparents, aunts and uncles—spoke German, though, usually in 'code,' so we wouldn't know what they were saying. Plus, we ate a lot of German food...from rindervurst to weiner schnitzel to German blood bread to bread pudding to kegs of her-

At some point, I wanted to know more about what made us German. Why had our German ancestors left Germany? Why had they chosen to settle in Iowa? And why did German Americans relinquish their language and so many other cultural traditions?

Getting answers to these questions required considerable extra research, the reason why We Are Eight included these additional pieces:

a brief history of Germany

a brief history of Bremer, Buchanan and Fayette counties (towns, churches, businesses, etc.)

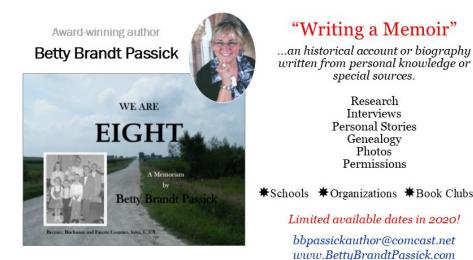
a brief history on the impact German settlers had on the development of the communities in which they settled (Denver, Waverly, and Westgate)

military service of our German immigrants

I also included several pages of German food recipes, of course.

The memoir writing workshops, as it's turned out, are surprisingly popular. Eighteen people attended one event. Perhaps they are so well attended due to the fact people are quarantining at home and have time to do more timeconsuming projects, like memoir writing. Some reports estimate twenty-five percent of the jobs across the nation remain furloughed or have disappeared entirely. Our nation is eagerly awaiting a vaccine and therapeutic remedies for the novel coronavirus.

The first half of We Are Eight tells the stories of our first ancestors (four lineages: Bartels, Brandt, Seehase, and Haar) to settle in America. The second



half is about us eight Brandt siblings: what it was like growing up in a large family, life in a small Midwestern town, church, school, first jobs--that sort of

thing. We siblings were born about two years apart between 1943-1959--so, as you can imagine, in many ways we are really the aggregate of two families. And each group has very different memories of the years we grew up together 'under the same roof'. Our memories and stories aren't even similar in many cases.

We Are Eight concludes in the 1990s, when our parents, Wilbert and Doretta (Bartels) Brandt, died. Dad became an alcoholic in mid-life, and Mom died of Huntington's disease--two more reasons why I made the decision to expand familial research—how far back could I find traces of these diseases? I wondered.

Another piece of wisdom I pass on to workshop attendees: You will come across surprises in your research; be prepared for that.

Depending on the breadth and scope of a memoir, research can take months and years. It took 5 years to research

#### "Writing a Memoir"

..an historical account or biography written from personal knowledge or special sources.

> Research Interviews Personal Stories Genealogy Permissions

Limited available dates in 2020! bbpassickauthor@comcast.net www.BettyBrandtPassick.com

and write We Are Eight.

Exactly what is a memoir? you may

Patricia Hampl--called the queen of memoir--says: Memoir is not what happened. It is what has happened over time, in the mind, in the life, as it attends to these tantalizing, dismaying, broken bits of life history Such personal writing is 'an attempt; It is a try at the truth, the truth of a self in the world.

This aptly describes what I tried to do in writing We Are Eight. This book--along with Gangster in Our Midst—is available at the Fairbank Public Library and the Fairbank Historical Society.

I welcome the opportunity to come to your church, school, book club, or organization to share my learnings and talk about the steps to help you "write a memoir you will be proud of." Contact me at bbpassickauthor@comcast.net.

I am also interested in interviewing and writing articles about long-time residents (town & farm) from the Fairbank area for publication in the Fairbank Islander. Please contact me to nominate yourself, or someone

else: bbpassickauthor@comcast.net.

## **TODD A. GRUETZMACHER**

August 7, 1962 – July 4, 2020

YOAKUM, TEXAS - Todd A. Gruetzmacher, 57, passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack on July 4, 2020 in Yoakum, Texas. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, a private burial service took place in the St. Peter Lutheran Church Cemetery near Westgate, officiated by Rev. Herbert Mueller III. The Geilenfeld-Buehner Funeral Home in Oelwein assisted with arrangements. The family has requested any memorials be made to St. Peter Lutheran Church in Westgate.



Todd was born on August 7, 1962

to Bruce and Doris (Potratz) Gruetzmacher in Oelwein, Iowa. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Westgate, Iowa, and was a lifelong member there. He attended St. Peter Lutheran School in Westgate, and Wapsie Valley Schools in Fairbank.

Todd worked for various employers during the years of his life, including Martin Brothers, Tyson, Golden Transfer, Abraxis, and most recently, the Eddy Company in Yoakum.

Todd will be remembered for his sense of humor and his love for family and friends. He enjoyed many outdoor activities including assisting with family farming operations, boating, fishing, hunting, and travel.

He is survived by his mother, Doris; siblings Terry (Renae) Gruetzmacher, Tracy (Barb) Gruetzmacher, and Kim (Jim) Kurt; nephew Kyle (Natalie) Weber; niece Gina (Mike) Rekers, and nephew Mike (Christy) Gruetzmacher. He is also survived by great-nephews Klay, Weston, and Kohen Rekers, William and Benjamin Weber, and Ayden Donahue; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father and his maternal and paternal grandparents, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

### LAVERN WACHAL

December 25, 1923 - July 18, 2020

FAIRBANK, IA - LaVern Wachal of rural Fairbank passed away Saturday, July 18, 2020 at Unity Point Allen Hospital at the age of 96. He was born December 25, 1923 in rural Walker, Iowa the son of George and May (Helbig) Wachal.

LaVern grew up in rural Walker where he attended and graduated from High School. After school he served his country in the United States Army during World War II. La-Vern was stationed in Berlin, Germany and was involved in the Invasion of Normandy.

While he was in Germany he met his future wife, Helga Zoerner and they were mar-



ried July 3, 1948 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. LaVern and Helga made their home in rural Fairbank were they raised their family and farmed the land. He was a lifetime farmer, he retired from the physical part of being a farmer a few years ago but was still very involved with the mental part of the business right up until his last days. LaVern was an avid reader even using a Kindle in his later years. He also enjoyed putting together puzzles as well as solving crossword puzzles; he especially enjoyed spending time with his family.

He is survived by: his children, Jean (Jim) Turner of Lexington, Kentucky, Steve (Linda) Wachal of Dunkerton, Sue (Terry) Scarbrough of Hudson and Robin Wachal of Cedar Falls; 13 grandchildren, 17 greatgrandchildren, and one great-great grandchild; as well as a sister, Berniece Bellach.

LaVern was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Helga, one daughter Debra Wachal, and three brothers, Erwin Wachal, Marvin Wachal and Norman Wachal.

Services were held Saturday, July 25 at Woods Funeral Home in Fairbank with interment at Fairview Cemetery in Dunkerton, IA. Military rites were conducted by American Legion, Peter-Kress Post 636 of Dunkerton. Memorials may be directed to the family.



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A18 - AUGUST 5, 2020

## **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 22, 2020. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present at City Hall: R. Woods, T. Woods, Williams, Erickson, and Vorwald. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Dave Ryan, Public Works Director; Klint Bentley, Police Chief; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

T. Woods/Erickson to approve the agenda. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. There were no public comments.

T. Woods/Vorwald to approve the minutes of the June 8th Regular Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Randy Robinson was present. He wanted Industrial Park Drainage on the agenda. He said that there had been someone up there surveying and he was wondering what would be done about the drainage if someone builds. R. Woods said that he had been up there finding the property pins and fence posts to prevent the pins getting torn out when hay is cut up there. Randy Robinson stated that there are water issues involving the water not running through the culvert. He suggested a bigger culvert needed to be placed. He just didn't want something being built without him knowing.

needed to be placed. He just didn't want something being built without him knowing.

Chief Bentley turned in a letter of resignation for June 30, 2020. Mayor Harter stated that he thinks we all can agree that we don't want to lose Klint but that they all understand at the same time. R. Woods/T. Woods to approved Resolution 2020-14 – Resolution Accepting Resignation. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Councilwoman Erickson thanked Klint for his service. Chief Bentley stated that it was not an easy decision. With one of our Police Department's employees retiring and one leaving by June 30th, the council discussed the Fairbank Police Department. Currently there are 2 part-time police officers. It was mentioned that the city still has an agreement with the county. The council will do some more research on where they want the police department to be in the future. For now, they wanted to advertise for another part-time police officer position.

A resolution was written for the approval of the salaries for FY 2021,

A resolution was written for the approval of the salaries for FY 2021, starting July 1st. T. Woods/Erickson to approve Resolution 2020-15 – Resolution Establishing Employee Salaries. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. The list of end of the year transfers was presented in the form of a resolution. R. Woods/Williams to approve Resolution 2020-16 –

Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Vorwald/T. Woods to approve the bills as presented. Ayes: Five. Nays: ATLANTIC BOTTLING CO., Supplies \$160.60

Vorwald/I. Woods to approve the bills as presented. Ay None.

ATLANTIC BOTTLING CO., Supplies
KLINT BENTLEY, Refund
BLACK HAWK HEALTH DEPARTMENT, Annual License
BODENSTEINER IMPLEMENT CO., Supplies
CARRICO AQUATIC PRODUCTS, Supplies
CARRICO AQUATIC PRODUCTS, Supplies
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Natural Gas
D & S PORTABLES, INC., Rental
FAIRBANK FOOD CENTER, Supplies
FAIRBANK POSTMASTER, Postage
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Utilities
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Loan Payments
FEHR GRAHAM, Services
FELD FIRE, Supplies
FRONTLINE WARNING SYSTEMS, Services
IMWCA, Premium
IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES, Supplies
IPERS, Benefit
DAVID JERGENS, Clothing Allowance
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, Supplies
JASON KAYSER, Supplies
KEYSTONE LABORATORIES, INC., Testing
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Training
KRIVACHEK JANITORIAL SUPPLY, Supplies
MEDIACOM, Cable & Phone/Internet
MIDWEST BREATHING AIR, Supplies
MYERS-COX CO., Concessions
NSB/HSA, HSA Contributions
NSB/HSA, Payroll Deductions
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA, SWT
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Replenish Postage/ Petty Cash
PINE GROVE STORE, Boots
PRATT'S PEST CONTROL, Services
QUICK MED CLAIMS, Billing Services
DAVID RYAN, Mileage
SAM'S CLUB/GECRB, Membership Fee/Supplies \$155.00 \$150.00 \$150.00 \$112.75 \$982.76 \$195.00 \$73.25 \$73.25 \$136.50 \$3,639.55 \$33,743.00 \$621.25 \$397.45 \$397.45 \$4,669.40 \$8,776.54 \$33.00 \$5,065.17 \$74.84 \$54.24 \$59.99 \$333.00 \$29.00 \$772.15 \$170.86 \$1,163.24 \$339.81 \$150.00 \$145.00 \$63.15 \$224.00 \$80.00 \$326.28 \$59.99 \$326.28 \$197.10 \$496.64

NSB, Payroll Processing Fee 6/1/2020 NSB, Payroll Processing Fee 6/15/2020 FRED SIGGELKOW, Rent STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies SS. Payroll Processing Fee 6/15/2020

STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies
SCHABANK, Premium
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies
SCHABANK, PEFA Gas
U.S. TREASURY, 941 Taxes
SCHABANK, PEFA Gas
WELLMARK, Premium
SCHABANK, Utilities
SCHABANK, STOREN
SCHABANK, STOREN
SCHABANK, Utilities
SCHABANK, STOREN
SCHABANK, Utilities
SCHABANK, Premium
SCHABANK, Premium
SCHABANK, Premium
SCHABANK, PREMICH
SCHABA, SARGE
SCHABA, SARGE
SCHABA, SCHABA
SCHABA, SCHOL
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S Mike Harter, Mayor Brittany Fuller, City Clerk



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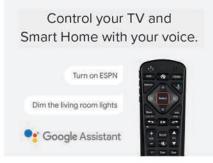
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REGULAR MEETING
The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 13, 2020. Mayor Pro-tem R. Woods called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present at City Hall: T. Woods, Williams, Erickson, and Vorwald. Absent: Mayor Harter. Also, present at City Hall: Dave Ryan, Public Works Director; Mike Everding, Part-time Police Officer; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

Police Officer; ivilorene Lauso, 2522.

Clerk.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the agenda as presented but to put in Justin Steinlage with the Fayette County Fair when he arrived or joined. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

There were no public comments.

Woods to approve the minutes of the June 22nd Regular

There were no public comments. Vorwald/T. Woods to approve the minutes of the June 22nd Regular Meeting. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Justin Steinlage with the Fayette County Fair Board joined the meeting via FreeConferanceCall.com at 6:04 pm. He stated that last year was the first year of the partnership with the City of Fairbank and they were wondering if the City would be interested in partnering with them again for this year. He apologized for the late notice due to COVID and the possibility of no fair this year. The County Health Department gave them the approval to continue with proper sanitation guidelines set in place. The money he said would go towards the carnival and the entire fair is free. Councilman Williams asked if the City would be recognized somehow and Justin stated that the City is recognized on a banner at the front and rear gates. The fair dates are July 21-25. T. Woods/Williams to donate the same as last year which was \$500.00. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

the front and rear gates. The fair dates are July 21-25. T. Woods/Williams to donate the same as last year which was \$500.00. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Erickson/Vorwald to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Receipts for the month of June were: General, \$37,047.03; Special Revenue, \$16,496.41; TIF, \$218.60; Capital Projects, \$23.23, Permanent Funds, \$13.61; Proprietary, \$202,546.67; and Transfers In, \$51,305.62. Disbursements for the month of June were: General, \$76,029.75; Special Revenue, \$6,515.97; Debt Service, \$28,953.12; Proprietary, \$370,668.40; and Transfers Out, \$51,305.62. Balance on hand at close of business on June 30, 2020 was \$4,048,472.39. Vorwald/T. Woods to approve Resolution 2020-17 – Resolution Establishing Employee Salaries to add a pool employee. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. The City of Fairbank participated with the Midwest Municipal Transmission Group and participated in negotiations with MidAmerican Energy Company in order to obtain the benefits of long-term transmission ownership rights. The lowa Public Power Agency issued Revenue Bonds in 2009 to finance this transmission project. They are now able to refinance at a lower rate and allow it's participates to benefit from the lower interest rate and a resolution of approval is needed from the Council. Erickson/T. Woods to approve Resolution – 2020-18 – Resolution Approving lowa Public Power Agency Refunding Transaction Under Joint Transmission Agreement. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. The Fairbank Police Department worked with Kevin Techau, an attorney, and ICAP to produce a standard operating procedures manual. Williams/Vorwald to approve Resolution – 2020-19 – Resolution Approving and Adopting the Fairbank Police Department Standard Operating Procedures Manual. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Williams/T. woods to approve the agreement with Keith Oltrogge, CPA for the City's Annual Examination required by the State. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Vorwald/Williams to approve a contract (Plan C) with Aegion/Corrpro for Annual Water Tower Maintenance. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

T. Woods/Erickson to approve the FY21 Cigarette Permits for Casey's Marketing and for the Fairbank Food Center. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

The Independence Police Department gave the council a request to buy the vest and the boots that Klint Bentley, one or our past employees, wore while working for us. Vorwald/T. Woods to approve the sale of the police equipment to the City of Independence. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Vorwald/T. Woods to approve the two proposals from Advanced Environmental Testing and Abatement, Inc. to remove the items containing asbestos from the home at 405 Grove Street. The Fire Department will do some trainings in the home first, then the work can get scheduled. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

Vorwald/Williams to set the date for a public hearing on an agreement with Little Wapsie Communications Regarding Right-of-Ways and future fiber optics for Aug. 24 at 6:00 pm at City Hall. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Erickson/Williams to set the public hearing for entry into a lease agreement with Little Wapsie Communications regarding the location for the main hut for Aug. 24 at 6:00 pm at City Hall. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Shawn Mullihan requested being put on the agenda to discuss the available options for filling up a 15,000-gallon pool. After discussion and talk with the City employees it was decided that the risk of running into a liability is too great to use the fire hydrants to fill pools in town. Without proper back flow protection, it is not advisable to allow something that could affect Fairbank and all of rural water customers.

T. Woods/Erickson to approve the bills as presented. Ayes: Four. Nays: None.

ACCO, Solution		\$2,032.00
ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL TESTI	NG, Inspection	\$600.00
APPARATUS TESTING SERV, LLC., Te	sting	\$580.00
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY, Supplies	J	\$40.77
ATLANTIC BOTTLING CO., Concession	ons	\$23.55
BARCO MUNICIPAL PRODUCTS, INC		\$853.49
BLACK HAWK WASTE DISPOSAL, Se		\$5,733.00
BUCHANAN COUNTY, Dispatching Fe		\$11.544.00
BUTLER COUNTY REC, Electric		\$66,239.67
CAMPBELL SUPPLY-WATERLOO, Sur	oplies	\$102.79
CARRICO AQUATIC PRODUCTS, Sur	plies	\$216.75
CASEY'S GENERAL STORE, Gas	•	\$466.84
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION,	Natural Gas	\$4,321.57
CONCEPT TO CREATIONS, Utility De	posit Refund	\$87.13
COUNSELING & ASSESSMENT SER,		\$180.00
BRIAN DELAGARDELLE, Cell Phone F	Reimbursement	\$75.00
EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS,	Supplies	\$165.35
FAIRBANK EXCAVATING, Rip Rap	• •	\$9,900.16
FAIRBANK FOOD CENTER, Supplies		\$15.57
FAIRBANK POSTMASTER, Postage U	tility Bills July 2020	
A140.00		

\$140.00 CITY OF FAIRBANK, Utility Deposit Applied IA DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, WT Supply Fee FY21 IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES, FY 21 Dues

IOWA ONE CALL, Locates
IOWA PARK & RECREATION ASSOC., Training
IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC., Water
DAVID JERGENS, Cell Phone Reimbursement
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, Clothing Allowance
KEYSTONE LABORATORIES, INC., Testing
MANATT'S, Services
MEDIACOM, Internet
METERING & TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION, Supplies
MIDWEST MUNIC. TRANS. GROUP, Dues July-Dec 2020
MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS, Supplies
MYERS-COX CO., Concessions \$110.22 \$458.00 \$458.00 \$363.38 \$194.28 \$886.89 \$200.00 \$766.53 \$612.44 MIDWEST MUNIC. TRANS. GROUP, Dues July-Dec 2020
MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS, Supplies
MYERS-COX CO., Concessions
NSB, HSA Payroll Deductions
OELWEIN PUBLISHING, Minutes
PRATT'S PEST CONTROL, Services
RACK'EM UP PROMOTIONS, Supplies
ROBERTS, STEVENS, PRENDERGAST P, Attorney Fees
DAVID RYAN, Cell Phone Reimbursement
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA, June Sales Tax
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, June Sales Tax
NSB, June 2020 ACH Charge
NSB, July 2020 ACH Charge
STAN'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR, Services
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies
SUPERIOR WELDING SUPPLY CO., Oxygen
TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL CORP., Supplies
TERESA IMBROGNO, Reimbursement Pool Supplies
THE SHRED MASTER, LLC., Services
TURF & LANDSCAPE, INC., Services
U.S. TREASURY, 941 Taxes
U.S. TREASURY, 941 Taxes
USA BLUEBOOK, Supplies
SPEIZON WIRELESS, Cell Phones
BRENT WIERCK, Services
THE LIDRAY BOARD REMONDERS
THE SHRED MASTER, LS., Services
TURITYPOINT CLINIC-OCCUPATIONAL, Testing
USA BLUEBOOK, Supplies
SPEIZON WIRELESS, Cell Phones
BRENT WIERCK, Services
THE LIDRAY BOARD REMONDERS
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THE LIDRAY BOARD REMONDERS
THE SHRED MAZON
BAKER & TAYLOR INC.
SIBLIONEX
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MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS
OUR IOWA MAGAZINE
PREMIER TECHNOLOGY
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE \$800.00 \$136.11 \$34.98 WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE \$78.72

Councilman Vorwald stated that the deadline for the town newspaper is July 24th this month and he encouraged everyone to submit stories and pictures. Public Works Director Dave stated that Prairie Road Builders were working on coming to town the middle of next week. And Police Officer Everding said that the 4th of July weekend was smooth and that he needed to get a new cell phone charger for the police cell.

Williams/Erickson to adjourn at 7:16 PM. Ayes: Four. Nays: None. Ronald Woods, Mayor Pro-tem Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

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Submit information at the Fairbank Library or email: f.library@mchsi.com

# The Catholic Church can redemption resumed on August 1<sup>St</sup>

Collection spot is behind the church across the street at the fenced in area next to the shed.

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406 Wisconsin St., Fairbank 2 huge lots fenced in!! Updated 2-story, 4 bedrooms up, so many new amenities!!



41 - 411/2 3rd St. NW, Oelwein



215 3rd St. NW, Oelwein

2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, main floor laundry, central air!!



618 3rd Ave. S.W., Oelwein

Cute, updated 1 bedroom, 1 bath, main floor laundry, 2 lots, quiet location, Payments cheater than rent!



206 - 5th St N,

Fairbank
ALL BRICK RANCH, blt
'77, 2+ att gar, 3 bd, 3.5
baths, Formals, f/p, huge LL
fmlyrm, Huge LOT, 1,774
sqft up + 1,150 Fin LL

24 7th St. N.W., Oelwein ......SOLD 160 2nd St. S., Maynard .....SOLD 203 Christopher Ct. S, Fairbank ...PENDING 106 N. Washington St., Fairbank .PENDING 165 2nd St. N., Maynard ......PENDING 419 3rd Ave. NE, Oelwein.....PENDING 714 3rd Ave. SW, Oelwein .....PENDING 608 6th Ave. NE, Oelwein ......PENDING NEW ACREAGE LISTING!



9909 R Ave., Maynard

Paved road - R Ave./C33 intersection, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, loaded w/updates, buildings., barn, new bldg., you can set it up for horses or cattle, 4.58 acres m/l.



129 3rd Ave. SE, Oelwein 3-4 bedroom, 2 baths, main floor laundry, fenced yard, 1 car garage.



**PAVED ROAD** 10 MINUTES E of OELWEIN! 9104 K Ave., Fayette

Spacious 2 story brick home, 4 bedrooms up, formal living/dining room, main floor family room, 4 bedrooms, 3.4 baths, geothermal heat/AC, heated floors, trees, set up for horses.

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720 1st Ave SW, Oelwein

Dream House w/ Unique Character. 3 bdrms, 1.5 baths, formal dining, den w/wood stove, att 2 car garage + det 1 car, wrap around concrete deck all on 1 1/2 lots, gar loft, a turret, spindled spiral staircase, circle top windows. Needs TLC & repairs, priced \$48,000 for quick sale. Call Bonnie today.



3 bdrm home w/att garage. Offers a den room, formal dining, front/back porch. Newer windows. Needs remodeling.



424 7th Ave. SE, Oelwein

3 bedroom 1.5 baths, 1,222 sq. ft., 2 car garage.





108 3rd St. N, Fairbank Handicap Accessible, 800 sq, ft. basement or lower level apt., 24x26 att., 30x32 det. gar.



212 S. Walnut St., Fairbank "IN TOWN ACREAGE"

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433 3rd Ave. SE, Oelwein Large 2 Bdr. home with attached 2 car garage. Family/Rec Room with Patio Door, deck and wood stove.



128 4TH AVE. SE., OELWEIN JUST LISTED 3 Bdr., 1 bath,

freshly painted, 2 car detached garage



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122 – 1st St NE, Oelwein Character 2-story or Duplex, wood floors, columns, steel roof, 2 car gar.



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