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SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

APRIL 7, 2021 Compiled by Fairbank Community Club ~ Designed and Printed by Oelwein Publishing Co. VOLUME 2, NO. 4



Fiber-to-the-Home project starting

Exciting news for residents and businesses in Fairbank – construction for Little Wapsie Communications was to begin on Monday, April 5th, 2021, weather permitting, on their Fiber-to-the-Home project. Work crews plan to work Monday thru Thursday, 7am to 7pm.

We have hired a new technician, Ethan Kleitsch. Ethan is a Wapsie Valley graduate and is currently coaching Track at Wapsie Valley. We are excited to have him as part of our team. Ethan, along with Joe Regenold, Clinton Watts, Dan Lundt, and myself, Sharon Huck, will be contacting each business and resident for permission to put a drop to your home or business.

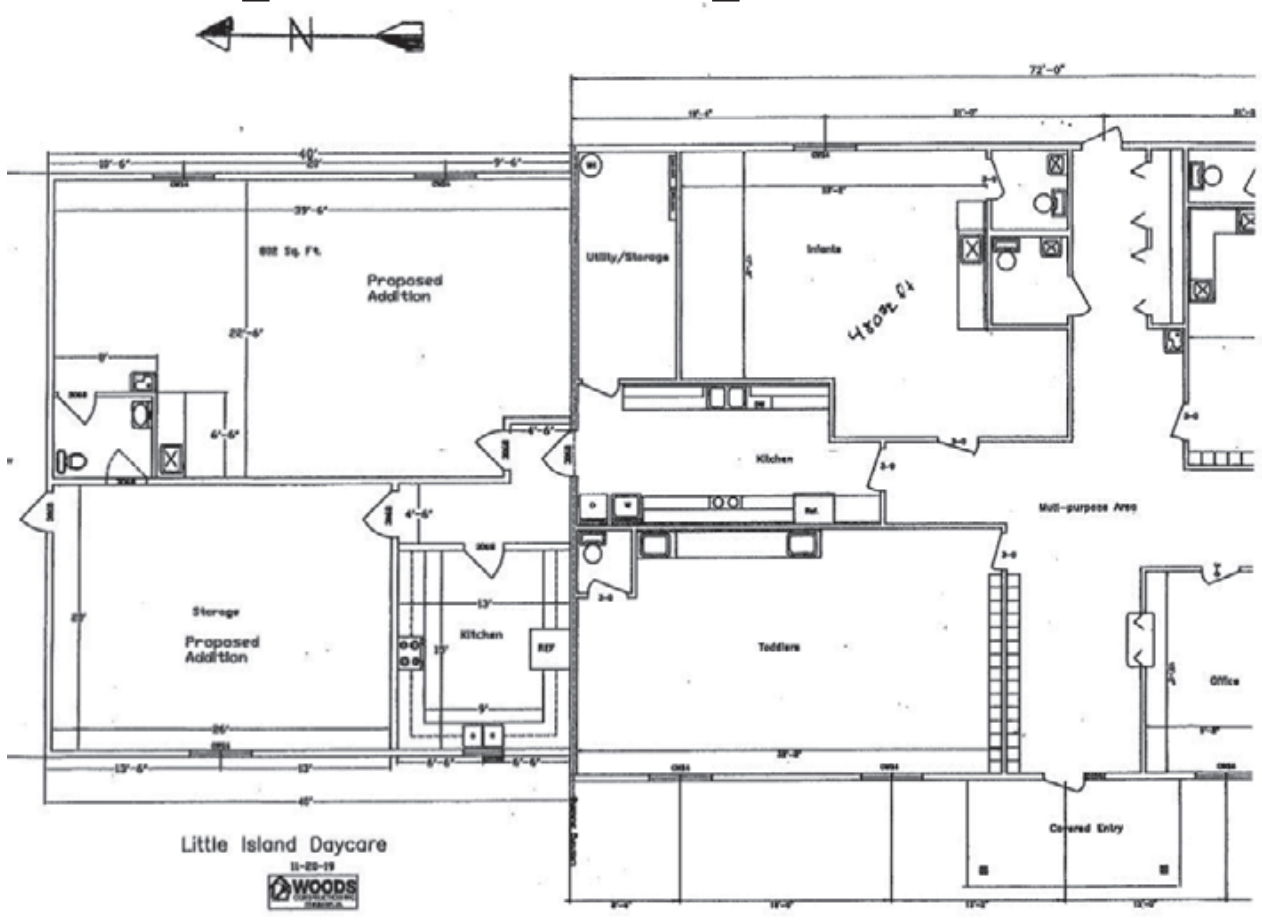
Please remember, this is FREE of charge with the initial build of our fiber to the home project, even if you choose not to subscribe to our services at this time. If you choose to subscribe at a later date, you will be charged time/material for installing.

Please contact our offices with any questions or concerns.

Oran Mutual Telephone Co. – 319-638-6006
or RTC Communications – 319-279-3375.
Visit our website at www.littlewapsie.com
for more information and to
sign up for having a drop installed.
You may also email: csr@readlyntelco.com



Little Island Day Care makes plans for expansion



The Little Island Day Care Center in Fairbank opened its doors in 2001 to be able to offer day care services to the many young families in the community. They currently serve approximately 55 families from the surrounding area. However, they also have a waiting list with over a year-long wait to get in.

With Fairbank growing, child-care is in bigger demand than ever. Therefore, Little Island Day Care is in the beginning phases of a fundraising project to enable them to add on to the current building as well as make some needed updates. Since they are a non-profit organi-



CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

City Councilmen Ted Vorwald, Ron Woods and Tyler Woods put up a large sign in front of the Little Island Day Care Center that will show the progress towards the Day Care's fundraising goal.

A MESSAGE FROM

Mayor Mike



By Mike Harter

We are a month closer to summer. I hope many of you have had the opportunity to be vaccinated for COVID-19 so you can enjoy summer and the activities it brings.

Speaking of summer and warmer weather, if you would like to take a survey about having bike paths in Fairbank, there is one on the Fairbank Facebook page. You also can call City Hall with your ideas. It is my hope that any bike path will also be a walking path. Two students from the CAP (Center for Advanced Professional Studies) at the high school have been doing a fantastic job in working to make the paths a reality. They are even helping write grants to help with cost. The students are Christopher Tibbetts and Sydnie Martin, both who are high school students at Wapsie Valley. I really appreciate all of their hard work in this endeavor.

I have been asked to inform everyone that there is a group raising money for lights for the High School softball and baseball fields. It is my understanding they need about \$70,000 to make the lights a reality. If you are interested in helping, please contact Brent Sauerbrei, Chad Van Daele, or me. Any assistance from the community would be greatly appreciated.

At the March 22 City Council Meeting, Ben Delagardelle was hired as a Public Works employee for the city of Fairbank and will be starting the first part of April. This brings Fairbank back to having three people in the department. Welcome Ben!

My wife and I were very honored to be invited to attend the Fireman's Banquet. I would like to congratulate those who were honored for their service. Most of all though, I want to thank all of the members of the Fairbank Fire and Ambulance Departments. As you know these people gladly volunteer their time so they may serve our community. Fairbank is very fortunate in having these volunteers! A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION and SERVICE to Fairbank and the surrounding area!

As we open up more and start having group meetings and social gatherings, please remember to be safe. Reports are that we may have the virus for quite some time. Masks and social distancing will continue to be factors in the slow down of Covid.

With the Major League Baseball season beginning, it is time to say, "GO YANKEES"!!

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy

How to Grow Hops in Buchanan County!

Come learn about Hops and how to grow them while checking out Buchanan County's new brewery! With the popularity of Craft Breweries around the state as well as right here in Buchanan County, there is one essential element that is involved. Hops! Growing Hops is an emerging industry within the state of Iowa. Have you ever wondered if growing hops could become more than a hobby, but a full-fledged business opportunity?

Join Buchanan County Economic Development at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 25th at Allerton Brewing Company in downtown Independence (110 1st. St. E.) to learn more.

Our featured speaker is Keri Byrum of the Cedar Falls Hops Company as she provides insight to the importance of Hops in the development of a quality beer. Byrum is a horticulturist with a degree in Biology from the University of Northern Iowa and she also holds a Master of Science from the University of Delaware. She and her husband decided to move back to Iowa to take over her father's drainage tile business and in 2017 they established the Cedar Falls Hops Company. Byrum said of her decision, "My background is in horticulture and landscaping, so I needed something that I was passionate about, too. After some research and making some connections we decided that hops seemed like a great combination



of my skills, my father's farming background and our love of beer! After nearly four years we have learned a lot!" Cedar Falls Hops Company currently has 7 acres devoted to four different varieties of Iowa hops which they sell primarily in Iowa.

Byrum will be talking about the difference between wild and domesticated hops as well as how to grow and take care of them. The agenda for the night is as follows:

- History and Culture of Hops
- From Roots to Shoots – Understanding the Anatomy of Hops
- A Year of Hops – Hop plant life cycle
- Structure of Growing Hops
- Caring for Hops
- Harvesting Hops
- The Future of Hops in Iowa and the Midwest

• How to brew your own beer at home

The Local Brew Club of Independence will be providing samples of beers made with hops grown by Cedar Falls Hops Company and Allerton Brewing Company has created a special beer from the hops they will be debuting that night at a discounted price!

To sign up for the Growing Hops event go to www.growbuchanan.com/hops, or call Buchanan County ISU Extension and Outreach, 319-334-7161 to register. For more information contact BCEDC Director Lisa Kremer at director@growbuchanan.com or call 319-334-7497.



Keri Byrum

LITTLE ISLAND DAYCARE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

zation, they are looking for donations and pledges to help with this project.

The new 40' x 42' addition will be on the north side of the existing building. It will add two new rooms. Also, the current kitchen

would be moved to the new addition.

Day care facilities are an important asset for any community – it makes it possible for parents to have a safe and reliable place to leave their kids and go to their jobs or to further their education, etc. To young families starting out, it's

important to know that child care will be available when they need it.

Anyone wishing to help out with this project can send a donation directly to: Little Island Child Care Center, P.O. Box 38, Fairbank, Iowa 50629; or they can drop off their donation at the Center.

SUPPORT THE CAN DRIVE

Just a reminder – the Fairbank Days Committee would appreciate your can donations again this year. Your empty cans help them put on a great Fairbank Island Days fireworks show year after year!

The can donation trailer is located on the south side of Myers

Polaris, across from Casey's.

ABSOLUTELY NO GLASS should be left at the trailer. Please put redeemable items in bags before setting them in the trailer. This makes it easier and cleaner for our volunteers and the redemption centers also.

The committee would also like to thank their sponsors – Myers Polaries for letting them park the trailer near their building; and Chance Beierschmitt for loaning them the trailer



Sponsored by:

Fairbank Community Club
Fairbank, Iowa 50629

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

Out-Of-Area Subscriptions

1 Year (12 issues) \$28.00

Mail address and check to:

Fairbank Islander
301 Catherine St., Fairbank, IA 50629

***The Fairbank Islander is now also available for
viewing on-line at the Fairbank Library website:
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For information, call:

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Warrior Way & More

March 2021



The harsh weather of January and February has hopefully passed and we can continue the spring with more seasonal weather that includes sunshine. We did partake in our first full virtual day in February, and this virtual learning day went very well. We are prepared to continue this mode of learning if needed, to avoid adding more days onto the end of the school calendar. Wapsie Valley is hopeful that the March/April weather will not require the district to utilize any additional virtual days.

The Wapsie Valley Community School District is thrilled to see the Covid-19 positivity rates decreasing in all the surrounding counties and at a state level. The staff at Wapsie Valley CSD who chose to be vaccinated will all have received a first dose by the first week of March. We are grateful that the availability and administration of the vaccines has reached school personnel locally. We continue to be vigilant with our Return to Learn Plans with mitigation precautions and increased sanitation procedures.

Congratulations to the athletic teams and fine arts members who have competed this past few months. Congratulations to the girls and boys basketball teams, wrestling team, and fine arts participants for their accomplishments this year. A particular shout-out goes out to Dawson Schmit and Easton Krall who both qualified for the Iowa State Wrestling Tournament. Dawson earned a 3rd place finish in his sophomore year after a 4th place finish last year. Easton wrestled as a freshman in his first state tournament appearance. The Wapsie Valley students are dusting off their golf clubs, track shoes, musical instruments, and rehearsal scripts. We have a variety of vocal and musical concerts, speech contests, a musical play, track and golf meets to get ready for this spring. Also, we are extremely excited that Wapsie Valley will be having a Prom celebration this year!

I want to personally thank our school nurse, McKayla Bellis, for her countless hours at any time of the day or week helping our staff, students and families navigate the pandemic situation. Her diligent efforts helped to keep consistency in dealing with case by case situations during the past year of the pandemic.

We wish you a safe and healthy spring season!

Stay Warrior Strong and Safe,

Dave Larson - Wapsie Valley CSD Superintendent



Huge thank you to the Fairbank Food Center for sponsoring our Student of the Month Lunch!

(Back Row:) Hayden Szurley was nominated because "Hayden is helpful to other students and has a positive attitude!"

Dayton Jergens was nominated because "He is always attentive, polite, courteous, and helpful to everybody in class. He also asks questions or seeks out help to make sure he's doing the best work possible on assignments. Dayton doesn't have to be told to redo work for a higher assessment - he takes the initiative and does it on his own."

Asa Kelley was nominated because "Congratulations for receiving all division 1 ratings from all three judges on their Ensemble Acting script, 'Metatheatre'!!"

Chris Tibbott was nominated because "Congratulations for receiving all division 1 ratings from all three judges on their Ensemble Acting script, 'Metatheatre'!!"

(Front Row:) Brylee Bellis was nominated because "Brylee is a responsible and organized student. She always ensures she lets a teacher know if she needs extra help and communicates well. She is a leader!"

Austin Franck was nominated because "Austin always pushes herself to do her best work. She's always willing to help classmates with their work. People can count on her to be a helpful partner and a good listener."

Congratulations students!

WAPSIE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

THE WIZARD OF OZ

FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH AT 7:00
SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH AT 7:00
SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH AT 3:00

ADVANCED TICKET PRICES: \$6 FOR ADULTS
\$4 FOR STUDENTS

TICKETS AT THE DOOR: \$7 FOR ADULTS
\$5 FOR STUDENTS

TO PURCHASE ADVANCED TICKETS:
https://www.wapsievalleyschools.com/301186_2

MASKS ARE REQUIRED TO BE WORN AT EVERY PRODUCTION

AT THE WAPSIE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

What's Cookin'

From the kitchen of Arnola Siggelkow

Birds are singing, daffodils are blooming, green grass everywhere, spring is in the air! So enjoy the fresh air, the sunshine, walk in the rain, look for a rainbow, and write a poem. April is poetry month!

Ham balls, au gratin potatoes, and lemon bars for dinner would really top off an exhilarating spring day.

Ham Balls
(Makes 12-15 ham balls)

1 lb. ground ham	3/4 c. milk
1 lb. ground beef or	1 c. cracker crumbs
1/2 lb. ground beef &	1 tbsp. minced onion
1/2 lb. ground pork	1/8 tsp. pepper
2 eggs, beaten	1/2 tsp. salt

Mix meats together. Add other ingredients and mix together well. Shape into balls and place in a greased pan. Baste with one of the basting sauces. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour.

Basting Sauce #1
1 can tomato soup 1/2 c. vinegar
1 c. brown sugar 1 tsp. mustard
Blend ingredients together and pour over ham balls. Baste every 15 minutes.

Basting Sauce #2
1/2 c. vinegar 1/2 c. water
1 1/2 c. brown sugar 1 tbsp. mustard
Boil together until mixture is the consistency of syrup. Pour over ham balls. Baste every 15 minutes.

Au Gratin Potatoes

4 baking potatoes, peeled and sliced 1/4" thick	1/4 c. butter
1 onion, thinly sliced	1/4 c. flour
1 tsp. salt	2 c. milk
1/4 tsp. black pepper	1 1/2 c. (6 oz.) shredded cheddar cheese

Grease a 2-3 qt. shallow casserole dish. Layer 1/2 of potatoes in the bottom, top with onions and the rest of the potatoes. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Over medium heat, melt the butter and whisk in the flour, stirring constantly for one minute. Stir in milk and boil one minute. Remove from heat and stir in cheese until melted. Pour slowly and evenly over potatoes. Cover with foil and bake about one hour at 350 degrees. Remove foil and sprinkle additional cheese on top, if desired. Bake another 10 minutes.

Your oven dinner is ready (leftovers will be just as tasty another time). Just add a crunchy green salad and some tangy lemon bars for dessert.

Lemon Bars

2 c. flour	1/2 c. powdered sugar
1 c. butter, softened	

Mix together until crumbly and pat into a 9x13 in. greased pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 15-20 min.

4 eggs, beaten	1/2 tsp. baking powder
2 c. sugar	1/3 c. fresh lemon juice
1/3 c. flour	1/2 tsp. lemon extract

When mixed, pour over warm baked crust and bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle the top with powdered sugar.

Yes, spring is in the air; in the kitchen and everywhere!



This horse and cart were used, in Fairbank, to go to the Railroad Depot to pick up the mail and bring it back to the Post Office each day.
Photo courtesy of Maury & Wilma Welsh



This board was constructed in the 1940's to list the names of all those, from Fairbank, who served in World War II. It stood along Main Street in the lot east of the Post Office. The boy in the picture is pointing to his brother's name "Kenneth Hein". Photo courtesy of Maury & Wilma Welsh

Business and Community Website Grant Available through Buchanan County Economic Development

The Buchanan County Economic Development Commission (BCEDC) has created the Business and Community Website Marketing Grant that is available to small businesses (25 employees or less), communities and non-profit organizations within Buchanan County that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic essentially caused the entire country to grind to a halt. In-person sales, meetings and communication became impossible. This opened the eyes to many businesses, communities, and organizations to the importance of having an online presence to be able to communicate to constituents and customers. With the prolonged closures it also became essential for businesses to provide a platform for selling their goods and services. Those with these online tools, such as a functioning, mobile friendly website fared much better than those without. BCEDC has developed this grant as a way to help those that do not have an online presence to create one and therefore make them more competitive now and more resilient in the future if we should ever be faced with a similar situation.

Keeping things local is an important component of this grant. To that end, BCEDC has teamed up with Fusion Forward to provide special pricing for websites and website upgrading through this grant. BCEDC will be awarding full and partial grants that can be used for: 1. Website Development, 2. Website redevelopment to make your website user friendly and 3. Upgrading a website to make it mobile friendly.

The grant application period is now open, and grants must be submitted to BCEDC by March 31st, 2021. For more detailed information and to get a grant application go to www.growbuchanan.com/website-grant/ or click Business and Community Website Grant under Bulletin Board at www.growbuchanan.com. You can also get an application by emailing BCEDC Executive Director Lisa Kremer at director@growbuchanan.com or stop into the Buchanan County Economic Development office at 112 1st St. E., Independence.

The grant is made possible by an Iowa Northland Regional Economic Development Commission (IRREDC) Economic Resiliency Planning and Response Grant.

Taylor Physical Therapy welcomes Maddy Matthias, PTA to our Denver Clinic!

Maddy is no stranger in the communities surrounding the Denver Clinic! She is a Wapsie Valley High School graduate (May 2014) who then later returned to play an active role in the community! Prior to her return, she studied Kinesiology, Health Promotions, and Psychology at Grand View University while competing on the volleyball team. Maddy obtained her associate degree as a Physical Therapist Assistant from Hawkeye Community College in September 2020.

While not in the clinic, you can find Maddy teaching group fitness classes in Readlyn, coaching club volleyball, and spending time with her favorite little humans - Liv, Lawson, and Luke!

Maddy works closely with our physical therapists to help you move better, feel better, and get back to doing what you love! Her passion to serve and help others achieve their goals makes her an ideal member for your care team!



121 Tower St. ~ Denver, IA 50622

Call the
Taylor Physical Therapy
Denver Clinic
to be seen by our skilled
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JOIN US!

New Student Private Tours & Early Registration



For Families that are interested in enrolling their child in our Preschool or Pre-Kindergarten programs for 2021/2022 school year or any new family interested in learning more about St. A's.

Monday April 12th
4:30 - 7:00 pm (by appt only)

- Meet our Principal & Teachers
View our classrooms
- Learn why faith-based education is so special
- Learn about tuition assistance

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www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com
Or contact us at **319.635.2585**



Wapsie Valley CAPS Corner

The Wapsie Valley School District has introduced a new course offered to current Juniors and Seniors. This new course is called Center for Advanced Professional Studies (aka, CAPS). CAPS offers high school and college credits to students despite its "un-class" approach.

The CAPS program was first introduced to the Cedar Falls community school district with the belief that a hard-working and knowledgeable workforce is crucial to the development of society as a whole. CAPS is achieving this goal by taking students out of their school routine and putting them into the business world. Student associates then work together with local businesses to work on projects the businesses set forth.

As associates are working they develop the four main cornerstones of CAPS: problem solving, professional skills, innovation, and career exploration. CAPS is the connection of business and education to better the workforce of tomorrow.

CAPS is always looking for help from the community. If you have any projects, or want to help out please contact Halley Tiedt at htiedt@wapsievalleyschools.org

Fairbank amends ATV hours

By MIRA SCHMITT-CASH
reporter@oelweindailyregister.com

The Fairbank City Council heard from all-terrain and utility vehicle enthusiasts such as J.J. Little and others wishing to extend the operating hours from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Feb. 22 council meeting, challenging an initial council ordinance proposal that would have set operating hours from 5 a.m. until 9 p.m.

On Monday, a majority of four council members voted to extend hours until 10

p.m., revising the proposed ordinance, waiving subsequent readings and adopting it. Councilman Tyler Woods abstained. He works for the local small vehicle dealer Myers Polaris.

The vehicles must have headlights.

The former city ATV ordinance only allowed the vehicles to be driven during daylight hours, based on Department of Natural Resources guidelines. According to timeanddate.com, the sun sets just before 9 p.m. Daylight Saving Time on the

longest days of the year. It says the sunrise to sunset will be from 5:40 a.m. to 8:52 p.m. on June 21 and 22 this year.

But multiple ATV enthusiasts said they wanted to use the vehicles for practical purposes outside daylight hours, such as clearing snow or farm work.

Operators already are required to have a valid driver's license and abide by regular driving rules such as "drive sober or get pulled over." Drivers are governed by the most local jurisdiction.

Wapsie Valley FFA represented well at District Convention

Mary Bodensteiner, Chapter Reporter

On Saturday, March 13th, Wapsie Valley FFA members traveled to the Independence High School to compete at the Northeast District Convention. To attend Districts this year, members had to compete in an event or to serve as their chapter's delegates for District officer elections. Competing at Districts requires countless hours of practice for competition and preparation of the three officer books to be judged.

Our chapter's President, Kalyee Kleitsch, received first gold in Job Interview Saturday and is excited about the opportunity to compete at State her senior year. "I am planning on getting in as much practice as I can with a lot of mock interviews." She is looking forward to seeing how the Convention will be set up differently, since it will be held in Des Moines this year rather than at Iowa State University, as in previous years.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, all quizzes were taken in Ag classes preceding the in-person Convention. Everyone worked extremely hard and represented Wapsie Valley FFA very well!

Congratulations to all who competed, and good luck to those advancing to the State Convention this April!

Results from Saturday are listed below:



Wapsie Valley FFA Members Attend NE District Convention: Back Row: (Left to Right) Austin Hesse, Brody Kleitsch, Mr. Forsyth, Mary Bodensteiner, Kaylee Kleitsch, Kali Lampe, and Mady Richards Front Row: Lily Schwickerath, Ava VanDaele, Caitlyn Rechkemmer and Reese Pine.

Chapter Website: Austin Hesse - Gold
Conduct of Meetings: Lily Schwickerath, Kali Lampe, Reese Pine, Brody Kleitsch, Ava VanDaele, Mady Richards, Caitlyn Rechkemmer - Silver
Extemporaneous Speaking: Sydney Matthias - Silver
Job Interview: Kaylee Kleitsch - 1st Gold, Advance to State
Reporter's Scrapbook: Mary Bodensteiner - 2nd Gold, Advance to State
Secretary's Book: Courtney Schmitz - 3rd Gold, Alternate to State

Treasure's Book: Ethan Oltrogge - 3rd Gold, Alternate to State
Greenhand Quiz: Kali Lampe - 2nd, Mady Richards - 2nd, Livie Shannon - 4th, Matilda Miller - 5th, Lily Schwickerath - 5th, Reese Pine - 7th, Noah Richards - 8th
Chapter Quiz: Elle Voy - 6th, Keegon Brown - 8th
Farm Business Management: Broke Grober and Tylen Heirsh
Delegates: Mary Bodensteiner and Ava VanDaele

Deadline for the May issue of the Fairbank Islander is Wednesday, April 28th

Submit articles at the Fairbank Library or e-mail to: f.library@mchsi.com



NOTICE

Construction for Little Wapsie Communications will begin on Monday, April 5th, 2021, weather permitting. Work crews plan to work Mon-Thurs 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. If you would like a fiber drop installed to your home/business, please complete the authorization form that was sent earlier and return to: Please remember, if a fiber drop is not installed during construction and you wish to have service at a later date, you will be charged time/material for installing at that time.

Attention Fairbank Utility Customer! FAIRBANK MUNICIPAL UTILITIES Resolving Customer Complaints

All of us at Fairbank Municipal Utilities do our best to make sure your utility service is as good as it can be. So if you have a complaint, we'd like to resolve it as quickly as possible. By calling (319) 635-2869, you can reach a utility representative qualified to assist in resolving complaints as they arise.

If your complaint is related to service disconnection, safety, or renewable energy, and Fairbank Municipal Utilities does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the:

Iowa Utilities Board
1375 E. Court Ave. Room 69
Des Moines, IA, 50319-0069
1-877-565-4450
or email at: customer@iub.iowa.gov



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. 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.



Wapsie FFA members attended Sub-Districts in Waterloo
Back Row: (Left to Right) Mr. Forsyth, Sydney Matthias, Kaylee Kleitsch, Cannon Joerger, Brock Kleitsch, Clayton Hershey, Brody Kleitsch, and Ava VanDaele
Front Row: Mady Richards, Bridget Seemann, Reese Peine, Lily Schwickerath, Kali Lampe, and Caitlyn Rechkemmer

Wapsie Valley FFA Takes on Sub-Districts

By Mary Bodensteiner,
 Chapter Reporter

Through FFA, students have the opportunity to be involved in numerous career and leadership events, otherwise known as CDEs and LDEs. These individual and team events require hours of preparation to compete at different levels of competition. It all starts at Sub-Districts, where participants can advance on to districts. After that, State Convention, then the best of the best, can move on to Nationals in Indianapolis Indiana.

The Wapsie FFA Chapter takes competition seriously. Members at Wapsie have been working extremely hard before and after school, for the past few months, to

represent their chapter the best that they can. All their work was put to the test at Sub-Districts on Wednesday, February 24th, at Hawkeye Community College. Wapsie was represented in seven different events. No other members or spectators were able to attend, due to COVID-19 concerns, unlike in past years. The results from Wednesday are listed below.

Ag Broadcasting: Clayton Hershey - Gold
 Creed Speaking: Brock Kleitsch - 4th Gold, Alternate
 Job Interview: Kaylee Kleitsch -



1st Gold, Advance
 Public Speaking:
 Bridget Seemann - Silver
 Extemporaneous
 Speaking: Sydney Matthias - 2nd Gold, Advance

Conduct of Meetings: Lily Schwickerath,
 Kali Lampe, Reese Peine, Brody Kleitsch, Ava VanDaele, Mady Richards, and Caitlyn Rechkemmer - 1st Gold, Advance

Ag Sales: Cannon Joerger - Silver

Congratulations to all who competed! Good luck to the contestants who moved on to compete at Districts on March 13th at Independence High School!

ATOM BOMBERS 4-H MEETS

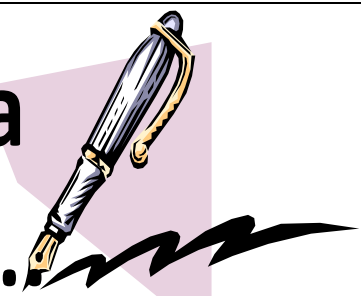
By Wally Kaufman

The Atom Bombers 4-H club met on Sunday, March 14th at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center in Fairbank. The meeting was called at 6:00 by Reese Peine. The pledge of allegiance was led by Wally Kaufman. Roll call was what is your favorite thing about spring? The secretary's report was given by Destry Peine. The treasurer's report was given by Brody Kleitch.

Reese reviewed the March 4-H newsletter and highlighted registration and weight in details for the different animals that will be shown at the fair. Also shared for any 4-H member exhibiting swine, beef cattle, poultry, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, and rabbits at the Buchanan County Fair will be required to be certified in the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals. All training will be taken online only.

The club is working to organize ditch clean up in early May. The 4-H pledge was led by Elle Voy. Wally Kaufman made a presentation on making a coat rack. Elle Voy made a presentation on making a shoe rack. The Kaufmans and the Voys served beverages and snacks. The next meeting will be April 11th, hosted by the Kleitsch family.

Add a
 "PS" ...



To help a neighbor

"PS" is Project Share – a program that assists needy households in paying their winter energy bills. You can help this effort by adding a regular **Project Share** contribution to your utility payment, or by making a direct donation to Project Share. These funds are distributed to your neighbors in need.

A local social service agency carefully identifies those residents who qualify, and a local committee oversees Project Share to guarantee that all contributions are handled equitably and efficiently.

Adding a "PS" – a **Project Share** contribution to your utility payment each month is a simple way to share some warmth with those who need it.

City of Fairbank

PO Box 447

P: 319-635-2869



Yes, I'd like to help a neighbor with a tax-deductible contribution to Project Share.

Name

Address

City

Phone

Fairbank City Yard Waste Rules

Please make sure items are going to the designated area.

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Grass Clippings
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SURVEILLANCE – There are cameras up to monitor what is being dropped off. If a person is caught disobeying these rules, they will be penalized, and they will be responsible for haul away fees.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at
319-635-2869

Thank you for your cooperation!



By: Robert Shields

Maurice "Morris" Strafford Hitchcock was born to Arson and Susan (Wye) Hitchcock on 2 June, 1828 in Marshall, Oneida County, New York. Anson Hitchcock was a deacon of the Hanover Congregational Church in Marshall. Morris was as a strict Congregationalist until he moved to Fairbank, then converted to the Baptist faith. While growing up, Morris' father and uncles were active pioneers in the temperance and anti-slavery reforms of the day, and Morris became an active member of the Greenback Party following its inception after the War of the Rebellion, which would later influenced his opinions as a newspaper editor. Following the completion of his education in The Marshall School, Morris began teaching in New York at the age of 18 and later taught several terms in Iowa. Mr. Hitchcock moved to Clayton County, Iowa in the fall of 1854. On 8 December, 1856 he married Catharine H. Humphrey, to them were born six children.

In 1873, Hitchcock bought a farm in Madison Township, Buchanan County. He purchased *The Independence Advocate* in 1880, but his Greenback Party leaning was not well liked and the paper suffered. In the summer of 1886, Morris sold the *Advocate* and started *The Fairbank View* in Fairbank, the towns' first publication. *The Fairbank View* was a weekly newspaper released each Friday by "M. S. Hitchcock and Son Publishing." At the time, *The View* rivaled in quality with any of the newspapers in Northeast Iowa. Morris Hitchcock continued to publish the paper until his sudden death in 1891. His youngest son, William, and daughter, Lillian, then took over the publication. They installed a new press, expanded the paper to six columns, and purchased a gasoline engine in Chicago to power the press in June of 1892.

In the years following Hitchcock's death and the passing of the publication to his children, *The Fairbank View* went through several changes in terms of ownership, production and name.

In January 1894, Hitchcock's children sold *The View* to W. S. Steele of Kingsley, Iowa, who sold it to Charles Thompson of Fairbank in March of the same year. In February of 1897 Frank Patterson bought half interest in the paper, and renamed the business: Thompson and Patterson Publishing. Dr. Bothwell bought Patterson's share in December of that year and replaced the gas engine for the business. In March of 1913, L. D. Truitt becomes owner and editor of the publication, and later sold *The View* to William A. Alexander. Charles Grantham purchased *The Fairbank View*, in July of 1921, and changed the name to, *The Four County Advocate*. At the time, the term "Four County" was a popular phrase for the area where the four counties intersected west of Fairbank. The phrase "Four County" was also used by other groups in the area. Grantham published *The Advocate* through 1928 when Ed Kane purchased it. Publishing of the periodical stopped completely in 1930.

The following is printed verbatim from the first page of issue one of the *Fairbank View*, published October 8, 1886. Some areas of the paper had trivial damage from age. "UNREADABLE" is inserted as a place holder for the damaged text. I would like to thank Ella Weepie for transcribing the paper. Printed here is the first half of page one and the second half of the page will be printed next

History of Morris Strafford Hitchcock's creation from inception to conclusion

month. There are numerous spelling and grammatical errors but they are printed as they appeared. This provides an interesting snapshot of life in Fairbank in the fall of 1886.

THE FAIRBANK VIEW.

Vol. 1.--No. 1. FAIRBANK, IOWA,
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1886. \$1.50 per Year.
ISSUES EVERY WEEK BY, M. S. Hitchcock & Son.
CHURCH AND SOCIETY DIRECTORY.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL: Rev. O. K. Maynard pastor. Services, every alternate Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School every Sunday at 10 A. M, F. W. Nichols Supt. Prayer meetings every Thursday evening.
FREE WILL BAPTIST: Rev. I. W. Drew, pastor. Services, every alternate Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Prayer meetings every Thursday evening.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN: (German.) Rev. C. Kueffner, pastor. Services, every Sunday morning.
CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: (Catholic) Rev. Father Thomas Murtagh, Priest. Services, three Sundays in four, at 10:45 A. M. Services Saturday and Sunday evenings.

A. F. and A. M.: Fairbank Lodge No. 148, meets every Friday evening on or before full moon, in Meyers' Hall. L. D. Lowell, W. M.

A. O. U. W.: Fairbank Lodge No. 222, meets every alternate Saturday evening in Higby's Hall. S. W. Ross, M. W.
G. A. R.: Fairbank Post meets every Saturday evening on or before full moon in Meyers' Hall. C. H. Wright, Commander.

Salutatory

THE VIEW, as a stranger in a new town, salutes the people of Fairbank and vicinity with its profoundest bow. It comes to take up a permanent abode here, to take its place among the industries and enterprises of this community and to extend to each a fraternal hand. It comes to bear a part in developing the latent resources and capabilities of a town and country rich in natural advantages, and expects always to encourage and assist by good words and helpful deeds every enterprise tending to advance the interests of the community or promote the welfare of its citizens.

THE VIEW will aim to give its readers the news from an extensive region hitherto destitute of newspaper representation, and, in addition to the local news of the town and surrounding country, will compile for its readers the more important news from the counties of Buchanan, Fayette, Bremer, and Blackhawk, thus making its visits desirable to the inhabitants of an extended circuit composed of the contiguous corners of the four counties named. THE VIEW will take no part in partisan politics, but, will endeavor to present to truth with candor and impartiality. If it shall at any time discuss questions of public or national importance, it will be from a practical, scientific, or philosophical "UNREADABLE" society.

With the above stated purposes in view, THE VIEW hopes for the good will and patronage of every citizen and aims to make its visits welcome and profitable in every family and to old and young alike.

THE FAIRBANK VIEW desires to be greeted with that cordiality which will make success easy and which will enable it at once to enter upon a career of usefulness and profit to the community in which it has taken up its abode.

While we have no doubt that Fairbank is destined to be an important town and that we shall succeed in es-

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tablishing a newspaper here that will be a credit to the place and an important factor in developing its business and promoting its growth, yet the citizens of this community must bear in mind and in no case forget that our capabilities for no usefulness depend entirely upon the patronage and encouragement which we receive from them. If we are to be of any benefit to them we must have their prompt support. We expect to have it, and already have material evidence that it will be forthcoming. We hope every citizen who values our enterprise will constitute himself a committee of one to visit his neighbors and awaken their interest and obtain their subscription to THE VIEW.

Within one month from this date every citizen within a radius of five miles each way from this office should become a subscriber to THE FAIRBANK VIEW. Of course it is impossible for us to see all these people within that time. We are consequently compelled to rely on the good will and kind offices of those who are friendly to our enterprise (and who is not?) to bring the subject up to their friends and canvass each other. The importance of such work cannot be overstated. It is indispensable. Who will engage in the laudable effort of putting THE VIEW upon the substantial basis of a large subscription list? Recollect, the size of our list will be the test of our usefulness. Who will bring into this office one, two, three, five or more subscribers to THE VIEW next week?

FAIRBANK: The town of Fairbank is situated on the east branch of the Wapsipinicon river in the Township of Fairbank, the town plat lying "UNREADABLE" rods south of the Fayette county line and about a mile and a half easterly from the county corners of Buchanan, Fayette, Bremer, and Blackhawk. It is in the line of the new Chicago, St. Paul, & Kansas City railroad, which is now rapidly approaching completion, and is about 18 miles from Independence, 35 miles from West Union, 25 miles from Waverly, and 25 miles from Waterloo. It is surrounded by a very rich country of original prairie and timber, now divided into valuable farms, adorned with numerous well-built mansions "UNREADABLE" in many cases with large and costly barns.

Continued next month.



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Fairbank Elementary School

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Wapsie Valley High School

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Fax (319) 638-7061

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Municipal

Fairbank City Hall

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116 E. Main Street
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(319) 635-2869

Fairbank Fire Department

301 Grove Street
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(319) 635-2981
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Fairbank Police Department

116 E. Main
Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 269-1020
Emergency: Call 911

Fairbank Sewage, Streets, Water, Electric & Natural Gas

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Fairbank Post Office

201 E. Main Street
Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 635-2772

Fairbank Aquatic Center

511 W. Main St. Street Fairbank, Iowa
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Real Estate

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Wapsie Wrestling Club has an impressive season

The 2020-2021 wrestling season ended on a very positive note for Wapsie's youth wrestlers. Numerous members of the WWC (Wapsie Wrestling Club) participated in USA State, AAU districts, AAU state, Super Pee Wee state and a few dual tournaments between the end of January and the end of February, after a long break due to COVID.

Competing at USA state in Cedar Rapids, IA, on January 24 were Chase Ackerman (1st), Kaiden Belinsky, Kiptyn Cox, Kanen Decker (6th), Cooper Frost, Jonah Frost, Landan Frost, Jase Jones, Drew Lansing, Ty Martin (1st), Garrett Miller, Dallas Tisue, Wes Wangsness and Krayton Zimmerman.

AAU districts are held the first Sunday each February at Waverly Shell Rock high school for grades 3-8th. To advance to the state tournament in Des Moines, a wrestler must place in the top 4 at his weight. Competing for WWC were Chase Ackerman (1st), Cooper Adair (4th), Kaiden Belinsky (3rd), Kiptyn Cox (2nd), Kanen Decker (2nd), Drew Destival, Cooper Frost, Jonah Frost, Landan Frost, Reese Hagenow, Hayden Hilsenbeck, Jase Jones (2nd), Sawyer Krall (4th), Evan Kleitsch (2nd), Drew Lansing (1st), Ty Martin (1st), Andrew Matthias (2nd), Garrett Miller, Brennan Pagel (2nd), Wes Wangsness, Zak Willems (3rd), Dallas Tisue and Krayton Zimmerman (3rd).

The team had a great time in Des Moines the last weekend in February, enjoying team/family meals together and staying at a hotel near Wells Far-



Practicing till the end...last practice before the big dance in Des Moines!

go arena. Signs were hung up on the doors recognizing the wrestlers and teammates supported each other over the course of the three-day tournament. Thankfully there was no limit on spectators so there were plenty of fans there to cheer on the boys! WWC had five place winners: Chase Ackerman (1st), Drew Lansing (3rd), Kaiden Belinsky (6th), Ty Martin (4th), and Zak Willems (4th). WWC finished in 2nd place for 1A youth teams and 20th overall, following mostly super club teams that are comprised of kids from many different school districts. This is the highest WWC has finished at the AAU State tournament! The boys have worked extremely hard over the last year in order to make it to where they are today. Even when Wapsie was un-



Team bonding: Wapsie jr. high wrestlers were able to go to Des Moines and cheer on the high school state participants.

able to practice, a handful of our boys continued to attend IAWC practices to get better! The coaches continue to be very proud of them and "the future of Wapsie wrestling looks brighter than ever!"

Readlyn second graders Jackson Brunscheon and Evan Kleitsch also wrestled at Super Pee Wee State in Waterloo on March 7, with Evan Kleitsch taking 1st. Evan is the first WWC member to win Super Pee Wee!!



Battle on the Wapsie Dual Team – 2nd place.



Jr. High Division Placemen: Coach Decker, Drew Lansing, Chas Ackerman, Kaiden Belinsky, Coach Cox.

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2020-2021 Annual Fairbank Firemen's Banquet

On Saturday evening, March 27th, the Fairbank Fire Department held its Annual Banquet at the Fairbank IC Hall. Everyone enjoyed a Prime Rib or Chicken dinner that was catered by Fairbank Food Center.

As part of their celebration, they honored those members who have achieved various milestones of their time serving the Fairbank community. Since they were not able to hold their banquet last year, they also recognized members who would have been honored last year. Other awards included their "Firefighter of the Year" and "EMT of the Year." Awards were presented by Fire Chief Brad Gordon and Roger Carr, VP of the Iowa Firefighter's Association.

Rounding out the evening was live entertainment by Travis Granberg, guitarist.



FAIRBANK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: Front Row: Kevin Bodensteiner (Ass't Chief - EMS), Brad Gordon (Chief), Amy Kaufman, Cindy Woods, Janice Martins, Alexis Rausch (Sec), Elaine Zimmerman, Courtney Rochette, Chris West (Ass't Chief - Fire). 2nd Row: Connor Jones, Dick Chapman, Dave Ryan, Jason Kayser (President), Fr. Ray Atwood (Chaplin), Ted Vorwald, Cody Kleitsch (Captain), Jake Schwartz (2nd Lt), Rob Gipper (EMS Captain), Tyler Odneal, Brett Cummings, Gabe Oldfather. 3rd Row: Drake Mangrich, Brian Stark, Shawn Davis, Tim Zimmerman, Ryan Westemeier, Ryan Rausch, Collin Woods, Carson Woods, Chance Beierschmitt, Adam Bachman. Not Pictured: Jon Kono, Nick Curley (1st Lt), Kyle Odneal (Treasurer).

~ Photo credit to Doese Photography



2020 AWARDS: Roger Carr - VP of the Iowa Firefighters Association, Cody Kleitsch (5 yrs.), Chance Beierschmitt (5 yrs.), Shawn Davis (10 yrs.), Drake Mangrich (15 yrs.), Rob Gipper (15 yrs.), Brett Cummings (15 yrs.), Dave Ryan (30 yrs.), Brad Gordon - Chief.

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2020-2021 Annual Fairbank Firemen's Banquet



2021 AWARDS: Brad Gordon - Chief, Chris West (10 yrs.), Gabe Oldfather (10 yrs.), Cindy Woods (20 yrs.), Christy Kayser (retired after 20 yrs.), Roger Carr - VP of the Iowa Firefighters Association. Not Present: Jon Kono - 5 yrs.



2020 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR: Brad Gordon; 2020 EMT OF THE YEAR: Ted Vorwald; Roger Carr - VP of the Iowa Firefighters Association.

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Rachel Murray named Employee of the Year

Rachel Murray was awarded the 2020 Employee of the Year for the Department of Radiology at the University of Iowa Hospitals on February 13, 2021. She works the weekend shift and has been working for University Hospitals since 2008.



Rachel was nominated by co-workers and voted on by a selection committee. Her co-workers had some very nice personality comments for Rachel as well as her professional work ethic as a General Diagnostic Technologist. Her name will be added to the Radiology Department's Plaque for 2020 Employee of the Year.

Rae, as most people know her by, is a former Fairbank Days Queen and Wapsie Valley Homecoming Queen of 2002. She is still representing our community and her new community of Janesville, Iowa very well, along with her husband Patrick and their three children, Calvin, Lane and Ryan Jo. Rachael is the daughter of Kelly and Susan Ryan of Fairbank.

Wenger receives P&S Outstanding Achievement in Extension and Outreach Award

Matthew Wenger, program coordinator with the Meat Science Extension program in animal science, is the recipient of the Professional and Scientific Outstanding Achievement in Extension and Outreach Award from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State University.

Wenger has been a key player in the success of this program, which includes an extensive variety of short course and workshop offerings for the meat industry, customized training programs for specific client companies in the meat industry, collaboration on grants and support of Iowa food

processors, and contributions to federally-funded projects for research.


Most recently, Wenger initiated and coordinated the Pass the Pork and Beef Up Iowa programs in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship to provide meat for Iowans experiencing food insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wenger is actively involved in university and community service. He has been an advisor to the ISU Block and Bridle Club and ISU Cardinal Key. He has also chaired committees for Special Olympics



Iowa and served as a member of the Special Olympics Iowa Board.

DR. NATHAN STEINBRONN, DC



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Speech students shine at State



Wapsie Valley Individual Speech students: Olivia Hershey, Christopher Tibbott, Asa Kelley and Ronnie Wilcox competed at State Speech Saturday, March 13, hosted by Postville. Students are coached by Amy Nosbisch. Out of the six acts, four received straight ones! Taking all three 'Division I' ratings were: Asa Kelley in prose - 'Making Money'; Christopher Tibbott in literary program - 'Mothers' and in acting, 'Ashes'; and Ronnie Wilcox in after dinner with 'Mistakes'. Receiving overall 'Division II' ratings were: Olivia Hershey in prose and Asa Kelley in solo musical theater.

Bill Dixon enters the real estate business

Bill Dixon is a Fairbank native and recently retired from John Deere. And now he has his realtors license. Bill specializes in commercial, residential, farm and timber - providing guidance and assisting sellers and buyers in marketing for the right price under the best terms.

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Church + Services



United Methodist Church

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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



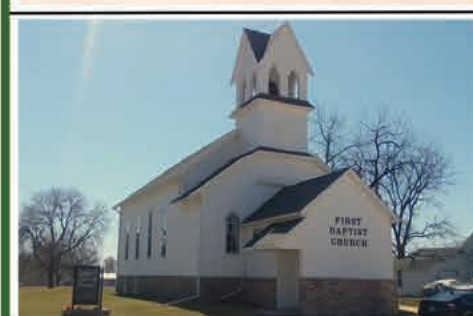
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

302 W. Main Street
Fairbank, Iowa
319-635-2211
Father Ray Atwood
Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM
Wednesday Mass: 8:30 AM
1st Saturday Mass: 8:30 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.



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The Murder of Phoebe Jane Vigoletti

by Betty Brandt Passick

Most people today have little or no knowledge of the sensational ‘Gangster Era’ murders captured in America’s newspaper headlines at the turn of the Twentieth Century (1920-1930s). Many of which remain unsolved—including the murder of Phoebe Jane Vigoletti.

Historians point to one cause for the tremendous upheaval in American society: On January 17, 1920, Congress voted to ratify the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, prohibiting the manufacture, sale, and transport of alcoholic beverages. However, it remained legal to drink and buy liquor. So began the era of Prohibition which created one hell of a mess.

The ink was barely dry on the document when shadowy criminal organizations, like the Black Hand gang imported from Italy, rose up to meet the nation’s insatiable thirst for alcohol. Italians were the last ethnic groups to immigrate to America, ranking just above the Irish and African slaves on the food chain. (Irish and Jewish mobsters had their own organized crime groups to harness the huge alcohol production industry.)

Frankie Yale (also known as Francesco Ioele or Frankie Uale) was in his early twenties when he became the Big Boss of the Italian colonies in Brooklyn and New York’s east side—then, director of the first Black Hand gang in America. In subsequent years, hundreds of Black Hand gangs organized throughout the country.

Even in Oelwein, Iowa.

According to the Oelwein Chamber of Commerce, the Chicago Great Western Railroad hub drew thousands of new Italian immigrants to Oelwein. By the early 1900s, Oelwein’s population was 7,000—and one of three major settlements of Italians in Iowa. In 1915, the Italian community grew to five hundred. With it came

the city’s share of activity by the Black Hand.

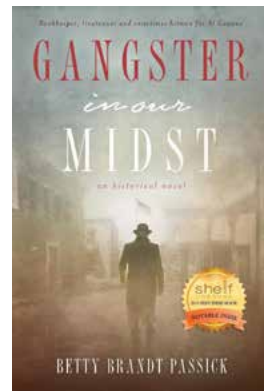
Nancy Bowers is a trained historian and researcher with years of life experiences in writing and criminal justice, and administrator for an internet site: www.iowaunsolvedmurders.org. She cites two shocking murders attributed to the Black Hand in Oelwein—many more, if you look at the entire state of Iowa.

Phoebe Jane Vigoletti, a 46-year-old Italian homemaker, was strangled in her home on March 14, 1926. Someone broke down the back door and strangled her with a rope. The kitchen showed signs of a violent struggle. Her body was removed from the house, taken across the back yard, hoisted over a fence, and dragged or carried a considerable distance, then dumped on the same site as that of an unnamed Italian male, who had been stabbed 84 times in 1919.

Both murders have remained cold cases, a strong indicator of how much people feared retaliation by members of the Black Hand.

Murders like Vigoletti’s fed the doctrine of nativism in the United States—resulting in a widespread attitude that rejected alien persons, or culture, and led to xenophobia, the irrational fear of foreigners leading to racism and ethnic conflict...when all Italians became stereotyped as killers.

Americans pressured Legislators to bar them from coming into the country. The Immigration Act of 1924 effectively closed the ‘Golden Door’ to America to Italians, even though the vast majority were good, honest working people and not criminals.



Interviewing Oelwein Italians was part of my research for writing the historical novel, *Gangster in our Midst* (2017). Each had been a young child when first overhearing hushed conversations about the Black Hand, who commonly used threats of violence and murder in an attempt to extort wealthy Italian Americans, and others. Receipt of a threatening letter and a coal-blackened handprint left on a victim’s door meant—pay up or suffer the consequences. “We’re not gonna pay for protection!”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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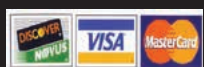


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MURDER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

one recalled his father had said.

Eventually, the thugs were run out of town—but not for many years.

On September 30, 1933, police followed six bandits after two persons were shot in an attempted holdup of the First National Bank in Oelwein. The six men traveling in a large automobile were traced to Center Grove, Iowa, but eluded four squads of police armed with machine guns. A short time later the trail was picked up south of Dubuque and police sped on the Dubuque-Davenport highway in pursuit. The gunmen were never captured, and police were never able to confirm the men were part of the Black Hand.

Black Hand members allegedly hung out at the Italian-owned Club 190 at the junction of Highways 190 and 150 south of Oelwein. Some people I spoke with believed the club was owned by the mafia. It had been renamed Club Savoy--owned by Pete Greco and Tony Rubino--when it caught fire and burned to the ground in February 1957. The cause of the blaze: unknown. Stiles Supermarket, also south of Oelwein on Highway 150, had been destroyed by fire two weeks earlier.

When the Italian American Louie La Cava arrived in Fairbank in the early 1920s, residents stopped to take notice. He stood out with his olive skin among the Germans, Irish, Scandinavians, and Swedes. Plus, he had the mannerisms of a gangster: drove a big fancy black car, smoked fat Cuban cigars, and wore expensive suits with a nice fedora atop his head.

Over time, La Cava confessed he worked for Chicago Kingpin Al 'Scarface' Capone as bookkeeper, but only for the good side of his business—his charities. He likely said that to quell their nerves a bit. La Cava (and his wife, a Fairbank area girl he'd married in Chicago) continued to frequent the town off and on for the next sixty years. They built a summer home in Fairbank in the 1960s.

La Cava spent considerable time with the Oelwein Italians, too—such that one 1936 Oelwein newspaper announced: "Louie La Cava has returned to the area." What locals didn't know was he had been in hiding in Ohio for a lengthy time before the Feds found and served him with a subpoena to testify at Johnny 'The Fox' Torrio's trial on income tax evasion. La Cava had been Torrio's bookkeeper, too.

Prohibition was repealed in 1933. The biggest gangs shifted their operations away from alcohol and into secondary businesses like drugs, gambling, and prostitution. They also profited greatly from the Great Depression.

Prohibition's supporters were initially surprised by what did not come to pass during the dry era. On the whole, the initial economic effects of Prohibition were largely negative.

~ The closing of breweries, distilleries and saloons led to the elimination of thousands of jobs, and in turn thousands more jobs were eliminated for barrel makers, truckers, waiters, and other re-



lated trades—while Kingpins made millions each year, and loansharking became a major industry.

~ Before Prohibition, many states relied heavily on excise taxes in liquor sales to fund their budgets. In New York, almost 75 percent of the state's revenue was derived from liquor taxes. The most lasting consequence was many states and the federal government would come to rely on income tax revenue to fund their budgets going forward.

~ The greatest unintended consequence of Prohibition, however, was the plainest to see. For over a decade, the law that was meant to foster temperance instead fostered intemperance and excess. Prohibition had made the problem even worse.

~ The term 'organized crime' hadn't really existed in the United States before 1920. Prohibition became the catalyst for sourcing and distributing alcohol and drugs as an interstate and even international enterprise. Before Prohibition, criminal gangs were local menaces.

Finally, no one seemingly kept a running body count during the great moral experiment of Prohibition.

According to one source, the U.S. Government ordered over 92 percent of 'hooch' poisoned during the last 7 years of Prohibition, and an estimated 10,000 Americans probably died from the poisoning program. Arrests for drunkenness and disorderly conduct increased 21 percent, and arrests for drunken driving jumped by 81 percent. During the first ten years of Prohibition, the murder rate climbed 78 percent across the country. In Chicago alone, almost 800 gangsters died.

Nationally, the homicide rate per 100,000 people rose almost two-thirds.

Phoebe Jane Vigoletti was one of them.

I have loved writing since a young girl growing up in the house across from the Baptist church in Fairbank. Having kept a journal at one point of my life for seventeen years, I now enjoy going to grade schools to talk about "Journaling." My largest workshop by far has been "Writing a Memoir." I wrote our family's book of history, We Are Eight, a Memoriam (2015), after five years of research. Whether some-

one wishes to write a memoir of under 10 pages—or 400 pages, like mine, your family will treasure it just as much. You can say a lot in a few pages. My books are available at the Fairbank Public Library and the Fairbank Historical Society.

Gangster in Our Midst (221 pages) is described by one reader on Amazon as: "Very Road to Perdition in style and period." The historical crime novel won a 2019 Notable 100 Indie Book Award from Shelf Unbound book review magazine. The 2nd book in the 'gangster' trilogy will be available spring 2021.

I interview and write 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: bb-passickauthor@comcast.net.



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May 8th, 2021

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**ALL ENTRY FORMS MUST BE
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Maps will be
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New Kid!!!

There was a new 'kid' in
Transitional Kindergarten!
Students enjoyed interacting and
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(Right) Jett Coffin enjoyed
holding his temporary classmate!



Fairbank Public Library

LIBRARY STAFF

Angela Berg, Director
Linda Letson, Librarian
Roxie Wenner, Custodian

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Clair Levendusky

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Point of Contact,

Twos the Night Before Christmas,

Timeless Toys, The Plan

.....from Mark & Barb Babiak

Clarence "Whitey" Shannon

Bathed in Prayer

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How Happiness Happens

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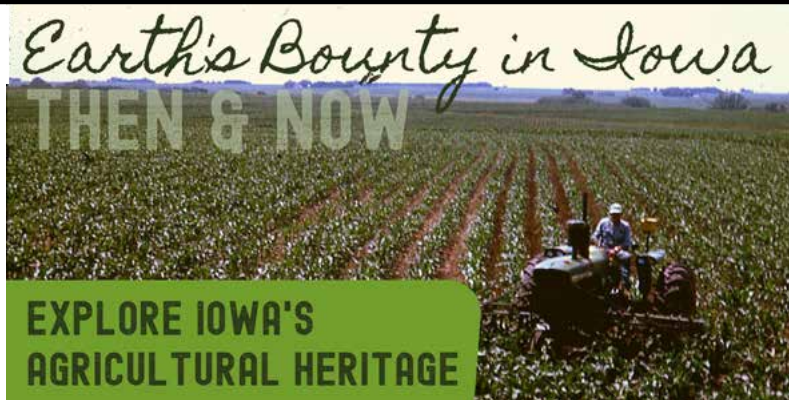
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National Library Week 2021: Welcome to Your Library

The theme for **National Library Week (April 4-10, 2021)**, "Welcome to Your Library," promotes the idea that libraries extend far beyond the four walls of a building – and that everyone is welcome to use their services. During the pandemic libraries have been going above and beyond to adapt to our changing world by expanding their resources and continuing to meet the needs of their users. Whether people visit in person or virtually, libraries offer opportunities for everyone to explore new worlds and become their best selves through access to technology, multimedia content, and educational programs. National Library Week is an annual celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening our communities.



Join us for a virtual event to learn about our state's rich history of agriculture along with the modern challenges and triumphs of farming in Iowa. explore Iowa's agricultural heritage

Thursday, April 22, 2021 | 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/earthsbounty>

**We will
be
starting
this
program
soon!**



Watch for more information to come!

The Library is Open Masks are Required!

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- ✦ Request books through the catalog found on our website <http://fairbankia.org/library.php> or by emailing the Library at: f.library@mchsi.com

**The Library Board will meet the
first Wednesday of the Month
at 4 pm.**

CLARENCE W. SHANNON*December 7, 1933 ~ February 24, 2021*

Clarence Wayne Shannon, 87, of Fairbank, died at his home Wednesday, February 24, 2021, surrounded by his loving family.

Private family graveside services were held Saturday, February 27, 2021, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery, Fairbank, with Fr. Ray E. Atwood officiating. Military rites were conducted by Fortsch-Duffy American Legion Post #552 of Fairbank. Memorials may be directed to the family.

Clarence was born December 7, 1933, at Fairbank, IA, the son of Paul Gregory and Alta Lavina (Ohl) Shannon. He attended country schools in Buchanan County. He went on to serve in the United States Army. On November 20, 1958, he was united in marriage to Alice Frances Brickman at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank. Clarence began his career at John Deere before continuing as owner/operator of Whitey's Mobile Milling. During those years, he acquired many lasting friendships. In later years, he attended Reisch World Wide College of Auctioneering. Clarence most enjoyed spending time with family and his grandchildren, fishing, writing music, singing and playing guitar.

Clarence is survived by his wife, Alice Shannon of rural Fairbank, IA; five daughters, Jeannie (Craig) Kleitsch of Fairbank, Jackie (Bruce) Berryhill of Fairbank, Jodie Puff of Hazleton, Janelle Shannon of Fairbank and Jessica Shannon of Fairbank; two sons, John Shannon of Independence, and James Shannon of Fairbank; 13 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; his twin brother, Cecil Shannon (Janet Wissler) of Oelwein, IA; two sisters, Helen Welsh of Waterloo, Joyce Leininger of Evansdale and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Virginia Lumsden, Alice Brown, Betty Linihan; and five brothers, Marshall Shannon, Howard Shannon, Duane "Red" Shannon, Leroy Shannon and infant brother Robert Shannon.

White Funeral Home, Jesup, was in charge of the arrangements.

**JAN ALLAN FIGI***March 9, 1942 ~ February 27, 2021*

Jan Allan Figi, 78, of Fairbank, died Saturday, February 27, 2021, at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City due to complications from heart surgery.

Jan was born March 9, 1942, in Waterloo, Iowa, the son of Walter and Geraldine (Weiler) Figi. Jan graduated from Waterloo West High School in 1960. Following high school he took a job at John Deere. In August of 1962, he joined the United States Air Force. He did his basic training in Texas and trained as a Jet Aircraft Mechanic. Jan was then stationed at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. He was honorably discharged from the Air Force in August of 1968. Following discharge he returned to work at John Deere until retiring in 1994.

Jan always had a love for horses. Over the years Jan shared that love with his kids and grandkids and enjoyed watching them ride and show. Jan was also a member of the Christian Motorcycle Association. Jan and his family enjoyed many vacations on motorcycles traveling to different states to attend Christian motorcycle rallies. He spent most of his years living in Waterloo but also lived in Michigan and Texas before settling down in Fairbank where he enjoyed spending time with many different Amish families.

Jan is survived by his five children; Bridgette (Paul) Hinsley of Omaha, NE, Heather Figi of Parkersburg, Christen (Eva Mooty) Figi of Parkersburg, Yvette (Matt) Harmon of Aplington, Nicole (Verlyn) Fink of Valentine, NE; 15 grandchildren; Ali Parks, Justin Gales, Jocelyn Hinsley, Makayla Mennen, Allison Mennen, Dakota (Sha) Figi, Andrew Heidemann, Cody Figi, Nicholas Heidemann, Morgan Figi, Brady Harmon, Blake Harmon, Lydia Harmon, Kaylee Harmon and Kelly Figi, 5 great grandchildren, and a sister, Sandra Figi of Waterloo. He is preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Geraldine Figi.

Services were held March 4, 2021, at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly. Public Graveside Services with military rites was held March 5, 2021, at Riverside Cemetery in Charles City, Iowa. Memorials may be directed to the family and on-line condolences may be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

**LARRY DEAN LEE***February 18, 1940 ~ March 9, 2021*

Larry Dean Lee, 81 of Independence, died peacefully surrounded by his family on March 9, 2021, at MercyOne in Waterloo. Visitation and funeral services were held on Monday, March 15 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Readlyn.

Larry was born February 18, 1940 in Cedar County, Iowa to Howard Lee and Norma Schroeder Lee. His father died when he was four years old which led to the family moving back to Bremer County, eventually settling in Readlyn. He was confirmed at St Paul Lutheran Church on April 11, 1954 and graduated in 1958 from Readlyn High School.

On February 11, 1962, Larry married his lifelong love and partner of fifty-nine years, Julene Schwake, at St. John Lutheran Church, Buck Creek, rural Sumner. They resided in Readlyn for twenty-seven years and raised five children. For most of his career, Larry was a general contractor building many new homes "from the first shovel of dirt to the last nail". He was also a volunteer firefighter with the Readlyn Fire Department for twenty-five years. During the farm crisis, he was an over-the-road truck driver. In 1989, they moved to a farm near Buck Creek where he farmed and also did construction. At that time they became members of St John's Church, Buck Creek where they were active members including being on the council and in choir.

After retirement, they moved to their current home in Independence. Both were involved in bluegrass music and he learned to play the banjo. The couple enjoyed traveling to bluegrass festivals throughout the Midwest and are active members of the Backbone Bluegrass Association. He was a "mowing machine" at the Bluegrass grounds. He loved to socialize and jam with anyone who was willing. He was always up for a 1000 piece puzzle or a card game and he never met a stranger. They especially enjoyed taking road trips to Georgia to visit their youngest son and his family.

Larry is survived by his wife, Julene; five children, Pamela Brandt of Dubuque, Cheri (Jeff) Mohlis of Cedar Falls, Myron (Stephanie) Lee of Waukee, Lynette (Marty) Beckner of Cedar Falls, and Mitchell (Mirna) Lee of Roswell, Georgia; grandchildren Alexander Brandt, Nathaniel Brandt, Emilee Leonard, Zachary Weston, James Mohlis, Kaitlyn Mohlis, Matthew Lee, Samuel Lee, Allison Beckner, Noelle Beckner, Kyle Beckner, Ben Lee, Luke Lee; four great-grandchildren; his brother, Bob Lee of Hiawatha, and sisters/brothers-in-law Helen Lee of Tripoli, Peggy Schwake of Fayette, Carolyn and Jerry Biermann of Elgin, Barb and Gerry Schwake of Sumner. Preceded in death by his parents; Julene's parents Gerhardt and Edna Schwake; an infant daughter, Angela Sue; a brother, Romaine Lee; two sisters, Sylvia Schwerin and Diane Johnson; sister-in-law Eunice Lee; brothers-in-law, Duane Schwerin, Lorraine Johnson, Donley Schwake, Neil Schwake.

Burial was held in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery, Readlyn with Pastor Phil Girardin officiating. Memorials may be directed to the family for a later designation. Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn assisted the family.

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REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in Regular session on Monday March 22, 2021. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, Williams, and Erickson. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Heather Prendergast, Attorney; Brian Delagardelle, Wastewater Operator; Dave Jergens, Public Works; Mike Everding, Part-Time Police Chief; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the agenda. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. There were no public comments. Vorwald/R. Woods to approve the minutes from March 8th Regular Meeting and March 15th Special Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. There were no public comments.

The abatement and cleanup of nuisance properties was moved to later in the meeting since Attorney Prendergast had not arrived yet.

Discussion was held on the ICAP Insurance Renewal. The premium paid last year was \$35,762.32 and this year it increased to \$45,815.00. Valuations went up which contributed to this increase. The council changed the deductible to \$5,000.00 to help bring the premium cost down. R. Woods/Erickson to approve the ICAP Insurance Renewal for 2021 at \$45,815.00. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Councilman R. Woods talked to the council about promoting Dave Jergens to Public Works Director with a raise of a dollar an hour. Jergens said he would not consider the promotion for an increase of only a dollar an hour, but he would like to talk about it because he would like to do the job. Attorney Prendergast arrived at 6:06 PM. Attorney Prendergast stated that a resolution could be modified however the council chooses. The committees will meet with Jergens and see if they can come together on a wage and decide at the next meeting. T. Woods/Erickson to table until the next meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Discussion on hiring another public works employee was held. Vorwald stated that of the five candidates chosen for interviews, four responded and were interviewed. Ben Delagardelle was chosen for the job by the committee, and he was the person recommended to the council for hiring. Ben stated that he currently possessed a wastewater one certification and that he had a lot of experience in the job duties that he would

need to do with the city job. The council offered to start him at \$25.00 per hour and he would then also receive a dollar an hour for each of the wastewater two and water distribution certifications when completed along with a 3% increase on July 1, 2021. Ben said he appreciated the \$25.00 an hour but would like to ask for \$25.25 per hour. R. Woods/Vorwald to approve Resolution 2021-06 – Hiring Public Works Employee to hire Ben Delagardelle for the open public works position at \$25.25 an hour with a dollar an hour increase after wastewater two certification and then another dollar an hour increase after water distribution certification along with the 3% increase on July 1, 2021. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The council went back to the agenda item Discuss/Approve Abatement and Cleanup of Nuisance Properties. Attorney Prendergast received notice that an abatement had been served. It was served exactly 21 days earlier and the owner was present to ask the council for more time due to the weather. Part-time Police Chief Everding stated that most of the work had been completed and that he had seen an improvement in the property. R. Woods/Williams to extend notice 21 more days to allow time to finish the rock area in the front, to haul away the dumpster, and to align the tree cutting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Part-time Police Chief Everding stated that he went to Racom on Thursday and they were very professional. The new police vehicle is scheduled for the first part of May. Councilmen R. Woods and Williams will meet with the Part-time Police Chief to start discussions on the striping. Councilwoman Erickson and Councilman Williams will meet with the office staff to go over further details in the personnel manual.

Williams/T. Woods to enter into closed session at 6:32 PM pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (j) – to discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce the price the governmental body would receive for that property. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Vorwald/R. Woods to come out of closed session at 6:37 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. T. Woods/Vorwald that having received no other purchase offers or other offers from any other entities, the City of Fairbank has accepted the counteroffer from Fairbank Development Corporation for \$25,000 with the first right of refusal which would terminate on devel-

opment of the lot. Ayes: Three. Abstain: R. Woods and Williams. Nays: None. There will be a public hearing set and a resolution drafted regarding the contract that was accepted.

Williams/Erickson to adjourn 6:39 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Mike Harter, Mayor
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in special session on Monday, March 15, 2021. Mayor Harter attended the meeting via phone and called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present at City Hall: Williams, R. Woods, and Vorwald. Absent: T. Woods and Erickson. Also, present at City Hall: Dave Jergens, Public Works; Mike Everding, Part-Time Police; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

Williams/Vorwald to approve the agenda. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. No public comments were made.

The grey 2021 Tahoe approved for purchase at the March 8th regular meeting was unavailable to purchase. Councilman R. Woods heard that the Tahoe in Jesup goes through a lot of gas. Williams/R. Woods to rescind the motion made on March 8th to purchase a grey 2021 Tahoe. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. R. Woods had done some research and found two white police interceptors for sale on the lot at Stivers Ford Lincoln. The council compared the options on both. R. Woods/Vorwald to purchase the 2021 Ford police interceptor from Stivers Ford Lincoln out of Waukee, Iowa for \$35,351.00. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. The vehicle will be arranged for pick up as soon as possible then both vehicles will go to Racom out of Hiawatha to get the equipment moved and installed.

The council discussed more information about the drafted personnel manual. Additions will be made to the draft for the council to look through and approve at a later date.

Vorwald/R. Woods to adjourn at 1:43 PM. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. Mike Harter, Mayor
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk



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REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in a budget workshop at 5:30 PM and regular session following at 6:00 PM on Monday February 22, 2021. Members present: R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, Williams, and Erickson. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Heather Prendergast, Attorney; Brian Delagardelle, Wastewater Operator; Dave Jergens, Public Works; Mike Everding, Part-Time Police Chief; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

The budget for FY2022 was discussed during the budget workshop. The Council discussed the tax rate and levy possibilities.

Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Williams/Vorwald to approve the agenda after moving the closed session (agenda item number six) down to the last item since Attorney Prendergast was able to attend the meeting in person. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Vorwald/R. Woods to approve the minutes from February 8th Regular Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

There were no public comments.

T. Woods/Williams to open the public hearing on Maximum Tax Dollars for Budget Year 2021-2022. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. The max property tax levy was published at \$10.29241. The tax rate cannot be set at more than that. No other oral or written comments were received. Vorwald/T. Woods to close the public hearing. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/T. Woods to approve RESOLUTION 2021-02 – RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAXIMUM PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS FOR BUDGET YEAR JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

There were quite a few people present to hear discussions on the amendment to Chapter 74 – All-Terrain Vehicles. At the meeting on February 8th the first reading was passed with changing the allowed travel time from sunrise to sunset to allow travel between 5 AM and 9 PM. JJ Little, who was present, brought up the question of why not just make it 10 PM then. Police Chief Everding said they would enforce whatever the council decided. The second reading of Ordinance 350 – Amending Provisions to All-Terrain Vehicles failed for lack of a motion. It will be

presented at the next council meeting for possible approval with another update to allowed driving times from 5 AM to 10 PM.

The possible waive of third reading of Ordinance 350 – Amending Provisions Pertaining to All-Terrain Vehicles failed for lack of a motion.

Approving Ordinance 350 – Amending Provisions Pertaining to All-Terrain Vehicles failed for lack of a motion.

Time was spent discussing the budget for FY22 and the different levy options. Vorwald/Erickson to submit the FY22 budget for publication with a rate of \$9.9692. Ayes: Two. Nays: T. Woods, R. Woods, and Williams. Motion failed. R. Woods/Williams to submit the FY22 budget for publication with decreasing the liability, property & self-insurance costs by \$8,950 which made the rate \$9.72802. That rate made a 24-cent decrease from the levy rate set for FY21. Ayes: Three. Nays: Vorwald and Erickson.

T. Woods/Vorwald to approve RESOLUTION 2021-03 – RESOLUTION SETTING TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FY 2021-2022 BUDGET. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. The budget hearing will be held at City Hall on March 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Police Chief Everding presented the council with quotes on a new police vehicle from multiple different dealerships. He said that Ford and Chevy had about the same warranty options. The council asked that he investigate what could be transferred out of the current car as far as equipment. Motion by T. Woods to approve the Police Department to purchase a police car within the prices presented. Motion failed for lack of second. Discussion on what the actual numbers could be on moving equipment from one vehicle to the next was brought up again. The council wanted more actual numbers on how much that could save. R. Woods/T. Woods to revisit at next meeting with that information presented. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

There was no new discussion on the personnel manual updates. It was encouraged to everyone to read the draft and it will be on for upcoming meetings.

During a five day stretch from February 13-17, 2021 the City of Fairbank was hit by a record breaking "spot gas" price surge. The council

was updated with the known facts on the event thus far. Estimated numbers on gas costs came in at around \$175,000 during that period. The council thought we needed to know the exact impact first before they would know how to handle the situation. Attorney Prendergast noted that citizens would see an impact due to this disaster but that the council didn't know what that impact would be yet. More information will be obtained to discuss this in further detail at the meeting on March 8th.

Delagardelle informed the council that Jon Biederman with Fehr Gram started reaching out for bids on televising the storm sewer for the Main Street project. He will get the estimates to them but also wanted to know if there were any other areas that they felt needed televised. Delagardelle also stated that sewer plant survived the cold weather and that finally that day he was able to switch everything back to automatic without any issues. He also thanked the council for the pump that was purchased a few weeks back. He said that it worked great during a water main break that last Friday morning. Jergens stated that he would be at CPO pool class the next two days. Police Chief Everding said the car was back from repairs and that he was looking into getting tires put on since two of them were very bad. Mayor Harter told the council that he was meeting with two of the CAPS program students on Wednesday to talk about future Fairbank walking/biking paths.

Williams/T. Woods to enter into closed session at 7:01 PM pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (j) – to discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce the price the governmental body would receive for that property. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Vorwald/R. Woods to come out of closed session at 7:19 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. T. Woods/Vorwald to authorize the city attorney to proceed as discussed under closed session. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. Abstain: R. Woods and Williams.

Williams/R. Woods to adjourn at 7:23 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 8, 2021. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present at City Hall: Williams, R. Woods, Vorwald, T. Woods, and Erickson. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Brian Delagardelle, Wastewater Operator; Dave Jergens, Public Works; Mike Everding, Part-Time Police; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

Erickson/Williams to approve the agenda. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Loras Little was present during the public comment section. He wanted to mention to the City his concerns with water issues on the right of way of his property. Councilman Vorwald and Jergens said they would look at it tomorrow. Seth Reinking along with his father, Quinton Reinking, were present to state their interests in the lot at 405 Grove Street for a possible gym/power washing business. Councilman Vorwald stated that the City had received an offer already on the property but that the council would talk with the City Attorney about the next steps and have her get back to them.

Williams/Vorwald to approve the minutes of the Feb. 22nd Regular Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Vorwald/R. Woods to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Receipts for the month of February were: General, \$30,451.18; Special Revenue, \$11,056.22; TIF, \$472.46; Capital Projects, \$4.33; Permanent Funds, \$5.98; Proprietary, \$184,639.25; and Transfers In, \$374,555.00. Disbursements for the month of February were: General, \$31,360.35; Special Revenue, \$2,184.69; Proprietary, \$140,454.99; and Transfers Out, \$374,555.00. Balance on hand at close of business on February 28, 2021 was \$4,652,233.35.

Williams/Erickson to open the public hearing on FY 2022 Budget. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. No comments were received. Williams/T. Woods to close the public hearing on the FY 2022 Budget. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mayor Harter stated the tax rate set by the city was \$9.72802. R. Woods/T. Woods to approve Resolution 2021-04 – Resolution Approving the City of Fairbank's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2022. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Adam Kerns, the city's insurance agent, was present to discuss the renewal information on the city property insurance. He stated that this year was tougher than normal when it came to premium costs due to ICAP hiring an outside firm to go and do building valuations. Values were raised significantly. The council asked him to figure a \$5,000 deductible and add the 2019 firetruck at replacement cost and then the updated proposal would be on the agenda for the meeting on March 22nd for approval.

Discussion was held on the natural gas record breaking "spot gas" price surge. Mary Kay Frost was present and asked how the city planned to deal with the issue and that she did not feel it was fair to bill out low users the same as high users. Councilman T. Woods stated that he did not feel they were going to charge a set amount fee for everyone. Councilman Vorwald thought there was two main options of either spreading the cost out over a period of time or to just bill everyone for the usage they used once, then allow for individuals to pay as they could. It was thought it would be nice to have all bills cleaned up before next winter. In the city's ordinance there is a \$0.35 per CCF amount that can be removed or amended as needed by resolution. Williams/T. Woods to waive the \$0.35 per CCF charge for the month of February usage which is for billing on March 15, 2021 to help alleviate the cost of gas to their customers stated in Resolution 2021-05 – A Resolution Waiving \$0.35 Charge from City Gas Rate for March 2021 Utility Billing. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/T. Woods to waive the penalties for the past due gas portion of utility bills until September 1, 2021 to allow customers to pay as they can. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Amending the provisions to all-terrain vehicles were discussed. Hours of operation stated 5 AM to 10 PM. There was no other discussion. Vorwald/R. Woods to approve the first reading of Ordinance 350 – Amending Provisions to All-Terrain Vehicles. Ayes: Four. Abstain: T. Woods. Nays: None.

Vorwald/R. Woods to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 350. Ayes: Four. Abstain: T. Woods. Nays: None.

Vorwald/R. Woods to approve Ordinance 350 – Ordinance Amending Provisions Pertaining to All-Terrain Vehicles. Ayes: Four. Abstain: T. Woods. Nays: None.

Councilman R. Woods stated that there had been some new development with the current police vehicle since the last meeting. The vehicle went to Birdnow and the catalytic converters were plugged and there was a noise at the bottom of the engine which foreshadowed the need for a new engine. Police Chief Everding stated that the new 2021 Ford vehicles were sixteen weeks out, but the 2021 Chevy options were available on the lots. Councilman Vorwald stated that rather than going through the mess of buying a used vehicle the council should just look at the new options and maybe it would last the city ten years. Williams/T. Woods to pick up the grey 2021 Tahoe and to let Everding make the best decision on what equipment is transferable for the vehicle. Everding stated that the vehicles would go to Racom in Hiawatha. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Two bids, one from Randy's Lawn Care & Snow Removal and one from Turf and Landscape, were received for the seasonal cemetery mowing for 2021. Vorwald/Erickson to have Turf and Landscape mow the cemetery for the 2021 season since they had done it the past few years. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Two bids, one from Davis Lawn Service LLC and one from Randy's Lawn Care & Snow Removal, were received for the seasonal city mowing for 2021. Councilman Vorwald stated that the fall and spring cleanup could be done by the public works employees. The city guys would also oversee moving the small areas in town. For example, the Post Office, Fairbank Library, Welcome to Fairbank signs, and the Aquatic Center. Vorwald contacted the references for Randy's Lawn Care & Snow Removal, and everyone was satisfied with him. Motion by Vorwald, second by Erickson to approve Randy's Lawn Care & Snow Removal to mow

the six parks for the seasonal city mowing. The proposal was good for seasons 2021, 2022 and 2023 and will be re-evaluated after season 2021. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Discussion was held on the open public works position. The utility committee planned to meet with five candidates that next Wednesday. R. Woods and Vorwald along with Public Works, Jergens and Delagardelle, would conduct the interviews.

Attorney Prendergast read through the rough draft personnel manual and had a handful of suggestions and questions. The committees will meet to work through those questions and will hopefully be ready for approval in the coming meetings.

A proposal/contract with CIT Sewer Solutions was looked at regarding the cleaning and televising of storm sewer and sanitary sewer lines for the Main Street project scheduled for FY 2023. Delagardelle stated that it seemed very reasonable. T. Woods/Williams to approve the proposal/contract with CIT Sewer Solutions. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Vorwald/T. Woods to approve the bills as presented. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY, Supplies	\$7.64
B & K AUTOMOTIVE, Services	\$295.85
BLACK HAWK WASTE DISPOSAL, Services	\$5,814.90
BODENSTEINER IMPLEMENT CO., Supplies	\$64.17
BRIAN DELAGARDELLE, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$75.00
BRUENING ROCK PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$113.13
BUCHANAN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Dues	\$500.00
BUTLER COUNTY REC, Electric	\$59,367.43
CASEY'S GENERAL STORE, Gas	\$550.59
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Gas & Electric	\$4,199.38
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Replenish Postage	\$21.90
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Natural Gas	\$3,569.80
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Reservation	\$9,386.23
DAVID JERGENS, Mileage/Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$349.79
DON'S TRUCK SALES, Services	\$420.58
EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$1,586.42
FAIRBANK SIGN DESIGN, Supplies	\$125.00
FARM WIN CO-OP, Diesel	\$1,283.33
FELD FIRE, Supplies	\$100.00
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU, Training	\$50.00
HAWKEYE ALARM & SIGNAL CO., Services	\$250.00
IA DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, Registration	\$70.00
IAMU, Services	\$1,585.00
IOWA PUMP WORKS, Equipment	\$1,432.04
IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC., Water	\$6,588.35
IPERS, Benefits	\$4,329.52
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, Supplies	\$28.93
KEYSTONE LABORATORIES, INC., Testing	\$689.70
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Training	\$70.00
LYNCH DALLAS, P.C., Attorney Fees	\$82.50
MEDIACOM, Cable & Phone/Internet	\$475.88
MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS, Supplies/Equipment	\$2,349.83
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 2/1/21	\$10.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 2/16/21	\$7.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Utility ACH Service Charge	\$10.00
NSB/H S A, H S A Contributions	\$150.00
NSB/H S A, Payroll Deductions	\$290.00
OELWEIN PUBLISHING, Publications	\$476.51
PREMIER TECHNOLOGY, Services	\$23.75
QUICK MED CLAIMS, Billing Services	\$100.34
ROBERTS, STEVENS, PRENDERGAST, Attorney Fees	\$937.50
SAFELITE FULFILLMENT, INC, Windshield	\$299.97
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies	\$455.63
SUPERIOR WELDING SUPPLY CO., Supplies	\$112.19
TOM & ANNETTE HYDE, Rebate	\$325.00
TOM'S AUTO TRIM, Services	\$190.00
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, Feb. Excise Tax	\$1,121.81
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA, Feb. Sales Taxes	\$3,165.42
U. S. TREASURY, 941 Taxes	\$6,604.12
U.S. BANK, PEFA Gas	\$10,751.99
UTILITY EQUIPMENT CO., Supplies	\$713.44
VERIZON WIRELESS, Cell Phones	\$158.52
VISA, Training/Supplies	\$157.08
WELLMARK, Premium	\$3,526.89
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE, Services	\$508.17

The Library Board Approved the following bills on February 3, 2021:

SYNCH/AMAZON, Supplies	\$24.58
BAKER & TAYLOR INC., Books	\$547.18
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Gas & Electric	\$208.90
FAIRBANK POSTMASTER, Box Fee	\$86.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Wire Fee	\$25.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 2/16/21	\$3.00
OVERDRIVE, INC., EBooks	\$300.00
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies	\$25.00
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE, Services	\$69.24

Jergens informed the council that he had attended pool class and passed the test. He also stated that the pool was looking good for startup which is just around the corner but that there would be some maintenance done in the fall. Delagardelle said they had been working on the truck. New tires and switching the boxes around. Mayor Harter has a survey from the CAPS program on bike trails that he distributed and stated the CAPS students would be joining a meeting in the future. He also mentioned that he received two letters from IMFOA (Iowa Municipal Finance Officers Association) that stated that Brittany Fuller had obtained the designations of Iowa Certified Municipal Clerk and Iowa Certified Municipal Finance Officer.

T. Woods/Vorwald to adjourn at 7:20 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk



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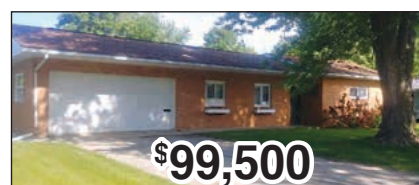
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