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Fairbank ISLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

MARCH 2, 2022

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VOLUME 3, NO. 3

Wapsie Valley School Board names Chris Hoover next District Superintendent

The Wapsie Valley Community School District School Board has named Chris Hoover as the district's next superintendent. As superintendent of the Maquoketa Community School District since 2014, Hoover has planned and facilitated multiple large-scale building projects and led major initiatives and change efforts for the district. He has also collaborated with service providers and community partners to enhance teaching and learning throughout the schools.

As a district leader, Hoover has placed a focus on communication, ensuring that parents, staff, students, and community members are thoroughly informed of the challenges and opportunities of their local schools.

Before his time in Maquoketa, Hoover served as the shared superintendent of the Turkey Valley and South Winneshiek CSDs, where he sustained a school culture and instructional programs conducive to student learning and staff professional development. He also was a principal in the Nodaway Valley CSD.

Hoover holds a master of education degree from the University of Northern Iowa and a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Upper Iowa University. He received his superintendent certification from UNI.

The School Board has been working with Grundmeyer Leader Services to conduct the search. The board conducted a first round of interviews February 2 and held interviews with the three finalists February 8.

Hoover will officially begin leading the Wapsie Valley Community School District on July 1, 2022.

Fairbank Legion Annual Fish Fry this Friday

The Fairbank American Legion will be holding their annual Fish Fry this Friday, March 4th. They will be serving from 5:00 - 7:00 pm (or while supplies last). This is a popular event, so get their early.

The cost this year is adults \$15.00 and children \$7.00. The menu includes: Alaskan Pollock, Baked Potato or French Fries, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Roll, Dessert and drink. Carry-outs will be available.

Wapsie Valley FFA offering Omelet Breakfast Mar. 13th

The Wapsie Valley FFA chapter will be holding their annual Omelet Breakfast on Sunday, March 13th at the Center Inn in Readlyn. They will start serving at 8:00 am.

The menu includes: omelets, hash browns, liverwurst, cinnamon rolls and doughnuts... all for a free will donation.

This is a huge fundraiser for the Wapsie Valley chapter. The profits are used for funding FFA trips and classroom projects. Your support would be appreciated.

Be sure to get pets licensed

The City of Fairbank would like to remind it's citizens that all Fairbank residents with pets over the age of four months are required to be licensed by the city. This license is to be renewed annually.

A penalty will be applied if pets are not licensed on or before June 30th. Applications are available at City Hall or www.fairbank-ia.org. Contact City Hall for more information.

Vintage Prom planned at Fairbank Legion

Everyone is invited to attend the "Vintage Prom" which will be held on Saturday, March 19th at the Fairbank American Legion. This is a fundraiser with all proceeds going to the Little Island Day Care Center for their expansion project. Admission is \$10 per person.

The Prom starts at 8:00 p.m., so break out your old prom attire and join your friends for music, beverages and a good time!

Winter Wonderland!

Some Fairbank Elementary students recently visited Parkview Assisted Living and created a beautiful sight in their backyard! Mrs. Bachman's, Mrs. Pleggenkuhl's, and Mrs. Reynolds' 3rd and 4th grade classes built snowmen...lots of snowmen! The residents enjoyed watching the kids and appreciate all their hard work. This has become an annual project for the classes.

Sunday, March 13th

Daylight Saving Time Begins!

Set your clocks ahead!

A MESSAGE FROM
Mayor Mike



By Mike Harter

As I write this article, the Wapsie Valley Boys' Basketball team is still playing tournament games. The winter sports have all had a good year, and I want to congratulate all of them. Also, I want to congratulate the WV Robotics Team for their GREAT year.

The City is in the continual process of planning for the future. The planning for the FY23 Budget is nearing completion. We are also in the process of writing grants for more sidewalks in town as well as some more recreational opportunities. The sidewalk project will be called "Walk Safe in Fairbank" and will provide safer paths to school.

Part of our Main Street Project is going to require the removal of one or more trees. The City will be asking for bids for the removal of trees. Please contact City Hall for more details.

We are receiving some donations for trees in memory of loved ones. Trees are still needed in some of the parks and the donations are appreciated.

We have hired Brandon French as a new part-time Police Officer. Officer French will work a few hours per week. He is also an officer for the Jesup Police Department. We would still like to hire one more part-time officer.

We are still in the process of hiring a Public Works employee. Thank you for your service to the City, Jordan Cowell.

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy



By Mary Bodensteiner

I have a feeling that the month of March is going to fly by just like February did. Along with spring, comes track and a whole lot of FFA activities. Track is the last sport of my high school career. I'm very excited to see how it goes, because last year our team was very successful! We sent 4 relays and 2 individual events down to State Track last year. I was on two of those relays! It was a lot of fun running on the blue oval and I hope to make it back to State again with my friends! But, I hope the weather starts getting warmer soon, because cold track meets are not my favorite! Our first outdoor meet is March 29th at Sumner. Last year it was 32 degrees and windy at this meet!

In the world of FFA, we are in the middle of competition season. Sub-Districts were during National FFA week in the last part of February. We had quite a few members take part in leadership and career development events, including myself. In early March, the Ag. room will be buzzing with members getting ready for the next level of competition at Districts on the 12th. There, we will find out who moves on to compete at the State Convention in April. It's



most definitely an exciting time!

The day after Districts, the 13th of March, the chapter will be having our omelet breakfast in Readlyn. This is a huge fundraiser for our chapter. We use the profits for our overnight trips to State Convention,

National Convention, field trips and so on. We would love to have your support and maybe you'll be able to witness Miss Fairbank flip an omelet!!

Just an appreciation picture for our Mayor, Mike!



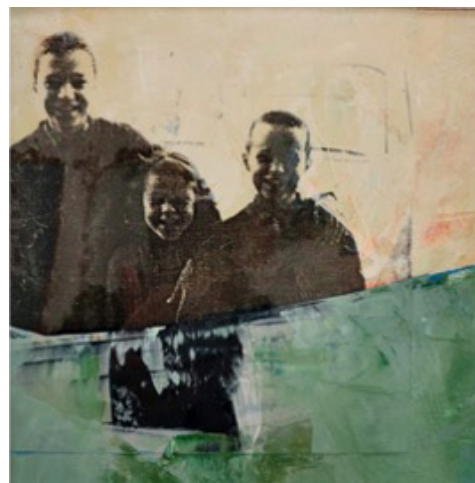
Local artists chosen to exhibit their work at Art Show in Ames

Two artists from Fairbank have been selected to show their work in the annual juried show at The Octagon Center For The Arts in Ames, Iowa.

Alicia Wilkinson and Gayle Lehmkuhl were two of the 115 artists who submitted 305 works of art to be considered for the exhibition. The juror chose 45 of them to be in the show.

Alicia's mixed media painting "Healing Landscapes Series: From Mexico City to the Midwest, USA" was accepted. This is what Alicia says about her work: "The neon orange & pink nylon rope from Mexico City Market was infused into what was thought to be a Midwest landscape. This is a portrayal of the influence that different cultures subconsciously have on us."

Her 58" x 30" x 1.75" in size artwork is on canvas with acrylic paint + heavy gloss gel, cord,



Artwork created by Alicia Wilkinson.

thread and nylon rope. The rope was bought at a Mexico City Market by the artist in November 2021.

Gayle's work "Gus, Mike and me: we are from the land" is a small 8" x 8" mixed media and acrylic painting. "I am primarily a landscape painter" she said. "This small painting is from a series I am doing about family history and genealogy. I used an old photo copied onto sheet of overhead pro-



Artwork by Gayle Lehmkuhl

jection film that is layered over a landscape then painted over."

The opening reception is Friday, March 4 from 6-8 and the show will run from March 4 thru April 9, 2022.

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or Kathy Risse 319-635-2122

Warrior Way & More February 2022



The Iowa winter has been an interesting time with many sub-zero temperatures that have caused numerous late starts and cancellations of the school day. I hope Mother Nature tones down her extreme conditions so we can get through the rest of the winter without interrupting our learning routines. Thank you to all families for your continued understanding when having to change your family routines to keep all WVCSD students safe.

One group of people that I would like to thank are the numerous subs in our communities who have stepped up to help support our staff who are absent for various reasons. The surge of illnesses this past two months has made it extremely difficult to fill positions within our schools because of absenteeism. At this point, we have kept our doors open because of the substitutes in our buildings. Many districts in the State of Iowa have had to cancel school days because of the lack of substitutes. Our secretarial staff has once again done an excellent job filling these positions as needed, so thank you to Carol Peine, Jen Matthias, SuzAnn Conner, and Tara Sullivan.

I am so excited to see where our extracurricular teams go as they approach post-season play. The wrestling team and basketball teams are preparing for competitive matches to get to the state level of play. The Fine Arts Department is preparing for a spring play, programs, and contests. The FFA students are also starting the process to compete in numerous competitions in the near future.

One last recognition that I would like to share would be to Rustie Kane for his years of service on the WVCSD school board. Thank you for your time and efforts in supporting WVCSD. I would like to welcome Angie Auel who filled this vacant seat on the board. These positions are four-year commitments to our school districts. So if you get a chance please thank the current board members; Brent Sauerbrei, Jeannie Wolfe, Steve Aiello, Jerry Van Daele, and Angie Auel for their service.

Stay Warrior Strong and Safe,
Dave Larson - Wapsie Valley CSD Superintendent

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NIDA STUDENTS ATTEND DANCE CONVENTION

OELWEIN: The Northeast Iowa Dance Academy (NIDA) sent 14 of its students to the JUMP Dance Convention in Chicago, Illinois from January 21 through January 23. The students, under the guidance of Anna Kerns, attended classes all weekend learning new trends and techniques to improve their dance skills.

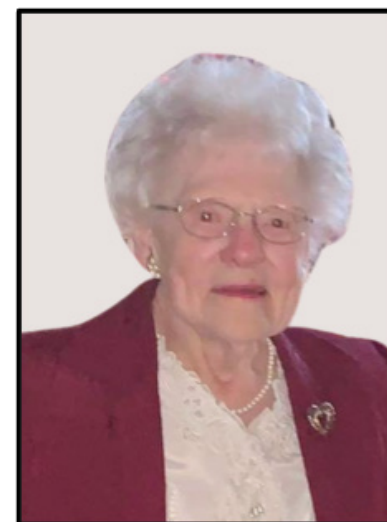
Five of the NIDA attendees were recognized by JUMP for their abilities. Izsy Fauser – Teen JUMP VIP Runner-Up. Mackenzie Christian – Jazz & Lyrical Class Standout \$150 Schol-

arship. Ella Weig – Hip Hop & Jazz Funk Class Standout \$150 Scholarship, Mallory Gissel – Jazz, Contemporary, & Lyrical \$150 Scholarship and Gentry Decker – Jazz, Contemporary, & Lyrical Scholarship. All the NIDA attendees will return to the studio refreshed, invigorated and enthusiastic to apply what they learned at the convention to their routines.

JUMP is the largest dance convention, touring 28 US cities and internationally. Each event includes workshops in numerous dance styles and

offers competition in a fun and supportive environment. The weekend event concludes with a closing show, scholarship presentations and faculty performances. The mission of JUMP is to send dancers back to their studio feeling motivated and inspired.

In preparation for the approaching Dance Competition season, the Northeast Iowa Dance Academy's Competition Teams performed at the Williams Performing Arts Center in Oelwein on February 18th.



Ivadel Luloff - 100th Birthday Open House!

We invite you to join us in celebrating Ivadel's 100th Birthday! We will be hosting an open house from 2 pm - 4 pm on Sunday, March 6 at the Fairbank American Legion, 109 E. Main Street, Fairbank. Please join Rosemary and Larry Bachman and family in celebrating her day.

She will enjoy your presence, no gifts please. If you would like to send her a card, her address is: 114 Forest St. Apt.5, Fairbank, IA 50629



Mackenzie Christian



Ella Weig



Izsy Fauser



Mallory Gissel



Gentry Decker



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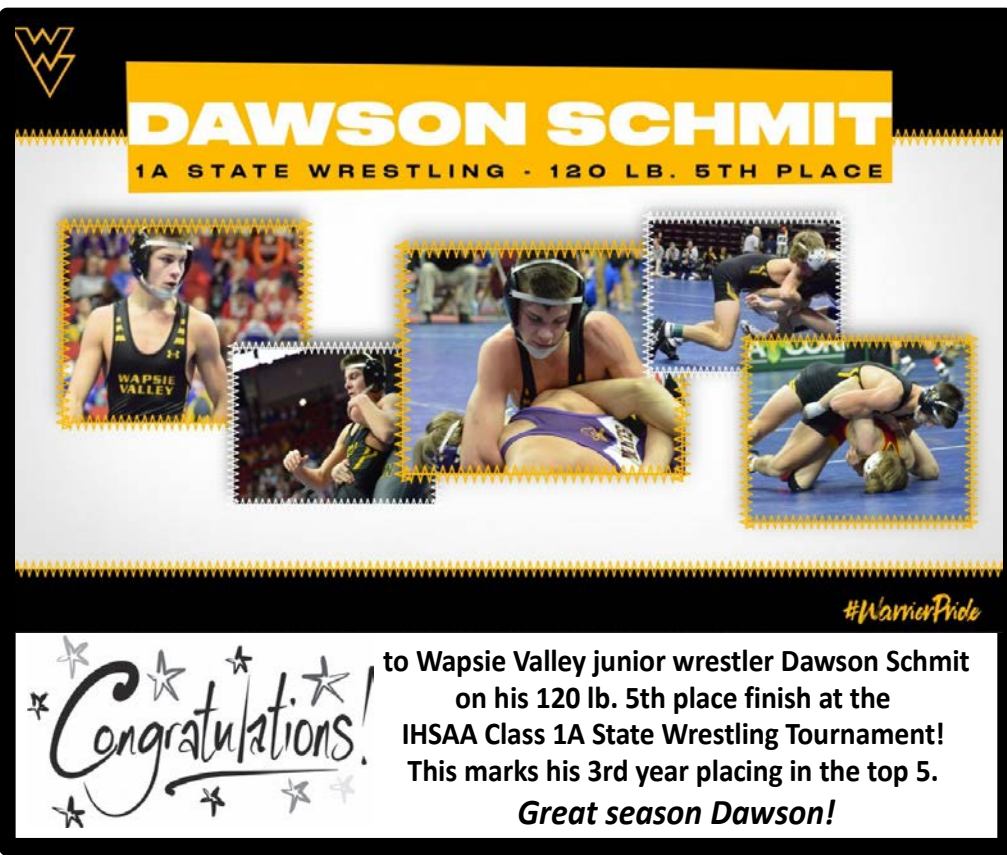
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Dean's List

ALLEN COLLEGE OF NURSING
 The administration and faculty of Allen College congratulate students named to the Allen College Dean's List at the completion of the fall semester of the 2021-22 academic year.
 Bachelor's and Associate's students must complete at least 12 semester hours and achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or above.
 Area student included: Carly Schmit of Readlyn, Nursing-BSN.
HAWKEYE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 The Dean's List if an official recog-

...nition of outstanding academic accomplishment. To make the list, an individual must be a full-time student and successfully complete 12 or more credits with a semester GPA of 3.50 or better.
 Area students include:
 Fairbank - Traeton Kaufman, Kobe Risse, Courtney Schmitz and Camryn Wolfe.
 Readlyn - Brendon Brown, Kirk Drew, Grace Imbrogno, Ethan Oltrogge and Macy Schmit.
 Westgate - McKenna Miller.



DAWSON SCHMIT
 1A STATE WRESTLING - 120 LB. 5TH PLACE

Congratulations!

to Wapsie Valley junior wrestler Dawson Schmit on his 120 lb. 5th place finish at the IHSAA Class 1A State Wrestling Tournament! This marks his 3rd year placing in the top 5.
Great season Dawson!

#WarriorPride

FAIRBANK AMERICAN LEGION ANNUAL



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Future Blood Drives!

- ★ Fairbank Community Club will be hosting a Life Serve blood drive on **March 15**, 2:30-5:30pm at the American Legion.
- ★ Wapsie Valley High School to host a Red Cross blood drive on **March 23**, noon - 7:30pm in the gymnasium.




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The American Civil War and Pvt. John H. Ford (1831-1863)

by Betty Brandt Passick

The opening chapter of *The Black Bag* of Dr. Wiltse, *Murder on the Prairie* (2021) chronicles what was likely the experience of Dr. Alexander Wiltse and his family as they left behind their beloved Wiltsetown, Ontario, Canada in the mid-1850s, and boarded the first of several steamers that would deliver them to their new homeland of America.

Like most immigrants, they emigrated in the hope of making a better life for themselves. Reaching Chicago, the Wiltse family joined a wagon caravan that would take them to the prairies of northeastern Iowa. According to the *History of Buchanan County, Iowa* (1881), they resided with relatives on a farm at Colesburg their first years in the state.

Iowa had become a state in 1846, and settlers were going about the business of establishing farms and building the young state. As soon as Dr. Wiltse arrived, he likely began treating settlers suffering from sickness and disease. Indians, prairie banditti, and chicken thieves, too, became his clients. Additionally, when a corpse was found along a riverbed, authorities called upon Dr. Wiltse to aid in the murder investigation.

The nation was just recovering from the Panic of 1857-1858 when the American Civil War broke out. Northeast Iowans would have learned of the Confederate attack on the Union-held Fort Sumpter near Charleston, South Carolina through the *Buchanan Country Guardian* (1858-1864).

Republican Abraham Lincoln had been elected as the 16th President of the United States of America in November 1860. He ran on a platform of opposing the institution of slavery but was not an abolitionist.

Slaves fueled the cotton and tobacco plantations of the south, and Southerners feared the election of Lincoln would lead to the abolition of slavery.

In December, under the leadership of former Senator Jefferson Davis, South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union. Six more southern states seceded during the winter of 1860 and spring of 1861. Calling themselves the Confederate States of America, the secessionists claimed that according to the Constitution every state had the right to leave the Union. President Lincoln claimed that they did not have that right.

After the Confederate attack on Fort Sumpter, the United States Government proceeded to act at once, and President Lincoln, under authority of the law of 1795 giving the President power to call out the militia in case of insurrection, immediately issued a call for 75,000 men for three months' service.

It was expected the main Federal army would march on the main Confederate army before summer, win the ensuing battle, take Richmond, Virginia, serving as the capital of the Confederacy, and quickly put down the rebellion.

The real seriousness and extent of the war was realized in July 1861 at the disaster at Bull Run, when Federal and Confederate armies clashed near Manassas Junction, Virginia, resulting in a disastrous defeat of Federal troops. A few days later, Congress authorized the enlistment of 500,000 men.

Not a soldier from Iowa was at Bull Run, but this news incited and urged fathers, sons, brothers, and husbands from all walks of life to a more determined resolve to save the Union. Initially, the newly elected Iowa Governor Samuel Kirkwood was uncertain if the state could raise the number of volunteers necessary to meet its quota, but enough men enlisted to



form ten regiments. In total, Iowa would furnish 48 infantry regiments, 9 cavalry regiments, and 4 batteries of artillery. Iowa also furnished one black regiment and a thousand replacement troops.

John H. Ford was among the Buchanan County men whom I tracked to tell this portion of the story of *The Black Bag* of Dr. Wiltse. On August 6, 1861, at age thirty, Ford enlisted and on the twenty-fifth of September mustered into service as a private in the Co C, 9th Iowa Infantry.

Details of the 9th Regiment activities are well documented in Buchanan County history...from guarding railroads to engaging in battles against the Confederacy. Iowans largely fought in the western Confederate states of Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee. The 9th Regiment saw their bloodiest fighting in May 1863 during the siege of Vicksburg, Tennessee.

In the book, *A Chain of Thunder: A Novel of the Siege of Vicksburg*, author Jeff Shaara described the battle over the vaunted "Gibraltar of the Confederacy." Union soldiers had forced the remnants of Confederate Lieutenant General John C. Pemberton's army to retreat to Vicksburg, burning the bridges over the Big Black River in its path. But after sustaining heavy casualties in two failed assaults against the rebels, Union soldiers were losing confidence and morale was low. Grant reluctantly decided to lay siege to the city, trapping soldiers and civilians alike inside an iron ring of Federal entrenchments. Six weeks later, the starving and destitute Southerners finally surrendered, yielding command of the Mississippi River to the Union forces on July 4.

Together, with the Union victory at Gettysburg just a day before, Vicksburg marked a turning point in the fortunes of the Union army. A Union victory at Port Hudson five days later, the Union controlled the entire Mississippi River, and the Confederacy was split in half. Pvt. Ford was wounded during the Vicksburg campaign requiring amputation of his right leg, per a report published by Capt. E. C. Little in the *Buchanan Country Guardian*, June 9, 1863. He died June 24, likely from an amputation-related infection. His body was buried in a mass grave along with the other 766 Union soldiers killed; another 3,793 were wounded and 276 captured or missing. The confederacy had 32,697 casualties, with 3,202 of the casualties killed, wounded or missing.

In April 1865, commander of the Confederate troops Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. Grant

at the Appomattox Court House, Virginia. Five days later – President Lincoln was assassinated, but it would be more than sixteen months before President Andrew Johnson would declare a formal end to the conflict in August 1866.

Dr. Wiltse reportedly treated several soldiers who returned home from war. Their physical afflictions included gunshot wounds, diseases, syphilis and gonorrhea.

A white marble marker (photo: Larry K) at the Fairbank Cemetery commemorates Pvt. Ford's Civil War service to preserve the Union. It's uncertain why his name is not inscribed as one of 56 soldiers on the granite Civil War Monument erected in 1911 at Veteran's Park in Fairbank. Pvt. Ford left a wife, Esther (Baker) Ford, and a young daughter, Alice (1854-1939), both of whom are buried at Flake Cemetery, Barryton, Mecosta County, Michigan.

President Lincoln's hand-written notes reflect his evolving attitude about slavery throughout his presidency. On January 1, 1863, he finally issued the "The Emancipation Proclamation," freeing all slaves in the Confederacy, believing "a house divided cannot stand." The Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution was passed and ratified on December 6, 1865, to "terminate and forever prohibit" slavery and involuntary servitude in the United States.

The Civil War represents the largest human catastrophe in American history.

- One million soldiers were wounded or died in the conflict. Lacking antibiotics, for every three soldiers killed in battle, five more died of infection and disease.

- One in thirteen surviving soldiers returned home was missing one or more limbs.

- Many were addicted to laudanum (opium), commonly used to treat pain.

- The condition of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) first started to be recognized as "Soldier's Heart." The war led to a rise in awareness of veterans' needs.

- Pre-war jobs on farms or in factories became impossible or nearly so. For many, however, there was no solution, and tens of thousands of families slipped into destitution.

- The increased responsibility and social power for women came into being.

In the end, the Civil War solved a few of the America's extremely pressing issues, but many social and economic issues remain with us today.

The *Black Bag* of Dr. Wiltse, *Murder on the Prairie* is a period piece of Iowa's earliest history, particularly relevant as Iowa celebrates 175 years of statehood in 2022. The novel is available through local libraries, bookstores, or Amazon.com (type into Google: *The Black Bag* of Dr. Wiltse, Betty Brandt Passick).

2022 Spring Book Tour

"The Legacy of an Iowa Pioneer Physician"

Tues, Apr. 5, 8:30 am. Radio Interview, Matt Ray, KWAY Country, 1470 AM, Waverly, IA

Tues, Apr. 5, 2 pm. IOOF Home and Community Therapy Center, 1037 19th St SW, Mason City, IA, (641) 423-0428

Tues, Apr. 5, 6:30 pm. Waverly Public Library, 1500 W Bremer Ave., Waverly, IA, (319) 352-1223

Wed, Apr. 6, 4 pm. Arlington Public Library, 711 Main Street, Arlington, IA, (563) 633-3475

Thurs, Apr. 7, 3 pm. Fayette Community Library, 104 W State St., Fayette, IA, (563) 425-3344

Thurs, Apr. 7, 5 pm. Wadena Public Library, 136 S Mill St., Wadena, IA, (563) 774-2039

Fri, Apr. 8, 10 am. Sumner Public Library, 206 N Railroad St., Sumner, IA, (563) 578-3324

Sat, Apr. 9, 10 am. Colesburg Public Library, 220 Main St., Colesburg, IA, (563) 856-5800

Book Two in the *Gangster Series*

THE BLACK BAG OF Dr. Wiltse

MURDER ON THE PRAIRIE

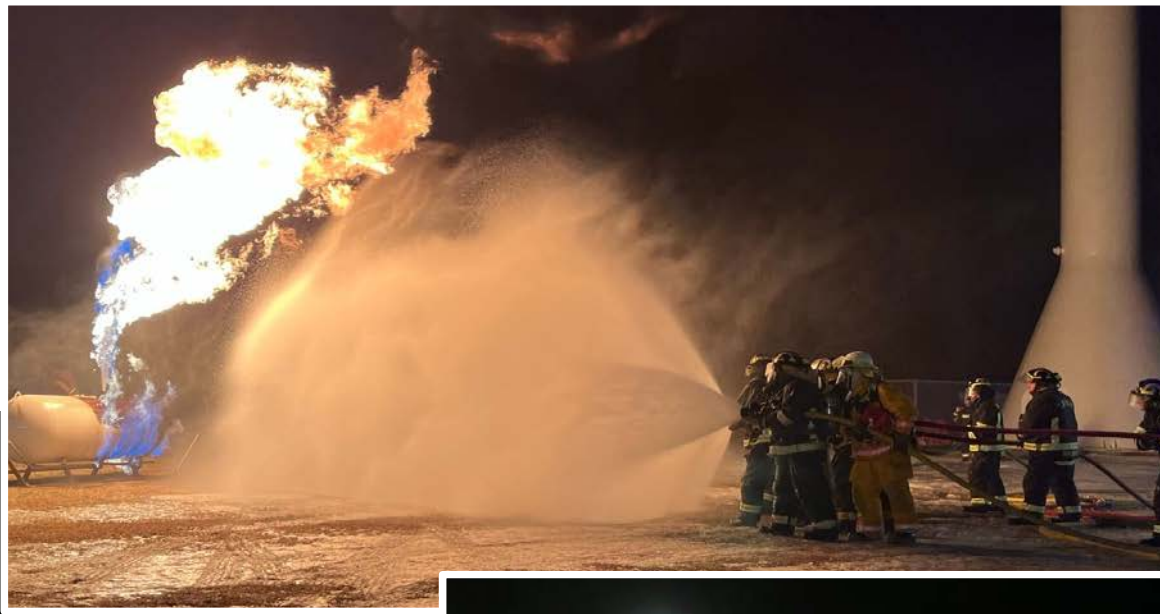
A HISTORICAL NOVEL BY **BETTY BRANDT PASSICK**

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On February 15th, the Fairbank Fire Department conducted a training session titled "Handling Liquid Propane Emergencies." It teaches fire tactics and proper stream patterns for controlling a propane or natural gas fire. These same tactics work with anhydrous ammonia leaks to control where the vapor cloud gets steered. The firefighters learned how to handle liquid propane emergencies to either effect a rescue or make the situation less hazardous.

Thank you to all our firefighters . . . we appreciate all that you do to keep us safe!



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thank you!

The Fairbank Fire and EMS Association would like to express our gratitude of thanks for the Amazing support for our Annual Dance and Fundraiser! We deeply appreciate our community and the generosity given to our mission. We are using this years funds towards the Fire and Rescue UTV we expect to take delivery on this fall.

We are excited to announce that "Tyler Richton and the High Bank Boys" are returning to Fairbank next year for our 2023 Dance January 21st!!!! If you attended the dance this year, you will know why we had several requests to bring them back!!!! Save the Date!

Thanks for All Your Support and Stay Safe!



Wapsie Valley FTC Robotics Team

Wapsie Valley Robotics Robo Warriors State Runner Up

By Vaughn Gross

The Wapsie Valley FTC robotics team, the Robo Warriors, competed in the Iowa Championship on Saturday, February 19, 2022.

There were two divisions, black and gold, and they each held elimination brackets to then compete in a finals match between the champions of the black division vs. the champions of the gold division. The Wapsie Valley Robo Warriors were in the Gold division.

We went 5-1 in the qualification rounds, earning 5th place in the Gold division. We then went into semifinals going 2-0 in the Gold division. Advancing to finals in the Gold division, they also went 2-0.

Earning a birth in the state finals as Gold division champions, they won their 1st match with a new team high score. The 2nd match went as a loss to the 9th highest score in the world.

In the 3rd and final match the Robo Warriors set another team high score, but we're defeated by the 3rd highest score in the world. They concluded their season as state runners up, being part of the finalist alliance.

The team is entirely financed by local businesses and private donations. They would like to extend their gratitude for all sponsors and everyone who supported the team throughout the season.

Fairbank Public Library

LIBRARY STAFF
 Angela Berg, Director
 Linda Letson, Librarian
 Susan Frost, Librarian
 Therese Steggall, Librarian
 Roxie Wenner, Custodian

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 Phone: 319-635-2487 Fax: 319-635-2487
 Email: library@fairbank-ia.org Website: Fairbank-ia.org
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HOURS:
 Monday 1:00 – 5:00 pm
 Tuesday 1:00 – 5:00 pm
 Wednesday 9:00 – 11:00 am
 1:00 – 5:00 pm
 Thursday 1:00 – 6:00 pm
 Friday 1:00 – 5:00 pm
 Saturday 9:00 – 12:00 noon

Wi-Fi password will no longer be given out over the phone.

April 3-9, 2022 is "NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK"

The theme for this year's National Library Week is "Connect with Your Library," which promotes the idea that the library offers many ways to get connected to books, databases, journals, and other resources. And of course, libraries also connect communities to helpful library staff, and to each other.

In Honor of National Library Week, we look forward to some fun to help us celebrate with a Coloring Contest, Treats, Jelly Bean guessing contest, and a prize drawing!

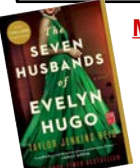
STORY HOUR

9:15am on the following dates:

- Mar. 9 Cats
- Mar. 16 St. Patty's Day
- Mar. 23 Spring
- Mar. 30 Chickens
- Apr. 13 Bunnies

Book Club

Tuesday Mar. 8th at 2 PM



March Book Club
"The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo"
 By Taylor Jenkins

Happy Reading!
 Please contact the library if you would like to join our book club!

In Loving Memory

- Jerry Goeller**
The Paris Detective
 from Gary Fink
 - We Don't Eat our Classmates**
 from Randy, Jodi & Carson Woods
 - Steve Willwerth**
Dragon Breath
 from Amos, Angie, Brock & Braylee Berg
 - Bruce Mother**
 from Randy & Jodi Woods
 - Dragon Kigdom Night Hunt**
 from Mike & Sandy Tagtow
 - Dragon Kingdom Shadow Hills**
 from Mike & Sandy Tagtow
- Thanks!
 for your generosity.



Anyone who stops by the Library on Thursdays between 4-6 pm will automatically be entered into a drawing to win a free library bag handcrafted and donated by Joan Fox.

Our Bag Contest winner for February was Silas Coffin!

Did you know...

The Cities without libraries in Buchanan County are welcome to contract with the 28e group consisting of the Aurora, Fairbank, Independence, Jesup, Lamont and Winthrop Public Libraries. Currently, Hazleton, Quasqueton, and Stanley currently contract for library services so their residents can use any library in Buchanan County!



THANK YOU!

A special acknowledgement goes out to Ann Weers! Ann has been volunteering at the library once a week since last May. She has been helping us with extra tasks around the library and has prepared all the story hour crafts. She has spent countless hours cutting and sorting! Thank you, Ann, for all your help!

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Living on the Edge... by Pat Pint

“The New Pick-Up”

Marian, my co-worker, is a very quiet individual. She’s friendly, hard working, but doesn’t feel the need to talk a lot. Marian is a great listener and when she does offer input, it’s care and concern of other staff members.

The other morning as we were settling into our work day, Janice asked Marian about her weekend. “Roger bought a pick up,” she announced.

We were stunned that Marian would offer this much information about her personal life.

“What color is it? What make and model? Did you get to kick the tires first?” Janice asked.

Marian replied, “Blue. Ford 150. Yes.”

“Congratulations on your new addition!” I exclaimed.

Janice added, “That’s so exciting! Do you trade often? What sort of engine? What kind of miles per gallon can you expect?”

“Give her a break, Janice. Are you the ‘pick up patrol’ in this office?” I wondered.

Janice sighed, “Before I started working here, Chuck bought a pick-up. Since he trades vehicles every 13 years or so, it was a momentous occasion. After six months of searching, including cruising every car lot in the tri state area, he found the truck locally he’d been hunting for.”

She sighed, “It was love at first drive. I remember when he used to look at me like that. The gleam in his eyes and the raised eyebrows. He tenderly caressed the steering wheel and the dashboard. Chuck winced when I kicked the tires. That night, he took it for a moonlight drive. When he opened the hood, he started to sweat. After the first year, I was half expecting a candlelight ceremony, and a picture on Facebook with a caption “Happy First Birthday, Big Red!”

“Honeymoon over?” I wondered.

Janice answered, “Poor Chuck. Someone backed into “Big Red” at work. It was fixable, but never quite the same. Now it gets washed and waxed monthly instead of weekly.”

Marian spoke up, “Is it possible to be jealous of a pick up?”

Janice confirmed, “Yes it is. I found a passion of my own, and discovered landscape painting.”

Marian said, “I’m taking karate lessons?” Janice and I were stunned.

With that, a customer walked in the door, and we were back to work. It was fun to imagine Marian with a black belt, and nearly impossible to think of gorgeous Janice in second place to a big red pick up.

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Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord, Jesus Christ!

I apologize for my absence from this paper lately. Sometimes, as the Psalmist says, “my cup runneth over.” I am thankful, however, that the Lord granted me a restful vacation and deliverance from illness so that I might be with you again this month. I’d like us to consider for a moment the season of Lent as, by the time you are reading this, it will have started. Ash Wednesday marks the start of this period of the Christian Year. This year Ash Wednesday is (was) March 2nd.

As Jesus was approaching Jerusalem for the final time before His death, He took His disciples aside and said to them, “Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all the things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished. For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on: And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again.” (Luke 18:31-33 KJV) Very specifically, Jesus predicted what would happen to Him in Jerusalem. He would be betrayed, mocked, and humiliated. He would be spit upon and, after being flogged, He would be crucified. Jesus taught later exactly why these things would happen - so that, “repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations.” (Lk. 24:47)

Lent is the season in the Church Year where we more intentionally consider all our Lord’s work for us. We consider our sinfulness, to be sure, but especially we ponder the Lord’s great love for us - such that He was willing to suffer most horribly so that our sins might be forgiven, and we be rescued from death and eternal condemnation. As part of this deeper consideration, it is common in many Christian denominations to fast during this 40-day period. Some refrain from eating meat, others from all animal products. Others refrain from favorite activities. The motivation for this fasting is not so much to earn favor from God but use that time - which was used in service to ourselves - to pray, read the Bible, or serve our neighbor.





In the Lutheran church, it is common during Lent to have additional worship services. Here at St. John’s, we’ll be having services on Wednesdays at 7pm - in addition to Sunday - between now and Easter. These added services offer us the opportunity for a spiritual workout as we spend more time in God’s Word than we would in any other time of the year. They also serve by preparing us to celebrate Easter with a true joy. Some of the Bible readings in Lent are challenging because they call to mind what sinful things we have done and what good things we have failed to do. Thankfully, they also point us to all that Christ bore for us.

Lent is a 40-day period where Christians more deeply consider Jesus’ life and death for us. Then, at the end of those 40 days, comes Easter. May Lord the Lord grant us each a blessed Lent, that we may celebrate His Easter in sincerity and truth.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jacob Swenson

St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fairbank

Church  Services	
	United Methodist Church 107 N. 2 nd Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2932 Worship Service: 9:15 AM
	St. John Lutheran Church (MISSOURI SYNOD) 208 N. 4 th 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 1 st 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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Deadline to submit news & advertising for the next issue of the Islander is noon on Wednesday, March 30

March

Community Potluck

BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH!

March 16, 2022 @ 11:30 AM

Tableware and beverages provided.

Sponsored by IC Parish Life Committee



FAIRBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT

January 1-31, 2022 Report


Ambulance Calls: 7
Carbon Monoxide Calls: 0
Car Accidents: 2, no injuries
Fire Calls: 0

EMS Training Hours: Approximately 26
Fire Training Hours: Approximately 50

~ EMS Training was Cardiovascular Emergencies
 ~ Fire Training was hands on Forcible Entry with several props provided by the Fire Service Training Bureau

Membership: Justin Ritter and Jordan Cowell approved by Fire Department membership in December and by City Council vote in January

*Brad Gordon, Chief
Fairbank Fire Department*



Fish Fry

sponsored by IC Church

Friday, April 8, 2022
 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Parish Center, Fairbank

DINE IN & CARRY-OUT
 Cod, baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw, roll, dessert

ADULTS \$15 10-6 YRS \$7
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What's Cookin'



From the kitchen of Arnola Siggelkow

Are your Irish eyes shining? Good, then join in the fun, be it dancing a jig, drinking a pint of Guinness or eating Irish stew, a common food for the Irish, who use lamb as the meat, has been popular since the early 1800's, and is the National Food of Ireland.

Irish Crockpot Stew

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 2 - 2 1/2 lbs. beef chuck, cut into 1" cubes | 1 c. celery, cut into 1/2" pcs. |
| 1/4 c. flour | 1 tbsp. soy sauce |
| 2 tbsp. vegetable oil | 2 tbsp. tomato paste |
| 2 onions, finely chopped | 2 bay leaves |
| 3-4 garlic cloves, minced | Salt & pepper, to taste |
| 2-3 carrots, cut into 1" pcs. | 1 c. beer, optional |
| 2 or 3 potatoes, cut 1" cubes | 3-4 c. beef broth |
| | 1 c. frozen peas, optional |



Sprinkle meat with salt and pepper and coat with flour. Heat oil in crockpot. Add meat and brown. Add onion and garlic. Mix beer, soy sauce, tomato paste, and beef broth. Put potatoes, carrots, celery, and bay leaves in with the meat. Pour broth mixture over meat and vegetables. Cook on low 6-8 hours or on high 3-4 hours or put in 325 degree oven for 3-4 hours. Peas may be added during the last 20 minutes of cooking. More broth may be added if desired. Remove bay leaves before serving.

Irish Soda Bread is often served with Irish Stew to be used for dunking.

Whether, or not, you are Irish, brew a pot of Irish coffee or tea and serve with a Chocolate Mint Bar. It will be a "top of the morning to you!"



Chocolate Mint Bars

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 c. butter | 1 1/3 c. sugar |
| 2 squares chocolate | 1 tsp. peppermint or mint flavoring |
| 4 eggs | |
| 1 1/4 c. flour | |

Melt butter and chocolate. Beat eggs, add sugar and beat until frothy. Add melted chocolate and butter mixture and then the flour, mix well, add flavoring. Put into greased 9x13" pan and bake in 350 degree oven for 30 minutes. Cool, then top with filling and melted chocolate glaze.

Filling:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1/2 c. butter | 3/4 tsp. peppermint / mint flavoring |
| 3 c. powdered sugar | Green food coloring to desired color |
| 2 - 4 tbsp. milk | |
- Cream butter and powdered sugar and milk as needed. Add flavoring and food coloring. Spread on cooled chocolate cake.

Glaze:

- 2 squares chocolate
2 tbsp. butter
- Melt chocolate and butter and spread glaze over filling. Refrigerate until firm. Cut and serve.

May the road rise up to meet you and Good Luck always be with you!



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Friday, March 25th

Time: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Where: Fairbank Elementary Gym
Cost: \$3.00 per person
Parent / Adult needs to accompany child(ren)

DANCING

Silent Auction

BALLOONS

Food

**Each class will have a class project to sell!*

- *Family Pass to Fairbank Pool
- *Autographed Green Bay Packers Item
- *Autographed UNI Football
- *Riverside Casino Overnight Stay
- *Chanhasen Dinner Theater and more!

Cookie Walk, Face Painting, Door Prizes

Nick Tobey Music

Tommy Kalenske

The Balloon Man

Parking will be available in the front and back parking lots.

Generous Donations: Fairbank Aquatic Center, Kwik Star, Casey's, Second Story Promotions, Riverside Casino, Raining Rose, UNI Athletics, Green Bay Packers, Grout Museum, Phelps Youth Pavilion, Blank Park Zoo, Durham Museum, and Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum



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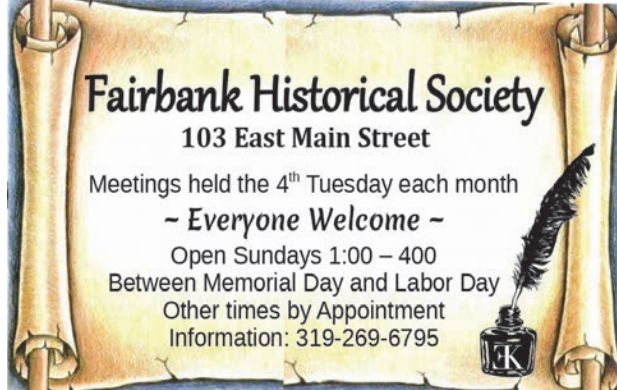
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- Everyone Welcome -
Open Sundays 1:00 – 4:00
Between Memorial Day and Labor Day
Other times by Appointment
Information: 319-269-6795

JOSHUA JAMES BRENNAN

May 16, 1979 ~ February 10, 2022

Joshua Brennan, 42, of Oelwein passed away Thursday February 10, 2022 at MercyOne Medical Center in Des Moines. A Celebration Of Life will be held at the American Legion in Oelwein from 1:00-4:00 PM on Saturday March 12, 2022. A memorial fund has been established.

Joshua James Brennan was born in Iowa City on May 16, 1979 to parents Wade and Barbara (McGrane) Brennan. He attended Wapsie Valley High School in Fairbank. Josh was employed with Bertch Cabinets in Oelwein.

Josh was an amazing husband, father, brother, uncle, cousin, and grandpa. In his everyday life he went to work and came home to his loving family. He enjoyed shopping, brownies, annoying his sister, watching action movies, and eating. He loved the color red and grandmas sloppy joes. His pride and joy was his family. Josh will always be loved and never forgotten.

Left to celebrate Josh's life are his wife Kamie Voges of Oelwein; his father Wade Brennan of Oelwein (formerly of Fairbank); his sister Tonya (Jeremy) Yauslin of Oelwein; his children: Katelyn Brennan, Austin Brennan, Dylan Voges, Kayla Voges and Alana Voges; his grandchildren: Oakley Brennan and Kash Heming; and his dog Hades Brennan. He was preceded in death by: his mother Barb Brennan; grandparents Max and Charlotte McGrane and Bernard and Catherine Brennan; and inlaws Richard "Slim" Anthes and Donna Anthes.

Geilenfeld-Buehner Funeral Home in Oelwein is assisting the family with arrangements.



STEVEN A. WILLWERTH

October 3, 1977 ~ February 6, 2022

Steve Willwerth, age 44, passed away Sunday, February 6, 2022 at his home in rural Fairbank. He was born October 3, 1977 in Waterloo to parents, Andy and Cris (St. Louis) Willwerth.

Steve attended and graduated from Wapsie Valley Community Schools with the class of 1996. After high school, he attended Hawkeye Community College for two years. He then enrolled at the University of Northern Iowa to complete his four year degree. After college, Steve worked at Henderson Manufacturing in Manchester for a number of years. He was then employed by Deere and Company, holding a position as a territory customer support manager at the engine works. He also farmed with his parents on the family farm. He married Sara Heineman on June 22, 2012 and together they had two boys, Kade and Jace. Steve enjoyed life to the fullest, whether it be camping, fishing, snowmobiling with his family, or trying out new recipes on the grill or smoker. Steve loved farming and taking his two boys out for rides in the tractor, the combine, or the gator. He was always the life of the party and just a fun guy that everyone enjoyed being around. Steve's greatest joy and love was his family, his wife, Sara and their two boys who meant the world to him.



Steve is survived by his wife, Sara; two sons, Kade and Jace; one step-daughter, Morgan (Caleb) Reinking; one step-son, Riley McDaniel; his parents, Andy and Cris Willwerth; two sisters, Lisa (Dave) Nicholas and Andrea (Ben) Lighter; his mother and father-in-law, Galen and Deb Heineman; one sister-in-law and her husband, Christine and Al Leistikow; along with many nieces and nephews. Steve was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Visitation was held Friday, February 11, 2022 with a Scripture Service at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center, Fairbank.

Funeral Services were held Saturday, February 12, 2022 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank, with interment at Immaculate Conception Cemetery.

Memorials can be directed to the family to go towards Steve's children's education. Cards and memorials may be sent to Sara Willwerth, 1277 Baxter Avenue, Fairbank, IA 50629. A GoFundMe account has been setup at: <https://gofundme/0389f05f>.

MICHAEL CHARLES DVORAK

October 10, 1958 ~ February 22, 2022

Michael (Mike) Charles Dvorak, age 63, passed away on February 22nd. He was born in Cresco, IA on October 10, 1958 to Robert and Joyce Dvorak. Mike met Mary, his future wife and love of 44 years in elementary school when his family moved to Waterloo, IA. Mike and Mary began dating in high school and were united in marriage on July 30, 1977. They welcomed three children, Michael, Joshua, and Nathan, and relocated to Fairbank, IA in 1994. Mike spent 26 years serving the Black Hawk County Assessor's Office and had recently retired in September 2020.

Mike is survived by his wife, Mary Dvorak, of Fairbank, IA; his sons Michael Dvorak (Aimee Hilger) of Olathe, KS; Joshua (Kristen) Dvorak of Fairbank, IA; and Nathan Dvorak of Dubuque, IA; daughter-in-law, Mary Dvorak, of Strawberry Point, IA; and eight grandchildren, McKenzie, MyKayla, Abigail, Isabel, Ava, Jude, Oakley, and Cash. Mike is preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Terry and Gary Dvorak.

According to his wishes, Mike has been taken for cremation and a Celebration of Life service will be held on a date to be determined in Summer 2022. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made in his memory to the Cedar Bend Humane Society Charitable Foundation in Waterloo, IA or the American Legion Post 552 in Fairbank, IA. <https://www.cedarbendhumane.org/donate/donation-form>



DOLORES MARGARET UNGS

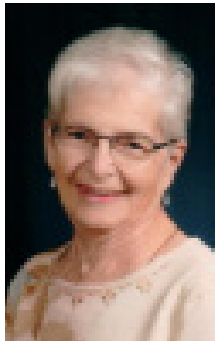
August 9, 1933 ~ February 5, 2022

Dolores Margaret Unga, 88, of Readlyn, died of health issues on February 5, 2022, in Naples, Florida while visiting family. Services were held February 19, 2022 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Waverly, with burial in Calvary Cemetery in New Hampton.

Dolores was born August 9, 1933, daughter of Julius and Susan (Glaser) Rosauer. She was united in marriage to Robert Arthur (Bob) Unga on September 10, 1951. In 1962, they moved to Readlyn to own and operate the corner pub, Du Kum Inn. In the late 80s, she and Bob opened and ran a very successful family franchise of Borderline Pizza just north of Readlyn. Dolores started and ran the Readlyn "Share" meals program. She was a lifetime volunteer and loved being in card clubs, Red Hats, Readlyn Community Club, Readlyn Historical Society, American Legion, and other community organizations.

Survived by her children: Bob (Carol) of CA; Mary Lou of Readlyn; Kelly (Janet) MN; and Jeff (Kelli) of FL; 10 grandchildren; 3 sisters: Patti Stoddard of AZ, Lucy Rogge of HI, Terri (Jack) Duffin; a sister-in law Joan (Joe) Rosauer of CA; and many nieces, nephews, neighbors, and friends. Preceded in death by her husband Bob on Feb. 19, 2011; recently by her second son, Kenny (Debbie) of TX; daughter-in-law Maureen; her parents; 5 brothers; 6 sisters; and the parents and siblings of her husband Bob.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.



"Steve left without saying goodbye, but we know he will always be near to help guide us."

The family of Steve Willwerth would like to thank everyone who showed an act of kindness, comforting words, prayers and just being there for us when we needed you most. Thank you to Father Atwood, Deacon Jim, Roxanne and the choir for such a beautiful celebration of life service. We also want to thank Randy, Jodi and Carson Woods for their expertise during the visitation and funeral. Warm thanks go to Sunrise Catering providing Steve's favorite meal, and the ladies guild for deserts and serving. Most importantly, thanks to the Fairbank First Responders, Camping friends and neighbors who were there for Sara and the boys until we got home.

Jesus called an awesome husband, father, brother and son home way too early. Steve's legacy, in some way, will live on in everyone he touched. With your continued thoughts, prayers and support, we hope to live our lives to the fullest just as Steve did. He will be missed dearly but never forgotten.

Hug each other every day like it will be your last.
God's blessing and love to each of you!

PEGGI SUCKOW, Owner

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Readlyn, Iowa 50668
(319) 279-3375
Email: office@littlewapsie.com

Fairbank Public Library
212 E. Main Street
Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 635-2487

Fairbank Elementary School
505 Forest Street
Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 635-2071

Wapsie Valley High School
2535 Viking Avenue
Fairbank, Iowa
Ph. (319) 638-6711
Fax (319) 638-7061

Fairbank Housing Inc.
Quality Housing for Senior Citizens and
Disabled Regardless of Age
(319) 635-2124

Helping Hands Clothing Closet
2029 Viking Ave. - Hwy. 58 Sumner, Iowa
(see their ad for hours)

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(319) 635-2811

Financial Decisions Group
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Oelwein, Iowa 50662
(319) 283-1514 office (319) 440-2868 cell

Food & Restaurants

Fairbank Food Center
JENNIFER DAVIS
102 N. 4th St.
(319) 635-2139

Costa's Sports Bar & Grill
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Fairbank, IA
(319) 635-2449

Fairbank Locker & Processing
Award Winning Products
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Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 635-2595

Aronia Berry Services of Iowa
DEAN & DONNA MANGRICH
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(319) 638-4357

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Independent Sales Director
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Visions Salon & Spa
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(319) 635-2547

Health & Well Being

Fairbank Chiropractic
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101 South 4th St., Suite C, Fairbank, IA
(310) 849-5155
Steinbronndc@gmail.com

Parkview Assisted Living
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Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 635-2585
www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com

Insurance

VanDaele Insurance, LLC
CHAD & AMBER VAN DAELE
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(319) 635-2526

Ozark National Life Insurance
JOE KLEITSCH
319-635-2297 home 319-269-1443 cell
joseph.kleitsch@ozark-national.com

Security Mutual Insurance
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234 Main St., Readlyn, IA
(319) 279-3893 (319) 267-2035

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MITCHELL COFFIN
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(319) 279-3893

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Davis Lawn Service, LLC
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Fairbank, IA
(319) 239-5011

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LAYNE HILSENBECK
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(563) 608-1400

Municipal

Fairbank City Hall
BRITTANY FULLER, City Clerk
116 E. Main Street
Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 635-2869

Fairbank Fire Department
301 Grove Street
Fairbank, Iowa
(319) 635-2981
Emergency: Call 911

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
(319) 635-2533

Real Estate

Advanced Realtors, LLC
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Oelwein, Iowa 50662
(319) 283-2242
advancedrealtors@qwestoffice.net

Woods Agency
SHARON, JOHN,
RON & CHRIS WOODS
Fairbank, IA
(319) 240-3212

Recreation

AJ's Camper Rentals
AMANDA JIPSON
1080 102nd St., Fairbank, IA
(319) 404-6475
ajscamperrentals@gmail.com

Gavin Marine
SALES - SERVICE - PARTS
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(319) 231-8242

Myer's Polaris
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Fairbank, IA
(319) 635-2311

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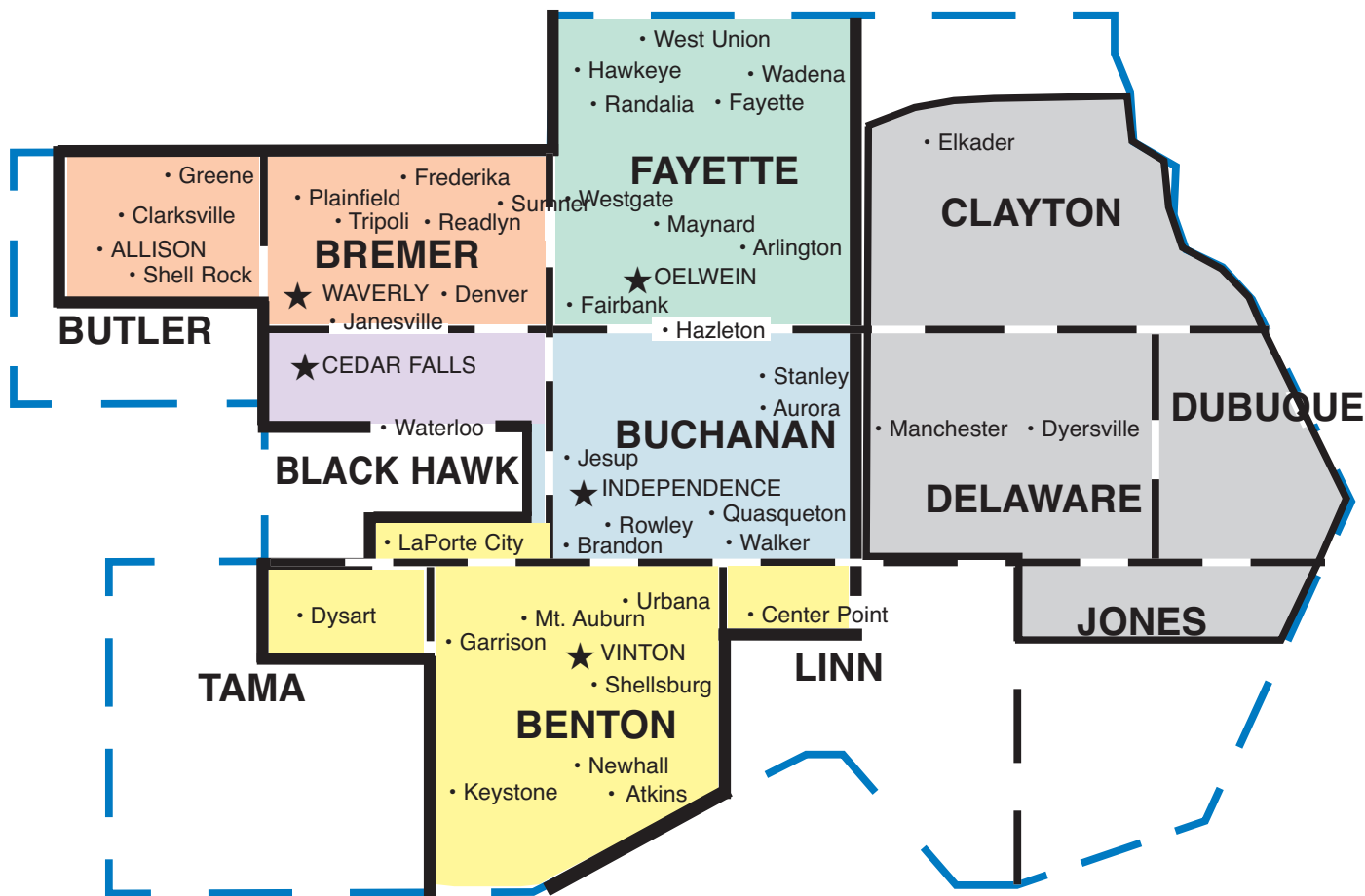
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