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Fairbank ISLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

DECEMBER 2, 2020

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VOLUME 1, NO. 7



Ted Vorwald and Jason Kayser volunteered some of their time to help put up the town's Christmas decorations. Here they are decorating one of the light poles in Gazebo Park.

FAIRBANK

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CASH PRIZES!

**HOLIDAY
DECORATING CONTEST**

Houses will be judged a
week before Christmas.

**Happy
Holidays!**

Even though this has
been a year of many
challenges,
we sincerely hope that
your Christmas is filled
with joy and laughter
and the new year
brings you
health and happiness.

Fairbank Community Club

New shop to open in Fairbank, Grand Opening Dec. 4-6

COMING SOON ... *saved*
FOR MORE

Jerry and Wendy Tibbott are excited to announce the opening of their new shop: 'Saved For More' at 103 Halpin Ave. in Fairbank.

'Saved For More' will carry a variety of vintage home goods, custom metal signs, repurposed furniture and handmade home décor, along with lots of Christmas gifts and crafting kits for the whole family to enjoy this holiday season. They will also be featuring pieces by local artists: Rob Maricle, Reverend Scott Jans, and Denise Youngblut. Their Christmas Open House and Grand Opening will be December 4, 5 & 6 from 10am - 6pm.

"We are so very blessed by this opportunity" said shop owner Wendy Tibbott. She was shopping at a local vintage retailer, Brainard Hollow, and visiting with that shop owner about wanting to open something locally. From that conversation, Wendy reached out to building owner Rob Maricle, and plans were set into motion for the new shop to open yet this year. "It was very much an answer to prayer" says Wendy.

Jerry and Wendy have been creating together since they first met more than 20 years ago. They started their metal business, Tibs Design Co., five years ago and have been successfully selling metal signs online via Etsy and



shipping all across the United States. They were also selling their repurposed furniture and handmade home goods to local shops throughout Sumner, Waverly, and Cedar Falls. So, when this building became available, they were very excited to finally open their own shop!

The couple enjoy bringing new life to pieces others have deemed 'trash' and their name 'Saved For More' is just that.

Whether they save things from the junkyard, a thrift store, or just sitting along side the road, their mission is to rediscover the beauty in these finds and create something unique and beautiful for your home.

Follow along on Instagram stories where Wendy shares her thrifting hauls and the transformations that follow. You can also watch videos on Facebook and YouTube of their crafting and DIY projects. Their website is savedformore.com and

you can follow along on all social media platforms @SavedForMore. Facebook and Instagram are the best place to stay connected for announcements of upcoming events, shop hours, and more.



A MESSAGE FROM

Mayor Mike

By Mike Harter

I think we could all agree 2020 has been a year we would rather not have again, but I am sure we all have plenty to be thankful for. Rather than trying to make a list though, I will let you make your own.

Even though I know the Christmas Season will be different with social distancing and mask wearing, I do want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

One of the things I always enjoy about the Christmas Season is all of the decorations and lights. So, I am happy to announce that the Fairbank Community Club will be sponsoring a decorating contest again this year. We encourage everyone to put out some decorations and lights. A group will be judging all of the decorations the weekend before Christmas. More details will be posted on Facebook.

Back to the serious stuff, I do hope and pray everyone stays healthy and safe. The numbers of people worldwide that have been infected with Covid -19 is astronomical. Unfortunately, I think the numbers may be much higher than what is released to us. My reason for saying this is because I believe many people haven't tested to see if they were infected and some of them probably were infected and were able to get through it with some minor symptoms.

So, as we move toward a New Year, please Stay Safe and Stay Healthy.

Buchanan County Visitor Guide Arrives!

Buchanan County Tourism (BCT) continues to rollout new and exciting material to highlight Buchanan County and the tremendous amount of things to do and see. BCT's most recent accomplishment is their new Visitors Guide. Just over a year ago BCT kicked things off with a new logo. That was followed up by a website www.travelbuchanan.com which is full of events, attractions and how to connect with what is happening in Buchanan County. Now BCT has developed an all new Visitors Guide that is great to look at, easy to use and chock full of anything a visitor would want to know about Buchanan County.

The BCT Visitors Guide is separated into four sections coordinating with the new logo's themes and colors. The Visitors Guide also includes a highlight of Buchanan County communities, a map in the middle and a things-to-know section at the end. History and Heritage is the starting section of the Visitors Guide. Buchanan County is filled with great museums as well as interesting sights to see. From Cedar Rock to the Freedom Rock the history buff will not lack for things to do.

The second section covers Land and Water Trails located all around the county. The Wapsipinicon River is a great natural resource and provides many opportunities for recreation and enjoyment. Couple this with the many walking trails and biking opportunities (including the Cedar Valley Nature trail) and a visitor can put many miles under their feet in Buchanan County.

The Guides Events and Entertainment section is the third section, and it is extensive! There is an ex-



Buchanan County Tourism

www.travelbuchanan.com

citing festival in every Community and the County Fair continues to add activities and events. These festivals and events happen year-round and should not be missed!

The fourth section is Parks and Outdoor Recreation. A few of the county's great recreational areas are highlighted in this section. There are so many of these areas available it could fill its own guide, that is why you can find the complete list at www.travelbuchanan.com. For those that want to make a staycation out of their visit to these outdoor beauties, a list of camping and cabin locations and how to book them is included in this section. Finally, if you want to know where to shop, eat, drink, stay among many other activities, you can find an extensive list of things to know at the back of the Guide.

You can find a link to the guide at www.travelbuchanan.com or at www.growbuchanan.com/quality-living/tourism/.

To pick up a Visitors Guide, go to the Buchanan County Economic Development office at 112 First Street in Independence, or email buchcotour@indytel.com, call 319-334-3439 or message Buchanan County Tourism on Facebook!



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Pat & Marian Woods



Ted & Jan Vorwald



Mark & Diane Rourke

Cheers to 158 Years

Friends have been celebrating their November anniversaries together for several decades. Pat & Marian Woods are celebrating 57 years. They were married in 1963 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank. Ted and Jan Vorwald were married 55 years ago in 1965 at Assumption Catholic Church in Richfield, Minnesota. Mark and Diane Rourke are celebrating 46 years. They were married in 1974 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank.

Merlyn Cummings' to celebrate 70th anniversary



Merlyn and Helen Cummings

SANTA BARBARA, CA – Merlyn and Helen (Staack) Cummings will soon be celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary. Helen and Merlyn were raised in the Oran area and both graduated from Oran High School.

The couple were married at the Fairbank Baptist Church on December 23, 1950. They have lived in Santa Barbara, California since 1965 where Merlyn was a teacher and a realtor. They have been blessed with three daughters, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Anyone wishing to contact them can write to: 440 Calli Mastil, Santa Barbara, CA 93111-1729

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Warrior Way & More

November 2020

November is a great time to celebrate the successes of the Wapsie Valley CSD students and staff thus far in the 2020-21 school year. First and foremost, let's celebrate the daily success stories in our classrooms of student learning opportunities. This daily development of our students goes unnoticed at times, but needs to be celebrated and recognized for all the dedication of students, staff, parents, and community support here at Wapsie Valley.

I had the great pleasure of watching two of our Wapsie Valley Cross Country athletes run at the state competition this past weekend. Sydnie Martin and Ava VanDaele represented Wapsie Valley with outstanding performances for their first appearances at this state-level competition. Ava placed 32nd and Sydnie placed 37th out of 152 runners. I have a feeling that return trips to Fort Dodge are in order to cheer these two athletes and outstanding people on!

The Wapsie Valley Football Team is still competing for a state title at the time of this writing. Win or lose, as this team moves forward, they have demonstrated true teamwork, dedication, and grit during these uncertain times, giving all Warrior supporters an enjoyable season to watch. Many players are leading in individual stats at a conference and/or state level within Class A.

WVCSD also honors two students for their recent accomplishments. Asa Kelley received an All-State Chorus honor for his voice performance. Grace Imbrogno was acknowledged for an All-State Volleyball Academic honor. We are very proud of these two for their talents and hard work in fine arts and academics.

Last, but certainly not least, are the huge accomplishments of the Warriors Volleyball Team. This group of student athletes qualified for their second straight state tournament appearance. This team was on high gear and dominating opponents during regional competition. Their season was cut short due to a positive COVID-19 case, but this situation should not diminish the outstanding accomplishments of this team.

An Iowa winter is looming just in front of us and Wapsie Valley CSD will strive to continue outstanding classwork performances while being enhanced by all extra-curricular activities. Stay Warrior Strong and Safe!

Dave Larson- Wapsie Valley CSD Superintendent

Living on the Edge

by Pat Pint

Over breakfast, my daughter and I were discussing some of the deeper mysteries in life.

"Now I know why gifts bags are so popular. People just don't save boxes like they used to," I said

"Mom, gift bags are easy to use. You just have this 'thing' with boxes. You simply can't throw any of them away," Missy argued.

"Are you serious? Of course I can toss a box away anytime I want to," I insisted.

She replied, "Last week, I got over 30 boxes out for you for Becky's birthday present. You ended up dumping out the macaroni to use that box. It would have been a lot easier to use a pretty gift bag," she said.

"I decorated the macaroni box. Becky never suspected a thing," I snapped.

My daughter was relentless. "Remember the year you sent somebody bath towels in a popcorn popper box, and you received a 'thank you' note for the popper?"

I retorted, "They should have opened the box before sending the note. Some cold winter night, when they are good and hungry for popcorn, they open the package and find towels. Better yet, I hope they give the unopened box to somebody else, and get a 'thanks' for the pretty towels. That would serve them right!"

"Calm down, mother" she sighed. "Last year on Christmas Eve, as we opened our beautifully wrapped packages, you snatched the boxes right out of our hands. Last month following Dana's baby shower, you didn't ask about the party, you asked if I brought the box back," she said.

"Well did you?" I quizzed.

"Did what?" she asked.

"Bring the gift box back?" I wondered.

"That's tacky, mom. I bet you have over a 100 empty boxes by now!" she snickered.

I said, "In my will, you are inheriting them all. The next holiday season, you'll be so very grateful."

She laughed, "I'll think of you as they get tossed in the recycle bin. Besides, I stocked up on bargain priced gift bags right after Christmas."

"Are you done with the cereal?" I asked.

"Nah, there's another serving or two in here," she said shaking the box.

After she left, I dumped the cereal into a small plastic bag.

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Fairbank Fire Department hosts training sessions

The Fairbank Fire Department hosted High Angle Rope Rescue on October 30th and 31st. The class was conducted by Professional Rescue Innovations out of West Des Moines and focused on knot tying, pulley systems, raising, lowering, harnessing and supporting patients. Eight local members attended as well as Firefighters from Oran, Readlyn, Jesup and Independence. This was a 12 hour certificate course made available through the Iowa Volunteer Firefighter's Training Fund.

On November 13th and 14th the Fairbank Fire Department hosted Trench Rescue class. This class was also conducted by Professional Rescue Innovations and attended by eight local firefighters as well as firefighters from Oran, Hawkeye, Jesup and Independence. The class focused on identifying hazards with trench rescue, incident command, stabilizing, shoring, atmospheric monitoring, patient care and rescue. This course was also funded through the Iowa Volunteer Firefighter's Training Fund.

Fairbank Fire appreciates the commitment of our members as well as the unwavering support of our community.



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LEONARD DUFFY

By Robert Shields

Leonard Francis Duffy was born 19 January 1921 in Fairbank Township, Buchanan County, the son of Irving Felix Duffy and Elizabeth (Burns) Duffy. Leonard had one sister Julia Eileen (Duffy) Olander, and two brothers Maurice

Leo Duffy, and Raymond Irving Duffy. In 1943 Leonard was united in marriage to Margaret Elizabeth Miller. Margaret preceded him in death in 1996. Leonard and Margaret had three daughters, Mary, Julie, and Becky; one son John. Leonard died 23 November 2002

in Oelwein. Both are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Oelwein.

The following was first published December 7th, 2001, in the Oelwein Daily Register and is published here to honor Pearl Harbor Day and WWII Veterans, with the Registers permission.

Leonard Duffy says attack on Pearl Harbor still fresh in his mind after 60 years

By Jack Swanson, Managing Editor

OELWEIN - Today, Dec. 7, is the day that, for Americans, will live in infamy. Sixty years ago today, in 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, killing 2,400 people. Twelve U.S. vessels were sunk or beached, and nine were damaged. Carnage was everywhere. Oily, acrid, black smoke roiled as torpedoes and bombs smashed into vessels, igniting explosions and fires.

We've seen it replayed in movies, but how would you have liked to have really been there? For Oelwein resident Leonard Duffy, it was a moment that not only lives in infamy in his memory, but was a defining moment in his life that would continue to be a part of him, every day of his life from that day forward.

Duffy, today, is with his shipmates and fellow comrades-in-arms at Pearl Harbor, observing its 60th anniversary. Although a lot of his memories of that day are horrid ones, there are also the memories of an event so big that it forever changed the world, memories of heroics beyond description and memories of an indomitable spirit that eventually lead to the defeat of the attackers that day.

Duffy also went back to Pearl for the 25th and 50th anniversaries, but said before leaving that this one will probably mean more to him than the first two for the simple fact that, now 80 years old, he might not have too many more reunions in him.

"We're all getting older. I read somewhere where 30,000 World War II veterans are dying-off each month. I might not be around for the next one of these," he said. But his combat record would not bear out this hypothesis. If anything Duffy is a survivor. He not only survived the Pearl Harbor attack as a crew member of the U.S.S. California, one of the

ships sunk that day, he also survived the sinking of the U.S.S. Astoria off of Wake Island on Aug. 9, 1942 and then went on to serve on the U.S.S. Core in the invasion of Sicily, and was a crewman on the U.S.S. San Jacinto in the battle of the Coral Sea, and helped to take survivors off the carrier the U. S. S. Lexington when it was sunk in May of '42.

Despite all his combat experience, Duffy still seems to be most affected by Dec 7, 1941. He remembers being dressed in his "whites" in preparation for Sunday mass when the general alarm rang at 7:55am and he and the rest of American were "in war." Within a matter of minutes, the California was torpedoed mid ship. Duffy said it felt like the huge ship jumped three feet into the air. About 10 am, the word passed to abandon ship and many sailors jumped to their deaths in the flaming waters below.

He remembers the choking smoke and the intense heat that made the paint on the ship bubble and run off the steel walls. About 60 of the 1,400 crew members died.

Duffy dove into the oily and burning water, where some men had the air sucked from their lungs as they surfaced in the oil-fed flames. He managed to find a clear alley of water and swam to shore.

He remembers another Oelwein boy, James Palides, a crew member of the Oklahoma. "He was just one of the best drummers you've ever heard and he used to play in bands around Oelwein before the war. He was sleeping when the attack came. He didn't even know what hit him," Duffy said.

He said following the attack, there was this tremendous sense of shock. Not believing that something like this had just happened to him, and America. "We didn't realize how big this was going to be. That it would go on for four years. I had guys die right beside me. It's something you never get out of your

mind. A lot of times you think about it, at night. Especially about being on the work parties that went back when it was over," he said.

THAT SAME KIND OF SHOCK and disbelief is what many Americans experienced on Sept. 11, and Duffy has a very good idea how many of the survivors of that tragedy feel today. "When I heard about the terrorist attack, it (Pearl Harbor) came right back to my mind," he said. "It was a surprise attack, much like the one at Pearl, but we at least knew who our enemy was. We don't know here. And, of course, there were a lot more deaths in New York. At Pearl it was more spread out," he related.

His experience with surprise attacks have made him a popular person in recent times. "This year I spoke to all five Oelwein schools on Veterans Day," he pointed out.

But the speaking engagements were something that Duffy did, almost with a relish. "When I was busy raising a family I didn't talk much about it. Now that I'm older and retired, I can," he said. He was a farmer and a machinist for the railroad in Oelwein when he got out of the service.

And although he suffered perhaps more horrendous attacks than the one on Pearl Harbor in his military service, including being hit by a piece of shrapnel and then jumping off of another sinking ship and having to swim without a life jacket for five hours before being rescued, it's Pearl that seems to stand out as some type of bench mark, for a reason, perhaps, he doesn't even know.

"It's really kind of hard to explain. We (Pearl Harbor survivors) talk a different language when we get together. People that have never been in this kind of situation don't realize what it's all about. It could make you lose your mind, but you can't let it get to you."



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Atom Bombers provide a “helping hand” to local Clothing Closet

The Atom Bombers 4-H club wants to thank everyone who donated towards their winter clothing drive for Helping Hands Clothing Closet. The club recently collected winter coats, hats, gloves, mittens, blankets and towels to donate to HHCC. The kids gathered items from their homes that no longer fit, picked up items from community members and purchased new items as a service project. With the Iowa weather turning colder, the Atom Bombers were happy to help out others.

A group of members delivered the items to Helping Hands which is located across the road from St. John's Lutheran Church, Buck Creek. Volunteers Sandy Tagtow and Vivian Rourke gave the kids a tour of the building and explained how the facility

operates. The kids helped sort and hang the donations so they were ready for clients to pick up.

The physical address of Helping Hands Clothing Closet is 2028 Viking Avenue, Sumner. It was originally built as a school house in 1914 and has been serving people from all over northeast Iowa since 2010. It provides a variety of sizes from infant through adult 4x. If you or

someone you know is in need of free clothing, bedding or towels, they are open on Tuesdays 9am-11am, Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm-7:30pm and the 1st Saturday of each month from 9am-11am and are closed on holidays. HHCC has no income guidelines. Donations may be dropped off during their open hours or in front of the building any time and the volunteers will get them inside.



Sandy Tagtow explains how the Helping Hands Clothing Closet operates.



Some of the Atom Bombers 4-H club members with winter clothing donations. (top to bottom) Ava Auel, Brody Kleitsch, Kaylee Kleitsch, Brock Kleitsch, Fred Auel, Stella Auel.



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Email: f.library@mchsi.com Website: Fairbank-ia.org/library/php

LIBRARY STAFF
Angela Berg, Director
Beth Dixon, Assistant
Linda Letson, Librarian

CURRENT HOURS
1:00-5:00 pm..... Mon. - Fri.
Closed..... Sat. & Sun.

ANNUAL LIBRARY FUNDRAISER

November 16th thru December 7th

The Fairbank Public Library
is having a
**Holiday Gift Basket
Fundraiser**

Gift Baskets, along with who donated the items, will be displayed around the Fairbank Public Library and a silent auction will be held. We will be raising money for materials for the library and for programming. We are looking for local businesses to put together theme baskets or gift certificates/cards for the auction. If you wish to donate, please contact the library. These items can also be viewed on Facebook and can be bid on by calling the library at 319-635-2487.



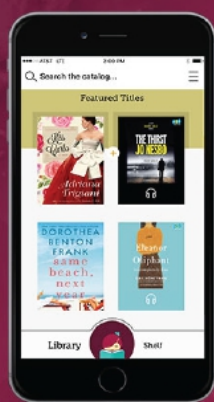
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for auction!

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

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



**EMPLOYEE
SPOTLIGHT**
**Linda
Letson**

Name: My name is Linda Letson. I have 8 children. My youngest daughter, Amy Frost, her husband Chad, and children Jonah, Landan, and Cooper live in Fairbank. I moved to Fairbank 4 years ago to be close to them. The rest of my children are out west, and I see them from time to time. I was born in California 78 years ago, to Clyde Ackerman from St. Paul, MN and Margorie Wood from Yarmouth, IA. I spent most of my life in CA with a time of five years in Washington, IA. (I was in Jr. High School) I am a retired RN and have had many experiences in the health care field. I went to 8 years of College in the health care area and 2 years of law school. I was widowed in the 90's and have learned the art of living alone. My grandkids number 26, and my greats 9.

Hobbies: Trying to remember birthdays, cooking, playing with grandkids (we live one block apart) and going out to eat with friends. I love to play cards, not found any players here, and when the weather permits, I love golf.

Favorite Season: Spring

Favorite Holiday: Christmas

Favorite part of my Job: Meeting and greeting the people who come to the library.

Currently Reading: *Autobiography of Pearl Buck*, and ready to start *Silent in the Grave*, by Deanna Raybourn.



John Kayser

Kayser receives promotion

FAIRBANK - John D. Kayser was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel at Joint Force Headquarters, Maine Air National Guard on Oct. 1.

Kayser, who lives in Scarborough, Maine, grew up in Fairbank and attended Wapsie Valley High School. The son of Pat Kayser of Independence and the late Tom Kayser, he graduated from Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

Kayser is assigned as a plans officer at Camp Chamberlain, supporting domestic operations. Prior to this assignment he was the commander of the 101st Civil Engineering Squadron in Bangor, Maine, where he also deployed to Afghanistan in 2014 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He is currently employed by Burns & McDonnell as a project manager in their Portland, Maine, office.

Kayser and his wife, Sarah, a student at the University of Maine in Augusta, have two children.

**The deadline for submitting ads
and articles for the next issue
of the Islander is December 30th.**

Fairbank Police Department

By Chief, Mike Everding

Well the end of 2020 is just around the corner and needless to say it has not been without its challenges. With the holiday seasons fast approaching I thought that it would be a good time to review some safety practices for the season.

I remember growing up where securing your belongings, vehicles and property was never even a thought or consideration. However times have changed. In today's time and season, it is more important than ever to lock and secure doors and windows to your home; whether it's a quick trip up town for a few items or an extended time away from your residence. Day or night you never can tell who is watching and "keeping an eye" on your house. This also applies to garages, out buildings, as well as rural fuel barrels, don't provide thieves with an "easy in, easy out" target.

With on-line shopping being more of the norm, rather than the exception, arrange for an alternative delivery site or location for items if you are not going to be home. Have a neighbor watch or pick up any deliveries that may be subject to "porch pirates," don't give porch pirates an opportunity to ruin your holidays. There are numerous companies that make nice doorbell camera systems that are easy to use and install, many provide good quality video and audio. Most systems are com-

pletely adjustable while it sends a live feed video and audio right to your cell phone. Many of the systems are expandable and provide options of storing video and audio to a "cloud".

Automobiles are often an easy target as the average household has at least two. Thieves will go up and down the street, and "check" driveway to driveway looking for an unsecured, easy entry vehicle. Make sure that your vehicles are locked even if inside a garage or an out building. All of that change lying in the center console is a quick and easy target once inside the vehicle, along with anything else within "grabs" reach.

The increasing popularity and ease of online shopping make it more important than ever to shop with reputable business and companies. Never give out credit or debit card information over the phone, if you have not initiated the contact with the caller. Make sure that all of your internet shopping sites are secure. Monitor bank statements for theft or fraud; even though you may only be legally responsible for a nominal dollar amount or theft on the credit card, the repercussions of identity theft can have a much longer lasting impact and take months to straighten out. Remember, if a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Another important season that is upon us is deer season. The month of December is very popular with both

resident and non-resident hunters taking to the woods and fields chasing Iowa's Whitetails. This is the time of year where deer will seem to be everywhere, including Iowa's roadways. It is more important than ever to be scanning the roadway for them as they can come at you from all directions. Remember the saying, "don't veer for deer". Keep in mind that in the battle of car vs. deer, a car will win that battle and you will ultimately sustain less vehicle damage by hitting the deer than over correcting, entering a ditch and risk striking an object, or even a roll over.

One last quick reminder is that winter driving will soon be upon us. It is important to allow yourself plenty of extra time to reach your destination, allow plenty of stopping distance between you and the vehicle in front of you and watch out, for the "other guy". Drive defensively and most importantly, slow down; just because the speed limit is 55 mph, does not mean that the roadway conditions are safe to travel at that speed.

Crime does not take a day off or a holiday, be vigilant, watch over your neighbor and lend a helping hand to those in need.

Have a safe holiday season!

Fairbank Police Department: Mike, Mark and Dakota

"The Spanish Influenza Epidemic of 1918"

by Betty Brandt Passick

Fairbank was a new pioneer village when Dr. A.B. Ward (1822-1879) and his wife Maria J. (Smith) Ward (1836- 1907) arrived in Fairbank from Center Point, Iowa by wagon with infant son Griffy (1856-1923).

Griffy would grow and one day follow in his father's footsteps to become Dr. Griffy Benjamin Ward, graduating from the University of Ann Arbor in 1880--when he returned to Fairbank and took up the practice of medicine in the place of his father, who had died shortly before. His final service to the community would be treating those infected with the Spanish influenza of 191--though he wouldn't be the only 'Ward' in the area healing the sick during the pandemic: by then, all 6 of his sons had become Iowa physicians.

Some researchers say the first case of Spanish influenza was recorded in Haskell County, Kansas in the spring of 1918. The first recorded infection was in a U.S. Army private stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas on March 4, 1918. The virus--today believed by many to have migrated from pigs to humans--quickly spread across the world, aided by the soldiers who moved around during the war. The second wave arrived in the fall of 1918 with such a vengeance that victims died within hours or days of developing symptoms, their skin turning blue and their lungs filling with fluid, causing them to suffocate.

In 1918 the US population was 103.2 million. During the three waves of the Spanish Influenza pandemic between spring 1918 and spring 1919, about 200 of every 1000 people would contract influenza (about 20.6 million). Between 0.8% (164,800) and 3.1% (638,000) of those infected died from influenza or pneumonia secondary to it, according to one source.

How did Iowa handle the epidemic? In the fall 1918, the Iowa Board of Health "quarantined" the entire state, forcing all public gathering places to close. The Cedar Rapids Gazette noted: ...all "public gathering places" were ordered to close, including churches, schools and other places of congregation... And Iowans were required to wear face masks when interacting with others in public spaces. "Wear a Mask and Save Your Life" became the pandemic theme. Most people complied, but some resisted (or poked holes in their masks to smoke). As the nation was still fighting in World War I, officials framed anti-flu measures as a way to protect the troops from the deadly outbreak. As one Red Cross PSA put it, "the man or woman or child who would not wear a mask was considered a dangerous slacker."

In 1918 Dr. Griffy Ward, at sixty-two years of age, was yet an active resident physician of Fairbank—as were his sons Dr. Loraine W. Ward Sr. (1885-1969) and Walter St. Clair 'Clair' Ward (1888–1957). His remaining four sons served other communities: Dr. Artel Berry Ward (1881-1956)--Delphos, IA; Dr. Dell Ward (1882–1945), Dr. Golding Ward (1883–1941), and Dr. G. Wendell Ward (1893–1969)--Oelwein, IA. Dr. Joseph Henry Murphy (1849-1928) was another Fairbank physician serving the community.

Mrs. Clare Fenne, pharmacist, and her husband, A.O. Fenne, in 1917 had just purchased the drug store on Main Street from Mrs. John Collins. Little was known about the cause of the H1N1 influenza virus, the only therapeutic likely prescribed was for the treatment of pneumonia. Onion soup and chicken noodle soup remained home remedies.

Over 50,000,000 deaths worldwide from 1918-1919. The Oelwein Register was rife with notations



Seated: Mrs. [Maria J. Smith] Ward and Dr. A. B. Ward (1822-1879)
Standing: Dr. G. "Griffy" B. Ward (1856- 1923)

of those locally stricken and deceased from Spanish influenza:

~ Mrs. Mary Newton Perry, who is of the Fairbank high school teaching force in the Fairbank school, has been sick with the influenza is better and expects to be home in a few days to the Parental Arch Newton home as the school has been closed a week.

~ Frank Weaver passed away in his home in Ackley Friday after an eight-day siege of Spanish influenza, which turned to pneumonia. The deceased

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



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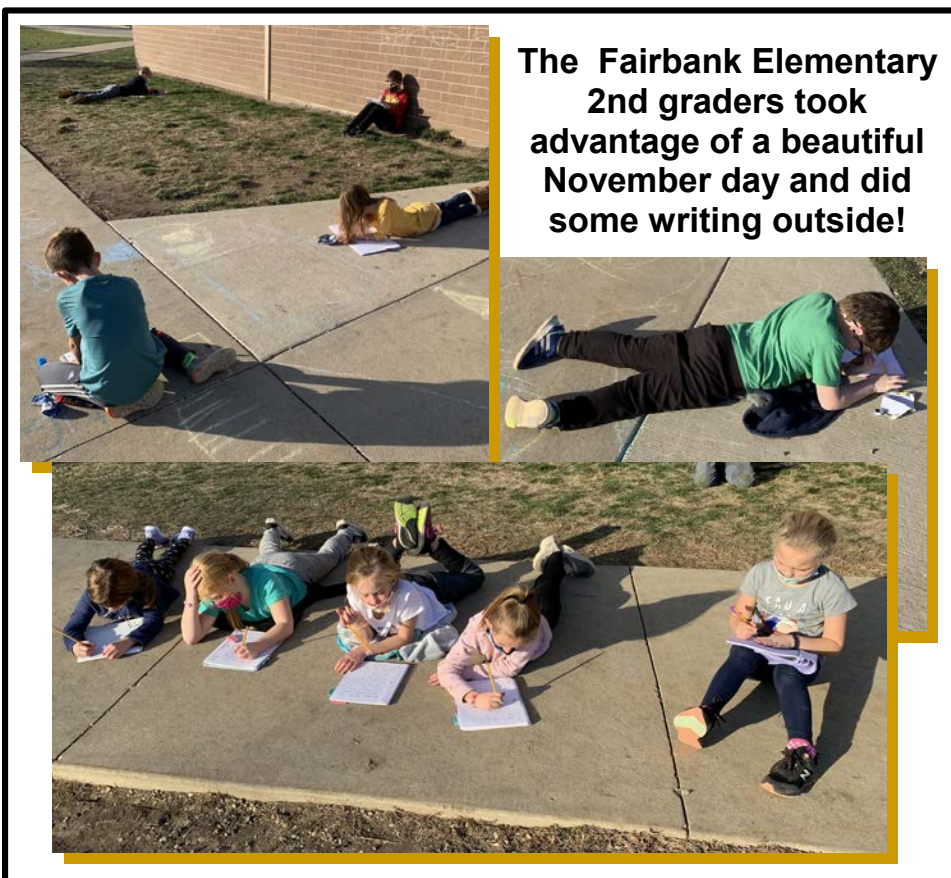
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"It's beginning to look like Christmas at Parkview Assisted Living." Jane Staack showcases her beautiful tree display in her room with a silver background and lots of twinkly lights.



The Fairbank Elementary 2nd graders took advantage of a beautiful November day and did some writing outside!

ATOM BOMBERS MEET

The Atom Bombers 4-H Club met on Sunday, November 8th at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center in Fairbank. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by President Kaylee Kleitsch. The pledge of allegiance was led by Kanen Decker.

Roll call was, "What are you thankful for?" The Secretary's report was given by Destry Peine. The Treasurer's report was given by Brody Kleitsch. There were no November birthdays.

Committees were announced and members were asked to hand in their signed Expected Standards sheets. Kids were reminded to get enrolled online. Enrollment fees are \$25 if enrolled prior to January 1, 2021. If you enroll before the end of the year, the club will pay \$15 of member's dues and members will pay \$10.

A new club t-shirt design was voted on. The winning design was made by Reese Peine. The club also discussed ideas for a safe and fun Christmas party.

New club officers were installed. They are Reese Peine, President; Brock Kleitsch, Vice President; Destry Peine, Secretary; Brody Kleitsch, Treasurer; Wally Kaufman, Reporter; Wyatt Sullivan, Flag Person; Grace, Vice Flag Person.

Winter clothing donations for Helping Hands Clothing Closet were collected. The 4-H Pledge was led by Espyn Decker. Kanen gave a presentation on warming up for and the proper form for squatting weights. Espyn and Gentry gave a presentation on making winter help bags.

The Decker family served ice cream treats. The next meeting will be our Christmas party on December 13th.

When first appearances count for everything . . .



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"Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery...Because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted."
(Hebrews 2:14-15, 18 ESV)

Grace and peace be unto you through Christ, the Lord!

We'll take a short break this month from our normal discussion to meditate on the wonder of our Lord's birth. Every week we and Christians around the world confess our faith saying, "He [Jesus] was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary." We know from Scripture that Jesus is the eternal Son of God who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, has always existed in the glory of the Holy Trinity. When the fullness of time had come, St. Paul said (Gal. 4), the Father sent the Son into the flesh. Jesus was conceived, without the intervention man, by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary. In the Lutheran Church we celebrate the Annunciation (when Jesus was conceived) every year on March 25th.

As we enter December, we also remember the circumstances of our Lord's birth. We know that Joseph took Mary his betrothed to Bethlehem to be registered, thus fulfilling the Lord's promise through the prophet Micah. We know that Jesus was not born in a palace, but of humble estate. At His birth the angels sang for joy and shepherds knelt before Him. These things we know, and also the other events surrounding Christ's birth that we celebrate in the Church Year. But, have you asked yourself this question before: Why? Why did Christ Jesus take on our same human flesh? The answer, in part, is found in the text above from the Epistle to the Hebrews.

The eternal Son of God took on our flesh so that He might destroy what we once were enslaved to. He came so that, by His death, He might destroy death itself. Because He became exactly as we are, Jesus knows what it is to live with anxiety and fear. He knows what it is like to be uncertain about what the future might bring. Jesus came in the flesh so that our anxieties, our fears and uncertainties, our 2020, might have an end. That end is found in the salvation He purchased for us on the cross, which we receive through faith. When He returns, all fear and stress will cease and His faithful will live with Him and each other in eternal joy and peace. That is why He came.

I invite you all to join me in celebrating the birth of Christ this year. At St. John's we are blessed to be able to livestream our services on our Facebook page: facebook.com/stjohnsandgracelp. Our Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to come and celebrate with us in person, you are welcome. We humbly ask that a facecovering be worn once you enter the building. Our Christmas Day service will also be livestreamed. It will be at 9:00 a.m. and will be hosted at Grace Lutheran in Jesup.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jacob Swenson
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fairbank

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



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Rev. Scott Jans

Worship Service: 9:00 AM



First Baptist Church

304 Grove Street
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Rev. Mike Anderson

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

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

was 29 years old, having been born in Camden, N.J. For several years he was a resident of Fairbank. The last two years of which he was employed in the Collins Drug Store. In the fall of 1913, he went to Ackley and purchased a drug store, which he owned at the time of his death.

~ Prof. J. H. Williams has been taking charge of the drug store since the death of A.O. Fenne.

~ Mrs. Edna Brant, wife of Ralph Brant, died in the home of her sister, Mrs. James Elliott, Wednesday, Nov. 6, after a to weeks illness of pneumonia preceded by influenza. She would have been 29 years old.

It's hard to know how many adults and children were laid to rest in the Fairbank and Oran Township cemeteries between 1918-1919 inflicted with Spanish influenza.

Among them the deceased was Dr. Griffy Ward's relative, Mabel Ward (1905-1919)--daughter of Frank (1876-1965) and Mina Ward (1876-1955). Griffy, who signed her death certificate on February 3, 1919, wrote she died of 'pulmonary tuberculosis'. As an aside, in December 1918, the

U.S. Surgeon General Rupert Blue warned: Persons whose resistance has been weakened by the attack of influenza were particularly susceptible to pulmonary tuberculosis. Mabel's obituary states she had been a patient for several months at Oakdale Sanitarium [est. 1908], Iowa City, but without benefit, had returned home. She died the day after her fourteenth birthday. Dr. A. B. Ward (1832-1879) had also died of consumption.

Dr. Griffy Ward, called the "pioneer surgeon of Northeast Iowa," died January 27, 1923 of heart disease.

"In the days when hospitals were few and far between, he was performing the major surgical operations now rarely done except in the largest hospitals," according to his obituary. His last days of life were largely spent in study and he was busily engaged in writing a book. He was devoted to his wife Ella Josephine Berry, (1857-1937), and the death of his youngest son Lynn (1899-1921) was a terrible blow to him. He also had 3 half-brothers and a half-sister: Cassius, Mary, Benjamin, and Artisa Ward. Griffy's memorial service was held at the Fairbank Baptist Church.

Worldwide, an estimated 20 million to 50 million victims died of Spanish influenza, with as much as one-third of the world's population infected. In the United States, a quarter of the population caught the virus, 675,000 died, and life expectancy dropped by 12 years.

After undergoing the ravages of the Spanish influenza pandemic--and The Great War--it's not difficult to imagine America was ready for some 'fun'—thus, began the decade known as the Roaring '20s, but without benefit of alcohol consumption. Prohibition ushered in the Era of Gangsterism, when Chicago gangster Louie La Cava showed up on Fairbank's Main Street—and, as they say, the rest is history. Gangster in Our Midst (2017), is an historical novel about a gangster who came to Fairbank in the 1920s—where he remained off and on for the next sixty years.

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.

FAIRBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT

October 1st - 31st Report

Ambulance Calls: 12

Fire Calls: 4

Car Accidents: 1

Tanker Rollover: 1

EMS Training Hours: Approx. 30

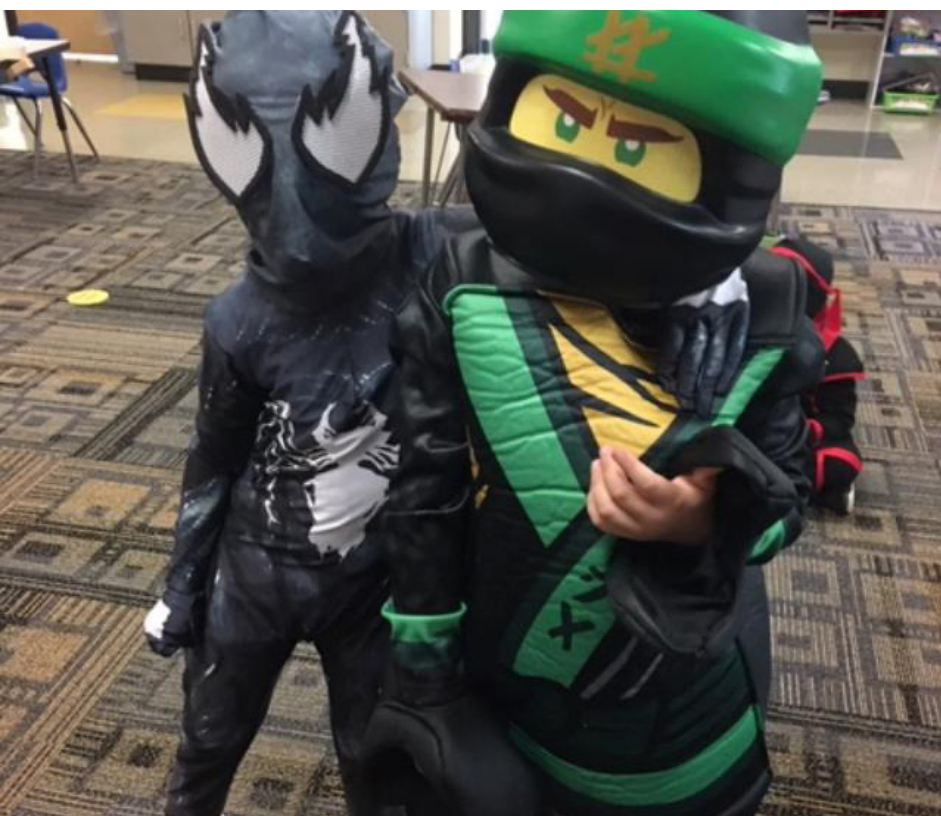
Fire Training Hours: Approx. 128



~ Regular fire training was a tree stand rescue on October 13th, 2020. Additional Fire Training was High Angle Rope Rescue on October 16th and 17th. This was a 12 hour certification course offered by Professional Rescue Innovations. We hosted guests from Jesup, Independence, Readlyn and Oran fire departments. Huge thanks to those members who chose to expand their skills.

~ We are hosting a 12 hours class on Trench Rescue on November 13th and 14th which is open to neighboring departments as well.

Submitted by: Brad Gordon, Fire Chief



Staff and students love dressing up for Halloween!



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What's Cookin'



From the kitchen of Arnola Siggelkow

Christmas radiates a spirit that surrounds us with excitement and joy. One of the joys of Christmas is that it inspires us to share with others. Gifts of love are always a welcome expression of friendship and caring. So, make some cookies to fill your cookie plates or treat bags.

It is out family tradition to make these sugar cookies for all holidays; using cookie cutters and decorating to match the theme. (Perhaps, that explains my collection of 100+ different cookie cutters.)

Arnola's Sugar Cookies

Makes approx. 6 dozen, depending on the size of cookie cutters.

1½ cups powdered sugar	½ tsp. salt
1 cup butter	2 tsps. baking soda
1 cup butter-flavored Crisco	3 tsps. cream of tartar
3 eggs	5 cups flour
	2 tsps. vanilla



Beat together the sugar, butter and Crisco until fluffy and creamy. Add eggs, one at a time and beat well. Gradually add dry ingredients (sifted together) and vanilla; mix well. Chill dough for at least 2 hours. Divide dough into 4 or 5 portions. Roll out on a floured surface (I use half flour and half powdered sugar) to ¼ inch thickness. Cut out with cookie cutters. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes.

The cookies may be sprinkled with colored sugar before baking or frost and decorate when baked and cooled. Store in an airtight container.

Another tasty cookie that children like to help with is Peanut Butter Temptations.

Peanut Butter Temptations

Makes 3 dozen.



½ cup butter	1¼ cups flour
½ cup peanut butter	¾ tsp. baking soda
½ cup white sugar	½ tsp. salt
½ cup brown sugar	2 - (9 oz. pkgs.) Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, unwrapped
1 egg	
1 tsp. vanilla	

Cream butter, peanut butter and both sugars. Add egg and vanilla, beating until mixed. Add flour, baking soda and salt, and blend well.

Roll dough into 1" balls or use a 1" cookie scoop and put into greased mini muffin tins. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes or until light brown around the edges. Remove from oven. Press an unwrapped peanut butter cup into each cookie while still warm. Top each cookie with a red or green M&M's. Let set 10 minutes before removing from tin. For other occasions, use M&M's to coordinate with the holiday.

"Sweet Wishes" for a joyous and peaceful holiday season.

LAURA REBECCA VANDAELE

May 13, 1932 - November 3, 2020

Becky Van Daele passed away on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at her home in Independence at the age of 88. She was born on May 13, 1932 near Littleton, Iowa, the daughter of Wilmer and Elsie (McGlaughlin) Seamans.

Becky graduated from Jesup High School in 1949. After graduating she went to work at Rath Packing Co. in Waterloo. On June 15, 1953 she married Rene Van Daele at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank.

Rene and Becky lived in rural Fairbank where they raised their three children and farmed the land together until Rene's passing on April 5, 1978. In 2007 Becky moved to Independence.

In 1993 after volunteering over 7,000 hours at the Mental Health Institute in Independence, Becky was hired as their volunteer coordinator, working until she retired in 2008. Becky was a very active volunteer in both the Fairbank and Independence communities. She was a KCRG 9 Who Care recipient and received the Governor's Volunteer Award. She was a 59 year active member of the Fairbank American Legion Auxiliary, holding many local and district offices, and long-time member of Immaculate Conception Church. She also volunteered many hours at the Independence Senior Center, Buchanan County Council on Aging and was a mentor for the Independence Community School District.

She is survived by her two sons: Rick (Linda) of Fairbank, Russ (Kathy) of Hudson; and daughter: Brenda (Curt) Patterson of Cedar Falls. Grandchildren: Chad (Amber) Van Daele of Fairbank, April (Justin) Hicklin of London, UK, Amy (Michael) Estrada of Nevada, CA., Ben (Liz) Patterson of Cedar Falls, Alex (Allie) Patterson of San Clemente CA, Tony (Lisa) Patterson of Cedar Falls, Haley (Mark) Iehl of Cedar Falls, Rene (Brooke) Van Daele of Dunkerton, Reese (Lexie) Van Daele of Parkersburg, Ridge, Rylan, Kateri, Ariana and Kira Van Daele, all of Hudson. 22 Great Grandchildren: Elsie, Ava, Luke, Isla, Rex, Perry Bay, Navy, Claudia, Vera, Miko, Cooba, Sam, Abram, Sloane, Abby, Emma, Jacob, Annie, Ellie, Aubrey, Aria and Beau. Three step-great grandchildren: Jim, Katie & Jack. A brother: Lowell (Kathy) Seamans; and sister Ruth Meade. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Becky was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, siblings: Marcen, Charles, Gordon, Roland, Naomi Boyce, Luella Stoneman, and infant siblings Lucille, Charlotte and Richard.

Becky lived with passion, putting her whole heart in whatever she did, whether it be caring for her family, volunteering, avid Cubs fan, jewelry making, playing Bingo and cards and collections of all sorts. She uniquely lived out her values of family, hard work and being a great friend to many.

Funeral Mass was Saturday, November 14, 2020 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank with interment at Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Fairbank.

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation. Those wishing to send a card may send in care of Becky to Brenda Patterson, 1015 Orchard Dr., Cedar Falls, Ia. 50613.



WANDA LOU KAUFMAN

July 19, 1940 - November 15, 2020

Wanda Kaufman, age 80, passed away November 15, 2020 surrounded by her family. Wanda was born July 19, 1940 in West Union, Iowa the daughter of Lester and Opal (Ruroden) Tope. She attended and graduated from Fayette High School. Wanda married Jerome Kaufman on July 18, 1959 in Fayette. Wanda and Jerry have resided in Fairbank for the past 52 years.

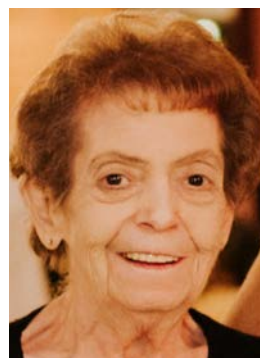
Lovingly remembered by her husband Jerome (Jerry); children: Julie Bentley (Curt Kelly), Denise (Bob) Crew, Sherry (Tony) Duffy, Todd (Tina) Kaufman; grandchildren: Kyle Bentley, Klint Bentley, Kaleb Bentley, Brent Duffy, Candace Ratchford, Rachel Walton, Emily Van Winkle, Kaitlyn Kaufman and Traeton Kaufman; thirteen great-grandchildren; and countless other family and friends.

Wanda was a loving wife, devoted mother, and an amazing grandmother. Taking care of her family was her proudest role. Wanda had a love for baking and passed that love on to her family. Wanda was actively involved in the family business, going to automotive auctions, doing the bookkeeping and making lunch most everyday. She most enjoyed the time she spent with her family, especially with the grandchildren.

Preceded in death by her parents, Lester and Opal Tope, father and mother-in-law; Frederick and Marie Kaufman, a brother Dennis Tope and a granddaughter Lou Ann Bentley.

Visitation was held Saturday, November 21, at Immaculate Conception Parish Center. Funeral services followed at Immaculate Conception Church, both in Fairbank. Inurnment was at Immaculate Conception Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.



JOAN WEDEMEIER

August 17, 1932 - November 10, 2020

Joan Wedemeier of Oran passed away Tuesday November 10, 2020 at Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo at the age of 88. She was born August 17, 1932 north of Fairbank on her parent's farm, Ernest and Bertha (Greaning) Fink. She was baptized, confirmed and attended parochial school at St. John's Lutheran Church in Fairbank and graduated in 1950 from Oran High School.

On September 13, 1953 she married Vernon Wedemeier. They made their home in Oran and were blessed with eight children. Joan was an Avon Sales Representative for over 30 years. She enjoyed crocheting, making baby blankets and quilts, giving many away to family and friends. She was a devoted and loving Mother, Grandmother and Great Granny. Joan is survived by five daughters: Sandra, Shelley and Sally of College Station, TX; Sharon of Fairbank and Sonya of Oran. Three sons: Steve and Stacey of Fairbank and Scott of Amana. Grandchildren: Eric, Ashley, Glenn, Martin and Erica. Great-grandchildren: Siya, Owen, Drake, Adrianna and Eastyn. Her two brothers: Don (Phyllis) Fink of Kent, WA and Richard (Jo) Fink of Independence; and many nieces and nephews.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two sisters Rachel (Virgil) Wedemeier and Julia (Ray) Oltrogge, and one brother Clair (Gloria) Fink.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to all the wonderful staff at Oelwein Healthcare Center. Mom was a resident there since December 2016. Thanks to Mercy One Emergency Department in Oelwein and Mercy One 2nd Floor Cardio Nurses, Dr. Slaven and Erin Sinram PA. Also special thanks to Cedar Valley Hospice Home.

Funeral services were held November 13, 2020 at Woods Funeral Home in Fairbank, with interment at Fairbank Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation. Cards may be sent to Scott Wedemeier, 309 6th Avenue, Amana, IA 52203.



VIRGINIA MAE SCHELLHORN

December 21, 1930 - November 10, 2020

Virginia Schellhorn, 89, of Oelwein and formerly from Oran, passed away Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at MercyOne Medical Center in Waterloo.

She was born December 21, 1930 in Sumner, the daughter of Walter and Gladys (Robertson) Tonn. Virginia married Lorenz Herman Schellhorn on February 18, 1949 in Readlyn. Lorenz preceded her in death on October 13, 2019.

Virginia attended and graduated from Randalia High School. She and Lorenz raised their family in Oran, and besides being a loving wife, mother and grandmother, she drove school bus for Wapsie Valley Community Schools for an amazing 50 years. Virginia took pride and joy in being a dedicated bus driver. She truly cared about the children that she transported back and forth to school every day and to thousands of activities during her career.

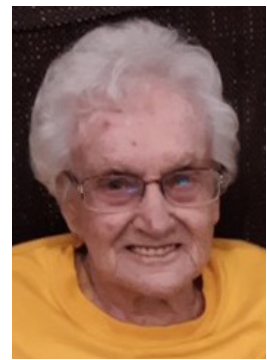
Virginia is survived by her son: Donald Schellhorn of Urbana; two daughters: Cathy (Melvin) Gonnerman Sr. of Waverly and Marlys (Roger) Bolyn of Oelwein; five grandchildren: Melvin Gonnerman Jr., Phillip Gonnerman, Michael Schellhorn, Mae Lee Nutter and Elizabeth Bolyn; 11 great-grandchildren: Marshall Gonnerman, Madison Gonnerman, Gaston Gonnerman, Megan Gonnerman, Drew Schellhorn, Hudson Nutter, Ellie Schellhorn, Genessa Gonnerman, Payton Nutter, Willow Boleyn and Braxton Boleyn. Siblings are: Robert (Lorraine) Tonn of Clinton, Marilyn (Donald) Anderson of Britt, Ruby (Dick) Johnson of Sumner, Marjorie Scharnhorst of Oelwein, Larry (Lorraine) Tonn of Cedar Falls and Shirley (Robert) Bany of Red Rock, Arizona, along with several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Lorenz, a son Bryan Ray Schellhorn, and a daughter-in-law Debra Schellhorn.

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, there was a private family graveside service. Interment was at Grove Hill Cemetery, rural Readlyn, IA.

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation. Cards may be sent in care of Virginia to Marlys Boleyn, 209 7th Ave. SW, Oelwein, IA 50662.

Virginia loved spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She always considered all of the children that she transported during her long bus driving career as her bus family.



JAMES BENTLEY

February 4, 1950 - November 9, 2020

James Bentley, 70, of Oelwein passed away Monday November 9, 2020 at Mercy One Medical Center in Waterloo. There was a Celebration of Life held at Jimmy's home on November 13.

James Wallace Bentley was born in Oran, Iowa on February 4, 1950 to parents Wallace Bentley and Barbara Nichols. He graduated from Wapsie Valley High School and then served his country honorably in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He had been employed with Donaldson Co. for many years and later with Rupp Air. He was a member of the American Legion. Jimmy's favorite thing in life was race car driving! He owned his own car and attended races all over Iowa.

He loved fishing, gardening and the freedom and open air of country living. He was a great dancer in his younger years and loved country music. He was his own man in every way and he will be dearly missed by family and friends.

Left to celebrate Jimmy's life are his daughter Lonna Bentley and his son Lief Bentley; his sister Mary Beth (Clyde) Guillaume and his brother Mitchel Strang. He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Edna and Richard Brickman; his mother Barbara Strang; his father Wallace Bentley; and his long-time partner Eileen Arthur.



The deadline for submitting ads and articles for the next issue of the Islander is December 30th.

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CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 10/26/20

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, October 26, 2020. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present at City Hall: R. Woods, T. Woods, Vorwald, Williams, and Erickson. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Dave Ryan, Public Works Director; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Mike Everding, Part-time Police.

Erickson/Vorwald to approve the agenda as presented but with moving up item twelve to after public comments due to the need to be at another meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

There were no public comments.

The Fairbank Fire Chief, Brad Gordon, was present along with the president, Jason Kayser, to present the council with a proposed expansion to the fire station. They explained that they are completely out of room and the expansion would be located on the southeast corner of the existing building and is estimated to cost around \$100,000. \$80,000 of that is being covered by donations to the fire department. They hope to start construction around summer of 2021 and will keep the council updated on the process and funding will be discussed during budget preparations.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the minutes from the October 12th Regular Meeting with a correction to the wrong amount posted under

the library approval section for their utilities. Actual bill was \$178.71, and the remainder was the bill for the city utilities in the amount of \$5,915.19. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

R. Woods/Williams to open the public hearing on adoption of Ordinance #160 – Floodplain Regulations. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. There were no comments received oral or written. T. Woods/Erickson to close the public hearing. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Erickson/T. Woods to approve the first reading of Ordinance #160 – Floodplain Regulations. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/T. Woods to waive the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance #160 – Floodplain Regulations. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/T. Woods to approve Ordinance #160 – Floodplain Regulations. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/Erickson to approve the liquor license renewal for the Fairbank America Legion. There have not been any reported issues. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Amy Rechkemmer with VanDaele Insurance, LLC was present in case anybody had any questions regarding the insurance renewal options for next year. The City has the option to renew plans for December 1, 2020 and then renew again on February 1, 2021 to take advantage of a drop in rates for 2021. T. Woods/Erickson to approve the renewal option presented by Amy for December 1, 2020 with a 9.8% increase

in premium. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. R. Woods/T. Woods to renew same plan again with a renewal date of February 1, 2021 to take advantage of a decrease in the premium of 11%. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

A sample policy was retrieved from surrounding towns on city owned security cameras. The council felt that since the City owned these cameras that there should be policy around them regarding how they are managed, handled, and the sole purpose of these cameras. T. Woods/Erickson to approve Resolution 2020-31 – Visual Security and Surveillance Policy. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The council tabled the City of Fairbank promoting video since it was not finished quite yet.

Public Works Director Dave asked the council on how to handle the trimming of trees on abutting properties to City right-of-way. Chapter 151 – Trees, states the City may serve notice on the abutting property owner requiring that such action be taken within five days and failure to do so would require the City to handle the trimming and assess the costs to the property owner. The Council agreed to follow the code. Following this code would help to ensure the protection of city equipment.

Williams/R. Woods to adjourn at 6:37 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 11/9/20

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 9, 2020. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance via freeconferencecall.com. Members present at City Hall: R. Woods, T. Woods, Vorwald, Williams, and Erickson. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Dave Ryan, Public Works Director; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

Mayor Harter asked for a moment of silence after the Pledge of Allegiance in honor of the service and sacrifice of veterans throughout the history of the nation.

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

During the public comment section Councilman Vorwald wanted to update the public on the work that had been done to the flower beds by the gazebo in Riverside Park. They tore everything out, put down a new base and added new rock. He said he was going to call around to nurseries to get quotes for plant options in that area.

Williams/T. Woods to approve the minutes of the October 26th Regular Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/R. Woods to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Receipts for the month of October were: General, \$346,229.01; Special Revenue, \$43,752.99; TIF, \$16,636.76; Capital Projects, \$10.28; Permanent Funds, \$11.65; Proprietary, \$178,380.04; and Transfers In, \$26,175.12. Disbursements for the month of September were: General, \$24,285.27; Special Revenue, \$2,332.91; Proprietary, \$127,356.99; and Transfers Out, \$26,175.12. Balance on hand at close of business on October 30, 2020 was \$4,434,358.73.

Williams/Erickson to approve the Annual Financial Report and to submit the report to the state. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Vorwald/T. Woods to approve the 2020 TIF Annual Urban Renewal report and direct the city clerk to submit it to the state. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The video made by Stone Kane for the promotion of Fairbank was shown. The council was pleased with the video and advised the sharing of the video over Facebook and on the City website. More information will be gathered for future possibilities for commercial use or advertising. The process of employee evaluations was discussed. Mayor Harter said he felt that having a policy in place and a system to follow was a good and necessary thing. Councilman Williams and Councilwoman Erickson both commented that they both have employee evaluation processes at their current jobs. Councilman Vorwald stated that they hadn't ever been done right in the past. The overall conclusion was the process would be a great addition to employee's record files.

Erickson/T. Woods to approve the employee evaluation process addition to the current personnel manual. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Mayor Harter added that the process might not be done before Nov. 30th this current year.

Public Works Director Dave Ryan presented the council with a quote from Jetco for a natural gas alarm system. He explained that the alarm system that was installed for the sewer plant could be modified and changed to allow for an alarm system for our natural gas system. The council had some questions on what was budgeted. Dave will gather that information and it will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Police Chief Everding was not present but had provided the council with a quote for an AR-15 style rifle from Double A Armory out of Independence, IA. He was able to get the price down \$500 from a fundraiser event spearheaded by Double A Armory where funds were earmarked for local law enforcement agencies. R. Woods/T. Woods to approve the quote from Double A Armory and to go ahead with the purchase of the rifle. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

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

ACME TOOLS, Clothing Allowance \$179.00

ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS, POP Services	\$100.00
MARGARET ANN ALBRECHT, Utility Deposit Refund	\$200.00
SYNCB/AMAZON, Supplies	\$25.99
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY, Supplies	\$660.00
B & K AUTOMOTIVE, Services	\$39.76
BLACK HAWK WASTE DISPOSAL, Services	\$5,814.90
BROWN SUPPLY CO., INC., Supplies	\$729.39
BUTLER COUNTY REC, Electric	\$44,519.91
CAMPBELL SUPPLY-WATERLOO, Supplies	\$204.31
CASEY'S GENERAL STORE, Gas	\$405.83
CEDAR VALLEY PUMP, LLC, Services	\$500.00
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Electric & Gas	\$3,715.98
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Natural Gas	\$1,175.85
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Reservation	\$4,320.58
DAVIS LAWN SERVICE, Services	\$1,166.00
BRIAN DELAGARDELLE, Cell Phone Reimbursement/ Clothing Allowance	\$412.98
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP, Services	\$7,000.00
EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$154.44
MIKE & TAMMY EVERDING, Utility Deposit Refund	\$200.00
FAIRBANK FOOD CENTER, Supplies	\$1.79
FAIRBANK POSTMASTER, Postage Nov.	\$136.50
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU, Training	\$330.44
GFG INSTRUMENTATION, Services	\$490.91
GWORKS, License & Support	\$3,990.34
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY COMPANY, Services	\$58.00
HEATH CONSULTANTS. INC., Services	\$470.19
IMWCA, 2019-2020 Audit Prem Adj.	\$1,471.19
IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC., Water	\$7,272.46
IPERS, Benefits	\$5,671.15
DAVID JERGENS, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$75.00
KEYSTONE LABORATORIES, INC., Testing	\$904.00
KIESLER'S POLICE SUPPLY, Supplies	\$207.13
KOONS GAS MEASUREMENT, Supplies	\$450.24
MAURER TREE SERVICE, Labor	\$4,000.00
MEDIACOM, Cable & Phone/Internet	\$280.24
MERCYONE WATERLOO MEDICAL CENTER, Drug Testing	\$48.00
MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$206.69
DAVID MOORE, Utility Deposit Refund	\$200.00
NSB/H S A, H S A Contributions	\$150.00
NSB/H S A, Payroll Deductions	\$290.00
NSB, Payroll Processing Fee 10/1/20	\$10.00
NSB, Payroll Processing Fee 10/15/20	\$7.00
NSB, Utility ACH Service Charge	\$10.00
NSB, Utility ACH Service Charge	\$10.00
OELWEIN PUBLISHING, Publications	\$338.18
OPERATION THRESHOLD, Customer Contributions/Donations	\$1,572.00
PATC, Supplies	\$220.00
PRATT'S PEST CONTROL, Services	\$40.00
PREMIER TECHNOLOGY, Web Hosting	\$215.89
QUICK MED CLAIMS, Billing Services	\$25.50
ROBERTS, STEVENS, PRENDERGAST, Attorney Fees	\$968.75
RSBR INVESTMENTS, LLC, Utility Deposit Refund	\$200.00
DAVID RYAN, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$75.00
SAM'S CLUB/GEGRB, Equipment	\$462.95
THE SHRED MASTER, LLC., Services	\$156.38
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA, October Sales Tax	\$1,854.05
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, Excise Tax	\$1,145.24
TURF & LANDSCAPE, INC., Mowings	\$790.00
U. S. TREASURY, 941 Taxes	\$7,440.83
U.S. BANK, PEFA Gas	\$1,955.34

UTILITY EQUIPMENT CO., Supplies	\$417.48
VERIZON WIRELESS, Cell Phones	\$162.98
VISA, Equipment/Supplies	\$1,693.96
WELLMARK, Premium	\$5,686.46
BRENT WIERCK, Labor	\$450.00
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE, Services	\$566.16
KATHIE WOLFGAM, Rebate	\$325.00
The Library Board approved the following bills on November 4, 2020:	
SYNCB/AMAZON, Supplies	\$38.37
ANGELA BERG, Reimburse Supplies	\$56.10
BAKER & TAYLOR INC., Books	\$1,058.25
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Electric & Gas	\$146.86
DAVIS LAWN SERVICE, Services	\$42.00
IMWCA, 2019-2020 Audit Prem Adj.	\$7.81
MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$12.45
NSB, Payroll Processing Fee 10/15/20	\$3.00
OVERDRIVE, INC., Subscription	\$405.95
PRATT'S PEST CONTROL, Services	\$40.00
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies	\$118.47
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE, Services	\$67.69
WORLD TRADE PRESS, Subscription	\$150.00
T. Woods/Williams to adjourn at 6:39 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.	
Mike Harter, Mayor	
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk	

THANK YOU

I, Lonnie Ross, want to thank those of you in our community, that took the time this past Veteran's Day, to express your gratitude to us veterans for serving in the arm forces. I know, I'm not alone when I say that means a lot to us! A special thank you goes out to the Fairbank Elementary School's teachers and students. Because of the virus we weren't able to get together this year on Veteran's Day, but the students still colored patriotic pictures and they were dropped off at our homes. I and all veterans thank you very much.

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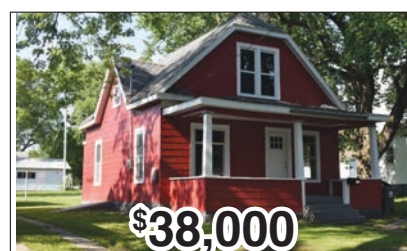
\$84,900

122 1st St. NE, Oelwein
PRICED TO SELL!



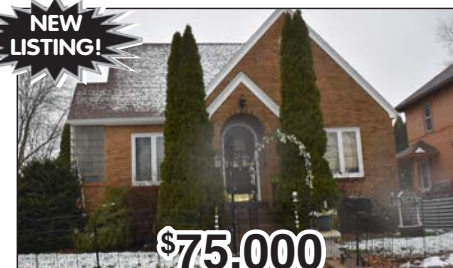
\$84,500

723 2nd Ave. SE, Oelwein
2 bed., 1 bath. det. garage,
professional fin. bsmnt.



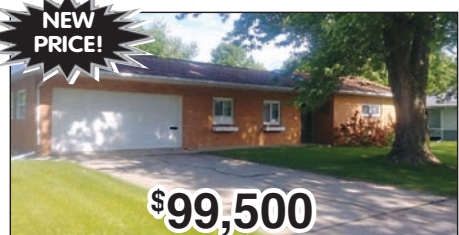
\$38,000

215 3rd St. NW, Oelwein
2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths,
main floor laundry, central air!!



\$75,000

40 3rd Ave. SE, Oelwein
2 bedroom, 2 car tandem garage.



\$99,500

424 7th Ave. SE, Oelwein
3 bedroom, 1.5 baths



\$40,000

129 3rd Ave. SE, Oelwein



41 - 42 1/2 3rd ST. NW Oelwein



\$45,000

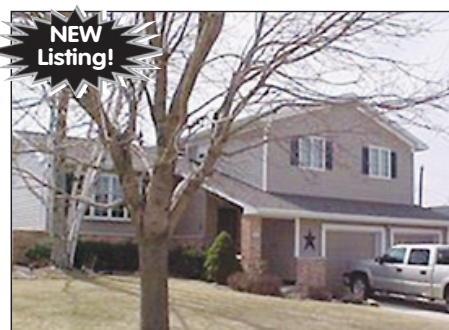
720 1st Ave SW, Oelwein

206 5th St. N, Fairbank.....PENDING
232 1st Ave. SE, Oelwein...PENDING
128 4th Ave. SE, Oelwein...PENDING
448 3rd Ave. SW, Oelwein.....PENDING
111 Short St., Hazleton.....SOLD



\$135,000

406 Wisconsin St., Fairbank
Updated 2-story, 4 bedrooms



1316 2nd St. SE, Oelwein

3-4 bedroom, 3.5 baths, F/P,
master bath, laundry by
bedrooms, 2,000+ sq. ft.
spacious multi-level, edge
of town, too many updates to list,
ready for the next owners!



\$38,000

945 S. Frederick Oelwein
2 bedroom, 1 bath,
HUGE yard.

**GREAT ACREAGE
LISTING!!
PAVED ROAD
10 MINUTES E of
OELWEIN!**

9104 K Ave., Fayette
Spacious 2 story
brick home, 4



**ONLY
\$299,000**

bedrooms up, formal living/dining room, main floor
family room, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, geothermal
heat/AC, heated floors,
trees, set up for horses. Bigger than it looks!



\$59,500

433 3rd Ave. SE, Oelwein
Large 2 Bdr. home with attached 2 car
garage, corner lot



**9909 R Ave.
Maynard**

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



504 1st Ave. NE, Oelwein

Large stately character
home, 4 bedrooms, 3.5
baths, large livingroom,

large dining room, large
eat-in kitchen, 2 family
room areas in basement.
2+ car tandem garage,
huge bi-level deck w/
LL patio, hobby/storage
building, new shingles.
Newer windows.

*This home is an
entertainers dream!*



206 2nd St. S., Fairbank



605 South St., Fairbank



16 7th St NW, Oelwein



411 8th Ave. NE, Oelwein



906 N. Fred., Oelwein



703 W. Charles, Oelwein



212 S. Walnut St., Fairbank

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