

# Fairbank ISLANDER

SERVING FAIRBANK AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

JANUARY 6, 2021

Compiled by Fairbank Community Club ~ Designed and Printed by Oelwein Publishing Co.

VOLUME 2, NO. 1

## Little Wapsie Communications, LLC coming to Fairbank

Who is Little Wapsie Communications? Why Fairbank, IA? What do they offer?

These are just a few questions you might have regarding our new partnership, Little Wapsie Communications. Little Wapsie Communications (LWC) partnership was formed by Oran Mutual Telephone Company and Readlyn Telephone Company (RTC Communications) after much discussion between the two Board of Directors on how we could expand our FIBER footprint to better serve our neighboring community and our school district with a state-of-the-art fiber network – local service and community minded business.

OMTC and RTC are independently owned telecommunication providers. OMTC was founded in 1911 and RTC was founded in 1907. We have been serving our communities with technologies that fit the customer needs, whether it is for work or entertainment. We are committed to providing great customer service and support for our communities, schools, and events. We provide a local presence and strive to serve our customers well. OMTC has provided fiber optic network in its territory since 2010 and RTC has provided fiber optic network in town since 2005 and our rural exchange since 2010.

Construction for this new fiber optic network will begin in the spring of 2021. Due to COVID-19, we will not be able to have an open house or town meeting. Therefore, our plan is to contact residents and businesses in Fairbank in February by going door to door with the information on the offerings that are still being developed. At this time, we will be asking your permission to plow a buried fiber to your home along with the housing enclosure on the outside of your home or business, along with asking if there is anything buried in your yard, like a dog fence. If the resident or business does not want the buried fiber installed to their home/business at the time of construction, requests for service at a later date will be charged for the construction, pricing is yet to be determined.

We are very excited to begin this new venture as Little Wapsie Communications in Fairbank. We look forward to meeting the citizens of Fairbank – becoming part of Your Community as a local business – providing a great product along with great customer service.

Watch for more details to come ....we will utilize the Fairbank Newspaper for announcements, along with mailings and door hangers.

Sharon K. Huck, General Manager  
RTC Communications  
Dan Lundt, General Manager, OMTC

## Schmitz crowned Miss Fairbank 2020

Even though there was no Fairbank Island Days 2020, the committee felt that there should still be a 2020 Miss Fairbank. A series of live videos announcing the winners has been posted to the Fairbank Island Days Facebook page.

The winners each exited their homes so that the 2019 queen, Melody Kayser, could bestow them with sashes and flowers. The final visit was to the home of Courtney Schmitz to crown her as the 2020 Miss Fairbank.

Courtney is a Wapsie Valley senior and is the daughter of Bob and Jenny Schmitz. She was sponsored by Little Island Daycare Center. After graduation, she plans to attend Hawkeye Community College for her prerequisites for their dental hygiene program, then interview for the program.

First runner-up was Kaylee

Kleitsch, daughter of Rick and Brenda Kleitsch. She was sponsored by Immaculate Conception Church.

Second runner-up was Emma Cutsforth, daughter of Dan and Lynda Cutsforth. She was sponsored by the Fairbank Fire Department.

“Miss Congeniality” was Aly-sandra Dixon, daughter of Jayson Dixon and Bobbi Deleon. She was sponsored by Fairbank Development Corp.

Also competing was Joslyn Miller, daughter of Amanda Jipson and Grant Miller, sponsored by Fairbank Community Club; and Camryn Wolfe, daughter of Jeannie and Ben Wolfe, and sponsored by the Fairbank American Legion.

The queen’s necklace and crown were courtesy of the Fairbank Days Committee, and everyone’s flowers



and sashes were courtesy of Fairbank Floral Images.

Congratulations to all the girls who participated!

## Island Days announces next year’s music



ADAM DOLEAC

Fairbank Island Days has rescheduled Adam Doleac as its Saturday night headliner for Fairbank Island Days 2021, after last year’s festival was canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic.

All current tickets will be valid for the 2021 festival, when Doleac



AARON SMITH

will appear Saturday, June 26, 2021 on the Island, with local artist Aaron Smith opening, the Fairbank Island Days committee announced on its Facebook.

Doleac has staked his claim as one to watch in Nashville. Recently No. 1 on Sirius XM’s Hot 30

Countdown with his single “Famous” a follow-up to previous release “Whiskey’s Fine,” which reached No. 3 on the countdown.

Doleac’s music was described by Rolling Stone as “anchored not only in the trends of Top 40 radio, but also the blue-collar grit of Bob Seger and the bluesy influence of his Mississippi hometown.”

Doleac made his Grand Ole Opry debut in 2018 and has been touring nationwide with such artists as Kane Brown, Chris Young and Carrie Underwood. He signed with Sony Music Group in October 2019.

As for Smith, check out his latest single, “Baptized In Black Dirt” on his Facebook page, @aaronsmithofficial or www.aaron-smithofficial.com. He is also on Spotify.



A MESSAGE FROM

**Mayor Mike**

By Mike Harter

The year 2020 is now gone and history. Probably a good place for it, but now is the time to start working for a better 2021.

I want to thank all of the people who had lights/decorations for the holidays. It was fun driving in and around Fairbank to take in the holiday cheer. There were many beautifully decorated houses and properties, but I am hoping for even more next year. I have talked to several residents of Fairbank who are already planning what they are going to do for the next Christmas season.

On behalf of the City Council and myself, I want to send our sympathies to Council person Andrew Williams on the passing of his father. Our thoughts and prayers are with Andrew at this difficult time.

With the vaccines coming, I am hoping we can soon be back to near normal. Until then, please continue to be safe. Wear your mask. Practice social distancing. Avoid the large groups. Together we can beat the virus.

Wishing you a wonderful and prosperous 2021!

Stay Safe – Stay Healthy

# BCEDC provides free computers to communities

The Buchanan County Economic Development Commission (BCEDC) had the opportunity to play Santa for some of Buchanan County's Communities during this holiday season. A little over three years ago BCEDC received 10 used laptops as a donation from Rockwell Collins to develop a mobile computer lab. Since then, these computers have been available to BCEDC investors, communities, and anyone in the county to check out for their organization. They were only used sporadically, and not at all in the last year and a half. Therefore, the BCEDC Board felt there was a better use for these computers. Rather than having usable computers sit in the BCEDC office becoming obsolete, the board directed Lisa Kremer, BCEDC's Executive Director, to see if any of the communities of Buchanan County could use them to update their current computers. Kremer informed all communities in the county of the computers availability and asked for a response to see where the computers could be used.

According to Director Kremer, "The board planned for all contingencies. If there was more of a need than computers available, a lottery system would be devised. Since there are 11 communities and only 10 computers, there was some concern if all of the communities had a want or need of a computer. Fortunately,



Fairbank City Clerk, Brittany Fuller, accepts two computers from the Buchanan County Economic Development Commission.

nately, that was not the case.

Because not all communities had a need for a computer, BCEDC was able to offer an additional computer to those who initially indicated a need. Kremer stated, "One of the 10 computers was not working, and we even found a home for that one in Jesup. A computer savvy employee thinks he can fix it, which would be great!"

Computers were distributed to Brandon (1), Fairbank (2), Independence (1), Jesup (3), Lamont (1), Rowley (1), and Winthrop (1).

"It was a lot of fun delivering these computers to our Buchanan County communities and hearing how much they appreciated the donation," said Kremer. Being able to find new and creative ways to serve the communities, investors, businesses, and industries of Buchanan County is how BCEDC has been able to pivot in this COVID world.

To learn more about BCEDC go to [www.growbuchanan.com](http://www.growbuchanan.com) or contact BCEDC Executive Director Lisa Kremer at [director@growbuchanan.com](mailto:director@growbuchanan.com) or call 319-334-7497.



Sponsored by:

Fairbank Community Club  
Fairbank, Iowa 50629

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

## Out-Of-Area Subscriptions

1 Year (12 issues) . . . . . \$28.00

Mail address and check to:

Fairbank Islander  
301 Catherine St., Fairbank, IA 50629

\*\*\*The Fairbank Islander is now also available for  
viewing on-line at the Fairbank Library website:  
[fairbank-ia.org/departments.php](http://fairbank-ia.org/departments.php)

Drop-off or Send News & Advertising to:

Fairbank Public Library  
P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629  
or email to: [f.library@mchsi.com](mailto:f.library@mchsi.com)

For information, call:

Fairbank Library 319-635-2487  
or Kathy Risse 319-635-2122

## Show the Fairbank Fire Department how much you appreciate everything they do . . .



## Support the annual fundraiser!

Letters coming out soon.

# DOESE

## PHOTOGRAPHY

DAVID & ELLEN DOESE

*"Capturing All Your Special Moments"*

BOX 100 • 402 LAKESIDE DR. • FAIRBANK, IOWA 50629 • 319-635-2268

**FINANCIAL DECISIONS GROUP**  
YOUR INSURANCE & FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS  
903 N. Frederick Avenue, Oelwein IA 50662  
(319) 283-1514 | cell (319) 440-2868  
(877) 370-6345 | fax (319) 283-1557  
[nwilkinson@fdg.net](mailto:nwilkinson@fdg.net) | [www.fdgloelwein.net](http://www.fdgloelwein.net)

**Neil Wilkinson**  
MSES, ChFC, CLU  
Investment Adviser Representative

Securities and investment advisory services offered through Royal Alliance Associates, Inc. (RAA), member FINRA/SIPC. RAA is separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of RAA.

Live for Today. Plan for Tomorrow.

# Gavin Marine

Sales ~ Service ~ Parts

Large inventory of parts  
to get you back on the water!

*We handle your insurance claims for you!*

TOM HYDE  
[GavinMarine.com](http://GavinMarine.com)  
[gavinmarine@windstream.net](mailto:gavinmarine@windstream.net)

319-231-8242  
101 Industrial Drive  
Fairbank, IA 50629

**DEADLINE  
FOR THE NEXT  
ISSUE OF THE  
FAIRBANK  
ISLANDER  
IS  
JAN. 27<sup>TH</sup>**

## Helping Hands Clothing Closet

2029 Viking Ave.  
Hwy. 56 – Sumner, IA

Providing **FREE** clothing to those in need.  
Brief Application Required

HOURS:

Tuesdays 9-11 AM Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 PM  
First Saturday of the month 9-11 AM



**Ozark**  
NATIONAL LIFE  
INSURANCE  
Wholly Owned Subsidiaries of  
National Western Life Insurance Group

## Balance Made Easy.

Balance your retirement goals with your life insurance needs with The Balanced Program from Ozark National Life. You may even qualify for substantial tax savings with a Roth IRA. Let me show you how!

**Joe Kleitsch**

Home: 319-635-2297  
Cell: 319-269-1443

[joseph.kleitsch@ozark-national.com](mailto:joseph.kleitsch@ozark-national.com)



**N.I.S.**  
FINANCIAL  
SERVICES, INC.  
Wholly Owned Subsidiaries of  
National Western Life Group, Inc.



# Warrior Way & More

December 2020

Wapsie Valley Community School District continues to utilize our On-Site Return to Learn Plan for the vast number of students and families. Some families have elected to participate in the Hybrid Return to Learn Plan that uses Edgenuity as the full-time on-line learning option for their students. We have seen a large number of students and staff in quarantine situations, as have many of the surrounding school districts. The vast majority of these exposures have happened outside of the school buildings, due to family member exposures or within the general community spread. We will continue with these learning plans within the present framework unless we see a spike in student illnesses or we are not able to effectively staff our classrooms.

The high school wrestling team, girls basketball team, and boys basketball team have started their seasons. It may look different in the bleachers with state restrictions set in place for spectators, but the ability for our athletes to compete is the important part of their experience at school. We wish everyone the best of luck in their sporting season. I would also like to congratulate the Wapsie Valley football team on their accomplishments this year in being a Class A State Qualifier.

The Wapsie Valley CSD Mission Statement states, "Guaranteed Learning for Every Student". This is our guiding principle that reminds us of the importance of student achievement at the highest level, even with the many distractions of the pandemic. The staff at WVCSD has continued to offer outstanding instruction, whether students are physically in the classroom or at home in a virtual on-line situation. I am so thankful for the classroom teachers, support staff and building level principals that keep our students as their main focus.

Stay Warrior Strong and Safe,

Dave Larson - Wapsie Valley CSD Superintendent



## Readlyn EMS reaches fundraising goal

The Readlyn EMS Association owes a debt of gratitude to many organizations and community members for helping us reach our fundraising goal of \$22,000 to purchase a new AED/Heart Monitor for our ambulance service. Our old model will no longer be FDA approved after February 2021. Without a new device, we would not be able to provide adequate healthcare services for those who may experience heart related concerns. The new Zoll X series model will allow us to have an all-in-one option for blood pressure checks, oxygen and heart rate readings, and EKG monitoring. New features will provide us with CPR assistance functions, time stamping of events, and the ability to check carbon monoxide levels.

The movie, The Polar Express says that "Sometimes seeing is believing. And sometimes the most real things in the world are the things we can't see" (42:24). These heartfelt moments and invisible traits are the foundation of what Readlyn, Wapsie Valley, and Bremer County are built upon. As a community, you continue to have faith in our abilities, trust our knowledge, and have confidence in our dedication to show up at each call and provide the best emergent healthcare services possible. In our time of need, we had that same faith in our community's ability to help us reach our financial goal, had trust in your knowledge to understand there is a true need for new medical equipment, and had unwavering confidence in your dedication to provide assistance when someone needs a helping hand.

The Readlyn EMS Association would like to thank the following organizations for selecting us as grant recipients this year.

~ \$1,000 - The Gordon Flesch Foundation

~ \$11,000 - Bremer County and Readlyn Community Foundations

~ \$500 - Waverly Walmart Community Grant,

~ \$1,000 - RTC Communications

To our friends and family who make up the wonderful community we serve, thank you for your support. We never would have reached our goal without your heartfelt generosity. Collectively, you provided us with \$12,000 that allows us to purchase the new device outright.

Readlyn EMS Association



## You want the TV you love with personal service you can trust. We hear you.

That's why at Schmidtke Video Systems, we take the time to listen to your needs and get you the right entertainment solutions. We're close to home, a familiar face and offer the best service, value and technology for you and your family.

Plus, ask about our whole-home HD DVR solution to power your entire home.



DUANE SCHMITDKE, OWNER

### 190 CHANNELS

AMERICA'S TOP 120

All-Time Favorites  
and Locals



Plus More!

Control your TV and  
Smart Home with your voice.

Turn on ESPN

Dim the living room lights

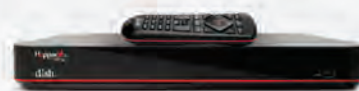
Google Assistant



Enjoy built-in Amazon  
Prime Video, Netflix,  
YouTube and more.



Get total recording  
freedom with 2,000  
hours of DVR storage.



Requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey, or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. Google Assistant Smart Home features require Google account and compatible devices. Google is a trademark of Google LLC. Netflix and Amazon Prime Video streaming memberships required. YouTube is a trademark of Google LLC. Recording hours may vary; 2,000 hours based on SD programming.



Schmidtke Video Systems | 319-238-6114

303 N. Water St., Fairbank, IA 50629

northeastiowasatellite.getdish.com



Offer for new and qualifying former customers only. Important Terms and Conditions: 2-year commitment; Early termination fee of \$20/mo. remaining applies if you cancel early. Regional Sports: RSN surcharge up to \$3/mo. applies to AT120+ and higher packages and varies based on location. NOT included in 2-year price guarantee or advertised price (and subject to change): Taxes & surcharges, add-on programming (including premium channels), DISH Protect and transactional fees. Premium Channels: 3 Mos. Free: After 3 mos., you will be billed \$30/mo. for Showtime, Starz and DISH Movie Pack unless you call or go online to cancel. Remote: The DISH Voice Remote with Google Assistant requires internet-connected Hopper, Joey or Wally device. Customer must press Voice Remote button to activate feature. Google Assistant Smart Home features require Google account and compatible devices. Google is a trademark of Google LLC. Other: All packages, programming, features and functionality and all prices and fees not included in price guarantee are subject to change without notice. After 6 mos., if selected, you will be billed \$9.99/mo. for DISH Protect Silver unless you call to cancel. After 2 years, then-current everyday prices for all services apply. For business customers, additional monthly fees may apply. Free standard professional installation only.



# Wapsie Valley FFA Holiday Drive-In Movie

By Mary Bodensteiner, Chapter Reporter

This year, since our chapter was not able to have our normal Christmas party, we tried a new event! FFA members were invited to the Wapsie Valley High School parking lot Sunday night, December 20th, where the members and officers in charge set up a drive-in movie. The movie shown was Home Alone and it took some creativity to set up the screen on the side of the school, but everything turned out extremely well! Cars pulled up and tuned into the radio station to hear the movie from their cars and everyone had a great time. Snacks were provided and hot cocoa was available to purchase. Only Wapsie FFA members were allowed to attend and they were asked to stay in their vehicle for the duration of the movie.

Because of how successful the drive-in movie was, the chapter would like to hold some more drive-in movies like this in the future for our members.



Cars lined up to watch the movie at Wapsie Valley High School Sunday night.

## What's Cookin'



From the kitchen of Arnola Siggelkow

"Winter is here" is the phrase often heard during the month of January. January is the month of sparkling snow, wintertime fun, cold winds and hot soup. Yes, January is National Soup Month, and what is better than a bowl of hot chili soup on a cold day?

Soup, both hot and cold, is made and served in so many different ways. Some say "no recipe necessary, just a bit of this and that to suit your taste." That is the way with chili, some like it thick and spicy while others like it milder and juicier.

Here is my "old-time" recipe (using home canned tomatoes) that has always been consumed with no complaints.



### Chili

6-8 servings

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1½ lbs. ground beef                    | 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce (optional)   |
| 1 large onion, diced                   | 1 - 10 oz. can tomato soup               |
| ½ c. green pepper, chopped             | 6 c. canned tomatoes, coarsely chopped   |
| 1 tsp. salt (optional)                 | (or equivalent of canned diced tomatoes) |
| ¼ tsp. pepper                          | 2 cans chili beans (or red kidney beans) |
| 1/8 tsp. garlic powder                 | ½ c. brown sugar                         |
| 1/8 tsp. red cayenne pepper (optional) |  |

Brown meat, onion, and green pepper; drain. Add salt, pepper, garlic powder, cayenne pepper, and Worcestershire sauce. Mix well. In kettle or crockpot, mix tomato soup, tomatoes, beans and brown sugar. Add meat mixture and blend together. Simmer at least 20-30 minutes in kettle or heat accordingly in the crockpot. Flavors blend as it simmers longer. (Note: tomato juice may be added if you desire to make it juicier) Serve hot with cornbread.

Since this is a large recipe, leftovers freeze well, or why not make a "Hungry Man's" casserole.

### Hungry Man's Casserole

Cook macaroni according to package directions so you have an amount of macaroni equal to the leftover chili. Pour the chili into a greased casserole. Add the macaroni and blend together. Sprinkle with a grated cheddar cheese and bake at 350 degrees for 20-30 minutes. Serve with garlic bread and a salad and you have a completely different meal.

National Pie Day is January 23; so, join in and make a pie to either enjoy eating and/or sharing. This Chocolate Pecan Pie will be a real taste-pleaser.

### Chocolate Pecan Pie



- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 cup white sugar       | 1 tbsp. melted butter  |
| 1/3 c. powdered cocoa   | 1 tsp. vanilla         |
| 3 eggs, slightly beaten | 1 c. pecan halves      |
| ¾ c. light corn syrup   | 1 unbaked 9" pie shell |

Stir together sugar and cocoa; add slightly beaten eggs, corn syrup, butter and vanilla and blend well. Stir in the pecans. Pour into an unbaked pie shell. Bake for 60 minutes at 350 degrees or until set.

Serve with whipped topping or a dip of ice cream with hot fudge topping.

# BUILDING

## OUR REPUTATION ONE CUSTOMER AT A TIME

We've been helping homeowners and contractors complete their projects with premium building materials and lumber. We pride ourselves on the quality of our product selection, as well as our commitment to value and great service.

Andersen  
WINDOWS • DOORS



When it comes  
to your next  
project, come  
to us!

ROYAL  
Building Products



THERMA TRU  
DOORS



Shop Online. Ship-to-Store.  
**FREE SHIPPING!**

fiberon  
Deck it right the first time.



Do it 40 lb. Blue  
Ice Melt Pellets

MODEL #2587212

ITEM #704028

~~\$15.99~~

SALE PRICE

**\$7.99**

WHEN YOU BRING IN  
THIS COUPON



# MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS

511 4TH STREET, HWY. V68 NORTH • FAIRBANK • 319-635-2355

Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00 to 5:00 • Saturday: 7:00 to Noon • [www.modernbuildingproductsia.com](http://www.modernbuildingproductsia.com)







By: Robert Shields

Howard Lee Durham, born July 7, 1941 to Emmett Aderman Durham and Mary Ellen McCuniff. Howard passed October 20, 2019. One of Howard's greatest passions was reading and expanding his knowledge. He attended the Fairbank Public School, where he played baseball, basketball, and was a member of the school band, playing trumpet. Another of Howard's pastimes was hunting, fishing, and the outdoors, which lead him to be one of the founding members of the Fairbank Gun Club. He was also instrumental in the formation of the Fairbank Historical Society of which he was the Vice President and a member of Board of Directors.

Howard worked at Bentley Chevrolet for many years as an auto mechanic. He was the owner-operator of the Fairbank Redemption Center, and worked a short time before retiring at Atwood in West Union.

On Howard's passing, he left his entire estate to the Fairbank Library, The Fairbank United Methodist Church, the Fairbank Historical Society and Iowa Public Television.

Howard's family was one of the first to settle in Fairbank Township. Justus A. Durham (Howard's GG Grandfather) and family settled in the area between the Kier Post Office and Littleton in 1851. The 1850 census of Buchanan County showed a mere 513 persons living in the entire county at that time. By 1852, the number had doubled to 1,023. The Township election of August, 1855 for Township officers, Justus A. Durham was elected as a justice of the peace. The Free Will Baptists Society organized in 1859, with about eighteen members. Among the early members were Deacon James

Sanborn, Justus A. Durham and wife, S. P. Cramer, Morrill Sanborn, E. Sanborn, Deacon Norris and wife, and Jason Nichols and wife.

Justus Durham was born January 20, 1811 in Vermont. He was the son of Allen Durham and Caroline H. Wood and died May 20, 1879, and is buried in the Kier Cemetery which is located west of the intersection of Dillon Ave and 140th Street, a little south of where the Keir Post Office was located. Kier Cemetery is a Pioneer Cemetery that had roughly 100 burials and has also been known as the Wilbur Cemetery, and the Kier/Union Cemetery.

Justus married Clarissa Wellman in New York State. She was born in Vermont about 1814 and died November 3, 1857, two days after giving birth to daughter Mary Alvira. It is believed Clarissa is buried in Kier cemetery. Justus and Clarissa had 7 children.

Their children are:

Martha was born August, 19, 1835 in Chautauqua, County, New York. On November 5, 1852 she was united in marriage to John S. Bright. In 1877 they moved to Deadwood South Dakota, and later living in Montana until John's death in 1897. After John's death, Martha moved back to the Fairbank area. Martha died August 21, 1922 at the home of her daughter, Lucinda Seller of Spencer, Iowa. Justus Cornelius was born about 1841, in New York

and died October 31, 1857 in Buchanan County.

Jesse Levi was born May 27, 1843 in New York. Jesse married Fanny Ellen Johnson on November 13, 1866 in Black Hawk County. They had 2 children, son John W. and daughter, Eva. Jesse enlisted in the 27th Iowa Infantry, Company C, on September 22, 1861 and was discharged for disability on June 18, 1862. Feeling a need to still serve his country he enlisted in the 9th Iowa Infantry, Company H, on August 15, 1862 and was again discharged for disability on March 16, 1863. After Jesse and Fanny's marriage, they lived for a time in Franklin Township, Bremer County, before moving to Perry, Lac qui Parle County, Minnesota, where Jesse was the town clerk. Jesse died by his own hand from a revolver shot to his forehead at the family home, March 3, 1893.

Alfred Allen was born August 4, 1846 in New York. He died in Fairbank Township August 9, 1863 at the age of 17.

Alice Victoria was born September 28, 1854 in Buchanan County and died November 29, 1926 at the home of her daughter Carrie Wilson, Waterloo, Iowa. Alice married Philander Allen Brant on July 3 1871.

# Howard Durham

Philander was a veteran of the Civil War, serving with Company C, 27th Iowa Infantry. Alice had 5 children: Carrie Mabel, Clarence E, Ira Leroy, Herbert Wesley, and Hilbert Burton. After Philander's death on March 11, 1911 she married Lewis Jacob Dietz on January 4, 1923, at Fairbank.

Mary Alvira, died at birth November 1, 1857.

After Justus first wife Clarissa died, Justus married Minerva (Stocker) Miller, December 17, 1857. Minerva died May 5, 1866 in Fairbank Township, and is buried in the Littleton Cemetery.

Justus then married Mary (Blade) King on June 24, 1866 after Minerva passed away. They had no children. Mary was born in Watertown, New York on February 25, 1821 and died at the home of her son Oscar P. King. She is buried in the Fontana-Hazleton Cemetery.

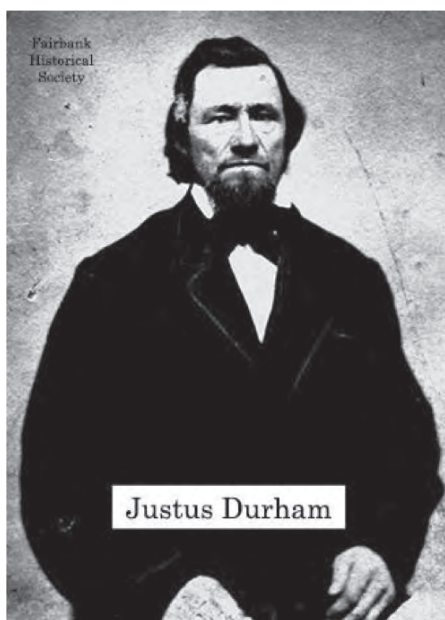
Justus and Clarissa's son, Thomas B. Durham (Howard's Great Grandfather) was born June 12, 1850 at Rock Prairie, Rock County Wisconsin and died September 14, 1937 at his home near Littleton. Thomas was only one year old when his family moved to Buchanan County. He married Miss Letitia Rubert in Independence, on September 13, 1888. Thomas and Letitia had two children, Frank Durham and Lucy (Durham) Fisher and an adopted son, Raymond Anderson. Raymond was born October 9, 1884 and died March 23, 1893.

Frank Durham (Howard's Grandfather), was born December 12, 1890 near Littleton and died April 1, 1962 at Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona. On November 17, 1914 he married Abbie Hannah Aderman in Independence. Abbie was born December 11, 1890. Frank and Abbie had one son, Emmett Aderman Durham.

In January of 1935, Frank Durham bought the grain elevator, coal delivery and John Deere implement business in Fairbank from Ralph Emerson. In 1946 Frank sold the grain elevator building to Mr. Winnie of Independence. Mr. Winnie tore down the elevator and used the lumber to build a house in Independence. Frank then built a large implement shed east of the site of the old elevator.

Howard's father Emmett was born near Littleton, September 18, 1915 and passed November 25, 1978. On February 24, 1939 Emmett married Mary Ellen McCuniff in Randalia, Iowa. Mary Ellen was born October 31, 1918 at Farley, Iowa to F. Patrick McCuniff and Della Mae Lyon. Before retirement, Mary was employed by Sun Mart Foods in Oelwein and Curley's Grocery Store in Fairbank. Mary died December 24, 2003. Both Emmett and Mary are buried in the Fairbank Cemetery.

NOTE. Because Fairbank Township's name has changed and has been parts of other townships in the early years when Justus first came to Buchanan County, I have used the modern name Fairbank Township for the area to avoid confusion.



**FAIRBANK**  
Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Brad & Adam Bachman

**641-330-1233 • 319-635-2229**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!**



**Woods Funeral Home**

*Our family serving your family, since 1959*

**400 Lakeside Drive Fairbank**

**319-635-2207**





# Business Directory

"Support Your Local Businesses ~ they're the heartbeat of America"

## Building & Repairs

### Modern Building Products

RICK & CINDY WOODS  
511 N. 4th Street N.E.  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2355

### Woods Construction Inc.

RON, CAROL,  
COLLIN & CHRIS WOODS  
505 2nd Street N.E.  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2308

### Dry Crik Construction

IVAN A. MAST  
1275 Indiana Ave.  
Hazleton, Iowa 50641  
(319) 283-8871

### Fairbank Plumbing & Heating

BRAD & ADAM BACHMAN  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(641) 330-1233 (319) 635-2229

## Family Needs

### Schmidtke Video Systems

DUANE SCHMIDTKE  
303 N. Water St.,  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 238-6114  
northeastiowasatellite.getdish.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)

## Financial

### Northeast Security Bank

120 Main Street  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2811

### Financial Decisions Group

NEIL WILKINSON  
903 N. Frederick Ave.  
Oelwein, Iowa 50662  
(319) 283-1514 office (319) 440-2868 cell

### FSB Premier Wealth Management

TIFFANY COFFIN, CFP  
Wealth Advisor ~ Financial Planner  
(319) 830-8982  
Email: TCOFFIN@FSBFS.COM

## Food & Restaurants

### Fairbank Food Center

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

### Costa's Sports Bar & Grill

99 E. Main Street  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2449

### Fairbank Locker & Processing

Award Winning Products  
104 Grove St.  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2595

### Aronia Berry Services of Iowa

DEAN & DONNA MANGRICH  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 240-4104 (319) 240-5627

### His Hands Food Pantry

5002 Main Street  
Oran, Iowa  
(319) 638-4357

## Hair & Beauty

### Mary Kay

CARMA SCHMIDTKE  
Independent Sales Director  
PO Box 189, Fairbank, IA 50629  
(319) 240-2495  
mkcarma@gmail.com  
www.marykay.com/carma

### Visions Salon & Spa

101-A 4th St. South, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2547

## Health & Well Being

### Fairbank Chiropractic

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

### Parkview Assisted Living

114 Forest St..  
Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2585  
www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com

## Insurance

### VanDaele Insurance, LLC

CHAD & AMBER VAN DAELE  
119 E. Main St., P.O. Box 467, Fairbank, IA  
(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

ERNIE BRICKMAN  
234 Main St., Readlyn, IA  
(319) 279-3893 (319) 267-2035

## Lawn & Garden

### Davis Lawn Service, LLC

SHAWN DAVIS  
104 Industrial Drive  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 239-5011

## Machine & Repair

### DHK Welding

LAYNE HILSENBECK  
2688 Y Avenue, Fairbank, Iowa  
(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

(319) 635-2869

### 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

LORI BEIERSCHMITT  
814 S. Frederick Avenue  
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  
TOM HYDE  
101 Industrial Drive, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 231-8242

### Myer's Polaris

304 E. Main Street  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2311

## Specialty Businesses

### Doese Photography

DAVID & ELLEN DOESE  
402 Lakeside Drive  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2268

### Floral Images & Gifts

PEGGI SUCKOW  
209 E. Main Street  
Fairbank, IA  
(319) 635-2037

### Woods Funeral Home

RANDY & JODI WOODS  
400 Lakeside Drive, Fairbank, Iowa  
(319) 635-2207

### Lewiston Monuments

MITCHELL COFFIN  
(319) 415-2472

### Fairbank Historical Society MUSEUM

103 E. Main Street, Fairbank, IA  
(319) 269-6795

We're in this together.....  
**PLEASE WEAR A MASK!**



**Lewiston Monuments**  
**Mitchell Coffin**  
319.415.2472

### Fairbank Historical Society

103 East Main Street

Meetings held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month  
~ Everyone Welcome ~  
Open Sundays 1:00 - 400  
Between Memorial Day and Labor Day  
Other times by Appointment  
Information: 319-269-6795



## Fairbank Locker

"The Meat Specialist"



Custom Processing  
Award Winning  
Homemade Products



31 Years of Service **319-635-2595**



# "Prohibition Divided Americans, Too"

by **Betty Brandt Passick**

Reverend A. Van Benschoten was a fictional character in the historical novel *Gangster in Our Midst* (2017), whom I loosely based on a Fairbank Free Will Baptist Society pastor of the same name. I chose him in the historical mystery novel as the 'religious authority' to pass by the Miller Opera House (est. 1894) on Main Street on a summer evening in 1929, just as "the house emptied, and movie-goers swarmed the boardwalk."

Members of Rev. Van Benschoten's flock would have known better than to be seen departing a movie house by their pastor, as they'd likely have gotten a stern rebuke on the spot--and a second rebuke during the sermon on the following Sunday.

Baptists were a large group in the Anti-Saloon League, promoting total abstinence from alcohol, believing it would lead to abstinence from family and society problems.

On this evening, Rev. Van Benschoten strikes up a conversation with the fictional character Walter Bierkoff, a local farmer, and his young son, Leonard--neither of whom are Baptist. (Walter's fictional character is loosely based on Leo Beierschmitt, a fifth-generation farmer who resided on his family's ancestral farm west of Fairbank in 2016; Leo was generous in giving multiple interviews for the novel.)

Early in the novel I defined Walter as "a farmer and man of keen curiosity." He is among the first of those in the township to figure out the 'mystery man,' Louie La Cava, is a gangster and works for Chicago Kingpin Al Capone.

Rev. Van Benschoten begins the conversation by reminding Walter: "I walk my dog most evenings and pass by this way...part of my job as spiritual leader of my flock; I say 'every coin spent on seeing a movie puts money directly into the pocket of the devil.'" Reading between the lines, the reader may suspect the two men have had this conversation before, considering the pastor's words hardly evoke a response from Walter. The fact that Walter (and his son) emerge from the movie, without dodging Rev. Van Benschoten, provides more clues into the mind and heart of Walter.

The conversation then turns political. Americans in favor of Prohibition had be-

lieved ratification of the Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution on January 17, 1920 would usher in a new era... When crime and violence would drop... When prosperity, good health and happiness would rise. It had been a beautiful dream, but one that turned into a nightmare.

In fact, considerable harm been done to America from passage of the amendment, which was never enforced with great success, thus energizing people to openly defy the law, giving way to home distilleries and sales, murders and bombings in the big cities, and generating organized crime members who became rich from bootlegging liquor, wine and beer and smuggling it by land, sea and air.

The township had its share of bootlegging, too (from the novel): "A few local bootleggers held dreams of becoming millionaires: Levensdusky, Allen, Fink, and McCuniff. All charged up to ten times more for beer and booze than before Prohibition, eventually buying it out of Chicago, as demand mounted."

Additionally, 9 years of federal Prohibition had re-exposed significant socio-economic, ethnic, and 'new' and 'old' immigrant divisions in America--already evident since the time of Abraham Lincoln.

The 'drys' tended to reside in relatively affluent neighborhoods and were members of the city's professional and local business elite. They were in the middle and upper socioeconomic classes and tended to be strong church members of Protestant denominations like the Methodists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Baptists, according to one source.

The anti-prohibition forces, the 'wets', were more likely to live in the less affluent areas of the community and represent the working class. Many belonged to the Catholic and Lutheran Churches and were of Russian and German backgrounds.

And a distinction made between the 'new' and 'old' immigrants was the loyal prohibitionist was likely to be native-born--that is, born in America. The early immigrant ancestors of these second- or third-generation Americans were viewed as strong-minded and moral people. The recent immigrants were more likely to be viewed as a threat to the values of sober middle-class citizens.

Back to the story. As Rev. Van Benschoten departs for home, Walter and Leonard remain on the boardwalk to observe the last stragglers to emerge from the Opera House... "a cluster of animated high schoolers, followed by the gangster, Louie La Cava, who had first showed up in the town after marrying an area girl in the early 1920s."

Walter has read newspapers peppered with stories of gangland murders and bombings in Chicago, New York and other places in the country linking La Cava to Capone. Thus, he likens La Cava to the tasseled corn stalk in a field of the unpollinated. The fox in the hen



Free Will Baptist Society, org. 1859, Fairbank, Iowa, and parsonage. Photo: Howard Durham, Fairbank, Iowa historian



Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Van Benschoten and family 1920-1924

house. A shard of glass at the feet of barefoot children.

Many of us living in the year 2020 know how the Prohibition story--and the likes of Al Capone--ended. But as the nation turned the page into the 1930s, whether Americans would be able to unify on the issue of Prohibition remained uncertain. It was the 1932 U.S. election where Americans showed their desire for change, voting overwhelmingly to oust Iowa-born President Herbert Clark Hoover (s. 1929-1933) from office.

In March 1933, shortly after taking office, President Franklin D. Roosevelt (s. 1933-1945) signed the Cullen-Harrison Act, amending the Volstead Act that permitted the manufacturing and sale of low-alcohol beer and wines. Nine months later, on December 5, 1933, federal prohibition was repealed with the ratification of the Twenty-first Amendment, which allowed prohibition to be maintained at the state and local levels. The Eighteenth Amendment became the only amendment to secure ratification and later be repealed. Roosevelt went on to win a record three additional presidential elections and became a central figure in world events during the first half of the 20th century.

Roosevelt also led the charge in unifying the country through his speeches extolling the virtues of democracy and the essential decency of the ordinary citizen--the "common man." Norman Rockwell's paintings, and movies like "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946) came from this period in history, too.

Thank you to Horton Baptist Church in Waverly, Iowa for providing the family photo of the real Rev Alfred "Alf" Qualiffe Van Benschoten (s. 1924-1929) from the 150th anniversary book. He served Horton prior to serving the Fairbank Baptist church. He died in 1977 at age 85 and was buried at Willow Lawn Cemetery in Plainfield, survived by his wife Dolly, two sons and two daughters.

"Fairbank Baptist church membership has dwindled over the years," said Rev. Mike Anderson during an interview in 2016. His second charge was Bethel Baptist Church in Independence. "Perhaps there are those in the Fairbank area who yet recall the Rev. Van Benschoten family."

*Gangster in Our Midst* won a 2019 Notable 100 Indie Book Award from Shelf Unbound book review magazine. The 2nd book in the trilogy will be available winter 2020-2021.

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



Leo Beierschmitt



Miller Opera House, est. 1894  
Gift L.T. Miller Bucknuth, est. 1933  
Permission: Gertrude "Dena" (Lehnsholtz) Fink

## Parkview Assisted Living

114 Forest St  
FAIRBANK, IA.

- ~ 3 Daily Homemade Meals
- ~ Weekly Housekeeping
- ~ Emergency On-Call System
- ~ 24 Hour Security & Staff Available
- ~ Utilities Included
- ~ Cable Included

Located directly across from Island Park, beside the Little Wapsie River.



Looking for people who are young at heart and wanting to let someone else deal with the day-to-day?  
Bring your home to our home.

**Stop in anytime for a tour.**

Check us out on Facebook, or our website:  
[www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com](http://www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com)  
Or contact us at **319.635.2585**



**BOOK YOUR OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TODAY!**

1080 102nd St

Fairbank, IA 50629

Call or text: 319-404-6475

Email: [ajscamperrentals@gmail.com](mailto:ajscamperrentals@gmail.com)

Website: [ajscamperrentals.com](http://ajscamperrentals.com)





## Fairbank Aquatic Center Preliminary 2020 President's Report

NOTE: This article was submitted in October, but wasn't run because of a shortage of space. We regret any inconvenience that it may have caused.

The Aquatic Center ended the season on schedule without any disruptions due to Covid-19, equipment break-downs, or contamination! However, the virus had a significant impact on operations. Total open swimming patrons this season were 5,832. This is a 28% less than a previous 5 year average of 8,000 patrons (high mark 9,500 previous low mark of 7,300). There were no public swimming lessons which typically account for between \$8,000 and \$10,000. To help control the spread, the concession stand did not serve some of our biggest sellers which resulted in a 34% decrease in concession sales. However, many pools and Aquatic Centers in the area were closed which resulted in a 7.6% increase in daily, non-season ticket holder admission users.

Although swim meets were canceled this year, the Oelwein/Fairbank Sharks still practiced and used the Fairbank location for all activities. Typically, practice is split between Oelwein and Fairbank facilities. The pool board is actively working

on acquiring necessary equipment (lane lines, starting blocks, etc) to host meets in Fairbank.

Numbers for total public swim patrons is experiencing a 5-year downward trend. This is an issue the board will be researching and we intend to partner with community members and city council to come up with ways to reverse the trend. This may not be easy as there are continually new athletic club or school event that come up which consume more and more of summer free time people (kids and adults) had to come to the aquatic center.

On a VERY positive note; our aids, guards, and managers performed exceptionally in an extraordinary year!!! We always have swimmers that need assisted in the water, but this year we had a couple of incidents that can be described as near drowning and our staff performed just as they have been trained and how they practice, and saved lives!! There were no serious injuries, disturbances, or disciplinary issues. A REAL ACCOMPLISHMENT!!!

Our staff was very vigilant this year on continuing education and training. They were also very vigilant to enhanced sanitation practices.

Finally, we served nearly 6,000 patrons for public swimming and received no indication of a Covid-19 infection originating at the pool. Some employees and patrons left or were asked to not come to the facility because of symptoms, but no there were no known infections.

A formal season report will be submitted once all financials are calculated.

Jason Kayser

Fairbank Municipal Board President.

### 2020 FAIRBANK AQUATIC CENTER

#### PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS BY THE NUMBERS

Private Lesson Fee - 79% increase  
Daily Admission - 7.6% Increase  
Family Pass - 60% decrease  
Single Pass - 42% decrease  
Private Parties - 16% decrease  
Concessions - 34% decrease  
Public Lessons - 100% decrease  
Days closed due to weather/low attendance - 53% decrease  
TOTAL PATRONS  
June - 51% decrease  
July - 7.6% decrease  
August - 5.3% Increase  
YEAR TOTAL - 20.5% decrease

**Parkview Resident Spotlight!**  
**Mary Jane Staack**  
**"Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday"**  
**to Jane on January 19<sup>th</sup>**

Jane was born in Fairbank, IA and lived on a farm until she was 4-5 years old, they then moved to Hazelton. She married Lyle Staack in May 1950 and they had 3 children: Steven (a semi-driver on the road), Craig (retired and lives in Vegas/Montana), and Donna (retired school teacher who lives in Florida). She has 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Jane loves to collect Christmas Trees as you may have seen in one of the recent Fairbank papers. She has lived at Parkview Assisted Living for 2 years and enjoys staying active with walks, exercises, and occasional activities.

**Please help us wish Jane a Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday this month!**

Any cards may be sent to:  
Parkview Assisted Living  
114 Forest St., P.O. Box 486,  
Fairbank, IA 50629




**FAIRBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
November 1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> Report

**Ambulance Calls:** 9  
**Carbon Monoxide Calls:** 0  
**Car Accidents With Injuries:** 0  
**Fire Calls:** 3  
**EMS Training Hours:** Approx. 30  
**Fire Training Hours:** Approx. 128

~ We hosted a 12 hour Trench Rescue class that was attended by 8 of our members as well as people from Jesup, Independence, Oran and Hawkeye. Regular training was SCBA skills activities and competition.

*Submitted by: Brad Gordon, Chief  
Fairbank Fire Department*





## Fresh Meat and Produce Dairy • Frozen • Grocery

*Your Local Full Service Grocery Store*

# fairbank

## Food Center

- DELI - CATERING - LIQUOR -

## WE OFFER CATERING

- Weddings • Birthdays
- Graduations
- Retirement Parties
- Nothing too big or too small

## Fairbank Deli - Best Around

**GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE**

**BOOK YOUR  
Holiday  
PARTY TODAY!**

- Delicious Dinners
- Crispy Broasted Chicken
- Succulent Salads • Sandwich Fillings
- Party Trays (meat, cheese, veggie, fruit)
- Sandwiches • Soup
- Entrees • Desserts

**102 N. 4th St., Fairbank, IA • 319-635-2139**  
**Open 7:30 am-8 pm • 7 Days a Week**  
**Check Out Our Complete Ad At [fairbankfoodcenter.com](http://fairbankfoodcenter.com)**

 Find us on:  
**facebook.**



# Ellie Neil wins top honors at the Kansas Beef Expo

On December 13th, Ellie Neil, along with her family, attended the Kansas Beef Expo in Hutchinson, Kansas. After spending countless hours in the barn each day working on her cattle, Ellie was ready to take them to a show. This year with COVID-19, many cattle shows in Iowa were canceled, so it was decided to take her steer and heifer to a show out of state.

The Kansas Beef Expo is a cattle show that is held every year and draws in a tremendous amount of exhibitors from several states. From Fairbank to Hutchinson, Kansas, it was about an 8-hour drive so the crew left early Thursday morning. Ellie exhibited two market animals: a Maintainer Steer named Louie and a Market Heifer named Mollie.

At this show, exhibitors showed in two

different show rings under two different judges. Ellie's brother Cole, fits and clips cattle all over the midwest when he is not in school at ISU. He helped prepare both the animals for the show ring that day.

In both rings, Ellie won her Maintainer steer class with Louie and won the whole Market Heifer breed with Mollie.

After winning the market heifers, Ellie went on to show for overall market animal where she competed against the rest of the breed champions. In the first ring, Ellie was awarded 5th overall market animal. This meant that she was the 5th best market animal at this show.

With hundreds of cattle entries, this was a huge accomplishment for Ellie and her family. Both animals will continue to show throughout this upcoming year in hopes of having this continued success.



Santa (Rick Jones) visited Fairbank on December 12th and handed out treats to the kids.

*When first appearances count for everything . . .*



**319-635-2547**

Cuts • Dimensional Hair Color • Color Make-up • Waxing • Professional Haircare Massage • Spray Tan • Manicures • Pedicures

**101-A 4th St. South, Fairbank, IA**



*"Serving Fairbank & the surrounding area since 1967"*

Offering a diverse portfolio of services:

- ▶ New Home Construction & Design
- ▶ Remodeling & Additions
- ▶ Light Commercial Buildings
- ▶ Agricultural Buildings
- ▶ Earth Moving



Visit our website or give us a call to schedule a consultation!



505 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NE • Woodconst.com • 319-635-2308



**CHRIS WOODS 319-240-3212**

**FOR SALE**

**602 2nd St. NE  
Fairbank**

1,476 Sq. Ft.,  
2 Bedroom, 2 Bath,  
In-floor heat, no steps.  
2.5 stall garage.  
**\$245,999**



**613 Collins Road  
Fairbank**

1,508 Sq. Ft.,  
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath,  
Unfinished Basement,  
3 stall garage.  
**\$265,000\***



\* Price subject to change as finishes are selected



## Wapsie Valley football players set new school records

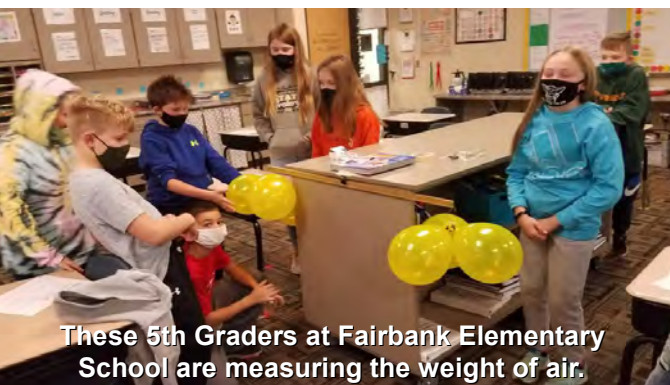
Two Fairbank football players set new career school records this year at Wapsie Valley High School. Senior quarterback Kobe Risse set two new records. He had 4,510 total passing yards and 59 touchdown passes. He also tied the school record of 6 touchdowns in a game. Kobe is the son of Jess and Nick Miller, and the late Jamie Risse.

Senior wide receiver Blayde Bellis topped the current school record with a total number of 113 career receptions. He also received the honor of being selected for the 2020 ALL-STATE Class A 1st Team by the Iowa Print Sports Writer Association (IPSWA). Blayde is the son of Ryan and Mikayla Bellis.

Other Wapsie players selected for the ALL-STATE Teams were: 2nd Team – QB Kobe Risse and RB/FB Trevor Sauerbrei; and on 3rd Team – Kicker Dallas Wittenburg.

Class A, District 4 ALL-DISTRICT Teams included: 1st Team – Kobe Risse, Blayde Bellis, Trevor Sauerbrei, Tyler Ott and Jordan Rubner; 2nd Team – Ethan Oltrogge, Luke Rochford and Garret Barnes; and Honorable Mention – Ayden Cummings and Brody Stark.

ALL-DISTRICT honors went to Dallas Wittenburg as “Kicker/Punter of the Year.” Congratulations to everyone on the team for giving us another great season!



These 5th Graders at Fairbank Elementary School are measuring the weight of air.

# Fairbank Public Library

**LIBRARY STAFF**  
 Angela Berg, Director  
 Beth Dixon, Assistant  
 Linda Lelton, Librarian  
 Roxie Wenner, Custodian

212 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 426, Fairbank, IA 50629  
 Phone: 319-635-2487 Fax: 319-635-2487  
 Email: f.library@mchsi.com Website: Fairbank-ia.org

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

*In Loving Memory*  
**Laura Rebecca VanDaele**  
*Becoming a Good Creature*..... from Karen Coffin  
*Three Women Disappear*..... from Karen Coffin  
*Dog Diaries: Curse of the Mystery Mutt*..... from Karen Coffin  
*A Danger in the Dust*..... from Dean & Deb Brase  
**Wanda Kaufman**  
*Kid in the Kitchen*..... from Gary Fink  
*Saving Baby*..... from Dean & Deb Brase  
*Funeral for a Friend*..... from Tim & Roxanne Erhardt  
*Bread of Angels*..... from Charles & Cleo Joerger  
**Virginia Schellhorn**  
*The Spice Box Letters*..... from Dean & Deb Brase  
**Melanie Menuet**  
*Lost Lake*..... from Dean & Deb Brase  
**Joan Wedemeier**  
*Written on My Heart*..... from Dean & Deb Brase  
**Pat Miller**  
*Hidden America*..... from Dean & Deb Brase  
*The Heart Keeper*..... from Joe & Jeanne Miller  
*War Widow*..... from Joe & Jeanne Miller  
*Mr. Nobody*..... from Joe & Jeanne Miller  
*A Nearly Normal Family*..... from Joe & Jeanne Miller  
**Lila Eleanor Schellhammer Weipert**  
*You and Me and Us*..... from Angela Berg & Beth Dixon  
*Home At Last*..... from Denny & Paula Farrington  
*Devoted*..... from Denny & Paula Farrington  
**Kevin Fink**  
*The Sentinel*..... from Gary Fink

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**A huge Thank You!**  
 to all who donated or purchased Gift Baskets for our  
 Annual Fairbank Public Library's 2020 Holiday Gift Basket Fundraiser!  
 We raised \$944.00!

**The Library is Open  
Masks are Required!**

- You can still call for curb side pickup if you feel safer.
- No children in the library without an adult.
- Computer time is limited to 30 minutes.
- If you have been sick or are feeling ill, please wait to come inside the library until you are feeling better.
- Please remember to practice social distancing inside the library and use the available hand sanitizer.
- Please call the library at (319) 635-2487 if you have any questions or need assistance with getting books or our services.
- You can also request books through the catalog found on our website <http://fairbank-ia.org/library.php> or by emailing the Library at: [f.library@mchsi.com](mailto:f.library@mchsi.com)

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

You can use your Library card to check out Ebooks and Audiobooks for free using the Libby app from Overdrive!

**Meet libby**  
 The one-tap reading app from your library

Happy Reading

Available on the App Store | Google Play | Microsoft

Download the Libby app

Find your library

Enter your library card

Enjoy!

**libby**  
[meet.libbyapp.com](http://meet.libbyapp.com)

Happy Reading  
 Brought to you by your local library, and built with Overdrive



# DAVIS

## LAWN SERVICE

FAIRBANK, IOWA

# 319-239-5011

### We offer:

- \* Weed Control
  - \* Core Aeration
  - \* Fertilization
  - \* Grub Preventer
  - \* Lawn Mowing
  - \* Spring & Fall Cleanups
- ... and much more!

Knowledgeable and helpful.  
Locally owned and operated.





# New year brings a challenge

*"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night." (Psalm 92 English Standard Version)*

Grace to you, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! It is good to be with you again this month. I hope that all of you had a good Christmas, as strange as it may have been. I know that you had a blessed Christmas because we again sang praise to God Most High for the birth of His Son in the flesh. It is through Christ's work that we receive the forgiveness of sins, and that work is already begun in His birth for us. Soon, He will come a second time to, "save those who are eagerly waiting for Him." (Hebrews 9)

I led with the verse from Psalm 92 because it reminds us that it is good to sing praise to God, to praise Him at all times. By the time you're reading this, Christmas has passed and - for some - so has the time for going to church. This is not the time or place for me to discipline you; for most of you, I am not your pastor (although, I'd like to be). Instead, if you find that most of your church attendance during the year falls near or on Christmas, why is that? There's probably a multitude of responses you could give; but what I mean is, why Christmas? It might be because you recognize that something special is going on, that - the Holy Spirit be praised that you believe this - at Christmas God gave His only Son to save us.

If you do come to church on Christmas (whether it's the only service you attend, or you attend throughout the year), there are also other days in the year that we celebrate something special going on. We call these "Church Holidays," or sometimes "Feasts." Christmas is one, Easter is another. Church holidays celebrate specific events in the life of Christ - all of which have meaning for us. This month there are 4 of them (1 has passed already). On the 6th, we celebrate Epiphany. On the 10th this year, we'll celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. On the 24th, we'll celebrate a holiday called the Transfiguration. Each of these, although different from Christmas, is also important and means something for our lives as Christians.

My challenge for you, at this time where people are making resolutions, is to find another Church Holiday on the calendar and go to church. It doesn't have to be mine (although you'd be welcome); talk to your pastor, priest, or deacon about when the other Church holidays come up during the year - I guarantee they'd love to answer that question. Maybe you've never heard of the Transfiguration before, why not go and learn something? If not, how about Palm Sunday? On May 13th (a Thursday!), we'll celebrate Christ's Ascension; how about that? All of these, though different than Christmas, are worthy contenders to not be just on the Church calendar, but yours, too! "It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High."

In Christ, Pastor Jacob Swenson St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, Fairbank



These Fairbank Elementary TAG students presented a creative story telling project. They had to take a story that they have heard before and change it however they wanted to in order to make it their own. Then they had to find a creative way to tell the story. This group made a play based on Chicken Little, in which they named "Chicken Big".



**Carma Schmidtko**  
Independent Sales Director

P.O. Box 189  
Fairbank, IA 50629  
310-240-2495

mkcarma@gmail.com  
www.marykay.com/carma

Enriching Women's Lives™

MARY KAY



**563.608.1400** Fairbank, Ia

**Stainless Steel and Aluminum Repair / Machining**  
**CNC Plasma Cutting / Portable Welding**

**Layne Hilsenbeck** **2688 Y Avenue**



**NORTHEAST SECURITY BANK**

*Planting Dreams. Growing Success.*

MEMBER FDIC

**120 Main St | Fairbank | 319-635-2811**

WWW.BANKNSB.COM



**HIS HANDS  
FOOD PANTRY**

5002 Main Street  
Oran, Iowa

*Currently serving Readlyn, Sumner,  
Fairbank & Oran area residents.*

Brief application required. **HOURS:**  
**319-638-4357** Tuesdays 5-8 P.M.  
Fridays 9 A.M. - 12 Noon

The "What" Berry Farm?  
**... Aronia Berry! LLC**

FAIRBANK, IA



**Frozen Aronia Berries**  
&  
**Cornish Cross Broilers**

FARM FRESH, ANTIBIOTIC FREE  
STATE CERTIFIED PROCESSED CHICKENS

Available the end of May and throughout the summer!  
**Taking Orders Now!**

Call: 319-240-4104 or 319-240-5627

Dean & Donna Mangrich OWNERS



PEGGI SUCKOW  
Owner

**Floral Images  
& Gifts**

**319-635-2037**

209 E. Main Street  
Fairbank, Iowa

Open Mon. thru Sat.

## Church + Services



	<p><b>United Methodist Church</b></p> <p>107 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2932</p> <p>Worship Service: 9:15 AM</p>
	<p><b>St. John Lutheran Church</b> (MISSOURI SYNOD)</p> <p>208 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629 319-635-2181</p> <p><b>Pastor Jacob Swenson</b></p> <p>Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service: 10:00 AM</p>
	<p><b>Immaculate Conception Catholic Church</b></p> <p>302 W. Main Street Fairbank, Iowa 319-635-2211</p> <p><b>Father Ray Atwood</b></p> <p>Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM Wednesday Mass: 8:00 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM</p>
	<p><b>Lord of the Harvest</b></p> <p>Prayer and Praise Center 101 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629</p> <p><b>Rev. Scott Jans</b></p> <p>Worship Service: 9:00 AM</p>
	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b></p> <p>304 Grove Street Fairbank, Iowa 50629</p> <p><b>Rev. Mike Anderson</b></p> <p>Worship Service: 9:00 AM Sunday School: 10:00 AM</p>

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



# Piano students perform virtual recital on Zoom

Listening to live Christmas music is always fun, no matter if it is in-person or virtual! On Sunday, December 20, the piano students of Faith Swenson all gathered online on Zoom to perform a recital for their families. Close to 35 households were watching. The students played every kind of Christmas music ranging from slow and melodic "Silent Night", to upbeat and fun "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree".

Piano players performing from Fairbank included: Brock Berg, Braylee Berg, Stella Auel, Ava Auel, Bridget Seemann, Norah Oldfather, Mason Curley, Peyton Curley, Liza Wierck, Lilly Wierck, Penelope Myers, and Cooper Frost. Other piano students of Faith Swenson included Elizabeth and Henry Menet of Cedar Falls, and Solveig and Jacob Preus of Guttenberg.



Braylee Berg

## Living on the Edge

By Pat Pint

In another week, I'll get serious about putting Christmas decorations and gifts away. In the meantime, I am enjoying the twinkling light, the new packages of bubble bath, the crispness of the fresh blanket and the vibrant colors of the new sweaters.

Due to Covid, we were unable to visit my family in Cincinnati. This year, I had more time to unpack lots more angels and ornaments, so I want to enjoy the Christmas season just a little longer.

Speaking of traveling, in my Internet journeys, "Hi Cards/2005" listed these as the top 10 worst Christmas gifts:

1.) Underwear 2.) Mood ring 3.) Dryer lint toy 4.) Dental floss 5.) Fruitcake 6.) Donnie and Marie Osmond's Christmas CD 7.) Scratched lottery ticket 8.) The Clapper 9.)

Socks, and 10.) Chia Pet

I'm sure you can determine your own top 10 terrible presents.

Flash forward to 2020. According to the Good Housekeeping web site, the following items were listed as the most popular gifts:

1. 3-in-1 charging stand
2. Moon lamp which is a 3D night light
3. Create your own reel viewer
4. Shiatsu back and neck massager
5. Elf: Snowball showdown card game
6. Portable reusable drinking straw
7. 1 step hair dryer and volumizer
8. Important dated burlap print
9. Any song lyrics personalized print
10. Urban map rocks glasses.

Whatever arrived under your tree, I hope it was something you wanted, or needed and appreciated.

**319-279-3893**  
**319-267-2035**  
securitymutualins.com

**234 Main Street ~ Readlyn, IA**

INSURANCE HEADQUARTERS INC.

**VAN DAELE INSURANCE, LLC**

greatrates@vandaeleins.com

**For all your insurance needs!**

**Farm \* Home \* Auto \* Commercial**  
**Crop \* Life \* Health \* Life Insurance**

119 E. Main Street - PO Box 467 - Fairbank, IA 50629

**319-635-2526** Fax: 319-635-2162



## Coming Soon To The Community of Fairbank!

# LITTLEWAPSIE COMMUNICATIONS

## STATE-OF-THE-ART FIBER OPTIC NETWORK

*to provide reliable broadband service!*

- **Construction to begin in the Spring of 2021**
- **FREE INSTALLATION** at the time of construction
- **LOCALLY OWNED PROVIDER** — Readlyn Telephone Company (RTC Communications) and Oran Mutual Telephone Company (OMTC) formed Little Wapsie Communications, LLC to bring a local presence into the community along with great customer service and 100% fiber optic network.

**Watch for more information to come regarding sign-up, broadband plans, telephone, and managed WiFi options!**



## LARRY DEAN HAGENOW

May 22, 1941 ~ December 18, 2020

Larry Dean Hagenow, 79, of Readlyn, Iowa, passed away on Friday, December 18, 2020, at UnityPoint Health-Allen Hospital in Waterloo.

Larry was born on May 22, 1941, in Waterloo, Iowa, the son of Wilbert Carl and Ruby Louise (Warnke) Hagenow. He was united in marriage to Doris Ann Thurm on November 13, 1960 at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn. Larry retired after 30 years from John Deere.

Larry enjoyed farming and golfing. He especially enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and watching them in their activities.

Larry is survived by his wife; Doris of Readlyn; three daughters: Paige (Troy) Kuethe of Geneseo, Illinois; Penny (Jeff) Schmidt of Readlyn; Tempest (KC) Hutcheson of Indianola; eight grandchildren: Clay (Jessica) Kuethe and their children, Madison and Avery; Tyler (Brittany) Kuethe and their children, Barrett, Elouise, and Wesley; Holly (Adam) Bierstedt and their children, Emersyn, Eli, Emery and Ethan; Heidi (Duane) Foster and their children, Kambri and Karlie; Zach (Whitney) Schmidt and their children, Traeton and Terek; Nolan Schmidt; Kalen (Valerie Reimer) Hutcheson; and Seth Hutcheson; two sisters: Connie (Roger) Buhr of Readlyn and Sherri (Doug) Koschmeder of Readlyn; and two sisters-in-law: Ruth (David) Wittenburg of Readlyn and Shirley Thurm of Denver. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Steve Hagenow.

A private funeral service was held on December 22 at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn with Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary officiating. Burial was in Zion Lutheran Cemetery.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## DALE PAUL WALIGORSKI

November 30, 1932 ~ December 7, 2020

Dale Waligorski, age 88, passed away Monday, December 7, 2020 at Oelwein Health Care Center. He was born in Fairbank, Iowa to parents Paul and Bertha (Braun) Waligorski on November 30, 1932. The youngest of four children, the family lived and farmed just East of Fairbank. Dale graduated from Fairbank High School. After graduation he attended Upper Iowa University and graduated after three years with a degree in Biology.

The Army came a calling and Dale spent the next two years being a clerk. He spent 18 months overseas in Germany. He was honorably discharged from service and began his teaching career teaching Junior and Senior High Science in Geneva. His teaching career would take him to Dunkerton and eventually to the Waco School District, Wayland, Iowa, where he taught until his retirement.

During his teaching career he coached basketball and baseball. One of his fondest memories was beating Waterloo East on one night and then beating Oelwein the next night. A pretty big deal for the little school of Dunkerton. During the summer months, Dale managed the Fairbank Pool for many years.

After retirement he returned to his hometown of Fairbank. In his spare time, Dale enjoyed fishing and watching ballgames. He was an avid gardener and also owned rental properties which kept him busy with maintenance and repairs.

Dale moved to assisted living in Fairbank on Labor Day weekend in 2012. He became a resident of Oelwein Care Center on December 8, 2012 and remained there until his passing.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents; sister Doris Kaufman on September 30, 1996; sister Arlene Waligorski on January 22, 2004; and sister Lucile Geske on July 13, 2004; brother-in-law Arnold Geske on September 24, 2020. Left to celebrate his life are his nephew's and niece's: James Kaufman Jr., Des Moines; Jeffrey (Sharon) Geske, Peoria, IL; Elizabeth (Robert) Arnold, Sherburn, MN; and Jane (Kurt) Domeyer, Fairbank; and brother-in-law James Kaufman, Sr., West Union.

The family wishes to express their gratitude to the staff at Oelwein Care Center for treating Dale like a member of their family since 2012.

Dale was laid to rest alongside his parents and sister Arlene in the Fairbank City Cemetery. A private family graveside service will be held at a later date. Memorials in honor of Dale may be directed to Oelwein Care Center, 600 7th Street SE, Oelwein, IA 50662.



## JEROME EDWIN KAUFMAN

May 7, 1938 ~ December 23, 2020

Jerry Kaufman passed away December 23, 2020 at UnityPoint Allen Hospital in Waterloo. He was born May 7th, 1938 in Brandon, Iowa, the son of Fred and Marie (Steils) Kaufman. Jerry grew up in the Eagle Center area. As an adult, he moved to Oelwein, and finally settled in Fairbank in 1969.

Jerry worked at John Deere in Waterloo for 35 years. He purchased the car wash in Fairbank in 1978 and soon began selling cars at that same location. That business became Jerry's Auto, Inc. in 1989, upon his retirement from John Deere. The business will live on through Jerry's son, Todd.

Jerry never met a stranger, had a terrific outlook on life, and was strong in his faith. He was an amazing husband, dad, grandpa and great grandpa, and will be missed dearly by his four children: Julie Bentley (Curt Kelley), Denise (Bob) Crew, Sherry (Tony) Duffy, and Todd (Tina) Kaufman; nine grandchildren: Kyle Bentley, Clint Bentley, Kaleb Bentley, Brent Duffy, Candace Ratchford, Rachel Walton, Emily Van Winkle, Kaitlyn Kaufman and Traeton Kaufman; thirteen great-grandchildren; three brothers: Jim (Glenda) Kaufman, Jack Kaufman and Tim (Shar) Kaufman; three sisters: Connie Broell, Mary Kaufman (Gloria Hill) and Sue Thompson; along with countless other family and friends. We pray there is a card game happening in heaven with Wally, Dale and Bob.

Jerry was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Wanda Kaufman; father and mother, Fred and Marie Kaufman; mother and father-in-law, Lester and Opal; his brother Wally; brother-in-law Dennis; and granddaughter Lou Ann Bentley.

Funeral Mass was held on December 28th, 2020 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank, with interment at Immaculate Conception Cemetery. Memorials can be directed to the family for later designation.

## LUELLA "LOU" LOIS FORTSCH

September 07, 1937 ~ November 22, 2020

Luella "Lou" Lois Fortsch, 83, of Readlyn passed away on Sunday, November 22, 2020 at Allen Hospital in Waterloo, Iowa.

Lou was born in Bremer, Iowa on September 7, 1937, to Fred and Clara (Kueker) Heine. She graduated from Tripoli High School in 1955. She was united in marriage to Ervin Fortsch on July 7, 1957 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Artesian, Iowa. The couple made their home in Readlyn, where Lou was given the honor of being named "Readlyn Grump" in 2008.

After high school, Lou worked for Blackhawk Abstract Company in Waterloo before opening her first restaurant, Lou's Place in Readlyn in 1975. Lou's Place later closed in 1977. In 1979, Lou started her next restaurant, The Center Inn in Readlyn until her retirement in 1996. Lou was known for her delicious potato salad.

Lou was a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Readlyn, where she was active helping with the church dinner fundraisers. Lou had a knack for decorating and she had a passion for decorating for every holiday. Lou enjoyed traveling, especially her trips to Branson, Missouri and playing cards with her friends at Cobblestone Court Assisted Living. She was also a member of the RedHat Society.

Lou is survived by her four children, Connie (Scott) Matthias of Readlyn, Barry (Lori) Fortsch of Readlyn, Julie (Tim) Leehey of Waterloo, and Bruce (Deb) Fortsch of Readlyn; a sister, Alice Heese of Urbandale; a brother, Fritz Heine of Waverly; a sister-in-law, Mildred Clark of Readlyn; 14 grandchildren, Brooke (Jeremy Meneuy) Myers, Bridget (Aaron) Destival, McKenzie (Travis) Schmitt, Miles Matthias, Adam (Tammy) Kaufman, Andy (Brook) Kaufman, Aaron (Audrey) Kaufman, Abigail (Jacob) Lukins, Alex (Abi) Fortsch, Joe (Brooke) Leehey, Mike (Tara) Leehey, Stephanie (Shawn Schroeder) Rewerts, Susan (Josh) Gilbert, and Tony (Kammy) Mathis; and 40 great-grandchildren and two on the way.

She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, mother-in-law and father-in-law, Harold and Alice Fortsch, siblings, Agnes (Elmer) Henniges, Arlene Schweer, Ervin (Norma) Heine, Alfred (Carrie) Heine, Laverne Heine, Delores (Wayne) Lynch, brother-in-law, Arlyn Heese, and sister-in-law, Connie Heine.

A virtual service was held on November 27th at S.K Rogers Funeral Home in Sumner. Memorials may be directed to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Readlyn or to Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.



## WILMA JANE HABERKAMP

December 11, 1930 ~ December 20, 2020

Wilma Jane Haberkamp, 90, of Fairbank passed away Sunday, December 20th at Oelwein MercyOne Hospital due to complications of Covid-19.

Wilma was born December 11th, 1930 in Fairbank, Iowa. She was the daughter of William and Agnes Haberkamp. She was baptized December 21st, 1930 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fairbank. She attended I.C. Catholic High School and graduated there after. Wilma attended Upper Iowa University in Fayette where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She taught students at Clarksville Elementary for a short time and spent over 30 years teaching at Wilson Elementary School in Cedar Rapids. After retiring from a life-long passion of teaching, Wilma returned to Fairbank and enjoyed working with her sister at their business - Jo's Thread and Thimble.

Wilma was highly involved in the Fairbank American Legion Auxiliary and the Immaculate Conception Church. She enjoyed quilting, traveling, playing cards, stitching, gardening, cooking, baking, and most of all spending time with her nephew Doug, his wife Janice and her great nephew and nieces Garrett, Emily, and Lydia. Together, they spent time creating 4-H projects, baking, playing countless games, reading, and would spend the summers helping the kids sell sweet corn.

Wilma truly had a one of a kind personality. She was very smart and always had a story to tell or a strong opinion to offer. She loved her family dearly, and will be missed by those who knew her.

Wilma is survived by her nephew Doug (Janice) Martins of Fairbank, and their children Garrett, Emily, and Lydia as well as many cousins and extended family. She is preceded in death by her parents William and Agnes Haberkamp, sisters Josephine Haberkamp and Mary Martins and brother in law Donald Martins.

Funeral Mass was held December 23, 2020 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Fairbank, with interment at Immaculate Conception Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.

## BRUCE DEAN FORTSCH

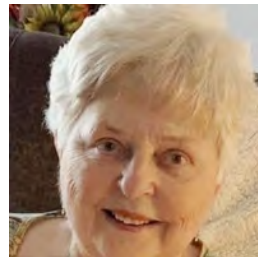
October 18, 1966 ~ November 30, 2020

Bruce Dean "Grandpa Bruce" Fortsch, 54, of Readlyn, Iowa, passed away on Monday, November 30, 2020, at UnityPoint Hospital-Allen Memorial in Waterloo.

Bruce was born on October 18, 1966, in Waterloo, Iowa, the son of Ervin and Luella (Heine) Fortsch. Bruce was baptized and confirmed at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Readlyn. He graduated from Wapsie Valley High School in 1985. He worked along with his parents in the Center Inn, at the Readlyn Co-Op, worked for Elton Schutte and worked for Per-Mar Security. He retired after thirteen years from Bremwood in Waverly in 2018 due to ill health. Bruce was united in marriage to Deborah Burton on July 12, 2010 in Waverly. Together, Bruce and Deb enjoyed going to auctions, garage sales and coin collecting. The most important thing in Bruce's life was his family. He cherished his time with his children and grandchildren. His nieces and nephews held a special place in his heart, and he will be missed dearly by all those that loved him. Bruce loved his momma so much and he is finally with her again. He also loved his brother and sisters.

Bruce is survived by his wife, Deb Fortsch of Readlyn; two daughters, Stephanie (Shawn Schroeder) Rewerts of Aplington; Susan (Josh) Gilbert of Waverly; and a son, Tony (Kammy) Mathis of Longview, Texas; his grandkids, Jess, Josie, Destiny, Brooklyn, Lizzy, Carson, Cadie, Cassidy, Gio, Carter, and Barrett; a sister, Connie (Scott) Matthias of Readlyn; a brother, Barry (Lori) Fortsch of Readlyn; and a sister, Julie (Tim) Leehey of Waterloo; his eleven nieces and nephews that Bruce loved like they were his children. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ervin and Lou Fortsch.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, private funeral services were held on December 4 at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Readlyn with burial in the St. Matthew's Lutheran Cemetery. Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn assisted the family.







Dean &amp; Donna Mangrich



Jillian Sinnwell



Karen Coffin



Ryan &amp; Deb Degroot



Jack &amp; Connie Rechkemmer

## FAIRBANK'S ANNUAL Christmas Decorating Contest

**Congratulations  
to this year's winners!**

There were more lights this year  
than ever before, and we thank you  
for your hard work.

The winners were presented  
\$25 in Fairbank Bucks  
(good at most Fairbank businesses)

### HONORABLE MENTION:

Dale and Marcia Bankus  
Jason and Brittany Fuller  
Scott and Teresa Haberman  
Tom and Annette Hyde  
Randy and Amanda Jipson  
Marty and Martha McKowen  
Jim and Kathy Risse  
Joe and Dianne Rubino  
Richard and Barb Rundle  
Charles and Kathy Schmidtke  
Duane and Carma Schmidtke  
Juliann Wood



Chad &amp; Shawn McGarvey



Tom &amp; Melaine Buzynski



Steve &amp; Jeanne Roffman



Vince &amp; Dawn Haislet



Richard &amp; Sarah Seamans

### Dry Crik Construction

319-283-8871

Specializing in Complete Garages  
Roofing & Siding • New Construction  
Licensed & Insured

IVAN A. MAST

1275 Indiana Ave. • Hazleton, IA 50641

### Invest In Your Future



TIFFANY COFFIN, CFP®  
WEALTH ADVISOR, FINANCIAL PLANNER  
FSB PREMIER WEALTH MANAGEMENT, INC.  
CALL: (319) 830-8982  
EMAIL: TCOFFIN@FSBFS.COM



DR. NATHAN STEINBRONN, DC

**FAIRBANK  
CHIROPRACTIC**

CREATE YOUR  
BETTER TOMORROW

101 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite C  
Fairbank, IA 50629  
319-849-5155  
SteinbronnDC@gmail.com



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 11/23/20

## REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 23, 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, and Williams. Erickson attended via freeconferencecall.com as well as Public Works Director, Dave Ryan. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Mike Everding, Part-time Police.

T. Woods/R. Woods to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Williams/Vorwald to approve the minutes from the November 9th Regular Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

JJ Little was present during the public comment section to discuss the option of changing the current regulations on allowable operating hours for UTVs and golf carts. Discussion on samples of allowable times were discussed as well as what other towns and counties are doing. One suggestion was 5:00 AM to 10:00 PM instead of Sunrise to Sunset. More research will be done on surrounding area regulations and there will be further discussions at upcoming meetings.

The quote from Jetco for a natural gas alarm system was discussed. The amount quoted was put into the budget as an expense for the current fiscal year and Councilman Vorwald commented that it seemed needed for our natural gas operating system. T. Woods/Williams to approve the purchase of the natural gas alarm system from Jetco. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

R. Woods/Williams to approve the TIF Certification for FY 2022 and direct the city clerk to submit the information to the county. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Simmering-Cory finished the initial phase of preparing the City's comprehensive Code of Ordinances update and sent a letter to the city clerk for the council to review. They highlighted areas that the council might want to review and had a few specific questions that should be addressed. The council thought it would be a great project for a couple council members and the mayor to work on with the city staff. Meetings will be scheduled and the need for council discussion will be addressed as needed for future meetings.

In the past, there has not been a need for a second meeting in the month of December. Williams/R. Woods to approve one council meeting

in December for the 14th if no need arises to have a second meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Police Chief Everding mentioned there had been a couple of kids ringing doorbells in the middle of the night around town but that he thought they had gotten that to stop. He said he had gotten an estimate on the squad car for new brakes, inner and outer tie rods, and a realignment. He also wanted to thank the council for the approval to purchase the rifle which makes for a great addition to the Fairbank Police Department. Mayor Harter said that he had been speaking to Attorney Prendergast on the personnel manual and the needed updates. He scheduled a meeting with 2 council members for Monday the 30th at 5:00 PM. Public Works Director Dave said that he had just talked with John Biederman from Fehr Graham earlier that day about a letter he had gotten from the state which stated that they agreed to use portland concrete on their portion of the upcoming Main Street project.

Williams/T. Woods to adjourn at 6:30 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor  
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 12/14/20

## REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday, December 14, 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: Mike Everding, Part-Time Police; Brittany Fuller, City Clerk; and Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk.

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

There were no comments during the public comment section.

Vorwald/Williams to approve the minutes of the November 23rd Regular Meeting. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Erickson/T. Woods to approve the Treasurer's Report. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Receipts for the month of November were: General, \$17,407.67; Special Revenue, \$49,453.52; TIF, \$1,404.11; Capital Projects, \$8.85; Permanent Funds, \$11.02; Proprietary, \$142,287.62; and Transfers In, \$24,555.00. Disbursements for the month of November were: General, \$27,987.53; Special Revenue, \$3,683.89; Proprietary, \$122,290.77; and Transfers Out, \$24,555.00. Balance on hand at close of business on November 30, 2020 was \$4,490,969.33.

Brian Stark and Jason Kayser were present for the Fire Station Phase 1 Expansion conversation. Stark explained that the fire station has needed an expansion for many years and their donations to prepare for that have gone very well. The addition plans showed a 16 by 48-foot addition on the East side of building. They are hoping to start the process soon so they would be ready to start entertaining the bids around February 2021. Erickson/R. Woods to approve the Fire Department continuing with the Fire Station expansion plans. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Abstain: Vorwald. Jason Kayser was also present to inform the council that the pool board met via a zoom meeting to discuss the hiring of the manager and assistant manager for the 2021 season. They recommended to the council that they rehire Teressa Imbrogno and Lynda Cutsforth for those positions. T. Woods/Vorwald to approve the Fairbank Aquatic Center Pool Board's hiring of the 2021 Season manager and assistant manager. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The City's Code of Ordinances were discussed. More conversation on possible changes to the traveling hours for UTV's and Golf Carts were discussed. The City Clerk will meet with committees to get any other additional changes documented to submit in during the process of updating the City code.

Mayor Harter tabled new member appointment to Board of Adjustment. Williams/Erickson to table agenda item and continue the search for a member. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

The Jesup Police Department hired a previous City of Fairbank Police Employee and requested to purchase a vest worn by that individual. Police Chief Everding stated that nobody could wear the vest and that it had just been sitting in the office. Williams/T. Woods to approve the City of Jesup's request to purchase the vest for \$250.00 from the City of Fairbank. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mayor Harter stated that he had hoped to have the personnel manual updated but that it was not ready yet. He updated everyone on the sections that they are hoping to update and hoping to have something soon for approval by the council.

The first budget workshop was scheduled for January 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

Vorwald/T. Woods to approve the bills as presented. Ayes: Five. Nays:

None.	
AERO-MOD, Supplies	\$425.18
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY, Supplies	\$25.91
BEST SERVICES, Annual Inspection	\$360.00
BIRDNOW MOTOR TRADE, Services	\$30.00
BLACK HAWK WASTE DISPOSAL, Services	\$5,814.90
BRENT WIERCK, Labor	\$1,275.00
BRIAN DELAGARDELLE, Cell Phone Reimbursement/ Clothing Allowance	\$211.76
BUTLER COUNTY REC, Electric	\$47,045.92
CAMPBELL SUPPLY-WATERLOO, Supplies	\$153.47
CASEY'S GENERAL STORE, Gas	\$474.11
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Gas & Electric	\$3,817.59
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Utility Deposit Applied	\$133.72
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Natural Gas	\$6,810.18
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION, Reservation	\$9,386.23
DAVID JERGENS, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$75.00
DAVID RYAN, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$75.00
DAVIS LAWN SERVICE, Supplies	\$29.50
DON'S TRUCK SALES, Services	\$258.78
DOUBLE A ARMORY, LLC, Equipment	\$811.40
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & EQUIP, Supplies	\$23.72
ENGINEERED OPERATIONS & SERVICES, Supplies	\$227.40
FAIRBANK POSTMASTER, Postage Dec.	\$115.50
FEHR GRAHAM, Services	\$166.00
GALL'S INC., Supplies	\$490.03
GROEBNER & ASSOCIATES, Supplies	\$83.63
GROTH SERVICES LLC, Services	\$2,580.00
IA FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, Annual Dues	\$494.00
IMFOA, Certifications	\$250.00
IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY, Interest & Service Fee	\$19,734.00
IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY, Training	\$325.00
IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES, Permit Stickers	\$79.00
IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC., Water	\$6,190.69
IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOCIAT, Membership	\$275.00
IOWA SURVEILLANCE TEAM, Equipment & Services	\$1,634.98
IOWA UTILITIES BOARD, Fees	\$790.00
IPERS, Benefits	\$5,189.50
IPERS, Benefits	\$5,086.64
JESSE HIGGINS, Utility Deposit Refund	\$66.28
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL, Supplies	\$185.36
KEYSTONE LABORATORIES, INC., Testing	\$333.00
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Training	\$36.00
KLUESNER CONSTRUCTION, INC., Services	\$7,399.00
LINDA LETSON, Utility Deposit Refund	\$200.00
LYNCH DALLAS, P.C., Fees	\$1,105.50
MEDIACOM, Cable & Phone/Internet	\$289.50
MIDWEST RADAR & EQUIPMENT, INC, Services	\$135.00
MODERN BUILDING PRODUCTS, Supplies	\$801.65
NE SECURITY BANK, Loan Interest Payment	\$822.25
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 11/15/2020	\$7.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 11/2/2020	\$10.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Utility ACH Service Charge	\$10.00
NSB/ H S A - H S A Contributions	\$300.00
NSB/H S A- Payroll Deductions	\$435.00
OELWEIN PUBLISHING, Publishings	\$442.66

O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORES, INC, Supplies	\$43.96
PREMIER TECHNOLOGY, Services	\$237.50
QUICK MED CLAIMS, Billing Services	\$110.62
ROBERTS, STEVENS,PRENDERGAST, Attorney Fees	\$1,564.50
SAFELITE FULFILLMENT, INC, Services	\$269.97
SPEER FINANCIAL, INC., Services	\$100.00
STAN'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR, Supplies	\$273.00
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies	\$279.35
STUART. C. IRBY CO., LED Lights	\$6,400.00
SUBSURFACE SOLUTIONS, Subscription	\$741.67
SYNCB/AMAZON, Magazine Subscriptions	\$13.49
TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL CORP., Supplies	\$142.50
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, Nov. Excise Tax	\$1,972.54
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, State Taxes	\$4,106.00
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA, Nov. Sales Tax	\$2,116.27
TRUE NORTH, Insurance Premiums	\$505.40
U. S. BANK, Pefa Gas	\$2,911.92
U. S. TREASURY, 941 Taxes	\$10,047.72
UTILITY SAFETY & DESIGN INC., GS Mailing	\$1,170.00
VERIZON WIRELESS, Cell Phones	\$162.98
WELLMARK, Premium	\$6,008.47
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE, Services	\$565.89
ZUPKE SAND & GRAVEL, Supplies	\$588.00
The Library Board approved the following bills on December 2, 2020:	
SYNCB/AMAZON, Magazine Subscriptions	\$31.99
ANGELA BERG, Supplies Reimbursement	\$87.86
BAKER & TAYLOR INC., Books	\$568.96
CITY OF FAIRBANK, Gas & Electric	\$159.71
EVEN QUALITY WORKS, Services	\$350.00
NE SECURITY BANK, Payroll Processing Fee 11/15/2020	\$3.00
OVERDRIVE, INC., E Books	\$500.00
PREMIER TECHNOLOGY, Services	\$47.50
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT, Supplies	\$119.64
VISA, Supplies	\$89.94
WINDSTREAM ENTERPRISE, Services	\$68.37

Police Chief Everding stated that the step program starts next week, and he suggested people watch their speed and stop signs. They have been working on updating their section of the code and it might need approved prior to the adoption of the code due to some major sections not correctly listed and needing updated.

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

Vorwald/R. Woods to come out of closed session at 7:00 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None. T. Woods/Vorwald to authorize the city attorney to contact the potential buyer regarding the questions the council had about the offer discussed in closed session. Ayes: Three. Nays: None. Abstain: R. Woods and Williams.

T. Woods/Williams to adjourn at 7:02 PM. Ayes: Five. Nays: None.

Mike Harter, Mayor  
Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

## CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES 12/14/20

### Fairbank Special Council Meeting December 14, 2020

The Fairbank City Council met in special session on Monday, December 14, 2020. The purpose of the special council meeting was to review an employee's performance and the closed session was requested by the employee. Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM and all council members were present. Members present included Ron Woods, Andrew Williams, Tammy Erickson, Tyler Woods, and Ted Vorwald. Absent: None. Also present was City Attorney Heather A. Prendergast and Special City Attorney Holly Corkery. Also present was Dave Ryan, Public Works Director as well as Mary Beth Ryan, Dave Ryan's wife, as Dave Ryan's representative.

There was a motion by Councilperson Erickson to enter into closed session which was seconded by Councilperson Vorwald and all council voted in favor.

The closed session was recorded.

At 5:48 PM the council exited closed session. At 5:50 PM Councilperson Williams made a motion to remove Mr. Ryan as Public Works Director and employee for the City of Fairbank which was seconded by Councilperson Erickson. Following a roll call vote of all of the Council was done. The vote was unanimous in support of the motion. The special closed session then adjourned at approximately 5:52 PM.

Mike Harter, Mayor



**COSTA'S**  
**SPORTS BAR & GRILL**

(319) 635-2449  
99 East Main Street  
Fairbank, Iowa 50629

Beni Rushiti  
Nita Nuhiji



### HELP WANTED

**Telecommunications Combination Technician**

RTC Communications and Oran Mutual Telephone Company, both Independent service providers serving our communities over 100 years, have formed the Little Wapsie Communications, LLC, to expand our fiber footprint into a neighboring community in 2021. We are looking for a telecommunications combination technician for our expansion of service. The successful candidate will be responsible for service installation, repair and maintenance of its fiber optic network, as well as performing locates of buried fiber optical cables, fiber splicing, and other responsibilities as assigned. High School diploma or equivalent plus two years of telecommunications education or equivalent work experience is preferred.

The position provides a competitive hourly wage based upon experience and a comprehensive benefits package, including but not limited to paid time off and retirement plan, as well as health, dental and short-term care insurance.

RTC Communications and OMTC are Equal Opportunity Employers

Please email your resume to: [readlyn@netins.net](mailto:readlyn@netins.net)  
Or send to: **Sharon Huck, General Manager**  
**RTC Communications**  
**PO Box 159, Readlyn, IA 50668-0159**

### PART-TIME HELP WANTED

Check us out at  
**Parkview Assisted Living**  
114 Forest St., Fairbank  
We are looking for team players who:  
~ enjoy working with people  
~ cares enough to give their best.

Must be 18 or older.  
We will train you.

Call us at **319-635-2585**  
Stop by anytime  
or fill out an application online at:  
[www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com](http://www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com)

### FOR RENT

**Senior Citizen Apartments**

62 Years of Age or Older;  
Disabled Regardless of Age

- \* Nice 1-BR Apartments
- \* New tub-size walk-in showers
- \* New carpet & vinyl

**Rental & Utility Assistance Available**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

**FAIRBANK HOUSING INC.**  
**635-2124**

**Deadline for February issue of the Fairbank Islander newspaper is Jan. 27, 2021**



206 5th St. N, Fairbank.....SOLD  
 232 1st Ave. SE, Oelwein...PENDING  
 128 4th Ave. SE, Oelwein...PENDING  
 448 3rd Ave. SW, Oelwein.....PENDING  
 129 3rd Ave. SE, Oelwein.....SOLD

**Residential Building  
 Lot .....\$25,000**



**\$38,000**  
**945 S. Frederick Oelwein**  
 2 bedroom, 1 bath,  
 HUGE yard.



**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!

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

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



bedrooms up, formal living/dining room, main floor  
 family room, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 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



**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!*



**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.

**\$200,000**



**\$135,000**  
**406 Wisconsin St., Fairbank**  
 Updated 2-story, 4 bedrooms



**\$99,500**  
**424 7th Ave. SE, Oelwein**  
 3 bedroom, 1.5 baths



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



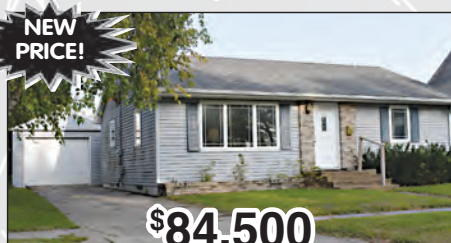
**\$45,000**  
**720 1st Ave SW, Oelwein**



**Character Home or Duplex**

**\$84,900**

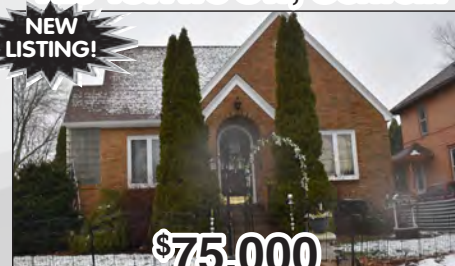
**122 1st St. NE, Oelwein**  
 PRICED TO SELL!



**\$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.



**206 2nd St. S., Fairbank**



**605 South St., Fairbank**



**16 7th St NW, Oelwein**



**906 N. Fred., Oelwein**



**703 W. Charles, Oelwein**



**212 S. Walnut St., Fairbank**

**ADVANCED, REALTORS® , LLC**

**814 S. Frederick, Oelwein 283-2242**



Lori  
 Beierschmitt  
 Broker/Owner  
 Cell: 319-238-1700



Bonnie  
 Schulz  
 Broker/Assoc.  
 319-269-9591



**REALTOR.COM**

**REALTOR.COM**

**REALTOR.COM**