

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

Church services are live streamed on FM 93.5 & Facebook. Limited in church attendance is offered, face masks & social distancing will be practiced.

The Pentecost Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, May 23, 2021, starting at 10:00 AM with Elder Jon Childers presiding.

Opening Hymn: "O Holy Spirit, Enter In" No. 79

Testimony: J.F. Rock, September 25th, 1730

Scripture: Acts 2:1-4

Psalm 51

Closing Hymn: "How Can I Thank Thee Lord" No. 121

The Wednesday Evening Prayer (Nachtgebet) meeting will begin at 7:00 PM in Middle.

Saturday Fellowship, meets in Middle at 5:30 PM

CEMETARY NOTICE - MEMORIAL DAY

If you are planning to place decorations in the cemetery for Memorial Day, we would ask that you please refrain from doing so until May 27th if possible. We hope to have a final mowing done before the holiday on May 26th. Thank you for your consideration.

AMANA FIRST RESPONDERS NEED VOLUNTEERS

Attention Amana Residents. Amana First Responders are down to one active EMS provider and are actively recruiting for EMT candidates.

When you need Emergency Medical Services and call 911, Amana First Responders are paged to provide basic medical care in all the Amana Colonies until an ambulance can arrive from Marengo or Williamsburg. Over the past year Amana First Responders have only been able to respond to 6 calls of 104 requests.

Amana First Responders are a critical component of our EMS System as it takes an average of 12 minutes for an ambulance to arrive whereas local First Responders can arrive in 5-6 minutes. If you are interested in taking an EMT class and volunteering as a First Responder, please contact Lucas Miller, Amana First Responder Director, at 319-551-5587, or the Iowa County EMS Office at 319-741-6105 ext. 10.

If you are not interested in volunteering, but would like to help, Amana First Responders are accepting donations to help with the cost of EMT training. The current cost for training an EMT is over \$2100.00.

EMT class is scheduled to start August 24th at the Williamsburg Kirkwood Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6pm to 10pm. Students must be 17 years old to enroll. Registration information will be published soon.

FEATHERS IN THE WIND

I learned decades ago that the road in Homestead actually divides the soil conditions.

Growing up in the Amanas often meant taking rides around the colonies to admire some of the gardens especially the huge ones on the south hill side of West Amana.

The back of our garden was divided into three sections along with a section for a chicken yard and (believe it or not) a hog pen for two pigs. Taking into consideration that our house held three families or nine people I suppose we, as did most Amana homes, needed large gardens.

My Oma was in charge of canning and pickling. I considered it a privilege to be able to scrape the cucumbers/pickles and smell the brine she would pour over them.

Beets were worthless as far as I was concerned although even that smell was good.

Feathers continues on page 2

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Brats, Blooms and Magic - Summer 2021 Starts

As we gear up for summer 2021, here are just a few of the things coming up in the next few weeks in the Amana Colonies.

Iowa Renaissance Festival, Gathering O' the Celts - May 29 - 31, June 5 - 6 They are back with two big weekends At the Middle Park in Middle Amana

Beckster Fest - June 4 - 6 The Midwest's greatest polka bands perform live - nonstop music, dancing, (air conditioned performance hall for your comfort) beverages, food. At the Amana RV Park and Event Center. Admission. A foot stomping polka party!

Art Iowa Workshop - Raku Clay Firing - June 14 - 18 At the Amana Arts Guild these hands-on art workshops are engaging and educational with instructor Kim Maher. See amanaartsguild.com for details/ registration.

Allis Chalmers Collector's Show - June 19 - 20 At the Middle Amana Park. Allis Chalmers tractor collectors from across the state gather to exhibit their antique farm implements.

Amana Colonies Wurst Festival - June 19 Our Wurst is the Best! We've stuffed this day with all things sausage - "Wurst Games," sausages to sample and purchase, music, beverages. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Market barn in Amana. Activities at Hotel Millwright too. Ackerman Winery hosts a "Chips and Wine" pairing event \$10 per flight, all day at Ackerman Winery, seating outdoors too.

Art Iowa Workshop - Book making workshop - June 22 - 34 With instructor Kim Maher at the Amana Arts Guild Center. See amanaartsguild.com for details and registration. Creative, hands-on, inspiring.

Colony in Bloom - June 26

Garden walk in the Amana Colonies. 10 - 4. Tour selected private gardens in the Amana villages. Have a garden you want to showcase. Not too late to give the Amana Colonies Convention and Visitors Bureau a call and join the tour. Gardeners share their gardens and their love of gardening. Maps provided at the Amana Visitor Center.

Art Iowa Workshop - Watercolors - June 28 - July 2 Join instructor Richard Dutton at the Amana Arts Guild for this plein air painting class for all skill levels. amanaartsguild.com for registration and details.

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39th AMANA FIREFIGHTERS' BREAKFAST

Saturday, June 5 - Serving from 7 - 11 a.m.

At the Middle Amana Fire Station

Donations Requested

Serving Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Hash Browns, Juice, Milk & Coffee

Feathers from page 1

It was not until I was married and preparing my first big family meal that I realized how much I missed those vegetables.

Opa and Oma decided to get a chest freezer to store some of the meat (chickens) they raised. It was always a Saturday when those birds were prepared. Opa or my father would chase and capture the chickens and then chop off their heads with the one hatchet I always knew hung in the woodshed and was used only for that purpose.

The first time I saw this happen my little sister pointed to a headless chicken. I screamed and yelled that it was not dead. Opa and dad just looked at the chicken and then at us and suggested we find our mother. That might not have been the best idea since our mother was busy plucking feathers. Wet feathers are gross so my sister, never one to just stand around, went to look for Oma and Tanta Lulu.

They were in the basement dressing the chickens and wrapping them up. We were not exactly needed so we retreated to watch "Howdy Doody."

As the days grow shorter I noticed a competition between the north and south in Homestead. It had begun in the spring with who got the first dandelion salad then the mushrooms and on and on until it would climax with who had the largest, most and or best tomato, and finally the biggest potato.

I don't think I was married even five years when my Tanta Betty came over from the north to show us her a gigantic potato. My new husband was awestruck and I was sure had thoughts of renting space at her home to plant potatoes. Well obviously he didn't, but he did something far worse.

It began with entering produce at the county fair, then the fair in Cedar Rapids and now the fair in Des Moines. Not only that, he competes with Steve Heishman from Norway as to who will grow the first tomato or the largest - whatever.

This year he sent off a request to one of his seed saver friends for seeds for tomato that won first prize at the Indiana State fair (Cormus Magnum) coming in at 5.33 lbs.

He also grows large pumpkins/squash but not like he used to since Steve Krug won the Anamosa contest a few years ago and was on national television.

This year the big thing happens to be gladiolus and cannas. People wonder why I am a little strange - you would be to living with someone like Charlemagne who loves to compete. I am kind of glad that the big gardens the Amanas used to have or a distant memory. I suppose that at my age I would be put in the garden. UGH! I suppose I could be a scarecrow.

B.S.H.

GATES ON THE KOLONIEWEG

The gates on the Millrace section of the Trail will be temporarily closed in extremely wet weather and during the **spring thaw** to avoid the deep ruts that bikes can cause. Your help in keeping bikes off the trail when the gates are closed would be greatly appreciated.

SOUTH DUMP NOTICE

What is commonly referred to as the South Dump, is private property and **only** for the use of Amana Society stock holders living within the Amana Colonies, and may be under 24 hour photo surveillance.

Absolutely No burning is permitted at the South Dump. Burning is dangerous and not compliant with DNR Regulations.

Only organic compostable yard refuse is allowed, and users **must** empty & remove plastic bags or other containers used to transfer yard waste. Lumber, and other building material, & trash dumping is absolutely **NOT** permitted. Leaf bags are **not** organic and will be emptied and removed.

Using the dump is a privilege, not a right, and all dumping will end if Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) and Amana Society rules on what may be dumped or the burning ban are violated.

If you witness violations of these rules, **please** report those abuses, to Amana Society Conservation at 319-213-3445.

RHUBARBFEST

Saturday, June 5, 2021

Rhubarbfest will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021. Foods and drinks will feature rhubarb all day long with unique recipes and delicious favorites. Some features are in limited supply, so don't miss out.

Shopping specials will also be featured on the weekend, including some specials on kitchen and wine items, and features on pink quilts and fabrics. Find a brochure with details at the Visitors Center in Amana. This annual event was on hiatus for a few years, but is back in 2021 for all to enjoy.

For more information, please call the Amana Visitors Center at 319-622-7622.

FOR SALE

For Sale: Electrolux front-load washer & Whirlpool dryer; \$300 each or \$500 for both; excellent condition 319-622-3358

HELP WANTED

Need part time help with farm and animals during and after knee replacement. Must be over the age of 16 (insurance requirements). Must be able to follow directions and be dependable. 319-560-3037

The Amana Visitor Center is hiring a public restroom cleaner to begin asap. Cleaning takes 1 hour, 5 days a week: M,W,F, Sat, Sun. Times are flexible but days are not. Please email director@amanacolonies.com or call 319-622-7624 for more information.

FOR RENT - COMMERCIAL RETAIL

1300 Sq/Ft Retail space available for lease at 4403 220th Trail Amana, IA 52203. Please contact Holly @319-622-6069 for more information.

FOR RENT

Room for rent with shared bath, No Smoking. Call 319-540-9351

Small, one bedroom apartment above Antique shop in Amana. Great for single adult. Call 319-622-3127

Short & Long term rental available at Abbi's Cottage Call Betty Peterson at 319-432-8103

WANTED/WANTED TO BUY

BUYING All ANTIQUES; Toys, Furniture, Crocks, Paintings, Advertising Signs, and Weird Items "any condition." Buying Entire Estates, call for fair pricing. Please call 319-270-1251.

ACLUD ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The Amana Colonies Land Use District announces its second annual photography contest. "Capture the Image - Preserve the Story" encourages amateur and experienced photographers

to capture images that represent the unique qualities, architecture, and landscapes of the Amana Colonies.

Sense of Place, Historic Architecture and Then and Now are the categories within the Amateur and Experienced divisions. Entries are due by Friday, August 6, 2020. Cash prizes total \$1,150.

This event is social-distancing friendly! Details and official entry form are available at <https://aclud.org/photography-contest/>

MODERN TECHNOLOGY PROPELS AMANA COLONIES' HOTEL INTO FUTURE

Fiber internet goes the distance in keeping a 160-year-old space plugged in.

When you visit the Amana Colonies in East-Central Iowa, it's as if you stepped back in time. The quaint, red brick buildings and gray wooden structures that house shops and restaurants line the road where visitors stroll.

From delectable chocolates and popcorn of every flavor to gorgeous, handmade artwork and every kitchen trinket you can imagine, the Amanas offer visitors a culturally rich, unique experience with many options for entertainment.

Those options now include a boutique hotel, restaurant and two bars housed in a woolen mill that began supporting the colonists in 1855. The Hotel Millwright is now home to 65 guest rooms, a banquet and conference center and modern retail spaces.

Even though Amana's visitors prefer to slow down when they arrive, that doesn't mean they want slow internet. Guests continue to need the modern conveniences they've come to expect in their travels, even when visiting such a historic setting.

Modern conveniences in a historic setting

So how do you take the legacy of a 160-year-old space and transform it into a modern boutique hotel? That's what the Amana Society asked as they incorporated the mill's rich history into a distinctive 21st century experience.

"We wanted to put a modern spin on our heritage for the younger demographic and attract new travelers to Amana," said Jeff Popenhagen, chief revenue officer and director of marketing, Amana Society. "The Hotel Millwright offers everything - sort of like a resort. Simple, modern design is really chic. We hit that trend just right with different textiles, bricks and the like. But, if you don't have technology, we've lost those would-be visitors."

From weekends where 30,000 people visit to the normal everyday expectations, internet access played a big role in transforming the Amana Colonies to a modern-day destination, wowing visitors with its rich history and hip, industrial aesthetic. Popenhagen's model for growth is something that other small Iowa towns could begin tapping into.

"The Amanas is a really special place; there's a lot about it that makes it unique," he said. "But having a modern infrastructure was definitely an important part of the experience, and makes it more attractive to businesses and tourists."

Don't overlook what's underground

When you think of traveling, reliable internet access isn't the first thing most think of. But it's critical - from mapping where you're going and researching nearby attractions to finding hours of local restaurants and shops, internet is key. That is why the Amana Society relied on South Slope's underground network of high-speed, reliable internet service at the Hotel Millwright.

