

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

All in person Amana Church services are suspended and services will be live streamed from the church in Middle on FM 93.5 or Facebook. Must be parked near the church for radio transmission.

The Amana Church Service, Sunday December 20, 2020 starting at 10:00 a.m. with Elder Alan Trumpold presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Because I Know the Lord" No. 95
Testimony: J. F. Rock, Bayreuth, Oct 26, 1723

Scripture: Genesis 1:1

John 14: 1-14

Psalms 8

Closing Hymn: "Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake" No. 61

Wednesday Nachtgebet live stream on Facebook at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Fellowship live stream on Facebook at 5:30 p.m.

Services also available later on YouTube.

THANK YOU

The Amana food pantry would like to thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts for all the continuous financial and product support we have received from our community. We have been overwhelmed with donations of all kinds and have grown to support 30-40 families on a regular basis.

We could not be doing this without your love and community support. Your actions are showing Christ's love in action and we are humbled and thankful beyond words. May you all have a wonderful Christmas season!

AMANA SOCIETY SERVICE DEPT. HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas

CLOSED – December 24 & 25, 2020

New Years

CLOSED – January 1, 2021

In case of an emergency you can reach us at our 24-7 emergency line at 319-622-3052.

Have a safe and happy Holiday Season!

A SAFE HAVEN CHRISTMAS

With Christmas right around the corner, we wanted to let everyone know there is a Christmas donation box for Safe Haven set up at the **Amana Family Practice Clinic** again this year - and since we have been asked a few times for a "wish list" of items that we could use at Safe Haven, here it is!

Safe Haven Wish List

Bleach	All Clear HE liquid laundry detergent
Pill Pockets	Delectables squeeze tube cat treats
Paper towels	Low sodium canned chicken
Hand sanitizer	Purina Cat & Kitten Chow
Mice toys for cats	Martingale Dog Collars
Dog treats – soft/chewy	Scoopable Cat Litter

AMANA RETIREMENT COMMUNITY HOSTING FOOD DRIVE

Amana Retirement Community is once again hosting a food drive for the Iowa County Food Bank and local families in need. They will be collecting non-perishable food items from now until the end of January. Donation receptacles are located inside the main entry doors of Colonial Manor.

If you have any questions, please contact Joey at 319-622-3131

FEATHERS IN THE WIND

The trouble with December is that one eagerly anticipates Christmas and knows (in the back of their minds) that once Christmas is over New Year's will be an anti-climatic feat and then comes dreaded WINTER.

One wonders if those "snowbirds" know a secret and flock down to a sunny climate and do wonderful things including writing letters back home, with photos having a drink by the pool, telling the rest of us how nice and warm they are or how they just read about our latest ice storm or asking us how high our heating bill was this past month.

Then they all congregate on some beach (or golf course in places like Arizona) and admire each other's tans and laugh.

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AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Tannenbaum Forest Last Weekend

The magic continues for just one more weekend. The Tannenbaum Forest, despite the pandemic and a bit of snow on Saturday, has been popular.

Yes, numbers are down compared to previous years, but those who visit the Forest are happy to have the opportunity to visit the Forest. One volunteer who worked in the Forest on Saturday told us, "Everyone is so, so appreciative. They understand that Santa can't be here in person and so they take photos with the photo ops, but they are just happy to have something Christmassy to share with their kids."

Elise Heitmann, Main Street Amana events coordinator, reported that visits to the Forest this year so far have been below half of what was seen last year, but then 2019 was a banner year for the forest. Last weekend for example, 158 people stopped by on Friday, 564 visited the Forest on Saturday and 477 on Sunday. Last year over 2,000 people visited the Forest on Saturday and over 1,000 on Sunday, the third weekend it was open, though last year the weather was ideal and that day both Santa and live reindeer were at the forest.

Even so volunteers and merchants are pleased the forest is open and certainly so are our visitors. We stopped a young couple with two toddlers in tow on Friday. Andrew told us, "It's really become one of our annual holiday traditions. We come down, have lunch here, go see the forest and do some shopping, then drive over to my folks' for the weekend. "From Des Moines they stop here, while on their way to Marion for the weekend. "We really look forward to it!" He added.

The Forest will be open Friday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; and Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Trees may be taken down Monday through Wednesday Dec. 21 - 23 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Please, if you decorated a tree at the Tannenbaum Forest remove all your decorations during this time.

Assault Reported in Amana: Sheriff States

Iowa County Sheriff Rob Rotter reported that on Thursday, December 10 they received an emergency call from Debbie Cecak, Amana, that an unknown, white, male entered her bedroom and began punching her. This was at 4411 I Street, Amana, at approximately 1:24 a.m. Dec. 10.

According to Cecak the intruder entered through an unlocked door and likely left the same way. He entered her room while she was asleep and began punching her, she reported. Cecak screamed, the intruder then left the house. Cecak was treated at the scene for minor injuries by Iowa County Ambulance, EMTs. Cecak did not get a good look at the assailant as the lights were off. There are no suspects. Nothing in the home has been discovered to be missing. The area has been canvassed.

Anyone with information about this case is asked to call the Sheriff's office at 319-642-7307.

Income Levels Required in Iowa County for Utility or Rent Assistance How HACAP can Help

Iowa County residents who need help paying their utility bill or their rent must take steps to find that assistance.

The first step is to contact the utility company, landlord and or bank and tell them about your situation. They may be able to work with you to create a payment plan or may have other information to help.

A second call should be made to the Iowa County Social Services office at 319-662-4245. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. They can provide information and resources.

One resource is the Iowa County General Relief Fund, funded by Iowa County tax dollars and managed by Iowa County Social Services. It provides short term assistance to Iowa County residents for rent, utilities, burial expenses, food. However, to qualify a person must meet the standard as set by the Iowa County General Relief ordinance, which as Iowa County Social Services explains means: a single individual qualifies if he or she makes \$300 or less per month; a couple qualifies for assistance if they make \$361 or less per month; and a family of four if they make \$495 or less. Meaning a single person has to make less than \$3,600 per year to qualify for such assistance in Iowa County. A family of four would have to make less than \$5,643 per year to

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**Happy Holidays from the
Ronneburg Restaurant
and shops. We Thank You for
your generous support in 2020!**

**It is not too late to purchase
a gift certificate or two.
Buy \$50.00 get \$10 for free**

Lakeview Village

Assisted Living Apartments

- ❖ Meals Provided
- ❖ Housekeeping Services
- ❖ Wellness checks
– Medication management
- ❖ Activities

Units Available

Call Tanya Powell for a tour 622-3131

"Experience the Comfort and Security of Retirement Living in the Amanas"

SOUTH SLOPE

As 2020 comes to a close, I want to personally thank our members for choosing South Slope. Whether you are now working from home or juggling virtual learning, you have trusted us to keep you connected when you needed it most. Our dedicated employees live in the communities we serve and will continue to provide reliable internet, phone and TV service backed by exceptional customer support. We're here for you and we care.

Thank you.

Chuck Deisbeck
South Slope CEO



The *Amana Society Bulletin* is published by the Amana Print Shop for the Amana Society Inc. and distributed to readers as a public service to the Amana Community. On-line at: amanacoloniestoday.com

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I happen to be one of those strange critters who dislikes heat and therefore is not all that eager for summer's arrival, but how I feel is of no consequence because I am sort of a grump when it comes to weather no matter what kind it is. I even get angry listening to the poor weather person's report and turn it off.

Anyway back to December. Mrs. Ruff once suggested doing jigsaw puzzles to amuse oneself through the winter months.

My sister used to sit up into the morning hours doing those puzzles. I thought I was done with such foolishness until Ms. Glorious of Middle who not only does puzzles, but goes out and buys more to feed her insane habit. She cannot sit still so she cleans attics, paints basements, rips up old carpets and bakes on a regular basis. Naturally she would have to live on the same street as KT who seems to share this same energy. I often wonder if the two of them were in school today if the teachers would report them as hyperactive.

Maybe it is because I am such a sloth. I am slowly plodding through books while the Christmas cards are left unwritten, the house needing a good cleaning, and if I started to bake Charlemagne would have a heart attack (so why risk it).

I will say I have finished reading Jeremy Berger's book about his Oma and am looking for someone to discuss it with because I do not have all the people in South.

I am reading the book *The Soul of America* by Jon Meacham which is quite good and speaks of how the U.S.A. has gone through good and bad times, but remained, which gives us hope.

Well, I better get busy and stop being a sloth. I won't do a jigsaw puzzle or bake, but I'll try and find someone who has read Jeremy's book and then go on to find a way to prepare myself for the coming winter. B.S.H.

**Bulletin Christmas Deadlines next week:
All Articles & ads - Tues. 4:00 PM**

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qualify for general assistance in Iowa County. Even if you know you do not qualify for the above program, talk to Iowa County Social Services for help in applying for state or federal programs.

Iowa County veterans should contact Jennifer Olson at iowqacova@gmail.com for assistance. She can direct you to federal assistance programs specifically for veterans.

Iowa County Ministerial Alliance, located in Williamsburg, PO Box 21 Williamsburg, D. Dove, 515-520-1944 may be able to help with rent assistance and with other forms assistance. This is a group of churches that work together to fund a program. The Amana Church has an emergency fund for helping neighbors and church members in need. Contact the Amana Church administrator for more information at 319-622-6155.

Call HACAP for utility/ energy assistance, help applying for low income housing or housing support, help in weatherizing a home, support for veterans, food assistance, child care assistance, help for single mothers and pregnant women, family counseling, elderly medical and housing assistance, mental health care and more. Contact HACAP at 319-393-7811. HACAP is a nonprofit community action program working in partnership with LIHEAP, Feeding America, United Way and donors across Iowa. It serves 9 counties including Iowa County, Benton, Linn and Johnson County.

For those who are dealing with cancer or caring for a cancer patient, Compass Memorial Hospital has an outreach foundation that may be able to help. Call 319-642-8054 to enquire. Funding / grants for non-insurance covered expenses and living expenses may be available for cancer patients and caregivers in certain circumstances.

The Amana Print Shop
Please call ahead, **319-622-3912**
Mask wear and social distancing required.
E-mail amanaprintshop@southslope.net
If we do not respond we may not have received your e-mail, or it went directly to "Junk" folder

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RUG WEAVING CLASS

Linda has added two 3 hour evening classes on December 30th from 6-9pm and on January 6th from 6-9pm (or till completed). You may bring your own prepared material that is ready to weave or purchase ready to weave materials for \$15. The rug could be useful in your home or it would make a great gift. This activity will be held in the weaving studio located at the Amana Arts Guild Center in High Amana. Enrollment is limited. For more information and to register call Linda Grabau 319-530-0127. Cost \$50 per student.

HAHN BAKERY
Taking orders for:
Christmas
For Dec. 24th pick-up
Please have orders in by **Dec 17th**
& **New Year's Pretzels**
For Dec. 30 & Dec. 31 pick-up
Please have orders in by **Dec 24th**
Call **622-3439**

Dear Amana Library patrons and community members

Typically this time of year the Amana Library does our annual "Stuff the Stocking" fundraiser. Since we have not been open for public access the past several months, we felt it would be more appropriate to do a fundraiser at a later time. We are always overwhelmed with the support we get from all of you and appreciate it so much!

If you'd still like to make a donation, you can mail it directly to the library. Our address is 3023 220th Trail, Amana 52203. Please continue to call or email the library to request books, DVDs, and use our other services. If you'd like to have free access to Bridges, an eBook library, please call and we can get an account set up for you. Our number is 622-3192 or email Rhonda Hegewald at amanalibrary@ccaschools.org. Our hours are 8:00-3:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 8:00-1:00 on Wednesdays.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to email Heather Fox at heatherfox@ccaschools.org. Your continued understanding of this unique situation we are in is helpful during this time! We look forward to getting back to "normal" someday very soon. Stay tuned for more information about an alternative fundraiser coming in the new year! Have a safe, healthy, and happy, holiday season!

Sincerely,
Heather Fox, Amana Community Library Director
Rhonda Hegewald, Community Library Associate

In Memory of Virginia Neumann

To everyone who has supported us following the loss of Virginia, we wish to express our deep appreciation. The many acts of kindness including the many cards received, the memorial donations, the plants and flowers delivered, and the prepared meals that have been dropped off, continue to be a great comfort to us in our time of sorrow.

We also send our sincere gratitude to the Colonial Manor and Hospice staff, the staff at Kloster Funeral Home, and to Pastor Andrew Gray of St. John's Lutheran Church.

May God Bless you all.
The Neumann Family

THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took the time to get a gift card from the tree this year. Also to all who made a donation to the Iowa County LOVE Network.

This year may be different but the joy the 56 children feel when they open their gift is the same as any other Christmas thanks to you.

Wishing you and your families a happy and safe holiday season.

Merry Christmas from the LOVE committee!

THANK YOU

Thank you so much to the Amana Community Chest for their generous donation to FAME to help purchase items for all of the arts programs in the Clear Creek Amana School District.

We also want to thank Hummer Trucking for allowing FAME to use their facility in December to distribute fruit for our annual fruit sale fundraiser.

Clear Creek Amana FAME
Board and Members

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.

FOR RENT

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

West Amana 2 BR Upper Apt. No Pets, Background Check, Lease. 319-227-7465 or 319-573-5265

Condo for rent at Colony Oaks, next to Amana Golf Course. Very large, one bedroom, deck, w/d. Furnished or unfurnished. Call or text 319-338-0025

PLEASE HELP CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE & THEIR FAMILIES

The holiday season has begun. It looks and feels different to us all in one way or another. 2020 has been more than challenging, with its unrest, instability, fears, and losses in varying degrees.

While holidays typically bring people closer together, this can be a difficult time for children involved in the child welfare system who are not able to spend this time with their biological families.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers can step in, helping make sure children stay meaningfully connected with their siblings, families and communities. They stand by the child's side while in foster care, providing a consistent presence and ensuring he or she are kept safe and their needs are met. The children need someone who can get to know them and their unique situation even after their case ends.

Appointed by a Judge, CASA volunteers' first priority on cases is to advocate for keeping families together whenever safe and possible. When that is not possible, CASA volunteers recommend that children live with another relative or close family friend to ensure that they can maintain connections to their family and community. CASA volunteers get to know the child or sibling group on an individual level and speak with other important people in the child's life, such as their parents and family, teachers, therapists, foster parents and more. With the information they gather, they develop a holistic understanding of their circumstances and needs, and make recommendations to the court.

In 2019, there were over 11,000 abused and neglected Iowa children. Consider how you can help make a difference for them in 2021 by becoming a CASA volunteer. Please visit casaiowa.org or email teresa.barnes@dia.iowa.gov