

## AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, February 18, 2024 starting 8:30 A.M. with Sw. Betsy Momany presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Die Bruderlieb' hält wahre Treu" No. 166 vs 1-6 Seite 156

Testimony: Johann Friedrich Rock, Neuenstein, May 18, 1716

Scripture: Mark 4:1-20

Psalm 15

Closing Hymn: "Die Bruderlieb' hält wahre Treu" No. 166 vs 7-12 Seite 156

The Late Service will start at 10:00 A.M. with the following hymns:

Opening Hymn: "Blessed Jesus, at Thy word" No. 156

Closing Hymn: "Lord of eternal love am I" No. 104

The Wednesday Evening Prayer Service (Nachtgebet) begins at 7:00 P.M. in Middle.

Visitors are welcome to join us in worship at all Amana Church Services. Childcare is available during Sunday's 10:00 A.M. Service.

Links to services posted online may be found at: <https://amanachurch.com/category/podcast/>

## ROBERT {COACH} VAN CLEAVE SCHOLARSHIP

The Robert Van Cleave scholarship will award a \$1000 scholarship to a CCA graduating senior.

This scholarship was created by former students of Coach Van Cleave, with permission from his family.

The committee raised donations from former students and faculty to establish this endowed scholarship in his name.

Application forms are available from the councilor at the high school.

Contact Rick Hergert to donate to the fund or with any questions at [Scout5@southslope.net](mailto:Scout5@southslope.net)

Thank you

Robert Van Cleave scholarship committee

## THE AMANA FAMILY TREE PRESENTS – GENEALOGY WEEK: THIS IS MY STORY

Join us each morning at 9:00 A.M. beginning March 4th through March 8th in the Amana Heritage Museum Auditorium for a variety of talks and discussions about heritage in the Amana Colonies. Get a close look at specific people and families in this series of talks that will include 10 sessions - 2 each day - about a family member, neighborhood, or village. Light refreshments will be provided with discussion and mingling time will take place each day between sessions. The final session of the week will be a panel discussion about memories of Upper South Amana. Sessions will be recorded and posted on the Amana Heritage Society website in case you can't make it.

## FEATHERS IN THE WIND

It would be nice to say that my age was causing all these problems, but, let's face it, when it comes to reading instructions and putting them into action, I am a failure.

Take, for example, CDs. I was sure that, once I had mastered those discs, my life would run smoothly. Wrong!

First, it was getting the infernal discs out of the cellophane packages. They are so well sealed that even a serrated knife does not help, nor do scissors, teeth, fingernails and etc. Once, by some luck, you get the cellophane off, you have to remove the disc from the container, which means bending the case and slowly pushing your fingers underneath the disc to get some traction, then carefully lifting the disc out, praying that you will not break the fool thing, or the case.

Now, comes the real test: putting the disc into the player. I, in my foolishness, thought that all I had to do was put it in and press a button. Forget it! You have to press certain buttons in correct order, hoping sound will result.

After many tries something comes on, and you sit back in exhaustion, only to find that the technical geniuses have done it again, and gone back to vinyl records. Great! I got rid of those awhile back along with my wonderful record player, which I have

*Feathers continues on page 2*

## AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

### 20 year old Victim Found Alongside Lake Arrest Made Tuesday

Sunday morning, Feb. 18, at 10:12 a.m. Iowa County emergency dispatch received a call from citizens that the body of an "unknown female" had been discovered at the Lily Lake picnic area on the northshore of the lake.

Iowa County Sheriff Rob Rotter issued a press release Tuesday, Feb. 20 stating the following: "The previously unidentified body of the female located Sunday morning (2-18-24) at the Amana Lily Lake has been identified as Melody M. Hoffman, age 20, of Marion, Iowa.

Criminal charges related to this incident have been filed in Linn County District Court against McKinley Louisma (male), age 23, of Hiawatha, Iowa.

An autopsy of Melody Hoffman has been performed at the Iowa State Medical Examiner's Office in Ankeny, Iowa. A final report from the Medical Examiner is pending.

This is an ongoing investigation involving several area law enforcement agencies."

According to the affidavit submitted by the County Attorney in Linn County District Court, Louisma McKinley, age 24, of Hiawatha was arrested and has been charged with kidnapping first degree and other charges in connection with this incident. Additional charges may be filed upon investigation. Louisma was arraigned Tuesday and is in custody.

It also states that the Iowa State Medical Examiner's Office has indicated that the preliminary opinion is that Melody Hoffman was stabbed repeatedly and died from strangulation.

By talking to witnesses and tracking activity on her iPhone and her Apple watch through her iPhone, investigators were able to determine that Hoffman was picked up by Louisma in his vehicle about 11 p.m. on Saturday night and remained with him until she died. She was taken to Morgan Creek Park. Data from Hoffman's Apple watch showed that her heart beat intensified and then stopped or the device deactivated while she was at Morgan Creek Park.

Officers reported that Louisma admitted that he was with Hoffman and with another person (not identified by name in the affidavit) and that he and the other person bound Hoffman with duct tape at Morgan Creek Park, placed her in the trunk of his car and drove with her to several locations, until they reached the Lily Lake. The defendant said that he had been in an intimate relationship with the victim and was still seeing her. He was also in a relationship with another person.

The defendant's vehicle was located by investigators and a search warrant revealed items in the vehicle including a white Apple watch band with blood on it, Hoffman's phone case, a bungee cord, towing rope, gloves and clothing matching the clothing she was said to be wearing Saturday.

The Iowa County Sheriff's office, the Marion Police, the Linn County Sheriff's office and the Iowa Department of Criminal Investigation are investigating.

### Amana RV Park –

#### Looking Forward to 2024 Events

Jamie Wolter, manager of the Amana RV Park and Event Center has released their calendar of events and boy, it's a full one with the Iowa Renaissance Faire returning in May and October, large weddings booked, RV camper rallies set to arrive, the very popular American Kennel Club dog show returning and more.

Plus the Find and Flourish market, a curated selection of midwest-produced art, florals, plants, home décor, accessories and foods is returning to Amana for two weekends on June 7 - 9 and again on October 25 - 27.

Not every event uses every building or site so if you have an event you would like to arrange or wish to reserve a campsite, please give the folks at the RV Park a call.

Remember they can reserve you the buildings and pavilion at the Middle Amana Park as well, an affordable option for receptions, parties, reunions. The office phone is 319-622-7616

The RV Park will be adding a new playground this spring so that's a neat new feature on the grounds. They hope to have it open in May.

*News & Notes continues on page 2*

## THANK YOU

A sincere thank you to all who sent cards, flowers, and memorials after the recent death of our beloved eighteen year old grandson, Casey Charles Leichsenring. He had been attending Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, as a freshman majoring in Computer Science.

If you or someone you know, is considering suicide, do not hesitate to call 988 The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, which provides free and confidential support for those in crisis or emotional distress.

Sincerely,

Jesse Leichsenring and family

Jessica (Jeff) Giurato and family

Richard & Pamela Leichsenring and family

## THANK YOU

To all my friends and relatives for all the cards and wonderful notes they wrote.

Also thanks to everyone for all Birthday wishes, for the phone calls and to those that visited with me in person.

God bless you all for a wonderful 90th Birthday!

Oris Martens

**AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP**  
COME ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY  
**Sunday Church Services**  
**@ 9:00 a.m.**  
**Next Services: February 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**& March 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**At the Amana Performing Arts Center**  
(Former Old Creamery Theatre)  
[www.amanaareafellowship.org](http://www.amanaareafellowship.org)

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**  
The current ACLUD Administrator will be returning to full retirement this fall, which leaves an exciting job opportunity for someone as the ACLUD Administrator. This is a part-time job with flexible hours. To learn more about the position, receive a copy of the Job Description, submit a resume or schedule an interview, please contact either [aclud@southslope.net](mailto:aclud@southslope.net) or **319-622-3840**. All information will then be shared with the Search Committee. Thank You.



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Here is the RV Park calendar as of this week.
April 6 - 7 Iowa City Dog Obedience show
April 13 - 14 Canine Flyball tourney - 200 or more expected
April 20 - 21 Iowa Rabbit Breeders Show
April 27 - 28 Canine Flyball tourney
May 4 - Wedding
May 10 - 12 Eastern Iowa Barnhunt Canine Club
May 17 - 19 Canine Flyball tourney
May 25 - 27 Iowa Renaissance Festival at the Middle Amana Park
June 1 - 2 Iowa Renaissance Festival at the Middle Amana Park
June 7 - 9 Find and Flourish Market with art, craft, books, plants, and popup food vendors.
June 17- 18 Allis Chalmers Reunion at the Middle Park; Wisc-UP Airstream Group - 600 expected
June 29 - Wedding
July 3 - 4 Firecracker 4th of July Antique Show
July 12 - 13 Hawkeye Hustlers Flyball
July 17-21 American Coach Rally - 550 expected
July 24 - 27 FMCA Midwest Rally - 700 expected
August 1 - 5 Upper Midwest RVO Rally
August 3 - 4 Summer Flyball Tourney
August 17 - 18 Omaha Speed Canine Racers
August 30 - Sept. 2 Labor Day Weekend AKC Cluster Dog Show - 2,000 guests expected
Sept. 6 - 8 Diving Dogs - 500 guests expected
Sept. 7 - 8 Flyball Tourney
Sept. 14 - Wedding
Sept. 21 - 22 Cedar Valley Rock Show
Sept. 29 - Wedding
Oct. 4 - 6 Amana Oktoberfest. RV Park already very full. Limited sites available.
Oct. 3 - 6 FROGtoberfest - Forest River camper rally and party
Oct. 12 - 13 Iowa Renaissance Festival Middle Amana Park; RV Miles Rally - RV Park
Oct. 19 - Wedding
Oct. 25 - 27 Find and Flourish market with art, craft, autumn themed florals, pop up food vendors.

Safe Haven Soup Supper Fundraiser March 2nd 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
803 Clearview Drive Williamsburg, Ia
\$10 for Soup w/ toppings, bread & dessert
\$7 for soup to go \$5 for desserts

SILENT LENTEN RETREAT
March 21-24, 2024
Die Heimat Country Inn
For more information and how to register:
https://www.dieheimat.com/blog/silent-lenten-retreat
or call 319-461-6611

Gentle Hatha Yoga at Aspen Therapy & Wellness Center
Each Tuesday in April from 5:30pm to 6:15pm
With Yoga Alliance instructor Nathan Phelps, \$50, mats are provided.
Please call Tanya Strong, 319-622-3551
to register by 2/29/24 due to limited space.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING -- PROPOSED BUDGET
Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025
District Name: MIDDLE SANITARY SEWER
The Board of Trustees of the above-named District will conduct a public hearing on the proposed fiscal year
Meeting Date: 3/5/2024 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: Middle Amana Sanitary District Office - located North of the Whirlpool main entrance.
At the public hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present their objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of receipts and expenditures on file with the Clerk
Contact Name: Tony Berger Contact Telephone Number: (319) 361-8459

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING --- PROPOSED BUDGET
Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 AMANA LAND USE DISTRICT
The Board of Directors of the AMANA LAND USE DISTRICT will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed budget as follows:
Meeting Date: 3/11/2024 Meeting Time: 07:00PM Meeting Location : At the ACLUD office in Amana
At the public hearing, any resident or tax payer may present their objections to, or arguments in favor of any part of the proposed budget.
This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of receipts and expenditures on file with the Clerk.
Contact Name: Richard Budde Contact Telephone Number: (319) 622-3840

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saved up for quite a long time.
I feel like such a fool because, between messing with computers and CDs I seriously wonder whether can master anything technical. I know that it is winter and it is bleak outside, but my body aches and we are not going on any vacation, not am I looking forward to any special holiday because was Lent was just last week.
God never promised us a perfect life. There would always be good and bad days, and minor frustrations, so I guess that I have to swallow and try again.

BSH

Hotel Millwright LOCAL FRIENDS & FAMILY Appreciation Offer \$85 AMANA KINGS & QUEENS
Enjoy this offer in appreciation of our local friends and family this winter.
@ HOTEL MILLWRIGHT
800 48TH AVE, AMANA, IA 52203 • 319.838.5015

HELP WANTED

Sales Associate Needed for Fireside Winery in the Village - Main Amana. Wednesday and Thursdays and occasional weekends. \$15/hour plus tips. Contact cassie@firesidewinery.com for more information.

WANTED/WANTED TO BUY

BUYING All ANTIQUES; Toys, signs, Furniture, Crocks, Paintings, textiles, automotive, oddities and the unusual. Any condition. Fair cash prices paid. Call or text 319-270-1251/Jack Cirkl.

WANT TO BUY

-Reloading Equipment -Bullets and Brass
-Presses and Dies -Shooting Sports Items
-Large and Small Estates -Supplies and Ammo
-Muzzleloaders and Firearms: Vintage & Modern
Will also do Appraisals & Consignment Sales
Call, Text or Email JOEL VZ (319) 530-1234
jvanzante@southslope.net

MURDER MYSTERY Dinner
FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST, 2024
GONE WITH THE PASSING OF THE WIND
UPSTAGE PRODUCTIONS

NEW AT THE LIBRARY

The Amana Library added the following to their catalog:
The Mitford Affair by Marie Benedict
Out of Nowhere by Sandra Brown
Oath and Honor by Liz Cheney
Unnatural Death by Patricia Cornwell
Maame by Jessica George
None of this is True by Lisa Jewell
Renegade by Adam Kinzinger
Yellowface by RF Kuang
Maybe Next Time by Cesca Major
Tom Lake by Ann Patchett
Lion & Lamb by James Patterson
My Friend Anne Frank by Hannah Pick Goslar
Phoenix Crown by Kate Quinn
Mother Daughter Murder Night by Nina Simon
To reserve, please call 319-622-3192.

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"

AMANA COLONIES LAND USE DISTRICT (ACLUD) Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Meeting Notice and Tentative Agenda of the Regular Meeting Monday, February 26, 6:30 p.m. at ACLUD office 4304 220th Trail Amana and via Zoom link

- I. Call Meeting to Order
II. Set Agenda
III. Review/Approve both November 29, 2023 and January 29, 2024 Minutes
IV. Welcome visitors and allow citizens to speak on items not on the agenda
V. Discussion/Action on the following permit applications in a Historic Preservation Zoning District - includes notes from HP Grant Review Meeting of 2/7/24:
a. 2024-001. Aaron and Shana Schaefer/ 5204 C St East Amana/ HP-R / Replace existing board and batten siding with 5 1/2" wooden siding at south side back porch area. Also cover damaged ceiling with 4" wooden ceiling boards trimmed out with 2" pine boards. Also 2 exterior doors and one window to be trimmed out with 4" pine boards. All new wood to be primed and painted, main color Mindful Gray and trim Extra White. Total price estimate for the project was \$5777. 75% of that is \$4332.75. After discussion the vote was unanimous to recommend the full grant amount of \$2500. THIS IS FOR A GRANT APPLICATION.
b. 2024-002. Dennis Zuber/Hanna (Zuber) Kiel/ 4468 V St Homestead/ HP-R / East wall of "the old doctors office". Remove old mortar and re-tuckpoint same. Replace damaged brick as necessary using bricks supplied by Amana Historical Building in East A. Total estimate \$8600.00. 75% = \$6450. Vote was unanimous to recommend grant amount of \$2500. Note: Byron inspected the previous tuckpointing work done by Gilbaugh Masonry on the east side of same house, and it appears to him they used Portland cement rather than the proper lime putty. Byron will communicate with the mason on the subject.
c. 2024-003. Homestead Welfare Club - Tom Oehler-Treasurer/ 4306 V St Homestead/ HP-C / Remove rotted basement door structure. Current condition is a potential danger (children playing on). Basement door structure to be re-built using cedar, stained to appear aged. Total estimate \$1534. 60%= \$920. Vote was unanimous to recommend grant of \$920. Note: Clear coat rather than stain on cedar would be a better choice.
d. 2024-005. Mark and Andrea Farrier / 4415 F St Amana / HP-R / Remove old roof, (wood & slate). Install new roof with asphalt shingles. Total estimate \$17,025. 75%= \$12,768.75. Vote was unanimous to recommend grant of \$2500.
e. 2024-006. LeAnna Kruckeberg / 617 45th Ave Amana / HP-R / The old Lace Lodging. South side replace concrete steps with wooden steps. Replace aluminum door with wooden door. Repair "bird box" at soffit and fascia. Remove metal deck railing, replace with wooden railing. Repair and paint trim on wooden windows first and second floor. Total estimate \$4300. 60%= \$2580. Vote was unanimous to recommend grant of \$2500. Note: group did not like the chosen door included in application, as not "Amana-appropriate" for HP.
f. 2024-007. Elisha TePoel / 312 220th Trail South Amana IA 52334 / HP-R / Install Amana post yard light on the north side of the new driveway. Total estimate \$2415. 75%= \$1811. Vote was unanimous to recommend grant of \$1811.
g. 2024-008. Dennis Zuber and Hannah (Zuber) Kiel / 4460 V St Homestead / HP-R / Remove aluminum storm windows. Install 22 Heartland vinyl windows. W. 1ST FL 4- 28" x 55" 9/6. 2- 28" x 45" 6/6. W. 2ND FL 2-28" x 45" 6/6. E. 1ST FL 4- 28" x 55" 9/6. E. 2ND FL 3- 28" x 45" 6/6. S. 1ST FL 1- 28" x 57" 9/6. 2- 28" x 55" 9/6. S. 2ND FL 2- 28" x 55" 6/6. W. 1ST FL 2- 28" x 53" 9/6.
VI. Other Business
a. Discuss strategy regarding HPC Work Plan for 2024.
VII. Administrator's Report (if applicable)
VIII. Adjourn

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On-line at: amanacoloniestoday.com