

### AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, June 04, 2023, starting 8:30 A.M. with Br. Jon Childers presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Ich glaub' an Dich" No. 461 vs 1,2,8,12 Seite 456

Testimony: Christian Metz, Liebloos, July 20, 1825

Scripture: Luke 15: 11-32

Psalm: 84

Closing Hymn: "Geh aus mein Herz, und suche Freud," No. 311 vs 1-3, 14, 15 Seite 304

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

Opening Hymn: "I Trust in Thee" No. 82

Closing Hymn: "Go forth My Soul" No. 72

The Wednesday Evening Prayer (Nachtgebet) meeting will begin 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.

### AMANA SOCIETY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

The Amana Society is pleased to announce that Mike Shoup, Dixie Trout, and Brad Zuber were elected to 3-year terms in the May 15, 2023 election.

### AMANA SANITARY DISTRICT MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Amana Sanitary District will be held at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 03, 2023 in the Amana lift station.

### FEATHERS IN THE WIND

This year while remembering our kind and brave veterans, we will also be obsessed with the Homestead bandits! It all began when Charlemagne put the flowers out in the cemetery.

The first day three pots were turned over and flowers scattered. The next day offered the same result as history repeated itself. Again Memorial Day.

Trapper Hoehnle knew what the problem was because a raccoon had gotten into his garbage can and (wait for this) somehow reached a 50 foot long garden hose and chewed up over half of it up while caught in a live trap. He also trapped the one destroying the grave site flowers.

Well now, Charlemagne was not happy, and needless to say, we won't be "inconvenienced" by those two masked bandits ever again.

He really hates permanent solutions, but this raccoon had gone too far and needed to never darken any Homestead doorway again! This much damage calls for drastic action.

When animals get so close one worried about rabies; raccoons, skunks, bats and foxes are the most common carriers while opossums very rarely get rabies (lower body temp, beneficial for your yard).

Charlemagne mainly uses "live" traps because he is afraid a cat or a dog or, worse still a person, will step into one of his traps.

As for guns - well you know my feelings about them so he has them safely stored, unloaded and out of reach of anyone who might do something stupid.

Since our sons have never shown much interest for hunting he doesn't need to fear them. He has to fear me of all people.

You see way back when, I learned and enjoyed archery, even in college.

It came to a shock to him to find my bow and quiver of arrows in the attic one day. I guess it was more of a shock to find out I could sting that bow and shoot those arrows.

I am in no way good at this sport, but I so do enjoy it (Which I suppose makes me danger to all living things down range of the target). I never did graduate from targets to hunting.

Charlemagne, however, sort of worried what I might do and got rid of my "practice" set. The world is safe.

B.S.H.

### NOTICE

#### West Amana Dam Road & Access

As a result of an agreement between Amana Colonies Historic Sites Foundation, owner of the Millrace, and Amana Society, Inc., an Amana Society User Permit will be required to use the road and areas adjacent to the West Amana Dam for any purpose effective immediately.

The intent of the agreement is to create better road conditions, reduce littering and other issues. A reminder that accessing the West Amana Dam from F15 Blvd. to the north also requires an Amana Society, Inc. user permit. Please close all gates at all times. Information about Amana Society User Permits can be found at [www.amanasociety.com](http://www.amanasociety.com).

Thank You,

Amana Society Conservation Committee

## AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

### Memorial Day Weekend One for the Record Books

Can we remember a busier Memorial Day weekend in the Colonies?

With multiple Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening musical performances in the area folks had plenty to choose from, but all venues seemed cheerfully busy when we checked around.

Then there was the hugely busy Saturday at the 31st annual Iowa Renaissance Festival at the Middle Amana Park. Sunday and Monday were also popular but Saturday was one for the record books literally.

Saturday morning by 11 a.m. there traffic was backed up on Highway 220 around the Lily Lake. Soon the parking area at the park was full and spillover parking at the Amana Elementary and in Middle Amana meant that folks were walking to the festival at the park. Traffic continued to be jammed in and out of the park as perfect weather meant "record crowds" for the event.

With the traffic in and out of Middle it reminded older residents of the days in the 1970s and 1980s when Oktoberfest was held at the Middle Park.

Saturday evening some residents wondered if perhaps the renaissance festival has outgrown the park and needs to be relocated to the much larger Amana Colonies RV Park?

"This traffic in Parkview is pretty overwhelming," said one a Parkview resident. "And it's two weekends."

Saturday night TKM hosted Funkdaddies at the Amana Performing Arts Center with over 100 people attending the moonlit music event. The appreciative crowd loved the performance of soul and funk.

Meanwhile in Amana Millstream Brewing Co. drew a good-sized crowd Saturday evening and another Sunday afternoon when Die Tiefen Keller Kinder performed. Folks brought chairs and enjoyed the mild weather and breeze off the Mill Race. So summer has started in the Amana Colonies.

### In Honor of Our Veterans An Excerpt from a 2013 Spring Willkommen feature on World War 2 in Amana

At the start of World War II, the Amana Young Men's Bureau erected a large white sign with black lettering near the Amana junction of Highways 220 and 151 in the shade of a bur oak tree that has stood there for as long as anyone could remember.

News & Notes continues on page 2

## Lakeview Village

### Assisted Living Apartments

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- ❖ Activities



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### Lily Lake Clean-up

Plans are coming together for the 2<sup>nd</sup> clean-up of the Lily lake. The community is invited to help clear out brush and small trees along the shoreline and improve the visibility of the lake.

**Date: Saturday June 3 (rain date 6/10/23)**

**Time: Plans & prayer 7:45**

**Work 8:00-10:00 a.m.**

**Meeting Place: Picnic table area**

**Supplies to bring: Gloves, weed whackers, loppers, pole saws, tubs/basets, chain saws, insect repellent and anything else you like to work with.**

This service project is organized by the Amana Area Fellowship and approved by the Amana Society Inc.

**Questions: contact Les Ackerman 3129-330-8713 or**

email [info@amanaareafellowship.org](mailto:info@amanaareafellowship.org) [www.amanaareafellowship.org](http://www.amanaareafellowship.org)

### 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](mailto:jvanzante@southslope.net)

**Charlie's Saturday Morning Market**  
Plants, Produce, Cookies  
10:00 A.M. - Noon



## 42nd Annual Amana FIREFIGHTERS' BREAKFAST

- Saturday, June 3 -

Serving from 7 - 11 a.m.

At the Middle Amana Fire Station


Donations Requested

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

### Amana Library

#### June Hours beginning June 2

Monday 9:00-3:00	Tuesday 9:00-6:00
Wednesday 9:00-Noon	Thursday 9:00-6:00
Friday 9:00-1:00	Saturday 9:00-Noon

**Wishes for Wildlife Foundation Fundraiser TAG SALE Saturday, June 10th 9 AM - 2 PM**  
 1232 U Ave Amana IA  
**Succulents, plants, yard art and good repurposed/repainted items**  
 Cash only Please.  
 Check out our Facebook Page   
 Planting Trees for future generations of wildlife and people

**COLONIES IN BLOOM - HIDDEN GEM HUNT**  
 On June 3rd 10am-4pm explore the villages of Homestead, High Amana, South Amana, Middle Amana, and West Amana. Visit shops and private gardens off the beaten path to discover your favorite Amana Colonies Hidden Gem. Each stop will feature a garden or gardening-related items.  
 There will also be treasure hunt for "Hidden Gems"; specific painted rocks hidden at each location. Be the one of the lucky few to find a hidden rock and you win a special prize. Gem rocks are redeemable at the Amana Colonies Visitor Center.  
 Maps will be available at the Visitor Center or at participating businesses in the surrounding villages. Check the amanacolony.com website event page for more information.

**FOR SALE**

For Sale Amana Society New Class A. Common Stock. Please contact me if interested at 319 - 206 - 5546 or abby.utecht@gmail.com.

**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.

**FOR RENT**

Walford & Amana. Upper 1& 2 Bedroom. Lease 6 mo., references, deposit. 319-227-7465

**RHUBARB WANTED**

- May 15 - June 15
- Contact: Zach to make a delivery appointment  
zach@firesidewinery.com or text 319-330-6861
- \$1.25 per pound
- Stalks ONLY - NO LEAVES
- Must be PICKED SAME DAY



*Ackerman* **Ackerman Production Facility**  
1759 P Ave., Marengo, Iowa

**YOUTH THEATRE CAMP JUNE 26-30**  
 Students will work with theatrical professionals each day from 9-1, ending with a Performance of the original play "The Superhero That Is Me" on June 30th at 7pm at the Amana Performing Arts Center, 39 38th Ave, Amana.  
**REGISTRATION: \$50 per student**  
 Thank you to our producing sponsors, Hills Bank  
 Contact: [deborahkennedy@live.com](mailto:deborahkennedy@live.com)  
 A portion of the registration fee will be donated to The Amana Community & Elementary Library.

**Amana Area Fellowship Night of Worship**  
 Please join us for an evening of food, fellowship, song and a message from the Bible.  
 Thursday, June 8, 2023  
**Amana Performing Arts Center**  
 Potluck 6:00-6:30; Music and Message 6:45  
 Continuing Series:  
 Letters to the 7 Churches - Revelation  
 Message: Letter to the church in Smyrna  
 visit us at [www.amanaareafellowship.org](http://www.amanaareafellowship.org)

**CHILDRENS GARDENING PROGRAM AT THE MARENGO LIBRARY**  
 The Iowa County Master Gardeners will be holding a class for children on Saturday June 3. This educational program will be held from 10:00-11:00 at the Marengo Public Library. Please call the Marengo Library at 319-741-3825 to register your child. There is a \$10.00 fee and each child must be accompanied by an adult. Class is limited to 10 children.



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Some restrictions apply. Offer expires 12.31.23.

**News & Notes from page 1**

The sign, called "the Honor Roll," displayed the names of Amana men and women fighting in World War II. After the war the Honor Roll was taken down and stored at the high school, then it was moved to the Amana Heritage Museum where it's now exhibited on the second floor of the Noe House. Though it's a little worse for wear, the names are clearly legible.

The sign has gold stars beside four names: Charles Jensen, a young Amana farm hand who was killed in action in the cold spring of 1945, the first of Amana's war dead; John Eichacker, who died in a plane crash in the Leyte Gulf in the Philippines in 1945; Oswald Solbrig who died on Okinawa in 1945 while his brother was captive in a German POW camp; and Billy Hertel who was wounded on Iwo Jima in 1944 and died in battle on the last day of fighting in Okinawa not all that far from the spot where his hometown buddy had lost his life.

Amana veterans will tell you that the sign should have another gold star. Serving as Acting Assistant Inspector General in Burma, Lt. Colonel Carl Moershel of Homestead was stricken with malaria. Later while in Shanghai, Moershel again became seriously ill. Returning home in 1946 Moershel never fully regained his health. He died in 1953 leaving behind a widow, Marietta, and two young daughters. By then the sign had been taken down and placed in storage. The memories remain and the bur oak still stands.

After dark on December 7, 1941 the Amana Young Men's Bureau met in Homestead at the home of its president, Martin Dickel. The club was formed by a group of civic-minded colony men most of whom were under the age of 30 and all of whom had grown up in Amana's communal system. Just nine years after the dismantling of the communal way of life known as the Great Change of 1932, Amana's young men and women were optimistic about their future. . .

On December 7, 1941 the active pursuit of that bright future, an energetic, hope-fueled rush that had transformed Amana post Great Change, came to an abrupt end. The AYMB minutes record, "Pres. Dickel called the meeting to order after some delay caused by the radio bulletins covering the Japanese attack in Hawaii and the Philippines. All members felt deep concern and it was not easy to turn minds to the business at hand." The business at hand had been, ostensibly, the planning of a community wide Christmas lighting contest. Within months over half of the young men in that room would be gone, fighting the war.

By the end of 1941 there were 16 Amana young men serving active duty in the US military. In 1942, 66 Amana boys left for war; in 1943, 33; in 1944, 18 left; and in 1945, 28 men boarded trains for military training camps. All told, 161 Amana men and two Amana women were in the military during World War II, with many of them serving in combat.

With less than 1,400 men, women and children in the seven Amana villages, the absence of 163 of its young people was keenly felt. Something observed and recorded by Middle Amana author Cliff Trumpold who served in the Navy during the war

later wrote, "Sixty six Amana boys left for military service in 1942, their departure creating a traumatic void, not only in the home, but in the workplace."

Some colony families sent more than one son. All five of the West Amana Ehrmann boys served, as did the four Solbrig brothers.


Brothers George, Walt and Harold Schuerer of East Amana went to war along with their 30-year-old Uncle Chuck. The Graesser brothers, Leroy, Heinie and Elmer, and two Kellenberger brothers, all from West Amana, served, as did the Hertel brothers of South Amana and the Marz boys of Homestead.

Ernest Leichsenring of Amana was the first of the Amana men to serve overseas. He had joined the Marines in 1936 and was stationed in the South Pacific before being sent to England in 1939 to help train British soldiers. Harry Ehrmann and Leroy Nagel of High Amana were the first in Amana to enlist doing so early in 1941. Ehrmann trained in Fort Des Moines and was sent to England, later he would fight in Africa and in Italy. Nagel was shipped to different camps but would end up in Africa and Italy as well, running into Ehrmann in Africa.

Ray Baumgartel was the first Amana boy to be drafted leaving home early in 1941. His pay, he later told Cliff Trumpold, was \$21 a month, only a few cents less than what he had been making as a clerk in the Amana Society "Main Office."

Sometimes as many as twenty boys left in the same day, catching a train in Iowa City. Fritz Marz, Carl Setzer and Hal Wendler boarded the same outbound train. Wendler turned 18 the summer before his senior year in high school and received his draft notice soon thereafter. That fall his school desk was empty.... (Story by Emilie Hoppe/ Next week we'll continue with a second excerpt.)

Mike Beck



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**A MESSAGE FROM THE ACLUD BOT:**

It will be an exciting time to have the RAGBRAI bicyclists pass through the Amana Colonies later this summer on Friday, July 28th. Since their visit with us is relatively short (10 am to 4 pm that day) the Board of Trustees felt it appropriate to have a reduced price for any temporary commercial signage that would be displayed that day. Normal permit fee for temporary commercial signs is \$40 per sign, the Board voted on April 10th to reduce that to \$10/sign for the RAGBRAI event.

Should you be a commercial entity wishing to display specific signs for that day please contact the ACLUD Administrator at [aclud@southslope.net](mailto:aclud@southslope.net) to obtain the proper application form and answer any questions.