

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, January 05, 2025 starting 8:30 A.M. with Sw. Elly Hoehnle presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Warh auf, den Herrn zu loben" No. 999 vs 1-5 Seite 981

Testimony: Johann Adam Gruber, July 4, 1716

Scripture: Ephesians 4:25-32

Psalms 12

Closing Hymn: "Lobe den Herren, den mächtigen" No. 639 Seite 637

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

Opening Hymn: "Awake! Let God Be Praised Now" No. 153

Closing Hymn: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" No. 74

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/>

AMANA SANITARY DISTRICT MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Amana Sanitary District will be held at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 8, 2025 in the Amana lift station.

FEATHERS IN THE WIND

I just finished a book titled "The Sweet By and By" by Todd Johnson. (Truthfully, I just wanted to be reading because our television was giving us problems, and it seems the only programs we could get were sports programs, which give me headaches.)

So, I began the book – not expecting much – only to find that I kept thinking of friends that I have known who have worked patiently with the seniors at the nursing home through the years. The story deals with a group of ladies in a care facility. Some of these ladies are residents; others are care givers.

The residents know that they are on a downward slide, but they make the best of it. Frankly, they seem to be more in touch with "reality" than the relatives who come to visit. Friendships are formed, and memories are exchanged which only people of a "certain age" can relate to and appreciate.

One woman, in particular, had lost her son and wants so badly to talk with him again. She confides her thoughts to the others, but her family thinks that she is senile, though she is far from it.

There are other incidents in the story, but the main point is how important it is to talk and to listen to these senior people – even if you have heard their stories before. It is important for all of us to be recognized and valued.

B.S.H.

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Tannenbaum Forest a Joyful Event for All

Despite being closed one Saturday when an ice storm swept through the area, this year's Tannenbaum Forest attracted a near record number of people with 16,247 counted at the door by volunteers.

Last year 18,528 visited the Tannenbaum Forest.

This year there were over 80 decorated Christmas trees and that's a record for the event which has been an Amana Colony tradition since the mid-1990s.

Kayleigh Myers and Alicia Schmitt, event planners, who in partnership managed the forest and did a bang-up job by everyone's account. In addition to opening up, staying late and making sure all was running smoothly, they filled in as "greeters" when volunteers called in sick and because we were short five volunteers the last two weekends. The hard-working women were assisted by the stalwart Dennis Hahn and by a legion of volunteers who set up trees, manned the front door, assisted Santa, sang carols, decorated the huge pyramid and more.

In 2024 the Board of the Amana Colonies Convention and Visitors Bureau decided to spread the love and so several Iowa County area charities will benefit from the free will donations made in the Forest this year along with the University of Iowa Stead Family Childrens Hospital. So along with the U of Iowa Childrens Hospital, Safe Haven of Iowa County, the Amana Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association, the Amana Colonies Food Pantry and the "Hope for All" financial assistance program for Iowa County cancer patients in need of help via the Compass Memorial Healthcare Foundation will receive a portion of the proceeds.

Another very bright spot this year was the fact that Santa Claus was in the forest more often. Previous years the number of "Santa days" had been cut back but this year, Santa was back every weekend and children loved seeing him there.

The biggest weekend at the Forest in 2024 was the last weekend when temps hovered in the high 40s. Over 5,130 people were in the forest December 20 – 22. A very close second was the "traditional Prelude" weekend Dec. 6 – 8 when 4,566 visited the Forest.

"This is my favorite event of the year and it was so exciting to see how full the forest was and how many people enjoyed it," said one main street Amana merchant. "Amana was busy every day the Forest was open and everyone just loves it."

2024 in the Amana Bulletin

Looking back at the year 2024 here are a few of the biggest headlines, some sad and sobering and some uplifting, gleaned from this past year's ASI Bulletins.

"Big Snow of 2024" reported January 19. Twelve inches of snow dropped on the Colonies Jan. 9 and

another 9 inches on Jan. 12 with wind gusts up to 45 mph Friday and Saturday. Reported to have been one of the biggest blizzards we've experienced in the past 50 years.

"Zach Bott is looking Ahead" reported February 2. Zach Bott of Fireside Winery is named 2024 Winemaker of the Year by the Iowa Wine Growers Association.

"Amana Church Seeking Contractors" reported Feb. 16. The Amana Church is seeking bids to secure contractors to restore and repair the Amana Church and the Kinderschule in Middle Amana for use as the Amana Colonies Food Pantry.

"20 Year Old Victim Found Alongside Lake – Arrest Made Tuesday" reported February 23. Melody M. Hoffman, 20, of Marion was found dead at the Amana Lily Lake Sunday, Feb. 18. Louisma McKinley, 24 of Hiawatha was arrested Tuesday and in custody in Linn County charged with first degree kidnapping and other charges. More arrests were made and charges were filed as the investigation continued.

"CC-Amana Girls are State BB Champions" reported March 8. For the first time in the history of CCA High School the girls basketball team won the Iowa State Championships. They captured the 4A title on Saturday, March 9 upending Waverly-Shellrock by nearly 20 points.

"Reclaiming Pasture Land Requires Hard Work" reported March 22. Some of Amana's once open meadows have become infested with invasive plant species which choke out grass. So Amana Farms and Forestry staff members are working to reclaim pasture land. It will take years but progress was made near the Ice Pond and in East Amana, West and High Amana pastures.

"New Clubhouse Under Construction at Amana

News & Notes continues on page 2

Don Krauss (Sr.)
is celebrating is
96th Birthday on
January 14th
He would enjoy receiving
cards from his friends.
His address is:
Don Krauss
422 390th Avenue
Grinnell, IA 50112



Lindsay McGowan:
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Food Drive Collection at Colonial Manor Nursing Home.

Non perishable food donated to those who are in need this holiday season.

We continue to collect in December and January, at our facility. Questions/concerns?

Contact Joey 319-622-3131

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Ackerman Winery is seeking an enthusiastic and experienced Tasting Room Manager to oversee our tasting room operations. The ideal candidate will have a passion for hospitality and a strong background in customer service. This full-time position requires weekends. To find out more, visit Ackermanwinery.com/careers or email resume to info@ackermanwinery.com

FOR RENT

West Amana. 1 Bedroom apartment, Stove/Refridge furnished. References, lease required. 319-573-5265

1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment for rent in Middle Amana. Located on 1st floor. \$650 (includes utilities). Minimum 1 year lease. Available around December 1st 2024. Background check required. \$40 app fee per applicant. Proof of income required. Credit check required. No pets. No Smoking. Please contact Gunther Sandersfeld at 319-826-4122 or Gunther@Skogman.com

News & Notes from page 1

Colonies Golf Club" reported March 29. Amana Society hired Septagon Construction to build a new clubhouse at the course. The previous clubhouse burnt down in 2015 and the course had been using a small temporary structure.

"Whirlpool Layoffs Impact Amana" reported May 10. In March Whirlpool announced job cuts and laid off workers. The second week of April a second wave of job cuts was made including layoffs at the Amana plant. Lay-offs of salaried employees at Amana occurred this spring as the "lab" at the plant was set to close August 31 according to an unconfirmed KCRG report May 6.

"Drought Easing But Still a Factor" reported May 24. According to the ISU climatology specialist Madelynn Wuesternberg Iowa said Iowa was almost 30 inches below historical rainfall averages. High temps the following week were expected to add pressure to drought-stressed landscapes.

"After 20 Years Becksterefest Played Its Final Encore" reported May 24. This spring Becky Livermore announced that the 2023 had been their final polka fest at the Amana Colonies RV Park. "It's been a great ride and fulfilling experience...." She said.

"Wurst Brass Band Competition" reported June 14. At this year's Amana Colonies Wurst Fest the first ever Brass Band Competition would be held with 5 bands performing in a "round the village" musical playoff.

"Stages Ep 1 Is a Comedy with a True Iowa Vibe" reported July 19. Written and produced by Jonesy McElroy this multi-part, TV sitcom style comedy about a small town professional theatre company on the ropes, stars local talent. Screening held at the Amana Performing Arts Center.

"Amana Will be 170 Years Old in 2025" reported August 9. Starting a multi part series about the founding of the community.

"Grateful for All" Reported August 23. The home of Buddy and Renate Schulte, Amana, was destroyed by fire August 8. The couple expressed their deep gratitude to the community for the support they had received following the fire.

"Major Milestone for Amana Church Restoration" reported August 30. Sandersfeld Construction and Woodruff Construction, two Iowa based companies, have been hired to complete the restoration work on the Amana Church building and the Middle Amana former Kinderschule. Work to begin in the fall.

"Railway Bridge is Being Rebuilt" reported Sept. 6 the CRANDIC bridge on the Iowa River north of Homestead will be rebuilt over a period of several months. It was originally built in 1902 by the Milwaukee Road.

"Hotel Millwright Wins Iowa Hotel Association Award" reported Sept. 27. The Iowa Hotel Association chose Hotel Millwright for its "Sustainability" award acknowledging the historic preservation and green energy design features. A four-minute video will be produced to be shown at the Iowa hotel association annual meeting in Des Moines.

"Amana Women Honored at Oktoberfest" reported Oct. 1. Carol Zuber, Gloria Alexander, Sharon Grimm, Susan Hollrah, Donna Trumpold, the late Terry Roemig, Susan Lockhart and Lisa Kokesh will be honored at the Feshhalle during Oktoberfest as having supported the festival in outstanding ways.

"Lily Lake Levels Rising Here's Who to Thank" reported Nov. 15. A significant donation made by R.C. Eichacker and the efforts of the Amana Colonies Historic Sites Foundation led to the repair and reopening of intake tubes / water gates at the Lily Lake. The water levels began rising immediately once the repairs were complete.

"Tannenbaum Forest to Open Friday" reported Nov. 22. A record 80 trees will be decorated by merchants, churches, nonprofits and families this year as the Tannenbaum Forest raises money for the Stead Family U of Iowa Childrens Hospital and several Iowa County based charities to be announced.

The Amana Print Shop
 319-622-3912
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Bulletin Deadlines
 Most Items - Tues 4:30 P.M. Small Items- Wed 11 A.M.
 email: amanaprintshop@southslope.net

AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP
Next Sunday Church Services:
January 5th & January 12th
at the Amana Performing Arts Center
 www.amanaareafellowship.org

Brau Haus Daily Plate Specials

- Monday-** Mother-In-Law's Meatloaf
- Tuesday-** Tacos*
- Wednesday-** Jagerschnitzel
- Thursday-** Bangers & Mash
- Friday** Oven-baked Steak

Entree served with mashed potatoes & gravy and vegetable of the day unless otherwise noted [*] No Substitutions

Also...Join us for Prime Rib every Thursday a 12 oz cut of Prime Rib with your choice of Potato and salad. From starting at 5 pm, while it lasts.

LIBRARY NEWS

We are Excited to inform you that we are partnering with Big G Food Store in Marengo, in an incredible program that allows us to earn FREE classroom equipment and supplies.

Here's How You Can Help!

Shop at the Big G Food Store from now - March 31, 2025

Save your receipts and send them to school with your child or drop them off at the Amana Library. Your receipts will earn us points for free classroom equipment and supplies, donated by the store.

Please submit your receipts (the date needs to be on the receipt for it to be valid) to to our school by April 4, 2025

Thank you!

QUOTES

"...overgrown military establishments, which, under any form of government, are inauspicious to liberty, and which are to be regarded as particularly hostile to Republican Liberty."
 ~George Washington, Farewell Address

"In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists, and will persist."
 ~Dwight Eisenhower Jan. 17, 1961,

"The moment the idea is admitted into society, that property is not as sacred as the law of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence"
 ~John Adams

"An injustice committed against anyone is a threat to everyone."
 ~ Baron de Montesquieu

"Owners of capital will stimulate working class to buy more and more of expensive goods, houses and technology, pushing them to take more and more expensive credits, until their debt becomes unbearable..."
 ~Karl Marx

(Note: There is more to this quote where as Marx predicts the failure and nationalization of banks, but we already overcame that by the government bailing them out)

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