

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

There will be a combined service in the Middle Church Sunday, September 14, 2025 starting 10:00 A.M. with Sw. Andrea Haldy presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Because I know the Lord," No. 95

Testimony: Ursula Meyers, Wetzlar, July 31, 1715

Scripture: Joshua 1: 7-9
Psalm 27

Closing Hymn: "In Faith we find a Heav'nly Power," No. 73

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.

The live link for the 10:00 A.M. service is ---
<https://www.facebook.com/theamanachurch>

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

AMANA FIRE DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE

The monthly public meeting of the Amana Fire District will be held Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the Middle Amana fire station.

Temporary signage permits for Oktoberfest are due by September 23rd. Please mail, email or drop the application off at the ACLUD office. All information regarding this Ordinance (Section 31.37.100) can be found on aclud.org or contact Kayleigh with any questions at 319-622-3840 or by email aclud@southslope.net.

THE AMANA HERITAGE SOCIETY COMMUNAL DINNERS!

The Amana Heritage Society is hosting Communal Dining Experiences at the Communal Kitchen Museum in Middle Amana.

We have space for a regularly scheduled Communal Dining Experience on September 19th, and December 5th.

These themed dinners will highlight various aspects of communal Amana life. The December 5th communal dinner will be a traditional Christmas dinner with a special dessert.

Traditional communal-era menus are exclusively offered to share the culinary legacy of the Amana Colonies that transformed into a leading Iowa visitor attraction known for family-style dining.

Have a group of 12 or more? Contact us today about reserving your own communal dining experience.

All communal dining experiences take place at the Communal Kitchen Museum, 1003 26th Ave, Middle Amana, IA. Limited seating of 24. Advanced tickets required and can be purchased at www.amanaheritage.org. The price is only \$35 per person with no tax or gratuity required. Proceeds benefit the Amana Heritage Society's efforts to share Amana's rich 300-year heritage.

For more information about communal dinners please email heritageprograms@southslope.net or call 319-622-3567.

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Tourism Count in Amana This Year

"I feel we are seeing fewer people this year," said one merchant who wished to remain anonymous.

"We have good days, don't get me wrong, but overall, I just feel tourism is down," the business owner added. She is right.

The Amana Society, Inc. marketing department tracks tourist visits to its businesses as tourism has an impact upon the Amana Society corporation bottom line.

Using the company, Placer Labs, the Amana Society is able to track tourism via cell phone pings from locations in the village of Amana. Gone are the days when merchants used to count the cars in their parking lots noting those "out of state" and "out of county" license plates. This technology screens data looking only at those "in bound visitors" to Amana.

Between January 1 and August 15, 2025, using this data Placer Labs has ascertained that there were 196,400 visitors in the village of Amana.

During this same period last year, 211,600 visitors were in the village. That's a decrease of 15,200 visitors or 7.2 percent.

As you might expect, Saturday is the busiest day in the village, with Sunday second. Friday is third. Monday, Thursday and Wednesday are virtually tied while Tuesday is the slowest visitor day in Amana.

September - Harvest of Fun in the Colonies

A few cheerful things of note came across our desk this week and we wanted to share them with you. So plan to attend.

Used BOOK Sale at the Amana Library - Thursday, Sept. 11 - Saturday, Sept. 13. Open 9 - 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 9 till noon on Saturday. Free will donations of cash (only cash please) will get you your choice from many wonderful titles, plus DVDs, kids books, cookbooks and magazines. Come take a look and stock up for winter. Sales benefit the Amana Library.

AAG Class - Cold Connection Jewelry Making. Carrie Schaefer instructs teaching the craft of fire-free wire jewelry making. Creative and fun for all ages. Amana Arts Guild, Folk Life Center in High Amana. Call 319-622-3678 or go to website to sign up. Saturday, Sept. 13.

Four Winds Farms Harvest Field Day - Sunday, Sept. 14 from 11 - 4 p.m. At the farm on 2312 Alpine Way NW, on the Johnson Iowa County Line Road north of Highway 6. See the farm. See their 12 different types of medicinal herbs for purchase. Discounts on all CBG hemp products. Pick a bouquet of flowers to take home with you.

Friday Nights at Brau Haus - Sept. 12 and every Friday. This weekend they've got Owen Leary and the Handshakes on the deck playing the good music starts at 6 p.m.

Die Tiefen Keller Kinder are revving up for Oktoberfest - Millstream Brewing Co. 3 till 5 p.m. this Sunday. Sept. 14.

Communal Dinner, Ruedy Kitchen - Friday. Sept. 19. Contact the Amana Heritage Society for your reservation. Authentic menu and event hosted by the Amana Heritage Society.

"A Visit to Munich's Oktoberfest" Vintner Dinner - Saturday Sept. 20 Ox Yoke Inn and White Cross Cellars team up to present the German Bavarian - themed autumn menu paired to White Cross wines. Multiple courses. Deliciously entertaining and very popular! Book now. Ask for Sharon at the Ox Yoke Inn or book online at oxyokeinn.com. Sign up soon.

Cedar Valley Rocks and Mineral Show - Sept. 20 - 21 Amana Colonies RV Park and Event Center is the location for this annual event. Rocks galore for serious and not so serious collectors and fossil lovers. Lots of rock shop treasure to sort through and discover.

The Odd Couple - Sept. 26 - 28 Neil Simon's classic comedy about thrown together misfits forced to be roomies is the box office smash that set the standard for sitcoms. A TKM Theatrical live show at the Amana Performing Arts Center. 319-899-3799. tkmtheatricalproductions.com for tickets and showtimes. Shows Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at 3 p.m. This cast is gonna rock this show!

Amana Colvdony Folk Singers Dress Rehearsal - Coming up. Hey, we heard the Amana Colony Folk Singers will be offering a community dress rehearsal the week before Oktoberfest at the Amana Performing Arts Center. This will be perfect for those of us who are handicapped or can't fight the crowds. When we get the day and time, we'll let you know.

The *Amana Society Bulletin* is published by the Amana Print Shop for the **Amana Society Inc.** and distributed free as a public service to the Amana Community.

On-line at: amanacoloniestoday.com
Email: amanaprintshop@southslope.net

THE ODD COUPLE COMING TO THE AMANA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

TKM Theatrical Productions proudly presents The Odd Couple by Neil Simon September 26-28 at the Amana Performing Arts Center, 39 38th Ave, Amana, IA.

This classic comedy opens on a friendly card game in the untidy apartment of divorced Oscar Madison. And if the mess is any indication, it's no wonder that his wife left him. Late to arrive is Felix Ungar, who has just been separated from his wife.

Felix seems suicidal, but as the action unfolds, Oscar becomes the one with murder on his mind when the clean freak and the slob ultimately decide to room together.

Show times are Fri & Sat at 7:30 pm Sun at 3:00 pm. Presented by TKM Theatrical Productions the show is sponsored by the Amana Family Practice Clinic and Tidbits

Individual tickets are \$25, for group rates and info call 319.899.3799

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Amana Farms is looking for a Feedlot Associate!

Duties include maintaining equipment, performing yard maintenance, cleaning animal housing, and operating tractors, trucks and implements to feed cattle and clean bed pens.

Contact Laura Sue at 319-622-3953 or lswoods@amanas.net, or check out our listing on Indeed!

Bürgermeister Pre-Party & Parade Kick Off 60th Oktoberfest—If the Bürgermeister is there, it's OFFICIAL! Friday, October 3, 2025 from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Amana Heritage Museum, 705 44th Ave, Amana

Amana, Iowa – The Amana Colonies Bürgermeister, Jon Childers, invites everyone to join him and his crew for the Official Keg Tapping Pre-Party and Parade at the Amana Heritage Museum Courtyard on Friday, October 3, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This lively tradition marks the official kick-off to the 60th Anniversary of the Amana Colonies Oktoberfest. Guests can enjoy:

- FREE admission to the museum all day
- The first 250 Brats are FREE at the Pre-Party
- Beer available for purchase
- The exclusive opportunity to purchase Keg Tapping Tickets plus Festhalle Admission Tickets on site

Ticket Sales:
-Keg Tapping Tickets go on sale at 10:30 AM (150 Commemorative Buttons Available).

~\$20 includes one beer from the Official First Keg at the Ceremony plus Friday Festhalle Admission.

- Single-Day Festhalle Admission: \$15
- Two-Day Festhalle Admission: \$30

All Festhalle admission and keg tapping ticket sales during the Pre-Party directly benefit the Amana Heritage Society.

At 1:45 PM, join the Bürgermeister Float Parade as it departs from the museum grounds and heads to the Festhalle for the ceremonial tapping of the keg. *Admission is required to enter the Festhalle grounds with the procession.*

"This milestone year is about celebrating 60 years of the Amana Colonies Oktoberfest and 300 years of Amana history," said Bürgermeister Jon Childers. "We welcome everyone to start the celebration with us at the museum—enjoy good food, raise a glass, and march in the parade!"

The Amana Colonies Oktoberfest is Iowa's oldest continuous Oktoberfest celebration, as well as one of the oldest in the country.

Event Details:

What: Bürgermeister Pre-Party & Parade – Official Keg Tapping Kickoff

When: Friday, October 3, 2025 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Where: Amana Heritage Museum, Amana, Iowa
Cost: Free museum admission; first brat free; beer for purchase

- Tickets:**
- Keg Tapping Ticket: \$20 (includes beer from first keg + Friday Festhalle Admission)
 - 1-Day Festhalle Admission: \$15
 - 2-Day Festhalle Admission: \$30
 - Tickets available only at the museum from 10:30 AM until sold out

We look forward to seeing you at the actual Official Amana Colonies Oktoberfest Keg Tapping Pre-Party and Parade!



RAVENWOLF PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS: BRAD AND THE BIG WAVE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 7PM-9PM

"I'm interested in making music that doesn't lock me into one genre or style, but that tells a story and draws people in musically...so there's always something new to come back for!"

Charismatic singer/guitarist/musician and songwriter Brad Pouleson continues to prove his musical prowess with his new band, Brad and the Big Wave. Drawing upon the diverse talents of his Iowa City-based band members, including veteran musicians John Kramer on bass and Doug Langbehn on keyboards, as well as relative newcomers Connor Wade on drums and vocalist Allison Yoder, Brad and the Big Wave has succeeded at creating a deeply expressive musical sound. The band can simultaneously switch from a soothing ballad to an intricate, soul searching song, to music that rocks the house. Their debut album "This Crazy World", released in the spring of 2019, quickly garnered attention on the airwaves and created a loyal fan base.

AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP Church Services
SUNDAYS 9:00 AM
All Are Welcome
Amana Performing Arts Center
www.amanaareafellowship.org

Obituary

Harold William Pitz, 85, died on September 4, 2025, at Colonial Manor in Amana, Iowa. The Funeral Service was 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at the Amana Church in Middle Amana, followed by burial in High Amana. Powell Funeral Home in Marengo is caring for Harold and his family.

Harold was born February 24, 1940, to Raymond Carl and Erna Sophia Reihmann Pitz. He graduated from Amana High School in 1958 with distinction: class valedictorian, National Honor Society, editor of the high school yearbook (Die Posaune) and newspaper. Harold attended the University of Iowa where he majored in Business and Art. He also served his country in the United States Army from 1964 to 1966 with an honorable discharge from the Medics Corps as PFC.

Harold will be remembered for dedicating his life to and promoting the Amana Colonies. His many achievements focused on preserving the Amanas' unique heritage. He was a founder of the Amana Colonies Land Use District and helped lead the campaign to designate the Amanas as a National Historic Register site. He opened Die Heimat Motor Hotel in 1963, the first tourist hotel in the modern Amanas. He created his successful business, Colony Visits/Heritage Destinations providing guided tours of the Colony and leading tours to historic sites in the U.S. and Germany. His vision and determination resulted in forming the Amana Heritage Society. He served as an Amana Church Elder for thirty years. Throughout his long life, Harold was a devoted son, Amana Church Elder, and innovative entrepreneur. He promoted Amana values and traditions and shared his love of Amana by drawing tourists to visit and learn about our rich culture. His values are true Amana values.

Harold was a vibrant, respected leader, contributor and champion for the Amana Church, the preservation of Amana culture, Amana tourism and the Amana people. He is quintessential "old" Amana through and through. His smile and generous spirit will be missed by all.

Harold is survived by two sisters, Rosemarie Geiger and Lauren (Lorraine) Pitz Fortune, a niece, nephew and first cousins as well as great nieces and nephews.

Donations honoring Harold W. Pitz can be made in his name to the Amana Heritage Society and the Amana Church Society.

Messages may be left at www.powellfuneralhomes.com

HELP WANTED

Ronneburg Restaurant seeks full or part time line cook. Stop in at 4408 220th Trail, Amana for an application or give us a call 319-622-3641.

Millstream Brau Haus, Help Wanted: **Bartender**, full or part time and Part Time **Host**. Stop by and pick up an application.

SERVICES

Fall garden plowing, leaf collection, lawn aeration, and stump grinding. Call Rob Jeck at 319-622-3308

IOWA BARN FOUNDATION BARN TOUR

The Moershel Buggy Barn, located at 4460 V Street in Homestead, is one of 103 barns statewide to participate in this year's All-State Barn Tour September 13 & 14. Tour will be open to the public from 9AM to 5:00PM. This barn was built in 1890 and housed horses and buggies, always ready for both Dr. William Moershel (1868-1931) and Dr. Henry Moershel (1891-1972) to make house calls. The Iowa Barn Foundation is dedicated to preserving Iowa's rural agricultural buildings, symbols of Iowa's early agricultural heritage. For information on the Iowa statewide tour visit: iowabarnfoundation.org.

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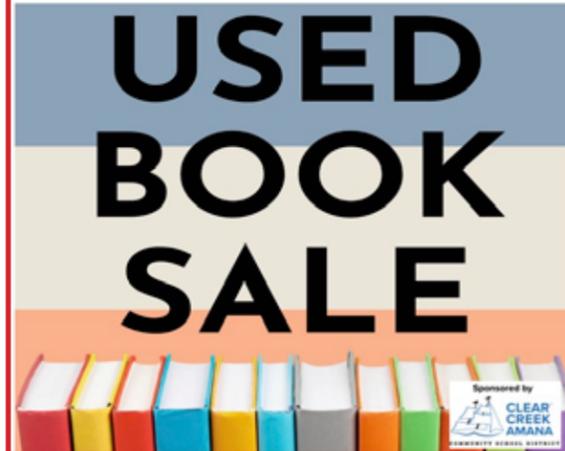
Amana Community Library

3023 220th Trail, Amana, IA
Thursday, September 11; 9am-6pm
Friday, September 12; 9am-6pm
Saturday, September 13; 9am-noon

Free Will Donation – Cash only

All proceeds will benefit and support the Amana Library

Wide Selection of Kids, Adult Books, Cookbooks, DVDS, and Magazines



NEWS RELEASE

The annual election for the Amana Colonies Land Use District (ACLUD) trustees will be held Tuesday, October 7, 2025.

Nomination papers are available by appointment only at the ACLUD office at 4304 220th Trail, in Amana. Papers are also available at the Auditor's Office in the East Courthouse Annex at 970 Court Avenue in Marengo between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

The deadline for filing nomination papers is September 12, 2025, at 4:30 PM in the Auditor's Office.

Please note the polling hours for this election will be from 12:00 Noon until 8:00 PM at the Middle Amana Fire Station at 2725 K St Middle Amana, IA 52307.

Pre-registered voter registration deadline is Monday, September 22, 2025, for this election. Pre-registered voters are required to provide an approved form of identification at the polling place before receiving and casting a regular ballot. Voters who are not pre-registered – such as voters registering to vote on election day – and voters changing precincts must also provide proof of residence. A voter who is unable to provide an approved form of identification (or prove residence if required) 1) may have the voter's identity/residence attested to by another registered voter in the precinct, 2) prove identity and residence using Election Day Registration documents, or 3) cast a provisional ballot and provide proof of identity/residence at the county auditor's office by Noon on Thursday October 3, 2024. Election Day Registrant attestors must provide an approved form of identification. For additional information about providing proof of identity and/or residence visit: <https://sos.iowa.gov/voterid> or phone (319) 642-3923 option # 2. Voters are still encouraged to register by September 22, 2025, in the auditor's office if your residence has changed.

Anyone wishing to vote absentee before election day may do so by stopping in the Auditor's Office Monday thru Friday 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM starting September 17. Voter Registration Forms and Absentee Ballot Request Forms are also available by mail or on the Iowa County website at www.iowacounty.iowa.gov. For further information contact the ACLUD office at 319-622-3840 or the Auditor's Office at 319-642-3923 option # 2.

Sample ballots for this Special Election will be published in the HomeTown Current the week of September 15, 2025.

Celebrate! Amana at 170 a Huge Success!

Our event served as a platform to raise awareness of our need to support all the local non-profit organizations to be the best stewards of the Amana Colonies.

The Alex Meixner Band provided an energetic performance that we hope to see again soon. Alex uses his platform to preserve music and spends countless hours introducing kids to music, in particular his polka style, to encourage the next generation to keep music alive and relevant.

Over 250 attendees enjoyed Alex's high energy performance. We could not have provided this great event without the help and support of our great Amana Community. We'd like to give a BIG THANKS to the following-

Sponsors: Brown Rock Sales, Whirlpool, Hills Bank & Trust, Amana Family Practice, Amana Community Chest, Amana Society, Inc.

Food & Beverage: County Line BBQ Catering, Jamie and Jessica, the Amana RV Park & Event Center, Kayleigh Meyers, Edelweiss Coffee & Tea, Sound Engineer, Robert Brost

Facilities: Dennis Hahn

Homestead Sanitary is taking bids for Water Treatment Improvement Project.

Pre-bid meeting and inspection 10:00 AM, September 17, 2025.

More information on page three of digital Amana Society Bulletin on amanacoloniestoday.com.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

PROJECT:	Wastewater Treatment Improvements Project, Homestead Sanitary District, Homestead, IA
Pre-Bid Meeting/ Inspection	10:00 AM, September 17, 2025 at project location. Attendance at the scheduled Pre-Bid Meeting/Inspection or an Independent Inspection of the WWTP is required in order for a bid to be considered as valid.
BID DATE:	Sealed bids are due at <u>4:00PM</u>, September 24, 2025, at the Hart-Frederick Consultants Bids will be opened at <u>4:00PM</u>, September 24, 2025, at the Hart-Frederick Consultants Hearing will be held at <u>6:00PM</u>, October 1 2025, at the Board of Trustees Meeting Bids will be considered at <u>6:00PM</u>, October 1, 2025, at the Board of Trustees Meeting
	Bids should be filed at: Attn: Benjamin A. Carhoff, P.E. Hart Frederick Consultants, 510 State Street, PO Box 560, Tiffin, IA 52340 Attn: Wastewater Treatment Improvements Project Phone # 319-545-7215
DESCRIPTION OF WORK:	The project shall consist of providing all materials, equipment and labor necessary to install the work as defined as follows: Base Bid: Construction of 9'x7'x13' vault chamber with timber framed building including, metal siding and roofing, electrical, process piping, and HVAC systems. Provide and install UV Disinfection system as specified. Work includes all necessary grading, erosion control, mobilization water and natural gas service piping and other associated appurtenances and miscellaneous work items. All Work and equipment are to be in accordance with the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents on file with the Homestead Sanitary District, Homestead, Iowa, which are by this reference made a part of this Notice as though fully set out and incorporated herein.
SALES TAX EXEMPTION	The Bidder is <u>NOT</u> eligible to receive an exemption from the State of Iowa Sales Tax. State of Iowa Sales Tax shall be included in the bid.
PREFERENCE	By virtue of statutory authority, a preference will be given to products and provisions grown and coal produced within the state of Iowa.
BID GUARANTY:	Bid security in the form of a cashier's check or certified check drawn on a state-chartered or federally chartered bank, or a certified share draft drawn on a state-chartered or federally chartered credit union, or a bidder's bond with corporate surety satisfactory to the Board of Trustees, in the amount of 10% of the bid.
COMPLETION DATE:	Work shall commence within ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the written "Notice to Proceed". All work shall be completed by September 1, 2026 subject to any time extension that may be granted by the Board of Trustees.
PERFORMANCE/ PAYMENT / MAINTENANCE BOND:	One hundred percent (100%) of the bid, with a maintenance period of three (3) years from the time of final project acceptance by the Owner.
PAYMENTS:	Monthly estimates equivalent to ninety-five percent (95%) of the Contract value of the work completed during the preceding calendar month with <u>5% retainage</u> . Remaining <u>retainage</u> , if any, will be paid within 30 days after final acceptance by the Board of Trustees.
BIDDING DOCUMENTS:	Bidding Documents can be purchased from: Hart-Frederick Consultants P.C.
BIDDING DOCUMENTS COST:	\$50.00 per set, refundable, if returned within 14 days after the award of the contract and in a re-useable condition. Electronic documents will be provided free of charge. Make checks payable to "Hart-Frederick Consultants, P.C." Mail checks to the mailing address. Mailing Address: Hart-Frederick Consultants P.C., P.O. Box 560, Tiffin, IA 52340-0560 Physical Location: 510 State St; Tiffin, IA 52340; Phone #: (319) 545-7215; Fax #: (319) 545-7220 For Current Project information and status, please visit: www.hart-frederick.com; Click on "Projects," and then click on "Current Projects."
PROJECT ENGINEER:	Benjamin A. Carhoff, P.E.; Hart-Frederick Consultants P.C. Contact information: Phone # (319) 545-7215, Fax # (319) 545-7220