

## AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Baccalaureate Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, May 18, 2025 starting 10:00 A.M. with Sw. Andrea Haldy presiding.

Opening Hymn: "In Faith We find a Heavenly Power" No. 73

Testimony: Excerpts: Christian Metz, Marien-born April 5, 1833

Scripture: Hebrew 11

Psalms 91:1-16

Closing Hymn: "O For a Faith that Will Not Shrink" No. 225

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 FIRE DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE

The monthly public meeting of the Amana Fire District will be held Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the Middle Amana fire station.

## LIFEGUARDING CLASS

The pool in Amana and most pools need certified lifeguards. We will be hosting a lifeguarding class on May 17 and 18. These will be long days and full attendance is mandatory. Students must be 15 by May 18 and be able to swim 300 yards.

For more information and for registration text or call TJ Croco at 319-430-9181.

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](http://amanacoloniestoday.com)

## AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

### Good News Theatre Fans!

#### "Wild Rosie's Rip Roarin Radio Round Up"

The Iowa Theatre Artists Company (ITAC) announces an original series of musical events to be offered in the this summer under the title of "Wild Rosie's Rip-Roarin' Radio Round Up," at the Amana Performing Arts Center Friday and Saturday, June 6 -7.

Though set in the fictitious radio station, WWOW, with Wild Rosie broadcasting from a town "not far away and in a time not quite like our own," the show within a show will feature real people sharing their own stories through word and music.

The first presentation in the series will be Paul Roberts of Sharon Center who is a popular professional musician in Eastern Iowa. From a farm background, Roberts began playing banjo over forty years ago and performs regularly with numerous bluegrass groups in the area. Joining Roberts on stage will be Marc Janssen, Solon, on fiddle and mandolin, and Mark Wilson, of Hills, on lead guitar. Wild Rosie, our own Meg Merckens, will host the show and promises to put the Rip into Roarin' in this musical and comedy revue.

The show will premiere at the Amana Performing Arts Center on Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7 with future performances to follow on Saturday, June 21 in Garrison at the Farmers Mercantile Hall and on Saturday, July 12 in Kalona at the Hillcrest Academy Celebration Hall. Ticketing Information and performance details will be posted by May 20th.

#### Amana Vacation Bible School is June 23 - 27

The Amana Church's annual Vacation Bible School will be June 23 - 27 from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

To register visit the Amana Church website or go to <https://bit.ly/ACVBS2025>. Or contact the Amana Church office.

Amana VBS is open to all children, age 3 to kids entering 5th grade next fall. Students entering 6th through 12th grade are eligible to help as youth volunteers. Youth volunteers will need to attend a volunteer meeting the week before camp.

Amana VBS is free to all kids and this year's theme, is "TRUE NORTH" trusting Jesus in a wild world with lots of north woods-themed crafts and fun planned to teach Christian principles and Bible stories. It's a week packed with fun, games, music, fellowship. A family ice cream social and concert will conclude the week on Friday, June 27 at 6:30 p.m.

#### Country Concert and Beer Garden at Iowa County Fair

The Iowa County Fair Board announced last week that Duke Oursler and the American Dream will be in concert live at the Iowa County Fair in Marengo on Saturday, July 19 from 7 - 11 p.m.

Iowa County native Sam Roberts will open for Duke and the American Dream. For the first time that we can recall ever, a beer garden will be open at the fairgrounds before and during the concert.

The event is sponsored by Keystone Savings Bank and the Iowa County Cattlemen. Duke and his band have performed all over the country. Their music can be heard on YouTube and on their web

site [dukeoursler.com](http://dukeoursler.com)

The Iowa County Fair is July 16 - 20 at the Iowa County Fairgrounds in Marengo.

#### Village Voices: Stories from the Amana Colonies

If you should happen upon this little book, "Village Voices: Stories from the Amana Colonies" at a used bookstore or garage sale, buy it.

It is small, about 6 1/2 inches by 6 inches, and its cover is black and white. The cover features a perfect pen and ink drawing of Amana by artist Rachel Ehrman of South Amana. Rachel did miniature, medallion - like drawings to illustrate the book and they are both charming and beautiful.

"Village Voices" was edited and published by Robert Wolf of Free River Press in Lansing, Iowa in the summer of 1996, but as I recall the Amana Arts Guild received a story-telling grant from Humanities Iowa or perhaps the Iowa Arts Council, to allow them to hire Wolf to lead a week-long writer's workshop, edit the stories that resulted and put together the book. Wolf was well known then for publishing similar story telling chronicles featuring various communities in the Midwest.

The book came out in July 1996 and while I did not want to participate at the time as I had three young kids at home and business to run and I had to be pushed by my friend, Barbara Hoehnle, I have always been very glad I did participate. Every day for a week we met at the Arts Guild Center in High Amana where I believe Gordon served us very good Hahn coffee cake and very weak coffee. Prompted by Mr. Wolf, who I think was shocked at how very little prompting we all needed as everyone in the room already knew how to tell a good story, we told stories. Not every story made it into the book, but quite a few did and each one is a gem.

The participants were: Larry Rettig, Marie Calahan, Marietta Moershel, Roy Moser, Mary Ann Fels, Barbara Hoehnle, Charlie Hoehnle, Dianne Rathje, Rachel Ehrmann and Gaycia Neubauer. Stories ranged from personal recollections about communal Amana to a strange and funny story about a drug deal that went down in South Amana as Iowa County Sheriff Jim Slockett watched and recorded it from the Rettig's garden house.

During the next several weeks, I'm going to publish excerpts from this book.

I'll start with this one written by Marie Calihan who was born in Davenport Iowa in 1914 and moved to Amana at the age of 8 with her family. She left Amana again as an adult and then returned in 1982. She was working as an Amana Heritage Museum guide at the time she wrote this story, "Communal Kitchens."

"It was 1928 and I was 14 years old. I had graduated from 8th grade in the spring and had been assigned to cook in a communal kitchen in Middle Amana, where I lived. There were 9 kitchens in Middle (at that time), each cooked for 35 to 45 people.

... I had been in the kitchen about 3 weeks learning to cook when the Kuchebaas and Marie Schniender, who had been teaching me, decided it was time for me to do some cooking by myself, namely breakfast. My alarm went off at 4:30 a.m. the next morning, in plenty of time to get dressed and ready to go



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## AMANA AREA FELLOWSHIP

### Church Services

SUNDAYS 9:00 AM

All Are Welcome

Amana Performing Arts Center

[www.amanaareafellowship.org](http://www.amanaareafellowship.org)



**Serving Breakfast**  
Thurs.- Sun. 8-10:30  
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News & Notes from page 1

to the kitchen. I do not remember being afraid of being alone in the dark. I let myself into the kitchen and reached for the matches in the cupboard and lit the three kerosene lamps. Next I had to make a fire in the log, low brick hearth, the kind used in all the kitchens. I got kindling wood from the warmer, which was a three cubic foot space built into the hearth that we kept full of kindling, because the warmth dried it out and it would burn quickly.

I arranged it on the grate, added some coal and kerosene, put a match to it and my fire was roaring. I filled the container that was used only for water for coffee. I took the lids off two holes on the hearth and put the container of water on one hole and the cast iron pot of cold coffee with grounds (left over from the day before) on the other. After the old coffee came to a boil, I added it to the fresh coffee I was making, thereby reducing the amount of water I needed (four gallons) and perhaps making it a little stronger.

Next I got the two big cast iron frying pans from where they hung on the wall, added lard from the cupboard, the lids from holes three and four on the hearth and put the pans on to heat. When hot, I added the boiled, cold, sliced potatoes prepared the night before. About half an hour later, they were brown and crispy.

All that was left to do was to heat the two gallons of milk in hot water. . . then I sliced bread and got out the butter for the bread. . . By that time, people were starting to come in with their baskets to pick up their breakfast and my co-workers were starting to appear to. . . Hooray! I had cooked breakfast for approximately 40 people on my 14th birthday with no mishap!"

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OBITUARY

Barbara Selzer Hoehnle, of Homestead passed away on Saturday, May 10, 2025, at Colonial Manor in Amana at the age of 78. Funeral Services were held Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at the Middle Amana Church. Burial was in the Homestead Cemetery.

Barbara Selzer Hoehnle was born on March 15, 1947, at Mercy Hospital Cedar Rapids, the daughter of Arthur and Marie Selzer, Homestead. She attended the Amana Schools, graduating in 1965. She graduated from Coe College in 1969. She was a junior high librarian in Walcott, Iowa for two years.

Barbara was united in marriage to Charles L. Hoehnle on November 17, 1972, at her parent's home in Homestead, Iowa. The couple had two children, Peter and Sam. She enjoyed reading and every kind of handy work. For many years, Barbara worked for the Amana Heritage Society as a librarian and guide and later worked for the Amana Colonies Convention and Visitors Bureau. She also wrote a column for the Amana Society Bulletin, "Feathers in the Wind" for twenty years.

Barbara is survived by her husband of 52 years Charles; two sons Peter (Elly) Hoehnle and Sam (Justin Deal) Hoehnle; a granddaughter Rose Hoehnle; two step grandchildren; and four step great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister Kathryn Johnson.

Memorials may be given to the Amana Church. Powell Funeral Home in Marengo is caring for Barbara and her family. Messages and tributes may be left at [www.powellfuneralhomes.com](http://www.powellfuneralhomes.com).

FOR SALE

2007 Chevrolet Impala LT Sedan. Red. 4 door. 211,000 miles. One owner. Nonsmoker. Good shape inside and out. 6 cylinder 3.5 liter. \$3,800. Factory DVD player. Call 319-622-3639 and leave a message.

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FOR RENT

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

Bulletin Deadlines:

Most Articles & ads

- Tues. 5:00 PM

Small/short Ads/articles

- Wed. Noon

OBITUARY

Doris Marie Hahn, 83, of Middle Amana passed away in her home on May 6th, 2025. A visitation will be held at Powell Funeral Home in Marengo on Thursday, May 15th from 4pm-7pm. A private Hahn/Koch family graveside service will be held Friday, May 16th at the Middle Amana Cemetery.

Doris was born on June 14th, 1941, in Louisville Kentucky to August and Madge Harroun Koch. She married Jack Hahn on September 3rd, 1960, in the Amana Church, in a ceremony officiated by Jack's father, Carl F. Hahn. She and Jack ran the Hahn Bakery in Middle Amana from 1968 until Jack's death in 1997, after which she ran the bakery by herself until she retired in December of 2023.

Doris is survived by two daughters, Linda and husband Jim Brecht and Lori and husband Glenn Rozeboom; a brother, William and wife Mollie Koch; a sister, Grace Patricia Bahr; two grandchildren, Grant and wife Leah Rozeboom and Lincoln and wife Alannah Rozeboom; three great grandchildren, Anton Rozeboom, Eliana Rozeboom, and Jack Rozeboom, and many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Hahn, her parents, August Koch and Madge Koch Price, two brothers, August Koch Jr. and Danny Koch, three brothers-in-law, Fred Hahn, Orville Bahr, and Clifford Trumpold, four sisters-in-law, Sally Koch, Ellie Koch, Rozella Hahn and Caroline Trumpold, a niece, Vickie Bahr, a nephew, Randy Bahr and a great nephew Jason Hahn.

All who visited the bakery will remember her smile and warm welcome as much as her delicious baked goods. She was generous with her time and resources, modeling the love and charity that were central to her Christian faith. She cheered for the Hawkeyes and the Kentucky Wildcats, and she traveled to countless games, meets, concerts, and recitals to watch her children and grandchildren in action. Her kindness and laughter were gifts and will be sorely missed.

A Memorial Fund has been established for the family.

For Rent; The Homestead Welfare Club

4215 V St Homestead offers an exceptional 1100 square foot setting in our historic 1860 home for family reunions, social gatherings, or business meetings. It includes a mini kitchen, tables and chairs for 80+ persons plus a ½ acre private, beautifully shaded back yard perfect for outdoor activities. It includes picnic tables and small shelter. The cost is \$75 per day. An additional 500 square foot full-service kitchen is available for an additional \$25.

Call 319-622-3620 for details & scheduling

ESSEN WAGEN- HOME DELIVERED MEALS

The Amana Church, in conjunction with Colonial Manor, sponsors the Amana Essen Wagen, which provides a hot noon meal to home-bound, adults or their adult child, delivered to your home (even to your chair!) each weekday, except holidays. Enjoy not cooking and enjoy visiting with one of our volunteer drivers.

Please contact Colonial Manor at 319-622-3131 to sign up for this service. You can register for a short time while recuperating at home, or on a permanent basis. The suggested donation per meal is \$4.00.

REMINDER CONCERNING SOUTH DUMP  
Iowa County Landfill accepts yard waste

What is commonly referred to as the South Dump, is **Private Property** and only for the use of **Amana Society Stock Holders** living within the Amana Colonies, and may be under 24 hour photo surveillance.

Burning is **absolutely not** permitted. Burning is dangerous and not compliant with DNR Regulations.

**Only** organic compostable yard refuse is allowed, and users **will** empty & remove plastic bags or other containers used to transfer yard waste. Lumber, and other building material, & trash dumping is absolutely **NOT** permitted.

Using this area to disposed of organic yard refuse is a privilege, not a right, and privileges will be revoked if Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) and Amana Society rules on what may be disposed of or if the burning ban are violated.

If you witness violations of these rules, **please** report, to A.S.I. Conservation at 319-560-2459.

Amana Church

Vacation Bible School

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