Amana Society Bulletin

Vol. XCIV | Amana, Iowa, Thursday, March 06, 2025 | No. 01

AMANA CHURCH SOCIETY NEWS

The Early Service will be in the Middle Church Sunday, March 09, 2025 starting 8:30 A.M. with-Br. Mike Shoup presiding.

Opening Hymn: "Sanftmuth, die edle Gottesgabe" No. 890 vs. 1, 3, 5, 9 Seite 876

Testimony: Christian Metz, Haag, April 20, 1835

Scripture: Matthew 18: 1-4; Philippians 2: 1-11
Psalm 100

Closing Hymn: "Ach bleib mit deiner Gnade" No. 3 Seite 2

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

Opening Hymn: "Humility, The Noblest Virtue" No. 140

Closing Hymn: "Abide, O Dearest Jesus" No. 114

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 online may be found at:
https://amanachurch.com/category/podcast/

AMANA CHURCH SEEKS ADMINISTRATOR

The Executive Committee of the Amana Church is now accepting applications for the Administrator's position. If you are interested in applying for the Amana Church Administrator's position, please submit a letter of Interest and resume to the Administrator (mchurch@southslope.net or P.O. Box 103, Middle Amana, IA 52307) by March 10, 2025. The Administrator will forward your information to the Executive Committee for their review.

Dear Middle Amana Residents,

Water quality is an important and ongoing concern across the State of Iowa. The Middle Amana Sanitary District (MASD) is committed to supporting water quality and the efforts underway to make improvements. One of the key initiatives currently underway is the reduction of chloride in wastewater outflow from the district.

We are reaching out to you because you can make a significant difference. Residential and commercial water softener systems are meaningful contributors to chloride levels in wastewater due to the sodium chloride (salt) present in wastewater from regeneration cycles. Adjusting the regeneration settings and schedules of your system can reduce the amount of salt consumed and, as a result, decrease the chloride exiting the sanitary sewer treatment system.

MASD respectfully asks that you inspect your water softener to ensure it is operating properly and that the settings are correct. An incorrect hardness/iron setting or too frequent regeneration cycles not only degrades water quality but can also increase your costs. If you're unsure of the appropriate settings for your water softener, assistance is available by contacting Amana Society Service Co. at (319) 622-3052 or your preferred water treatment provider.

By properly setting and maintaining your water softener, you can help lower chloride levels in wastewater while also reducing your own salt usage and potentially saving money.

Sincerely,
Middle Amana Sanitary District Trustees

FEATHERS IN THE WIND

Years ago, we were privileged enough to get a needlepoint picture of Hansel and Gretel in front of the gingerbread house with the wicked witch in the background. It hung in our bedroom and I remember that the witch had a hooked nose and red hair. My cousin, Pat, had a picture of Snow White with some (but not all) of the seven dwarves. I became jealous that she had a picture all her own, while I had to share mine with my sister.

Years later, I was looking through some of my Oma Selzer's needlework magazines and found the patterns for these pictures. I tried to duplicate the pictures, and to learn more about the magazine, "Die Hausfrau." My mother was still alive, at the time, and told me that the magazine was one bought by a number of Amana women. It contained

***Feathers** continues on Page 2*

AMANA NEWS AND NOTES

Over the River and Through the Woods at APAC March 28 – 30

With a cast that's going to rock this show, a family comedy is going to kick off Amana's theatre 2025 season with a hearty, loving bang.

Meg Merckens, Tom Milligan, Claire Boston, Marty Norton, David Morton and Adam Burnham star in a hilarious, heart-warming comedy about family, faith and food in the pursuit of the Italian-American dream by Joe DiPietro. Cherryl Moon Thomason directs.

New Jersey single guy Nick has Sunday dinner with both sets of grandparents every weekend because his parents have decamped to Florida and he feels responsible. But when he's offered a new job, a dream job actually, he can't bear to break the news to his grandparents and they can't bear to let him go. What happens next is too funny, but oh so relatable. Don't miss this feel-good winner of a play.

At the Amana Performing Arts Center. Tickets on sale now. Call or email Deb Kennedy at deborahkennedy@live.com or see the TKM Theatrical Performances website, tkmtheatricalproductions.com to order tickets. Friday and Saturday the show is at 7:30 p.m. Sunday the show is at 3 p.m. Tickets are $25.

Quilt Amana 2025 is April 11 – 13, Arts and Antiques to be Featured Same Weekend

Spring in the Amanas unofficially begins with the much-anticipated Quilt Amana 2025 show at Price Creek Event Center, Amana April 11 – 13.

To add to the festivities, all Amana antique shops and art galleries will be featured in a special promotion weekend organized by the new Amana Colonies Festival coordinator, Kate Senneff. Senneff joined the ACCVB this winter. Details on what's happening and what shops will be doing April 11 – 13 will be posted soon.

You can preview the Quilt Amana show and take part in the kick-off dinner to be held Thursday, April 10 with fellow quilters at the Merino Loft at Hotel Millwright, Amana. Menu features: pasta alfredo with chicken for dinner, etc. and cheesecake with caramel for dessert (allergies can be accommodated).

Special guest speaker, quilt historian and appraiser, Virginia Berger will present, "Tell me about Grandma's Quilt." Berger will guide the audience through the process of identifying and dating quilts by exploring examples from her extensive collection. Discover how seemingly simple elements of a quilt can unlock clues to its age and history. Perhaps renew your curiosity for quilts and fabrics in your own collection.

Following dinner participants will head to Price Creek Event Center for an exclusive preview of Quilt Amana 2025. Vendors will be on-site so that you can take full advantage of this special evening at the show. This pre-show event ticket includes a weekend pass to the show, so you visit and revisit the Quilt Amana show anytime Friday-Sunday. Tickets for the Quilt Amana Pre-Show Dinner Event are $50 per person. Reservations are required by March 26.
Call Heritage Designs at 319-622-3887.

Yes, you can book your own quilt appraisal Friday only at Quilt Amana. Virginia Berger will tell you about the age and pattern of your heirloom quilt. (Fee is $30 and does not include appraisal value). A written appraisal which includes evaluation and valuation is $60. Please, you must reserve a time to have a quilt evaluated. To book a consultation or appraisal, please text or call and leave a message for Jane at 641-891-3614. She will reach out to schedule with you.

Daylight Savings Time is Here
Easter is Coming Up

There are signs of spring all over the place. Daylight savings time begins Sunday, March 9 so plan to change your clocks before bedtime on Saturday.
Yes, there are Easter Eggs dyed and ready at the Amana Meat Shop and Smokehouse in Amana. And yes, the Bockwurst is here! Bockwurst is being made regularly at the Meat Shop so stop by and buy this spring treat.

Palm Sunday is Sunday April 13 and of course, Easter follows on Sunday, April 20. The annual Amana Heritage Museum Easter Egg hunt will be Saturday, April 19 at 9 a.m. Call the museum to reserve your basket. For ages 12 and under.

***News & Notes** continues on page 2*

SOLD!

3195 123RD ST
AMANA, IA

GUNTHER SANDERSFELD
319-826-4122
GUNTHER@SKOGMAN.COM
SKOGMAN REALTY | LICENSED REALTOR IN THE STATE OF IOWA
417 1ST AVE. SE CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401

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"

BRAU HAUS AMANA, IA

Serving Breakfast Thurs.- Sun. 8-10:30
Monday Night is Trivia!
Friday Night Live Music!
Sundays are for Music Bingo!
319-622-7332

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

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***

News & Notes *from page 1*

Communal Amana Government and Housing

We've had a nice response to our stories on old Amana courting and marriage, so I thought we could continue with a few more in a series as Amana is 170 years old this year.

Jobs, housing, farming operations and enterprises in each village were overseen by a committee of three to five Elders in each village during Amana's communal period, 1855 -1932. These village committees were appointed by theGrossebruderat or Board of Trustees of all seven villages. According to Amana's bylaws adopted in 1859, each year the Grossebruderat was elected by all the men of the community who had signed the constitution, widowed women and unmarried women over the age of 30. Now the rules for female voting give pause to us today, but they were positively radical in 1859 when women did not have the right to vote in any American election and would not have that right until the 19th amendment was ratified to the US Constitution in 1920.

The trustee election was held on the first Tuesday of the month of December. Thirteen trustees, all Elders, were elected. They met once a month, sometimes more or less often depending upon the concerns of the time. Minutes were recorded in German. These were translated into English by Dr. Henry Ruff and are at the Amana Heritage Society archives.

The village committee of Elders had the day to day reins in hand and they were the ones to assign housing. Housing was guaranteed in the Constitution of the Amana Society along with food, care in old age and ill health plus an annual stipend (a small allowance in cash or credit) for sundry items not supplied by the community. Of course the community supplied everything from cord wood to kerosene, cotton and wool cloth, furniture, carpets, books, baskets, brooms, soap and you name it. Stipends were spent on mail order boots and hats, small luxuries, sweets, newspaper and magazine subscriptions and small musical instruments. At first cottage industries were completely forbidden but by the late 1800s folks were raising strawberries and other fruits to sell to outsiders or trapping for muskrats and selling their pelts in Oxford or Marengo. A few even raised finches or doves to sell to Iowa coal mines using a tiny portion of their stipend to purchase bird food from the general stores all of which is recorded in the general store records and accounts.

Housing assignments had to be treated with great sensitivity as they sometimes led to hurt feelings, so the village committees tried very hard to be fair and to not shake things up too often. It was established early on that school teachers lived above or beside their school houses. Kitchen bosses lived on the second floor of their kitchens. Herdsmen lived near the cattle yard, but all other housing was arranged as was most practical.

Families often shared one large home with separate apartments for each branch of a family. This might include a single or widowed aunt, uncle or cousin each of whom was assigned a bedroom and parlor in the house. Even the upstairs attic of the washhouse was comfortably urnished with a stove, etc to house a young, single man. Remember only kitchen houses had kitchens so the rest of the houses in town were fitted with sitting rooms and bedrooms connected by airy hallways. Houses had porches, greenspaces for the hanging of laundry, washhouses, wood sheds, fruit trees and a flower and herb garden. Vegetable gardening was done in 1 to 3-acre kitchen gardens in and around the villages, but most households grew flowers, grapes, herbs, berries and rhubarb too.

As children arrived and a family grew, it would be moved from a one- bedroom apartment to larger apartment or larger house. Often older couples swapped apartments with their married sons or daughters as needed. Sometimes this meant families exchanged apartments in the same house, a practice that continues to this day in some colony households.

Feathers *from page 1*

stories, advertisements and, of course, patterns.

It seems that a relative, Mrs. Setzer, was always doing needlework and giving the results to relatives. We were distant cousins and so received the pictures of Hansel and Gretel and Snow White from her, much to our joy.

I really tried to duplicate one of these pictures but the instructions were so small, and the colors were merely labeled "red," "blue" etc. without precise shades indicated, so one had to improvise one's color choices, something that I am not that good at. If anyone has any of these old patterns, please let me know, as I would love a copy and to try again to recreate the style of these needlepoint pictures that so entranced me when I was a child.

B.S.H

NOTICE OF PASSING

Renate (Konitzer) Carlson died peacefully on Monday, February 24, 2025 in St. Paul, MN. A memorial service will be held at a future date yet to be determined. An obituary will appear in next week's edition.

FOR RENT

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

HELP WANTED

Amana Arts Guild is seeking a new Executive Director. Approximately 20 hours/week, $15-$20 an hour. Please find our posting on amanaartsguild.com to learn more and apply.

Help Wanted at Margie Jane's sales associate Weekdays starting in April. Please call 319-721-8748

AMANA ELEMENTARY & BIG G

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 between Sept. 1, 2024 & 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) to our school by April 4, 2025 Thank you!

OBITUARY

Robert "Bob" D. Sandersfeld, age, 87, of Amana, passed away Monday, March 3, 2025, at Harmony Nursing Home in Cedar Rapids. Visitation: 4 to 7 p.m., Friday, March 7, 2025, at Kloster Funeral Home, Marengo. Funeral: 10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 8, 2025, at St. John's Lutheran Church, rural Homestead, with Rev. Gary Sears officiating. Burial will be in the St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, rural Homestead. A memorial fund has been established.

Robert Dean Sandersfeld was born November 20, 1937, in rural Homestead, the youngest son of Rudolph and Dora (Witte) Sandersfeld. He grew up on the family farm and served in the Army from 1955-1957. Afterwards he worked construction, at the Homestead Feed Mill and the Ox Yoke Inn. Followed by managing the Colony Village Restaurant with his brother, Russell, doing everything from welcoming guests to fixing equipment in a true family business including his wife and children, sisters, mother and relatives. He was famous for his cinnamon rolls.

On June, 11th, 1960, he married Annette Seifert and enjoyed sixty-four years together. He was a devoted husband and father. His pride and joy were his children, eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Bob was a very gifted carpenter and woodworker, crafting many pieces of heirloom furniture. His grandkids loved working alongside him on construction projects, including converting an attic into a family room and an Amana Home into apartments with his grandsons.

Bob was a fantastic self taught musician. He played guitar, bass, and steel guitar with family members in two bands; "Buzzin' Cousins" & "Country Express".

He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church near Homestead, Iowa. Bob was a quiet man of faith, the 23rd Psalm clearly being a childhood favorite passage of his that he remembered to the end.

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Annette of Amana, children, Rick Sandersfeld of Amana, Shawn (Jennifer) Sandersfeld of Middle, Wendy Sandersfeld of Amana, and Joel Sandersfeld of Olathe, Kansas; 11 grandchildren, Erich (Kari) Sandersfeld, Hannah (Kaleb) Gehman, Gunther Sandersfeld, Berend Sandersfeld, Jürgen Sandersfeld, Anton Sandersfeld, Reiner Sandersfeld, Otto Sandersfeld, Jacob Sandersfeld, Noah Sandersfeld, and Evelyn Sandersfeld; and two greatgrandchildren, Dax Sandersfeld and Rory Sandersfeld. He is preceded in death by his parents, his siblings Victor Sandersfeld, Russell Sandersfeld, Dolores Kleinmeyer and LaVerna Folkmann.

The family would like to thank the staff at Unity Point Transitional Care Center and at Harmony Cedar Rapids for their wonderful care.

Online condolences: www.klosterfuneralhome.com

AMANA COLONIES LAND USE DISTRICT (ACLUD) Notice of Public Hearing March 10, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. in ACLUD office 4304 220th Trail Amana & ZOOM

1. Call Public Hearing to Order
2. Set Agenda
3. Open Discussion Regarding Agenda Items – Purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input from the General Public regarding the following:

A) 2025-002 Michael and Kayleigh Myers / 23 220th Trail Upper south / HP-C / Rezoning Request. Change the property that once served as the Amana Society Bakery from HP-C to HP-R as this is now a residence.

B) (Second Reading) Review Proposed 2025 – 2026 ACLUD Budget.

4. Adjourn Public Hearing

AMANA COLONIES LAND USE DISTRICT (ACLUD) Notice of Board of Trustees Meeting (BOT) &Tentative Agenda, March 10th, 2025 – following hearing in ACLUD office 4304 220th Trail Amana & via ZOOM

I. Call Meeting to Order
II. Set Agenda
III. Review/Approve February 10, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes and February 24, 2025 Special meeting minutes
IV. Welcome visitors and allow citizens to speak on items that are not on the agenda
V. Discussion/Action on the following permit applications in a Historic Preservation Zoning District:

a. 2024-090 Jason Miller /4105 V St. Homestead/ HP-C / Application Continued- Replace 7 windows on South front with Vinyl. Replace 15 windows on the West side with Vinyl. Replace 7 windows on the East side. Replace 2 windows on the North (back) side with vinyl. Replace East side door and deck.

b. 2025-003 Amana Society Inc. (Timber & Tools) /724 48th Ave / HP-C/ Replace fascia with white Smart side, replace sofit and freeze boards will be painted white.

c. 2025-004 Amana Society Inc. (Little Red Wagon) /4417 220th Trail /HP-C/ Replace siding on West side of building. Will be using the cedar siding leftover from new addition. Touchup white paint on trim. Replace gutter with new ½ round.

VI. Other Business.

a. Discussion/Action: Semi Trailer at Price Creek

VII. Review/Approve March Disbursements Report.
VIII. Review/Approve the March Treasurer's Report.
IX. President's Report (if applicable).
X. Administrator's Report.
XI. Adjourn.