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Akron, Iowa



SUMMER
SPORTS
PREVIEW

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Featured

The Spot
celebrates
three-year
anniversary

On Saturday, June 7, owners Jennifer Hart and Stephanie Cacioppo hosted a lively celebration to mark the third anniversary of The Spot Espresso Bar & Cafe.

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Sports

A-W softball
off to a
solid start

The Akron-Westfield (A-W) softball team continued their solid start to the season as they beat West Sioux 9-1 at Bob Tucker Field on June 3.

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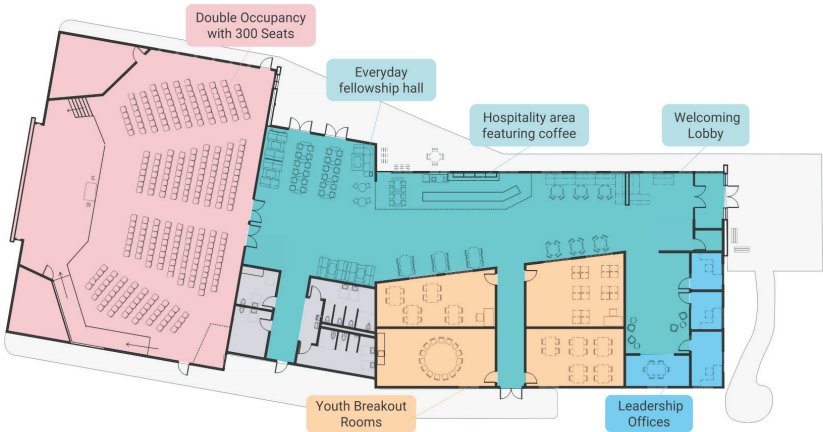
Westerners
pick up wins
over Gehlen &
MMCRU

Freshman Kaleb Johnson had three hits and a pair of RBIs as the Akron-Westfield (A-W) baseball team knocked off Gehlen Catholic 9-4 at Sargent Field on June 3.

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This architectural rendering shows what the inside of Akron FBC will look like once the expansion project is complete. (Image courtesy of Akron FBC)

Akron FBC looks to expand

BY KIM FICKETT
Akron Hometowneer

A recent growth spurt over the past four years at Akron FBC Church, 300 Country Club Lane, has spurred an expansion project.

Since 2021, Akron FBC has seen its congregation increase from around a dozen attendees to currently an average of 140 each Sunday, according to Pastor Michael Moos.

“We have added chairs, torn down walls, and added more chairs, and still we are bursting at the seams,” Moos said. “We get creative with our children’s minis-



The addition of a patio is also a part of the planned expansion project at Akron FBC. Fundraising is ongoing, as the church works towards completing its three-phased project. (Image courtesy of Akron FBC)

tries and are happy when the weather is nice so that we can do our children’s classes outside.”

Even with getting “cre-

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Opera House announces open house

BY KIM FICKETT
Akron Hometowneer

The Akron Opera House Board is inviting attendees of the All Class Reunion to step back in time and see history, share memories, and see the plans for the future at their open house from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 28.

Board Member Leanne Philips said the open house will feature a building tour, and a look at renovation plans complete with show posters, programs, and photos since the Opera House’s reopening in 1970.

“Many Akron, Westfield, and A-W alumni have memories of performing at the Opera House or helping with the renovations to re-open the building in 1970,” Philips said. “This is a great opportunity to share the plans to preserve and renovate the building for the future and show progress so far.”

According to Philips, the



The Akron Opera House welcomes alumni of the All Class Reunion to its open house on Saturday, June 28, following the parade. (Photo courtesy of the Akron Opera House)

Opera House has also received several donations of show materials from over the years.

“The open house will give alumni a chance to look back at those items and share memories. We’re also lucky to have many alumni who have also made generous contributions to the building fund and we are excited to welcome them back to Akron to share the prog-

ress,” she said.

Philips said no pre-registration is needed for the open house and it is free to the public. Lemonade, ice water, and cookies will be available to all who attend.

“The Opera House is an important part of the Akron community and we are excited to share progress and plans with alumni,” Philips concluded.

Supervisors OK
permit for Akron
walking trail

BY KIM FICKETT
Akron Hometowneer

The Plymouth County Board of Supervisors entered into a drainage board meeting at the end of its Tuesday, June 3 meeting to discuss a request by the City of Akron.

The request was a consideration to approve a permit to allow a walking trail in the county’s Akron Drainage District #2.

Plymouth County Secondary Roads Engineer Tom Rohe told the board it was the city’s request to continue to construct the walking trail on the right a way of the county’s drainage district, which comes down from the east and runs right alongside the Akron Golf Course.

“In the event we’re going to do that, we need to have a clause that maintains elevation, and primarily if we need to go in and do work on that drainage ditch and that trail gets destroyed because of machinery, we will be held harmless,” said Supervisor Craig Anderson.

Supervisor Doug Manley followed Anderson’s recommendation that discussions have already been held with the City of Akron that the county would not be held liable if damages were to occur.

It was on Rohe’s recommendation to the board that the permit be granted with the following stipulations in place: “The trail on drainage district right of way will be six feet wide to the east of Country Club Drive and 10 feet wide west of Country Club Drive. The trail will be adjacent to the south right of way line of the district easement and the county is not responsible for any damage to the trail due to maintenance of the drainage district ditch.”

With his recommendation, the board of supervisors, acting as the Plymouth County Drainage Board, approved the permit.

In other action, the board also received a funding request for \$50,000 in support of Le Mars Betterment Foundation projects surrounding park improvements.

Le Mars Mayor Rob Bixenman and Floyd Valley Healthcare CEO Dustin

Wright addressed the board.

“As part of our fundraising we’re going to be applying for two separate grants. One is with Enhance Iowa and the second is with a MRHD grant. While not required, it’s highly encouraged to have county participation behind this. We’re looking for support of \$50,000 so we can say Plymouth County is participating and we can list that for both grant applications,” Wright told the board.

Wright said the projects outlined by the city will be phased beginning with O’Toole Park and the addition of a splash pad, followed by doubling the size of the banquet hall at the golf course, and then moving on to improvements at Cleveland Park.

Supervisor John Meis — who along with Supervisor Mike Van Otterloo, represent the Le Mars area on the board of supervisors — said, “Mike and I met with Dustin on this already and did mention the timing wasn’t perfect as we had already completed our budget.”

“I don’t think I would be a \$50,000 participant,” Supervisor Craig Anderson noted. “If my memory is correct, I think the last time we were in at \$14,000 on another project the City of Le Mars did. I can’t remember exactly what the project was but it was one where they needed our support. And I think when Akron came in and needed support, we came in at \$14,000 on that as well.”

Van Otterloo, who showed support of the enhancements, wasn’t tied to an exact number at Tuesday’s meeting.

“Speaking for myself, I’m definitely in support of doing something. But what that dollar amount is, we’ll have to discuss that,” he noted.

It was at the recommendation of Anderson to table the issue for a week.

“We can then come back with some ideas and that will also give us time to talk to our constituents and see what their temperature is,” Anderson said.

The supervisors approved tabling the issue to its Tuesday, June 10 meeting.