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60 YEARS AGO – 1966

FIRE DESTROYS EIVINS HOME

The Earlham Fire Department was called to the Rollin Eivins home in west Earlham Sunday afternoon when it was discovered that the inside of their house was on fire.

The family was gone at the time and all of their clothing, except what they were wearing, and their household possessions were destroyed.

They arrived home about the time the firemen had succeeded in putting the fire out.

It was thought that the fire may have been caused by an oil burner.

There are four Eivins children still at home and persons in the community are taking "outgrown" clothing to the Care office to tide them over until they can get organized and re-supplied. The Care office has the family's clothing sizes.

The loss was covered by insurance.

MRS. PATIENCE HAS KEYBOARD PARTIES

Thursday afternoon, March 31, and Saturday afternoon, April 2, the piano and organ students of Mrs. Marion Patience gave keyboard parties for their mothers at Mrs. Patience's home.

Each student presented selections of her choice. Students participating on Thursday were Darla Applegate, Karla Applegate, Lois Applegate, Sharla Barnett, Sheryl Barnett, Shirley Barnett, Jacque Beaman, Dawn Beaman, Lynn Day, Paul Knight, Judy Lenocker, Renee Lenocker, Jane Mapes, Mary Jo Mapes, Beverly Patience and Joyce Patience. Also playing on Thursday was a little guest, Shelia Barnett.

Those participating on Saturday were Kathy Beaman, Chris Bobst, Debbie Jones, Cathy Pitcock, Marcia Pitcock, Ruth Patience, Rita Patience, Cindy Scar, Susan Scar, Debra Sanborn and Cathy Weesner. Linda Frey, Connie Nichols and Karen Pryor were unable to attend.

The students will be presenting their public recital Friday night, April 15, at the Earlham High School Auditorium.

70 YEARS AGO – 1956

GROUP MET WITH COUNCIL ON STREET IMPROVEMENT

Upon invitation by the town council and the mayor, through a public notice in the Echo last week, approximately fifty interested citizens appeared at the council meeting Monday night to discuss proposed street improvements.

After the relative merits of the several types of surfacing were discussed the overwhelming opinion of those present was in favor of asphaltic concrete. When the mayor asked for a show of hands favoring asphaltic concrete there was not a negative vote in the entire group.

The engineer retained by the town has been instructed to make the necessary plans to surface the streets having curb and gutter with asphaltic concrete and the streets without curb and gutter with armor coat surfacing. According to the engineer if there are no curb and gutter asphaltic concrete it is difficult to maintain along the edges as it breaks away.

It is expected that work on the streets will begin sometime in June.

80 YEARS AGO – 1946

LARGE CROWD ATTENDS HOME TALENT PLAY

A very good-sized crowd attended the home talent entertainment given Friday evening at the school gym by a group from the Church of Christ as a benefit for the re-decorating of the church. The entertainment was in the form of a last day at school and Mrs. Alvin Olson was the teacher. Pupils taking part in the speaking and singing were Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Patten, Mr. and Mrs. John Henkle, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Osborn, Mr. and Mrs. Emory Aikin, Mrs. Wilbur Moore, Mrs. Leo York, Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Welch, Miss Anna Marie Wengert, Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Mapes, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Beason, Mr. Alvin Olson.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE EARLHAM 2019 URBAN RENEWAL PLAN FOR AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA IN THE CITY OF EARLHAM, STATE OF IOWA

The City Council of the City of Earlham, State of Iowa, will hold a public hearing before itself at its meeting which commences at 7:00 P.M. on April 13, 2026 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 140 South Chestnut Avenue, Earlham, Iowa, to consider adoption of a proposed Amendment No. 1 to the Earlham 2019 Urban Renewal Plan (the "Amendment") concerning the Earlham 2019 Urban Renewal Area in the City of Earlham, State of Iowa, which Urban Renewal Area contains the land legally described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of Section 7, Township 77 North, Range 28 West of the 5th P.M., Madison County, Iowa; thence south, 810 feet to a point in the center of County Road P-57; thence east, 2640 feet more or less to a point on the east line of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 7; thence north along said east line, 310 feet to the north ¼ corner of said Section 7, said point also being the south ¼ corner of Section 6, Township 77 North, Range 28 West of the 5th P.M., Madison County, Iowa, thence north along the west line of lot 17 of Allen's Subdivision, an Official Plat included in and forming a part of the city of Earlham, to the south right-of-way line of the Iowa Interstate Rail Road as presently established; thence along said south right-of-way line for a distance of 378.5 feet more or less; thence northeast to the southwest corner of Outlot "D" of Westphal Subdivision, an Official Plat, included in and forming a part of the city of Earlham; thence along the south line of said Outlot "D", also being the south line of the northeast ¼ of the southeast ¼ of section 6; thence east along said south line to a point on the east line of said Northeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼, thence north along said east line to the northeast corner of said Northeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼, thence west along the north line of said Northeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼, to the southeast corner of the West ½ of the Northeast ¼ of said Section 6; thence north along the east line of said West ½ of the Northeast ¼, 400.00 feet; thence west along a line being 400 feet north of and parallel with the south line of said West ½ of the Northeast ¼, 1260 feet more or less to a point on the east line of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 6; thence north 29 feet; thence west along a line being 429 feet north of and parallel with the south line of said Northwest ¼ of Section 6, 597.5 feet; thence north 33 feet; thence west 54 feet more or less to a point being 1777.61 feet east, and 461.78 feet north of the West ¼ corner of said Section 6; thence north 726.76 feet; thence west 599.41 feet to a point on the east line of the west fractional ½ of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 6, thence south along said east line to a point of intersection of said east line and the extension of the south line of Outlot "X" of Williamson Addition Plat 2, an Official Plat, included in and forming a part of the city of Earlham; thence along said south line of Outlot "X", to the northwest corner of NW Spruce Avenue right-of-way as presently established, and the south line of said Outlot "X"; thence south 35.89 feet along said line; thence west 669.67 feet along said line; thence south 30.31 feet along said line; thence west 160.02 feet along said line, to the west line of said section 6; thence north along said west line, 207.5 more or less to the north line of the south 858 feet of the south 46.17 acres of the north 66.17 acres of the East ½ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 1-77-29; thence west along the north line of said south 858 feet, and the north line of Parcels "A" and "B" of said section 1, 1038.06 feet to the Northwest corner of said parcel "B"; thence south along the west line of said parcel "B", 709.20 feet; thence west along the north line of said parcel "B", 286.27 feet to the west line of the East ½ of the Northeast ¼ of said Section 1; thence south along said west line, 90.00 feet; thence east, 133 feet, thence south 75 feet, thence west 133 feet to a point on the west line of the East ½ of the Northeast ¼ of said Section 1, thence south along said west line of said East ½, 363 feet to the southwest corner of the Southeast ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of said Section 1; thence east along the south line of said Section 1 to the point of beginning.

AND

Commencing at the Center corner of Section 6, Township 77 North, Range 28 West of the 5th P.M.; Thence east, along the south line of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of said Section 6, 1320.3 feet, more or less to the east line of the East 50 feet of the South 700 feet of the West half (W.1/2) of the NE1/4, and the Point of Beginning; Thence north, along said east line, 700 feet, more or less to the Southwest corner of Parcel "B"; as recorded in Book 2001, Page 4834 of the Madison County Recorder's office; Thence along the south line of said Parcel "B", 360 feet; Thence north, along the east line of said Parcel "B", 529.14 feet; Thence southwest, along the north line of said Parcel "B", 98.81 feet; Thence continuing northwest, along said north line, 198.70 feet; Thence continuing northwest, along said north line, 77.85 feet; Thence continuing northwest, along said north line, 39.06 feet, to the east line of the East 1000 feet of the North 850 feet of the South 1550 feet of the West half (W.1/2) of the NE1/4 of said Section 6; Thence north, along said east line to the Northeast corner of said East 1000 feet of the North 850 feet of the South 1550 feet of the West half (W.1/2) of the NE1/4 of said Section 6; Thence west, along said North line, 1000 feet, to the Northwest corner of said tract; thence south, along the west line, 850 feet, to the Southwest corner of said tract; Thence east, along the south line of said tract, 950 feet, to the west line of the East 50 feet of the South 700 feet of the West half (W.1/2) of the NE1/4, of said Section 6; Thence south, along said west line, 700 feet, more or less to the south line of the NE1/4 of said Section 6; Thence west, along said south line 50 feet, to the point of beginning.

A copy of the Amendment is on file for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, City of Earlham, Iowa.

The City of Earlham, State of Iowa is the local public agency which, if such Amendment is approved, shall undertake the urban renewal activities described in such Amendment.

The general scope of the urban renewal activities under consideration in the Amendment is to promote economic development and to rehabilitate, conserve and redevelop land, buildings and other improvements within such area through the elimination and containment of conditions of blight so as to improve the community through the establishment of effective land use controls, through use of an effective program of rehabilitation of existing buildings and elimination of those structures which cannot be economically rehabilitated, with a limited amount of acquisition, clearance, resale and improvement of land for various purposes specified in the Amendment. To accomplish the objectives of the Amendment, and to encourage the further economic development of the Urban Renewal Area, the Amendment provides that such special financing activities may include, but not be limited to, the making of loans or grants of public funds to private entities under Chapter 15A, Code of Iowa. The City also may reimburse or directly undertake the installation, construction and reconstruction of substantial public improvements, including, but not limited to, street, water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer or other public improvements. The City also may acquire and make land available for development or redevelopment by private enterprise as authorized by law. The Amendment provides that the City may issue bonds or use available funds for purposes allowed by the Plan and that tax increment reimbursement of the costs of urban renewal projects may be sought if and to the extent incurred by the City. The Amendment initially proposes a public building project to be undertaken by the City.

The proposed Amendment No. 1 would add to the list of proposed urban renewal projects to be undertaken within the Urban Renewal Area. The proposed Amendment does not add land to the Urban Renewal Area. Other provisions of the Plan not affected by the Amendment would remain in full force and effect.

Any person or organization desiring to be heard shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard at such hearing.

This notice is given by order of the City Council of the City of Earlham, State of Iowa, as provided by Section 403.5, Code of Iowa.

Dated this 9 day of March, 2026.

Jim Munro
City Clerk, City of Earlham, State of Iowa

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OBITUARY

Connie Hawley

Connie Hawley, 80, of Stuart passed away surrounded by family on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at the Community Care Center in Stuart. Visitation was held on Tuesday, March 24 at the Johnson Family Funeral Home in Stuart. Funeral services followed. Grave-side committal service was at the Humeston Cemetery in Humeston. Memorial contributions may be given to the Stuart Cottage Pantry and/or Stuart Congregate Meals. Online condolences may be left at www.johnsonfamilyfuneralhome.com.



Connie passed away in 2013.

Connie was born on July 28, 1945, to Don and Mildred (Richard) Bright in Ottumwa. She grew up in Humeston and attended Mormon Trail High School graduating with the class of 1963. Following high school graduation, she moved to an apartment in Des Moines and began working at Look Magazine. On March 1, 1964, she was united in marriage to Charlie Hawley in Humeston. The couple made their home on a farm north of Stuart. To this union two children were born, Christine and Richard. They later divorced.

She enjoyed being outside golfing, reading, held an interest in rocks, loved photography and bowled in a league. After retirement she enjoyed sleeping in late and treasured her time playing Bridge with family and friends. Most of all she loved spending time with her grandchildren.

In 1979 she began working at Farm Bureau in Des Moines as a Claims Administrator. She celebrated her 25th anniversary there in September 2004 and later retired in January 2005 after 26 years of service. She lived throughout the Des Moines metro while she worked and returned to Stu-

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Vickie Sue Bright; aunt, Alice Bright; and sister-in-law, Lisa Bright.

She leaves behind her children, Christy (Curt) Gano of Stuart and Rick (Diane) Hawley of Stuart; grandchildren: Nick (Paige) Ginkens of Stuart, Wesley Gano of Stuart, Dustin Hawley of West Des Moines and Cole Hawley of Des Moines; great-grandson, Bodi Ginkens; sister, Peggy (Greg) Gwinn of Humeston; brother, Steve (Nancy) Bright of Chariton and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends that will miss her dearly.

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