INDEPENDENCE – The Independence Farmer’s Market will open this Saturday, May 21 by the historic Wapsipinicon Mill.

The market operates from 8 a.m. to Noon with a variety of vendors: home grown vegetables, homemade crafts, décor for in and outside the home and office, tasty baked goods, meats, flowers, etc. There will be scheduled and unscheduled entertainment. The market is pet-friendly to friendly pets and responsible owners.

Come see what the summer has in store for you at the market this year.

Supervisors Candidates Forum for Buchanan County

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

Buchanan County Farm Bureau is hosting a forum with qualified supervisor candidates for Buchanan County. Join us on Wednesday, June 1 at Wolfey’s Wapsi Outback Meeting Room (101 Water St. S, Quasqueton, IA 52326) from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There will be a meet and greet from 6:30 to 7 p.m. and the formal forum will be from 7 to 8 p.m.

Come and meet all the qualified candidates before you vote! The following candidates will be in attendance; Dennis Fuller, Pete Gaumer, Gary G. Crawford, John Lynch, Charlie Hamilton, John Kurtz, Dave Vogel, and Jeff D. Anderson.

FIRE DEVASTATES 4-PLEX

INDEPENDENCE – According to initial information, the Independence Fire Department was called out around 1:30 a.m. Tuesday to a residential blaze at 512 17th Street NE.

The fire allegedly started at the 512 home and moved north through the connected quad-palex. Firefighters had to cut several roof holes to have the smoke vent out and water get inside.

No human injuries were publicly reported as of press time Tuesday. Two cats were rescued and were privately transported to a Cedar Rapids hospital to recover from smoke inhalation.

The American Red Cross was on the scene to hand out gift cards for resident’s immediate needs.

More information to come.

One of the units involved in the early morning fire of May 17.

New book traces rise and fall of little railroad that couldn’t

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

QUASQUETON – A new book recounts the definitive history of the ill-fated Chicago, Anamosa & Northern Railway – an early 20th century enterprise that raised and then shattered hopes and left ghost towns along its 35-mile route from Anamosa to Quasqueton.

The book, which includes more than 120 photographs and maps, will be unveiled during a public presentation at 1 p.m. Sunday, June 5 at the American Legion Hall in Quasqueton.

The CAN, as it was known, operated from 1904 to 1915 and disappeared in 1917 when a Kansas City junk merchant dismantled and shipped it to Europe to aid the Allied effort in World War I.

Written by railroad historian Gary L. Holzinger of Anamosa, the 117-page “Chicago, Anamosa & Northern Railway: The Wapsie Valley Route” is published by the Quasqueton Area Historical Society, the largest repository of information about and photographs of the CAN.

Holzinger was assisted by Society Treasurer Deb Crawford, who in a year-long research effort gathered area and national newspaper archives to accumulate more than 1,200 historic references to the long-gone railroad.

Crawford also asked area residents to search their scrapbooks and family memories – an effort that yielded more.