Local News

Rotary Dictionary Project

The Pocahontas Rotary Club proudly presented dictionaries to third grade children in Pocahontas County: Pocahontas Catholic School, Pocahontas, Area Community School District, and the Laurens-Marathon Community Schools District. Dictionaries were delivered to each student and their teachers.

Third grade has been designated because the students are developing dictionary skills and are beginning to use other resource materials. In addition, students in third grade make the transitional from learning to read to reading to learn. All formal education from this point through college is dependent upon the ability of each child to read and to understand what he or she reads.

The Pocahontas Rotary Club wants our children to succeed in education by proving this resource to them. The students will benefit from the additional resources in the dictionary: International Atlas, Periodic Tables, Sign Language chart, Roman Numeral Tables, and other information.

L-M Basketball

Boys Beat Storm Lake St. Mary’s

The Chargers traveled to Storm Lake January 7th to take on the Panthers of Storm Lake St. Mary’s. The Chargers led the entire game with a final score of 62 to 42.

After the first quarter the Chargers led 13 to 11 and by the half the Chargers built a 28 to 15 lead. The third quarter ended with the Chargers up 48 to 36. The Panthers got the lead down to 6 points during the fourth quarter but the Chargers made a run to win by 20 points.

The Chargers scoring included: Tyler Stumbo 25, Riley Maschino 16, Keegan Jamison 9, Chase Oehlertz and Tre Seiler each had 5 and Devin Grossnickle 2.

Rebounding was led by Stumbo with 8, Oehlertz 5, Jamison 4, Seiler and Maschino 2 each, and Grossnickle with 1.

Maschino had 6 assists, followed by Stumbo with 4, Oehlertz and Jamison with 3 each, Seiler 2 and Grossnickle 1.

Maschino and Stumbo all had 3 steals each followed by Oehlertz and Grossnickle having 2 and 1 respectively.

Front row, left to right: Jenna Saunders, Jackie Nehring, Desirae Wheeling, Kaitlynn Schuler, Haylie Castleberry, Brandon Teepe, Devon Garmin, Brandon Godinez, Garrett Seitz and Christian Stockman.

Second row: Alia Woo, Emily Harrold, Hannah Hubbell, Addison Olson, Tylene Scultz, Taylor Schiflett, Deontez Williams, Leo Wilson, Joel Carraza, Jaydon Teepe and Gavin Seitz.

Thank You!

The family of Walter "Wally" Johnson, Pocahontas, Iowa, would like to thank everyone, relatives, friends, and business associates, alike, for your heartfelt condolences upon the passing of such a greatly loved and admired man. Whether you expressed a kind word or story, sent a memorial or flower, prepared food, or just paused in thought, be assured, it is greatly appreciated. To the emergency crew in Pocahontas, Ken Powers for his seamless coordination efforts, Denny Ferguson for driving to Independence, and Deacon Tim Post for graveside services at St. John's Cemetery, to Fr. Bormann, accompanist Linsey Stoll and small group choir, mass servers, and ladies of the Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church for the nice meals, thank you. To niece, Carol Dupic, nephew, Andy Reed, and granddaughter, Bryn Johnson for the fitting tributes, and for summing up how many of us felt about such a man who was present in the moment whenever he interacted with each one of us, thank you. Let us all live our lives as well as this man, who asked for nothing material in life, and cared so much about his friends and family. God Bless you all. And, please enjoy many rounds of golf with him in mind, this spring and summer. He’d love that.

Josephine Johnson,
Kathy Boudewyns and families,
Julie (Mike) French and families,
Rod (Anita) Johnson and family

Ms. Allen's Pep Band Alum Night

It’s been 8 years since she started and Ms. Meredith Allen would like to invite her past band students (and other L-M band grads if they’re interested!) to play in a mass pep band on Friday, January 24th at the home basketball game. We would organize at 6:30 p.m. to play at around 7 p.m. after the JV girls game and at half time. Bring your instrument, Ms. Allen will provide the music and you get in free!!! Let’s pack the stands!

The Laurens-Marathon Community School has the following openings:

Cooks, Custodians, Coaches, Substitute Associates and Bus Drivers

Please pick up an application in the Superintendent’s Office—300 W. Garfield—Laurens, IA
Many people begin the New Year with plans to exercise more and watch what they eat. However, financial health is as important as physical health, particularly for young people. Teaching young people basic money management skills will help them not only this year, but for years to come.

That’s why Iowa State University Extension and Outreach helps make the High School Financial Planning Program available in Iowa.

“Financial literacy is an essential, 21st century skill that students need to lead productive, satisfying lives,” said Mary Beth Kaufman, a family finance program specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach.

The High School Financial Planning Program is an educational resource for teaching teens financial literacy skills. For the past 30 years, the program has been used by teachers, parents and community organizations to help more than 8 million teens and young adults build a solid foundation for financial independence and decision-making. The program is available at no charge.

ISU Extension and Outreach has an agreement with the program’s developer, the National Endowment for Financial Education, to help educators, parents and students access and implement the HSFPP curriculum. During 2014, ISU Extension and Outreach will conduct workshops throughout the state for teachers to learn more about the curriculum.

All new curriculum materials are available in 2014, Kaufman said. The updated version of the HSFPP is easier to use and more flexible, with six modules that can be used individually or together. The curriculum covers money management and controlling cash flow, using credit and loans, earning power, investing, financial services and insurance.

“Evaluation data show that students who completed the HSFPP reported significant improvement in their financial knowledge, behaviors and confidence,” Kaufman said.

HSFPP instructional materials include lessons and activities adaptable to the classroom setting, home schooling or independent learning. The free materials are available to teachers, parents or students on the High School Financial Planning Program website at www.hsfpp.org. Once logged in, participants also can access teacher forums, student interactive games and a growing collection of learning tools, articles and resources, Kaufman said.
Good news! We received word this week that we will be getting a grant from the Pocahontas County Foundation! This will be used toward a couple new computers and walk-up desks for what we call our OPAC Computers. Most people refer to these as our card catalogs – I wonder how many of our patrons remember actual, physical card catalogs that held individual cards in multiple categories for each item in the Library?! The Library user in me is nostalgic for these and the pride I felt when I learned to use them. It was almost like being given a treasure map! However, the Librarian in me appreciates the ease the modern computer brings to book cataloging and searches.

We’ve been doing a bit of organizing for the new year. We’ve run into a number of, “Why are we keeping that?” sort of items. So we set up a Tag Sale area and will continue to add to it as we find more goodies. At the moment it contains a patriotic wall rug, a TV, AV cart, IMac computer, cameras, a scanner and a few more odds & ends. They are marked at “Get Them out of Here” prices, so stop by if you need a bargain!

The Book Club will be reading Garth Stein’s “The Art of Racing in the Rain.” This book is written from the point of view of a terrier mix Enzo, the family dog of a professional racecar driver. Enzo has an obsession with opposable thumbs, and has gotten most of his education from watching TV and riding the racecar circuit with his master. On the eve of his death, he reflects back on his life and supposes that in his next life he will be reborn as a man. Grab a copy of this book and join our discussion on Monday, January 27th at 7 p.m.

Our Writers Free for All group will also be gearing up for the new year. Join us at 7 p.m. Monday, January 20th for our first meeting in 2014!

I also would like to remind you that we will be starting another Beginning Genealogy Class soon. Contact the Library if you’d like to have some help looking for interesting ancestors in your family tree!

One more reminder – Tot Times are 10 a.m. every Monday Morning that L-M has school. Play Groups are the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, also at 10 a.m. Bring those little ones in and get them used to coming to the library!
Sporting Breed Dog Training

Sporting breed dog training will be held January 21 - March 11, 2014 - Tuesday evenings for 8 weeks from 6:30-8:00 PM - Iowa Central, Fort Dodge East Campus, 2031 Quail Avenue, Building 3.

"T3" is a dog training class, specifically for sporting dog breeds, designed to train you how to train your dog. Students will begin with basic obedience, socializing, basic retrieving, transitioning to whistle and e-collar training.

All students will receive a one year free membership to North Central Iowa Retriever Club and a one year free subscription to the Iowa Outdoor Magazine. Course will be split according to dog’s age. No dogs allowed the first night of class. Shot records required. Check us out at www.nciarc.com. To register call 1-800-362-2793, ext. 1293.

Happy "25th" Birthday, Katie!
We love you!

Love,
Mom, Ken, Ashley, John, & Grandma

Bridal Shower

A come and go bridal shower for Emily Behrens, bride elect of Brian Wrightsman will be held on Saturday, January 18 at St. John Lutheran Church, 2097 550th Street, rural Albert City, junction of M-54 and C-29. The shower will be held in the church basement fellowship hall from 1-3 p.m. There will be a short program at 1:30 p.m.

Emily and Brian are registered at The Straw Horse in Albert City, Bed Bath and Beyond, and Target.

Emily is the daughter of Mike and JoAnn Behrens of Marathon. Brian is the son of Mike and Georgia Wrightsman of Spencer. Everyone is invited to attend.
Obituaries

Services Held for Ruthe E. George
Obituary

Ruthe E. George, age 85, of Pocahontas, Iowa and formerly of Sioux Rapids, Iowa died Wednesday, December 25, 2013 at the Pocahontas Community Hospital in Pocahontas.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, December 28, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at the First United Church in Sioux Rapids, Iowa. Burial will be in the Lone Tree Cemetery in Sioux Rapids. Visitation will be held Friday, December 27, 2013 from 5-7:00 p.m. at the Sliefert Funeral Home in Sioux Rapids. The Sliefert Funeral Home in Sioux Rapids is in charge of the arrangements.

Ruthe Eileen Buchanan, the daughter of Wilson and Elsie (Riches) Buchanan was born on April 12, 1928, in Gladstone, Manitoba, Canada. Ruthe was baptized in the United Church of Canada in Ogilvie, Manitoba and confirmed at the United Methodist Church in Laurens. She moved with her family to Iowa in November of 1934. The family lived in Plover, Iowa for four years and the moved to Laurens. Ruthe was a graduate of the Laurens High School. After working in the office for M and JR Hakes, she attended Simpson College in Indianola and later transferred to the University of Iowa, where she was an honors graduate and elected to the Phi Beta Kappa. Following her college graduation, Ruthe was employed in the Acquisitions Department of the new University of Iowa library.

Ruthe was united in marriage to Aubrey George on August 1, 1948, at the Laurens United Methodist Church and they were blessed with two children, Ted and Jane. In 1952, the George’s moved to Sioux Rapids and Ruthe assisted Aubrey in the drugstore throughout the years until their retirement in 1993. The last three years, Ruthe and Aubrey have made their home at Arlington Place of Pocahontas.

Ruthe was a 50 year member and past president of Chapter GJ, P.E.O., and a member of the Woman’s Study Club. She held all of the offices of the Buena Vista Federated Women’s Clubs, served on the Sioux Rapids Library Board for many years, was a Past Matron of the Order of Eastern Star, and sang in the Choraliers. Ruthe was active in her church where she taught Sunday School.

Ruthe’s life and memory will always be cherished by her family which include her husband of 63 years, Aubrey of Pocahontas, Iowa; children: Dr. Ted and Jan George of Rockwell City, Iowa; Jane and Peter Mellers of Eaton, Colorado; grandchildren: Andrew (Alexandra) George of Jupiter, Florida; Bren George of Omaha, Nebraska; Niles George of Rockwell City, Iowa; Megan Mellers of Newberg, Oregon; and Daniel Mellers of Eaton, Colorado; other extended family and her many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters: Luc (Bunny) Forsythe and Mabel Forsythe.

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Bridal Shower

"Bling out the Bride" come & go bridal shower for Emily Behrens, bride-elect of Brian Wightman. Daughter of Mike & Joann Behrens of Marathon. The shower will be held on Saturday January 18th from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the West Bank Community Room in Laurens. Emily & Brian are registered at theknot.com, Target, Bed Bath & Beyond, and The Straw Horse in Albert City.

Entrepreneur Expo

The Entrepreneur Expo is for all Startups and Small Business Owners. This will be held on January 21, 2014 at the BioScience Health Science Building, One Triton Circle, Fort Dodge, Iowa from 1-5P.M. The Entrepreneur Expo 2014 is Free! You will have the opportunity to meet with a variety of vendors that include banks, insurance, legal professionals, accountants, small business development, marketing professionals, communication providers and all the services that a small business needs. Breakout sessions include: 2:00 - Local Start-Up Success Stories; 3:00 - Starting Smart & Getting Social; 4:00 Where's the Money?

For more information contact MIDAS at 515-576-7183, ext. 211.

Happy Birthday on Jan. 8th, Ken!

We love you!!
Nancy, Ashley, Katie, John & Millie
Pocahontas County ISU Extension & Outreach

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

Pocahontas County ISU Extension and Outreach Private Pesticide Applicator Training will be Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 9:30 - 11:30 am. at the Rialto Theatre, Pocahontas. Continuing education for Private Pesticide Applicators is two hours of instruction that is required annually for re-certification.

2014 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshops Scheduled

Confinement site manure applicators and those interested in learning about manure issues should plan to attend one of the two-hour workshops offered by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in January and February 2014. The workshops are offered in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. There is no fee to attend the workshops, but applicators will need to pay certification fees to complete certification requirements.

“Iowa law requires confinement site manure applicators to attend two hours of continuing education each year of their three-year certification period, or take and pass an exam once every three years,” said Angela Rieck-Hinz, ISU Extension program specialist and coordinator of the manure applicator certification program.

A total of 63 confinement site manure applicator workshops will be held in 59 Iowa counties. In addition, a series of eight dry/solid manure applicator certification meetings will be held in February. ISU Extension and Outreach county offices have a complete list of workshop dates and locations, or view a list online at http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/confdates.html.

The workshops serve as initial certification for those applicators not currently certified, recertification for those renewing licenses, and continuing education for those applicators in their second or third year of their license.

Due to uniform certification deadlines, applicators are encouraged to attend workshops prior to March 1 to avoid being assessed a late fee of $12.50. Those unable to attend one of the workshops need to schedule time with their ISU Extension and Outreach county office to watch the training DVD. Due to scheduling conflicts, many extension offices no longer will accept walk-in appointments to watch these DVDs, but do offer scheduled dates and times to provide this training. Those who can't attend training during one of the scheduled reshow dates at their county extension office will be charged a $10 fee to view the training at their convenience. If attending the workshops or watching the two-hour training DVD is not possible, confinement site manure applicators may contact their local DNR field office to schedule an appointment to take the certification exam to meet certification requirements.

Contact an ISU Extension and Outreach county office for more information about the Manure Applicator Certification Program or visit http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html.
**Sacred Heart Church Laurens**

*Pastor - Fr. John J. Gerald*

**Weekday Mass**:
- Friday, 8:00 AM
- (Monday & Wednesday)
- 8:00 AM

**Weekend Mass**:
- Saturday 5:00 PM
- Sunday 10:30 AM

**Cluster Parishes**

*St. Joseph Catholic Church, Sioux Rapids*
- Weekday Mass: (Monday & Wednesday)
- 8:00 AM

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Royal*
- Weekday Mass: (Tuesday & Thursday)
- 8:00 AM

**Laurens Youth Group (High School)** will meet here from 6-8 p.m.

**Choir practice** @ 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, Jan. 15**
- Leadership meeting @ 12 at Pizza Ranch
- Confirmation Class will meet @ 5:30 p.m.
- Worship Committee will meet @ 7 p.m.
- Hands of Hope Puppet Troop - 7 p.m.
- Administrative Council @ 8:15 p.m.

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**This Week at First Christian Church**

**Sunday, January 12, 2014**

*Baptism of Our Lord*
- 9:00 AM - SS & Confirmation
- 9:15 AM - Coffee Fellowship
- 9:30 AM - Adult SS
- 10:30 AM - Worship w/Communion
- 6:00-8:00 PM - Laurens Area Youth Group (H.S.) at UMC

**Tuesday, January 14, 2014**
- 10:00 AM - Coffee w/Pastor
- 7:00 PM - Hand Bell Rehearsal

**Wednesday, January 15, 2014**
- 5:30 PM - Christian Ed/Youth Mtg.
- 7:00 PM - Council Mtg.

**Worship, Love, Accept – Together in Christ’s Name**

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**This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church**

**Wednesday, Jan. 8**
- Confirmation Class will meet @ 5:30 p.m.

**Friday, Jan. 10**
- Men's Bible Study will meet @ 7 a.m.

**Sunday, Jan 12**
- Sunday School - 9:05 a.m.
- Fellowship Coffee - 9:30 a.m.
- Worship - 10:30 a.m.
- Laurens Youth Group (High School) will meet here from 6-8 p.m.
- Choir practice @ 7 p.m.

**Monday, Jan. 13**
- Girl Scouts will meet here from 4-5 p.m. (K-5th) & from 5-5:45 p.m. (6th-8th)

**Wednesday, Jan. 15**
- Leadership meeting @ 12 at Pizza Ranch
- Confirmation Class will meet @ 5:30 p.m.
- Worship Committee will meet @ 7 p.m.
- Hands of Hope Puppet Troop - 7 p.m.
- Administrative Council @ 8:15 p.m.