

# The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 11 No. 50

[www.thepapernow.com](http://www.thepapernow.com)

April 18, 2018

## Local News

### Plans Being Made for 11th Annual Laurens Cemetery Tour

Plans are now being made for the 11th Annual Cemetery Tour sponsored by the Laurens Women's Club and the City of Laurens. The cemetery tour will take place on Sunday afternoon, June 24.

Participants will include:

Dave Alstott and Deb Hertz will be portraying Dave's grandfather, Verl Alstott and his wife, Katie.

Clarence Siepker will play the part of "Red" Sorensen, a mechanic who also ran a service station in Laurens.

The part of Roy McCormick, a Laurens farmer and chiropractor, will be portrayed by Rich Newgard.

Heather (Grossnickle) Runneberg

will act the part of her grandmother, Helen Grossnickle, a teacher.

Bill Mather, assisted by his son, Dean, will portray Bill's father, Bob Mather. Bob was the owner of a farm equipment business in Laurens.

Pete Runneberg will introduce us to his great grandfather, Nels

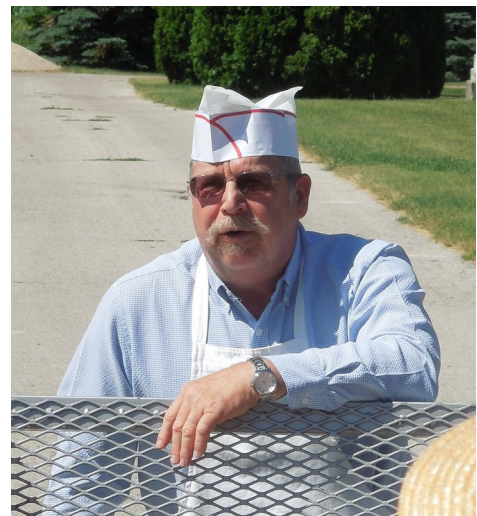
Runneberg, an ancestor of many of the members of the Runneberg family in the Laurens area.

Lee Bailey will recognize the Laurens Vietnam veterans, including Eric B. Johnson, the first Laurens casualty in the war.

Tickets will be on sale by cast members as well

as from members of the Laurens Women's Club.

Mark you calendars now for this exciting event!





REGISTRATION  
SUNDAY, APRIL 22

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BE SURE TO "LIKE" LAURENS SWIM TEAM ON FACEBOOK!

## Northwest Iowa Autism Network to Host Autism Walk on Sat., May 5 & Seeking Sponsors



Northwest Iowa Autism Network is hosting its first event, the In It Together Autism Walk on Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

Serving northwest Iowa since 2017, the Northwest Iowa Autism Network was formed by compassionate individuals working in the human services field who saw a need for additional resources for families receiving autism services. The group has expanded to include other community partners, local supporters, and parents of children with autism in planning this family-friendly event that creates a safe, intentional space for families touched by autism.

“My husband, Greg, and I have a 20-year old son who has autism,” said Theresa Rasch, committee volunteer. “Having a child with autism changes everything. It affects your whole family and the challenges can look like a lot of different things. It means so much to know there are so many families out there like ours to share this with.”

The walk will take place on Saturday, May 5 with registration at 9:30 AM at the Town Gate Pavilion. Attendees are encouraged to register before April 20 (in order to guarantee a shirt), but day-of registration will also be accepted. In addition to the routed walk through

the fairgrounds, activities will include: a tour through the train depot, police and fire trucks on site (without sirens), and a snack.

The committees formed include volunteers from various community partners, including: Child Health Specialty Clinics, Seasons Center for Behavioral Health/Autism’s Center, Spencer Hospital, and Spencer Police Department. The Clay County Fairgrounds has donated the use of the Tower Gate Pavilion and walking route within the fairgrounds for this event.

“Events like this would not be possible without the exceptional support from the community and the partnerships that have formed between families and community providers,” said Lynn Park, committee volunteer.

“The Northwest Iowa Autism Network is extremely grateful for the generous donations we have received to date.”

Northwest Iowa Autism Network is seeking local sponsors for the event

to support costs associated with t-shirts, marketing, and additional resources available at the event. Businesses or organizations interested in supporting the In It Together Autism Walk will be included on the t-shirt design. Sponsorship inquiries can be made to Theresa Rasch at 712-264-6434 or Greg Rasch at 712-363-2103.

Through the first In It Together Autism Walk, the goal of the event is to bring families

together to form a supportive network and foster this group through speaking engagements, scholarships to attend trainings, group meetings, and other ways in which the families can most benefit.

“We are hopeful that this group will be able to offer advice, support, and resources to other families who are walking similar roads,” said Natalie Sandbulte, VP of Clinical Services at Seasons Center and committee volunteer. “Services are limited in northwest Iowa, but we hope that together we can work to bring more services and resources to these children and their families.”

Media are welcome to attend the In It Together event on May 5.

“We are walking to bring awareness to autism. We are walking for our son, Caleb, to celebrate who he is. We are walking for parents whose child has been newly diagnosed and they feel alone,” said Rasch.

### **SEMI DRIVERS**

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EOE

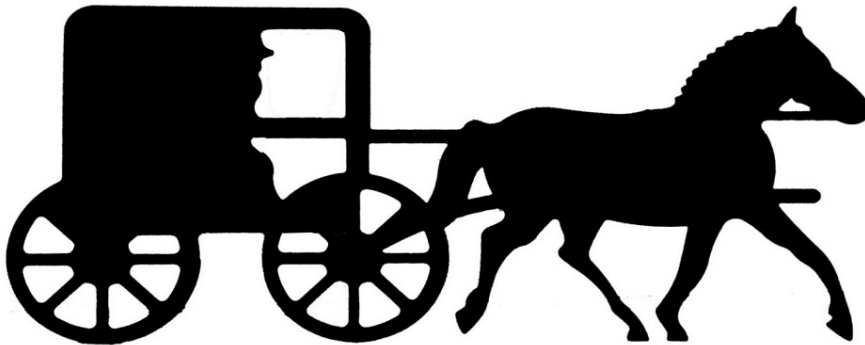
## Baby Shower

Please join us for a come and go baby shower in honor of Denver Lee Ferguson, son of Chance and Brittini Ferguson on Saturday, April 21 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the First Christian Church, 324 W. Section Line Road, Laurens.

## Spring Meeting

Laurens Golf and Country Club Ladies Spring Meeting will be held on May 1st. Social hour begins at 5, meeting at 6, meal to follow. Bring a May Day Basket to exchange!

## Our Neighbors, the Amish



*Learn about the beliefs and lifestyle of a community of people whose religious practices are often mystifying and whose way of life is much different from our own. Presented by Don & Dianne Kramer of Dyersville.*

## Thursday, April 19 at 1 o'clock

Laurens Public Library



Amish treats  
will be served!

## Bridal Shower

A Bridal Shower is being held for Laurie Loving, bride-elect of Derek Andrews, and daughter of Bob and Mavis Loving of Albert City, IA, on April 21 at 2 PM at the Evangelical Covenant Church in Albert City, IA. She is registered at the Straw Horse.

## At the Library with Glenda Mulder April 18, 2018

Tomorrow! The Amish program is tomorrow afternoon! Hopefully it won't be "spritzing" then or we will have to "grex" about it. Don & Dianne Kramer of Dyersville will explain these figures of speech, and many others, spoken by the Iowa Amish and how they relate to the English & German languages. Some of the other topics to be explored are: Key Amish Beliefs, The Ordnung, Rumspringa, Believer's Baptism, marriage, homes, schools, social gatherings, occupations, church, clothing, funerals & burials. Connie D. has promised to bring an Amish snack based on one of the recipes they sent us! Bring your curious mind and your questions to the Library at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 19th to learn about "Our Neighbors, the Amish."

Here's a list of the new novels we've received recently: *Shattered Mirror* by Iris Johansen, *First Family* by Michael Palmer, *The Elizas* by Sara Shepard, *Bachelor Girl* by Kim Alkemade, *Family Gathering* by Robyn Carr, *My Dear Hamilton* (regular & large print) by Stephanie Dray and *Then She Was Gone* by Lisa Jewell

There are still seats left in the FREE art classes coming to the library thanks to a grant from the Iowa Arts Council. These 4 different classes will be held at 1 o'clock on

consecutive Monday afternoons beginning April 30th. Topics will be Clay Sculpture, Photography, Painting, and Jewelry Making. You can take one class, or all four. Whatever suits your interests and your schedule. Class size is limited, so preregistration is required. Contact the Library today for more information or to register!

Have you read an Oprah's Book Club book yet this month? I've read two of them! I've read ten of them in the past, so I'm up to an even dozen. Our Book Club is doing something completely different this month. Library staff collected all of our books from the Oprah's Book Club List. Patrons are encouraged to make their selection from this collection. There is a wide variety to choose from, so we can all find one that suits our interests. I think it will be interesting to hear about the books, as well as look for similarities in them. Hope you can join our discussion Monday, April 23 at 7 p.m.

## COMING EVENTS

- Tot Time Every Monday at 10 a.m.
- Our Neighbors, the Amish April 19 at 1:00 p.m.
- Free ALLI Clay Sculpture Class April 30 1-3 p.m.
- Free ALLI Photography Class May 7 1-3 p.m.
- Free ALLI Painting on Canvas Class May 14 1-3 p.m.
- Free ALLI Jewelry Making Class May 21 1-3 p.m.
- Card Making – 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
  - Book Club 4th Monday at 7 p.m.
  - Take it Tuesday - 1st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Diaper + Gift Card  
**BABY  
SHOWER**

Please join us to honor  
**Nichole (Ahlers) Curran**  
and the upcoming arrival of her  
**Baby Girl!**

Sunday, May 6th, 1-3 PM  
United Methodist Church  
201 W Main Street, Laurens, IA 50554

Please bring a children's book in lieu of card.  
Most things they have but a few they could use like  
Target/Amazon Gift Cards and Diapers if you choose!

Nichole is registered at  
<https://www.babylist.com/nichole-jack>

**April 20 Friday Night Special is beef and noodles, steak chunks and noodles in a rich, beefy sauce! Served with salad and dessert. Come join us! Serving begins at 5 p.m.**



### **Help Wanted – Electric Line Worker**

Laurens Municipal Power & Communications (LMPC) is currently looking to fill the position of Electric Line Worker. LMPC is seeking an individual to work in the construction, maintenance, repair, and operation of a 100% underground 12.5 KV distribution system, with two 69/12.5 KV substations and two diesel generation plants capable of producing 9 MW of power. Being a highly industrious community, the majority of our peak load is the result of our competitive rates drawing business and industry to our service area.

Applicant requirements include:

- Must be safety minded and team oriented
- Must have or be able to obtain an Iowa Commercial Driver's License – Class B
- Must have or be able to obtain an OSHA approved crane operator certification.
- Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug/alcohol screening

The job consists of a 40-hour work week, Monday through Friday; however, during system disturbances and emergencies, longer hours may be required. Applicant must be willing to adhere to an "On Call" schedule, generally every third or fourth weekend and will be subject to random drug and alcohol screenings. The applicant must reside within two (2) miles of the city limits of Laurens.

Desired qualifications for this position include:

- High School diploma
- Graduation from a formal technical training college for electric line workers, or completion of an approved correspondence course, or possess equivalent training and experience in a similar field of work.
- Experience working with low and medium voltage systems.

LMPC offers competitive wages and an excellent benefits package.

Please send resumes to: Laurens Municipal Power & Communications, Attn: General Manager, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa 50554. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. For more specific information, call 712-841-4610 or email [lmpc@laurens-ia.com](mailto:lmpc@laurens-ia.com).

Laurens Municipal Power & Communications is an equal opportunity employer.

## The Paper

Published weekly by  
My Laurens, Inc.  
112 Walnut St.  
Laurens, IA 50554

Phone:  
(712) 841-2684

Fax:  
(712) 841-4662

Website:  
[www.thepapernow.com](http://www.thepapernow.com)

E-mail:  
[publisher@mylaurens.com](mailto:publisher@mylaurens.com)

Publisher:  
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Editor:  
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## *This Week at Bethany Lutheran*

**Pastor Scott Baker**

**Sunday: April 22, 2018**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

9:15 AM - Adult SS  
9:30 AM - Youth SS  
9:30 AM - Coffee Fellowship  
10:30 AM - Worship w/Pastor Marshall Hahn  
11:30 AM - Potluck & Call Congregational Workshop  
6:00 PM - Youth Group (JH) at UMC

**Monday: April 23, 2018**

7:00 PM - Hand Bell Rehearsal

**Thursday: April 26, 2018**

9:00 AM - Morning Circle at Bethany

*Worship, Love, Accept-  
Together in Christ's Name*



## *This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church*

**Pastor Ed Frank**

**Wed., April 18th:**

Admin Council mtg @ 8:15 P.M.

**Thurs., April 19th:**

Rachel Circle @ 9:15AM (Wesley Rm)  
Dorcas Circle @ 2 P.M. (Wesley Rm)

**Fri., April 20th:**

Men's Bible Study @ 7 AM

**Sun., April 22nd:**

Adult Sunday School @ 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School (kids) @ 9:10 a.m.  
Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.  
Worship @ 10:30 a.m.  
6 PM - Youth Group (HS) at UMC



## *Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church*

**Pocahontas, IA -- Pastor: Very Rev. Craig Collison, VF**

**MASS TIMES:**

Daily Mass as scheduled in the weekly bulletin  
Saturday at 5:00 PM  
Sunday at 8:30 AM

**Confessions:** Saturday 4:15 pm at Resurrection

**Office:** 16 SW 2nd Street, Pocahontas

**Office Phone:** 712-335-3242

**Residence Phone:** 712-335-8065

**E-mail:** colly@ncn.net

**Pastoral Care:** Sister Renae Hohensee, 563-552-8666

## *This Week at First Christian*

**Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell**

**Friday, April 20**

7:00 - p.m. AA

**Saturday, April 21**

10:00 - 11:30 a.m. - Baby Shower for Denver Lee Ferguson

**Sunday, April 22**

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. - Worship  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - High School Youth Group at United Methodist Church



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## *Grant Writing Workshop Scheduled for April 24 in Buena Vista County*

A grant writing workshop is scheduled to be presented at Buena Vista County Extension and Outreach April 24 for representatives of nonprofits, local government and schools.

Grant Writing 101 will provide hands-on training in seeking and writing successful grant applications. The workshop will be presented from 5:30 to 8:30 pm Tuesday, April 24 at the Buena Vista County Extension office meeting room, 824 Flindt Drive, Storm Lake. The program is sponsored by Iowa State University Extension – Buena Vista County.

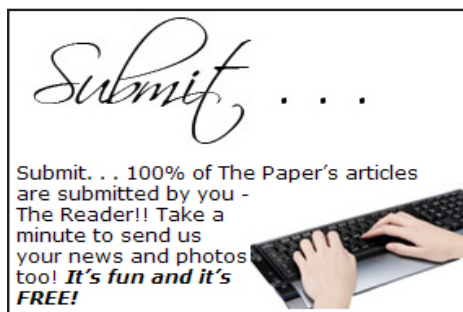
Participants are encouraged to bring a laptop, iPad or tablet device to the workshop, if they have one available.

The fee for the workshop is \$15. The registration deadline is April 23. To register, call Buena Vista County Extension at 712-732-5056, or email Katelyn at

kbrink@iastate.edu.

The training will be presented by Jane Nolan Goeken, a Community and Economic Development program specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. Goeken has almost 30 years of experience working with grant programs, including writing many successful federal, state, local and foundation grant applications. She has also administered federal and state grants, served as a grant application reviewer, and has helped set up grant award and review programs.

Goeken will assist workshop participants in exploring various public and private funding sources, and provide instruction and tips on planning projects and writing successful grant applications. For more information about the workshop, contact Jane Goeken at jngoeken@iastate.edu or 712-240-2504.



## *ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County Volunteers*

Please stop by the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach office Thursday, April 19 for refreshments. We could not do our job without the dedicated volunteers in our community.

Not a volunteer? Stop by and we can let you know of the many ways you can help out our community.

## *Food Preservation 101*

Don't know what to do with your excess garden produce? Do you want to learn how to preserve food safely at home? Join Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach on May 23, 2018 at 6:00pm for Food Preservation 101. The workshop will be held at the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach Office. 4-H'ers are welcome to attend with a parent or guardian! There is a fee to attend.

For questions or registration information, please call the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach office at 712-335-3103 or email Holly Frerk at hferk@iastate.edu.



## *Yard and Garden: Establish an Asparagus Patch*



Asparagus, one of the most popular spring vegetables, is a hardy perennial plant that produces edible spears. Plantings will produce good crops for 15 to 20 years if planted in a favorable location and good cultural practices are followed. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists offer tips on suitable locations, good varieties and proper planting of asparagus. For more information, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or [hortline@iastate.edu](mailto:hortline@iastate.edu).

### **What would be a suitable planting site for asparagus?**

Carefully consider possible planting sites for asparagus, as a well-maintained planting in a favorable location can be productive for 15 to 20 years. Asparagus performs best in well-drained soils in full sun. Avoid poorly drained, wet sites. Phytophthora crown rot can be a problem in poorly drained, wet locations. Raised beds are a good planting option for gardeners with

poorly drained soils. Planting sites should receive at least six hours of direct sun each day. Avoid shady sites near trees.

A location at the end of the vegetable garden (that doesn't interfere with annual garden tillage and other cultural practices) is a good site for many home gardeners.

### **What are some good asparagus varieties for Iowa?**

Asparagus is dioecious. Dioecious plants produce separate male and female plants. Male asparagus plants live longer and are more productive than female plants. Excellent predominantly male asparagus cultivars include 'Jersey Giant,' 'Jersey Knight,' 'Jersey King,' and 'Jersey Supreme.' 'Mary Washington' and 'Martha Washington' are good standard asparagus cultivars. (A planting of 'Mary Washington' or 'Martha Washington' has an equal number of male and female plants.) 'Purple Passion' and 'Sweet Purple' are unique cultivars with deep burgundy or purple shears. (The spears of 'Purple Passion' and 'Sweet Purple' turn green when cooked.) One-year-old asparagus crowns can be purchased at garden

centers and mail-order nurseries.

**What is the proper way to plant asparagus?** Early spring is the best time to plant asparagus in Iowa. Asparagus crowns should be planted in shallow trenches or furrows. The planting depth depends on the soil type. Asparagus crowns should be planted 8 to 10 inches deep in light, sandy soils, but only 6 to 8 inches deep in heavier soils. A small amount of well-rotted barnyard manure can be worked into the soil at the bottom of the trench before planting. Space crowns 12 to 18 inches apart in rows that are 4 to 5 feet apart. Spread the roots out in the trench with the buds pointing upward. After planting, completely fill in the trench with soil. (Though a common practice in the past, it is not necessary to gradually fill in the furrow as the plants grow.)

**When can I begin to harvest asparagus?** Asparagus should be allowed to become well established after planting before any spears are harvested. Do not harvest asparagus for the first two years after planting. In the third and following years, asparagus can be harvested until early to mid-June in Iowa.

## *Improve Your Version of Financial Well- being*

*ISU Extension and Outreach series explores many strategies for well-being*

Financial well-being doesn't mean the same thing to everyone. Some people focus on financial security, whether for now or for the future. Others are interested in having enough financial freedom to make choices or focus on long-term goals.

Iowans can explore their sense of financial well-being during "What about Me? My Well-being," a workshop series from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, says Jeannette Mukayisire, a human sciences specialist in family finance.

In the financial workshop, participants learn strategies that have been shown to increase financial well-being, Mukayisire said. Other topics in the series include an introduction to well-being, social and emotional well-being, and physical well-being. Participants also discuss ways in which each area of well-being affects the others.

"There is no 'one size fits all' solution to achieve financial well-

being. Everyone can try to improve the financial area that is important to him or her," Mukayisire said.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau conducted open-ended interviews with consumers to discover four elements of financial well-being:

- Being able to pay day-to-day expenses now – financial security for the present
- Being able to save money for unexpected expenses – financial security for the future
- Being able to save money for a vacation or other enjoyment – financial freedom of choice
- Being able to set and meet financial goals – financial freedom for the future

"Achieving financial well-being is like seeing a house be built and completed. Before you can move into the house, you must plan. You must make decisions about blueprints, land, a contractor, permits and more," Mukayisire said.

"You also must plan for your financial well-being and make decisions based on what is important to you," Mukayisire added.

Financial education from ISU Extension and Outreach provides knowledge and skills. When individuals combine that education with their own motivation, they are

on their way to financial well-being, Mukayisire said.

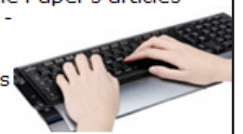
After completing the "What about Me? My Well-being" workshops, participants have reported making changes such as keeping a financial journal to track expenses, starting a savings account for emergencies or vacations, and making a grocery list and sticking to it to save money when shopping. Participants have reported getting better at budgeting and managing finances, and becoming more financially stable to be able to help their families.

"Small steps can add up to big savings and lead to financial well-being," Mukayisire said.

For more information about the "What about Me: My Well-being," series, visit the website, [www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/wellbeing](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/wellbeing).

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## *ISU Experts Help Youth Learn Pest Management through Friendly Competition*

*Register for the 2018 Crop Scouting Competition by July 1*

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Integrated Pest Management program will host its eighth annual Crop Scouting Competition for Iowa Youth on July 30 at the Field Extension Education Laboratory in Boone, Iowa. The goal of the event is to bring awareness to Iowa agriculture and help Iowans learn more about integrated pest management basics through hands-on learning and teamwork.

Crop scouting and IPM are important tools for farmers to increase economic returns while reducing unintended environmental impacts. Equipping future farmers and agronomists with crop scouting skills and basic IPM information will help the next generation of farm decision makers with crop production and land stewardship.

High school students (those completing grades 9-12) from

Iowa are invited to put their crop scouting skills to the test, competing against other Iowa youth teams across the state. It's not just a competition, however.

"I like to bring my FFA students to this competition because it enables them to learn from ISU Extension and Outreach faculty and staff," said James Abbas, FFA adviser for Ackley Geneva Wellsburg Steamboat Rock High School. "The experts working the competition are able to provide instant feedback to the teams, and they do so in a respectful, positive manner. They are always willing to help the kids and work with them."

This competition makes an impact on youth in Iowa. Last year, student participants reported an increased interest in agriculture related careers because of the event. Each student reported an increase in knowledge in multiple crop-related disciplines including entomology, plant pathology, crop staging and morphology, herbicide issues and crop disorders.

At the competition, each teams' crop knowledge will be tested at topic-specific field stations and with a written exam. The top four teams, based on points accrued from the field stations and exam, are eligible to win cash prizes, and all participants will receive a free event

t-shirt. The top two teams will be invited to the regional competition held in Nebraska on Aug. 27.

ISU Extension and Outreach has various resources such as field guides, publications and presentations to help each team prepare for the event. For more information on obtaining these materials, visit [ipm.iastate.edu](http://ipm.iastate.edu). To register, submit a completed registration form by July 1, 2018. For more details, event registration, and preparation resources, visit [www.ipm.iastate.edu/cropscouting](http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/cropscouting).

The event is sponsored by DuPont Pioneer, Iowa Soybean Association, Iowa Independent Crop Consultants Association, ScoutPro, Iowa Certified Crop Advisors and Environmental Tillage Systems.

For questions, please contact Maya Hayslett at [hayslett@iastate.edu](mailto:hayslett@iastate.edu) or Daren Mueller at [dsmuelle@iastate.edu](mailto:dsmuelle@iastate.edu).

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