The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!





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April 25, 2018

Local News

"Our Neighbors, the Amish" at Laurens Public Library



Don & Dianne Kramer's program, "Our Neighbors, the Amish" at Laurens Public Library was very well attended. Dianne told us that one of the main reasons for the differences in the Amish culture has roots in the Biblical, "Thou shalt not conform to the things of the World." Another interesting tidbit is that the Amish may not use electricity from a public utility. Electricity generated by solar panels or generators is fine! Therefore cell phones, used mainly for business purposes, are becoming more common.

Another thing I did not realize is that the Amish may use tractors in their fieldwork, but those tractors cannot have rubber tires!



JOIN US AT THE JOB FAIR!

Thursday, May 3rd 2:00 - 6:00pm

NOW HIRING!

Apply in Person – Immediate Interviews FISHER HYDRAULICS
603 Highway 10 West ~ Laurens, Iowa

2nd Shift Machinist – Welder – Assemblers

We offer \$1.00 shift differential during training also.
We offer opportunity to earn bonus each month.
We are the only manufacturing facility in
town with AIR CONDITIONING!

A Pre-employment Drug Screen is required. **Fisher Hydraulics** is an Equal Opportunity Employer offering expanded benefits that includes Competitive Wages, Medical, Dental, Flexible Spending Accounts, STD/LTD, Life Insurance Plans, 401K Plan, Paid Personal & Vacation days, & Paid Holidays.

CDI Technologies



We tackle all things tech related, no job too big or too small. For example, have you ever stopped to consider how long your repetitive daily tasks take you? What if you could use tech to streamline or even eliminate those tasks?

Or, is something broken? Let us help you fix it! The sky is the limit, so reach out with questions or ideas. We love to talk about work, technology, and new ideas. It's amazing what issues and solutions we can uncover with just a conversation. Not sure what you need or how to fix it? No worries, no commitments, just call to chat or visit us online www.cditech.net We're happy to help.

craig@cditech.net www.cditech.net Laurens, IA 712-260-8904

MARATHON UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ARE COOKING.......AGAIN!



LASAGNA DINNER

REGULAR AND CHICKEN

LETTUCE SALAD

GARLIC BREAD OR NON GARLIC BREAD

ICE CREAM SUNDAES

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018

SERVING: 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

MARATHON COMMUNITY CENTER

FREE WILL OFFERING

COME FOR GOOD FOOD AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP!!

EVERYONE WELCOME TO COME AND HAVE A GOOD TIME!!



1st Shift Secondary Manufacturing (line work-light lifting)

6:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ~ Monday - Friday

Must be willing to work overtime when needed
Climate controlled facility • Jack Links Company Store
Vacation accruals begin at 6 months
Company paid STD and Life Insurance
Health, Dental & Vision available after 60 days
Health Insurance (Blue Cross Blue Shield) premiums as low as
\$29.08 for employee and \$117.23 for a family (bi-weekly)
Pre-employment drug test • Referral Bonus

If you are looking for working for a family oriented company, look no more. Secondary Manufacturing Department is growing and we need your help!

Pick up an application at Jack Links, 210 N. 1st Street in Laurens or contact Marty at (712) 841-7751 for more details.

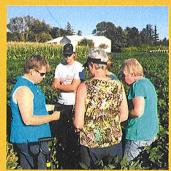
EEO/AA EMPLOYER M/F/D/V

Agronomy in the Field

Margo & Ron Sievers Farm







Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is pleased to partner with the USDA-NRCS, the Buena Vista and Pocahontas County Farm Bureau and the Buena Vista and Pocahontas Soil and Water Conservation Districts to bring Agronomy in the Field to Buena Vista County. Agronomy in the Field is a multi-session, hands-on workshop being offered to women landowners, farmers, conservationists and other women who are interested in learning more about agronomy. This series of workshops will be held monthly at the Margo and Ron Sievers Farm located at 1134 510th St., Rembrandt, IA 50576.

Session dates include May 23, June 20, July 25, August 7, and September 5. All sessions will start promptly at 5:45 p.m. and conclude by 7:15 p.m.

The sessions are open to all women and there is no charge, but we ask you contact Holly Frerk with the Pocahontas County Extension Office at 712-335-3103 to register to guarantee enough materials.

More information found at: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/pocahontas/

lowa State University Extension and Outreach does not discriminate on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or status as a U.S. veteran. Direct inquiries to Ross Wilburn, 515-294-1482, wilburn@iastate.edu. EOADV.16.04N Nov. 2016







PEOPLE. PROGRESS. PRIDE.

BUENA VISTA COUNTY FARM BUREAU



Pocahontas County
PCSWCD

Soil & Water Conservation District

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

French Graduates from Law Enforcement Academy

Brandon French of Gilbertville, Iowa, has graduated from the regional law enforcement training academy of Western Iowa Tech Community College (WITCC) in Sioux City, Iowa.

French is currently serving as an officer with the Laurens Police Department. He is a graduate of Hawkeye Community College.

WITCC's regional law enforcement training academy graduation ceremony was held at WITCC on April 13th and was attended by advisory council members and local dignitaries as well as family and friends of the graduating officers.

French is a member of the twenty-eighth group of police officers to graduate from WITCC's regional law enforcement training academy. The group enrolled for classes in January for an eight-week training program. In order to graduate, the students had to demonstrate competency in 42 different subjects including fingerprinting, forensics, defensive tactics, minority relations and traffic stops.

Johnson Enjoys Preceptor Time at Hometown Dental Office

The dental offices of Dr. Bieri & Dr. Christensen enjoyed the preceptor time with senior dental student Bryn Johnson. Bryn completes her final year at The University of Iowa College of Dentistry in May. She will practice general dentistry in Iowa Falls. Bryn is the daughter of Rod and Anita Johnson of Laurens and is 2007 Laurens-Marathon graduate.



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!



At the Library & Announcements

At the Library with Glenda Mulder April 25, 2018

Did you hear me give a really loud "WHOOP!" last Tuesday? I was certainly excited when I received the email from the Iowa Arts Council telling me that we were approved for the grant for an instrument in our Music Garden! With this great news, I can now tell you that this project is fully funded! Thank you all for your support of this project. Now we will move to the next phase – making it happen!

Deb is having so much fun with these Take it Tuesday nights! This coming Tuesday is May 1st, so she'll be at it again. This month we will be making marbled paper using shaving cream, paint, and of course, paper! You get to choose the colors & create it yourself. This paper can then be used for card making and other crafts. This free class size is limited, so let us know if you'd like to join the fun!

Here's a list of the new novels we've received recently: He by John Connolly, Dead Girl Running by Christina Dodd, Go Ask Fannie by Elisabeth Hyde, Designs of Lord Randolph Cavanaugh by Stephanie Laurens, Women in Sunlight by Frances Mayes, 17th Suspect by James Patterson and Twisted Prey by John Sandford. In nonfiction we received Chrissy Metz's This is Me: Loving the Person You Are Today.

Remember a while back I shared that we had received a donation from

the 5th graders at the Pocahontas Catholic School? Here's a list of the books that were purchased with that money: *The Doughnut Fix* by Jessie Janowitz, *Narwhal & Jelly* by Ben Clanton, *Rebound* by Kwame Alexander, *The Wild Robot Escapes* by Peter Brown and *You Go First* by Erin Entrada Kelly. Thanks again kids, I hope you and your friends will enjoy these selections!

There are still a few spots left in the FREE art classes coming to the library thanks to a grant from the Iowa Arts Council. These four different classes will be held from 1-3 p.m. on Monday afternoons beginning April 30th. Topics will be Clay Sculpture, Photography, Painting, and Jewelry Making.

These classes will be led by Holly Zinn of the Pearson Art Center at the Lakes. with Deb assisting, of course! 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!

COMING EVENTS

- Tot Time Every Monday at 10 a.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.



April 27th Friday Night Special is grilled chicken dinner or order off our full menu. 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.

Laurens Municipal Power & Communications is an equal opportunity employer.

The Paper

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or publisher@mylaurens.com.

This Week at

Pastor Scott Baker

Thursday: April 26, 2018 9 AM ~ Morning Circle at Bethany

Sunday: April 29, 2018 Fifth Sunday of Easter 9:15 AM ~ Adult SS 9:30 AM ~ Youth SS 9:30 AM ~ Coffee Fellowship 10:30 AM ~ Worship w/Healing 6 PM ~ Youth Group (HS) at UMC

Tuesday: May 1, 2018 5 PM ~ W/M Mtg.

Thursday: May 3, 2018 12 PM - National Day of Prayer at City Hall

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



This Week at Bethany Lutheran Laurens United Methodist Church

Pastor Ed Frank

Wed., April 25th: Life Line Reveal Party @ 6:00 p.m. Thurs., April 26th: Blood Drive from 1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. here in Fellowship Hall

Fri., April 27th:

Men's Bible Study @ 7 a.m.

Sun., April 29th:

Adult Sunday School @ 9:00 a.m. Sunday School @ 9:10 a.m. Fellowship Coffee @ 9;30 a.m. Worship @ 10:30 a.m. Elementary SS students sing Laurens Area Youth Group (JH) meet from 6-8 p.m. here at LUMC



First Christian Church

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

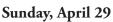
E-mail: colly@ncn.net

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

This Week at First Christian

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Friday, April 27 7:00 p.m. - AA



9:30 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Worship 4:00 p.m. - Service at Laurens Care Center 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - JR. High Youth Group at United Methodist Church Send Your News to



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Ignorance is Costly. Knowledge is Protection. Being Money Smart Pays Off.

By: Barb Wollan, Human Sciences Specialist in Family Finance

April 21-28, 2018 is "Money Smart Week." This annual campaign sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago reminds us all that being "money smart" pays off.

As a financial educator and as a volunteer income tax preparer, I sometimes hear from people who wish they had been better informed before making decisions. During this tax season, I've talked to an unusually large number of people who face really big tax bills that could have been prevented or reduced if they had been better informed ahead of time.

While taxes are the topic of the current season, there are other situations where people face problems that might have been prevented if they'd had more information. Examples:

- A person who discovered (too late) that her medical providers weren't in her health insurance network.
 - People who retired early, but

went back to work when they realized they were not financially prepared to retire.

- A couple who bought a car that proved unreliable, discovering later that Consumer Reports had rated that model's reliability as poor. (The next time they bought a car they reviewed the reliability ratings first.)
- People in their 20s and 30s who wish they had borrowed less money while in college.

Stories of financial regrets are endless. I have my own stories, too – no one can make perfectly-informed decisions 100% of the time. At www. moneysmartweek.org you'll find information and events to help you be money smart.

Happily, I also frequently talk with people who have success stories - they're so happy with the car they purchased, or they finished school with very low student loans, or they're proud of their young adult children who are already saving well for retirement. I also hear successes on a smaller scale - people's emergency funds are growing, their credit card balances are shrinking, or they made a big purchase without having to borrow money. In all these situations, careful thought and good information played an important role in bringing good results!

Money Smart Week reminds us that we never want to get complacent about our money knowledge. Even if you're already well-informed, it takes on-going attention. Why?

• The financial world changes. New products are created, new laws are passed, new scams arise and new risks appear. Everyone needs to keep asking questions and to stay tuned for information.

• Our lives change, and our financial needs and priorities change, too. At every phase of our life, AND when specific events occur (like a marriage or divorce, or a new job or a move to a new town) we need different information and skills than we needed before.

Take steps during Money Smart Week to stay informed at www. moneysmartweek.org! For even more information on financial topics, go to http://store.extension.iastate.edu/, or contact me through your local office of ISU Extension (Webster County: 515-576-2119) or directly (515-832-9597 or bwollan@iastate.edu). Subscribe to our blog at www.blogs. extension.iastate.edu/moneytips.

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 6:00 p.m. 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 hfrerk@iastate. edu.

Yard and Garden: Growing Tomatoes

Tomatoes, available in a variety of sizes, shapes and colors, are the most popular vegetable in the home garden. Gardeners may select bite-sized cherry tomatoes or giant beefsteak varieties ranging in color from red to yellow, orange and pink. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists offer tips on suitable locations, good varieties and proper planting of tomatoes. For more information, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or hortline@iastate.edu.

In regards to tomatoes, what is meant by the terms determinate and indeterminate? Determinate and indeterminate refer to the tomato plant's growth habit.

Determinate tomatoes are small, compact plants that grow to a certain height, then flower and set all their fruit within a short time frame. The harvest period for determinate tomatoes is generally four to six weeks, making them good choices for canning as well as fresh consumption.

Indeterminate tomatoes continue to grow, flower and set fruit until killed by the first fall frost. The fruit on indeterminate cultivars usually mature later than determinate tomatoes but the harvest period often extends over two to three months. Yields are generally higher than determinate types. Indeterminate

tomatoes are tall, sprawling plants that often perform best when supported by stakes or cages.

What are some good tomato varieties for the home garden? Suggested tomato cultivars for Iowa include 'Better Boy' (indeterminate; red, round, medium-size fruit), 'Brandywine' (indeterminate; pinkish red, oblate, large fruit), 'Celebrity' (determinate; red, oblate, medium to large fruit), 'Chef's Choice Orange' (indeterminate; orange, round, large fruit), 'Cherokee Purple' (indeterminate; rose purple, oblate, large fruit), 'Early Girl' (determinate; red, oblate, medium-size fruit), 'Jet Star' (indeterminate; red, oblate, medium to large fruit), 'Juliet' (indeterminate; red, elongated, small fruit), 'Pony Express' (determinate; red, blocky pear-shaped, mediumsize fruit), 'Red Deuce' (determinate; red, globe-shaped, large fruit), 'Roma VF' (determinate; red, pear-shaped, medium-size fruit) and 'Supersweet 100' (indeterminate; red, round, cherry-size fruit).

When can I plant tomatoes in Iowa?

Transplant tomatoes into the garden after the danger of frost is past. In central Iowa, May 10 is the suggested planting date. Gardeners in southern Iowa can plant one week earlier, while those in northern counties should wait an extra week. In order to

obtain good yields, the last practical planting date for tomatoes is June 20.

What is a suitable planting site for tomatoes? Tomatoes perform best in deep, loamy, well-drained soils. Tomatoes prefer a slightly acidic soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.8, but can be successfully grown in slightly alkaline soils. Tomatoes need at least six hours of direct sun per day for best yields.

What is the proper spacing when planting tomatoes in the garden? Plant spacing depends on the growth habit of the cultivar and the training system used. Indeterminate cultivars that are staked can be planted 1.5 to 2 feet apart within the row. If grown in wire cages, space plants 2 to 3 feet apart. Tomatoes allowed to sprawl over the ground should be spaced 3 to 4 feet apart. Rows should be spaced 4 to 5 feet apart.

Determinate tomatoes can be planted 1.5 to 2 feet apart in rows that are 4 feet apart.



City Council Minutes

April 16th, 2018

The Laurens City Council met in regular session at the Municipal Building at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 16th, 2018. Mayor Pro Tem Rich Newgard called the meeting to order. Present were Council members, Jean Swanson, Aaron Christenson, John Jamison, Julie Potter, City Manager Hilary Reed, City Clerk Joan Hoben, Public Works Director Julian Johnsen, City Attorney Ann Beneke, and Police Chief Tom Shaw.

Jamison moved to approve the consent agenda, with the minutes from the April 2nd,, 2018 meeting, and the list of claims. Christenson seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

CLAIMS 04-16-18				
AFLAC		GROUP INSURANCE		493.14
AIRGAS NORTH CENTRAL		MEDICAL SUPPLIES		31.86
AMAZON		BOOKS & DVD		221.87
BAKER AND TAYLOR		BOOKS & DVD		951.74
BEALS AUTO SERVICE & AUTO		VEHICLE CUIDILIES		C13.9C
PARTS BRAD TENDAL		VEHICLE SUPPLIES FIRE SCHOOL		612.86 449.85
BRANDON FRENCH		MILES TO ACADEMY		106.82
BROWN SUPPLY		REPAIR OF GRADER		36.04
CONNECTIONS		GROUP INSURANCE		32.30
COUNSEL		COPIES		134.31
DEMCO		BOOKENDS		88.44
ELLIOT EQUIPMENT CO		SEWER SUPPLIES /JET CLEANI	ER	184.79
HILARY REED		MILEAGE		61.30
IRS		FED/FICA TAX		5,331.90
JACK'S UNIFORMS & EQUIPMEN	Γ	POLICE SUPPLIES		89.95
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL LAURENS FOOD PRIDE		DUMP TRUCK PARTS CLEANING SUPPLIES		80.40 35.62
LMPC		PHONE & INTERNET		138.36
LMU		MONTHLY UTILITIES		786.66
LAURENS STATE BANK		POSTAGE		41.87
LAURENS SUN		LEGALS, ADS		255.68
MET		GROUP WATER TESTING		158.00
MYLAURENS, INC		ADS		34.00
PCC AMBULANCE BILLING		AMBULANCE BILLING		462.90
POCAHONTAS CO SOLID WASTE		LANDFILL FEE		5,702.10
PRIME BENEFITS		GROUP INSURANCE		6,500.00
PRO COOPERATIVE		MONTHLY FUEL		1,741.18
R&D INDUSTRIES		SOFTWARE SUPPORT		250.00
RICHARDSON SERVICE		POLICE SUPPLIES		4.50
SANTANDER LEASING		STREET SWEEPER		3,390.81
SECURE SHRED SOLUTIONS SHAMROCK RECYCLE INC.		SHREDDING PAPER		24.00
UNITYPOINT REGIONAL MED CN	T	CURBSIDE RECYCLING HEARING TESTS		1,634.00 270.87
US BANK	N I	STREET SUPPLIES		188.95
USA BLUE BOOK		VEHICLE SUPPLIES		173.35
VECTOR		DUES/MEMBERSHIP		308.09
VERIZON WIRELESS		CELL PHONES		266.77
WOODLEY INSURANCE		ANNUAL INSURANCE		84,200.00
		TOTAL		115,475.28
			4/9/2018	
	001	GENERAL		10,261.72
	210	ROAD USE TAX		1,354.58
	600	WATER		2,175.76
	610	SEWER		2,094.01
	670	GARBAGE		2,016.23
			TOTAL	17,902.30
			PAID TOTAL	133,377.58
BY FUND				
	001	GENERAL		65 702 02
				65,782.82
	110	ROAD USE TAX		14 762 72
				14,762.73
	112	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		4,747.46
	200	DEBT SERVICE		3,390.81
	600	WATER		19,048.32
	610	SEWER		8,072.46
	670	GARBAGE		17,572.98
		T	OTAL BY FUND	133,377.58

Our Town Our Paper! TOTAL BY FUND $\frac{133,377.58}{}$ 10

City Council Minutes

Ann Beneke, on behalf of the Sister City Commission, asked the council for approval of use of the City Park on July 14th for the Wine Festival. Potter moved to approve use of the City Park for the Wine Festival on July 14th, 2018. Swanson seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Vani Ahlers, on behalf of Rally4Vets, asked for permission to rope of from Treasure Chest to Main Street for the Rally4Vets during the 2018 Summer Celebration. Swanson motioned to approve roping off from Treasure Chest to Main Street for Rally4Vets during the 2018 Summer Celebration. Potter seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Newgard motioned to approve Reserve Officer Monty Potter to able to carry weapons. Swanson seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Potter abstained.

Jamison motioned to approve the real estate contract. Newgard seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

After much discussion, Swanson moved to approve Nation Day of Prayer Service. Jamison seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

A discussion was held on snow ordinance. A proposed change of eliminating dates was discussed. Reed will amend the ordinance to present and read at the next meeting.

A discussion was held on junk vehicles. Police Chief Shaw informed the council about junk vehicles around town. The process will begin when the snow has melted.

Potter moved to accept the second reading of Ordinance 01-18 Commercial Cardboard Recycling, Landfill Rates, and E-Waste and waive the third reading. Swanson seconded. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Swanson, Christenson, Newgard, Jamison, Potter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Jamison moved to approve Resolution 09-18- Setting the Date of a Public Hearing FY18 Budget Amendment. Christenson seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes: Potter, Jamison, Newgard, Christenson, Swanson. Potter moved to adjourn at 5:43 p.m. Christenson seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rich Newgard, Mayor Pro Tem	Hilary Reed, City Clerk