

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



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May 17, 2017

School News

Music, Art, and Iowa History

Laurens-Marathon students produced a music concert, a history display, and an art show all at once on May 8. Music teacher Sabrina Booth led both the vocalists and the instrumentalists in performance. Upper elementary and middle school students took part. Connie Dallenbach accompanied on the piano.

Julie Hjerleid's fifth grade class offered the results of their local history projects which were displayed on tri-fold posters on tables in the lobby.

The entire south wall of the gymnasium became an art gallery, displaying the work of the students in grades 6-8. Nearly a hundred items---sculptures, collages and drawings were a feast for the eyes. Only a small section of the display appears here today. Watch this space in coming issues for more photos from the show.



A Shower of Scholarships

When Laurens-Marathon graduates its last class of seniors later this month, the college-bound will be showered with scholarships. That doesn't happen everywhere.

This generous tradition began in 1963. The descendants of a Laurens physician got the ball rolling with a \$500 scholarship which is still awarded every year. It is known as the Winogene Hovenden Hunt award. It is to be given to the "most deserving girl" upon consideration of such factors as scholarship, "personality, ambition, neatness, and need." Ironically, the founders all lived in California when they honored their Laurens roots in this way. Their first award went to Lynne Rubel.

Mefford Corporation established the next three local scholarships in 1967. Mefford was the forerunner of Positech.

Adjusted for inflation, these early awards have never been topped. It would require a \$4000 scholarship today to go as far as \$500 went in 1963. But they have been joined by so many others that the overall program is eight times what it was worth in the beginning. In 2016, some \$30,000 in more than forty scholarships was passed out to fourteen students.

Some scholarship money is raised every year from the sponsors. Take the Helen Grossnickle scholarship, which goes to an aspiring teacher. It was created by Leigh Rigby Adcock in honor of her third grade teacher. Leigh, a 1978 graduate, and her mother Joyce Rigby, a long-time local library employee, contribute as needed to maintain the award.

Fifteen other scholarships have been endowed. The L-M school board holds nearly \$300,000 in its fiduciary account to finance these scholarships. The largest was created just six years ago when farmer Joseph C. Thoma left more than \$100,000 in the board's care.

*...to be
continued...*



At the Library

with Glenda Mulder

May 17, 2017

Our upper elementary patrons have gone crazy over the nonfiction "Who is" (or was) "Where is" and "What was" book series. Each of the books is a little over 100 pages. They tell the story of historical events or famous figures in a way and at a level that the kids understand and enjoy. Well, our library had about 50 of them when they took off, but this week I ordered the rest of all three of the series. So soon we should have all of the 175 titles that are currently available. This should give our kids a good reading plan for the summer!

New novels this week include: *New Boy* by Tracy Chevalier, *Eden* by Jeanne Blasberg, *Full Wolf Moon* by Lincoln Child, *Same Beach Next Year* by Dorthea Benton Frank and *Secrets in Summer* by Nancy Thayer.

We also got some interesting looking nonfiction: *Being Elvis* by Ray Connelly, *Option B; Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy* by Sheryl Sandberg and *This Fight is Our Fight* by Elizabeth Warren.

Our Book Club decided it was time for a nonfiction title again. Our May book is "*The Necklace: Thirteen women and the experiment that transformed their lives*" by Cheryl Jarvis. One quote that intrigued me and made me want to read this book is, "Part charm, part metaphor, part mirror, the necklace weaves in and out of each woman's life, reflecting her past, defining her present, making promises for her future. Lending sparkle in surprising and unexpected ways, the necklace comes to mean something dramatically different to each of the thirteen women." Grab a copy of this book and join our discussion Monday, May 22 at 7 p.m.

COMING EVENTS

- Tot Time every Monday at 10 a.m.
- Card Making 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
- Take it Tuesday - 1st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
 - Book Club 4th Monday at 7 p.m.
- "German Iowa & the Global Midwest" July 5-17

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Marathon Fire Department Breakfast



Join us for our Annual
Spring Breakfast!
Come hungry,
leave FULL!

Sunday, May 21
Serving from
8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, biscuits and
gravy, sausage, hashbrowns, coffee, juice & milk

Free Will Donation

Mattie Kreul Information Requested

Information/memories of Mattie Kreul
needed for the 2017 Cemetery Tour/
Walk. Please contact Grace Hertz by
e-mail at: gradon@ncn.net or call her at:
712-845-2231.

Card Shower!

Darlene Goerner of Laurens will
celebrate her 90th birthday on
Thursday, May 18. Please send
birthday wishes to her at the Laurens
Care Center, 304 East Veterans Road,
Laurens, IA 50554. Thank you from her
9 children.

*Raylene, Linda, Carol, Larry, Julie,
Elaine, Donna, Debbie and Randy*

Class of 1962 Reunion

The Class of 1962 will celebrate its 55th
year reunion on July 7-9. The Opening
dinner will be at the Country Club at
6:30 p.m. on Friday, July 7th. The class
will also take part in the activities of the
Summer Celebration of Laurens.

90th Birthday!!

Please join us in wishing our mom,
Marilyn Dubbert, "Happy 90th
Birthday"!!

She will be celebrating with
immediate family on May 28.

Send cards, no gifts please, to: 12357
460th Street, Laurens, IA 50554.

*Thank you,
Dan, Kevin, Shari*

Pocahontas Community Hospital



An Affiliate of  UnityPoint Health

**You are cordially invited to attend
Pocahontas Community Hospital's
50th Anniversary Celebration!!**

Monday, June 5, 2017

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Expo Center, Pocahontas, Iowa

The Pocahontas County Cattlemen will be grilling hamburgers provided by the Pocahontas Community Hospital

This will be a come and go event with educational tables and raffle drawings. There will also be a short program beginning at 5 p.m.

**We hope that you will be able to join
us to help celebrate 50 years of serving
the healthcare needs of the people of
Pocahontas County!**

You are invited to a Tailgate
Bridal Shower for Kelsey Slattery,
bride elect of Andrew Lynch and daughter of
Dennis & Chantelle Slattery

on Saturday, May 20th from 10:30 to Noon
at

Gary & Traci Heuton's Garage
536 Allen Street in Laurens, Iowa

BRIDAL SHOWER

Registered at: Heart 'n Home, Target,
and Bed, Bath, & Beyond



2017 Laurens Summer Ball Umpires Needed!

We have games in Laurens Tuesday through Friday starting

May 24th to June 23rd. Games are at 6 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.

I need one umpire for the Girls Minor games and two umpires for
Girls Peewee and Boys Peewee games. If you are able and willing

to help, please contact Allison Price.

Cell: (314) 413-6402 or Home: (712) 845-2327

Email: allison1971@sbcglobal.net



Laurens Summer Ball Home Games

Wednesday, May 24th - 6PM Boys Coach Pitch/7:30PM Boys Peewee

**Thursday, May 25th - 6PM Girls Coach Pitch and Girls Minors/
7:30PM Girls Peewee**

Wednesday, May 31st - 6PM Boys Coach Pitch/7:30PM Boys Peewee

Thursday, June 1st - 6PM Girls Minors

Tuesday, June 6th - 6PM Girls Coach Pitch/Girls Minors

Friday, June 9th - 6PM Boys Coach Pitch/7:30PM Boys Peewee

Tuesday, June 13th - 6PM Girls Coach Pitch/7:30PM Girls Peewee

Thursday, June 15th - 6PM Girls Minors

Friday, June 16th - 6PM Boys Coach Pitch/7:30PM Boys Peewee

Tuesday, June 20th - 6PM Girls Coach Pitch/7:30PM Girls Peewee

Wednesday, June 21st - 6PM Boys Coach Pitch

Friday, June 23rd - 6PM Boys Coach Pitch/7:30PM Boys Peewee



Charger Pride/Fit Exercise Studio 3K/5K Color-a-thon

Event: Saturday, July 8, 2017 (during Laurens Summer Celebration)

Register Online Today at: <http://shop.schoolathon.org/184650>

Job Opportunity

**2017 Laurens Summer Ball
Maintenance/Field Prep
Person Needed!**

We need someone to mow and draw lines for the home games.

Games are two to three times per week from
May 24th to June 23rd, on Tuesdays through Fridays.

Please inquire to Allison Price

Cell: 314-413-6402 or Home: 712-845-2327

Email: allison1971@sbcglobal.net

This Week at First Christian Church

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Wednesday, May 17

1:00 p.m. - Willing Workers

Friday, May 19

7:00 p.m. - AA

Sunday, May 21

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School

10:30 a.m. - Worship followed by

Congregational Meeting



This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Wednesday: May 17, 2017

7:30 PM - Baccalaureate at BLC

Thursday: May 18, 2017

9:00 AM - Morning Circle

Sunday: May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM - Sunday School

9:15 AM - Reception for graduates

9:15 AM - Adult SS

10:30 AM - Worship w/Communion, SS

songs, Quilts & Honor Graduates

NO Evening Youth Group

Tuesday: May 23, 2017

10:00 AM - Coffee Time

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



This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Thurs., May 18th:

Rachel Circle @ 9:15 a.m. (Wesley Room)

Dorcas Circle @ 2 p.m. (Wesley Room)

Fri., May 19th:

Men's Bible Study @ 7 a.m.

Sun., May 21st:

Adult Sunday School @ 9:00 a.m.

Worship @ 10:30 a.m.

Wed., May 24th:

Book Club @ 9 a.m.

"Caring Cards" @ 7 p.m.



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Sacred Heart Church Laurens

Pastor ~ Father Francis Makwinja

Weekday Mass : Friday, 8:00 AM

Weekend Mass: Saturday, 5:00 PM (March - June)

Cluster Parishes:

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Sioux Rapids

Weekday Mass: Monday & Wednesday, 8:00 AM

Weekend Mass: Sunday, 10:30 AM (March - June))

St. Louis Catholic Church, Royal

Weekday Mass: Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 AM

Weekend Mass: Sunday, 8:30 AM (March- June)



Opportunity for Iowa Youth to Learn Agronomy, Scouting Basics from ISU Experts



2016 Crop Scouting Competition; Daren Mueller discussing soybean diseases with a team of Iowa youth at the plant disease field station.

The Integrated Pest Management program with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will host the seventh annual Crop Scouting Competition for Iowa Youth on July 31 at the Field Extension Education Laboratory in Boone, Iowa at 1928 240th Street.

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. In addition to team competition, the goal of the event is to bring awareness to Iowa agriculture and learn more about integrated pest management basics through hands-on learning and teamwork.

Joe and Suzanne Shirbroun of Clayton County have been team leaders at the Crop Scouting Competition for the past six years. Joe Shirbroun says he's witnessed the competition make a big impact on the participating youth.

"The competition is a great way to connect education to the industry," he said. "Over the last six years, we've had several students on our team realize

this is something they have a passion for and decide to pursue it in college."

Teams' crop knowledge will be tested at topic-specific field stations and with a written exam. Several field stations will be run by ISU Extension and Outreach faculty and staff, giving students the opportunity to work next to and learn from Iowa State experts. Potential topics will include: crop diseases, insects, disorders, weed identification, herbicide injury, crop growth stages, degree day computation and sprayer calibration and sprayer issues.

"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, AGWSR FFA advisor in Ackley, Iowa. "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."

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 Indiana on Aug. 28.

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 where to obtain these materials, visit www.ipm.iastate.edu.

Visit www.ipm.iastate.edu/cropscouting for more details, registration and a list of resources for team preparation. The registration form is due by July 1, 2017. View the 2016 competition online by reading about the winners and watching a recap from last year's event.

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

For questions, please contact Adam Sisson at ajsission@iastate.edu or Daren Mueller at dsmuelle@iastate.edu.

Yard and Garden: Caring for and Harvesting Rhubarb

Spring is the best time to plant rhubarb in Iowa. It's also the perfect time to harvest the leaf stalk for pies, tarts sauces, jams, jellies, puddings and punch. Although categorized as a vegetable, rhubarb is used as a fruit. ISU Extension and Outreach horticulturists answer gardener questions about caring for and harvesting rhubarb. To have additional questions answered, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or



hortline@iastate.edu.

What is the correct way to harvest rhubarb? Harvest rhubarb when the stalks are 10 to 15 inches long. Grasp the stalk near its base and pull up and slightly to one side. Rhubarb can also be harvested by cutting off the stalks at the soil surface with a sharp knife. Immediately after harvesting the rhubarb, remove the leaf blades from the stalks with a sharp knife. Discard the foliage. The stalks can be placed in a plastic bag and stored in the refrigerator for two to four weeks.

When harvesting rhubarb, do not remove more than one-half of the fully developed stalks from any plant at any one time.

Is it safe to eat rhubarb after the plants have been exposed to freezing temperatures? There is a fairly common perception that rhubarb is not safe to eat after the plants have been exposed to freezing temperatures. Rhubarb is a tough plant. It tolerates cold temperatures quite well. Temperatures in the upper twenties or low thirties typically cause no damage. Temperatures in the low twenties or teens may damage the plants. Rhubarb damaged by freezing temperatures will have black, shriveled leaves and soft, limp leaf stalks. It's safe to harvest rhubarb if the plants show no signs of damage two or three days after the freeze event. Damaged rhubarb (blackened

foliage and limp stalks) should be pulled and discarded. New stalks that emerge after the freeze are safe to harvest.

My rhubarb plants are flowering. What should I do? The flower stalks should be promptly pulled and discarded. Plant vigor and next year's production will be reduced if the plants are allowed to flower and set seed.

Flower formation may have been induced by stressful growing conditions, such as drought, extreme heat, or infertile soils. Age may also be a factor. Older plants tend to flower more than younger ones. Flower formation can be discouraged by following good cultural practices. Sprinkle ½ cup of an all-purpose garden fertilizer, such as 10-10-10, around each plant in early spring. Stop harvesting rhubarb in mid-June. Water rhubarb plants once a week during prolonged dry periods. Dig and divide large, old rhubarb plants in early spring or late summer.

When should I stop harvesting rhubarb? Gardeners should stop harvesting well-established, vigorous rhubarb plants in mid-June in Iowa. Continued harvest through the summer months weakens the rhubarb plants and reduces the yield and quality of next year's crop.

Temple Grandin to Speak at Cattle Stewardship Conference in Spirit Lake

National cattle behavior specialist Temple Grandin will be the keynote speaker at the Cattle Stewardship Conference June 8 at the Dickinson County Fairgrounds, Spirit Lake. The conference also features beef cattle specialists from Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.

"Grandin provides a unique view of stewardship," said Beth Doran conference organizer and beef specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. "Conference presenters will share best management techniques to enhance animal health, comfort and sustainability of beef operations."

Cattle Stewardship begins at 10 a.m. with a cattle handling demonstration conducted by Dean Fish. Fish is one of the national cattle handling experts recognized by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. In the afternoon, Grandin will present a practical approach to improving animal welfare. She is the nation's leading expert on cattle comfort and behavior, having designed facilities for both packing plants and livestock producers.

"Consumers are asking about how the beef they eat is produced, and beef packers have developed management protocols for the feedlots that supply their cattle," Doran said. "The goal of the conference is to help cow-calf and feedlot producers fine-tune the best management practices they currently use."

Following Grandin's presentation, six breakout topics will be offered through four sessions: techniques in managing pain, designing facilities for cattle comfort, low-stress weaning, best methods in cattle processing, managing heat stress in cattle, and successfully completing feedlot assessments.

The conference is cooperatively organized by the Iowa Beef Center, ISU Extension and Outreach, Iowa Beef Industry Council, Iowa Lakes Community College and Iowa Cattlemen's Association with local support. Participants of the day-long program will fulfill the requirements to become Beef Quality Assurance certified.

Registration, which includes the noon meal, is \$30 per person and due May 31 to ISU Extension and Outreach Dickinson County Office, 1600 15th St., Spirit Lake, IA 51360.

For more information, contact Doran at 712-737-4230 or e-mail doranb@iastate.edu

Five Local Organizations Awarded Agriculture Literacy Challenge Grants

The Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation (IALF) recently awarded five local projects across Iowa funding to help develop an understanding of agriculture with students and adults.

The Agriculture Literacy Challenge Grants encourage organizations to teach agriculture to those who aren't familiar with it. The intent is to increase agricultural awareness and knowledge among all ages. The five winning applications are:

1. Pocahontas County 4th Grade Agriculture Day organized by the ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County in Pocahontas, Iowa
2. Ag-Citing at the Clay County Fair organized by ISU Extension and Outreach Clay County in Spencer, Iowa
3. aROUND the farm in the BARN organized by Le Mars Area Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee in Le Mars, Iowa
4. Importance of Pollinators organized by Howard County Farm Bureau in Cresco, Iowa
5. Casey and Friends organized by Creston FFA in Creston, Iowa

All Iowans are involved in agriculture by eating food and wearing clothes. Nearly 1 in 5 jobs in Iowa is in the agriculture industry. Yet most Iowans have no direct connection to agriculture production or the agriculture industry. Grants were awarded in amounts up to \$1,000 to help teach agriculture to the public.

Planned projects include educating about wind energy, beef production, corn and soy production, pollinators and their habitat, agricultural career options, and many more. Most of the programs rely on multiple partner organizations cooperating to deliver the educational program.

"Local farmers will teach the parts of the soy/corn plants as well as all the different by-products that are made from soy/corn," said grant recipient Lisa Zeman from ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County. "Instructors will teach how the raw product begins at the farm and how it is transported, processed, sold, and ends up on our dinner plate."

ISU Extension and Outreach Clay County was also awarded one of the grants. "Each year third grade students from seven counties and 15 school districts attend the Clay County Fair in September as part of the Ag-Citing Program," said Cheryl Hurst. "The students participate in various activities to gain an understanding about the importance and value of agriculture to Iowa."

Grants can be used to fund innovative lessons, activities, classroom resources, guest speakers, outreach programs, fieldtrips, and other projects. Organizations that have agriculture education as a part of their mission or purpose were eligible to apply.

"Although we live in a rural community, fewer students are from the farm or have a connection to the farm and production agriculture," said Kelsey Bailey of Creston FFA. "This activity will bring farming and agriculture industry into the classroom as well as make children aware of where their food comes from."

For more information on grants and other IALF programs visit www.iowaagliteracy.org.

21st Century Skills for High School Financial Course Offered Summer 2017

The Prairie Lakes Area Education Agency (AEA) and Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach will provide Iowa educator credit to teach the High School Financial Planning Program in a summer 2017 Storm Lake course: “Financial Literacy for 21st Century Skills.”

The High School Financial Planning Program is a vetted curriculum from the National Endowment for Financial Education. Carol Ehlers, human sciences specialist in family finance with ISU Extension and Outreach, will teach the course. It will cover the curriculum’s six modules that address student hands-on learning in money management, borrowing, earning power, investing, financial services and insurance.

Educators who take the course will meet for three face-to-face sessions from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 20; Monday, July 19 and Wednesday, Aug. 16, at the Prairie Lakes AEA, 824 Flindt Dr., Storm Lake. The final session is Nov. 13, 7-9 p.m. and is an online learning session.

The one credit course costs \$85 and the registration deadline is June 6. To register, go to Generation Ready at <https://aea8.avatarlms.com/login.html> and select: #7839 Financial Literacy for 21st Century Skills (Summer 2017). Anyone who has questions about registration may contact Carrie Kee, license renewal specialist for Prairie Lakes AEA, at 800-669-2325 ext. 2101, or stop by the office at 1235 5th Avenue South in Fort Dodge.

The State of Iowa already requires that financial literacy 21st century skills be taught in school, Ehlers noted. This one credit renewal course in personal finance literacy addresses:

- Becoming familiar with the High School Financial Planning Program (HSFPP) curriculum and website resources from the National Endowment for Financial Education
- Connecting HSFPP student competencies to the Iowa 21st Century Financial Literacy Skills
- Collaborating with colleagues to develop and teach mini-lessons using materials and resources from the modules

“In this course, educators will establish classroom strategies teaching student debt management, selecting financial services, creating a personal insurance plan, discovering ways to examine how choice of career and lifestyle will affect personal financial planning, as well as additional Iowa Core concepts,” Ehlers said. “Supporting local educators on implementing financial skills using the High School Financial Planning Program is beneficial to all Iowa communities, as our young people gain valuable skillsets for their future.”

Find out more about the High School Financial Planning Program and ISU Extension and Outreach at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/high-school-financial-planning>.

Poultry & Rabbit Identification Workshop

Thanks to the many volunteers in the Pocahontas County 4-H program. Children that will be exhibiting rabbits and poultry at the 2017 Pocahontas County Fair were assisted in getting their poultry tested and rabbits identified.

The Pocahontas County Fair begins July 12 with the 4-H/FFA dog show and ends July 17 with the livestock auction.



Drake and Tanner Jones with their poultry in the background



Cathy Minkler and Heather Schachtner Kramer tattooing a rabbit.

Yard and Garden: Constructing a Grape or Raspberry Trellis

Grapes and raspberries can be grown in the back yard, with a little bit of ingenuity and work. Creating a trellis to support the plants in a home garden is within the means of most gardeners, with a little bit of effort.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists can help answer questions about how to create a backyard trellis. To have additional questions answered, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or hortline@iastate.edu.

How do I construct a raspberry trellis? There are several different trellis systems. A two-wire permanent trellis is commonly used to support raspberries in the home garden. Its construction requires wooden posts, No.12 or 14 galvanized wire, and two-by-four lumber. The wooden posts should be 3 to 5 inches in diameter and 6 to 8 feet long. Posts should be set 2 to 3 feet into the ground and spaced 15 to 20 feet apart. Near the top of each post, nail or bolt a 24- to 30-inch-long crosspiece. Then run or attach the galvanized wire through the ends of each crosspiece and down the entire length of the row. The two wires should be spaced about 18 to 24 inches apart and positioned 3 to 4 feet above the ground.

A temporary trellis may be constructed of posts and twine. Set the posts approximately 15 feet apart. The canes are supported by running twine between the posts. This temporary structure is most suitable for fall-bearing red raspberries grown exclusively for the fall crop.

How do I construct a grape trellis? Construction of a grape trellis is similar to constructing a farm fence. The trellis must be substantial enough to carry the weight of the vines plus a heavy crop during high winds. Basically, the trellis consists of two or three wires, one above the other, stretched tightly and secured to firmly-set posts.

End posts serve as the anchor points as well as wire supports. End posts are generally 8 feet long, with a diameter of 4 inches, set approximately 2 feet deep in the soil. They may be braced in several ways. A common method is to set an extra post within a few feet of the end post. A heavy piece of wood or another post makes a good brace between the two end posts. Line posts are also 8 feet long, but with a diameter of 3 inches. They are set approximately 2 feet into the ground and spaced about 24 feet apart within the row.

Use galvanized wire for the grape trellis. Galvanized wire is durable and does not cause serious wire chafing of young vines. Wire sizes commonly used include numbers 9, 10, or 11. Wires are secured to end posts in various ways. A common method is to wind the wire around the post once or twice and then twist the end several times around the wire as it is stretched to the next post. Some gardeners use special devices to attach the wires to the end posts because they simplify tightening of the wires. These devices employ cranks that eliminate removing the wires from the end posts when tightening.

Wires are fastened to the line posts with ordinary staples. Space the wires vertically according to the training system to be followed. For example, a four-cane Kniffin system would use two wires. One wire should be 3 feet above the ground and the second wire 6 feet off the ground. The six-cane Kniffin system uses three wires positioned 2, 4 and 6 feet above the ground.

The best time to construct a grape trellis is during the first growing season. Tying new shoots to the trellis wires allows for straight grapevine trunk development in future years.