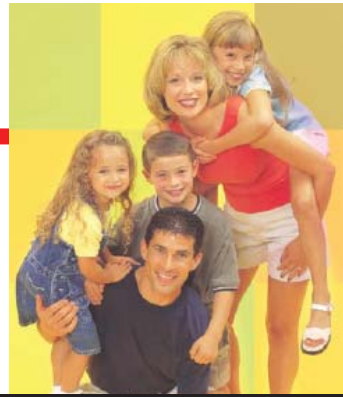


The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!

Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 9

No. 16

www.thepapernow.com

August 5, 2015

Local News

Boy Scouts Paint Shelter House Using Paint Iowa Beautiful Grant

On Sunday, June 7 our local Boy Scout Troop painted the shelter house at Sportsman's Park using the paint from the Paint Iowa Beautiful Grant. It looks great, thanks for your hard work!



Front Row L-R: Michelle Gordon, Dakota Kunz, Ethan Schultz and Anthony Gordon.
Back Row L-R: Tyler Merritt, Laura Merritt, Alyssa Kunz, Kelly Gordon, Will Schultz and Chad Mobley.





Class of 1955 Holds 60th Reunion

The graduating class of 1955 from Laurens Consolidated School held their 60th class reunion on Saturday evening, July 18, 2015 at the Laurens Golf & Country Club. Eleven class members and their spouses were in attendance.

Those in attendance were: Sharon (Stockwell) Edmonds, Sioux Falls, SD; Wayne & Joan (Svuba) Burk, Waukon; Dave & Janet (Edmonds) Convy, Milford; Duane & Peggy (Anderson) Netsch, Spirit Lake; Roger & Judy Siddall, Silver Lake and Lyle & Barb Wallin; Ken Boughey; Sharon (Kendall) Pauk; Mary (Wright) Svuba; Janet (Cowan) Carlson; and Anne (Mackie) Walstead, all of Laurens.

Since the last reunion in 2010, two classmates have passed. They were Sandra (Ferguson) Focht and Caroline (Lenz) Kalkis.

The class of 1955 distinguished themselves as the first Kindergarten at Laurens, when they started school in 1942. Janet (Edmonds) Convy distinguished herself when she named Laurens, "The Busiest Little Town In Iowa", in 1949, when she won the contest to choose a slogan for Laurens.

Sharon Edmonds compiled the class booklets and Mary Svuba and Anne Walstead served on the committee. The evening was spent socializing.



LAURENS-MARATHON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2015-2016 ~ SCHOOL SUPPLIES

L-M PRESCHOOL

- (1) Pair of Velcro Shoes for gym
 - (1) Baggie Girl Hair Ties
 - (1) Book Bag
 - (1) Extra set of clothing (shirt, pants, underwear, & socks)
- PLEASE MARK EACH INDIVIDUAL ITEM WITH CHILD'S NAME
(CLOTHING ALSO)

KINDERGARTEN

- (1) Pair of P.E. Tennis Shoes
 - (3) Boxes of Kleenex (200 count)
 - (2) Fine point dry erase markers
 - (1) Highlighter
 - (1) Bottle of glue
 - (1) Box of Crayons (No more than 24 count)
 - (1) Pencil box
- Book Bag
- PLEASE MARK EACH INDIVIDUAL ITEM WITH CHILD'S NAME
(CLOTHING ALSO)

FIRST GRADE

- Pencil Box (No bigger than about 6"x 9")
 - (3) Double-Pocket Folders (with NO fasteners and NO plastic folders)
 - (20) #2 Pencils (NO mechanical pencils)
 - (6) Large Erasers
 - (3) Large Boxes of Kleenex (200 Count)
 - (2) Glue Sticks
 - (2) - 8 oz. Bottles School White Glue
 - (1) - 7.5" x 10" Canvass Zipper Bag with Clear Front
 - (1) Pair of Tennis Shoes for P.E.
 - (4) Dry erase markers
 - (1) Box Gallon size Ziploc bags
 - (4) Wide-lined Spiral Notebooks
 - Crayons - any size
 - Markers
 - Book Bag
 - Scissors
- PLEASE MARK EACH INDIVIDUAL ITEM WITH CHILD'S NAME
(CLOTHING ALSO)

SECOND GRADE

- (20) #2 Pencils
 - (4) Medium or Large Erasers
 - (2) Bottles of White Glue
 - (4) Glue Sticks
 - (4) Dry Erase markers & 1 SOCK (To use as an eraser and store the dry
 - (3) Double Pocket Folders
 - (3) Large Boxes Kleenex
 - 1 pair of tennis shoes for P.E.
 - (1) Box of gallon-sized Ziploc bags
 - Wide-Lines spiral notebooks
 - Supply Box (No bigger than about 6"x9")
 - (2) Pack of Crayons (24 Count)
 - Scissors
 - (1-2) Markers "Basic/Normal Colors"
 - Book Bag (Bring Daily)
- PLEASE MARK ALL ITEMS WITH CHILD'S NAME
(CLOTHING ALSO)

THIRD GRADE

- (1) Backpack
- (2) Boxes of gallon size ziplock baggies
- (2) Pink erasers
- (1) Ruler
- (2) Boxes of 12 count pencils

THIRD GRADE (CONT.)

- (4) Wide-lined spiral notebooks
 - (1) Scissors
 - (6) Double pocket folders
 - (3) Large boxes of tissues (200 count)
 - (1) Pencil case or box
 - (2) Boxes of 24 count crayons
 - (1) Pair of tennis shoes for PE
 - (1) Box of markers
 - (1) Four pack of dry-erase markers
 - (1) Pair of headphones or earbuds for iPads
 - (1) Assignment book
- **NO trapper keepers please!**
- PLEASE MARK EACH INDIVIDUAL ITEM WITH CHILD'S NAME
(CLOTHING ALSO)

FOURTH GRADE

- (20) #2 Pencils (not mechanical)
 - (1) Large Eraser
 - (4) Dry erase markers & 1 SOCK (To use as an eraser)
 - Zipper Case for Pencils
 - Box of Colors (24 count)
 - (4) Spiral Notebooks (wide-lined)
 - (6) Double-Pocket Folders (no fasteners)
or 1 Expandable Folder and (2) Pocket Folders
 - (1) Bottle Glue or (2) Glue Sticks
 - (3) Large Boxes of Kleenex
 - (2) gallon-sized Ziploc bags (NOT boxes)
 - (1) Pair of Tennis Shoes for P.E.
 - Scissors
 - Markers (optional)
 - Colored Pencils (optional)
 - Assignment Notebook (\$2.00 Purchased at Registration) Students must have this one!
- **NO Trapper Keepers Please!**
- PLEASE MARK ALL ITEMS WITH CHILD'S NAME (CLOTHING ALSO)

FIFTH GRADE

- (1) 3-Ring Binder for Iowa History (1.5 inches)
 - (25) Plastic sleeves to put inside an Iowa History binder
 - (1) Composition Notebook
 - (3) Spiral Notebooks
 - (1) Highlighter
 - (4) Dry erase markers & 1 SOCK (To use as an eraser and to store the dry erase markers
 - (3) Large Box of Kleenex
 - (1) 1 box of sandwich Zip-loc baggies
 - (4) Double-Pocket Folders
 - (1) Bottle of White Glue or Glue Stick
 - (1) 12" Ruler
 - (1) Correcting Pen (any color)
 - (1) Box of Crayons (no larger than 24 count)
 - (1) Set of Markers
 - Colored Pencils (optional)
 - Scissors
 - #2 Pencils (no mechanical pencils)
 - Zipper Case for Pencils
 - Large Eraser
 - (1) Pair of Tennis Shoes for P.E.
 - Assignment Notebook (\$2.00 Purchased at Registration) Students must have this one!
- **No Trapper Keepers**
- PLEASE MARK ALL ITEMS WITH CHILD'S NAME (CLOTHING ALSO)



Unintentional Drowning: Get the Facts Information from Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Every day, about ten people die from unintentional drowning. Of these, two are children aged 14 or younger. Drowning ranks fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death in the United States. About one in five people who die from drowning are children 14 and younger. For every child who dies from drowning, another five receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries. More than 50% of drowning victims treated in emergency departments require hospitalization or transfer for further care (compared with a hospitalization rate of about 6% for all unintentional injuries). These nonfatal drowning injuries can cause severe brain damage that may result in long-term disabilities such as memory problems, learning disabilities, and permanent loss of basic functioning.

The main factors that affect drowning risk are lack of swimming ability! Many adults and children report that they can't swim. Research has shown that participation in formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk of drowning among children aged 1 to 4 years. However, many people don't have basic swimming skills.

Let's not let this happen to our Laurens area residents by not having a swimming pool to provide swimming lessons!

**Thank you to all who participated in the Alumni and friends swim meet during Celebrate Laurens Days. It appeared that fun was had by all!

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS may be sent to:

Laurens Pool Project, c/o City of Laurens

272 North 3rd Street, Laurens, IA 50554

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www.laurens-ia.com

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MUSIC!*

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Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and carrots



Laurens 712-841-4930

Spirit Lake 712-336-9111

Toll Free 877-849-1756

**Special for Friday
night, August 7th**

**Meatloaf Dinner
Friday Nigh Special**

**Serving begins
at 5 p.m.**

**Come out and enjoy
supper with us!**



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& leave a message.
References
Required.

**EXPLORE THE
POSSIBILITIES...**

EXPLORE LAURENS

**EXPLORE LAURENS! afternoon is
Friday, August 7th starting at 1:00**

- **Quilt Show at the Methodist Church by The Quilters**
- **Pocahontas County Museum**
- **Wine Tasting at Heart 'n Home**
- **Straight Story Tractor**
- **Cooking Demonstrations at West Iowa Bank by Dipsy Daisy**
- **Floral Demonstrations at Heart 'n Home**

At the Library with Glenda Mulder August 5, 2015

Guess what we got last week – a new Dr. Seuss book! Pretty cool, considering he died in 1991! “*What Pet Should I Get?*” is based on manuscripts that his widow discovered while cleaning up his office shortly after his death. It is believed to have been written between 1958 and 1962 and is similar to his other works like “*One Fish Two Fish*” and “*Red Fish Blue Fish*.”

Just two new DVDs this week, but lots of books! The DVDs are *Woman in Gold* and *Home* (My 2 & 4 year old greats loved that one!) New fiction includes: *Tom Clancy Under Fire* by Gran Blackwood, *If I Could Turn Back Time* by Beth Harbison, *Pretty Baby* by Mary Kubica, *Thrill Me* by Susan Mallery, *Alert* by James Patterson, *Broken Promise* by Linwood Barclay, *Badlands* by C.J. Box, *Silent Creed* by Alex Kava, *My Very Best Friend* by Cathy Lamb (I love her writing style!), *Circling the Sun* by Paula McLain, *Wishes for Christmas* by Fern Michaels, *Lady in Gold* by Anne O'Connor, *Brush Back* by Sara Paretsky, *Kitchens of the Great Midwest* by J. Ryan Stradal, *Redeemers* by Ace Adkins, *After the Storm* by Linda Castillo, *Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George, *Between the Tides* by Susanna Marren, *Speaking in Bones* by Kathy Reichs and *Cartel* by Don Winslow.

Oops! I goofed last week, did you catch it? August Book Club selection is not “*Sacred Acre*” (that’s next month!) it’s “*Sarah’s Key*” by Tatiana de Rosnay. Two main parallel plots are followed through the book. The first is that of ten-year-old Sarah Starzynski, a Jewish girl born in Paris, who is arrested with her parents during WWII’s Vel’ d’Hiv Roundup. Before they go, she locks her four-year-old brother in a cupboard, thinking the family should be back in a few hours. The second plot follows Julia Jarmond, an American journalist living in Paris, who is asked to write an article in honor of the 60th anniversary of the roundup. Hope you can join us Monday, August 24th at 7 p.m. – this should be a great discussion!

Event Calendar

- LegoMania all day every Wednesday!
- Tell Me a Yarn Mondays 5-7 p.m.
- Writers Free for All is 3rd Monday of the month at 7 p.m.
- Book Club is 4th Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

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EXPLORE LAURENS

EXPLORE LAURENS! is an afternoon being planned for exploring all that Laurens has to offer. This will take place this Friday, August 7.

It started when Connie Reinert, representing The Threshermen and Collector Show, contacted Julie Wurr of Heart 'n Home and asked if Laurens would like to be a featured town for The Threshermen's. What this means is a bus load(s) of people will be visiting Laurens to see what our community has to offer. Without thinking....Julie said "YES"!

Requirements to be considered as a town to host is that at least three events are offered for the visitors. Laurens did a little bit better than three! All events begin at 1:00 and will end at a variety of times (3:00, 4:00 and 5:00) and all events are free.

At the Laurens United Methodist Church, there will be a quilt show by the Laurens Town and Country Quilt Club from 1-5 p.m. with light refreshments. The Straight Story Lawnmower will be out on display. A cooking demonstration will be held at West Iowa Bank by Katie Meyer of Dipsy Daisy every hour (1:00, 2:00, and 3:00). A wine tasting by Tassel Ridge winery will be at Heart 'n Home, as well as a floral demonstration by Julie Wurr. The Pocahontas County Museum will also be open.

Everyone who has said YES! to this would like to encourage all the citizens in Laurens and surrounding areas to join the guests from Threshermen's. What a great opportunity to explore Laurens and see all the wonderful things we have to offer!

Come and Go Bridal Shower

Come and Go Bridal Shower honoring Karla Johnson Saturday August 8 2-4pm at Ag Partners Meeting Room in Albert City.

The couple is registered at Heart 'N Home and Bed Bath & Beyond

Can't see out your windows because of bushes and shrubs? Tree branches hanging too low? Give Bob's Tree & Bush Trimming a call at: (712) 845-2239

Stoner's Prime Produce will be at Hwy 10 Hardware location on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Produce & some baked goods available.

Fonda Arts Center - Second Sunday

On August's Second Sunday, August 9th, the Fonda Arts Center has on tap for your enjoyment a non-stop collage of "Oldies in the Afternoon", performed by Randy Schmitt and Larry Heschke. Music dating back to the mid 1900s including *Alley Cat*, *As Time Goes By*, *Let Me Call You Sweetheart*, and many, many more, will have you saying "Thanks for the Memories"! And while you are with us, check out the progress of the Fonda Arts Center's fresh new look, thanks to a successful re-siding campaign and the generosity of all the Friends of the Fonda Arts Center!

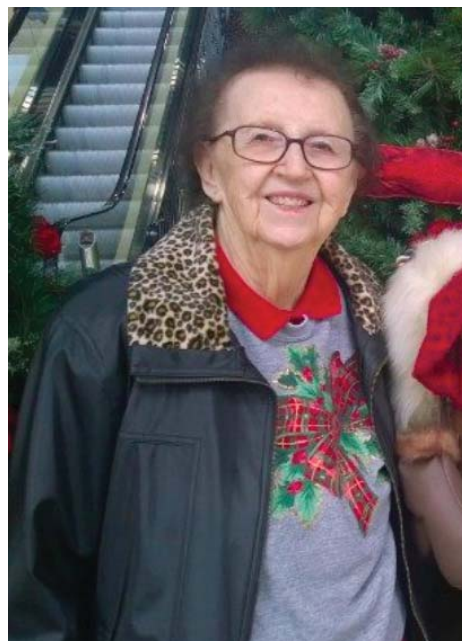
All this is happening at the Fonda Arts Center, on the Northwest corner of Fourth and Main Streets, Sunday, August 9th, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome; the Arts Center is handicapped accessible. As always, free admission, free refreshments!

Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday to Millie Burnham on August 8th!

Millie loves to get mail, so let's stuff her mailbox with birthday card wishes!

Cards can reach her at: Millie Burnham, P.O. Box 123, Laurens, Iowa 50554



Inurnment Services to be Held

Graveside services for former Laurens resident, Mavis Nelson, will be held August 8th at 11:00 at the Laurens municipal cemetery with Pastor Jerry Wittmus officiating. A luncheon will follow the service at Bethany Lutheran church.

Quilt Show

The Laurens Town & Country Quilt Club is hosting a quilt show on Friday, August 7 from 1-5 p.m. It will be held at the Laurens United Methodist Church. Refreshments will be served. No admittance fee.

*Grace Lutheran
Church Marathon,
Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
Albert City & St John
Lutheran Church
Rural Albert City*

Pastor John Mayer

Saturdays 5 p.m. Worship Service @ Grace
Lutheran Church - Marathon

Sundays 10:30 a.m. Worship @ Our Savior's
Lutheran Church - Albert City

Sundays 9:00 a.m. @ St John Lutheran
Church Rural - Albert City

*This Week at First
Christian Church*

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Wednesday, Aug 5
7:00 p.m. - Mission Council

Thursday, Aug. 6
2:00 p.m. - Coffee with the Pastor

Friday, Aug. 7
7:00 p.m. - AA

Sunday, Aug. 9
9:30 a.m. - Worship followed by coffee



Our Town Our Paper!

*This Week at
Laurens United
Methodist Church*

Thurs., Aug. 6th:
Basic Christianity Bible Study @ 7 p.m. at
the home of Linda Lingo

Fri., Aug. 7th:
NO Men's Bible Study
Quilt Show here from 1-5 p.m.

Sun., Aug. 9th:
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship @ 10:30 a.m.



*This Week at
Bethany Lutheran*

Sunday: August 9, 2015
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 AM - Worship
10:00 AM - Coffee Fellowship
Tuesday: August 11, 2015
10:00 AM - Coffee w/Pastor
7:00 PM - Hand Bell Rehearsal

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



Sacred Heart Church Laurens

Weekday Mass : Friday, 8:00 AM
Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:30 AM (July - October)

Cluster Parishes
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Sioux Rapids
Weekday Mass: (Monday&Wednesday) - 8:00 AM
Weekend Mass: Saturday - 5:00 PM (July - October)

St. Louis Catholic Church, Royal
Weekday Mass: (Tuesday & Thursday) - 8:00 AM
Weekend Mass: Sunday - 10:30 AM (July-October)



Master Gardener Summer Webinar's Available

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County will be hosting the 2015 Summer Webinars. The final webinar will cover Pollinators & Growing Herbs.

The webinar will be held on Tuesday, August 11 from 4- 6 p.m.

To register, please call 712-335-3103 or email Holly at hfrerk@iastate.edu.

4-H/FFA Beef Carcass Awards

Beth Doran, ISU Extension and Outreach Beef Specialist will present the 2015 Pocahontas County Fair Beef Carcass Data and Awards on Wed., August 5, 6 p.m. at the ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County Office. This is a free supper meeting for all 4-H/FFA members and their family and friends, but you will need to register no later than Monday, August 3 by calling the Extension Office at 712-335-3103 or email lzeman@iastate.edu.

4-H Record Book Workday

Record book workday will be held Wednesday, August 5 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County Office.

Pocahontas County 4-H'ers that need help putting their record books together are encouraged to attend this come and go work day. If you cannot make it on the scheduled time and need assistance, please call and arrangements can be made for a different day. All forms are available at www.extension.iastate.edu/pocahontas.

Crop Management Workshop

On Tuesday, July 28th, ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County partnered with Peterson Farms to hold a Crop Management Workshop. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about growing degree days, corn leaf diseases, corn rootworm, soybean management, and soybean aphid from ISU Extension and Outreach Field Agronomist, Paul Kassel. Attendees also had the opportunity to ask different questions about concerns or subjects they wanted to know more about. If you have questions on these topics or would like more information, contact the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach Office.



Farmers Learn Science of Interpreting Soil and Manure Tests *August workshops on nutrient testing and manure application may help improve farmers income.*

Summer is the best time to apply livestock manure for crop fertilization, but getting the right level is a science. To aid farmers in nutrient management, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach dairy specialists are offering a workshop to fine-tune manure applications with soil management practices and testing.

“We will take a step-by-step approach on how to read a soil test and determine fertilizer needs,” said Ryan Breuer, dairy specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. “Instructions will be offered for reading a manure test and determining how much of the crop nutrient needs can be met with manure applications. This knowledge will optimize on-farm resources, and likely reduce commercial fertilizer costs while increasing producer income.”

The 2-hour workshop is from 10 a.m. to noon, with the first hour training on manure management ‘how-to’ with examples and a step-by-step guide. The second hour will be question and answer time with Extension specialists. Leading the sessions are Brian Lang and/or Joel DeJong, both field agronomists with ISU Extension and Outreach. Participants may bring along recent soil and manure tests from their farm operations for interpretation.

There are workshop dates and locations available in August, locally in Sac City:

- Wednesday, August 19 - Sac County ISU Extension Office, Sac City, 712-737-4230
- Thursday, August 20 – Howard County ISU Extension office, Cresco, 563-547-3001
- Thursday, August 20 – Sioux County at Northwest Iowa Community College, Campus Building A, Room 119, Sheldon, 712-737-4230

The program is free, but seating is limited so please call ahead to make your reservation. For more information or to make reservations, contact the local extension county office or visit www.extension.iastate.edu/content/county-offices.

This informational meeting is sponsored by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and North Central Risk Management Education Center.

New Tools Available to Calculate Projected Payments Granted by 2014 Farm Bill

Three new resources have been developed by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach to help Iowa corn and soybean producers calculate Agricultural Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage payments for the 2014 and 2015 crop years. Posted on Ag Decision Maker, these tools will help farmers who enroll in these programs from the 2014 Farm Bill calculate the amount of the government payment if prices and/or county revenues are down.

“Both the Agricultural Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage payments depend on the marketing year average or MYA prices for commodities such as barley, corn, grain sorghum, oats, soybeans and wheat.” said Alejandro Plastina, assistant professor and extension economics specialist with Iowa State University.

For corn and soybeans, the official 2014 MYA price will be announced by USDA in early September 2015. Until then, the actual amount of these payments will be unknown,” Plastina said. “However, using county yields and price projections published by USDA, these payments for the 2014 and 2015 crop years can be reasonably projected by the new calculation tools.” The projected prices used in the ARC/PLC payment calculators will be updated monthly.

The Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC-CO) program is based on county revenues and acts like a type of insurance for crop producers. When yields fall below a certain level, farmers who have selected this coverage, are paid the slight difference.

Price Loss Coverage (PLC) payments offer protection when the actual crop price drops below its ‘reference price’ for that commodity set in the 2014 Farm Bill. PLC payments occur if the MYA price is lower than the reference price: \$3.70 per bushel of corn, and \$8.40 per bushel of soybeans.

“If ARC/PLC payments are triggered for the 2014 crop year, they will be issued after the end of the marketing year when USDA announces the official MYA price, but not before Oct. 1, 2015,” said Plastina. “The 2015 crop year ARC/PLC payments won’t be verified until the fall of 2016.”

For details on the calculation tools, USDA base acres and program payment yields, see the online Ag Decision Maker articles *New ARC-CO and PLC Spreadsheets Calculate Projected Payments* and *New Safety Net: PLC, ARC-CO, ARC-IC*.

To download the new spreadsheet tools PLC Payment Calculator, ARC-CO 2014 Payment Calculator and ARC-CO 2015 Payment Calculator, go to the complete list of Decision Tools on the Ag Decision Maker website. In order to use the calculators, your computer will need to have Microsoft Office Suite and the Excel program.

Yard and Garden: Growing Potatoes

The potato is one of the most important vegetable crops in the world and a popular plant in any home garden. However, there's a lot to know about growing and storing potatoes properly. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists have some tips on how to grow and store potatoes.

To have additional questions answered, contact ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or at hortline@iastate.edu.

When should I harvest potatoes? Potatoes can be harvested when the tubers are small and immature, known as “new” potatoes, or when the crop is fully mature. “New” potatoes are dug when the plants are still green and the tubers are greater than one inch in diameter. “New” potatoes should be used immediately as they do not store well.

Potatoes grown for storage should be harvested after the vines have died and the crop is mature. To check crop maturity, dig up one or two hills



after the plants have died. If the skins on the tubers are thin and rub off easily, the crop is not fully mature. Allow the crop to mature for several more days before harvesting the potatoes. When harvesting potatoes, it is best to avoid bruising, skinning or cutting the tubers. Damaged potatoes should be used as soon as possible.

Before placing the potatoes in storage, cure the tubers at a temperature of 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit and high relative humidity, about 85 to 90 percent, for two weeks. The curing period allows minor cuts and bruises to heal. Thickening of the skin also occurs during the curing process.

Once cured, store potatoes at a temperature of 40 F and relative humidity of 90 to 95 percent.

Why are my potatoes knobby? Fluctuations in soil moisture levels during tuber development may cause knobby potatoes. Watering on a regular basis, about once a week, during dry periods will help prevent this problem.

There are white, raised spots on my potatoes. Why? The white, raised spots on your potatoes are probably swollen lenticels due to wet soil conditions. Potato tubers are enlarged underground stems. Lenticels are small openings in the tuber surface that allow for gas exchange. Saturated soils may cause the lenticels to swell as gas exchange is impeded. Affected potatoes may not store as long as normal, but are

perfectly safe to eat.

Why are some of my potato tubers green? The potato tubers were likely exposed to light, either in the garden or storage. The skin on tubers exposed to light turns green due to the formation of chlorophyll. The chlorophyll itself is not a problem. However, higher levels of glycoalkaloids also develop in the green tissue. Green tubers have a bitter taste when eaten. They may also cause an upset stomach and more serious health problems.

Tubers with small green areas can be safely eaten if the green portions are cut off and discarded. It would be best to discard potatoes that are largely green.

When growing potatoes in the garden, hill soil around the base of the potato plants to prevent the tubers from being exposed to light. After harvesting, store potatoes in a dark location.

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July 28, 2015

The Utility Board of Trustees of Laurens, Iowa met in regular session at the Municipal Building, 272 N. Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, at 11:30 a.m. on the above date. Present were Trustees Richard Main, Ben Storms and Jerry Runneberg. Also present was Chad Cleveland, Terry Latham of Laurens State Bank and Aaron Olson of T.P. Anderson & Company, P.C.

The agenda for the July 28, 2015 meeting stands approved as presented.

Terry Latham discussed different ideas of investing our debt service reserve fund for longer terms than our normal 6 month and 12 month CDs. No specific action was taken.

Aaron Olson of T.P. Anderson & Company went over the 2014 Draft Audit with the Board of Trustees. The Board reviewed the financial statements, budgetary comparisons, schedules of operating revenues and expenses and the schedule of findings. Mrs. Olson informed the Board once her firm receives a signed management representation letter from the Utilities, they will issue the final audit. No specific action was taken.

The minutes of the June 30, 2015 meeting stand approved as presented.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve the list of bills for June, 2015 in the amount of \$326,940.09. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A & M Laundry	Floor Mats & Mop	\$	52.64
Advanced Control Systems	Annual SCADA Support	\$	4,737.96
AFLAC	Insurance Premiums	\$	454.80
Alliant Energy	Natural Gas	\$	178.74
Amaril Uniform Company	Hi Vis Shirts	\$	412.19
Aramark	Floor Mats & Mop	\$	194.02
Avesis Third Party Administrators	Insurance Premiums	\$	93.30
Big 10 Network	Programming Fees	\$	652.00
Biorn Corporation	Collection Services	\$	16.20
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Insurance Premiums	\$	9,018.09
Border States Electric	Transformer & Supplies	\$	3,318.09
Buena Vista Stationery	Supplies	\$	108.58
Century Business Products	Supplies	\$	115.16
Century Link	Directory Listings	\$	29.64
Century Link	Transport Fees	\$	656.12
Cleveland, Chad	Travel Expenses	\$	378.94
Consortia Consulting	Consulting Fees	\$	1,590.00
Contractor Solutions	Air Monitor Calibration	\$	62.50
Department of Energy	WAPA Energy Bill	\$	33,510.46
DGR Engineering	Engineering Fees	\$	1,338.70
Eagle Comtronics	High Frequency Filter	\$	902.84
Echo Group	Supplies	\$	868.49
Employee Benefit Systems	Insurance Self-Funding	\$	30.00
Fox Sports North	Programming Fees	\$	1,708.00
Grainger	Supplies	\$	95.44
Hearst Television	Programming Fees	\$	858.69
Henningsen, Kevin	Travel Expenses	\$	88.55
Hjerleid, Gavin	Refund	\$	344.17
Horse Tech, Inc.	Shipping Fees	\$	6.96
ICMA Retirement Trust	Employee Contributions	\$	2,000.00
Insight Public Sector, Inc.	Annual VMware Support	\$	297.00
Internal Revenue Service	Federal/FICA Taxes	\$	7,736.96
Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities	IUB Energy Efficiency Filing	\$	400.00
Iowa Network Services	Communication Services	\$	330.46
Iowa Public Employees Retirement System	IPERS Withholding	\$	4,630.25
Treasurer, State of Iowa	Withholding Tax	\$	1,388.00
Treasurer, State of Iowa	Sales Tax	\$	6,959.00

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J T Services	Locating Paint	\$	2,620.28
KTIV – TV	Programming Fees	\$	719.10
Laurens, City of	June Billing	\$	82,957.95
Laurens, City of	CATV Franchise Fees	\$	14,751.89
Laurens Food Pride	Supplies	\$	20.23
Laurens House of Print	Supplies	\$	314.28
Laurens Municipal Power & Communications	Communications Bill/Postage	\$	241.22
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Conservation/Refunds	\$	3,168.39
Laurens Municipal Utilities	Utilities	\$	95.59
Laurens Plumbing/Hwy 10 Hardware	Supplies	\$	291.02
Laurens Sun	Publications	\$	76.99
Long Lines	Communication Services	\$	4,332.27
Maddox, William & Ruth	Refund	\$	4.14
Messenger	Advertising	\$	93.00
Mid American Energy	Neal 4 Operations	\$	66,000.00
Music Choice	Programming Fees	\$	95.37
National Cable Television Cooperative	Programming Fees/Supplies	\$	14,900.09
National Child Safety Council	Advertising	\$	242.00
NENA – CID	Annual E911 Fees	\$	250.00
Newgard Auto Parts & Supply	Supplies	\$	67.81
Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc.	Programming Fees	\$	1,565.10
North American Numbering Plan	Annual Dues	\$	25.00
Northwest Communications Network	Transport Fees	\$	1,445.12
Oehlerich, Michelle	Refund	\$	26.73
Payroll	Salaried, Hourly & Overtime	\$	21,057.81
Performance Car & Truck	Dump Box Trailer	\$	6,810.00
Pioneer Teletechnologies	Internet Fees	\$	3,386.00
PLIC – SBD Grand Island	Insurance Premiums	\$	576.21
Pocahontas Community Hospital	Testing	\$	196.00
POP Media Networks	Programming Fees	\$	593.99
Post Master	Postage	\$	500.76
Prins, Reid	Travel Expenses	\$	83.93
Pro Cooperative	Fuel	\$	912.55
RFD TV	Programming Fees	\$	10.96
Rovi Guides	Programming Fees	\$	592.09
Secure Shred Solutions	Paper Shredding	\$	24.00
Siepkner Auto Repair	Vehicle Repairs	\$	103.49
Spencer Municipal Utilities	Programming/Transport Fees	\$	1,782.51
Stuart C. Irby Company	Supplies	\$	354.57
T.P. Anderson & Company	Audit Fees	\$	7,180.00
Tower Distribution Company	Programming Fees	\$	823.10
Verizon Wireless	Wireless Service	\$	267.45
Webb Wireless	Relamp Tower	\$	555.00
Zcorum	Internet Fees	\$	1,263.16
	Total	\$	326,940.09

The Trustees reviewed the Utility Funds Report. Motion by Trustee Runneberg and seconded by Trustee Storms to have the Investment Committee reinvest CD #70295 upon maturity. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Trustee Storms and seconded by Trustee Runneberg to approve and sign the proposed Contract No. 12-UGPR-1086 and the proposed Assignment Contract No. 14-UGPR-38 from Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). The extension would furnish firm electric service to Laurens from WAPA through the year 2050. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion and vote, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Richard Main
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST: Chad Cleveland
Secretary, Board of Trustees