

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 11 No. 24

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October 11,
2017

Local News

Hometown Pride Groups Celebrate 5th Anniversary



The Hometown Pride anniversary celebration took to the road on Saturday, September 30 with a bus tour featuring community betterment projects in each community of Pocahontas County. About 30 people boarded the bus after a festive lunch in Elbert Park. A short program followed lunch with greetings from our Hometown Pride Coach, Margo Underwood; Bill Jackson, Associate Director of Keep Iowa Beautiful; Tom Grau, Pocahontas County Economic Development Director; Clarence Siepker, Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors; and Glenda Mulder, Pocahontas County Foundation board member. Each congratulated the nine communities on their dedication and determination to improve their hometowns. Bill Jackson and Margo Underwood explained the process of developing the Keep Iowa Beautiful Hometown Pride model. Pocahontas County was the first area to implement this system of community improvement using grant

monies from their County Foundation. Other funding sources were: received funding from the County Foundation, Build With Bags, Alliant Energy, Black Hills Energy, Mid-American Energy, Paint Iowa Beautiful (Diamond Vogel), Keep Iowa Beautiful, REAP, Iowa Living Roadways and Community Visioning, Northwest Communications, Yo-Ho Tools, and ProCoop. Over the program's first five years, more than \$790,000 has been awarded to the nine communities in the form of grants. The grants had been written by local Hometown Pride committee members, and the work carried out by volunteers in each community.

The bus tour stopped in each of the nine communities that are involved in the Hometown Pride program. Tour guides in each community showcased each of their achievements: Havelock – Amanda Tripp explained the city park and main street projects; Fonda – Alex Leu noted the projects in city park, North Park, Straight Park, and the school memorial site; Rolfe – Glenn Markley described the projects in Sunset Ridge Park, Three Rivers Trailhead, the city pool and tree plantings; Gilmore City – Lavonne Hoover highlighted the projects on Main Street, City Hall, and Sunset Park; Palmer – Jackie Conklin described the efforts in Panther Park, the baseball field, and entrance signage; Varina – Margo summarized the projects in City Park (benches, picnic tables, fence and playground equipment); Plover – Margo noted the improvements in their city park and library/city hall; Laurens – Kelly Gordon featured the Triangle Park, City Park, City Hall, Rain Garden, Sportsman's Park, signage, and trails system; and Pocahontas – Dick Gruber explained the developments in Princess Park, Gateway Park, Elbert Park, and the Highway 3 Corridor. The riders of the bus were especially impressed with the large sized murals which were painted by community folk and high school students. These are displayed in Havelock, Varina, Fonda, and Pocahontas.

The bus tour was organized by the committee composed of Gary Vrba, Margo Underwood, Gretchen Tiedeman, and Helen Beneke. Dick Gruber provided county historical information throughout the tour. The bus was furnished by the Albert City Evangelical Free Church and was driven by Reid Prins. The Pocahontas Rotary Club and the PAC High School Interact Club served the lunch. The fifth anniversary of the Hometown Pride program marks many achievements in each community. But they aren't done yet - to be continued.

GoServ Global Focuses Hurricane Matthew Relief Efforts on Safe T Homes® in Haiti

It's been one year since Category 4 Hurricane Matthew devastated Haiti where Iowa-based GoServ Global rescues the vulnerable – orphans, widows, abandoned babies, displaced families, etc. Harvey and Irma remind us how devastating hurricanes can be. (GoServ Global is raising funds for Houston and plans to send teams there.)

Hurricane Matthew damaged nearly every home in the area, yet 100% of the 200 Safe T Homes®, engineered by Sukup Manufacturing, withstood the 145 mph winds!

This past year, GoServ Global



Suzanne rejoices as she receives a Safe T Home after her home was destroyed in Hurricane Matthew.

focused relief efforts on housing, building an additional 60 Safe T Homes® in Haiti with more on the way, focusing on the most needy including orphanages and communities like La Brise that were totally wiped out by the hurricane.

“Because Haiti is a country of natural disasters, people have in their minds that their homes are temporary,” shared Eddy Constant, GoServ Global’s Haiti Director. “But, the Safe T Home has changed the mindset of the people, so not only are they living in safe homes, they are also living with peace inside of them.”

GoServ Global employed dozens of Haitians who built the homes, working alongside several GoServ Global mission teams. Thirty-three teams served in Haiti this past year.

“There aren’t words to describe the gratitude of those receiving homes,” shared GoServ Global Co-Founder Ken DeYoung. “After building Maria’s house, she was so grateful that she walked all the way to our house to give us a fish as a thank you. It was all she had.”

In addition to building Safe T Homes, here is a sample of some of the ways



Thanks to a new well, children at Bethel Orphanage no longer have to cross a busy road to fetch water.

GoServ Global utilized donations ...

- Built new homes/helped with home repairs for many staff members and Centre de Vie Church members (where 95 out of 108 families lost homes)
- Built a dining center/kitchen, bathroom facility, a security wall, and dig wells at several orphanages
- Purchased land at Village of Hope to build 10 Safe T Homes
- Rebuild 6 gazebos and solar systems at GoServ Global Orphanages
- Purchased large quantities of building supplies
- Covered shipping costs for homes and supplies

Altogether GoServ Global raised \$622,000 with 100% going toward hurricane relief. Yet, the needs are still great.

The community of Les Angles, located on the southwest end of Haiti, was hard hit as their traditional homes weren’t sturdy to begin with. This community has not had much

...continued to page 3...

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help in the past year. Fifty Safe T Homes would make a huge difference in this community.

In addition, security has become a big issue since the hurricane. Security fences are still needed for the Joshua House and James 1:27 Orphanages.

Originally GoServ Global's goal was to raise \$1 million. Thanks to the generosity of GoServ Global donors, just \$378,000 more is needed.

Each Safe T Home® costs \$5,700 to purchase from Sukup Manufacturing, \$1,000 to ship, and \$300 for concrete for a total of \$7,000 to get the home from Sheffield, Iowa to Les Cayes, Haiti, built.

To contribute to the relief efforts in Haiti, visit goservglobal.org/give

Donations may also be sent to: GoServ Global, PO Box 193, Eagle Grove, IA 50533. Write "Hurricane Relief" in the memo line.

Learn about the impact of the Safe T Home during Hurricane Matthew and beyond from GoServ Global Haiti Director Eddy Constant at: <https://youtu.be/AmVi2cfun5E>



GoServ Global built 4 Safe T Homes at Bethel Orphanage after the traditional-style building was destroyed in Hurricane Matthew (picture seen underneath new Safe T Home picture). In addition, GoServ Global built a kitchen, bathroom facilities, a gazebo, and dug a well.



Start your weekend off with supper at the Club on Friday night, October 13th! Weekly Special or you may order off the full menu! The club is open Monday-Friday for lunch from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Limited lunch menu and to go ordering available.



Bridal Shower

There will be a bridal shower for Stefanie Williams, bride elect of Jarrod Reese on Friday, October 13 at 6:00 p.m. at Mandy Reese's home: 221 Austin St, Laurens, IA.

The couple is registered at Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond

Laurens Women's Club to Meet

The Laurens Women's Club will meet Friday, October 13 at 1:30 p.m. at The Homestead Cooperative of Laurens. The program will be "A SURPRISE" presented by Connie Dallenbach and Dorothy Lamberti. Members of the serving committee will be Lois Jirgens, Carol Hoffman and Rita Cordell.

2017 Kid's Korner Fundraiser



621B—22" Premium Mixed Wreath
w/ Bow and Pinecones—**\$25**



660—25' Balsam Garland (Outdoor) - **\$35**



627-S—Noble Fir Cross
Approx 30" x 24" - **\$30**



680-5—2'-3- Canadian
Spruce Top—5 ct.— **\$15**



624B—12" Basket Centerpiece
w/ Pinecones, Berries & Bow—**\$24**



700-C
Cinnamon Pinecones
10ct in Mesh Bag
\$8



Mixed Wreath w/ Bow,
Pinecones & Berries

658—36" - **\$45**

648M—48" - **\$75**

673M—60" - **\$95**

672M—72" - **\$125**



623B
Mixed Evergreen Swag
w/ Bow & Pinecones
\$13

E-27B
Wreath/Cross Stand
\$5

All greens are brought to you by Heart 'n Home
Pick up / Delivery will be the week of Thanksgiving
All checks made out to Kid's Korner

Cuba Presentation at the Library

Those who came to her program at the Laurens Public Library got to live vicariously through Katie Wilford, as she told of her travels in Cuba this past summer. As she shared her souvenirs and pictures, Katie described her experiences. Katie has such a fun way, it made us feel as if we were there with her.



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Pocahontas County Democrat Fundraiser

October 28, 2017

Laurens Golf Course Clubhouse

5:00pm – Social Hour

6:00pm – Dinner

7:00pm – Guest Speakers

Candidates for Iowa's 4th
Congressional District

8:00pm – Auction

Items: Antiques, Collectables,
Baked Goods, Hand-made Items
Patriotic Bed Quilt



**For reservations call:
Sherry Williams, 335 - 4621**

This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Pastor Scott Baker

Wednesday: October 11, 2017
7:00 PM ~ Council Mtg.

Sunday: October 15, 2017
19th Sunday after Pentecost

9:15 AM ~ Adult SS
9:30 AM ~ Youth SS
9:30 AM ~ Coffee Fellowship
10:30 AM ~ Worship w/Communion
6:00-8:00 PM ~ Laurens Area Youth
Group (HS) at FCC

Thursday: October 19, 2017
9:00 AM ~ Morning Circle at Pat
Boughey's home



Bethany
LUTHERAN CHURCH
North American Lutheran Church

This Week at First Christian Church

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Wednesday, Oct. 11
7:30 p.m. - Lydia Group

Friday, Oct. 13
7:00 p.m. - AA

Sunday, Oct. 15
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Worship
6-8 p.m. - High School Youth Group at
First Christian

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Fri., Oct. 13th:
Men's Bible Study @ 7 am

Sun., Oct. 15th:
Adult Sunday School @ 9 a.m.
Sunday School (kids & youth) @ 9:10 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.
Worship @ 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group (HS) from 6-8 p.m. at First
Christian Church
Choir practice @ 7 p.m.

Wed., Oct. 18th:
Caring Cards @ 6 p.m. at the library
Finance Committee @ 7 p.m.
Administrative Council @ 8:15 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 19:
Rachel Circle @ 9:15 am
Dorcas Circle @ 2 p.m.



LAURENS AREA YOUTH GROUP

OCTOBER SCHEDULE

OCTOBER LOCATION: FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

420 WEST SECTION LINE ROAD (NORTH OF THE LIBRARY) - LAURENS
OCTOBER 1ST MOVIE & PIZZA ALL YOUTH 6TH -12TH GRADE

OCTOBER 8TH - JUNIOR HIGH

OCTOBER 15TH - HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 22ND - JUNIOR HIGH

OCTOBER 29TH - HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 31ST TRUNK OR TREAT

METHODIST CHURCH - 4:30-6 P.M.

Youth Group meetings are from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday
evenings. All youth 6th to 12th grade are invited to attend.

QUESTIONS CALL: ANGELA CHRISTENSON--712-450-0295

Submit . . .

Submit. . . 100% of The Paper's articles
are submitted by you -
The Reader!! Take a
minute to send us
your news and photos
too! **It's fun and it's
FREE!**



Services Held for Warren Lee Wilson

Warren Lee Wilson of Warrenton, Virginia, passed away from complications of a stroke on September 7, 2017 at the age of 58.

Warren was born in Spencer, Iowa on January 22, 1959. He was the son of Warren Lincoln and Rosaleen Marie (Caffrey) Wilson of Laurens, Iowa.

He grew up in Laurens and graduated from Laurens-Marathon High School in 1977. During his school years, Warren was active in baseball, football, basketball, and wrestling as well as vocal and instrumental music.

Following high school, Warren attended the University of Iowa for one semester. He then moved to Oregon and worked in the construction field. Warren relocated to Virginia in 1980 and continued to work in construction there.

Warren married JoAnne Comegys in April, 1988 and they had a son, Joseph Lincoln.

Warren was a kind-hearted, gentle man. He enjoyed helping others whenever he could. He was a skilled carpenter, and an avid fisherman. He loved to spend time outdoors.

Warren is survived by his wife JoAnne Comegys-Wilson, son Joseph Wilson, and grandson Dylan of

Warrenton, Virginia, brother Steve (Linda) of Mankato, Minnesota, sister Patricia, brother Mark (Elizabeth), and sister Valerie (Guy) all of Sarasota, Florida, as well as many nieces and nephews on both sides of the family.

Warren is preceded in death by his parents, Warren and Rosaleen Wilson and brother-in-law George LaVigne.

The family of Warren Lee Wilson wishes to thank Fauquier County Hospital and Hospice Support of Fauquier, who took excellent care of Warren during his transition to eternal life.



Marathon Fire Department Pancake Breakfast

*Join us for our annual harvest
breakfast! Come hungry, leave FULL!*



Sunday, October 15th

Serving from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

*Free Will
Donation*



Healthy Holiday Feasting Program at the Albert City Public Library

Mary Meloy, BVRMC Dietitian, will be speaking on “Healthy Holiday Feasting” at the Albert City Public Library Thursday, October 19th, at 7 p.m. In this day and age of highly processed foods and continuing over indulging during the holidays, Mary will present a healthier way of “taming the tummy”, and teach us a healthier, balanced, nutritional lifestyle.

Mary Meloy, MA, RD/LD is a nutritional expert. Besides being a dietitian for Buena Vista Regional Medical Center, Mary is also self-employed. She owns Body of Wisdom, where she offers, nutritional care, weight management, yoga and energy movement, environmental health, and integrative healthcare.

You won't want to miss this informational evening! Call your friends and plan to meet Mary Meloy at the Albert City Public Library. Refreshments will be served after the program.



Our Town Our Paper!

At the Library with Glenda Mulder October 11, 2017

PANCAKES! Because you all know I love pancakes almost as much as I love not cooking! Make plans to join us for pancakes October 19th. The Kiwanis will again be flipping their famous pancakes. All proceeds go to the Library Foundation to continue our fun projects, and start that new one – the Music Garden! In case you haven't heard, we are working on a plan to install 6 large musical instruments to the south of the Library. Freenotes instruments are designed to encourage interactive and multigenerational play. There are no wrong notes; I don't know how they do this, but it's magical! Our selection includes drums, chimes that range in height from 7 to 9 feet, a couple which look like xylophones and Lilypad cymbals. It's this Lilypad that I'm most excited about this week. I contacted the salesman, and told him about our upcoming fundraiser. He informed me they would ship us a Lilypad so we could display it at the pancake supper and we could all try our hands at it! So come, eat pancakes and give the Lily pad a try! We'll also have information available about the rest of the instruments we have selected. Did I tell you how wonderfully this is going to tie in with the 2018 Summer Reading musical theme, “Libraries Rock!”?

Ongoing Library Foundation projects include: CD audiobooks, children's e-book subscription, Preschool Outreach Baskets, Summer Reading supplies, books & program, and Adult Programs. The Foundation also purchases many memorial books for the library, as specified by their friends and family.

Our October Book Club choice is “*One Hundred Years of Solitude*” by Gabriel García Márquez. This book is on so many Best Books and Must Read lists, we just had to give it a try. It is said that this multi-generational story of the Buendía family ushered in the literary interest in Latin America during the late 1960's. We have copies available, so grab one and join our discussion on Monday, October 23 at 7 pm.

COMING EVENTS

- Library Foundation's Pancake Supper 5-7 p.m. October 19
- Magician Larry Dunbar 7 p.m. October 31st (of course!)
- Death Comes for Us All (Victorian death and funeral practices) – 7 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1st
 - Tot Time Every Monday at 10 a.m.
 - Take it Tuesday - 1st Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
- Open Scrapbooking – 4th Tuesday (this month only) 5-8 p.m.
- Card Making – 3rd Tuesday (this month only) at 6:30 p.m.
 - Book Club 4th Monday at 7 p.m.

2017 Sac County Quilt-A-Fair = An Outstanding Success

Best. Show. Ever. Those words were repeated often by visitors at the 2017 Sac County Quilt-A-Fair on September 23 -24. The weather was beautiful. The quilts were amazing. The Quilt of Valor presentation was spectacular and moving. The crowds were large and appreciative. Everyone worked together to make this year's event one of the best since the show began in 2007.

People came from coasts, as well as the north and south borders of the country to attend the Quilt-A-Fair. Visitors from California, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas and Minnesota, as well as many other states in between, marked a map to indicate where they came from. Although most Iowans that come to the show are from the northwest quadrant of the state, at least 1/3 of Iowa's counties were represented at the Quilt-A-Fair.

After volunteers worked all week to prepare the Sac County Fair Grounds for the big show, it was gratifying to see the crowd start to arrive. Some of the first visitors on the grounds Saturday morning were the participants in the Sac County Barn Quilt Tractor Ride. 63 tractors were registered for the ride, which meandered through Sac County and included a visit to Rustic River Winery North of Lake View. After they returned to Sac City, the vintage tractors were parked on Main Street as the drivers enjoyed a great lunch at the Sac County Cattle Company restaurant. Key volunteers for the tractor ride were Neil and Anita Mason, Gene and Sandi Weitzel, and Jerry and Cathy Staton. They expressed great appreciation for the support from the tractor ride sponsors.

On Sunday, the classic cars and trucks arrived for the car show. By noon, 48 vehicles were registered for the show. "Bud and Joan Vote, Ron Whipkey and Marlene Lents, and Ted and Linda Schulte did an outstanding job of coordinating plans for and promoting the Quilt-A-Fair car show," said Susan Irwin, the 2017 Show Coordinator.

The trophy winners are: Pre-1940: 1st – Ron Ehrp, Ford; 1951 through 1960: 1st - Bud Vote, Chevy; 2nd – Steve Bode, Chevy Bel Air; 1961 through 1970: 1st – Paul Boisen, Chevelle; 2nd - Randy Schulte, Chevelle; 1971 through 1980: 1st – Tim Renze, Plymouth Barracuda; 2nd - Ken Lange, Chevelle SS; 1981 through 2017: 1st – Ron Sutton Dodge Super Bee; 2nd – David Hansen Ford Mustang; All Corvettes: 1st AND Best of Show – Ron Whipke; 2nd – Merlin Arnold; 1900 through 1950 Trucks: 1st – Neal Johnson, Dodge Power Wagon; 1951 through 2017 Trucks: John Staples, Chevy Apache 10; 2nd Tiffany & Rod McClurg, Chevy Apache.

The food vendors served the crowd well on both days with great sandwiches, cold drinks, cinnamon rolls, tasty pies, ice cream and coffee. The Kiwanis served from their stand near the grandstand, Sizzling J from Holstein served out of a mobile trailer, and TJ's and Sam's Coffee Bar served on the patio of the 4-H building.

"We have worked hard to make the Sac County Quilt-A-Fair a family-friendly event", said Susan. "The tractor ride, car show and food vendors really complement the two buildings full of beautiful quilts". This year, there were 294 quilts entered and more than 20 quilts were used as decorations and props. There were quilts of every size, age and color beautifully displayed with some lovely antiques owned by the committee members. The featured speaker, Ami Simms, drew standing-room only crowds during her lectures entitled "How Not to Make a Prize Winning Quilt" on Saturday and "Living with Quilts-A Survival Guide" on Sunday. Visitors who were interested in learning some new quilting techniques had many opportunities, as 9 different demonstrations were presented on the stage as well as in the 18 vendor booths during the two-day event. The nineteenth vendor offered the service of scissors sharpening during the show.

The grand finale of the 2017 Quilt-A-Fair was the Quilt of Valor presentation on Sunday. Thirteen Veterans from WWII, Vietnam, and Korea received a quilt, made by members of the Quilt-A-Fair planning committee, and a certificate from the Quilt of Valor Foundation. American Legion members across the county carried all the flags for the ceremony, William Dreeszen from Odebolt led the Pledge of Allegiance and coordinated the color guard. The coach and members of the Sac City boy's baseball team helped with seating and assisting individuals on and off the stage. Laurie Kluver, Sac County Veterans Affairs, Director helped the planning committee and gave closing remarks. Peggy Dettmann, former Veterans Affairs director, assisted with welcoming and seating recipients and their families. Kelly Kilbride, a Sac City native and member of Bugles Across America, played "Retreat" on her trumpet for the flag recession. Wa-Tan-Ye women graciously hosted a reception for the recipients, their friends and family following the ceremony.

The Sac County Quilt-A-Fair crowd was estimated at 1300 for all the various events. Many more volunteers helped with preparing the two buildings on the fairgrounds, setting up the structure to display the quilts, and tearing it down after the show. The Sac County Quilt-A-Fair was organized by a large group of county quilters, who took responsibility for all aspects of the show, from entry to take down. Representatives from the Sac County Fair Board, as well as other volunteers, helped with both set-up and tear-down of the quilt structure. Dale Murley was the go-to person on the Sac County Fair Board and did an outstanding job of working with the group to keep everything clean, safe and secure during the show. "We heard many comments from both visitors and vendors that the Sac County Quilt-A-Fair is one of the best quilt shows around," said Irwin. "We do our best to showcase our county, our communities and our quilted works of art. Proceeds from this event also help us continue to keep the Sac County Barn Quilts looking good, with appropriate signage."

The Sac County Quilt-A-Fair would not be an ongoing, huge success if not for the many generous businesses and individuals throughout the county who donate gifts, funds, time and talent for this event. The Planning Committee would like to thank each and every one of you for all you have done to contribute to the entire weekend's success and look forward to working together in the future!

Aquatic, Forest and Right-of-Way Continuing Instruction Course is Oct. 18

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County office will host an Aquatic, Forest and Right-of-Way Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2017. The program provided by the ISU Extension and Outreach Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) can be seen at office locations across Iowa.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the course runs from 9 to 11 a.m. To register or to obtain additional information about the CIC, contact Dianne Dirks at the ISU Extension and Outreach office in Pocahontas County by phoning 712-335-3103 or email dianned@iastate.edu.

The course will provide continuing instruction credits for commercial and public pesticide applicators certified in categories 2 (Forest Pest Control), 5 (Aquatic Pest Control), 6 (Right-of-Way Pest Control), and 10 (Research and Demonstration). Topics to be covered are: safe handling and storage of pesticides; laws and regulations; personal protective equipment; lotus and purple loosestrife control; updates on bur oak blight and emerald ash borer; and managing Japanese stiltgrass. Additional information and registration forms for this and other courses offered through the PSEP Program can be accessed at www.extension.iastate.edu/PSEP.

Women, Land, and Legacy Pocahontas and Buena Vista Counties

Women, Land, and Legacy Pocahontas and Buena Vista Counties will be holding a Learning Session on “Top 10 when Margins are Tight”. The discussion will focus on key decisions when facing current Ag markets. ISU Extension and Outreach Specialist, Gary Wright, will be presenting on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 6:00pm at West Iowa Bank Meeting Room (202 W Main St. Laurens). To register, please contact Holly Frerk at 712-335-3103 or email hferk@iastate.edu.

Garden Calendar Celebrates Plants Associated with Holidays & Special Events

With decorated trees on Christmas, roses on Valentine’s Day or jack-o’-lanterns on Halloween, plants are at the center of many holiday gatherings and special events. The 2018 Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Garden Calendar highlights these plants surrounding beloved celebrations.

The 2018 Garden Calendar is titled “Celebrating with Plants” and features striking holiday-inspired imagery and stories behind today’s traditions.

“We chose celebrations that have strong ties to plants,” said Richard Jauron, horticulture specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach.

Each month highlights a different tradition or celebration that has plants as a centerpiece.

“Some months were a bit difficult – September, for example – but high school and college football is big in the fall and most play on natural grass fields, so we thought there was a good connection between those sporting events and the surface they are played on,” said Jauron.

“We tried to find those connections each month and highlight the plants that make them so special.”

The large calendar grid also offers space to create a gardening journal to record the progress of your own garden. There are monthly tips that provide timely information for fruits and vegetables, lawn care, trees and shrubs and much more. Whether it be flowers, fruits, vegetables, trees or turfgrass, this annual calendar provides tips on a variety of topics so you can easily know what task should be completed next in your garden.

While the calendar has included gardening tips in the past, Jauron said the 2018 edition tried to provide additional details.

“For each month we have three or four tips that provide readers with information on different garden tasks,” Jauron said. “We wanted to provide additional material this year that might not have been included in the past.”

To purchase your calendar, stop by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Pocahontas County office in Pocahontas.

Help Children Cope with Frightening News

Coping with a frightening event in the news or a natural disaster can be difficult for children and their families, says Lori Hayungs, a human science specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Children may have many different reactions. “Children may become upset or cry easily, get angry or act out, become restless or have difficulty paying attention,” said Hayungs, who specializes in family life issues. “Some children may be quiet and withdrawn, while others can’t stop talking about the experience.”

Changes in children’s behavior may be signs or symptoms of distress or discomfort following a disaster they’ve experienced, such as recent hurricanes, or things they’ve seen on television, such as the Las Vegas shooting, Hayungs said.

Young children may feel vulnerable, Hayungs continued. “They don’t understand what is happening and have trouble communicating how they feel. Older children also may have a hard time expressing their feelings.”

After a disaster, some children may be afraid it will happen again, or become anxious when there are storms, sirens or other reminders, Hayungs said.

Such changes in behaviors are common in children who have been through a disaster, and are natural responses to stress. Some of these symptoms may last for weeks or months, but should diminish over time.

Help children cope. Parents and other caregivers can help their children

cope, Hayungs said. The specialist recommends the following actions:

Limit exposure to TV and media.

Graphic TV images and frequently repeated details of unfolding events can produce great anxiety for children. Parents should monitor their own anxiety and offer calm explanations and reassurance to children.

Speak simply and honestly about the situation. “Explain to your children what is happening to your family or what they’re seeing on TV. Use simple words they can understand and be honest,” Hayungs said. Keep children informed of a problem that will directly affect them, but limit details that will cause them to be overly concerned.

Check children’s level of understanding. Children can easily become confused and may connect a familiar experience such as a neighbor running down the street with a crisis experience. Similarly, if a crisis is happening far away, children may need help understanding that the event is not nearby. Young children sometimes think they are responsible for causing a disaster or that the disaster is some kind of punishment for something they did. Adults can explain how hurricanes, tornadoes or floods happen, and how these are unusual but natural patterns of weather.

Make time to comfort and reassure children. A one-minute chat throughout the day with a gentle hug or a reassuring word may be all children need to feel safer and more secure in an emotional situation. Because young children sometimes have difficulty understanding complex situations, they can easily exaggerate their normal fear of being separated from their parents.

Maintain routines or rituals of comfort. Dinnertime at the kitchen table or a story or a favorite teddy bear

at bedtime may provide young children with a sense of security.

Talk with children about how you feel and suggest a positive response.

Say something like, “Mommy feels very sad about the families who have lost their loved ones. That is why I am crying. Come and give Mommy a hug.” Giving children something to do makes them feel a part of the family response to the adversity.

Put words of acceptance to children’s feelings and experiences. Say something similar to “Yes Tommy. It’s OK to cry. A lot of people got hurt at the concert. But the doctors are taking care of them and helping them.” Be a good listener and supporter.

Show children models of courage, determination, coping and support. Talk about how people worked together during the crisis. Point out ways of coping, such as, “When I feel sad I think of the good times we have had and remind myself that things will be better soon.”

Involve children in the family’s efforts to prepare for or recover from a disaster. Remember to keep assigned tasks safe and age-appropriate. Let children know their efforts to help are appreciated. Pulling together through adversity will strengthen the family in ways that will last long after the crisis is resolved.

Seek professional advice if needed. “Contact your physician or mental health agency if you are worried about your child showing symptoms that are severe or lasting too long,” Hayungs said.

Resources from ISU Extension and Outreach include the Iowa Concern hotline, 1-800-447-1985, ISU Extension and Outreach county offices, and the Finding Answers Now website.

Yard and Garden: Properly Harvesting and Storing Fall Garden Produce

With fall officially here and temperatures cooling down, it's the perfect time to harvest remaining garden produce. What is the perfect timing for getting the rest of the season's bounty out of gardens and properly storing it for optimal use?

ISU Extension and Outreach horticulturists can help answer questions about how to harvest and store garden produce in fall. To have additional questions answered, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or hortline@iastate.edu.

How do I harvest and store sweet potatoes? Harvest sweet potatoes immediately before or after a vine killing frost. When harvesting sweet potatoes, dig carefully to avoid cutting or bruising the roots. After harvest, cure sweet potatoes for one week at a temperature of 80 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity of 90 to 95 percent. Curing promotes healing of minor cuts and bruises, prolonging the storage life of sweet potatoes. Curing also improves the flavor of sweet potatoes as starches are

converted to sugars during the curing process.

After curing, store sweet potatoes at a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity of 85 to 90 percent. Storage temperatures above 60 degrees Fahrenheit may stimulate sprouting. Sweet potatoes may develop an off-flavor and the flesh may become discolored when stored at temperatures below 55 degrees Fahrenheit. If properly cured and stored, sweet potatoes can be stored for four to six months.

How do I harvest and store winter squash? Harvest winter squash when the fruit are fully mature. Mature winter squash have very hard skins that are difficult to puncture with the thumbnail. Additionally, mature winter squash have dull-looking surfaces.

When harvesting winter squash, handle them carefully to avoid cuts and bruises. These injuries provide entrances for various rot-producing organisms. Cut off the fruit with pruning shears. Leave a one-inch stem on each fruit.

After harvesting, cure winter squash (except for the acorn types) at a temperature of 80 to 85 degrees Fahrenheit and a relative humidity of 80 to 85 percent. Curing helps to harden the squash skins and heal any cuts and scratches. Do not cure acorn squash. The high temperature and relative humidity during the curing

process actually reduce the quality and storage life of acorn squash.

After curing, store winter squash in a cool, dry, well-ventilated location. Storage temperatures should be 50 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not store squash near apples, pears, or other ripening fruit. Ripening fruit release ethylene gas, which shortens the storage life of squash.

When properly cured and stored, the storage lives of acorn, butternut, and hubbard squash are approximately five to eight weeks, two to three months, and five to six months, respectively.

How do I ripen green tomatoes indoors? Just before the first frost, remove all mature, light green fruit from the vines. (Immature, dark green tomatoes will not ripen off the vine.) They should be solid, firm, and free of defects. Remove the stems, then wash and dry the fruit.

Tomatoes that are starting to turn color (have a pink blush) can be placed on the kitchen counter or a shelf to ripen. Individually wrap tomatoes that are completely green in a piece of newspaper. Place the wrapped tomatoes in a single layer in a box and store in a cool (60 to 70 degree Fahrenheit) location. Inspect the tomatoes frequently and discard any which show signs of decay. When the tomatoes begin to color, remove the newspaper and place the tomatoes on a countertop or shelf to ripen fully.

City Council Minutes

October 2nd, 2017

The Laurens City Council met in regular session at the Municipal Building at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 2nd, 2017. Mayor Rod Johnson called the meeting to order. Present were Council members Jean Swanson, Pat Sullivan, Rich Newgard, Sid Enockson, Julie Potter, City Attorney Ann Beneke, City Manager Hilary Reed, Public Works Director Julian Johnsen, and Police Chief Tom Shaw.

Sullivan moved to approve the presented consent agenda with the removal of item number three, minutes from the September 18th, 2017, meeting, and the list of claims. Swanson seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

CLAIMS 10-2-17

ACCO	CHEMICALS	638.48
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS UTILITIES	63.81
ALPHA WIRELESS	PAGER BATTERY PACK	1,235.00
B&K EMBROIDERY	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	17.50
BADGER METER	SOFTWARE	1,207.56
BOLTON & MENK	W MAIN/BISSELL	1,107.50
BOMGAARS	STREET SUPPLIES	429.91
CARPENTER UNIFORM	UNIFORMS	980.53
DELTA DENTAL	OCT DENTAL INSURANCE	718.44
HANCOCK CONCRETE PRODUCTS	CONCRETE BLOCK STORM SEWER	1,829.10
ICMA	RETIREMENT 457	350.00
IRS	FED/FICA TAX	5,149.32
IA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACAD	ACADEMY EXPENSEIPERS	600.00
IPERS	IPERS	4,611.58
IPERS PD	PROTECTED IPERS	2,054.38
LMPC	PHONE FEES	417.00
LMU	UTILITIES	5,787.72
LAURENS SUN	LEGALS	122.20
MENARDS	STREET SUPPLIES	29.11
MIDWEST BREATHING AIR LLC	AIR KITS	475.89
POCAHONTAS CO. TREASURER	STREET & ALLEY	2,675.84
PRIME BENEFITIS SYSTEMS	GROUP INSURANCE	4,605.00
SANTANDER LEASING LLC	PUMPER PAYMENT	1,461.34
SHERWIN WILLIAMS #3917	MEMORY LANE STAIN	343.04
SIOUX CITY WATER TREATMENT	MEETING	45.00
SPENCER DALE	MEALS FOR ACADEMY	360.00
STAPLES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	87.28
TREASURER STATE OF IA	SEPT SALES TAX	5,788.00
US BANK	MIS EXPENSE	115.09
VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONE	112.50
WESTERN IOWA TECH	DALE, ACADEMY EXPENSE	3,245.00
ZIEGLER	BACKHOE PARTS	59.38
	TOTAL	<u>46,722.50</u>

PAYROLL

9/25/2017

001	GENERAL	4,952.92
210	ROAD USE TAX	1,305.52
600	WATER	2,140.13
610	SEWER	1,814.62
670	GARBAGE	2,160.66
	TOTAL	12,373.85
600	WATER 9/26/2017	<u>880.68</u>
	TOTAL	880.68
	TOTAL PAYROLL	13,254.53
	PAID TOTAL	<u>59,977.03</u>

City Council Minutes

BY FUND

001	GENERAL	24,950.68
110	ROAD USE TAX	4,127.00
112	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	3,433.14
176	POCKET PARK	343.04
316	WEST MAIN & BISSELL ST	1,107.50
600	WATER	13,322.93
610	SEWER	5,696.86
670	GARBAGE	5,166.78
745	STORM WATER	1,829.10
TOTAL BY FUND		<u>59,977.03</u>

REVENUES

GENERAL	23,575.92
ROAD USE TAX	16,447.33
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	9,602.05
EMERGENCY LEVY	566.98
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	7,465.66
TIF	5,563.44
POOL RESTRICTED	12,490.00
POCKET PARK	250.00
DEBT SERVICE	11,802.81
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT	1,098.80
WATER	46,583.92
SEWER	31,390.63
GARBAGE	20,224.07
STORM WATER	2,586.00
	<u>189,647.61</u>

Vaugh DeLoss and Wes Brown were present to discuss payment to Vaughn DeLoss Construction. After much discussion, Newgard motioned to approve paying the \$2000 of liquidated damages. Swanson seconded. Motion carried 3-2.

Potter motioned to wait until job is complete to pay out retainage fees to Vaughn DeLoss Construction. Enockson seconded. Motion carried 4-1.

Potter moved to adjourn at 5:26 p.m. Enockson seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rod Johnson, Mayor

Hilary Reed, City Clerk