

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



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October 25,
2017

Local News

Laurens Public Library Foundation Pancake Supper Held

Library Foundation Board Members Dwight Van Genderen and Brooks Anderson put on their Kiwanis member hats as the Laurens Kiwanis Club served up pancakes for the hungry library supporters at the Laurens Public Library Foundation's Pancake Supper. This fundraiser will enable the Foundation to continue its many projects in support of the Laurens Library.

Blake & Lillie Norman, pictured, show their interest in the outdoor Music Garden instrument as Laurens Public Library Board Members Jan Hersom and Patty Boughey look on.

Thank you to all who attended and all who have donated!



Fonda Arts Center - "Tribute to Our Veterans"

The Fonda Arts Center joins the rest of the country in a "Tribute to Our Veterans", Sunday, November 12, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome for an afternoon of music, commentary, and refreshments.

All this happening at the Fonda Arts Center, on the northwest corner of Fourth and Main in Fonda. Free admission, free refreshments!

Thank You!

The Laurens Volunteer Firefighters Association would like to thank everyone for your donations and show of support at our Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 8. Once again, the breakfast was a huge success thanks to your support. It is great to live in and volunteer in such a caring community.

*Thank you,
Pat Murray – Chief
Laurens Volunteer Firefighters
Association*

ISU Theatre's "The Children's Hour"

ISU Theatre will open "The Children's Hour" the first weekend in November. The play, scripted by distinguished writer Lillian Hellman, was one of her greatest successes.

"The Children's Hour" is a serious and adult play about two women who run a school for girls. After a troubled youngster starts a rumor about the two women, the lie soon turns to scandal. As the young girl comes to understand the power she wields, she sticks by her story, which precipitates tragedy.

"The Children's Hour" is a resounding warning to our contemporary world about how 'alternative facts' can destroy lives, people, relationships, and institutions," said Associate Professor of Theatre and the production's director, Brad Dell. "Ultimately, though, this play is also a plea for radical empathy, asking why can't we allow ourselves to understand and share in one another's feelings? Why must we be so quick to judge, label, and shun?"

In addition to a cast comprised of ISU students, the scenic and costume elements will also be designed by ISU students Merideth Raine and Allison Kirstukas respectively. Dramaturgy is by ISU student Olivia Griffith, and ISU alumnus Amanda Mayfield of Theatre Cedar Rapids is responsible for lighting design.

"The Children's Hour" opens on Friday, November 3 with additional performances held on November 4, 10, and 11 at 7:30 p.m. and November 5 and 12 at 2 p.m. on the Fisher Theater stage in Ames.

Ticket are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and \$11 for students and can be purchased through any TicketMaster or online, at the Iowa State Center Ticket Office in the ground floor of Stephens Auditorium in Ames noon-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, or at the door before performances.



ISU Theatre presents
The Children's HOUR
By Lillian Hellman
Fisher Theater
November 3, 4, 10, and 11 at 7:30 pm
November 5 and 12 at 2 pm

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At the Library with Glenda Mulder October 25, 2017

Oh my, what a great pancake supper we had! A big thank you goes out to the Laurens Kiwanis for their flipping delicious pancakes and to those of you that came and ate them with us! The money raised will ensure we continue to have interesting programs, fund our ongoing projects (CD audiobooks, children's e-book subscription, Preschool Outreach Baskets, Summer Reading supplies) as well as our new project, the Music Garden.

Speaking of the Music Garden, a few questions came up at the supper that I'll answer here, too. The first question was, "Do you bring them inside or cover them in the winter?" No, as the website says, "When you invest in Freenotes Harmony Park instruments, you are making a long-term investment in your community's future and you are receiving the highest quality outdoor musical instruments available on the market. We manufacture these instruments to withstand any kind of weather, remain outdoors 24/7 and to last through frequent hard play." Next I had a patron who anticipates vandalism of the instruments. I wish I could go back and tell her about a study I just read that shows musical instruments in a park actually decreased the vandalism in a park

in inner city Minneapolis! I did remind her of the security camera that is right across the street from our proposed installation site. Next question is about their warranty. To again quote the website, "We provide a 5-year limited warranty on every instrument but we expect them to last much longer. To date, the oldest instruments we've manufactured were installed in 1995 and are still being enjoyed by the public every day." If you haven't tried out our sample instrument, stop by soon and give it a ring!

Halloween is almost here and you know what that means – crazy costumed librarians and the traditional Halloween magician, Larry Dunbar! Join the costumed ghouls and goblins after your treats are passed out and help me figure out just how he does these tricks!

While we are still in a bit of a creepy mood from Halloween, join us Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. for *Death Comes for Us All*. Historian Kathy Wilson describes her program this way, "Victorians had a different attitude about death than we do in the 21st Century. People died at home surrounded by loved ones, families picnicked in cemeteries on Sundays, took photos with deceased (what's up with that?) & made jewelry from their hair (yes, really!). They also worried about being buried alive or someone stealing their bodies. This program explores the Victorians' fascination with death

and the culture they developed to memorialize the dead."

New novels lately include: *Quick and Dirty* by Stuart Woods, *Indigo Girl* by Natasha Boyd, *Rooster Bar* by John Grisham and *Floating World* by Morgan Babst. We also received *The Pioneer Woman Cooks: Come and Get It* by Lee Drummond; her cookbooks are so much fun, and pretty too!

I don't think any of our Book Club enjoyed October's choice, "*One Hundred Years of Solitude*" by Gabriel García Márquez. I'm not even real sure many finished it! Well, everybody's entitled to a clinker of a choice once in a while, right? They sometimes make for as good of discussions as books we enjoy! Well, I'm sure November's choice of "*The Invention of Wings*" by Sue Kidd Monk will make up for it!

COMING EVENTS

- Magician Larry Dunbar 7 pm
October 31st (of course!)
- *Death Comes for Us All* (Victorian death and funeral practices) – 7 pm
Wednesday, November 1st
- Tot Time Every Monday at 10 am
- Take it Tuesday - 1st Tuesday 6:30
- Open Scrapbooking – 4th Tuesday
(this month only) 5-8 pm
- Card Making – 3rd Tuesday (this
month only) at 6:30 pm
- Book Club 4th Monday at 7 pm



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

PREVIEW TO THE
CHRISTMAS
SEASON!
OCTOBER 26-28

THURSDAY 5-8
FRIDAY 10-5:30
SATURDAY 9-12

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Laurens Country Club Fall Hours:

Fridays:

Lunch - 11 am -1 pm

Supper - 5-8 pm

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receptions and
parties.

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2017 Pocahontas County 4-H Awards

4-H members were honored for their 2016-2017 4-H year accomplishments at the Rialto theatre. 4-H'ers applied for project area awards in Animal Science, Arts and Science, Family and Consumer Science and Involvement. Club leader, Deb Ekstrand was recognized for her 20 years of service to the Pocahontas County 4-H program. The 4-H program could not exist without the dedicated adult volunteers.

If you have a child in 4th through 12th grade that would like to participate in Pocahontas County 4-H, please contact the ISU Extension and Outreach Office at 712-335-3103.



New members of the Pocahontas County Youth Council – Melody Kuhn, Jackson Foster, and Autumn Marsh.

Laurens Genies to Meet

The Laurens Genies will meet Friday, October 27 at 2:00 p.m. at the **Laurens Public Library**. The program will be about "Major Immigration Ports in the United States" presented by Grace Hertz. Roll Call will be for members to share the names of ports where their immigrant ancestors' ships arrived.

Anyone who is interested in family research and genealogy is cordially invited to attend. *Members are to note the change in meeting location.*



50 Years of Marriage Celebrated!

50 years ago, two young kids got married on October 22nd! They had four kids, moved to Laurens 30 years ago and are now retired to spend some time with their ten grandkids.

Please be sure to stop by and say hello to Dick and Ann Main, or send them a card. They haven't aged a bit! Here's to many more happy years together!

*Love ya Mom and Dad,
Schelly, Roger, Carey and Kahla*

it's a girl!

CELEBRATING MOM TO BE

Amber (Sandvig) Japenga

Saturday, October 28th, 2017

*Come & Go from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
West Iowa Bank, 202 W. Main St., Laurens, IA*

Amber is registered at Target

**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**

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This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Pastor Scott Baker

Sunday: October 29, 2017
REFORMATION SUNDAY
21st Sunday after Pentecost

9:15 AM ~ Adult SS
9:30 AM ~ Youth SS
9:30 AM ~ Coffee Fellowship
10:30 AM ~ Worship W/
Communion
11:30 AM ~ Potluck
6:00-8:00 PM ~ Laurens Area Youth
Group (HS) at FCC

Tuesday: October 31, 2017
5:00-6:00 PM ~ Trunk & Treat
Night at UMC parking lot

Wednesday: November 1, 2017
5:00 PM ~ W/M Mtg.

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



This Week at First Christian Church

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Friday, October 27
7 - p.m. AA

Sunday, October 29
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Worship
6-8 p.m. - High School Youth Group
at First Christian

Tuesday: October 31
5:00-6:00 PM ~ Trunk & Treat
Night at UMC parking lot



This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Pastor Ed Frank

Wednesday, October 25th:
Missions Committee @ 7 p.m.

Friday, October 27th:
Men's Bible Study @ 7 am

Sunday, October 29th:
Adult Sunday School @ 9 a.m.
Sunday School @ 9:10 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.
Worship @ 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group (HS) from 6-8 p.m. at
FCC
Choir Practice @ 7 p.m.

Tuesday: October 31st:
5:00-6:00 PM ~ Trunk & Treat Night
at UMC parking lot



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 hfrerk@iastate.edu.



Mosquito/Public Health Pest Management Course Offered Nov. 1



Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County office will offer the Mosquito/Public Health Pest Management Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators on Wednesday, November 1, 2017. The program provided by the Iowa State University 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 Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office in Pocahontas County by phoning 712-335-3103 or email dianned@iastate.edu.

The course will provide continuing instruction credit for commercial pesticide applicators certified in categories 7D (Community Insect Management), 8 (Public Health Pest Control), and 10 (Research and Demonstration). The course will cover topics such as safe handling and storage of pesticides; pests, pest management, and pesticides, including nonchemical control methods; laws and regulations; and personal protective equipment.

Additional information about this and other courses offered through the Pesticide Safety Education Program may be accessed at www.extension.iastate.edu/psep.

Analysis of Farm Business Available through FINPACK

It's safe to say that financial management for farm families is unique. Farm income can be irregular and unpredictable. Bills must be paid, livestock fed and crops tended to. Taking care of a family's needs can bring added stress.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach offers Farm Financial Planning, a program providing one-on-one financial support and advice to farmers. The Farm Financial Planning program was initiated in the 1980s in response to the farm crisis. It continues to be available to give Iowans confidence with stressful issues, legal questions and financial concerns.

The program includes a computerized analysis of the farm business using FINPACK software from the Center for Farm Financial Management. FINPACK gives information to make more informed and profitable decisions for the future of a farm business.

"Farm Financial Planning is intended for farm families who want a more complete picture of their farm financial situation," said Ann Johannis, an extension program specialist in economics. "It helps take

the guesswork out of whether or not a change would increase profitability and improve cash flow. A FINPACK analysis may provide a more in-depth evaluation of the farm business, which many lenders are requiring before they will extend further credit."

Farm Financial Planning helps farmers evaluate their farm business and determine whether or not a change is desirable, said Chad Hart, an extension economist and associate professor at Iowa State.

"It provides an in-depth plan for the farm business so the operator and the lender can make decisions for the future. The computer analysis looks at profitability, liquidity, solvency and risk-bearing ability. This information is provided for three or more alternative plans at a time. Examples of alternative plans could be the addition, expansion or phasing out of a livestock operation, or buying, selling or renting land," Hart said.

Farm Financial Planning also can help evaluate ways to correct negative cash flow and profitability problems, Hart said.

A trained ISU Extension and Outreach associate meets with the family one to two times to get farm records and to discuss results of the FINPACK analysis in confidence and possible effects if changes are made. The extension associate may introduce other farm and family financial materials or information

about outside sources for further help.

The service is currently available at no charge and is funded by the Agricultural Credit School, a program of ISU Extension and Outreach, and the Iowa Bankers Association. Farm financial associates are part-time ISU Extension and Outreach employees trained in farm budgeting and financial analysis. They have agricultural backgrounds and understand farming and the challenges it may bring.

To set up an appointment, contact an ISU Extension and Outreach farm management specialist (who can be found at www.extension.iastate.edu/ag/farm-management) or the Farm Financial Associate in your area at www.extension.iastate.edu/farmanalysis/associatelist.htm.

For questions regarding the Farm Financial Planning program, contact an ISU Extension and Outreach farm management specialist. Or contact the Beginning Farmer Center at 877-232-1999.

Another source for Iowans in need of legal, financial, stress or crisis and disaster questions, is available through the Iowa Concern Hotline. Call 800-447-1985, or visit the website www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern.

Bats in Iowa Facing Serious Challenges

Bats play an important part in Iowa's ecosystem, but they are increasingly feeling pressure from changes to forests and an exotic disease-causing fungus that is decimating their populations in the eastern half of the United States.

The part bats play in a healthy environment and the issues facing bat populations is the focus of the article "Iowa's Bats Need Your Help (and you need theirs)!" The article is written by Adam Janke, assistant professor and extension wildlife specialist with Iowa State University, and appears in the September issue of the Small Farm Sustainability newsletter at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/smallfarms/newsletters/201709>.

Bats help farmers and homeowners alike by feasting on a broad range of insects. In Iowa, this means meals of moths, beetles and mosquitoes.

"Studies have shown that one colony of big brown bats could consume enough adult cucumber beetles to reduce their larvae – corn rootworms – by 33 million," Janke said. "Another study excluded bats from corn fields and monitored

the damage done to crops in their absence. This study estimated bats provide \$1 billion of services to corn farmers each year through free pest control."

However, the total area of forests where bats roost and raise their young is being diminished. Exotic forest plants and a lack of natural forest fires have changed Iowa's forests in ways

that make them less suitable for bats.

"Bats prefer open forests with a diversity of plants and insects," Janke said. "Iowa settlers consistently recounted being able to drive wagons through Iowa's forests without hitting a stem. Today, thanks to the absence of fire and the introduction of new species, it would be hard to throw a baseball through a forest without hitting a stem."

The mammals are also suffering from the effects of an exotic fungus that found its way into New York in 2006. This fungus grows on the noses and wings of healthy bats and causes them to awake from hibernation in the dead of winter, ultimately leading to starvation. Indiana has seen a 75 percent decline in bat population just a few years after the first detection of the disease and hibernating bats in Iowa are projected to be similarly

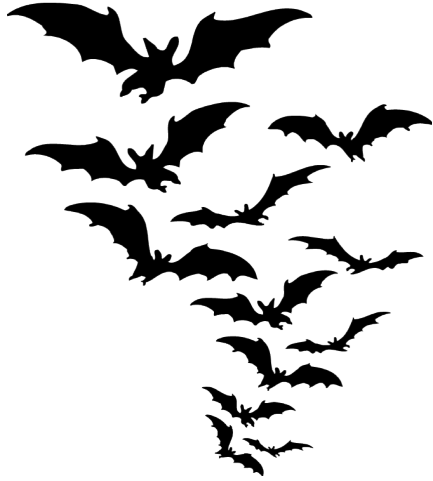
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Even though bats are facing new challenges, there are ways to help by taking steps to improve their habitats in Iowa.

"Creating the right habitat where bats can thrive is the most important tool we have," Janke said. "The most fundamental element of bat habitat is healthy forests, and research has shown that forested areas of all sizes, from rural forests to city parks, count for bats."

While helping bats thrive in their natural habitats, homeowners who want to keep bats out of their homes can do so in a very simple way.

"Take steps to make a home energy efficient," Janke said. "Wherever air gets in, a bat can get in."



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Yard and Garden: Enjoy Fall Colors of These Iowa Trees, Shrubs, Perennials

October is the perfect time to enjoy fall foliage in Iowa. Depending on the location in the state, foliage and fall colors peak from now through the end of the month. Which trees have the best colors? Which shrubs and perennials are best to look at this month?

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists can help answer questions about fall foliage and the best ways to enjoy it. To have additional questions answered, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or hortline@iastate.edu.

Which trees have colorful fall foliage? Shade trees that possess excellent fall foliage include Freeman maple (*Acer x freemanii*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), black maple (*Acer nigrum*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*) and black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*). Freeman maples are hybrids of red and silver maples. Their leaves vary from orange to red in fall. The red maple cultivars Red Sunset® and Redpointe™ have dark red foliage in fall. Sugar maples are native to eastern Iowa. Their fall foliage varies

from yellow to orange to reddish orange. 'Commemoration,' 'Legacy,' and Fall Fiesta™ are excellent sugar maple cultivars.

Black maples are similar in appearance to sugar maples, but are more heat and drought tolerant. The leaves of black maples turn yellow to orange in fall. In fall, the foliage of white oaks is often reddish brown, while red oaks have wine red foliage. Black gums are not widely grown in Iowa. They are somewhat difficult to transplant and prefer moist, well-drained, acidic soils (pH 6.0 to 6.5). However, the black gum possesses outstanding fall foliage. Its foliage is often bright red in fall. Other possibilities include 'Moraine' sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Moraine') with foliage that varies from yellow to red to purple, yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*) with yellow fall foliage, and ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) cultivars 'Autumn Gold' and 'The President' with golden yellow fall color.

Small trees with colorful fall foliage include serviceberry (*Amelanchier x grandiflora*), American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*) and redbud (*Cercis canadensis*). The fall foliage of serviceberry and American hornbeam varies from yellow to orange to red, while redbud leaves turn yellow in fall.

Which shrubs have colorful fall foliage? Several deciduous shrubs have colorful fall foliage. The winged euonymus or burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*) has red foliage in fall. The fall foliage of fothergilla (*Fothergilla* spp.) varies from yellow to orange to red. Common witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

has yellow leaves in fall. In autumn, the foliage of Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) varies from yellow to orange to reddish purple. Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*) and blackhaw viburnum (*Viburnum prunifolium*) have yellow, red and reddish purple foliage respectively.

Do any perennials have colorful fall foliage? Most perennials are grown for their attractive flowers. However, several perennials have colorful fall foliage.

Perennials with yellow foliage in fall include blue star (*Amsonia* spp.), balloon flower (*Platycodon* spp.), hosta (*Hosta* spp.) and monkshood (*Aconitum* spp.). The sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*) and royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*) also develop yellow fall color. The foliage of pigsqueak (*Bergenia cordifolia*) often turns burgundy red in fall. The foliage of many hardy geraniums (*Geranium* spp.) is yellow, orange, red or purple in autumn.

Several ornamental grasses also have striking fall color. Switchgrass (*Panicum* spp.) cultivars with colorful fall foliage include 'Rehbraun' (reddish brown), 'Rotstrahlbusch' (burgundy red) and 'Prairie Fire' (wine red). In fall, Miscanthus cultivars 'Purpurascens' and 'November Sunset' have orange-red and golden orange foliage respectively. Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) has yellow to burnt orange fall color. The little bluestem cultivar 'Blaze' has orange to reddish purple fall color, while 'Blue Heaven' develops a burgundy red color in autumn.