

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



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November 16, 2016

Local News

New Pool Plans!

Members of the Laurens New Pool Committee attended the Laurens City Council meeting to gain the City's approval of a new pool plan. Committee member Glenda Mulder explained that in the last 3 years, approximately \$210,000 has been raised. Because of this, it was decided to look at less expensive options. After a close examination of the current pool facility by Burbach Aquatics, a new plan was formulated.

Committee member Chad Cleveland explained that the new plan will remove all the current piping and decking, also removing that giant 18" gutter familiar to all Laurens swimmers. New piping and decking will be installed and the current pool vessel will be lined with a PVC fabric liner. The expected life of a liner is 15 years and it can simply be replaced at that time. As the plan was being developed, there was discussion about adapting the current

vessel for modern needs. Since a zero-depth entry is no longer feasible,



stairs and a rail will be installed in the southwest corner. As we were discussing the swimming lanes, a member came up with the idea to turn the lanes 90 degrees and use the diving area for starting blocks.

To make this plan work, Burbach Aquatics added a bump-out on the south side to make the lanes the correct length. With the pool decking lower and the added bump-out, the

bath house will also need to be replaced and relocated.

The best part of this new plan is that the estimated cost was decreased to \$1.9 million, based on 2017 construction prices. Pool Committee members are excited about the new plan and are convinced that this project is much more attainable.

If you have any questions, please contact any New Pool Committee member: Lisa Anderson, Ann Beneke, Chad Cleveland, Kelly Gordon, Kayla Graff, Thaine Hopkins, Glenda Mulder, John Jamison, Troy Oehlertz, Kelly Tate or Lyle Wallin.



Museum Visit

Marcus Price of Laurens tries his hand at the organ at the Pocahontas County Historical Society Museum. He was one of a group of Laurens-Marathon second and third graders who visited the museum as part of the ISU Extension After-School Program.



At the Library with Glenda Mulder

November 16, 2016

After all the special events we had last month, it seems really odd not to have any special programs to tell you about! With the Holidays drawing near, I guess we'll just coast a bit. Of course, we'll still have our usual monthly programs like Book Club, Card Making, Advanced Genealogy, Take it Tuesday and the crazy crochet ladies. I do have a program with a slant of local interest coming in the New Year, but I'll wait until it firms up to share the details!

New fiction at the library lately include: *Turbo Twenty-Three* by Janet Evanovich, *Chaos* by Patricia Cornwell, *Odessa Sea* by Clive Cussler, *Cross the Line* by James Patterson and *Night School* by Lee Child. In nonfiction we received *Love Warrior* by Glennon Melton and *Gentlemen Bootleggers* (which is about the Templeton Rye lore) by Bryce Bauer. I can't remember which DVDs I've told you about, so I'll go back a bit: *Ghostbusters: Answer the Call*, *Nerve*, *Independence Day: Resurgence*, *Star Trek: Beyond*, *Ice Age: Collision Course*, *X-Men: Apocalypse*.

Our November Book Club choice is *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba. This is the true story of an African teenager who built a windmill from scraps to create electricity for his home and his village, improving life for himself and his neighbors. He did all this after reading books in his local library! Early reports from Book Club members are positive – people are really enjoying this book. I think it's about time for me to start on my copy! We will meet November 28 to discuss this book.

Upcoming Events

- Tell Me a Yarn every Monday 5-7 pm
 - Card Making 4th Tuesday at 6:30
 - Take it Tuesday 1st Tuesday at 6:30
 - Book Club is 4th Monday at 7 pm

**SPECIAL FOR
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18
BAKED POTATO SOUP
IN A BREAD BOWL
SALAD BAR
DESSERT
OR ORDER OFF OUR
FULL MENU!**

PUBLIC WELCOME



United Methodist Women Fall Bazaar to be Held

The United Methodist Women Fall Bazaar is Saturday, November 19, 2016.

You will not want to miss this opportunity to purchase fresh homemade breads and cinnamon rolls!! Also available are homemade candies, cookies, frozen casseroles and jams. The cookie walk will supply cookies for all of your Christmas baking needs! If you are looking for quilted, knitted, or embroidered items, this is the place to come! Also check out our Good as New table and a new addition, Crafters Corner. Coffee served at 9:30 with booths opening at 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Lunch served from 11:00 to 12:30!

Thanks for supporting the United Methodist Women Fall Bazaar!



Everyone....Let's Create a
SPLASH together by:

-Using our New Online
Donation page: <https://www.youcaring.com/residents-of-laurens-501476>

-Sending a Tax Deductible
Donation to:
Laurens Pool Project, c/o City
of Laurens,
272 North 3rd Street, Laurens,
IA 50554

-Dropping it off at City Hall

Like us on Facebook: Laurens
Pool Project
www.laurens-ia.com

The Laurens VFW (VFW Post #3533) is raffling off a Ruger 10/22 Take Down Rifle on Saturday, December 24. (Need not be present to win.)

Tickets:

1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10

All proceeds go to the
Brushy Creek Area
Honor Flight.

Contact a Laurens VFW
member for a ticket!



Help Us Buy a New Bus!

The Board of Directors of the Laurens Care Center decided to purchase a new bus for the care center. We have a small van for one or two people for medical trips and a 1998 Bus for group trips or a back up for two or more medical trips on the same day. Both vans are often in use. The old bus has 166,096 miles and is unable to be repaired in town. In fact, it is difficult to repair at all. The old bus would hold 11 walking passengers or people able to transfer. It could also be used for 6 ambulatory people and 4 people packed very tightly in wheel chairs. The new bus will hold 14 seated people and no wheelchairs or no seated people and 6 wheel chair people or any combination due to



the open floor plan and the fact all seats fold up.

One of the features of the new bus is that it loads from the front right side and alleviates the residents having to smell the exhaust

from the back of the bus with the current back loading system. This will also keep the residents warmer. The new bus will be 6 inches higher with larger windows for better view. More importantly it will have all the latest safety features. Our group trips include luncheons and suppers in town at various civic and church related events, plays, movies in Pocahontas, leaf rides, Clay County Fair, and picnics where we like to take as many residents as would like to go.

These are some of the reasons our board has decided to purchase a new bus, including many more safety

features, quieter more comfortable ride. Laurens Care center is beginning a fund drive for the bus with a pancake supper November 17, 2016, at the Lutheran Church from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., with the help of the local Kiwanis chapter and Thrivent Action Teams. The home's objective is to provide quality care and a great experience to the people of Laurens, the area, and every one we help. We are a 501(c)(3) corporation which means we are not for profit and any gifts or donations are tax deductible.

Thank You!

The family of Robert (Chris) Vierow would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, call, visits food and kindness shown to us since his passing.

Special thanks to his Pleasant View Family for taking such good care of him. Also, to Rev. Matthew Miller for his kind words and encouragement.

We are very blessed to live in such a kind and caring community. Our hearts have been truly touched by your kindness.

Garnet Vierow, Brenda Hawley, Vickie Erickson, Kelley Archer and families.



rub a dub dub
a new baby to love

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER
HONORING
Ryan & Heidi Sernett



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH
9:30 ~ 11 AM
WEST IOWA BANK
202 WEST MAIN, LAURENS
BABY SERNETT IS REGISTERED AT TARGET

Fall
Bazaar



Fall Church Bazaar

Saturday, November 19, 2016

Laurens United Methodist Church

Coffee--9:30 a.m.

Booths open at 10:00 a.m.

Breads, Cookie Walk, Homemade candies, frozen casseroles,

pies, nuts, Quilted, knitted and embroidered items,

Crafters Corner supplies and Good as New Table

Noon Lunch-Creamed Chicken and Biscuits

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

\$7.00 adults to 6 years—5 and under \$3.00

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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, Nov. 16
1:00 p.m. - Willing Workers

Thursday, Nov. 17
2:00 p.m. - Coffee with Pastor

Friday, Nov. 18
7:00 - p.m. AA

Sunday, Nov. 20
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Worship
4:00 p.m. - Service at Laurens Care Center
6-8 p.m. - Jr. High School Youth Group at New Hope Baptist Church

Our Town Our Paper!

This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Wednesday: November 16, 2016
5:00 PM ~ Christian Ed/Youth Mtg.
6:00 PM ~ 125th Steering Mtg.
7:00 PM ~ Council Mtg.

Thursday: November 17, 2016
9:00 AM ~ Circle at Pat Boughey's
5:00-7:00 PM ~ Laurens Care Center Pancake Supper at BLC

Sunday: November 20, 2016
9:00 AM ~ SS & Confirmation
9:15 AM ~ Coffee Fellowship
9:15 AM ~ Adult SS
10:30 AM ~ Worship w/125th History and SS Skit & Songs
11:30 AM ~ Potluck
6:00 PM ~ Laurens Area Youth Group (JH) at NHBC

Tuesday: November 22, 2016
10:00 AM ~ Coffee Time



This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Book Club @ 9 a.m.
Worship Committee meeting @ 7 p.m.
Puppet Troop practice @ 7 p.m.
Administrative Council meeting @ 8:15 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 17th:
Rachel Circle meet @ 9:15 a.m. (pack candy)
Dorcas Circle meeting @ 2 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 18th:
Men's Bible Study @ 7 a.m.
Deadline for poinsettias
Bread baking

Sat., Nov. 19th:
UMW Fall Bazaar

Sun., Nov. 20th:
Adult Sunday School @ 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School (cherubs-hs) @ 9:10 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.
Worship @ 10:30 a.m.
Youth Group (HS) meet from 6-8 pm at New Hope Baptist Church



Sacred Heart Church Laurens

Pastor ~ Father Francis Makwinja
Weekday Mass : Friday - 8:00 AM
Weekend Mass: Sunday - 10:30 AM (November-February)

Cluster Parishes
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Sioux Rapids
Weekday Mass: (Monday & Wednesday) - 8:00 AM
Weekend Mass: Sunday - 8:30 AM (November-February)

St. Louis Catholic Church, Royal
Weekday Mass: (Tuesday & Thursday) - 8:00 AM
Weekend Mass: Saturday - 5:00 PM (November-February)



Healthy Relationship Education Training

Are you a professional working with children and families, and would like additional tools to help couples build healthy relationships? “We know that children growing up in a home where there is a healthy, stable couple relationship have fewer behavioral and emotional problems and perform better in school”, said Dr. David Brown, a human sciences specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. “That is why healthy couple relationships are so important.”

Healthy Relationship Education Training is a one-day program designed for professionals who work with children and families to increase access to relationship education as a strategy to meet the safety, permanency, and well-being needs of children. This program uses a research-based curriculum that is being implemented nationally to professionals that they can use


to encourage the development of healthy couple relationships.

Pocahontas County ISU Extension is sponsoring Healthy Relationship Education in Pocahontas this November. The all-day class consists of 8 modules, which are based on the National Extension Relationship and Marriage Education Model (NERMEM). Dr. David Brown, who is also a licensed marital and family therapist, will conduct this class. Interactive lessons, discussions and resources will be provided.

The program is scheduled for Friday, November 18, 2016. The program will be held at The Pocahontas County Extension office at 305 North Main in Pocahontas, Iowa from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. Registration begins at 8:00 am. There is a \$75 fee for the program. Fee includes a

curriculum manual, tools, and snacks. For more information or to register, contact the Pocahontas County Extension Office at 712-335-3103.

Iowa social workers, LMFT’s and LMHC should contact their licensing board to determine course approval for continuing education contact hours. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will offer 6 professional education contact hours for social workers, marriage and family therapist and mental health counselors upon completion of the program.



**FOODBANK
OF IOWA**

Mobile Pantry Food Distribution

Wednesday, Nov. 16 • 4:30-6 p.m.

**at the Pocahontas County Expo Center
310 NE 1st Street, Pocahontas, IA**

Hosted by the Pocahontas County Ministerial

Design of Water Quality Practices Covered in Workshop

The design, siting and layout of new practices currently being considered for water quality improvements of farmland drainage will be the focus of a workshop scheduled for Dec. 15 in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

The day-long program will be held at the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Webster County office at 217 South 25th St., Suite C12, Fort Dodge. It will provide information essential for designing and planning new water quality practices such as bioreactors, controls structures, saturated buffers and wetlands. While the economic benefits of tiling are well recognized, there are also environmental impacts from drainage. These new technologies can be useful in minimizing negative environmental impacts.

The workshop also qualifies for Certified Crop Advisor credits. A sign-up sheet for the credits will

be available on the day of the workshop.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. with the morning sessions starting at 8:15 a.m. The morning session will focus on woodchip bioreactor sizing and layout, water table management with shallow tiles and installation of control structures. Kapil Arora, agricultural engineering specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, will speak on reducing nitrogen loads from drained croplands. Matt Helmers, professor and extension agricultural engineer at Iowa State, will discuss the sizing and layout of woodchip bioreactors.

Chris Hay, senior environmental scientist with the Iowa Soybean Association, will conclude the morning with information on managing drainage with control structures.

The afternoon session will begin with Dan Jaynes, research soil scientist with the National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment, USDA-ARS, discussing site selection and the design of saturated buffers. The event will close with Arora presenting on wetlands for small

watersheds, adjourning at 4:30 p.m.

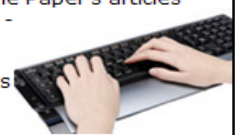
Registration can be done by contacting the ISU Extension and Outreach Webster County office at 515-576-2119 or lcline@iastate.edu. Registration is \$150 and includes morning refreshments, lunch and workshop materials. Registration cost moves to \$175 if done after Dec. 9.

Each participant must bring a laptop computer equipped with a USB drive. Software used for designing different practices will be provided on a thumb drive. All laptops must have Microsoft Excel pre-installed on them to run the spreadsheets and to perform design calculations.

The workshop is presented by ISU Extension and Outreach, the Iowa Soybean Association, and USDA Agricultural Research Service.

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Late Spring Frost Having Impact on Animals this Fall

Brightly-colored leaves, harvest and the busy labors of squirrels burying nuts for the long winter ahead are iconic images of fall in Iowa. This year, however, Iowans may notice fewer scurrying squirrels in their yards, thanks to a late spring frost that negatively impacted hard mast production in many areas throughout the state.

“Hard mast is the botanical name for hard nuts produced by trees and shrubs such as acorns, walnuts, hickories and hazel nuts,” said Gabbi Edwards, urban forestry specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. “Hard mast provides food for many familiar wildlife species seen in urban and rural environments throughout Iowa.”

Birds including bluejays, ducks and wild turkeys, white-tailed deer, fox squirrels and many other creatures rely on hard mast from trees and shrubs to build up energy reserves for long winter days or fuel their migration to warmer climates. Iowa Department of Natural Resources foresters have noted widespread hard mast failure this year, making for lean times for some animals counting on this seasonal food source.

Mast failure results from frosts when hardwood tree flowers emerge

during April and May. In the absence of killing frosts, flowers formed in April and May produce the seed, or mast, that matures and drops from the tree in the fall. A late spring frost after flowers have emerged can damage or kill the flowers, resulting in fewer acorns or nuts being produced. Spring 2016 saw frosts around the state as late as May 18, later than normal and after many trees had already produced the flowers necessary for mast production. The map illustrates the last date this spring where a temperature below 32 degrees F was recorded at each of the Iowa Environmental Mesonet stations. However, local variation in frost severity could result in failures in areas other than what is shown.

Not only has the late spring frost affected mast production for this fall, but there will be the same decrease in mast next year in some trees as well. Red oaks, and other oaks within the red oak family like black oak and shingle oak, take 15 months for acorns to mature. This means the fall of 2017 will have decreased mast due to flowers that were lost in the spring of 2016. White oaks and walnuts produce and mature acorns and nuts within the same growing year. Failure of mast does not affect all trees in the same area; that depends on the severity of the frost, exposure to the sun or other factors affecting local microclimates, and whether an individual tree had flowered at the time of a late frost. Thus some trees on the same block may have different production patterns this year, but

on average many trees have failed to produce mast.

“Large-scale failures of mast crops can have negative impacts on some wildlife species that count on the seasonal food source,” said Adam Janke, assistant professor and extension wildlife specialist at Iowa State. “Studies in some northern states with near-complete failures have shown significant reductions in squirrel populations. However, such a widespread decline is unlikely in Iowa, given that mast failure did not affect all trees and many other food sources, such as waste grain in crop fields, are available for wildlife.”

Motorists and homeowners may expect to see some animals, like deer and squirrels, moving longer distances this fall and winter in search of trees that were spared from the damaging frosts.

Home or property owners can do little to abate the impacts of a late frost on annual mast production. However, the impacts of a late frost on some species is a reminder of the importance of planting or managing for a diversity of trees and shrubs in landscaping and in natural areas to hedge against environmental uncertainties. In this year, having species of red and white oaks in the yard would ensure the impacts of the late frost were spread over two years, safeguarding the sight of busy squirrels in the yard foreshadowing the coming winter days each November.

Online Review Course Prepares Certified Crop Advisers for Exam

A Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) online review course is being offered through Iowa State University Extension and Outreach to help individuals prepare for the next CCA examination on Feb. 3, 2017. The review course is offered exclusively online and includes presentations on crop management, pest management, nutrient management and soil and water management.

“There is so much material covered on the exam that it was impossible for instructors to cover the review material in a one or two-day meeting,” said Bob Hartzler, professor in agronomy and extension weed specialist at Iowa State University and course chairperson. “The online platform allows people to access the material when they have the time.”

Each presentation includes a practice quiz to help test knowledge and comprehension.

The review course includes supplemental materials and an overall practice exam, which may be attempted three times.

“The online review course is designed to specifically focus on information related to the CCA exam, and each question on the review course is linked directly to CCA performance objectives,” said Kristine Schaefer, program manager for the Pesticide Safety Education Program with ISU Extension and Outreach. “Once registered, the course is available anytime there is internet access.”

Technology requirements.

Technology requirements include a valid email address, a web browser and connection to the internet, connected speakers, a printer if you wish to print out PDF versions of the presentations, and the Flash Player browser plug-in to view the presentations. If you don't have a Flash Player, you may download it for free. Adobe Reader is needed to open PDF documents, however, if you don't have Adobe Reader, you may download a free copy. All review course materials such as quizzes, PDF files and supplemental materials are available on iOS devices, such as iPads, with the exception of the flash-based presentations.

How to register. For more course details and to register,

visit www.aep.iastate.edu/cca. For assistance with registration, contact ANR Program Services at 515-294-6429 or anr@iastate.edu. For questions regarding the CCA program and course content please contact Bob Hartzler at 515-294-1164 or hartzler@iastate.edu or Kristine Schaefer at 515-294-4286 or schaefer@iastate.edu.

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