

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 9 No. 33

www.thepapernow.com

December 2, 2015

Local News

Laurens Volunteer Fire Department - Thank you! Thank you! Thank You!

I am embarrassed that I am finally getting around to extending a Thank You to the volunteers who responded to our cornfield fire on October 21.

A hot bearing on the stalk cutter started the corn stubble on fire on a moderately windy afternoon in the vicinity of many acres of standing corn. Until I experienced it, I wouldn't have been able to describe what a wonderful feeling it is to look up just minutes after reporting the fire and see flashing lights turning the corner and racing toward our burning cornfield.

No sooner had our volunteers arrived with their equipment and began fighting back the flames than Keith Hoffman drove in with a disc behind his tractor and aided in the effort.

As windy as it was I was sure the fire would jump across the gravel

road and burn through the standing corn in its path. Nope... the fire was quickly extinguished and confined to some field end rows and a grassy ditch. The only damage was some damage to the tires on two wagons of corn.

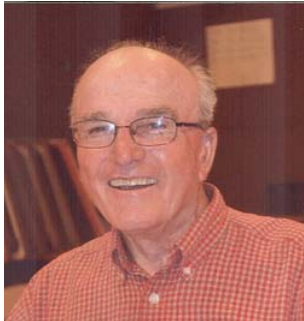
We can't thank you enough, Firemen, for your dedicated service and expert abilities that you give our community.

Sonja and Larry Perkins

THANK YOU



Services Held Recently for Edward F. Benz



Ed Benz - age 91, of Laurens, Iowa passed away Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at Mayo Clinic Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota.

Edward Frank Benz was born December 25, 1923 in Melvin, Iowa, the son of Thomas and Hanna Benz. He grew up in Melvin, graduated from Melvin High School and attended Iowa State University. With the outbreak of World War II, he tried to enlist three times, each time being rejected for medical reasons. So he decided to help build the trans Alaskan highway system instead. For a young man from Iowa, this was quite an adventure.

In 1944, after returning to Iowa, he met Betty Schubert. Six months later, they were wed on June 10, 1945 in Sanborn, Iowa. Ed and Betty were married for 62 years. In 1952, they bought Schubert's Clothing in Laurens. Ed was an accomplished clothier, opening 7 stores throughout northwestern Iowa and mentoring numerous partners with his inimitable combination of business and interpersonal skills. He

served as President of Iowa Retail Clothiers in the 1980s, one of a select number of clothiers extended this honor.

Laurens was not just a town to Ed. It was his home and he promoted this busy little community throughout his adult life. Ed served as President of the Laurens Industrial Foundation, Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club. He served on many other boards and projects too numerous to mention. He never sought recognition. He just pitched in and did what was asked of him. A natural leader, he approached his community service with a positive attitude and innate optimism. He made most anything seem achievable. He taught his four children that it is important to step up and lead...and just as important to step away and let others lead. This seemed to work well for him and for the town of Laurens.

After 20 years of marriage, Ed converted to Catholicism because "I wanted to go to church with my family". Before long, he was Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus and in charge of the Catholic cemetery. He had a knack for planting trees, trimming bushes, cultivating flowers and always planted a vegetable garden. If he wasn't in his own yard, he could be found in someone else's, often delivering the fruits of his labors.

Ed was very lucky in love. He and Betty raised four children, managing to keep their marriage vibrant. They shared great friendships with the people of Laurens, taking time to nurture these friendships and have such fun. Ed took such good care of Betty during her last years of illness, never seeing it as a burden and always as a privilege. What an inspiration to his children! After Betty died in 2007, he was fortunate to fall in love again...with Phyllis Anderson. She brought him renewed joy and again, he was having fun. This loving relationship continued until the day he died, and his family will always be grateful to Phyllis for keeping him vibrant and ever young.

Throughout his life, Ed was an avid traveler. He visited most every state in the union, spending time fishing, hunting, socializing, observing, exploring. Travels took him to Europe and beyond, soaking up culture and information along the way. Wherever he might be, his keen intellect, innate curiosity and ability to engage served him well. Ed loved Mexico and Lake Okoboji particularly, as well as a little rustic cabin in Baby Lake, Minnesota passed down from his parents. He was a bit of a philosopher, but never dull. A listener, but never a lecturer. He advised without controlling and his patience and tolerance seemed unending. A mistake was just another opportunity to learn. Not a catastrophe. He was a keen businessman, and yet immensely generous. And through all of life's vagaries, he maintained a delightful sense of humor, an ability to laugh at himself or the foibles of life, with a joke or story not far behind. Ed was both interesting and interested, a very rare human being indeed.

To his family and friends, Ed is irreplaceable. Ever kind and ever the optimist, he was one of the nicest, kindest, most decent men ever to grace this earth. A hero to his children and to those who knew him well, we all felt lucky to have been in his sphere. We will most especially miss his smile. It always, always made us want to smile back!

Survivors include his children - Deborah (Buzz) Miller of Rochester, MN; Scott (Barbara) Benz of Lake City, IA; and Shelley (Dean) Bussey of Chanhassen, MN; grandchildren - Chad (Heidi) Miller, Erin (Ric) Martin, David Miller, Sarah Benz, Emily (Nate) Daedlow, and Jennifer, Mark, David and Alex Bussey. Great grandchildren - Dane, Bennett and Ella Miller, and Irie Daedlow.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Betty, his daughter Kimberly Benz, his grandson Kevin Miller and his siblings, John and Evelyn.

Holiday Vendor Show

Tastefully Simple
MacKenzie Johnsen

Piery Graphics
Abbey Piery

LuLaRoe
by Mindi Stephenson

Scentsy by
Jackie Hudson

Cuts to
Dye For
Erica Svuba

K & E Beads
Kelly Van Sickle

Scarves
by Sami Hudson

Monday December 7th 5-8 PM
Silver Dollar Saloon

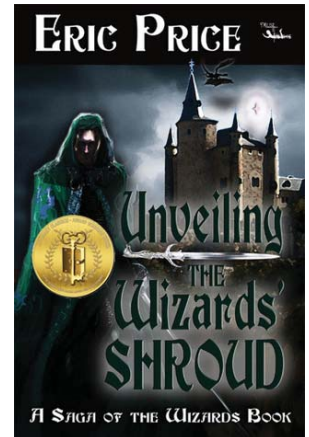
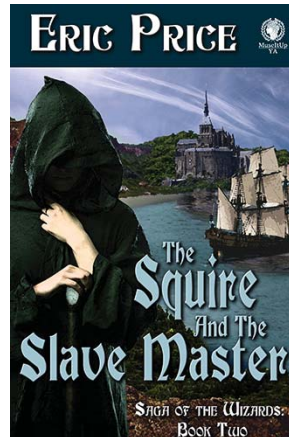
Local Author Has Two New Releases

Eric Price of Laurens, author of the award winning *Unveiling the Wizards' Shroud* (Children's Literary Classics: Best First Novel), has two new releases.



Unveiling the Wizards' Shroud, previously only available as an eBook, is now available in paperback from most online book retailers.

The sequel, *The Squire and the Slave Master*, is also available as an eBook only from most eBook retailers.



Toys for Tots!

We are happy to again sponsor Toys for Tots Annual Drive for Children

'Tis the Season for Giving

Join us in collecting new or like new toys, clothes, mittens, gloves, hats, etc. Donations will be accepted until December 11th. All items should be unwrapped. Your Gift will Allow Area Children to Enjoy the Christmas Season!!

Laurens State Bank
102 South 3rd Street, Laurens | 712-845-2627
Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30-3, Fri. 8:30-4 & Sat. Drive Thru Only 9-12

Member FDIC

Patty's Helping hands

for the elderly

Hello my name is Patty and I have 30 years experience working with the Elderly! I'm here to help with daily needs such as: bathing and hair styling, set up meds, meal preparation, transportation to the doctor, pharmacy, grocery shopping, and do light housekeeping or if they just need company!

So if your interested give me a call.

506 West Attica
Marathon, Iowa 50565

Patty Simpson
Owner/Caregiver

Ph: 712-208-0355
H: 712-289-6124

Making Each Day Count By Helping Someone!

The Covenant Women's Ministries Presents

The Joyful Praise Trio Christmas Concert



December 6, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Covenant Church, Albert City, IA

**Join us for the sights, sounds and a taste of the
Christmas season.**

Freewill Offering for Women's Ministries Projects

**Judy Clausen, Mary Johnson, Jeri Wenell
Connie Dallenbach Accompanist**

Silver Dollar Saloon is Now Hiring Bartender/ Server Evenings/Weekends!

Competitive pay and tips. If you are interested, or would like to find out more, just stop by the Silver Dollar Saloon, Laurens, IA or call Mary at (712) 358-1887.



Did you know.....

The 4th most popular recreational activity in the United States is SWIMMING.

Some people think SWIMMING first started when a person fell into the water and started to panic. He started to swim in a way we call dog paddle today.

65% of our population in the United States doesn't know how to SWIM. Many learned as young children but never go SWIMMING or have forgotten how to SWIM over the years. Others were just simply not taught and avoid water.

SWIMMING is a great cardiovascular exercise because you are moving against the water's resistance, which is over ten times that of the air.

The average person produces 25,000 quarts of saliva in his or her lifetime — that's enough spit to fill TWO swimming pools!

Remember the New Pool Project in your end of the year charitable giving.

***TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS
can be sent to: Laurens Pool Project
c/o City of Laurens
272 North 3rd Street,
Laurens, IA 50554***

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

The Joyful Praise Trio in Concert on December 6

Do you love Christmas music? Then you need to hear The Joyful Praise Trio from Albert City, who will be presenting their Christmas season music on Sunday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the Evangelical Covenant Church in Albert City. A free will offering will be taken to support the Covenant Women's Ministries service projects for the coming year. Following the concert, Swedish almond cake with fruit toppings will be served.

The trio is made up of Mary Johnson, Jeri Wenell, and Judy Clausen and accompanied by Connie Dallenbach on the piano. These ladies have performed around the area for the past three years, delighting attendees of the Threshermen's Weekend in Albert City, singing with the community band, and sharing their talents at area nursing homes, just to name a few of the places they have performed. Their tight harmonies and wonderful music selections will fill your heart with the Christmas spirit and bring back memories of the season.

A Christmas Carol Comes to Albert City Public Library

Time to get in the spirit of Christmas by attending the production of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens on Saturday, December 5, at 6:30pm at the Albert City Public Library.

Jacob Marley, Bob Cratchit, Tiny Tim, the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come are characters we have come to love and welcome into our homes and hearts. Join us as Broadway and film actor Duffy Hudson, without the aid of props or costumes, playing all 46 characters, brings this magical tale to life. This show is ideal for the entire family. Light refreshments will be served after the performance. Contact the library for more information at (712) 843-2012. See you there...and God bless us, everyone!



New Arrival

Heath and Miranda Carlson are pleased to introduce Maisen Elin Carlson. Maisen was born Monday, November 9th in Lee's Summit, Missouri. Grandparents are Bruce and Pat Carlson (Blue Springs, MO) and Chuck and Karen Blankenship (Laurens). Great Grandmothers are Nancy Stoner (Laurens) and Janet Carlson (Laurens). Maisen was welcomed home by big sister Tyler and big brother Olin.



*At the Library
with Glenda Mulder
December 2, 2015*

If your Christmas spirit needs a boost, come to the library Monday, December 14 at 7 p.m. The Princess City Players, along with some familiar faces from our library, will present "How Murray Saved Christmas." In this choral reading, a surly deli owner is forced to step into Santa's shoes for one Christmas ... and I don't want to tell you how it turns out! We will also have a Christmas carol sing-along and a Christmas treat.

Another date to keep in mind is January 19. That's the day we will be starting a series of "Smart Investing @ Your Library" classes. More information on that as it comes closer, just keep it in mind when you make your New Year's Resolutions.

Are you the one who has been watching so many of our TumbleBooks kids' e-books? The past couple months our statistics have absolutely skyrocketed! In October we had almost 1500 views, and November passed even that! If you're using them, please drop us a note and let us know what you like best about them. If you haven't used them yet, simply follow the TumbleBooks link on our webpage to give them a try!

Event Calendar

- Tot Time every Monday at 10 am
- Tell Me a Yarn Mondays 5-7
- Writers Free for All is 3rd Monday of the month at 7 pm
 - Book Club is 4th Monday of the month at 7 pm
 - Card Making is the 4th Tuesday of the month
 - How Murray Saved Christmas 7 pm Monday, Dec. 14
 - Smart Investing @ Your Library classes begin Jan 19

A New Read

Local writer, Ruth Steinkoenig, has written her second book titled, "*Fasten Your Seatbelts, This is Going to be a Bumpy Ride*" which is available on Amazon.com. This is a light-hearted, slightly humorous Christian book of life travels and praises to the one who made it all possible by sending two guardian angels along for the ride.

*Calling All
Supplies!*

The L-M Elementary will be participating in their first MakerDay this Spring! We are asking parents, grandparents, anyone (!) to save/donate the following items during the upcoming months:

Duct Tape

Masking Tape

Straws

Cardboard - thick and thin

Toilet Paper/Paper Towel Tubes

Wrapping Paper Tubes

Egg cartons

Any small items that could be used for wheels (spools, lifesavers, etc.)

These items can be dropped off at the main office of the school (box under the table marked "MakerDay").

If you are a business and would be interested in donating snacks for the elementary students on their MakerDay, please email Meredith Allen: ms.meredithallen@gmail.com.

Save the Date: Friday, March 4th
- MakerDay Open House



Services Held Recently for Gary (Gus) Gulbranson

Gary "Gus" Gulbranson, 72, of Marshalltown, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at his home.

Cremation rites have been accorded and Gus's family is planning to hold a celebration of his life this spring. Memorial contributions may be directed in Gus's name to his family. For further information or to send



a condolence, please visit www.mitchellfh.com or call (641) 844-1234. Mitchell Family Funeral Home is caring for Gus and his family.

Gary Lee Gulbranson was born on April 30, 1943 in Ferguson, Missouri, the son of Leland and Mary Loyola (Crotty) Gulbranson. He was raised and educated in the Laurens school district graduating from Laurens High School with the class of 1961.

Following High School, he went on to Iowa State University where he received a degree in Graphic Design. After graduating from college, Gus

honorably served his country by enlisting with the United States Army. He took a lot of pride being part of the military.

Gus was a hardworking man, dedicating his working years as a Graphic Artist with Marshall Print in Marshalltown, Iowa. He had a true passion for photography, stained glass art, fishing, Lake Okoboji, and enjoying a cold one with his buddies.

Left to cherish his memory are his two sisters: Mary (Thayne Lowman) Hodges and Kate Scheich; two aunts; two nephews; three nieces; several cousins; two special friends: Kim and Ron; and his perfect pet: Cid.

He is preceded in death by his parents, two brothers-in-law and several aunts and uncles and 3 cousins.

Services Held for Marvella (Tobi) Vyonne Schuler

Marvella was born September 18, 1924 in Havelock, Iowa, the only child of Frank and Goldie (Hendricks) Ralle. Following graduation from Havelock High School, Marvella attended Hamilton Business College in Mason, Iowa.

In 1946, Marvella married Robert (Bud) Schuler; they grew up less than 10 miles from each other but didn't meet until after World War II. They built a house in Laurens, Iowa, and had a son, Alan. After Bud graduated from Iowa

State, he accepted an offer to teach in Vista, California, so the young family moved west. Their daughter Nancy was born soon after.

Marvella worked as an administrative assistant and office manager at many businesses over the course of her career. When she and Bud retired, they moved to Vancouver Island, where they made happy memories fishing, playing cards, gardening and spending time with friends. She also had a special place in heart for dogs, and she rarely went anywhere without her beloved pal, Misty.

They lived in Canada for 15 years, but went back to California to be closer to their daughter and her family. In Lompoc, Marvella was an active member of the Methodist Church and

especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren.

After Bud's death in 2008, Marvella decided it was time to move "home." For the next seven years she lived at the Laurens Care Center, where she was surrounded by many relatives and friends from her childhood. She passed away peacefully on November 11, 2015.

She is survived by her son, Alan Schuler of Mexico, daughter Nancy (Steve) Schuler-Jones of Lompoc, granddaughter Hillary Schuler-Jones of San Diego, grandson Daniel Schuler-Jones of San Luis Obispo and numerous nieces and nephews.

Special thanks to her niece Beverly Todd and grandniece Laura Todd for all their kindness and caring during her last years in Iowa.

<p>MONDAY \$2.00 BUD & BUDLIGHT</p>	<p>TACO TUESDAY 5-8PM</p>	<p>FRIDAY HAPPY HOUR ~ 5-7pm 1/2 PRICE DRINKS</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY LUNCH 11am - 1pm December 9 HAM BALLS CHEESY POTATOES MIXED VEG</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY DRINK SPECIALS 4-6PM ~ SAVE 50¢ ON ALL DRINKS/BEER</p>	<p>THURSDAY CREATE YOUR VERY OWN PERSONAL PAN PIZZA 5-7PM</p>

SILVER DOLLAR SALOON
135 N 3rd St—Laurens
712.841.6986

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CLOSED FOR A
CHRISTMAS PARTY
THIS FRIDAY, DEC. 4!**

**Get your loved one
a gift certificate for
a stocking stuffer this
year! Contact Susie at:
(712) 450-2144**



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*Christmas
Whimsy Décor
Display.*

Bring you wreaths, Christmas stockings or snow people to First Christian Church between now and December 10th. and we will display them for all to enjoy. Display will be open Saturday and Sunday each week from Dec. 12 through Jan. 2 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join First Christian Church when we go caroling at the Laurens Care Center at 5:15 p.m. on Friday, December 18. More info call us at 841-2455.

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Caleb Jamison
Cedar Rapids, IA
Office: 319.366.3570 ext. 225
Cell: 712.358.2041

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AFN42811

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

Pastor John Mayer

Sundays 9 a.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, Dec. 2
1 p.m. - Willing Workers

Thursday, Dec. 3
2 p.m. - C.W.F. Potluck

Friday, Dec. 4
7 p.m. - AA

Sunday, Dec. 6
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Worship followed by Annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck Dinner
6-8 p.m. - High School Youth Group at the Catholic Church

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Wednesday: December 2, 2015
7:00 PM - Midweek Advent Worship

Thursday: December 3, 2015
7:00 PM - Hand Bell Rehearsal

Sunday: December 6, 2015
Second Sunday of Advent
9:00 AM - SS & Confirmation
9:15 AM - Coffee Fellowship
10:30 AM - Worship w/Communion
11:30 AM - SS Hand Bell Rehearsal
6:00 PM - Youth Group (JH) at SHCC

Monday, December 7th - Thursday, December 10th Set up Nativity Scenes any time between 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Tuesday: December 8, 2015
10:00 AM - Coffee Time

Wednesday: December 9, 2015
7:00 PM - Midweek Advent Worship

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



This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Wed., Dec. 2nd:
Laurens Chamber Soup Supper here from 4:30 p.m.-7 p.m.
Puppet Troop practice @ 6:30 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 3rd:
UMW Executive Board meeting @ 1 p.m.
UMW General meeting @ 2 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 4th:
Men's Bible Study @ 7 a.m.
Praise Band practice @ 4:30 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 5th:
UMM meeting @ 7 a.m.

Sun., Dec. 6th:
Sunday School @ 9:10 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.
Worship @ 10:30 a.m.
Children's Christmas Program
Choir practice @ 7 p.m.



Sacred Heart Church Laurens

Father Francis Makwinja
Weekday Mass : Friday at 8:00 AM
Weekend Mass: Sunday at 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)



Aspects of Farmland Drainage to be Covered at Dec. 10 Workshop

Various aspects of farmland drainage will be the focus of a day-long workshop Dec. 10 at the Polk County Extension office in Altoona. The program begins at 8:15 a.m. and will adjourn at 4:15 p.m.

“This workshop is being offered due to increased interest in this topic the past year,” said Kapil Arora, field agricultural engineer with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

The morning session will focus on sub-surface drainage design concepts, wetland determinations, Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy and long-term benefits of tiling. The afternoon session will include discussions on economics, nutrient cycling in soils, controlled drainage, bioreactors, saturated buffers and managing drainage water quality with wetlands. Legal issues related to tiling and Iowa drainage laws also will be covered.

Attendees will learn information essential to designing and planning a new drainage system or retrofitting an existing system while learning about environmental impacts and new technologies that may be useful in minimizing negative

environmental impacts.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach speakers include Kapil Arora, field ag engineer; Kelvin Leibold, farm management specialist; Matt Helmers, professor and extension engineer; Mike Castellano, associate professor in agronomy, Jamie Benning, water quality program manager, and John Baker, Iowa Concern attorney. USDA-NRCS drainage specialist Jim Gertsma is also scheduled to speak.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Iowa Farm Bureau of Polk County, various industry partners, and the United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service are sponsoring the program. Industry representatives from Prinsco, ADS, Midwest Plastic Products, and Agri Drain will be available during the workshop to answer any questions. The workshop qualifies for Certified Crop Advisor credits, which have been applied for.

Registration Information.

Registration fee for the workshop is \$40 before Dec. 7; after that date the fee is \$60. Workshop materials, morning refreshments and lunch are included in the fee. Registration can be made by completing the form located at www.extension.iastate.edu/polk and making payment to Polk County Extension. For more information, download the workshop brochure or call ISU Extension and Outreach in Polk County at 515-957-5760.

Healthy Holiday Taste Tester

Looking for healthy holiday snacks for your family? ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County will be hosting a taste tester event on healthy holiday snacks!

On Friday, December 4, 2015 stop by the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach (305 N Main St. Pocahontas, IA 50541) from 8:00am – 4:30pm to taste test some healthy holiday snacks.


Like what you tasted? Pick up the recipe card before you leave so you can make it at home for your loved ones during the holiday season.

If you would like to share a holiday favorite, bring copies of the recipe to the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach Office by December 3, 2015.

For questions, please call the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach Office at 712-335-3103 or email hfrerk@iastate.edu.

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!*



Pocahontas County 4-H Scholarship Applications Available

All Pocahontas County Senior 4-H'ers are encouraged to apply for 1 of up to 10 \$500 Scholarships that will be awarded to the college of their choice. These scholarships are made available by the generous donations to the Pocahontas County 4-H Endowment each year. Applications are available online at www.extension.iastate.edu/pocahontas or may be picked up at the ISU Extension and Outreach Office Pocahontas County. All applications are due no later than February 1, 2016. No late applications will be accepted.

Iowa 4-H Foundation Announces Hills Bank & Trust Scholarships For 2016

The Iowa 4-H Foundation and Hills Bank & Trust partnership announces its 201 Leadership Grants for high school juniors for the fall of 2016. For the past 15 years, Hills Bank & Trust Company has partnered with the Iowa 4-H Foundation to provide college scholarship opportunities for Iowa 4-H youth who reside in the bank's service area. In 2002, Hills Bank established a permanent scholarship endowment, which now provides 20 - \$1,000 grants for high school seniors to attend any accredited Iowa college, university, or community college. Applicants apply during their junior year in high school and must attend at least nine hours of leadership training sponsored by Hills Bank & Trust in order to qualify for the award.

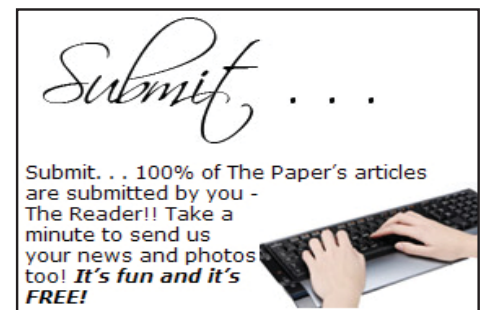
Hills Bank and Trust Company Leadership Grants are available to students attending any of Iowa's accredited colleges, universities, or

community colleges. Applicants do not need to be 4-H members.

"The leadership training gives these scholarship recipients some great tools for success in college and in their future careers," said Albert Grunenwald, executive director of the Iowa 4-H Foundation. "We also appreciate the investment that Hills Bank & Trust is making in Iowa's future through this unique program."

Information and applications for the Hill Bank & Trust Leadership Grants are available on the Iowa 4-H Foundation web page www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships. Applications must be submitted online no later than 11:59 PM, February 1, 2016 for consideration.

For questions regarding the Hills Bank and Trust Leadership Grants, please contact Taci Lilienthal, Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship Coordinator at taci@iastate.edu or (563) 343-1144.



Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarships Available For 2016

The Iowa 4-H Foundation is pleased to announce the 2016 scholarship programs for Iowa 4-H'ers attending or planning to attend college fall 2016. There are 82 scholarships totaling \$75,350 available to Iowa 4-H'ers pursuing various fields of study at an Iowa Regent university, Iowa private college, or Iowa community college. Online applications and materials are available at www.iowa4hfoundation.org/scholarships and must be completed online no later than 11:59 PM, February 1, 2016.

Since 1949, donors to the Iowa 4-H Foundation have provided financial resources to fund quality 4-H experiences and recognition opportunities for Iowa youth.

“College scholarships acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the recipients who have used their 4-H skills and experiences to improve the lives of others,” says Albert Grunenwald, Executive Director of the Iowa 4-H Foundation. “It’s a meaningful way for us to say thank you as we invest in their future success.”

To further explore establishing a scholarship with the Iowa 4-H Foundation, please contact Taci Lilienthal, Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship Coordinator, taci@iastate.edu or call (563) 343-1144.

New Herbicide Publication for Corn and Soybean Producers

The status of weed control across the state and the most effective herbicides for tackling weeds are outlined in a recently released Iowa State University Extension and Outreach publication.

The “2016 Herbicide Guide for Iowa Corn and Soybean Production” was written by ISU Extension and Outreach weed specialists Bob Hartzler and Mike Owen and is now available online at the Extension Store, <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/>

Hartzler and Owen note that the many weed issues from the past continue to plague Iowa’s farmers, particularly the weed, water hemp, in soybean fields.

“There has not been a notable increase across the state in major weed management failures,” according to the weed specialists. “However, random surveys suggest that a high percentage of fields with weeds visible above the soybean canopy have evolved resistance to one or more herbicides.” They conclude that herbicide-resistant weed populations are slowly increasing.

The two experts advise farmers that now is the time to make adjustments to their weed management programs before weed densities become worse. Their suggestions include diversifying types of herbicides as well as paying attention to how and when they are used.

The 24-page guide provides industry updates and gives instructions on how to design resilient herbicide programs to manage herbicide resistance. The resilient herbicide programs rely on multiple herbicide groups to manage weeds, and the new publication details successful approaches. Non-herbicidal strategies also are included.

It also lists the effectiveness of different herbicides for controlling grass, broadleaf and perennial weeds in corn and soybeans, grazing and haying restrictions for herbicides used in grass pastures and the active ingredients in herbicide prepackage mixes.

The publication contains four tables on herbicide sites of action — the specific proteins that herbicides inhibit in plants to kill them — and information about typical injury symptoms. “Herbicide programs that include several different sites of action is a key step in managing herbicide-resistant weeds,” the authors wrote.

Yard and Garden: Evergreen Trees

With the holiday season approaching fast, many families choose to use evergreen trees to make their homes more festive. Evergreens are popularly used as Christmas trees in many people's homes. However, they have purpose beyond the holiday season. After Christmas, instead of throwing the evergreen tree away, plant it instead.

Here are some tips from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists on how to replant evergreens during the winter months. To have additional questions answered, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or at hortline@iastate.edu.

Can I purchase an evergreen tree, use it as a Christmas tree indoors, and then plant it outside? Iowa's harsh, winter weather, which includes extreme cold, rapid temperature changes and strong winds, makes it difficult to successfully plant an evergreen in winter. Successful efforts require proper site preparation in fall and good tree care.

The planting site for the evergreen should be selected and prepared in fall. The site should provide adequate space for the tree to grow and develop. After selecting the site, dig the hole for the tree and place the soil in a location where it will not freeze. Fill the hole with straw and cover with a tarp.

Select a small, container-grown or balled and burlapped tree from a local nursery or garden center. A small tree has a much better chance of survival when planted outdoors. A small tree is also less expensive and easier to handle. Store the tree in a cool garage, shed, or porch if it is purchased two to three weeks before Christmas. Make sure the soil is kept moist, but does not freeze.

Place the tree in a tub or large saucer when brought indoors to prevent damage to carpets or hardwood floors. Set the tree in a cool location within the home. Avoid sites near heat sources, such as a fireplace or register. Carefully decorate the tree with ornaments, garland, and lights. Don't apply flocking or artificial snow to the tree. Keep the soil moist throughout the tree's stay indoors. Check the soil daily and water as needed.

The tree should be kept indoors for only a short period. The shorter the tree's stay indoors, the better its chances of survival when planted outdoors. The maximum stay indoors should be seven to 10 days. If the tree is kept indoors for a longer period, the tree's buds may break dormancy. When planted outdoors, the succulent new growth will be destroyed by cold temperatures.

Shortly after Christmas, remove the tree from the house and place it in a cool location. Don't place the tree directly outdoors. The much colder temperatures outdoors may injure the tree. A short stay in a cool garage or porch allows the tree to become gradually acclimated to cooler temperatures. The soil should not be allowed to freeze during this period. On a mild winter day, remove the straw from the planting hole and plant the tree outdoors. Water well and mulch the area heavily to prevent the soil from immediately freezing.

Which evergreen trees perform well in home landscapes in Iowa? Only a small number of evergreen trees perform well in Iowa. Some evergreens, such as Scotch pine and Austrian pine, have serious disease problems and are no longer recommended for planting in Iowa. The most reliable evergreens for Iowa are white pine, concolor (white) fir, Norway spruce, Black Hills spruce, and Colorado spruce.

Winter Webinar Series Offered for Master Gardeners in 2016

Three part series shows how Master Gardeners support food security

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Master Gardener program will host a winter webinar series in 2016. Master Gardeners will gain educational hours while learning the realities of hunger in Iowa, the best way to work with food banks, food safety and more. Two-hour webinars are scheduled at the ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County office for January 7th, January 26th and February 8th.

Winter webinar topics include:

- January 7, 2016 from 5:00-7:00pm - Hunger in Iowa: Learn the realities of hunger and teaching methods to use when working with food-insecure adults. Presented by Christine Hradek, food and nutrition educator for ISU Extension and Outreach as well as Susan DeBlieck, Master Gardener program assistant for ISU Extension and Outreach.

- January 26, 2016 from 5:00-7:00pm - Working with Food Banks: Find out how Master Gardeners can work with food banks to donate garden produce. Presented by Sara Bonefas, interim director of the Food Bank of Iowa as well as Susan

DeBlieck, Master Gardener program assistant for ISU Extension and Outreach.

- February 8, 2016 from 5:00-7:00pm- Best Practices for Food Safety: Get information on the best practices for handling garden produce going to food banks and the importance of food safety procedures. Presented by Shannon Coleman, assistant professor in food science and human nutrition and ISU Extension and Outreach specialist as well as Susan DeBlieck, Master Gardener program assistant for ISU Extension and Outreach.

This webinar series is part of collaborative project between the Master Gardener program in Iowa and the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education. This collaboration aims to improve the food environment for Iowans with low income, develop a strategic plan for planting food bank donations in gardens across Iowa, and increase the amount of food donated to food banks by Iowa Master Gardeners. Any Master Gardener wishing to apply for a mini grant to support a food security project is required to register and take part in the webinar series. Mini grant applications for up to \$500 are due on March 1, 2016.

To register, contact Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach Office, at 712-335-3103 or email hfrerk@iastate.edu. The webinars are free of charge and open to anyone who may be interested.

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December Breakfast

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

	Cereal, Poptart, Applesauce, Milk	Combo Link, Toast, Jelly, Orange Juice, Milk	Waffle Stix, Banana, Little Smokies, Milk	Breakfast Pizza, Mandarin Oranges, Milk
Mini Pancakes, Sausage Links, Pineapple, Milk	Biscuits & Gravy, Apple Juice, Milk	Late Start NO BREAKFAST SERVED	Cereal, Toast, Jelly, Grape Juice Milk	Cheese Omelet, Toast, Jelly, Fruit Cocktail , Milk
Pancake Stix Pears, Milk	Cereal, Muffin, Apple Juice, Cranberries, Milk	Breakfast Pizza, Orange Juice, Milk	Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Sidekicks, Milk	Combo Link, Toast, Jelly, Apple Wedges, Milk
Winter Break Begins!!	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Merry Christmas!
Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	



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December Lunch Menu

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

	Spaghetti, Lettuce Salad, Ranch, Green Beans, Peaches, Breadstick, Milk	Chicken Strips, Corn, Glazed Sweet Potatoes, Pears, Cookie, Milk	Mr. Rib, Broccoli Normandy, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges, Milk	Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Chicken Noodle Soup, Lettuce Salad, Mixed Veggies, Applesauce, Milk
Crispitos, Cheese Sauce, Refried Beans, Corn, Tortilla Chips, Grapes, Milk	Hamburger, Pickles, Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Lettuce Salad, Apple Wedges, Milk	Lasagna, Breadstick, Caesar Salad, Green Beans, Fruit Cocktail Milk	Italian Chicken Sandwich, Sliced Cucumbers, Mashed Potatoes, Pears, Milk	Chili, Crackers, Broccoli Normandy, Applesauce, Lettuce Salad, Cinnamon Roll Milk
Tater Tot Casserole Peas, Green Beans, Orange Wedges, Dinner Roll, Milk	Cheese Pizza, Lettuce Salad, Baby Carrots, Ranch, Grapes, Milk	Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Glazed Sweet Potatoes, Broccoli, Cheese Sauce, Banana, Milk	Hot Beef Sandwich Mashed Potatoes, Lettuce Salad, Apple Wedges, Pumpkin Bar, Milk	Corn Dog, Baked Beans, Broccoli Normandy, Mandarin Oranges, Milk
Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Merry Christmas!
Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	



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