

# The Paper

*Our Town, Our Paper!*



*Laurens, Iowa*



*Vol. 9 No. 35*

[www.thepapernow.com](http://www.thepapernow.com)

*December 16, 2015*

## *Local News*

### *Reach for the Stars Receives Monetary Award*

Reach for the Stars, represented by Flor Johnsen and family of Laurens, received a grant money award of \$1,000 from Memorial Lutheran Church, Ministry Endowment Fund, Nevada, Iowa.

There were 27 awardees that presented different projects within the congregation, local, and global ministries. The event took place at Memorial Lutheran Church, Nevada during their worship service on October 25, 2015.

Reach for the Stars was lucky to twice receive this award. The money grant will be used again to ship boxes of donated books to poor schools in the Philippines. Reach for the Stars presented a plaque of appreciation to the Memorial Lutheran Church (ELCA) congregation for their continued support to their outreach.



Pictured L-R: Pastor Myron Herzberg (church pastor), Flor Johnsen, Kevin Gerlach (chairman Ministry Endowment Fund committee).



Group photo with family L-R: Kevin Gerlach (chairman Memorial Lutheran ministry endowment fund); Pastor Myron Herzberg (MLC pastor), Flor Johnsen, relatives Alfred and Kenzie Alderson, Harlan Johnsen and Cenon Zarzoso, Flor's brother.

# 2016 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat. Here in Pocahontas County we have used this money for cover crops, no-till, animal waste systems and nutrient management practices.

**Benefits.** Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices, or activities like conservation planning, that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented.

**Eligibility.** Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and Tribes are eligible to apply for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pasture-land, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands.

Socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Indian

tribes and veterans are eligible for an increased payment rate and may receive advance payment of up to 50 percent to purchase materials and services needed to implement conservation practices included in their EQIP contract.

**Applicants must:**

- Control or own eligible land
  - Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions
  - Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements
  - Develop an NRCS EQIP plan of operations
- Additional restrictions and program requirements may apply.

NRCS will help eligible producers develop an EQIP plan of operations, which will become the basis of the EQIP contract.



EQIP applications will be ranked based on a number of factors, including the environmental benefits and cost effectiveness of the proposal.

**How to apply.**

Visit your local USDA Service Center to apply at 600 West Elm, Pocahontas or visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/getstarted](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getstarted).

**YOU ARE INVITED  
CHRISTMAS SOCK EXCHANGE  
TUESDAY DEC 22ND 5-7PM  
LAURENS COUNTRY CLUB  
PUBLIC WELCOME**

How it works: stuff a pair of fun socks with candy and small trinkets, ie nail polish, any cute stocking stuffers. Tie a bow around the top of the stuffed socks, and bring it with you for an evening of appetizers and fun. Bring a pair, get a pair. Invite your friends. Ladies, we are all busy, but we need time to fill up our cups (or our wine glasses). Come for this brief time of sisterhood, where everyone is welcome! Get your jingle on!

**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** Ph: 712-208-0355  
Owner/Caregiver H: 712-289-6124

—Making Each Day Count By Helping Someone!—

Pocahontas County Health Department is accepting applications for a Registered Nurse

Must be currently licensed in the State of Iowa. Previous Public Health and/or home care experience is preferred. Please send completed application and resume to the office:

Pocahontas County Health Dept.  
99 Court Square  
Pocahontas, IA 50574  
(712) 335-4142

srichardson@pocahontascoia.us  
Position will remain open until filled.  
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LAURENS AREA YOUTH GROUP  
DECEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

SACRED HEART PARISH CENTER  
MEETINGS ARE FROM 6 TO 8 P.M.

DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> - HIGH SCHOOL  
DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> - NO YOUTH GROUP



*Christmas Open House*

*Friday, December 18*

*10 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

*Public Welcome, Refreshments*

*Sincere Thanks for Your Business*

*Throughout the Year!*

*Laurens State Bank*

102 South 3rd Street, Laurens | 712-845-2627

Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30-3, Fri. 8:30-4 & Sat. 9-12(lobby closed)



Hat, Mitten, Glove  
& Scarf Tree

Please add hats, mittens, gloves or scarves to our tree at Festival of Trees. The tree is just inside the front door of the Methodist Church. All items on the tree will be taken up to the Laurens-Marathon School after Christmas.



## Benefit Account Set Up

Dawson Svuba, son of Brent & Erica Svuba of Laurens, was diagnosed with AVM (Arteriovenous Malformation) on November 28, 2015. An AVM is a tangle of abnormal blood vessels in the brain. An account has been set up for him at Laurens State Bank to help with the expenses that Dawson's family has and will continue to incur during his recovery. Dawson has come a long way in the 12 days he has been in the hospital but still has a long road of recovery ahead of him. Donations can be dropped off at Laurens State Bank or mailed to Laurens State Bank at: P.O. Box 136, Laurens, IA 50554.



*New Pool Perspective in Kennedy Tate's words:*

*Why we need a new pool? A question kids are asked all the time.*

*We need a new pool because:*

*-Our pool is over 50 years old.*

*-We have cracked gutters, jets and foundation.*

*-Our water system is old.*

*-We have leaking water from the cracks.*

*-Some days our water will be 5 feet high in 3'6" deep spots. Other days down one foot.*

*We have a GREAT swim team but not a GREAT pool.*

**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](http://www.laurens-ia.com)**



## The Paper

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## *At the Library* with Glenda Mulder December 16, 2015



Local author Eric Price's book "*Unveiling the Wizard's Shroud*" has now been published in paperback! The second book in the Saga of the Wizards series, "*The Squire and the Slave Master*" is now available in the e-book format. Eric will be at our Library at 7 p.m. this Thursday, the 17th. He will talk about the writing and

publishing processes, as well as make his book available to you for Christmas giving. Join us - there will be Christmas cookies!

New fiction books at LPL include: *Desperate Measures* by Jo Bannister and *Secret Sisters* by Jayne Ann Krentz. In nonfiction we received: *Dear Mr. You* by Mary-Louise Parker, *Mind in the Making* by Ellen Galinsky, and *Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates: the forgotten war that changed American history* by Brian Kilmeade. New DVDs include: *Ant-Man* and *Minions*.

The December selection for Book Club is, quite naturally, a Christmas book. "*A Paper Bag Christmas*" was written by Kevin Milne. (Of course I had to do the research when I read that name, and this is the result: he is related to A.A. Milne, the author of Winnie-the-Pooh but not a direct descendant.) Stop and pick up a copy of this heartwarming book. It will get your Christmas season in the right perspective and charge you up for your Holiday! (It's short & a quick read – really, you can do it!) We will discuss this book on Monday, December 28th at 7 p.m.

Naturally, we will be closed December 24-26 as we celebrate the season with our families.

### Event Calendar

- Tot Time every Monday at 10 a.m.
- Tell Me a Yarn Mondays 5-7 p.m.
- Writers Free for All is 3rd Monday of the month at 7 p.m.
  - Book Club is 4th Monday of the month at 7 p.m.
  - Card Making is the 4th Tuesday of the month
- Author Eric Price Book Talk 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec 17
- Smart Investing @ Your Library classes begin Jan 19

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## Thank You!

A BIG thank you to Laurens Food Pride for the much appreciated gift certificate I won at your Holiday Open House! It will be used for some yummy holiday treats!

*Thanks!*  
*Nancy Kunickis*

## 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](mailto:ms.meredithallen@gmail.com).

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

VACANCY  
LAURENS-MARATHON CSD  
2015-2016

Special Education Chaperone for Spencer Route  
Person(s) needed to chaperone special education students during the route to and from Spencer in the mornings and afternoons. Could possibly split position.

Interested applicants need contact:  
Troy Oehlertz, Principal  
Laurens-Marathon Community School District  
300 W Garfield St.  
Laurens, IA 50554  
712-841-5000  
E.O.E/AA



<p><b>MONDAY</b> \$2.00 BUD &amp; BUDLIGHT</p>	<p><b>TACO TUESDAY</b> 5-8PM</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b> CREATE YOUR VERY OWN PERSONAL PAN PIZZA 5-7pm</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b> <b>HAPPY HOUR</b> ~ 5-7pm 1/2 PRICE DRINKS</p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY LUNCH</b> 11am - 1pm December 23 <b>GOLDEN TURKEY MACARONI/CHEESE BAKED BEANS</b></p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY DRINK SPECIALS</b> 4-6PM ~ SAVE 50¢ ON ALL DRINKS/ BEER</p>	<p>Christmas Eve, No personal pizza. ~ Christmas Day, Closed. Merry Christmas!</p>	<p><b>SILVER DOLLAR SALOON</b> 135 N 3rd St—Laurens 712.841.6986</p>

**Special for this Friday, December 18 will be:**  
**Smoked boneless pork ribs while supplies last.**

**Serving from 5-8 p.m.**

**Full menu also available.**




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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**

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**

Thursday, Dec. 17  
2 p.m. - Coffee with Pastor

Friday, Dec. 18  
5:15 p.m. - Caroling at Laurens Care Center  
7 p.m. - AA

Sunday, Dec. 20  
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. - Worship  
6-8 p.m. - High School Youth Group at the Catholic Church



*Our Town Our Paper!*

*This Week at Bethany Lutheran*

Wednesday: December 16, 2015  
6 PM - 125th Steering Committee Mtg.  
7 PM - Council Mtg.

Thursday: December 17, 2015  
7 PM - Hand Bell Rehearsal at UMC

Sunday: December 20, 2015  
**NO SS & Confirmation**  
9:15 AM - Coffee Fellowship  
10:30 AM - Worship w/Communion  
3 PM - Christmas Pageant at UMC  
6 PM - Youth Group (JH) at SHCC

Tuesday: December 22, 2015  
10 AM - Coffee Time

Thursday: December 24, 2015  
6 AM - 1 PM - Prayer Vigil  
5:30 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service w/Communion  
10 AM - 8 PM - Viewing of Nativity Scenes - every Friday, Saturday, Sunday - December 11th - January 3rd



*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)

Laurens Sacred Heart Catholic Church Christmas Mass schedule:  
Thursday, December, 24th, 4: 00 p.m.  
Friday, December. 25th, 10:30 a.m.  
Cluster Parishes  
Thursday, December 24th, St. Joseph's, Sioux Rapids, 6:30 p.m.  
Friday, December 25th, St. Joseph's, Sioux Rapids, 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, December, 24th, St. Louis, Royal, 9:00 p.m.

*This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church*

Wed., Dec. 16th:  
NO Puppet Troop  
Administrative Council @ 8:15 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 17th:  
NO Rachel Circle

Fri., Dec. 18th:  
Men's Bible Study @ 7 a.m.  
Praise Band practice @ 4:30 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 20th:  
Sunday School @ 9:10 a.m.  
Fellowship @ 9:30 a.m.  
Worship @ 10:30 a.m.  
Choir performs  
"Oh, What a Savior!" Christmas Pageant here @ 3 p.m.





## *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](http://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.

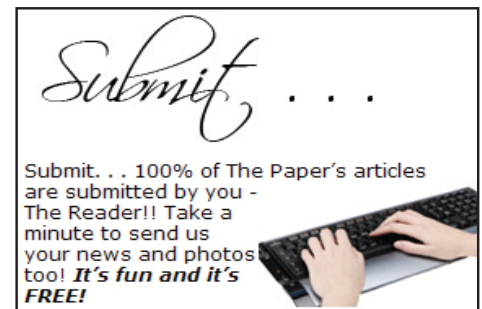
Hills Bank and Trust Company Leadership Grants are available to students attending any of Iowa's accredited colleges, universities, or

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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:taci@iastate.edu) or call (563) 343-1144.

## *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 DeBlicek, 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

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

This webinar series is part of a 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](mailto:hfrerk@iastate.edu). The webinars are free of charge and open to anyone who may be interested.

## *Take Control of Your Money During Holidays and All Year*

*Free, independent study  
Web course from Iowa State  
University Extension and  
Outreach*

Holidays, birthdays and other special events often include extra expenses: a meal with family or friends, decorating, gift giving and more. Take Control of Your Money, a free online resource from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, can help Iowans learn to plan their spending during the holidays and throughout the year, and improve their financial future.

“If you haven’t planned for a celebration, then you might not have enough money set aside to pay for it. This lack of planning creates a problem: perhaps you’ll miss an event that’s important to your family, or perhaps you’ll take on debt that you can’t afford,” said Barb Wollan, a human sciences specialist in family finance with ISU Extension and Outreach. “This is a good reminder of the importance of being in control of your finances all year ‘round.”

“One strategy addressed in Take Control of Your Money,” noted Wollan, “is planning for periodic expenses. These are the predictable expenses -- like holidays,

subscriptions, vehicle license plates and others -- which don’t come monthly, but occur occasionally throughout the year. Being prepared for periodic expenses is one sign of truly being in control of your money.”

Take Control of Your Money is an online course with audio-visual lessons available to anyone who wants to make a change in his or her personal finances. There is no cost for the course.

“The course is designed to be used at your own pace,” said Wollan. “Ideally, participants would take a month or more to practice using the money management tools that are provided, even if it only takes a few hours to review the course content.”

The course is interactive and breaks down money management into five key steps including goal setting, evaluating current spending, and making and following a spending plan. Each step provides one or more tools for participants to use in completing that step for themselves. The five steps are logically connected and it is easy to advance from one to another. It is possible, however, to jump around in the material according to individual needs and interests.

“The Take Control of Your Money course is especially useful for people whose finances are changing, who are just starting out on their own or who want to turn over a new leaf with stronger financial management,” Wollan said. “It also can help people who are having

financial difficulties, although it is not designed to solve serious financial crises.”

Special topics covered in the course include dealing with debt, building financial security and family communication about money.

“Take Control of Your Money is practical and adaptable,” said Wollan. “It isn’t a strict regimen you have to follow. Rather, it’s a set of strategies and an overall philosophy you can adapt and personalize.”

To enroll in Take Control of Your Money, a free Web course, please visit [www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/take-control](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/take-control).

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## *Crop Advantage Series Provides Agronomic Research and Cost Control Strategies*

*Programs will be held in 14 Iowa locations*

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will offer the Crop Advantage Series to producers at 14 locations across Iowa during January 2016. Each year, ISU Extension and Outreach specialists and field agronomists present the latest crop production research and information for the upcoming growing season to producers, agronomists and industry leaders.

This year's Crop Advantage Series will focus on the importance of risk management programs and controlling costs.

"It's important to discuss these topics as we go into our second year of prices averaging below Iowa State's estimated production costs," said Chad Hart, associate professor in economics and extension grain markets specialist. "Profits will be harder to come by and many producers will need to pay more attention to the financial side of their farm business."

Each location features a full agenda of workshops that attendees can choose from to develop a personalized agenda. ISU Extension and Outreach field agronomists will

present program topics focusing on county needs and production issues.

"We recognize that every farm situation is unique, so there's isn't one key piece of information," said Hart. "We are providing a menu of strategies that producers can choose from as they look to control costs, maintain or enhance productivity and search for profitability."

In addition to discussing the economic returns of crop production, extension field agronomists will present program topics focusing on local needs and production issues. Topics will include: crop market outlook, farm bill decisions, corn disease update, corn rootworm management, nitrogen recommendations, managing soybean Sudden Death Syndrome, herbicide and weed control and others.

"The Crop Advantage Series is a great format, as it is a chance to hear the latest agronomic research, while also exploring the economic returns to crop production," said Hart.

Over 2,000 producers annually participate in the regional Crop Advantage Series meetings. All meetings are approved for Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) continuing education credits, and every location offers the opportunity for private pesticide applicators to receive continuing education credits.

"Response from producers has been very positive, and we've seen tremendous growth in attendance for the series over the years. In addition to receiving the latest research information from the university, the meetings have been a valuable way for producers to provide input back to Iowa State researchers and

specialists on what their needs are," said Joel DeJong, extension field agronomist in northwest Iowa. "It works both ways."

**2016 Crop Advantage Series registration, locations and dates.** Early registration for each location is \$50; late registration made less than seven days prior to the meeting or on-site is \$60. Registration includes lunch, printed proceedings, private pesticide applicator recertification and CCA credits. Online registration and additional information is available at <http://www.cropadvantage.org/> or from a local ISU Extension office.

January 5 – Sheldon

January 6 – Okoboji

January 8 – Burlington

January 12 – Storm Lake

January 13 – Ames

January 14 – Honey Creek

January 15 – Mason City

January 19 – Atlantic

January 20 – Fort Dodge

January 21 – Waterloo

January 22 – Iowa City

January 26 – LeMars

January 28 – Carroll

January 29 – Moline, Ill.

For more information including times and program content, contact the extension field agronomist hosts or visit [www.cropadvantage.org](http://www.cropadvantage.org). To have additional questions answered, contact ANR Program Services at (515) 294-6429, [anr@iastate.edu](mailto:anr@iastate.edu). Crop Advantage Series is presented by ISU Extension and Outreach with support from the Iowa Soybean Association and from the North Central SARE Program—Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education.

# City Council Minutes

The Laurens City Council met in regular session at the Municipal Building at 5:00 pm, December 7, 2015. Mayor Rod Johnson called the meeting to order. Present were Council Members Jean Swanson, Ken Kunickis, Rich Newgard, and Julie Potter; City Attorney, Ann Beneke; Police Chief, Chris Toner; Public Works Director, Julian Johnsen; and City Manager, Barbara Smith. Sid Enockson was absent.

Kunickis motioned to approve the consent agenda consisting of the agenda, minutes from the November 17, 2015 meeting, and the list of claims; seconded by Potter. Ayes all; motion carried.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing for the rezoning of the property located at 512 West Main Street at 5:02 pm. There being no written or oral objections, the public meeting was closed at 5:03 pm.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing for the financing of the Johnson Street Sweeper at 5:03 pm. There being no written or oral objections, the public hearing was closed at 5:04 pm.

Newgard motioned to approve Ordinance 08-15, Rezoning of West Main Street Property; seconded by Kunickis. Roll call vote: ayes all; motion carried. Newgard then motioned to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 08-15, seconded by Potter. Roll call vote: ayes all; motion carried. Ordinance 08-15 will become effective once printed in the newspaper.

Swanson motioned to approve Resolution 54-15, Master Lease Purchase Agreement between Tax Exempt Leasing Corp and the City of Laurens; seconded by Kunickis. Roll call vote: ayes all.

The Prairie Park Trail bid was discussed. The bid came in higher than expected. Smith is working to reduce the cost of the project.

Financing of a new fire truck and possibly a new ambulance was discussed. The council instructed Smith and Murray to move forward with the project.

Swanson motioned to approve Resolution 55-15, Temporary Truck Route; seconded by Kunickis. Roll call vote: ayes all; motion carried. The temporary route will run from the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and West Main Street to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, turning North to connect with Walnut, an existing truck route.

Newgard motioned to approve pay request #6 for the West Main Street Project, seconded by Kunickis. Ayes all; motion carried.

Potter motioned to set Change Order #3 aside until the next meeting to revise the wording on the Change Order, seconded by Kunickis. Ayes all; motion carried.

Swanson motioned to approve a one-time pay increase for city employees. Full time employees will receive \$250 in Chamber Bucks and part-time will receive \$125; seconded by Kunickis. Ayes all; motion carried.

Potter motioned to approve the closing of City Hall at Noon on December 24, seconded by Newgard. Ayes all; motion carried. This will not be considered a paid holiday.

CLAIMS	12-07-15		
ALLIANT ENERGY		UTILITIES	58.03
ARAMARK		SUPPLIES	335.45
AVESIS		INSURANCE	7.64
BOLTON & MENK		ENGINEERING	10,854.50
BOMGAARS		SUPPLIES	419.80
CASEY'S		FUEL	28.44
CHRIS TONER		POSTAGE	128.10
CONNECTIONS		INSURANCE	38.76
CORNWELL, FRIEDERS &		AUDITOR	3,210.00
DATA TECH		LICENSE FEE	2,220.78
GENERAL TRAFFIC CONT.		TRAFFIC LIGHT REPAIR	237.91
GREENE PLUMBING		SEWER REPAIRS	1,393.75
HUDSON LAW FIRM		ATTORNEY FEES	60.00
IA SOC OF FIRE SERVICE		MEMBERSHIP	360.00
ICMA		RETIREMENT	200.00
IRS		TAXES	8,191.29
IA RURAL WATER		MEMBERSHIP	275.00
IPERS		IPERS	4,454.69
IEPRS/PD		IPERS	1,693.66
JEFF LUFT		BONDING	811.00
LAURENS FIRE DEPT		PARTS	84.75
LMPC		COMMUNICATIONS	333.68
LMU		UTILITIES	5,683.38
LAURENS PLUMBING		SUPPLIES	531.63
LAURENS STATE BANK		TRUCK PAYMENT	1,525.42
LAURENS SUN		LEGALS	333.52
LAW ENFORCEMENT SYS.		SUPPLIES	322.00
NEWGARD AUTO		PARTS	188.60
OVERHEAD DOOR		REPAIRS	40.41
POC CO ENGINEER		SAND/SALT	309.55
PRIME BENEFITS		INSURANCE	105.00
PRINCIPAL		INSURANCE	821.32
PRO COOPERATIVE		FUEL	1,639.12
R B LUMBER		SUPPLIES	13.99
SECURE SHRED		SHREDDING	24.00
SHAMROCK		RECYCLING	1,574.71
SIEPKER AUTO		REPAIRS	226.90
TOM SHAW		POSTAGE	9.19

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TREASURER, STATE OF IA	TAXES	4,927.00
VAUGHN DELOSS CONST.	PAY REQ #6	23,847.34
WEX BANKS	FUEL	445.62
	TOTAL	<u>77,965.93</u>
PAYROLL	11/19/2015	
001 GENERAL		166.54
600 WATER		166.54
610 SEWER		166.54
670 GARBAGE		166.54
PAYROLL	11/23/2015	
001 GENERAL		4,043.98
110 ROAD USE TAX		1,512.12
600 WATER		2,323.05
610 SEWER		2,139.20
670 GARBAGE		2,097.96
PAYROLL	11/30/2015	
001 GENERAL		10,288.22
PAYROLL	12/1/2015	
001 GENERAL		4,578.38
	TOTAL	<u>27,649.07</u>
	PAID TOTAL	<u>105,615.00</u>
BY FUND		
001 GENERAL		35,898.00
110 ROAD USE TAX		5,927.97
112 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		403.83
316 WEST MAIN & BISSELL		28,866.84
317 PRAIRIE PARK TRAIL		5,895.00
600 WATER		11,066.74
610 SEWER		7,723.19
670 GARBAGE		9,022.43
745 STORM WATER		811.00
		<u>105,615.00</u>
REVENUES BY FUND - NOV		
001 GENERAL		61,343.61
110 ROAD USE		13,447.91
112 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		7,202.46
113 EMERGENCY		565.27
174 POOL - RESTRICTED		860.00
200 DEBT SERVICE		9,296.91
300 CAPITAL PROJECTS		1,100.85
600 WATER		40,890.58
610 SEWER		20,057.83
670 GARBAGE		20,216.07
745 STORM WATER		3,615.21
		<u>178,596.70</u>

Potter motioned to adjourn at 5:42 pm, seconded by Swanson. Ayes all; motion carried.

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Rod Johnson, Mayor

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Barbara Smith, City Clerk

ORDINANCE 08-15

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAURENS, POCAHONTAS COUNTY, IOWA.

Be It Enacted by the Council of the City of Laurens, Iowa, that Chapter 165 entitled "Zoning Regulations" which incorporates the zoning regulations adopted March 2, 1987, by Ordinance No. 154 and amendments thereto; and specifically Title VI, Chapter 5, Article 4, Section 2, which incorporates the Official Zoning Map of Laurens, Iowa, is amended as follows:

A zoning designation of R-1, Single Family Residential, exists for the following described properties:

- 1) Parcel ID 0127105016 E 15' LOT 4 BLK 24  
0127105017 LOT 3 BLK 24

\*This property does not have an established address

- 2) 0127105018 LOT 2 BLK 24  
0127105019 LOT 50' X 140' of LOT 14 S of OL S

\*The address of the above property is 512 W Main Street, Laurens, Iowa 50554

Each of the above described properties shall hereafter be designated as C-2, Highway Commercial.

REPEALER: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or and section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.


WHEN EFFECTIVE: This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the Laurens City Council on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015, and approved this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

First Reading: Potter, Swanson, Kunz, Newgard

Second Reading: waived

Third Reading: waived

  
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Rod Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Barbara Smith, City Clerk