

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



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Local News

Top 10 Announced for Iowa's Best Burger Contest

Iowans submitted nominations between February 15 – March 15 to kick off the quest to find the best burger in Iowa. Nominations were accepted online by the Iowa Beef Industry Council and the Iowa Cattlemen's Association. The number of votes each restaurant received determined the 2021 Top Ten restaurants. The restaurants making the Top Ten list (in alphabetical order) include:

Arty's Ice Cream & Grill, Wilton

Bambino's, Ossian

#DutchFix, Pella

*Fishback & Stephenson Cider House,
Fairfield*

Foodie Garage Eatery, Dubuque

Moo's BBQ, Newton

Murph's Creamery & Grill, Toledo

Saucy Focaccia, Cedar Rapids

The Map Room, Cedar Rapids

Troy's Bar and Grill, Earling

To qualify, the burger must be a 100% real beef patty served on a bun or bread product. Burgers may include any

combination of condiments, sauces, cheese or toppings.

"After a challenging year for Iowa's restaurant industry, it was refreshing to see Iowans rally behind their favorite local burger joint," comments Kylie Peterson, Director of Marketing for the Iowa Beef Industry Council. "In total, we had more than 200 towns across Iowa nominated, which proves that there are a lot of great-tasting burgers all across the state."

Seven of the Top Ten restaurants are new qualifiers. Returning contestants include Moo's BBQ, Saucy Focaccia, and Troy's Bar and Grill.

The quest for the winner of the Iowa's Best Burger will now begin. All Top Ten restaurants will be visited by a panel of anonymous judges who will evaluate the burgers based on taste, appearance, and proper doneness (160 degrees Fahrenheit). The judges' scores and comments will be accumulated and the winner will be announced on May 3 to kick off May Beef Month.

"This year's Top Ten restaurants are award-winning worthy," says Peterson. "But they are only a few of the many restaurants in Iowa that do an outstanding job of promoting and serving our beef products to their customers on behalf of Iowa's beef farmers. With spring upon us, I challenge Iowans to rally their support behind restaurant owners and Iowa's beef

farmers by choosing to order a beef burger one additional time per week."

To learn more about the contest and the Top Ten restaurants, including addresses and hours, visit www.iabeef.org.

Last year, The Twisted Tail Steakhouse & Saloon of BeeBeeTown took home the title of 2020 Iowa's Best Burger. Winners in previous years are: 2019 – Wood Iron Grille of Oskaloosa; 2018 - Café Beaudelaire of Ames; 2017 – The Smokin' Hereford BBQ of Storm Lake; 2016 - The Chuckwagon Restaurant Adair; 2015 - The Cider House of Fairfield; 2014 - Brick City Grill in Ames; 2013 - 61 Chop House Grille in Mediapolis; 2012 - Coon Bowl III in Coon Rapids; 2011 - Rusty Duck in Dexter; and 2010 - Sac County Cattle Company of Sac City.

About the Iowa Beef Industry Council: The Iowa Beef Industry Council is funded by the \$1-per-head National Beef Checkoff Program and the \$0.50-per-head Iowa State Beef Checkoff. Checkoff dollars are invested in beef promotion, consumer information, research, industry information and foreign market development, all with the purpose of strengthening beef demand. For more information, visit www.iabeef.org.

Governor Reynolds Signs "Meat On The Table Month" Proclamation

Gov. Kim Reynolds proclaimed April as "Meat on the Table Month." During this time, she encourages Iowans to support the livestock industry through meat consumption and purchases.

The Iowa Cattlemen's Association and Iowa State Beef Checkoff Program, alongside beef producers and other industry leaders, appreciate the state's initiative to promote our meat products. The livestock industry takes great pride in caring for its animals. Beef producers invest in herd development, health and nutrition planning, and best management practices to ensure they provide consumers with a high-quality source of protein.

We encourage consumers to join us in learning about beef production and most importantly, understanding how beef gets from pasture to plate. Beef producers collectively work to meet consumers in the marketplace by listening to their concerns, addressing questions about how cattle are raised, and even opening up their farms and ranches for tours. As the ultimate "upcyclers," cattle turn otherwise unusable material into a high-value product and play an important role as part of the biogenic carbon cycle.

As Iowans embark on their journey to explore the benefits of beef and other meat products, consider purchasing beef in a showing of solidarity for local restaurants, food service, and fellow Iowa beef producers. The Iowa State Beef Checkoff Program provides resources online that will make the next month, and beyond, exciting for your taste buds.

As always, thank you for supporting your local farm families by purchasing beef and other meat products.

Where To Buy Beef Locally: <https://www.iabeef.org/raising-beef>

Beef Recipes: <https://www.iabeef.org/recipes>

"MEAT ON THE TABLE MONTH" PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Iowa feeds the world with high-quality products including pork, beef, lamb, poultry, eggs, and fish; according to the last USDA census of agriculture, Iowa generated almost \$29 billion in crop and livestock sales, putting us 2nd in the nation.

WHEREAS, Iowa producers are leading the way in animal health care, husbandry, and handling practices; from our largest meat processing companies, to small family-owned meat lockers, Iowa plays a critical role in the food supply chain.

WHEREAS, these products are packed with wholesome and nutritious protein and play a critical role in combating hunger and fighting food insecurity throughout Iowa, America and around the globe;

WHEREAS, producers are under constant scrutiny from ill-informed politicians and social media influencers, who diminish the brand of everyday food, mislead consumers, and disregard sound research supporting the quality and safety of animal agriculture;

WHEREAS, now, more than ever, it is imperative that agricultural leaders unite and stand up for our industry, the products, and the people who produce the meat and animal protein products that feed an ever-growing global population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 2021 as **MEAT ON THE TABLE MONTH** in Iowa, and call upon the people of Iowa to purchase and eat pork, beef, lamb, poultry, eggs, fish, or another kind of meat from one of Iowa's many meat and poultry processors or retailers.

Our Town Our Paper!

The Paper

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Save the Date! Child Care Provider Meet and Greet

As part of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Week April 12-17, the Pocahontas County Extension and Outreach Office is hosting a “Child Care Meet and Greet” event on Tuesday, April 13th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Pocahontas Expo Center located at 310 NE 1st Street in Pocahontas.

If you are a child care provider with questions about improving your business, or if you want to start a child care business, then this meeting is for you. ISU Extension and Outreach is hosting Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) and Linking Families and Communities to answer questions about business registration, policies, the Quality Rating Scale, and free resources that are available to you.

This is a drop-in event, so stop at your convenience any time between 4:30-6:30 p.m. Families are welcome. The event will include a Story Time and each family will receive a free book.

For more information, please contact Janae Blomquist, program coordinator, at 712-335-3103 or janeab@iastate.edu.

Hy-Vee to Host Second “Best of Local Brands” Summit in May

Midwestern Vendors Invited to Submit Their Products for Potential Hy-Vee Distribution

Hy-Vee, Inc. announces today that it will host its second “Best of Local Brands” summit in May to expand and enhance the product offerings at its more than 275 retail stores in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The first quarterly summit was held in February where 52 new brands were selected to become available to Hy-Vee customers in the coming months.

Hy-Vee is currently accepting submissions for its “Best of Local Brands” summit online at <http://www.rangeme.com/hyveelocalsummitq2> in the following categories of retail ready products: grocery, produce, deli, general merchandise, frozen, dairy, and health and beauty care.

The summit will be organized by the eight states Hy-Vee operates in and will consist of 15- to 30-minute virtual presentations from selected suppliers. The summit will take place from Tuesday, May 11 to Thursday, May 13.

ECRM and RangeMe are helping Hy-Vee source, qualify and connect suppliers with the appropriate buyers. All sourcing and product submissions will be made through RangeMe, the industry standard online product discovery and sourcing platform, and ECRM will qualify suppliers, create curated meeting schedules and facilitate face-to-face meeting execution with Hy-Vee buyers to introduce new and innovative products into the marketplace. All meetings will be conducted through ECRM’s industry leading virtual meeting platform, ECRM Connect, plus, ECRM’s dedicated support team will help ensure that buyer and seller connections are executed seamlessly. Suppliers not chosen will still be accessible through RangeMe and may be reviewed by Hy-Vee merchants again in the future as business needs change.

State 4-H Council Members Create Blankets for Visually Impaired Youth

Sewing skills may be hard to come by these days, but not for these high school 4-H members. The State 4-H Council pledged their hands to larger service as they gathered in central Iowa for their spring retreat. In partnership with the Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, council members put their skills to the test and learned new ones as they worked together to prepare and sew nine tactile blankets for Iowa youth who are blind or visually impaired.

“The goal of this project was to create tactile blankets that can be used by infants, young children and older children who are blind or visually impaired, to help engage them in their cognitive development,” explained Deena Recker with the Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

The mission of the IESBVI is to enable Iowa's students who are blind or visually impaired to function as independently as possible in all aspects of life by providing appropriate educational opportunities, resources and support services.

Last spring Recker connected with Haley Jones, leadership and civic engagement specialist with the Iowa 4-H program and adviser to the State 4-H Council. COVID-19 cancellations and winter weather delayed the service project partnership for nearly a year.

The State 4-H Council is comprised of 40 energetic and leadership driven high school 4-H members who serve as ambassadors for the Iowa 4-H program.

“When Deena reached out last spring, I knew this was something our State Council members would be up for. I like

to challenge them professionally and as their adviser, I look for ways to engage them in new experiences, especially when service and leadership are involved,” shared Jones.

From pinning the fabric and sewing squares together, to ironing the folds and sewing the backing on, council members completed the entire project as a team. Small groups and stations were formed in the large space, as members completed certain steps of the process before handing a blanket off to the next station to be worked on.

“My favorite part of this project was learning how useful the blankets are for visually impaired youth and being able to work with my fellow council members to create something that would mean a lot for another group of people,” shared Jake Lahr from Hamilton County.

One way that the Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired serves their students is through volunteer collaboration to make tactile blankets. These tactile blankets are specifically designed to be used with children up to three years old and with students who are cognitively delayed operating in that age range. Last year, the organization distributed over 100 tactile blankets to their staff who then placed the blankets with students.

“These blankets made by 4-H members provide an important way for the children we serve to begin reaching out into the world away from their bodies. Invaluable!” exclaimed Recker.

Council members were encouraged to take this service project idea back to their own counties and 4-H clubs to help spread awareness and to encourage their fellow 4-H members to sew tactile

blankets for the visually impaired in Iowa.

“I think the service project was a great opportunity to help give back in a unique way. When someone says the words service project, I feel people tend to think physical labor, however, service is so much more than that. I had no idea that these blankets were such a need, but throughout the project I learned more about the purpose and necessity of the blankets. It was uplifting to be a part of a project with the entire state council,” shared Natalie Marr, state council member from Chickasaw County.

To get involved in sewing tactile blankets or to learn more about the Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, visit <https://www.iowa-braille.k12.ia.us/vnews/display.v/SEC/About%20Us%7CGoals>.

Iowa 4-H is the youth development program of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. To learn more about the State 4-H Council or the Iowa 4-H program, visit <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/>.

LAURENS
CHAMBER
AND
COMMUNITY
BOOSTERS

EASTER
**EGG
HUNT**

3rd
APRIL
SATURDAY / 10:00 AM

Sportsman's Park - Laurens
AGES GROUPS - 3 & UNDER | 4, 5, & 6 | 7, 8, & 9

Iowa Medicare Beneficiaries Targeted by Medicare Card Scams

Iowa seniors and Medicare beneficiaries are encouraged to be aware of current Medicare card scams in our state. To learn more about Medicare scams impacting Iowans, register for our live event on Friday, April 23, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at <https://bit.ly/3s0g8Ua>.

“It’s important for Iowans to protect their Medicare number and not give it to unknown callers,” SHIIP/SMP Director Kristin Griffith said. “Medicare will rarely contact you by phone, and if so, you can also hang up and call Medicare back to confirm that the call is legitimate and not a scam.”

Medicare scams include the following:

- Scammers falsely tell Medicare beneficiaries that Medicare is issuing new Medicare cards. Medicare isn't issuing new cards and Medicare employees don't contact participants through unsolicited calls, emails, or visits. Medicare communicates with beneficiaries via mail.

- Scammers falsely allege Medicare is issuing new plastic or metal Medicare cards or black and white Covid-19 Medicare cards. The scammers state that in order to get your new card, you need to provide personal identifying information such as your Medicare number, birth date or even financial account numbers. Medicare will never ask for your personal information or Medicare number unless you contact Medicare yourself.

- Scammers falsely allege Medicare is replacing the Medicare card due to suspicious activity, or promise the new Medicare card will give them new and enhanced Medicare benefits not available with their current card. Scammers often threaten that the current Medicare card is going to be deactivated. This is not true.

- “Spoofing” is a process often used by scammers. Spoofing is when a caller deliberately falsifies the information transmitted to your caller ID display to disguise their identity. Scammers also often use “neighbor spoofing” so it appears that an incoming call is coming from a local number, or spoof a number from a company or a government agency like Medicare or Social Security Administration that you may already know and trust.

If you suspect Medicare fraud, errors, or abuse, contact Iowa SHIIP/Senior Medicare Patrol at 800-351-4664 or www.smp.iowa.gov.

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Summer Help Wanted:

The City of Laurens is now taking applications for lifeguards, \$7.25/hr first year; pool manager, salary to be determined; and summer parks department positions, \$11/hour for the first year. Applications will be accepted at Laurens City Hall through April 1.

The City of Laurens is an equal opportunity employer.

The City of Laurens is taking sealed bids for nuisance contract work.

Contract Bid Forms may be picked up at City Hall and must be received by noon on April 1.

Any questions, please contact City Manager, Hilary Reed, at 712-841-4526.

This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Pastor Ed Frank

Wed., March 24th:

Deadline to order Easter flowers for the altar

Sun., March 28:

Sunday school (cherubs-adult) from 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Worship service @ 10:30 a.m.

Youth Group from 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m. here at Laurens UMC



The
United
Methodist
Church

This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Pastor David E. Klappenbach

Wednesday: March 24, 2021

5:30 PM - Lenten Soup Supper

6:30 PM - Lenten Evening Service

Sunday: March 28, 2021

Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

9:15 AM - Adult SS

9:30 AM - Youth SS

10:30 AM - Worship w/Communion & SS sings

5-6:30 PM - Youth Group at UMC

Tuesday: March 30, 2021

8:30 AM - Prayer Group

9:30 AM - Tuesday coffee at Bethany

Thursday: April 1, 2021

7:00 PM - Maundy Thursday Service w/Communion

Friday: April 2, 2021

7:00 PM - Good Friday Service

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



Bethany
LUTHERAN CHURCH
North American Lutheran Church

This Week at First Christian

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Sunday, March 28

10:30 a.m. - Worship

Friday, April 2

7:00 p.m. - Ecumenical Good Friday Service at Bethany Lutheran Church



New Hope Baptist Church

202 Byron St, Laurens

New Hope Baptist Church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 a.m. and our Worship Service at 11 a.m. Additionally all are welcome to attend our weekly Bible Study held each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m.

Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church

Pocahontas, IA -- Pastor: Very Rev. Craig Collison, VF

MASS TIMES:

Daily Mass as scheduled in the weekly bulletin

Saturday at 5:00 PM and Sunday at 10:30 AM

Confessions: Saturday 4:15 pm at Resurrection

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!*



ServSafe® Food Safety Certification Class to be held April 20 in Pocahontas

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in Pocahontas County will be hosting a ServSafe® food safety certification class in Pocahontas on April 20. Holly VanHeel, Human Sciences Extension and Outreach Specialist, will be teaching the class. VanHeel has been a ServSafe® instructor since 2010 and has trained over 2,000 food service professionals in ServSafe®.

This class will prepare individuals to become a Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM), a requirement for retail food establishments in Iowa. The ServSafe® program blends information from the latest FDA Food Code, food safety research, and years of food sanitation training experience and is administered through the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation.

This class will be held at the Expo Center in Pocahontas. Registration deadline is three weeks prior to the class (March 30 deadline). Register online at: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/servsafe> For more information about the class, contact the Pocahontas County ISU Extension and Outreach Office at (712) 335-3103, email VanHeel at vanheel@iastate.edu, or stop at the Pocahontas County Extension Office located at 305 North Main Street in Pocahontas. Office hours are Monday-Friday - 8 am to 4:30 pm.

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

Registration Opens for Gardening to Give Program

Iowa 4-H Youth Development will launch Gardening to Give, a hands-on educational gardening program designed for all ages and abilities, on March 15. Registered participants receive educational resources monthly during this eight-month, immersive learning experience. This marks year two for Gardening to Give after the program reached over 1,000 individuals across Iowa and the United States in its first year.

“Gardening to Give will focus on encouraging all Iowans to grow gardens statewide to provide food for their families as well as local food pantries and food banks,” said Haley Jones, 4-H civic engagement and leadership specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Registration for the Gardening to Give program is now open. Registered participants will receive monthly gardening lessons and learning activities focused on a specific gardening topic, ranging from planting, weed control and pollinators to examples of how to share and donate harvested produce with others. The educational lessons are designed to provide applicable learning for small container gardens to large-scale backyard garden beds using seeds and plants that are accessible to the grower.

Participants are then encouraged to report their harvest and donation amounts through a texting service for the program. Individuals also will be able to share their gardening progress through photos and quotes via a digital platform throughout the program. Participants are encouraged to connect with their ISU Extension and Outreach county office to obtain additional horticultural information, connect with local experts and participate in local gardening workshops.

“Gardening to Give provides an extended learning opportunity for youth and adults alike to learn together and share their successes in the garden,” said Jones. “The great thing about this program is that participants can engage in this online learning opportunity when it’s most convenient for them.”

While this educational experience extends over an eight-month period, participants can register and choose to engage at any time in select portions of Gardening to Give or the entire learning experience. There is no cost involved to participate.

“Register now to get your hands dirty and pledge them to larger service by growing a garden with ISU Extension and Outreach and Iowa 4-H Youth Development,” Jones said. Visit the Gardening to Give webpage for more information.

Clover Kids

All children in Kindergarten through 3rd grade are welcome and encouraged to join Pocahontas County Clover Kids.

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County with the help of a generous grant through the Pocahontas County Foundation Grant, have been making Clover Kids kits throughout the school year, distributing to children with the help of Pocahontas Area Elementary, Laurens Marathon Elementary, and Pocahontas Catholic Schools.

The Clover Kids group will begin meeting face to face on Saturday, March 27 at the Expo Center in Pocahontas. This program is free of charge to all youth in Kindergarten through 3rd grade, but you must be pre-registered to attend. You may enroll at <https://v2.4honline.com>, if you need assistance with the enrollment process or if you have any questions, please email lzeman@iastate.edu or call 712-335-3103.

Dairy Technology Field Day to Be Held on April 14

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach dairy team is hosting a field day focused on dairy technology on the farm. The April 14 field day will feature two farm visits where attendees can see automated feeding and milking system technology in action and learn about calf barn management, ventilation and feeding calves with a milk taxi.

The first farm visit will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Honey Creek Dairy, 1636 400th St., Strawberry Point, Iowa. Honey Creek Dairy recently installed a Lely Vector automated feeding system as well as three Lely Astronaut automated milking units. Co-owner Dan Venteicher will be on hand to explain how the automated feeding system works and answer questions about the new facilities and equipment.

The second farm visit will be from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Putz family dairy at 1368 310th Ave., New Vienna, Iowa. Two years ago, the Putz family built a new naturally ventilated calf barn with individual pens and a supplemental positive pressure tube ventilation system. The facility also uses a milk taxi system for feeding calves. Brad Putz will be available to discuss how the milk taxi works and answer questions about the facility. A fogger demonstration will be performed on the ventilation system at 1:45 p.m.

“Technology is becoming more commonly used on dairy farms as a way to improve labor efficiency and flexibility, boost production, and enhance overall health and management of cows and calves,” said Jenn Bentley, dairy specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. “This field day will give producers a chance to see new technologies and facilities in person and have their questions answered.”

Attendees are asked to practice social distancing at the farms. Lunch will be on your own between the two farm visits. There is no fee for the field day, but RSVPs are appreciated. If you have questions or would like to RSVP, contact dairy specialists Brian Dougherty at brian1@iastate.edu or 563-239-7070; or Jenn Bentley at jbentley@iastate.edu or 563-382-2949.

This material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2018-70027-28586.

New Publications Focus on Protecting Swine Building Investments

With around 50 million animals raised annually, Iowa is by far the nation’s leading pork producing state. Most of these animals are housed in confinement production facilities.

Many of these facilities are aging and have significant maintenance and repair needs. Some newer facilities are deteriorating more rapidly than expected. Roof and concrete corrosion are particularly common issues.

To help the swine industry take a critical look at their facilities and identify areas of improvement, a team of agricultural engineers with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach has compiled a series of new publications.

Five new publications are available, covering topics like enhancing the longevity of swine building components, gable and attic air intakes, concrete inspection, and installation and maintenance of wood roof trusses.

“We’ve been hearing a lot of feedback that suggested these were topics of concern for the industry,” said Kapil Arora, field agricultural engineer with ISU Extension and Outreach and one of the leading authors. “This prompted us to look at these topics to find alternatives and new methods to understand and manage the maintenance needs of these facilities.”

Regular building inspection and maintenance can increase the life of buildings, reducing annual costs, preventing system failures, and reducing inefficiencies that can negatively impact animal health, production and economic returns. Swine producers can benefit from guidance on best practices and new techniques to protect their swine building investment.

Arora said a potential problem is the recirculation of undesirable gases during periods of minimum ventilation in winter. The ventilation fans pull the gases out, but these gases can often recirculate through the soffits, causing premature damage to the facility roof. One solution is to close the soffit air intakes and install new air intakes on the gable end of the facility.

The publications are available free through the ISU Extension and Outreach store. They include:

1. Enhancing the Longevity of Swine Building Components (AE 3543)
2. Swine Building Ventilation System Maintenance and Troubleshooting Tools (AE 3544)
3. Gable End Attic Air Intakes for Swine Building Ventilation (AE 3545)
4. Concrete Inspection in Swine Buildings (AE 3547)
5. Installation and Maintenance of Wood Roof Trusses in Farm Buildings (AE 3548)

The publications have useful information for swine facility owners and for contractors involved in their construction or maintenance. Additional publications are planned in the future. For more information, Arora can be reached at 515-462-1001.

Additional leading authors include Brian Dougherty, Kris Kohl, Shawn Shouse, and Kristina Tebockhorst.

City Council Minutes

March 15th, 2021

The Laurens City Council met in regular session at the Municipal Building at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 15th, 2021. Mayor Rod Johnson called the meeting to order. Present were Mayor Rod Johnson, Council members Aaron Christenson, Rich Newgard, Julie Potter, John Jamison, City Administrator Hilary Reed, City Clerk Joan Hoben, City Attorney Ann Beneke, and Public Works Director Julian Johnsen. Council member Jean Swanson was absent.

Jamison moved to approve the consent agenda, minutes from the March 15th, 2021, meeting, and the list of claims. Christenson seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

CLAIMS 03-15-2021

AIRGAS NORTH CENTRAL	AMBULANCE OXYGEN CYLINDERS	60.95
AMAZON	BOOKS & DVDS	89.58
BAKER & TAYLOR	BOOKS	869.56
BROWN SUPPLY	SHOP SUPPLIES	535.00
CONNECTIONS, INC.	MONTHLY GROUP INSURANCE	39.84
COUNSEL	COPIER MAINT.	102.89
DEE JACKSON/JACKSON MOTORS	FEB SNOW REMOVAL	90.00
ECHO GROUP, INC.	LED STRIPS	243.28
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB	WATER TESTING	177.50
GARTHLENE BELL	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES	218.39
HACH CO	CHEMICALS	368.72
IRS	FED/FICA TAX	5,380.07
JCL SOLUTIONS	CLEANING SUPPLIES	127.20
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SHOP SUPPLIES	996.74
LAURENS FOOD PRIDE	CLEANING SUPPLIES	20.04
LAURENS HOUSE OF PRINT	LIBRARY CARDS	47.00
LMPC	PHONE & INTERNET	130.68
LMU	MONTHLY UTILITIES	856.24
LAURENS SUN	LEGALS	111.84
OFFICE ELEMENTS	COPY PAPER	38.90
PCC AMBULANCE BILLING SERVICE	AMBULANCE BILLING	727.54
PETE HOWE INDUSTRIAL	TELEVISION JACK LINK LINES	1,168.75
POCAHONTAS CO TREASURER	PROPERTY TAXES FARM	957.00
POC COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES	7.65
POCAHONTAS SOLID WASTE	LANDFILL FEES	5,772.83
PRIME BENEFITS	MONTHLY GROUP INSURANCE	78.75
PRINCIPAL LIFE	MONTHLY LIFE INSURANCE	1,026.16
PRO COOPERATIVE	MONTHLY FUEL	1,858.65
R & D INDUSTRIES	POLICE COMPUTER	4,101.72
SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	642.50
SANTANDER LEASING, LLC	SWEEPER MONTHLY PAYMENT	3,390.81
SARAH HERTZ	TRAINING	50.00
SECURE SHRED SOLUTIONS	SHREDDING PAPER	24.00
SHAMROCK RECYCLE, INC.	CURBSIDE RECYCLING	1,785.51
UNITYPOINT HEALTH-FORT DODGE	MEDICAL EXPENSE	198.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	MONTHLY PHONE FEES	351.54
WEX	MONTHLY POLICE FUEL	<u>323.97</u>
	TOTAL	<u><u>32,969.80</u></u>

		3/1/2021	
	001 GENERAL		5,422.10
		3/8/2021	
	001 GENERAL		2,842.52
	110 ROAD USE TAX		1,759.23
	600 WATER		2,633.73
	610 SEWER		1,888.23
	670 GARBAGE		2,487.84
		TOTAL	<u>11,611.55</u>
		PAYROLL TOTAL	17,033.65
		PAID TOTAL	50,003.45
BY FUND			
	001 GENERAL		20,866.34
	110 ROAD USE TAX		3,826.00
	112 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		468.49
	200 DEBT SERVICE		3,390.81
	600 WATER		5,080.53
	610 SEWER		4,395.16
	670 GARBAGE		11,976.12
		TOTAL BY FUND	<u><u>50,003.45</u></u>

Mayor Johnson opened the public budget hearing for the FY22 budget. There were no written or oral objections to the FY22 budget. The public hearing was closed for the FY22 budget at 5:02 p.m.

Mayor Johnson opened the public budget hearing for the USDA Rural Development for Grant Assistance. There were no written or oral objections. The public hearing was closed at 5:03 p.m.

Reed presented the FY22 budget.

Newgard motioned to approve Resolution 05-21 FY22 budget, seconded by Potter. Roll call vote: Ayes: Potter, Jamison, Newgard, Christenson. Nays: none. Absent: Swanson. Motion carried.

Newgard motioned to approve Resolution 06-21 Resolution to apply for USDA Rural Development for Grant Assistance, seconded by Jamison. Roll call vote: Ayes: Potter, Jamison, Newgard, Christenson. Nays: none. Absent: Swanson. Motion carried.

Jamison moved to approve the offer of employment and hiring of Daniel Wegg as Police Chief. Christenson seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Potter moved to approve the offer of employment and hiring of Bo Greene as Assistant Police Chief. Newgard seconded. All ayes; motion carried.

Discussion was held on development of the Benz Addition.

Potter moved to adjourn at 5:56 p.m. Jamison seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rod Johnson, Mayor

Hilary Reed, City Clerk