

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



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November 10,
2021

Local News

Pfizer Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic to be Held

Pocahontas County Health Department will be holding a Pfizer Pediatric COVID-19 vaccination clinic for 5-11 year olds on Wednesday, November 17th from 4-6 p.m. at the St. Peter Lutheran Church in Pocahontas. The second dose will be administered on Wednesday, December 8th, same time, same place. Please call our office at (712) 335-4142 to schedule an appointment.

If you would like to schedule a different appointment time at our office or if you have any questions, please call us at 712-335-4142.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

A poster for the Veteran's Day Program. It features a silhouette of a soldier saluting against a background of a stylized American flag. The text reads: "VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM", "THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11TH @ 10AM", "LAURENS MARATHON SCHOOL OLD GYM", and "TODAY AND EVERY DAY WE ARE GRATEFUL". The poster is set against a background of blue and red stars and stripes.

**VETERAN'S
DAY PROGRAM**

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11TH @ 10AM

LAURENS MARATHON
SCHOOL OLD GYM

TODAY AND EVERY DAY
WE ARE GRATEFUL

Fish Fry Friday November 12th
5-8pm

Dine In or To go! (712) 841-2287

4 Piece \$13.00
6 Piece \$15.00

Comes with coleslaw, baked beans & baked potato.

LAURENS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Laurens Women's Club to Meet

The Laurens Women's Club will meet on Friday, November 12 at 1:30 p.m. at the West Iowa Bank in Laurens.

Connie Dallenbach will present the program "Sloughs, Swamps and Perseverance".

Members of the serving committee will be Jackie Stelter and Betty VanHorsen. Lois Jirgens will give the book report for the month.



Sign On Bonus up to \$2500

NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS

JOIN OUR TEAM!

JOB OPENING

ACCOUNTANT/BILLING

CLERK

COME Join the Fun Northwest Team of 31 employees with an Average of 15 years of service

This is a full time Position with an Excellent Benefit Package

MAIL: Resume, Application & Salary History to:
Northwest Communications Attn: Human Resources 844 Wood Street,
Havelock, IA 50546

Job application located at www.ncn.net under careers or call 1-800-249-5251

ANNUAL VETERANS DAY DINNER

Thursday – November 11, 2021

**Laurens United Methodist Church
201 West Main Street
Laurens, IA**

**Serving - Roast Beef Sandwich
Baked Beans, Chips & a Bar**

Time - 11:00 - 1:00

Cost - Free Will offering

Dine In, Pickup and delivery

**The money raised is going to be used for upkeep and
improvement of the Veterans Monument.**

Delivery is available by calling 712 358 4419



The Paper

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Fax:
(712) 841-4662

Website:
www.thepapernow.com

E-mail:
publisher@mylaurens.com

Publisher:
Rodney Johnson

Editor:
Amanda Tendal

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Grace & Don Hertz to Celebrate 60th Anniversary

The family would like for everyone to honor them with a card shower. Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hertz were married on November 24, 1961. Address is: 13737 410th St, Laurens, IA 50554.

Holiday Greens Sales

The Fonda Arts Center joins the festivities of the Fonda Craft Show by hosting the sale of holiday greens again this year.

We will be set up in front of the Fonda Arts Center on the northwest corner of 4th and Main Streets in Fonda on Craft Show day, Sunday, November 14th, from 9 a.m. till 3 p.m. These greens will come from the same source as in previous years, and will include the wreaths, swags, roping and planters, with all the beauty and freshness that you have come to enjoy and expect.

Please feel free to call Annie at 712-288-6278 with any questions or special requests. Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy holiday season!

Richard Rigby Gun Auction

Guns made and/or collected by Richard Rigby of Laurens are currently being sold at online auction.

If interested, visit: <https://tangerinezebra.hibid.com/lots/?cat=3183>.

Lots 3-136 are his, with the exception of lots 41, 47, 49, 51, 52, 55, 57 and 61. Sale closes on November 12.

Limited Supply of Free Pediatric Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Ages 5-11 Now Available at Select Hy-Vee Pharmacies by Appointment Only

Hy-Vee, Inc. announced recently that select Hy-Vee pharmacy locations are now administering free Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines to children ages 5-11 without a prescription, per the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recent approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for this age group. Due to limited supply, these vaccines are available by appointment only, and more appointment slots will be added as additional pediatric vaccine supply becomes available. Hy-Vee has been offering the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to individuals ages 12 and older since authorized earlier this year.

The Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech requires two doses administered at least 21 days apart. The Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech is a smaller dosage than the Pfizer-BioNTech authorized for individuals ages 12 and older, so it's important that individuals select the vaccine option appropriate for their age when scheduling for an appointment online. Minors must have parental or guardian consent to receive the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. A parent or guardian must accompany minors to both their first and second dose COVID-19 vaccinations.

At this time, Moderna and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccines are NOT authorized for minors.

Parents/guardians can schedule a COVID-19 vaccination for children ages 5-11 by visiting www.hy-vee.com/covidvaccine. Using Hy-Vee's online scheduler, parents/guardians can quickly search for the Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine across Hy-Vee pharmacy locations near them.

The vaccines are free to all eligible patients, regardless of their insurance coverage. Hy-Vee pharmacy locations are open seven days a week and offer convenient evening and weekend hours.

It is recommended (but not required) that vaccine recipients bring the following to their appointment: insurance card (if they have insurance) and Medicaid card (if Medicaid recipient). Masks are required. If individuals do not have insurance, they can still be vaccinated.

Vaccine recipients will be required to remain in the pharmacy's designated observation area for 15 minutes post-vaccination.

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines, visit www.hy-vee.com/covidvaccine.

This Week at Laurens United Methodist Church

Pastor Deb Parkison

Wed., Nov. 10:

Confirmation Class meet 6:30 p.m.-
7:30 p.m. in Wesley Room
Caring Cards meet 5:00 p.m.-8:00
p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Thurs., Nov. 11:

Veterans Day

VFW Meal fundraiser 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Fri., Nov. 12:

AA meeting 7 p.m.-8 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 14:

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.
Worship @ 10:30 a.m.
Choir sings
Laurens Area Community Youth
Group 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. here at
Laurens UMC



This Week at Bethany Lutheran

Pastor David E. Klappenbach

Wednesday: November 10, 2021

7:00 PM ~ Council Mtg.

Thursday: November 11, 2021

6:30 PM ~ Discipleship Class

Sunday: November 14, 2021

Stewardship Sunday

9:15 AM ~ Adult SS

9:30 AM ~ Youth SS & Coffee

Fellowship

10:30 AM ~ Worship w/Commitment
Cards & Thanksgiving Offering

4:00 PM ~ Youth Board at UMC

5:00-6:30 PM ~ Youth Group at UMC

6:30 PM ~ Women's Bible Study

Tuesday: November 16, 2021

8:30 AM ~ Prayer Group

9:30 AM ~ Tuesday coffee at Bethany

Thursday: November 18, 2021

2:00PM ~ Circle Group at Bethany

6:30 PM ~ Discipleship Class

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



Bethany
LUTHERAN CHURCH
North American Lutheran Church

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

This Week at First Christian

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Sunday, Nov. 14th

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School

9:30 a.m. - Elder's Meeting

10:30 a.m. - Worship

4:00 p.m. - Youth Group Board

Meeting at Bethany Lutheran Church

4:00 p.m. - Service at the Laurens

Care Center



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.

Commercial Ag Weed, Insect, Plant Disease Course Set for November 17

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County will host a Commercial Ag Weed, Insect, and Plant Disease Management Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. The program, provided by the ISU Extension and Outreach Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP), is available at office locations across Iowa.

Preregistration may be required and walk-ins are NOT guaranteed admission. The course runs from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$35. To register or to obtain additional information about the CIC, contact Dianne Dirks at the ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County office at 712-335-3103 or email dianned@iastate.edu.

The course will provide continuing instruction credit for commercial pesticide applicators certified in categories 1A, 1B, and 1C. Topics covered will include application equipment use, maintenance, and calibration, safe application techniques including pesticide drift reduction, pests and pest management, and phytotoxicity. Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered at this program. Interested participants should bring their CCA number. Additional information and registration forms for this and other courses offered by the PSEP program can be accessed at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/PSEP>.

Dairy Directions Series Dec. 7 in Sac City and Dec. 8 in Pocahontas

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Dairy Team will host its annual Dairy Directions Series Dec. 7 in Sac City and Dec. 8 in Pocahontas.

The series will focus on four topics: cover crops and cocktail mixes as part of your forage system; the difference between cash flow and profitability; stress on the family farm, and a review of the dairy market and federal milk market orders.

“We all have a good sense of how cover crops are a good conservation practice, but we need to understand how they fit into our forage system,” said Fred Hall, Northwest Iowa Dairy Specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. “This also opens up a variety of ‘cocktail mixes’ that can fit into our forage programs.”

Gentry Sorenson, ISU Extension and Outreach Field Agronomist will cover the cover crop topic.

Dr. Larry Tranel, ISU Extension and Outreach Dairy Specialist, will discuss the difference between cash flow and profitability and how that can help producers understand their lender’s point of view. Plus, Tranel will communicate with producers to help manage stress in the farm family.

“While the milk market looks strong now and the margins are looking better, looking at what is being discussed for the Federal Milk Market Order changes has the potential to reorganize the standards for the milk market,” Hall said.

Hall will address the market and what is being discussed concerning the federal orders.

Both days will feature the same program from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., so dairy producers and agribusiness personnel can select the date and location that works best for them - either the ISU Extension and Outreach Sac County office in Sac City on Dec. 7 or the ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County office in Pocahontas on Dec. 8. Registration will open at 9:30 a.m. each day.

There is no charge to attend either program thanks to sponsorship from the county Extension offices and Dairy Gross Margin, LLC; however, preregistration is requested to plan adequately for meals and materials. To register for the Dec. 7 Sac City session, call 712-662-7131; for the Dec. 8 Pocahontas session, call 712-335-3103. Any other questions can be directed to Dairy Specialist Fred Hall at 712-737-4230.

Family Caregivers Need Support

November is National Family Caregivers Month – a time to recognize and honor those who care for a child, teen or adult child with special health or behavioral needs or those who care for an adult with a chronic condition, says Malisa Rader, a human sciences specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

Family caregivers are unpaid family members, friends or neighbors who assist those who need help. More than 1 in 5 Americans — 53 million people — are providing unpaid care for someone with health or functional needs, according to Caregiving in the U.S. 2020, a research survey conducted every five years by the National Alliance for Caregiving and AARP. This represents an increase of nearly 10 million people from the 2015 survey.

More than 1 in 6 Americans who work full or part time report assisting in the care for a child with special needs, an adult-child family member or elderly relative or friend. Most caregivers do not abandon their caregiving responsibilities because of work. Instead, they often go unnoticed and cope as best they can to balance what are often conflicting sets of responsibilities, said Rader, who specializes in family wellbeing.

“Maybe your coworker is caring for her chronically ill spouse, or your neighbor is caring for his aging

parent or your friend is caring for her adult child with a disability. These people are caregivers, though they might not think of themselves as such,” Rader said.

“Research tells us that employed caregivers struggle to balance their time and energy between work and caregiving,” Rader said. “They can become exhausted and stressed. Many struggle to balance the demands of work with the stresses of caregiving. The result can be poor health, mental distress and less life satisfaction for the caregiver.”

Historically, women are more likely to be caregivers, but this is changing. Today, 40 percent of caregivers are men, and many caregivers are of the millennial generation or younger, between the ages of 18 and 34. And not all caregivers are family members; these days, friends are increasingly likely to step in.

COVID-19 has added new stresses and challenges to family caregivers. Loneliness and isolation are serious risks affecting older adults whose normal routines were altered. For caregivers, keeping older adults at home safe and busy, while possibly working from home and monitoring children’s schoolwork and behavior, has added higher levels of stress and anxiety — making caregivers more vulnerable to illness.

“It can be challenging for caregivers to find the support that they need,” Rader said. “During November, as well as throughout the year, consider providing respite for

someone you know who provides care for a loved one. Offer to spend time with them or to learn how to help. Ask what you can do to make a difference.”

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach offers “Powerful Tools for Caregivers” in many locations throughout the state as well as virtually. This educational offering provides information, support strategies, communication techniques, stress reduction ideas and resources to assist family caregivers with their concerns related to caregiving. For upcoming classes, contact your ISU Extension and Outreach county office or ptcmastertrainers@iastate.edu. You can also find more information and upcoming classes at: www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/ptc.

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Yard and Garden: Managing Fallen Leaves

Leaving leaves in the lawn may be best option

Each autumn the leaves on the deciduous trees in our yards fall into lawns and garden beds. Collecting and removing every leaf is not necessary but simply ignoring them isn't a good option either. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach horticulturists offer advice on how to manage the colorful blanket of leaves that appear in your lawn and garden each fall.

Can I just leave fallen leaves on my yard and garden? Leaving the leaves alone is a good way to support native pollinators and other insects and wildlife. These valuable insects rely on the habitat fallen leaves provide, especially over the winter months. Dead leaves also decompose, creating compost that can improve soil structure and fertility. Even with all these benefits, it doesn't mean that leaves can simply go unmanaged in the lawn and garden. If nothing is done, layers of fallen leaves can cause damage by blocking out light and smothering plants, which can kill them. Often a little redistribution of the leaf layer to prevent a thick mat of leaves from forming is all that is needed to prevent this type of damage.

Excessively thick layers of leaves (greater than 6 to 8 inches) may need to be reduced or removed. Whenever possible, move them to mulched garden areas with fewer leaves or create a compost pile onsite to keep all that beneficial organic matter in your yard.

Do I have to remove the leaves from my lawn? Turfgrass plants utilize light, water and nutrients to manufacture

food. In the fall, lawn areas beneath large trees are often completely covered with leaves. The leaf debris prevents the turfgrass plants from manufacturing and storing food prior to winter and can block light, causing areas of the lawn to dieback, leaving behind patchy areas of dead grass that are unsightly and more prone to weeds.

A layer of leaves where little or no grass is visible will need to be managed. Leaves can be collected by raking, blowing or using the collection bag on a mower and then removed from the lawn and added to a compost pile or sent to a composting facility. Gardeners can also manage leaves on the lawn by mowing. Chopping the leaves up with a mulching mower can help return organic matter to the soil, benefitting the lawn, and for most people, it is easier than raking and removing. The leaves must be chopped into pieces small enough to fall down between the blades of grass. When finished, very little leaf debris should be visible. Mowing is best done when the layer of leaves is thin and dry, so mow often throughout the fall. If the leaf layer is thick, mow over an area more than once.

What do I do with fallen leaves in my flower beds? Leaves are an excellent resource for the garden. They break down to add organic matter and nutrients to the soil. As they decompose, they act as a mulch, suppressing weeds and helping to maintain consistent soil moisture. Additionally, they can help insulate the ground over the winter, protecting perennials from extreme cold temperatures.

For the most part, leaves in perennials beds, under shrubs and in other mulched areas do not have to be removed. Even thick layers of fallen leaves will break down over the winter, leaving you with an inch or two of mulch the following spring. It is beneficial to keep a thick mat of leaves from forming over the crowns

of perennial plants. Keeping leaves off evergreen perennials, such as creeping phlox (*Phlox subulata*) and Lenten rose (*Helleborus*), and away from the base of shrubs and trees is also beneficial. This may require some redistribution of the leaves from areas that have thick leaf layers to other garden areas that have fewer leaves.

How do I dispose of leaves that I collect? If fallen leaves are collected, there are a several options for what you can do with them. Whenever possible, keep this valuable organic resource on-site. Leaves can be added to a compost pile to create "black gold" to use in your garden to improve soil structure and add fertility to the soil. Leaves can be composted whole or shredded to allow them to break down and create compost faster.

Even without a compost pile, leaves can be piled in a back corner of the garden to produce leaf mold. Leaf mold is partially decomposed leaf matter and can be used like mulch throughout the garden. A pile of leaves around 3 foot tall and wide will transform into leaf mold over a period of one to two years. Shredding the leaves allows it form faster.

If composting in your own garden is not an option, leaves can be bagged and sent to a city or commercial composting facility. Avoid the use of plastic bags and never send leaves to the landfill.

Burning leaves is another option, but not typically a desirable one. Many of the beneficial nutrients found in fallen leaves are lost when burnt. Burning leaves releases irritants and particulate matter into the air that can pose health risks. In some municipalities, burning leaves is illegal. Additionally, burning leaves can be dangerous if not done properly. When conditions are too dry or windy, the fire can quickly burn out of control, resulting in property damage and costly fines.

City Council Minutes

November 1st, 2021

The Laurens City Council met in regular session at the Municipal Building at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 1st, 2021. Mayor Rod Johnson called the meeting to order. Present were Mayor Rod Johnson, Council members Aaron Christenson, Loren Booth, John Jamison, City Administrator Hilary Reed, Deputy Clerk Joan Hoben, Public Works Director Julian Johnsen, City Attorney Anne Beneke, Police Chief Dan Wegg, and a vacancy with the recent resignation of Julie Potter. Council member Jean Swanson was absent.

Jamison moved to approve the consent agenda, minutes from the October 18th, 2021, meeting as amended, and the list of claims. Booth seconded. All ayes: motion carried.

CLAIMS 11/1/2021

ALLIANT ENERGY	MONTHLY GAS BILL	38.67
FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE	NOV. EYECARE INSURANCE	203.19
BOMGAARS	SHOP SUPPLIES	207.23
BROWN SUPPLY CO	SUPPLIES	867.47
DELTA DENTAL	NOV. MONTHLY DENTAL INSURANCE	870.92
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAP	WASTEWATER TESTING	1,386.00
GWORKS	TECH SUPPORT	3,187.50
GONNERMAN CONSTRUCTION	PREP & POUR CONCRETE	3,872.00
HILARY REED	MEETING/MEAL	199.39
HIWAY TRUCK EQUIPMENT	REPAIR EQUIPMENT	1,128.96
IACMA	RETIREMENT 457	500.00
IMFOA	FILING FEE	15.00
IRS	FED/FICA TAX	4,852.78
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	108.90
IPERS	IPERS	5,477.55
IPERS/PD	PROTECTED IPERS	2,009.47
JAMES LITWILLER	SUPPLIES	36.34
KEVIN SHANNON	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	18.92
LAURENS HOUSE OF PRINT	COPY PAPER	49.50
LMPC	MONTHLY PHONE BILL	374.88
LMU	MONTHLY UTILITIES	5,005.39
LAURENS PLUMBING SERVICE	SUPPLIES	715.12
PRIME BENEFITS	GROUP INSURANCE	1,605.00
PRO VISION	CAMERA KIT	287.84
SANTANDER LEASING	PAYMENT ON PUMPER	1,461.34
SCOTT HERRIG LAWN CARE	2021 SPRAYING	6,152.50
SHAMROCK RECYCLING	AUG CURBSIDE RECYCLING	1,839.08
STAPLES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	345.54
TREASURER STATE OF IA	OCT SALES TAX	5,186.00
US BANK	COMMUNICATION	87.77
USPS	OCT POSTAGE BILLING	458.73
WAYNE PEASLEE	MOWING NUISANCE	250.00
WOODLEY INSURANCE	NEW CARE INSURANCE	906.00
	TOTAL	<u>49,704.98</u>

City Council Minutes

PAYROLL		10/18/2021
001	GENERAL	6,230.87
110	ROAD USE TAX	2,138.10
600	WATER	2,421.10
610	SEWER	2,075.63
670	GARBAGE	2,377.69
PAYROLL TOTAL		<u>15,243.39</u>
PAID TOTAL		<u><u>64,948.37</u></u>

001	GENERAL	24,615.65
110	ROAD USE TAX	10,512.86
112	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,542.44
600	WATER	13,197.97
610	SEWER	7,120.22
670	GARBAGE	7,811.25
745	STORM WATER	147.98
TOTAL BY FUND		<u><u>64,948.37</u></u>

REVENUES		
	GENERAL	156,207.89
	ROAD USE TAX	14,041.07
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	74,575.57
	EMERGENCY LEVY	2,270.93
	LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	11,350.10
	TAX INCREMENT FINANCING	40,154.55
	POOL RESTRICTED	2,520.00
	DEBT SERVICE	71,080.72
	CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FUND	7,571.41
	PERPETUAL CARE	160.00
	WATER	47,420.39
	SEWER	31,171.20
	GARBAGE	21,959.22
	STORM WATER	2,961.02
		<u><u>483,444.07</u></u>

Mayor Johnson swore in Jake Graff as Fire Chief effective December 1, 2021.

Booth moved to approve Resolution 34-21 – Unpaid Nuisance Charges. Jamison seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes: Jamison, Christensen, Booth. Nays: None. Absent: Swanson. Motion carried.

Jamison moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 09-21 Benz Addition Covenants with the addition of the legal description. Christenson seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes: Jamison, Christensen, Booth. Nays: None. Absent: Swanson. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on Ordinance 07-19. No decisions were made, but the council will continue discussions at the first meeting in December.

A brief discussion was held on Ordinance 05-21. No decision was made.

Jamison moved to adjourn at 5:48 p.m. Christenson seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rod Johnson, Mayor

Hilary Reed, City Clerk