

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



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Local News

Laurens Pool Committee Receives Funds from Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative Operation Round Up

Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative Operation Round Up Board Member Ruth Brown (r) presented a \$5,000 check to the Laurens Pool Committee. The funds will be used towards the new pool project.

Operation Round Up is a community support program where participating members "round up" their monthly power bill to the next dollar, with the difference going to support a variety of charitable, educational, community and youth related programs and events. The voluntary community support program enables member-owners to raise money for their local community. Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative rounds up the electric bills of participating member-owners to the nearest dollar amount.



PCEDC Annual Meeting Held- Cleveland Named Volunteer of the Year

Housing, workforce and quality of life were three topics of interest during the Pocahontas County Economic Development Commission annual meeting Wednesday night at the Palmer Community Building.

There was a Panel Discussion on Pocahontas County Visioning Goals. Nevin Conrad addressed Housing, James Conway spoke on Recreation & Quality of Life, James Roetman told of challenges in our Work Force, and Clarence Siepker represented the County Board of Supervisors.

Pocahontas County Economic Development County Volunteer of the Year award went to Chad Cleveland, general manager of Laurens Municipal Power and Communications. Cleveland chairs the county's housing committee and is heavily involved in the community. "He does so much for us," Grau said.

Pocahontas County Foundation awarded \$101,159 in grants to County nonprofit projects. The \$20,000 High Impact grant went to the City of Laurens for improvements at Sportsman's Pond.

Other awards to Laurens organizations include \$3,000 to the Laurens Care Center for massage chairs, \$3,600 to the Laurens Art Wave for a steel turtle sculpture to be placed at Sportsman's Pond, and \$4790 to the Laurens Public Library for new office furniture.



The Paper

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112 Walnut St.
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Phone:
(712) 841-2684

Fax:
(712) 841-4662

Website:
www.thepapernow.com

E-mail:
publisher@mylaurens.com

Publisher:
Rodney Johnson

Editor:
Amanda Tendal

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A LITTLE
Heartbreaker
IS ON HIS WAY!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Baby Shower

HONORING

Briley Oehlert

SUNDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 1:00 PM

409 E. GARFIELD ST. LAURENS, IA

BRILEY IS REGISTERED AT TARGET AND
AMAZON.

American Dreamer: The Life and Times of Henry A. Wallace Presentation

The Pocahontas County, IA, Historical Society has received funding from Humanities Iowa, a private, non-profit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to host a presentation called *American Dreamer: The Life and Times of Henry A. Wallace* by actor Tom Milligan at 2:00 p.m., February 19, 2022, at the Rialto Theatre, 324 N. Main, Pocahontas, Iowa.

A cultural resource for Iowans since 1971, Humanities Iowa offers many cultural and historical programs and grants to Iowa communities.

Henry A. Wallace, a native Iowan, founded the Pioneer Hi-Bred seed corn company, and became U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and later Vice President of the United States under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The wonderful contributions by Henry A. Wallace to our nation and the world is a reason for our 4th annual celebration of Presidents' Day.

Following the performance by Tom Milligan, there will be a reception in the green room at the Rialto Theatre. Admission to the performance and reception is free.

If you are a person with a disability who requires special assistance, please call the Rialto Theatre at: (712) 335-3434 in advance. If there is no answer, please leave a message and your phone number and someone will return your call.



**GREAT NEWS! LifeServe Blood Drives will
resume being held at the Laurens United
Methodist Church!**

Please mark your calendar for

Thursday, February 24th.

The blood drive will be held from 2:30-5:30 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall.

Please help spread the word!



***At the Library
with Glenda Mulder
February 9, 2022***

Next Wednesday the 16th at 5:30, join the Tot Time fun! Since February is the month of hearts and love, that's what our theme will be. There will books, songs, a craft, and off course bubbles!

In nonfiction this week we received *The Betrayal of Anne Frank: A Cold Case Investigation* by Rosemary Sullivan.

New novels this week include: *Olga Dies Dreaming* by Xochi Gonzalez and *The Great Mrs. Elias* by Barbara Chase-Riboud.

February's Book Club choice is *Three Sisters* by Heather Morris. This book set was purchased with donations in memory of one of our Book Club regulars, Jeanette Hawley. Author Heather Morris also wrote the Holocaust novels, based on real people *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and *Cilka's Journey*. *Three Sisters* was also inspired by a true story. It tells the story of three sisters who survived the horrors of Auschwitz, but now have a new hurdle to face: the death march from Auschwitz. Due to a last minute stroke of luck, the three of them are able to escape formation and hide in the woods for days before being rescued. And this is where the story begins. Stop and grab a copy to read, then join us for book club, if you wish!

Dates to Remember

- February 16 @ 5:30 p.m. - Tot Time
- February 22 @ 6:30 p.m. - Cardmaking Class with Brenda & Milissa
- February 28 @ 7 p.m. - Book Club *Three Sisters* by Heather Morris
- March 1 @ 3:45 p.m. - Kids Make-n-Take Flowers
- @ 6:00 p.m. - Take it Tuesday Bird House
- March 8 @ 5:30 p.m. - Cards with Deb & Laura

Laurens Women's Club to Meet

The Laurens Women's Club will meet on Friday, February 11 at 1:30 p.m. at the West Iowa Bank in Laurens. Laurens Police Chief, Dan Wegg will present the program "A Day in the Life of a Police Officer; General Information about Police Work."

Members of the serving committee will be Betty VanHorsen and Rita Cordell.

90th Birthday!

***Jo Johnson, formerly of Pocahontas,
will be celebrating her 90th birthday
on February 22nd!***

***Please help Jo celebrate her 90th birthday
by sending a card to:***

**Jo Johnson
2729 82nd Place, Apt. #120
Urbandale, IA 50322**

Jo is doing well in Urbandale and stays active and on the go. Visits from family, grandchildren and great grandchildren are always something special to look forward to and homemade treats are always ready. She misses her friends that helped her to enjoy her time in Pocahontas and would love to hear from them. Please take a moment to send a short note—it would be very much appreciated.



***This Week at
Laurens United
Methodist Church***

Pastor Deb Parkison

Wed., Feb. 9:

Caring Cards 5 p.m.-8 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Confirmation Class @ 6:30 p.m. in Wesley Room

Fri., Feb. 11:

AA meeting 7 p.m.-8 p.m. in Wesley Room

Sun., Feb. 13:

Sunday School @ 9:15 a.m.

Fellowship Coffee @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship @ 10:30 a.m.

Laurens Area Youth Group Board meeting @ 4 p.m.

Choir practice @ 7 p.m.

Mon., Feb. 14:

Bible Study @ 7 p.m. with Pastor Deb at Laurens UMC



***This Week at
Bethany Lutheran***

Pastor David E. Klappenbach

Wednesday: February 9, 2022

7:00 PM ~ Council Mtg.

Sunday: February 13, 2022

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

9:15 AM ~ Adult SS

9:30 AM ~ Youth SS & Coffee Fellowship

10:30 AM ~ Worship

4:00 PM ~ Youth Board Mtg. at UMC

Tuesday: February 15, 2022

8:30 AM ~ Prayer Group

9:30 AM ~ Tuesday coffee at Bethany

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



***This Week at First
Christian***

Pastor Rev. Rita Cordell

Wednesday, Feb. 9

2:00 p.m. - Lydia Group

Sunday, Feb. 13 -

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School

10:30 a.m. - Worship

4:00 p.m. - Youth Group Board Meeting at United Methodist 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

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Iowa 4-H Invites Educators to Participate in Free Training to Prepare for Summer NASA Astro Camps

Registration is now open for the no-cost Educators Astro Camp Training on May 20 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames. A reception will be held the night before, May 19, from 7-9 p.m. at Reiman Gardens. Register online at <https://go.iastate.edu/KJKEVU>.

Youth will participate in Astro Camp events across the state this summer. The training, offered by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and sponsored in part by the Iowa Space Grant Consortium, is open to any educator who plans to host an Astro Camp in their area after attending. Additional requirements include sharing basic participant data from the event, such as the number of youth who attended and photos. The training is limited to the first 50 educators, and all participants will leave with an Astro Camp materials kit.

Astro Camp gives all youth the chance to get involved in and experience science, technology, engineering and mathematics and to inspire future astronauts and engineers to learn about space with NASA unique activities.

Participants in the training will learn more about NASA's work, participate in a simulated mission, receive training on Astro Camp lessons and more.

"This is a fabulous opportunity for Iowa educators to attend an Astro Camp," said Sara Nelson, 4-H STEM program specialist. "Not only will you walk away with a material kit to support youth learning, but you will also have the opportunity to take part in a fun, interactive day with fellow space enthusiasts. If you love space and education, this is the camp for you!"

Astro Camp is a great way to help youth foster career dreams of tomorrow and develop life-changing goals through Next Generation science, math and engineering skills, Nelson said.

For more information on Astro Camp, please contact your ISU Extension and Outreach county office or visit the Iowa 4-H website at www.extension.iastate.edu/4h

Gardening Specials Continue to Air on Iowa PBS

Gardening enthusiasts dreaming of spring and getting their hands in the dirt can dig into inspiration with the continuation of Iowa PBS's "Gardening With Steil."

The four-part limited series airs on Saturdays at 4 p.m. and will continue through Feb. 12.

In each episode, host Aaron Steil, consumer horticulture extension specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, and co-host Cindy Haynes, associate professor and extension specialist in horticulture at Iowa State, plant ideas for a wide variety of projects.

From succulents and cutting gardens to fairy gardens and hostas, the series is full of gardening goodness.

"Each show includes gardening advice, tips and information that both new and experienced Iowa gardeners can use directly in their landscape," said Steil. "We've had the opportunity to travel the state to introduce viewers to the many people who are doing great things with plants across Iowa."

Upcoming shows include:

- "Mushrooms, Fairies & Frogs, Oh My!" — Saturday, Feb. 5, at 4 p.m. Venture into the woods to learn best practices on a morel mushroom hunt. Learn about fairy gardens and how to create one of your own. And, tour an art display of larger-than-life frogs.
- "Shady Characters" — Saturday, Feb. 12, at 4 p.m. Many shade gardens consist primarily of hostas, but not all! Visit two very different styles of shade gardens and learn how to make a mixed container that is the perfect companion to your shade garden display.

Archived shows are available online and include:

- "Bringin' the Outdoors In" — Saturday, Jan. 22, at 4 p.m. Learn about succulents and air plants from industry expert Josh Spece. Plus, create your own indoor planting, discover how to promote pollinators in your backyard and meet a volunteer from the Iowa Butterfly Survey Network.
- "Cutting & Vegetable Garden Tips" — Saturday, Jan. 29, at 4 p.m. Join Cindy Haynes as she designs a cutting garden and makes flower arrangements, follow volunteers from Plant a Row for the Hungry, learn why containers can be a good option for growing vegetables and meet a young vegetable gardening aficionado.

"Gardening With Steil" first appeared on Iowa PBS as two 90-minute specials that aired in March 2020 and February 2021. A new 90-minute "Gardening With Steil" special will debut on Feb. 19 at 4 p.m. as part of Iowa PBS's "Festival 2022." Tune in for tips on growing tomatoes, planning for perennial success and caring for tiny houseplants.

In addition to its statewide broadcast, Iowa PBS .1 is available to livestream on iowapbs.org/watch, pbs.org/livestream, the PBS Video App and YouTube TV.

Iowa PBS programs, behind-the-scenes extras and more can be enjoyed on iowapbs.org, Facebook and YouTube. Viewers can also stream their favorite shows on demand using the PBS Video App, available on iOS, Android and many streaming devices.

Gardening and horticulture information can also be found on the ISU Extension and Outreach Horticulture and Home Pest News website.

Seed Treatment Course Set for February 16

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County will host a Seed Treatment Continuing Instruction Course (CIC) for commercial pesticide applicators on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. The program, provided by the ISU Extension and Outreach Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP), is available at office locations across Iowa.

Due to social distancing requirements, preregistration is required. The course runs from 9:00 to 11:00 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.

The course will provide continuing instruction credit for commercial pesticide applicators certified in category 4. Topics covered will include pesticide use and the environment, pesticide labels and comprehension, and pests, pest management and pesticides.

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>.

Register Now for ‘Stay Independent’ Nutrition and Wellness Program

“Stay Independent: A Healthy Aging Series” is a nutrition and wellness program offered through Iowa State University Extension and Outreach for adults age 60 and older. The program begins February 15, 2022 online.

“Nutrition risk assessments of older Iowans living in Pocahontas County, revealed that nearly one out of four are at risk for malnutrition or are malnourished,” said Holly VanHeel, a human sciences specialist in food and health.

The key behaviors placing these adults at risk are not eating three meals a day and limited intakes of produce and protein. In addition, most are not physically active, which can increase their risk of sarcopenia, or age-related muscle wasting, VanHeel said.

“Stay Independent” provides research-based nutrition and wellness information intended to help adults age 60 and older reduce their nutritional risk through lifestyle changes. The program includes six lessons designed to meet the needs of older Iowans: Three Meals a Day, Feast on Fruits and Vegetables, Power Up with Protein, Exercise Your Independence, Brain Health, and Cooking for One or Two.

The six-week nutrition and wellness series is being offered on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. or on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. Registration is required. To sign up for “Stay Independent: A Healthy Aging Series” register at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/stay-independent> or by contacting Janea Blomquist at your local ISU Extension and Outreach office at 712-335-3103.

Beef Quality Assurance Certification Training Feb. 23 in Orange City

Beef packers are reminding feedlot producers they need a current Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certificate to sell cattle. But there are other reasons for certifying – to assure consumer confidence, to improve animal performance, and to expand international demand for U.S. beef.

To help producers accomplish these goals, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, the Iowa Beef Center and the Iowa Beef Industry Council is offering a BQA training on February 23 from 1-3 p.m. at the ISU Extension and Outreach Sioux County office in Orange City.

There is no cost to attend, but preregistration is required by February 21. To preregister, call the ISU Extension and Outreach Sioux County office at 712-737-4230.

If an in-person training cannot be attended, BQA certification may also be completed online at <https://bqa.beeflearningcenter.org/>.

For information on this Northwest Iowa BQA training or other beef programs, contact Beth Doran, beef specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, at: 712-737-4230 or doranb@iastate.edu.