

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!



Laurens, Iowa



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July 12, 2023

Local News

Grout Museum Presenter at the Library

The Grout Museum presenter Karson demonstrated a little bubble blowing, and explained the science behind bubbles. We then moved outside and blew bubbles. This was an excellent example of how kids learn as they play!

Jens Johnsen took his bubbles pretty seriously and got excellent results!



Pocahontas County Naturalist Visits the Library

Pocahontas County Naturalist Dayton Harson looks on as the kids at the Laurens Public Library program judge for themselves which Iowa animal has the softest fur. Dayton talked about native animals and their sounds, as part of the Library's "Find Your Voice" summer reading.

Shown are Gannon and Hayden Reed, and Kelsey Ruthart and her kids Harper, Celia and Kohen.



Baby to Bee - Baby Shower

Please join us on Sunday July 23rd, 2023 at West Iowa Bank Community room from 1 PM – 3PM to celebrate the Mommy to Bee. Mia Shannon, daughter of Kristi Shannon and Kevin Shannon of Laurens

Mia is registered at Walmart and Target. Bring a book instead of a card to build baby's library.

Pollinator Walk

How would you like to go on a pollinator walk?

Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35% of the world's food crops depend on plant-animal interactions to reproduce. More than 3,500 species of native bees help increase crop yields through the pollination process. Some scientists estimate that one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of the animal pollinators like bees, butterflies and moths, birds and bats, and beetles and other insects.

Bayer Production Supply LLC is providing to the public a Pollinator Walk, July 17 at 10:00 am a chance to walk through their Pollinator and then a tour of their facility. Bayer Production Supply LLC is located at 6135 Hwy 71, Storm Lake South of the Lighthouse.

RSVP is appreciated. RSVP with Joe at 712-732-3096 x3.

This meeting is co-sponsored by the Buena Vista and Pocahontas Women, Land & Legacy Group, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Offices, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and USDA-Farm Service Agency.

Our Town Our Paper!

Anniversary Celebrated!

Don and Helen Beneke celebrated 48 years of marriage on June 25th with family and friends. Kevin Anderson, Alta, provided a piano concert of classical, big-band, classic rock and roll, and spiritual songs. Attendees shared their favorite memories of Don and Helen and lunch was served. Their family includes Allison and Steve Larson of Chaska, Minnesota; Mike and Annette Falor of Waukee, Iowa; Cameron and Walt Jones of Cave Springs, Arkansas; and Matt and Christy Beneke of Madison, Wisconsin. They have nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

They were married July 9, 1975, in Linn Grove, Iowa and settled in Pocahontas in 1975. Don was the sole practitioner of his Beneke Law office and Helen was a special education consultant with the Arrowhead Area Education Agency (AEA). Helen retired from the AEA in 2000. Don has sold his law practice to Lemmenes and Dodgen Law Firm.



Bridal Shower

A come and go bridal shower honoring the bride-to-be Trisha Griffin, will be held on Sunday, July 16 from 1-3 p.m. at West Iowa Bank, Laurens.

The couple is registered on Amazon.

At the Library
with Glenda Mulder
July 12, 2023

We love having art classes at the library! Our next one is July 17 at 6 p.m. Watercolor on Yupo Paper is not your everyday watercolor class! Instructor Teresa McKee will guide us as we explore the techniques of painting on yupo paper. We will use found objects, as well as traditional paint brushes to create textures. Preregistration is required and class size is limited. It's so fun, and no experience is necessary. Stop by the Library for more details or to sign up!

Lots of new novels to tell you about; I may have missed a few of these last week! *Crook Manifesto* by Colson Whitehead, *How Can I Help You* by Laura Simsa, *Evil Heart* by Linda Castillo, *Air Raid Book Club* by Annie Lyons, *Must Love Flowers* by Debbie Macomber, *Before She Finds Me* by Heather Chavez, *Housekeepers* by Alex Hay, *You Can't Stay Here Forever* by Katherine Lin, *Circle of Death* by James Patterson and *Obsessed* by James Patterson (yes, he has two books out this week!)

Just one nonfiction: *Look for Me There: Grieving My Father, Finding Myself* by Luke Russert.

July Book Club is *It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover. She is a really hot author right now, due in large part by her rise to TikTok fame during the pandemic. Since then she has published several bestselling books. Since many of our patrons are talking about them, we decided to read one and judge for ourselves! In part, the description says, "With this bold and deeply personal novel, Colleen Hoover delivers a heart-wrenching story that breaks exciting new ground for her as a writer. Combining a captivating romance with a cast of all-too-human characters, *It Ends With Us* is an unforgettable tale of love that comes at the ultimate price" We have lots of copies available, so grab one and join our discussion Monday, July 24 at 7 p.m.

Dates to Remember

Wednesdays at 1 until August 9 - Find Your Voice Kids' Summer Reading
July 17 @ 6 p.m. - Watercolor on Yupo Paper Class
July 19 @ 1 p.m. - Blank Park Zoo "Find Your Roar"
July 24 @ 7 p.m. - Book Club *It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover

The Paper

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Fair Schedule – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Tuesday, July 11

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Judging of 4-H Static/Garden Exhibits (will be scheduled)

Wednesday, July 12

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Check in Open Pantry and Needle Work
1:00 p.m. Open Needle Judged followed by Open Pantry Judged
4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Sheep and Goat Weigh In
5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Swine Weigh In
5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Rabbit and Poultry Check In
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Cattle Weigh In
4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Open Bucket Calf and Lamb Class may be stalled

Thursday, July 13

8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Exhibit Building Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. 4-H Food Stand Open
8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Check in Open Farm and Garden
8:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. Advanced Feeder Pens Weigh-in
8:00 a.m. 4-H/FFA Dog Show
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Check in Open Photography, Woodworking, Fine Arts
12:00 noon Open Garden Judged
4:00 p.m. 4-H/FFA Rabbit Show (show will be held in rabbit barn)
1:00 p.m. Open Photography, Woodworking, Fine Arts Judged
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Community Band
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Pork Tenderloin Supper
5:00 p.m.– 6:30 p.m. Availa Bank Serving **FREE** Ice Cream
6:00 p.m. Opening Ceremony followed by:
4-H Endowment Pie Auction
Pocahontas County Fair Queen and Little Miss Pocahontas Contest

Friday, July 14

8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Exhibit Building Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. 4-H Food Stand Open
8:00 a.m. 4-H/FFA Swine Show
1:00 p.m. 4-H/FFA Goat Show followed by 4-H/FFA Sheep Show
4:00 p.m. 4-H/FFA Horse Show followed by Open Horse Show
9:30 a.m.-noon Farm Credit Services serving **FREE** Ice Cream
3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Commercial Exhibits Open
5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Family Fun Night – Bounce Houses and The Bubbler

Saturday, July 15

8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.	Exhibit Building Open
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.	4-H Food Stand Open
8:00 a.m.	Judging of 4-H/FFA Advanced Cattle Feeders
9:00 a.m.	4-H/FFA Beef Show
9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	Free Watermelon Sponsored by Farm Bureau
12:30 p.m.	4-H/FFA Poultry Show (will show in open arena)
2:00 p.m.	4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest
3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Commercial Exhibits Open
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Beef Steak Sandwich Supper
7:00 p.m.	Lizzy, Comedy Stage Hypnosis

Sunday, July 16

9:00 a.m.-noon	Pancake Breakfast
Noon	4-H and Open Pet Show
noon-7:00 p.m.	4-H Food Stand Open
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Sign In Pedal Pull
3:00 p.m.	Pedal Pull
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Commercial Exhibits Open
2:00 p.m.	Overall Showmanship (Sr. Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goat showmanship winners)
4:00 p.m.	Check Out of all Open Exhibits Garden, Needlecrafts, Photo, Fine Arts, Pantry
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Turkey Tenderloins served by Fair Board
5:30 p.m.	Clothing Event Rehearsal
5:45 p.m.	Pictures of Individuals who have State Fair Exhibits/Honorable Mention/Outstanding Juniors
6:00 p.m.	Clothing Event followed by 4-H Communications Awards followed by Closing Ceremony followed by All 4-H check-outs immediately after Closing Ceremony– all livestock and static exhibits will lose premiums if removed before closing ceremony (Except livestock sold at auction)
7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.	Teen Fun Night – Escape Room, Yard Games, Food

Monday, July 17

8:30 a.m.	Livestock Auction (Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goat 2023) Clean-Up of Fairgrounds and Livestock Barns after sale of your animal, all members are responsible to help clean the livestock barn.
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***All times are approximate during animal shows ***

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Pocahontas County 4-H Endowment



PIE AUCTION



When: Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 6:00

Where: on the stage at the
Fairgrounds

Pies made by 4-H Volunteers

Financial donations to the 4-H Endowment are also
welcome during the Pork Tenderloin Supper from

5 PM - 7 PM

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accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext



ESCAPE ROOM

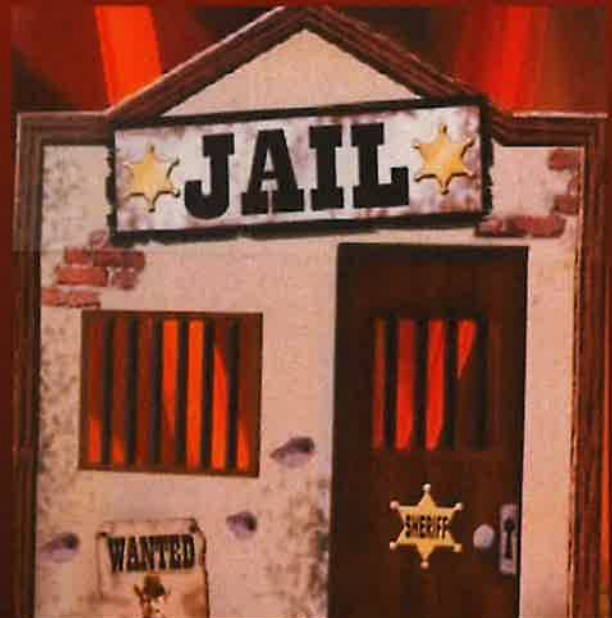
Sunday, July 16, 2023
7-10pm

**Pocahontas County 4-H
ISU Extension
and Outreach**

**Free teen night for all
8th-12th grade students**

Sign up no later than Monday,
July 10 phone 712-335-3103 or
lzeman@iastate.edu

Expo Center in Pocahontas
301 NE 1st St, Pocahontas, IA 50574
1 block east of the court house



It's 1890 and there have been a rash of train robberies in your area. As a visitor to the young town, you have been asked to sign in with the railroad police office, the only real law in the area. You are identified as a nefarious character and imprisoned. It is obviously a case of mistaken identity. Or is it? ! Break out or take your chances with the judge!



Pancake Breakfast

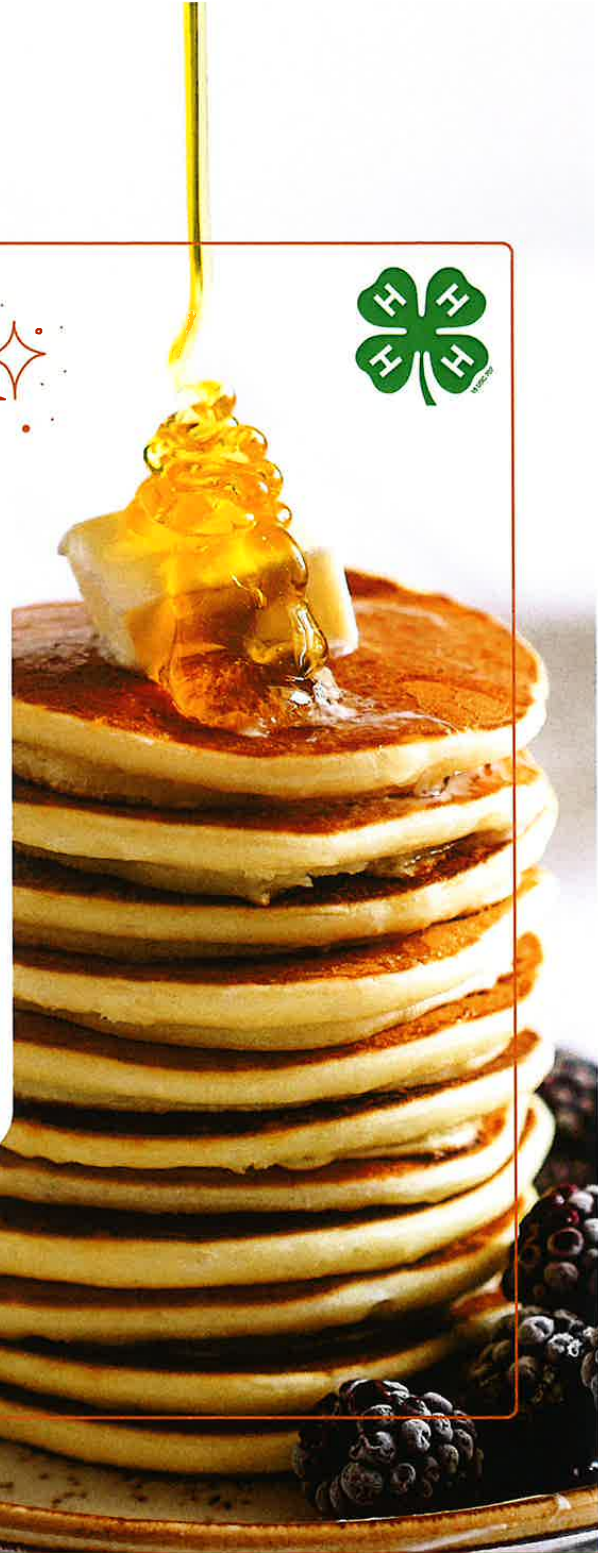
Sunday July 16

Pocahontas
County
Fairgrounds

9 AM - Noon

Free Will Donation

All proceeds will go
towards fair improvements



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

Pocahontas County Fair 4-H and FFA Livestock Auction

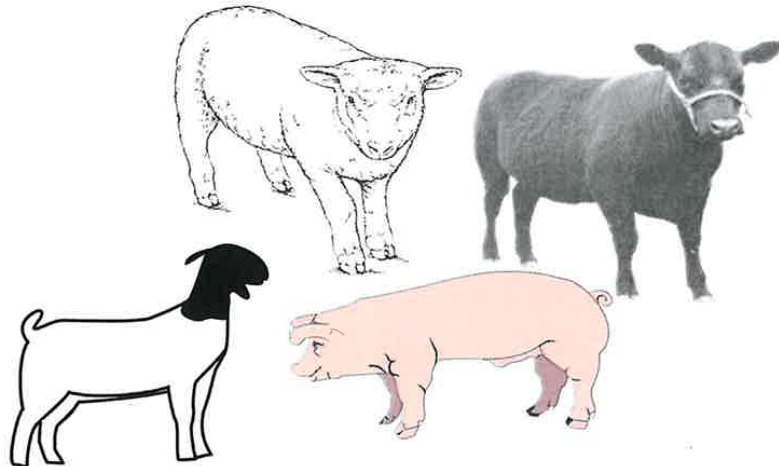
8:30 a.m. Monday, July 17, 2023

Livestock Arena - Fairgrounds, Pocahontas, IA

Located at: 310 NE 1st Street or 1 block East of the Courthouse

For more information, call ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County at 712-335-3103

8:30 a.m. - Auction will begin with:
Individual Beef
Swine
Sheep
Goats



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Yard and Garden: Summer Perennial Garden Tasks

Summer is a great time to enjoy the perennial garden. Summer bloomers like daylily, yarrow, butterfly weed, blanket flower and purple coneflower brighten the garden in June and July. Keeping perennials healthy and attractive all season long requires some care during the summer months. In this article, horticulturists with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach answer common questions about the care and maintenance of your perennial garden in the summer.

How often and what time of the day is best to water the garden? The watering frequency is determined by soil characteristics, weather conditions, type of plant and other factors. Generally, a deep watering once a week in dry weather should be adequate for most flower gardens. When watering gardens, water slowly and deeply.

Early morning (5-9 a.m.) is the best time to water the garden when using a sprinkler, garden hose or any other device that wets the plant foliage. When watering is completed, the plant foliage dries quickly. The rapid drying of plant foliage helps guard against the development of fungal diseases. Additionally, a morning application allows the water to soak deeply into the soil with little water lost to evaporation.

Watering at midday is less efficient because of rapid evaporation. Watering in the evening with a sprinkler or garden hose can lead to greater disease problems as the plant foliage will likely remain wet throughout the night.

Mornings and evenings are excellent times to water gardens when using a drip irrigation system or soaker hose. Watering in the evening isn't a problem as these methods don't wet plant foliage.

What perennials benefit from deadheading? Deadheading is the removal of spent or faded flowers. Deadheading

improves the appearance of plants, may encourage a second flush of bloom, and prevents self-seeding.

Perennials that improve appearance with deadheading include bearded iris (Iris), peony (Paeonia), lamb's ear (Stachys byzantina), perennial geranium (Geranium), daylily (Hemerocallis), hosta (Hosta), and coralbells (Heuchera).

Several perennials benefit from deadheading to prolong the bloom or promote a rebloom, including yarrow (Achillea), tickseed (Coreopsis), blanket flower (Gaillardia), daylily (Hemerocallis), garden phlox (Phlox), perennial salvia (Salvia) and spiked speedwell (Veronica).

Perennials that readily reseed benefit from deadheading to prevent seed set in other areas of the garden. These perennials include columbine (Aquilegia), blackberry lily (Iris domestica), bellflower (Campanula), purple coneflower (Echinacea), garden phlox (Phlox paniculata), campion (Lychnis) and goldenrod (Solidago).

How do I control weeds in my garden beds? Keeping ahead of weeds and controlling them when they are small is essential for good weed management. This requires persistence throughout the entire growing season to remove weeds as they emerge. There are essentially two types of weeds in the garden: annuals and perennials.

Annual weeds grow rapidly, flower, set seed and die in a single season. New annual weeds, such as crabgrass, purslane, knotweed, lambsquarter and foxtail, germinate from seeds each year. Perennial weeds die back to ground level in fall but send up new growth in spring. Perennial weeds, such as dandelions, quackgrass, thistle, pokeweed and plantain, reproduce by seeds and may spread by creeping above or below ground stems or spreading root systems.

Cultivation, hand pulling, mulches, and herbicides are the primary means to control weeds in the home garden. Annual weeds can be effectively controlled by cultivating, hand pulling, mulching and using pre or post-emergent herbicides. Perennial weeds are best controlled by hand pulling or spot treating with a non-selective herbicide.

Which perennials can be pinched or cut back? Some perennials benefit from pruning in early summer. Cutting back

removes anywhere from 25 to 75% of the total plant. When done after flowering to spring blooming perennials, it can promote fresh regrowth that is more attractive, and potentially a rebloom later in the season. Perennials that benefit from a cutback after flowering include lady's mantle (Alchemilla), columbine (Aquilegia), pinks (Dianthus), silvermound (Artemisia), threadleaf coreopsis (Coreopsis verticillata), perennial geranium (Geranium), catmint (Nepeta) and perennial salvia (Salvia).

Summer and fall-blooming perennials can be pinched in late spring to early summer to produce sturdy, compact growth that is less likely to become lanky or flop over. Pinching removes the stem's upper 1 to 2 inches to promote branching. It may delay bloom by a week or two but can promote more flowers in certain species. Perennials to pinch before flowering for height control include aster (Symphyotrichum), mums (Chrysanthemum), Joe-Pye weed (Eutrochium), false sunflower (Helianthus helianthoides), bee balm (Monarda), tall sedum (Hylotelephium), and balloon flower (Platycodon grandiflorus).

Should I stake floppy plants? Some species of perennials, such as peony (Paeonia), delphinium (Delphinium), and dahlia (Dahlia), may require staking, especially as they begin to bloom. Staking materials include wooden, bamboo, metal, or plastic stakes or rings. A gridwork of wire, bamboo or string placed above young plants allows stems to grow up through and receive support. Similarly, twiggy branches can be set in the ground to provide a more natural-looking support material.

Ideally, support materials are placed early in the growing season, and the plant can grow through it. When sized appropriately, the staking material is masked by the plant's foliage once it reaches its mature size. If perennials need staking after they've reached their mature size, then a few stakes around the perimeter of the plant surrounded by an unobtrusive twine or string at various heights can help hold stems upright and still allow movement of the plant. Individual stems can be supported with stakes carefully placed at the base of the stem. As it grows, tie the stem loosely to the stake with string every 10 to 15 inches, leaving a little slack so it can still move in the wind.

2023 Pocahontas County Fair Book

The 2023 Pocahontas County Fair Book is available at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/pocahontas/files/documents/2023%20Fairbook.pdf>. If you would like a paper copy you may stop at the ISU Extension and Outreach Pocahontas County office during regular business hours and pick one up, books will not be mailed. Please read the rules for whatever project areas you will bring to the 2023 fair, if you have questions, please contact lzeman@iastate.edu or 712-335-3103. The tentative schedule is posted in the front of the fairbook with the final schedule posted July 1.

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Biggest Little Paper In Town!

Northwest Iowa Research Farm Field Day and Corn Rootworm Day Is July 12

The annual Northwest Research and Demonstration Farm Field Day will be held Wednesday, July 12, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the farm, 6320 500th St., Sutherland. For the second year, an optional Corn Rootworm Field Day will follow lunch at 1 p.m.

The field day will focus on timely topics, including updated phosphorus and potassium guidelines, weather forecasts, Mesonet tools, how drought impacts northwest Iowa soils and more.

“Farmers and agronomists can plan for a full day of learning at the research farm,” said Gentry Sorenson, field agronomist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. “We are offering two field days in one day in an effort to maximize education and networking time.”

Registration opens at 9 a.m., with the program beginning at 9:30 a.m. with “Updated Phosphorous and Potassium Guidelines,” led by Antonio Mallarino, soil fertility specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach.

Following Mallarino, in-field learning will address:

- “Weather Forecasts and Mesonet Tools,” led by Daryl Herzmann, Iowa Environmental Mesonet representative.
- “Soil Changes Across the Landscape: How Drought Impacts NW Iowa Soils,” led by Amber Anderson, assistant teaching professor at Iowa State.
- “Timely Agronomic Topics of the 2023 Growing Season,” led by Gentry Sorenson and Leah Ten Napel, field agronomists with ISU Extension and Outreach

One SW, 2 CM and 1 NM CCA credits will be available for the morning field day.

At the completion of the morning field day, a complimentary noon lunch will be served.

Following lunch at 1 p.m., the Corn Rootworm Field Day will begin. ISU Extension and Outreach entomologists Erin Hodgson and Ashley Dean will provide in-field education using a corn-on-corn demonstration plot.

“The demonstration plot will have non-Bt rootworm corn, SmartStax corn and SmartStax Pro corn with the new RNA-i trait, all with and without insecticides,” Sorenson said. “Roots will be rated so everyone can see the differences in person.”

One IPM CCA credit will be available for the afternoon field day.

Attendance at the morning and/or afternoon field day is free and open to the public. Registration is not needed. Complimentary morning refreshments are sponsored by Security State Bank, with lunch sponsored by O’Brien County Ag Supply, J&K Insurance, C-S Agrow and 5th Gen Ag.

For more information, contact Gentry Sorenson at 641-430-6715 or gentrys@iastate.edu; or Leah Ten Napel at 712-541-3493 or lr@iastate.edu