

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!

Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 2 No. 5

www.mylaurens.com

April 30, 2008

Local News

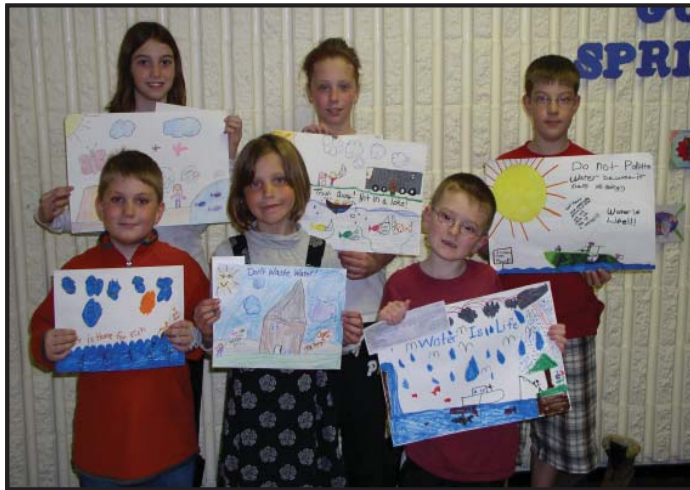
Pocahontas SWCD Sponsors Poster Contest

The Conservation Districts of Iowa recently sponsored their annual poster contest. This year's theme was "Water is Life." Competition in this contest was open to all children who are residents of Iowa from kindergarten through 12th grade. The divisions correspond with the rules of the national poster contest: Division 1-Grades K and 1; Division 2-Grades 2 and 3; Division 3-Grades 4 through 6; Division 4-Grades 7 through 9; Division 5-Grades 10 through 12. Posters were to be made on paper 8 1/2"x11" up to 22"x28". The participants could use any medium such as paint, magic marker, pencil, cut and past, crayon or whatever inspired them. Each participant had to have his or her entries in to the Pocahontas County Soil and Water Conservation District by March 24, 2008.

The District Commissioners from the Pocahontas County SWCD then

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chose a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner for each division that was received. The first place winners received \$15.00, the second place winners received \$10.00 and the third place winners received \$5.00. The first place winner for Division 1 was Cade Henrickson, Pocahontas. Second



From left to right: Front: Zane Wellik, Emily Gardewine, Cade Henrickson. Back: Kate Vonnahme, Mady Gardewine, Tyler Colee.

place went to Emily Gardewine, Rolfe and third place went to Zane Wellik, Rolfe. The first place winner for Division 2 was Amanda Dornath, Gilmore City. Second place went to Emily Egli, Rolfe

and third place went to Austin Roetman, Pocahontas.

The first place winner for Division 3 was Tyler Colee, Pocahontas. Second place went to Mady Gardewine, Rolfe and third place went to Kate Vonnahme, Pocahontas. The first place posters have been forwarded on to the Regional Director for Regional competition. In the event that one of the individuals wins at the Regional competition, they will receive a \$35.00 monetary award and then be forwarded on to the State competition for the chance to win a \$50.00 monetary award if chosen as the first place winner. The Pocahontas County Soil and Water Conservation District feel that soil and water conservation is a very important issue. This contest provides students a chance to win some money for their time, while broadening awareness of this important issue.



From left to right: Austin Roetman, Emily Egli, Amanda Dornath.

Women's Club Funds Student Trip

Tammy Troxel accepts a check on behalf of 5th grade Iowa history students from Women's Club members Dorothy Runneberg and Lois Jirgens. The donation will fund a field trip for the class to visit the State Capitol, the Hall of Pride, and the Jordan House in Des Moines. The Laurens Women's Club raised funds for the trip through a garage sale. This year there will be another sale on Saturday, May 3rd at the Jirgens Shop Building from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is hoped the Iowa history trips can be annual events.



Tammy Troxel accepts a check on behalf of 5th grade Iowa history students from Women's Club members Dorothy Runneberg and Lois Jirgens.

The Paper

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Our Town Our Paper!

Letter to the Editor

Perspective

I am a 1985 graduate of Laurens-Marathon High School and it saddens me to see what was once wonderful tarnished by the bickering and infighting that serves no purpose or value. The education I received was second to none. Even though an average student, I did retain the knowledge that has served me well. I am well rounded and am better for my experiences.

Rose Davis was a part of that. The teachers here taught and cared about you as an individual and a person. The school and its teachers made us who we are. What I learned from Rose Davis was invaluable to me, and her ability to relate to me was welcome.

Please don't forget it's about the education and the kids, everything else should come second. The unwritten rule is fidelity to our children, that we will give them more than we had and leave them with more knowledge and a better world than we inherited from our parents. It makes me wonder when I see that a teacher who has given so much is treated with disregard. To the school Board, I say this will be your legacy. To the town, it's about your children and the future. Hang on to what you have in Laurens, it is so precious and hard to find. You may not realize what you had till you do not have it anymore.

Stephen Hakes

Local & School Calendar

May 1- Golf with Southern Cal at Lake City, boys and girls JV & V, at 4:30 p.m.

May 2- IHSMA Large Group Music Contest at Storm Lake; JH track, Cougar Relays at Manson at 4:00 p.m.

May 5- Boys track, Charger Relays at 5:00 p.m. at Laurens.

May 6- Fine Arts Banquet at 7:00 p.m.; Girls track, Jim Yuneh Relays at Lake City at 5:00 p.m.

Services to be Held for Richard Challand

Richard "Dick" Challand, age 61, of Laurens, died on January 30, 2008, at the V.A. Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2008 at the First Christian Church in Laurens with Rev. Sara Galindo officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church.

Burial will be at the Laurens Cemetery near Laurens. Smith-Loterbour-Powers Funeral Home in Laurens is handling arrangements.

Emily Lampe Awarded Ag Scholarship

MaxYield Cooperative announced today that Emily Lampe is the recipient of the cooperative's \$500 Ag Scholarship.

She is the daughter of Tom & Nancy Lampe of Havelock. Lampe graduated from Laurens – Marathon High School in 2007. She attends Iowa State University in Ames, pursuing a degree in Animal Science/ Pre-Vet.

MaxYield Cooperative annually makes scholarships available to graduating high school seniors and college students pursuing degrees in agriculture.

MaxYield Cooperative is a farmer-owned cooperative headquartered in West Bend, IA. More information about the cooperative can be found at www.MaxYieldCooperative.com.



Don't forget... Mother's Day is Sunday, May 11th!



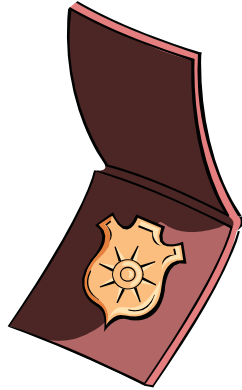
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The Police: Animal Control

By Tom Shaw,
Chief of Police

As with many towns, Laurens is making decisions on how to best implement and enforce Animal Control policies. The Police Department is receiving an ever increasing amount of animal complaints, ranging from animals-at-large to barking dogs. Part of this is due to increased pet population. Officers are stepping up the enforcement of the City's Ordinances and will be issuing municipal infraction citations to violators. The penalties range from \$25.00 to \$75.00. In addition, officers have the option of filing a municipal infraction with the Clerk of Court, which means additional fines and court costs may be incurred. Some of the ordinances are also covered under the Code of Iowa as criminal offenses. Our Animal Control policies are in Chapter 55 of the Code of Ordinances and can be viewed online at www.laurens-ia.com. Since the Code is lengthy, the following rules are abbreviated and general in nature, and some exemptions may apply.



- At Large means any licensed or unlicensed animal found off the premises of its owner. (Fine: \$25.00). There is a \$30.00 impoundment fee and a \$5.00 a day boarding fee.
- All dogs and cats must be licensed each calendar year. (Fine: \$25.00). The license fee is \$5.00 for each spayed or neutered cat/dog and \$15.00 for each unspayed or unneutered cat/dog. A veterinarian's certificate of vaccination must be provided.

- The keeping of dangerous animals is prohibited. A dangerous animal is generally defined as any animal which is not naturally tamed or gentle, or is wild in nature, or which is capable of killing or inflicting serious injury upon human beings. (Fine: \$50.00).
- It is prohibited for any person to permit or allow an animal to defecate upon public property, park property, public-right-of-way, or the property of another and fail to clean up, remove and dispose of the feces. (Fine: \$25.00).
- It is unlawful for a person owning or having the care of an animal to permit such animal to disturb the peace and quiet of the neighborhood by barking, howling, whining, or making any other loud noise. (Fine: \$25.00)
- It is unlawful for any person to fail to provide adequate food, water and shelter for an animal. (Fine: \$50.00)
- The keeping of a pit bull is prohibited. A pit bull is generally defined as any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominantly of the breeds of bull terrier, Staffordshire bull terrier, American pit bull terrier, or any combination of these breeds. (Fine: \$75.00)

Concerning our feral cat population, I am happy to report that our partnership with the BV County Cat Rescue League has been working out very well, and several cats have been placed with them. But, since there are still a large number of feral cats in the town, I am seeking volunteers to help the Department with some fundraising to upgrade our kennel and to help with the care of the animals. Those interested can contact Rich Newgard for more information.

For questions or comments on this article, I can be reached at 841-4414 or by email at lzpd@laurens-ia.com.

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From The Heart

Creating an antipasto platter is a wonderful tool that any host/hostess can use. In Italian it means “before the meal”, or in our terms, appetizer. But the creation can actually be used for one of those Friday nights when you want to nibble, but don’t want to cook.

Traditionally, an antipasto platter contains a variety of cured meats, cheese, herbs, and fresh or marinated vegetables.

During a recent event, my aunt Mary prepared a beautiful platter. She arranged clean lettuce leaves on a platter (we put ice under the lettuce leaves to keep everything cold) and set the food on top. She served crusty Italian bread chunks to either eat with the food, or to place the food on top of the bread. Have pretty toothpicks nearby so your guests can “spear” the food.

For the vegetables, she marinated them overnight in this mixture: 1 cup olive oil, 1 Tbsp balsamic vinegar, $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp ground pepper, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp dried basil leaves, and $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp salt. If you wish for the “ahh” factor – marinate thin slices of cheese in this dressing. Drain the vegetables and cheese before placing it on the tray.

Consider using: cherry tomatoes; small fresh mushrooms, cubes of provolone cheese, thinly sliced deli roast beef and hard salami, artichoke hearts, large pitted ripe olives, green bell pepper strips, prosciutto, pepperoni slices, fresh mozzarella cheese, and sliced red onion.

This antipasto platter would be good with a nice light red wine or a drier white. Put on a Frank Sinatra cd and say “la dolce vita” (the good life).

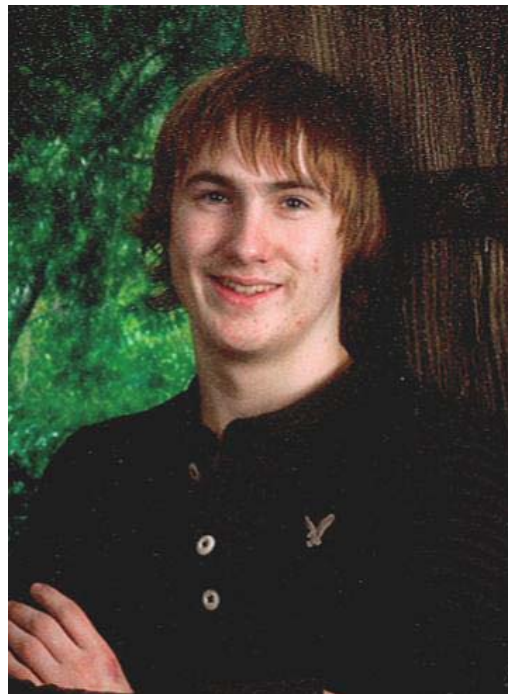
From the Italian Heart,
Julie Wurr



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State 4-H Council

Reuben Wenell, Golden Horizon 4-H Club has applied, interviewed, and been selected as part of the 40 member State 4-H Council. The State 4-H Council exists to strengthen Iowa’s total 4-H program. State 4-H Council members are responsible for planning and implementing state 4-H events. Reuben will serve as an ambassador for the 4-H program. Reuben is a junior at Laurens-Marathon High School and is the son of Lynn and Geri Wenell of Albert City.



Registration Set for Community Vacation Bible School

Registration for this year’s community vacation Bible School is set for Thursday, May 1, at the First Christian Church from 3:30-6 p.m.

All children ages three through the sixth grade are eligible to attend. Three-year olds must have had regular attendance at Sunday School during this school year.

Vacation Bible School dates are Monday through Friday, June 2-6, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$5.00 per child with a maximum of \$15 per family. No one will be turned away because of lack of funds. Everyone is welcome! Contact Peggy Milton (841-4645) with questions.

Livestock ID Forms

All 4-H and FFA students exhibiting any kind of livestock at 2008 Pocahontas County Fair must have their ID forms into the Pocahontas County ISU Extension Office by May 15. Forms are available from your club leader or by contacting the Extension Office at 712-335-3103.

Submit...
100% of
The Paper’s
articles are
submitted
by you -
The Reader!!

Laurens United Methodist Church

Wed. April 30
7:30 p.m. ~ Sr. UMYF

Thurs. May 1
National Day of Prayer

Fri. May 2
7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study

Sun. May 4
Golden Cross Sunday Offering
9:00 a.m. ~ Sunday School
9:30 a.m. ~ Reception for 2008 Graduates
10:30 a.m. ~ Worship

This Week at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Wed. April 30
1:00 p.m. ~ Willing Workers Church Clean-up Day
3:30 p.m. ~ ChiRho Kids & Friends

Thurs. May 1
2:00 p.m. ~ Christian Women's Fellowship

Sat. May 3
2:00 p.m. ~ Richard Challand Funeral

Sun. May 4
9:30 a.m. ~ Sunday School
10:30 a.m. ~ Worship followed by reception for graduates



Mon. May 5
7:00 p.m. ~ Quilt Club

Wed. May 7
7:30 p.m. ~ UMW General
7:30 p.m. ~ Sr. UMYF

Fri. May 9
7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study

Sat. May 10
7:00 a.m. ~ UM Men

This Week at Bethany

Wednesday, April 30th

9 AM ~ Staff Meeting
9 AM-12 Noon
~ Pastor @ Bethany
4-5:30 PM ~ Confirmation Classes @ Grace Lutheran, Marathon

7 PM ~ High School Bible Study @ Clevelands

Thursday, May 1st

7 AM ~ National Day of Prayer Breakfast @ Bethany
3:30-6:30 PM ~ Vacation Bible School Registration, First Christian Church

Sunday, May 14th

9 AM ~ Sunday School Program and Morning Worship w/Communion
10 AM ~ Potluck Brunch
10:15 AM ~ Sunday School Hour
6:00 PM ~ Prayer Partner Supper

Worship, Love, Accepted ~ Together in Christ's Name



Living in God's amazing grace

Sacred Heart Church - Laurens Clustered with St. Joseph Church - Sioux Rapids

Mass Times - April - June

Saturday - 5:00 PM Laurens
Sunday - 9:00 AM Sioux Rapids Confessions 1/2 hour before masses Laurens
CCD grades K-12 meet at 7:00 PM
Wednesday evenings at the Parish Center
Daily Mass as scheduled in bulletin.

Sat. May 3rd

5:00 p.m. Mass for H.S. Graduates

This Week at Albert City Evangelical Free Church

Wednesday, April 30:

6:30 PM Adult Bible Study
Adventure Club
7-Up (Jr. High)

Thursday, May 1:

6:30 PM Deacon Board Meeting
7:00 PM Trustee Board Meeting
7:30 PM Church Board Meeting

Sunday, May 4:

8:30 AM & 10:45 AM Morning Worship
9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages
4:30 PM Timothy Team
5:30 PM U-Turn 180 (High School)

Wednesday, May 7:

6:30 PM Adult Bible Study
Adventure Club
7-Up (Jr. High)

LHS Class of '73 Reunion

The Laurens High School class of 1973 will have their 35-year class reunion on Saturday, July 26, 2008 at the Laurens Golf and Country Club. Class members will meet at the Club at 5:30 for social time and dinner will be served starting at 6:30. Recently, letters were sent to class members with information about the reunion. If you are a member of the class and did not receive a letter, please contact Mary Runneberg at: mary.runneberg@gmail.com or 712-841-2007 with your current contact information.

Happy Birthday!

Please help Gene Sernett celebrate his 80th birthday on May 19th with a card shower. Send your greetings to him at 524 E. Olive Street, Laurens, Iowa 50554.

Thank You

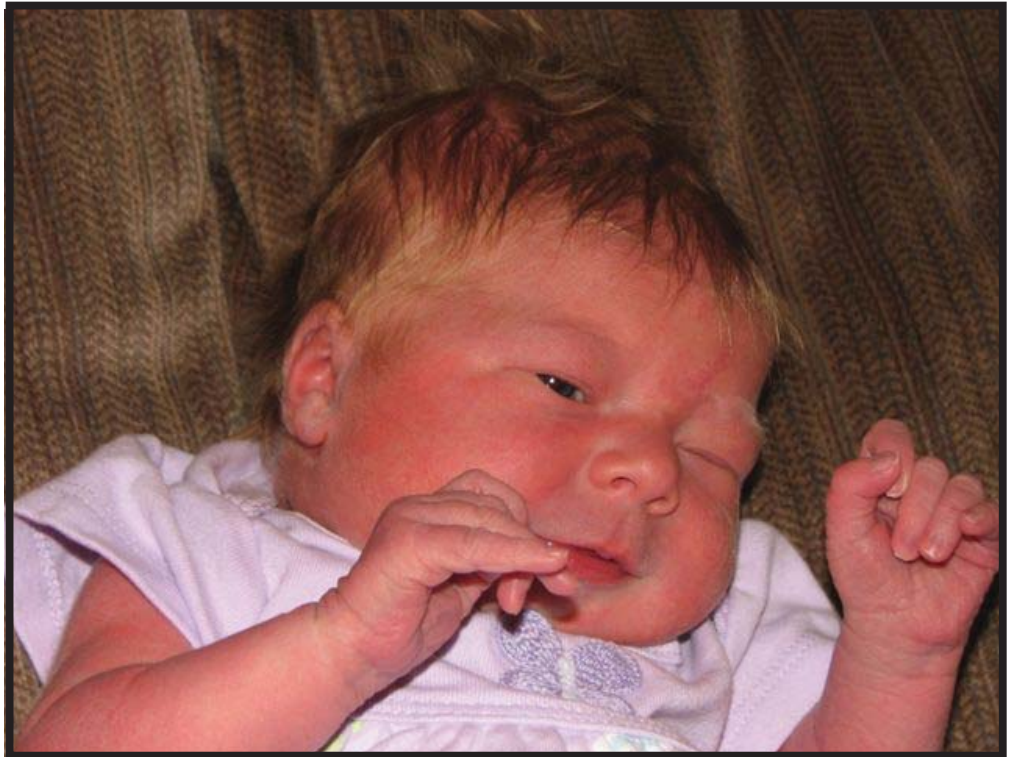
Thanks to everyone who donated, sponsored and helped with the Marathon Fireman's Ball this year. Your contributions will help us out greatly throughout the year. Thanks to the Marathon community for their continuing support.

Marathon Fire Department

Bridal Shower

Please join us for a come and go bridal shower honoring Jessica Kluver, bride-elect of Jason Baumeister on Saturday, May 17, 2008 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church in Laurens.

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New Arrival

Jon & Amy Hubbell of Maryville, MO, became the parents of their second daughter, Brooklynn Paige. She was born on April 10th at Maryville, MO. She weighted 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20 inches long. Her big sister, Taylor, is 3 years old. Grandparents are Carl and Sue Hubbell of Laurens and Danny and Janice Burns of Maryville, MO.

Open House

Please join us for an Open House on Saturday, May 3rd from 10 a.m. until noon. "The Inn on Attica", 103 West Attica in Marathon. The old firestation/library has been converted into a two bedroom guesthouse. Now available to rent for your family and friends. Come check it out!

*Al & Joann Kinnetz, Owners
Phone: (712) 289-2005*

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May Breakfast Buffet

The Marathon United Methodist Women will be holding their Annual May Breakfast Buffet on Saturday, May 3rd, from 6:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. A freewill offering can be made. The menu includes several kinds of juice, milk, egg coffee, regular coffee, rolls of many kinds including cinnamon rolls, mini muffins, regular sized muffins, buttermilk pancakes, sausage links, bacon and baked eggs with ham. We hope you will join us!

Class of 1998 10 Year Class Reunion

Laurens-Marathon High School Class of 1998 10 year class reunion is scheduled for Saturday, June 14th at the Marathon Park Shelter Center.

Please forward Class of '98 contact information including: email address and mailing address to Jeremy Kelley at: jkelly@smunet.net

Reunion details will be sent via e-mail at a later date.

Class of 1978 to Hold Reunion

The Class of 1978 will hold its 30th class reunion on Friday, June 13, at the Laurens Golf and Country Club. Social hour will begin at 6:00 P.M. with a dinner at 7:00 P.M.

Addresses are unknown for some classmates, so family members and friends are asked to please inform people from the Class of 1978 about the reunion. For more information, please contact Mark Meyer at 712-425-3456 or Kathy (Baker) Breiner at kathy.breiner@gmail.com.

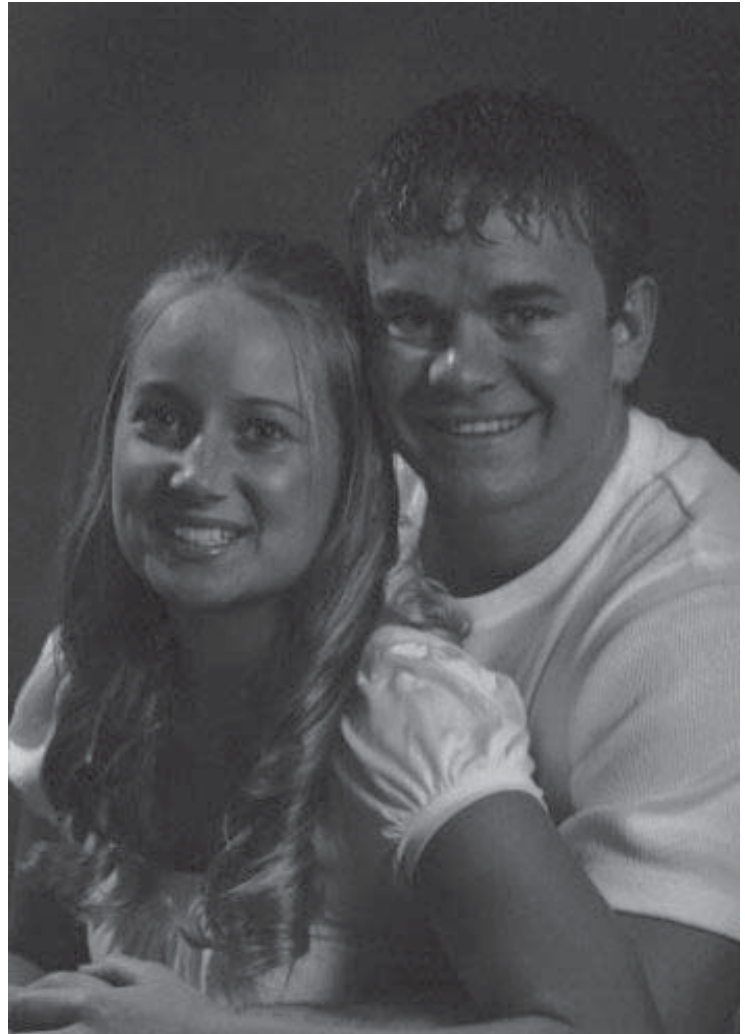
Engagement Announced

Joe and Nancy Goedert of Laurens are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Brittany Joy Goedert to Brandon William Bush, the son of Bill and Cheryl Bush of Laurens.

Brittany is a 2004 graduate of Laurens-Marathon High School. She is currently enrolled in the radiology program at Iowa Central Community College and will graduate in July. She is employed at the Iowa Central YMCA.

Brandon is a 2005 graduate of Laurens-Marathon High School. He is currently taking business classes through Buena Vista University at the Fort Dodge center. He is employed at the Fort Dodge Family YMCA as the Aquatics Director.

The couple will be united in marriage on July 19th, 2008, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Fort Dodge with a reception to follow at the Laramar Ballroom in Fort Dodge.



YOUTH FOOTBALL PLAYERS WANTED

The Laurens-Marathon Youth Football program is looking for kids that will be entering grades 3rd-6th next school year to come join us in playing regulation padded football. All basic High School rules apply and is a very good opportunity to teach the proper fundamentals at a young age. For more information please

contact Dirk Crotty (712) 450-0071 or

Pete Runneberg (712) 841-4366 and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the program. Registration deadline is

May 28th, so sign up quickly and join the fun!

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!**

Dolores Poduska Celebrates 77th Birthday

Dolores Poduska celebrated her 77th birthday at the home of her daughter and husband, Denise and Dave Tedore, in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Many friends were in attendance to help Dolores celebrate this special day.



Dolores and friends at the celebration for her 77th birthday.



Pictured: Janice Fuchs of Laurens and Dolores Poduska celebrating Dolores's 77th birthday.

Engagement Announced

Jerry and Colleen Poduska are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Poduska to Travis Blanco. The couple will be married on September 27th.

Jennifer's grandparents are Mel and Phyllis Madsen of Laurens.

Jennifer is an RN at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado and Travis works for the family sign company in Fort Collins, Colorado.



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At the Library with Glenda Mulder

April 30, 2008

The Laurens Marathon Fifth Graders are sharing their Iowa History Projects with us. They are on display along the library's north wall. These really show what an inventive bunch of kids we have! The center display case also recently has been changed. It now features some of Mary Dean's Friends of a Feather figurines.

Another new thing at our library is a pull down screen in our meeting area. This was purchased with proceeds from the Foundation's Fall Fundraiser. The nice guys (mostly Reid!) from the Light Plant installed it for us. It was really great not to have to mess with a portable screen for our Carnegie Program.

We've received many books lately that look interesting. Nonfiction includes *The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch and *Red Leather Diary: Reclaiming a Life through the Pages of a Lost Journal* by Lily Koppe. They both look good to me and I don't usually enjoy nonfiction! New novels this week include:

- *Blue Eyed Devil* by Lisa Kleypas
- *Somers v. Somers* by Julie Ellis
- *20 Wishes* by Debbie Macomber
- *Losing You* by Nicci French
- *Death Walked In* by Carolyn Hart
- *3rd Angel* by Alice Hoffman
- *River of Heaven* by Lee Martin
- *Trauma* by Patrick McCrath
- *Sundays at Tiffany's* by James Paterson
- *Just Desserts* by Barbara Bretton
- *Practically Perfect* by Katie Fford
- *Death Dealer* by Heather Graham
- *Escape* by Robert Tanebaum

Stop in and check it out!

Our Town Our Paper!

Worms Pay Off!

It's finally complete! Darrell Nichol from the Auto Body Clinic is shown reinstalling the last of the doors he painted for the Laurens Public Library bathrooms. The freshly painted stalls and walls along with the recently installed new countertops, give our public bathrooms a much needed facelift.



Kiwanis Fishing Tournament

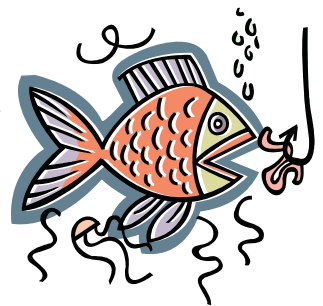
Hook a Kid on Fishing
May 10, 2008
Sportsman's Park
Registration Time: 1:30 P.M.
Starting Time: 2:30 P.M.

Age Groups

4-8 Red

9-13 Blue

14-18 Yellow



Knot tying & tackle making taught from 1:30-2:30.

Pocahontas County Conservation will have poles for anyone if needed.

Kiwanis will furnish bait. All Fish are Released.

Prizes for Each Group.

Largest and 2nd Largest Fish

1st Fish Caught

Most Fish Caught by One Angler

Schmidt Awarded Olympic Steelman of the Game

The Steamwheelers fell up short on their road to the 100th franchise win again on Friday, April 25th when they lost to the Green Bay Blizzard by a score of 52-35.

Although the Steamwheelers lost, Laurens native Jesse Schmidt had another outstanding performance for the night. Jesse tallied three touchdowns, ten total catches and a total of 156 yards for



the night.

To add to the outstanding night that Schmidt had, he was also awarded the Olympic Steelman of the Game award. This is an award that the Steamwheeler coach and a local sponsor of the team (a steel company) pick for every game.

Jesse's next time out on the field will be on Saturday, May 3rd at 7:00 when the Steamwheelers take on the Louisville Fire at home.

For more information on the Quad City Steamwheelers or to purchase tickets for games, please visit: www.steamwheelers.com

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Dennis Tate
Owner



Laurens State Bank Gives \$500

The Laurens-Marathon Early Childhood Program is in the process of applying for Iowa's Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children. The purpose of the program is to provide an opportunity for all young children in the State of Iowa to enter school ready to learn by expanding voluntary access to quality preschool curricula for all four-year-old children.

The allocation of funds for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program is intended to improve access to quality early childhood education and provide a predictable, equitable, and sustainable funding method to increase the number of children participating in quality programs. Therefore, the four-year-old preschool funds are intended to reduce or eliminate the cost of preschool tuition in order to increase the number of children participating in quality programs.

The Laurens State Bank has generously offered to support the Laurens-Marathon Early Childhood Program during the application process by contributing \$500.00 to help pay for any expenses that may arise. The donation will be used to pay not only for grant expenses, but also supplies and materials for the early childhood program.



Featured in the picture: Danielle Auten, Preschool teacher, receives a check from Terry Latham, President of Laurens State Bank, on behalf of the Laurens-Marathon Early Childhood Program.

Teach Children to Save

Mrs. Herbers' 1st grade class had a visit from Iowa Trust & Savings Bank, their P.I.E. and learned valuable lessons on saving money. The lesson started off with "Quincy's Decision" a book about saving money for something you really want instead of buying small items for instant gratification. The kids put their knowledge to use when they were given pennies and a chance to buy fun stuff. Of course the most valuable item was saved until last, so if the kids saved their pennies until the grand prize, they had a chance to buy it! Some kids even saved their pennies to deposit in the bank to earn some interest!



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L-M Senior Credit Class

College is where students begin to act and think independently, and developing responsible financial management is an essential part of mature behavior. As students begin to learn how to live as adults, they must also learn how to wisely use credit cards - a crucial skill of adult life.

The L-M senior class learned about credit card issues and more at a recent class conducted by Cathy Pohlman, Personal Banking Officer at Iowa Trust & Savings Bank.

Pros and cons of credit cards were discussed along with identity theft and protection of the students' social security number, PIN (personal identification numbers) and computer passwords. It was recommended students make copies of items in their billfolds/wallets before they go to college incase they have

a problem; the information would be available if needed.

Credit score information was reviewed. It is important to know credit scores range from 300 - 850 (most scores are between 600 and 800) and credit scores effect how much you can borrow, what your interest rate will be, car insurance rates and even employment. Credit Scores reflect: 35% - Bills paid on time; Late payments are the #1 thing to reduce credit score; Missing a payment deadline = \$39.00 or more LATE FEE; Late payments can hike your interest rate; Companies report payments 30 days late to the credit bureau

30% - Ratio of debt to credit; Using 30% or less of available credit is best; Using 70% or more is a serious drain on your score

15% - Length of credit history; Time is on your side if you have good credit; Bad credit items can stay on your credit report for 7 - 10 years

10% - Credit applications; Applying for a lot of credit at one time is not use-

ful; Too many of the same kind of credit cards can be harmful

10% variety of loans; Different type of loans can be helpful.

While there are risks to getting a credit line too early in life, there are also many practical reasons to have a student credit card. By building credit in college and establishing a solid credit foundation, students will find it is much easier to rent a first apartment, sign up for utilities and finance larger purchases later on. Good credit habits are skills everyone needs, and college is a great place to start building them.

Iowa Trust & Savings Bank wishes each senior success and hope the skills presented at the class will help them now and in the future. We encourage parents to talk to their children about what they learned in the class.

Sharing information is working together to achieve success!

Great Bunch of Kids!

A huge thank you to the Freshman Prom Servers. I was very impressed by their willingness to jump in and do whatever was asked of them. Even seeing and recognizing when something needed to be done and just doing it. Their willingness to work together and get things taken care of made the Prom Dinner a success. The parents and L-M schools should be very proud of these hard working young adults, I know I am!

Thank you!
Kelly Van Sickle (Chairman of the Prom Dinner committee)



Photo includes: Back row, left to right: Devin Lind, Colby Joint, Evan Johnson, Connor Johnson, Jill Kinney, Spencer Slattery, John Stumpf, Ben Zylstra and Emily Plagman. Front Row, left to right: Trent Kischer, Ryan Hudson, Cara Jamison, Bryce Maschino, Melissa Cleveland, and Paige Potter. Absent from photo is Case Bieri.

Dear Roxer

Housebreaking

Every dog needs to be housebroken if it is expected to be living in the house with your family. The biggest mistake that I see is that the dog is allowed free reign and family members aren't watching the puppy. So often, you watch the puppy, and then you become distracted with something, like homework, a phone call, household chores, etc. Then the accident happens. Another mistake is punishing the puppy after the fact or rubbing its nose in the mess. Dogs live for the moment. If your puppy is squatting, that is the time to correct and show the correct behavior while using the designated word, "Out", "Potty", "Let's Go". It doesn't matter what you say, just be consistent. Also, lead the dog out to relieve itself. Toy breeds can be a challenge to housebreak, because all too often the owner carried them outside. The puppy never puts two and two together. Part of housebreaking is that the dog puts together the sequence to travel to the door. You may also designate a particular spot in the yard for the dog to relieve itself. We have a gravel area that is easy to clean and disinfect.

The true fact of the matter is that your puppy really doesn't have complete bladder control until he/she is nine months of age. This means that it is your job to help the puppy understand the concept of housebreaking. You can help with bowel control by keeping a consistent feeding schedule. Do not allow the puppy to have the run of the house until housebreaking is completely understood. Puppies must earn the right to have the run of the house. To help you, as the owner/trainer, keep your puppy near you at all times. I simply take my 6-foot lead and hook the leash to a belt. The puppy is always at my side and the leash is like an umbilical cord that reminds me to keep an eye on the puppy. I take frequent visits to the "Potty" area and give tremendous praise

for the correct response. Again, this time will help the puppy to have a better understanding of the concept.

I also utilize crate training. The crate is not, I repeat, NOT a place for punishment. The crate simulates the den. I have smaller crates for puppies and the puppy graduates to larger crates as he/ she grows. If you have a large breed puppy but do not wish to invest in multiple crates as the puppy grows, use a large crate, but divide the crate with something such as plastic milk crates fastened to part of the space (as the puppy grows, remove the dividers). If the crate is too large, the puppy will relieve himself in one area and sleep in another. I also feed the puppy in the crate and eventually will have a small water bucket in there, as bladder control improves. My dogs also travel in crates for safety reasons (harnesses will work for safety too as you can buckle in your puppy). They like their crates. When using the crate, again, frequent visits outside are necessary to reinforce housebreaking. Once that the puppy has relieved himself outside, then he can enjoy playtime.

Submit questions or comments for Roxer at cdedriver@sctc.com

USDA-NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides Iowa agricultural producers financial and technical assistance for structural and/or management practices on eligible agricultural land. NRCS practices are designed to help address resource concerns and offer improvements to producer operations.

These improvements include, but are not limited to, waste management systems, grazing management systems, and first time no-till systems.

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals. EQIP offers contracts with flexible time frames which allow producers to implement practices during several years, helping meet agricultural producer's goals.

After a producer applies for EQIP, NRCS verifies producer program eligibility and addresses any ineligibility issues. After NRCS determines an applicant is eligible, it is ranked against all other applications in the county. NRCS offers contracts to higher ranking applications first. Higher ranking applications are usually those which demonstrate producer willingness to carry out multiple resource conservation practices, which help solve a variety of resource concerns on their land.

If interested in EQIP funding, local producers should stop by your local NRCS office a year or two before wanting to complete the work in the EQIP application. This will allow NRCS and the agricultural producer time to write the best possible application with the best chance for funding. Early planning will help eliminate problems created by rushed planning and applications, such as cancelled contracts. People signing EQIP contracts need to recognize they are signing a binding contract and producers backing out of contracts, at any time, could be subject to penalty fees. Sign up for EQIP is continuous. Contracts are offered periodically as funding is available. Stop by or call your local NRCS office today for more information. The conservationists at NRCS will be glad to answer any questions and take all interested applications. EQIP sign-up information is also available online at www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/stateeqip.html.

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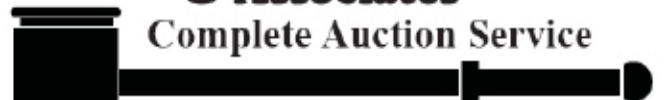
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Announcements

Country Club Thursday Night Special. The special for May 1st will be jumbo shrimp with baked potato, salad and texas toast. *Public Welcome!*

Wednesday Night Specials at Laurens Lounge & Lanes: Rent a lane for \$10 per hour. One dozen buffalo wings and a pitcher of beer for \$11. Laurens Lounge & Lanes, Laurens, 712-841-2545.

JH Design Bridal Registry. Abbey Erickson & Brad Greene. Amanda Svuba & Brad Tendal. Erica Schuttler & Brent Svuba. Briana Finley & Jason Foster. We wrap and deliver. 217 W. Veterans Road. Laurens. 841-4585

Giant Garage Sale: To benefit L-M 5th Grade History Tour. Sat. May 3rd 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Jirgens Shop Building at 501 E. Section Line Rd., Laurens. Sponsored by Laurens Federated Women's Club.

Country Club Mother's Day Brunch is May 11th. Serving from from 9:00 to 1:00. *Public Welcome!*

Country Club kitchen open May 1st and 3rd. Rest of the month of May the kitchen is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday nights .

Announcements

Neighborhood Garage Sale: Corner of Section Line Rd and N. First St. in 6 bay garage. 8 a.m. to Noon, Sat. May 3rd.

Announcements

Kiwanis Annual Prayer Breakfast. 7 a.m. Thursday, May 1, 2008. Bethany Lutheran Church. Tickets can be purchased at the door or from any Kiwanis member.

Help Wanted: Seeking a full time 2nd shift machinist. Ability to set up and operate CNC equipment. Day hours on Friday. Apply at Positech Corp. 191 N. Rush Lake Rd., Laurens, IA.

Maintenance Positions at Meridian manufacturing in Storm Lake. Experience and knowledge in electrical, hydraulics, electronics with good mechanical background. Apply in person or mail resume and cover sheet to HR Manage, Meridian Mfg., 2897 Expansion Boulevard, Storm Lake, IA 50588.

Draftsperson Openings at Meridian Manufacturing in Storm Lake. Create detailed drawings utilizing specialized software. MRP, AutoCAD, Inventor and Microsoft Office experience is a must. Apply online via Careers at www.westmangroup.com or call Christopher Fitzgerald at 712-732-1780.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted at Kids Korner in Laurens. Caring and loving person needed for part time and substitute help. Come to 403 W. Main to pick up an application.

For Rent

For Rent: Lawn Tractor with detacher and bagger attachment. \$10 per hr. 4 hr min. Also available: pull type roller, sprayer, plugger and a tiller plus much more. Call 841-2886 or 450-2886.

For Sale

House for Sale: 213 Byron Street, Laurens. All electric. Many new items including: heat pump/central air, flooring and paint, windows, plumbing, wiring, finished basement and 3 car garage with heat and AC. 712-841-6999.

Excellent Condition - Bear claw big bath tub. Make us a reasonable offer. (712) 841-6846

Dixon Kodiak commerical ZTR mower. '06, 50" deck, 22 HP, only 65 hours; great condition! 712-845-6075.

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