

# The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper.

Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 1 No. 39

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January 2, 2008

## Local News

### Make Your Own Recycled Birdfeeder

Join the Pocahontas County naturalist for a free program on crafting a birdfeeder from recycled materials at 1:30 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 5 at the Pocahontas County Conservation office. Whether one just wants to help hungry birds or is looking to spot a rare avian species, bird feeding is the easiest way to attract songbirds for up-close viewing. Come to Pocahontas County Conservation and learn everything you need to know. You will leave with a ready-to-hang feeder made from materials you can easily find at home. Pre-registration is required. This program is open to all ages and refreshments will be provided. The Pocahontas County Conservation office is located at 702 NW 7th St./Hwy 4 on the north side of Pocahontas. To register or for more information contact: (712) 335-4395 or pokycbnat@evertek.net.

### Edible Art

The Melvin Runneberg family revived an old family tradition this year. Family members that were gathered to celebrate Christmas constructed buildings and vehicles out of food products. These amazing creations are now on display at the Laurens Public Library.

Themes include: Barn Quilts of Iowa, Snow in the Suburbs, A Tribute to Our Troops, Home Sweet Home (for the birds!) Scooby & Shaggy's Haunted House, Santa's Sleigh for Today and Blank Park Zoo Aquarium. Pictured are Mary Korreect and Dorothy Runneberg as they delivered the projects to the Library. Come view these delicious looking works of art.



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### Another Comment on Stoplights

I don't live in Laurens at this time, but would like to comment on the stop lights. I have lived in Sioux City and dealt with 4 way stops and you cannot believe the confusion it causes. I now reside in Spirit Lake and one of the worst 4 way stops is Hwy. 71 & 9. You have 4 lanes of traffic trying to decide who goes first. It is so much simpler when you can stop at a light and then go when it is green. Lights are not that long that we can't wait for them. Maybe we should all slow down a little. *Evelyn Hakes*

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

## 90th Birthday Thank You

The title of the old hymn "Showers of Blessings" seems to be so appropriate at this time in my life's journey. The huge stack of beautiful birthday cards keeps growing each day and my house is aglow with floral bouquets reminding me that I have been truly blessed with a loving family and so many devoted friends. I'm grateful to have been a part of this wonderful community for so many years. Thank you for making my 90th birthday so memorable. Florence Pohlman

## Baby Shower

Come and go baby shower for Natasha Dvorak and her twin daughters, Ali and Dani, Saturday, January 12, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in the Wesley Room, Laurens United Methodist Church. She has registered at The Wild Child in Laurens.

## Thursday Special

Thursday, Jan 3rd, the special at the Laurens Golf and Country Club will be spaghetti with tossed salad and garlic toast.

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that we should know about?  
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ments to The Paper!*

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## 80th Birthday

Please join us in celebrating LaDonna DeYoung's 80th birthday on January 12th. We are hosting a card shower in her honor. Cards can be sent to: 310 E. Garfield St., Box 94, Laurens, Iowa, 50554. Diane, Denese, & families.

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## Local & School Calendar

**Jan. 1**-Happy New Year!

**Jan. 3**-Classes resume.

**Jan. 4**-Basketball with Schaller/Crestland at Schaller, V girls & boys, 6:30 p.m.

**Jan. 5**-St. Edmond wrestling duals at Fort Dodge, V at 10:00 a.m.; L-M Booster Club 7th & 8th grade girls basketball tourney at Laurens at 8:00 a.m.; NCIBA High School Honor Band

**Jan. 7**-JV basketball with Sioux Central at Laurens, girls & boys at 6:00 p.m.; JV wrestling at Emmetsburg at 5:00 p.m.; JH basketball with PAC at Laurens, 7th & 8th boys at 4:00 p.m.

## "Tis the Season"

Pictured (right) are Mikenzy Fansega, Hailey Fansega, Noah Anderson, and Hayden Anderson with some of the supplies collected by their friends and classmates. They are children of John and Kristen Fansega. The pre-school through fifth grade students of Laurens-Marathon elementary school collected hats, mittens, and school supplies to send to needy children in Kosovo.

John Fansega and members of his company will be able to distribute these items to children in Kosovo. Eleven boxes of supplies were mailed. Fifth grade students contributed some of the money for the postage in lieu of having a gift exchange in their classroom. It was wonderful that the students could experience the joy of "giving" during this holiday season.



## Christmas Tree and Wreath Disposal

Recycle your Christmas tree! The Pocahontas County Conservation Board will be accepting Christmas trees and natural wreaths from Wed., Dec. 26 until Sun., Jan. 13. Bring your tinsel-free, unbagged tree to the drop-off site in the north lot of the County Conservation office at 702 NW 7th St. (Hwy 4) on the north edge of Pocahontas. Collected trees will be given new life as fish habitat at the bottom of either Cooper's Cove Pond, Moore Pit or Plover Pit.

*Biggest Little Paper In Town!*

## Sing-a-Long at L-M

Elementary students enjoyed a Christmas sing-a-long on Thursday, Dec. 20. They were led by Mrs. Joan Enockson and accompanied by Mrs. Judy Boettcher! The excitement of the season was evident in the voices of students and teachers alike!



## Snowshoeing Jan. 11

Did you miss the first snowshoeing class? Join the Pocahontas County naturalist on Fri., Jan. 11 at 9 a.m. at the Sportsman's Park picnic shelter in Laurens to experience this unique sport first-hand. Snowshoeing is a wonderful excuse to get out of the house this time of year and is great exercise. Attendees of this all-age event will be given a quick introduction to snowshoeing before setting off on a tour around the park. You will quickly warm up on our traditional wooden snowshoes hand-built in Canada, but in case you don't, hot beverages will be provided before and after your romp through the fluffy white stuff. There are no restrooms at Sportsman's this time of year so plan accordingly. Pre-registration is required for this free event. Contact the Pocahontas County Naturalist with any questions or to register at (712) 335-4395 or pokycbnat@verttek.net.

## First Christian Church Calendar

**Wed., Jan. 2** - No Chi Rho

**Sun., Jan. 6** - Sunday School - 9:30

a.m.; Worship, Epiphany Sunday -

10:30 a.m.; Un-Decorating Day - All church Pot Luck after Worship

**Note:** CWF General Meeting rescheduled to January 10.

## At the Library

Happy New Year! Wow, did 2007 go fast, or is it just me?! I think we all need to resolve to read more books in 2008. This is a resolution I could actually enjoy keeping! We got a few books from some favorite authors this week. If you like a mystery, try James Grippando's *Last Call*, Kay Hooper's *Blood Dreams*, Sara Paretsky's *Bleeding Kansas* or *Darkly Dreaming Dexter* by Jeffery Lindsay. Julie Garwood even wrote a mystery, *Shadow Music*, which is set in medieval Scotland. These look to be hot reads for a cold January! I have lots more good books on order, but UPS John doesn't seem to want to deliver them. Do you suppose he could be hoarding them because he wants to be the first to read them? Well, maybe I do need to read a few less conspiracy theory books..... Stop and pick up a copy of Dennis Lehane's *Shutter Island*. It is a favorite book of many on the library staff. We have lots of extra copies because it is our January book of choice. We'd love to hear your thoughts on it Monday the 28th when we get together to talk about it. I am looking forward to reading this book again! Check it out at the Laurens Public Library!

## Money Talk: A Financial Guide for Women Course

AMES, Iowa -- Women often have unique financial needs, according to Pat Swanson, Iowa State University (ISU) Extension families specialist. "Eighty-five percent of women will be on their own financially at some time. Some never marry, some marry later in life, some divorce and some outlive their husbands. And of the elderly poor in America, more than 70 percent are women," Swanson says.

Swanson, along with Cynthia Needles Fletcher, ISU professor and extension families specialist, will be conducting a Web-based or by-mail course, *Money Talk: A Financial Guide for Women*,

*Our Town Our Paper!*

## From The Heart

I have been asked to have a weekly column answering different questions and offering tips.

The main question that I have been asked lately has to do with storing your Christmas items. In regards to silk wreaths and arrangements...it is best NOT to put these items in plastic garbage bags. All of the evergreens and flowers are made with silk material and placing them in a plastic bag will make it disintegrate at a faster rate. A cardboard box is your best choice. It can "breathe" and allow air to somewhat circulate, and keeps the dust off. If you are addicted to plastic totes; drill holes on the side of the boxes. Again, this will allow the items inside to "breathe" but keeps the dust off.

Please don't put your artificial Christmas trees in the zip-up plastic bags or tightly wind your tree in garbage bags. An old bed sheet works great... it keeps the dust away yet allows air to circulate around the tree. If you question whether an arrangement should go into a plastic container - ask yourself this: "would I put an expensive blouse/sweater in it and store it this way?" If the answer is "no"; then you know what to do!

I also like to store my Christmas ornaments in wine/liquor boxes. They already have dividers in them and can hold great weight. Plus by using the smaller boxes versus large totes, I am able to lift these boxes and don't need help.

To ease next year's decorating, organize your items by the room that you usually place them in. That way you can mark your boxes "living room", "kitchen" and so on. It also helps when you want to do just a little bit of decorating at a time; you don't need to get everything out at once.

I like to store this year's burnt Christmas candles in with the boxes. I place a nylon stocking over the opening and hold it in place with a rubber band (I recycle the glass top). This allows the evergreen scent to slowly gather onto the trees and such in the room that it is stored. I hope that these hints have helped. If you have any questions that you would like answered, please send an e-mail to [heart@laurens-ia.com](mailto:heart@laurens-ia.com). If I don't have an answer...I have great resources to find out for you! Happy New Year, Julie Wurr

beginning Feb. 11. "You will learn smart money skills and work through action steps to become a more informed manager of your money," Swanson says. The goal of the course is to educate and empower women to take control of their financial lives.

One participant of a recent offering of the course said, "I wish I would have had this material twenty years ago. I plan to track my spending now and find some additional money to save or invest."

The five course modules will cover financial basics, insurance, investing, retirement planning and planning for

life events. ISU Extension education programs do not promote any product or company. These distance education courses will run from Feb. 11 to March 14.

The cost of \$75 includes the 190-page *Money Talk* workbook. Call any ISU Extension county office or Ellen Minnihan, (515) 294-6568, to pre-register before Feb. 1. Send a check payable to Iowa State University, along with your name, address and e-mail address, to Minnihan at 68 LeBaron Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011. The registration form also is available at [www.extension.iastate.edu/finances/personal](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/finances/personal).

# L-M Speech & Drama Dept. Presents an Evening of Entertainment by "A Touch of Broadway"

The Laurens-Marathon Speech and Drama Dept. presents an evening of entertainment by "A Touch of Broadway" Saturday, January 5, 2008, 7:00 P.M. Laurens-Marathon Old Gym. All proceeds go to the LM Speech and Drama Department. Tickets: \$5.00 at the door or available from Rumors Pub, Dallenbach Ins., and Treasure Chest. Call 841-5000 Ext. 147, for more information.

The Laurens-Marathon Community School's speech and drama department is proud to present an evening of entertainment by hosting "A TOUCH OF BROADWAY", a group of touring performers from the B.V. Community Theatre at the Roxy in Alta. The original intent of the group was to perform a few shows for private parties during the holiday season. With over 100 performances and eight different shows later, the group is still going strong and is in its seventh season. Presently, "A Touch



of Broadway" has fourteen members and sings old popular songs, rock and roll, and tunes from Broadway musicals. They have appeared in six different counties in Northwest Iowa, with performance venues in community centers, churches, malls, restaurants, schools and private homes. This year's show is entitled: ASPECTS OF LOVE: LOVE IN STYLE which includes Broadway, Rock, Patriotic, Opera, Country Western, and Christmas songs. This is a fundraiser and all proceeds will go to support the LM speech and drama department.

Group members include: Carol Huntzicker, S.L. (director), Glee Crippin, S.L. (musical director), Kevin Anderson, Alta (keyboard), Dan Andrews, S.L., Therese Becker, S.L., Anita Coon, Early, Randy Ericksen, Alta, Dr. Paul Hill, Alta, Lisa Lindeman, Alta, Terry Parson, S.L., Margo Sievers, Sioux Rapids, Rusty Smith, Sioux Rapids, Dianna Waldstein, Early, and Marc Whipkey, Alta.

## Thank You!

Thank you to Laurens Power and Communications, for the free month digital service. *Shirley Mackey*

Thank you to Highway 10 for the gift certificate that I won... *Esther Hackett*

I want to say a heart-felt thank you to the Laurens-Marathon FFA and to Santa Claus who delivered a lovely fruit basket to my door! I was so surprised! Thank you for thinking of me during the holiday season. *Lila Galloway*

## United Methodist Church

- Fri. Jan. 4**  
7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study
- Sun. Jan. 6**  
9:00 a.m. ~ Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. ~ Fellowship Coffee  
10:30 a.m. ~ Worship  
4:00 p.m. ~ Pastor Larry to lead service at home  
7:00 p.m. ~ Choir practice



- Mon. Jan. 7**  
7:00 p.m. ~ Quilt Club
- Wed. Jan. 9**  
4:00 p.m. ~ Confirmation  
7:00 p.m. ~ Christian Ed  
7:30 p.m. ~ Sr. UMYF
- Fri. Jan. 11**  
7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study
- Sat. Jan. 12**  
7:00 a.m. ~ UM Men  
2-4 p.m. ~ Baby Shower for Natasha Dvorak & twins

## *L-M Chargers Fall to No. 1 Alta Cyclones*

Alta 12/21/07: Matt Winter's Chargers suffered their first loss of the season at Alta Friday night. The Cyclones claimed a 48-39 victory. The Charger men gave the Cyclones all they could handle in front of a near capacity crowd.

L-M scored the first seven points and then seemed to sputter a bit, scoring only four points over the next five minutes. It was a defensive battle the entire night. The game was halted in the fourth quarter with just over five minutes remaining in the game. Cody Nesbitt of Alta slid into the first row of Alta fans where an elderly woman suffered a cut on her shin and was taken out of the gym on a chair to seek medical attention. The fast-moving game continued to be a battle with the Chargers committing several fouls to try to stay in the game, but to no avail. Alta connected on 8 of 12 free-throws in the fourth quarter to keep their unbeaten status alive.

Caleb Jamison led the Chargers with 11 points. Travis Leuer followed with nine and Zach Lovin with six. Adam-Woodin and Tyler Smith teamed up for five and four respectively. Ryan Stumbo added three and Gary Brechler one.

The Chargers head back into action at Schaller Friday, January 4th.

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## **L-M Defeats Pomeroy-Palmer**

Laurens 12/18/07 : The Chargers clamped down on the conference opponent Pomeroy-Palmer Tuesday night claiming a 71-49 victory. The Chargers got on the scoreboard first and never fell behind the remainder of the game. L-M had a comfortable 17-point lead by half-time.

The entire L-M roster saw action against the Knights. L-M was 30 of 53 from the field for 57 percent and 8 of 18 from 3-point range. The Chargers totaled 15 assists and 12 steals en-route to their ninth straight victory of the season.

Adam Woodin took charge in the first half, scoring 15 of his 20 points. He also had four rebounds, 3 steals and 1 assist. Travis Leuer scored 19 points, with 13 coming in the second half. Leuer pulled down six rebounds, three steals, two assists and two blocked shots. The duo of Ryan Stumbo and Zach Lovin each pumped in ten points. Stumbo also earned six rebounds and a pair each in the assist, steal and blocked shots departments. Gary Brechler netted four points, four rebounds, two steals and one assist. Ryan Lovin scored a pair of three-point buckets. Tyler Smith added two points.

## *Chargers Tame the Wildcats*

Rockwell City 12/17/07: The Chargers were on the road Monday night taking on the Rockwell City/Lytton Wildcats. The young Wildcat team was no match for the Chargers as they dropped the contest to the Chargers 54-31.

Travis Leuer led the Chargers with thirteen points, four rebounds and three steals. Tyler Smith and Zach Lovin both turned in solid performances, scoring nine apiece. Adam Woodin recorded eight points. Gary Brechler popped in five points and retrieved seven rebounds. Caleb Jamison dropped in three and Tyler Sandvig added four.

RC-L scored first, but L-M quickly countered that score and quickly took the lead and never looked back. The Chargers recorded 15 assists and 7 steals, along with blocked shots by Ryan Stumbo and Leuer. The non-conference game brings the Chargers to 8-0 for the season. Quarter Scores: L-M led 11-2, 24-14, 36-18



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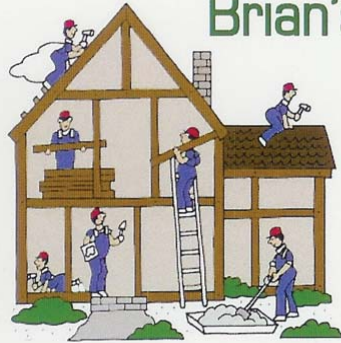
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PO Box 3 ~ 167 West 1st St ~ Newell, Iowa 50568

## Classifieds

**GOLF BALL DROP:** Win one of five \$100 cash prizes! January 11th at the boys' basketball half-time. Tickets \$5 available now from any Jr. Class parent. Proceeds for After-Prom.

**For Sale-**Homedics Shiatsu massaging cushion with moving massage mechanism. Lightly used. \$50.00. 712-841-2255.

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**ATTENTION:** It's time to start thinking about winter snow removal! Call Brian Slama at (712) 848-3229 or (515) 201-8349-cell.

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