

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!

Laurens, Iowa



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July 31, 2007

Local News

Many Thanks

Dear Residents and Friends of Laurens:

The festivities are over and most of us have gotten at least some rest and recovery from sore feet and muscles, lack of sleep, and lots of sun. Friends and family have gone home and taken with them memories of time spent with family and friendships renewed. The French delegation finally made it home after several flight delays and missed flights reminiscent of their travel to Iowa. The city is cleaned up and everything is back to normal. So with that, our Quasiquicentennial Anniversary milestone and RAGBRAI celebrations are now one for the record books.

As Mayor, I was privileged to receive congratulations, thanks and praise many times for all of the activities, the way our city looked, and how smoothly the whole weekend went. The only response I could give was a "thank you" on behalf of the countless individuals who put forth the extra effort to make it happen. Not only did people attending the weekend events thank us, but also many people who read about us in the many newspapers and watched the television stations that told our stories. Besides our local and regional papers, we were in the USA Today, the Herald Tribune International, at least six television stations, and many papers and magazines in southern France. If you are one of countless many who helped make this happen, stand up and take a



Lance with Kathy Sernett

Tour de Laurens

Lance Armstrong Wheels Through Town!

Seven-time Tour de France winner, Lance Armstrong pedals down Third Street as RAGBRAI wheels through Laurens on Monday. The photo was taken by Dawn Jamison from the Hawkeye Bus, home of Spaghetti in a Bag, a Laurens, IA treat! (a shameless commercial plug!). Kathy Sernett had the opportunity to present Lance with a Hawaiian lei and was rewarded with a photo op!



Photo: Corrin Brechler

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

Continued on next page...

Many Thanks *Continued from Page 1*

bow. Literally, we showed the world the importance of celebration and remembrance and put a positive light on our city.

Lastly, I want to pass along part of an email from Richard Wilson of the French delegation who many of you met. He wrote, "The group cannot get over the way we were treated by the Iowa Laurentiens. We were totally and completely spoiled. We want to thank all of you for what was an experience of a lifetime. Your welcome will become legendary, not only in Laurens, France but also in the entire South of France. Our love to all of you."

Peter Hong
Mayor

Distribution of French Wine

If you did not receive your gift from Laurens, France (a bottle of their wine); you may pick it up at city hall.

Requirements are that you are listed in the Laurens phone book in the Laurens area or show proof of living in Laurens. We have a list of those that picked up their wine already.

Please feel free to pick it up at Laurens City Hall from 8:00 to 4:00, Monday thru Friday.

Jill Elbert Bridal Shower

Please join us for Jill's Bridal Shower! Everyone in the Laurens and Marathon communities and surrounding area is invited to a Come and Go Bridal Shower honoring Jill Elbert, bride-elect of Mike Grund of Ruthven. Please join us in the Wesley Room at the Methodist Church in Laurens from 9:30-11:30 in the morning on Saturday, August 11. Jill and Mike are registered at Heart-n-Home and JH Design in Laurens, as well as Target and Kohl's.

Our Town Our Paper!

Take a Bow, Laurens

BY RICK DAVIS

There's a scene in the movie "Field of Dreams" where Shoeless Joe Jackson scans this pristine ball diamond freshly carved from a cornfield and asks Iowa farmer Ray Kinsella: "Is this heaven?"

"No," says Kinsella stoically. "It's Iowa." It's a fleeting moment from a cinema classic that invariably tugs at my heart strings. Similarly, my feelings of nostalgia and pride for Iowa were turned up a notch a couple weekends ago in returning to Laurens for the town's Quasquicentennial.

Good times, good folks and special memories seemed to be everywhere, even if it wasn't heaven either -- just good ol' Laurens honoring its 125-year existence. Whatever, sifting through three days of glorious celebration to pinpoint highlights is difficult.

Friday's opening festivities at Sportsman's Park featured a tribute to the late Helen Ducommun, a longtime teacher and community volunteer; plus fireworks, candle-lighting and the extraordinary musical/showmanship talents of Laurens native Kevin Lind. Meanwhile, across Veterans Road, the Laurens-Marathon High girls softball team was offering an unforeseen bonus -- a 1-0 victory over Graettinger-Terril before a packed house in the Regional semi-final game. The evening also included a milestone class reunion -- No. 50 for Laurens High's class of '57. Best part: The turnout as 28 of 39 living members attended. "We've had 10 reunions and this was the best one," said Bill Maurer, one of the attendees.

Saturday clearly was Quasqui's marquee day, offering a smorgasbord that included a pancake breakfast, wine festival, all-school reunion, opening of a time

capsule from the town's 1976 celebration, square-dance precision by the Farmall Promenaders, antique and classic car and tractor shows, live music by bands that included Laurens-rooted Trademarx, and arguably the day's kingpin -- a parade with 175 entries, including a special-guests delegation from Laurens, France.

Finally for those who somehow weren't partied out or otherwise exhausted, Sunday offered a golf tournament, community brunch, ecumenical church service and historical fashion tea.

As an Iowan who spent the first 18 years of his life (plus summers during college years) in Laurens, I showed up for my hometown's big bash with an open mind -- but no expectations, even though I did strive to get in a throwback mood by listening to oldies CDs on the plane from California.

Well, hey, the strategy worked. Here's one Laurens kid who's not second-guessing any part of the Quasqui. That certainly was no garden-variety Sunday weiner roast and the town seemed to respond by collectively pitching in -- spurred, no doubt, by the efforts of event chairwoman Lanore Thumma and her Steering Committee.

Perhaps the best part for many of us was reconnecting with relatives, old friends and ex-teammates. For me, it was folks like Floyd Winter, Ed Benz, Joe Halterman, Lorraine Unruh, Dick Mosbach, Larry Perkins, Ann Youngreen Sullivan, Ed Workman, Bill Kemp, Elizabeth Kemp Anderson, Bill Maurer, Al and Garlan Stover, Louie Ball, Bill Grice, Keith Hoffman, John Pohlman, Bob Dalenbach and others.

"In a small town, you have to pitch in and do everything you can to help," said Pohlman. "But that's a two-way street. There's a lot of satisfaction in doing it."

Well, I'll second that notion. Take a bow, Laurens, for a job well done.

Laurens native Rick Davis lives in California and is an occasional contributor to The Paper.





A Quasqui Committee Thank You!

On behalf of the Quasquicentennial Commemoratives Committee, we would like to thank everyone who has helped in any way to make acquiring and selling the commemoratives a great success! A huge thank you to Rod Johnson for allowing us to use his building as our Headquarters, and to all of the businesses that helped us sell the commemoratives.

We are also grateful to all of you who worked at Headquarters over the last several months-you know who you are! Special thanks to Ralph of Laurens for helping us and being there to visit with his fans. We thank Ashley Sindergard for doing artwork for us; Joe Ahlers and Brooks Anderson for transporting commemoratives to Laurens; Rod Bell and Thaine Hopkins for the use of their postcard collections; Dr. Steve Christensen for making the "Carnival Day" prints available; everyone who worked on the cookbooks; Julie Wurr for helping with displays; everyone who helped round up leftover Centennial commemoratives; the people who brought in decorated trees, photos, scrapbooks, and other treasures to share with the community; and Future Net, The Paper, Glenda Mulder, Connie Dallenbach, and Laurens State Bank for helping us with promotions and advertising.

We would also like to thank our committee members: Brooks Anderson, Dave Evans, Jan Hersom, and Grace Hertz for their many hours of work and support that helped to make it all happen! And thank you to everyone who purchased quasqui commemoratives. We hope you enjoy them for many years!

Jim and Mary Runneberg

My Hat Goes Off to You, Laurens!

I take my hat off to you, Laurens. I had an awesome time last weekend. I want to say thanks to all the committees that put on the celebration. I'm very proud to say that I am from Laurens.

Thank-you, once again.

Debbie Schmidt Spirit Lake, IA

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

Crotty's Attend Celebration

Leo & Shirley Crotty from Katy, TX attended the celebration in Laurens this past weekend. Leo graduated from Laurens in 1953 and certainly enjoyed seeing many of the old classmates from years before and after 1953. The parade was wonderful. We watched the parade with the Gert Crotty family and other relatives in front of Gert's home on 2nd street.

Way To Go Band!

Ms. Allen would like to thank all of the high school band members that played and marched in the Quasqui parade. A big thank you also goes out to Marcus, Judy and Addy for helping out. Everyone was needed and appreciated. Thank you, thank you!

Bridal Shower for Jolene Sobotka

Come and Go Bridal Shower honoring Jolene Sobotka, August 4, 9:30-11:30. Sacred Heart Parish Center. Bring your favorite recipe.

Congrats!

I would like to say congratulations and a job well done to the city of Laurens for hosting one of the best parties I've ever attended. The past weekend celebration gave all the Lind siblings an opportunity to meet together in our hometown and recall the golden days of the "busiest little town." My thanks for allowing me the opportunity to once again be a show-off in front of the hometown crowd. I was thrilled to be part of an arts and entertainment package that included the likes of Tim Horsman, Tuxedo Junction, the Ski Band, the Sender's, and of course the amazing FRB. I was a fan of every artist and every event that spanned the weekend. I've been told that the RAGBRAI event was the icing on the cake and regret that I could not have been in attendance. Lastly, to all of the friends and acquaintances that I had the privilege to visit, please know that although our conversation was brief, I will carry the memory with me forever. Please stay in touch.

Kevin Lind

Kevin.Lind@PerformanceFinishInc.com

Flag Raised by an Honored American!

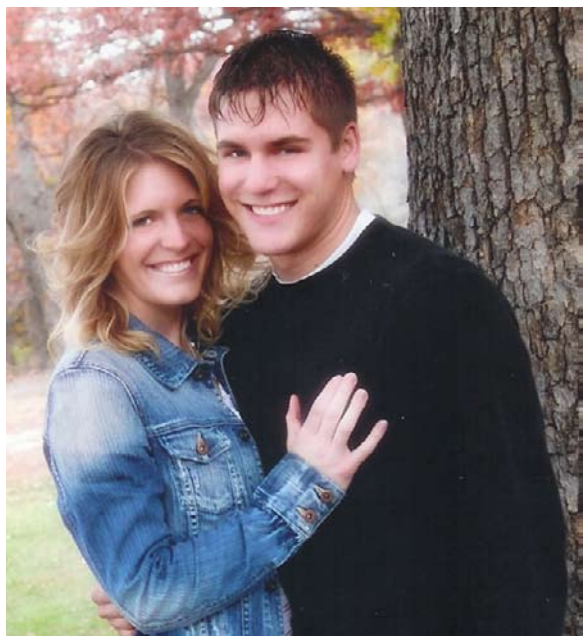


view of the Center's updated landscaping, which they were able to complete prior to the Laurens Quasquicentennial Celebration.

Pictured is L to R: Chester Miller (Environmental Services Supervisor), Cecil Hanisch (a resident of Good Samaritan since September 2006), and Jennifer Myers

Lieutenant Cecil Hanisch began combat duty during the invasion of Normandy. While advancing along the hedgerows, he received numerous shrapnel wounds from a hand grenade. After months of rehabilitation he was again in combat duty in the Battle of the Bulge. A shot to his leg caused a loss of consciousness and a severely broken bone. Cecil was listed as Missing In Action. He spent months as a Prisoner Of War in makeshift hospital buildings. A bomb destroyed the top floors of his building, but Cecil did not receive any more injuries. He was then liberated from the POW building by the Allied forces. Captain Hanisch spent his remaining time of service in rehabilitation. You can see his citations for two purple hearts, MIA and POW on the Veterans' Memorial in Pocahontas.

It was an honor when Cecil Hanisch, a double Purple Heart recipient, former POW in a German concentration camp and soldier in the Battle of the Bulge, recently helped with the initial raising of a new American flag at the Good Samaritan Center. The flag, generously donated by the Laurens Kiwanis, was raised on the Center's new flag pole. A larger flag pole was purchased and erected to accommodate the bigger American flag and the Good Samaritan Society's new logo flag (watch for future articles on our new logo and name!). In the background is a



Sobotka & Sernett To Be Wed

Joleen Sobotka and Steven Sernett are pleased to announce their engagement and upcoming wedding on September 1, 2007.

Parents of the couple are Jerry Sobotka and Sheryl Sobotka of Laurens and Mark and Kathy Sernett of Laurens.

Quasqui DVDs: Two Ways to Order

Just a reminder that you can order a professional quality DVD featuring highlights of the Laurens Quasquicentennial activities by filling out an order form at the City Clerk's office at City Hall. You can also order by sending an e-mail message to: quasqui@laurens-ia.com or mary.runneberg@gmail.com. In your message, please include your name, address, phone number, and the quantity of DVDs you would like to order. Indicate whether you plan to pick up your order or have it shipped to you.

Payment for the DVDs is due at the time you order. The cost will be \$10.00 per DVD picked up and \$12.00 per DVD shipped, payable to The City of Laurens. Payment can be made at the City Clerk's office. If you prefer to mail your payment, send it to: City of Laurens, 272 N. Third St., Laurens, IA, 50554, ATTN: City Clerk - DVD.

We hope to have the DVDs ready by late August. They can be picked up at the Laurens Public Library at that time, or we will ship them to the addresses you provide for us. If you plan to pick up your DVDs, please watch for a notification in "The Paper" that they are at the library.

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Wine Festival--What a Success!

Thank you for the many compliments that the Laurens Iowa Wine Festival and Market received.

Now the big question...should we do it again next year? We would like your opinions. We realize that the crowds wouldn't be as big. We sold roughly 1,700 wine glasses this year. If we only had half that plus 25% increase to those hearing about how great our wine festival is...that would be still about 1,000 people.

The wineries all asked to come back next year if we had it again. Many said their sales were better than the week before in Des Moines. They also commented that they were going to spread the word to other wineries what they missed.

So we ask of our community...would you like to see this continued? Would you support such an event? Please send comments to wine@laurens-ia.com.

Again, thank you so much for your encouragement and support.
Rose Davis, Kerrie Woodley, Julie Wurr

News from Central NM

Susan Sernett Johnson of Albuquerque, New Mexico has been elected Chair of the Biology Department at Central New Mexico Community College. Susan is the daughter of Alice and Gene Sernett and the Daughter-in-Law of Jeanette and Bud Hawley.

Fireworks Suggestion

A suggestion for the fund for the 4th of July fireworks would be to put a couple of containers around town for cans and bottles and the money from this could go to a fund for the fireworks.

Jan Reining-Bloes

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

At the Library

Whew! I think a collective sigh went through Laurens Monday evening. What a fabulous celebration! Hats off to all involved in the planning. There was certainly something for everyone at the Laurens QuasQuiCentennial. Town and Country Quilters hosted two Quilt Show/Bed Turnings at the library. 51 quilts were stacked on a bed. Each quilt in turn was described and held up for all to admire. Pictured is Dorothy Runneberg describing the quilt her daughters made for their anniversary. Many other quilts were on display along with Barn Quilt of Pocahontas County information. What an amazing display of local talent!

Ragbrai was an awe-inspiring sight. All those bikes coming through our town was something to see. It was fun to watch as they turned our corner and caught sight of the smoking volcano in the middle of the street. The most heard comments were; "Cool", "Get the camera", and "This is going to be fun"! All day we heard the riders say how welcoming our town was and how well organized Laurens was for this event. The Ragbrai committee definitely deserves our congratulations (and about a month of vacation!)

Weekend Visitors

Guests in the home of Alice and Gene Sernett were Susan Sernett Johnson of Albuquerque, N.M., Kathy and Mike Keane of Sioux City and Tricia and Brian Keane, Barbara and Dan Edmonds and Allie and Allie's friend Paul Masselink of Sioux Falls, S.D. and Joe Sernett of Omaha, Nebraska. They all came especially for the Quasquicentennial.

Yes, I still have Gummi BookWorms left. Guess I was overly optimistic. But boy, did I have fun peddling them. Many thanks to my parade BookWorms; Kacie Cox, Becca Hubbard, Brittany Jones, & Courtney Post and all my fellow worm sellers. If you need more worms, stop at the library. I think we'll have them for awhile. Many people donated, but left us with the candy, so the elementary school kids can look forward to BookWorms sometime that first week of school.

In all this craziness we even got a few books in last week! Included are: *Origin* by Diana Abu-Jaber, *Whispering Rock* by Robin Carr, *Life's a Beach* by Claire Cook, *Shoe Addicts Anonymous* (How could I resist a book with a title like that? I think it may have been written about my sister, but don't tell her!) by Beth Harbison, *Up Close and Personal* by Fern Michaels, *The Water's*

Lovely by Ruth Rendell, *In the Dark of the Night* by John Saul, and *Among Other Things I've Taken Up Smoking* by Aoibheann Sweeney.

Homer and Sandy George have donated DVD versions of their favorite BBC series All Creatures Great and Small. Season One is in memory of Betty Benz & Season Two is in memory of Fern Holland.

Check it out at the Laurens Public Library!

Bridal Shower for Mackenzie Bell

Come and go bridal shower honoring McKenzie Bell, bride to be of Julian Johnsen. August 11, 9:00 - 11:00 at the Christian Church in Laurens.

MacKenzie and Julian are registered at Heart N Home, JH Design Studio and Longaberger with Jan Larson in Laurens. They are also registered at Kohl's, Target and Youngers.



Laurens: *Best Stop on the Tour!*

by Diana Troester

My stop in Laurens Iowa on Monday, proved to be the best on my RAGBRAI experience. My name is Diana Troester, Adel, Iowa and I am a Breast Cancer Survivor. I spent 5 hours in your lovely town and was lucky to get a photo with Lance Armstrong and he also autographed my pink ISU Cyclone hat. I was diagnosed with Breast Cancer in February and have been undergoing treatment since. I am now doing radiation and I am done with Chemo. I will also start a drug (Herceptin) through a power port after radiation in August and receive treatment each week for a year. Herceptin is a fairly new treatment given only to patients like my case in the last two years.

So thanks to all the research groups and The Livestrong Foundation like Lance Armstrong's, we are beating cancer over and over again. What a wonderful way for Lance to give back to Life after beating all odds of Cancer. I also, am in a Clinical Study Group with all proven drugs to help pave the way for our future generations and my two daughters. Cancer is so curable, I have friends who are 13, 10, 7, and 5 years free of cancer and I will be one of them also. Remember mammograms save lives. It saved mine!



The community of Laurens was a wonderful and gracious host this year. I arrived in town at 8:30 and had breakfast at Deb's Café, with the other support group on my team. While

taking the shuttle to the downtown, we met a gal from Newport Beach, CA. Patty from CA, was supporting her husband and friend riding on their first RAGBRAI. Her husband and friend are physicians

in California, just one of the many acquaintances you meet on RAGBRAI. When my husband and friends arrived, we had our photo taken with the Mayor of Laurens and then proceeded to find a great lunch on the streets. We really enjoyed the theme of Laurens with the Hawaiian shirts and volcano. Also, I enjoyed many of your quaint shops. One of them was Unique Boutique and enjoyed meeting Vani, where I bought my bicycle earrings and pin, how cute. During my time, I also visited the Methodist church for pie and ice cream, the best rhubarb pie on the route. Thanks so much to the Laurens community and for going all out!

Laurens has done a wonderful job organizing a great day for Ragbrai, 2007. A lot of people worked extremely hard to put it all together....I congratulate you all. I met Diana and loved her story and wanted her to share it with Laurens. Thank you, Vani Ahlers



Our Town Our Paper!

Seen at the Quasquicentennial

Chicks from the Class of '66 pictured to left:

(L to R) Chris Luchsinger Jones, Sandy Fuchs Carlson, Marg Maurer Semke, Kate Gulbranson Scheich, and Mary Jo Mitchell Witt.

Wine 101

Submitted by Julie Wurr

Now that you either received your bottle of wine from Laurens, France or you may have purchased a bottle from one of the Iowa wineries...what do you do with it?

The French wine is dated or "vintage" which means it is predicted to age and grow deeper and more mellow. If you are new to wines; this may not be your choice. The newer the wines the sweeter they are and fruitier. Iowa wines are "table wines" which means take them home and enjoy them!

Many questions about storing your newly acquired wines. It is better to have your wine either on its side or upside down. This allows the wine to make contact with the cork and keep it moist. When you have it upright it allows the air to get to the cork and dry it out...which will eventually get you a nice bottle of marinade for your meals... but not nice wine.

Many of the Iowa wineries use synthetic corks which does not dry out and you may store upright.

Temperature is another issue. If you do not have the luxury of owning a wine temperature-gauged cooler; try your basement. The humidity of a basement and a cooler temperature will do it well. Putting it into your refrigerator for an extended period of time does not treat your wine well. You can actually "bruise" your wine like you would a grape. Left too close to colder temperatures, or treating the bottle roughly, can actually change the chemical balance of the wines.

If you want your bottle for looks only...then none of this matters. But remember; wine is like a good book. You only open it when you have time to enjoy it. And may you be blessed to share it with others! If you have any questions regarding wine; please feel free to contact me. *Julie Wurr*

Camera Lost at RAGBRAI Returned to Owner

What a Long Strange Trip It's Been...

Monday July 23rd, 2007 brought several thousand bike riders through Laurens. One of those bikers stopped April and Jon Graff and asked them where they could find a good place to eat and get something to drink. April directed them to the Wrestling Cheerleader and Drill Team concession booth. She told them that her mother (Kelly Van Sickle) was the wrestling cheerleading coach and the girls were trying to raise money. The biker (Jim Byers) and his riding companions went to the stand and told Kelly that her daughter sent them. They visited for just a minute as the bikers made their purchases. A short time later one of the cheerleaders noticed that someone had left a digital camera on the table. Van Sickle looked in the camera case for identification and finding none, went to the band that was playing, and had them announce that the camera had been found. This was announced several times throughout the course of the afternoon. No one came to claim the camera so Kelly took the camera home to try to find some identification using the photos.

In one of the 200 photos on the camera was a picture of a man and a woman standing in a driveway in front of a house with a car in the driveway. Kelly enlarged the photo and was able to read the license number and make of the car. She then contacted the local police and asked for help in identifying the owner of the car to see if they would know who took the picture.

The car was registered to a female in Arizona. Kelly went on the internet and tried to find the lady's phone number. There was no listing for the woman, but several listings for people with the same unusual last name. Van Sickle proceeded to call all of those listings hoping to find someone who knew the lady. No one had ever heard of her. Kelly then went back to the internet and using the woman's last address located several of her neighbors. She called the first one on the list and the woman who answered knew the owner of the car and knew that she had moved to Iowa.

That information prompted Kelly to go back on the internet and check phone listings in Iowa with that name. Six listings with the same last name came up. One listing in the town which the neighbor had mentioned as a possible location. Kelly then called that number and left a message. A few minutes later they returned the call saying that the car owner was their daughter and they knew whose camera it was. They took all of Kelly's information and passed it on to the camera's owner. Jim Byers (the owner of the camera) called Kelly later that afternoon, very grateful to be getting his camera back. He said that he was the man who had been directed to the stand by April Graff. Kelly then remembered him from their short visit. Mr. Byers is from Washington state and is riding his first RAGBRAI with some friends. Mr. Byers said that one thing that he will always remember about Iowa is the honest people that live here.



Biggest Little Paper In Town!

These L-M alumni had a great view of the Quasquicentennial parade. Ron Brechler hoisted them to the roof of R.B. Lumber Co.!!!

Pictured from left to right are Josh Gunnarson, Kristi Brechler, Jason Dubbert, Cole Johnson, Ryan Sones and Andrew Dahlberg.

Photo: Corrin Brechler

Fisher Hydraulics Thanks Open House Attendees

We would like to thank all who visited our open house during the Quasquicentennial celebration. It was a huge success. The winners of the door prizes were; HDTC-Heath Sabin, MP3 Player-Matt Garton, Digital Camera-Mary Fischer, Portable DVD-Danny Gross, \$50.00 Debit Cards-Kim Swalin, Jerry Ehn, Ray Nehring, Wade Teepe, Lisa Sefcik. Winners of the bikes were Quentin Nissen and Gabrielle Ludwig. Fisher Hydraulics is proud to be part of Laurens-- *The busiest little town in Iowa.*

Thank You!!!

We are very lucky to live in such a great town with our family and friends. We want to say thank you to everyone who helped with the Little Miss Laurens pageant, especially Ashley. And we also want to tell all of the girls who were in it with us that they did a great job. *Madyson and Ellen Main.*

"My favorite part was the parade!!" (Ellen). Also, a special thanks to Wild Child, Town and Country Floral and Positech for their contributions to the pageant. (Mom)

Thanks Chargers

We want to thank the Laurens Girls Softball Team and coaches for a super season. We so enjoyed watching your games. You and your families and friends made us feel so welcomed. Thank you again for treating us like family and giving us an enjoyable summer. You are #1 with us. *Twila & Bob Cleveland*



Bonnie Jean (Siddall) Wells

Bonnie Jean (Siddall) Wells, age 74, of Boone died from cancer July 20, 2007 at Israel Family Hospice House of Ames.

Bonnie was born June 20, 1933 at Laurens, Iowa to Francis "Sid" and Juanita (McKee) Siddall. Her mother passed away when Bonnie was two years old, after which she was lovingly raised by her grandparents, Harry and Mabel McKee. Bonnie graduated from Laurens High School in 1950 and Iowa State Teachers College-Cedar Falls in 1952. She taught elementary school in Milford, Iowa where she met, and then married LaVerne "Bud" Wells. They were married in 1954 at Laurens, Iowa.

Bonnie was a homemaker. Throughout her life, she volunteered for numerous school, church and community activities. She enjoyed the many visits from neighborhood children; and spending time with her granddaughter, family, and friends.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her grandparents, parents, stepmother, Doris Siddall, and brother Dean Siddall. She is survived by her husband, LaVerne "Bud" Wells of Boone, daughter Diane Gaspie and husband Paul of Lincoln, NE, son Scott of Des Moines, IA, granddaughter Michaela Wells also of Lincoln, NE, and many nieces and nephews.

Bonnie's body has been cremated. A memorial service is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 26, 2007 at the First Presbyterian Church, 7th and Greene Streets of Boone. Burial will be in the Linwood Park Cemetery of Boone. Visitation, with the family present will be held Wednesday, July 25, 2007 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Schroeder-Walter Funeral Home, 5th and Story Streets of Boone.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be directed to the First Presbyterian Church, 703 Greene St., Boone, IA 50036 and Boone National Little League, 314 West 2nd St., Boone, IA 50036. Schroeder - Walter Funeral Home, 5th and Story Streets of Boone is in charge of the arrangements.

**4-H Quilt Block
Winners Announced**

The winners for the 2007 4-H quilt block contest are: First place, Rachel Proctor; second place, Kelsey Fey; third place, Hope Elbert; and fourth place (tie), Nikki Seehusen, Leah Behrendsen and Sam Brinkman. All of the winners will receive gift certificates from the Extension Service at Quilting on Main.

This is the eighth year for the 4-H quilt block contest. The winners were chosen by a viewer's choice at the fair and also by area quilting professionals. The blocks will be sewn into a quilt later this year, quilted by Quilting on Main and then raffled next fall. The proceeds from the quilt will support 4-H programs.

A raffle is being held for last years quilt this fall with the drawing to be held at the 4-H awards day in November. Chances are available at the Extension Office and at Quilting on Main.

Thanks to Quilting on Main for sponsoring the contest and quilting the quilt, and to Jane Hartsock for designing and sewing the blocks together.

Canner Gauge Testing

Pressure canner gauges will be tested on Thursday, August 2 at the Pocahontas County Extension Office in Pocahontas from 9:00 AM to Noon. Just bring the lid only with dial gauges or the pop up style. Weighted gauges cannot be tested. If the date does not work in your schedule, you may bring the lid to the Extension office at an earlier date and pick it up after the testing date. There is a \$3.00 testing fee.

Send Your News to

The Paper!

We love to see you smile!

Linda Olson Bieri, D.D.S.
Steven W. Christensen, D.D.S.

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Announcements

Special Thank You

When I was a young woman and there was so much to do as far as "church work" was concerned I looked around and wondered who could possibly do all the things that a few of us were accomplishing. After a few funerals, Fr. Verne's farewell party, the Quasquicentennial and RAGBRAI I now know who they are and so do they. Thank you from all of us who at one time were as busy as you are now. God bless all of you!

Alice Sernett

Many Thanks

A big "thank you" to all of those who made the Quasquicentennial, the visit from our sister city delegation and RAGBRAI such a great success!

Alice & Gene Sernett & family

Send Your News to

The Paper!

Final Winner!

Shirley Mackey is the final winner of the \$125.00 Friday Cash drawing at Iowa Trust & Savings Bank in Laurens. Iowa Trust celebrated the Laurens Quasquicentennial by giving away \$125.00 for 5 Fridays to local residents.

Pictured are the Laurens Location Employees, Kate Ellis, Cathy Pohlman and Karen Lind all presenting Shirley Mackey with \$125.00 CASH!! Iowa Trust employees enjoyed the festivities of the week end and thank everyone for the warm response received in Laurens. Emmetsburg staff joined the Laurens staff for the parade, everyone had a great time! Iowa Trust & Savings Bank is here for the FUTURE of Laurens.

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

Thank You

How do we say Thank You to everyone in the Laurens Community for all of the Volunteer Hours spent to make the Laurens Quasquicentennial Celebration such a success. The result proves that our small town has a big heart. Many great comments about every event planned for the weekend.

Laurens Quasquicentennial Steering Committee

Thank You

A big Thank You to all the people that donated to the Fireworks this year. I hope everyone enjoyed them. We, the Citizens for Fireworks, hope to do this next year to kick off the Dog Days of Summer celebration.

Citizens for Fireworks, Dennis Tate

Congrats Charger Softball

Congratulations to the L-M Chargers on a wonderful softball season. We enjoyed every game.

Gloria & Bill Grice



Thank You

Thank you, Iowa Trust for the \$125.00 that I won in the drawing.

Shirley Mackey



Mimi Peterson and Matt McKay

Mimi Peterson and Matt McKay exchanged wedding vows on May 26, 2007 in Solon, Iowa.

Parents of the couple are Pete and Sherri Peterson of Waterloo, formerly of Laurens, and Kathy McKay and Dave and Anne McKay, all of Iowa City. The outdoor ceremony and reception took place at The Barns in rural Solon.

The bride and groom are both employed as RN's in the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at University Hospital and reside in Iowa City.

Cara Johnson to South Korea

Cara Johnson, daughter of Susan Sernett Johnson and Col. Lynn Johnson (both formerly of Laurens) will be spending a year in South Korea.

Cara will be teaching English at a new Elementary School in Pusan. Cara's grandparents are Alice and Gene Sernett and Jeanette and Bud Hawley.

Congratulations Chargers for a Fantastic Season 29-4



Left to Right:
 Front Row: Paige Potter, Melissa Swalin, Cara Jamison, Kelly Willers, Kylie Woodley, Melissa Cleveland
 Middle Row: Jordan Sundblad, Hailey Moore, Megan Hofmaster, Megan Cleveland, Laci Hall, Emily Lampe, Kacie Woodley, Holly "Bug" Hofmaster
 Back Row: Kim Kenobbie, Holly Anderson, Brittany Rydstrom, Bryn Johnson, Shelby Heuton, Brynn Larson, Kelsey Meyer, Chelsea Anderson
 Inset: Left: Head Coach: Ashley Partlow; Right: Assistant Coach: Kim Johnson

These Area Sponsors Congratulate the 2007 Softball & Baseball Teams for Their Great Season!

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 B & B Chlorination
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 Bobalee, Inc.
 Cindy's Scissory
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 Connie's Country Curl
 Dallenbach Insurance Agency

Deb's Country Kettle
 Drs. Bieri & Christensen
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 - Mike Behrens
 Farm Bureau Financial Services
 - Jesse & Kelley Newgard
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 Larry Northway, CPA

Our Town Our Paper!

Sponsors Continued on Next Page...

Congratulations Chargers for a Great Season 14-12



Front row: Ryan Lovin, Travis Leuer, Mitch Erickson, David Brechler, Mason Reed, Keton Joynt
Second row: Zach Lovin, Tyler Smith, Bennett Bargloff, Gary Brechler, Jung Hun Hwang, Jarrod Reese, Tory Mohr
Back row: Coach Matt Winter, Ryan Stumbo, Andrew Hanson, Jake Frye, Matt Swalin, Adam Woodin, Coach Linn Lovin

These Area Sponsors Congratulate the 2007 Baseball & Softball Teams for Their Great Season!

Sponsors Continued...

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Touch of KaSch - Kathy Schulz
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US Bio Energy, Albert City
Dr. Dwight VanGenderen
Donald Winkler, Atty
Woodley Insurance &
Real Estate

We hope that you will choose to do business with the area businesses that support our Charger athletic teams.

Congratulations to everyone that had a hand in the success of the Charger baseball and softball programs this year!

Estate Planning Workshop

Do you have questions on how to set up a trust? Do you have concerns on estate taxation? These and other questions will be answered at the 2007 Estate Planning Workshop to be held August 7 at the Northwest Community College in Sheldon and August 8 at Western Iowa Tech Community College in Cherokee. The presenter will be Dr. Roger McEowen, head of the ISU Ag Law Department and a highly regarded expert in estate planning. The attendee may choose their most convenient location.

Primary topics covered by Dr. McEowen will include: Farm Estate and Succession Planning, Titling of Property, Intestate succession, Testate succession and Probate, Iowa taxation on estates, Federal estate tax and planning in a climate of change, and Trusts (including use of trusts as part of planning for long-term health care).

The \$50 fee per individual or \$75 per couple will cover costs of meeting, handout materials and the meal. Registration is at 9:00 a.m. and the meeting will run from 9:30-3:00 with a short lunch and breaks scheduled during the day. Please register by calling your local County Extension Office at (712)335-3103. Registrations received after 8/3 will have a \$10 late fee assessed. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting.

Pocahontas County Extension to Host Farmland Leasing Workshop

The Pocahontas County Extension Office will be the site of a workshop on topics pertaining to farmland leasing. The workshop will be held at the Pocahontas County Extension Office, August 15 at 9:30 am. The registration cost for the interactive workshop is \$15 per individual and includes refreshments and a Farmland Leasing booklet (the book is \$10 if purchased separately).

The workshop will be facilitated by Tom Olsen, ISU Extension Farm & Ag Business Management Field Specialist. The registration cost can be paid at the door approximately 30 minutes before the workshop begins. Please pre-register on or before Aug. 13, by calling the Pocahontas County Extension Office at 712-335-3103.

Our Town Our Paper!

Cicada Killer Wasps Abundant Now

By Donald Lewis, Department of Entomology

One of the largest insects in Iowa is a “digger wasp” called the cicada killer wasp. Cicada killer wasps may be up to 2 inches long. They are black with yellow markings on the thorax and abdomen and they have rusty-orange colored wings.

The cicada killer wasp is a solitary wasp; that is, each female lives independently rather than in colonies, though many may choose to nest in close proximity. Each female produces offspring and does not depend on other members of a colony to share in the raising of young or the maintaining of a nest.

Cicada killer wasps are active in July and August. The female digs one or more tunnels in soft soil (often flower beds or gardens) usually along an edge such as where the driveway or sidewalk meets the flower bed or lawn or where the flower bed meets the turf. These edges are landmarks that help the female find her way back to the burrow. Tunnels are about the size of a quarter and may extend 24 inches or more into

the ground. The female flies to nearby trees to capture an annual cicada that she stings to paralyze and then labors to carry back to the burrow. One or two paralyzed cicadas are placed in each cell

at the end of the tunnel and a single egg is deposited before the female closes the cell and flies away, never to return. The eggs hatch into legless larvae that feed on the cicadas and develop into wasps that emerge the following summer.

The cicada killer, like other solitary wasps, has the capability to sting, but won't unless handled or threatened. Only female wasps have the ability to sting. Stings inflicted by solitary wasps are usually not severe but reaction varies with each individual.

Wasps are generally beneficial and a nest in an out of the way location where it is not likely to be disturbed should be left alone. On the other hand, nests in high-traffic areas may warrant treatment. You can destroy cicada killers and other digger wasps by applying an insecticide dust (e.g., Sevin or permethrin) into the burrow entrance during the night. Cover the nest opening with a shovelful of soil and reapply in two or three days if necessary.



Classifieds

Horse Training, lessons, consulting and open riding at Arena 54. Located south of Marathon on M54. New indoor and outdoor arenas! Call BJ Berry at (712)260-4929

For Sale: Pine bunk beds-Full size bunk on bottom. Twin size bunk on top. Full mattress included. Call 841-2333.

ATTENTION: Beginning June 5 Stoner's Prime Produce and Luetta's Baked Goods will be at Highway 10 Hardware on Tuesday afternoons from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Notice: Now in progress-1/2 Price Sale at Treasure Chest, downtown Laurens. 712-841-4481

Position Available: Seeking full-time 2nd shift machinist. Full benefit package. Apply at or send resume to H R Manager, Positech Corporation, 191 N. Rush Lake Road, Lauren, IA 50554 E.O.E.

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