

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!

Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 2 No. 9

www.mylaurens.com

May 28, 2008

Local News

Teachers Honor Teachers

On Friday, May 23, the Laurens-Marathon Education Association invited teachers and staff to a going-away party at the Laurens Golf & Country Club for the members of the L-M staff who will not be returning this fall.

A short program was held honoring each teacher who is leaving and each received a gift from LMEA. Peggy Milton, who is leaving after 35 years in the school district, commented, "It was a wonderful evening. It was an opportunity for our staff to get together and show each other how much we value each other and how much we have appreciated working together through the years. The support of my colleagues has been very important to me."

The teachers who are leaving have a combined total of almost 170 years of service to the Laurens-Marathon School District.



Front row: Marcia Kay, 20 years; Leslie Franzmeier, 14 years; Rhonda Saunders, 26 years. Back row: Julie Meyer, 10 years; Peggy Milton, 35 years; Mark Japenga, 10 years; Joe Pedersen, 36 years; Rose Davis, 16 years.

Send Ben a Card

Ben still needs our prayers and support to have a complete and speedy recovery. Your words of encouragement would be greatly appreciated.

The following instructions will let you create a card for Ben. What you create will be printed out and delivered to Ben's hospital room for him to enjoy.

First go to <http://www.blankchildrens.org/> then click on Patient and Families, then click on Patient Greetings. You will then receive step by step instructions on how to create your card.

Ten For Ben

T-Shirts are available at Jayne's Headquarters!!

Be watching for more updates on... **Ten For Ben**

Congregate Meals

The Congregate Meal Program has been in Laurens for 35 years. Every year the Laurens Senior Pioneers, the local corporation formed to sponsor the Meal program, has a fundraiser to pay expenses not funded under the Older Americans Act and our 20 County Elderbridge Agency on Aging.

These expenses include telephone, insurance, mileage, equipment repair and supplies. This last year the equipment repair has been a big factor, because most of our appliances are very close to 35 years old.

The food budget is another concern. Because of soaring costs, the

Pioneers have had to subsidize the purchasing of food to keep within the budget. Anyone can donate. Please think of the people who benefit from our program.

We are a nutrition program that supplies balanced meals to Havelock and Laurens. The homebound meals are another benefit for the whole community. The new fiscal year is coming up and with it a new budget. Our immediate concern is declining attendance at the meal site in City Hall in Laurens and the United Methodist Church in Havelock.

The more people who share a small space of their time to eat with us, the more cost effective the program is for everyone. The hours our staff is allowed to be paid for work is

directly tied to the number of meals we serve or take out to the homes.

Any donations can be made to: Laurens Senior Pioneers, Box 148, Laurens, Iowa 50554 or delivered to the meal site at Laurens City Hall.

Anyone is welcome to visit and see our operation. More importantly, anyone is welcome to make a reservation and eat with us. 60 and above is a recommended \$2.75 to \$4.75 and under sixty is a straight \$4.75. Not bad for a really good meal and wonderful conversation and milk and coffee, too.

Thank you from the board: Robert Rigby, Bertram Tjebban, Ralph 'Bud' Reining, Lester Schultz, Mildred Devereaux and Marcia Leu

The Paper

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Our Town Our Paper!

From the Heart

Small things. Isn't life put together by stories that we tell and the small, simple things that we do or experience? It isn't always the big things.

Small things. Like experiencing a child opening their eyes after a traumatic surgery. Hearing their voice after days of nothing. Seeing a small smile on their face because that is all of the energy that they have. The Zylstra family from Laurens has truly learned to appreciate all the small things.

They know that a kind word from family and friends can give them the power to find hope when all things may look dark. That a simple touch can say more than any word can. They are probably finding out that strangers care. People that they have never known before are taking the time to care.

Isn't that what it is all about? We travel this life in the "fast lane" and often don't bother to look at the people on the side of the road with their flashers on saying "I need help".

Every year one of my New Year's Resolutions is to send cards. I really want to. I read of people celebrating anniversaries and birthdays, yet I don't take action. It is time. It is time to simply say "I care". It is a small thing...but yet a very significant thing. Why wait for some life altering event to show people how much we care for them?

I challenge all of you (and myself included) to do one small act of kindness today. Try doing it every day for one week. It may be a note to someone you admire, or someone who is having a tough go of it. Perhaps you can hold the door open for someone and say "Have a Wonderful Day". Maybe a single parent struggling to make it on their own...mow their lawn.

This town truly has bonded with the Zylstra crisis. Perhaps the outpouring that is going towards a child can be expanded to included many others.

After all, life is about a million small things put together.

*From the Heart,
Julie Wurr*

Historical Society Meeting

The Pocahontas County Historical Society met May 12 at the United Methodist Church in Laurens with 21 attending. Larry Adams, curator of the Higgins National Bank Note Museum in Okobojo, was the speaker.

The museum has a fascinating history and a wonderful collection of bank notes as well as a library of books about money and banking. The museum also has a collection of Iowa county history books. Ann Beneke presented Mr. Adams with a 1983 Pocahontas County History book. The museum is open May 6 into September.

Mr. Adams enthusiastically shared the beauty and fascinating history of all that money. The Higgins Museum has published a Book of Iowa National Banks with all the information about these banks and their officers and the bank notes these banks designed for their patrons to use. One of these books was presented to Ann Beneke as a representative of Pocahontas County.

Dick Gruber brought his interactive 12x15 tarp map of Pocahontas County and some of the History of Pocahontas County study books. The study books are used when taking a tour of the county. The Historical Society helped with printing costs of these original books. The tours can be on a bus or a virtual tour in the classroom. When students take the tour, they can use the study guide and return it when the tour

is finished. The group receives one of the study guides when the tour is over to keep for reference.

Dick Gruber has presented the program to 4-5 graders in Laurens and Pocahontas and to an additional group of kids at Weigert Prairie. Dick is involved in the Historical Society, the Barn Quilt Committee and the Weigert Prairie Committee and uses all the information to excite and inform everyone about our county's history and the possibilities for the future.

The next meeting of the Historical Society will be June 21. A bus tour has been arranged - Pocahontas Treasures and Barn Quilts Galore. The tour leaders are Dick Gruber and Helen Beneke and will start in the Pocahontas High School parking lot at 12:30 and finish at about 4:30 back at the school. There will be a refresh break about half way at Fonda. There is room for 30-40 people (first come first served) so call for a reservation at the Pocahontas County Extension office at 335-3103 as soon as possible. The price will be \$30.00 and a check will confirm the reservation. There is an incentive rebate available exclusively to members of the Historical Society so when registering ask about it! June 18th is the last day for reservations.

Cox's Family Reunion

Dennis and Rose Tate, Sue Reese, Phyllis Aschenbrenner, were host to the Cox's Family Reunion which was held Sunday, May 25th at the Mallard Community Center. There was attendance of 86 people. Some were from Iowa, Minnesota, Florida, Arizona and California.

First Coop Awards \$7,000 in Scholarships

First Cooperative Association, headquartered in Cherokee, Iowa with 15 locations in Northwest Iowa, has awarded fourteen (14) \$500 scholarships to chosen graduates to further their education in a variety of fields.

This year's recipients are: Allison Glienke, Alta Schools; Jordan Hinkeldey, Alta Schools; Chris Peterson, Alta Schools; Renae Hinkeldey, Aurelia Schools; Spencer Lind, Laurens-Marathon Schools; Desiree Welty, Laurens-Marathon Schools; Julie Lundsgaard, Cherokee Schools; Justin Henke, Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn Schools; Jennifer Prunty, Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn Schools; Trisha Johnson, Newell-Fonda Schools; Collin Johnson, Schaller-Crestland Schools; Greg Hermstad, Sioux Central Schools; Caitlin Patten, Sioux Central Schools; Jon Foell, Storm Lake/St. Mary's School.

Many of these young people are entering agricultural related and rural study fields and intend to work in rural areas. This is part of a culture that is encouraged by First Cooperative with the hope of continuing and strengthening the rural economy in Iowa.

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Women's Club Holds Brunch Meeting

The final meeting of the Laurens Federated Women's Club club year was held at the First Christian Church on May 9. Following a delicious brunch, prepared by the First Christian ladies, Pat Harms and Pat Frantz presented the program, "Guess the Mystery Song."

The meeting was called to order by President Grace Hertz. Lanore Thumma reported the Bloodmobile's last visit was very successful, they collected 42 units of blood. Lois Jirgens reported on the May 10th garage sale and on the Cemetery Walk to be held this fall.

Grace Hertz installed the following officers for the 2008-2009 club year: President: Lois Jirgens; First Vice-President; Janet Carlson; Second Vice-President: Joyce Rigby; Third Vice-President: Dorothy Runneberg; Secretary: Pat Frantz; Treasurer: Marcia Leu; Historian: Verlae Nicol; Past President: Grace Hertz; Nominating Committee: Joyce Rigby, Pat Harms, Jan Grossnickle.

The next meeting will be September 12 at The Homestead. The program will feature antique appraiser Chuck Andreasen, who will value members' objects, Chuck is a recognized specialist in pottery.

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Schmidt Has Best Performance Yet

Jesse Schmidt had an incredible performance out on the field in Lexington, Kentucky on Sunday, March 25th.

The Steamwheelers lost to the Lexington Horsemen 66-55. Schmidt's outstanding performance seemed wasted because of the defeat.

Schmidt grabbed 13 catches for a total of 196 yards and tallied 5 touchdowns.

Schmidt's father, Mick was in attendance at the game and said that although the team lost it was still a great game for him to watch since his son was performing his very best of the season.

Schmidt and the Steamwheelers will be in Des Moines on Saturday, March 31st when they take on the Barnstormers at 7:00 p.m.

For ticket information go to: <http://ev6.eventue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetEventList?groupCode=AFT&linkID=global-iowa&shopperContext=&caller=&appCode=>

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Story Time

Jenny Ahlers of Centers Against Abuse & Sexual Assault will be reading the book, *Three Kinds of Touches* on Monday, June 2 at 10 a.m. at the Sioux Rapids Library. This presentation is specifically designed for preschool and school-aged children.

The storybook, *Three Kinds of Touches*, discusses Safe Touches, Ouch Touches and Uh-Oh Touches in a kid-friendly manner. In this presentation, private areas of the body are described as "those areas that are covered by your swimming suit." Children will learn to recognize inappropriate touching and they will practice safety procedures to follow if anyone breaks the SAFE TOUCH RULE.

Parents are encouraged to attend. For more information or questions about the presentation, contact Jenny at 712-732-8120.

Extra Information About CAASA Safe Touch Program is below. Why are Sexual Abuse Prevention programs so important? Sexual abuse is much more prevalent than once thought. It is estimated that one in four girls and one in five boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18. Young children are the most vulnerable to this kind of abuse, and they often do not report it or seek help on their own.

SAFE TOUCHES: CAASA offers seven sexual abuse prevention presentations that discuss sexual abuse in a sensitive manner to children ages preschool through sixth grade. There is also a presentation specifically designed for parents, to help them

protect their children and respond appropriately when children disclose about abuse.

The SAFE TOUCHES presentations teach children:

- . To distinguish between good, bad, and mixed up touches.
- . To RECOGNIZE inappropriate touching as sexual abuse.
- . To RESIST sexual abuse by acknowledging the right to say no and removing themselves from a situation of inappropriate touching.
- . To REPORT inappropriate touching to an adult they trust.
- . To understand that people they know, as well as strangers, can touch them inappropriately.
- . To distinguish between secrets and surprises. "Bad secrets" should never be kept.

Each presentation lasts approximately 30-45 minutes and consists of videos, follow-up activities, discussions, and rehearsal of safety steps. Every presentation is tailored to fit the developmental level and interests of the children participating.

Wine Festival

Laurens Iowa Wine Festival and Market is gearing up for their July 19th celebration. The event will be held in the same location as last year, on Walnut Street from 3rd to 1st Streets. Time is from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Wineries that have confirmed attendance are: *La Vida Loca* of Indianola; *Penoach Winery* of Adel; *Prairie Moon Winery* of Ames; *Rosey Acres Winery* of Runnells; *Spotted Horse Vineyards* of Arcadia; *Winneshiek Wildberry Winery*

of Decorah; *Kaiser Home Winery* of Keosauque; *Madison County Winery* of Colo; and *Tabor Home Winery* of Baldwin.

At this point in time last year we only had three confirmed wineries... so you can imagine our excitement! If you do not see your favorite winery... please contact them and ask them to come. You can find a listing of wineries, their phone numbers, and e-mails at www.iowawineandbeer.com.

In order to participate in the wine festival, you must be 21 years of age and have purchased this year's wine glass. It is a "red wine" size, which is larger than last year's glass (every year we will be having a different style of glass to help with your collection). Cost of the glass is \$6.00 each until June 30th. Starting July 1st the cost of the glass is \$10. So make sure you get yours early. You can purchase the glasses at Heart 'n Home in downtown Laurens or the City of Laurens' offices. If you would like them shipped, call 712.841.2546 to make arrangements (there will be shipping costs charged).

So get ready for a good time! The Laurens Iowa Wine Festival and Market will be held during the CELEBRATE LAURENS! Events.

All proceeds from the Wine Festival and Market goes to the Sister City Commission, a sub-committee of the City of Laurens. All checks are made out to "The City of Laurens".

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Laurens United Methodist Church



Wed. May 28
7:30 p.m. ~ Sr. UMYF

Fri. May 30
7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study
Rehearsal

Sat. May 31
Wedding

Sun. June 1
9:30 a.m. ~ Worship
10:30 a.m. ~ Fellowship Coffee
4:00 p.m. ~ Pastor Larry to lead service @ nursing home

Mon. June 2
8:30 a.m. ~ Vacation Bible School
7:00 p.m. ~ Quilt Club

Tues. June 3
8:30 a.m. ~ Vacation Bible School

Wed. June 4
8:30 a.m. ~ Vacation Bible School

Thur. June 5
8:30 a.m. ~ Vacation Bible School

Fri. June 6
7:00 a.m. ~ Men's Bible Study
8:30 a.m. ~ Vacation Bible School
Rehearsal

Sat. June 7
Wedding

Our Town Our Paper!

This Week at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Wed. May 28
1:00 p.m. ~ Willing Workers
No ChiRho Kids & Friends

Sun. June 1
9:30 a.m. ~ Worship
10:30 a.m. ~ Snack-n-Yack
Fellowship time
10:30 a.m. ~ Worship Committee Meeting

Mon. June 2- Fri. June 6
Community Vacation Bible School

Wed. June 4
1:00 p.m. ~ Willing Workers
7:00 p.m. ~ Mission Council Meeting



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 Daily Mass as scheduled in bulletin.

This Week at Bethany

Wednesday, May 28th
9 AM ~ Staff Meeting

Sunday, June 1st
9 AM ~ Worship w/ Communion
10 AM ~ Coffee Fellowship

Monday, June 2nd through Friday, June 6th
8:30-11:30 AM ~ Community VBS
Openings and Closings at Bethany Lutheran

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



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Laurens Genies Meeting

The Laurens Genies will meet Friday, May 30th at 9:30 a.m. at The Homestead in Laurens. The program will be "A Few of Our Favorite Things - 100 Creations of the 20th Century" presented by Grace Hertz. Roll Call will be: "An unusual given name of one of your ancestors". Anyone who is interested in family research and genealogy is cordially invited to attend.

New Arrival

Clinton and Blythe Harris of Clive are the parents of a son, Zachary Ethan, born Tuesday, May 20th. Zachary weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

Grandparents are Lynn and Joan Harris of rural Laurens and Arthur and Valerie Bante of Jefferson City, Missouri. Great grandparents are Gordon and Kaye Higgins of St. Louis, Missouri.

Thank You

A very special "thank you" to everyone who made my 80th birthday so very spectacular!

Gene Sernett

Happy Birthday

Please help Dorothy Runneberg celebrate her 80th birthday on May 30th with a card shower. Send your birthday wishes to 208 First Street, Laurens, Iowa 50554.

Biggest Little Paper In Town!

Sunner Anniversary

Kurt and Betty Sunner of Spirit Lake will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 7, 2008. They were married June 7, 1958 at Holmes, Iowa. Cards of congratulations will reach them at 15708 Harbo Drive, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360.

Class of 1998 10 Year Class Reunion

Come and reminisce with The Class of 1998 of Laurens-Marathon High School on Saturday, June 14th.

The reunion will be held at the Marathon Poland Park Shelter Center. Admission will be \$16/person, which covers the cost of a catered dinner, drinks, keg beer and a shelter center donation. Social hour will begin at 4:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6:00 pm.

Please RSVP no later than May 20th. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at: jkelly@smunet.net

There will also be a pre-reunion 2-person best shot golf outing at the Laurens Golf and Country Club that Saturday morning. Tee-off is scheduled for 10:00 am

Hope to see everyone at the reunion!



Betty & Kurt Sunner

Local & School Calendar

May 28-Baseball with Ruthven/Ayrshire, JV & V at Laurens at 5:30 p.m.

May 30-Baseball with Newell/Fonda at Fonda, JV & V at 5:30 p.m.

June 2-Baseball with St. Mary's, JV & V at Laurens at 5:30 p.m.

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How to Sell Your Vehicle in Iowa Checklist & Buyer's Acknowledgement Form



Sellers Checklist

Here is a checklist which might help you follow the proper procedure.

■ **Remove License Plates**

■ **Odometer Statement**

Odometer statement completed and given to buyer if vehicle is 9 years old or newer.

■ **Damage Disclosure Statement**

Damage disclosure statement completed and given to buyer if vehicle is 7 years old or newer.

■ **Title**

Title dated and assigned to buyer. Give the buyer the date your license plates expire.

■ **Vehicle Sold to Out-Of-State Buyer**

Title certificate properly assigned and delivered to buyer. Registration receipt turned in to your county treasurer.

■ **Vehicle Sold for Junk**

Give buyer certificate of title. Get receipt stating buyer has accepted delivery of car and title (attached receipt may be used)

■ **Refund**

Make claim for refund of unused registration fees, if:

1. A vehicle is sold or junked and credit is not claimed for a replacement vehicle. Refunds of less than \$10 will not be granted.
2. The excess credit for you sold, junked or traded vehicle is \$10 or more.

Buyer's Acknowledgement of Delivery of Vehicle & Title

Note to Seller: Keep this receipt as evidence of sale & delivery of the vehicle to the buyer.

Vehicle Make _____ Model Year _____

Title Number _____

Name of Buyer _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the title properly assigned to me and deliver of the vehicle described above.

Date _____ Time _____ a.m. p.m.

Signature of Buyer _____

Provided to you by your Pocahontas County Treasurer!

As Black Cutworms Hatch, Economic Thresholds Drop

A significant flight of black cutworm adults (moths) arrived in Iowa the weekend of April 18, based on pheromone trap capture data across the state. This insect is an occasional pest of seedling corn that sometimes causes significant damage in a few fields.

“This year trap cooperators monitored 66 traps in 47 counties. Based upon the reported data, we anticipate that first cutting of seedling corn should occur May 17-18 across southern Iowa, May 18-20 across central Iowa, and May 22-23 across northern Iowa,” said Rich Pope, Iowa State University (ISU) Extension program specialist.

An article that includes a map showing the projected first cutting dates, scouting instructions and a list of insecticides currently labeled for black cutworms is available at the ISU Extension Integrated Crop Management (ICM) News Web site at www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2008/0516RicePopeTollefson.htm

Scouting is even more important this year than it has been in the recent past according to Marlin Rice and Jon Tollefson, ISU Extension entomologists. The men say there are two reasons they are now recommending farmers consider lowering the economic threshold for treating this pest

“There are some new variables in the control of black cutworms. These include genetically engineered corn,

higher seed prices and increased market prices of corn. First, with genetically engineered corn, remember that YieldGard® is not effective against the black cutworm; only Herculex® hybrids give some protection against black cutworm,” said Tollefson.

“Second, with the high cost of seed and expected higher returns from corn, the economic threshold could be lowered. Larvae ¾-inch long are in the fourth stage and will cut several more plants before they finish feeding. If the worms are longer than one inch, they are nearly finished feeding and treatments don’t need to be applied until 5 percent of the plants have been cut. A lower threshold would be 1 percent stand

loss, which would be within normal stand variability and very hard to detect. The previous economic thresholds were if cutworms were less than ¾-inch, apply an insecticide when 2 to 3 percent of the plants are cut,” said Rice.

More details on the specifics of Tollefson’s and Rice’s new recommendations can be found on the Iowa State University Extension ICM News site at www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2008/0516TollefsonRice.htm

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Laurens Cemetery Paving Project

The Laurens Cemetery Paving Project started several years back when the Allen Whitfield family paved the road from the highway to the middle road of the cemetery. The Whitfield family also paid for the new brick entrance holding the steel gates to the cemetery.

The Darlow Fuchs family paid for the center road of the cemetery at a later date. Don and Gretchen Woodin helped on the paving project-paving the south road heading north.

A year ago Daryl Long headed a fund drive to continue on with the paving project. Richard and Ladonna DeYoung, Daryl and Dorothy Long paid for the west road.

Mary Svuba contributed a sizeable amount toward paving the east road of our cemetery. A plaque has been installed naming the people who have helped on this project with a major donation. Donations came from California, Missouri and Tennessee, as well as from Laurens. The following list of names have contributed toward this paving project. The list is in the order we have received their donations at City Hall.

Richard & Ladonna DeYoung; Daryl & Dorothy Long; Gary & Janet Long, Riverside, California; Dr. David & Sarah Long, Martin, Tennessee; Lowell Anderson; Darlene Goerner; Bud & Jeanette Hawley; Jerry & Virginia Otto; Mary Ann Wright; Joyce Rigby; E.E. & Helen Bringleston; Tim Grund; Georgine Grund; Joe Halterman; Marilyn Mather; Dale & Barb Ryon; Florence Pohlman; Fred Forsythe; Eloise

Enger; Jeanette Korreect; Edna Ryon; Robert Bailey; Bob & Connie Dalenbach; Dan Ellis; Beverly Todd; Shirley Cash; Tom & Carolyn Perry; Howard & Betty Kaufman; William & Gloria Grice; Cheryl Shaw; Joy Valentine; Allison, Ava & Eve Long, Salinas, California; Hertz Acres; Gradon Farms; Lyle & Helen Lund; Kenneth & Sandy Reese; Ahlers Enterprises; Deborah Billington Long, Woodland Hills, California; Gloria Bell; Donald & Karen Johnson, Lee's Summit, Missouri; Esther Woodin; Gloria Newell; Lorraine Unruh; Ione Hopkins; Gladys Johnson; Arthur Johnson; Emmit & Cindy Post, Salinas, California; Bonnie Frye; Dorothy Nelson; Steve & Carolyn Olson; Leonard Scorpiniti; Mary & Francis Svuba; Mike Kemp, Pasadena, California; Marie Jeffers; Marlin & Janice Egertson; Tom & Judy Schmidt; Jim & Melvin Runneberg; Sheldon & Linda Bieri and Bertha Olson.

The above people have contributed \$37,350 to the project. I want to say thanks again to all of you for helping on this project. At a later date, a list of names will be printed and framed and installed at city hall in memory of the people who have helped with this project. Contributions are still being accepted to maintain the roads in our cemetery. The Laurens Cemetery and the Calvary Cemetery worked together on this paving project. Our next project is to straighten some of the monuments in our cemetery. Our city workers have done an excellent job getting the cemetery mowed and trimmed.

*Thanks Again,
Daryl Long
Cemetery Sexton*

Food Safety and Quality Assurance

Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. FSQA training will be offered at the Expo Center in Pocahontas for all 4-Hers exhibiting livestock at the fair. All junior 4-H members must attend the training, intermediate and senior members have the option to attend the training or take a written exam. There is no charge for this training, but preregistration is appreciated by calling 712-335-3103.

4-H Livestock Jamboree

Tuesday, June 10, 2008, 4:30 p.m. at the Pocahontas County Fairgrounds a presentation will be given of the different species of animals and how to care for and show your 4-H project. All 4-H members and their families are encouraged to attend this event. A free supper will be served to the 4-H families after the event.

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Dog Agility

Do you own an active dog? Is your dog finding creative ways to burn off steam? But destroying your property in the process?? Maybe agility would be a great outlet for your dog. The sport is fun and you both will get good exercise.

The sport of dog agility began in 1977. The Crufts dog show needed a filler between dog show classes. So they based the event on horse jumping. The sport began in the United States in 1986 and has been one of the fastest growing dog sports today.

The dog and handler combine agility, timing and teamwork in their training in order to negotiate obstacles in a set time. Dogs are divided into height divisions, so as to compete with like-sized dogs in each class. Also there are three divisions based on experience and titles earned; Novice, which is starting level, Open, more advanced and Excellent, a masters level. Accuracy and time are judged. The handler uses their voice and body language to get the dog through the course in the allotted time.

The obstacles consist of jumps, A-frame, Teeter, Dog Walk, Table or pause box, and Weave poles. The A-frame, teeter and Dog walk will have a yellow area or contact that the dog must touch with his paws, at least on the down side. These obstacles teach the dog control and to negotiate these safely. The weave poles test the dog's accuracy and precision.

Several organizations sanction Agility trials. In the U.S., the American Kennel Club (AKC), the United Kennel Club (UKC), the United States Dog Agility Association (USDAA) and the North American Dog Agility Council (NADAC) all hold trials regularly. Each group has its own set of rules and your dog will need to be registered with each organization before you may compete.

This sport is ideal for dogs of all ages. Young dogs learn control off lead and will build confidence and I find that the handler/dog bond greatly increases in this sport. Your dog should be in good physical condition. With puppies, I introduce poles on the ground, as I do not want to stress their growing bodies with higher jumps. But I do want to introduce them to the obstacles. We also build scaled down versions of the dog walk and teeter so as to introduce the youngsters to the equipment. I find that this sport is wonderful to work on obedience, but without drilling the dog. You may be surprised to find the talents that your dog may possess in this fun, fast paced sport.

Websites for agility competitions are below:
<http://www.akc.org/events/agility/index.cfm>
<http://www.ukcdogs.com/WebSite.nsf/WebPages/DogWhatKindsOfShows>
<http://www.nadac.com/>
<http://www.usdaa.com/>
<http://www.carlson-agility.com/articles.shtml>

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

13 Tips to Help You Invest Wisely

By following a few principles, you are more apt to invest wisely. Here are 13 tips to help you increase your investment knowledge and confidence, provided by Pat Swanson, CFP® and families specialist with Iowa State University (ISU) Extension's Invest Wisely Project.

By setting specific investment goals you have a road map to achieve financial success. Make your goals SMART -- specific, measurable, attainable, reviewed and time-related.

Keeping good financial records may save you money on taxes and also may keep you from worrying about finding appropriate information when you need it.

Take advantage of compounding by starting to invest today. Invest as much as you can and keep adding to your investments consistently over a long period of time.

Keeping some funds in savings for short-term emergencies is prudent planning, but taking more risk to invest is required to possibly obtain higher returns. Balance the amount of risk you're willing to take with the return you are aiming for. The higher the potential return on an investment, the higher the risk.

Diversify to help reduce risk. Don't put all your investment dollars in one investment or investment category. Decide on an asset allocation -- the percentage to put into stocks, bonds, cash -- to meet your goals.

With stocks there is the potential for price appreciation and dividends. It is important to do your homework before investing in stocks. If you don't have the skill or time to select and monitor individual stocks or sufficient wealth to adequately diversify by purchasing many different companies, you may want to consider mutual funds that pool money from many investors to purchase a basket of stocks.

Bonds provide known payments at speci-

fied times. Check the credit worthiness of the bond issuer. Investors not having the resources to diversify their bond holdings or knowledge in this area might want to consider bond mutual funds.

Mutual funds give investors many advantages. A mutual fund company provides diversification and the skills of professional managers to select and monitor the securities within the fund. Select a mutual fund with low fees and one whose investing objectives and risk level match your own.

Investors should always understand the insurance product they are purchasing and the long-term nature of the purchase when considering any annuity. Always ask your agent for an explanation of anything you don't understand. Review the contract and compare information for similar contracts, as well as comparing products.

A good way to save for retirement is to take advantage of retirement options through your employment -- especially if you can take advantage of an employer match. An individual retirement account, or IRA, is another way to save for retirement by contributing the maximum amount each year and achieving the benefit of compounding.

A 529 college savings plan is a good way to save for a child's or grandchild's education. Withdrawals are exempt from federal income tax when used for qualified higher education expenses.

Never make an investment decision on the spot. Proceed slowly and cautiously. Take advantage of the Iowa Insurance Division to avoid being a victim of investment fraud. Use their Web site at www.investsmartiowa.gov or call them toll free within Iowa at 877-955-1212.

And for the final tip, Swanson says financial advisers can help you invest. "Have well-defined objectives before you select an adviser and be sure to check the background of the firm or individual."

The ISU Extension Invest Wisely Project provides a series of newspaper, radio and Web resources for investors. It is funded by a grant from the Investor Protection Trust (IPT). The IPT is a nonprofit organization devoted to investor education. Since 1993 the IPT has worked with the States to provide the independent, objective investor education needed by all Americans to make informed investment decisions. www.investorprotection.org. You can also check out the Invest Wisely Project Web site at www.extension.iastate.edu/investwisely for more details on each of the 13 tips above.

Laurens-Marathon Class of 2008 Scholarships

Heather Herrig - Grace Lodge #519 Scholarship, Rachel E. Whitfield Scholarship
Briar Cliff University

Jessica Philp - Y-Teen Scholarship, Harvey Baker Kiwanis Scholarship,
Byron H. and Ivalee Aschenbrenner Scholarship
Wayne State College

Kelsey Bell - After Prom Alcohol-Free Scholarship, Iowa Trust &
Savings Bank Scholarship
Iowa Lakes Community College

Megan Hofmaster - Y-Teen Scholarship, Everett J. and Virginia M. Kees
Opportunity Award
Iowa Central Community College

Carol Catala - Deborah Newgard Memorial Scholarship, Booster Club
Scholarship, Vergene Bailey Scholarship
Briar Cliff University

Megan Cleveland - Doug DeYoung Kiwanis Scholarship, Laurens State
Bank Scholarship, Daniel G. Younggreen Family Award, Y-Teen
Scholarship
South Dakota State University

Diana Johnsen - Booster Club Scholarship, Helen Grossnickle
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Augustana College

Taryn Kay - Mary Watkins Gilchrist and Fred C. Gilchrist Jr. Scholarship
University of Northern Iowa

Ryan Lovin - Daniel G. Younggreen Family Award, Frank Kischer
Athletic Scholarship
Iowa Central Community College

Kyle Finley - Blomgren Scholarship
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Jaret Duran - Blomgren Scholarship, Jensen Scholarship
South Dakota State University

Keton Joynt - Booster Club Scholarship, Byron H. and Ivalee
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Spencer Lind - First Coop Scholarship, Doug Sangwin Memorial Scholarship
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Brent Leuer - Ray (Pat) and Maxine Wright Scholarship, Booster Club Scholarship
Des Moines Area Community College

Jamie Hertz - Blomgren Scholarship
Iowa State University

Natalie Bailey - Ludwig Scholarship, M.J. Millward Scholarship,
Valedictorian, State of Iowa Scholar
South Dakota State University

Katie Fuchs - DeYoung-Hoskinson Memorial Scholarship
LaJames College

Adrian Johnson - Matt Steinkamp Scholarship, Doris E. Siddall Scholarship
Iowa Central Community College

Elizabeth Erritt - Laurens-Marathon Education Association
Scholarship, Jensen Scholarship
Iowa Central Community College

Krista Fredricks - Danny R. Svuba Scholarship, Dr. J.H. Hovenden
Scholarship, Homuth Family Award
Wartburg College

Hilary Goedert - DeYoung-Hoskinson Memorial Scholarship, After Prom
Alcohol-Free Scholarship
Iowa Central Community College

Kylie Woodley - Harold and Marie Halder Scholarship, Laurens Kiwanis
Club Scholarship, Y-Teen Scholarship, Winogene Hovenden Hunt
Scholarship, Salutatorian, American Citizenship Award, State of Iowa
Scholar
Buena Vista University

Kacie Woodley - Harold and Marie Halder Scholarship, Laurens Kiwanis Club Scholarship, Y-Teen Scholarship, Booster Club Scholarship, Ledgard B. Hakes and Frances Gilchrist Hakes Scholarship, State of Iowa Scholar
Buena Vista University

Desiree Welty - Raymond E. Nonneman Scholarship, First Coop Scholarship, Jensen Scholarship
Wayne State College

Travis Leuer - Craig Allen Long Memorial Scholarship, E.B. and Mable M. Pannkuk Scholarship
University of Northern Iowa

Marcus Frerk - Booster Club Scholarship, The Gale and Bessie Peterson "Helping Hand" Award
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Ethan Perry - Hoffman Family Memorial Scholarship, Joe & Maxine Halterman Scholarship
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Cody Hubbell - Dwight Oleson Scholarship
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Andrew Hanson - Jensen Scholarship
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Ryan Sernett - Douglas L. DeYoung Scholarship, Harold V. Ryon Scholarship, H.M. "Jack" and Florence Hawley Pohlman Scholarship
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*Congratulations, Class of 2008!
Best of Luck!*

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2008 Laurens Swimming Pool

Schedule

Pool Manager:
Susan Oehlertz



POOL OPENS

SATURDAY, MAY 31

At 1:00 P.M.

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

Hours: Mon.-Sun from 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
& 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

American Red Cross
Swimming Lessons:
Session 1 ~ June 16-20
& June 23-27
Session 2 ~ July 7-11
& July 14-18

The pool will be closed during inclement weather: Air temperature under 68 degrees, rain, lightning, or threatening weather.

All passes other than daily swim passes must be purchased at the Laurens City Hall. Daily passes available at the pool!!!

2008 Season Prices
Family Season: \$95.00
Family Monthly: \$35.00
Individual Season: \$50.00
Individual Monthly: \$25.00
Daily Rate: \$2.00
Lessons: \$17.00

POOL PHONE: 841-4772
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The City of Laurens



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ATTENTION:



Trimark Patients of
Pocahontas and Laurens

During the months of June and July we will be converting all patient files over to electronic records. During this time we will have very limited appointments available. We may NOT be able to see patients the same day they call in.



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THE CITY WILL BE FLUSHING THE FIRE
HYDRANTS TO THE NORTH OF THE TRAIN TRACKS ON
TUESDAY, MAY 27TH AND TO THE SOUTH OF THE TRAIN
TRACKS ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 28TH. THANK YOU FOR



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~ CITY OF LAURENS



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Announcements

Country Club Thursday Night Special. The special for May 29th will be french dip with fries or salad. *Public Welcome!*

Stoner's Prime Produce will be at HWY 10 Hardware Thursday, May 29th, with spring vegetables, rhubarb and rhubarb jam. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **See you there!**

Garage Sale: Saturday, June 7th, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Located at 206 South Neptune in Marathon, in the alley behind the house. Something for everyone! Bargains galore! Stop and take a look.

2nd annual multi-family garage sale. You don't want to miss! Rain or Shine, Saturday, May 31st, from 7 a.m. - ? at 4842 HWY 71, Rembrandt (4 3/4 miles North of Sparky's, HWYS 3 & 71) worth the drive! Cash only.

Announcements

ATTENTION FARMERS: Laurens Locker is continuing to butcher cattle and hogs - please call (712) 845-4535 to schedule your animals. Thank you! Ron & Robbin Nissen.

Garage Sale. Saturday, May 31st from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Computer chair, TV stand, new coffee pot and misc. 45406 140th Ave., Laurens, Anna Lawman

Wanted

Wanted. Yards to mow in the town of Laurens. Any size. Call Chase Oehlertz at 358-1611.

Help Wanted

Part Time Housekeeper Wanted. Trimark Physicians Group - Laurens. General cleaning duties. Call Barb Hauswirth at 712-335-5632.

For Rent

For Rent: 3 bedroom house in Laurens. Available June 1st. Need references, deposit, 1 year lease. Possible contract sale to qualified person. Call 712-336-9029 for details.

For Sale

For Sale or Rent: 3-4 bedroom ranch home. 2 car heated garage, screened-in porch and deck. Newer roof and furnace. 316 Oak St., Laurens. Call (712) 229-6539.

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