

The Paper

Our Town, Our Paper!

Laurens, Iowa



Vol. 1 No. 1

www.mylaurens.com

April 3, 2007

Welcome and Thank You for subscribing to The Paper!

Several months ago I thought that it would be a wonderful thing to have a forum available to all of the people in town that would allow people to show everyone in the community what was going on in their lives. I thought back to Little League tournament victories, State Softball and all the other things our children have been involved in over the years. It occurred to me that everyone in the community is involved with something exciting and that they'd love to see their interests in print!

By allowing you, the subscriber, to become the 'reporter' I think we can have one of the most exciting and relevant news outlets around-anywhere. As the owner, and publisher of The Paper I look forward to working with Editor, Charity Madsen to bring you the best of what Laurens has to offer. Please let us know what's going on in your life!

Thanks



to submit articles, information, or subscribe go to www.mylaurens.com

Local News

Code Talker Program

Approximately 60 people filled the Laurens Public Library on March 19th for the Code Talkers Program. Rob and Dianna Roberts of the Tama, IA area told of their quest to gain Congressional recognition for these men who served our country during both

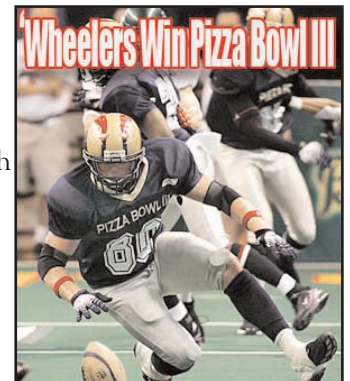


World Wars. Much attention has been given to the Navajo's Code Talkers, but the contribution from other tribes of Native Americans such as the Meskwaki, have been overlooked.

Many details of duties and missions served have been lost because the participants swore an oath of secrecy. This oath was lifted in 1968, but no notification was given, so many veterans took these secrets to their graves. Local residents enjoyed listening to the program and looking at the displays. Following this the Roberts answered many questions asked by audience members.

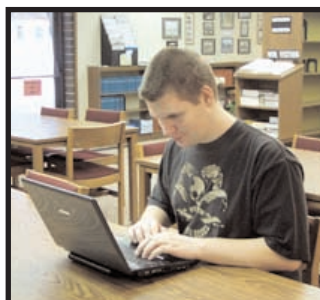
Jesse Schmidt Debuts with Steamwheelers

Jesse Schmidt played Sunday 3-25-07 in his first game with the Quad City Steamwheelers in the Pizza Bowl III. Steamwheelers beat the Green Bay Blizzard 61-24!!! His family is so proud of him!!



New Computers at the Library

Ethan Perry is the first to use one of the two new notebook computers at the Laurens Public Library. This purchase doubles the number of



patron access computers at the library. Now there are four computers for public use. The purchase of these computers was made possible by a grant from the Pocahontas County Foundation.

Also new at the library is wireless Internet access. This can be used with the library's new laptops or with users own laptops or other web enabled devices.

Announcements

Summer Swim Team Registration

Summer Swim Team registration will be held on Friday April 13th from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at City Hall. Please contact Dale Hofmaster @ 712-841-2316 if you are unable to attend or have questions.

Birth Announcement

Don and Renae Loving are the parents of a new daughter Alexandra Marshall Loving, born December 1, 2006. Alexandra has one brother three years of age, Tristan Joe. Grandparent are Mr. and Mrs. Lael Loving of Albert City and Gail Marshall of Laurens.



50th Wedding Anniversary Party

Leo & Shirley Crotty of Katy, TX will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 14, 2007. Leo

Crotty graduated from Laurens High in 1953. The Crotty's have six children, 14 grand children and 4 great grand children. Members of their family are scat-

tered all around the United States, Alaska, CA, Idaho, Iowa, FL & CO. Thirty members of their immediate family plan on attending this special event.

Blankenship & Hunt to Wed

Karen & Chuck Blankenship of Laurens announce the engagement of their son, Aaron Blankenship, to Jenny Hunt, daughter of Marvin & Maggie Hunt of Dolliver, Iowa.

Aaron is a 1996 graduate of Laurens-Marathon High School. He graduated from Iowa Lakes Community College and then attended Iowa State University. Aaron is currently working as a mortgage broker in West Des Moines, Iowa and lives in Polk City, Iowa. Jenny is a 1995 gradu-

ate of Estherville-Lincoln Central High School. She graduated from Iowa Lakes Community College and then attended the University of Northern Iowa. Jenny is a C.P.A. and is currently working in Des Moines, Iowa as a financial advisor.

The couple's wedding is planned for June 16, 2007 in Estherville, Iowa. Please join the couple in celebrating their marriage at their wedding dance which will be held at 9:00 p.m. on June 16, 2007 at the V.F.W. in Estherville.



Northwest Telephone Announces \$500 Scholarship

Northwest Telephone Cooperative Association is offering a \$500 scholarship, eligible to students graduating in 2007. Entrants must be living in a household where basic telephone service is provided from Northwest Telephone.

Exchanges served include West Bend (887), Havelock (776), Curlew (855) and Plover (857). Entrants must maintain a C average. All eligible applications will be considered, however prefer-

ence will be given to applicants who show an interest in working in a communications field including telephony, information technology, information systems, programming, networking, cable television or related fields. Applicants must submit a 300 word written essay entitled, "How I plan to use communications in my future", letters of recommendation and a written application.

Student must be attending an accredited 2 or 4 year college or university, or vocational technical school and may not be related to any Northwest Telephone Cooperative Association employee or

board member including son, daughter, niece, nephew, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, first cousin or equivalent in-law relationship.

For more information, look on Northwest Telephone's website at www.northwest.coop or contact Kelly Otto at 844 Wood Street, Havelock, IA 50546, call 611 from one of Northwest's telephone exchanges or call 712-776-2222. Deadline for application is April 30th.



"Busiest Little Town In Iowa"

Announcements cont.

McDaniel-Chase Wedding

Briana Michelle Chase, daughter of Malcom and Debbie Chase of Des Moines, Ia and Gregory Howard McDaniel, son of Howard and Cheri McDaniel of Woodward, Iowa were married March 23, 2007 in Des Moines, Iowa.

The young couple live in Ankeny and are

employed by Wal Mart in Ankeny. A reception was held for them on March 24, 2007 at 2:00 in the afternoon at the Woodward Social Center in Woodward. Gregory is the grandson of Gerald and Alice McDaniel of Laurens. Gerald, Alice, Amanda and Jonathon McDaniel attended the reception.



Bridal Shower

You are invited to a Come and Go Bridal Shower honoring Missy Hopkins, bride elect of Tory Miedema at Sacred Heart Parish Center, Saturday, April 14th, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.



Quasquicentennial Fundrasier

Come join us at Rumors - Friday, April 6th for Karakoe to help support the events for the Quasquicentennial in on July 20th - 22nd! \$5.00 per person from 9 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there!



For Sale:

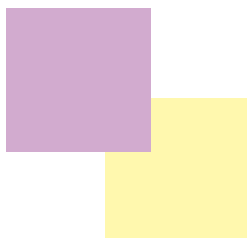
2005 Mitsubishi Galant ES, 16K miles, factory warranty, heated leather seats, sunroof, remote start, 6-disk CD, mint condition. \$14,000 Firm

Call 712-450-6315



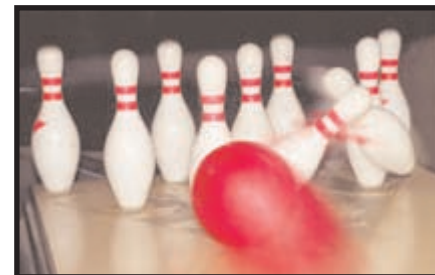
Come and Go Bridal Shower

Come join us in honoring Jenny Hunt, Bride elect of Aaron Blankenship, Sunday, April 15th, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Laurens Christian Church. Bridal registry at Target, Wal Mart, Ace Hardware (Estherville), and Heart Land (Estherville)



Improve Your Game!

Wednesday Nights, 4 p.m. till closing, join and bowl and Ed will help you with your game. Laurens Lounge and Lanes.



Easter Egg Hunt

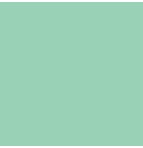
Saturday, April 7th at 10:00 a.m join us on the grounds of the Hovenden Good Samaritan Center in Laurens for ALL children 10 years

of age and younger to hunt for easter eggs. We look forward to you all coming and joining in on the fun!

Church

Women of Faith-2007

A committee is now forming to plan a bus trip to St. Paul, Minnesota, so 57 area women can enjoy the 2007 Women of Faith Conference entitled "Amazing Freedom." The conference will be held at the Xcel Energy Center on October 19-20, 2007.

 Women of Faith is a faith-based organization that provides hope and encouragement to women of all ages and stages of life. As North America's largest women's conference, Women of Faith draws thousands of women to arena events each year; but it's more than that...Women of Faith is an

experience.

The committee will obtain transportation and hotel accommodations, as well as tickets to the conference and a box lunch for the Saturday session. This discounted rate will be offered to any area woman who wishes to attend. Other than the boxed lunch for Saturday noon, the cost of meals is each participant's responsibility.

Featured speakers this year include Patsy Clairmont, Marilyn Meberg, Luci Swindoll, Sheila Walsh, Sandi Patty and Thelma Wells. They will be joined by dramatist, Nicole Johnson and Christian comedienne, Anita Renfroe, with special guest, Nichole Nordeman. Beautiful and

inspirational music is a big part of the conference as well.

The Laurens group will be attending the Friday night session and the Saturday session, returning to Laurens Saturday evening, October 20.

Announcement of the coming trip may seem premature; but putting this trip together involves a lot of advance planning. Those wishing to attend or those who have questions should contact Jan Hersom-841-4705 or 841-4585; Phyllis Anderson-841-4361; or Marilyn Stoner-845-2003. (Phyllis Anderson will not be available until after April 15.)

Holy Week Services at Bethany Lutheran

There will be a Maundy Thursday Service with Communion on April 4th at 7 PM at Bethany Lutheran Church in Laurens. The Community Good Friday Service is

also being held at Bethany Lutheran on April 5th at 6:30 PM. Pastor Larry McAlpine from the Laurens United Methodist Church is the speaker. You have two chances to worship with us on EASTER SUNDAY, April 8th. You can

join us at 7:30 AM for the Youth Sunrise Service with Communion, followed by a breakfast at 8:30 AM, or the traditional 10:30 AM worship service with Communion.

Sacred Heart Holy Week Schedule

Sat., March 31 5:00 PM - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Sun., April 1 9:00 AM - Stations of the Cross & Benediction
Wed., April 4 7:00 PM - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
Thurs., April 5 7:30 PM - Holy Thursday

Fri., Apr. 6 3:00 PM - Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
8:00 PM - Stations & Adoration of the Cross
8:00 PM - Nightwatch of the Lord's Passion
Sat., Apr. 7 8:00 PM - Holy Saturday Vigil
Sun., April 8 9:00 AM - Easter Sunday - Resurrection of the Lord

Laurens Methodist Church Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 1st - Palm Sunday/Confirmation Sunday
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Confirmation Reception
10:30 a.m. Worship Special Music by the Chancel Choir

Thursday, April 5th - 6:30 p.m. - Maundy Thursday
Maundy Thursday Service with Seder Meal At Marathon United Methodist Church

Friday, April 6th - 6:30 p.m. - Good Friday
Ecumenical Good Friday Service @ Bethany Lutheran Church
Message by Rev. Larry McAlpine

Sunday, April 8th Easter Sunday
7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service
8:00 a.m. Breakfast served by the Rachel Circle
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee
10:30 a.m. Easter Service Special music by the Chancel Choir

School News

Individual Speech Update!

Laurens-Marathon Individual Speech Team coached by Nancy and Ken Kunickis and Connie

Dallenbach took 33 entries to the district contest at Algona Garrigan High School. Of these 33 events, 26 events advanced to the state level at Sibley-Ocheyedan High School. At the state contest, the team earned 19 I Ratings and 7 II Ratings.

Katie Stumpf, Spencer Sones, Parker Sones and Kseniya Choni were nominated to perform at the All State Speech Festival at the UNI Campus on April 2, 2007.

Nancy Kunickis

Eighth Grade Boy's Area Team Wins the Alcoa Division of the Yankton Tournament

The Northwest Iowa Chargers participated in this tournament with 240 other teams involving over 2500 athletes from four states this past Friday night and Saturday, March 23 and 24. The Chargers had a good mixture of scoring from the



outside, as well as from the inside to make them difficult to defend against. They played exceptionally well defensively as a team against much taller opponents to

finish undefeated at 3-0. The scores of three games were: Chargers 49, Lennox Orioles 43 on Friday night; Chargers 43, Yankton Alcoa 22; Chargers 44, East

Sioux City Black Raiders 36, the second two games were played on Saturday.

The players in the lower row left to right are: Bryce Machino, Laurens; Hunter Sieperda, Rock Rapids; Case Bieri, Laurens. In the upper row left to right are Coach Todd Machino, Laurens; Austin Stumbo, Laurens; Clayton Busch, Rock Rapids; Coach Brett Stumbo, Laurens. Hunter Sieperda is the son of Laurens native Amy Douglas Sieperda.

Letter to the Editor

CONGRATULATIONS!

I am so excited about the possibility of there finally being a PAPER in Laurens! What a great idea! I love the fact that anyone can submit news, pictures and articles. I am hoping that this will mean that I will be able to read about all to the fun happenings that make a small town wonderful. It has been a long

time since the kid's activities of this community have had a place to showcase their accomplishments. This is just what this "Busiest Little Town" needs. I look forward to receiving, reading and sending on this NEW paper. I truly hope that people support and con-



tribute to this paper. I am putting it on my list of favorites and subscribing immediately! I have all ready sent this site to my kids...even the exchange kids..they will LOVE it! Thank you, thank you, thank you! I look forward to being a contributing subscriber! Good luck!

Submitted by Kelly Van Sickle

Great Fun

I think this will be great fun for all. So many people have things to say. But

think twice about it because of having to personally go do it. This way you can sit in your P.J.'s if you want and write

the news. Hope everyone enjoys and helps to get this going good and staying that way. Submitted by Mary Dean

We Think This Is Great

Although we left Laurens over 9 months ago we still call the place that we lived as a married couple for 61

years home. we will celebrate our 62nd anniversary on March 25th. We are glad you are doing this and will look forward to hearing more news of the celebration since our farm to will be celebrating 125 years in the Roewe family. Dale

and Taylor are the fourth & fifth generation to farm the land.

Submitted by

Best wishes from Lois and Joe Roewe

Travel & Entertainment

A Trip Recommended!

My roommate Danie and I flew to South Carolina over spring break to visit my brother Jason, who moved down there in February. He is in the process of starting a new job with Hunter Mortgage in Aiken and will be moving there from Columbia this week. We went on a trip

to the mountains in North Carolina the first day we were there and had a great time. The weather was awesome and the sights were beautiful!

We also visited the coast and other fun places in South Carolina. I recommend anyone to visit the area - it's gorgeous!

Submitted by Kristi Brechler



Transition Time for Sernetts

We are beginning to plan for our return to Laurens. Sounds like it will be a busy

and exciting summer. We plan to leave here on April 15th and arrive on the 17th or 18th, after stopping in Kelley, Ia to see our newest (four month old) grandson,

Joseph Sernett. Looking forward to the trip back.

Submitted by Paul & Carol Sernett



Spring Break Fun!

Michael Egertsen, Joseph Petersen, and Chris Schmidt of Laurens, and Jason Garton of Marathon went ocean fishing in Florida for Spring Break. This picture is the four of them holding the fish they caught.

The fish are locally called dolphin but are better known as mahi-mahi. The largest fish, which Joseph is holding, weighed an astonishing 28 pounds.

Local News

Congrats to 8th Grade Hoopsters!

When I saw the photo of the 8th grade boys with their medals & trophy I thought "this is exactly what I was hoping to see submitted to The Paper." Whether

it is a youth sports activity, music, speech, church or school activity, most of us would love to see our children's accomplishments acknowledged in some manner. I hope we'll see more of this in

weeks to come-let us know what's going on! Congratulations to the team and the coaches on their notable victory!

Submitted by Rod Johnson

Laurens Community Blood Drive

Please sign-up to donate & help support YOUR community blood supply! Next Community Drive



in Laurens: Thursday, April 26th from 2-6 p.m. at United Methodist Church. Our goal is to have 35 people sign-up for appointments - Please encourage everyone to sign-up online at www.donorsaves.org or by calling 800-798-4208. Thanks so

much! Nikki Dotson, Recruiter
Siouxland Community Blood Bank.

Please contact me if you have any questions!
Office: 877-224-6208,

ext. 263 Cell: 712-253-9623
E-Mail: ndotson@siouxlandbloodbank.org

Something to think about... While you're reading this, someone in America needs blood:

- Blood is needed every two seconds.

- About 1 in 5 people entering a hospital needs blood.

- Blood is always needed for treatment of accident victims, cancer patients, hemophiliacs and surgery patients.

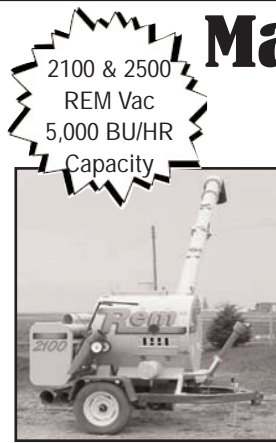
- Blood cannot be manufactured or harvested.

Our blood supply comes from caring donors. When you give blood, you give someone another laugh, another hug, another chance.

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Here Comes Connor!

Your Ice Cream Pedaler..

Look for Connor this Summer at the Pool, at the Ballpark or pedaling around town with your favorite frozen treats!

Call two weeks ahead to schedule a stop at your business functions, birthday parties, summer ball practices, etc.

Opening Late May

**Connor Johnson
841-4605**

NORTHWEST TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Northwest Telephone Cooperative Association will be held at the school gym in West Bend, Iowa, at 7:00 p.m., (with dinner served from 5:45-6:45 p.m. before the business meeting) on Tuesday, April 10, 2007, to take action upon the following matters.

1. The report of officers, directors and committees;
2. The election of two (2) directors of the Cooperative for a term of three (3) years each;
3. All other business that may legally come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

In Connection with the election of Directors scheduled for this meeting, the following members have been nominated for Directors, by the nominating committee, appointed by the Board of Directors of the Cooperative pursuant to the by-laws.

THREE YEAR TERM (Two to be elected)

Dave Krischel (Plover)

Ron Lampe (Havelock)

Kevin Hauswirth (Havelock)

You are urged to attend the meeting, hear the reports of the officers, vote for directors, and transact such other business as may come before the meeting.