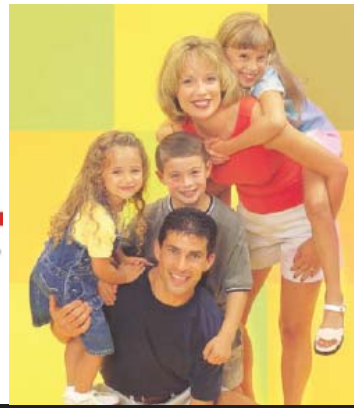


# The Paper

*Our Town, Our Paper!*

*Laurens, Iowa*



*Vol. 1 No. 11*

www.mylaurens.com

*June 19, 2007*

## Local News

### “Little Miss Laurens” Pageant

The Laurens Quasquicentennial Celebration would not be complete without a Little Miss Laurens Pageant. The pageant will be held on July 14, in the Laurens United Methodist Church at 6:30pm.



Contestants must be age 4-12 by July 14, 2007 and must live within the Laurens-Marathon Community School District. Entry is free, just fill out a registration form and return it to The Laurens City Hall or Positech by June 21. We have extended the cut off date! The court will represent their titles at the Quasquicentennial kick off on Friday night, July 20 and ride in the parade on Saturday, July 21. Contestants will be judged individually on their personality, poise, talent, and questions from the judges. Talent will incorporate the theme “What Laurens Means to Me”. This could be in form of a song, dance, poetry, baking, etc. One participant from each age group will be crowned and will receive a tiara and banner. If there is low participation, ages will be regrouped. For further information, please contact Ashley Sindergard at 841-4548 or ashley@positech.com.

### Calendar of Events:

**June 21:** Forms must be turned into Positech or City Hall.

**July 8:** 2-5pm (tentative)-Rehearsal and talent practice at the Methodist Church (Participants must attend)

**July 14:** 6:30pm-Pageant, Methodist Church

*Biggest Little Paper In Town!*

### Laurens Industrial Foundation Donates \$1,000 for Quasqui

The Laurens Industrial Foundation has donated \$1000 to the Quasquicentennial Celebration. President, John Pohlman, presented the check to Tom Madsen, Fund-raiser Chairman. Other foundation members who were present are Pete Hong, Dennis Larson, Bill Alexander, Dean Oleson, Thaine Hopkins and Rick Woodley. Foundation members who were not able to attend include Tjeran Jolliffe and Don Aschenbrenner.



### Bigfoot at the Library!

More than 50 Bigfoot were seen leaving the Laurens Public Library Tuesday afternoon. They were heard to say that beef jerky supplied by Link Snacks helped them “Feed Their Wild Side.” Don’t know what’s going on? “Get a Clue!”(it’s the kids’ Summer Reading Program) at the Library!

Pictured is Bigfoot Braden Ehn.



### Why is This Woman Riding a Unicycle...? Read More on Page 4!



*Boom-Chucka-Lucka!*  
Page 5

# At the Library

with Glenda Mulder



Our Kids' Summer Reading Program started off with a bang when over 50 kids joined the fun. The theme for this summer is *Get a Clue!* Our first session centered on the mysteries of Bigfoot. We explained the reading incentives, I read them a couple Bigfoot books, they made their own big feet & left with grins on their faces. Jack Link's snacks helped the little Sasquatch "Feed Their Wild Side!" We've got fun plans for the rest of the weeks, but I don't want to spoil the surprise.

New fiction books this week include; *Up in Honey's Room* by Elmore Leonard, *The Kindness of Strangers* by Katrine Kittle, *Little Pink Slips* by Sally Koslow, *Big Girls* by Susanna Moore, *Death Angel* by Martha Powers, *Blaze* by Richard Bachman, *The Sonnet Lover* by Carol Goodman, *Companion* by Ann Granger, *Innocent as Sin* by Elizabeth Lowell, and *Silence* by Thomas Perry. Nonfiction selections include Rob Gifford's *China Road: A Journey into the Future of a Rising Power* and William Geist's *Way Off the Road: Discovering the Peculiar Charms of Small Town America*.

Stop and pick up a copy of Sue Kidd Monk's *The Secret Life of Bees* so you can join our discussion next Monday night, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Sara Galindo will be our discussion leader.

*Check it out at the Laurens Public Library!*

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## Thank You

*There are no adequate words to express thanks for all the love, prayers and concern shown to us since Mark's illness and death. Special thanks to our friends, Father Verne, the Knights of Columbus, the Laurens Fire Department, the VFW, the Class of '78, Laura's classmates, and the Rosary Society for the nice luncheon.*

*Thanks to all for the gifts, flowers, calls, visits and cards given to us. We don't think Mark had any idea of the impact he had on this community. He is truly loved and missed. Marilyn, Laura, Greg, Laura, Laina, Pete, Norma and the Hansen family.*

# This week at Evangelical Free Church

(Albert City)

**Wed. June 20:**

10:00 AM FCWM Birthday Party for Marla & Kari at the Shelter House Park  
7:00 PM Adult Bible Study & Prayer

**Thurs. June 21:**

6:00 AM Leadership Team

**Fri. June 22:**

1:30 PM Music & Worship Committee

**Sat. June 23:**

Lakota Team back from Mission Trip

**Sun. June 24:**

8:30 AM & 10:45 AM Morning Worship; 9:45 AM Sunday School; 4:30 PM Pleasant View Service by Pathfinders; 5:30 PM U-Turn 180; 7:00 PM Evening Service

**Wed. June 27:**

7:00 PM Adult Bible Study & Prayer

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### Aschenbrenner and Zens to Wed

Lucy Aschenbrenner of Spencer, and Don & Sue Aschenbrenner of Laurens, announce the engagement of their daughter, Carrie Aschenbrenner, to Jesse Zens, son of Jeff and Rose Zens of Currie, Minnesota. Carrie is a 1998 graduate of Laurens-Marathon High School. Carrie graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with degrees in marketing and psychology and then pursued her MBA through the University of Phoenix, graduating in 2006.

She currently works as a marketing manager for an e-learning company in Saint Paul. Jesse is a 1996 high-school graduate from Tracey-Milroy-Balaton (Minnesota) and is a journeyman technician. Carrie and Jesse currently reside in a southern suburb of the Twin Cities metro. An August wedding is planned.

### Introducing... Evelyn Craig Long

Evelyn Craig Long (Eve) was born on Thursday, June 7th, 2007 in Salinas, CA, at 11:50am. She weighed 5 lbs, 10 ounces and was 18 inches long. Evelyn is the daughter of Allison Long of Salinas, California and the late Craig Allen Long, formerly of Laurens, Iowa. Evelyn has a big sister, Ava Madeline Long (3 years old).

Grandparents are Daryl and Dorothy Long of Laurens, Iowa and Emmitt and Cindi Pfof of Salinas, California. Pictured are Dorothy Long of Laurens with granddaughters Ava Madeline Long and Evelyn Craig Long.

### Reese Triplets Visit

The Reese Triplets-Spencer, Martin and Makayla (age 4 1/2) visited in the home of Grandpa Ron and Grandma Pat Reese from June 1 through June 9. They came to attend Vacation Bible School. They are the children of Bruce and Kristin Reese of Des Moines. Pictured from back to front-Spencer, Martin, and Makayla Reese on Grandpa Ron's lawnmower.



### Need Volunteers

The scenes have been scanned, the songs selected, now all that is needed are volunteers to sing for the Quasquicentennial program "Scenes and Songs." There will be five rehearsals at 8:00 P.M. at the United Methodist Church. The dates are June 25th, July 2nd, July 9th, July 16th and July 19th. Rehearsals will be an hour or less. If you can't make them all, come to as many as you can.

The "Scenes and Songs" program will be presented Saturday, July 21st at 8:30 P.M. It will be at the United Methodist Church. Scenes of Laurens will be projected on the big screen showing Laurens of the past.

Volunteers are also needed in other areas to make the Quasquicentennial and RAGBRAI a success. Set-up crews are needed to pick up picnic tables, bleachers, trash containers and move them during the celebration. Trolley tractors and drivers are needed for both Quasqui and RABGRAI. Are you handy with tools? Misters, water bottle filling stations and hand washing stations need to be constructed. Bring out your artistic side by helping make signs and placing them. Volunteers are needed to man the Quasqui headquarters and don't forget to buy your memorabilia. The theme for welcoming RAGBRAI riders is "Lei Over in Laurens".

Laurens will be turned into a tropical paradise. We need plenty of "natives" to welcome the riders. Red and white Hawaiian shirts can be ordered to add to the festive look.

Literally thousands of visitors will be in Laurens to help celebrate our 125th birthday and to ride RAGBRAI. Let's put our best foot forward-pull your weeds, sweep your sidewalk, pick up litter, beautify your business and home. We will live up to our motto "Busiest Little Town in Iowa" and everyone can rest and get back to normal on Tuesday.

## French Connection

More history of two towns named Laurens..in a nutshell.

France: "In 1789 the castle in Laurens was partially destroyed during the French Revolution. The peasants used the stones to build and repair their houses."

Iowa: In 1788, Julien Dubuque became the first white settler in Iowa. He and other French from Canada lived in Eastern Iowa, under an agreement with the Mesquakies. Iowa was under Spanish colonial control at that time, then belonged again to France until Iowa was acquired by the U.S. with the Louisiana Purchase. Northwest Iowa was still unpopulated, except for wandering groups of Indians.

France: "The castle was restored in the 19th century during the time of Napoleon's "Empire" though it lost most of the characteristics of a fortress. The village around the castle continued to expand, as growing grapes for wine became the major crop and source of income for the farmers. However, Laurens and its people never profited as much as the wine-makers of the plains as it was too hilly and it was difficult to produce massive quantities of grapes in the hills."

Iowa: In the 19th century Iowa's population moved westward with the northwestern part of the state being the last to be settled, due to the marshy land. The first pioneers reached the Laurens area about 1869. Laurens became a village 125 years ago, when it was surveyed and platted, and the population grew as the land was drained and the railroad arrived.

France: "Laurens remained much as it had been since the French Revolution until after the second World War. New houses began to be built on the outskirts and gradual growth has continued. Now Laurens has a number of new subdivisions inhabited both by grape-growers and young families who work in the cities. The older homes in Laurens are being bought and restored by new "invaders" from the north who use them as summer homes and then as places of retirement. They have the benefits of sunshine, sea, countryside, and excellent food and wine."

Iowa: Pictures of Laurens sent to our sister city prompted the comment that our town seems so new and modern compared to their centuries old community. Over the last 125 years we have grown from a prairie settlement to a still small but busy place. Once primarily a center for supplies and services for surrounding farm families, Laurens has added an industrial base to its activities. Our town continues to work to adapt to meet the demographic changes in the state and nation.



## Traveling With the Mulders

Our goal for vacation was to go to Wisconsin and just relax. Ride a few twisty roads. See a few points of interest. Eat pie. I'm happy to report we were successful on all counts.

We spent most of the week in the southwestern part of the state. The roads were fun. Lorin enjoyed the twisty roads. (Lorin's editorial comment is, "Those weren't twisties, they were sweepers." I stand corrected.) I was on the back of the motorcycle enjoying the rolling green hills with a well maintained barn around every corner. The Amish working in the fields and driving buggies on the roads added to the idyllic feeling. I'd put in a picture, but I wasn't fast enough with the camera. I do have a lovely shot of a Wisconsin road in case you're interested.

I had a few places selected to visit. The first place we stopped was Stonefield near Cassville. It's a replica of rural Wisconsin life circa 1900 built on the farmland of their first governor, Nelson Dewey. It is also home to the State Agriculture Museum. It was an interesting stop. I have to tell you that there's a

corner bar & grill in Cassville that Lorin says makes one of the best burgers he's ever had. And there's an ice cream shop right next door. What a perfect set up! Another place we visited was Taliesin, near Spring Green. We toured both the home and school founded by architect Frank Lloyd Wright. I can't say enough about that. Try me sometime.

It surprises us both how much fun we had at the Circus World museum in Baraboo. This town was the winter home of the famous Ringling Brother's Circus. Their displays include over 200 of



the old circus wagons that were a part of the circus parade that preceded the setting up of the circus in each town. They also showed how these cars were loaded onto train flatcars for transportation from town to town. They featured a show of Chinese acrobats that was just phenomenal! I still don't think some of those things are physically possible and I saw it myself! Riding a unicycle was much easier than I thought it would be. I suppose it would be more of a challenge if they took away the supports and the padded mats, but then I would probably hurt myself! One piece of advice. Look a café over carefully before deciding to eat there. If there's a "For Sale" sign in the window, don't go there. Learn from our mistake! Last, but not least, I have to tell you the best pie we found was red raspberry in Boscobel. I have to say the trip would have been worthwhile just for that! Yum! Now we're back to the real world and I'll be lowcarb-ing it for awhile as penance. It was so worth it!

## Charger Women Down Prairie Valley 9-2

*Hall Hits Two Homers*

Gowrie: The Laurens-Marathon Charger women remain unbeaten in the Twin Lakes Conference, standing alone in first place with a 5-0 conference record (8-2 overall). Laci Hall again supplied the pop for the Chargers hitting a home run in both the 5th and 7th innings. This is the third consecutive game with a home run for Hall, our senior shortstop. Hall chalked up three RBIs on the night. Kelsey Meyer and Holly Hofmaster each went 2 for 3 at the plate. Kaci Woodley, Holly Hofmaster and Bryn Johnson each drove in a run for the Chargers while Emily Lampe drove in a pair with a timely hit. Charger pitcher Bryn Johnson gave up six hits with seven strike outs and no walks and allowed one earned run.

*Over the past 5 years I have enjoyed watching the L-M Charger softball team and I will say that this year's team is an exciting team to watch—you should make it a point to catch as many games as you can. This year's team has a lot to offer! Get out and catch a game this week! Rod*



Laci Hall & Proud Dad, Melvin

## Charger Men Shut Down MNW 11-5

The Charger men belted out 16 hits in their 11-5 victory over Manson-NW Webster here Wednesday night. Andrew Hanson went 3-3 and charted 3 RBI while Gary Brechler, Mason Reed, David Brechler, Ryan Lovin, Mitch Erickson and Ryan Stumbo each had two-hit outings. Gary Brechler took the hill for the Chargers and turned in a solid performance allowing 4 hits, while striking out 2 and issuing 2 free passes. Brechler gave up three earned runs and left the game with a 10-4 lead. Ryan Lovin closed out the game for the Chargers allowing 3 hits and an unearned run in the final frames. Brechler was the winning pitcher of record

*Biggest Little Paper In Town!*

## 7th Inning Rally Keys L-M Men

The Chargers had little going on offense for the first 6 innings of their game against the Prairie Valley Warriors. They had 2 hits and zero runs. Then in dramatic fashion, the Chargers plated home 8 runs in the top of the 7th to win the game 8-4. Gary Brechler keyed the rally with a two-out go-ahead two-run home run that put the Chargers up 5-4. On the mound, Adam Woodin pitched 6 fine innings to pick up the win and remain undefeated at 4-0. Mason Reed picked up the save. Ryan Lovin had 3 hits and 2 RBI's. Adam Woodin, Mason Reed (7), and Andrew Hanson. LM Chargers 7-2 (3-1). For complete stats go to <http://www.allprosoftware.net/LaurensMarathonBaseball2007>

# Booyah!

## Chargers Rout #8 SEW-Grand 5-0!



Kacie Woodley 3-3 With Two Triples

Harcourt: The Laurens-Marathon Charger women put themselves in the Twin Lakes Conference driver's seat with a decisive 5-0 drubbing of the 8th ranked Southeast Webster-Grand Eagles here Monday night.

Kacie Woodley keyed the offense with a break-out night at the plate going 3-3 with a pair of three-baggers. Classmate Megan Cleveland went 2-3 at the plate with a triple as well. Brynn Larson was 2-3 with a double and Kelsey Meyer added a pair of singles. Holly Hofmaster, Brynn Larson, Bryn Johnson and Kelsey Meyer each chalked up an RBI for the hot-hitting Chargers. When the dust had settled the Chargers had rung up 11 hits!

Bryn Johnson looked like she was pitching with purpose as she held the Eagles to just 3 hits with 10 strikeouts and no walks. Jennifer Jorgensen took the loss for the Eagles allowing 5 earned runs on 11 hits with 7 k's.

The Chargers move to 8-0 in the conference and 12-2 overall. Currently ranked 10th in the 1-A rankings, the Charger women take on 13th ranked Graettinger-Terril Tuesday June 19th in Graettinger. *Boom-Chucka-Lucka!*

# Laurens-Marathon Baseball Team 2007



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



## Seniors 2007

Pictured from left to right: Mitch Erickson, Mason Reed & David Brechler



## Charger Women Stop E-Burg 3-2 in Eight

Laurens: The Laurens-Marathon Chargers came from behind to nail down an exciting 3-2 victory over a non-conference rival, Emmetsburg, here Tuesday night. In the bottom of the eighth with the score knotted at two, Bryn Johnson belted her second double of the contest. Kylie Woodley, running for Johnson, later advanced to 3rd on a passed ball and scored on a Brynn Larson sacrifice fly. Kelsey Meyer also added two hits on the night for the Chargers. Johnson notched the win for the Chargers charting 10 strikeouts, allowing 4 hits. The Chargers improve to 9-2 overall.

## Charger Women Top WLVA 4-0 Remain Undefeated in Conference Play

Wall Lake: The Laurens-Marathon Chargers completed the first round of Twin Lakes Conference play with a perfect 7-0 record shutting out WLVA 4-0 here on Friday. Brynn Larson, Kacie Woodley and Bryn Johnson each doubled for the Chargers with Johnson notching 2 RBI. Kelsey Meyer added a pair of singles. Johnson took the win for the Chargers scattering 4 hits while striking out 13 with no walks. Tjaden took the loss for WLVA.

L-M's overall record stands at 11-2.

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## Charger Women Top Manson-NW Webster 8-1

Laurens: The Laurens-Marathon Chargers improved their league-leading Twin Lakes Conference record to a perfect 6-0 with a convincing 8-1 victory over Manson-NW Webster here Wednesday evening. Kaci Woodley, Emily Lampe, Megan Hofmaster, Brynn Larson and Bryn Johnson each hit safely while Laci Hall continued her hot streak going 2-2 with a double. Kelsey Meyer topped the RBI list with a pair. Bryn Johnson notched the win for the Chargers giving up 4 hits while striking out 10. Eischheid took the loss for MNW allowing 6 hits and 4 free passes while fanning 4. L-M's overall record stands at 10-2.

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## Let's Hear It...!



the local newspaper. Let's see some Little League scores, photos, etc.—everyone loves to see the youngsters in action.

Be creative--use your imagination. It's your paper! As always, I thank you for making The Paper work so well with 100% user-generated content!

## 25 Years Ago...



Rod & Anita Johnson will celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary on June 25th. Rod & Anita were married in Marion, Ohio on June 25th, 1982.

The Paper has been "in print" for several months now and for the most part I have been very happy with the progress that we've made. The positive feedback has been so encouraging!

If there's one thing that I think we could use more of it is input from outside the community! Some of our distant readers have sent in excellent content and it is great to hear about what's going on from our former residents, friends and relatives. I'd like to see more of that! There's so much going on in the world today and we have an excellent opportunity here to keep each other informed—send in your stories and photos!!!

Also, we've started to receive more sports related input, but I know that there are lots of people running around out there with digital cameras and I know there's more to cover. As a little league coach some years ago I always wanted to see our triumphs noted in

## Local

# Local Students on UI Dean's List

Brett Latham, College of Business Administration, and Laura Bieri, College of Liberal Arts, of Laurens were among 3,964 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa named to the dean's list for the 2007 spring semester.

All students named to the dean's list carried at least 12 graded hours during the semester and had a minimum 3.5 grade point average for current work.

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## Here Comes Connor to Jack Link's DC

Jack Link's Employees were glad to see Connor at their recent Employee Appreciation Lunch.



## Kudos!

The newly painted water tower looks great!!! It's wonderful to look up and see that freshly painted tower with the attractive script "Laurens".

Nice work!

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**July 7th** Estate Personal Property, Art Doyle & Others - Bancroft  
**July 13th, 14th & 15th**  
 Large antique going out of business - Spencer