

January 10, 2017

- Scythes to Silos The First 50 Years of Farming in Pocahontas County was presented by Connie Dallenbach and Dorothy Lamberti.
- We will receive a \$4452 Pocahontas County Foundation grant for teen space furniture. Pocahontas County Libraries also received on to enhance our reading programs.
- Outdoor lighting will now be updated to LED by Laurens Plumbing.

February 14, 2017

- Election of Officers. Pat Boughey is President, Dwight Van Genderen is Vice President, and Connie Dallenbach is Secretary.
- Laurens native Craig Finnestad will be here to talk about, and do a reading from his inspirational book "Prayers from the Water's Edge."
- We had a party to celebrate the birth of Laura Ingalls Wilder 150 years ago.

March 14, 2017

- Children's Librarian Jeri Wenell's husband and son brought baby farm animals for Tot Time.

April 11, 2017

- Current budget was amended to reflect the \$8,000 we transferred from our Capital Improvement Fund to pay for LED lighting and the teen space grant.
- Final breakdown of costs of LED lighting:

Total cost of lights & installation \$12,495.12

Rebates from LMP&C \$3249.65

Total cost to the library \$9246.47

May 9, 2017

- Program "Diet; Myths vs Facts" was postponed due to a family emergency.

June 20, 2017

- Summer Reading theme is "Build a Better World." Story Times will be Wednesdays at 1 pm. LegoMania all day every Friday. Special programs by Tim Read (sponsored by Pocahontas County Foundation grant) and Pockets Full of Fun puppets.
- 2 Chromebooks were added for patron use.
- Library employees again had good reviews. Board voted for 3% raises for next year.

July 11, 2017

- “Germans in Iowa and the Global Midwest” display was in the Library July 6-17 to coincide with the Laurens Summer Celebration. Friday evening we opened specially for “The History of Albert City Threshermen and Collector’s Show” by Connie Reinert.
- IPTV’s Dan Wardell filmed a segment for his TV Show, “Kid’s Clubhouse.” The segment featured different metals. Local kids participating included Landen Tate, Brennen & Emma Storms, Lily Norman, Morgan & Cameron Leith, and Darien & Pearl McElroy.

August 8, 2017

- Library Director Glenda Mulder procured 1,000 pair of Eclipse glasses, so we had plenty for us all to watch the Total Solar Eclipse August 21st safely. We also shared with neighboring libraries and the school! We also provided Eclipse cookies.
- Pocahontas County Naturalist Corinne Peterson presented an Eclipse program earlier in the month so we would know what to expect.
- Arla Kintigh of Spencer talked about her new book, “Fairgoers Don’t Live on Fried Food Alone; 100 Years of Clay County Fair Traditions.”
- At a joint meeting with Bethany Lutheran Church Council and the Library Board, it was decided to terminate the farm lease with Wal-Jan Farms and open the land up for public bids.
- The Laurens Public Library Foundation announced plans to start fundraising for a Music Garden, to be installed on Library grounds. The City Council has given their stamp of approval to this project also.

September 12, 2017

- State Historical Society of Iowa brought their display bus Iowa History 101 to our library for a few days. It was open to the public, and L-M students came down for special tours.
- Program “Diet; Myths vs Facts” by Kayli Stumpf, dietitian for Unity Point Fort Dodge was well attended.

October 3, 2017

- Bethany Lutheran Church Council and the Library Board had a joint meeting to review bids for our farm ground. The contract will be awarded to Kyle Wenell for \$266 per acre for the 2018 growing season. Half of the rent is due in November, the other half is due in March.

October 10, 2017

- PAC math teacher Katie Wilford presented a program about her travels to Cuba this summer.

- Halloween was again celebrated with magician Larry Dunbar. The following day Kathy Wilson presented “Death Comes for Us All; Victorian Death & Funeral Traditions”
- Funds from the Library Foundation’s Pancake Supper will be used for ongoing projects and to begin a Music Garden to the south and east of the Library.

November 7, 2017

- City Council has approved the contract with Kyle Wenell for our farm ground.
- Assistant Director Deb Hertz received work that her ALLI (Arts Learning in Libraries Initiative) grant application for Art Classes was approved. The ALLI program is partnership between the State Library of Iowa and the Iowa Arts Council, was made possible through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences. Deb will be attending an informational and training meeting in early December

December 12, 2017

- Library carpets were cleaned by AK Flooring of Laurens.
- Mike Anderson, “The Dulcimer Guy”, entertained the L-M school kids as Hugo Kringle, younger brother of Kris Kringle. In the evening he performed among the decorations at the Laurens Festival of Trees. This was co-sponsored by the Laurens Festival of Trees and the Library Foundation.
- Kyle Wenell would like another entrance to the farm ground. The lease states that the renter pays for improvements. The Board voted to allow it, pending approval of the Church and the County Engineer.
- 2018/2019 budget of \$129,425, with the City’s share being \$81,742 plus employee benefits was approved by the Board to be submitted to the City Council.