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PAPER**

# The Dunkerton News

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**VOL. 21—4TH ISSUE—FEB. 2012**

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Editor—Linda Wachal; e-mail [WdRoseLady@aol.com](mailto:WdRoseLady@aol.com)

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## Dunkerton Days

The 2012 Dunkerton Days celebration is scheduled for July 27th and 28th. The Dunkerton Days committee is looking for creative ideas regarding this year's theme. Please contact Zach Pierce at 319-464-5258 before the next meeting which is set for March 2nd at 5:30 in the Kwik Star Cafe. The committee is encour-

aging more members of the community to get involved to make this year's celebration one to remember.

Contact info: Zack Pierce 319-464-5258, email: [zach1133@yahoo.com](mailto:zach1133@yahoo.com)

Colt Robinson: 319-939-5567, [coltrobinson09@gmail.com](mailto:coltrobinson09@gmail.com)

## JH Talent Show

**Mark Your Calendar for Thursday, March 8.**

The Junior High kids have been working hard again this year to bring you a wonderful talent show.

Our MCs will be seventh graders, Jon Miller and Mitchell Winkers. They'll introduce acts, duets and solos from the following students: Taylor Gillespie, Rylie Stanton, Alysa Lindquist, Adam Manahl, McKenna Boesch, Alina Burch, Baylee Gibson, Carley Happel, Hannah Johnson, Jenna Salisbury, Kristina Happel, Xena Root, Noah Christians, Cole Heiple, Charlie Magee, Jasmine Dalton, Chelsea Fager, Alecia Kimball, Dani Reicherts, Cassidy Rigdon, John Davis, Alex Garbes, Taylor Cutsforth and Brianna Stone.

That's just the individual groups, you'll also hear the Junior High mixed chorus, chamber choir and the band. It's definitely a "Must See" event with music and talent you can't believe. Show starts at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium. Tickets are FREE – can you believe it?!

## Kindergarten & Preschool Orientation

**Kindergarten and Preschool Orientation at Dunkerton Monday, March 12, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commons.**

Registration for kindergarten and preschool age children students living in the Dunkerton Community School District will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 12, 2012 in the commons. We ask that only parents attend this meeting. This is an important informational meeting to get your

child enrolled in preschool and or kindergarten. Your attendance is very important.

Iowa law requires:

- The child must be five years old on or before September, 15, 2012;
- For preschool they must be 3 on or before September 15, 2012 and take care of their own toileting needs;
- To qualify for the 4 year old state wide voluntary pre-

school program a child must be 4 on or before September 15, 2012

- A copy of the birth certificate to verify the child's age; if not already on file
- An up-to-date copy of the child's immunization card;
- A physical examination before school starts in the fall. Please bring the birth certificate to the meeting.

## HCC Announces Dean's List for Fall Semester

WATERLOO--Hawkeye Community College announces the Dean's List for Fall Semester. The Dean's List is official recognition of outstanding academic accomplishment by full-time students. To qualify for the Dean's List, full-time students must have successfully completed 12 or more credits in the given semester with a major GPA of 3.50 or better for courses taken at Hawkeye Community College.

The following Dunkerton stu-

dents are on the Dean's List for the Fall Semester:

April Kimball  
Nicole Schuety  
Kayla Stafford  
Jason Stickfort  
Joria Wheeler

The following Fairbank students are on the Dean's List for the Fall Semester:

Cally Bengston  
Devon Duffy  
John Even  
Samantha Gipper

Debra Hartman  
Tyler Kane  
Abi Menuey  
Jeanette Neil  
Jill Welsh  
Julianne Zander

The following Readlyn students are on the Dean's List for the Fall Semester:

Tessa Burkhardt  
Allison Hockey  
Stacy Thurm  
Hanna Wiersma  
Congratulations to all!

**Dunkerton  
News  
Celebrates  
20th  
Anniversary!**

# HVAAA Menu For February

(Waterloo, Iowa) November 16, 2011 – Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging has its February meals planned. Each meal includes milk. Meals are offered on a contribution basis for people over 60 year of age. Actual cost for the meal is \$6. People under 60 must pay the actual cost.

There are two menu options on most days of the month. Both congregate and home delivered meals may choose between option A and option B. Meals must be ordered in advance. All meals must be ordered by 9 a.m. the day before receiving a meal. Preference for Option A or B must be given at time of order – if no preference is given, Option A will be served.

Meals are served in Dunkerton Mondays and Thursdays, for reservations call 319-822-7910

February 20:

A: Meatballs with Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles, Capri Vegetables, Multi-Grain Bread, Pineapple Tidbits, and Margarine

B: Zesty Baja Chicken Salad, Beet Salad, Bayou Coleslaw, Multi-Grain Bread, and Pineapple Tidbits

February 23:

A: Scrod Cod, Mixed Beans, Stewed Tomatoes, Wheat Bread, Gelatin, Tartar Sauce, and Margarine

B: Beef Patty with Pepper Gravy, Mixed Beans, Stewed Tomatoes, Wheat Bread,

Gelatin, and Margarine

February 27:

A: Creole Steak, Red Potatoes, Chuckwagon Corn, Wheat Bread, Fresh Fruit, and Margarine

B: Chicken Cordon Bleu Salad, Orange Pineapple Juice, Wheat Bread, and Fresh Fruit

## Lester Livewires

Submitted by Cole Heiple, Secretary  
Lester Livewires 4-H Meeting on Jan 15, 2012

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Adam Manahl. Roll call was given. Treasurer's report read.

None of the club members received the Jan. Clover Power. Leaders will check with extension office to see if there was a change. Club voted to make a donation to the Dunkerton Public Library, motion carried at \$100. Club voted to make a donation to St. John's Lutheran Church, Bennington, amount carried at \$129 for use of facilities. Discussion on Movie day with the extension office on Feb. 4, 9 am open 9:30 movies start motion carried for club to fund for all to go.

Workshop Ideas: Washcloth work shop, Rocket workshop, Stop-motion video Workshop

Reminders: Omelet breakfast March 25, Fair week July 24-28

Club community service ideas: Alex's lemonade, walker bags, blankets, hats, scarves

Called meeting to end at 4:41. 4-H pledge led by Adam Manahl. No presentations or activities

Snacks provided by Andrew, Mitchell, and Jared Winkers

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# Alive & Running

Greetings,

The 3rd edition of the Dunkerton 5k Run/Walk for Suicide Prevention will take place on June 16. Race time is 7:30am with a sky lantern lift off taking place the night before.

Race registration should be open by early March. Please start checking [www.aliveandrunningiowa.com](http://www.aliveandrunningiowa.com) for more details. We are attempting to have 90% of participants register on-line this year.

Our guest speaker is Dirk Whitebreast. He ran 10 marathons in 30 days to promote fitness and suicide prevention. Check [www.cnay.org](http://www.cnay.org) or use a search engine to find more info on this spectacular young man.

Our goal for 2012 is 1000 people running/walking to raise awareness of suicide. We hope you'll join us either as a competitor or as a volunteer.

Train hard,

Ryan Nesbit

Co-Race Director

515-257-4499

641-990-4957

[rmnesbit@mchsi.com](mailto:rmnesbit@mchsi.com)

[www.aliveandrunningiowa.com](http://www.aliveandrunningiowa.com)

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Monday, Feb 20, 2012  
 Inservice/No School  
 President's Day  
 7:00pm School Board Meeting  
 ICN Room

Tuesday, Feb 21, 2012  
 6:00pm-8:00pm Basketball  
 Practice-Elementary-4-6  
 Girls Gym- Junior High  
 7 p.m. Bball Boys V. Dunkerton @ Tripoli

Wednesday, Feb 22, 2012  
 3:30pm-6:00pm Basketball  
 Practice - 7th Grade  
 Gym- Junior High  
 Washington's Birthday  
 Ash Wednesday

Thursday, Feb 23, 2012  
 6:00pm-8:00pm Basketball  
 Practice-Elementary Boys-  
 5-6 Gym- Junior High

Friday, Feb 24, 2012  
 Gallagher Blue-Dorn-Grades  
 5&6

Saturday, Feb 25, 2012  
 Speech-District Individual  
 Events Contest  
 8:00am-10:00am Basketball  
 Practice-Elementary Boys-  
 5-6 Gym- Junior High

Monday, February 27  
 Call with any news for The  
 Dunkerton News

Wednesday, Feb 29, 2012  
 3:30pm-6:00pm Basketball  
 Practice - 7th Grade  
 Gym- Junior High

Thursday, Mar 1, 2012  
 6:00pm-7:00pm PTO Meeting  
 Computer Lab- Elementary

Friday, Mar 2, 2012  
 High School Scheduling  
 Meetings-Periods 1,2,3  
 Read Across America

Sunday, Mar 4, 2012  
 National School Breakfast  
 Week

Monday, Mar 5, 2012  
 Next issue of The Dunkerton  
 News  
 Gallagher Blue Dorn trip -  
 Grade 2

# Order Your Yearbook!!!

You can go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) or send a check to school with your child for \$35 and give to Ms. Heuer.

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.—Unknown

## Scholarship Applications

### COVENANT AND SARTORI AUXILIARIES NOW ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Deadline for applications is March 16, 2012

February 10, 2012 - Covenant Medical Center Auxiliary and Sartori Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will jointly award scholarships to area students in 2012. In conjunction with funds donated by McElroy Trust, the scholarship committee is able to award five \$1800 scholarships and three \$1750 scholarships this year.

Qualified applicants must be graduating high-school students planning to pursue a career in a health-related program or post-secondary students currently enrolled in a health related program. Qualifying health related careers include medical or dental curriculum (including pre-med and pre-dental), nursing, dental hygiene, medical/clinical laboratory technology, dental technology, radiology technology, medical transcription, health information technology, medical office services, surgical technology, ultrasound technology, pharmacy, respiratory therapy and physical therapy).

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academics, financial need and citizenship.

Applicants, applicants must have a minimum 3.0 grade-point average and be from the local area (Black Hawk, Bremer, Fayette, Buchanan, Benton, Tama, Grundy and Butler counties). Scholarships will be awarded in May for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Application forms, which include a request for a brief essay, grade transcripts and letters of recommendation, are available from the Covenant Foundation Office, 3421 West Ninth Street, Waterloo, Tel. (319) 272-7676; the Sartori Health Care Foundation Office, 515 College Street, Cedar Falls, Tel. (319) 268-3161; Applications are also available in area school counselor's offices and online at [WheatonIowa.org](http://WheatonIowa.org). Submissions must be completed and returned to the Covenant Foundation Office by March 16, 2012. Applications submitted electronically will not be accepted.

The Covenant Medical Center Auxiliary and Sartori Memorial Hospital Auxiliary comprise one of the largest and most active service organizations in the community. In addition to fundraising, the auxiliaries serve to promote cooperative interest between Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare and the community.

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# LIBRARY NEWS

Michelle Wheeler,  
Library  
Director

Nothing on TV? Don't feel like going to a theatre? Check-out a movie from the Dunkerton Public Library. We just added 35 DVD's to our collection. You can now choose from 143 titles. DVD's can be checked out for two days. A \$1.00/day/DVD fine does incur if the movie is not returned on time (Free Thursday does not apply). Due to the fine, minors do need parental approval to check-out DVD's. If you have DVD's at home that you don't think you'll watch again, donate them to the library. We would love to add to our collection and ex-

pand our selection! We do still have VHS tapes that can be checked out the same as a book (two week check-out, two week grace period, \$.05/day fine).

Along the movie theme, join us on Wed., Feb.29, at 12:30 PM when we'll be showing Leap Year, a romantic comedy about Anna Brady who plans to travel to Dublin, Ireland to propose to her boyfriend Jeremy on February 29, leap day, because, according to Irish tradition, a man who receives a marriage proposal on a leap day must accept it. Stars Amy Adams and Matthew Goode.

Mark your calendars for Sat., March 10, at 10:00 AM when author Linda McCann will present her book, Lost Black Hawk County. Learn about towns that no longer exist in our county.

# 20 Year Anniversary for The Dunkerton News

We are happy to be celebrating our 20 Year Anniversary of printing The Dunkerton News. Our first paper, printed 20 years ago, was a 1 page 8 1/2 x 11 printed on both sides. The programs I used to produce the paper were MacWrite and MacDraw. The computer was a 512K Mac with floppy disks and no internet, and it was printed on a used 8 1/2 x 11 copy machine! Now we publish on a Mac Pro Quad-Core Intel 2.8 GHz with a 30 inch screen using all the latest software and printed to a digital printer that prints, collates and folds. People can also submit articles and photos via the internet, therefore keeping my "picture" file to a minimum. We've come a long way baby! The only things that haven't changed is the paper is still delivered personally by us to Dewar and Dunkerton businesses, and is published 2 times a month on the first and 3rd Mondays of each month...and the cost of our advertising. Our advertising costs are the same price as when we started.

We have moved from our original location in our home to a shop in Evansdale (Creative Impact Company) to give ourselves more room for the many different things we do now. We also now post The Dunkerton News on our website at

www.CreativeImpactCo.com where it can be downloaded and read without having to leave the comfort of your home! : )

I'd like to personally thank a couple of our advertisers who have been with us since the beginning - The Dunkerton Co-operative and Bart Brothers (formerly Hauptly Construction) - and all of the other advertisers who help to make your paper possible. Without the advertisers, we could not continue to publish the paper!

It was my intention from the beginning to make The Dunkerton News mainly about Dunkerton and the community. So many good things go on in the community and too many times we only hear about the negative. I have tried to stay true to keeping this paper a source of information on the good things happening in this community and hope that each and everyone of you involved in the community will continue to use us as a source to get the information out.

We would like to thank all of our loyal readers, and sincerely hope you all enjoy reading the paper. Please support the advertisers who support the paper through the coming years. They make your paper possible.

If you think you may have left a photo here

## A Tribute to Steffen Brothers

Submitted by Bouge  
Some months back, I was fueling my truck at Dunkerton Kwik Star. I saw Dan and Dale Steffen crossing the hiway, running toward the fire station. I didn't know why until half a minute later. The ambulance rolled out of the fire station. It went one mile South and turned East. Seconds later, two other ambulance personnel followed them. I didn't know

what the problem was, but someone needed help, and that's all that mattered to Dan and Dale.

Dan and Dale may have been replacing a fuel injector in someone's semi tractor, or changing oil in a Dunkerton School bus. Someone needed help.

Dunkerton is a better place, thanks to men like Dan and Dale Steffen.

You all have powers you never dreamed of. You can do things you never thought you could do. There are no limitations in what you can do except the limitations in your own mind as to what you cannot do. Don't think you cannot. Think you can.

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1/6-28

## Edward Jones Ranked on Fortune Magazine

News release

Financial-services firm Edward Jones ranked No. 5 on FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For 2012" list in its 13th appearance on the prestigious list, according to Troy Delagardelle a financial advisor in the Cedar Valley for 9 years.

Edward Jones also ranked No. 3 for large-sized companies and No. 2 for work-life balance for associates who feel "encouraged to balance their work and personal life." The firm was the highest ranking financial-services firm on the list.

Edward Jones' 13 FORTUNE rankings also include top 10 finishes for nine years and consecutive No. 1 rankings in 2002 and 2003 and consecutive No. 2 rankings in 2009 and 2010.

Currently, Edward Jones has 1,515 positions available throughout the country, mostly for financial advisor and branch office administrator. Each Edward Jones branch office includes one financial advisor and one branch office administrator who work one-on-one with clients in the communities where those clients live.

To pick the 100 Best Companies

to Work For, FORTUNE partners with the Great Place to Work Institute to conduct the most extensive employee survey in corporate America. A total of 280 companies participated in this year's survey. Two-thirds of a company's score is based on the results of the institute's Trust Index survey, which is sent to a random sample of employees from each company. The survey asks questions related to their attitudes about management's credibility, job satisfaction, and camaraderie. The other third of the scoring is based on the company's responses to the institute's Culture Audit, which includes detailed questions about pay and benefit programs and a series of open-ended questions about hiring practices, internal communications, training, recognition programs and diversity efforts.

Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

The Edward Jones recruiting website is [www.careers.edward-jones.com](http://www.careers.edward-jones.com). Member SIPC.

## Animal Shelter and Farm Bureau Team Up to Care for Rescued Dogs

News release

The Cedar Bend Humane Society not only serves Black Hawk County; it assists in caring for animals from around the state when necessary. Last week, the society accepted more than one dozen dogs that were rescued from a commercial breeding facility in western Iowa.

A group of local farmers acted quickly to offer help for medical expenses and food for the extra animals at the shelter. The dogs were in need of medical care including surgery, treatment for mites and fleas and vaccinations. The Black Hawk County Farm Bureau donated \$1,000 to support the shelter's efforts on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

"It's easy for a farmer to understand the importance of caring for animals; whether those animals are cattle, hogs

or dogs," said Dustin Sage, Black Hawk County board member and cattle producer. "We are more than happy to support the Cedar Bend Humane Society, especially in a time like this when they've added to their numbers so quickly. The shelter is an important part of our community."

While Farm Bureau's donation addresses pressing needs, Kristy Gardner, director of the shelter, reminds Black Hawk County residents and other Iowans that her shelter and others like it around the state provide direct care to animals in local communities, which requires local contributions.

To learn more about the Cedar Bend Humane Society and how you can make a difference for pets, visit [www.cedarbend-humane.org](http://www.cedarbend-humane.org).



Far right: Dustin Sage of Dunkerton

## First Baptist Church



101 W. Sycamore  
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*Making Christ Known*

**Sunday School**  
Adult and children  
9:00 a.m.

**Worship Service**  
10:00 a.m.

[www.fbcdunkerton.com](http://www.fbcdunkerton.com)

1/16-12

## 85th Birthday Card Shower

Phyllis Grady of Graettinger, Iowa, formerly of Dunkerton will celebrate her 85th birthday on February 28 2012. She was born on February 28 1927 in Geneseo Iowa. She married Loren Grady, now deceased, on June 19 1949. Phyllis was a Teacher's Aide at Dunkerton Community Schools for many years and is now retired. Her children are Michael and Nancy Grady of Moravia, Richard and Marge Grady of Dunkerton, Cathy and Alan McGregor of Charles City and Cheryl and Don Harris of Graettinger. She has 12 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.



Phyllis will celebrate with a family dinner. There will be a card shower for her birthday. Cards can be sent to Phyllis Grady, P.O. Box 562, Graettinger Iowa 51342.

Phyllis will celebrate with a

## World Day of Prayer at Barclay Presbyterian Church

submitted by Angie Graham

The annual World Day of Prayer will be hosted by the Barclay Presbyterian Church on Friday March 2, 2012 at 1:30 pm. The Dunkerton Methodist church will be in charge of the program. Please join the community churches as we join others around the world in prayer. God answers prayers. All are welcome. Dessert and fellowship to follow the program.

The true secret of giving advice is, after you have honestly given it, to be perfectly indifferent whether it is taken or not and never persist in trying to set people right.

Hannah Whitall Smith

## Books Are Fun

February 15, 2012 Waterloo, IA - The Covenant Medical Center Auxiliary will host a 'Books Are Fun' sale on Tuesday, March 6 from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm and Wednesday, March 7 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Covenant Professional Building located at 2710 St. Francis Drive, Waterloo.

All are welcome. Proceeds will benefit the Covenant Medical Center Auxiliary. A

wide assortment of books, games and gift items will be available for purchase.

The Sartori Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and Covenant Medical Center Auxiliary are two of the largest and most active service organizations in the community. In addition to fundraising, both organizations serve to promote cooperative interest between Wheaton Franciscan Health-care and the community.

## St. John's Lutheran Church Bennington

**Sunday School 8:45 a.m. • Worship 10 a.m.**

February 26: Lutheran Leaders - 4: The Pietists - Spenner and Franke

March 4: ATWCFFADRM...the All-Time-World-Class-Free-for-All-Discussion-of-Religious-Matters... - Any subject relating to the Church/Christian faith and life/ current events you find or choose to bring will be considered...spontaneous/off the cuff/unrehearsed information/discussion of current religious faith and life.

Lenten Services each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. during Lent beginning Ash Wednesday and going up through Holy Week when the services will be on Maundy Thursday at 7:00 and on Good Friday at 7:00.



4110 E Mount Vernon Rd. • 291-6225

e-mail: stjohsbenn@myapplemail.com

web: http://www.stjohsbennington.com

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## Letter to the editor

To the Editor:

I am writing to urge Dunkerton community members to consider hosting an exchange student from Africa this coming school year (2012-2013).

Our organization, the Iowa Resource for International Service (otherwise known as IRIS), is a nonprofit based in Ames, whose mission is to forge global connections by sponsoring the most gifted high school students from Nigeria and Tanzania to come to Iowa for one year. These students live in host families, attend a local high school, and witness firsthand how people of diverse backgrounds come together to make communities like Dunkerton.

Since the program's beginning in 2003, IRIS has brought over 280 students to Iowa on full scholarships provided by the US State Department (the scholarship includes health insurance and a small stipend for the students), and it has selected another group of 38 students to bring this fall—all of which are still anxiously waiting to hear that they will have hosts. These students are the best and the brightest: they go through a rigorous selection process of interviews, exams, and writing exercises. They are as diverse as their continent: they represent a variety

of ethnic groups; they are bilingual or even trilingual; they practice several denominations of Christianity as well as Islam; and they have big dreams for themselves. Being able to come to the US is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for them, and spending a year here opens so many doors for them when they return home. Most importantly, they learn important lessons about cross-cultural communication, leadership, conflict resolution, critical thinking, and ethical decision-making—and those are skills every young person should have.

IRIS's program has shaped a vision of young Africans and Iowans as global citizens connecting and sharing with each other, building bridges across cultures and continents. We hope that members of Dunkerton will share this vision with us and will seriously consider hosting one of IRIS's African exchange students. It is truly an experience to be cherished, and the benefit to hosts, Iowan and African students, and communities is immeasurable. Interested persons should contact Anastasia Morrissey, YES Program Assistant, at 515.292.7103 or anastasia@iris-center.org. Anastasia Morrissey, Ames

# Scambusters

By Scambuster Keith  
Issue #478 February 8, 2012

Urban Legends “Tour” Hits Florida, Georgia and Hawaii  
We’re back on the road this week with our alphabetical, around-the-states tour of urban legends, stopping off in Florida, Georgia and then hopping halfway across the Pacific Ocean to Hawaii.

Urban legends, as a reminder, are stories that usually have a fantastic element that’s almost unbelievable. Yet they persist. And sometimes they’re even true — or at least no one’s quite sure about them.

As author Jan Harold Brunvand says in his urban legends book *Too Good To Be True*: “(I)t’s not really truth or fiction that defines an urban legend.

“As with any folklore — and these stories are definitely part of our modern folklore — the defining qualities are oral repetition and variation.”

## Florida Urban Legends

That’s certainly the case with one of Brunvand’s tales called *The Mexican Pet*, which has a New York couple, vacationing in Florida, who rescue a poor, bedraggled dog while on a boat trip.

Unable to trace the owner, they take it home where it promptly attacks (and eats, in one variation) the family cat. When they take it to the vet, he tells them it’s not a dog but a Haitian rat.

Actually, the original version of this story has the couple buying what they’re told is a Mexican chihuahua, which, again, turns out to be a rat.

As you might expect, there are also lots of urban legends associated with Florida’s number one attraction, Disney World.

These include a claim that Cinderella’s Castle had a secret room for Walt Disney and his family to use during visits, when in fact, the castle was actually built after Disney’s death.

Another secret chamber else-

where in the park is supposed to contain Disney’s cryogenically frozen body, when in reality the entertainment king was actually cremated and his ashes buried in Glendale, California ...at least, as far as we know!

Like most states, Florida also has its own “monster” — or rather, several of them.

There’s the 15-foot rattlesnake supposedly found in Jacksonville, a spider called the Two-Striped Telamonia that emerges from toilet bowls, and a sea creature called The Montauk Monster.

True or not? We’re not saying, but the Miami Sun-Sentinel newspaper has a list, with photos, of 40 supposed Florida monsters, at:

<http://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=OtAeW&m=J1Pxcg.kS-fGtWfo&b=K8b3MNHvW-PhPerv2m2an5Q>

## Georgia Urban Legends

In the state of Georgia, many of the monster-type urban legends relate to wild hogs variously claimed to weigh between 800 and 1,000 lbs. Many of them include supposed photos of the beast that is usually nicknamed Hogzilla. However, there may be an element of truth in some of these stories, which also turn up in Arkansas, because hogs, at least in captivity, have been known to reach this kind of weight.

On the other hand, reports of a massive, state-wide police fundraising campaign through what’s been called a “speeding ticket frenzy” is known to be a hoax.

An email about this campaign has been circulating in the state for the past couple of years.

According to the message, state troopers, patrolling in a new fleet of 30 unmarked cars, have been ordered to pull over a speeding motorist at least every 20 minutes, even if they’re just doing a couple of miles above the limit.

The aim is said to be to raise



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While there’s no doubt that Georgia, like all states, wants to stop speedsters, there are no such targets — either for fundraising or time intervals, and no specially-acquired fleet of unmarked cars.

One of the most geographicaly widespread urban legends, known as Crybaby Bridge, turns up in Georgia.

In this myth, the sound of a crying child is said to come from below a road bridge where there has usually been an accident.

Georgia’s Crybaby Bridge is in Columbus and the storytellers say that if you stop there and put baby powder on the hood of your car, footprints will mysteriously appear.

Learn more about the Crybaby Bridge urban legend story on this fascinating Wikipedia page:

[http://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=OtAeW&m=J1Pxcg.kS-fGtWfo&b=xR0d2U3oC1cn-m1Rq\\_06s\\_g](http://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=OtAeW&m=J1Pxcg.kS-fGtWfo&b=xR0d2U3oC1cn-m1Rq_06s_g)

And you can even do a tour of

supposed Crybaby sites in the state of Ohio. See <http://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=OtAeW&m=J1Pxcg.kS-fGtWfo&b=OQ7J7HBp1ALAxoomNYTK6Q>

## Hawaii Urban Legends

Many of Hawaii’s urban legends are rooted in centuries-old folklore, but there are also a number of more modern creations, though we’ll steer clear of the more politically controversial ones.

We know for sure that a park ranger invented a cunning urban legends story to stop visitors from removing lava rocks as souvenirs from Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

Drawing on an ancient legend that the Hawaiian Goddess of Volcanoes, Pele, lives atop Mt. Kilauea, he spun a tale claiming that anyone who removed lava rocks and took them home would be cursed by the goddess.

Apparently, after the story was published, scores of people

# Scams

Continued from page 7  
mailed back rocks they had taken home.

Here's another one aimed at tourists that common sense tells you can't be true.

We're back to bridges. In this case, the Seven Bridges of Manoa, in Paradise Park, just outside of Honolulu.

According to the legend, if you count the seven bridges as you follow a trail, you'll find only six on your way back!

And finally, Hawaii features in a gruesome and unproven urban legend that also places Dallas, Texas and even Mumbai, India as its location.

The story, which circulates by email, warns visitors about an infected syringe that's either placed on a movie theatre or nightclub seat or in the coin slot of a call box phone.

There's no evidence it ever happened.

From grim to grin-worthy, urban legends continue to fascinate us.

Mostly, they're harmless but some are obviously worrying.

As always, we suggest that when you come across urban legends, especially in an email message, do an Internet search before taking it too seriously — and definitely before passing it on.

Time to conclude for today — have a great week!

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