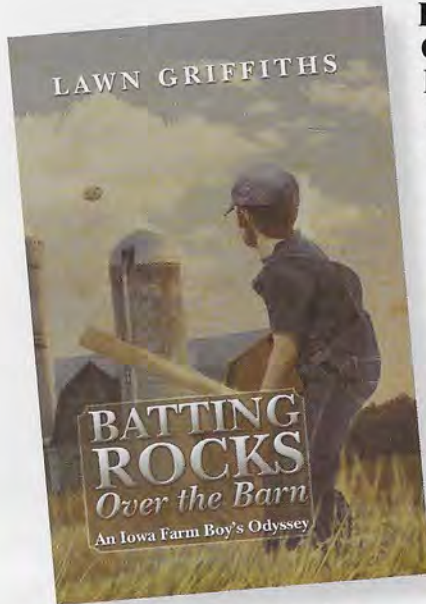


Notable IOWA BOOKS



Batting Rocks Over the Barn, by Lawn Griffiths

The rhythm of rural life during the 1950s and 1960s comes alive through the eyes of a Grundy County boy who grew up to become a newspaper journalist and farm editor. An idle pastime of batting rocks over the barn, experiences in a

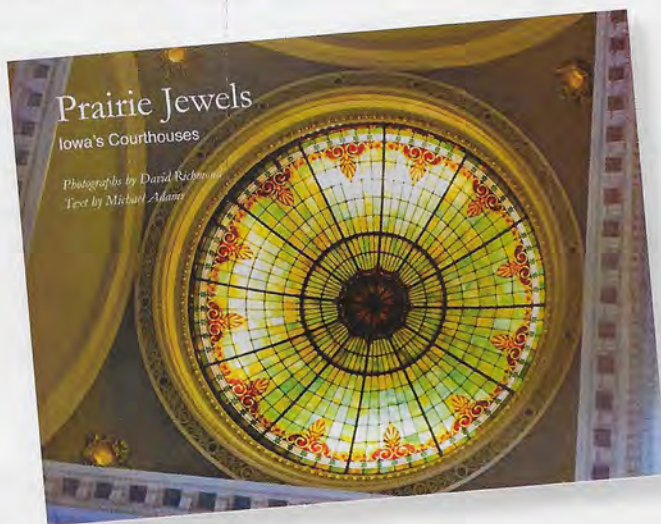
country school and more are told in this eclectic collection of some of Lawn Griffiths' most popular "Rural at Random" weekly farm columns from the Waterloo Courier. Sit back and enjoy this collection of stories of another time on Midwest farms.



Iowa's Record Setting Governor: The Terry Branstad Story, by Mike Chapman

Written in a folksy, down-home style, the life of Terry Branstad, the nation's longest-serving governor, is chronicled from the farm near Leland to the Terrace Hill governor's residence. The book looks

at the forces and people who shaped the governor. It's something of a how-he-did-it manual that will interest Iowa history buffs and younger readers thinking about a political career for themselves.



Prairie Jewels, by David Richmond and Michael Adams

A new book takes a unique look at Iowa's 100 county courthouses. This 207-page book features color panoramic images of and narratives about each of the state's county courthouses. What began as a personal photography project in 2011 soon emerged as a book project after photographer David Richmond approached Michael Adams to provide some written content a year later. The authors traveled separately to all of Iowa's 99 counties and tell the story of all 100 courthouses.



From Newsprint to Footprints, by Elaine Orr

After being fired from her reporter position, Melanie Perkins, panicked at being unemployed, finds a job as a landscaper, but an ugly surprise greets her on her first day. Her efforts to find a murderer instead put a target on her back. Some of the aim is com-

ing from law enforcement, but they aren't the ones who want to permanently silence her. Inspired by life in Van Buren County, this novel takes place along the fictional River's Edge, Iowa, which lies along the Des Moines River. This is the first book in the River's Edge Cozy Mystery Series.