

Students learn about environment

The girls in the after school program in Columbus Junction are learning what impact they make on our earth and how to give back with the "Get Movin'" after school program.

They have learned what a carbon footprint is, and how to reduce theirs. They talked about ways to conserve energy, and listened to a speaker from the Louisa County Conservation Center. The speaker pointed out how important it is for us to keep our planet clean for the animals as well as ourselves and how animals use and save energy!

They had lots of fun making crafts out of recycled items such as beaded necklaces made out of recycled magazines and even making recycled paper! In the next few weeks they will implement a recycling program at their school to reduce the amount of paper their school throws away.

They plan to engage their entire student body in the recycling program.



Large crowd on hand for Cinco de Mayo celebration

By John Carpenter
Gazette Staff

Ideal weather, the aroma of great food and the sounds of exciting entertainment was the order of the day last Sunday in Columbus Junction as Cinco de Mayo was celebrated on Main street.

The event was sponsored by the downtown Latino businesses, and it is hoped that it will become an annual event. For many years an Hispanic Festival was celebrated in town, and this year's event will possibly serve as a prelude to returning the annual celebration.

A stage was erected on the north end of Main Street, and a regular schedule of entertainers performed. There were Mexican bands, dancers, as well as many vocalists.

Vendors were located throughout the downtown area selling food as well as crafts.

Sunny weather brought out a large crowd, and it appeared that all of the attendees enjoyed a great day. Congratulations to the organizers, and hopefully the celebration can become even larger next year.



Farmers' Market enjoys big opening day

The Columbus Junction Farmers Market had a very successful opening day on Friday, May 6. There were nearly a dozen customers lined up for the bell to ring at 4:30 and business was brisk until close at 6:30. Seven vendors were on hand offering spring produce including rhubarb, asparagus and green onions as well as locally grown tomatoes, baked goods, granola, bedding plants, hanging baskets, ice cream sandwiches and craft items. The market is held every Friday from 4:30 to 6:30 at the American Legion parking lot.

Habitat now taking home applications

Louisa County Habitat for Humanity will be taking applications for their next home in Louisa County, which will be built in Morning Sun or Fredonia. Applications should be submitted by May 30. Construction is expected to begin this summer after a family has been designated. To qualify for a Habitat home, the family's income cannot exceed 60% of the median income for Louisa County; they must help with the construction of the home with sweat equity hours; and be able to make a modest, monthly mortgage payment once the home is built. Once constructed, the family will purchase the home with a zero interest mortgage. Monthly mortgage payments, including taxes and insurance, would normally be around \$350 or less. To request an application call President Trish Woepping at 1-800-249-8428 (pin 4352) or 419-868-4240.

Maynyrd's Motorcycle Service open for business

By John Carpenter
Gazette Staff

Last Monday marked the opening of the community's newest business, Maynyrd's Motorcycle Service. The business is owned by Randy Wood, and is located in the former Subway Sandwich location.

The business offers a full line of parts, both new and used, and also has an inventory of motorcycles for sale. The business hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays. The interior of the building has been completely remodeled to include a showroom, parts counter, and service area.

The reopening of this location represents another step in the community's recovery from the flood of 2008. Only one business location now remains unopened.

Randy Wood and his employees invite everyone to stop in and see the facility, and they want to let you know that they are anxious to serve your motorcycle needs.



Briefly -

City Council to meet

The City of Columbus Junction will hold its regular council meeting tonight Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. location will be at the New Civic Center / City Hall.

Potluck at the Manor

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 11th. Mark Moore from Burlington, Iowa, will play the piano at Colonial Manor starting at 11:00, followed by the Noon Potluck. Guests are asked to bring one dish of their choice. Meat, rolls, beverages, and table service will be provided.

Alumni Banquet scheduled

The CCHS Alumni Banquet will take place at Roundy Elementary School on June 11, 2011. Social Hour will begin at 5:30 p.m., and Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The Columbus Junction Presbyterian Women will provide the delicious Banquet meal. Special recognition will be given to the 50-year (1961) class and the 25-year (1986) class. The 40-year and 60-year classes will be recognized also. Tickets are available from Carol Ann Howell at the Community Bank 319-728-2226 and from Sherry Pine at the State Bank 319-728-2436. Tickets are once again the best buy in town at \$10.00. Get your tickets as soon as possible so meal plans can be completed. Contact Temporary Co-Chairman Jerry Bell and Jim Howell with questions.

School Board to meet

You are hereby notified that the Board of Education will meet on Monday, May 16, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. location is the Roundy Elementary School Library, 1212 Colton Street, Columbus Junction.

Pool announces opening date

The Columbus Community Pool will be open on Saturday, May 21, 2011 and close Sunday, August 14, 2011. The admission rates will remain the same as last year. There will be an 'early bird' sign up period for season passes. If a season pass is purchased from May 1st through May 20th, the single season will be \$45 and the family season will be \$95. Columbus Group swimming lessons will also be taught and the price will be \$30 for ten one-hour lessons. Your child must have completed kindergarten to attend.

Celebrate Community Action month

You are invited to celebrate Community Action Month, May 19, 2011 starting at 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. with the Louisa County Community Action, 205 East Access Rd. Suite D, Columbus Junction, Iowa. Refreshments provided. Helping People. Changing Lives.

Conesville School Reunion set

May 28, 2011, is the date set for the Conesville School Reunion to be held at the Conesville Community Center. The reunion is open to anyone wishing to attend. However, you must have reservations. You may get reservations by calling either Fran Morrison at 319-728-2319 or 319-631-0682 or Rose Wagoner at 319-728-2027 and the cost is \$16.00 per plate. The door will open at 11:30 a.m. and a full meal will be served at 12:30 p.m., catered by Kalona Kountry Catering. See you there.

Cruise Night on the Square

The Corn Country Cruisers from Washington, Iowa are conducting Cruise Nights On The Square, (Washington, Iowa) on May 14th, June 11th, July 9th, and Aug 13th. All dates are 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. There will be a 50/50 Drawing at 8:00 p.m. please enter on southwest side of square / no entry fees. For additional information please contact Randy Farrington @ 319-694-5603. The American Legion Post 29 will provide food.

Visual Support Group to meet

The Visual Support Group will meet at the Corner Market (340 N. Main) on the third Thursday of May (May 19th). Randy Landgreib from the Department for the Blind in Des Moines will be there at 1 p.m. He will be showing us how to use BARD, an Internet way to download any book we may want to listen to. For more information contact Lois Richers at 319-527-2630.

Retired School Personnel to meet

The Louisa County Retired School Personnel will meet on Tuesday, May 17th at the Historical Society in Wapello for a potluck luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Please plan to attend, and invite other retirees to come. There will be lots of good food.

Mother/Daughter Tea in Conesville

The Conesville Methodist Women will be having a Mother-Daughter Tea at the Church in Conesville May 19, 2011 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Rosemary Harris, Columbus Junction will be presenting a program entitled, Through the Water; it will tell about Noah's wife and her side of the story. Refreshments will follow the program. Everyone is welcome.

Book Fair at Roundy School

The Spring Scholastic Book Fair is now under way! Book Fair hours are from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., May 9-20 in the Roundy Elementary Library. On May 20th, the Book Fair will close at noon. This book fair is a wonderful way to stock up on books for the summer reading as this is a buy one get one of equal or lesser value for free! A wide variety of books are again offered from cookbooks to preschool and teens in hardcover and paperbacks. It's a great time to stock up for your summer travels, birthday gifts, and private library! Any questions please contact us at 319-728-6218.

Shellbark Club to meet

The Shellbark club will meet Thursday, May 19th at Mi Pablo Real in Mt. Pleasant at 11:30 a.m. please meet at Spring Run Church at 10:45 a.m. to carpool to Mt. Pleasant.

Farmers' Market this Friday

Fridays 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion parking lot May 6th to October 14th. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, homemade noodles, jams and jellies, and plants. Some vendors accept Iowa Farmers Market Nutrition, WIC and Senior Program coupons. Buy fresh and local and taste the difference. For more information, including how to participate as a vendor contact Nitza or Mallory at 319-728-7971.

County Fair dates set

The Louisa County Fair will take place July 24-30, 2011. Kick-off will be Sunday, July 24th. Fair will start on Monday, July 25 ending on Saturday, July 30. Hope to see you at the fair!