

Business is Booming for local Family

By Deb Bean
Gazette Staff

Linda Watson of Columbus Junction has owned and operated L&B Staffing in Columbus Junction since 2001. Her first location was on Hilltop Road running the business from her home. In 2003 she purchased their present location at 301 East Access Road.

L&B Staffing's business has flourished since 2001. Starting with 5 employees they now have well over 100 employees on their payroll, possibly placing them as one of the largest employers in Columbus Junction. Linda's daughter, Jeannene and granddaughter, Danielle helps to run the business through the week. After hours and weekends, Cindy Baker from Fredonia takes the cell phone and does after hour and weekend call coverage.

L&B Staffing employs RN's, LPN's, Certified Med Aides and Certified Nursing Assistants. They send their employees to businesses such as Nursing Homes or Retirement Homes, and they have a contract with Washington County Hospital. They are able to help cover shifts that the businesses need help in filling, 24/7. They have businesses using their services from Columbus Junction, Fairfield, Muscatine, Washington, Montezuma, Keokuk, Burlington and many more places in Iowa.

When Linda purchased the loca-



Pictured above is Jeannene Clark and Danielle Buster working to get Wings of Wellness off to a good start in Columbus Junction while keeping L & B Staffing and New You Fitness running too.

tion they are at now, Linda's daughter, Jeannene began her business, New You Fitness and Tanning at the same location. Which is also thriving.

Now Linda has decided to spread her wings and venture into a new business called "Wings of Wellness" or 'Wow' as it is sometimes called.

Wings of Wellness began in order to give clients the option of choosing a healthcare provider who will meet all of their needs. "We are excited to be able to bring this to our area and in Iowa, we feel that it is worth every effort we've put into this," says Linda.

WOW feels that both quality and quantity of life of their clients are greatly benefited by their ability to stay in their home, or a home-like setting, where everything is familiar to them and they are comfortable. It is their home and their right to enjoy it to the fullest. WOW helps to see that

the clients' wishes are met.

Wings of Wellness is already providing 24/7 care to 3 clients at a private retirement home in Swisher. "It is working really well for the family and we are excited to get it started in more areas," states Linda. Not only are their clients happy to be able to live in their own environment, but their family members are thrilled to be spending quality time with their loved one. "It allows us to take care

of their daily needs and medical needs and takes some of the stress away from the family," says Linda.

If you have a family member that needs hourly, weekly, or monthly (24/7) care then Wings of Wellness would love to be able to provide the care for your loved one.

For more information contact L&B Staffing for employment, client or more information on "Wings of Wellness" at 319-728-6060.

Area School Reunions

Wyman School Reunion and Banquet

The Annual Reunion and get-together for all former Wyman School students and teachers will be held July 12, 2008. The school was started in 1912 when 3 one-room school buildings were moved into town. Classes continued there until the school was closed in 1978. The Reunion and Banquet will be at the United Church of Crawfordsville, doors open at 5:30 P.M.; Banquet and entertainment at 6:30. For more information or to make reservations please call Lorraine Frame at 319-257-3401 or John Wittrig at 319-257-3377.

Winfield-Mt. Union Alumni Banquet

The Winfield-Mt. Union Alumni Association is hosting the 99th annual banquet to be held Saturday, May 24, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. The banquet will be held in the Winfield gymnasium. Tickets are \$10.00 per plate for all alumni and guests for the buffet which will be catered by Pork's Restaurant. Reservations may be made to Frances Lowe, P.O. Box 5, Winfield, IA 52659 (Phone: 319-257-6784), or to Wanda Linder, 606 W. Central Ave., Apt. 9, Winfield, IA 52659 (Phone: 319-257-6724). Deadline for receiving reservations is Saturday, May 10, 2008. The Alumni Association would appreciate an update of any name or address changes. A casual coffee will be hosted by the Winfield Chamber of Commerce in the school lunchroom from 3-6:00 p.m., on the afternoon of May 24th. This is a time for visiting and catching up with old friends.

Letts Alumni Banquet

The Letts High School Alumni Banquet will be held Saturday, May 24, 2008, at the L-M Elementary facility. Social hour will begin at 4:30 p.m. The banquet will be served at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$12.00. The classes of '38, '48, and '58 will be recognized. Reservations need to be made by May 16, 2008. For reservations, you may call Craig (319-726-3142) or Betty (563-263-5291), or email bettylh@machlink.com. Members of honored classes may share a favorite memory.

Grandview School Banquet

The 74th annual Grandview Consolidated School Banquet will be held May 24th, at the Grandview Community Bible Church Friendship Center. Registration will begin at 5:00 and dinner will be served at 6:00. The classes of 1933, 1938, 1948, and 1958 will be honored. All alumni, former students and faculty who were part of the Grandview School through 1959 and their guests are invited. For reservations, contact Betty Jo Rowe, P.O. Box 335, Grandview, IA 52752 (319-729-4291); or Sharon Beik, 12200 130th St., Wapello, IA 52653 (319-729-5331). Please make reservations by May 20. The cost is \$8.00 per person at the door.

Conesville School Reunion

The Conesville School Reunion is scheduled for May 24, 2008, and will be held at the Conesville Community Center. All alumni, teachers, friends, friends of friends and anyone else who has an interest are welcome and urged to attend. Registration is at 12:00 noon and the catered meal will be served at 12:30 p.m. PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE. After the meal, we'll have a short business meeting, reading of correspondence, some sharing and lots of fun. After our scheduled activities, you can stay as long as you like and catch up on the happenings of your old friends. The classes from 1938, 1948 and 1958 will be the honored guests. The class of 1958 is the last class to graduate from the Conesville High School. Reservations may be made by calling Fran Morrison at 319-728-2319 or Rose Wagoner at 319-728-2027. The reservations should be in by May 21, 2008.

Columbus Alumni Banquet

Tickets are now on sale for the Columbus-Cotter-Conesville Alumni Banquet. It will be held on Saturday, June 14th in the Roundy Elementary School. Tickets may be purchased at \$10 per person from Sherry Pine at the State Bank (728-2436) and Carol Howell at the Community Bank (728-2226). Questions about the banquet can be phoned to Jerry Bell (728-2505) or Jim Howell (728-7602).

Briefly -

Hispanic Festival will be at the Fairgrounds this Saturday. Full schedule of events on Page 8

Legion Auxiliary to meet

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet Tuesday evening, May 13, at 7:00 pm. Judy Shear will be the hostess.

CCHS Plant Sale

The Columbus Horticulture Class will be holding their annual vegetable and bedding plant sale, Monday, May 5th-Friday, May 9th from 2:30-5:30 at the high school greenhouse. For questions, call Katie Lewis at 728.2231 x 3621.

Columbus City Clean-up Day

Columbus City Clean-up Day will be on Saturday, May 10, 2008. Have all items at the curbside by 7:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. \$15.00 tag for all appliances and must be attached to all appliances (refrigerators, stoves, freezers, microwaves, humidifiers, dehumidifiers, water heaters and air conditioners.) We will not take tires, batteries, paint/paint cans, hazardous materials, spray cans, wood/demolition materials, garbage/anything in garbage bags or yard waste. Stop at Columbus City Hall on Monday night from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. to purchase tags or call Lisa Hills at 728-2175 after 6:00 p.m. to set up a time to pick up tags. Anyone willing to help with the clean up day please contact Lisa Hills. We will meet at City Hall on Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m.

Empowerment Board to meet

The Des Moines/Louisa County Caring CommUNITY Empowerment Board will be meeting at the Great Prairie Area Education Agency, 3601 West Avenue Rd., Burlington, IA today, Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

Internet Training Class

A free internet training class will be offered to customers of Louisa Communications and Mutual Telephone, to be held Tuesday, May 13 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at Columbus Junction City Hall. There will be three very informing topics covered: Online fraud; ebay - getting started; and digital photography. We ask that you call the office at 319-527-7636 to reserve a spot, or if you have any questions concerning this class.

Conservation District to meet

The Louisa County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners will meet May 8, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. at the NRCS Office in Wapello. Topics on the agenda will be an update on cost share projects and discussion on the 2008 award nominations. For more information please contact the office at 260 Mulberry St. STE 2, Wapello, or phone 523-6411.

Letter Carrier food drive

The National Association of City Letter Carriers will hold their nationwide food drive on Saturday, May 10, 2008. Canned goods may be placed inside a plastic bag, on the front porch of your home, next to the mailbox, and marked "Food Drive." City letter carriers will pick up the sacks while delivering mail on May 10, 2008.

L-M Blood Drive

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center announces that the L-M High School will hold a blood drive on Thursday, May 8th, from 8 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the gymnasium. To donate, call Karlee Koester at 319-726-3421 ext. 135 to sign up. Walk-ins welcome. Donors who last gave blood on or before March 13, 2008, are eligible. Donors must be at least 16 years old, in good health, and weigh at least 110 pounds. A blood donor card or other photo I.D. is required to donate. 16-year-old donors must present a signed parental consent form, available from the Blood Center or for download from www.bloodcenter.org. Controlled high blood pressure and diabetics are acceptable.

Mother-Daughter tea in Conesville

The Conesville United Methodist Women will be having a Mother/Daughter Tea at the Church May 8 at 7 p.m. Jim Scott will be presenting a slide show on wildflowers. Refreshments will follow the program. All are welcome.

Mother-Daughter tea in Letts

The Annual Mother-Daughter Tea Party will be held at the Letts United Methodist Church on Wednesday, May 14th with registration at 6:00. Each family is asked to bring a salad unless contacted to bring something different. Please sign up at the church or call 726-3286, 726-4252 or 726-3641 for reservations or information by May 11. Free will offering.

Postage rates to increase

Postage rates will increase effective Monday, May 12th. The cost to mail a one-ounce letter will increase 1 cent to 42 cents. Postcards will increase one cent to 27 cents. The post office has plenty of Forever Stamps, which can be purchased at the current rate and are good for the 42 cent rate effective May 12th.

Rep. Sands at Senior Center

Tom Sands will be at the Columbus Senior Center, Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 11:00 am. He will be there to answer questions you may have. If you would like to stay for lunch, please call Judy Stirling the day before.

Shellbark Club to meet

Shellbark Club will meet at Janet Pretz's Wednesday, May 14 at 10:45 AM to car pool to the Button Factory in Muscatine at 11:30 AM. Please note the change of day.

Mother's Day Extravaganza at Victory Christian Center

Victory Christian Center, 122 Ninth St, Columbus Junction, will have a "Mother's Day Extravaganza" on Sunday, May 11th at 10:00 a.m. There will be a guest musician, Ric Gorden, and other tributes to our mothers. Please join us and bring your mother to celebrate her very special day.

A Tribute to All Mothers

Happy Mother's Day
Mom's love is the best love
you can have
Mom's heart is full of love
She shares with you
Mom has a cheerful smile,
A friendly word,
A sympathetic nod.
She gives things that can't be
bought with silver or gold.
Mom's love is best.
Thank God for Mothers
By Elizabeth Miller

Louisa County featured in "The Iowan" Magazine

Pick up the May/June 2008 issue of *The Iowan* and you just might recognize a place or a person from the area.

Louisa County, and its "Naturally Louisa County" campaign, is the featured "Community" story for this Outdoors issue.

Freelancer Lori Erickson came to Louisa County late last fall to interview several community proponents of local natural resources and to find out how Louisa County is leveraging its outdoor assets. Louisa County Conservation Board Director Julie Ohde, Louisa Development Group

Director Angie Sanders and Tri Rivers Conservation Foundation Director Mallory Smith served as guides. Other local people were interviewed for the story too.

Circulation for the magazine is almost 21,000, with over 75,000 readers each year. *The Iowan* celebrates the people, communities, history and events that make up Iowa. If you're interested in purchasing a copy, you can call 800-352-8039.

For more information on Naturally Louisa County call 888-894-2932 or log onto www.NaturallyLouisaCounty.com.

New restaurant opens downtown



A new restaurant opened recently on Main Street, Sabor a Mexico. The restaurant is located next to the Gazette Office, and features typical Mexican cuisine. Specialties include carnitas, gorditas, burritos as well as many other items. The restaurant is owned and operated by Juan, Veronica, Oralia and Manuel Espinoza. Business hours are 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays. The Espinoza Family is very happy to join the Columbus Junction business community, and invite you to stop in anytime for lunch or dinner.