

## A combined 55 years of dedication to our youth

By Deb Bean  
Gazette Staff

There are more than 6.8 million youth involved in 4-H programs annually. In our community we are fortunate enough to have a lot of people willing to share their leadership skills and knowledge. This story features a local couple that has gone above and beyond for the kids of our community for a combined total of 55 years volunteering as 4-H Leaders.

Terry and Janice Pugh of Columbus City have lived on a little "mini farm" for 34 years. Raising sheep and seeing the beauty of each new baby lamb born in the spring. From the births to the bottle-fed, the couple have enjoyed this chore together and share their interest of raising sheep and lambs with their 4-H youngsters.

Both Terry and Janice attended Columbus Community High School and were High School sweethearts. They have been married for 37 years. Terry works for John Deere in Washington and Janice works at Roundy Elementary School in their Food Service Program.

Both the Pughs were active in 4-H as kids. Terry had been involved in the Columbus City Wildcats, first as a member, then a junior leader and now their leader for 30 years. "I did get out of it for awhile when my son, Troy joined at age 9. I found myself involved again," says Terry. Janice had been a member of the Conesville Lucky Clovers Club. She became a leader of the Cloverleaf Club with the late, Nancy Brown when Janice's daughter, Tara joined 4-H at the age of 8. "Something unique I think is that I started with Nancy, then her three daughters were members and

now Nancy's daughter, Sara Griffin is my co-leader and her daughter, Kenzie is now a member. And the same with Terry, he had Greg Griffin (Sara's husband) as a member and now he has their son, Mitchell as a member," says Janice. Janice has dedicated 25 years to 4-H and is sad to report that this is her last year. "Even though I'll miss 4-H, I really feel it is time for me to hand it over to younger blood," says Janice. Terry will continue on as a leader and a role model.

Both Pughs say that both their club memberships have had anywhere from 15 to 25 kids in each of their clubs. But both admit that times have changed for 4-H. They recall when 4-H was involved in summer softball leagues and would challenge other clubs and when they would have farm tours and the whole family would go from farm to farm and end the evening with a potluck. Another welcome change was when it used to be just farm kids in 4-H and now town kids are joining. One thing that Terry has done is let the town kids get involved in the raising and showing of lambs for their 4-H project. Devon and Duncan Bell and Brady Milder have had the opportunity to do this thanks to Terry, an opportunity they wouldn't of had without joining 4-H.

Both agree that watching the kids compete during the fairs both local and state made them feel really proud to be involved. "It is always interesting to be at the State Fair and have 'City Folk' ask really weird questions," laughs Janice. Both the Pughs are grateful for all the support that they have received from the parents



of the kids in the clubs. One thing that the couple agree on is that they like to see the kids from their clubs and how they have grown into adults and parents using some of the skills they learned in 4-H.

Living by the 4-H Leaders pledge the Pughs used their **Heads** for a clearer understanding of the children of today. They have encouraged the challenges, opportunities and the kids' needs by giving good sound advice, encouraging responsibility, helping them make good decisions but yet allowing them to make mistakes. They use their **Hearts** and their **Hands** by showing affection while building a trust and allowing flexibility while they directed and guided the children to explore their opportunities to gain independence. Both achieve great satisfaction in the faces of kids they lead and direct. The Pughs have used their **Health** to enable themselves to use the 4-H program to help the kids develop a positive self-image, to set goals by preparing, doing and sharing as well as encouraging the need to serve others.

Both Terry and Janice say that one of the reasons that they became in-

involved in the 4-H program was because their kids joined and became involved. The couple soon learned that its motto, slogan and club stood for one of the most important aspects of a child's life, the biggest smile on the faces of the kids when they receive a ribbon for a job well done!

Janice and Terry are the parents of Troy, who now lives in Fruitland with his wife, Jamie and their two children, Mariah age 7 and Kendal age 3. Their daughter, Tara lives on a farm in Columbus City with her husband, Tom and their children, Taylor age 6, Victoria age 3, and twins, Madeliene and Cael age 1. The couple are hoping their love for sheep carries on to their grandchildren and are thrilled that two of their grandkids, Taylor, with Louie the sheep and Mariah, with, Derby the sheep are going to Louisville, Kentucky to the National Livestock Show.

So as Janice's 4-H career comes to an end and Terry's moves on, you can rest assured that the 4-H motto: "To make the better best" and the 4-H slogan, "Learn by doing." Has been instilled in the lives of the youth that they have touched over the years.

## Ground is broken for new jail



Sheriff Curt Braby, right, leads a crew in the groundbreaking.

In a formal ceremony on Tuesday, April 22, the county took a step forward to replace a jail that has served the area since 1937. Ground was broken on a \$4 million facility which will increase the number of inmates that the county jail can house, as well as provide more efficient facilities for the Sheriff's Department.

The new jail will be built adjacent to the old County Farm approximately three miles north of Wapello. The Sheriff's Department will be located in the existing County Farm Facility, which will allow more room for the department and better com-

munications equipment. A new radio tower has already been installed.

A jail advisory committee had been formed and looked at various options for the new jail. They explored locations near the existing jail, but came to the conclusion that using the County Farm real estate would be the most prudent direction to take.

The funding of the new jail will come from a local option sales tax which was approved by county voters. It is hoped that the jail will be completed within the next year.

The Gazette will keep you updated with construction progress reports.

## LDG hires new executive director

Louisa Development Group (LDG), an economic development and marketing agency serving Louisa County, Iowa, has hired a new executive director.

Elias Gutierrez will start his duties on July 1, 2008. Gutierrez is from Wapello, graduating from Wapello High School in 2001. He attended Coe College in Cedar Rapids and earned a Business Administration degree with a minor in Spanish and an emphasis in Economics. Gutierrez graduated from Coe in 2006.

An employee with Sears Holding Co. since 2003, most recently Gutierrez has been working as an Assistant Store Manager in St. Charles, Illinois. He and his wife, Joann, will be moving to Louisa County from Montgomery, IL. Joann is from Mediapolis.

"I think the biggest incentive was to come back to my community and to give back to the community I got so much from growing up," said Gutierrez. He also said he is excited about LDG's purpose in Louisa County and has been following the organization's progress for some



time now. An accomplished athlete, Gutierrez added that he likes anything that involves working out, which he believes keeps the mind and spirit clean.

Gutierrez will replace Angie Sanders' position with LDG. Sanders is leaving Louisa County to live in Houston, TX. She has been LDG's executive director since July 2007. Her last day is April 30, 2008.

With the two month lapse in directors, interim work will be fulfilled by clerical assistance and Board Members. Gutierrez plans on attending LDG's Annual Dinner in June.

## School Reunions and Banquets

### Wyman 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 school banquet

The Winfield-Mt. Union Alumni Association is hosting the 99<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup>. This is a time for visiting and catching up with old friends.

### Grandview School Banquet

The 74<sup>th</sup> annual Grandview Consolidated School Banquet will be held May 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 130<sup>th</sup> St., Wapello, IA 52653 (319-729-5331). Please make reservations by May 20. The cost is \$8.00 per person at the door.

### Columbus Junction 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 -

### Farewell for Angie Sanders tonight

You are cordially invited to a public send off for Angie Sanders as she leaves Louisa County and the Louisa Development Group. The send off will be today, Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 6-10 pm at the 92 Roadhouse (just west of Columbus Junction on Hwy 92).

### CCHS to hold 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.

### Etude Club to meet

Etude Music Club members will meet at Colonial Manor in Columbus Junction ready to present a short program for the residents starting at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, May 6, 2008. Immediately following, they will go to the home of Jean Weston for the last meeting of the club year. Marsha Gerot will present the lesson on "Music That Moves You." Discussion will also be held to evaluate this year's activities and to gather ideas for the 2008-2009 club year.

### Fundraiser for Frank Best

Best for Statehouse Committee is sponsoring a fundraiser on Friday, May 2, 2008, at the Sombrero Restaurant in Grandview, Iowa, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Please mail payment/donation to BEST FOR STATEHOUSE, P.O. Box 24, Wapello, IA 52653. This confirms a reservation(s)/and a donation. Thank you.

### Habitat tickets still available

Louisa County Habitat for Humanity still has a few seats available for their annual Kane County, Illinois Flea Market trip on Saturday, May 3. The bus will pick up at the Wapello Sale Barn at 7:30 a.m., and the Muscatine Hy-Vee parking lot at 8:00 a.m. The bus will arrive back at Wapello about 10:00 p.m. The cost is \$55 per person. Please contact Ruth Yackle, 110 N. Pine Street, Wapello, IA 52653. Her phone number is 319-523-2381.

### Half Hour Club field trip set

The Half Hour Club will meet Tuesday, May 6, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., at the Senior Center, to go to Davenport. The group will tour Figg Art Museum and lunch at MoJo's. Then the group will go to IMAX and Putnam.

### Run/Walk for Hispanic Festival

Join us on May 3 at 8 am for the Run/Walk. Proceeds to benefit the CJ Hispanic Cultural Festival. Registration form and more information available at [www.CJHispanicFest.org](http://www.CJHispanicFest.org) or call 319-527-5182.

### High School Art Show

Plans for the High School annual art show is underway. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. It will be our pleasure to place the art pieces 2007-2008 into a gallery setting for the public to enjoy. The show will be held in the new art complex. This site will allow the public to see the new facility that the art department has made in the old ag building. May 2 will be the artist reception from 3:30-7:00. The show will be open May 5-9th between 3:30 and 5:00 for the public to attend. There are over 50 artists who are going to be shown.

### 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.

### L-M to hold Blood Drive

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center announces that the L-M High School will hold a blood drive on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://www.bloodcenter.org). Controlled high blood pressure and diabetics are acceptable.

### Postage rates to increase

Postage rates will increase effective Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. 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 12<sup>th</sup>.

### P.E.O. Salad Luncheon

Washington D.C. may claim to be the Cherry Blossom capital during the spring season, but for one spring day, Cherry Blossoms will be blooming in Columbus Junction, thanks to Chapter CX P.E.O. Mark your calendars for the annual P.E.O. Salad Luncheon on Monday, May 5th at the American Legion in Columbus Junction. This event will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and all who come are in for a real treat! Scrumptious salads, mouthwatering ham balls, drinks and desserts are yours for the taking. (Carry-outs are also available.) Tickets are \$6.00 each and can be purchased from any chapter member or from these businesses in Columbus Junction- Feed Wagon, Plants and Things, Special Effects, DrugTown. All proceeds go to the CX P.E.O. Scholarship Fund. Mark your calendars for May 5th. Come see, smell and taste how sweet spring can be. A beautiful and blossoming buffet will be in bloom that day!