

Business district slowly returns to life



G & W Auto Parts



Louisa Veterinary Clinic



CJ Storage

By John Carpenter

Over the last few weeks we have been publishing stories and pictures of the devastation from the flood of 2008. But enough of that. It's time to begin emphasizing the return to normalcy of our business district. It may be a slow process, but it's important to celebrate each business when they are able to return to their original place of business.

My son, Andy, of Carpenter Products, called me yesterday and said that he would like to sponsor a section of the paper that keeps citizens updated on the progress of the various businesses as they recover. Always being willing to sell an ad, I heartily agreed. So for this week we are highlighting G&W Auto Parts, who plan to reopen today, Louisa Veterinary Clinic, who has been operating out of the west side of their building for a couple of weeks now, and CJ Storage, who reopened last week. Congratulations to these businesses for their hard work in getting their operations back to as close to normal as possible.

I am encouraging other businesses to let us know of your progress. You do not need to be opened to be featured, but the community is very interested in your situation, and any possible projected dates of completion. Just give us a call at 728-2413, and let us know how you're doing. Good luck to everyone.

The role of the Community Foundation in Flood Relief

There has never been a time when the people of Louisa County have been more focused on what they can do to help businesses and families impacted by the Flood of 2008, says Paula Buckman, President of the Community Foundation of Louisa County (CFLC).

This is a time when the mission of CFLC - improving the quality of life in Louisa County - becomes very important to all citizens states Ken Purdy, CFLC member and a Louisa County Supervisor.

Everyone interested in learning about the Community Foundation Flood Relief Fund should attend a presentation at the Louisa County Fair on either Thursday, July 24 or Friday, July 25 at 2:00 pm in the Variety Building. CFLC members will give a presentation about the Community Foundation and answer questions about the Flood Relief Fund. These contributed funds will

be used directly in Louisa County to help families and businesses recover and move forward says Buckman.

In addition, the Louisa County Fair Endowment Fund, a permanent endowment established to help support the county fair, which was also impacted by the flood, will be introduced. Many potential contributors want to know more about how endowment funds work and how they can leave a legacy for community betterment.

During the past three years, the CFLC has provided grants to non-profit groups in Louisa County totaling almost \$150,000. These grants provide visual results of community betterment in Louisa County for all to see and hear about at the presentations at the Louisa County Fair. There will be a drawing for Louisa Bucks at each presentation.

Contact: Vivan Jennings, CFLC 319-931-3121 (cell)

Fair to hold appreciation supper for all who helped in Flood of 2008

The Louisa County Fair would like to invite the county to an appreciation supper Wednesday, July 23, 2008 at 5:30 pm in front of the Grandstand to all the volunteers who helped clean-up, preparation, and Sponsors for the Louisa County Fair. Also to those who assisted in and helped in the hours of work in the whole county for the Flood of 2008. From the those who helped sandbag, trucks, loaders, National Guard, fire departments, police departments, ambulance crews, county and city workers. Come and enjoy and take in our celebration of work done in this years 116th Louisa County Fair. New events for this year's fair are Nick's Kid Show having four shows on Tuesday and Wednesday. Skid Steer Rodeo back again this year on Wednesday afternoon. Tuesday night at 6:00 pm will

be battle of teams doing different events such as three legged race and mixing chocolate milk blind folded and then a team member drinking it. Teams are needed with \$100 going to the winning team. Wednesday evening has two new events with Hog Obstacle course at 6:00 pm in the Show Arena and Bingo in the Variety Theater at 6:30 pm with \$500 in CASH PRIZES. Thursday Night will be the ever popular Mutton Busting and Animal Scramble in front of the Grandstand. Friday Night will be Car Races and Saturday we will conclude with the DEMO Derby at 7:00 pm. As always our area youth will compete all week in tradition 4-H and FFA shows and judging along with Floral Hall judging. For more scheduling and event information go to www.louisacountyfair.com.

Preliminary Damage Assessments

WAPELLO, Iowa- Louisa County has submitted the following preliminary damage assessments to FEMA from the flooding disaster.

	Destroyed	Major Affected	Minor Affected	
Oakville				
181 homes, 22 businesses	101	92	11	11
Columbus Junction	4 homes, 26 businesses	15		10
Fredonia				
43 homes, 2 businesses	34	3	0	0
Louisa County				
126 homes	32	23	25	25
Total				
352 homes, 50 businesses	182	128	37	36

These are preliminary damage assessments. There were still a number of structures inaccessible to inspectors at the time.

Electricity returns to parts of Oakville

WAPELLO, Iowa- Alliant Energy has advised Louisa County that the electrical substation has been successfully re-energized and power is flowing in the central part of Oakville. Street lights are now operational. Power will NOT be restored to individual homes or businesses until residents/owners get a licensed electrician to sign off that the structure is safe. Inspection cards are available at the volunteer/assistance tents in Oakville. Alliant Energy is also providing new electric meters free of charge at the Solid Rock Baptist Church in Wapello. ANY meter that was submerged in flood water MUST be replaced.

Louisa County Sheriff Curt Braby is still enforcing an 8:30 pm-7 am curfew. "The power being re-

stored is a positive step to recovery, but there are still not enough resources for people to live in the town. The curfew will stay in effect for the protection of residents and their property," said Braby.

The Environmental Protection Agency is asking residents to report "Orphan Containers", things like scattered tanks, drums, cylinders left behind by flooding. Those items may contain hazardous materials. To report an orphan container call the Iowa Department of Natural Resources hotline at 515-281-8694 for proper disposal.

Louisa County has been declared eligible for FEMA direct housing. Residents can apply for FEMA manufactured housing by calling 1-866-274-4392.

Community Bank to purchase Wapello branch of MidWestOne

Wapello, IA - Muscatine based Community Bank has agreed to purchase the Wapello branch of MidWestOne Bank. Community Bank will assume the branch's \$9.5 million in deposits.

"The opportunity to have a presence in the Wapello area fits with our philosophy and planning. We look forward to providing our customer oriented service and full range of fi-

ancial products to that market," said Gary Todd, Vice Chairman and CEO of Community Bank.

Community Bank is a \$200 million full service financial institution with locations in Muscatine, Columbus Junction and Wilton.

The transaction is pending approval from the Iowa Superintendent of Banking.

Morning Sun man sentenced to 168 months in prison

Davenport, IA - Jason Scott Brown, 31, was sentenced to 168 months imprisonment, having previously pled to conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine and 120 months imprisonment, having previously pled to drug user in possession of a firearm, announced United States Attorney Matthew G. Whitaker. United States District

Judge John A. Jarvey ordered those sentences to run concurrently. Brown was also ordered to serve five years on supervised release following imprisonment on the drug charge, three years of supervised release on the gun charge, to run concurrently, and to pay an assessment of \$200 to the Crime Victim Fund.

This case involved a conspiracy

that began on or about January 2002 until on or about September 20, 2007. During the conspiracy, Brown initially got involved in the manufacture of methamphetamine by supplying pseudoephedrine pills and other precursors to methamphetamine manufacturers. Brown then learned how to manufacture and did so numerous times on his property located in

Morning Sun, Iowa. Two search warrants were executed at Brown's property at which time officers recovered numerous items used to manufacture methamphetamine. During one of the search warrants, officers recovered four guns inside Brown's residence. At the time of this search warrant, Brown was a drug user and addicted to methamphetamine.

Briefly -

G&W Auto Parts now open

G&W Auto Parts, located on Walnut Street in Columbus Junction is now open for business and back to their normal hours since closing due to the flood.

C.C.I.C. to meet

C.C.I.C. will meet July 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Columbus City Hall. Ron and Lucille will be hostesses.

CCHS class of 1988 plans reunion

The Class of 1988 is planning their 20-year reunion for Columbus Day, October 11, 2008. We would like to contact as many classmates as possible. Anyone with knowledge of regular and/or e-mail addresses please contact Shari (Cecil) Vonnahme at 728-2403 or swolfe11@hotmail.com or Sarah (Prior) Davis at 319-254-1111 or tsdavis@farmtel.net.

Medical Clinic at Roundy School

The Columbus Medical Clinic is temporarily at Roundy Elementary School in the front office. The phone number is the same 728-2429.

Floral Hall in need of volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help in Floral Hall during the Louisa County Fair, July 22-25, 2008. Anyone interested in helping is ask to call Susan Pretz at (319)728-2329.

Democrats to hold open house

WAPELLO, Iowa - Louisa County Democrats will hold an open house from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 19, at Democratic Headquarters, 323 N. Second St., Wapello. The public is urged to enjoy Chief Wapello Days and visit with the candidates during the open house. Refreshments will be served.

Solid Waste Agency to meet

The Louisa Regional Solid Waste Agency will hold its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, July 22, 2008 at 7:00 PM in the Supervisor's office at the Louisa County Courthouse. The public is invited to attend.

Habitat to hold pork chop dinner

The Louisa County Habitat for Humanity is holding their pork chop dinner Tuesday, July 22 at the Variety Theatre at the Louisa County Fairgrounds from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

School Board to meet

The Board of Education for the Columbus Community School District will hold a meeting on Monday, July 21, 2008, at 6:30 p.m., at the Roundy Elementary School Library.

Soil Commissioners terms to expire

Four of the five Louisa County Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioner positions will be on the November ballot. Current terms are expiring for Mary Boysen, Michelle Rees, Sam Willson and a 2-year term for Chris Ball.

CCHS class of 1993 to hold reunion

The CCHS Class of 1993 will be celebrating their 15-year reunion on August 16th in Columbus Junction. If you are a classmate or a friend/relative of a 1993 graduate, please contact Jennifer (Eutsler) Buchanan at classof1993cchs@yahoo.com or 507-388-4332. We would like to contact as many classmates as possible to join us in celebrating the upcoming reunion.

Library to celebrate 60th Anniversary

The Columbus Junction Public Library will observe its 60th Anniversary with an Open House Thursday, July 17 from 3-6 P.M. Please join the Staff, Board, and Friends of the Library to celebrate this milestone.

Wapello Class of 2003 to hold reunion

Wapello High School Class of 2003 is having their 5-year class reunion on Friday, July 18th, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. The reunion will be located at 630 N. Cedar St. in Wapello. Just BYOB and a munchie to share! Donations will be taken to start a class bank account. Contact Megan Foor at meganfoor@hotmail.com with any questions.

Dr. Wever in Iowa Telecom building

Dr. William Wever, D.D.S. and staff have returned to Columbus Junction and have set up office at 326 Hilltop Road (the old Iowa Telecom building). Any questions or to schedule an appointment, call (319)728-8100.

NAMI Henry County to meet

NAMI Henry County will meet at the First United Methodist Church in Mt. Pleasant on July 17, 2008. The support group will meet at 6 PM and the meeting will begin at 7 PM. Mary Steele from CHAMPS at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics will be speaking at the meeting. She will speak on the topic of exercise and mental health. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Congregate Meals location

Columbus City, Iowa, has generously offered the use of their City Hall at 2703 Columbus Street as a temporary location for our Senior Meal Program. This nutritionally balanced midday meal is for persons age 60 or older and will be served at 12 noon beginning July 7, 2008. Contributions are accepted from age eligible seniors. All others must pay the full posted cost of \$8.45. The "suggested" contribution range for meals consumed by elders is \$3.50-\$8.45. A 24-hour advance reservation is required and can be made by calling Barbara Spurling at 728-2412 no later than 12:30 p.m., on the day prior to the day you wish to eat. For Monday service, the deadline is 12:30 p.m., on the Friday before.

Community Club to meet

The Community Club will meet this Thursday at Noon at the Civic Center.