

## Local Couple inducted into 4-H Hall of Fame

Terry and Janice Pugh of Louisa County will be inducted into the 2008 Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame during a ceremony at the 4-H Exhibit Building at the Iowa State Fair on Sunday, Aug. 17. Eighty-two Iowa counties are participating this year and have selected inductees for their outstanding service and dedication to 4-H. Inductees or their surviving family members will be presented a plaque by the Iowa 4-H Foundation as they are introduced on stage.

As 30 and 25 year 4-H club leaders, Terry and Janice Pugh have touched the lives of many Columbus Junction area youth, always striving to guide their club members to "make the best better" and learn life lessons in a fun and positive environment. From raising animals to running meetings to goal setting, the Pughs have taught their members, both past and present, in a hands-on kind of way, to "learn by doing".

Counties select inductees for

their exceptional work in contributing to the lives of 4-H members and the overall 4-H program. Many inductees served as club leaders, youth mentors, fair superintendents or fair board members, Extension council members, county youth council members, fair judges, financial supporters, chaperones, or Iowa State University (ISU) Extension staff members. The inductees have demonstrated dedication, encouragement, commitment and guidance to Iowa's 4-H'ers through the years.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the counties and state to recognize and celebrate 4-H volunteers and staff who have shown outstanding service and dedication to Iowa's 4-H program," said Chuck Morris, ISU Extension 4-H Youth Development director.

The Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame was initiated in 2002 to help commemorate the 100th anniversary of 4-H.



4-H Hall of Fame inductees, Terry and Janice Pugh

## Columbus United Fund raises money for Flood Recovery

The June flood waters created a commercial crisis for Columbus Junction and in typical small town form current and former residents as well as other supporters are stepping up to help their friends and neighbors through this difficult time. Nearly \$6,000 has been collected by United Fund of Columbus Junction in a special Flood Relief Fund. Donations have come from seven states and as far away as Delaware and California. The money will be used to facilitate the recovery in ways not addressed or completely financed by FEMA, SBA, Red Cross and other disaster agencies.

A few weeks ago the commercial area of Columbus Junction, located between downtown and the Iowa River, was completely underwater. Now this area that houses more than two-dozen businesses is beginning to show signs of life. Some businesses like Dollar General, the auto parts store and Louisa Veterinary Clinic have already reopened; others like the pharmacy and clinics are in temporary locations while their sites are cleaned and remodeled. Casey's, the city's only gas station, is taking this opportunity to expand. City organizers are trying to help businesses to spread the word that they are open for business. The clean up, remodeling and marketing all require money forcing businesses and the City to spend more just when income is limited. "Everyone has to keep moving forward and investing for things to get back to normal," commented Mallory Smith, the city's community development director.

Support from the federal government for businesses and non-profits damaged by floods comes in the form of loans from the Small Business Administration (SBA). Many business owners express hesitation at taking on additional debt at this time.

The governor's office, with the help of the Rebuild Iowa Commission, is in the process of developing a flood recovery plan. Meanwhile business owners, residents and community leaders in Columbus Junction are anxious for things to get back to normal and are hoping to catalyze the process. United Fund hopes to fund some collective marketing efforts as well as to provide small forgivable loans to relieve some of the financial strain on business owners. "People trust United Fund as a way to help people help themselves; the Flood Relief Fund focuses that energy on our business community which is so important to all of us," explains Phil Kaalberg, United Fund President.

United Fund of Columbus Junction has worked for nearly 50 years to help fund activities and projects that make our community a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family. Each year funds are collected through payroll deductions as well as business and person donations; the money is pooled and disbursed to area service agencies to help meet the operating costs. The mission of the organizations is "to serve Columbus Junction area residents and businesses by facilitating financial support for organizations that build a stronger community and improve lives." Board members feel that addressing flood relief as a special focus falls within that mission.

Those interested in contributing to United Fund can send contributions to United Fund of Columbus Junction, PO Box 263, Columbus Junction, IA 52738. Please indicate "Flood Relief" on the check. For more information about United Fund of Columbus Junction please visit [www.columbusjunctioniowa.org](http://www.columbusjunctioniowa.org), e m a i l [cdc@columbusjunctioniowa.org](mailto:cdc@columbusjunctioniowa.org) or call 319-728-7971.

## Self-Contained units allowed back in Oakville - Lockdown lifted

WAPELLO, Iowa- Oakville Mayor Benita Grooms announced last week that residents with self-contained living units may return to their property in Oakville and will no longer be required to leave at night.

Oakville residents, most who evacuated their homes on June 14<sup>th</sup>, are being allowed back to spend the night if they have self-contained living space with power, water and sewer. "Campers, motor homes and some other mobiles can be moved onto residents' private property," said Grooms. "This will help many people speed up the process of clean up and rebuild and will save them

time and money," she added. Electricity and gas from Oakville provider Alliant Energy is on in most parts of town and being hooked up to homes one-by-one.

City water is available and can be hooked up as each home is inspected to make certain there is no damage to water lines, although water is not potable at this time.

Work on the city sewer system is not complete.

All residents are reminded that demolition on property for which they intend to apply for a buy-out must be properly documented as unsafe and be approved for demolition by the proper authorities.

## Community Foundation seeks grant applications for flood relief

Wapello, Iowa - The Community Foundation of Louisa County is working to assist victims of the 2008 flood by making grants to respond to the immediate, intermediate and long-term unmet needs in Louisa County, declared a federal disaster area. Funding opportunities are available to organizations that: Provide direct programs of assistance; nonprofits, and community and religious organizations may apply as well as for-profit organizations engaged in charitable activities; Nonprofit organizations directly affected by the disaster i.e. loss of space, damage to facility, etc.

Grants must be used for the purpose of victim relief, immediate capacity building programs, mid to long-term recovery efforts, or long-term development planning initiatives. The Community Foundation will partner with the 2008 Disaster Advisory Committee, composed of

community members and leaders, broadly representing Louisa to award grants where the needs are greatest. Grant applications should be received by August 18, 2008 to be considered for the first granting period. Applications can be found on line or by contacting one of the following:

On-line:  
[www.cfgrb.org](http://www.cfgrb.org)  
[www.louisadevelopmentgroup.org/CFLC/cflc](http://www.louisadevelopmentgroup.org/CFLC/cflc)  
By email or phone:  
Elias Guterrez at [ldg@louisacomm.net](mailto:ldg@louisacomm.net) or 319-527-5182

Paula Buckman at [pbuckman@louisacomm.net](mailto:pbuckman@louisacomm.net) or 319-868-4240

Grants will be distributed on a monthly basis as additional funding from gifts to the Community Foundation's 2008 Flood Relief and Recovery Fund and from the statewide Embrace Iowa - 2008 Iowa Disaster Fund are received. Donations to the Foundation's fund are welcomed.

The Community Foundation of Louisa County is affiliated with the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend, Bettendorf, Iowa.

## Area experiences bagworm problems



A typical bagworm

As you drive around the community you may notice a number of evergreen trees and bushes with dead areas. This is the result of an influx of bagworms. They begin as small caterpillars and hatch in the early summer. They construct a bag around themselves using plant parts.

The worms leave the bags at night and feed on the needles of various evergreen trees and shrubs. The best way to control them is to pick the bags off the plants and place them in soapy water. Do not put them on the ground as the worms will crawl back to the tree. If the bags are too high to pick, commercial sprays are available.

If they are not dealt with, it is possible to lose your trees or shrubs if the worms are not controlled soon enough. Contact the Extension Office for more information.

## Briefly -

### CCUMC Sweet Corn Supper

Mark your calendars! August 16th CC UMC will be having a sweet corn supper at the Columbus City Masonic Lodge from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. The menu will be sweet corn, sandwich, chips, dessert and drink. Free will offering. Bring your friends, family and neighbors and enjoy good food and fellowship.

### City Council to meet tonight

The City of Columbus Junction will hold a regular Council meeting today, Wednesday, August 13, 2008, at 5:30 p.m. at the New Civic Center/City Hall.

### 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](mailto:swolfe11@hotmail.com) or Sarah (Prior) Davis at 319-254-1111 or [tsdavis@farmtel.net](mailto:tsdavis@farmtel.net).

### Swimming Pool to close on Sunday

The Columbus Community Swimming Pool will close for the season on Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Since school is in session Friday, August 15, the pool will open that day at 3:00 p.m. instead of the usual 1:00 p.m.

### New location for Community Action

Due to the flooding, the Southeast Iowa Community Action's temporary location is at: 2602 Market Street, Columbus City, IA 52737.

### New Coffee Break hours at Hope Bible Church

Since the flood destroyed the café in the Econ-O-Mart, Hope Bible Church has been inviting people of the community to use their basement for coffee breaks during the rebuilding efforts at Econ-O-Mart. So far, the Monday through Friday meetings have attracted about five people each morning. The original hours of this "coffee break" were 7:00 am to 10:00 am each weekday, but rarely has anyone arrived before 8:00 am. So, effective immediately, the open hours will be from 8:00 am to 10:00 am Monday through Friday. There is still no charge for the coffee, but free-will donations are welcome to help buy more coffee, tea, creamer, and sugar. Pastor Jim Braden hopes more people will take advantage of this opportunity to have a quiet, safe place to meet and socialize in the interim.

### Louisa County Tractor Ride set

The fourth annual Louisa County Tractor Ride will begin at Grandview corners near the All Veterans Memorial at 9 a.m. Sunday, August 24. The route begins through Whisky Hollow and Burlington Road with lunch served by the Louisa County Cattlemen Association at Elder Implement in Muscatine. The entire route is about 41-miles. All riders must be on a buddy seat. Everyone will be required to sign a waiver. Contact Lee Harris at 319-868-7872 with questions.

### Soil Commissioners' terms to expire

Four of the five Louisa County Soil and 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 plans 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](mailto: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.

## CJ Lions help Colonel's Kids return to Center



Col. Jct. Lions Club members - Ron Baird, Bill Garrett, Kris Johnston, Earlene Lekwa and her granddaughter, Jobie Lekwa, and Lamoyne Buser - helped the staff from Colonel's Kids move back into their refurbished childcare center. They hope to be open by the start of school, August 15. Submitted photo.