



Your Award Winning Hometown Newspaper

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## Plan to visit the Wapello Market Place



Crystal Schreurs

By John Carpenter  
Gazette Staff

Crystal Schreurs had Kiwanis Club members thinking spring and going shopping when she spoke to the group at Hardin's Corner Market. Crystal is the manager of the Wapello Market Place, once known as the Wapello Flea Market. "We plan to open in April," she said, "and I'm expecting this year to set new records for attendance and for vendor participation."

"What can you buy at the Wapello Market Place?" asked a Kiwanis member. "What can't you buy there," replied Crystal. "Antiques, craft items, tools, fresh farm produce, food; you name it and it's probably there. In addition to 'stuff' for sale, we try to have special at-



Even though an early March snow storm was happening when this photo was taken, plans are underway for an April 21st opening of the Wapello Market Place

tractions for adults and kids. For example, last October we featured a massage therapist, a pumpkin painting station, a haunted Tunnel of Terror, and a small petting zoo"

Crystal talked about the history of the Market Place, which served as a sale barn for many years. "When Kent Wollenhaupt bought the place

two years ago I'm not sure that he knew what he was going to do with it," Crystal noted. "Now it's a business featuring 50 to 100 vendors who draw up to 2,000 visitors once each month from April through October."

The Market Place is set to open on April 21st, and if there's anything you might need or want, it's a pretty

good bet that you'll be able to find it there.

The Market Place is another example of the ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit that is right here in Louisa County, and is what makes our County an attractive place for people to live, work and visit.

## Are you ready for a Parade?

Put your green on and get your walking shoes ready for this year's Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Columbus Junction.

The Parade is set for Thursday, March 15th, with line up beginning anytime you want, with the parade to start sharply when the State Bank's clock strikes 4:30 p.m.

As in the past, the American Flag will lead the parade on a southerly route through downtown Columbus Junction and proceed to the viaduct.

At that point you will have the option to continue on south, go to

your car, or make a stop in Rumors and Excuses where Fred and Mary will have green beer and possibly Mulligan Stew on hand (I might make a stop there myself to sample some of the stew, and possibly a couple of green beers myself.)

In the event that you become confused as to the parade route, we will again mark the street with a green line so we have no missing persons during the parade. However, traditional St. Patrick's Day parades can go in several directions, so if you'd rather not follow the green line, that will be

fine. Find your own route to the tavern if you prefer, we'll all meet there anyway.

Remember, to be in a St. Patrick's Day Parade you either need to be Irish, wish you were Irish, or know someone who is Irish. And as I said in an earlier column, we have remodeled our bathroom in the Gazette Office, so we are also planning an open house for the room. Feel free to stop in and admire the room, and also if the need arises, feel free to use it. It's our way of saying thanks to all of our readers.



## Happenings at Colonial Manor and Colonial Estates



Pictured at left, Colonial Manor residents and Colonial Estates tenants celebrated Dr. Seuss' 108th birthday on March 2nd. Two favorite books were read aloud by Lucille Solomon and Ruth Buser. Did you know Dr. Seuss expected to finish *The Cat in the Hat* book in a week or so? It actually took him a year and a half! So, as Dr. Seuss said, "That is that." And then he was gone with a tip of his hat. Submitted photo. Pictured at right are Colonial Estates residents enjoying having their fingernails worked on by local high school students.



## Will your child be ready for Kindergarten next year

Will your child be old enough to attend school at Roundy Elementary, Columbus Junction, Iowa this Fall? Roundy Elementary is preparing for Kindergarten—if your child was born before September 15, 2007 and is not currently enrolled in the Columbus Preschool Program, KFC Preschool, or the Great Beginnings Preschool Program, please call the school at 728-6218.

¿Usted cree que su hijo/a tendrá la edad necesaria para empezar el Kindergarten en el Otoño del 2012? ¿Tendrá su hijo/a la edad necesaria para asistir a la Escuela Primaria Roundy en Columbus Junction, IA este otoño? La Escuela Primaria Roundy se está preparando para Kindergarten—Si su niño/a nació antes del 15 de Septiembre del 2007 y no está inscrito actualmente en el

Programa de Preescolar de Columbus, el Programa Preescolar de KFC, o en el Programa Preescolar Great Beginnings, por favor llame a la escuela al 728-6218.

A tu kum 2012, sianginn kaithan tik ah nan fa le kindergarten kai ding an um ma?

Roundy Elementary sianginn, Columbus Junction, IA, ah a tu kum nan fa le sianginn kai ding in a kum a

ting mi an um lai maw? Kindergarten sianggakchia tamdeuh lak dingin Roundy sianginn nih timh tuah nak a ngei, cu hna cu September 15, 2007, hlan I a chuak mi, a si lo le a tu lio I KFC preschool a si lo le Great Beginnings Preschool a si lo le Columbus preschool i a kai lio mi an si lai. Thawngpang tam deuh theih na duh ah cun hi phone ah hin rak hal hawh a si 728-6218.

do their jobs," said Loeb sack. "This funding will assist the Lets Fire Department in responding more quickly and safely to emergencies and benefit the entire community."

The AFG program allows our first responders to purchase firefighting equipment, implement

wellness programs that focus on health, and improve facilities. Funds can be used for a myriad of needs, including new protective equipment, health and safety modifications to stations and training for emergency personnel.

## Letts Fire Department receives grant

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Dave Loebsack today announced that the Letts Fire Department will receive a total of \$343,153 in funding from the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to

Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program.

"Our firefighters and first responders bravely serve our communities each and every day and it is imperative that we make sure they have the proper training and equipment to

## Briefly -

### Legion Fish Fry

The American Legion will be holding a fish and chicken fry on Saturday, March 10th at the American Legion Building. Serving will be from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. A 50/50 drawing will be held along with other raffles. The cost is \$8.00.

### Legion Auxiliary to meet

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet on Tuesday, March 13th at 7 p.m. at the home of Kathleen Sands.

### Sunday dinner at CJUM Church

A Sunday dinner after church will be held on March 18, 2012. Serving begins at 11:45 a.m. in the United Methodist Church in Columbus Junction. The menu is: Meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, relish, dessert and drinks. Everyone is invited. A free will offering will be accepted. Please plan to attend.

### Class of 1982 plans reunion

Attention Columbus Class of 1982: It's time for our 30-year class reunion. We need to get addresses for all classmates. Parents: If you can help out, call Deb at 319-750-2636 or email me at cpmc\_jp@yahoo.com.

### Alumni Banquet scheduled

The Columbus area Alumni Banquet will take place at Roundy Elementary School on June 9, 2012. Social Hour will begin at 5:30 p.m., and Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Special recognition will be given to the 50-year (1962) class and the 25-year (1987) class. Put the date on your calendar now!

### Cookies and Kids Food Drive

Cookie-N-Kids is sponsoring a food drive benefiting the CAP office on Saturday, March 10. Non-perishable food items and toiletries would be appreciated. Items the program is running low on include: Meat, toilet paper, laundry soap, cereal, pasta, and dinner in a box (like Hamburger Helper). Items can't be opened. Donations can be dropped off at: the Senior Center any day they are serving meals from 10 am-2 pm, the Northwestern Mutual office any day during business hours, or the 10th from 9am-12noon at the Senior Center. There will also be kids at Econ-O-Mart from 9-12 if someone wants to make a donation after checking out. If someone has items they want to donate that need to be picked up that Saturday, they need to call Mike Jay at 319-530-6775.

### Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Columbus Junction Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2012. The Hunt will begin at 1 pm on the White House lawn – Columbus Community School's Administrative Office on Colton Street. Come join Lisa Exline - coordinator, for a great time and meet the Easter Bunny. Friends of the Library will be there reading Peter Rabbit! Call 728-7972 or 319-750-0801 if you have any questions.

### Grandview/Letts Lions Blood Drive

The Grandview/Letts Lions Club is sponsoring a blood drive on Thursday, March 15, 2012, from 1-6 p.m. at the Letts Library/Community Building. To donate, contact Marvin or Margaret Thomas at 319-726-3286 or email them at: [mmthomas@iowatelecom.net](mailto:mmthomas@iowatelecom.net). Please eat before donating and bring photo ID. The last date to donate elsewhere was January 19, 2012.

### Half Hour Club to meet

The Half Hour Club will meet Tuesday, March 13, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Rose Wagoner with Arlene Buckman as co-hostess. The program will be the Beautification of Columbus Junction by Anita Braden. Roll call: An Iowa City.

### Amateur Radio Club to meet

The Muscatine Amateur Radio Club will meet Monday, March 12, at 7:00 pm in the upper-level conference room at the Musser Public Library, 304 Iowa Avenue in Muscatine. All amateur radio operators, and those interested in learning more about amateur radio, are invited to attend. For more information, visit [muscatinehams.org](http://muscatinehams.org).

### P.E.O. to meet

Chapter CX will meet on Monday, March 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Linda Pierce with Sherry Humphreys as the co-host. The program will be election and installation of officers. The chapter will also meet on Monday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Bev Nielsen with Ruth Buser at the co-host.

### Port City Coin Club to meet

The PORT CITY COIN CLUB of Muscatine will hold its annual coin show on March 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Clarion Hotel, junction of Highways 61 and 38 North in Muscatine. Dealers from Iowa and Illinois will buy, sell or trade U.S. and foreign coins and currency. Admission is free and open to the public. A raffle for a \$5 U.S. gold Indian Head coin and free hourly door prizes are a part of the show. Also, free numismatic literature will be available. More information is available at 563-264-8148.

### School Board to meet

The Board of Education for the Columbus Community School District will hold a Special Meeting/Budget Workshop II on Monday, March 12, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Roundy Library.

### Shellbark Club to meet

Shellbark Club will meet Thursday, March 15 at 11:30 a.m. at Max's in Conesville. Please meet at Janet Pretz's house at 11 a.m. to car pool.

### Washington Conservation Board to meet at Marr Park

The Washington County Conservation Board will hold its monthly meeting on March 14, 2012 at the Conservation Education Center at Marr Park. The meeting will begin at 4:30 pm.