



Your Award Winning Hometown Newspaper

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CJ Tire and Service now open for business

By Mary Masonholder Wilson

A new business in the area is 'CJ Tire and Service', located at 215 Highview Drive, Columbus Junction, IA. However, most of the 'locals' would say it is located in Toddtown. It is owned and operated by one of our own, Kurt Burmeister.

Kurt grew up in Columbus Junction and went to school at Columbus Community. He knows the people and the area well.

Burmeister has run a business in Wapello called "Kurt's Garage" at 220 Franklin St. for four years. There he does complete automotive needs, and he still continues to run this business.

However, last summer some farmers and other people asked him if he would open a shop in Columbus Junction. There was a need for semi and tractor tire repairs. Burmeister thought it over and decided to do just that.

His next step was to look for property. He wanted something on Highway 92, but when nothing there came up, he found the Toddtown location and is very happy with it. When asked, "How is business?" he responds, "It has been very good."

This building had been a tire business before, but that business was very small and the space had become run down. Burmeister cleaned up the area and the building, raised the ceilings 3 more feet, put in three new doors and another



bat, added on to the office space, and put in new walls. Now, it is a very clean, modern building and has an office that is very appealing. Customer waiting-room space and seating is available. Burmeister said his motto is, "I want my business to reflect the kind of work I do."

Even though Burmeister started his business to answer the need for

semi and tractor tires, he stresses that he meets all automotive needs as far as repairs, tune-ups, oil changes, batteries, brakes, etc. He says, "I can fix cars and trucks, auger wagons, 4-wheelers, mopeds, and auger carts—pretty much anything. We also have computer diagnostics."

His business also includes a service truck so he can go to farms to

work or do roadside emergency semi tires. His staff includes an assistant, Bruce Swailes, and an office manager, Carrie Rigdon.

Kurt Burmeister is happy to have a business in his hometown of Columbus Junction while he also maintains his Wapello business. Columbus Junction wishes him well in his new endeavor.

Cheryl Todd set to retire after 45 years of service to the CJSB

After 45 years of service with the Columbus Junction State Bank, Cheryl Todd is now set to pursue her passion, flowers and gardening.

Cheryl graduated from high school in May of 1968 and began working for the State Bank in July of 1968.

Cheryl began her duties in bookkeeping, and she recalls that everything was done by hand. She even remembered that the bank printed their own checks, and she made metal plates that were then run through a machine that printed the customer's name and address to create check books. Cheryl also ran the proof machine and the posting machine.

Cheryl also was the back-up secretary for Lee Huston covering for vacations.

Cheryl then moved to the drive-up window, where she has continued to work.

"I've seen a lot of changes over the years," said Cheryl, "but I have made so many friends that I met during my service in the drive-in win-



dow. I'll miss everyone of them."

Cheryl's time will now be busy with watching her grandkids grow, and she wants to become very involved with the Master Gardener program.

Cheryl will be missed by the business community. Congratulations for all of all years of service.

A discussion on the Lawrence Herrick presentation

As we have announced for the past few weeks, we are about to have an opportunity to learn about the hardships and tragedies that were endured during the Second World War.

This Saturday, Daniel Sellier from France, who witnessed the horrors of this war, will come to Letts. Mr. Sellier will give a presentation on the effects that this war had on all of the people of France. The presentation will be based on the story of Lawrence Herrick, however there is still more to this story.

As you recall, Mary Masonholder Wilson has published a wonderful series of articles on Major Herrick, but this is the story of all of those who were a part of that war. Many people have told Mary how much they have enjoyed the stories, and then related a story to her about someone in their family that lost a relative in the war.

Folks, this story may be about Major Herrick, but it also reminds me of my dad and my uncles who served during the war. Over the years I have gained a great respect for everyone who served during World War II, not only the American military, but the individuals from foreign lands who lived throughout this ordeal, and fought to make their homes free.

Mary's story is something that we all can be proud of, and should give all of us a reason to be proud to be Americans, as well as to be proud of the service that all of our veterans have given.

So hopefully, this presentation will help to honor not only the ordeals that Major Herrick undertook, but to honor all that made the sacrifices that were made. Our world would have certainly been considerably different without their bravery and determination.

The presentation is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th, and it will be a opportunity to relive the past through the eyes of those that witnessed it.

Marilyn Forbes returns to the Columbus Junction State Bank

A long time bank employee is returning to the bank where she started her career.

Marilyn Forbes recently began working with the Columbus Junction State Bank after a 16 years absence.

Marilyn first began her career at the State Bank as a receptionist. She then moved to the Lone Tree Bank in 1997, where she held a variety of positions

Last week Marilyn decided to come back to the State Bank where she is now working in the bookkeeping department.

We're glad to have you back in the business community, Marilyn. You will certainly be a valuable asset in town.



Governor and Lt. Governor to be featured speakers at "Celebrate Louisa Banquet"

LOUISA COUNTY—Governor Terry Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds will be the featured speakers at a "Celebrate Louisa Banquet." The banquet will be held Thursday, May 2, at the Morning Sun Community Center. There will be a social half hour from 5:30 to 6:00 followed by the annual dinner. Governor Branstad will be awarding Guinness World Record certificates to the team of Louisa County youths that set a world bounce house record at the 2012 Louisa County Fair. World record team members included: Brandon Bieri, Collin Bieri, Jessica Breon, Trey Kauffman, Geneva Knutson, Christine Milder, Logan Osborn, and Mitchell Roush. Tickets for the fete are \$25.00 and will be available from LDG board members and at various locations throughout Louisa County starting next week. Sponsorships are also available for \$200.00, which includes two tickets to the dinner, recognition in the program and from the podium at the annual dinner. For more information please contact, Dennis Fraise 319-753-0690, djfraise@gmail.com.

Briefly -

Shooting Stars soup supper

The Shooting Stars 4-H Club will be hosting a FREE soup supper for the congregation of the Pleasant Grove Community Church on Sunday, April 14, 2013 at 6 p.m. The group will serve chili and potato soups, relish, crackers and desserts with drinks as part of their service project. Congregation members and family members of the Shooting Stars are invited to attend.

BPA to hold blood drive

Columbus Community High School Business Professionals of America, will host a community blood drive from 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM on Thursday, April 25th in the School Gymnasium, located at 1004 Colton Street, Columbus Junction. Appointments: to donate, please contact Julia Townsley at 319-728-2231 or e-mail her at: julia.townsley@columbuscsd.org. Walk-ins welcome! Donor Eligibility Criteria: Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through www.bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo I.D. or MVRBC Donor Card is required to donate. To schedule an appointment for donation, please call the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center at 800-747-5401. Donors who last gave blood on or before February 28, 2013 are eligible to give blood at this drive. About Blood Donation: Blood donation is a safe, simple procedure that takes about 45 minutes to one hour. Individuals with diabetes or controlled high blood pressure may be accepted as eligible donors. ABOUT MVRBC: Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is the provider of blood and blood components to 87 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. In your area, MVRBC is the exclusive provider to Washington County Hospitals & Clinics, Iowa City VA, & Mercy Iowa City.

City Council to meet

The City of Columbus Junction will hold a public hearing and regular meeting today, Wednesday, April 10th, 2013, at 5:30 p.m. in the New Civic Center/City Hall.

City to hold meeting on rental code

The City of Columbus Junction will hold a Public Meeting on Wednesday, April 17th, 2013, at 4:30 p.m. at the Civic Center/City Hall. The Proposed Rental Code Ordinance will be discussed. Anyone with questions or comments on this matter are encouraged to attend.

Early Area Childhood Board to meet

The Early Childhood Iowa Area Board Des Moines/Louisa Counties will be meeting on April 17, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the First United Presbyterian Church, 801 Middle St., Mediapolis, IA.

Etude Club to meet

The Etude Club will have an extra practice session on Tuesday, April 16th and then a dress rehearsal on Monday, April 29th. Both will be in the Columbus Junction Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. On April 16th, please wear red, white and blue and bring along your Etude shirts as the plan is to take pictures.

Grandview Women's Club to meet

The Grandview Women's Club will meet on Thursday, April 11, at 6:30 P.M. at Brenda Rosken's in Muscatine. There will be book reports and white elephant bingo.

Visual Support Group to meet

The Louisa County Visual Support Group will meet on the third Thursday of the month, which is April 18th. We will meet at Corner Market at noon with a Dutch-treat lunch. Susan Howard from the Department for the Blind will be our guest speaker. For more information, contact Lois Richers at 319-527-2630.

Conservation Board to meet

The Louisa County Conservation Board will hold a regular meeting today, Wednesday, April 10 at 5:30 pm at the Louisa County Conservation Board office.

Littleton Brothers presentation

The Muscatine County Civil War Roundtable will be hosting a power point presentation by Ed Bayne and Tom Woodruff with the Louisa County Historical Society at 7 pm, on Tuesday, April 23, 2013, in Room 27, Strahan Hall, Muscatine Community College. This presentation features the lives of the "SIX Littleton Brothers" who fought and died during the American Civil War. The public is invited at no cost. Mark your calendar to attend and learn the fascinating story about these SIX brothers."

Stairway to the Stars recital

The students and staff of Stairway to the Stars, cordially invite you to attend their 19th annual dance and tumbling concert entitled, "Morning, Noon and Night." It is being held on Saturday, May 18th at 6 p.m. at the Riverside Casino and Gold Resort. No ticket is necessary. Many area children from Washington, Keota, Riverside, Wayland, Ainsworth and Crawfordville will be featured in the show. For more information on attending the recital or registering for dance and tumbling lessons, please call Melissa at 319-653-5648 or 888-DANCE36.

Shellbark Club to meet

The Shellbark Club will meet Thursday, April 11th in a Kalona home for dinner. Please meet at Cotter Church at 10:45 a.m. to carpool to Kalona. Please let Judy Wilson know if you plan to go by April 8th.

Amateur Radio Exams testing

The Muscatine Area Volunteer Examiners will be testing for all classes of amateur radio operator licenses on Sunday, April 14, at 1:30 PM at the Flickinger Learning Center, 413 Mulberry Avenue, in Muscatine. (Use the 5th Street parking lot and entrance across from Hy-Vee Drugstore.) For more information, visit muscatinehams.org.

Recruitment begins for Regional Board and Advisory Council Members

Recruitment has begun for Regional Board and Advisory Council Members for the newly designated area agency on aging for Des Moines,

Henry, Lee and Louisa Counties. Milestones Area Agency on Aging (AAA), a combination of the current service areas of Southeast, Seneca and Generations Area Agencies on Aging consisting of 17 counties, will begin services to those counties on July 1, 2013. Southeast AAA will no longer be operating under this capac-

ity as mandated by the Iowa Legislature back in February 2012 at which time a bill was passed to reduce the number of area agencies on aging and merge various counties together.

Members for either regional group are chosen on the basis of character, ability and demonstrated interest in advocating for aging Iowans.

The applicant must be representative of the area of service and be a resident of Des Moines, Henry, Lee or Louisa County preferably with a background in law, accounting, medicine, health or public leadership. These are voluntary positions without compensation.

"We are seeking interested residents in the Burlington area to represent their area seniors," said CEO of Milestones AAA, Connie Holland, "and we are beginning our search immediately so we have board and council members in place by July 1st."

Those interested are asked to complete a Board/Advisory Council application/nomination form, which is available by calling 800-642-6522 or 641-682-2270, writing Milestones AAA, 117 North Cooper, Suite 2, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501 or emailing seneca@seneca-aaa.org.

