

# Over thirty years of dedicated service

By Deb Bean  
Gazette Staff

For many years Columbus Community was the home and practice of Doctor Kenneth Carrell. He served the community along with his nurse, Thelma Rutt, who worked with Dr. Carrell from 1972 until his retirement July 18, 1980.

In 1976 meetings were organized with the objective of building a new Medical Facility. An organization was made formal and Board Members were composed.

For a small community to have the opportunity to house a second doctor and be able to keep providing medical care to its growing community was the original goal of the board members of the Columbus Medical Facilities Association, a non-profit corporation organized on May 28, 1976. A generous gift donated by Mr. and Mrs. B.O. Roundy provided the site located just east of what used to be the Columbus Laundry and Dry Cleaning and is now GIP'S for the medical facilities structure. The Medical Clinic was built in 1977.

When the Facilities Group learned that it was the beneficiary and recipient under the will of the late Marie Letts of Columbus Junction, they decided that an addition should be made to the medical facilities building with this gift along with the facilities' operating funds. Once again the Roundys donated the site for the new addition. Plans were then started to raise the funds to attract a second doctor to the community to work in the same practice as Doctor Carrell

The Medical Facility was fortunate to be able to recruit a familiar face to its staff, Dr. Brian Masonholder, DO, a family practice physician and also a former 1970 Columbus Community School graduate. 'Dr. Brian,' as he has been accustomed to being called, began practicing on July 21, 1980 and thus marks his 30<sup>th</sup> year in practice in his hometown community. After graduating from Columbus High School, Dr. Masonholder attended Coe College for two years, served in the Army for two years, and then received his degree at Cornell College and then attended COMS in Des Moines.

Dr. Brian lives in Columbus Junction with his wife, Jill. They have four children between them, Brad Masonholder and his wife, Erin



Columbus Medical Facilities staff, left to right: Char Mendenhall, Kelly Harris, Rachel Harris, Twyla Peters, Dr. Brian Masonholder.

live in Iowa City; daughter Jill Masonholder lives in Iowa City; Ben Kaalberg and his wife, Leslie live in Columbus Junction with their children, Riley and Tyson; and Cristin and her husband, Tony Wellington and daughter, Hailey live in rural Conesville.

Other Doctors that have worked at the clinic and have gone to practice elsewhere were, Dr. Weber; Dr. Frier; Dr. Quek; Judy Metzger, PA. Filling in for Dr. Masonholder's days off is Dr. Hogan.

"Columbus Medical Clinic this is Kelly, how may I help you?" has been a greeting that we all have become familiar with since the 1980's. Kelly has served the Columbus Medical Facility for 30 years, beginning July 21, 1980. Her greeting has a soothing effect when we aren't feeling well, have a sick child or need to speak with a nurse or see the doctor. She has been like a security blanket to the patients that have trusted their care to the staff at the Columbus Medical Clinic. Kelly was a 1980 graduate of Columbus Community Schools and began working at the Medical Clinic right after graduating. Kelly resides in Columbus Junction with her husband, Terry Harris and daughter, Rachel, their daughter, Melissa lives in Coralville.

The Columbus Medical Clinic has had many employees over the years; Thelma Rutt remained at the clinic working with Dr. Masonholder until her retirement in 1999. The clinic has also been fortunate enough to maintain consistency with two full time nurses, Twyla Peters and Char Mendenhall and a part time nurse, Nancy Orr. These nurses have dedicated their time and affection to every patient, friend and community member that has sought treatment at their clinic.

Twyla has been employed at the clinic for 20 years. Twyla lives in Columbus Junction with her husband, Dan. They have two children. Their son, Will and his wife, Keetra and son, Keagan live in Chatham, Illinois and their daughter, Mackenzie her husband, Sam Clark and their daughter, Sydney live in Columbus Junction.

Char has been employed 17 years and lives in Columbus Junction with her husband, Tim. They have two children. Their daughter, Holly Burroughs passed away in 2006 and

their son, Eric and his wife, Alicia live in Columbus Junction.

Nancy has been helping at the Medical Clinic for 8 years. Nancy lives in rural Columbus with her husband, Randy. Their son, Jeremy his wife, Shauna and their son, Kaleb live in Columbus Junction. Their daughter, Jessica and her husband, Marcos Esquivel and their children, Josselina and Graciella live in St Louis, Missouri.

In a small community like ours if not for the people that plant the seed for an idea and dedicated community members whom give their time to serving on boards such as the Columbus Medical Facilities Association and people like the Roundys that step up and donate the space needed, we would not be so lucky to have a medical facility in town. And in addition, we are fortunate to have been treated by people whom have not only dedicated their lives to making us feel better, but have been our friends and members of our own community. Congratulations to the staff of the Medical Clinic for your years of service, dedication and commitment.

## Briefly -

### City Council to meet tonight

The City of Columbus Junction will hold a regular Council meeting today, Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 5:30 p.m., in the New Civic Center/City Hall.

### CCHS Class of 1975 plans reunion

The CCHS Class of 1975 will hold a planning meeting for the upcoming 35<sup>th</sup> class reunion at the home of Skip and Dixie Seitz on Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. All past class members are encouraged to attend.

### Cotter Alumni changes venue

The new location will be the American Legion Building. The date and time will remain the same - Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. We encourage all alumni to contact classmates and other alumni regarding the change of venue.

### Eastern Star spaghetti supper

Emma Beckman Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, will be hosting a spaghetti supper for the Masons and their wives on Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The supper will be before their regular meeting. We hope all Masons can attend.

### This week at the Farmers' Market

The Columbus Junction Farmers' Market is held Fridays from 4:30 to 6:30 pm through October 8 at the American Legion parking lot, 99 Second St., Columbus Junction. The market features regional vendors selling Iowa-grown produce, plants, baked goods, eggs, snacks, crafts and more. Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards, IFMNP/WIC checks, Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition checks and Louisa Bucks are welcome. Eat local and taste the difference!

### FFA Alumni to meet

The Columbus FFA Alumni will hold their July meeting at Tom and Chris McFarland's house at 6:00 p.m. today, Wednesday, July 14.

### FFA Tractor Ride

The 1st Annual Columbus FFA Alumni Tractor Ride is still taking riders. If you have not registered and still wish to participate in the ride, meet in the Columbus Community High School parking lot at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 24th. For more information, contact Brenda Wilson at 319-212-0529.

### Friends of Port Louisa to meet

The (Future) Friends of the Port Louisa Refuge invites you to attend an organizational meeting on Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Izaak Walton League Building in Louisa County - located at 10892 County Road X61. A Friends Group for the refuge will assist in public education, promotion and fundraising and volunteer projects. All who are interested are invited.

### Kingston UMC Ice Cream Supper

The Kingston United Methodist Church and Pastor Earlene Lekwa will be holding an ice cream social on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, from 5-7 p.m.

### Conservation Board to meet

The Louisa County Conservation Board will meet today, Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 5:30 p.m., at the Toolesboro Indian Mounds and Museum.

### R.S.V.P. Identity theft protection seminar

The R.S.V.P. Club of the Columbus Junction State Bank is hosting a FREE SEMINAR on how to protect yourself against identity theft and other scams. EVERYONE is invited to attend. A representative from the SE Iowa Area Agency on Aging will be leading this seminar. This FREE event will be held at the Senior Center in Columbus Junction on Thursday, July 22 from 2-4 p.m. Light refreshments will be served so you do need to make a reservation to attend. Call the Columbus Junction State Bank by Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 319-728-2436 or email Ramona Wink at wink123@lisco.net. Again, this seminar is FREE and EVERYONE is invited! The R.S.V.P. Club is made up of a Really Special Variety of People and we are here to serve you!

### School Board to meet

The Board of Education for the Columbus Community School District will hold a public meeting on Monday, July 19, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., in the Roundy Elementary School Library.

### St. Joseph's to hold County Fair supper

St. Joseph's Catholic Church will host a fundraiser after the Louisa County Fair Parade, Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Stop over at the fair grounds for dinner. St. Joseph's Catholic Church will be serving pork sandwiches with potato salad or chips, baked beans, apple pie, cherry pie or brownies and lemonade or iced tea for \$6 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the Fair Concessions building between the 4-H building and Floral Hall. Items will also be sold individually.

### Benefit for Harold Whitlow

A benefit for Harold Whitlow will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2010 at the Circle of Pride Rodeo Grounds, Conesville, IA, starting at 4:00 p.m. Harold was diagnosed May 31<sup>st</sup> with a rare form of blood cancer - Multiple Myeloma. A meal will be served starting at 4:30 p.m. A free will donation will be accepted. There will also be a Silent Auction from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. a Live Auction starting at 8:00 p.m. and raffles throughout the evening. ADJ will provide entertainment. Camping is available on site for \$10.00 with all proceeds going to Harold. A poker run will be held leaving at noon from Rumors and Excuses in Columbus Junction. For questions about the benefit or how to give a donation you can contact Stacy Storm at 563-260-2877 or stacystorm1@hotmail.com or if you have questions regarding the Poker Run call Fred at 319-728-2220.

### Community Club to meet

The Columbus Community Club will meet this Thursday at Noon at the Senior Center

### Toolesboro Access closed

WAPELLO, Iowa—The Toolesboro Access is now closed due to a combination of high water and heavy equipment work on the adjacent levee. This road is an extension of Prairie Street located about six miles southeast of Wapello, and provides access to the south end of the Odessa Wildlife Area and boat ramps on the Mississippi River. Those river ramps and the parking lot have been flooded for several weeks and that's not expected to change in the near future. The boat ramps at Schafer and Sand Run Access are still in good condition for access to Odessa.

## Colonial Estates Open House



A ribbon cutting and open house was held last Sunday at Colonial Estates, Louisa County's first assisted living facility. A great crowd was on hand to view the facility and also visit with Colonial Manor directors. Pictured at top is the ribbon cutting ceremony, and in the lower photo is some of the attendees touring the facility.

**Come for Coffee, Stay for Lunch!**  
The Area Agency on Aging and the Columbus Community Senior Center Board of Directors Invite You to Join Them for A Program & Lunch on July 22, 2010  
Reservations can be made by calling Polly Prior at 728-4200 no later than noon on July 20, 2010

	Menu Roast Pork w/Mushroom Sauce Parsley Buttered Potatoes Asparagus Amandine Sunshine Pudding	
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**Program at 11:00 & Lunch at Noon**

This event is for persons aged 60 or older and is underwritten with funds from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA).  
Diners will be required to complete a program registration form.

This invitation serves as your coupon for the meal and must be presented on July 22, 2010.  
Invitation/Coupon has No Cash Value & Is Non Refundable

In celebration of our many years of partnership, the Area Agency on Aging has arranged an opportunity for anyone in the community over 60 years of age to come and enjoy a meal and visit with the Agency personnel, as well as with your area friends. The cost of this meal is being picked up by the Area Agency as a gift to area citizens.

This celebration has been organized by the Area Agency on Aging, but it is also an opportunity for us to show our appreciation to the Agency for all they do for the community. They have been very instrumental in organizing the many programs and meals that have been enjoyed at the Senior Center over the years, and this is our way of thanking them in person. The above coupon will serve as your meal ticket. To make reservations call Polly Prior at 728-4200 by July 20th.

This is not only a great cause, but will also be an opportunity for a wonderful time. Call Polly today, and come enjoy the fellowship.