

2009 Louisa County Fair Royalty Crowned



Pictured above is the 2009 Louisa County Fair Queen, Baillie Bonnichsen and the 2009 Louisa County Fair Princess, Brelynn Randall.



Pictured above is the 2009 Louisa County 4-H King, Brady Milder and 4-H Queen, Chelsey Smith.

School Board discusses success of Summer School

By Jim Rudisill

Columbus school officials have an unexpected problem. Attendance at this year's summer school program has exceeded expectations and officials have been forced to turn some students away.

Elementary principal Dan Vogeler updated the board on the situation during its regular monthly meeting on July 20. "I bet we could have over 200 kids here this summer," he told the board. "It's unbelievable. The kids say they are loving it," he continued.

Vogeler did not indicate why he felt the attendance has been so good this year, but except for having to turn some kids away because of the large turnout, he was not complaining. "We have the most numbers we've ever had. It's kind of a nice problem to have," he said.

Meanwhile, middle school principal Jeff Maeder was also reporting good numbers in his summer school program. "We hit a high mark of 26 one day," he said, explaining that number has since dropped to a more normal level of between 20 and 22.

In other action, the board approved a series of changes in the school district's 2009-10 elementary and secondary student handbooks. The changes had been reviewed at the June meeting and were approved without further discussion. Included in the changes was a modification of the district's academic ineligibility rules for extra-curricular activities. The new policies will comply with recent changes in state rules. Other changes include adding an incentive to secondary students who record no tardies or absences during a quarter.

Elementary handbook changes include a change in dismissal time, with bus riders dismissed at 3:20 p.m. Monday-Thursday and at 1:55 p.m. on Friday; and walkers being released at 3:10 p.m. on Monday-Thursday; and at 1:45 p.m. on Friday.

The board also approved Superintendent Rich Bridenstine's 2009-10 goals. They include continuing the effort to establish a Muscatine Community College/Administrative Building at Columbus; overseeing

the implementation of a Sheltered Instruction Instructional Protocol (STOP) at the Roundy elementary building; and overseeing the implementation of the Iowa Core Curriculum at the secondary.

In final action, the board approved several personnel changes, including the termination of middle school teacher Katie McCombs because of a reduction in force. McCombs was one of several middle school teachers who lost their jobs after the school board approved moving the sixth grade back to the elementary building. McCombs had requested a hearing after receiving her notice, but Bridenstine announced during the meeting she had withdrawn that request.

Board member Ed Smith also announced he had decided not to seek re-election during this year's school board election, Smith said he had served eight years and it was time to turn it over to someone else. "It's been a fun experience," he told the board.

Officials also reported school registration was moving forward as scheduled.

Ideal weather and a great parade kicks off 2009 Fair



Members of the Columbus Clover Kids 4-H Club, from left to right, Deb Humiston, Tyler Humiston, Hunter Humiston, Traci Orr, Janessa Carpenter and Ryan Orr, enjoy the pre-fair festivities while riding a float in Saturday's Louisa County Fair Parade. The parade, a new addition to the Louisa County Fair schedule, featured many of the county 4-H clubs and FFA Chapters, the Queen and Princess Contestants, antique tractors and local Shrine units.

TAMMY VIRZI PHOTO

New Jail holds Open House



The men's dormitory in the new Louisa County Jail provides 14 beds. Costs were reduced by eliminating the need for additional doors, plumbing and security electronics. There are two-inch thick concrete walls between bed areas, instead of traditional concrete blocks, provides more space for beds as well as savings on heat and air-conditioning. Submitted by Connie Street.

Briefly -

Ainsworth Opera House Breakfast

There will not be a breakfast buffet at the Ainsworth Opera House on August 1, 2009. We will hopefully be back with breakfast on September 12th. Thanks to everyone who helps support the Opera House.

78th Carey Reunion planned

There will be a noon potluck luncheon for the Carey Reunion on Sunday, August 9th at Chinkapin Bluffs Recreation Area.

CCHS Class of 1994 plans reunion

The CCHS Class of 1994 will be having their 15-year class reunion on Saturday, August 29 at 3:00 PM at the Mary Marr Lodge in Marr Park, Ainsworth, Iowa. The meal will take place at 6:00 PM. Bring the family. There will be a golfing at Cedar Crest at 10:00 AM for those interested. Please contact Vanessa (Van Auken) Proehl at 712-250-2250 or spiritedchic@hotmail.com to sign up to golf. For further details contact Vanessa or Shannon (Story) Hampson at shannon-hampson@uiowa.edu or 319-360-8256.

CCHS Class of 1999 plans reunion

The class of 1999 will be holding their 10-year reunion this summer. The dates for the reunion will be July 31st and August 1st. There will be chances to get together on both days. Plans for the reunion will be sent to classmates through their email or phone. Class of 1999 members can send their email addresses to kasey_keltner@hotmail.com or phone numbers to 319-728-3032. Otherwise, we will try to contact you. If there are any questions you can send them to the same email address or phone number.

Grandview-Letts Lions to hold Blood Drive

The Grandview-Letts Lions Club is sponsoring a blood drive at the Grandview Community Bible Church on Thursday, August 6, 2009, from 1:30 – 6:30 p.m. To donate, call Jack Carter at 319-726-4252. You can give blood if you last donated on or before Thursday, June 11, 2009.

Great Beginnings Registration

Great Beginnings Preschool is now accepting student applications for the 2009 – 2010 school year. Great Beginnings offers quality care and education for children ages 3, 4 and 5. The school also provides transportation to and from the preschool. For more info please contact the preschool at 728-2669 or Beth Hills at 728-3157.

Ice Cream Social in Oakville

The Oakville Community Club is having a homemade ice cream social on August 8 at the Oakville Community Building. It will include hot sandwiches, chips, drink and desserts to go with the ice cream. Bring a carload and join us. Serving will be from 5 to 7:30 Saturday, Aug. 8. The free will offering proceeds will go toward improvement of the Edwards Cemetery Road.

Immunization Clinics scheduled

L-M immunization clinic will be held on Wednesday, August 5th from 1 to 4 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Wapello immunization clinic will be held on Thursday, August 6th from 4 to 7 p.m. at the registration center. Vaccinations are available for children who are eligible for the VFC program for families who have no health insurance, families whose health insurance does not cover the full cost of vaccinations, and families with Medicaid Title XIX.

School Board to meet

The Board of Education for Columbus Community School District will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, August 3, 2009, at 4 p.m. in the District Administrative Office, 1210 Colton Street, Columbus Junction, IA 52738.

Spring Run Ice Cream Social

There will be an ice cream social held at Spring Run United Methodist Church on Tuesday, August 4th. Serving will be from 5-7 P.M. On the menu will be: Hot chicken sandwiches, beef burgers, potato salad, pie, cake and homemade ice cream. A Free Will Offering will be accepted. Our church is now air conditioned.

Farmers' Market this Friday

Fridays 4:30 to 6:30 at the American Legion parking lot, through October 9. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, homemade noodles, jams and jellies, frozen meat, plants, iced tea and lemonade, crafts and even dog treats! Buy fresh and local - taste the difference. Support the local economy. For more information including how to participate as a vendor contact Mallory or Nitza at 319-728-7971.

2009 Louisa County Relay For Life Schedule of Events

Saturday, August 1: from Noon to Midnight at the L-M High School

In the High School Lunch Room:

- 4:30 – Registration for Survivors.
- 4:30-6:00 – Free supper for Survivors – Friends and family can pay a good will offering with all the proceeds going to American Cancer and our Relay For Life.
- 4:30-8:30 – Silent auction in the gym.
- On the track (Special thanks to our announcers, Curt Pierce and Wayne Shoultz):
- 4:30-6:30 – Team registration.
- 6:30 – Flag raising; national anthem; survivor introductions; survivor lap; caregivers lap; team introductions and lap.

Everyone please walk the track with us and pick up a penny to pay tribute to the ones we have lost, and celebrate life with the survivors. Luminaries will be lit at dusk...it is a sight to see.

Luminaries are available all day in the lunchroom or on the field.

Stay with us to celebrate "More Birthdays for Survivors." It is an awesome time of togetherness. Our closing will be at 12:01 a.m. on the track. Remember, Celebrate, Fight Back!

Correction:

In last week's Gazette the Columbus Junction State Bank was inadvertently left off as one of the contributors to the Honor Tour. The Gazette apologizes for any inconvenience this oversight may have caused.