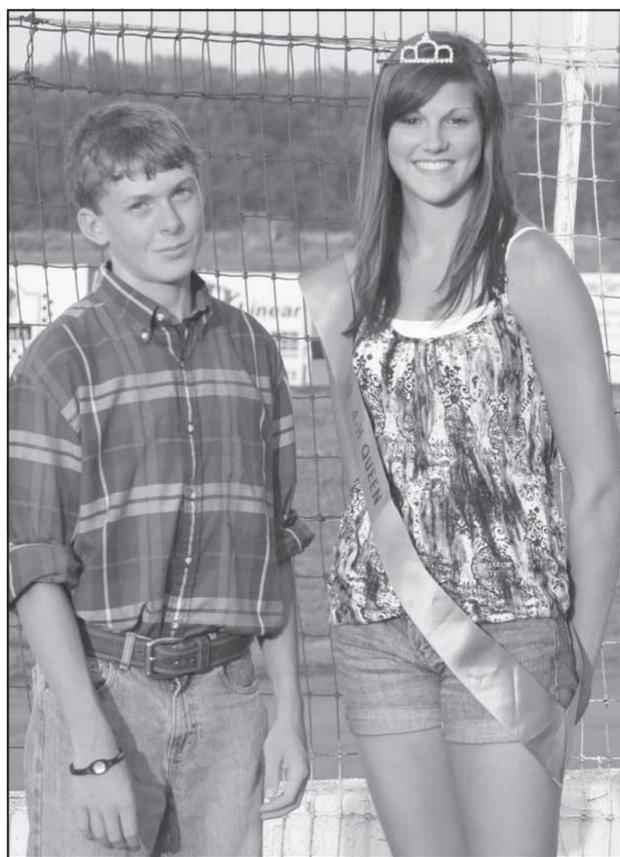


2011 Louisa County Fair Royalty Crowned

Briefly -



Pictured above are the 2011 Louisa County Fair Princess, Keetyn Townsley and the 2011 Louisa County Fair Queen, Kolby Keltner.



Pictured above are the 2011 Louisa County Fair 4-H King, Eli Sents and the 4-H Queen, Megan Pretz.

Talent Show at Crooked Creek Days

This year's Winfield Crooked Creek Days celebration will include a Bill Riley Talent Show on Saturday, August 6th at 8:30 a.m. in the high school gym. The contest is open for ages 2 years – 21 years with two divisions, Sprouts, ages 2 yrs. – 12 yrs. and Seniors, ages 13 yrs. 21 yrs. Due to a time restraint the number of entries will be limited, therefore acts will be included on a "first come, first served" basis. For more information and to register contact Sharon Jennings at 319-257-6632 or email smjen@iowatelecom.net. Following the talent show contestants may ride on the Bill Riley Talent Show float in the parade, which will begin at 10:30.

Film Festival/Ice Cream Social

The 13th Annual Brinton Film Festival will be held at the Ainsworth Opera House Friday, July 29th and Saturday, July 30th, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. Ice cream and goodies will be served starting at 7:00 p.m. As always some of the oldest films in the world will be shown. Some of the films used in the reopening of the Graham Opera House in Washington will be shown. Historical information about the films and magic lantern slides will help you enjoy the unique experience. This is the only place in the world you can see these films and slides. Come eat Dairy Mart ice cream and have an evening's entertainment for the 19th century. The Ainsworth Opera House is located at 284 Railroad St., Ainsworth, IA. This is free will donation for the Opera House upkeep.

Class of 1976 plans reunion

Members of the CCHS Class of 1976: Reserve the dates of Friday and Saturday, September 16th and 17th. We will be having our 35th class reunion! Letters will be sent to you and you can get updates at <https://sites.google.com/site/cchswildcat1976>.

County Line Club to meet

County Line Club will be celebrating their 90th birthday with a Dutch-treat dinner at the Thirsty Camel, north of Columbus Junction on August 9th at 6 pm. All former members, their spouses and friends are invited to come and share their memories of times past. It all started when Nell Clegg sent out invitations to come to her house for an afternoon of fun in August of 1921. A good time was had by all and thus started a neighborhood club that has stood the test of time. In the beginning, you must have lived on the County Line in order to be a member. Over time, the area has expanded. Please call Helen Edwards at 319-657-2012 if you would like to join in the fun. That way, you can be sure of a place for you.

Cruise Night on the Square

The Corn Country Cruisers from Washington, Iowa are conducting Cruise Night On The Square, (Washington, Iowa) on August 13th from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. There will be a 50/50 Drawing at 8:00 p.m. please enter on southwest side of square/no entry fees. For additional information please contact Randy Farrington at 319-694-5603. The American Legion Post 29 will provide food.

EGGS to meet

EGGS! Let's get crackin'. We are gathering for dinner and cacklin' at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, August 3rd at the Thirsty Camel. So mark your calendar and be ready to jump out of your feathered nests to be there. Any questions, call 319-728-2826.

Grandview/Letts Lions Blood Drive

The Grandview/Letts Lions Club is sponsoring a blood drive on Thursday, August 4th from 1:30-6:30 p.m. at the Letts Library-Community Building. To donate, contact Marvin or Margaret Thomas at 319-726-3286. Please eat before donating and bring Photo I.D. Last date to donate elsewhere: 6-9-2011. The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is giving a \$50 gas card away each week to a blood donor. Come to the Lions Blood drive and you just might win free gas!

Hope Bible Coffee update

Hope Bible Church would like to remind everyone that there will be no Coffee Fellowship on the Friday of Fair Week (July 29th) but we will be meeting the following Friday (August 5th) at 8:30 a.m. Take the time to support and enjoy the fair and come with great stories to share on August 5th!

Spring Run Ice Cream Social

The Spring Run UMC will hold an Ice Cream Supper on Tuesday, August 2nd. Serving begins at 5:00 p.m. Menu includes chicken and hamburger sandwiches, potato salad, pie and ice cream. A Free will donation will be accepted.

United Methodist Church Car Wash

The 2011 UMC Confirmation Class is planning a Car Wash at the CJ United Methodist Church on Saturday, July 30th from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Donations will go to purchase school supplies for the Community School Supply Mission. See you at the parking lot at 517 2nd Street, Columbus Junction!

This week at the Farmers' Market

Fridays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion parking lot, now until October 14th. The market offers fresh produce, baked goods, homemade noodles, jams and jellies, and plants. Some vendors accept Iowa Farmers Market Nutrition, WIC and Senior Program coupons. Buy fresh and local and taste the difference. For more information, including how to participate as a vendor, contact Nitza or Mallory at 319-728-7971.

Back to School Bash set

Mark your calendars for the Back to School Bash, Monday, August 15, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Everyone is invited, parents, students, school personnel, and the general public. Let's all come together and help kick off the best school year ever.

Veterans' Fair scheduled

The Veterans' Fair will be held at the Louisa-Muscatine Elementary School on Thursday, July 28th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Fair is sponsored by the Muscatine and Louisa County Commissions of Veterans' Affairs and local American Legion and VFW Posts. If you are an honorably discharged veteran or current member of the Guard or Reserve please plan to attend.

Newly discovered story of Tragedy and Heroism in Louisa County

Six Littleton Brothers from Toolesboro, Iowa All Casualties of the Civil War

On the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, the Louisa County, Iowa Historical Society has published an incredible story in their July issue of their quarterly magazine, LOUISA'S HISTORY. This story has never been told other than in a brief report in one local newspaper in the past century.

It's a story of Hope and Tragedy. It's a story of a pioneer family, James and Martha Littleton, who moved to Jefferson Township near Toolesboro, Iowa prior to 1850 in hopes of improving the lives of their six sons and three daughters. Ironically, they never lived to mourn the death of any of their sons to war but died at it's beginning and were buried alone but together – the only two graves on the farm sold soon-after to Enoch Pot-

ter. They are the only two burials in this remote, almost forgotten, Potters Timber Cemetery. Even the headstones found many years ago are now missing. But the real story is about the six sons who were all casualties of the Civil war. All died from wounds, drowning, prison, and disease related to the Civil war battles they fought in. One died while in the notorious Andersonville prison in Georgia (Fort Sumter). The only one discharged because of battle related diseases contracted at the battles at Iuka and Corinth, died at home soon after from those diseases.

Tom Woodruff and Ed Bayne, local contributors to LOUISA'S HISTORY, tell how they found this long-lost story and now share the details and importance of making sure every reader appreciate this remarkable and heart-wrenching memory

- a story of Hope and Tragedy.

Woodruff and Bayne start with those pioneer parents, James and Martha, coming to Louisa County, Iowa bringing with them all their hopes and dreams for a better life. A brief history of the county and political climate is shared setting the stage for the Civil War. The lives of the six sons are then followed through enlistment to their deaths from the consequences of a most brutal war. Several heart-breaking and tragic stories are told about each losing their lives.

There will be more to come as we confirm other research we have done. What will come may surprise you and add significantly to this story. Perhaps the reason for it not being told!

We must remember these Louisa boys and their parents were neighbors and friends of our grandparents. They

were struggling members of our very own community who all tragically died while giving up their lives in Hope of having a better country and family. This is a story that deserves so much more attention than it will get in a short story in a small county historical magazine in Iowa. This story will get nation-wide attention. Losing six sons to war is more than a one-of-a-kind event. It's an indescribable personal loss and sacrifice – from one family. One family from Louisa County, Iowa.

We encourage all to read this story (\$5 plus \$2 S&H) by contacting the Louisa County Historical Society at #609 Highway 61 N., Wapello, Iowa 52653 for a copy of their July 2011 magazine. Or contact authors (Tom) Email: Apwood70@aol.com or (Ed) Email: Edscot@louisacomm.net.

City Council appoints new member

By Jim Rudisill

Local businessman Bernabe Rodriguez, 118 Walnut, is the new city council member for Columbus Junction. Rodriguez was appointed to the position during the council's July 21 meeting. He will fill the seat vacated by C.P. Pierce when Pierce and his family moved from the city. Although Rodriguez's appointment was approved by the council, he did not attend the meeting and will still need to take the oath of office before he can officially take his seat.

Officials said they would arrange a time before the council's August 10th meeting for Rodriguez to take the oath. Officials were please Rodriguez had stepped forward. "It's a good opportunity because it's a short time to the next city election," Mayor Dan Wilson said.

According to Iowa law, an appointee to a vacant council seat can serve until the next city election and then must face voters to serve out the remainder of that term. The next election is in November, so Wilson said that would give Rodriguez time to decide if he wants to run for the remainder of Pierce's four-year term. Pierce was re-elected to the position

in 2009.

Wilson said regardless of the decision Rodriguez makes on running in November; his decision to accept the appointment now would be good for the community. "He gives us some representation from our Hispanic community and he's a local businessman," Wilson said.

If city officials had been unable to find anyone to fill Pierce's seat, the city would have been forced to hold a special election.

In other action, the council approved a contract with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission (SEIRPC) to update the area's comprehensive plan. The SEIRPC developed the initial comprehensive plan for Columbus Junction and Columbus City in 2007. Wilson told the council he had talked with officials at Columbus City and the SEIRPC and both had agreed Columbus City should be included in the update.

Total payment to the SEIRPC for the update will not exceed \$7500, according to the contract. Officials said they expected the two communities would share in the cost under a per capita basis. The expectation for this update is completion sometime

later this year.

The council also approved the first reading of a traffic ordinance amendment that will eliminate the westbound, one-way section of Locust Street from Second Street to Main Street. In its place, the council agreed to designate Main Street as northbound only from Walnut Street to Roundy Way Street. Two additional readings of the ordinance must be approved before the new designation goes into effect.

In final action, the council agreed to donate \$350 to the Louisa County Regional Trail Council to help develop a master plan for a trail system in Louisa County. Wilson said a trail system would help to attract and keep young people in the county and increase tourism. He said one proposal would be to link attractions in the county by trail. He also suggested a trail that would connect Wapello and Columbus Junction would be well used and supported. The SEIRPC will develop the master plan for \$3500 and the trail council is seeking funding support from area governments and organizations to cover that cost.

Wilson said the Louisa County Board of Supervisors had voted

against providing any donation, a decision he labeled "a mistake."

Council member Hal Prior said those actions wronged him. Although he said he was a strong trail supporter, he wondered what the trail council could do with the money it raised if the local fundraising failed to reach the goal. Wilson said he understood Wapello had approved a donation, but if others balked, he felt the trail council would return the money. However, he said it was unlikely the council would fail to raise the \$3500.

Wilson said he had been attending meetings of the council and would continue.

Council member Mark Huston also reported the city had arranged to clear brush and small trees from the Highway 92 right-of-way west of Colonel's Drive. Huston said the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) had the responsibility for removing the vegetation, but because of budget or time constraints had not done the job. "It was getting dangerous," Huston said, pointing out a childcare center, motel and other businesses used the road. He said the city obtained a permit from the DOT before conducting the work.