



The 2013 County Fair kicked off Sunday with the annual parade featuring the 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters of Louisa County. This years event even featured some future members as the Totemeier triplets joined in the fun.

Fair Royalty was crowned Monday night, seeing Megan Pretz of Columbus Junction crowned the County Fair Queen. She will represent Louisa County at the 2013 Iowa State Fair. Pictured with Megan is Selina Lara, the newly crowned County Fair Princess. Kelsey Pretz and Jared Rees were chosen as the 4-H Queen and King.

PHOTOS BY TAMMY K. VIRZI

FAIR 2013



Briefly -

City Council to meet

The City of Columbus Junction will hold a regular meeting today, Wednesday, July 24, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in the New Civic Center/City Hall.

Class of 1973 to hold reunion

Attention CCHS Class of 1973: We are having our 40-year class reunion at the Thirsty Camel on Saturday, October 12, 2013. Happy hour, supper and a DJ to follow. Please R.S.V.P. to Cindy Clark Skubal at 319-430-0068 or cindyskubal@gmail.com. Please pass the word on to all our classmates.

Class of 1983 to hold reunion

The CCHS Class of 1983 will hold their 30th class reunion on Saturday, July 27th starting at 6 p.m. at the Thirsty Camel. Happy Hour starts at 6 p.m. and the group will eat at 7 p.m. At 9 p.m., Hambone will be running Karaoke. Please R.S.V.P. if you plan to attend to: Charla Larkin Howard (319-653-1768) or Lisa Hills 319-212-0718.

Class of 1988 to hold reunion

Attention CCHS Class of 1988: The 25-year reunion for the Class of 1988 is set for the weekend of October 11-12. Friday Night Family Fun at Chinkapin Park. Ride the float in Saturday's parade and supper at the Thirsty Camel. For more information and to R.S.V.P., contact either Nikki McFarland at 314-680-8899 or Theresa Hall at 319-461-9122 by July 31st.

Livestock Release

All Fair Livestock and Static Exhibits must remain on display until 4:00 pm on Friday, July 26th. Release includes clean up of your areas.

Fair schedule change

4-H Fair Schedule Change: 4-H Bucket Bottle Calf Show date moved to Thursday, July 25th following the Beef Show. Will start at approximately 1 pm.

Farmers' Market on Fridays

A Farmer's Market is held every Friday afternoon through October 11 at the American Legion parking lot (starting August 2nd at the Youth Center at the county fairgrounds). Produce, plants, baked good and crafts for sale. WIC coupon, SNAP and senior nutrition coupons accepted. New vendors are always welcome.

FFA Animal Scramble

The Columbus FFA Chapter will be hosting the annual Animal Scramble and Mutton Bustin' at the Louisa County Fair. It will all start at 6:00 P.M. today, Wednesday, July 24 in the show barn. Please come out and join us for an evening of fun. Kids ages 0 to 3 can participate in the coin dash. The animal scramble: Kids ages 3-5 can catch a chicken and kids ages 5-7 can capture a rabbit. When the child catches the animal they get to take it home. We ask that each child only participate in one activity. Mutton Bustin' will be after the Animal Scramble, weather permitting. Hope to see you Wednesday at the show barn!

Volunteers needed for Habitat

Habitat For Humanity needs workers every Saturday starting at 8 am. Please come and help at Philadelphia St., Columbus City. To help with meals for the workers, call Trish Woepking 319-212-0187. To help with the building, please call Jeff Everett 563-554-1864.

Entertainment at Fair Youth Center

Stop by for lunch and some entertainment this year at the newly constructed Youth Center at the Louisa County Fairgrounds today, Wednesday, July 24. Our 2012 Louisa County Fair Queen, Delaney Howell will perform, and then the Bowman Family on Thursday, July 25th will perform at the Youth Center during the lunch hour. Hope to see you at the fair!

Pie Auction at Fair

Come one, come all! It's fun to bring your homemade pie to be judged at the Louisa County Fair on Thursday, July 25th at 9 a.m. After judging at 11 a.m., then the pies will be auctioned off by local auctioneer, Bob Duncan. Proceeds go to the new building.

Events set for Historical Society

Step back into time at the Louisa County Historical Society's "Hot Summer Nights" Car Cruise, supper, and variety show on Highway 61 in Wapello on Saturday, August 3, 2013. There will be lots of cars on display starting at 4:00 p.m., serving of grilled pork sandwiches, hot dogs and all the trimming will begin at 5:00 p.m., and the variety show at 7:00 p.m. Lots of talent from around the county will provide entertainment in the stage room. Come out for a night of fun, food, and fellowship.

Live Well challenge

Columbus Junction and Wapello will be battling it out to see which town is the healthiest. Starting on Chief Wapello Days and going through Columbus Day, residents of Wapello and Columbus Junction will compete to see which town can record the most weight loss, activity minutes and participants. It's not just for people trying to lose weight though. If you just want to become more active you can just sign up for the physical activity challenge. The losing town will donate the number of pounds lost to the winning town's food pantry. Participants will log their weight and activity minutes monthly and prizes will be awarded to individuals in each town for most weight loss and most activity minutes. Participants can also sign up to get weekly newsletters with healthy living tips. Visit www.columbusjunctioniowa.org to register.

School Board to meet

The Board of Education for the Columbus Community School District will meet Monday, July 29, 2013 at 6:30 PM at the Columbus Administration Building, 1208 Colton Street, Columbus Junction, IA 52738.

Ice Cream Social at Spring Run

Spring Run Church, rural Winfield, will host its annual Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, August 6th. The menu again will include their famous hot chicken sandwich, beef burgers, baked beans, potato salad, pies, cake and, of course, homemade ice cream. Serving will be from 5-7 p.m. in the air-conditioned church. A free-will offering will be accepted for the meal.

Wednesday Walks with CJ Striders

Join fellow community members for weekly walks on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. We will meet in the Civic Center parking lot and walk various routes and distances each week. A regular walking schedule can help you lose weight, reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease, type II diabetes and cancer, strengthen your muscles and even improve your mood.

Community Club holds monthly meeting

By Donna Carpenter

The Columbus Community Club met at noon on Thursday, July 18, for their monthly meeting. President Joy Lekwa opened the meeting and Earlene Lekwa gave the prayer. The treasurer's report was given and Earlene stated that the current balance is \$6,299.92. Sarah Hand gave the secretary's report, recapping last month's meeting.

Committee reports were as follows:

Columbus Junction: Mayor Dan Wilson reported that the city continues to make progress on current projects. A new police officer has been hired, street work has been delayed until Tuesday, and the city has acquired a commercial recycling trailer for use in various locations around Columbus Junction. Dan commended Jared Todd for his excellent work on the new city website.

Columbus City: Mayor Mark Shearer reported that the water project is now complete. Forty meters will be installed.

Community Development: Jared Todd reported that he has been exploring funding for a soccer field out at the west fields. This will not impact the current baseball fields. He has applied for a grant and is looking into private sources of funding, as well.

Visitors from the Society for Economic Development (ISED) spoke with Jared in regard to a 2 year grant, which will assist Latino and women business owners. He stated that he will be gone for three and a half weeks, and then return for his last two weeks of his internship in August.

Mallory Smith told the group that intern Jane Ohde's last day would be on Friday, as the duration of her internship was six weeks. Jane's focus was on wellness, and she organized the CJ Strider's Walking Club, which meets on Wednesday's at 6:30 P.M. at the Civic Center. The Farmer's Market will be moving it's location to the new Youth Center on August 2. Mallory also informed the group about the Wellness Challenge with Wapello. The winning group will receive healthy food for their town's food pantry. The community Gardens and Quilt Gardens look fine. Mallory and Kathy Vance have begun another Chin Academy.

School: Joy reported for Dr. Johnson in her absence. Dr. Johnson is just returning from a Gear Up seminar in San Francisco. She was one of three superintendents in Iowa chosen to attend. The seminar will help support the work of the school's Gear Up program. The current senior class has participated in this program since middle school. Seniors who are eligible may receive up to \$2,600 per year from the Gear Up Iowa Scholarship program. To be eligible, students need to have completed the Gear Up program, obtain a high

school diploma, or equivalent, be a citizen or eligible non-citizen, be under the age of 22, and is enrolled for at least 3 semester hours of an undergraduate program in college.

Dr. Johnson held a parent meeting in June to gain ideas for involvement. One of the ideas resulting from that meeting is to begin a "Welcome Committee" that would assist new parents and students. The committee would be notified by the district when new families enroll in the school. One of the members of that committee would visit the new family, give tours of the district and community, as well as provide information about activities and opportunities in the school and the community. Anyone interested in being part of the "Welcome Committee" is encouraged to contact Dr. Johnson at the central office.

Principal Jeff Maeder noted that the Back to School Bash is being planned. It will be held from 5:00-7:00 on Thursday, August 15.

Extension: Kathy Vance introduced Whitney Wilson (soon to be Whitney Howell), as the new 4-H and K-12 Enrichment Coordinator. She began her duties July 1. Whitney has obtained a B.A. in psychology from UNI and is completing a Master's degree in Human Services. Kathy passed out fair schedules for the group and spoke in regard to the upcoming county fair. She also told the group that a new position, an Agriculture-Horticulture Generalist, has been created and the Extension of-

rice is currently advertising for it.

Susan Pretz remarked that the open house for the Youth Center was well-attended. She also told the group that Sunday, July 21 is the kick-off for the Louisa County Fair, and that it's the 121st year for the fair.

Bob Schultz told the group that the Bowman Family Singers will be entertaining fair goers from 11:30 until 1:00 on Thursday, July 25. Linda Pierce is looking into the possibility of other groups for Wednesday and Friday.

The Iowa State Fair will begin August 8 and preparations are on schedule. The Culture Center has been remodeled. Volunteers are needed on the first day of the fair to assist in packaging 250,000 meals.

Melanie Devore spoke about the upcoming Columbus Day and stated that there is no chairperson at this time. She contacted the County Nurse in regard to dispensing flu shots on October 12, and that is scheduled.

Melanie also talked about hosting a Swinging Bridge Festival on Saturday, June 14, 2014, and has developed some ideas for the occasion.

She also spoke in regard to some assistance she had received in regard to marketing and advertising from Kathy Vance. Kathy has volunteered to meet with people who'd like help with advertising.

The meeting adjourned with Sarah Hand offering brochures and pens from Colonial Manor to everyone in attendance.

