

# County Relay For Life raises \$40,000

## Briefly -

### Legion Auxiliary to meet

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet Tuesday evening, August 11, at 7 p.m. for the Girls' State report. Reminder: Dues are due NOW.

### Carey Reunion scheduled

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

### Salem Welsh Presbyterian Church info sought

The Salem Welsh Presbyterian Church of rural Columbus Junction has been active for 150 years. A special celebration is being planned for late September. If anyone has information concerning the history of the church during its time of existence, please forward the information to Rowland Rees, 12484 X Avenue, Columbus Junction, IA 52738, or to Harold Rees, 28368 100<sup>th</sup> Street, Crawfordsville, IA 52621 by August 20<sup>th</sup>.

### CCHS Class of 1994 to hold 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 Auker) Proehl at 712-250-2250 or [spiritedchic@hotmail.com](mailto:spiritedchic@hotmail.com) to sign up to golf. For further details contact Vanessa or Shannon (Story) Hampson at [shannon-hampson@uiowa.edu](mailto:shannon-hampson@uiowa.edu) or 319-360-8256.

### Health Center Committee to meet

The Liaison Committee for Community Health Centers of South-eastern Iowa's (CHC/SEI) Louisa County Clinic will meet Thursday, August 5 at 5 pm at the CJ Community Development Center, 232 Second St., Columbus Junction. The group meets monthly to advise the Board of Directors and management of CHC/SEI how they might better serve Louisa County residents. Newcomers are welcome. CHC/SEI provides local access to federally subsidized medical, dental and mental health services for low income families. For more information about the liaison committee please contact Mallory Smith at 319-728-7971.

### Grandview-Letts Lions Club 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.

### 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.

### Fall Festival in Lone Tree

The Lone Tree annual Fall Festival Parade sponsored by the Lone Tree Fire and Rescue will be held on August 15th, at 11:00 a.m. starting with a parade. Line-up will be from 9:00 - 10:30 A.M. at the North Park in Lone Tree.

### 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.



The American Legion Color Guard begin the Relay's opening ceremonies.

### 40,000 thanks to the People of Louisa County.

Last Saturday evening, under a beautiful sky, the tenth annual Louisa County Relay for Life was held at the L-M Track.

We honored survivors, and remembered those who lost the battle to cancer. If you were not there, you missed a great night.

Over five hundred luminaries lit the track as residents from all over Louisa County walked the track.

A stirring opening ceremony began the evening which included a flag raising, the national anthem, survivor introductions, the survivor lap, caregivers lap, team introductions and lap.

Throughout the rest of the evening numerous events were held to commemorate those who we have lost.

This wonderful evening would not have been possible without the generosity of the people and businesses of Louisa County and the many volunteers who helped our committee throughout the night. We sincerely appreciate everyone's help.

# 2009 Fair deemed an overwhelming success

Mother Nature looked favorably on Louisa County last week as cool and dry weather was on the menu for the 2009 edition of the Louisa County Fair.

Large crowds were on hand every day of the week, and exhibits of livestock, produce, crafts and antiques could be found in every building. A very nice carnival was also present to entertain the many young people who attended this year.

A special credit needs to be given to the Fair Board and volunteers who worked so hard to put the fairgrounds in great shape. The grounds were under water three times this summer, and after each drenching the Fair Board was on duty pumping and cleaning out the buildings. The grounds never looked better than they did this year. A great job by everyone.

The Gazette and Wapello Republican will again be jointly producing our Fair Souvenir Issue. This publication will be distributed in a couple of weeks as results become available.

A special good luck to all of the winners as they advance to the State Fair.



Wade Edwards judges Addison Randall's calf in the Future Livestock Exhibitor Show

## City works on basement flooding issues

By Jim Rudisill

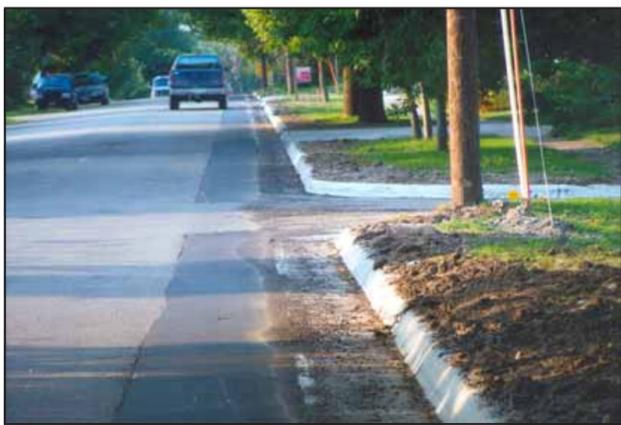
Although there was little to report, Columbus Junction city officials did learn during the council's July 22 meeting that engineers have been in town in an effort to track down a cause for reported sewer backups and other water problems. Mayor Pro-Tem Mark Huston said he did not have any information on what was found during the investigation.

"French-Reneker was in town looking at manholes," was the only report he was able to provide. Huston was filling in for Mayor Dan Wilson, who was attending the visitation for his mother, who passed away July 20.

According to previous discussions, the engineers are searching for roof drainages that might be illegally connected to the city's sewer system, malfunctioning manhole covers and other potential entries for runoff and other excess water. Most of the owners who have reported problems this summer were located in the south end of the community and had problems after heavy rains hit the area.

The city council agreed to hire the Fairfield engineering firm, which does much of the city's engineering work, at its July 8 meeting.

Although Huston did not have any report from the engineers, council member Hal Prior did provide information for the engineers to in-



New curb on 2nd Street

vestigate. Prior, whose home had been one impacted by the high water, said he had recently looked at a manhole cover near his property and discovered it did not have a plug.

Although Prior said it appeared water could be entering the manhole, he was unsure.

"If that's at a point where it could get a lot of water, I don't know," he said.

In other action, the council also learned the repairs on Second Street are going well. Officials said the curb had been poured and crews were now working on driveway accesses. Council member Curt Pierce asked if the

road crew would be backfilling the curbs on the property owners' side. Huston said although that might be the owners' responsibility, he thought the crews would be doing the work.

In final action, Huston said he and city clerk Julie Heindel had recently attended a meeting with the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission on the status of buyout properties in the area. Four properties are eligible for buyout in Columbus Junction because of last summer's flooding, and Huston said they would likely qualify for the buyout, but no final decision had been made.

## Public Health reviews H1N1 prevention programs

Louisa County Public Health encourages residents to learn how to protect themselves against H1N1 Influenza. With reports of confirmed cases in Des Moines and Lee counties, LCPH Administrator Alana Poage is urging all citizens to be aware of symptoms and to take measures to prevent the illness from spreading.

"There is a lot of misinformation circulating," states Poage, "And we at public health want everyone to have good and correct information

about how they can protect their own health."

An ill person coughing or sneezing spreads H1N1. The flu virus can also be left on objects such as telephones and door knobs. People should frequently wash their hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand gel when hand washing is not an option. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth until your hands have been thoroughly cleaned. Cover all coughs or sneezes and use

tissues only once then throw them away in a proper container.

Those who experience a temperature of more than 100 degrees with a cough, sore throat and extreme tiredness should contact their health care provider by phone for recommendations on testing and treatment.

For more information, call Louisa County Public Health at (319) 523-3981 or visit the Iowa Public Health Department Web site at [www.idph.state.is.us/h1n1](http://www.idph.state.is.us/h1n1).

## Louisa Builders Network sets Open House

Louisa County, Iowa – An open house is set for Louisa County Builders at the Briggs Center located at 317 N Water St, Wapello, IA 52653 the meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2009. The Louisa Builders Network meeting will inform and answer questions about the network that local builders might have. It will also discuss future features the website is hoping to achieve. Builders should come to the meeting for information and get signed up on the LBN.com website. Food and refreshments will be served.

Commercial, industrial, or residential website visitors can easily find a local contractor based on the type of work needing to be done whether it's excavating for a foundation, business expansion, or residential home solutions you can search the network.

Contractors are also listed by name and community to make searching faster and easier. LouisaBuildersNetwork.com is being driven by Louisa Development Group with the help of a local builders committee.

Creating relationships and presence between the Louisa County public/private sectors and Louisa County contractors is the premise of the project, but the results should extend even further. According to Louisa Development Group director Elias Gutierrez, the network will help Louisa County grow: "Naturally when payroll is added to a community jobs are created and so is spending, consumption is what we need for sustainable growth. If the network can help keep our building sector busy, keep and create jobs, start new busi-

nesses and encourage entrepreneurship – perfect."

To find a local contractor or to learn more about the network, visit [www.LouisaBuildersNetwork.com](http://www.LouisaBuildersNetwork.com). Computers for public use can be found in all Louisa County libraries. In addition, printed copies of the list are available by calling 319-457-0077. Funding for LouisaBuildersNetwork.com has been provided by grants from Community Foundation of Louisa County and Alliant Energy.

Louisa Development Group is a member-supported economic development and marketing organization serving Louisa County, Iowa. Memberships are available at several levels. For more information about Louisa Builders Network or the open house, call (319) 457-0077.