



Your Award Winning Hometown Newspaper

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# Louisa County Fair Royalty Crowned

## Briefly -



## 2012 Louisa County Fair

Hot July weather did not keep fairgoers away from the 2012 edition of the Louisa County Fair, as large crowds were on hand from the opening day's garden tractor pull to the final livestock show of the week. The 7-day event was highlighted by the crowning of the Louisa County Royalty - (above) Princess, Kennedy Rife and Fair Queen, Delaney Howell and (top left) 4-H King, Alex Mincer and 4-H Queen, Samantha Jamison.

Cloverkids Livestock Exhibitor, Victoria Howell and Columbus FFA Member, Trevor Conaway were among the area youth to participate in the many events featured throughout the week.

PHOTOS BY TAMMY K. VIRZI

## Doctor Dan Crawford honored at joint meeting of scientific societies

Dan Crawford, University of Kansas, was honored during a joint meeting of six scientific societies July 7-11 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. A colloquium honoring Dan and Tod Stuessy, his former colleague and collaborator at Ohio State who is currently at the University of Vienna, included eleven presentations with over 40 authors. The theme of the colloquium was plant evolution on oceanic islands. Speakers came from the Canary Islands, Hawaii, California, Florida, Texas, Connecticut, New Mexico, and Washington, DC. Nearly all of the presenters were graduate students or postdoctoral associates of Dan and Tod, or are collaborators on current research projects. Dan is pictured above on a cliff above the Atlantic Ocean in the Canary Islands with new plant species on one of his several research expeditions there. Submitted photo.



## Louisa County Jumpers Set World Record

History was made at the Louisa County Fair on July 27th and 28th as eight Louisa County high school students jumped their way into the Guinness Book of World Records. The group started jumping at 10:45 on Thursday and broke the current record of twenty-six hours that was set in Rossford Ohio in 2011, at 12:45 on Friday. For good measure the group kept jumping an additional hour to establish a new world record of twenty-seven hours. The team of jumpers represented all three Louisa County high schools, Wapello, Columbus and L-M. Members of the team were Collin Bieri, 16 of Letts, Geneva Knutson, 17, of Wapello, Brandon Bieri, 16 of Letts, Trey Kauffman, 18 of Wapello, Christine Milder, 17 of Columbus Junction, Mitchell Roush, 17 of Columbus Junction, Jessica Breon, 18 of

Wapello; and Logan Osborn, 16 of Grandview. Each of the jumpers took twenty minute shifts for the twenty-seven hour duration. A large group of area residents gathered and counted down the final seconds as the new record was established. The entire team of eight jumpers entered the bounce house for the last five minutes as the world record was set. Tired but happy the team celebrated their new world record by each signing world record t-shirts that will be donated to area museums.

The record was set in a bounce house that was manufactured in Louisa County by Wapello Fabrications. Numerous businesses and individuals contributed to the success of the attempt. Minute sponsorships were sold for ten dollars with the proceeds being split between the Louisa Development Group and the new Louisa County Fair Youth Center. The world record attempt was sponsored by the Louisa Development Group.

## My Coffee Cup

By Mary Masonholder Wilson  
Gazette Staff

I, like many people, enjoy a morning cup of coffee, or two. It is part of my getting up routine. The morning paper, which at our house is *The Des Moines Register*, and a cup of coffee just go together. In fact, if my day does not start this way, I know things aren't going to go right.

I have a favorite coffee cup, and it has a story behind it. In the fall of 1978, I was teaching at Columbus High School and directing the school play. I was pregnant and on the last night of the play, I began to have some problems. I had to have some repair surgery and stay in bed for two months.

Kim Howell, daughter of Joe and Carol Ann Howell, was involved in the school play, and she sent a flower arrangement to the hospital for me that was in a pottery cup. Kim is now married, is Kim Carson, has children, and over 30 years have passed since she sent the cup. But you can guess. This pottery cup is my favorite coffee cup to this day.

It is brown, gray, and tan. It now has a chip in it, right on the rim too, which is not a good place for a drinking vessel to have a flaw. I didn't use this cup for several years due to this chip. In fact, I once had it on the counter to throw away. But I just couldn't do it. I also "lost" this cup for a few years as it got put someplace else and wasn't seen for a long time.

Now, I use it all the time, chip and all. I love the way it feels in my hands. Pottery keeps coffee warm longer, and I trust my cup to maintain the temperature of my coffee while I read the paper. In the winter, the cup keeps my hands warm, and sometimes I don't even put it down.

I cherish my coffee cup, and I hope it lasts a lot more years. I wonder if Kim even remembers giving it to me. Thanks, Kim—it's been a mighty good cup.

## Ainsworth Opera House

Ainsworth Community Center/Opera House will hold their breakfast buffet on Saturday August 4th, 2012 at 284 Railroad St. in Ainsworth. Cost is \$7 per person children, 10 and under, free with adult. Our hours are 7 am to 9 am. We will have biscuits and gravy, ham, bacon, links, scrambled eggs, hash browns, pancakes, 6 different salads, fresh fruit, and more. This is a fundraiser for the Opera House. We will not be holding breakfast in September but will be back for October and November and then doing nativity display this year in December. Thank you for supporting our efforts to keep the Opera House up and running. Hope to see you there.

## Class of 1977 Reunion

The Class of 1977 will be holding their 35th reunion (Yes, 35! Wow), on Saturday, August 11, at the Thirsty Camel at 6:00 pm. We will order off menu (everyone paying for own meals), we will be dancing to Crusin' at 9:00. We have a number of classmates that we have been unable to contact. Any help, with contacting them, from other friends or relatives, would be so very much appreciated! We would welcome any former teachers who would like to attend! If you have questions or contact info please contact Cindy Runyon Baker at: [Randyncindy@iowatelecom.net](mailto:Randyncindy@iowatelecom.net) or Mike Jay at: [mikejay59@gmail.com](mailto:mikejay59@gmail.com) or text or call 319-530-6775.

## Class of 1982 Reunion

Attention Columbus Community Class of 1982 (and parents): Some of us have been making plans for our 30th year class reunion. We still need some addresses; if you can help—that would be great! We want to find as many classmates as possible. Our plans are: Columbus Day Weekend—Friday, October 12th at 7 p.m. meet and greet at Rumors and Excuses; Saturday, October 13th watch parade at Rumors and Excuses, 5-8 p.m. dinner at the Thirsty Camel, then go to excluded location for a night of fun. Any questions or addresses please call Deb (Sands) Halstead at 319-750-2636.

## Annual Jack Cecil Car Show

The 2nd Annual Jack Cecil Columbus Day Car Show will be held on Saturday, October 13th from 8-noon, registration ends at 10 with awards at 11:15. Bring your hot rod, custom, muscle or classic car or truck, even motorcycle to join in raising money for a local family impacted by cancer. This is held in conjunction with the Columbus Day Celebration. Come join the festivities, join in the parade after and have fun with the crowd. We are asking a \$20 entry donation to help raise funds. Top 25 awards, Best of Show, special awards also. Door prizes are being sought, for more information contact Curt Larkin 641-990-4436 or [curt.larkin@johnston.k12.ia.us](mailto:curt.larkin@johnston.k12.ia.us). Special invite to the class of '82 to bring out your special rides and relive some of the "high school" spirit during your reunion!

## Cross Country Fund Raiser

The Columbus High School cross country team is hosting two fundraising races at Chinkipin Bluffs Recreation Area. They are at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, August 2, and Thursday, August 9. The distance is 3 miles for walkers and runners. There is also a 1-mile run for kids age 12 and under. Cost is \$5. For more information, call Coach Steve Riley (319-217-0130) or you can download an entry form at <http://www.runlouisacounty.info>.

## Community Club blood drive

The Columbus Junction Community Club will host a community blood drive today, Wednesday, August 1st from 1:30-6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall located at 99 Second Street, Columbus Junction. To donate, please contact Kirsten Shellabarger at 319-728-2414 or e-mail her at: [Kirsten@horakinsurance.com](mailto:Kirsten@horakinsurance.com). Walk-ins welcome! Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org)) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo I.D. or MVRBC Donor Card is required to donate. To schedule an appointment for donation, please call the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center at (800) 747-5401. Donors who last gave blood on or before June 6, 2012 are eligible to give blood at this drive.

## Grandview Letts Lions Blood drive

The Grandview-Letts Lions Club is sponsoring a blood drive on Thursday, August 2, 2012, from 1:30-6:30 p.m. at the Letts Library/Community Building. To donate, contact Marvin and Margaret Thomas at 319-726-3286 or email them at: [mmthomas@iowatelecom.net](mailto:mmthomas@iowatelecom.net). Please eat before donating and bring photo ID. Last date to donate elsewhere is 6-7-2012.

## Lone Tree Fall Festival

The annual Lone Tree Fall Festival is sponsored by the Lone Tree Chamber of Commerce (P.O. Box 675, Lone Tree, Iowa 52755). This year's festival will be held on August 17-18. Events begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, and the festival closes Saturday night at 10 p.m. For more information, call 319-629-4222 and ask for Ken, Kris, Elaine or Russ. Also visit our web pages at [www.lonetreeiowa.com](http://www.lonetreeiowa.com).

## School Board to meet

The Board of Education for the Columbus Community School District will hold a special public meeting on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 at 1 p.m. at the Columbus Administrative Office.

## Spring Run Ice Cream Social

Spring Run Church is having an ice cream social to be held on Tuesday, August 7th. Serving begins at 5 p.m.

## Crooked Creek Days Talent Show

Winfield's Crooked Creek Day committee is looking for area talent to participate in their CCD Bill Riley Talent Show. The event will be held at 9:00 am, Saturday, August 4th in the Winfield High School gym. Contestants are asked to arrive by 8:15 am. Winners will be eligible to advance to the Iowa State Fair. There are two categories, Sprouts: ages 2 through 12 years, and Seniors: ages 13 through 21 years. Acts are limited to three minutes. The committee welcomes a variety of acts and will accept a limited number of acts on a first come-first serve basis, as the time is limited due to the parade, which will follow the talent show. We invite local youth to come and showcase their talents at the annual Winfield Crooked Creek Day celebration. For more information call Sharon Jennings at (319) 259-6632 or email [smjen@iowatelecom.net](mailto:smjen@iowatelecom.net).

## Louisa County Relay For Life

Louisa County's Relay For Life has been set for Saturday, August 4, 2012 at the L-M High School.

Visit

[www.thecolumbusgazette.com](http://www.thecolumbusgazette.com)



Be sure to make plans for Louisa County Relay For Life