

2010 Columbus Day Distinguished Citizens

Briefly -

Alzheimer's Memory Walk

Morning Sun Care Center (MSCC) is a sponsor of the annual Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk that will take place October 9th at 9:00 a.m. in Crapo Park, Burlington. A team of employees will be walking to raise funds that will benefit the care, support, and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. "I'm very proud of the MSCC staff for taking part in this walk," says Kenny Mattson, Director of Nursing. "They see the toll that Alzheimer's takes on both the residents and their families. We want to do what we can to help find a cure for this terrible disease that robs people of their future and their past." To walk with or financially support the MSCC team, stop by the care center or call 319-868-7751.

Legion Auxiliary to meet

The next American Legion Auxiliary meeting will be Tuesday, October 12th, at 7 p.m. Dee Gentzler will be hostess.

Coffee and Cinnamon Rolls

Coffee and Cinnamon rolls will be served at 8:00 a.m. at the Assisted Living Facility adjacent to Colonial Manor on Thursday October 24th the public is invited to attend.

Columbus Day Tractor Show

The Columbus Day Tractor Show will be held on Saturday, October 9, 2010, on the North End of Main Street in Columbus Junction. Please bring your tractor, or machinery to show, so they are in place by 9:00 a.m. At 12:30 we will take them up to the school to line them up for the parade. Please do not bring candy to throw from the tractors, as we do not want anyone hurt. Please register to Lee and Carol Foster, 20446 Highway 92, Columbus Junction, Iowa 52738, or to OUR SHOP, 106 Main Street, Suite 100, Columbus Junction, Iowa 52738-1028.

FFA to sell fruit, meat and snacks

The Columbus FFA will be selling fruit, meat, snack sticks, cheese and string cheese, snacks, and Casey's Cares Cards until Wednesday, October 27th. All money goes towards sending students to leadership events, local activities, and contests. If you would like to place an order or have questions, please contact Katie McWhirter at 319-728-2231 x 3621.

FFA Petting Zoo

The Columbus FFA will be under the viaduct with a petting zoo from 9:00 a.m. until noon this Saturday. In addition, they will have apples, caramel and fall decorations to sell. Stop down and guess the number of corn kernels and soybeans in jars. If you are the closest, you will win a prize! Bring your kids and buy some treats!

Fredonia in need of council member

Needing a City Council member for the Fredonia Council. Please contact Al at 563-571-0226 if interested.

Half Hour Club to meet

The Half Hour Club will meet on October 12th at So Dear To My Heart Bed and Breakfast for a noon lunch. We will meet at the Weber Huston parking lot at 11:30 a.m. to carpool. Please let Rose Wagoner know if you are going by October 8th. After lunch and tour of the Bed and Breakfast we will proceed to Colonial Manor Assisted Living for a tour.

Retired School Personnel to meet

The Louisa County Retired School Personnel will meet Wednesday, October 13th. We will join Henry County on buses for the "Tour of Barn Quilts". We will meet at 10 o'clock at UNC & NEPH'S, in Washington for the one and a half hour tour. Then return to the restaurant and hear the speaker. Call Sandra Kongable at 257-6683 to reserve a seat, and to find the cost.

Lions Club Columbus Day breakfast

Start off Columbus Day by joining the Columbus Junction Lions Club for a Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast at the Senior Center from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. Menu: Biscuits and Sausage Gravy, Jelly, Honey, Coffee, Milk, Orange Juice. Prices: Adults - \$5.00, and Kids (under 12) - \$2.00.

Fill the Jeep for our Veterans

On Columbus Day, October 9th, the American Legion Auxiliary #100 will sponsor "Jeep for Veterans" in the Econ-O-Mart parking lot from 8 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (noon) Please help us fill the Jeep with items such as batteries, playing cards, puzzle books, microwave popcorn, powdered drinks, packaged cheese and crackers, packaged cookies, personal items for women, plus many other items. These items will be sent to our veterans overseas. Let's show them we care and express our Thanks for preserving our freedoms.

Farmers' Market news

The Columbus Junction Farmers Market is held every Friday 4:30 to 6:30 at the American Legion parking lot. The last day for the 2010 market season will be Friday, October 15. Buy fresh and local and taste the difference. For more information contact Mallory or Nitza at 319-728-7971.

Firemen's Ball is back

The C.J. Firemen will be holding a Halloween Bash on Saturday, October 30th at the fire station from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. featuring Trent Avery and Buckshot. A \$5 donation will be accepted.

CCHS Class of 1975 Reunion

The Class of 1975 will hold their 35-year class reunion on the weekend of October 8th and 9th. On Friday, October 8th we'll meet at Dixie and Skip Seitz's at 6:00 p.m. for a tailgating party before heading over to the game - bring the beverage of your choice. On Saturday, we'll meet on the North side of the school at 1:00 p.m. where we'll be lining up to ride on our class float in the Columbus Day parade. Then, at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday night, join us for dinner at the Cedarcrest Country Club. For further information or to RSVP for the dinner contact: Dixie Seitz at blastoff4321@hotmail.com or Doris Keldgord at 563-264-2136 or dmk57@hotmail.com. **Special note:** Any CCHS alumni or teachers (past and present) who would like to "crash" the party at Cedarcrest on Saturday night are welcome to drop in at 7:30 p.m. or later.

CCHS Class of 1970 Reunion

Come to Columbus Day, October 9th to celebrate our class reunion. Meet by the water tower at 1:30 p.m. to watch the parade. Stop by Steve and Bev Nielsen's home, 830 Colonial Ave., at 5:00 p.m. for a casual gathering. Contact classmates to let them know everyone is invited.

CCHS Class of 1965 Reunion

Columbus Community Class of 1965 will meet on Saturday October 9th at the Thirsty Camel at 6:30 p.m.

Mark and Jennifer Huston



If one wants to find Mark Huston in his role on the Fair Board, the best place to look is at the end of a shovel at the fairgrounds. Mark has served on the Fair Board for thirty years, and as he does in all of the organizations he belongs to, he prefers the work over the spotlight. And right along with Mark is his wife, Jennifer, providing support, running errands, and keeping things in order at home. "We consider ourselves a team in any community group we serve on," Mark said, "Jennifer is just as involved as I am, but like me, she would rather work behind the scenes."

Mark and Jennifer are both Columbus graduates, Mark graduating in 1972 and Jennifer in 1977. Mark serves as president of Columbus Junction State Bank, and Jennifer is a homemaker. They have two sons, Joseph and Johnathan, both currently students at Iowa State University, Mark's alma mater.

In continuing a long history of community service begun by his grandfather and the his dad, Mark is an integral part of many Columbus Community organizations. He has served on the city council since 1993, serving as mayor pro-tem; is a

twenty-five year member of the United Fund; chairman of the Columbus Medical Facility Board; chairman of the Wildcats First group; secretary to the Colonial Manor Board; serves on the SEIRP Commission Board; was chairman of the committee that organized the three city sewer project between Columbus Junction, Columbus City and Fredonia; and serves on the Columbus Junction State Bank Board.

As Mark indicated, Jennifer is the go-to-person for the family in these roles. Jennifer has worked in the Fair Board kitchen for several years, and during the flood of 2008 she was on the road nearly everyday getting materials, equipment and supplies for the city's flood battle. The Huston family volunteered to lay the sod on the baseball field, and Jennifer was right there, laying the sod. She has also helped mow the football field for a number of years. If Mark is involved, you can be assured that Jennifer will be there also.

Families like Mark and Jennifer Huston are what makes communities such as ours work, and the Columbus Community Club is very proud to have them as Distinguished Citizens for Columbus Day 2010.

Jim and Bonnie Gabriel



"I approach community service activities thinking about the many things my Dad did for the community," said Jim Gabriel in discussing his community involvement. Jim is another of those individuals who, by working behind the scenes, accomplishes much but is hardly seen. And as with most service minded individuals, Jim has a partner who works hand in hand with him, his wife, Bonnie.

Jim graduated from Columbus Community High School in 1968, attended Lea College where he participated in football and wrestling, and obtained his degree from Parsons College. Bonnie graduated from Hayes High School in Muscatine in 1968, and obtained her degree from the University of Northern Iowa. Jim spent 32 years at L-M High School, teaching science, health and wellness and peer helping. He also had an extensive coaching career, including wrestling and volleyball, in which he started both programs; baseball; track; golf; and Jr. High girls' basketball for one year. He now owns and operates Gabriel Construction.

Bonnie taught at Winfield - Mt. Union schools for 21 years, and now works for the Area Education Association as a math consultant.

They have two sons, Chris and Ben, both graduates of Columbus Community. Chris and his wife, Car-

rie, live in Liberty, Missouri, where Chris is an assistant principal, and Carrie is a teacher. They have two sons, Grant and Blake. Ben lives in Astoria, New York, and is a movie stunt man and also is in the restaurant business.

After leaving teaching, Jim, with the help of Bonnie, became involved in the "Keep Iowa Beautiful Organization," eventually playing a major role in establishing a local affiliation, "Keep Columbus Beautiful." The Gabriels also were instrumental in organizing the Class of 1968 Memorial Bench and lights on the school grounds. "I wanted the flag to be lit during the night hours in memory of my Dad's military service," said Jim, "so the project was expanded to include lighting for the flag."

Jim also serves on the city's Park and Recreation Board, and both Bonnie and Jim are always available to help in projects for the Columbus Booster Club.

Jim and Bonnie Gabriel are another example of individuals who have continued a role of community service began by their parents, and now extends on to the present generation. The Columbus Community Club is very proud to honor Jim and Bonnie Gabriel as 2010 Columbus Day Distinguished Citizens.

"How do we get to the the Swinging Bridge?"

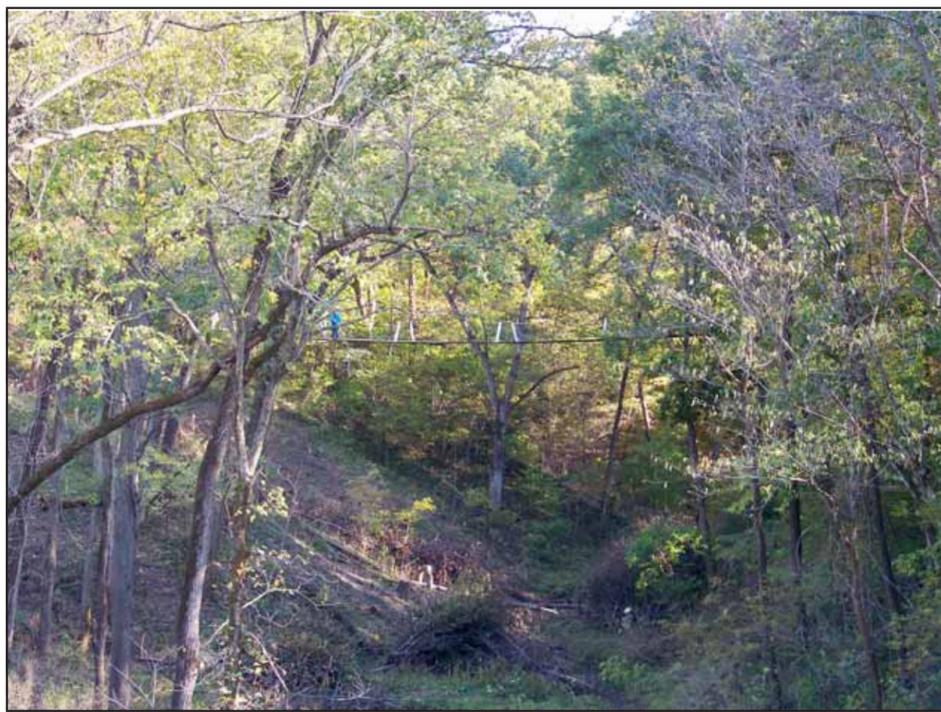
By John Carpenter
Gazette Staff

The headline above is a phrase that people in the community hear countless times from visitors to the town wanting to see our most famous attraction. However, we may not be hearing that question for long.

Through the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Board, the city council has undertaken a project to make the bridge more visible to tourists and all passerbys. An extensive tree and brush removal program is now underway in the ravine under the bridge that is designed to not only make the bridge visible from Highway 92, but improve the overall appearance of the area as well as return the vegetation to a more natural look.

"This project should not only make the bridge easily visible on Highway 92," said Mayor Dan Wilson, "but also with the increased visibility it should limit vandalism."

The council plans to enhance the project by implementing additional landscaping along the highway and around the city's building that is at the entrance to the Swinging Bridge area. The photo was taken from Highway 92. Can you see the bridge?



The Roundy Way

Pictured is one of two signs that will soon be installed on the street adjacent to the American Legion.

At a recent meeting the City Council decided to rename the road in honor of Beryl and Sime Roundy. The official dedication of the street will take place on Columbus Day.

It is a fitting honor to a couple who not only were important members of the community during their business days, but remained important members even after their retirement. Be sure to come to Columbus Day to help dedicate the street in honor of the Roundy Way.

