

Community Update from the Mayor

I am very pleased to announce that the City of Columbus Junction has been awarded \$695,000 for levee improvements. Ours was one of 15 statewide infrastructure projects that were approved by the State of Iowa for flood mitigation. This is in addition to the \$3.8 million in funding for our new water treatment plant. These two projects will allow us to make significant improvements to our community.

This levee project has been a top priority for the city council since 2008. All of the businesses and non-profit organizations that reinvested in our community and worked diligently to reopen here need to be protected and need our support. Several attempts have been made to secure the funding necessary to raise the levees and make needed improvements. Our persistence has finally been rewarded and we can now move forward with this project.

We have made significant progress since the summer of 2008. The response of the people of our community to the flooding disaster and the spirit displayed by this community in rebuilding and recovering from the disaster has been much publicized. The State of Iowa, from the Governor's Office, to the Rebuild Iowa Office, and the Department of Economic Development are all aware of this community effort and I believe it has played a major role in the awarding of these funds.

As I mentioned, part of the rebuilding process is continued support. I want to call on the citizens of our community to give continuing support to these businesses that reinvested and rebuilt in our community. Each of these businesses and non-profit organizations is important to us and we want to have all of them succeed in our community and be



Existing levee from Highway 92 North to the railroad tracks

here for us in the future.

I want to mention two of these businesses in particular. Our Senior Center is an asset to this community and there are many activities and meetings that take place in the center. No organization worked harder to rebuild and recover than the Senior Center Board of Directors. One of the essential services the Senior Center provides to our community is the congregating meals and the "meals on wheels" service. We lost this service for awhile and it was not an easy task to get it back. Now we need the community to support this effort to keep the meal site open and available to those who need it. The numbers

of people who participate and use the meal site will determine whether this service remains in our community. I believe it should, and with your help, it will. Stop in and see what is happening and how you can help keep this service in Columbus Junction.

I also want to comment on the pharmacy. This is a vital service to our community and we are fortunate to have it here. We all know what it was like during the summer of 2008 when we were forced to go out of town for prescriptions. With mail order prescriptions and other area competition it is important for everyone consider using our local pharmacy. They have a very professional

and helpful staff and their service is excellent. Where else can you find a pharmacy that will call you to make sure you pick up your prescription and have your medicines for the weekend!

The success in continuing services like these will depend on community support and local patronage. Once they are gone it is very difficult to get them back. We got them back once, after the flood, let's not lose them again! I don't believe it will cost you any more to do your business locally and it will help insure these businesses and services remain in our community.

Thanks, Mayor Dan Wilson

Fitness Center celebrates 2nd Anniversary

By John Carpenter
Gazette Staff

Two years open and still serving the fitness needs of the area, is the best way to describe the success of the Women's Fitness Center. As earlier reported, New U Fitness, owned by Jeannene Clark, was one of the victims of the flood of 2008. Jeannene was able to save the equipment, but she wasn't interested in reopening the business. Jeannene put the word out that she would donate the equipment to an organization that would be willing to operate a fitness center.

That's when a group of women who had been members of Jeannene's Center came forward with the desire to reopen the center for area women. They formed a non-profit corporation, and with Jeannene's generous contribution, began looking for a location. The Columbus City Government had just moved to a new location, so arrangements were made to rent the former

Columbus City hall. The hall's interior was repainted, a new ceiling was installed, and the equipment was moved and installed in November of 2008.

The center is now celebrating their second anniversary, and continues to offer an affordable method for area women to have a safe and convenient place to exercise. "We have been determined to keep our memberships affordable," said treasurer Carla Shellabarger, "and feel that we are the best bargain available for women's health dollars."

Membership in the Women's Health Center has remained at \$30 per month (\$1 per day) and the center offers a special rate of \$75 for three months, a savings of \$15 off the monthly price. Due to demand, a second elliptical machine has been installed, and plans are in place to add a television to help members pass time as they exercise. One of the members cleans the facility, and another member performs routine main-



New Elliptical machine at the Women's Fitness Center

tenance on the equipment. "This is truly a group undertaking," said board member Dianne Bohling, "and we're always open to suggestions to keep our facility functional and comfortable." A keyless entry system allows members to exercise at their convenience. "With the touch pad lock, some of our members exercise after their children go to bed and their husbands are home," said Shellabarger, "a definite advantage for women with young families or unusual work hours." Membership in the Columbus Women's Fitness Center is open to all area women, and tours or in-

struction in the use of the equipment can be arranged. To join, or for more information, contact H&R Block or the Columbus Gazette.

The Columbus Women's Fitness Center is an example of what a group of dedicated citizens can accomplish when they are determined to not allow an event like the flood of 2008 hamper the quality of life in the Columbus Community. Congratulations to the Center on their second anniversary, and an open invitation is extended to all area women to check out the advantages of membership.

Parent-Teacher Conferences soon

It is important to discuss your student's progress with teachers, administrators, and counselors. Familiarizing yourself with the building and discussing learning strategies that are being used will give you insight into your child's learning.

Appointments are not necessary for students in the 6th-12th grades. Sixth grade conferences will be held at the Roundy Library and 7th-12th conferences will be held in the high school student center and gymnasium. Kinder-5th have appointed times that are going home with students on October 29th. Mark your calendars: Tuesday, November 9th and Thursday, November 11th from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Columbus Community Schools are working hard to build connections with the community and parents. Our goal is to see 100% of our students' parents and guardians.

With questions you may call 319-728-2231 for the JH/High School and 319-728-6218 for Roundy Elementary.

Briefly -

Sons of Legion Soup Supper

Sons of the American Legion will hold their annual soup supper on Saturday, November 6, 2010 with a social hour at 5:00 and supper at 6:00 p.m. All Legion members, Auxiliary, Sons members and spouses are invited.

Community Bank Travel Club

Saturday, December 4th come Join us for a Christmas trip to Maquoketa to see "THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER", put on by the Maquoketa Community Theatre. This will be a great opportunity to get out, have a great early mystery meal, and see a wonderful Christmas show. We will leave the CJ city parking lot at 1:45 p.m. and will arrive back to CJ around 10:45 p.m. This comedy is about the holiday pageant that is held at the school each year, and all the chaos and resolutions that follow. This show will truly make you laugh until you cry. PLEASE PAY WHEN YOU SIGN UP! Cost is \$75.00. Call Carol Ann as soon as possible.

Congregate Meals Spanish invitation

Ay reunion de comida de Lunes a Viernes a las 12 p.m. diario. Estan invitados a venir a comer, precios son adultos de 60 arriba \$3.50 y adultos de 59 abajo \$8.45. Se necesita hacer reservacion por lo menos un dia antes de ir, antes de la 1 p.m. Tiene que pagar en la oficina, localizacion en el Senior Center aqui en Columbus Junction.

Conesville Methodist Fall Supper

The Conesville United Methodist Church will hold its Fall Supper on Thursday, November 4th at 5 p.m. in the Conesville Community Center. The menu includes: Ham balls, mashed potatoes, homemade noodles, green beans, salads, rolls, pies and cakes, coffee and tea.

Turkey Supper in Winfield

The Winfield United Methodist Church will be serving its annual turkey with all the trimmings supper Wednesday November 10th. Serving starts at 5:00, cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children ages 5 to 10 and four years and under are free. Don't miss one of the best meals in SE Iowa, from turkey to desserts there is food galore. Come hungry, leave stuffed!

Half Hour Club to meet

Half Hour Club will meet Tuesday, November 9th at 1:30 p.m., at Columbus City Methodist Church. Hostesses are Judy Chapman and Janet Vincent. The program will be State Representative Tom Sands. Roll call: What I'm most thankful for. Please bring your shoe box to the meeting.

L-M Elementary Veterans' Concert

Louisa-Muscataine Elementary School would like to invite all area veterans to a concert of patriotic music that the 6th grade students have prepared to honor veterans. It will be held "at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month" (Thursday, Nov. 11th at 11 a.m.) in the music room of L-M Elementary School, which is right inside the front door with very little walking involved. The concert will last about 45 minutes, and will include a narrated slide show prepared by a veteran of the Korean Conflict whose grandson will be one of the singers. Spouses will be welcome, although space will be at a premium!

Historical Society to meet

Louisa County Historical Society will meet at the Museum on Saturday, November 6, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. with a meal catered in. Serving starts at 5:30 p.m. cost is \$8.00 per person. Please call one of the following numbers for reservations: Valeen 319-523-5631, Kenny 319-523-4842, Phyllis 319-729-2821, Norma 319-728-8818.

Health & Safety Fair in Morning Sun

The Morning Sun Care Center will hold a Health and Safety Fair on Monday, November 8th from 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the Morning Sun Community Center, 106 N. Main. Food will be available on site.

Breakfast at Ainsworth Opera House

The Ainsworth Opera House will be holding their last buffet of the year on Saturday, November 6th, 2010, from 7-9 a.m. Cost is \$7 for adults. Children 10 and under are free with an adult. Ainsworth Opera House is located at 284 Railroad Street, Ainsworth, IA. Many breakfast items are on the menu. This is a fundraiser for the Opera House. Please join us!

Chicken & Biscuits at Pleasant Grove

Pleasant Grove Community Church is having their annual Chicken n' Biscuit supper, Wednesday, November 10th, from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars for an evening of good food, good friends, and good fellowship. We will be serving, Creamed chicken over biscuits, maid-rites, salad bar, pie and drink. Free will offering.

St. Joseph's Harvest Fest Breakfast

You are cordially invited to attend Columbus Junction's St. Joseph's Catholic Church Harvest Breakfast on Sunday, November 7, 2010 from 7-11 a.m. It will be held at the Columbus Junction Senior Center, Walnut Street. The cost is \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children 5-12. There will also be a country store and bake sale.

United Methodist Soup Dinner

Put Sunday December 5, 2010 on your calendars for the soup dinner fundraiser at the C.J. United Methodist Church. Serving begins at 11:45 a.m. all you can eat soup, veggies and desserts. (no need to cook that day, mom).

Veterans' Day at Roundy Elementary

Area Veteran's, their families, and friends are invited to attend the Veteran's Day assembly at Roundy Elementary. The assembly will start at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 11th. If you have any questions or would like to display any memorabilia, please contact Sue Vogeler at Roundy Elementary 319-728-6218.

Chicken & Biscuits at Kingston Methodist

Kingston United Methodist Church, on Highway 99 just south of Oakville, will be holding a chicken and biscuit dinner along with a craft and bake sale on Saturday, November 13th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The menu includes: chicken and biscuits or BBQ pork sandwiches with assorted side dishes and homemade pies. The cost is \$7.00 for 13-year-olds and older, \$5.00 for children 5-12 years old, and free for children under five years of age. For more information go to www.kingstonumc.org.

Turkey Supper at Lone Tree Presbyterian

The United Presbyterian Church in Lone Tree will serve a Turkey Supper Saturday, November 13th from 4 to 7 p.m. Roast turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, home grown sweet corn, salads, rolls, beverage and pies will be served. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for Children ages 5 - 10 years.

Guys and Gals 4-H Club to hold food drive

The Guys and Gals 4-H Club will be holding their second annual food drive on Saturday, November 6th, at the Grandview Park from 9-11 a.m. The food drive will benefit the Louisa County Food Pantry. Early donations may be brought to Hair Express, Grandview, IA, on Tuesday, November 2nd or Wednesday, November 3rd, in the evenings.

Public Health flu clinic schedule

Every Thursday through November 18th - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Public Health Office - 805 J L Hodges Ave N. - Wapello.

Saturday, November 6th - Just 2 Moms - downtown Wapello, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. BP Screening and Flu clinic

Monday, November 8th - Morning Sun Health Fair - 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Morning Sun Community Center

Don't Forget - Daylight Savings Time ends this Saturday Night. Remember to Fall Back 1 Hour.