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Roundy Vet assembly culmination of "Honor Trip"

By Mary Masonholder Wilson

The students and staff of Roundy Elementary held their eleventh Veteran's Day Assembly. Little did they know when planning this assembly, that it would come on the morning after many of these same veterans arrived home from their Honor Flight trip to Washington DC. The trip departed on Friday, November 9th and arrived home from DC on Sunday evening very late, November 11th.

Even though they may have been tired, many veterans were present at the Roundy "Salute to Them." The Veterans entered the gym where the assembly was held, the presentation of colors followed, and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sue Vogeler, one of the teacher organizers along with Tenneil Register, opened with a reading of the history of Veteran's Day, then called Armistice Day. Tom Sands, local state representative, then spoke and had the students give a rousing cheer for the veterans that then turned into a standing ovation.

Sands spoke about a little boy (who actually was himself) who grew up in a family surrounded by veterans. The "little boy" had the dog tags of a relative who had served in the Korean War and a knife sheath from World War I. None of the relatives of the "little boy" wanted to talk about their war experience, however the young man learned this information as it was later told to the grandchildren. Sands reminded the students that the forefathers of this country and the veterans "risked everything for freedom for you and you and you." Sands asked the students how they would serve their country, telling them they also could do such things as helping in their communities, running for office, or even maybe even becoming President of the United States.



Following the speech by Sands a skit was given by 5th and 6th grade students: Kayla Beenen, Taylor Howell, Evan Rees, Sammy Garcia-Lopez, and Alondra Guerrero. Then a poem was read and flag etiquette demonstrated by Anna Hamilton, Santiago Lopez, Coletrane Sipes, and Grace Watson.

Projected on to the wall, were the names of those who had given the "ultimate sacrifice" for freedom. Also listed was the war they had served.

Vogeler read the meaning of the Blue Star Service Banners and the program came to a close with the playing of taps.

When asked what they had learned, Evan Rees replied, "I

learned that the tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a person who lost their dog tag." Anahi Paredes and Angela Cruz learned about the Coast Guard and that it too is part of the armed services. Ingrid Montero thought it was "really nice seeing the veterans."

The smiles on the faces of the veterans as the students shook their hands and said "thank you" told it all—from Washington DC to the gym of Columbus Roundy Elementary, a feeling of pride was felt by everyone.

Just home from the DC trip (but not all at Roundy) were Curtis Beeding, James Crawford, Brian Cummings, Herbert Eutsler, Larry Fitchner, Bryant Fuller, Dennis Galitz, Keith Grim, Max Kauffman, Larry Knock, James Larson, Kenneth

Meeker, Tim Mendenhall, Ronald Miller, Jerry Murphy, Danny Peters, Ronald Scheef, James Schriver, Randall Schriver, William Shutt, Rexford Todd, William Wagner, Ernst Whiting Jr. Lawrence Winkel, and Michael Young.

This Honor Flight was the first one to honor Vietnam Veterans. The local group had great seats at the presentation of memorial wreaths, and three gentlemen from this group, Wes Shutt, Jerry Murphy, and Larry Knock, were some of the veterans placing a wreath.

The quote, "Freedom is only one generation from being lost," reminds us of all we owe these men and women who have served our country. "Thank you" seems inadequate.

Asian Restaurant is more than OK

By Mary Masonholder Wilson

If you are driving to Washington, Muscatine, or Iowa City for your Oriental or Asian food, save your gas and eat right here in Columbus Junction at the "OK Asian Restaurant" located at 216 N. Main Street.

Owner 27-year-old Bawi H. Thang says he named his restaurant the "OK Asian Restaurant" because everyone understands the word OK. He also felt the word "OK" would indeed emphasize that "Everything is OK" at this eatery, and it would also stress his food is fresh.

Bawi Thang came from Burma, now Myanmar, five years ago. He worked at Tyson, but always wanted to start his own business. That is one of the reasons he left Burma. Thang was a farmer in his home country, growing vegetables to sell. While still there, he learned some English and decided to move to the United States to make more money. He now lives in Columbus Junction with his brother and a friend and goes to church at the Methodist Church here. He likes his life here.

The OK Asian Restaurant is very cheery inside with bright yellow paint and orange trim. Some tables are against the wall and music was playing. Bawi Thang welcomed me and



showed me a menu. Thang speaks English pretty well, but ordering is no problem. His menu is a series of entrée pictures and names. This is a great idea because it is easy to see what each dish contains, although I did ask Thang some questions for clarification about certain ingredients in the pictures.

I chose the fried pork and steamed white rice. I can tell you, "It was delicious." I thoroughly enjoyed this meal. The ingredients did

indeed taste fresh and the flavors were tasty. Soy sauce could be added and there was another sauce Thang brought me that I saw someone eating and asked about. This sauce had a soy base and had diced peppers in it. He warned me it was spicy hot, and my mouth will tell you that I really liked the flavor of this sauce, but it was too hot for me. Someone else might love it.

The menu is varied. Ingredients are purchased in Iowa City. Many

dishes have chicken, pork, beef, fish, or shrimp. There are egg rolls and soups. Some of the dishes or "sides" are Fried Thailand Vegetables, Fried Chinese Noodles, Lepheh Toh, Bakuteh Vegetable Rice, Bawi's Favorite Noodles, Chinese Noodles Neehngawng, or Fried Potato.

Food can be eaten in the restaurant or it can be prepared for customers to carry out. If you want carry out, the number to call for orders is 319-728-9017. This eatery is open from 10:00 AM until 8:00 PM. In a week or more, Thang will have a buffet. It will be served on Friday, Saturday, and Sundays, starting at 11:00 AM until closing and will feature a variety of dishes. He plans to be open six of the seven weekly days. He is considering that Wednesday will be the day he is closed.

At the end of my meal, Thang brought me a tea. He said it is often drunk at breakfast time but he thought I would like it. I did. It was not a clear tea, it had a "milk" additive and was a bit sweet; but it was very good.

Columbus Junction is fortunate to have a variety of eating establishments, and with the addition of the "OK Asian Restaurant", there are even more choices available. How fun! Give this Asian Restaurant a try and I think you, too, will find everything is "OK".

Women's Fitness Center marks 4th Anniversary

By Donna Carpenter

Have you been feeling tired and achy lately? Do you have sore muscles? Well, there's a solution for you—the Columbus Women's Fitness Center, located on Iowa Street in Columbus City. It's the former Columbus City Hall. The fitness center is celebrating its fourth anniversary in November. As you may recall, the center, owned and operated by Jeannene Clark, closed after the flood in 2008. However, she generously donated the PACE equipment when a new location was secured. A group of people interested in keeping an exercise facility alive spent several hours preparing it for open-

ing day, their goal being to provide a place which would improve and maintain women's health. Along with the PACE equipment, two elliptical machines, an exercise bike, and a treadmill are available for use. As security is vital, a coded keypad entry assures the safety of all members. Dues are \$30 a month, or \$75 for a three month membership. There are no specified hours, and members may exercise at their own convenience.

In celebration of our 4th anniversary, board members have been painting and "sprucing up" the place and are planning an open house in January, as well as a special for new members for the month of January—\$25 for 30 days.

The fitness center is a non-profit organization operated by a board. Current board members include: Carla Shellabarger, Dianne Bohling, Dorothy Morrison, Emily Bell, and Donna Carpenter. Please don't hesitate to contact any one of these ladies if you're interested and would like them to show you how to use any of the equipment.

Or if you're a current member and have any suggestions for improvement, please talk with one of the board members. Please consider joining and bring a friend. You'll be glad that you did!



Briefly -

Community Club to meet

The Columbus Community Club will meet this Thursday at Noon at the Senior Center.

Cookies and Kids food drive

Cookies and Kids will hold a food drive for the local CAP office/Food Bank on Saturday, November 17. This food drive has become the annual service project for the youth group. The local food bank is in need of toiletry items as well as non-perishable food items. The drive will take place from 9 a.m. until 12 Noon on Saturday, November 17 at the Senior Center. You may drop off your donation any day prior to the 17th if you would like, bring it to the Senior Center on the 17th or call Mike Jay at 319-530-6775 to have it picked up at your home on the 17th.

Habitat Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help build the 12th Habitat home in Louisa County. The home is located at 2607 Burlington Street, Columbus City. Weather permitting, work is scheduled for Wednesday and Friday mornings, 8-12, and Saturday 8:00-2:00. If you can lend a hand with the work or with refreshments, please call 319-728-2775 or 319-728-2346 or show up at the work site on a scheduled workday.

Visual Support Group to meet

The Louisa County Visual Support Group will meet Thursday of November 15th (the third Thursday of the month) at Corner Market. We will meet at 1 p.m. More information about the program will be in next week's paper. Jeanette and Jack Dotson, Rodney and Betty Wallman and Richard and Sherry Robb will be the hosting the meeting. For more information call Lois Richers at 527-2630.

Conservation Board to meet

The Louisa County Conservation Board's regular meeting will be held today, Wednesday, November 14 at 5:30 pm at the Louisa County Conservation office.

Letts U.M. Church Cooks Out Night

The Letts United Methodist Church will sponsor a Cooks' Night Out community-wide supper on Wednesday, November 14, 2012, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Church. Activities will be provided for the youth, and visiting and conversation for the adults. Menu items will include Sloppy Joes, chips, baked beans, coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Anyone and everyone are invited to attend. This is an ongoing community service project provided by the Letts Methodist church members and there is no charge for the meal.

School Board to meet

The Board of Education for Columbus Community School District will hold a meeting on Monday, November 19, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the Roundy Elementary School Library.

Shellbark Club to meet

The Shellbark Club will meet Thursday, November 15th at 11:30 a.m. at John's Barbeque in Ainsworth.

U of IA Mobile Clinic in C.J.

The University of Iowa's Mobile Clinic program will be holding an upcoming clinic in Columbus Junction to provide physicals, health screenings, health education and other services. The clinic will be on Saturday, November 17th from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Wilma Sime Roundy Elementary School.

WCCB to meet

The Washington County Conservation Board will hold its monthly meeting today, Wednesday, November 14, 2012, at 4:30 pm in the Conservation Education Center.

Wine and Beer tasting at Two Rivers

Two Rivers Lodge, south of Conesville, will hold a wine tasting and beer sample event on Saturday, November 17th. It will be from 6-9 p.m. and the cost is \$20 at the door. There will be food, and entertainment by Berry and Gordon of the Creeping Charlie Band. Please R.S.V.P. by Friday, November 16th to 319-726-5322.

Winfield Lions to host Turkey Supper

The Winfield Lions Club is hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner, Thursday, November 22nd from 11:30 am-1:00 pm at the Winfield First Presbyterian Church, 302 S. Locust St. in Winfield. This is open to the public. Reservations are encouraged by calling 257-3416 or 257-3273. However, walk-ins are welcome. Free-will donations will be accepted, which will go to help support the Winfield Boy Scouts and to provide glasses to students in our community.

Winfield United Church Turkey supper

The Winfield United Church will host its annual Turkey supper today, Wednesday, November 14th from 5-7 at the church. Cost of the meal is \$9.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children, 5 through 7, and children 4 and under, eat for free. Carryouts are available. For home delivery in Winfield call 257-6741 between 4:30 and 5:30. Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, turnips, sweet potatoes, corn, beans, rolls, cranberries, assorted salads and desserts are on the menu. Come, fill your late and enjoy an evenings of good food and fellowship. Everyone welcome.

Movie Night at St. Joseph's

There will be a movie night at St. Joseph's Church on Wednesday, November 14. "For Greater Glory", the story of Mexican martyrs, will be shown in English at 7 P.M. in Egert Hall. Bring snacks to share. Everyone is welcome. The movie will be shown in Spanish on Sunday, November 25 at 12:00 noon. It will also be held in Egert Hall.

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