

#### COUNT

## **Board of** Supervisors tend to full agenda during June 17th meeting

#### by JIM RUDISILL

A fallen limb will spur the Louisa County Board of Supervisors into seeking bids to trim and remove various trees in the county courthouse square, according to discussions during the board's June 17 meeting.

According to county officials, there were apparently no injuries when the large limb fell from a tree on Saturday, June 14. However, board chair Shawn Maine said all three supervisors met at the courthouse following the incident to assist with the emergency cleanup. Both Maine and supervisor Scot Hunt indicated the fallen limb may have been 18-20 inches in diameter.

Maine said the cleanup took around a hour, but he suggested a more serious concern was the potential liability if the county did not take more corrective action now.

He suggested getting bids for trimming other trees in the courthouse lawn, as well as removing one tree that has died. Included in the trimming list will be the large cottonwood eastern that is northwest of the courthouse. The supervisors were quick to say they were not pushing to remove the tree but did want some idea of what it might cost to either trim it or cut it down. Maine pointed out if the tree fell on its own toward Franklin Street, it would block the street and potentially even damage residences on the north side of the street. He also reminded Hunt and fellow supervisor Kevin Hardin of the car shows and other activities that use the courthouse square and wondered if the county needed to have liability waivers signed by those events' participants. Discussions are expected to continue over the courthouse trees once Maine obtains trimming/ removal bids. In other action, the supervisors approved a lengthy list of fireworks permits and received department monthly updates from conservation board executive director Jacob Ewart, general assistance director Cyndi Mears and veterans affairs service officer Curt Hartlieb.



Over 150 former Wildcat athletes, coaches, cheerleaders and fans gathered for the first annual Columbus All-Sports Reunion on Saturday night at the Thirsty Camel Supper Club. Classmates Mike Jay, Reuben Deese and Tammy (Rueckert) Virzi organized the reunion which included a program of various speakers and hours of visiting with fellow Wildcats. **BETSY MILDER PHOTOS** 











# SOFTBALL

ine 25 ine 26	Varsity Home vs. New London Varsity Home vs. Lone Tree	5:30 pm 7:00 pm
	JH @ Lone Tree	5:30 pm
ine 30	JV/V Home vs. Louisa-Muscatine	5:30 pm
	JH @ Louisa-Muscatine	5:30 pm
ly 1	JV/V @ Pekin	5:30 pm
	JH Home vs. Pekin	5:30 pm

## WMU-CC BASEBALL

June 20 Home vs. Pekin

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5:30 pm

\* Home games played at Winfield-MU High School

### Milestone Cafe Menu - June 26- July 2, 2025

Thursday, June 26th: 1 C Beef & Noodles, 1/2 C Mashed Potatoes, 1 C Chopped Green Salad, 2 T Dressing, Mandarin Orange Cake.

Friday, June 27th: Panko Crusted Fish, 1/2 C Steamed Rice, 1/2 C Broccoli w/Cheese Sauce, 3/4 C Raspberry Gelatin w/Peaches, WW Bread.

Monday, June 30th: Cook's Choice with Dessert.

Tuesday, July 1st: 3oz. Roast Beef, 2oz Gravy, Baked Potato w/Sour Cream, 1/2 C Green Beans, 1/2 C Sliced Peaches, Wheat Roll. Wednesday, July 2nd: Cheese Pizza, 1/2 C Corn, 1/2 C Ambrosia, Wheat Garlic Bread Stick.

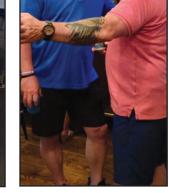
#### CJ City Council to meet Wednesday

The City of Columbus Junction will hold their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 5:30pm located in the Civic Center/City Hall.

Our Office will be **CLOSED** Thursday, July 3rd and

Ewart reported department's his environmental education staff had completed school field trips and was now busy conducting summer nature camps. He said the

"SUPERVISORS" continued on page 4





#### ON-GOING COUNTY INVESTIGATION

# Child protective custody operation still under investigation by JIM RUDISILL

One week following the June 12-13 child protective custody operation and search of two Louisa County properties by law enforcement and other personnel, the investigation is still continuing, Louisa County Sheriff Brandon Marquardt reported June 20.

In an emailed response to a press request on the status of the investigation, Marquardt replied there were no new updates in the case.

"It is fully being investigated as quick as possible," he wrote in the email, adding there would be a follow up report "when further information is available and not confidential."

According to a June 16 press release from the county sheriff's office and published reports, sheriff's office deputies, in collaboration with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (Child Protection Services), Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation and Columbus Junction Police Department, conducted the operation and served search warrants at 10431 Q Avenue, Columbus Junction; and 1101 5th Avenue, Columbus Junction (Fredonia).

According to the Beacon GIS website, both properties are owned

"CHILD CUSTODY OPERATION" continued on page 2





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