



City of Colo Newsletter



www.colo-iowa.org

City Hall Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - Noon
Other times by appointment

January/February 2014

Colo Library News

Colo Public Library received a \$3,000.00 grant from the Story County Community Foundation. The grant was used to purchase an Early Literacy Computer Station for children 3 to 8 years of age. The computer station has over 60 programs and 500 activities for young children. Story County Community Foundation received a total of 52 applications for 2013 community grants. The library was one of 17 applicants selected for the awards. Funding for the community grants is provided primarily by the State of Iowa's County Endowment Fund.



Movie Days at the Monday January 20 at 2:00 pm,
February 3 at 1:30 & February 17 at 2:00.

The library is open on Wednesdays until 8:00 p.m. Checkout any dvd for Free on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

2014 COLO FARMER'S MARKET

The 2014 Colo Farmer's Market dates have been set. The market opens Thurs. May 15 at 5pm. Market will continue on Thursdays (5-7PM) through Sept. 25, 2014 - time to think about being a vendor! If you are interested in more information, contact Market Coordinators Judy and Dan Handsaker (email: handsaker1020@yahoo.com for more details or to sign up. Mark your calendar to enjoy fresh produce, homemade items and relaxing FREE music entertainment under the canopy at Reed Station during Market Season. Updates available on Colo Farmer's Market Facebook page - LIKE it today!



Gingerbread House Contest

This years winners were:

Preschool - Kindergarten Category

- 1st Place - Emma Moyer
- 2nd Place - Luke Robinson
- 3rd Place - Bailee McCollom
- 4th Place - Quin McCollom



1st - 2nd Grade Category

- 1st Place - Cerra Muntz

3rd - 4th Grade Category

- 1st Place - Nathan McFarland
- 2nd Place - Tanner Halverson

5th - 6th Grade Category

- 1st Place - Althea Cerka
- 2nd Place - Hannah Starling
- 3rd Place - Libby Jensen
- 4th Place - Kortnie Halverson



A huge "Thank You" to the businesses who sponsored this event:

Wilson Auction, Colo Implement, Heartland

Co-op, Flat Top Construction, John & Corky Angell, Colo Telephone, Wal-Mart and Scentsy by Pat Timmerman.



Mayor John Wilson administers the oath of office to newly elected city council members (left to right) Larry Milleson, Paul Conrad, and Diane Nichols. The three Colo residents were elected to four year terms starting January 1, 2014.

From the Superintendent's Desk



Communication is one of the CN Board of Education Goals. We continue to look at ways to improve how we communicate with our patrons. If you haven't please check our website on a regular basis. We provide a great deal of timely information there. You can also sign up for instant messaging that will notify you of school closings, or situations that Impact our students and families via your phone or mobile device. We are also going to use our community newsletters as a means to reach those of you who would prefer receiving information this way. The space is limited so I will try to address our most important or urgent information here. While it is our responsibility to share as much information as possible I encourage you to call anytime you have questions or get information that may need an explanation or have another side of the story. More information about our website and how to sign up for instant messages can be gotten by contacting any of the building offices.

I want to take a moment and wish a Happy New Year to you and your families. I hope this New Year finds you well and looking forward to all 2014 has to offer. I must admit it feels like time is passing more quickly with each and every year. It seems like just yesterday that we were welcoming students back to school for the start of the school year. Now we are already welcoming them back for second semester. We have had a wonderful start to the new school year. Our enrollment grew by 28 students, we welcomed our elementary students with a new playground, and because of the PPEL funds you made available we have made a number of repairs and restoration to our facilities. In addition we and have added a number of new, talented staff members who continue to raise the bar on student achievement. Recently, Joel Niemeyer, CN Board President, Mickolyn Clapper, CN Elementary School Principal and I along with the board president and staff members from Heartland AEA 11 presented at the Iowa School Board Association Annual Conference our collaborative efforts to address the learning goals of our students. Then in December Ms. Clapper along with a Teaching and Learning Consultant from Heartland AEA 11 presented to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor our plans and program to ensure that our students are meeting our literacy, proficiency goals. Our story was the one chosen from throughout the state to be presented as a model of collaboration. As a district we should be very proud of where we are and where we are going. Our story has changed a great deal from just a short time ago. We are now being recognized not as a district in need but as a district with direction and focus on what is best for our students. By continuing to work together and by putting our students first we can accomplish much for our children ensuring them a bright 2014 and future.

You may reach me at any time by calling 641-377-2282 ext. 204 or by emailing at jverlengia@colo-nesco.k12.ia.us



"Get Fired Up!"



Please add the dates of July 11, 12 & 13, 2014 to your calendars for the Colo Crossroads Festival. We will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Colo Volunteer Fire Department. Friday evening activities will take place at the Colo Methodist Church and the City Park. The events on Saturday, July 12th will take place at the Fire Station and it will be huge! The Truck Pull will happen Saturday evening as well. A Sunday morning event will be planned by the Colo Methodist Church. Letters requesting donations will be sent out soon to local businesses. If you would like to donate funds a check may be mailed to Colo Crossroads Festival, PO Box 317, Colo, Iowa 50056. If you would like to donate "in kind" items or to volunteer your time please contact any of the committee members. T-shirts are now available at State Bank & Trust, Colo Telephone Company, the Colo Library and Niland's Café.

Questions and comments are always welcome. The planning meetings are held every first Saturday at 8 AM at Niland's Café. The next two meetings are January 4th and February 1st.

We look forward to hearing from you! Great Fun!

Colo Crossroads Committee

Katie Harrington
Rick Halverson
Sandra Huemann-Kelly
Larry Johnson
Linda Peakin
Pat Peakin
Nancy Tucker
Lisa Whitaker



Festival of Trees 2013!

And the winner is.... "Racing for Jesus" by the Colo United Methodist Church Youth Group. FC&A Club congratulates the winner of the 2013 Festival of Trees. All of the trees were creative and we thank everyone that participated. See you next year!



The Cookie Walk was a success! Thank you to everyone that baked or bought cookies. We sold almost 100 dozen beautiful and tasty Christmas cookies this year. All of the proceeds went to the Colo United Methodist Kitchen Appliance Fund. Way to go, Colo!

CLOTHING SHARE NEWS

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

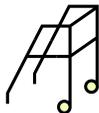


Thank you to all who donated, volunteered, and shopped at our October clothing share. It was a success and we served over 100 families from the Story County area. The next Clothing Share will be the week of March 24th. Please watch the next newsletter and publicity for specifics. We will be accepting spring, not winter, clothing, and especially need towels and children's clothing. As always, the Closet can be opened by appointment for emergency needs by calling Brenda at 377-2422 or Rose at 377-2733.

St. Mary's Closet

COLO CARES MEDICAL EQUIPMENT CLOSET

Colo Cares offers to loan used medical equipment to our community residents. We have walkers, shower chairs, and a wheelchair, among other items. Please return when you finish using. It is a free service. We need canes, new catheters, and a wheelchair with leg support function. Contact Brenda at 377-2422, Rose at 377-2733, or Pat and Linda at 377-2960.



COLO CARES



Neighbor Helping Neighbor

Next meeting: 7pm, Thursday, January 9, 2014,
at the Community Center.
Meetings last about an hour.

Colo Cares is a local effort to support families and individuals in our community. We do not accept grant money that obligates us to regulations that may not match the needs here, but we do accept local donations. We are able to quickly move to assist in emergencies and for specific needs, primarily by loaning equipment, volunteering services and networking with area agencies. Colo Cares supports the Colo Food Pantry, Colo Clothing Share, Medical Equipment Loan program, among others.

You are invited to join us in volunteering to assist those in our community. It requires limited time and effort, but does so much for those who ask for help. Being a good neighbor is the only requirement.

Volunteer opportunities:

- *Phoning a local shut-in each week.
- *Clearing snow from walks and cars for a shut-in
- *Changing light bulbs in ceiling fixtures
- *Hauling unwanted items away
- *Clearing broken limbs/branches after storms

In partnership with another local group, we are compiling a list of those with healthcare experience, including nurses, CNA's, paramedics, EMT's, etc., either civilian or military. Licenses do not have to be current. This list would be used in conjunction with local emergency response planning. If you would like to be included on this list, please email at bmcguire25@hotmail.com.

Please join us Thursday, January 9, and learn why Colo is a wonderful placeto be!

IF EVERYBODY DOES A LITTLE, A LOT GETS
DONE!



City of Colo
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Colo, Iowa 50056-0294

City Hall Business Office
Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
& other times by appointment
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2013 Colo/Colo NESCO Alumni Directories are HERE!

The new alumni directories are available to purchase. **They are \$10** (\$12.50 if mailed). You can purchase them at Colo Telephone, State Bank & Trust, Colo Library or contact Don Wilson 377-2358. Make checks payable to Colo/Colo NESCO Alumni Directory Fund.

City Hall will be closed Wednesday, January 1st to observe New Years Day.

City Council
Meetings
Monday, Jan. 6 – 7:00 p.m.
at City Hall
Monday, Feb. 3 – 7:00 p.m.
at City Hall
Open to the Public



Articles for the
March - April
Newsletter are due
by
February 20th