

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Friday, August 7, 2020 | 7 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 154

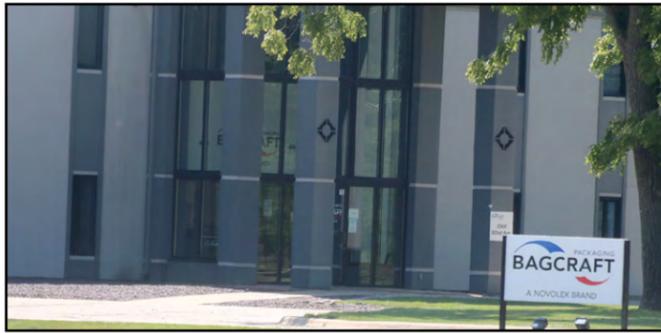


www.pencitycurrent.com

Bagcraft closing doors

104 JOBS GONE: Official says COVID-related drop in demand required efficiencies in the company

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR



FORT MADISON – Officials at the Bagcraft Packaging facility in Fort Madison have announced the facility will cease operations and decommission the plant on Oct. 22.

Novolex, which acquired Bagcraft in 2015, released a statement Thursday afternoon saying all 104 positions the plant will be impacted and those employees were notified Thursday.

Novolex Director of Communications Katie Hendrix said demand for products over the last several months during the COVID pandemic is the root of the closure.

“Our product demand has really changed over the last several months,” Hendrix said. “Efficiencies we will gain after the drop in demand was necessary.”

Hendrix said the company has more than 60 other op-

erations in North America and has positions available for employees at the Fort Madison facility.

She said some employees will be retained after production ceases to shut down the plant, but couldn't elaborate on how the shutdown will proceed, or how long employees will stay on payroll.

The statement released said other support efforts are underway for current employees.

“We have immediate needs at all levels within many of our other Novolex facilities and we will offer relocation to our Ft.

See CLOSURE, page 4

FATALITIES

Donnellson couple ID'd as victims of Tuesday crash

Mark and Linda Horn killed in accident on Hwy. 2. Crash remains under investigation

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELLSON – The victims of an accident near Donnellson on Tuesday evening have been released by the Iowa State Patrol.

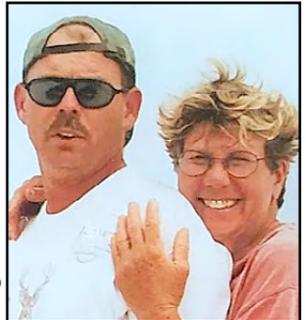
Michael D. Horn, 67, of Donnellson and Linda S. Horn, 66, of Donnellson, were both killed when the motorcycle they were riding on was struck in a construction zone near mile marker 250 at about 5:30 p.m.

According to the state patrol report, the Horns were on a motorcycle facing east bound stopped in a string of vehicles waiting in the construction zone. They were behind a 2021 Mack construction dump truck, when a 2005 Nissan Frontier pickup driven by Chad R. Davis, 54, also of Donnellson, struck the motorcycle from behind pinning the couple between the two trucks.

Davis was transported to Fort Madison Community Hospital by Lee County Ambulance with injuries. The victims were transported to the medical examiners office, according to the report.

No arrests have been made in the incident. The accident remains under investigation by the Iowa State Patrol, with assistance from the Lee County Attorney's office.

The Horns' obituary appears on page 3 of today's edition.



RIVERFEST 2020

JERICHO, FOZZY ROCK DAY TWO



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Former WWF Superstar Chris Jericho led the band Fozzy onto the Mohrfeld Electric Main Stage as Thursday night's headline band at RiverFest presented by Frank Millard and Company Inc. At left, Jericho works the crowd with guitarist Billy Grey. Above, Grey works a solo in the band's first live gig since January.

INDEX

Business Directory.....P.7
BUSINESS NEWS.....P.4
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.6-7
 Complete Rental.....P.2
FOR THE RECORD.....P.2
 Fort Madison Family YMCA.....P.4
FROM THE FRONT.....P.4
 Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.4
 Great River Regional Waste Authority.....P.5

IOWA NEWS.....P.4
 Lee County Health Department.....P.2
LOCAL NEWS.....Ps.4-6
 Mobile Nursing Services.....P.6
OBITUARIES.....P.3
 • Lisa S. Horn, 66
 • Mike D. Horn, 67
 • Roland Mansheim, 74
 • Jane E. Zane, 65

Pen City Current.....Ps.3-4,7
 Pothitakis Dentistry.....P.2
SCENE AROUND TOWN.....P.6
 Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.....P.6
 Sonny's Super Market.....P.3
 Test Kitchen Education Foundation.....P.4
 United Way of the Great River Region.....P.4

WEATHER

FRI 07 Aug.....Sunny, 79° F/ 62° F
SAT 08 Aug.....Light Rain, 83° F/ 67° F
SUN 09 Aug.....Partly Cloudy, 89° F/ 73° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 08/05.....6 23 26 29 43, Star Ball: 3, All Star Bonus: 2
PICK 3 08/05 MIDDAY.....6 4 2
PICK 3 08/05 EVENING.....7 7 3
PICK 4 08/05 MIDDAY.....9 8 4 4
PICK 4 08/05 EVENING.....7 2 1 8
POWERBALL 08/05.....7 14 17 57 65, Powerball: 24, Power Play: 5

SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today
 Paid & Free Options Available!



For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

08/03/20 – 2:11 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 3400 block of Avenue L.
 08/03/20 – 7:33 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 400 block of Avenue E.
 08/03/20 – 7:58 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 3500 block of Avenue L.
 08/03/20 – 9:39 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Javen Robert Peterman, 20, of Fort Madison in the 1100 block of Avenue F, on a charge of driving while revoked. He was released on a promise to appear.
 08/03/20 – 9:45 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1900 block of Avenue H.
 08/03/20 – 10:58 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1500 block of Avenue M.
 08/03/20 – 11:48 a.m. – Fort

Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1000 block of Avenue H.
 08/03/20 – 3:53 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2600 block of Avenue L.
 08/03/20 – 8:31 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Eric Eugene Fortune, Jr., 27, of Fort Madison, in the 4400 block of Avenue O, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 08/03/20 – 7:54 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Bradley Gene Bennett, 44, of Fort Madison, in the 3100 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 08/04/20 – 12:20 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1800 block of Avenue F.
 08/04/20 – 12:59 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1200 block of 25th Street.
 08/04/20 – 8:23 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Garrett Grelk, 26, of Fort

Madison, in the 600 block of Avenue G, on a charge of disorderly conduct. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 08/05/20 – 10:08 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1300 block of Avenue B.
 08/05/20 – 12:25 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3400 block of Avenue N.
 08/05/20 – 3:15 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2500 block of Hwy. 61.
 08/05/20 – 4:54 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 500 block of Fourth Street.
 08/05/20 – 8:28 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Jonathon Juhl, 32, of Fort Madison, in the 2100 block of Avenue G, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 08/05/20 – 9:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Thomas Jeremiah Raines,

43, of Fort Madison in the 700 block of Avenue E on a warrant for failure to appear and possession of methamphetamine – 2nd offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 08/05/20 – 9:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Anton Robert Kempker, 43, of Fort Madison, in the 700 block of Avenue E, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 08/06/20 – 2:01 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Jessie Marie Smith-Maddox, 44, of Fort Madison in the 4500 block of Avenue O., on a charge of aggravated domestic abuse assault. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 08/06/20 – 4:26 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Jennifer Lynn Osborn, 34, of Fort Madison in the 1800 block of Avenue G, on a charge of simple domestic abuse assault. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

sheriff's office on a warrant for contempt of court. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 08/03/20 – 11:28 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Sophia McKenna Gregory, 21, of Hamilton, at the South Lee County Courthouse on a court-ordered hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 08/03/20 – 10:18 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Joslyn Jo Hawk, 23, of West Point, in the 600 block of Avenue D, in West Point, on charges of OWI-1st offense and child endangerment. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 08/03/20 – 10:37 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Matthew Kritian Smith, 23, of West Point, in the 600 block of Avenue D, in West Point, on a charge of interference with official acts causing bodily injury
 08/04/20 – 5:59 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Thomas Jay Ruble, 53, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of Hwy. 2 and West Point Rd., on a charge of driving while barred.
 08/05/20 – 3:40 a.m. – Lee

County Sheriff's deputies cited Cameron Rashawn Keys, 26, of St. Paul, Minn., on charges of carrying weapons and possession of controlled substances.
 08/05/20 – 6:52 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Samantha Rose Boyd, 34, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for 1st-degree theft. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and given a pre-trial release.
 08/05/20 – 8:51 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Anthony Leroy Bernard, 30, of Donnellson, at the sheriff's office on warrant for driving while barred. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

08/03/20 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls
 08/04/20 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to five medical calls and one false alarm.
 08/05/20 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one assist, one medical call, one burning complaint, and one C02 check.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

08/03/20 – 10:30 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jacob Dustan Mills, 34, of Keokuk, at the

20% Off All Dinnerware

August Reservations Only

Present this coupon and get 20% off any dinnerware. Offer valid until August 31st, 2020. Not valid with any other discounts.

20% Off Excavators

August Reservations Only

Present this coupon and get 20% off any excavator. Offer valid until August 31st, 2020. Not valid with any other discounts.



Fort Madison, IA 52627
(319) 372-8105
www.completerentalfm.com

15% Off Harvest Tables

August Reservations Only

Present this coupon and get 15% off any harvest table. Offer valid until August 31st, 2020. Not valid with any other discounts.

20% Off Backhoes

August Reservations Only

Present this coupon and get 20% off any backhoe. Offer valid until August 31st, 2020. Not valid with any other discounts.

Lee County Health Department Back-to-School Immunization Clinic

August 20, 2020
9:00am - Noon
1:00pm - 4:00pm

#3 John Bennett Drive
Fort Madison, IA 52627

Appointments are strongly encouraged.
Walk-ins will be taken in order of arrival so wait times may vary.
Masks are required for those over the age of 4.

This Immunization Clinic is aimed at those children needing back-to-school immunizations specially those entering Kindergarten, 7th Grade & Senior Year.

For questions or to schedule an appointment please call (319)372-5225.





Welcome (back)

We are honored to be joined by Dr. Courtney on June 1, after more than three decades of private practice.

Dr. Courtney will be seeing patients at our Fort Madison Family Dentistry West office.
Call 319-372-4882 for your appointment.

www.DrMarkDDS.com




POTHITAKIS DENTISTRY

Obituaries

MIKE D. HORN and LAURA S. HORN

Linda Sue Horn, 66 and Michael Dean Horn, 67, both of rural Donnellson, passed away on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 as a result of an accident.

Linda was born on November 7, 1953 in Burlington to Glean and Dorothy Halfman Rhoades. Mike was born on November 19, 1952 in Ft. Madison to Paul and Regina Baxter Horn. On January 20, 1973 they were united in marriage at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Ft. Madison. Mike and Linda both started working for Dial in 1973 and retired after forty years of service. Linda was a maintenance technician and Mike was a maintenance machinist.



MIKE AND LAURA HORN

Linda loved spending time with the kids, going to sports events, playing piggy, Old Maid & doodling. She also loved making craft projects & birdhouses, listening to Dolly Parton, as well as volunteering in the community. She loved to cook

homemade meals and always said she was a professional cookie eater. Linda loved riding the motorcycle with Mike, cruising the backroads and being his backseat driver.

Mike loved attending sporting events, fishing, hunting, hiking and playing baseball with the kids. He also loved riding his motorcycle and bike, mowing the yard and sitting back and relaxing. He was a natural born teacher, teaching everyone how to troubleshoot, work on vehicles and fabricate new items. Mike loved Linda's homemade pizza and sweet corn.

They both loved seeing the countryside & taking road trips for vacation, just to see the natural beauty of the earth. They were the best parents a kid could dream of having.

Survivors include their son, Tim (fiancé Kerri, and children, Chase and Logan Hannen) Horn of Marion; their daughter, Teri (Joel) Abbott with two grandchildren, Gavin and Annabel Abbott of Ankeny. Linda is survived by a half brother, Wilb Nelson of Ft. Madison and Mike is survived by his brother, Harold "Butch" (Candi) Horn of Ft. Madison. Linda was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, one brother and an infant brother and Mike was preceded in death by his parents and a sister.

Per Mike and Linda's wishes, there will be no formal services at this time. Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. In lieu of gifts to the family, please send memorial donations to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Online condolences may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

ROLAND E. MANSHEIM

Roland Edward Mansheim, 74, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 10:33 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at the VA Hospital in Iowa City, IA. He was born on August 17, 1945 in Kettering, England to Edward & Iris Cooper Mansheim. He was a security guard at DuPont for many years and served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. He was an avid baseball fan.

Roland is survived by: 1-sister: Linda Molzhon of Fort Madison, IA & 2-nephews: Stephen Molzhon & Sean Molzhon. He was preceded in death by his parents.



Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and no services are planned. Online condolences to the Mansheim family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

**YOUR AD
HERE
319.371.4125**

JANE ELLEN ZANE

Jane Ellen Zane, 65, of Donnellson, Iowa, passed away at 5:46 p.m. Wednesday, August 5, 2020, at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics in Iowa City.

Jane was born on October 30, 1954, in Maquoketa, Iowa, the daughter of Robert Lowell and Esther Ruth (Schultz) Christensen. On June 14, 1975, she married James Zane at Sharon Presbyterian Church, rural Farmington, Iowa.



ZANE

She is survived by her husband: James "Jim"; one daughter: Julie (Ronnie) Lundin of Morton Grove, Illinois; one son-in-law: Rick Witt of Mundelein, Illinois; four grandchildren: Zane & Adalie, Mason & Torin; four sisters: Joann (Don) Hogenson of Bettendorf, Iowa, Jill (Kevin) Davisson of Grand Mound, Iowa; Becky (Ron) Wilhoit of Troy, Missouri and Bobbi (Steve) Kelley of DeWitt, Iowa; mother-in-law: Reta Zane of Bonaparte, Iowa; one sister-in-law: Sandy Christensen of Altoona, Iowa. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents: daughter: Erin Witt; Brother: Duane Christensen and father-in-law: Robert Zane.

Jane graduated from Southeastern Community College with her RN degree. She retired as a school nurse from Central Lee School System. She was a member of Sharon Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Women's Group. Jane was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed hosting family gatherings, baking, playing euchre and cards with her sisters.

Her body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date for Jane and her daughter, Erin.

Memorials have been established in her name for the Central Lee Foundation or PAW Animal Shelter and can be mailed to the family at: Schmitz Funeral Home, P.O. Box 56, Donnellson, Iowa 52625 or James Zane, 2621 Highway 218, Donnellson, Iowa 52625.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

You're gonna need a bigger bag

At Sonny's, we're committed to offering you quality groceries at affordable prices in a healthy & safe environment. We have so much great food, you're gonna need a bigger bag. Thank you for shopping local. Stay safe!



SONNY'S
Super Market

Call for curbside pickup
319.837.6126
327 5th Street, West Point, IA



Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2016 by Pen City Current

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Member LION Publishers

www.lionpublishers.com



Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

Founded in 2016
P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

Cardinal of Eldon educators speak at Reynolds' presser

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

JOHNSTON – As part of Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds bi-weekly update, two Cardinal of Eldon educators and a parent spoke to the media about the importance of returning to classrooms.

Joel Pederson, who's in his 11th year as superintendent with Cardinal said his plan was to bring all students back to school, but provide virtual learning options for parents in the district.

"We want to come back 100% and what keeps me up at night is the kids who don't have Internet. We're working on that, but it's a challenge," Pederson said. "And I worry about not having eyes on our kids. Schools play an important role in keeping kids safe."

Pederson said the focus can't just be on COVID, but other health issues that impact the students when not in school.

"My message is its not just one or the other, but so there are so many things happening, and that is coming from the heart."

Bethany Short is a teacher in the district dealing with students with behavioral disorders. She said she has spoken with families and she is getting all of her students back in the classroom when school reopens.

"I'm getting 100% of my kids back, so I'm really excited because that says something about the way they feel about me in my district," she said.



Cardinal Schools' Superintendent Joel Pederson spoke to the media today at Gov. Kim Reynolds press conference. Pederson advocated for getting all students back in classrooms.

"As humans I believe we're built for community. We're meant to do this together, and I think that's what's best for (students) is to continue to see others face-to-face, in person."

Reynolds said Cardinal's story isn't unique in terms of local districts working diligently on Return to Learn plans and said the vast majority of districts are also making it work within the parameters of state law.

Senate File 2310 was signed by Reynolds into law at the end of June and makes in-person learning the primary model of instruction in the state. Gov. Reynolds proclamation last week requires that districts with less than 15% positivity for COVID testing maintain at least 50% in-person learning.

Schools with higher than 15% positivity and 10% absenteeism can request a two-week waiver for remote learning.

She said only five counties exceed the 15% threshold currently.

Dr. Ann Lebo, the Director of the Iowa Department of Education, said the law doesn't specifically state 50% in-class learning is the requirement, as was pointed out by a pool reporter, but said the interpretation of the law is that primary would mean the majority of learning and 50% is that threshold.

Pederson said there are no perfect answers in the Return to Learn initiatives, and flexibility will be the key to getting students back to school.

"No solutions that we know of will work 100% of the time, but we need you to give us grace, and call us if you have concerns – and stop by and see us," he said.

"Positivity is needed more than ever and we can rise to this challenge with flexibility going forward."

Reduced testing isn't an issue of capacity or supplies. Reynolds said more than 500,000 Iowans have been tested, which amounts to 1 in 6 residents, but she said testing numbers are down.

"We had a higher demand after July 4 and this represents some leveling out. But my main message here is that this is not a capacity or supply issue."

She said Test Iowa will be providing more testing options and an announcement on those changes could come next week.

County, state offer employee support programs

CLOSURE - Continued from Page 1

Madison employees where there is a fit.

"We are also working to connect our employees with companies in the area and are providing additional support through our outplacement program which will begin immediately."

Hendrix said she didn't have information on what efforts, if any, were made in conjunction with local economic development officials to keep the plant operational.

Lee County Economic Development Group President Dennis Fraise said these situations are always difficult, but the group's efforts now turn to helping the employees. He said the Iowa Workforce Development's Rapid Response team has been activated.

"We have been in touch with Bagcraft and we're working with them. Our goal now is the employees and to take that long-term approach," Fraise said.

"If there is a silver lining in this its that all of our manufacturers are needing good quality people, which

Bagcraft employees are. Our thoughts are with those people in this very difficult situation."

Fraise said support systems are in place to provide transition services, including finding new employment, resume workshops, career counseling, training and assistance in filing unemployment benefits.

Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld said he hadn't heard the news of the closing when contacted Thursday morning.

"It is tough. You claw so hard to add and it's hard when you lose them," Mohrfeld said.

He said Bagcraft took over for Wolf Packaging, which was a locally started company and that entity will be missed in town. But he, like Fraise, said now there's a 100 good employees out there.

"That's 100 quality people in that workforce. We're gonna do everything we can to work with that transition. Make sure path to reemployment and re-education is smooth."

#ShopLocal
Support your local
business community!



Protect What's Important.

When you need peace of mind, look to one of the area's leading insurance agencies.

**Auto • Home • Health
Business • Life
Farm • Crop**

Serving Southeast Iowa, Northeast Missouri, & West-Central Illinois

FT Fullenkamp INSURANCE Trusted Choice
Est. 1963
307 5th Street West Point
19-837-6178 or 800-292-2208 | www.fullenkampins.com
Open M-F 7:30 - 5:00 & Saturday 8:30 - 11

NOW OPEN DAILY

Open Swim:
1pm-5pm (DAILY)
6pm-8pm (M-F)

Lap Swim:
Noon-1pm & 5pm-6pm

Daily Rate: \$3.00
10 Day Punch Card: \$30.00
20 Day Punch Card: \$60.00

SEASON PASSES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE 2020 SEASON

Fort Madison Public Pool
A division of the Fort Madison Family YMCA

ADULT LAP SWIM • OPEN SWIM (All Ages) • POOL PARTIES

ONLINE COOKING CLASS FOR 4th - 8th GRADES
Mondays, 1:00 pm to 1:30 pm
Wednesdays, 11:00 am to 11:30 am

LEARNING COOKING & FUN

Test Kitchen Education Foundation

Test Kitchen STEM Lounge
www.tkef.org

Test Kitchen

If your child would like to join, private message Elliott Test Kitchen for a link to join.



United Way
United Way of the Great River Region

Annual Golf Outing

Friday, August 28 • Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course

Click here for your registration form

Local News

FMAAA hosts Nepalese instructor's artwork in Aug.

BY BRIAN RIGGS

Fort Madison Area Arts Association

FORT MADISON – The feature exhibition for August at FMAAA gallery opens up a portal to an international artist from Nepal via a Lee County Connection. Watercolors by Sujan Tamang and artwork from his Nepalese students will transform a view to another land. Holtkamp's Floors, Decor & Furniture are the sponsors for the August event.

A reception occurs on August 14th from 5-7 p.m. Swed coffee will platoon outside during the reception offering beverage refreshments. New hours for FMAAA gallery are Tues-Thur-Fri-Sat from 12-7pm. Sujan has previously exhibited his work in France, England, Australia, Ireland, Korea, and Turkey. His debut gallery exhibition in the United States occurs at FMAAA gallery at 825 Ave G.

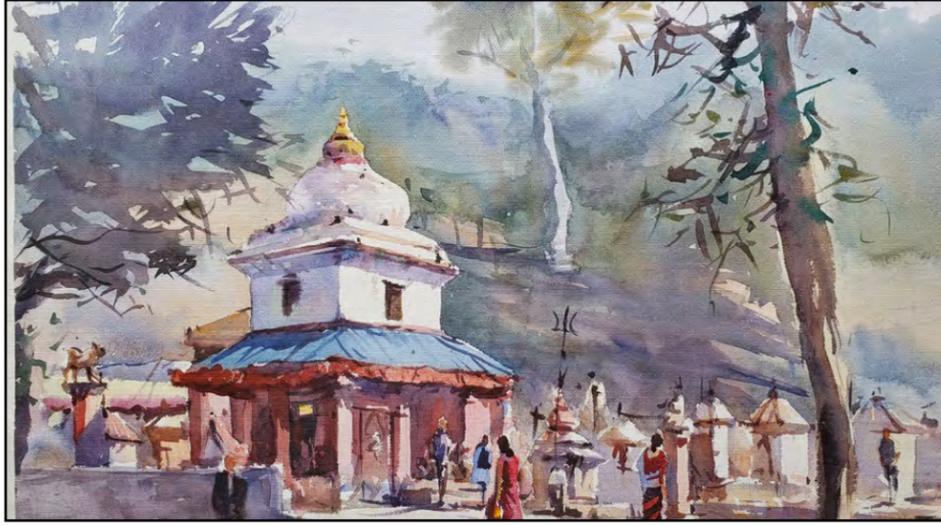
Ernie Schiller has developed strong ties to the region and people of Nepal and acts as conduit to share their story in Lee County.

Ernie relays, "Rebuild Nepal Education Foundation came about by sheer accident. In 2014, the US Government wanted me to escort five 16-year-old girls to India to study there for a year, but because of their age, I was asked to chaperone them to their families in Delhi. Well, India is next door to Nepal and my second-grade teacher showed our class the newest tallest mountain on the planet one day, Mt. Everest and some Nepalese people with their colorful clothing. So, after I dropped off the girls with their family in Delhi, I set up a tour with a Nepalese Tour Company and toured India and took a short hop over to Nepal for a quick tour of Nepal. Well trekking down a mountain we walked by a mountain school, and being a former science teacher here in Iowa, I walked in and was amazed at the intuitive nature of education in Nepal. No supplies, but the kids were so engaged. I went in five different schools on my visit. I told the Nepalese Tour Company that I would return in 2015 and volunteer in the school but 3 weeks before I was to fly to Nepal the major earthquake occurred. 8.7 on the Richter Scale. Major earthquake, major damage. 9,000 people

died instantly. Several thousands were never found. The tour company contacted me 6 months later and said that everything that I saw in 2014 was wiped off the map. They were desperate, as the world's donations never even made it out of the hard-hit capital city of 7 million people of KTM. So, I raised what money I could and headed to not sure where in Nepal I was going and spent 6 weeks in October and November of 2016 in the remote mountainous regions helping rebuild the educational system. Exhausted I returned for Thanksgiving and our Holidays. After the Holidays, in January of 2017, the Pothitakis Family contacted me to organize a 2nd Educational Mission Trip to Nepal so their children could volunteer in the schools. Well that trip many other people joined us in these remote mountains and with Kara Pothitakis' help a foundation was formed: Rebuild Nepal Education Foundation, whose sole purpose was to support the extreme poor children in Nepal and try to keep them in school, where sometimes the few dollars to attend school makes it financially impossible for them to come up with the finances. So a new Foundation. Ernie Schiller of Donnellson, Chair, Kara Pothitakis of Ft. Madison Vice-Chair, Reverend Bob Molsberry of North Liberty, Iowa is the Secretary, Arie Schiller of Donnellson is Treasurer. Nadine Allen of Donnellson is Member-at-Large. Tylor Johnson of the DC Area is also Member-at-Large. Fundraising and donors from our area and across the USA and The World has helped keep this foundation's mission focus on the children in Nepal. www.rebuildnepaleducation.org Our foundation is fully vested by the US Government and is a true educational foundation.

Well on the 2018 Volunteer Trip, this biologist/scientist came across some of the Nepal student's art that they were working on. I have always enjoyed art, but not being an artist myself, I ask the teacher is the student's art was for sale. That started the beginning of a year's planning setting up a Nepal Art Exhibition which would occur in May of 2019.

Enter, an art teacher named. Sujan Tamang was



Watercolor works from the Nepalese mountains is part of the Fort Madison Area Arts Association's August Exhibit. A reception at the center is being planned for Aug. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. with Swed Coffee on hand.



Thank you to all our customers who worked to reduce their environmental footprint last year. We look forward to helping you continue your efforts and to educating our communities on more ways to help this year.

Here are just a few ways you can help:

- Don't put plastic bags in recycling bins
- Rinse & clean all food jars & cans before recycling
- Flatten empty boxes for better storage & volume reduction
- Place all recyclables loose in bins
- Don't recycle wrapping paper
- Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste



Ft. Madison Main Office:
2092 303rd Ave
Fort Madison, IA
1-319-372-6140

Keokuk Transfer Station:
111 Carbide Lane
Keokuk, IA
1-319-524-6175

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

See FMAAA, page 6

Local News/Classifieds

Art instructor bringing students' work to FM

FMAAA - Continued from Page 5

born of an extremely poor family in remote Nepal. His family was so poor that he did not have any clothing until the age of 18. We went to school without any clothing, unheard of here in America, but their extreme poverty only gave him the means to work hard in the village fields and try to get to further education. His hard work and dedication got him to attend a Plus 2 Education which is like 11th and 12th grade. He worked every chance he could get. He eventually received his Bachelor degree in Art and became a teacher, now teaching Art in 4 schools in Kathmandu, Nepal. Teaching art in 4 schools for the salary of \$200/month, with no health insurance and no retirement. Meager wages in a country where even living in KTM is extremely expensive. He and his wife have one son. Sujan paints art for the tourists whenever he can find a vendor to display his art. I met Sujan in May of 2019 on our 4th Educational Mission Trip to Nepal through our foundation, Rebuild Nepal Education Foundation. I worked with Sujan and my volunteers in Nepal to orchestrate the 1st Nepal Art Exhibition, where students all across Nepal were invited to submit their artwork in the first ever art exhibit. Sujan helped tirelessly to get the word all over Nepal and even helped me find a school willing to display the artwork. Thanks to Manasalu School in KTM for allowing this exhibition to take place. And the University of Iowa Art Department under the direction of Clara Baldus who joined our team in Nepal displayed the art from the students of Nepal. We invited Sujan to display his art for us and his students. To our amazement, Sujan's artwork impressed the U of IA Art Department that was with us. We convinced the students of Nepal and Sujan to allow us to pack up the art and bring it back to the USA. Here we sell the Nepal student's art and the student gets 100% of the sale of the artwork to help them to continue to attend school in Nepal. Sujan's art also is sold here in America and 100% of his sales goes to him... however, he buys all the art supplies for his students and he is also a donor to our educational foundation and supports many students in their quest for education. So, we brought the artwork back to America, and Linda Heitz, Kristi Reid,



Mary Jo Scheetz, and Angie Sodey have donated their time and talent to help get the artwork ready for display. There have been many art shows exhibition the Nepal art. These 4 ladies have organized a Nepal Art Exhibition at FMAAA for August, and I have asked Sujan to create more art in his no work time over the past 2 months. These art pieces arrived in the USA yesterday, July 23rd and will be displayed at the art exhibition.

Well now with COVID-19, Nepal has been on total lockdown since March no school is in session. No school, no need for teachers, no work, NO PAY. Over five months all of Nepal has been lockdown. Five months Sujan and other teachers and school employees are like everyone else, NO PAY. So, our Foundation with the help of volunteers in Nepal have started to deliver Food Boxes to families who are extremely hard hit by the COVID-19 lockdown. We constantly collect donations to help with the student's education and now for \$19.88 we can provide a family of 4 with enough rice, lentils, sunflower oil, seasonings, etc. for one month (however these Nepalese are so creative, they stretch this 4 week of rationing to 8 weeks of foodstuffs for themselves). Even during this difficult time, Sujan and other volunteers have helped us feed thousands of Nepalese who would otherwise starve.

After COVID-19, Sujan plans to help us orchestrate the 2nd Nepalese Art Exhibition. Even though our trip was canceled this year we hope 2021 will allow us to return to continue our Educational Mission work."



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fozzy front man Chris Jericho, a former WWF and current All-Elite wrestler, has also produced some chart busting rock hits in the past six years with the band. Below, fans show support in the VIP section at RiverFest 2020.



PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

JOIN AN INDUSTRY LEADER



GREAT JOB OPPORTUNITIES
At our Fort Madison Manufacturing Plant
"Come and Gro With Us"

Machine/Packaging Operators - R3559
Qualifications: Minimum 1 year experience as a machine/production operator in high speed manufacturing environment

Openings All Shifts
Starting Pay: \$18.30/hour

Formulation Operator - R3895
Qualifications: Strong problem solving skills, Attention to detail, Math skills (knowledge of the metric system (conversions of weights and volumes), Computer skills and knowledge (Excel, Word, SAP, Gmail), Must be able to wear a variety of PPE (including a respirator), Ability to operate a forklift. Must be a team player.

Starting Pay: \$23.00/hour

Forklift Operators - R3561
Qualifications: 1-3 years forklift experience, in a fast-paced environment

Starting Pay: \$21.00/hour

Apply at: <https://scottsmiraclegro.com/careers/>

HELP WANTED

Full-Time & Part-Time LPN or RN
1st and 2nd shifts

Pay depends on your experience and is very competitive
Contact Tonya Rehm DON at 319-837-6117 or email to directornursing@westpoint-carecenter.com.



Mobile Nursing Services

Now Hiring

Burlington & Ft. Madison Areas
RN Case Manager

LPN
Private Duty

Home Health Aide

We are now hiring additional staff to meet the needs of our increased client base.
Apply at:
705 Ave. G, Fort Madison
Or email:
mobnurse@mobilenursingservices.com
EOE

ELEMENTARY TEACHER

Holy Trinity Catholic Schools is seeking an Elementary teacher due to increased enrollment. The teacher shall be responsible for 4-6th grade Social Studies. Holy Trinity Elementary School is located in West Point, Iowa. Our new school opened in 2019 and is ready for on-site social distance learning with ample space, moveable furniture, desks, chairs, all new technology, SMART Board panels, and iPads.

HTC has a wonderful community of teachers, staff, students, and families. We are fully prepared to educate our students in a safe and welcoming environment for the 2020-2021 school year. Candidates are required to have an Iowa teaching license and to complete a background check. Please send contact and resume information to judi.din-widdie@holyltrinityschools.org.



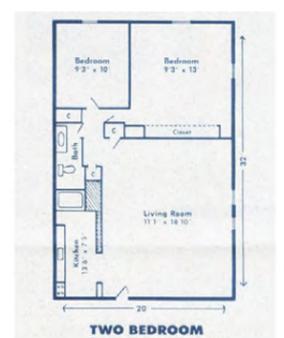
APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Chateau Apartments Extra Clean & Quiet Apartments for Rent



Extra clean & quiet with free YMCA membership included. 2 bedrooms, some with decks/patio. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, built-in microwave. Non-smoking, no pets. Very affordable security deposit \$300. Must pass background & credit checks (no felonies). Large

backyard with picnic tables & glider swing in very nice, quiet neighborhood. Rents range from \$585-\$635. Lease required. 850 sq. ft. units. All electric. Water, sewer, trash furnished. 650 sq. ft. units. Water, heat, sewer, gas, trash furnished. Laundry rooms have new coin-operated washers & dryers (located in all buildings). On-site manager. Call 319-372-9409 or 319-750-3115 for appointment to view. Owned by Alliance Realty Co.



Classifieds

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WEDDING & EVENT CENTER



Grand Things Happen Here
Danielle Neaves & Ann Newton Neaves

319.837.8132

1903 West Point Rd West Point, IA 52656
Facebook/Instagram/Pinterest smallgrandthings.com



Patrick Profeta
General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit

We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments

www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main
Keokuk, IA 52632

Office: 319-524-2334
Fax: 319-524-2373

Generations of Great Service

- 24 Hour Service
- Never An Overtime Charge
- FREE Estimates
- Servicing All Makes



Full Service HVAC Company
Serving Fort Madison, Burlington, and surrounding areas with over 30 Years Experience!

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328

Burlington: 319-752-4328

All Areas: 877-380-4328

www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com

Stewart Automotive

- Transmission Repair
- Major/Minor Engine Repair
- Alignments
- Tune-Up
- Coolant/Transmission Flush

3136 Avenue M
Ft. Madison, IA
Junior Stewart, Owner
(319) 371-4509



YOUR AD HERE

319.371.4125

Darwin Bunger
Attorney At Law

Saunders/ Bunger
An Association of Sole Practitioners

610 Eighth St., Suite A, Fort Madison, IA 52627
Ph: 319-372-2100/ Fax: 319-372-2200

320 N. 3rd Floor 6, PO Box 223, Burlington, IA 52601
Ph: 319-671-7187
DB.Esquire@outlook.com

Visit: www.darwinbungerlaw.com for more info.



Help GRRWA Keep Your Community Hazard-Free!



Household Hazardous
Waste Unit is open
Monday through Friday
8am - 4pm

800-216-2370
Call for an appointment



Ft. Madison Main Office: 2992 303rd Ave Fort Madison, IA 52627 5319-372-6140
Keokuk Transfer Station: 111 Carbine Lane Keokuk, IA 52628 5319-524-6175

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com [facebook.com/grrwa](https://www.facebook.com/grrwa)



Thomas Klann CLU RICP FSCP LTCP LUTCF,
Agent
2623 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627
Business: 319-372-5982
www.fortmadisoninsurance.com

**Here to help
you retire.**

I'm not just here for insurance. I can also help you look at your retirement goals and build a plan for tomorrow. Let's start today.

Here to help life go right.®



1708167.1

State Farm
Bloomington, IL



621 Avenue G
Fort Madison, IA
ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

General Insects
Termites

Cullen
PEST CONTROL

(319) 372-1060

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378
Email: cullenpest@hotmail.com
www.cullenpest.com

Residential Commercial

Mice
Bed Bugs

"Cause who needs bugs?"

KEMPKER'S



Treating our customers like family since 1970

Fort Madison • Burlington • Mount Pleasant

www.kempkerstruevalue.com

How can chiropractic therapy help you?

BENEFITS OF CHIROPRACTIC

- Improved joint mobility, function, and health
- Decreased degeneration of joints and connective tissues
- Improved circulation
- Increased energy, vitality, and improved sleep
- and many, many more

DR. ROBERT BROCKMAN
Brockman Chiropractic

2311 Avenue L, Suite 3, Fort Madison • 319-372-3800
<http://brockmanchiropracticdrbob.com/>

Extremity Adjustment Cranial Adjustment
Myofascial Relaxation Muscle Facilitation

Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding

Grooming by appointment
Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
319-371-9044

2090 250th St
Donnellson, IA 52625

Over 51 Years
Combined Professional
Animal Experience

Owners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma
Family owned & operated

ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICE BUSINESS

Monthly

Only \$50⁰⁰

2x2 Business Card Size Ad with Social Media

OR

150 classified line ad with your logo only \$24⁹⁹

Place your ad online 24/7 www.pencitycurrent.com • Email your ad to classifieds@pencitycurrent.com

Call Lee today at 319.371.4125



It's possible to achieve the retirement of your dreams.

Prepare now, so that when the time comes, you can enjoy retirement on your own terms.



Schedule a SuperCheck® so we can discuss your world and your future today.

Larry Holtkamp
1301 37th St
Fort Madison
(319) 372-9145
LARRYHOLTkamp.COM



Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company, Western Agricultural Insurance Company, West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services L176 (6-17)