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INSIDE TODAY:

Find out about the many upcoming tours Trailways Travel has planned!

See page 2

Pen City Current Monday, July 23, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 172

Vitality gives local artists another downtown art venue

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON - Self expression is paramount to any artist or creator, and locally those people have now have downtown outlet to market those expressions.

Jessica Northrup has moved her "Vitality" into the Main Street district into a retail space at 809 Avenue G and inviting anyone who has a penchant for creating be it sewing, drawing, or other specialized creations, to grab a shelf and market your goods.

The location opened in May and on Friday Northrup and partner Mandy Land, invited the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors to stop in and hear what the store features.

Land, a registered nurse, was brought in by



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Jessica Northrup talks to members of the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Club on Friday. Vitality opened in May in the new location at 809 Avenue G.

Northrup as a partner and Land will be focusing on healing and massage.

Before moving into the Main Street District, Northrup had a location out on the city's west end by Dollar General. "I opened back in January at a different location. The building wasn't big enough and everything started going wrong all at one time and I was either going to lose my business

or move it. So I went against everyone's advice and moved it," Northrup said with a chuckle.

She said the store is full of locally produced wares from paintings, to clothes,

See VITALITY, page 8

EMPTY NEST





Vacation taking on full meaning

Ginnie and I are on a genuine, live, for-real vacation. And it feels like one! My mother's side of the family, whom I don't really know that well, has a reunion every other year. One of my cousins (a retired Army Colonel) and his wife, are the organizers. They travel around the country in a motor home and check out locations—perform "reconnaissance."

They look for sites that have a variety of accommodations from RV parking, to tent camping, to motel rentals, and everything in between. Past sites have been the Grand Canyon, the Black Hills of South Dakota, and the Smoky Mountains of North Carolina. This year they selected Grand Lake, Colorado, which is just outside of Rocky Mountain National Park as the destination. Not only do they select the site, but they plan out group meals and activities. Groovy. All the work had been done for us—we only had to suit-up and show up. This is the first year I (we) have attended—(being the black sheep of the family, I was never invited until this

year). Ginnie has made a respectable man out of me, I think.

On our way, Ginnie and I over-nighted in Loveland, Colorado where



I used to live. The next morning, we toured Loveland's Benson Sculpture Garden. If you've never been to Loveland's Sculpture Garden, this is a must stop of bucket-list proportions. There are close to 150 sculptures in this garden (half dozen or so are added yearly), each one being a "Wow!" moment. Somewhat of a hack sculptor myself, I was immensely inspired.

Then it was over Trail Ridge Road to Grand Lake. On the western edge of Rocky Mountain National Park, we came upon a group of motorists pulled over to the side of the road. People were milling about, pointing and gawking, cameras in hand. Ginnie buzzed down her window and asked what was going on. "Baby

See **SWARM**, page 4

OFP looking for "Steel Magnolias" for fall

Auditions to be held Aug. 2nd and 3rd at OFP playhouse

BY PCC STAF

FORT MADISON - The Old Fort Players will hold auditions for their Fall Production on August 2 and 3 at the theater at 725 Avenue G. 'Steel Magnolias' will need 6 women of various ages to fill the roles in this heartwarming comedy written by Robert Harling.

Steel Magnolias was originally presented in 1987 in New York City and has drawn rave reviews across the country ever since. This is the second time that OFP has presented this great show on our stage. The first time around with this production was the only time we have ever turned people away for lack of seating. We would like to refer to this as an Encore Performance. We will be auditioning for six women; 2 older ladies, two middle age and 2 younger in their early to mid twenties. Truvy, 40s is the owner of the beauty shop. Her assistant Annelle is in her late teens or early twenties. Clairee is in her sixties and a widow of the former Mayor. Shelby in her twenties and her mother M'Lynn in her 50s. Rounding our the cast is Ouiser (Weezer) is in her 60s a very wealty but lovable woman.

See **OFP**, page 4

Advertiser Index Classifieds Ps.5-7 Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry P.3 Great River Regional Waste Authority P.8 Griffin Muffler & Brake Center P.4 Hope Associates Real Estate P.7 KLM Realty P.7 Professional Services P.6 Public Notices Ps.5,7

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Obituaries/Lottery Numbers

OBITUARIES

LEROY W. MUELLER

Leroy W. Mueller, 67, of rural West Point, Iowa, passed away at 10:54 a.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa surrounded by his family.

Born November 19, 1950 in Fort Madison, Iowa the son of Wilfred Caspar and

MUELLER

Germaine C. (Krogmeier) Mueller. On March 12, 1976, he married Carol Hellige at St. James the Less Catholic Church in St. Paul, Iowa. She preceded him in death on January 24, 2002. He later married Barbara Jean (Kavanagh - Johnson) on November 5, 2005 at St. James Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife: Barb of West Point; two sons: Ryan (Sara) Mueller of Fort Madison and Jason (Traci) Mueller of Cedar Rapids; one daughter: Stacey (Ryan) Gerling of Burlington; three step-daughters: Brenda (Linkin) Johnson of Bonaparte, Lisa (Tatz) Johnson of Des Moines and Kathy (Mike English) Johnson of

Burlington; eleven grandchildren: Nicole, Josh, Brooke, Kayla, Jordan, Rose, Brooke, Owen, Kiera, Kelly and Brandon; five brothers and sisters: Gene (Marianne) Mueller of Denver, Colorado, Lois Heffley Durham of North Carolina, Eileen Mueller of Bettendorf, Iowa, Diane (Joe) Scogland of Bettendorf, Iowa and Randy (friend Debbie) Mueller of Eagle Grove, Wisconsin. Also surviving are several great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife Carol and his parents.

Leroy was a lifelong farmer and also worked as a welder at J.I. Case retiring after

thirty years. He a United States Army Veteran having served during the Vietnam War. He was a member of St. James Catholic Church in St. Paul, the Houghton

Knights of Columbus and Prairie Hunters Gun Club. Leroy enjoyed rides on his Gator, tending to his livestock and looking over his property watching nature's animals.

Friends may call after 1:00 p.m. Monday, July 23, 2018 at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point where the family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. that evening. A

Knights of Columbus Rosary will be recited at 3:00 p.m. and a Christian Wake Service will be held at 7:00 p.m.

Following the visitation his body will be entrusted to the Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at St. James Catholic Church in St. Paul with Father Bruce DeRammelaere as celebrant.

Burial will be at St. James Catholic Cemetery in St. Paul with full military rites presented by the West Point American Legion Holtz-Geers Post #668.

A memorial has been established in his memory for West Point Fire & Rescue or St. Judes Children's Hospital.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

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UPCOMING TOURS



www.TrailwaysTravel.com
for more info & full itineraries

	7/25	Cubs vs. Diamondbacks at Wrigley	\$155 pp
	7/27-29	Wonders of Wildlife	\$360 pp double
	7/28	Cardinals vs. Cubs at Busch Stadium	\$140 pp
	AUGUST		
	8/1	Mamma Mia! at Circa '21	\$98 pp
	8/2	Chicago Museums	\$99 pp
	8/4	Cubs vs. Padres at Wrigley	\$155 pp
	8/7	Strolling Down Broadway	\$102 pp
	8/11	Cubs vs. Nationals at Wrigley	\$155 pp
	8/13-16	Quilter's Escape to Paducah, KY	\$495 pp double
	8/14	Iowa State Fair	\$65 pp
	8/15	Cubs vs. Brewers at Wrigley	\$128 pp
	8/21	The Henry Ford & Rouge Factory Tour	\$450 pp double
	8/29	Cubs vs. Mets at Wrigley	\$110 pp
	SEPTEMBER		

9/12	A Comedy of Tenors at Old Creamery	\$98 pp
9/12-15	Legends of Louisville, KY	\$550 pp double
9/15	Cubs vs. Reds at Wrigley	\$145 pp
9/21-30	The Gold of Colorado Trains	\$2790 pp double
9/26	Mama Won't Fly at Circa '21	\$98 pp
9/27	Dinner on the Boone Scenic Valley RR	\$120 pp
9/28	Cubs vs. Cardinals at Wrigley	\$145 pp
9/29	Cubs vs. Cardinals at Wrigley	\$155 pp



319.753.2864 x162 3211 Division St. Burlington, IA

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries 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.



IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball [®]	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Lotto America ^{sм}	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday Pick 3 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday Pick 4 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm



7/21 17 31 42 45 50 Star Ball: 6 All Star Bonus: 5



7/219 23 56 58 68
Powerball: 1
Power Play: 2



7/21 MID-DAY 2 2 4 7/21 EVENING 8 2 1



7/21 MID-DAY 7 7 2 8 **7/21 EVENING** 3 4 1 7

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

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sales@pencitycurrent.com

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Pen City Current

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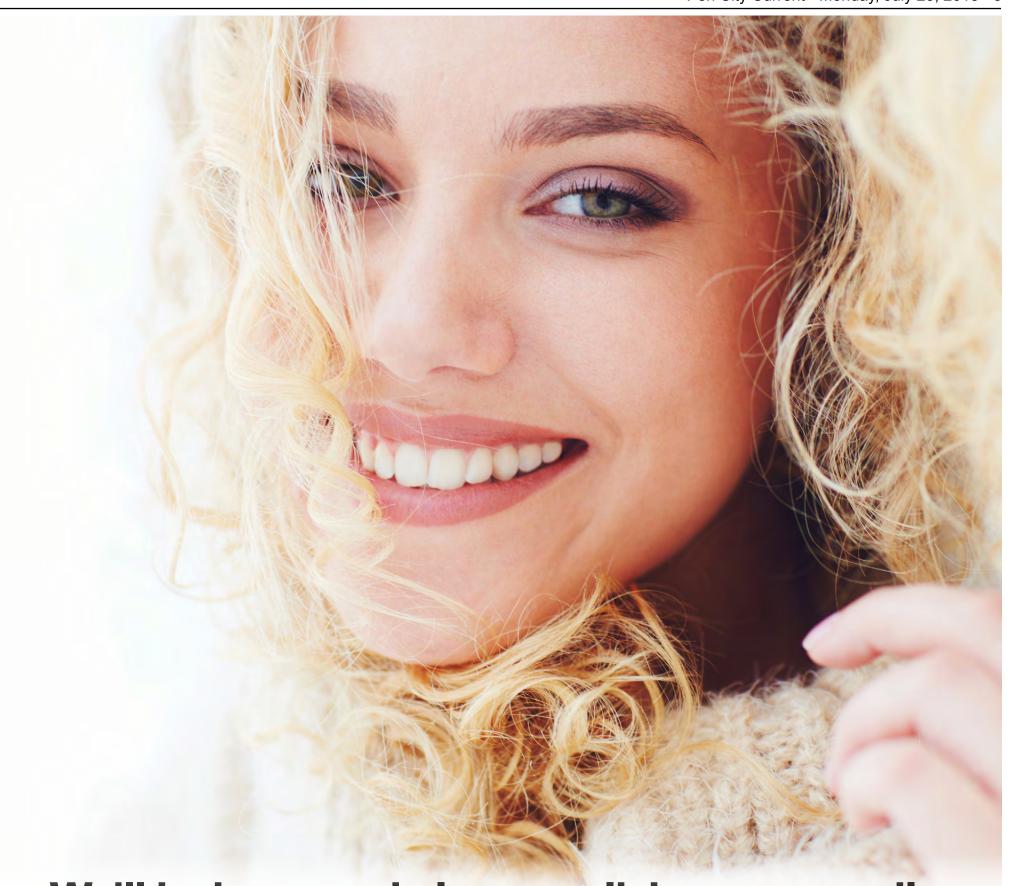
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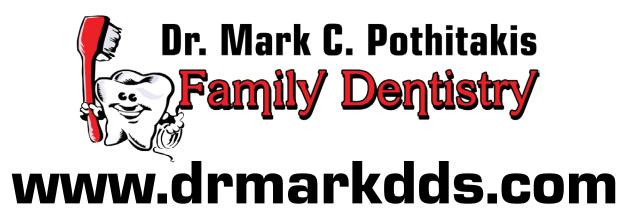
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Trip to the Rockies leaves Empty Nest far behind

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

moose and its momma," we were told. I stopped and grabbed the camera. Unbelievable. Ginnie and I had never seen moose in the wild before, let alone a baby with its momma. I now have a great action-photo of a baby moose that I will definitely frame. This one photo made the whole trip worthwhile, and I looked upon it as an omen that we were going to have a great vacation. I was right.

During the week we photographed deer, elk, fox, a bull moose, eagles, humming birds, chipmunks, squirrels, and marmots, as well as breath-taking scenery. Colorado has such an abundance of wildlife and beautiful vistas that are not too camera shy.

Our week-long vacation in Colorado included a visit to the Holzwarth Fish Camp, a train ride on the Narrow Gauge Railroad from Silver Plume to Georgetown, panning for gold, a drive to the top of Mt. Evans, white water rafting, hiking, ATV sight seeing, horse back riding, a ski-lift ride, and a visit with an ole high school/football buddy in Ft. Collins. He told me I looked like my dad, which set me back on my heels. It seems the harder we try not to become our parents, the closer we get.



Columnist Curt Swarm caught a photo of this juvenile moose climbing out of a river near the Rocky Mountain National Park.

Ginnie and I were dismayed at the destruction of trees by the pine bark beetle. The mountain sides, in many places, are carpeted with brown, dead trees—a toothpick effigy looking like a war zone. However, we could see and were told by a park ranger, that it's a natural process clearing the way for new growth of aspen, spruce and juniper. Dead pines also make great habitat for birds and other critters. As with man, monocultures open the door for disease and

pestilence.

Where will the family meet in 2020? The Colonel is making a big pretense of, "Letting the family decide," but we pretty much know he already has his mind made up. He wouldn't be The Colonel otherwise.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@ *yahoo.com or find him on* Facebook. Curt's stories are also read at 106.3 FM in Farmington.

LaFoe to direct latest version of popular screenplay

OFP - Continued from Page 1

Auditions will run from 6 to 8 PM each evening on Thursday, Aug. 2 and Friday from Aug. 3rd. The Director will be Tamela LaFoe who has Directed and appeared on the OFP stage several times. A decision will be made that evening and the cast will be announced shortly thereafter. Anyone interested in trying out is urged to be there one of the two evenings.

Due to the popularity of this show we anticipate a great turnout to be a part of it and to watch the action unfold on stage. Anyone desiring more information is directed to call 372-9559 or send us a message through our website or Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/oldfortplayers/?ref=br rs

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON **CITY COUNCIL** 7/3/2018

The Fort Madison City Council met in adjourned session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Randolph presided with Council Members Greenwald, Morawitz, Rink, Andrews and Lair present. Council Member Cangas was absent.

On motion, Council approved the agenda as written. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 7/3/2018; Cigarette Permit – Faeth's, LLC; Appointment of Candidates Richard Manly, Ashley Meier and Christopher Sessions to the Police Reserve; Payment of Claims; Set public hearing for 8/7/2018 at 5:30 P.M. concerning the extension of the City-Wide Urban

EXPENDITURES		REVENUES
General	\$ 46,442.22	General
Special Rev.	113,527.67	Sp. Rev. Funds
Road Use	45,091.26	Road Use
Capital	45,211.08	Water
Water	35,136.71	Sewer
Sewer	168,436.56	
Solid Waste/IW	15,040.11	
SW Utility	146.00	
	\$469,031.61	
PAYROLL	7/6/2018	
General	\$180,744.73	
Spec. Revenues	7,070.81	
Road Use	26,107.06	
Water	27,038.00	
Sewer	39,964.66	
Solid Waste	11,107.83	
Storm Water	3,503.08	
	\$295,536.17	

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CLAIMS - 7/17/2018 AMERICAN WATER ADJUTANT GENERAL OF IOWA, LODGING FOR WORKS ASSOC, DUES TRAINING 324 AIRGAS USA, LLC, ANSWER PLUS, AN-ACETYLENE 152.55

ELECTRIC 154.45360 **SWERING SERVICE**175.56 ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES, UNIFORMS392.57 BAIER FORD, REPAIR

WORK280.98

BATES SANITATION &

Revitalization Tax Exemp-ASPHALT, PORTA POTTIE tion District (URTED); and RENTAL 800 Liquor License Renewals: BEACH & ENKE TRUCK-ING, ROADSTONE Hy-Vee Gas, 2632 Avenue31,847.50 H, effective 9/5/2018 and Chuong Gardens, 712 – 9th BETSY EDWARDS, Street, effective 7/1/2018. ADOPT A GARDEN

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2018-44, setting public hearing for 8/7/2018 at 5:30 P.M. of the transfer of property to Great River Regional Wast Authority of any property the City may own that is located on the Great River Regional Waste Authority side of a recently establish boundary line.

On motion, Council approved City support of a local match for a Wellmarl grant for PORT Trail, Phas III.

At 6:09 P.M. on motion, Council adjourned until A gust 7, 2018, at 5:30 P.M. /s/ Bradley A. Randolph, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

7/1-7/15/2018

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Wed., July 25 - 10am-2pm, Comfort Inn & Suites, 6169 Reve Court, Hwy 61 & Hwy 2, Fort Madison Thurs., July 26 – 10am-2pm, IowaWORKS, 1000 N Roosevelt Ave, Suite #9, Burlington

Classifieds

the classifieds

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

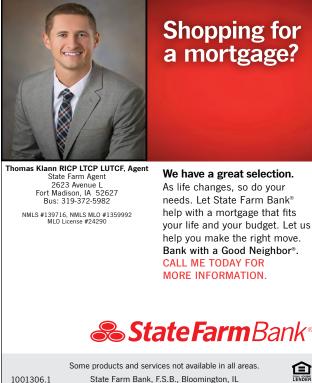
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TERY
HOENIG TREE SERVICE INC, TREE REMOVAL
TEM, COUPLER 18.64 HOWARD R GREEN COMPANY, AVE G SIDE-
WALK21,420.73 HUEBNER, CASEY, SAFETY SHOE REIMB
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IDEAL READY MIX, CONCRETE 1,869.13 INTERSTATE ALL BAT-
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CO, MONTHLY FEE146.25 JONES CONTRACTING CORP, FINAL PHASE II PORT TRAIL 3,291.52 KARL JUDD, RECERTIFI-

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INSPECTION 2,058.15 PERMAR SECURITY SER- VICES, QUARTERLY FEE
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BACH, GIS 1,543.07 QUALITY FLOW IOWA, INC, PUMP GRINDER
42,680.00 QUARRY CREEK ELK AND BISON, SAFETY
SHOES398.25 QUILL CORPORATION, OFFICE SUPPLIES
ROBERT N. JOHNSON III, LEGAL SERVICES465
S.H. ENTERPRISES LTD., SLUDGE HAULING 7,382.90
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SHOPKO, ALOE 39.72 SHOTTENKIRK SUPER- STORE, POLICE VEHI-
CLE MAINT 1,558.72 SKEETER KELL SPORT-
ING GOODS, NETS 111 STANLEY CONSUL- TANTS INC, WWTP
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RATORY, TESTING 19.5 TRUCK REPAIR INC.,

POOL 112.5
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STANLEY CONSUL-
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PHASE II - PROF FEES
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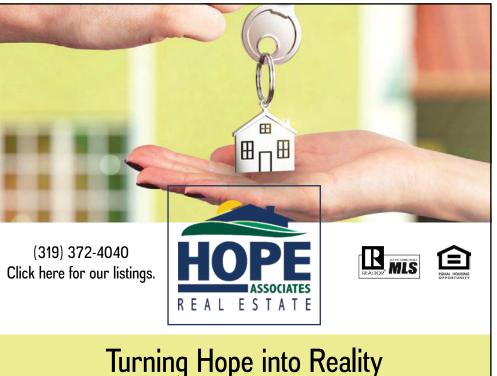
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Turning Hope into Reality

From the Front/Weather

Northrup, Land bring many offerings to Main Street

VITALITY - Continued from Page 1

to dreamcatchers and even earthware like stones and minerals.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 23 Jul -



Partly Cloudy
High – 78.9° F | Low – 69.2° F

TUE 24 Jul



Clear Skies High– 82.3° F | Low – 68.1° F

WED 25 Jul -



Clear Skies High– 82.5° F | Low – 66.1° F

THU 26 Jul



Heavy Rain High – 71.7° F | Low – 64.5° F

FRI 27 Jul



Light Rain High– 79.5° F | Low – 65.7° F

<u>OpenWeatherMap</u>

There is also a casual place with games and a television for children who are just looking for a place to come in and try some art or play games or read.

Northrup said she would find it hard pressed to turn someone away who has a locally and self-produced.

"Obviously we don't have time to do everything in there and I'm a mom with a large arsenal of children and I work another job, but I know when I was a single mom or stay at home mom, I did a lot of crafts and selling on the Internet wasn't enough all the time. That's what gave me the idea to do it, kind of like a consignment store where we could give vendors a chance to come in and bring the things they make and sell it, and not just that, but give them a chance to market it there stuff as well."

Land brings something different to the table and the business. She works with self-healing, and Northrup said she is Reiki master and Chakra, both self-atunnement processes. She said classes are currently underway on Friday and Sundays.

"We have group meditations on Fridays and we have different classes like Sunday evening think tanks where we come together and discuss topics," Land said.

"We found this building and fell in love with it," she said. "I work at Blood Center of the Mississippi Valley, but this is what I do for fun and is my hobby. It's multicultural and mulitgenerational and contains a little bit of everything from the artist. Anything we have in here is going to be artist-made locally or earth made."

Northrup said she also looks at the space for are youth to have a place to do something different than work with their thumbs on digital devices.

"I have quite a few kids and the one thing I always have to fight with is video games. I absolutely hate them," she said. 'There are kids out there that want to do something, they just don't know what or how to do it. I'm not the type of mom to draw a picture for my kids to color. I will make them show me their version

of it. So if a kids comes in and wants to do a canvas, I'll hand them a canvas and a pencil and its... show me what you got. And they have the choice to sell it, keep it ,or display it in the window."

Northrup said her speciality is herbs and helping people learn about the difference between weeds and herbs and how to best utilize them for their health.

On August 11th, Northrup said she has scheduled the store's second "Open Mic Night" where people can come and sing, or read poetry or play instruments, whatever they'd like to do performance-wise in front of a group of peers. She did the first open-mic night several weeks ago, and after a slow start about 15 people were in attendance.

"It was more than I ever-imagined and I was really happy with the way that worked out. I wasn't sure what was going on at the beginning, but then people started coming in and then about six kids with guitars and instruments came in and it was just amazing," she said.

Hours at the store range and the Vitality Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Vitality-1174862022644530/, shows the store opening at 2 p.m., but Northrup said sometimes she'll keep the doors open late if people are in working on projects



Northrup, right front, and Mandy Land, front left, receive a certificate from the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Club Friday morning.

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