



Pen City Current

Friday, April 14, 2017 | 9 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 99

C.U.R.E. re-opens in Main Street district

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Another business has decided to reopen in Fort Madison's Main Street district. And with all the cosmetic changes going on inside the building, all that is needed now is a Welcome Home mat.

Sam Boyer, founder of C.U.R.E. Business Solutions, has purchased the building at 613 Avenue G and is moving his business back into the Main Street district after a fire pushed him from his original location out to the west end of Fort Madison.

"We recently purchased the old Dollhouse Dreams building at 613 Avenue G. We were located all the way out by Shopko which put us out of touch with a majority of our business clients so we decided to move back to Main Street," Boyer said.

Boyer has made some significant internal changes to the building, including have a wall built separating the front customer service area and creating a conversational space for customer interaction, including a large conference table and some comfy chairs.

"This will be where we have our interactions with our customers," Boyer said. "We wanted to create something that was comfortable and inviting up front here."

But behind the wall is where all the



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Sam Boyer stands in front of the new C.U.R.E. Business Solutions office at 613 Avenue G in Fort Madison.

action takes place. Boyer will have two full time support staff on site in the Fort Madison office. He also has locations in Burlington and Fairfield. Staff behind the scenes are typically working with three to five monitors at a time providing a watchful eye on customer systems, and taking on repairs to equipment brought in.

Boyer said that C.U.R.E. is now getting back into residential support as well as business support.

"We really just didn't have the time

to do it before, so we focused mainly on businesses and providing support to them. But I think now we're in a position where we can do a little bit more of that work," he said.

The majority of C.U.R.E.'s time is spent on repairing and monitoring business systems. Boyer said his business model has changed some over time and now he's finding it more efficient for his customers if his company monitors their systems looking ahead for potential pitfalls in systems, such as memory issues.

"We think it's better to monitor the systems and help stave off any problems rather than going in when there is a problem and trying to solve the problem. We can do that, but we think it's more cost-effective for our customers to monitor the system for them," Boyer said.

And being downtown helps Boyer be more reactive to his customer base and is easier for people to come in.

"Since we've moved down here we've had a lot of people come through those doors. We've been very busy," he said.

"We have a lot of clients in downtown Fort Madison and it is continuing to grow, so we would like to be part of that, not only for community development but also to improve our response time for our clients. We recognized the need for quick response time in 2008, that is why we opened a branch office in Fort Madison, but if a business client has a server problem, a 10-minute trip could still be an eternity and that time has been cut down drastically for the downtown area."

Boyer was originally just next door at 609 Avenue G and conducted business out of that building for about four years before it burned down in November of 2012 due to a rash of fires downtown. That forced him to move on short notice and they went to the west end of town. Now with the whole building in his

See C.U.R.E., page 9

Shiffman ready to take on FMHS football program

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison is looking to a new head football coach for bringing glory back to Richmond Stadium. But the new coach says his success barometer is a program that brings the community together.

Tony Shiffman, a 34-year-old offensive line coach and run game coordinator at Rossview

High School in Clarksville, Tenn. was officially hired by the Fort Madison School District Board of Directors on Monday. He also teaches P.E at the school.

Shiffman was also hired to teach English for the high school's Creative Learning Center. He has a master's degree in education.

Fort Madison Athletic Director Andy Mitchell said it didn't take long to realize that Shiffman was

the guy for the school and the program.

"We had 13 applicants and we narrowed that down to five that we were going to interview. It was apparent right away speaking with Coach Shiffman that we would be interested in speaking with him a second time," Mitchell said.

"It was very evident we were dealing with a young man who had a lot of passion and a lot of energy. He has a very strong

football background. And at the same time, we could tell he had very high character standards for athletes in the program and that didn't change when we had him up for a personal interview."

The character came ringing through when Shiffman spoke about youth football programs and how to build a program in a community while protecting players at the earliest stages.

See COACH, page 2



Current Clarksville, Tenn. assistant coach Tony Shiffman will be taking over the football program at FMHS next season. He's also hired to teach English at the high school's Creative Learning Center.

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Absentee ballots for health department/County attorney issues ready Monday

PCC STAFF
Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor, announces that absentee ballots for the Special Election to be held Tuesday, May 2, 2017 will be available in the Auditor's Office beginning Monday, April 17, 2017.

You may vote in person at the Auditor's Office located at 933 Avenue H Fort Madison daily from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday, through Monday, May 1, 2017. You may also vote in person at the South Lee County Courthouse, 25 North 7th Street, Keokuk, located at the west hall across from the Lee County Assessor's Office beginning Monday, April 17, 2017 from 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. and 1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Eligible voters wishing to vote early may complete THE IOWA

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM available from the Lee County Auditor or by downloading the form at <http://sos.iowa.gov>. The request for an absentee ballot may be hand delivered to the Auditor's office in Fort Madison, dropped off at the South Lee County Courthouse or mailed to the Lee County Auditor, P.O. Box 190, Fort Madison, IA 52627.

A voter may also request a ballot on paper no smaller than 3 inches by 5 inches and must contain the voter's name, mailing address, date of birth, signature and the name of the election for which the voter is requesting a ballot. Requests must be received by 5:00 P.M., Friday, April 28th.

Requests may be faxed to 319-372-7033 or emailed to auditor@leecounty.org. However,

the original request document must be received by the Auditor's Office. If mailed, it must be post-marked by Friday, April 28, 2017. The original request can also be hand delivered to the Auditor's Office no later than 8:00 P.M. on Election Day for the ballot to be counted.

Voted ballots may be returned by mail, but must be postmarked no later than Monday, May 1st and received by Monday, May 8, 2017. Prepaid postage is affixed to all ballot return envelopes. The voter's ballot may be hand delivered to the County Auditor's Office before 8:00 P.M., Election Day, May 2, 2017, by the voter or any person the voter designates.

Anyone having questions regarding absentee voting may contact the Auditor's office at 319/372-3705.

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Local News/For the Record



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Work continues on Avenue from 18th Street to 20th Street in Fort Madison. Crews are excavating the street bed in preparation of replacing the subsurface and then repouring the concrete.

Current won't publish Sunday, Monday

Due to the Easter holiday weekend, the Pen City Current will not publish its e-Edition on Sunday or Monday, April 16 and 17, in order to allow our staff to enjoy the holiday with their families. Any breaking news will still be available on our website at www.pencitycurrent.com. Happy Easter, everyone!

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Department Report

04/12/17 - 8:41 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of 16th Street.
 04/12/17 - 8:42 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 2400 block of Avenue L.
 04/12/17 - 10:54 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 700 block of Avenue G.
 04/12/17 - 11:23 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2200 block of Avenue C.
 04/12/17 - 1:31 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 400 block of 8th Street.
 04/12/17 - 3:40 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Jennifer Rae Eid, 30, of Fort Madison, in the 800 block of Avenue G, on 2 warrants

for probation violation. She was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed.
 04/12/17 - 8:13 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Lori Lea Pauley, 53, of Fort Madison, in the 4500 block of Avenue O, on a charge of public intoxication. She was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed.
 04/12/17 - 9:13 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny / theft in the 1100 block of Avenue E.
 04/12/17 - 10:28 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run at Alta Drive.
 04/13/17 - 1:23 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 3200 block of Avenue J.
 04/13/17 - 6:25 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 3000 block of Avenue E.
 04/13/17 - 7:36 a.m. - Fort

Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2200 block of Avenue F.

Lee County Sheriff's Department Report

04/12/17 - 6:31 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on U.S. Hwy 61 near 280th Street. A vehicle driven by Dillon Shine Morgan, 22, of Keokuk and a vehicle driven by Mammedov Ahmetjan, 57, of Miami, Fla., collided. According to the report Ahmetjan entered Hwy 61 from the east and failed to yield striking Morgan's vehicle causing disabling damage. No injuries were reported. Ahmetjan was cited for failure to yield.

Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Pen City Current
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Fort Madison, IA

You won't hear a PEEP out of us this Easter

Pen City Current will not publish its digital e-Edition on Easter Sunday, April 16 & Monday, April 17 in order to enjoy the holiday with our families.

However, any breaking news will continue to be posted to our website at pencitycurrent.com.

We wish you & yours a wonderful Easter.

Buy Local Buy Fresh

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3684 Argyle Road, Keokuk
Listing #20164982 • \$191,500



4BR • 2BA • 2 car garage
1,260 sq. ft. • 4.59 acres

Custom Designed, Energy Efficient home with an open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, on a hard surface road. Includes large deck extends the entire back length of the house, master bedroom that opens up to the back deck, jack and jill master bath and second bedroom. The property also includes an oversized 2 car garage with a heated workshop attached.

4911 Bluff Road
Listing #20164861 • \$157,500



3BR • 1.75BA • 2 car garage
1,772 sq. ft. • 0.57 acres

Great family home with LOTS OF NEW! New kitchen, bathroom, windows, most flooring, wrap around deck, ceiling fans, light fixtures, furnace and central air! Beautiful neutral decor and window treatments make this a must see! All this and a 2 car heated garage.

3098 County Road 103
Listing #20164991 • \$129,900



2BR • 2BA • 3 car garage
1,404 sq. ft. • 1.42 acres

Upgrades, improvements, updates...call it what you like, this home has had MANY in the last 2 plus years. This seller has completely refurbished the hill to the north of the home with new landscaping finishes. This is a must see property!!! It has enough room for your family and then some!!!

1712 Avenue E
Listing #20164725 • \$92,000



4BR • 1.50BA
1,706 sq. ft. • 7,250 sq. ft. lot

This spacious home has it all, the character of a turn of the century home; beautiful woodwork, beamed ceilings, window seat, columns, and large covered front porch, yet also includes MANY updates. Call today for your private viewing!

1703 Avenue L
Listing #20165151 • \$55,900



3BR • 1BA • 2 car garage
1,488 sq. ft. • 16,247 sq. ft. lot

Has been owned by this seller since 1960!!! Large eat-in kitchen with newly tiled floor includes stove, microwave, washer and dryer, main floor laundry (in bedroom), formal dining room with built-in hutch, and spacious living room. The house sits on a HUGE lot and has a nice 2 car garage in back. Home has Gas Heat and central air with maintenance-free siding on house and garage.





2BR • 1BA
1,144 sq. ft.
3,625 sq. ft. lot

Move-in ready with many updates including kitchen WITH appliances, fresh paint, newer electrical (100 AMP breaker), new water lines at street and more! The home is clean as a whistle and ready to move in!

Listing #20161431 • \$42,500



2BR • 1.75BA • 2 car garage
679 sq. ft. • 6,500 sq. ft. lot
 Nice, small home. Seller has purchased and remodeled. Excellent condition.
Listing #20164161 • \$62,500



2 BR • 1 BA • 1 car garage
528 sq. ft. • 5,600 sq. ft. lot
 Super deal on this cream puff home, offering 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, new roof, newer windows, siding and REALLY nice garage!
Listing #20164597 • \$29,900



4 BR • 1.75 BA
3 car garage • 2,052 sq. ft.
8,700 sq. ft. lot
 Beautiful 4 bedroom home with large rooms, recently redecorated and ready to move into. This home features stainless steel appliances, main floor laundry, eat in kitchen and formal dining room, main floor office or bedroom, open staircase, large living room and big bedrooms. Newer roof, siding and gutters on house. 24' X 36' insulated garage and workshop, plus carport. Large wrap porch great location near Old Settlers Park.
Listing #20163776 • \$129,500



**Let Hope help
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3 BR • 1 BA • 1 car garage
1,248 sq. ft. • 0.37 acres

Well-kept ranch on a beautiful, large corner lot in West Point, IA. New wooden privacy fence surrounding the entire back yard. There is also an attached garage and storage shed. A large wooden deck leads to the front door where you can sit and enjoy those beautiful Iowa summer sunsets! PLUS a covered deck in the back for those rainy days. This house is a rare find.

Listing #20164234 • \$119,900



2 car garage • 2,527 sq. ft.
 UNIQUELY beautiful 9.38 river bluff acreage. This home boasts many updates including complete master suite, heat and A/C, Septic system, deck, roof & gutters, flooring, and the list goes on. This private property includes fenced in barn area for animal lovers, mature fruit trees plus trees have been dropped for a beautiful panoramic river view that will last for years! Owner also plans to leave a John Deer mower and new snow blower!!
Listing #20162733 • \$269,000



3 BR • 2.50 BA
2 car garage • 1,194 sq. ft.
10,400 sq. ft. lot

Great family home is move-in ready. Nice-sized kitchen with all appliances, dining area, and nice living room all on the upper level. Completely re-modeled family room with a wood burning fireplace on lower level. Many updates include newer flooring, roof and HVAC system.

Listing #20164531 \$114,900



Land

14.65 acres • 638,514 sq. ft.
 Just outside city limits, perfect for housing development or small farm for horses or small livestock, over half tillable. City water is available. 30' X 60' building is totally insulated, heated and air conditioned with 200 amp service.

Listing #20162574 • \$249,000



3BR • 1.75BA • 1 car garage
888 sq. ft. • 9,450 sq. ft. lot
 RARE RANCH with large fenced back yard and attached garage! Updated windows and kitchen, newer HVAC and water heater. Family Room in the basement. Just waiting for your own personal touch!

Listing #20163423 • \$74,900



Land

50.82 acres
2,213,719 sq. ft.
 Ideal 50 acre m/l parcel to develop. Close to new 4-8 Middle School and Baxter Rec Plex. TREMENDOUS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY.

Listing #20162779 • \$559,020



**3 BR • 2 BA • 2 car garage
1,168 sq. ft. • 0.54 acres**

Quality and beauty! Many updates and upgrades including a new concrete patio/carport with surround sound and mood lighting, new kitchen, bath and lighting throughout. This is an AMAZING house that you MUST see to appreciate!!!

Listing #20164622 • \$88,000



**3 BR • 2 BA • 2 car garage
1,168 sq. ft. • 0.54 acres**

Lovely family home comfortably situated at the end of a cul de sac, where you can enjoy the woods and the privacy! There is an inviting deck off the back of the home overlooking the woods and beautiful vinyl fencing. There are newer mechanicals and a newer roof, 2 fireplaces and lots of storage!! Don't miss out on this beauty.

Listing #20163951 • \$129,000



**5BR • 2.50BA • 2 car garage
2,834 sq. ft.**

14,868 sq. ft. lot

Amazing family home on a large corner lot in Farmington, IA. 2 fireplaces, beautiful woodwork, a beautiful open front porch, a large yard and an oversized garage!!

Listing #20164117 • \$127,500



**2BR • 1BA • 1 car garage
1,224 sq. ft.**

7,250 sq. ft. lot

A house with character! Wrap-around porch, original hardwood in formal dining room/living room combo, main floor laundry, nice size eat-in kitchen including appliances, dining room has original fireplace, basement and 1 car garage.

Listing #20162543 • \$53,000



**5BR • 1.75BA • 1 car garage
1,904 sq. ft. • 1,903 sq. ft. lot**

Great family home on large corner lot in the middle of Ft. Madison. Large living / dining area with original craftsman woodwork and built-ins, 14 x 22 garage on the alley with 2 additional storage sheds. Nice front porch, rear deck, and a great sunroom on the East.

Listing #20162346

\$86,950



**3BR • 1BA • 1 car garage
928 sq. ft. • 1,087 sq. ft. lot**

Very nice maintenancefree home by Lincoln School with a 75 X 145 fenced yard, nice patio, fire pit and child's play set! Some very nice built-ins, some original hardwood flooring, full basement including laundry area. Also find extra parking, garage and carport area on the paved alley.

Listing #20164148 • \$72,500



**5BR • 3BA
3,119 sq. ft.**

14,500 sq. ft. lot

From the period wrought iron fencing to the amazing stained oak staircase...from the impressive arches to the large wrap porch, this beautiful turn of the century (20th) home offers all the beauty and elegance of that era. This is a beautifully appointed home with all the modern conveniences. There is an extra large lot for your family to enjoy!!

Listing #20162159 • \$164,000



**3 BR • 2 BA • 1 car garage
2,260 sq. ft.**

6,784 sq. ft. lot

Lots of new! Semi open floor plan, new flooring, great open basement family space, and many updates including heat/air units, kitchen back splash, counters and more! Fenced in back yard with stamped concrete patio and awning. Call today to see this great home in a quiet neighborhood.

Listing #20164544 • \$139,900



3BR • 3BA

2,754 sq. ft.

3,550 sq. ft. lot

Gorgeous, turn-key home with large patio minimum maintenance. UPDATES GALORE!!! Practically perfect in every way, this 1841 home includes the latest improvements while keeping its Victorian charm.

Listing #23006122 • \$99,999



**2BR • 1BA • 2 car garage
930 sq. ft. • 7,280 sq. ft. lot**

This 2 bedroom home in Montrose has been a rental property and sells as is. Priced way below assessed value to sell quickly!

Listing #20164279 • \$38,500



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Learn more about your local YMCA at www.fortmadisonymca.org



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Classifieds

NEW CONSTRUCTION



25 Green Oak Court, Fort Madison Iowa
New Construction Built in 2017

- Spacious Lot and a Half Yard
- 3 Car Garage
- Granite Counter Tops
- 4 Bedrooms w/ Master Suite
- 3 Full Baths
- 9 ft. Finished Basement
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- 3 Full Baths
- 9 ft. Finished Basement
- Spacious Yard
- New Family Friendly Neighborhood
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From the Front

C.U.R.E hosting Business After Hours Thursday

C.U.R.E. - Continued from Page 1

possession he is creating living and working space for other individuals.

"Since the Dollhouse building is so big we are currently renovating our new office and putting in offices that will be available for rent for small businesses. We hope to have it done by the end of next week. It will have two offices and a reception area in addition to our space," he said.

C.U.R.E. opened 20 years ago in 1997 in Fairfield and has seen consistent growth since that time. Boyer has 12 employees throughout Southeast Iowa and provides a full-service computer network of consulting, computer repair, and network security to area businesses. They also sell, and will service, your phone and copy machines.

Boyer will be hosting a "Back to the 80's Business After Hours on Thursday, April 20 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Boyer said he there will be some very nice door prizes including a lap top computer and other gadgetry and some \$50 gift cards to local businesses.

C.U.R.E can be reached by phone at 319-753-2873 or on the internet at www.curesolutions.com.



Shiffman also brings a master's in education

COACH - Continued from Page 1

"The show "Friday Night Tykes"...that was a travesty in my opinion. Seeing those kids out there playing like they're pros, ducking their heads. That's just horrible for the sport," Shiffman said Wednesday.

Shiffman said he didn't get into pads until 6th grade and it's critical at this point to teach proper techniques so young players know how to play the game safely and competitively.

"I don't want to preach that, but it can be done the right way."

He also said that it's important that young athletes play all sports when they are young to find the sport that fits them best.

"I put the pads on for the first time in sixth grade and it turned out OK for me."

Talking Xs and Os, Shiffman kept things a

little close to the chest.

"We'll run a spread offense, but we will be physical and we will run the football," he said.

The Illinois College graduate comes to Fort Madison after getting a note from former Bloodhounds Peter Jennings, Brad Linares, and Justin Menke who all played with Shiffman at Illinois College. He also spoke with Mike Brooks, a former FMHS coach.

"They told me about the position and said I should look into it. Coach Mitchell told me the town is excited about its football program and that's what got me excited," Shiffman said.

"Our conversations centered around the support of the community and if we do things the right way, I think we'll get the support and have a community football team.

"Our conversations centered around the support of the community and if we do things the right way, I think we'll get the support and have a community football team."

-Tony Shiffman, FMHS football coach

That's very important to me," he said.

Mitchell said numbers in the program, despite going down, were not a

concern or a heavy topic.

"That never really came up as a concern. We talked to him about last year's numbers being down. Our senior class is not big right now, but we hope that's not a trend. We knew that to a point but at the end of the year last year we were up quite a bit of kids. We had confidence that even if things didn't change, our numbers would be ok," Mitchell said.

The coach said he'll be in town on April 28 to meet with school officials and members of the community and plans to be in the community at the end of May.

Shiffman got his teaching certificate from North Carolina-Roanoke and is looking forward to meeting all the students and parents in the community.

Great River Regional Waste Authority's Earth Day Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Saturday April 22nd, 2017 ~ 9:00am to 12:00pm

Located in Central Park



Fort Madison Residents Only, No Businesses Please



Great River Regional Waste Authority will be accepting the following Household Hazardous Waste items during the Annual Community Clean Up Event. We encourage you to call ahead and make an appointment for the collection.

- Fertilizers, Herbicides, Insecticides, Pesticides
- Oil Based Paints, Paint Thinners & Solvents
- Household & Auto Cleaning Products
- Car Batteries, Motor Oil, Antifreeze
- Car Batteries and Rechargeable Batteries
- Swimming Pool Chemicals
- Propane Tanks
- AND MORE!

*No Latex Paints Please

Call 319-372-6140 to schedule your appointed time or to check to see if your items qualify for this event.

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