



Pen City Current

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Shields back with a big plan

Videographer brings wife to hometown with idea to help area businesses

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Geoff Shields works in his production room setting cameras on Friday. Shields is bringing more than two decades of broadcast and print journalism experience back to his hometown with his Avenue G Productions studio on Avenue G in Fort Madison's Main Street District.

position was eliminated. Then staring down a decision to look for another TV gig, Shields decided to go in another direction. "I'd had enough of working for others and decided I wanted to work for myself," Shields said. "And what better place to do it then to come home

to Fort Madison and start my own production company." Lisa works from home as a world-wide service planner for Toshiba. Following her own 4-year stint in the U.S. Navy, she began working for IBM, which entailed the Shields' moving four

times to four different states early in her career. While living in Austin, Texas, Geoff's career path in TV Production took off. First as Studio Manager at KVUE-TV in Austin, Texas, then progressing to Production

See **SHIELDS**, page 2

EMPTY NEST

BY Curt Swarm



Thanksgiving has special meaning for columnist

TGITG!

Thank Goodness It's Thanks Giving! I know, Thanksgiving is one word, but I wanted to do a spinoff of TGIF.

November is a memorable month for me, and I have a lot to be thankful for. 28 years ago this November, I was so drunk in my own home, I fell and crashed through the glass top of my coffee table, cut myself to smithereens, and nearly bled to death. Outside of that, I didn't have problem with drugs and alcohol.

Turns out, it was the best thing that ever happened to me. It was a wake-up call. God grabbed me by the scruff of the neck, tossed me into AA, and my whole life turned around for the better.

Which brings up a subject I've been wanting to talk about—the opioid crisis in the United States. Opioids are killing more people than car accidents. I'm a little confused when I hear such statements as, "What is the government going to do to handle this crisis? We do not have treatment facilities or government funding needed to handle this crisis in addiction."

Chances are you have the most successful treatment program in the world right there in your own community, and it's free. It's called AA—Alcoholics Anonymous. In my 28 years of being clean and sober, I have seen many, many hardcore drug addicts find relief and recovery through this 12-step program. Alcohol is a drug. Its chemical formula is C₂H₅OH. Just substitute the word narcotics for alcohol and it's the same 12-step program.

If you're fortunate enough to have Narcotics Anonymous in your community, utilize it or start a NA program. There is no better treatment in the world than one addict helping another.

I just read an article in the newspaper by Dr. Oz, about how the opioid epidemic is costing the country

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From the Front

Move is an investment for Shields couple

SHIELDS - Continued from Page 1

and Operations Manager of WEAU-TV in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, finally moving to the Madison area in 2007.

With more than two decades of broadcast production leadership skills in his back pocket, Shields said the decision he and his wife made to move back to the area didn't come easily. He said his plan for retirement was to work in video production on the side to help people with their branding.

"When we were researching it, my wife and I talked about what's next. We could literally go anywhere," Shields said. "I could look for another job in broadcasting. It's a small industry where I know a lot of people, and they know me. But I really wanted to do something different."

So they purchased a building on Main Street... Avenue G, and set up a

"The name isn't an accident. I'm from here, and hopefully that means something to the people here.."

-Greg Smith
FMHS Principal

studio where he now runs Avenue G Productions, the video production element of Shields Media Services, LLC. Shields said that allows him to offer other services eventually, but for now he's focusing on video production, branding, and messaging using video for marketing, over-the-air media, social media and online promotion.

"The name isn't an accident - Avenue G Productions," Shields said. "I'm from here, and hopefully that means something to the people here."

Lisa said the couple is passionate about the communities in which

they live and want the business to work in that model as well.

"His enthusiasm level for this is about to the point of ridiculousness," Lisa said.

"We live here, too. We want Ft. Madison to flourish, and we want it to thrive. Taking the opportunity to move back home and start building those relationships with people who own businesses here - people who I knew from before who are still here, helping them succeed and do really well is my goal."

He said he brings skills and the knowledge of 25 years plus of working in



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lisa and Geoff Shields, owners of Avenue G Productions, a subsidiary of Shields Media Services, said moving to Fort Madison represents an investment in the community they want to serve and see grow.

broadcast television in promotion and marketing.

"Video is such a powerful tool and an intimate medium that effects you on an emotional level. It's good to bring the experience of producing high quality video to the marketing effort of businesses

in the area," he said.

"It has to be the right message for your business. And if we can create a video together to help your potential customers understand that - it's a win for you."

He said he doesn't think opening the business is a risky move.

"People talk about the risk of starting a new business, The real risk is not doing it. So why not?"

Shields can be reached at 319-246-5828 or by email at AveGProductions@gmail.com. The company's website is www.shieldsmediaservices.com.



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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, we will not publish an e-Edition Thursday, November 23 through Sunday, November 26. We'll resume publication on Monday, November 27. Breaking news will continue to be published on our website 24/7.

We wish you a very warm & wonderful Thanksgiving.


From our #PCC family to yours

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Obituaries/Current-Lee

OBITUARIES

JACKIE C. SORRELL

Jackie C. Sorrell, 80, of Ft. Madison passed away on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at 7:25 PM at The Madison.



SORRELL

He was born on June 23, 1937 in Bardstown, Kentucky to Everett and Flosie Fryrear Sorrell. On October 10, 1964 he married Elizabeth Bergthold in Ft. Madison and she passed away on November 20, 2001. He then married Kirby Griffin on July 7, 2014. Jackie worked production at Wolf Packaging for several years. Jackie was an avid football fan. He enjoyed riding his bike and his moped.

Survivors include his wife, Kirby Sorrell of Ft. Madison; a son, Randall Sorrell of Utah; a daughter, Sandra Segismundo of Orlando, FL; two granddaughters, Elizabeth Prudlow and Emilia Sorrell; one great grandson, Charlie; one sister, Ruby Holloway of Kentucky and a half brother, Maurice Carter of Kentucky. He was preceded in death by his parents, first wife and two brothers.

A graveside service will be held at 11 AM on Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at Sacred Heart Cemetery with Rev. Richard Dutzer officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the graveside service. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

A memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com

CURRENT-LEE

The original Ivy Bake Shoppe now taking orders for holiday treats

Remember the original Ivy for your holiday desserts, sweet trays, catering, & gift certificates. Order yours by Tuesday, December 21st. Call us at Burlington Uptown Ivy (319)754.5924 or visit us at 514 Jefferson Street, downtown Burlington. Visit us online at www.ivybakeshoppe.com.



Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for \$15. Add a photo for \$5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of \$10 per 25 words and \$3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.



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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™	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



11/19 MID-DAY
8 6 8
11/19 EVENING
2 2 0



11/19 MID-DAY
7 5 0 1
11/19 EVENING
3 8 3 8

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Addiction help of any kind is readily available

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

500 billion a year and that the government needs to spend so many millions of dollars to cope with the emergency. Not a word was mentioned about AA.

C'MON PEOPLE, WAKE UP! Every in-patient treatment program I know of, and I've known quite a few, state bluntly that continued sobriety and happiness following release from the treatment program is only achieved by continued attendance in a 12-step program.

Note: Treatment centers can be a Godsend, especially for the hardcore addict, in that they offer a safe place to detoxify.

There may be some stigmas associated with AA. (1) That AA is for "low-bottom" drunks, those people you see with the bottle in a brown paper bag. Addiction does not discriminate. I've known doctors, lawyers, and world-famous people of all races in AA, as well as Skid Row drunks and everything in-between. And I've seen the Skid Row drunk help that doctor or lawyer.

(2) AA is for alcohol addiction only. An addiction is an addiction whether it's alcohol, narcotics, sex, food, gambling, work, smoking, you name it. It's the same 12-step program. True, AA has a "singleness of purpose." However, in my 28 years of sobriety I have never seen anyone being asked to leave a meeting because he or she wanted to talk about their problem with food or any other addiction.

(3) You're an atheist or agnostic and don't like the use of the word "God." No problem. Use "Higher Power." Surely you can think of some power greater than yourself, like the "Universe" for example. Use it like your life depends on it, because it probably does.

Check out the meeting schedule for AA, NA, Al Anon (for spouses of addicts), and Alateen (for children of addicts) in your local newspaper. In the phone book, look under the "A's" for AA or "alcohol." Help is as close as your phone.

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.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda
DATE: TUESDAY,
November 21, 2017
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.
LOCATION:
Correctional Center,
2530 250th Street,
Montrose, IA 52639
AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
Consider Approval of Thursday, November 9 and Tuesday, November 14, 2017 Board Minutes Consider Approval of Claims Public Input
Presentation from National Association of Counties
Update on Moor/Powdertown Sanitary Sewer System
Consider Approval of Contract and Contractor's Bond for Culvert Project on 170th A venue
Consider Approval of Flexible Benefits Renewal
Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Sheriffs

Fees
319-372-3705
County Website:
www.leecounty.org

Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Credit Card Limit for PSAP Employee
Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolutions (2)
Consider Approval of Taxable and Assessed Value of Utilities for 2017
Personnel Actions:
A. Step Increase-Secondary Roads (3)
B. New Hire-Sheriffs Office
C. Step Increase-Sheriffs Office
Reports:
A. Manure Management Annual Update-Henry Pieper Corp in Green Bay Township
Commission or Committee Reports
Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING - CITIZENS WELCOME

Workshop to follow
Vision and hearing assistance available upon request
Contact Title VI Administrator

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby provided that the City Council of the City of West Point, Iowa, will conduct a public hearing on Monday, December 11, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Library Conference Room, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656 concerning a petition for vacation and sale of a parcel described as:

“Auditor’s Parcel “K” in part of Lot 13, Block 33, and part of Outlot 2, all in the Original Plat, City of West Point, Iowa described as follows:

Commencing at the northeast corner of said Lot 13, Block 33, thence South 88°29’57” West, along the north line of said Lot 13, a distance of 118.00 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence, continuing along said line and an extension thereof, South 88°29’57” West, 60.12 feet; thence South 01°11’03” East, 54.74 feet; thence North 88°26’45” East, along the south line of said Lot 13 and an extension thereof, 60.21 feet; thence North 01°16’49” West, 54.68 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.08 acre.

The above bearings are based on Iowa State Plane South Coordinates and all distances are horizontal ground distances.”

A copy of the cited petition and preliminary resolution to dispose of real property are on file at City Hall, 313 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656, and may be viewed by the public during normal business hours.

Diane E. Smith, City Clerk
City of West Point, Iowa

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Dollhouse Dreams: 25% off All Melissa & Doug Toys

Dodd Printing: Treats, Scented Stationary & Letters to Santa

Elks Club: Sandwich Specials & Vendor Blendor

Faeth's Cigar Store: 10% off Fishing Poles

The Fort Diner: Breakfast & Lunch Specials

Fort Mad Emporium: Free Pencil & 10% off

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Parthenon Restaurant: Free Ice Cream with every meal

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SiP: Buy One Large Specialty Latte & Get One 1/2 price

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Local News/Area News

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 20 Nov



Clear Skies
High – 48.5° F | Low – 47.2° F

TUE 21 Nov



Clear Skies
High – 41.5° F | Low – 25.1° F

WED 22 Nov



Light Snow
High – 32.7° F | Low – 23.7° F

THU 23 Nov



Light Snow
High – 38.9° F | Low – 25.2° F

FRI 24 Nov



Clear Skies
High – 44.7° F | Low – 48.5° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

At top, a line forms at Dodd Printing & Stationery while a wine vendor pours samples for the hundreds that meandered down Avenue G in Fort Madison for the Fort Madison Main Street's Wine Walk. At right, Stag had microbrews on tap, including a Ghost Pepper Beer that had people talking up and down the street.



MP H&H employees donate to cancer center

WEST BURLINGTON – Great River Cancer Center has received a donation of \$2,431.70 from Hearth and Home Technologies. Employees of the Mount Pleasant, Iowa, business raised \$1,215.85,

and the employer matched the contribution. Fundraisers included T-shirt and bake sales.

The donation will support the cancer center's Hair, Hats & More program. All patients who

have lost their hair because of cancer treatment receive a soft cotton sleep hat to improve comfort and reduce heat loss. Because some chemotherapy drugs increase sensitivity to cold weather, Great

River Cancer Center also provides new hats, scarves and gloves, or women may choose a wig instead.

For more information about Great River Cancer Center, please call 319-768-3434.

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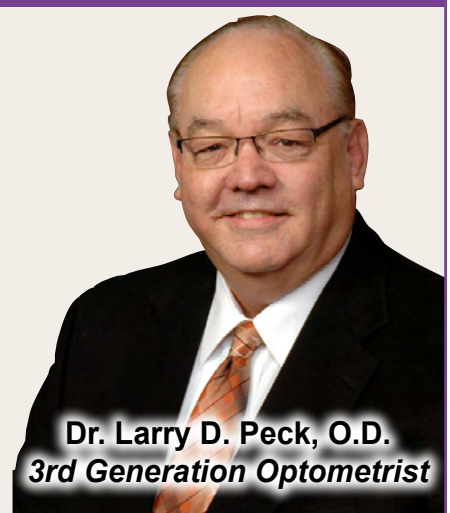
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