



Pen City Current

Tuesday, July 3, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 157

CONNECTION made in Burlington

*CEO said
Connection
Bank &
Insurance
wanted to
create
something
"unbanky"*



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The new Connection Bank and Insurance building on Roosevelt just off the corner of Market Street is open for business. Below, Market manager Brock Ita, far right, and Michelle Fickel, Branch Manager, talk with one of the building contractors.

**BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG**
PCC EDITOR

BURLINGTON - Carrying the iconic orange, green, and gold colors now synonymous with Connection Bank and Insurance, a new ultra, state-of-the-art banking location is now open in Burlington.

The new building has quickly become the architectural centerpiece of the new development zone on the east side of Roosevelt Avenue at the corner of Market Street, and features full-service banking and insurance services.

Brock Ita, a Danville native, will serve as the Market President of the

new location. Michelle Fickel, a 15-year veteran with Connection Bank, formerly Fort Madison Bank & Trust, will serve as the Branch Manager.

Customers will enter the bank on the north side parking lot and walk into a spacious welcome area complete with a fireplace and a fabricated circular LED light resembling the linked circle logo of Connection. Glass offices encircle the large waiting area with a very large conference room on the south side. A double lane drive thru with separate ATM lane is on the building's east side.

Inside, typical teller counters are replaced with smaller pods that



feature cash recyclers to speed up transaction times, while increasing security for customers and staff.

Matt Morris, President and CEO of Connection Bank & Insurance, said it was important for the building to be open and inviting.

"We wanted some-

thing with an open floor plan," he said. We wanted the customer service reps to be able to move freely around and greet customers," he said. "You'll notice it isn't a traditional bank teller line. We went with pods and cash recyclers. There are no

See **BANK**, page 8

Scotts breaks dirt on expansion

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The golden shovels were out and hardhats on as city, county, and Scotts Miracle-Gro officials broke ground Monday on an expansion project that could bring more than 40 new jobs to Fort Madison.

The expansion facility is a \$3.6 million project that will expand the company's Fort Madison footprint by 4,400 square feet and bring in an additional packaging line.

Dale Heidbreder, the technical manager for the facility, said the project helps secure the company's position in Fort Madison for the future.

"What's happening is we're putting an addition on our formulation building," Heidbreder said. "It's two levels, and what will go in that will be three new product storage tanks and four formulating tanks. In addition, we'll install one new packaging line and upgrade an existing packaging line."

State and local officials put together an incentive package to help the project become a reality. On May 19, the Iowa Economic Development Authority, awarded Scotts \$91,612 in direct financial assistance and tax benefits from the state's High Quality Jobs program to help with the company's capital investment. The package required the City of Fort Madison to match the \$91,612 so City Manager David Varley recommended a three-year tax abatement to meet its obligation in the package. The Fort Madison City

See **SCOTTS**, page 6

Authorities searching for Keokuk man

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - The Lee County Sheriff's department is asking the public for help locating a Keokuk man.

Authorities were asked to do a welfare check just before noon Monday morning on 39-year-old Dan Oilar of Keokuk, near the Red Wing Access on the Des Moines River southwest of Keokuk.

Sheriff Stacy Weber said deputies were unable to physically locate Oilar, but were able to reach him by phone. After brief conversations with deputies on the

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For the Record/Lottery Numbers

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

6/29/2018 - 8:30 a.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 5000 block of River Valley Rd.
 6/29/2-18 - 8:42 a.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 600 block of 7th St.
 6/29/2018 - 8:55 p.m - Fort Madison Police cited Thomas Jeremiah Raines, 41, of Fort Madison, on a charge of driving while revoked in the 1900 block of Ave. G. He was released upon citation.
 6/30/2018 - 1:23 a.m - Fort Madison Police arrested Charles Joseph McDonough, 56, of Fort Madison on a charge of OWI- first offence at Riverview Park. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 7/01/2018 - 6:02 a.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident on 38th St.
 7/01/2018 - 7:53 a.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 600 block of Ave. E.
 7/01/2018 - 10:01 a.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2600 block of Ave. L.
 7/01/2018 - 11:11 a.m - Fort Madison Police arrested

Angel Jaime Garcia, 36, of Fort Madison, on warrants of domestic assault and violation of no contact order in Ave. L. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 7/01/2018 - 12:15 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a shoplifter in the 2600 block of Ave. L.
 7/01/2018 - 1:00 p.m - Fort Madison Police arrested Amber Renee Rae, 35, of Fort Madison, on charges of theft fifth and possession of drug paraphernalia at Walgreens. She was released with a court date.
 7/01/2018 - 1:46 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of Ave. E.
 7/02/2018 - 12:21 a.m - Fort Madison Police arrested Amanda Marie Sutton, 33, of Fort Madison, on a warrant service Des Moines County, in the 900 block of Ave. G. She was taken to Des Moines County Jail and held.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

6/29/2018 - 10:15 a.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested William Earl Jones, 53, of Fort Madison, on a warrant of judgement entry/ mittimus at the Sheriff's office. He was released the next day at 4:23 p.m for serving his time.

6/29/2018 - 10:30 a.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Robert Hayden Watts, 32, of Keokuk, on a warrant of judgement entry/ mittimus, at the Sheriff's office. He was released at 8:33 a.m on Sunday, July 1, 2018 for agreeing to serve weekends.
 6/29/2018 - 11:40 a.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Mathew Rohan Boon, 32, of Fort Madison, on a warrant of violation of probation, in the 700 block of Ave. F. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 6/29/2018 - 11:37 p.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Stephen Michael Waggoner, 36, of Fort Madison, on two charges of possession of controlled substance, one charge of possession of drug paraphernalia, one charge of driving while barred, and one charge of failure to provide proof of financial liability. He was arrested in 263rd Ave, and was released the following day at 10:20 a.m on recog.
 6/30/2018 - 9:55 a.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Antwan Lawrence Brewster, 18, of Keokuk, on a warrant of judgement entry/ mittimus, at the Sheriff's office. He was released on July 2, 2018 at 7:02 a.m for serving his time.
 6/30/2018 - 11:00 a.m - Lee

County Sheriff's deputies cited Joseph John Record, 20, of Keokuk, on charges of drivers license denied/ revoked - OWI and dark windows at the intersection of South 7th and Cleaver. He was released at 11:37 a.m the same day upon citation and promise to appear
 6/30/2018 - 2:09 p.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Adam James Huss, 29, of Fort Madison, on warrants of assault-simple, disorderly conduct, and trespassing, and charges of driving while barred, dark windows, fraudulent use of registration, and failure to provide proof of financial liability in the 4000 block of Main St. in Keokuk. He was released on bond the same day.
 6/30/2018 - 6:00 p.m - Lee

County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 61. Steven Lee Toops, 32, of Donnellson, was attempting to make a right hand turn southbound onto Hwy. 61, when the rear of his car was struck by Janel Ann Quinlan, 41, of Hamilton, Ill. who was behind him. No injuries were reported at the scene, and Quinlan was charged with following too closely.
 7/01/2018 - 3:02 p.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Robert Steven Land, 41, of Argyle, who was being held temporarily in the 2700 block of Hwy. 218 until they could be transported to Mt. Pleasant.
 7/02/2018 - 12:17 a.m - Lee County Sheriff's deputies

arrested Michael Vincent Onofrietti, 36, of Keokuk, on a charge of possession of stolen property in the 1800 block of 295th St. in Argyle. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

06/29/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one assist, three medical calls.
 06/30/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to two medical calls and a vehicle accident
 07/01/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to five medical calls, one lift assist and two false alarms.



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™	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



7/1 MID-DAY
0 7 0
7/1 EVENING
9 1 2



7/1 MID-DAY
0 9 0 3
7/1 EVENING
8 5 2 8

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

FMCH Welcomes Mariah Skelley, PMHNP



Mariah Skelley is a Board Certified Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. She will join Amanda O'Tool in the FMCH Psychiatry Clinic providing mental health care services.



PSYCHIATRY

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Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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

Obituaries/Celebrations

OBITUARIES

TOM VAN

Tom Van, 65 years, of Marion, Iowa died on Wednesday, July 27, 2018 in Savannah, Georgia, where he was on assignment at GulfStream Aero Space as a computer program designer. Tom was born November 18, 1952 in Cass City, Michigan, to Tom and Beatrice (Macintosh) Van. He married Lanette Farnsworth on August 29, 1981.



VAN

Tom was a kind, generous man and a loving and supportive husband. An avid bicyclist, he also enjoyed camping, nature photography and music.

He is survived by his wife, Lanette; his sisters, Deb Daniels and Kathy Johnson and their spouses. Tom is preceded in death by his parents and grandmother.

His family will greet friends from 10:00 – 11:00 am Monday, July 9, 2018 at the Fort Madison United Methodist Church. A memorial services will follow and begin at 11:00 am, Monday at the church. Rev Dave Barrett will officiate. Memorials will be given to Tom and Lanette's favorite mission, Heifer International. Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison is assisting the family.

BESSIE HELEN LORETTA HORTON

Bessie Helen Loretta Horton, 88, of Keokuk, died on Saturday, June 30, 2018 at the UnityPoint Health Keokuk.



HORTON

She was born on October 25, 1929 in Kahoka, MO the daughter of Vince and Gracie Kittle Walker. On May 23, 1946, Helen was united in marriage to Don Horton in Kahoka, MO. He preceded her in death in 1956. She married Clinton Stark in 1962 and he preceded in death on April 16, 1998.

After she was married, Helen had been employed as a receptionist at a doctor's office in Chicago. When she moved to Keokuk she worked for the Keokuk School District in the cafeteria. She had also worked in Dr. Kasiske's office in Keokuk. She really enjoyed watching the television shows, Law and Order, Walker Texas Ranger and Gunsmoke. She also enjoyed doing needle point, listening to Elvis gospel music and visiting with people in their home just to talk. Helen also like to read the word of God in her PTL Bible. She was a member of the Calvary

Foursquare Church in Keokuk, the PTL Club, Home League Club and was a 700 Club Partner. She thoroughly enjoyed listening to Billy Graham.

Helen is survived by three daughters: Sheila Miller of Kahoka, MO, Loretta (John) Foster of Chicago, IL, and Carol (Patrick) Haage of Keokuk, one son: Don (Deborah) Horton, Jr of Fort Madison, IA, nine grandchildren, Sasha Horton, Don Horton III, Joshua Horton, Tenile (Ernest) Aldridge, Jill (David) Limbo, Angela (Roy) Gilbert, Charles (Paula) Miller, Jr., Daniel (Amanda) Miller, and John Miller, twenty-two great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews.

Beside her husbands she was preceded in death by her parents, all her siblings and her son-in-law: Charlie Miller.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday at the Calvary Foursquare Church in Keokuk with Pastor Dan Davis officiating. Burial will be in the Wyaconda Cemetery, Wyaconda, MO.

Memorials may be made to the Calvary Foursquare Church in Keokuk.

The Vigen Memorial Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

OBITUARIES

NORMA HELEN WALL CASE

Norma Helen Wall Case, 66 of Farmington, IA died Sunday, July 1, 2018 at her home.



CASE

She was born October 27, 1951 in Keokuk, IA the daughter of Norman H. and Helen E. Young Wall. On November 22, 1969 she was united in marriage to her best friend, Raymond L. Case at the St. Joseph Catholic Parish Church in Montrose. He survives.

Other survivors include three children, Amy (Ron) Lambert, Bryan (Tammy) Case and Elisha (Jeron) Lindsay, six grandchildren, Andrew Lambert, Charles Case, Kurtis Case, Kailee Case, Ryan Lindsay and Blake Lindsay, three great-grandchildren, Valek Case, Bexlee Samic and baby Case on the way, her mother, Helen Wall, sister, Janis (Robert), Davidson several brothers and sisters-in-law, including Greg Boyer and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her father, granddaughter, Heather Lambert-Pullins, siblings, Larry Wall and Rita Boyer, grandmother, Mamie Wolf, other grandparents and her mother and father-in-law, William and Irene Case.

Norma graduated from Central Lee High School with the Class of 1969.

She was a member of the Donnellson Presbyterian Church.

Norma had been employed by Van Buren County Hospital in Keosauqua and the Lee County Home in Keokuk.

Norma enjoyed camping and traveling with her family. She and Ray had been to almost every state including Hawaii. She liked to crochet and was an avid reader. Norma was a loving wife and mother who was devoted to her family and especially cherished her grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, at the New Testament Christian Church in Keokuk with Dawn Farris officiating. Burial will be in the Montrose Cemetery.

Visitation is after 1 p.m., Wednesday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with family meeting with friends from 5-8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Donnellson Public Library.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

Celebrations

JILLIAN ALICE GERVELER

KEOKUK - Michaela Land and Jerrad Gerveler are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Jillian Alice Gerveler on June 27, 2018 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are Amy and Charles Gerveler, of Fort Madison, and Karla and Bob Land of Keokuk. Great-grandparents are Dodie Fisher of Fort Madison, Alma Finton, of Warsaw Ill., and Tom and Billie Gerveler of Nashville, Tenn.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 03 July	Clear Skies High – 84.2° F Low – 77.9° F
WED 04 July	Moderate Rain High– 86.7° F Low – 77.9° F
THU 05 July	Clear Skies High– 87.5° F Low – 76.3° F
FRI 06 July	Moderate Rain High – 81.9° F Low – 72.5° F
SAT 07 July	Light Rain High– 79.6° F Low – 70.7° F

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From the front

New facility will expand production lines, employee base

SCOTTS - Continued from Page 1

Council approved that abatement in June.

Heidbreder said the company would have moved ahead with project without the incentives, but he said the incentives make things easier and show the state's and city's commitment to the company.

"We would have done it without the incentives, but it sure helps," he said. "We're going to bring in 40 plus jobs.. and good paying jobs."

In addition to the 40 plus full-time added jobs, Leslie Malinski, the plant's Director of Liquid Operations, said up to 50 additional seasonal employees may be added to the current staff of 130 full-time associates and 150 seasonal employees.

Fort Madison Partners Executive Director Tim Gobble said the expansion project speaks to the commitment of the city, the county, and the state to help existing businesses continue to grow, as well as the commitment of Scotts to the area.

Fort Madison City Councilman Chris Greenwald, who represented the city at the ceremony, said Scotts has been a strong corporate citizen.

"You always show up and you are very community-minded," Greenwald told Malinski.

Greenwald said so many times leaders try to take credit for these types of projects.

"So many times leaders say, 'Look what I did.' But this isn't about us. It's about creating an environment that's conducive to this kind of growth," he said. "Those folks, the workers - they're the real deal. It's a reflection on them... adding to that solid workforce. It's not always about going after the new business, you have to take care of the existing business and that's equally, if not more, important because they're already here."

Malinski said the Fort Madison facility produces 70% of the liquid products for Scotts Miracle Gro.

"Next year with the expanded production capacity, we will produce more than 95% of the company's Miracle-Gro®, Ortho®, and Roundup® consumer products," she said.

She also said some of the new positions are already posted on the Scotts corporate website at <https://scottsmiraclegro.com>.

"We're going to be ready by the end of October," she said.

Seither and Cherry won the bid on the project and Paul Schulte, who was on hand for the groundbreaking, said some work has already been done.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Dignitaries, company officials, and full workforce stand behind the ground breaking of a new \$3.6 million expansion project at Scotts Miracle-Gro in Fort Madison.

Sheriff suspends river search

SEARCH - Continued from Page 1

phone, Oilar hung up on authorities and appeared to have powered down his phone prompting a search in the area of the Des Moines River.

Keokuk Emergency Volunteer Corp launched a rescue boat at Red Wing about an hour later, but Weber called off the search due to high water levels and quick moving currents at about 2:40 p.m

"We don't even really know if he got into the river. Right now it's an attempt to locate and we're just trying to find him to make sure he's OK," Weber said. "So if anyone has any information on his whereabouts, they should give us a call"

Weber said the conditions were dangerous for rescue crews and without knowing for sure if Oilar was actually in the river, he suspended the search.

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Sports/Classifieds

FMHS takes two in Goose Lake

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

GOOSE LAKE - Despite a six-run first inning in the final game of the three-game tourney, the Lady Hounds had things pretty well under control at the Goose Lake Tournament held in Goose Lake, Ia on Saturday.

The Hounds won the first two games of the tournament 5-3 over Monticello in eight innings, 3-0 over Goose Lake in the second game, but fell in the championship game 6-4 to Calamus-Wheatland.

The Lady Hounds jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning against Calamus-Wheatland.

Sadie Smithburg, Olivia Williams, and Kamryn Bailey all singled to open the game to load the bases for FMHS. Maycee Featheringill then singled scoring Smithburg but Williams was thrown out at home. Cassie Powers grounded out for the second out before Kylie

Cashman drew a walk. Dalyn Wondra then singled scoring Bailey. Ivy Geerdes hit into a fielder's choice where everyone was safe scoring Featheringill. Vanessa Golowach popped out to short to end the inning.

Powers then gave up six runs in the bottom half of the inning, the only runs she would allow in the game. Samantha Pewe opened with a single and was driven in by Jenna Diercks who doubled in the next at bat. Powers hit the next hitter before getting Alyssa McElmeel to pop out to left field for the first out. Grace Elvert then walked and Addison Leupker scored two on a one-out single. Sammie Flagel reached on an error before Alison Boeckmann ground out to short. Addy Widel would single driving in the sixth run of the inning, but she would be caught stealing to retire the side.

The Hounds would put up another run in the fourth when Powers drove in Featheringill who had doubled to start the

inning. Calamus was able to shut down the next two Hound hitters for the win, giving the Hounds second place in the tournament.

In the first game, FMHS's Vanessa Golowach took 2nd to start the inning in an extra inning format. Smithburg flew out to center and Williams drew a walk to put two runners on. Bailey doubled driving in both Hound runners, but was thrown out at third stretching the hit to give the Hounds a 5-3 lead.

In the bottom half, Monticello put Taylor McDonald on second to start the inning, but Powers got the next two hitters to pop out in the infield. Jaylynn Kraus drew a walk, but Piper Hansen popped out to short to end the game. Smithburg, Williams, and Cashman scored the other runs for Fort Madison in the win.

In the second game against Goose Lake, eighth grader Katie Dennis threw a 3-0 shutout against the hosts. Dennis gave up five hits, two of which came in the bottom of the 7th.

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michael.sheerin@holyltrinityschools.org

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From the Front

Connection solidifies footprint in southeast Iowa

BANK - Continued from Page 1

more cash drawers. These are mini vaults that save the customer service reps a ton of time because they're not counting and recounting cash all the time. It's also extremely secure."

Morris said counterfeit bills are automatically rejected and reconciling drawers at the end of the day is a thing of the past as the new recyclers are connected to the bank's main computer system which will enable a quick batching for the station at the end of the night.

"Though you may find recyclers in other banks, you just don't see the teller pod feature. It's a fairly new concept and we wanted to incorporate it for it two reasons, first to show our commitment to technology and to increase security," he said.

Construction on the bank started in January, when Morris said the bank's main vault, which had been built off-site, was set and the building was literally built around the vault.

The bank has several digital screens for branding and marketing, including a large screen monitor above a fireplace that customers will see when entering the building. Several cozy chairs and tables are set in front of the fireplace to create a non-traditional feel. To the left upon entry, customers will also have access to a technology counter with tablets where customers can experience some of the bank's electronic services including online banking and the Connection Bank App.

"We're trying to create a new banking experience," Morris said. "We think of ourselves as being 'unbanky' and the new building reflects our open and approachable philosophy, while still being a profitable and safe institution. This is our flagship facility for the Connection brand and we're going to incorporate these new concepts here in Burlington and then bring them into our other locations."

The facility will feature 11 bank and insurance staff members, initially with most of the staff coming from the Hy-Vee location that closed at noon on Friday.

Morris said the bank's lease was up at Hy-Vee and the decision was made to go ahead and build new.



"Hy-Vee was a really great space for us, but people are banking differently now and with the

lease expiring, we decided to go ahead and build."

He said Connection

The new mini vault cash recyclers will not only save time for tellers and customers but also bring the latest in security technology to the banking industry. The new units are part of teller "pods" that have been installed at the new Connection Bank & Insurance building on Roosevelt in Burlington.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

is really in tune with the southeast Iowa market and has seen substantial growth since acquiring KSB (Keokuk Savings Bank and Insurance), merging the groups together and rebranding in 2016. This also greatly increased their presence along the Mississippi River in Lee County. They also have banks in Fort Madison and Montrose.

"We used to think the bigger metro cities would be a great place to be," he said, "The problem with that is if you don't understand the market you can get into real trouble. We love our river towns and their marketplaces. We have an intimate understanding of how the economics of our area work, which allows us to assist in the success of our customers."

He said the announcement at the end of 2017 about the new facility has generated many calls from customers and potential customers.

"There's been a lot of public interest since then; we're fielding a lot of questions from potential customers wanting to know a little more about us and what we have to offer," Morris said. "Burlington is a great market and we've had tremendous growth in the past two years since our merger and rebranding. I credit the growth to our staff that knows how to make things happen for our customers and also to our branding. We're very excited about opening the front doors and continuing our growth and success."

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our residents to use regulated containers specifically made for sharps. Empty Sharps containers can be obtained in the at both the Fort Madison and Keokuk facilities.

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