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INSIDE TODAY: Lee County Bank awards J. Patrick

Koellner Scholarship.

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Friday, June 16, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 148

Sponsors sought for Aug. Cabela tourney

Two-day event could bring \$200K to area communities

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - With the Cabela's King Kat Tourney just eight weeks away, plans are ramping up and the Fort Madison Partners is trying to finalize sponsorships.

Fort Madison Partners Executive Director Tim Gobble said there are plenty of sponsorship opportunities available and the group is looking for about \$3,000 more to finalize the \$10,000 needed to secure the tournament.



With upwards of 50 to 70 boats and possibly more launching at different locations along Pool 19 on early Friday morning Aug. 11, the event is one of four two-day super events that have seen large crowds on both day's weigh-ins. Tournament Director Jeremy Coe said

GOBBLE Tournament Director Jeremy Coe said with an average of 50 2-man teams in

the tournament, the average impact to a local community is roughly \$273,000 considering visits to the pool prior to the tournament, a practice day prior to the tournament and the two-days of the tournament. Coe said there is another one-day tournament in Quincy the following day which could bring more boaters into the area for both events.

Gobble said sponsorships are available for several



portions of the event including Saturday's Kids Fishing Rodeo at Wilson Lake.

"We got \$5,000 from the city and then we were able to secure \$2,000 more, so we still need about \$3,000," he said. Anyone wanting more information on sponsoring a portion of the tournament

COE sponsoring a portion of the tournament is encouraged to call Gobble at the Fort Madison Partners' office at 319-372-5471.

Coe said his group is thrilled to bring the tournament back to Fort Madison.

"We had one of our first ever classics here eight or nine years ago," he said. "The reason we like the Fort Madison area is because the fisherman like it. You've

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Griffins takes inspections into digital age

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - In an effort to maximize the customer experience and take full advantage of the 21st century interconnectivity, Griffin Muffler & Brake Center in Fort Madison has gone totally digital with their inspections.

"We went cold turkey on this thing," said owner Nannette Griffin Thursday at the service center. "When we went live we threw out all the paper inspections and reports we had."

The new digital inspection processed called "Auto Vitals" is a complete system that interconnects the entire inspection from the customer to the sales person to the technicians. Customers can actually get an email while in the center explaining what is going on with their vehicle, what the trouble

"

We went cold turkey on this thing. When we went live, we threw out all the paper inspections and reports we had."

-Nannette Griffin owner Griffin Muffler & Brake Center

spots are, recommendations, and even a picture of the person doing the work on the vehicle.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Nannette Griffin, owner of Griffin Muffler & Brake Center, demon strates the new Auto Vitals all-digital vehicle inspection system now
 in place at the service center at the corner of Avenue G and 6th

Moose offers free dues

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A new program is being implemented this year with Moose International offering free first-year dues to all emergency and military personnel.

The local Fort Madison lodge is participating in the program and is hoping to provide a social outlet for the area's firefighters, law enforcement and rescue pesonnel, and all active and retired military personnel. Mike Luton, the administrator for the local Moose Lodge in Fort Madison, said the program is an extension started this year off the military waiver. "Actually we just started it earlier this year and was supposed to run until the end of April and we will

Griffin said the customer can even see a picture of the part that is bad next to a new part, or a filter that may need replaced. It also lists potential problems that may be coming down the road as well as indicating things that are working properly.

Street.

The system was put into place at the beginning of April with a relatively small capital investment, but some staff training and travel were required to get the new digital format up and running.

"This enhances the education process for

the customer. They can see what we're doing, when we're doing it," she said. "They can see on an email or a text and, so far, the customers we've introduced it to just love it. You don't have to wait until 5 p.m. to find out what's going on with your vehicle. We can provide that car inspection where you are and even deliver the vehicle back to you.

She said the techs do a complete inspection on an iPad and they send it to the front counter where an estimate can be

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August tourney is one of four Cabela super events

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got all the amenities...food, hotel, everything they want when they are off the water. On the water, it's probably one of the best fisheries there is from there north. It's primarily a channel cat fishery and that fishing is tremendous right there in the pool. Probably the best in the country. At that time of the year you might pull some flat heads out, too."

Boulders Inn & Suites is the host hotel for the event and Comfort Inn & Suites is the site for the tournament seminar and registrations.

The tourney itself has a guaranteed purse of \$10,000 with less than 50 boats, but at 50 the purse goes up, which Coe said he believes will happen.

"It's guaranteed at \$10,000 and payback based on numbers. At 50 boats is where it starts going up. I think it will be higher than that. Fort Madison is as good a fishing as there is anywhere in the country," he said.

"The last time the tournament was in town it was an end of the year tournament that was for everyone that qualified throughout the year. But we had a lot of boats there. This year it's one of four of our Super events. It's a two-day tournament with the winner having the combined heaviest stringer over the tournament. And then we have the Big Fish pot, and that pot goes to whatever the biggest fish is."

Those wishing to participate in the event may do so by calling 502-384-5924, sign up on the website at www.kingkatusa.com, or mail in the entry to 220 Mohawk Ave., Louisville, KY 40209.

Tournament rules and regulations can be found at the Cabela's King Kat Tournament Trail website at http://www.kingkatusa.com/tournament_trail.cfm.



5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

FRI 16 Jun



Education/From the Front



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Fort Madison KIDS Committee worked Saturday from Hillview Village putting together mailers on the proposal to build a new \$27 million Fort Madison K-3 elementary school with two new High School athletic ball fields on the campus of the new Middle School on Bluff Road and 48th Street. The vote on the proposed bond issue will take place on June 27 at polling places throughout the school district. To pass the vote would require 60% plus 1 vote of the total votes cast.

First year dues free at Moose for rescue, military personnel

MOOSE - Continued from Page 1

continue it to the end of the year. And this is a program that all Moose Lodges are doing, not just ours," Luton said.

Normally, first year membership is \$50 dues and a \$20 administration fee. Dues would renew every year, but the administration is just the one year. They are waiving the first year.

"Actually, it's in appreciation for what they do. It's an outgrowth of our vets appreciation program. They started last year with a program of appreciation of the veterans. Mainly recognition, but this kind of grew out of that concept. To show support for people for what they are doing for the community. "

Luton, an E-6 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, said he likes the program because it provides an opportunity to thank those who rarely get thanked.

"Normally don't show our appreciation for these people. Not as much as we should and this gives us a chance to do that," he said.

In addition to giving something back to those that serve every day, he said the funds raised by the Moose go, in part, to helping support Special Olympics, helping disadvantaged children, safe Internet browsing programs, and funding bullet-proof vests for law enforcement.

"We're basically a charitable organization. We try to raise money for Moose Heart which aims to help children from disadvantaged homes. Kids that have the mental capability but because of disadvantages they are not living up to their potential. We also support fingerprinting kits and things like that. They have a mobile fingerprinting set up."

Luton said he's relatively new to the program along with governor of the Moose, both having just under a year under their belts.

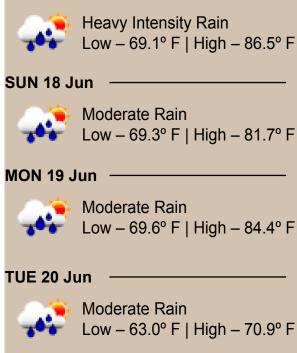
"We're going to work harder at letting people know what the organization is and what we support and what those groups do," he said. "I just spoke with our regional manager a couple weeks ago to help communicate that information better. Our social quarters here are kind of like a big family. It's a good place for families to come and kick back and relax. Find some social support.

The local Moose is a private club, but Luton said the application process is open to anyone except those with a felony on their record.

"It's important for us to keep this a safe and fun environment," he said.

For more information contact Luton at 319 372-4351.

SAT 17 Jun



OpenWeatherMap





Local News/For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison **Police Reports**

06/14/17 - 12:31 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of 16th Street. 06/14/17 - 7:50 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1500 block of Avenue M. 06/14/17 - 8:40 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in

the 1200 block of Avenue I. 06/14/17 - 10:30 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 5200 block of Bluff Road. 06/14/17 - 11:42 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2500 block of Avenue J. 06/14/17 - 1:35 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1600 block Avenue F. 06/14/17 - 2:43 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1100 block of 27th Street. 06/14/17 - 8:45 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of Old Denmark Hill and Sunnyside Drive. 06/15/17 - 7:18 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle 3200 Avenue L.

Lee County Sheriff's report no information to report



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All or Nothing [™] - Midday All or Nothing [™] - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 8:00 pm	12:45 pm 8:45 pm	
Pick 3 - Midday Pick 3 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 8:00 pm	12:50 pm 8:50 pm	
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:50 pm	



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The J. Patrick Koellner Scholarship is given annually by Lee County Bank to a graduating senior from Fort Madison High School and from Holy Trinity Catholic High School. This \$1000.00 scholarship is designated for students with outstanding citizenship, leadership qualities, and sound academic success. Shown here is Lee County Bank President, Mike Culbertson, presenting a \$1,000.00 check to Nathan Nall, a 2017 graduate of Fort Madison High School, and wishing him great success in his future endeavors.



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From the Front

Digital inspections help educate owners on vehicle maintenance

DIGITAL- Continued from Page 1

compiled, sometimes while the work is being done, and send it via email or text, whichever the customer prefers.

"We had a customer sitting here and got the email while she was here. She was looking at it and she was just amazed. She saw how dirty her air filter was and, seeing the picture, it just makes it so transparent. You sometimes go to get your car looked at and you get this big long list of what your car needs. This way you can see exactly what it is - and it's gone from the selling parts to you to the education of it. The customers appreciate that transparency. It builds up trust."

She said she goes through a weekly webinar to keep up to speed on training with the system. And as part of the webinars Griffin attached a video to the chat forum that showed the techs were having trouble knowing who was being buzzed. Because of that a new gadget was created that goes on the technicians collars that vibrates when something needs attention on that particular technician's work orders or any communication is needed.

"What it eventually does is it makes the shop more efficient and eliminates

miscommunications. Down the road this pay for itself. I think if you look into the future, this is the way the younger generation will be doing business," she said.

How the process works is the sales person starts the inspection and assigns it to a technician and then the work order pops up on their iPad. They go through the inspection and it just groups it in categories, under the car...the motor...and they all have drop downs. Then the tech can go through the drop downs in our template and they can just go down through the inspection. They can even do talk to text with their iPads where the techs can talk into the iPad and it's converted to text.

The system also helps keep closer tabs with inventory, which keeps the shop at a high level of efficiency. In the inspection, the techs can take a picture of any issues and attach it to the inspection report. That's the part where we can really educate the customer on a full range of issues.

"I can actually see this as the technician is working. I can start building the estimate while they are working on it, then I can email or text it, whatever they



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The screen shot shows the digitized vehicle inspection now in place at Griffin Muffler & Brake Center at 6th Street and Avenue G in Fort Madison. The new system allows all inspections to be sent to owners via text or email and shows each category inspected. The new system can also upload pictures of the vehicle issues and even videos on maintenance issues.

prefer or both," she said. "It can even include videos of why regular maintenance is so important and becomes more of an educational tool," Griffin said.

The inspection link can be attached to the invoice so customers can see the inspection at any time.

Griffins is located at 535 Avenue G and is open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. 7:30 to 5 p.m. on Friday and closed Saturday and Sunday. Their website is www.griffinmuffler.com.



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