Griffins celebrate 20th year fixin’ cars

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - In our current global business economy and mega car lots, it’s comforting to know that you can still take your car to the local garage to get it tuned up.

Clark and Nannette Griffin wouldn’t have it any other way.

The Griffin’s, who own Griffin Muffler and Brake Center at 535 Avenue G are celebrating two decades taking care of area residents’ vehicles and helping with other causes.

But back to the global economy, no you can’t really put your car online and get it fixed but social media and YouTube have made self-repair a more common attempt, and large car dealerships are offering a full range of services to keep customers rolling into their lots.

So how is this family owned corner station so wildly popular with locals.

“I have worked for almost 20 years for different dealerships and was a traveling manager in eastern Iowa,” Nannette Griffin said. “Our experiences taught us what was good and not so good about larger organizations. We feel we can provide the same quality of service, excluding new vehicle warranty, as dealerships but with more personal service. We have launched a loyalty program so customers can earn a credit towards future repair.”

Both Nannette and Clark grew up working on cars as what they thought was a hobby but ended up being a trade that was to be the road to their future.

“My parents have been especially my dad, As a young girl, I was always by my side tinkering in the garage asking him how things worked, ” she said. “I developed my love of cars from him. He told me I could grow up to be a mechanic. His brother and sister both became mechanics. When I got my drivers license, he tried to take my car keys away.”

“Both Clark and I have always loved cars. I have worked in the auto business for my entire adult life. Clark grew up working on cars as what he thought was a hobby but ended up being a trade that was to be the road to their future.”

“Everyday this dealership is a full service repair operation. We repair and sell used tires, batteries, parts, oil changes, tune-ups, repair, and body shop. We have a service warranty, as dealerships and car lots, it’s comforting to know that you can still take your car to the local garage to get it tuned up. We even have a loyal customers and earn a credit towards future repair.”

Both Nannette and Clark grew up working on cars as what they thought was a hobby but ended up being a trade that was to be the road to their future.

“My parents have been especially my dad. He is who taught me to slide around like Nancy Kerrigan on ice. I love of cars from him. He told me I could grow up to be a mechanic. His brother and sister both became mechanics. When I got my drivers license, he tried to take my car keys away.”

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20 years

A Griffin employee works on the wheel assembly of the vehicle at the dealership on Friday. Griffin Muffler and Brake Center at 535 Avenue G celebrated their 20th anniversary.

See GRIFFIN, page 2

Welcome home

The FMHS and Fort Madison community turned out to welcome home the Bloodhound wrestlers and coaches from the state wrestling tournament in Des Moines.

8th in their respective weight classes, respectively efforts, as they are to ours.

This winter sports season, particularly this weekend, that took on a whole new meaning.

I played a lot of hoops as a kid and in high school. So covering these basketball teams, girls and boys, it became difficult for me not to signal the occasional travel while kneeling down with my camera. I’m sure many saw me signaling TRAV-ELLL! while covering the games. One game in particular I had to remove myself to the opposing school’s cafeteria because I was getting louder and louder with my disappointment in the referees allowing one very prolific scorer to slide around like Nancy Kerrigan on ice when she had two good knees.

I don’t interview opponents.

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Ambassador call

The Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors’ welcome Griffin Miller and Bike Center on Friday to celebrate the company’s 20th anniversary.

“...it was one of the most devastating things we had ever gone through,” she said. “We both believe God never gives us more than we can handle and took this tragedy and turned it into something better. When we decided to rebuild, it gave us an opportunity to design a more efficient building. We have been able to not only expand the building but also our services. The time customers to this day still comment on how pleasant the waiting area in Fort Madison are.

imet car owners to the

sudden and includes:

Sudden Weight Loss
Increased Appetite
Nausea/ Vomiting
Tingling
Light-headedness
Weakness
Excessive Hunger
Tachycardia [rapid heart rate]
High Blood Pressure
Changes in Vision
Coma

If you or someone you know is having difficulty providing care or finding a way to manage a loved one’s care, contact the Alzheimer’s Association. We have attorneys, financial counselors, and professional caregivers who can help you understand your options and make your life easier.

The Alzheimer’s Association offers support groups, educational programs, and resources for families affected by Alzheimer’s disease.

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SailFish compete at Dubuque invite Feb. 12

SailFish compete
Fort Madison’s Karson Dixon competes for the Fort Madison SailFish at the Feb 12: meet in Dubuque. Photo courtesy of SailFish

Local Youth Swim meet

Local Youth Swim meet continued

Event 1 Girls 11-12 50 Yard Butterfly
at the Feb 12 meet in Dubuque. Photo courtesy of SailFish

Event 20 Boys 13-14 200 Yard Medley Relay

Event 24 Boys 8 & Under 25 Yard Free

Event 37 Girls 9-10 100 Yard IM

Event 49 Girls 12-21 200 Yard Backstroke

Event 52 Boys 15-21 50 Yard Freestyle

Event 53 Boys 15-21 200 Yard Breaststroke
Youth Bloodhounds teams win recent tourneys

The 7th grad FM Hounds, pictured above and at right went 4-1 including an OT win over the Clinton Slammers to win the Beyond the Baseline Tournament in Davenport. The 5th grade team pictured at left won the New London Tournament by beating Danville in the championship 51-4.

Bloodhounds face similar Chargers team in districts

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON - A new season begins Monday with a home game for the Fort Madison Spikers against the Holy Trinity Cruisers.

Second season

The Bloodhounds CJ Richardson and Kaleb Cresswell work Wednesday under Head Coach Ryan Wilson’s watchful eye in preparation for Monday’s showdown with Chappin in the first round of district play. Landon Benton and Logan Rashid drill in the background. Game time is 6:30 in Mt. Pleasant.

The two clash Monday night in Class A, District 11 basketball at Mount Pleasant with a 6:30 start time. Sixth-ranked Mount Pleasant, who had defeated the Hounds soundly in conference play this past year, boast a taller team with top of the bracket fans Kendall the same night after the Hounds.

The two teams are both 4-1 on the year with the Hounds on a 3-game win streak dating back to a Feb. 4 loss to Pella Christian in the KHSAA Shootout. Chariton was powered in their last outing by Oska- hoza 35-0. They finished 2nd in the South Central Conference one game behind Knoxville. The Chargers come with a slightly larger backcourt to match up with them.

The Hounds junior varsity also have a 3-1 mark with 49% from the 3-point arc at 40% to the Chargers 31%.

When we look at film I think we match up pretty well with them." - Ryan Wilson

FMHS Head Coach

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Sports

Championship tradition

Dr. Gary Steffensen was inducted into the Iowa High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame prior to Saturday’s finals matches at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. Gary was introduced with his family.

A new season begins

Fort Madison and Holy Trinity 13 and under volleyball teams participated in a tournament on Saturday at the Hound Dome. Picture here is the Fort Madison Spikers against the Holy Trinity Cruisers.
Iowa State Wrestling Tournament
Iowa State Wrestling Tournament
You are Special,

We are the Specialists

Dr. Peck is now accepting new patients

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Weekend Highlights in Video

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