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.”

But behind the wall is where all the 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 solve any problems rather than going in when there is a problem and trying to solve the problem. We can do that, but I 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 hands, Boyer was looking for a location in downtown to be convenient for his clients.

“Why not move downtown? It’s more reactive to his customer base and is easier for people to come in,” Boyer said.

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For the Record - Absentee ballots available Monday for May 2 special election.

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

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.

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DENISE Fraize, 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, 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, PO 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 postmarked 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.
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!

Pen City Current will not publish 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.

Pen City Current

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

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. 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 a burglary 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 400 block of Avenue G.

04/12/17 – 1:31 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 2200 block of Avenue C.

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 – 6:13 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 Kesukuk and a vehicle driven by Mammudov 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.

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

Pen City Current - Friday, April 14, 2017 - 3

Community CLEAN UP EVENT
Sat., April 22, 2017
Beginning at 9:00 a.m. • Central Park, Fort Madison

Drawing for fitbit
Gloves, trash bags, & maps provided
Free lunch to follow
Call Fort Madison Chamber for details & to register
319-372-5471

Great River Regional Waste Authority will be on-site for disposal of Hazardous Waste.

Gloves, trash bags & maps provided
Free lunch to follow
Call Fort Madison Chamber for details & to register
319-372-5471

Pen City Current
P.O. Box 386
Fort Madison, IA
When that includes a new home for you, let Hope help!

There are hundreds of great listings in the area and we can show all of them to you.

Give us a call today or click here to search them!

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 #20164961 • $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

4BR • 2BA • 2 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!!!

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

4BR • 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

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.

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 #2016431 • $42,500

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

2BR • 1.75 BA • 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

3BR • 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

2BR • 1 BA • 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

3BR • 1.75BA • 1 car garage
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

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

Let Hope help you find your next home!

HOPE ASSOCIATES
REAL ESTATE

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

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

(319) 372-4040 • 903 Avenue G • Fort Madison • www.seia.rapmls.com
3 BR • 2 BA • 2 car garage 1,168 sq. ft. • 0.54 acres
Very nice maintenance-free 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 • 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

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 • 5.50BA • 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

3BR • 3BA • 2 car garage 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

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

3BR • 3BA
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 upgrades 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 • 2BA • 2 car garage 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

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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

Spring

(319) 372-4040 • 903 Avenue G • Fort Madison • www.seia.rapmls.com
NOW HIRING
PART-TIME
LIFEGUARDS

The Fort Madison YMCA is now hiring part-time morning and daytime lifeguards. Must be a certified lifeguard or willing to get certified along with having CPR / AED certifications. Applications can be picked up in the store at 1904 Avenue H Ft. Madison, Iowa.

Full & Part Time
Retail Sales
Associates

Kempker’s True Value - Ft. Madison is now accepting applications for Full & Part Time Retail Sales Associates. Applications can be picked up in the store at 1904 Avenue H Ft. Madison, Iowa.

Laser Operator Needed

Responsibilities to be included but are not limited to the following:
• Create Nest programs based on customers’ requests and drawings.
• Analyze job orders, drawings, specifications, and design data to calculate dimensions, tool selection, machine speeds, and feed rates.
• Observe machines on trial runs or conduct computer simulations to ensure that programs and machinery will function properly and produce items that meet specifications.
• Modify existing programs to enhance efficiency.
• Sort shop orders into groups to maximize materials utilization and minimize machine setup time.
• Compare computer printouts with original part specifications to verify accuracy of instructions.
• Perform preventative maintenance or minor repairs on machines.
• General housekeeping on and around the laser and the laser room.

Required Skills:
• Computers and Electronics—Knowledge of computer hardware and software, including applications and programming.
• Mechanical—Knowledge of machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance.
• Mathematics—Knowledge of arithmetic, geometry, and their applications.
• Production and Processing—Knowledge of raw materials, production processes, quality control, costs, and other techniques for maximizing the effective manufacture and distribution of goods.
• English Language—Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
• Education and Training—Associate Degree or equivalent experience.
• Customer and Personal Service—Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.

Hours: 2nd Shift M-F 3:00 p.m. to 12:00
Pay Rate: Depending on experience

How to apply:
Please send a Resume to: kevinm@steffweld.com or visit our website for an application http://www.steffweld.com
Contact information: Kevin Metzolf, 1311 Pilot Grove Road, Pilot Grove, Iowa, 52648, 319-469-3961
Application Deadline: April 28th, 2016

Steffensmeier Welding & Mfg., Inc.
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
• Modern Open Floor Plan
• New Family Friendly Neighborhood
• Great Central Location
• Upgraded Kitchen with Upper Glass Cabinetry
All Green Oak Homes come with warranties and low utility bills!
Contact Jill at 319-470-2540 to view!

NEW CONSTRUCTION
IN WEST POINT
• New Construction completed in 2017
• 3 Year Tax Abatement = $7,500 Savings!
• 3 Car Garage
• 4 Bedrooms w/ Master Suite
• 3 Full Baths
• 9 ft. Finished Basement
• Spacious Yard
• New Family Friendly Neighborhood
• Upgraded Kitchen includes Walnut Counter Tops & Upper Glass Cabinetry
All Green Oak Homes come with warranties and low utility bills!
Call Jill at 319-470-2540 to view!

NEW CONSTRUCTION
26 Green Oak Court, Fort Madison Iowa
New Construction Built in 2017
• Spacious Lot and a Half Yard
• 3 Car Garage
• Fire Place
• Granite Counter Tops
• 4 Bedrooms w/ Master Suite
• 3 Full Baths
• 9 ft. Finished Basement
• Covered Rear Porch
• New Family Friendly Neighborhood
• Great Central Location
• Upgraded Kitchen with High End Cabinetry
All Green Oak Homes come with warranties and low utility bills!
Contact Jill at 319-470-2540 to view!

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

From the Front

Shiffman also brings a master’s in education

"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.

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