Heavy rains cause flash flooding

A heavy rainband moves into the Montrose area at about 7:30 p.m. Monday. Downpours were the worst part of the storm that moved through the city and outdoors as flash-flood alerts were posted to weather radio and cellphone apps at about 8:20 p.m.

County drug cops get Keokuk man

BY FORT MADISON STAFF

KEOKUK – The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man on felony and misdemeanor drug charges.

Brian John Taylor, 47, of 1720 Des Moines Street, Keokuk, Iowa was arrested on July 7th, 2017 at his residence on felony and misdemeanor drug charges. Taylor is charged with two counts of Delivery of Less than Five Grams of Methamphetamine within 1000 Feet of a park, second or subsequent offense, a class C felony with enhancements, Maintaining a Drug House, an aggravated misdemeanor, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor. If convicted, Taylor faces up to 92 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility. Taylor was also arrested on a warrant for a parole violation.

The arrest of Taylor stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the use and distribution of illegal narcotics in the Lee County area.

The Lee County Attorney’s Office, Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, Keokuk Police Department, Lee County Sheriff’s Office, Iowa State Penitentiary K9 Unit, and the 8th Judicial District of Probation and Parole assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation. The defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.
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-Mark M.

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Great River Regional Waste Authority
reminds you to use the 3 R’s!

REDUCE
- Reduce the amount of waste produced in society
  - The best way to manage waste is to not produce it. This can be done by shopping carefully and being aware of a few guidelines.
  - Buy durable goods & products in bulk
  - Avoid over-packaged & disposable goods
  - Use cloth napkins/towels instead of paper napkins/towels
  - Make 2-sided copies whenever possible
  - Maintain central files for multiple individuals
  - Use electronic mail/communications or a central bulletin board

REUSE
- Reuse products for the same purpose or for a different purpose
  - Sometimes it takes a creative mind to do so.
  - Sell or Donate old clothes, appliances, toys & furniture
  - Use resealable containers rather than plastic wrap
  - Reuse grocery bags or bring your own cloth bags to the store

RECYCLE
- Recycle/convert common waste into reusable material
  - Recycling is a series of steps that takes a used material and processes, re-manufactures and sells it as a new product. Begin recycling at home and work.
  - Recycle all acceptable products at our recycling bins, stations & trailers
  (see www.grrwa.com for a complete list of locations)
  - Check for curbside recycling acceptable items & schedules on your local city websites
  - Purchase and use recycled materials for the home & office
  - Implement a composting process for your lawn & garden

GRRWA
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Household Hazardous Waste
We accept household hazardous waste and electronic waste at the Fort Madison location. Appointments are encouraged to ensure a proper procedures are in place for disposal. Please call 319-572-6140 to schedule your appointment. For a full list of acceptable items please call or visit us online.

Electronic Waste
Please place all electronic waste in their appropriate bins, some electronic items are free to dispose. Please call for fees on TV’s, Monitors, Laptops & Tablets.

ALL ENTRIES ARE TO BE DECORATED TO BE CROWD PLEASING EXCEPT ANTIQUES AND MILITARY VEHICLES. FOR SAFETY REASONS, CANDY AND FAVORS ARE NOT TO BE THROWN FROM THE ENTRIES, BUT CAN BE PASSED OUT BY THOSE WALKING WITH THE ENTRIES

Note: Luxury information will be sent out 30 days prior to the parade. All entries are to be in place by 8:00AM parade day. Competitor entries to be in place by 8:00AM.

SPECIAL NOTE: The Tri-State Rodeo is a private organization and reserves the right to reduce any entry on the day of the parade if the exhibitor’s message is not consistent with the express content of the organization. If you have any questions about the exhibitor’s message quality please contact Kirk Sherwood BEFORE the day of the parade.

Please return the entry form to the address below:

Kirk Sherwood
31 Round Court
Fort Madison, Iowa 52627
515-479-3084
Naysayers aside, efforts spurring downtown growth

By Lee Vandenberg

the smell of smoked meat and fried funnel cake waft over you. The streets are blocked off in the Ped Mall and Lee and I went in to Mol-ly's for a cupcake while walking around. I asked the lady if it's bothersome to have the streets closed down and it is hurting business. “We're typically busy, but when there are events like this that shut the street down, it can get a little crazy,” she said. But putting on a jazz festival like that would take some doing, but a block party wouldn't.

Standing near a swing while I was finishing my s'more cupcake, I read in the campus newspaper that Iowa City recently put on a block party in which more than 5,000 people attended. Business stayed open, there was some alcohol served, music was played, and people were just free to meander and enjoy the event. The paper posted some Facebook comments on the event and the majority were requesting the city do it twice a year.

Our downtown puts on holiday events and the Big Buckle Bash, this year they had summer street fair among other things. But people need to turn out for these events. The very same people who say the downtown is dead... and you know who you are....need to come down and see that it's not. There's a new victorian art gallery opening soon. There's another person that just has an art studio she works in. Ian Hauck has an art studio anyone can work in for about $50 a month. We have an art gallery, a wedding outfitter, one of the most unique bars I've ever seen with and awesome sign that reads, “Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.” There's a dollhouse supplier that also serves old-fashioned ice cream. Sure, you have your service businesses too, but all downtown do. There's a steakhouse, a place to by crumbs and get pet supplies...in the same building. You can buy western clothing, get a hair cut, and find a microwave. We have a dinner that has the fourth best maid-rite in the state and a grocery right there in walking distance of all of it. You can get your car fixed while you walk down to get your teeth fixed or your eyes checked. You can get your computer fixed or see an attorney. You can find a place for your student to get help with homework and college prep classes, while learning to make a quiche. There's even a doctor in the house. Barker Financial of Iowa City has secured building permits for work to finally begin on the upstairs apartment projects which will include renovating the Cattermo- le Library and the old Lee County Bank building. Some plans are included for the Sears building as well. You should see workers any day now. I also read that another town in Iowa with a “dying downtown” got a boost when a mother of a family that lived on the outskirts of town formed a group of women to invest annually in one building at a time in the downtown area. The story caught on to local, state, and even national media outlets and things are catching on there. Oskaloosa (a town of 11,000) has the Golden Goose Club - another group of 90 women who pay all $10 annual dues and make a quarterly $100 tax-deductible donation and then pick two community projects each year to help fund the revenues.

This isn't to say any of this could or should happen here, but it's that in- novative spirit that keeps things from dying. People need to have ideas. How about a Com- munity Basket for Fort Madison? Burlington does very well with their event. Service organiza- tions could sell the tickets as could PAW or the local scouts or the band, athletic boosters, whomever, and we could hold the drawing at Riverfest to help bring even more people to that event each year. I'm just spitballing... there's no detection here. Charles and Jenny Craft and that group of peo- ple are pumping energy into that program every year - right along that beautiful riverfront that can be seen right downstream.

We need to have our eyes fixated on the future, not the past. We can have that future, we just need to believe in our own future and, as Robin Del- aney so aply put in her column in the Democrat, the “Never Say Yes to Anything Crowd” to the side and keep thinking of Mayor Ireland's vision.

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 11 Jul
Light Rain
Low – 81.8°F | High – 86.1°F

WED 12 Jul
Light Rain
Low – 83.1°F | High – 85.8°F

THU 13 Jul
Moderate Rain
Low –77.4°F | High – 88.3°F

FRI 14 Jul
Light Rain
Low – 79.9°F | High – 89.9°F

SAT 15 Jul
Light Rain
Low – 68.9°F | High – 91.2°F