Hancock County still looking into July 9th stabbing

Argument between two men sends both to area hospitals

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

CARTHAGE - The Hancock County Sheriff’s Office is still investigating a stabbing incident that occurred about 10 p.m. on Monday, July 9th.

According to a release from the sheriff’s office, an incident occurred about 11 p.m. on the 9th, however, Fort Madison Police, Fort Madison Fire & Rescue, and Lee County EMS were called to the west foot of the Fort Madison bridge at just after 10 p.m. Authorities responded to a call into LeeComm that a male with a stab wound to his chest was being brought across the river.

The Hancock County news release indicated that two adult males, ages 34 and 43, got into an argument in a different vehicle and were both injured by a knife. Two other occupants in that vehicle were not injured.

The 43-year-old received the stab wound to the chest and was taken to Fort Madison by a private vehicle where they met the first responders at the bridge and were transported to Fort Madison Community Hospi-

DONNELLSON - -With the need for skilled workers in the area becoming a focal point of economic and workforce development efforts, the Lee County Fair Board is doing its part to recognize that need at this year’s fair.

Brian Foecke, a Lee County Fair board member, has been working with area schools and trade instructors for the past six months to incorporate a Competitive Trade Environment, in which students can enter trade projects and win prizes at the fair.

Foecke said he’s been kicking the idea around for a couple years, but this year the competition became a reality after several manufacturing and contracting companies got on board to sponsor the event.

“This goes back several years with me. We were trying to figure out what we can do to get even more kids out to the fair. When kids come, parents and grandparents follow,” Foecke said.

“Over the last few years, visiting with business and industry leaders who know and see a shortfall in their trades and trades in general, we just started having some discussions.”

Those discussions were with prominent industry leaders such as Jenny Steffensmeier of Steffensmeier Welding & Manufacturing, Bobby Huffman of Huffman Welding & Machine Inc., both of Fort Madison, and Pat Jones of Jones Contracting Corp. of West Point.

Foecke said those conversations focused on the shortage of skilled workers who can fill positions that are open, so he thought the fair could be a vehicle to

FM’s Derr taking toys to Burlington retail outlet

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Although her father is no-longer alive, Brenda Derr is using her dad’s nickname for her as an inspiration in her new business venture.

Derr, the owner of Dollhouse Dreams in Fort Madison, will be opening a new location this fall in a retail outlet in Burlington near Dick’s Sporting Goods on Agency Street.

With a focus on educational toys and her Melissa & Doug collections, Derr wants to create an environment where children feel free to experience playtime again. But she’s pulling from past as a child when her father used to call her “Shug”…short for sugar.

“The new place is going to be called “Shug’s Tiny Town” in honor of my dad. That’s what he used to call me when I was little, ‘Shug’,” Derr said.

Her premiere line of Melissa & Doug toys was created by Melissa and Doug Bernstein, a husband and wife duo who started a toy company in 1988 in their basement and Doug’s parents’ garage and is headquartered in Wilton, Connecticut.

Derr said the company’s philosophy is to take childhood back and Derr said the toys can bring back creativity and engagement that may be at risk in an ever-increasing digital world.

“We need to try and get kids away from all that and get them back into imaginative play and creativity. That’s something they will take with them later in life,” she said.

“This is gonna be fun, it really is. I’d like to be up there all the time.” Ashley Enger will be Derr’s manager at the

See TOYS, page 8
Scene Around the Area/For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
07/11/18 - 9:27 a.m. - Fort Madison police cited Tracy Earl Williams, 45, of Burlington at the intersection of Avenue H and 14th Street on a charge of having no insurance. He was released upon citation.
07/12/18 - no reports listed
07/13/18 - 1:59 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1300 block of 14th Street.

Lee County Sheriff’s report
07/18/18 - 9:40 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on the off ramp from Hwy. 61 to Hwy 2. According to reports, a vehicle driven by Harold Thomas Edward, 63, of West Point was stopped at the stop sign onto Hwy 2. and was struck from behind by a vehicle driven by Janet Louise Henderson, 55, of Fort Madison. No citations or injuries were reported at the scene.
07/12/18 - 1:50 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Jarrod Ray Hagmeier, 37, of Keokuk, at the sheriff’s office on a charge of possession of controlled substance and controlled substance violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
07/12/18 - 3:39 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Christopher Lee Davis, 31, of Keokuk at the sheriff’s office on a warrant for parole violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Draw Days</th>
<th>Sales CutOff Time</th>
<th>Approx. Drawing Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucky for Life</td>
<td>Mon &amp; Thu</td>
<td>9:20 pm</td>
<td>9:26 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mega Millions</td>
<td>Tues &amp; Fri</td>
<td>8:59 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerball</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
<td>8:59 pm</td>
<td>9:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lotto America</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
<td>8:59 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 3 - Monday</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 3 - Evening</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>9:46 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 4 - Monday</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>12:20 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick 4 - Evening</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>9:46 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

San Antonio Holiday

NOVEMBER 28 - DECEMBER 2, 2018

Highlights:
• San Antonio City Tour
• San Jose Mission
• El Mercado Marketplace
• IMAX Theatre
• The Alamo
• Riverwalk Cruise
• Hill Country
• LBJ Ranch
• Fredericksburg
• Fiesta de las Luminarias
• 4 nights at one hotel
• Optional tour of Austin

Inclusions:
• Motorcoach Transportation
• On-board friendly Host
• Roundtrip Airfare - MLB
• 6 Meals
• Professional Tour Director
• Hotel Transfers
• Baggage Handling
• 4 Nights First Class Hotel

Substitute to #PCC today
Free and Paid Options Available.

HyperLocalSuperFresh

Nissa Rung, Advertising
(319).520.8953
n.rung@pencitycurrent.com

Shawna Ross, Advertising
(319).470.0622
sross@pencitycurrent.com

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

Pen City Current
P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

Copyright © 2016 by Pen City Current
All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.
Tri-State
RODEO
71st ANNUAL
September 5-8, 2018
Fort Madison, IA

Get Your Tickets Now
at www.tristaterodeo.org
or click this ad
Or call 800-369-3211
or 319-372-2550

Wed., Sept. 5
CINCH Shootout
The best cowboys in the country competing for
$120,000 in prize money

Thur., Sept. 6
PRCA Rodeo Action
followed by
Jake McVey
Country Artist

Fri., Sept. 7
PRCA Rodeo Action
followed by
Randy Houser
Country Singer Songwriter

Sat., Sept. 8
PRCA Rodeo Action
followed by
Jake Owen
AMA Award Winner

Don’t miss Stumptown every night in the Coors Party Pavilion following the rodeo competition & national music acts
Garden taking on a life of its own at Empty Nest

I told Ginnie that our life here on the Empty Nest Farm was all part of our art—the garden, and the animals, even the aroma bushes. She agreed. Our life is like a poem, flowing smoothly, everything in harmony, rhyming, a syncopated life. “Who could have imagined,” she said, “at our age, finding a life like this.” I’ll be 70 this month and Ginnie will be 67 in August, both of us on the same day, the 28th, making it easy for me to remember.

Chicken manure grows Hercules garden! The garden has exploded into a cornucopia of green, and red, and yellow vegetables, bursting with juice and flavor and color. I attribute the bounty to the chicken manure I tilled in, the timely rains we had in June, and of course, the Iowa heat and humidity.

The green beans are simply to die for. Lightly boiled with a little bacon and garden onion, they are the sweetest, most tender snappers I have ever eaten. When Ginnie was gone for a week visiting her sisters and father in Missouri, I actually lived off the green beans and couldn’t have been happier or more satisfied. And the tomatoes. My goodness! The vines are taller than Ginnie, and bursting out of their cages, leaning over like fallen women to spill their bounty to whoever is brave enough to penetrate the jungle of green and red. We thought we had planted them far enough apart—one plant every three feet or so. But nope. They have taken over, building an unpene- trable wall of python-like vines, reluctant to give up their once-thought-to-be poisonous fruit. We have sweet baby-girl cherries, celebrity, super fantastic, early girls and better boys. My favorites are the early girls—not too big, bright red, and bursting with flavor. Eat them like an apple right out of the garden—sun warm, the juice dripping down your chin onto your chest. I’ve never raised better sweetcorn. We have both peaches-and-cream, and something called “incredible.” With Ginnie at work during the day, I’ve even taken over freezing the corn. It’s pretty easy. Just boil lightly, slice off the cob, eat till you’re sick, and put into freezer bags—guaranteed to bring sunshine and a lip-smacking smile to the coldest winter days.

In addition to sweet-corn, we also have three varieties of Indian (or decorative) Corn growing to complement the “punkins.” We have the “punkins” running in the rows of Indian Corn, and the “punkins” have completely taken over. I don’t know for sure how we’re going to harvest the Indian Corn with the “punkins” dominating the landscape, but we’ll figure something out. Wouldn’t you know it, just when the garden is hitting hard, we have a vacation planned in Colorado. There’s only one thing to do—let the kids and friends know to “help themselves.” We didn’t have too much trouble convincing them. On our last morning before leaving for Colorado, Ginnie and I walked through the garden to bid it farewell. It’s like an old friend. The zucchini look as if they’re trying to repopulate the earth with bowling-pin size fruit; the watermelon are compet- ing with the “mushmel- on” for best of show; and the peppers are clamor- ing to join the tomatoes in a salsa fest. There’s a presence in the garden that makes it feel like it has a living, breathing life of its own. When I look at the garden, I see God.  

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or find him on Facebook. Curt’s stories are also read at 106.3 FM in Farlington.
Orton, Sporkman win first county fair trades competition

TRADES - Continued from Page 1

help showcase that work and its importance to the communities in the county. Steffensmeier put Foecke in contact with an instructor at Southeastern Community College, who then hooked him up with instructors at area high schools in Lee County. Foecke then met with the instructors at Fort Madison High School, Central Lee High School, and Keokuk High School. Holy Trinity Catholic students can share in the FMHS programming. “We covered all the schools and went around in January with flyers to promote it as much as we could,” he said. “We had a little bit of a late start, but there was interest initially from all of the instructors and from the students that were in the classrooms at the time we met with them.”

SCC came on as the overall sponsor of the contest and Steffensmeier and Jones also came on to help sponsor the event.

The board opened the competition to all county students in grades 7-12 and three categories: carpentry, welding, and drafting/design.

“We just wanted to open it up and see how it went. We may split it up differently next year,” Foecke said.

Milo Orton won the welding competition with a dog box that he welded out of aluminum. The box can be used in the back of trucks for safe transportation of hunting dogs. Bradley Sporkman won the carpentry division by constructing a dog house. Foecke said there were no entries for the drafting/design competition.

Foecke said Orton is going to SCC for welding and Sporkman is already in an apprentice program with Siether and Cherry.

“These are two fine young men who are entering trades programs in the area,” Foecke said. “We need to have more things going on to encourage these kids to explore the trades programs or the two-year vocational programs. A four-year college degree is fine, but it’s not for everyone.”

“When you and I went to college, we heard hundreds of times that college was the push, but in today’s world this is so far from true. We’ve gotta do a better job of letting our students know that these jobs exist and then help steer those that are interested in the right direction.”

He said his conversations with school officials and instructors revealed that schools are offering multiple trades and programs that teach hard skills.

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
- Computer Towers & Modems,
- Radios, Cell Phones
- Printers, Drop Cords
- Projections

Great River Regional Waste Authority

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

“We do a great job at our local schools. There is some outstanding instruction going on, we just need to keep nudging that ball from every angle.”

-Brian Foecke, Lee County Fair boardmember

Milo Orton, left, and Bradley Sporkman, show the tools and equipment they won as part of the Lee County Fair’s first-ever trades competition held this year. Judging was done on Wednesday and Orton won in the welding category, while Sporkman won for carpentry.

“Tis’ The Season of Gifting...

Please properly dispose of all Electronics!

Fees apply to the following:

- CD & DVD Players, and VCRs,
Banking on the market to fund your retirement can be risky. I can help you lock in solid gains and protect yourself from downside risk. Call me today.

This little piggy went to market
AND NEVER LOST MONEY!

The funeral industry is a risky business. You may be able to make more money by investing your retirement funds in the stock market, but you could lose a lot of money if the stock market drops. I can help you lock in solid gains and protect yourself from downside risk. Call me today.

FARMERS’ MARKET
Every Monday • 4-6pm
Fort Madison Depot • 614 10th Street
- Fresh fruits & vegetables
- Homemade pastries & pies
- & so much more!

Because your wedding gown is
Precious
WDENGOWN PRESERVATION
IRIS CITY CLEANERS
319 385 9707 • 688 495 9707
www.IRISCityCleaners.com

SMITH ELECTRIC
- Master Electrician
- Residential | Agricultural | Commercial | Industrial
- Licensed & Insured
- Doing business for 13 years
- References available
- 641-614-3249

YOUR AD HERE
(319)371.4125
THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SPONSORS!

Wristbands: $20
Tickets: $1.00 each
Pre-Sale Wristbands: $18 online at www.riverfestfm.com

RiverFest Games:
- WSOBP Beer Pong Tournament
- Sand Volleyball • KanJam
- Bags Tournament • Pickleball

RiverFest Events:
- Teen Street Dance (Friday Night)
- 5K Fun Run/Walk • DRAGON BOATS
- Sunday Charity Breakfast
- Harmony Sunday Church Services
- RiverFest Canoe/Kayak Float Trip

Tickets: $1.00 each
Wristband Hours:
- Thurs: 6 to 9 • Fri: 6 to 9 • Sat: Noon to 9
Pre-Sale Wristbands: $18 online at www.riverfestfm.com

Visit RiverFest online for a complete schedule of events, games and entertainment!

www.riverfestfm.com
Visit one of our 13 locations.

We’re guaranteed to have what your family needs in a bank.

Pilot Grove Savings Bank

www.pilotgrovesavingsbank.com

Click this ad to Find a Branch

Shug’s Tiny Town to focus on educational toys, activities

TOYS - Continued from Page 1

new facility.

“She’s got some really good ideas on different things for the kids to do. We’ll probably start a craft night up there like we’ve done here and a toy tester program. We might have a dress up party for the girls because there will be a boutique... or a fire drill with the firehouse.”

She said she’s been thinking about opening another location for years.

The sales rep with the Melissa & Doug line had been encouraging Derr to take the next step and open a new location.

“I knew it was going to happen I just didn’t know when. And, of course, then the storm came and we dealt with that, but that spot in Burlington has been calling my name for years,” she said.

The storm was an early 2017 spring thunderstorm with heavy winds that damaged the roof of the current building at 824 Avenue G. Derr had to renovate and repair a major portion of the building, while working out of a location next door. The current location also houses Megan’s Old Fashioned Ice Cream Parlor where patrons can experience a mid-1900s lunch counter and ice cream parlor.

Derr said after taking a vacation in January she went up to Burlington to meet with the owners of the retail center and worked out a lease and got the ball rolling.

She wants the new location to be very interactive and educational. In addition to the Melissa & Doug line, she’s hoping to bring some other lines in as well.

“It’s going to be all educational toys. Since we’re a premiere partner with Melissa & Doug, we’ll continue to carry that line, and we’ll bring in other lines, but I’m just not sure what those will be yet,” Derr said.

The 4,300 square foot retail space will also include a “Pay and Play” area for the kids that will consist of a fictional streetscape with structural homes and buildings that the kids interact with. Some of the buildings planned include a firehouse, a diner, and a beauty parlor that will be completely interactive for children.

“That came about because we have so many interactive toys here and the kids love to play with the toys. I ran across it on the Internet and just thought it would be a nice fit for up there,” she said.

She’s hoping to start construction very soon and be open in September or October. Derr said she’s planning a grand opening in October to help kick off the holiday season with a huge Melissa & Doug sale. She is planning on having the store open seven days a week through the holiday season, but the hours are still to be determined.

She said she’s had success selling toys in a world dominated by digital gadgets.

“If you take the phone away, they’ll have to play with this toy and they’ll be creative and they’ll play,” she said. “We kind of have to help them as parents and encourage them, but kids know what to do, they just have to be presented with it.”

Dollhouse Dreams will be holding a Toy Tinkering Experience next Saturday at the Fort Madison location where kids can come into the store and “tinker” around with toys in the shop. There will also be a 20% discount on all Melissa & Doug toys for one week starting on Tuesday.

Birth Announcements

COLTON JOE LOTT

FORT MADISON - Marcia and Maurice Lott, of Keokuk, are proud to announce the birth of their son Colton Joe Lott on July 6, 2018 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Colton is welcomed home by Dillon.

Grandparents are Kelley and Delbert Gilbert of Donnellson, Iowa.

The Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

Victims treated in Fort Madison, Carthage

KNIVES - Continued from Page 1

tal. The 34-year-old male received treatment at Carthage Memorial Hospital on Tuesday.

Several media outlets are reporting the names of the victims, however a spokesperson at the Hancock County Sheriff’s office on Saturday said no press release has been issued identifying the victims and wouldn’t confirm the names of the victims identified in other outlets.

You can’t beat FREE!

Subscribe to #PCC today

Paid options also available.