Staffing firms seeing more openings

While area corporations fight with skills-gap issues, local hiring companies have more than two hundred openings

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Despite unemployment rates dropping across the country, Lee County continues to have one of the highest rates in the state, yet staffing agencies in the area have more than 300 local job openings.

Dennis Fraise from the Lee County Economic Development said the most recent numbers for unemployment are from September where the U.S. rate was 3.7%, and Lee County is right there at 3.7%.

"A year ago that number was 5.6%, Iowa is currently at 2.5% and in the region Des Moines County is 2.8%, Henry County is 2.1% and Louisa County is 2.3%," Fraise said.

"So the question becomes why do we chronically have the highest unemployment rates, if not the highest?" He said there are a couple of reasons for that and some of the issues can be traced to generational poverty and the culture that creates.

"That's why we're working so hard on the Bridges out of Poverty program," he said, "This is not a hand

FMCSD’s Slater earns doctorate from NIU

Dissertation focused on public teachers’ free speech rights

Submitted article
Dr. Erin Slater successfully defended her doctoral dissertation on Monday, October 29 and earned the degree of Doctor of Education (Ed.D) in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Northern Illinois University.
Dr. Slater’s dissertation was titled, “K-12 Public School Teacher Free Speech: The Impact of Garcetti v. Ceballos on First Amendment Protections.” Her study examined relevant U.S. District Court, U.S. Circuit Court and U.S. Supreme Court decisions from 2006-2017 to determine the impact the Garcetti case has had on public school teachers’ free speech protections. Relevant portions of Dr. Slater’s 200 page research study have been requested to be submitted to professional journals for publication.

"I appreciate the support of my husband, Scott, my children and the Fort Madison Community School District Board of Education. The Fort Madison Board of Education has been especially encouraging of training and professional development for our teachers, administrators and myself."

Dr. Slater has been the Superintendent of the Fort Madison Community School District since 2016. Dr. Slater is a native Iowan, born and raised in Algona. The daughter of the late Judge W.B. and Molly Mac-Donald. Dr. Slater is a graduate of the University of Iowa and received her Master’s Degree (M.S. Ed.) in Educational Administration and Educational Specialist Degree from Northern Illinois University. Dr. Slater started her career as a teacher in the Chicago area where she worked in education for over 25 years before moving to Fort Madison.
Dr. Slater met her husband, Scott, at the University of Iowa and they have been married for over 26 years. They have twin daughters, Hannah and Madeline, currently juniors at the University of Iowa and their son Max, is a junior at Fort Madison High School. The Slater family resides near the downtown area of Fort Madison.
Lee County Health Department
Final 2018 Flu Clinic:

11/1 McAleer Hall
Fort Madison
10:00am-2:00pm

Please bring Medicare card to clinic
Private Pay cost $25

Any questions please call
(319)372-5225
www.leephcountyhd.org
LIKE us on Facebook

Lee County Health Department
#3 John Bennet Drive • Fort Madison, IA
(319)372-5225 or (800)458-5572

www.leephcountyhd.org
Scene Around Town/For the Record

Fort Madison Police report
10/30/18 - 1:55 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1400 block of 36th Street.
10/30/18 - 3:16 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue D.
10/30/18 - 3:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 3300 block of Avenue L.
10/30/18 - 5:01 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of Avenue H.
10/30/18 - 9:04 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 700 block of Avenue E.
10/30/18 - 9:15 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1500 block of Avenue E.

Lee County Sheriff's report
10/30/18 - 8:16 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Tanya Anne Jones, 55, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for violation of probation. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
10/30/18 - 10:52 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Setawndra Leigh Quayle, 27, of LaGrange, Mo., on a warrant for contempt of court. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
10/30/18 - 8:47 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Douglas Anthony Schreiber, 26, of Revere, Mo., on charges of OWI 4th and driving while barred. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report
10/30/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to six medical calls.

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Time for a free health check... of your Medicare Part D Plan.

Iowa’s Top Pick - Mega Millions®
10/30/18 - 10:30 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Brooke Sue Peterson, 35, of Fort Madison in the 1300 block of Avenue G, on a charge of trespassing. She was released upon citation.
10/30/18 - 10:24 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Jason Matthew Hill, 39, of Fort Madison in the 1300 block of Avenue G, on a charge of trespassing. He was released upon citation.
10/30/18 - 11:33 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 400 block of Avenue D.
10/31/18 - 3:41 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 500 block of Avenue F.
10/30/18 - 9:04 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 700 block of Avenue E.
10/30/18 - 9:15 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1500 block of Avenue E.

IOWA LOTTERY
Woo Hoo for You!

Lotto Drawings

Game                Draw Days                  Sales Cut-off Time   Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®        Mon & Thu                      8:30 pm   9:38 pm
Mega Millions®        Tues & Fri                        8:59 pm   10:00 pm
Powerball®            Wed & Sat                        8:59 pm   9:59 pm
Lotto America®        Wed & Sat                        8:59 pm   10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday       Daily                          Noon      12:00 pm
Pick 3 - Evening      Daily                          Noon      12:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday       Daily                          9:40 pm   12:00 pm
Pick 4 - Evening      Daily                          9:40 pm   12:00 pm

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Iowa’s Top Pick - Powerball®
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BRAND tier 3 drugs $40 (deductible)

One call and we take care of it all to get you signed up with this incredible medicare plan and transfer your prescriptions from any other pharmacy. Even if you already signed up for a different plan Medicare allows you to change your plan all the way up to Dec 7th.

Do yourself and your pocketbook a favor and make that call.

Medicare Premium $15 w/Free Generics

Tuesday was the site of many tricks and treats, but the annual Old Settlers Park Halloween gathering was complete with a hot dog and chips dinner and some other sweet treats.

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Charles Vandenberg, Editor
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Overton named Employee of the month at FMCH

29-year employee gets nod for high level of customer service skills

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison Community Hospital recognized Mary Overton as their September Employee of the Month. Overton is part of the Courtesy Services team. She has been with FMCH for twenty-nine years. Overton was chosen with this nomination: This employee lives the Standards of Behavior at FMCH excelling at Guest Relations, Personal Accountability, and Positive Attitude. Today it was absolutely raining cats and dogs and I came across this employee standing in the clinic circle drive with an elderly woman who uses a walker. They were talking the woman into giving them the keys to her car so they could pull her car up to the doors! And the lady accepted, gave this employee her umbrella and the employee trudged out into the pouring down rain, drove the car up to the circle drive and helped the lady into her car. For that woman, this employee is most certainly a hero and deserving of Employee of the Month.

Overton recognized all of her past and present co-workers as having made a difference in who she is today. “My favorite part of working at FMCH, is working with and seeing my co-workers on a daily basis, and realizing that I am helping patients and their families every day.”

When not taking care of guests at FMCH, Overton enjoys outdoor activities, helping her husband on the farm and spending time with her two sons, their families and her friends.

The Employee of the Month is an initiative developed by the Reward & Recognition team. Each month a FMCH employee is honored for going above and beyond for the good of the patient, their co-workers and the organization.

Jeremy Alexander, President/CEO, stands with Mary Overton; and Vicki Kokjohn, VP of Employee Operations. Overton was selected as the Fort Madison Community Hospital Employee of the Month for September.
There’s a cornucopia of reasons to choose Griffins!

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  - ASE Certified Technicians
  - Honest & Reliable Service
  - Online Scheduling
  - Digital Inspection Reports
  - Customer Referral Program
  - Earn credit with every service
- AND SO MUCH MORE!!!

Griffin’s Diaper Drive

Did you know that November is National Diaper Drive Month and 1,200 Infants to toddlers 3 years of age in Lee County are in need of diapers. 1 in 3 American families don’t have enough diapers to keep their babies (and toddlers) clean, dry, and healthy? That is a staggering number of struggling families. With your help and the help of our community, we can make a difference for our Lee County families today!

RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL $10 OFF any service at Griffins when you donate a package of diapers during the month of November!

Mention this coupon at time of service!

$25 OFF Any Repair or Maintenance
Order $250 or More

$50 OFF Any Repair or Maintenance
Order $500 or More

$75 OFF Any Repair or Maintenance
Order $750 or More

Excludes tires and batteries. Cannot combine with any other offers. One time use. Valid for a limited time only!

Mention this coupon at time of service!

$10 OFF OIL CHANGE
Includes FREE Seasonal Check Up:
- Battery
- Suspension
- All Fluid Levels
- Radiator & Coolant
- Tires Lights
- PLUS Road Test

*For faster service, please call ahead for an appointment. Cannot combine with any other offers. Valid for a limited time only!

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5% of every invoice, sales tax excluded, will be added to your Griffin Gratitude Card to use for future services up to 50% Off! Plus receive $25 for every new customer you refer to Griffins!

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Fort Madison, IA

Monday thru Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

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Lee County Health Department is seeking a part time contracted dental assistant or dental hygienist to work within our school-based sealant program. Applicant must be an enrolled student of a hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience. Please send resume to Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Oral Hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience. Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Oral Hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience. Please send resume to Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Oral Hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience. Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Oral Hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience. Please send resume to Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Oral Hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience. Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Oral Hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience. Please send resume to Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Oral Hygienist with at least one year of clinical experience.
Thursday, November 1

**OPEN HOUSES**

- 5:00-6:00
  - 3427 Reiswiler, Wever
  - Host: Todd Morrow
  - KLM Realty
  - Listing #20171627

- 5:00-6:00
  - 1235 Avenue E, Fort Madison
  - Hostess: Kara Morrow
  - KLM Realty
  - Listing #20171858

- 5:00-6:00
  - 3427 Pheasant Run, Wever
  - Hostess: Kara Morrow
  - KLM Realty
  - Listing #20171858

- 5:00-6:00
  - 41 7th Street, West Point
  - Hostess: Carla McEntee
  - Fraise Auction & Real Estate
  - Listing #20170713

- 5:00-6:00
  - 7 28th Place, Fort Madison
  - Hostess: Tami Stuekerjuergen
  - Fraise Auction & Real Estate
  - Listing #20170891

- 5:00-6:00
  - 1235 Avenue E, Fort Madison
  - Host: Todd Morrow
  - KLM Realty
  - Listing #20171927

- 5:00-6:00
  - 41 7th Street, West Point
  - Host: Todd Morrow
  - KLM Realty
  - Listing #20171927

- 6:30-7:30
  - 27 29th Place, Ft. Madison
  - Hostess: Judy Holterhaus
  - KLM Realty
  - Listing #20171238

- 6:30-7:30
  - 1007 Avenue E, Fort Madison
  - Host: Carrie Fraise
  - Fraise Auction & Real Estate
  - Listing #20171702

- 6:30-7:30
  - 2327 Avenue C, Ft. Madison
  - Hostess: Karen Hope
  - Hope Associates Real Estate
  - Listing #20171133

- 6:30-7:30
  - 2031 Avenue J, Fort Madison
  - Host: Dan Roach
  - Fraise Auction & Real Estate
  - Listing #20171887

- 6:30-7:30
  - 1423 Avenue E, Ft. Madison
  - Host: Jean Neuweg
  - Hope Associates Real Estate
  - Listing #20170751

- 6:30-7:30
  - 513 10th Street, Fort Madison
  - Hostess: Deb Sylvester
  - Fraise Auction & Real Estate
  - Listing #20170317

- 6:30-7:30
  - 2102 Avenue F, Ft. Madison
  - Hostess: Karen Hope
  - Hope Associates Real Estate
  - Listing #20171646

- 6:30-7:30
  - 3219 Avenue K, Fort Madison
  - Hostess: Judy Holterhaus
  - KLM Realty
  - Listing #20171469

- 6:30-7:30
  - 2311 Avenue L, Suite #1, Fort Madison
  - 319-372-9121
  - www.fraiseauctionandrealestate.com

- 6:30-7:30
  - 902 Avenue G, Fort Madison, IA
  - 319-372-4040
  - www.hopeassociatesrealestate.com

- 5:30-6:30
  - 1007 Avenue E, Fort Madison
  - Host: Carrie Fraise
  - Fraise Auction & Real Estate
  - Listing #20171702

- 5:00-6:00
  - 2102 Avenue A, Ft. Madison
  - Hostess: Linda Reding
  - Hope Associates Real Estate
  - Listing #20170767

- 5:00-6:00
  - 513 10th Street, Fort Madison
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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Nissa Rung, Sales & Marketing Consultant
n.rung@pencitycurrent.com
319.520.8953
n.rung@pencitycurrent.com

Shawna Ross, Sales & Marketing Consultant
sross@pencitycurrent.com
319.520.8953
sross@pencitycurrent.com

319.470.0622
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Shawna Ross, Sales & Marketing Consultant

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Next round of area trail meetings set

**WINE - Continued from Page 1**

from Nov. 17 through Dec. 7.

Participating Main Street businesses with vendors include: Artisans Next Door, Dana Bushong Jewelers, Dawgs & Divas, Dodd Printing & Stationery, Group Benefit Partners, Dollhouse Dreams, Faeth Cigar Store, Fort Madison Area Arts Association, SJP, The Funky Cowgirl, International Eye Care, Harvestville Farm Mercantile, Junque To Gems, Lost Duck Brewing Company, Old Fort Players, Parthenon Pizza, Rev Fitness, The Cabaret and Under the Sun Next Door, Old Lee County Bank Building, Elliott Test Kitchen. Additional downtown locations, including Stag and Vitality, will be open with their own little concoctions to share with event goers.

Many establishments will be providing “grab-and-go” items for sale to help curb that appetite while on the walk. Twisted River will be onsite and located at Faeth Cigar Store. If you prefer a more relaxed setting to enjoy a nice sit-down menu style meal that is available too. Many restaurants and clubs will be open and are offering specials for the evening.

The Wine & Beer Walk makes for a perfect evening with loved ones or a bubbling night with friends and family. If you have not attended the award-winning Fort Madison Wine & Beer Walk before, see for yourself how Main Street puts the spirit back into iconic Avenue G in downtown Fort Madison for the holiday season. All proceeds benefit Fort Madison Main Street, an affiliate of Fort Madison Partners, and will help to further downtown revitalization efforts.

**5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST**

**THU 01 Nov**
Partly Cloudy
High – 53.6º F | Low – 43.5º F

**FRI 02 Nov**
Partly Cloudy
High – 48.6º F | Low – 39.5º F

**SAT 03 Nov**
Light Rain
High – 46.9º F | Low – 41.0º F

**SUN 04 Nov**
Heavy Rain
High – 46.7º F | Low – 45.5º F

**MON 05 Nov**
Light Rain
High – 51.2º F | Low – 46.2º F

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