By Chuck Vandenberg

FORT MADISON - It'll be four days of rock spanning four decades of chart topping hits from the 80s to contemporary headliners.

RiverFest organizer Charles Craft unveiled RiverFest 2019's music lineup Saturday at a reveal party at Kinnick South. Craft and the RiverFest committee are in their fourth year bringing the annual summer music festival to Fort Madison's riverfront. This year's festival runs Aug. 1-4 in Riverview Park.

Thursday

The festival committee will once again by holding a Battle of the Bands at Vinnie's Longbranch with the winner opening the rock fest on Thursday evening. Bloomington, Illinois' Burden of the Sky will take the stage before Puddle of Mudd brings their world-reknowned sound to the stage with hit songs "Blurry," "She Hates Me" and "Psycho" certain to be on the play list. Local travel band Ghost of Judas will entertain in the beer tent following Puddle of Mudd.

Gay was delighting fans at Kinnick South Saturday doing reveal songs, at times with Craft lending a hand with vocals.

Friday

On Friday, Burlington's own Stars in Toledo will open the music on the Main Stage and then a double-dip of 80s rockers will play to the hair-band generation. BulletBoys, the LA band formed in 1986 busted the charts in 1988 with "Smooth Up in Ya" and "Hard as a Rock" that followed mid-chart offerings like "For the Love Money." Then Warrant will follow up on the Main Stage. Warrant rose to top-shelf rock heights with the success of the 1989 release "Dirty Rotten Filthy Stinkin' Rich" that went double platinum with frontman Jani Lane. Three songs off the album, "Heaven," "Sometimes She Cries" and "Down Boys" all popped in the top 20 rock chart. "Cherry Pie" hit in 1990 and catapulted the band to one of the top 20 rock draws in the country. After a falling out, Lane left the band, and aside from a brief original band reunion, the band has worked through frontmen with ex Lynch Mob vocalist Robert Mason now leading the group. Lane died in 2011 of acute alcohol poisoning.

Decade of Decadence will keep the 80s-90s theme going in the beer tent following Main Stage action on Friday night.

Saturday

Rochester, Minnesota-based The 9th Planet will open the the main entertainment Saturday, followed by post-grunge, hard rockin' Shaman's Harvest. The band released three albums from 1999 to 2006, but it wasn't until "Dragonfly" broke into the top 20 active rock songs in 2009, that the band really drew national attention. The band also wrote a half dozen entrance songs for WWE wrestlers. In 2017 they released Red Hands Black Deeds, a sociopolitical offering that was a break from...
Celebrations/Scene Around the Area

Sworn in
Lee County District
8 Judge John Wright administers the oath of office to Amy Beavers, who started on March with the Lee County Attorney’s office as an assistant county attorney. Beavers was formerly the Des Moines County attorney.

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SCC site of SEISC science fair

WEST BURLINGTON – Southeastern Community College will host the Southeast Iowa Superconference Science Fair on Thursday, March 7 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the new John H. Witte, Jr. Hall of Sciences on the West Burlington campus. Judging will start at 9:15 a.m.

Gail Kunch is the event coordinator and science teacher at Danville High School. With her direction, approximately 150 students in grades 6 - 12 from ten area schools will participate.

"It’s exciting to have area students who enjoy science spend the day with us," Executive Director for Institutional Advancement Becky Rump says.

“We're happy to have the opportunity to show our new facilities to students who are exploring their interests in science.”

Rump says SCC science faculty have been involved with planning the event. After a keynote address inspiring the students to continue growing in their scientific endeavors, attendees will have lunch with SCC science faculty.

“We're eager to connect the students with our faculty. It's a great opportunity for students to talk about their interests,” says Enrollment Coordinator Dana Chrisman. “We are hopeful that the students leave campus that day feeling like we've supported their exploration in scientific studies, introduced them to our cutting-edge technology, and celebrated their hard work to participate in the Science Fair. It will be a fun day for everyone.”

For more news or to learn about Southeastern Community College, visit: http://www.scciowa.edu/rss/news/index.html.

Celebrations

TROUTMAN

BONAPARTE – Mr. and Mrs. Spencer and Tressa Troutman are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Gemma Isabelle Troutman on Feb. 21, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Gemma is joined at home by sister Zarah, and brothers Richard II, and Spencer II.

Grandparents are Ruben and Cathy Coleman of Danville; Wade and Yvonne Troutman of Bonaparte; and Corinna Monroe of Kahoka, Mo.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

Lee County District
8 Judge John Wright administers the oath of office to Amy Beavers, who started on March with the Lee County Attorney’s office as an assistant county attorney. Beavers was formerly the Des Moines County attorney.
Purchatzke wins Golden Apple award

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – Every month during the school year, WGEM News honors an outstanding Tri-States teacher and, this month, Charisse Purchatzke was awarded the television station’s Golden Apple Award.

Charisse Purchatzke started her teaching career with FMCSD 33 years ago and has been a Bloodhound ever since. She has stuck with kindergarten throughout her career because she, “loves this age!”

This award goes to those who have made a difference in the lives of their students and have made a mark on our community.

Purchatzke has undoubtedly met this requirement. She inspires her students and colleagues each and every day. She encourages them to become the best version of themselves, to think outside of the box, and dream a little bigger.

Charisse Purchatzke holds her “Golden Apple” that was awarded to her by WGEM on Feb. 26. The regional television station awards an apple each month to teachers who make an impact on students’ lives.

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Pen City Current - Sunday, March 3, 2019 - 3
Fedler named to Substate 5 team

FORT MADISON – Another post-season honor was handed down to FMHS’s Jayden Fedler. Fedler, a junior on this year’s Bloodhound basketball team, was named to the substate 5 bracket All-Substate team this week.

Fedler had 16 points in the Bloodhounds 54-50 season-ending loss to Washington Feb. 19 in the first round of the substate 5 bracket at Oskaloosa.

Fedler joins Cole Henry, Rian Yates and Xavier Foster from Oskaloosa, Austin Simpson and Tristan Waugh from Fairfield, and South Tama’s Keith Kealna on the team. Oskaloosa’s Ryan Parker was named the substate Coach of the Year.

Fedler averaged 14.5 points per game on the year’s 7-14 Hound campaign.

Youth baseball, softball signups underway at BSC

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – Registration is now open for the 2019 Youth Baseball & Softball Leagues at Baxter Sports Complex. Last year was the inaugural season for the league through Baxter Sports Complex after having previously run in partnership with the YMCA. The Baxter Sports Complex staff will handle all registrations for area children ages 5-12. The Baxter Family Foundation will continue as the title sponsor for the league, and will again offset the player registration cost in 2019 to help keep the league affordable to anyone interested.

If you prefer to register in person, a Registration Day will be held at Baxter Sports Complex on Tuesday, March 26th from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Otherwise, your completed registration form can be dropped off at Baxter Sports Complex, or mailed to:

Baxter Sports Complex
P.O. Box 587
Fort Madison, IA 52627

Registration will remain open through Friday, April 5th. For more information please contact Baxter Sports Complex at (319) 372-2932.

Two youth from Lee County medaled at last weekend’s youth wrestling tournament at Well-Fargo Arena in Des Moines. 7th Grader Teague Smith took 6th Place in a 32-man bracket, while 6th Grader Logan Pennock earned 7th Place in a 32-man bracket.

Youth baseball, softball signups underway at BSC

Welcome Winter

“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is time for home.” - Edith Sitwell

Farmhouse Style Decor, Silks, Gift Items, Soaps, Lotions, Jams & Salsas, Milton Creamery Cheeses, Swed & Co. Coffee and Fancy Favor Cookies

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Tu - F 10am - 5pm and Saturdays 10am - 2pm

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ACT PREP
Next Exam Saturday, April 13, 2019
Classes begin March 3
Classes meet every Sunday from 6 pm to 9 pm until test date
Elliott Test Kitchen
www.ksat.org
319-250-9092

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319-250-9092
Weather service offers county spotter course

DONELLSON – The National Weather Service has a number of devices for detecting severe thunderstorms. Included in these are radar, satellite, and lightning detection networks. However, the most important tool for observing thunderstorms is the trained eye of the storm spotter. What is the difference between a spotter and a chaser? Spotters are part of a local network who are trained to report specific types of weather from wherever they happen to be. Some are mobile. Most are not. A chaser is someone who drives to the weather, often as a hobby but occasionally as part of their occupation.

The National Weather Service and the Lee County Emergency Management Agency invite you to learn how recognize potentially dangerous storms at the Storm Spotters Training. The National Weather Service (NWS) office in Davenport is scheduled to present the program. Included in the agenda will be cloud formations, spotting techniques, tornado development, and early detection. Information will be provided on your own personal protection procedures when storm spotting and also what, when, how, and to whom to report your sightings.

Recent devastating tornadoes show how critical it is that timely and accurate information be given to the NWS so they can provide as much lead time to the public as possible to allow individuals to take the appropriate safety precautions related to the warning. Individuals who are watchful of the weather and know who to call and what to report are this vital link and are extremely important to our community.

The National Weather Service recommends all spotters complete this course at least once every other year. This class is provided at no cost to anyone who wishes to attend and will be held in the Pilot Grove Savings Bank Community Room, located across the street from the Pilot Grove Savings Bank, 521 Main St in Donnellson.

No pre-registration is required. The class will be held Thursday March 7, 2019 at 6:30 PM. If you have any questions please contact the Lee County Emergency Management Agency at 319-372-4124.

Pen City Current - Sunday, March 3, 2019 - 5
Coverage that works when they can’t

Let’s face it — accidents can happen in any workplace. Farm Bureau Workers’ Compensation insurance can protect you, as the owner, from the high cost of unexpected injuries to your employees. Call me to schedule a SuperCheck® to make sure your most valuable resource — your employees — are protected.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Fees apply to the following:

Computer Towers & Modems, Radios, Cell Phones

Help GRRWA Keep Your Community Hazard-Free!

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Every Day is Ladies Day

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Fort Madison, IA 52627
319-372-2478
griffinnolife@gmail.com
www.griffinnolife.com

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The deadline for submitting a resume is March 11, 2019.

For more information, contact Ross Braden at ROBBRAD@L洧N.COM or phone 319-588-8354.

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7:00 PM

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NMLS #139716, NMLS MLO #1359992

Some products and services not available in all areas.

Let’s face it — accidents can happen in any workplace. Farm Bureau Workers’ Compensation insurance can protect you, as the owner, from the high cost of unexpected injuries to your employees. Call me to schedule a SuperCheck® to make sure your most valuable resource — your employees — are protected.

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1. Completion of some college level administrative support courses or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

2. Knowledge of legal terminology, legal format, and legal forms.

3. Knowledge of modern office practices, procedures, and equipment.


5. Knowledge of Iowa Courts Online.

6. Knowledge of Iowa Department of Transportation transcriptions.

7. Ability to prepare accurate and timely documents, correspondence, and reports.

8. Ability to learn and/or operate the county Attorney’s Office computer programs.

9. Ability to understand and follow written and oral instructions.

10. Ability to use Microsoft Outlook, Word, and Excel.

11. Ability to work in a fast-paced environment.

12. Ability to multi-task.

13. Ability to communicate with others using tact and diplomacy.

14. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, attorneys, co-workers, and the public, as well as law enforcement personnel, Clerk of Court, Treasurer and Iowa Department of Transportation.

15. Ability to maintain a large filing system of current and closed files.

16. Must be able to travel to North Lee County Office and/or courthouse on occasion.

The position is represented by the Public Professional & Maintenance Employees Local No. 2003, IUPAT. The starting wage is $16.02 per hour. Great County Benefits.

Jog OPENING

Collections Clerk

Lee County

Attorney’s Office

Keokuk, Iowa

Lee County Attorney’s Office has an immediate opening for the collections clerk position (40 hours per week).

The position’s successful applicant is preferred (not required) to have the following:

1. Completion of some college level administrative support courses or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

2. Knowledge of legal terminology, legal format, and legal forms.

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The deadline for submitting a resume is March 11, 2019.

Please send resume to Ross Braden

PO Box 824

Keokuk, IA 52632

or e-mail rbraden@leeoounty.org

Get a news tip?

Call Chuck (319)371.1670

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PO Box 824

Keokuk, IA 52632

or e-mail rbraden@leeoounty.org
HELP WANTED
COMMUNITY GARDEN COORDINATOR NEEDED

RSVP/United Way of the Great River Region is seeking a Community Garden Coordinator

Do you like to garden and work outdoors? Do you like to plan, plant, and harvest food?

We are seeking an individual this Spring who will plan, plant, cultivate, harvest and lead other volunteers in our Community Garden (garden is located at 2906 Avenue L, Fort Madison, Iowa behind Hy-Vee).

Must enjoy working outside, gardening and harvesting. Will direct garden activities with other volunteers and may require some bending, stooping and lifting of 10 lbs. or less. Times: 1 hour, 2 times per week.

If interested and for more information, please call – Tammy at 319-372-8043.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health, education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Hancock, and Lee Counties.

United Way of the Great River Region serves all of Lee, Hancock, and Clark Counties. All donations are tax-deductible.

United Way of the Great River Region

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(319)371.4125

DO YOU HAVE TIME - TO HELP STOP CRIME?

Visit any of these Facebook pages to learn more about what the Neighborhood Watch Program is & how to start your own group or join an existing group!

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Requirements to Apply:

» Ability to maintain confidentiality of verbal and written information pertaining to residents, prospective residents, facility operations and personnel

» Ability to recognize improvement opportunities

» Ability to prioritize, multi-task, and maintain flexibility in a fast-paced, service oriented, environment.

» Work scheduled hours based on personnel and Community needs; may be required to work weekends.

» Maintain constructive relationships with co-workers, residents and families.

» Maintain confidentiality of information pertaining to residents, Community operations and personnel.

» Previous experience working with elderly population preferred; not required.

» Previous experience as a server or wait staff.

» Regular and punctual attendance is required.

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ROCK - Continued from Page 1

Local favorites Chaz and the Channel Cats will open music late Sunday afternoon, followed by Burlington’s Caught in the Crypt. Then RiverFest will feature two national rock acts in Trapt and Saliva in back-to-back Main Stage events. Trapt became a household rock name with the release of “Headstrong” in 2002, seven years after the band formed in Los Gatos, Calif. Trapt has released seven albums over the year with the most recent the 2016 “DNA: Still Frame” and “Echo” also climbed the charts off the “Headstrong” disc. Saliva was formed in 1996 in Memphis as a hard rock, alternative rock group. The group’s debut album “Every Six Seconds” produced hit singles “Your Disease” and “Click Click Boom” helped bring the band to mainstream listeners. “Boom” and “Superstar”, another release from the album made the cut for “The Fast and the Furious” soundtrack.

X-Crush is back for an- other year to wrap up the tent. Other year to wrap up the Perfect.” “Decay” and “Picture album in 2013 featuring the “Black Out the Sun” of Billboard charts until a house rock band formed in 1996 in Memphis as a hard rock, alternative rock group. The group’s debut album “Every Six Seconds” produced hit singles “Your Disease” and “Click Click Boom” helped bring the band to mainstream listeners. “Boom” and “Superstar”, another release from the album made the cut for “The Fast and the Furious” soundtrack.

SUNDAY

Craft and the committee stepped away from the traditional country rock Sunday offerings and will stick with the rock genre.

City to de-annex Councilman’s property on Timberlane

interest in Fort Madison is the Old Fort and potentially Nauvoo.

As part of Tuesday’s discussion, Varley is recommending the city enter an agreement with SmithGroup of Madison Wis., for $24,500 plus reimbursable expenses for the feasibility study. Expenses listed as reimbursable include travel expenses related to the project at federal rate (34.5 cents/mile), printing costs, shipping, models and renderings, regulatory review fees, and special consultants with city’s prior approval, and a 10% management fee.

“We are negotiating a letter of intent with Viking for them to stop in Fort Madison. However, we need to know if we can provide the channel size and depth they will require for their ships as our current configuration will not meet their needs,” Varley wrote in a memo to councilman on Friday.

Varley said the city needed to hire the firm first to make sure the city can meet the requirements, as well as to provide a cost for any necessary improvements. Viking has indicated they would be willing to contribute to the cost of the improvements, but Varley said any agreement to move forward would require those figures be included.

Early Childhood & Kindergarten Programs

Learn more about your child’s educational opportunities for the 2019-2020 school year

Early Childhood Center Programs

For information about our Early Childhood Center Programs please call 319-372-2486.

Dr. Richel Knudson

Dr. W. Riggs Bagan

FROM THE FRONT

BE COLORECTAL CANCER AWARE

IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

Thanks to improvements in prevention, early detection and treatment, more than a million people in the US count themselves as survivors of colorectal cancer. Colorectal cancer always starts with a small growth polyp, which if found early, can be removed — stopping colorectal cancer before it starts. A colonoscopy done by FMCH General Surgeon Dr. Riggs Bagan or Dr. Rachel Knudson, is one option to find the polyps and remove them at the same time.

So if you are a person over the age of 50 talk to your health care provider about getting screened and become Colorectal Cancer Aware.

For additional information about our Kindergarten Information Night please call 319-372-2486.

Kindergarten Information Night

• Tuesday, February 26th at 6:30 p.m. at HTC Elementary in West Point
• Join us for an opportunity to learn more about the advantages of Holy Trinity Catholic and our new Kindergarten elementary school.

Kindergarten Round-Up Day

• Friday, March 8th at FTC
• Please call Elken at 319-632-6313 ext. 104 to schedule a one hour appointment for your child.

New school enrolling new students.

We would love to show you what Holy Trinity Catholic Schools can do for you!

• Limited openings in all grade levels
• All faiths welcome. For additional information about our Early Childhood Center Programs please call 319-372-2486.

FORT MADISON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

GENERAL SURGERY

319-376-2756 • www.fmchosp.com

For more information about our Early Childhood Center Programs please call 319-372-2486.