

Fee Mail ready to be town's 'assistant'

Store offers shipping, copies, faxes, party supplies and personal mailboxes



EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer

Traci Weston, manager at Fee Mail, shows off some of the furniture on display in the store on Broad Street in Monmouth.

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Need shipping? Tablecloths for a family party? Decorations for that wedding or baby shower?

How about a quick gift shipped to a friend across the country? Or a personal mailbox?

Fee Mail on Broad Street in Monmouth has you covered.

"We're kind of the town's personal assistant," said manager Traci Weston. "You have to pay us, but we're cheap. We care. We have whatever you need done."

The business fills a gap in Monmouth and Independence, from UPS and FedEx shipping to getting a copy made or sending a fax, Weston said.

Stepping into Fee Mail doesn't feel like walking into a shipping store, with furniture and knickknacks

Fee Mail

Where: 169 S. Broad St., Monmouth.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

arranged around the shop. Weston has six local vendors offering their arts and crafts for sale in the shop.

"We're helping local people make money so they can keep it local," Weston said. "The ladies who sell their stuff are all from the area. This is how they make money. They can still sell their products online, or you can walk in and buy it."

The combination shipping and handmade arts and crafts means someone can touch and feel a product before buying it — unlike online shopping websites. Often the artist or crafter is available to meet at the store and talk with potential customers in person.

Weston coordinates Toys For Tots for Benton and Polk counties each year, and will make Fee Mail the headquarters for the annual toy drive. Coming from a non-profit background, Weston has used her new job to find other resources for those in need.

"We had a young lady come in and say, 'We're going to be homeless; we need to rent a private mailbox,'" Weston said. "I referred her to several agencies, but I was still frustrated, so I put it out there on Facebook saying, can anybody help."

Another time, one of her vendors needed a boost in income to move to a new house.

"She wasn't asking for a handout," Weston said. "She said, 'I make stuff. I sell stuff. Come shop.' So I waived my commission for that time period knowing that she needed last-minute help."

Sojourn donates shampoo

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — While the American Red Cross sends more help to Louisiana — including deployments from Polk County — Sojourn International is doing what it can to aid the flood victims: donating shampoo.

The hair-care manufacturing company based out of Independence recently established a distributor in Baton Rouge, La.

"Debbie (Boulton) and I got a phone call from the owner of JKL Salon and Spa in Baton Rouge, who said

it's really bad," said Matthew Boulton, co-owner of Sojourn. "People just haven't got their basic needs."

They'd just made a run of shampoo, so they increased the batch to donate 154 liters to shelters in Baton Rouge to help with basic hygiene. Matthew said he is heading to Louisiana Wednesday (today) to help distribute the bottles.

Thousands have been evacuated because of the historic flooding in Louisiana and remain in shelters. Co-owner Debbie Boulton said Sojourn is happy to help in whatever capacity they can.

"If they have other needs, that's kind of what we're there for," Debbie said. "If we can help with clean up or serving food, we will. The fact that we're 100 percent biodegradable means if the drainage system isn't working properly, nothing in our product is going to compromise the environment and make things worse."

Matthew said he is a bit worried about getting around once he lands in Louisiana.

"This next week they're getting another huge set of torrential rains," Debbie said.

Benefit Concert

for the Polk County Food Bank
Sunday, August 28, 2016 • 12 - 2 pm
Dallas 1st Presbyterian Church
879 SW Levens St, Dallas, OR

Performance by
Cash & Co.
Luann Cash-Ritts, Sally Clark,
Dan Apperson and Joan Coleman.

Come and enjoy the music and help our Food Bank and the people who are supported by this facility.
Canned foods and/or cash donations gladly accepted.

STARLITE LANES

Hot outside?
We have AC!

Cold and wet?
We keep you dry and warm all season!

Fresh food. Family safe.
Climate controlled.

Fees are subject to change.

Sunday

Sunday Mixed

A fun way to wrap up your weekend!

\$12 per week

Sunday evenings at 6:00pm
4 Person Teams
Starts September 11th

Monday

SUPER SENIORS

MONDAYS AT 1:00PM

\$8.50 Per Week

Starts September 12th

Mixed Teams of 4

Tuesday

Morning Stars

Ladies Doubles League

Only \$8.00 Per Week

TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 10:00AM

STARTS SEPTEMBER 6TH

Wednesday

MONDAY MERCHANTS LEAGUE

MONDAY NIGHTS AT 7:00PM

\$13 Per Week

FOUR MAN TEAMS MATCHPOINTS 35 WEEKS

STARTS SEPTEMBER 12TH

Thursday

Hits & MRS Ladies Trio League

\$9.25 Per Week

Thursday Mornings at 10:00am

STARTS THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH

Saturday

Future Stars JUNIOR LEAGUE

Wednesdays & Saturdays starting in October

Wednesdays at 4:00pm starting October 5th
Saturdays at 10:00am starting October 8th

Ages 5 and up - Mixed Trios - \$10 per person per week

Youth Leagues for boys and girls, ages 5 and up!

Friday Karaoke Cosmic Night
7 pm - 10 pm

Birthday party packages!

Fall/Winter adult leagues are filling up fast! Call or stop in today!

394 Main St, Dallas
503-623-4267

Follow us on Facebook