

Businesses cope with flooding

By Holly Ann Garey
Special to the Reporter

Newville businesses continue to be effected by the recent floodings. While water levels have subsided just a bit, some businesses have unknown amounts of damage.

John Kinnett, owner of the Anchor Inn, has seen major flooding at his business. Water has inundated the basement and crawl space of the Anchor Inn. Until the water recedes in the parking lot, basement and crawl spaces, the amount of damage is unknown.

"It's summertime and it's our busiest time. We can't get that back," Kinnett said.

In addition to Anchor Inn, Harbor Recreation continues to have flooding problems. Due to the high waters, the work environment cannot be accessed.

"We have no place to work right now. We can't get into the area where we fix the boats," Jerry Richardson, owner of Harbor Recreation, said.

Harbor Recreation's website allows customers to buy parts for their boats if they need them. While they are able to still sell boat parts on their website, Richardson said that the business loses face-to-face con-

tact with the customer because water still surrounds the building.

Pat Hagan, owner of Fins Bar and Grill, said that business is doing ok despite the flooding.

"We are not quite up to par with summer sales but we are doing fine," Hagan said.

Hagan said that there is shoreline damage that needs to be repaired but, fortunately, no damage to the building itself.

Sandbagging was not necessary for the Rock River Marina. Eric Samuelson, co-owner of the Marina, said water has only reached to the sandbags and no flooding has occurred near or around the building. Samuelson said that even though they have not had flooding problems, business has been a little slow.

"Business has slowed down a bit but there's a steady flow," Samuelson said.

Lakeview Lodge and Campground has suffered minor damages. Kandy Swanson, manager of the bar, said a cottage near the river is partially under water but that they had sandbagged the bar early enough that water has been kept out of the building.

While some businesses have taken a hit, others have not been hit

much at all. Businesses like the Comfort Inn and Culver's, which are located on higher grounds, have not seen a lull in business. Culver's has not seen much of a change in business due to rerouting of state highways and interstates.

"What was lost in camping business was made up by the rerouting of the I-90 from Beloit to Madison," Scott Mallon, manager of Culver's, said. According to the Wisconsin State Journal, I-39-90-94 has been closed from Highway 151 to Mauston.

Mallon said the two Culver's in Janesville and the Newville Culver's would be helping out the local Red Cross on July 1. This Friday, Culver's will be donating 10 percent of their sales to the Red Cross.

Anchor Inn has applied for government loans to help pay for damages that are not covered by their insurance.

Business and homeowners can apply for aid if damages are not covered by insurance. The Small Business Administration, according to the FEMA website, gives "subsidized loans to repair or replace homes, personal property or businesses that sustained damages not covered by insurance."