City pledges up to $72K for bridge study

Mayor hopes businesses, industry share in city’s cost

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison will pitch in up to $72,000 toward a comprehensive study of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe bridge that spans the Mississippi River on the city’s east end.

Mike Norris, executive director of the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, spoke at Tuesday’s regular meeting of the Fort Madison City Council, outlining the study for the council.

The project has an estimated price tag of $360,000 with the Departments of Transportation in Iowa and Illinois contributing $144,000 each with the local match from Fort Madison. Norris said the cost is based on other similar studies done by the railroad.

The scope of the study would be to perform a conceptual design, perform structural inspections above the waterline, evaluate live load ratings on all elements of the existing bridge, evaluate all pertinent permitting agencies that would be needed for construction, as well as comparing the study against the Fort Madison comprehensive plan; evaluate all hazardous materials impacts; look at the life of the bridge from zero maintenance to maintained state of repair; examine all alternatives from a do-nothing approach to a preferred alternative to improve the bridge to a point where it can safely handle 80,000 pound truck traffic; and provide cost estimates of all alternatives.

See SEIRPC, page 6

Supervisor upset with chair appointments

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A Lee County supervisor is upset with the nomination process for chairman and vice-chairman of the county board.

At the first regular meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors for 2018, Gary Folluo expressed his concern with the nomination of Chief Deputy Will Conlee as chairman and Donnellson resident Lee Weber as vice-chairman.

"And I don’t have a problem with Don Hunold being chair as it’s a natural progression to go from vice chair to chair, but I think I should rightfully be appointed vice-chair. I’ve been on this board nine years and I was chair for the first year and haven’t been vice chair or chair since that time. Nothing has been said about it and I think it’s bad for the Lee County," Folluo said.

When we have appointees to boards and commissions this board has always tried to be fair. It didn’t matter where a person was from, we got them appointed to boards and commissions and this board has been together for five years now, and I’ve not been chair or vice chair."

See COUNTY, page 4

Update on a 2017 Area Recaps

Sheriff’s dept. to build on momentum of 2017

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Bringing in two K-9 officers and equipping officers and patrol cars with the latest video technology would be enough for most sheriff’s departments to call it good for the year.

But with Stacy Weber just wrapping up his first year as Lee County Sheriff, he says the county is just now getting an initial look at what’s in store for the department.

"It’s been a long year," Weber said at the start of interview Thursday.

Indeed. On Weber’s first day, two fishermen went missing on the shore in Montrose. Both fishermen were eventually found drowned as a result of the accident.

Four weeks later, a body was found in Indian Path park on the west side of Skunk River just inside the county border. The state Department of Criminal Investigation took over in that lead in the case, but the suspect is now in custody in Lee County Jail facing 1st degree murder charges.

Weber said, and still has, aspirations to take the sheriff’s department in a different direction. Despite the tragedies that have a marked impression on the 44-year-old husband and father of two from Donnellson, Weber points to the direction of the department and only looks back on the lives lost and how the department can work toward keeping those numbers minimal. And the direction he points is right at his staff.

"I know I get a lot of credit for what goes on here, but honestly it’s Chief Deputys (Will) Conlee, Deputy (Craig) Burch, Jail Administrator John Canida, the detectives, the deputies, my staff, and the jail staff,” he said. "These people don’t need to be told what to do, they have a job to do and when they come back in, day in and day out, it’s done.’’

Conlee said morale is high in the Sheriff’s dept. to build on momentum of 2017.

See 2018, page 10

2017 Area Recaps

Lee County Sheriff’s Dept. Chief Deputy Will Conlee reads to students at Central Lee Elementary before the winter break. The department wants to increase visibility in 2018.

See page 4

Sports:

HTC’s Brett Schneider breaks school record with 37 in win over New London.
ELIZABETH ANN LANGE

Elizabeth Ann Lange, 70 of Omaha, AR died Monday, December 25, 2017 at the Hospice of the Hills in Harrison, AR.

She was born March 20, 1947 in Keokuk, IA, the daughter of Joseph and Dorothy Hammel Manewal. On September 15, 2005 she was united in marriage to Richard Lange in Las Vegas, NV.

Other survivors include two sons, James Lowary of Keokuk and Leland Lowary of Fordland, MO, two daughters, Karen Riggle of Camdenton, MO and Shauna Fawcett of Camdenton, MO, six grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and six sisters, Dianna Spence of Keokuk, Judy Jones of Keokuk, Sue Burgess of Keokuk, Connie Jones of Keokuk, Donna Manewal of Rhodes, IA and Tammy Garcia of Argyle, IA and one brother, Randy Manewal of Omaha, AR.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother, Joe Manewal and two sisters, Cindy Peak and Nancy Jean Manewal.

Elizabeth was a skilled seamstress and created many beautiful quilts and crocheted projects for her family to enjoy. She was a member of several quilting guilds through the years. Elizabeth enjoyed feeding the birds outside. She loved to spend time with her family and grandchildren.

A Gathering of Remembrance was held from 2 – 4 Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk. Burial will be at a later date in the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of the Hills in Harrison, AR.

ELIZABETH ANN LANGE

ROBERT E. LOTER

Robert E. Loter, MSG, US Army, Retired, of Polk City, IA, formerly of Keokuk, IA, died Thursday, December 28, 2017 at his home.

He was born on November 28, 1951 in Keokuk, IA, the son of Bob Phillips and Betty Loter. He was raised by his grandparents, Earl and Ruby Loter. He graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1970. On May 28, 1972, Robert was united in marriage to Charlotte Rubey in Montrose, IA.

Robert enlisted in the United States Army in 1972 and served his country for 20 years, retiring as Master Sergeant in 1992. He served with the 82nd Airborne from 1972 – 74. From 1974-76 he was with the First Infantry and from 1976 - 79 was with the First of the 39th Infantry. Robert served in the recruiting Command from 1979 – 1992. He taught Recruiting School in Indianapolis from 1985-88, was a Guidance Counselor with MEPS from 1989-90, served in the Des Moines Recruiting Command and then was the Recruiting Trainer for the State of Iowa until his retirement in 1992.

Following his retirement he was employed with Iowa Workforce Development from 1994 – 2014. He also began studies at William Penn University and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2002 with a bachelor’s degree in Business Management. Robert was a member of the Polk City United Methodist Church, the Masonic-Joppa Lodge in Montrose, the Smoky Mountain Muzzle Loaders and the NRA.

He enjoyed riding motorcycles and playing pool with friends. Robert was an avid reader and especially enjoyed reading about history. He also enjoyed watching movies. He was a history buff and was the ultimate fact provider for his nieces. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte Loter of Polk City, IA, one sister, Connie Woodsmill (Ted) of Kahoka, MO, a brother-in-law, Kent Rubey (Patricia) of Montrose, two nieces, Elizabeth and Emma Rubey, three half-sisters and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother and step-father, Betty and Ronald Eder, his grandparents and a half-brother, Bob Phillips.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Dean Graber officiating. Burial with military honors will be held at the Keokuk National Cemetery.

A time of fellowship will follow the services at the Montrose Trinity United Methodist Church, 2nd and Cedar Street, in Montrose, IA.

Memorials may be made to the Great River Honor Flight or to the Puppy Jake Foundation.

On-line condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.
ROBERT H. “BOB” FRAUNE

Robert H. “Bob” Fraune, 88, of Waterloo, IA and formerly of Fort Madison, IA died at Cedar Valley Hospice Home on Thursday, December 28, 2017. He was born on April 19, 1929 in Fort Madison, IA, the son of Henry and Emma Wigen-jost Fraune. He married Rosemary J. Schmidt on August 28, 1954 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Fort Madison, IA. Bob graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1947 and graduated from St. Ambrose University in 1956. He was an accountant (Cost Control) at John Deere retiring in 1984. Bob loved traveling throughout the USA with his wife and children. After retirement, he enjoyed fishing and he and Rose spent 20 years at their summer lake home in Minnesota. Bob served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a member of St. Edward Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife; son: Bob (Sandy) Fraune, Waukesha, WI; son: Mark (Crystal Meyer) Fraune, Waterloo, IA; son: Larry Fraune, Plymouth, MN; daugh- ter: Mary (Jim) Fraune, Minocqua, WI; daughter: Patty Dennis, Waterloo, IA; daughter: Barbara Jenkins; 5 grandchildren: Marlena and Brandon Fraune, Fernando and MiKayla Fraune, and Johnny Kohls; and a sister: Helen Loving, West Point, IA. Bob is preceded by: his parents; a son, David; a grandson, Billy Kohls; 6 sisters: Alice Fedler, Ruth Krogmeier, Viola Menke, Arline Walljasper, Louise Menke, and Joan Fraune; and 2 brothers: James and Paul.

A visitation will be held from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 5, 2018 with a 3:00 p.m. Rosary to be held at Locke Funeral Home in Waterloo, IA. The family will also receive friends for an hour before services at the church. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, January 6, 2018 at St. Edward Catholic Church in Waterloo, IA. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at St. Mary & Joseph Church in Fort Madison, IA with Rev. Mark P. Spring officiating. Burial will be held at Gethsemane Cemetery. A memorial has been established for St. Vincent De Paul in Waterloo, IA or Divine Word College (102 Jacoby Drive SW, PO Box 380, Epworth, IA 52045-0380). Online condolences to the Fraune family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.
Senior guard converts 17 field goals in win over Tigers

BY PCC STAFF

NEW LONDON - HTC senior guard Brett Schneider outscored New London Tuesday night en route to a 73-32 blowout win in girls Southeast Iowa Superconference South division girls basketball action.

Schneider converted 17 buckets from the field, with out- a 3-pointer, and hit on 3 of 5 free throws to set a new school record with 37 points in the win. Emily Box chimed in with 13 points.

Holy Trinity jumped all over the 1-9 Tigers 21-3 in the first quarter after falling behind 1-2 in the early going and then going on a 21-2 run. The Crusaders kept the pace in the 2nd quarter with a 15-10 advantage to hold a 33-13 halftime lead with Box and Schneider combining for 28 of HTC’s first half points.

Schneider then went on a tear in the second half with 22 more points, while the Tigers only mustered two points in the third quarter and Holy Trinity had a 60-18 lead going into the final quarter with the game out of hand. Heavy subbing in the fourth quarter allowed New London to outscore the Crusaders 14-13.

Ashlynn Haas finished with nine points for HTC, Madison Mohrfield had four points, while Avery Hopper, Taylor Boeding, Eryn Anderson, Claire Pothitakis and Katie Denning all had two points for the Crusaders.

Holy Trinity improves to 4-6 on the season and hosts Burlington Notre Dame on Friday.

Fort Madison girls yet to find first win

BY PCC STAFF

WASHINGTON - The Fort Madison Bloodhounds girls yet to find first win.

Fort Madison held a slim 9-6 advantage with two minutes left in the first quarter, then both teams got figures for the Hounds.

Junior Logan Rashid heated up in the third quarter and Holy Trinity had seven points to help Fort Madison push the lead to 14-13.

The Hounds extended the lead to 10 before the end of the first half with James-Kokjohn leading the way with six points in the 2nd quarter.

Junior Logan Rashid heated up in the third quarter with seven points to help Fort Madison push the lead to 38-58. The Hounds then got 10 in the fourth from Riles to put the game out of reach.

The Hounds improve to 6-3 on the season and travel to Fairfield for the second of a four-game road swing on Friday night.

New London routs HTC boys Tuesday

BY PCC STAFF

NEW LONDON - The Holy Trinity Catholic boys fell to New London on the road Tuesday 74-12 in boys Southeast Iowa Superconference South division basketball.

The Crusaders got six points from sophomore Matt Hellige and three each from sophomore Reed Fehseke and junior Brant Holfatk.

HTC managed only a bucket in the second and third quarter combined in the loss. Alex Denlinger led the Tigers with 22 points.

The Crusaders fall to 2-7 on the season and host Burlington Notre Dame on Friday.

Sports/From the Front

Board votes to amend juvenile detention agreement

COUNTY - Continued from Page 1

boardto do that.”

Fedler said Supervisor Matt Plulg was vice chair for four years and said he’s discussed a chairmanship with Plulg in years passed.

“I talked to Matt about being chair and he said he’d just as soon not be the chair so it’s not like I haven’t talked to people about that,” Fedler said.

Plulg said at that time his professional workload was too heavy to take on the chairmanship, but things have calmed down since.

Folluo went on to say Larkin has been chair and vice chair for four or five of the past nine years and it was time the board looked at things differently.

“I’m all about being fair, but I don’t think this has been fair and I won’t support it,” Folluo said, and then asked to separate the nominations for chair and vice chair.

At that point a question in order came up as to how to deal with the Fedler’s motion. Lee County Auditor De- nise Fraise said the motion was presented as a resolution as part of the agenda.

Foluo and Fedler agreed that Fedler would have to re- scind or amend his motion, but according to rules book Fraise referred to during the meeting, any supervisor could motion to amend Fedler’s motion.

“It seems ridiculous that we have to have this conver- sation because we all talk about being fair and this has not been fair and everyone on this board knows it,” Folluo said.

Foluo then made a formal motion to separate the chair and vice chair nominations. A vote was conducted to amend Fedler’s motion which failed 2-3 with Larkin, Fedler and Hunold voting against the amendment. Then the original motion was back up for a vote and passed 3-2 with Plulg and Folluo voting against the nomina- tions.

Hunold and Larkin then changed chairs and Hunold took chairmanship of the board and the meeting.

In other action, the board;

• voted 4-1 to keep the current board meeting time and involve the public. Fedler voted no, but again asked to move some meetings to county buildings in the county seats, “But this has fallen on deaf ears so let’s just move along,” Folluo said.

• voted 5-0 to amend the South Iowa Detention Ser- vice Agency agreement for the juvenile detention center.

• voted 5-0 to keep current supervisor committee board and commission assignments.

• voted 5-0, to extend the current Lee County Urban Revitalization Plan through Dec. 31, 2023

• voted 5-0 to amend the South Iowa Detention Ser- vice Agency agreement for the juvenile detention center.

The amendment includes requiring member counties to send at least 80% of the juvenile offenders to the center in Montrose to maintain solvency for the agency. It also changed the agreement to allow counties to enter the agreement without paying a buy-in to share in original costs. However, if the agency were to ever dissolve, those counties would not receive any revenues from liquidat- ing the commission and it’s facilities. Current counties involved in the agreement include Davis, Des Moines, Henry, Lee, Wapello, Mahaska, Jefferson, and Louisa.

• voted 5-0, to approve a resolution requiring all county employees to submit expenses in the fiscal quarter the expense is accrued and to eliminate paying mileage accrues against the office.

• set Monday from 1:30 to 4 p.m. and Tuesday begin- ning at noon for 2018-2019 fiscal year budget workshops.

• heard from Plulg that Keyway Mgmt. group has stepped off as managers of the Lincoln Ridge Apartments in Korea. He said talks are ongoing with the Koskuk Housing Authority to take over the management posi- tion.
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Mayor Brad Randolph said he hoped local industry and businesses could jump in and help the city offset some of that $72,000. "I’m not saying we should look for a specific percentage of participation because I’m not sure we would get that,” Randolph said. “I’m being biased, but I think it’s important that we proceed with this because I think there’s a need for it. I’m basically indicating that we should be on the hook for the total amount, with the thought that we don’t want to be on the hook for the total amount,” Randolph said.

This is a project we’ve been talking about for years and it gets quiet, but there is still activity. And your ability to garner support from not only Iowa DOT, but Illinois DOT considering this is a private bridge, speaks volumes to the importance of the project,” Randolph told Norris.

Newly sworn in Councilman Bob Morawitz asked if previous studies involving using truck tolls to pay for the project were available. He said he remembers talking with local and state officials about this sort of study 15 years ago and wondered why those documents weren’t available.

Councilman Chris Greenwald said he remembered those issues as conversations and not a study. Randolph said he too was unaware of those studies, but that was before his time on the council. The other player in the study, and any future work on the project, would be the Southeast Iowa Economic and Port Authority. Randolph said the Port Authority would have bonding authority to help raise funds for the construction phase of the project.

The push for the study would be to ultimately look at options to modify or improve the bridge deck to get trucks from local industries, including the Iowa Fertilizer plant, across the bridge in Fort Madison, which would save those entities money in transportation. Randolph said from past meetings with the railroad officials, BN/CSF is open to an agreement that would allow paid tolls on the bridge to be used to help finance improvements to the bridge.

Morawitz also pointed to an 1866 agreement with the railroad that mandates the railroad provide a roadway over the river.

“If we take that over how does that effect that agreement because they have to provide that. If we take it over that means were responsible for the repairs and maintenance, right?” Morawitz said.

“That’s a piece of the pie that hasn’t been baked or cut yet” Norris said.

“We should have those answers before we put a bunch of money in it” Morawitz said.

Randolph said those concerns are issues for later in the project.

“We’re not even there yet,” Randolph said. “That’s just an idea that has been discussed as a possibility in order to fund the improvements. If you’re saying you don’t know who’s going to maintain the deck once it’s done and we shouldn’t do the study and spend the money I’ll disagree with you because I think you’re not seeing the big picture at that point.”

Randolph said he’s been looking at the project for 15-20 years. “The railroad always maintained it,” Morawitz said. “They used to have semi - they don’t now because of the s-curves - and when we talked about that back when Mayor Irlam talked with them there was no discussion about us taking over the deck itself. We would bond for the improvements and then the railroad would take the tolls from semi’s to pay off the bond so the railroad wouldn’t have an expense and the city wouldn’t have an expense.”

Randolph said having the port authority bond for the improvements would mean the same thing, neither entity would have an expense.

“It doesn’t mean we have to (take over the road deck and toll operations). It was a way to help pay for the project. If we wait for BN/SF to do it may never happen,” he said.

Councilman Chad Cangas said the city and riverboat would bring the discussion and end the discussion, which passed, and then the motion to approve the expense passed 6-1 with Councilman Kevin Rink voting against the measure. Rink had asked Norris if any towns on the Illinois side were contributing to the study cost. Norris said he would look into it, but said Fort Madison had a lion’s share of the interest of the amount of industry on the Iowa side.

“We will have a competitive consultant process for this so we have a process that helps drive that cost down a little bit,” Norris said. “I’m hoping that competitive pressure brings that ceiling down.” In other action, the council;

• voted 6-0 to set a meeting date on the authorization of a $1.7 million Water Revenue Capital Loan agreement
• voted 6-0 to accept Avenue E from Vlaca Lane to 3rd Street
• voted 5-1 to accept improvements made in the Woodland Heights subdivision Phase 1. $7,000
• approved an engineering agreement for the project behind CleanCare
• approved an expense of $72,000...I’ll disagree with your conclusion that competitive pressure brings that ceiling down.

In other action, the council;
**THOMAS LEE WALKER**

Thomas Lee Walker, 74, of Nauvoo, Illinois passed away at 9:13 a.m. Thursday, December 28, 2017 at the emergency room at Unity Point Health Center in Kookuk, Iowa.


He was preceded in death by his parents; wife: Martha and one brother: Eldon Walker.

Tom attended Nauvoo Presbyterian Church and Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church. He was a member of the Nauvoo Historical Society. He enjoyed golfing, drawing and reading.

The family received friends from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, January 1, 2018 at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Nauvoo, Illinois.

A funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church with Pastor Mark Anderson and Father Thomas Szydlisk as celebrants.

Burial will be at the Thornber Cemetery in Powellton, Illinois.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established in his memory for Thornber Cemetery.

Schmitz Funeral Homes is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).

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**MARJORIE DOLORES MEIEROTTO**

Marjorie Dolores Meierotto, 100, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 1:20 p.m. Thursday, December 28, 2017 at the West Point Care Center in West Point, Iowa.

Born May 13, 1917 in West Point, Iowa the daughter of John and Elizabeth “Lily” (Krieger) Peitz. On September 30, 1940 she married Irvin Meierotto at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, Iowa. He preceded her in death on August 24, 1996.

Survivors include one son: Ron (Sharon) Meierotto of Donnellson, Iowa; three daughters: Linda (Greg) Wilbert of Fort Madison, Iowa, Jane (Gary) Michael of Wayland, Iowa and Mary Lu (Mike) Menke of Donnellson, Iowa; two son-in-laws: Bill (Linda) Pidgeon of Houghton, Iowa and Marvin McGregor of West Point, Iowa; eleven grandchildren: Ben Ogle, Pam McGuade, Kim Pidgeon, Chris (Jenni) Pidgeon, Brian (Lori) Wilbert, Tonya Booten, Jeff (Gina) Crabtree, Clover Farmer, Angie (Scanlon) Daniels, Wendy (Tim) Vonderhaar and Kerri (Jeff) Phelps; twenty two great-grandchildren; two sister-in-laws: Barb Peitz and Darlene Denz; two brother-in-laws: Cyril Meierotto and Frances Meierotto and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband: Irvin; two sons in infancy: two daughters; Jeanita Pidgeon and Janet McGregor; three grandchildren in infancy; one sister: Martha Laverne Meierotto and one brother: Charles Peitz.

Marjorie was a 1934 graduate of St. Mary’s High School. She worked at Sheaffer Pen for over twenty years as a production inspector. She was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, the Altar and Rosary Society of the church and St. Ann’s Circle Daughters of Isabella. Marjorie enjoyed reading, sewing, camping, gardening, baking, playing cards, dogs and especially spending time with her family at gatherings.

Friends called at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at the Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point and the family received friends from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. that evening. A Parish Rosary was recited at 3:30 p.m. and a Christian Wake Service was held at 5:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

A Memorial Mass was held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point with Father Dennis Hoffman as celebrant.

Burial will be at the Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

A memorial has been established in her memory to St. Mary’s Catholic Church or the P.A.W. Animal Shelter.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).
IRMADEAN “DEE” A. (FOEHRING) MEIROSE

Irmedean "Dee" A. (Foehring) Meirose, 86, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 7:26 a.m. on Wednesday, December 27, 2017 at Fort Madison Community Hospital. She was born on April 16, 1931 in Mt. Pleasant, IA to Chester & Anna Mae Volger Cazeys. She married Allan D. Meirose on July 27, 1974 in Fort Madison, IA. She worked at Sheaffer Pen, Jimbo’s Super Value and lastly at the Iowa State Liquor Store, retiring in 1990. She enjoyed Facebook, keeping up with her friends on her computer and hearing about her grandchildren.

Dee is survived by: her husband: Allan Meirose of Fort Madison, IA; 1-son: Michael F. (Jeanne) Foehring of Bradyville, IA; 1-daughter: Patricia (Jim) Foehring Brady of Neligh, NE; 2-step daughters: Roxanne (Tom) Payne of Hilton, MO & Nancy (Wayne) Royer of Macomb, IL; 6-grandchildren; 11-great grandchildren; 1-great great grandson; 1-sister: Betty Kirkhart of Cantril, IA and several nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by: her parents, first husband: W. Paul Foehring, 2-grandchildren, 1-sister & 1-niece.

Cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 2018 with the memorial service to immediately follow at 2:00 p.m. all at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Burial will follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery. A memorial has been established for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital and may be sent to Allan Meirose, 1401 Avenue D, Fort Madison, IA 52627. Online condolences to Dee's family may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

LESTER EARL HAWTHORNE

Lester Earl Hawthorne, 69, of Farmington, Iowa, passed away at 4:57 P.M. Monday December 25, 2017 at his home.

Born February 8, 1948 at Fairfield, Iowa the son of Earl B. and Enid Pearson Hawthorne. On June 7, 1970 at Fairfield, Iowa he married Cathy Wixom. Survivors include his wife Cathy of Farmington, one daughter Heather Hawthorne of Fort Madison, Iowa. One son Heath (Amy) Hawthorne of Fort Madison, Iowa. Grandchildren Cory (Kasey) Miller, Clayton Craig, Sammy Craig, Ophelia Craig and Brooklyn Harvey. One brother David Hawthorne of Farmington. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister Sharon Stewart.

Lester was a United States Army Veteran serving during the Vietnam era. He was a member of the Farmington American Legion Post #236 and the National Rifle Association. He retired from the Iowa State Penitentiary in 2010. Lester enjoyed golfing, hunting, target shooting, working on cars and drag racing. Lester loved his family especially his grandchildren.

Friends called after 1:00 P.M. Dec. 29 at the Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington where the family met with friends from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 A.M. Saturday December 30, 2017 at the First Baptist Church in Farmington with Pastor Chad Welch officiating.

Burial with full military rites by the Farmington American Legion was held in the Greenglade Cemetery in Farmington. The Schmitz Funeral Home of Farmington assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences to the family may be left at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.
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doesn't include any other data. “

Conlee said. “In the same time in 2017 we had 1,400 contacts. Those are traffic stops where we make contact with a motorist just on traffic enforcement. That's three too many. So we increased our presence on the street and when you do that, eventually you end up with a higher inmate population.”

He said those contacts result in suspended drivers, warrants, and other violations that result in jail time. Weber said he prefers to be on the street than at his desk and when he's on the street he's always monitoring motorists.

"I always run radar," he said. "And so does Chief Dep- uty Conlee. So if I got ya speeding, you're gonna have a conversation with the sheriff about your driving. And if I think your windows are tinted too dark, I'm gonna pull you over and we're gonna have a chat."

The increased traffic stops have pushed the inmate populations at Lee County Jail from approximately 73 inmates per day before he took office, to about 90 per day, with many days over 100.

Due to that increase, Weber went to the board and asked for additional help, spurred by an incident in the fall where a combative inmate wouldn't cooperate with instructions of the correctional officer on duty and a fight ensued. The officer got control of the situation, but no help was available during the incident. Lee County supervisors approved hiring two additional staff and are looking at allowing two more in the upcoming budget session.

While campaigning for the position, Weber said the people of the county told him they wanted a K-9 pres- ence on the department, so Weber made that a cam- paign promise to bring a K-9 officer onto the staff. The staff was formed by volunteer citizens includ- ing animal advocates, former law enforcement officers, liaisons with the Iowa State Penitentiary K-9 team, and county residents. In a matter of just a few months, enough money had been raised privately to purchase, train and equip a K-9 officer. In fact, the county resi- dents were so supportive that enough funds were raised to bring in two officers and in less than 11 months, the department now has two functioning K-9 officers on staff.

Deputies Uriah Wheatley and Dakota Foley are the animal handlers. Deputies have been involved in K-9 programs with the Iowa State Penitentiary K-9 team, animal advocates, former law enforcement officers, and county residents. In a matter of just a few months, enough money had been raised privately to purchase, train and equip a K-9 officer. In fact, the county resi- dents were so supportive that enough funds were raised to bring in two officers and in less than 11 months, the department now has two functioning K-9 officers on staff. Deputies Uriah Wheatley and Dakota Foley are the animal handlers.

"What tickled me was how fast the community got behind us. In just several weeks we exceeded our goal and not just for the dogs, but the equipment," Weber said. "The community just came out and backed us. In just several weeks we exceeded our goal and not just for the dogs, but the equipment," Weber said. "The community just came out and backed us."

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