Digital transition for first responders handed to PSAP

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - A proposal to switch emergency radio frequencies in Lee County from UHF to digital was handed over to the Public Safety Answering Point board Wednesday night.

At a meeting of the Lee County E911 board, Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber, who’s an alternate on the E911 board, but chairs the PSAP board, said it was time to get moving on the digital conversion.

The move would require purchasing equipment that is digitally compatible, some of which is already being

purchased as part of attrition through county emergency departments. The E911 board is the taxing district that generates revenue, in part, for the communications equipment of all emergency responders in the county. Weber said the cost of the conversion, which has already taken place in the majority of the state, could exceed $1 million.

He said all new equipment and equipment upgrades that are purchased are digitally compatible and will work with the new program when it’s implemented.

Weber brought the rest of the PSAP board to the meeting to present a unified board asking the members of the E911 board to turn it over and hire a different consultant. Currently the E911 board was working with Loftsgard Consulting out of Adel, Iowa for guidance.

“We’ve got to the point where everybody’s ready for someone to go ahead and get this thing started, and to get it moving in a direction,” Weber told the board. “The PSAP board has been over it at every meeting, and two meetings back, the PSAP board voted that we’d like to head this up.”

Weber said the PSAP board wants to opt out of the

Digital transition for first responders handed to PSAP

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EMPTINESS
By Curt Swarm

Nauvoo man’s quest is to better others’ lives

The voice on the phone was of an elderly man. I could hardly understand him. “My name is Tommy Sinnott. I’m from Nauvoo, Illinois. I read your column. Have you ever read the book, ‘The Purpose Driven Life’ by Rick Warren?”


He said, “I read the book and it changed my life. I bought a bunch of the books and now I give them away to whoever wants one, so it can change their lives.”

He had my attention. There was something in his voice that sounded so sincere. I changed my mind and told him, “Maybe I haven’t read the book. Could you send me one?”

He did. The book is divided into 40 chapters. You are to read one chapter a day for 40 days. I am doing that—40 days to change your life. The first sentence in the book says, “It’s not about you.” I’m about half way through the book, which says, “What On Earth Am I Here For?” are pretty heady. I decided I needed to meet Tommy Sinnott.

He is 88 years old and lives on the Mississippi River in a house with a beautiful view. Like most octogenarian...

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LOREN MICHAEL “MIKE” RAHN

Loren Michael “Mike” Rahn, 74 of Keokuk, IA died Monday, December 31, 2018 at Lexington Square in Keokuk.

He was born June 9, 1944 in Ft. Madison, IA, the son of Loren Earl and Norma Wright Rahn.

Mike graduated from Nauvoo High School in Nauvoo, IL with the Class of 1962. He was a veteran of the United States Army and proudly served his country.

Mike had been employed by the Army Munition Plant in Middletown, IA for nineteen years. He had also been employed at a Walmart Warehouse and at Walmart in Keokuk as a greeter.

Mike loved going to car shows and admiring antique cars. He enjoyed playing cards, especially Rummy and Spades. He also enjoyed shooting pool and playing Yatzy, which he always played to win. Mike liked to go fishing and cruising around in his Corvette.

He is survived by three sisters, Nancy Ballinger of Ft. Madison, IA, Teri Rahn-Cowles St. Joseph, MO and Barbara Schaffer (Jim) of Radcliff, KY; mother-in-law, Sheila Wright Rahn.

A joint memorial service with military rites will be held for Mike and his brother Patrick at 1 p.m., Monday, April 8, 2019 at the Oakgrove Cemetery in Hamilton, IL with Pastor David Turner officiating.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

PATRICK A. RAHN

Patrick A. Rahn 72, of Valrico, Florida, formerly Keokuk, IA died November 20, 2018 in Florida.

He was born on November 3, 1946 in Keokuk, IA the son of Loren Earl and Norma Wright Rahn.

He loved to watch drag racing, hang out with family, play cards and perform magic card tricks.

He is survived by his daughter, Shanna Pettys (Terry), grandchildren, Angel and Savannah, two brothers, Loren “Mike” Rahn, and Thomas Rahn, three sisters, Barbara Schaeffer, Nancy Ballinger, and Teresa Cowles, step-mother, Beverly Rahn, his friend and caregiver, Techra Petterson of Hamilton, IL, great-nieces and nephews and great-great-nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Patrick Rahn and Jack Rahn and one sister, Linda Ballinger.

A joint memorial service with military rites will be held for Mike and his brother Patrick at 1 p.m., Monday, April 8, 2019 at the Oakgrove Cemetery in Hamilton, IL with Pastor David Turner officiating.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

DIXIE M. LAIR

Dixie M. Lair, 83 years, of West Point, Iowa died at 10:30 am Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at the Donnelson Health Center, Donnelson, Iowa. She was born November 22, 1935 in Del Norte, Colorado, the daughter of Richard A. and Mamie A. (Nolles) Boyd. She married Kenneth C. Lair. They later divorced.

Dixie was a homemaker, who also worked as a teacher’s assistant at Jefferson School and as a tailor for Glasgow’s Clothier for many years. She was a 50 year member of the Order of the Eastern Star; a Mother Advisor for the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Fort Madison Chapter; a member and past president of Business and Professional Women; past member, district and state officer of the West Point American Legion Auxiliary; and a past Ambassador with the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce. She was a member of the West Point Presbyterian Church. Dixie enjoyed sewing and decorating. She loved her family.

She is survived by one son, David Lair (Consuelo Garcia) of Coralville, Iowa; two daughters, Cindy Lair of Boulder, Colorado and Mindy (Michael) Krawiecki of Wildwood, Missouri; three grandchildren: Gabriel and Alejandro Garcia-Lair and Alexandra Krawiecki; and life partner, John Roxlau of West Point. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Dixie was transferred into the care of Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Her family will greet friends from 1:00 to 2:00 pm Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at the Barr Memorial Chapel. A Memorial Service will follow and begin at 2:00 pm Tuesday afternoon at the funeral home, with Larry Shipley officiating. Burial will be at a later date in Montana. A memorial has been established for PAWS or Business and Professional Women of Iowa Foundation Educational Scholarship Program. Contributions may be left at the funeral home. Online condolences to the Lair family may be made at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.
Fort Madison
County Sheriff's Report
01/09/19 - 11:16 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Samantha Rankin, 40, of Argyle, Ill., at the Lee County Jail on a warrant for violation of parole. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on bond.

01/09/19 - 9:20 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of Avenue I, on a charge of interference and trespassing. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

Lee County Sheriff’s Report
01/09/19 - 11:55 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Ronald Kenneth Brandenburg, 26, of Keokuk, at the sheriff’s office on a judgment entry. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

01/09/19 - 6:20 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested William Francis Rankin, 40, of Argyle, no address listed, on a charge of domestic abuse assault first offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

01/09/19 - 6:21 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Stephanie Jo Cox, 20, of Wever, in the 2600 block of Avenue L, on a charge of 5th degree theft. He was released on a promise to appear.

Fort Madison Police Reported
01/09/19 - 12:17 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of 3rd Street. 01/09/19 - 12:53 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 900 block of 15th Street.

Fort Madison Police arrested Casey Joe Wolf, 38, of Fort Madison in the 1300 block of Avenue G on a charge of disorderly conduct. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

01/09/19 - 1:30 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested  Kent Michael Kenney, 20, of Hamilton, Ill., at the Lee County Jail on a warrant for possession of stolen property, one charge of going armed with intent, carrying weapons, and two charges of assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report
01/09/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to six medical calls, false alarm at old prison, burn complaint by Burlington Northern Santa Fe 01/09/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls.
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From the Front/Weather

**5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST**

**FRI 11 Jan**
- **Snow**
  - High– 32.1º F | Low –28.8º F

**SAT 12 Jan**
- **Snow**
  - High– 31.3º F | Low – 29.6º F

**SUN 13 Jan**
- **Light Snow**
  - High– 26.4º F | Low – 22.3º F

**MON 14 Jan**
- **Light Snow**
  - High– 26.4º F | Low – 22.3º F

**TUE 15 Jan**
- **Sunny**
  - High– 31.7º F | Low – 15.3º F

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**SWARM**

**Continued from Page 1**

Tommy is Catholic, but hadn’t been to church in years. Because of the book, he decided to return.

He talked to the priest and the priest invited him to confession. The priest asked him how long it had been since he’d been to confession, and Tommy told him 47 years.

He heard the priest whisper, “Record!”

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or find him on Facebook. Curt’s stories are also read at 106.3 FM in Farmington.

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**Funds to help with Keokuk’s planned Library Park**

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**DONATION**

**Continued from Page 1**

a small performance and outdoor classroom space with permanent in-ground seating.

Keokuk Vice President Scott Piper commented on the project, “My wife Kaki, who is a Library Foundation Board Member, and I visit the library weekly to check out books. The library is such an active center for all ages of our community. There are always young kids attending story hour, adults reading papers and magazines, and people researching on their numerous public computers. I also routinely pass by the Library when they are closed and see people sitting on the outdoor benches accessing the library’s free WIFI network. The library is just such a great place to expand your personal knowledge base. The Library Park is a great project idea and will continue to expand the Library’s programs and services.”

Pilot Grove Savings Bank is a proud supporter of this project and the library, which benefits the community of Keokuk.

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Family Dentistry now to schedule your 6-month checkup or click anywhere on this ad.

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HTC debate team brings home honors

DES MOINES - The Holy Trinity Catholic Debate Team had great success at the State Debate Tournament on January 4th and 5th. Every student from HTC earned awards. Sam Pothitakis received the award for Top Senator in "C" chamber. Michael Hellman and Reagan Avery received the award for Top Senator in "A" Chamber which is televised and available on Mediacom on Demand for a year. Ryan Deaver received the Excellent Senator award while Wyatt Holvoet and Mason Hellman earned a seat in the "A" Chamber which helps provide farmers in Iowa and around the country with a stable, domestic supply of fertilizer.

Iowa Fertilizer Company is a leader in the fertilizer industry. The plant in Wever, Iowa, is the first greenfield nitrogen fertilizer facility constructed in the United States and is the first in a broader range to help us out with those decisions,” Sittig said.

Restart will include high flaring, excess noise

flaring, accompanied by higher than normal noise levels due to the flaring and other steam venting. Flaring is the flame that is occasionally visible above our facility. The flaring during startups is, by design, safe and is harmless to the environment and the surrounding community. The flaring will change in color and intensity as we advance through the different states of the startup process. Intensity at night could be amplified by the particular timing of a startup stage or due to low cloud cover. Flaring is the flame that is occasionally visible above our facility. The flaring during startups is, by design, safe and is harmless to the environment and the surrounding community. The flaring will change in color and intensity as we advance through the different states of the startup process. Intensity at night could be amplified by the particular timing of a startup stage or due to low cloud cover.

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