It’s official: Weber new interim FMPD chief

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – Staff from the Lee County Sheriff’s Department is already at work helping fill in at the Fort Madison Police Department.

As soon as Lee County Supervisors gave unanimous approval Tuesday morning to allow Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber to serve as interim Fort Madison Police Chief for up to six months, staff was dispatched to Fort Madison City Hall.

Fort Madison Police Chief Tim Sittig announced his retirement from the department at the beginning of the month. Weber said Fort Madison City Manager David Varley and Fort Madison Mayor Brad Randolph reached out to him several weeks ago about possibly overseeing the department while a new chief is found.

“The city approved the move at Tuesday’s meeting 5-2 with two city councilman opposing the measure in favor of having current staff take over until a new chief is hired.”

Supervisor Randolph asked Weber what he thought the timeline for serving in the interim position would be. Supervisors, along with Varley and Weber discussed possibly moving the agreement from six months to three at last week’s board meeting, but decided instead to put in a three-month review.

“The way this is written is for six months. I have every intention of saddling and riding this thing as quickly as possible to the end. Three months is a nice goal. Well see,” Weber said.

“They didn’t like going outside of the command structure that was in existence. There’s some loyalty there and I admire that and didn’t argue with it.”

Supervisor Ron Fedler said regardless of the city, if someone asks for the county’s assistance they should provide it if possible.

“I think it’s part of our responsibility as a board when one of the cities needs our assistance we see SUPERVISORS, page 7.

Fishing Deby set for Saturday at Pollmiller

BY PCC STAFF

WEST POINT — Untangle those poles! A kids fishing derby will be held Saturday, June 1 at Pollmiller Park.

This event is co-sponsored by Lee County Conservation and the Green Bay Chapter of the Izaak Walton League. Sign-in begins at 8:30 a.m., with fishing from 9-11 a.m., followed by lunch and prizes. This event is free for the whole family.

“It is great to be partnering with the Ikes this year,” said Clay Steele, Lee County Naturalist. “We have both been hosting fishing events for more than twenty years and saw a great opportunity to pair with another conservation organization and combine our efforts.”

There will be fishing, fun activities, and prizes for kids sixteen and under. A free lunch will be provided for all attendees.

For more information, contact Lee County Conservation at (319) 463-7673.
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**OBITUARIES**

**DANIEL MAURICE BOGERT**

Daniel Maurice “Danny” Bogert, 72, of Franklin, Iowa, passed away at 2:50 P.M. Saturday May 25, 2019 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Born February 25, 1947 at Fort Madison, Iowa the son of Willard Maurice and Frances Geneva Rouse Bogert. On September 21, 1974 he married Pamela Katherine Baker. She preceded him in death on September 30, 2009. Survivors include his son Kevin (Rebecca) Bogert of Keokuk, Iowa, his daughter Beth (Trampus) Powell of Donnellson, Iowa. Three grandchildren Avery Bogert, Emma Powell and Zoey Powell. One sister Mary Sereda of Burlington, Iowa. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Pam and his brother Rick.

Danny was a member of the St. Peter’s United Church of Christ in Franklin and the Isak Walton Club. He enjoyed gardening, hunting, farming and spending time with his grandchildren. Friends may call after noon Tuesday at the Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson with the family meeting friends from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Tuesday evening. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 A.M. Wednesday May 29, 2019 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. A memorial has been established in his memory.

**JEANINE KARYL WHISENAND**

Jeanine Karyl Whisenand, 61, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 6:29 a.m. on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the Great River Medical Center in West Burlington, IA. She was born on October 22, 1957 in Sunnymead, CA to Albert & Rubey Wickham Phl. She married Robbie Bornsheimer in November of 1974, they later divorced. She married Jack R. Whisenand on June 22, 2004 in Las Vegas, NV. She was a 911 & police dispatcher for many years in Lee County. She was a member of the Fort Madison Moose & Eagles Clubs and enjoyed shopping & buying antiques. Her family and friends were the most important things to her.

Jeanine is survived by: her husband: Jack Whisenand of Fort Madison, IA; 2-daughters: Mandie (Ivan) May of Las Vegas, NV & Kristie Bornsheimer of Burlington, IA; 2-step sons: Brian & Brad Whisenand of Fort Madison, IA; 6-grandchildren: Shennelle, Derrick, Sydney, Jaydix, Danika & Brian; 1-step granddaughter: Jennifer; 3-great grandchildren: Peyton, Kassidy & 1 on the way; her mother: Rubey (Leon) Ott of Fort Madison, IA; 3-sisters: Barbara Palmer of Fort Madison, IA, Jo Ann Crabton of Fort Madison, IA & Karen Dinwiddie of Montross, IA; 1-brother: Steve (Joan) Pihl of Fort Madison, IA. She was preceded in death by her father.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A celebration of Jeanine’s life and burial will be held at a later date. Online condolences to Jeanine’s family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy
The Current runs obituaries at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.
Boeding’s boot buries Mid-Prairie Hawks

Officials abandon game with more than 30 minutes left

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT – Lightning struck, figuratively, with six minutes left in the first half of 9th-ranked Holy Trinity Catholic girls regional soccer game when senior Taylor Boeding blistered in a shot from about 23 feet out to break a 1-1 tie with Mid-Prairie.

Lightning struck, literally, about 10 minutes into the second half putting an end to any comeback hopes the Lady Hawks may have been entertaining.

The severe storms that keep pounding the southeast portion of the state rolled over South Park at about 6:45 p.m. bringing wind and rain, but it was a lightning bolt in the northwest sky that sent fans headed for the concession area.

Officials called the game about 10 minutes later after reviewing storm radar.

The Crusaders held control of the ball for almost the entire game allowing just sporadic ventures into HTC keeper Sam Pothitakis’ territory.

The first of which came in a scoreless game with 15:19 left in the first half.

Senior midfielder Mya Lawlor went to intercept a forward pass from Mid-Prairie but had the ball crawl up her leg and catch her forearm.

Freshman Kaizlin Martin lined up the penalty kick directly in front of Pothitakis and shot the ball high into the back of the net for a 1-0 Lady Hawks lead.

But sophomore Claire Pothitakis would rally the Crusaders by circling the midfield shaking off Mid-Prairie defenders in HTC’s next possession and slipping the ball up the right side to Elle Rashid who punched it in from about five feet out with the Lady Hawks’ Emily Swartzentruber leaning the wrong way, to tie it up at 1 with 9.01 left in the first half of play.

After a couple minutes of Mid-Prairie trying to clear the ball to their side of the field, Nicole Pothitakis, playing some solid midfield defense, picked up a 50/50 ball and lofted it over the defense to Boeding who dribbled up a couple feet and launched what proved to be the game-winning goal from the right side.

Neither team was able to get the ball in the net for the rest of the half.

The Crusaders missed three attempts in the first half just wide of the goal as they worked to get their bearings. With 19:18 left in the half, Claire Pothitakis couldn’t catch up to a pass to the left side of the goal that just missed the left post.

Less than 90 seconds later HTC missed again just left and low off a pass from the right side that no one could catch up to. Elle Rashid would mass just wide right at the 14-minute mark after Pothitakis slid a pass into the interior box. Four minutes later the Crusaders would finally get on the board.

In the second half at the 31:50 mark, Pothitakis would catch a deep pass from the right off her forehead that went straight up. She was able to corral the ball with her right foot, and then with some tricky feet, would dribble past the Mid-Prairie defender and punish a shot from about 18 feet out on the left into the right side of the net to give the Crusaders a 2-1 lead, and some breathing room with storm clouds looming.

Pothitakis almost pulled the hat trick, again, when less than a minute later she sent another ball in from the left that nailed the left post and bounced back into play.

In the same series, Pothitakis regained control of the ball and sent a pass into the box that got popped up into the air where Rashid was standing about three feet out and headed it into the net in what appeared to make it a 4-1 game. However after being signaled a goal, the referees conferred and called an offside on HTC nullifying the goal with 33:42 left.

After a few more exchanges on the HTC side of the field and one effort into the Lady Hawks’ side of the field, lightning was observed and officials called for stoppage before the game was abandoned about 15 minutes later.

The Crusaders will take on the winner of the Centerville/Pella Christian match which was postponed until Wednesday night at 6 p.m.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Holy Trinity’s Taylor Boeding lets fly with a shot at the 6-minute mark of the first half to give the Lady Crusaders a 2-1 lead over Mid-Prairie at South Park Tuesday night.

Sports

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NOTICE OF JOB OPENING
Victim Witness Coordinator
Lee County Attorney’s Office
Keokuk and Fort Madison

Lee County Attorney’s Office has an opening for a Victim Witness Coordinator position (40 hours per week) with a start date of July 1, 2019.

The Victim Witness Coordinator position is responsible for managing, coordinating, monitoring, and providing case assistance for juvenile and criminal cases within the County Attorney’s Office. The Victim Witness Coordinator will establish communications with victims and witnesses and/or their advocates, notify victims of their rights, keep victims and witnesses informed of the status of files/cases, provide victims and witnesses with information, locate witnesses required for effective prosecution, and assist with case management.

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

1. Completion of some college level degree or in criminal justice, behavioral sciences, or related fields or any 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. Ability to prepare accurate and timely documents, correspondence, and reports, including documentation and data for grant funding.
7. Ability to learn and/or operate the County Attorney’s Office computer programs.
8. Ability to work in a fast-paced environment.
9. Ability to multi-task.
10. Must be a self-starter and motivator.
11. Ability to communicate with the public and act as a liaison for the victim to attorney staff in order to facilitate the communication of the victim as the case progresses.
12. Ability to provide emotional and educational support to victims and witnesses of crimes.
13. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relations with supervisors, attorneys, co-workers, and the public, as well as law enforcement personnel and Clerk of Court.
14. Ability to maintain a large case load.
15. Must be able to travel all over the County.

The position is a grant-funded position with a salary of $35,000 annually plus benefits.

For more information about duties email request to bbowden@ecounty.org

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Env Health & Safety Manager - R0346

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Sheriff says city will get the results it’s paying for

SUPervisors - Continued from Page 1

should step forward and help them. And in this case I understand we’re getting compensated so their shouldn’t be any cost to the county," Fed- ler said.

Plug said the city should have an assistant chief in place and was surprised when no one was identified who could step up into the role.

Weber said it’s his understanding the city is looking for some help along those lines of re- structuring command. In visiting with city council and manage- ment they want us to restructure. We’re being hired to do a job and we’ll do what they want. We’ll work closely with the union and get it fig- ured out," Weber said. "We will establish a different command structure there and we’ll make sure that if God forbid something happened to the new chief, that they’re in position to continue on, just like we are here."

Weber said former Fort Madison police offi- cer Craig Burch, who’s a captain with the county now, will be on site at the FMPD and Chief Depu- ty Will Conlee will direct Burch and help with scheduling and logistical issues. All decisions will go through Weber.

"We’re meeting with Tim now to see what projects he had in place and how he was financ- ing those and to see if we could do it cheaper. Reviewing contracts and things from the top down. If we can do it cheaper or better, we’re going to," Weber said. Weber said conversa- tions were underway Tuesday after the ap- proval to look at restruc- turing. "We’ve been asked to restructure. We’re gonna look at his manpower. Chief Deputy Conlee already has a schedule rough drafted that could put three people on a shift at all times and that automatically increases one officer per shift at least for the time being," Weber said.

Until he officially steps out on May 31, Weber said his staff and Sittig are overlapping to get fully informed on the processes.

"We’ll visit with him this week and find out how things are putting done day to day and find out what’s putting the brakes on some of this stuff," Weber said.

"Will has a wonderful way of organizing and Captain Burch has a wonderful way of exe- cuting, so I’m just put- ting the team in there, they’ll make recommenda- tions and I’ll approve everything."

He said out of pure respect, he’s going to have meetings with the current command struc- ture and see what they’re thinking about.

"We want to work with these guys and it’s better if they buy into what we’re thinking," Weber said.

"Change is difficult sometimes and there’s going to be some diffi- cult things to address but we’re gonna address them. The city’s covering the wages…we’re getting paid…so we’re going to do a job."

Campaign is bigger than Trump

BOOKER - Continued from Page 1

been going on since long before Donald Trump was elected.

Booker did not, howev- er, shy away from the fact that his baseline goal is to re- claim the White House. "I agree that the funda- mental floor has got to be, ‘Can you beat Donald Trump? But that can’t end our aspirations. We are bigger dreamers and bigger thinkers than that."

The main policy points for Booker came in the form of healthcare for all, bringing forth an era of less gun violence, strengthened unions, and creating an ed- ucational environment that gives youth a better chance to learn.

After speaking for 20 minutes, Booker walked around and talked with several people and he was questioned on that final point of his speech by a young girl wanting to know about his future.

Vivian Raiden is a Kalhoma, Missouri native who is about to finish 3rd grade and she brought up education as soon as Cory Booker was done speaking.

"I asked him, ‘What are your plans for education?’" Weber said. "He said out of pure respect, he’s going to have meetings with the current command struc- ture and see what they’re thinking about."

"We want to work with these guys and it’s better if they buy into what we’re thinking," Weber said.

"Change is difficult sometimes and there’s going to be some diffi- cult things to address but we’re gonna address them. The city’s covering the wages…we’re getting paid…so we’re going to do a job."

they can help us succeed," she said.

Joining Booker at The Lost Canvas Saturday was Iowa District 2 Congress- man Dave Loebsack. The legislator, who is set to re- tire in 2020, said, while he had not worked with Cory Booker during their time in D.C., he felt the Senator was a strong candidate for the Democrats. "I do think he has a great message, actually," Loebsack said. "I think there are a lot of peo- ple here who have been struggling, as you know, for a long time. And they really need someone who is gonna be talking about hope and about getting us together and getting rid of these divisions that we have in this country. I have not endorsed but I think a lot of them are going to do a great job."

Booker left after just more than an hour of conversation and dozens of selfies. He closed out his RV tour through Iowa Monday with a Memorial Day barbecue at his state campaign headquarters in Des Moines.

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BOOKER - Continued from Page 1

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