



Pen City Current

Wednesday, May 21, 2019 | 8 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 118

County defers to city on police chief deal

BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – A proposed deal to allow a Lee County Sheriff's Department captain to serve as interim Fort Madison Police Chief will have to wait at least one more week.

Lee County Supervisors discussed the proposal with Fort Madison City Manager David Varley, Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber and County Attorney Ross Braden at Tuesday's regular meeting.

Also in attendance, but without comment, were Lee County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Will Conlee and Captain Craig Burch, both of whom could be involved in the operations at the Fort Madison PD if the agreement is approved.

However, the supervisors only had the item on for discussion so no action was taken, much to the surprise of Weber, who thought action was going



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber, center, and Fort Madison City Manager David Varley, to his right, talk with the Lee County Board of Supervisors Tuesday morning about a proposed deal for the Sheriff's Department to fill in as interim Police Chief of Fort Madison.

to be taken at the meeting. But several supervisors hedged on taking any action before the agreement was voted on by Fort Madison City Council.

The City Council approved the measure by a 5-2 vote after an impassioned commentary from City Manager David

Varley appeared to sway two votes.

Fort Madison Police Chief Tim Sittig announced his resignation effective May 31. Sittig wasn't at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

That announcement prompted Varley and Weber to work up a proposal

where the city would pay roughly \$50,000 for six months compensation for staff, most likely Burch, to oversee the department. However the city won't be paying a chief salary so most of that money is allocated in the budget.

See DEAL, page 8

Supervisors delay solar project decision a week

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – The Lee County Supervisors have pushed action on potentially adding solar panels to three buildings to next week's meeting, but several officials are getting impatient with the continued discussion.

At Tuesday's regular meeting, two electrical companies, Mohrfeld Electric of Fort Madison and Precision Energy Services out of Burlington were on hand to answer any additional questions supervisors may have had about the two firms' proposals.

Mohrfeld originally pitched the idea to supervisors back in April. Mohrfeld has done similar projects in the county with Southeastern Community College's Keokuk campus and Holy Trinity Catholic High School.

Under the proposal, Mohrfeld would essentially pay for the installation of the panels and hooking up the power and then the county would pay reduced electric rates per a purchase power agreement back to Mohrfeld's. The proposal would also include some upgrades to lighting.

Precision, then came into the picture last week and made a pitch to the supervisors as well touting similar savings and union laborers.

Under the terms of the PPAs the majority of the county's electric bill would be paid to Mohrfeld under a

See SOLAR, page 2

Vinnie's site of Riverfest's 2019 Battle of the Bands

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – It's gonna get rowdy in the Santa Fe District Sunday afternoon as Riverfest 2019's Battle of the Bands will determine who gets a paid gig in front of Puddle of Mudd at the summer festival.

The annual family friendly four-day Riverfest 2019 Presented by Frank Millard Company takes place Thursday-Sunday Aug. 1 through Aug. 4 along the Mississippi River in Fort Madison's Riverview Park.

But before the final musical lineup takes the stage one more band needs to be decided and that will happen this Sunday at Vinnie's Longbranch at 2601 Avenue L in



Fort Madison.

Riverfest organizer Charles Craft said the entertainment lineup for the event is top shelf with one band coming from as far away as New Jersey to try to earn a

shot at opening for national rockers Puddle of Mudd.

"The quality of rock bands were bringing in this year is, quite honestly, amazing. This is a free event and there'll be eight bands vying for a paid opening gig in front of Puddle of Mudd Thursday night," Craft said.

"There will also be some local food vendors here and there will be some great giveaways and drink specials all afternoon."

The rundown for the Battle of the Bands looks like this:

2PM – The Zealots (Bettendorf)

3PM – Youth Gone Wild (Waterloo)

4PM – Section Hate (Oskaloosa)

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Obituaries/Local News

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
 5/20/19 – 1:56 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/ theft in the 3400 block of Ave. E.
 5/20/19 – 4:56 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 200 block of 12th St.
 5/20/19 – 5:04 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2500 block of Ave. O.
 5/20/19 – 8:20 p.m – Dakota Daniel Stevens, 28, of Farmington was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance in the 1400 block of 48th St. He was released on promise to appear.
 5/20/19 – 10:43 p.m – Carl Allain Peterson, 36, of Fort Madison was arrested on warrants for parole violation and failure to register sex offender, in the 4500 block of Avenue O. He was taken to

Lee County Jail and held.
 5/20/19 – 11:39 p.m – Johnette Sue Williams, 41, of Fort Madison was arrested on warrants for unauthorized use of credit card, and theft 5th in the 4500 block of Ave. O. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 5/20/19 – 11:46 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 400 block of 22nd St.
 5/21/19 – 4:56 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 15th St. and Ave. L.

Lee County Sheriff's Report
 5/20/19 – 10:23 a.m – William Francis Rankin, 40, of Argyle was arrested on a warrant of burglary in the third degree in the 2800 block of 170th Ave. in Argyle. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 5/20/19 – 12:19 p.m – Kory

Matthew Postle, 31, of Montrose was arrested on three counts of possession of controlled substance and one count of possession of drug paraphernalia at the intersection of 235th St. and 240th Ave. in Donnellson. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 5/20/19 – 2:34 p.m – Edward Lamar Wagner, 63, of Donnellson was arrested on a charge of driving while license revoked at the intersection of Burlington St. and Lynn St. in Donnellson. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released the same day on promise to appear.
 5/20/19 – 4:22 p.m – Aaron Kyle Richardson, 42, of Chicago, Ill. was arrested on a warrant for domestic abuse assault – second offense in the 700 block of Ave. F. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD W. WARNEKE

Richard W. Warneke, 84 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died at 1:45 am Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at Sunnybrook, Fort Madison. He was born July 10, 1934 at Simmons City, in Live Oak County, Texas, a son of Milton and Angela (Valentine) Warneke.



WARNEKE

On September 5, 1957, he married Twalla Lane at Colony, Missouri. Richard served in the U.S. Army from 1952 to 1958. He was employed by Acme Sand and Gravel and Thatcher Glass in Muscatine, Iowa. He also worked for First Mississippi Corp. in Fort Madison, Iowa and Chevron in Rock Springs, Wyoming. He retired in 1996. He was a member of the Joy Baptist Church, Fort Madison. Richard's favorite pastime was to go hunting and fishing while he was able.



He is survived by his wife, Twalla, of Fort Madison; three sons: Robert (Ruby) Warneke, of Keokuk, Iowa; Russell (Valerie) Warneke, of Argyle, Iowa; Kenneth (Roberta) Warneke, of Mapleton, Minnesota; two brothers: William Churchill, of Belton, Texas; Jim (Ruby) Churchill, of Kingsville, Texas; one sister, Wanda Leudecke, of Corsicana, Texas; eight grandchildren; ten great grandchildren and several nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles in Texas. Richard and Twalla had five foster girls and one foster boy in their home and enjoyed them very much. He was preceded in death by his parents, step-father, one sister and one grandson.

Family will greet friends from 1:00 – 2:00 pm Friday, May 24, 2019 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Funeral Services will follow and begin at 2:00 pm Friday, May 24, 2019 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison, with Rev. Earl Beal officiating. Burial will be at the Charleston Cemetery, Charleston, Iowa with full military rites. A memorial has been established for Great River Hospice, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Online condolences to the Warneke Family may be made from the Barr Memorial Chapel, www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

Hoyer graduates Magna Cum Laude at BC

CHESTNUT HILL, Mass. (5-20-19) – Caroline “Carly” Hoyer, daughter of Gary & Lynn Hoyer of Fort Madison, Iowa, was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Lynch School of Education with a double major in Elementary Education and also in Math & Computer Science, together with a minor in Special Needs Education at the 143rd Commencement of Boston College on Monday, May 20.

Carly is a graduate of Notre Dame High School in Burlington, Iowa. At Boston College, she was recognized with Magna Cum Laude honors for academic accomplishment. Carly was recently inducted into the Society for Collegiate Leadership & Achievement.

The 2019 Commencement speaker was Isabel Capeloa Gil, a passionate leader in international Catholic higher education who believes global engagement can advance stronger values for a more equitable world.

During her collegiate education at Boston College, Carly completed her student teaching and pre-practicum studies at Saint Columbkille Partnership School in Brighton, MA, as well as working as a substitute teacher during her senior year of studies.

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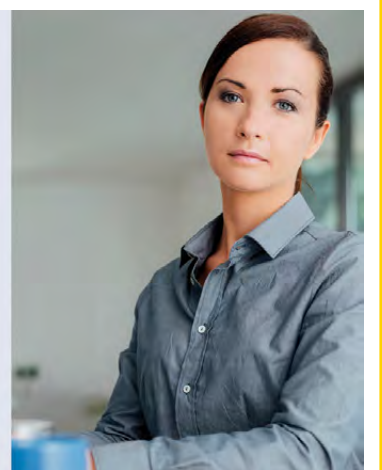
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For the Record/Lottery Numbers

Supervisors want more information on projects

SOLAR - Continued from Page 1

15-year Power Purchase Agreement. Mohrfeld would also warranty the new equipment. Through Precision, the bills would be paid back to an investment group Econergy out of Washington D.C.

The proposal would put solar panels on top of Keokuk's Department of Human Services building, the North Lee County Office Building and a battery of panels at the Lee County Conservation Building.

Mohrfeld's plan would include a set at the LCCD that could rotate on a pedestal to capture more sun, Precision's would be a fixed bank at that location.

"Ours would be a tracking system, that I'm not going to lie, is going to have curb appeal. It's more efficient but it has slower return. It doesn't perform like a fixed mount system does," Mohrfeld said.

Precision's Brian Fleming said the fixed mount would be cheaper just because it doesn't have as many moving parts.

Supervisors Ron Fedler and Rick Larkin said the work should stay in the county because Mohrfeld has a proven track record and Mohrfeld brought the idea to the county.

"Mohrfeld took the initiative to come out here and took the initiative to make the original presentation and everything. And it was only after everyone else read it in the papers that they decided they wanted to put a bid in. At least that's what I've been told," Larkin said.

"The longer we let this go the more and more and more companies are gonna want to make presentations. I think it's time we make a decision and I think we should put this on the agenda for next week."

Precision's proposal also included solar panels on the jail, but Mohrfeld said their math was wrong and the building's rating couldn't be dropped enough considering the amount of electricity being consumed. Precision said the system would have to include LED lighting which would reduce the demand to 20,000 units per month, but Mohrfeld said the math was not right and they had to stay below 20,000 units per month for 12 months of the year.

"There's no way you're going to cut this building usage in half," Mohrfeld said. "There's no way your going to make enough sun in December to pull this building out of demand. I'm sorry, but you're math is way off."

Lee County Attorney Ross Braden said because there is no out of pocket expense to the county, the project doesn't fall under the county's bid codes and the firm could be chosen by the board on the merits without bidding concerns.

In other action, the board:

- approved selling two parcels of land in Argyle to Alwater Farms for a combined \$21,100.
- approved adding Ray Essex as a county medical investigator
- approved hiring two seasonal employees for the Lee County Conservation District.

Reynolds inks forestry hauling bill

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Gov. Kim Reynolds signed legislation Monday that will allow forestry haulers to exceed weight limits on state and county roads when hauling logs and other forestry products.

Counties and their respective engineers have opposed Senate File 629 in many different forms as it exceeds bridge weight limits and could pose safety risks and cause extended financial burdens on county budgets.

Lee County Engineer Ben Hull said he hadn't heard the bill had been signed by the governor, but said he was disappointed in the new law.

"I guess I would say I'm disappointed but this is an improvement over previous versions. Our lobbying made a difference in that the bill she signed has a provision in it for statewide permitting that will at least allow for a check of the safety of local bridges," Hull said Monday.

"But it's very vague in how it will work. I think it requires them to consult with us, but doesn't give us any say in how it will be implemented."

Hull said that language focuses solely on the bridges, but he said the bill will take a heavy toll on county and state roads throughout the state.

"This is another unfunded mandate in that our infrastructure has to now support heavier loads with no compensation to shore up our roads and bridges."

Hull said the bill was a special interest bill for the logging industry, but he said next year he wouldn't be surprised if other industries, such as construction, see the state classifying loads of logs as "indivisible" and request their own weight limit extensions.

"Next year all these other industries would be looking for similar allowances," Hull said.

Lee County Supervisor Chair Gary Folluo said he doesn't see a lot of forestry and logging trucks on county roads, but he's more concerned of the opening of the restrictions, as Hull had eluded to.

"I think it's a shoe horn into other areas," Folluo said. "How do they deny that, if they already done this. Once you approve it for one person, they're all going to come to the table. This poses a serious problem for county infrastructure."

Hull also the bill also will hit some counties in the pocket book as the fee structure changes from a \$400 annual county permit to a \$175 statewide permit.

"It's taking money away from us in the same swoop," he said.

"If a logging truck wanted to get a permit from us for an annual overweight permit we would get \$400 annually. This reduces that to \$175 for a statewide permit. They said the counties will get some cut of that, but are they going to divide it among all 99 counties? We used to get \$400 for that and now we'll get some fraction of a \$175.

The bill allows the forestry industry to exceed the limit because the state reclassified their loads at indivisible, or they can't be broken down, so they are granted heavier weight allowances.



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| Pick 3 - Midday | Daily | Noon | 12:20 pm |
| Pick 3 - Evening | Daily | 9:40 pm | 10:00 pm |
| Pick 4 - Midday | Daily | Noon | 12:20 pm |
| Pick 4 - Evening | Daily | 9:40 pm | 10:00 pm |

5/22
12 16 31 43 46
Lucky Ball: 15

5/22 MID-DAY
3 2 9
5/22 EVENING
1 7 2

5/22 MID-DAY
9 4 3 9
5/22 EVENING
3 4 5 1

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Sports/Weather

Bloodhounds show spunk in twinbill with BHS

BY ETHAN LILLARD
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – It took Fort Madison’s baseball team seven games last season to score 16 runs.

Monday night during the Bloodhounds’ season-opening double header against Burlington at Fort Madison High School, the Hounds scored a combined 17 runs over the course of nearly two games.

Fort Madison dropped the first game of the double header 11-7 to the Grayhounds, before rebounding and owning a 10-2 lead heading into the sixth inning in game two.

Mother Nature wouldn’t allow the full seven innings to be played in the second contest with the rain putting the game on hold. Depending on both team’s schedules, the game may or may not be finished with the two innings extra needed to be played.

“We’ll see if we can find a makeup date and if we can’t, we’ll just call it a final,” Fort Madison Head Coach Ron Walker said. “The state wants us to play a full seven if we can.”

The Bloodhounds didn’t get the start they had hoped for in game No. 1, as they trailed Burlington 9-0 heading into the bottom of the fourth inning.

Fort Madison used a bit of small ball to its advantage in the home half of the fourth. Jace Burgher started the inning getting hit by a pitch from Mason Fort. Landes Williams followed by grounding into a fielder’s choice, as Fort collected the come-backer to the pitcher and flipped the ball to second for the force out.

With Williams on first, Tate Johnson found a soft spot in the Burlington outfield for a single, moving Williams to third in the process. Senior Dayne Cordray went down on strikes, before Williams came in to score from third on a wild pitch during Jason Thurman’s at bat.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS’s Garrett Hannum slides back into first on a pick-off attempt Tuesday night by Burlington High School’s Matt Fort. Hannum was safe on the play but the Hounds dropped the opener of a twinbill 11-7. The second game was called in the sixth due to rain with FMHS up 10-2.

bat.

Thurman went on to walk before Jordyn Gerdes struck out looking to end the fourth.

The Bloodhounds shut down Burlington to start the fifth before the bats came alive. Junior Reed Fehseke reached on an error by the Grayhound second baseman before Brandon Reichelt followed with a single. Vasin Thurman then walked to load the bases with no outs.

Burgher wasted no time the next at bat, sending the first pitch to left field for an RBI single. Williams collected another double after, but Reichelt was pegged at

the plate on a stellar throw from the centerfield for the force out.

Johnson popped one up on the infield on a 2-1 count for the second out of the inning with the bases still loaded. With the top of the lineup coming back to the plate, Cordray hit a hard line drive to left field for a bases clearing double, bringing Fort Madison to within 9-5.

The boost in moral was short lived however, as Burlington strung together a double and a single to start the sixth, advancing the lead to 10-5. The Bloodhounds collected back-to-back outs before an error allowed a second run to score, putting the Grayhound lead at 11-5.

Gerdes responded for Fort Madison in the bottom of the sixth, starting the home half of the inning off with a double. Fehseke followed with a single, putting runners on the corners for the Hounds with no outs. The next two batters went down on strikes before Burgher regrouped the offense with a single, bringing in Gerdes for the final run of the game.

Gerdes stroked a single in the bottom of the seventh
See **HOUNDS**, page 5

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CAUTION


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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

WED 22 May  Light Rain
High– 73.4° F | Low – 63.3° F


THU 23 May  Light Rain
High– 75.6° F | Low – 66.7° F

FRI 24 May  Light Rain
High– 80.6° F | Low – 70.2° F

SAT 25 May  Heavy Rain
High– 79.3° F | Low – 71.3 F

SUN 26 May  Moderate Rain
High– 80.6° F | Low – 65.5° F

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The Pen City Current will not be publishing an e-Edition on Monday, May 27th or Tuesday, May 28th in observation of Memorial Day. We will resume publication on Wednesday, May 29th.

We remember and celebrate all those who fought for our freedom on this day.

Please celebrate safely and responsibly. We care about all of you.

– The Pen City Current Family



Sports

Night cap called in sixth with Hounds up 10-2

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 4

for the lone hit between the two teams in the inning, as Burlington went on to win by the final of 11-7.

Gerdes was saddled with the loss for the Bloodhounds, tossing 3 2/3 innings on 76 pitches. Gerdes struck out three and allowed seven hits for nine earned runs.

Bloodhound pitcher Jordyn Gerdes looks for the ball after getting hit in the leg on a come-backer as a Grayhound runner races to 1st base in the Hounds 11-7 loss in the first game of a Monday night doubleheader to open the season. Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

"You've got to tip your hat to Burlington, they put some balls in play," Walker said. "They hit some line drives down the hole, that's just part of the game.

"We won the last four innings of the baseball game. That's all we try to do is win one inning at a time, one pitch at a time and pretty soon it's a W. We'll take the positives and we've got a little bit of energy going into this next game."

That energy was in full effect during game two, especially in the bottom of the third inning.

Cordray's pitching was dominate in game two, recording six strikeouts through three innings. The help from the mound allowed Fort Madison to grab a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the second inning. Vasin Thurman started the inning off with a walk. Williams also drew a walk putting runners on first and second for Fehseke.

Fehseke delivered with a single, loading the bases for Johnson. Johnson singled, bringing in Vasin Thurman for the first run of the game. Back-to-back outs on the Hounds ended the second, but Fort Madison now had its first lead in a game on the season.

After Burlington's Jacob Hardy started out the third with a line out, Taylor Bunton brought the heart of the Grayhounds order back to the plate, collecting a double. Drake Parks followed with a single, scoring Bunton and tying the game at one. Burlington strung together a single and a walk, but again Cordray got his team out of the jam with strikeouts, leaving the game knotted at one heading into the bottom of the third.

That's when Fort Madison had its biggest inning of the season and one that will be hard to replicate again.

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On a 1-2 pitch, Gerdes started the inning by sending a home run over the center field fence, putting Fort Madison back in the driver's seat with a 2-1 lead.

"That was big," Walker said. "Jordyn got fooled on a breaking ball for strike one. He stayed in there and battled. He had a nice approach with two strikes and delivered. That's a great at bat, you have to tip your hat to him. That started a big inning for us."

Reichelt followed the Hounds first home run of the season with a walk, before Vasin Thurman went down on strikes.

With Reichelt on first, Burlington pitcher Jacob Zahner walked the next three Bloodhound batters, sending another run across the plate for a 3-1 lead. Zahner regrouped, striking out Johnson with the bases loaded, but fellow pitcher Cordray came to the plate and was hit by a pitch with a full count, bringing another run across for a 4-1 lead.

Zahner's troubles continued past Cordray, as he went on to walk Jason Thurman for a 5-1 Fort Madison lead, before Gerdes came back to the plate with the Hounds having batted all the way around the order

Gerdes didn't replicate his home run from earlier in the inning, but he did hit a single that brought in Fehseke and Cordray, stretching the lead to 7-1. Fort Madison wasn't done there. Reichelt came to the dish with two men on. He started the count with two straight strikes, before sending a moon shot over the center field fence and on top of Fort Madison High School.

Vasin Thurman and Burgher followed the home run with back-to-back singles, but the inning ended with a flyout to center field. Altogether the Bloodhounds collected nine runs in the inning.

"We don't talk about scoring runs, we talk about taking at bats," Walker said. "They took their at bats, saw some pitches and competed and strung it together. We keep stringing together at bats and winning one pitch at

a time, we're gonna put some W's up."

Two groundouts and a pop out put a quick end to Burlington's top of the fourth inning. Outside of Fehseke starting the bottom of the fourth with a double, the inning was uneventful for the Hounds, as the next three batters went down in order.

With the rain starting to intensify, Cordray started the top of the fifth with back-to-back outs. Brock Dengler kept the inning alive for Burlington, hitting a fly ball to right field for a double. Owen Fawcett would have marked the third out of the inning, but an error in center field allowed Fawcett's fly ball to drop and score Dengler to cut the lead to 10-2.

Fort Madison came to the plate in the bottom of the fifth inning, as three straight batters were sat down on strikeouts. At that point, umpires and coach's met near centerfield and decided to call the game off for the night

with the wet conditions and the clock nearing 10 P.M.

"It's good to come out and play some competitive baseball against a good Burlington school," Walker said. "They are going to be joining our conference next year, so that just shows there is another team in the conference we can compete with.

"If the kids take pride and play the game the right way, baseball is a fun game, and they could have a good season."

Gerdes and Reichelt led the way for Fort Madison with three RBIs each. Assuming the game will eventually come to be final, Cordray will pick up the win in his 4 2/3 innings pitched, giving up five hits and just one earned run while striking out seven.

Fort Madison's next game is Wednesday at West Burlington.

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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.
4. Knowledge of Electronic Document Management System (EDMS).
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 relationships 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@leecounty.org

Please send resume to
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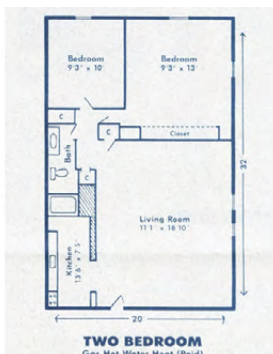
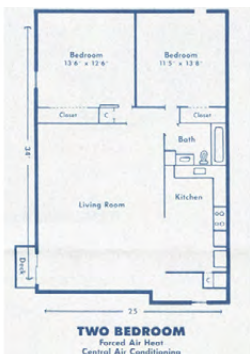
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-Job: Develop, implement, and manage environmental, health, safety and security programs at the facility. Responsible for federal and state regulatory aspects of safety and environmental programs, including compliance with OSHA, EPA and DNR.

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From the Front

Weber would use captain to oversee FMPD in interim

DEAL - Continued from Page 1

The agreement would also offer a small stipend and a backfill payment for the difference in pay between a captain's pay and anyone who has to step up to fill in for Burch.

Varley said the interim period would be a good time for an objective look at the department.

"Now's a good chance to get a few months for somebody on the outside to look in and I think that's good for an organization once in while to have somebody like that come in," Varley said.

"I have a lot of faith they would do a good job."

Supervisor Gary Folluo asked if Varley would consider a 3-month agreement and the re-evaluate to see how the agreement is working.

"That's certainly a fair way to go," Varley said.

Weber said it's been no secret that there's been some struggles in the police department.

"We've asked that they have some detectives and work some heavier, more serious cases and those things haven't been done," Weber said. "Because of that, the county attorney has asked my department to allocate resources to work cases for the city. So quite frankly, we've been doing it anyway."

Weber said he works with the police officers and has a solid working relationship with Fort Madison.

"This isn't about going in there and throwing furniture around. Everyone knows that there needs to be some things done differently and to get them done somebody has to get in there. Hard decisions will have to be made and we'll work together with the staff that's there," he said.

Weber said he would have Burch fill the position and Burch would answer to Chief Deputy Will Conlee or Weber himself.

The agreement specifically says elected officials wouldn't have access to Burch or sheriff's department staff, but any personnel changes would have to be approved by Varley and city attorney Robert Johnson. Any expenditures of more than \$500 would also need city approval.

"I love those guy. There good guys and I work with them, but I don't want to sling mud. They're needing someone to come in and get a time out from how it's running, and what they are looking for, and that time out is us," Weber said.

"I'm not saying we're perfect but we're willing to help." County Attorney Ross Braden expanded on the issues in the department.

"There have been some significant problems that I've seen as far as major cases specifically," he said.

"It's been about a year now that I spoke with Mr. Varley and Mayor (Brad) Randolph about some various specific cases, one at least in which I called in the sheriff to assist. And that turned into a big jurisdictional issue between me and the chief at that time, which was unfortunate to see considering the subject matter of that particular case."

Braden said in dealing with Keokuk there hasn't been the need to involve the sheriff due to the existing command structure and the fact that they have their own investigative division.

"I'm very appreciative of Mr. Varley at this point in time at looking to do what's best for Fort Madison Police Department and to evolve by going to Sheriff Weber," Braden said.

"I think he has the best opportunity to model the ship and look at their existing structure and model that ship after what Stacy runs here at the Sheriff's department."

Bands from east coast hitting up 2019 Riverfest Battle

BATTLE - Continued from Page 1

- 5PM - Living Lucid (Southeast Iowa)
- 6PM - Captives Set Free (Niota, Ill.)
- 7PM - 6 Strings Down (Keokuk)
- 8PM - Anthems For Autumn (New Jersey)
- 9PM - Extinguish the Sun (Dixon, Ill.)
- 10-Midnight - Gut Feeling (Raleigh, North Carolina)

Craft said the band will be chosen by a panel of judges from the musical industry based on a set of predetermined criteria.

"I would think Gut Feeling would probably take a break in the middle of their set and the winning band would be announced," Craft said.

This year's Riverfest 2019 Presented by Frank Millard features some top-notch entertainment again for area music fans. In addition to Puddle of Mudd, other top national headliner acts Sevendust, Shaman's Harvest, Trapt, Saliva, Warrant, Bullet Boys, and others, will entertain fans over the span of the festival.

In addition to the music being performed on the Mohrfeld Electric Main Stage, local and regional bands will be back in the beer tent after the main acts.

Craft said there are still several key sponsorship opportunities available and those interested can contact him via email at charles@riverfestfm.com

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