



Pen City Current

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 206

Sheriff's vehicles armed with new weapons - computers

BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - Lee County Sheriff's deputies received new weapons this month.

But these weapons are aimed at keeping deputies on the streets longer by creating efficiencies in their daily routines. All ten of the county's sheriff's deputies vehicles now have Panasonic ToughBooks installed and at the deputies fingertips.

The new systems, which took about \$75,000 out of Sheriff Stacy Weber's budget over the next three years, were installed last week and now deputies are going through training. Chief Deputy Will Conlee said the systems are game changers for deputies.

"This is basically dispatch in the car," Conlee said Tuesday morning. "This is now seeing vs hearing. Our deputies now have information at their fingertips and can see reports in front of them that, up until now, they've heard from dispatch. It's literally in their cars."

Training is still ongoing with the deputies and Conlee said state software managers are coming down to the department on Thursday to



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lee County Chief Deputy Will Conlee demonstrates a license scan with the department's new on-board computer systems installed recently.

help train on the software and troubleshoot issues with deputies.

Conlee demonstrated how scanners plugged into the computer's port can scan driver's licenses and import information into warning and tickets, that can also be printed from inside the deputies arm rest.

The computers are also hooked up to the car and deputy camera systems and footage can be viewed directly from the terminals. Deputies can send information from the ToughBooks to the Sheriff dispatch as incidents take place. In the past, deputies had to bring all the paperwork into the office and then staff in administration had to manually input

“*This is now seeing vs. hearing. Our deputies now have information at their fingertips and can see reports in front of them that, up until now, they've heard from dispatch.*”

-Will Conlee
Lee County Chief Deputy

the information into the systems.

In the event that the car's wireless connection cannot make a connection, the system automatically searches for signals throughout the day and when it does get reconnected all information is immediately uploaded to the system back in

Montrose, all while the deputies are still on the road.

Conlee said technology is also out there for public safety officials that allows vehicles to connect to whatever signal is available in the area. The new system is also linked

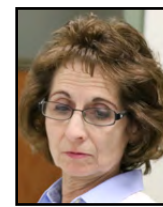
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LCHD's Schilling taking a hike after 34 years

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - After 34 years with the Lee County Health Department, a change is taking place at the top.

Julie Schilling, who's been at the helm of LCHD since the spring of 2004, announced her retirement earlier this summer and now is looking at just a few more weeks before turning the reigns over to Michelle Ross. One of



SCHILLING

Schilling's favorite pastimes is hiking and she said she's looking forward to even more time to pursue those interests after hiking in such visible areas at the Grand Canyon and Yosemite National Park.

Ross has been with the department in different capacities for the past 22 years and said she's ready for the challenge.

Her number one goal is to facilitate health planning and strategies for the people of Lee County. She began with the department's HOPES program, Healthy Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success.

The LCHD is currently wrapping up its Community Health Needs Assessment, which is conducted every three years. The results of that assessment will be discussed on Oct. 4 at a roundtable event in Montrose. Ross said that will be the jump off point for her when it comes to programming for the department and where to look for funding.

"I think it's always a challenge when you have funding issues," Ross said. "We'll look for every avenue we can to bring in additional grant dollars and continue to meet our regulations and be compliant to bill third party payors, and stay viable in the community as a resource for our clients."

She said Schilling has helped usher in an era of public health in Lee County that focuses on keeping populations healthy and providing help specifically where it is needed. Schilling also launched the first hospice service in the county.

"I think in public health your always looking at population health and what we can do to keep our populations healthy here," Ross said. "A lot of our programs are based on population health and what those needs are. When we look to start new programs or expand program we look at that and then try to get the state behind it."

One example of the assessment that generated a new program was the senior produce box, that was initiated

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Area News/Current-Lee

CURRENT-LEE

North Lee County Relay for Life

Please note the date change from Sept. 29 to Sept. 14. The event will begin at 5 p.m. at the Fort Madison High School track and will conclude with closing ceremonies at 10:30 p.m. Visit the Relay Facebook page here at <https://www.facebook.com/RelayforLifeofNorthLeeCounty/?ref=bookmarks>

Fort Madison Depot Farmer's Market

Every Monday local vendors have farmer's market options available at the Old Santa Fe Depot on the Riverfront in Fort Madison. The farmer's market runs every Monday until Oct. 8 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the parking lot west of the depot.

Veteran's Breakfast at Sunnybrook

Each month on the third Tuesday of the month, Sunnybrook Assisted Living hosts a Veteran's Breakfast from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at 5025 River Valley Road in Fort Madison.

Chamber Ladies Golf Outing

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce's Ladies only golf outing will be held Sept. 21 at Sheaffer Golf Course. To register email the chamber at chamber@fort-madison.com

FMHS Marching Band Classic

The Fort Madison High School's annual Marching Band Classic will take place at Richmond Stadium on Sept. 15. Schools from around the area will be in town to compete on their musical and on-field performances. The Fort Madison High School Marching Bloodhounds will also perform an exhibition during the day's events.

Corporate Games

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce Corporate Games will be held Oct. 5. This fun and competitive afternoon pits local manufacturing and industry teams against each other in a battle of wits and skills at the Baxter Sports Complex.

FM Partners Ghost Hunt

The Fort Madison Partners are sponsoring a Ghost Hunt on Oct. 26-27 with Iowa Paranormal conducting investigations at some of the most haunted homes west of the Mississippi. For more information or tickets contact the Partners office at 319-372-5471.

Montrose man nabbed on meth charge

BY PCC STAFF

MONTROSE - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Montrose, Iowa man on a felony drug charge.

Jason Hartman, 38, of Montrose, Iowa was arrested on Sept. 11th, 2018 on a felony drug charge. Hartman is charged with delivery of less than five grams of methamphetamine, a class C felony. If convicted, Hartman faces up to 10 years in a state correctional facility.

The arrest of Hartman stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcot-

ics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the distribution of illegal drugs in the Lee County area.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, Keokuk Police Department, Montrose Police Department, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office, assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.



HARTMAN

United Way chicken dinner fundraiser postponed

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY - The United Way of the Great River Region Fried Chicken Dinner fundraiser, scheduled for Sunday, September 16th at Charleston Board of Trade, has been postponed indefinitely.

For those who pre-purchased tickets, please contact the United Way Board member the ticket was purchased from in order to return the ticket and receive a refund. To those who pre-purchased tickets, the United Way

greatly appreciates all of your support.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health, education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Han-

cock, and Lee Counties.

For more information, please contact United Way of the Great River Region Executive Director, Karen Thie, at 319-524-4504, 511 Blondeau Street, PO Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632, or email director@unitedwaygrr.org.

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SAT 15 Sep Clear Skies
 High - 84.5° F | Low - 62.2° F

SUN 16 Sep Light Rain
 High - 86.8° F | Low - 76.2° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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Hounds win seventh straight with sweep of Keokuk

Keokuk holds several leads but can't get past 11-4 Hounds

**BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG**
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Despite what looks on paper to be an easy win for the FMHS volleyball team, the Hounds ran into several slumps in fighting off Keokuk at home Tuesday night.

The Bloodhounds won 25-10, 25-19, 25-13 in straight sets but trailed in the 2nd and 3rd sets multiple times before rallying at different times to put the match away.

The Bloodhounds may have settled into coast mode starting the first set 15-0 on the serving of Olivia Williams. The Chiefs didn't get a sideout in the set until junior Jillian Wiseman's attack went long at 15-1 Hounds.

After the teams traded a couple points, senior Josie Pumphrey put together three straight aces to go with a couple of Chiefs'

errors to give the Hounds a 21-3 lead, but the Chiefs put on a mini run to put off the second set. The Chiefs' Gracie Koeber served five straight with the Chiefs getting kills from Cassidy Koeber to cut into the lead 21-8. The Hound had three errors in the run before Braxtyn McGhghy got a kill to end the run at 22-9. Senior Olivia Williams had a kill on the next service from Keokuk and two Chiefs' errors wrapped up the game.

The second game was close most of the way with Keokuk getting its first lead of the night at 3-4. They would push that lead to 3-6 on an ace by Gracie Koeber, but senior Kaeli Hutson scored a kill at 4-6 and then went to the service line and scored a couple on a Chiefs' net error and a kill by senior Jassmine Bass to knot it at 6-all. The Hounds gave up the lead again on a error

on Hutson's third serve.

With both teams scoring on defensive errors and rarely getting an offensive set going, the Hounds found themselves down 8-12. Keokuk was then penalized two points for an alleged improper rotation of the libero in to serve. Head Coach Randy Loges protested for about 15 minutes and received three yellow cards from officials before play resumed. Loges complained to officials that it was a scorekeeping error, but the score was reset to 8-9, but then one point was added back to make it 8-10.

The delay seemed to reset the Hounds, as well, as they went on a 7-2 run with three kills from Wiseman. A serve into the net by Williams ended the run with the Hounds up 15-12. Two FMHS errors brought the game back to within one at 15-14 and the Chiefs would tie it up with an attack error by Wiseman at 16-all.

Keokuk would get just two more points on errors by the Hounds before

moving to game three.

The Hounds would take control with the set tied at 3 apiece when sophomore Lauren Bailey served six straight with assists from Hutson, who had three kills in the run, to give the Bloodhounds at 7-3 lead. A net error gave Keokuk a sideout. Pumphrey served the Hounds to a 10-5 lead, but the Chiefs would hang around for a while scoring three straight off attack errors until Bass got off a kill at 11-7.

The Chiefs would score only one more point off their own serve in the match as Fort Madison ran out to a 21-12 lead with a couple kills from Wiseman before putting the set away 25-13.

Head Coach Kent Bailey said the girls lacked the crispness they will need to move through the season. The Hounds haven't dropped a set since a 2-1 win over Quincy back on Sept. 1 and have won seven matches in a row since that tournament.

"It was a combination of things tonight," Bailey said

after the game. "Our passing wasn't great tonight, it wasn't crisp. Our sets weren't where they needed to be consistently and our hitters were just a little off, so it was a combination of those things."

He said the Chiefs really didn't throw anything different at the Bloodhounds, but it was mental mistakes on their own side of the ball that made the match tough at times.

"I think the bigger thing was on our side of the net. We didn't pass well, meaning we took a lot of balls and hit them to the middle on their side, which made them easier to pass and then they got into the system and hit it back at us at a wide open floor. Give them credit, they did a great job of that tonight."

Bailey said the Hounds need to elevate their game and not take games off with big leads or assume a win is at hand.

"I spend time nervous about every game and I think the kids look at some of these and think, 'we'll win this and we can

take this off a little bit," he said. "We've got to understand every game we've gotta bring it."

FMHS is now 11-4 on the year and is off until Monday's Holy Trinity Classic, which could set the Hounds on a collision course with Class 1A 4th ranked Holy Trinity.

"It'll be crazy over there. Our side has Mt. Pleasant, Wapello, and Central Lee and the top two out of the pool go to the championship bracket.

"I'm hoping to run into them in the championship, but we've got to take care of things on our side to get there," Bailey said.

Williams led the Hounds from the line going 21-24 with two aces. Pumphrey went 13-15 with six aces. Wiseman was 22-24 hitting with 14 kills, and Hutson was 24-27 with 10 kills. Bailey had 26 assists to lead the Hounds and Pumphrey had 16 digs from the back row in the win.

9th grade won 25-9, 25-6 and the junior varsity won 25-11, 25-16.

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9:30 PM	Pizza Party
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AGENTS OF HOPE

RELAY FOR LIFE

From the Front

Schilling reception planned for Sept. 25th

RETIRING - Continued from Page 1

a year ago where seven locations in the county are drop areas for fresh produce.

"That was born out of the countywide assessment. Those plans identified seniors in rural areas that have limited access to healthy foods, Ross said.

She said she sees her role as looking at the different health needs and expanding and addressing those issues while continuing to provide services on a public and private basis that are in need in the county including the ever-competitive hospice programs.

"We were the first hospice program in Lee County to offer services and we have an excellent reputation with our programs," Ross said. "We hope to keep that reputation when she steps down and continue to provide quality hospice and home care services."

Schilling last day will be Sept. 30. and looking back she said the department has come along way to providing public

health services to county residents throughout their lifespan.

She said one of the focuses in Lee County has been with maternal health and focusing on in-home care with new mothers who have limited resources, including mental health, dental and vision for those families.

"I saw it home visits right away when I started that we needed to address those problems," Schilling said. "We have a sliding fee scale for that and I think there are still a lot of needs here in Lee County due to the poverty rate. We have some very young families who have a lot of needs. That's why there were additional dollars allocated. The federal government realized it so there was advocates there, and Iowa was really proactive in being one of several states to get money to expand that program, because they were seeing families who needed that help."

Schilling said the



Lee County Health Department Administrator Julie Schilling talks with visitors at the LCHD fall open house at the former ISP John Bennett Unit. Schilling will be retiring on Sept. 30.

department now stands as model with the Iowa Department of Public Health because of the programs they've been able to be successful with in areas with low income and provide services.

"I think the state does look at us as a model because we are one of several counties that could do multiple services and we have a board of health that is very active when we have the opportunity to expand."

Schilling said she doesn't think she'll have an issue with transitioning from the demanding role as ad-

ministrator of the department to a retiree.

"I don't think there's going to be a problem with finding something to do with the time," she said.

She said with her skills and knowledge of public health, doing some volunteer work would be rewarding, but maybe getting in some more hiking could be in order.

A public reception is being held on Tuesday, Sept. 25 at the Lee County Health Department in the former John Bennett Unit from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. to celebrate Schilling's retirement.

New tech shrinks deputies paperwork time

COMPUTERS - Continued from Page 1

to mapping systems, which has multiple benefits including where other deputies and troopers in the area are located for strategic purposes. It allows BOLOS or 'Be On the Look Outs' to be sent via messages to the vehicles so deputies always have that information at hand in visual form.

Tickets and accident reports can be issued directly from the printers in the vehicles, which Conlee said is one of the big wins.

He said once all the deputies are fully trained it will take a 10-12 minute citation time down to about four minutes. Sheriff Stacy Weber said the real value in the terminals probably hasn't been determined yet.

"Ask me that again in a couple months," Weber said. "This is all so new. We know what it's capabilities are but we want the deputies to have time to get used to them and then we're really be able to see the true value of these."

The cost of the computers was wedged into the sheriff's department budget for this fiscal year and in March Conlee had the vendor selected and in front of the supervisors. Supervisors requested the sheriff's department put together a bid package for the work and then in June the contract was awarded to Keltek Inc. of Baxter, Iowa.

The terminals are heavy-duty construction for the terrain deputy cruisers may encounter and are fully functional at temperatures as low as -48. The county will carry a three-year lease on the equipment with an option to buy at the end of the lease agreement.

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