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Urrent

Thursday, May 4, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 114

# Lee County Sheriff off to busy start

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - With just 150 days under his belt, at least four accidental deaths, and a homicide, Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber says the whole county, figuratively and literally, needs to just slow down.

In a conversation following Monday's regular Lee County Board of Supervisors meeting, Weber talked about what being sheriff has been like since his election in November.

'I think the one thing that I'm most proud of, and this isn't meant to be selfish sentiment, but I'm really proud of the morale of this department."

Weber can usually be seen in a freshly pressed uniform, carrying a cold can of Coke, and always offers a firm handshake, a smile, and a business card emblazoned with his campaign slogan.

"

Even if it hurts the case, we're gonna be honest first and foremost. We're gonna treat everyone with respect whether it's a traffic stop or a more serious crime."

-Stacy Weber Lee County Sheriff

"Honest, Respectful Protection".

Weber said his first day in office set the tone. He was upset at his swearing in because one of his mentors, Buck Jones, didn't make the swearing in because Weber had given him the wrong location.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber speaks to the media following an incident in the Des Moines River south of Keokuk earlier this year. Weber's first 5 months on the job have been filled with programming aimed at keeping Lee County residents safer.

"That was a big deal to me. I wanted him there when that happened."

Weber then said he scheduled a staff meeting and talked about his approach to the public and law enforcement. He said he told them he wanted a reputation of honesty and respect.

"Even if it hurts the case, we're gonna be honest first and foremost," he said. "We're gonna treat everyone with respect whether it's a traffic stop or a more serious crime."

But the meeting was cut a little short by a two-car head on collision on Hwy 2. And he was off and running. "I didn't even have a coat

**SPOTLIGHT** 

Wentzien's growth yields opportunities

yet, Weber said. "I didn't even have a uniform that fit."

But as the day would go, the coat would be more important. Later in the evening, Weber and other Lee County Sheriff's deputies were called to the Montrose riverfront where two local fisherman fell into an icy river after their boat capsized. Again, day one.

"I came home that night and never felt more helpless. We couldn't do more than we wanted because we would have risked other lives on a very dangerous river."

Both men were recovered later in the spring, both accidental drowning victims.

In the weeks to come, a body would be discovered in Indian Path Park just south of the Des Moines/ Lee County Line on Hwy 61, a confirmed homicide. In April, a vehicle

See WEBER, page 4

## Google phishing scam hits locally

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - It started locally with an email from FMHS principal

ticate Google Doc emails.

"There is a phishing email going around. Do NOT authenticate third party apps to access your Google drive and offline contacts.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

Greg Smith, but it turned out to be a worldwide phishing scam.

Fort Madison School District sent an out an announcement regarding an email attack originating from school administration and teacher accounts.

At the same time, Google was issuing a statement regarding the phishing scam and said they were looking into the matter.

According to the school's information technology Director Sebastian Seifert instructed locals to not authenYou must change your password and revoke rights to third party apps if you have authenticated the most recent phishing attack.

To revoke third party access please visit this site: <u>https://myaccount.goo-gle.com/permissions</u>.

If you opened the email and tried to access the Google doc you need to change your password ASAP. You should also consider signing up for

See SCAM, page 3



CEDAR RAPIDS - Just over three years ago Miles Wentzien was playing in a substate game in Muscatine and had the ball with six seconds left and his team down by two points in overtime.

The All-State Bloodhound took an inbound pass at the opposite end of the court and worked his way through a melee of red-jersied boys from Williamsburg, and pushed his way to the corner of the right free throw line. Everyone in the building, including the nine others on the court, were convinced Wentzien would find a shot. So much so, the senior was mobbed at that point. He could have forced a shot, and may have gotten the foul call, but he looked for a team-

#### mate.

He found Camden Chrisman who had an open-look, but the shot was partially deflected and the Hounds

See **WENTZIEN**, page 2

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#### **Sports**

## Wentzien considering Div. I American University

#### WENTZIEN - Continued from Page 1

#### were done.

But it was the mindset of a senior who knew there was a chance he may get a call, but had the maturity to realize someone else may have a better shot. A very unselfish play that set a tone for a man now playing his favorite game and moving to the next level.

The sophomore from Kirkwood College in Cedar Rapids, an NJCAA Div. II school, has entertained offers from more than 20 NCAA schools over the past six months. He said he's narrowed his choices to one D-I school and a couple of D-II schools carrying with him two more years of eligibility.

"I really don't know what's next for me," Wentzien said. "Right now I have one D-I offer from American and two D-II offers at Winona State and Minnesota State-Moorhead. They just seem to be the right fit for me. I get along with the coaches and what the campuses have to offer. I just haven't made up my mind yet. I don't know much about Moorhead. I'm heading up there this weekend to take a look at that campus."

After leading the Bloodhounds, the Fort Madison native was named to the Des Moines Register Class 3A 2nd team All-State and quickly signed with Missouri Western. Wentzien said he wasn't ready for the college game and didn't heed the advice of those around him.

"I think, out of high school, I wasn't ready for the college game," he said Wednesday. "Everyone said there was a huge difference in the college game and I didn't understand that difference. After playing a few more years, I'm more comfortable. Missouri Western wasn't the best fit for me and it wasn't the best place to spend all four years."

So Wentzien said goodbye to Saint Joseph, Mo., and headed back to Iowa where he found coach Taylor Blum and a comfortable program that has helped him find how his skills can be honed, while developing a bigger sense of team. A feat not lost on a high school kid who dished off to teammate with the game on the line, when more than 2,000 people thought he was going to take the shot.

With Kirkwood, Wentzien said he found a coach and a team that worked... as well as success, as the 6'3"guard was named 1st Team All-Region and 1st Team All-American for the past season. The Eagles made a run at the NJCAA Div. II title losing to eventual tournament champion Southwestern (IA) in the region finals. Wentzien finished the season averaging close to 15 points per game, shooting 49% from the field including 35% from the 3-point arc and a spicy 90.2% from the free throw line, good enough for 4th overall in the nation at that level, according to the NJCAA website.

"I've had a lot of people help me get where I'm at as far as basketball on the court. Coach Taylor Blum always had time for me with rebounding... putting me through drills. I've just had lots of good advice and opportunities from people to get to Kirkwood and have this kind of success."

He said it's always great to see locals from Fort Madison come to Kirkwood and watch him play.

"That's awesome and I really appreciate the support. Fort Madison has always given me a lot of love."

His growth as a player and finding a place where he's more focused on his goals has been a labor of personal drive, introspection, and determination. The 1st semester Academic All-American says it required admitting to his weaknesses and seeing how his mindset to that



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Miles Wentzien, 1st Team All-American at NJCAA Div. II, led the Kirkwood Eagles to a regional final in 2016 where they lost to eventual champion Southwestern (IA). The FMHS grad is looking at several options for his final two years of eligibility.

development has brought about more confidence in his game.

"I think I've just critiqued everything I was ok at in high school and I'm better at now," he said. "And now a more overall mindset of what the team needs...when to score... when to pass and be aggressive and understand the game better and make the right reads. I can certainly still work on those. I'm not perfect by any means."

Wentzien will receive his Associate of Arts in business from Kirkwood at the end of this term. But he said his goal has always been to play in the NBA and/or overseas and it's not something he's ever thought of deviating from.

"No. I have always had a dream to play in the NBA or overseas and that's my goal, but I knew I had to play college and now I'm really enjoying that."

This summer is still up in there for Wentzien who also excelled in baseball and golf while at Fort Madison. He said his plans will be dictated by what school's offer he accepts.

"If I go to American, I will have to be out there in June. There's a league out there with some professionals in it," he said. "The other two schools I could probably come back home and will probably play in the PrimeTime League out of Iowa City."

The league features six teams filled with current Iowa collegiate players and other players from around the state and overseas. Wentzien said the league is more fun than work now. In 2016 he played with former Hawkeye Peter Jok on the LL Pelling/ Comfort Care Medicare team.

"It's more fun for me now. My first two years it helped me prepare for college, but now you get to work on your moves. You can only move against a cone so many times."



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New London Dental Care 319-367-2311

Burlington Family Dentistry 319-752-7993

### **Local News/For the Record**

#### For the Record

#### Fort Madison Police Department report

05/02/17 - 7:20 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2500 block of Avenue H 05/02/17 - 3:56 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue F. 05/02/17 - 4:23 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in

the 1220 block of Avenue D. 05/03/17 - 1:04 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1400 block of Avenue F. 05/02/17 - 9:28 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Melany Mikala Omiatek, 19, in the 5200 block of River Valley Road, on warrants for two counts of forgery, trespassing, assault while displaying a dangerous weapon, and false imprisonment. She was taken to the

Lee County Jail and held.

Lee County Sheriff's Department No activity to report

Fort Madison Fire Department Report 05/02/17 - Fort Madison Fire Department responded to two medical calls. All persons in these listings are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

### Schools, others hit by phishing event

#### SCAM - Continued from Page 1

2-step authentication now.

If you are not sure if you are affected

1. ask someone next to you if they received an email from you

2. change your password just in case"

Sam Boyer from C.U.R.E. Business Solutions said the phishing attack is more wide spread.

"All of our customers are getting it. Anyone who uses Google apps can be the sender, mostly schools because they all use it. Burlington Notre Dame's families got hit hard, but I know people that I sent Google docs too got it as well, its worldwide. Google has not blocked the scam so if people click the link they get it," Boyer said.

The Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com website are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. The Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

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Pen City Current P.O. Box 366

Fort Madison, IA



# ODD HAMILTO



#### **Great River Regional Waste Authority** reminds you to use the 3 R's!



#### Here are some helpful tips:

\*Reduce the amount of waste produced in society

*The best way to manage waste is to not produce it. This can be done by* shopping carefully and being aware of a few guidelines.

- Buy durable goods & products in bulk
- Avoid over-packaged & disposable goods
- Use cloth napkins/towels instead of paper napkins/towels
- Make 2-sided copies whenever possible
- •Maintain central files for multiple individuals
- •Use electronic mail/communications or a central bulletin board



\* Reuse products for the same purpose or for a different purpose It makes economic & environmental sense to reuse products. Sometimes

it takes a creative mind to do so.

- Sell or Donate old clothes, appliances, toys & furniture
- Use resealable containers rather than plastic wrap

• Reuse grocery bags or bring your own cloth bags to the store

\* Recycle/convert common waste into reusable material

*Recycling is a series of steps that takes a used material and processes,* re-manufactures and sells it as a new product. Begin recycling at home and work.

- Recycle all acceptable products at our recycling bins, stations & trailers
  - (see www.grrwa.com for a complete list of locations)
- Check for curbside recycling acceptable items & schedules on your local city websites
- Purchase and use recycled materials for the home & office
- Implement a composting process for your lawn & garden

#### **Household Hazardous Waste**

We accept household hazardous waste and electronic waste at the Fort Madison location. Appointments are encouraged to ensure a proper procedures are in place for disposal. Please call 319-372-6140 to schedule your appointment. For a full list of acceptable items please call or visit us online.



Desmond King autographed lowa Hawkeye jersey





Todd Hamilton autographed photo and flag





autographed basketball



Peter Jok

CJ Beathard autographed photo personal consultation

SCC Basketball autographed jersey

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#### From the front/Classifieds

# K-9 program, work-release early highlights

#### WEBER - Continued from Page 1

was pulled from the Des Moines River south of Keokuk, and two weeks ago a farmer was killed when a vehicle struck the back of his tractor ejecting him from the seat and onto the concrete.

All this within 150 days of taking his position.

As part of his election campaign Weber said he wanted to add a K-9 unit to the department and wanted to get more deputies on the road to pull more criminals off the street.

The jail population is up

an average 15-20 offenders per day with as many as 92 this past weekend, a dilemma that has eaten up the entire food account and has required an amendment to the Lee County budget to infuse funds back into the program. Weber said repeatedly at campaign stops and in debates that he was going to focus on the "two percent that don't want to behave".

His K-9 unit lands in the country this week and heads to Arkansas for 4-weeks of training before heading to Fort Dodge for

4-more weeks of training with his handler. The county response to the addition of the K-9 unit has been sufficient enough to raise the initial funds needed to get the program up and running.

A new work-release program has offenders paying \$10/day to go to work with a bracelet on that tracks their whereabouts. According to Weber, the program is working and the incidents of offenders wandering off the work site has been drastically reduced.

So what's the future look like.

Weber said one of his main focuses is to get people to slow down on county roadways. Weber got a bit emotional when talking about the loss of life in the county just since his election.

"I want to get that one on one connection with people," he said. "I want them to know that it's our job to keep them safe, but we just have to slow down."

He's also focusing on building the reserve department and is currently reviewing interviews with the next group of reserve

candidates.

"They'll be out there in one of these uniforms and they'll be trained to handle issues. I want as many deputies on the street as we can get, and I want to be able to staff our detectives to solve crimes."

But it's his people that he focuses on heaviest. Weber said he insists that the entire department be treated, and conduct themselves, with respect. Be it from offenders and fellow staff.

"It's the image we have with the county that tells me if we're doing our job. We treat our offenders with respect, but they will

respect us, as well. There are few words we don't allow here in our jail, and if they use them, they know there are consequences."

But Weber's the first to say he's not the sharpest pencil in the box and moves credit for the successes of the department to his staff.

"I've surrounded myself with some really intelligent people. Chief Deputy Will Conlee, Craig Burch, and our jail administrator John Canida, are all top-notch professionals. I've yet to see a situation that they couldn't handle on their own."



#### PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM OR CALL (319)371.4125

COUNTY NAME:	NOTIC	E OF F	PUBLIC HEARI	NG	CO NO:	
LEE	AMENDMENT	OF CU	RRENT COUNT	Y BUDGET	56	
The County Board of Supervisors	will conduct a public	hearing	on the proposed	amendment to the	e current	
County budget as follows:						
Meeting Date:	Meeting Time:	Meet	ing Location:	Lee County Corre	ectional Center	
May 16, 2017	9:01 A.M.	2530	255th Street, Mo	ntrose, IA 52639		
At the public hearing any resident proposed amendment. An approv	ed budget amendme	nt is req				
class of expenditures as last certified or last amended. County Telephone No.: 319-372-3705 For Fiscal Year Ending: 6/3						
Iowa Department of Management			Total Budget	Proposed	Total Budget	
Form 653 A-R Sheet 1 of 2 (Publish) (revised 05/01/14)			as Certified	Current	After Current	
			or Last	Amendment	Amendment	
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCIN	IG SOURCES	<u> </u>	Amended			
Taxes Levied on Property		1	10,865,573		10,865,57	
Less: Uncollected Delinquent Tax	es - Levy Year	2	0			
Less: Credits to Taxpayers		3	912,857		912,85	
Net Current Property Taxes		4	9,952,716	0	9,952,71	
Delinquent Property Tax Revenue		5	13,648		13,64	
Penalties, Interest & Costs on Tax		6	115,010		115,01	
Other County Taxes/TIF Tax Reve	enues	7	2,511,722		2,511,72	
Intergovernmental		8	9,618,872	21,514	9,640,38	
Licenses & Permits		9	188,500		188,50	
Charges for Service		10	975,737	67,367	1,043,10	
Use of Money & Property		11	213,452	10,662	224,11	
Miscellaneous		12	1,137,940	100,000	1,237,94	
Subtotal Revenues		13	24,727,597	199,543	24,927,14	
Other Financing Sources:						
General Long-Term Debt Proceed	IS	14				
Operating Transfers In		15	1,722,282		1,722,28	
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Sales		16	100		10	
Total Revenues & Other Sour		17	26,449,979	199,543	26,649,52	
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINA	NCING USES					
Operating:		10		105.050		
Public Safety & Legal Services		18	5,613,715	165,350	5,779,06	
Physical Health & Social Service	S	19	4,992,060		4,992,06	
Mental Health, ID & DD		20	1,390,419		1,390,41	
County Environment & Education	1	21	1,774,146	3,859	1,778,00	
Roads & Transportation		22	5,831,547	300,000	6,131,54	
Government Services to Residen	IS	23	1,388,321	68,000	1,456,32	
Administration		24	2,151,678	25,000	2,176,67	
Nonprogram Current		25	1,005,149	103,514	1,108,66	
Debt Service		26	960,863	(001.07.1	960,86	
Capital Projects		27	769,844	(221,971)	547,87	
Subtotal Expenditures		28	25,877,742	443,752	26,321,49	
Other Financing Uses:			1 -00 000		4 700 55	
Operating Transfers Out		29	1,722,282		1,722,28	
Refunded Debt/Payments to Escr		30	07.000.001	440 755		
Total Expenditures & Other I		31	27,600,024	443,752	28,043,77	
Excess of Revenues & Other So			(4.450.045)	(0.1.1.005)	(4.00.4.6-	
over (under) Expenditures & Otl	ier USes	32	(1,150,045)	(244,209)	(1,394,254	
Beginning Fund Balance - July 1,		33	11,526,883		11,526,88	
Increase (Decrease) in Reserves (	GAAP Budgeting)	34	00 565			
Fund Balance - Nonspendable		35	82,500	/	82,50	
Fund Balance - Restricted		36	7,642,731	(29,000)	7,613,73	
Fund Balance - Committed		37				
Fund Balance - Assigned		38	20,906	(0.15.005)	20,90	
Fund Balance - Unassigned Total Ending Fund Balance - June	00	39	2,630,701	(215,209)	2,415,49	
IOTAL Enging Fund Balance - June	30.	40	10,376,838	(244,209)	10,132,62	

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Explanation of changes:

Additional expenses for Sheriff due to increase in population

Additional Expenses for Auditor/Recorder/Treasurer for scanning software

Additional Expenses for Pipeline inspections

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3684 Argyle Road, Keokuk Listing #20164982 • \$191,500



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1703 Avenue L Listing #20165151 • \$55,900



#### 3BR • 1BA • 2 car garage 1,488 sq. ft. • 16,247 sq. ft. lot

Has been owned by this seller since 1960!!! Large eat-in kitchen with newly tiled floor includes stove, microwave, washer and dryer, main floor laundry (in bedroom), formal dining room with built-in hutch, and spacious living room. The house sits on a HUGE lot and has a nice 2 car garage in back. Home has Gas Heat and central air with maintenance-free siding on house and garage.

1712 Avenue E Listing #20164725 • \$92,000



4BR • 1.50BA 1,706 sq. ft. • 7,250 sq. ft. lot

This spacious home has it all, the character of a turn of the century home; beautiful woodwork, beamed ceilings, window seat, columns, and large covered front porch, yet also includes MANY updates. Call today for your private viewing!

> 3098 County Road 103 Listing #20164991 • \$129,900

A REAL PROPERTY OF THE REAL

4911 Bluff Road Listing #20164861 • \$157,500



3BR • 1.75BA • 2 car garage 1,772 sq. ft. • 0.57 acres

Great family home with LOTS OF NEW! New kitchen, bathroom, windows, most flooring, wrap around deck, ceiling fans, light fixtures, furnace and central air! Beautiful neutral decor and window treatments make this a must see! All this and a 2 car heated garage.

> 1708 Avenue G Listing #20165237 • \$92,500





#### 2BR • 2BA • 3 car garage 1,404 sq. ft. • 1.42 acres

Upgrades, improvements, updates...call it what you like, this home has had MANY in the last 2 plus years. This seller has completely refurbished the hill to the north of the home with new landscaping finishes. This is a must see property!!! It has enough room for your family and then some!!!



#### 3BR • 1BA 1,432 sq. ft. • 5,500 sq. ft. lot

This UPDATED, MOVE-IN READY, CHARMING 3 bedroom home will make an awesome family home!!! This gem has all new windows throughout, exterior doors, deck, plumbing, & NEW roof on house & garage. So come check it out! This is a MUST SEE!!!





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