



The Gold Star

3rd Quarter 2023 Volume 41, No. 3

Official member publication of the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (ISSDA)

Buchanan Co. Sheriff's Office Started EMS Response Program to Fill Rural Ambulance Service Gaps with EMS-Cert. Deputies



Buchanan County Rescue 10's staff (left to right): Deputy Dan Walter (critical care paramedic), Deputy Mitch Franck (Emergency Medical Technician) and Deputy Cory Hartmann (Emergency Medical Technician). See Page 24 for full story.

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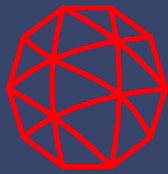
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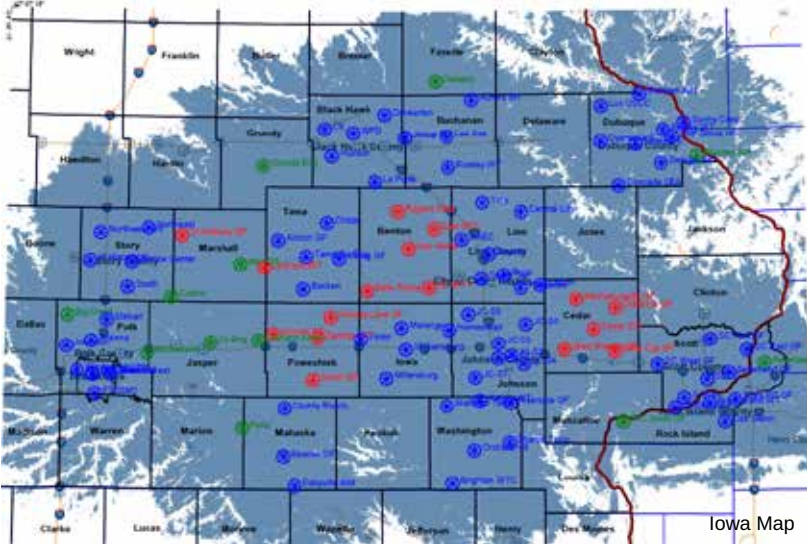


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ISSDA President's Message

We all are the ISSDA; Many Hands Lighten the Load!

I just finished taking a week's vacation working at the Iowa State Fair. While there, I worked the ISSDA booth Sunday morning and had the opportunity to visit the booth at other times. Two weeks before that I had 35,000 of my closest friends join us, once again, at the Knoxville Nationals.

I have an excellent staff that makes what seems like an impossible task: a smooth-running, well-oiled machine balancing public safety and public relations. It takes every area of my Office to pull it off. Every team member must go above and beyond for these ten days in August to keep everyone safe and hold them accountable. Whether it is the heart of our Office – those who are not very often seen – with the Jailers and Dispatchers or the visible Deputies and Reserves working at the track or out on the road, no one area of my Office could do it alone and all of them working together lighten the workload and make us stronger.

That brings me to what I wanted to talk about in this article. **All of you reading this make up the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association.** ISSDA is not only the officers on the Executive Board, or the members of any of our numerous committees, it is each and every one of you!

Our Jails Committee does fabulous work putting together two jail schools every year, but they are also constantly addressing liability risks, best practices, new technology, and many more issues that impact every jail in Iowa. Our Legislative Committee not only introduces new legislation to benefit us, but also fights to defeat introduced legislation that will harm us. The Schools Committee is always looking for presenters who are not only relevant to our jobs, or curriculum that is required by code, but also entertaining and motivational. The members of the Web, Funeral and Honor Guard, Uniform, Accredita-



Sheriff Jason Sandholdt
Marion County Sheriff's Office

tion, Chaplaincy and Membership committees put in far more hours than most people realize representing us in numerous areas and events throughout the State. If you have any interest in joining any of these committees, reach out to a Board member or myself. We are always looking for new members with new ideas and a desire to help!

I am so appreciative of all our members who participate in those committees and the work they do to make our Association the best in the State of Iowa – but here is where my request for the rest of you comes in. Even if you feel you do not have the time to commit to any of the committees above, please help the last committee in ISSDA that I want to talk about: the Public Relations Committee. This Committee is the connection between the public and our association, and every year we put out a request for people to help at ISSDA's State Fair booth for a few hours and it seems like in recent years it has been harder to get our members to work in the booth.

Like I mentioned above, I worked at the Fair this year for six whole days as well as

Sunday morning on the last day. I noticed from stopping by the booth and reviewing our sign-in sheet that there were numerous shifts where no one was in our booth either because people did not sign up, or people who signed up did not show up, or people who did show up left way before their shifts ended. There were even days when multiple shifts in a row were empty. The shifts are at most four hours long. I even volunteered my staff to come up and work to break up those days where we had multiple openings in a row on the same day and I know some counties covered multiple shifts with multiple people on multiple days, but we can't put this all on a few Sheriff's Offices. It was very disheartening seeing no one in our booth as people walked by wanting to talk to someone about ISSDA and what we do as Sheriff's Offices.

This year's State Fair is over, but we can and should fix it for next year. I beg and plead with all of you to please help in our ISSDA Booth next year. Please sign up to work, show up when you sign up and stay for your whole shift. It should not cost you anything other than your time, and if you work your whole shift your name is entered into a drawing for a free TV. I would always rather have too many people signed up than not enough. We have 99 Sheriff's Offices that hopefully can help, and like I mentioned earlier, many hands lighten the load. We are a very strong Association and I know we can fill these shifts. Besides, the Fairgoers love chatting with and seeing members of our Association from all over the State.

Thank you to all of you who did step up this year and thank you all in advance for considering working at next year's Iowa State Fair in your ISSDA Booth! **We all, together, make up the Iowa statewide Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association!**



Hamilton Co. Office Deputy Luanne Paper and Linn Co. Capt. Randy Rowland at the Fair.



Linn Co. Sgt. Shawn Ireland, Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate, and Dallas County Deputy Ray Dirksen at the Iowa State Fair.



Hancock Co. Sheriff Rob Gerdes and Cerro Gordo Co. Lt. Lon Johnson staffing the ISSDA Fair Booth.

What's So Special About "Special Olympics?"

In May, I had the honor of attending the Special Olympics Iowa "Law Enforcement Torch Run" final leg as it converged on Hilton Coliseum in Ames for the opening of the Special Olympics Iowa Summer Games. I couldn't stop smiling.

There was so much excitement, positivity, and encouragement from everyone attending. If you haven't participated in this before, I challenge you to do so. It only costs you your time, and the reward is priceless.

I love their motto: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." I met some athletes with physical and other challenges who have incredible character and strength. I saw smiles, excitement, joy, and people caring for other people.

From the singing of the national anthem to the lighting of the torch, I was humbled and proud to be part of the event. Several of us standing in uniform got to high-five and fist bump the athletes as they entered the arena. These athletes are an inspiration and capable of such amazing things. We can learn a lot from Special Olympics athletes in how to overcome obstacles and challenge ourselves to be our best and "be brave in the attempt."

The Iowa State Sheriffs' & Deputies' Association (ISSDA) is only as strong as the members that belong to it. Without member participation and strong leadership, it would fade into the history books like so many other causes before it. Former Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack is quoted as saying, "People working together in a strong community with a shared goal and a common purpose can make the impossible



Sergeant Shawn Ireland
Linn County Sheriff's Office

possible." ISSDA is the glue that binds all 99 Iowa Sheriffs' Offices into one common organization. From our car markings to our uniforms, from our patches to our badges, together we are stronger, more professional, and capable. Although each sheriff is elected by the people of the county they serve, all sheriffs and their deputies are recognized throughout the state by their uniform appearance.

I am honored to serve on the board of directors for ISSDA. I encourage each member to participate in ISSDA any way they can. Check out the ISSDA website for ways to engage. View the list of committees that you can participate in, respond to forum posts, and share your knowledge and experience with others. Attend one of the conferences or trainings provided, or man a four-hour shift at the Iowa State Fair booth. Subscribe to the weekly e-newsletter for announcements on other ways to en-

gage and be active. This is your association and is only as strong as your participation.

If I have learned one thing this year from ISSDA President Jason Sandholdt, it is the importance of building relationships, connecting with strangers, and bringing people together. I'm like most cops; I would rather be on an island (with my wife of course) in the middle of nowhere with no people around. I don't need people to be happy. In fact, I'm usually happier these days without being around crowds of people. However, this world does not get better by living in isolation. If we want the world to change, we must be the change and begin by changing our world, taking care of our family, our friends, and people we see every day. We all need encouragement.

I went to the Special Olympics opening ceremonies to encourage the athletes, but they encouraged me instead. Are you feeling like you need a little encouragement? Find someone to be a blessing to today. Be nice. It's the gift that keeps on giving.

I want to encourage you to stay positive in this negative world. We desperately need good men and women of courage and bravery to carry out the duties of the Office of Sheriff. Connect with a stranger today and be an encouragement to them. This summer I worked at the Linn County Fair and the Cedar Rapids Downtown Farmer's Market. Many kind citizens came up and thanked me for my service. Just a handshake, a kind word, and a smile encourages me to keep going and continue to wear the uniform.

Iowa is a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Let's help keep it that way.



Special Olympics Iowa "Law Enforcement Torch Run" Opening Ceremonies in May.



Linn Co. Sgt. Steve Erceg and Lt. Deric Oshel helped staff ISSDA's 2023 State Fair Booth.



Iowa v. Nebraska game with Kid Captain Dylan McGivern in Iowa student section.

Linn Co. Communications Operator Brenda Munier and Deputy/ Paramedic Tythe VanWeelden Earn Life Saving Awards

On May 11, 2023, at 5:28 p.m., Linn County Communications Operator Brenda Munier answered a 9-1-1 call asking for assistance from a 67-year-old man who was bleeding severely from a wound on his foot. The man advised that he had several similar instances of this in the past. He reported a cloth he had on the wound was covered in blood, with a lot of blood running down his leg. He continued that the wound was, "bleeding like crazy, spurting like crazy."

Communications Operator Munier began the Emergency Medical Dispatch protocols and had the patient cover the wound with a clean dry towel and directed him to apply firm, direct pressure to the wound site, while also dispatching first responders to the scene. After a minute of direct pressure, the caller responded that the towel was blood soaked, but no more blood was spurting or running down his leg. When asked, the patient advised that the door to his home was open, and he was in the hallway.

When following up with the caller, he advised that he felt as if he was going to pass out, and Communications Operator Munier lost contact with him shortly thereafter. Communications Operator Munier stayed on the open phone line with the patient trying to get him to respond. However, she was only able to hear the patient breathing. She updated first responders with this information.

Linn County Deputy Sheriff/Paramedic Tythe VanWeelden was the first emergency

responder to arrive on scene, seven minutes after the call was received. He reported there was a blood trail from the driveway into the house, with a large pool of blood outside the door. He estimated the patient had lost about a third of his blood volume. Deputy VanWeelden found the door to be locked, forced it open, and within one minute applied a tourniquet to the patient's leg and additionally applied direct pressure to the wound. Deputy VanWeelden reported the man was unconscious but still breathing. Ambulance and fire department personnel arrived on scene a minute later.

The patient was transported to the hospital with Deputy VanWeelden assisting in the ambulance due to the patient's continued unresponsiveness, rapid heart rate, and low blood pressure, which were indicative of hypovolemic shock, a serious life-threatening condition. Patient treatment continued and consisted of bleeding control, supplemental oxygen, several IV's, and the administration of a medication that blocked the breakdown of blood clots created by the body to help slow bleeding. The patient gained consciousness during transport and his vital signs improved slightly but remained abnormal. Upon arrival at the hospital, the continued care was turned over to Emergency Department staff.



Deputy Sheriff Tythe VanWeelden and Communications Operator Brenda Munier with their Awards.

Without Communications Operator Munier's instructions to the patient on immediate bleeding control, the rapid dispatch of emergency responders, and continually updating them on the patient's condition, and Deputy VanWeelden's immediate on-scene determination of a life-threatening hemorrhage, rapid tourniquet application, and continued advanced medical care, it is likely that the patient would not have survived this medical incident.

Because of their attentiveness, compassion, and thoroughness, Linn County Sheriff Brian Gardner awarded Life Saving commendation awards to Communications Operator Brenda Munier and Deputy Sheriff/Paramedic Tythe VanWeelden for the act of saving a life on May 11, 2023.

ISSDA Schools Schedule

Spring Civil School
in Des Moines at
Airport Holiday Inn on
April 14-17, 2024

Fall Jail Schools
in Des Moines at
Airport Holiday Inn on
Sept. 19-22, 2023
Sept. 17-20, 2024

Winter Schools
in Des Moines at
Airport Holiday Inn on
Dec. 12-15, 2023
Dec. 3-6, 2024

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Dubuque County Training Sergeant David Boardman Retires and Evan Surface is Hired as Deputy Sheriff in Jail Division.

Sgt. Jon J. Behne

Dubuque County Sheriff's Office

The Dubuque County Sheriff's Office is happy to announce the hiring a new Deputy Sheriff! Evan Surface was sworn-in on May 19th and will be assigned to the Jail Division. Evan graduated from Western Dubuque High School and attended Hawkeye Community College. We wish to welcome Evan's family to our Sheriff's Office family. Best of luck in your career at the Sheriff's Office, Evan, and stay safe!

The Dubuque County Sheriff's Office wishes Sgt. David Boardman well in his retirement! Dave began his career with the Sheriff's Office on October 26th, 1988. During his 34+ years with the Sheriff's Office, Dave worked in the Jail, Road Patrol, and Criminal Investigations Divisions. He spent the past 14 years as Dubuque County's Training Sergeant. Best of luck to Dave. Enjoy a well-deserved retirement!



Sheriff Joe Kennedy swore in Deputy Evan Surface.



Sheriff Kennedy recognized retired Sgt. David Boardman's 34+ years of service.

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Iowa Police Chiefs Association

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Garrett Paul Enjoys Taking ISSDA State Fair Booth Photo



“Iowa County Sheriff Rob Rotter, Iowa County Jail Administrator Jeff Krotz, and one of the most handsome little guys I know, Garrett Paul (6 years old) a/k/a my grandson, and the son of Morgan and Brian Paul (Poweshiek County EMA Coordinator) from Grinnell. My daughter and her family went to the fair on Monday. She said that Garrett couldn’t wait for her to send me this picture...LOL. I’m just surprised that his twin brother didn’t get in it. I’d say without a doubt that Rob and Jeff made his day!” – By Office Deputy Dawn Disney, Poweshiek County Sheriff’s Office.



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Mitchell County Deputy Helps BAL Custom Rifles Develop Precision Rifle – Owner Donates New Rifle to Sheriff’s Office

By Sheriff Gregory Beaver
Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office

When Bryce Lumley, owner of BAL Custom Rifles, and Deputy Justin Trees, with the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office, began a joint venture about eight months ago to develop a precision rifle to be donated to the Sheriff’s Office, it was certainly unexpected.

Equipment like this is essential to a law enforcement agency. View this as having insurance; we all need insurance for a variety of purposes but we all hope we never need it.

The precision rifle will be assigned and implemented into the Special Operations Group (SOG) that the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office has been a part of since 1991. This group of highly trained law enforcement officers from a nine-county area is called upon to serve high-risk search and arrest warrants, provide dignitary protection and support state and federal law enforcement partners in the work that they do each day.

When a citizen decides to donate to the Sheriff’s Office, I often wonder why they would do that? I am always thankful and appreciative of their generosity. Many of the donations we have received over the years have offset budget constraints. This specific donation would not otherwise have been possible. The sheriff’s office budget would not allow this to happen.



BAL Custom Rifles owner Bryce Lumley (left), Deputy Justin Trees and the BAL Mountain King-300 PRC Sniper Rifle they co-developed.

Rifle builder Bryce Lumley had the following to say regarding his donation to the Sheriff’s Office:

“Why would a guy donate a \$10,000 rifle to a local Sheriff’s Department? This is a question that I have been asked and there are a couple reasons that come to mind. One of them being Law and Order. I believe law and order is the backbone of a civil society and truly is what separates us from total chaos. This allows us to live our great American lives.

“Over the last few years, I have watched a DISGUSTING move-

ment sweep across our great nation to defund and discredit our brave men and women of law enforcement. I wanted to do something to stand up against this horrible ideology. Building long-range precision rifles, while it is a passion of mine, it created a path for me to do just that. Many of my rifles go to hunters, especially in the western states where shots can be quite long. While others go to target shooters that like to bang steel plates at ranges well over a thousand yards and some reach to one mile.

This is exactly the type of rifle our law enforcement may need. I will be proud to know that one of my rifles will be helping to protect the people of my community.

It is with great honor that I dedicate this BAL Mountain King-300 PRC Sniper Rifle to the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Department. This is where I live, work, and have raised my family.”

Sincerely,
Bryce Lumley
BAL Custom Rifles

Thank you to BAL Custom Rifles, manufactured in Osage, Iowa, for your generosity and concern for the staff at the Mitchell County Sheriff’s Office.

Support from community members and area businesses helps maintain high morale within a sheriff’s office.

40 Volunteers Completed Polk County Sheriff’s Office Citizens Academy

By Ken Stinson

Forty of us completed the Polk County Sheriff’s Citizens Academy recently.

We are now volunteers on the Sheriff’s Ambassador Detail

serving in a variety of events. As Sheriff’s Ambassadors we walked in the 4th of July parade greeting people and handing out candy to the kids along the three-mile parade route.



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Plymouth Co. Deputy Kyl Petersen and K-9 Zeke Win 3rd Place Overall and on 1st Place Team Plymouth County and Le Mars Police Hosted USPCA Region 21 Dog Trials in Le Mars on August 6

The Plymouth County Sheriff's Office along with the Le Mars Police Department hosted the United States Police Canine Association Inc. (USPCA) dog trials for Region 21 in Le Mars, Iowa, August 6th through the 9th.

Plymouth County Deputy Kyl Petersen and his K-9 Zeke competed in events throughout the three days of the trials which included obedience, box search, article search, apprehension without gunfire, apprehension with gunfire and tracking.

At the conclusion of the trials, Deputy Petersen and K-9 Zeke were awarded 3rd Place Overall along with sharing 1st Place in the team competition, which also included members of the Le Mars Police Department, the Sheldon Police Department, and the Allamakee County Sheriff's Office in Iowa.

Deputy Petersen and his K-9 Zeke will go on to compete in USPCA Nationals the week of September 24th in Foley, Alabama.



K-9 Zeke



Plymouth County Deputy Kyl Petersen



The First Place Team Consisted of Members of the Le Mars Police Department, Sheldon Police Department, the Allamakee County Sheriff's Office and Plymouth County Sheriff's Office, with Deputy Kyl Petersen.

Fayette County Sheriff's Office laying foundation of foresight

By Editor Shane Butterfield
Oelwein Daily Register

The Fayette County Sheriff's Office continued its growth and focus on the future in 2022 under the visionary guidance of long-time Sheriff Marty Fisher. The recent progress made at the Office campus, located at 220 N. Industrial Parkway in West Union, ranges from the cosmetic to the technological and beyond, as last year marked a milestone for the agency.

Completed in October 2002, the building, itself, stands as a testament to Fisher's penchant for looking ahead as, two decades ago, the then-new county sheriff was at the forefront in advocating for a much larger, more spacious law enforcement center.

"At our old facility, we could only hold 10 inmates," Fisher explained. "Our daily population was around 14 or 15 at that time, so we were actually transporting prisoners out."

That would soon change, however. While others felt in 2002 that 22 beds in any new jail would be sufficient, Fisher disagreed.

"I pushed for 47 beds, because the way things were going, according to my studies, was that within 20 years we would have probably a daily population of 30 inmates of our own," he said.

On that count, Fisher's projection was prescient; accuracy which, in hindsight, surprised him.

"It was hard to envision that, even for myself," he admitted. "Of course, its 20 years later and that's what we have, about 30 of our own inmates."

During the intervening years, however, Fisher was proactive in using the resources available to him in the best interest of the county's residents and law enforcement.

"I said, with the empty beds, because there is an overflowing of inmates throughout the state, I will house other people's inmates and the revenues from that will help offset budget expenditures," he explained.

By doing just that, when the final payment on the new building was made in 2013, the West Union facility had brought in through the housing initiative more than \$5 million, which exceeded the entire cost of constructing the new building. Housing



The Fayette County Sheriff's Office received a fresh coat of paint this past year on the occasion of its 20th anniversary. (Mike Van Sickel/Union Echo Leader photo).

external inmates has continued in the years since, as well, and with equally impressive monetary results.

"This year, in 2023, when the current fiscal year ends, we will have made another \$5 million since that time, 2013," Fisher reported.

And should the need for more prison space than the facility's current 47-bed capacity emerge, an existing outbuilding currently located behind the building, Sheriff Fisher indicated, could be removed and the jail expanded, as well.

The occasion of the facility's 20th anniversary last year, however, as significant as it was, caused hardly a stir for Fisher and his staff, engrossed as they were in their vital duties.

"We're just like anybody else," he explained. "Daily operations, you get busy, like last year, in October was our twentieth year, and it just went by us. We didn't even get to celebrate it."

Though its stewards may not have held formal festivities, the anniversary did coincide with the facility receiving needed attention. For example, the front-facing exterior of the office building was given fresh paint, Sheriff Fisher noted, while inside, the main hallways not only received their own new coat, but also updated laminate flooring.

The year 2022 concluded with a much-improved dispatch center, which underwent a significant facelift that included increasing the number of stations from the previous two to three, each boasting numerous screens and many other aspects reflective of their importance to the county and beyond.

It is in the dispatch center where emergency 911 calls are received and routed to the appropriate agency. Fisher noted, as

well, that in the newly reimagined dispatch space there is room for a fourth (dispatch) station, if needed.

However, the efforts to introduce technological improvements went well beyond the needed upgrades recently added in the dispatch center.

On the matter of technological improvements, the County is deeply involved in upgrading its emergency communications/radio system, as it moves to a significantly more modern one, in a change that will greatly improve the ease of communication between the Sheriff's Office, firemen, ambulance services and other responders. Fisher indicated the project, which has required the attention of many of the county's officials and authorities, should be completed within six months.

"You won't see a lot of change as it looks, but the inner workings of the radio system will replace what we have," Fisher added. "With our new system, we should be able to communicate a lot more clearly."

The improvements made since last year also extend outside the office, to include not only the fresh paint but the construction of a new storage garage. The additional indoor space, Fisher explained, is much needed as currently the office's backup vehicles are parked outdoors on the edge of the field behind the facility.

The new garage will not only include a special parking location for a truck and trailer but will also have 2,565 square feet of space to house six additional full-size vehicles. In addition, the garage will boast nearly 1,100 square feet of storage area, nearly 900 of which will be devoted to evidence storage, according to a drawing

See "Fayette County," continued on next page.

“Fayette County,” continued

illustrating its construction plans. The new garage is expected to be completed and in operation by this July.

Finally, the preceding year also witnessed the beginning of an electric solar panel installation project that, once complete, will be comprised of more than 750 6'x3' panels and allow the facility to produce all the electricity it needs on site.

Fisher explained the ownership of the panels, however, will not be immediate, but will occur seven years after the project is finished later this summer. In the meantime, the panels will remain the property of local resident Erich Gamm, who based on the agreement in place, the Sheriff's Office will pay for its electricity until 2030, when it will exercise its right to purchase the system from Gamm, and thus own the self-sustaining solar array, itself.

Fisher noted the eventuality of the Sheriff's Office producing its own electricity will benefit county taxpayers. The initiative marks the latest in a number of forward-thinking projects that have defined the work of the Fayette County Sheriff's Office during the past year.



Fayette County Sheriff Marty Fisher stands outside the new storage garage currently under construction adjacent to the local law enforcement center. The new garage will not only include a special parking location for a truck and trailer but will also have 2,565 square feet of space to house six additional full-size vehicles. In addition, it will boast nearly 1,100 square feet of storage area. The construction is expected to be completed by July. (Mike Van Sickle/Union Echo Leader photo)



Among the recent initiatives undertaken by the Fayette County Sheriff's Office is the installation of a solar array, which will be comprised of more than 750 panels and allow the facility to produce all its electricity on site. (Mike Van Sickle/Union Echo Leader photo)

Lori Baal Becomes the Newest Deputy Sheriff at the Dubuque County Sheriff's Office

By Sgt. Jon J. Behne
Training Coordinator
Dubuque County Iowa Sheriff's Office

The Dubuque County Sheriff's Office would like to introduce our newest Deputy Sheriff. Lori Baal, shown receiving her badge from Sheriff Joseph Kennedy, was sworn in recently and will continue her career serving in the Jail.

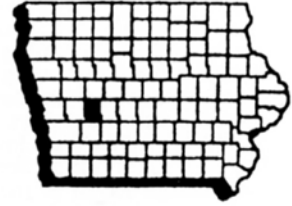
Prior to being sworn in, Lori was serving as a Correctional Officer. Lori brings a positive attitude and a great amount of enthusiasm to work every day.

We are proud to have her step into her new role with the Sheriff's Office!



Audubon County

County Seat: Audubon Population: 7334 Area: 448 Square Miles



Sheriff Bill Shaw



Audubon County Courthouse

Benjamin M. Hiatt, the first Sheriff of Audubon County was appointed in 1855.

Sheriff Bill Shaw has been Sheriff of Audubon County since he was appointed in January of 1972, and is the 27th person to fill the position.

Since 1972, when Sheriff Shaw was appointed, to the present time, the Sheriff has employed four full-time Deputies and one full-time Office/Civil Deputy. Present staff members are: Chief Deputy Darold Otten; Deputies Todd Johnson, Dave Beane, Ken Pingrey; and Office/Civil Deputy Rose Ridgeway. Also with the Sheriff's Office are Reserve Deputies Lloyd Kelly, Roger Johnson, Allan Hansen, and Jim Bobenmoyer. These officers assist the department in patrol work, special events, and any other areas the Sheriff deems necessary.

The current Sheriff's Office and Jail was built in 1939 and is housed in the basement of the courthouse. In the spring of 1991, the communication center was updated to its current state-of-the-art level. The communications center employs six operators, three full-time and three part-time. The staff includes: Rose Ridgeway, Shirley Shaw, Lorraine Jorgensen, Kathleen Cramer, Sue Bobenmoyer and Elizabeth Schmidt. The female operators also act as matrons for the Sheriff's Office. The jail duties are handled by the Sheriff and his Deputies, with the communication operators also acting as jailers as far as viewing prisoners through monitors and personal checks.

One of the darkest chapters in Audubon County's crime history was in 1884 and 1885. On April 26, 1884, an elderly crippled rural Audubon County resident was dragged out of his residence and hanged by his son and two sons-in-law. The three were arrested and had to await a trial date of February of 1885. The Judge, fearing that the three men wouldn't get a fair trial, ordered that the trial be held in Atlantic. Citizens of the county didn't feel that these three men would be judged properly in a foreign court and decided to take measures of their own. On February 5, 1885, at approximately 2:00 A.M., Sheriff Herbert and his Deputy were awakened by pounding on the jail door. Upon looking out, Sheriff Herbert estimated the crowd at approximately 75 men.

The Sheriff advised the crowd to go away and that they wouldn't get his prisoners. The crowd told him they would get them one way or the other. The crowd fired shots through the door at the Sheriff and his Deputy, and they subdued the two officers in a room. The prisoners were being held in two cells in a large iron cage. The mob had brought cold chisels and hammers, and after working dextrously for 1-1/2 hours were able to make a hole in the cage. The two sons-in-law resisted with broom handles and fists and were gunned down, then dragged outside and hanged. The son of the victim did not resist and was brought outside and was hanged alongside the other two.



Audubon County Sheriff's Office

Standing (Left to right): Chief Deputy Darold R. Otten, Sheriff Bill Shaw, Deputies Ken Pingrey and Todd Johnson. Seated Deputy David Beane, Civil Deputy Rose Ridgeway. Dog: Brandy.

Mahaska Co. Chief Deputy Scott Miller Will Retire October 31 After 37+ Years

Chief Deputy Scott Miller of the Mahaska County Sheriff's Office has announced his intent to retire effective October 31st of this year. Scott joined the Sheriff's Office as a Reserve Deputy (Posse member) in 1983. On June 1st of 1986 Scott was hired as a full-time Deputy Sheriff by then-Sheriff Joe Beal.

Over the next 37-plus years, Scott worked for four different Sheriffs. In April of 2013 Scott was promoted to 1st Deputy by then-Sheriff Paul DeGeest and in Janu-

ary of 2017 Scott was appointed as Chief Deputy by Sheriff Russ Van Renterghem. Scott is the longest tenured law enforcement officer within Mahaska County as well as much of Iowa.

In retirement, Scott plans to spend time with his wife and tend to his rental properties. The residents of Mahaska County, as well as all visitors and travelers through the county, owe Scott a large debt of gratitude for his many years of service to the community.



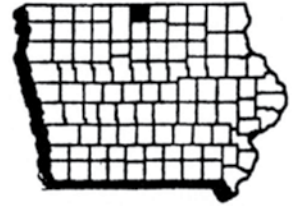
Visit your Iowa State Sheriffs' & Deputies' Association website at issda.org

for Association information and history, meetings and training information, membership eligibility, benefits and application; Honorary Memberships and Y-Camp, Sponsorships, the Newsletter, ISSDA Gold Star Awards, and more.

Address: P.O. Box 528, Wellman IA 52356-0528 email: jared.schneider@issda.org

Winnebago County

County Seat: Forest City Population: 12,122 Area: 401 Square Miles



Sheriff Thomas C. Lillquist



Winnebago County Law Enforcement Center.



Winnebago County Sheriff's Office (left to right): Chief Deputy David C. Peterson, Deputy David I. Howell, Deputy Monte Steinfeldt, Secretary Teresa Van Gerpen, Deputy Lyle Authier, and Sheriff Thomas C. Lillquist.



From left: Dispatcher Harold K. Peterson, Jailer Lester Goranson, Dispatchers Wilma Thompson, Mary Branstad, Christa Cosgriff.

Winnebago County Law Enforcement can trace its history to 1857, when J. S. Blowers was elected as the county's first Sheriff. Since that time, 18 other men have been elected to head the county's law enforcement.

Long-time Forest Citian, the late Bert Gillette, recalled the burning of the jail by the son of an area farmer. "It was a fellow named Tom Hughes, who set fire to his mattress in an attempt to escape. The fire department nearly drowned him with the hose." Following the fire and destruction of the first jail, all local prisoners had to be transferred to Mason City or Northwood for confinement. In the "Winnebago Summit" of February 10, 1897, the following ad was run: "Wanted - A jail"

"At the rate we are sending away prisoners, Mason City Jail will be short of room. Grain stealing and assault occupy the courts and help fill the barred building."

On April 13, 1898, a front page story of the "Summit" reported that the Board of Supervisors had decided "after much consideration" and as an "economy measure," that a new jail was "sorely needed." The article further reported that on April 16, lots 6-7 of Block 57 in Forest City had been purchased from R. C. Plummer for \$600. Estimated cost to construct the new facility was set at \$3,000 with an additional \$2,000 needed for special equipment and furnishings. In the summer of 1902, a combination jail house and Sheriff's residence was constructed.

In 1969, the State of Iowa condemned the

county jail facilities as inadequate and improper for sustained confinement of prisoners. At that time, the county was given one year to upgrade the facilities. Although not famed as a "High Security" facility, the old jailhouse did detain several thousands of prisoners over the years with only one or two escapes known, both taking place without violence.

The old jail and Sheriff's home had been steadily in use until March of 1974. At that time, an interim jail was prepared in the basement of City Hall, which served as the headquarters for the Forest City Police Department. The old jail was still used when there were more than two prisoners, on an emergency basis.

The Winnebago County Board of Supervisors purchased the former Municipal Hospital building for \$50,000 from the City, to be used as a Courthouse annex. The first floor of the annex was converted into a County Law Enforcement Center, housing the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office and Forest City Police Department, in addition to the Communications Center and Jail facility.

The old jail house was purchased from the County in November, 1976, by Waldorf College at a public auction for \$32,250. It was later torn down and the area remains open on the College campus.

In 1968, when Donald Vold was first elected Winnebago County Sheriff, one Deputy assisted him in his duties. Responsibility for radio monitoring fell on the Sheriff, with the system headquartered in the former jailhouse/residence.

In November of 1976, the Sheriff's Department moved into the newly remodeled Law Enforcement Center in the Courthouse Annex. The facilities roomed seven prisoners. Sheriff Vold added two Deputies to his previous two-man department, and three full time dispatchers.

Only one murder took place in Winnebago County during Don Vold's twenty-two years as Sheriff. That was the result of a domestic problem where a man shot his wife. Thefts, burglaries, and drug abuse are the most common criminal cases. There is also a large volume of civil work because of several major industries in the County.

During his 22 years as Sheriff, Sheriff Vold helped organize and was a member of Winnebago County Peace Officer's Association, helped organize the Sheriff's and Deputy's camp for youth at Boone, belonged to several law related associations, and was serving as vice-chairman on the Iowa Board of Corrections. He retired on January 31, 1991. In February, he was honored at a retirement party attended by over 500 people. He passed away on September 6, 1991.

Chief Deputy Thomas Lillquist was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to fill the unexpired term of Sheriff when Vold retired. Lillquist had served as a Deputy since Maurice Monson was Sheriff prior to Don Vold. Since becoming Sheriff, Lillquist has appointed another Deputy. The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office staff now includes four Deputies, a Secretary, a full-time Jailer, and four full-time Dispatchers.

William “Bill” Westendorf, 81; Retired Bremer County Sheriff

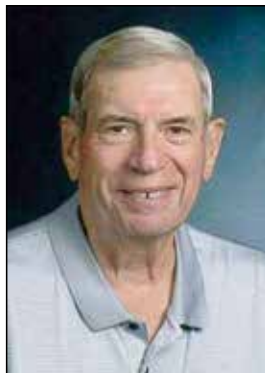
William “Bill” Westendorf, 81, of Waverly died July 16, 2023, at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo.

William Leo Westendorf was born on May 11, 1942, the son of Leo and Dorothy (Testorff) Westendorf in Waverly. He graduated from Waverly High School in 1960, and served with the U.S. Army from 1961 until his discharge in 1964. On August 1, 1964, he was united in marriage to Dorothy “Dode” Janel in Osage.

Bill started his law enforcement career with the Waverly Police from 1964 until 1966, when he joined the Bremer County-Sheriff’s Office as a deputy. He was elected Sheriff in 1973 and held that position until his retirement on December 31, 2000.

Bill enjoyed golfing, fishing, card games (especially Schafkopf) and watching his grandkids’ sporting events/ activities.

Survivors are his wife, Dode Westendorf of Waverly; son, Greg (Jeanette) Westendorf of Waverly; three grandchildren Haylee (Andrew) Piehl, Sean (Rachel) Westendorf and Dayna; two great grandkids, Mason and Beckett Piehl; two sisters, Shirley Kroepel of Centralia, IL and Mary (Gary) Kramer of Clarksville; sister-in-law, Jane Westendorf of Keota;



William Westendorf

and brother-in-laws, Judd Kolka of Waverly and Ken Sedlacek of North Liberty. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Betty Sedlacek and Jan Kolka; two brothers, James and Roger Westendorf; brother-in-law, Harvey Kroepel and sister-in-law, Kay Westendorf.

Memorial services were held July 21 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Waverly. Interment was in Harlington Cemetery. Memorials for Bill can be directed to the Westendorf family for a later designation in Bill’s name, and online condolences can be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

Buchanan County Sheriff’s Office “Rescue 10” Program Fills Gaps in Rural EMS Services with EMS-Trained Deputies

In a vast majority of Iowa’s rural counties, EMS services are staffed almost entirely by volunteer first responder personnel, and Buchanan Co. is no exception. While these first responders work hard to be available for calls any time of the day, staffing levels and other issues create problems in which, at times, there may be nobody to cover calls in a given response district.

In early 2021, Buchanan Co. Sheriff’s Deputy Dan Walter approached Sheriff Scott Buzynski about the possibility of using the agency’s deputies who have EMS certifications to assist EMS calls within the County. Sheriff Buzynski greenlighted the effort, and the process of creating an EMS Response Program was started. Through grant funding and other donations, Buchanan County’s “Rescue 10” Program was implemented in late 2021 after the Buchanan Co. S.O. was approved as a non-transport Basic Life Support (BLS) service through the Iowa Department of Health and Human Service’s Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services. Buchanan County is the 10th County in alphabetical order of Iowa’s 99 Counties, hence the name “Rescue 10.”

2022 was the first full year for Rescue 10, with EMS/Rescue Deputies (Deputy/Paramedic Dan Walter, Deputy/EMT Mitch Franck, and Deputy/EMT Cory Hartmann (in photo) assisting on 147 medical calls.



On 60 of those calls, they were the primary emergency medical care provider until ambulance arrival. These deputies had assisted in a variety of emergency calls such as lift assists, breathing problems, burns, seizures, falls, cardiac (heart) problems, overdose, traumatic injuries, unconscious/fainting, motor vehicle accidents and other medical calls.

The Buchanan Co. Sheriff’s Office was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Buchanan County Community Foundation (BCCF) during the 2022 Grant Cycle. Grants are awarded through BCCF’s competitive grant process to projects in the program areas of arts and culture, community betterment, education and youth development, environment and animal welfare, health and human service. The Sheriff’s Office was one of two grant recipients in the Health category, with funds to be used for the purchase of a cardiac monitor for the Rescue 10 Program. The Sheriff’s Office also received donations from several

other entities including Bank Iowa, Buchanan County EMS Association, Burco Farms, East Central Iowa REC, Wapsie Valley Creamery, Wieland & Sons Lumber, Victoria Keegan, John Lappe, Pam & Mike Ratchford (in memory of David Fangman), Stephen and Marjorie Riley, Kathy Smith (in memory of Iowa State Patrol Sergeant Jim Smith), Chris & Lisa Walter and Herb & Carol Walter.

With the funds raised, the Sheriff’s Office purchased a Zoll Cardiac Monitor in March 2023 to be used in the Rescue 10 Program.

“We are very grateful for funding from the Buchanan County Community Foundation and our other donors in support of this project,” Rescue 10 Coordinator Dan Walter said. “This was a large undertaking as far as funding goes, but we’ve successfully completed our \$35,000 goal.”

The purchase of a cardiac monitor allowed Rescue 10 to move up to the Advanced Life Support (ALS) level.

To date, the Buchanan County Sheriff’s Office’s Rescue 10 Program is running strong and assisting on EMS calls all throughout Buchanan County. Rescue 10 Deputies pride themselves on providing quick and effective emergency medical interventions, and continue working and training with First Responder and Ambulance partners to ensure Buchanan County is receiving the best EMS care possible.