

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

### Honoring Officer Kerrie Orozco – Who Would Have Loved Y-Camp



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## The 2105 National Sheriffs' Association

Major John Godar and I recently attended the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) annual conference and exhibit in Baltimore, Maryland, on behalf of the ISS-DA.

We were joined by several Iowa sheriffs and sheriff's office employees who attended the 75th anniversary conference, which was held Saturday, June 27, through Wednesday, July 1, at the Baltimore Convention Center and Hilton Inner Harbor Hotel. I thought for my President's Message, I would give you a recap of the conference highlights.

On Saturday, Major Godar and I attended the Committee of State Sheriffs' Associations, which included a joint meeting with the NSA Board of Directors and Past Presidents. A lot of good information was exchanged between the state associations, and it quickly became apparent that all of us have many of the same concerns – including the use of body cameras, reduction of access to military surplus equipment, FCC controls on the cost of inmate calling services, new regulations on asset forfeitures, etc.

Saturday afternoon's presentations included awards for Reserve Deputy Sheriff of the Year, Law Enforcement Explorer Post Advisor of the Year, Chaplain of the Year, Corrections/ Jail Innovations Award of the Year, Court Security Agency/ Professional of the Year Award, and the Triple Crown Awards for those Sheriffs' Offices that have received law enforcement, corrections, and correctional healthcare accreditations.

As is typical, the NSA provides ample opportunity for training at the conference. New and repeat conference presenters pro-

vided very useful information on a number of topics related to law enforcement and corrections operations. To track their training hours, attendees were required to scan into each session so that NSA could issue CEHs for training credit.

Kelly Siegler, a former Harris County, Texas, prosecutor specializing in cold cases, presented the keynote address at the General Ses-



**Sheriff Brian Gardner** Linn County Sheriff's Office

sion Sunday night. She currently works with law enforcement agencies nationwide to help with their unsolved homicide cases on "Cold Justice," a real-life investigative documentary on TNT.

Awards presented during the opening session included the Law Enforcement Lifetime Achievement Award, the J. Stannard Baker Award for Highway Safety, the Crime Victim Services Award, the 2015 Ferris E. Lucas Award for Sheriff of the Year, the 2015 Charles "Bud" Meeks Award for Deputy Sheriff of the Year for Merit, and the 2015 Charles "Bud" Meeks Award for Deputy Sheriffs of the Year for Valor. A welcome reception followed the general session.

Over 300 exhibitors packed into the Baltimore Convention Center Monday and

Tuesday with goods ranging from uniforms to vehicles, tactical gear, education programs and materials, and any other items that you could envision being utilized by law enforcement and corrections personnel, including massage chairs and electronic muscle stimulators. Of course, where there are exhibitors there are also premiums, or giveaway items. Conference-goers looked like pack mules carrying multiple bags of "free stuff" out of the convention center. As is typical at NSA conferences, exhibit area attendees were provided a "passport" to qualify for door prizes. By stopping at certain vendor booths and having them mark their passport, they became eligible for the grand prize drawing of two roundtrip airline tickets to the 2016 NSA Conference in Minneapolis and up to six nights lodging, plus complimentary conference registration for the winner and a guest.

The conference added a new and timely feature to the agenda this year by inviting all potential Presidential candidates to participate in an NSA Presidential Forum. The Monday and Tuesday forum was set up like a political convention, and gave attendees the opportunity to hear from the presidential hopefuls and how they would address issues of importance to law enforcement officials. Unfortunately, out of the nearly 40 Republican and Democratic Presidential hopefuls who were invited, only three - former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, Dr. Ben Carson, and former Virginia Senator Jim Webb - participated in the event. Although candidate attendance was low, each of the candidates specifically requested to meet privately with Iowa Sheriffs who were in attendance to discuss our concerns.



Inside the NSA exhibition hall at the Baltimore, Maryland, Convention Center.

## **Annual Conference Attendee Report**

Opening the Tuesday morning 3rd Annual Deputy Symposium super session was Lieutenant Colonel Dave Grossman, presenting "The Bulletproof Mind: Psychological Preparation for Combat."

Lt. Col. Grossman is a dynamic speaker who provided a captivating presentation that "does, for the mind and the spirit, what body armor does for the torso." His session ad-

dressed a new era of "record" body counts in international and domestic terrorism, and reminded attendees to be ever vigilant in the fight against them.

Tuesday afternoon's keynote speaker at the symposium was Phil Chalmers, who presented "Inside the Mind of a Teen Killer and the Animal Abuser." Chalmers interviewed over 200 teen killers and school shooters, along with numerous serial killers, mass murders, animal abusers, and sexual predators. After delving into the minds of these offenders, he explored why they kill and if society could have stopped them.

A National Sheriffs' Institute (NSI) & FBI National Academy (FBI NA) Graduates Reception was held Tuesday evening. This gave graduates of both programs a chance to get together with classmates and to exchange information.

The President's Reception and Annual Banquet was held Wednesday evening. The incoming NSA President – Laramie County, Wyoming, Sheriff Danny Glick – and outgoing President – Jefferson County, Kentucky, Sheriff John E. Aubrey – were honored.

Of course, attendees were also provided plenty of places to visit during off hours in and around the Inner Harbor area. Camden Yards, home of the Baltimore Orioles, was literally across the street from the host hotel, and many attendees, regardless of team loyalty, attended a game or two. The National Aquarium, the pier and many historic ships, the Maryland 9/11 Memorial, and





At left, NSA Exec. Dir. Jonathan Thompson, Linn County S.O. Major John Godar, and Cass County, North Dakota, Sheriff Paul Laney at the NSI and FBI NA Graduates' Reception. At right are Iowa attendees: Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald and Sheriff Brian Gardner, presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, Linn Co. Major John Godar and Sheriff Ted Kamatchus.

the attractions at the Power Plant were all within walking distance, as well as several very fine eateries. Thankfully, even with all of the conference attendees invading the city, they never ran out of Maryland blue crab! If you haven't yet had the opportuni-

ty to attend an NSA conference, you might want to consider doing so. Next year's annual conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 24 through 29 – well within driving range for most of us.

Here's hoping that you all stay safe.

## Story Co. Capt. Barry Thomas Sworn In as FBINAA President

Congratulations to Story County Chief Deputy Capt. Barry Thomas, who was sworn in as president of the FBI National Academy Associates Inc. (FBINAA) during their annual training conference on July 14,

This is an incredible



Above, Story County's Chief Deputy, Capt. Barry Thomas, met with Iowa FBINA graduates who attended his swearing in. Left, Capt. Thomas being sworn in by his sheriff, Paul Fitzgerald.

honor for Barry, who is dedicated to representing law enforcement on a national scale. He is intelligent, dedicated and hard working, and will do a great job of representing law enforcement around the country, internationally and here in Iowa.

## **She Touched Us Last**

By Retired Sheriff Bill Sage ISSDA Financial Director

(Note: I know Officer Kerrie Orozco's mother, Ellen Holtz, from working at our local bank in Atlantic. I approached Ellen to see if she would be willing to sit down with me to share Kerrie's life with all of us, and I want to thank Ellen for doing this during this very difficult time in her life. I know it was hard, but it meant so much to our community. Ellen: thank you for sharing Kerrie's life with all us.)

Kerrie Sue Holtz Orozco was born September 19, 1985, to Kevin and Ellen Holtz. Kerrie was a happy baby and a joy to her parents. Her smile included her wrinkly nose, which the family will never forget. Kerrie was the oldest child, followed by a sister and three brothers.

Kerrie was baptized at Saints' Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Atlantic, attending an Atlantic elementary school before her family moved to a farm south of Walnut. Kerrie was the leader of the house. She enjoyed 4-H and loved her horse, Savannah. Kerrie was in Girl Scouts and loved the outdoors, fishing, canoeing and biking. She loved driving the tractor and bailing hay.

Kerrie grew up playing her grandmother's piano, which was given to Kerrie after her grandmother passed away. However, the piano remained at her mother's house, just waiting for it to be moved to Kerrie's house; sadly a move that never took place. Ellen recalls Kerrie coming over to her house and playing the piano. They enjoyed this time together - a time Ellen will never forget. Ellen recalls Kerrie putting on the 80th birthday party for her grandmother. Kerrie dressed up as Zorabelle, the clown, which was her great, great, grandmother's name. Kerrie loved to make animal balloons and paint faces for those she entertained. She also spent time cooking with her grandmother and her signature dish was deviled eggs.

Kerrie graduated from Walnut High School, where she was active in volleyball, jazz band and basketball. She gave the graduation speech for her class. Ellen was so proud of this, since she was on the school board and had the pleasure of watching her daughter give the speech, while sitting on the stage. This brought back memories for Ellen, as Ellen gave the graduation speech at her graduation. You could tell the joy she had in her voice when she was telling me the story.

In 2004, Kerrie was selected to play in the "Sports Down Under" program in Australia. She played near the Gold Coast for two weeks. Her team consisted of players from Nebraska, Iowa and Arizona. Kerrie came back from Australia and began to sell books. This took her to the southern states, where she ended up winning a trip to Jamaica for being the best salesperson in her district.

Kerrie started college at Creighton, working at a local convenience store in Omaha along with at a restaurant in Atlantic. Ellen recalls many times when Kerrie would get off work at midnight, take the food that was to be discarded from the store for the day, and deliver it to the homeless in downtown Omaha. When Kerrie wasn't working in Omaha, she worked at an Atlantic restaurant until it closed, then walked a short distance to where her mother was working and completed her homework there. Ellen recalls telling Kerrie she had too much on her plate and something needed to give. So, Kerrie quit college.

This isn't what Ellen had in mind, but this is what Kerrie wanted to do. She continued to feed the homeless and talk to the Omaha police officers when they came into the store. Those officers encouraged her to put an application with the Omaha Police Department, which she did.

In October 2007, sadness came to the Holtz family. Kevin passed away on October 9th. The family was at his side. Ellen will always remember the last words Kerrie said to him: "Dad, I will make you proud."

Prior to Kevin's death, the family had planned a trip to Alaska. They all agreed, that even after his death, Dad would still want them to go. Kerrie had a passport and traveled into Canada.

In December, 2007, Kerrie graduated from the Omaha Police Academy and worked as a patrol officer before going into the Omaha Gang Unit. Ellen recalls the time when Kerrie was part of the "Guns"



and Hoses" boxing team, an event where boxers from the Omaha Police Department and the Omaha Fire Department battled for causes like the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Special Olympics, Red Cross and area youth boxing programs. Kerrie competed three years, winning the second year but losing the first and third years, with the same opponent each year. Ellen stated she cried each time she watched the matches, but this was the type of person Kerrie was.

Kerrie worked hard with the Big Paws/ Big dog's rescue. She would take in stray Great Danes until owners could be found. Kerrie adopted her own Great Dane and walked it daily.

Kerrie also helped with the "Shop with a Cop" program.

Kerrie went back to college, which really pleased her mother, and graduated from Bellevue University with a criminal justice and Spanish degree. Kerrie started teaching police officers Spanish, as she felt this was a way of building a community. Kerrie also put her Spanish to work when she was moonlighting at a South Omaha establishment. This is where she meet her husband, Hector.

Hector and Kerrie were married in November 2012, and moved to Council Bluffs. Kerrie became a second mother to Hector's two children, Natalia and Santiago.

During one of their outings, Kerrie and Hector were boating. Kerrie was taking pictures with her camera, when it dropped into the water. Hector sprang into action, jumped in the water to retrieve it but was not a swimmer. Kerrie was the cool one and rescued Hector as the camera fell to the bottom.

Although Kerrie had a family at home, she never forget her "other children" who called her "Coach K" at the North Omaha Boys and Girls Club. Kerrie was not only the coach, but she ran the baseball program at the club. Ellen always wondered when Kerrie had time to sleep.

While working the College World Series in 2014, Kerrie became close with the University of Virginia team. Virginia's head coach, Brian O'Connor, grew up in Council Bluffs, graduated from St. Albert's and played on the 1991 Creighton College World Series team. Because of the connection, the team took Kerrie under their wings. Kerrie found a little duck around the stadium and gave it to the team. Even after they lost in the championship game, Kerrie kept in contact with the team. Kerrie was the real winner when the Virginia team left their baseball equipment to be used by her Boy's and Girl's Club baseball team.

This past November, Kerrie invited her mother to her house. Ellen arrived and Kerrie took her into the kitchen. Kerrie reached into the oven and pulled out a cinnamon roll. Kerrie asked her mom if she knew what this was. Ellen said it was a cinnamon roll. Laughing, Kerrie stated, "No, it is a bun in the oven." At that point it hit Ellen that Kerrie was having a baby. Ellen said this was a very special moment for both of them.

In February of this year, Kerrie felt a little sick so she went to see her doctor. As she approached the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, the pain worsened so she drove to the emergency room, where doctors discovered she was going into labor. Doctors were able to slow the labor, but the next day, February 17th, Kerrie gave birth to Olivia Ruth, weighing only 2 pounds, 11 ounces. Olivia was rushed into the neonatal unit of the hospital and remained there until May. The family visited Olivia and Kerrie would speak to her in English and Spanish. Kerrie said it was important for Olivia know both languages.

A little over a week before the tragic shooting, Olivia came down with an infection that sent her to the isolation room of the neonatal unit. Before anyone could enter the room, they had to wear white gowns and fully covered their face. At one point, Kerrie took a picture of Olivia through the crib bars and captioned it, "Help, I'm in Baby Jail." Ellen said this showed Kerrie's humor throughout the whole ordeal. Olivia was moved back to the neonatal unit and scheduled to be discharged on May 21.

Ellen remembers the time when she took Kerrie's old cabbage patch kid doll, wrapped it up in Olivia's blanket, and said it looked just like Olivia. The resemblance even surprised Kerrie.

Prior to Olivia's discharge from the hospital, Kerrie went to Worlds of Fun in Kansas City with her family. They had a great time, and now have many memories to keep in their hearts.

Ellen saw Kerrie the last time a week before her death at the hospital. Kerrie was



looking forward to bringing Olivia home and starting her maternity leave.

On May 20, Kerrie volunteered to help the Omaha Metro Area Fugitive Task Force Unit to apprehend a wanted fugitive wanted for a first degree assault dating back to a 2014 shooting. At about 1 p.m., the suspect was spotted and gun fire erupted. Kerrie was struck just above her vest in the chest. This would be Kerrie's last mission, as the Lord called her home.

Kerrie's partners have shared many memories with Ellen. Kerrie was a thrifty person, always going to thrift stores and using coupons. At one point, Kerrie's part-



ner told her it was time to purchase some new boots, as her soles had holes in them. Kerrie went out and bought a new pair of boots and the following week there was some flooding in the Omaha Area. Kerrie was walking in front of the cruiser so they wouldn't hit any exposed manholes. As the partner looked up, Kerrie was carrying her new boots, saying she wasn't going to ruin them.

Another time, Kerrie had an assignment to get a certain police officer to come to the police ball; the officer had never attended. Kerrie succeeded in talking him into attending the police ball. Said Ellen: "How could anyone resist her warm smile?"

Ellen recalled a young man coming up to her during one of the benefits. This young man told her that Kerrie had saved his life. He was in the gangs when he came in contact with Kerrie, who talked to him, mentored him and showed him the life he could have. Kerrie never left him, running into him from time to time. Due to Kerrie's influence, this young man turned his life around and is now a minister in Omaha.

Ellen's sister was at a Boys and Girls Club ceremony when a young lady came up to her saying Kerrie saved her life. The girl explained she was a runaway and hanging around with the wrong crowd. Kerrie found her and discovered she was a reported runaway. Kerrie took the young girl back to her home and never forgot her. Kerrie would check up on her to make sure she was making good choices. This young lady received a scholarship award in Kerrie's honor and is going into the preforming arts, thanks to a young lady in blue, named Kerrie.

Many groups have honored Kerrie. Her hometown of Walnut dedicated the "Orozco's gardens," and proudly displayed them during the annual "Walnut Days Antique Walk" in June. A baseball tournament in Walnut was held in her honor. There are two ball fields named in Kerrie's honor in Omaha. Kerrie's Causes scholarship program was also established. The Ralston Community will hold an event ever year in her honor. And Kerrie was recently honored by the National Latino Police Officers Association as the Medal of Valor honor recipient.

Also, says Ellen, since Kerrie's death, the Boys and Girls Club volunteers have doubled.

The Virginia Cavaliers recently won the College World Series and dedicated their win to Kerrie. They had four bats signed by the team to auction off at a benefit honoring Kerrie.

On May 26, Olivia's original due date, Kerrie was laid to rest in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Council Bluffs. Ellen remembers when the sky opened up on them while they were at the cemetery, and she recalls thinking of the song, "Holes in the Floor of Heaven:"



There's holes in the floor of Heaven, And her tears are pouring down That's how you know she's watching, Wishing she could be here now. An' sometimes if you're lonely, Just remember she can see. There's holes in the floor of Heaven and she's watching over you and me.

However, other family members were saying, "Kerrie is using her squirt gun and pouring water on us."

Kerrie always believed in goodwill, being strong and being kind – a great theme for which to base our lives upon.

Ellen says Olivia is growing and doing well. We hope and pray she will continue to do well and make Kerrie proud.

When Omaha Police Officer Jimmy Wilson Jr. was killed in 1985, I knew his father, Jim Sr., who started up the "Jimmy Wilson Jr. Foundation." His slogan was, "He Touched Us Last." His foundation provides in-car cameras for police vehicles.

Omaha Police Officer Jason "Tye" Pratt, was shot after a traffic stop on September 11, 2003, and died eight days later on September 19, 2003, which was on Kerrie's 18 birthday. Although I didn't know him or his family, he will always be remembered in my thoughts and prayers.

Kerrie made a real impact on her family, friends, co-workers and community. Kerrie accomplished more in her 29 years than most others do in their life time. Let us never forget her, and other officers whom lives were cut short, as they team up with our patron Saint Michael to watch over us, as we continue to do the job we all love, To Protect and Serve.

"Kerrie On Merchandise" is available at the following link: http://corporate1.idealstores.com and the access code is "Kerrie".

### **Three-Minute Ride**

By Omaha Officer Chad Schroeder #1747

I stepped into the ambulance in total disbelief

It would be a 3-minute ride full of heartache and grief

I'd taken this ride before, but never with one of our own

This ride was different, and it sent a chill to the bone

I knelt down and brushed the hair from Kerrie's face

I watched the medics go to work at an incredible pace

The look on our faces was nothing I can explain

As tears started pouring, our hearts filled with pain

Before I knew it, one minute had passed Medics were still trying, working so

I began to question myself and question the cause

But then remembered Kerrie loved our job and would never show pause

Two minutes in I felt overwhelming sorrow

As I realized we had no more time to borrow

It was time to talk to Kerrie and give her some peace

She needed to know so her spirit could release

I got as close as I could and whispered

in her ear

We love you Kerrie, you have nothing to fear

For your ultimate sacrifice it is our duty to atone

Your family is now our family, and we will cherish them as our own

Shortly thereafter the ride came to an end

It may take forever for our hearts to mend

If you have ever met Kerrie, consider yourself blessed

She is one in a million, and she passed his final test

Now it is our job to leave no doubt, absolute zero

To pass on to Olivia that

her mom is our hero

Several days have passed and the pain is still great

But her legacy grows larger across all 50 states

So many life lessons for my police sisters and brothers

Kerrie taught us to think less of self, and do more for others

We need not look far, and I would suggest

Kerrie is a role model, the best of the best

She will always be with us, looking down with her smile

Angels like Kerrie make this job worthwhile













Iowa sheriffs' offices were well represented at the funeral of Omaha Police Officer Kerrie Orozco at St. John's Catholic Church on the campus of Creighton University. Nine members of the ISSDA Honor Guard participated in the funeral at the church, the procession and the cemetery. They are (center, facing the camera, l to r): Senior Deputy Chris Langenberg (Johnson County), Captain Marty De Muth (Buena Vista County) Deputy Waylon Pollema (Sioux County), Deputy Kirk Hammer (Greene County), Deputy Brad Rose (Woodbury County), Deputy Willie Garrett (Woodbury County), Deputy Dustin DeGroot (Woodbury County), Deputy Gerad Lukken (Woodbury County), and Sgt. Rick Singer (Plymouth County).

Honor Guard photos by Johnson County Deputy Luke Hruby

# Website Updates Better Serve ISSDA and Membership's Needs

I am pleased to announce that we are in the final stages of design and implementation of a new ISSDA website!

Okay, I can hear the groans already; "He's talking about the website again... make him stop!" Trust me, this is much more exciting than I will probably make it sound, and it is a much-needed improvement to our current website.

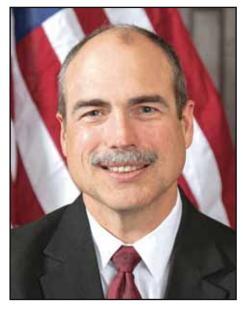
The current website has been an excellent project (yes, I'm bragging). With this website, we've been better able to share information with all of our members regarding training classes, conference details, job openings and much more. However, we are very limited on the current site with the number of pages and photographs, it does not work well for event registrations, and other features are very limited.

Under the current process, most of us have to duplicate the registration process by registering online and then printing out the registration form and filling it out by hand so that we have a receipt to turn in to our Auditor's Office. We also are limited on the information we can put on the registration forms as they are custom made by our website provider.

With the new website, we are working on a receipt feature that will allow you to register online, and then print out a copy of your registration that you can use as a receipt (you're welcome Sheriff Pulkrabek). We will also be able to create custom registration forms that contain any fields we may need.

We've had many requests lately to include dietary restriction information on the registration form so that members can alert the School's Committee to any food allergies or restrictions. The School's Committee can then notify the hotel of these restrictions. This should prove to be very helpful for those with dietary concerns.

In addition to the improved registration process, the new website will allow us to add unlimited pages and photographs, and to much more easily edit the layout of the webpages – something we currently cannot do. It will also be optimized for mobile devices, making it



**Major John Godar** Linn County Sheriff's Office

much easier to navigate and view from a smartphone. We are also working very hard to keep the new site very similar to our current site because we know how much everyone loves change!?

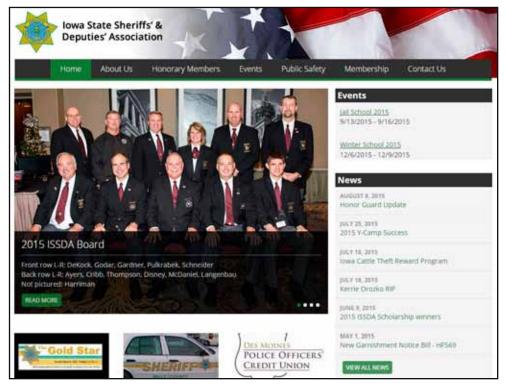
There will be some bumps in the road as

we finish implementation of the new site, so I ask for your patience and understanding as we start that process hopefully some time in mid-August.

Current website members will need to re-enter some personal information into the new site, as we can't import everything from the current site to the new site. We also will have a new process for sending mass e-mails that will probably take some work on our part to get figured out – but it should be better in the long run.

I want to acknowledge and thank the hard work of Deputy Corey Grote and Sgt. Shawn Ireland for all of their help in this process. Sgt. Ireland took over administration of our website from me a few years ago and has been a huge help. It really is a lot of work, but I think we're reaping many benefits from our website (to our members, vendors, and the public) and I believe this new website will help us even more.

Thank you for bearing with me on this website update. If you're lucky, maybe we'll have time for some website training during Jail School!! Ok, just kidding... don't cancel your registration to Jail School!



#### From THE N'WEST IOWA REVIEW

## People can meet, make exchanges by his office

The Osceola County Sheriff's Office in Sibley recently designated the parking lot in front its building in Sibley as well as the building's lobby as a "Safe Exchange Zone" for purchases and other exchanges arranged online. The areas are under constant video surveillance. Photo by Rylan Howe

#### **By Mark Mahoney** Staff Writer

Osceola County Sheriff Doug Weber wants people to be safe at all times. This includes when people meet others in person they do not know for business transactions that were set up on swap sites such as Craigslist and other online marketplaces.

Because of the dangers that come with that kind of meeting, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office in Sibley recently designated the parking lot in front of the public safety building as well as the structure's front lobby as a "Safe Exchange Zone" for dealings and purchases arranged online.

The designated areas are monitored by video cameras and always under surveillance.

"With the increasing use of Internet classifieds, the sheriff's office would like to take a proactive approach to ensuring the safety of the citizens and visitors of the community by offering this service," Weber said.

Weber set up the zone after a friend of his sent him an online link earlier this year to a news report about other law enforcement agencies throughout the country establishing similar safe areas in response to the possible risks.

According to a June 7 article in The Wall Street Journal, at least 70 police and sheriff's departments across the country have created such zones, usually in lobbies or parking lots.

As of earlier this week, the Lyon County Sheriff's Office in Rock Rapids, O'Brien County Sheriff's Office in Primghar and Sioux County Sheriff's Office in Orange City have not designated areas for safe business transactions set up online.

The Wall Street Journal also reported that 87 killings attached to Craigslist interactions have happened in the United States during the past eight years, including 22 in 2014 and six so far this year.

"There are a number of assaults and robberies that go with this," Weber said. "With these transactions, you're usually dealing with people you don't know."

A police or sheriff's office being used as a safe zone or safe haven is not a new idea.

"We've done this sort of thing for years, like child custody exchanges," Weber said. "That's nothing new."

What is new is Weber's agency now can be used as a gathering location for safe business transactions set up through the In-

He said he was not worried that his department could be opening itself up to liability if something goes wrong during a business transaction at the agency.

"We deal with that kind of stuff all the time," Weber said. "We've done child custody exchanges for years.

They can get emotional. My hopes would be if someone would commit a criminal act, they'd think twice about showing up."

He was not aware of anyone taking advantage of the safe area yet, and he could not recall any violent or other kinds of crimes in Osceola County related to online purchases through Craigslist and other similar sites since he took over as sheriff in 2005.

However, mail, online and phone scams cause continuous trouble for law enforce-

"There are different formats of that," Weber said. "It's an ongoing problem. They're not face-to-face types of transactions."

As far as the safe area at the sheriff's office, Weber said people should call ahead first and let the dispatcher know a swap of money and purchased items will be occurring there at a certain time on a specific date.

"We'll watch for that then and monitor it a little closer," Weber said. "It's a good idea to promote safety. If you're selling something, you can come to the safe exchange zone and do it there."

Osceola sheriff seeks to make online deals safer Osceola County sheriff Doug



Osceola County Sheriff Doug Weber.

Weber and his office have designated the parking lot in front the sheriff's office in Sibley as well as the lobby as a "Safe Exchange Zone" for purchases and other exchanges arranged online. The areas are under constant video surveillance with the idea of creating a safe environment for people to meet.

The Osceola County Sheriff's Office in Sibley recently designated the parking lot in front its building in Sibley as well as the building's lobby as a "Safe Exchange Zone" for purchases and other exchanges arranged online.

The areas are under constant video surveillance.

The Osceola County Sheriff's Office in Sibley offers the following ways to protect yourself from potential attackers or scam-

- Meet during the day.
- Bring a friend and tell someone about the meeting.
- Meet in person in a safe, public area.
- Refuse background and/or credit
- Always use cash or a cashier's check.
- Online purchase red flags include:
- Vague initial inquiries.
- Poor grammar or spelling.
- Use of the word "guarantee."
- Offering shipping unless using sites like eBay.
- Payment through MoneyGram, Pay-Pal or Western
- Union, for example.

To learn more, call the Sheriff's Office at 712-754-2556 or visit sheriffosceolacounty.org.

## 125 Y-Campers Attend Sheriffs'

It was another great week here at the Des Moines Y-Camp with the kids attending our annual Sheriffs' and Deputies' Camp June 15 – 21.

We had 125 campers from all across the state of Iowa came and enjoyed the fun and relationship-building programs at Camp this year.

Each camper stayed in a cabin with about 10 peers and two Y-Camp leaders. They had the opportunity to select their morning activities from a list that included archery, riflery, arts and crafts, soccer, and much more. They spent each morning participating in more in-depth instruction in the activities

they choose during what are called "Pathways".

Afternoons were spent with their cabin mates participating in activities ranging from horseback riding to rock wall climbing and everything in between. One camper, at the climbing tower, exclaimed, "Camp is so fun! I never thought I'd be good at climbing, but I was great!"

Camp is a great place to learn more about the outdoors and experience challenges and programs that they hadn't tried before. Through these experiences of overcoming challenges, they grow to become more confident individuals and realize a new sense of accomplishment and self-worth. Camp teaches children social skills and encourages character development, which encourages campers to be more involved and successful members of their school and community.

The benefits of being at camp are the main reason that ISSDA and Y-Camp forged the bond to create the Sheriffs' and Deputies' program. The partnership has brought campers from many backgrounds and situations to camp so that they can build friendships and learn new skills.

It also allows them to take time away from their busy and stressful









## and Deputies' Camp This Year

lives and enjoy their time in nature, sing songs, and be goofy.

Many campers fondly consider camp a home away from home, full of lessons, friends and fun. The number of campers crying during our closing program, from teenage boys to 9-year-old girls, was a staggering reminder of how important their time at camp was. It was another amazing week at camp and we are all looking forward, anxiously, to see more campers through ISSDA next year!











"Dear Shelby County Sheriffs,
Thank all you amazing sheriffs and deputies. I'm having
so much fun here at Y camp. So far I've ziplined, climbed
up the rock wall, and rode horses. I've also gone down a
wicked sled slide tube. Once again, thanks a lot for
bringing me here. Sincerely, *Domonic K*."



## Clay County Hires Josh Long Hired as Deputy; Dillon Faas Hired as Correction Officer

**By Sheriff Randy Krukow** Clay County Sheriff's Office

The Clay County Sheriff's Office hired correctional officer Josh Long as a deputy on June 1, and Dillon Faas as a correctional officer.

Deputy Long began working for the Clay County Sheriff's Office in January 2014, and has been a dependable part of our jail team. While attending Buena Vista University, he performed two internships with our office and graduated from with a Bachelor's Degree in criminal justice.

Deputy Long and his girlfriend, Stacie Duckwitz, live in Spencer. He is a 2nd Lieutenant in the Iowa Army National Guard serving in the 34th ID, 1-168 Infantry, Delta Company, out of Denison, Iowa.

The Clay County Sheriff's Office is proud to offer this position to an active duty military officer, knowing he brings the kind of honor, dedication and loyalty so desired by our office. We are excited to help Deputy Long in his new role, and look forward to his continued service to the citizens of Clay County.



**Deputy Josh Long** 

The Clay County Sheriff's Office welcomes Dillon Faas as our newest corrections officer. Correctional Officer Faas graduated from Southeast Technical Institute with an Associate of Applied Science degree in May 2015 majoring in Law Enforcement. This past winter he served his internship with the Clay County Sheriff's Office both in the jail and with ride-alongs.

While attending the Southeast Technical Institute, Correctional Officer Faas was a member of the Law Enforcement Student



**Correctional Officer Dillon Faas** 

Association, and a previous member of the student government. His high grade point average put him on the President's, and he completed course work in criminal justice, juvenile justice, psychology and sociology. Correctional Officer Faas graduated with honors in May with an Associates Degree. His parents are Don and Marcia Faas of Sanborn, Iowa.

His hobbies include hunting and fishing, and he likes to work out and lift weights in his spare time.



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## **Bremer County Hires Deputy Jason Ellison**

The Bremer County Sheriff's Office hired Jason Ellison as a deputy sheriff in June 2015. Deputy Ellison was originally from Owasa, Iowa, and graduated from Eldora-New Providence School District. He attended Ellsworth Community College and received his A.A. degree in criminal justice. He transferred to the University of Northern Iowa and received his Bachelors with a major in criminology and minor in sociology. He worked as a correctional officer for the Department of Corrections at the Anamosa State Penitentiary and Newton Correctional Facility from 2007 - 2010. He began his career in law enforcement in 2010 with the Clay County Sheriff's Office.



Bremer County Deputy Jason Ellison was sworn in by Bremer County Board of Supervisors Chairman Dewey Hildebrandt.

## Rick Penning Recognized for His 40 Years Service

Grundy County Sheriff Rick D. Penning has received a service award from Grundy County Board of Supervisors Chairperson Mark A. Schildroth for working for Grundy County for 40 years, and has been the sheriff since February 1, 1982, when he replaced William G. Marten.





### Y-Camp Thank You Letters from the Kids Sponsored by Iowa Sheriffs' Offices

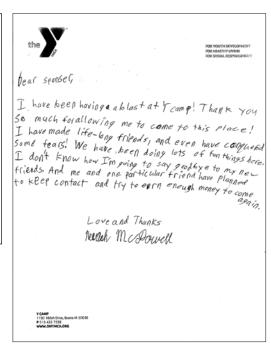


Dear Sponsor,

Thank you so much for sponsoring me to Y-Camp. If you hadn't sponsored me to go to camp I would have never had this experience. It was fun at camp to get to play gaga ball, go to the swimming pool, and go to meet new friends, and I hope to come back next year.

Alex





## Muscatine Co. S.O. Appoints Capt. Ardyth Orr Chief Deputy and Capt. Jeff Mullen 2nd Deputy

Capt. Ardyth Orr has been appointed Chief Deputy of the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office.

Capt Orr has been with the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office since 1988, and has worked in the Civil Division, Jail Division, Patrol, Drug Task Force and Investigations. Capt. Orr has achieved a well-rounded career with exemplary service being the staple. Her intelligence, fairness, loyalty and integrity are unquestioned. Her ability to organize and multi-task are certainly superior. Capt. Orr is well respected far beyond our jurisdiction for her abilities, and well respected by the community.

In 177 years no sheriff of Muscatine County has named a female Chief Deputy. This appointment is made because of her dedication, ability and job performance.

Capt. Jeff Mullen has been appointed 2nd Deputy of the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office.

Capt. Mullen has been with the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office since 1994. He is the Patrol Division Captain and has a multitude of responsibilities. In addition to overseeing Patrol, he manages the GTSB grant and equipment purchases under the grant, our bullet proof vest program, scheduling, he has been the liaison for the Sheriff's Patrol for years, and many other duties. Capt. Mullen's responsibilities and span of control over daily operation of the office more than justify his new assignment.

Sgt. Quinn Riess has been promoted to

lieutenant and placed in command of CID.

Lt. Riess has served the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office since 1999. He was in the Patrol Division and eventually served with his K-9 partner, Magnus – a successful and well utilized investment in a dog and deputy. Lt. Riess was well respected as a Patrol Supervisor and transferred to CID. He took over the evidence management and continues to instruct in other disciplines. Even though assigned to CID, Lt. Riess participated in and helps with many other aspects of the agency, including SRT, firearms, public relations, Special Olympics, and ISSDA Kids Y-Camp. Those are the extra things we look for when we look at dedication to the office beyond your eight hours on shift.

### Woodbury Co. Officials Honor Fallen Members



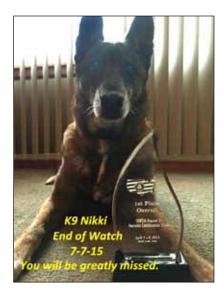
In the photo are Sheriff Dave Drew and his Honor Guard at the Woodbury Co. Public Safety Memorial, Sioux City. L to R: Deputy Gerad Lukken, Deputy Willie Garrett, Sheriff Drew, Deputy Dustin DeGroot, and Deputy Brad Rose.

On May 11, the Woodbury County Sheriff's Office, the Sioux City Police Department, SO Cpl. Jon E. Hermann 1993 Sioux City FBI Office, and the Woodbury Co. County Attorney's Office held a joint Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony honoring their fallen public safety officials in the history of Woodbury County:

FBI Special Agent Kevin J. Kramer 1996 SO Capt. Phillip A. Heimbecker 1993 PD Patrolman Warren T. Hodgins 1973 PD Capt. Joseph P. Davidchik 1968 SO Matron Mary Eileen Heilman 1959 County Attorney James R. Brodie 1959 SO Chief Deputy Jimmie Biggs 1959 PD Patrolman Sylvan E. Dykstra 1953 SO Deputy Lewis R. Jones 1921 PD Chief Detective James G. Britton 1919

### Award-Winning Tama County K-9 Nikki Lost to Cancer

With great sadness, the Tama County Sheriff's Office suffered a sudden and unexpected loss of K-9 Nikki after a sudden illness. Upon being taken to the Iowa State University emergency veterinary hospital, K-9 Nikki was found to have cancer in her lungs that had started to spread throughout her body. Sadly, there was nothing the doctors could do to help her as the cancer was too far advanced. K-9 Nikki had served the Tama County Sheriff's Office for six years. She had earned numerous awards and accomplishments with the USPCA (Region 21 events), including being among the top dogs several times. K-9 Nikki assisted in countless narcotic investigations and assisted in locating several individuals, including 334 total deployments, and assisting in 58 arrests. K-9 Nikki was a tremendous asset to the Tama County area law enforcement community. K-9 Nikki will forever be remembered for her happygo-lucky demeanor and eagerness to work and perform. K-9 Nikki will be greatly missed and never forgotten. She was purchased from North Iowa K-9 and handled by Deputy Joe Quandt. The Tama County Sheriff's Office is currently working on seeking funds to replace K-9 Nikki.



## Linn Co. Deputies Chad Shover, James Uher Receive Lifesaving Commendation Awards

During the early afternoon hours on May 7, Linn County Sheriff's Deputies Chad Shover and James Uher were at an apartment complex in northeast Cedar Rapids to conduct a court ordered eviction.

After announcing themselves and entering the apartment, they began the process of clearing the unit to ensure that it was safe for workers to begin removing items. In the back bedroom they found the female tenant lying on her bed, unresponsive and looking very pale.

The deputies checked the woman for breathing and a pulse. In doing so, they determined that she had a faint pulse and was breathing shallowly. The deputies attempted to awaken the woman, but were unsuccessful in getting any response. They then called for an ambulance while they continued to monitor her breathing and pulse. As they were monitoring the subject, they found a suicide note with an empty

medication bottle on the stand next to the bed. Shortly thereafter the subject's pulse and breathing stopped.

The subject's status was updated with dispatch, then both deputies moved her to the floor to begin CPR. Deputy Uher began preforming rescue breathing while Deputy Shover performed chest compressions. The deputies continued to provide CPR until ambulance and fire/rescue personnel arrived on scene. While ambulance personnel were reevaluating the subject, they observed that her pulse had returned. She was then transported to the hospital for further treatment where she later recovered from her suicide attempt.

It was apparent that the quick actions of Deputies James Uher and Chad Shover



Deputies Chad Shover and James Uher received Lifesaving awards for a life saved in May.

were critical in saving this woman's life. Because of their actions, Linn County Sheriff Brian Gardner presented both deputies with Lifesaving commendation awards.

# Scott County Lt. Tim Lane Graduates from the FBI National Academy

Lt. Tim Lane graduated from the 260th session of the FBI National Academy on June 12.

A 26-year law enforcement veteran serving Scott County, Tim Lane had set a goal to attend the National Academy early in his career. While attending the academy, he studied law enforcement leadership, leadership psychology, legal issues effecting law enforcement, and media relations and enhancing the law enforce-

ment image.

He earned the traditional "yellow brick" for completing all of the weekly challenge runs, and the blue brick for completing the 34-mile swim challenge.

Lt. Lane is currently assigned to patrol commanding day shift, school liaison officers, and the special operations unit.

He is a member of the Iowa Chapter of National Academy Associates.





## Visit the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association online at www.issda.org

for training opportunities, Association information, news, events, Honorary Memberships, sheriff links, photos, membership information, contact information, and ISSDA apparel sales

## C. J. Ryan Sworn In as Muscatine County Sheriff on May 1

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors took action to appoint Chief Deputy C. J. Ryan as Sheriff, which was recommended by retiring Sheriff Dave White.

Sheriff White and his wife, Linda, have retired to the Lake Okoboji area.

Sheriff Ryan has worked for the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office for the past 29 years, serving in Patrol, Investigations and the Drug Task Force.

Sheriff Ryan has commanded both the Investigations Division as well as the Task Force. In 2009, Sheriff Ryan was named Chief Deputy by Sheriff White.

In the photo at right, on May 1, Iowa District Court Judge Thomas Reidel administered the oath of office to Sheriff C. J. Ryan.



## Cedar Rapids DEA Task Force is Presented Outstanding Cooperative Investigative Effort Award

On May 21, the Cedar Rapids DEA Task Force was awarded the Outstanding Cooperative Investigative Effort Award by the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee (LECC) for their tireless investigation into the Travis Dutton Drug Trafficking Organization.

LECC awards are presented to recognize extraordinary efforts made by law enforcement officers, groups, or task forces that lead to a successful investigation and prosecution characterized by cooperative and coordinated efforts among various agencies.

The Award was presented at the 29th Annual LECC Conference sponsored by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices in the Northern and Southern Districts of Iowa and the Iowa Police Chiefs Association (IPCA).

This multi-state, multi-agency investigation led by the Cedar Rapids Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force resulted in the dismantling of a well-financed drug trafficking organization that had been bringing large quantities of high-grade marijuana and marijuana-laced candy into Iowa.

Spanning several years, this case utilized a total of 12 Title III wiretaps, and resulted in the federal indictment and conviction of 17 individuals on charges relating to drug conspiracy, money laundering, and obstruction of justice. Additional individuals were charged and convicted with state drug charges as a result of this

investigation, through a cooperative effort with the Linn County Attorney's Office. Over \$1,150,000 worth of assets were forfeited by the drug organization, including \$454,646 in cash, real property worth \$508,556, an airplane that had been used to bring marijuana into the state, and over \$18,000 worth of firearms. These seizures ensure that it will be next to impossible for this organization to re-establish itself.

This investigation and subsequent prosecutions and forfeiture would not have been successful without the cooperation of the multiple agencies that comprise the DEA Task Force, including the DEA, Linn County Sheriff's Office, the Cedar Rapids Police Department, the Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, the Marion Police Department, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Sixth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services.

In addition, the cooperative efforts of additional law enforcement agencies outside the task force were crucial to the success of the investigation. The Iowa State Patrol assisted on multiple occasions by conducting traffic stops and vehicle searches, and updating Task Force officers regarding the location of vehicles that, according to information gleaned from the wiretap, were bringing drugs into the Cedar Rapids area. The Summit County Sheriff's Office in Colorado provided valuable assistance during the simultaneous execution of two search warrants and one seizure warrant in



The Cedar Rapids DEA Task Force received the LECC Outstanding Cooperative Investigative Award on May 21. In the photo are Linn County Major Gerald Hansel (left) and TFO Sgt. Matt Sandvick, of the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

Breckenridge, Colorado.

For their efforts, these law enforcement officers, including Task Force Officer (TFO) and Linn County Sheriff's Sergeant Matt Sandvick, and their agencies deserve the recognition for their contribution to cooperative law enforcement with exemplified cooperation and coordination efforts between or among different agencies.

## Timothy Lee Petersen, 34

### Back Hawk Deputy Killed When SUV Ran Stop Sign into His Motorcycle's Path

Deputy Timothy Lee Petersen passed away on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at Covenant Medical Center after a sport utility vehicle reportedly drove through a stop sign into his path while he was off-duty riding his motorcycle in Waterloo.

Black Hawk County Sheriff Tony Thompson told a TV station that people have come forward saying Deputy Petersen saved their lives when he worked in the Black Hawk County Jail Division and Patrol Division.

Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy R.D. Abben told another TV station Deputy Petersen was a hard working 9-year veteran on the Patrol Division.

Public safety officers from around Iowa attended his funeral.

Timothy Lee Petersen was born September 16, 1980, in Cedar Falls, Iowa, son of Steven and Debra (Early) Petersen.

He graduated from Waterloo East High School in 1999, then received his Police Science Degree from Hawkeye Community College.

Petersen was united in marriage to Katy Stock on June 11, 2005, at Concordia Lutheran Church in Waterloo. He was a member of the National Guard from 1999 until

2007.

Petersen was employed as a Black Hawk County Deputy Sheriff beginning in August 2006, and also worked part-time in security at Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo. Deputy Petersen loved his work.

In his free time, Deputy Petersen enjoyed playing softball and riding his Harley-Davidson. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeyes and Chicago Cubs fan. Most of all, he loved spending time with his wife and son.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Dick Early; paternal grandmother Marilyn Petersen; step-grandmother Darlene Hacker; and step-brother Nathan Redden.

Deputy Petersen is survived by his wife Katy; son Jax; parents: Steve (Susan) Petersen of Hudson and Deb (Ron) Hacker of Waterloo; a brother David (Emily) Hacker of Evansdale; a sister Nikki (Chad) Bergmeier of Hudson; a step-sister Angie (Joe) Saunders of Cedar Falls; sister-in-law Molly (Jim) Brouwer of Parkersburg; mother and father-in law Dave and Jo Stock of Waterloo; paternal grandfather Holger Petersen; maternal grandmother Barb Early; 3 nephews; and 2 nieces.

Memorials may be directed to the Tim



Black Hawk County Deputy Tim Petersen with his son, Jax.

Petersen Family Memorial Fund at Veridian Credit Union.

In Memoriam

## Jack Bigley, 94

### Retired Pottawattamie Co. Deputy, Army Veteran, Fire Dept. Capt.

Jack Bigley was born December 17, 1920, in Council Bluffs, to John and Christina (Nelson) Bigley.

He graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in 1939. Bigley was united in marriage to Marjorie Schneider on December 10, 1944, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

He proudly served his country in the United States Army, was a captain with the Council Bluffs Fire Department, and a Pottawattamie County Deputy Sheriff until his retirement in 1985.

He was a longtime member of Salem United Methodist Church, the VFW, Iowa Fireman Association and the Sheriff Deputy Association. He is preceded in death by wife, Marjorie (2013); sisters, Lucille Henry, Irene Vogt, Virginia Seymour; brother, Frank. Survivors include his daughters, Rose Ann Holmes and husband, Kenneth, of Sacramento, Calif., Janet Kay Hummel and husband, John, of Forest Grove, Ore.; son, John Bigley and wife, Deana, of Rhinelander, of Wis.; 7 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and his beloved extended family.

Military Honors by the Kanesville Riders. Memorials are suggested to Salem United Methodist Church Endowment Fund.



## Lucas County Sheriff's Office Hires Natalie Marts as Dispatcher/ C.O.

Natalie Marts has been hired as a dispatcher/ correctional officer by the Lucas County Sheriff's Office as of May 1. Dispatcher/ Correctional Officer Marts' duties will consist of dispatching and the supervision of inmates housed in the Lucas County

holding facility, as well as transporting inmates and courtroom security. Disptacher/ Correctional Officer Marts is a native of Chariton, and lives with her parents and twin brother in the Chariton area.



## Woodbury Co. S.O. Hires Kyle Cleveringa

Kyle Cleveringa was sworn in July 2 by the Hon. Judge Jeffrey Poulson as Woodbury County's newest deputy (at right).

Deputy Cleveringa started with the Sheriff's Office as a correctional officer and spent just a little over two years working in the jail.

The second photo is Sheriff Dave Drew making a few comments at the swearing-in. To Sheriff Drew's immediate right is Deputy Cleveringa's wife, Emily. We wish Kyle a great career and stay safe.





## Muscatine County S.O. Hires Jake McCleary, Tanner Bohling

Detective Jacob McCleary (70-14) began employment with the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office in May 2015 after being employed by the Muscatine Police Department for four years, with three of those years spent in investigations in the Street Crimes Unit and Drug Task Force.

Detective McCleary graduated from Muscatine High School in 2003. Before attending and graduating with the 240th Basic Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in August 2011, Detective McCleary worked as a 911 Dispatcher with Muscatine County Joint Communications (MUSCOM) for three years. Muscatine County would like to welcome Detective McCleary to the Office.

Deputy Tanner Bohling graduated from Muscatine Community College in 2014 with an Associates Degree in criminal justice.

He was hired by the Muscatine County Sheriff's as a correctional officer in 2014, and began his career as a deputy sheriff on June 29, 2015. Deputy Bohling will attend the Iowa Law Enforce-





At left, Detective Jake McCleary and Above, Deputy Tanner Bohling, shown with Sheriff C.J. Ryan, have joined the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office.

ment Academy in August 2015.

He loves the outdoors. Hunting and fishing are huge hobbies of his as well as staying active and fit by working out. Muscatine County would like to welcome Deputy Tanner Bohling to the office.