

Freeman Police Chief Resigns

From P&D Staff Reports

FREEMAN — After pleading guilty to a misdemeanor drug charge, the Freeman police chief has resigned his position.

The Freeman City Council accepted Eric Seitz's resignation in special session July 26, according to the *Freeman Courier*.

The resignation came the same week that Seitz and the city learned he wasn't immediately accepted for certification training in South Dakota, the *Courier* reported. The state will wait on reconsidering Seitz's certification until at least an Oct. 30 review hearing, which was part of his plea agreement in Yankton County.

Seitz told the *Courier* he chose to resign from his position as chief of police "out of respect for the city and the community."

"With everything that's been going on, and it looks like it's going to be a little while (be-

fore I can get certified in South Dakota), I couldn't respectfully expect the city to continue to operate at a minimum level of law enforcement," Seitz said.

Seitz was suspended indefinitely as police chief following his April indictment on three misdemeanor counts of obtaining controlled substances concurrently from different providers. The substances were hydrocodone, used as a pain reliever, and carisoprodol, used as a muscle relaxer.

Freeman Mayor Sam Sorensen suspended Seitz because the cash bond prohibits the police chief from carrying a firearm, not because of work-related performance issues.

In late June, Seitz pleaded guilty to one count, with the other two counts dropped under a plea agreement. He received a suspended imposition of sentence and was given six months of unsupervised probation. The charge could be removed from his record.

Muralist

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"In second grade, I entered an art contest for a Sioux City television station where you needed to design a poster. Right then, I knew I wanted to be an artist," he said.

Preheim notes he may have inherited a good gene pool for his artistic pursuits.

"My father was a jack of all trades," he said. "He was a barber and he sold TVs, but he was also an amateur sign painter."

As a teenager, Preheim experienced another nudge toward an art career.

"It didn't take long for me to see (a local artist) made \$5 in an hour for painting a name on a car, and I had to haul 100 bales to make the same \$5," he said with a chuckle.

PURSUING A PASSION

For Preheim, painting wasn't just about the money — it was also about pursuing a passion. His work has taken him across the United States, with his murals seen in 27 states.

During the 1970s and 1980s, he worked for the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA). The NHRA races were

seen on television, and Preheim was sent a week ahead of time to the locations.

"I made sure the track looked good. If there were any crappy signs, we fixed them," he said with a laugh. "I would be in California in January, Phoenix is February, Florida in March and New Jersey in June."

Over the years, he literally found himself up in the air while painting murals. He worked 80 feet off the ground during a Houston job.

"One time, a casino wouldn't shut down while I was working on my mural," he said. "I had to get out my own scaffolding and continue painting while people were still playing the (slot) machines below me."

His most recent work — a mural on the side of Yesterday's Cafe in Yankton, paying tribute to film and television legends — is so large it can be seen clearly by passing motorists on Broadway Avenue.

"We're very appreciative of his work," said Toby Woehl, who owns Yesterday's Cafe with his wife, Kerry.

The Woehls opted for a retro celebrity look, which fits the restaurant's 1950s and 1960s theme. Each side of the mural stands 7 feet high and 21 feet long, separated by the

restaurant's entrance.

The mural's north half features life-size portraits of Lucille Ball and Elvis Presley, along with a 1956 Ford. The south half includes life-size images of James Dean and Marilyn Monroe, along with a 1957 Chevy.

"I had Humphrey Bogart and John Wayne in mind at first, but we went with a change to James Dean and Elvis," Preheim said. "We added Marilyn for a girl, so to balance it out, we added Lucy. When it came to painting her, I had a poster of Lucy and two or three sketches in black and white."

Preheim's wife, Theresa, helped him with prep work and painted the bottom portion of the wall that consisted of a solid color. He painted from 6 a.m. to noon to beat the heat, working every morning for two weeks.

Preheim ran his hand along the stucco wall, noting the challenges of the rough surface.

"Stucco really sucks up the paint. I used three gallons, total, on this project," he said. "But I would rather work with stucco than corrugated, which is straight up and down."

Preheim started work on the north end of the Yesterday's Cafe project.

The suspended imposition of sentence requires that Seitz have no violations of any kind, follow the conditions of the court and receive a chemical dependency (CD) evaluation. He indicated during his court appearance that he had already undergone the evaluation.

Under the sentence, he paid a \$300 fine, \$84 court costs and \$63.11 transcript charges.

Freeman has used other personnel to cover its law enforcement needs during Seitz's absence, according to the *Courier*. A part-time officer was upgraded to full-time status, assistance was received from the Hutchinson County sheriff's office and another officer was retained on a part-time basis.

Seitz's drug charges arose from incidents last summer.

He obtained the prescription drugs between the approximate dates of Aug. 1, 2012, and Aug. 31, 2012. He obtained the original prescriptions at a Freeman pharmacy and then sought refills at a Yankton pharmacy.

Seitz's effort to obtain the concurrent prescriptions was detected during a refill request.

Arrest

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a.m. Monday of the accident at a construction site in Gillette.

Jason Thompson, 38, was pronounced dead at the scene after the dump truck Ames was driving apparently backed over him.

Both men were construction workers at the site.

According to court records, Ames was convicted in 2007 of driving under the influence in Yankton County. He was arrested again in 2010 for driving under the influence in Turner County but ended up pleading guilty to reckless driving.

Wyoming authorities are still investigating the matter.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnnInlandVoyage

Oakley, Poker Alice, Sitting Bull and Potato Creek Johnny.

One sports mural incorporated Muhammad Ali, Cal Ripken, Dan Marino and Michael Jordan. Another mural included pro golfers Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods and Arnold Palmer.

Preheim has painted scenes ranging from wildlife to pirates with chests of gold.

"I did a wall that represented an Old-Time Saturday Night, but I placed a TV antenna in the mural," he said with a mischievous grin. "I have done kid's rooms. I have done pictures for living rooms. I have done a wine cellar at a private home in Sioux Falls that incorporated pictures from their trip to Italy."

Preheim talked about the painful experience of seeing his mural painted over by the business owner who decided to make a change. Some murals are lost to history, such as the work done at the former Viborg school before it was torn down.

One mural of an approaching train looks so lifelike that viewers feel as if the engine is coming right at them, Preheim said. "The guy who ordered the painting put a dummy in front of the mural, so it looked as if the train was going to run over it," he said with a laugh.

Preheim painted the mural for Wakonda's 125th anniversary in 2010. The work incorporated aspects of the town's past and present. One portion of the mural paid homage to the Wakonda Warriors and Warriorettes, with the green and white school colors. Reflecting the current school consolidation, another portion paid tribute to the Irene-Wakonda Eagles with the blue and white school colors.

With a half-century of work behind him, Preheim doesn't plan to slow down. In fact, he was meeting a prospective client after the *Press & Dakotan* interview.

In that respect, Preheim doesn't see his work as ever finished — he just moves on to the next project.

"Painting is never done, it's just abandoned," he said.

Preheim doesn't see his work merely as a way of earning a living. Instead, the painting has allowed him to pursue a way of life.

"There's the song by George Strait, 'Amarillo By Morning,'" he said. "I'm like the one line: 'I Ain't Rich, But Lord I'm Free.'"

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf

OBITUARIES

Lucille Mason

Lucille Marie Mason, daughter of Peter Hauger and Mary Freimuth of Irene, SD, passed away at the age of 86 in Petaluma, CA on July 15th. Lucille suffered from Alzheimer's disease in her last years and was cared for by her loving daughter Marla Vaughan and the very caring and supportive staff at The Oaks Convalescent Hospital in Petaluma.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30 Saturday August the 10th at St. Columba Catholic Church, 29601 444th Ave. Irene, SD, preceded by a Friday evening

Visitation from 5-7 p.m. and rosary at 7:00 p.m. and a 7:30 p.m. Scripture service at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory in Yankton.

Lucille Marie Hauger stepped onto a Greyhound bus heading for Southern California when she was just twenty years old wanting to leave behind the farming life of her youth to explore the possibilities that California offered a young woman's adventurous mind. Her bus ended its westward journey in Pasadena, CA, at the steps of an ice cream parlor, where she stepped in, bought an ice cream, got a job, then rented a room upstairs, and this was the beginning of her life in California.

She met through friends Robert Mason, originally from Aurora, Missouri, and married him in Pasadena in 1950. They purchased a home and settled in Torrance, CA and had three children, Gary, Marla, and Thomas, with a fourth child, Marla born in Huntsville, Alabama during a four year job transfer for Robert with Douglas Aircraft. Daniel, the fifth and final child of Lucille was born in Torrance after returning from Alabama. Lucille raised her children in Torrance with all the sparkle of a modern woman however the farm girl was forever in her, she always raised a backyard vegetable garden that would have made her parents proud. She introduced her children to the local farmer's market and embraced the exotic culinary world of avocados, kiwi fruit, cilantro, arugula, and heirloom tomatoes well be-



Mason

fore they became main stream, but she could always make a delicious Jell-O mold for the family Thanksgiving potlucks. Lucille loved plants, flowers, cooking and baking, and personal friendships along with a passion for interior decorating and was known to desire a new house when the previous home was complete.

She followed her son, Thomas back to South Dakota in 2003 buying a home in Yankton, and once again embraced the farm girl within and life in South Dakota. She returned to California when she started to become challenged with Alzheimer's to be closer to family for support. Lucille will rest next to her parents at St. Columba Catholic Cemetery in Irene, SD the place of her birth in the Mayfield area in 1927 and across the street from the Hauger family farm.

Lucille is survived by her daughter, Marla Vaughan, her husband Brian and their children, Wesley, Eric, and Kimberly, and daughter Mary Craig, her husband Alan and their children Garrett and Tyler. She is also survived by her son, Thomas Mason, and his wife Nancy along with son Daniel Mason, and his wife Cornelia. Lucille was preceded in death by her first son Gary Mason, who we all feel will look forward to showing Mom around in heaven and may just mix a martini for her...

In lieu of flowers a donation to The Alzheimer's Foundation of America, to help in research and to improve Alzheimer's care in America, 322 Eighth Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10001, or alz.org.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
August 7, 2013

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Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

John Tidd

John Thomas Tidd of Greenville, SC, 90 years old died Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at Mercy Sacred Heart Village in Louisville, KY.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, August 9, 2013 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton, with Dr. Rick Jensen officiating. Burial will be in the Yankton Cemetery.

Visitations will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

He was born to Wreitha (Jones) and Charles Henry Tidd in Telluride, Colorado on September 20, 1922. He grew up first in Telluride where his father was a physician, and then later the family moved to Whittier, California where he attended elementary school and graduated from Whittier Union High School. He completed the requirements for medical



Tidd

school at Whittier College, the University of Southern California and Stanford University. He graduated from medical school at the University of Pennsylvania in 1946 and interned at the Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. He completed residency training in Pathology at the University of Colorado. He married Alice Marian Ross at Greenville, South Carolina in January 1951. He began his medical practice in pathology at Yankton, South Dakota in July 1951 and joined the Laboratory of Clinical Medicine based in Sioux Falls in 1973. He continued to practice at Sacred Heart Hospital until his retirement in September 1994. He was also a member of the medical staff at St.

Benedict's Hospital in Parkston, St. Michael's Hospital in Tyndall, Landmann-Jungman Memorial Hospital in Scotland, the Human Services Center in Yankton, and the Indian Health Service Hospital at Rosebud, SD. He was active in the American Cancer Society, the American College of Pathology, and The American Medical Association. He was a volunteer faculty member for the University of South Dakota School of Medicine and he taught in the programs of Medical Technology and Histologic Technique at Sacred Heart Hospital and Mount Marty College. He served on the Board of Trustees of the United Church of Christ in Yankton as well as Yankton College. He was a life-long supporter of the Republican party. When he developed health problems, he moved first to Memphis, Tennessee and for the last 16 years resided in

Greenville, South Carolina. He is survived by his brother, Robert of Tustin, CA; John's five children: Margaret (Thomas) Abell of Louisville, KY, Katherine (Brian) Thompson of Greenville, SC, Mary of Charlotte, NC, Charles of Minnatare, NE, and Dorothy (Frederick) Dougherty of Northridge, CA. He leaves six grandchildren: Thomas and Katherine Abell, Michael and Julia Vickerman, and Laura and Charles Dougherty.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Alice.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
August 7, 2013

PSAHL-KOSTEL
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.
Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Ruth Olson

Ruth Lucille Mack Olson passed away peacefully on Monday, August 5, 2013, surrounded by her family.

Ruth was born May 1, 1919, to William and Agnes (McHendry) Mack. She was born on the family farm near Dixon, SD. She was the youngest of eight children.

In high school, Ruth excelled in debate and in college she became a national debate champion. She attended Augustana College and Springfield State College. She earned her teaching degree and taught at various country schools.

Ruth married Pete Olson on April 5, 1941, in Ainsworth, NE. To this union, 13 children were born.

Ruth was an active member of the Ideal Presbyterian Church, Ladies Aid, and the Ideal Homemakers Club. She was also a member of the



Olson

Southern Belle CowBelles and president of La Leche. Ruth was very social and enjoyed Wednesday lunches in town with her friends. She also enjoyed dancing polkas and waltzes. Ruth was a wonderful seamstress and made many clothes for her children, including prom dresses, wedding dresses and bridesmaid dresses. Ruth was an incredible cook and always welcomed everyone to the table. She loved her family, especially all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She always enjoyed having a full house! Ruth never lost her witty sense of humor.

Ruth is survived by Weldon Peter "Pete" Olson, her husband of 72 years and her children: Dorothy (Ken) Qualm of Torrington, WY; Mary (Gary) Engen of Mounds View, MN; George (Norma) Olson of Witten, SD; Susan (Bill) Zanin of Spicer, MN; Sandra Olson of Piedmont, SD; Carol Olson of Seabrook, TX; Avis (Perry) Clark of Lewisville, TX; Scott (Donna) Olson of Ideal, SD; Marjorie (Wayne) Kindle of Yankton, SD; and Heather

(Mike) Johnson of Yankton, SD; 20 grandchildren, and 15 great grandchildren.

Ruth was preceded in death by her children Aggie, Duane and infant child.

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Fern Nielson

Fern Arlene Nielson, 87, of Redfield died Friday, Aug. 2, 2013, at Eastern Star Home in Redfield.

Her funeral is at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. The Rev. Brian Wasmoen will officiate. Burial will be in Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery near Midway at 4:30 p.m.

Visitation is 5-7 p.m. Friday at the Eastern Star Home Chapel with a pray service at 7 p.m.

For more, visit www.the-lenfuneralhome.com/.



MORNING COFFEE

WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY
Wednesday, August 7
7:40 am Boys & Girls Club (Kelsie Thoreson)
8:20 am Hy-Vee Foods (Chef Staci)
Thursday, August 8
7:40 am Yankton Chamber (Carmen Schramm)
8:20 am Yankton Conv/Vis Bureau (Lisa Scheve)

Sharon Holy

Sharon L. Holy, 70, of Yankton, died early Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2013, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.

Funeral services are pending with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

Carol Smith

Carol Smith, 66, of Sioux City, Iowa, died Aug. 5, 2013, at Mercy Medical Center, Sioux City.

Services are pending with the Kober Funeral Home.

The perfect combination Funeral Home. Cemetery.

We offer the convenience of having everything at one location with our family taking care of all the important details. Call us for more information.

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