



Times-Republican

YOUR LOCAL CONNECTION MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA
@marshalltowntr Facebook.com/timesrepublican

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Second suspect charged with financial exploitation of elderly Marshalltown residents

TIMES-REPUBLICAN

About a week after the T-R first reported that a Dav-
enport man had been charged with financial exploitation
of an older individual after allegedly helping to spend
over \$500,000 worth of funds that be-
longed to a pair of Marshalltown residents
over the age of 80, his younger brother has
been charged with the same crime in con-
nection to the investigation.



Thompson

According to court records, Joel Vaughn
Thompson, 50, of Coffeyville, Kan. turned
himself in to local authorities on June 20
and was booked at the Marshall County
Jail. The criminal complaint against Joel Thompson al-
leges that the exploitation occurred between February
of 2023 and October of 2024, and the connection be-
tween Joel and Jeremy Thompson and the alleged vic-
tims has not yet been made public. According to a release
from the Marshalltown Police Department (MPD), a
“lengthy” investigation that included two financial audits
began on Nov. 7, 2024 as the result of a complaint made
by the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services
(DHHS) about a possible financial exploitation of a de-
pendent adult.

Joel Thompson's bond is currently set at \$50,000 cash,
and a preliminary hearing is scheduled for June 30 at
2:30 p.m.

‘We have a problem’



T-R PHOTO BY ROBERT MAHARRY

UnityPoint Health-Marshalltown Hospital Administrator and Executive Director of Operations Shari King, left, speaks about the future of EMS services in Marshall County as Marshalltown City Councilors Mark Mitchell, center, and Barry Kell, right, look on during Monday night's meeting. The council agreed to move forward with a plan to hire a consultant and split the cost evenly between the city, the county and UPH.

UPH-Marshalltown administrator addresses future of local EMS service with city council

By ROBERT MAHARRY
TIMES-REPUBLICAN

At the end of an otherwise short
and succinct meeting on Monday
night, UnityPoint Health-Marshall-
town Hospital Administrator and
Executive Director of Operations
Shari King addressed the city council
about the future of emergency med-
ical services (EMS) in the county
and reported that her organization
is currently losing approximately \$1
million a year providing them.

King introduced herself as a rep-
resentative of both UPH and an EMS
task force that has been assembled
within the last year before explain-
ing the difference between the 911
service — which was the topic up
for discussion at the meeting — and
transfers, which are the responsibil-
ity of any hospital to move a patient
from location to location as medical
need arises.

The current 911 setup includes
no funding from any sources other
than what it can bill, and in some in-
stances — for example, a patient de-
clines to go to the emergency room
after an ambulance arrives — no bill
can be issued. Insurance companies
often deny reimbursement requests

for EMS services.

“Right now, neither the city nor
the county provide any funding to
UnityPoint Health-Marshalltown for
providing this service. The wrinkle
here is that I think a lot of our tax-
payers think they are paying for this
service and that this is something
that is already covered as an essential
service,” King said.

A handful of smaller communi-
ties in Marshall County do have vol-
unteer EMS services, but King said
they are “feeling the stress” of dwin-
dling numbers and keeping their
members up to date on training. In
general, King noted that fewer and
fewer individuals are entering the
EMT and paramedic fields, and the
reimbursement is not covering the
cost to deliver the service.

Marshalltown and Marshall
County, she added, are “very un-
usual” in that UPH is the primary
provider of 911 ambulance services.
County hospitals and Critical Ac-
cess Hospitals are able to access other
sources of public funding such
as an EMS tax and reimbursement
through Medicare, but UPH-Mar-
shalltown is neither. King estimated
that only two or three other services
statewide where a hospital is the pri-

mary provider of EMS.

According to King, concerns
about “EMS deserts” are growing
around the state, and she then dis-
cussed a law signed by Gov. Kim
Reynolds in 2021 allowing for voters
in individual counties to designate
EMS as an essential service funded
by either an income surtax or a prop-
erty tax levy not to exceed \$0.75 per
\$1,000 of valuation by a 60 percent
supermajority. Just to the east, Tama
County voters approved such a de-
signation at the polls last November.

King then shared something of
a summation of her remarks to that
point.

“What really transpired is we
were looking at the nature of the ser-
vice that we’re providing, the chal-
lenges we’re having with staffing and
the financial loss we’re taking. That’s
really what signaled ‘Hey, we have
a problem, certainly, in Marshall
County.’ We need to work collabora-
tively to find a solution that will be
long-term sustainable because right
now, our current model is not sus-
tainable,” she said.

As a result, meetings with stake-
holders and elected officials evolved

EMS | A3



T-R PHOTO BY LANA BRADSTREAM

Tim Kelly, owner of Edgeworth Precision, works at a lathe while
repairing a firearm for a customer. Kelly opened the business not
long after moving to Marshalltown and has relied solely on word-of-
mouth to attract customers.

Marshalltown resident runs gunsmithing business out of carriage house

By LANA BRADSTREAM
TIMES-REPUBLICAN

Sometimes life gets hectic and people do not have as
much time to do what they enjoy. Tim Kelly has been experi-
encing that, but still moves forward to making his goal of
working full-time in his gunsmithing business a reality.

When he is not working at Emerson or spending time with
his family, Kelly, 59, tries to get Edgeworth Precision up and
running. The name of the business is inspired by the name
of the house the Kellys purchased. After he and his family
moved to Marshalltown in 2019 from South Dakota, he be-
gan transforming a backyard carriage house into Edgeworth,
a business for building and repairing firearms.

“For the repair work, I do anything, pretty much,” Kelly
said. “The building, for the most part, is precision rifles
and I got into doing smokeless muzzle loaders.”

He refrains from working on AR-15 rifles and fully au-
tomatic firearms. Kelly also does not work on 3D-printed
guns, also known as “ghost guns.”

GUNSMITH | A3

For delivery call 641-753-6611
or go online at
www.timesrepublican.com

1 section, 10 pages
Vol. CXLIX No. 149



Copyright 2004
Marshalltown Newspaper, LLC



Price \$1.00



Thank You
Mark Kvidera
of Marshalltown
for subscribing to the
Times-Republican

Iran launches missiles at US military base in Qatar in retaliation for American bombing

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab
Emirates — Iran launched
a limited missile attack
Monday on a U.S. military
base in Qatar, retaliating
for the American bomb-
ing of its nuclear sites but
indicating it was prepared
to step back from escalat-
ing tensions in the volatile
region.

The U.S. was warned by
Iran in advance, and there
were no casualties, said
President Donald Trump,
who dismissed the attack
as a “very weak response.”

“Most importantly,

they’ve gotten it all out of
their ‘system,’ and there
will, hopefully, be no fur-
ther HATE,” Trump post-
ed on Truth Social.

Qatar condemned the
attack on Al Udeid Air
Base as “a flagrant viola-
tion” of its sovereignty,
airspace and international
law. Qatar said it inter-
cepted all but one missile,
though it was not clear if
that missile caused any
damage.

Iran said the volley
matched the number of
bombs dropped by the
United States on Irani-

an nuclear sites over the
weekend. Iran also said it
targeted the base because
it was outside of populated
areas.

Those comments, made
immediately after the at-
tack, suggested Iran want-
ed to de-escalate with the
United States, something
Trump himself said after
the strikes early Sunday on
Iran.

Qatar Maj. Gen. Shayeq
Al Hajri said 19 missiles
were fired at the base that
is home to the Combined
Air Operations Center,
which provides command

and control of air power
across the region, as well as
the 379th Air Expedition-
ary Wing, the largest such
wing in the world. Trump
said 14 missiles were fired,
13 were knocked down
and one was “set free” be-
cause it posed no threat.

Trump said Iran might
be able to “proceed to
Peace and Harmony” and
said he would encourage
Israel to do the same.

However, Israel’s war on
Iran continued, with the
Israeli military expanding

IRAN | A2

2025 Golf SAVERS CARD
The Messenger Times-Republican Daily Freeman-Journal
Good for 18 holes of golf at many area courses for one low price

GOLF SAVERS CARD

Get your 2025 Golf Savers Card TODAY!

Now Available! At The Messenger or Online
Go online to www.messengernews.net or www.freemanjournal.net
Purchase with your credit card and have it mailed directly to you.

21 GOLF COURSES
18 HOLES EACH
\$99⁰⁰

