









2017 NSA Officer of the Year and Hall of Fame Awards | 38

A special Honor for Fillmore County Sheriff Frank Steinacher (deceased) | 5



# Awards Banquet held during NSA/POAN Conference, October 3, 2017

Above right: Incoming NSA President Sheriff Dan Osmond, Custer County (left), accepted the president's gavel from outgoing NSA President Sheriff Jerome Kramer, Lincoln County.

The passing of the president's gavel is an annual tradition observed during the October banquet.

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Top left: Officer of the Year Lancaster Couty Deputy John Brady | 38 Bottom far left: Hall of Fame Award Knox County Criminal Investigator Dean Wavrunek | 43

Bottom left: Hall of Fame Award Nuckolls County Sheriff James Marr | 39 (ret.)

# **COMMITTED TO NEBRASKA** YOUTH FOR **OVER 123 YEARS!**

In its mission statement, The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has included "dedicated to the youth of Nebraska."



Over the years, association members have consistently worked to educate children and teens on the dangers of distracted driving, and drug and alcohol abuse.

# The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine

Official publication of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Kathi Schildt, Executive Director 521 First Street | PO Box 10 Milford, NE 68405

Office: 402.761-2216 Fax: 402.761.2224 kschildt@youraam.com

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Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 2018 President: Custer County Sheriff Dan Osmond

# MISSION STATEMENT

To provide continuing education to Sheriffs' Offices, youth, and the public in general.

> The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine PO Box 27071, Omaha, NE 68127-0071 402.592.0823

> > info@nesheriffsassoc.org Editor: Duffi Goodrich Ad Sales: Ron Goodrich

Contributers' names are listed with their articles and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association or imply their endorsement.

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Please feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions on the magazine.

2018 NSA & POAN Annual Conference Sept 30 to Oct 3, Kearney, NE See page 2



# SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 3, 2018 YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER, KEARNEY, NE

Connect with law enforcement professionals across the state at the 2018 NSA/POAN Conference on September 30 - October 3, 2018 in Kearney, NE!

The 2018 NSA/POAN Annual Conference is once again the place to be for professionals involved in law enforcement. The conference will feature educational sessions requested by law enforcement professionals that will draw members from across the state. For four days in October, professionals from across the state will come together in Kearney to take advantage of leading educational programming and an exhibit hall offering tools, ideas, and products applicable to their everyday work lives.

Be sure to mark Sept. 30 - October 3, 2018, on your calendar now. We look forward to seeing you in Kearney!

# Counties Featured in this Issue

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Nebraska Sheriffs'
Association President
Sheriff Dan Osmond
Custer County
116 S 11th Ave
Broken Bow, NE 68813
308.872.6418
dosmond@custercounty.org

# A Message from NSA President, Custer County Sheriff Dan Osmond

# A new year brings new goals and challenges:

As we head into a new year we all have goals that we want to accomplish. We make our New Year's resolutions and hope that we make it longer than the two weeks Mark Mayhem did in his tv commercial! I think the most important thing to remember when setting goals is to keep it simple. Know what you're capable of and make your choices realistic. If you set your targets so far away that you can't even see them, how do you ever expect to hit them? Break your objectives down into small pieces and do one at a time. You will be amazed at what you can do!

As the NSA President I ask myself, "What do I want to accomplish this year"? With the start of a new year our legislature goes back into session. My first area of focus will be with the bills that will be introduced that can be productive or counterproductive to our roles as law enforcement officers. I encourage everyone to pay attention to these. If there is a bill that you do not want to move forward or a bill that you really hope moves on, be a voice and get involved in the process!

Another goal I have set is to make decisions that better our association in the future. When you only spend one year in charge, it would be easy to pass the buck and let the next person deal with it. I feel that we have a great organization that does a lot of positive things, and I want this to continue. As we go forward, we need to be aware of our budget, spend wisely, and find ways to create revenue. Sometimes keeping up means that we have to look at what we did in the past and adjust it to meet the needs of today's world.

The last major point of emphasis I will focus on is our annual NSA/POAN Conference in October. This is a four-day time frame when we get together with our fellow law enforcement comrades. Not only do we learn from presentations, but we also get to talk with each other and learn from our own incidents.

This will be Advanced Association Management's third year preparing the conference. After our first meeting in January I think Kathi and Kylie have a great start to this year's event. At last year's conference we had so many vendors that we are going to have to move them to a bigger room! I'm looking forward to the speakers whom we have planned and think it will be a very informative and fun conference.

# Final thoughts:

The last couple of years have been trying times between law enforcement and the public. It seems that the media always wants to paint a negative picture of what happens when there is an issue between the public and law enforcement officers. It is tough to keep a positive outlook on things when all you see or read is derogatory.

I have found hope in all of this thanks to the countless people who have shown me support during these times. One day it might be a tray of goodies brought to the office by someone "just because", the next day it will be someone who walks up to me and says, "Thank you for what you do." It seems the more negative the media painted the picture, the more support I received. I will remember these acts of kindness more than anything else. A good relationship with the public starts with trust. We have to make sure that we are conducting ourselves in a manner that deserves the public's trust and that we don't do anything to harm that. We will make some mistakes along the way; we're human. The majority of people know that we are trying to do our best, and, in the end, that is what matters.

Please stay safe and keep up the good work!

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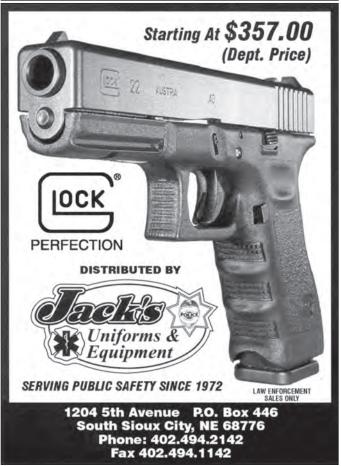
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October 3, 2017

Resolution to
80 Year-Old Case

Pictured are (left to right)
Seward County Sheriff Joe Yocum one of the modern day investigators
- Janice Kolb (80), daughter of
deceased Fillmore County Sheriff
Frank Steinacher - one of the original
investigators - and current Fillmore
County Sheriff Bill Burgess, with
the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association
Hall of Fame Award honoring Sheriff

"Eight decades had disappeared since blood spilled in the Sandhills, and the killers were surely lodged as deep in the earth as the lawmen they shot that day. The people of Boone County deserved to know who had shot their sheriff, Lawrence Smoyer, and constable, William Wathen, on a sweltering June day in 1937." (Lincoln Journal Star-LJS-Oct 4, 2017)

Being an 80 year-old cold case didn't matter to Bill Black, Chief of Investigators for the Nebraska Attorney General's Office, and Joe Yokum, Seward County Sheriff.

In 1937, Boone County Sheriff Lawrence Smoyer and Boone County Constable William Wathen were killed in the line of duty. At the time, the suspects, Marion Cooley and Charles Doody, eluded capture. Both suspects were deceased by 1995, but that didn't stop Douglas County Attorney Doug Peterson from reopening the case.

"The families of the two men - who still celebrate their lives and mourn their deaths - needed to know." (LJS)

Steinacher.

See page 25

Black and Yokum gathered the facts the original investigators had documented and were able to account for the whereabouts of Doody and Cooley just before and just after the killings. They don't know what they were looking for in the pasture, but they believe they were planning on robbing a bank in Spalding and the clothing store in Albion.

# Read the entire Lincoln Journal Star article online:

http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/nebraska/justice-served-after-years-state-names-killers-of-boone-county/article\_c728515e-51f3-5992-b033-01218e4dc276.html

Read the entire news release starting on page 25.

See more NSA Hall of Fame Awards starting on page 38.

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# January 10th Is Return-A-Day In Parts of Louisianna

By Sgt. Winston Cavendish, Sun, Louisianna Police Department (retired)

Sgt. Winston Cavendish is a retired Sun, LA, police officer and a regular contributor to the Nebraska Sheriff magazine. Some of the stories he first shared with us were also published in national law enforcement magazines.

# Sometimes big things start with little ideas:

Have you wondered if you would ever see all the things people borrowed from you last year? Well, I

though it would be interesting to conduct an experiment in human behavior and see if it's possible to motivate citizens in a communiuty to return - once a year - anything they borrowed from neighbors and friends. Sure it was a wild shot-inthe-dark, but nothing ventured, nothing gained.

I contacted my friend, Douglas Nanny, editor of our parish (county) newspaper, the New Banner (Mandeville, LA). With his help, I decided to set aside a special day - one that would not interfere with national or local holidays - that would encourage people to return what they had borrowed during the past year. We felt this would bring family, friends, and neighbors together in a positive way. That's how January 10 became "Returna-Day"in our community!

Doug and I realized that for this to work a lot of people had to be involved, so we came up with a challenge - a contest with prizes awarded for the best stories of returning borrowed items to their rightful owners. We came up with three categories including: the largest article recovered, the most articles recovered, and the most unusual article.

Next we were able to find program sponsors. Among them were the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, all the police departments in the parish, local civic organizations, 26 parish schools, local radio and television stations, and the four newspapers.

The media sponsors helped promote the day, and the four newspaper editors were the contest judges. The editors developed a special contest entry form that appeared in their respective newspapers. The form made it easier to judge. The deadline was set for January 7, and it took three days to read the thousands of entries received and to select winners. Return-a-Day was shaping up to be a big success.

# Now for the winners:

**First prize** was awarded to the largest article recovered. It was a 1965 D8 Catepillar in great condition and a trailer

> to go with it. The owner had died without a will, and his two sons fought over the bulldozer. The oldest son put it on his property and refused to give it to his younger brother. It stayed on the oldest son's property for ten years, and the brothers would not speak to each other during this time. When the oldest finally gave the buldozer to his brother, the family feud ended.

Second prize was awarded to the most articles returned and went to a person who had taken over 1,000 street signs in the parish when he was a kid. He filled his old barn with them. This person contacted me at the sheriff's office and advised that he would let me know when he found a place where I could pick them up. Three days later he advised that they were on the side of an old logging road off Louisianna Highway 1088. It took five trustees and a five ton truck to transport them to a government barn. It was estimated that the signs were worth well over \$16,000. On the trophy we engraved "an honest man".

Third prize went to the strangest article recovered. Some 15 years ago, a South American oil man was working in the Amazon and traded a small fiberglass boat to a native Indian for an authentic shrunken head. The man's buddy borrowed the head and forgot to send it back. The buddy read about Return-a-Day in one of the local newspapers and returned it to his friend.

I was amazed that people continued returning items for many weeks after the contest. Just when you think people don't really care, a special day comes along and they surprise you. I strongly believe that Return-a-Day could easily be a national day of public caring.

More from Winston Cavendish on page 8

# THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

sponsors the annual conference whith 20 hours of continuing education available. It pays to be a member!





# Did you know . . . ?

Nebraska is home to 95 different species of mammals, 452 species of birds, 60 reptiles & amphibians species, 109 species of fish, 1,470 plant species, and over 10,000 species of insects. We have an amazing biodiversity. The term "biodiversity" means "variety of life" and Nebraska definitely has that!

So why do we have such a high biodiversity or abundance of different species? Nebraska is in the center of the country. So, we have some eastern species, like the Southern Flying Squirrel (mammal) or the Kentucky Warbler (bird). We have some western species, like the Mountain Short-horned Lizard (reptile) or the Ponderosa Pine (plant). We also have some species from northern areas, like the Longnose Dace (fish) or the Northern Leopard Frog (amphibian). And, we have others from the south, like the Black-tailed Jackrabbit (mammals) or the Carolina Mantid (insect). All these different areas or ecosystems - east, west, north and south - come together in Nebraska with a variety of animals.

Unfortunately, 27 of these species have been listed as threatened or endangered, including the Whooping Crane (bird), the Black-footed Ferret (mammal), the Pallid Sturgeon (fish), and the Small White Lady's Slipper (plant).

For a complete list of endangered or threatened species in Nebraska visit http://rarespecies.nebraska.gov.

# **TORCH RUN**

Sheriffs and personnel from across the state participate in the annual Nebraska Torch Run each year, kicking off the Nebraska Special Olympic Games.



# **Antelope County** Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Robert E. Moore

# **Blaine County** Sheriff's Office

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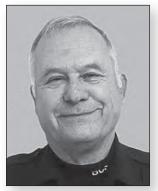
**Sheriff Timothy Sierks** 

# **Boyd County** Sheriff's Office

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**Sheriff Chuck Wrede** 

Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member



# **OLDEST OF ITS KIND**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association was established in 1894 and is the "oldest organization of its kind" in Nebraska. It is dedicated to the youth of Nebraska.

# BROWN



**Sheriff Bruce Papstein** 

# **Brown County** Sheriff's Office

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**Sheriff Neil Miller** 

# **Buffalo County Sheriff's Office**

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# **A Cajun Toast** - By Winston Cavendish

May there be crawfish in your nets and gumbo in your pot.

May the Sac-au-Lait (Choctaw sakli trout - white *crappie*) be biting at your favorite fishing spot.

May God's sun be shining brightly when you need its cheerful rays.

May the oak tree shade you gently on those lazy bayou days.

May a bourree game (cards) be waiting when all your work is through.

May the fais-doo-doo (Cajun dance party) bring pretty girls to toss a wink at you.

And when your time is over and your place on earth is gone,

May you waltz right into heaven to the tune of Joli Blonde (French Louisianna folk melody).

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# GRANT PROGRAMS

The Crime Commission offers a variety of federal and state grant programs. Each program has different purposes and requirements. Check them out at https://ncc.nebraska.gov/grants

# Items of Interest from the **Highway Safety Office**

By Fred Zwonechek Nebraska Highway Safety Administrator

# **2017 Nebraska Traffic Fatality Totals**

Pending any yet unreported delayed deaths, a total 226 individuals in 208 fatal crashes lost their lives on Nebraska roadways last year, up four percent over the 218 deaths recorded in 2016.

With continued lower fuel prices, record numbers of travelers for every major holiday, and a growing economy, the total miles driven in Nebraska for 2017 is likely to increase substantially over the 2016 record mileage total. This is expected to lower our fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles driven from the 1.0 in 2016.

Some roadway fatal crash location categories saw recent record or near record low fatality numbers in 2017. The 15 fatalities on the rural Interstate Highway was the fewest recorded in the past 15 years. That contributed to the second fewest number of 148 deaths on all rural roadways combined, exceeded only by the 134 deaths recorded in 2011.

On the other hand, urban roadway fatalities didn't fare so well. The 78 deaths recorded last year on urban roads was the highest number of deaths in the past 15 years. Ten of those fatalities occurred on the urban Interstate System, making that the highest number in the past 15 years too.

The 19 pedestrian fatalities tied with 2015 for the two highest totals in the past 15 years.

While our 2017 scientifically conducted seat belt use observation survey in Nebraska resulted in a record number of 86% of drivers and front seat passengers who are wearing their seat belts, 74% of those passenger vehicle occupants killed (125) were not using seat belts at the time of the crash. We know that more than one half of those individuals would have survived had they just been buckled up.

Teenaged drivers make up seven percent of Nebraska's driving population, but teen drivers were involved in 11 percent of the fatal crashes in 2017.

Alcohol and/or drug-related fatal crashes account for about one out of every three fatal crashes. We are still waiting on alcohol and drug test results on 99 individual drivers who were involved in fatal crashes last year.

This is a reminder why it is very important that every effort be made to obtain tests for all drivers and pedestrians involved in fatal crashes to be able to determine if education and enforcement countermeasures are making a difference. This data is collected for important statistical purposes.



# Improving the Nebraska Traffic **Records System**

High quality State traffic records data is critical effective safety programming, operational management, and strategic planning. Nebraskain cooperation with local, regional, and Federal partners-should maintain a traffic records system that supports the data-driven science-based, decision-making necessary to identify problems; develop, deploy, and evaluate countermeasures; and efficiently allocate resources. Functionally, a traffic records system includes the collection, management, and analysis of traffic records data. It is comprised of six core data systems-crash, driver, vehicle, roadway, citation and adjudication, and injury surveillanceas well as the organizations and people responsible for them.

The NDOT Highway Safety Office is responsible for the coordination of the Nebraska Traffic Records System and hosts a Traffic Records Coordinating Committee. We are soliciting additional local law enforcement agencies to join this committee.

If your agency is interested in participating in the above, please contact our Traffic Records Coordinator, Bill Kovarik, at 402-471-2516 or William.Kovarik@nebraska.gov.

Through a Highway Safety Office grant awarded to the Nebraska Crime Commission, we are funding support of both electronic crash (e-crash) and electronic citation (e-citation) systems. We are encouraging all local law enforcement agencies to consider adopting these systems. Information regarding Nebraska Traffic Record System priorities can be found in our Nebraska Traffic Records Strategic Plan on our website: http://dot.nebraska. gov/media/10605/nebraska-traffic-safety-info-sysstrategic-plan.pdf

continued on page 11



# **NETWORKING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, in partnership with the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, holds an annual NSA-POAN Conference

where law enforcement personnel can network and share information.

This October Conference can fulfill the 20-hour continuing education requirement. IT PAYS TO BE A MEMBER!



# **Cass County** Sheriff's Office

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# **Cherry County** Sheriff's Office

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# Did you know . . . ?

Valentine, NE started out a lot rougher than its name. Founded in 1883, the town began as a rowdy, end-of-thetrack town on the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad. The name, incidentally, was chosen to honor E.K. Valentine, a Civil War veteran, lawyer and Nebraska Congressman known as a friend to settlers.

In the early days, the area was home to cattlemen, outlaws and Indians. Legendary horse thief "Doc" Middleton used to hide out at a place known as Rustler's Roost southwest of town. Sioux and Pawnee Indians came to hunt buffalo and to summer their horses on the lush Sandhills grass. Clashes between cowboys and Indians led to the founding of Fort Niobrara four miles east of town.

# DRIVING SIMULATORS AVAILABLE FROM NSA

Thanks to the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, AAA, and the Cornhusker Motor Club Foundation, the Nebraska Sheriff's Association's arsenal of education and training tools includes two VirtualDriver Interactive Simulator units which are available to law enforcement agencies for fairs, school/community events, and safety/health conferences.

Contact the NSA Office, Kathie Schildt, 402.761.2216, kschildt@youraam.com



Nebraska's oldest standing high school building was built in 1897 and operated as Valentine Public School. It is now the Centennial Hall Museum, but the ghost of a former student roams the halls. The girl died when someone poisoned her clarinet reed in 1944. Before the school was converted, teachers reported seeing the little girl's ghost while feeling a general sense of unwell. Today, music can still be heard coming from the music room...even though there have been no instruments inside for years.

www.roadtrippers.com/us/valentine-ne/points-of-interest/ cherry-county-historical-society-museum

# INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES (ICJ): Registration for Juveniles Disposed on Sex-Related Offenses

By Abbie Christian, ICJ Deputy Compact Administrator for the Office of Probation Administration

The Interstate Commission for Juveniles (ICJ) is statutorily effective in Nebraska (reference Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-1011). The Interstate Compact was developed to preserve child welfare and promote public safety by regulating the transfer of juvenile supervision between states and ensuring the safe return of out-of-state runaways.



The Interstate Compact is governed by rules supported by the Commission. The rules are federal law, and there is a legal obligation to follow and enforce the rules as written. Interstate Compact rules also supersede all states laws that conflict with them. Therefore, it is essential the rules are shared with all stakeholders that come into contact with the Compact. This article will serve the purpose of discussing an important update regarding ICJ transfer youth and registration requirements for juveniles who are adjudicated and disposed on a sex-related offense.

Historically, juveniles transferring to Nebraska for supervision under the ICJ who were adjudicated of a sexrelated offense and required to register by court order in the Sending State were placed on the Nebraska Adult Sex Offender Registry as outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-

4003(1)(a)(iv). As a result of a recent ruling by the U.S. Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, under A.W. v. Wood, No. 16-1898 (8th Cir. 2017), a juvenile entering the State of Nebraska who is required to register in the Sending State or another jurisdiction based solely on a juvenile adjudication is not required to register in Nebraska. In addition, juveniles who were previously placed on the Nebraska Sex Offender Registry

due to being required to register by the Sending State have been removed from the registry by the Nebraska State Patrol.

The ruling by the U.S. Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals will not affect Nebraska youth who are relocating to another state. Depending on the laws of the Receiving State, a Nebraska juvenile could still be required to register in another state.

For additional information contact:

Abbie Christian, NE ICJ Deputy Compact Administrator, abbie.christian@nebraska.gov

Jacey Rader, NE ICJ Commissioner, jacey.rader@nebraska.gov

# From the Highway Safety Office - continued from page 9

Warning! If your agency may be considering an e-crash or e-citation system, before entering into any contract with any vendor, please contact Bill Kovarik (402-471-2516 or William.Kovarik@nebraska.gov). We have had agencies who thought that their agreement included the software/programming to submit forms to the state systems and are now faced with large additional fees to solve that problem.

We have seen these systems implemented in other states and it is amazing how your own local agency data becomes available for you to use as it is collected. As was mentioned earlier, decision making is made easier because you are able to "identify problems; develop, deploy, and evaluate countermeasures; and efficiently allocate resources."

# Legislative Traffic Safety-Related Proposals

We frequently hear questions, comments, and complaints from law enforcement officers regarding "secondary offense" traffic laws that require that a driver has to commit another violation and be cited for that violation before being issued a citation for the other violation. These "secondary offense" provisions unfortunately allow a driver to disrespect and violate an existing Nebraska law in the presence of a law enforcement officer without the fear of any consequences for this act if they don't violate any other traffic law.

For those of you who are frustrated by these secondary offense provisions, there are two legislative bills this session that seek to eliminate some of them: LB 471 changes current texting and driving law from secondary to primary offense, and LB 671 changes provisional operator's permit restrictions, uses of interactive and handheld wireless communication devices, and certain occupant protection system enforcement provisions from secondary to primary offenses.

For a recap of of the information in this article or for future updates, visit http://dot.nebraska.gov/safety.



# **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has donated and assisted at the games since 1968 - the year Special Olympics was founded.

# CHEYENNE

# **Cheyenne County** Sheriff's Office

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Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

# No Line of Duty Deaths in Nebraska in 2017

By Lt. Russ Zeeb, Sarpy County Sheriff's Office (retired)

In 2017, Nebraska did not suffer a line of duty death. Good training, good equipment, wearing your vest and seat belts all reflect those statistics.

Unfortunately across America we lost 128 officers, a 10 percent decrease over 2016. Of those 128, here is a breakdown:

Firearms: 44	Car crashes: 47
911 related illnesses: 4	Injuries from assaults: 7
Drownings: 5 (3 hurricane related)	Job related illnesses or cardiac arrests: 16
Helicopter crashes: 2	

The leading circumstance of firearms related deaths was Domestic Violence and Traffic Stops.

Texas had the highest number of LODD, at 14. The average age of the deceased officer was 42, with 13 years of service. Fifty-six were municipal officers, 30 were state officers, 27 sheriff officers, 5 federal officers, 5 territorial officers, three tribal officers, and two university officers.

Handguns were the leading type of weapon. Twentynine out of 44 killed were killed with a handgun. Six were gunned down while responding to a suspicious person call, six conducting investigations, four transporting prisoners, and three were killed responding to car crashes.



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Also, three were killed making an arrest, three were killed responding to a report of an armed person, two were killed investigating a report of gunshots, one was killed walking into a police station, one was killed on holiday detail, and one was killed recovering a stolen vehicle. Eight of these involved ambush style killings.

The year 2018 started off tragically with a Colorado deputy being killed. This is too close to home. Others were also killed, but details are not yet available.

What does all this mean? It means this can happen anytime, anyplace, and on any call. Please be safe, be cautious, and be careful.

**Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony** Friday, May 18, 2018 **Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial** Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE Social 9 a.m. Ceremony 10 a.m.



# 2018 MADD Hero Awards NOMINATIONS OPEN!

By Sara Draper, Program Specialist MADD Nebraska

# Hero Awards and Recognition Event - May 22, 2018, 2 p.m. - Wilderness Ridge, Lincoln, NE

Mothers Against

Drunk Driving's

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to support victims

at no charge,

advocate for

stronger laws, and

create a future of No More Victims<sup>®</sup>.

MADD Nebraska is excited to announce that the 2018 MADD Hero Awards and Recognition event will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2018, 2 to 4 p.m. at Wilderness

Ridge in Lincoln. The awards ceremony will be followed by a social. MADD holds this event every year to honor the work done by Law Enforcement, Probation, Prosecutors, Community Partners, and Volunteers across the state. Awards are given to those who have made a difference and helped to further the MADD mission to end drunk driving, fight drugged driving, support victims of this violent crime, and prevent underage drinking.

Nominations Now Open - Nomination Deadline March 31, 2018

MADD is currently seeking nominations from agencies across the state. We are looking for those who have done an outstanding job keeping our communities safe from impaired drivers and underage drinking, whether through enforcement, education or adjudication. It is our goal to recognize the most dedicated professionals in the field. All nominations should include as much detail as possible, including numbers if possible.

Awards are given in the following areas:

- Adult DWI/DUI Enforcement -Individual and/or Team,
- MIP Enforcement Individual and/or Team
- Drug Recognition Expert Individual
- Traffic Enforcement Mobilization Team
- Education & Awareness Team
- Probation Individual and / or Team
- Prosecutor Individual
- Education & Awareness Individual
- MADD Volunteer

Further explanation of each area and the judging criteria can be found on the nomination form available on our website at www.madd.org/nebraska or by emailing

ne.state@madd.org.

We look for nominations that show those who are excelling at keeping our state safe. Please attach any supporting documents and additional materials needed to illustrate why the nominee should be chosen. Please include any arrest data available. Nominees can be nominated in more than one category. More than one award can be given in any given category.

The awards recognize the work done from the time period between January 1, 2017 to

December 31, 2017.

As part of MADD's Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving, we know that enforcement is the key component to ending drunk driving. We know that the men and women of law enforcement are the heroes who every day keep our roads safe. It is our honor to have an opportunity to recognize them and celebrate with their families the amazing work being done across the state.

MADD is here to support the work of all law enforcement agencies. We thank each and every agency and the people who work there for what they do, day in and day out, to make us all safer.

If there is anything MADD can do to help you or if you have any questions about the MADD Hero Awards, please contact us at ne.state@madd.org or 402.434.5330.

The dealine to submit nominations is March 31, 2018.

Nomination forms are available online or by email: www.madd.org/nebraska - ne.state@madd.org



Be sure to let us know when one of your own has died - active duty or retired. We will list their name, photo (when available), and a brief bio in the upcoming magazine. Email the information or a link to the obituary to info@nesheriffsassoc.org



# **MEMBERS STAY INFORMED**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association keeps members up-to-date with all information relative to new legislation and technological advances that impact law enforcement.



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**Sheriff Jeffery Franklin** 

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for you!

# IN THE LINE OF FIRE How to Cope with Survivors Guilt

# By Laura L. Cooper - www.LauraLCooper.com

Laura L. Cooper is a former police officer and a frequent contributor to The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine. Her short story "Too Spicy" appears in Voices from the Plains, an anthology published by the Nebraska Writers Guild (December, 2017). See her website at www. LauraLCooper.com.

Shooting sprees and mass murders capture headlines for a while, but then the stories disappear from the public's mind. However, tragedies like the Las Vegas country music festival shooting in 2017, the Dallas police ambush in 2016, and the Omaha mall shooting in 2007 live on for those who were there dodging bullets, protecting others, and rendering medical aid. Guilt, stress, and grief are normal reactions to being involved in deadly shootings. Information and support can prevent these feelings from evolving into chronic conditions.

# **Las Vegas Music Festival Shooting**

Rachel Sheppard celebrated her 26th birthday at the country music festival in Las Vegas. She was one of 500 people injured after a gunman opened fire from an overhead hotel room killing 58 people. Sheppard was hit by three bullets that injured her aorta, liver, intestines, abdominal muscles, and lower spine. Forty units of blood and multiple surgeries allowed her to survive and start planning her wedding, but things had changed for her.

Although generally happy and stoic in public, Sheppard struggled with jags of tears and other signs of survivor's guilt at home. She admitted to CNN's Jessica Ravitz that she asked herself painful questions, "Why did I live? Why am I walking and others aren't?"

Lanie Wright, another concertgoer, recalled the gunfire and the screams. She escaped without injury but now wishes she had done more to help others. She told the local Bakersfield news, "You feel guilty and helpless." Wright doesn't know why she was one of the lucky ones.

# **Dallas Police Ambush**

Dallas law enforcement officers were ambushed by a sniper while they provided security for a protest march. Of twelve officers shot, five of them died. Two civilians were also wounded. One of the injured officers, Jorge Barrientos, survived getting a bullet in his hand and shrapnel on his chest. Three officers near him were killed by the torrent of bullets.

"I tried to help them," Officer Barrientos said. "I tried to save their lives, and there was nothing I could do."

Six months after the shooting, Barrientos told WFAA-Dallas Channel8 that he was still coping with the events of that night. "A lot of us are still going through counseling just to make sure you take care of yourself emotionally and physically."



# **Omaha Mall Shooting**

When shots rang out in Westroads Mall in Omaha, Nebraska, police rushed into the scene unaware of how many shooters they might face. They felt like easy targets riding the escalators. Officers searched the Von Maur department store and found some victims hiding unharmed while others were down with gunshot wounds. At the end of the day, a nineteen-year-old had murdered eight, injured four, and then killed himself.

After surviving the shooting, officers had to find a way to live with the sounds, images, feelings, and questions that followed them after the event. Neither the individual officers nor the department procedures were ready to cope with a mass shooting then.

Sergeant Jeff Baker, one of the officers who rushed into the mall, said he felt guilty for not stopping the shooter, even though it turned out that the gunman had killed himself before officers arrived on scene. He recently told the Omaha World-Herald, "Your mind tells you that you did everything possible. Your heart sometimes will tell you something different."

## Survivor's Guilt

During mass shootings, individuals fight to survive. Afterward, they feel relieved to be alive, yet distressed by the graphic violence and death they witnessed. Shock gets replaced with grief. They may blame themselves for not doing more for others or for not taking action against the shooter. Clinical psychologist Ellen Hendricksen, Ph.D., lists three categories of survivor guilt:

- 1. Guilt about surviving
- 2. Guilt over what you "should" have done
- 3. Guilt over what you did

Survivor's guilt can be a natural part of healing from traumatic loss. It may arise for survivors of life-threatening events like wars, terrorism, plane crashes, serious accidents, natural disasters, or violent crimes. Blaming yourself for a catastrophic event when you did nothing wrong may be a way of trying to regain a sense of control after perceived helplessness during the crisis. It is a form of post-traumatic stress that produces a tug-of-war between feeling relieved to be alive and feeling guilty to have survived when so many others died.

# **Constant Questions**

Law enforcement personnel may second-guess themselves and their colleagues about what they could have done to prevent a tragedy or to save others. Officers who were at the scene may later ask themselves:

- Why wasn't I killed?
- Why didn't I call for backup right away?
- How could we have handled the call differently?
- Could I have rendered medical aid sooner?

Officers and support staff who were not on the scene may ask themselves:

- Should I have dispatched more officers?
- Why was I on the other side of town?
- Why didn't I respond faster?
- Would they still be alive if I had been there?

Unrelenting questions can make it harder to cope with an already painful situation. "Those what-ifs plague your brain before you try and go to sleep," Mindy Moser, a licensed therapist who deals with soldiers with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) told WFAA. "Before you know it, you've been doing what-ifs for two hours because the loss is significant. It is gut-wrenching." The questions may become overwhelming.

# Coping with Survivor's Guilt

The first step in coping with survivor's guilt is to recognize it and know that it is normal. However, it is not good to keep your feelings to yourself. Confide in someone you trust. Seek out a support group or counselor. Give yourself time to grieve for those who died, but do not neglect yourself. There is a way to get past the guilt:

- Acknowledge and accept your feelings
- Talk about it
- Seek support from others
- Mourn those who died
- Do something positive for others
- Let go of questions that cannot be answered
- Talk to a counselor
- Celebrate your life
- Short-term stress

All 22,000 attendees at the Las Vegas concert shooting will carry psychological wounds from the event. Dr. Carol North, a crisis psychiatrist, wrote in the *Washington Post* that many of the victims would suffer from nightmares, hypervigilance, and flashbacks for weeks or months. "While many of these symptoms can be severe in the short term, a majority of people are resilient and do not develop [a] psychiatric illness, even after the most extreme exposures."

If guilt and stress become persistent, they can lead to anxiety or depression. A small percentage of people experiencing trauma will develop illnesses requiring long-term professional help. Research reported by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs suggests that up to 28% of those who survive a mass shooting will develop PTSD.

# **Symptoms of PTSD**

It is normal to experience stress, grief, and disturbances after a mass shooting or other dangerous event. However, if extreme symptoms continue for more than a month, they may indicate Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, this condition is characterized by three types of symptoms:

- 1. Re-experiencing the trauma
- 2. Difficulty sleeping and concentrating
- 3. Emotional numbness and avoidance

The stress, tension, and memories can continue to haunt victims. This makes it difficult to sleep, concentrate, relax, or feel positive emotions. Victims may be unable to connect to their feelings or recall significant aspects of the trauma. Some will avoid people, places, and situations that remind them of the shooting. They may neglect responsibilities and become reckless or withdrawn. If you or someone you know may be suffering from PTSD, professional evaluation and treatment is the safest way to tackle unrelenting symptoms.

# When to Seek Professional Help

If post-traumatic stress continues for more than a month, you may want to seek a professional mental health evaluation for PTSD. If survivor's guilt and grief continue for over six months, it is time for counseling. However, seek professional help immediately if you are unable to carry out your daily responsibilities or you have any of the following negative thoughts or experiences:

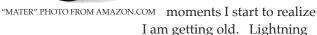
- Thoughts of hurting yourself or others
- Unable to function months after the trauma
- Severe depression or feelings of helplessness
- Using alcohol or drugs as a coping mechanism
- Struggling with overwhelming guilt/uncontrolled rage

# Still a Lot of Miles on the Tires - By Wendy Baumeister, MS, LPC

Wendy Baumeister is a Grand Island, NE police officer. In addition to being a police officer, she is a licensed mental health therapist. Her career as a therapist has spanned 17 years with areas of expertise in child abuse, interpersonal communications, crisis response, stress management and crisis de-escalation.

> Anyone remember Speedy the Dunebuggy? The orange

> > dunebuggy along with his teenage friends solved mysteries amidst danger and sandstorms. How about the Mystery Machine? You know...Scooby, sexy Daphne, hot Fred? Knight Rider? These are the



McQueen? All is lost and you are a Nebraska traitor if you don't know "Mater".

I assure you there is a reason I'm asking besides just to date myself and realize I need to call and schedule to get my grey hair covered by my miracle worker hair stylist. (We both know you too have meandered your way through the

Just for Men hair color aisle just looking for a friend.)

Anyway I digress . . . at some point in the cartoon or the movie, the car crashes, throws a tire, gets held hostage by evil doers but in the end - usually through the help of friends - the cars overcome adversity and save the day or at least are miraculously repaired with bubble gum and a sock and live to fight another day. They also get the girl in the end.

Wouldn't it be awesome if we were like those amazing cars - if we could get smashed by a car crusher and come out unscathed and good as new? The reality is this: even if you follow a guide to perfect health and and do everything the Internet tells you, you run a risk of getting hurt on the job. Muscles in pristine condition are no match for a patch of ice hidden under a layer of snow, or the suspect flails at you and rotates your shoulder in a way shoulders weren't meant to be rotated. Besides your pride, you can also sustain an injury sometimes slight enough for a Scooby Doo band aid to fix or other times requiring the services of (gasp) the hose haulers or the medics . . . painful to admi,t I know.

Regardless the severity, someone with stripes on their shirt will tell you to "fill out the form". Once the form (short or long form) is completed, you are now entered

into the realm of "workman's comp". There must be some direct line between submitting the form and workman's comp lawyers because shortly after submission you will start getting letters from attorneys about "your case."

If you do get injured on the job, this opens you up to having to attend appointments to get first opinions and second opinions and opinions on the opinions as well as starting with the least intrusive treatment and "failing" at that level before moving up to the next level and so on until it gets to the treatment the first medical person you saw said you needed.

If your injury is severe enough, you might not be able to work, or maybe it will require surgery and you will be out for four to six weeks or even months. In theory, it seems like a lottery win . . . you don't have to go to work and yet get a paycheck, being home, not having to get up at 0330 to get ready for work or get to go to bed at 2300 like a normal person. However, your body is damaged, and the

> things you want do you just aren't physically able to do.

We are adrenaline junkies. Guessing the price of showcase showdown within \$100 and winning both showdowns is not the same as finding a load of drugs or catching a burglar. The down time can start to eat away at a person both emotionally and physically. If you have other people living in your house, their

routine is also changed. Reorganizing someone's garage or hobby room may not be appreciated as much as you think. Not to mention, you're crabby.

An on the job work injury increases everyone's stress level. It makes you mortal. Your loved ones start to think, "What if next time it isn't your shoulder/knee"? You might struggle with the thought that these kind of things don't happen to me.

Maybe your department offers "light duty". You can come to work and most often do menial tasks designed to slowly drive someone mad . . . purging evidence, researching addresses for warrants, listening to jail conversation - you get the idea. The upside is you are back around your coworkers. The downside is you're back around your coworkers. You get referred to as being "broken". In our office, we have a handicap sign and the

Miles on the Tires continued on page 23







# DAWES



**Sheriff Karl Dailey** 

# Dawes County Sheriff's Office

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# DEUEL



Sheriff R. Scott DeCoste

# **Deuel County** Sheriff's Office

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# **Deuel County Doesn't Just Stop Vehicles Leaving Colorado**

Deuel County sits on the inner edge of the Nebraska panhandle, right where I-76 breaks off from I-80 to head down into Colorado. With a population of just fewer than 2,000, the county is served by a five-member sheriff's office. And yet even

with that amount of law-enforcement presence, Deuel had a marijuana arrest rate of more than 24.23 per 1,000 residents in 2014, almost six times the statewide average. In the past 15 years, Deuel County has arguably become one of the worst places in America to smoke or possess—much less enjoy—weed.

Scott DeCoste has been Sheriff of Deuel County for a little over two years and with the Sheriff's Office for a little more three. When he got started, Colorado had recently legalized marijuana, and according to DeCoste, it didn't take long for pot-related arrests to become a big part of his job.

"It's as busy as it has ever been," DeCoste said in an interview last year. "If you get a vehicle for speeding, nine times out of ten they'll have some pot or something from the dispensaries on them. This is nothing new."

Deuel County continued on the bottom of page 19



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# Did you know . . . ?

Seven land speculators from Illinois, calling themselves Pinney-Barnard and Co., claimed land for a town site on August 23, 1856. They named it for "the pathfinder and famous explorer, General John C. Fremont." Fremont was also a candidate for U.S. President of the newly organized Republican Party.

By 1906, three major railroads had tracks through the city. Fremont had become a manufacturing center. Foundries, broom and cigar factories, carriage works, wagon makers, saw mills, a brewery, and many more industries were located along the rail lines. Raw materials were shipped in from the east, and finished products shipped out in all directions. www.casde.unl.edu/history/counties/dodge/fremont/index.php

# **How Departments are Helping Officers/ Personnel Cope**

It has become more commonplace for departments to offer counseling and debriefing sessions to their personnel after critical incidents. The Bakersfield (CA) Police Department learned that 15 of its off-duty officers witnessed the Las Vegas shooting, and one was shot in the hip. In response, the department offered a debriefing for victims and their families. These sessions allowed survivors to begin to process their symptoms and emotions.

The Dallas Police Department continues to provide mental health services to its personnel. The department has three in-house psychologists and 35 peer-support personnel. It also utilizes outside counseling services and 24/7 hotlines. In addition, the department trains supervisors in psychological first aid to try to catch problems before they transform into PTSD.

The Omaha Police Department has learned a lot about coping with critical incidents since the Westroads Mall shooting when only a single debriefing was offered to those involved. The culture did not encourage officers to talk about it. "We didn't share our feelings - we just didn't," OPD Captain Michele Bang told the Omaha World-Herald about the 2007 event.

Since that time, Bang helped develop programs to offer mental and emotional support to officers. The department provides professional counselors and specially trained peer support officers. An OPD officer can now be required to meet with a therapist after facing a traumatic situation. Fortunately, these programs were in place to help personnel after Officer Kerrie Orozco was killed on duty in 2015.

To help someone experiencing survivor's guilt:

- Listen without judging
- Allow time to mourn
- Ask how you can help
- Encourage healthy coping skills
- Discourage isolation
- Keep in contact long-term

Prioritizing wellness and making long-term mental health services available to law enforcement personnel is imperative. Hopefully, research and resources made available by the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (Jan. 10, 2018) will help to make that happen.

# Conclusion

Memories of mass shootings will never disappear from the minds of those who experienced the devastating gruesomeness and lethality first-hand. After physical wounds have been tended to, survivors need resources and education in order to deal with the range of reactions they will face. The objective is to manage survivor's guilt and other forms of post-traumatic stress before it becomes debilitating. Let's help every survivor cope. Let's help every survivor celebrate.

# **PTSD Coach**

The "PTSD Coach App" and "PTSD Coach Online" were created by the VA's National Center for PTSD in conjunction with the Department of Defense. They do not replace professional counseling but are offered to provide information, self-assessment, coping skills, and ways to find support. VA's National Center for PTSD: https://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/index.asp

# **Deuel County** - continued from page 18

Sheriff DeCoste insists that he and his officers aren't looking to stop people just because they're leaving Colorado and might have weed. But if they do stop you, they're probably going to take away your pot-and if it's hash oil or edibles, you're probably going to spend a long night in the county jail.

Deuel County is not alone, of course. According to a study by researchers at the University of Nebraska, since at least 2000, when Colorado approved medical marijuana, Nebraska has seen an increase in marijuana possession arrests along the border. That number rose dramatically in 2014, when weed sales and consumption were made legal for everyone 21 and over. Between 2013 and 2014 alone, the Nebraska border counties increased possession arrests by 32.4 percent.

These days, according to Sheriff DeCoste, some 60 percent of all highway stops in Deuel County turn up some reefer. "In all honesty, people will tell me, 'You bastards, you just stopped me because I'm coming from Colorado,'" DeCoste said. "Not true. If you weren't going 85 MPH, I wouldn't have stopped you. We're not targetting Colorado people. We have to see you doing a violation to have a reason to stop you. We can't pull you over just because you're from a certain state. It's unconstitutional."

A University of Nebraska report found that the pot arrest rate in Deuel County, while the highest in the state at the time, actually declined between 2013 and 2015, and more recent comprehensive data is not yet available.

Taken in part from the Max Rivlin-Nadler article (April, 2017) on the website Vice (https://www.vice.com).



# **PARTNERSHIPS**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association works in partnership with all law enforcement agencies to enhance technology, share information, and provide the highest quality of protection to all Nebraskans.



**Sheriff Tim Dunning** 

# **Douglas County** Sheriff's Office

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**Sheriff Justin Nichols** 

# **Dundy County** Sheriff's Office

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# **Douglas County School Justice Partnership**

By Darci Poland, MPA - Chief Deputy Probation Officer, District 4J

In October 2015, Douglas County sent a team to the School-Justice Partnership certificate program at Georgetown University-Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. Members of the team included the judiciary, county attorney's office, education and child welfare administrators, Probation (Douglas County, District 4J) and the Omaha Police Department. The Douglas County Team's Capstone Project, titled "Reducing Out-of-School Placements," is focused on reducing school suspension, expulsion, and the school-based arrest of system-involved youth.

The key components of this project include cross-system planning, staff training, and linking youth to appropriate services. The goals of the pilot and partnership between the Omaha Police Department, Omaha Public Schools and the Administrative Office of Probation is to improve collaboration and communication between the three partners; efficiently and effectively link system-involved youth to resources and/or support services; and implement specific monitoring interventions to support and track individual student progress.

The partnership, in its second full year, is improving outcomes for students on probation by keeping them in school and preventing them from committing additional delinquent acts. Ultimately, this keeps them from deeper Juvenile Justice System involvement and increases public safety. As outlined in **Figure 1**, we have impacted 194 youth through weekly discussions and the coordination of supports and services.

District 4J Probation has allocated one full-time staff member to be the liaison with two of eight Omaha Public High Schools we are using in this pilot. With the assistance of Strategies for Youth, a national law enforcement training expert, the pilot has offered several training opportunities to allow our School-Justice partners a better understanding of youth brain development, restorative practices, and working with traumatized students. We were also able to provide basic and advanced certifications for School Resource Officers and school security officer training through the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). These trainings support evidence-based and promising practices across agencies, allowing for alignment and consistent response to youth behavior.

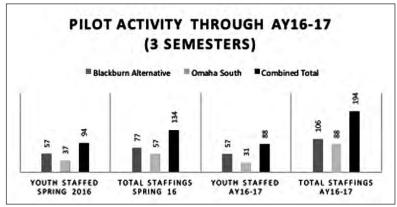
This collaboration, innovative leadership and ongoing professional development opportunities through Strategies for Youth and NASRO has created a significant impact. There was a decrease of 50% in the total number of arrests by SROs Semester 1 of the 2016/17 academic year compared to Semester 1 of the prior academic year (Figure 2).

Our Douglas County team has experienced several quick wins since the implementation of the School-Justice Partnership Capstone.

First, there was a substantial reduction in school-based arrests; second, an increase in understanding of the critical role each partner plays in interrupting unnecessary system involvement; and third, a measured increase in knowledge and skills related to best practices and evidence-based principles in addressing school discipline.

Finally, and perhaps most critical, the team has established strong and productive partnerships to continue and expand this work to the other Omaha Public High Schools. The work remains a priority for stakeholders. and plans for refinement and replication of strategies are included in the ongoing system reform efforts of Douglas County. This innovative collaboration has identified Douglas County as a leader in system reform for our state.

If you have any questions or would like further information about this partnership, please contact **Darci Poland at darci.poland@nebraska.gov.** 



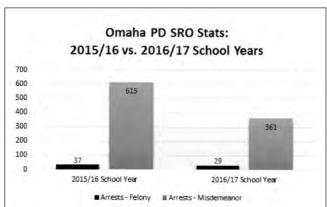


FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2



# **Devil's Gap in Gosper County** Ranchers, Settlers, and Lawmen Play a Role in

This Old West Crime - By Carson Vaughan - American Cowboy

In the last century and some change, western Nebraska's tallgrass prairies have given way to corn and soybeans, cattle have replaced the bison, and barbed wire fence and telephone poles cut through all but the most remote crannies. But there are holdouts, like the deep canyon long known



**Sheriff Kurt Kapperman** 

# **Furnas County Sheriff's Office**

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as "Devil's Gap" in Gosper County. If you can find it, it's not hard to imagine the way it looked in December 1878, two hostages swinging from an elm tree, their fate to make headlines across the country.

Following the Homestead Act, in 1877, a small group of settlers established themselves along Clear Creek in

Devil's Gap continued on page 23

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**Sheriff Dennis Ocken** 

# **Gosper County** Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Mike Rath

# **Grant County** Sheriff's Office

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Friday, May 18, 2018 at the **Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial** inside the gates at Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE Social 9 a.m. - Ceremony 10 a.m.

central Nebraska, not far from the ranch of I.P. Olive, one

of the state's wealthiest cattlemen. At the time, tensions over land use were simmering between homesteaders and ranchers, who had chased the market prices north from Texas. Describing the feud in her 1958 book The Cattlemen, Nebraska author Mari Sandoz wrote, "The transplantation of the new cattle king and his methods to Nebraska ... caused much stir. Everything he did was big, bighanded, overbearing, bulldozing."



I.P. Olive didn't take kindly to cattle thieves and suspected Ami Ketchum, a Clear Creek homesteader, of stealing his property. Olive sent his notoriously barbaric brother, Bob—deputized by the neighboring county's sheriff—to arrest Ketchum, who lived with fellow homesteader Luther Mitchell.

Bob arrived on Nov. 28, 1878, two gunmen by his side, and opened fire. When the skirmish was over, Ketchum's arm was broken and bleeding, and Bob was slumped over his horse with a gunshot wound. He would die three days later in a nearby dugout.

Mitchell and Ketchum fled, vowing to present themselves

to the authorities for the killing of Bob Olive. Halfway back, an attorney advised them against it. The cowboys in Custer County were riled up and had already burned Mitchell's home, and would surely lynch the pair upon arrival. Heeding his advice, they gave themselves up in Howard County, instead. Nevertheless, with I.P. offering a \$700 reward, the homesteaders were loaded into a wagon, only to be turned over to Olive's men.

The gang arrived at Devil's Gap and hanged Ketchum. They shot Mitchell, then drew him up, too. They were found the next day, Ketchum still twisting on the line and, though handcuffed together, Mitchell on the ground beside him, both bodies burned. Most assume the gang, drunk and vengeful, poured their whiskey on the bodies and set them aflame.

Olive served 19 months in the penitentiary before his release. He was shot and killed four years later in Colorado. Used with limited permission - Written Dec 22, 2015 www.americancowboy.com/travel-archive/devils-gap-30967

# Mile on the Tires - continued from page 17

badge number of the person on light duty gets put on the sign. Funny . . . yes . . . eats away at your mind just a little that somehow you are broken. A broken plate glued back together is still a broken plate. Will you be as good as you were? If your injury was the result of a physical fight, are you questioning yourself?

There is an emotional roller coaster that goes along with the doctor appointments, consults, physical therapy, and phone conversations with the work comp people. There are going to be days where it feels like you are right on track and other days when it feels like this will be your new normal forever. If you allow it, your brain will catastrophize into "You're never going to get better, you will get terminated, you will have to work as a firefighter."

There are also the times you do something at home and injure yourself. Then there is no workman's compensation. You have to burn sick leave, vacation, etc. The emotional roller coaster of recovery is now also compounded with the stress of burning hours. Administration is breathing down your neck, constantly asking about when you are coming back. You also have many out-of-pocket expenses, and your loved ones are concerned about what happens if you can't go back to work, what if it is a permanent injury.

# If you are injured and can't work for an extended period of time:

Acknowledge those pesky emotions and address them. Accept that the injury happened. Move forward. Get up and get dressed. Seriously, change out of your PJs. Take a shower. Brush your teeth - the dog will thank you. Keep a routine. Do something besides watch Oprah. Read a book. Limit your alcohol intake. Limit your pain medication intake. Don't mix alcohol with pain meds. Do the exercises prescribed by your physician or physical therapist. Put down the Ho-Ho. Really - put down the Ho Ho. Understand that you may experience depression. If you do, tell your physician and ask questions. Stay in the fight.

Injuries will happen. Do what you need to do to limit the risk. Get off the couch. Commit to 22 minutes of walking, bike riding, running, lifting weights, etc. Adjust your eating habits. Address the small hurts and aches. Sleep well.

We might be a little like "Mater", but we are not Speedy or Lightening McQueen. We aren't going to be miraculously healed by the end of the show.



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**Sheriff Jerry Watson** 

# Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member



**Sheriff Thomas Dow** 

# **Hayes County** Sheriff's Office

505 Troth St, PO Box 86 Hayes Center, NE 69032 308.286.3364 308.286.3368 FAX hayescountysheriff@gpcom.net

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Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

# Did you know . . . ?

Hayes County was first part of a huge county called Shorter County. It included most of southwest Nebraska, south of the Platte and west of a line south from Kearney County. It was later changed to Lincoln County. It was not until 1877 that the legislature defined the boundaries of Hayes County.

In the 1880's the famous Texas Cattle Trail wove its way along and across the Stinking Water Creek in the west part of Hayes County and on to Ogallala.

Haves Center was known as the Wind-Mill City as each family had their own wind-mill for their water supply, there was also a public wind-mill and tank that was located in the middle of main street, where people watered their livestock. But today wind-mills are a thing of the past and even most farmers use pumps.

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The country now included in Hayes County was formerly part of the great buffalo range, the cherished hunting grounds of the Indians. Settlement was delayed for many years because of the hostility of the Red Men. Many bloody battles were fought between the various Indian tribes, particularly the Pawnee and the Sioux, over the possession and use of this ground.

One of Hayes County's current features is the Duke Alexis Recreation Ground eight miles northeast of Hayes Center. The area contains approximately 140 acres, including a 100 acre lake, well stocked with fish.

Taken from http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ne/county/hayes/ hist/HAYESHISTORY.htm



# A News Release from Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson

# Resolution to 80 Year-Old Case Announced

in Albion - Tuesday, October 3, 2017





Lawrence I. Smoyer THE VICTIMS

William Henry Wathen

Far Left: Lawrence I. Smoyer, Boone County Sheriff Born June 6, 1896 in Syracuse, NE Died June 17, 1937 in the line of duty; 41 years old at the time of his death Elected sheriff in 1926; served 11 years before he was killed Was married with six children A veteran of World War I with the 155th Army Infantry Comapny H

Left: William Henry Wathen, Boone County Constable Born August 15, 1883 in Millville, IA Wounded on June 17, 1937; survived 108 days after being shot Died October 3, 1937; 53 years old at the time of his death Had been a Boone County Sheriff's Deputy from 1925 to 1927 Became Boone County Constable in 1927

Today in Albion, the Nebraska Attorney General's Office announced a resolution to an 80 year-old cold case. The case involves the murders of Boone County Sheriff Lawrence Smoyer and Boone County Constable William Wathen, who were shot on June 17, 1937, in a field northwest of

Eighty years to the day after Wathen's death, the identity of the suspects is now officially confirmed.

"Today brings clarity to these deaths and provides justice for these families," the Attorney General stated. "These men died in the line of duty and we honor the memory of their service."

The officers were investigating a suspicious vehicle and trespassing complaint in a cattle pasture reported several days in a row by a local rancher. Both officers were shot by two well-dressed men driving a stolen black 1937 Ford Coupe with Colorado license plates. Sheriff Smoyer died instantly while Constable Wathen survived 108 days before succumbing to his wound on Sunday, October 3, 1937. It was Wathen's detailed, written account that provided many clues that eventually led to solving the case.

The suspects responsible for the homicides were Charles Orville Doody and Marion Armstrong Cooley, who are tied to the crime scene by numerous articles of evidence.

Both of these men were named in a Colorado arrest warrant for the theft of the vehicle used in the commission of this crime. Additionally, both men were career criminals at the time of the murders, each having served two terms in the Colorado State Penitentiary System for crimes including armed robbery, auto theft, business burglary, forgery and armed assault on officers, collectively.

Their identities were discovered by investigators within three days of the crimes, but it would take just over a year to collect enough evidence to issue Marion Cooley an arrest warrant for first-degree murder. By this time, Cooley was serving his third term for armed robbery in Colorado and according to the laws at the time, Nebraska had to wait until he was paroled in 1948 before taking him into custody. A warrant for Doody was not obtained by investigators because his whereabouts were unknown.

The original investigation into these murders would have resulted in the prosecution of these suspects 80 years ago if it were not for numerous circumstances, including the interference of World War II.

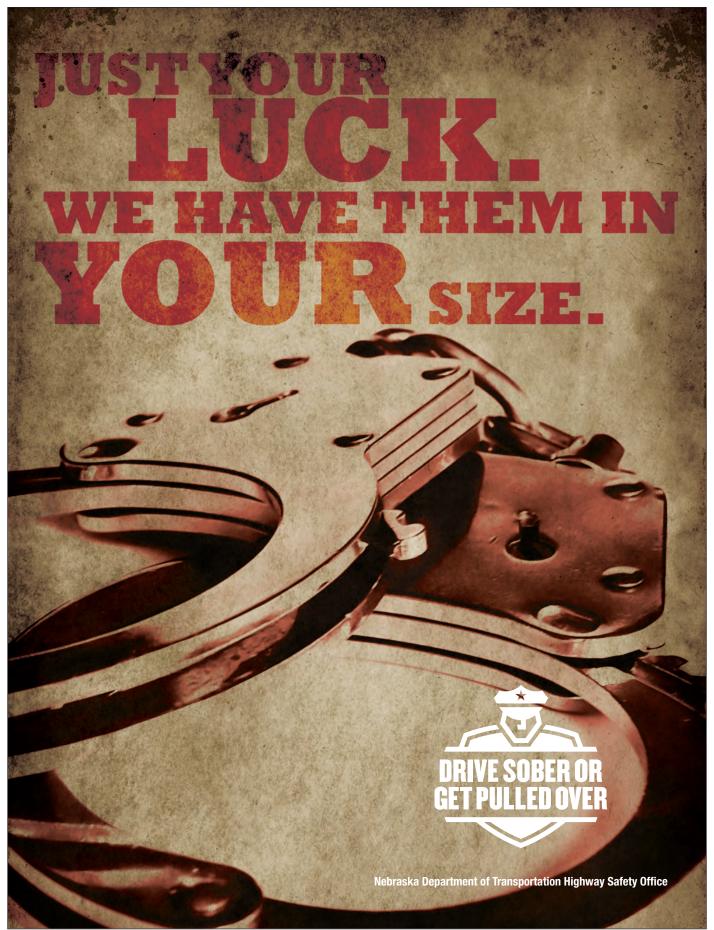
When Cooley was paroled in 1948, the original investigators who would have served as witnesses were retired to places unknown, had died or been killed, or were still in the military stationed at unknown posts.

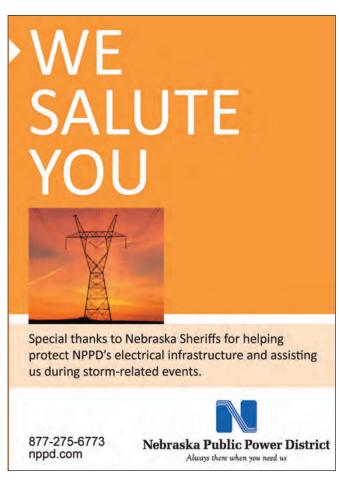
"The original investigation of these crimes was outstanding," the Attorney General said. "While world events slowed justice from immediately being carried out, today, our office as well as the Boone County and the Seward County Sheriffs' offices are grateful the facts can be revealed."

Photos courtesy Nebraska Life Magazine

Read more on page 36

2017 NSA/POAN Conference Award Winners - start on page 38 2018 NSA/POAN Conference, Sept 30 to Oct 3, Kearney - see page 2





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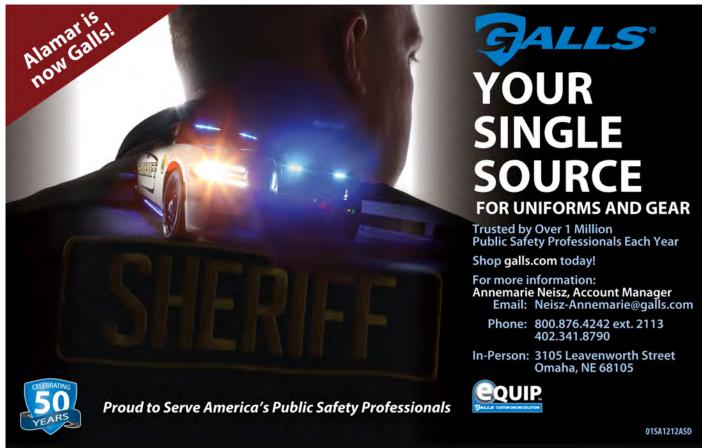
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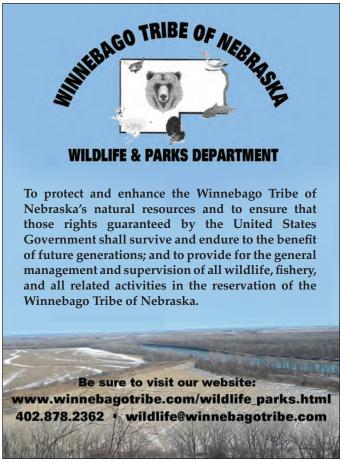
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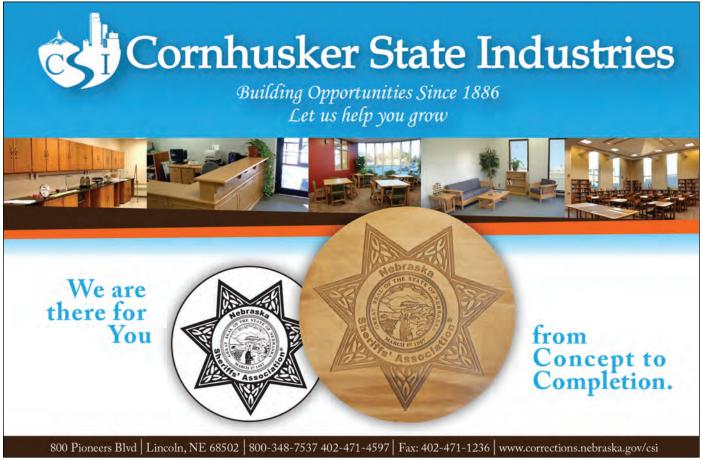












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Injured in the line of duty, Mike Dyer proudly served as a member of the New York City Police Department.

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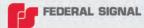


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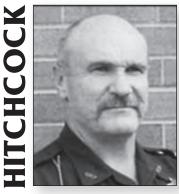
# Resolution to 80 Year-Old Case - continued from page 25

A News Release from Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson

# Agencies Involved in the Modern Day Investigation

Seward County Sheriff's Office - Sheriff Joe Yokum

Office of the Nebraska State Attorney General - William Black, Chief of Investigators



Sheriff D. Bryan Leggott

# Hitchcock County Sheriff's Office

229 E "D" St, PO Box 306 Trenton, NE 69044 308.334.5444 308.334.5351 FAX sheriff967@mccooknet.com

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# HOLT



**Sheriff Ben Matchett** 

# **Holt County** Sheriff's Office

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# Original Investigators

Office of the Nebraska State Sheriff -State Sheriff William F. Flake

Boone County Sheriff's Office -Sheriff Louis "Scout" Smoyer

Fillmore County Sheriff's Office -Sheriff Frank Steinacher

Nebraska State Sheriffs' Association -Sheriff John Harr

Clay County Sheriff's Office -Sheriff John Harr

# Out of State Law Enforcement Agencies

(Special Contributions to the Original Investigation)
Boulder Colorado Sheriff's Office Sheriff George Rickard

Laramie County Wyoming Sheriff's Office -Sheriff George Carroll

80 Year-Old Case continued on page 37



# HOOKER



**Sheriff Wynn Wiens** 

# **Hooker County** Sheriff's Office

303 NW 1st St, PO Box 213 Mullen, NE 69152 308.546.2290 308.546.2490 FAX hookerco993@gmail.com

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# Did you know . . . ?

In the fall of 1873, the memorable fight between the Sioux and the Pawnee Indians, in which the latter were nearly annihilated, took place about eight miles west of Culbertson, NE in Hitchcock County. The Pawnees were out on one of their grand hunts, and were attended with their squaws and papooses. In starting out, as was their custom, the Pawnees had boasted that they were going out to hunt the Sioux.

While in camp here, they were surprised by their dreaded enemies. As a decoy, the Sioux had left their ponies on the side of a hill where the Pawnees would see them, and think from the distance they

continued on the bottom of page 37

# Resolution to 80 Year-Old Case - continued from page 36

A News Release from Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson





**Charles Orville Doody Marion Armstrong Cooley** THE SUSPECTS

- Both were named in a Colorado arrest warrant for the theft of the vehicle used in the commission of the crime.
- Both served two terms in the Colorado State Penitentiary System.
- Cooley and Doody collectively specialized in armed robbery, auto theft, business burglary, forgery, and assault on officers.

## Synopsis of the Homicides

On Thursday, June 17, 1937 at approximately 8:00 a.m., Boone County Sheriff Lawrence I. Smoyer and Boone County Constable William Henry "Will" Wathen were shot while investigating a suspicious vehicle and trespassing complaint reported several days in a row by a local rancher in a cattle pasture 25 miles northwest of the county seat of Albion, NE. The officers were shot by two well-dressed

# **Evidence Linking the Suspects to the Crime**

The car that the two shooters were driving was a brand new 1937 Ford Coupe that was stolen from Denver, Colorado with license plates stolen from a Boulder mining company. Wathen also recorded that he had shot at the car multiple times. This car was eventually found in Cheyenne, Wyoming with multiple gunshots.

There were multiple sightings of the car and men matching Cooley and Doody's description in the Albion area. In addition, three eyewitnesses independently identified Cooley as one of the men in the car around the time of the crime.

# Did you know - continued from page 36

were buffaloes. The decoy was successful, and as soon as the Pawnees were fairly started, another band of Sioux attacked the camp where the old men, squaws and papooses were left, and a wholesale slaughter commenced. The astounded Pawnees then rode back to the camp, pursued by the band from the hill-sides, only to find the lodges burning and the bodies of their women, children and old men, lying about in a terribly mangled condition, while their relentless foe was now pressing them hard on

Far Left: Marion Armstrong Cooley Born March 17, 1896 Died October 17, 1995 41 years old when the murders were committed

Left: Charles Orville Doody Born January 17, 1902 35 years old when the murders were committed

Cooley photo from OWH/AP Wirephoto Doody photo from Dennis Sorgen, FindAGrave.com

- Cooley was independently identified by three eyewitnesses.
- At the time of the crime, Cooley was wanted for questioning in a successful kidnap-for-ransom scheme.
- At the time of the crime, Doody was wanted for armed bank robbery and ecape from jail in Brighton, Colorado.

men driving a black 1937 Ford Coupe with Colorado license plates. This vehicle had been stolen in Denver four days earlier and had been seen in the area of the pasture over the previous three days. Sheriff Smoyer (shot once in the chest) died instantly. Constable Wathen (shot once through both hips) survived for 108 days, finally succumbing to his wound on Sunday, October 3, 1937.

A plaster of Paris cast matched Cooley's footprints to the scene of the crime. In addition, one of the eyewitnesses, as well as William Wathen, reported that one of the men was wearing black and white saddle shoes. When Cooley was apprehended in Cheyenne, Wyoming, his black and white saddle shoes were dyed black.

Wathen's detailed account of the shooting, which he wrote down in his logbook at the scene after exchanging gunfire with the suspects, included descriptions of both shooters, the car's description and license plate, and the circumstances of the shooting.

both sides. The overwhelming numbers of the Sioux soon compelled the Pawnee to seek safety in flight. Their loss was great. The troubles between these two tribes, who had always been inveterate enemies, were now at an end. This was the last battle fought between the remnants of what were once the two great tribes of Indians in Nebraska.

http://www.kancoll.org/books/andreas\_ne/hitchcock/hitchcock-p1.html

# The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 2017 Officer of the Year **Deputy John Brady** Lancaster County Sheriff's Office

Lancaster County Sheriff Terry Wagner (left) presents the Officer of the Year Award to Lancaster County Deputy John Brady

The following is the nomination written by Sheriff Terry Wagner and presented during the 2017 awards banquet



The Lancaster County Sheriff's Office Awards Committee solicits nominations for service awards, including Deputy Sheriff of the Year. The committee selected Deputy Sheriff John Brady as the 2017 Deputy Sheriff of the Year for his service in 2016. His name was also approved by the Nebraska Sheriff's Association for NSA Officer of the Year for 2017. Below are two examples of John's actions that go above-and-beyond the call of duty.

## **Baby on Board**

On January 28th, 2016, at 0118 hours, Deputy Brady stopped a vehicle with Indiana license plates on the northeast edge of Lincoln for a minor traffic violation. It was apparent to Deputy Brady that the passengers in the vehicle were lost. Upon contact with the occupants, a small child was observed in the backseat sleeping on some clothes, not restrained, with no car seat available.

Deputy Brady learned that the couple were the paternal grandparents of the two year-old in the back seat. They had been awarded custody of the child and were concerned that the maternal grandparents might attempt to take physical possession of the child and return with him to Pakistan. The custodial grandparents decided to leave Indiana for another relative's home in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Their story was verified, even by speaking to the relative in Wyoming and making sure she was aware that the grandparents were enroute to her house.

The elderly couple was in poor financial condition, with barely enough money to get to Cheyenne. They could not afford to buy a car seat. Deputy Brady contacted his supervisor to see if the sheriff's office had access to any car seats and was informed we did not. Deputy Brady was not comfortable allowing the couple to continue with the child unrestrained, and knowing the Sheriff's Office had no immediate resources to assist at that hour, took it upon himself to help the couple. He had them follow him to WalMart where he purchased a car seat and other baby care

items with his own money. He then sent them on their way.

The next evening was Deputy Brady's day off, but he took the time to contact the Wyoming resident to make sure the couple and the child had arrived safely. Deputy Brady was very compassionate and understanding of the couple's struggles throughout his contact with them and gave of his own time and money to make sure the child reached safety.

## No Photos Allowed

In December of 2016, Deputy John Brady was assisting other deputies during the investigation of a fatal crash. The body of the deceased was still at the scene and Deputy Brady observed reporters photographing the scene. He positioned his patrol vehicle between the cameras and the deceased. When the cameras moved to get a "better" angle, John's patrol vehicle also moved, thereby reducing needless trauma to the family of the deceased by having these photographs taken. A member of the hazardous material cleanup witnessed the media and John's response and called in his admiration for John's caring attitude.

These are excellent examples of caring, compassion and a servant's attitude displayed by Deputy John Brady.

John is an 11 year veteran of the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office, serving as a Patrol Deputy, an Investigator on the Marshall's Fugitive Task Force, a member of the Sheriff's Office Honor Guard, and a member of the Tactical Response Unit. He has received over 20 commendations from citizens, other law enforcement agencies, and from his superiors.

A California native, John served four years in the U.S. Navy aboard the U.S.S. Nimitz, was an EMT for several ambulance companies and fire departments in California before moving to Nebraska and joining the Sheriff's Office in 2006. John and his wife, Kimberly, have four children.

Congratulations Deputy John Brady.



# The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee Sheriff James R. Marr retired) **Nuckolls County Sheriff's Office**

Jefferson County Chief Deputy (left) Matthew Schultz presents the Hall of Fame Award to Nuckolls County Sheriff James Marr (retired)

The following is the nomination written by Chief Deputy Matthew Schultz and presented during the 2017 awards banquet

As a young child I only knew my Uncle James R. Marr as one thing: he was a cop. When I was very young he was a deputy and later became the sheriff.

Christmas Day for me was always a tense time. We couldn't open presents until he got off work at three o'clock, and there was always the chance that he wouldn't be at my grandmother's house even then.

Everyone in town knew my uncle. I always enjoyed the looks I got when he would find me walking on a cold morning and gave me a ride to school. I would arrive in a cruiser and have to answer 20 questions as to why the cops were driving me around.

When I became a Deputy Sheriff in August of 2000, it was in large part from what I had learned from this man and from the life that he lived for so long.

Marr joined the Nuckolls County Sheriff's Office in 1974 after returning from Vietnam where he served as a Navy Corpsman. When Sheriff James R. Marr retired, he had served 10 years as a Deputy Sheriff under Sheriff Donald Squires and almost another 30 years as Sheriff.

In the early years of his career, the Nuckolls County Sheriff's Office consisted of the Sheriff and one deputy. The office was located in the southwest corner of the courthouse. and the jail had a revolving cage-type door. The only dispatcher in the office was the Sheriff's wife, Annie. She could also operate the radio if she was home at the time. If Annie was not around, the calls were answered by the Good Samaritan Home in Nelson, NE. At the beginning of my uncle's career, the radio was not very reliable. There were dead spots all over the county. Often the messages had to be relayed through other departments.

When Sheriff Squires became ill and following his death, Marr was appointed Sheriff in 1983 and was the only law enforcement member in the office. He was elected Sheriff by the people of Nuckolls County.

During Marr's tenure as Sheriff, he was elected seven times by the citizens of the county. He was responsible for the start of the 911 system in the county, and one wall phone handled those calls. Currently the Sheriff's Office has obtained 24-hour 911 service, full time dispatchers, and repeater systems to cover the dead spots in the county.

Marr also moved the Nuckolls County Sheriff's Office out of the courthouse into an adjacent building. He was also responsible for expanding the area twice.

Marr was responsible for the growth of the Nuckolls County Sheriff's Office by hiring three additional deputies to his staff to better serve the public. This was further supplemented by the addition of the Sheriff's K-9 Unit that serves Nuckolls County.

Marr was proactive in drug enforcement and property crimes in his county. I remember that only twice was his office contested by another individual, and Marr won the election in a landslide both times. The first of these times, the individual contesting his office only received around 30 votes.

During his lengthy career, Marr always shunned the spotlight. He was not very active in law enforcement organizations, always keeping his priorities focused on his office, enforcing the law in Nuckolls County, and spending time with his family in the few hours that he had to himself.

Marr was respected by his peers, and I have heard countless stories, too numerous to mention, about him throughout the years from other officers who worked with him on cases. He gained their utmost respect, and he was always willing to help out other counties and agencies.

Marr retired as the Nuckolls County Sheriff on January 8, 2015, after serving 40 years in law enforcement. Sheriff James R. Marr is hereby recommended for the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Hall of Fame.

Congratulations Sheriff James R. Marr (retired).

# The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee **Criminal Investigator Dean Wavrunek Knox County Sheriff's Office**

**Knox County Sheriff Don Henery (left)** presents the Hall of Fame Award to **Knox County Criminal Investigator** Dean Wavrunek

The following is the nomination written by Sheriff Don Henery and presented during the 2017 awards banquet



While I realize most people inducted in the Hall of Fame are never here to appreciate that fact, this time I'd like to nominate somebody who is here to appreciate the honor, as well deserving of it.

Dean Wavrunek has been involved in petty crime and major crime investigations since 1968 when he came home from Vietnam. He has been a member of only two law enforcement agencies since then, the Verdigre Police Department and the Knox County Sheriff's Office, where he is still a Criminal Investigator.

Dean has investigated everything from barking dogs to and including numerous homicides. His last homicide arrest was at the age of 66 when he responded to a call and was met by the still armed suspect at the crime scene. Dean was able to disarm the suspect and handcuff him, but was unable to save the victim due to the nature of the gunshot wound.

Before you question the reasoning behind why Dean didn't wait for backup, you should know that the closest backup was 15 minutes away and in the world of the small department, when someone's life may be able to be saved we do what we have to and can do to try and save that life ... even if it means going in alone.

That suspect is now sentenced and an inmate in the Nebraska DOC.

Dean has at times been the judge and jury in settling verbal disputes, directed traffic for almost fifty year's worth of Kolache Day Parades, went to schools and educated our youth, experienced the sad duties of both attending and delivering death messages and investigations.

On his time off, Dean has been all about helping our youth over the years. He helps with Pheasants Forever's Family Fun Days and the National Wild Turkey Federation's Jakes Day. He has served as a mentor for over two dozen youth/ mentor hunts (and has also mentored my daughter, Alexa).

Dean belongs to VFW Post 259 and The American Legion and somehow finds time to participate in their events.

Dean's commitment and dedication to law enforcement over the years is apparent by the fact he's always been involved in major cases and always been willing to go the extra mile, as well as teach and mentor the younger deputies that will no doubt someday replace him.

The people of Knox County are lucky to have a dedicated officer like Dean who is still working at the ripe old age of 69, and is still giving 150% when he becomes involved in cases. And, of course, he is still teaching and mentoring the youth of our county.

I'm lucky to call him a fellow officer and friend.

Congratulations Investigator Dean Wavrunek.

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- We will accept articles from law enforcement agencies, their representatives, or related fields to be considered for publication in the magazine.
- Photographs of minors must be accompanied by verifiable permission to publish and list their names.
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# **Technologies Are Changing the Way Police Do Business**

By Timothy Roufa - The Balance

The world of law enforcement is very different now than it was when I entered it in 2001. In just a relatively few short years, technology has advanced by leaps and bounds, changing the way police officers do just about everything. When I first became a cop, we didn't even have computers available to us to use at our stations, much less in our cars. But technological advancements are changing law enforcement.

Now, the unimaginable has not only been imagined but manifested. And there's no slowing down. From drones in the sky to microcomputers in our glasses, technological advancements abound. Here are just a few of the technologies, either already on the street or on the horizon, that will help police make the stuff of science fiction become science fact.

# Law Enforcement Looking to Use **Drones on Patrol**

Critics decry them as harbingers of an Orwellian police state, a la 1984. Proponents point to the vast potential to solve and prevent crime. Wherever you fall in the argument, the fact is that drones are well on their way to becoming eyes in the sky for law enforcement officials.

Unmanned drones can help patrol in ways and areas that police officers simply cannot. They can provide real-time information to police dispatchers and to crime analysts so that officers can get vital information about crimes in progress and dangerous situations as they unfold. This can help them better plan responses and save lives. Drones can capture video and images of crimes as they occur, providing crucial evidence in future court proceedings. Imagine a bank robbery in progress; a surveillance drone could be quickly dispatched to the area and follow a fleeing suspect to his home or hideout without his knowledge, avoiding a potential hostage situation or unnecessary injuries.

# How Police Can Use Google Glass, HoloLens, and Augmented Reality

Imagine an officer on foot patrol. As he walks down the street, his special glasses are recording and analyzing everything he sees. A built-in screen provides information about the businesses, homes, and vehicles he looks at, while facial recognition software provides real-time information about the people he passes, letting him know if anyone matches BOLO descriptions or an outstanding warrant.

More Police Technology on page 46

#### SHERIFFS NETWORKING

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association monthly meetings are an excellent opportunity for a first-term sheriff, and all other sheriffs, to share information and receive insight into the many challenges of the job.



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**Sheriff Jeffrey Kirsch** 

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# Did you know . . . ?

Kimball County was named in honor of Thomas L. Kimball, vice president and general manager of the Union Pacific railroad, and was formed from part of the western third of Cheyenne County.

One of the first settlements was named Antelopeville, which became the city of Kimball. The purchase of land from Union Pacific Railroad near the western

edge of the present Chevenne County, across the present Kimball County, to the Wyoming line, was the first step toward the settlement of the western end of old Cheyenne County - the present Kimball County.



**Sheriff Harry Gillway** 

# Kimball County Sheriff's Office

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# The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 2017 Hall of Fame Inductee **Sergeant Jane Tooley** retired) **Butler County Sheriff's Office**

Saunders County Sheriff Kevin Stukenholtz presents the Hall of Fame Award to Butler County Sheriff's Sgt. Jane Tooley (retired)

The following is the nomination written by Sheriff Kevin Stukenholtz and presented during the 2017 awards banquet.

Jane Tooley began her professional career in criminal justice as a parole officer in the Omaha area for five years before becoming a State Trooper.

Jane Tooley was the first female trooper to attend the Nebraska State Patrol training camp in 1977. She was also the first female promoted to sergeant in 1987 and she became the first female lieutenant in 1994. On December 31, 2001, she became the first female officer to retire from the Nebraska State Patrol.

Her distinguished career with the Nebraska State Patrol began as a trooper in the Lincoln area. While a member of the Nebraska State Patrol, Jane served in the Traffic, Criminal, Drug, Executive Protection, Professional Standards, and Special Services Divisions. Part of her assignment with the Field Services Division included working with the Sex Offender Registry Program and coordination of the Community Policing Initiative.

After her retirement from the Nebraska State Patrol, Jane joined the Butler County Sheriff's Office in February of 2002 as a road patrol deputy, working there until her retirement as a sergeant in the summer of 2012.

Her entire profession has always been about serving the public. From the very beginning, Jane was always willing to take any assignment, and she expected no favoritism or special accommodations because she was a female. That attitude and dedication set the tone for every female trooper who followed her. She worked homicide cases, child abuse cases, sexual assault cases, undercover drug investigations involving high-level conspiracy cases, and domestic violence cases. Jane has been a volunteer as a critical incident-debriefing officer for the past 20 years and is a volunteer firefighter for the community of Bellwood.

An article in the McCook Daily Gazette in 2001 reported how Lieutenant Tooley felt about her career as she was retiring from the Patrol. When people asked Jane what it was like to be the first woman to go through training camp, she answered that it was just as challenging for her as it was for her 31 camp-mates. She was not trying to make history; she was just beginning her career. She encouraged other women who might be considering a law enforcement career and stated that she could not imagine any career more rewarding than that.

For 40 years, Jane Tooley contributed in providing law enforcement and community services to the State of Nebraska. The significance of her contributions is not simply marked by being the first female trooper, but also by having been involved in almost every aspect of law enforcement in providing an example to other officers in the profession and in commitment to citizens.

Jane's commitment is recognized by her willingness to spend the extra hour after interviewing sexual assault victims or other crime victims developing the trust that is critical in further prosecution.

Her commitment to her community is unsurpassed as she volunteered to teach CCD classes or mentored dozens of less fortunate kids in 4-H who did not have a project or a pet. Jane has worked with substance abuse individuals and inmates to assist them in reentering society. One of those individuals credited Jane's mentoring to his successful sobriety.

Jane has always been willing to go the extra mile to help anyone who is less fortunate whether related to law enforcement or not. This dedication and generosity reflects not only on Jane as a person, but to the law enforcement community as a whole. Jane exemplifies the term of setting an example within our profession whether on or off duty.

Please join me in congratulating Jane Tooley with the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association "Hall of Fame" award for 2017.



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**Sheriff Vernon Hjorth** 

# **Madison County** Sheriff's Office

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# Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame

The Sandhills of Nebraska is a vast area of grass covered sand dunes in West Central Nebraska. The Sandhills is home to cattle ranching and a large number of quality cattle. With ranching and cattle come horses and cowboys. Since the last half of the 1800's, cowmen and cowboys have been drawn to and raised in the area.

The Nebraska Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame came into existence in 2006. It was the brain-child of Rodney Palmer, an Ainsworth, NE lawyer and rancher. Before that, area ranchers and cowboys were not receiving the recognition and memorialization they deserved.

One board director was chosen from each of the following counties: Holt, Rock, Keya Paha, Brown, Cherry, Loup, Garfield, Blaine, Thomas, Custer, Hooker, Grant, Arthur, Sheridan, Lincoln, Keith, McPherson, Logan, Wheeler, and Garden. www.sandhillscowboys.com



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# **Once Common But Now Extinct: Adams County Sheriff Won't Live in Courthouse**

By Jeff Bahr, The Grand Island Independent



HASTINGS, NE. Beginning a year from now, the Adams County Sheriff will no longer live in an apartment inside the county courthouse.

Gregg Magee, who has been the county's sheriff for 35 years, won't be running for re-election. So the Adams County Board of Supervisors has changed the rules.

Adams was the last county in Nebraska that required its sheriff to live at the county jail. That requirement was made by a previous board of supervisors.

Once January 2019 arrives, the county will no longer provide living quarters for the sheriff.

Requiring the sheriff to live in the apartment would eliminate a lot of qualified people interested in the position, said Board Vice Chairman Dale Curtis. A sheriff with a family probably wouldn't take the job.

There was no need to change the rule as long as Magee was sheriff, Curtis said. Because Magee is single, the situation has worked well for him, said Adams County Board Chairman Eldon Orthmann. Magee lives on the top floor in the northeast corner of the courthouse, just north of the jail. He has served nine four-year terms.

Curtis speaks highly of Magee. "He does an excellent job, and that's why he kept getting re-elected," Curtis said.

Even if Magee's successor wants to live at the courthouse, he won't be able to. It will no longer be part of the job description.

The apartment Magee occupies was once the home of the courthouse's grounds supervisor.

Beginning in January of next year, the county will use that room for something else.

At one time, it was common for Nebraska sheriffs to live at the courthouse.

The sheriff's wife would answer the phone and cook for inmates, said longtime Buffalo County Sheriff Neil Miller.

The late Dan Schneiderheinz lived next to the jail when he was Merrick County Sheriff. His wife and family lived with him. Schneiderheinz was sheriff from 1963 until 1996.

"In the old days when the sheriff went to bed, everybody went to bed. When the sheriff ate, everybody ate. That's how it worked," said Miller, who was village marshal in Clarks early in his career.

Before Miller went to work in Nance County, the sheriff had also lived at the jail.

Things began to change when jail standards were introduced in 1980. Jails were required to supervise inmates and do a head count 24 hours a day. Before then, dispatchers checked on inmates during the night in some counties, but in other counties, things shut down when the sheriff called it a day.

When Miller started at Buffalo County as Chief Deputy in 1979, his office formerly served as a bedroom.

Miller, 61, is glad that Buffalo County no longer has a requirement that the sheriff live at the jail. His wife said if it were still a requirement, Miller would have had to find something else to do in law enforcement. "Because I'm not cooking for the inmates," she said.

Way back when, the sheriff was responsible for a myriad of details, including things such as making sure inmates had toothbrushes, said Hall County Sheriff's Office Investigator Gregg Schultz.

When Schultz started with the Hall County Sheriff's Office in the late 1970s, the sheriff made only about \$12,000 a year.

Like other sheriffs around the state, the Hall County Sheriff was paid \$3.50 a day to feed each prisoner. That money, called the Board of Prisoners fee, came from the state.

If the sheriff was able to feed each prisoner for less than \$3.50 a day, he was able to pocket the difference. That income was valuable because their salaries weren't high. So sheriffs might use government commodity food and visit day-old bread stores to keep costs down. Cooks prepared the food. Trustees assisted with the food operation.

Schultz, now 62, was one of 11 deputies when he started. The average number of inmates was 70 to 75.

"Long ago, having the sheriff handle a variety of duties was just practical," Schultz said. "That was especially true in rural counties, which didn't have a lot of prisoners."

theindependent.com/news/local/once-common-but-now-extinctadams-county-sheriff-won-t/article\_fd1d8c84-f8d3-11e7-8108-134e23265c06.html



# Police Technology - continued from page 41

It was not long ago at all that this seemed like an impossibility. With the advent of Google Glass, though, this scenario is becoming a very real possibility. Both the software and the data for such a scenario is already available; facial recognition has been in existence for a decade, and simple smartphone apps like Around Me can already provide an augmented reality experience using the

phone's camera.

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Sheriff James Brueggeman

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While the first generation of Google's computer goggles may not have these capabilities, one can easily see that it's only a matter of time before officers on the street will be able to have built-in heads-up displays that provide them with a host of data to help them patrol more effectively and efficiently and to keep them and their charges safe.

# Police Use Social Media to Solve Crime and Engage the Public

Our society has become one in which, though we talk about the importance of privacy, we sure don't seem to care who knows what about us. Through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, we seem to be more than happy to share with anyone and everyone what we're doing, thinking, and even eating at any given moment.

For law enforcement agencies, crime analysts and even probation and community control officers, social media is beginning to prove itself to be a crucial criminal justice tool in gathering intelligence, locating clues and even screening candidates for employment.

There have been numerous cases of police thwarting or solving crimes based on tips gleaned from Facebook posts, and otherwise-undetected crimes have been successfully prosecuted as a result of videos posted to YouTube.

While social media may seem "old hat" as a social and marketing platform, it's potential as a crime-fighting tool is only just beginning to be realized.

# Law Enforcement Uses Biometrics for Data Security and Identification

From data security to suspect identification, the use of biometrics - using unique biological traits such as fingerprints, retina scans, and DNA to identify individuals - is rapidly increasing among law enforcement circles.

Once a tedious and messy task that included ink, fingerprint cards and arduous analysis by hand, using fingerprints and other biometric data once took weeks and even months. Now, as technology becomes cheaper, smaller, more portable and readily available, officers are able to use handheld scanners to instantly identify individuals with criminal pasts.

More Police Technology on page 47



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# Police Technology

continued from page 46

Scanners built into laptop computers provide added security to ensure no unauthorized person can gain access to sensitive intelligence and personal information. DNA databases and software continue to improve, reducing the time and the backlog that once served as major impediments to solving crimes.

# New York Police Department's Domain Awareness System

The New York City Police Department worked with the Microsoft Corporation to develop a comprehensive information and data system that can assist law enforcement at almost every step of patrol and investigations.

The Domain Awareness System, nicknamed the Dashboard, ties in data from a host of available sources, including Computer Aided Dispatch, crime reports and criminal histories, maps and even cameras to provide instant access to real-time information, pictures and video about calls in progress. This comprehensive information is available to officers and crime analysts at a glance, allowing them to better formulate a response to any given call.

More Police Technology on page 48

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The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association monthly meetings are an excellent opportunity for a first-term sheriff, and all other sheriffs, to share information and receive insight into the many challenges of the job.



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Sheriff Alan Kotschwai

Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

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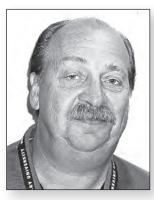


# Police Technology - continued from page 47

# **How Police Can Use Tablets and Smartphones**

Jumping on Facebook, playing Words with Friends or wasting time watching YouTube videos is fine on your off time, but smartphone and tablet computing technology are gaining steam as a crime-fighting tool. Laptops in patrol cars were once all the rage, but they have their limitations.

# SARPY



**Sheriff Jeff Davis** 

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**Sheriff Mark Overman** 

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# SHERIDAN



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that are supporters of their local Sheriff's Office and the NSA. The increasing portability of connected devices is allowing for new uses and applications for police officers. From handheld translation services that help officers communicate with non-English speakers to handheld electronic ticket-writing devices, tablets and smartphones now give officers the ability to access, record and disseminate important information no matter where they are.

# Automatic Tag and License Plate Readers for Police

Mounted to the exterior of patrol cars, electronic tag readers are becoming more prevalent among larger departments and traffic-oriented agencies. Using cameras connected to vehicle information databases, electronic tag readers instantly analyze license plates on every vehicle that comes within their range of view.

Instead of having to call in tags to dispatchers one at a time in order to check for stolen vehicles or compare BOLO information, officers can be alerted to the fact that they are behind a stolen vehicle without having to lift a finger. Tag readers have the potential to increase the number of vehicles recovered and criminals apprehended.

#### Law Enforcement Use of GPS

The Global Positioning System is not new, but its applications are continuing to expand into the law enforcement community. Using GPS technology, police are able to pinpoint the location of a call and determine the fastest and safest route to it, getting people the help they need more efficiently and timely.

Officers can record the location of their traffic stops and crash investigations, and that information can be exported to maps to determine how enforcement efforts can be better focused on decreasing the occurrences of traffic crashes. GPS technology can also be used by crime analysts to help identify emerging trends in crime locations and help better plan for shift staffing and patrol assignments.

More PoliceTechnology on page 49

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# Police Technology continued from page 48

GPS also adds increased accountability for officers, allowing management and supervisory personnel to track locations and speeds of officers. Received however grudgingly, these uses and innovations help keep officers honest and help them maintain the high ethical standards they are held to.

# Advancements Continue to Transform the Policing Profession

Technology continues to advance and change, and in so doing, it advances and changes the profession of law enforcement and other careers in criminology and criminal justice. With proper restraint and respect for constitutional concerns, the use of technology in criminal justice will continue to allow crime fighters to further their ability to serve and protect their respective communities.

https://www.thebalance.com/technologies-that-are-changing-the-way-police-do-business-974549



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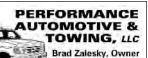


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