

# THE Vol. 89, No. 1 • Spring-Summer 2018 NERRASIA SHERIFE

A Publication of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association



Above: Members of the Honor Guard Who Attended the Annual Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony, May 18, 2018, Grand Island

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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

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 2017-2018 President Sheriff Dan Osmond, Custer County

#### **NSA Office**

521 First Street | PO Box 10 Milford, NE 68405 Office: 402.761.2216 Executive Director Kathi Schildt kschildt@youraam.com

The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine PO Box 27071, Omaha, NE 68127-0071 402.592.0823 Editor: Duffi Goodrich

info@nesheriffsassoc.org

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#### The Nebraska Sheriff **Magazine Policies**

- Only submitted articles pertinent to criminal justice, law enforcement, and NSA members will be featured.
- 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, whether the photo is emailed or sent through USPS.\*
- We reserve the right to edit all submittals for content or space.
- We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please let us know about them.

The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine 402.592.0823 • info@nesheriffsassoc.org

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HOTEL ROOM BLOCK CUTOFF August 24, 2018

To register or for more information visit nsapoan.com See the agenda on page 6 of this magazine

#### Legislative Bills of Interest - 105th Legislature, Second Session

#### By Jon A. Edwards, J.D., Nowka & Edwards

The Nebraska Legislature finished the 105th Legislature, Second Session in April. This past session, the Legislature met for 60 days and completed the work for the 2017-18 biennium. This upcoming January, the Legislature will begin work on the First Session of the 106th Legislature which will be 90 days in length. At the beginning of the 90 day session, the Legislature will install newly elected senators and will begin the process of establishing leadership positions for the 106th Legislature, as well as discussing and implementing any new rule changes.

In 2018, the Legislature completed the Second Session of the 105th Legislature. Along with bills that carried over from the First Session, the Senators dealt with newly introduced bills, budget adjustments for the remainder of the current biennium, property tax proposals, school funding concerns, as well as other issues of concern. There were approximately 469 new legislative bills introduced in this year's session. A

total of approximately 1136 bills were introduced in both the First and Second Sessions of the 105th Legislature.

The following are summaries of a select number of bills of importance for sheriffs that we tracked and dealt with on behalf of the Nebraska Sheriff's Association during the Second Session. In total over the last two sessions, we tracked approximately 150 bills on behalf of the NE Sheriff's Association, bills dealing with a wide variety of issues and concerns for sheriffs. The following summaries are a selection of those bills, bills that were of significant importance to sheriffs. You will find at the end of the summary of each bill an indication of the final disposition of each bill. All bills introduced in the 105th Legislature, First and Second Sessions, for which there was no final resolution, are dead at the end of this last session. Next year, the Legislature starts over with LB 1.

# LB 776 (McCollister) – Provide requirements for inmate access to telephone or videoconferencing systems in county and city jails.

Requires that phone calls or videoconference sessions between an inmate and an attorney are free of charge and prohibits monitoring or recording of such communications. Authorizes the Jail Standards Board to consider the acceptable rates set by the Federal Communications Commission in setting comparable rates for city and county jails. Allows cities and counties to continue receiving revenue for the reasonable operating costs of a telephone system, but prohibits the payment of "excessive commissions or bonus payments."

FINAL STATUS: Approved by Governor April 17, 2018 McCollister – Priority Bill

# LB 792 (Ebke) - Change powers and duties of the Nebraska State Patrol, law enforcement agencies, the Executive Director of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, and the Attorney General.

Requires law enforcement agencies to document and maintain records related to the reason for and circumstances surrounding an officer's separation of service from that agency. Law enforcement agencies are required to submit a detailed report to the Nebraska Crime Commission if an officer is terminated from employment or allowed to resign in lieu of termination for conduct that would constitute incompetence, neglect of duty, incapacity, dishonesty, a guilty plea to a felony charge, a felony conviction or another violation of the officer's oath of office, code of ethics or statutory duties. A law enforcement officer is required to sign a waiver upon application for employment with a new agency to allow the

prospective employer to contact the officer's former agency and obtain information detailing his or her separation from previous service.

FINAL STATUS: Judiciary Committee (Amended into LB791)

# LB 902 (Bostelman) – Authorize the withholding from the public of information regarding firearm registration, possession, sale, or use.

Authorizes the withholding of certain public information regarding firearm registration, possession, sale or use obtained by a government entity for an application or permit. Such information will be available to any federal, state, county or local law enforcement agency.

FINAL STATUS: Approved by Governor April 17, 2018 Bostelman – Priority Bill

# LB 923 (Morfeld) – Provide immunity for certain law enforcement employees administering naloxone and change provisions relating to immunity for person reporting or experiencing alcohol overdose.

Expands immunity for administering naloxone to law enforcement employees who, as part of their duties, handle or process evidence or property which may include opioids. The bill also provides that in the case of an alcohol overdose, persons older than age 18 but younger than age 21, who make a good faith effort to request emergency medical assistance, remain on the scene and cooperate with law enforcement will not be charged with a violation.

FINAL STATUS: Approved by Governor April 17, 2018

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#### LB 989 (Wishart) - Authorize testing of autonomous vehicles by a city of the primary class on its roadways.

Authorizes the testing of autonomous vehicles statewide under a special permit authorized by the state Department of Motor Vehicles. Authorizes the operation of an autonomous vehicle on all state roads and highways as long as the vehicle is capable of operating in compliance with traffic and motor vehicle safety laws. An autonomous vehicle may or may not contain a human driver. If a human driver is present in the vehicle, he or she must be a licensed driver and covered by insurance. The operation of an on-demand autonomous vehicle network, which can provide transportation of persons or goods, including for-hire transportation or public transportation is permitted. Political subdivisions will be prohibited from imposing any additional performance requirements or taxes that relate specifically to the operation of an autonomous vehicle. Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to consult with railroad companies before providing an exemption that allows fully autonomous vehicles to cross railroads.

FINAL STATUS: Approved by Governor April 23, 2018 Wishart – Priority Bill

#### LB 990 (Wayne) – Create the offense of possession of a firearm by a prohibited juvenile offender.

Prohibits a person under 25 from possessing a firearm if they have been adjudicated in juvenile court of a misdemeanor domestic violence charge or any felony. The prohibition will not apply to the possession of firearms by members of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard, Reserve Officers Training Corps, or law enforcement officers while on duty or during training. The penalty for first offense is a

Class IV felony and for any subsequent offense the penalty is a Class III A felony.

FINAL STATUS: Approved by Governor April 17, 2018 Wayne – Priority Bill

## LB 993e (Friesen) – Create the 911 Service System Advisory Committee and change the 911 Service System Act and eliminate the act's termination date.

Creates the 911 Services System Advisory Committee to assist the Public Service Commission in its mission to fully implement the 911 service system. The commission is tasked with creating a mechanism for determining the level of funding available to local governing bodies, public safety answering points and third-party service or infrastructure providers from the 911 Service System Fund. Costs incurred for providing 911 service, acquiring new equipment, training personnel and maintaining, upgrading or modifying services are eligible for funding under the bill. Additionally, the commission will be able to apply for federal funds available for next-generation 911 service and can distribute the funds accordingly. The bill provides legal immunity to individuals installing, maintaining or providing service, except in cases of failure to use reasonable care or for intentional acts.

FINAL STATUS: Approved by Governor with Emergency Clause attached April 4, 2018 (LB966 amended into LB993)

Geist - Priority Bill



#### Social Media: the Good, the Bad, the Ugly

The popularity of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat have transformed the way we understand and experience crime and victimisation.

Previously, it's been thought that people form their opinions about crime from what they see or read in the media. But with social media taking over as our preferred news source, how do these new platforms impact our understanding of crime?

Social media has also created new concerns in relation to crime itself. Victimisation on social media platforms is not uncommon.

However, it is not all bad news. Social media has created new opportunities for criminal justice agencies to solve crimes, among other things. So, like many other advancements in communication technology, social media has a good, a bad and an ugly side when it comes to its relationship with criminal justice and the law.

#### The Good

There is no doubt social media has been beneficial for some criminal justice institutions.

For the police, social media has given them unprecedented access to the public, and vice versa. Via Facebook and Twitter, police and the public can communicate in real time about incidents and events. This has proven invaluable not only during times of crisis, but also on a day-to-day basis and at the local level.

Social media has also become an important tool in police investigations. For example, the release of CCTV footage of Melbourne woman Jill Meagher's last moments via Facebook pages and YouTube assisted in apprehending her killer and the social media "broadcasting" of criminal trials has added an extra level of transparency to criminal proceedings.

Social Media continued on page 46



#### **2018 NSA/POAN** Annual Joint Conference Agenda



#### **SUNDAY. SEPTEMBER 30. 2018**

JUNDAI, JLI II	SONDAI, SEI TEMBER 30, 2010					
Younes Conference Center						
12:00-6:00 PM	Open Registration					
1:00-2:00 PM	Nebraska Crime Commission Update					
2:00-5:00 PM	Facilitating Experiential Trauma					
	Information - Russel Strand					
5:00-7:00 PM	NSA Annual Meeting					
5:00-7:00 PM	POAN Board Meeting					
7:00-11:00 PM	Hospitality Room					
MONDAY OCT	COPER 4, 0040					
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018						
Younes Conference Center						
7:00-8:30 AM	Open Registration					

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018				
Younes Conference Center				
7:00-8:30 AM	Open Registration			
8:30-9:00 AM	Opening Session - Color Guard & National Athem - Dani Osmond			
9:00-10:00 AM	Cryptocurrencies/Dark Web – Speaker: Anthony Kava, CISSP, CISM, CEH, ACE			
9:00 -1:00 PM	Spouses Program - Corky Creations and Lunch			
10:00-10:30 AM	Break in Vendor Area			
10:30-12:00 PM	Cryptocurrencies/Dark Web – Speaker: Anthony Kava, CISSP, CISM, CEH, ACE			
12:00-12:45 PM	Lunch Provided in Vendor Area/ Highway Safety Luncheon (invite only)			
12:50 PM	Afternoon Drawing in Classroom			
1:00-2:30 PM	Cari Farver Case Study - Speaker			
2:30-3:00 PM	Break in Vendor Area			
3:00-5:00 PM	Cari Farver Case Study - Speaker			
5:00-7:00 PM	POAN Board Meeting			
7:00-11:00 PM	Hospitality Room			

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018**

Younes Conference Center		
8:30-10:00 AM	NeVDRS Speaker	
10:00 <b>-</b> 10:30 AM	Break in Vendor Area	
10:30-12:00 PM	TraCS - Managing eCitations and more - April Kleinschmit, Captain Gerry Kro- likowski, Charle Lucas, Trooper Marcus Schmit	
11:30-12:00 PM	Valor Training - Indicators of a Potential Assualt or Flight	
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own	
12:00-1:00 PM	POAN Annual Meeting/Luncheon (POAN Members Only)	
1:00-2:30 PM	Enhancing Sexual Assault Response in Nebraska - Anne Boatright	
2:30-3:00 PM	Break in Vendor Area	
3:00-5:00 PM	Crime of Domenstic Violence - Emily Schoenleber	
6:30-9:00 PM	NSA/POAN Award Banquet	
6:00-6:30 PM	Cocktails	
6:30-9:00 PM	Conference Banquet, Recognition & Awards, Entertainment	
9:00-11:00 PM	Hospitality Room	

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2018

- ,	,		
Younes Conference Center			
8:00-10:00 AM	Las Vegas Shooting - Deputy Chief Jones		
10:00-10:30 AM	Break in Vendor Area		
10:30-12:00 PM	Las Vegas Shooting - Deputy Chief Jones		
12:00-12:15 PM	Closing Comments		
12:15-1:15 PM	POAN Board Meeting		

The 2018 NSA/POAN Conference can fulfill your 20-hour continuing education requirement. For hotels and conference registration visit: nsapoan.com



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**

#### The Safety of our Children

As the days of summer start to wind down the one thing that we start to think about is our kids going back at school. It's time to pay attention to the buses, kids walking and riding their bikes and all the other traffic associated with the new school year.

This also brings to mind an often talked about subject, the safety of our children while they are in school. School violence has unfortunately become not "if" it will happen, but "when" it happen. We are faced with trying to figure out how to prevent these tragedies. There isn't an easy answer to this question.

As president of the Nebraska Sheriff's Association I have received numerous calls about our children's safety and what should or could be done about it. We will have legislation that revolves around having guns in schools. Many people feel that having an armed citizen in the school would help deter these horrific crimes from happening. Other people feel that guns in school would only make things worse. There needs to be some changes made to our laws, to what degree remains the biggest question. I am sure there will be a lot of passionate debate on both sides of this subject.

I think one thing that the Nebraska Sheriff's Association and many other law enforcement agencies have done to help with school violence is look at ways for people to get the word out. We live in a very tech savvy society where people communicate with their phone more than anything else. To take advantage of this we are trying to implement the use of apps to report crimes or other issues related to law enforcement. This allows a child, or anyone with the app, that observes or hears something to report it with their phone. This report will immediately go to law enforcement for follow up. I feel that this is a very positive way to help prevent something before it happens. Allowing people to communicate in a way that they feel comfortable will lead to more reports of possible issues. This is available for any one with a smartphone to use. Making it easier to communicate with law enforcement is a big step in preventing school violence and other issues.

#### **NSA/POAN Conference**

As we head into the fall we also have our NSA/POAN conference to look forward to. We have a great line up of speakers for this year (see previous page) and I feel that we have some very interesting topics that will be talked about. I always enjoy going to this conference for the education and the comradery. It is a great time to learn, meet people and share ideas. I hope to see you there!

#### The Support of our Families

I would like to end my thoughts by saying thank you to the family members of all law enforcement officers. I'm sure it's not easy watching your loved one walk out the door everyday and wondering what their day will bring. This job can create a lot of stresses that you have to deal with, sometimes that isn't easy. We could not do this without you!

Sheriff Dan Osmond, Custer County



This is a reminder that the Nebraska Sheriff's Association is now a part of the Western States Sheriff's Association. So far the WSSA has provided us with a lot of useful information. WSSA is a very strong voice for Sheriffs at the national level and offer their assistance at the local level as well. For more information visit https://westernsheriffs.org

#### NDOT Highway Safety Office Update

By Fred Zwonechek, Nebraska Highway Safety Administrator

As I prepare this update (August 1st), the state's 2018 traffic fatality toll stands at 124 compared to 127 on this same date in 2017. Among these numbers are some noteworthy categories. For example, Nebraska has recorded the most pedestrian fatalities (13) year-to-date since 11 were killed in 1993. The most pedestrian fatalities for any year on Nebraska roadways occurred in 1973 when 52 pedestrians were killed.

There have been 17 fatalities recorded on the rural interstate system so far this year, the most recorded year-to-date since 19 were killed in 2010. The highest annual fatality total on the rural interstate system occurred in 2000 when 53 persons died that year.

#### Thanks in part to your efforts!

We are pleased to report that, thanks in part to your education and enforcement efforts, Nebraska's 2017 scientifically conducted statewide observation seat belt use survey revealed that 86% of Nebraska drivers and front seat passengers are using seat belts. That is up from the 83% use rate observed in 2016 which equates to 60,000 more drivers and front seat passengers wearing seat belts in 2017. The national observed use rate was 90% in 2017.

Our 2018 Nebraska seat belt observation survey was conducted in June. We are anxiously waiting to receive the results from our contractor to see if we were able to convince more non-users to buckle up. So far this year, nearly seven out of ten fatally injured passenger vehicle occupants were not wearing seat belts at the time of the crash. This points out that non-users should be targeted at every traffic stop. If you don't take the opportunity to issue a citation and/or stress the importance of buckling up to change their seat belt use behavior now, your next contact might just be making a death notification to their next of kin.

#### **Nebraska Child Safety Restraint Law Current Law Following Passage of LB 42** (effective through December 31, 2018)

All children up to age six must ride correctly secured in a federally-approved child safety seat.

Children ages six to eighteen must ride secured in a safety belt or child safety seat.

Childcare providers must transport all children securely in an appropriate child safety seat or safety belt.

Children less than eighteen years of age are prohibited from riding in cargo areas of any vehicle.

Violation carries a \$25 fine

#### **New Law Following Passage of LB42** (effective January 1, 2019)

All children up to age eight must ride correctly secured in a federally-approved child safety seat.

Children ride rear-facing until up to age two or until they reach the upper weight or height limit allowed by the car seat's manufacturer.

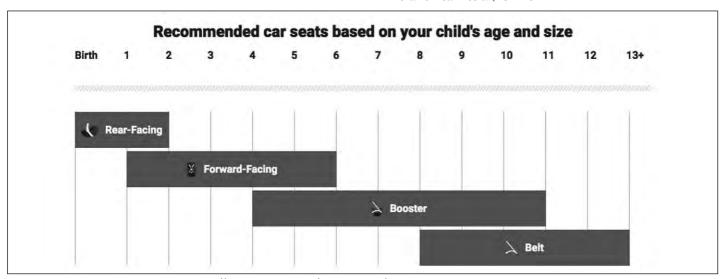
Children under age eight must ride in the back seat, as long as there is a back seat equipped with a seatbelt and is not already occupied by other children under eight years of age.

Children ages eight to less than eighteen must ride secured in an appropriate booster seat or safety belt.

Childcare providers must transport all children securely in an appropriate federally-approved child safety seat or safety belt.

Children less than eighteen years of age are prohibited from riding in cargo areas of a vehicle.

Violation carries a \$25 fine.



https://www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats

# Upcoming Training Opportunities for Law Enforcement

We have sponsored training opportunities that should be of interest to law enforcement and prosecutors:

#### **TRACE Training - Sept 18, 2018**

September 18, 2018, Nat'l Safety Council Offices Omaha, NE or September 19, 2018, Broken Bow PD - TRACE Training (TRACE stands for Target Responsibility for Alcohol Connected Emergencies) underage drinking.

Includes collection of evidence that may indicate where the alcoholic beverage was obtained and the protocol for investigating the source. (6 hrs). To attend register online at **www.projectextramile.org** by September 14, 2018.

#### Marijuana DUI Investigations Oct 23-25, 2018

October 23–25th, 2018. Marijuana DUI Investigations: Improving Your Detection, Investigation & Prosecution Methods. It will be held in three different locations: North Platte, Grand Island, and either Lincoln or Omaha (not yet determined)

For registration and more details keep checking the NDOT Highway Safety Office (HSO) "Calendar of Events" at https://dot.nebraska.gov/safety/hso

## **Heads Up! Spring 2019 Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Training**

Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Training begins.

For registration and more details keep checking the NDOT Highway Safety Office (HSO) calendar of events at dot.nebraska.gov/media/11622/nhsta-events-calendar-2019.pdf

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any members of the staff at the NDOT Highway Safety Office - 402-471-2515. You may also email me at fred.zwonechek@nebraska.gov

#### **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



#### **Adams County** Sheriff's Office

500 West 4th, Suite 126 Hastings, NE 68901 402.461.7181 gmagee@adamscounty.org www.adamscounty.org

#### See pages 49-56 for county businesses

that are supporters of their local Sheriff's Office and the NSA.





Sheriff Gregg A. Magee

2018 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

#### **Arthur County** Sheriff's Office

PO Box 207 Arthur, NE 69121-0207 308.764.9011 bill991@neb-sandhills.net arthurcounty.nebraska.gov

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Sheriff Bill D. Simpson

2018 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

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**Sheriff Stanley McKnight** 

2018 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

#### Remembering the Dispatchers

#### Formation of the Nebraska Emergency Service Communications Association

By Retired Scotts Bluff Sheriff Jim K. Lawson - Gering, Nebraska

When I joined the Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office January 8, 1972, I knew I was in for the job I had dreamed about since elementary school. I had been selected as the night dispatcher and worked the 4-12 shift, six days a week, for about \$500 per month. I loved the job, the people and the work assigned to me. After 1700, the jailer went home and I was responsible to book and release prisoners, conduct hourly jail checks, prepare coffee and see what the day shift had left for me.

In those days, we hammered out our radio log on an old Olympia typewriter, just like the State Patrol did. Red ink was for incoming traffic and black was for outgoing. If one of the deputies requested a 10-28 or 10-29, I simply called NSP Scottsbluff since we didn't have our own teletype machine.

Low-band frequency 39.9 megahertz was our primary means of radio communications. It seemed as if everybody and their dog shared this

frequency. I could never forget our FCC call letters (KAl-875). I repeated them so often, I could say them in my sleep and probably did.

In order to monitor the Scottsbluff Police Department, Nebraska State Patrol and National Weather Service, we invested in a \$100 eight-channel Uniden scanner. It worked just fine. The 800-band of frequencies would not even be discussed for years to come.

Jail checks were required every hour to count heads and make sure everyone was breathing. The phone lines were placed on hold and the deputies acknowledged that I was, "10-7 jail check." If someone tried to telephone the Sheriff's Office during this time frame, they simply received a busy signal and they could call back later.

When I got off duty at midnight, I would go to the National Guard Armory in Scottsbluff and spend time with the State Patrol dispatchers. They seemed to have a handle on what I believed to be a professional operation. Besides, they let me play on the teletype machine.

The Sheriff's Office didn't have a lot of written policies, let alone very many standard operating procedures, but guys like John Mclellan, Jr., taught me a lot and life was good.

When we received our first Western Union ASR-28 teletype machine, I thought I had died and gone to dispatcher heaven. Nonetheless, I was concerned about the lack of continuity



Attending a conference in Scottsbluff were (l to r): Scotts Bluff Sheriff David Schleve; Jim Lawson Scotts Bluff Sheriff's Office; Ivan Shorne and Bill Liska from the Nebraska Sate Patrol. Photo courtesy of the "Scottsbluff Star Herald." Used with premission.

among the various public-safety dispatch centers in our area. We dispatched for several of the smaller communities as well as our own deputies, the probation officer, state game commission officials, local FBI agent and brand inspector, among others. The Scottsbluff and Gering Police Departments took care of their own.

But four 24-hour dispatch centers within five square miles? What a waste of time, money, manpower and resources. And remember, all this was long before 911 telephone service. Each agency had their own separate phone numbers for fire and police. For example, to summon the fire department/ rescue unit for the city of Gering, you called 436-2161, but if you needed police assistance, you called 436-5088.

The same person answered these phone lines in the same building at the same desk, emergency or non-emergency, it didn't make any difference. Multiply that by six communities, add the local ambulance service, state patrol, and the sheriff's office and we ended up with about 15 emergency telephone numbers within 800 square miles.

Nine months after being hired, I was promoted to sergeant of the communications division. Oh my gosh, what an opportunity! My chance to clean up the radio room and get it organized. We found some old uniform shirts, complete with an American flag, name badge, collar brass and a real badge engraved with the title, "dispatcher." Believe it or not, we even designed our own shoulder patch.

However, something was still lacking - training. In an effort to promote our operation and enhance the professionalism, I asked Sheriff Jim Miller for permission to organize a oneday communication school and invite departments from throughout the panhandle. He readily agreed.

On February 13, 1973, approximately 30 dispatchers from various agencies were present in the community room of the Scottsbluff Public Library for an eight-hour class. I invited NSP Capt. Del Whitefoot from Lincoln as well as James "Butch" Doyle representing the Nebraska Fire Service to serve as instructors.

**DISPATCHERS** continued on page 46

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**Sheriff Denny Johnson** 

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Sheriff Robert D. Pickell

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#### Hold or Drop the Stone? - By Wendy Baumeister, MS, LPC

Wendy Baumeister is an eight year veteran patrol officer with the Grand Island Police Department. Wendy also has 20 years experience as a Licensed Mental Health Practitioner with specialization in trauma, stress, family and children.

The primary elections have been certified/ratified and closed. For some, this was the general election. The winner of the primary sealed the deal for the new sheriff. In your mind, it may have been time for a change. Maybe you were backing the sheriff and are concerned about the changes forthcoming. Regardless if this was a planned choice or a decision made by the voters, change is coming. Deputies love change almost as much as being sent to pivot spraying on the road.

Even if the incoming sheriff has been with the department for several years and mostly will keep things the same, it will be different. No two leaders are the same and their personality and style will become evident. The person chose to run for the position because they had ideas of changing things or personal goals of being the sheriff. You may have had loyalty to the outgoing sheriff. Maybe it was a rough campaign, dark things said or implied on both sides.

#### New sheriff in town?

The first few months after the "new sheriff in town" moves in, you will pay more attention to details such as how clean is your patrol car, your uniform (if your brown pants look more like a road kill squirrel it is time to get new ones), extra care on your reports. You might even hold your tongue in staff meetings. It might even have the feeling of being back on probation. Eager anticipation. A hopefulness that "things are finally going to start changing around here." Your right, they will. One might even compare this time as starting a new relationship. Best behavior-excuse yourself and leave the room to flatulate (fart), use silverware AND napkins. You get the idea. Making a good impression.

Just like with any relationship the fun and excitement of start to fade (and you get tired of holding in your farts). Your new boss starts making things his/her own. It might be small little things such as how time off requests are made or changing the code to get into the fuel pumps to switching from 8 hour shifts to 10 hour shift or 10 hour shifts to 12 hour shifts. Maybe the entire schedule is scrapped and everyone has to rebid shifts. Maybe you happened to get lucky and right out of the academy your shift was Monday through Thursday 0700 to 1700. Now your place on the seniority list puts you in the Thursday-Sunday 2100-0700 range.

It is starting to seem like the person who was one of the troops and understood has started to forget what it was like being in the trenches. You had certain expectations,

the new sheriff was going to do what you wanted and not give you things you didn't want. He or she farted.

> You had expectations or as a dear friend of mine says "premeditated resentments". Now you are standing at a crossroads. Hang onto the hot stone and wait for the sheriff to get burned or

put the stone down. You might have to do a little work before you are ready to put the stone down. The easy way is to join your colleagues with gritching and complaining. Grumble about how the new sheriff is no different

than the "other one". This generally is the go to response. Unfortunately it also starts to consume a lot of your energy and focus, both at work and home. You might even find yourself being short tempered, more fatigued, less motivated, drinking more, eating more, susceptible to negativity.

#### Ready to drop the stone?

Ready to put down the stone? First write down what are your thoughts fueling the frustration. For example: shift change: didn't tell me there was going to be a shift change, I should have been told, doesn't he know this messes up my family's schedule. Assign a number to it. 1 is annoyed but forward I can go. 10 is a deal breaker. You no longer think you can work for this person. If the number is on the high side explore the reasons. Is it because you think you were betrayed by your buddy? Are you able to see the bigger picture of why the decision was made? How long will I be on this shift? What are the potential benefits? More drug interdiction work? Senior deputy for the shift?

#### Time to be the best you can be

If you were loyal to the outgoing sheriff, honor the loyalty. Put it to rest. Do what you need to do to get your mind in the right place. Your sheriff is moving on to a new chapter of his or her life. You still wear the badge. You still have a responsibility to the citizens of your county as well as your colleagues. You can actively or passively challenge the decisions of the new Sheriff. Seriously, be better than that. Good, bad, or ugly, there is a new sheriff in town. Let it go. Do your job. Be the best you can be. Challenge your complacency.

Maybe you were supporting the incumbent and the incumbent lost. Now you are facing your boss after essentially saying you wanted him/her out. A good sheriff will accept and honor your decision and continue to treat you with respect and unbiasedness. Your job is to not give him a reason to not do that.

Stone continued on next page

#### A Haunted Church and Graveyard

stories of banshees, hellhounds, ghosts, ghost riders and even a haunted outhouse at the church have circulated throughout the county, state and even the nation. One of the most common legends shared

Nestled deep in the woods near the Butler County line stands Consolation Church. For years now, about the church is that of a Gaelic banshee, whose shrieking, sobbing and whimpering can supposedly be heard from the wooden walls of the church. Another story

claims that hellhounds, with glowing red eyes, roam the cemetery located just in front of the church. The cemetery, which houses graves dating back to the early 1800s is the final resting place of several men who served in the Confederate army and those who visit the church can hear the sounds of soldiers marching. There are many other tales of ghostly sightings and sounds.

Reporters with the Greenville Advocate ventured out to Consolation Church. After spending more than an hour on the property — strolling through the cemetery, sitting inside the church and even stepping inside the outhouse — the reporters failed to see the glowing red eyes of the hellhounds or anything else reported. The tales associated with the church appear to be nothing more than urban legends passed down from generation to generation.

Reported by the *Greenville Advocate*. Read more at https:// www.greenvilleadvocate.com/2012/10/05/butler-countychurch-haunted-by-tall-tales



#### Stone

#### continued from previous page

Ultimately, go in and talk to the sheriff. Own any of the negativity you might be holding onto-the hot stone. Express your concerns in a respectful manner. Go in with other solutions or ideas...don't just go in to complain. The answer may still be no but the answer will always be no if you don't ask. Accept and respect the response. Find something to take away from the encounter. Understand, the new sheriff has a big picture. A direction or goal for the department. The sheriff has to answer to county boards and supervisors. There are tough decisions required by the sheriff. Respect this.

#### For all new sheriffs

For all of you, who will be taking the oath in a few months to be the Sheriff, this next part is for you. You are no longer one of the "guys". You cannot please everyone. Be open to feedback, check your defenses at the door. Try to take something from the discussions. Don't make promises you can't keep. You can still be aware and in touch with your staff, but you don't get to mingle and hang out like one of "the guys." You will have to make tough, unpopular decisions. Understand the worries and the concerns of those you lead.

In the end, after the hot stones are dropped, a new normal will prevail. This might be a stronger better normal. It might be a more challenging normal. Learn from it. The next election is in 4 years.



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Sheriff Marcus A. Siebken

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Sheriff Larry D. Koranda

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**Sheriff Kevin Mueller** 

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Sheriff Paul J. Kruse

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Sheriff Bradley E. Boyum

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**Sheriff Dan Osmond** 

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#### **Custer County Families** Recognized by the Aksarben Foundation

Broken Bow, NE

Three Custer County families received Nebraska Pioneer Farm Awards August 2, 2018. The awards are from the Aksarben Foundation and the Nebraska Association of Fair Managers. The Pioneer Award recognizes families who have consecutively held ownership of land in the same family for at least 100 years.

The Custer County families that received the Pioneer Awards are the Reed Farm, Inc./Gail and Tara Reed, Norma Erikson and Gibbon Ranches, LLC.

Shawn Lemkuhler, board member of the Custer County Ag Society, presented the award prior to the Livestock Auction at the 2018 Custer County Fair.

There were 138 honored families this year. 122 received the Pioneer award and 16 received the Heritage Award which recognizes 150 years of family ownership.

Reprinted with permission, Custer County Chief, Broken Bow, NE, Thursday, August 9, 2018. https:// custercountychief.com/content/custer-countyfamilies-recognized-aksarben

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#### **DRIVING SIMULATORS AVAILABLE FROM NSA**

The Nebraska Sheriff's Association has high-tech tools to bring attention to the dangers associated with distracted driving. Thanks to the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, AAA, and the Cornhusker Motor Club Foundation, the Association's arsenal of education and training tools now includes two VirtualDriver Interactive Simulator units which will be available to law enforcement agencies for fairs, school/community events, and safety/health conferences. Grant funds were made available for this effort.



#### **Dakota County Sheriff's Office**

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**Sheriff Chris Kleinberg** 



Our mission is to build a broad coalition of Nebraskans from across the State who will stand behind Nebraska farmers and ranchers to protect our way of life and our state's economy,

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to promote the value of feeding our families by providing affordable, healthy food choices for our neighbors and the world, and to continue our commitment to acting as responsible stewards of our land and animals.

#### **New Procedures for Transporting Livestock and Poultry**

#### By Kristen Hassebrook, Executive Director, We Support Agriculture (WSA)

Numerous head of livestock and poultry are transported across Nebraska on a daily basis. It is critically important for livestock and poultry haulers to obey transportation

laws to ensure the safety of drivers, animals and others on the road. Occasionally, circumstances arise that may require the livestock and poultry to be escorted and/or off-loaded. This could occur because of an accident that incapacitates the vehicle, or it could be the result of an out-ofservice violation after an inspection.

While livestock and poultry have a limited amount of time they can spend on a vehicle without food or water under normal operating conditions, during times of inclement weather (severe heat, humidity, and cold), the window of time narrows substantially. When these situations arise, it becomes important for all parties involved to work quickly to identify options available to avoid shrinkage, illness, or even death.

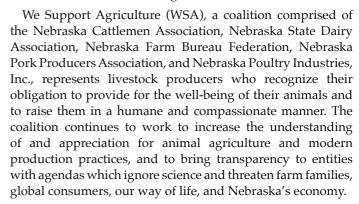
This summer stakeholders from Nebraska's livestock industry, Nebraska State Patrol, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, and Nebraska Extension have come together to create resources and materials that can be helpful in these types of situations. The goal, establish some agreed upon procedures for how these situations would ideally be handled, create high quality resources and then uniformly share this information across our industries.

Best practices checklists are being developed for those involved so that no matter which side of the situation you approach it from all can be operating according to the same

set of information. Preferred communication channels and protocols are being agreed upon so that response can be consistent and concise, making sure the right parties are being

> notified and safety and animal welfare remain paramount.

> And access to Livestock Emergency Response Plan training is being coordinated. This training is an extremely important part of this effort. So far more than 25 individuals have been trained in Nebraska and several of those have been law enforcement officials. Look for more information on this work throughout the fall of 2018.



Visit the WSA website at http://www.wesupportag.org or contact Kristen Hassebrook, Executive Director - We Support Agriculture (WSA) - by phone 402-440-7371 or email kristenh@wesupportag.org.



#### Rest In Pieces! - By Sgt. Winston Cavendish, Sun, LA, Police (Retired)

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

What? Body snatching in our town?

It all started at 10 a.m. on September 11, 1978, when the late Chief Bob Alford from the Mandeville Police Department received puzzling phone call from a Mandeville school teacher, Robin Anderson. Ms. Anderson said she read an article that appeared in the local new paper, "The News Banner." The story was about



We finally got a break in our case when the young girl went with her friends to the "House of Horror." It was an old, abandoned, Illinois Central Railroad shack, over grown by time and neglect; trees, vines, and lots of bushes covered it. The railroad had abandoned the structutre in the early 1960s, and the building was hidden; no one noticed a small winding trail leading up to it.

her good friend, Mrs. Dorothy Giotto's, 89th birthday party.

The newspaper reporter had taken a photo of Mrs. Giotto's gold brooch, given to her by her grandmother. The one-of-akind brooch was well over 100 years old and reflected the Civil War. Mrs. Giotto told the reporter that she had no one left in her family to pass it on to, so she was going to take it to the grave with her.

Early the morning of September 11, a young female student came to Ms. Anderson's class wearing a gold brooch that looked suspiciously like Mrs. Giotto's, so she called Chief Alford. Chief decided to look into this matter personally. He asked Ms. Anderson to tell no one about the brooch. He asked for the name of the child and her parents' address and phone.

On a hunch, Chief Alford called Shane's Funeral Home in Covington, LA, and requested to talk with the employees that had attended to Mrs. Giotto remains. Alford asked who the last person was to see the gold brooch on her. He took the statement of the employee that closed the casket before it was taken to the church. Everyone at Shane's that saw the brooch thought it was a pity it would be buried with her.

Now, at the church, it was an open casket service and everyone saw the brooch. The clergyman officiating at the funeral saw the casket close with the gold brooch on her body, according to the statement the Chief took. The town's grave diggers said they buried her less than 20 minutes after the mourners left the cemetery.

Chief Alford set up a 24-hour stake out on the 14-year-old girl. He strongly believed that something was very wrong with this case. He put Apache, of our best investigators, on the case. Apache was a full-blooded Apache, and even though he was dealing with great pain from bone cancer, Apache could stake out a person for hours and never complain. His hard work solved lots of cases for our department.

#### Getting to the Source of the Problem

For many months now, strange things were happening in the community. There was a large secret society of teenaged devil worshipers in our town. They would hold their bizarre, sick rituals at grave sites and in their "club house." Their ceremonies ranged from devil worship to desecrating graves and robbing the dead.

In the shack, they tortured and killed animals during their cult rites at their ungodly altar, a marble top table, above which hung a large inverted cross. The animals were stolen from the poor side of town. At the time, the poor people would never report an animal theft to law enforcement. On the other hand, middle-class and wealthy people would report their lost, valuable pets to the police, because some animals were insured and the pet owner needed an official report.

A large pentagram was drawn on the floor of the shack, with black burned out candles on each of its corners, and animal and human bones scattered all over the floor. All the windows were covered with blankets to shut out the light.

There also were wild drug parties with lots of pills and alcohol, and wild sex orgies performed on an old king-size mattress in the shack.

Now, this type of violent behavior by the young people was getting out of control. This had gone unchecked for several months. What kept the cult so secret for so long? The initiation of new members taking a sick blood oath renouncing their faith in God, and swearing obedience to Satan. Breaking the oath meant death to their families.

Members studied the black arts, performing spells. like placing a small bag containing dried bones, fingernails, and a chicken's eye under their victim's pillow, causing the victim to go insane.

Rest in pieces continued on page 45

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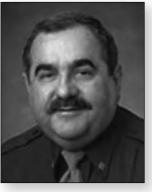
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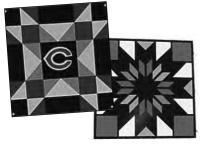
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The barn quilt movement began on Ohio farms in the early 2000's. Since that time, barn quilts have become the fastest growing grassroots art movement across the U.S. and Canada. Read about how barn quilts on our I-80 trail share inspirational stories about an individual's interests, their family heritage, or represent a significance to a business or location. Visit http://barnquiltsdc.com



#### **Nebraska Crime Commission Honors** Don Overman for 20 Years of Service

By Maunette Loeks, Star-Herald, Scottsbluff - May 15, 2018



**Sheriff Don Taylor** 

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Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson presented Don Overman, deemed the longest serving member of the Nebraska Crime Commission's board, with a clock recognizing him for his service. Overman served the board for 20 years before stepping down in December 2017.

Don Overman served 26 years on the Scottsbluff City Council and was Scottsbluff Mayor for more than 20 years.

"It is those people who are willing to step up and oftentimes do not receive any pay or anything else. The only thing that motivates them is that they care about their communities and they want their communities to be the best they can be. Don has a history of that."

Overman said he first became interested in law enforcement as a former mayor of Scottsbluff. Then, longtime police chief Jim Livingston headed the Scottsbluff Police Department, and Overman said he saw his commitment to heading a good police department, inspiring a similar commitment from Overman.

Overman also has family connections to law enforcement, which he said makes him "pro police all the way."

Overman's son, Mark Overman served for 32 years with the Scottsbluff Police Department before becoming Sheriff in 2010.

He also has a grandson in law enforcement and another grandson, who interned for the Scottsbluff Police Department last summer, and plans a career in law enforcement after completing his degree in criminal justice.

Overman continued on next page

# FRANKLI

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Sheriff Jerry L. Archer

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Sheriff Daniel D. Rupp

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#### continued from previous page

During his tenure with the Nebraska Crime Commission, there have been three different governors and three different crime commission directors. He said he always tried to represent western Nebraska's interests, such as speaking in support of the WING drug task force, which received state funds for decades. In attending four meetings a year, he estimated he has spent 124 days out of his lifetime, traveling or attending commission meetings at least 80 times.

"That's a lot of time going to and from Lincoln," he said. "I was always the farthest away ... and I was always there. Sometimes, there were people from Lincoln or Omaha who couldn't make it. But, they could be assured that I would be there."

He said the recognition was unexpected, and he doesn't think much about receiving accolades when he is serving in different capacities in the community.

"I don't think much about it," he said. "It is just in my blood."

Overman thanked his wife, Bernadine, for her support of him as he served the commission and other various interests through the years.

Overman said he continues to be involved on the Platte Valley Bank board and the Airport Authority, though he said he doesn't plan to run for the airport board when his term ends in 2.5 years.

Maunette Loeks is the digital news editor of the Star-Herald. Contact her by email at mloeks@starherald.com or at 308-632-9054.

#### What does "Nebraska" mean?

The name "Nebraska" is based on an Oto Indian word "Nebrathka" meaning "flat water," referring to the Platte River, which is also an official symbol of Nebraska. Some communities in Nebraska are also names of native American Indian tribes:

Cities: Arapahoe, Ogallala, Omaha, Pawnee City, Santee, Ponca, Macy, Winnebago.

Counties: Cheyenne, Dakota, Keya Paha, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Sioux.

https://statesymbolsusa.org/symbol-officialitem/nebraska/state-name-origin/originnebraska

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Sheriff Millard (Gus) Gustafson

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**Sheriff Michelle Quinn** 

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#### **OPIODS:** Keeping the Crisis at Bay - By Laura L. Cooper

Laura L. Cooper, a former police officer, lives in Nebraska and writes about crime and public safety. Her fiction recently appeared in "Voices from the Plains' (NWG, 2017). She is a frequent contributor to "The Nebraska Sheriff" magazine. Visit her at LauraLCooper.com

The opioid crisis has been officially declared a public health emergency. Nebraska is faring better than most states in regard to the U.S. opioid epidemic which kills an average of 115 Americans daily. Methamphetamine is still the number one illegal drug in Nebraska, but synthetic opioids are significantly more dangerous for users and law enforcement officers. Our state has been proactively addressing the abuse of prescription and illicit opioids. For some law enforcement agencies, that includes equipping officers with naloxone.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, Nebraska's opioid overdose rate of 3.1 per 100,000 residents is far beneath the national average of 10.4 per 100,000 residents. Yet, the abuse of prescription opioids and the influx of illicit opioids like heroin and illegally manufactured fentanyl (IMF) are a deadly presence.

#### **Opioid Distribution**

In addition to wrestling with prescription narcotics, potent IMF and fentanyl-like derivatives are flowing into the country. The DEA names China and Mexico as the primary "source countries" for IMF. Some of it is sent via U.S. Postal delivery. Some of it gets loaded into vehicles and driven cross-country via drug corridors like Interstate 80.

On April 26, 2018, the Nebraska State Patrol seized 118 pounds of pure fentanyl during a traffic stop on I-80 near Kearney. The arrested semi driver and passenger were New Jersey residents pulling a trailer which appeared to be empty but held a hidden compartment with 42 foil-wrapped packages of fentanyl. This grab, worth about \$20 million, was the largest fentanyl seizure ever in Nebraska and one of the largest in the nation. It is estimated that this quantity of fentanyl could kill more than 26 million people.

#### **Overdose Deaths**

According to the CDC, 63,632 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2016. Fortunately, Nebraska is ranked 51st for having a lower rate of drug overdose deaths per 100,000 residents than all others states and Washington D.C. However, national data shows the problem growing and spreading geographically from east to west. U.S. drug overdose deaths increased for all ages (over 15), races, and ethnicities for both men and women from 2015 to 2016. Nearly sixty-six percent of these deaths were caused by prescription or illicit opioids.

#### **Naloxone Hydrochloride**

Naloxone hydrochloride (referred to as naloxone) is the drug which has been used clinically for the emergency treatment of opioid overdoses since 1971. Now it is being administered on the street by emergency responders and family members. It is available in three forms:

- Intranasal Spray (IN)
- Auto-Injection into Muscle (IM)
- Intravenous Injection (IV) only administered by medical professionals

It is available under the brand name Narcan® as a nasal spray and Evzio® as an auto-injection device. According to the Narcan manufacturer's website, "When used as directed, naloxone hydrochloride can reverse the effects of the opioids temporarily restoring breathing and wakefulness." When administered via nasal mist or intramuscular injection, it takes effect within two to five minutes. The temporary results last 30 to 90 minutes; follow-up medical care is still required.

#### **Nebraska Responses to the National Crisis**

Nebraska has initiated a variety of prevention strategies such as prescription drug take-back programs, prescription drug overdose prevention, Dose of Reality educational campaign materials, and broader access to naloxone. The state legislature has responded in four ways:

- Naloxone access increased
- Prescription drug monitoring programs improved
- Provider training and pain clinic registration increased
- Opioid prescribing guidelines or limits set
- Law Enforcement Responses and Concerns

The state's law enforcement agencies have to balance demands to enforce drug laws, protect officer safety, and respond to opioid overdoses. Three main priorities are being pursued:

- Collaboration between local, state, and federal law enforcement
- Ensuring safe handling of fentanyl and fentanyl-related compounds
- Providing access to naloxone

#### Opiods continued on page 34

On April 5, 2018, the U.S. Surgeon General released a Public Health Advisory: I, Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, VADM Jerome Adams, am emphasizing the importance of the overdose-reversing drug naloxone. For patients currently taking high doses of opioids as prescribed for pain, individuals misusing prescription opioids, individuals using illicit opioids such as heroin or fentanyl, health care practitioners, family and friends of people who have an opioid use disorder, and community members who come into contact with people at risk for opioid overdose, knowing how to use naloxone and keeping it within reach can save a life. BE PREPARED. GET NALOXONE. SAVE A LIFE.

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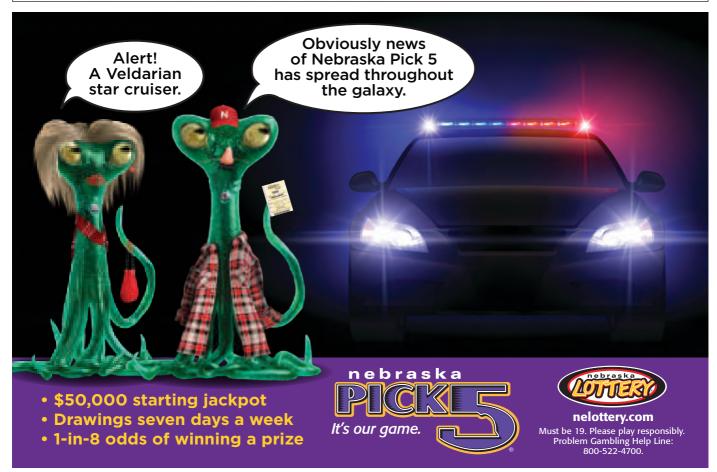
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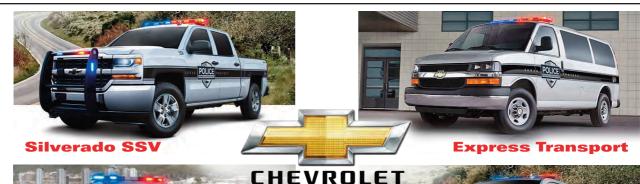
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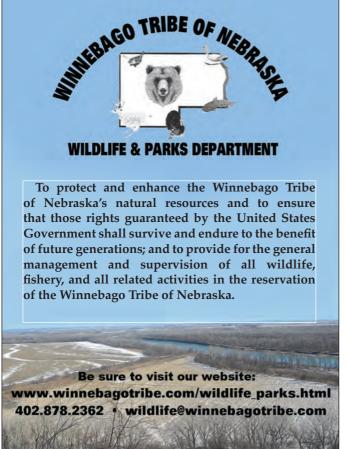
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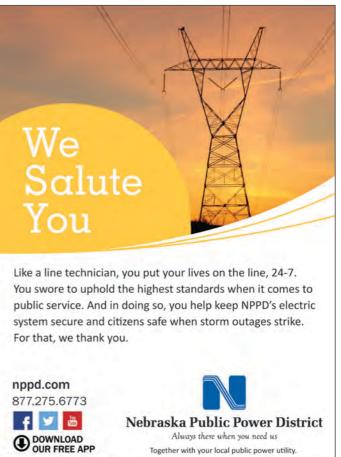
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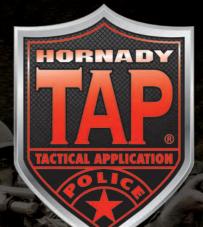
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#### **Howard County Is On the National Registry**

of Historic Places - https://www.nps.gov/nr/

There are five locations in Howard County that are listed on the National Registry of Historic Place. Below are three of them.

The Howard County Courthouse, on Indian St. between 6th and 7th Sts. in St. Paul, Nebraska, was built in 1912. It was designed by Berlinghof & Davis and George A. Berlinghof in Classical

Revival style. It is a four-story building made of brick and of Bedford, Indiana limestone. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. The listing included one contributing building and one contributing object.

Columbia Hall is an historic building located in Dannebrog, E, built in 1908. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 22, 2005. The building was built by the Danish Brotherhood in America to serve as a meeting hall for the Danish community and the building currently serves as a tourist center and hosts an archive on Danish American history.

Dannevirke Danish Lutheran Church and Community Hall is a historic church at Dannervirke Road and Wausa in Elba, Nebraska. The church was founded by Danish Americans and the congregation maintained strong ties to their Danish heritage and language. It was built in 1901 and was added to the National Register in 1999.



#### **Howard County** Sheriff's Office

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**Sheriff Tom W. Busch** 

2018 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

#### Johnson County Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Scott Walton

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#### **Kearney County** Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Scott K. White

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#### **NETWORKING**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, in partnership with the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, holds an annual conference where law enforcement personnel can network and share information.



**Sheriff Don Henery** 

#### **Knox County** Sheriff's Office

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**Sheriff Trevor Kraus** 

#### **Loup County** Sheriff's Office

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**Sheriff John Westman** 

#### **Merrick County Sheriff's Office**

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#### **Opiods**

#### continued from page 21

While neither working across jurisdictions nor promoting officer safety is new, the opioid crisis is ramping up the importance of both. Part of your officer safety plan may require immediate access to naloxone in the event of an accidental overdose for deputies and drug dogs. Providing naloxone to the public raises additional concerns.

The possibility of saving lives is a tremendous dose of goodwill for your community. However, many issues need to be addressed. Patients may be agitated or violent if they awaken with acute withdrawal symptoms. How will law enforcement officers balance their duties in this situation? If patients revive after an overdose at the hands of a deputy, are they more likely to refuse transport to a medical facility? Without follow-up treatment, the person may experience another apnea event after the naloxone wears off. An added concern is that law enforcement officers may be too quick to administer naloxone when it is not required, which could delay more appropriate treatment for a different underlying issue.

#### **Good Samaritans with Naloxone**

Since last year, naloxone has been available to civilians without a prescription from Walgreens, CVS, and Hy-Vee pharmacies in Nebraska. Some instate law enforcement agencies distribute naloxone kits to their officers. The state patrol issues Narcan to all troopers. Laws have been revised to protect nonphysicians who administer naloxone in good faith.

On July 19, 2018, Nebraska Revised Statute 28-470 went into effect with the inclusion of a provision to provide immunity to "a peace officer or law enforcement employee who, acting in good faith, obtains naloxone from the peace officer's or employee's law enforcement agency and administers the naloxone to a person who is apparently experiencing an opioid-related overdose..."

#### **Possible Signs of Opioid Overdose**

- Constricted or "pinpoint pupils"
- Blue lips or fingertips
- Pale, clammy skin
- Labored, irregular breathing
- Snoring or gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Slow heartbeat
- Unconscious or nonresponsive person

Opiods continued page 37

#### Nance County Sheriff Ben Bakewell Took Office on January 1, 2018

The Nance County Sheriff's Office has a new leader, after the resignation of Sheriff Dave Moore.

Nance County Board minutes state that during the December 12, 2017 meeting, the board unanimously approved Ben Bakewell to serve the remaining 2015-2018 term of Sheriff, in place of Dave Moore. A reason for Moore's resignation was not listed.

Welcome Sheriff Bakewell!



#### Social Media

continued from page 5

But while live tweeting represents a step forward in achieving open justice, there remain concerns with the practice.

#### The Bad

At the other end of the spectrum, social media has been accused of posing risks for many users, particularly young people. Social media has been used to facilitate "new" crimes such as revenge porn, prompting calls for harsher punishment.

In addition, "old" crimes such as harassment and threats, as well as fraud and identity theft, have been conducted in new ways through social media.

Social media is also changing the nature of pastcrime behaviour. So-called performance crimes - where offenders boast about their criminal behaviour to their friends and followers online – are increasingly common.

Finally, "couch detectives", eager to identify suspects, often weigh in on social media, which can at best be distracting for law enforcement and at worst result in innocent people being wrongly accused.

#### The Ugly

Trial by social media has become increasingly concerning for those working in the criminal justice system. Activity on Facebook and Twitter can pose a threat to prosecutions and the right to a fair trial through practices such as sharing photos of the accused before an indictment, creation of hate groups, or jurors sharing their thoughts about a case online.

Social media is here to stay, and we need to think outside the box if we wish to understand this phenomenon, capitalise on its benefits, and prevent or minimise its negative effects in relation to crime and the criminal justice system.

Alyce McGovern, http://theconversation.com/ social-media-and-crime-the-good-the-bad-and-theugly-66397

#### **Nance County** Sheriff's Office

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Welcome! Sheriff Ben Bakewell

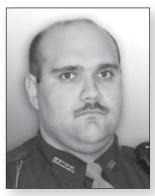
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#### **Nemaha County** Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Brent E. Lottman

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## **Nuckolls County** Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Brad Baker

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#### **MEMBERS STAY INFORMED**

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

# OTOE



Sheriff James M. Gress

# **Otoe County**Sheriff's Office

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# PHELPS



**Sheriff Gene Samuelson** 

## **Phelps County** Sheriff's Office

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# Some Interesting Facts about Pawnee County

#### **Fire Heard Around the County**

Nebraska's earliest towns generally had their commercial buildings constructed of wood. This was a mistake felt by many. Shortly after midnight on August 8th, 1881, a fire started less than a block from the courthouse in Pawnee City. In less than three hours, two-thirds of the commercial district was destroyed and twenty-six businesses were lost.

#### **Notable People from Pawnee County**

- Larry the Cable Guy: The inventor of the flying whistling whammie bammie.
- Harold Clayton Lloyd Sr.: He was a silent comedic actor. Supposedly he ranks alongside Charlie Chaplin and buster Keaton as the most popular and influential film comedians of the silent film era. Anytime you are in the conversation with Charlie Chaplin, you must be a big deal.
- Major General Charles Corlett: Commanded troops in both the Pacific and European theaters during World War II.
- Irish McCalla: Actress in the 1950s, known mainly for her role in the television series, Sheena, Queen of the Jungle.

Read more at: https://www.cornnation.com/2018/7/9/17548360/nebraska-county-countdown-54-pawnee-county-huskers-scott-frost-football

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The Nebraska Sheriff's Association has high-tech tools to bring attention to the dangers associated with distracted driving. Thanks to the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, AAA, and the Cornhusker Motor Club Foundation, the Association's arsenal of education and training tools now includes two **VirtualDriver Interactive Simulator** units which will be available to law enforcement agencies for fairs, school/community events, and safety/health conferences. Grant funds were made available for this effort.





#### **Pierce County** Sheriff's Office

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Sheriff Rick J. Eberhardt

# 2018 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

#### Opiods . . . continued from page 34

#### **Preparing for Accidental Overdoses**

Because of the potency of drugs like fentanyl and carfentanil, first responders and citizens could be endangered by accidental exposure. Training on how to use Narcan was presented to the Nebraska City Police Department and Otoe County Sheriff's Office personnel in August 2017. One of the trainers, Nebraska City Medical Clinic physician Stacy Blum, said, "Officer safety is the No. 1 reason for this training."

In June 2018, the Grand Island Police Department received Narcan kits through a grant. While the officers were not immediately trained to use the medication on the public, they had access to it to treat themselves. They called the fire department when members of the public needed treatment.

#### **Beware of Exploitative Costs**

When people are desperate to save lives, the price of an antidote may become no object ... or an impossible barrier. The opioid crisis has escalated and so has the cost of naloxone. In fact, the rates for Evzio (an IM auto-injection delivery system that transmits verbal directions) are as outrageous as those of the EpiPen price scandal. Evzio was sold for \$690 in 2014, and costs skyrocketed to \$4,500 in 2016. Rates now seem to be steady at \$4,000 with no explanation from the manufacturer.

Because it is much more affordable, you are likely to hear about agencies using naloxone in nasal spray kits. There is a wide range of prices for Narcan Nasal Spray. Some wholesale prices

are \$125 for a two-dose carton. Qualified group purchases are as low as \$37.50 per 4mg dose. Citizens may possibly be able to use insurance coverage, vendor coupons, or community health programs to receive kits free or at reduced rates. Keep in mind that multiple doses may be required for any given incident. Agencies may seek grants or partner with a health department or healthcare facility to acquire naloxone kits. You will have to carefully assess suppliers and Naloxone Availability

#### **Nebraska Officers Using Naloxone**

Some departments only issue naloxone to their officers for self-care or buddy-care in the event of an accidental overdose. Other agencies distribute naloxone kits to be used on civilians. Nebraska law enforcement officers have begun administering the overdose treatment.

Kimball (September 2017): Two Nebraska State Patrol troopers revived two adults who had overdosed at a motel in Kimball by administering Narcan.

Lancaster County (March 2018): A Lancaster County deputy administered Narcan nasal spray to a 22-year-old man who had overdosed on opioids. The man was transported to the hospital where he was treated and released.

Douglas County (April 2018): An unconscious man, who later admitted to snorting oxycodone, was revived by a dose of Narcan administered by Douglas County sheriff's deputies.

#### Opiods continued page 43

Drug	Description	Application	Cost
Narcan®	Pre-packaged nasal spray	One Nostril	\$20-\$130 for two 4mg doses
Evzio®	Pre-filled auto-injection device	Outer thigh	\$4,000+ for two 4mg doses
Generics	Injectable vials	Intravenous	\$150 for 10ml vial



# Law Enforcement Across the State Honored at Hero Awards

By Sara Draper, MADD Program Specialist

MADD Nebraska honored local heroes during their annual Hero Awards held on May 22, 2018 at Wilderness Ridge in Lincoln. The award winners were selected by committee for their strong dedication to keeping Nebraska safe from the dangers of impaired driving and underage drinking. Either through direct law enforcement, prosecution, probation or education and awareness, these honorees are among the best of our state and will be honored for the outstanding work during the 2017 year.

Sarpy County Sheriff Jeff Davis was presented with the Outstanding Education and Awareness Award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Presenting the award to Sheriff Davis is Steven Benvenist, author of the book, "Spring Break: A True Story of Hope and Determination."

Photo courtesy MADD NE



#### **AWARD WINNERS**

#### Adult DUI Enforcement Team

Troopers Jeremy Thorson, Jake Arnold, Justin Raes, Abigail Joyce, Nate Eymann and Patrick Chick - Nebraska State Patrol Troop A

#### **Adult DUI Enforcement Team**

Troopers Michael Thorson, John Lukesh, Kaleb Brugemann, Clint Zost and Michael Rice -Nebraska State Patrol Headquarters

#### **Adult DUI Enforcement Team**

3rd Shift Officers - Lincoln Police Department

#### **Adult DUI Enforcement Individual**

Trooper Michael Thorson - Nebraska State Patrol
Officer Brandon Ormesher - Valentine Police Department
Sgt. Rob Jensen - O'Neill Police Department
Officer Cody Axon - Ralston Police Department
Trooper Jeremy Thorson - Nebraska State Patrol Troop A
Trooper Jake Arnold - Nebraska State Patrol Troop A
Trooper Bryan Walter - Nebraska State Patrol
Officer Jeremy Zipay - Omaha Police Department
Officer Brian Malone - Papillion Police Department
Officer Kyle Rappold - McCook Police Department
Officer Scott Shymkewicz - Omaha Police Department

#### **Drug Recognition Expert**

Officer Sara Genoways - Lincoln Police Department Officer Ryan Todd - Grand Island Police Department

#### **Education and Awareness**

Sheriff Jeff Davis - Sarpy County

#### **MIP Enforcement Team**

Northwest Team - Lincoln Police Department

#### **Probation Team**

District 3A - Presentence Investigation Unit

#### **Probation Officer**

Chris Wellman - District 3A Probation

#### Prosecutor

Ryan Lindberg - Douglas County Attorney's Office Breanna Anderson - Platte County Attorney's Office Patrick Lee - Buffalo County Attorney's Office

#### **Traffic Enforcement Mobilization Team**

Lincoln Police Department - Traffic Enforcement Unit

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**Toby Antonson** 

Each year in the U.S., more than 10,000 people are killed and another 345,000 are injured in drunk driving crashes. In Nebraska, 81 people were killed in 2016 in alcohol related

crashes. The men and women working throughout our state in the criminal justice arena are paving the way to a safer state and a future with No More Victims.

For questions or more information regarding the event please contact the MADD Nebraska State Office (402) 434-5330 | sara.draper@madd.org

More information is also available on the MADD website at www.madd.org/nebraska or on Facebook @NebraskaMADD

The Nebraska Sheriff 38 Spring-Summer 2018

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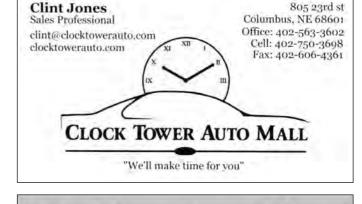
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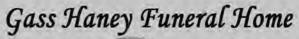
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Sheriff Kevin L. Stukenholtz



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

By Timothy Roufa

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 if someone he is near has an outstanding warrant.

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.

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 provided them with a host of data to help them patrol more effectively and efficiently and keep them and their charges safe.

Google Glass is a brand of smart glasses - an optical head-mounted display designed in the shape of a pair of eyeglasses. It was developed by X (previously Google X) with the mission of producing a ubiquitous computer. Google Glass displayed information in a smartphone-like, handsfree format. Wearers communicated with the Internet via natural language voice commands.

Read more at https://www.thebalancecareers. com/technologies-that-are-changing-the-waypolice-do-business-974549



#### Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club - 10th Annual Nebraska Law Ride

By Jeff "Mr. Clean" Rotherham, Road Captain, Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club, River City Chapter

# Raising Funds for the Law Enforcement Memorial in Grand Island

For the last 10 years, the Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club, in brotherhood with other law enforcement and public safety motorcycle clubs, has kicked off National Police Week with its Annual Nebraska Law Ride.

The ride, open to the public and all motorized vehicles, has been a staple in raising funds for the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial located on the grounds of Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska; to date, a total of more than \$32,000 has been raised.

This year's event saw lower numbers than the average 150 motorcyclists due to the predicted and actual weather, but still hosted riders from across the state as well as riders from as far away as Oklahoma, and the neighboring states of Colorado and Wyoming.

Though numbers were down, the generosity was still in full effect. While the monetary donations are important for the upkeep of the memorial and to defray the cost of the inevitable addition of names, it is just as important to keep the memories of the fallen officers alive which is the goal of the ride.

On the day of the event, participants received a  $4 \times 6$  card with the biography and incident information of the fallen officer for whom they were riding which really put into perspective the sacrifices the fallen officers made.

#### Sgt. Curtis Blackbird Added to the Wall

This year, Jarret Daugherty of GIPD, and Chairman of the Law Enforcement Memorial Committee addressed the riders and caught them up to date with all the physical changes to the memorial site. Daugherty also address the additional name added to the wall this year. Sgt. Curtis Blackbird was a member of the Omaha Nation Police Department and passed away in the line of duty March 26, 2017.

The annual ride will again kick off National Police Week in 2019. This ride is open to the public and all are encouraged to support blue. You can always to up to date with the memorial events on the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial's website at http://www.nememorial.org.

# Join the 2019 Ride or the Iron Warrior's Motorcycle Club of Nebraska

If you would like to take part in this annual event, or would like more information, you can visit the Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club's webpage at http://iwmcne.com, or email iwmcneb@gmail.com.

The Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club (IWMC) is a non-profit organization of active duty and retired law enforcement officers and firefighters. Members are dedicated to providing assistance and support to our communities, departments, and the families of fallen police officers and/or firefighters.

The IWMC is very thankful for their riding counterparts from other public safety motorcycle clubs like the Centurions LEMC, America's Guardians, Hard Chargers and Blue Knights LEMC, as well as all civilian supporters who make this annual event what it is.



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keeps diligent watch over the Unicameral for legislative actions that will affect counties in the state and that are of special interest to law enforcement.

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#### Opiods . . . continued from page 37

Omaha (May 2018): Two Omaha police officers responded to what turned out to be an opioid overdose. Officer Christopher Smith pulled a can of Narcan nasal spray from his vest and administered it before medics arrived. "That was the first time I ever used Narcan," Smith said. "And it worked in this case."

Blaine County (June 2018): A Nebraska state trooper used Narcan to revive a suicidal person who had overdosed on opioids near Dunning. The trooper and Blaine County Sheriff Tim Sierks kept the patient awake until the ambulance arrived.

#### **Department Policies**

If your agency plans to carry and, if needed, administer naloxone to patrol officers, K-9 drug dogs, and possibly citizens, you will need to develop overdose response policies and procedures. Policies must comply with governing laws and applicable collective bargaining units. Examples and other resources are available online from the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Law Enforcement Naloxone Toolkit: <a href="https://bjatta.bja.ojp.gov/tools/naloxone/Naloxone-Background">https://bjatta.bja.ojp.gov/tools/naloxone/Naloxone-Background</a>. In the toolkit, the sample "Nasal Narcan Program" policy from the Lorrain Police Department includes these elements:

1	Purpose
т.	1 ulpose

- 2. Policy
- 3. Deployment
- 4. Procedure
- 5. Maintenance & Replacement
- 6. Documentation
- 7. Program Coordination
- 8. Role of Clinical Director
- 9. Training

#### . -

- 10. Naloxone Kits
- 11. Description
  - 12. Refill protocol
  - 13. Storage
  - 14. Record Keeping

#### **Questions to Consider**

- Do deputies routinely arrive at the scene of medical emergencies before EMS?
- What resources are available to help cover the costs of naloxone?
- How will you arrange for ongoing training?
- Who will be responsible for maintaining the kits?
- Are deputies prepared to handle people coming out of overdose with acute withdrawal symptoms?
- How will your agency balance the competing demands to enforce laws, protect officers, and provide emergency medical care?

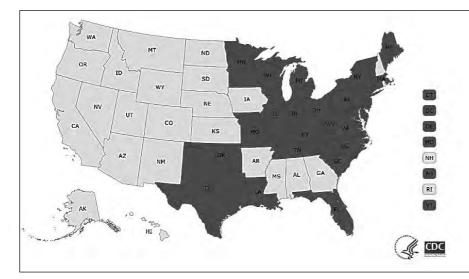
#### Conclusion

Departments and communities will need to decide whether or not the possibility of saving lives and improving community relations will outweigh the costs and concerns of carrying naloxone kits.

Opioid abuse may not be a major issue in your county, but you will want to be ready in case things change rapidly. If you decide to let EMS handle the treatment of drug overdoses for the public, you may want to at least have it on hand to treat your own personnel.

Also see the bottom of page 3 - LB 923 - Provide immunity for certain law enforcement employees administering naloxone and change provisions relating to immunity for person reporting or experiencing alcohol overdose.

FINAL STATUS: Approved by Governor April 17, 2018



#### Statistically Significant Drug Overdose Death Rate Increase from 2015 to 2016

According to the CDC, Nebraska's overdose rate fell slightly from 2015 to 2016, but the states in the darker grey had a significant increase in drug overdose deaths that year.

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world. Highly sophisticated criminal enterprises are utilizing malware, engaging in identity theft, and selling medicine that does not work, or worse, is dangerous to your health. Use our search tool to determine if your online pharmacy is certified and from a safe source. https://verifybeforeyoubuy.org

43 Spring-Summer 2018





# The Orphan Grain Train Began Its Mission to Feed the **Hungry in Norfolk, NE**

"no hope," in desperate need of spiritual, emotional,

and humanitarian aid after the breakup of the former

Soviet Union. Wilke envisioned a train that would

travel through America's midwest, picking up cars

of donated grain along the way, until it reached a

port from which the grain would be shipped to feed

starving orphans in Eastern Europe. Upon his return to

the United States, Wilke contacted Clayton Andrews, president of Andrews Van Lines, a worldwide

transportation company, and told his story. Together,

In 1992, Rev. Ray S. Wilke, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Norfolk, NE., volunteered with a group of Lutherans who traveled to Latvia and Russia to help with a church mission. There they met people with

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Sheriff Mike S. Unger

"He came to me and asked, 'Do you think something can be done?"" asked Andrews. "I said, Yes, I know how we can help those people."

Grain Train continued page 46

# **THURSTON**



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they founded Orphan Grain Train.

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# Did You Know ...

The city of Rosalie in Thurston County, NE was named for Rosalie La Flesche, a daughter of Joseph La Flesche, the last principal chief of the Omaha Tribe selected by traditional means in the nineteenth century, and the only chief of part-European ancestry.

After the tribe moved onto the reservation, Rosalie La Flesche became the its financial manager, managing grazing leases and other transactions. She married Edward Farley of Bancroft, NE.

One of Rosalie's sisters was the author and activist Susette "Bright Eyes" LaFlesche, who married journalist Thomas Tibbles. Another sister was Susan LaFlesche Picotte, a physician who married a Yankton Sioux man.

# Rest in Pieces ... continued from page 16





They also made spells using Voodoo dolls, sticking pins in the dolls to cause injury or death to their victims. These spells could not be broken except by a Hoodoo woman.

The older members of the cult robbed graves for valuables and bones for their rituals. Their method of stealing from the dead was well planned. They

would read death notices in the newspapers, looking for the wealthy. They opened graves of the rich, of Muslims, and fresh-dug graves.

They learned how to open graves from one of the members' father, a groundskeeper at the cemetery.

They checked out "The Life of a Teenage Body-Snatcher" by Doug MacLeod, from the town library. You can find the book on your computer.

#### 14 iuveniles arrested

After several hundred hours of surveillance and collecting hard evidence found in the house, photos and lots of statements of all parties involved, we brought the perpetrators to the Juvenile Court in Mandeville.

Due to the nature of this case, I can only give you some of the highlights. The 14 juveniles had serious mental problems that would go on for many years to come.

- The parents were held responsible for their children's actions. Lots of money was spent on lawyers and medical services for their offspring.
- The parish coroner's investigators had the massive task of finding out who all the bones belonged to.
- The youths were put on a work release program, going home at night and coming back in the morning. They cleaned the lake shore and side streets, picking up trash.
- Along with my duties as assistant chief of police, I was made responsible for the youths for one year, including the summer and weekends.

#### A visit to a maximum security prison

I took them to the Louisiana Training Institute (L.T.I.) in Backer, LA, for the "Scared Straight Program." The institute was home to 76 of the most violent juveniles in the state. These prisoners were extremely violent, but could not stay in prison because they were too young. Had these offenders been adults, they would have gone to Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola. Later on, several of these institutionalized young people would wind up in an adult prison, and some committed suicide because they were confined for so many years. This

was the hard fact of prison life.

When we first arrived at the prison, our juveniles thought this was funny, until the large steel gate closed behind them. They stayed eight hours in a protected setting with hardened juvenile criminals telling them what prison life was like.

L.T.I. had a strong security protocol - mounted horse guards, tracker dogs trained in Angola, razor wire, and four large guard towers.

On the way back to Mandeville, our kids were a little bit wiser than when they arrived. In as much as they were in my custody, I can tell you they were as violent as any hardened criminal I have worked with over the years. I pity the day they are set back into society.

#### **Epilogue:**

These juveniles didn't come from the poor side of town. They were white youth out of control. The sad part of my story was all the families were destroyed by these juvenile grave robbers.

The town council passed new laws regarding all abandoned buildings. Owners of abandoned properties that don't respond within 60 days to written notification regarding the property will forfeit the property to the Mandeville Fire Department to be destroyed and used for fire training.

Today the cemetery is surrounded by tall fences with large gates and flood lights; and now the police department patrols the cemetery 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The cemetery is open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thanks to the many officers for all their hard work involved in this case did.

NOTE: Some photos and the Voodoo doll supplied by the author, Sgt. Winston Cavendish. Additional photo taken from https:// imgkid.com/george-stinney-grave.shtml



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website has all the county sheriffs' contact information, links to dates of special training offered to law enforcement in Nebraska, links to county websites, and much, much more. There are also special businesses that help to sponsor this website with their ads.

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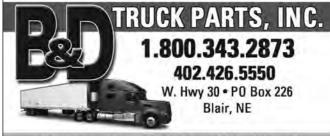
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#### Grain Train continued from page 44

As it turned out, railroad operating protocol made the original grain train concept impractical, but Orphan Grain Train was born nonetheless. Within a year Grain Train's first shipment, a container of clothing and quilts, arrived in Riga, Latvia.

#### **Disaster Response**

In the years since Hurricane Katrina, more than 150 semi loads of supplies have been shipped to the Gulf Coast to support the recovery efforts.

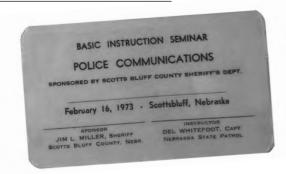
Orphan Grain Train also has a number of "Special Projects" which include unique, specialized opportunities to make a direct impact on the lives of those in need.

Orphan Grain Train has shipped to 65 different countries and 28 states with more than 2,654 full shipments delivered to date.

225 semi-loads were sent to children and families in need in the U.S., and 115 - 40 ft. shipping containers were sent internationally in the 2017-18 fiscal year. 330 semi-loads of hay and forage products were delivered in 2002-03 to drought-stricken farmers in the Midwest during Operation Hay and Grain Lift.

In 2014, Orphan Grain Train built a mobile chapel with help from a grant funded by LCMS Disaster Relief division for St. John's Lutheran Church in Pilger, NE after their church was demolished by a F4 tornado. The mission of Orphan Grain Train is uniquely dependent upon dedicated volunteers, many of whom have given numerous years of service for the sake of others. Since 1992, more than 3.7 million hours have been volunteered!

Read more at http://www.ogt.org



We printed up some class completion cards which were signed by the sheriff and the captain. It was a huge success. Boy, was I pleased!

And what timing. The State Patrol had received a federal grant from the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety allowing them to print a significant supply of a hard-bound three-ring book titled, "Nebraska Law Enforcement Radio Operations Manual." Everyone in attendance received a copy. Call me a silly goose, but I've still got mine.

One of the sharper Lincoln dispatchers and a wonderful fellow by the name of A. J. (Bill) Liska had a big hand in the preparation of this book. If you had a question, you could call Bill anytime and hear his usual pleasant response: "God-damn-it, use your NCIC manual - that's what it's for!"

As I mentioned, we received our teletype machine in 1973. You were required to punch out the message on a thin, paper tape and place it in the feeder. As soon as the switcher at Lincoln recognized there was a message waiting to be sent, the machine would begin hammering away at a whopping 75 words per minute and away it went. If you tore the tape before inserting it into the feeder, it would jam the machine, requiring you to start all over.

There were a lot of funny stories over the years and some not as funny. Like the time when our midnight dispatcher Jerry Guise wondered what an actual NCIC hit looked like. He ran lots of 10-29's and had never seen a positive response. So one morning, about 0300, Jerry simply walked over to the "FBI Ten Most Wanted" display in our lobby, chose a random name with appropriate DOB and sent it QW, or query wanted. I don't have to tell you what happened the rest of the night.

But times were changing. More and more was being required of public safety agencies from one end of the state to the other. Among other things, dispatchers needed to be better trained.

Someone once told me the sign of a good dispatcher was one who could simultaneously answer three phone lines, dispatch an EMS and a fire call on

#### "DEPUTY BOB"

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association has "Deputy Bob," a tall, air cooled, comfortable walk-about that can be used for county fairs and other community celebrations. It draws attention and helps promote safety messages.



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Sheriff Adrian A. Lindsay

2018 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member

two separate radio frequencies, as well as providing law enforcement assistance to your officers and operate the teletype with the big toe of your right foot. And all this time, finish a bike or dog license for some very impatient person standing in the front lobby. All this without wetting your pants.

By the end of 1973, we expanded our school to three full days, which included teletype operations. The FBI's NCIC system was only a few years old at that time. As time passed, we joined forces with our central and eastern counterparts and moved the school back and forth across the state. The training became known as the Western Nebraska, Central Nebraska or Eastern Nebraska Law Enforcement Communications School.

The names of Pete Peterson from Keith County, Gary Fliehmann with the Bellevue Police Dept.; Howard Maxon, Grand Island PD; Nancy Vandenberg, Sarpy County Sheriff's Office; Fay Clark, North Platte PD; Betty Everton, Alliance PD; and "Wild" Bill Bosanek, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, quickly come to mind.

**DISPATCHERS** concluded on page 48

#### **Dispatchers**

#### continued from page 47

Reviewing notes from the 1979 conference are (l to r) President Jim Lawson of Scotts Bluff County, Chairmen Gary Fuehman of the Bellevue Police Department, Nancy Vandenberg of the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, and William Basanek of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office. Photo and caption courtesy of Mike Overman.



After Capt. Whitefoot retired, Lt. Dwight Schamp took over. He was followed by Lt. Ivan Shorney. Bill Liska became the primary instructor. The Nebraska State Patrol as well as their personnel were always a tremendous asset to us. It has always been a great relationship.

Although we were a fledgling organization, we somehow needed our own separate identity. We were public-safety dispatchers, not police officers, deputy sheriffs, not jailers or office clerks. We didn't quite fit in with the Nebraska State Trooper's Association, the Nebraska Sheriff's Association or Police Officer's Association. At the time, the Associated Public Safety Communications Officers, Inc. (APCO), New Smyrna Beach, FL, was recognized as the leader in the field. They had been around since 1935 and were nationally-recognized. On May 16-17, 1977, I attended an APCO Communications Seminar at Dodge City, KS. After meeting with association officers and our Kansas counterparts, I was sold.

It didn't take long for us to form a Nebraska chapter which officially took place April 10, 1978, at the Lincoln Ramada Inn. Bob Greenwell, representing the Nebraska Division of Communications, was selected as our first president.

We met again in Kearney on June 5 and I took over the helm due to Bob's unexpected resignation. Stephen Robinson, Division of Communications, was elected as 1st Vice President; Fay Clark (North Platte PD), 2nd Vice President; and Nancy Vandenberg, (Sarpy County SO), Secretary/Treasurer. We also adopted a constitution and by-laws at that time.

October 16-18, 1978, the very first APCO Fall Conference was held at the Lincoln Holiday Inn. We were honored to have National President Nathan D. McClure, III in attendance. Door prizes, vendors, field trips, break-away sessions, guest speakers, awards banquet and hospitality - you name it and the conference committee outdid themselves.

From there, we went to the North Platte National Guard Armory for our first APCO Spring Conference April 16-18, 1979. And then it was off to Howard Johnson's at Omaha Oct. 8-11, 1979, for the second Fall Conference. Back to Ogallala March 17-18, 1980, where my very fine friend Howard "Pete" Peterson with the Ogallala PD had the Holiday Inn waiting for our second Spring Conference.

I must tell you, Pete was a pillar for Nebraska APCO. He reminded me of me. We had very similar beliefs, ideas and we were motivated. Working with Pete was always a pleasure.

That same year, we approached the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center and asked them to help us expand our training into areas other than communications.

They readily agreed and instituted a short version of their Supervision/Management Class. Police chiefs and sheriffs across the state began to sit up and take notice.

1980 was a big year for Nebraska APCO. In July, we mailed the first Nebraska Chapter newsletter. I have donated my copy for the archives. Many of us sold advertising in order to have it professionally printed. General Electric, Motorola, Plectron Corporation and Tuxall Uniform Company handled the mailing.

In 1978, I accepted a position as a Deputy Sheriff, which I served for eight years; and then moved into the Investigations Division in 1986 where I was for 12 years. From there, it was on to the WING Drug Task force for two years and then I bit the bullet and ran for Sheriff. A distinct honor and privilege as I served for 12 years in that position.

All this time, I strongly supported our communications people. After all, I was one of them for a number of years. I could honestly say I knew what Dispatchers went through. I never forgot. Without the continued support of the many law enforcement administrators across the state, Nebraska APCO would have never survived. Many years later, the group dropped the APCO affiliation and became the Nebraska Emergency Service Communications Association.

One of the highlights of my 47-year career in public-safety was when my son, Jamy, was accepted as a 911 Dispatcher/ Operator here in Scotts Bluff County in 1994. He has been so employed in that position ever since.

Call me sentimental, but I saved the very first teletype message Jamy sent at my request. At the bottom, it was signed, "Sheriff's Office Gering - Nebraska Lawson/Lawson." You get the picture.

Well, that's about it. God bless you all and keep up the good work. You are professionals in every sense of the word.

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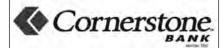
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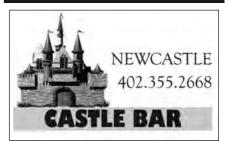
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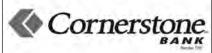
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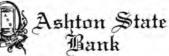
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