



# THE NEBRASKA SHERIFF

VOL 82, No 1 • SPRING-SUMMER 2011

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



**32 | Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony**

**29 | NSA Receives Two High Tec Driving Simulators**

**15 | Trends in Prescription Drug Abuse**

**13 | Sheriff Koranda Appointed to State Board**

# JUSTICE ARCHITECTURE



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Butler County Sheriff



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- Nebraska Crime Commission



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## In this Issue

Counties Featured in this Issue .....	2
Nebraska Sheriff Magazine Policies .....	2
A Message from Bill Burgess, NSA Presedent .....	3
NSA Board of Directors .....	4
NSA Legislative Updates .....	4
Please Share with Us Amy Prenda, NSA Executive Director .....	5
NSA Honorary Members .....	5
In Memoriam .....	8
Mental Health Diversion Program .....	8
NSA-POAN Conference and Expo .....	9
Grants Available .....	10
Horse Welfare Coalition .....	11
Koranda Appointed to State Board .....	13
Trends in Prescription Drug Abuse .....	14
Chase County In-car Camera Grant .....	16
Open if ... I Don't Come Home .....	17
Dakota County and South Sioux City Mutual Aid Plan .....	19
Looking Back Hitchcock County's First Sheriff .....	22
Victim Impact Programming for Corrections .....	26
NSA Receives Two Driving Simulators .....	29
Supreme Court Cases Warrantless Entry into Residence .....	31
Deputy US Marshall Added to Memorial Wall .....	33
Report from Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab Current Procedures and Future Regional Training .....	34
Nominations for Hall of Fame, Officer of the Year .....	35
23 Dogs Seized by Jefferson County .....	38
GPS Tracking Device Treads Constitutional Grounds .....	38
Spot Personal Satellite Messengers .....	41
Old Jail Goes to Museum .....	45
MADD Law Enforcement Awards .....	48
Traffic Stop Nets Suspected Drug Currency .....	49
Sheriff Recognized for Saving Infant's Life .....	51
"Remebering Our Fallen" Photo Exhibit .....	53
Google Hands Over User Data to Law Enforcement .....	54
Advertisers by County .....	55 - 64

## THE NEBRASKA SHERIFF MAGAZINE

SPRING-SUMMER 2011 VOL 82, No 1



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The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association,  
established in 1894, is the oldest organization  
of its kind in the nation.

**NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION**

**President:** Sheriff Bill Burgess  
**Executive Director:** Amy Prenda  
www.nesheriffsassoc.org

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

**THE NEBRASKA SHERIFF MAGAZINE**

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Please feel free to contact us with any questions or  
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Be sure to visit us at  
<http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org>

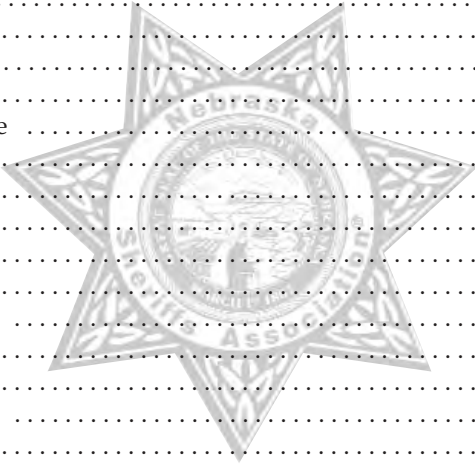
**On the Cover ...**

is a scene from the May 2011  
Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony.

Cover photo provided by Mike Dyer.

See page 32 and 33 for more on  
this year's memorial ceremony.

## Counties Featured in this Issue



The seal of the Nebraska Sheriff's Association is a five-pointed star with a central circular emblem. The emblem features a landscape with a sun, a river, and a plow, surrounded by the words "NEBRASKA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION". The star's points contain the words "PROTECTION", "SERVICE", "DUTY", "COURAGE", and "HONOR".

Adams	10
Arthur	10
Banner	11
Boone	12
Box Butte	12
Burt	12
Butler	13
Cedar	13
Chase	16
Colfax	18
Cuming	18
Custer	18
Dakota	19
Dawson	20
Dixon	21
Franklin	21
Frontier	21
Gage	22
Garden	22
Garfield	23
Greeley	24
Hamilton	24
Harlan	24
Howard	30
Johnson	30
Kearney	34
Knox	35
Loup	38
Merrick	39
Nance	39
Nemaha	39
Nuckolls	42
Otoe	42
Pawnee	43
Phelps	43
Pierce	43
Platte	44
Polk	47
Richardson	47
Saunders	48
Seward	49
Sherman	50
Sioux	50
Stanton	50
Thurston	51
Valley	52
Washington	52
Wayne	52
Webster	53
Wheeler	53

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

- Only submitted articles pertinent to law enforcement/ criminal justice and NSA members will be featured.
- The magazine will no longer feature a gallery of photos of Sheriff deputies and office staff.
- 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.

All articles and letters sent to the *Nebraska Sheriff* must be accompanied by the author's correct, legal name and are assumed to be unconditionally assigned for publication and the *Nebraska Sheriff* reserves the right to edit for content and/or available space. Articles and letters will only be considered if they conform to the boundaries of good taste.

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**www.nesheriffsassoc.org**

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Be sure to visit the website often at  
**www.nesheriffsassoc.org**

\*Read our "Permission to Publish Photographs" policy online at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org).

## A Message from Bill Burgess, 2010-2011 NSA President

With summer in full swing, I hope all is well with everyone. With all the spring and summer storms and flooding, my heart and prayers are with everyone being affected.

### Law Enforcement Memorial

The Law Enforcement Memorial held May 9, 2011 was a very sobering event. Memorial President Russ Zeeb gave the opening remarks and United States Attorney for Nebraska Deborah Gilg was the Keynote Speaker who brought to our attention that the number of law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty is at an all time high. In addition to honoring the lives of the 132 Nebraska law enforcement officers who have died or been killed in the line of duty, we also dedicated United States Marshal Emil Wehrli's name to the Memorial.

### National Sheriffs' Association Conference

I have recently returned from the National Sheriffs' Association Conference in St. Louis. This was the first National Conference that I have attended, and it was a real eye opening experience for me. I strongly encourage anyone that has never attended to consider doing so next year. The training was outstanding and the keynote speakers were excellent. What impressed me most was the number of vendors at the conference.

### NSA & POAN Conference 2011

As you are all aware, NSA's Conference Committee has been working very hard to make the NSA/POAN Conference 2011 a success. Our conference will be held at the new and impressive Younes Convention Center in Kearney. We'll begin on the evening of Sunday, October 2, with NSA's Annual Meeting and conclude on Wednesday, October 5. We have a list of powerful speakers and a variety of training topics. Melanie Bailey with MB Solutions has been working hard to line up vendors for our conference and it appears we may set a record for the number of vendors this year.

### Two Driving Simulators and Fatal Vision Goggles

Finally, I met with the Fred Zwonechek, Administrator of the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety, to discuss getting two driving simulators for the NSA. With the help of the Office of Highway Safety and the generosity AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, the NSA will have two driving simulators available to be used by our member sheriffs. (See page 29.) NSA is also purchasing new Fatal Vision Goggles, coloring books and stickers for our member sheriffs.

On behalf of NSA, please have a safe and relaxing summer. I look forward to seeing you at the conference in October.

Sincerely,



William L. Burgess, Fillmore County Sheriff  
2010-2011 NSA President



**Fillmore County Sheriff  
Bill Burgess**

**President  
Nebraska Sheriffs'  
Association**

*"Our conference will be held at the new and impressive Younes Convention Center in Kearney.*

*We'll begin on the evening of Sunday, October 2, with NSA's Annual Meeting, and conclude on Wednesday, October 5."*

## NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION 2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

#### President

Sheriff Bill Burgess • Fillmore County  
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#### Secretary/Treasurer

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308.324.3011 • gnorseen@hotmail.com

## NSA Legislative Update

Submitted by Cutshall & Nowka

The Nebraska Legislature adjourned sine die on May 26, Day 87 of what normally is a 90 day session. The Nebraska Legislature had a full agenda this session passing a \$7.1 billion two-year budget that included making tough budget decisions to cover a \$985.5 million projected shortfall and passing legislation that reformed the CIR, created an additional funding stream for roads, and redistricted executive, legislative and judicial districts. Cutshall & Nowka tracked over 60 bills for the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association (NSA). Below is a list of legislation that we identified as of particular interest to the Association, which can be accessed on the Nebraska Legislature's website at [www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov).

**A brief summary of each of the legislations below can be found at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org)**

### PASSED LEGISLATION DURING 2011 SESSION

- LB 19 (McCoy)** Prohibit the use of certain drug substances as prescribed
- LB 20 (McCoy)** Regulate the sale of methamphetamine precursors
- LB 61 (Heidemann)** Change and provide penalties relating to unlawful intrusion
- LB 62 (Heidemann)** Change budget revision and salary approval provisions for counties
- LB 67 (Fischer)** Clarify required use and enforcement provisions regarding seat belts and other occupant protection systems
- LB 226 (Gloor)** Create the offense of assault with a bodily fluid against a public safety officer
- LB 284 (Krist)** Change provisions relating to unlawful picketing of funeral
- LB 390 (Ashford)** Change provisions relating to jails and corrections and create the Community Corrections Division of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice
- LB 463 (Ashford)** Change juvenile penalty, records, service plan, probation sanctions, and truancy provisions
- LB 479 (Lathrop)** Authorize a minor to give consent to evidence collection and examination and treatment in cases of sexual assault
- LB 512 (Christensen)** Change provisions relating to mental health determinations regarding the possession and purchase of handguns
- LB 641 (Cornett)** Require law enforcement officers to report liquor law violations to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission
- LB 667 (Flood)** Change provisions governing motor vehicle homicide, alcohol violations involving minors, operating watercraft or motor vehicles under the influence of alcohol or drugs, administrative license revocation and ignition interlock devices
- LB 669 (Flood)** Change Small Claims Court, county court, district court, and juvenile court provisions

Continued on page 6

# You Have a Wealth of Knowledge: *Please share it with us!*

Written by Amy Prenda, J.D., NSA Executive Director

*“Knowledge is of two kinds.  
We know a subject ourselves, or  
we know where we can find information upon it.”*

— SAMUEL JOHNSON —

The wealth of knowledge the NSA has in our sheriffs and deputies is invaluable, especially when helping Senators and constituents understand the issues that impact your ability to do your jobs and do them well. For example, I received information and assistance from **Lieutenant Amber Mulberry, Gage County Sheriff’s Office**, on legislation prohibiting contraband within jails; **Captain Todd Duncan, Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office**, on legislation impacting handgun registration and the Nebraska Sex Offender Registration Act; and **Lieutenant Mark Trapp, Sarpy County Sheriff’s Office**, on legislation that would only require one license plate on motor vehicles. This information and assistance helped me become more familiar with certain subject areas, which in turn made me a better advocate for the NSA when speaking with Senators.

We all know that my knowledge bank is far from being full, and the only way I am able to “make a deposit” is to have conversations with you, attend training, read the magazine and access the website. I would like to think that I am not the only one who relies on these resources to expand their knowledge base.

**This is why I would like to challenge you to:**

- 1) **identify those issues** you or someone in your office is knowledgeable about and consider writing an article for the magazine or the website;
- 2) **let us know when events happen** in your county so that we may celebrate with you and learn from your experiences; *and*
- 3) **contact us with thoughts and ideas** for subjects areas you would like to see presented at the conference or provided in the magazine or on the website.

**We are our own best resource** when it comes to enriching the NSA network with knowledge that will help our peers and constituents better understand the issues that impact law enforcement. Providing outreach and knowledge as well as exposing yourself to such outreach and knowledge represents that you are investing in yourself in addition to making yourself a leader in your profession. Please help us fill the NSA knowledge bank by either sharing with us the knowledge you have on a subject or letting us know what subjects you would like to have more information about.



**Amy Prenda, J.D.**

**Executive Director  
Nebraska Sheriffs’  
Association**

**PO Box 81822,  
Lincoln, NE 68501  
800.775.2469  
402.434.3785**

[aprenda@windstream.net](mailto:aprenda@windstream.net)

*“We are our own best resource when it comes to enriching the NSA network with knowledge ... ”*

## Nebraska Sheriffs’ Association Honorary Members

The following people have joined NSA as 2011 Honorary Members.  
Their support and confidence in our mission is greatly appreciated.

Dr. William Fleming	Ms. Doris Meyer	Ms. Bernice Byler	Mr. Jim Ward
Mr. Robert Foley	Mr. Don Niemann	Mr. Dale Nielson	Mr. Chris Harrifeld
Gale and Pam Gronenthal	Mr. Thomas O’Hara, Jr.	Mr. William Peterson	Mr. Daniel Evans
Mr. Dennis Lynch	Mr. Richard Richardson	Mr. Rod Behrhorst	Mr. Lowell Swanson

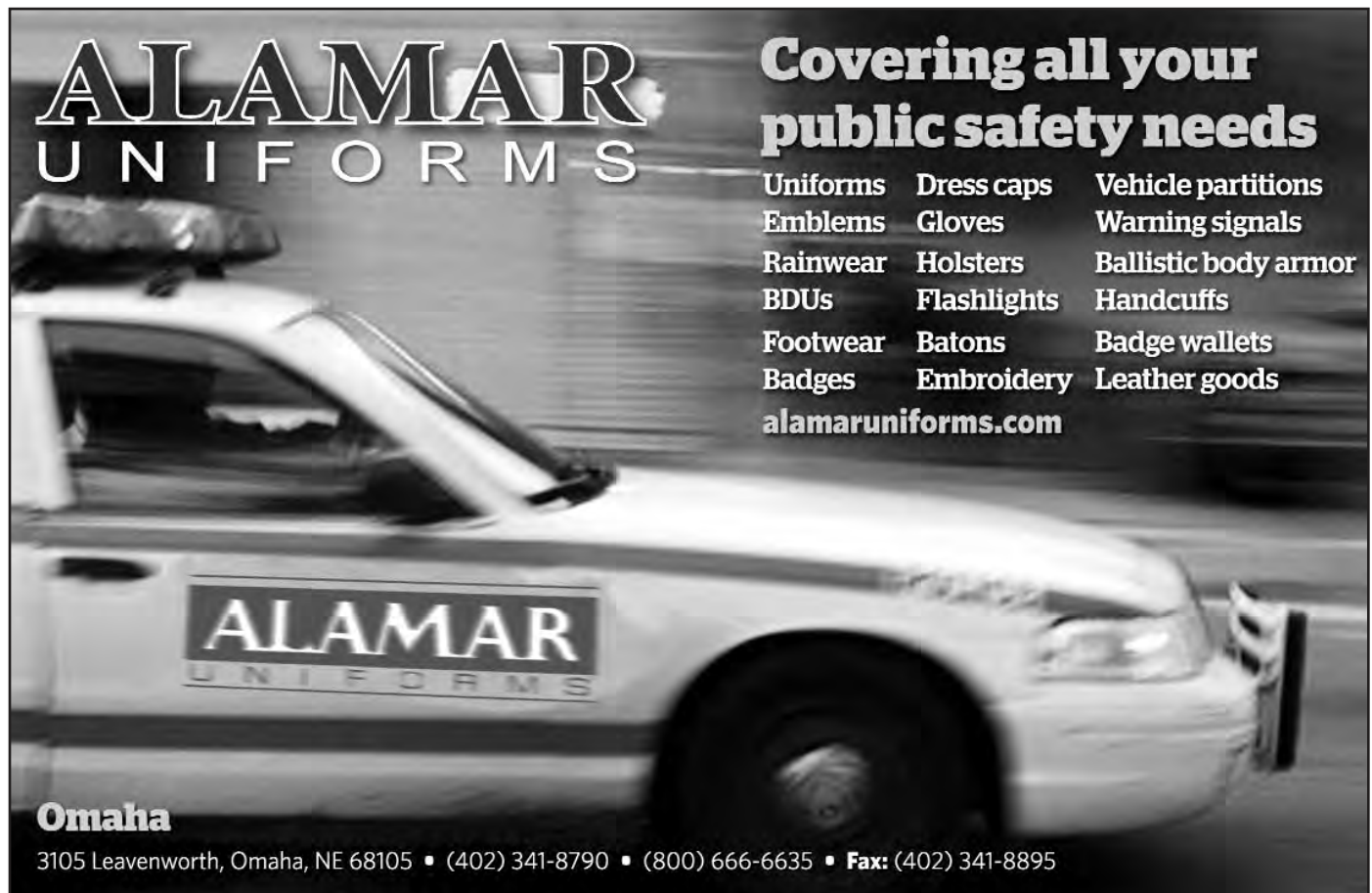
## NSA Legislative Update, continued from page 4

### ACTIVE LEGISLATION FOR 2012 SESSION

- LB 48 (Janssen) Adopt the Illegal Immigration Enforcement Act
- LB 66 (Cornett) Change provisions relating to DNA collection
- LB 182 (Hansen) Change provisions relating to the issuance of one license plate
- LB 185 (Fulton) Provide for one vehicle license plate
- LB 270 (Executive Board) Eliminate duties and positions in the Public Counsel's Office
- LB 415 (Wallman) Change provisions relating to contraband in a detention facility or providing an inmate with contraband
- LB 447 (Fulton) Change provisions relating to vehicular pursuit
- LB 545 (Pahls) Establish a copay for medical services provided at a correctional facility
- LB 658 (Karpisek) Change the fee for obtaining a handgun permit
- LB 676 (Lathrop) Change provisions relating to the emergency protective custody under the Nebraska Mental Health Commitment Act
- LB 688 (Smith) Require certain law enforcement officers and firefighters to work until age fifty-five to receive full benefits and prohibit elective officers from receiving retirement benefits
- LR 28 (Fulton) Encourage all municipal, county, and state law enforcement agencies to participate in the Secure Communities program by the year 2012

This is a list of legislation that we identified as of particular interest to the Association and can be accessed on the Nebraska Legislature's website at [www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov).

**A brief summary of each of the legislation listed above can be found at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org)**



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**INTERIM STUDIES**

The purpose of interim study resolutions is to further research specific issues in an effort to help senators and citizens better understand such issues, to resolve concerns with existing legislation, or encourage the introduction of new legislation during the following session. Interim study resolutions are referenced to a committee with subject-matter jurisdiction who then prioritize the resolutions in the order they plan to address them. More than 125 interim study resolutions were introduced in the 2011 session. Below is a summary of some of the of interim study resolutions that we are watching for the NSA that are of particular interest to the association. They can be accessed on the Nebraska Legislature's website at [www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov).

**LR 228** introduced by Senator Galen Hadley (District 37) to examine the safety of staff members at the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers at Geneva and Kearney.

**LR 229** introduced by Senator Galen Hadley (District 37) to examine the feasibility of requiring all law enforcement personnel to complete continuing education courses on an annual basis.

**LR 252** introduced by Senator Charlie Janssen (District 15) to examine the impact of illegal immigration on the state's budget, and LR 289 (District 20) to address the undocumented immigrant population that have been initiated at both the state and local level around the country since the Judiciary Committee completed its report in December 2008.

**LR 254** introduced by Senator Brad Ashford (District 20) to examine the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 and Nebraska's Sex Offender Registration Act.

**LR 275** introduced by Senator Mike Flood (District 19) to examine Nebraska's behavioral health model concerning transport service of persons who have been placed in emergency protective custody.

**LR 321** introduced by Senator Pete Pirsch (District 4) to examine the experience of child victims and child witnesses with respect to their interaction with the criminal justice system.

# Community Safety, LLC

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*Proud to be a supporter of  
the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association*



Be sure to notify the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association when an NSA member who was an active or retired sheriff, deputy, corrections officer, or member of the support staff and served in the sheriff's office dies. They will automatically be enrolled in the NSA Memorial Society and listed in the magazine and online.

Send the names to:  
Amy Prenda, NSA Executive Director  
PO Box 81822, Lincoln, NE 68501  
aprenda@windstream.net  
800.775.2469 • 402.434.3785

NSA remembers  
Nebraska Sheriffs, Deputies and support staff  
who died in 2010 and 2011.  
May they rest in peace.



May 29, 2011  
Past Deputy Sheriff in  
Burt, Cass and Washington Counties  
(Retired) Cuming County Sheriff  
**Dave Nelson**

March 11, 2011  
Platte County Deputy  
**Gerald "Jerry" Rosendahl**

January 4, 2011  
(Retired) Sgt. Fairbury Police  
Past Deputy Sheriff Jefferson County  
**Don Trimm**

September 22, 2010  
(Retired) Sarpy County Sheriff  
**Pat Thomas**

## Behavioral Health Jail Diversion Program of Lancaster County and Douglas County Mental Health Diversion Program

Behavioral Health Jail Diversion Programs are growing in scope and availability throughout the country. Currently, programs are available within Douglas and Lancaster counties in Nebraska.

The goal of Jail Diversion Programs is to divert individuals with a serious mental illness or co-occurring substance abuse disorder who are in jail for nonviolent, misdemeanor crimes or who have had multiple law enforcement contacts in the community, to the local behavioral health system.

Not only does the program stop the "revolving door" for individuals who are successfully diverted, it further allows the individual to become engaged in needed treatment services, assures their civil rights, and improves their safety and quality of life. Jail diversion allows law enforcement additional time to investigate more serious crimes, provides jails opportunity for more appropriate usage of their beds, invests tax dollars in solutions, and returns federal tax dollars to Nebraska to benefit its residents.



For information on the programs in Douglas and Lancaster County:

**Cindi Boganowski**  
Project Director of the Douglas County  
Mental Health Diversion Program  
(402) 599-2338 • [cboganowski@co.douglas.ne.us](mailto:cboganowski@co.douglas.ne.us)

**Travis Parker**  
Project Director of the Behavioral Health  
Jail Diversion Program of Lancaster County  
(402) 441-6610 • [tparker@ci.lincoln.ne.us](mailto:tparker@ci.lincoln.ne.us)



**Melanie Bailey**

of MB Solutions  
in partnership with  
NSA/POAN Conference  
Committee & Vendors  
29030 Golden Pond Lane  
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mbsolutions.melanie@gmail.com

## **NSA/POAN Conference & Exposition 2011: Showcasing Leading Businesses October 2, 3, 4, Younes Conference Center, Kearney**

The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association and the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska present the annual training conference for Sheriffs, Police Chiefs, Jail Administrators, Law Enforcement Professionals and Probation Administrators.

Exhibits are an important part of our conference program. Sheriffs and Police Chiefs from across Nebraska will be seeking information on the latest equipment and services relevant to their communities and their corrections environments.

Melanie Bailey and her company, MB Solutions, work in partnership with the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association and the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska to ensure that the 2011 NSA/POAN Conference and Expo is a great source of valuable information for all law enforcement professionals throughout our great state.

### **CONFERENCE ATTENDEES**

Police Chiefs, Sheriffs, Training Managers and Training Instructors, Department Administrators, Elected Officials, Jail Standards Staff and Jail Administrators, Probation Administrators, Nebraska's Attorney General and Crime Commissioner, and US Attorney Staff.

### **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE**

There are also several **sponsorship opportunities** during this important conference. Be sure to ask Melanie about availability. You can check them out online at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org).

**Don't miss this event.** It's a great place for products and services to meet Nebraska's premier law enforcement agencies. A block of rooms have been set aside for vendors. Be sure to tell them you're with the NSA-POAN Expo when registering.

### **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTICIPANTS**

Registration will soon be available online as well as through an email alert and by regular mail. Please watch for future email information from the NSA office and online at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org). If you have questions, contact:

**Amy Prenda**  
800.775.2469 • 402.434.3785  
[aprenda@windstream.net](mailto:aprenda@windstream.net)

### **Attention Sheriffs!**

A photographer will be available Monday and Tuesday during the conference to take a professional photo of you. (Bring your uniform if you wish.) A digital copy will be made available to you at no charge to use on your county's website or in other media.

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### GRANT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO ANY QUALIFYING LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COUNTY AGENCIES

Get more information at [http://www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime\\_commission/pamphlet.htm](http://www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime_commission/pamphlet.htm)

The Crime Commission administers a variety of federal and state grant programs. Each program has different purposes and requirement. The grant programs administered by the Crime Commission include:

- **Edward Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant** is a federal grant program that promotes partnership among federal, state, and local criminal justice entities in addressing the state’s drug and violent crime issues. A major priority of this grant program is to provide funds for drug and violent crime task forces.
- **Residential Substance Abuse Treatment** is a federal grant program that provides support for the residential substance abuse treatment programs housed within correctional facilities.
- **Project Safe Neighborhoods** is a federal grant program that helps reduce gun crime and gang violence.
- **Victims of Crime Act** is a federal grant program designed to provide direct services to victims of crime. Nebraska also provides limited state dollars to enhance such services.
- **Juvenile Accountability Block Grant** is a federal grant program which enhances efforts to assist youth involved in the juvenile justice system.
- **Violence Against Women Act** is a federal grant program that provides funding to communities to improve their local criminal justice system’s response to women who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.
- **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title II** is a federal grant program that assists states and local communities in making improvements and changes to their juvenile justice systems. State funding priorities include alternatives to detention, disproportionate minority confinement and projects for compliance with the JJDP Act.

More on page 23

## ADAMS



Sheriff Gregg A. Magee

### Adams County Sheriff’s Office

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Hastings, NE 68901  
402.463.5671  
FAX 402.461.7270  
gmagee@adamscounty.org  
www.adamscounty.org / Sheriff.htm



Pages 55 to 64

See county businesses that are supporters of their local Sheriff’s Office and the NSA.

## ARTHUR

### Arthur County Sheriff’s Office

PO Box 207  
Arthur, NE 69121  
308.764.2225  
FAX 308.764.2216  
bill991@neb-sandhills.net



Pages 55 to 64

See county businesses that are supporters of their local Sheriff’s Office and the NSA.



Sheriff Billy D. Simpson

Newly elected Banner County Sheriff, Stan McKnight, is no stranger to law enforcement. With 35 years of experience under his belt, he decided it was time to return after a brief stint working for the railroad.

"Prior to working the railroad, I spent the previous 20 plus years in North Platte at various law enforcement positions including serving as Deputy Sheriff," McKnight explained. "There's more job security in law enforcement."

McKnight and his wife of 46 years, Sherry, are parents of two, grandparents of four, and have one great grandchild.

According to McKnight, Banner county covers 746 square miles and has a population around 800. Harrisburg, the only village, is unincorporated. Banner county has two feedlots, a fish hatchery, a volunteer fire department, a school and a church.

"This is a wonderful, friendly, rural farm and ranch county," he said, "a true 'back to basics' community."

When he's not on duty or spending time with family, McKnight enjoys restoring vintage tractors and trucks.

no photo available  
**Sheriff Stanley McKnight**  
*Elected Sheriff in 2010*

**Banner County  
 Sheriff's Office**

Courthouse, Box 67  
 Harrisburg, NE 69345  
 308.436.5271  
 FAX 308.436.4180  
 bcso985ne@bbc.net  
 www.bannercounty-gov.us

**Pages 55 to 64**

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

## Coming to the aid of four-legged victims in your county

### CREATING A HORSE WELFARE COALITION FOR NEBRASKA

Written by Kristie Biodrowski, Nebraska Humane Society



In many counties across Nebraska, Animal Control is the responsibility of the Sheriff's office. This can be a challenge for those agencies that have been trained to help two-legged victims, not the four-legged variety.

With reports of horse neglect on the rise, I have received phone calls on several occasions with questions coming from Deputies on how to recognize neglect or what they should do with animals that do need to be removed.

The Nebraska Humane Society, Nebraska Horse Council, Farm Bureau and several individuals from the Nebraska Extension Office and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln have come together to work on a Horse Welfare Coalition for the State of Nebraska. One of the coalition's main goals will be to provide law enforcement with the

necessary tools and training they will need to properly investigate equine abuse and neglect. The coalition will also help guide those agencies in developing resources and an action plan in the event of a seizure.

The coalition would like to put together a networking resource list that can be referred to for these occasions.

#### What can you do now to help this process?

I would like to ask each County to develop a list of people in your community you think could be contacted in the event of a seizure. Properties that could house animals, feed suppliers, veterinarians in your community, all would be key in assisting you. Please send these lists to Kristie Biodrowski, [kbiodrowski@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:kbiodrowski@nehumanesociety.org) and a networking list will be compiled.

Stay tuned for educational opportunities in the future that will be provided to law enforcement on investigating equine abuse and neglect. Inquires for a booklet on Equine Neglect may also be directed to the above email address.

Questions? Contact:

**Kristie Biodrowski, Nebraska Humane Society**  
[kbiodrowski@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:kbiodrowski@nehumanesociety.org)

**BOONE**



**Sheriff David R. Spiegel**

**Boone County Sheriff's Office**

217 5th St  
Albion, NE 68620  
402.395.2144  
FAX 402.395.6517  
bcsheriff@frontiernet.net  
www.co.boone.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**BOX BUTTE**

**Box Butte County Sheriff's Office**

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308.762.6464  
FAX 308.762.5162  
bbcso@telecomwest.net  
http://www.bbc.net/~sheriff



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**Sheriff Tammy Mowry**

**BURT**



**Sheriff Robert D. Pickell**

**Burt County Sheriff's Office**


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 FAX 402.367.3329  
 mhecker@neb.rr.com  
[www.co.butler.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html](http://www.co.butler.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html)



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**Sheriff Mark A. Hecker**

**BUTLER**

**Cedar County Sheriff and Past NSA President Larry Koranda Appointed to State Board**

Recently, Cedar County Sheriff Larry Koranda was given another major responsibility, thanks to a gubernatorial appointment.

Koranda was appointed by Gov. Dave Heineman to the Police Standards Advisory Council (PSAC). Koranda will represent all Sheriffs of counties with populations under 40,000 people on the PSAC.

The PSAC is made up of two sheriffs, two police chiefs, a Lincoln police representative, the Lieutenant Colonel of the State Patrol, the Director of the Crime Commission, a Special Agent in Charge of the FBI and a member of the public at large.

The PSAC oversees the operation of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) in Grand Island to ensure policies and procedures related to law enforcement are carried out.

The council also has the responsibility to establish and enforce qualification and training standards for law enforcement officers in the state.

The council is the governing body that awards officer certifications, but also passes judgment on suspensions or decertification.

Koranda began his law enforcement career when Sheriff Elliot Arens hired him in 1996 as a Sheriff's Deputy in Cedar County. Before being hired, the native of Prague, attended NLETC. Rather than go through the police training program as a stipulation to be hired, Koranda chose to attend the program before he was ever offered a job in law enforcement.

In 2000, Koranda was appointed Cedar County Sheriff.

Koranda has been a long-standing member of the Nebraska Sheriff's Association. In 2010, he served as the President of the Nebraska Sheriff's Association. His appointment to the PSAC was endorsed by the Nebraska Sheriff's Association.

Since 1996, Koranda and his wife, Susie, have lived in Laurel. They have one son, Brock.

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**Sheriff Larry D. Koranda**

**Cedar County Sheriff's Office**

PO Box 415  
 Hartington, NE 68739  
 402.254.6884  
 FAX 402.254.2351  
[sheriff@hartel.net](mailto:sheriff@hartel.net)  
[www.co.cedar.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html](http://www.co.cedar.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html)



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**CEDAR**



The Douglas County Sheriff's Office has joined with other agencies to give the public opportunities to rid their homes of unwanted prescription drugs. Story to the right.

PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY DCSO

## TRENDS IN PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Written by Laura Larsen MPA, DFC Coordinator - LiveWise Coalition

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing trend in illicit drug use, second only to marijuana. Here in Nebraska, data from the Risk and Protective Factor Student Survey indicates that one in ten Nebraska teenagers have admitted to abusing prescription drugs at some point during their lifetime. 2009 data from the Nebraska State Patrol reveals that there were more fatalities from overdoses relating to prescription drugs than traffic accidents in Douglas and Sarpy Counties.

The battle against prescription drug abuse looks much different than previous drug prevention efforts. Unlike cocaine or marijuana, prescription drugs are a legal and medical necessity for many people. To protect others in our community from the misuse of prescriptions, the focus must be on increasing awareness about the risk(s) that are now posed.

Misusing refers to taking prescriptions when they are not prescribed legally to you; using them when they are outside of the event or diagnoses they were legally prescribed for; or taking prescriptions recreationally, outside of medicinal process.

### What you can do

- 1. Safeguard all prescriptions:** It is important to track the amount of prescriptions on hand and refills. This information will ensure that medications are being used in the prescribed way. If medications are disappearing faster than prescribed, take action.
- 2. Set clear rules:** By establishing firm rules relating to prescriptions it will send the message to children that prescription drugs are only to be used for their intended purpose. It also reinforces that medications are only appropriate under the supervision of medical professionals.
- 3. Properly dispose of old medication:** Getting expired medications out of your home will reduce the chance

medications can be misused. You should never flush medications unless instructed to do so by the label. Instead remove medications from their container, crush and mix with cat litter or used coffee grounds. Conceal any identification information on packaging when throwing it away.

- 4. Spread the word:** Young people today are busier and more mobile than ever. They spend large periods of time with friends and relatives. It is important to talk with family members and parents of your children's friends to encourage them to take these safety precautions.

### Warning Signs to Watch For

Different types of medications have different impacts on the body. The list below provides warning signs for commonly abused prescriptions.

- **Stimulants:** Anxiety, flushed skin, excessive energy, lack of sleep, irritability, or loss of appetite
- **Depressants:** Slurred speech, sleepiness, moodiness, forgetfulness, or disorientation
- **Painkillers:** Constricted pupils, mood swings, personality changes, clumsiness, or drowsiness

### Not just about young people

The elderly population makes up the largest demographic relying on prescription medications. 83% of Americans over the age of 60 are prescribed medications they must take daily. These medications are critical to sustaining a healthy life, but can lead to serious problems if not accurately monitored.

There are two important steps that can ensure safety in using prescription drugs. The first is to be well-informed about all prescriptions you are taking. The other is to ask detailed

Continued bottom of next page



## DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TAKES BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Information supplied by Captain Thomas Wheeler, Douglas County Sheriff's Office

On Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, June 26, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office (DCSO), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), LiveWise Coalition, Millard Public Schools, Walgreens (180th & Q) and Midtown Crossing (32nd & Farnam) gave the public another opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. A Deputy Sheriff was on hand to accept the medications and properly dispose of them. All medications were accepted no questions asked.

Last September, Americans turned in 242,000 pounds—121 tons — of prescription drugs at nearly 4,100 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,000 state and local law enforcement partners, including the DCSO.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the

trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Four days after last fall's event, Congress passed the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow an "ultimate user" of controlled substance medications to dispose of them by delivering them to entities authorized by the Attorney General to accept them. The Act also allows the Attorney General to authorize long term care facilities to dispose of their residents' controlled substances in certain instances. DEA has begun drafting regulations to implement the Act.

The DEA partnered with local agencies to collect the prescription drugs. In addition to these events, the DCSO has sponsored its own collection efforts.

Momentum for these events has picked up over the last couple of years. The statistics listed below reflect one time events promoted by the DEA.

State	Sept 2010	Apr 2011
IA	1,569	5,142
S. IL	833	1,582
KS	3,285	3,382
MO	5,148	12,507
NE	2,407	3,959
SD	551	826
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,793 lbs</b>	<b>27,398 lbs</b>

### TRENDS IN PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE, *continued from previous page*

questions to medical providers about the medications you are being prescribed. Be sure to communicate openly about your eating and drinking patterns, including alcohol intake, when being prescribed new medications.

#### Work Being Done Locally

The Nebraska Safety Council has partnered with the LiveWise Coalition to provide the community with more information about preventing the misuse of prescription drugs. Recently LiveWise has been an active partner in prescription drug drop events, informational townhall meetings, and educational campaigns in schools throughout the Omaha regional area.

LiveWise is currently working in the communities under three grant funded opportunities. Check out where your interest and skill set is a good match and contact us today!

- **The Substance Abuse Block Grant:** Underage drinking prevention initiatives, building Coalition process and capacity, engaging, educating, and empowering parents, and

building community assets as funded through Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare.

- **The State Incentive Grant:** Binge drinking reduction initiatives for young adults 18-25 years of age increasing social, legal, health knowledge related to binge drinking; and supporting retailers in the community with Responsible Beverage Server Training. Funded through DHHS in Nebraska, LiveWise works with community campuses and students to change community norms.
- **The Drug Free Communities Support Program:** Recently awarded from SAMHSA, LiveWise looks to implement a work plan addressing marijuana and prescription drug abuse issues in our communities.

If you would like more information about the LiveWise Coalition and other work being done locally on prevention issues contact **Laura Larsen**, [livewisecoalition@gmail.com](mailto:livewisecoalition@gmail.com) or visit [www.bethedifference.fm](http://www.bethedifference.fm).

CHASE



**Sheriff Kevin Mueller**  
Elected Sheriff (Chase County)  
in 2010

Pages 55 to 64  
See county businesses that are  
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Sheriff's Office and the NSA.

**Chase County Sheriff's Office**

921 Broadway • PO Box 102  
Imperial, NE 69033  
308.882.4748 • FAX 308.882.5679  
sheriff@chase3000.com  
www.co.chase.ne.us/sheriff.html

Sheriff Kevin Mueller, formerly Nebraska's Keith County Sheriff, now proudly serves the citizens in Chase County.

"I grew up in Chase County ... love the people, love the county," Mueller said. "When the position for Sheriff came open, I decided to try for it and won."

Mueller has been in law enforcement over 26 years. "I started out as a clerk in Keith County, was promoted to deputy, then became Sheriff there. Now I'm back home."

"I have cousins in law enforcement," Mueller shared, "so I guess it's just in my blood."

Married for 26 years, Mueller and his wife, Marsha, are the parents of two adult children, Teran, 23 and Justin, 21.

Chase County is over 800 square miles with a population of 3,800 people. When asked about his vision as Sheriff for the county, he replied, "I'd really like to update our equipment."

Mueller's favorite ways to relax include camping, hunting, and spending time with his family.

**Chase County Sheriff's Office  
Receives Grant for In-car Cameras**

Written by the Wauneta Breeze

The Chase County Sheriff's Office is receiving grant funding assistance for obtaining two in-car camera systems, according to Fred Zwonechek, administrator for the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety.

"This highway safety grant funding in the amount of \$6,592 will aid the Chase County Sheriff's Office in purchasing two camera systems," Zwonechek said.

Nebraska has once again qualified for highway safety alcohol incentive funds. The Nebraska Office of Highway Safety has utilized this funding to aid local area law enforcement in obtaining in-car cameras and alcohol testing equipment used to assist in the apprehension and conviction of drinking drivers.

"This funding and the ongoing persistence of law enforcement personnel continues to impact alcohol-related crashes and the resulting injuries and fatalities," Zwonechek said.

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# Open If ... I Don't Come Home

No one wants to think about it, but it's your duty to leave information for your survivors.

Written by Jeff Baker

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One of the tasks I enjoy least in my role as a command officer is the death notification to a fellow officer's loved ones. I've been death's harbinger to parents and spouses enough times

I know how to deliver the blow with the appropriate level of empathy, but clearly and directly. One doesn't obfuscate in situations like this.

There is nothing more wrenching in this realm than driving a marked car with a chaplain at your side, pulling up in front of a law enforcement officer's house, and driving a catatonic spouse to the trauma unit where his or her mate lies critically injured and clinging precariously to life.

And once the shock and grief fades just enough to allow them to think clearly, they all face the same terrible question:

## What do I do now?

There are steps you can take now to make life easier on your loved ones should you fall on duty.

You need an "Open If" file. And your family should know where it's located in your home, preferably in a secure, fireproof document safe.

The exact contents of your "Open If" file may vary, but I'll flesh out the basic elements of what your survivors need to know should they peer outside the windows of their home one day and see their worst nightmare walking up the steps.

## Phone Numbers

If you perish in the line of duty, your agency is supposed to roll out the red carpet for your family and ensure nothing of importance slips by the wayside.

Still, you should leave nothing to chance. That's why I recommend providing your family with a list of important contact numbers, in case the worst happens.

Your phone list should include a close friend on the job who might act as a liaison between the department and your family. You'll also want to provide them with contact information for your agency's chief, superintendent, or sheriff, its human resources director, and the elected leadership of your union or police association.

If you have children from a previous relationship, direct

**Should you die in the line of duty, you'll want your family to know how to handle all necessary arrangements after you're gone.**



numbers to reach them (through your ex-spouse or partner) are to be included here. Finally, add phone numbers for your attorney and your clergy, if applicable.

## Passwords and Account Information

There's a lot of financial and personal data that your survivors will need. Provide them with information on various bank accounts, e-mail accounts and passwords, retirement funds, life insurance policies, and memberships of any organizations you may be a part of.

A bulleted, comprehensive list of Websites, account numbers, policy numbers, and Website usernames and passwords should be part of your "Open If" file.

And be sure to add a copy of the statement from each creditor from which you receive a recurring bill, including your mortgage, utilities, credit cards, phone, and Internet provider.

Spend some time brainstorming and don't overlook the obvious.

## Federal Death Benefits

If you fall in the line of duty, it's likely your family will qualify for the Bureau of Justice Assistance Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program (PSOB). Enacted by Congress in 1976, this federal benefit can prove the difference maker between financial calamity and relative comfort for those left behind.

The current amount of the PSOB benefit is \$318,111 for eligible deaths; the amount is adjusted annually in October to reflect the percentage of change in the Consumer Price Index. The onus for filing a PSOB claim falls primarily on the decedent's agency, but your family should be aware of the BJA benefit program.

In order to assist your family with applying for PSOB, place certified copies of your birth certificate and marriage license in your "Open If" file.

Continued on page 46

**COLFAX**



**Sheriff Paul J. Kruse**



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**Colfax County Sheriff's Office**

411 E 11th St  
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ccso@cablone.net  
www.cumingcountysheriff.com/



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**Sheriff Bradley E. Boyum**

**CUSTER**

no photo available  
**Sheriff Daniel Osmond**  
*Sheriff since 2010*

**Custer County Sheriff's Office**

116 S 11th St  
Broken Bow, NE 68822  
308.872.6418  
FAX 308.872.6585  
sheriff@custercounty.org  
www.co.custer.ne.us

Custer County Sheriff Daniel Osmond always wanted to be Sheriff. "I've been in law enforcement for 13 years," he said, "and all of them in Custer County."

Osmond, who has an associates degree in law enforcement, started his county career as a deputy and was quickly promoted to sergeant. "When Sheriff Henderson retired, I saw my chance to achieve my dream," Osmond shared.

He and Krista have been married for 13 years and are the parents of two children, daughter Danielle who is 9 and son Christopher who is 7.

"During my time as Sheriff, I'd like to establish a better relationship with the people I serve," Osmond reflected, "and provide effective service."

Osmond's favorite ways to relax when he's not "on" are camping and boating with his family.



**Pages 55 to 64**

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



**Sheriff Chris Kleinberg**  
*Elected Sheriff (Dakota County)*  
*in 2010*

**Dakota County  
 Sheriff's Office**

PO Box 305  
 Dakota City, NE 68731  
 402.494.7555 • FAX 402.494.7507  
 ckleinberg@southsiouxcity.org  
 www.dakotacountyne.org



**Pages 55 to 64**

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 Sheriff's Office and the NSA.

## Dakota County and South Sioux City Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan to Benefit All Citizens in the Area

Written by the Dakota County Star

Plans for increased cooperation between the South Sioux City Police Department and the Dakota County Sheriff's Office were announced at last week's 34th Annual Joint City/School/County meeting (March 25, 2011).

South Sioux City Police Chief Scot Ford and newly elected Dakota County Sheriff Chris Kleinberg announced they were about to embark on a mutual aid agreement, something that has been impossible previously due to a "strained" relationship between the two offices.

"It is a new day, I will tell you that," Ford told the gathering. "It is a comfortable new day. What we are talking about is a situation that has gone on for a number of years in our immediate South Sioux City area."

The difference: South Sioux native Chris Kleinberg replaced longtime Sheriff James Wagner, which immediately opened up the lines of communication between the two law enforcement entities. Ford explained there are areas of South Sioux City that are not actually in the city limits and his police officers are not allowed to enforce laws or even assist those in need if they are "over the line."

The jurisdiction problem leads to frustration for South Sioux City police officers as they can't effectively do their

jobs. It also burdens Dakota County Sheriff's Deputies who might be miles away, patrolling the wide expanse of rural Dakota County.

The fringe areas around the outer edges of South Sioux City, which are not in the city limits, create a problem for the Sheriff's Office who quite often find themselves in the more remote areas of Dakota County.

Ford said; "It is also frustrating to South Sioux city officers to be so close (to the situation) and not be able to take care of it. We just can't go across the line."

The object, both sides agree, is to form some sort of mutual aid agreement that will allow South Sioux City officers to be deputized to serve those areas close but not actually within the city limits of South Sioux City.

The agreement will also provide for added police presence across the county in case a "major situation" were to develop.

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DAWSON



Sheriff Gary W. Reiber



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Dawson County Sheriff's Office

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308.324.3011
FAX 308.324.3006
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**Sheriff Dean Chase**

**DIXON**



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**Sheriff Jerry L. Archer**

**Franklin County Sheriff's Office**

PO Box 292  
Franklin, NE 68939  
308.425.6231  
FAX 308.425.3261  
sheriff@franklin.nacone.org  
www.co.franklin.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html



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**FRANKLIN**

**Frontier County Sheriff's Office**

PO Box 320  
Curtis, NE 69025  
308.367.4411  
FAX 308.367.4268  
nb03200@curtis-ne.com  
www.co.frontier.ne.us/sheriff.html



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**Sheriff Daniel D. Rupp**

**FRONTIER**

**GRANT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE**

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12*

- **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title V** is a federal grant program with limited funding that is designed for prevention programs with the current priority being disproportionate minority confinement.
- **Juvenile Services** is a state grant program that provides funds to communities for programs which provide alternatives to juvenile incarceration.
- **County Aid** is a state grant program that assists counties in providing needed programs and services identified in their comprehensive juvenile justice plans.

**LOOKING BACK IN TIME**

**Gale E. Baldwin, Hitchcock County's First Sheriff**

Written by Walt Sehnert, McCook Daily Gazette



**Hitchcock County's first Sheriff, Gale Baldwin, wife and daughter.**

*Y.M. Bailor via Gazette Nebraska Centennial Edition*

In 1923, Gale Baldwin sat down to write his recollections of the early days for the Hitchcock County paper.

At that time Mr. Baldwin was 76 years of age and had a good deal to say about his adventures in the "good old days." Baldwin had first come to Southwest Nebraska from Iowa in 1871, with his wife and two small children -- in a covered wagon drawn by two mules. He was on a hunting expedition -- to shoot buffalo, and more importantly, to find a "home."

Evidently they found Nebraska to their liking, because by spring they had decided to take up residence in Hitchcock County. During this time they were joined by four of Gale's old schoolmates, from Iowa, Lafe Talkington, Sam Talkington, John Miller, and George Foster, who also planned to settle in Hitchcock County, in the company of Charles and George Gessleman, who were already "old timers," living in their own "dugouts" (houses), which they had completed and had spent the winter in relative comfort.

**Continued on next page**

**GAGE**



**Sheriff Millard (Gus) Gustafson**

**Gage County Sheriff's Office**

612 Lincoln St  
Beatrice, NE 68310  
402.223.5221  
FAX 402.223.5223  
mwg903@gcsone.us

[www.gagecountynebraska.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html](http://www.gagecountynebraska.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html)



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**GARDEN**

**Garden County Sheriff's Office**

611 Main St  
Oshkosh, NE 69154  
308.772.3540  
FAX 308.772.4143  
dkmiller@gardencountysheriff.org  
[www.co.garden.ne.us/sheriff.html](http://www.co.garden.ne.us/sheriff.html)

no photo available  
**Sheriff Michelle Quinn**  
*Elected Sheriff in 2010*



**Pages 55 to 64**

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



About May 1, 1872, before the Baldwins could entirely complete their own dugout, the rains came with a vengeance, and Blackwood Creek flooded, endangering the entire area. The Baldwins' dugout was leaking water, but Gale managed to "bank up the door" and kept most of the water out. Said Mr. Baldwin, "If the water had rose a foot higher, it would have swept us all off the face of the earth, and that would have meant a big part of Hitchcock County's population."

In 1872, Will Taylor and several other officials of the Lincoln Land Co. (the real estate arm of the Burlington Railroad) came into the area to organize Hitchcock County. In the very first election Gale Baldwin was elected Sheriff of the new county.

Two years later, all county officers ran unopposed, except for the office of sheriff. Baldwin was opposed by one, Jack Grimes, who was backed by a gang of horse thieves and cattle rustlers — (a rough bunch who went by the names of "Big Jack," "Curly Jack" (Jack McCall), "Fat Jack," and "Long Jack"). These men attempted to swing the election to their man by threatening to kill reluctant voters, and as the election approached, even to kill Sheriff Baldwin.

Mrs. Baldwin believed that carrying guns would only provoke trouble and persuaded her husband to leave his 6-shooter at home. Baldwin was at a meeting at the Sheriff's office when Curly Jack came looking for him, calling for Baldwin to "come out and fight." Unarmed, Baldwin called for Jack to "come in and get me."

Jack came into the office, a gun in each hand. As soon as Curly Jack appeared in the doorway Baldwin hit him in the head with a two-by-four. "He dropped like a log, not even so much as pulling a trigger," recalled Sheriff Baldwin.

Trenton's Dr. Banderslice pronounced Curly Jack dead and he was wrapped in a buffalo robe. When Candidate

*"Mrs. Baldwin believed that carrying guns would only provoke trouble and persuaded her husband to leave his 6-shooter at home."*

Grimes arrived to see the body of his friend, they found that Curly Jack was still alive. (Sheriff Baldwin took him into his home and Baldwin's wife nursed the prisoner back to health over a two-month period).

The election for sheriff proceeded on schedule. Baldwin and Grimes each got seven votes, leaving it to the County Commissioners to break the tie. The commissioners decided that Baldwin should be retained as Sheriff for another term.

Candidate Grimes left Hitchcock County soon afterward. He drifted off to North Platte, got mixed up in a wild crowd, and was killed a year later in a gun fight.

Curly Jack recovered sufficiently so that he was able to rejoin the other Jacks in their camp. From there he left Hitchcock County, drawn to gold fields in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Two years later Curly Jack gained the notoriety that he craved, when he shot and killed the famous "Wild Bill" Hickok in a saloon in Deadwood, S.D. He was shortly thereafter hanged for that crime at Yankton, S.D.

After another term of office, Sheriff Baldwin gave up the law enforcement business and became a freight man, hauling supplies, in an oxen drawn wagon, from North Platte to the Red Cloud Agency, near Fort Robinson, in Northwestern Nebraska.

He and Mrs. Baldwin later returned to Hitchcock County, to their home and farm at Range 32, in 1879. They celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in 1923. At that time Baldwin was quoted as saying, "... we have made a host of friends since we came here, and lost none — only to death."

Death came to Sheriff Baldwin on May 13th, 1925.

*Reprinted with permission.*

*Source: Gazette Nebraska Centennial Edition, 1967.*

**Garfield County Sheriff's Office**

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 Burwell, NE 68823  
 308.346.5150 • FAX 308.346.5064  
 gcsso@nctc.net  
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**Greeley County Sheriff's Office**

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**Pages 55 to 64**

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**HAMILTON**

**Hamilton County Sheriff's Office**

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[www.co.hamilton.ne.us/sheriff.html](http://www.co.hamilton.ne.us/sheriff.html)



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**Sheriff Kirk W. Handrup**

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**Sheriff Chris N. Becker**

**Harlan County Sheriff's Office**

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The Nebraska Sheriff magazine offers many advertising/sponsorship opportunities, both in the printed magazine and on the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association website.

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## Victim Impact Programming for Corrections

Written by Verna Wyatt, Executive Director - You Have the Power

**Victim advocates and corrections professionals are not adversaries.**

**We share a common goal – ‘no more victims.’**

**Let’s work together towards this goal – the inmates need attention, not because they deserve it, but because our society does.”**

In the third and final installment in our series on conducting victim impact classes in correctional institutions, we will highlight what victim impact facilitators need to know, how to measure offender progress, and common challenges encountered during the class. Please refer to the previous articles for a review of why victim impact classes are important and what components make up a good victim impact program. (Find the first two articles online at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org))



facilitator presentation keeps the class more interesting. There is also less chance of burnout as sole responsibility of the class does not fall to one person. They should be able to manage discussion and present opposing viewpoints without being defensive or argumentative. They must be open and inviting yet able to establish firm boundaries

and respectfully confront denials, minimizations, and justifications.

### Who are the facilitators?

Facilitators must have an understanding of victim impact issues and believe offenders can change. If either of these qualities is missing, the class will be less effective. The facilitator needs to understand most offenders have experienced victimization in their past that set them on a negative path in life, but be clear that past history is never an excuse to victimize others. Although the inmate has been a victim in the past of some kind of trauma, they are in prison because they were victimizers.

### Why are two facilitators better than one?

Two facilitators are better than one when it comes to managing the group dynamic, especially for groups of ten or more participants. While one facilitator is leading the discussion, the other can monitor the group’s response and provide additional insights. A good back and forth of

### What is the best way to measure offender progress?

Pretests and posttests measure an offenders’ knowledge about victim impact before and after the class. YHTP statistics indicate that 85% of offenders improve their scores from pre to post tests. The test includes several true/false questions such as:

- If I left my car unlocked, I’d be asking for someone to steal it.
- Women who wear sexy clothes are asking to be raped.
- If you are jealous, it shows your partner how much you love them.
- Drug dealers don’t really have victims.

Personal surveys are administered to gain understanding of offenders past history of victimization, substance abuse, and criminal behavior. It provides a view of how offenders interpret their personal experiences. It is given at the

beginning and end of class time to see if they view their personal experiences differently after taking the class. While the focus of the class is to help them understand victim impact, it is critical that they also begin looking at their past to figure out the reasons behind their criminal behavior. Of course, the ultimate goal is no more victims and reduced recidivism.

**What are some challenges encountered during victim impact class?**

Some offenders may struggle with illiteracy, learning disabilities, or medical issues. The facilitator must be sensitive to these needs while balancing them with accountability. For example, an individual who can't read or write can still listen and participate in class discussions. If offenders have medical needs that take them away from class, the facilitator should make arrangements for them to do make up work such as writing an essay on the missed topic.

There will always be some offenders who present a bad attitude or act rudely. Certain behaviors such as sleeping, not paying attention, disrespectful talk, refusing to complete class work, or consistently showing up late should not be tolerated. The facilitator should first try to talk directly with the offender about the behavior. If the problem doesn't improve, the facilitator can talk to the offender again or assign additional work. For example, if an offender falls asleep while a guest speaker is talking, have them write an apology letter to the speaker and assign an appropriate essay topic.

In group settings, people often feed off each others' negative attitudes. In this situation, confront the entire group first, without naming individuals. The offenders may be able to monitor one another's behavior, holding each other accountable. If not, speak one-on-one to the individuals causing trouble. If problems persist, it may be necessary to make them retake the class or remove them from the program.

Some sessions may be difficult for offenders as topics like family violence and sexual abuse may trigger feelings about childhood victimization. This is a healthy response, and the facilitator should be prepared to offer options on how to handle such feelings. These options may include individual counseling, talking with a trusted friend, or journaling.

Victim advocates and corrections professionals are not adversaries. We share a common goal – "no more victims." Let's work together towards this goal – the inmates need attention, not because they deserve it, but because our society does.

**Note:** *This article is a continuation from previous issues of The Nebraska Sheriff magazine. The previous two articles can be found at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org)*

**About the author and other information**

**You Have the Power, Inc.** is a non-profit, crime victim advocacy group founded by Andrea Conte, former First Lady of Tennessee and survivor of violent crime.

Verna Wyatt, Executive Director and Valerie Craig, Director of Education, facilitate victim impact classes for inmates at Charles Bass Correctional Complex, Corrections Corporation of America, Tennessee Prison for Women, and Metro-Davidson County Sheriff's Department.

YHTP has created victim impact curriculum that is used in Tennessee prisons and other states, and trains facilitators on how to conduct victim impact classes.

For more information about our victim impact classes or curriculum, please contact:

**Sara Kemp, Director of Marketing**  
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## NSA Receives New High-Tech Tools to Help Address the Dangers of Distracted Driving

Submitted by Fred Zwonecheck, Office of Highway Safety

The Nebraska Sheriff's Association has received two new 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 of approximately \$20,000 were made available for this effort.

Each unit is equipped with three computer screens giving the user a realistic panoramic view of the roadway. The driver needs to pay attention to everything occurring around the vehicle including the action of other cars, motorcyclists and emergency vehicles approaching in the rearview mirrors featured on the screens. The units are also equipped with a steering wheel which easily attaches to a table, that features turn signals and other hand controls. Foot pedals used for braking and acceleration, are positioned on the floor.

The software program allows the user to experience many driving conditions and variables. Weather conditions can be adjusted to clear, wet, and snow or ice. The user may select daytime or nighttime driving conditions, as well.



Pictured is one of two units available through the NSA to law enforcement agencies for fairs, school and community events, safety and health conferences.

These two interactive units are will be valuable tools when demonstrating the dangers associated with distracted driving. The simulators provide the user with challenging driving situations, without putting the driver at risk.

After the user becomes comfortable with the controls and driving conditions, test their multi-tasking skills by calling the driver on his/her cell phone. Engage them in conversation or ask them to send a text message. Most drivers will find that it is impossible to maintain the appropriate level of concentration needed to safely control their vehicle.

HOWARD



**Sheriff Harold D. Schenck**

**Howard County Sheriff's Office**

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**Pages 55 to 64**

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JOHNSON

Johnson County Sheriff Scott Walton's law enforcement career began 16 years ago, but it was in 2009 that Walton and his family moved to Johnson County, where he was hired as a deputy and then promoted to Chief Deputy in 2010.

Just two weeks before this past election, several residents approached Walton, asking him to consider running for Sheriff. After discussing this with his wife, Malissa, he ran as a write-in candidate and won!

Walton believes that law enforcement officers should be held to the highest of standards; must uphold the law with integrity and conduct themselves in the manner the public has the right to expect.

He explained, "My vision as Sheriff is to run an honorable office, one that the public can trust and confide in. I hope that this will aid in improving the relationship between our office and the citizens of Johnson County."

"Words cannot describe how beautiful the countryside is here and how wonderful the people are," Walton continued. "We have loved Johnson County and the citizens that live here since we took up residence a few years ago."

Johnson County is 376 Square miles, with a population of 5,217.

"The people are wonderful and the small town spirit of generosity that we've encountered is amazing," Walton shared.

Walton and his wife, Malissa, are the parents of three children: Sadie, 25, Zach, 23, and Katlyn, 9 (step-daughter).

"We enjoy family gatherings and love the outdoors," he said. "We love to hunt turkey and deer. The incredible rolling hills and the many creeks and rivers make this a hunter's paradise. Fishing is also a great way for us to relax and unwind and let go of the stress of our jobs."



**Sheriff Scott Walton**  
*Elected Sheriff in 2010*

**Johnson County Sheriff's Office**

222 South 4th Street  
Tecumseh, NE 68450  
(402)335-3307  
FAX: (402)335-2737  
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## Supreme Court Cases: *Warrantless Entry into a Residence*

[www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/Nov 2010/supreme-court-cases](http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/Nov%202010/supreme-court-cases).

In the most recent term, the U.S. Supreme Court decided several cases of interest to law enforcement. Three addressed legal issues implicated in the taking of statements in criminal investigations. In these cases, the Supreme Court provided additional clarification and guidance concerning the long-standing requirements set forth in *Miranda v. Arizona*, including 1) the circumstances governing when law enforcement may initiate contact with a subject who previously has invoked the *Miranda* right to counsel; 2) what will constitute a waiver of the *Miranda* right to silence; and 3) what must be conveyed to a subject to satisfy *Miranda*. Find the summary of the rulings on the above three cases at [www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/Nov 2010/supreme-court-cases](http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/Nov%202010/supreme-court-cases).

Another case considered the constitutionality of a warrantless entry into a residence due to concerns about the safety and well-being of occupants inside. The Supreme Court also addressed the reasonableness of a search conducted by a police department targeting an officer's department-issued pager, the constitutionality of a civil commitment statute allowing for the continued commitment of federal inmates determined to be sexually dangerous, and whether the Second Amendment applies to states. This article provides a brief synopsis of this last case.

As always, law enforcement agencies must ensure that their own state laws and constitutions have not provided greater protections than the U.S. constitutional standards.

### **Michigan v. Fisher, 130 S. Ct. 546 (2009)**

Police officers responded to a disturbance call, and, as they approached the area, a couple directed them to a residence where they said a man was "going crazy." The officers continued to the home and found property damaged, as well as drops of blood on the hood of a pickup truck parked in front, clothes sitting inside of it, and one of the doors leading into the house. Through a window, they could see Jeremy Fisher inside the house, yelling and throwing objects.

The officers knocked on the door, but Fisher refused to answer. He also ignored their inquiries as to whether he needed medical attention and directed them to get a search warrant. One of the officers then pushed the front door partially open and saw Fisher pointing a gun in his direction. Eventually, the officers gained control over Fisher and secured the premises.

Fisher was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and possessing a weapon during the commission of a felony.<sup>24</sup> The trial court granted Fisher's motion to suppress the gun, agreeing with him that it was seized in violation of his Fourth Amendment rights. This was upheld by the Michigan Court of Appeals after it concluded that the

warrantless entry violated Fisher's Fourth Amendment rights as the situation "did not rise to the level of an emergency justifying the warrantless intrusion into a residence."<sup>25</sup> The court continued by noting that while there was some indication of a possible injury, "the mere drops of blood did not signal a likely serious, life-threatening injury."<sup>26</sup> The Michigan Supreme Court agreed to hear the case, but, after hearing oral arguments, vacated its order and let the lower court ruling stand.

### **Conclusion**

The Supreme Court reversed, concluding that the state courts' rulings were inconsistent with its long line of cases interpreting the Fourth Amendment in the context of exigent circumstances, particularly the Court's recent ruling in *Brigham City v. Stuart*.<sup>27</sup> In *Brigham City*, the Supreme Court recognized the need for law enforcement to make warrantless intrusions into a person's home "to render emergency assistance to an injured occupant or to protect an occupant from imminent injury."<sup>28</sup> In considering the reasonableness of the entry, the officer's subjective motivation behind the entry—what did the officer really want to look for—and the seriousness of the crime for which they were originally investigating are not relevant. The relevant consideration is whether the officer has an "objectively reasonable basis for believing that a person is in need of aid."<sup>29</sup>

Applying this standard to the facts of the case, the Court found ample support for application of the emergency aid exception, stating, "Officers do not need ironclad proof of a likely serious, life-threatening injury to invoke the emergency aid exception."<sup>30</sup> The Court concluded by stating:

"It does not meet the needs of law enforcement or the demands of public safety to require officers to walk away from a situation like the one they encountered here. Only when an apparent threat has become an actual harm can officers rule out innocuous explanations for ominous circumstances. But 'the role of a peace officer includes preventing violence and restoring order, not simply rendering aid to casualties'."<sup>31</sup>

<sup>24</sup> *Michigan v. Fisher*, 130 S. Ct. 546 (2009).

<sup>25</sup> *Fisher* at 548, quoting Docket No. 276439, 2008 WL 786515 at 2 (Mich.App. 2008).

<sup>26</sup> *Id.* at 549.

<sup>27</sup> 547 U.S. 398, 126 S. Ct. 1943 (2006).

<sup>28</sup> 130 S.Ct. at 548, quoting *Brigham City v. Stuart*, 547 U.S. 398 at 403 (2006).

<sup>29</sup> *Id.*, quoting *Brigham City* at 406. See also *Mincey v. Arizona*, 437 U.S. 385 (1978).

<sup>30</sup> *Id.* at 549 (internal quotation marks omitted).

<sup>31</sup> *Id.* at 549, quoting *Brigham City* at 406.



**A**

**A.** U.S. Attorney Deborah Gilg  
 "Our law enforcement is prepared to show the greatest love of all every day."



**B**

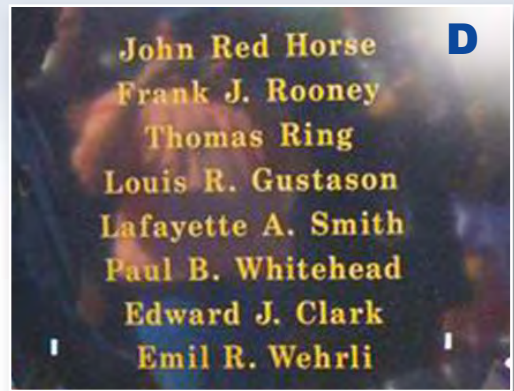
**B.** Nebraska State Patrol Chaplain Rev. Steve Thomlison



**C**

**C.** Sarpy County Lieutenant Russ Zeeb  
 "... letting them know that those officers are never forgotten."

**PHOTOS SUPPLIED COURTESY MIKE DYER**



**D**

**D.** U.S. Marshal Emil Wehrli's name was ceremoniously added to the memorial wall at the end of the program.

**E.** Nebraska Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Karen Thomas submitted Wehrli's name to the committee.

**Below:** The US Attorney and LECC honored Zeeb for his tireless dedication to this and many other worthwhile causes at their conference in Kearney. (Left to right) Fillmore County Sheriff Bill Burgess, NSA President; Sarpy County Sheriff Jeff Davis; Shellie and Russ Zeeb.

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## GRAND ISLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL:

### Deputy U.S. Marshal Emil Wehrli's Name Added to the Wall

Monday, May 9th saw more than 100 law enforcement officers from across the state gather at Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska for the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony.

This annual event honors fallen officers and this year was dedicated to the Deputy U.S. Marshal Emil Wehrli. Wehrli's name was ceremoniously added to the memorial wall at the end of the program.

District of Nebraska Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Karen Thomas submitted Wehrli's name for consideration after she heard the qualification to be recognized on the wall had been changed to include heart attacks.



Wehrli, who was 46, died in August 1988, from a heart attack after completing a 1.5-mile run as part of a mandatory semi-annual U.S. Marshals Service physical fitness test.

"Staying in shape and mandatory training is very important in law enforcement. Sometimes it's vigorous and can take a life" she said. "It's nice that Wehrli can be honored for that."

Wehrli served in Vietnam as a military police officer and graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Members of Wehrli's family were on hand to witness the dedication including his two daughters. They said he was dedicated to law enforcement and took his job very seriously.

**"They have laid down their lives in service of their neighbors."**

—Rev. Steve Thomlison —

U.S. Attorney for the District of Nebraska Deborah Gilg was the keynote speaker and the Rev. Steve Thomlison, Nebraska State Patrol Chaplain also expressed his thoughts about the risks each law enforcement officer across the country faces every day.

"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends," U. S. Attorney Gilg quoted. "Those we remember today did this for total strangers."

"Each of these names listed here have done this," Rev. Thomlison added. "They have laid down their lives in service of their neighbors. No one has greater love than this."

To date, approximately 133 law enforcement officers have given their lives in the line of duty in the state and are remembered on the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial Wall.

Gilg also referenced September 11, 2001. She said many officers, after seeing airplanes crash into the World Trade Center towers, sprinted toward the fire.

"Toward the fire," Gilg exclaimed. "Even when they knew there was almost no chance of walking away. Seventy-two law enforcement officers died that day, making it the deadliest day in law enforcement history. Our law enforcement is prepared to show the greatest love of all every day."

Law Enforcement Memorial Committee Chairman Russ Zeeb, a lieutenant with the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, said, "The most important part of the event for me is networking with the families and letting them know that those officers are never forgotten. Emil Wherli died in the line of duty in 1988. His family was here today and we're honored by that."

### Lieutenant Russ Zeeb Honored for Dedication on Memorial Committee

Over the past 18 years, Sarpy County Sheriff Lieutenant Russ Zeeb has served as a Law Enforcement Memorial Committee member as well as Secretary and President of the Association. Recently Lt. Zeeb was elected to his third term as President of the Memorial project, a position he has held since 2004. Countless hours of his own time and resources have been spent on this project which culminated with the dedication of the Memorial on May 11, 2009. Each year, Lt. Zeeb continues to orchestrate the annual memorial event in Grand Island, involving many hour of selfless work.

Many individuals and organizations helped fund the

project. At a critical juncture of the fundraising, however, Lt. Zeeb stepped up and brokered a deal with a new fundraising company that has raised over \$106,000 for the project. Total cost of the Memorial design and construction was over \$400,000. To date over \$500,000 total has been raised. The Foundation now has funds in the bank to continue perpetual care of the memorial.

The US Attorney and LECC honored Zeeb for his tireless dedication to this and many other worthwhile causes at their conference in Kearney.

## A Report from the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab: **Current Procedures**

Written by Katie Rector, State CODIS Administrator, Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab

### What is CODIS?

CODIS stands for the Combined DNA Index System. It is a database of DNA profiles that are searched against each other to identify any potential matches that can be used to aid an investigation. More CODIS information can be found on the FBI's website at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/codis>

### Offender Samples

The Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab provides Offender Collection Kits at no cost to all participating law enforcement agencies. Please contact the Databank Unit to obtain more kits at 402-471-8950. These kits are to be used in accordance with the DNA Identification Information Act, and they should not be used to collect casework reference samples.

The state statute can be found at:

<http://nebraskalegislature.gov/>

Statutes §29-4101-§29-4115 address database DNA testing.

Statutes §29-4001 -§29-4019 are Sex Offender Registry.

### Who is to be collected?

- ❖ A person who is convicted of a felony offense or other specified offense, on or after July 15, 2010.
- ❖ A person who has been convicted of a felony offense or other specified offense before July 15, 2010, and who is still serving a term of confinement or probation shall not be released prior to the expiration of his or her maximum term of confinement or revocation or discharge from his or her probation unless and until a DNA sample has been collected.
- ❖ All registered sex offenders.

### Are there any fees?

- ❖ A person convicted of a felony offense or other specified offense on or after July 15, 2010, who does not have a DNA sample available, must pay \$25.00 to the "State DNA Sample and Data Base Fund."

Send payment to:

Nebraska Attorney General  
State DNA Sample and Data Base Fund  
P.O. Box 98920, Lincoln, NE 68509

### Why have I been asked to re-collect an offender sample?

You may be contacted by the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab and asked to recollect a sample for a variety of reasons.

**The following are a few of the offenses that we commonly see:**

- The Offender Collection Kit is expired
- A fingerprint/thumbprint or AFIS Livescan Number is not present
- No identifying information is on the collection card and/or swab envelope
- The Offender Collection Kit was received by the lab greater than 5 days after collection

### Regional training now being scheduled

With the increase in the number of offender samples that are to be collected/analyzed, we have made changes that will allow us to improve our efficiency in the lab and benefit the collection agencies as well. Katie Rector, State CODIS Administrator, will be traveling across Nebraska providing regional training on the new procedures. Dates and locations are coming soon. **If you would like to host a training, please contact Katie at 402-471-8950.**

**KEARNEY**



**Sheriff Scott K. White**

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

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Minden, NE 68959

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[www.kearneycounty.ne.gov/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html](http://www.kearneycounty.ne.gov/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html)



**Pages 55 to 64**

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

## and Future Regional Training for CODIS

### New Offender Collection Kits

- ❖ The new kits will replace the buccal swabs with an EasiCollect Device. By using this new collector the laboratory is able to decrease the analysis time by 1-2 days.
- ❖ The new kits will also have some formatting changes on the sample envelope and collection card.

The new Offender Collection Kits should be available in June.



### Casework

Eligible DNA profiles obtained from crime scene evidence can be entered into CODIS to be searched. In order to determine if a DNA profile is eligible for CODIS, we need as much information about the item of evidence as possible (how is it tied to the crime? where was it located? who does the item belong to? are there any people that need to provide elimination samples? etc.).

If there is a CODIS hit between your case and another case, or offender sample, you will be notified by the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab through a Hit Letter. This Hit Letter will provide you with the case and agency information and/or the offender identifying information. This information can be used as an investigative tool.

### Questions?

Please feel free to contact Katie Rector  
State CODIS Administrator, 402-471-8950

### CODIS Prelog

- ❖ The prelog program will allow collecting agencies to search for offender samples that have been submitted to the laboratory.
- ❖ The prelog program will also allow collecting agencies to enter in the offender identifying information electronically. This will eliminate the manual entry on the collection card.
- ❖ The prelog program is in the final stages of development and it should be available in 2011. You will be able to access it through a portal in NCJIS.

## ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2011 NSA Hall of Fame & 2011 NSA Officer of the Year

It's that time of year again! Nebraska Sheriffs' Association (NSA) is requesting nominations for officers so that the NSA may recognize their accomplishments. A nomination form for NSA Hall of Fame 2011 and a nomination form for NSA Officer of the Year 2011 are available on the NSA website - just follow the link on the home page.

Sheriffs and Deputies are the front line to protecting our communities and often times are not given the recognition that they deserve—often serving the public at the expense of spending time with their own families. Please take a moment to nominate a sheriff or a deputy that you think deserves recognition. This is a great way of telling him/her that you recognize and appreciate his/her service.

Those officers chosen for the 2011 NSA Hall of Fame and NSA Officer of the Year will be recognized during the 2011 NSA/POAN Conference being held in October. **We are asking that your nominations be returned to the NSA office by Friday, August 19, 2011.** The nominations may be mailed or faxed to:

**Nebraska Sheriffs' Association**  
PO Box 81822, Lincoln, NE 68501  
Fax: (402) 476-2469

no photo available  
**Sheriff Don Henery**  
*Elected Sheriff in 2010*


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

PO Box 142  
Center, NE 68724  
402.288.4261  
FAX 402.288.4263  
kcsso@gpcom.net  
[www.co.knox.ne.us/sheriff.html](http://www.co.knox.ne.us/sheriff.html)

**KNOX**

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Joyce Moniz-Sadofsky  
Admin. Assistant

Isaac Smith  
Conservation  
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LOUP

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*Elected Sheriff in 2010*

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**23 Dogs Seized by  
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office**

Twenty-three dogs were seized from a residence in Steele City June 10th after the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office received a report of possible animal neglect.

The Sheriff's Office received a report of possible animal neglect on Wednesday at the Steele City residence and deputies responded to check on the complaint.

According to a release from Jefferson County Sheriff Nels Sorensen, deputies found a large number of dogs at the residence and deemed the conditions unfit for the animals and the resident of the house.

The resident of the house found other accommodations, while the sheriff's department contacted the Capital Humane Society in Lincoln and the Nebraska Humane Society in Omaha.

Friday morning, officials from the two humane societies arrived in Steele City and took possession of 18 lab and mixed lab dogs.

Five additional lab puppies were taken to the Fairbury dog pound by the Sheriff's Office.

Reports are have been forwarded to the Jefferson County Attorney for consideration of criminal charges.

**GPS Tracking Device Treads Constitutional Grounds**

Written by Declan McCullag

The U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear a lawsuit that will determine whether police need to obtain a judge's approval before installing GPS trackers on Americans' automobiles.

A ruling, which is expected by next year, will establish whether a warrant signed by a judge is required before law enforcement can engage in the practice of tracking a driver's every move on the roads. The Obama administration argues that no warrant is needed.

The case that will be presented to the justices arose out of a criminal prosecution of Antoine Jones and Lawrence Maynard, two suspected cocaine dealers who ran a nightclub in Washington, D.C. Jones said the warrantless use of a GPS device to track every movement of his vehicle over the course of a month violated the Fourth Amendment, which generally says that warrantless searches are "unreasonable."

In August 2010, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia agreed (PDF), tossing out Jones' conviction "because it was obtained with evidence procured in violation of the Fourth Amendment."

"A reasonable person does not expect anyone to monitor and retain a record of every time he drives his car, including his origin, route, destination, and each place he stops and how long he stays there; rather, he expects each of those movements to remain 'disconnected and anonymous,'" circuit judge Douglas Ginsburg wrote.

Even though police are planting GPS bugs on Americans'

vehicles thousands of times a year, the legal ground rules remain unclear, and lower courts have split on whether a warrant should be required. Once relegated, because of their cost, to the realm of what spy agencies could afford, GPS tracking devices now are readily available to jealous spouses, private investigators, and local police departments for just a few hundred dollars.

Reprinted with permission.

Read more: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-31921\\_3-20074701-281/supreme-court-will-set-rules-for-warrantless-gps-tracking/#ixzz1QW4zrDX8](http://news.cnet.com/8301-31921_3-20074701-281/supreme-court-will-set-rules-for-warrantless-gps-tracking/#ixzz1QW4zrDX8)

**GPS 'Spoofing' a Worry for Law Enforcement**

Researchers at Cornell University and Virginia Tech are warning both law enforcement and the public to be aware of a new trend known as GPS spoofing. A lead researcher at Virginia Tech says that while jamming consists of simply creating a false GPS signal that overpowers the real signal, spoofing is much more sinister. During spoofing, a false GPS signal is created that passes as a real one; unlike in GPS jamming where the GPS tracking device will stop functioning, GPS spoofing allows the GPS tracking unit to continue to function but display an incorrect time or location. According to the Virginia Tech researcher, everything looks completely normal, but the spoofer is controlling the displayed position in time and space.



MERRICK

Merrick County Sheriff Kevin Campbell grew up in Central City, Nebraska and wanted to get back to his roots.

"I've been in law enforcement over 18 years," Campbell said, "and I wanted to serve the people in the county that I call home."

Campbell's law enforcement career began when he joined the U.S. Army and spent three years as an MP. He then worked as an armed special officer with the federal government, as a police officer and a deputy sheriff.

"I've only been Sheriff for a year but feel comfortable in the job," Campbell shared. "My vision for the county is to have better coverage by law enforcement personnel. The people deserve it."

Campbell also hopes the county can someday build a modern corrections facility. "Our current jail was built in 1957. It's out-dated and has only 12 beds."

Campbell has been married to wife Kimberly for 18 years. They have four children: Ashley (17) attending UNL in the fall; Zachery (12), 6th grade; Hannah (11), 5th grade; Matthew (9), 3rd grade.

"All the kids play at least two different instruments," Campbell shared. "In fact, music is something the entire family enjoys."

When not working, Campbell enjoys camping, fishing, coaching various sports and teaching CCD. A person who likes to "give back", he regularly participates in "Relay for Life Walks" for cancer research.

no photo available  
**Sheriff Kevin Campbell**  
*Sheriff since 2010*

**Merrick County Sheriff's Office**  
 1821 16th Ave  
 Central City, NE 68826  
 308.946.2345  
 FAX 308.946.2444  
 merrickso@hamilton.net  
 www.merrickcounty.ne.gov/s  
 heriff.html

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**Sheriff Davis P. Moore**

**Nance County Sheriff's Office**

PO Box 309  
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NANCE

**Nemaha County Sheriff's Office**

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 www.nemahacounty.ne.gov/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html

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## SPOT Personal Satellite Messengers: *A low cost tracking and emergency communications device*

Written by Kimball County Sheriff Harry Gillway

When I returned to law enforcement as Sheriff in Kimball County, I was faced with a number of communications issues as many of us are here in Nebraska. The most important issue is how to get help to a deputy where there is no radio coverage or cell phone service. Let's face it, we all have budget problems and putting up more antennas and repeaters are far out of reach.

The solution I found was SPOT personal satellite messengers. The cost per unit with annual service fee was less than \$200. Not completely sold on whether these little devices were suitable for law enforcement, I purchased one and tested it. We then presented our findings to the Rural Law Enforcement Technology Center. Many agencies at the conference wanted to purchase them right there and then. Catching the attention of the Department of Justice, *TechBeat* magazine featured our agency and how we are deploying the SPOT messengers. Overwhelmingly the SPOT device found their way into law enforcement agencies across the nation as a low cost tracking and emergency communications device.

### OUR PROCEDURE AND USAGE

I issue a SPOT locating device to each of my deputies, Emergency Management Coordinator and to all of my Storm Spotters. The devices have proven invaluable and it's hard to believe that every agency isn't using them.

First of all, with a push of a button, a national emergency center as well as my 911 Center is notified that a deputy needs immediate help. Further, I can track a deputy throughout his/her shift and make sure that the deputy is covering the county.

On many occasions, we are called to remote locations of the county and dispatch needs to pinpoint the location, i.e.; to direct backup, other emergency responders and/or medivac helicopters. The device sends a signal to a satellite and my dispatcher can see on a computer website where the units are. This is particularly important during storm spotting and emergency management operations.

The other thing that I find very important is when we are doing inmate transports. In "Track Progress" mode, the SPOT device sends out a location signal every 10 minutes which allows dispatch to track the progress and safety of the deputy doing the transport.

### HOW THE DEVICE WORKS

Here is how simple it works. Power on the SPOT device and hold down the tracking button. In this mode the device sends a signal out every 10 minutes automatically. The location can be tracked online in real time. If you push the "OK" button, a signal is sent out immediately, which is real handy if the deputy is away from his car but can hear the dispatcher on his portable trying to call. Again, the signal can be seen by the dispatcher on the computer website.

The next button is a user programmed button. We use it to allow family members to know everything is okay. The "Non Emergency Help" button sends a signal to dispatch as well as my Chief Deputy and I that a deputy needs help, i.e., vehicle stuck, flat tire or just simple assistance. The "SOS" button is reserved for "10-89, 10-18" traffic. If this signal is sent, it goes to an international emergency rescue coordination center who contacts Kimball County Dispatch, myself and all of my deputy's cell phones.

Programming the messages for your specific needs is a simple online process, as is setting up the computer display for your devices.

As I said earlier, we use SPOT devices whenever we deploy Storm Spotters. On the display map, each spotter is given a separate color along with the time with latitude and longitude. With just a glance we can see if deputies and spotters are in the areas where we need them to be.

### AVAILABLE OPTIONS

While we use the newer handheld device, the SPOT people came up with a couple other devices that may assist law enforcement agencies better. The SPOT HUG is a wired-in system where it permanently mounts into the police car. The benefit is: the deputy can carry a small remote radio device (similar to a car's keyless remote) that can activate the satellite signal when away from the car within range. The other device is SPOT CONNECT which interfaces with a Bluetooth smartphone and can send short text messages via satellite.

I firmly believe the SPOT devices have a place in law enforcement especially with small agencies working with limited radio coverage and limited budgets. We have seen in Kimball County when time is of the essence SPOT has saved lives.



**NUCKOLLS**



**Sheriff James R. Marr**

**Nuckolls County Sheriff's Office**

50 W. 2nd  
Nelson, NE 68961  
402.225.2831  
FAX 402.225.3014  
jmarr942@yahoo.com  
www.nuckollscounty.ne.gov/sheriff.html



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**OTOE**

**Otoe County Sheriff's Office**

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Nebraska City, NE 68410  
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FAX 402.873.6130  
jmarr942@yahoo.com  
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You can also find a link to these on the NSA Website  
<http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org>

**Pawnee County Sheriff's Office**

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FAX 402.852.2969  
pawcounty2969@yahoo.com  
www.co.pawnee.ne.us/sheriff.html



**PAWNEE**

**Sheriff Jayme R. Reed**



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**Sheriff Gene Samuelson**  
*Elected Sheriff in 2010*

**Phelps County Sheriff's Office**

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gene@phelpso.org • www.phelpso.org

**PHELPS**



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www.co.pierce.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html



**PIERCE**

**Sheriff Rick J. Eberhardt**



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**What Grants Are Available to Law Enforcement?**

There are many grants available to law enforcement agencies across Nebraska and the nation.

Check out the following Websites for details.

Available from the state of Nebraska:

[http://www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime\\_commission/organization\\_and\\_functions/grants/cj\\_programs.html](http://www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime_commission/organization_and_functions/grants/cj_programs.html)

Available from the Federal Government:

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/fedgrant.html>

Also see page 27 of this issue for additional opportunities.

PLATTE



Sheriff Jon J. Zavadil

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Platte County Sheriff's Office

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## In Columbus, Key to Old Steel Jail Goes to Museum



Old-time Sheriff Tom Martens, far left, Platte County Sheriff Jon Zavadil, center, and Jamie Snyder, Chairwoman of the Platte County Historical Society, right, stood in with the grandchildren of historical society board members at left and the grandchildren of Richard Sliva, right, during the key exchange.

Written by Eric Freeman, Columbus Telegraph

Photo and article reprinted courtesy of the Columbus Telegraph

Nearly three dozen area residents were present June 23, 2011 at the Platte County Historical Museum, Columbus, for the official exchange of the original key to the original Platte County steel jail.

The exchange took place between the grandchildren of Richard Sliva and the grandchildren of several of the Platte County Historical Society's current board members.

Jerry Kneifel, historical society board member, recounted the "jail trail" of the original jail along with a slide presentation detailing its history, that of the original Platte County courthouse and the final transfer of the jail to the historical society.

The project to move the steel jail last August included extracting it from the trees on the Richard Sliva property, sandblasting, painting and moving the jail into place on the museum grounds.

The jail served Platte County and the City of Columbus from 1877 until June 26, 1922 when the current Platte County Courthouse was dedicated just north of Frankfort Square. The original 7-ton steel jail was purchased for \$2,371.

Following the dedication of the current courthouse the jail was obtained by the Charles Wurdeman family and used as a playhouse for his children and grandchildren.

It was moved to Pawnee Park some time later to be used as a tourist attraction although no dates are available for that part of its history.

Sliva acquired the jail in the early 1980s at scrap prices from the City of Columbus and used it for storage until donating the jail to the Platte County Historical Society in 2010.

Kneifel said the steel jail was not the first jail. He said in the days before its construction, prisoners were kept in a room at the back of the courthouse, then located in the 2100 block of Seventh Street in Columbus.

He said then Sheriff A.J. Arnold and his family lived inside the courthouse at the time and watched over the prisoners.

The key, which was in Sliva's possession, was lost for a period of time but found at his home, and he was credited with the idea of having his grandchildren pass the key on to the grandchildren of the current historical society members.

Kneifel said the society is still looking for more information about the steel jail and invites the community to share any information available with regard to specific dates or photos of its various moves around town.

He said also of interest would be the names and particulars of any of the prisoners, escapes or attempted escapes or news clippings about the jail.

Kneifel said the society hopes to engage the community by making the jail available for "jail and bail" style fundraisers and invites the creation of cartoon-like photo panels to use for fun photos outside the jail.

For more information or to help with further developing the steel jail exhibit call the museum located at 2916 16th St. • 402-564-1856.

[http://columbustelegram.com/news/local/article\\_424116-cc-9e69-11e0-ad96-001cc4c03286.html#ixzz1QUeuMz6J](http://columbustelegram.com/news/local/article_424116-cc-9e69-11e0-ad96-001cc4c03286.html#ixzz1QUeuMz6J)

## Open If ... I Don't Come Home

Leaving information for your survivors. Continued from page 17

### State Death Benefits

Some individual states have a survivor payout for line-of-duty deaths, but these benefits aren't uniform. Some states may provide a lump sum payment, tuition reimbursement at state-run universities, or health care coverage and/or reductions on property tax, so it literally pays to investigate.

The good news when it comes to these benefits is that Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) has done most of your homework for you. You can access the appropriate page for your state through the COPS Website.

### Your Guns

Your "Open If" file is not just about information on benefits and bank accounts. Many police officers are, to one degree or another, firearms enthusiasts. If you have a gun safe at home, make note of the combination and whether you store your firearms loaded.

Even if you don't own a safe but do have a firearm or three stashed about the home, your family needs to know the exact whereabouts of your weapons so they can be retrieved and made safe. If your spouse is unfamiliar with guns, this task can be delegated to one of your cop friends.

### Estate Planning Documents

I don't care how young and healthy you are; you still need a will if you wear a badge. Get a medical power of attorney, too.

These simple but very important legal documents are inexpensive and easy to procure through your personal attorney. You may also have satisfactory results with online resources such as LegalZoom. In any case, don't leave your family ignorant of your desires if you're not there to convey them.

### Funeral Arrangements

If you have (a) explicit wishes regarding how your funeral is to be conducted, (b) specific religious practices you would like your survivors to adhere to, or (c) a fellow officer, boss, or spiritual leader you want to participate in your eulogy, write out the details and put them in your "Open If" file.

I know this is a hard thing to do. And it will make you feel morbid, but unless you've discussed these issues with your family, they may not know what you want. By writing them out, you can avoid worrying them about things that never happen and also ensure that your wishes will be followed.

### Write Them a Note

If you've gotten this far, you're pretty much done with your work, but do take a little extra time to jot down your thoughts, prayers, and wishes for your family in a letter and seal it in the file.

Remind them you were doing a job you loved. And tell them you understood the risks going in. Explain the existence of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the healing benefits of Police Week each May; encourage them to attend for the fraternal support they'll receive there.

Finally, implore them to put the pieces of their lives back together. After all, the best way they can honor your life is to live theirs to the fullest.

Continued on bottom of next page

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**Sheriff Dwaine W. Ladwig**

**POLK**



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no photo available

**Sheriff Randy Houser**  
*Elected Sheriff in 2010*

**Richardson County Sheriff's Office**

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 FAX 402.245.3327  
 richcosheriff@sentco.net  
 www.co.richardson.ne.us/webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html



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Richardson County Sheriff Randy Houser had a specific goal in mind when he sought the Office of Sheriff: "I want to improve service and establish professional standards and physical accountability."

Retired after 26 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, Houser went on to serve two more years as a reserve officer in Mitchell, SD. During his military career, Houser earned a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration. He completed his law enforcement training in 2008, and served as Deputy Sheriff until the recent election.

"Our service to the community really needs to improve," Houser stated. "We need to get as close to 24/7 as possible. Response time also needs an overhaul and while accomplishing this enhancement to our service, we still need to function within budget."

"Another issue on my agenda is rebuilding public trust," he continued. "I feel this is very important."

Houser and his wife, Julie, are parents of three grown children and grandparents of three, all living in California. For relaxation, Houser spends time at home in his hot tub.

"An interesting fact about my county," Houser reflected, "is that it borders Kansas to the south and Missouri to the east. In each of these two border states are Native American reservations whose headquarters extend into Richardson County. Because of this," he continued, "I've been able to hire a few new deputies."

**RICHARDSON**

**Open If ... I Don't Come Home**

Leaving information for your survivors. Continued from page 46

NOTE: Sgt. Jeff Baker is a decorated veteran of the Omaha Police Department. A law officer since 1988, Baker is a Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation (FLETA) certified police instructor.

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Repository of State Death Benefits  
<http://www.nationalcops.org/deathbenefits.htm>

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund  
<http://www.nleomf.com>

SAUNDERS



Sheriff Kevin L. Stukenholz



Pages 55 to 64  
See other Saunders County businesses that are supporters of their local Sheriff's Office and the NSA.

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PHOTOS COUTESY ZABLOUDIL PHOTOGRAPHY

MADD presents Nebraska's Outstanding Law Enforcement Awards

The 12th Annual Mothers Against Drunk Driving Outstanding Law Enforcement Awards and Recognition Ceremony was held on May 24, 2011 at the LaVista Convention Center. The hosts for the Ceremony were Lt. Governor Rick Sheehy and First Lady Sally Ganem. The keynote speaker was Romell Cooks, National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration (NHTSA) Region 7 Director.

**A.** Deputy Jeremy Jones of the Hall County Sheriff's Office was honored. He was nominated by Capt. Todd Bahensky.  
Pictured from left to right: Simera Reynolds, Executive Director, MADD Nebraska, Hall County Sheriff's Capt. Todd Bahensky, Deputy Jeremy Jones and Nebraska First Lady Sally Ganem.

**B.** Deputy Kyle Coughlin from the Saunders County Sheriff's Office was awarded the Adult DWI individual award. He was nominated by Sheriff Kevin Stukenholz.  
Pictured from left to right: Saunders County Sheriff Kevin Stukenholz, Saunders County Sheriff Deputy Jeremy Jones, Simera Reynolds, Executive Director, MADD Nebraska and Nebraska First Lady Sally Ganem.

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❁  
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 businesses that are  
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 and the NSA.

**Seward County Traffic Stop Nets Suspected Drug Currency**

Seward County Sheriff's Office deputies found more than \$600,000 in cash hidden in a car traveling west on Interstate 80 Saturday morning.

On April 30, 2011, a Seward County Deputy Sheriff stopped a 2010 Hyundai for a traffic violation. During the stop, the deputy became suspicious and requested a K9 to assist. A probable cause search was conducted after the K9 alerted on the vehicle. A subsequent search of the interior of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of two pieces of travel luggage containing approximately \$650,000 in suspected drug currency.

Deputies determined that the Hyundai was a rental car with Illinois license plates. The driver of the vehicle indicated that he had no knowledge of the currency and was ultimately released.

"Since the beginning of the year, our drug interdiction efforts have netted nearly \$975,000 in suspected drug currency that will be used for law enforcement purposes," said Seward County Sheriff Joe Yokum. "Although our agency will only see a percentage of those funds, they can be used to assist our agency in the purchase of patrol vehicles, mobile radios, ballistic vests, K9 supplies, and other related items directly associated with drug enforcement operations. Seized assets can also be used for Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) materials and training for our staff."



**Press release and photo courtesy of the Seward County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Joe Yokum.**

SHERMAN



**Sheriff Michael F. Janulewicz**

**Sherman County Sheriff's Office**

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shermancoso@cji.net  
www.co.sherman.ne.us / sheriff.html



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SIoux

Newly elected Sioux County Sheriff Lyle Staudenmaier saw an opening and "ran for it!"

"At the time I decided to run for Sheriff, there were no other candidates," Staudenmaier said. "It seemed there was little interest, but I knew the vacancy had to be filled and I knew I could handle it. It's an important job."

Before the primaries, however, another hat was in the ring.

"This is my first position in law enforcement," Staudenmaier confessed, "but I'm really up for it. I've been a fireman and EMT and am used to emergency situations and serving the public."

And not only is Staudenmaier a new sheriff, he's also a new husband and dad. Married to wife, Heather, for two years, he's the proud father of a four month-old son named Brandon.

Currently the sole occupant of the Sioux County Sheriff's Office, Staudenmaier continued, "I hope to be able to hire a deputy soon. Even though there's just the town of Pierson here in the county, there's a lot of ground to cover."

Staudenmaier told us that he'll continue to hunt and fish "when I get time off."

Sioux County consists of a population of 1,300 and is 80 miles by 35 miles in area and will celebrate its 125th anniversary this summer.

no photo available

**Sheriff Lyle Staudenmaier**

*Elected Sheriff in 2010*

**Sioux County Sheriff's Office**

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**Sheriff Michael S. Unger**

**Stanton County Sheriff's Office**

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**Pages 55 to 64**

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Sheriff Shelly Perez really knows her way around the Sheriff's Office. When the previous sheriff retired, she decided she wanted that responsibility.

"I started my career with the Stanton County Sheriff's Office as a dispatcher, advanced to jailer and then deputy," she said. "I served in those positions for over 12 years and am happy that I have the opportunity to serve the people that I know so well as their Sheriff."

Thurston County has a population of 7,171, with seven towns/villages. Perez looks forward to "serve and protect" and hopes to reduce the crime rate significantly while in office.

"My dad was Chief of Police in Emerson while I was growing up," she shared. "Mom was a dispatcher and jailer for 25 years, both in Thurston County. My brother is graduate of the Law Enforcement Training Center and is currently working as police officer in Rosalie. It's a 'family business!'"

Perez and her husband, Jesus, have been married for 26 years. They are parents of three adult children: Sarah, 29, Jessica, 27 and Joseph, 24. They also have 11 grandchildren, ranging in ages from eight to two months.

When she can take the time, Perez enjoys crafting, quilting and, "of course, spending time with those grandkids!"

no photo available  
**Sheriff Shelly Krahmer Perez**  
*Elected Sheriff in 2010*

**Thurston County Sheriff's Office**

PO Box 370  
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 402.385.3018  
 FAX 402.385.2518  
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 thurstoncountynebraska.us/  
 webpages/sheriff/sheriff.html



**Pages 55 to 64**

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See the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Wildlife and Parks Department ad on page 37.



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**Sheriff Unger Recognized for Saving Infant's Life**

Stanton County Sheriff Mike Unger was within blocks of a family in need of help. Sheriff Unger responded to a residence in December 2010 when an infant was unresponsive and not breathing. He immediately started performing CPR on the infant while Stanton Rescue was responding to the residence. Sheriff Unger revived the infant and the 15 week-old child was then taken to Faith Regional Hospital in Norfolk.

Stanton Rescue Captain Russ Johnson (left) and Stanton County Chief Deputy Kirk Van Pelt (right) present Sheriff Michael S. Unger (center) with a plaque of recognition during the Stanton Rescue. Photos courtesy of Stanton County Sheriff's Office website.

**VALLEY**



**Sheriff Casey D. Hurlburt**

**Valley County Sheriff's Office**

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**WASHINGTON**

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www.co.washington.ne.us/sheriff.html



**Sheriff Michael W. Robinson**



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**WAYNE**



**Sheriff Leroy W. Janssen**

**Wayne County Sheriff's Office**

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See the Great Dane Trailers ad, Wayne County, on page 28

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**Sheriff Troy R. Schmitz**

**WEBSTER**



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**Sheriff Adrian A. Lindsay**

### Wheeler County Sheriff's Office

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wcso@nntc.net  
www.wheelercounty.ne.gov / webpages / sheriff / sheriff.html



**Pages 55 to 64**

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**WHEELER**



## “Remembering Our Fallen” Photo Exhibit Travels throughout the State

Motorcycles met in York on June 27th to escort the “Remembering Our Fallen” photo exhibit to Geneva. Fillmore County Sheriff (and NSA President) Bill Burgess led the way.

The display, which is traveling to 34 communities across the state before arriving at the state capital in November, features photos of all of the soldiers from Nebraska and Western Iowa who have died while serving America since Sept ember 11, 2001.

Most of the soldiers in the tribute are in uniform, though a few displayed are personal photos.

In 2003, Ogallala native Marine Capt. Travis Ford, 30, brother of Grant resident Todd Ford, was the first Nebraskan killed in Iraq during The War on Terror. His photo is part of the traveling exhibit.

The first Nebraskan killed in Afghanistan was Sgt. Philip Svitak, 31, of Fremont, where the “Remembering Our Fallen” exhibit made its first stop.

Tom Williams of Omaha drove the vehicle that held the exhibit on its journey to Geneva. Tom is a United States Marine whose parents, Bill and Evonne Williams of Omaha, created the exhibit.

The exhibit started at the Strategic Air and Space Museum near Ashland, where Evonne Williams is the interim director. “Remembering Our Fallen” is on loan from the Museum.

To display the professionally-mounted photos, the Williams’, who have four children involved in the military, used four large panes of around 10 feet wide by 7 feet long.

It has been traveling to different communities throughout Nebraska and Western Iowa since January.

## Google Hands Over User Data for 94% of U.S. Law Enforcement Requests

Written by Andy Greenberg for Forbes Online

When law enforcement comes looking for evidence hidden in a person's Google search history, Gmail or the uncountable other Google services that touch many Internet users' lives, Google doesn't usually turn the investigators away. In 19 out of 20 cases in the second half of 2010, the company handed over at least some of the data the government demanded.

On June 27, 2011, Google updated its Transparency Report, a laudable effort to make users more aware of how the company deals with governments that request that it take down content, demand the company hand information over to the police, or block local connections to Google services. And for the first time, Google now reveals the percentage of government requests for user data that it actually complies with: In the United States from July to December 2010 that number was 94%, higher than any other country.

To be fair, Google is far from unique in giving up its data to law enforcement; only unique in talking about it. Chris Soghoian, a privacy researcher at the Center for Applied Cybersecurity Research, points out that most other Internet companies and telecommunications firms likely hand over users' private information just as often, but don't tell their users anything about their policies. "If police have a valid court order, Google doesn't have many options," says Soghoian. "They're the only ones that provide these numbers. Everyone else is cowering in the shadows. Companies don't want their customers to know they're handing over their data."

Google received 4,601 requests for data from the U.S. government during those six months, more than twice as many as from any other country. But its report doesn't differentiate within those requests between criminal investigations and emergency requests in other cases, in which Google is not legally bound to hand over the data.

In many other countries, the Internet giant is far less likely to comply with the government's demands. Google only gave the Brazilian government information in 76% of the 1,804 cases in which the country requested it, and for only 72% of the U.K.'s 1,162 requests. It took an even stronger line against countries like Poland, Hungary and Turkey, giving over data in only 33 times out of the 272 in which Poland requested it, and in none of the 45 Turkish or 68 Hungarian requests.

Google spokesperson Christine Chen wrote in a statement explaining that "Some requests may not be specific enough for us to know what the government wanted us to



remove (for example, no URL is listed in the request), and others involve allegations of defamation through informal letters from government agencies rather than a court orders," she writes. "We generally rely on courts to decide if a statement is defamatory according to local law."

But whether Google has employees and property in a country may also play a role, says Soghoian. In 2007, for instance, the Brazilian government threatened to arrest local Google staff in Brazil over controversial data posted to the company's Orkut social networking site. Google eventually agreed to give up some data on related users without actually handing over the full content of those users' information.

With most of its servers, employees, and other investments in the U.S.—and a government anti-trust investigation in the works—it's no wonder that Google complies most tightly with its own country's laws. "Google can't afford to piss off members of Congress," says Soghoian. "They may be more willing to take the heat in Brazil or Germany. But saying no to law enforcement requests is a good way to increase negative impression on Capitol Hill."

Google's Chen points out that despite its compliance with U.S. requests, Google still has a better track record than other technology companies in respecting users' privacy from the government. In 2006, she points out, Google was the only major search engine to refuse to comply with a government subpoena for two months of users' search queries. "Once we receive a request, we first check to make sure it meets both the letter and spirit of the law before complying," she writes in a statement. "Whenever possible, we notify affected users about any requests for user data that may affect them. And if we believe a request is overly broad, we will seek to narrow it."

Read Google's full report at <http://www.google.com/transparencyreport/>  
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