



# THE NEBRASKA SHERIFF

Vol. 86, No. 1 • Spring-Summer 2015

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

1894 TO 2015



## *Rest in Peace*

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**The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine**

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521 First Street | PO Box 10  
Milford, NE 68405  
Office: 402.761-2216  
Mobile: 402.310-1054  
Fax: 402.761.2224  
aprenda@youraam.com

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

Nebraska Sheriffs' Association  
2014 President: Sheriff Steve Hespern  
2015 President: Sheriff Shawn Hebbert  
Executive Director: Amy Prenda  
www.nesherriffsassoc.org

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

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

info@nesherriffsassoc.org  
Editor: Duffi Goodrich  
Associate Editor: Aaron Goodrich  
Ad Sales: Ron Goodrich

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

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and on **Facebook**



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## The Nebraska Sheriff Magazine Policies

- Only submitted articles pertinent to criminal justice, law enforcement, and NSA members will be featured.
- We will accept articles from law enforcement agencies, their representatives, or related fields to be considered for publication in the magazine.
- Photographs of minors must be accompanied by verifiable permission to publish and list their names, whether the photo is emailed or sent through USPS.\*
- We reserve the right to edit all submittals for content or space.
- We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please let us know about them.

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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# From the NSA Executive Director

By Amy Prenda, J.D.

At a Public Service Commission (PSC) workshop today, I was challenged to bring awareness about accessing 9-1-1 service via a multi-line telephone system (MLTS). At this PSC workshop I was surprised to learn that directly accessing 9-1-1 service from hotels; federal, state, and local governments; businesses; schools and universities; and any other organizations that have a multi-line telephone system is impossible without first dialing another number. I also learned that it is a simple problem to fix if they are made aware of the issue and configure their MLTS to allow a 9-1-1 call to go directly to emergency personnel.

This issue is part of a national push as a result of Kari Hunt Dunn, who was stabbed to death inside a hotel by her estranged husband. Kari's 9-year old daughter tried 4 times to dial 9-1-1 for help, but failed because she didn't know she had to first dial 9 on the hotel phone. As a result, Kari's father started a petition for "Kari's Law" requiring hotels and motels to upgrade to a 9-1-1 system allowing guests to call for help just by dialing 9-1-1. Kari's Law would also give the emergency personnel the caller's exact location.

While the speakers at the PSC workshop (Commissioner Ajit Pai, Federal Communications Commission; Tom Casady, Director of Public Safety in Lincoln; Jeff Ward, Avaya; and four representatives from CenturyLink) appreciated the greater work that still needs to be done in this area like identifying the exact location of where the call was made especially in very large complexes and multi-use developments, they agreed that making changes to a MLTS did not require legislation. Instead the speakers challenged those attending the workshop to focus on bringing awareness to businesses on how they could save a life just by making a simple and voluntary change to their existing multi-line telephone system.

So my challenge to you is next time you are speaking at a school or talking to a business owner or presenting to the county board consider asking a very simple question, "Can 9-1-1 service be accessed through [FILL IN THE BLANK]'s multi-line telephone system?" If not, then encourage them to:

- | Know the current configuration of their MLTS;
- | Seek assistance in putting a plan together by talking to the vendor who provided the MLTS, telecommunications manager for the business/organization, and phone service carrier;
- | Have protocols for remote users of the MLTS; and
- | Regularly test the plan.

Accessing 9-1-1 service via a multi-line telephone system is a problem, but with your help there is a simple solution.



**Amy Prenda, J.D.**

*Executive Director  
Nebraska  
Sheriffs' Association*

521 First Street  
PO Box 10  
Milford, NE 68405  
Office: 402.761.2216  
Mobile: 402.310.1054  
Fax: 402.761.2224  
aprenda@youraam.com

## 2015 Passed Legislative Bills of Interest to the NSA

Thank you to the NSA Board of Directors, the Legislative Committee and those sheriffs, deputies, and jail administration staff who took the time to testify before the standing committees, write letters and talk to senators. This legislative session was a very difficult legislative session for law enforcement, and your dedication to advocate on behalf of our members, while challenging, was necessary and greatly appreciated.

The 104th Nebraska Legislature adjourned Sine Die on May 29, 2015. Below is brief summary of legislation that passed. All legislative bills not passed during the 2015 Legislative Session carry over to the 2016 Legislative Session. The legislative bills along with supporting documents, including testimony, can be found at the Nebraska Legislature website: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov).

The Nebraska Legislature will convene on January 6, 2016. The NSA encourages you to take time during the interim to meet with your senator(s) to discuss issues that are important to law enforcement and jail administration.

**LB 122 (Schumacher)** Change provisions relating to operations of utility-type vehicles

Currently statute provides that all-terrain or utility-type vehicles shall not be operated on any controlled-access highway with more than two marked lanes. The prohibition includes crossing such a highway with an all-terrain or utility-type vehicle. LB 122 eliminates this provision and allows such crossing when the crossing is made at an intersection: 1) controlled by a traffic control signal; or 2) for an intersection located outside the corporate limits of a city or village that is controlled by stop signs. (Operable August 29, 2015)

*continued on page 6*



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# Emergency Management: A Vital Government Function

By Bryan Tuma, Assistant Director, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

Nebraska law enforcement is a critical component of emergency response during and following a disaster. As a former superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol, I can attest to the hard work and dedication of Nebraska's law enforcement personnel as they respond following floods, tornadoes, winter storms, wildfires and the myriad of other hazards that strike communities across the state. Recent events in Ferguson, Missouri, and Baltimore, Maryland, illustrate the need for the "all-hazards" approach to planning for an integrated emergency response and understanding the process associated with managing and directing significant resources of personnel and equipment from several levels of government. In the aftermath of these events, I have had several conversations with emergency managers, elected officials and law enforcement administrators regarding the declaration process and how to view the integration of state and federal resources for events at the local level.

Since no one can predict when emergencies or disasters will occur, it is critical for Nebraska's elected officials to understand their emergency authorities and responsibilities, and to practice them in conjunction with emergency response officials before a disaster occurs. They should meet with their emergency management officials and establish solid relationships, request a briefing on state and local preparedness efforts, learn about emergency plans and procedures and visit the emergency operations center and other critical facilities.

## Nebraska Emergency Management Act

The process for disaster response in the state is outlined in the Nebraska Emergency Management Act. The act identifies the emergency management structure for local and state government, addresses the declaration process, outlines the responsibilities of officials, addresses the concepts of preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery and establishes the Governor's Emergency Fund.

One of the key elements of emergency management that NEMA consistently stresses is that all disasters start local and end local. Policymakers have a responsibility to reach decisions that keep their constituents and communities safe even though this may be extremely difficult when considering the many competing interests at the local level. Therefore, elected officials play a crucial role in public safety and their understanding and support of emergency management is vital to the safety and well-being of the public and communities.

One question that continues to surface relative to command and control has to do with, "Who is ultimately responsible



for the event?" Under the principles of emergency management the local jurisdiction does not relinquish responsibility or authority to address the event if additional resources are required. Local authorities continue to exercise command and control of resources necessary to mitigate the event. This concept is reinforced in the National Incident Management System principles for command and control. The mayor, village board chair or the chairperson of the elected commissioners or county supervisors, must continue to make decisions regarding the overall response to the event. Using

properly trained individuals from any of the jurisdiction's departments or entities to manage or coordinate issues within the incident command post is indicative of using the most qualified individual to manage an event. However, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the life and safety of citizens rests with the chief elected official.

This is especially relevant in situations when National Guard resources are deployed to assist state or local authorities with responding to an event. The deployment of National Guard assets does not trigger any change in responsibility for who has operational authority. By statute, the governor is the commander in chief of the National Guard. The deployment of National Guard troops does not require the chief local elected official to relinquish command and control to the governor. National Guard doctrine is very specific in this regard. National Guard assets are provided by the governor to assist with operational mission requirements. When



deployed to assist local authorities, the National Guard accepts mission assignments consistent with the NIMS protocols for the deployment of state resources to a local event.

## Local Emergency Declarations Necessary

Local emergency declarations are an essential requirement to getting outside assistance following an emergency or disaster. This is the first critical step in the emergency management process since it identifies the fact the event is beyond the capability of local resources to effectively respond. The declaration should rally all the appropriate agencies and organizations to support and coordinate response measures. A local declaration prompts the governor to determine whether to issue a state of emergency. Local declarations serve as a trigger for NEMA to begin working with local officials and other state agencies and volunteer agencies to provide for the jurisdiction's unmet needs. In addition, the local declaration is essential to establish eligibility for recovery resources from state and federal government should it become necessary.

*continued on page 46*

## Legislative Bills . . . continued from page 3

**LB 181 (Smith)** Change rotating and flashing light provisions for motor vehicles

**Legislative Bill 181** would allow blue and amber rotating or flashing lights to be displayed on vehicles owned and operated by any public utility for the construction, maintenance and repair of utility infrastructure on or near a highway. Currently only vehicles operated by the Department of Roads and used for snow removal may use blue and amber lights. (Operable August 29, 2015)

**LB 294 (Scheer)** Adopt the Human Trafficking Victims Civil Remedy Act and change and adopt provisions relating to service of process, sexual assault, crimes relating to morals, human trafficking, search warrants, juveniles, intercepted communications, and forfeiture of assets.

**Legislative Bill 294** creates the Human Trafficking Victims Civil Remedy Act. LB 294 creates a civil action, changes the penalties for sex trafficking, and allows for civil forfeiture of assets. The bill allows a search warrant issued by a court of Nebraska "to be served upon any publicly or privately held corporation, partnership, or other legal entity located within or outside of the state of Nebraska." The bill permits the return and inventory to be submitted to the magistrate or judge in person or by facsimile or other electronic means. (Emergency Clause - Operable May 19, 2015)

**LB 330 (Larson)** Change provisions relating to alcoholic liquor

**Legislative Bill 330** amends the Liquor Control Act. The bill prohibits the purchase, sell, offer to sell, use or possession with the intent to sell powdered alcohol. (This specific provision becomes operable on August 29, 2015)

**LB 390 (Crawford)** Provide for the use of medical marijuana as prescribed

**Legislative Bill 309** creates the Medical Cannabidiol Pilot Study within the University of Nebraska Medical Center for patients who suffer from severe and untreatable or treatment-resistant epileptic seizures (Emergency Clause – Operable May 27, 2015)

**LB 482 (Krist)** Change provisions relating to juveniles

**Legislative Bill 482** also includes provisions of LB 212. LB 482: 1) prohibits a 43-247(3)(b) or "status offense" juveniles from being placed in a juvenile detention facility or in an out-of-home placement, unless certain requirements are met. The bill permits law enforcement to refer such a child and the child's parents/guardian to a clinically credentialed community-based provider for immediate crisis intervention, de-escalation, and respite care services. The bill prohibits the use of restraints on a juvenile during a juvenile court proceeding and requires the restraints to be removed prior to the juvenile's appearance before the juvenile court, unless the juvenile court makes a finding of probable cause that the use of restraints are necessary based on a number of factors as outlined in the bill. (Operable August 29, 2015)

**LB 605 (Mello)** Change classification of penalties, punishments, probation and parole provisions, and provisions relating to criminal records and restitution and provide for a special legislative committee

**Legislative Bill 605** has been called the "justice reinvestment act" introduced to help reduce the overcrowding at the state penitentiary. It is 138 pages. A brief section-by-section summary follows:

**Sec. 1** amends penalty under 9-262 pertaining to any bingo game under the Nebraska Bingo Act.

**Sec. 2 and Sec. 4** amends penalties under 9-352 and 9-652 pertaining to pickle cards under the Nebraska Pickle Card Lottery Act.

**Sec. 3** amends penalty under 9-434 pertaining to a lottery or raffle under the Nebraska Lottery and Raffle Act.

**Sec. 5** amends penalty under 23-135.01 for filing a false claim against or making a false representation to a county.

**Sec. 6** amends 28-105 creating a Class IIA felony and reducing the penalties for Class III felony, Class IIA felony, and Class IV felony. All sentences for maximum terms of imprisonment of less than one year shall be served in the county jail. All sentences for maximum terms of imprisonment for one year or more felonies shall be served in institutions under the jurisdiction of the DCS. Any of the penalties for Class III, IIIA, and IV felonies do not apply to offenses committed prior to the effective date of this act.

**Sec. 7** amends 28-106 to allow an individual to serve a concurrent or consecutive sentence in county jail as long as the sentence is less than one year.

**Sec. 8- Sec. 59, Sec. 74, Sec. 77- Sec. 83** reduce criminal penalties.

**Sec. 60 and Sec. 62** apply to the court sentencing and setting the maximum and minimum sentences. No longer indeterminate sentencing, only determinate.

**Sec. 63- Sec. 65** apply to probation and post-release supervision.

**Sec. 66** amends 29-2260 requires all sentences of imprisonment for Class III, IIA, or IV felonies to be determinate and include a period of post-release supervision.

**Sec. 69- Sec. 70** amends the statutes on sanctions pertaining to probation and expand those sanctions for felonies to include: administrative sanctions; custodial sanctions up to 3-30 days in jail (imposed by the court), or formal revocation. Sec. 69 provides new language that "whenever a probation officer has reasonable cause to believe that a probationer sentenced for a felony has violated...a condition of probation...the probation officer shall arrest the probationer without a warrant and may call on any peace officer for assistance. Whenever a probationer is arrested...he shall be detained in a jail." Sec. 70 provides that if a probationer serving a term of post-release supervision violates a condition of post-release, then the probationer may serve a term of imprisonment up to the remaining period of post-release supervision at DCS or a county jail (less than one year).

**Sec. 72** amends 29-2308 to provide that in all criminal cases on offenses subject to determinate sentencing, the appellate court may determine that a sentence is excessive because the district court did not provide substantial and compelling reasons for imposing a sentence other than probation.

**Sec. 73** amends 29-3523 to allow for dissemination of criminal history consisting of a notation of an arrest for research and evaluation.

**Sec. 76** amends 28-1501 to create the Committee on Justice Reinvestment Oversight as a special legislative Committee to maintain continuous oversight of the Nebraska Justice Reinvestment Initiative and related issues.

**Sec. 87** creates the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program. The funding available will help offset jail costs. The grant funds will be apportioned to the counties in accordance with

*continued on page 7*



## TRANSFERRING PROPERTY FROM WARFIGHTER TO CRIMEFIGHTER

# The Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO)

Under Section 1033 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 1997, Congress authorized the Secretary of Defense to transfer personal property that is excess to the Department of Defense (DoD) to Federal and State Law

Enforcement Agencies (LEAs). The Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) administers and executes 10 USC Section 257a, for the Director, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). DLA Disposition Services is a primary field level activity of DLA. DLA Services headquarters is located in Battle Creek, MI.



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Federal and State LEAs who have compensated officers with the powers of arrest and apprehension may apply for participation. LEAs with emphasis on counter-drug and counter-terrorism missions are given preference during allocation.

### What Type of Property Is Eligible?

- Excess Department of Defense property, which directly assists Law Enforcement Officers in the execution of their primary duties.
- Property requests must be reasonably comparable to the sworn officers on the agency staff.
- Aircraft and weapons are available for transfer directly through the Department of Defense and must be requested using an outlined procedure.

The Department of Defense and the NE State Coordinator impose a 12 month restriction period on all property received through the program.

For more information regarding the program contact

**Brad Frandsen, Nebraska Manager**

**Federal Surplus Property**

**(402) 471-2677 | [Brad.Frandsen@nebraska.gov](mailto:Brad.Frandsen@nebraska.gov)**

**<https://www.nebraska.gov/app-fsp>**

**and click Law Enforcement Program (1033)**

## Legislative Bills . . . continued from page 6

### Legislative Bill 605 continued

a formula based on the total number per county of individuals incarcerated in jails and the total capacity of jails. The funds will be used to assist counties in the event that their average daily jail population increases after the effective date of this bill. The funds can only be used for programs, services and approaches to reduce jail populations and may not be used for construction.

**Sec. 102** amends 83-1,119 to permit the Office of Parole Administration to contract with a "contract facility" (county jail) for the custodial sanction of 30 days to be served in either a correctional facility or a contract facility.

**Sec. 108** provides that medical assistance under the medical assistance program shall be suspended rather than canceled or terminated for a person who is an inmate of a public institution. Local correctional facilities, juvenile detention facilities, and other temporary detention centers shall notify the Department of Health and Human Services within 10 days after receiving information that a person receiving medical assistance under the

medical assistance program is or will be an inmate of a public institution.

### Sec. 112 outright repeals -

**29-2204.01.** In any criminal proceeding in which a sentence of confinement has been imposed and the particular law under which such sentence was pronounced is thereafter amended to decrease the maximum period of confinement which may be imposed, then any person sentenced under the former law shall be entitled to his discharge from custody when he has served the maximum period of confinement authorized by the new law, notwithstanding the fact that the court may have ordered a longer period of confinement under the authority of the former law.

**83-1,105.01.** Indeterminate sentences.

**43-413.** Expired language.

Operable August 29, 2015



## NSA-POAN Conference 2015

The 2015 NSA-POAN Conference, Kearney, NE, Younes Conference Center, October 4-7, 2015

The registration fee for the Conference is \$95 for NSA and POAN members.

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### Tentative Conference Agenda

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

- 12:00 pm Open Registration
- 1:00 pm Pre-Conference Training Sessions
- 5:00 pm NSA Annual Meeting

#### MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

- 7:00 am Open Registration
- 8:30 am Opening Ceremonies
- 9:00 am Training Sessions
- 10:00 am Vendor Exhibit Time & Break
- 2:30 pm Afternoon Break with the Vendors
- 5:30 pm Presidents' Reception with Vendor Vendor Drawings

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

- 8:30am Training Sessions
- 9:45 am Vendor Exhibit Time & Break
- 2:30 pm Break with Vendors
- 6:00 pm Cocktail Reception
- 6:30 pm Awards Banquet

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

- 8:00 am Training Sessions
- 12:00 pm Grand Prize Drawing

**This conference can fulfill your 20-hour continuing education requirement. SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!**

### Tentative Vendor Schedule

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

- Vehicle/Large Exhibit Set Up at 4:00 pm
- Early Bird Exhibit Booth Set Up after 5:00 pm
- Hospitality Suite 8:00 pm

#### MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

- Vendor Set Up 7:00 am
- Morning Break 10:00 am to 10:45 am
- Afternoon Exhibit Hour 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- Vendor Reception 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

- Morning Break 10:00 am to 10:45 am
- Afternoon Exhibit Hour 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- Awards Banquet 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**Vendors may choose to exhibit Wednesday morning**

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## When Police Firearms Go Missing . . . By Laura L. Cooper

Laura L. Cooper, a former police officer, lives in Nebraska and writes about crime and public safety. She is a member of the Public Safety Writers Association, the Nebraska Writers Guild, and Sisters in Crime. See her website at <http://www.lauralcooper.com>.

Missing weapons are always a concern, but it is alarming when law enforcement officers have firearms and other gear stolen. You may read the following stories from outside Nebraska and shake your head. Why would any officer leave a Bushmaster AR-15 on the backseat of an unattended vehicle? In Butler County, Florida, an officer left the rifle in an unmarked police car parked outside his home overnight. No surprise ... in the morning he found that a window had been broken and the weapon had been stolen along with two ammunition magazines, a laptop, and a camera. That level of negligence is inexcusable, but are your weapons and ammunition as safe as they could be at home or on the road?

### WHERE THEY WERE STOLEN FROM

Here are examples of law enforcement officers who had weapons stolen in the past two years.

**Atlanta, Georgia:** Two off-duty police officers left equipment in a personal vehicle in a parking lot. One gun was stolen from under the passenger seat while a second gun and uniform were taken from a lock box in the trunk.

**St. Paul, Minnesota:** While an off-duty Minneapolis police officer stepped into a drug store, he had his service handgun, three magazines, police uniform, and 37 rounds of .45-caliber ammunition stolen from his locked personal vehicle.

**Berkeley Springs, West Virginia:** A marked state police vehicle was stolen during a traffic stop. An AR-15 rifle, a 12-gauge shotgun, and an officer's badge were in the vehicle at the time.

**San Joaquin County, California:** A deputy's backpack--holding a loaded gun, handcuffs, and a flashlight--was stolen from his unsecured car while he went into a store.

**Denver, Colorado:** A duffel bag with a Glock handgun, Denver police badge, radio, ID card, and other equipment was stolen from a locked POV outside an officer's home.

**Derry, New Hampshire:** A court security officer left his firearm in the restroom of the courthouse while on duty and later realized it was missing.

**Daytona Beach, Florida:** An Orange County deputy parked an unmarked vehicle near Daytona Beach. His keys were stolen from the beach, and the car containing cash and two handguns was taken from a nearby parking lot.

**Calgary, Alberta, Canada:** Although later recovered, a department-issue Colt C8 rifle and two 28-round magazines were stolen from a Calgary police officer's personal vehicle when he stopped at a restaurant on the drive home. The officer had decided to take the firearm home to clean it. The items were taken along with a locked case which had been improperly tethered to the vehicle. Superintendent Kevan Stuart said, "There is no reason, in my mind, why an officer would take this firearm home."



*Are your weapons and ammunition as safe as they could be at home or on the road?*

The NationalPost.com quoted Howard Burns, president of the Calgary Police Association, as saying, "Ultimately, I think we have an officer who was intending on doing his job, maintaining his rifle, and obviously things went horribly wrong for him. Now he's the subject of an investigation."

### WHERE THEY TURNED UP

We can imagine horrible possibilities for where stolen police firearms and equipment might be found and how they might be used. Here are a few recent accounts.

**San Bernardino, California:** While doing follow-up on guns and equipment stolen from a car owned by a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy, San Bernadino police detectives questioned a woman at her residence in May 2015. The woman's three-year-old daughter entered the room with one of the stolen items, a loaded Glock, which she pointed at the investigators. Although the incident ended without injuries, it could have ended tragically.

**Oakland County, Michigan:** A family reported that a 24-year-old relative, described as a heroin addict, held a gun while beating on the front door of their home. The suspect was taken into custody, and a state information system check indicated that the firearm was registered to an Oakland County police officer. His residence had been burglarized while the officer was on vacation. Police equipment, three shotguns, and other weapons had been stolen.

**Walton County, Georgia:** Three teens were arrested during a traffic stop in which stolen property was recovered. Items included guns, body armor, and other gear taken from a Gwinnett County Sheriff's Department vehicle.

**Washington D.C.:** A child on a tour of the Capitol found a loaded Glock in a bathroom after it was left behind by a dignitary protection officer.

**Newport, Vermont:** Probation officers visiting a residence came upon a stash of evidence bags in a home that included loaded weapons and heroin. It turned out that the items had been taken from the Newport Police Department's evidence room. The theft jeopardized several criminal cases.

*continued on page 20*

# What to Do About Out of State Runaways

By Jacey R. Nordmeyer, ICJ Commissioner | ICAOS Deputy Compact Administrator | Compliance Officer  
Administrative Office of the Courts & Probation

In 2008, the Interstate Compact for Juveniles was enacted. The original Compact was the result of a series of articles featured in a 1954 Parade Magazine exposé entitled 'Nobody's Children.' The article was a fascinating narrative that tells the story of a young man who ran away and was subsequently stranded across the country with no means of returning home. Grassroots efforts to assist these youth led to legislation being enacted that precipitated the creation of the Interstate Compact on Juveniles. That compact became the foundation for the current compact, the Interstate Compact for Juveniles.

Adherence to Compact rules is the only lawful means of returning runaways from other states and transferring supervision from one state to another. The Compact provides for the due process rights of juveniles and ensures returns are facilitated in a timely and expeditious manner. In order to ensure Compact rules are followed and the safety of youth is recognized, Compact rules carry the weight of federal law. Historically, sanctions have been imposed by the ICJ Commission on states that are found to be non-compliant with Compact rules. Possible sanctions include mandatory remedial training, fines, suspension, termination of membership in the Compact, and judicial enforcement.

Juveniles necessitate return to their home state through the Compact when they are determined to fall into one of three categories:

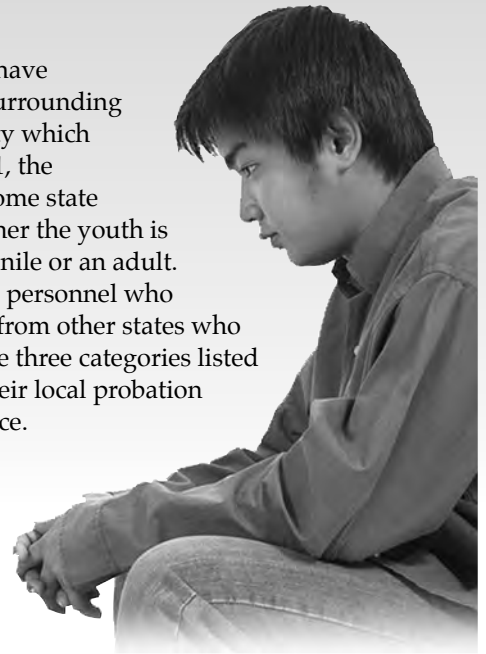
- Non-delinquent runaways;
- Escapees/ Absconders/ Accused Delinquents from other states;
- Youth who are determined to have failed placement and are already under Compact supervision.

Because states have differing views surrounding the age of majority which ranges from 16-21, the demanding or home state determines whether the youth is considered a juvenile or an adult. Law enforcement personnel who encounter youth from other states who fall into any of the three categories listed should contact their local probation office for assistance.

Upon determination that a youth is a runaway, the Probation Officer assigned to intake will, in turn, reach out to the Compact Office so that the return and notification process can be initiated.

The Interstate Compact Office is committed to serving as a resource and support for Interstate Compact matters for probation staff, law enforcement, detention centers, County Attorneys, and the Judiciary.

For more information, please contact the Interstate Compact Office at [jacey.nordmeyer@nebraska.gov](mailto:jacey.nordmeyer@nebraska.gov). Additional resources and a detailed description of Compact rules can be found at <http://www.juvenilecompact.org>.



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## Upcoming Training Opportunities Offered by the Nebraska State Patrol

*Submitted by Tony Loth, NE State Patrol*

The Criminal Identification Division of the Nebraska State Patrol is excited to offer the following training opportunities. All training sponsored by the Nebraska State Patrol is free of charge and qualifies for training credits toward the continuing education requirement.

Please visit the following website for a complete list of our training events and on-line registration:

**www.planetReg.com/E23144022215172**

**Basic Fingerprint Training\*** – This training is directed towards anyone who rolls fingerprints for criminal or non-criminal purposes. This may include jailors and corrections staff, law enforcement and law enforcement support personnel. The course covers the basic fingerprint pattern types and characteristics, a brief overview of what happens after fingerprint cards are submitted and training of proper technique for rolling a ten-print fingerprint card.

**Advanced Fingerprint Training\*** – This training is directed towards law enforcement or law enforcement support personnel only. This course covers the proper technique for the collection of palm prints and major case prints (also known as full friction ridge exemplars).

*\* Please note that neither of the above fingerprint training courses covers latent fingerprint collection techniques for crime scene evidence collection. Please contact the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab for information on training for these topics.*

**Criminal History Records Training** – This training is directed towards law enforcement, court personnel and anyone else involved with the criminal justice system and the maintenance of Nebraska criminal history records. This course covers information regarding criminal history records from the point of arrest to verdict and sentencing. What makes up the criminal history record, who provides information for the record and how information is shared throughout the legal process are also topics which will be discussed.

**NICS (National Instant Criminal Background Check System) Training** – This training is presented by the FBI's NICS State Support Team and is open to local law enforcement personnel that utilize the NICS to conduct background checks as part of the process of issuing handgun purchase permits. Information regarding federal gun prohibitors will be covered in detail.

Please visit the following website for a complete list of our training events and on-line registration:

**www.planetReg.com/E23144022215172**

### PARTNERSHIPS

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



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www.adamscounty.org

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**Sheriff Gregg A. Magee**

**2015 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member**

### Arthur County Sheriff's Office

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FAX 308.764.2216  
bill991@nebnet.net  
www.arthurcounty.ne.gov

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**Sheriff Billy D. Simpson**

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### Did You Know . . .

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\*Very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about technology!

They have a Facebook page that is full of photos, job postings, news and staff names.

We've noticed many of you also have a Facebook page. Please send us the link so we can "friend" you, keep track of news in your county and advise everyone else of the site. Email [webmaster@nesheriffsassoc.org](mailto:webmaster@nesheriffsassoc.org).

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### Box Butte County Sheriff's Office

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### Burt County Sheriff's Office

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# Well, I'll Be Hanged: The Empty Gallows

Excerpts from a book by Tim Dempsey, 30-year Nebraska Law Enforcement Veteran



*Tim Dempsey is a native of Omaha and retired thirty year law enforcement officer. He has a B. S. in Criminal Justice and a M. P. A. from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Tim was a part-time instructor at U.NO for over thirty years, and now serves as a member of the Metropolitan Community College Board of Governors. In 2004, the Police Officers Association of Nebraska inducted Tim as a member of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.*

In 1880, Hitchcock County in southwest Nebraska reported a population of one thousand-twelve persons, while the neighboring county of Dundee was credited with only having thirty-seven residents. Because of the small population, Hitchcock County Sheriff Jack Woods, who lived in Culbertson, Nebraska, also pulled double duty as the Dundee County Sheriff. He was a family man and well liked by almost all that knew him. Woods was a genuine cowboy and product of Nebraska's frontier. At one time, he worked on the infamous Olive Ranch in Custer County, and was described in those days as, "small, wiry, active as a cat, about thirty years of age, and afraid of nothing." He was also a very conscientious lawman. When he received a telegram that desperados had stolen thirty-five head of horses from one of his Hitchcock ranchers and were headed to Minden in Kearney County, he didn't waste any time before striking out to find them.

At the time, there was a gang of notorious horse thieves working in Kansas, Colorado, and southwest Nebraska. The two leaders of the gang were Dick Belmont and Matt Zimmerman (also spelled Simmerman). It was not long after the horses were stolen in Hitchcock County that people began figuring out that Belmont and Zimmerman were probably responsible. They had been seen riding with two others, and were described as a "bunch of rough looking fellows."

Shortly after the theft, the owner named Wray, sent out a description of the thirty-five ponies including the fact that each bore the ranch's brand, the "Lazy L." All of the surrounding counties were notified by telegraph. The gang was moving the horses, but decided to stop in Minden the capitol of Kearney County. Belmont and Zimmerman were enjoying Minden's good food and hospitality, and decided to linger a few days. They sent the other two men and about twenty head of horses away to the next rendezvous point. It

was a very poor decision for the two outlaws that stayed.

On October 16, 1882, the two desperados decided to have supper in the dining room of Minden's Prairie Home hotel. Witnesses later would describe the gang's behavior during their short stay in Minden in terms which today would probably be described as vigilant. For example, when eating, they did so seated at a table with their shooting irons comfortably resting on their laps. Witnesses would later tell of the men bragging to each other about shooting anyone who tried to arrest them.

About 6:00 p.m. on that fateful Monday, Sheriff Woods entered the crowded dining room thinking he had the two horse thieves cornered. He was accompanied by two other men, Kearney County Deputy R. B. Kelly and a mail carrier named Charles Collins from Minden, who had been deputized to help track the thieves. Woods approached the table and told the men to "throw up their hands," but instead of surrendering, they jumped up from the table holding their pistols.

Woods was grabbed by the arm by either Belmont or Zimmerman and spun around allowing the other man to shoot him in the back. Witnesses were sketchy on which man originally grabbed Woods and which man fired the shot. All of the witnesses agreed that someone yelled, "Give him another one-shoot him dead." At that point there was chaos and more gunfire erupted as the pair tried to make their escape. In the melee, Deputy Kelly, like Woods, was mortally wounded and Collins was seriously injured. Collins died shortly after the incident from several bullet wounds.

Almost immediately, a posse was summoned and within a short time began pursuing the bandits. The two eluded the posse and quickly made their way into Kansas, but the news of the murders had spread and the Kansas authorities were also searching for the pair. About three weeks later, the two thieves stole two fresh horses from a nineteen year old rancher named Absalom Fouts near Dodge City, Kansas. They left their spent mounts, which were described as being in terrible shape from a long hard ride.

Fouts and a seventeen-year-old helper began trailing the two thieves and finally caught up with them near Point of Rocks. The two men had taken shelter in a dugout. Fouts and several other men, who had also joined in the chase by this time, began closing in on the hideout. They found the stolen horses tied outside of the dugout, and Fouts was able to cut them loose. When Belmont noticed the horses were running free, he tried catching them, but was accosted by Fouts. Fouts yelled for him to throw up his hands, and Belmont yelled back, "Throw 'em up be dammed," and started shooting. Belmont fired his pistol three times, but

*continued on page 14*





## **Deputy Larry G. McGhghy (retired) - January 22, 1954 - March 15, 2015**

**Radio call 9384 . . . No answer . . . 9384 . . . Last call for 9384 . . . 9384 is out of service.**

Although he had retired from law enforcement before his passing, we would like to honor Sgt. Larry McGhghy of the Furnas County Nebraska Sheriff's office. Sgt. McGhghy passed away from heart complications.

Larry McGhghy found his calling by entering into the law enforcement community. His first job was with the Thayer County Sheriff's Office as a Sheriff's deputy. Larry graduated from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy in Grand Island. He continued his career in Harvard, Nebraska as the city police officer, then to Plattsmouth as a Sheriff's deputy for Cass County.

Larry took a well-deserved break and drove a truck for a few years for a company from Iowa. But he couldn't stay away from his calling and accepted a position at the Furnas

County Sheriff's Office in Beaver City.

Larry was preceded in death by his wife, Sheri, on November 23, 2011; father, Clarence McGhghy; mother-in-law, Clarice (Bertram) Seachord; and sister-in-law, Patricia (Dunn) McGhghy.

Survivors include children, Jason McGhghy of Aurora and Michelle (Garren) Stenka; brother, Gary and wife, Sue McGhghy, of Hebron; mother, Mildred McGhghy of Hebron; and three grandchildren.

9384 is out of service . . . Although you are gone, you will never be forgotten. Rest in peace, our friend.

*Remembering our fellow law enforcement officer  
Larry G. McGhghy from Rick and Sandi Stalder,  
Todd and Dee Ogorzolka, and Lynda and Tom Tambling  
Furnas County Sheriff's Office*



**Be sure to let us know when one of your own has died - active or retired.  
We will add their names to the website and the upcoming magazine.  
Post it on the NSA Facebook page or email to [info@nesheriffassoc.org](mailto:info@nesheriffassoc.org)  
[www.nesheriffassoc.org/news.php](http://www.nesheriffassoc.org/news.php)**

## **“Well I’ll Be Hanged” The Empty Gallows . . . continued from page 13**

Fouts only needed one shot from his Winchester rifle to kill the desperado. Meanwhile, Zimmerman was surrounded by the rest of the posse and gave up without a fight.

When Zimmerman was captured, he was described as, “a shallow man of medium height about thirty years old.” News accounts also said that he walked with a limp due to the fact that one of his legs was shorter than the other. Shortly after the arrest, Zimmerman was extradited back to Nebraska and Belmont's body brought back for burial.

Zimmerman was held for trial and on December 16, 1882, was found guilty and sentenced to hang. He appealed his case to the Nebraska Supreme Court, and on October 12, 1883, the Court overturned the conviction on the grounds that the prosecution did not prove the elements for premeditation and therefore it was not first degree murder and a hanging offense. Undeterred, at his second trial, the prosecution was able to locate additional witnesses who testified that the defendant previously knew Sheriff Woods and also that he and the others bragged about shooting anyone who tried to arrest them.

On the 25th of October, 1883, Zimmerman's second trial ended and once again the jury found him guilty. Judge Gaslin sentenced him to hang on February 4, 1884. Once again, Zimmerman appealed to the Nebraska Supreme Court. His lawyers argued that the attempted arrest was unlawful due to the fact that Woods was out of his jurisdiction and that the shootings were done in self-defense. The Court this

time disagreed and affirmed the decision of the trial court. Zimmerman's lawyer, Lionel (L. C.) Burr, appealed the conviction to the United States Supreme Court.


Several months later while the hearing was pending, Burr made a bail application based on a *writ of habeas corpus* to United States Commissioner Marsh Saville from Kearney, Nebraska. The Commissioner was persuaded by Burr that such action was not only legal, but required by law. Rumors later spread that during Burr's discussion about the application, the two downed several shots of whiskey.

On September 25, 1885, with the writ in hand, United States Marshal A. G. Hastings and Burr went to the Buffalo County jail where Zimmerman was being held. The Marshal served the writ and Zimmerman posted a required \$5,000.00 bond. Zimmerman, of course, immediately fled the state. The Omaha Daily Bee described the incident in a news story as, “the greatest travesty on (sic) justice which have ever occurred in Nebraska....”

Because of Zimmerman's release, Commissioner Saville was removed from office on November 17, 1885, and L. C. Burr faced disbarment by the Nebraska Supreme Court. On May 26, 1885, the Court disbarred Burr for a period of two years. The search for Zimmerman continued for several years. It resulted in several sightings, and on at least one occasion, an arrest and extradition to Nebraska of the wrong person. Matthew Zimmerman (Simmerman) was never seen or heard from again and never kept his date with the hangman.



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*that are supporters of their local Sheriff's Office and the NSA.* **Sheriff Marcus A. Siebken**

**2015 Nebraska Sheriffs' Association Member**



**Remembering Sheriff Mark Hecker**  
**End of Watch - August 12, 2014**

*Remembrance delivered by Sheriff Marcus Siebken during the Annual Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony in Grand Island, May 11, 2015. Sheriff Hecker's name was added to the wall as an "In the Line of Duty Death" (see page 31)*

Mark Hecker was born on August 9, 1961. He graduated from David City High

School in 1979 and later earned an Associates Degree from Northeast Nebraska Community College. Hecker started his law enforcement career in the Humphrey Police Department at the age of 19 and then worked for the David City Police Department until joining the Sheriff's Office in 1988. He had served as the Butler County Sheriff since 1999.

He was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in David City, the Sheriff's Association of Nebraska, David City Rotary, Teammates, and David City Booster Club, and he delivered Meals on Wheels. Hecker was devoted to his granddaughters and loved spending time with his family. In his "spare time" he also served with Signal 88 at Husker games.

Sheriff Mark Hecker is survived by his mother, Betty Hecker of Seward; five daughters, Tiffany (Dustin) Heins of David City, Staci (Shane) Anderson of Pierce, Kirby Hecker of Waverly, Rebecca Hecker of David City and Melanie Hecker of Omaha; one son, Michael Beck of Grant; one sister, Peggy (Mike) Reese of Seward; two brothers, Steve Hecker of Norfolk and Mike (Jeanie) Hecker of Seward; and his five granddaughters, Bella and Harlow Heins, Kenley and Kambree Anderson, and Haelyn Holcomb; many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father; one son, Jason Alexander; and his grandparents, George and Ethel Louis and Fred and Lena Hecker.

On August 7, 2014, Sheriff Mark Hecker left his office to do what he was best known to do - help someone. He answered a call for service regarding a subject who was mentally ill. He attempted to take the subject into protective custody when she became non-compliant, resisting Sheriff Hecker and other officers on scene.

I remember the night of August 7 for one reason: I was off that day and our office was short staffed. I also remember hearing about the busy time the day shift had. So I sent a text message to Sheriff Hecker like I usually did on a daily basis. My message let him know, that if the night staff got busy, I was available for call outs. Over time, I sent many messages like these to him and usually got his normal reply "ok" - or just a plain "k". On this evening, I remember when his reply came to me. I opened it up and it said, "Thanks, Marcus." I thought to myself, "Well, that's not a normal message!" I usually just got the "k".

In the early morning hours of August 8, Sheriff Hecker, suffering with chest pains, drove himself to the Butler County Hospital. He was transported to Bryan Hospital in Lincoln and from there to UNMC in Omaha where he passed away on August 12, 2014.

I'm reminded every day of his message to me and am still trying to grasp its true meaning. Was he really trying to tell me thanks for just offering my assistance that night?

I truly believe that when Sheriff Hecker sent this message, he was already feeling ill and knew something was wrong. I believe he knew this was his final message to me and wanted to say "thanks for everything." He knew we would not let the department that he built go to the wayside. Sheriff Hecker was saying thanks for the friendship we had, and saying thanks for keeping watch on Butler County.

The staff at the Butler County Sheriff's Office would like to thank everyone here and everyone that assisted our agency during this difficult time. Without the help of so many, we would have struggled moving forward. But like a motto - we as law enforcement live by - says:

**"I have thousands of brothers and sisters  
 who are the same as me.  
 We stand watch together."**



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**Chase County Sheriff's Office**

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**Grant Programs**

The Crime Commission offers a variety of federal and state grant programs. Each program has different purposes and requirements. Check them out at [www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime\\_commission/pamphlet.htm](http://www.ncc.state.ne.us/crime_commission/pamphlet.htm)

# The Breaking Point... By Sgt. Winston Cavendish, Sun, LA Police (Retired)

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

Check out your Wack-O-Meter and get ready for a bumpy ride to the world of insanity. Everyone at one time or another reaches his or her own breaking point. Those of you who say "that doesn't apply to me" are only kidding yourselves.

If you have been in law enforcement for any length of time, you will see strange things happening, so strange that you hesitate to talk about them. Today's article deals with some of those cases that I have worked over the years. Yes, the names and locations have been changed to protect the innocent and all parties involved.

## "I've had it with you, Bubba!"

Dwayne Anderson paused for a moment and then methodically reloaded his 357 Smith and Wesson revolver to shoot Bubba again. Now looking down at Bubba's limp body, Anderson said, "I have had it with you. I warned you over and over again, but you just would not listen." Then Anderson shot again.

When I arrived on the scene of the shots fired, I noticed a large crowd gathered around Bubba. They were shaking their heads in wonderment. Now, when you as law enforcement are dispatched to shots fired, your hair stands up on the back of your neck because you don't know what you are running into. But that night would be different.

I asked the shooter to slowly put down his weapon and not to make any fast moves. Anderson put his gun on the ground next to Bubba. After he calmed down, he told me, "I shot him because he didn't take me to work on time."

This was the last straw as far as Anderson was concerned. No, he did not kill Bubba in cold blood; he killed him in cold oil. You see, Bubba was Anderson's old pickup truck.

I removed Anderson's revolver from his hand and told him that next time he shot his vehicle, he ought to take it out into the country. He was charged with discharging a firearm in the city limits. You see, he had reached his breaking point!

Every deputy has his or her own story to tell about strange things, and I am sure you have your own wild tales to tell.



## The Day the Martians Landed

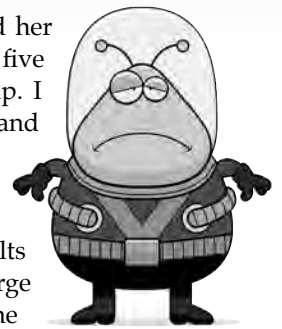
My next story is about the day the Martians landed in the town. After a long night of boredom, rattling doors, and checking businesses, I caught two speeders in town, and that was as exciting as it got. Then my dispatcher sent me a

strange message about my next assignment, "Give me a call on the land line." I called and she said to me, "Quite frankly it's unbelievable." She had received numerous phone calls about a Martian spaceship landing in Old Golden Shore subdivision.

When I arrived on the scene, I observed a small group of neighbors dressed in their night clothes and pointing at the back yard of the largest house on the block. Eerie blue and silver light came from the back yard. It was so powerful that it made the street lights come on and off. Now, the sounds of snapping limbs and the smell of smoke filled the air.

A citizen in the crowd told me, "You're the cop. It's your responsibility to protect us. After all, you get paid for this kind of stuff!" But Martians?

I called my dispatch back and told her that if she didn't hear from me in five minutes, she should call for back up. I walked casually into the back yard and was amazed to see the largest bug zapper I had ever seen in my life. It was four feet tall and eight feet wide and charged with two hundred volts of electricity. It had fallen off its large brackets and into the bushes during the wind storm. When the bushes moved, they shorted out the electricity, turning the lights on and off in the neighborhood. I turned off the power at the breaker box. No more Martians.



## Wack-O-Meter

Wack-O-Meter. You say you've never heard of such a thing before. Well, if you are around psych nurses at a large mental hospital, you pick up on their terminology. This is their way to mentally face several disturbed patients before staff walk into a dormitory or room.

The first thing the nurses and staff do is observe any unusual articles that may hurt them. Staff then check out what books the patients are reading that have been smuggled into the room by their friends on the outside. That's just in case the books might have something about sick sex acts with women and children.

Nurses also monitor the violent TV shows that the patients are watching and stop any sick jokes they may be sharing with other patients; and they're also looking for hidden drug paraphernalia just as your deputies do in your local jail.

Nurses always look at the patients' eyes, watching them sweep from side to side. The eyes can say a lot. Never stare directly into the eyes of a disturbed person. Much like a mad dog, he will feel threatened and will attack you.

Never let a disturbed patient block your exit from the room. When possible, always have back up nearby. Don't crowd the subject. Never let him walk behind you!

*continued on page 19*



### NETWORKING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

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

**This October NSA-POAN Conference can fulfill 20-hour continuing education requirement. Sign up at [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org), under the drop down menu item "conference"**

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### Really .. Cool .. Cop!

Being a cop is a hot job - literally. Besides just packing heat, wearing that heavy dark uniform with a bulletproof vest underneath is literally a hot job. Your normal Crown Vic's air conditioning unit is simply not powerful enough to cool off a hot copper. All that cold air is simply flowing right into the back of your car where the perp is. Coolcop® looks to change all that.

Coolcop® is basically a giant vacuum cleaner type hose that runs directly from the passenger side air conditioning vent in your police car and goes right into your shirt. The hose attaches beneath your bulletproof vest to keep your shirt icy cold. It funnels the air from the perp to the cop. Let those perps sweat it out!

Read more at <http://craziestgadgets.com/2009/05/05/cool-cop-keeps-cops-cool-perps-hot/#GBYPcOeIs7CbmAGz.99>

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## DRIVING SIMULATORS AVAILABLE FROM NSA

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



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**Sheriff Chris Kleinberg**

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## *The Breaking Point . . . continued from page 17*

Talk in a monotone voice and never raise your voice when talking to disturbed persons. That will make them feel threatened, and this will surely escalate a small confrontation into a major one.

Changing topics in conversation will make the patient lose his train of thought. I once broke up a bloody bar fight when I asked the drunk screaming at me, "What do you think of pink pony?" He stopped the fight and tried desperately to answer my question. It doesn't always work, but it sure did that night.

Sad to say, mental hospitals nationwide feel the cutbacks of federal and state funds due to the high cost of running hospitals. You see that in your own jail funding today. Now, hospitals are putting seriously disturbed subjects back out on to the street thanks to the revolving doors of politics and money. Politicians have always used medical care as a tool to get elected, so what's new?!

What happens when an officer goes off the deep end? This is a story of a young officer who lost realty. He just snapped! It all happened when he began to live the life of his favorite TV or movie character. He wanted to be Dirty Harry or Starsky or Hutch. This is truly scary when you think how far a person will go in his sickness of abusing the badge.

Officer Leonard Smallwood would spend hours watching television cop shows and body building. He couldn't get enough time on the shooting range. All he ever wanted to be was on the SWAT team, or at least a departmental sniper. How he passed the police psychological test I just don't know. Deep down he always wanted to kill someone . . . anyone. It really didn't matter who!

His reports read like a police novel, but his supervisors thought it was funny. Sure he was gung ho, but they thought he was the man with the plan. He managed to destroy the police department in the end.

A year would go by with countless false arrests, bad tickets, and harassing the public. He was a macho man off duty, wearing dark glasses propped on top of his buzz cut hair, tight trousers, and a short sleeved shirt with his badge showing through the pocket. When he was off duty, he thought he was an undercover narcotics detective . . . in his own mind !

One day after countless reports of abuse had reached the town's legal department, the mayor was shocked to read that the police officer had tasered over 127 citizens in one year, including handicapped people in wheel chairs, pregnant women, elderly folks, and children. After an FBI investigation, the department was closed down, and charges were leveled against all parties involved. No, I don't blame the bad officer as much as I do his supervisors who let his behavior go on so long with a blind eye to justice.

There are too many bad police shooting these days. I am in great fear that deputies will not react when the time comes to use deadly force to protect themselves or someone else from getting killed because of a fear of what the media might say about their action, regardless of the major crime a suspect committed or armed threats that were made toward the officer!

*Sgt. Winston Cavendish S.P.D. ( Retired ) Sun Louisiana  
34125 Tupelo Lane, Slidell, Louisiana 70460  
(985) 641-9055 | wcaendish@hotmail.com*

## When Police Firearms Go Missing . . . continued from page 9

**Flint, Michigan:** According to the Flint Journal, a Flint Police Department inventory revealed that 17 firearms had been stolen and 22 firearms, including a sub-machine gun, were missing. While some may have been sold or disposed of without proper documentation, others had reportedly been used to commit crimes.

### SECURING FIREARMS

Of course, leaving keys to an unmarked police vehicle on a beach is a bad idea. Keeping a firearm unsecured in plain view in a car is a horrible idea. Every law enforcement officer knows how to secure firearms, but some choices are more convenient than others. You may use trigger locks, cable locks, lock boxes, or gun safes. The question is whether or not you are using the safest option for a given situation. Storing ammunition separate from the firearms may also help prevent a shooting incident from occurring in your own home.

Law enforcement officers have reported firearms and other police gear stolen from vehicles, homes, courthouses, and evidence rooms. These weapons have been used to commit crimes and have turned up on traffic stops and in the hands of children. Avoid complacency. By all means, if you go into a restroom with a firearm – just make sure you leave the restroom with it.

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## NSA-POAN Conference 2015 (see page 8)

The 2015 NSA-POAN Conference, Kearney, NE, Younes Conference Center, October 4-7, 2015

The registration fee for the Conference is \$95 for NSA and POAN members.

Not a member? Why not join today? **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!**

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Hotels and registration: [www.nesheriffsassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffsassoc.org) under the "Conference" tab

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### Darr Bridge in Dawson County

Ever been to a cement bridge known as Darr Bridge in Dawson County, Nebraska? Located off of I-80 between Cozad and Lexington, many visitors have reported ghostly encounters. There is a story of an old Pioneer covered wagon crashing off the bridge in to the river below. A woman and her baby boy did not survive the accident. With such an alleged tragedy, a haunting is born.



Supposedly, if you travel over the bridge at midnight during a foggy winter's night, you may see her. She will not appear in front of you. She is always seen from the rear view mirror either in a covered wagon or searching for her dead son.

<http://paranormalstories.blogspot.com/2014/07/darr-bridge.html>



## High Tech Super Hero Gloves . . . <http://hatchgloves.com>

Hatch Gloves has released a new series of duty gloves with touchscreen capability.

The gloves feature an integrated ATS (Advanced Touchscreen System) technology within the material, creating a seamless design for improved tactility and dexterity. The technology was put into the thumb, index finger, and index knuckle.

The **Contact™ Touchscreen Flight Glove** is made with flame-resistant material and extends up the forearm for greater protection.

According to the company, they worked directly with law enforcement to develop this series of gloves that meet the evolving operational needs of an officer's daily activities.



The **Patrolman Touchscreen Duty (TDG-100)** glove is intended for everyday use by patrol officers. A performance-fit gusset back improves overall flexibility while the perforated leather material provides all-day ventilation and comfort. It's comprised of soft, sheepskin leather materials.

The **Patrolman Glove** is also available with **CoolMax Touchscreen**, designed for warmer climates. The combination of CoolMax performance fabric and sheepskin leather materials provides both comfort and ventilation along with increased tactility. The TWG-100 provides a secure and comfortable fit using a four-way stretch nylon spandex in the finger sidewalls and features a hook and loop closure at the wrist.

The **Technician Touchscreen Utility (TUG-100)** is an all-purpose glove featuring reinforced rubberized fingertips for enhanced tactility and synthetic materials for durability. The TUG-100 provides a comfortable fit and features a hook and loop closure at the wrist.

The **Contact Touchscreen Flight** with NOMEX IIIA is a flame-resistant glove featuring a durable leather palm. The glove extends past the wrist to protect a larger portion of the forearm than most other gloves, but features a cut-out panel to accommodate a watch.

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## Nebraska State Patrol Crime Lab

### Backlog information, services, updates

The Nebraska State Patrol Crime Laboratory services, backlog information, and updates are available on the Nebraska State Patrol website under the "Investigative Services Division":

<http://statepatrol.nebraska.gov/InvestigativeServices.aspx>

The Crime Laboratory also provides updated information via their quarterly newsletter *The Lab Report*. Current and past issues can be accessed at:

<http://statepatrol.nebraska.gov/LabReportNewsletter.aspx>

Please take a look at the information and feel free to contact the Crime Lab with any questions.

**Pamela Zilly, Crime Laboratory Director**  
1233 Arapahoe Street, Lincoln, NE 68502  
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## On the lighter side . . .

### Don't Need GPS

A burglar in Shelby County, Ohio, was caught by police after he accidentally pocket-dialed 911 while breaking into a home. Making matters worse: The crook hid in a closet, but was ratted out by his phone yet again when the low battery alarm went off.

### From a 9-1-1 Dispatcher/Supervisor for 5+ Years

We get a ton of misdials because some genius at Verizon decided it would be a good idea to have phone numbers that start with "991-"

Had a woman call because her "baby" wasn't breathing, so we gave her instructions to do CPR. Medics got there and found her doing CPR on her dog.

Had another woman call saying her cat was stuck in a tree. I just knew she wanted the fire department to come save the cat, so I got my "that's only in movies/TV" speech ready.



Then she said "...so my husband climbed up to get the cat and now he's stuck too."

Source: [wtdn.com](http://wtdn.com)

### OLDEST OF ITS KIND

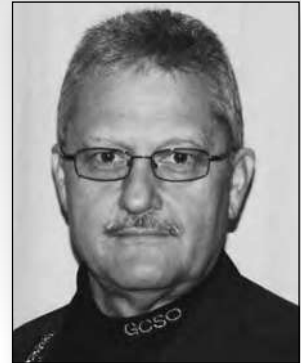
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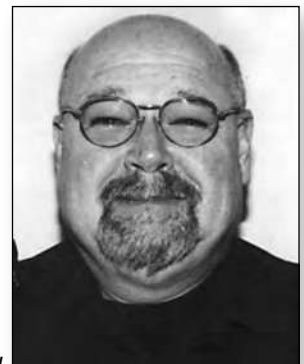
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### SHERIFFS NETWORKING

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

**It pays to be a member!**

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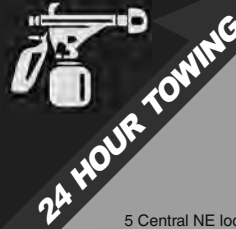


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# Summer Construction Volatility

By Matt Gleaves - Business Services Coordinator, Goldberg Group Architects, PC

Summer months provide construction companies with opportunities to take on more jobs and to take advantage of the longer days. With less chance for weather to affect job site progress, the construction industry is quite hectic for those precious three months of summer. The summer of 2015 also appears to include the pent-up demand for projects delayed over the past several years of post-recessionary difficulties.

Those same advantages also bring on several disadvantages.

Construction companies see the goods and commodities necessary to construct projects rise in cost because of such heightened demand for those items. According to the United States Census Bureau, construction spending is 35.2 percent higher on average in the summer compared to the any other time of year. This high amount of spending isn't limited just to the materials necessary for various jobs, but also for equipment rental, construction support services and safety equipment.

A large factor that creates such a high demand for materials is the volume of construction that may be taking place in a given area. This issue has provided challenges for the staff at Goldberg Group Architects during the bidding process for the new Justice Center in Seward County, Nebraska. The local construction industry in, and around, Seward County is booming because of several new projects that have begun construction. Google's new Data Center that is being built in Council Bluffs, Iowa is taking a large chunk of the local construction market while the University of Nebraska in Lincoln has also been busy with expansions to its campus. Factors like these in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa have caused bid packages for construction trades to come back higher than first anticipated.

"Lincoln is the biggest city in the state," Buster Beckenhauer of Beckenhauer Construction said. "It has the state's largest number of people, largest number of sub-contractors and trades people. Omaha is the state's second largest city and it's only an hour from Lincoln. When there's a big spike in activity in an area like that, there's a strain on available manpower and on some of the suppliers."

Not all of the bid packages for the Seward County project have come back higher than anticipated. Most of them have come extremely close to what was originally estimated or less. However, mechanical, electrical and plumbing costs have risen dramatically. These bid packages have increased because of the high demand for these particular trades throughout the region. With Google's Data Center being

constructed in Council Bluffs, the need for electrical and IT specialists to complete such a high-technology building has been substantial.

The construction industry is routinely considered one of the top three most volatile industries because of the risk involved in the business. The summer months contribute to that volatility with its fluctuating demand for materials and labor.

The lasting effects of the 2008 Recession have pushed the price of labor higher. Some construction companies were forced to downsize to cut costs and opted to retain the more highly-trained and skilled among their staff. This gave these companies a bigger advantage in the marketplace but cost of labor became a more prevalent factor. Because of these tradesmen's more specialized skills, the price of labor to accommodate them rose. A higher value was, and still is, placed on the more experienced tradesmen.



*continued on page 27*

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## Summer Construction

### Volatility . . . continued from page 26

"Bigger projects with high demand pay higher wages," Beckenhauer said. "If there's a good sub-contractor in the area that's capable of handling a large job, chances are he doesn't have the manpower to do the job, so you have to pay a little bit higher wage to try and steal some help away from the competition. Or you can try and get some help through the union hall if there's one there."

Another large factor in the price of construction during the summer months is the availability and price of materials. With so many construction projects taking place, construction supplies and materials are in high demand and don't always have immediate availability, particularly with material inventories a thing of the past. The most recent material that became such a hot commodity was structural steel. The global steel market was suddenly flooded by orders from China, therefore driving up the price of steel here in the United States. With the large chunk of the steel market being occupied by the large amount of expansion in China, the price of steel nearly doubled in the United States, causing many headaches and stresses for construction companies and their clients.

Construction companies aren't the only ones that fear the volatile construction industry during the summer. Architects and Engineers also struggle to anticipate construction trends and prices.

"We use recent project experience plus market-industry data to help us estimate costs," said Cliff Sullivan, GGA's long-standing Technical Director. "But occasionally, a couple of trades spike and we're surprised. Usually it happens with the more complex or specialized portions of our projects, like detention equipment, security electronics or electrical systems."

Seward County's recent Justice Center bids reflect this challenge. While detention packages came in on budget, Mechanical and Electrical bids were 50 to 60 percent higher than equivalent bids on similar projects.

"We used Buffalo County's Jail and Justice Center projects to start with," said GGA's Senior Principal, Lawrence Goldberg. "Then the Construction Manager, Beckenhauer Construction Co., adjusted these costs to reflect several years of inflation, but nobody saw these kind of Mechanical or Electrical increases coming."

**Matt Gleaves, Business Services Coordinator**  
**Goldberg Group Architects, PC**  
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## Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club 7th Annual Law Ride Another Successful Year Despite the Weather . . . By Jeff Rotherham

For the last seven years, the Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club, in brotherhood with other law enforcement and public safety motorcycle clubs, kicked off National Police Week with its Annual Nebraska Law Ride. The ride, open to the public and all motorized vehicles, has been a staple in raising funds for the Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial located on the grounds of Fonner Park in Grand Island, Nebraska; to date, a total of \$24,587.42 has been raised.

This year's event saw lower numbers than the average 150 motorcyclists due to the predicted weather, but the club still hosted riders from across the state as well as riders from as far away as Oklahoma. Though numbers were down, the generosity was still in full effect. While the monetary donations are important for the upkeep of the memorial and to defray the cost of the inevitable addition of names, it is just as important to keep the memories of the fallen officers alive, which is the goal of the Ride. On the day of the event, participants received a 4 x 6 card with the biography and incident information of the fallen officer for whom they were riding, which really put into perspective the sacrifices the fallen officers made.

This year, Jarret Daugherty of GIPD and secretary of the law enforcement memorial committee, addressed the riders and caught them up to date with all of the physical changes to the memorial site. The memorial saw many changes this year including the addition of Butler County Sheriff Mark Hecker's (#925) name added to the wall; blue accent lights

surrounding the perimeter of the memorial; additional park benches; granite tiles honoring supporters; and granite tiles honoring law enforcement officers who have passed away in the previous year while in service, but not in the line of duty.

Plans for 2016 are underway to honor the 138 individuals whose names are etched in stone on the memorial wall.

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

The IWMC is very thankful for their riding counterparts from the Reguladores LEMC, the Centurions LEMC, the America's Guardians and Blue Knights LEMC who make this annual event what it is.

**To learn more about the fallen officers, visit the newly update memorial webpage <http://www.nememorial.org>**

**If you would like to take part in this annual event, or want more information, you can visit the Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club webpage <http://iwmcne.com> or email [iwmcneb@gmail.com](mailto:iwmcneb@gmail.com)**

**Photos courtesy Iron Warriors**

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# TINNITUS AFFECTS 50 MILLION AMERICANS

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## HERE IS WHAT TINNITUS SUFFERERS SHOULD KNOW.

### What is tinnitus?

Tinnitus ("TIN-a-tus" or "Tin-EYE-tus") is the medical term for the sensation of hearing sound in your ears or head when no external sound is present. In most cases, tinnitus is a subjective noise, meaning only the sufferer can hear it. Typically, the sound is described as "ringing in ears," though others describe it as hissing, buzzing, whistling, roaring and even chirping.

### TINNITUS FACTS

- **Tinnitus affects 1 in 5 people.**
- **Tinnitus is not a condition, but is the symptom of an underlying condition such as age-related hearing loss or a circulatory system disorder.**
- **Tinnitus may begin suddenly or may progress gradually.**

### What causes tinnitus?

While scientists and health experts have yet to pinpoint the exact physiological cause of tinnitus, several sources are known to trigger or worsen tinnitus, including:

- **Loud Noises and Hearing Loss** — Exposure to loud noises can destroy the non-regenerative cilia in the cochlea, causing permanent tinnitus and/or hearing loss. Tinnitus due to noise is often the result of exposure to loud environmental noises, such as working in a factory setting or even a single event like a gunshot.

- **Aging** — Often with age, hearing becomes worse. Presbycusis is the normal loss of hearing acuity, speech intelligibility, auditory threshold and pitch associated with aging. Tinnitus is a common symptom of presbycusis.

- **Ototoxic Medications** — Some prescription medications such as antibiotics, anti-inflammatories, antidepressants, diuretics and others can be ototoxic, meaning they are harmful to the inner ear as well as the nerve fibers connecting the cochlea to the brain.

- **Hearing Conditions** — Conditions such as otosclerosis and Ménière's disease are known to cause tinnitus. Otosclerosis is a hearing condition in the middle ear that causes an increase in the volume of internal sounds and pressure on the inner ear membranes. Ménière's disease is characterized by vertigo (dizziness), gradual hearing loss and low-pitch tinnitus.

- **Health Conditions** — Tinnitus can also be a symptom of a number of health conditions:

- Cardiovascular disease
- Hypertension (high blood pressure)
- Thyroid problems
- Fibromyalgia and chronic pain
- Head or neck trauma
- Jaw misalignment
- Auditory, vestibular or facial nerve tumors
- Stress & fatigue

### Is there a cure for tinnitus?

Currently, there is no known tinnitus cure. However, according to the American Tinnitus Association (ATA), there are treatment options, including amplification and sound therapy. One of the most effective forms of treatment is sound therapy, which uses sound (generated from devices like hearing aids) to make tinnitus less noticeable and take the person's mind off it.

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**COOL POLICE CAR!** Above, a British police team is equipped with the world's fastest police car to inhibit motorcyclists' drag-racing (June 5, 2014 - photo/Xinhua - <http://www.cntvna.com>)



### NETWORKING

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

**KNOX**



**Sheriff Don Henery**

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

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### **The Historic Argo Hotel**

The Argo Hotel, constructed in 1912, is located in Crofton, Nebraska in Knox County. It is significant for its association with the building boom of second generation hotels that was occurring on a statewide basis during the first quarter of the twentieth century.

The hotels built during this period, as exemplified by the Argo, were multi-floor, brick buildings that offered the most modern conveniences (such as indoor plumbing and gas or electric lighting), and catered especially to the businessmen who traveled on the railroad.

#### **A Symbol of Prosperity**

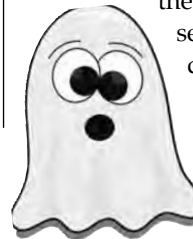
Aside from providing pleasant quarters for travelers, the new hotels became the symbol of a prospering community with a bright future. For this reason, towns and cities of all sizes thought it was important to showcase a "modern" hotel as an indication of their prominent standing in the state. It is within this context that the importance of the Argo Hotel is realized.

#### **Once a Medical Clinic**

The building is also significant for its association with health and medicine. In 1940, the hotel was converted into a health clinic which provided a much needed service to Crofton and the surrounding area.

#### **Argo Hotel Ghost Stories**

Also significant are the stories visitors to the Argo Hotel hear from Crofton residents - and even some of the hotel staff - that the hotel is definitely haunted. Strange noises in the second floor hallway during the night, eerie lights, and sightings of servants in early nineteen-hundreds dress are among the many reports.



*Today, the builing has been remodeled and once again serves as a hotel and fine food restaurant, ghost stories and all. It is on the Nebraska National Register as a historic site.*

*Photo and text taken in part from  
nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nebraska/knox.htm*

**LOUP**



**Sheriff Trevor Kraus**

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

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**Sheriff Kevin Campbell**

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merrickcountysheriff@gmail.com  
www.merrickcounty.ne.gov

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## A High-tech Future for Law Enforcement Includes Smart Belts and Smart Glasses

The company that helped bring law enforcement the walkie-talkie is trying to reposition itself as the leader in the next generation of high-tech police gadgetry.

Motorola researchers think the wearable camera is just one component of how the “connected police officer” will soon be outfitted.

It’s betting that departments will want the cop of the future to wear a “smartbelt,” a tool that would relay a message to dispatch regarding an officer’s location within moments of the officer pulling a gun out of his or her holster, or detaching handcuffs or a Taser from the smartbelt.

The officer could also be wearing smart glasses, which would allow the officer to stay connected with dispatch and commanders. Each pair of glasses, which Motorola recently began field-testing along with the belt, is fitted with a tiny camera that allows the officer to take a photo and quickly transmit the images to dispatchers.

The smart glasses would also automatically take a photo of what the officer is looking at when he or she pulls a gun or a sensitive item from the belt, and then send it to back to police headquarters. Dispatchers can also send the officer text messages that would display on the lenses of the glasses so that the officer can receive the information without looking away from the scene.

During the early going of field-testing, officers have suggested to Motorola engineers that they include an override button, because weapons and other sensitive equipment get pulled off cops’ belts frequently for innocuous reasons.

*From Motorola.com*

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### SHERIFFS NETWORKING

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

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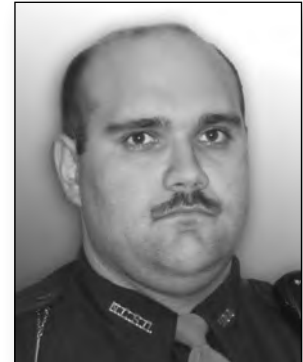
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### OLDEST OF ITS KIND

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**Sheriff Jayme R. Reed**

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**Sheriff Gene Samuelson**

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## Ye Olde Spy "Technology"

The International Spy Museum, located in Washington D. C., houses many classic items from the world of espionage. Is this where TV shows like "Get Smart" got their ideas . . . or vice versa? (Photos/some text courtesy International Spy Museum.)

### Pigeon Camera

Flying over enemy territory with a camera on autoshoot, pigeons could provide crucial information without getting lost along the way. Beyond photography, the birds also carried messages at times when radio communication was spotty or down.



Pigeons sent through enemy fire up until the 1950s had a 95 percent success rate and were duly decorated with medals of honor for their service.

### Shoe with Heel Transmitter

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Western diplomats in Eastern Europe avoided buying suits there, preferring to mail order clothing and shoes from the West. In Romania, the secret service used this to their advantage, working with the postal service to install a transmitter in shoe heels. The recording device was discovered during a routine room sweep that revealed a signal, but the signal disappeared when the diplomats left the room.



### Lipstick Pistol

A classic "Maxwell Smart" and "Agent 99" tool, this 4.5 millimeter single-shot weapon, was presumably taken from a KGB agent in the mid-1960s. While it's unclear whether this dangerous "kiss of death" was ever used, a cyanide pistol was used for assassination in that era. These weapons are surviving examples of the "active measures" that were taken in this time period, unlike many of their intended targets.



# Nebraska Auxiliary - Wives Behind the Badge, Inc.

## State Auxiliary Ready to Support Officers and Families Across the State

By Shelly Anderson, Nebraska Director

Wives Behind the Badge – Nebraska Auxiliary was formed in December of 2014, and currently has 15 volunteers statewide. Nebraska Auxiliary is just one program of a national 501(c)(3) organization, which is growing with a presence in nearly all fifty states.

Wives Behind the Badge, Inc. was formed in 2006 in California. In the beginning it began as an online forum, where wives and family could speak secretly online to one another. In 2007 Wives Behind the Badge, gained it's Federal Non Profit Status, and our sole mission is to serve as a positive voice for law enforcement officers and a support system for their families. In 2012 Wives Behind the Badge began to branch out across the country, and has since developed it's Statewide Auxiliary programs. Its programs and purpose are built on the foundation of the thin blue line—that no one is alone and that law enforcement is one family.

With each of its programs serving a different area of law enforcement, Wives Behind the Badge, Inc. is poised to provide professional, thoughtful, and inspirational care to anyone in the law enforcement community who reaches out with a need.

**Blue Line Kids (BLK)** is focused on children from law enforcement families ages birth to 17. It provides a safe and fun environment through its many enriching opportunities. From Pen Pals to a unique Excellence Program, from movie nights hosted by local police departments to coloring contests and more – this secure network of LE kids is one of our prized programs.

**Families Behind the Badge (F.B.T.B)** is set up to provide a unique outreach to the extended family of law enforcement. In a line of work as stressful and dangerous as police work, we are happy to be equipped with a program that extends its reach to anyone who may be impacted.



**K.A.R.E. (K-9 Assistance Recognition Education)** is a program for K-9s. Upon retirement of a dog, often times the responsibility of the animal is put into the hands of the handlers and their families, K.A.R.E. is prepared to provide assistance with medical expenses for retired K-9s through fundraisers and to serve as a voice for those who are loyal to the very end.

**H.A.L.O.S. (Helping Aid Lost Officers' Survivors)** honors each and every officer lost in the line of duty

by providing condolence to the family through our Angel outreach program and through the BLK H.A.L.O.S. quilt program, which provides a blanket to each child of a fallen officer. WBTB also plants a tree for each year of service in one of two protected national forests in California and Florida to honor the life of the fallen.

It is only through the dedication, talent and service of our volunteers that these programs are made possible. Wives Behind the Badge, Inc. does not have a paid staff, but boasts nearly 500 volunteers throughout the United States who stand poised to give back to those who give so much. Wives Behind the Badge operates solely by donations, fundraisers, and grants.

The Nebraska Auxiliary is always seeking new volunteers in all areas including Families Behind the Badge, H.A.L.O.S., and other staff positions, such as Treasurer, and Secretary. A volunteer is not required to be the wife of a law enforcement officer, but all volunteers must complete the application process in order to begin working with the organization. More details can be found on the organization's website or by emailing the state director.

Shelly Anderson, Nebraska Director | 402-302-0821  
nebraska.auxiliary@wivesbehindthebadge.org  
www.wivesbehindthebadge.org

### AGENT 007 TECHNOLOGY!

## 142 Hour Digital Voice Pen Recorder with 1-Touch Recording

The latest pen recorder features one-touch operation - just slide the silver pen clip to start or stop recording. Recording is completely covert - there are no LED lights or sounds or anything to indicate that this is actually a voice recorder. The massive 2GB of internal memory can hold up to 142 hours of recordings.

This professional grade recorder pen records audio files in MP3 format, which means you can play them back easily on any computer - PC or Mac - with no special software needed.

Transferring files to your computer to listen is quick and easy. Just unscrew the middle of the pen to reveal the USB connection and plug the pen directly into your computer's USB port. No cables or wires needed. The pen also charges whenever it is plugged into the USB port.





**Sheriff Rick J. Eberhardt**

## Pierce County Sheriff's Office

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## A Well Thought Out Plan or a Dirty Trick?

In those early days, Cedar County's southern boundary was a straight line, while Pierce County's northern boundary line dipped six miles south and then six miles east on the eastern side.

On February 5, 1875, Cedar County awoke to discover that the legislature had amputated the southeast township and transplanted it on Pierce County. Cedar County's representative in the legislature had never heard a word about it until the job was done. In this way Pierce county straightened her northern boundary. In addition to acquiring a whole township without cost, Pierce County acquired several miles of railroad for taxation purposes.

Two years later the Pierce county representative, together with representatives from other counties, fixed it so no county could acquire any portion of another county without the consent of both counties, so Cedar County was stopped from getting that township back. *Taken from [www.co.pierce.ne.us/webpages/about/history.html](http://www.co.pierce.ne.us/webpages/about/history.html)*

## Emergency Management: A Vital Government Function . . . continued from page 5

The Nebraska Emergency Management Act provides the governor considerable latitude and authority to assemble the resources of state government needed to support local emergencies or disaster events. The act allows the governor to require state agencies to coordinate and provide needed equipment or personnel to support local response operations.

The role of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is to support the governor and the adjutant general with their responsibilities, including deploying the Nebraska National Guard, as outlined in the act. The act also allows the governor to temporarily suspend state regulations and issue proclamations to assist local authorities in their efforts to obtain the necessary resources for addressing life, health and safety measures.

Moreover, the adjutant general fulfilling the statutory obligations as the director of the NEMA has considerable authority to manage and direct state resources at the behest of the governor.

Finally, the governor has the authority to expend funds from the Governor's Emergency Fund to assist state and local jurisdictions who have been adversely financially impacted by an emergency or disaster. In many cases, the local jurisdiction may be eligible for state funds to assist with the cost share on recovery projects, or to address eligible expenditures associated with emergency protective measures or other operational costs associated with the event.

In those situations where an event exceeds the resources or capabilities of the state and local authorities the governor has the authority to issue a request for a federal emergency or major disaster declaration from the federal government. Ultimately, such requests are coordinated between NEMA, the Governor's Office, and local jurisdictions. The review process associated with such a request begins with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region VII and ends in the

Office of the President of the United States. If approved, local and state jurisdictions become eligible for various response and recovery programs. Certainly, federal assets in the form of specialized equipment and highly trained personnel may be immediately deployed to assist local authorities with response requirements. Again, the military may be called upon to assist local authorities with operational issues with an emphasis on the fact the deployment of federal assets is to assist state and local authorities and does not require a change in ultimate responsibility for response and recovery operations. In addition, federal resources may be available to eligible applicants for repair or replacement of public infrastructure through the Public Assistance or Hazard Mitigation programs. In some cases, local jurisdictions may be eligible to recover costs associated with emergency protective measures implemented prior to and during an emergency or disaster event. This is especially important to emergency management and public safety agencies who may have expended consider financial resources in the form of equipment or overtime costs. In some situations, families and businesses impacted by events may be eligible for financial assistance or low interest loans through the FEMA's Individual Assistance Program or the Small Business Administration.

This is just a quick outline of how emergency management can assist law enforcement prior to, during and following an emergency or disaster. The best way to ensure your jurisdiction has the most efficient and effective response is to work with your local emergency manager to plan, train and exercise various scenarios that could affect your jurisdiction. This process can pre-identify resource shortfalls of personnel and equipment allowing the jurisdiction to predetermine how these shortfalls could be met in times of emergency.

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# The Spirit behind Badge 145

Taken from Jim McNeff's website: [www.jimmcneff.com](http://www.jimmcneff.com)

Most young police officers are generous servants when they begin their careers. But over time, reality breeds a growing skepticism. A police career requires shift work to cover a twenty-four hour, seven day per week operation, not to mention holidays. It is easy to become detached from one's support network and church. The people we deal with each day during the course of our duty are typically

having a bad day by the time they come under our jurisdiction. We take crime reports from citizens who have been victimized; we arrest others who have done the victimizing. By the time the badge arrives on scene, turmoil reigns. People are not excited to see us. We see bodies mutilated by severe auto collisions, homicides, and natural disasters. Others are battered and bruised in less severe ways, but still with damaging results. We see emotions torn and tattered. We are required to be polite and professional while dealing with a victim in need one moment and a hardened career criminal the next.

The balancing act is tough and creates new challenges every day. It is easy to become cynical and worn out. Those who wear a badge know these are traits that sometimes assist in the performance of our duty, but they are traits that handicap and damage personal relationships. As a result it becomes increasingly difficult to communicate with those outside law enforcement.

Read "Short Circuit Sorrow" by Jim McNeff on page 49

**POLK**



**Sheriff Dwaine W. Ladwig**

## Polk County Sheriff's Office

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Osceola, NE 68651  
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**Sheriff Kevin L. Stukenholtz**

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kstukenholtz@co.saunders.ne.us  
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## [www.nesheriffassoc.org](http://www.nesheriffassoc.org)

On the NSA website, new items are posted as they are received including items of interest to law enforcement, many training opportunities, and special offers for members.

There are also many supporters of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association as evidenced by the many website ads. Click on the individual online ads to be taken to each company's website. By visiting their websites, you show your appreciation for that company's support.

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## Short Circuit Sorrow . . . By Jim McNeff

Jim is the author of *The Spirit Behind Badge 145*. He worked in military and civilian law enforcement for thirty-one years. While in the USAF he flew as a crewmember aboard the National Emergency Airborne Command Post—a presidential support detail. Following his military service, he served for twenty-seven years with the Fountain Valley Police Department in Orange County, California, where he retired as a lieutenant. During his career in law enforcement, he worked with, supervised, or managed every element of the organization. He holds a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Southwest University and graduated from the prestigious Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute as well as the IACP course, *Leadership in Police Organizations*. Jim is married and has three adult children and three grandchildren. You can contact him at [jrmcneff@gmail.com](mailto:jrmcneff@gmail.com) or view his website geared toward helping officers [www.jimmcneff.com](http://www.jimmcneff.com).

"Units respond to the corner of Fifth and Main. Mother reports her son is off his meds and threatening suicide. Son is armed with a pocketknife and is beginning to cut himself. Respond Code 3!"

Does the call sound familiar? When I began my career, it was unique. Now it is commonplace. Why the dramatic increase? What happened to the stabilizing forces in society?

Those are loaded questions that could stimulate debate and conversation in sociology and psychology courses around the country. While every family has their own unique story to tell, and I'm wary of being misunderstood, I believe evidence exists that suggests America is being drugged into submission. Medication to alter behavior should be the exception not the rule. Unfortunately, I fear it has become the unnecessary first option in too many circumstances.

Ten years ago my teenaged daughter and I had a typical father/daughter conflict. I confronted her rebellion with some restrictive ground rules. My goal was to modify her destructive behavior. Before learning the new household policy, she asked, "Are you going to send me away or put me on medication?"

"Where did that come from?" I asked.

"It's what happens to my friends," was her reply.

I was stunned. Based upon my professional experience I believed teenagers were being overmedicated—now my own daughter was asking if that was my chosen remedy for her rebellion based upon the experiences represented by peers in high school.

No, we did not send her away, nor did we choose to medicate her into obedience. She suffered consequences for acts of rebellion and learned some valuable life lessons. Now she is a married mother of three young children and is grateful for the path we each chose.

Jan Eastgate, President, Citizens Commission on Human Rights International wrote, "Global sales of antidepressants, stimulants, anti-anxiety, and antipsychotic drugs have



reached more than \$76 billion a year—more than double the annual U.S. government budget spent on the war against drugs" [1].

"The use of psychotropic drugs by adult Americans increased 22 percent from 2001 to 2010, with one in five adults now taking at least one psychotropic medication," reported the American Psychological Association [2].

Alarming, one in 13 schoolchildren between 6-17 take psychiatric drugs. The number of prescriptions for psychotropic drugs for U.S. children more than doubled between 1995 and 2000 [3]. But a new investigation by the Denver Post revealed that foster children are prescribed such drugs at a rate 12 times higher than other children on Medicaid [4]. Isn't that what we call a "clue?" Something is wrong. I'm certain most members in law enforcement could tell their own horror stories.

Dr. Steven Lytle is a licensed clinical psychologist and founding partner with Sparrow House Counseling in Dallas, Texas. He told me an overwhelming number of adolescent patients are on mood altering medications when they seek help at Sparrow House. The medications have become first alternative solutions when non-medicated related methods are available. The medications, while required at times, have become the only line of defense while neglecting other forms of therapy such as problem solving skills and other coping mechanisms.

Dr. Lytle continued by saying people off meds are like an electrical wire that had its insulation removed. The sensory relays are confused. To fix the problem through therapy, they need to reprogram the brain. The treatment is not isolated to the young person, but family wide. When someone abruptly stops taking medications, the original problems are exacerbated. The sudden discontinuation of mood stabilizers can induce mania, which can look like anger, impulsivity, and agitation, particularly if the person has not learned coping skills prior to taking medical remedies—a fact frequently in place.

*continued on page 51*



### THE NEBRASKA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

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

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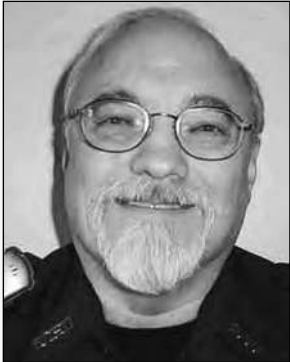
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### Harold J. Cook Homestead (Bone Cabin Complex)

The Harold J. Cook Homestead is within the Agate Fossil Beds National Monument in Sioux County, Nebraska.

Harold J. Cook was a rancher, paleontologist, and son of James H. Cook, the famed frontiersman and Indian advocate.

The complex, which at one time included a cabin, cook shack, and barns, served as a base operation for the Cook family and other paleontologists who excavated at the Agate Springs Fossil Quarries.

The fossil deposits are of international scientific importance in revealing the paleontological story of the "Age of Mammals."

*The Harold J. Cook Homestead is listed on the Nebraska National Register as a historic site.*

*Photo and text taken in part from  
nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nebraska/sioux.htm*

**SIoux**

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

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**Sheriff Lyle Staudenmaier**

## Short Circuit Sorrow . . . continued from page 49

A stripped electrical wire can arc and cause a system to short circuit. Is that our problem? No wonder calls for service involving teens (and adults) off their meds have dramatically spiked. It's one case of short circuit sorrow after another. What so many thought would be a quick fix turned into long-term tragedy.

When reporting that seven percent of our school-aged children were taking psyche meds, Gordon Serena from HealthDay News wrote, "Apparently, the medications are working: More than half of the parents said the drugs are helping their children" [5]. Yeah, and the television can peacefully occupy the time of a child, but what happens when the show is over? It's a temporary hypnosis. In most cases, medication is no more a long-term remedy for behavioral adjustment than TV.

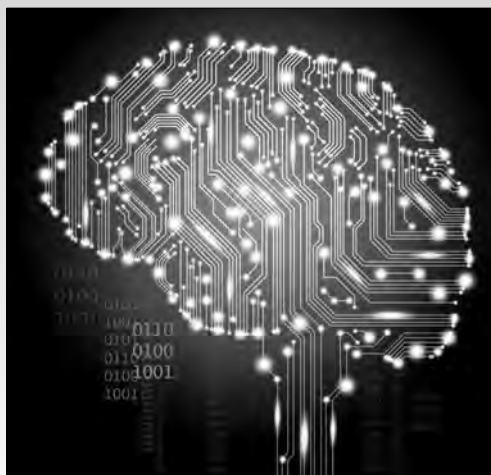
I know there are those in the clinical community, who may take issue with my assessment, but clinicians are not dealing with the desperate young person sitting on the ledge between safety and death; cops are.

In a previous article written for LET titled, "In the Crosshairs of Controversy," I said, "Medication is replacing discipline leading to breaches in safety everywhere." Do you understand where I'm coming from? If not, consider research from Dan Roberts.

Mr. Roberts authored an article titled, "Nearly Every Mass Shooting in the Last 20 Years Shares One Thing in Common; & It's Not Weapons". He chronicled the alarming correlation between mass killers linked to psychotropic medications.

### Sources:

- [1] <http://www.cchr.org/cchr-reports/psychiatry/introduction.html> (October 31, 2014)
- [2] <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2012/06/prescribing.aspx> (June 2012)
- [3] <http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2014/05/07/psychotropic-drug-use.aspx> (May 7, 2014)
- [4] Osher, Christopher, Brown, Jennifer, Investigations—Drug firms have used dangerous tactics to drive sales to treat kids, Denver Post, (April 14, 2014)
- [5] Gordon, Serena, 1 in 13 Schoolkids Take Psyche Meds: Report, HealthDay, (April 24, 2014)
- [6] Roberts, Dan, Nearly Every Mass Shooting in the Last 20 Years Shares One Thing in Common; & it's Not Weapons, AmmoLand—Shooting Sports News, (April 1, 2013)



You would recognize many names on the list of 44, as their killing sprees became national news. All but one involved a pre-teen, teenager, or young adult [6].

I am not writing to cast aspersions but to bring attention to the "white elephant in the room." On a personal level I would encourage people to resort to psychotropic medication as a last resort. Be mindful that medication is another term for drug.

As drug recognition experts, we should know how important homeostasis is to physiological balance in the body. By way of a quick reminder, ten systems in the body include the emotional, circulatory, intestinal, urinary, structural, glandular, respiratory, digestive, nervous, and immune. Simply stated, the body requires homeostasis—perfect balance in each system—to remain stabilized. Medication is required when something is unstable due to injury or disease. But if drugs or medication are introduced to a system that is already balanced, problems are sure to follow.

On a professional level, what should be considered? Much like so many calls for service, you need to stabilize what is unstable; render safe that which is unsafe. Do not over-estimate the crisis based upon fear or miscalculated perceptions. On the flipside, do not underestimate the emergency, regardless of the innocence of appearance. Even a low voltage wire that lacks insulation can arc and create fire. Don't get burned while removing powder from the keg!

*The Spirit behind Badge 145 can be purchased through Amazon.com.*

## NSA-POAN Conference 2015 (see page 8)

The 2014 NSA-POAN Conference, Kearney, NE, Younes Conference Center, October 4-7, 2015

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**1913 Death Penalty Debate**

*Excerpts from a book by Tim Dempsey  
30-year Nebraska Law Enforcement Veteran*

The Nebraska Legislature was about to vote on a bill that would abolish the death penalty in the State. A Senator from Lancaster County arose to challenge the bill by adding an amendment exempting anyone who killed an "official" (law enforcement officer) or a "guard at the penitentiary."

The Senator, who had previously served as a Lancaster County deputy sheriff, argued that it was his experience which brought him to the conclusion that anyone killing an officer or guard should suffer the death penalty. He indicated that such a sanction was imperative in order that "officials" and "guards" could continue to do their jobs.

The Senator and former deputy was Henry V. Hoagland, brother of former Lancaster County Sheriff Joseph S. Hoagland. The date of the debate was April 1, 1913. The bill was defeated by a margin of 21 to 10.

*Read "Well I'll Be Hanged - The Empty Gallows" by Tim Dempsey on page 13*

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**Josef and Anna Bruha House**

The Josef and Anna Bruha house was constructed in three phases: 1885, 1890, and 1905. It is the only known extant property in the community that represents the pioneer period of Czech settlement in Valley County. It is also one of only two known examples in Nebraska of the traditional Czech house type known as dvoutrakt dum. *The Josef and Anna Bruha house is listed on the Nebraska National Register as a historic site.*

*Photo and text taken in part from  
nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nebraska/sioux.htm*

# The Cop and the Kid . . . *By Sgt. Winston Cavendish, Sun, LA Police (Retired)*

Turning over outhouses, throwing snow balls at cars, letting air out of car tires, stealing crab apples from old man Emerson's trees - when would this crime wave end? I was turning into another "Peck's Bad Boy," with a bad reputation in the sleepy community along the Elkhorn River in northeastern Nebraska called Norfolk.

The slushy spring snow ushered in the promise of another good crop year for the farmers and ranchers of the state. The long winter of 1958 seemed to be endless, especially to a mischievous kid. You know the old story that when kids have nothing to do they get into trouble. However, trouble seemed to follow me around like a giant magnet, and this would be the year a State Trooper would change my life.

My family was living at Becker's Motel off Highway 81, north of Norfolk, right across the highway from the Nebraska State Patrol office. Every day I would see the police cars come and go. They were the "Cops." We kids made fun of them. We figured by doing that we were rebelling against society, but deep down we knew they were real cool dudes.

For weeks my friends and I had been shooting at the hubcaps of cars with pea shooters. We positioned ourselves in the hedges right in front of the police station across the street. What fun it was watching the expressions on the drivers' faces when they thought they had a tire blow out.

One day the unthinkable happened. A strong wind blew one of my peas into the open window of a new Ford Ltd; it hit the young driver in the head.

The vehicle stopped, the door opened slowly and a "lean, mean, fighting machine" was out of the vehicle and coming after me. I crawled through the bushes, but my pursuer flew over them like a gazelle. I ran down the stairs and he flew through the air like an eagle. Try as I might, I could not shake him. There was no place to hide. My heart was pounding and I was ready to explode with fear. Then the driver caught up with me, grabbed me by the back of my neck lifting me into the air. He didn't break a sweat and wasn't out of breath, but I was trembling.

Then the questions came. "Why did you shoot me? Do you know you could have caused a serious accident?"

At first I couldn't get a single word out of my mouth. Then mustering whatever courage I could find, I managed to say, "I'm sorry."

That's when the driver identified himself by showing me his badge. He was a State Trooper.

The trooper asked me for my name, address, my parents' names, and their phone numbers. He told me to report to his office at the police station at 9:00 a.m. the next day and he would decide my punishment.

For a 13-year-old kid with a wild imagination, that night was one of the longest of my life. I just knew I was going to be hanged, or worse, sent to the electric chair! I was hoping that they didn't execute someone for a first offence. But after all, this was Nebraska and maybe they still believed in pioneer justice.

The long walk to the police station the next morning was painful. Upon entering the building, I met a desk sergeant with blond hair sitting behind a high desk. He was dispatching cars. He sent me to the back of the station. I knocked on the door and when it opened I was facing a remarkable police officer who looked like a recruiting poster for troopers. His eyes looked right through me as he beckoned me to sit down. Without saying a word he started showing me photos of terrible vehicle accidents, white sheets covering bodies. He told me this is what happens when drivers lose control of their vehicles. My pea shooter incident could have injured someone seriously or even killed them. I felt sick to my stomach.

The trooper told me he would have to make an example of me so that anyone who thinks shooting cars with pea shooters is fun will understand the consequences of their actions.

My punishment was to report to the police station on Saturday, cut grass, and clean up the station for the troopers. I put my heart into my new job, and while cleaning up police cars, found myself listening to the real police radio. I also met many fine officers that all treated me with respect, and answered my many questions about being a real cop.

After two weeks the station was clean enough to pass a drill sergeant's inspection at Fort Knox. One morning my "teacher" asked me what I was doing how long I had been working there.

I responded, "I'm going to clean the toilets and I've been here every day for two weeks, sir!"

He broke into laughter and said, "I only wanted you to work one Saturday, not two weeks."

I liked all the troopers so much I hung around the building until management informed the troopers that I was too young and not a state employee. I would have to go.

I found that I had admired those Blue Knights and that special trooper so much that now I had to become a cop.

Years went by, and on November 13, 1985, I wound up at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island. I was representing McGruff the National Crime Dog at the Nebraska Sheriff's Association meeting.



*continued on page 55*



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

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## George Cather Farmstead

This substantial farmstead in Webster County developed over a period of years beginning ca. 1880 through the 1920s. The farmstead includes the main dwelling, outhouse, smokehouse, summer kitchen, and windmill. The site was the home of Willa Cather's aunt and uncle, Francis and George Cather and was the setting for Willa Cather's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *One of Ours*.

*The Cather Farmstead is listed on the Nebraska National Register as a historic site.*

*Photo and text taken in part from [nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nebraska/sioux.htm](http://nebraskahistory.org/histpres/nebraska/sioux.htm)*

## The Cop and the Kid

*continued from page 53*

While I was introducing McGruff to the sheriffs, I told my story of "The Kid and the Cop". As I finished, I heard laughter come from somewhere in the audience and there appeared the "lean, mean, fighting machine" from my youth. That distinguished-looking lawman stood with silver gray hair, and in a different color uniform. He was the current Sheriff of Buffalo County, Frank Dineen.

What a reunion that was. We swapped cop stories and talked about our families. He introduced me to some of the finest sheriffs in the state at that time and I will never forget them. I also had the privilege of meeting the Nebraska Attorney General and was made an Admiral in the Great Navy of Nebraska (signed by then Governor Robert Kerrey) for my work in crime prevention with my dog, McGruff. What an honor it was!

I thanked Sheriff Dineen for being a good cop and taking time to straighten out a bad boy, thus encouraging him to become a cop.

Sgt. Cavendish has worked for the Sun Police Department in Sun, Louisiana (for Chief Greg Bush and Mayor Barbara Gibson). He has spent 27 years representing McGruff the Crime Dog, and has traveled over 5,000 miles, crossing the country and promoting crime prevention.

### "DEPUTY BOB"

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**Sheriff Adrian A. Lindsay**

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Cavendish was the Assistant Chief of Police in Mandeville, Louisiana, and Staff Sergeant with the St Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office in Covington, Louisiana.

During his work as a lawman, Cavendish has received numerous awards and commendations for action above and beyond the call of duty. He has spent 41 years in law enforcement and security, both in Canada and the U.S. In 1982, he received the prestigious "U. S. Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" award which was presented to him by Director Judge Webster at F.B.I. Headquarters in Washington D.C.

**Read Winston Cavendish's story  
"The Breaking Point"  
on page 17**

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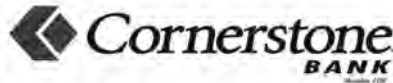


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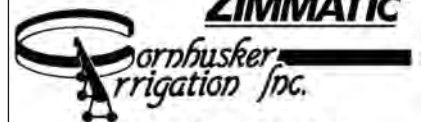
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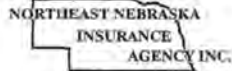


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