



# The Nebraska Sheriff

A Publication of the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association



## IN THIS ISSUE:

Back to School **PAGE 36**

NSP Opens New Headquarters Facility in Lincoln **PAGE 10**

Hiring Good Cops in an Era of Anti-Police Sentiment **PAGE 12**

Joint Law Enforcement Operation **PAGE 18**

Battered Children: Problem For Generations **PAGE 20**

The Roaring Twenties: 1920-1929 **PAGE 22**

Pursuits Lead to Multiple Arrests **PAGE 30**

## 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11 TUNNEL WALK

The Nebraska Cornhusker football team kicked off their September 11, 2021 game against Buffalo with patriotic spirit. As the national anthem played, an immense flag in the shape of the United States was spread across the field. In commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, the team spilled out across the field led by Husker defensive end and retired Navy SEAL, Damian Jackson. Close behind Jackson, Husker coach, Scott Frost, was accompanied by first responders, Dr. Alissa Clough, firefighter and EMT responders, Vicki Barada and Alex Nobbe, and an NSA familiar face - Lancaster County Sheriff Terry Wagner, who also joined the team for the tunnel walk twenty years prior.

## A Different Kind of Drive-By

**PAGE 16**

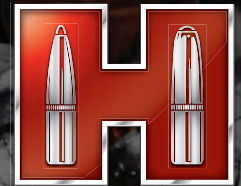
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Nebraska State Patrol opens new headquarters in Lincoln. More on page 14...



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# IN THIS ISSUE

2021 Board of Directors .....	4
A Message from the NSA President .....	5
Back to School.....	6
NSP Opens New Headquarters Facility in Lincoln ....	10
Hiring Good Cops in an Era of Anti-Police Sentiment...	12
A Different Kind of Drive-By .....	16
Joint Law Enforcement Operation .....	18
Battered Children: Problem For Generations .	20
The Roaring Twenties: 1920-1929 .....	22
Pursuits Lead to Multiple Arrests.....	30
The Nebraska Drive-By Shooting.....	32

## The **Nebraska**Sheriff

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

### Mission Statement

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

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

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 submissions for content or space. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please let us know about them.

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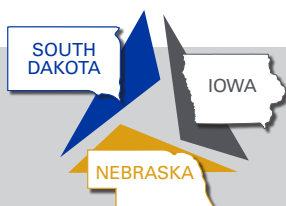
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# COUNTIES FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Arthur County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Banner County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Boone County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Box Butte County Sheriffs' Office.....	5
Burt County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Butler County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Cedar County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Colfax County Sheriffs' Office.....	7
Cuming County Sheriffs' Office.....	9
Custer County Sheriffs' Office.....	9
Dakota County Sheriffs' Office.....	9
Dawson County Sheriffs' Office.....	11
Dixon County Sheriffs' Office.....	11
Franklin County Sheriffs' Office.....	11
Frontier County Sheriff's Office.....	13
Gage County Sheriffs' Office.....	13
Garden County Sheriffs' Office.....	13
Garfield County Sheriffs' Office.....	13
Greeley County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Hamilton County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Harlan County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Howard County Sheriffs' Office.....	15
Johnson County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Kearney County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Knox County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Loup County Sheriffs' Office.....	17
Merrick County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Nance County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Nemaha County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Nuckolls County Sheriffs' Office.....	19
Otoe County Sheriffs' Office.....	21
Phelps County Sheriffs' Office.....	21
Pierce County Sheriffs' Office.....	21
Platte County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Polk County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Richardson County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Saunders County Sheriffs' Office.....	23
Seward County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Sherman County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Sioux County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Stanton County Sheriffs' Office.....	25
Thurston County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Valley County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Washington County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Wayne County Sheriffs' Office.....	27
Webster County Sheriffs' Office.....	31
Wheeler County Sheriffs' Office.....	31

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## A MESSAGE FROM NSA PRESIDENT



Hello Everyone,

I want to start by thanking everyone for the opportunity of serving as your 2021 NSA President. It is truly an honor to be part of this outstanding organization.

I would like to thank the past presidents for all their dedicated efforts to The NSA, as well as Taylor Moore. Taylor does so many tasks for The NSA, and her dedication is very much appreciated. As many of the past Presidents know, the importance of our membership is vital. I challenge all of our Sheriffs to work on recruiting new members to our organization. Together we can make this a bigger organization.

I know this year has been a challenge for all of our agencies with The Covid 19. I was impressed with our NSA Conference turnout. I thank everyone in attendance for your continued support of The NSA.

As your 2021 NSA President, I'm going to continue to work on recruiting more Sheriffs to get involved in meetings, and hopefully, they can share new ideas for the betterment of our organization.

The meeting dates can be found on the website. If you are unable to attend a meeting but have ideas you would like to share, please contact me.

**Dwaine W. Ladwig**  
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# BACK TO SCHOOL (SHOOTINGS, MASK-MANDATES, AND BOISTEROUS BOARD MEETINGS)

by Doug Wyllie

As young people complete the final days of summer vacation and prepare for their return to campus life, no sane person would consider this "back-to-school season" like any other in American history.

This fall, a great many students at the K-12 level will finally set foot into a classroom for the first time in more than a year.

Depending on the school, the student, and the society that surrounds them, this could either be a tantalizing or an agonizing prospect. Some kids truly thrived in the virtual classroom last year and dread going back to in-person learning—others floundered, flailed, and failed and will benefit immensely from a "return to normalcy."

Regardless of the situation, cops across the country will be called upon to keep kids safe in school as young people return to campus for the 2021-2022 school year.

## COVID-19 Continues

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a recommendation that all students in kindergarten through 12th grade—including young people 12-years-old and older who have been fully vaccinated—wear masks when they return to classrooms for the new school year. This could have far-reaching and long-lasting negative effects on kids—and the society they will one day lead.

The Manhattan Institute for Policy Research said in an April 2021 article, "Mask mandates are especially cruel to young children. Adults are supposed to ease their fears, to reassure them that monsters aren't hiding under the bed. Instead, we're frightening them into believing they're being stalked by invisible menaces lurking in the air. A year of mask-wearing will scar some of them psychologically—and maybe physically, too."

Following the CDC announcement, President Joe Biden said, "Masking students is inconvenient, I know, but will allow them to learn and be with their classmates with the best available protection."

Inconvenient?! Wow. Talk about not being able to adequately "read the room."

Speaking of reading the room, I recently attended the school board meeting in my community and witnessed firsthand the ire of the parents who made public comments on the matter of masks for kids.

The differences of opinion were stark and substantial. Cops can count on that cacophony to continue.



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## Dealing with Parents

Speaking of boisterous board meetings, have you been assigned to one of these events lately? Have you attended as a parent at your child's school?

School board meetings these days range from circus sideshow to all-out sh\*t show.

Setting aside the matter of mask mandates, there is the highly contentious issue of introducing Critical Race Theory into the curricula—teaching that interpretation of diversity to kids in subjects as diverse as math, science, and language arts. Needless to say, many parents are none too pleased and have shown this displeasure loudly and often.

Then there's the matter of gender identity—bathrooms, locker rooms, and after-school sports are all impacted by how schools address this. What about state and local government funding for public K-12 schools? What about standardized statewide testing and common core lesson plans? What about teacher salaries and unions and tenure? The list goes on.

Officers on duty, when these topics are “discussed” in public forums, have to know that it's not much different from holding the line between “pro-choice” and “right-to-life” protesters—lots of emotion and shouting.

## Defusing Kids' Disputes

One of the educational elements kids are exposed to in school is learning how to deal with people—how to understand the fact that everyone is different and yet the same. This happens mostly without incident, but all manner of bullying and conflict is inevitable.

We've seen the headlines—and subsequent public outcry—about an officer having to take a student into custody or make an arrest. No cop wants to do this—police correctly contend that disciplining a child is the responsibility of teachers and administrators—but it sometimes happens.

The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) is a proponent of utilizing “restorative practices” as a means of keeping the peace among students amidst stressful and tumultuous times. *Continued on next page...*

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*Continued from previous page...* According to the George Lucas Educational Foundation, restorative approaches “address the underlying reasons for students’ hurtful behavior and nurture their intrinsic desire to treat others with care and respect” as opposed to the traditional model of “using punishments and rewards to influence the way students behave.”

It would be prudent for all officers to become somewhat conversant in how to use “restorative practices” with kids in potentially volatile situations.

### Stopping School Shootings

Of course, the king-hell-daddy issue for law enforcement in the educational environment is preventing—and responding to—gunfire in the classroom.

In 2018, Education Week magazine began tracking shootings on K-12 school property that resulted in firearm-related injuries or deaths—there were 24 such incidents that year and 25 in 2019. In 2020, there were 10 campus shooting incidents when the COVID-19 pandemic hit—forcing the overwhelming majority of school-age young people to remote learning for the remainder of that school year and thusly skewing the data.

“Those using this data should note that it should not be interpreted to mean that schools were ‘safer’ [in 2020-21].” Rather, the definition of school safety has shifted as schooling entered the home in a way it never had before,” Education Week said. Having no kids in schools resulted in no kids getting shot in schools—not exactly the ideal way to stem school violence, but it was effective.

But kids will be returning to the classroom this year, and it wouldn’t be a tremendous leap in logic to predict that some of them will return with a vengeance. Some of these kids will have suffered significant—and possibly permanent—damage to their mental health during the lockdown. Some of these kids who were already on the brink before COVID might be well and truly over the edge.

Local law enforcement officers provide increased safety for the students, faculty, and staff from potentially dangerous criminal behavior.

Local law enforcement must gird for the worst while still hoping for the best. However, the police are the very last line of defense—preventing school shootings is everybody’s business.

Everyone in the school ecosystem—teachers, administrators, staff, parents, volunteer organizations, and police—must work together to prevent terrible tragedies from occurring.

### Final Words

NASRO correctly states that “carefully selected, specifically trained, and properly equipped SROs protect and serve students, bridge the gap



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between law enforcement and youth, and are a positive addition to the community."

It is vitally important to note, however, that police interaction with kids goes way beyond those officers specifically assigned to campus patrol. Youth programs—cadet, explorer, athletic league, summer internships, and others—can go a long way toward creating strong bonds between police and young people that can last a lifetime.

More than a year and a half ago, I wrote in this space that police officers "have a truly unique opportunity to be the lighthouse that protects those little ships—our children—giving them immediate safety, guiding them to future security, and finding for them the safe harbor they seek."

As the new school year approaches, every officer on patrol should consider giving some thought to how they might do one small thing to help kids in America navigate through whatever rough waters they encounter.

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# NSP OPENS NEW HEADQUARTERS FACILITY IN LINCOLN

August 26, 2021



The Nebraska State Patrol has cut the ribbon on a new Lincoln headquarters, completing a consolidation process that was decades in the making.

"Today marks the culmination of a major project that will provide great benefits to our NSP teammates and the citizens of Nebraska," said Colonel John Bolduc, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. "For decades, our Lincoln-based teammates have been scattered throughout the city at several offices. This project brings most of those teammates under one roof, which has already improved our operation in many ways."

The new NSP state headquarters facility is located at 4600 Innovation Drive in Lincoln. The facility hosts several divisions of NSP's Lincoln-based operations, including the Criminal Identification Division, Headquarters Troop Area, Carrier Enforcement Division, Nebraska Information Analysis Center, Special Operations Division, State Headquarters, and Eastern Communications, which now dispatches for the eastern half of the state from a state-of-the-art communications center.

NSP State Headquarters had been located at 1600 Highway 2 in Lincoln since 1958. The consolidation effort has allowed NSP to vacate that facility, as well as offices at 4130 NW 37th, 3800 NW 12th, and at the Nebraska National Guard Base. The NSP Crime Lab and NSP Supply Building will continue operating at their current locations in Air Park.

"I'm excited to be here today to be able to help cut this ribbon," said Governor Pete Ricketts. "I think this marks another step in our journey of serving our customers better, always finding ways to be able to do a better job. No matter how well we do today, we can do a better job tomorrow. And I think this will be tremendous for our ability to continue to serve in the great tradition of the Nebraska State Patrol."

Fingerprinting services for Lincoln area customers have already moved and are operational at the new facility. Any person in need of fingerprinting services can make an appointment at the NSP website.

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The Nebraska Sheriffs' Association 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. It pays to be a member.

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# HIRING (AND KEEPING) GOOD COPS IN AN ERA OF ANTI-POLICE SENTIMENT

by Doug Wyllie

Leaders of police departments of all sizes across the United States are slogging it out, fighting an uphill battle in a two-front war to retain seasoned officers already in the ranks and attract the next generation of candidates.

In far too many jurisdictions command staff, are losing the battle as senior officers reach retirement age, transfer to other agencies, or leave the profession entirely to embark on a different career.

The HR department and the recruiting team are losing the battle to fill those vacancies with hungry young cops eager to tackle the profession's challenges.

Consider the fact that more than 200 officers have left the Minneapolis Police Department—either by early retirement or lateral transfer to other agencies—since the in-custody death of George Floyd. The police union says an overwhelming number cited a lack of support and felt “left to fend for themselves” during the subsequent riots.

The Seattle (WA) Police Department saw 66 departures in the first few months of 2021 alone (current numbers have not yet been made available), while 43 officers with the Louisville (KY) Police Department have left the agency thus far in 2021.

Other jurisdictions have seen a similar exodus, including Atlanta, Houston, New York, Philadelphia, and Portland. Small departments are also not immune to this mass departure. Not to put too fine a point on it: The attrition rate is alarming.

Meanwhile, young people are staying away from the law enforcement profession in droves.

How can these problems be resolved? Here are some strategies to consider for retention and recruiting.

## Addressing Officer Retention

According to research published in the American Association for the Advancement of Science in March 2021, officers polled for the study said that poor leadership and management was the most regular theme in answers as to why officers left policing voluntarily. Officers polled said that “management at all levels, whether immediate line management, middle management, or senior management within the organization,” were contributing factors for leaving the profession.

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Consequently, first and foremost in rethinking retention is to make sure that the men and women in your organization trust that leadership will empower them to do the job and enable them with the appropriate tools and resources to get the job done.

Officers must feel confident that leadership supports them even in the aftermath of a controversial incident, assuming officers have performed professionally until anything contrary can be definitively proven.

Secondly, evaluate your mission, vision, and value statements and determine whether or not those statements still resonate in today's world (they were probably written in a different century), and whether or not what the organization does as a whole reflects those statements so that the "troops" can "buy-in" on those concepts.

Most agencies have a document—prominently displayed in the lobby, the squad room, and other places in the headquarters building—stating the department's mission, vision, and values.

It might say something like, "The mission of the [Fill In the Blank] Police Department is to ensure the safety and security of the public through strong community partnerships and excellence in policing. We will accomplish our mission by remaining proactive in growing our community partnerships, enforcing the law, and providing the finest and fairest law enforcement services possible."

Has leadership at the agency lost its way? Do the people on patrol believe what's written on those placards, or do they consider it "lip service" meant for public consumption?

Cops possess a highly tuned "BS" detector—no manner of laudable platitudes will cover up the stench of living in a lie.

Finally, while exit interviews are not necessarily required when officers leave the ranks, a police leader who is faced with the imminent departure of a valued member of the department should always ask, "Why?"

*Continued on next page...*

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*Continued from previous page...*

You might not get a straight answer, but it doesn't hurt to ask. You might learn something important.

### **Rethinking Officer Recruiting**

"Why are my people leaving?" is an important question to reflect upon, but equally important is the question, "Why am I not attracting top-quality young recruits to join this agency?"

For starters, it may not be your agency in particular—it may be the profession in general. No matter where they are in the country, young people look at the fact that a police officer can be jailed or sued in civil court for simply performing their job within the law and agency policy and are staying away in large numbers.

They look at the poor pay—a fraction of the entry-level salaries of software engineers at even the most frugal start-up companies—and the fact that police work is inherently more dangerous than sitting at a computer, tapping out the code to the latest mobile app, and come to a very logical decision on their desired career path.

For those who do gravitate toward public service as part of their personal DNA, there's always the fire service (gasp!) as a viable alternative where they're not as likely to have objects and epithets hurled at them.

So, how do you overcome this hurdle?

One way is to give some thought as to who is recruiting and whether their tactics for getting the right people to match the time and world in which we live.

Job fairs, Explorer programs, and summer internships are all well and good, but young people nowadays live almost entirely online. Make sure that your recruiting team understands this and adjusts accordingly. Further, young people today "identify" more as individuals now than previous generations, who tended to identify as one part of a larger group—the former ethos is the software engineer, the later ethos fits nicely into the ranks of a police organization.

The CIA and the United States Army have recently revealed online videos intended to appeal to the mindset of the young people now entering the workforce.

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An argument could be made that those videos are pandering to the intended audience and tone-deaf to those organizations' core values, which places the greater good ahead of individual interests

I'd be the first person in line to make that argument. But at least the effort is being made.

The point is to present to these possible young candidates the benefits of serving the community within the language they tend to understand, which is: "What's in it for me?"

Recruiters may consider producing video interviews with officers who: have saved a person from a burning building, delivered a baby at the side of the freeway, raised money for kids battling a disease, removed an offender from an abusive home, or any other police activity that provides the instant gratification of "I did something worth doing."

Cops across America do "something worth doing" thousands of times a day, every day of the year.

Meeting the challenge of keeping your workforce intact and adding to it the best and the brightest new personnel is no small feat. It is complicated by nearly constant anti-police rhetoric and widespread anti-police sentiment. It is made more complex every time a high-profile use of force hits the headlines.

It is incumbent on command staff to proactively and persistently press on in this uphill slog and prevail in perfecting the police profession with the best possible people.

**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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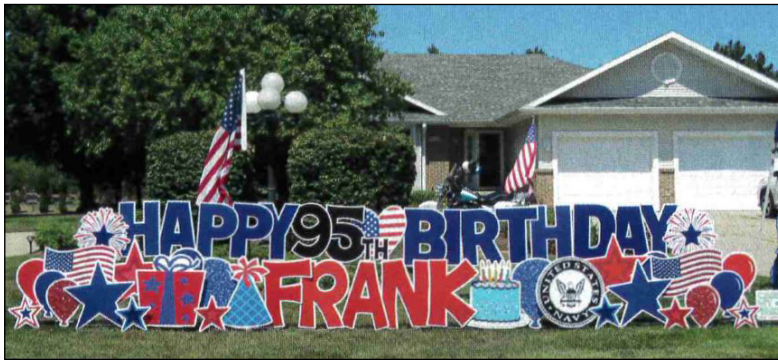
# A DIFFERENT KIND OF DRIVE-BY

By Sgt. (Ret.) Winston Cavendish

Last August in Nebraska, the Buffalo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO), the Kearney Police Department, and the Nebraska Highway Patrol responded to a drive-by. But this drive-by wasn't a gangland shooting on a busy street; it was a happy event—a pandemic-era parade held to recognize a longtime law enforcement officer.

The only "shooters" were photographers from the Kearney Hub newspaper, local television stations, and family and friends. They took snapshots as they formed an extended procession in front of retired Buffalo County Sheriff Frank Dineen's house to celebrate his 95th birthday.

Law enforcement turned out in force for the parade since Sheriff Dineen had spent his life protecting the community as a member of the BCSO, and as an officer with the Nebraska Highway Patrol. He continued his community involvement well into retirement as chaplain of the local Elks Lodge and American Legion.



The parade attracted more than 100 vehicles.

Henry Repeating Arms recognized Sheriff Dineen with the gift of a Henry commemorative rifle inscribed with his date of birth as the serial number. Sheriff Dineen told KHGI-TV's NTVNews that he had kept a vintage calendar from 1925 for his entire life with the goal of making it to Aug. 15, 2020, and his 95th birthday. When asked what's next, he said simply, "Margarita party."

This wasn't the first time Sheriff Dineen had been involved in a drive-by.

In 1959, a kid aiming at hubcaps with a pea shooter hit him in the head as he patrolled Hwy. 81.1. That kid was me—and after the kind Highway Patrol Officer Dineen caught me in my misdeed, he helped me turn my life around. I followed in his footsteps and spent a long career in law enforcement. Due to COVID-19, I wasn't able to travel to Nebraska to join the parade of friends, family, and law enforcement colleagues last

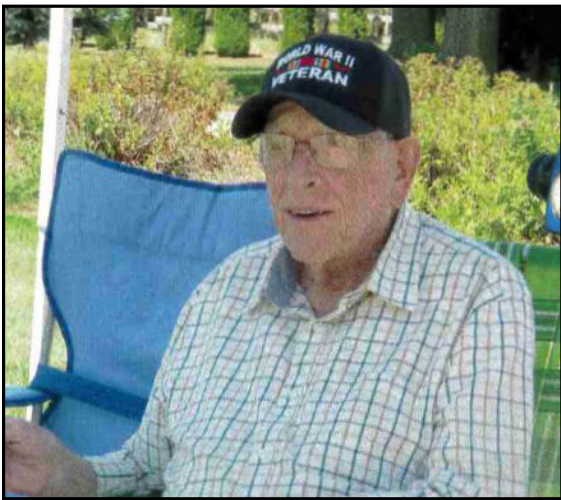
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Sheriff Frank Dineen (Ret.) on his 95th birthday

August. But, I know that Sheriff Dineen wants to thank all of the well-wishers who joined the parade and sent him cards and letters.

*In addition to portraying McGruff the Crime Dog for 27 years, Sgt. (Ret.) Winston Cavendish has served as a deputy with the St. Tammany Parish (Louisiana) Sheriff's Office, an assistant chief with the Mandeville (Louisiana) Police Department, and an officer with the Sun (Louisiana) Police Department.*

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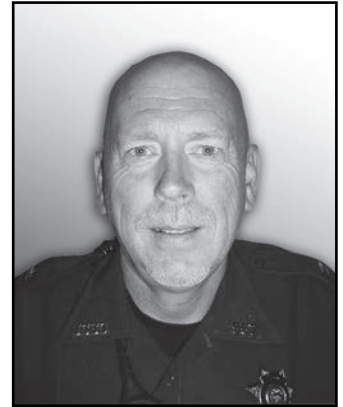
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# PRESS RELEASE: JOINT LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATION TAKES DOWN ALLEGED SOUTHWESTERN NEBRASKA DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION

Friday, August 27th 2021, 5:35 PM CDT

By: Omaha Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Omaha Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation released a statement on Friday afternoon, regarding the arrest they made on August 24th, where they believed to have taken down alleged Southwestern Nebraska Drug Organization.

OMAHA, Neb.-- The Omaha Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation released a statement on Friday afternoon regarding the arrest they made on August 24th, where they believed to have taken down alleged Southwestern Nebraska Drug Organization.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Omaha - Eugene Kowel, Special Agent in Charge of the Omaha Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, announced that five federal arrest warrants and seven state arrest warrants were executed on August 24th, 2021 at 6:00am as a result of a joint operation by members of the CODE Task Force in conjunction with state, federal, and local partners.

The arrest warrants were executed in North Platte, McCook, Kearney, Lincoln, and Culbertson, Nebraska, as well as in northwestern Kansas. Additionally, two federal warrants and two-state warrants were served on subjects already in state custody.

"Through collaboration with our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners, we were able to target and dismantle this criminal organization in Western Nebraska", stated FBI Omaha Special Agent in charge Eugene Kowel. "Drug-related crimes strangle communities in rural Nebraska. The CODE task force will continue to work to stop the violence, get drugs and weapons off the streets, and seek justice for those living in the communities they serve."

This matter was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Omaha Division CODE Task Force which is comprised of members of the Nebraska State Patrol, North Platte Police Department, Lexington Police Department, and Dawson County Sheriff's Office. The arrests and warrants executed on this date were the result of multi-agency collaboration, consisting of Nebraska State Patrol, North Platte Police Department, McCook Police Department, Red Willow County Sheriff's Office, Decatur County Kansas Sheriff's Office, Sherman County Kansas Sheriff's Office, U.S. Postal Inspection Services, the Department of Homeland Security, and FBI Omaha and Kansas City Divisions.



**This is a reminder that the Nebraska Sheriff's Association is now a part of the Western States Sheriff's Association. So far the WSSA has provided us with a lot of useful information.**

WSSA is a very strong voice for Sheriffs at the national level and offer their assistance at the local level as well.

For more information visit <https://westernsheriffs.org>



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# BATTERED CHILDREN: PROBLEM FOR GENERATIONS

*Sgt. Winston Cavendish S.P.D. retired*

When will child abuse stop? I have asked myself that question over and over again for years. Every law enforcement officer has dealt with the aftermath of such a horrible crime. It doesn't matter whether you are in a rural community or major city, this type of crime is one phone call away.

When it comes to the abuse of the elderly, children, or the handicap, every lawman is affected by it. One particular story of child abuse has been etched in my mind for years. I arrived at the Slidell Memorial Hospital's Emergency Department as a Staff Sergeant in the St Tammany Parish Sheriff's Department to investigate an allegation of child abuse by the mother. The five-year-old boy was on life support fighting for his life. And this was not the first time he had been hurt. I just knew this was no accident as it had been reported several times before. I wondered to myself when it would end.

I hit my breaking point when I arrived at the Pool's Funeral Home in Slidell, Louisiana, two days later. I saw the tiny little boy in a small white casket holding a McGruff doll in his lifeless hands. This time the abuse had gone too far, and nothing the doctors did could prevent this tragedy.

The boy's father had given his son the small McGruff doll just weeks before his death. He was holding the child's lifeless hands and sobbing his heart out. He was a man that loved his children so, so much. He was a kind person who now had a cross to carry for the rest of his life. You see, it was his wife who had taken her son's life, and now, she was being charged with murder. She received psychiatric treatment and prison time. What caused this terrible crime? The day before, the boy's mother had slammed the little boy against the wall all because he would not stop crying. Whatever the mother's state of mind was in, the fact remained, her son was dead.

Something had to be done to stop this from happening again. Getting help for being stressed out and mentally ill would be a good start. So I put together a public awareness program in our community on child abuse.

In 1985, John Walsh started the "National Center for Missing and Exploited Children" after his son Adam was kidnapped and murdered in South Florida back in the 60s. There was no such program nationally, and several local and state police departments were working on their own child safety programs. On such a program was the "Officer Friendly" program out of the Indianapolis Police Department that Sears Roebuck sponsored; it covered citizen awareness with the media's help. Today mandated reporting laws require School Teachers, medical personnel, police departments, and mental health professionals to report child abuse to their law enforcement department.

Police, unfortunately, can't be everywhere. You would be surprised how many people don't want to get involved, as they think it's not their problem. I want to use the words from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police "To Commit a crime is immoral to tolerate a crime is unforgivable."

Based on my personal experience with abused children, I wrote an article in 1978 to the New Banner in Mandeville, Louisiana, and the Sentry News out of Slidell, Louisiana. My column was called COP: Constable on Patrol. I wrote a story about abuse. I had my mom take the photo of me trying to strike my wife with a beer bottle for the article, and my four-year-old daughter Katharine pretended to cry her eyes out on the front porch of our apartment.



## “Dedicated to the youth of Nebraska.

Committed to Nebraska Youth for over 125 years! In its mission statement, The Nebraska Sheriff's Association has included "dedicated to the youth of Nebraska." Over the years, association members have consistently worked to educate children and teens on the dangers of distracted driving and drug and alcohol abuse.



In reality, my daughter would not stop laughing while we were trying to take the photo until I snatched her doll out of her hand, and she started crying. Two days after the article ran, we started receiving numerous reports of child abuse, neglect, and even starvation. My article worked. It was the best photo and article I had ever written! That further convinced me that a national campaign on child abuse would work.

In working with The National Crime Prevention Conceal for thirty-eight years promoting crime prevention across our great country, I appeared over 5000 times as McGruff the National Crime Dog. I also had the privilege and opportunity to speak to community leaders, educators, parents, teacher organizations, family crises counselors, and law enforcement agencies. I want to share some child safety program ideas that might help your programs in your county.

First, who should children tell? Children need to know who to call for help. There is an excellent film by Motorola called "Who do You Tell" As it turns out that young kids had a problem calling 911, as they could not find 11 on the phone.

Second, when a child is abducted, what words could save their lives? Teaching children what to say can be lifesaving. If abducted by a stranger, tell the child to say, "He's not my Mommy or Daddy call the Police." Even the most indifferent person will take action.

Third, how do we keep children safe at school? School resources officers can save our schools and community in such a positive way. Now only in preventing violence on school campuses but also with drug and related law-related education. They were prevented by their presence alone. Our children are the future leaders of tomorrow, and they must be protected.

Finally, what about juvenile courts? Juvenile courts are imperative in our society. Children are not just miniature adults and should be treated as such. Children make mistakes, but it is how they learn to do better. Every day in our country, children are abused. As police, we must take all inquiries on child abuse seriously. You might well be that dedicated Sheriff that really cares about their community, and many do not.

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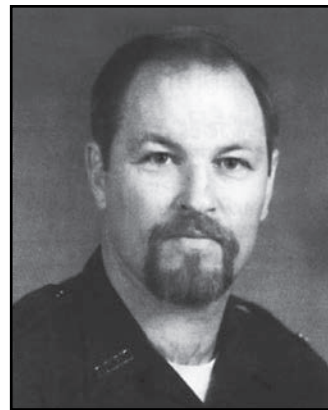
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# THE ROARING TWENTIES 1920 - 1929

*This is the information found in the county archives regarding the incident in Colorado in 1924 from Lt. Dave Swavely with the Jefferson Co. Sheriffs Department.*

- *Harry Randolph: Had been arrested for numerous thefts in York between 1907-1917 He was sentenced to the Nebraska State Penitentiary for Stealing in 1917*
- *John Afferbach had been the York County Sheriff from 1904-1910.*
- *The York County Sheriff mentioned in the article was C.A. Peterson, York County Sheriff from 1923-1927*
- *Sheriff C.A. Peterson had deputized John Afferbach to bring Harry Randolph back from the State of Montana.*

## **December 13, 1920 Friday**

Sheriff Albert E. Jones and Undersheriff Gary Kerr, along with Federal Agents, raided the farm of John Slam near Morrison, capturing the owner and his still of forty gallons of whiskey. The still was smashed by the Revenuers.

## **December 30, 1920 Monday**

Frank Garramone of Golden and Frank Riley of Fairmount were arrested today after Sheriff, Jones raided their stills. Garramone was sentenced to sixty days in jail and Riley was fined one hundred dollars.



*Sheriff Gary Kerr*

## **.January 10, 1921 Friday**

Today Gary Kerr took over the office of Sheriff from Albert E. Jones. Last November, Jones did not try for re-election. The Decocratic Party submitted nine candidates for Sheriff in the primary held on September 14, 1920. Kerr ran against Orville Dennis in the same primary on the Republican ticket defeating the son of Joseph Dennis by nearly four hundred votes. In the general election, Kerr defeated H.T. Curry by over six-teen hundred votes. This morning Sheriff Kerr announced that his Undersheriff was Charles Duncan and his Deputies would be Clyde Hocking, George Kane, Dorsey Trew, Bert Hill, Walter Overcamp, Farrington, Senter, and Harness.

## **January 15, 1921 Wednesday**

Today Sheriff Gary Kerr went to Arvada to investigate citizen complaints regarding a local "massage parlor". The Sheriff visited a short while with the owner of the establishment and convinced him that such a business would do better located elsewhere. The owner agreed. After leaving Arvada, Sheriff Kerr picked up Deputy James Mencimer, newly appointed for the Inter-Canyon area, and the two law men raided a still in the canyon, arresting three men and confiscating twenty barrels of beer.

## **May 5, 1921**

At a ranch near Morrison, three men had constructed an elaborate moonshining system. A special room had been built in the hayloft of the barn, and alfalfa piled high to conceal it. A small tunnel was dug through the alfalfa into the room which contained a one hundred and fifty gallon capacity still. Electric wires had been strung along the entrance to the barn to signal the approach of anyone coming close to the special room. Sheriff Kerr had figured out the alarm system, and with Deputy Mendmer, captured the still, arrested the three ranchers, and dumped thirty two barrels of beer and forty five gallons of whiskey.

## **January 1, 1922**

Today Sheriff Kerr asked the Board of County Commissioners to place the Undersheriff on a fee basis for his money instead of a salary. It was common knowledge among Sheriffs that receiving your money from serving civil process, making arrests, or time spent in court was more beneficial to the law man than receiving a straight salary. The County Commissioners agreed and placed Undersheriff Olson (newly appointed) on a fee basis.





The Ku Klux Klan in Golden, Good Friday, 1922

**March 1, 1922**

Today the Board of County Commissioners decided to remove Undersheriff Olson from the fee basis of payment and resume his designated salary of \$500.00 a year. The Commissioners felt that any lawman who was paid on a fee basis had the tendency to turn toward corruption, exceptional violence, or a lawman would perform only those fee services he considered worth his time and disregard those services he considered less profitable.

**April 14, 1922 Good Friday**

Just before midnight, sixty men gathered just south of Golden (where Heritage Square is now) to commemorate the crucifixion of Christ. The spokesman of this group, a preacher from Denver, before the lighting of sixty blazing torches, read the proclamation introducing themselves to the people of Jefferson County . . . . " Moral, law abiding people, white or black, male or female, of whatever religious faith, having nothing to fear from our Klan. But we do warn the immornl, the undesirable! We are loyal Americans and wish to be known that the Ku Klux Klan stands as constituted and operated for law enforcement only through the channels provided by our National, State, and local governments; breach of which by any Klans man is a violation of his sacred obligation and forfeiture of his membership . . . .

Continued on next page...

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*Continued from previous page...*

### **September 27, 1923**

A large wooden cross was erected atop Castle Rock overlooking Golden. Six white robed Klansmen, on horseback, patrolled the base of Castle Rock, keeping traffic flowing properly and discouraging any curiosity seekers from going up to the summit to see what was happening. Just after dark, the cross was set afire, illuminating the large hooded assembly. Two tents had been erected nearby where membership initiations were now being conducted.

### **June 19, 1924**

A week ago, a hiker found the remains of a headless corpse three miles west of Golden up Golden Gate Canyon. Sheriff Kerr and Coroner Woods responded to the scene and began an investigation into what appeared to be a murder. Coroner Woods estimated the time of death to be at least two years ago, due to the condition of the body. Nearby, Sheriff Kerr found an old hat, and a bullet hole through the hat band, but could not find the skull to assist him in the identification. That afternoon, Sheriff Kerr notified all law enforcement agencies in western United States to check their records for missing persons matching the meager description he had to offer.

*Continued from previous page...*

Today the Sheriff of York County, Nebraska arrived in town to inquire into the identity of this headless corpse. Apparently, the Sheriff was missing one of his Deputies. His name was John Afferbach and was assigned two years ago, just prior to his disappearance, to transport a prisoner named Harry Randolph from Montana back to Nebraska. When the Deputy failed to return to York County, a search was begun along the tracks of the railroad that snaked across the plains between the two States, but he was never found. In June of 1923, one year ago, Harry Randolph was sighted in Lincoln, Nebraska, by law enforcement authorities and the fugitive was killed in a gun battle. For the Sheriff of York County, this headless corpse was a very long shot in the discovery of his missing law man.

Sheriff Kerr took the York County Sheriff to Wood's Mortuary (where it stands today) and showed him the remains, the clothes and the bullet scarred hat, of the dead person. Immediately the visitor from Nebraska recognized the hat as John Afferbach's.

This afternoon the Sheriff of York County made preparations to return the body of John Afferbach back to Nebraska for burial. It was now evident that Harry Randolph had somehow overpowered Afferbach, forced him south into Jefferson County, and shot him in the head just west of Golden, Colorado. In essence, Afferbach became the first law man to die in the line of duty in Jefferson County, Colorado.

### **November 4, 1924 Tuesday**

Today the grandson of James M. Johnson, the fifth Sheriff of Jefferson County, and the son of Jonas M. Johnson, the twelfth Sheriff, was elected the twenty fifth man to serve as Sheriff of this County. Walter H. Johnson, a Democrat, defeated incumbent Gary Kerr by over one thousand votes. Walter Johnson was born on his family's ranch (near Camp George West) in 1886. He graduated from Golden Senior High School in 1904 and enrolled in the Colorado School of Mines in 1905 where he stayed for two years. In 1909, Johnson enrolled and graduated from the University of Colorado. In 1912 Johnson took over the family cattle business and remained thus employed until today when he was elected Sheriff.

### **January 1, 1925**

Today Gary Kerr left the Sheriffs residence and moved into another home at 14th Street and Maple in Golden.



*Sheriff Walter I-L Johnson*



Sheriff Walter Johnson moved into his new home on Washington Avenue. This morning, Johnson announced that O.L. Hall would serve as his Undersheriff and would basically keep those Deputy Sheriffs who served the last two years for Gary Kerr, which brought his total Departmental strength to eleven personnel.

### May 2, 1925

This morning a large white-brown plume of smoke could be seen north of Golden in the foothills. The Golden Fire Department headed up Coal Creek Canyon toward Carter Lake where the smoke cloud was increasing in size. Sheriff Johnson, with Undersheriff Hall, and several Deputies followed the Fire Department into the canyon. The fire had now burst into the trees, and was leaping from tree to tree southbound through the canyon. Nearby, a cabin was in danger of being consumed in the fire, but was spared when the wind shifted.

By early afternoon the large fire was controlled by the Fire Department and Sheriff Johnson began to look for the cause of the fire. In the middle of the charred timber, near the banks of the Lake, Johnson located the remnants of a moonshine factory. It became apparent that someone was operating this large still when it suddenly exploded causing recent forest fire. The Sheriff was not surprised to find this still since he had been searching Coal Creek for a reported moonshine operation for several months.

Sheriff Johnson went to the cabin which was nearly burned to the ground and found the wives of D.L. Wood and L.K. Anderson inside. Inside the cabin Johnson found evidence of illegal liquor distribution and placed the two women under arrest. The husbands were not around, so while the Fire Department mopped up the hot spots in the trees outside, Sheriff Johnson settled down to wait in the cabin for the return of the two moonshiners.

### May 3, 1925 5:00 am

Ray Carter opened the door of D.L. Wood's cabin in Coal Creek Canyon and was immediately arrested by Sheriff Johnson for illegal distribution of moonshine.

*Continued on next page...*

## SEWARD COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

**Mike Vance**  
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## SIOUX COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

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## STANTON COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

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*Continued from previous page...*

At daybreak Deputy Robinson went to Denver to the residence of Wood and found the man in a very hostile and violent mood. Wood smacked the Deputy in the eye, not causing any serious harm, and screamed, "I'll dean out the damned Sheriffs Office!" Wood was promptly arrested for illgal moon shining and assault and brought back to the Jefferson County Jail.

### **August 8, 1925 Saturday Night**

Tonight every available Deputy Sheriff and Arvada constable was directing traffic around Wadsworth and Ralston Road in order to allow the largest gathering of people, 10,000 was the estimate, to hold a parade through the downtown streets of this City. A four hour parade of 10,000 women marched down Wadsworth in support of the convention of male members of the Ku Klux Klan. These women wanted to become active members in this organiation. Robed, but unmasked, the mass of women marched with arms folded, and raised left palms in the air in unison to greet the large assemblage of spectators.

### **February 26, 1926 Sunday**

Today the Governor of Colorado declared as a tribute to law men throughout the State and was christened, "Law Enforcement Sunday". The Methodist, Presbyterian, and Baptist Churches of Golden pooled their resources and acquired a guest speaker to address the congregations on the evils of liquor and the laws of prohibition.

### **November 2, 1926 Tuesday**

Last week Sheriff Johnson announced that he had returned to the wallets of the taxpayers In Jefferson County over \$12,000.00 worth of fines levied against illegal moonshiners in 1925 alone. Also in 1925 Sheriff Johnson cared for and maintained a record 291 prisoners in the Jail, which, naturally, caused his meal and housing budget to increase accordingly.

Today the voters of Jefferson County demonstrated their sup port for Johnson and re-elected him to another two year term as Sheriff.

### **December 1926 Sunday Night**

Deputy Sheriffs Dorsey Trew and Dave Temple arrived at the Pleasant View home of Albert Reesler to quell a fight that had erupted over a female. Reesler and his friend dragged Edith Astor, who rumor had it was the heir to the fortune of John Jacob Astor who went down with the Titanic, to the ground out side the home and began to beat her senseless. Another female, Jean Kargelon tried to intervene and was slashed across the arm by a knife weilded by Reesler's friend, F.E. Sprague.

Kargelon staggered into the drive way just as the two Deputy Sheriffs arrived and she began to claw at the door handle to Dorsey Trew's car. Sprague turned his knife on the two Deputies who confronted him In the yard. Sprague lunged once again for Trew and the blade sunk deep into the Deputy's chest. Deputy Temple shot Sprague and quickly brought the situation under control. Trew was taken to a hospital. He survived the attack.

### **April 5, 1928**

Today Sheriff Johnson endorsed and instituted in the Jefferson County Jail the procedure of fingerprinting and photo graphing each prisoner for identification purposes. This information was to be sent by telegram to the newly formed Colorado State Bureau of Identification and Investigation directed by Jefferson County District Attorney, Joel Stone.

### **August 9, 1928 Thursday Night**

Just after dinner, Sheriff Johnson, accompanied by his young son, Bobbie, walked down the cell corridor locking down the cells for the night. Just behind a lever case, which housed the cell opening automations, was standing Thomas Morgan with a pipe in his hand. As Johnson passed the metal caseing, *Continued on next page...*



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*Continued from previous page...*

Morgan smashed the pipe down atop the Sheriff's head. Once, twice, three times the pipe struck Johnson until he slumped to the floor. Morgan slid into the exterior hallway as Johnson crawled to the lever case and before losing consciousness pulled the automatic lever successfully closing the jail cell doors.

Bobbie Johnson who had witnessed the beating ran to the porch steps leading into the Jail from the parking area and yelled, "Help, they're killing my Daddy!"

Neighbors heard the young boy and ran to the Jail. Sheriff Johnson, bleeding badly from several head wounds, was already on the telephone notifying his Deputies of the escape. Sheriff's Deputies set up road blocks in an attempt to catch Morgan before he slipped into Lakewood. Morgan had sneaked through the bushes along 44th Avenue, slipping past a Golden City Constable and ran east along the river. By late afternoon the fugitive was heading east on Colfax, through Lakewood, driving a stolen Dodge.

### **October 17, 1928 Wednesday**

On Friday, August 10th, Law enforcement officials spotted fugitive, Thomas Morgan, passing through the Colorado town of Strasberg, and that night he was seen in Holdridge, Nebraska driving a Chrysler.

Saturday afternoon, the 11th of August, Morgan was seen in a Studebaker in Hastings, Nebraska. That night he was seen in Iowa in a Buick. Sunday morning the 12th of August Morgan crossed the southern border of Minnesota in a Buick. That afternoon Morgan dumped his stolen Buick in Independence, Kansas and ripped off a Ford. That night he robbed a store in Glencoe, Minnesota, and dumped his stolen Kansas Ford.

Monday morning, the 13th, Morgan was found in Criston, Iowa. A special agent of the Burlington Railroad recognized the man from a wanted poster and grabbed Morgan before he could steal another car and leave town.

This morning, Deputy Trew, long since recovered from the knife attack, left Iowa with Thomas Morgan securely chained and shackled. In two days Morgan would be back in his old jail cell in Golden, Colorado.

### **April 17, 1929 Thursday**

Today the Federal Grand Jury, in session in Denver, indicted Sheriff Walter Johnson for conspiracy to violate the prohibition amendment. Charles E. Works, assistant United States Attorney, charged the Sheriff with accepting money from boot leggers in Park and Jefferson Counties.

### **April 18, 1929 Friday**

This morning, Sheriff Johnson turned himself into the custody of the Federal authorities and presented a bond for his own release. Sheriff Johnson denied the charges pressed against him, but the shock of such allegations were very hard to bear.

### **May 6, 1929 Monday**

Deputy Sheriff Clyde Hocking, first appointed by Albert Jones in 1918, this morning turned himself into the custody of the United States Marshal after the Federal Grand Jury indicted him for conspiracy to violate prohibition laws. He was released on a \$1,000.00 bond after pleading not guilty.

### **May 16, 1929**

Joseph Clark, a known Denver bootlegger, was found murdered just northeast of Semper (Westminster) in Jefferson County. William Scott, a ditch rider found the corpse and called Sheriff Johnson to investigate. No clues to the murder were ever found by the Sheriff's investigators. That afternoon the news media discovered that the murdered man was soon to serve as State's witness against Sheriff Johnson and Clyde Hocking on their Federal indictments.



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# PURSUIT LEAD TO MULTIPLE ARRESTS SUNDAY IN OMAHA

Byline August 23, 2021

OMAHA - Troopers with the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) have arrested multiple people following multiple pursuits Sunday evening.

At approximately 5:50 p.m. Sunday, a trooper observed a motorcycle driving recklessly on Interstate 680 near Dodge Street. The motorcycle was speeding, splitting between other vehicles, and passing on the shoulder. The trooper attempted a traffic stop, but the motorcycle fled. The trooper initiated a pursuit but discontinued the pursuit shortly thereafter as the NSP Aviation Support Division began tracking the motorcycle from the air.

NSP pilots tracked the motorcycle as it continued driving recklessly through portions of west Omaha until it came to an apartment complex near 129th and Q streets. Pilots directed patrol units to that location, where the rider then fled on foot. Troopers and Omaha Police Officers were able to apprehend the subject after a short foot pursuit. The rider, Lenn Farley, 32, of Papillion, was arrested for felony flight to avoid arrest, willful reckless driving, and an outstanding warrant from Hall County. He was lodged in Douglas County Jail.



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Later, at approximately 7:45 p.m. Sunday, a trooper located a vehicle that had previously fled a traffic stop with the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office. The trooper attempted a traffic stop in a parking lot near the 84th Street interchange of Interstate 80. The vehicle, a Chevrolet Malibu, refused to stop and fled westbound on Interstate 80. The trooper initiated a pursuit.

The vehicle turned northbound onto Interstate 680, then westbound on West Center Road. Near 119th and Center, the trooper was able to successfully perform a tactical vehicle intervention to bring the vehicle to a stop. The driver was then taken into custody without incident. Troopers then discovered four children in the vehicle as well. No injuries were reported. The driver then provided false identifying information to the troopers.

The driver, Tiara Cook, 32, of Omaha, was arrested for felony flight to avoid arrest, willful reckless driving, child abuse/neglect, no operator's license, and false reporting. Cook was lodged in Douglas County Jail. The children were placed with family.

## WEBSTER COUNTY SHERIFFS' OFFICE

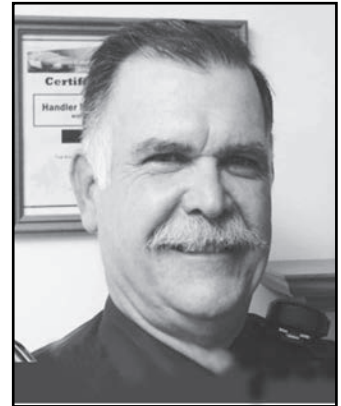
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## THE NEBRASKA DRIVE-BY SHOOTING (2)

*Sgt. Winston Cavendish S.P.D.retired*

A senseless drive by shooting happens somewhere in our country every day. Police are under attack by those that would like to dismantle police departments, by: rioting, burning buildings, looting stores, turning over police cars, and taking over governmental buildings, including police stations. The National Guard, Federal Marshals Sheriff's Department, and local Police Department are trying to maintain peace in United States as the media fans the fires of unrest in our country, when will it stop?

On Saturday, August 15, 2020, between 1:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. in Kearney, Nebraska, hundreds of public service vehicles from the Nebraska Highway Patrol, Buffalo County Sheriff's Office, and the Kearney Police department arrived on the scene of this (Nebraska Drive By-Shooting.) The victim was a willing subject retired Sheriff Frank Dineen of Buffalo County. He was shot in broad daylight by photojournalist from the Kearney Hub New Paper. Two Television Reporters covered the news event. Hundreds of friends and family members driving by taking photos of him sitting in his favor lawn chair at home. Behind him was a large birthday banner made by a sign company in Kearney. It was some thirty feet long and three feet high, depicting his love for his country, state, and county. His daughter put the parade and banner together for the love of her dad. Sadly, the admiring public could not shake his hand or give him a hug, due to the Covid- 19 virus.

What was so remarkable about this occasion? Buffalo County Enforcement Community, Fire departments, and Emergency services recognize him for his incredible efforts to protect their community.

Why so much love for an elderly sheriff? He was a decorated sailor in sea battles in the South Pacific during World War Two. As a no-nonsense lawman highly respected in his community, he enforced the law fairly and impurely for 60 years: a sheriff for 30 years and Nebraska Highway Patrol for 30 years. He has a strong faith in God, and he is the chaplain for the Elks Lodge and American Legion in Kearney. He has a Norman Rockwell family if you see them at the dinner table at his home.

This writer shot him in a Nebraska Drive-by Shooting in Norfolk in 1959 when he was a Nebraska Highway Patrol Officers. I was a rotten kid. I used to shoot hubcaps of cars while hiding in the brush along highway 81 north in Norfolk, Nebraska, with my pea shooter. One day I missed the hub cap and hit him in the head. He ran me down and caught me. He turned my life around, and I owe him so much for my life work as a Police Officer, Sheriff's Deputy. You see, I became a Police Officer in the United States in 1982. I was decorated at the F.B.I. Headquarters in Washing D. C. by Director Judge William Webster for my work with the National Crime Dog (McGruff). I've toured with him for 38 years, and I've put on thousands of air miles promoting crime prevention in 50 states besides working as a line officer.

So impressed with his love of his country and service to his community, he received a special Henry Commemorative rifle from President Antony Imperato, the owner of Henry Repeating Rifles. There is a special serial number on the weapon; it reads as his date of birth. The sister rifle was given to Louie Zamperini, a World War Two Hero. They made a movie called "Unbroken" about him, and what an honor to be recognized along with such a war hero. What an honor!!

Frank wanted to thank his many friends and family members along with all the brothers in blue for their cards, letters, and phone calls he has received in the last few days. He wanted me to send his very best to his friends at the Nebraska Sheriff Association, and The National Sheriff's Association for their help over the years. God Bless America.





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