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From Page 1

lot of buzz amongst the stu-

"It'll be once in a lifetime — we don't get this opportunity very often," he said.

"The kids are excited about it. The little kids are really excited about it. In this day and age, hardly anyone has been on a bus — let alone a charter bus.'

He said the trip gives children a chance to meet other students from the region, as well as learn a bit.

"I think one of the biggest things is they get a chance to see other kids from Aberdeen, Sioux Falls, Milbank, Watertown and other Catholic school students and maybe meet some new people," he said. "Sometimes in Yankton, we're kind of alone here, but you go up there and see 3,000 other kids that are receiving Catholic education. I think they get a different view of what we have here and that we're not just a tiny little island. It's an opportunity to learn more about your

You can follow Rob Nielsen on Twitter at twitter.com/RobNielsen-PandD/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/

Catholic faith.'

# **YOUR NEWS!**

The Press & Dakotan

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# Adopted Dogs In Western SD Become **Disaster-Response Canines**

**BY KAIJA SWISHER** 

Black Hills Pioneer

SPEARFISH — They once wagged their tails from inside kennels at the Western Hills Humane Society in Spearfish when they saw visitors, but now Skye and Ollie wag their tails as they help to rescue survivors with their handlers in national disaster task forces deployed across the country.

Both were discovered by Kellee and Tim Matthews, who own the South Dakota Canine Center outside of Sturgis. The couple had worked with the Search Dog Foundation in California before moving to the Black Hills in 2012, and they decided to continue their support, developing a regional recruiting program for dogs that show potential.

They cover 10 Midwestern states, visiting shelters and rescues, and potential candidates return to their training center to complete about four weeks of training and thorough evaluations on temperament, footing challenges and overall intensity and sustainability tests, in addition to extensive medical clearances. The dogs train in a variety of settings, including the landfill, retail locations — places with a lot of distractions — to ensure their hunt-drive overrides all other stimuli.

"These are elite canine athletes who are expected to never give up in their search for human survivors of disasters," Kellee Matthews said. 'They are diamonds in the rough and very, very hard to find."

Those who don't meet the criteria are found homes, and the Matthews are committed to try to keep them from going back to shelters. They said that since they started their Midwest effort, they have found homes for nearly 40 dogs and placed more than 25 in working careers across the coun-

"We feel we are making a difference and hope others do, too," she said. "We have dogs doing explosive detection for the U.S. Marshalls, drug detection for school systems and law enforcement, even service work for autistic children. The possibilities are endless — these dogs are in the shel-

Kellee discovered Skye the first time the Matthews stopped at the Western Hills Humane Society to meet the staff, since employees at shelters and rescues can also help to identify dogs that would be suited for rescue work. Kellee noticed a border collie tethered in his run and was told that he was an "escape artist." The dog had been picked up as a stray, and though he had a tag from Nebraska, attempts to find his owner — or discover how he'd made it to Spearfish — were unsuccessful.

Almost immediately, though, Matthews saw indications the dog could be a potential rescuer.

"He lit up when we bounced the ball, and from there it was all positive," she said. "Such a sweet, willing, smart and talented dog right here in our own backvard!'

Once a dog is recommended to the Search Dog Foundation, it travels to the Southern California National Training Center to complete training and begin the matching process with task forces across the country.

Denise Sanders, the foundation's program communications manager, explained that the organization's mission is to strengthen disaster response in America by recruiting rescued dogs and partnering them with firefighters and other first responders to find people buried alive in the rubble of disasters.

'We search shelters and rescue organizations across the country to find the dogs with the incredible energy, intense focus and insatiable hunt-drive that is required to do their job," she said.

The foundation's training program prepares

dogs to find survivors after disasters such as the Haiti earthquake in 2010 or the tsunami in 2011 in Japan, as well as man-made disaster such as the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center. The dogs are trained to identify the scent of live humans, pinpoint the source, and alert their handlers with continuous barking to show the rescuers where to dig.

'Our hope is that these former rescued dogs can go on to use their search skills, along with their handlers, to save lives and rescue others," Sanders said. "A dog's nose is extremely effective and much quicker at finding survivors buried in rubble than a human, but working together, with the right training and knowledge, dogs and humans can be a great life-saving resource.

The Matthews also discovered a young setter mix at the Western Hills Humane Society shortly after finding Skve.

"A happy, energetic pup who latched onto the rope toy and never let go," Matthews said of Ollie.

Ollie and Skye trained together for most of 2013, until Skye graduated from the program on Oct. 8, 2013, and was paired his handler, Dallas firefighter Andrea Sutcliffe of Texas Task Force 2. Teams then aim to get certifications within one year of graduation in order to be deployable members of their task force, and Skye and Sutcliffe achieved those further certifications within eight months of Skye's graduation, meaning they can deploy as needed.

Typical of a border collie, Skye is extremely intelligent and challenged the foundation's trainers to keep him engaged, and he seems to be well paired with his handler.

"Skye has never looked at any of us trainers the way he looks at Andrea," said Lee Culley, trainer and handler with the foundation. "It's a focused and attentive stance that tells her he's ready to face whatever obstacles she can throw at him.

Ollie graduated in April of 2014 and is paired with Orange County Fire Authority firefighter Donovan George, attached to California Task Force 5.

Sanders added that because it can be difficult to find consistent locations for search teams to train for disasters, the foundation is building a National Training Center in Santa Paula, California, where Canine Disaster Search Teams from around the world can train to be prepared for future disasters.

And that's what makes high-energy dogs which often end up at shelter described as "unruly" pets — great candidates for the training.

"We believe that every animal has potential they can be severely undermined in their potential by lack of commitment to training, socialization and most importantly irresponsible breeding. They need our help," Matthews said, adding that the family has always been involved with rescue efforts, and the foundation's recruitment is a way to continue those efforts. "We literally take some of the most difficult and problematic dogs. Fence jumpers, destructive, high energy — these are the dogs that need a challenging job and when given that — they

They often find a place in people's hearts, too, and Matthews said that while they were proud to recommend Skye to the program, it was hard to see him go. However, his trainer recognizes her partner's ability to make people love him.

"She (Sutcliffe) knows our family was very attached to Skye and that our two young boys cried their hearts out when he left us," Matthews said. 'She sends us updates and pictures, so we know he found an amazing place in life and will do great

She sees the passion the dogs have when given an important task, and her hope is that they continue to love what they do.

"When you see these dogs 'work,' it is such an intensely fulfilling game to them — they live for it,' she said. "While we never hope for disasters or misfortune, when these dogs are called upon to respond — it gives us goose bumps to know where they started and what they are capable of!"

## lerror

From Page 15

taken place in Niger, Pakistan and Algeria — countries with large Muslim populations.

Niger's president said Saturday that at least 10 people were killed in violent protests in the West African nation over Charlie Hebdo's depiction of the Prophet Muhammad. The satirical weekly has long antagonized Muslims with its depictions of the prophet, and its cover cartoon published Wednesday depicted Muhammad holding a "Je Suis Charlie I am Charlie — sign.

Europe too was eager to head off any possible vio-

French authorities

KYB board of directors

president Cheryl Sommer

said there will still be a lot

'We'll continue to do

Sommer said. "We try to pick

one or two projects per year.

In the spring, we'll probably

finish up our memorial proj-

ect. ... We've decided as a

board we want to continue

with some strong fundraising

efforts. We're non-profit and

going for us to sustain those

keep in the forefront, so that

will be a strong focus for us

in this next year with our

it takes a lot of time and en-

ergy to get memberships

(numbers) and it's some-

thing we always need to

for the group to work on

what we've been doing,'

moving forward.

banned an anti-Islamist demonstration in Paris planned on Sunday, ruling that it might disrupt public order. In Germany, a rally by a group calling itself PEGIDA, or Patriotic Europeans against the Islamization of the West, was called off because of a terrorist threat against one of its organizers. The group has been holding weekly rallies in the eastern

city of Dresden. Organizers of the banned Paris rally instead held a news conference in a location that was kept secret until a few hours before it began. Renaud Camus, who has tapped into fears about Muslims in Europe, said Pegida represents a "great hope rising in the east.

Melanie Dittmer, a Pegida activist from Duesseldorf who organizes the movement in western Germany. was among those present for

Sommer said while the

board doesn't have a rigid

timeline, they would like to

the end of Swift-Slowey's

ready been some interest

have someone named before

Sommer said there's al-

garnered from advertising in

print and social media, but

the position is still open to

They can submit a re-

sume through our post office

reach us online or send their

resume to keepyanktonbeau-

tiful@gmail.com and we'll get

Applicants can also use

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Swift-Slowey said while

she has a lot to focus on, this

may not be the last she

"Over the next few

works for the group.

box that we've listed in our

ad," she said. "They can

new director."

tenure.

the public.

it that way.'

the news conference. Wearing a bulletproof vest, Dittmer said she had been personally attacked and that organizing the group's rallies had become "physically dangerous.

In Britain, Home Secretary Theresa May urged new action to fight anti-Semitism amid fears in the Jewish community after the Paris at-

Meanwhile, Italian Interior Minister Angelino Alfano told five Tunisians and citizens from Turkey, Egypt, Morocco and Pakistan were among the expulsions of nine suspected jihadis since late last month. He vowed more expulsions in a heightened crackdown on terrorism.

President Francois Hollande said France was "waging war" on terrorism and it showed on the streets of Paris and elsewhere, where

months, there's a lot of stuff

going on for my family that I

kind of need to tend to," she

said. "But I know that later

on in the year, I might possi-

bly go back as a board mem-

thwarted plot against police, Belgian authorities have also

The Kouachi brothers were buried over the weekend in secretive ceremonies and in anonymous graves in a bid to prevent their tombs

**ACROSS** 1 Hint of color 6 Reef

material ∣Oak's fruit link 12 Martini aarnish 13 Floppy ebration

14 Peripheral 15 Sinuous fish **17**Terminate

rodents **22** Over again 23 Iroquois

ber when there's more time available.' tribe Sommer had a lot of praise for the job Swift-Slowey's done during the

last year. "She's done an exemplary job for us and we're sorry to see her go," she said. "She is a real go-getter. We hope to bring somebody aboard that will follow in the same footsteps. We've been very lucky to have very good leadership in terms of our directors, and we want to hopefully continue that.'

Nielsen on Twitter at twit-Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/

122,000 police and wellarmed troops have been deployed to protect the country. In the wake of the deployed troops for enhanced counterterrorism se-

DOWN

cap

27 Girder material

30 Cooking class, for short 32 Staff member 33 Finger joints 35 Place 38 Termi-

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# CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

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**41** Depart 45 — firma 46 Hold up 47 Chaplin persona 48Use the rink

from being turned into shrines for radicals. Said Kouachi was buried in Reims in eastern France, and his younger brother Cherif was buried in the northwest Paris suburb of Gennevillers, city officials said.

There has been no word on burial plans for Coulibaly, who killed five people before he was killed by police Jan.



Saturday's answer **19**"Do — 35 "Troy" star others ..." 36 Manual

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## AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

**CRYPTOQUOTE** 

TCHQGKCZX: ZYQ S G Z

ZYCMECMW CMTQBQMTQMZVX

ZAWQZYQG. JSVUAVJ

IAGOQK

Saturday's Cryptoquote: THE PARTITION BETWEEN THE SAGE AND THE FOOL IS MORE SLENDER THAN THE SPIDER WEB. — KAHLIL **GIBRAN** 

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devices to be open;

• Give the GFP secretary authority to declare a waterbody as an aquatic invasive species containment area;

and Prohibit water and bait to be taken in a boat from a waterbody that has been designated for AIS containment.

A public hearing will be held March 5 at 2 p.m. CST as part of the commission's next meeting scheduled for the RedRossa conference center in Pierre.

Mussels were found last year at Angostura reservoir on the Chevenne River in the southern Black Hills and at Lewis and Clark reservoir on the Missouri River in southeastern South Dakota. Jensen indicated a deep

concern about whether South Dakota is doing enough to protect its waters. He said Minnesota, for example, has many AIS-specific regulations.

Commission chairman John Cooper of Pierre spoke in support of Jensen and said there might be a need for an AIS management plan in South Dakota. Cooper, a past GFP secre-

tary who oversaw the agency and previously was a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agent, said South Dakota's management plan likely would need inter-agency cooperation. Cooper said the work

should include consultation

with other state government

offices, such as the Depart-

ment of Health and the De-

partment of Environment and Natural Resources. Non-native species such

as zebra mussels and quagga mussels can clog intakes for water supply systems, forcing expensive repairs, and can overrun other structures in the water such as pier and dock supports. The new regulations cur-

rently proposed would remove references to aquatic nuisance species and instead use aquatic invasive species as the current commonly used term.

mites australis — to the aquatic invasive plant species list. said phragmites have ex-

Niobrara River delta of the

add common reeds — Phrag-

and Clark reservoir.

The proposal also would

Fisheries chief John Lott panded their presence in the Missouri River above Lewis