

The Press & Dakotan

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OPINION

Law Enforcement: What They Face

Many of us really can't appreciate the dangers that our law enforcement officers potentially face every single day. But it's an important facet to consider now amid a rising overall tension nationwide involving police and minorities. It also rings home in this region, as there have been two officer-involved shootings within the last week. One occurred in Yankton; the other, which took place in Mitchell, ended in a fatality.

The two local shootings appear to have nothing to do with whatever is or isn't going on nationally, but they do reinforce the fact that a law officer's job can be anything but routine.

Of course, he or she never knows what to expect when a work shift begins.

It may be a quiet day or night with little happening beyond the occasional noise complaint or a traffic stop because of a broken tail light.

But there can also be times, totally unforeseen and usually quite spontaneous, when dangers arise, tensions escalate and more assertive action is needed.

Such was the case, we can conclude, last Tuesday night when an incident in the downtown Yankton area resulted in the shooting of a suspect by a city police officer. The suspect in question received medical treatment and was subsequently charged with four counts of attempted murder. This is not to assume guilt in this situation, but it seems clear that a danger was perceived and the use of force was deemed necessary.

And that's part of the job of law enforcement. They may not only face dangerous situations but they must also decide how to respond to them. Again, we are not drawing conclusions in this situation, but the decision was made to use such force to diffuse a situation — a decision that no law enforcement officer or police department takes lightly. The fact that the Yankton Police Department immediately notified the Division of Criminal Investigation to handle the investigation indicates how serious such matters are treated.

And this is just one potential day (or night) on the job for those who are sworn to protect the citizenry and keep order in this community.

Yes, there is always the chance that some police officers may take things too far, just as there is always the chance that some individuals will target the police. We are seeing this play out on a national scale, as explosive incidents involving police — either as alleged perpetrators or victims themselves — have generated intense media coverage. It's an unfortunate scenario in which cooler heads must ultimately prevail on all sides — don't they?

Meanwhile, beyond the glare of such headlines, there are the day-to-day workings of police officers who never know what the next call or next traffic stop is going to present, and what decisions may or may not have to be made.

It's not the safest line of work, to be sure, but it certainly is one of the most essential for all of us. We should never forget that, and be thankful that there are men and women willing to put themselves in such positions, all in the name of our well-being.

knh

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IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 9, the 252nd day of 2015. There are 113 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 9, 1965, Sandy Koufax of the Los Angeles Dodgers pitched a perfect game against the Chicago Cubs at Dodger Stadium. Final score: 1-0.

On this date: In 1543, Mary Stuart was crowned Queen of Scots at Stirling Castle, nine months after she was born.

In 1776, the second Continental Congress made the term "United States" official, replacing "United Colonies."

In 1850, California became the 31st state of the union.

In 1893, Frances Cleveland, wife of President Grover Cleveland, gave birth to a daughter, Esther, in the White House; it was the first (and, to date, only) time a president's child was born in the executive mansion.

In 1919, some 1,100 members of Boston's 1,500-man police force went on strike. (The strike was broken by Massachusetts Gov. Calvin Coolidge with replacement officers.)

In 1926, the National Broadcasting Co. (NBC) was incorporated by the Radio Corp. of America.

In 1948, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) was declared.

In 1956, Elvis Presley made the first of three appearances on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

In 1971, prisoners seized control of the maximum-security Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, New York, beginning a siege that ended up claiming 43 lives.

In 1976, Communist Chinese leader Mao Zedong died in Beijing at age 82.

In 1986, Frank Reed, director of a private school in Lebanon, was taken hostage; he was released 44 months later.

In 1997, Sinn Fein (shin fayn), the IRA's political ally, formally renounced violence as it took its place in talks on Northern Ireland's future. Actor Burgess Meredith died in Malibu, California, at age 89.

Ten years ago: Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Michael Brown, the principal target of harsh criticism of the Bush administration's response to Hurricane Katrina, was relieved of his on-site command. A Nevada couple pleaded guilty in San Jose, California, to all charges related to planting a human fingertip in a bowl of Wendy's chili in a scheme to extort money from the fast food

chain. Hosni Mubarak was declared winner of Egypt's first contested presidential vote.

Five years ago: A natural gas pipeline explosion killed eight people and destroyed dozens of homes in the San Francisco suburb of San Bruno, California. Iran said it would free Sarah Shourd, one of three American hikers held for more than 13 months on spying accusations, as an act of clemency to mark the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan. (Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal were sentenced in August 2011 to eight years in prison, but were released the following month.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama met privately with congressional leaders at the White House to discuss his plan for taking action against Islamic State militants. Former Massachusetts Sen. Scott Brown glided to an easy win in the Republican primary for Senate in neighboring New Hampshire (he ended up losing in November to incumbent Sen. Jeanne Shaheen). Apple unveiled its long-anticipated smartwatch as well as the next generation of its iPhone.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Sylvia Miles is 81. Actor Topol is 80. Rhythm-and-blues singer Luther Simmons is 73. Singer Inez Foxx is 73. Singer Dee Dee Sharp is 69. Country singer Freddy Weller is 68. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Joe Theismann is 66. Rock musician John McFee (The Doobie Brothers) is 65. Actor Tom Wopat is 64. Actress Angela Cartwright is 63. Musician-producer Dave Stewart is 63. Actor Hugh Grant is 55. Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., is 52. Actor-comedian Charles Esten (formerly Chip) is 50. Actress Constance Marie is 50. Actor David Tennant is 49. Actor Adam Sandler is 49. Rock singer Paul Durham (Black Lab) is 47. Actress Julia Sawalha is 47. Model Rachel Hunter is 46. Actor Eric Stonestreet is 44. Actor Henry Thomas is 44. Actor Goran Visnjic is 43. Pop-jazz singer Michael Buble is 40. Country singer Joey Martin (Joey + Rory) is 40. Latin singer Maria Rita is 38. Actress Michelle Williams is 35. Actress Julie Gonzalo is 34. Neo-soul singer Paul Janeway (St. Paul & the Broken Bones) is 32. Actress Zoe Kazan (TV: "Olive Kitteridge") is 32. Country singer-songwriter Hunter Hayes is 24.

Thought for Today: "A heretic is a man who sees with his own eyes." — Gotthold Lessing, German dramatist-critic (1729-1781).

FROM THE BIBLE

Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name. Isaiah 40:26. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



"THE GOVERNMENT NO LONGER COUNTS ME AS UNEMPLOYED, BUT I GOTTA TELL YA, IT STILL FEELS LIKE IT."

The Rez of the Story

What's In A Name?

BY VINCE TWO EAGLES

Hau Mitakuepi (Greeting My Relatives), For your information ...

"Twenty-six of the contiguous United States, as well as Alaska, were given names derived from American Indian languages," according to Keoke and Porterfield co-authors of "American Indian Contributions to the World."

That list includes the following:

- Alabama — "a Choctaw word for the name of a tribe that was part of the Creek Confederacy ..."
- Alaska — "According to some historians, the Russian derivative of the Aleut word alyeska, which means 'mainland' or 'great lands.'"
- Arizona — "The Spanish version of aleh-zon, Akimel O'odham (Pima) words that mean 'small spring.'"

- Arkansas — "Perhaps a phonetic spelling of the name that people of the Illinois tribe had for American Indians who lived along what is known as the Arkansas River, which means 'down river' or 'downstream people.'"
- Connecticut — "From the Mohegan word guonehtacut, which can be translated as 'long river place' or 'the long river.'"

- North and South Dakota — "Refers to the people who lived in area." [Includes Lakota and Nakota people.]
- Illinois — "The French spelling for the Illini. The word meant 'man' or 'warrior.'"

- Iowa — "Named for the tribe of Indians that lived in the region, the Ayuxwa, whose name means 'one who puts to sleep.' The French spelled the word Ayoua and it became loway in English."
- Kansas — "The French spelling of the name of the tribe who lived in the area of the present state. According to some scholars, the word means 'south wind. . ."

- Kentucky — "A Wyandot word for 'plain,'



Vince
TWO EAGLES

referring to the central plains of the state. It was first used in 1753."

- Massachusetts — "In Algonquian the word means 'large hill place' or 'at the hill.'"

- Michigan — "Probably derived from the Chippewa (Anishinabe) words mici and gami, which mean 'big water.'"

- Minnesota — "Named after the Minnesota river that the Dakota called mini shota, meaning cloudy or milky water."

- Mississippi — "After the river's name, which comes from the Algonquian language mici sibi, meaning 'big river.'"

- Missouri — "Derived from the Algonquian word that means 'muddy water.'"

- Ohio — "Named after the Ohio River ... that the Iroquois called the river Ohio, meaning 'large or beautiful river.'"

- Oklahoma — "Made up of the Choctaw words ukla and huma, which together mean 'red person.'"

- Oregon — "Possibly it was derived from a Shoshonean word for 'place of plenty ...'"

- Tennessee — "Comes from Tanasi, the Cherokee name for two villages on the Little Tennessee River."

- Texas — "From the Caddo language, which means 'hello friend.'"

- Utah — "A name given to the Navajo (Dineh) by the White Mountain Apache ... meaning 'one that is higher up.'"

- Wisconsin — "Named after the Wisconsin river ... from the Chippewa (Anishinabe) meaning 'gathering of waters' or 'grassy place.'"

- Wyoming — "Derived from two (... Delaware) words, meche weamiing, which mean 'at the big flats.'"

And now you know the rez of the story. Doksha (later) ...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where The Money Goes

Randy Gleich, Yankton

I've asked this question many times and the Yankton County Commission has not provided an answer, why not?

- The 2015 Road and Bridge Budget: \$3,779,985

- The 2016 Provisional Road and Bridge Budget: \$ 4,299,512: an increase of \$519,527

Should not the Road and Bridge Budget for 2016 show an increase of: \$1.5 million from the proposed tax levy?

- Reflect the increase in revenue from 20 percent increase in the Gas Tax

- Reflect the increase in revenue from 20 percent increase in the Wheel Tax

- Reflect the increase in revenue from 33 percent increase in the Excise Tax

If you just apply a 20 percent increase (Taxes: Gas/Wheel/Excise) to the 2015 budget that would make the amount \$4,535,982 for 2016, but it is not it; is only \$4,299,512 — short \$236,740

A 20 percent increase in last year's budget plus the proposed tax levy would give the county \$6,035,982 for Roads and Bridges...an increase of \$2,255,997 for the road budget. So where is all this money going?

A Plan For The Money

Todd Woods, Yankton

Chairman, Yankton County Commission

I want to thank all who attended the Road and Bridge Levy forum hosted by the Yankton Chamber of Commerce. It was great to see the turnout and get questions answered that were on your mind.

One of the questions that was asked: "What will the Yankton County commissioners do with the money if this is passed? Is there a plan in place?"

Yes, we do have a plan and, if the levy is passed, we will implement the plan in 2016. Due to a limited amount of space, I've listed the projects slated for the next two years:

- * 2016 – Replace three bridges – Estimated cost: \$450,000

- Yankton/Clay County Line (452nd Ave) between 304th and 305th Street (50% Cost Share with Clay County)

- Gayville/Volin Road (451st Ave) South of 307th St

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