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Details, 6B

THURSDAY,
JANUARY 8, 2015

Bird count
CBC numbers
soar this season
Life, 1C



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Recognition
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'Conveyor-belt justice'

N.D. chief justice calls for more judges, staff to add relief

MIKE NOWATZKI
Forum News Service

A lack of resources in North Dakota's courts has led to a system of "conveyor-belt justice" where hearings are often run by script and concluded in less than five minutes, Supreme Court Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle said Wednesday as he called on lawmakers to approve more judges and court staff.

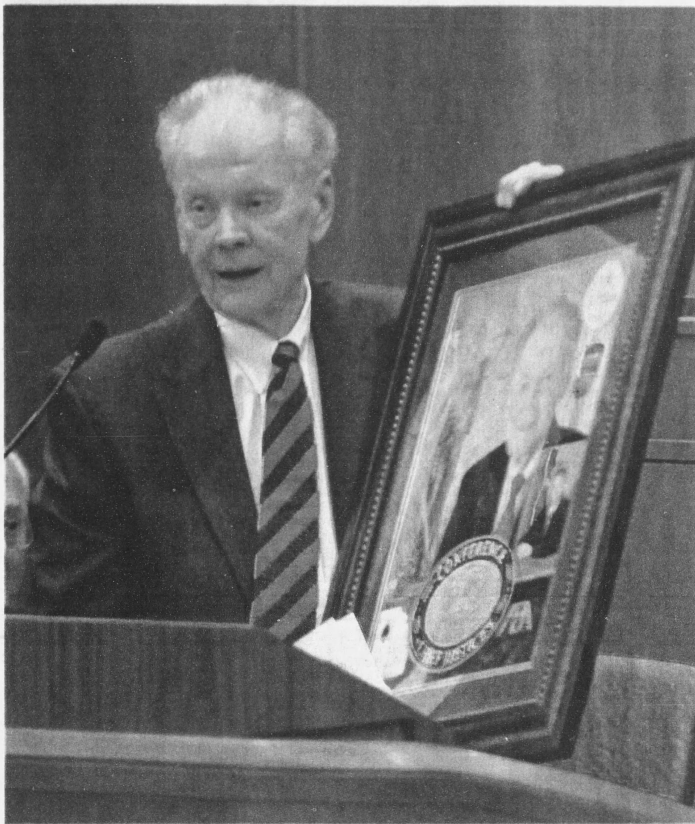
VandeWalle, delivering his State of the Judiciary Address to a joint session of the Legislature, said the court caseload has increased dramatically in the past decade, particularly in oil-impacted counties.

The judicial branch is asking the Legislature to fund four additional judges and 15 new court staff to meet the growing needs in Burleigh, Morton, Stark, McKenzie, Ward and Williams counties, VandeWalle said. The state currently has 47 district judgeships.

The lack of judges and court staff affects entire communities, he said.

"Those charged with crimes sit in jail longer while they wait for their day in court and a judgment of guilt or innocence," he said. "This is disruptive to their own lives and those of their families; it is hard on the alleged victims and the witnesses who wait to testify, and it costs the counties thousands of dollars in incarceration costs."

And criminal cases aren't the only ones affected, VandeWalle said. An inadequate number of judges and staff results in waits for children in foster care and adults involved in divorces and custody issues, among others, he said.



TOM STORMME/Tribune
State Supreme Court Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle is the 41st North Dakotan to be inducted into the Theodore Roosevelt Roughrider Hall of Fame. For more photos, see www.bismarcktribune.com/gallery

The judicial branch is requesting just over \$6 million in 2015-17 for 28 additional full-time equivalent judges, including new

judge for the two-year budget cycle. Nine of the positions are county positions that are being converted to state positions, said Don Wolf, finance director for

the state court system.

Two of the new judgeships would be located in the South Central Judicial District, which includes Burleigh and Morton

counties, home to the most active courts in the state, VandeWalle said. The Northwest and

Continued on 4A

French police ID gunmen

12 killed in attack

JAMEY KEATEN and
LORI HINNANT
Associated Press

PARIS — Masked gunmen stormed the offices of a satirical newspaper that caricatured the Prophet Muhammad, methodically killing 12 people Wednesday, including the editor, before escaping in a car. It was France's deadliest terrorist attack in half a century.

Shouting "Allahu akbar!" as they fired, the men claimed links to al-Qaida in their military-style, noon-time attack on the weekly paper Charlie Hebdo, located near Paris' Bastille monument. The publication's depictions of Islam and Islamic extremists have drawn condemnation and threats before — it was fire-bombed in 2011 — although it also satirized other religions and political figures.

Police identified three men, including two brothers, as suspects in the attack at the offices of weekly satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, as security officers fanned out around the Paris region in a manhunt.

One police official said the men had links to a Yemeni terrorist network. Witnesses of the attackers' escape through Paris said one claimed allegiance to al-Qaida in Yemen.

Both al-Qaida and the Islamic State group have repeatedly threatened to attack France, which is conducting airstrikes against extremists in Iraq and fighting Islamic militants in Africa.

President Francois Hollande said it was a terrorist act "of exceptional barbarism," adding that other attacks have been thwarted in France in recent weeks. Fears have been running high in Europe and elsewhere in France that jihadists

Continued on 4A

N.D. to see blizzard

BRIAN GEHRING
Bismarck Tribune

Blizzard and near-blizzard conditions are expected across much of North Dakota today.

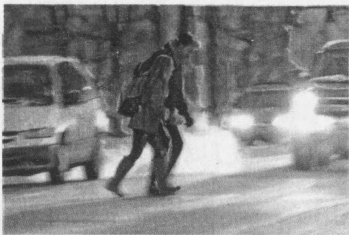
Bill Abeling, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Bismarck, said an Alberta clipper will barrel into the state creating life-threatening travel conditions.

A blizzard warning is in effect starting at 9 a.m. today for north central North Dakota into the James River Valley.

Several inches of new snow is expected for areas such as Bottineau, Devils Lake, Grand Forks, Velva, Rugby, Harvey, Carrington and Jamestown.

Northwesterly winds gusting to 50 mph will make travel difficult, if not impossible, Abeling said.

Abeling said, in the



TOM STORMME/Tribune

While school may have been called off due to cold weather in parts of Minnesota and at Fort Yates, students in Bismarck and Mandan ventured into the below-zero cold coupled with a wind chill in the 20-below range on Wednesday morning to attend classes. Above, two Bismarck High students cross Seventh Street to reach the school.

Jamestown area, only an inch of snow is expected, but the strong winds will create near-zero visibility

conditions, especially in rural areas.

Continued on 7A

Jennifer Puhl, Assistant U.S. Attorney, talks about the challenges of prosecuting human trafficking cases during the 2014 statewide summit on human trafficking put on by North Dakota FUSE at the Bismarck Civic Center in Bismarck on Nov. 13, 2014. (Forum News Service)



Connecting in a click

Net offers new opportunities for pimps, law enforcement

KATHERINE LYMN and
AMY DALRYMPLE
Forum News Service

Lazenko told students that even they aren't immune from pimps.

They may not be in a big city and they may have safe, secure homes, but potential traffickers may be watching every

time they log online, she warned.

"With the Internet, every single one of you kids is at risk," said Lazenko, who herself was

Continued on 7A

A House divided

Republicans argue whether Boehner detractors should be punished — 2A

Guilty plea

Bismarck man enters plea in groping case — 1B



Friday

'American Sniper' is quintessential Clint Eastwood

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Jenny's story: 'Second part' finally arrives

KATHERINE LYMN
Forum News Service

This is Jenny's story. This is the life of Jenny Gaines.

Lured into sex trafficking at age 14, she spent 28 years in a life of prostitution. Throughout the past six months, Forum News Service has spent time getting to know Jenny. This is her story.

Jenny Gaines' mother remembers a child who organized neighborhood activities, got involved in aerobics and theater and did homework with "Little House on the Prairie" on TV in the background.

Things changed as "little Jenny" grew into her teens. She argued more, started making bad choices and her years quickly became filled with stays in various treatment programs.

Jenny longed for her father, who was the fun one, and she was angry at her mother, who made the rules. A "daddy's girl," she blamed her mom for her parents' divorce, not knowing about her dad's addiction issues.

"All of a sudden, there she was; it's like a person I didn't really know, like this hardcore, makeup, angry," Diana Arrell, Jenny's mother, said. "I mean, she was such a delightful child. I didn't really understand who it was I was seeing."

Jenny's years-long transformation out of the dark life she had fallen into accelerated six years ago when she pointed a gun at her then-12-year-old son.

After doing something degrading a job had requested, something she normally wouldn't do, so she could afford the cellphone her son wanted, Jenny found her son had programmed her number in the

phone under a derogatory name.

"And the rage came over me like, 'How could you call me a bitch? You have no idea who I just did for this money to get this [expletive] phone and you're going to call me something that one of these dudes used to call me? You, my son, my ride-or-die baby, really?'"

She got a gun, pointed it at him and told him to leave.

"I was never going to shoot him," she says now of that cold Friday night. "I only wanted to scare him, but it was wrong. He was so afraid, because he's seen me do some pretty violent stuff and he didn't know if I was going to do it or not."

He packed his bags and left. She wouldn't talk to her son for a year.

Jenny's family told her over and over to let it go, to accept that her son was gone. She moved to an apartment in Minneapolis' Uptown neighborhood, a place that reminded her of New York.

And she tried to let it go, the hurt and emptiness.

She did all the drugs she wanted and turned all the tricks

she wanted. She found herself in violent relationship after violent relationship.

And then one day, she realized she wasn't "there" anymore. She was all used up.

She was evicted from her apartment and fell into a deep depression. Getting dressed took three hours, she said.

With the next call that came, she made a friend who helped her without sexually exploiting her, and she began mending relationships with her children, including the son who left after she pointed a gun at him.

It was the start of what would come to be known in Jenny's circle as "the second part."

Arrell, her mother, says she heard a voice one day when she was doing laundry and walked by her daughter, then just a baby.

Her daughter was going to cause her a lot of pain, the voice said, but there would be a second part to the mother-daughter relationship. The pain would only last a little while, she recalls the voice telling her, and then Jenny would go on to help a lot of people.

Arrell, who lives in Minneapolis now, never lost faith in what she calls the prophecy.

After her Jenny started wearing heavy makeup, having angry fits and becoming violent, Arrell would dream about the daughter who was. "Dream Jenny," with her stringy hair, her little goggles, her yellow nightgown, would visit from the Land of the Dead, Arrell said.

And through the rocky stays in treatment, the suicide attempts, the arrests — Arrell would think about the promise of the second part of the prophecy, and she would become impatient.

"I thought it was just gonna be a short time. What's with this years and years and years and years?"

In those difficult moments, Jenny would ask herself, "Is this really the end of this?" Was her personal struggle coming to an end?

"No," she told herself. "My testimony isn't strong enough yet. No, 'cause I'm gonna help people one day. It's just not powerful enough."

Jenny's son was close to his grandmother, who had told him about the vision. He would turn to her and ask, "Well, do you think we're in the second part of the prophecy?"

It was in those moments, Jenny and her mother say, that the "second part" finally arrived.

Standing Rock schools close due to weather

Bad weather prompted several schools in the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation to close on Wednesday, according to posts on the tribe's Facebook page.

Standing Rock Community Grant School in Fort Yates shut its doors Wednesday, citing the district's safety policy in a memo from Superintendent Linda Lawrence. The school's website attributed the closure to the wind-chill warning.

The Standing Rock 0-5 Head Start program also closed on Wednesday.

— Amy Sisk

Blizzard

Continued from 1A

A blizzard watch will go into effect at the same time, covering all western and south central North Dakota.

Areas in the watch area include locations from Williston to Bowman east to Minot and from Garrison to Bismarck to Fort Yates to Wishek and Ellendale.

Near-blizzard conditions are expected west of U.S. Highway 83 and south of U.S. Highway 2.

Temperatures were expected to rise overnight Wednesday, but the clipper is forecast to enter the state at around 4 a.m. in the west.

As the day progresses, Abeling said temperatures will continue to dive, reaching the single digits by noon.

By evening, he said wind chills will reach 30- to 35-below zero, which will put the state into a wind-chill advisory.

Abeling said, while driving may not be an issue in cities, zero visibility is expected in rural areas.

Those with travel plans today should reconsider, Abeling said, and keep up to date on the latest conditions.

Connecting in a click

first prostituted when she was around their age.

Lazenko's visit to the school in November was part of her ongoing work in western North Dakota, fighting the increase in prostitution and trafficking brought on largely by the oil boom.

It's an unlikely topic, one many of the kids in the town of fewer than 300 hadn't heard about before Lazenko's talk. But increasingly across western North Dakota, communities are opening their eyes — or rather, being forced to see that commercial sex is all around them.

To many who remember history, the sex trade is no surprise: These are mining towns after all, used to a "work hard, play hard" approach to life and aware that companionship for hire is available.

But this time, the prostitution "track" isn't a certain street corner or strip. It's the Internet. backpage.com and other sites are mining towns after all, used to a "work hard, play hard" approach to life and aware that companionship for hire is available.

While many are quick to blame the Internet for helping prostitution flourish, others point out it's a new tool for investigators to help crack down on the crime.

"With pimps advertising on the Internet, they out themselves and now they're trackable," said Lois Lee, founder of Children of the Night, a California-based nonprofit that rescues children from pimps.

In online stings, agents post ads, posing as pimps, and communicate with potential johns in increasingly common operations throughout western North Dakota.

They see incredible demand. Agents had to shut down a fall 2013 sting in Dickinson because the responses came to the Craigslist and Backpage ads so quickly that the arrests soon overwhelmed officers.

"It's mind-blowing," Dickinson police Det. Sgt. Kieran Klauzer said of the general demand. "We're definitely not immune to it. It's here, and it's close."

Agents say if they had the resources to run operations more often, they would easily catch more johns.

A Forum News Service analysis of data collected by independent group Marinus Analytics shows escort ads on one prominent website have not only grown tremendously in North Dakota, but in recent months they've surpassed the amount of ads in Minnesota, where Duluth and the Twin Cities are recognized long-time trafficking hubs.

On an average fall day in 2014, Backpage had 100 pages of commercial sex ads galleries for Oil Patch cities. North Dakota frequently has 150 to 200 ads every day, with Williston and Minot being the most popular cities.

But still, the demand outpaces supply. Women say when they post an ad in the state, the phone rings off the hook, and "right away" the posts even occasionally include offers to do "out-calls" to smaller towns like Belfield, Stanley and Tioga.

"If it disappeared tomorrow, I'd be happy," Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., said of Backpage at a Bismarck sex trafficking training in September.

She did all the drugs she wanted and turned all the tricks she wanted. She found herself in violent relationship after violent relationship.

The Association of Attorneys General successfully pressured Craigslist to shut down its adult listings page in 2010. Now the majority of state attorneys general, including Stenehjem, have taken on new frontrunner Backpage, which has resisted taking down its "escorts" ads.

The company says the ads would just migrate to international or more obscure sites, hindering law enforcement efforts. When Craigslist shut down, its ads just migrated elsewhere, including to Backpage, and a similar phenomenon could happen if Backpage shuts down, except the ads would go deeper underground.

Defending Backpage

Liz McDougall, general counsel for Backpage, has been the carrier of an unconventional message: Yes, the site houses prostitution ads. But it's responsible about it, responding to subpoenas quickly and reporting possible cases of trafficking to law enforcement, who can then take advantage of the footprint criminals leave online.

She expanded on that in a statement she wrote for Forum News Service:

"Unless the Internet is wholly shut down, the end result of this strategy will be that our children are advertised through offshore websites who do not endeavor to prevent such activity, who do not report potential cases of exploitation to law enforcement, who do not expeditiously cooperate with law enforcement to rescue victims and arrest pimps and more obscure sites, hindering U.S. law enforcement so they can thumb their noses at U.S. law enforcement requests, even pleas, for evidence to find a child or stop a perpetrator."

Talking by phone one November night from Lyon, France, where she and McDougall had just shared a share of an Internet conference on trafficking, Children of the Night's Lee lauded Backpage's cooperation with law enforcement, saying it's better than any other social network.

Along with enabling a flourishing commercial sex trade, the Internet marketplace can make the individual crime harder to see. Before the Internet age, johns and the women would have to go to a physical location to find each other, said Tim Wittman, a supervisory special agent with the FBI's Minneapolis office. "But the Internet is facilitating it," he said, "it can maybe escape the community's notice on a wide level."

But the sites — like Facebook, with 1.3 billion regular users — do also lead to criminals unwittingly documenting their crimes in ways helpful to prosecutors.

Tim Purdon, U.S. attorney for North Dakota, said someone's own words can be "incredibly valuable evidence" against them.

Prosecutors used hundreds of chat logs obtained from Facebook with a search warrant in the case against Darrin Anderson, a Minnesota man now serving 12 years in federal prison.

Anderson, in his mid-30s at the time, communicated with hundreds of girls using a fake Facebook profile, purporting to be a cute younger boy. One conversation led to him arranging commercial sex with a 13-year-old girl. Over roughly two years, he engaged in 800 Facebook chat conversations with, most of the time, 14- to 17-year-old girls in the Red River Valley region.

To get the girls to talk to him, he would say they had a mutual friend, or she had "popped up" on his Facebook scroll, or he just added her as a friend because she was attractive.

He would send them sexually explicit photos despite their protest, and convince some to send pictures back.

"I think this is especially concerning here because the defendant was in the home of so many local adolescent girls via their computers," Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer Puhl said at Anderson's May 2011 sentencing. "He was in their homes ... to sexually exploit them."

The case showed how easily predators can find their prey with the Internet: Of the roughly 800 girls Anderson reached out to, 795 responded, Puhl said at a sex trafficking conference in Sioux Falls last August.

"I was shocked to see how many of these girls communicated with him," she said.

Emily Kennedy, CEO of Marinus Analytics, said the goal of the project that involves analyzing online ads was to see how technology is opening new avenues for criminals, especially pimps.

Continued from 1A

of last year, the Peace Garden State made up 45 percent of the Internet marketplace can make the individual crime harder to see.

Now Marinus works with various law enforcement agencies to find evidence or establish timelines for trafficking investigations.

Speaking at a sex trafficking conference in Sioux Falls last year, Facebook's Monika Bickert acknowledged how sites like Backpage can be attractive to pimps for recruiting victims and then threatening or coercing them, or to arrange transactions. But Bickert, head of global policy management with the website, said there's another way to look at it.

"When I may feel the Internet is a really powerful tool for them," she said, "but I have to say I think the Internet is a much more powerful tool for those who are fighting against human trafficking."

Leaders in the fight against sex trafficking say the root problem is society's willingness to accept the buying of sex, and that "boys will be boys" — a problem amplified in an oil boom.

"We have a whole culture now that has become, I think, desensitized to the innocence of children, number one, and desensitized to how horrific something like this is, in fact it's the kind of attitude of 'Willing buyer, willing seller, why is it our business?'" Heitkamp said.

"What I would tell them is probably some of the most horrific victimization in this country happens in those relationships, and so we have to change the societal attitude about human trafficking, about prostitution and about the value of children."

Boombtown prostitution opens a lucrative field for pimps, who know those selling sex willingly will never meet the demand, and word of the oilfield market is spreading fast through pimp networks and in larger cities like Minneapolis and Milwaukee.

The Internet fuels that. Pimps are bringing their "stables" of women to North Dakota, or sending women on their own after first filling their heads with threats of violence or what will happen to their families if they don't come back with their quotas filled.

Motels and hotels around the Oil Patch have had to maintain blacklists of women they suspect of operating there, and john stings show how easy it is to catch low-hanging fruit: men cruising the Internet.

Agents say they hope to get to the traffickers eventually, but that in the meantime, the stings may deter some men who, lonely but wealthy, give in to curiosity and log on to the Backpage.com they've heard so much about.

"The condition of the men here, they're vulnerable and the traffickers know that," Lazenko said.

FUNERALS TODAY

Monica Fischer, 89, Dickinson, 10 a.m. MST, Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Dickinson. (Ladbury Funeral Service, Dickinson)

Jeanette Howe, 60, Bismarck, 2 p.m., Church of Saint Anne, Bismarck. (Parkway Funeral Service, Bismarck)

Cliff Iverson, 83, Tioga, 11 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, Tioga. (Fulkerson Funeral Home, Tioga)

Darrell Kramlich, 74, Baker, Mont., 10 a.m. MST, Stevenson Funeral Home, Baker, Mont.

Gary Lensegraver, 74, Meadow, S.D., 10:30 a.m. MST, Indian Creek Lutheran Church, near Meadow. (Evanson-Jensen Funeral Home, Lemmon, S.D.)

Margaret Martin, 92, Fargo, 2 p.m., Davis Whitely, Fargo. (Bethany University, Fargo. (Korsmo Funeral Chapel, Moorhead, Minn.)

Dorothy Maxey, 83, Fort Worth, Texas, 1:30 p.m., Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Texas.

Lila Raam, 88, Williston, 1 p.m., Writing Rock Lutheran Church, four miles southeast of Alkabo. (Everson-Coughlin Funeral Home, Williston)