So Really, What’s Your Name?

On Tuesday, April 24th, an Owatonna officer stopped a vehicle for having an item obstructing the vehicle windshield. The vehicle was operated by a male driver and contained a female passenger. When the officer met with the occupants, he detected an odor of alcohol emitting from inside the vehicle. The officer identified both occupants of the vehicle; the female passenger presented the officer with her full name and two different dates of birth. She did not offer a picture I.D. The officer attempted to confirm the female’s identity through the MN Driver and Vehicle website and found the driver’s license picture of who the passenger was purporting to be did not match who was in the vehicle. The officer returned to the vehicle and placed the female passenger under arrest for providing a false name to a police officer. The passenger then came clean, admitting her real name and that she had active arrest warrants out of Carver County, MN. Jamie L. Rathai, age 25, was formally charged in District Court with Giving a Peace Officer a False Name—a gross misdemeanor. Formal charges have also been requested on the driver for driving after revocation.

Can You Help Us—

The animal control facility has some residents who are overextending their stay and are looking to become a permanent member in someone's family. We currently have a white colored, un-neutered male pit bull whose been with us for the past couple of weeks. His age has been estimated by a veterinarian at a year and a half. He is a friendly dog looking for companionship.

We also have eight cats looking for adoptive homes. These cats have all been to the Argosy University Veterinary Technology School and have been vet-checked and are up to date on their shots. All of these animals are available for adoption for free of charge. If you or someone you know are interested in adopting one of these animals, you can contact one of our community service officers at 507-774-7000 or Pam Roberts at 507-7200.

To a Job Well Done—

Chief Hiller recently awarded Detective Andy Drenth with a Class “C” Commendation for his efforts in a 9-month long drug investigation that culminated in March, 2012. A Class “C” Commendation is awarded to officers for an incident(s) which clearly demonstrate an exceptional level of expertise, thoroughness, or determination, or achieving a superior level of job performance and maintaining that level for an extended period of time. Congratulations Andy!

Auction Items—

Beginning next week, the department will be posting items for public auction on the State of Minnesota Department of Administration online auction site. Items being sold include vehicles, motor vehicle parts, electronics, tools, sporting goods and other items. Items up for auction can be viewed at www.minnbid.org.