Search Warrant Leads to Drug Arrest—

On Friday afternoon, the South Central Drug Investigative Unit (SCDIU) and Tactical Team, assisted by the Owatonna Police Department and a Rice County Task Force agent, executed a search warrant at 221 Park Street. During the course of the raid, a female was located inside of the residence. The female granted an SCDIU agent consent to search her purse which was located inside of the residence; a search of the purse revealed a pipe commonly used for smoking methamphetamines, 1 gram of presumptive methamphetamines and a switch blade knife. Additional items associated with illegal drugs were also located about the inside and outside of the residence. Charity A. Braulik, age 34, was arrested and transported to the Steele County Jail. Braulik was formally charged with 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance, Possession of a Dangerous Weapon—a switch blade and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. In connection with this case, the Owatonna Police Department is actively seeking Shawn M. Williams, age 30. If you have any information related to the whereabouts of Williams, do not approach him, but call 911.

Welcome Josh—

Josh Steinberg has been added to our Community Service Officer (CSO) ranks, taking over for former CSO Tony Malepsy who moved on to the Steele County Detention Center. Josh is an Owatonna native, graduating from the Owatonna High School in 2011. Josh has some law enforcement experience, working as a part-time dispatcher and detention deputy with the LeSueur County Sheriff’s Office and as a reserve officer with the Owatonna Police Department. He is also a former OPD explorer and participated in the Minnesota State Patrol Summer Training Camp. He is also currently a member of the United States Army Reserve. Please join us in welcoming Josh to the department.

Cops in the Community—

Officer Andy Seifert continued with a series of meetings he has been conducting in partnership with Federated Insurance. Officer Seifert has been speaking to groups about distracted and impaired driving.

On Thursday evening, Brady Fox and his canine partner Kash conducted a demonstration for an Owatonna Park and Recreation Therapeutic Recreation group at the Morehouse Park Chalet.

Department News—

This past week was a busy one for officers attending specialized training. Officers Laddie Bata, Matt Oeltjenbruns and Detective Joel Hunt were at Camp Ripley where they attended a week-long basic SWAT course; these officers are our newest officers assigned to the South Central Drug Investigative Unit Tactical Team. Sergeant Josh Sorensen, one of our department’s use of force instructors, was in Minneapolis for a 3-day course designed to certify him as an expandable baton instructor. Lastly, the Owatonna Police Department hosted twenty-four officers from throughout the Midwest for a National Rifle Association (NRA) sponsored shotgun and handgun instructors course—Sergeant Jason Petterson served as the host and an attendee for this course. The photo to the left shows the NRA course being held at a range in rural Steele County.