**Weekly Highlights**

**Friday, Nov. 23 to Thursday, Nov. 29**

- Busiest Day of Week: Friday—138 events
- Busiest Hour of Day: 5:00 PM—62 events
- Total # of Events: 716
- Average Events/Day: 102.29
- Average Events/Hour: 4.26
- Average Traffic Stops: .49 per hour
- DWIs for the week: 2

**Friday, Nov. 16 to Thursday, Nov. 22**

- Busiest Day of Week: Friday—137 events
- Busiest Hour of Day: 5:00 PM—56 events
- Total # of Events: 719
- Average Events/Day: 102.71
- Average Events/Hour: 4.28
- Average Traffic Stops: .81 per hour
- DWIs for the week: 11

---

**Department News—**

On December 4th, we will welcome our newest member to the Owatonna Police Department when Brianne Lesnau begins her career as an Owatonna Police Officer. Brianne comes to us from the Isanti area where she graduated from the Saint Francis High School in 2006. Brianne attended college in Highland, Kansas where she also played on the women’s basketball team. She returned to Minnesota where she obtained an Associates of Applied Arts Degree in Law Enforcement from the Rasmussen Community College. Brianne has some previous law enforcement experience with the Anoka Police Department where she worked as a security officer in the Anoka High School and as a volunteer reserve officer with the Cambridge Police Department. Brianne’s position became available when former Officer Chad Fierst took a similar position with the Minnetonka Police Department. In addition to Officer Fierst leaving the department, former Officer Kayla Perkins has resigned her position with the department and Officer Kevin Fisher will be resigning his position on December 5th to pursue an entrepreneurial venture so we will be busy replacing those two officers as well.

**Holiday Safety Tips—**

It is that time of year again when many people are setting up holiday displays. Here are a few excellent Christmas tree/lighting tips from the National Fire Prevention Association regarding holiday safety. The Owatonna Fire Department encourages everyone to think about safety when setting up your holiday decorations.

**Picking a tree—**

- If you have an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled, certified, or identified by the manufacturer as fire retardant.
- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

**Placing the tree—**

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 1-2” from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

**Lighting the tree—**

- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any strings of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strings of mini string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED stands to connect.
- Always turn off Christmas lights before leaving home or going to bed.

**After Christmas—**

- Get rid of the tree when it begins dropping needles. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home. Check with your local community to find a recycling program. Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

*Information provided by the Owatonna Fire Department*

---

**Stolen Vehicle Recovered in Rice County—**

On Wednesday morning, Owatonna officers were called to 455 Fairview St. for the report of a stolen vehicle. Officers learned that during the overnight hours, the victim’s 1998 Dodge Intrepid had been taken while it was parked in a driveway. Officers had no suspects at the time and sent out an attempt to locate to neighboring law enforcement agencies. Later that day, a trooper from Minnesota State Patrol stopped the stolen vehicle for speeding in Rice County. The driver, Fakrudin A. Fakridun, age 25, was arrested and transported to the Rice County Detention Center. He was later interviewed by an Owatonna detective and alleged he did not know the car was stolen. Fakrudin alleged he needed a ride to Minneapolis and was given one if he drove the vehicle. Fakrudin was formally charged in Rice County with Receiving Stolen Property.