Undercover Operation—

Within the past few weeks we’ve been dealing with vandalism problems in the park system, specifically in Dartt’s Park. We also believed some of the vandalism was associated with drug activity. On Friday, October 7th, we put a plain clothes officer in the Dartt’s Park in an effort to put an end to the activity. While the officer was in the park, he was approached by a group of juveniles and a discussion ensued which led to the officer being offered marijuana in exchange for $20. The officer naturally accepted the offer; however, offered an Ipod in exchange for the marijuana. The deal was struck and the Ipod and marijuana were exchanged. Moments later, support officers who were monitoring the exchange entered the park and arrested a 15-year old female and 16-year old male on suspicion of selling controlled substances and conspiracy to sell controlled substances. The female, who sold the marijuana, was transported to the Many Rivers Juvenile Detention Center in Rochester. The male was released to a parent. Formal charges were filed in District Court on the female for 4th Degree Sale of Marijuana in a Park Zone, Conspiracy to Sell Marijuana in a Park Zone and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Formal charges were filed against the male party for Conspiracy to Sell Marijuana in a Park Zone. We ask for the public’s help in reporting any suspicious behavior they witness in the Owatonna park systems.

Door Hangers—

It’s quite possible that if in the past few weeks you have inadvertently left your overhead garage door open overnight, you’ve discovered a yellow door hanger left on your front door by an Owatonna officer. Our over-night officers have been diligent in patrolling in their districts looking for overhead doors left open. If they find one, they are leaving an notice for the homeowner that their overhead door was found open and reminding them to make certain their doors are closed and locked. Theft and burglary are often times crimes of opportunity. Protect yourself from being the next victim and take the time to make certain all of your door and windows are closed and locked at night or when your home is unoccupied.

Dave Schroeder’s 25th Anniversary—

On Friday, October 14th, Josten’s continued with their unique tradition of recognizing Owatonna Police officers who have served the community for at least twenty-five years by honoring former officer Dave Schroeder during a ceremony at the Gainey Center. Dave was joined by many of his former co-workers, family and friends as he was awarded a Josten’s 25-year anniversary ring by Josten’s representative Jeff Dauffenbach. Congratulations, Dave and thank you Josten’s!!

Mother of…..11?

Last week we were seeking assistance in looking for a home for a female German Shorthair mix. Well, as it turns out, sometime during the night last Friday, our one dog became 12 as our female gave birth to 11 puppies. We are sad to report one of the puppies has passed, but the mother, newly named “Bella”, and remaining puppies are doing great. So now, instead of finding a home for one dog, we are looking for homes for the puppies as well. If you can help, contact Parking Control Officer Pam Roberts at 507-774-7200.