Liquor Violation in Park Leads to Foot Chase—

On Monday, May 21st an Owatonna officer was patrolling in Mineral Springs Park when he observed a male subject he was familiar with loading beer bottles into a backpack; the officer was familiar that the subject was underage. The male saw the officer and put the backpack back into the trunk, closed it and began to walk away. The officer directed the male to stop, but he did not. Instead, the male began running from the officer through the disc golf course on the north end of the park. The officer drove to Springwood Pl., a cul-de-sac north of the park, to cut the male subject off. The officer ran through the back yards of the residences on Springwood Pl. and came upon the male subject running at him where he was placed under arrest. Bryce J. Cameron, age 18, was charged by citation with Minor Possession of Alcohol, Minor Consumption of Alcohol, Fleeing a Police Officer on Foot and Possession a Small Amount of Marijuana in a Motor Vehicle. Cameron was booked into the Detention Facility and later released. A search of Cameron’s vehicle revealed 7 bottles of Budweiser beer and 5.1 grams of marijuana. An on-scene breath alcohol test revealed Cameron was almost 2.5 times the legal limit to drive.

Caught in the Act—

During the early morning hours of May 16th, a concerned citizen contacted the law enforcement center to report two people going through vehicles in the area of Truman Avenue and Agnes Street. The reporting party reported hearing someone break a light on the west side of her apartment building. When she looked outside, she observed two subjects entering vehicles in the area. Responding officers established a perimeter around the area and located and observed two suspects entering vehicles. Officers approached the suspects and identified themselves as police officers at which time one of the suspects fled on foot. That subject as immediately apprehended by an officer. The suspects, a 14-year old male and a 14-year female, were arrested and later released to their parents. Both suspects admitted that they were out going through unlocked vehicles and had taken items from several vehicles; they also admitting to doing this at other times in the past. This case is a reminder to all that theft is a crime of opportunity. What can you do to prevent you or someone in your neighborhood from becoming the next victim?

- Please be alert to suspicious activity and don’t hesitate to call 911 to report it. This includes strangers walking or loitering about your neighborhoods, apparent juveniles out after curfew, vehicles you don’t recognize circling your neighborhood, or sounds such as glass breaking or loud banging.
- Record descriptions of suspicious people and/or vehicle(s) and obtain license plate numbers when possible.
- Don’t leave valuables unsecured and within the vehicle.
- Consider parking your vehicle in well-lit locations

Cops in the Community—

On Tuesday morning, Captain Jeff Mundale visited Senior Place along with Chaplain Loren Olson to talk about the Chaplain Program and the services the program provides.

Congratulations—

Congratulations are in order for Sergeant Deanne von Wald. On May 18th, Sergeant von Wald completed her 25th year of service with the Owatonna Police Department. De began her career in 1987 and her duties have included, patrol officer, DARE officer, school resource officer, crime prevention specialist and was promoted to her current position of sergeant in 2000. Congratulations De!