Card Game Turns Violent—

On January 12, 2014, Owatonna officers were called to the 500 block of Mineral Springs Road for the report of a physical domestic. Officers learned that four individuals, including a female victim and her ex-boyfriend, were playing a friendly game of cards when the tides turned. The victim and the suspect got into a heated dispute and the suspect allegedly threw the victim on a mattress and jumped on top of her. The suspect allegedly choked and punched the victim multiple times in the head. The victim got free and was going to call the police when the suspect took her phone and a phone from one of the others in the residence. The suspect bear-hugged the victim and forced her back into a window, breaking the glass pane. The suspect then grabbed a scissors, wrapped his arms around the victim and stabbed her with the scissors in the buttocks. The violence continued in the main level of the residence until the victim’s mother showed up and the suspect left the residence. The suspect was found in Mineral Springs Park a short time later and placed under arrest. At the time of his arrest, a scissors was found a short distance from the suspect and he had two cell phones in his possession. Darrian V. Porter, age 20, was formally charged in District Court with 2nd Degree Assault, Interfering with a 911 Call and Domestic Assault.

A Look Back—Police Reserves—

As we turn the pages on 2013, we'll take a moment to look back on one of our successful new programs, the Police Reserve Unit. On March 19, 2013, the Volunteer Police Reserve Unit began with 20 members. Collectively, throughout the remainder of the year, the unit donated a total of 2,357 volunteer hours to the community. The bulk of the hours has been committed to field activities, such as—traffic control at parades and community run/walk events, over-night security at the OHS, security at Four Seasons Center events, security at street dances and other special use permits, Steele County Kids Safety Camp, park patrols, emergency callbacks to secure fire and crime scenes, assistance at the Senior Expo and Senior Games, prisoner and transport details, and our most recent organized event—Night To Unite. The program started with a $3000 donation from the Wal-Mart Foundation and was backed by another $1000 donation from a local business. The unit also received the proceeds from operating the Walser Chevrolet/Buick lot during the fair which netted an additional $5184 that will be used for operating expenses.

New Year Brings Changes to the OPD—

Change is inevitable and that’s no different here at the OPD. As we roll into the New Year, we say good-bye to a good friend as Officer Kyle Parr has resigned his position as a police officer, working his final shift this past Sunday. Kyle has been with the OPD since March of 2007 working as a patrol officer; he was most recently assigned to the field training unit as a field training officer. Kyle was an outstanding street officer and his sense of humor and being a good sport will definitely be missed around the office—Kyle couldn't pass up a photo-op for Just the Facts as this most recent picture suggests. We wish Kyle all the best as he begins a new chapter in his life and pursues his next career in the medical field. Our background investigators are currently busy working on backgrounds for Kyle’s potential successor.