New Kids on the Block

We are excited to announce that Police Officers Brady Fox and Matt Oeltjenbruns have started their careers with the Owatonna Police Department this week. Brady, a native of the Brainerd area, comes to us from the South Dakota State Patrol where he was a trooper for 5 ½ years and most recently stationed out of the Salem, South Dakota area. Matt, an Owatonna Native, is coming back to his home town from the great state of Iowa where he worked for the Forest City Police Department and most recently the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office. Both officers are currently working with field training officers and will be serving the citizens of Owatonna soon.

Drinking and Driving

On Tuesday, March 22nd Owatonna Officers responded to the report of a motor vehicle crash involving injuries at the intersection of Elm Avenue and Main Street. Responding officers found that there were no reported injuries as a result of the crash; however, they detected one of the drivers appeared to be impaired. After performing field sobriety tests, Erin R. Kletscka, age 32 was placed under arrest for suspicion of drunk driving and transported the Steele County Detention Center. She was formally charged in district court with 3rd Degree DWI. The arrest was the second DWI related crash in the city within the past week and the 19th DWI arrest during the month of March. The most recent crash figures from the State of Minnesota report that there were 3,931 crashes in Minnesota in 2009 that were known to involve alcohol, resulting in 141 deaths, 2,592 injuries and costing an estimated $255,899,500. The Owatonna Police Department implores citizens to refrain from driving while impaired and contributing to these sobering statistics.