**Just the Facts**

**August 31, 2012**

**Volume 3, Issue 35**

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**Cops in the Community**

On Saturday, August 28th, officers with the Owatonna Police Department partnered with the Salvation Army and Target in the “Shop with a Cop” program. Striving to develop positive relationships with youth, shopping with a cop aims at developing a connection between law enforcement and kids so that our youth are more likely to seek help from the police when they need it rather than getting into trouble. Each year, the area Salvation Army Office generates funds through public donations from the Red Kettle Fund to support the program and organizes the event. Each student shopping with local law enforcement is given a budget to shop for school clothing and school supplies. This year, 17 underprivileged students were paired up with 12 volunteering officers who represented the Owatonna Police Department, Steele County Sheriff’s Office and the Blooming Prairie Police Department. The photo to the side is Community Service Office Zack Schumaker checking on sizes with one of the participating children.

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**Drunk Driving Death, Arrests Down in Minnesota**

Minnesota motorists appear to be getting the message that drinking and driving don't mix. The annual late-summer enforcement campaign is yielding fewer drunken-driving arrests this year and the number of fatal crashes involving alcohol is continuing a five-year decline, state officials said Tuesday. Over the past two weekends, 605 drunken drivers were arrested as part of a statewide DWI enforcement campaign. During a similar crackdown to close out last summer, there were 1,787 arrests over a three-weekend period culminating on Labor Day. This year’s campaign will continue through Monday as well. Locally, the numbers don’t reflect the trend, showing a 20% increase in DWI arrests between January 1st and July 31st. This year, the Owatonna Police Department has made 113 DWI arrests compared to 94 for the same time period last year.*

* Partially reprinted from the MN Joint Analysis Center/Minneapolis Star Tribune

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**Local Social Host Ordinance Enforced**

Owatonna officers were called to 725 E. Vine Street at 3:23 a.m. on August 28th for the report of a noise complaint. Arriving officers located a bon fire in the backyard of this residence with a group of people around it listening to loud music. Officers also observed alcoholic beverages scattered around on the ground. The investigating officers found that two of the party-goers were juveniles and had been consuming alcoholic beverages—both were charged with underage consumption and released to their parents. In addition, officers located the renter of the residence, who was also a party-goer, and determined he was in violation of the social host ordinance. Bryant J. Malone, age 20, was charged by citation with Underage Consumption and Social Host.

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**DWI Arrest-Driver and Passenger Try “The Old Switcheroo”**

On Friday night, officers responded to a motor vehicle crash at the intersection of E. Broadway and Grove involving a parked car. Arriving officers determined that the two occupants in the moving vehicle had been drinking and processed the alleged driver through field sobriety testing, which he failed. As he was about to be placed under arrest, the alleged driver realized the seriousness of the event and had a revelation; he indicated the passenger in the vehicle was actually the driver. Officers interviewed the female passenger and she later admitted that she had been driving the vehicle at the time of the accident. She was subsequently run through field sobriety testing and she also failed. She was placed under arrest and transported to the Steele County Detention Center. The first alleged driver, Allen M. Krippner, age 59, was charged by citation with Obstructing Legal Process. The actual driver, Brooke N. Moreno, age 23, was formally charged in District Court with 2nd Degree DWI, Driving after Suspension and Careless Driving.

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**Weekly Highlights**

Friday, August 24 to Thursday, August 30

- Busiest Day of Week: Friday—144 events
- Busiest Hour of Day: 5:00 PM—65 events
- Total # of Events: 800
- Average Events/Day: 114.29
- Average Events/ Hour: 4.76
- Average Traffic Stops: 1.05 per hour
- DWI for the week: 3

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**Just a Reminder**

Be sure to sign up for the city’s Emergency Notification System to receive critical information regarding severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons, public safety threats, and evacuations of our buildings or neighborhoods. You will receive time sensitive messages to whatever media device you specify, such as your home telephone number, cellular telephone number, email, text message hearing impaired receiving device and more. It’s easy to enroll and the process can be started by simply clicking on the button below—

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**What You Need to Know About the Citizen Alert Notification Sign Up**

*Image of a police car and the number 5 on it.*