Just the Facts

A p r i l 1 9 , 2 0 1 3

V o l u m e 4 , I s s u e 1 6

Weapon Complaint Leads to Arrest—

On April 10th, our officers responded to the area of 1615 Linn Avenue for the report of a weapons complaint. Our officers received information from the manager of an apartment complex that he and another female were threatened by an apartment building resident who was bearing a firearm when they were performing a routine maintenance check in the apartment. The victims had previously notified tenants that they would be entering apartments on a specific date at a specific time for smoke alarm maintenance. When they entered the suspect’s residence, they found the suspect had removed all of the smoke alarms and set them on a chair. When the resident was told the smoke alarms needed to be mounted in the correct locations, the resident produced a rifle, pointed it at the victims, and told them to check the smoke detectors and get out of the residence. Officers confronted the suspect and later recovered a .30-30 rifle in an upstairs bedroom. He later told officers that he did display the weapon during the maintenance check so that the maintenance staff would listen if he had anything to say. Officers arrested Jack A. Haines, age 55, and transported him to the Steele County Jail. Haines was later formally charged in District Court with 2nd Degree Assault with a Dangerous Weapon and Disorderly Conduct.

Neighborhood Burglar Nabbed—

On April 3rd, an Owatonna resident reported to the Owatonna Police Department his suspicions that his home was being burglarized. The complainant reported that over the previous six weeks, he noticed cash missing from a dresser drawer. The victim set up a simple system to monitor whether his dresser drawer was being disturbed and on April 3rd his monitoring system showed that someone had opened the drawer and the victim found cash was missing. On April 8th, our officers returned to the victim’s residence as his home was burglarized again and the suspect was caught on surveillance video; the video showed his next door neighbor breaking into his residence. An officer later confronted the suspect who was found to be wearing the same clothing depicted in the surveillance video. In a interview, the suspect later admitted to entering the victim’s residence on April 3rd and April 8th and approximately 10 other times. The suspect admitted that on April 3rd, he took $200 in cash and a bag of M&Ms. Andrew A. Buzzard, age 18, was arrested and jailed at the Steele County Detention Center. He was later formally charged with two counts of 2nd Degree Burglary of a Dwelling.

Canine Training Update—

Last week marked the halfway point for Officer Brady Fox and his canine (K-9) partner Kash as they undergo a twelve-week intense training curriculum at the Tim J. Jones K-9 Training Facility in St. Paul, MN. K-9 Kash has undergone advanced training in agility, tracking, area searches, building searches, obedience (including walking and distance control), article searches, suspect apprehension, and civil agitation. K-9 Kash is doing well in all areas and is on track to successfully complete training in late May, 2013. Starting next week, Officer Fox and K-9 Kash will begin working during the evening hours where together they will receive training in the above mentioned areas in limited light conditions with a special emphasis on tactical deployments. Officer Fox and K-9 Kash are looking forward to returning to their patrol duties this summer and serving the community of Owatonna as a highly skilled team.

Cops in the Community—

On Wednesday, Chief Keith Hiller and Officer Joe Swenson visited the Owatonna High School where Officer Swenson gave a presentation to the Class of 2016 relating to safe, distracted and impaired driving. Officer Swenson was recently appointed as the department’s traffic officer—his primary focus will be on traffic enforcement and education and will be working directly with the Toward Zero Deaths campaign and the Steele County Safe & Drug Free Coalition in an effort to reduce impairment/distraction related traffic incidents. Officer Swenson will officially begin these duties on/or about June 1st.

Weekend Highlights

Friday, April 12 to Thursday, April 18

- Busiest Day of Week: Friday—152 events
- Busiest Hour of Day: 4:00 PM—50 events
- Total # of Events: 766
- Average Events/Day: 109.43
- Average Events/Hour: 4.56
- Average Traffic Stops: .90 per hour
- DWIs for the week: 3

Department News—

Congratulations to Officer Ben Johnson—on March 10th, Ben successfully completed the 16-week field training program. He was certified for solo patrol and on this past Monday morning worked his first shift without a trainer. We look forward to Ben being an exceptional contributor to the Owatonna Police Department.

On April 16th, Chief Keith Hiller met with the Owatonna City Council Members and City Administrator Kris Busse at the Law Enforcement Center to present the Owatonna Police Department’s 2012 Annual Report and to tour the facility.

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