Owatonna Police Department Annual Report—
On behalf of the staff at the Owatonna Police Department, I am proud to present the 2014 Annual Report. Last year, we published the annual report in a new format. We are excited to report this new format had 4,106 views from around the world. It was viewed in the U.S., Canada, China, Italy, India, Greece, Thailand, United Kingdom, Ecuador, Malaysia, South Africa, Colombia, Russia Federation, and Australia. It was viewed on desktops (69%), tablets (12%), and mobile (19%) devices. As a result, we plan to continue using this format for distributing our annual reports. This final product and its creative layout is the result of many hours of hard work by Wendy Bentley of the OPD! Keith Hiller, Chief of Police

To view the 2014 Annual report, click on the photo to the right.

Steele County Safety Camp—
Lake Kohlmier and the Steele County fairgrounds were the places to be last Thursday and Friday if you were a graduating 3rd grader as the annual Steele County Safety Camp took place. Collectively, 224 graduating 3rd graders attended the camp which focuses on fishing safety, boat/canoe safety, camping/hiking safety, bike safety, firearms safety, first aid, electrical safety, fire safety amongst other things. The OPD plays a large role in the event with Detective Joel Hunt on the planning committee and Officers Jesse Ackerson, John Petterson, Andrew Van Osdale, Steven Bowman, Community Service Officers Travis Johnson, Dave Schroeder, Kyle Martin, Reserve Officer Michael Leyva, Police Explorers Logan Ringhofer and Cade Brede serving as camp counselors.

Crime Alert—
Throughout the city, we are seeing an increase in the number of car break-ins and no particular area of town seems to be immune. A careless owner and an unlocked car parked on the street or a driveway are the perfect ingredients for attracting a thief to go through your car. Mix in unsecured valuables, such as electronics, wallets, purses and on two occasions this week, a firearm and the recipe can lead to you being victimized. Protect yourself—first and foremost lock your car. Secondly, remove your valuables so they don’t become someone else’s treasures and try to park your vehicle in a well-lit area. Lastly, don’t hesitate to call 911 if you see or hear suspicious activity in your neighborhoods.

Returning for an Encore—
In last week’s edition of Just the Facts we wrote about Rogelio Aguilar who was arrested and charged with several felonies, including 2nd Degree Assault, False Imprisonment and 1st Degree Aggravated Robbery. As it turns out, Aguilar was released from custody but turned up on our radar again when we received a report from Federated Insurance of a male individual damaging Federated’s property. An overnight security officer witnessed Aguilar enter one of the entrances to the building, pick up a handset to an internal phone and break it. The security officer continued to follow Aguilar via a surveillance camera as he contacted the OPD. Aguilar was located in Central Park, placed under arrest and jailed. Aguilar faces an additional Criminal Damage to Property charged from this latest incident.