Off to the Sausage Races—

Miller Park in Milwaukee is famous for their sausage races during the middle of the 6th inning. One Wednesday evening, the Owatonna Police Department discovered a candidate for the next race!! Our officers were called to Hy-Vee for a male shoplifter who had just left the store; a witness had seen him stuffing his pants with sausages. An officer located a male matching the suspect description walking behind the Oakdale Motel—besides matching the suspect description, he had packages of meat hanging out of this front & back pockets. Terrence D. Edwards, age 33, was arrested, cited for theft and jailed for violating his condition of release from a previous arrest.

Crime Victims, Be Heard—

Becoming a victim of a crime can be a traumatic experience, but unfortunately, too many crimes go unreported. According to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs’ seventh Crime Victimization Survey, only three out of 10 victims typically report crime. Bank or credit card fraud is the most common form of property crime in the state, with one in five adults being victimized. Despite being the most common, it’s one of the least likely to be reported (10%) to police. The Crime Victimization Survey focused on property crimes and crimes against people within the previous year, along with how often those crimes were reported. Overall, 37% of those surveyed were victimized in the last year, with property crimes being more common than crimes against people. Although crimes against people were less common, they were more likely to be reported to police (67%). “We need to find ways to encourage crime victims to come forward so they can be informed of crime victim services, and we need to hold the perpetrators accountable for their actions,” said Raeone Magnuson, Office of Justice Programs executive director. “We have learned that crime victims who don’t come forward often times do not get connected to resources allowing them to recover, and that leaves them more vulnerable to re-victimization.” If you are a victim of a crime, the Owatonna Police Department encourages you to report it—the information you have, may be the information we need to crack a case?

*Reprinted in part from the MN Department of Public Safety-Office of Communications

Is the Hand Quicker than the Eye—

On Sunday evening, our officers were called to the Dollar Tree for a quick change artist. As the story goes, the suspect came into the store and purchased a .89 candy bar with a $1 dollar bill and then gave the clerk a $20 bill. The crook began asking for change. The clerk became confused and after the suspect left, the till was $60 short. A witness behind the suspect in line knew what was going on and followed the suspect out of the store and obtained a license plate number as the suspect left the area. He was apprehended a short time later and jailed on outstanding warrant. This case has been referred to the Steele County Attorney for formal charges. In an interview, the suspect made a statement to confirm his intention to trick the clerk into giving him more change that he had coming.

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