1 & 5 are real

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Weekly statistics are not available.

4th of July Fireworks Safety Tips

* National Council on Fireworks Safety and Owatonna Police Department

- Explosive and aerial fireworks are prohibited for public sale, possession and use. Examples of legal fireworks are sparklers, cones or tubes that emit sparks. Examples of illegal fireworks are firecrackers, bottle rockets, missiles, roman candles, mortars and shells.
- Legal fireworks may not be used on public property (e.g. parks, roads, alleys, schools, government property, etc).
- You must be 18 years of age or older to purchase legal fireworks.
- A responsible adult SHOULD supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks OUTDOORS in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a “dud” firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and placing in metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- Report illegal fireworks to the Police.

No Supervision—

Early Tuesday morning, officers responded to a string of burglary calls at Grace Baptist Church/Owatonna Christian School, Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Tri-Valley Head Start, Party Plus, and Centro Campesino. Entry was gained at the locations by breaking windows or through an unlocked door. Multiple items were taken during the burglaries, including candy, soda, money, condoms, and lighters. Officers received a citizen tip that two juvenile subjects were trying to gain entry into Straight River Sports by throwing rocks at the door. Responding officers apprehended two juvenile suspects at the scene and were taken into custody. Officers processing the various crime scenes found blood on broken window sills and also collected several items identified by the suspects as stolen. Both juveniles admitted to the burglaries and also admitted to a burglary of a residence. Both juveniles, ages 13, were arrested, held in juvenile detention and charged with several counts of burglary.

Dangerous Weapons—

Twice this past week Owatonna Police Officers have responded to calls about juveniles brandishing guns. In both incidents, the guns turned out to be pellet guns. The first call involved juveniles at an apartment complex. A resident called 911 stating he was told by the neighbor kids that three boys had guns and were shooting at pop cans. When the resident approached the juvenile males and told them to leave, one of the juveniles threatened to shoot the resident. The resident was unable to identify the juveniles and responding officers were unable to locate the juvenile males.

The next day, officers responded to a call about juveniles shooting geese at Morehouse Park. Officers located three juvenile males riding bike near the area and stopped to speak with them. After speaking with the juveniles, it was determined they were the ones shooting at the geese and lights at Morehouse Park. They admitted to throwing their backpacks with the bb guns in the bushes, which were later recovered.

Situations like this can be dangerous for officers and citizens. The picture below shows how similar bb guns and firearms can be. Can you tell which one is real a firearm and not a replica or bb gun?

Looking for a fight—

Officers were dispatched to a home on Mound Street on Sunday morning after a man was stabbed in the buttocks. The victim stated he had been hanging out with friends, including the suspect and drinking. The victim and suspect began arguing and the suspect pulled out a knife and stabbed the victim. After the stabbing, the victim asked others to call 911, but the others refused and the victim went to a neighbor’s house to call 911. Officers located the suspect a short time later, and he admitted to stabbing the victim stating he felt threatened and was defending himself. The suspect stated he threw the knife in the river after the stabbing. Antonio L. Perez was arrested and charged with assault.

* The answer is listed above Weekly Highlights near the top left corner of the newsletter.