Fugitive Arrest, Again-

No stranger to OPD, Anival Cuellar was back in town as a wanted fugitive with extradition out of Texas. The last time OPD arrested him for authorities, he fled from officers from Just One More bar and hid in the trunk of his mother’s car; although at that time he wasn’t able to fool OPD officers. On Saturday, October 15th, OPD officers received a tip that Cuellar was back in town at Just One More bar. Knowing Cuellar is a flight risk, they made a perimeter on the bar and as officers went in, Cuellar flushed out—just as they expected. Cuellar attempted to pull on a locked business door, then began running down the sidewalk. A police K-9 officer gave Cuellar orders to stop—repeatedly. Canine Kash was released by his handler and made an apprehension on Cuellar. Anival Cuellar, age 39, was cited for fleeing a peace officer on foot and held in the Steele County Detention Center awaiting extradition back to Texas.

Copper Wire Thieves—Brothers Cory and Scott Rasmussen have been charged with Aiding and Abetting Theft—a felony based on the value of property. In the early hours of Monday, October 17th, Officers responded to the area of Riverside Avenue and Hillsdale for a theft in progress. Two males were stealing something big & round off the railroad property and rolling it to 431 Hillsdale Street where they were trying to load it into a mini-van. When officers arrived to investigate, they heard noises in the garage at this address. They also noticed a white van in the driveway with what appeared to be a large black colored hose rolled up in the center of the van as well as the passenger bench seat on the driveway. An adult female at the residence allowed officers into the garage where they found a large wooden spool half full with black copper conduit. The Rasmussen brothers were located in the residence and Scott told officers that he and his brother Cory tried to roll the spool of wire into the van, but put it into the garage instead because it did not fit. Officers found, across the street, a site that had several railroad trucks and material to include two spools of similar copper wire appearing identical to what they found in the garage. Officers spoke with a Union Pacific railroad employee and learned that his truck tool boxes had been pried open and that there was a partial 500’ spool of copper wiring missing with a value of approximately $6 per foot. The Rasmussen brothers were booked and held at the Steele County Detention Center.

Not So Lovely—On October 18th at approximately 12:23 a.m., OPD officers were patrolling in the north district when a vehicle with its license plate light out was noticed. Upon making a traffic stop, the officer detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle and asked all occupants to exit. Officers also recognized a female passenger and were aware of an outstanding warrant for her arrest. After a search of the vehicle, officers found marijuana as well as a gun in the glove compartment. In the rear center floor boards, officers searched a black bag containing what appeared to be four bags of marijuana weighing a total of approximately 106.34 grams, a cell phone and a Minnesota ID not belonging to anyone in the vehicle. Officers attempted to identify the owner of the cell phone and found Lovely Young logged in as a user to Facebook on the phone. Young admitted that the Minnesota ID was in her cousin’s name inside her bag in the backseat of the vehicle. Young, age 20, was formally charged with 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance—Felony.