Intruder Charged with Burglary—

On November 25th, our officers were called to 444 Dartt during the morning hours for a disturbance—it was reported a male was attempting to kick in a door. The first arriving officer located a male wearing a bandana on his face inside the screen door to the residence. The male told the officer he was trying to get inside the home to get his money—he alleged a female in the home had his money. He indicated he tried to get into the home through a side window with a stick and also tried to push in the front door with his shoulder and damaged the door in doing so. A female in the home indicated the suspect used to live in the home, but their relationship had ended. Willie C. Hampton, age 35, was arrested and jailed. He has been formally charged with 1st Degree Burglary, 4th Degree Damage to Property and Disorderly Conduct.

Holiday Grinch Alert—

We’ve made it through Black Friday, Cyber Monday and we can expect the holiday shopping season to continue right up until Christmas. With the dawn of internet shopping, many, many of our community members prefer the convenience of shopping from home and having our purchases delivered right to our doorstep without ever having to step outside—this author included. Unfortunately, thieves also know this and are eager to take advantage of us unsuspecting internet shoppers. This past week we took our first report of a delivered package being stolen from a residence when a young male was seen walking up to a residence, taking a package left by the door and fleeing from the area—the suspect has yet to be caught or identified. Knowing these types of thieves are working our community, take steps to prevent being victimized, such as:

- Track your package so you know when it will be delivered and be home or have a neighbor watch for it.
- Have the package delivered to a neighbor, or someone you know that will be home.
- Have your packaged delivered to your workplace.
- KARE 11 covered a recent story on similar thefts happening in the metro area. To view the story, please click here.

More than 300 law enforcement agencies will be working overtime this holiday season to combat drunk drivers. The extra DWI enforcement campaign starts November 25 and runs on weekends through January 2, 2016. This statewide Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) enforcement involves police departments, sheriff’s offices and the State Patrol—including the Owatonna Police Department and is funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Repeat Contributor—

Last week we reported on a motor vehicle crash in which the driver, Sonia Macias, was charged with careless driving and the passenger with drug and false information charges. The next morning, our officers were called to Kwik Trip on the West Frontage Rd. Kwik Trip was reporting an unwanted female who arrived to their store in an electric wheel chair taken from Walmart. Officers arrived and learned the female had left the store, but not before drinking a cup of coffee and eating a bowl of soup without paying. Officers checked the area and found the female, Sonia Macias, in McDonalds. Macias told officers she had taken the wheel chair, valued at over $1000, without permission because she was cold and didn’t want to walk. Macias had several items in her purse believed to be stolen from Walmart as well as medication in another female’s name. Macias was placed under arrest and jailed. She has been formally charged with (2) counts of Theft—one being a felony and Unlawful Possession of a Legend Drug.

Department News—

We are happy to announce the hiring of a new part time community service officer, Brandon Sell. Brandon is a native of southeast Minnesota. Brandon has pervious law enforcement experience working with sheriff’s offices and is also a current part-time police officer with the St. Charles Police Department. Brandon first day with the OPD was on November 30th. Please help us in welcoming Brandon to the City of Owatonna!