Pursuit Ends with Arrest—

During the early morning hours on Monday, an officer attempted to stop a vehicle near 26th St. NE & N. Cedar Ave. for an equipment violation. The officer activated his emergency lights to signal the driver to pull over to no avail; the vehicle continued on N. Cedar and continued to elude the officer throughout rural northeast Steele County. The pursuit continued to 14th Avenue NE when the fleeing vehicle left the roadway and drove into a field. A perimeter was set up and the fleeing vehicle was found unoccupied in the middle of the field by Steele & Rice County Deputies. Deputies followed footprints in the new fallen snow where they located the fleeing suspect inside a truck trailer. Adam N. Miller, age 35 of Faribault, was arrested and jailed. He has been charged with Fleeing in a Motor Vehicle—a felony. The vehicle involved in this pursuit has been seized and may be subject to forfeiture.

Thank You—

This week marks the annual National Public Safety Telecommunications Week. The second week of April is designated as a time to recognize our dispatchers and telecommunication support staff for their service and commitment to their profession and the important work they do every day to keep our community and emergency responders staff. The staff at the Rice Steele 911 Center provide public safety communications, mobile data computer service and records management support for all law enforcement, fire departments and emergency medical services within Rice and Steele Counties. For all of your service, we say, THANK YOU!!

Owatonna Leadership Academy—

On April 10th, the Owatonna Police Department was the morning venue for the Owatonna Community Leadership Academy’s Criminal Justice Day. Chief Keith Hiller started the morning off by giving an overview of the department. South Central Drug Investigation (SCDUI) Commander Andy Drenth spoke about current drug developments being seen in the SCDUI enforcement area and highlighted recent SCDIU investigations. SWAT Officer/Detective Matt Oeltjenbruns & Sergeant Josh Sorensen gave an overview of topics surrounding SWAT, the authorized used of force and the equipment we use. As part of their presentation, two shoot/don’t shoot situations simulations took place. Sergeant Jason Petterson gave the group an overview of our SUAS or Drone and Captain Jeff Mundale closed with a presentation that focused on the department’s Patrol Division.

To Honor the Fallen—

We continue to get the word out on launching our Small Unmanned Aircraft System. Our pilots, Sergeant Jason Petterson and Detective Joel Hunt, recently presented to the noon Rotary Club, Owatonna Leadership Academy and the Exchange Club and next week we are slated for the Early Edition Rotary Club. If your group is interested to hear about our project, you can contact Captain Eric Rethemeier at 507-774-7203 to arrange a presentation.

Our Team—

Administration
Chief Keith Hiller
Captain Eric Rethemeier
Captain Jeff Mundale

Sergeants
Robbie Knielde
Jason Petterson
Andy DevInny
Andy Drenth
Josh Sorensen
Tracy DuChene
Jason Matesiek

Corporals
Tom Munns

Detectives
Joel Hunt
Matt Oeltjenbruns
Brady Vaith
Christian Berg

Patrol Officers
Mike Earl
Zack Schumaker
Adam Hennen
Ben Johnson
Jesse Ackerson
Andrew Van Osdale
Melissa Michael
Travis Ardolf
Jason Christensen
Steven Bowman
Alan Catahan
Derrick Quinlan
Michaela Smith
Dylan Orford
Alexandra Vogel
Casey Martin
Valerie Satre
Luke Selvik
Travis Johnson

Community Service Officers
Dave Schroeder
Lash Hedberg
Nathan Heeren
Matt Borash (Also Reserve)
Brian Shaw (Also Reserve)

Support Staff
Kimberly Dub
Pam Roberts
Wendy Gasner

Chaplains
Brent Carlson
Nancy Deetz
Loren Olson

Reserve Officers
Michael Leyva
Michael Brein
Kyle Claussen
Bill Tretow
Lance Ulrich
Thomas Bendorf
RJ Knielde
Ben Borash
Mercedes Reyes

Records Staff
Kate Schroeder
Barb Rupprecht
Renee Babcock
Rebecca Meichert

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