Charges Compile after a Series of Unfortunate Events—

On Wednesday afternoon our officers were called to an address on Vine Street for a harassment restraining order violation. The victim reported she had been receiving non-stop texts from the suspect and with whom she has a harassment restraining order against. It is alleged the suspect was making fake Facebook accounts and sending messages to the victim. In one instance, a message was received from a person purporting to be a friend, when the friend was actually standing next to the victim at the time the message was received. In other messages, the suspect talked of ending his life and cutting off another female’s head. The victim reported not feeling safe and always having to look over her back. The suspect, Troy Gunderson, age 39 of Owatonna, was arrested in Faribault and transported back to Owatonna and has been charged with Violating a Harassment Restraining Order (HRO) and Stalking. In addition, Gunderson has been charged with Violating an HRO from an incident that occurred on July 13th, Stalking and Violating an HRO from an incident that occurred on July 11th and Violating an HRO from another incident that occurred on July 11th.

Night to Unite v. 2018—

This year’s event will be on Tuesday, August 7th. Our information and registration page is up and running on our website. By clicking on the Night to Unite logo to the side, you can download a step-by-step guide, planning packet and an event registration form. If you’re looking for more information about Night to Unite, please call Pam Roberts 774-7200.

Park Damage—

We’re seeing an uptick in damage to our Owatonna parks, in particular, Lake Kohlmier. This past week, a porta-potty was damaged by someone melting a hole in the side. Our beautiful parks are some of our most cherished amenities in the city and senseless vandalism should not come at expense to our tax payers. We encourage all citizens to report any type of suspicious activity in our park system to the police so that we can all work together to keep our city a great place to live and visit.

Cops in the Community—

In recent weeks our community service officers have been paying visits to local day cares, most recently a home day care on Holly Street and another on Truman Ave. The photo below is Community Service Officer Nathan Heeren posing with the kiddos in front of our newly christened CSO vehicle.

We Want You—

The City of Owatonna is accepting applications for a part-time community service officer. Community service officers take on many of our duties that do not require a licensed police officer, such as parking control, animal control, ordinance enforcement, Owatonna High School security. Online applications will be accepted through July 27th. For more information or to apply, click here.