National Police Week, May 12-May 18 —

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. During this time, thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world will congregate on Washington DC to participate in a number of events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice. This year, the names of 371 officers were added to the Police Officer Memorial in Washington DC, including 158 who were killed in the line of duty in 2018. The other 213 died earlier in history, but had not previously been added to the memorial. This year’s additions will be read aloud at the 31st annual National Police Week candlelight vigil held on Monday, May 13th. In total, there are 21,910 officers’ names engraved on the memorial, representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, federal law enforcement, and military police agencies.

OHS Seatbelt Challenge—

On Tuesday the OHS SHOC Program, Andi Gaffke with the Steele County Safe & Drug Free Coalition and Sergeant Jason Petterson, OPD’s Toward Zero Death coordinator, conducted a “seatbelt challenge” with volunteering OHS students over their lunchtime. The object of the drill is to create a fun event to encourage students to “Buckle Up”. The challenge consisted of several teams with four students per team. Each student must buckle up as fast as they can and rotate through all four seating positions. The team picture here won the event with a score of 25.5 seconds. Kwik Trip manager Bobbi Jo provided $100 in Kwik Trip Gift Card to the winning team. A special thanks to OHS SHOC advisor Nancy Williams and Andi Gaffke for recruiting students and running the stop watch.

Stalking Arrest—

On Monday, an Owatonna detective initiated an investigation of a male stalking a Department of Corrections probation agent. The agent reported a former probationer was spotted parked outside his home and later followed him to a gas station. At the gas station, the male appeared to be taking photographs of the agent’s vehicle and later approached the agent and stated, now the hunter becomes the hunted. The male was later found in Blooming Prairie where he was arrested—during the arrest, the male yelled for officers to kill him as he wasn’t going back to prison. The male later told an officer that he intended to take an officer’s gun to commit suicide by cop and it wasn’t a matter of if an attack would happen, but when. A subsequent search warrant was served on the suspect’s vehicle—in the vehicle, 21.8 grams of presumptive methamphetamine was recovered. Videos were also received from the suspect’s phone that were suggestive of stalking the agent. Casey Schueneman, age 38 of Waldorf, has been charged with 3rd Degree Possession of a Narcotic Drug and Stalking.