



The Steele Curtain

"A Look Into Your First Line of Defense"

Steele County Sheriff's Office

Lon Thiele, Sheriff

Scott Hanson, Chief Deputy Sheriff

Karen Meier, Administrative Ass't.

March 17, 2011

Volume 2, Issue 4

Sergeants

Todd Schwanke
Bill Youngquist

Investigators

Troy Matejcek
Gary Okins

Deputies

Milo Dahlin
Chad Forystek
Aaron Guzman
Darrin Helget
Jim Holton
Tony Padilla
Lee Robbins
Greg Skillestad
Mary Ulrich
Brady Wolhart

Civil Process

Tony David
Jeanne Willmott

K-9 Unit

Brian Bennett
With Partner Chaos

Law Enforcement

Center Records Staff
Barbara Rupprecht,
Lead
Renee' Babcock
Dianne Johnson
Sidni Larson

Questions/Comments

Contact The Steele
County Sheriff's Office
at 507-444-3800 or
204 East Pearl
Owatonna, MN 55060

lon.thiele@
co.steele.mn.us

scott.hanson@
co.steele.mn.us

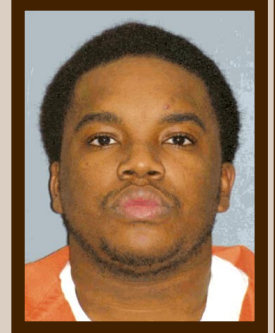
karen.meier@
co.steele.mn.us

County Website:

[CLICK HERE](http://www.co.steele.mn.us)
www.co.steele.mn.us

A VERY GRATIFYING VERDICT

Mr. Ryan Hurd (pictured at right) was found guilty Tuesday of the murder of Kathryn Anderson back in Dec. of 2009. He will spend the rest of his life in prison with no chance of parole.



"A Job Well Done" goes out to everyone at the Sheriff's Office, the County Attorney's Office and the Detention Center personnel for the time and effort that was put into the Ryan Hurd Trial. We had employees assigned to the case, in charge of evidence, on guard duty for the prisoner, conducting court house security, and taking care of the daily operational duties. It was truly a team effort.

Although the additional hours will have an adverse affect on our over-time budget, it is gratifying to see a case of such importance conclude in a manner that solidifies the principles of law enforcement. And more importantly, we hope the family and friends of Kathryn Anderson find some comfort in the outcome of the trial.

COURT SECURITY WORTHWHILE

While working Court Security, Deputy Darrin Helget encountered a couple individuals who were in possession of illegal property. At the security check-in point all individuals were asked to place all metal objects into a container prior to walking through the metal detector.

The first incident was on February 28th, when a male party pulled a pocket knife out of his pocket, had a silver folding knife attached to his key chain and his belt buckle was a pair of "brass knuckles". The male argued that he purchased the brass knuckles as a "belt buckle" and was told that reasoning does not changed the fact that indeed they are brass knuckles. He was charged with Possession of Metal Knuckles and bringing a Dangerous Weapon into the Courthouse.

The second incident was on Thursday, March 10th where a male party was in possession of a bottle of pills. The prescription on the bottle was for a generic version of Vicodin and was written out for a female. The drugs were taken into evidence. The female later showed up to claim the drugs, stating she had left them at the male's home last weekend. She was told she could not have them. The female then told the deputy he would be to blame if she lost her job because she could not work due to back pain. The deputy told her that it did not seem to be a problem for the last five or six days. The report was forwarded to the County Attorney's Office for review.

MUST HAVE MISSED HIS BUDDIES AT HIS OLD DIGS

On March 11th Sgt. Todd Schwanke arrested a male party for DWI, speed, open bottle and driving with a revoked drivers license. The male had just been released from prison and was well known to law enforcement. It turned out that the vehicle he was driving was stolen from the locked garage of an Owatonna business. Further research by Investigator Gary Okins revealed that the male had also burglarized a business in Windom earlier in the day.

Detention Center
507-446-7000
2500 Alexander St.
Owatonna, MN 55060
Dan.Schember@
co.steele.mn.us

Administrator
Dan Schember

Assistant Admin.
Pam Otto

Programs
Jennifer Pfeifer, Coor.
Cindy Fowler
Jessica Meyer

Business Manager
Debra Lesmeister

Sergeants
Ron Hammann
Justin Hebel
Richelle Olson
Dan Petersen
Paul Prissel
Dick Wandrey

Corporals
Anthony Buttera
Randy Hanson
Joyce Prusha
Troy Stockwell

Corrections Officers

Travis Ardolf
Travis Avelar
Mark Barrie
Drew Bartelt
Nathan Boysen
Crystal Chappuis
Steve Clark
Elisha Degregio
Chad Fisher
Kristin Freese
Steven Gjerard
Dawn Grunklee
Matthew Gwin
Luis Irizarry
Shannon Jes
Jason Krohn
Al Kubat
Adil Lebgue
Jed Loftus
Shari Luedtke
Amber Reinhart
Richard Smith
Shelley Thom
Tina Tyler
Carl Wheeler

Nursing
Joyce Drake
Leah Kent

Records Staff
Nancy Gjerard, Lead

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PROJECT: BAGS BEHIND BARS

Most consumers throw away plastic grocery bags everyday, but what if we could take these bags destined for landfills and "upcycle" them into reusable totes? That is the very premise of "Bags Behind Bars." Each tote is hand crocheted with plastic yarn (plarn) by inmates of the Steele County Detention Center (SCDC). These totes are extremely durable, flexible and washable.



Sharon Decker, (pictured at left) a SCDC volunteer, has taught the inmates and programs staff how to create the plarn and crochet them into totes. The inmates creating these durable totes are involved in Community Work Service and/or Job Search. They can work time or fines off while learning valuable skills and helping the community.

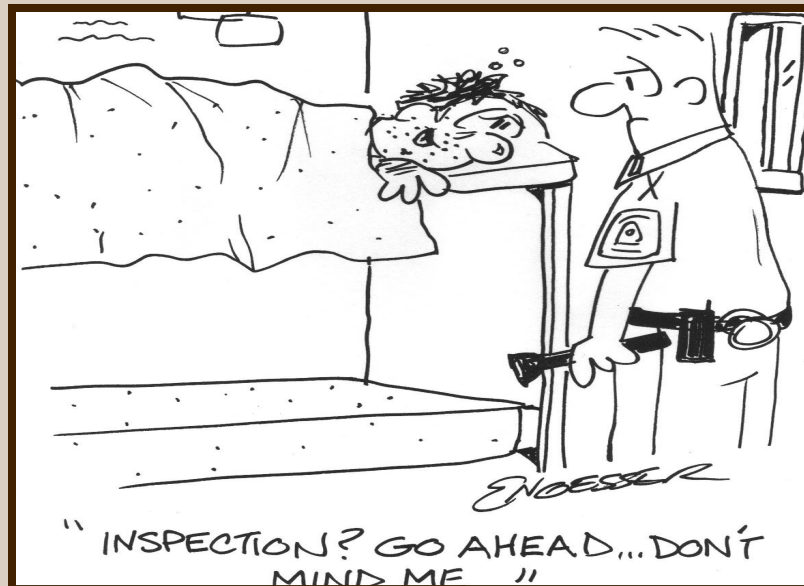
There is no cost to the detention center or the county for this project.

FIGHT NIGHT

Disagreements kept our deputies busy on March 12th. The evening started out with deputies responding to a verbal domestic between a teenage son and his parents. Deputes Mary Ulrich, Aaron Guzman, Tony Padilla, Sgt. Todd Schwanke and Blooming Prairie Sgt. Mark Lang all responded.

Following that the same law enforcement officers were dispatched to the Ellendale Municipal Liquor Store for a brawl involving about 12 people. Two females and one male were cited for Fifth Degree Assault.

The last fight of the night was a physical domestic. A male party was arrested by Deputy Aaron Guzman and Deputy Tony Padilla. The female was taken to the Owatonna Hospital by Gold Cross. Two juveniles were turned over to family members and an advocate from the Steele County Women's Resource Center.



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