



Behind The Steele Star

Steele County Sheriff's Office
Lon Thiele, Sheriff

Scott Hanson, Chief Deputy **Karen Meier, Administrative Asst.**

January 27, 2012

Volume 3, Issue 1

Sergeants

Brian Bennett with
K-9 Partner Chaos
Todd Schwanke
Bill Youngquist

Investigators

Troy Matejcek
Gary Okins

Deputies

Milo Dahlin
Nicholas Donahue
Chad Forystek
Aaron Guzman
Darrin Helget
Jim Holton
Kari Kalow
Scott Kochendorfer
Tony Padilla
Greg Skillestad
Mary Ulrich
Brady Wolhart

Civil Process

Tony David
Jeanne Willmott

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@
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karen.meier@
co.steele.mn.us

County Website:

[CLICK HERE](#)

www.co.steele.mn.us



JASON KRIEG

EXCELLENT TEAM WORK

Our investigators have been busy with the investigation of the shooting that took place at the Medford McDonalds Restaurant. In addition to the arrest of Jason Krieg, we were able to arrest two females and one male with charges ranging from controlled substance (sales and possession) to aiding an offender. We have completed numerous search warrants on houses, phone records and vehicles. Seized property includes \$1,026.36 in cash, a police scanner that was being used in a vehicle, and 1 1/2 ounces of suspected methamphetamines that have a street value of \$7,500.

As a community we were very lucky that the incident did not turn into a tragedy, considering the location and time when the shots were fired.

We would like to thank all the following agencies that assisted with the incident and subsequent arrests. The South Central Drug Investigation Unit, The Owatonna Police Department and the BCA who made seven agents and their cell phone tracker available to us. We are glad to have this one BEHIND BARS.

ALCOHOL & TOBACCO COMPLIANCE CHECKS

Last month Investigator Gary Okins conducted our mandatory tobacco compliance checks and voluntary alcohol checks at those entities that are not within the city limits of Owatonna and Blooming Prairie.

For the tobacco checks we are required to use a 15 to 17 year old. Under the supervision of a licensed officer, this individual visits the various establishments and attempts to purchase tobacco products. We made five stops with only one establishment failing to comply with state statutes.

Four establishments were visited for the alcohol compliance checks and we are happy to report they all refused to serve the minor. Those establishments were the Municipal Liquor Stores in Medford and Ellendale, R & L Pit Stop and Spurgy's Bar & Grill in Hope. An 18 to 20 year old individual is used for these visits.

We commend those businesses who comply with the law when selling these products. The laws are created to keep our youth safe and we consider the time spent conducting these checks, to be time well spent.



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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
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 Gjerald
Dawn Grunklee
Matthew Gwin
Alicyn Hinze
Luis Irizarry
Shannon Jes
Jason Krohn
Al Kubat
Adil Lebgue
Jed Loftus
Shari Luedtke
Roderick Rees
Richard Smith
Shelley Thom
Carl Wheeler

Nursing

Joyce Drake
Leah Kent

Records Staff

Nancy Gjerald, Lead
Erin Edwards

AN HONOR TO PARTICIPATE

Deputy Tony Padilla and Sergeant Brian Bennett represented Steele County at the funeral for Lake City Police Officer Shawn Schneider. It is always very rewarding to see the participation from fellow law enforcement and support from the community.

A fund has been set up for the Schneider family. Contributions can be sent to Alliance Bank, c/o Kathy Moyer, 105 East Lyon Ave., Lake City, MN 55401.

Pictured at right is a squad that pays tribute to fallen Minn. Law Enforcement Officers.



NATIONAL CHILD SAFETY COUNCIL

We have recently partnered with the National Child Safety Council, which is an organization that promotes the prevention of needless childhood accidents and meaningful safety education. Their website tells us that unintentional injuries account for 9.2 billion emergency room visits and over 12,000 deaths annually in children ages 19 and under. In addition to their work with children, they also provide educational materials for adults and senior citizens. They serve approximately 6,000 public safety agencies in over 40 states and we are happy to be a part of that.

The organization will be making contacts within Steele County. Therefore, we just wanted to introduce our association, hoping to avoid any uncertainty for everyone.

A quote from their website:

"Next to creating a life, the greatest thing one can do is save a life." - A. Lincoln



**"GOOD TIMES SERVED"
ARTWORK BY DAKOTA
COUNTY CORRECTIONAL
DEPUTY
JOE ENGESSER**

Special Deputies

Les Abraham,
Coordinator
507-398-3284

Walt Barfknecht
Charlie Berg
Grant Brossard
Chris Clark
Matthew DeWees
Jack Dillemath
Scott Dobson
Derek Drache
Gene Fisher
Christopher Gannon
Scott Jorgensen
Jeff Kirchner
Mark Kreutter
Andrew Kubista
Eugene Linse
Dave Macht
Randy Mahlman
Anthony Malepsy
Rich Mueller
Brandon Noble
Matthew Pace
Marty Rethemeier
Sean Robbins
Paul Schneider
LeRoy Schroeder
Mark Schultz
John Standke
Thomas Stockwell
Jodi Strand
John Sweet

Mounted Posse

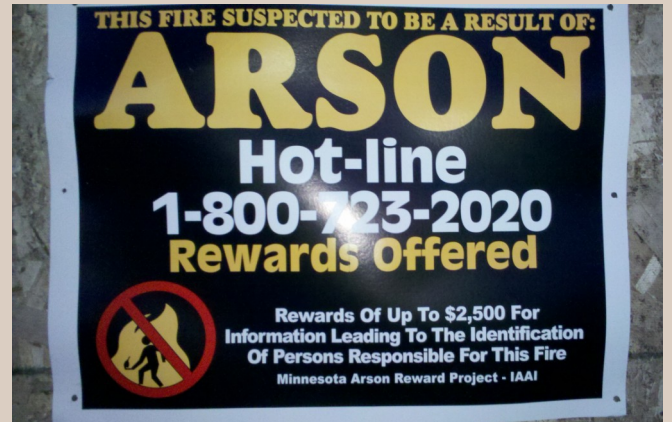
Joe Schwering, Captain
507-528-2423

Ralph Behne
Brian Berg
Ed Berryman
John Bowe
Maralou Brose
Jodie Briant
Michelle Darrah
Tine Donahue
John Gerold
Tim Hager
Tom Hager
Mike Haubenschild
Dan Hedberg
Darrin Helget
William Hildebrandt
Jake Jacobson
Leon Kamrath
Mike Keinz
Mark Lang
Monte Mowry
Del Mullenbach
Joyce Nelson
Barrie & Dawn Peterson
Lynn Pettis
Ethel Quimby
Gary Ringhofer
Marilyn Schwering
Tony Schwering
Carl Ulrich
Troy Utpadel
Jennifer Waldriff

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ELLENDALE FIRE ? ARSON ?

An update for you on the December 7th fire at the Mark Misgen residence in Ellendale. Our office along with State Fire Marshall personnel continue to investigate this incident. Numerous signs like the one to the right are now posted on the house. They are asking for any information on the fire that might lead to the identification of persons responsible for this fire and are offering a reward. If you would prefer, you can use the tip line that comes directly to our offices - 1-866-878-7964. Any information would be greatly appreciated and would remain anonymous if you choose to not leave your name. Thank you.



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DEPUTY KALOW HANDLES A SHORT PURSUIT

One of our new employees, Deputy Kari Kalow, had a routine traffic stop turn into a short pursuit. While on patrol with FTO Deputy Brady Wolhart, she attempted to pull over a vehicle just outside the North city limits of Medford for expired tabs. The driver slowed down, tapped his brakes several times but did not stop. They then entered Rice County where the driver pulled over. He exited his vehicle but would not adhere to commands given to him. He then jumped back into his vehicle and drove off. He eventually pulled over again and exited his vehicle where he was ordered to the ground at gun point. He then got up again and walked toward the squad yelling at the deputies to just shoot him. After a short time he complied with orders to get back on the ground. After other units arrived he was safely taken into custody and transported to the Detention Center.

We are pleased to report that our new deputies are progressing nicely through their Field Training phase.



ON DISPLAY

These Murals were done by the Inmates at the Steele County Detention Center through a grant that was received from the South Eastern Minnesota Arts Council. The murals took approximately 2 months to create and are images of "Change"

The Murals are currently being displayed in the lobby of the County Administration Building. They will also travel to the Courthouse, the Owatonna High School and the Steele County Free Fair.