



# AROUND TOWN

A Publication of the Hermantown Police Department

Date: Feb 28, 2010 to March 6, 2010

## Chief

Michael Anderson

## Deputy Chief

Shawn Padden

## Sergeants

William Marsolek

Mark Gunderson

## Officers

Paul Johnson

Tom Wick (K9)

Kristi Hansen

Jason Salo (LSGDTF)

Kody Vedder (SRO)

Lisa Volk

Griffin Pfeiffer

Jon Esterbrooks

Tim Battaglia

## Clerical

Jessica Treviranus

Luanne McMillan

Tara Rotta

## K-9

Nero



*The following are selected police related incidents that the Hermantown Police Department has responded to between 02/28/10 to 03/06/10*

## Disturbances / Domestics / Assaults:

On 03/01/10, Sgt. Marsolek received the report of a domestic situation in a townhome complex. The caller gave little information. The residents of the townhome denied any argument or confrontation and told Sgt. Marsolek that a 47-year-old female had been harassing them and they believed she had made the call. Over the next month, three more 911 calls were made and Sgt. Marsolek determined that all calls were made from a similar sounding woman who gave different names. Sgt. Marsolek spoke to the 47-year-old woman, who admitted making the calls, stating that the male half of the couple had been living with her for two weeks and had spoken to her on the phone, telling her about each incident at the time she placed the 911 call. The male was at the woman's residence at the time Sgt. Marsolek spoke to her, and he was also interviewed. He denied telling the woman that he and his wife were arguing. During the conversation with the man, Sgt. Marsolek detected an odor of an alcoholic beverage and determined at a later date that the man was on probation with a condition of no alcohol. He also found that there was a pending court case of domestic assault between the man and woman who made the phone calls. The woman was charged with making emergency

calls, falsely reporting a crime, and harassment.

## Driving While Intoxicated:

Shortly before 9 p.m. on 03/06/10, Officer Hansen was doing stationary patrol on Haines Road near the intersection with Anderson Road. She observed a vehicle approaching in the northbound lane and when it became approximately parallel with her squad car, it crossed the fog line, nearly hitting the driver's side of the parked squad. Officer Hansen pulled behind the vehicle, observing it cross the fog line several more times. The vehicle did not respond to Officer Hansen's lights or siren, continuing to travel to Maple Grove Road, making a turn at the intersection before finally stopping. The driver, a 31-year-old male, failed field sobriety tests and had the result of .20% blood alcohol content on a preliminary breath test. He was lodged at the St. Louis County Jail for 3<sup>rd</sup> degree DWI and .08 or more.

## Traffic Stops:

On 02/28/10 at approximately 10 a.m., Officer Esterbrooks was on patrol near the intersection of Miller Trunk Highway and Haines Road when he observed a van pass his squad car and quickly accelerate, reaching speeds of 56 mph in a 40 mph zone. He performed a traffic stop on the vehicle and the driver immediately attempted to leave the vehicle. Upon speaking with the 27-year-old male and observing nervous behavior, Officer Esterbrooks determined that there was a pipe and marijuana in the vehicle. The man was issued a citation for speed, possession of drug paraphernalia, possessing a small amount of marijuana, and driving after revocation.

On 03/02/10 at 2:52 p.m., Sgt. Marsolek

was advised that a 28-year-old female was calling 911 to report that her 31-year-old husband had picked her up from work and she could tell from his demeanor and poor driving conduct that he was intoxicated. She demanded that he pull over and he fled when she called 911. The woman told Sgt. Marsolek that she was very upset that the male had been driving with their 3 ½ -year-old child in the vehicle. A check of the man's driving status showed that he is canceled-inimical to public safety. The report was sent to the city attorney's office for charges, as the male was not located at the time of the incident.

**Accidents:**

Just after 7 a.m. on 03/03/10, Officer Battaglia was called to the scene of an accident at the intersection of Maple Grove Road and Ugstad Road. A 35-year-old male was traveling eastbound on Maple Grove Road and did not see the stop sign until the last minute. He attempted to slam on his brakes, but was unable to stop in time. His vehicle collided with a northbound vehicle driven by a 48-year-old woman.

On 03/06/10 at 1:35 p.m., Sgt. Gunderson responded to the Walmart parking lot for the report of an accident. A 70-year-old female had backed out of her parking spot and was proceeding up the aisle when another vehicle, driven by a 76-year-old male, backed out of a parking spot, sideswiping the woman's vehicle.

**Theft / Burglary / Shoplifting:**

On 03/03/10, Officer Battaglia was requested by Minnesota Power to do a police standby while they checked a meter at a LaVaque Road residence that had been disconnected the previous July because they believed the homeowner had tampered with the meter to receive power for free. The Minnesota Power employee did determine that the meter

had been tampered with and a crew was called out to cut the power at the power pole. The homeowner spoke to Officer Battaglia and admitted that he had bypassed the meter so that he would have power. The 44-year-old male was charged with felony damage or theft to energy transmission or telecommunications and gross misdemeanor damage to property.

On 03/04/10 at 6:23 p.m., Officer Wick responded to Walmart for the report of an adult female shoplifter. A 21-year-woman that was shopping the store with her 4-year-old and one-week-old daughters had gone to the photo center to have pictures made. She told employees there that she would pay for the pictures up front. She proceeded to pick out a picture frame and conceal it under her jacket before attempting to leave the store without paying for any of the merchandise. The total value of the theft was \$11.92 and the woman was issued a citation.

Just before 7:30 p.m. on 03/04/10, Officer Wick received the report of a shoplifting at Walmart. Two females were observed placing items into a cart and tote bag before leaving the store. When confronted by store security, the younger female ran to a car with a waiting driver, which proceeded to leave the parking lot. The 32-year-old female had attempted to steal two pair of pants and a shirt worth a total of \$41.50. She was issued a citation for theft. The woman that ran, a 20-year-old, was identified by store security from past contacts. She had attempted to steal \$81.50 worth of items, including a 10-gallon tote, Glade oil refills, sweatpants, sleepwear, packs of t-shirts and tank tops, and socks. Officer Wick issued her a citation for theft, which was mailed to her home address.

