



AROUND TOWN

A Publication of the Hermantown Police Department

Date: May 3, 2009 to May 9, 2009

Chief

Michael Anderson

Deputy Chief

Shawn Padden

Sergeants

William Marsolek

Mark Gunderson

Officers

Wayne Boucher (SRO)

Paul Johnson

Tom Wick (K9)

Kristi Hansen

Jason Salo (LSGDTF)

Kody Vedder

Lisa Volk

Griffin Pfeiffer

Jon Esterbrooks

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 05/03/09 and 05/09/09.

Disturbances / Domestic / Assaults:

On 05/03/09 Officer Wick received a report from a Morris Thomas Road resident that a brick had been thrown through the back window of her car while she was away from home for the weekend. There are no suspects in this case.

On 5/09/09 at 1:41 p.m. Officer Wick was dispatched to a report of possible terroristic threats. The reporting party had received a card in the mail that contained a disturbing personal message directed towards the family. Officer Wick is investigating.

Driving While Intoxicated:

On 05/04/09 at approximately 11 p.m., Officer Johnson was dispatched to Hermantown Road, where a vehicle had struck a power pole. The 29-year-old male driver refused medical treatment. He was asked to perform field sobriety, which he failed. The male was placed under arrest and brought to the Hermantown Police Department for an Intoxilyzer Test with a .10 result. A citation for 4th degree DWI was issued, and the male was released to a sober relative.

On 05/06/09 at 10:30 p.m., Officer Pfeiffer performed a traffic stop on a vehicle that he observed swerving, and the driver did not signal a left

turn. The 25-year-old male did not pass field sobriety, and was brought to the Police Department for a breath test, which resulted in a .18 alcohol content. He was arrested for 4th degree DWI, .08 or more, and open container.

Traffic Stops:

On 5/04/09 at 10:15 a.m. Officer Pfeiffer observed a vehicle displaying different front and rear license plates. The driver had rented the vehicle from a dealership and was not aware that the plates did not match.

On 5/07/09 at 10:37 p.m., Officer Vedder attempted to stop a vehicle near Airport Road and Haines Road after observing the driver make an improper turn. Upon stopping, the driver jumped out of the vehicle, yelling that he had stopped. The driver was warned for centerline violation, right turn not from curb lane, and no driver's license in possession. Drivers are reminded to stay seated and not exit their vehicles when stopped by an officer, in order to ensure the safety of the driver, officer, and other drivers/pedestrians.

On 5/09/09 at 10:01 p.m. Officer Volk was southbound on Lavaque Road when she observed a vehicle with no taillights. The driver said the dash lights had just gone out, and she thought a fuse may be out. The driver stated the vehicle belonged to her mother and was unable to provide a current insurance card. She was issued a citation for no proof insurance, warned for failure to change address on driver's license within thirty days of residence change, and was advised to drive home with the hazard lights on.

Accidents:

On 5/07/09 at 5:13 p.m., Officer Pfeiffer and

the Hermantown Volunteer Fire Department responded to a complaint of white smoke and the smell of burning rubber in the area of Haines Road and Piedmont. It was determined that a person doing engine work on a vehicle was the source.

On 5/09/09 at 2:14 p.m., Officer Wick was advised of a large brush pile burning in the 4200 block of Lavaque Rd. This matter was handled by the Hermantown Volunteer Fire Department and DNR. Residents are reminded that spring burning restrictions are still in effect.

Animal Calls:

On 5/09/09 at 5:05 p.m., Officers Wick and Johnson received a complaint of two large black dogs in the yard of a residence in the 3900 block of Ugstad Road. Upon their arrival, the homeowner stated the dogs were last seen running northbound on Ugstad Road. Officers checked the area but were unable to locate the dogs.

Public Assist:

On 5/07/09 at 8:00 a.m., the Hermantown Police Department was advised of an incident in which a boat parked for sale in the yard of a residence located on Stebner Rd. was pushed across the street and into the swamp during the night. The boat was not damaged.

On 5/06/09 at 1:13 p.m., Sergeant Gunderson was contacted by the Hermantown Volunteer Fire Department regarding a report of possible dynamite found in a garage. The reporting party was the daughter of the previous homeowner, who was cleaning when she came across a box containing what appeared to be old sticks of dynamite. Investigation by the Minnesota Duty Officer and HVFD concluded that the alleged dynamite was actually road flares.

On the afternoon of 5/09/09, Officer Johnson and Sergeant Marsolek assisted with the PBS Kids Circus event held at the Hermantown Middle School.

Theft / Burglary / Shoplifting:

On 5/09/09 at 11:34 p.m., Officers Volk and Johnson, along with St. Louis County Deputies, were advised of a possible burglary in progress. The reporting party said a pickup truck was parked in the driveway of the house next door, and someone was walking around outside with a flashlight. The reporting party believed that the residence was vacant. While enroute Dispatch advised that someone was now in the basement of the house with a flashlight. Upon arrival, officers found both doors open and someone inside the house. The suspect was identified and explained that he belonged to a cleaning company and was working late. He was using a flashlight, as he could not determine if there was power to the house. The male was frustrated a prowler complaint had been made as he thought that all the neighbors had been contacted. He was advised that walking around that late at night with only a flashlight was likely to cause suspicion.

Miscellaneous:

Between 4 a.m. and 10 p.m. on 5/03/09, the Police Department speed trailer was set up on Stebner Road near Lightning Drive. A total of 1377 vehicles passed the trailer, with 1078 of them traveling above the 40 mph speed limit, including 105 vehicles traveling faster than 50 mph.

On 5/06/09, officers put the speed trailer on Arrowhead Road. During the hours of 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., 1194 vehicles passed the trailer. 697 vehicles were speeding. The majority of these vehicles were traveling 41-45 mph, but the highest recorded speed was 91 mph.

