



# BIRCHWOOD

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | AUGUST 2023



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

by Laura Perkins | Public Information Manager

This summer has been busy for our Community Engagement Team, and we're gearing up for an even busier fall. This team, with 50-plus members from all divisions, is dedicated to involving Sheriff's Office personnel in initiatives that build community relationships, prevent crime, and solve problems. These include programs like the Citizens Academy, Shop with a Cop for back-to-school and the holidays, Special Olympics events, National Night Out/Night to Unite, Cops and Cones, and other social gatherings including recruitment fairs, city and township picnics, and school visits. Our outreach includes ongoing efforts with communities new to the county, such as the growing East African community in Hugo and the Eastern Twin Cities Islamic Center in Afton. Our vision is to continue building a community where everyone feels safe, valued, and heard, and we continuously seek new and innovative ways to engage with the public. If your community would like to coordinate an event with the Sheriff's Office, please fill out this [online form](#). We'd love to visit with you!

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

15

TRAFFIC STOPS

3

# WC2308379

## MAIL THEFT/FORGERY

XX BIRCHWOOD LANE

A resident called at 11:20am on July 26 to report that two recently ordered books of checks never arrived in the mail after shipping on July 5. The caller had further been notified by the bank about what appeared to be fraudulent activity on the checking account. Several individuals had been attempting to cash checks, with three in the amount of \$800, one for \$575 and one for \$840. Each of the transactions appeared to have a signature using the caller's name, but in different handwriting. Although the bank was responsive to the caller, the bank was unable to divulge details of an attempt to cash one of the checks at one of their branches and would not provide relevant video without a warrant. The investigation remains ongoing.



## MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

We're gearing up for one of our favorite events of the year! It's the 2023 Washington County Fair, which runs Wednesday, Aug. 2, through Sunday, Aug. 6.

Be sure to stop by the Sheriff's Office booth on the corner of McFair and 42nd, where we'll have daily K9 demonstrations, a fingerprinting station and the Washington County Explorer speed pitch booth. Plus, you can check out our newest hybrid squad car and meet members of the Investigations Unit. The fair is a great way for our deputies and employees to chat with and listen to our community members in a fun, family-friendly environment. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information about the Washington County Fair, please check out their website: [About The Fair - Washington County Fair](#).

In service,

Sheriff Dan Starry