

# AROUND TOWN



**Chief**  
Jim Crace

**Commanders**  
Mark Gunderson  
Jon Esterbrooks

**Sergeants**  
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9  
Jon Pernu - K9

**Detective Bureau**  
Jeff Dwyer  
Jake Williams

**Officers**  
Jason Salo  
Tim Battaglia  
Jon Enright  
Erika Johnson - SRO  
Olivia Gottschald  
Andrew Leibel  
Alex Prouse  
Rebecca Towner

**Clerical**  
Dana Ross  
Samantha Knapp  
Ashley Johnson

**K-9**  
Tuuko  
Jack



During the week of 11/12/23 to 11/18/23, the Hermantown PD had 114 calls.  
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

## Damage to Property

There have been a rise in vehicle vs. deer calls recently, possibly in connection with the deer rut season. Hermantown officers were notified of four separate deer vs. vehicle calls this week and three the previous. If you hit a deer and want to keep the animal, be sure and let the officer know so they can issue a deer car kill possession permit. Please be on the lookout for deer and be safe!

Officers took a phone call at the office on November 16, 2023 from a 51-year-old man who lived out of town. The man advised that he had just driven down to Hermantown to get his camper from Camping World. He said he had been trying to get ahold of them, because he wanted to pick it up. The man said he had no idea the business had closed as he was never notified by them to get his camper. The man told officers that he found his camper ransacked to include all four tires missing, a back window broken out, the awning torn off, and other damages. The camper was in the overflow lot across the road from Outback. There is no suspect information and the man was provided the case number for insurance.

## Shoplifting

An employee at the Pure Pleasure in Hermantown called in to 911 to report that an alarm went off at the exit doors for unpaid merchandise on November 17, 2023 at 2216 hours. When this happened, an 18-year-old female suspect handed the merchandise over to the caller.

Assisting agency officers spoke with the woman who admitted to taking a product with no intention of paying for it. The woman was trespassed and issued a citation for shoplifting.

## Suspicious Activity

On November 15, 2023 at 1222 hours, a woman came to the Hermantown Police Department to report suspicious mail that they received at the office she works at near the 4900<sup>th</sup> block of Miller Trunk Hwy. The woman showed officers the letter which appeared to be mailed from a man that contained a note, a penny, and two pieces of paper that had an employee's name, office phone number and office address on it. The note appeared to be written in code and contained a PayPal address and physical address where donations and payments could be made.

Note did not make much sense and was not threatening in any way. There have been numerous other similar calls involving the suspect male, involving people and businesses receiving letters in the mail.

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## Traffic Stop

On November 18th, 2023 at approximately 2012 hours, officers on patrol observed three vehicles traveling southbound near Ugstad and Maple Grove Road at a speed that appeared much greater than the posted 30 mile per hour speed limit. The first two vehicles were traveling at a speed in the upper 50 mile per hour range. The third vehicle was recorded at 60 miles per hour. Officers conducted a stop on the third vehicle.

Officers approached the vehicle and asked the 17-year-old male driver where he was traveling at 30 miles above the speed limit. The male admitted that he was attempting to keep up with his friends. The driver was issued a citation for speeding. He was also given a verbal warning for failure to cancel high beam headlights. When he did shut the high beam lights off, he lost all headlight function. He was advised to get this fixed.

## Civil Issue

On November 16, 2023, Officers were dispatched to 5600<sup>th</sup> block of Hermantown Road for a report of a vehicle theft. A 46-year-old woman called 911 to report that her ex-boyfriend had stolen a vehicle that she had just bought that was not yet registered in her name. Upon speaking with the caller, it was discovered that she had been allowing the male to drive the vehicle. Officers attempted to call the male requesting he return their phone call and to return the vehicle to the female caller. Officers were able to reach the male party for questioning, who claimed the two bought the vehicle together. The male said he has been making payments on the vehicle as well. The female was upset the police did not arrest the male and did not recover the vehicle. This appears to be a civil matter as both parties have invested money into buying the vehicle.

## Traffic Accident

Officers received a call from dispatch on November 17, 2023 around 1455 hours that alerted of a three-vehicle car crash near the Haines and Mall Drive area. Initially there was no report of injuries, just that the caller was very shaken up. All three vehicles were reported to be traveling northbound on Haines Road. Vehicle 1 driver, a 22 year old male, stated to officers that the vehicle in front of him stopped abruptly, causing him to have to slam on his brakes.

Vehicle 3, driven by a 17-year-old woman, was behind Vehicle 2. Due to the abrupt stop by Vehicle 1, she rear-ended Vehicle 2, driven by a 52-year-old woman and in turn, Vehicle 2 rear-ended Vehicle 1. Driver of Vehicle 3 stated she thought she might have blacked out prior to the crash as she didn't know exactly how the crash occurred, she just briefly remembered approaching the intersection. Driver 2 mentioned she wasn't sure if she hit Vehicle 1 before or after being struck by Vehicle 3.

All vehicles were damaged and air bags deployed as well. Two vehicles needed to be towed from the scene. No injuries were reported to have occurred at the time of the crash.

Hermantown Police Department  
5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN 55811  
218.729-1200 // [cops@hermantownmn.com](mailto:cops@hermantownmn.com)

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