

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
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson - SRO
Olivia Gottschald
Andrew Leibel
Alex Prouse
Rebecca Towner
Devin Kleive
Lucas Hedin

Clerical
Dana Ross
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson

K-9
Tuuko
Jack



**During the week of 6/09/24 to 06/15/24, the Hermantown PD had 252 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.**

DWI

On June 15th, 2024 at approximately 0506 hours, officers were dispatched to a suspicious activity call near the 5400th block of Hermantown Road. The reporting party stated that there was a vehicle parked in the middle of the field on the east side of her residence. She also noted that there was a male walking west on Hermantown Road.

Officers arrived and as they approached the vehicle, they noticed there were spin marks in the fresh gravel coming out of a nearby driveway on Hermantown Road. There was also a mailbox lying next to the driveway that had apparently been run over while the vehicle was leaving. Officers approached the front door to the residence and looked through the large entry door window to see a male laying on the couch. The male did not move even when officers knocked on the door and awoke the family dog who barked loudly for quite some time.

Eventually, a female emerged from the second level of the house and answered the door and was questioned about the vehicle in the ditch. The woman admitted that the driver was there and she reentered the residence to retrieve him. Officers watched the woman shake the male repeatedly and seemingly attempted to lift him partially off of the couch before he woke up.

Once the 48-year-old male was up, he told officers that he would retrieve the truck when he could and "everything will be fine." He stated that he was sober when he put the truck in the ditch and became intoxicated in the last 15 minutes. During this conversation, officers observed the strong odor of alcohol coming from his person, slurred speech, blood shot, watery eyes, and lethargic movements.

Officers told the homeowner that the vehicle would remain in the ditch for the morning and that it would be recovered later in the day. The man insisted that the truck be removed immediately and claimed that the entire field could not be harvested this year because of the vehicle in the ditch.

Officers went to notify the two parties about this, and found the man had now left the residence and was standing on the roadway next to his vehicle that was still in the ditch. Officers advised the man that if he entered the vehicle and put the key in the ignition that he would be in physical control of the vehicle and will be charged for Driving While Impaired. Officers insisted that the man go to bed while leaving the scene.

Soon after officers left, the homeowner had called and requested officers return because the female party was causing a disturbance. Upon returning, the headlights and tail lights of the truck were now illuminated and the vehicle was still in the same location. Officers could see the male sitting nearly motionless in the driver's seat as if trying to hide. Officers flashed lights at the side of the man's head multiple times in an attempt to get his attention. The female approached the truck and began yelling for the man, who ignored her for some time as well.

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The man finally came out of the vehicle and repeatedly told officers that he only pressed the start button on the truck to retrieve information. Since the man was in control of the vehicle, officers performed standard field sobriety testing. He submitted a preliminary breath sample of .199. While enroute to jail, he explained to officers that he was drinking all day. The man was arrested for third degree test refusal and fourth degree driving while impaired without incident.

Found Explosive

On June 15th, 2024 around 1221 hours, dispatch advised that a party was calling in that they found a grenade in the garage near the 4000th block of Lavaque Road. The man who called officers had advised that he had handled the item a little bit and he was advised to not do so anymore.

Officers arrived on scene and learned that family at the address were cleaning out the garage when they discovered a grenade. Officers were put in contact with the Crow Wing County Bomb Squad who advised the grenade appeared to be real. Crow Wing County advised they would respond to retrieve the grenade. Bomb Squad arrived a few hours later and took possession of the grenade.

Disturbance

On June 15th, 2024 at 2012 hours, dispatch advised that a group of guests at the Econo Lodge were being disruptive and pushed another guest. They believed some of the guests were intoxicated. Officers soon arrived to the Econo Lodge and saw a large group eating pizza in the lobby area. Officers spoke with a woman who said her family was at the pool and she got into a verbal argument with another female guest. The female guest was mad at the woman for using two tables at the pool area. She said the argument was brief and ended. She said she then was walking and accidentally bumped into a child and the female guest got mad and accused her of pushing them.

The woman explained that employees told her and her family that they needed to leave. The woman asked staff why they needed to leave, and the employee told her it was due there being potato chips in the pool from her group. The desk clerk told everyone to get their food out of the pool area as it is not allowed. After some issues with room reimbursements, everyone decided to leave.

Shoplifting

On June 9th, 2024 at 1550 hours, officers patrolling near the Walmart in Hermantown had witnessed a store employee attempting to get squads attention as they were attempting to detain a female outside the front doors.

Officers went inside the store and learned that the 37-year-old woman had tried to push out unpaid items in a shopping cart. Officers asked the woman if she was willing to speak with them where she said she did not want to go to jail. After explaining that they did not intend on taking

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her to jail, she agreed to speak with officers. The woman stated she tried pushing the items out the door without paying for them because she did not have enough money to buy tools she needed for her new job.

The total amount for the stolen items came to \$129.27. She was advised she was trespassed from all Walmart stores for one year, and she was issued a citation for misdemeanor shoplifting.

