



CLOQUET POLICE DEPARTMENT

Weekly Newsletter

Week Ending April 21, 2017

ADMINISTRATION

Interim Chief Jeff Palmer
Chief Steve Stracek
Commander Carey Ferrell
Commander Derek Randall

OFFICERS

Detective Darrin Berg
Detective Scott Holman
Sergeant Rick Benko
Sergeant Jeff Palmer
Sergeant Tom Hallfrisch
Corporal Erik Blesener
Corporal Steve Fiske
Corporal Corey Schneberger
Officer Scott Beckman
Officer Eric Baker
Officer Adam Reed
Officer Kristina Kohlmeyer
Officer Nathan Cook
Officer Erika Johnson
Officer Kyle Voltzke
Officer Laci Silgjord
Officer Andy Wappes
Officer Ben Waller
Officer Ryan Lunda

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Shannon Nelson
Nicole Eckenberg

508 Cloquet Avenue
Cloquet, MN 55720
Phone (218)879-1247
Fax (218) 879-1190
www.ci.cloquet.mn.us

OPERATIONS

On Tuesday, April 18, 2017, the Cloquet Police Department, together with the Citizen Advisory Board and several community members, conducted interviews of potential police officer candidates and were able to narrow down to the top seven applicants. The selected candidates will continue on to the next phase of the hiring process by completing background packets.

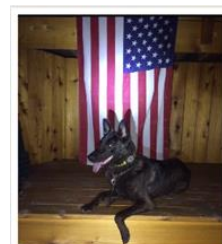
On April 19, 2017, the Cloquet Police Department participated in the Law Enforcement Career Expo at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College.

On April 20, 2017, Administrative Secretary Nicole Eckenberg attended the Carlton County Suspense Work Group hosted by Carlton County Sheriff's Office and presented by the BCA on the topic of clearing suspense files.

PATROL

On April 17, 2017 at approximately 2020 hours, Cloquet officers responded to Walmart for a report of a female shoplifter. The female was apprehended and provided officers with a false name and date of birth. The female's true identity was revealed and it was learned that she had an outstanding felony warrant for her arrest. The female was found in possession of 0.3 grams of methamphetamines that was concealed in her bra. She was arrested and lodged at the Carlton County Jail for possession of a controlled substance, shoplifting, false name to a police officer and her felony warrant.

On April 18, 2017 at approximately 0221 hours, a Cloquet Sergeant conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Highway 33 that resulted in the driver providing a false name and date of birth. The driver's real identity was revealed during the investigation and resulted in the driver having a revoked license and having an outstanding felony warrant. K9 Raja indicated the presence of a controlled substance in the vehicle and ultimately the driver was found in possession of 2.1 grams of methamphetamines. The driver placed under arrest and charged with possession of a controlled substance, false name to a police officer, driving after revocation, uninsured vehicle and possession of drug paraphernalia. The female passenger was also arrested and charged with possession of 1.0 grams of methamphetamines, a small amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The suspect vehicle and \$568 was confiscated and held for forfeiture as a result of the drug offenses.





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On April 18, 2017 at approximately 1954 hours, Cloquet officers responded to the report of a domestic assault. The suspect fled on foot and K9 Roman from the Carlton County Sheriff's Office was deployed and located the suspected inside a camper nearby. The suspect was arrested and lodged at the Carlton County Jail on 5th Degree Domestic Assault.

On April 19, 2017 at approximately 1827 hours, Cloquet officers responded to Cloquet Memorial Hospital to a report of a 37-year-old male who had been stabbed multiple times (abdomen and arm). Through our investigation, officers learned the victim was in the 1800 block of Washington Avenue when the assault occurred. An ambulance later transported the victim to St. Luke's Hospital. The victim's medical status is currently unknown, but it is believed to be non-life threatening. It is believed that the suspect and victim knew each other, and the public's safety is not at risk. The suspect is still at large and has not been arrested. The Cloquet Police Department will release more information once it becomes available. Anyone with information about the stabbing is encouraged to contact the Cloquet Police Department 218-879-1247 or text the NIXLE TIP LINE by texting TIP CLOQUETPD followed by your message to 88877.



On April 20, 2017 at approximately 1000 hours, the Cloquet Police Department assisted in a mock crash at the Cloquet High School to help bring awareness of the life altering consequences of distracted and impaired driving. Emergency vehicles and other local agencies were staged and simulated a crash scenario. The students were involved in viewing the Mock Crash Demonstration and listened to a presentation by speaker Matt Logan. Mr. Logan's daughter, DJ, lost her life on the way home from school while texting and driving. The Logan family has since taken their story to students across the country to urge young people to drive safely and responsibly.



During this past week, the Cloquet Police Department were involved in approximately 190 activities to include calls for service, traffic stops and other enforcement activities.

Sincerely,

Jeff Palmer
 Interim Chief

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

-Henry Ford

Cloquet Police Department lost two of our own this past week.

Howard and Stacia were both terrific assets to the department and will be sadly missed by all of us.

Howard Wayne Vargason

(December 19, 1949 - April 14, 2017)



Howard Wayne Vargason, age 67 and “One of the Good Guys” of Cloquet, passed away peacefully Friday, April 14, 2017 in his home. Howard was born on December 19, 1949 in Cloquet to Laurel "Wayne" and Nellie (Eldien) Vargason. He married Elaine Brademan on August 16, 1969.

Howard was employed as a police officer for 25 years retiring in January of 2001 and was the bailiff for Carlton County for several years. He was a true family man, a devoted husband and father always making sure his family was taken care of. Howard was passionate about his family and loved his grandchildren and granddogs. He liked to go camping with family and friends telling stories around the campfire was his forte.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents and nephew, Wayne Anderson. He is survived by his wife, Elaine; his children, Cory (Tracy) of Cloquet and Nikki (Rick) Kielty of Barnum; grandchildren, Dylan, Jacob, Cole, Katie and Justin; step-grandchildren, Melissa, Miranda and Cole; sister, DeAnna Anderson of Scottsville, KY; and numerous other family members.

A visitation will be held on Friday April 21, 2017 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Nelson Funeral Care Chapel and will continue Saturday April 22, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m. Funeral Service in Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 515 Skyline Blvd., in Cloquet. Interment will be in Maple Grove Cemetery in Cloquet. A luncheon will follow in the church social hall following the burial.

Stacia Ann Heaton

September 05, 1964 - April 15, 2017



Stacia Ann Heaton, age 52, of Sturgeon Lake, MN, passed away at her home on April 15, 2017 with her family by her side.

Stacia was born on September 5, 1964 in Minneapolis, MN to Dale and Alice (Anton) Heaton. She grew up in the Moose Lake area, graduating from the Moose Lake High School in 1982. After Stacia graduated from high school, she moved to the cities and completed her degree for 911 Dispatcher at the Minneapolis Technical College. Stacia worked as an administrative police secretary for the Cloquet Police Department. After 20 years, she retired and began working at the State Farm Insurance office. Her true passion though was to help the elderly. She began working as a CNA at Oakview Assisted Living in Moose Lake where she worked until she was diagnosed with cancer. Stacia was also a member of the Hope Lutheran Church of Moose Lake. She loved to spend time at her “Happy Place” otherwise known as the lake, spending time with kids, family, and friends. Stacia enjoyed spending time supporting her kids in their passions and interests.

Stacia is preceded in death by her daughter, Alyson Marie Gobel. Stacia is survived by her sons, Cole Gobel, Moose Lake, Casey Gobel, Helena, Montana; step son, Kyle (Cindy) Gobel, Moose Lake; her daughter, Asia Gobel, Moose Lake; her parents, Dale and Alice Heaton; sister, Kris (Kevin) Huso, Moose Lake; brother, Matt (Bridget) Heaton, Moose Lake; two step grandchildren, Osten and Harvey Gobel; biological relatives, Terry Gustafson and Lucretia Yantes.

*Gone but never
Forgotten...*

A Celebration of Life will be held for Stacia on April 29, 2017 at 11 a.m. at the Hope Lutheran Church in Moose Lake, MN. Visitation will be at the church for one hour prior to the service. Burial will take place at the Sunset Cemetery following the service.