



Join us deep in the heart of Southeast Minnesota in the charming County of Olmsted on:

February 1st - [Warm-Up to the Plunge](#) activities at Whistle Binkies on the Lake and

February 8th - [2020 Polar Plunge](#) at Foster Arends Park; take a look at how we've been getting [READY!](#)

The Polar Plunge (presented by MN Law Enforcement as part of the year-round fundraising events to benefit Special Olympics Minnesota) is a unique opportunity for individuals, organizations and businesses to support Special Olympics athletes by jumping into frigid Minnesota waters. What could be more fun than that?

You can still sign up; or if you're too chicken to plunge—be Minnesota nice and sponsor a friend!

plungemn.org/events/rochester/

Olmsted County Sheriff's Office Newsletter

OLMSTED COUNTY SHERIFF



Jail Programs 2019

Programs Sergeant Durand Ackman

What do you think of when you hear the words “jail programs”? If your initial thought is the traditional gym, library, bible studies, Chaplin visits, alcoholics anonymous, etc. – you are correct. But do you think about computer skills, GED, yoga, anger management, pet therapy or employment skills? How about classes offered through partnerships with local treatment / recovery providers and probation? All of these are a small sample of a wide variety of programs offered to detainees in the Olmsted County Adult Detention Center.

I am often asked why do the detainees get to do all these activities while in custody? We offer programming to the detainees for many reasons. First and foremost, we hope to inspire the detainees to better themselves while in custody. We hope when they leave our custody, they enter the community with more knowledge to hopefully not return to the detention center. A couple other benefits of programming is to connect the detainees with local resources, to teach new skills, and to allow for productive use of time in custody. One example of all this that really sticks with me was a detainee that attended a reading course. We have a partnership with the Rochester Public Library and the Rochester Reading Center who was starting a program called Rochester Reading Champions (RRC). It is a multi-session course that helps teach reading. When the detainee started, he was at a lower grade school reading level. By the time he left our custody, after working with the RRC program, he was reading at a much higher level and you could see the confidence in him. He continued to work with the RRC program while he was out of custody as well. You may have seen his interview on the local news.

One often overlooked, and maybe most important, reason for offering programming is because it helps keep everybody in the detention center safe. This includes the detainees, detention staff, medical staff, food services staff, a high volume of professional visitors, as well as almost 100 individuals (mostly volunteers) that come in to offer the various programming for the detainees. We've all spent too much time around the same group of people at some point in our life. Eventually something will start to bother you about one of the other people. Something they say, something they do, their daily rituals, etc. You get frustrated and realize you just need to get away from that person for a while before you say or do something you later regret. While detainees are in custody, they can be in a housing unit with the same people for days, weeks, even months. But they cannot “get away,” at least not legally. Sometimes programs are simply that chance for them to “get away” for an hour. Programming is also a benefit for the detainees that don't attend and the detention deputies working the housing units. The housing unit is an area that houses up to 48 detainees at a time. Even when everybody is getting along and things are going well it can get crowded, loud and busy. When programs are offered some detainees are removed from the housing unit. If 20 detainees leave the housing unit for an hour to attend gym it helps them burn up some energy and it also gives those back in the housing unit an hour with several people removed from the housing unit.

Here is a summary of attendance for our programs offered in the ADC throughout 2019:

7 th Day Adventists Bible Study	224	Library	2354
7 th Day Adventists Health & Wellness	37	MN Teen Challenge	88
ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences)	4	Muslim Discussion Group	40
Advanced Computer Skills	19	Narcotics Anonymous	102
Alcoholics Anonymous	145	Next Chapter Bible Studies	591
Anger Management	43	Peace Education Program	76
Baptist Services	67	Pet Therapy	123
Basic Computer skills	16	Piano lessons	54
Career Pathways	41	Questions about Life & Faith	175
Catholic Prayer	149	Rebuild Fatherhood	69
Celebrate Recovery	106	School	925
Chaplin Visits	36	Set Free	107
Christian Videos	155	Soul Recovery	16
Decision Points	356	Women's Domestic Violence Group	94
Employment Skills	8	Women's Group	29
Fatherhood Project	47	Women's Peer Support	20
Gym	5925	Women's Wellness	70
How to Succeed on Probation	22	Yoga	223
Intermediate Computer	12		

Senior Administration

Sheriff

Kevin Torgerson

Chief Deputy—LEC

Terry Waletzki

Captains

Scott Behrns

Mike Bromberg

David Satzke

Vince Scheckel

Executive Assistant

Laura Collins

Chief Deputy—ADC

Brian Howard

Captains

David Adams

Macey Tesmer





January 23rd was a special day in Stewartville as we celebrated the 6th Grade DARE graduation! Students were recognized for their posters and essays.

Dates of Interest

February 3

Oronoco Township Meeting
Pleasant Grove Township Meeting
Quincy Township Meeting
Rochester City Council Meeting

February 4

Elmira Township Meeting
High Forest Township Meeting
Olmsted County Board Meeting

February 5

Salem Township Meeting

February 6

Dover City Council Meeting

February 8

Polar Plunge!

February 10

Cascade Township Meeting
Chatfield City Council Meeting
Orion Township Meeting
Rock Dell Township Meeting

February 11

Byron City Council Meeting
Marion Township Meeting
New Haven Township Meeting
Stewartville City Council Meeting

February 13

Eyota City Council Meeting
Rochester Township Meeting

February 17

Eyota Township Meeting
Kalmar Township Meeting
Rochester City Council Meeting

February 18

Farmington Township Meeting
Oronoco City Council Meeting
Pine Island City Council Meeting
Olmsted County Board Meeting

February 19

Haverhill Township Meeting

February 24

Chatfield City Council Meeting
Dover Township Meeting
Viola Township Meeting

February 25

Byron City Council Meeting
Stewartville City Council Meeting

February 27

Eyota City Council Meeting
Olmsted County Fire Meeting
Olmsted County Township Association Meeting

Winter Roads and City Ordinances

Captain David Satzke

As winter continues on, and snow continues to fall, having cleared roads is something we all want. Quite frequently getting those roads cleared can be a challenge for those operating the equipment. Sometimes the difficulty comes from vehicles that are parked on streets. Most communities try to plan their snow plowing for a time when they have the least amount of traffic, and the greatest opportunity to get it completed. Knowing the local parking ordinances is important for multiple reasons. First, if you know the ordinance you will be less likely to discover you parked in an area that was not open for parking, and receive a citation. Second, the times selected for no parking is often the times when the snow plows will be operating. This allows the plows to clear the roadways from curb to curb with fewer obstructions.

In addition to knowing the ordinances, some communities have different notification methods for when street parking is not allowed due to a snow emergency. Some use different phone apps and some use multiple social media mediums. Understanding how your community works assists in the overall process of keeping the roads clear. To find out what your community uses, check their website or contact your city hall. Keeping the roads clear helps keep communities safer.



Beware of Social Security Phone Scams

Telephone scammers are pretending to be government employees. The Social Security Administration received more than 450,000 complaints about scammers contacting Americans in 2019 in an effort to obtain personal information, steal benefits or both. They may threaten you and may demand immediate payment to avoid arrest or other legal action.

If you receive a suspicious call:

HANG UP!

DO NOT GIVE THEM MONEY OR PERSONAL INFORMATION

REPORT THE SCAM AT OIG.SSA.GOV

Be Alert—Social Security may call you in some situations but will never

- Threaten you
- Suspend your Social Security Number
- Demand immediate payment from you
- Require payment by cash, gift card, pre-paid debit card or wire transfer

Be Active—protect yourself and your friends and family

- If you receive a questionable call, just hang up and report the call at oig.ssa.gov
- Learn more at oig.ssa.gov/scam
- Share this information with others



Snapshot

Top 5 Attended Jail Program Activities in 2019

Captain Dave Adams

1. Gym
2. Library
3. School
4. Bible Study
5. Decision Points (thinking things through before you act)

