

## **News from Avon Township**

Stephen Saupe, Clerk  
*Avon Township*  
*16881 Queens Road*  
*Avon, MN 56310; (320) 248 – 8036; clerk@avontownship.org*

### ***Contribution submitted for News from Avon Township – September 18, 2019***

We hosted some very special guests at recent meetings of the Avon Township Board of Supervisors – Deputy Sheriffs Mark Lust and Brian Theisen. The officers were assigned by Stearns County Sheriff, Steve Soyka, to be the liaisons and points of communication between his office and the Township.

At our meetings, the officers introduced themselves and provided an update on some of their activities for the month. This included sharing a long list of the complaints to which they responded.

In July alone, the officers responded to 156 total complaints in the Township. That's an average of a little more than three per day! These complaints were divided into 49 different categories that spanned a wide range from false alarms to medical assists to vagrancy.

Traffic stops were a majority of their total calls (45%). However, lest you think that the deputies are only out to get motorists, they also were involved with assisting motorists including those with stalled vehicles, checking out suspicious vehicles, investigating accidents, and arresting drunk drivers.

The deputies also responded to a variety of animal-related calls including complaints about dog barking, animal bites, and canine assists.

Carrying out welfare checks, as well as investigations concerning unwanted persons, no pay customers, gunshots, and various alarms are just a few of the other activities in which the deputies were involved.

The deputies also wanted to hear if the Township had any specific needs or concerns that should be addressed by the Sheriff's Office. One item that was raised was speeding on Upper Spunk Lake Road. Many motorists go much too fast on this road. The deputies suggested that perhaps greater patrols or installing a speed camera/sign like the one on County Road 9 near Avon Elementary School, might solve the problem. By the time you read this, you may even see such a sign the next time you drive on Upper Spunk Lake Road.

According to their website, the "Mission of the Stearns County Sheriff's Office is to provide efficient, high-quality, compassionate law enforcement services to all citizens." It's obvious

that Deputy Sheriffs Mark Lust and Brian Theisen are one big reason why the Sheriff's Office is so successful in accomplishing their mission.

We are all extremely grateful for the services that are provided by Deputy Sheriffs Lust and Theisen and the Stearns County Sheriff's Office.