



## Ghostly Greetings

**FROM YOUR PROSECUTOR,  
MELISSA A. SCHIFFEL**



Did you know Anoka, Minnesota is known for being the "Halloween Capital of the World?" It's one of the first cities in the U.S. to celebrate Halloween with the underlying idea of discouraging people from engaging in mischief.

As the story goes, it was 1920 when Anoka first put on a weeklong celebration to take the "trick" out of trick-or-treat. Neat community idea, right? Well, yes, but it was borne out of necessity. Apparently, on November 1, 1919, Anoka residents woke up to a prank of epic Halloween proportions at the hands of some local youths. Wagons were parked on rooftops. Outhouses were overturned. Cows were roaming freely through town and even inside the county jail! That's when civic leaders created a Halloween event to not only entertain, but to curb hijinks as well. The community engaged in activities like a pumpkin bake-off, a house decorating competition, and a parade, to name a few.


Anoka still has a huge celebration to this day, and if you think about it, our community does some of the same. Just this past weekend we participated in two community events – the

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

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## CONTACT US

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Powell Candy by the Carload, and Delaware's Trails and Treats. Both events provided a safe, family friendly environment for children to dress up and have a good time.

For me, it's always fun to see the kiddos excited about their costumes. And it's nice to see families celebrating together. It's a fun kind of spooky, and it's all good.

What's not good is when things go from spooky to scary. Unfortunately, we've all heard of "pranks" that went too far. We may not see wagons on rooftops or cows roaming the streets, but home damage or egging vehicles can be costly and cross the line from prank to vandalism. Smashing mailboxes and pumpkins is also criminal behavior. Another example is harassment or even assault. Think about prank phone calls or scaring someone so badly they feel threatened.

The bottom line is, we all have to take responsibility for our actions, and we all have to keep our eyes and ears open. As the saying goes, "If you see something, say something." If you notice any unsafe behavior, report it. Even if it ends up being nothing, law enforcement would rather you call than not. And, if you have kids who are a little older, have those conversations with them so they understand the line between spooky fun and criminal behavior.

Pictured below: Community events - fun with a little unicorn from Mingo and a spooky ninja at Powell. We loved seeing all the costumes. Happy Halloween!



### **Top Cop**

*The Delaware County Prosecutor's Office of Melissa A. Schiffel is proud to recognize Delaware County Sheriff Deputy Taylor Close as a "Top Cop."*

*Deputy Close is recognized for her work on not one, but two cases involving domestic violence victims.*

*The first case involved an extremely upset and seriously injured victim who was in pain, was very frightened and concerned about her child, who unfortunately, had witnessed the domestic violence attack. Deputy Close went to the hospital with the victim and was able to calm her and get the information needed for the investigation. Deputy Close later helped obtain a protection order for both the victim and the child in this case.*

*The second case also involved a victim and her young child. Deputy Close arrived on scene after the attacker had fled. She was able to reassure the victim and secure the area. Deputy Close then worked with the victim to provide details that resulted in the apprehension and prosecution of the defendant. Deputy Close went on to give powerful testimony at trial, resulting in a 13-18 year prison sentence.*

*Thank you, Deputy Close, for being a "Top Cop" and helping to protect our community, and a special thanks to "Top Cop" sponsor, Cracker Barrel, for providing each of our "Top Cops" with a complimentary dinner for two!*



## Sentenced



David Kimes, 33

Prison: 24-28 years

Pled guilty to illegal use of minor in nudity-oriented material or performance sexually-oriented matter

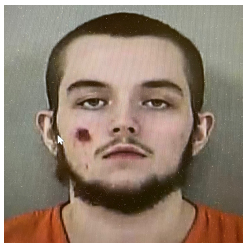
and pandering involving a minor



Brian Deweese, 35

Prison: 20 years

Pled guilty to rape and sexual battery



Cyrus Frye, 21

Prison: 12-14 years

Pled guilty to aggravated robbery



## Volley Against Violence

*The very first Volley Against Violence sand volleyball tournament is in the books, pictures above!*

*Over \$7,000 was raised for Turning Point to support their work with victims of domestic violence.*

*To all who played or cheered on players - to all who donated prizes for the raffle or bought tickets to win - to everyone for your support... THANK YOU!*

Levon Sommerville, 26





Prison: 13-17 years

Guilty verdict after bench trial- felonious assault with a firearm specification, having weapons while under disability, and inducing

panic



Gary Timm, 23

Prison: 7-10 years

Guilty verdict after jury trial- rape and gross sexual imposition



Crystal Boring, 36

Prison: 6-9 years

Pled guilty to involuntary manslaughter, trafficking in fentanyl, and aggravated possession of

drugs



Odell Parker,

Prison: 2 years

Pled guilty to felonious assault



Jesse Rice, 35

Prison: 2 years

Guilty verdict after jury trial- attempted felonious assault and domestic violence

John Savage, 37

Prison: 10 months



### **Out and About**

**Top:** Prosecutor Schiffl presents to the Genoa Township Business Association. If you are interested in a speaker for your group, call (740) 833-2755.

**Middle:** Assistant Prosecutors Chris Ballard and Joe Varvel have some fun at the Delaware County Fair!

**Bottom:** Prosecutor Schiffl, victim advocates, and law enforcement gather around a "Love Shoul'n't Hurt," banner after the Delaware County Commissioners proclaim October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in the county. The banner will be on display at the corner of Sandusky and



Pled guilty to receiving  
stolen property

*Central Streets through the end  
of October.*

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