

On Friday, March 24th

At around 11:45 PM, the Wadena County Sheriff's Office responded to the area of the Menahga City Campground for a report of an ATV crash. A Menahga Police Officer had a vehicle stop by him to report the crash. The operator, identified as Luke Jason Makela, 39, of Menahga had been located by a family member in the ditch and met with law enforcement in a personal vehicle. Throughout the investigation, it was learned the crash happened in Section 33 of Blueberry Township, just south of Menahga. The crash was unwitnessed and it is unknown how long Makela had been lying in the ditch. Makela suffered severe head and facial injuries and was transported to the Park Rapids Airport awaiting the arrival of Sanford Air Med. Makela was then transported to Sanford Hospital in Fargo. Alcohol is believed to be a factor in the crash.

The Wadena County Sheriff's Office was assisted by Menahga Police Department, Menahga First Responders, Tri County Ambulance, Sebeka Police Department, Sanford Air Med, and the Hubbard County Sheriff's Office.