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Final OPP quarterly report for outgoing council

By **ALAN LICZYK**
Staff Reporter

Drug offences, park vandalism and speed limits were among the topics Caledon OPP's detachment commander addressed in his final quarterly report to the outgoing Caledon council recently.

Inspector Andy Karski started out explaining the police's role in the mid-air crash of two planes in August near Willoughby Road in Caledon village. He

said they worked closely with the coroner's officer and the Transportation Safety Board of Canada which handled the investigation. There were 45 OPP officers at the scene. The police's role was evidence preservation and how the debris landed, Karski explained. He added they won't know the cause of the crash for about a year.

Karski then talked about the number of drug offences that have occurred in Caledon from January to June. The total number has increased to 158 compared to 115 last year. Three-quarters of their suspects were age 17 to 30. There were 17 incidences of cocaine possession from January to June compared to four last year. The number of incidences of cocaine trafficking also increased to eight from one last year.

In a recent bust, police seized \$1.5 million in marijuana at a residence on Old Church Road, Karski said.

The inspector also noted

the police foot patrol made two arrests in a park near Humberview school in Bolton. Mayor Marolyn Morrison said they wanted the students to take control of this park but that wasn't happening. It was still being vandalized.

"They're destroying this park," Morrison said of the vandals.

Karski agreed they have to take this to the next level.

He added the Caledon Citizens on Patrol program had some impressive statistics in thwarting crime.

Speaking to traffic issues, he explained there have been six fatalities from collisions so far this year with four of those occurring in areas the police have identified as hot spots for traffic enforcement. Last year there were 16 fatalities from traffic collisions and more than half were in the hot spots.

Karski told council they have to look at realistic speed limits on their roads.

"It's a problem we have to keep addressing," he said.

Councillor Nick deBoer commented the speed creeps up on other roads when two or three main roads are backed up. He was pleased to hear of the success the police are having in the hot spot areas.

Councillor Jim Wallace thanked Karski for his support of the Policing Advisory Council of Caledon and for allowing its chair to speak about vandalism at a meeting in Inglewood. Wallace encouraged the new council to provide funding to PACC.

Karski replied the donation of money from council's charity golf tournament for PACC is generous. He added PACC deserves all the credit.

"Those folks make me look good and that's not very easy," he said.

Councillor Annette Groves praised the Caledon Citizens on Patrol program.

"I'm grateful to have them in the community," she told Karski.

She's also 100 per cent in favour of the police foot

patrols. Morrison said councillors took their issues to Karski and he tried to do something

about it and was forthright. Councillor David Lyons added the professionalism of his staff shone through.

OPP Report
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Traffic

Caledon OPP Officers responded to 19 property damage and four personal injury collisions during the week of Oct. 9-15. Tragically, there was one fatal collision which claimed the lives of four people.

Alcohol & Driving

Thursday, Oct. 12, a traffic stop on Old School Road near McLaughlin Road resulted in charges for the driver, 62-year-old Marvin Morten of Caledon. He was charged with Impaired Driving and Drive Motor Vehicle-Over 80 mgs. Of Alcohol in 100 mls. Of Blood. Court date set for Nov. 23.

Friday, Oct. 13, a traffic stop on King Street near Torbram Road resulted in criminal charges for the driver. Forty-three-year-old Joseph Martinsen of Brampton has been charged with Impaired Driving, Drive Motor Vehicle-Over 80 mgs. Of Alcohol in 100 mls. Of Blood and Driving While Under Suspension. Court date has been set for Nov. 23.

Saturday, Oct. 14, 21-year-old Jeffrey McLay of Collingwood was charged with several charges following a vehicle stop on King Street near Harvest Moon Drive in Bolton. McLay will appear in court Nov. 20 charged with Impaired Driving, Drive Motor Vehicle-Over 80 mgs. Of Alcohol in 100 mls. Of Blood, Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle and Class G2 Licence Holder-Blood Alcohol Concentration Above Zero.

Sunday, Oct. 15, 23-year-old Farirai Chiwanga of Toronto was stopped by Caledon OPP on Regional Road 50 near Mayfield Road. As a result, she has been charged with Impaired Driving, Drive Motor Vehicle-Over 80 mgs. Of Alcohol in 100 mls. Of Blood and Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle. Court date is set for Nov. 23.

Break & Enter

Saturday, Oct. 14, the glass front door of a gas station on Airport Road in Caledon was smashed during the night hours. Cash and cigarettes were stolen from within the kiosk.

Sunday, Oct. 15, homeowners who had been away from their residence returned to find their Healey Road home had been entered sometime over the past week. A computer, TV and jewellery are reported as stolen.

Sunday, Oct. 15, a home on McGuire Trail was entered during the daytime hours by pushing open a patio door. Items listed as stolen from the residence include two TVs, cash and jewellery.

Criminal Charges

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 30-year-old David Corbit of Caledon was arrested and charged while at a Queen Street business in Bolton while in possession of a fraudulent cheque. He has been charged with Possession of Property Obtained by Crime-Under \$5,000, Fraud-Under \$5,000 and Theft-Under. Court date has been set for Nov. 16.

Arrest in break-in

Thursday, Oct. 19, at approximately 10 a.m. Caledon OPP officers responded to a report of a break and enter in progress at a residence on High Forest Court in Caledon.

A lone male party had driven to the residence and rang the doorbell a number of times. After receiving no response from within the home the male entered the residence through a garage door. Two family dogs responded to the intruder's presence in the home causing him to flee, while a family member in the residence called police. As officers were responding, a Caledon OPP Community Response Unit officer (CRU) intercepted the suspect's vehicle on Mount Pleasant Road in Caledon.

Fortunately, nothing was taken from the home and no one was injured.

Twenty-seven-year-old, Dimitri Oksanich of Thornhill was arrested and charged with Break & Enter with Intent, Obstruct Police Officer, Drive Disqualified (x3) and Driving While Under Suspension (x2). He was held for a bail hearing Oct. 20.



ENJOYING PANCAKES

Eric and Dante were just two local youngsters who enjoyed the pancakes, served up by volunteer firefighters at the Palgrave station recently. The pancake breakfast and open house was part of Fire Prevention Week activities across Caledon.

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