

Acton man arrested twice after allegedly stealing from vehicles in Acton and Erin Township

By: Harry Rudolfs

An Acton man was arrested just after midnight on November 30 after a person was observed entering vehicles in the Tyler Ave., Elmore Dr. and Nelson Court areas. 24-year-old Joshua Gosse was charged by Halton Police with possession of property obtained by crime;

theft under \$5,000; four counts of trespassing at night; and one count of failure to comply with conditions. Gosse was released on his own recognizance.

The same man was arrested by the Ontario Provincial Police later the same day at 10:22 p.m. after it was reported to them that a suspicious party had entered

vehicles on two properties on Third Line Erin Twp., and left on foot. The suspect had moved south into Halton Hills when OPP officers attended the scene. The man was re-arrested by Halton Police and turned over to OPP who charged him with two counts of trespass at night and one count of mischief.

A subsequent search

of the suspect located some property that may have been taken from vehicles in the area. OPP Wellington would like to hear from anyone in the area who may have had objects stolen from their vehicles on the night of November 30. Gosse is scheduled to appear in Guelph Criminal Court on January 2 to answer to these additional charges.

Community Garden funding in good shape

By: Harry Rudolfs

"As far as funding goes we are in good shape," said Acton Community Garden director Chris Golden. "Most of our funding comes from grants, but every little bit helps. For instance, the Churchill Community Church donated \$50 and we can make that go a long way."

Golden rates his first year as volunteer director as a success despite some obstacles. "Our biggest success was that we grew food. That was my biggest concern being a new director," he explained.

"It's impossible to know measure how much food we grow because people come and take it. But that's the idea, we want to grow food for people. One of our biggest disappointments was that we wanted to enter our potatoes in the Acton Fall Fair, but when we went to get them we found that someone had dug them all up."

Golden also had issues with non-human predators. "We had a rabbit that was visiting the garden and destroying it," he said. "We tried various things but what worked the best were chicken wire fences. We also had a problem with blight on the tomatoes, and that's been a recurring problem. We're thinking of either renewing the soil for the tomatoes or planting them in a different place."

Golden thinks the biggest change is that POWER (Protect our Water and Environmental Resources)—a local non-profit concerned with sustainability and conservancy—has taken charge of the management agreement for the community garden from Community Development Halton.

"POWER is more interested in a hands-on approach with a focus on sustainability. We're looking at doing different things with this organization," said Golden. "They're looking at places to grow native flowering plants. They're interested in getting rid of invasive plants like garlic mustard which grows all around the creek by the garden. We're also trying to get international certification for our monarch butterfly way station."

Golden's wish list for next year includes more volunteers to help work on the garden. "We have a steady group that comes out Wednesday nights but we could always use more. We also want to do some seed sharing with other community gardens and farmers. A seed bank is another thing we're looking at. The idea is that you can take out seeds from the library with the hope that you will put some back when you're finished growing. The local library might be a good fit for this."

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Our offices will be **Closed**
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