

VIDEOS AIM TO EDUCATION PUBLIC ON DANGERS OF SPEEDING

Continued from page 1

tario Provincial Police Highway Safety Division said the number of crashes has dropped considerably in the GTA and the Central Region area, which includes Halton.

He noted there were 3,332 crashes in January, 3,440 in February and then 1,567 in March and 943 crashes in April.

It should be pointed out that this reduction could be partially explained by weather and road condition improvements between February and April.

COVID-19's impact on traffic did have a negative side.

With fewer cars on the roads, Sgt. Ryan Snow of the Halton police Traffic Services Unit has noticed increased speeding locally.

"That seems to be pretty

consistent at this point," he said.

"Traffic volumes are starting to pick up a bit more. You can start to see your daily slowdown on the QEW in the afternoon. As things trend back to normal, increased traffic density will mean less opportunity for people to speed."

Snow has taken to social media in multiple videos aimed at educating people during the COVID-19 crisis about the penalties they could face if they are caught speeding or stunt driving.

While speeding may be up, Snow said Halton police have not seen an increase in serious injuries or deaths as a result.

He said between January and May 2019, there were five road fatalities and 16 serious traffic collisions that resulted in life-

"As traffic density increases the likelihood for a collision to result from someone's bad judgment is going to increase as well."

- Sgt. Ryan Snow, Halton Police Traffic Services Unit

altering injuries on Halton roads.

During the same period in 2020, police saw one road fatality and 17 serious traffic collisions.

"The difference between a serious injury and a fatality can be a very minute difference in how the crash plays out," said Snow.

"The fact is we are not seeing much of a difference year over year when it comes to the level of the crashes we are seeing."

Snow said vehicle colli-

sions involving pedestrians and cyclists have also stayed about the same as they were during this period in 2019, with 22 incidents reported in Halton during the first quarter of 2020.

What has changed is more people are being charged with driving at excessive speeds.

Between January and the end of May 2020, Snow said 135 people were charged with stunt driving in Halton.

The same period in 2019

saw 99 stunt driving charges issued.

"We have seen a 35 per cent increase in stunt driving charges," said Snow.

"In all likelihood, there is an aspect of that that is happening though reduced traffic density due to people being at home as a result of COVID-19. However, there could be other factors, such as the weather being more conducive in some people's minds to engaging in that sort of behaviour."

Snow said one thing to watch out for is that, as traffic levels return to normal, something that likely won't happen until after the summer, there will be a certain percentage of the driving population who may have difficulty adjusting to the new reality.

He says this period will be like when snow falls for the first time and some

members of the public forget how to drive in winter conditions.

"People are going to have to take into account that they have to share the road and that perhaps some of the things they may have done when there was less traffic density are not going to be possible or safe if done when there are a lot more vehicles on the roadway," said Snow.

"As traffic density increases, the likelihood for a collision to result from someone's bad judgment is going to increase as well."

STORY BEHIND THE STORY: While a major drop in Halton-area collisions is certainly good news, police are concerned about a rise in speeding and worry that crashes may spike back up when motorists have to readjust to increased traffic.

Rent soft water
Starting at \$9.95 mth
*for first three months

Culligan.com
5 Mountainview Road North, Georgetown
905.877.6242 - info@culliganwater.ca



Leathertown Lumber COVID-19 Store Policy



June 18, 2020

WE ARE NOW OPEN!
Monday to Friday 8am-4pm

Leathertown Lumber would like to thank all of our customers for their patience during the first phase of the Covid-19 pandemic.

An increase in demand and new hurdles in the processing of orders has resulted in increased lead times which we know have been frustrating. Thanks again for your patience.

At this point we are announcing the reopening of the store following the guidelines put forth by the government of Ontario. Strict physical distancing will be in effect, along with reduced store capacity. Please be patient and kind to our staff who have worked very hard to make the last three months work for you.

WELCOME BACK!

264 MAIN ST. N., ACTON
519-853-1970

Fax: (519) 853-2542 | Toronto Line: (416) 601-1259

www.leathertownlumber.ca

GIDDENS OPTOMETRY



DOWNTOWN GEORGETOWN
83 Mill St | 905 873 1867

While we are currently only open for urgent eye care, we are getting prepared for a full re-opening of our offices as soon as health officials will allow. We wish to assure all our current and new patients that strong safety measures will be in place when we do open.

Hope to see you soon and stay safe!



METRO PLAZA
371 Mountainview Rd S | 905 873 1861

Day, Evening and Saturday Hours | Same day appointments for urgent eye care. Please phone.



Dr. Ben
Giddens



Dr. Andrea
Kozma



Dr. Stephanie
Britton

