

ST Stouffville teens arrested in snow machine thefts

Police have nabbed two Stouffville residents for stealing snowmobiles and other equipment worth more than \$60,000.

York Regional Police report John Williams Henderson, 18, of 10th Line N., and a 16-year-old youth — who cannot be identified under the Young Offenders Act — were apprehended last Wednesday after a tip to Crime Stoppers.

A caller told police that several stolen snowmobiles from residences in Durham Region and Holland Landing were being hidden at a Stouffville residence.

Investigators from District 1 searched a 10th Line address south of Bloomington Rd. and recovered four snowmobiles, a generator, a compressor and other such equipment hidden in a

barn and bush area around the house.

Police also found two more snowmobiles and one all-terrain vehicle at a Cherry St. address in Stouffville and one more snowmobile in the Holland Landing area.

Altogether, police recovered eight snowmobiles valued at more than \$60,000.

Mr. Henderson is charged with four counts of possession of stolen goods over \$1,000 and will appear in court Jan. 30.

The 16-year-old Stouffville male was charged with two counts of theft over \$1,000 and three counts of possession over \$1,000. The youth was kept in custody but since released until his court date of Feb. 6, police say.

Nitrate level must be low

(From page 1)

•Drinking water with levels of nitrate at or greater than 10 parts per million presents no problems to infants over six months of age or to adults.

•However, when formula made with water that contains too much nitrate is given to a baby, or if a baby is given water to drink which contains too much nitrate, a chemical change takes place in the baby's blood. This decreases the ability of the baby's red blood cells to carry oxygen. (Medical term for this condition: methemoglobinemia).

•High levels of nitrate in well water are not uncommon in York Region and occur more frequently in dug wells than in deep drilled wells. These high levels may be caused by mineral deposits or pollution from barnyards, septic

tank systems or agricultural fertilizers.

•In households where there is an infant under seven months of age and where drinking water has a nitrate level of 10 parts per million or more, the health office advises that an alternate source of water be used for the baby's drinking and formula preparation. Municipal water supplies and distilled water purchased from a drug store are equally suitable.

The information also contains facts on sodium and fluoride in drinking water and is available to anyone who requests it.

Write to the Regional Municipality of York, Office of the Medical Officer of Health, 22 Prospect St., Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 3S9 or call 895-4511 or 887-5843 for information on how to perform effective water samples.



Photo/RICK MADONIK

Precious cargo

The easiest way to get the kids to the store is to load the little one and let the older child help push. That's exactly what Jackie Burkart did Saturday as she headed out to a local store. With

one-year-old Teresa in the wagon and three-year-old Danielle in hot pursuit, the three went about their shopping chores.

Speeding fines will make roadsters put money where their gas pedal is

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

Motorists who use local roadways as a mock Indianapolis 500 speedway are getting the yellow flag from police.

York Regional Police force will be tripling speeding fines this year as Bill 95 passed its third

reading and was given the Royal Assent in cabinet.

"All we're waiting for now is the Lieutenant Governor to get the time to sign the final papers," said Sergeant Norn Miles.

The crackdown on speeding is "long overdue" — the last fine increase being about nine years ago, Sgt. Miles said.

"Speeding has become recognized as the major contributing factor to accidents. People often say 'I drive better when I drive fast' but in reality you're reaction time is slower. It takes longer to slow the vehicle down," he added.

Sgt. Miles said when he talks to people who have been in accidents, most of the time, it was caused "one way or another" by "some guy in a hurry."

The breakdown of fines will be as follows, to take effect this year.

•Less than 20 km over the set limit will increase from \$1.25 a km to \$3 a km. For example, a motorist tagged at 55 km per hour in a 40 km per hour zone would get an \$18.75 ticket today. When Bill 95 becomes law, the

fine will rise to \$45.

•20 - 35 km per hour over the limit costs \$1.75 a km but will go up to \$4.50. Example: A motorist tagged at 85 km per hour in a 60 km per hour zone would get a \$43.75 ticket today. New charge: \$112.50.

•35 - 50 km per hour over the limit will increase from \$2.50 a km to \$7 a km. Example: A motorist tagged at 120 km per hour in a 80 km per hour zone would get a \$100 ticket today. New fine: \$280.

And finally for all those Mario Andrettis out there: For speeding in excess of 50 km per hour over the limit today would cost \$3.25 a km but Bill 95 will boost this up to a whopping \$9.75 a km. Example: A driver tagged at 150 km per hour in a 100 km per hour zone would get a \$162.50 ticket today. New fine: \$487.50.

Sgt. Miles added that "in some cases fines will more than triple" because the various sections have been lowered as well. The point system will remain the same, he said.

"This should make people thing twice," said Sgt. Miles.

Stouffville woman taken off critical list in Toronto

Christine Burns of Stouffville has been taken off the critical list at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre after an accident Jan. 9 landed her in the Toronto trauma hospital.

After more than 11 days in the surgical intensive care unit in critical condition, hospital spokesmen say the

40-year-old woman is now in fair condition.

Ms. Burn's car veered off McCowman Road north of the Stouffville Road at 10:30 p.m. Jan. 9 into an eastern icy creek where it rolled over onto its roof.

York Regional Police have not yet laid charges in the one-car crash.



Photo/RICK MADONIK

Golden milestone

Doris and Herb Swift (centre) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday in the Parkview Village Auditorium. Friends and relatives were on hand for the afternoon party. With the couple, from left, are Mel and Katy Swift of Red Deer, Alta., Eleanor Brown and Maureen and Grant Swift.

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