

# Sleeping Stouffville driver one of 16 charged with impaired

With the first-year anniversary approaching of the tragic drunk-driving collision that killed the three Neville-Lake children and their grandfather, York Regional Police continues to lay a lot of impaired driving charges.

Last weekend, 16 drivers were charged with alcohol-related offences, Const. Any Pattenden said.

Between Sept. 16 and 18, 12 men and four women were charged, including five as a result of collisions, seven from general police patrol or RIDE spot checks and four from calls made to police by

residents.

Eleven drivers were charged with driving with more than twice the legal limit of alcohol in their blood and four were charged with having more than three times the legal limit.

One driver was charged Saturday night after a resident called police just before 11 p.m. to report a possible impaired driver traveling east on Stouffville Road, Pattenden said.

The resident, who was able to obtain the licence plate number, said a car was weaving in and out of

lanes and had struck a median.

Police found the car parked in the driveway of the registered owner in Stouffville.

## RESIDENT CALLED POLICE

As officers approached the car, they discovered a 29-year-old suspect asleep in the car with his foot hanging out of the driver's side door and his body slumped across the centre console with the car keys in his hand, Pattenden said.

Police woke the suspect and took him to 5 District headquarters, where a breath test indicated

he had a blood alcohol level of 230 milligrams. The legal limit is 80 mgs. The suspect was charged with one count of impaired care or control of a motor vehicle.

"Despite repeated warnings by police and numerous senseless tragedies on our roadways, drivers are not getting the message," Pattenden said. "Impaired driving is the number one criminal cause of death in Canada."

Last weekend's impaired driving charges come just days in advance of the first anniversary of the Sept. 27, 2015 collision in Vaughan that

killed nine-year-old Daniel Neville-Lake, his five-year-old brother, Harrison and two-year-old sister, Milly and their grandfather, Gary Neville.

The collision also injured the children's grandmother and great-grandmother.

Marco Muzzo pleaded guilty to four counts of impaired driving causing death and two counts of impaired driving causing bodily harm.

He was sentenced in March to 10 years in prison.

— Lisa Queen



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