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Man dies following snowmobile crash

A 46-year-old Bradford man died following a snowmobile collision last Wednesday.

South Simcoe Police were investigating a serious personal injury snowmobile

collision which occurred on 5th Sideroad between the 9th and 10th Concessions in Innisfil at approximately 10:30 p.m. Feb. 7. The snowmobile driver, identified as Michael

Doiron, was riding a snowmobile on an Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs trail which crossed the 5th Sideroad.

The snowmobile collided with a southbound motor

vehicle driven by a Thornton area man. The snowmobile driver was taken to a Toronto hospital trauma centre.

The collision was under investigation by the South

Simcoe Police Traffic Unit, who were assisted by the York Regional Police Collision Reconstruction Unit.

The 5th Sideroad had been closed between the 9th

and 10th Concession for the investigation during that evening and into the early morning hours.

Doiron was pronounced dead in the Toronto hospital Feb. 8.

Off-duty officer arrests an impaired driver

An off-duty York Regional Police officer is being credited with alerting South Simcoe Police to an impaired driver in Bradford West Gwillimbury last Monday afternoon.

At about 4 p.m., the off-duty officer called South Simcoe Police after spotting a car being driven erratically northbound on Yonge Street just north of Bradford. Cruisers were dispatched and located the suspect vehicle in the area a short time later.

A 55-year-old Barrie man was arrested and transported to the South Division station where he refused to provide a Breathalyzer test. He has been charged with impaired driving and refuse Breathalyzer and was held for a bail hearing on Feb. 5 in Barrie.

Residents can play a role in keeping roadways safe. Anyone who sees a suspected impaired driver is encouraged to call 911 and report the incident to police. Police will ask you to provide the location, a description of the vehicle and driver and the last known direction of travel. Police do not want motorists to put themselves in danger. Thus, residents should never follow the suspect vehicle or try to apprehend an impaired driver.

Impaired driving is the leading cause of criminal death in Canada. When you drink and drive you not only risk your life and your passengers', but the lives of every other driver and pedestrian on the road.

Drinking, roads closed and substance possession

South Simcoe Police

Two caught drinking in car

On Wednesday February 6, a police officer on general patrol observed a vehicle parked at Innisfil Beach Park.

Three men were sitting inside the vehicle. Further investigation revealed

that the three parties were drinking alcohol. One of the passengers

was out on charges and had conditions not to

consume alcohol.

A 21-year-old Innisfil man was arrested and charged accordingly. He was held for bail court. The driver, a 20-year-old Brighton man, was charged with having open liquor in a motor vehicle.

Several roads closed by icy conditions

This weekend's snowstorms forced the closure of several area roads.

County Road 4 was closed between County Road 89 and Bradford for several hours Sunday evening, due to icy conditions. Yonge Street between the 8th Line of Bradford West Gwillimbury and 89 was also closed due to icy conditions. Both roads were expected to reopen after crews had an opportunity to salt.

Possession of a controlled substance

Police have charged a 50-year-old Richmond Hill man with possession of a controlled substance following a traffic stop on

Yonge Street near Highway 89 on Feb. 8.

The man was stopped for a Highway Traffic Act offence.

When the officer approached the car, he observed the man trying to conceal an object inside the car. The object turned out to be a crack pipe. The officer also located a quantity of crack cocaine inside the vehicle.

The man was arrested and transported to the North Division station for processing. He was later released on a promise to appear.

Teens asking others to avoid smoking

A group of local teens are giving a voice to the voiceless by encouraging the public to steer clear in their campaign to stop smoking in cars with children 16 and under.

"There is no safe level of exposure to second hand smoke," said Phil Price, a member of Article 4, a group of youth advocates for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. "Opening a

window does not rid the car of the 2000+ chemicals, 50 of which are cancer causing and especially harmful to children."

Article 4 is a group of youth advocates who create campaigns to raise awareness about the manipulative tactics of the tobacco industry, and influence social change within their community.

Their latest campaign,

Steer Clear, is coinciding with National Non-Smoking Week, which runs from Jan. 20 to 26.

This campaign is designed to educate the public about the dangers of smoking in vehicles with children and to promote social change. Article 4 will use an interactive display at the Georgian Mall, street marketing and youth-friendly YouTube videos to

communicate their message to the public.

"Our goal is to inspire and mobilize our community to take action by signing our petition which we hope to present to our local MPP at a later date," said Leanne Yates, another member of Article 4. "We are determined to protect the health and rights of children by advocating for policy change."

Alleged shoplifter arrested in Bradford

South Simcoe Police have charged a 23-year-old Barrie man with theft under \$5,000 after he was observed stealing merchandise from a store

inside the Cookstown Outlet Mall last Monday afternoon.

A citizen called police after witnessing the theft and officers were dispatched. Police arrived

and tracked down the suspect leaving the mall in a vehicle. Officers pulled the car over and the man was arrested without incident. Police also spoke to a

female passenger in the vehicle and had reason to believe that she may be in possession of drugs.

Police service dog Ronin, who is trained in narcotic

detection, was dispatched and searched the vehicle.

A quantity of cocaine was located, resulting in a 35-year-old Barrie woman being arrested and charged

under the controlled drugs and substance act.

She was released on an appearance notice. She will appear in Bradford court on March 13.