

Stolen Jeep strikes police cruiser then used for 2?week crime spree

During the early morning hours on Thursday October 8th a Jeep Cherokee SUV was stolen from a parking lot at a convenience store in Orangeville, and was reported to the Orangeville Police Service.

The same evening the stolen Jeep was observed in Shelburne and located by Shelburne Police officers. The jeep was driving south out of town. Two Shelburne police officers and cruisers attempted to stop the vehicle. At first the officers were successful in briefly stopping and blocking in the vehicle. However the driver of the Jeep made his escape from the block by colliding with one of the Shelburne Police cruisers and thereby disabling it. A brief pursuit of the Jeep by the second Shelburne Police officer ensued, however the vehicle was not able to be safely stopped again.

The investigation by Shelburne Police and Orangeville Police over the next few days resulted in the identification of the driver of the stolen vehicle, and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

The suspect continued to travel in the stolen Jeep throughout the local area as well as many other parts of Southern Ontario. Over the next 13 days the suspect used this Jeep in numerous thefts in various towns and cities in Southern Ontario, including another incident in Orangeville.

On Wednesday October 21st, shortly after midnight, Woodstock Police located and recovered the stolen Jeep. They also arrested the suspect on the warrant issued by Shelburne Police. The suspect was located by Woodstock Police asleep near where the Jeep was located.

The suspect, 38 year old Donald Snider, was returned to Shelburne Police and charged for the offences that took place in Shelburne and Orangeville. The 12 charges are:

- ? Possession of Property Obtained by Crime
- ? Flight From Police
- ? Fail to Remain
- ? Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle
- ? Theft
- ? Breach of Probation ? 4 counts
- ? Driving while under suspension ? 3 counts

In addition to these charges, other police services in Southern Ontario have warrants for this suspect in relation to crimes committed in this 13 day period.

Donald Snider was held for a bail hearing at the Orangeville Court House.

If anyone has any information in relation to this case or any other criminal activity, they are encouraged to contact the Shelburne Police Service at 519 925-3312, the Orangeville Police Service at 519 941-2522, or anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or online at www.crimestoppersdm.com