

Orangeville pair busted for possession of illegal substances during drug raid

By Mike Baker

Orangeville Police have arrested two Orangeville residents in connection with an ongoing illicit drug investigation in the community.

Last Friday (May 1), officers carried out a search warrant at an apartment at 61 Townline, where they seized a quantity of drugs believed to be cocaine, crack cocaine, methamphetamine, and fentanyl. A switchblade knife and cash were also seized.

As a result of the raid, 37-year-old Darren Madden and 52-year-old Michelle Minialoff, both of Orangeville, were arrested and charged with possession of cocaine, crack cocaine, methamphetamine and fentanyl, and unauthorized possession of a weapon.

The Orangeville Police Service continues to investigate the issue of illicit drugs in our community. From possession for personal use, to possession for the purpose of trafficking, the persons involved continue to change as the investigation evolves, Cst. Davis said. These arrests do not include trafficking charges. Every search warrant and every arrest leads our officers to more information regarding additional suspects and other crimes.

Mr. Madden has been released from custody and is scheduled to appear in court on July 6. Ms. Minialoff was also charged with failing to comply with an undertaking and remained in police custody pending a bail hearing in court.

With the COVID-19 pandemic wreaking havoc across Ontario, the Citizen caught up with Cst. Davis to see how the ongoing crisis was effecting policing services in the community.

Orangeville police officers continue to investigate crimes during this pandemic. The health of our members is a top priority, Cst. Davis said. We have taken several steps to safeguard our members to help prevent them from acquiring, or spreading, the virus, including practicing social distancing when able, making use of appropriate PPE when required, and other safety practices to prevent exposure and spread of COVID-19.

OPS is continuing its investigation regarding the use and trafficking of illicit drugs in the community. Anyone with information regarding drug activity is encouraged to call police at 519-941-2522, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.