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Thursday, May 5, 2016

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Senior assaulted, nearly abducted

Police are looking for some help from the public to track down two suspects who were allegedly involved in an assault and attempted abduction of a Ramara senior over the weekend.

According to the Orillia OPP, officers were called to the Ultramar gas station north of Brechin around 11:30 a.m. Sunday (May 1) and were met by a 74-year-old who told them that four men had entered his home and assaulted him before demanding money.

The complainant told officers that two of the suspects forced him into a white Ford motorhome, while the other two followed in a second motorhome that had a red canoe on the roof.

The senior was able to escape his captors at the gas station and called the police.

The white motorhome was later located in the parking lot of Fisher's Your Independent Grocer in Beaverton. Police are still looking for the second vehicle involved.

The first suspect involved in the attempted abduction is described as white, 6'1" tall, approximately 210 pounds with a large bushy beard.

The second suspect is white, 6'3" tall, about 250 pounds with greyish hair. At the time, he was wearing glasses, a black hoodie and jogging pants. Police say he is known to the victim as Carl, from Moncton, New Brunswick.

Anyone with information on the case is asked to call police at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-888-222-TIPS (8477).

Beaverton man charged with cocaine trafficking

Eight people -- including a Beaverton man -- are facing drug charges following an investigation into cocaine distribution in Kawartha Lakes over the past five months.

The joint investigation with Kawartha Lakes Police Service and the OPP's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Unit began in December of last year and culminated in the arrests, which were announced on Friday (April 29), as well as the seizure of two vehicles and \$36,000 worth of drugs.

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A group of students from Trent University's Durham campus -- including Kristen Gerritsen and Jaclyn Hruby -- put on a short play that highlighted the power of imagination last week at Thorah Central Public School. PHOTO BY SCOTT HOWARD

New treatment offers hope for Beaverton man

BY SCOTT HOWARD

More than six years after a stroke and car accident left him partially paralyzed, a new treatment has offered a Beaverton man hope for the future. But that hope comes with a cost that may be too much to bear.

Don Nugent started functional electrical stimulation therapy back in January and has noticed a sizeable improvement in his condition in the weeks since.

"I noticed a difference almost immediately," he said, noting that his left arm was locked at the shoulder prior to the treatment and that his hand used to be perpetually balled into a fist.

"The muscles were so atrophied that it just kind of hung down at my side."

Now, he can use his right arm to bring his left arm to his face and can extend it slightly outwards.

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