30 June, 2011

City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON
L8P 4Y5

Mayor and Members of Council:

Re: Hamilton Police Service Monthly Reports (PSB 11-048 & PSB 11-067)

Attached for your information and attention, please find copies of the Hamilton Police Service Monthly Reports. These reports highlight the following:

- Police Week 2011
- Commitment to Road Safety Leads to Impaired Arrests
- ACTION firearms Initiative Nets 70 Guns
- Social Media and Hamilton Police Service
- Tour of Triumph finishes June 12, 2011
- Support our Troops
- Aggressive Drivers Hotline

If you any questions or concerns that may arise from the reports please do not hesitate to contact myself or our office at the number below.

Sincerely,

Nancy DiGregorio
Chair
Hamilton Police Services Board

Attachments (2)

ND/lem
HAMILTON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

- RECOMMENDATION -

DATE: 2011 May 16
REPORT TO: Chair and Members
Hamilton Police Services Board
FROM: Glenn De Caire
Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Hamilton Police Service Monthly Report (PSB 11-048)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board direct the Administrator of the Board to refer this report, in its entirety, to the City of Hamilton, for information.

Glenn De Caire
Chief of Police

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

FINANCIAL – n/a
STAFFING – n/a
LEGAL – n/a
BACKGROUND:

Police Week 2011
Working Together for a Safer Community is the theme of this year's Police Week, taking place May 12 – 20, 2011. The week is all about increasing the community's awareness and recognition of policing services and strengthening the partnership between the police and the community.

The Hamilton Police Service (HPS) has been celebrating Police Week for over 30 years. This year, HPS will be marking this special week with a number of activities and invites the citizens of Hamilton to join them.

The highlights include:

Police in the Park - Takes place on Wednesday, May 18 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Bayfront Park, 369 Bay Street, North at Strachan Street. The Mounted Unit, Canine Unit, Hamilton Fire, Hamilton Crime Stoppers, ACTION, Forensics – the real CSI and the Marine Unit will be showcased. There will also be a charity barbecue.

Other activities taking place during Police Week include: Chief for a Day Contest Winners; Citizenship Court; North End Idol – In memory of Cathy Wever; Celebrating Landsdale; and a Police Basketball Challenge at St. Therese of Lisieux School.

Commitment to Road Safety Leads to Impaired Arrests
HPS is dedicated to reducing impaired drivers and the harm caused by drinking and driving.

As of April 30, 2011, there have been 43,000 cars pulled over in RIDE lanes in Hamilton. Hamilton Police have charged 129 people with impaired driving. Operation Lookout continues to be successful. Citizens are encouraged to call 9-1-1 when they suspect an impaired driver. So far this year, there have been 52 people arrested for impaired as a result of the Operation Lookout program.

During the Easter weekend holidays, patrol officers arrested a total of 15 impaired drivers. One of the arrests involved an impaired driver who pulled into a McDonald’s drive thru and passed out behind the wheel.

Additional RIDE lanes will be conducted during the long weekend in May.
ACTION Firearms Initiative Nets 70 Guns

As part of the Service’s ongoing commitment to public safety, ACTION officers were tasked to investigate 69 cases related to the registration, possession, use and safe storage of firearms.

Over the course of a four (4) week period starting in mid-March, officers seized 70 firearms - 33 were long arms and 37 were handguns.

There were various reasons provided for the failure of citizens to properly register the firearms or to renew their permits. Police discovered that in some cases the original owner was in a nursing home or deceased. Family members who took over possession had either misplaced the firearms, sold them without the appropriate documentation or just did not know they had possession.

There were also two (2) cases where the firearms had been stolen and the owner failed to report the theft.

If anyone has information on an illegal gun or a criminal act involving a gun in the community, they can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

If anyone has questions regarding firearm possession, they can contact the Hamilton Police Service’s Firearms Registration office at (905) 546-4978.

GD/C. Martin
DATE: 2011 June 20

REPORT TO: Chair and Members
Hamilton Police Services Board

FROM: Glenn De Caire
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Hamilton Police Service Monthly Report
(PSB 11-067)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board direct the Administrator of the Board to refer this report, in its entirety, to the City of Hamilton, for information.

[Signature]
Glenn De Caire
Chief of Police

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

FINANCIAL – n/a

STAFFING – n/a

LEGAL – n/a
BACKGROUND:

Social Media and Hamilton Police Service

Hamilton Police Service is utilizing social media to communicate with citizens, primarily through Twitter, Facebook and Youtube.

The Service’s fan page on Facebook continues to attract more fans. There are now over 1,020 fans and a number of crime prevention and police-related topics are posted.

Twitter is also being utilized. The Service maintains three (3) accounts: @HPS media; @HPSActionTeam4 and @HamiltonPolice. An average of 25 tweets are sent daily and the accounts have a combined total of 2,200 followers.

A Youtube channel has also been established that will be more fully developed by the latter part of 2010.

Tour of Triumph finishes June 12, 2011

On May 12, 2011, three Hamilton Police Officers embarked on a Tour of Triumph. Their goal is to ride 4,600 kms from Vancouver to Hamilton, to raise both awareness and funds for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). So far the group has raised over $55,000.00 towards its $100,000.00 fundraising target.

The 31-day Tour will culminate at the National JDRF “Walk to Cure Diabetes” at Pier Four Park in Hamilton on June 12, 2011.

“We are working with JDRF Canada to reach out coast to coast for support and we would like to invite our law enforcement partners and all citizens to join us,” said organizer Peter Wiesner. Officer Wiesner has been actively involved with the JDRF. Pete’s commitment to help find a cure for diabetes is personal. His son is a Type 1 diabetic and he made a promise to him to do everything he can to help find a cure.

Peter is riding with two other officers, Nesreen Shawihaat and Jim Callender, both who have been working with JDRF since 2009.
Support our Troops

The Service marked the beginning of “Support Our Troops” month at a kick-off ceremony held on June 1, 2011 at Central Police Station, which concluded with the raising of the Canadian Forces Ensign. Local military representatives joined Hamilton Police Services Board Chair Nancy DiGregorio and Hamilton Mayor Bob Bratina at the ceremony.

Several members of Hamilton Police who are currently in the military reserves were also on hand in their military uniforms. In addition to their demanding police duties, these members devote countless hours to their military units in their off-time. There are 16 members of the Military Reserve Force presently serving with the Hamilton Police.

When ‘Support Our Troops’ month concludes June 30, the Hamilton Police Service will continue to fly the Ensign as long as any Hamilton based soldier is deployed. As has been done for some time now, Hamilton Police vehicles will continue to display the yellow ribbon of support.

Officer Chris Gagen recently returned from a deployment with the Military Police Company in Afghanistan. I have included his remarks below:

“Good morning, my name is Chris Gagen, I’ve also been a member of the Army Reserves for the past 15 years, currently a Sgt with the 56th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. Since 2006 I have also been employed by the Hamilton Police Service as a constable in the mountain division. I recently returned from Task Force 1-10, where I served with the Military Police Company in Afghanistan.

There are a lot of similarities between the military and policing. Both require a level of sacrifice, both by the member and their family. But the reward is the opportunity to be able to help those in a time of need. I’m proud of the work I did overseas and the contribution I was able to make. As well I am proud of what I do here for the citizens of Hamilton.

I was presented an opportunity in 2009 to deploy with this rotation. From the moment I approached my chain of command I received nothing but the highest level of support.

I would like to take this moment as an opportunity to personally thank Chief De Caire, and everyone in the Hamilton Police. The never ending support from the start of my training, through my deployment and even during my reintegration back on the front line could not have been better. I still recall one morning in
January as I got ready for another day of training in Petawawa receiving a call on my cell phone. I looked at the number, recognized it was from somewhere within the police service but on the other end was the Chief. It seemed surreal that the Chief would call me, especially since I was fairly confident that I wasn’t in trouble for anything at least that I could remember. In the end it was just to say hi and personally offer his support. And it was that kind of support that continued until my return throughout the ranks with a flood of emails ranging from chit chat, to humour, to others that I’ve never even met just sending a note to say hi.

This level of support was even extended to my family. They were kept in contact by members of the service on a regular basis and truly felt the support of the policing family.

I’d also like to take this chance to thank my wife, who supported and encouraged my decision to deploy while taking on the task of flying solo with our 2 children. I couldn’t have done this without you. I always thought it was challenging when I worked a weekend of nights – sleep all day, work all night – and rarely see the family during that time. But that became nothing in comparison to the 2 months in California with only access to phone calls home depending on the lineups, and the 7 months overseas where I watched my children grow through a grainy skype image.

Since I’ve returned, there are 2 questions that everyone has asked me. Number 1 - Is it worth being in Afghanistan? And my answer is always yes. It’s hard to describe all that we take for granted here, and our high level of expectations in comparison to the struggles that the citizens go through daily in their villages just for basic necessities. The war is not against the people, but with those that threaten their right to live, not unlike the war against drugs and guns here. The work there has come a long way, but there is still more to be done.

The second is would I go back? The answer is yes, but I’m not brave enough to ask my wife again!

I had the experience of a lifetime, and there is no greater honour then that of having the opportunity to serve one’s country, but I am glad to be home.
Aggressive Drivers Hotline

The Aggressive Drivers Hotline is a phone number that is in place for concerned citizens to call if they witness an act of bad driving on the streets of Hamilton and wish to report the incident.

The phone number is (905) 546-1768 and is operational 24 hours a day.

When a call is received the caller has access to a voice mail system, at which time the caller is asked to supply the following information:

- date of the offence
- time of the offence
- location of the offence
- the caller is asked to supply their name and telephone number

The following information is requested of the offending vehicle:

- the licence plate number
- description of the vehicle
- description of the driver

Once this information has been obtained the caller is asked to provide a brief summary of the events that have taken place.

Once the information has been obtained, the hot line is checked by Auxiliary Officers frequently throughout the day, a check is done on the licence plate of the vehicle, if the description of the vehicle supplied by the caller matches the police check of the vehicle, the officer then goes on to read the summary of the complaint. If the information contained in the summary conforms to the definition of an HTA violation a letter is sent to the registered owner of the stated motor vehicle advising them of the incident in question. Here are some recent statistics:

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<th>Month, 2011</th>
<th>Number of Calls</th>
<th>Reports</th>
<th>Letters Sent</th>
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<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
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<td>May</td>
<td>75</td>
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GD/C. Martin