



Bud Brown and Downtown Village Constable Gary Ribble

SALT wants to protect seniors safe from scam artists

By Howard Mozel
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

Victimizing seniors is about as abhorrent as it gets but thanks to the successful and innovative SALT Oakville program, help is only a phone call away.

Started in 1992, Seniors and Law-Enforcement Together is a self-funded, volunteer council for seniors, caregivers and police which develops programs to serve the needs of the elderly. This ranges from establishing mall displays featuring valuable information to hosting crime prevention seminars.

These activities are especially important when one considers the number of predators out there who prey on the honesty and trust of their elderly victims.

The bottom line, says SALT Oakville chair John 'Bud' Brown, is to

do whatever is necessary to better prepare seniors for the unforeseen.

"We're trying to instill in them the awareness of what could happen," explained Brown, who said SALT is always on the lookout for new members. Anyone interested is encouraged to call 844-2356.

Halton Regional Police Downtown Village Constable Gary Ribble, who oversees the SALT initiative, puts it this way: "Our policy is that you haven't lived to 65 or 70 only to allow someone to ruin the best years of your life."

SALT Oakville, the first program of its kind in Canada, also involves the Ontario Provincial Police, represented by Burlington Detachment Constable Sonya Siebert.

SALT receives support from CHWO Radio, which runs public service announcements and pays for the

(See 'Crimes' page 18)

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