

New Crime Stoppers co-ordinator eager to promote program

A fresh take on some existing ideas and a great appreciation for what's already been done.

That seems to be what Sgt. Ray Bruce is bringing with him to his new position as the Halton Crime Stoppers co-ordinator.

"I'm excited about being selected the new co-ordinator. I look forward to working with the media, the board of directors and the community in general," Bruce said, adding, "I look forward to continuing what co-ordinators before me have done."

Bruce began his new job last month, taking over for Sgt. Peter Payne who served as interim co-ordinator since July. Payne has been re-assigned as a fraud investigator with Halton Regional Police.

An 18-year police veteran, Bruce joined the Halton police in 1990 after serving five years in Toronto. He first performed uniform patrol duties in Halton Hills and Milton before being transferred to an Oakville district in 1994.

Six years ago, Bruce worked in the investigations bureau, where he was involved primarily with fraud and arson investigation. He was promoted to sergeant last year.

Crime Stoppers is a program that brings together media and the community to fight crime. It offers an anonymous method of providing

information to solve crimes in return for cash rewards.

Something Bruce said he's looking forward to is promoting Crime Stoppers programs in high schools.

"It's not new, but it's never had the opportunity to get off the ground," he said, adding that students will be able to create their own boards of directors on a high school level.

Bruce said he's looking forward to the public speaking engagements he'll be doing, and his increased involvement with the community.



SGT. RAY BRUCE

"In the past, that's not something I had to deal with," he said. "I'm looking forward to the challenges I'm sure I can expect."

Investigative experience is one of the assets Bruce said he'll be able to contribute to Crime Stoppers— particularly when taking calls from the public.

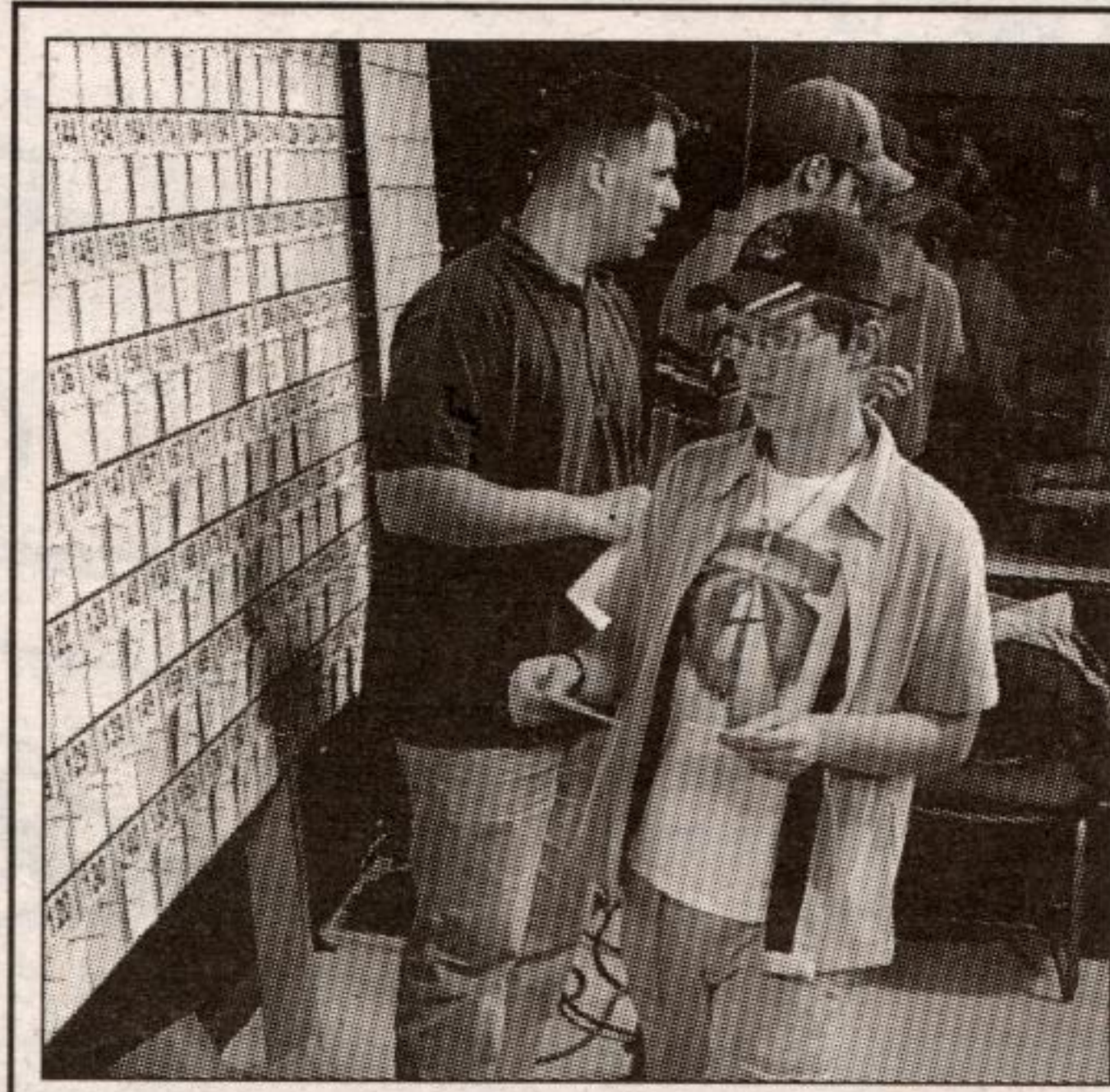
"I'll be able to draw on that experience to get the best information possible."

He added that his 18 years with the police force have given him an overall firm grasp on the workings of the police department.

Bruce lives in Mississauga with his wife and two-year-old son.

The toll-free Crime Stoppers number is 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

—By Stephanie Thiessen, special



Auction action

At the annual Kinsmen TV Auction at Cogeco's studio in Milton, 'Kin Kid' Mark Lefebvre and Kinsman Rich Besworth (background) were among the many volunteers who manned the auction board to keep it updated for the on-air hosts. The Kinsmen Club of Georgetown raised an estimated \$15,000.

Photo by Ted Brown

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Georgetown Fair Grounds

SUNDAY MAY 18th, 2003

9:00 - 11:00 am & 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Pilot Insurance
Hot Air Balloon Tethered Ride with proceeds to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation

MONDAY MAY 19th, 2003

12:00 Noon
 2:00 - 5:00 pm
 5:00 - 6:30 pm
 7:00 - 7:45 pm
 9:30 pm (Dusk)

Classic Car Show (12:00 to Dusk)
Bang - O - Rama Rock Show
Locked Out - Tafe
Brut 33 - The Love Letter Refuge
Big Sister Laura - (One of the first Groups to call themselves 50's to 90's variety act)
The Royal Canadian Air Cadets "756" Squadron Band
FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Monday Admission (entire day & fireworks) \$5.00
 Family Pass \$20.00 (2 adults & 4 children)

Midway Opens Friday 4:00pm and Runs All Weekend

Parking is limited around the Fairgrounds, and the club is urging residents to park elsewhere and either walk or take shuttle transportation. Meanwhile, Laidlaw Transit will pick people up in three locations at: Georgetown Cinemas, GO parking lot and the Civic Centre parking lot.