**Crime Stoppers** 

tips on abuse

Silence can lead to murder

In an effort to prevent

in domestic abuse situa-

these "very predictable"

homicides, Halton Crime

Stoppers will immediately

start to take calls on its tip

line from anyone who knows

of someone who is in dan-

ger of being harmed by an

abusive spouse or other in-

Sergeant Gary Gold,

Halton's Crime Stoppers

coordinator, said the pro-

gram is taking action in

response to recommen-

dations in a 2007 report

from Ontario's Domestic

Violence Death Review

Committee that called on

Crime Stoppers to take an-

onymous calls from people

who had information about

ent, or if you have sole custody, please bring proof of custody

(court order). To register for

Fall 2009, Junior Kindergarten

children must be 4 years old by

December 31, 2009, and Senior

Kindergarten children must be 5

years old by December 31, 2009.

Parents/guardians must be public

Please ensure that your child is

school supporters.

tions.

dividual.

taking annonymous





MANNING THE KETTLE: Acton resident Sydney Weaver smiles proudly for this photo while she took time out of her evening to man the Salvation Army Kettle inside Sobey's lobby on Monday Dec. 21. - Traci Gardner Photo

## **Kindergarten registration**

Beginning in mid-January, Halton District School Board will accept registrations for Junior and Senior

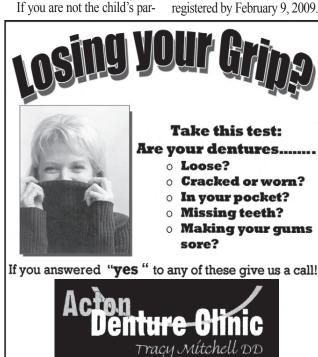
Kindergarten for September 2009. Drop by or call your designated elementary school to find out which dates have been established for Kindergarten registration.

Please bring the following original documents when registering: - Proof of residency via

lease, purchase agreement or property tax bill. - Birth certificate, passport or baptismal certificate for your child.

- Proof of immunization, or philosophical or religious exemption forms

(and completed medical authorization where necessary). If you are not the child's par-



130 Mill St. E., Unit 103 Acton, ON L7J 1J1 Telephone: (519) 853-0079 Fax: (519) 853-1134

dangerous spousal abuse situations.

Studies by experts and public inquiries into a number of domestic homicides have shown there were significant warning signs indicating a high risk potential of violence in each case prior to the victim's death.

"These indicators predict the possibility of a level of violence that could result in a homicide," Gold says. "When family members, friends, neighbours and coworkers learn someone is a victim of domestic abuse they should know they can pass along this information anonymously to Crime Stoppers.

He said the information will be passed along to the newly-formed Halton **Regional Police Domestic** Violence Investigative Unit that will make enquiries and bring together experts from the various social agencies to protect the victim and any others who may be at harm, including children, and minimize the potential of violence.

"Domestic violence isn't a private matter and people shouldn't be left to suffer," Gold said. "People must speak out. "A person's life may depend on you making the call.'

Tom Suddaby, chair of the Halton Crime Stoppers board, said directors embraced the concept of taking tips about domestic abuse situations after learning of the recommendations in the 60-page report from the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee.

"They recognized the value of the anonymous tip line and we realized immediately how effective Crime Stoppers can be in reducing the risk of homicide for people living in abusive situations," Suddaby said.

Suddaby said statistics in the United Kingdom show 35 percent of all homicides are domestic.

