

More editor's mail

Rural Neighborhood Watch program sparks much interest in community

Dear Editor,
Just over a year ago, the rural community of Mount Zion in north Pickering initiated a Neighborhood Watch for their area. Urban areas have used the concept to reduce crime for many years, but this type of community-based effort was relatively untried in rural areas.

When the residents of Mount Zion area first met they felt extremely frustrated at the seeming helplessness in responding to repeated break-ins in the area.

The level of concern in the community resulted in a broad-based commitment to the Watch concept. Everyone proved to be willing to put extra effort into watching out for their neighbors.

The level of support was recognized by Durham Regional Police, who assisted in organizing the Watch.

Police also provided support by way of crime prevention seminars, increased patrols and close, ongoing contact with Neighborhood Watch leaders.

Warning signs have been posted throughout the area. Homeowners have engraved personal property to assist police in the event of a theft and the Watch network is constantly monitoring and reporting activities of concern.

The experience of this first year's operation has proven that the Rural Neighborhood Watch works. Crime in the area is down and the vigilance of residents resulted in the rapid apprehension of suspects in area offences.

Evelyn Jones,
Mount Zion

USS exchange trip an excellent experience

Dear Editor,
Staff and students wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the sponsors involved in the Uxbridge Secondary School/Saskatchewan exchange trip that took place May 1 to May 8 in Leader, Sask.

They are: Kinsmen Club, USS Student Council, Stedman's, Ballinger's, Rush Photo, Guardian Drugs, Teams Sports Bar, Coca-Cola and Canada Dry. Travel arrangements were organized by Uxbridge Travel.

The trip was a wonderful opportunity for learning and making new friends. We are looking forward to the return trip by the Saskatchewan

students to Uxbridge in the next few months.

A special thanks to our principal, Mrs. Beal, for all her encouragement and support.

The response from the Uxbridge community was overwhelming. Many thanks - it would not have been possible without you!

Sincerely,
Dave Watts, Linda Korbak,
Wayne Medford

\$100 boost

Dear Editor,
The Eta Lambda chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority presented the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library with a cheque for \$100. We are supportive of the development of library services for the benefit of our community.

Also, the chapter would like to thank everyone who supported our spring raffle. We are extremely grateful to Lynda VanLeeuwen and Leona Petrie of Leona-Lynn Fashions and Gerard Stempilet of Petit Gateau for their services that aided to make our project a success.

Sincerely,
Eta Lambda Chapter,
Beta Sigma Phi Sorority

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Gallery sale a winner

Dear Editor,
On behalf of the Latcham Gallery, I would like to thank all those who helped make the Gallery's 1st annual Trash and Treasure Sale a huge success.

The donations which poured in from local residents and businesses were very generous and greatly appreciated.

Most of all, the sale was great fun and helped show that Stouffville's Latcham Gallery is more than just 'art on the walls.'

Sincerely,
Jennifer Goodbrand
Volunteer, Latcham Gallery

FILL OUR MAILBOX

The Tribune welcomes letters from readers on current topics. Letters should be 500 words or less and typed or neatly printed. They may be subject to editing for length at the discretion of the editor. They must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday to appear in the Wednesday Tribune. Letters may be submitted to the office at 54 Main St. W. Stouffville, P.O. Box 40, L4A 7Z4.

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