

One-third of signs still not picked up Stouffville may fine residents over 911 signs

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville must fine people who don't erect their green 911 numbered identification signs, council heard this week.

Town Building Director Bob Bennett told officials Tuesday the town is responsible for ensuring everyone in the municipality has a sign up and ready to go when the emergency system comes on line.

"If there is a loss of life the town will be held liable," we'll have a problem legally," Bennett said.

Fire department staff said of the 3,000 signs reserved for residents, 1,000, or one-third, have not yet been picked up.

Bennett said the town had already stated it would ensure the numbers were put up before the November deadline if people did not pick up their signs.

"We hope the residents will recognize that it is to their advantage to put their numbers up. I hope we never have to (fine people) but we have to take some action," Bennett said.

The town amended its building numbering bylaw Tuesday to add a penalty clause that could mean a maximum \$5,000 fine for offenders.

However, Ward 6 Councillor Jim

Sanders said fining people for not posting their signs now is premature because the 911 emergency program is not yet in service.

"People are still trying to get their numbers up. I'm sure most will get theirs (posted) during the summer when the frost is out of the ground. I'm sure they'll all be up soon," Sanders said.

But Ward 4 Councillor Wayne Emmerson said, "it only takes a minute to put the signs up - some people are being rebellious (against the 911 system changeover)."

The 911 reflective numbers replace a property's current address, and residents are responsible for changing stationery etc. in preparation for the change.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury told officials the idea of installing York Region's 911 emergency system started after the death of a Gormley resident a few years ago.

"Emergency crews just couldn't find the poor person in time. This all started in our municipality," she said.

The town is urging any Stouffville resident who has not yet picked up their signs, to either go to the fire department on Main Street or phone the building department (640-1900) for more information.



Photo/ANNETTE BUCHKOWSKI

Markham's newest residents

Even though the Markham Civic Centre isn't set permanent residence near the pond. Mother is to officially open until May 25, this mother very protective of her babies, who have only goose and her goslings have already taken up just left the nest.

York Region hazardous waste collection

Whitchurch-Stouffville, and Markham residents can safely unload old paint, car batteries, out-of-date medicine and other household hazardous wastes today in Newmarket.

One of two York Region-approved Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days, today's event takes place at Newmarket's Recreation Complex from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The town is donating four employees and two trucks to volunteer for the day at a cost of about \$900.

The next collection day will be held Saturday, May 25 at Richmond Green in Richmond Hill.

Excellence in Education

Markham teachers earn regional awards

The York Region Board of Education honored three Markham staff members for their achievements in education.

The annual Excellence in Education awards were handed out to teachers, parents and community members in York Region.

Heart Saver course slated

A Red Cross Heart Saver Course is slated for next Tuesday and Thursday, May 14 and 16, at the Stouffville Fitness Centre.

The course costs \$30, plus tax, and runs from 7 - 10 p.m. on both nights.

For more information, please call Denise at 642-3488.

A lead teacher at Milliken Mills and Wilcay Public Schools, Gladys Spiller has influenced the development of other staff members.

Spiller is a former adjunct professor for York University, which has helped many new teachers in their search for employment.

She lived by the motto Excellence

in Education and stresses it to her students.

An audio-visual technician at Milliken Mills High School was recognized as an indispensable staff member at the school and for Area H.

Wayne Milliner was described as having refined artistic talent, superior organizational skills technical

expertise and a refreshing sense of humor.

He used his skills to create the school calendar, an original crest for the podium and a pen and ink sketch for the school.

As head caretaker at Franklin Street Public School, Dan Pegg has added a sparkle to one of Markham's oldest schools.

"He really goes the extra mile," Markham Trustee Joanna French said.

Franklin Street is opening its doors to Raymerwood students next year, and positive comments have been received by parents of both sets of children.

Pegg was awarded for his commitment to providing the cleanest, safest learning environment and is an excellent example for other staff members.

These three outstanding citizens who gave their time and energies in pursuit of excellence in education were among the 24 recipients at the May 6 awards banquet.

CRIME WATCH

Computer discs stolen

Business files and computer discs went missing from a private investigation office in Markham.

The information was reported stolen to York Region police May 9.

Police reports said the theft occurred May 3 at 4 p.m. at the office at 178 Main St.

Former employees are suspected, police said.

Cigarettes swiped

A Unionville shop was robbed of cigarettes, cash and lottery tickets Thursday morning.

Alex Quality Meat Market on Kennedy Rd. lost six cartons of cigarettes, \$30 in change and \$200 worth of lottery tickets.

The break-in occurred on May 9 at 4:20 a.m.

Impaired driver nabbed

A Milliken man was nabbed on a drunk driving charge by the police underwater recovery unit.

A 40-year-old man faces an impaired driving charge, after caught by police at Wellington and Yonge Sts. in Aurora last Wednesday at 7:20 a.m.

Stouffville man charged

Two men are charged with theft after gasoline was

siphoned from a truck owned by a Stouffville farm supply store.

The Stouffville Co-Operative on Edward St. lost an unknown amount of gas from a truck last Wednesday evening.

A Stouffville man, 19, of Connor Dr. and an Ajax man, 19, of Audley Rd. were charged with theft.

The pair are set to appear in Newmarket Provincial Court June 13.

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