Two men await trial on drug bust charges

(From page 1)

William Dunn, 40 of Toronto and Tero Rampanen, 43, of 351 Boyer Ave., Stouffville were ordered to return to court on Oct. 3 for pre-trial.

Dunn and Rampanen each face five narcotic-related charges. Both are free on bail.

Dunn was arrested along with Way at the Ringwood Drive industrial park on June 20. Meanwhile, York Regional Police arrested Rampanen at his home in Stouffville in early July, police detective Cam Walter said. On June 20, operating on a tip, police discovered a full-scale hydroponic drug operation running out of four units at the local industrial park. The park business community and local council were shocked to learn that police found 700 marijuana plants, hydroponic equipment, including 1,000 watt light bulbs, heat lamps, reflector umbrellas and trays in the park.

Also, at the time of his arrest, Way was living in one of the industrial units, said Walters.

In 1992, Way was paroled from Warkworth Federal Prison after serving one third of a nine-year sentence in connection with the death of a 31-year-old woman. The woman was shot near Sudbury. According to Corrections Canada, Way's parole expiry date is listed as Oct. 1996.

Way is a member of the Para-dise Riders, a motorcycle gang with ties to Musselman's Lake in Stouffville, York Regional Police reported.

Picture perfect

Carol Guinane, Dave Duggan and Sharon Alles, Latcham Gallery volunteers have some fun with some of the items at the gallery's garage sale last weekend.

Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Council hoping to keep zero budget

(From page 1)

ris-lead government is simply downloading on the municipalities, Gerretsen charged.

Whitchurch-Stouffville town treasurer Ed Blackburn said a 20-per cent reduction in provincial transfer payments, based on the $1 million, (1994 figure) could "cost the town in the $200,000" neighborhood, said the town treasurer.

If the difference was made up through taxation, it would reflect "a 4.5 percent" (local) tax increase, said Blackburn.

While Emmerson awaits official word from Harris concerning funding cuts, members of Whitchurch-Stouffville town staff are putting together a funding cut-response report to be presented to local council at regular meeting on Sept. 12.

In 1994, provincial money for roads in Whitchurch-Stouffville amounted to between $500,000 and $600,000.

Based on '94 figures, unconditional no-strings attached grants earmarked for Whitchurch Stouffville totalled $180,000. Also, provincial funding for the local library was about $67,000.

Whitchurch-Stouffville's plan to upgrade roads, including resurfacing, may be altered because of provincial funding cuts, Emmerson admitted.

"This (cuts) is going to affect our roads more than anything. We may not be able to do as much. We won't be able to do as much resurfacing as we'd hoped," said Emmerson. Never in the history of Ontario have cuts been so severe. Both Emmerson and Blackburn are taken aback. "We're never seen across-the-board cuts like this," said Blackburn.

While community need is on the rise, funding has, in fact, been frozen for the past few years, Blackburn stressed. "Still, we've been innovative. We've kept the mill rate down."

While Emmerson said he expected Harris to give less to the municipalities, he didn't foresee a 20- per cent cut. "I didn't think it would be so big. But he (Harris) said he was going to be tough. Now we've got it."

Whitchurch-Stouffville will manage, however, he stressed. "We'll keep going. We'll nickel and dime it. And, we'll do things differently to make sure we get the best bang for our buck," he said.

Councillor Ivanka Bradley said Whitchurch-Stouffville is in a better position than many municipalities. "We expected this. We're prepared. We've been cutting back and we have some money put aside for road repair," said Bradley.

The cuts did not catch Councillor Judy Scala off guard. "This is disappointing, but it is not surprising," said Scala. "We'll have to live with it."

Exact details of the provincial funding cuts will be known when Finance Minister Ernie Eves delivers an economic statement in November.

Parole board to hear case

(From page 1)

parole was suspended.

Way does, however, have the right to appeal the suspension, stressed Sparling.

In December of '92, Way was paroled from Warkworth Federal Penitentiary after serving one third of a nine-year sentence for a manslaughter in connection with the shooting death of a 31-year-old woman in Sudbury. Way's parole expiry date is listed as October, 1996. At the time of Way's arrest in Stouffville, Ron Fairley, Corrections Canada's senior communications director for Ontario, reported that conditions of Way's parole included not having any further run-ins with the law. As well, as a parolee, Way was to refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs and ordered to not keep company with anyone with a criminal record. He has been in custody since his arrest.

Police reported that, at the time of his arrest, Way gave his address as 100 Ringwood Dr., wh·ch is the industrial unit where the marijuana lab was found.

Summer sing-a-long

Esther Powell, with Howard Burkholder on the piano, leads children in song at the St. James Presbyterian Church vacation Bible school on Wednesday.

Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

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