

Economist & Sun
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Stouffville Tribune
Delivering the news that matters most to your community.

CRIME WATCH

Businesses raided in Russian mafia investigation

BY CHRISTOPHER DOURIS
 STAFF WRITER

It will be a while before any charges are laid as a result of search warrants executed Tuesday in a major Russian mafia investigation, a confidential source told *The Economist & Sun/Stouffville Tribune*.
 The warrants are sealed by court

order, preventing police from commenting on the contents, the source said. "It's an ongoing investigation."

Tuesday's warrants were for searches only.

RCMP spokesperson Const. Michelle Paradis said because the warrants are sealed she is forbidden from commenting on them. She did say,

however, 16 warrants were executed this week but no charges have been laid.

Warrants in these types of cases are routinely sealed, the confidential source said, for among other reasons, protection of confidential sources.

"An investigation doesn't stop once the arrests are made," the source said.

The source confirmed reports that dozens of police officers raided 16 businesses and homes across the Greater Toronto Area as part of a combined forces special enforcement unit investigation.

CFSEU officers are drawn from the RCMP OPP, Toronto, York and Peel police, Canada Customs and Revenue Canada and concentrate on organized

crime activities. The raids began at dawn in North York, Vaughan, Richmond Hill, Newmarket and other GTA communities and were aimed at top Eastern European organized crime figures dubbed the Russian Mafia.

ILLEGAL EXPORTING

According to a 1998 report from the Canadian Intelligence Service Canada, Eastern European organized crime groups participate in international networks involved in illegal exporting of consumer goods and stolen automobiles.

The crime groups use Canadian financial institutions to launder money before sending it back to Eastern Europe.

Stereo thief needs toilet training

Police are searching for a thief who needs a lesson in bathroom etiquette.

The front door of a Sunset Boulevard apartment was pried open by an unknown suspect March 1 around midnight.

Stereo equipment and the TV were stolen. Residents also report the thief defecated in the toilet and didn't flush.

Anyone with information is asked to call 881-1221 or Crime Stoppers at 222-TIPS.

Police seeking Asian recruits to join force

York Regional Police are aggressively seeking police candidates of Asian descent to better serve a growing and diverse community.

Today, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. police will hold a special recruiting fair in the Chinese community, organized by the Asian response office of the 5 District COR unit. The event will provide all

information relating to a career in policing, as well as a hands-on opportunity to experience some of the physical tests required.

Interested and prospective candidates can go to Pacific Mall today at 4300 Steeles Ave. E., Markham (north east corner of Kennedy Road and Steeles Avenue.)

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CORRECTION

On March 27th, Markham Vacuum's ad had a spelling error.
 The correction name should be Bob Hunwicks.
 The Economist & Sun apologizes for the mistake.

<p>Special Selection! MALDEN KNITS COLLECTION 150cm wide, solid colours. Our Reg. 4.98 m NOW 2.49 m</p>	<p>Special Selection! "PRIMA VERA NATURALS" COLLECTION 115cm wide, 70% cotton/30% linen, coordinating prints & solids. Our Reg. 7.98 & 9.98 m NOW 3.99 & 4.99 m</p>	<p>Special Selection! CRAFT BATT BAGS 90cm x 115cm Our Reg. 3.49 ea. NOW 1.99 ea.</p>
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Sale in effect April 5-24, 1999, on selected in-stock merchandise only. Most items available in most stores. Look for the red sale tags. Please Note: In some locations some items may be sold at a price lower than Fabricland's regular chain-store price. Where this 'competitive pricing' occurs, the advertised savings will be off Fabricland's regular chain-store price.

Flyer WATCH
 Inserts for April 3/99

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