



30 Spirit veteran impressed by this year's Jr. A Squad

Opinion6
 Education22
 Calendar27
 Classified32

Hydro workers lighting up Florida after Wilma

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
 Staff Writer

The Stouffville "A Team" is helping restore power to hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses in Florida left without electricity in the aftermath of Hurricane Wilma.

More than six million people were left without power after the hurricane blew through the southern part of the state almost two weeks ago.

The four hydro workers, Vince McLean, Phil Verschuran, Ron Witherspoon and Dana McNairn, work out of Hydro One in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"Our crews have an excellent reputation in Florida after their tremendous efforts last year," Hydro One president and CEO Tom Parkinson said.

"It's a clear sign of respect Florida Power and Light has for our people that we were among the first to be asked to help despite being more than 2,200 kilometres away. Our crews are known as the A Team."

Hydro One crews also restored power to Florida residents following two hurricanes earlier this year, Hydro One spokesperson Al Manchee said.

Hydro One crews were first called following Hurricane Frances in September 2004.

As they were about to head home after working in the state for three weeks, Florida Power and Light put out another call for help after Hurricane Jeanne caused havoc and left residents without power yet again.

Different crews are sent out each time to work in the state for two to three weeks.

See WORKERS, page 25.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Leaf fans?

Joe Monaco (left) and Daniel Cater, both 16, enjoy the fall sport of bagging leaves on Millard Street in Stouffville Saturday.

'NO SERIAL KILLER RUNNING AROUND' 1 week, 4 murders, but no connection

BY MARTIN DERBYSHIRE
 Staff Writer

Four murders in less than a week have York Regional Police homicide investigators shaking their heads.

"I think it's all just coincidental," veteran homicide Det.-Sgt. Bill Sadler said.

"It's not like there is any connection. There's no madman or serial killer running around out there."

"Each case is separate and individual. There's no real explanation why they are all happening at once."

Homicide investigators were called last Thursday night when 23-year-old Sumit Kapoor was run down in a pedestrian walkway following a confrontation in a parking lot at New Westminster Drive and Steeles Avenue.

A little more than 48 hours later, two more murder victims were found within an hour of each other in Markham and Thornhill.

Abdirahman Mohamed, 23, was shot at a friend's home near McCowan Road and Steeles early Sunday morning. Police found him in a wrecked car nearby after another friend who witnessed the shooting crashed while driving him to hospital.

Homicide investigators' pagers then went off again when the body of 53-year-old Oleg Driker was found in the Bathurst and Centre streets area home where he rented a room.

Then on Tuesday, investigators found the strangled body of Hee Jeung Choi, a 33-year-old mother of two,

See QUICK, page 26.

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