

Stouffville Says

By Hannelore Volpe

If you were running the Toronto Maple Leafs, what would you do?

— Asked at Country Style Donuts and Giant Tiger in Stouffville



Ted
CYBRUCH

I would trade some of the players, especially the high-priced ones that aren't doing their job.



Angelo
LAROSA

Change the goalie and the general manager. We need a new way of thinking of how to get the team going.



Gerald
NOBLE

I think it is the purse-strings. They haven't spent enough money to win the Stanley Cup in 40 years. They don't get the really high-priced players.



Reynan
REGALADO

Fix the line-up. Have the general manager trade players. They need stronger players and more practice time.

TEDDIES FOR THOSE SUFFERING



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Leah Morrissey (foreground, left), Tonya Stevens (background from left), Lija Schneider, Amy Nolan, Lauren Thornton, Vanessa Kerswill, Hannah Hilsden, Devon Johnson and Allison Todd show off teddy bears they made in their family studies class at Stouffville District Secondary School. The bears are given to children in Third World countries by doctors treating the ill. So far, bears have been sent to African, South American and Asian children.

CrimeStoppers netted \$13M in street drugs

Program recognizes media partners

BY JOE FANTAUZZI
Staff Writer

Tips to CrimeStoppers of York Region resulted in the seizure of nearly \$13 million in drugs and allowed police to take 11 weapons off the streets in 2006.

On Tuesday, partners in the anonymous tip program gathered at the York Regional Police's Community Safety Village in Whitchurch-Stouffville to celebrate the local CrimeStoppers 20th anniversary and honour those who support the program.

Statistics released by Stouffville native Todd Snooks, CrimeStoppers' police co-ordinator, reveal between 2001 and 2006, tips yielded more than \$10.6-million in drugs seized in Markham, six weapons removed from Vaughan and 10 arrests in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

In the same timeframe in Richmond Hill, more than \$2.7 million in drugs were seized and 62 arrests were made in Newmarket as a result of tips.

"From 2005 to 2006 the successful tips on drugs alone dou-

bled," Det.-Const. Snooks said. "Everything else was very close or just slightly lower from year to year, whereas the previous year our drugs actually dropped from 2004 to 2005. It really fluctuates, depending on what information is coming in, how valuable that information is to the police, what the police are able to turn over in that year time frame."

In 2005, York's CrimeStoppers launched its fully encrypted tip website, which can be accessed by logging on to www.1800222tips.com — an initiative meant to attract web savvy youth to the program, CrimeStoppers' chairperson David Forster said.

York Regional Police Chief La Barge said the effectiveness of the CrimeStoppers program in York Region is obvious.

"When you look at the statistics, there's no way you can say it hasn't been successful," Chief La Barge said.

But CrimeStoppers leads to more than drug seizures. In the month following the murder of Thornhill's Alicia Ross, tips to the program doubled, Det.-Const. Snooks said. Feel more comfortable in your mother tongue? It's not an issue, Det.-Const. Snooks said. Crime Stoppers can

accommodate 117 languages by using interpreters.

"If your mother tongue happens to be Russian, Cantonese or Greek and you feel more comfortable in that language simply tell the call taker that's the case," he said, adding an interpreter will be connected in less than a minute.

Receiving awards of appreciation from Crime Stoppers of York Region:

- York Region Newspaper Group
- Jimmy Liu — Ming Pao Daily News
- Gary McMahon — Rogers Cable
- Jimmy Leung — Fairchild TV
- Bob Komsic — CFRB
- Percta Lam — Sing Tao Daily News
- Sarah Wilson — A-Channel
- Aurora Cable
- SNAP Newmarket
- Chief Armand La Barge and deputy chiefs Eric Jolliffe and Bruce Herridge
- Daisy Wai and Connie Phillipson — York Regional Police Services Board

To comment on this story, e-mail Joe Fantauzzi at jfantauzzi@yrng.com

Briefly

Committee meetings could move to afternoon

Changing the meeting times for Whitchurch-Stouffville council is on the agenda Tuesday.

The idea is for the council in committee meeting, where most discussion takes place, to be moved from 7 to 3 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Council meetings would remain at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, along with public hearings.

It means residents have two chances to have their say, Mayor Wayne Emmerson said. The meetings will also be more open and transparent, he said.

Issues discussed at an afternoon meeting will be revisited the following week at the council meeting, which will follow any public hearings slated to begin at 7 p.m.

Anyone interested in specific issues at council can get information on the afternoon meeting from their local councillor, from the town's website at www.townofws.com or by visiting the town offices at 37 Sandford Dr. Call the town at 905-640-1900.

Library wants input from town seniors

The Seniors' sub-committee of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library board is looking for volunteers to join this committee. It is responsible for two annual events: the Spring Fling and the seniors' Christmas party.

The committee meets quarterly to organize these events and provide input to library staff on issues in the community affecting seniors. If you have some fresh ideas to contribute, enjoy planning events and have some time to offer, please consider being part of this committee.

To volunteer, call Carolyn Nordheimer James at 905-642-7323, ext. 223.

Quoteworthy

'An intellectual terrorist'

Barbara Amiel on Stouffville author B. W. Powe. See story on page 1.

Contacting Us

Have a news tip? Please:

- phone us at 905-640-2612
- e-mail us at jmason@yrng.com
- visit our offices at 6290 Main St. in downtown Stouffville

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