

Claudiu Popa, Trish Robinson and Glenn Jackson have helped to put Whitchurch-Stouffville on the Internet map with official websites for the town and the Chamber of Commerce, as well as the local business- based Stouffville.biz. Mr. Popa also provides weekly bulletins on Internet security at www.info-corp.com.

Virus Writers: Evil monsters or maladjusted youths

by Claudiu Popa

In light of this year's impressive parade of intelligent, semi-intelligent and plain dumb computer viruses, I thought it timely to write about their creators who fall in almost exactly the same categories.

Earlier this year, Sarah Gordon, who profiles creators of cyber-epidemics for IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center dispelled the myth of the "evil, unethical, maladjusted teenagers with no social lives and absent parents". According to her research, these individuals come in all shapes and sizes but lead a normal existence, have decent social lives and generally mean no harm.

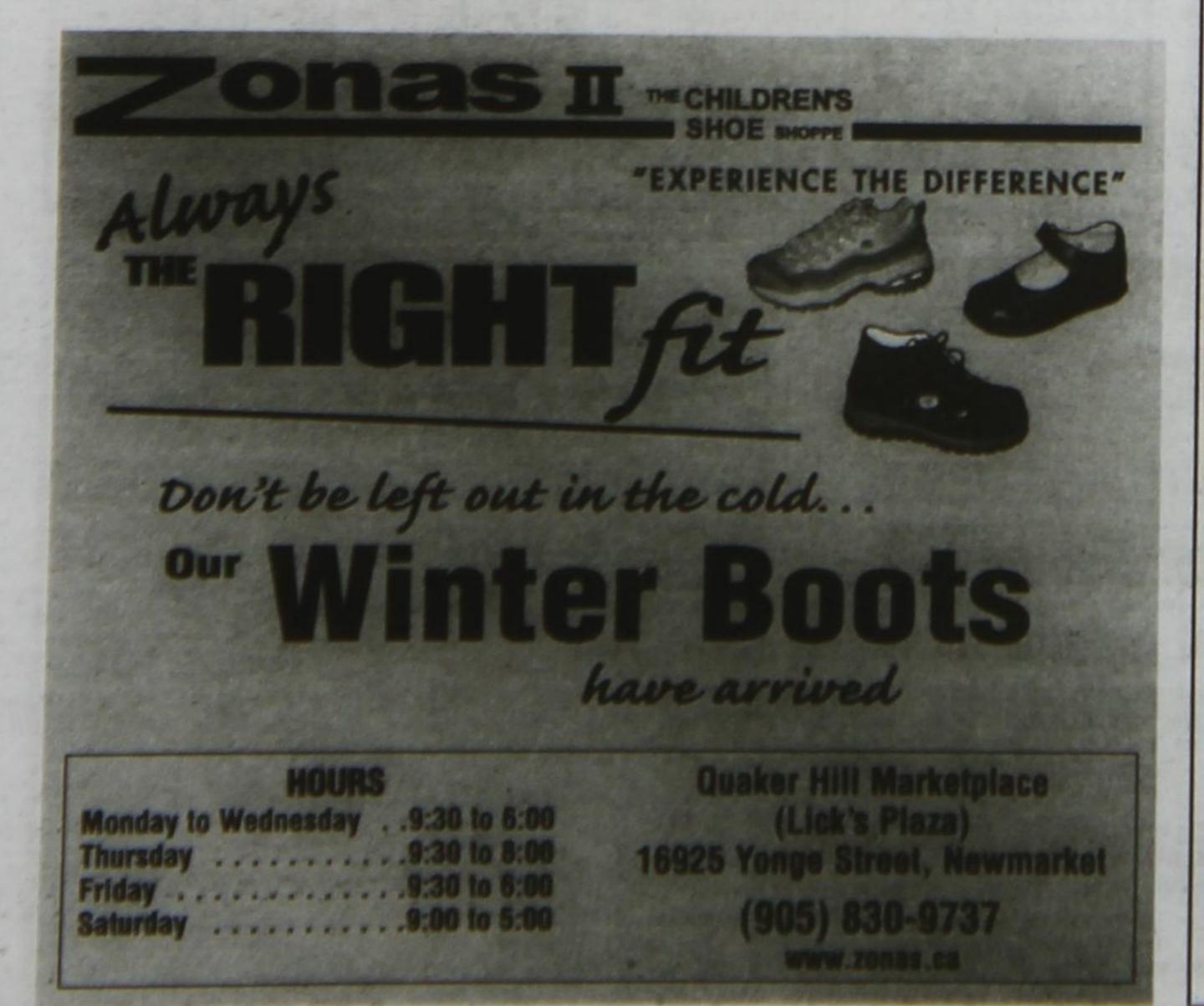
The 80 virus creators she profiled helped define the following categories: curious virus writers who sometimes accidentally lose control of their creations; hackers who are on a mission to show and exploit flaws to embarrass software companies; political activists

exercising their "right to free speech"; cyber graffiti: attention seekers trying to "mark their territory"; cyber unabombers: fanatics who spread viruses to demonstrate technology's downside.

Although few common traits exist between virus creators, according to Ms. Gordon's research they do tend to be intelligent, educated and male. Apparently, her definition of 'intelligent' seems to exclude the ability to comprehend the financial repercussions and severity of their actions, how easily this software can spread and the fact that there are laws in place to take their freedom away if and when they get caught.

Do you agree, disagree or have anything to add? If so, please write to Stouffville This Month or e-mail me at claudiu@info-corp.com.

Claudiu Popa is a site administrator at Stouffville.biz, a website linking businesses and people in Stouffville.





FRANK KES

A SOLID RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

BETTER HEALTH CARE - DELIVERED

- √ \$66.7 million expansion of York Central Hospital
- ✓ Doubled base funding to York Central Hospital
- √ 53% increase for Markham-Stouffville Hospital
- New MRIs, Regional Cardiac Care Program, Regional Dialysis Program and Cancer Care Treatment Centre to York Region Hospitals
- √ 1818 new long-term care beds

QUALITY EDUCATION - DELIVERED

- ✓ Funding to York Region school boards increased to well over \$1 Billion
- Special education funding increased from \$67 million in 1998 to \$98.2 million
- √ 56 new schools in York Region since 1998
- √ 47 upgraded schools since 1998.
- ✓ Over \$16 million EXTRA to York Region school boards for new textbooks

REDUCING GRIDLOCK - DELIVERED

- √ \$50 million for "Quick Start", York Region's new rapid transit system
- 3 new Markham GO Stations
- √ 600 new parking spaces at Richmond
 Hill GO
- Widened and extended Highway 404
- New interchanges off 404 at Sixteenth Avenue and Elgin Mills Road

CREATING JOBS - DELIVERED

- √ 23% more jobs in York Region since 1998
- 4,000 new businesses in York Region since 1998
- √ 1,088,440 net new Ontario jobs since 1995
- √ 225 tax reductions since 1995
- ✓ 66% increased investment in Ontario
 Multi-million dollar assistance pledged to
 beef producers

PROTECTING THE MORAINE - DELIVERED

- Championed the cause of protecting the Oak Ridges Moraine
- Personally cut Legislative red tape to pass the "Oak Ridges Moraine Protection Act" in just 1 day
- ✓ Protecting 420,000 acres (100% of the environmentally sensitive areas of the Moraine) FOREVER!

VALUING SENIORS- DELIVERED

- Eliminated the provincial portion of property taxes for seniors
- Worked with the Community Care
 Access Centre in York Region to
 eliminate wait lists and improve
 services for seniors
- Hosts annual Wellness and Security forum
- ✓ Host free income tax clinic for low-income seniors

FRANK KLES
as your MPP
October 2nd

FRANK KLEES



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