



# THE SOURCE

*Keeping you informed on what's happening in the world of Crime Stoppers*

## You Wanted to Know

### Crime Stoppers Targets Illegal Drugs

Illegal drugs on our streets are an unfortunate reality in many communities and Crime Stoppers wants to do its part to make sure people are educated on what they can do to help stop this criminal activity from occurring.



One contraband narcotic to appear more prevalently at this time of the year is the illegal marijuana crop. With the warm weather upon us, many of these crops are now being planted outdoors. Marijuana plants are bright green, with an odd number of leaves in clusters, can range in height from six inches to ten feet tall (at maturity), emit a distinct pungent odor (like a skunk) and are tacky to the touch. They can be found near creeks or swamps, on the south side of fields, along fence lines and in woodlots.

To help combat illegal marijuana cultivation, Crime Stoppers promotes programs such as **"Operation Pot Spot."** This program appeals to pilots and encourages them to be observant while they are flying over rural areas. If a pilot sees something they think might be an outdoor marijuana grow operation, they are encouraged to jot down the location through a global positioning system and call Crime Stoppers anonymously.

Crime Stoppers cautions individuals to never approach a suspected marijuana crop in person. Doing so may be dangerous. Instead, individuals should contact Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS(8477) / [www.helpsolvecrime.com](http://www.helpsolvecrime.com) or call their local police service.

## Since our Last Bulletin

### Many Thanks!

Crime Stoppers supporters gathered together on April 15, 2009, at the Greens at Renton to celebrate the success of the program and thank those who were instrumental in bringing the program where it is today. Media, community and police partners were thanked for their vital support and several awards were handed out including the "Tom Stackhouse Memorial Award" (corporate sponsorship) which was given to Norfolk Mutual Insurance Company; the "Bill Courtnage Memorial Award" (civilian commitment) which was presented to Warren Burger; and the "Law Enforcement Recognition Award" which was given to Detective Constable Tammy Plummer. Congratulations and thank you to everyone for their outstanding support.

### Spring Gala a Huge Success

Crime Stoppers, in partnership with Erie Mutual Fire Insurance Company, held an extremely successful 8<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Gala in May. With 120 guests in attendance, the event raised close to \$12,000. Because Crime Stoppers is responsible for raising all the funds necessary to run the program, events like the gala are vital and all money raised is used in our local communities in the fight against crime. Thanks to Erie Mutual, auction donors, supporters, volunteers & sponsors for making the evening a great one.

### Crime Stoppers Speaks Up

Do you want to learn more about Crime Stoppers? If so, then give Crime Stoppers a call at 519-426-3434 ext 7452 to book your speaker. There is no fee for a Crime Stoppers speaker (although donations are gratefully accepted) & no group is too big or too small.

### **Crime Stoppers Receives Provincial Awards**

Crime Stoppers was recently recognized by the Ontario Association of Crime Stoppers with five more awards to add to its list of achievements.

Presented for the 2008 year (the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for HN&T), the program received the coveted "Marla Moon Memorial Award of Excellence" for over all achievement in its population category (100,001 – 300,000). This is the highest provincial award a program can achieve and is the sixth time the local program has been presented with it, proving that not only is Crime Stoppers of Haldimand, Norfolk and Tillsonburg one of the best crime fighting tools locally, but provincially as well.

Coordinators Constable Hal Brown and civilian Lisa Wies were also given the "Coordinator Achievement Award" for 2008. This award is presented to only one program each year and Brown and Wies received it jointly in honor of their dedication, integrity and commitment.

The program's website ([www.helpsolvecrime.com](http://www.helpsolvecrime.com)) also received the "Webpage design award." Designed by Caledonia's Jeff Cunningham of SlypigPro, the site not only educates people on Crime Stoppers, but also serves as the portal to the program's anonymous webtip program.

Two media partners were also presented with awards for their outstanding work in 2008. Rogers received a plaque for "television specials" for *City Watch* and the Lakeshore Shopper was recognized for their great "crime of the week." Congratulations to everyone!

## **Around the Corner....**

### **Golfing foore safer communities**

August 20, 2009, will mark the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Central Erie and Haldimand Insurance Brokers Associations Crime Stoppers Charity Golf Tournament and golfers from across the area will gather at the Greens at Renton to help make sure criminals end up in the "sandtrap." It's not too late to get your foursome registered. Call 519-426-3434 ext 7452 to book your spot. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Email Anyone?**

To be taken off our postage mailing list and be added to the Crime Stoppers email list and get your newsletter electronically, please beep us at [coordinators@helpsolvecrime.com](mailto:coordinators@helpsolvecrime.com).

### **Your Chance to Win Groceries and Gas!**

Keep your eyes peeled for Crime Stoppers' latest fundraiser which will be coming to a location near you. The event called "Grocery and Gas Giveaway," features your chance to win a grand prize of \$1000 in groceries along with three other draws totaling \$850 of either grocery or gas gift certificates. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 / \$5. Crime Stoppers will be visiting local grocery stores over the summer, so stop by, get your tickets & learn more about the crime fighting program. Call 519-426-3434 for more.

### **One Frightening Fundraiser**

October 28, 2009, has been set as the date for Crime Stoppers' annual Jail or Bail fundraiser at the Simcoe Town Centre. The event will have a Halloween theme and we hope to "rattle some bones" in the community by raising some "frightening funds." If you like to have fun and believe in "tricks or treats," then give us a call at 519-426-3434 ext 7451 to find out more.

## **Student News**

### **And the Winner Is?**

Two students were recently named as the recipients of the William Robert Courtnage Crime Stoppers Community Service Bursary. Ms. Krista Hall of Hagersville Secondary and Ms. Lisa Watson of McKinnon Park Secondary will each receive \$1000 to assist with post secondary studies. Congratulations ladies and thanks for your commitment to Crime Stoppers!

### **Pizza Served...With a Side of Thank You**

Crime Stoppers took an opportunity recently to thank students and teacher coordinators involved in local Student Crime Stoppers programs by hosting pizza parties at various high schools around the area during the last month of the year. The program wanted to show their appreciation for everything that everyone has done to make the Student Crime Stoppers so successful and wish everyone a great summer.

## **Final Thoughts....**

### **Stats Terrific!**

Since inception in 1988, Crime Stoppers of HN&T has worked hard with partners to achieve outstanding results. Take a peek:

Arrests	1785
Charges	5059
Narcotics Seized	\$34,241,886
Property Recovered	\$4,966,285