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Racing money for Crime Stoppers

By Chris Simon
 The ponies were racing and fighting crime at the same time.
 Crime Stoppers of Simcoe-Dufferin-Muskoka hosted a race night at Georgian Downs Saturday, with proceeds raised benefitting the organization's various crime fighting initiatives. And the night has already been hailed a success, with 99 tickets sold.
 Seven horse blankets were also sponsored by various groups, said Crime Stoppers' South Simcoe Committee director Barb Baguley.

Organizers hope to raise about \$2,600 through the event.
 "It was a sweet success," she said. "We sold out our dinner tickets, we had 99 people for dinner and seven races sponsored by clubs and companies."
 Blankets were bordered with the sponsoring company's name, and participants were invited into the winner's circle for a photograph with the winning horse, owner and jockey. Patrons were also treated to a buffet dinner, free racing program and a ticket for door prize draws.
 Crime Stoppers is a

registered, non-profit charitable organization that works with the police, media and residents to make local communities safe. The organization hosts several fundraising events throughout the year. However, this was the first race night hosted by Crime Stoppers at Georgian Downs, said Baguley.
 "We were very pleased with it, everybody seemed to have had a really good time," she said.
 The event was so well attended, the organization has already booked a similar race night for next year, said Baguley.



Photo by Chris Simon

Crime Stoppers of Simcoe-Dufferin-Muskoka held its first annual race night at Georgian Downs Saturday. Organizers hoped to raise about \$2,600 for the organization, which provides tips for various police services in the area.

Counterfeit currency used to buy merchandise

South Simcoe Police are searching for two suspects who passed two counterfeit \$100 bills at two businesses on Holland Street West in Bradford on April 22.

On each occasion, the suspects entered the store, bought merchandise with the counterfeit bill and received change in return. The bills were later discovered to be

fake.
 The first suspect is described as a man, about 40 years old, with grey and silver hair, and a thick black mustache. He was five-foot, nine-inches to six feet

tall. He was wearing a grey shirt, black pants and running shoes.
 The second suspect was a woman, about 22 years old, with blonde and brown hair. She was five-feet, two

inches to five-feet, five-inches in height. She was wearing a grey tank top and light coloured blue jeans.
 Anyone with information on this crime is asked to call

the police service at 436-2141 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. They can also leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com.

Crime Stoppers urges residents to leave tips online

We all have the right to live in a safe and crime-free community. Crime Stoppers is a program that allows residents to get involved in solving crime with no risk.
 All information is taken in confidence and is

completely anonymous.
 The Crime Stoppers program of Simcoe Dufferin Muskoka is encouraging residents to report information about any non-urgent illegal activity such as unsolved cases,

vandalism, theft, crimes against children or drug related offences. This information may be reported to Crime Stopper by calling their toll free number, 1-800-222-TIPS, or by accessing their website.

Tips for this program are now being accepted by going to www.sdm-crimestoppers.com, and clicking on "submit a tip online".
 Crime Stoppers goes to great lengths to protect the

anonymity of all residents who provide tips. Tips received are routed and encrypted through secure servers.
 Once the tip is submitted, a confidential tip code is provided to the resident,

which allows them to check on the status of their tip at a later date. This also allows Crime Stoppers to ask additional questions on the tip information that may help the investigation by police.

Tips lead to 19 cases cleared in region

During the month of April, Crime Stoppers of Simcoe-Dufferin-Muskoka received 194 calls. These calls assisted police in the clearance of 19 cases including armed robbery, break, enter and theft, theft motor vehicle, possession of stolen property, fraud and other Criminal Code and provincial statute offences.
 These investigations resulted in 12 arrests, 29

charges, the seizure of \$10,200 in drugs and the recovery of \$76,300 in property.
 Callers to Crime Stoppers never have to identify themselves and if the case proves to be successful, they are eligible for a cash reward. Anyone with information about a crime that has occurred is urged to call 1-800-222-8477.

Out of control teens scratch parent's vehicle

South Simcoe Police

Teen scratches parent's car
 On Sunday May 4, South Simcoe Police responded to a residence on Saint Paul Road in Innisfil regarding two children who were out of control. After becoming upset with the parent, one of the children scratched the entire side of their parent's vehicle. A 16-year-old girl has been charged with mischief under \$5,000.
Armed man not found
 On Friday May 2, police responded to a suspicious

person call on Colborne Street in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury.
 An anonymous caller reported seeing an armed man attend a residence. Police contained the area and closed Colborne for about 1.5 hours, including keeping students inside a nearby school, while police searched for the man. A residence on Colborne was searched by members of the Emergency Response Unit, and failed to locate any weapons.

The road was eventually re-opened to traffic after police were satisfied the area was safe.
Street racing law nabs another driver
 A 40-year-old Thornhill man is facing charges of street racing after he was stopped by police on Friday night.
 An officer was conducting radar enforcement on Victoria Street West in Stroud at about 10:30 p.m. and clocked the vehicle in his radar at a speed of 114 kilometres per hour in a 50 residential zone. The man's driver's licence was suspended and his vehicle

was seized by police for seven days. As of April 21st, 3,913 suspensions have been issued in Ontario since the new street racing law took effect on September 30, 2007. The new law allows for an immediate suspension and vehicle forfeiture for drivers stopped speeding in excess of 50 km/h over the limit.
Jeep taken from parking lot
 On Friday May 2, police were called to a business on the 8th Line of Bradford, after one of the employees reported his Jeep was stolen from the parking lot sometime between 6 and 8 p.m.