

Sad need met with red tape

BY JAMIE HARRISON

The Georgetown Gemini

The best of intentions met with the worst of bureaucracy in an attempt to help hungry Georgetown families.

Like a scene out of a Dickens novel, Colleen Brown's dream of opening a food bank to help the hungry citizens of Georgetown was very nearly thwarted when the region appeared to have several conflicting bylaws that hampered Brown's efforts to find a full-time home for the facility. Tired of getting the run around, she finally found it necessary to go to Queen's Park to get a definitive ruling as to the status of the food bank.

She is now in the process of finding a permanent home for Georgetown's Bread Basket and the hundreds of bags of groceries that now take up most of the space in the guest room of her family's home.

She is hoping to find a landlord willing to donate the space needed, but can pay up to \$500 a month including utilities. Brown said that she is able to write receipts for donated rental space. Donations are fully tax deductible.

Papers have been filed by Georgetown lawyer Mark Rush to incorporate Georgetown's Bread Basket, as well as applying for a registered



MEETING THE NEED! The Brown family has made helping others a family affair. The Georgetown family is currently looking for a facility to house their food stores to feed Georgetown's less fortunate. Back, from left: Anna Brown, 8, Emily Brown, 6. Colleen Brown, sits up front. (Jamie Harrison photo)

charity number. Rush has also completed a preliminary title search for the name.

"The mayor has been a very valuable ally," Brown said, referring to the help Marilyn Serjeantson has been able to lend.

Giving back to her community is something that hits close to home for Brown. A registered nurse by vocation, she found herself out of work last year, leaving her with limited options.

"One of the big questions I'm asked all the time is 'why do this?'"

"When I was 18 months old I was found deserted on the streets of Toronto. The police determined I had been there for six days. I was adopted through the CAS (Children's Aid Society) and raised like a princess. I chose to give something back," Brown said.

Also giving back to the community are a number of

local businesses. A&P has made skids of damaged but usable merchandise available. Standard Products made a sizable donation to help offset the cost of overhead such as phone bills.

A surprise donation came as a result of a private house party dubbed the "Wee Stock Festival." The party had 200 guests as well as a rock band. Attendees were asked to bring along a non-perishable food donation.

NEWS SHORTS

Unclaimed trailer burns

Police and fire fighters were called to the Fourth Line at 22 Side Road last Wednesday at midnight where a tent trailer was on fire. The trailer had been left on the side of the road and had one wheel missing. Police still do not know who owns the trailer. The fire caused about \$1,000 damage.

False alarm set

Unknown culprits broke the glass coverings on the emergency door handles at the Queen Street GO station last Sunday, shortly after midnight. Police responded to the alarm caused, but no one was left at the scene.

Three youths, aged 15 to 18, had been seen at the GO station prior to the police arriving.

Man threatened

A Normandy Blvd. resident returned home last Friday evening to be approached by a man holding a club. The resident was apparently threatened by the man. Police are looking for the suspect, described as male, 173 cm in height, weighing 73 kg. He has brown hair, green eyes and was driving a red Chrysler.

Pool damaged

Someone decided to throw an AM/FM radio and lawn furniture into a swimming pool in the backyard of a Flamingo Court home overnight between last Thursday and Friday. Damage caused to the property totaled \$170.

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