

YWCA looks to teddy bears to help raise \$2,000 next month

Georgetown resident Marilyn Mitton is out to show that "everybody can make a difference."

Ms. Mitton is collecting teddy bears for a silent auction to be held at the end of November to raise \$2,000 for the Young Women Christian Association.

The YWCA helps meet the needs of women, girls and families world-wide, Ms. Mitton says. The organization focuses its attention on helping people help themselves, leadership training and issues like health, the environment, human rights, refugees and peace.

This type of fundraising allows everyone to participate, either

through donations or bidding on a bear, she said.

Ms. Mitton is one of the 20 members of the World YWCA executive committee, who all made it their goal this past month to each come up with an idea to raise \$2,000 in a year's time, at the group's last meeting at its international headquarters in Geneva.

She said the executive felt it's important that if it expects people to contribute to its cause, it had to show its members also contribute.

The money raised, will go specifically to emergency aid, perhaps to help the earthquake victims in San Francisco and

Oakland, literacy training, primary education for refugee children and transition housing, said Ms. Mitton.

Ms. Mitton came up with the idea of holding a silent auction while on a recent trip to Halifax. She was walking down the street in Halifax when she saw a window display of teddy bears, that were being auctioned. The bears each came with a name corresponding to the individual or company that had donated the bear. A book accompanied the display in which people could make a bid, she said.

Ms. Mitton has been collecting bears for the past three weeks and so far has 37 bears.

"People have been incredibly generous. I have received bears from individuals, families and local businesses."

Pine Valley Farms in Georgetown is a good example of the town's generosity, she said. The company donated 12 bears at cost plus 12 per cent, said Ms. Mitton. Ms. Mitton said most companies have either donated the bears at cost or given them free, she said.

But Georgetown isn't the only place she received a favorable response. "When I was in Vermont I went into a gift shop and told them about the auction and they gave me a bear for a reduced cost."

Ms. Mitton said the bears come in a variety of sizes and colors.

Like the display Ms. Mitton saw in Halifax, the bears will be in store fronts each with the name of its donor. From Nov. 1-15 the bears will be displayed at the Main Street branch of Young's Pharmacy, from Nov. 16-22 they will be at Goliger's Travel and from Nov. 23-30 they will be at Georgetown Fabrics. At each location there will be a book in which people can bid on a bear. Each bear will have a minimum bid - equal to the cost price of the bear, Ms. Mitton said.

As an example of what other committee members are doing to raise funds, Ms. Mitton said one woman is giving speeches while another from Africa is selling native crafts.



Georgetown resident Marilyn Mitton, who sits on the World YWCA Executive Committee, is organizing a silent teddy bear auction to be held through the month of November in the hopes of raising \$2,000 for the group's international projects. (Herald photo)

Diabetes association seeks \$1,200 in November

By ALAN MACKIE
Herald Special

With the candy munching ghosts and ghouls of Halloween wandering the streets, the last thing anyone wants to think about is the next day's work, but that's when a campaign for the Canadian Diabetes Association will start.

Lisa Burrows is once again running the fundraising in Georgetown, and is looking for volunteers to help canvass door-to-door for one or two hours during the two-week campaign; not necessarily on the first of November.

November is Fight Diabetes Month and last year's efforts attained \$1,200 during the full month.

Although this year's campaign is only two weeks long, Ms. Burrows is hoping to raise more money. She feels the shorter campaign will stop a lot of people from putting off donating until the end of the month, and then forgetting to give.

Ms. Burrows also does not want to stretch the campaign. "I don't want it (the canvassing) to go into December because that's when people start thinking of Christmas," she said.

treats Ms. Steele recommends to diabetic children on Halloween. She also does not recommend sugary sweets to non-diabetic children because they are high in calories with no nutritional value. Ms. Steele added, "The choice is up to the parents and children."

Over one million Canadians are diabetic. This condition prevents the body from producing enough insulin to let sugar enter cells and be used as energy. It can be diagnosed by a simple blood test.

The symptoms include thirst, frequent urination, weight loss and lack of energy. If these symptoms are present for more than three or four days, it is recommended you see a doctor as soon as possible.

Blindness, kidney failure, heart disease and strokes are the complications that make diabetes the third leading cause of death by disease in Canada.

Ms. Burrows was diagnosed as diabetic five years ago, which probably accounts for her quick start in attaining 10 canvassers. "There are children out there that have to take injections and follow a strict diet just for survival," Ms. Burrows said adding that insulin is a control and not a cure.

Anybody wishing to donate or give one or two hours of their time to help diabetic research can call Lisa Burrows at 873-0375.

Diabetics must be careful at Halloween

The nutrition consultant for the Ontario Division of the Canadian Diabetic Association, Dianne Steele, said nutritionists spend hours counselling diabetic children and their parents on dealing with all the Halloween treats.

"Children with diabetes cannot eat sugary treats but they enjoy trick or treating, going to Halloween parties and dressing up; just like any other child," Ms. Steele said.

Ms. Steele recommends children with diabetes should avoid sugary treats. Individual packets of peanuts, sunflower seeds, potato chips, popcorn, pretzels, sugarless mints and sugarless gum are the

Town may sell 10 acres

the Town of Halton Hills could sell nearly 10 acres of land west of Acton to Blue Springs Development Ltd. for \$36,700.

A town report says 9.82 acres of rural land near First Line and Sideroad 27 were assessed at \$3,738 an acre.

Blue Springs Development recently gained approval for a golf course and subdivision in that area. The approval of the sale could be given at a town council meeting.

Classical guitarist inspired by Picasso

What color is a guitar? Trevor Burt, classical guitarist, and former folk singer, likes to talk about "The Blue Guitar." "The Blue Guitar" is the title of a concert Mr. Burt will give at the Halton Hills Cultural Centre, Georgetown, on Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m.

"The Blue Guitar" was inspired by a painting of Pablo Picasso's known as the "Old Guitarist." This painting was done during Picasso's "blue period." Mr. Burt believes that this painting vividly captures the poetry of the guitar as well as illustrates its soothing powers.

The program consists of popular classical guitar pieces and folk-inspired guitar music. For a portion of the program, the music will be enhanced by a series of slides. These slides will visually lead the audience into the music.

Mr. Burt holds an ARCT in guitar from the Royal Conservatory of Music. He plays extensively throughout Ontario in concert halls, libraries, art galleries and schools.

Mr. Burt has been described as "a master with his instrument" with "the ability of exuding his own personal warmth within the music."

Tickets for this unique musical experience will be \$5 at the door.

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