

Local church group helps out in the Dominican Republic

By **BRIAN DEBOER**

Georgetown Christian Reformed Church

A 15-member team from Georgetown Christian Reformed Church (GCRC) travelled to the Dominican Republic over the March Break to help build a school and to work with children in nearby Christian schools.

This mission team consisted of seven members of the GCRC Youth Group: Megan Adema, Marja DeBoer, Liny Lamberink, Rebecca Nightingale, Katie Roest, Amanda Van Helden, and Kristyn Zegers and adults, Brian and Natalia DeBoer, Jim Kortleve, Janet Leferink,

David and Ray Scheepstra, Cecil Simpson and Mike VanderVenne.

The makings of this trip, however, started months earlier with the team learning some basic Spanish, and of course, to learn to lay block from Martinus Otten. Also notable were the fundraising efforts, including a concert/dessert auction, a highly successful soup night, and the annual Christmas gift wrapping at the Georgetown Market Place—\$560 of the gift wrapping funds was donated to Cancer Assistance Services Halton Hills.

The construction component of this trip saw Dominicans and Ca-

nadians together passing blocks down a line. Our team found ways to communicate with the Spanish speaking workers, and by the time we were heading home the structure had really taken shape.

The youth mostly worked with the children near the church, but also went into two already constructed local schools. Our bilingual teammate who translated made the puppet show more interactive with young children asking the puppets questions.

This trip was a great experience to be able to work with the Dominicans to help facilitate projects they were already running.



Members of the GCRC prepare to leave for the Dominican Republic, from left, Janet Leferink, Cecil Simpson, Rebecca Nightingale, David Scheepstra, Mike VanderVenne, Katie Roest, Jim Kortlev, Ray Scheepstra, Kristyn Zegers, Brian DeBoer, Liny Lamberink, Marja DeBoer, Natalia DeBoer; Megan Adema, and Amanda VanHelden.

We were able to partner in building a school alongside those who would reap the rewards. And the puppet show and songs were able to feed into the Christian message

being conveyed by the teachers in those Christian schools.

We worked alongside the Dominicans to give a hand up, not a hand out.



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Annual Spring Compost Give Away
Halton Waste Management Site

Monday, May 10 to Saturday, May 15, 2010

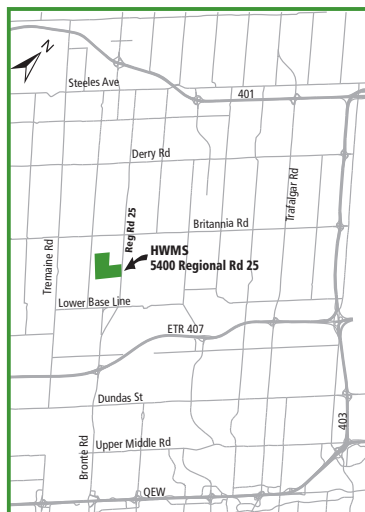
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thanks to the participation of Halton residents, approximately 33,000 tonnes of yard waste was collected last year and turned into rich, garden-friendly compost.

Halton residents are invited to come to the Compost Give Away and pick up some of this compost as a "thank you" for diverting this usable material away from the landfill, thereby extending its life!

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- Please bring your own bags/containers and shovel.
- Residents are responsible for shovelling and bagging their own compost.
- Non-perishable food items or cash donations will be gratefully accepted on behalf of Halton area food banks. Your donations make a difference!

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