

Campaign target is \$340,000

Continued from pg. 1

Recipients were STRIDE, Georgetown Bread Basket, North Halton Distress Centre, Girls Inc., Support and Housing Halton, Reach Out Centre for Kids (ROCK), St. John Ambulance, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Halton, Literacy North Halton, Acton Foodshare, Acclaim Health and Community Living North Halton. The agencies could ask for up to \$2,500 each for the one-time special funding. Ten of the agencies are currently funded annually from the United Way and the two food banks were invited to apply, said Janet Foster, United Way of Halton Hills Executive Director.

Foster said the United Way has a "strong pool of campaign volunteers who will be able to reach out to more local businesses for support this year."

"We would really like the business community to engage with us," said Foster.

The United Way does not campaign door-to-door. Residents should be on the look out for the direct mail brochure that will be mailed out soon.

"We recognize there are other campaigns going on right now in Halton Hills, but we're all in this for the betterment of our community," said Foster. "Our funding stays local for social service programs. A lot of times these programs allow people to stay in their homes longer."

Foster said the United Way has noticed approximately a 10 per cent increase per year in the number of people designating their dollars from their workplace contribution to the United Way of Halton Hills. She hopes that trend continues, as more and more residents who work out of town "Give Where you Live." Currently between 40 to 50 per cent of pledges to the United Way come through workplace pledges.

Residents who work out of town and want to donate back to their United Way have to ensure they fill out their pledge



United Way of Halton Hills board members Susan Ksiezopolski (left) and Inga Lavoie were on hand for the campaign kick off barbecue at Sobey's. Photo submitted

sheets properly, said Foster.

This year the United Way will be funding 20 agencies, up from 19 last year.

Some of the agencies are Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton, Literacy North Halton, Community Living North Halton, St. John Ambulance, and Links2Care.

"We have never been able to fulfill all the requests that come in from agencies," said Foster. "Demands get higher each year."

She stressed the agencies provide a valuable service to the community.

"It's been proven if a community has social programs for their local residents it's a healthier community."

An upcoming fundraiser for the United Way is the Holiday House Tour set for Saturday, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Five homes in Glen Williams and one in Georgetown's park district all decked out for holiday season will be on the tour.

Tickets are \$30 per person. Tickets include a luncheon at Knox Presbyterian Church where there will be a decorating demonstration and some vendors selling items for Christmas. Proceeds go to the campaign.

Tickets are available by calling the United Way office at 905-877-3066.

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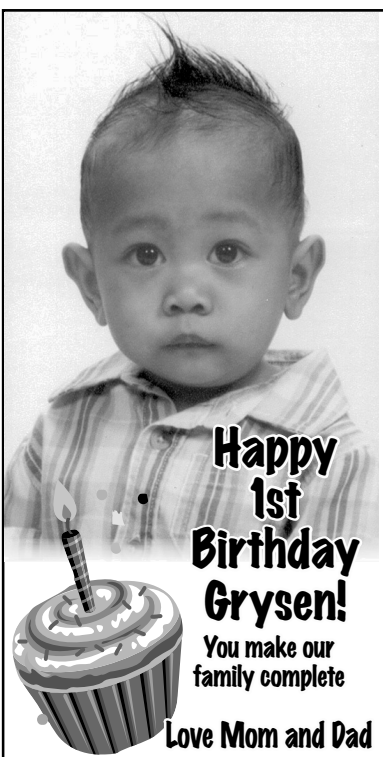
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