

## COMMUNITY

# Links2Care launches annual Backpack Program

Links2Care launched its sixth-annual Backpack Program campaign last week at the Georgetown Market Place mall and organizers hopes the amount of school supplies donated grows again this year.

Donations of backpacks and supplies can be made at the centre court of the Market Place until Aug. 15.

In the first year that the campaign was held, about 70 backpacks filled with school supplies were handed out and that number has grown to approximately 220, with student volunteers helping assemble the items customized for the various age groups, said Patty Colautti, co-ordinator of volunteers & meals program support for Links2Care.

The organization provides support to people experiencing difficulties who may have no other place to turn to or are unable to access services without assistance.

Families can apply to receive backpacks in time for the new school year by picking up registration forms at Links2Care's locations in Acton and Georgetown., as well as the Georgetown Bread Basket and the Acton Foodshare.

Links2Care's Georgetown office recently moved from its Armstrong Ave. address to 360 Guelph St. Unit 33 and its Acton office is located at



**Student volunteers helped get the collection started last week for the Links2Care of Halton Hills Backpack Program by placing school supplies into a bin at the Georgetown MarketPlace. From left are: Teddy Wroblewski, Ashley Beaumont, Alex Hilson, Corinna Wong, Alex Payton, Sara Arsenault.** Photo by Eamonn Maher

47 Mill St. E.

Colautti added that with having a prominent drop-off location at the Market Place for the first time this year, as well as recently acquiring additional storage space thanks to the generosity of the Georgetown Christian Reformed Church, she expects the Backpack Program to be the biggest yet.

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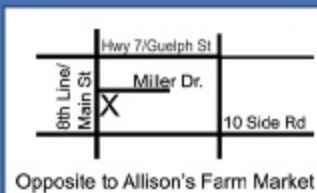
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