

Mayor's Bowl for Kids Sake Challenge returns

Mayor Rick Bonnette hosts an annual bowling tournament this year on Sunday, February 24, at Georgetown Bowl in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton (BBBSH) and their mentoring programs for local children.

The Mayor issues the following challenge: "As Mayor I will be bringing a team to show that we are 'really on the ball' and our team may be the one to beat. Why not get your friends and co-workers together, teams can be up to six people or better yet enter a number of teams. We welcome the competition. The real winners will be the little brothers and little sisters of Halton Hills".



Many people know that Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton matches volunteers with local children in one-to-one mentoring relationships, a bond that makes a lifelong impact on a child.

However, BBBSH offers other mentoring programs in the community. For instance 50 elementary school children benefited from attending the Homework Club after-school mentoring program for kids. The Homework Club is currently operating in three area schools in Halton Hills, one in Georgetown and two in Acton.

Proceeds from the Mayor Bonnette Bowl for Kids Sake event will stay within the Halton Hills boundaries and go directly to the mentoring programs for the children within the local community.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton is partially funded by the United Way of Halton Hills, but receives no on-going government funding.

To register your team, please call 905-339-2355 ext. 222 or register online at www.bbbshalton.ca and follow the Bowl for Kids Sake link.



Public Mobile opens in Georgetown

Public Mobile staffer Kamal Baig (left) and owner Sohail Khawaja show off their products during the recent opening of the new Georgetown store. It's located at 162 Guelph St. Public Mobile provides unlimited talk, text, Android data services and Siren music to value conscious customers in Ontario and Quebec. It's motto is "There are no contracts, no credit checks and no surprises." For details call 289-935-6060 or go to PublicMobile.ca

Photo by Ted Brown

Chamber names Employee of the Quarter

Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce recently named Cindy Kallmeyer of Paul Armstrong Insurance as Employee of the Quarter. From left, Chamber representative Wendy Farrow Reed and Chamber president Glen MacDonald presented Kallmeyer with her award, as she was joined by Paul Armstrong, Jody Jackson and Amanda Armstrong Rogers.



Photo by Ted Brown

Brampton firm rallies around employee, donates to \$8,308 to CAS-hh

Last year, when Jennifer Parsons, 49, a client services representative with Brampton-based IT Weapons Inc. received a stage 3 colon cancer diagnosis, she was devastated.

Parsons returned to work in November last year after her oncologist declared her cancer-free.

Soon after, some 65 employees of IT Weapons Inc., got into the spirit of charity and raised more than \$4,000. When company founders Jason MacBean and Ted Garner heard of the fundraising, they offered to match amount and asked Parsons to decide a beneficiary.

She chose Georgetown-based Cancer Assistance Services-Halton Hills (CASHh), a community organization, offering support and hope to cancer patients and their families. The agency helped Parsons by offering her access to free relaxation therapy programs, transportation services to and from the hospital and reimbursing her for parking expenses she accrued at the hospital.

Early this week, Parsons and others



Through the generosity of IT Weapons Inc. of Brampton, Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills (CASHh) received a donation of \$8,308. The staff and company start a fundraising program in October of every year and by the end of the year select a cancer related charity to receive the funds—half raised by the staff and matched by the company. CASHh was chosen on the suggestion of IT Weapons Inc. employee Jennifer Parson, who was a client with CASHh. On hand to make the presentation were (from left) CASHh representatives Bill and Margaret Lorrinan, and executive director Sheila Smith, and IT Weapons Inc. representatives Jennifer Parsons, President and Chief Architect Jason MacBean and CEO Ted Garner.

Photo by Ted Brown

from the company, presented a cheque for \$8,308 to CASHh.

"I learned, when you're diagnosed with cancer, it doesn't mean you are go-

ing to die," said Parsons. "But, when you're dealing with it, you feel as though you are on some kind of deserted island. You could talk to a billion people but you still feel so isolated. I took advantage of CASHh's relaxation therapy programs. They offered me tremendous support. A volunteer would call me every week to find out how I was doing and if I wanted to talk about anything. These people know what you're going through..."

Over the years, employees of IT Weapons Inc., have successfully raised money with several team-driven fundraising events during holidays, explained Jeremy MacBean, director, business development.

"Acting on our core values is really important to our entire team," he said. "We've been pretty successful and it's important to support grassroots organizations who need it. This year was extra special because with Jennifer beating cancer, it was close to us."

For more information visit www.it-weapons.com.