

Georgetown Lions' Santa Claus Parade needs at least 30 volunteers

By Kathryn Boyle
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The Georgetown Santa Claus Parade has been an annual hit for over 80 years, thanks to the help of local volunteers.

But every year, the Georgetown Lions Club, which hosts the annual parade, is finding it harder and harder to get people to lend a helping hand.

Lion Louie Violo, chair of the event, said in past years, Halton Regional Police have

volunteered officers to stand with barricades at major intersections. But this year, no one could be made available to do the job.

"In the past, they've supplied auxiliary officers for no charge to man some of the barricades at the main intersections, but that's not going to be the case this year," Violo explained. "They just don't have the staff."

Organizers are looking for 25-30 people to man the barricades during the event. If no one is able, the parade will continue, but with a slight safety risk.

"If we don't get them, we have to take our chances with the barricades being there on their own," Violo said. "We need people there to help keep the traffic flowing."

The parade is taking place Nov. 21 at 5 p.m. and will take its usual route from the corner of Guelph St. and Sinclair Ave., down Guelph St. to Mill St., through the downtown to Charles St., then arriving at Park Ave. and concluding

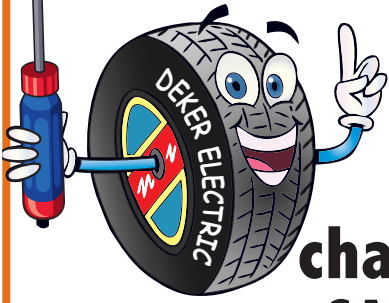

ing at the Fairgrounds.

There are currently 65 floats confirmed for the *Miracle On Guelph Street*-themed parade and Violo estimates as many as 80 will attend the event.

"It's getting bigger and bigger every year," Violo said. "Obviously requiring more and more help each year."

If anyone is interested in volunteering for the event, please contact Violo at louie@powerquestelectric.ca or Kevin Robinson at kevinrobinson38@sympatico.ca.

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Georgetown Lions Club has been organizing a nighttime parade for several years. This year's parade is set for Nov. 21.

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