

CROSSING GUARD'S CAREER HAS SPANNED 35 YEARS

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With school almost out for the summer, the Town of Halton Hills celebrated a vital group of volunteers that any student who walks to school sees on a daily basis: their crossing guard.

For 35 years, Angie Lamoureux has been a crossing guard in Glen Williams.

"I never had any trouble with any of the kids, and the parents are so nice," Lamoureux said.

Years ago, around the holidays, children would bring her gifts.

"My car would be full of presents," she said.

Now, Lamoureux said some of the children she

helps across the street five days a week aren't just their children, but their children's children.

"I love it," Lamoureux said. "I love all the children, they're my neighbours' children."

Lamoureux wasn't the only longtime guard, many had volunteered for more than a decade, though several were just completing their first year as a crossing guard.

Crossing Guard Appreciation Day is now in its 15th year, started to show appreciation for the adults who ensure children safely make their way to school each morning and home each afternoon.

"They're the first people our children come into contact with during the

day," Peter de Rosa, Catholic board trustee for the Halton District School Board, said.

The annual event was originally proposed by Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette.

"They are a part of our community," Bonnette said. "It's something they appreciate and we all appreciate crossing guards."

In January, after a particularly cold snap, Bonnette said, the volunteers were gathered to be thanked as well.

"We can't take them for granted, they have a fundamental duty of getting the kids across even in inclement weather," Bonnette said. "They're our ambassadors, they know the kids by name."

MCHAPPY DAY FUNDS FOR HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

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Babies born at the Georgetown Hospital will be a little warmer, thanks to funds raised in Halton Hills during McHappy

Day.

Casey and Tim O'Connor, who own the McDonald's in Georgetown and Acton, recently presented the Georgetown Hospital Foundation with almost \$6,000 from the May 8 day-long fundraiser.

The local hospital will use the donation to purchase a Panda Warmer incubator, which provides state-of-the-art thermo-regulation for babies.

On McHappy Day, \$1 from every Big Mac, Happy Meal or hot McCafé beverage sold in Halton Hills goes to support Ronald McDonald House Children's Charities (Toronto house) and the Georgetown Hospital, with the funds being divided 50/50.

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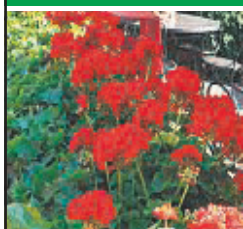
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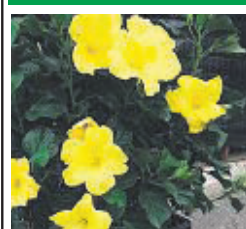
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