

A VITAL LESSON, NOW MORE THAN EVER

EDUCATING YOUTH ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, WRITES CARM BOZZO



CARM BOZZO
Column

School's in ... in some way, shape or form.

For our public education team, they are continuing to reach out to students and youth from Grades 1 to 12 to teach them about healthy relationships.

The need to continue the conversation about healthy relationships, consent, bullying and dating violence is even more prevalent now, as children and teens are more isolated than ever before.

This pandemic has and can continue to create situations of being stuck at home with an abusive parent and/or stuck in an unhealthy, controlling and abusive relationship.

Here are some ways our public education team is working with youth through COVID-19;

- Adapting their presentation modes of delivery, for example, live virtual via Google Meet or pre-recorded presentations via a safe YouTube link. In fact, within a few days of launching these options, they have received 55-plus live virtual bookings from both elementary and secondary schools.

- Launching virtual

youth volunteer opportunities for students, as volunteer opportunities are now limited with COVID-19.

- Youth podcast contributions — students can volunteer to be a regular contributor to our newly launched 'The Youth Pod by Halton Women's Place'— a great opportunity to gain volunteer hours and great experience to put on their resume!

- Social media ambassador opportunities — The team will be soon launching a Youth Ambassador Program, where students can gain volunteer hours by using their social media platforms to educate and increase awareness about healthy relationships for their peers. This will be a great opportunity to become a part of a great cause, and use their voice and platforms for positive change.

Whether in a regular classroom setting or not, the focus to reach youth to educate them on keeping safe at home or in their relationships is key in preventing violence against women.

We at Halton Women's Place believe the only way we are going to end abuse towards women is by continuous conversations with youth of all ages.

If you are a youth that is interested in getting involved in any of the above activities, email Jerusha at jmack@haltonwomensplace.com.

If you are interested in investing in our Public Education Program, please email cbozzo@haltonwomensplace.com.

Carm Bozzo is the manager of development and communications for Halton Women's Place. She can be reached at cbozzo@haltonwomensplace.com.

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SNAPSHOT



Tony Fortunato photo

A cardinal and sparrow meet at a bird feeder in a Georgetown backyard. Do you have a great local photo you'd like to share? Send it to sleblanc@metroland.com, along with a brief description.

COVID-19 CHAOS DISCONNECTED FROM STOCK MARKET PERFORMANCE



PETER WATSON
Column

S&P 500 Index performance in 2020 seems disconnected to the damaging impact COVID-19 has had on the economy.

Early in the year, COVID-19 spread around the globe, accelerating change in many areas of the world economy.

Millions lost their jobs. Forbes reported many significant organizations went out of business, while others faced financial dam-

age so severe that their survival was questionable.

Add in the health consequences, plus the psychological impact on people, and this year has been a disaster. Logic would suggest the stock market would reflect the pain.

Not so.

According to the Economist, the U.S. stock market as measured by the S&P 500 index reached a record high Feb. 19. In less than five weeks, the index fell 33 per cent.

Based on the severity of COVID-19, that significant decline could seem reasonable. Then, on March 24, the S&P 500 Index rebounded 17 per cent over a three-day period.

By Aug. 18, the S&P 500 Index had fully recovered previous losses and gone

on to set a new high.

Why is there the potential that the stock market will perform better than you might imagine, given the chaos the pandemic has created?

The answer is simple. The value of stocks represents the aggregate opinions of millions of investors around the world.

Those investors voluntarily agree to accept a price to purchase or sell a stock at a specific point in time. Consider that capitalistic democracy.

Peter Watson, of Watson Investments MBA, CFP®, R.F.P., CIM®, FCSI offers a weekly financial planning column, 'Dollars & Sense'. He can be contacted through www.watsoninvestments.com.

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