

# The United Way — More than a century of giving

As the United Way's major fundraising campaign of 1992 draws to a close, it's perhaps time to reflect just how far this charitable organization has come.

The United Way of Halton Hills, like its counterparts in towns and cities all across Canada, is not a single charity. Rather, it's a federation of charities which raises money in one campaign each year to fund a wide range of services for the community it serves.

Its roots date back to more than a century ago where in cities, towns and villages all over Canada and the United States there emerged groups of citizens who banded to-

gether to organize fundraising drives which would help the less fortunate members of their communities. By the late 1800s, these various charities had swelled in number as the social problems of urbanization, industrialization and mobility grew.

With the proliferation of the independent campaigns, the agencies soon found themselves competing for funds. It was clear that something had to be done to reduce the number of charities.

The impetus for change originated in 1887 when the Denver, Colorado Charity Organization Society raised more than \$21,000.

While the money was significant, so was the fact that this was the first federated campaign in North America. The one-campaign-for-all concept gradually took hold as the benefits became apparent. Agencies who participated in this unique fundraising campaign experienced more stable financing and it wasn't long before the federated campaign became viewed as not only a more rational approach to seeking funds, but also a more systematic way of dividing the funds.

Based on the growth of the federated campaigns in the U.S., similar campaigns sprang up in Canada, and in 1917 the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies was formed in Montreal and Toronto.

By 1918, the Toronto Federation for Community Services was born, with other federations soon following suit in cities throughout the country.

At the outset of World War II, a national body was established in Canada known then as the Central

Committee of the Chests and Councils. Some three years later, this Committee joined with and became a division of the Canadian Welfare Council. A name change was again in order and the organization, which had adopted the symbol of a red feather, became the Community Chests and Councils of Canada. In 1950, 65 campaigns raised approximately 16 million dollars — the equivalent of one dollar per Canadian!

Over the years, the organization became firmly embedded in communities throughout the country. To reflect the changing face of Canada, the name "United Way/Centraide Canada" emerged.

Today, the United Way which is appropriately symbolized by its "Helping Hands" logo provides literally thousands of services and programs to Canadians.

In Halton Hills, the United Way organization has been actively serving residents since its founding in 1986. The driving force behind the creation of a local agency was a

number of members of the Georgetown branch of the Canadian Red Cross. Thanks to their efforts and enthusiasm, six years later well over half of Halton Hills' population are using one or more United Way agencies. From the Red Cross, Acton Social Services and Information Centre (ASSIC), Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Georgetown Parent-Child Centre to the Halton Down Syndrome Association, Literacy Guild and Open Door Youth Centre, the United Way helps support 23 agencies.

This year's United Way fundraising goal of \$200,000 is achievable only through the support of people like you. Whether you donated through payroll deductions or at the door, your gift is needed more than ever before.

The United Way is truly the Way to help the most. Help keep the tradition of giving and sharing alive! For more information, contact the United Way of Halton Hills at 877-3066.

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28 Mill St. E., Acton 853-3754

## Acton cat breeders have international clientele

Mr. and Mrs. Turner, who live on Longfield Road, have been breeding Balinese cats for 11 years, selectively breeding and showing their cats in many towns in Canada.

The Turners said they often hear the question, "so what's a Balinese?" The Balinese breed is a mutation from the Siamese breed, the coat is much softer and when you touch it, it feels like duck down, the tail is plumed and mostly held on high. Another advantage is a softer voice.

The breed evolved from the Siamese when pioneer breeders noticed that there were kittens with

longer coats than usual in some of their litters. They began breeding these longer coated cats together and after a few years of careful breeding, the Balinese became the beautiful cat that it is today.

The breed has been in existence for over 25 years, but there are still not many in the world. The Turners sent two kittens to South Africa, to a breeder in Johannesburg and both of these cats have done very well.

Balinese can be bred in all the same colour points as the short coated Siamese and the coat on the Balinese does not need to be groomed, it lies flat to the body and does not have the woolly undercoat like the long coated Persians or Himalayans. Therefore it is tangle free and does not shed.

There are also other Balinese in Acton, they belong to Mr. and Mrs. Keith and Mr. and Mrs. Lichty. These neutered males were from the Turners breeding and are now being shown by their adopted own-

ers in Canadian Cat Association Shows, mostly in Ontario. Both cats have been placed in the top 10 at shows and have done very well.

The Turners the Keiths are members of a cat club called "No Name Cat Club." The club is organizing the first cat show to be held in Milton. The show is being held on Saturday, Nov. 21 and Sunday, Nov. 22 at the Bishop Reding R.C. School, 1600 Main Street, Milton.

There will be up to 200 cats on show from 35 different breeds. Cats from U.S.A., Quebec, Nova Scotia and many other places in Canada will be participating.

During the two day show, regularly scheduled events will take place in the educational ring including breed and genetic seminars, grooming demonstrations, health and nutritional information.

The hall is open to the public from 10 am to 5 pm each day. Price of admission is adults-\$3, children-\$2, seniors-\$2, family-\$8.

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## SENIOR'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thursday, Nov. 24

at 6 pm

Sponsored by the Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Branch 197 and the Acton Rotary Club



- ENTERTAINMENT -

Please call any rotary member or 853-5062 if you need a ride to this fun Christmas event.