

ence in our community

GDHS Rebels show their volunteer spirit

At Georgetown District High School, the Rebel Ambassadors are a new group dedicated to promoting volunteerism and community spirit among high school students. Mavis O'Neil, head of guidance at GDHS, started the Ambassadors this year as a pilot project with teachers Donna Metcalfe and Diana Wallbridge.

O'Neil describes the group of about 20 senior students as a "real cross-section of the school" made up of concerned, community-minded students. Wallbridge says the students are involved for personal development reasons, as well as to learn skills outside the classroom setting.

"We hope the community sees a more positive side of youth," says Metcalfe. "By getting kids in school involved, we hope some of the quieter kids will take a leadership role."

The Ambassadors first showed their leadership skills on Grade 8 parents night, where they acted as tour guides for the parents and future students.

Courtney Bell, a Grade 12 student decided to join the Rebel Ambassadors because "I thought it would be good to help the school and the community. To have a positive influence." Bell hopes to change negative stereotypes about teenagers by "being a good example, and pointing out the good things students do."

Finding out who at GDHS is volunteering is the Rebel Ambassadors' current project. A survey was sent around to all classes, asking students whether or not they volunteered. The Ambassadors will be reviewing these surveys, and plans are underway to make a brick Wall of Fame, recognizing each student who volunteers.



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Barker, 873-0111 ext.

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Hospital Volunteer
vided service to
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Volunteers help out at the Information Desk, the gift shop and tuck cart. Fund-raisers include a poinsettia sale, annual Christmas Dinner and Dance and a spring flower sale. Volunteers are always needed. Contact: Dorothy Bodnar, 873-0111 ext. 250.

Halton Adolescent Support Services

Volunteers are needed for fund-raising, committees and special events. Upcoming fund-raiser: Burlington's Largest Garage Sale, June 12, 8 a.m.-noon at Central Arena in Burlington. \$1 admission. Tables are available to rent for \$30, \$10 each additional table. Contact: Ugo Filice, (905) 639-0025.

Halton Hills Community Support and Information

Volunteers to HHCSI are an invaluable resource, governing the agency as members of the board of directors, delivering meals, assisting at children's

programs, sitting on advisory committees for youth, children and seniors, and visiting and making calls to community members. Volunteer opportunities are available for reception and office work, fund-raising, programs and committees. Contact: Cathy, (519) 853-3310 or Sue, 873-6502.

Multiple Sclerosis Society, Halton chapter

Our program empowers volunteers to make a difference. We have many positions geared to various time constraints and volunteer interests. Fund-raising events include the Supercities Walk, Carnation Campaign, Mini-Putt, Rotary Playhouse and a golf tournament. Contact volunteer director Joan Gallagher, (905) 681-8770 or 1-800-211-8322.

North Halton Distress and Information Centre

Training is provided in spring and

fall for the crisis intervention line. The Centre offers bereavement support, information and referrals. Fund-raising efforts include a garage sale May 29, and a tea tent and mini golf at the Highland Games. Contact: Judith Rasanen, 877-1211.

VON, Halton branch

Friendly Visitor and Special Steps volunteers visit seniors on a one-to-one basis, offering friendship and support. Practical assistance and emotional support is provided by hospice volunteers to individuals with life threatening illnesses in their homes. Alzheimer Services volunteers assist staff with the Day Program, information and support groups. Contact: Polly Griesbach, (905) 827-8800 ext. 2313.

Wastewise

Wastewise is a community-based reuse and recycling centre. Contact: Debbie Smart, (905) 877-8122.

THE RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

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The Independent & Free Press

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