

# Student-written book on historical walking tour is selling well

The focus of school is usually progress and moving forward. But students at Park Public School this year took a step backward for a unique project that made



Park school students (clockwise from front right) Travis Graham-Smith, Kassie Greeley, Brittany Westlake, Rachelle Harris and Tayler Rozon stand along one of the walking tour routes featured in their book.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

the 42 Grade 5 students published authors.

The class has produced *Walking Backwards: Historical Walking Tours of Georgetown*, a 41-page book with four separate walking tours of the town.

The project got rolling as a class study on ancient civilization. To better understand other civilizations, the class took a look at their own. The class documented the town's history through their own walking tours, newspaper clippings and a meeting and story telling session with some long-time residents.

As the information was compiled, Park teacher Marg Davies started to think that it would be a shame not to share the information. In late April, the class decided to produce a book.

"There are so many wonderful stories," Davies said. "For people who are new to the town it's a great way to learn about the community."

With a parent, Dave Wright of Gemini Print Management Systems, donating the printing, the school had 1,000 copies printed. And so far, the book has been well received.

"I don't think a day passes that someone doesn't make a comment about the book," said Marg Davies. "Everyone is so impressed with what the kids have done."

The book, which costs \$5, is selling well with more than \$1,500 raised so far. The class made an initial donation of \$1,200 to the Georgetown hospital and will continue to donate the proceeds.

And the book has sparked memories among other residents. Davies said many people have approached her regarding stories of other buildings and plans for a second edition are being made.

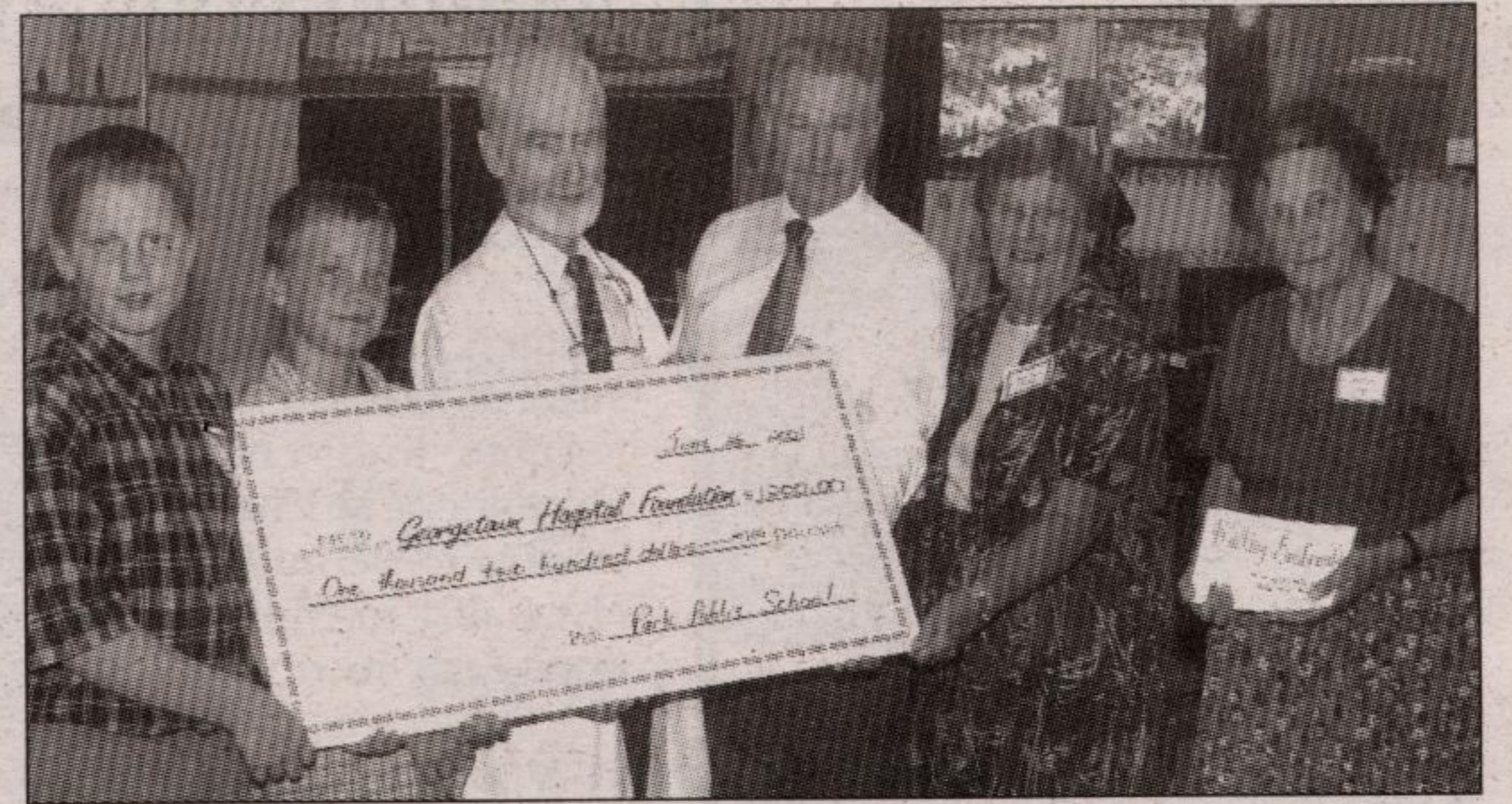
"We've had a lot of favorable comments and contacts who want to tell the kids their

stories," Davies said.

The book is on sale at Freckled Lion, Cache, Foodstuffs, Cakes of Elegance, Party Balloons etc, Young's Pharm-

acy, Merdeka, Artisan's Attic, McMaster's Meats, Cafe Soleil and Creature Comforts.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



Students at Park School recently presented Georgetown Hospital Foundation with a cheque for \$1,200 from the sales of their book. The donation will go toward the purchase of an ultrasound machine. Taking part, from left, Park School students Christian Burrows, Chris Wright, William Osler Health Centre—Georgetown Campus manager of Diagnostic Imaging Sean Donnelly, Georgetown Hospital Foundation president Paul Armstrong, and local contributing seniors Nora Williams and Dr. Esmee Ball. Photo by Ted Brown

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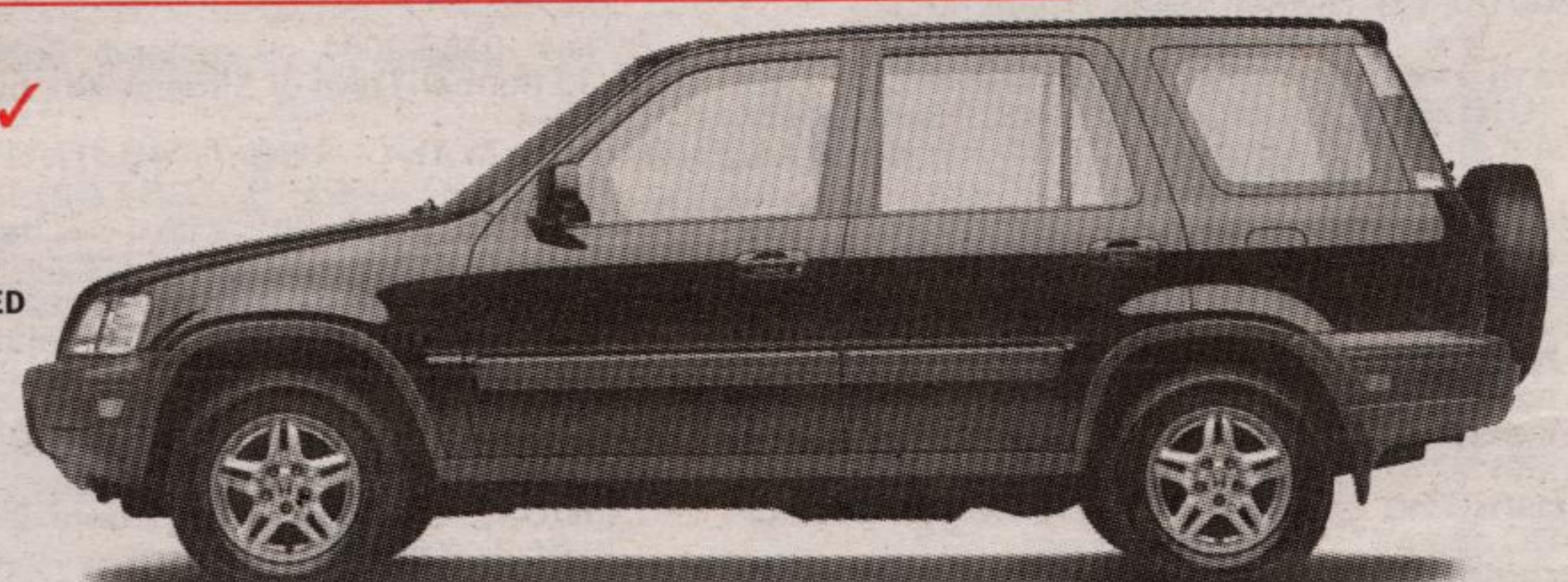
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