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United Way eyes \$300,000 for 2003-2004 campaign goal

The United Way of Halton Hills has set a goal of \$300,000 again this year, after not reaching that target in last year's campaign.

United Way executive director Brenda Smith said the 2002/2003 campaign brought in about \$255,000 and as a result "our agencies didn't get an increase this year."

The kickoff for the 2003-2004 campaign is set for tonight (Friday) at the President's Ball at

Fair investigation leads to more charges

Halton Police have charged two additional area youths in connection with an incident in which police and youth clashed at Georgetown Fall Fair earlier this month.

Five Halton Hills youths were charged in the incident earlier, and after further investigation police charged a 17-year-old youth with assault with a weapon (rocks and fence boards), cause disturbance and obstruct police, and a 16-year-old with assault with a weapon (bottle, rocks, fence posts) and causing a disturbance.

The two are to appear in Burlington court next month.

North Halton Golf and Country Club, and Halton Hills residents should look for the United Way direct mail brochure in Wednesday's (Sept. 24) *Independent & Free Press*.

Like last year, the brochure includes a donation form and envelope all in one. All residents have to do is make their donation, fold back the pledge form, tape it shut and mail it in.

Chair of the campaign this year is Norm Paget, president of Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce and a local real estate agent.

"Norm's business and community background will be of great assistance in heading up the United Way of Halton Hills 2003 campaign," said Brian Clark, president of Halton Hills United Way. "Together with the commitment of our volunteers, the support of our community and Norm's expertise, we intend to have the most prosperous United Way of Halton Hills campaign to date."

Marilyn Serjeantson, a communications and community events planner who works part-time for Halton Hills United Way thanks to a Trillium grant, said the shortfall in last year's campaign is because many people who work out of town did not designate their contributions back to the United Way of Halton Hills.

Further evidence of that is the fact that many other GTA United Ways exceeded their goals.

Serjeantson stressed that she knows most people do give to the United Way but "they need to designate back to make it come to Halton Hills."

"One in three in Ontario are affected in some way by these (United Way supported) agencies," said Serjeantson. "They're all worthwhile agencies."

The United Way of Halton Hills funds many local charitable agencies and helps more than 15,000 Halton Hills residents. Agencies supported include:

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Shall we dance?

United Way of Halton Hills campaign chair Norm Paget sizes up a prospective dance partner in Young's Pharmacy window in preparation for tonight's President's Ball at North Halton Golf and Country Club. The 2003-2004 United Way campaign kicks off at the Ball. Young's was helping to promote the dance with a window display. Photo by Ted Brown

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