

Town has a good group of kids

This week is Youth Week, so I would like to take the time to say a few words about youth in our community. I would also like to mention the fact that I am qualified to talk about youth because two of them live in my house, and I am a former youth myself!

Youth Week is an international celebration of young people working to create a positive environment in communities. It has been celebrated in Canada for 10 years now. The Mayor's Youth Action Committee in Halton Hills has planned a number of events for this week. They organized and held a coffee house at Silvercreek Coffee Shop last Sunday; they held a Youth Recognition Awards Night yesterday (Thursday) and also sponsored an art competition. These kids are learning how to hold meetings, plan and run events, and to be part of the community. They are also learning that it is a good thing to be involved.

I have a list in my office that a youth-friendly organization put together and it outlines 150 things that you can do to show a kid that you care. I won't give you all, but here are a few of my favourites:

Be nice, listen to their stories, feed them when they're hungry, suggest better behaviours when they act out, tell them how terrific they are, catch them doing something right, ask for their opinion, have fun together, hug them, let them solve most of their own problems, praise more; criticize less, applaud their successes, deal with problems and conflicts while they're still small, delight in their successes, and love them no matter what. That's

911/
411



Const. Laurel Barnett

just 10; there are lots more.

We have a great group of young people in Halton Hills. We also have many, many adults who support them and assist them to build their assets, make them feel valued and to become the leaders of tomorrow.

High school students need 40 hours of community service to graduate from high school so if you are an adult in town and can provide an opportunity to a student, let the high schools know. Our service needs student volunteers to help with special events that we run, so if you are a student and need some community service hours, contact me and I will put you on my list.

The Who said, *The Kids are Alright*, but I think they're great!

If you would like more information about this or other police issues, contact me at 905-878-5511 ext 2120 or laurel.barnett@hrps.on.ca

—Const. Laurel Barnett is the community support officer for 1 Division



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Would you like to have a say in the future of your library?
By taking part in a New Residents' Focus Group, you will:

- Learn about your library
- Help direct your library's future
- Communicate your needs
- Participate in your community

Georgetown

Tues, May 18th

7:00 pm

Georgetown Branch

Cultural Meeting Room

Acton

Mon, May 31st

7:00 pm

Acton Branch

Program Room

To participate in a focus group or for more information call the Halton Hills Public Library at **905.873.2681 x2501**

Safety is Child's Play

Protect your child from dangerous situations on the playground by following these safety tips:

- Always supervise children at the playground.
- Make sure children are playing with age-appropriate equipment.
- Ensure that a soft surface surrounds all playground equipment to cushion potential falls.
- Check all equipment to make sure it is firmly anchored and functioning properly.