

# Mother of hit and run victim 'amazed' by outpouring of community support

**LISA TALLYN**  
Staff Writer

The mother of the young woman hit while riding her bike on the sidewalk on Guelph St. May 19, is overwhelmed by the community support for her daughter since a story on her plight appeared in *The Independent & Free Press*.

"I am amazed by the citizens of Georgetown," says Heather Eagleson. "I think it's wonderful."

After the story was published last Wednesday on the hit and run accident at Normandy Blvd. and Guelph St. that left her 19-year-old daughter Nancy Houle in hospital with serious injuries including a broken hip, Eagleson says they have received several offers of walkers, other equipment and financial assistance.

They have accepted the donation of a walker and wheelchair.

She says strangers have been coming to her daughter's hospital room to drop off cards containing money or deliver flowers.

"I would love to thank everyone who has been involved and offered to help, and the police for the hard work they have been doing in the investigation. Also, a special thank you to the managers, Janice and Vicky, at Tim Hortons, and all the Tim Hortons staff for their amazing help and support," says Eagleson.

Houle's supervisor at Tim Hortons on Mountainview Rd., Janice Van-

alphen, has been collecting monetary donations for the mother and daughter and is grateful for the support already shown by local businesses Petro Canada, McDonalds Restaurant and The Real Canadian Superstore.

She has set up an account in the names of Heather Eagleson and Nancy Houle at Bank of Montreal in Georgetown Market Place.

Anyone interested in making a donation can do so to account # 3073-048. The transit number is 23032.

Monetary donations for the family are also being collected in a jar at Creative Reflections Salon, 318 Guelph St.

"She's (Nancy's) very appreciative," says Eagleson. "She wants to thank everyone for the help. The support is really doing wonders for her and the fact the Georgetown citizens have been so caring and understanding, she feels like part of this community."

Eagleson says she was pleased to learn recently that she was mistaken earlier about physiotherapy coverage while her daughter is in hospital. She says she thought they had to pay for the physiotherapy sessions, but she has since been told that service is covered by OHIP.

She says her daughter continues to recuperate in Georgetown Hospital and is making progress, although the



**NANCY HOULE**

physiotherapy is challenging for her and resulting in some pain.

Eagleson says she may be able to go home in a couple of weeks.

Halton Police continue to investigate the accident that occurred shortly after 11 p.m. Friday, May 19.

Halton Police Sgt. Trevor Hay says residents of Normandy Blvd., the street police believe the vehicle that struck Houle was turning onto, have been left a survey form asking them if they have any information on the accident or are familiar with the vehicle police believe was involved.

Based on witness information, police are looking for a large burgundy or red pickup truck that was seen driving erratically in the area around the time Houle was hit.

The vehicle was possibly a Ford F-150 pickup truck with a two-door extended cab with small rear "wing" rear doors, silver rocker panels and tinted windows.

The truck could have damage to the front end, likely near the lower portion of the bumper and on the undercarriage.

Hay is asking anyone with information to contact police as, "we don't have a lot to go on."

Anyone with information is asked to call Det. Const. Richard Solecki of the Regional Traffic Bureau at 905-878-5511 ext. 5108 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

(Lisa Tallyn can be reached at ltallyn@independentfreepress.com)

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