

Volunteers are 'the heart of the community'

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I learn about myself and my community."

Boyce noted as someone who met many volunteers when she was recovering from a stroke at age nine, she knows the importance of volunteers.

Several local politicians were also in attendance and shared their thoughts on volunteering, like Burlington MPP Joyce

Savoline, the former Halton chair.

"To me, volunteering is the life and breath of the community," she said. "It's the heart of the community."

She noted that volunteering helps build a more cohesive community and even reduces the burden on government spending.

"The job you (volunteers) do is an ongoing

important job," she said. "Without you, we can't do our job."

Oakville MPP Kevin Flynn spoke about how volunteering fits in with people's desire to look out for one another, noting it also "really makes us feel good."

United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton CEO Darrel Skidmore emphasized there's a need to expand the number of volunteers in the region.

"It's becoming clear that agencies are relying more and more on a core group of volunteers," he said.

Halton is home to approximately 2,000 community organizations that make up its non-profit and voluntary sector.

The *Volunteer and... Feel the Magic* campaign forms a partnership between

the region and Employment Ontario, Volunteer Halton, the Halton Association of Volunteer Administrators and the United Ways of Burlington and Greater Hamilton, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville.

Those interested in volunteering but don't know where to begin can contact Volunteer Halton at 905-632-1975 or visit www.volunteerhalton.ca.

Local residents can also call 211, a free community information and referral service provided by the region that includes a listing of organizations looking for volunteers.

For more information on the campaign, including how to become involved, visit www.halton.ca/scs.



Stroke survivor, and active volunteer, Lauren Boyce recently addressed the students at Park Public School telling them about her challenges after having a stroke at age 9, and her fundraiser walk for the Erin Oaks Rehab Centre. Following her presentation, Park Parents Association gave her a donation to the Erin Oaks cause.

Photo by Ted Brown

Volunteers Are Shining Stars!

Volunteer Appreciation Week
April 27th — May 3rd

The volunteers of Halton Healthcare Services contribute their unique talents, skills and knowledge to provide that extra bit of time and care for our patients, their families, and our staff.

We have come to rely on the compassionate nature and smiling faces of our volunteers to help us provide quality healthcare to the residents of our communities.

Volunteer Appreciation Week is a time for us to celebrate the energy and commitment of our volunteers.

During this week of appreciation, we would like to take a moment to say **thank you**.



Georgetown Hospital • Milton District Hospital
Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital

Need Volunteer Hours?
Come volunteer for

Acton Youth's
CHANCE FOR CHANGE

Acton Youth's Chance 4 Change
Saturday, May 24th 2008
12 noon - 8:00pm at Prospect Park

- Play with reptiles
- Lead a drum circle
- Referee a Joust game
- Make snow cones

and more!

Featuring . . .

- Comedian Jeff McEnery
- Local Bands
- Giant Soccer
- Joust Inflatable games
- Food & Drinks and much, much more!!!!

Volunteer for part or all of the day

email Jen at chance4change@hotmail.com
or call **905-703-6338**

www.chance4change.blogspot.com

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
APRIL 27 to MAY 3, 2008

volunteers.
from compassion to action.

Thank you, Volunteers!

Town of Halton Hills Council and staff would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the volunteers in our community. Volunteers are valued for the work they do, providing support, talent and leadership, dedication and enthusiasm throughout our town. National Volunteer Week is a time for all of us to pause and celebrate the energy and commitment of volunteers.

Approximately 1 in 3 residents of Halton Hills are involved in a formal volunteer role and are on the front lines of essential community services - community health care, heritage and arts, maintenance of green space, recreation, volunteer firefighting, minor sports - the list is endless. Countless other residents volunteer each day without even realizing it like shoveling a neighbours' sidewalk or driving a friend to the doctor. No matter how volunteers are involved the positive impact they have on our community is profound.

The Town of Halton Hills celebrates the contributions that our local volunteers bring to the community. This National Volunteer Week, be sure to say thank you to a volunteer!

Sincerely,

Mayor Rick Bonnette

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS