## Police thank volunteers at special event

• from VOLUNTEERS on page A8 away to help with a missing person search.

"We're extra eyes and ears for the police," said Karen, who, with husband Bill, also volunteers with VSU.

Seniors Call Back — a branch of VSU that operates exclusively in Oakville — was created to give senior citizens an opportunity to volunteer with Halton police. Participants donate two hours a week to contact victims of crimes such as break-ins to vehicles.

Victims are updated on the status of their investigation by way of a letter. These occurrences normally relate to investigations underway by district task forces that are investigating minor crimes involving many victims.

The senior volunteers making contact save investigators countless hours of having to contact each victim to notify them of the status of the investigation.

Bud Brown – who retired from the Town of Oakville after 35 years – explained that seniors' issues were important to him throughout his career and this fact hasn't changed. For example, he chaired the Seniors and Law Enforcement Together program for six years and is now involved with Seniors Call Back.

"The community has been so good to me and I always felt I should give back," he said, adding that the program helps lend law enforcement a more human touch. "Seniors welcome the call back and I get a good feeling too."

With volunteers staffing the Acton Store Front, the community foot patrol officer is free to go out and continue his rounds while the office remains open for the public. They answer, if possible, any minor questions a citizen may have or take the information and have the officer follow up. Volunteers will also contact the officer through communications for more serious situations.

McHugh, who was born and raised in Acton before moving away for decades during his policing career, is delighted to be back in town where he can – you guessed it – give back to the community.

"You're never too old to help people," he said.

In addition to McHugh, there are two other volunteers who rotate their time between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday to Friday. During 2005 they donated 676 hours.

## Fundraiser for Crime Stoppers

Food, music and fundraising will be the focus of 'Kilting Two Birds with One Scone' at Glencairn Golf Club Friday.

The evening event, hosted by the Halton Regional Police Service Pipes and Drum Band and Crime Stoppers of Halton will start off with a scotch tasting and hors d'oeuvres cocktail reception.

The event will also include live and silent auctions and performances by the pipes and drum band and the Chisholm Dancers.

Tickets cost \$60 each or \$100 for a couple and are available by calling Dave Brown at (905) 825-4777, ext. 5200, Glenn Matsuo at (519) 853-1224 or Suzanne Algar at (905) 825-6123, ext. 7264.

For Stu Johnston, Halton's 12 community policing committees are an effective bridge between the public and law enforcement and as such he's proud to play a part in ensuring safety is a priority in his community.

Johnston — of the Nassagaweya and Milton community policing committees — explained that these committees perform a vital role by working with police to identify and resolve issues facing the community including traffic, vandalism, loitering, crime trends, drugs, neighbourhood disputes and more. These committees enhance the community's ability to have a say in the manner in which their community is policed, and the issues or concerns the police service consider priorities.

According to Johnston, activities range from the proactive — like community clean-ups — to the reactive, such as solving problems within a neighbourhood.

In addition to regular meetings where police and the community members discuss the issues and concerns, the committees perform other functions such as holding special information evenings for the public. The committees generally meet six to 10 times a year and are comprised of core volunteer members with other residents welcome to attend.

A special Volunteer Recognition Night took place yesterday as part of National Volunteer Week (April 23 to

## Big youth event here Sat.

On Saturday, the Lions Sports Park will be transformed into a hub of activity just for youth.

In celebration of International Youth Week, the Milton Mayor's Youth Advisory Council will hold Youth-a-Palooza from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the park at 77 Thompson Rd.

Hundreds of teens are expected to turn out for a barbecue, games, contests and more. A \$5 wristband will get teens airbrush and henna tattoos, unlimited air bounce games — including sumo wrestling — and climbing on the rock wall plus a food and drink ticket.

From noon to 2 p.m. a talent show will be held, with registration at 11 a.m. A youth softball game will be held at noon. There'll also be an art show, a youth ball hockey game at 2 p.m. against emergency services, and a BMX demo at 4 p.m. followed by a skateboard demo. To participate in the softball or ball hockey game, call (905) 878-7252, ext. 2754.

Then from 7 to 11 p.m., the Evening Band Show will be held upstairs at Milton Memorial Arena. Admission to the concert costs \$5 or \$4 with a wristband or canned good.







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