Jacob's fight against cancer spurs fundraisers for Sick Kids

 from COMMUNITY on page 3 chemotherapy.

The grace with which Jacob accepted the relentless rounds of treatment was amazing. said Robertson.

"I said (to his parents) I hope he's going out for Halloween as a superhero," she said.

On October 5, Jacob was pronounced cancer free and the family is "cautiously optimistic," she said.

Throughout Jacob's ordeal, family and friends felt helpless, said Robertson. "We didn't know what to do."

They began with a Facebook page entitled Journey for Jacob, which jumped from 50 to 250 followers in one day and evolved Robertson.

were organized, as was a 20-member team for the Sick Kids oncology unit. of aunts, uncles, co-workers, friends and "It's really important for us that this money neighbours to participate in September's go to the oncology department, go to the Sears Great Canadian Run to End Kids people we saw weekly with Jacob," said Cancer.

The Journey for Jacob team completed the four days after Jacob's last chemo treatment. the Milton community, said Robertson. "We couldn't think of a better way to delebrate than with the run."

Interspersed with the major fundraising into an overwhelming community outpour- events were smaller spontaneous fundraisers ing of compassion that still overwhelms and unsolicited donations, plus wristband and Journey for Jacob T-shirt sales.

Within mere weeks, fundraising events In total, a staggering \$69,492.77 was raised

Robertson.

Throughout the family's heartbreaking 131-km run from Toronto to Blue Mountain journey, they have felt the warm embrace of

> Even Simon Williams, series director for the Sears Run noted in his closing remarks to the runners how inspirational the town was, she added.

> "He said he has never experienced such a community as that of Milton. The town of Milton needs to celebrate this," she said.

There have been too many contributing retailers, businesses and individuals to men-I tion for fear of forgetting someone, said

Robertson, but she did want to give a special shout out to Sargent Farms and South 202 for their generosity, and flourgirls who donated cookies and cupcakes to sell at both the Sears Run and Sick Kids. "All ages got involved. It was overwhelming."

Jacob has also been granted a wish by the Children's Wish Foundation and he and his family were recently treated to a Disney

"This has been a tremendous, tremendous eye opener," said Robertson.

The experience makes you realize how financial support is so critical to the work of the Sick Kids oncology department, she added.

"They need support. All of the people affected but also the people in the oncology department, the staff, researchers, doctors, nurses, the volunteers — this whole group of people under the umbrella of Sick Kids."

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Copies are also available at the Board Office, 802 Drury Lane, Burlington, Ontario.



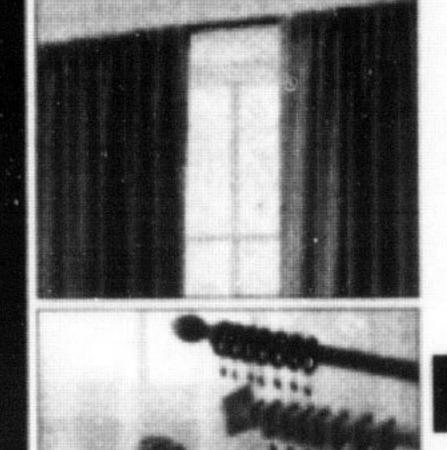
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