

Woman recognized for her work helping victims of crime

By David Lea

METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP

A Milton woman has been recognized for her selfless work for others with the 2015 Community Volunteer Award during a recent meeting of the Halton Regional Police Services Board.

Kathleen Cox, who volunteers her time with the Halton police Victim Services Unit, was singled out not only for contributing more than 150 volunteer hours this year alone, but for her dedication to the victims in the Halton community and her leadership abilities with her fellow volunteers.

The Victim Services Unit is comprised of trained volunteers who provide emotional support and community referrals to victims of crime and tragedy throughout Halton.

The group is equipped to respond to crisis situations and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week when requested by a Halton police officer.

"Day or night she provided compassion and care to victims of crime and trauma in the region of Halton," Kimberley Clark, administrator of the Victim Services Unit, said during the police board presentation.

"Individuals and families torn apart by tragedy such as traffic fatalities, sudden death or



Volunteer award recipient Kathleen Cox, centre, is flanked by, from left, Halton Police Chief Stephen Tanner, Victim Services Unit Administrator Kimberley Clark, Halton Police Deputy Chief Bob Percy and Halton Regional Police Services Board Chair and Oakville Mayor Rob Burton.

suicide as well as those adversely impacted by crime such as homicide, human trafficking, domestic violence and sexual assault are just some of the calls Kathleen has responded to within the last year. Leading by example, she gives of herself, not because she is paid, but because she believes that what she does makes a difference in her community."

Clark went on to note that Victim Services volunteers like Cox are aware they can't change what has happened to a victim of violent crime, however, they also understand they can help positively influence their environment going forward.

"We've received considerable feedback from fellow officers and victims we have served

about the impact of Kathleen's warmth and compassion," said Clark.

"They may not always remember what she said, but they always remembered how she made them feel. Crime and tragedy can often leave individuals alone, confused, scared, disconnected and feeling hopeless about the future. The kindness of a stranger, such as Kathleen Cox, has often helped to restore faith in their community and ensure they remain connected to healthy and appropriate support structures."

Clark said Cox has been an inspiration to her fellow volunteers, providing guidance and support to those with less experience.

She has also assisted with volunteer training. Cox said she was humbled to receive an award for her work.

"I accept this on behalf of all our volunteers, not just myself. I think going to a stranger's home and providing a little bit of kindness and help and support is a great thing to do in our community," she said.

"There are many people in need."

Volunteer Halton organized the 2015 Community Volunteer Awards.

A branch of the non-profit agency Community Development Halton, Volunteer Halton supports non-profit agencies with training, consulting and the promotion of volunteerism.

Your Invitation to... Worship!

Divine Vine Gospel Church

We are a Bible-Believing, Spirit-Filled Multicultural Church

...join us for vibrant praise, life-giving teachings and faith-filled prayers

Every Sunday
10:30AM to 12:00PM

Venue:

Milton Sports Centre (Optimist Room)
605 Santa Maria Blvd, Milton
Phone: 416-727-7548

Children and Youth program available
Pickup/Drop-off available



St. Paul's United Church

123 Main Street East

Sunday Worship

at 10:00am

Used Book Collection for Foodgrains Bank
Book donations drop-off in the atrium - thanks!

Drop in for coffee Fridays at 10:30am

Contact us at 905-878-8895 or info@stpaulsmilton.com
stpaulsmilton.com and facebook.com/theannexmilton



Knox Presbyterian

"Unified by Christ's love, we share Him with the world"

Join us at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday morning for worship and teaching from Scripture

Sunday School
(age 3-Grade 8) & Nursery

Blending traditional & contemporary styles

Pastor Howard Sullivan
170 Main St. E., Milton
905.878-6066 www.knoxmilton.com



from Mary Street

you'll get through this

3 Family-friendly
Sunday Services

9am

10am*

*Also in Spanish

6.30pm



NEW LIFE CHURCH
FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

824 Thompson Road South
newlifemilton.com

Dan Rogge, Pastor

To Advertise in the Church Directory
please call

FIONA RUDDER

at 905-878-2341 ext. 217

frudder@miltoncanadianchampion.com