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St. Gregory School

Tecumseh, Ontario

Grade: 8-8

Generations Can Connect

Mr. John McGivney

John H. McGivney is my next door neighbour and friend. Mr. McGivney is an interesting, caring and friendly person, whose story I would like to share with you today.

He was born on September 27, 1922 in Manhattan, New York. Life was not easy for him as a child. His mother and father split, his mother died when he was 13 years old and he lived in 6 different cities throughout the United States and Canada before the age of 12. School began for him in Manhattan and then in the Bronx.

He moved to St. Petersburg, San Diego, Los Angeles, where his mother died and at the age of 12 moved to Toronto to start a new life.

He went to the University of Toronto where he received his BA and Law degree. He practised law in Toronto from 1948 to 1955, before moving to Windsor to accept a Corporate Lawyer's position with Chrysler Canada.

After marrying June Haslin in 1948 and they had 4 children. Tim (1952) a naval architect, Debbie (1954) an elementary school principal, Heather (1955) an interior designer and Pat (1961) who works for General Motors.

Mr. McGivney was a pilot in World War II flying missions to Africa, Palestine, England, Italy, Arabia and Egypt. However the most important part of his life has been his volunteerism. He is a member of the Windsor Rotary Club 1918 since 1957, being chairperson in 1965 - 66 and also chairperson of Art in the Park committee. He





was a member of the Windsor Police Commission, past President of the Windsor Chamber of Commerce, Chairperson of the University of Windsor Board of Governors, Finance Chairperson of the Parish Council of his church and reads to students at Princess Anne School.

One accomplishment he is very proud of is the creation, development and building of the Children's Rehabilitation Centre for physically disabled children of Windsor and Essex County.

He also finds time to walk his dog Tupper daily, golf, sail, read and play bridge.

Mr. McGivney is a great man who believes that it is better to give than to receive. His legacy will be his volunteerism but for me it will be his friendship. He is a person who is making our world a better place to live in and for this I say "Thank you".

Kellie B.

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JOHN MCGIVNEY BURSARY

In 1965 John McGivney was the president of the rotary club. That same year a study was commissioned to look at services and delivery models for children with physical disabilities. Out of that study came the recommendation that services and programs for children with physical disabilities be under one roof. John McGivney formed a committee to look at these recommendations. And so began the dream of the Children's Rehabilitation Centre.

In 1978 the Children's Rehabilitation Centre opened its doors and John McGivney was our 1st chairman of the Board of Directors and currently remains a member at large.

In 1999 the Children's Rehabilitation Centre Board of Directors wanted to honor John McGivney's efforts and the major role he played in realizing the dream of the Children's Rehabilitation Centre. A capital fund of \$10,000 was set aside. All interest from the capital fund becomes the dollars that are used for the bursary. Recent donations from the Windsor Rotary, Amherstburg Rotary and from Ross Byron's family have increased the bursary fund capital. Any further donations to this fund would be greatly appreciated. As the capital fund grows so will the bursary gifts.