

LASALLE POST

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LaSalle Post photo: Bob Stewart

TRICK OR TREAT DONATIONS: Ben Smith, 5, and brother Connor, 4, both of whom went out for Halloween as pirates, dump their loot into the cauldron at the Dental Optometric Centre the day after trick-or-treating. The brother's turned in six pounds (about 6.5 kilograms) of candy between them.

Candy Exchange

Dentist nets 550 lbs. of candy for overseas troops

Bob Stewart

You never expect to see children so excited about surrendering candy.

But at a dollar per pound plus cool new toothbrushes and toothpaste, it must be worth it, because over 550 pounds (247.5 kilograms) were collected by LaSalle dentist Dr. Michael Bencak the day after Halloween.

For the second year in a row, Bencak, who works out of the Dental Optometric Centre on Sandwich West Parkway, put out the call for trick-or-treaters to bring their candy to his office the morning after Halloween. He buys it back at a dollar per pound and ships

the loot to Canadian military personnel serving in Afghanistan.

About 100 kids donated to the cause, beating last year's total by about 100 lbs. (45 kg).

"This year, I will be sending the candy directly to a patient of mine (Windsor Police officer Ken Burt) who is stationed in Afghanistan," Bencak said Saturday morning as children and parents streamed into his office to have their candy weighed on a scientific scale.

"We're also sending things like lip balm which they need over there in that harsh environment," said Bencak.

"The kids have already been asking if we're going to be doing it again next year," he laughed.

Laurier Parkway to tap into \$17.6 billion fund?

By Bob Stewart

Hoping to tap into the \$17.6 billion made available through the Building Canada Fund, the Town of LaSalle is submitting an application for the completion of the Laurier Parkway.

Chief Administrator Kevin Miller asked council to pass a resolution allowing administration to prepare and submit the applica-

tion for the extension of Laurier Parkway from its present location by the Vollmer Complex through to Howard Avenue," Miller said during council proceedings Oct. 28.

Miller assured council the town would be able to continue any discussions they are having with other bodies such as the Detroit River International Crossing group and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation about tying the Laurier Parkway into the new international truck route and border crossing.

intent.

Burns said Watson had stated publicly that he would support the Laurier Parkway extension project.

"Hopefully our project will finally get some federal money," said Burns.

Building Canada applications are available to municipalities with populations under 100,000 for drinking water, waste water, green energy and public transportation projects.