



STEVE NEWMAN/METROLAND

Karen Maxwell of Renfrew Home Hardware Building Centre displays the glass coasters being sold to support the Renfrew area's physician-recruitment campaign. The coasters, which feature local scenic photographs, are held by Renfrew and Area Health Services Village's fundraising committee; Mike Brydges, who's also community manager for the Ottawa Valley region of Scotiabanks; Admaston-Bromley resident Kevin Hughes; Home Hardware co-owner Maxwell; and Admaston-Bromley resident Ian Clelland.

Coasters and opera: latest fundraisers behind physician recruitment

Steve Newman
steve.newman@metroland.com

Karen Maxwell of Renfrew Home Hardware Building Centre is a big supporter of the Renfrew and Area Health Services Village, which in turn is a driving force behind physician recruitment to the area.

Maxwell chairs the health services village's fundraising committee, which will soon share an "exciting" announcement. She's not saying what exactly, but it could be to announce that another doctor or two have been recruited.

Already, six have signed on the dotted line in the last two years, with the goal to recruit another eight in the decade-long campaign. Three of six recruits are already on the job locally, and the other three will be shortly.

Part of the enticement is a \$25,000 payment to each recruited physician for six consecutive years, to help pay for medical school and other training-related expenses.

The goal is to bring 14 doctors to the area, because of the dire need for family physicians and increasing number of local doctors who have retired or who plan to retire soon.

The incentive program will cost \$2.1 million, of which the health services

village is committed to raising about \$700,000.

A portion will come from the sales of the glass coasters. They are being sold at Renfrew Home Hardware Building Centre, the Renfrew Scotiabank and the municipal offices in Admaston-Bromley and Greater Madawaska.

The four municipalities participating in the Renfrew-area physician recruitment are Admaston-Bromley, Greater Madawaska, Horton and Renfrew.

The sets of four, laminated in plastic, cost \$15, including HST. They feature photographs of the participating municipalities. None of the 48 submitted photos were of Admaston-Bromley, so two were selected from Horton.

Two photos are by Shawn Green of Renfrew, one of the Bonnechere River in Renfrew that is entitled Light at the End of the Tunnel. His other is of a kayak heading into the sunset on the Ottawa River, just off the Horton shoreline.

Rick Brown of Calabogie took the photo of the towering Eagles Nest in Greater Madawaska Township. And Diana O'Ryan's photo is of the stone wall at McGahern's, atop the Pinnacle.

The Coast-It display and products were produced by the Guelph, Ont., company, KH&H.

There are two major objectives behind

the coaster campaign.

"We wanted to raise a little bit of money, but we also wanted to raise awareness," said Maxwell.

"We're putting a physical product out in the marketplace to remind people that the campaign to bring doctors to Renfrew and partnering municipalities needs support to make it happen."

A TASTE OF GERMAN OPERA

To keep doctor recruitment in the spotlight, the health services village is organizing a fundraiser Thursday, Oct. 11 at Castlegarth Restaurant and Food Shop in White Lake.

The event, entitled A Taste of German Opera, will be part of the fundraising committee's Week of Giving campaign.

The evening's performing musicians will include soprano Kathleen Radke. She is married to local Dr. Steven Radke, who was recruited by the health services village. The other musicians are tenor Rory McGlynn and pianist Nick Rodgers. A Taste of German Opera gets underway at 6:30 p.m.

For reservations, contact Castlegarth Restaurant at 613-623-3472 or e-mail info@castlegarth.ca. Tickets are \$120.

Beverages, taxes and gratuity are not included.

Victoria Hospital Auxiliary marathon bridge begins in October

Janet Osborne
RVH Auxiliary

For more than 50 years, the Renfrew Victoria Hospital Auxiliary has organized marathon bridge to raise money for the hospital.

Players sign up to play and

a schedule is drawn up.

Following this schedule, every two weeks, from October to April, four players (two teams) meet for an afternoon of bridge in one of the player's homes.

After each game is played, the scores are recorded on

each team's schedule sheet.

At the end of the season, a dessert bridge is arranged where all players come together for an afternoon of bridge and announcement of the season's winners.

Marathon bridge is a good way to meet nice people and

enjoy the best of all card games.

Bridge players love the game. Some have even been known to become addicted!

Why not join in the fun this season. For more information, call Janet Osborne at 613-432-9177.

Twilight healing circle this Sunday in Renfrew's O'Brien Park

A healing circle is taking place Sunday evening at O'Brien Park, beside the Renfrew swinging bridge.

"On Sept. 23 all of you with great energy, love and intention can join us at the swinging bridge in the park for an opportunity to feel and send good thoughts to people you know who are suffering in any way," says a news release from organiz-

ers Diana Wakely and Mary Etanski.

"Listening to people today, there seems to be a great deal of distress, trauma and sadness, so with the help of many people and their good intentions, energy and prayers transition-transformation can be made easier for all types of concerns.

"Believing in the law of attraction is one of the reasons this is being organiz-

ized. The power of love is so amazing. Collectively, through our energy we can make a difference for a whole lot of people. Let's make a difference."

All drummers are welcome. If it rains Sunday, the rain date is Sunday, Sept. 30, also at 7 p.m.

For more details, call Wakely at 613-433-3635 or Etanski at 432-5322.

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