

Flapjacks for physicians

Region rallies to boost coffers

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What do you get when you combine nine cases of beef and pork sausages, 35 dozen eggs, 12 bottles of maple syrup, homefries, pancakes and a heaping helping of community spirit?

A healthy community, of course. And \$2,031.02 toward doctor recruitment efforts.

Saturday morning 160 people enjoyed the most important meal of the day with a dedicated team of volunteers determined to boost local health services through doctor recruitment.

The Renfrew and Area Health Services Village — which represents citizens of Renfrew, Horton, Greater Madawaska and Admaston-Bromley — hosted the breakfast with all proceeds going to its doctor recruitment initiative.

The breakfast was held 8 a.m. to noon at St. Francis Xavier hall in Renfrew.

Breakfast ticket sales alone raised \$1,298.

People were also invited to bring their pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies to contribute to a special fundraising effort.

As Greater Madawaska mayor Peter Emon explained, "By collecting a metric mile of each coin over the next

five years, we can raise more than \$200,000. Imagine a new doctor, or six of them, just for loose change."

Saturday's Metric Mile station generated \$773.02.

The Metric Mile made its first stop at the Week of Giving, A Taste of German Opera, at the Castlegarth in White Lake. At that event, the Metric Mile raised \$945.

Watch for the Metric Mile as its moves around the community at local doctor recruitment fundraisers.

Local entertainment was provided by Limited Edition which performed German and Valley music, Lynn Clelland's 4H Square Dancers, Vicky Kubiseski's Highland Dancers, and Julie Larocque.

There was face painting and balloon animals for children throughout the morning.

The breakfast was one of the special Week of Giving events organized by the Health Services Village fundraising committee as part of its commitment to raising \$700,000 to help recruit 14 doctors.

The Health Services Village has already recruited seven doctors and is actively pursuing seven more.

It's estimated that one out of every seven persons in the four member municipalities doesn't have a family doctor.

To learn more about local doctor recruitment initiative, or to donate, call 613-432-3328.

To be added to a list for a family doctor, call Health Care Connect at 1-800-445-1822.



LUCY HASS/METROLAND

Abbie Miller pitched it to help build the Metric Mile at Saturday morning's Renfrew and Area Health Services Village doctor recruitment fundraising breakfast.



Bill McLeod and Eve Dale of the Douglas Lions Club cook up sausages at the fundraising breakfast.

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