

Area high schools to receive new defibrillators, training

DESMOND DEVOY

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CARLETON PLACE – More than 1,200 high school students throughout Lanark County will soon be trained on how to use a defibrillator, and possibly save a life.

Working in partnership with the Advanced Coronary Treatment (ACT) Foundation, the Ontario government and with

\$40,000 from Lanark-Frontenac-Lennox & Addington MP Scott Reid, high school students in Carleton Place, Perth and Smiths Falls will be trained in the use of automated external defibrillators.

“Hopefully, we won’t need to use the defibrillator in our school, touch wood. But, if we do, we’ll be trained for it,” said Dave Chaplin, the principal of Notre Dame Catholic High

School in Carleton Place, one of the schools participating in the program. While the devices will be located in high schools, “it’s not just about saving kids’ lives. It could be about saving an adult’s life as well,” said Chaplin.

Fellow educator Jamie Bell, a physical education teacher at Carleton Place High School (CPHS), agreed, noting that the training will mean that, “they [students] are reading to step in and save someone’s life.”

The program was launched during a ceremony in the CPHS gymnasium on May 18.

“Part of our goal in doing this is in making Lanark County a model for the rest of the province,” said Reid. “If we can do it here, you can do it in your area.”

Sandra Clarke, executive director of the ACT Foundation, reminded the audience that, when someone is having a heart attack, time is of the essence.

“You can have the best paramedics system in the world. But they can’t be there when the event hap-

pens,” Clarke said. “Those first few moments are critical, when a family member has an incident.”

“Usually we try to be there as soon as we can,” said Ed McPherson, deputy chief of the Lanark County Ambulance Service. But, in a rural area like Lanark County, that is not always possible. “You’re helping us do our jobs...it certainly makes my job easier.”

For Clarke, the drive to make sure that every high school student in Ontario graduates having learned how to use a defibrillator,

and has basic CPR skills, is a personal mission. She lost both her father and her father-in-law to heart attacks.

“I’ve committed my life to this,” said Clarke. Even with the best of training, it doesn’t always work. But even in those instances, “you won’t have to have all of those ‘what ifs.’”

“Welcome to Lanark County, a great place to have a heart attack,” said Carleton Place Mayor Paul Dulmage, who added that, as he enters middle age it is, “comforting” to know that such devices are

available, and that people are being trained to use them.

The schools which will be teaching the program include Notre Dame Catholic High School, Carleton Place, St. John Catholic High School, Perth, St. Luke Catholic High School, Smiths Falls, Carleton Place High School, Perth and District Collegiate Institute, and the Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute.



Desmond Devoy / Canadian Gazette

Carleton Place High School students Liz Marcil, left and Meghan Strickland give MP Scott Reid some instruction on how to use a life-saving defibrillator machine.



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SURPLUS SALE

Sealed bids for a 1985 Kenworth Cab & Chassis will be received by the undersigned at the Town of Mississippi Mills at 3131 Old Perth Road, Almonte, until:

10:00 a.m. Friday May 28, 2010

Bids must be placed on forms provided by the Town in a sealed envelope clearly indicating the item on the outside of the envelope. Forms are available at the Administration Building, 3131 Old Perth Road, Almonte or on the Town's website.

Items are available for viewing by calling Ben at 613-256-2064 ext. 231 and set up an appointment to view the vehicle.

All items shall be removed from the Town yard and paid for within 5 working days of notification. Payment shall be by cash, certified cheque or money order. All items are sold in an "as is" condition.

Highest or any bid not necessarily accepted.

Diane Smithson, CAO
Town of Mississippi Mills
3131 Old Perth Road
Almonte, ON K0A 1A0
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Fax: 613-256-4242
Email inquires: bkipp@mississippimills.ca

**LIGHT UP THE NIGHT
COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE**

Saturday May 29, 2010 - 7:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m

Set up will start at 6:00 a.m Location - Levi Home Hardware Building Centre- Parking Lot (476 Ottawa Street)

Tables \$10.00 each. Items may be dropped off on the day of the event. Please call Calvin Murphy at 256-1077 Ext: 24 for more information, to reserve your table or to donate items to Light up The Night. A BBQ organized by The Almonte Civitan Club will take place from 10a.m - 2p.m

All proceeds from the Garage sale go towards the 2010 Light Up the Night event. Come on out and show your support!!

SKATE BOARD PARK TOUR

The Town of Mississippi Mills, Recreation and Culture Department in conjunction with TYPS (Taking Young People Seriously) are offering the youth of Mississippi Mills the opportunity to explore 6 different Skateboard Parks this summer!!

The cost to attend each trip will be \$5.00/Youth. This will cover the cost of the bus transportation to and from the skate parks.

Saturday May 29 - 1pm to 5pm
McNabb, Ottawa - indoor park
(helmets mandatory)

Saturday June 26 - 1pm to 5pm
Sk8 Extreme, Orleans

Friday July 23 - 10am to 6pm
Madoc

Friday August 20 - 1pm to 5pm
Legacy, Kanata

Saturday September 18 - 1pm to 5pm
Manotick Arena

Saturday October 16 - 1pm to 5pm
Walter Baker Park, Kanata

(The bus pick up and return location is at TYPS- 79 Bridge Street. Please ensure you arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the time of departure.) For more information or to sign up for a trip please contact TYPS at 613-256-8485 or Calvin Murphy at 613-256-1077 Ext: 24.

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