



From: Yarmouth Hospital Foundation
Re: Yarmouth Calendar

Release Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2015

Contact:

Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin,
YHF Managing Director

749-1669

paulette.sweeney@nshealth.ca

Yarmouth's beauty celebrated in fundraising calendar

The beauty of the Yarmouth area is celebrated in a new 2016 calendar that is a fundraising project for the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation. The calendar is the creation of John Bladek, a retired geologist originally from Toronto, who now makes his home on a lake in the Quinan area.

The calendars sell for \$10, with all proceeds going to the hospital foundation. They are currently available at Shoppers Drug Mart on Starrs Rd. and at the Foundation office, located in the lobby of the Yarmouth Regional Hospital.

Bladek's appreciation of the Yarmouth Regional Hospital dates back a number of years to when his late wife had to spend a week here in hospital when they were spending time at their vacation property. Newly diagnosed with cancer, his wife's medications weren't working out, but Dr. Shelagh Leahey managed to sort out her meds. After her death, when he retired to the Yarmouth area, he donated the large painting which hangs in the lobby near the blood collection area and in the process met Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin, Managing Director of the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation (YHF), and Development Officer Mary Surette.

While he worked in the oil industry in Calgary, Bladek's interest in supporting the health care system comes naturally. His father is a doctor, his mother a nurse who also does a lot of volunteer work in the health care field, and his sister is a physiotherapist with a master degree in health services management.

“The hospital foundation is a good fit for me,” says Bladek, who has volunteered with the annual Spring Gala and the Jody Shelley Golf Fore Health tourney.

His inspiration to create a calendar as a fundraising project for the foundation late last spring turned into a reality very quickly. Bladek saw this as an opportunity to fill a niche for a quality calendar displaying the glories of the area and a way to not only raise funds for the hospital, but also to encourage greater interest in its support. He’s not a novice when it comes to producing calendars. He’d already done one featuring the rocks of Georgian Bay, where his family had a cottage. Many of the photographs are his own, but James Doucette also made a substantial contribution to the content.

Future calendars will feature images of the Yarmouth area — from Clare to Barrington — chosen from those submitted by interested photographers. The deadline for the 2017 calendar is the May 31, 2016. Send entries or queries about submissions to yhfcalendars@yahoo.ca.

XXX