

## 'A community that stands together can make the difference'



### THE SCOOP

#### MABLE HASTINGS

**T**he weekend of August 23 and 24, thousands of women and men will join forces in Montreal to walk in "The PharmaprixMC Weekend to End Women's Cancers" benefitting the Segal Cancer Centre at the Jewish General Hospital. Potton's own "Angels Without Wings," will be among them.

The objective of the weekend is to raise money to make a real difference in the fight to end breast and gynecological cancers. The net proceeds will benefit the Segal Cancer Centre, a leader in this critical cause.

"Angels without Wings" is a registered team, walking 60km in the weekend to end women's cancers and is made up of six local women who have dealt with cancer personally, either having a loved one who has lived with the disease or who have lived the diagnosis and treatment of cancer themselves. Tammy Hamelin is the team captain and the team members include Josée Messier, Abby Jersey, Lucie Beaudoin, Anne-Marie



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Front Row (left to right): Tamara Hamelin, Elizabeth Jersey, Abby Jersey. Back Row (left to right): Patricia Lachance, Josée Messier, Lucie Beaudoin, Anne-Marie Heath.

Heath and Patricia Lachance. Beth Jersey is also a non-walking member of the team working alongside the others to raise money, awareness and in support of a cause that is dear to her heart.

"A decade ago cancer diagnoses were less prominent in small communities like ours," explained Patricia Lachance, team member. "Over the years, diagnoses of women's cancers have become far more frequent and closer to home, impacting whole communities. One in six women will be diagnosed with a breast or gynaecological cancer in their lifetime now. Our small community has

lived this unfortunate trend where more and more local women are being afflicted by this disease. From diagnoses, surgeries, treatments and follow-ups, families and communities pull together to support those already affected."

Even though through the years research has brought about improvements in diagnoses and treatments, more must be done. Research is the best hope and Angels Without Wings hope to raise \$12,000 through various fundraising events in the small community.

The team hopes that like them, oth-

ers will take this opportunity to donate and support in light of their own experiences with cancer either personally or affecting family and friends.

Through various events in the coming months this team is a determined one! Their first event is a benefit breakfast and craft/bake sale that will happen on April 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Mansonville Town Hall. Future events will include: a May lawn sale, a June community dance, the group will partake in Friendship day in Lennoxville on June 14, where donation canisters will be placed in local businesses and participation in the annual Multicultural Festival. The group will also have handmade scarves for sale that have been appropriately named, "Strands of Hope;" with all profits from sales going to the fundraising efforts.

As you can see, there are many ways to support this team. You can donate to their lawn, craft and bake sales, attend their events or if you wish to make a monetary donation either as an individual or business, you can do so by contacting team captain, Tamara Hamelin at 450-292-3052 or Patricia Lachance (team member) at 450-292-0988 for more information on how to contribute to this worthy cause.

"Some things are worth fighting for," said Hamelin. "Life is too precious and we at least need to try and make a difference. I believe we all have the power to make a change, it just depends how we use it," she added.