Familiprix Pharmacy in Potton welcomes Santa and Mrs. Claus



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

n Saturday, December 14 from 10:00am to 2:00pm, the FamiliPrix Pharmacy in Potton played host to Jolly Old Saint Nick and his wife who stopped by to greet children in spreading Christmas cheer to one and all. FamiliPrix coowner, Cathy Riendeau was smiling from ear to ear as she served as Santa's "helper," when children arrived.

"The spirit of Christmas and all of its joy and happiness is something we want to assure that all of the children are feeling at this special time of year," said Riendeau. "This is just a small part that we can play in reminding everyone who stops by today that the magic of the season and goodwill to all can be extended in a friendly greeting or simple with."

Reindeau had set up a Christmas themed area near the entrance of the Pharmacy that included a large chair for Santa, borrowed from the local Optimist Club, a seat for Mrs. Clause beside the Christmas tree and a basket of goodies and coloring contest pages to share with the children. On display as well was the large netted bag of goodies to be won following a draw held on December 23rd with the coloring pages returned by any child placed in the draw that day.

"I want that Barbie doll," shared one three year old as she lay on the floor with her nose pressed to the netted sack. Her sister felt that the craft kit looked far more desirable and the two imagined winning and their plans to rush home to color their entry for the draw.

"This is what it is all about," said Riendeau. "Not the gifts necessarily but, the possibility of some Christmas magic regardless of how big or small."

A steady consistent flow of children and parents stopped by to see Santa and have their photos



Pharmacist, Cathy Riendeau with Santa and Mrs. Claus

taken. Photos were then posted on the FamiliPrix Mansonville website for parents to download. For many who had not had the chance to take their kids out to see the big man, this was a local stop and that made it easier for parents on the drizzly Saturday.

"What would you like for Christmas?" Santa asked one young boy.

"I'd like a collection of Hotwheel cars," replied the boy. "I lost all of my toys in a recent fire at our house," he shared.

It was moments like this one that found even Santa hoping that a little Christmas magic might be conjured up.

For Riendeau and the staff, the day was considered a success as Santa packed up his sack to head off to his next stop. With a cheerful greeting to all, Mr. and Mrs Clause were on their way.

"I am happy with the outcome of this first attempt at hosting such a prestigious guest," shared Riendeau. "This type of thing would not be possible without the help of the staff and volunteers here today," she added. "I must say a big thank you to William and Lise Sturgeon who not only gave of their time but were so willing and kind in the huge part they played."

The FamiliPrix Pharmacy in Mansonville (Potton) wishes you and yours the magic and joy of the holiday season.



PHOTOS: MABLE HASTING



Kendra and Ava Jersey-Fortin made Santa's day