



Photos by Mark Arike

Top left: Brandon Logan picks up his complimentary growler from Jennifer Paton of Boshkung Brewing Co. Top right: From left, VDO board members Janis Parker, Bill Kerr and Lisa Kerr announce the clinic's \$1 million milestone. Above left and right: Golfers congregate in front of Rhubarb Restaurant for lunch.

Golf tourney raises \$40k for dental outreach

By Matthew Desrosiers
Editor

On a day when the Haliburton County Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO) raised over \$40,000 through its annual golf tournament, the organization also announced it had hit a major milestone.

Since its inception three years ago, the VDO has provided over \$1 million in dental care to Haliburton County residents.

"When the VDO started three years ago, we did not fully appreciate that so many people were in such desperate

need of what dentists consider full mouth rehabilitation," said VDO director Lisa Kerr. "This means that for these patients, most of their teeth need to be fixed or removed."

Kerr said the VDO hit the \$1 million milestone thanks to its volunteers.

"Having reached the million dollars' worth of care provided in such a short time happened because many of the volunteer dental professionals saw the need and continued to return to care for the patients they were assigned," she said. "It represents hundreds of days of volunteers

to benefit people in our community in real need and the overall improvement in hundreds of people's health in our county."

Fellow board member Betty Mills said the milestone represents the VDO helping to make dreams come true.

The sold-out golf tournament on Aug. 21 at Blairhampton Golf Club raised money that will be used to purchase dental supplies and cover operating expenses, said Kerr. This was the tournament's fourth year.

"The golf tournament was a tremendous success," she said. "We had many local

businesses sponsor the event as hole sponsors and by providing silent auction items."

Kerr said 147 golfers participated.

Next year's tournament is already scheduled for Aug. 20, 2015, and this September both Tim Hortons locations in the county will donate their Smile Cookie Campaign proceeds to the VDO.

Kerr said the VDO continues to actively recruit dental professionals to volunteer at the clinic. Patients and volunteers interested in contacting the VDO can call 705-457-3111 or visit dental-outreach.com.



Nicholls golfs for dental outreach clinic

Former NHLer Bernie Nicholls, who was accepting donations to drive to the green for people, watches his shot on the 15th hole during the fourth annual Volunteer Dental Outreach Golf Tournament on Aug. 21 at the Blairhampton Golf Course. More on the page 11.

Darren Lum Staff