

# Let the bidding begin!

## Neepawa Rotary Club preparing its online auction

**By Eoin Devereux**

NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The granddaddy of all local charity auctions is back again in Neepawa, with the organization of the annual Rotary Club Online Auction underway. Rotary Club treasurer Murray Newton said this event is their largest fundraiser of the year, and usually features between 130 and 150 different items up for bid. Newton said the level of support they receive from not just local, but regional businesses and groups, is always phenomenal.

"The amount of support has been pretty consistent for us, in terms of items being donated. We are very appreciative to all the local businesses, to all the local groups that continue to get behind us. The community has been very, very supportive in donation of items and in people bidding [over the years]," stated Newton. "The online bidding starts Dec. 1, and will run until Dec. 7, though some of the items will actually be closing on Dec. 6. You can bid on anything through that period of time. It is running

pretty much the same as it did last year. We will have a list of all the items to see in an upcoming edition of the Banner & Press [Nov. 24 and Dec. 1 editions]. We'll also have the list online and we'll be putting up posters around town soon," said Newton.

As for the bidding process, Newton emphasized that you won't need to constantly check and change your bid amount online. The website portal is set up some that you can place a maximum bid amount once, and not worry about changing it, if you don't want to.

"Let's say you want a specific item, let's say its value is \$200 [for example]. You can go into the website, and you can put in a maximum bid., but it doesn't start at that automatically. It goes up in \$10 increments. So, if you go in and say 'I'm prepared to pay up to \$200 for this,' and nobody else has bid on it yet, your bid starts at \$10. Then, perhaps someone places a bid at \$20 the next day, your next bid will just go up \$10, so it goes to the next highest increment."

As for where the money

raised goes, Newton stated they are very proud to have been able to assist a wide variety of local ventures over the years. He cited Kinsmen Kourts II, ArtsForward, the Middle School playground and a variety of high school programs and scholarships, for example. While there is no particular project they have earmarked this year's money for just yet, Newton said they are accept suggestion or applications to help support local projects.

You can bid on items online at [www.neepawarotary.weebly.com](http://www.neepawarotary.weebly.com), starting on Dec. 1.

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