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## Good medicine

### *Hopkins IDA dispenses \$25,000 in goodwill to Lamplighter Tour*

 BY JOANNE MCDONALD  
 STAFF

Pharmacist John Hopkins was a patron of music and the performing arts. A bench dedicated in his memory at Charles Daley Park is a place of quiet respite to sit and enjoy the lake, and now, the music that will emanate throughout the park will also carry his legacy when the community gathers for concerts at the brand new open-air band shell this year.

Celebrating the 60th anniversary of Hopkins I.D.A. Pharmacy in Vineland, Jennifer Hopkins, owner and pharmacist, has announced an annual contribution of \$5,000 over five years for a total of \$25,000 to become a major sponsor of the Rotary Club of Lincoln Lamplighter Tour.

"My father had a great love of music and the performing arts," Hopkins said last week during the presentation in Vineland, where her father, who passed away in 1989, opened the pharmacy in 1949.

"It's our 60th year of business and the community has been very



**Hopkins IDA Pharmacy in Vineland is a major sponsor for the Rotary Club of Lincoln Lamplighter Tour, contributing \$25,000 over the next five years towards the open air bandshell at Charles Daley Park. Accepting the generous donation, from left are: Rev. John Ripley, Assistant Artistic Director; John Hill, Hopkins IDA Pharmacy; Jennifer Southward Producer, Lamplighter Tour; Jennifer Hopkins, Owner and Pharmacist, Hopkins IDA Pharmacy; Cathy Horton, Marketing Director; Bev Haskins, Artistic Director; Margaret Andrewes, Rotarian and Councillor for the Town of Lincoln; and Bill Wiley, Rotary President.**

supportive. We wanted to give back to the community," said Hopkins, speaking for her mother Irene Hopkins and family.

"We are thrilled to receive the generous support of Hopkins I.D.A. Pharmacy," Jennifer Southward, Lamplighter Tour producer said at the presentation. "When the tour was initiated in 2003, Rotary Lincoln promised our volunteers, sponsors and audience that revenue from the Lamplighter Tour would go to support arts and culture in our community. It is so exciting to see the progress that has been made towards this goal."

The joint project with the Town of Lincoln to build the open-air band shell at the park is scheduled for completion late this spring.

"This is a real boost to us and the community," said Rotary President Bill Wiley, sharing the excitement of making the bandshell and performing arts centre, a reality.

The total cost to the Rotary Club of Lincoln is \$165,000. With the funds that Rotary continues to raise through the tour along with the substantial contribution of \$25,000 from Hopkins I.D.A. Pharmacy, "we have the 'prescription' we need to help us achieve our goal,"

Southward said.

John Hopkins was a much loved and respected pharmacist in the community. His daughter, Jennifer, joined him in the business after graduating as a pharmacist from the University of Toronto in 1976 and has proudly followed in her father's footsteps ever since. She and her husband, John Hill, are ardent supporters of many initiatives and organizations in the community.

"Hopkins I.D.A. Pharmacy is honoured to sponsor the Rotary Club of Lincoln Lamplighter Tour,"

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# LAMPLIGHTER

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said Hopkins. "We think that the Lamplighter Tour is a wonderful concept and applaud the Rotary Club of Lincoln's commitment to support the development of Charles Daley Park, known as a hidden jewel in Lincoln."

"To mark the 60th anniversary of our family business, I believe that

the band shell project would be something that my dad would wholeheartedly support. He had a great love of music as does our whole family," Hopkins said.

"What really excites me is the thought of being at the first concert at the new band shell surrounded by all the good citizens of Lincoln."