

Pumping money into pain relief

By DEBORAH QUAIL

When the appeal came out for Pumps for Patients from Guelph General Hospital, the Rockwood & District Lioness wasted no time in supporting a good cause.

On the long list of equipment that any hospital wishes for to aid the health and comfort of patients are intravenous (IV) and pain pumps. These are needed by the smallest of babies in the Special Care Nursery to adult patients who have undergone surgery. IV pumps are used daily throughout the hospital to administer fluids intravenously for hydration, nutrition and medication, as well as for blood products. Each pump ensures that the correct flow rate is delivered to patients over a period of time. Pain pumps are slightly different in that the specialized pumps allow patients to administer their own pain medication as needed, with controls that safely ensure that individuals will not overmedicate. Pain pumps are often used by patients for a period of days, and avoid the need for injections administered by medical staff that can produce sore muscles - a discomfort that no recovering patient needs.

Depending on the model, IV and pain pumps

can range in price from \$3,000 to \$6,000 each. The Rockwood & District Lioness Club decided to donate \$10,000 to the hospital to assist in the purchase of new equipment.

Current president for 2004-05, Marion Nichol, says that the Lioness, which is sponsored by the Rockwood & District Lions Club, has over 30 years of service to the community. It raises money from Lions' dinners, monthly euchres, yearly raffles on handmade quilts, popular Christmas craft shows and bazaars, and other special events. All the proceeds are driven back into community betterment projects, such as Guelph General Hospital, Sunrise Equestrian (where they not only donate money, but also sponsor a horse each year), the Lions Home for the Deaf, Leader Guide dogs, Lions camps, local camps, youth "needs," and local community services.

Rockwood and area women who are interested in participating in the dynamic group are encouraged to attend a meeting on the last Wednesday of each month at the Rockmosa Community Centre, Rockwood, at 7:30 p.m., or contact the club at P.O. Box 87, Rockwood, NOB 2K0.



SUBMITTED BY DARRYL NICHOL

Suzanne Bone, Executive Director of Guelph General Hospital, left, receives a donation from Marion Nichol, 2004-05 President of the Rockwood & District Lioness Club in the amount of \$10,000 for new IV and pain pumps. Third and fourth from the left are Gail Mackintosh, Past President, and Denise Fisher, First Vice and 2005-06 President of the Rockwood & District Lioness.

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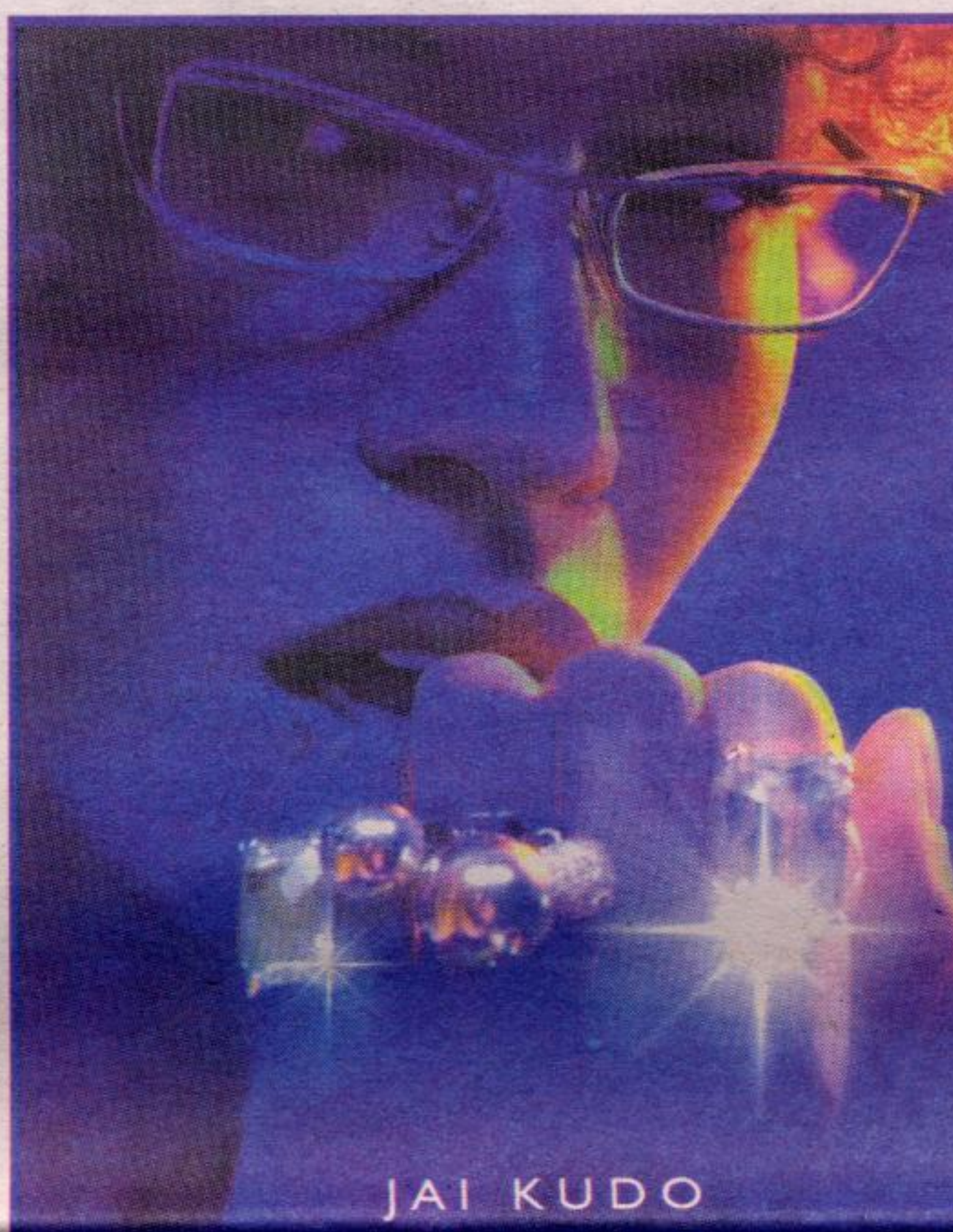
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