

Minden Hills plants a few more ideas for Riverwalk

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Minden's Riverwalk project continues to take shape.

Just before Christmas, four trees – one maple and three pines – were planted along the Riverwalk pathway near Invergordon Avenue.

The Rotary Club of Minden donated the trees.

"The Rotary Club was successful in a grant application (from the Rotary organization)," said Minden Hills deputy clerk and Riverwalk co-ordinator, Laura Cunliffe. "They matched the grant and sponsored the trees to be planted."

The trees were planted by Claudio Bortolussi and Gino Capazzoli of Highland Park Homes, the company currently building a subdivision off of Deep Bay Road.

"They worked tirelessly into the night," Cunliffe said.

She said 2009 should be a major year for the Riverwalk project.

"Now that the pathway is done we've got to take a good look at what we'll do next," she said.

The pathway runs along both sides of the Gull River, extending north from the Main Street bridge.

Cunliffe said that more trees are planned for the walkway and that the foundations for the pedestrian bridge planned to span the Gull River near the Wild Swan Bed and



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From left, Rotarians Brent Devolin, Bill Roodenburg and Joanna Penfold stand with Riverwalk co-ordinator Laura Cunliffe and Claudio Bortolussi and Gino Capazzoli of Highland Park Homes near one of the four trees the Rotary club recently donated to the Riverwalk project. Highland Park Homes planted the four trees, which include three pines and one maple, on December 12.

Breakfast were recently completed.

The bridge itself – a steel arch with a wooden deck – is expected to arrive and be installed in May, Cunliffe said.

It is currently under construction with Kitchener's Eagle Ridge and will come with an estimated price tag of \$66,000.

The total project costs for the Riverwalk project are estimated at a quarter-million dollars, with funds coming from Minden Hills township, the Haliburton County Development Corporation and donations from businesses, individuals and organizations.

The Riverwalk Committee held a fundraising lottery earlier this month, which Cunliffe called "a great success."

She said further fundraising events would likely take place in the spring.