

September 29, 2014

Local Foods and Mystery at REAL Fundraising Dinner

The Rideau Environmental Action League (REAL) is combining a Local Foods Harvest Dinner with a Murder Mystery performed by local actors for a special evening out on Saturday, October 18 at the Smiths Falls Curling and Squash Club.

Joanne Edwards, Executive Chef of The Cove in Westport, is composing a fabulous fall feast featuring foods grown and produced in Lanark and Leeds, and the Smiths Falls Community Theatre will challenge diners to solve an interactive murder mystery.

Dinner will be prefaced with a cocktail hour including five appetizers and an apple cider punch. The buffet dinner will include bison bourguignon, roast chicken with chimichurri sauce and vegetable moussaka, along with rolls and a variety of vegetables and salads sourced from farmers and producers in the region, many organic. Dinner will be topped off with a choice of maple mousse with poached pear or a lactose and gluten free fruit dessert.

Eight to ten actors from the Community Theatre will engage with diners through the appetizers and dinner, dropping misleading hints, answering questions and providing tips that lead to solving the murder by dessert.

Wayne Cavanagh of Jack FM has graciously agreed to be the MC for the evening. Doors open at 5:30, with a social hour and cash bar from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., and dinner at 7:00 p.m. A tempting selection of silent auction items will be available as well.

This format proved very successful last year, and the event has become REAL's major fundraiser for the year. "We hope the community will continue to show REAL the fantastic support they have shown us over the past twenty five years," said Shawn Merriman, REAL's President. "Funds raised will support REAL's many local environmental projects to protect water, reduce waste conserve energy."

Committee members are currently contacting past supporters to be sponsors, buy tickets or contribute silent auction items. Tickets for the Harvest Dinner and Murder Mystery Evening are \$50 and include a charitable receipt for \$15. They are available in Smiths Falls at the REAL Deal, 85 William St. W., at Modern Thymes, 11 Russell St. E., or by contacting Leann at (613) 205-0818, and must be purchased in advance. For more information on the event and REAL's other community activities, please see www.REALaction.ca.

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