

Antique appraisal

Those needing to find out if they've got any hidden treasures in their closet or basement can find out at an antiques appraisal clinic at the New Westminster Public Library on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.

Those who pre-register for the limited free tickets (604-527-4667) can bring one portable item for appraisal by museum and estate appraiser Al Bowen. For large items or sets bring a photograph or a piece, such as a drawer or a plate.

Tickets not picked up by Saturday, Feb. 18, will go to another person.

Library workshops

Free workshops on various topics will be held at the New Westminster Public Library during February.

Topics include: driving and road safety, Feb. 3, 1 to 3 p.m.; confidence building, Feb. 6, 1 to 4 p.m.; housing and rental assistance, Feb. 10, 1 to 3 p.m.; filing income tax, Feb. 13, 1 to 4 p.m.; employment and volunteering, Feb. 17, 1 to 4 p.m.; and immigration and family reunification, Feb. 24, 1 to 4 p.m.

To register or for more information call Mosaic settlement program at 604-522-3722 ext. 155.

Spa owner off to the Oscars

Sapperton esthetician invited to treat movie stars

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Clara Kovats runs a small spa in Sapperton, but later this month she'll be in the big time as an esthetician to the stars.

Kovats has been invited by Laboratoire Dr. Renaud, a Quebec company that is the official skin care product of the Academy Awards to work at this year's event on Feb. 26.

When the company's West Coast representative couldn't make it, they asked Kovats to fill in because she's been carrying the product for 10 years at Urban Bliss, now working out of Cadeaux Gifts. She'll be the only one who isn't from the Laboratoire's head office.

"I was absolutely thrilled and shocked more than anything. I

wasn't quite comprehending the whole [magnitude] of this event. It was a surprise," said Kovats. "I was a little worried about taking the time off, but I felt it would help my business."

From Feb. 22 to 26 she'll work out of the Beverly Hills Hilton, where in past years the company has served such stars as Nicole Kidman, says

Kovats. Last year, the company served more than 100 celebrities during Oscar week. She already has her hopes up about which movie stars she'll get to give the spa treatment to.

"Matthew McConaughey, no hesitation there. Maybe George Clooney. I'd be happy to give them facials or stroke their biceps," laughs Kovats, who also gets \$500 spending money. "I'll have to buy a new outfit."

She says her Urban Bliss clientele includes many men, from their early 20s to their 70s.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Clara Kovats, who runs a spa out of Cadeaux Gifts in Sapperton, will be heading to the Oscars this year to provide treatments to the stars.

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