TAYLOR, Muriel

Fighter pilot's mom 't untie ribbons

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Muriel Taylor's West Moira Street home is testimony to her devotion to fighter pilot son Capt. Scott Whitley.

But, the yellow ribbons festooning every growing bush and tree on her property have taken on new meaning now that it appears the Gulf war may be over sooner than later.

"You just don't know how I felt when I heard the news (that Iraq has capitulated)," said the mother of CF-18 pilot Whitley.

"But, we can't take the yellow ribbons down, yet. We have to let the guys know, now, that we're still proud of them, tell them it was a job well done and that we want them home."

Taylor says she's unabashed

about wearing her patriotism on her sleeve, er, house and trees.

"It seems it's been a problem since this thing began that we're this close to the air base at Trenton and we aren't showing our boys that we support them. We have to let them know and I think there should be more flag-waving and yellow ribbons."

Taylor's son made history in the early days of the Gulf conflict when he and three other CF-18 pilots formed the first Canadian flight of fighters to carry out a war sortie since Canadians flying American jets in the Korean War.

"There are a lot of ifs about this settlement deal," she warns. "We have to stick behind our boys over there until the last one's home."

Until the "last one's home," Muriel Taylor says her house will remain the loudest, proudest house on Moira Street.

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Muriel Taylor clearly demonstrates support for son.