

## School News

# Stewarttown school presents 'Anne of Green Gables'

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT  
The Herald

Stewarttown Public School students are gearing up for the biggest musical in the school's history April 9, 10 and 11 when they'll present 'Anne of Green Gables' at John Elliott Theatre, located in the Halton Hills Cultural Centre on Church Street in Georgetown.

"The audience will really fall under Anne's spell," said coordinator of the play, Lois Bar-

rager.

Since January, actors, set designers and musicians have been practising their parts in this demanding musical about an orphan girl whose outgoing personality sets the scene for some amusing experiences in Prince Edward Island.

Student Roanne Soanes landed the main part of Anne in the play. The Grade 7 students said she really wanted to get the part but once she did, she got nervous

after realizing how many lines she needed to memorize. Now that she has her lines down pat, she's really excited about performing.

Roanne said she and Anne are similar in that "we both have a lot of energy. She also has a bit of a temper, which I do too. If someone insults me, I'll insult them back."

But she doesn't think she'd break a slate over a boy's head if he teased her about her hair, as

Anne did when school chum Gilbert Blythe, double-cast and played by Shawn Anderson and Matt Lemax called her carrots.

That scene will be included in the musical along with other memorable Anne adventures including the time she dyes her hair and it turns green and when Anne received her first puffed sleeve dress from her beloved adopted father, Matthew.

The cast is made up of 61 students said the musical's artistic director, Florina Rocci. Other cast members include: Shawn Anderson and Matt Lemax as Gilbert, Andrea Orton as Diana Barry, Jen Murray and Sarah Wall as Marilla Cuthbert, Tim Grant as Matthew Cuthbert and Emma Booth and Debbie McQueen as Anne's teacher, Miss Stacy.

Together, they take the audience from the moment Anne steps off the train in Avonlea to

Matthew's death; to when Anne decides to give up her scholarship to stay at home with Marilla.

The play includes numerous sets and props which students have prepared. Teachers Linda Skoropod, Cathy Graham, Ray Denny, Frank Frankalanza, Edith Davidson, Michelle Buist and Carol Evans have also made off-stage contributions to the play.

Mrs. Barrager said one of the special aspects of the production was the attitude of students and staff who worked very hard to make the play a success.

"There was a real pull-together spirit among the students and teachers," she said.

Tickets for the performance are available at the Stewarttown school office, and Hallmark Cards on Guelph Street in Georgetown. They cost \$5 per adult, \$3 per child or \$15 for the whole family.



When Gilbert Blythe (played by Matt Lemax) teases Anne Shirley (Roanne Soanes) about her red hair, she flies into a temper and breaks a slate over his head, much to the horror of Anne's friend, Diana Barry (Andrea Orton), in a scene from the produc-

tion of Anne of Green Gables presented by Stewarttown Public School students at the John Elliott Theatre in the Halton Hills Cultural Centre on Church Street in Georgetown from April 9-11. (Herald photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)



Cast members of Stewarttown Public School's production of Anne of Green Gables running from April 9-11 at the John Elliott Theatre in the Halton Hills Cultural Centre, on Church Street in

Georgetown, act out a scene from the play. Cast members include (left to right) Matt Lemax, Shawn Anderson, Roanne Soanes, Jen Murray and Andrea Orton. (Herald photo by Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot)



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