

Deaville's original paintings at Art Effects during October

A local artist who has lived in Halton Hills for more than four decades will make a rare public appearance later this month at a Georgetown studio where a collection of her original oil paintings is being sold.

Shirley Deaville is known throughout Canada for her renderings of dogs, cats, horses, houses and children playing and her work is on display during the month of October at Art Effects Gallery & Framing Centre, which is located at 360 Guelph St.

The Deavilles operated a gallery on Hwy. 7 up until 1992 and since then the Al-Marah Studio, located in the basement of the couple's rural home, has been filling up with Shirley's artwork because she doesn't plan to retire from painting anytime soon.

"I can't stop. I'll blow up if I do," she said without a hint of sarcasm last week.

"I enjoy every minute of it and I'm grateful to have a family like I've got to be able to do what I'm doing."

Although she won't divulge her age (married to husband David for 56 years), Deaville began painting at age 13 in her native north Toronto home and took it up as a profession in 1979.

Her paintings could be found for more than a decade in the Best of Friends calendar and a portrait that included one of her grandchildren was featured in a Tim Hortons poster that appeared in the company's coffee shops nationwide.

She said she'll do commission work for paintings of family pets but requires a good quality picture to do it justice.

"I'd love to do that for people, but I have to *feel* it," she stressed.

"I've had many people ask me to paint their dog - he's gone now - and they've taken a photo straight on with the eyeballs all flashed out and I can't do anything with that because the life is in their eyes. It's just a dog then and not *their* dog."

Deaville will visit Art Effects on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 1-3 p.m.



Halton Hills resident Shirley Deaville poses with one of her prized oil paintings of U.K. television personality David Kennard's *The Shepherd*, featuring six Border Collies from the Devon countryside in England.

Photo by Eamonn Maher



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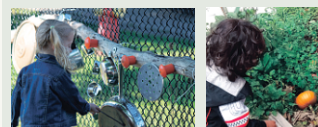


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