

# Stephanie Hutchinson Ballet student

By Greg Coates  
STOUFFVILLE — Stephanie Hutchinson, 10, of Stouffville, has recently received the distinctive honor of being accepted into the prestigious National Ballet School, Toronto.

A goal sought by many dancers from across Canada and the United States, Stephanie is one of only 49 selected out of this year's 864 applicants. Although the key to the auditions is talent, this is not the only criteria. The youngsters, ranging from ages nine to 15, are all examined by a physiotherapist to see if their muscles have sufficient flexibility. They are also probed by counsellors to learn if they have the right motivations for a dancing career. Another requirement is that all children be at a high level academically.

Stephanie has studied ballet five years. She was enrolled in the school Sept. 14. She, like most others, is in Grade five. This is a prime age classification for students entering the school.



Ten year old Stephanie Hutchinson of Stouffville has been accepted into the prestigious National Ballet School, Toronto. Out of 864 applicants, Stephanie was one of 49 selected. Her ultimate goal is to join the National Ballet of Canada.

"The program is designed unlike any others," says Linda Hutchinson, Stephanie's mother. "The children can academically go on to university, obtain a teaching certificate in dance, or go on to perform with the National Ballet of Canada."

Of the 864 students who auditioned, 100 were invited to the summer sessions in Toronto, where the 49 were ultimately chosen. This is where the children are extensively tested as to talent, physique, and motivation. These sessions included 4 1/2 hours of dancing every day.

When asked if she

was nervous at the auditions, Stephanie replied "not really." "When you've done it for awhile you get pretty used to it," she said.

Although they'll miss her, Stephanie's parents Bill and Linda,

say they're supportive 100 per cent. "We took her to the school a few years ago," said Linda, "and she fell in love with it."

Stephanie is very excited about it all. "I've been waiting three years to audition," she said,

"and now I've been accepted. It's wonderful."

Her ultimate goal is to join the National Ballet of Canada. "I want to be a dancer and perform on stage," said Stephanie.

# Artist James Bessey Exhibition - Oct. 5

By Jim Irving  
STOUFFVILLE — While most people get paid once a week, James Bessey of Stouffville, has just one pay day a year.

"And, even then I don't know whether I'm going to get paid or not," he says.

However, if past such occasions are any criterion, there shouldn't be any reason to be anything but optimistic about the kind of returns he'll be getting come the big day.

And, that, of course, is October 5 when the one-time Toronto resident and former secretary of the Canadian Gas Association and Gas and Petroleum Association of Ontario, dons his other mantle, that of James Bessey, artist, and displays the kind of world he's been dealing with since leaving industry some nine years ago.

All told, there'll be 35 such manifestations, all done in the precise, perfectionist style that are his trademark; scenes and shades of absolute reality; at the same time, undisturbed by any of the vagaries of that same reality.

Not that his canvases offer a complete escape. While the tones may be muted and tranquil, as in his Spring Thaw series, showing a sturdy farmhouse and out buildings, there's a feeling of loneliness,

too, suggesting the calm before the storm, and one longs to see what goes on behind those sturdy facades.

Whatever his paintings - all water-colors - depict, Bessey has been working seven days a week for the past several months to get his exhibition, which will take place in the Blue Flame Room of Consumers Gas Co., Mississauga, in order. Sometimes, that has meant two or three days spent outdoors, painting on the spot, or taking notes and mixing paints for future use at the upstairs studio in his house at 135 Booth Drive.

"I don't have a clock on me, but I know I have a show coming up, and I work accordingly," says the soft-spoken artist, who has taken time out from his hectic schedule to talk about his work and coming show.

"It's an exciting time for me," he says of the latter, "the culmination of a lot of sweat."

"I get to see a lot of old friends, too. There are people there who supported my work in my navy days; Bessey Boosters."

"Industry has been good, too, commissioning stuff, here and there."

Anyone wanting to have a quick look at his work that way, need go

no further than Stouffville Credit Union, where his artistry is displayed on company cheques.

However, going out on his own and painting what pleases his eye, is what he prefers most.

"It's kind of nice to be able to do something you have a feeling for and hang it on a wall, and hope somebody relates to it," he says.

Quite a few people over the years have related to the beautiful Bessey canvases. His works are included in private collections in Canada, the United States, England, Mexico and Indonesia. They've also been presented to Queen Elizabeth, the

Queen Mother and Duke of Edinburgh, as commemorative gifts from the Province of Ontario and the Royal Societies, during their visits to Canada.

Soon, his paintings will be hanging in many other homes, as a result of the October exhibition.

In the meantime, though, they have to be framed, and he and his wife are embarking on that chore now.

It's a long and arduous task, but the frames aren't there just for the hang of it. Those canvases represent a real labor of love and there has to be something to put them all in perspective.

# Late Ellen Meyers Long illness

After a prolonged illness, Ellen (Gould) Meyers, beloved wife of Isaac Meyers, passed away in York Central Hospital, Richmond Hill on Sept. 16. She was 81.

Mr. and Mrs. Meyers moved to Richmond Hill eleven years ago. They celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary in June.

Surviving besides her husband are sons Leslie of Uxbridge and Harold of Woodville; daughters Beatrice (Mrs. Alvin Norton), Goodwood; Yvonne (Mrs. Ted Martin), Woodville; June (Mrs. Harvey Dudson), Bracebridge; Joyce (Mrs. George Upton), Woodville; Irene (Mrs. Lyle Boyle), Richmond Hill; Ruth (Mrs. Howard Davies), Bradford; 48 grandchildren; 50 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. One brother, Wm. Gould lives at Mount Forest and a sister, Marion Rae resides in Stouffville. She was predeceased by a daughter, Florabel Couth.

Service, conducted by Rev. Patrick White, was held Sept. 19 from the Marshall Funeral Home with interment Hillcrest Cemetery, Woodbridge.

Pall-bearers were all grandsons - Ted Meyers, Dean Norton, Jim Meyers, La Verne Martin, Wayne Hunter, Gerald Hendry and Gary Boyle.

# Hooper auction sale End of an era

BUTTONVILLE — Charlie Hooper sat in the 'den' of the family's 57 year old brick farmhouse and pondered the past. Minutes earlier, auctioneer Reg Johnson had concluded a sale on the property that, in reality, ended an era in the life of this community.

As well known as the Button pioneers for which the hamlet is named, the Hooper farm was once the residence of Major Button, himself a legend in the history of

Markham Township. In thinking back, Charlie Hooper didn't have far to look for 'signs of the times' to prod his memory. For the walls of this and other rooms in the house are steeped in nostalgia, reminders of accomplishments through 33 years in politics.

He was the township's youngest reeve and York County's youngest warden. On two occasions he held a County commissioner's post plus countless other

positions. It was his father, the late Henry Hooper who purchased the property in 1900. "It had to be a Conservative and a Methodist," Charlie recalled. Henry Hooper, it seems, was both.

While Charlie and Hazel have "three years of grace" in which they can think of their future, they've pretty well settled on either Markham or Richmond Hill. Alternatives include a summer cottage up north and a winter

home down south. They also own 1,500 acres at Woodville.

A new place of residence could mean another auction sale three years hence, but this is not for sure. They're still collecting their thoughts after Saturday.

A few prices follow: A pine dry sink, \$1,275; a harvest table, \$550; two antique dressers, one \$200 and another, \$160; a flour bin, \$120 and four King George sealers, \$37 each.

## Trib

Professional and Business

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# Separate car collisions Damage-\$16,000

STOUFFVILLE — While only minor injuries resulted, total damage has been estimated at over \$16,000 in two separate accidents last week.

On Thursday, a westbound vehicle, driven by David Marshall, 16, of O'Brien Avenue, Stouffville, was struck broadside by a northbound car at the intersection of Market and Somerville Streets. Joy Villeneuve, 34, of

Both Drive, Stouffville, has been charged. Damage to her 1979 Mercury was placed at \$10,000 with \$800 damage to the Marshall auto.

Crash at Ringwood  
A two-car crash at

the intersection of Hwys. 47 and 48 (Ringwood), Saturday, sent two persons to hospital and caused an estimated \$6,000 damage.

Owner of the westbound vehicle was

Giovani Altomare of North Street, Stouffville. Driver of the eastbound car (attempting a left-hand turn) was Derrick Howitt of Queen Street, Newmarket. Howitt has been charged.

# Ecumenical Bible studies

STOUFFVILLE — The first of two annual ecumenical Bible studies, extending over a period of ten weeks, will commence Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m., and carry through to Dec. 9.

Rev. Canon H. L.

Puxley will lead the program entitled "Selections from Luke" in Christ Church, 254 Sunset Boulevard.

Canon Jim Puxley, director of the Ecumenical Forum in Toronto, is currently

offering the course in Willowdale and North Toronto.

The registration fee is \$15.

Persons wishing to attend should sign up for the course not later than Oct. 14.

# Veteran plowman returns

(Cont'd from Page 1) made to feel right at home because the plow he used was once the property of the late Gardham Tran of Markham. It now belongs to Murray Grove.

Mr. Ferguson said he enjoyed the outing, despite the weather. He's planning a visit to the international near Barrie this week—but not to plow, he added. He's also going to Markham Fair. "Too

bad both events came at the same time," he noted.

Results follow: CLASS 1 - Murray Grove, Will Ferguson. CLASS 2 - Keith Grose. CLASS 3 - Jan King, Steven Dunkeld. CLASS 4 - Kevin Wells, Lorne Britton, Gregg Timbers. CLASS 5 - Ken Ferguson, Floyd Forsyth, Ellis Britton. CLASS 6 - Herb Jarvis, Mark Grove, Bob Campsall. CLASS 7 - Don Dunkeld, Lorne Britton, Ken Ferguson. CLASS 8 - Ken Wells, Kevin Grose, Jan King. CLASS 9 - Dennis Bolender, Rod King, Kevin Wells.

Winners of special awards were - Ken Wells, Bank of Nova Scotia Trophy; Keith Grose, Stouffville Dist. Credit Union Trophy; Jan King, The William Simpson Memorial Trophy; Mark Grove, International Harvester Award; Kevin Wells, Guaranty Trust Company Trophy; Ken Ferguson, The Carl Timbers Award and Dennis Bolender, The Brian Gibson Special.

The North York branch president this year is Wayne Forsyth of Stouffville.

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