



Clarendon's 1986 Snow Queen, Susie Pekkinen, says she'd like to continue competing in other pageants, including one this summer at Toronto's Caribana celebration. The 15-year-old Pickering High School student also has an interest in modelling. —Chris Shanahan

**"Girl Next Door"**

**Caribana festival  
Susie's favorite**

Mention the word Caribana and Susie Pekkinen can barely contain her excitement. The annual Toronto festival has long been a major interest for the 15-year-old RR Clarendon resident. Her mother, Susan, a native of Trinidad, has obviously passed her love of the colorful Caribbean customs to her daughter and son, Eric, 11.

"I love it," Susie says of Caribana, which features a gala parade early in August.

She's The Tribune's "Girl Next Door."

The Pekkinen family puts in countless hours preparing lavish costumes for the event and often they don't sleep for several nights prior to the big day.

The family's already looking forward to this summer's extravaganza when they can cele-

brate on downtown streets with their individual group or band of several hundred revellers.

Both mother and daughter plan to compete in festival contests — Susie as Miss Caribana and Mrs. Pekkinen as Queen of her band.

The attractive teenager is taking a modelling course in Toronto, where she also learns about acting in television commercials. While she'd like to pursue both, they'd be more of a hobby.

When it comes to a future career, Susie's especially interested in the field of science. The subject is one of her favorites in the classroom at Pickering High School.

She says her selection as 1986 Snow Queen was a big thrill and she may enter some other local

teen pageants in the near future. The Miss Quality Teen contest is one she might try.

"I like doing these kinds of things," she says. "I get nervous, but when you're on the stage and see the other girls getting clapped at, you aren't afraid anymore. You want to get clapped at too."

Her interests include downhill skiing and volleyball. The Grade 10 students hope to play the latter sport competitively at Pickering High.

Susie has lived most of her life in the Clarendon area and prefers the "small-town" atmosphere.

"I'd rather live here than in the city," she admits.

Susie enjoys travelling and she has already made several long treks, including one to her father Hannu's native Finland.

**Calendar of Events**

Each week, the Tribune publishes a Calendar of Events related to activities within the community. There is no charge for this service. Individuals wishing to utilize this space are asked to call 640-2100 no later than 12 noon on the Friday preceding publication.

**Wed. Mar. 12**

**WHITCHURCH STOUFFVILLE RECYCLING GROUP** Annual Meeting at Latham Gallery in the Library at 8 p.m.

**SPRINGVALE BAPTIST CHURCH** and The World Home Bible League present Don Van Polen's newest Multi Media Presentation "The Psalms and The Seasons" at 7:30 p.m.

**Sat. Mar. 15**

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY BAZAAR** at the Silver Jubilee Club at 1 p.m. Home baking, preserves, crafts, plants, books, white elephants as well as a beautiful handmade quilt for sale. Enjoy a cup of tea and a visit with friends.

**CANADIAN OLDE TYME SQUARE DANCE CALLERS ASSOCIATION DANCE** at Buttonville Women's Institute Hall. Ladies provide lunch. Admission: \$4.00 per person.

**MONDAY NIGHT LADIES SOFTBALL REGISTRATION** from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon at the Recreation complex today and March 22 (same

time). Ladies 21 and over are welcome.

**Sun. Mar. 16**

**"TIMMY DAY"** sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 459 from 12 noon until 6 p.m. at the Legion Hall. Live entertainment, special guests, prizes, games for children, etc. All proceeds to Easter Seals.

**Mon. Mar. 17**

**"WEARING OF THE GREEN" HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING** at 8 p.m. in the lower auditorium of Stouffville United Church. Please bring snapshots to be judged for the contest. Alice Vague and Geraldine Johnson in charge.

**CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN** presents a trip to the Southern Hemisphere via slides with the Orchards at 8 p.m. Refreshments. Admission \$3.00.

**CHILD FIND MEETING** at Participation House, Markham at 7:30 p.m. For information call 471-4104 or 294-4873.

**Tues. Mar. 18**

**BLUE HILLS ACADEMY PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENING** at 7:30 p.m. at the Academy. Parents interested in attending please R.S.V.P. 773-4323.

**Thurs. Mar. 20**

**POT LUCK LUNCH** and General Meeting at the Silver Jubilee Club at 12 noon. All members and friends welcome.

**Fri. Mar. 21**

**STOUFFVILLE LIONS ELIMINATION DRAW AND DANCE** at Cedar Beach Pavilion. Dance and hot buffet. For tickets (\$40.00) phone 640-6025.

**Sat. Mar. 22**

**SPRING FASHION SHOW "1ST IN FASHION"** presented by St. Mark's Parent Guild will be held at the school at 8:15 p.m. Refreshments and door prizes. Tickets (\$5.00) are available from St. Mark's School, The Wedding & Lingerie room, The Villager, Josephines or phone 640-2816.

**Pub night**

**CLAREMONT** — An entertainment night is scheduled for Clarendon Legion Hall Saturday, March 15 at 8 p.m.

There's free admission to the pub crawl, which features entertainment by an organ player known as the Yorkshire Lad.

The event's sponsored by branch 483 of the Royal Canadian Legion.

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