Traffic

S.D.S. staff teacher receives Excellence in Education award

By JIM THOMAS

the Region of York.

pient of an Excellence in Educa- France. tion award, the highest honor the board of trustees can bestow.

The presentation was made by Chairman Charles Cooper. Teacher of the Week, Whitchurch-Stouffville trustee Harry Bowes was in attendance.

STOUFFVILLE - Maureen its decision mainly on the work dary school education at Haver-Cunningham's the toast of Stouff- Maureen has done in organizing gal College. ville Dist. Secondary School and exchange trips for students, including an ongoing exchange be-

> The nomination was submitted by Dale Grose of the SDSS staff. Languages and Literatures at the and Senior French. Maureen's our Featured University of Toronto.

Fluent in French

The selection committee based ceived her elementary and secon-

'first love' subjects for Maureen. On May 30, she was the reci- tween Stouffville and Carpentras, She received awards in each following completion of Grade 13. She later majored in Modern

> Maureen's been a teacher in the York Region system 13 years and

She came to the staff at SDSS from Huron Heights; Newmarket.

"I never really thought of doing Languages and History were anything else," Maureen says. She admits, however, that Law was an acceptable alternative.

German, (Grade 11 advanced).

Began In 1985

The highly successful student exchange program began in 1985 and was put into practice the spring of '86. Maureen's the coordinator for the whole of York Region, a responsibility that takes up half of her on-staff time. The link with Carpentras will see Stouffville, Markham, Unionville and Aurora students visiting there for a second time in 1989. The Carpentras contingent's already been here twice.

The two communities, (Stouffville and Carpentras), are now twinned, with local Council rolling out the red carpet this spring. Maureen describes the experi-

ence as 'incredible'. She sees the ties as on-going and the relationships as life-long.

"It tends to promote greater understanding of each other's cultures," she explains, "Canada and France are no longer foreign countries." The exchange program is plan-

ned so far in advance, students have up to 18 months to finance their trips, says Maureen.

She describes the Carpentras adults as "lovely people." "It's like meeting old friends," she says:

Shared Responsibility

While responsibilities related to student exchanges are great, Maureen says the co-operation of host parents lightens the load. She

notes too that the students themselves have responded in a very mature manner with no behavior-

al problems whatsoever. While the travel aspect of the exchange is educational, the live-Core subjects are Beginning in aspect of the program is very beneficial. The visitation period extends over two weeks.

Maureen works out her exchange plans from the office of SDSS. She admits, however, she's really on call 24 hours-a-day, making herself available should problems arise.

She refers to the end result as "very rewarding."

One Carpentras student, Claire Chedot, so enjoyed the exchange, she remained for the whole of her Grade 13 year.

"I'd like to see more of this," Maureen states.

Widely Travelled

Stouffville's Head of Moderns is widely travelled. Visits have included such places as Mexico, British Honduras, Guatamala and parts of Europe. She still has her sights set on Italy, Greece, Australia, Norway, Denmark and maybe Russia.

A resident of Newmarket, Maureen speaks highly of SDSS.

"The rapport here between staff and students is unique in all of York Region," she says. What lies ahead?

Maureen admits an administrative position would be nice, perhaps a vice-principalship. 'I'll take it one step at a time,' she says.

For the moment, she's extremely pleased, even surprised, with her most recent accolade -The Excellence In Education

award. No one deserves it more. jammed

Dear Editor:

Leaving work on Friday, friendly calls of "have a good weekend? follow us to our

For a group of Stouffyilleites, the "good weekend" doesn't begin until late Saturday afternoon.

I count myself as one of the many people who live on the south side of Main Street be-

tween Hwys. 48 and 47.... The Town has not afforded us the privilege of being able to utilize the two stop-lights that have been provided to control traffic.

Saturday is generally programmed in terms of shopping for the following week, and we spend a good part of the day in our cars.

The Southsiders must sit at the end of their streets until some generous soul allows us to pull out half-way. Now, we must hopefully wait for a good Samaritan who understands our plight.

Unfortunately, most of the Sales Barn traffic is comprised of Torontonians who are programmed not to give an inch.

Could the Town not move the lights from in front of the IGA to Market Street and provide access to Main for all residents east of the tracks?

The West side should be considered and possibly a third set of lights is the answer.

I would like to understand the strategy behind the location of the present stop-lights. Hopefully, a member of Council will publically enlighten

Sincerely, Liz Farley, O'Brien Avenue, Stouffville



Maureen Cunningham, Head of Moderns at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, was the recipient of a 1988 Excellence in Education Award at a ceremony held

recently. Maureen organizes the student exchange program for all of York Region.

-Jim Thomas



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