

Local girl a farmer at heart



Sharon Annand has a lot to smile about these days — she was recently selected Outstanding Junior Farmer of the Year. To commemorate her achievement, Sharon was given an engraved plaque. The Uxbridge resident is a farmer at heart although she said she was surprised at being awarded the honor.

By JIM THOMAS

Although Sharon Annand, Conc. 6, R.R. 2, Uxbridge, no longer lives on a farm, she's still a farmer at heart.

Proof of this is the honor received Dec. 13. She was selected Outstanding Jr. Farmer of the Year.

"It was a total surprise," Sharon said. She'll receive an engraved plaque, something she'll always treasure.

It was while living on 200 acres north of Leaskdale that Ron Herrema encouraged her to become involved in Jr. Farmers. That was four years ago.

Since then, Sharon's taken an interest in many facets of club's work including the position of secretary.

She's a former Miss Uxbridge Jr. Farmer and represented the organization in the Spring Water Days Pageant.

She's also a volunteer with the Uxbridge Fair Board.

Her involvements extend to zone activities as well. She was a recent delegate to the People Power Workshop held at Peterborough. She publishes a regional newsletter.

It's really no coincidence that boyfriend John Vanderven is also a Jr. Farmer. In fact, John's the president of the Uxbridge Club.

Sharon is the daughter of Stewart and Lucy Annand, Conc. 6. She has one sister, Sandy, (Mrs. Brian Bierema), Conc. 7.

Sharon received her elementary education at Scott Central Public School, Sandford. She's a graduate of Port Perry High School.

Since sister Sandy resides on part of the former family farm, Sharon visits there as often as possible. She refers to it as her "home away from home."

Sharon's a member in the congregation of Leaskdale Presbyterian Church.

The personable 20-year-old comes by her interest in Jr. Farmers honestly. Her father was also active in the same organization several years ago, and Sharon was enrolled in the Leaskdale Homemakers' Club.

While milking cows is a thing of the past, Sharon appreciates the advantages of growing up with plenty of space and room to breathe.

"Quite a change from two hundred acres to two acres," she admits.

However, her link with Jr. Farmers keeps her in touch.

This most recent honor makes that association all the more worthwhile; an appropriate conclusion to an excellent year.

HOLIDAY HOURS
 Friday, Dec. 23 - 9:00 a.m.-7 p.m.
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Group to consider York DHC

York Region residents are invited to serve on a steering committee to examine the need for a district health council, Health Minister Elinor Caplan has announced.

District health councils are local health and health care planning bodies which provide advice to the minister.

"The strength of district health councils lies in their volunteers and the fact that they bring a local perspective to health issues," says Caplan.

Across Ontario, from almost every township and community, volunteers come together to plan local health care needs, set priorities, promote social development activities and act as a conduit to the ministry of health.

"York Region is the last heavily populated jurisdiction in Ontario without a DHC," says Caplan. "I am inviting concerned and interested residents to volunteer or recommend the names of other residents whom they feel could make a worthy contribution."

Once the steering committee is formed, it will likely take up to a year of study before a recommendation on the formation of a DHC for York Region is made.



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Best wishes during this Festive Season!

FRANK SCARPITTI
 Regional Councillor

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