

Focus

Entertainment

Stouffville woman seeks music ministry

Brienne Robertson is hoping to combine her musical talent with her interest in her church for a career as a touring church musician.

The 19-year-old daughter of Stouffville Christian Fellowship Pastor Sandy Robertson completed her first year of religious training at Emmanuel Bible College in Kitchener this spring.

She hopes to graduate in two years with a Bachelor of Religious Education with a music and youth ministry emphasis. Then, it will be on to the University of Waterloo for a B.A. in sociology.

Brienne, who is working her second summer as a teller at the Stouffville Bank of Nova Scotia, has had a life long interest in music.

She has her Grade 7 piano certificate, and took vocal lessons last year.

She was a member of the E.B.C. Chorale that travelled to churches in Ontario, New York State, and Michigan the past year, singing and performing skits and a musical.

Brienne will marry fellow musician Derek Mann, of Stouffville, this month, and after the couple takes up residence in Waterloo, they plan to pursue their goal to become known in the Canadian Christian Contemporary music scene.

Derek plays guitar and has had vocal training," says Brienne.

"He was a member of the Continental Singers, a United States Christian organization that tours Canada and the U.S., and he was also in the E.B.C. group Exaltation."

The couple will also use the services of a pianist from Guelph to round out a sound Brienne says will be upbeat and lively.

"We want to do more than just hymns," says Brienne, adding that she and her fiancé have already performed on occasion at weddings and at local churches.

"Derek writes his own music, so much of what we perform is original. We are gearing our music towards young people."

While Brienne admits their music has suffered a little as plans for the wedding take over her life, she says it will be back to work in the fall.

"We hope to perform at churches in Southern Ontario twice a month this fall, and we plan to do some demo tapes for the Christian Contemporary market, to be sent to the churches so they will ask us to come and play."

Ultimately, Brienne and her fiancé would like to be hired by a church in a youth ministry and music capacity. "We want to get young people involved. We don't want to be the centre shot."

"We would hope to go as leaders of youth groups to Third World countries to work on church projects, as well as doing our music."

Brienne, whose mother Beth is the pianist at the Stouffville Christian Fellowship Church, feels she will eventually end up



Photo/BRUCE STAPLEY

Brienne Robertson, 19, is hoping to use her talent as a singer in a musical ministry. The daughter of a local minister hopes to set up the ministry in Waterloo, where she'll reside with her husband.

with a church in the Kitchener or Stouffville area, or as far away as Calgary, where her relatives may be staying.

In the meantime, Brienne is hoping she can catch on with a bank in Waterloo to pay the bills

until the day comes when she can derive a living from her music and her ministry.

"Derek is taking carpentry as well so we can make a living before we are working full time with a church."



WHAT'S ON

Nancy Hoskin

Super Dave Osborne at theatre

Super Dave Osborne

The Super Dave Osborne Show will tape its third season at the Markham Theatre for Performing Arts between August 25 and September 16. For free tickets to the tapings call 391-5457.

Brodie's

Ron Beer performs this weekend at Brodie's, located on Hwy. 7 in Unionville.

Herongate Barn

While closed through August, mark your calendars for Sept. 8 when The Odd Couple makes its debut.

For reservations and information call the Herongate Barn Dinner Theatre at 294-0426.

Duchess of Markham

Enjoy Syd Simkins every Wednesday and Friday evening in the pub at The Duchess of Markham, beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Nag's Head North

Nag's Head North features Skyscraper, featuring the music of David Lee Roth and Van Halen, on Thursday night. Spend an evening with Steel Lily Friday when they perform tunes from Styx, Journey and Bon Jovi. On Saturday 21 Guns is back by popular demand. Nag's Head North is located on Woodbine Ave. north of Steeles.

Cullen Barns

Cullen Theatre's 1989 season continues, this time with an exciting romantic comedy-drama that is sure to delight all. Two for the Seesaw, a play written by William Gibson and directed by Marni Walsh, runs until Aug. 12.

The play is a romantic story featuring a tumultuous young lawyer and a not-so-successful dancer turned seamstress, who search to find perfect love and security in each other's arms.

Starting September 1, and running through December 23, is Oh Coward, a musical comedy revue featuring the life of Noel Coward.

For show times and further information call the Cullen Theatre box office at 477-4475 ext. 271.

Champagne Dinner Theatre

Same Time Next Year is now playing at the Champagne Dinner Theatre. It's a funny and romantic story about Doris and George who meet in a country inn in 1951 and carry on an adulterous love affair by agreeing to meet in a guest cottage at the inn every year at the same time for 25 years. Dinner is at 7 p.m. and show begins at 9 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, until Sept. 30. Tickets are \$29.95 Thursdays, and \$32.95 Fridays and Saturdays.

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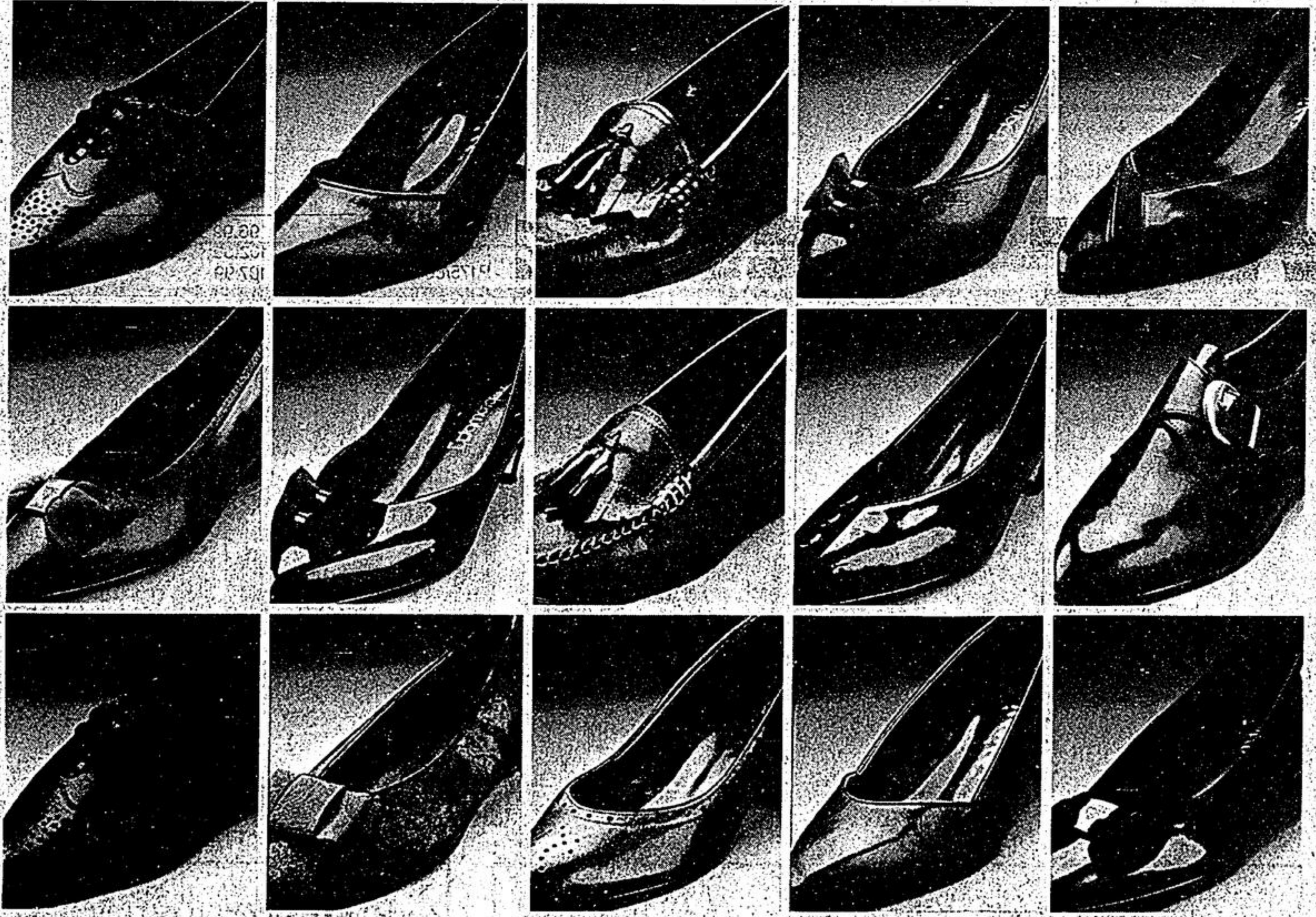
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