

Sports

Angie's supports local teams

Luba Panos still remembers how, as a child growing up in Macedonia, her father wouldn't allow her to play sports.

She would have loved to have been able to go out and get involved in athletics, but had to watch from the sidelines as her brother got to engage in his sporting activities.

Today, the co-owner/operator of Angie's Eatery in Stouffville gets to live out her own childhood athletic fantasies by serving as a willing sponsor of local girls sports teams.

She is especially supportive of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Girls' Hockey Association (WSGHA), and, along with her son and partner Spiros, was honored by that association at its awards night and banquet held at Angie's last Saturday. The restaurant is the perennial sponsor of the WSGHA's Pee Wee rep squad, and this year also sponsored a midget A team.

The wall just inside the door of the restaurant is filled with pictures of the teams sponsored through the years, as well as plaques of appreciation.

When Luba, Spiros, and Luba's husband Sam opened Angie's six years ago, they shelled out a cool \$10,000 in sponsorships of local teams in their first year of opera-

tion. And while that figure has dropped to around \$3,000 each of the past two years due to the uncertain economy, Luba still considers sponsorship to be a top priority. "We get behind the hockey teams, and the baseball, soccer, and ball hockey teams. It's very important that we help out, especially for the girls. It makes them happy, and it makes me happy, especially when you can do something for the kids."

As well as being a financial backer of local kids sports teams, Angie's also hold an annual golf tournament for charity. Last year's event, at the John Evelyn Golf Centre, aided the local Optimists Club. This year's tournament is June 4 at John Evelyn's.

"We feel it's important to get involved in the community," said Luba. "When you run a business, you've got to put something back into the community."



Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Stouffville skaters honored

Julie Selwyn, 14, and Michael Pride, 16, both achieved their gold levels at a test day held in Uxbridge April 28. Selwyn, who has been skating for nine years, was successful in her Gold Dance, while Pride, who has been skating for seven years, made the grade in his Gold Free Skate. Both will be performing solos at the club's bi-annual ice show May 13-14.



Luba and Spiros Panos were honored by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Girls Hockey Association for sponsorship.

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