

PROFILE: Stouffville getting recognition for its new look in national garden magazine

Town's new look leads to business venture

BY KATE GILDERDALE
CORRESPONDENT

Since the rejuvenation of Main Street, even Stouffville's garbage containers have a touch of class.

While credit is due to council and hard-working volunteers, kudos for the overall vision of the town's transformation goes to resident Loretta Lavell.

An avid gardener with a keen professional eye for interior and exterior design, Lavell volunteered to take on the project after reading a letter in The Tribune, expressing concern about the poor state of the downtown core.

"That's how I felt - I had really become ashamed of our Main Street," said Lavell.

When she learned that no one had responded to the Horticultural Society's appeal for help with the planters, Lavell contacted Mayor Wayne Emmerson about the situa-

tion. "He said, 'Why don't you put a presentation together when the Business Improvement Area (BIA) meets in January?' and at that time they adopted a resolution that I would do the streetscape."

Lavell already had a colour scheme in mind and with her extensive knowledge of gardening, she knew which plants would thrive in specific locations.

As it happened, the timing of the project couldn't have been better for everyone concerned.

"I had the time and the energy and the passion to work on something like this, and although it was not my intention to start my own business, this experience turned out to be the catalyst for that as well."

The initial suggestion came from Lavell's husband, Phil, but she put it on a back burner until her work on the town project was complete.

"I wanted to finish it to the same standard I started it," she observed. Last spring she flew to England, where she toured some of the country's celebrated gardens, a trip which gave her fresh inspiration for the task at hand.

Overall, she spent close to five months working full-time on creating the beautiful streetscape residents and visitors enjoy today, and she is delighted with the response.

"I seem to have zeroed in on what the people of this town wanted - that sense of integrity, which we had somehow lost, has been brought back to Main Street."

The town's facelift has even attracted the interest of Plant & Garden, a national magazine.

"They're doing a piece comparing Markham and Stouffville in their August issue and it feels so good to see Stouffville get that kind of recognition."

Recognition has also come from representatives of two other



LORETTA LAVELL

municipalities, who were so impressed at what they saw when they attended a meeting in town, that they contacted Lavell for advice.

What has also been gratifying, she said, is the willingness of volunteers to take responsibility for

maintaining plantings in specific areas, including Commercial Street, the front of the town library, the Lions gazebo and the train station.

Among the many improvements instigated by Lavell are the removal of the concrete planters from Main Street to the library parking lot and Civic Square, repainting the grey lampposts, an elegant black, adding benches and rearranging existing seating areas to encourage people to socialize or simply sit down, relax and watch the world go by.

None of it would have been possible without the full cooperation of Emmerson and town council, insisted Lavell.

"I was given so much creative freedom and Wayne deserves top marks for his leadership."

Lavell's new company, which specializes in garden design, is called The English Gardener, and she can be reached at 640-4523.

Come To Church On Sunday



Stouffville Clippers

**Whitchurch-Stouffville
Minor Hockey Association**

REP "A" TRY-OUTS

Minor Novice (1990)	September 8.....	6:00 pm	Pad B
Anne Salvagna	September 9.....	6:00 pm	Pad A
640-7089	September 11.....	6:30 pm	Pad B
Novice (1989)	August 30.....	4:00 pm	Pad B
Mike Briggs	September 10.....	6:00 pm	Pad A
642-1108	September 11.....	7:00 pm	Pad A
Minor Atom (1988)	August 30.....	5:00 pm	Pad B
Rick Sooley	September 9.....	7:00 pm	Pad A
888-0022	September 11.....	8:00 pm	Pad A
Atom (1987)	August 17.....	6:30 pm	Pad B
Brent Stachel	August 20.....	6:30 pm	Pad B
640-2384			
Minor Peewee (1986)	August 30.....	6:00 pm	Pad B
Grant Nesbitt	September 8.....	8:00 pm	Pad A
640-5104	September 11.....	8:30 pm	Pad B
Peewee (1985)	August 30.....	3:00 pm	Pad B
Claude Maillet	September 9.....	8:30 pm	Pad B
640-3231			
Minor Bantam (1984)	September 10.....	9:00 pm	Pad B
Trevor Zimmerman			
649-6065			
Bantam (1983)	September 1.....	10:00 pm	Pad B
John Carruthers	September 9.....	9:00 pm	Pad A
649-2125	September 11.....	9:00 pm	Pad A
Midget (1982/1981)	September 2.....	9:30 pm	Pad B
Dan Fontanna	September 8.....	10:00 pm	Pad A
887-5071	September 9.....	9:30 pm	Pad B
Juvenile (1978-1980)	August 23.....	6:00 pm	Pad B
Lee Burton	August 26.....	6:00 pm	Pad B
895-2007	August 30.....	9:00 pm	Pad B

ALL TRY-OUTS \$7.00 PER HOUR
 PHONE FOR COST OF JUVENILE TRY-OUT
 ***ALL PLAYERS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH W.S.M.H.A.
 PRIOR TO TRY-OUTS FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE***

STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH
 34 Church St. N. 640-1163
 Rev. Robert Nightingale

Sunday, August 23rd, 1998
 9:30 a.m. - Worship Service
 Summer Program for Children
 Everyone Welcome

WIDEMAN MENNONITE CHURCH
 10530 Hwy. 48 - North of Major Mackenzie Phone: 640-6219
 Interm. Pastor Henry Regehr

Sunday, AUGUST 23, 1998
 10:30 am - The Gift of Service
 5:30 pm - Backyard Barbeque at
 Ed and Margi Hoover's
 home
 Everyone Welcome

**THE ANGLICAN
PARISH of
CHRIST CHURCH**

254 Sunset Blvd., Stouffville
 The Rev. Robert A. Shields 640-1461

August 23rd, 1998
 12th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m. - Holy Communion
 10:00 a.m. - Holy Baptism
 With Nursery Provided
 Everyone Welcome!

STOUFFVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

A Fellowship Church
 6273 Main Street
 Pastor: Rev. Gordon Bickle
 Asst. Pastor: Gordon MacCormack

Sunday, August 23rd, 1998
 10:00 a.m. Bible Class
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
 Message: The Faith of Noah
 Music: The Bickles
 Wednesday 2 pm - Bible Study & Prayer
 "The Seeds We Sow Today
 Determine The Kind Of Fruit
 We'll Reap Tomorrow"
 We Care

**Springvale
Baptist Church**
 Stouffville Rd. at Kennedy Rd.
 887-5651

Senior Pastor: Bob Flemming
 Associate Pastor: Bill Thornton
 Associate Pastor: Brian G. Simcoe
 Student Ministries: Heather Thornton
 Worship & Music Co-ordinator: Sharon Russell
 Visitation/Children's Ministries Co-ordinator:

**CELEBRATING 150
YEARS OF MINISTRY**
 Sunday, August 23rd, 1998
 10:00 a.m.
 Worship Service
 Pastor Bob Flemming
 6:00 p.m.
 Student Ministries Presentation:
 Pastor Brian Simcoe
**SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL
RESUME IN THE FALL**

VIVIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
 473-3543
 On Hwy. 48 at Vivian Rd.
 Pastor Robert Okum

Holding forth the doctrines of grace

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
 7:00 p.m. - Evening Service
 Everyone is Welcome

**BLOOMINGTON
GOSPEL CHURCH**
 (South of 47 Highway formerly Bloomington Rd.)
 Pastor: Dr. John Howarth

Sunday, August 23rd, 1998
 9:45 am - Sunday School
 11:00 am - "We've Only Just Begun"
 Philippians 1:6
 Everyone Welcome

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& Sun
...
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Tribune

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