

Multi-tasking volunteer tops at Stouffville policing centre

A long-time Stouffville resident, who says she "likes to get things done" came home recently with the Stouffville Community Policing Centre's Volunteer of the Year award for 2002.

Susan Dekker, who lives in town with husband John and youngsters Marina, 9, Taya, 6, and Halli, 4, was instrumental in getting hundreds of local schoolchildren involved in the centre's programs. She started by visiting all the elementary schools in the area to meet with principals and school council members.



SUSAN DEKKER

Last year more than 600 entries came in for the Easter Colouring contest alone. The older children, in Grades 4 to 6, designed posters on how to improve communication between the police and young people. Mrs. Dekker is looking for sponsors for the contest.

The community policing centre also holds an annual bike rodeo, a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and is the meeting place for little trick-or-treaters during the Stouffville BIA's Halloween event, before the kids head out to receive treats from Main Street merchants.

Mrs. Dekker also comes into the policing centre's office once a week to take phone calls and talk to people who come in with their concerns. "Businesses may

OUR TOWN

HANNELORE VOLPE

call with problems such as loitering or graffiti," Mrs. Dekker said. "If you need us, call us." She estimates that she spends between 20 and 30 hours a month volunteering for the centre.

"Susan...has been very active in the community devoting many hours to projects that have enhanced our town and youth," said Bill Burnett, who heads the policing centre.

Mrs. Dekker is also on the steering committee of the York Durham Academy for the Performing Arts, which will involve close to 150 youngsters from both municipalities in two plays this spring: Oliver and The Wizard of Oz. As chair of the fundraising committee at Orchard Park Public School, she is beginning work on the school's "Spring Fling" event.

Twins to be fed by Lions

Eleven-year-old twins Clair and Devon Evers were on the agenda to talk to the Stouffville Lions Club last night on how to preserve the environment.

The twins came to the attention of the club's program director, Tom Winters, from an article by Joan Ransberry in the Stouffville Tribune's Jan. 2 issue. The twins told of their concerns about endangered species, about the hazards of oil

spills and their wish for clean air, drinkable water and a pollution-free world.

Their awareness of how precious resources such as water are

came from their years of growing up at their home near Musselman's Lake.

This spring, the youngsters are planning to help the Friends of

Musselman's Lake with their cleanup around the lake.

Clair has her sights set on being a veterinarian, while Devon has an artistic bent.



Job Fair for Burger King in Stouffville on Jan. 15, 2003

from 10:30 am - 4:30 pm

To be held at:

The Stouffville Neighbourhood Resource Centre

28 Sandiford Drive, Unit 7
Stouffville

AND

On Jan. 16, 2003 from
3:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Lebovic Leisure Centre
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