

Mini railway fans can take rides

The Richmond Hill Live Steamers are giving visitors a chance to "ride the rails" on scale model trains this weekend.

The non-profit group of miniature train enthusiasts holds its open house Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 15922 McCowan Rd., north of Aurora Road.

Members have pursued their interest in working with small scale trains for the past 25 years and have been at the present site since around 1980.

The smallest trains are miniature #1 models, usually 1/24 scale. The larger trains, which are scale reproductions of actual steam or diesel engines pulling cars, can be ridden. There are five different sizes of tracks on the forested property.

Members are of all ages and are dedicated to building and operating trains.

The 40 members come from Whitchurch-Stouffville and across York Region, Mississauga, Brampton, Georgetown and Toronto.

The club meets at noon the third Sunday of each month at the McCowan Road property. In the winter, meetings move to members' homes.

There is no admission to the open house, but donations are gratefully accepted.

For information on the club or the open house, call 416-261-9789 or 905-841-6059.

Degrassi episode shot in Stouffville

Degrassi: The Next Generation, which was filmed partly in downtown Stouffville, will air on TV

Our Town

with Hannelore Volpe

Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 8:30 p.m.

In the special one-hour episode entitled, Father Figure, Emma Nelson travels to Stouffville to meet her father. The BIA office in the Stouffville train station was portrayed as the ticket office.

Several scenes with Ms Nelson, played by 15-year-old Toronto actress Miriam McDonald, and Craig Manning, portrayed by actor Jake Epstein, were filmed at the station, on Church Street and at the Over the Edge skatepark early in June. Several local teens became extras during the filming.

The show, produced by Epite Pictures, is starting its third season.

The popular CTV show began as a spin-off from the Degrassi High series of the late-1980s, exploring the adolescent trials and tribulations of a group of young teens.

In Degrassi: The Next Generation, teenagers attend the newly refurbished Degrassi Community School. The show is set and shot entirely in southern Ontario. Most scenes are filmed on a set in downtown Toronto.

Out of the 88 "shoot days" for each season, only eight are on location.

The show was also filmed at Shouldice hospital in Thornhill, at a beach in Bluffer's Park, at a hockey arena and on Eglinton Avenue in uptown Toronto over the summer.

About 100 crew members spent more than 12 hours filming in Stouffville for the Father Figure episode.

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