

## Stouffville Says

By Hannelore Volpe

### Who is your hero and why?

— Asked at A & P in Stouffville

George KARAS



My uncle Jim. He came to Canada in 1968, slowly built up a business and did very well for himself. He is a family man and is always there for his family.

Stephen STEVENSON



Field Marshal Erwin Rommel. He was the last of the gentleman soldiers who lived by the rule book. He had a definite view of where things should be and followed the rules of war.

Pam CROSBY



My dad, Bill. He battled stomach cancer and died a year and a day after retiring. He had an amazing singing voice and instilled in us the value of family getting along with friends.

Michael KEYES



My parents, Martin and Helen. We shop together and I take them out to dinner. The way they live their lives has inspired me.

## HOLD ON TIGHT, GRACIE!



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

Gracie, a puppy schnoodle, gets the first toboggan ride of her life from Brianna Chekay and Brittany Barber, both 11, as they slide down on toboggan hill in Memorial Park

## Writer in suspense as contest concludes

### Stouffville author makes final four of fiction writers American Idol-style event

BY JIM MASON  
Staff Writer

It's a contest within a contest to die for.

Literally. Stouffville's Kimberley Howe's novel, *One Shot, Two Kills*, has reached the final four of Romantic Times' American Title III Contest, the fiction writer's version of American Idol.

Each month, the two contestants with the lowest number of on-line votes are eliminated from the competition while the survivors battle for the grand prize, a writing contract with Dorchester Publishing in New York.

Voting in the current segment ends Sunday.

"It would be incredible to win," said Ms Howe, who has signed with a New York literary

agent. "But being in the contest provides other grand opportunities for publishing, as well."

More than 250 manuscripts were entered and narrowed down to 10 for the contest.

Ms Howe is the lone Canadian remaining in the contest.

*The lucky winner will*

*have his or her namesake suffer an untimely demise in her next novel.*

To celebrate making the final four, Ms Howe, 38, is running a "Kill Me Off" contest.

After voting, send her an e-mail via her website, kjhowe.com, with the phrase "Kill Me Off" and your name.

The lucky winner will have his or her namesake suffer an untimely demise in her next novel.

Chapter one of the romantic suspense novel is posted at

[yorkregion.com/yr/yr4/PenPixel/](http://yorkregion.com/yr/yr4/PenPixel/)

You can click on the link at the bottom of the page and vote for her novel. You can also vote by sending an empty e-mail to [webmaster@romantictimes.com](mailto:webmaster@romantictimes.com) with One Shot, Two Kills in the subject line.

The contest winner will be announced during the RT Booklovers Convention in Houston April 27 and in the June issue of RT BOOKreviews.

Ms Howe lived as child in Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Caribbean.

Books were her sanctuary, an escape from the pressure of being the new child in the neighbourhood.

After graduating from University of Toronto with a degree in labour management relations, she worked in the business world then as a medical writer, a career she maintains part time.

"An excellent training ground for research and answers to countless Jeopardy questions," she said.



**KIMBERLEY HOWE:** Stouffville author drumming up support for entry in on-line competition.

She pursued "every writing course available" including obtaining a master's degree in writing popular fiction last year.

"It's pretty exciting," she said this week. "I'm just trying to get the word out about the contest."

For more on the contest, go to [www.romantictimes.com](http://www.romantictimes.com)

## SOCCER REGISTRATION

As part of our new "Growing with Stouffville" initiative, Partner Members of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club (WSSC) will receive priority access to playing slots within divisions over ordinary Members. Partner Members are those soccer players who have one or more family members that "partner" with WSSC by performing a minimum of 5 hours of volunteer work for the club over the course of the season. WSSC is embarking on a number of Growing with Stouffville programs, like this one, to ensure that it meets the growing soccer needs of the community. Unusual population growth and limited resources like fields will likely create a capacity shortfall for the club in the short term. Growing with Stouffville initiatives target a growth in fields, volunteer assistance and other resources.

Our next general registration day open to all will be  
**Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup> 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the arena • More info at [www.wssc.info](http://www.wssc.info)**