

Sun-Tribune people



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Whitchurch-Stouffville artist Josie Schwarzli with puzzle produced from one of her paintings. It's available locally at Candlelight and Memories.

Whitchurch-Stouffville News Digest

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SDSS' farewell party open to students, alumni

Before Stouffville District Secondary School's doors are closed and the lights turned off for the last time at the end of this school year, a special commemoration will take place.

Stouffville's only high school, at Bramble Crescent and Millard Street, is closing after 52 years. A new school on Weldon Road, behind Sobeys, is slated to open in September.

All students, alumni and community members are invited to Stouffville Palooza, the school's closing celebration June 1. There will be food, entertainment and prizes.

The celebration begins with an afternoon dedicated to the students. Events such as Frisbee, globe ball, gladiator events, sumo wrestling and a dunk tank have been organized by the student council.

In the evening, school singers and improv artists will perform. The Stouffville Lions Club will host a beef barbecue between 5 and 8 p.m. Music by a DJ and dancing, including square dancing and line dancing, are part of the evening festivities from 7 to 11 p.m.

Tickets for the roast beef dinner are \$10, with a hotdog meal \$5. Tickets are being sold at the school as well as Button, Armstrong, Ness Lawyers, Barthau Jewellers, The Healing Force, the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce and Card's TV.

Alumni can RSVP by calling the school at 905-640-1433. Reservations can be made by those living out of the area.

For more event information, go to stouffvilledistrict.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

SOUND OFF

Have something to say about these or other stories?

E-mail us at jmason@yrmg.com

Artist's appeal isn't puzzling

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

FACES & PLACES

Seeing her artwork cut into a thousand pieces doesn't faze Whitchurch-Stouffville artist Josie Schwarzli.

Her painting of a bull standing in a field surrounded by windswept trees under a darkening sky was chosen by a Canadian toy manufacturer for its Canadian Artists puzzle series.

What's unique about this group of puzzles, Mrs. Schwarzli said, all the paintings are by current artists.

The puzzles are being sold by Toys R Us stores across Canada, as well as at Candlelight and Memories on Stouffville's Main Street and some art galleries.

The other artists are Ken Danby, Jake Vandenbrink, Debi

Fitzgerald, Kris Nahrgang, Eddie LePage, Kathy Hageman and Trevor Tennant. Mrs. Schwarzli's favourite subjects are from nature, which she describes as "God's masterpiece".

The artists for the series were chosen by the company's representatives who check out galleries and art websites for suitable works.

Many of the other artists in the series work in a high realism style, Mrs. Schwarzli said, whereas her work is much more

textured, which gives it a different look.

She derives her inspiration from the countryside surrounding her home and her love of nature.

"If the viewer can feel as I did and pick up the serenity, the heat, the coldness of the scene, the joy or the solitude. Then I have accomplished my goal," Mrs. Schwarzli said.

A few years ago, she began experimenting with abstract art, producing works she describes as symbolism, since every painting is full of hidden meaning.

She taught art and developed programs in elementary and high school in a career spanning 35 years.

She also taught Ontario Ministry of Education courses for

teachers, and was an art consultant and department head.

'If the viewer can feel as I did and pick up the serenity, the heat, the coldness of the scene, the joy or the solitude portrayed, then I have accomplished my goal.'

She is a member of Visual Arts Ontario, the Latham Gallery in Stouffville, the Palettes of Whitchurch, and Varley Gallery in Markham.

She has shown her works in galleries throughout the Greater Toronto Area.



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