

Music Town award winner likes tradition

Pat Wild is the guiding light behind two separate, yet associated families.

Her sibling family includes husband Bob, son Brandon and daughters Kaitlyn and Lillian.

Her church family is the choir and congregation of Stouffville United Church.

Pat will be honoured at a ceremony Wednesday. She'll receive the coveted Music Town, Ontario award during an 8 p.m. concert at Stouffville United.

The event marks the beginning of Strawberry Festival weekend. The official presentation will be made by Dave Duggan, last year's award recipient.

The 45-voice male chorus, Men of Note, will highlight the evening along with soloists Tom Doherty of Uxbridge and Susan Brown of Toronto. Pat and daughter Lillian will combine on an offertory piano duet.

Net receipts from the free-will offering will go to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Student Music Scholarship Fund. Donations will also be received for the Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank.

For Pat, music is her life. While attending Northview Heights Secondary School in Willowdale, she played in the band and participated in several musical performances.

By a stroke of good luck, her mother and an aunt took it on themselves to contact the Heintzman Company in Toronto. Her father, obviously impressed by their assertiveness, arranged to have a rented piano delivered to their home.

Pat practised at every opportunity.

She has a BA from the University of Toronto.

Following marriage, she and Bob moved to Stouffville. Daughter Kaitlyn is a dental hygienist. Lillian, a 2005 Student Music Scholarship recipient, is a graduate of Stouffville District Secondary School. Brandon, also a graduate of SDSS, is an exceptional guitarist and pianist.

While raising a family might have deterred the musical ambitions of someone less motivated, for Pat it incited her to even greater things. She received her grade 8 and 9 piano from Doris Taylor and her grade 10 piano from Sharon Wilkinson, both of Stouffville.

Pat is music director at Stouffville United, playing the piano, the organ and leading the choir.

"It's a thrill," she said of this latest achievement. "Never in my wildest dreams did I ever consider myself a music teacher or director."



Jim Thomas

Roaming Around

The choir, she says, has been extremely supportive. More recently, she initiated monthly Sunday evening concerts. All have been well attended. She calls it "a team effort".

As important as this is, Pat's participation extends far beyond her church. Other involvements include the Bach to Blues Company, Music Mania, York Durham Academy of the Performing Arts, Student Music Scholarship concerts as well as assisting Martha McConnachie at Summitview Public School and Miriam Sellick-Smith at Stouffville Secondary.

Since 1996, she's conducted piano classes out of her home. Students include children, teens and adults. A beautiful Vogel baby grand is a recent family addition.

While widespread, Pat keeps in close touch with her four sisters. Her mother, Josephine Proctor, lives in Barrie.

Pat refuses to hide her appreciation of this most recent music award.

"A surprise and an honour," she said of the award, "considering those previously recognized. I'm now one of them. What a compliment."

Previous recipients include Lorne Boadway and Jim Rehill, (1991); Clarion Baker and Jean Hammond, (1992); Alma Oldham and The Wright Family, (1993); Bertha Stouffer and Julia Topping, (1994); David Boyd, (1995); Lennie Wallace, (1996); Jean Thomas, (1997); Kathi Phillips, (1998); Doris Harvey, (1999); Ann Gage, (2000); Gary Burke and Vince Parry, (2001); David and Sharon Baxter, (2002); Wanda Stride, (2003); Wayne Hill, (2004); Laurie D'Alessandro, (2005) and David Duggan, (2006).

And now Pat Wild, 2007. The tradition continues.

Omission

John Roberts was left out of a list of teachers attending closing celebrations at Stouffville District Secondary School in my June 7 column. Apologies.

Jim Thomas has written for Stouffville newspapers for more than 50 years.

WHAT'S FOR DINNER!

From our frozen entree section we'll have our Chicken Parmesan. It's made with ... "thin slices of boneless chicken breast lightly breaded in herb-seasoned crumbs — fried 'til a golden brown — layered with a light tomato sauce with garlic, onions, oregano and basil, mozzarella cheese and topped with parmesan cheese"

Serves 3-4
Reg. \$14.95

25% OFF THIS WEEK

MARINATED CHICKEN BREASTS

We make our chicken breasts in a number of marinades, the most popular of which are zesty lemon, our teriyaki and maple-mustard. What makes these so good is (a) we use only air-chilled chicken breasts, which we trim clean, (b) we buy larger chickens so that the breasts are substantial-meal size to be sure and (c) we make all of our marinades ourselves — nothing pre-made from a bottle and (d) we don't "tumble" the chicken to moisture-enhance it. With us, all you get is the real thing.

Reg. \$11.95

25% OFF THIS WEEK

BEEF BARLEY SOUP

Our feature soup is Beef Barley. I love the heartiness of this soup — it has great flavour, lots of beef (brisket point) and it's filling.

Reg. \$5.99 ea.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

DRISCOLL RASPBERRIES

We've received a good amount of these for our upcoming weekend. With the nicer weather, we've got nicer berries and a lot of them.

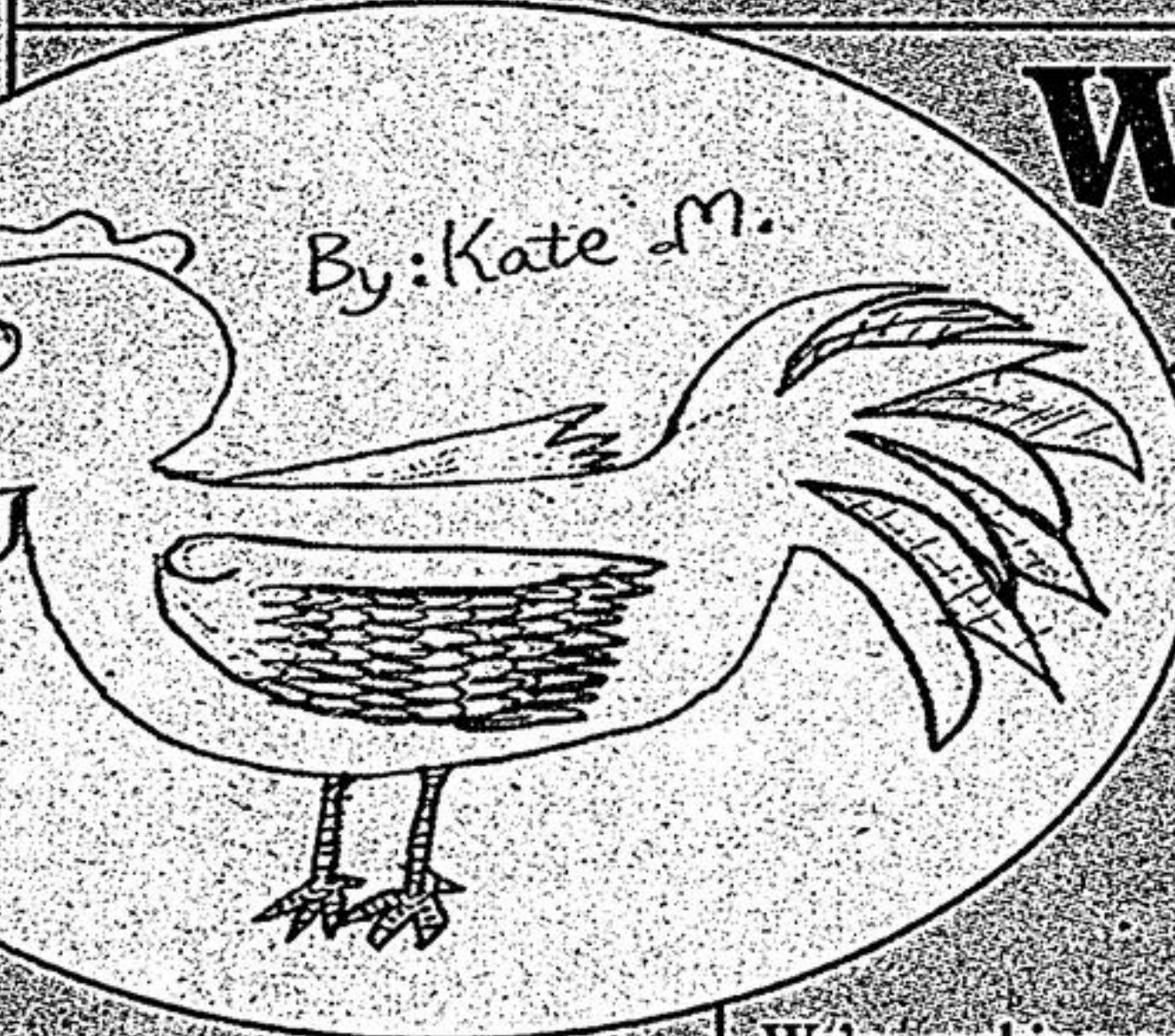
From California

1.99 Package

FRESH GROUPE

Our feature from the fish counter for this week is Grouper. It has a fairly mild flavour and a firm texture, which makes it ideal for grilling or blackening. Grouper is a medium-fat fish and cats fairly similar to Halibut. These are caught along the North-Florida to Carolina Atlantic Coast.

As usual, recipes will be available to help out.



24.95 LB. THIS WEEK

WHAT'S BAKING THIS WEEK!

We're making a few items with fresh strawberries for this week. They are

STRAWBERRY MOUSSE CUPS — this is our mousse made with local berries piled into the china ramekins.

It's a cool summer dessert. Reg. **\$3.99 ea.**

DEEP-DISH STRAWBERRY RHUBARB PIES — these are the big ones — and the small size as well. These travel well if you need a cottage dessert.

Reg. **\$6.95 & \$15.95 ea.**

STRAWBERRY-WALNUT CREAM PUFFS — these are made in the usual cream-puff crust, but filled with strawberry-mousse, white chocolate cream, caramel and candied walnuts — with even more berries.

Reg. **\$4.95 ea.**

These items, and maybe more, will be **25% OFF THIS WEEK**

WHAT'S COOKING AT THE DELI!

For this week, we'll have a couple of additional features happenin' and they are ...

AN ITALIAN POTATO SALAD — we use red-skinned market potatoes dressed with a sharp balsamic dressing, spring onions, garlic and sliced red onions — and spices!

Also, a **CITRUS COUS-COUS** — made with orange juice with olive oil, steeped 'til fluffy, then seasoned with diced orange, grapefruit, pineapples, mint — and spices as well!

And lastly, **ROESTI-CRUSTED HALIBUT** — with a black-bean and grilled corn salsa.

CANTALOUPE

We have a load of amazing 'lopes for this week. They are thin-skinned, bright orange and full of sugar.

Size '9', which is very large.

1.99 EACH

OUR FARMER'S SAUSAGES

These are a milder sausage than most we make, with more finely-ground fresh pork. The seasoning allows you to be generous with sauerkraut or good amounts of mustard (or both).

Just great grilled and slipped into a bun.

Reg. \$3.99 lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' OUTSIDE!

Our mall is having a mini sidewalk sale, so I'm thinking that we should do our part. Most all of the outdoor plants, hanging baskets, small stuff, big stuff, some urns, some arrangements, most everything will be 1/2 price this week. It's last call.

VILLAGE GROCER
QUALITY FOODS

SPECIALS IN EFFECT UNTIL CLOSING SUNDAY JUNE 24TH
Hours:
Mon. 11:00-7:00 — Tues.-Thurs. 9:00-7:00 — Fri. 9:00-8:00
Sat. 9:00-6:00 — Sun. 10:00-5:00
548 Carlton Road, Unionville
940-1770
www.thevillagegrocer.com