

Stouffville youth to teach English

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tion (teaching ESL, working as a teaching assistant or in a day-care), small business or social work.

The Grade 11 student will be teaching English and helping with projects in his new community, such as starting recycling programs.

This experience will be important in helping him to decide on a future career path, he believes.

Students were able to choose whether they'd like to be in a rural or urban setting.

"In rural areas, you would be on horseback some of the time," Corey said.

Public transit won out over trekking by horseback, so he'll be in a more urban setting.

Adjusting to the different foods in the South American country will be one of the challenges of the trip, he said.

Academic prerequisites to participate in the program include having at least Grade 10 Spanish. Corey has already taken French and wanted to learn a third language. He'd like to pick up French again next year if there is room in his academic schedule, he said.

To prepare for the trip, students meet monthly at Thornlea Secondary School to learn about their host country. One of the things they found is that Ecuadorians are much more family-oriented and have more tightly knit communities than North Americans.

Once in Ecuador, students

stay with their host families for two or three weeks at a time. Then for a three- or four-day period, they meet in a central location to share their experiences.

Students earn six high school credits during their co-op. They are immersed in the Spanish language and the local culture, are often "adopted" by the host family with which they live and effectively become a member of the community.

After they return, the students share their experiences through presentations to school, business and community groups.

For more information on the International Co-operative Education program, visit yrdsb.edu.on.ca/ice



STAFF PHOTO/BILL ROBERTS

FROSTY GETS A DAY JOB

Suzy Sankey patrolled Main Street Stouffville dressed as a snowman Sunday to promote Crossroads Restaurant.

Family thanks hospital staff

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she has decided February is too early to travel with the family's newest addition. That's when she would otherwise have done vision screening for the athletes at the National Special Olympic Games in Quebec.

Mr. Aniceto is a teacher at Westminster Public School in Thornhill, teaching grades 6, 7 and 8 math. He is also the technical lead teacher there.

He completed a graduate degree in education at the University of Western Ontario and is working on a graduate degree in math at York University.

The new parents had nothing but praise for the care they received.

"I can't say enough about the nurses and staff here at the Markham Stouffville Hospital," Mr. Aniceto said. "They took excellent care of us and made everything very easy."

They are grateful to Dr. Edith Linkenheil, who delivered the baby.

Mr. Aniceto has a second-degree black belt in karate and is a karate instructor at the Knox Martial Arts studio in Markham.

It is so family-oriented, Mr. Aniceto said, "I would love for my son to be part of it one day."

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