

SUN-TRIBUNE PEOPLE

California native Bonny Morgan is a professional singer living in Stouffville. Her new CD came out last fall. She will play the annual Stars of Stouffville concert, a fundraiser for WhiStle Radio, Feb. 23.



Singing career found Bonny at age 14

BY ALYSHIA HIGGINS
Correspondent

Bonny Morgan is the Jill of all trades, in the singing world that is.

The California native and Stouffville resident writes music, plays instruments and sings. And it's all in a day's work.

"I'm always working on music, all the time," she said.

"I sing for a couple hours every day. I use my voice as my melody."

Ms Morgan has been a professional singer since age 14.

She's performed all over the world, including China, Hawaii, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Japan.

She's also sung at several events and venues such as the Royal York Hotel, Niagara Fallsview Casino and Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

"I never really decided it (to become a singer), it just sort of happened," Ms Morgan said.

Her mother used to sing, and a few of her relatives played musical instruments, but none were as involved in singing as she is.

Ms Morgan said her inspiration was her mother, although she was influenced by singers such as Barbra Streisand, Nancy Wilson, Frank Sinatra and Gordon Lightfoot.

She also admits to also being inspired by the everyday individual.

"I'm inspired by many people, living their own truths," she said. "I'm influenced by everyone and every type of music."

With all that singing, one might think it would take a toll on her vocal chords, but Ms Morgan said she has been to an ear, nose and throat specialist and she's in good shape.

Besides performing a couple times a week, Ms Morgan appears at the third annual Stars of Stouffville Feb. 23 at the Christ Church Anglican.

Several other female performers are singing at the fundraiser for WhiStle Radio of Stouffville.

Ms Morgan also released her first CD, *Acoustically Yours*, with the help of her husband, in November.

"There are some classic tunes, some of my own originals and a rewrite of a song."

She hopes to continue making music and performing and, long-term, she hopes to become involved in charities.

As for right now, she's happy with where she is and is going to continue making music.

"I think the music chooses you," she said. "I'd like to continue doing what I'm doing in a lot of different areas."

For more information on Bonny Morgan or the Stars of Stouffville event, go to bonnymorgan.com.

FEMALES STARS SHINE AT SHOW

Brian O'Sullivan is presenting the third annual Stars of Stouffville Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. at Christ Church Anglican. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

► Performers include Grainne Ryan, Wanda Stride and Susan Luke, Lenore, Marie-Lynn Hammond, Bonny Morgan, Rachael Bradley and Carys Montgomery accompanied by Justin Kerswill.

► A post-concert party takes place at The Main Course in downtown Stouffville.

► For more, go to whistleradio.com

Whitchurch-Stouffville News Digest

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Carnival today at lake

The fifth annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Winter Carnival is on today from 1 to 4 p.m. at Cedar Beach Park at Musselman's Lake. Activities include face painting, skating, music and hay rides.

Pre-March break session hosted at museum

Not sure what to do with the children on the Friday before March break?

Children 8 to 12 can participate in hands-on crafts, heritage cooking and traditional games March 7 at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum.

The cost is \$32 for members and \$40 for non-members and includes all materials and snacks. Pre-registration is required.

For more information, call 905-727-8954.

Human side of depression focus of library presentation

Stouffville resident Charlene Jones talks about depression from a hopeful perspective Feb. 13 at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library.

Depression: Light in the Darkness is an interactive talk examining some of the experiences associated with depression and shows how depression is a response to being all too human.

Ms Jones is a psychotherapist who combines Jungian dream therapy, meditation, bio-energetic work and astrology to encourage people on their path.

The one-hour talk begins at 7:30 p.m. The library is at 30 Burkholder St. in Stouffville Memorial Park. Admission is free, but donations are being accepted.

Call 905-642-7323 for more information.

SOUND OFF

Have something to say about these or other stories?

E-mail us at jmason@ymg.com

\$15,000 Trillium grant for Stouffville radio station

Stouffville's fledgling radio station has received a financial boost a month before going on the FM dial.

WhiStle Radio, 102.7 CIWS-FM, received a \$15,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for equipment purchase this week. The money will help buy a transmitter, antenna, a main studio console

and other equipment.

"The grant is instrumental to our launch, which is still on track for mid-March," CEO Jim Priebe said.

MID-MARCH LAUNCH

Fundraising efforts have raised \$45,000 in equipment, premises and cash, Mr. Priebe said.

WhiStle Radio is a non-profit station airing news, views, spoken-word entertainment and music of interest to people in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

WhiStle is also looking for volunteers to help build its new studios on Main Street, across from Scotiabank.

WhiStle has been broadcasting

on the Internet, at whistleradio.com, for three years.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation gave \$33.1 million to 531 organizations in the arts and culture, environment, human and social services, and sports and recreation sectors last year.

For more, go to whistleradio.com

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