Scouts on comeback trail in Stouffville this fall

BY ALYSHIA HIGGINS

One of Whitchurch-Stouffville's traditions is making a comeback.

The First Stouffville Scouts is starting up once again, after a fiveyear absence due to lack of leaders.

Registration takes place Sept. 9 at the United Church, 34 Church St., from 7:30 until 8:30 p.m. Beavers, cubs and scouts will all be registered during this time.

The group, for boys aged 12 to 15, is one of several in the Stouffville Scouting program, which has been around for more than 50 years.

Larry Hopperton, one of the two leaders starting the group, said activities are already in the works for members.

"We will be building our Santa Claus parade float, starting in September," he said, adding regular winter outings and canoe trips are also on the agenda.

Mr. Hopperton, who has several years experience as a cub and beaver leader, will be joined by Dale Parks, a two-year cub leader, in mentoring the group.

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Mary Copp will also be helping out.

"We believe that Scouting is an important character building activity," said Mr. Hopperton. "Our role as leaders is now to guide the group in decision making, provide mentoring support so that activities work, and to facilitate the implementation of the decisions."

In addition to character building, campfires and canoe trips, the group will, as always, be involved in the community.

"Community service remains one of our mandated goals," said

Mr. Hopperton. "To this end, we will be planting trees, cleaning up public spaces, and generally doing our part to keep Whitchurch-Stouffville the beautiful community that it is."

Mr. Hopperton encourages people to get involved with the group.

"After all, the motto is 'share the adventure'," he said.

The group will be meeting on Tuesday evenings at the United Church on Church St. beginning Sept. 16.

Thursday, Sept. 4, 2008

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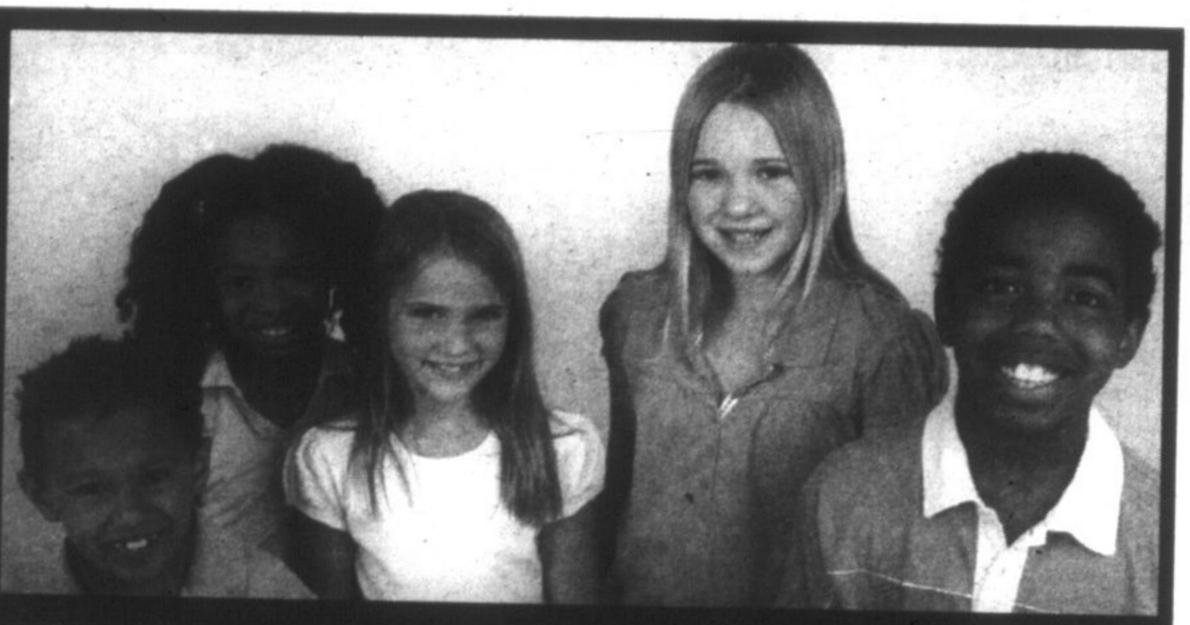
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