

ENTERTAINMENT: In new horror movie, CBC-TV drama

Off-stage move works for actress

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sholan@yrmg.com

Just a week before she was to audition for the National Theatre School of Canada, Amy Forsyth decided she wanted to exit stage left and seek out parts in TV shows and movies.

The gamble paid off for the actress who only had stage credits under her name. Within a few months, the 18-year-old Stouffville resident started filming the horror film *Torment* in Hamilton. It had its world premiere last week during *Screamfest* in Los Angeles.

Amy has never seen a horror movie and has yet to even see *Torment*.

"I did get to do my own stunts and it was really fun," the tall brunette said.

"She was in her glory," said mom Jane Forsyth, who, as often as she can, accompanies her daughter to sets to watch her in action.

"It's kind of fun to have somebody along for the ride," Amy said.

Amy will get to see herself for the first time on TV on CBC this Monday night as the character Julia Grieveson in *Cracked* — a Toronto-



AMY FORSYTH: Stouffville actress will appear on TV in police and medical drama *Monday*.

filmed police and medical drama inspired by the real-life experiences of police officers and mental-health professionals.

She will also appear in an episode of *Degrassi: The Next Generation*.

As a toddler, Amy would watch ballerinas dance through a studio window she could see from the end of her driveway.

At four, she joined them. Four years later, her best friend told her

about the York Durham Academy of the Performing Arts' choir.

Once Amy realized she could dance and sing on stage, she was hooked and ever since then, she has been in at least one production a year.

Her first role was in *Annie* at the age of eight.

Amy transferred from Dickson Hill Public School to one in Thornhill to hone her craft, then went to Unionville High School for drama. She also joined City Youth Players.

"I'm working my way further south," she joked, although she is serious about making it to Broadway and L.A. one day.

Some of her other roles included *Brigitta* in the *Sound of Music*, *Chicago's Roxie Hart*, *Ariel* in *Footloose* and a council member in *Hairspray*.

Although Jane would juggle her work schedule so she could shuttle Amy to auditions and then proudly watch her performances "I fought it for a long time and then just realized this is what she wants to do," Jane said.

"When you see a child who is focused and knows what they want to do, you support them," Jane added.

Eaglesmith playing Legion during Ontario tour

Fred Eaglesmith is returning to his Ontario roots.

The Juno Award winner will play Stouffville's Royal Canadian Legion Nov. 8.

The Port Dover native had been touring the world during the past 30 years, spending more than 300 days annually on the road.

But the singer-songwriter, who has appeared on the *Late Show* with David Letterman, wants to spend time closer to home, playing smaller communities this fall.

"Eaglesmith says his Ontario-inspired songs sound best when played to the people who inform them in the place they were written about," said promoter Sara Hershoff. "He also is committed to filling community halls and legions, many of which really need the public exposure and bar sales to keep going."

His songs have won awards and been recorded by country artists Toby Keith, Miranda Lambert and Alan Jackson.

Tickets are \$25 in advance from fred-eaglesmith.com and \$30 at the door

- Jim Mason

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