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## Feels/Like Home

Having grown up in a small town. Anna Rose relishes her new role as Stoutfyille's downtown coordinator.

community relations manager," she said "I grew up in Galt, Ontario, and when I went to school in Toronto, it was a huge culture shock. Talking to people in this community, I feel I'm at home again."

Ms Rose, who joined the town on March 8, is impressed by the friendly atmosphere and potential for growth. She also recognizes the importance of getting residents engaged in the revitalization of the downtown core. "I can't do it by myself; it's got to be a community effort," she said

On April 12 at 6:30 p.m. the town will host a revitalization kick-off meeting at the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment

Nineteen on the Park, with the mayor and council, along with representatives from the downtown working group and special guests. Business owners and residents are invited to attend and learn about initiatives to encourage redevelopment, investment and renewal in the downtown area.

With big box retailers dominating so many communities these days, one of the biggest challenges planners face is getting people to visit the downtown core, but Ms Rose points out that Stouffville has a lot to offer. "Nineteen on the Park is a huge bonus and the farmers' market is already attracting a big audience. People will venture onto Main Street when they're done at the market." And that presents an excellent opportunity for local businesses to attract customers, she said

The market, which was established last year, is held Thursdays from June to October and offers fresh local produce, deli meats and cheeses, garden plants and crafts. Downtown Stouffville is a place where you get together with neighbours and catch up on what's happening."

Ms Rose would like to organize walking tours of the downtown, to include such gems as the Latcham Gallery. Nineteen on the Park and the growing network of walking trails. She would also like to establish bus tours of Whitchurch-Stouffville including rural areas, such as farms, where visitors can pick their own fresh local produce.

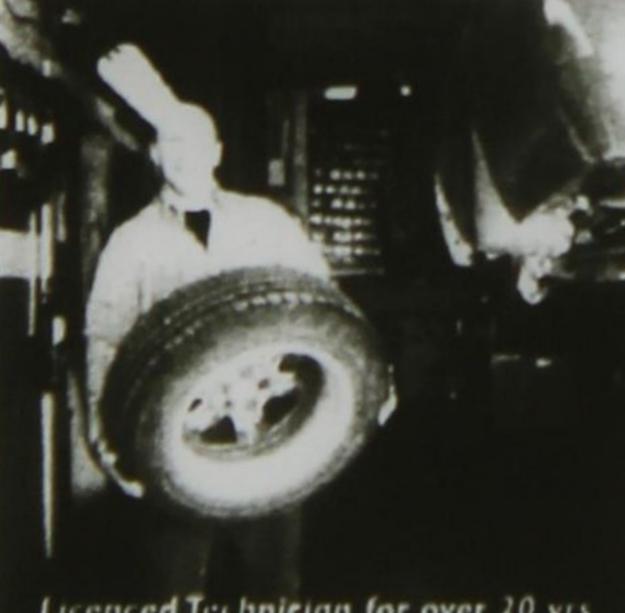
She welcomes input from residents and business owners. "My door is always open and if I'm not in my office people can call me." she said. You can reach Anna Rose at 905-640-0749 or send her an email at anna rose@townofws.ca.

For more information on the April 12 revitalization kick-off meeting visit www.townofws.ca



Downtown coordinator Anna Rose welcomes visitors at her office at Stouffville GO station on Main Street.

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#### Giant Book Sale At Stouffville Library

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Library's giant book sale takes place April 14 to 18 in the multi-purpose room at the Lebovic Leisure Centre.

Hours are 5 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, with a special seniors' hour from 9 to 10 a.m. on Thursday; 10 a.m.

3 p.m. Sunday. The book sale is the library's primary fund raiser and the money raised is used to augment resources and services such as author visits, prizes for the summer reading program, electronic resources and equipment.

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