

Women

WHO WORK AT HOME

A spotlight on female entrepreneurs

By Kinjal Dagli Shah
Stouffville Free Press

Julie Moyer's neighbours must be a happy lot for there's usually the sound of a melody or two emanating from her Stouffville home. Julie's Piano Studio, situated right in her living room, is frequented by many kids and adults, ranging in age from five to 80.

"I set up my studio six years ago to start teaching in Stouffville. I had been a

piano teacher for many years at a primary school but took a break to rejuvenate and rediscover my love for it," said Julie, who started playing when she was seven and holds two university degrees in music.

While Julie was taking a break and doing work that didn't involve the piano, she was shoulder-tapped by another music teacher she had known for many years. "She urged me to look into the Simply Music method of teaching. It is a non-traditional

piano method rooted in the firm belief that everyone is musical. It is taught in a way that different learning styles can enter into music," said Julie. "With the new method, I give my students immediate access to the piano to learn songs. Traditionally, we are supposed to teach them to read the notes and then they begin playing. But now, I teach students to play at the beginning without reading. Once they have a repertoire of about 20-30 songs, I introduce them to reading. It mimics the way we learn language," she explained.

Julie also introduced the Play a Story program for kids. "Young kids love stories so I give them a musical dress-up box. We go through a story and explore the little ways in which they can play the piano, like how to land a butterfly on the piano to make a chord. I have three storybooks, and each book is 10-weeks long so the kids can enrol for a short period of time," she said, adding that they later transition to the Simply Music method.

With 16 hours a week of teaching, and other duties that go into running a home business, Julie enjoys the routine. "When I'm not teaching, I have lesson planning, marketing and communication, and administration to take care of. The biggest challenge is balancing the living

room space between my work and my family. The advantage of working at home is that I can also prepare supper in between lessons," she said.

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Julie Moyer teaches her piano students the Simply Music method, which is rooted in the belief that everyone is musical.

Farmer Jack's LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

STOUFFVILLE SENIOR OF THE MONTH

Hazel G. Grove

Age: Hazel is 77 years old

NUMBER OF YEARS IN STOUFFVILLE AREA:

Hazel has lived in Stouffville for 47 years. She is a member of the Parkview Memorial Church.

CAREER:

Hazel worked in the Children's Hospital in Washington DC and in the obstetric Department of the hospital in Laguna, California. Hazel and Lorne went on a 4 year missionary trip to India, traveling both ways by boat. She is currently active as a talker in the Presbyterian Church play group, and in visiting senior's homes in the area.



FAMILY: Hazel was born in Pennsylvania, the ninth of twelve children.

In 1969 she married Lorne Grove in Pennsylvania and they came to live in Stouffville on the Grove family farm which was located opposite the Metro store. They lived there for 18 years before moving to their current home.

HOBBIES: Hazel loves sewing her own clothes, and the picture shows Hazel wearing a dress made entirely by her. She also makes wedding scrapbooks and has just completed one of 12 pages. Gardening and playing Scrabble are favorite pastimes, as well.

PET PEEVE: Cars that drive too fast and get in the way.

LIFE HI-LITE: Time spent with her mother who always stood up for her, and coming to Canada after marrying her husband.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WON THE LOTTERY?

Hazel would give the money to the Church and her children.

IF YOU KNOW A SENIOR THAT IS WORTHY OF SENIOR OF THE MONTH GIVE US AN E-MAIL AT FARMERJACKS@ROGERS.COM

Come to the Ball

On Friday Dec. 11 at 6 p.m., The Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment-19 on the Park will host the second annual Snow Ball Gala.

This fabulous fundraiser will showcase Stouffville's

historic and beautiful theatre, incorporating an evening of wonderful music, theatrical performance and gourmet food. Among the participating artists is the multi-talented Johnny Wideman, founder and artistic director of Theatre of the Beat, who performed in Motus O's A Fair Tale at last year's Markham Fair.

Singer/songwriter Lauren

Margison, whose vocal abilities were recognized when she joined the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus at the tender age of 7, will also be in the lineup. In addition to her classical repertoire, she is a sublime performer of jazz and pop, and has shared the stage with such luminaries as Gordon Lightfoot, Rufus Wainwright and Measha Brueggergosman.

Fishbone restaurant will cater a delicious three course dinner and guests can dance the night away to a live band.

The Snow Ball is a wonderful opportunity to support the arts in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

For tickets and information call 905-640-2322.



Johnny Wideman (centre) in A Fair Tale, with Motus O. Kate Gilderdale photo

WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

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10:00 am - 5:00 pm

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www.stouffvillestudiotour.com and

Ready to Get to Work

St Mark's Church fundraising committee members donned construction attire September 13 to launch a campaign to finance the expansion of the Glad Park Ave. facility. Stouffville's continuing growth has resulted in a surge in the number of Catholic families moving to town.

