

# SDSS STUDENTS RESPOND TO VISIT

When Free Press columnist Luke Anderson visited Carole Stitt's Grade 9 class at Stouffville District Secondary School on Oct. 17, he had a big impact on the students. Four of them wrote to tell us about how much they were inspired by his determination and accomplishments since his accident four years ago.



## Readers Write Visit an eye opener

To the Editor:

Luke's visit to our class was an eye opener to us. We were able to see past the chair and get to know him. The best thing about his visit was learning that even though he's in a wheelchair he is able to do so many things. I think it is great that even when things were tough Luke never gave up ... he never threw in the towel.

Cynthia Helmer • Stouffville

## Visit was inspiring

To the Editor:

Luke's visit was inspiring. He is very courageous and optimistic. Once he starts talking you don't see the wheelchair, you see a person who never gives up.

The painting he did is so professional it's astonishing. He's an ambassador for the Rick Hansen foundation. Woodworking, writing, taking pictures - wow! What I have learned from Luke's story is that you need to take responsibility and be proactive.

If you want something it's not going to just fall from the sky, you need to work for it and do things for yourself and in the end it's all worthwhile.

Nikki Miller • Stouffville

## Raising awareness

To the Editor:

On Oct. 17 Luke Anderson came to our class to talk about his life. It was wonderful meeting him and when he started talking everyone forgot about the chair and saw a wonderful man.

I think Luke's lesson is to raise awareness about people with spinal cord injuries and disabilities, and to raise funds to find cures for people like himself. I think Luke's lesson is that stuff happens, and if something bad happens to you, you have to learn to go on with your life, not sit there and feel sorry for yourself. You have to move on with your life and make the best of it.

Some positive things I learned about Luke are that he is a hero and that he will never give up his fight.

I'm glad I got to meet Luke Anderson and I thank him for taking the time to come in and speak to our class.

Haley Hunter • Stouffville

## Never give up

To the Editor:

Luke showed us how his life had changed. He showed us that if you believe in something you should not give it up. The most positive thing I learned about Luke was that he never gives up no matter what the changes are that happen to him. Luke's lesson applies to my life because I know what it's like to face difficult challenges.

Amy Lofthouse • Stouffville

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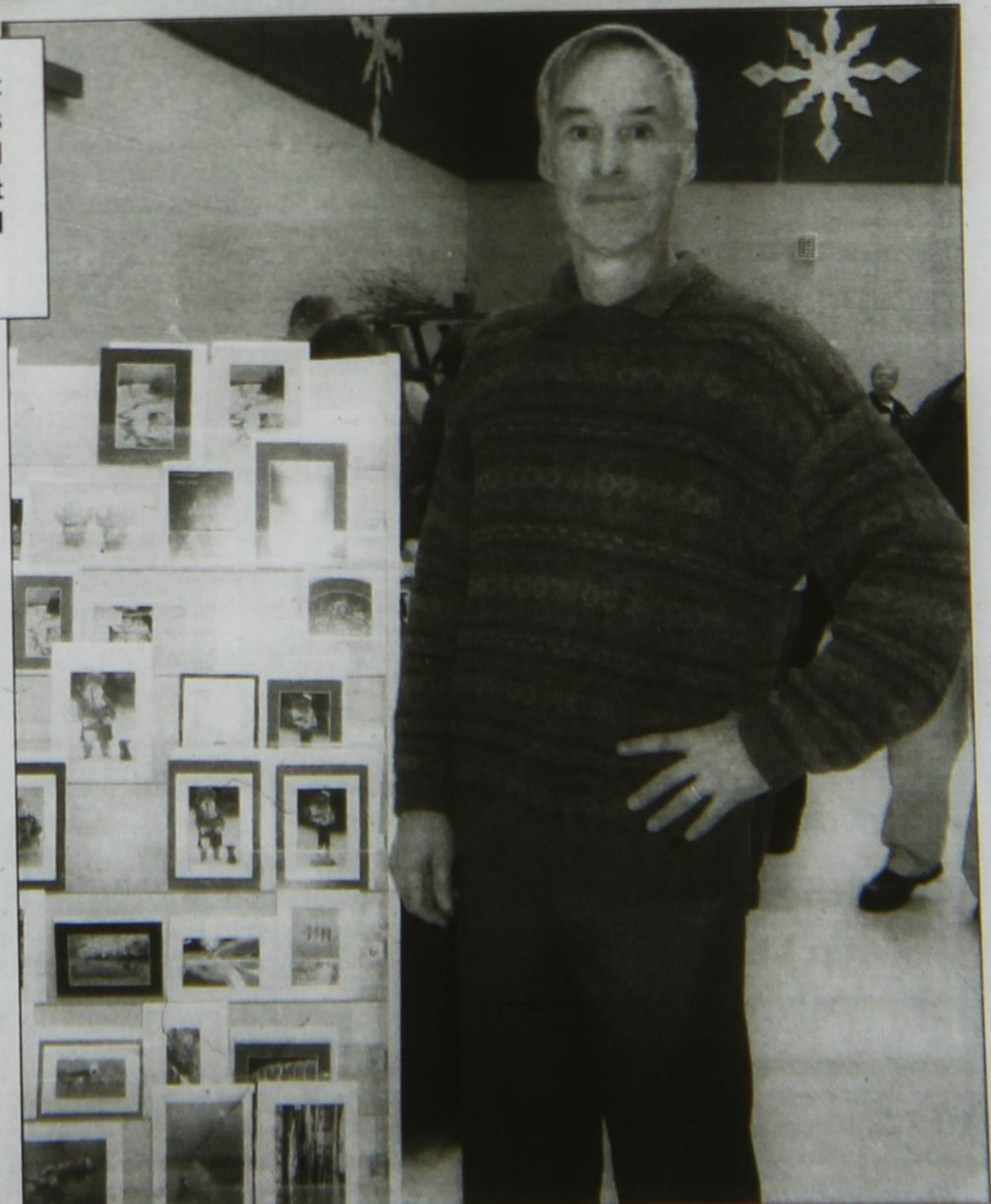
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*Stephanie & Sasko*

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