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Life's Ruff

MONTHLY MUSINGS

The more you say the less people remember

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 Thos. E. Winters

Wedding gift a beautiful coverup

By Kate Gilderdale
 Stouffville This Month

When Jeni Montgomery married Steve Hoover in September, the couple were presented with a beautiful custom-made quilt which they will always treasure.

"They were engaged last September, and I decided I wanted to try this project," explained Jeni's mother, Pat Montgomery. Armed with a paint chip from the groom's home where the couple now live, "I went to the States for a shopping

trip with one of my girlfriends and we chose the colours at a fabric store. I visited another friend, who originally gave me the pattern, in November and we started cutting the pieces for the quilt."

It was a first for Pat, who had no experience of the intricacies of quilt making. "It's so precise. It's like putting the pieces of a puzzle together." In March this year, she sent out squares of fabric to the couple's family and close friends, asking them to decorate each one with their own special message and return the fabric by the end of May.

During her time as a missionary in Haiti, Jeni had made some wonderful friends, and Pat wanted them to be included on the quilt. "In June, a group from (Springvale Baptist) Church, including Jeni, went down to Haiti. I took one of the girls aside, told her about the project, and gave her about a dozen squares of fabric to take with her," said Pat.

While they were there, the young woman managed to get some wonderful contributions to the quilt without giving the game away to Jeni. "We

also have one square from France, supplied by Jeni's French teacher, one from England, one from B.C. and one from Halifax," said Pat. "A friend from Aurora, who is a quilter, put it together and Janine Zeck appliqued all the hearts onto the quilt."

Another friend, who lives in Pennsylvania, said that if Pat would send the quilt by courier, she would do the hand-stitching around the hearts and bands of fabric. Within three weeks, the quilt was ready to be picked up and brought home. Pat, along with Steve's mother and grandmother, added some stitches of their own to complete the couple's unique gift.

At the wedding reception, "We made Steve and Jeni close their eyes, and led them across the room to the quilt." When they saw the what their friends and family had created, they were overwhelmed. "So many people knew about it, I couldn't believe that we were able to keep it a secret," said Pat.

The finished masterpiece contains 52 hearts, with another 14 hearts divided between two matching pillow shams.



Pat Montgomery displays a beautiful quilt created by family and friends as a surprise gift for her daughter, Jeni, and husband, Steve Hoover, in celebration of the couple's wedding which took place at Springvale Baptist Church in Stouffville Sept. 5.

Free Puppy Information Seminar



Saturday, November 22, 2003
 1:30pm - 2:30pm

Please attend if you already have your puppy or are expecting your puppy arrival soon!

Pre-registration is required. Please call to reserve a spot. Limited seating available.

No admission fee is required.

We ask that you make a minimum \$5 donation to the SPCA.

Complimentary 'goodie bag' with samples and information for every attendee.

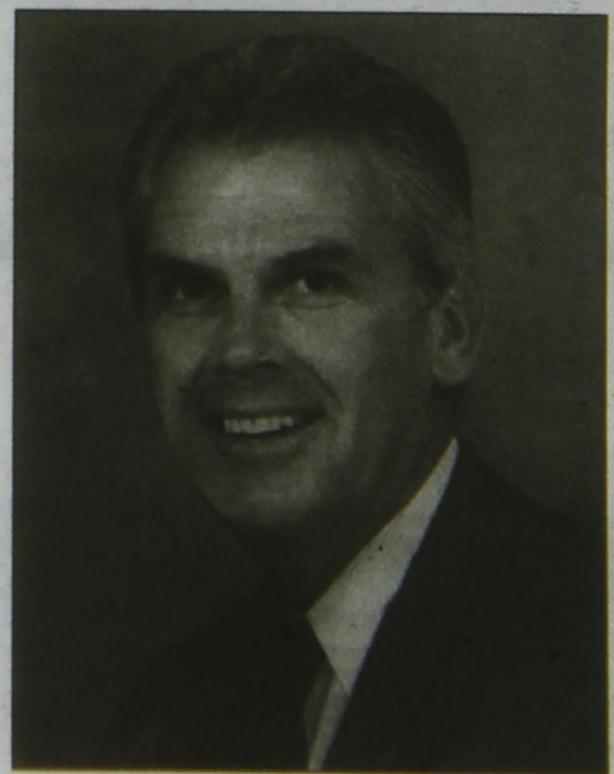
You may register by telephone, email or stop in and see us.



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- I support sustainable development as defined by the Oak Ridges Moraine Act.
- I will fight for enhanced Police presence in our communities.
- I will address traffic concerns.

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