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Lucky letters

Young soccer fan receives surprise package Page 5



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Jocelyn House hopes to raise awareness about its role in the community Page 13



Lions ready to roar

Senior soccer team earns spot in national tournament SPORTS Page 33

WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 3 | 2012

THE Lamer

ST. BONIFACE | ST. VITAL | SOUTHDAL
SOUTHDALE | ISLAND LAKES | WINDSOR PARK



St. Vital resident Cathy Haining in her front yard with her Carolina poplar tree.

Photo by Simon Fuller

Amazing Tree Quest contest is branching out

ST. BONIFACE
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SOUTHDAL
WINDSOR PARK

By SIMON FULLER

STAFF REPORTER
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There was nothing wooden about the response to a recent contest to identify your favourite trees.

The 2012 Amazing Tree Quest — organized by St. Boniface-based Rivers West Red River Corridor in partnership with the Manitoba Forestry Association — garnered around 650 online votes from community members across the province for 24 nominated trees.

The criteria for trees in Winnipeg were that trees had to be situated along the Red River Corridor (technically, the contest spans the area of the corridor from Emerson to Lake Winnipeg).

Among the categories were Biggest (Diameter) Tree, Tallest Tree and Wildest Crown; Historic Tree; Most Notable Tree; People's Favourite Tree and Best Photograph.

See ST. VITAL on next page



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St. Vital resident's poplar tree wins big

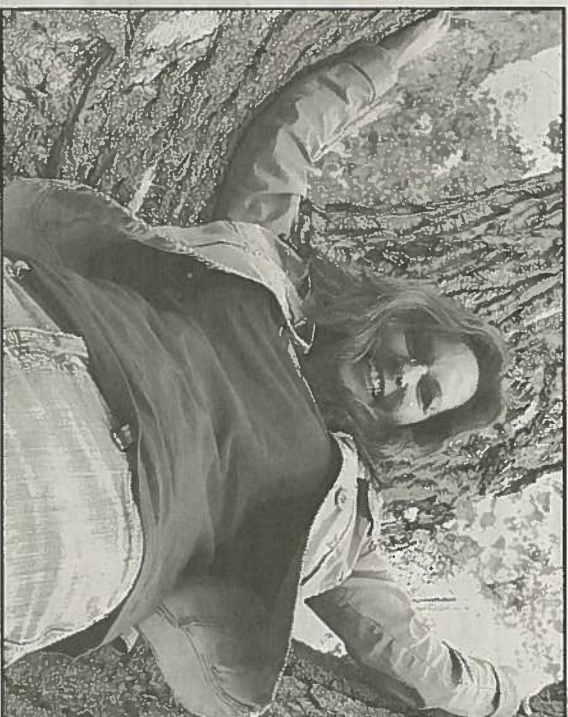


Photo by Simon Fuller
 Cathy Haining takes a break to climb her prizewinning Carolina poplar tree.

Continued from front page

St. Vital resident Cathy Haining won in the latter two categories for the massive Carolina poplar that adorns the front yard of her Pulberry-area home.

Measured by the MFA, the tree is 20 metres tall, has a circumference of 443 centimetres, a diameter of 141 centimetres and a crown spread of 22.3 metres.

Haining's only unanswered question is the tree's age:

"People often want to know how old it is. My husband thinks it's at least 100 years old as it's so big. We'd love to know."

"We get a lot of comments from people who come through the street and say what a glorious tree it is," said Haining, an educational assistant at Windsor Park Collegiate who has lived in the house since 1997. "We're

very pleased to have it, beautiful tree. We're very proud of it and love everything about it."

The Hainings also do the regular maintenance comes with a tree of such proportions, which includes raking the leaves and pruning the branches after a storm or high wind, as well as close eye on their eaves.

"During the last storm we were outside in the yard and saw the tree cause there were so many branches. It was just magnificent doing her thing," she says.

Among the other nominations for the contest were American elm in Riverbush in St. James, a cottonwood in West St. For more information, visit www.thinktrees.org.

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