

Bringing Rachael home for holidays

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Chuck and Linda opted for an international adoption for a number of reasons. At 44 and 43 years old, the couple knew they wouldn't get an infant. And, the couple knew their limitations. We didn't feel we could manage a special needs child. So, we looked into international adoption," said Linda.

The Cundaris sought the help of Children's Bridges, a non-profit agency that oversees international adoptions.

Children's Bridges looked after everything from the paper work to the travel arrangements," said Linda. It was wonderful. At first I thought, such an adoption was an impossible undertaking



The Cundari family gathers around the Christmas tree with baby Rachel who the family adopted from China.

but it isn't. It all worked out."

While domestic adoptions often involve a long wait, the Cundaris only waited one year. In the summer of '96, Chuck and Linda learned that they'd get a baby. This past August, the couple flew to Beijing, China, made their way to the orphanage in Nan Feng and met Rachael—It was love at first sight.

"Oh I worried," said Linda. "I wondered how I'd feel. We loved her from the moment we

saw her."

Like all families, the Cundaris are getting into the spirit of Christmas. "Yes, this year is special," said Linda.



DECISIONS, DECISIONS: Jessica Ingold, Gr. 1, has a difficult time choosing from the candy tray offered by Santa's elf Beth Krause, a parent on hand to help serve Christmas lunch to kids in the Whitchurch Highlands school gym Friday.

Dinner is served ...

Friday was, indeed, a day to remember at Whitchurch Highlands Public School.

Moms and dads put on aprons and served a full turkey dinner, complete with all the trimmings to 400 students at the local school. It marked the seventh annual

turkey lunch.

Thanks to the generosity of such businesses as Weston Produce, Harry's No Frills, Loblaw's, Weston Bakery, Vachon Bakery, IBD Canada, Little Debbies, Wilson Niblett and Chev. Geo Olds of Richmond Hill. Parents

Martha Rice, Karen Weild and Sophie Angelis worked for days to make sure the special event was to everyone's liking. The students and teachers returned to class tummies full, while their parents went home tired, but very happy. J.R.



BIG COMFY CHAIR: Robert Vangennip, Matt Vangennip and Amy Kostash look like Santa's teeny elves on the big chair at Horton's Tree Farm over the weekend.

Photo by CHERYL JOHNSON

Market pleads guilty

A trial was averted Monday when the Stouffville Country Market pleaded guilty to a noise bylaw infraction.

The plea carries a \$420 fine, reported lawyer Gordon Ness.

In August, the town's bylaw officer charged Stouffville Stockyards Ltd. with breaking a bylaw in connection with its Memories of Elvis celebra-

tion. The event was billed as a karaoke and an Elvis look-alike contest. The town bylaw stipulates that concerts are not prohibited on the premises.

While the local country market agreed to plead guilty to technically violating the bylaw, at no time did the Country Market "intend to offend the bylaw," said Ness.

Industry moves to Gormley

Whitchurch-Stouffville will be home to a new factory next summer. In a meeting at the mayor's office Monday John Zieger announced he is moving his business to Gormley.

Zieger is the owner and president of Metal Door Ltd. The industry, which is currently located in Scarborough, has been in business for 18 years and employs 22 people. Zieger expects that the staff will expand to 30 after the move.

Mayor Wayne Emmerson said he and Zieger have been negotiating for 2 1/2 years and they finally found a home Zieger was happy with.

"It takes a while to find the right piece of property," said Zieger. Zieger, who

lives on Vivian Road, is a 25-year resident of Stouffville.

The 22,000-sq-ft. factory will be located on Stalwart Avenue in Gormley and digging at the site is expected to start this week.

"Our plans have been designed so that we can eventually expand," said Zieger, who added the company is very busy and they have a number of back orders. He hopes to increase his business by 20 per cent after opening next July.

Helene Johnson, president of the local chamber of commerce says she is looking forward to having Zieger as a new member.

~ Janet Richards

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