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THE TRIBUNE

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Page 7

CROSSWORD
word 6

A snowbird's diary. P. 14

Ice storm aid pours in @random

JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Reporter

Over the past 48 hours, Stouffville residents have demonstrated that they care a great deal for their fellow Canadians.

As soon as a local call for help was issued for the victims of the recent ice storm, help was passed on, including candles, batteries, non-perishable food and diapers came pouring in.

And, goods are still being donated at a drop-off spot and at one of the local schools.

While much of the power has been restored in Montreal, residents on the city's south shore and in outlying areas, including villages and the rural areas in eastern Ontario, could be without power for another three weeks.

Shelters are the only source of lodging for thousands.

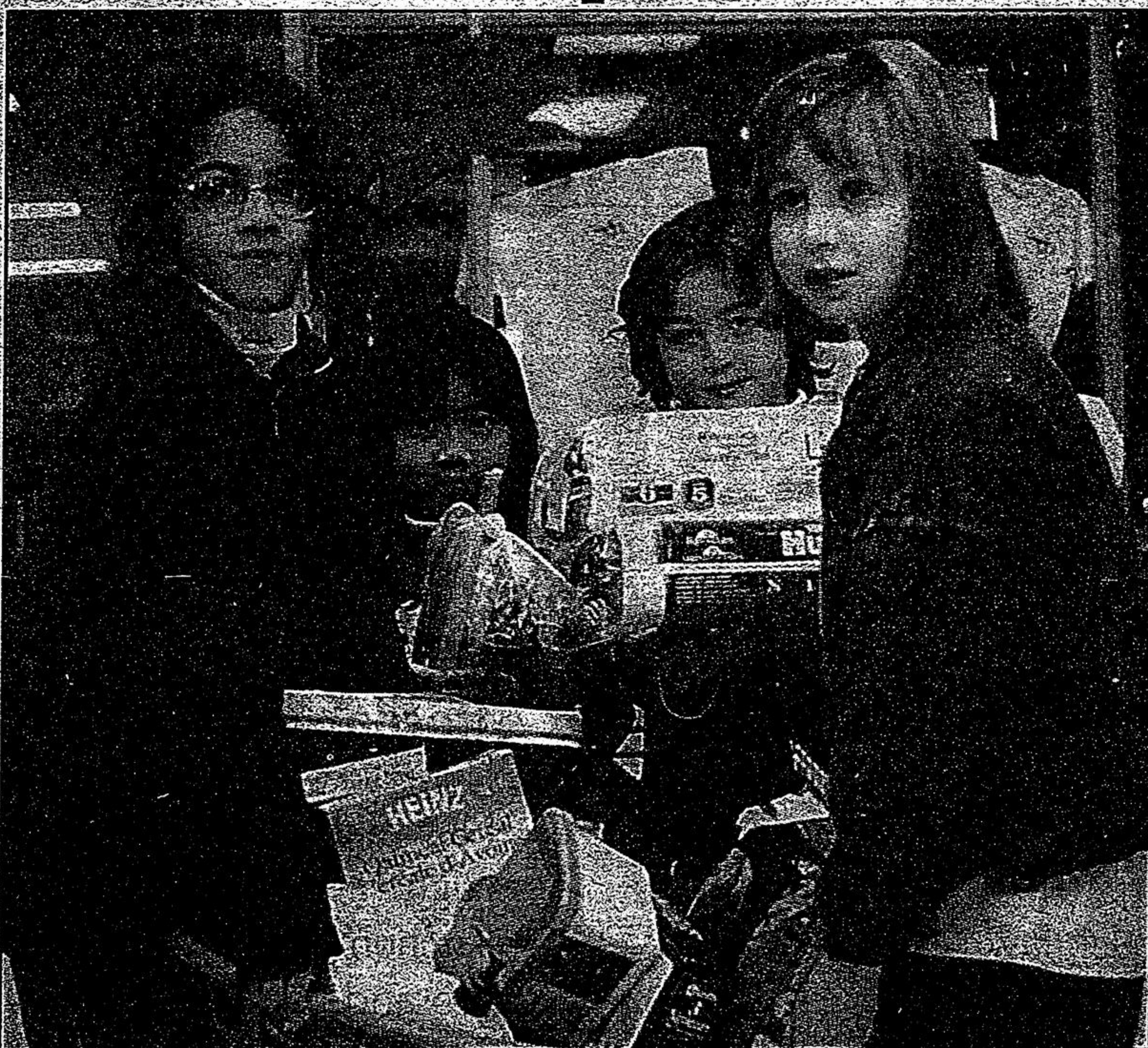
Here in Stouffville, Mickey Rats on Main Street, next door to the fire station, is the drop-off depot for items.

This weekend and again on Monday, relief coordinator Vicky Haines will deliver goods to shelters in the Smith Falls area.

Students and their parents at Dickson Hill Public School, a French immersion school, have also rallied for the cause.

Both the school council and the student council at Dickson Hill

■ Please see page 12 ■



HELPING HANDS: From left: Alyssa Manji, 8, Grade 3; Eudora Lam, 6, Grade 1; Courtney Trempe, 7, Grade 2; and Sarah Moore, 7, Grade 2, carry food and other items destined for ice storm victims into the Dickson Hill Public School office on Friday morning.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Board seeks logo

Your public school board needs a new "identity," and it wants your help.

It got a new name this month — the York Region District School Board — so it has to change all its stationary, its business cards and some signs. The board said that will cost a lot — probably \$80,000 for paper supplies alone, a spokesperson said this week — but added it's also an opportunity.

It is asking for a hand-drawn or computer-generated logo that will serve as a symbol for the new board. It will replace a flower logo the board has used until now.

Anyone with a talent for drawing is being encouraged to "enter early and often," sending a design that reflects the board's mission and "generates interest, excitement and enthusiasm."

It should photocopy well and "work" in colour as well as black and white, the board advised.

The winning artist, team or school will be recognized at a meeting of the board in March.

For more info, call the board at 416-969-8131, ext. 2520.

Inside your Tribune

- Basic Black p. 4
- Crossword p. 6
- Sports p. 16
- Classified p. 18

Deadline extended for school strike rebate

The ice storm has given local parents more time to apply for child-care strike rebates.

Ontario moved the Jan. 16 deadline for "fairness payments" this week to Feb. 6 because of hardships in eastern Ontario.

That means families with elementary school children or older children with a disability can still apply, and those who do can get \$40 in costs for each day their children needed care during the Ontario teachers' strike — up to \$400 for

public school families and \$200 for local Catholic families. The area Catholic board still expects most rebate cheques will reach its parents this month, a spokesperson said. The public board has said its supporters will get cheques in February.

Some people taking advantage of the extended time may be teachers, barred by the repayment law from applying. Led by the Catholic teachers' federation, Ontario teachers' unions are challenging the law on human rights grounds.

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