

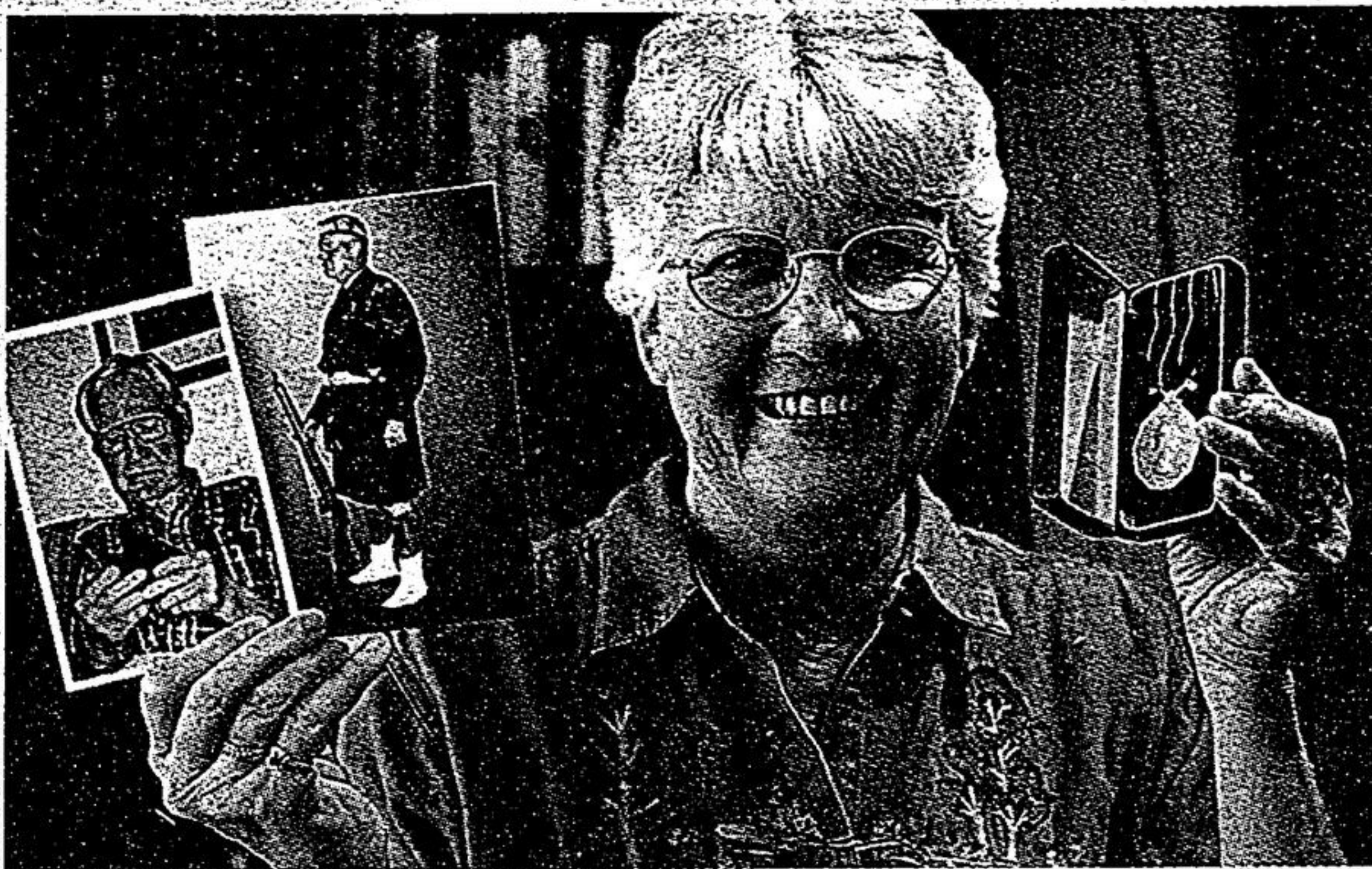
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# York Region vet receives lost medal

BY FRED SIMPSON  
Staff Writer

It will be an especially memorable Remembrance Day for 87-year-old Edward Whitaker Saturday. This time, Whitaker will have an army medal he has been waiting to receive for at least 10 years by his side. "This missing medal has been on his mind for a long time," said Whitaker's


daughter, Carol Mitchell as she showed a photo of her father with the medal. Last February, Mitchell asked Oak Ridges MP Bryon Wilfert to help him locate the missing medal. Whitaker received the Canadian decoration volunteer medal in recognition of his long service as a member of the Scottish Regiment of Toronto following the Second World War.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Carol Mitchell displays the medal her father, Edward Whitaker, has finally received for his war service.

*Time for a change*



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Ward 6 Councillor

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For more information call 642-1407

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it's kids stuff.

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This message brought to you as a community service of Economist & Sun/Tribune

**RE-ELECT... November 13, 2000**



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Ward 5 Councillor

*Committed to our Community*

**RE-ELECT JUDY SCALA**  
Ward 5

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- Library Board
- Main Street Vision
- Community Watch
- Policing Centre
- Community Assoc.
- Community Charity
- BIA Board
- Mayor's Youth Cmt
- Road Watch
- Alternate to GTSB
- SDSS Council
- Teen Youth

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- Ensure stability of the Municipality
- Ensure Controlled growth
- Encourage business growth
- Ensure open government
- Work with Community Youth
- Ensure historical & environmental areas

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Scala knows Our Community and  
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Games for those born from '86 - '94 will be on Saturdays at Clatworthy arena or one Sunday per month at the Stouffville arena, with practices on alternate Mondays in Stouffville. The Senior Division ('82 - '86) plays on Monday evenings. Cost is \$295!

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Whitaker was stationed at Halifax during the war and was a sergeant in the Canadian Army from 1943 to 1945, Mitchell said. He was slated to be the next lot sent overseas, but then the war ended. I recall him writing us and joking that the enemy must have heard he was coming and surrendered. A few months had gone by when they heard from Wilfert that he was "working on getting the medal", Mitchell said. "Then one day a few weeks ago, we got a call from Mr. Wilfert's secretary who said he had the medal and was bringing it to Richmond Hill." They received the medal on Thanksgiving weekend and presented it to Whitaker who "was simply thrilled", his daughter said. "His eyes filled with tears." Wilfert said he went "to the top" to get Whitaker's medal by explaining the dilemma to Defence Minister Art Eggleton. "I told him I was really pushing to get it because the gentleman has not been very well and I wanted him to have the medal," Wilfert said. "It's a happy ending because he received the medal just in time for Remembrance Day." Last February, Mitchell saw her father admiring some of her great-grandfather's medals from the Fenian raids of 1866. "I think that got him thinking about the medal he had never received for his years in the militia although he had the ribbon that went with it," she said. "He hasn't been in the best of health the last while and he had become obsessed with getting this medal." "I guess it is a part of being old and time is getting short for him. He is not going to be around for ever and having this medal is a kind of way of putting everything together." Whitaker and other surviving former service people will be recalling those long ago years this morning. The Richmond Hill Canadian Legion, Branch 375, will hold its annual Remembrance Service today in conjunction with the Town of Richmond Hill. Other Remembrance Day services include:

- Newmarket Veterans Association: A service will be held today at the Veterans' Cenotaph at the Newmarket Cemetery at 11 a.m.
- Aurora Legion, Col. Fred Tilston Branch 385: There was a Remembrance Day dinner last night at the legion. A parade will form today at 10:30 on Edwards Street in the Canada Law Book parking lot. The parade will then move to the Cenotaph on Yonge Street with a service held at 11 a.m. Luncheon and refreshments will follow at the legion.
- Stouffville Legion, Branch 459: A service will be held at 11 a.m., at the Cenotaph at the legion.
- Markham District Veterans Association: A parade will form at the club followed by a march to the Cenotaph at the old Markham Arena on Hwy. 7, for an 11 a.m. service.