

INSIDE: Letters . . . 6
 Opinion . . . 8
 Sports . . . 35
 Classified . . . 37

3 How York Region's working poor are coping with shopping at Christmas time.

ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR

EVENT: Stouffville community Christmas dinner
WHEN: 11 a.m., Christmas Day
WHERE: Stouffville Country Market

Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library



28 Dear Santa - York Region children ask for Barbie, Harry Potter, Pooh.

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FILIPINO GIRL WHO HAD TUMOUR REMOVED IS SPONSORED BY LAKE FAMILY

'HOME' FOR THE HOLIDAYS

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
 Staff Writer

Musselman's Lake resident Esther Windsor had many sleepless nights after she saw the picture of a little Filipino girl with a disfiguring tumour covering half her face.

Esther and her friend Manny Bade were unable to get the plight of little Juliean Nagera out of their minds. "It bothered us," Bade said.

Esther was convinced that "we had to do something with this girl." But at first she didn't know what that would be. "I had no experience in helping like this," Esther said.

Almost two years later, the couple, along with Esther's friend, Nanila Adolfo of Scarborough, sponsored the shy eight-year-old, through the Hospital for Sick Children's Herbie Fund. When

Juliean arrived at Pearson Airport on Nov. 9, accompanied by her father Arnel, she was greeted by a barrage of TV cameras. She was so overwhelmed, all she could do was look down at her shoes, Manny remembers.

Two weeks later, after a 20-hour operation at the Hospital for Sick Children, Juliean had a new face to show the cameras and reporters

from the major Toronto newspapers.

The picture that first disturbed the two local residents arrived at the Adolfo household, addressed to Sister Bernadette Dilao, Nanila Adolfo's sister, who was visiting family in Scarborough before heading back home to the Philippines. The picture was taken

See MIRACLE, page 7.

POLICE RELIEVED BY ACQUITTALS

'Time for healing' York Police chief says

BY KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
 Staff Writer

"Officers should not be second-guessed every time they pull their guns because eventually they'll become too nervous to use them," says the chairperson of York's Police Services Board.

And Margaret Black said the province should consider increasing the funding to the Special Investigations Unit to ensure quality investigations of cases where officers resort to the use of deadly force.

Black was reacting to the acquittal Tuesday of York Const. Randy Martin on a charge of second-degree murder and Const. Mike Hoskin on assault and weapons charges in the shooting death of Sunderland carpenter Tony Romagnuolo two years ago.

After an emotional and often confrontational seven-week trial, a jury found both York officers and Durham Const. Al Robbins charged with aggravated assault and shooting with intent to wound Romagnuolo's son Rocco not guilty after 11 hours of deliberation.

Reaction in York Region was mainly relief.

"Obviously this is a really good thing for the force and for the members involved, and for all members of the organization who have to some degree gone through this with them," said

See POLICE, page 9.



BEDSIDE VIGIL

Musselman's Lake resident Esther Windsor (left) stands by the bed of Juliean Nagera, a Filipino girl who had a tumour removed from her face at the Hospital for Sick Children. Also standing is Juliean's grandmother, Teodora Nagera. Juliean will spend Christmas Day at the home of Windsor, one of her Canadian sponsors.

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