

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, AUG. 28, 2003 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 36 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



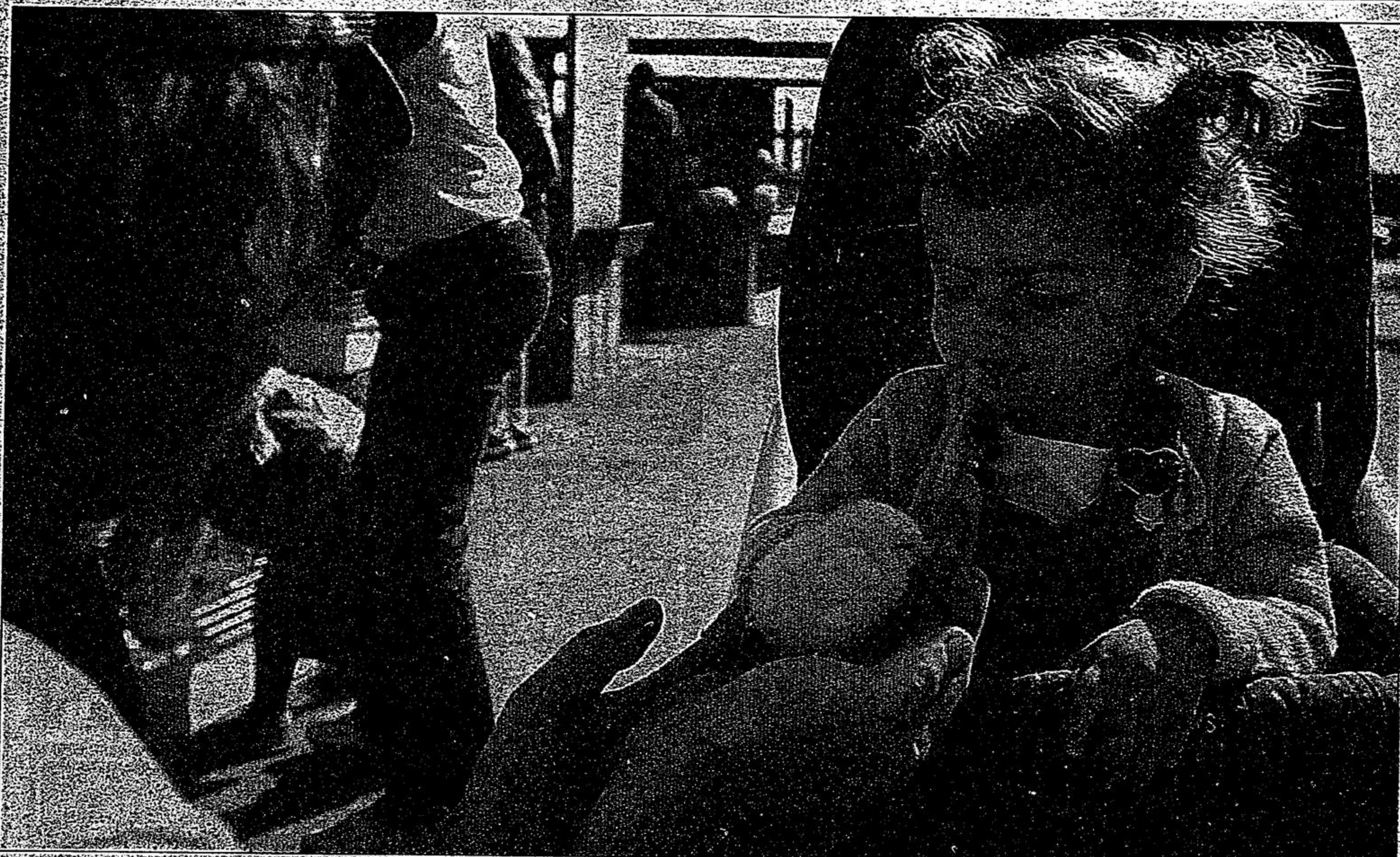
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STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Youngsters meet

Daniela Figueiredo, 1, of Markham meets a little chick held by John Dunk at the Stouffville Country Market Saturday. The Tenth Line market is a busy place Saturdays and Sundays. For more photos, see page 13.

RACE FOR MAYOR OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE PLIAKES WANTS MORE INDUSTRY

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

Whitchurch-Stouffville will be open for business if Steve Pliakes is elected mayor, the candidate told an audience Monday.

Steve Pliakes, one of three candidates bidding for the mayor's job in the Nov. 10 municipal election, is the first to launch a campaign platform at a public event.

Other candidates for mayor are Councillor Sue Sherban and Stouffville resident Randy Mole.

About 60 members of the Whitchurch-Stouffville business community attended a dinner at The Other Office in Stouffville's west end to hear Mr. Pliakes outline his platform.

Questions from the audience ranged from industrial development in the Vandorf area to traffic congestion to the need for road repair and, of course, the age-old campaign question of whether taxes will go up or down.

The town is in the right place at the right time, stressed the mayoralty candidate. "Since Whitchurch-Stouffville is within a stone's throw of one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities in the world, a prosperous and dynamic future is within reach," Mr. Pliakes said.

The town has the time, the people, the technology and the transportation services to make it happen, he said.

Stressing the importance of respecting the environment, he said he'll promote attracting a special kind of industry coming to Whitchurch-Stouffville. "Let's put a welcome mat out to encourage more light and clean industry. We've

Teen rescues boy from Wonderland pool

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

A heartfelt thank you is being extended to a Stouffville teenager for helping save the life of a five-year-old boy after his lifeless body was pulled from a pool this month at Canada's Wonderland.

While Kathryn DeVries of Shane Crescent gets ready to start pre-med studies at the University of Toronto, she is reminded every life-saving lesson she received at Stouffville's municipal pools paid off Aug. 7.

Meanwhile, the family of a New York City child wants to acknowledge Ms. DeVries for saving their little Kevin from drowning in the wave pool at the Vaughan theme park.

"I'd like to thank the lifeguard who saved my nephew's life," Celia Lee of Toronto said this week. "Kevin nearly drowned. We were told this girl saved him. We thank her."

York Regional Police confirmed the rescue took place.

Kevin has been released from Etobicoke General and has now joined his family at home in New York, Mrs. Lee said.

"He's my sister's son. They were visiting me from New York and went to Wonderland for the day when this happened. He was with his 10-year-old brother in the pool," she said.

Ms. DeVries' account of the day is pencil sharp.

"I noticed a small boy. He was content,

swimming on his back and he seemed to know what he was doing. About three minutes later, I noticed his movements were no longer in unison. I felt something was different. And then he went completely stiff and his eyes bulged out... I knew something was wrong. I blew my whistle and was on my way. Ms. DeVries, who graduated from Stouffville District Secondary School this year, said.

The 17-year-old lifeguard reached the boy in record speed. "I dragged his lifeless body out of the water and on to shore," she said.

Ms. DeVries went to work administering

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See PLIAKES, page 8.

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