

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SATURDAY, NOV. 20, 2004 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 56 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



32 Women picking up power tools to do renovations themselves

Opinion 6
 Total Home 9
 Sports 31
 Classified 34

Teenagers, police look for respect at forum

Preconceived notions bothersome to both

BY MARTIN DERBYSHIRE
 Staff Writer

It comes down to respect. Both sides want it and claim the other rarely gives it.

Thursday, close to 50 teenagers from schools across York Region and 12 police officers came together in Richmond Hill to discuss it.

"We do this kind of thing to improve the relationship between youth and police officers," said Domenic Scuglia, the youth forum's facilitator and vice-principal at Holy Cross Catholic Academy in Vaughan.

BREAK DOWN BARRIERS

"Many youths have preconceived notions about police officers and police officers also have preconceived notions about youth. We want to bring them together to talk about those preconceived notions and break down those barriers between them."

York Regional Police Const. Errol Dixon, a street beat unit officer in Markham who has organized similar youth forums, said respect is always a major issue.

"This is a good opportunity to talk about those kind of issues that affect us both. This year, as in the past, respect is one of the biggest issues. But, for officers,

See YOUTHS, page 8

HEALTH PREMIUM WILL FREE UP CASH FOR EDUCATION, PREMIER TELLS SYMPOSIUM

Schools turning corner: McGuinty

BY CHRIS TRABER
 Staff Writer

Government must partner with educators, not merely preside over the school system, if it wants to reverse the decline in the quality and perception of public education, Premier Dalton McGuinty said.

Speaking to 800 delegates Friday at the Quest for Effective Schools

symposium, hosted by the York Region District School Board in Richmond Hill, the premier said his Liberal government is as committed to public education as it is to health care.

"We chose to introduce a new premium to address rising health care costs at tremendous political risk, so we could invest an additional \$1.1 billion in public education,"

he said. "You and I share a tremendous responsibility to get education right. It's also a tremendous challenge."

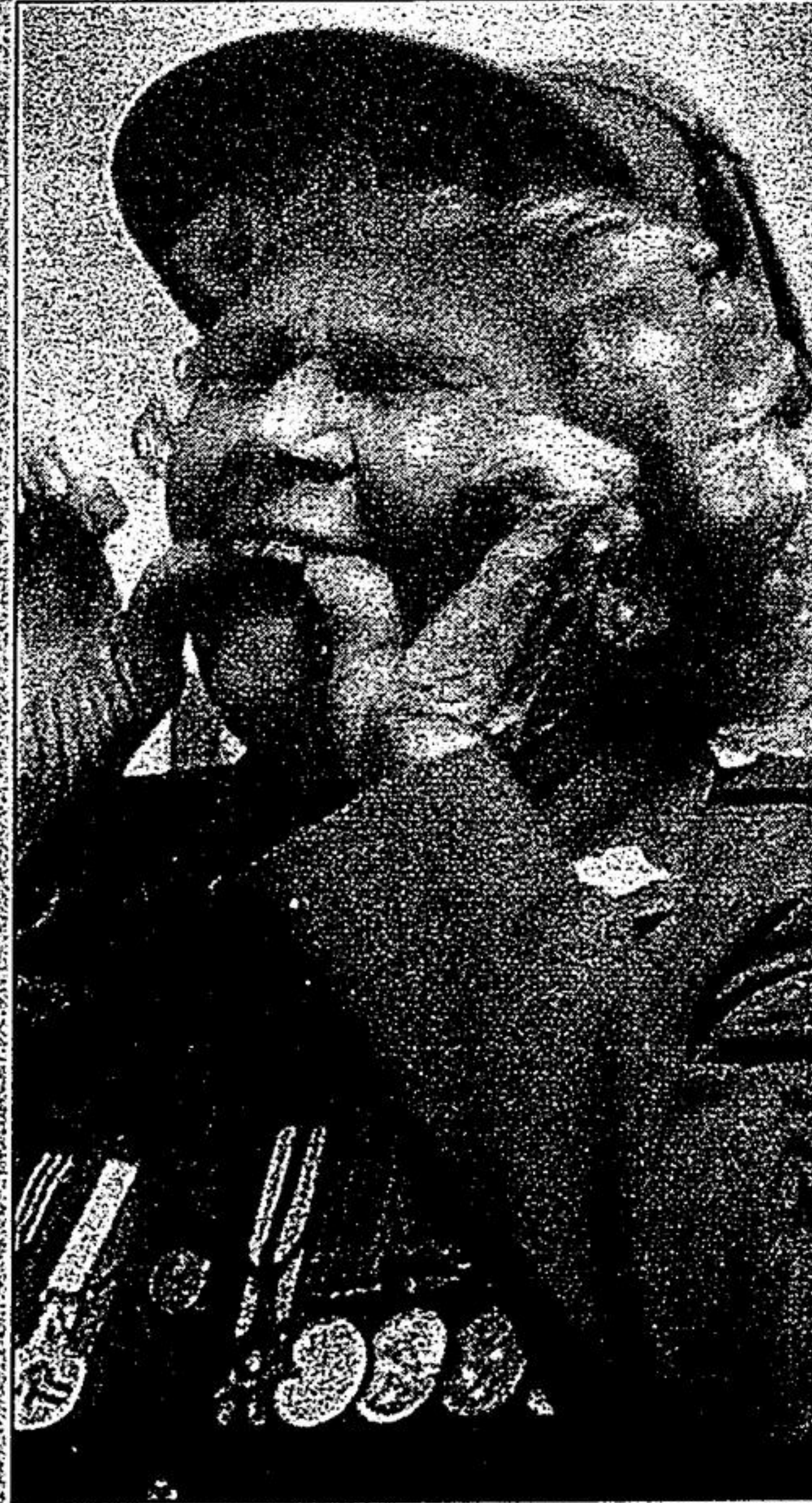
The number of children attending private schools in Ontario increased 40 per cent under the previous Conservative government, Mr. McGuinty said.

"We let it slide to the point where many families were choosing pri-

vate schools over public education," he said. "An estimated 30 per cent don't complete high school and as many as 20 per cent on top of that don't continue their education beyond high school."

"We let it slide to the point where success stories were overshadowed by news of slumping morale, crumbling schools, lost programs and

See KLEES, page 18



STAFF PHOTOS/STEVE SOMERVILLE

FOR THE BOYS

Markham's Margaret Ackroyd entertains Stouffville boy scouts and their families Wednesday at Stouffville United Church. The 83-year-old performed during and after the Second World War. See story on page 31.

Seaway Pools & Hot Tubs
 27 HERITAGE RD. MARKHAM
 294-8030

TEST DRIVE an AWARD WINNING VEHICLE from an AWARD WINNING DEALER!

0% Financing A.P.R. 48 Mths on all 2004 Mazda 6

Make **MARKHAM MAZDA** Your Choice For Great Cars!

5396 HIGHWAY #7, MARKHAM
 905-294-1210

Sutton GROUP

Town and Country Realty Ltd.
 640-0888