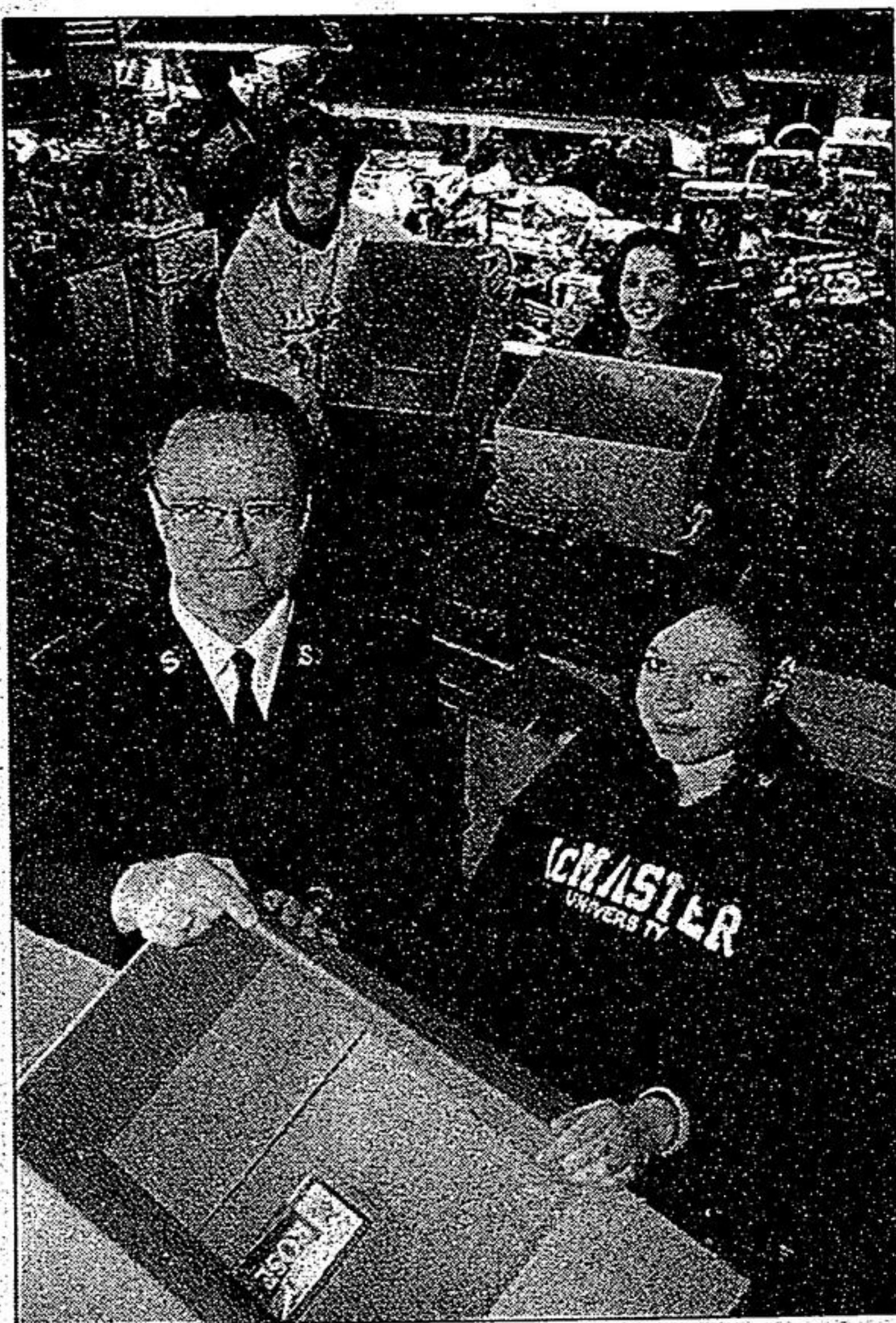


# Sally Ann needs food for needy

BY CHRIS TRABER  
Staff Writer



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Salvation Army Captain Rob Pollett, (clockwise from bottom left) warehouse co-ordinator Anna Rossi, volunteers Victoria Mishrigi and Eliza Lank point out the need for food for their annual Christmas food and toy drive

The Salvation Army's Markham-Stouffville Christmas Hamper program needs your help.

Its mission, to provide more than 500 families with Christmas dinner and enough groceries for a few weeks, is in jeopardy, Capt. Rob Pollett said.

"We're in the middle of handing out our food and toy hampers," he said. "We're doing OK with toys, but we're running very low on food. We're at the point where we can't put full hampers together and will run out before mid-week."

The Salvation Army is asking for donations of dry goods and frozen turkeys or funds with which to buy groceries.

Each hamper provides a struggling family with enough food to sustain it through the New Year. Children receive gifts from the organization's Mountain of Toys campaign.

"On average, each of our families has five members and some 500 families will benefit from the hampers," Capt. Pollett said.

"Few people know, but there are pockets of poverty across town and our rural communities. Many of these people are new to Canada and need assistance.

"There's definitely a large need and it's growing every year."

Donations can be dropped off at the Salvation Army's temporary warehouse, next to its Thrift Shop, 9293 Hwy. 48 (Markham Rd.) north of 16th Avenue. Cash can be contributed to the Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle Appeal at most malls and main street locations.

For information, call 905-471-8501 or 905-472-3009.

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