

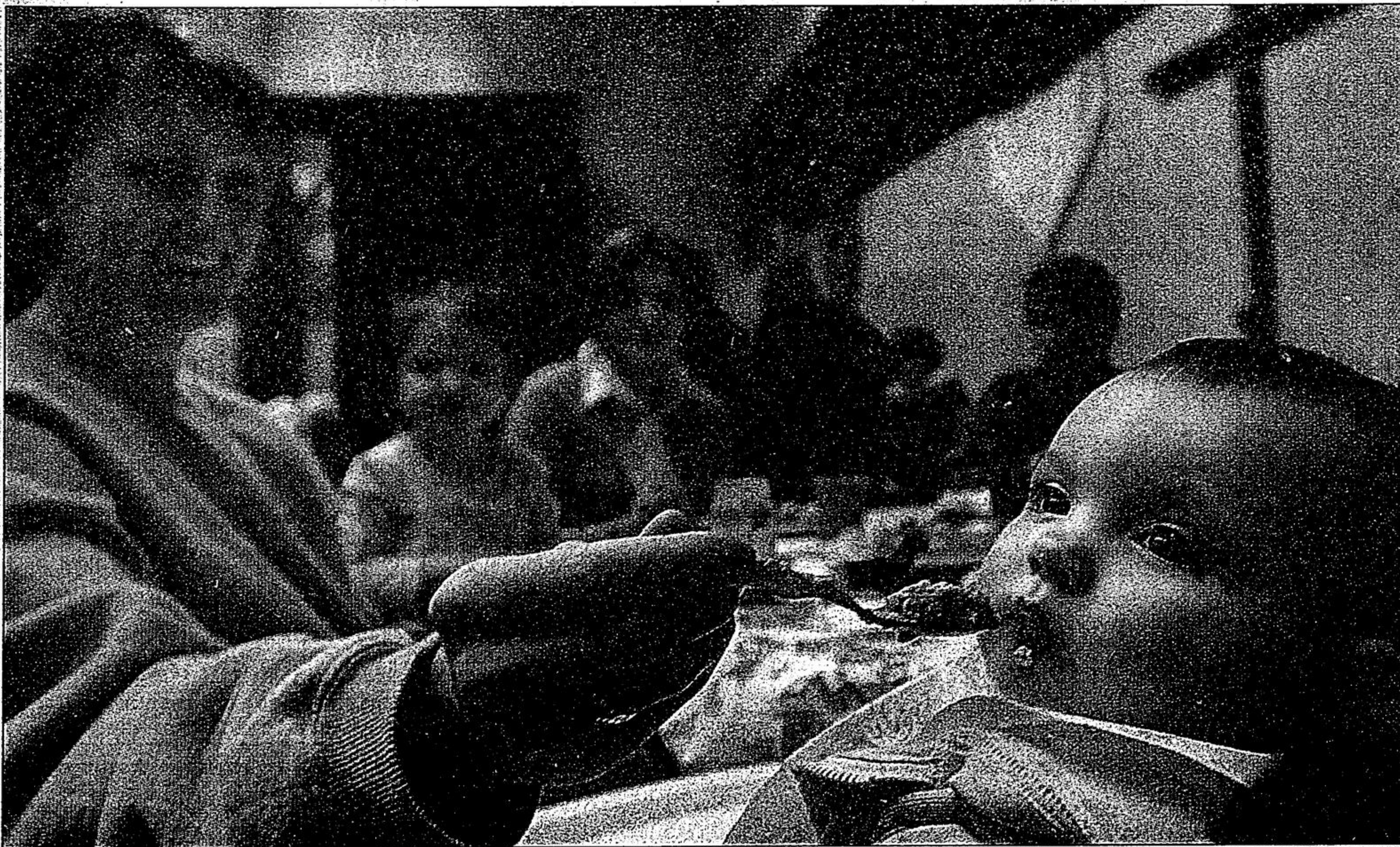
Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2007 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 36 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



3 Member of town's founding family proud to be from Stouffville

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STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

Mom Jennifer May feeds 10-month-old Julie and sister Abby, 3, as nana Linda Parker, and Beverley Whittaker look during the first of the annual Lenten dinners at Anglican Parish of Christ Church on Wednesday evening. The weekly dinners continue this week.

REGION REVIEWING 'SENSITIVE' ISSUE

Roadside memorials distracting drivers?

BY DAVID BLUMENFELD
Staff Writer

They have become an all too familiar sight along the roads — piles of flowers, sometimes teddy bears, left to mark the site of a fatal accident.

There is no official policy about how to manage these roadside memorials, but it is something the region is examining.

"We recognize it is a pretty sensitive issue out there among the public," said Brian Harrison, regional director of operations and roads. "Sometimes when they're placed on the side of the road they can become a distraction to drivers and we want to make sure that anything that goes on the side of the road... that it's put in a safe location where it's not going to cause another problem. That's the last thing we need."

In Peel Region, council adopted a formal policy in 2002 allowing the placement of memorial displays for up to 12 months on regional roads.

In 2004, the province passed a similar resolution and began installing roadside memorials for victims of drunk driving with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Canada on provincial highways.

A similar approach for York Region is being reviewed and will go to council before the summer recess, Mr. Harrison said.

"I know at one time we just took them down, but we're a little more sensitive to the issue now," he said. "We try to talk to the families first and say, 'It shouldn't be there, it's an unsafe...'"

See MAIN, page 10.

Hearts, stomachs filled during Lent

BY ALYSHIA HIGGINS

It's Wednesday night and the hearts and stomachs of residents are being filled.

The Anglican Parish of Christ Church has begun its 12th annual Lenten dinner program.

Gail Wood is a member of the church and the dinner program co-ordinator. She has been volunteering at the dinners for the past seven years.

Caroline Boyd started the program 12 years ago and gave out an average of 30 meals a night. Now the program serves more than 200 per evening.

About 20 volunteers help each night to prepare and serve the meals.

All of those meals don't come together overnight.

Ms Wood shops a week in advance to get all the food needed for the dinners.

FACES & PLACES

"It takes a long time," she said. "I shop for an entire week just to get stocked up."

While the meals are free, Ms Wood says many people give donations and that covers the cost of the food.

Occasionally, there is money left over and it's put into the Deacon A.L. Fund and used to help less fortunate members of the church during needy times.

She says the best part of organizing the dinners is seeing familiar faces and helping people out.

"It's many of the same people every year. In

the kitchen we have a good time too."

Ruth Taylor is one of those familiar faces.

Mrs. Taylor has lived in Stouffville for 49 years and has been attending the church for 45. She has been a regular at the dinners for the past five years but this year is the first she has the opportunity to enjoy the meal. She has volunteered at the church during the event for the past four years and is enjoying the break.

"They're such good home-cooked meals," she said. "I enjoy the companionship and the friendly people."

The dinners are open to all and will be held March 7, 14, 21 and 28 at the church, 254 Sunset Blvd. The meals are free but donations are welcome. Anyone with questions about the meals or inquiries about deliveries is asked to call the church office 905 640 1461.

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