Sun-Tribune

TUESDAY, DEC. 29, 2009 SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE 12 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST

FAR-FLUNG | SEE PAGE 2



HOLIDAY CHARITY

Residents fill food bank, Lions club hampers

BY CHRIS TRABER ctraber@yrmg.com

The spirit of the season and York Region residents is alive, well and evident in the middle of the holidays.

"It's absolutely phenomenal," Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank co-ordinator Marion Wells said of the response to the agency's local Christmas food drive. "It's far beyond what we could have imagined. The generosity of the community is awesome.

"We're stocked and ready to meet the need and whatever is ahead of us."

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank, one of nine in York, collected and prepared Christmas hampers for more than 80 families, Ms Wells said. With more than four new clients weekly, need has been growing.

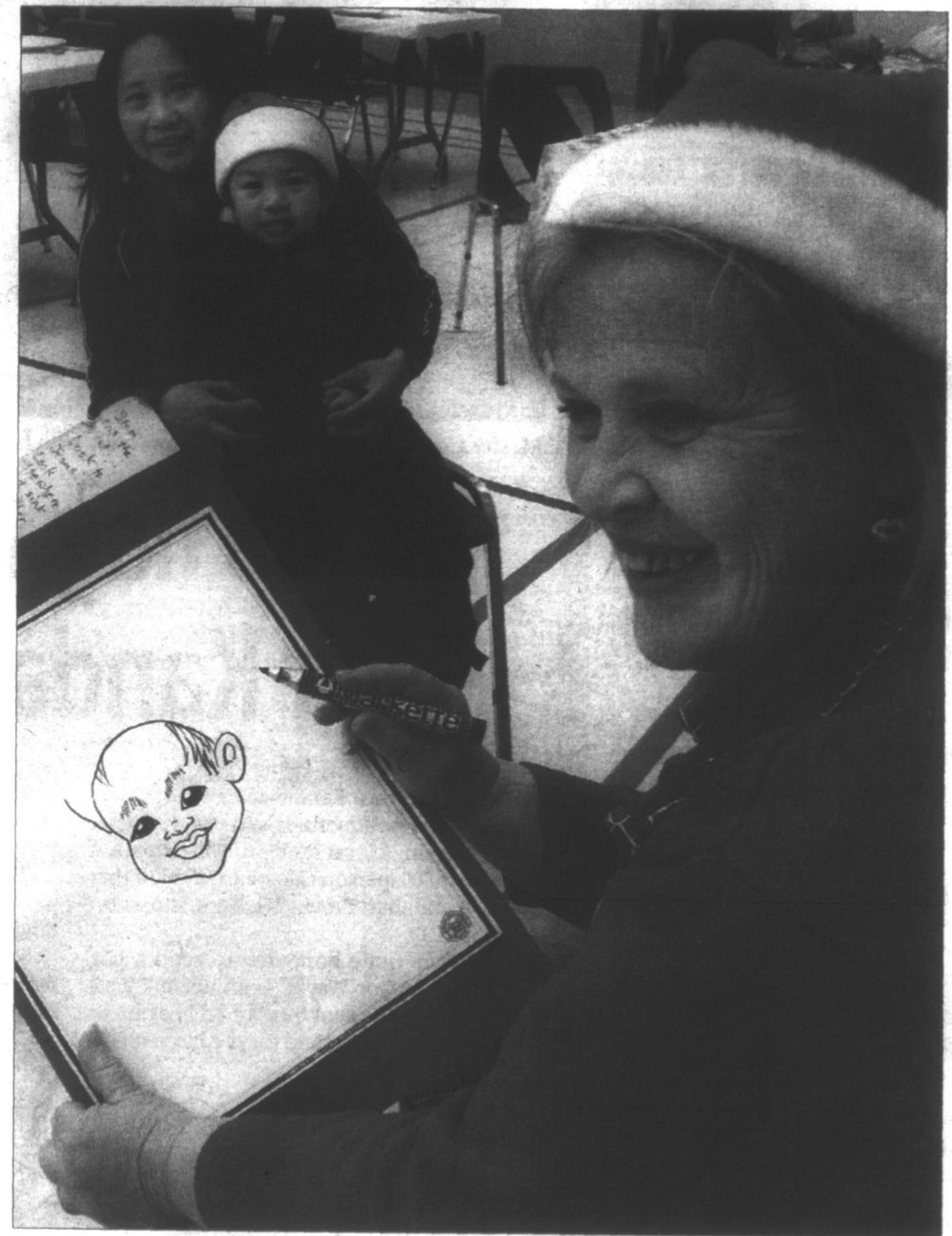
An informal survey of the region's charities suggests when times get tough, public spirit and benevolence keep pace.

The United Way of York Region, for example, is tantalizing close to its record \$7.65 million goal with a week to go.

The agency supports 100

See COMMUNITY, page 9.

CARICATURES, CARING ON CHRISTMAS



STAFF PHOTO/JIM MASON

Artist Caroline Holroyd draws a caricature of Corry Mortalla, 2, of Stouffville as his mother, Cristina, looks on at the Stouffville Community Christmas Dinner at EastRidge Evangelical Missionary Church on Friday. For additional photographs and information, see page 3.

Back off, smokers: town

Smoking radius established outside arena, other buildings

BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

Smokers will now have to light up five metres away from any entrance or exit of town-owned buildings.

The move to create the municipal policy came after numerous complaints were received by Councillor Richard Bartley regarding children being forced to walk through plumes of smoke in order to get into and out of local facilities, such as the Stouffville Arena.

"We're going to try and convince them to move away from the door," said Mayor Wayne Emmerson, noting all benches and ash trays will be relocated beyond the five-metre radius.

... children being forced to walk through plumes of smoke in order to get into and out of local facilities, such as the Stouffville Arena.

"I'm quite confident we'll have great success in enforcing this," said Rob Raycroft, director of leisure and community services for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. "Staff working at the various facilities (will) uphold the required smoking radius with the same approach as upholding the 'no alcohol without a permit' policy."

The policy will take effect once the signs are put up, which will be occur any day now.

PARTY ON, STOUFFVILLE! MAYOR'S NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS, MEMORIAL PARK, 6 TO 9 P.M.



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