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Waste not wanted

Residents surpass goals for landfill diversion

Whitchurch-Stouffville residents are over-achievers when it comes to waste diversion.

In 2009, residents diverted 67.8 per cent of their garbage, recyclables, green bin matter, white goods and yard waste away from the landfill, which surpassed the town's target for 2010 of 65 per cent.

The waste collected is measured by weight.

"The more we can drive that number closer to 100 per cent the better," said Paul Whitehouse, director of public works for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

In 2008, diverted curbside collection was 64.3 per cent.

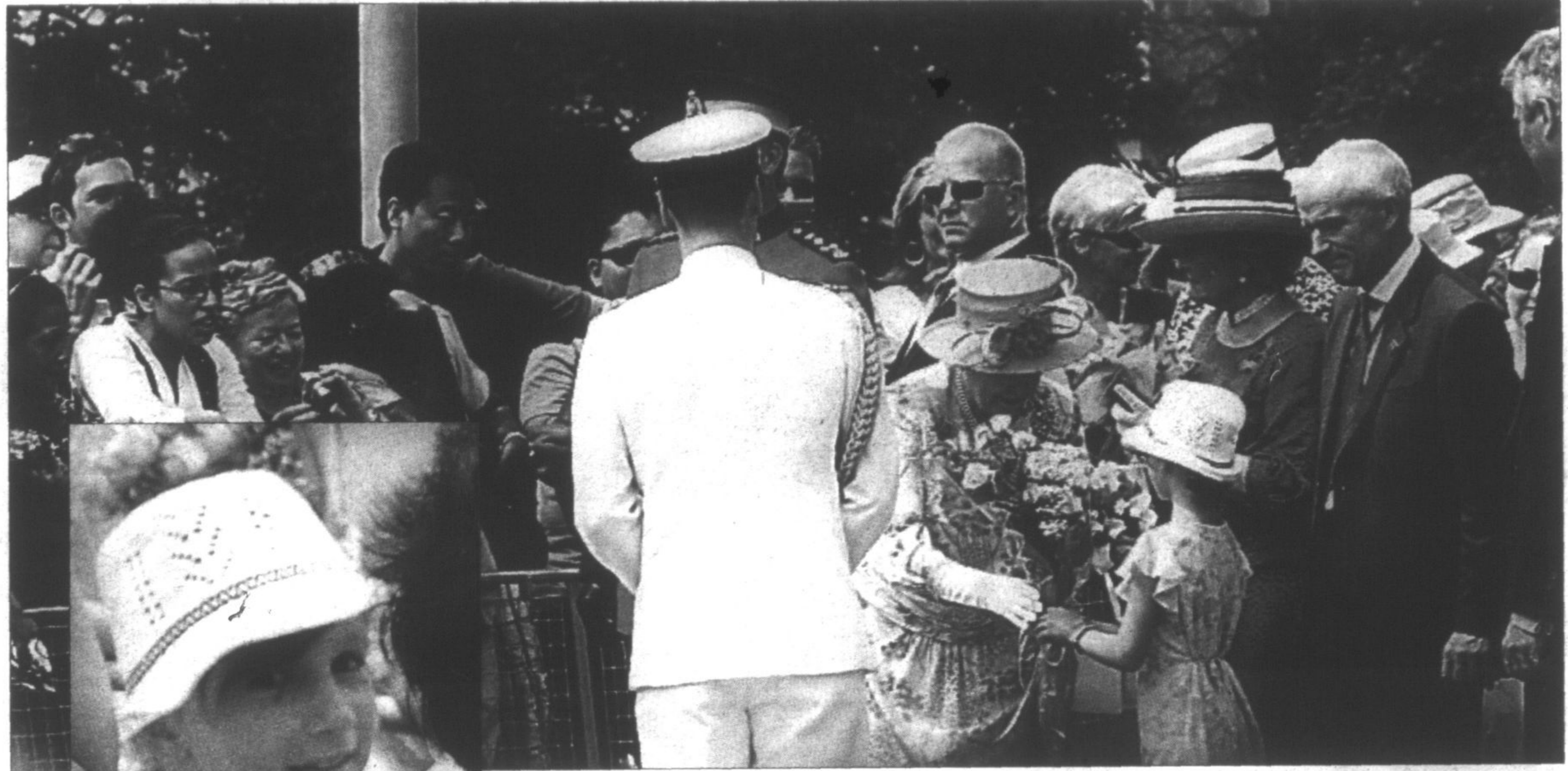
The amount of garbage collected curbside, along with blue box material went down last year.

Mr. Whitehouse attributes the decrease in collected blue box materials to the closing of the town's recycling depot last year.

"I've got to recapture those people in the system," he said.

The amount, by weight, of white goods stayed the same in 2009 as it was 2008, however the amount of yard waste increased.

With files from Teresa Latchford and Sandra Bolan



BURTON FAMILY PHOTOS

Prince Philip asked Stouffville's Emma Burton, 7, if her flowers were for the Queen in Toronto Tuesday. The prince then assisted the Grade 3 Summitview Public School student and her bouquet over the barricade and walked her up to the Queen for the presentation.

Hand-picked by prince to meet Queen

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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When the Burton family headed to Toronto to catch a glimpse of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, they thought maybe the bouquet of flowers they brought would find their way to the Queen.

Derek and Darlene Burton never expected it would be their seven-year-old daughter Emma who would actually be the one to give the Queen the pink and white roses.

"This could possibly be the last time the royals tour Canada and for Emma to have this chance encounter, to be picked from the crowd, it was just pretty incredible, a special moment," Mr. Burton said.

When the Stouffville family arrived at the Ontario Legislature Tuesday morning, where the official departing ceremonies were taking place, there was already a throng of eager royal watchers awaiting the arrival of the Queen and her prince. So the family ended up being four to five people

deep in the crowd.

However, the people let Emma, dressed in pink just like the Queen, squeeze up to the front.

It was then when Prince Philip asked the Grade 3 Summitview Public School student if those flowers were for the Queen and if she would like to give them to her.

The prince assisted Emma and her bouquet over the barricade and walked her up to the Queen.

"I finally met her and she was really nice to me," Emma said. "She said: 'thank you for the flowers' and

I said: 'thank you.'"

She was then escorted back to her family.

"I'm just glad Emma will have this memory to last a lifetime," Mr. Burton said.

This is not the first time a member of the Burton family has met a royal.

In 1991, Princess Diana was in Toronto and visited the school Mrs. Burton was working at.

"She had a presence. When she walked into the room it was incredible," she said.

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