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 Museum plan moving ahead in King Township.
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King okays multi-year accessibility plan.
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Santa visits Nobleton during Lions family event

Santa listened closely as youngsters whispered their Christmas wishes in his ear Saturday evening, during the annual family skate at the Nobleton Arena. The event was hosted by the Nobleton Lions Club. Turn to Page 12 for more photos.

Photo by Jeff Doner

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Council reaches compromise with developer on eve of hearing

By Angela Gismondi

It's been a long, hard-fought battle, but King will not be going to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) on the King City Corporate Centre.

The decision was made at the council meeting Monday. A closed session was held on the matter at the outset of the meeting to receive an update from Township solicitor Josie Matera. The matter was also discussed by the public and council during the committee of the whole meeting.

Despite the concerns raised, council decided to go ahead with the revised application, thereby avoiding an OMB hearing which was scheduled to begin Dec. 18.

"This one has been difficult - the hardest issue we have had to deal with in our term of council," said Mayor Steve Pellegrini, adding that in other major development situations, the Township was able to work with the applicant to come to an agreement without involving the OMB. "We have to do what is best for our residents."

An application was submitted to develop a parcel of land on the southeast corner of Jane Street

and King Road (2995 King Road). The applicant requested an amendment to the King City Community Plan be made to include "prestige employment retail and commercial uses" in what is designated Prestige Employment Area. They also asked that the Township specifically identify retirement/assisted living facilities as an institutional use.

The original applications proposed approximately 14,500 square metres (approximately 156,000 square feet) of commercial space on approximately 7.4 hectares (18.3 acres) of land with permissions for the full range of retail and service commercial uses, including a grocery store/supermarket.

Council rejected the initial proposal last November because it raised concerns with respect to issues of conformity with the King City Community Plan, the Growth Plan and the Regional Official Plan. Council cited concerns with the size and scale of the development and decided that overall, the proposal didn't meet the permitted uses and didn't fit the vision for the property which is designated Prestige Employment Area.

After council rejected it, King City Corporate Centre Ltd. appealed the decision to the OMB. King Township filed a motion to dismiss the appeal without a hearing on the basis that the size and scale and range of commercial uses for the proposed development were contrary to the King City Community Plan and the Township's policies. The stated the application represented an employment land conversion.

The board strongly encouraged the parties participate in an OMB-led mediation process in order to resolve the appeals. The parties have been engaged in the process for over a year now and after an extensive mediation process, the applicant has revised the development concept by reducing the ancillary commercial area to a maximum of two hectares (approximately five acres) and a maximum gross floor area of 3,716 square metres (40,000 square feet); eliminating the proposed grocery store/supermarket use; restricting the range of retail and service commercial uses that are permitted; and providing for standards and restrictions to govern the permitted uses. The application

also makes provisions for an institutional use which could be a seniors assisted living residence.

Local residents had some serious concerns about the revised application and were in attendance to voice them at the meeting Monday.

Bruce Craig, representing Concerned Citizens of King Township, said he had serious concerns that the proposed uses did not conform with the King City Community Plan.

"The King City community Plan came as the result of a lengthy, thorough and thoughtful process involving the input of many interested groups and individuals and should not be chipped away and lost through piecemeal amendments of this kind," said Craig. "We need to see the whole picture through a proper comprehensive review ... We urge you not to support the recommendations of the staff report nor the revised OPA. Rather take the constructive ideas found in the staff report and include them in a comprehensive review and the review of King Township official plans, maintain the vision and intent of the King City Community Plan and uphold principles of sound planning." Nobleton resident Nancy Hopkinson said approving the application could mean the Township will miss out on a "prestige employer" who may want to locate in that area.

"This is a case of putting the cart before the horse," said Hopkinson, urging council to reject the mediation because it's contrary to the King City Community Plan.

Paul Mondell spoke on behalf of King North Developments, who is building the commercial development at Dufferin Street and King Road in King City. He told council the application by King City Corporate Centre has had a negative impact on his business and his attempt

to retain tenants in the development located four kilometres away. In particular, King North has had trouble retaining a grocery store due to confusion in the marketplace.

"King City is not a big retail market," he explained, adding the grocery store chains have been putting him off until they figure out what is happening with the development at Jane Street and King Road. "Many retailers don't want to be near a Walmart store."

"I think it's important for the municipality to make sure the retail you already have approved here is successful," he concluded.

Mayor Pellegrini urged the developer to get a grocery store in King City as soon as possible.

"We need a grocery store more than anything else in King City," said the mayor. "There is not a grocery store going on that parcel of land (King and Jane). I don't know why you guys can't sign a grocery store."

Councillors had their own views on the matter. While many agreed that a commercial plaza was not what was they envisioned for the lands, which they called a gateway to King City, they were concerned that if council didn't make a decision on the matter, the OMB would do it for them. They were also concerned that if the application was rejected, another applicant could come along with an even bigger proposal which might not fit the character of the town.

King City Councillor Cleve Mortelliti said he has been "uncomfortable" with this proposal for some time.

"I was comfortable with refusing and dismissing the application last November," said Mortelliti. "I haven't been comfortable since we have been in the mediation process ... From my own perspective, that

is not what I envisioned there. There is a concern that if we don't accept it we could get something worse."

The issue of transparency was also brought up at the meeting.

"This has been a tough issue to deal with," said an emotional Councillor Debbie Schaefer, who said that because the mediation was part of the OMB process, it was not as transparent as she would have liked. "It's hard because I really do believe in transparency ... I don't like how we got here but it seems to be that is the way these kinds of things happen."

She added that part of the problem is that King doesn't have up to date official and community plans.

"It makes us vulnerable," she said.

CAO Susan Plamondon pointed out that the Township was not required to bring the matter to the public but they chose to be open about it.

"We could be doing all this in closed session but we thought it was entirely appropriate to do this in public in the interest of transparency," said Plamondon. "This way members of the public are entitled to make comments and submissions."

Councillors admitted they would like to see a corporate head office located in that area, but recognized that those head offices might prefer to locate in an area with amenities such as restaurants and stores nearby, where their employees could go or where they could entertain clients. It was argued the proposed development could those uses to support that type of development.

"If you want to attract offices, you have to allow for some auxiliary uses that will help support them," explained Plamondon.

See 'Two' on Page 3

Hogan's Inn at Four Corners

Friday, Dec. 20th –
Bad Dogs

Saturday, Dec. 21st –
Something Extra

Friday, Dec. 27th –
Jack Be Nimble

Saturday, Dec. 28th –
Billick

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7-Day

Weather Outlook

From Thursday, Dec. 19 to Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2013

THURS 19TH	FRI 20TH	SAT 21ST	SUN 22ND	MON 23RD	TUES 24TH	WED 25TH
Cloudy High 2C° Low -6C° Snow 1-3cm Wind SW 20k	Mixed precip. High 1C° Low -5C° Snow ~5cm Wind NE 15k	Mixed precip. High 0C° Low -6C° Snow ~5cm Wind E 10k	Mixed precip. High 0C° Low -9C° Snow ~5cm Wind NE 20k	Variable Cloud High -10C° Low -16C° Snow 0cm Wind N 10k	Variable Cloud High -6C° Low -16C° Snow 2-4cm Wind E 10k	Scattered Flurries High -4C° Low -9C°

King council rejects request to add regional councillor for Vaughan

By Angela Gismondi
King Township will not support adding another representative from Vaughan to the regional council table. The matter was

Police warn of 'warm-up' vehicle thefts

York Regional Police is reminding citizens to be vigilant to prevent warm-up vehicle thefts.

With temperatures dropping, York Regional Police has responded to several stolen vehicle incidents where cold weather has prompted drivers to warm up their vehicle while leaving it unattended. Criminals see an opportunity and seize the moment, simply driving off in the vehicle.

Vehicles stolen have ranged from high-end to low-end in value and it does not appear that a specific make or model has regularly been targeted.

If you must warm up your car, don't leave it unattended unless your vehicle is equipped with a keyless remote starter or proximity key. Remain in your car or lock it and keep a spare key with you. IBC reminds car owners that if the keys are left in the ignition, immobilizers will not work. Do not leave vehicles running and unattended at gas stations, convenience stores, bank machines or any other premises, even if it's just for a few minutes. Thieves are waiting for you to make that mistake. While you are at home, keep keys out of sight, not near the door or hanging on a hook near the door. This is the perfect opportunity for a thief.

brought forward at the King Township Committee of the Whole meeting recently. King council was asked to provide direction to the request received by the Region of York to consider a bylaw to change the composition and size of regional council by increasing the number of representatives from the City of Vaughan from four to five.

At a special meeting on Oct. 24, Regional Council formally received notification from the Province of Ontario that Ontario Regulation 279/13 had been passed, which permits York Region to exercise its powers under section 218 of the Municipal Act to change the size of its council.

Prior to this action, Regional Council, at its meeting on Oct. 18, 2012 considered a staff report, in conjunction with a motion to add five additional members to Regional Council from Aurora, East Gwillimbury, King, Whitchurch-Stouffville and Vaughan. This motion was lost.

At the same meeting, council also considered the same staff report, in conjunction with a motion to defer consideration of a motion to add an additional member from Vaughan until after a council education session. After the education session held

in April, with Regional Council supported the member increase for Vaughan only.

For this reason, King Mayor Steve Pellegrini said he would not support an additional member for Vaughan.

"They did not support the northern municipalities having an additional regional representative so I am not in support in any way of them increasing their representation," said Pellegrini, adding the northern municipalities only have one representative on coun-

cast in its favour; a majority of the councils of the local municipalities in York Region pass resolutions consenting to the bylaw; and that the total number of electors in the local municipalities that have passed the consenting resolutions, form a majority of all the electors in the upper-tier municipality.

The Town of Georgina has also rejected the request to add another regional councillor from Vaughan.

All nine York Region municipalities are being asked to provide their decisions by Dec. 18. The Region will be holding a public meeting on Dec. 19, for the purpose of considering the required bylaw, should the necessary triple majority be received. A triple majority requires that a majority of the votes on Regional Council are

If the triple majority is achieved prior to Jan. 1, 2014, the change will take effect for the 2014 general municipal election.

Township fees set to rise in 2014

By Mark Pavilons

Fees for using Township services or facilities will be going up in 2014. King council approved changes to its fee schedule at the Dec. 2 council meeting.

In the report by staff, the fee hikes are aimed at recovering costs of providing various services.

Municipalities are constantly facing increasing costs to deliver the essential services that residents require, while maintaining "reasonable and affordable tax and user rates," said the report prepared by finance director Jeff Schmidt. User fees help offset the costs so King taxpayers don't have to bear the brunt of the costs. While total recovery is not always possible, user fee revenue is applied against the total costs for the services, before the Township calculates property tax rates.

Staff was asked to review all fees and charges and they were compared to other nearby municipalities.

Bylaw enforcement fees and charges will rise in keeping with the cost of inflation.

A new Commissioner of Oath fee for non-residents has been added and will be \$5 higher than that charged for King residents. King has removed the fee for council and committee agendas, as well as rural numbering grid maps. These are available free online.

OMB processing fees are set to rise, as will charges related to the Nobleton Community Cemetery.

The fireworks permit will go from \$25 to \$40.86 - the same as an open air burning permit.

According to staff, many fees and charges remain the same, and the majority of the increases are in line with the cost of inflation.

"The proposed fee changes are designed to ensure that the cost of providing specific service is fully or partially recovered from the user of that service, while minimizing the cost and effect to all tax and user ratepayers," the report stated.

The new rates are slated to come into effect Jan. 1, 2014.

Two councillors vote against compromise

From Page 2

"This way members of the public are entitled to make comments and submissions."

Councillors admitted they would like to see a corporate head office located in that area, but recognized that those head offices might prefer to locate in an area with amenities such as restaurants and stores nearby, where their employees could go or where they could entertain clients. It was argued the proposed development could those uses to support that type of development.

"If you want to attract offices, you have to allow for some auxiliary uses that will help support them," explained Plamondon. "Permitting a limited amount of commercial development that permits those uses to support the planned and intended function of this area as prestige employment."

In the end Mortelliti could not support the approval of the revised plan and neither could Councillor Peter Grandilli. The remaining members of council voted in favour of the revised plan.

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Making the best of requests to Santa

As we approach Christmas Day and all that it brings, no doubt most of our youngsters have had the chance to sit on Santa's lap and whisper into his ear.

It's an annual tradition that is seldom missed.

At our household, photos with Santa are a must, and if you line up them, you can see a chronology of visits, and see, before your eyes, how our kids have grown.

With three youngsters, Santa has needed some help in fine-tuning our family's list and gathering the items from all over the world.

My eldest provided a written list back in November, but the younger ones were a bit of a challenge this year. They didn't ask for much, which is kind of odd, considering kids always ask for the moon.

I'm not sure if they're taking some of life's lessons to heart, or have run out of toys and games!

Santa shared the contents of their letters with me and I was able to solicit a response from the man himself.

*Dear Santa,
"This year the only thing I want is for everyone to have a great Christmas season,"
Liam, 12.*

*Dear Liam,
"I was so pleased to read your letter, it made my day!"*

The Christmas season is my favourite time of year as you can imagine. Spreading cheer to young and old alike, around the world for hundreds of years has been my number-one responsibility. I will admit it's not always easy.

But what I can share with you is this. If just one person, you perhaps, starts feeling the spirit of the season and being kinder and nicer to your family and friends, it will grow and grow. Kindness knows no bounds and it can literally stretch right around the world. Trust me, I've seen it.

What I would say to people is open your hearts, embrace what you have and enjoy the warmth and good cheer of the season. And yes, you are allowed to eat a few extra goodies



Mark Pavilons

this time of year!"
All the best, Santa

*Dear Santa,
"This year I really haven't been doing so well - I just can't get into the Christmas spirit. I would really appreciate a sign to remind me of the importance of the holiday season. And maybe, if you have a chance on Christmas Eve, you could pay a visit to Africa, Haiti, Dominican Republic (all the places experiencing poverty) and give them what they deserve - love and hope. I'm looking forward to seeing your reindeer on my roof,"
Lexie, 15.*

*Dear Lexie,
"The Christmas spirit never leaves you, it just sometimes gets lost in all the hustle and bustle of the season, school and sports commitments, and the pressures of the world.*

But believe me, it lives in you, I can feel it, all the way up here at the North Pole.

I've been watching you lately, and let me say that your heart is as big and sweet as a bowl of sugar plums! I have seen your compassion towards others - your friends, family and the less fortunate through your volunteer work.

This is a quality that can't be taught or given to someone. It's inside you and it's all yours.

Maybe because of some of the things you've seen,

you feel you can do more. I know what you're talking about. I see many needy kids every year and I do my best to put a smile on each and every one of their faces. I do visit every country and children of all shapes, sizes and colours.

It's tough sometimes. But I'm not discouraged. Just one smile, a tiny bit of love and hope, can change the world. Hope is a lot like 'belief' - it's powerful stuff you know, even stronger than my magic.

You asked for a sign, but you don't really need one. As I said, it's inside you - I see the sparkle in your eyes. It's not unlike the one I had when I was a youngster - wide-eyed wonderment at the world, wanting to help everyone and make this a better place. I've been hard at work for hundreds of years. How do you think I have done?

My reindeer will land on your roof again this Christmas Eve, so don't forget to leave them a snack."

Your Friend, Santa

*Dear Santa,
"How are you and how is Mrs. Claus? How are the reindeer? This Christmas I would like a play house that is human sized so I can play in it. Santa, for others that are poor or on the street struggling, I want them to have a shelter, food and water because nobody should be alone on Christmas,"
Kyleigh, 8.*

*Dear Kyleigh,
"So nice to hear from you again this year.*

I have heard you have been pretty good, and I know you are trying to get along better with your brother. Trust me on this one, you and Liam will become best friends when you're older.

A human-sized playhouse, eh? Santa doesn't really make buildings for kids, and my magic is limited to toys and things of the heart. Santa can't make cars, houses or flying saucers, even though kids always ask for them.

How about a beautiful doll house?

As far as helping the poor, Santa always tries to help as many people as he can. I have a lot of helpers around the world who do good work. I try to make sure those living on the streets in colder climates get a helping hand, food and a warm bed at night.

You know what's a start? Little ones like you asking. When you care about others, it creates a warm feeling, like a blanket, that we can use to wrap around our fellow men and women.

The Care Meter on my sleigh fluctuates from time to time, but all in all, it seems to be in the green. We need to keep it up, not just at Christmas time, but all year long. And you're quite right, no one should be alone on Christmas.

But if we keep them in our thoughts and prayers, we help spread love and the true meaning of Christmas.

I'll make sure you get something special for your thoughts.

Keep touching my nose on the sculpture in your foyer for good luck!"

Love, Santa

*"But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night!"*

Brainteaser



What has six eyes but cannot see?

Last week's answer: 4 years ago (36).

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Results from last week's poll:
Have you participated in any of King's yuletide festivities?



The results of this poll are in no way considered to be valid or infallible.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Would you support a gas tax to help fund public transit in the GTA?

- a) Yes
- b) No

So go to the website and cast a vote!

Carol Ann Trabert
President, King Township Food Bank
Coordinator, Christmas in King

OPG excess an example of government mismanagement

By Mark Pavilons

It seems top executives at Ontario Power Generation are living quite well, all on the taxpayers' dime.

A scathing report by Ontario Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk released last week led to the firing of three OPG staff, and raised the ire of a local MPP.

In the wake of the report, OPG fired two vice presidents and its chief financial officer last Tuesday after the report pointed to high salaries, pensions and bonuses at the taxpayer-supported utility.

Lysyk noted that compensation packages at OPG are "significantly more generous" than those for comparable positions in the civil service. This, despite the fact the utility has cut staff, produced less power, and increased its "highly paid executive and senior management" by roughly 60 per cent since 2005. Lysyk called it a "top heavy organization."

York-Simcoe MPP Julia Munro finds all of this almost unbelievable.

As she prepared to debate (and opposed) the Liberal government's proposal to increase

CPP payments last Wednesday, Munro said the pension aspect of OPG was unfathomable.

Most employers who offer pension plans tend to have a 50/50 cost share, but in OPG's case, they pay between four and five times what an employee contributes. The top five executives at OPG will earn pensions ranging from \$180,000 to \$760,000 annually when they retire

at age 65.

"Reading this (auditor's report) you feel that this just can't be," she said.

This has led to a huge pension deficit at OPG, in the neighbourhood of \$550 million. But, the Dominion Bond Rating Service this past July pegged the servicing commitment of this debt at \$3.3 billion in the long term.

Another thing that

caught Munro's attention was OPG's payment for employee moving costs. They apparently purchase the employees' homes if they don't sell within 90 days and some 98 houses have been bought in recent years. The OPG lost money on every one, Munro said.

From 2009 to 2012, OPG spent an average of \$1.4 million each year on moving allowances. They also have a bad track record when it comes to employee travel expenses, Munro observed.

"It's outrageous and totally out of whack," she said.

Munro wants to know if the government has the authority to fire executives, why can't they better police the financial aspects of the utility.

And it's the taxpayers who suffer. Munro feels maybe average Ontarians are becoming immune or hardened to such examples of avarice.

"Do we forget that it's taxpayers; money?" she asked.

King sign bylaw created

By Mark Pavilons

King Township has created a new sign bylaw.

Council recently approved staff recommendations for the guidelines, following input from councillors and members of the public.

A working session on creating the new bylaw was held in early October and committee members discussed everything from special events signs to recognizing community groups. They singled out certain types of signs as being prohibited – inflatable signs, banner signs and advertising flags.

A maximum of three mobile signs are permitted on any one property and there's a 30-day break period between signs. This is meant to preserve aesthetic qualities in King and not allow a proliferation of the ugly roadside signs.

Home business signs are permitted, but estate signs are limited to exclude advertising businesses. With 2014 being an election year, election signs cannot be put up at their "headquarters" until after a candidate has officially filed their nomination papers.

The new bylaw strengthens the Township's planning and environmental provisions.

King fire offers lighting safety tips

King Fire and Emergency Services want residents to have a safe holiday season. And they're offering some tips make it happen.

Christmas lights are beautiful but can pose a danger to your home if they have not been properly checked prior to use. Lights used for decorating have the potential to get hot enough to ignite surrounding decorations if they are not placed properly or checked for frayed or cracked wires and broken sockets. Do not attempt to repair a worn light set, but instead dispose of the defected sets and purchase new ones.

When simply replacing bulbs, make sure the replacement matches the original and is approved for that use.

Always make sure when purchasing new lights, to check for a stamp on the packaging showing that the set has been tested and deemed safe by a reputable testing laboratory. These companies can include "UL" (Underwriters Laboratories), "ULC" (Underwriters Laboratories of Canada), "ETL" (Edison Testing Laboratory), etc. Also make sure to check that when planning on setting lights outdoors, the packaging specifies whether they have been manufactured for that use. When plugging in the lights outdoors, be sure that they are plugged into a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). These can be purchased as portable units for outdoor use, or permanently installed by an electrician.

Another tip to remember is how important it is to make sure extension cords are used properly. Do not overload extension cords as they have the potential of getting hot enough to burn. Always make sure the cords are secured and not in the way of tripping, and in any route of egress.

Lastly, when going to bed at night, don't forget to turn off your Christmas lights.

Letter to the Editor

Agricultural society wants parking at old Schomberg arena preserved

The Schomberg Agricultural Society would like to comment on the article that was published in the Nov. 14 issue of the King Weekly Sentinel, regarding the proposal for the old Schomberg arena.

As many will remember, a few months ago we submitted an article explaining our history to the community. Here is a brief summary:

The Schomberg Agricultural Society has been in existence for over 163 years and has held King Township's largest community event for just as long. The Agricultural Spring Fair takes place the last full weekend in May on the fairgrounds which are owned solely by the Schomberg Agricultural Society. We have held our fair in this location, our home for the last 163 years.

We have had unlimited use of the community and agricultural arena since it opened its doors in 1963. At that time, an agreement was made between the Schomberg Agricultural Society and the Township of King granting us full use of the arena and the land/parking area surrounding it for one full week in May to hold our fair and also for one other event benefiting the Society. This agreement was made in thanks to the Schomberg Agricultural Society for raising all of the funds required to build the arena.

When the arena officially opened in 1963, it was completely debt free thanks to the Schomberg Agricultural Society. Along with a grant in the amount of \$12,500, we were able to raise all of the funds through fund raising events and donations made by community members and local business owners. This agreement is to remain valid for as long as the Township of King maintains ownership of the facility.

In recent months we, the Schomberg Agricultural Society, have been actively involved in meetings and discussions regarding the fate of the "old arena." We have accepted the fact that we may no longer have use of the facility beyond 2014.

However, our concern lies with the parking area directly in front of it. The existing parking lot has been our main entrance for as long as we've owned the property. It is our main gate at fair time and more importantly it provides access for all emergency vehicles which may be required at any time during the year. It is the only entrance to the property which can accommodate a 40-foot clearance for the large trucks which bring in the midway rides at fair time as well as the horse trailers and cattle and beef trailers which import the prize winning livestock to our many shows and demonstrations and also to our ever popular Agricultural Education Centre, better known as our "Fair Farm." We must have continued right of way in order to ensure our safe and challenge-free set up.

The Schomberg Agricultural Society is willing to discuss all options of working together with The Fenn Group or whoever our new neighbour may be. We are also strong believers of working with the community for the community.

See you at the 164th Schomberg Agricultural Spring Fair – May 22 through 25, 2014.

Cathy D'Alessandro
Manager
Schomberg Agricultural Society

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Happy Birthday
to our dear Mother & Friend, **Beryl Fleming** who will turn 90 on Christmas Day! May each day be filled with the glow of warm sun, may you find strength in the ties that bind family together. Have a wonderful 90th Birthday.

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your Family

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So you'll have time to spare. Trust the Certified Packing Experts to pack your items and send them on their way this holiday season.

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The UPS Store

*From December 1-24, 2013. See store for details. Aeroplan is a registered trademark of Air Canada Inc.



The Corporation of the Township of King
2075 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1A1

905-833-5321
info@king.ca
www.king.ca

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Municipal Office, Council Chambers

Mon. January 13, 2014
6:00pm - Council/Committee of the Whole

Mon. January 27, 2014
5:00pm - Working Session
Update on Facility Structural and Accessibility Audit
and Energy Management Plan
6:00pm - Council/Committee of the Whole

BUDGET 2014

**NOTICE - UPCOMING MEETINGS
2014 BUDGET & BUSINESS PLAN**

Council Chambers @ 2075 King Road, King City

RE: **Adoption - 2014 Budget & Business Plan**
Monday, January 13th, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

The Township of King adoption of the 2014 Budget & Business Plan will be considered at the January 13th, 2014 Council Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend. Budget information will be available for review at the Township of King Municipal Offices at 2075 King Road or on the Township web-site at www.king.ca as of Thursday, January 9th, 2014.

For further information regarding the Budget process please visit the Township's website at www.king.ca or contact:

Jeff Parks, Manager of Budgets and Accounting,
jparks@king.ca

Telephone: 905-833-5321 or 1-800-688-5013,
Fax: 905-833-2300

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Township Offices Will Be Closed On Friday, December 20th, 2013 At 4:30 P.M. Due To The Holiday Season

Reopening Thursday, January 2nd, 2014 At 8:30 A.M.

For Urgent Township Matters: Please Call (905) 833-5321 And The Township Answering Service Will Relay Your Call To The Appropriate Personnel.

Seasons Greetings!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

KING IS HIRING!

King Township is seeking applications from qualified individuals for the position(s) of:

- * Director of Finance & Treasurer
- * Summer Camp Staff
 - Travelling Camp Director
 - Inclusion Coordinator
 - Skateboard/Mountain Biking Program Coordinator
 - Museum Camp Program Coordinator
 - General Camp Program Coordinator(s)
 - Camp Counselor(s)

For a detailed description of all employment opportunities visit www.king.ca

HOLIDAY SKATING

PUBLIC SKATING IN KING

There are various opportunities to participate in public skating over the holiday break. Please check www.king.ca for details and updates on available times.



Seasons Greetings



On behalf of Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Members of Council, we wish all of our residents & their families warm wishes for this Holiday Season. May it bring happiness, peace and prosperity for the year ahead!



During the holiday season, we need to show some extra care for the environment. With a little effort and imagination, we can reduce the environmental impact of this festive time of year! For some sustainable gift and wrapping ideas visit: www.sustainableking.com

Season's Greetings & Best Wishes for a Happy & Sustainable New Year!

Contact sustainability@king.ca for more information.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

*Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Members of Council
Cordially invite all Residents to
The Township of King Annual
Pancake Breakfast*

*Saturday, January 4th 2014
9:00 am to 11:00 am
King City Community Centre & Arena
25 Doctors Lane, King City
Also join us for a Free Skate with
Mayor Pellegrini 11:00 am – 12:00 pm*

~ All Welcome ~

HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY



'T was the Night for Fire Safety
author unknown

'T was the night before Christmas, when all through the house ★ Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. ★ When down through the chimney, all covered with soot ★ Came the "Spirit of Fire", an ugly galoot. ★ His eyes glowed like embers, his features were stern ★ As he looked all around him for something to burn. ★ What he saw made him grumble-his anger grew higher ★ For there wasn't a single thing that would start a good fire. ★ No door had been blocked by the big Christmas tree ★ It stood in the corner, leaving passageways free. ★ The lights that glow brightly for Betty and Tim ★ Had been hung with precaution, so none touched a limb. ★ All wiring was new, not a break could be seen ★ And wet sand at its base kept the tree nice and green. ★ The tree had been trimmed by a mother insistent ★ That the ornaments used should be fire resistant. ★ The mother had known the things to avoid, ★ Like cotton and paper and plain celluloid. ★ Rock wool, metal icicles and trinkets of glass ★ Gave life to the tree - it really had class. ★ And would you believe it, right next to the tree ★ Was a suitable box for holding debris ★ A place to hold wrappings of paper and string ★ From all of the gifts that Santa might bring. ★ The ugly galoot was so mad he could bust ★ As he climbed up the chimney in utter disgust. ★ For the folks in this home had paid close attention ★ To all of the rules of good fire prevention.

WINTER PARKING

Winter Parking Restrictions
Now in Effect November 1st to April 15th

Waste Collection Calendar 2014

Look for your 2014 Waste Management Calendar in the mail during the week of December 16th to 20th

Nobleton Sanitary Sewer Project Update and Safety Reminder

As sewer work continues in Nobleton, the Township asks that residents remind their children to exercise caution around the heavy construction vehicles, and especially that they do not play or climb on construction equipment.

Residents are also asked to take extra care while driving around the construction areas.

Road closures will continue while sewer construction is underway in **Contract Area 5** (Chinook, Hawman, Hazelbury, Henley, Wilsen); **Contract Area 6** (Wilkie, Robinson); **Contract Area 7A** (Faris, Kinsley, Wellington, Parkview, Crestview); **Contract Area 7B** (Ellis), and **Contract Area 7C** (south of Hwy. 27 from Parkview). We apologize for any inconvenience and ask everyone to drive safely on the alternate routes.

Anyone with special transportation or medical needs, such as those receiving home-based care, should notify the Township by calling our **Project Phone Line at 905-833-4073**.

If you have questions about the Nobleton Sanitary Sewer Project, please call the Project Phone Line or email us at nobletonsewers@king.ca.



Winter Break Camp



Sign-up your kids for a day or two of fun with the Township of King Day Camp Crew this Winter Break!

The program includes fun and active games, crafts, outdoor activities, and skating!

Please have your kids bring the following:

- Lunch & Snack
- Indoor Shoes
- Skates
- Helmet

Dates:
December 23, 27, 30
January 2, 3

Time: 9:00am—4:00pm
Extended AM & PM care is available from 7am to 6pm for additional charge of \$3.50 per session

Cost: \$30/day or \$135/5 days

Location: Nobleton Arena
15 Old King Rd
Nobleton, ON



For more information or to register call the Parks, Recreation, and Culture department at: 905-859-0056 ext: 5228 (between 8:30am to 4:30pm) or email: Recreation.Coordinator@king.ca

Township of King • www.king.ca
2075 King Road, King City, Ontario L7B 1A1

Welcome extended by churches to attend Christmas services

Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone
905-859-5174

St. Paul's Church

This year, the St. Paul's Community Youth Group has a Junior group (Grades 6 to 8) and a Senior group (Grades 9 to 12). Both groups will break now for Christmas holidays and resume in 2014. Stay posted for details.

Join us Sunday, Dec. 22 at 10 a.m. Jeff's message this week - "There's Something About Mary." FirstLink child care (for children 3 years of age and younger) is provided during the gathering and our regular NextStep program (for children ages 4 to 6) and KidzKonnection program (for ages 7 to 11) take place at the same time.

Please take note of our Christmas celebrations and plan to attend. We'd love to see you all!

Christmas Eve, we will celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus at two worship gatherings. The first at 6:30 p.m. where children are invited to come in their pyjamas and the second at 8 p.m. On Christmas Day, we will announce Christ's birth with our traditional bell ringing and celebrate once more at our 10 a.m. worship gathering!

Join us at the Nobleton Arena on Friday, Dec. 27 at 7 p.m. for a free public skate! Bring your neighbours, family and friends. Hot chocolate and goodies will be served! Come help us make this a fun-filled community event. For more information about any of our activities or events, please contact the church office at 905-859-0843 or visit our website at www.stpaulsnobleton.ca.

Nobleton Seniors

The winners of the Tuesday evening euchre were Bob Fleury, Herb Workman, Joe Tasca and Doris Clarkson. We had

a tie for most lone hands between Bob and Joe. The lucky draw winners were Bob Fleury, Mary Lostchuck and Bernice Tasca. The next evening euchre will be Jan. 14. We wish you all a happy Christmas and New Year.

Nobleton United

Our Christmas Eve service is Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 8:30 p.m.

It will be a service of carols, candles and Communion.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what can I give him - give my heart.

Sunday, Dec. 22 at 11:15 a.m. Advent 4. We look forward to Christ's birth.

St. Mary's Church

Christmas Mass schedule.

Christmas Eve, Christmas Day

5 p.m. St. Mary's Church, 8 a.m. St. Patrick's Church; 7 p.m., St. Patrick's Church, 9 a.m. Latin Mass at STP; 10 p.m. St. Mary's Church, 9:45 a.m. St. Mary's Church; 11 a.m. St. Patrick's Church.

New Year's Eve, Jan. 1, 4 p.m. Holy Hour at STM 8 a.m., St. Patrick's Church; 5 p.m. St. Mary's Church, 9 a.m. Latin Mass at STP; 9:45 a.m. St. Mary's Church, 11 a.m. St. Patrick's Church.

Nobleton Skating Club

The Nobleton Skating Club offers Canskate, Skate Canada's learn-to-skate program, on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m. We also have a power skating class Fridays from 5-6 p.m. New for January, for our brand new, younger skaters, is a Parent/Tot Canskate session. A skater, and one parent can participate in the class together! This is something new we are trying, aimed at parents wanting to improve their own skating, and also for our very young skaters

who may be a bit more hesitant to head out on the ice alone. Both parent and child must pay the Skate Canada fee, along with the program fee. Helmets are mandatory for both parents and children.

Our January session of Canskate and Power skating runs from Jan. 6 to April 12, with April 12 being our year-end showcase celebration! For more program details, please visit our website at www.nobletonskatingclub.com, or call our office at 905-859-4943. The Nobleton Skating Club has been keeping the sport of skating alive in our community since 1958.

Horticulture

By John Arnott

I remember as a kid how fascinating the fruit we know as pomegranates were.

Getting one, breaking it open and using a toothpick to pick out the treasure of garnet-coloured seeds within to eat was great fun! I'm not sure what time of year they were available way back then but I note they are much in evidence right now. They have been for sale in my local supermarket for a few weeks.

The first ones I saw were the size of grapefruits and \$5 each but a couple of weeks later simi-

lar ones were only \$4 each. This past week fruit the size of apples were going for just under a dollar each so I bought one.

I was surprised to learn that while pomegranates sold here usually have burgundy red skins others can have yellow, pink or deep purple almost black skins though most have garnet red fleshy coated seeds.

I was also surprised to learn that because its seeds are contained in membraned sections botanists class the pomegranate as a berry.

This fruit has long been used as a food and for medicinal purposes.

The pomegranate (from

pomum mediaeval Latin for fruit particularly apple) and granum for seed, dates back to prehistoric times when the wild fruit originally grew in eastern Persia (Iran).

Once cultivated the multi-stemmed shrub that can grow to the size of a small tree spread to the Mediterranean region where it became a favourite of the ancient Egyptians for whom it symbolized prosperity and ambition. Pomegranates are mentioned in the Bible's Book of Exodus.

See 'The' on Page 11



Carol sing at Nobleton United Church

Some braved the weather Saturday evening for a carol sing, hosted by Nobleton United Church. These youngsters were eager to sing the praises of the season.

Photo by Jeff Doner

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Std. 16 gal. - \$7.00 + HST

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Tree sales boost King City Lions

The King City Lions got another boost this year through the sale of Christmas trees at the corner of King Road and Bathurst. Teaming up were Donna Boye of Boye Landscaping, Lions Frank Sarter and Jay Harding along with Santa himself.

Museum plan moves forward

By Mark Pavilons

King is moving ahead with its Museum Strategic Business Plan, after tweaking its plan of attack recently.

King council recently received a staff report that set out the guiding principles for the future of the plan.

While the majority of recommendations were given the green light, the only conditions are funding. In the report submitted by museum curator Kathleen Fry and parks, recreation and culture director Chris Fasciano, the total cost of implementing the plan would hit \$880,000.

The financing, however, is contingent on council and Township priorities and commitments; King's ability to finance through various methods; priorities within the parks, rec-

reation and culture department, and validation of the direction by stakeholders and the public.

The draft plan was presented to council in September. Staff then received feedback from community groups and local stakeholders. Over the past two months, staff met with many concerned parties, resulting in a lot of good feedback.

Many terms were clarified, as well as the process and roles of a community advisory group. Partnerships, volunteer participation and a clear direction were also discussed.

The plan now proposes to create a Community Museum Board to handle recruitment, allow for more autonomy and allow for expansion. The purpose of the group would focus on supporting the plan, its goals, vision and mission through marketing, fundraising and preservation.

Most agreed the Museum needs to be more accessible to the public and this would be achieved through physical improvements and increased business hours, Fry said.

Terms of reference for the museum board are being revamped, and staff is working to have this completed by June of 2014.

More volunteers are needed and hopes are there will be an open dialogue with the King Historical Society regarding certain bequest monies.

The plan will also involve strengthening existing partnerships and

creating new collaborative projects. One thing already in the works is a special campaign in 2014 to mark the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the First World War.

The plan is well in line with principles contained in the Community Sustainability Plan.

"Generally we are very pleased with the direction created by the plan," Fry said.

The community board was a difficult concept to sort out, specifically in terms of qualifying for a provincial operating grant.

"The creation of this new board will give the members more autonomy while still adhering to the provincial standards. Previously as a committee of council they had to follow the recruitment policies, now they can recruit on their own and members can come on board for short term projects or events. They will still be a recognized, approved committee but will have a broader mandate."

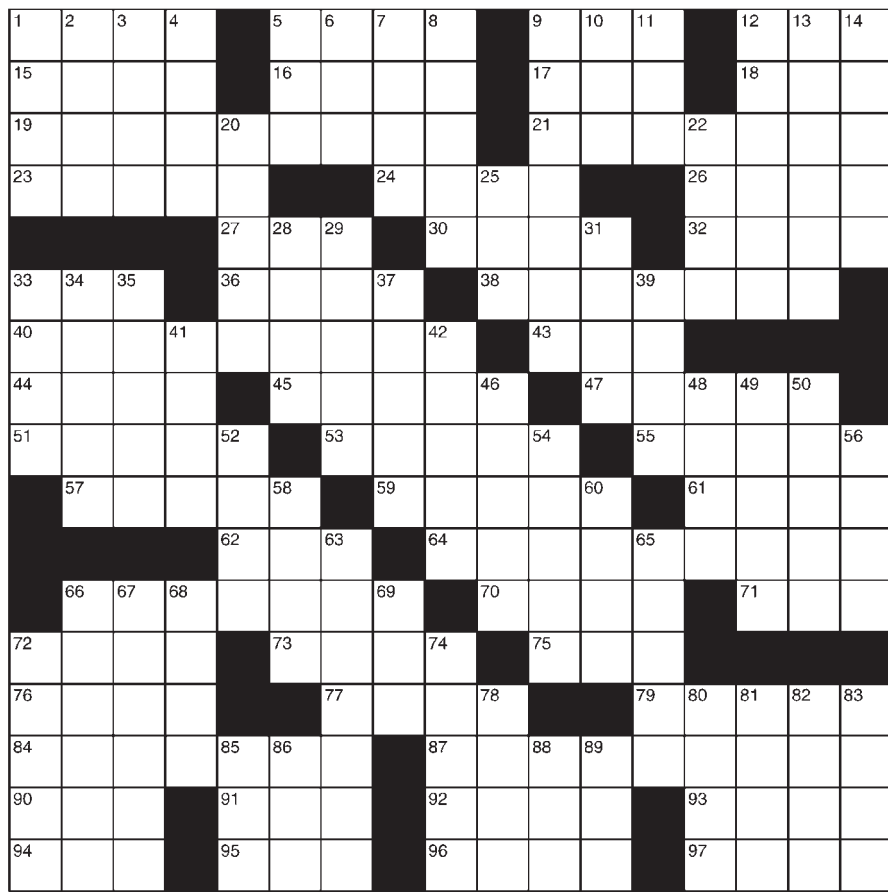
Fry said in moving forward, the first step is to work with the parks, recreation and culture and the existing board to create new terms of reference. Once that's completed, they will start to recruit members from the community.

Fry is also constantly looking for other sources of funding, through grants and other venues. The heritage bus tour remains as a key public event.



CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 467



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ACROSS

- 1. Sensible
- 5. Metamorphic stage
- 9. Greek letter
- 12. Turkish title
- 15. Chinese gelatin
- 16. Related by blood
- 17. General Arnold's nickname
- 18. Bend downward
- 19. Protective lotion
- 21. Tool
- 23. Uncultivated region
- 24. Like Dora
- 26. Wheels
- 27. ___ tide
- 30. Fish story expert
- 32. Raised, as vegetables
- 33. ___ on (urge)
- 36. Blunt
- 38. Bedroom piece
- 40. Teamster's measure

- 43. "Takin' Care of Business" gp.
- 44. Barbecue item
- 45. Having two feet
- 47. Elaborate display
- 51. Great destruction
- 53. Eye makeup
- 55. Shish ___
- 57. Pertaining to birth
- 59. Kitchen gadget
- 61. Polynesian plant
- 62. Diving bird
- 64. Proclamation of goals
- 66. Lettering device
- 70. Prewinter season
- 71. Chicken
- 72. Look for bargains
- 73. Leg joint
- 75. Prairie
- 76. Husband's spouse
- 77. Foreman's weapon

DOWN

- 1. Scarf
- 2. Influenza
- 3. Grandmother
- 4. Formerly
- 5. Golf standard
- 6. Luau instrument
- 7. Hamelin piper
- 8. Cancel

- 9. Pie vegetable
- 10. Noodle topper
- 11. Unlatch, in poems
- 12. Guarantee
- 13. Shoe covering
- 14. Radiant
- 20. Cash alternative
- 22. Bugs
- 25. In-between
- 28. Onion, e.g.
- 29. Grill
- 31. Neural network
- 33. Carve
- 34. Creak
- 35. Tropical jelly
- 37. Hoglike mammal
- 39. Argyle, e.g.
- 41. Congeal
- 42. Jacket fabric
- 46. Kind of coffee
- 48. Not prompt
- 49. Make embarrassed
- 50. Rich cake
- 52. Actor James ___
- 54. Of the kidneys
- 56. Favor
- 58. Good fortune
- 60. Bug
- 63. Jethro's relatives
- 65. Sweetheart
- 66. Black eye
- 67. Brittle candy
- 68. Pentathlon sword
- 69. Hawaiian keepsake
- 72. Pig
- 74. Legally bar
- 78. Statuesque
- 80. Due
- 81. Pedestal part
- 82. Consequently
- 83. Suggestive smile
- 85. Sturgeon's output
- 86. Nada
- 88. Life story, for short
- 89. "High and ___"

Solution on page 22

Volunteer drivers needed at CHATS

CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors) is looking for volunteer drivers. Its volunteer transportation program provides drives for local seniors to attend medical appointments, grocery shopping and errands. All drives take place Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and volunteers provide their availability weekly so it is always flexible to suit their schedule.

Mileage is reimbursed at a flat rate of \$10 for local drives and .45/km for out of area and longer distance destinations.

Training and support are provided. If you have a few hours a week to support a local senior, please call Christine at CHATS @ 1-877-755-3494 or visit www.chats.on.ca.



King City Lions Club

presents our

ANNUAL SKATE WITH SANTA

Sat., December 21, 2013
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

King City Community Centre,
Doctors Lane

Treats for the Kids!



Family Christmas services abound across King

King's Corners

King City United
By Eleanor Fry

Advent Sunday III, as we lit the candles of the Advent Wreath the first one was remembering Zechariah and Elizabeth and "hope," that all things are possible.

The second was lit for "peace on earth." Remembering Joseph, we lit the third candle of courageous "love."

Reverend Evelyn's reflection was about "Poor Joe!" How did he feel when he discovered the girl he was to marry was pregnant? "I can't handle such a challenge!" But the Angel assured him "The baby is God's Son." He stopped. He listened. He showed his courageous "love."

The Sunday school presentation was "from the perspective of Angels." It was done in five parts. "Welcome to Heaven, Nine Months Ago, At The Inn, In The Fields, The Kings."

Each of these featured many Angels, with Joseph, Mary, the Inn Keepers, the Shepherds, the Kings all helping out. One little King had a wee snooze while he waited his turn at the end. The Bell choir closed the pageant first with the chimes, which sound so light and tingly for this anthem, then the Bells, playing "Away In A Manger."

Thanks to all for a delightful "Christmas Spirit" time.

Have you been wondering where the two big angels at our front door appeared from? The Realms of Glory? No. They appeared up from the basement of one of our congregation who loves working with wood!

"Ask, and ye shall receive."

Rev. EV. asked, and they appeared. They certainly add to our Advent "In The Midst Of Angels."

Thanks to all who helped to make Santa's Lunch so successful. It is a family day and that special Santa certainly helped to make it that way. Did you fill your cookie tin? Did you get some of Earle's famous oatmeal, cranberry, chocolate chip, walnut cookies? Did you pick up a treasure from the silent auction? Did you win a prize with the lucky draw, enjoy soup and a sandwich? Thanks to Dance Dreams for their presentation. Rev. Evelyn was speaking to a family who came for the first time as a result of the flyers we sent out. Sometimes. It only takes one!

Changes have been made to our website. Check it out! In addition to the current postings, added are some aspects of our church history, pictures of "The Dinner," etc. Fred will be updating it frequently. If you have pictures of church events and there have been many, (especially Pot Luck), submit them to him for posting. email fjesty@hotmail.com Website is www.kcuc.ca.

On Sunday, Dec. 22 Rev. Evelyn will be showing a PowerPoint of some submitted to her Advent photo challenge. Join us to share a laugh (or tear).

The carolers will be going about on Sunday, Dec. 22 from 1-3:30 p.m. Join in for a fun time. Call Serena for info 905-833-2707 if you can help to drive, or know someone who would enjoy hearing the carolers.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to many members of our church family who are recovering from surgery, or are facing it, who have moved recently from our midst, or are in homes no longer in King City. It doesn't mean we have forgotten you. May you know we send you peace and love, with a big hug!

Join us for our Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. This is a very quiet, thoughtful time as we sing carols and remember what Christmas is really all about. We stand shoulder to shoulder around the sanctuary as we sing "Silent Night," holding our candles. Come to 50 Elizabeth Grove, King City.

For any information call our office 905-833-5181 email kcuc@bellnet.ca Rev. Evelyn McLachlan - kcucmin@bellnet.ca.

York Pines

If you wish to adore the Christ then please attend the Christmas Eve worship service at the York Pines United Church on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. The scripture will be told through the drama, "The Children of Bethlehem." God's presence in the Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated. Candlelight will shine. For more information please call 905-727-8118. The church is located at 3150 the Aurora/Lloydtown Road, Kettleby.

Seniors AGM

The King City seniors will hold their Annual General Meeting on Friday, Jan. 10, 2014 at 2 p.m.

in the Seniors' Centre, at which time the 2014 board of management will be installed. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in the proceedings.

Marylake

Our Lady of Grace Shrine at Marylake will be holding Christmas services. Christmas Eve, there will be a 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. mass. Caroling in the Shrine till take place at 10 p.m. The Christmas Day mass will start at 9 a.m.

King Bible Church

Join us this Sunday, Dec. 22 as Pastor Mark Nowell continues our Christmas series Christmas with Grace with "Going First."

We will also be enjoying our Children's Christmas presentation.

Please join us on Tuesday, Dec. 24 as we celebrate Christmas with our candlelight service. This would be a wonderful opportunity to bring your friends and family. Refreshments are served at 6:30 followed by the 7 p.m. service.

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

There's great excitement in the air at St. Andrew's and we invite you to experience it! Join us this Sunday as we light the Advent candle of Love and enjoy special Christmas music. Our worship service is at 10:30 a.m. with "Kids' Time" running concurrently. Nursery Care is also available. Stay afterwards for coffee and fel-

lowship.

Our Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is at 7 p.m. and will be presided by the Rev. Dr. John Vissers.

This is an early service, making it a lovely time for families to be together as we welcome the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We hope you can come and enjoy this special time with us.

Last Sunday, Janie and Gary Brooks lit the Advent candle of Joy. We were treated to young Anna deRoos playing "Away in the Manger," while the children brought forward presents for the residents of King City Lodge, to be dedicated by Rev. Vissers.

After the service, a number of children, their mothers, Bonnie Mooney and Lynn Vissers visited the lodge, bringing the gifts and sharing music. Lynn prepared "Birthday

Party Bags" filled with items for a birthday party for Jesus! Each family was to bake, decorate and sing together, while reading about the nativity story.

Rev. Vissers Sermon was entitled "Promises, Promises, Promises" based on Matthew 1:18-25. God's promise to Israel and thus to humanity was fulfilled in Christmas and today He promises "to never leave us nor forsake us." How are we with our promises?

The "Tree of Warmth" items for Evangel Hall will be taken to Evangel Hall this week for distribution to the many clients in downtown Toronto. Our next major collection will be at Easter.

Prayer is key at St. Andrew's. The Ladies' Prayer Group continues Tuesday mornings at 9 a.m. in the church narthex. We'd love to have you join us.



Visit from Santa

William Stacey received a gift from Santa at the St. Andrew's Christmas pot luck recently.

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York housing solutions lauded, but situation in King unique

By Wallace Pidgeon
Staff Writer

York Region council has recently approved and moved forward on a number of housing solutions to find ways to bring more rental units to communities across the region.

Regional councillors and staff identified rental housing needs as an impediment to economic growth and affordability for low and moderate income individuals.

The "Make Rent Happen" campaign steered

by John Taylor, regional councillor and co-chair of Human Services Planning Board, recently championed a pilot project that will see a 180-unit private rental apartment complex built on Davis Drive in Newmarket.

Rents will be in the neighbourhood of \$1,000 per month and built by Malter Holdings Limited a private developer where development charges are deferred for 20 years enabling the company to build the much-needed rental housing.

Unlike the \$1,400 per month average for condo rentals referred to at Regional Council, these rental units are to appeal to everyone from seniors, to youth, to daycare workers, and people who work in the retail market who cannot afford to own their own home.

able to provide some relief for the greater housing crunch.

"There is potential for some live-work development in Nobleton, and we are hoping in King City we may stimulate along King Road and 27 our commercial cores, where there will be a commercial store on the main floor and a couple of stories of residential that may have rental or condo units," he explained.

He admits that it is difficult for government to find ways to help with only one taxpayer.

"Places for children, for our workers, our seniors, places for people in general to just rent, the stats are staggering in terms of rental market. There just isn't one in York Region and it's tough," he continued. "There's only one pocket, I keep telling people, federal, provincial, regional, municipal there's only one pocket that pays all these bills and it's yours and mine."

But, King is looking for ways to alleviate the rental pressure.

"There are certain things that we do in King which I believe are way more innovative with the development community," Pellegrini expanded. "We get the development community to top up our DCs (development charges), to put in trails, to give us a lot for Habitat for Humanity. And then Habitat for Humanity sells the lot back to the developer and build a home where there are social services. We try."

To him, the Newmarket pilot is a "win."

However, in King it is a bit of a different story.

Unlike Newmarket, King is not a provincial Places to Grow node and is not a growth centre. But, there are ways King is

Just another example of how municipalities are using their various tools to find housing solutions across York Region.

King approves multi-year accessibility plan

By Mark Pavilons

King has reaffirmed its commitment to accessibility with a multi-year plan. Making physical improvements to Township facilities, however, will be a costly, long-term matter.

Council recently approved the 2013-2017 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, affirming King's commitment to meet the accessibility needs, "ensuring that all people may have equitable access to programs, services, good and facilities in ways that respect their dignity and independence."

This meets requirements of provincial regulations under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), which lays out standards and requires all municipalities to prepare accessibility plans.

From here on in, King will move forward with a multi-year plan, complying with AODA rules. Part of this requires King to have an active Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC), which will continue to play a key role in advising the municipality on issues.

In 2013, a structural review and accessibility audit was conducted of all Township-owned buildings and facilities. It's slated to be finished by the end of the year. The information obtained through this process will be essential in determining local facilities' current and future needs, and assist the Township with its budgeting.

A tour was also conducted of certain Township facilities this year, providing the AAC and staff will an initial analysis and preliminary assessment.

There is no provincial funding available for the upgrades and ongoing costs are administered through departmental plans and budgets.

As things progress, the impacts on the budget will be presented to council.

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New labour agreement involves 2,250 York employees

The Regional Municipality of York and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 905 ratified a new three-year collective agreement for the Region's unionized employees.

The collective agreement expired on March 31, 2013. Negotiation teams were involved in bargaining since the summer, reaching a tentative agreement last Tuesday that was ratified yesterday by the Union membership.

The contract is retroactive to April 1, 2013 and runs to March 31, 2016.

"I am very pleased we have reached a mutually-beneficial agreement with our CUPE partners that is respectful of our employees and of our taxpayers," said York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch. "In the backdrop of the current economic climate, this agreement is fair, reasonable and reflective of similar trends in municipal worker settlements."

Details of the agreement include a wage increase of 1.9 per cent in 2013 and 2 per cent in both 2014 and 2015 for unionized employees. It also includes adjustments to contract language to allow for increased operational flexibility for York Region.

"This agreement demonstrates good value to our residents and reflects the high value the Region places on its employees," said York CAO Bruce Macgregor. "This agreement will continue to establish York Region as an employer of choice, helping attract and retain top talent. With the support of Regional Council, we can focus on continued service delivery."

"Every day, our unionized employees do important work serving York Region," said Doug Sheppard, union chairperson CUPE Local 905. "This agreement demonstrates our strong partnership with the Region and commitment to ensuring our unionized employees continue to deliver important services to our communities."

For more information on the Regional Municipality of York, please visit www.york.ca.

Pabst notes her rural residents are engaged

By Mark Pavilons

Backed by engaged citizens, Ward 3 Councillor Linda Pabst works to ensure the rural residents are well serviced.

"I've always found that Ward 3 residents are engaged in and care about their community," she said. "They really are great and for most part contribute to solutions instead of highlighting problems."

Her residents consistently mention the rural road system. Residents are keen on maintaining this beautiful part of rural King, and do complain about garbage pickup and

papers/flyers dropped off at the end of their driveways.

Looking at 2013, one of the issues she's worked on, in collaboration with her council colleagues, was improvements to our telecommunications service. Council sent Bell a resolution requesting better service. "It's frustrating as well as a safety concern when lines are down for four and five days," she said. "We will continue to lobby for service improvements."

Council approved King's first Economic Development Strategy and King Township Public Library Strategic Plan – both

Councillors reflect, look ahead

will serve as great planning tools.

She lauded King Township Fire and Emergency Services for developing a door-to-door smoke alarm program, "working and continuing to keep our residents as safe as possible."

Budget pressures are a constant challenge, and council is committed to "providing the best services while keeping costs down," she said.

The coming year brings with it a municipal election. Pabst said this is a great opportunity for residents to express their concerns and their vision for the future of King.

"As a councillor of 19 years, I have seen many changes in King," she observed. "We have experienced some growth and although some may have preferred not to have grown, I think it's important that as a council and community we are able to work with developers to ensure that our quality of life and the landscapes we hold so dear in King remain intact."

"Looking ahead, I feel we need to focus on building our industrial and commercial tax base to allow us the money to make infrastructure improvements that are critical to our future sustainability."



The story of the pomegranate

From Page 9

The ancient Greeks, who believed the plant had sprung from the blood of Adonis, the god of male beauty, saw it as a symbol of life-death and rebirth. It is thought by some that in Greek mythology the 3 golden apples Hippomenes threw during his footrace with the Princess Atalanta to distract her and win were actually yellow skinned pomegranates.

Even today pomegranates are an important food served at Greek weddings and funerals. The Romans saw this fruit as a symbol of good health and longevity. The Prophet Mohammed urged his followers to eat pomegranates "for they purge the system of envy and hatred" – how appropriate at this time of year – maybe what the world needs is a daily dose of pomegranate!

The Carthaginians of North Africa introduced trees into the southern regions of Italy and France and Spain some 3,000 years ago.

Pomegranate tree/shrubs are drought tolerant preferring a place with dry but warm conditions when the fruit is ripening thus many parts of the Mediterranean area are ideal. While the plants grow best in deep heavy loam they happily grow well in many soil types.

The roots of this plant tend to rot where the weather is hot, wet and humid for long periods. Plants will survive light frosts but will not survive where temperatures fall below 12C for long stretches of time.

There are some 20 species of this fruit tree and hybridizing has resulted in many more cultivated varieties or cultivars and all have the characteristic attractive scarlet flowers. Some species such as the dwarf species found on the semi arid island of Socotra off the Horn of Africa are grown as ornamentals. This type can be grown in King Township in large containers that can stay outdoors during the summer and brought indoors before the first frosts.


Today this fruit is grown in Afghanistan, China, Japan, Korea as well as Australia New Zealand and South Africa. Spanish colonists brought pomegranate saplings and seeds to the Americas as early in the 16th century where they now grow in California, Arizona, Argentina and Chile.

In the northern hemisphere the fruit ripens from September through February and since most of the pomegranates sold in our supermarkets come from California this explains why they are found in our area at this time of year.



A pomegranate can have anywhere from 200 to 1,400 seeds and I learned from segment of the Dr. Oz Show that the best way to separate the seeds in their fleshy red covering called sarcotesta from the white spongy astringent tasting membrane is to cut the fruit in half and hold each half underwater in a dish, then using your fingers, gently pry the seeds out. They should easily come free and settle at the bottom of the bowl. Pour off the water and spread the coated seeds on paper towel for a few minutes to drain. Now the edible red sarcotesta and seeds it contains are ready to eat. They can be eaten as is or sprinkled on fruit dishes, vegetable salads, meat or pasta as a delicious as well as nutritious additive.










Pomegranates make a happy surprise for the toe of any Christmas stocking. The members of the Nobleton-King City Horticultural Society wish all a Merry Christmas.


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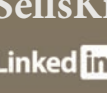







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 <p>KING CITY COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL FOR LEASE \$1,695/MTH.</p> <p>Renovated spacious 4 bedroom home, close to all amenities and Hwy. 400. Can be used for residential or a small business (Res/Com Zoning). Great location with exposure right on King Rd.</p>	 <p>SCHOMBERG SHOWPIECE HOME, HUGE LOT, IN GROUND POOL! \$599,900</p> <p>Wonderful Schomberg home finished top to bottom on quiet court location w/stunning i/g pool! Lrg. premium pie-shaped lot 86' across rear, nicely fin w/h/dwd & slate flooring, 9' ceilings, 2 gas FPs, eat-in kit. w/ granite island, pantry + w/o to deck, lrg. family rm w/gas FP + cathedral c/g, open concept layout, fin w/o bsmt., backyard is a private oasis!</p>	 <p>SCHOMBERG 5000 SQ. FT. LOG HOME, 2.3 ACRES, \$999,900</p> <p>Wonderful hand-hewn elm log home on majestic 2.33 ac. setting w/trees + pond in quaint hamlet of Loydtown. Approx. 5000 sq. ft. fin. liv. area & prof. restored w/finest materials + workmanship. Award winning kit. w/granite, stone & black walnut bkfst bar, 9' c/ds., 3 FPs, amazing ash h/dwd. flr, potlights, b/l speakers. Master oasis w/100 y+ bamboard flrs, w/ dressing rm, gas FP + w/o to sun deck! Cozy fam. rm. w/picture view of pond, o/sized 3 car grg. great location, mins. to Schomberg. Shows 10++</p>



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King growth puts pressure on parks department staff

By Mark Pavilons

As King continues to grow, so do the demands on the municipality's parks, recreation and culture department.

The coming year will be a critical one for the department, according to a report received by King council recently.

Chris Fasciano, director of parks, recreation and culture, said his department and staff can meet the current demands by stretching their resources to the limit. But, as new subdivisions come on stream, new parks are created and more community events are added to the annual roster, they'll need more money and staff. To lessen the impact on taxes, costs will need to be recouped from user fees.

"Staffing, be it full-time or part-time, or contractual service companies, will have a financial implication," he wrote. "It is the opinion of staff at this time that the desired level of service expressed by council and the community can most likely be attained in the next couple of years with contract and student staff increases, thus limiting the overall impact on residents, while maximizing the value for dollar provided."

"As the needs of the municipality grow and evolve the department faces more and more pressure to deliver services at a significantly higher standard within the constraints of existing resources."

Department staff handle everything from grass cutting, street scaping, sports field maintenance,

tree and trail maintenance and setting up and taking down of structures for community events.

That involves some 29 soccer fields and eight baseball diamonds; 190 acres of parks; inspecting 14 playground structures; 22 kilometres of trails and providing winter maintenance to municipal buildings.

In the coming year, Fasciano noted King will add some 20 acres of parkland in King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. As well, there will be a new full size soccer field at Holy Name Catholic school.

New development in King has caused a need for more street scaping, plantings, etc. Roundabouts within the Metrus (Nobleton) development has increased his department's garden maintenance du-

ties.

Council has been reluctant to add staff due to the costs, so the department has had to look at other ways to meet the demand. To demonstrate the costs, staff evaluated their services and came up with a cost, should the Township hire an outside contractor. Staff estimated that grass cutting, soccer field maintenance, sidewalk plowing and gardening would cost the Township roughly \$80,000 annually just to accommodate growth.

The parks division needs roughly \$12,600 more to meet current service levels.

"Staff resources have been pushed to a tipping point and future additions of infrastructure and responsibilities without the corresponding level of resources to maintain

the current level of service will have a negative impact on our operations, our local user groups and the community as a whole," Fasciano reported. "That being said, our staff are also cognizant

that now may not be the time to consider full time staff to accomplish our short-term goals, and must consider ways to phase in service increases as the municipality grows and changes."

The word around King

What's your favourite thing to do over the holidays?



Arden Estabrooks
"Making snowmen, skating and decorating the Christmas tree."



Jasmine Bauer
"Seeing Santa because we can ask him about presents. I also like to play with my sisters."



Alexandra Estabrooks
"When my cousins come to visit and I like decorating gingerbread houses."



Avery Edwards
"I like to see my family and decorating the Christmas tree with my cousins."



Lunch with Santa

King City United Church hosted its annual lunch with Santa family event, drawing a large crowd. Above, this family came together from as far as Alberta for Christmas.

Photos by Jeff Doner



Offices Closed

Friday, December 20 to Thursday, December 26, 2013

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Wishing you a Newsworthy Season!

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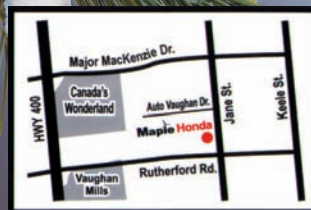
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SPORTS

KING WEEKLY SENTINEL

Three Cougars notch hat tricks against Midland in blowout

By JEFF DONER

Something the Schomberg Cougars have proven this year is they are fully capable of bouncing back from a loss.

Earlier this month the Cougars were licking their wounds after a hard-fought loss to the rival Alliston Hornets, but they followed that up last week with a blowout win over the Midland Flyers and a close win over Caledon – a team they are battling with in the standings.

The Cougars now sit in third place with a 19-6 -2- 2 record and eight points behind the first-place Penetang Kings.

Double digits against Midland

On Thursday night at the Trisan Centre, the Cougars put on a goal scoring clinic against Midland. At the same time, they welcomed back a familiar face in Colton Wood, who has been away at school, but has a history with the Cougars.

“I haven’t been playing that much hockey, so my legs were toast, but other than that I felt good,” Wood said post-game. “I missed the boys that

were playing here before and it was fun getting back to competitive hockey again.”

The towering forward adds some size, toughness and scoring prowess to the Cougars’ offensive lines and was instantly a noticeable addition to the lineup after scoring a hat trick and notching an assist in the 14-2 win over Midland.

Other than a bit of a lapse in the first period when the Flyers made it 4-2, the Cougars dominated the game.

“The coaches were telling us we were getting off our game,” Wood said about the last half of the first period. “I think we got a little cocky there, but then we settled down.”

The Cougars took over the final two frames of the game, scoring 10 more unanswered goals – five each period.

JP Crescenzi buried a hat trick and Kiefer McIntosh had another solid game for the cougars, also notching three goals and two assists.

Mitch Safaric had a five-point night and forward Brandon Falsarella scored two goals of his own.

“It gives us a lot of confidence and it’s very important that we capitalize on these games so that we send a mes-



Kiefer McIntosh goes hard to the net against Midland goalie Andrew Best in the 14-2 win last Thursday night. McIntosh ended up with a hat trick and two assists in the win.

Photo by Jeff Doner

Faces from King



A blast from the past...

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sage to other teams,” Falsarella said. “It’s also important to understand that we’re a good team and we need to bury every team like that and show that we’re a force in this league.”

Taylor Ewart made 21 saves in net for the win.

Overtime win at Caledon

The Cougars entered the game against the Caledon desperately wanting to notch a victory against the team that has beaten them twice already this season.

It was a gutsy come-from-behind win for the Cougars, who found themselves down 2-0 after the first period. But the Cougars used the power play in the second period to get back into the game.

Ryley Egerton scored his 12th of the season on the power play, assisted by Justin Formenton and Brandon Yorke.

Caledon make it 3-1 on the power

play four minutes later, but Crescenzi replied with a power play goal of his own before the buzzer rang to end the second.

McIntosh evened things up, scoring the only goal in the third period (assisted by Wood and Blake Culley) and then captain Christian Muenz scored the overtime goal to cap the win.

The Cougars have one more game before taking a break for the holidays, when they host the Fergus Devils on Thursday night at 8:30 p.m.

“They’re a similar team to Midland in that they’re much more aggressive,” Falsarella said of the Devils. “Every point is important so it’s another game we have to win. A team like that, they’re going to come out ready to hit and ready. We have to have our heads up, play hard as a team and stand up for each other.”

For more information, visit <http://jrccougars.pointstreaksites.com>.



By KIRSTIN GALATA

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What are you going to do for the rest of your life?

It sounds quite ridiculous (when you actually have the time to think about it), but in reality this is the struggle that many high school students, including me, are facing. We are being asked to make major course selections that could really impact our future career paths. Deciding to continue with English and drop Science is a Robert Frost moment – roads taken and not taken, doors closed for potential jobs. Education is supposed to be about opening new doors, not confining us to one option or career path. Years back, before my parents became parents, you didn't need a university degree to get your foot in the proverbial door with a reputable organization. It was more about your experiences and less about your professional credentials. It seems older folk are still uncertain as to what they want to do with the rest of their lives. What? Aren't they supposed to know? How could we possibly know if they are still flying without a destination? Making the right choices and being successful in your education are what we all strive for, but we must not fear that we are making mistakes in the process. Perhaps what we need to learn is how to be resilient and how to move forward boldly, knowing that the decisions we make today do not have to be forever decisions. We will always learn and grow; all of our experiences and educational choices (specific to our eventual careers or not) will define who we become and where we end up. Our focus today should be on the journey, not the destination.

So, what are you going to do for the rest of your life should be – where is your life going to take you?

Local Students RAISE MONEY FOR PHILIPPINES

ON NOVEMBER 8TH, many towns in the central part of the Philippines were hit by typhoon Haiyan which killed over 5,000 and left the remaining living inhabitants without little hope for a future. The event certainly rocked everyone around the world.

The students of King City Secondary School (KCSS) are doing something about it.

Two teachers, Jean-Francois Michaud and Andrea Covent had discussions with the students about the tragic situation. Students, Sabrina Garieri, and Allisia Pia took on the challenge of organizing the fundraiser.

They made posters, coordinated events and held announcements to inform the school of the need to participate. An envelope was left in each home room class to collect contributions and on

Wednesday November 27th, a bake sale was held. Home-made cookies and cakes were displayed on tables in the front hall of the school and students and teachers lined up to make their purchases to a good cause. A dodge ball tournament was also held on the same day with eight teams participating, each paid ten dollars, and spectators paid a quarter. A group of local Firefighters were expected to compete in the tournament later the same week.

The students really got into it, laughing and having fun – giving to those that needed more.

"It was a lot of organization, but we knew we were doing something good for the community" said Garieri. And it appears they are. The money raised for the Philippines is expected to be donated to the Red Cross by next



- Photo By S.J. Mulholland

week, and the Red Cross will double the amount contributed.

This school is relatively small, fewer than one thousand students, but their actions go beyond

the school itself, and beyond King City really. Their actions are now impacting a world event. It is humbling, isn't it?

■ WRITTEN BY CHRIS MCGOWAN

Teens WOW us with their contribution

The King City Lodge Nursing Home had two teen volunteers they were impressed with for their dedication, and devotion to volunteering. They are; Dana Acchione, and Alisha Mullings. "I started volunteering when I was 12 to get my community service hours and I liked it so much I stayed" said Acchione. She was there for six years, once or twice a week. "It was great for me getting to know the older generation, and helping out where I could" she said. Mullings also volunteered for one year at the same nursing home coordinating crafts, and spending time with the aged, doing puzzles and helping where she could.

Sean Hayes, Director of Campus Ministry at Villanova College runs a leadership

"I started volunteering when I was 12 to get my community service hours and I liked it so much I stayed."

course and has teens in the program that organize "Sandwich Patrols" - social outreach treks to downtown Toronto where they take backpacks full of home-made sandwiches and distribute them to the homeless. Hayes is involved, but he quickly states "It is the students that organize most of this". He also said that the school supports fourteen families in King City for Christmas.

Meanwhile, Senior school students at Country Day school are running a Toy Drive that will collect donations for the Yellowbrick House in Aurora. In lieu of a Secret Santa exchange,

certain individual homerooms have chosen to raise money to support "Plan Canada – Gift of Hope Campaign" to allow them to purchase items (animals, school supplies, clean water, medical treatments) for countries in need.

The energy of these teens is something to behold. Truly they are showing us that they are definitely choosing to use it towards good deeds, giving to those that need help without judgement. Perhaps we should all try to follow their lead.

■ WRITTEN BY CHRIS MCGOWAN

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Innisfil outguns NobleKing peewees

By JEFF DONER

The NobleKing Knights peewee A squad had their sights set on collecting a big win over the Innisfil Winterhawks, but came up just short on Sunday.

However, it was a hard-fought effort all around throughout the game that in-

cluded a flurry of chances right up until the dying seconds of the third period.

Innisfil started the game out with a two goal lead, but Knight Adam Valentini made it 2-1 on a goal assisted by Ben Brown at 2:24.

Just over a minute later the Winterhawks extended their lead after a scramble in front of the net.

The Knights pressed hard in the second period, but were unable to get the puck past Innisfil goalie Jake Cichon.

After being stopped on a couple good chances, the Winterhawks turned things right back around on the Knights and made it 4-1 heading into the third.

The Knights came out of the gate on fire, trying to make a comeback in the third period. The hard work paid off for

Brown when he scored a nice goal just 20 seconds in to make it 4-2.

However, the Winterhawks scored shortly after with a shot that would ricochet through traffic to beat Knights goalie Carter Tahk.

The Knights again responded and created a flurry of chances in the Winterhawks zone, but time ran out on them and Innisfil walked away with a 6-2 win.



Goalie Carter Tahk was busy getting peppered with shots during the loss to Innisfil.

Photo by Jeff Doner

Advertorial

Breakthrough Treatment Now Available in Richmond Hill

Imagine thirty to forty years ago if you were told that lasers would replace scalpels in surgery or that robotic instruments would build cars; you may not have believed it. By the same token, would you believe that chiropractic treatments could be performed using a special hand-held instrument developed by NASA scientists, all while you were sitting in an upright position without any turning or twisting movements?

Advances in computers and engineering technologies have been able to uniquely blend with chiropractic in order to both analyze and treat the human body in such a way that was never before realized.

According to Dr. Sean Eastman, "This new form of computerized treatment is so gentle and effective, that it amazes even the most skeptical patients. It's called the ProAdjuster and is the latest, state-of-the-art technology in existence today, and the only one in the north Richmond Hill area.

The ProAdjuster can safely and gently analyze and treat the spine and other joints to remove the nerve impingement that is often the cause of pains in the lower back, neck, shoulder, and elsewhere in the body. It also works on a variety of muscular conditions to loosen tight muscles with ease and comfort. Many patients say that it's like getting a mini-massage.

It can also help increase the amount of motion in almost any joint. Even patients with knee, hip, and foot problems such as plantar fasciitis are being helped. It is also covered by insurance companies since this is a chiropractic treatment and does not cost you anything additional.

Dr. Eastman says that "The secret to the Pro-Adjuster lies in its advanced piezoelectric sensor that is able to detect the slightest amount of restriction in a joint and then deliver an extremely precise adjustment." He says that "Even though traditional forms of adjusting also work, people are drawn to this



Dr. Eastman uses the ProAdjuster to analyze a patient's spine and pin-point areas of nerve impingement syndrome causing malfunction and pain.

new technique because of how gentle it is and does not involve any twisting, especially in the neck. Many people love getting adjusted with traditional manual techniques, all of which are safe and effective. But there are a large number of people who never get to experience the amazing benefits of chiropractic because they are scared to have their spines adjusted in that way," says Dr. Eastman. Now, there is no longer a reason to be leary. The ProAdjuster is perfect for anyone who has been thinking about going to a chiropractor, but hasn't yet made that decision. Dr. Eastman wants everyone to be able to experience these same benefits and if you have any of

the following conditions, the ProAdjuster may be the answer you've been looking for...

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Red Wings capture Silver Stick

The Schomberg Juvenile Red Wings claimed the Regional Silver Stick Championship after defeating the Belmont Rangers 9-3 recently. They went into the finals as the top team in the group with a 3-0 record. Next stop will be the 41st annual Silver Stick Juvenile Finals in Mooretown on January 9-12, 2014. Hockey legend Paul Henderson (far right) was also at the tournament in Lucknow, Ontario, to congratulate Schomberg and present the awards. He commented on the boys' great sportsmanship throughout the three-day tournament.

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King curlers qualify for provincial zone championships

By SHELEE MORNING

The King Curling Club hosted the Ontario Curling Association Provincial Qualifier this past weekend with many teams from the surrounding areas. The club is very proud to have three men's teams entered in the double knock-out event, all hoping to move onto the next round for the Provincial Zones at Trenton in January.

Opening games began on Saturday with 8 ends of great strategy, control, and accurate weight.

Team Groombridge consisted of Doug Groombridge, Wilf Robinson, Matthew Keffer and John Hakner. A tight first match for the Groombridge squad found them going end for end with a decision-making shot in the last end for the heart-felt loss of game one. A strong comeback in game two in B Division put them back in the winning column against Team Acton. Down to skip rocks in their 3rd and final game, the Groombridge team played very well but shook hands to a loss ending their round.

Team LaPlante consisted of Jody LaPlante, Dave Barber, Peter Kamstra and Dan Steenhoek.

"The difference between impossible and possible, lies in a person's determination."

Determination is exactly what Team LaPlante accomplished and it paid off.

Game one saw the LaPlante team fall behind after 6 ends but stole a point in both the 7th and 8th forcing an extra 9th end for an exciting come-back win. Game two ended in a loss and a move to the B-division.

A must-win in game three to stay alive against Orangeville, Team LaPlante needed to be sharp and on their game. Down by 2 with the hammer heading into the 8th things got very interesting for the men of King. With a "picked" stone from each team, Laplante was able to place their guards and remove stones when needed. A determined Orangeville team that could hit any rock anywhere, played a hard strategic match. When the last rock was thrown, LaPlante stole 3 for the win and more importantly qualified to play in Trenton.

Skip Jody LaPlante commented "that it was a total team effort, and the guys really played well." He also added: "The teams here at this event were very evenly matched which produced some really great curling."

Team Davis, led by Karl Davis along with Steve Broad, Joe Dunato and Scott Boynton, also found great curling action in their qualifier debut. The Davis team played very well with excellent execution of rock delivery and beautiful draws to the button. Although the team did not finish as they had hoped, Davis played well and had a great experience with some great calibre of curling.

The King Curling Club congratulates all of the men that participated in this prestigious event and wish Team LaPlante Good Luck in Trenton!

Men's league play

As the first round of Men's League play came to an end, if there was one thing that was very evident, it was that any team can win on any given night.

The Team of Jody LaPlante, Peter

Kamstra, Dan Steenhoek and Dave Barber were the exception until Monday when they took a 6-1 beating from Team Frans. They had run the table in the first round with only a tie as a small blemish on an otherwise perfect record, and they remain the team to beat.



Peter Kamstra of Team LaPlante delivers his rock in this past weekend's Provincial Zone Qualifier Event held at the Trisan arena. Team LaPlante consisted of Jody LaPlante Skip, Dave Barber as Vice, Peter Kamstra 2nd, and Dan Steenhoek as Lead and will now represent the King Curling Club in Trenton in January for the Men's Provincial Zone Championships.

Team Davis, a past champion and perennial front-runner, has had a couple of blips this year with loses to Laplante and Sheardown and a tie with the Young Bucks (Team Tim Gerrits) but have picked up the pace and found their game as of late. The rest of the pack is tightly bunched with Sidon, Sheardown, Frans and the Gerrits boys welcoming Boynton, Howard, Smith and Krauter to A Division for second round play.

Some hard, close-fought loses pushed last year's champion Doug Groombridge and his new team along with Hampton, George Gerrits and Fraser Macdonald down to the B level for the time being. The shot making in men's league has continued to improve with many doubles and tight draws made in just about every game. One missed played guard or take-out can be the difference between winning and losing.

A big thanks to head ice maker Kyle Duck and the arena staff who have given us professional quality ice to play on.

At the end of round one the Men's League standings were as follows were 8 points for a win, 6 for a tie and 4 for a loss:

A Division -

Jody LaPlante, 70; Karl Davis, 62; Larry Sheardown, 56; John Frans, 56; Mike Sidon, 54; Tim Gerrits, 48; George Gerrits, 48; Doug Groombridge, 48; Bob Hampton, 46 and Fraser Macdonald, 44.

B Division -

Scott Boynton, 68; Gary Howard, 64; Jim Smith, 62; Blair Krauter, 60; David Livingstone, 54; John Phillips, 52; Alan Scott, 52; Roy Wright, 44; Dave Kolb, 40 and Ian Witherspoon, 40.

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707 BIRTHS

Vaccher, John & Stephens, Samantha are pleased to announce the birth of their son, **JASE BRANDON**, weighing 7 1/2 lbs at Newmarket hospital Saturday December 7, 2013 at 5:54 a.m. Proud grandparents are John & Debbie Vaccher & Lisa Miller & Robert Stephens. C51

708 DEATHS

BELL: Alexander - peacefully at Victoria Hospital in London on Dec. 11, 2013 in his 88th year, born in Glasgow, Scotland. Beloved husband of Lila, father of Sandra (John) and Grant of London, David (Lori) of Gilford. Grandfather of Philip (Charlotte), Neil, Sora (Charlie), Ellen (Benn) of London, and Erin and Emily Bell of Gilford. Also great-grandfather of Lyla and Audrey of London. He also leaves to mourn brother Davey, niece Edith and nephew David Jr. of Glasgow. Alex became a Canadian citizen in 1976. He worked for the Province of Ontario as a Building inspector and retired in 1988. Gilford was home for many years, moving to London in 2008. Private family service followed by cremation. B51

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709 IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY of our beloved mother, grandmother and sister **Marjorie Lister** who passed away one year ago on December 26, 2012.

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Fondly loved and deeply mourned.

Sadly missed along life's way, Quietly remembered everyday.

No longer in our lives to share,

But in our hearts she is always there.

Forever loved Kevin, Reg, Doug and family. B51

LUCAS: Esther Darlene.

Feb. 10, 1965 - Dec. 17, 2012

Sadness still comes over us, Tears in silent often flow,

Memories keep you near us, Though you died one year ago.

The only source of comfort,

Is the memories and the love,

And they will shine forever,

Like the brightest star above.

You gave no one a last farewell,

Nor ever said good-bye,

You were gone before we knew it, And only God knows why.

Even though you could not bear to say,

We always knew what was in your heart,

We thank you Daughter, mother, sister, aunt and friend,

For the wonderful memories, laughter and love.

Forever in our hearts,

Mom, Sonya, Thomas, Shari, Keith and Gary. B51

710 CARD OF THANKS

THANK YOU St. Jude & the Blessed Virgin of Mount Carmel for prayers received. M.R. B51-01

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Solution to puzzle on page 8



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New benches, ice blade for Trisan Centre approved

By Mark Pavilonis

The Trisan Centre in Schomberg will be getting a few minor additions, thanks to a decision by King council.

Council approved staff recommendations to buy benches and chairs for the lobby, as well as a backup blade for the curling ice surface. These will be funded from the Trisan Centre Reserve and the Curling Lounge Reserve.

According to the staff report, when the Trisan Centre opened in 2011, provisions were made with volunteers and the Schomberg Arena Board of Management to operate the snack bar in the main lobby. With this arrangement, the Township funds the snack bar's operating costs (supplies, equipment, utilities), while the volunteers run it on a daily basis. In turn, the Township created a reserve fund

for the centre to be used for future upgrades.

In 2012, council okayed an agreement with the King Curling Club to operate the bar in the curling lounge. King receives 15% of the gross sales, put into a reserve.

"Both examples are solid partnerships that will provide a sturdy foundation for examining other community partnerships in the future," the report said, adding a similar pact

is being used in the Noble-ton arena snack bar.

The benches and chairs for the lobby was based on input from users and the blade was a direct request from the curling club. Another request was made for sound attenuation to curb the noise in the large, open lobby, but this one is a bit more expensive and this will be brought back for council consideration as part of the 2014 budget.

The costs for the bench-

es and blade is expected to reach \$8,500, with \$6,000 coming from the general Trisan reserve. The remaining \$2,500 is coming from the curling lounge reserve.

This can go ahead immediately, since the reserves are still healthy. There's \$23,879 in the Trisan general reserve, and \$6,885 in the curling reserve.



United Church hosts tea

Schomberg United Church hosted a special tea recently, which drew an enthusiastic crowd. Above, this table, including Barb and Lionel Salisbury, enjoyed tea and biscuits. Emma and Jake Hulse (left) sold some of their handmade goods at the craft and bake sale.

Photos by Jeff Doner

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Kenyan Boys' Choir performs

The Kenyan Boys Choir came to Aurora to put on a special show as part of the "Me to We" Artisan Trunk show at the Catholic Education Centre recently.

The choir was founded in 2004 and has gained international notoriety, especially since they sang at the inauguration ceremony for U.S. President Barack Obama.

The Trunk show is part of the Me to We and Free the Children charity campaigns. Free the Children recently hired another 200 "Mamas," putting their staff up to roughly 800.

The Mamas make jewellery and other handcrafted items to sell at functions and events.

Jessica Brumsit, associate director of corporate and family operations for Me to We, said money raised goes towards supporting the women and to help bring income to their families.

Of all sales, 50 per cent goes to the women and 50 per cent goes to Free the Children.

"There are 800 'Mamas' in Kenya that have been hired by Free the Children to do this and half the money goes back to the 'Mamas' and their work and the other half goes to support Free the Children. You don't get to see this type of thing often," said retired York Catholic District School Board director of education, Sue LaRosa.

For more information visit www.metowe.com.



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CAS's Holiday Heroes program is another success

By Brock Weir

Have you ever sat across an office from somebody and wondered what they were like as a child?

Employees at Southlake Regional Health Centre recently tried to do just that, while collecting toys for the Holiday Heroes campaign for the York Region Children's Aid Society.

Staff members took the last few weeks to size up their colleagues, trying to figure out what they would have like to receive as gifts, had they still been children. It was a daring experiment.

It was all for a good cause and these toys were piled on top of hundreds of others collected by the

Southlake community and the community at large for the campaign.

With the retirement of York Regional Police Deputy Chief Bruce Herridge both from the force and the Southlake Board, the Holiday Heroes campaign within Southlake was inherited by Andrea Griepsma. It was a task which ended up far bigger than she ever expected, but she was excited to meet the challenge head-on.

"We exchanged gifts with one another, thinking what you would like as a child," she said. "We sat together, opened them up, and we had a few laughs with everything we're donating today. It was a fun way to participate, donate,

and a lot of other departments did their own little drives.

"There was one book, and the title was a bit questionable, but apparently it is a good book! It was geared towards the teen population, so the nice thing about this is we're buying for a variety of ages, have gift cards, personal hygiene supplies, and even pairs of shoes."

Looking for just the right gift to show off to have his picture taken, Southlake president and CEO Dr. Dave Williams, himself a former astronaut, zeroed in on a plush Buzz Lightyear. For him, it was an opportunity not just to highlight the mountain of toys collected by

Southlake, but to thank both the York Regional Police and all the volunteers who made it possible.

"The holiday season ... is a time for us to step back and reflect in our lives of what is truly important to all of us, which is to spend time with friends, family and loved ones, but it can also be a time of great stress," he said. "This stress comes essentially from things we impose on ourselves, the desire to entertain all of our friends and family, to go out and shop, to bake and prepare, the social obligations we feel we have in going to various parties and not being able to provide to our family and loved ones as we go forward.



"While it can be overwhelming for some of us experiencing this stress, for certain members of our community, it can be a real challenge for them to be able to give to their family and loved ones, to be able to provide meals for their loved ones and to be able to celebrate the holiday season. That is why we are here today - to share and to be able to extend our support out into the community, to provide families with toys they are able to give to their kids this holiday season."

Following a quick evaluation of the hundreds of items collected in the drive, Southlake staff and members of the York Regional Police collected everything together and wheeled it outside, filling

a van bound for the Children's Aid Society.

According to YRP Constable David Collie, the Holiday Heroes Program has collected over \$700,000 in monetary donations, as well as new toys, and new kids clothing and food since its inception in 2008. One of the benefits of this program is all donations received in York Region will stay in York Region.

"Since Nov. 12, York Regional Police has received over \$80,000 alone just in donated items," he said. "During the last couple of weeks I have been to the Salvation Army Depot, to the CAS Depot and I am dropping off items donated to various businesses. I am humbled by the mount, the volume, and the generosity of our community."



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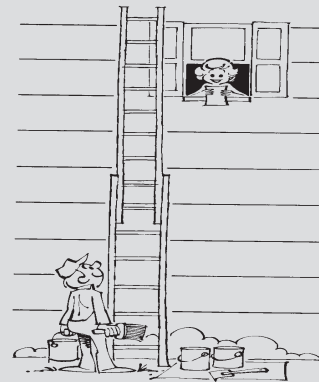
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Area homeless to reap benefits of students' Second Harvest

By Brock Weir

It's a familiar scene to so many students across Ontario at mid-term – the realization you need to get those last few community service hours before graduating high school.

Some might find opportunities in their comfort zone, but others might want to step outside the box and find out something about themselves.

Ian, a student in his mid-teens, chose the latter option, finding himself serving the homeless in a soup kitchen and, in turn, finding out a lot more about the plight of those

struggling on the streets.

When students in Pickering College's middle school began studying Ian's story through the world created by Eric Walters in his novel "Shattered" many years ago, they began a similar journey, bringing home lessons which continue to bear fruit to this day.

"I realized homelessness is a growing issue and it is not only in certain countries, but right here at home," said Emma Kerswill, a Grade 7 student. "We don't search to see if there is homelessness around us, yet we know it is there. Having

the ability to really dig deep into it is very eye opening. There are so many reasons (for homelessness) like alcohol and drug use, to family issues to money problems."

Their journey to find the root causes of homelessness is not purely academic. Putting what they've learned into motion, the students embarked this week on their annual food drive for Second Harvest, a Toronto based "food rescue" program which operates similarly to a food bank, but provides fresh vegetables, fruit and meat to food banks, soup kitchens, and

church dinners to provide heartier meals for those who need them most.

Second Harvest features prominently in "Shattered" and they made the connection through their research.

"At Pickering, we're really focused on relationships," says teacher Elaine Kliem. "It is important for us to understand and find that understanding by peeling back layers and really diving into the hard issues. Looking at homelessness, what empathy is to them, what homelessness is to them, stereotypes they might have, is a really hard look

for them because you do have to be honest about it and look where your heart sits on an issue and try to find a deeper understanding within that.

"(Then you can look at) how you can impact that, change a viewpoint, or just understand another human being."

Sometimes, finding that understanding can be a little bit overwhelming, according to Kliem. Students, for instance, are typically uncomfortable hearing words like "worthless", and even "uneducated" bandied about when it comes to phrases some feel are synonymous with homelessness. Through their work, they have found this couldn't be further from the truth and the idea that their perceptions are not always right is truly underscored.

So far, officials with Second Harvest have been "overwhelmed" with the amount Pickering College students bring in year after year. Although the program started with Grade 7s, those who have graduated through further grades continue the connection with the charity, so Second Harvest is able to reap more and more with each passing season.

As they head out this week with their grocery bags in hand, encourage other students to follow their leads, all in the name of filling up dozens of cardboard boxes to load up bound for Second Harvest ahead of the holidays, the initiative has also sown the seeds of wanting to do more.

"Helping out in the community is just such an important thing, but it is only a little step to donate something," says student Celine Barratt. "What I like about our school is we go past that, whether it is here or whether it is in a different country. (As sponsors of an African girl named) Margaret, instead of giving her a donation just once a year, we help her all year round. It makes me feel happy to provide opportunities where we know where it is going."

Food collected by Pickering College students last year provided more than 700 meals through Second Harvest, said Kliem. Items on their wish list this year include potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, squash, carrots, turnips, apples, pears, and anything you can dream of to serve alongside a traditional turkey dinner.



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All Saints Church hosts busy Yuletide Market



All Saints Church in King City held its yuletide market recently, welcoming shoppers from far and wide. Kathleen Adamson (above) peeks out from behind her festive booth. Isabelle Cameron and Rev. Nicola Skinner (right) enjoyed the market.

Photos by Jeff Doner



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