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Thursday, December 18, 2014

Volume 41, Issue 51

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Santa pays a visit to King

Rachel takes a spot on Santa's lap during his lunch time visit to the King City United Church on Saturday.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

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Call me about TAKE A VACATION ON THE HOUSE

King tables 5% tax hike in draft budget

By Angela Gismondi

King Township's first council and committee of the whole meeting of the new term was held Monday and councillors didn't waste any time getting down to business.

The draft 2015 budget and business plan was tabled at the meeting, with final adoption and approval scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2015.

The proposed budget results in a five per cent increase in the Township's residential tax rate, which translates to a \$99 increase for an av-

erage home assessed at \$614,000. The plan focuses on long-term fiscal sustainability for the Township, putting money into the Township's reserves for future needs. Of the five per cent, 3.65 per cent is slated to go to reserves.

"Although the five percent increase in the Township share of municipal taxes is significant, council should recognize such as the initial step toward long-term sustainability for the municipality," states the staff report prepared by Allan Evelyn, the Township's director of finance and treasurer.

"In recent years, the Township has committed to significant investment in its wastewater systems within the village core areas of King City and Nobleton.

These investments required significant access to sources of funding which did result in depletion of the Township's reserve base while also requiring realignment of resources that typically were set aside for road and facility related maintenance, repair and rehabilitation.

See 'Preliminary' on Page 3

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		Pizza Nova opens in King City.	See Page 9

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

MUNICIPAL OFFICE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Monday, January 12, 2015
6:00pm - Council/Committee of the Whole
- Consideration for Adoption:
- Water & Wastewater Rates
- Fees & Charges

Monday, January 26, 2015
6:00pm - Council/Committee of the Whole
- Consideration for Adoption:
- 2015 Budget & Business Plan

PUBLIC NOTICES

MUNICIPAL OFFICES HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The Township of King Municipal Offices will close for the holiday season on **Tuesday, December 23rd at 4:30 p.m.**, and re-open for regular business hours on **Monday, January 5th, 2015 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.

REMINDERS

Waste Collection Calendar 2015
Delivery Mid-December by Canada Post.

Christmas Tree Collection Reminder

Christmas trees will be collected on January 12th only. Please remove ALL decorations, nails, tree stands and plastic tree bags.

Please note that crews will not dig out a tree or climb a snow bank to retrieve one, and that trees over 6' must be cut in pieces.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit the Township website at www.king.ca for employment opportunities.

- Summer Student Positions
- Recreation Program Instructors

COMPETITIVE BIDS

Please visit the Township website at www.king.ca for competitive bid opportunities.

PUBLIC NOTICES

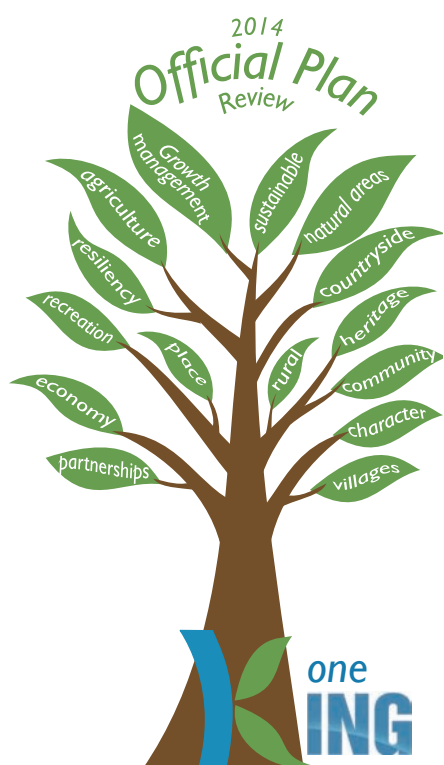
TOWNSHIP OF KING OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

Join us at the upcoming Official Plan Review

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

King Township has completed a Background Discussion Paper for Phase One of its Official Plan Review project.

You are invited to attend a Public Open House to learn about the key planning issues addressed in our Phase One Discussion Paper. This is an informal gathering to give members of the public an opportunity to ask questions and provide input on information we have collected with respect to options for moving forward.



Date: Wednesday January 21, 2015

Time: 6:30 p.m.
Presentation/Facilitated Discussion: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Trisan Centre
25 Dillane Drive
Schomberg, Ontario

To learn more about the Official Plan Review and view copies of relevant background material, visit [http://www.king.ca/Government/Departments/Planning/Official Plan Review Project/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.king.ca/Government/Departments/Planning/Official%20Plan%20Review/Project/Pages/default.aspx).

Additional information and updates relating to the Official Plan Review are available by contacting the Planning Department: 905.833.5321 ext. 4066

Sign up to receive emails: officialplanreview@king.ca

KING FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Holiday Safety Tips



Holiday Cooking:

• Unattended cooking is the leading cause of household fires in Ontario – watch what you heat this holiday season.

Lights and Electronics:

- Examine lights, electric decorations and extension cords for signs of wear.
- Replace damaged electrical products with new ones.
- Only purchase electrical products that bear the mark of an accredited certification agency.
- Watch that children don't put electrical decorations

and cords in their mouth.

- Keep an eye on pets to make sure they don't chew cords.
- Use lights in proper locations (i.e. only use indoor lights inside).
- Never remove the third-prong or grounding pin.
- Before going to bed or leaving the house, turn off/unplug all holiday lights and electric decorations.

Candles:

- Never leave a burning candle unattended.
- Make sure candles are in a solid base and placed a safe distance from combustible materials such as curtains and holiday decorations.
- Flameless candles are a safer choice.

King Trails Master Plan

Have Your Say

Have Your Say! Visit www.king.ca to complete an on-line survey

Preliminary hike deemed unacceptable

From Front Page

It is essential that the Township restore the base operating budget allocation to support its assets and staff recommend such be done as part of an overall review and implementation of a comprehensive reserve and reserve fund strategy.”

The recommended increase in reserve contribution represents 73 per cent of the proposed total tax rate increase, which means 73 cents of each dollar of the proposed tax rate increase will be set aside to support future infrastructure needs. The purpose of the infrastructure reserve is to have the funds to replace assets in the future when the asset has reached the end of its useful life.

While councillors were pleased with the work done by staff, many of them agreed they could not support a five per cent increase. They asked staff to go back and see where they could find savings.

“With all due respect, if there can be any money found in operating, if we can wrestle a little more out of the operating budget, we don’t have to touch program changes,” said Pellegrini. “I can’t support a five per cent increase but I will do without some of the program changes if we can’t find the money.”

“I’m taken aback by the magnitude of the bottom line,” added Councillor Debbie Schaefer.

Councillor Bill Cober agreed the increase is high, especially since a one per cent increase is equal to \$198,000.

“The challenge is we may have to look at some of the things we may not be able to afford this year,” he noted.

Councillor Avia Eek asked that all budget “asks” be tied back to the Township’s plans and strategies.

Evelyn responded all department heads are required to justify their asks and explain why the demand is being made.

“Everyone around the table has to be convinced of the ask before it’s included,” added Township CAO Susan Plamondon. “The initial asks are substantially higher than what is in front of you.”

The Draft 2015 Capital Budget is \$7.2 million with an operating budget con-

tribution of \$1,836,570. Some of the major proposed capital projects include the acquisition of vehicles, road and sidewalk improvements.

The Township’s proposed 2015 property tax supported operating budget, which includes the library and the Holland Marsh Drainage System, is \$20,042,364 or an increase of \$603,555 (or 3.15 per cent) over 2014. That figure does not incorporate an estimate for assessment growth and program changes.

The proposed budget also recommends new initiatives or program changes in the amount of \$547,114. It includes building maintenance/energy management initiatives (\$50K); beautification/streetscaping initiatives (\$91K); and seed funding for the Community Improvement Plan (\$50K). Of the total amount, \$376,114 (68.7%) represents personnel related costs for approximately five full-time equivalent additions to headcount in a combination of full-time, part-time and contract positions.

Councillors questioned the need for five new employees, including a communications specialist who would respond to the media, manage the website and social media, write press releases and other corporate communications.

“This is in response to concerns we heard you articulate,” said Plamondon. “We require a person with professional knowledge to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. They would support the whole organization, not just one department.”

Eek said she didn’t see a tourism coordinator on the list.

“If there is any opportunity for us to piggy back all of our plans and strategies that we have worked so diligently on when we do hire somebody, why don’t we add some of the duties of a tourism coordinator so we can start moving that plan forward,” said Eek.

Eek was also concerned that the road works she requested in her ward were not included in the budget. She was particularly concerned about Miller Sideroad, which the residents have been waiting to be repaired for many years, Canal Road and King Street.

Evelyn explained that a number of bridges have been replaced in that ward, which are very expensive. He said the other works are included in the

front end of the 10-year plan and anticipates they could be completed within the next three years.

“I think it will depend on the financial situation of the municipality and the prioritized works of other municipal roads,” Evelyn explained.

Schaefer was also concerned about the roads in her ward.

“King Station did not have their roads properly finished with the sewers were done,” said Schaefer. “I think it is really problematic that we continue not to finish the job and that this subdivision has substandard roads.”

Mike Cole, acting director of engineering and public works, explained the work that was planned has been completed but there has been public outcry in the area requesting that the Township grind and repair the road.

Plamondon said more road infrastructure work was included in the budget but asked council to recognize there are a lot of roads in need of repair across the Township.

“We heard loudly and clearly from members of council that that was one of the key issues when you were campaigning,” said Plamondon. “Our needs are significant, certainly on the infrastructure side. We’re trying to fight our infrastructure on a number of levels in terms of operations and reserves. We know we are facing long-term financial challenges. You are making four-year decisions and 40-year decisions, planning for the future of our infrastructure so that a future council doesn’t find themselves in a similar situation. We’re putting money away to take care of tomorrow’s needs.”

Staff will be bringing back a revised budget in January.

“We heard very clearly the things you like and some of the areas we can bring you more information on to make a case,” said Plamondon. “We recognize this is not an easy decision – it’s not easy at the staff level and not at the council level. We are going to work with you to find that balance that works.”

ENE King 7-Day Weather Outlook
FRSH-4 WEATHER FORECAST SYSTEM

From Thursday, December 18 to Wednesday, December 24

THURS 18TH	FRI 19TH	SAT 20TH	SUN 21ST	MON 22ND	TUES 23RD	WED 24TH
Mainly Cloudy High 0C Low -3C	Clouds/Sun High -2C Low -5C	Sun/Clouds High -2C Low -6C	Sun/Clouds High 0C Low -6C	Sun/Clouds High -2C Low -6C	A Few Flurries High 2C Low -3C Snow 1-3cm Wind SE 15k	Scattered Flurries High 1C Low -1C
Wind NW 15k	Wind N 5k	Wind W 5k	Wind NW 5k	Wind W 5k		

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KING
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Holiday Events

King Township
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 ON Canada L7B 1A1
 Phone: 905.833.5321
 Email: Info@king.ca

Season's Greetings

On behalf of Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Members of Council, we wish all of our residents and their families warm wishes for this Holiday Season.

May it bring happiness, peace and prosperity for the year ahead.

Cold Creek Conservation Area

Cold Creek is open during the Christmas Break! Stop by the Education Centre to pick up your rental gear, and then spend a day with your family hiking, snowshoe-ing, or skiing the trails of Cold Creek.

Cold Creek will be open 8:30am to 4:30pm:

- Monday, December 22
- Tuesday, December 23
- Monday, December 29
- Tuesday, December 30
- Friday, January 2

Rental fees:
 Skis, boots, and poles - \$10
 Snowshoes - \$5

FREE HOLIDAY SKATING

KING CITY
 December 20th, 5:30-6:50pm – Skate with Santa!
 December 29th, 12:30-1:50pm
 January 2nd, 1:00-2:20pm

SCHOMBERG
 December 23rd, 2:00-2:50pm
 December 26th, 2:00-2:50pm
 December 30th, 2:00-2:50pm

NOBLETON
 December 22nd, 2:00-2:50pm
 December 24th, 2:00-2:50pm
 December 29th, 2:00-2:50pm
 December 31st, 2:00-2:50pm

Visit www.king.ca for more details.

WINTER BREAK CAMP
 Join us for fun and games this Winter Break! Spend a day with us doing crafts, playing games, ice skating and outdoor fun (weather permitting). Ages 5-12
 December 22nd, 23rd, 29th, 30th, 31st, & January 2nd Nobleton Arena, 9:00am to 4:00pm \$30/day
 Extended care available at an extra fee of \$3.50/session from 7:00am-9:00am and 4:00pm-6:00pm

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 17th 2015
 9:00 am to 11:00 am
 Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Arena
 15 Old King Road, Nobleton
 Join us for a Free Skate with Mayor Pellegrini from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

~ All Welcome ~



Editorial, Letters & Opinion

"Public opinion shapes our destinies and guides the progress of human affairs"

~ Frank B. Kellogg

Mounting debt a burden for all humankind

As we engage in our annual exercise in overspending and over-extending ourselves, at one point we take stock, usually when the rye runs out.

North Americans are likely burdened by the greatest amount of debt in our history. It's almost at the point for many of our friends and neighbours that they never expect to be out of debt, or even leave much behind.

There are many reasons for our current plight.

In what's seen as a bonus, our low interest rates are actually a contributing factor.

The bank's low interest rates have been frozen since September of 2010 and this has encouraged Canadians to accumulate piles of debt.

A recent report by the Bank of Canada cautions that Canada's household debt-to-income ratio is near a record high. It has encouraged citizens to borrow too much for their own good and even led financial organizations to lend money to proverbial "bad risks."

The review revealed 12 per cent of Canadian households are "highly indebted," nearly double the level in 2000.

These households carry about 40 per cent of the country's overall consumer debt load.

South of the border, some 18% of all Americans say they will never get out of debt, and 43% of those with debt expect to remain in debt at age 61 or later, according to a survey by CreditCards.com.

The statistics get more depressing for older Americans. Of those age 61 or older with debt, 31% say they will never get out from under. The survey includes mortgage debt as well as credit card debt. Median mortgage debt rose 82% among people 65 or older from 2001 through 2011, according to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Optimism is much higher among



Mark Pavilons

younger people, the study found. Only 6% of 18- to 29-year-olds say they will never get out of debt. Jody Farmer, CreditCards.com's vice president of strategic marketing, says part of this might be wishful thinking. "Every age group feels like being debt-free is just around the corner," he says.

More than a third of Americans (38%) have incurred debt this holiday season. Other findings:

I would assume the stats are similar in this neck of the woods.

This year, we've been fortunate to start early and budget well. While we haven't added a lot to our debt load, we're still like many of Canada's "working poor."

Our debt has ballooned over the past five years for a number of reasons. I was out of work when a previous company I worked for went bankrupt. The introduction of full-day learning by Queen's Park has kicked my wife's day care business in the shins. Cost of

living rises, wages remain stagnant and the rift becomes wider and wider. And yes, the cheap interest rates led us to the trough, where lines of credit are bountiful.

While we have some money put aside for our oldest to go to university, the bubble will burst. There will come a time when both my wife and I will have to get second jobs and think about downsizing.

As a journalist, I've gone to countless meetings, debates and press conferences, where people act sympathetic and empathetic to the plight of average Canadians. I can spot the fakes a mile away.

I sympathize with the plight of cash-strapped Canadians because I am one. And yet, my oldest daughter works part-time to raise the money to go on mission trips to help the destitute in far-away lands. I have a sapphire and white gold ring for sale on eBay right now - a gift I got made to mark our 10th anniversary (don't worry I asked my wife first). I'm selling it out of necessity.

While our kids will be quite happy with what Santa brings them this year, my wife and I have scaled back. Thanks to my selfless daughter, I am constantly reminded about the difference between want and need.

We have given more to charity this year, not because of the feel-good nature of the exercise, but because it's necessary. And we have a little to give.

We want our children to realize that maintaining a home and family takes work and a lot of money. While our nine-year-old is struggling with the concept of money, I try to explain just how much \$20 is. But they're living the reality of \$10 hamburgers and \$50 field trips.

For Baby Boomers who remember our childhoods, these sums are outrageously by comparison.

I wonder just how much money is floating around in this weird society we've created.

I know governments spend money like water, and the civil service is now the career of choice - the proverbial goose that lays the golden eggs. But in another generation, when house prices average \$1 million-plus; a cup of coffee tips the scales at \$5 and gas hits \$3 a litre, will our offspring be in a precarious situation? With their parents unable to help them out, will society be in for a massive crash?

I know I'm being a downer during what's supposed to be a joyous time of year, but this my friends, is reality.

And for these very reasons, it's so important to take note of the plight of others and feel for our fellow men, women and children.

Despite this economic abyss we've helped create, there is always room for compassion, civility and charity.

I wish mountains of these things for everyone!

Editorial

Still getting hosed by fuel charges

Ontarians are rejoicing about the falling gas prices, making this holiday season a bit brighter.

Our lowest prices in years is in response to the continued decline of crude prices brought on by excess production, and U.S. refiners increasing output to rates not seen since the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

That's the good news - for couriers, trucking companies and more.

But consumer are still on the hook for the previously high gas prices.

Check out your couriers, delivery companies, Canada Post and provincial civil servants. When gas prices skyrocketed, the end users were levied a "fuel surcharge." Yes, they were quick to respond to high pump prices by passing it on to consumers.

Now that prices have fallen, why haven't these surcharges been dropped? Now, some of these companies are making money on now redundant charges. And taxpayers are still forking out a ton of extra dough in gas allowances to ministry staffers and civil servants.

Queen's Park has recently committed to full accountability, transparency and opening the books. Well, let's get the ledgers out and make some adjustments, so Ontarians are not getting charged for nothing!

MP, Editor



<p>KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL www.kingweekly.com</p> <p>Results from last week's poll: Do you believe some police shootings are racially motivated?</p> <p>a) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 33%</p> <p>b) No <input type="checkbox"/> 67%</p> <p><small>The results of this poll are in no way considered to be valid or infallible.</small></p>	<p>THIS WEEK'S QUESTION</p> <p>Do you think the public should be allowed to vote for York Regional Chairman?</p> <p>a) Yes</p> <p>b) No</p> <p>So go to the website and cast a vote!</p>
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	<p>Brainteaser</p> <p>Every day, a cyclist crosses the border between Spain and France carrying a bag. Custom officials never find anything. What is he smuggling?</p> <p>Last week's answer: There are just three ducks.</p>
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King Township Trivia

A girls' softball league was organized in the 1930s with teams from King City, Bolton, Schomberg and Nobleton.

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Provincial programs aren't always providing 'value for money,' Auditor General says

Ontario government programs examined by the Auditor General didn't always provide value for money or deliver services as effectively as the public has the right to expect.

That was the sentiment delivered last week by Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk in her 2014 Annual Report.

"Both of these two issues were at the heart of the 12 value-for-money audit reports we prepared this year," she said after tabling the 600-page Annual Report, her second since becoming Auditor General in 2013.

"In some areas, taxpayers did not get value for money from the large amounts of public money spent. In other cases, services were not delivered as effectively as Ontarians have a right to expect."

Among the findings in this year's Annual Report:

Although nearly \$2 billion was spent to install new "smart" electricity meters across the province, the government's stated objectives of reducing power demand at peak times and eliminating the need for new sources of power are not

being met.

The Alternative Financing and Procurement (AFP) approach used by Infrastructure Ontario assumed that the public sector would not have been able to successfully deliver 74 infrastructure projects on time and on budget. Specifically, Infrastructure Ontario's AFP approach assumes that the risks of cost overruns and delays are about five times higher when the public sector manages infrastructure projects. The AFP approach assumed that it would be reasonable for taxpayers to incur an estimated \$8 billion more (including \$6.5 billion in higher financing costs) to have this work done by the private sector on time and on budget.

The Provincial Nominee Program lacks effective controls to mitigate the risk that people who are not qualified for the immigration program are nonetheless being admitted, and provincial officials didn't always report attempted immigration fraud to federal authorities or law enforcement.

The Financial Services Commission

of Ontario needs to better address the growing level of underfunding in defined-benefit pension plans in Ontario to better protect the 2.8 million members of these plans.

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services needs to improve its supervision of, and rehabilitation programs for, adult offenders serving their sentences in the community to reduce the risk to the public and lower the reoffend rate.

The Ministry of Education needs to do significantly more to reduce the incidence of serious occurrences at licensed day cares by strengthening inspection processes and related enforcement actions.

The province has not inspected 45% of residences for people with developmental disabilities since at least 2010, creating risks. Wait lists are high, and provincial funding to homes is based on an outdated funding model rather than the needs of individuals.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care lacks good information to

monitor whether its Immunization Program operates in a cost-effective manner. For example, the Ministry does not track information on the total costs of delivering the program; nor does it have a reliable system for tracking immunization records.

The Ontario Energy Board needs to do more to verify the information submitted by gas utilities in their applications for rate increases. The Board should more fully assess the different approaches gas utilities use to recover their costs because this has a direct impact on the rates charged to consumers.

There is no co-ordinated system for Palliative Care services in Ontario. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care needs to gather more information on the services available across the province, as well as about the costs of services, patients' needs and what mix of services would best serve those needs in a cost-effective way.

For more information and to view the full report, please visit www.auditor.on.ca.

Letter to the Editor

Good Samaritans help clear snow at seniors' residence

I am writing to thank the men and women who so kindly gave up their free time on Saturday, Dec. 13 to clean up the snow between the cars at the Nobleton Pines seniors' apartments.

I don't know if the general public is aware that York Regional Housing Authority has told these seniors that York Region will clean sidewalks and main driveways but they (the residents) are responsible to clean up any snow drifts both beside/between and behind their cars.

The average age of the tenants in the building is over 80 years old and many with health issues. It makes me wonder who is to blame when one of these people have a heart attack trying to do this. The seniors building in Schomberg has the snow cleared from not only between their cars but often their cars cleaned off as well. Why does one building get this service and not the other?

Friday, Dec. 12, when I arrived to care for one of the handicapped seniors I take to do errands, I found that the handicapped parking space was not plowed out at all.

It was a day of continuous telephone calls from not only myself but other caregivers, family members of a few of the residents and the residents themselves to York Regional Housing and the mayor to express displeasure at the snow situation there. I spoke to the building manager and phoned the property manager to tell them both that if I could not gain access to the handicapped parking when I returned with my handicapped charge that I would not hesitate to call Nobleton firefighters to carry this woman into the building.

The property manager did return my call saying it was the 1st snowfall and this would be done by 3 p.m. This was not the first snowfall and the handicapped space was not attended to the last time and I believe that there are bylaws about this.

I was also informed by the property manager that the parking lot was slated to be completely cleaned up on Monday, Dec. 15 when the residents moved out their cars. Nice idea but who again is left to dig these cars out? It is the seniors themselves.

This policy must change!

I must thank councillor David Boyd for taking not only the time to hear my complaints but also for going over to the seniors' building to check on this issue himself, calling the York Regional Housing emergency line to express his displeasure and also getting a group of volunteers together to get the lot cleaned up before Monday's complete clean up.

I wanted the residents of King Township to be aware of this problem as it could be one of your loved ones in that building some time in the future.

M. Claire Mills
Schomberg

Rockford's
BAR AND GRILL

New Year's Eve Four Course Dinner Menu

6pm & 8pm Sittings ~ Call for reservations!

To Start
A mixed green salad tossed in our own balsamic vinaigrette

Fettuccine
Fettuccine with red peppers and goat cheese smothered in rose sauce

Your Choice of one of the following...

Seafood Medley
Grilled Salmon or Blackened Tuna, presented with black tiger shrimp skewer sided with grilled vegetables.

Grilled Veal Chop
Grilled Veal chop with red wine mushroom gravy served with roasted potatoes and sautéed vegetables.

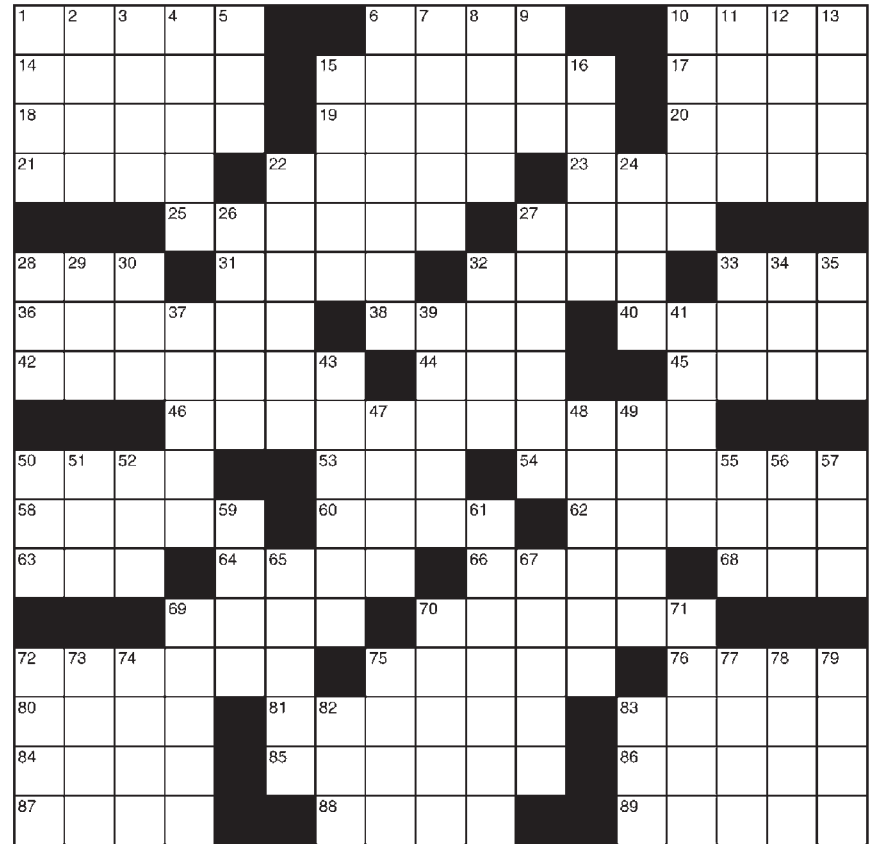
Filet Mignon
8oz Filet Mignon smothered in peppercorn gravy pierced with a grilled black tiger shrimp skewer served with Parisienne potatoes and mixed vegetables.

Dessert Molten Lava Cake

Includes a house wine, domestic beer, or bar rail. **\$35.95**
2124 King Rd, King City www.Rockfords.ca 905-833-0400

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 452



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ACROSS

- 1. Evade
- 6. Retired
- 10. Formerly, of old
- 14. Greek marketplace
- 15. Minister
- 17. "___: Warrior Princess"
- 18. Baking and bread-making need
- 19. Blazing
- 20. Anjou or Bosc
- 21. Period
- 22. Coveted chalice
- 23. Clear of silt
- 25. Cell-out?
- 27. Comet feature
- 28. Hoodwink
- 31. Baby cow
- 32. Divide
- 33. Hog's home
- 36. Long-legged shore-bird
- 38. Distantly
- 40. Scary
- 42. Tout's client
- 44. Fired (up)
- 45. Gold leaf
- 46. Magician's word
- 50. Woe!
- 53. ___ Beta Kappa
- 54. Allow back in
- 58. Renaissance fiddle
- 60. "A Whiter Shade of ___"
- 62. Hollen superficially
- 63. Athens vowel
- 64. Assist a burglar
- 66. Geometry points
- 68. Certain legume
- 69. Shadowbox
- 70. Brave
- 72. Universe
- 75. ___ being
- 76. Bit of lemon peel
- 80. On the sheltered shore
- 81. Hollen-bearing organ
- 83. Flavor
- 84. Moon trench
- 85. Tea variety
- 86. Eat
- 87. Dunce
- 88. A legal wrong
- 89. School theme
- 4. Sourpuss
- 5. Maize unit
- 6. Forage crop
- 7. Disprove
- 8. Of a time
- 9. Without much light
- 10. Kick out
- 11. Clarinet accessory
- 12. Hitch
- 13. Weight allowance
- 15. December song
- 16. ___ waxwing
- 22. Cheese ___
- 24. Ceremony
- 26. Sour
- 27. Mongol
- 28. Crow's call
- 29. Future chicks
- 30. "Holiday Inn" drink
- 32. Settled up
- 33. Indian title
- 34. "___ There Was You"
- 35. Besides
- 37. Quit
- 39. Toss about
- 41. Mild oaths
- 43. Coolio, e.g.
- 47. Informal talk
- 48. Warning signal
- 49. Diameter components
- 50. "You ___ My Sunshine"
- 51. Say yes to
- 52. "L.A. Law" group: abbr.
- 55. Broom'ski n
- 56. Strong resentment
- 57. "TV Guide" abbr.
- 59. Guitar attachment
- 61. Range coil
- 65. Choir member
- 67. Shorta pe?
- 69. Refine, as metal
- 70. Funny-bonet ickler
- 71. Despots
- 72. Businessman's ID
- 73. Melange
- 74. Merchandise
- 75. Saint's headwear
- 77. Epic poetry
- 78. Bicarbonate of ___
- 79. Three, in poker
- 82. Kid
- 83. Date regularly

DOWN

- 1. Dizzy
- 2. Eye suggestively
- 3. Postern

Solution on page 19

Faces from King



A blast from the past...

Is this you?

Contact us to claim your prize!

King Weekly Sentinel

Call us at 905-857-6626 or
email editor@kingsentinel.com

Corporate sponsors boost King Township Food Bank

By Mark Pavilons

The local food bank depends on the generosity of its community members.

The continued generosity of a long-time business was recognized recently by the King Township Food Bank.

Bruce Wilson Landscaping Ltd. and its president Charlie Wilson, have supported the Food Bank for several years, always without hesitation.

Wilson presented Carol Ann Trabert, Food Bank executive director, with a cheque for \$2,000 at the company offices on the King/Vaughan Townline.

Trabert noted the company has been a consistent, major contributor. Wilson said it's important to support local charities.

The company has been providing landscaping expertise in the area for decades. Next year (2015) marks the company's 50th anniversary.

The efforts of a new local corporate citizen were recognized recently.

The Nobleton Scotiabank branch has been a constant supporter of the King Township Food Bank since its opening.

Staff presented a cheque for \$5,470.50 to Food Bank representatives recently. This cheque is a reflection of that support. The funds from this cheque came from community collections, sales of tickets for the October Sip & Savour, and Scotiabank's matching gift program.

During the branch opening celebration in the spring, Scotiabank offered face painting and put out collection jars to accept community donations during their event. Scotiabank then matched every dollar the community donated.

Scotiabank also helped sell tickets to the Food Bank's Sip and Savour event in October. For every \$40 ticket sold, they matched the ticket price with a donation. All in all, Scotiabank sold 60 tickets, donating a matching gift of \$2,400 for the ticket sales alone.

"Team Nobleton is excited to be a part of the community and a proud supporter of the King Food Bank and its Sip and Savor event," said branch manager Natalie Latchman-Greaves.



Charlie Wilson, president of Bruce Wilson Landscaping Ltd., presents a cheque for \$2,000 to Carol Ann Trabert (right) and Margaret Hastings of the King Township Food Bank.

Photo by Mark Pavilons



Scotiabank staff Natalie Latchman-Greaves (branch manager), Monika White (customer service manager), Helen Dasilva, Antonia Lalli, Gianni Zeppieri presented the cheque to King Food Bank representatives Carol Ann Trabert and Margaret Hastings.

Photo by Mark Pavilons

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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 new technique because of how gentle it is and does not involve any twisting, especially in the neck. Many people



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

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...

- Low Back discomfort
- Fibromyalgia
- Sciatic nerve pain
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Neck and shoulder pain
- Knee or hip pain
- TMJ dysfunction
- Scoliosis
- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
- Arthritis
- Headaches
- Sports Injuries

Treatment with the ProAdjuster is consistent, measurable, and extremely gentle. There is no guesswork, and it's safe for individuals of all ages. Call our office today and mention this article to receive a FREE ProAdjuster analysis to pin-point your problem areas and to see how the ProAdjuster can help. Call within the next 7 days and you will also receive a complimentary nerve stress scan and computerized muscle test/semg that can show the areas of your stress and how it's affecting your body. Call 905-773-2225 today to reserve your free ProAdjuster Analysis Scan. (reg. \$90)

This technological marvel can help you return to a healthier lifestyle. You may no longer have to live with a persistent, painful condition. Call us today at 905-773-2225.

Power outage didn't spoil Nobleton school fundraiser

By Michele McNally

Nobleton Public School served a pasta lunch Dec. 12, and volunteers didn't let anything slow them down.

The lunch featured Mrs. D's Famous Meatballs. Cristiana Deachman had, once again, prepared her very special sauce and meatballs. In fact, Cristiana made 550 meatballs and an estimated 30 litres of sauce!

Just as the volunteers were beginning to boil the pasta, the power went out. Undaunted, they had the school barbecue brought out of storage and carried on. The lunches were all served on time.

As an added incentive this year, a crazy Pasta Hat was worn by the teacher of the class with the highest participation. Ms. Dal-Barco was the lucky "winner."

All of the profits from the lunch are being donated to the Nobleton Christmas Drive, along with funds raised by the EcoClub and Me To We Club, as well as the annual donation from the School Council. In total the school is donating more than \$1,000.

The school wishes to acknowledge the generosity of John's No Frills in Nobleton for providing the pasta and drinks.

The students of the EcoClub and Me To We Club held their annual Candy Cane-Gram fundraiser. For a nominal cost, students pay for a candy cane to be sent to friends and teachers. As one can imagine, this is a very popular fundraiser! A big thank you goes out to Zehrs Bolton and Fortino's on Highway 27 for their generous donations towards the candy canes. The school is also grateful to Mastermind in Woodbridge and Landmark Cinemas 7 in Bolton. Both businesses donated gifts and movie passes for a prize draw which further raised funds for the clubs' efforts and the Nobleton Christmas Drive Fund.

The Student Council, along with Mrs. McLaren, ran "Toonie Tuesday" on Dec. 9. Students were encouraged to bring in a toonie or two that day. All funds collected go directly to the Nobleton Christmas Drive.

Nobleton Public School is very fortunate to have wonderful, caring students who donate so much of their time and energy for the betterment of the planet and giving back to others.

If you would like to find out how to contribute to the Nobleton Christmas Drive, which, over the years, has helped hundreds of children have a Christmas, you may contact Mary Buchanan at 905-859-5456. Please visit their Facebook page at "The Nobleton Christmas Drive."



Pasta lunch volunteers included (l to r) Carrie Goehle, Lisa Kokelj, Cristiana Deachman, Michele McNally, Jean Donaldson. Not shown were Michelle Suomela, Alex Simonato and Shirley Goz. Below, Ms. Dal-Barco got in the spirit by wearing the "Pasta Hat."

Submitted Photos



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Region and YRP boosted United Way

The Regional Municipality of York and York Regional Police are pleased to announce a fundraising result of \$448,081 for the 2014 United Way York Region employee campaign, surpassing the goal of \$440,000 by \$8,081.

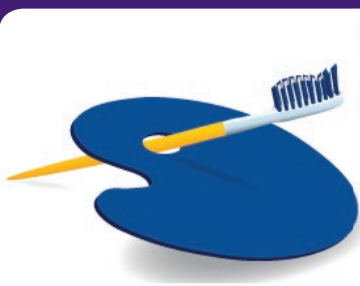
"For more than 20 years, York Region and York Regional Police staff have come together to support the critical work of United Way York Region in our community," said former York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch. "The efforts, enthusiasm and generosity of staff to not only meet, but exceed our campaign goal are nothing short of outstanding."

To date, York Region and York Regional Police employees have raised more than \$3.3 million. Last year, York Region and York Regional Police surpassed their campaign goal of \$425,000 and raised \$432,102.

"York Region and York Regional Police continue to set the bar for hard work and results as the leading employee campaign fundraiser in all of York Region," said Daniele Zanotti, Chief Executive Officer, United Way York Region. "We've already helped over 120,000 people move from crisis to a better life and with achievements like the Region's, we know that we'll reach even more York Region residents."



Dr. David Sadler



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Luxury pre-owned consignment shop has a giving side

By Mark Pavilons

Customers can shop with a good conscience at a new local consignment shop with a big heart.

The Purple Door in Schomberg recently opened its doors, offering designer brands at a fraction of the original cost. The store is both eco-friendly and charitable.

When handing over their luxury consignment items, clients have the option of selecting "Donate Percentage." The money otherwise collected for the client is donated to The Olive Branch for Children. The Olive Branch for Children is a charitable organization dedicated to helping remote communities in Tanzania and is the charity of choice for shop owners Shannon and Kelsey.

"Not only is The Purple Door giving new life to your pre-loved designer frocks, selected items sold generate love and hope to a community in need," said Shannon McMaster, founder and co-owner of The Purple Door.

"We are thrilled to be opening a fashion house north of the city that incorporates our two loves, fashion and giving back," noted co-owner Kelsey Sbergio.

McMaster said it's all about the "conscious shopping experience." Although consignment in itself is not unique, they have committed to a conscious retail experience in several ways.

"As a consignment shop this in itself allows for the recycling of items. We provide a local shop where well kept fashionable items may start a new life but to take it one step further many goods in our store contribute directly to the charity (The Olive Branch for Children) that we work with. Our consignors have the option to donate all or a percentage of the sale of their items to the charity. Even opting to donate a small per cent can go along way when everyone is doing it. Small local steps can make change."

McMaster is confident that with every purchase, they can have an impact both locally and globally. The experience at Purple Door is personal, supportive and fun.

"We are bringing the joy back to the local retail experience and we strive to give a little extra each day."



Celebrating the ribbon cutting at The Purple Door were Little curly top (Domenico Sbergio holding ribbon), Beth Egan, Kelsey McMaster Sbergio, Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Vienna Sbergio (holding ribbon).

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

"The great thing about consignment is that you won't find a rack full of identical items. There's only one! We believe our customers want quality, well priced fashionable items. We strive to maintain a high level of integrity in what we do. The beautiful clothing items, bags, jewelry and footwear are thoroughly inspected to make sure that we offer items that are in great condition. I think that our customers really appreciate this."

McMaster said they also point out any defects, such as a loose button or small spot. But it's the atmosphere customers will enjoy most.

"I can't stress this enough. To be able to walk into a really amazing place located on your main st is really something special. You can visit several shops along the Main street, do some shopping and have a coffee or lunch."

Their customers are both buyers

and sellers, so they are also looking for a professional consignment operation and store that they can bring their previously loved and cared for items to sell.

The sisters simply love working as a team and they thoroughly enjoy the interaction with customers.

"It is satisfying to offer a place to close the loop; a place to sell your things and purchase someone else's. It is recycling at its best, its local and its sustainable.

When our customers have enjoyed the consignment experience we are happy."

The dynamic duo is hoping their small business will be a success and that they can continue working with each other every day.

"We hope to continue to implement new and exciting ways of giving back."

For more, contact them at 905-939-0650 or email them at thepurpledoorking@gmail.com.



BMO opens in King City

King Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Councillors Avia Eek and Debbie Schaefer helped open the new BMO Branch in King City recently. Joining them were regional vice-president Michelle Lucas, and Margarida Ramos D'Alfonsi, branch manager. It's located at the new development at King Road and Dufferin Street. Now in its 197th year in operation, the oldest bank in Canada already has its history in King. Town records show that the Bank of Montreal was the very first bank in King City, first opening its doors in 1906.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

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HunterDouglas

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Every qualifying purchase helps a child in need get closer to their wish.

In the spirit of giving, we at Hunter Douglas have partnered with The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada to create the magic of a wish.





Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Councillor Debbie Schaefer were on hand last Wednesday to help Laura Provenzano (right) and her staff open Pure Radiance Aesthetics, located in King City.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

King City gets a face lift from Pure Radiance

Pure Radiance Aesthetics and Laser Centre officially opened its doors to the public last Wednesday, celebrating with a ribbon-cutting ceremony with members of local government.

Located on Doctor's Lane just off King Street in the heart of King City, the centre specializes in non-surgical aesthetic services, such as facial and laser treatments, peels, and microdermabrasion.

For more information, visit www.pureradiancelaser.ca.



King City Lions Club

presents our

ANNUAL SKATE WITH SANTA

Saturday, December 20, 2014
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

King City Community Centre,
Doctors Lane

Treats for
the Kids!



Please bring a
non-perishable food
donation for the
King Township Food Bank.



King mayor Steve Pellegrini and Councillors Debbie Schaefer, Cleve Mortelliti and Avia Eek joined Sam and Domenic Primucci in opening a new Pizza Nova location in King City last Tuesday.



Pizza Nova joins King's growing community of businesses

King Mayor Steve Pellegrini joined Pizza Nova founder Sam Primucci and president Domenic Primucci in opening a new location in the heart of King last Tuesday.

The restaurant is the latest business to open in the rapidly-expanding plaza at the corner of King Road and Dufferin Street, and is located next door to the recently opened Bank of Montreal.

"We are very excited about the opening of the King City store," said Domenic Primucci. "The community atmosphere, as well as the population and business growth are some of the reasons that King City and Pizza Nova are a fit."

King City's growing business sector now has over 190 local businesses serving the area.



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2014 NEW YEAR'S EVE MENU

<p>First Course Choice Of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bacon Wrapped Salmon Cakes Topped With A Lime Tequila Vinaigrette • Puff Pastry Squares Topped With Roasted Roma Tomatoes, Mixed Mushrooms, And Baked Goat Cheese <p>Pasta Course Choice Of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saffron Risotto With Cuttle Fish And Scallops • Fresh Pappardelle With Fresh Arugula, Fresh Shaved Parmeggiano, Cherry Tomatoes And Pork Confit In A Cream Sauce 	<p>Main Course Choice Of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braised Lamb Shank In A Marsala Wine Sauce Served With Spinach Mashed Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables • Crab Stuffed Basa Fillet With A Mornay Sauce Served With Seasonal Vegetables & Spinach Mashed Potatoes <p>Dessert</p> <p>Chocolate Mousse Topped With A Whipped Irish Cream And Berries And Lingue Di Gatto Cookies</p>
--	---

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Please call to make New Year's reservations

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION INC.

**Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. has applied to raise its natural gas rates effective January 1, 2015
Learn more. Have your say.**

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. has applied to the Ontario Energy Board to increase its natural gas rates effective January 1, 2015. Under the proposal, an average residential customer of Enbridge Gas would see an increase of \$11 to the annual bill. Other customers, including businesses, may also be affected.

The requested rate increase is based on the rate update framework approved by the Board for the period 2014 to 2018. The rate change is tied to updated costs for 2015 which include measures to promote efficiency.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will hold a public hearing to consider Enbridge's request. We will question the company on its case for a rate change. We will also hear arguments from individuals and from groups that represent Enbridge Gas customers. At the end of this hearing, the OEB will decide what, if any, rate changes will be allowed.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding this application and to be involved in the process. You can:

- review Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.'s application on the OEB's website now.
- file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing.
- become an active participant (called an intervenor). Apply by **December 30, 2014** or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding.
- at the end of the process, review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website.

LEARN MORE

Our file number for this case is EB-2014-0276. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file letters, become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case, please enter that file number at the OEB website: www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/notice. You can also phone our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings – oral and written. The OEB will determine at a later date whether to proceed by way of a written or oral hearing.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and email address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.

This rate hearing will be held under section 36 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, S.O. 1998 c.15 (Schedule B).



Ontario
Ontario Energy Board / Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

York chair Wayne Emmerson a bonus for King

By Mark Pavilons

Former Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson elected York Region Chairman and CEO and that will bring some benefits to King Township.

Emmerson was elected York Region Chairman and CEO at the Dec. 11 inaugural meeting of York Regional Council, for the 2014 to 2018 term of office.

In a public vote of 16 to 4, regional councillors gave Emmerson their stamp of approval.

Newmarket regional councillor John Taylor ran for the position, but quickly threw his support behind Emmerson.

King Mayor Steve Pellegrini had come out publicly in support of Emmerson, who has a lot of experience with rural issues.

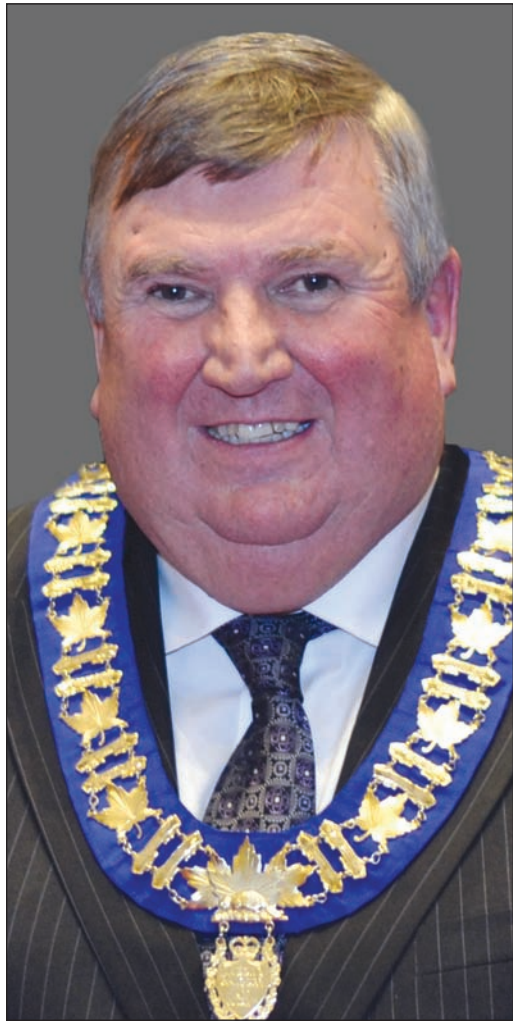
Pellegrini stated that Emmerson had approached him, asking him what King needed from the Region. This how-can-I-help attitude sealed it for Pellegrini. The mayor noted he already has a lengthy wish list for the Region, which includes traffic lights and intersection improvements.

Chairman Emmerson's relationship with Pellegrini will be definitely good news for King Township in the coming term.

Pellegrini's seat at the regional council table has moved more towards front and centre, making him part of Emmerson's "core team."

Chairman Emmerson's nomination was brought forward by Town of Richmond Hill Mayor David Barrow and seconded by Town of Georgina Regional Councillor Danny Wheeler.

"Following in the footsteps of some great York Region chairs, including Bill Fisch and Eldred King, it is an honour to be here tonight," said Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. "I pledge my commitment and dedication to you and all York Region residents for the next



York Region Chair Wayne Emmerson

as York Region Chairman at the end of the 2010 to 2014 term after 17 years.

Dec. 11 marked the first time since 1997 an election for the position of York Region Chairman and CEO has taken place, following four successful acclamations for Chairman Fisch.

Chairman Wayne Emmerson is a fifth generation resident York and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Chairman Emmerson has more than two decades of political experience, most recently as Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville mayor for 17 years.

Focused on getting results, his experience and leadership is well respected across York Region and all levels of government. During his 17 years on York regional council, he served on various standing committees including Finance and Administration, Housing and Children and Family Services, as well as numerous task forces such as Fire Services and Solid Waste.

Chairman Emmerson has also served on various transit-related committees and was the Chair of York Region's Transportation Services for eight years between 2006 and 2014. He is committed to advancing the foundation of work being done across York Region to efficiently move people from their key destinations of choice.

He helped get the GO bus service running in King.

In his capacity as Chairman and CEO, he is also an ex-officio member of all Regional Committees.

Chairman Emmerson has also served as a board member for a number of organizations including Markham-Stouffville Hospital, GTA Mayors' Committee, Greater Toronto Services Board and the Greater Airport Authority Association.

Working alongside York Regional Police, the Toronto Region Conservation Authority, various celebrities and other community agencies and organizations, he was instrumental in the development of York Region's Community Safety Village, a nationally recognized 10,000-square-foot interactive, educational facility where children learn about fire, traffic and personal safety.

Prior to becoming Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor in 1994, he was a Town Councillor from 1988 to 1994. Chairman Emmerson is the sixth regional chairman in the 44-year history of The Regional Municipality of York and the second Regional Chairman to come from the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Eldred King, York Region's fourth chairperson (1984 to 1997), was also a resident of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The Regional Municipality of York is an upper tier municipality that consists of nine municipalities. With a population of more than 1.1 million people the Region remains one of the fastest growing municipalities in Canada. In 2014, the Region's budget was \$3 billion, the fourth largest municipal budget in the Province of Ontario.

In York Region, members of York Regional Council are elected in what is known as a "double direct" form of election. In this type of system, those elected as mayor or regional council

for an area municipality earn a seat on both local and regional council for four years.

For more information on York Regional Council, please visit York.ca.

Mackenzie Health gala breaks records

Mackenzie Health Foundation hosted "Oh What A Night" Nov. 1 and set a record for the highest revenue in the event's 27-year history!

More than 1,000 local medical, business and community members attended, helping to raise over \$1 million supporting Mackenzie Health's vision to create a world-class health experience at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital, as well as the future Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital.

Presented by Rogers, the excitement this year's entertainment brought to the evening is also one for the record books, featuring LA's most sought after talented foursome, Oh What A Night! who performed a dazzling tribute to Broadway's smash hit Jersey Boys and the timeless music of Frankie Valli. Violinist, Grenville Pinto serenaded guests between courses of the exquisite meal served by the Paramount Conference and Event Venue. Breakfast Television and City personality, Kevin Frankish was the MC for the evening.

The true stars of the night were the guests and sponsors who attended this evening of elegance aimed at bringing exceptional healthcare close to home. During a special call for support, guests were asked to help raise the remaining funds for the Foundation's \$5 million Picture This MRI campaign, resulting in \$180,000 raised in a matter of minutes.

"We truly appreciate the support of our community members who have invested in our most successful gala ever; all to benefit Mackenzie Health and the patients we serve," said Mackenzie Health Foundation board chair, Glenn Beaumont. "It is wonderful to witness the strength of the partnerships committed to bringing the best healthcare to our community."

Proceeds from this year's gala will be directed towards the advancement of patient care at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital, as well as the community portion of funding for the future Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital.

"We are very pleased to have the full support of our community," said Altaf Stationwala, Mackenzie Health president & CEO. "Mackenzie Health is committed to ensuring that each and every patient gets the right care at the right time, at the right place. This is only possible with the necessary equipment, facilities, resources and talent. We are grateful for the generosity of our donors."

Since the first gala was held in 1988, this annual event has raised over \$8.5 million for life-saving medical equipment, capital projects and technology for Mackenzie Health. Today, Mackenzie Health serves a population of more than 500,000 people across Southwest York Region and beyond. In 2019, Mackenzie Health will open the new Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital and will continue to operate Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital. Mackenzie Health also offers care through a network of community-based services in Richmond Hill, Vaughan and surrounding communities.

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Kingcrafts fundraiser

Kingcrafts held its annual Studio Sale recently. Kingcrafts has been serving the people of King and other communities in York Region for the past 65 years. Kingcrafts is an arts and crafts guild, a non-profit organization and a registered charity. Their annual Studio Sale is their major fundraiser of the year.

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'Farm Action Now' to address bleak fate of Ontario agriculture

By Mark Pavilons

In a show of solidarity, farming organizations across Ontario are combining forces to ensure the survival of agriculture.

Nov. 13 marked the first meeting of Farm Action Now, a task force of farm organizations across the agriculture sector, formed to evaluate the fate of Ontario agriculture. With over-regulation driving farmers out of the province, Farm Action Now plans to develop a farmer-driven science-based blueprint on the future of agriculture in Ontario.

"The government will announce the most restrictive measures yet," said Henry Van Ankum, chair of Grain Farmers of Ontario. "We need to halt policies and practices that restrict growth and threaten the future of Ontario's farming sector."

Farm Action Now announced that a balanced plan is in development to reasonably evaluate the challenges with government agricultural policy and process. Priority areas include the responsible regulation of agricultural practices, access to science and technology such as pesticides and seed treatments, and on-farm implementation of regulatory changes.

The coalition strongly urges the appointment of an agricultural commissioner to advise the government on the implications of existing and new regulations and to help grow the agricultural sector.

Farm Action Now is launching a broad consultation process at this time to evaluate the impact of agricultural restrictions on communities and will include farmers and beekeepers, rural municipal representatives along with

industry and environmental groups and Chambers of Commerce.

"We're all in this together and this isn't just about farmers – it's about the future of Ontario as a whole," emphasized Ray Duc, chair of the board of directors of the Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association. "We want to send a message from farmers and about farmers, but one that is aimed at benefiting all Ontarians."

Jamie Reaume, former executive director of the Holland Marsh Growers' Association (HMGA), stressed it's about time the rest of the industry caught up with his organization, which has been fighting the good fight for the past seven years.

He said the request for an "agriculture commissioner" has been a standard request by the HMGA made annually at provincial, federal budget and governmental meetings.

"Food and farming is the square peg in the round hole scenario when it comes to any form of legislation within the province of Ontario (and, consequently, Canada). This entire sector is a boondoggle of various legislative items slapped together, virtually ad hoc, pieces that splinter and fracture the countryside because provincial mandates must be implemented by municipal leadership – which in many cases doesn't have the proper background or handle on the impacts of the legislation being imposed upon them," he said. "It is not their fault – the fault lies in Bay Street lawyers attempting to align urban mandates upon rural dogma and that is often lost in the so-called governmental translation into real life or common sense."

"I think that any collective group or organization(s) that want to discuss streamlining legislation with government is on the right path – but it needs to be beyond the idea or concept of the banning of neonics, which is what this is all about. There are so many pieces of legislation that impact upon the entire sector that the idea of standing up against one piece and waiting for the trickle-down effect on others seems almost like an oxymoron."

Reaume said farmers and food processors, for the most part, will always bear the brunt and the cost of food production. However, reforming and re-vamping costly legislative items would go a long way to ensuring the viability

and economic dynamics of the food and farming sector within Ontario.

Reaume noted Premier Wynne issued a challenge last year to double the GDP of farming and food by 2020 or so. It's not unrealistic, but it requires a thoughtful plan in place with all stakeholders along the lines of the food and farming spectrum.

HMGA will support changes within the legislative guidelines but, while farmers are patient, there is no longer the decades long timelines in play to allow for subtle or suitable alterations to the existing or newly introduced legislation that provincial and federal governments want to implement.

"The problem, quite frankly, is that society continues to evolve far more quickly than any governmental process and by the time that governments do catch up, they are light years behind where the rest of us are. While we applaud this new grouping to try and fix the problems that exist within the food and farming side, and while we appreciate that they will now be taking the point on many of the legislative issues that the HMGA has already been actively engaged in for more than half a decade, it may be a case of too little, too late."

Other groups and organizations have been way ahead of the curve on this issue, Reaume pointed out, including The Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance. This group is made up of several agricultural organizations, municipal leadership from regions and cities, and various NGOs and they're working on a 10-year strategy to find a way to move the entire area/sector forward using streamlined regulations, municipal approaches to fixing provincial problems.

"At the end of the day, it is all about providing solutions – even if others were out of the gate well in advance of the mainstream. It is always difficult being ahead of the game, but eventually, when others catch up – it turns out to be a good thing."

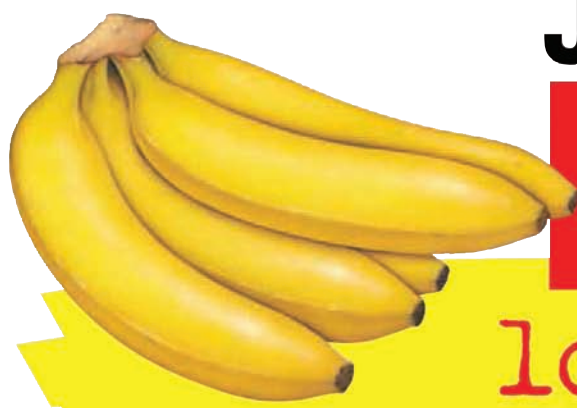
About Farm Action Now Farm Action Now is a coalition comprised of Grain Farmers of Ontario, Ontario Bean Growers, Ontario Canola Growers Association, Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association, and Ontario Pork and supported by other agricultural organizations.



Carol sing at Nobleton United

Members of the Nobleton United Church came together Saturday evening for a traditional Christmas carol sing, ringing off classic tunes like "Jingle Bells" and "Good King Wenceslas." Money collected went to the King Township Food Bank.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte



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Tuesday, December 23	8am - 9pm	Tuesday, December 30	8am - 9pm
Wednesday, December 24	8am - 6pm	Wednesday, December 31	8am - 6pm
Thursday, December 25	CLOSED	Thursday, January 1	CLOSED
Friday, December 26	9am - 5pm	Friday, January 2	8am - 10pm
Saturday, December 27	8am - 8pm	Saturday, January 3	8am - 8pm

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Christmas pageant at St. Mary Magdalene

Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone
905-859-5174

St. Paul's Church

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 10 a.m. as Jeff continues his series entitled Love One Another. Jeff's message this week - The Son of God has come.

FirstLink child care (for children 3 years of age and younger) is provided during the gathering and our Regular KidzKonnection and NextStep Program (for children ages 4 to 11) takes place at the same time.

Jeff has a blog and he records his weekly messages there after worship each Sunday. Anyone interested in listening to his messages can go to www.passionatelyhis.com to hear them.

Mark your calendars for our Christmas gatherings. On Christmas Eve (Wednesday, Dec. 24), we invite you to share in the celebration of our Lord Jesus Christ at two services - one at 6:30 p.m. (great for families with young children!) The other is at 8 p.m. Then again on Christmas Day (Thursday, Dec. 25) at 10 a.m.

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.

Immanuel Reformed Church

Come join us for A Festival of Nine Carols and Lessons, on Monday, Dec. 22 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the United Church building at 6076 King Road, Nobleton. Celebrate with us as we remember that Jesus came as the only way of salvation to Heaven.

Immanuel Reformed Church in Nobleton also meets for worship service every Sunday at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. All are welcome! If you are interested in learning about the Bible, call Pastor Maurice Luimes (905) 859-8581. Website: www.immanuelreformed.ca.

Ladies Coffee Break continues at the church (same as address above) Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am. Any ladies interested in studying the Bible are welcome to join. Call Mary at 905-729-2728 for more information or email immanuelcoffeebreak@gmail.com.

Christmas in Lloydtown

St. Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church, Schomberg will hold its Christmas Pageant this Sunday, Dec. 21 during the 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion Service and the Service of Lessons and Carols being held at the church that same evening starting at 7 p.m.

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Services take place at Christ Church (Anglican), Kettleby starting at 8 p.m. and at St. Mary Magdalene's Schomberg at 10 p.m.

There is no service in the parish on Christmas Day.

There will be a combined parish Hymn Sing Service at St. Mary Magdalene's on Sunday, Dec. 28 starting at 10:30 a.m.

The parishioners of Lloydtown wish all the blessings of Christmas and Hanukkah.

Nobleton Seniors

The winners of the Tuesday evening euchre were Ethel Ireland, Bob Fleury, Carol Burbidge and Doris Clarkson. We had a three-way tie for most lone hands among Bob, Carol and Iva Hilliard. The lucky draw winners were Ethel, John Burbidge and Mary Lostchuck. The next afternoon euchre and evening bid euchre will be January 6. The next evening euchre will be Jan. 13. Have a good holiday.

St. Alban's Nobleton

Although we no longer have our own church in which to worship, the St. Alban's Anglican community in Nobleton and district remains vibrant and active. Some members have chosen to attend Sunday 9:30 a.m. services at Christ Church Kettleby or 11:15 a.m. services at St. Mary Magdalene's Schomberg - both these Anglican churches along with St Alban's make up the Anglican Parish of Lloydtown.

A few other members have elected to attend services at local churches of other denominations while other members unable to attend church for health and mobility reasons look forward to receiving regular visits and Holy Communion at their places of residence from parish priest Rev. Sheilagh Ashworth.

The St. Alban's Anglican community Nobleton is excited about a new tra-

dition in the Anglican Church worldwide called Christingle that we want to share with others in our area. Christingle comes from the German. In 1747 German bishop Johannes de Wattville wanted to find something to make the church season of Advent when Christians prepare for the coming of the Christmas - the anniversary of Jesus's birth some 2000 years ago - more meaningful. He recalled a story from the 1500s about a custom in the Moravian Church in what today is the Czech Republic where children were asked to bring a gift to church that they thought appropriate for the Christ Child. Of course each child hoped his/her gift would be the absolute best.

Now there were three children who wanted very much to be a part of this giving, however, being very poor they had nothing only determination. The eldest, a boy, was given an orange by the a fruit seller in the local market in the market place, a rare treat in that day and age, even if the top of it had begun to rot. He brought it home carefully cut this part out inserting a candle in its place. The middle child, a boy also, found some dried pieces of fruit probably apple and skewered each of four best pieces on tiny sharp sticks and stuck them into the orange's thick skin. The gift still lacked something until the youngest of the three, a girl, took a worn red ribbon, her treasure, from her hair and wrapped around the orange. Now the gift was ready and they brought it to church. How the other children laughed at their poor gift even calling it to shabby to be accepted while the grownups exchanged snide glances but the wise priest took children's "treasure" held it up saying it was a splendid example of the true understanding of Christ's coming. The orange represented the Earth, the sticks with dried apple, the fruits of the Earth and the four seasons, the ribbon Christ's blood and the candle Christ himself the Light of the World replacing hate and sin - the cut out bad part with God's love and forgiveness.

The children's idea caught on and soon the bringing of a decorated orange (or apple more easily come by) became an Advent tradition in many parts of Europe.

As decades passed what with wars, depressions, discrimination, moral decay and the advent of the me first generation this beautiful custom was almost

forgotten. But now it's being revived and once again becoming a part of Advent observances in many churches particularly with Anglicans.

Horticulture Hints

By John Arnott

What will be the most indispensable spice for cooks as Canadians prepare for Christmas - cinnamon for pumpkin and apple pies - nutmeg for mincemeat (fruit)pies and buttermilk Well as it happens neither. The most indispensable spice this Christmas season is the one found on most dinner tables throughout the western world daily - good ole common pepper. And it will be used in dressings/stuffings and gravies, as an ingredient in basting the turkey and to add flavour vegetables.

Now once upon a time, and this no fairytale, good old pepper was anything but common and to buy just a few grains of it would have cost much more than all the Christmas dinners being served in your entire neighbourhood.

Black pepper (piper nigrum) and long pepper (piper longum) have been the source of this spice for millenia. They were considered treasures when they arrived in the ancient Mediterranean world. Both are native to southern India and both are produced by flowering vines but not the same one which was the mistaken belief of the ancient Greeks and Romans for many years.

Long pepper, the hotter of the two, appeared in Greece around the 6th century BC and was first used for medicinal purposes rather than for flavouring food. Pepper from both sources has long been an important ingredient in herbal/folk medicine.

When black pepper reached the Mediterranean area it gradually became more popular than its cousin and by the late mediaeval period it had taken over the market almost completely. Today long pepper thought to be effective in treating various tumours is rarely found for sale.

Because Arab traders controlled the overland pepper trade they could command and get an exorbitant price for this spice. At one time pepper was so valuable a small amount of it could be used to pay off debts or purchase property.

See 'Black' on Page 18



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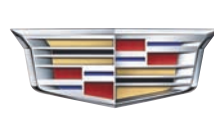
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Embrace the Season

The joyful, heartwarming month of December has snuck up on us once again. It is a time of festive endings and attempted moral beginnings; community unity and beautiful views of swirling snowflakes and brightly lit Christmas trees.

December has always come with love, giving and those few extra chocolates before starting your new year's resolution. However, as our generation and technology advances, people have become more comfortable in their heated houses, watching TV or playing video games, instead of bundling up and enjoying the beautiful, snowy time of year.

The kids of today are missing out on these experiences without even knowing it and they need to be shown how to truly enjoy the season. Despite the little age difference between generations, there is a huge gap in how kids are brought up. These kids need to be reminded or taught how to have real fun.

Fun without the technology and screen games. Have a good time outdoors, a reason to love each season that strolls through and take hold of it while you still can. They don't see that these video games are a temporary reality that they spend too much time on when they could be outside enjoying the real world we live in. The kids of today have been pampered through luxuries that most of us didn't grow up with and it's made them spoiled throughout the years.

No kid should worry about the cold when it's at the expense of an epic snowball fight between friends, it's just not right. It goes farther than the fun in the snow because I think we all know that no freshly made hot chocolate is as good as when you come in from having a blast in the cold weather. And no heated house or warm blankets are as comfortable as when you're warming up. It just doesn't compare.

As the older generation, we need to show these kids the true joys of winter. Take them outside and encourage them to play in the snow. Take them Christmas shopping or even on walks through town. Show them how to appreciate the cold and festive season of December in the million ways you can. Even such a simple thing like catching a snowflake on your tongue can be a blast, it's all about what you make of it.

So start wrapping your Christmas presents and decorating your tree. Make your delicious Christmas food and let the kids have a little extra desert. But, while the snow is still gracefully floating to the ground and the streets are full of happiness and cheer, take your kids out, to show them what they've been missing this beautiful season. After all, the final month of the year is about ending one year and beginning the next together, not alone.

READING BUDDIES AT VILLANOVA

Two or three times a week, students from Villanova go to St. Charles Garnier school in the Jane and Finch area of Toronto to help elementary students with reading.

The reading buddies at Villanova are all grade twelve students and the trip to St. Charles Garnier is done on the days that they have last period spare. The students find their own transportation to the Toronto school and there is approximately eight Villanova students that go consistently every week. The students go on a rotation basis, depending on their availability and there is approximately 35 to 40 students that are involved with the reading buddies program. The Villanova students are doing this effort on a voluntary basis.

The St. Charles Garnier students are in grades one and two and there is four classes at the school that have the reading buddy's arrangement with Villanova. Needless to say, the St. Charles students are happy to see their reading buddies every week. "The kids are always really excited to see us when we come, we do not always read with them, sometimes

we do worksheets with them if they need help" said Sabrina Perpetto. There is an attachment and bond that comes with the program and the elementary students remember the Villanova students' names.

The Villanova students leave the school at 1:30 p.m. and they get to St. Charles Garnier just after 2:00 p.m. They get back up to Villanova by 4:00 p.m., which allows them time to do extra-curricular activities within the school community. However, they are at the Jane and Finch school for about 1.5 hours, two to three times a week. This is enough time to make a difference in the elementary students lives.

The reading buddies program has been running for four years at Villanova under the direction of teacher, Mr. Sean Hayes and it was originally initiated by two students. The program starts each Fall in mid-October and runs through the entire school year. The St. Charles Garnier teacher's use the reading buddies program as an incentive for elementary students to do their school work.

At the end of the school year, Villanova hosts a barbecue for their St. Charles Garnier reading buddies. It is a full day of fun and activities and it is held after the Villanova school year is concluded. The St. Charles Garnier students are bussed up in the morning and then bussed back after a fun day.

Reading is one of the necessities and greatest tools that everyone needs to utilize and some students are not native English speakers and may need help. It goes without saying



Villanova Reading Buddies

Holiday Fair at King Secondary School

Holiday Fair is a day when a lot of the different councils at the school come together to provide different activities for the students to participate in. These activities are provided to create fun for the school community and celebrate together before the holidays.

The Holiday Fair was held on December 17th and all of the school councils got involved, such as; the athletic council that setup an obstacle course. The drama council had a skit relating to the drama council and celebrate together before the holidays. The student council hosted a bake sale (where half the profits went to the Cancer Society) and a trivia game throughout the last week of school before the holidays. The music council took old sheet music and decorated Christmas ornaments with them, as well as provided music during the Holiday Fair. The music council worked with the drama council to provide a music and drama presentation. The Me to We council provided a jar full of cookies along with a challenge, to guess the number of cookies in the jar. The winner got the jar of cookies. The Yearbook committee took pictures with Santa. There was a game of Pictionary setup and donations were sent to places of need through Red Cross.

The preparation, communication and organization of the Holiday Fair is all for one day, specifically one lunch period. That is fifty five minutes. Needless to say, fun was

had and money was raised and given to good causes.

The Holiday Fair is a part of the Holiday Week at King City Secondary where other fun events took place, such as Pyjama Day and Holiday Hat day which supports and bolsters school spirit. These events take place prior to the two week holiday break in December, where the students and teachers take time to be with their families. It has become a tradition at King City Secondary.

It is a fun week, but during the last week of school there is usually academic deadlines. "If only there wasn't so many assignments" said student Ammar Akbari.

High school can be stressful for some students and it is important to the school community to ensure that there is fun as well. Students and adults produce better results when there is an atmosphere that they enjoy. As well, fun relieves stress. Taking a break from the academic deadlines to laugh and enjoy fifty five minutes most likely gives back so much more in results.

It is all about balance. The gentle balance of work and fun. These are constant challenges that we all face throughout life. It is good to see that King City Secondary is nurturing that.

WRITTEN BY CHRIS MCGOWAN
PHOTO BY S. MULHOLLAND



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SPORTS

KING WEEKLY SENTINEL

Cougars wrestle with Otters in GMOHL match

By JAKE COURTEPATTE

Last Thursday's snowstorm wreaked havoc on the Georgian Mid-Ontario Hockey League schedule, including the cancellation of the Schomberg Cougars' weekly home matchup.

That left their only chance for moving up the standings at the hands of the Huntsville Otters, having split the season series 1-1 before Friday night's road game.

Blake Culley drew first blood on the Cougar's first power play of the game five minutes in, extending his point streak to an impressive six games.

After the Otters tied it up before the end of the frame, team-leading goal scorer J.P. Crescenzi came out hungry in the second period.

He did the work himself on an unassisted goal just two minutes in, then was helped by Derek Neilly and Joseph Mete later in the period to give the Cougars a 3-1 lead.

Unfortunately for the Cougars, two late goals including a marker with seven seconds left in the period gave the Otters the momentum into the third.

After a flurry of chances from both teams, Schomberg headed to overtime for only the third time this year.

The excitement didn't last long, as Otter Jared Stevens buried the game winner just eighteen seconds into the extra frame.

Despite the loss, goaltender Taylor Ewart made 34 of 38 saves. His counterpart on the Otters was forced to make 37 of 40 for the win.

Crescenzi's two tallies earned him second star honours in the game.

The loss brings their current streak to three games, and six of their last eight played.

But in a tightly-packed lead where every point counts, the single point maintains a one-point cushion over

the Midland Flyers for seventh in the GMOHL.

It's a dry month on the Cougars' schedule, as they will see action for only the fourth time in December this Thursday when they host the Fergus Devils.

The Christmas break allows room for just one more game before the end of the month, meeting the Devils in an away game on the 28th.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.schombergcougars.com.



Cougar Tanner Smith (above) clears the zone in this file photo. The Cougars fell to the Huntsville Otters 4 - 3 last Friday.

File Photos by Jake Courtepatte

Senior Knights basketball team is perfect on the season

By Jake Courtepatte

It's a different look for this year's incarnation of the Villanova Knights senior boys' basketball team, with the remnants of last season long in the past.

After an early end to last season, the Knights have now started the year on a 4-0 tear, having recently taken down Royal St. George's College last Wednesday.

The Knights were down by as much as eight points in the third quarter, mounting a comeback that capped off at a seven-point cushion of their own in the fourth.

A three-pointer by the Georgians at the final buzzer left the Knights with a 54-50 win to preserve their perfect season.

"They stayed composed in the third, especially playing in an away gym," said head coach Derek Alexander. "It was good to see."

The Knights have also taken down Greenwood College School, Hillfield Strahallan College, and De La Salle so far this season.

One of two undefeated teams in the CISAA, the Knights are a young team with a ton of promise.

In fact, leading the way are two juniors – Stefano Spagnuolo and Matthew Basista – averaging around 24.5 PPG and 16 PPG respectively.

"Between those two kids, they carry a good portion of the offensive load," said Alexander. "They're good leaders for the team."

While the two Grade 11s may have one more year of CISAA basketball ahead of them, they're far from the only ones. There are only two seniors on the ten-man roster, meaning eight returnees for the squad.

And that's good news for Alexander, whose 2013-2014 senior squad was the first to not make playoffs in four years.

"We're trying to get back on track this year. We're used to being first or second in our division, so this pace is more towards what we're accustomed to."

The team was back in action on Tuesday after press time, taking on Trinity College School in their first meeting of the season.

With another game not scheduled until mid-January in a rematch with Royal St. George's, coach Alexander isn't sweating. He believes his team's conditioning to be top notch.

"I believe that we work harder than everyone else, and we're in better physical condition than everyone else. When it comes to the end of the game, mentally we're not fatigued. We're in the game."

The senior boys will also get a warmup to get back into CISAA action the weekend before, heading to St. Catharine's for Ridley College's annual Carl Dorland Classic Tournament.

The true first test of the season will come one week later, as the Knights host Appleby College – both teams yet to be defeated so far.

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King curlers have fun playing 'cold turkey' in club action

By SHELLEE MORNING

What do turkeys and curling have in common? Nothing, except when there's a Turkey Shoot.

For a little extra fun (and we all know curlers do have their fun) the Friday night curling league added a Turkey Shoot to their Christmas curling party.

The object of the game is to curl your rock closest to the bird to win. Of course there is curling strategy even when trying to hit a turkey.

Each player planned their shot for that ultimate rock placement with either a draw behind the turkey in hopes the next hit would send the bird towards to their stone, or just hitting it into another time zone creating a "zig-zag" effect. No sweeping and no Skip holding the broom for the target, just simple curling strategy.

The ice conditions were fast and the laughter loud as each member threw their rock sending the turkey in multiple directions across the rink. Never will you see a turkey spin out of control on ice delivering a great amount of pleasure to all. Anyone watching from the side lines would be in wonderment over the sea of rocks with one frozen ButterBall pinned in between them all.

Once all the rocks are thrown a measurement is required determining the closest stone.

Winner of the early draw shoot was



Members of the Friday night Social League participated in their Christmas Curling "Turkey Shoot." Kyle Barber took home the Turkey for the early draw and Sheila McKenzie was the winner for the 2nd draw.

Submitted Photo

Kyle Barber after an excellent come-around that benefitted from another shooter's hit, wicking the bird and

spinning it beside his rock. The late draw turkey shoot resulted in some very finesse "turkey rais-

es" and "bird bump-ups." Sheila McKenzie was the 2nd draw winner after her rock ricocheted off another stopping just in time to sit 2 feet from the turkey.

The spirited evening was completed with a 5-end jitney format game and a Pot Luck table with more food than you can possibly imagine.

The Friday league is now set to close the first half of the season with their playoff games scheduled for next week.

Skips will be hoping their players arrive with their A-game as the final round of curling for 2014 is expected to be electrifying. Good luck and good curling to all of the club's Social League's playoff round.

Keep your eyes on the road, not your phone!

When York Region Emergency Medical Services (EMS) paramedics got the call, it was already too late. In a matter of seconds, a single text message sent one car drifting over the median line and into the hood of another. One person was ejected through the front windshield and several others were left severely injured, calling for help.

Thankfully, this was a simulation as seen in a new distracted driving awareness video, but one that is all too real for York Region paramedics.

Drivers are reminded to use extra caution and keep their eyes on the road, not on their phone. Distracted driving – including texting, talking or looking at a cell phone or hand-held device – is against the law in Ontario yet remains a large problem.

Distracted driving causes 80 per cent of all car crashes and 65 per cent of near collisions. Drivers who text are 23 times more likely to be involved in a crash.

As one of the first to arrive on-scene, York Region paramedics have seen the effects of bad decisions. They also know tragedies like this are 100 per cent preventable. To stop these accidents from happening, education and awareness are key.

York Region EMS paramedics work with Southlake Regional Health Centre and York Regional Police to deliver the York Region PARTY Program (Preventing Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth), which is based out of Markham Stouffville Hospital. This program shows teenage students the potentially tragic consequences of risky behaviours, including drinking and driving, riding without a seatbelt, not wearing a bike helmet and texting and driving.

To learn more about the PARTY program, visit www.partyprogram.com

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Seneca College first to use SceneDoc technology

Seneca has become the first post-secondary institution in Canada to use innovative mobile technology (SceneDoc) to help police create and submit reports live on scene.

Traditional reports taken on paper and then transcribed can take up to 72 hours to be processed. Training the next generation of public safety employees on the latest technology will equip them well for rapid changes in the industry and prepare them for what they will see in the field upon graduation.

Police Foundations students in the Forensic Crime Scene Investigation course are using the latest technology

to learn how to document mock crime scenes. This past semester the students have been introduced to SceneDoc, a mobile investigative management software system designed for smart phones and tablets.

The software allows students to take evidentiary photography and annotate them, complete electronic forms, create scene drawings, add video/audio files and take keyboard-inputted or voice recorded notes. The data then streams to a server in near-real time for storage, retrieval and collaboration. The end state is a field-based report that is exported into a single secure PDF that can be shared instantaneously without

having to go back to the car or to the office.

Kevin Bryan, a Seneca professor and 30-year veteran detective with York Regional Police, said this type of technology "is the path of the future in policing and it is great to see our students working ahead of the curve. It is very exciting to see the students so eager and enthusiastic to employ this new tool and I hope its use expands throughout the program and into the real world."

Professor David Juck, a 40-year forensic investigations veteran, called the mobile technology an "exciting advancement" which makes for a new hands-on approach to assist students to learn about forensics and directly apply theory to reality.

Seneca College is the first post-secondary institution in Canada to introduce SceneDoc into the classroom. SceneDoc's co-founder and chief technology officer Adrian Bubalo has worked with the college throughout the rollout to harness a deep understanding of the education use case of

the software.

"It's been rewarding to see the students really take into the technology and it's been a privilege to work with a faculty centered on innovation. This experience has not only been a testament to SceneDoc's ease-of-use but the fact that the next wave of public safety professionals are going to expect mobile technology to be core to the documentation process. Gone are the days of pen and paper."

SceneDoc is the global leader in mobile investigative management software. SceneDoc is a smart phone/tablet-based software platform that provides law enforcement and a variety of public safety personnel a highly secure, accurate and consistent means of documenting crime, accident and other incident scenes. Comprised of a highly configurable mobile application together with cloud-based data backup and administration, SceneDoc is the proven solution-of-choice for governments and enterprises around the globe.



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Black pepper is world's most traded spice

From Page 13

There is an account telling that when bringing it into a store to purchase goods all the establishment's doors and windows would be closed to prevent an errant breeze from blowing away any of the precious grains.

In Portugal, Spain and the Netherlands there was a growing desire to get pepper more cheaply and dependably by cutting out the Arab middlemen and going straight to the pepper growers themselves. This led to the race to find a sea route to India and eventually to the discovery of the Americas.

Now as supplies of pepper reaching Europe became much more abundant its price dropped significantly and what had once been available only to the very wealthy was becoming available as an everyday spice to people of more average means.

Today, as they have been for centuries the tiny seed capsules produced by flowers on the black pepper vine are still gathered mainly by hand and laid out to sun dry before being ground into

powder. Green pepper is made the same way but the seed capsules are harvested before they turn black.

White pepper is made by soaking the peppercorns (capsules) until they soften and then removing the one seed in each then drying and grinding it. The making some gourmet peppers involves a boiling process.

Pepper spirit, extracted by crushing the freshly picked peppercorns, is used in the manufacture of soft drinks such as Coca Cola and pepper oil obtained by the same method is found in many beauty products.

Black pepper is the world's most traded spice and accounts for more than 1/5th of the spice trade. While India still produces a considerable amount of black pepper it is Vietnam that is now the largest producer and exporter of this spice.

The word "pepper" comes into English from pippali the name in Tamil-Malayalam (south Indian language) for long pepper through the Latin piper. Marica is the Sanskrit (language of ancient India) word used in India for black

pepper.

As far back as the mid-1800s the word pepper was used to mean energy or spirit. In our day it has been shortened to

pep and that's what cooks are going to need lots of this throughout December to get that Christmas feast successfully organized!



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Local churches holding carol sings

King's Corners

King City United
By Eleanor Fry

With many readings, the ADVENT III candle was lit by the Hopkins-Nesterenko family. Thanks to the leaders, youth and the little ones for a fun filled, meaningful service.

If you were sitting innocently in a pew, look out. You could become Augustus Caesar, a shepherd, or Joseph, with the flip of a rug or bathrobe. We sang many Christmas songs, including Jingle Bells, Audrey's favourite.

Under Sandra's leadership, the bell choir rang out a Medley of three hymns, one with the chimes, which have a special Christmassy sound. Thanks to all for bringing us truly into the Christmas Spirit. Reverend Evelyn led us in Grace and we proceeded to enjoy our potluck lunch and fellowship.

Lunch with Santa was a huge success. It takes many hands to bring this big undertaking together. Thanks to

all the bakers, buyers and all who did their part. To Santa, who enjoys the children as much as they enjoy him. Well done to Alma and all her helpers.

Any time you are in the church, for any reason, check out all the scrapbooking pictures posted around of the "A Gift of Christmas" Saturday. The children experienced so much learning in different ways, of the real meaning of Christmas. They can't wait for another time next year. Thanks to all who organized it and helped to make it such fun.

Thursday, Rev. Evelyn will be leading worship at King Lodge Nursing Home. If you can join in to help with singing carols at 2 p.m. you would be welcomed. Someone to play the piano would be a great help. Anyone out there?

Sunday, Dec. 21, is our Christmas caroling. After worship the carolers will leave the church around 12:45 to go to a few homes around King City, then will head for Park Place in Aurora. A second group will be off to Richmond Hill Retirement Centre,

then Elginwood Manor. All will gather back at the church around 3:30 for hot chocolate and cookies. We need a good crew for this. Email serena@spmi.ca so groups can be arranged.

Reverend Evelyn needs more photos for the Advent Challenge. The list of words to be used for reference is in the narthex. If you aren't good with a camera, choose one from the Internet.

Christmas Eve Service begins at 7 p.m. on Dec. 24. Lots of singing and stories as we prepare for Jesus's birth on that starry night so long ago.

Sunday, Dec. 28th will be lessons and carols.

Our church office will be closed Dec. 25 to Jan. 5.

Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, Jan. 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Join in for any or all of our Sunday services at this special time of year 10 a.m. with Sunday School and stay for food and fellowship after. For any information, call our office - 905-833-5181, email kcuca@bellnet.ca. Reverend Evelyn McLachlan kcuca@bellnet.ca.

Seize a moment every day this week to reflect on God's blessings in your life.

Pines Church begins at 7 p.m. The service of carols and candlelight and drama and communion is designed to help all to recognize, by faith, the presence of God with us.

The York Pines United Church is located at 3150 the Aurora/Lloydtown Road, Kettleby. Regular Divine Service occurs at 10:30 Sunday mornings. For more information please call 905-727-8118 or see the church website at www.yruc.ca.

King Bible Church

We invite you to our Family Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 10:30 a.m. Our children will be performing "Unfrozen."

Please also join us for our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments and a 7 p.m. Service.

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

We invite you to join us this Advent Season. Our Worship Service is at 10:30 a.m. and Sunday school and nursery care run concurrently. Following the service, everyone is welcome to stay for coffee and chat time.

During Advent each Sunday we have been hearing the Christmas Story from the perspectives of some who witnessed the wonder of the birth of the Christ Child: Zechariah, Joseph, and the Magi. This Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Advent, the Rev. Dr. John Vissers will speak as Simeon. Last Sunday, we learned that the Magi, were keen to learn, to see for themselves what this bright star meant. Travelling through unfamiliar lands with new customs, beliefs and language, they were changed as they followed the star to Jesus. Not only did they bring gifts and worshipped Him, but they heard and obeyed God to take a different route home, thwarting the evil plans of King Herod.

As we draw closer to Christmas, do we have hearts full of worship, bring gifts of praise and seek His direction in our lives?

Thank you to the Moyle Family for participating in the reading and lighting of the Candle of Joy.

The Ladies' Prayer Time continues at 9 a.m. each Tuesday, held in the Church narthex. Come for fellowship, a time of sharing or quiet contemplation. God promises to be there! How can our God bless you?

Should you have prayer requests, praise items or any questions or concerns, please contact the church office at 905-833-2325 or call Kathy Patterson, Clerk of Session at 905-833-0391.

The Tree of Warmth items for Evangel Hall were delivered in time for Christmas. We are grateful for all the kind contributions and to the Mooneys for delivering the mounds of items!

The Congregational Christmas Potluck and Children's Party was held last Saturday. Thanks to all for such an enjoyable evening with great food, friends and fellowship. Special thanks to the children for their participation in decorating the tree, singing and even volunteering to play some Christmas carols for us!

See 'Celebrate' on Page 20

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704 ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

For members of the Beeton Tottenham Business Improvement Association (BTBIA) will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Tottenham Community Centre in the Meeting Room. The annual general meeting is for the following purposes:

- 1) To elect a new board of directors from interested BTBIA levy holders.
- 2) To approve the proposed 2015 budget.

For information please contact Susan Iacoucci 905.936.3424 or email info@btbia.ca



710 CARDS OF THANKS

I WOULD LIKE to thank everyone who attended and helped to celebrate my 80th birthday party. It was a pleasure to see everyone. Thanks for all of the birthday cards, gift cards, and birthday wishes. A special thank you to my daughters for all their hard work in making my party a success! Ab Sweeney

712 LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES DITSON SERVICE DECEASED. All claims against the Estate of James Ditson Service, late of the Town of King City, in the Regional Municipality of York, deceased, who died on or about the 1st day of August 2014, must be filed with the undersigned personal representative on or before January 23, 2015; thereafter the undersigned will distribute the assets of said estate having regard only to the claims then filed. Dated this 18th day of December, 2014. JACQUELINE FOPPIANO Estate Trustee With a Will, 423 Lavas Road, Newmarket, ON L3Y 8H3 B51-02

King City Seniors Centre

All members are welcome to come out to the King City Library on Friday, Jan. 9 at 2 p.m. and participate in the King City Seniors Centre's Annual General Meeting. Following the AGM, board member Jim Middleton will give an interesting talk on the famous Canadarm space project and his direct, lead role in the world famous project. Don't miss this important and informative meeting. For further information, call Carol Field at 905-833-3324.

Some of our social programs will be slowing down with the upcoming holiday season and will pick up again in the new year. Please refer to our website, www.kingcityseniors.ca for news and updates, or call Carol Field at 905-833-3324.

A foot clinic is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 5 from 2 to 4 p.m. downstairs at the King City Seniors. Appointments are required. For further information and appointment, please contact Kay Brooks at 905-833-5555.

Having problems with your computer? Classes for seniors are available at the King City Library every Thursday from 1 to 2 p.m. Bring your questions or problems and our instructor, Mark Cornell, will be happy to help you out.

York Pines United Church

The public is welcome to join the church for the Christmas carolling tradition this Saturday and Sunday night. Please meet in Pottageville, Dec. 20, at the corner of Cook Drive and Archibald Road at 7 p.m. On Sunday, Dec. 21, gather in front of Dorio's bakery in Kettleby again at 7 p.m. Dress warmly. Song sheets are provided.

Then, after about an hour of out-of-doors singing we return to the church, both nights, for some refreshments. It is amazing how many households appreciate this activity. Just turn on your light, open the door and listen for the short choral presentation. No offering is expected or collected.

Christmas Eve worship at the York

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708 DEATHS



Humble, Judith Elizabeth Helen, "Judy"

Peacefully, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease on Monday, December 8, 2014, at the Wynfield LTC in Oshawa, at age 64. Judy (née Tanton), beloved wife of the late William Humble (2004) of Tottenham. Loving mother of Brad Humble and his wife Gillian and Scott Humble. Loved grandmother of Atticus and Elias. Dear sister of George Tanton, Pat O'Reilly (deceased), Ruth Gibson, and Carol Warriner. The family of Judy Humble received friends at the WAGG FUNERAL HOME "McDermott-Panabaker Chapel" 216 Queen Street in Port Perry (905-985-2171) on Tuesday, December 16th from 10 to 11 a.m. A Service to celebrate her life was held in the Chapel at 11 a.m. with Reverend Elaine Hall officiating followed by a reception in the Heritage Room of the funeral home. Interment Mount Tegar Cemetery, Tottenham in the Spring. If desired, memorial donations may be made by cheque to the Alzheimer Society of Durham Region. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.waggfuneralhome.com

Loving mother of Brad Humble and his wife Gillian and Scott Humble. Loved grandmother of Atticus and Elias. Dear sister of George Tanton, Pat O'Reilly (deceased), Ruth Gibson, and Carol Warriner. The family of Judy Humble received friends at the WAGG FUNERAL HOME "McDermott-Panabaker Chapel" 216 Queen Street in Port Perry (905-985-2171) on Tuesday, December 16th from 10 to 11 a.m. A Service to celebrate her life was held in the Chapel at 11 a.m. with Reverend Elaine Hall officiating followed by a reception in the Heritage Room of the funeral home. Interment Mount Tegar Cemetery, Tottenham in the Spring. If desired, memorial donations may be made by cheque to the Alzheimer Society of Durham Region. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.waggfuneralhome.com

701 COMING EVENTS

GREAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT! Ron Pegg's new book Here's Mrs. A-Kate Aitken is available at the Bee Sew Busy, the Museum on the Boyne and the Next Chapter book store in Alliston. \$20 B50-51

708 DEATHS

GAULEY: Thomas Earl. Passed away at Matthews House Hospice, Alliston on Saturday, December 13, 2014 in his 61st year. Beloved husband of Lise Gauley. Loved father of Debbie (Stephen), Darin (John), Jordan (Jenna) and Stephen. Loving grandfather of Jack and Mason. Dear brother of Vera D'Arcy, Peter, Jack, Victor, Willy and predeceased by Stewart and Robert. Tom will be sadly missed by his nieces, nephews and many friends. Visitation was held at DRURY FUNERAL CENTRE, 519 Victoria St. E. Alliston from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 2014. Funeral Service will be held in the chapel on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. If so desired memorial donations to the Everett Firefighters Association would be appreciated. www.druryfuneralcentre.com B51

709 IN MEMORIAM

ESTHER DARLENE LUCAS
Feb. 10, 1965 - Dec. 17, 2012.
*A million times we've missed you,
A million times we've cried,
If love could have saved you,
You never would have died.
Things we feel most deeply,
Are the hardest things to say,
Our dearest Esther, we love you,
In a very special way.
If we could have one lifetime wish,
One dream that could come true,
We would wish to go back in time,
And spend more time with you.
Loved always and never forgotten,
Mom, Sonya, Thomas, Shari, Keith and Garrie B51*

709 IN MEMORIAM

WORROD: Michael. April 7, 1982 - Dec. 18, 2007 Michael you had every virtue of a fine and loving son. You filled our hearts with laughter, joy, pride and sunshine. We could never have imagined the loss that lay in store. To have you was an honour and a blessing and you will remain in our hearts forevermore. Loving you is easy, losing you is a heartache that never goes away. Dad, Mom, Corena, Lynette and families. B51



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Celebrate the light at Christmas Eve services

From Page 19

No wonder Santa visited and said he would be back next year!

After the children sang Away in a Manger, Lynn took the opportunity while holding baby Ariel Skinner and told the children that if they lived at the time of Jesus's birth, they might have been able to kiss the face of God, to play with Him, to watch Him grow up just as they were doing with Ariel. Imagine! Even more amazing is what that same Christ Child did for us so that we can come into His presence always and be with Him.

St. Andrew's Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is at 7 p.m. We hope you can join us for this

beautiful service.

For pastoral care needs please contact Lynn Visser, our Director of Congregational Ministries. Our church is located at 13190 Keele St., 2 blocks north of the King Rd. There is a ramp available for accessibility. www.standrews-kingcity.ca.

All Saints By Nicola Skinner

We wish you peace, joy and calm as you prepare for the Christmas holidays. If you need a place to sit and contemplate in peaceful surroundings (maybe after time spent trying to find a parking spot at the mall), you are welcome to drop into All Saints between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tuesday to Thursday. We have both church and chapel available as a place for quiet meditation. Anyone is welcome.

Our Christmas Eve services are at 5 p.m. with organ, harp, a wonderful pageant telling the Christmas story, carols, candles and communion. Bring your whole family to experience the true meaning of Christmas in a joyful celebration.

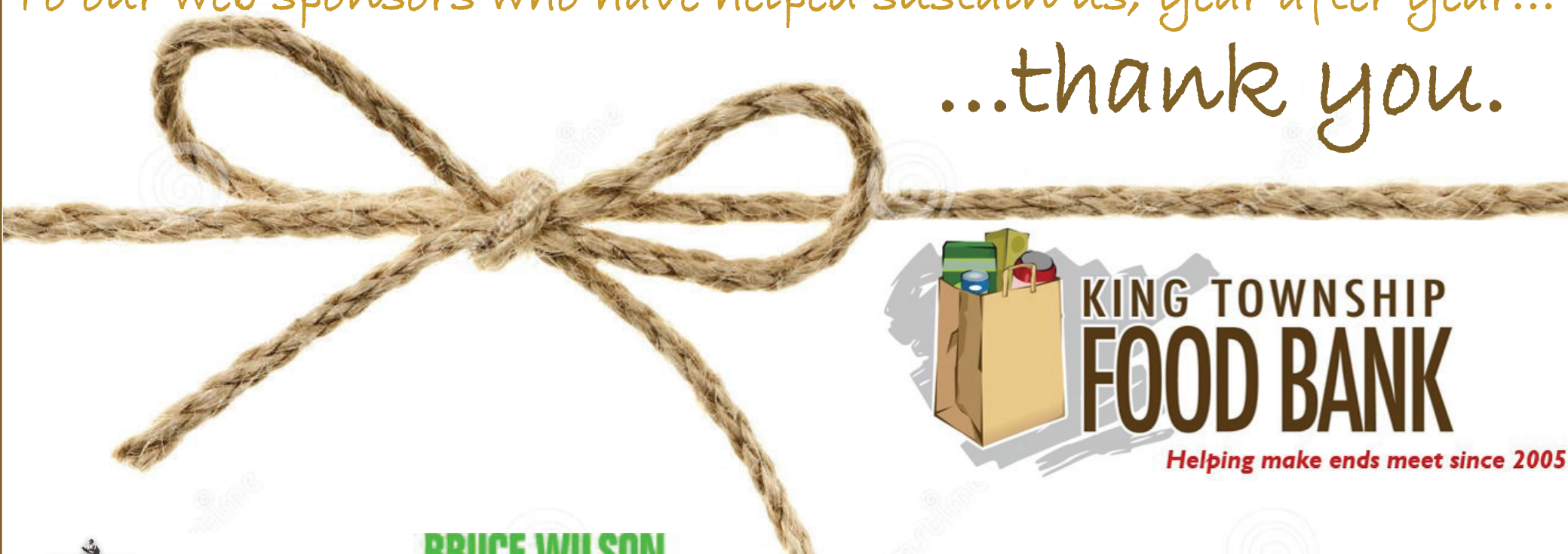
Later on at 10 p.m. we celebrate a quieter, traditional candlelight communion. And on Christmas Day in the morning we celebrate at 9 a.m. with a relaxed acoustic service with your favourite carols. Children are welcome to bring a favourite gift with them (unless it's a pony). On the first Sunday of Christmas, Dec.

28, we welcome Bishop Peter Fenty as our preacher and presider, for his annual visit amongst us. All are welcome.

Christmas is a time when we celebrate the light of Christ come into the world. We pray that your lives may be filled with light and life this Christmas.

All Saints is an inclusive and welcoming Anglican church in the heart of King City. We strive to be a community of compassion and hope, following in the footsteps of Jesus. We are located at 12935 Keele Street, King City. Our office hours are Tuesday to Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. See www.allsaints-kingcity.com. Please leave messages at 905-833-5432, and we will return your call.

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Santa Claus comes to school, church in King City

It isn't just milk and cookies on Santa's plate this year in King.

The jolly old elf paid a visit to Holy Name Catholic School early Saturday morning for the school's 10th annual Breakfast With Santa, where pancakes, hot chocolate, and juice were served to a packed gymnasium.

Santa then made his rounds at the King City United Church's Lunch With Santa, where not only were guests able to meet the big guy, but enjoy a silent auction and a "cookie walk" of Christmas treats in the process.



David, Cristian, and Gianluca said hello to Santa Clause during his visit to Holy Name Catholic School on Saturday.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

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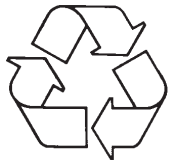
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Program helps spread the love with four-legged friends

By Brock Weir

A smile can go a long way in showing someone just how much you care.

But not all smiles are created equal. Take, for instance, the case of Aurora's Vivian Hould. Ms. Hold, an active community volunteer, makes the rounds of area nursing homes, with a dog or two in tow, on a regular basis. She recalls a visit to one facility in Newmarket where she and her Papillion sat down with one elderly gentleman, who simply started to pet the dog. That was simple enough, but then he started talking to the dog. While that might seem simple enough, it was something of a watershed moment. This gentleman hadn't spoken in years.

"We don't even know the difference we are making because so often we will go into somebody's room and visit, not knowing they haven't spoken in years," said Ms. Hould.

Others in the community, however, are well aware of the difference Ms. Hould has made in the lives of others throughout the GTA, as coordinator of the St. John Ambulance's therapy dog program. Having retired from her post in August, Ms. Hould is now set to receive the Caring Canadian Award from Governor General David Johnston, after being nominated by some of her 140-strong team of volunteers – and their dogs – she fostered for 19 years.

"I was shocked, surprised, and pleased," said Ms. Hould of the honour, which is expected to be awarded in the new year. "I really didn't expect it. I have worked so, so hard over the past 19 years, but I just feel it is more than I really deserve!"

Ms. Hould, a retiree from Bell Canada, has always had a giving instinct. As a high school student growing up in Montreal, she volunteered her time as a candy striper in a local hospital. But when her time at Bell came to an end, she was not content to sit idle.

Before St. John Ambulance developed their program, Ms. Hould had her long-haired dachshund evaluated for the program. Soon after the dog passed with flying colours, she went blind, scuttling – temporarily – their hopes she would be able to make a difference as a therapy dog. Later, a veterinarian suggested she try the dog again in the St. John Program, and the seeds for two decades of

service were sewn.

"She could sense the doors would be open," says Ms. Hould of her blind companion. "Here was an example of a dog that was blind and could still be a therapy dog. We have blind dogs in the program, deaf dogs and there are no limitations."

From her humble beginnings as a volunteer, Ms. Hould eventually became coordinator for Aurora and Newmarket. This responsibility eventually expanded to include just about every area from Steeles Avenue in the south to Lake Simcoe in the north, and from Highway 404 in the east to Highway 27 in the west.

Responsibilities as the program's coordinator include monitoring volunteers, evaluating new teams of owner and dog, and teaching them what to do and how to visit. Many volunteers at first blush, she says, have never set foot in a nursing home, or might never have experienced working with seniors. Dogs might pass the initial tests, but making sure they are ready for any eventuality they might encounter in a nursing home – from loud noises to odours – is also given due consideration.

Ideal dogs are friendly, like people and to be patted, show and show no signs of aggression.

"We are just looking for a good, solid dog," she explains.

Each dog's human is also given the once-or-twice-over to make sure they are able to make the firm commitment that is required of the program. It is essential to be willing to visit the same place every week at the same time, as routine helps build the bonds of the program.

Through her work with the Therapy Dog Program work expanded beyond nursing homes and hospitals. In addition to her Paws For Stories program in local libraries, she joined forces with the Town of Aurora and the OSPCA to develop the Play It Safe with Dogs program, which visits local schools throughout York Region teaching kids dog bite prevention techniques.

Since its formation in 2000, Ms. Hould estimates the program has been presented to over 25,000 children.

"In Aurora there are so many children who will come up to you and ask, 'may I pet your dog,' and it is obvious they have either had the program or their siblings have taught their younger siblings the right way to meet a dog,"



Vivian Hould is an active community volunteer with the St. John Ambulance dog therapy program.

Photo by Brock Weir

she says. "When I am with (the therapy program) it is all about the smiles. In nursing homes, people's heads are often down because they are so depressed but when you go in and you see you bring a smile to their face it just makes your heart feel good. Maybe it's selfish, but it really makes you feel good."

"One German Sheppard visiting Southlake would go into the ICU to visit this lady in a coma. They would disconnect one hand (from IV) and hold her

hand to pat the dog. One day, the therapy dog team came into the lobby, and a woman said to them, 'You probably won't recognize me, but I was in ICU and I was so happy when you would come in and you really made me feel better.' This woman was in a coma, and she remembered. It is stuff like that where you might think you're not making a difference, but you are. The dog is making a difference and it is just unbelievable."

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Joe Saraceni BROKER
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Wishing all my clients and friends in King a Merry Christmas

What is Home?

A roof to keep out the rain? Four walls to keep out the wind? Floors to keep out the cold? Yes, but home is more than that. It is the laugh of a baby, the song of a mother, the strength of a father, warmth of loving hearts, lights from happy eyes, kindness, loyalty, comradeship. Home is first school and first church for young ones, where they learn what is right, what is good, and what is kind, where they go for comfort when they are hurt or sick; where joy is shared and sorrow eased; where fathers and mothers are respected and loved, where children are wanted; where the simplest food is good enough for kings because it is earned; where money is not as important as loving-kindness; where even the tea kettle sings from happiness. That is home. God bless it!

~ Anonymous



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