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Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Volume 41, Issue 52

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Nobleton Lions President Bob Phillips, and Lions Carl Emmerson and Joe Tasca, present a cheque to Nobleton Christmas Drive's Mary Buchanan for \$2,000.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

Lions spread the cheer with drive donation

By Jake Courtepatte

Families will feel the warmth this Christmas, thanks to the Nobleton Christmas Drive.

The Nobleton charity got a boost last week from the Nobleton Lions Club, whose members helped spread some holiday cheer.

Mary Buchanan, founder of the drive, received a cheque from the Lions last Friday – a \$2,000 boost to help outfit local children with winter clothes.

Buchanan says the focus has recently

shifted from toys to clothing and winter accessories, as a good amount of toys now come in from different toy drives during the season.

"Snow suits, boots, underwear, socks ... it's basic necessities that we're really looking for now," she said.

With the cause now in its 19th year, Buchanan is happy to report that it has experienced significant growth during that time.

"We have a lot of help now. For the first 10 years, I was short every Christmas. But the Lions have been supporting us for a while."

The Nobleton Lions have been a part of the cause for around 16 years, and were the first community service to come on board.

"They came to our aid pretty quickly," said Buchanan. "They've been a big part of the program, and I'm thankful for that."

"It's a good thing she does," said Lion Joe Tasca. "We're more than happy to help. If there's a family in town in need, we want to help."

To support the cause or learn more, you can reach Buchanan at 905-859-5456.

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INSIDE

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BUSINESS

Economic development is a balance.

See Page 8

Curling Club hit hard by fee hike.

See Page 11

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2014 NEW YEAR'S EVE MENU

First Course Choice Of:

- Bacon Wrapped Salmon Cakes Topped With A Lime Tequila Vinaigrette
- Puff Pastry Squares Topped With Roasted Roma Tomatoes, Mixed Mushrooms, And Baked Goat Cheese

Pasta Course Choice Of:

- Saffron Risotto With Cuttle Fish And Scallops
- Fresh Pappardelle With Fresh Arugula, Fresh Shaved Parmeggiano, Cherry Tomatoes And Pork Confit In A Cream Sauce

Main Course Choice Of:

- 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

Dessert

Chocolate Mousse Topped With A Whipped Irish Cream And Berries And Lingue Di Gatto Cookies

Please call to make New Year's reservations



www.king.ca

King Township
2075 King Road King City,
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Phone: 905.833.5321 Email: Info@king.ca



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



2015 Waste Calendars were delivered by mail in mid-December. Calendars are also available at all community centres and libraries.

Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

The waste collection schedule has been revised during the holiday period. Please note the following changes:

<u>Regular pickup day</u>	<u>Revised pickup day</u>
Thursday, December 25	→ Friday, December 26
Friday, December 26	→ Saturday, December 27
Thursday, January 1	→ Friday, January 2
Friday, January 2	→ Saturday, January 3

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.



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.



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 ~



FREE HOLIDAY SKATING

KING CITY

December 29th, 12:30-1:50pm
January 2nd, 1:00-2:20pm

NOBLETON

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

SCHOMBERG

December 26th, 2:00-2:50pm
December 30th, 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 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



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 29
- Tuesday, December 30
- Friday, January 2

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

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.

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 Museum and property poised be a cultural hub

By Mark Pavilons

The King Township Museum and property just west of King City could become the municipality's hub of cultural activity.

King hopes to reposition the site into a cultural and heritage focal point, a community centrepiece if you will.

The facility has been improved and expanded and the agreement with a local developer has come to an end. This allows the Township to move forward with this beautifully expanded structure.

With an expanded building comes expanding programs and services.

According to a report by Museum Curator Kathleen Fry and presented by Chris Fasciano, director of Parks, Recreation and Culture, museums across the province are changing their focus and now offer new experiences for visitors.

"The King Township Museum has done well in beginning to adapt to the operational changes, but further work toward how we stay relevant with industry trends is required," the report

said.

Currently, the Museum offers education, heritage programs, workshops and summer camps, as well as temporary art exhibits.

The future of the Museum is addressed in several Township strategic plans. The long-term vision contained in the Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan and Strategic Business Plan indicates how the Museum can transform into a vibrant gathering place, a hub that celebrates and promotes King's heritage.

Staff is proposing that the Township begins the process of expanding the experiential opportunities at the Museum and consider including performing arts in this "evolution."

"It is important to note that the museum must continue to comprise the main component of the land ... the goal is to build on the current successes and attract additional visitors through additional programming ...

"There must be something tangible that will draw people back and bring new people in."

The report points to expanding the

number of exhibits, offering more workshops, events and art shows. Partnerships with other local organizations play a key role in all of this.

In 2013, Arts Society King was brought into the museum to share the space and staff will spent the next six months looking at "how we will move forward together."

The King Township Historical Society is an integral part of the site and they use the museum for their meetings, etc. Discussions have already been held with KTHS and it's likely the physical archives, currently located in the King City Library, will move to the museum. This could happen as soon as this coming spring.

Staff is also looking at changing the name of the site to something "that will inclusively celebrate all of the activities that could occur through the various operations and organizations."

Staff will look into the ramifications of such a move, ensuring it won't negatively impact any funding agreements.

The museum's progression is in keeping with the theme of the Sustainability Plan, Parks and Recreation master plan and the museum's own business plan.

"As a potential cultural hub, it be a tool to express the narratives that are the core of King Township's identity. The King Township Museum will continue to grow as an important cultural asset for King, by introducing visitors to King's rich heritage. KTM will invite people to experience their community's strengths of foundation, and its strong relationship with history and nature."

Physical changes are already taking place at the site and the Township is looking at securing an additional part-time staffer to help with expanding the programming needs.

Dufferin Street Bridge open

Residents are breathing a sigh of relief, now that the Dufferin Street Bridge is open to traffic.

King Township's Engineering and Public Works Department noted the project is now complete.

The realigned King Street and new bridge is now open for all types of traffic, including farm equipment, tractors and all other motorized vehicles. The contractor has completed all associated works except landscape, tree plantation and some restoration works along residential properties within the project limits.

The contractor will complete remaining works along with top coarse asphalt on King Street and Dufferin Street next spring 2015 within the project limits.

"As a resident of this area, I, as well as you, have been impacted by this necessary infrastructure project reconstruction, and am thrilled to have access to Dufferin Street once again," said Ward 6 Councillor Avia Eek.



Nobleton Lions host skate, visit with Santa

The Nobleton Lions hosted a free skate at the Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Arena, joined by Santa Claus for the holidays. The members celebrated 50 years in the community in 2012.

Photos by Jake Courtepatte

Rockford's

BAR AND GRILL

New Year's Eve Four Course Dinner Menu

6pm & 8pm Sitings ~ Call for reservations!

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A mixed green salad tossed in our own balsamic vinaigrette

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

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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

King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, December 25 to Wednesday, December 31

THURS 25TH	FRI 26TH	SAT 27TH	SUN 28TH	MON 29TH	TUES 30TH	WED 31ST
Mixed Precip. High 3C° Low 1C° Rain <1mm Wind W 35k	Sun/Clouds High 5C° Low 0C° - Wind S 10k	Mixed Precip. High 4C° Low -1C° Snow 1cm Wind SW 15k	A Few Flurries High -2C° Low -4C° Snow 1-3cm Wind N 5k	Sun/Clouds High -4C° Low -5C° - Wind NW 10k	A Few Flurries High -4C° Low -7C°	A Few Flurries High -7C° Low -8C°

The King Weekly Sentinel
is your community newspaper.
Read us online at www.newspapers-online.com/king

Our office will be closed

from Wednesday, December 24th at noon,
until Friday, January 2, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Wishing you a Newsworthy Season!

May your holiday season contain all the makings of lasting memories for you and your loved ones. We appreciate your readership, and look forward to your continued support.

King Weekly Sentinel

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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

~ Frank B. Kellogg

We're messaging our way into the abyss

I was out Christmas shopping last week, and passed by a ladies' store that a huge sign out front, offering a free bra with a purchase of cotton panties.

I decided to text my wife about this amazing deal:

"Free bra and panties, oh my!"

I'm a bit of a jokester, so I thought my wife would get a chuckle out of my light-hearted message. She may have, if the text went to her.

Instead, this message went to a politician in my contact list! While we are on good terms, we're not that intimate, and items such as this are very personal anyway. I frantically typed an apology, so the recipient would realize the error.

Luckily, this person has a great sense of humour. These days, I think we all have to.

Such is my experience with texting gone awry.

Given the rash of horrific and sensational stories about recent hacking, stolen corporate emails and a movie being pulled because it upset a world leader, we need to take heed.

What's the world coming to?

We've been warned about the dangers of texting while driving. In fact, law enforcement is clamping down on such a practice, simply because it can kill. It's been said it's the leading cause of accidents among younger drivers.

I would add texting while strolling through a shopping mall can have dire consequences as well!

Despite the law, I still see many drivers texting when they should be paying attention to the road.

Is it simply a matter or carelessness, or is it a reflection of our fast-paced, always-in-a-rush disposition? Surely a note, shopping list or message can wait until we park our cars.



Mark Pavilons

But now that we're used to such technology, even dependent on it, it's tough to alter our way of thinking.

It's so weird, seeing a society of addicts. Waltz into a doctor's office, clinic or even coffee shop or restaurant, and the first thing people do when they sit down is whip out their phones and check messages, surf the Net or watch a video. We have never been so connected, yet we're speaking less, letting our fingers do the talking!

I'm not an expert texter, and only reluctantly embraced the practice when I got my smart phone about two years ago. Auto correct annoyed me to no end, so I simply choose to type as best I can. Since the majority of my texts are to my wife, she's learned to read between the words, or more specifically, the vowels and missing consonants. It's quite a jumble sometimes.

Emails are quite another matter, and we should all be cognizant of the fact these lofty messages can remain in cyberspace forever! Not only that, imagine sending a scathing email to the wrong person or an intimate personal note to your boss!

I'm sure it happens each and every day. Most of us realize that such mistakes are now commonplace and shrug it off. Some chuckle and others post them on their social networking sites. And still others just keep them aside for that perfect blackmail occasion!

Some say emails can have a noticeable "tone" to them. I was accused of that a while ago and while I denied it vehemently, I'll admit maybe there was just a bit of a tone. I have since learned to curb my enthusiasm!

The recent hacking incidents that involve Sony and its executives has made the headlines. Inter-office emails chastising Hollywood stars have been circulated. Salaries of top employees have been made public. Personal messages have raised eyebrows.

But the case of the movie "The Interview" is still really shocking.

If you've seen trailers for the film, you'll quickly realize it's a low-brow comedy and didn't have any political message or social agenda. Nevertheless, the leader of North Korea, Kim Jong-un, was not amused. And it seems neither are his followers and supporters around the globe.

U.S. intelligence has indicated the North Koreans may be responsible

for Sony's hacking. Threats have been made against the West and movie-goers.

This caused Sony and several North American movie chains to pull the Christmas Day release of the film. It may never see the light of day. Or, it may be the most viewed movie of all time!

Hacking, texting and emails all have something in common. They allow people to hide in plain view so to speak. You can let loose with a volley of instant messages and not fear retaliation or worry about repercussions. And that in itself is dangerous.

I'm all in favour of freedom of speech and expression, but we should all know just where the lines are drawn. I'll admit it, though, I love to send nasty emails to companies whose products or customer service is lacking. I smile to myself as my fingers fly across the keyboard, but alas my witty repartee is often lost by the recipients. I'm working on one now, complaining about the idiotic design flaw of a certain watch band that three jewellers have been unable to correct.

I'd like to think that our generation of young adults have discovered the beauty of the written word, but that's not the case. Current texts and emails contain a language all their own, complete with non-offensive expletives.

The bottom line for all of us to think before we send. Heads up, and keypads down!

Letter to the Editor

Hydro program questioned

The following letter, to MPP Dr. Helena Jaczek, was submitted to the King Weekly Sentinel.

I'm writing to express my deep concerns as a constituent of Oak Ridge-Markham (King City) and I'm respectfully looking for answers. My concerns relate to the findings of the recent Auditor General's Report; more specifically the flawed Smart Meter Program, mismanagement of our hydroelectric system and what appears to be a lack of overall financial accountability, integrity and control.

As you know, the Canada Press has reported based on Bonnie Lysyk's report that Ontario ratepayers will pay \$50 billion between 2006 and 2015 because of an "extra charge" on our electricity bills that covers the gap between guaranteed prices paid to contracted power generators and the market price. Can you please explain why we are paying more than the market driven price?

Secondly, her analysis of the smart meter program found the extra electricity charge, known as global adjustment, has increased by 1,200 per cent between 2006 and 2013 — meanwhile, the average electricity market price has dropped by 46 per cent. Can you please explain the discrepancy?

Finally, the \$2-billion smart-meter program is double its projected cost and has not led to the "government's electricity conservation goals" according to Lysyk. Can you please explain how and why the program has double in cost and based on all three points what the government will be doing differently going forward from an accountability and management perspective?

Thank you for your attention and I look forward to your reply.

Rob Payne
King City



<p>KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL www.kingweekly.com</p> <p>Results from last week's poll:</p> <p>Do you think the public should be allowed to vote for York Regional Chairman?</p> <p>a) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 71%</p> <p>b) No <input type="checkbox"/> 29%</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>How would you rate 2014?</p> <p>a) Good b) Bad c) Average d) Awful</p> <p>So go to the website and cast a vote!</p>
--	---

Brainteaser

There is a man on an island prison, he cannot swim. One day he escapes using nothing but himself. There is no bridge. How does he do it?

Last week's answer: The cyclist is smuggling bicycles!

King Township Trivia

In 1959 on December 26 & 27 an ice storm hit King Township; the hydro was out for 3 days and no telephone for 10 days.

<p>KING Weekly Sentinel</p> <p>25 Queen Street N., Bolton, ON L7E 1C1 Toll Free: 1-888-557-6626 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363 www.newspapers-online.com/king</p>	<p>PUBLISHER: London Publishing Corp. VICE PRESIDENT SALES, MARKETING, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Karin Rossi GENERAL MANAGER: Zach Shoub EDITOR: Mark Pavilons editor@kingweekly.com PRODUCTION: Lisa Clendening ADVERTISING: Zach Shoub zach@simcoeprinting.com OFFICE: Terry Muscat, Mary Speck CLASSIFIEDS: admin.syp@rogers.com</p>	<p>Advertising & Administration Head Office 34 Main St. W., Beeton ON L0G 1A0 905-729-2287 Fax 905-729-2541</p> <p><small>The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement.</small> Copyright King Weekly Sentinel 2014</p>	<p>Subscription rates: Within 65 km except towns with letter carriers - \$39.00 + G.S.T. Beyond 65 km and towns with letter carriers - \$67.00 + G.S.T. Single copies 94¢ + G.S.T. or \$1.00 (includes G.S.T.)</p> <p> </p>
<p>Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Limited, publisher of the New Tecumseth Times and the King Weekly Sentinel.</p>			<p>Published every Thursday</p>

Mayor outlines long list of accomplishments in 2014

By Mark Pavilons

There's no question the last term of King council has been one of innovative accomplishments, laying the groundwork for all of the good things that have happened, and some exciting ones yet to come.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini takes great pride in the total team effort that has resulted in some ground-breaking achievements and partnerships over the 2010-2014 term of council.

From branding and a new website to strengthened partnerships and long-term strategic documents, accomplishments covered all the bases.

They included:

- Completion of an Official Plan Amendment regulating power generation facilities.
- Expansion and restoration of the King Township Museum through an innovative partnership with Genview Homes.

- Roads associated with sewer project have been resurfaced in King City with partial funding from the Build Canada Fund.
- Construction of the King City Skatepark and Outdoor Ball Hockey Court.
- Reconstruction of the Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Community Centre and Arena Ice Surface.
- Redevelopment of the Nobleton Upper Baseball Diamond.
- Construction of new full size soccer field and playground at Rafferty's Corners Park.
- Construction of new playground at Dean Plummer Park.
- Construction of new playground at Hickstead Memorial Park in Schomberg.
- Redevelopment of the playground at Pottageville Park.
- Completion of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.
- Partnered with King United Soc-

cer Club for the redevelopment of King Bible Church Field.

- Partnered with the King City Business and Community Association to host Christmas in King City.
- Developed terms of Reference for the newly established Community Museum Board.
- Created the Township's first User Fee Policy.
- Created the Township's first Ice Allocation Policy.
- Formalized the Township's Community Assistance Program and Policy.
- Developed the new "KING" logo and its future use along with the use of corporate Township Crest for greater clarity and consistency.
- Enhanced services to residents to ensure humane interaction with injured and sick wildlife in King with a Wildlife Service.
- Successfully defended the ORMCP/Township Official Plan to preclude the establishment of a major outdoor banquet facility as a major recreational use.

lights in the municipality utilizing new, energy and cost efficient LED technology.

- Cut each member of Council had their expense account cut by \$600 which is 30%.
- Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, 2012.
- Economic Development Strategy, 2013
- Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan, 2013.
- Museum Strategic Business Plan, 2013.
- King Township Public Library Strategic Plan, 2013.
- Green Sustainability Checklist, 2013.
- Transportation Master Plan Study (ongoing).
- Development Charges background study, (ongoing).
- Housing and Residential Intensification Study (ongoing).
- CIP Community Improvement Plans.
- Official Plan review is under way.

Liberal pension plans ignores businesses and families - MPP Munro

The Liberal government's introduction of the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP) and legislation enabling Pooled Registered Pension Plans (PRPPs) in Ontario has come under attack.

When implemented, the ORPP will force employers and employees to each contribute up to 1.9 percent of each pay cheque to the pension plan.

"The ORPP promises to wreak havoc on the bottom line of Ontario's businesses," said York-Simcoe MPP Julia Munro. "At a time when our economy is so fragile - last month Ontario lost 34,000 jobs - this government is mandating that 3.8 per cent of earnings be removed from our economy starting Jan. 1, 2017. The government admits it does not know how the ORPP will impact Ontario's businesses and workforce. How many companies will be forced to cut jobs or reduce employee hours in order to meet the government's demands? This government is so reckless, it doesn't care about casualties."

"It has taken years for this government to acknowledge the growing problem of insufficient retirement savings, but they have the wrong solution. People need more choice, not less. Government should trust people with their own money instead of forcing a new pension plan on businesses that can't afford it. The government fails to acknowledge that their own disastrous economic policies make it unaffordable and difficult for people to save money on their own."

"People are not saving right now on their own because they can't afford to."

Small business groups across Ontario, including the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, have warned the Liberals about the dangers of implementing the ORPP and job losses that will result from the new pension plan.

On the other hand, Pooled Registered Pension Plan legislation is a welcome proposal and provides for another voluntary retirement saving vehicle in Ontario.

"We've been waiting for the government to make good on their promise to allow PRPPs in Ontario. My private member's bill in early 2013 (Bill 50) was incorporated into the 2013 Budget. That was a year and a half ago, over two years since the federal government passed enabling legislation. A lot of time has been wasted on dithering," said Munro. "But since the ORPP is mandatory for all employees who don't have a workplace pension plan, PRPPs will be an afterthought. If you've only got \$200 per month to save, one will be forced to contribute that amount into the ORPP, leaving the PRPP as a hollow option."

Colder winter ahead

Weak El Niño conditions signal colder than normal temperatures for many parts of Canada, including Ontario.

The Weather Network's meteorologists have released this year's Winter Outlook, forecasting the months of January and February.

"Our forecast team expects winter will really be felt in January and February with more frequent outbreaks of extreme cold," said Chris Scott, chief meteorologist at The Weather Network.

The general storm track will likely be situated across the Ohio Valley, northeast U.S. and Atlantic Canada and could have a significant impact on southern Ontario and Quebec. The exact track of individual storms will determine whether the northeast U.S. or southern Canada gets the most snow this winter.

Most of Ontario and Quebec should experience below normal temperatures this winter. Southern parts of the provinces will likely be on the edge of an active storm track through the northeast U.S. There is the potential for more snow than normal.

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Term featured 'inclusive approach,' Mortelliti says

By Mark Pavilons

The past term of King council featured an "inclusive approach," leading to many inroads and positive accomplishments, according to Ward 1 Councillor Cleve Mortelliti.

In contrast to his first term of council (2006-2010), this past term of council is one that he will look back on fondly.

"With a new mayor and a more inclusive style of leadership we saw a council that was much more willing to put personal conflicts aside, check the egos at the door so to speak, and get down to work on some of the serious issues affecting King Township, such as debt, and growth, culture and unity," he said.

Because of this more inclusive approach "we were able to build trust among our council colleagues and get every member of council to start thinking beyond their own wards and to think more holistically about Township needs and think of King as one community, as opposed to splintered warring factions."

King is a community of communities, he pointed out as each village has

its own distinct history and identity, all under the umbrella of King.

"Each has its own unique characteristics and needs, and if we as individual councillors lose sight of that fact, then we run the risk of falling back into the divisive negative style of politics that hung like a dark cloud over King for decades. And when that happens, councillors and personalities end up dominating head lines with a negative narrative."

Thankfully, that's not the case any longer and the current cycle of "positive relationship building" will all stakeholders will continue.

In the coming term, Mortelliti's ward has needs with all the significant growth that is continuing to impact the village in terms of increased traffic. Old, broken sidewalks need to be replaced. Failing old street lights and an aging 42-year-old arena need to be revamped to meet the demands of the current and projected growth.

But, Mortelliti admitted he has "four other council colleagues who have the same issues.

Councillors reflect, and look ahead

"Councillor Schaefer in Ward 5 has essentially the same issues as I do, and so does our newest member Councillor Boyd. Nobleton is seeing significant growth and residents are concerned about the loss of their small village character and heritage. Councillor Cober in Ward 4 may have a much lesser degree of growth in his Ward, but he too has issues of aging infrastructure, increased regional traffic. Schomberg has wonderful King Township heritage and traditions that need to be supported and maintained. Councillor Pabst is our longest serving veteran and represents the vast rural areas in western King Township where are our rural, agricultural and equine community depends on their local government to look after and defend their needs. And we have Councillor Eek, a local farmer herself and guardian of the Holland Marsh Vegetable basket of North America."

All the issues and all of King's stakeholders, are dependent on a relatively

small tax base. People move to King, and people stay in King because King offers something that our neighbours can't.

King has a long standing tradition of fighting for the preservation of the Oak Ridges Moraine, but that has come at a cost, the councillor pointed out. Many new residents may not understand that, and they may question why taxes are high in King when the service level does not match where they came from in places like Vaughan for instance. Vaughan has over 300,000 people and that equates to a huge pot of tax dollars. Where has King has 20,000 people.

"The reality is, that in our time, if you want to live in King, there is a price that must be paid to be surrounded by thousands of hectares of untouched forest and green space."

And the current council is tasked to keep everything in balance. Mortelliti is excited about the coming term, and he looks forward to meeting the challenges ahead-on.

"With a team of such promise, I look forward to many more 'good news' stories for our stakeholders in 2015 and beyond," he said.

Boyd excited about moving forward with council

By Mark Pavilons

King's newly elected councillor is looking forward to moving in the right direction with the council of 2014-2018.

"While I start on this new adventure as your councillor with the 2014 year coming to a close, I have spent some time reflecting on the past and most importantly thinking about our future. I am grateful for this opportunity to be your councillor, and feel proud to be joining such a well established team.

"I am optimistic about what we can achieve together. I recognize the amount of effort that the previous Council put into developing plans, such as the Economic Development Plan and Sustainability Plan, which will serve as the framework and foundation as we move forward into this new term of council."

Boyd said his number one goal is to keep residents informed and maintain an open door. At this time, more than ever, it is important for residents to stay informed and involved in the processes that will shape the structure and rate of growth for Nobleton.

The coming year will see a new town plan for Nobleton, which will also include new comprehensive zoning bylaws. These documents will be the outline for population growth and density for the town.

"I have launched my interactive website to serve as an information portal and highlight community events and areas we can all be involved.

"I will also continue to strive on promoting events and being involved in the aspects that make our community whole.

"I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and all the best in the year to come."



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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...

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- Arthritis
- Headaches
- Sports Injuries

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ACROSS

1. Indian nanny
5. Hath, presently
8. Ingested
11. Craving
15. "I Got You ____"
16. First number
17. Naomi, to Wynonna
18. Coworker
19. Black gem
20. Tavern feature
21. Dennis, e.g.
22. Without
23. That thing's
24. Lawn pest
25. Maiden-named
26. Type of sword
27. Ranch rope
29. Aware of
31. Stool pigeon
33. Asian wild ass
35. Throat lymph tissue
38. Of a region
40. Flaming
42. Newcomer to society
44. Procession
45. Footless animal
46. Not those
48. Issue forth
49. Decline

51. Gun (an engine)
53. Slacken
54. At right angles
56. Astringent substance
58. An alleviator
60. Pie pan
61. ____ tube
63. Ambulance sound
64. Like some submarines
66. Most mature
69. Steep hemp
70. Poker holding
71. "Butterfield 8" author
75. "Big Fish" star McGregor
78. Income
80. Alpine pool
82. Went ahead
83. Magma, once it emerges
84. Queasy
85. Deux
86. ____ over matter
87. Entrance
88. Pigeon's comment
89. Service mishap
90. Circle's kin

DOWN

1. Seething
2. Devilfish
3. Bottomless pit
4. Bewitch
5. Vagabond
6. Digital's alternative
7. Composed
8. Certain acid
9. Large volume
10. Ruler
11. Overturns
12. Gather in
13. Heredity factor
14. Old Gaelic
24. Single-celled organism
28. "Moonlight ____"
30. Capture
32. Dill herb
35. Ocean flow
36. Think
37. Drop off
38. African nation

Solution
on page 13

Work done on big and little plans: Schaefer

By Mark Pavilons

As Councillor Debbie Schaefer reflects on 2014, her thoughts turn to the little plans and accomplishments, which are often overshadowed by the biggies.

A reflection on 2014 must include the infamous ice storm and monumental task of cleaning the debris.

"I am reminded of its awful beauty by photos. My memories of it are dominated by the care and concern for each other demonstrated by residents and the relentless focus of Township staff to eliminate unsafe conditions and situations. Once the storm event was over everyone exhibited diligence and phenomenal patience in terms of cleaning up the debris."

Last year was a busy one indeed with a multitude of public meetings conducted to engage the community, she observed.

"I feel fortunate to have our staff leading us through these processes; and I am grateful for the quality participation by the community."

Schaefer said there were two very important lessons in 2014 showing why strong, up-to-date policies and plans are required if one wants to control the evolution of the municipality.

"Our rejection of a development proposal to build a banquet facility in the Oak Ridges Moraine was upheld by the OMB because it did not comply with policy. We were not so successful with protecting our prestige employment lands at Jane and King Road. Stronger policies in the Community Plan might have helped us avoid any commercial footage at the site."

These lessons, she said, are timely as updating our Official Plans and zoning bylaws is on the work plan for 2015 and this is "critical."

She'd like to point out the work of 2014 was not just on the "big" plans and policies such as the EDS, which was the first one for King.

"We also updated our discharge of firearms by-law to expand the discharge area boundaries in King City, given the larger urbanized area in the village, and to introduce exceptions related to protection of property and agricultural operations. We updated our sign by-law, and in process of enforcing it we realized that we needed to address the need for way finding signage for our agricultural rural businesses. We started but have not completed a tree bylaw. I believe there should be one but it needs to be one that will deliver the desired outcome."

Very productive term of council: Avia Eek

By Mark Pavilons

The first term of council has been a productive one for relative newcomer Avia Eek.

The Ward 6 councillor found the past year and term to be very productive, for both her ward and the Township as a whole.

She admitted when she was first elected in 2010, she had no idea what to expect. She did read the "handbook."

"I knew I had the backing of the residents/farmers of Ward 6, and it was my job to be their voice at the council table."

It all came together and Eek is proud of what the community has accomplished.

There is a new baseball diamond in the hamlet of Ansnorveldt; there's some new park equipment in our little park; a new sidewalk (which will be completed in 2015); and the Dufferin Street Bridge and King Street realignment has just been completed (with the balance of the work remaining within the project to be completed in the spring of 2015, with thanks for the funding from provincial partners).

As well, over the last four years, council, staff and community members have worked together to create the vision, plans and strategies for moving this municipality forward. To read these documents, go to www.king.ca.

"If you don't have a plan, how do you know where you are going?"

"I have also been encouraging our residents, throughout the Township of King, to provide their input into the Official Plan Review, which our Township is currently working on, with a view to aligning this most important land use policy document with other local and provincial land use policy documents. Along these lines, as well, the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority is reviewing the Wetland Development Guidelines, which may have an impact on the Holland Marsh portion of King Township. As the council representative on this board, I have very clearly stated our concerns, and am confident that our farmers' rights will be protected."

This council has become fiscally responsible and created a reserve strategy.

"The most important decisions we make for King Township now, and for the future (beyond our four-year term), are made based on this document," she observed.

There have been numerous Township-wide events that bring the entire community together.

"Our residents are some of the most giving people when it comes to giving their time for events/causes they believe in, and I applaud all of you for your tireless efforts in this capacity."

"Thank you all for helping to make the last 4 years memorable, productive, and for having helped our council and staff set the bar a little higher here in King!"

Councillors reflect, and look ahead

She also pointed to tow events which illustrated to her why King is so special. The Sustainability Committee hosted "The Buzz About Bees & Food."

"Being sustainable in King is not easy when we want and need both the growers with crops requiring pollination and the corn and soybeans growers to be successful. The event increased awareness of the dilemma and triggered the council's resolution."

"Throughout the year, I felt proud every time neonicotinoids were in the headlines. King had not just sat back and said it was for someone else to deal with it."

She was equally impressed with Concerned Citizens of King Township, who hosted a major event to inform people about the Province's plans to review the three major conservation plans. Both the Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plans are fundamental to King.

"Such a strong citizen initiative energizes me, as a councillor, to ensure that we respond to the Provincial review effectively in 2015."

She, too, is confident the coming year will be an exciting one.

The commercial plaza at King Road and Dufferin will be substantially completed and already residents are enjoying the benefits of new businesses located there. King City's crossroads (Keele & King Road) will finally look like an intersection in a dynamic, prosperous village.

"The pieces are in place for the transition of our Museum into a cultural hub for the Township. We have regained full control with a physical structure much better than we could have accomplished alone; we have a new Museum board with a new mandate. Pending budget approval two new neighbourhood parks in King City will be built."

The councillor did point out there's still a lot of dust and construction in store for 2015.

Earth works will be completed and house construction may start in four subdivisions in King City; other ones are already well along the construction phase.

"I am hopeful that we will get resolution on King City Corporate Centre but at most, earth works will begin; as already mentioned it will have some commercial but we are continuing to work towards prestige employment as the major land use."

"We will start to execute actions from completed strategies. Pending

ing budget approval I am anticipating that there will be grants to business owners to support enhancements of their property under the terms of the Community Improvement Plan policy. I also anticipate increasing the protection of our built heritage and that we will have good examples of re-purposing heritage structures."

While mostly positive, Schaefer admitted there will undoubtedly be some "tough issues" ahead.

Within King City there are green field lands zoned for residential development.

"With the benefit of one term experience I know that the applications, when they come in, will not comply with current policies and plans. And in all the villages there are areas where it is time

for renewal. Undoubtedly there will be different visions of desired outcomes."

She said we must make significant progress on the updating of our Official Plans and to participate effectively in the Provincial reviews of the Conservation Plans.

"We cannot lose momentum on this strategic work as we react to challenging applications."

The newly elected council, very engaged citizens and very committed staff make for a great combination.

"We will continue to live our vision: we are an idyllic countryside community of communities; we are respected for treasuring nature, encouraging a responsible local economy and celebrating our vibrant quality of life. Can't imagine a better place to be in 2015!"

Council works as a unified group to achieve results: Pabst

By Mark Pavilons

King's veteran councillors knows the value of teamwork.

And it's that ingredient that has led council to notable achievements over the past term. And things are looking very good for the coming term as well.

Ward 3 Councillor Linda Pabst said the mayor and council "have worked well together striving to make the right decisions for King Township."

"We have had many accomplishments, as well as our share of challenges throughout the past four years, but have consistently shown that we work as a unified group. That said, we may not always agree, but do maintain a professional and positive work environment, with the end result being the best for the municipality."

Pabst said during her recent re-election campaign, she encountered several recurring concerns among residents. The most frequently asked questions related to local road conditions.

"I believe it would be highly beneficial for our council to consider a program allowing for the upgrade of a concession or two per year. This would enable continuous road improvement without the constant need for piecemeal repairs."

Traffic and speeding were also questioned.

"I believe it is mandatory for the Township to work closely with York Regional Police, encouraging greater use of radar and improved road safety. This should contribute to the provision of safer roads in King."

The financial condition of the Township is often questioned and Pabst is committed to sound financial management and ensuring the sustainability and health of our economic landscape.

"As we move forward with renewing our Community Plans, I will ensure that the preservation of our green spaces is addressed. It is extremely important to protect and maintain our rural character, while at the same time enhancing our municipal infrastructure."

"I will continue to support the provision and development of increased recreation programs, for all residents of our communities. Our residents are looking for quality in their recreation facilities and programs and I believe we can maintain that expectation."

Pabst said during the past term of council, she's seen many positive plans unfold in the Township of King.

"Our opportunities are vast and we need to continue our focus for the provision of excellence in all levels of municipal service."

Pabst extends a very Merry Christmas, happy holidays and healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

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King's economic development is a total team effort

By Mark Pavilons

Ensuring King Township's economic viability takes a total team effort.

It's a delicate balancing act, weighing the pros and cons, impacts and benefits.

For Jamie Smyth, King's economic development officer, his role is to put King on the map and increase its curb appeal for potential investors. King's willingness and preparedness to be "shovel ready" involves walking a fine line at times.

And the idea is to make King and its businesses attractions and destinations for residents throughout the GTA and beyond. King wants to embrace new business and proudly promote themselves. Greater investment means more revenue for the municipality and more job opportunities for residents to work closer to home.

It means becoming a "complete community."

And that's where it gets tricky. While the Township is "open for business," it has to ensure all of the policies and guidelines are adhered to.

And things have been growing exponentially in the last few years.

"We really are on a roll," Smyth observed, noting investment in infrastructure (water and sewers) made it all possible.

Along with King's culture of protecting and preserving comes an acceptance of limited growth.

King's villages are really urban support centres for the large rural economy, one that includes agriculture, agri-business and home-based operations. It's estimated there are three times the number of home-based operations as there are storefronts.

King is also promoting a culture of entrepreneurship, mixed use developments, along with proper land use planning.

The past term has seen tremendous progress, especially with the creation of several strategies and master plans, not the least of which is the Economic Development Strategy (EDS) and the village Community Improvements Plans (CIPs). These tools will serve to enhance and leverage local business opportunities.

Attracting more commercial and industrial business to the area impacts the tax ratio, which currently sits at roughly 90% residential, 6% farmland and 4% commercial/industrial. In a small municipality such as King, this is why the tax burden is carried by homeowners. As this ratio changes and business increases, it takes the burden off of our homeowners.

For many, they don't really mind paying for living in King, a hidden "green tax" if you will, which can be attributed to King having one of the highest assessed property values in all of Ontario.

Smyth is quick to point out that success takes a big-picture approach, one that involves all Township departments and an alignment of all plans and strategies.

From the Official Plan review and re-

vamped land use documents to King's Sustainability Plan, everything complements one another.

"We have strategies in place. It's all about collaboration, partnership, support and alignment," he said.

"Council and staff are moving in the right direction," he said. "This term will be exciting. We're on the cusp of moving forward on all fronts."

"Most everyone at King Township gets the message and direction that we're open for business."

Smyth and his department will continue to build on past successes, which include streetscaping improvements in King City; a street avenue banner program; a greenbelt cycling route through King and ongoing support of local businesses and the King Chamber of Commerce.

On the horizon in 2015, Smyth said they will continue to implement the 38 action items contained in the five-year EDS, with emphasis on business retention and attraction. The CIP grant program will be implemented and there will be ongoing implementation of the action items in the King & Whitchurch-Stouffville Rural/Agricultural Business Retention + Expansion Program.

In conjunction with the Parks Recreation & Culture Department, Engineering and Public Works and planning, the Township will move forward on commercial core improvements and beau-



tification in King City, Nobleton and Schomberg.

As the Township continues to refine its partnership with Headwaters Horse Country, there will undoubtedly be opportunities to showcase King as a place to visit and invest during the 2015 Pan Am Games and beyond. King hopes to establish itself as one of Canada's premier equine centres of excellence.

King will continue to push York Re-

gion to implement a broadband strategy to allow for all of King to have high-speed Internet access.

King continues to maintain a relationship with Seneca College and will be a local partner as Seneca's expansion plans take shape.

A significant number of high-end jobs are coming to King Township, and more details will be released early in the new year.

New agreement lets Ontario college business students transfer full year's credits to any college

Ontario's 24 colleges have signed the first-ever province-wide agreement that grants recognition for entire previous year's credits when a student in a business diploma program transfers to the same program at another college.

"This is a breakthrough agreement among all colleges that will help eliminate duplication and cut costs for students," said David Agnew, president of Seneca College and chair of Colleges Ontario. "For transfer students in business, this represents a substantial savings of time and money."

The agreement, announced by Colleges Ontario and the Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT), applies to students in accounting, business administration, human resources and marketing programs.

This unique universal college agreement allows students to easily transfer among all college business programs across Ontario, including Seneca's leading business programs

The agreement means that business students who transfer at the end of their first or second year will receive full credit for their completed courses. Given the high enrolment of business programs, these pathways provide additional flexibility for a significant number of students.

"Ontario's colleges and universities continue to strengthen their systems for transferring credits among post-secondary institutions," said Glenn Craney, the executive director of ONCAT. "We are pleased that all of the province's 24 colleges have signed this agreement which demonstrates their high level of commitment to institutional collaboration on student mobility."

Expanding credit-transfer options and helping students make informed decisions about their post-secondary education is a priority for government. Ontario is investing \$73.7 million toward credit-transfer improvements between 2011 and 2016.

"Our government knows a strong credit transfer system will lead to a more effective and cost-effective post-secondary education for students across the province. That's why we continue to work with our sector partners to make Ontario's post-secondary education system more seamless, flexible and affordable," said Reza Moridi, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities.

Colleges Ontario is the advocacy organization for the province's 24 public colleges.

ONCAT was created to enhance academic pathways and reduce barriers for students looking to transfer among Ontario's publicly funded institutions. More than 21,500 students transfer within Ontario each year. ONCAT's support for those students includes producing the Course-to-Course Transfer Guide, which can be found at ONTransfer.ca.

Ontario's colleges are working to develop similar province-wide agreements for other program areas.

With campuses across the Greater Toronto Area includ-

ing King, Seneca offers degrees, diplomas and certificates renowned for their quality and respected by employers. Combining the highest academic standards with practical, hands-on learning, expert teaching faculty and the latest technology ensures Seneca graduates are career-ready.

Heritage grants a win-win for everyone

By Mark Pavilons

King Township is helping property owners improve their heritage buildings.

King council recently approved the Heritage Property Grant Program, offering \$12,000 annually in funding for eligible homeowners.

"The Heritage Property Grant Program will benefit the Township's residents by assisting property owners of designated properties with the restoration and maintenance of the cultural heritage assets within the Township," according to a report by planning director Stephen Kitchen.

King's built heritage is not only an important part of the community's fabric, they contribute to the charm and economic well being of the municipality.

A grant program for heritage properties serves both to offer an incentive for such restorative work and may encourage others to seek heritage designations for their properties.

The grant allows for a maximum of \$6,000 per property, meaning two would be given out each year; more if they require less money. If the allotted money is not given out during the year, it will be put in a reserve fund.

The funding will be provided once the work is completed and inspected by Township staff. This, according to Kitchen, will ensure property owners are using the funding as approved and meeting proper standards. Work is required to be completed within two years.

Homeowners must submit a written application to the Township and be accompanied by a Heritage Permit application. Each application is reviewed by the Heritage Advisory Committee and then on to council for approval.

This grant is in keeping with the goals in the Sustainability Plan.

"By partnering with the property owners to maintain and restore their heritage property, the Township will provide a tangible commitment to the implementation of the Sustainability Plan," Kitchen noted in his report.

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Celebrate Christmas at local church services

Nobleton Notes

By **Angie Maccarone**
905-859-5174

St. Paul's Church

On Christmas Eve, 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) 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.

St. Mary's Church

The schedule of masses at St. Mary's is as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Vigil, 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day, 9:45 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, 4 p.m. Holy Hour, p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 28, 9:45 a.m.
The Catholic Women's League of St. Mary's Nobleton wishes to thank everyone for coming to our annual Family Christmas Day. The festivities went very well. The children had a very good time, did crafts and enjoyed sitting on Saint Nicholas's lap. Christmas carols were sang by everyone and the food was delicious as usual.

St. Patrick's Church

The schedule of masses at St. Patrick's is as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 24, Christmas Vigil, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day, 8 a.m. Special Intentions, 11 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory. Friday, Dec. 26, 9 a.m.
Sunday, Dec. 28, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Christmas in Lloydtown

St. Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church, Schomberg will hold its 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.

St. Alban's Nobleton

With Christmas almost here, St. Alban's Anglican community in Nobleton would like to set the record straight about the Christian celebration of Jesus's birth.

Jesus was not born on the 25th of December but as far as historians can determine he was born some time in April. However, the ancient Romans had a festival called Saturnalia held in honour of Saturn their god of agriculture. This celebration started on December 17, but eventually would run through until Dec. 23 and it became a time for gift-giving, feasting, drinking raucous merrymaking, and abandonment of moral and social norms.

Of course when the Romans became Christians they didn't want to give up their long established customs and celebrations. Thus the early church began to Christianize these celebrations and tone them down considerably particularly Saturnalia which became the time to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Now because of its association with pregnancy and birth the male dominated early Church found Christmas

almost embarrassing and while the occasion was still marked its importance was downplayed. Thus throughout mediaeval times Christmas was not much more than a minor celebration with Easter and Christ's resurrection being by far the most celebrated event in the Christian year.

It wasn't until the 1700s, just three hundred years ago, that Christmas began to emerge from the shadows and start to become the important celebration it is today. And yet today what with political correctness the shadows seem to once again be closing in around Christmas changing it into "the Holidays" with gift giving feasting, drinking and raucous merrymaking and its priorities. Hey wait a minute are we heading back to the Saturnalia?

Horticulture Hints By John Arnott

Mistletoe, a parasitic plant with white berries and small oval shaped green leaves and much in evidence at this time of year, has had a connection with humans back into prehistoric times. The ancient Greeks and the ancient Celts, a power in pre-Roman Western Europe, credited it with magical and medicinal powers.

These Celts especially those in the British Isles considered mistletoe, a gift from the gods and therefore sacred. At certain times of the year Celtic priests we call druids would go into the forests in search of oak trees on which this parasitic plant grew and using solid gold sickles cut it from the tree for use in religious ceremonies. Lucky the person who got a sprig to take home after the ceremony.

Well into mediaeval times mistletoe was used to ward off evil spirits especially those that lurked about in wintertime. Because of its association with magic and mysticism mistletoe is one of the very few plants not allowed to be brought into church for any reason. Yet Yorkminster, the cathedral in York England, holds an mistletoe service.

Tenbury Wells, the mistletoe capital of Britain in England's Worcestershire where my nephew and his family live, has a mistletoe market at this time of year. Some of that mistletoe finds its way to our area.

See 'Norse' on Page 15

Councillors reflect, and look ahead

Focus continues on core services: Cober

By **Mark Pavilons**

King Township is a great place to live, work and play. But that comes at a cost, and the Township has to remain frugal and diligent in providing core services efficiently.

Councillor Bill Cober said the new council is already working on the 2015 budget. "Our municipality continues to evolve with change and we as a Township must work to focus on providing our core municipal services through affordable programs and approaches. We as a Township continue to have a desire to enhance our commercial/industrial tax base to support our budget programs and support our residential ratepayers."

King Township is blessed with many facilities and parks, but this also can be very expensive to maintain and operate.

"We have worked to achieve a greater level of cost recovery to support the cost of programs and facilities and this will need to continue in to 2015 and beyond.

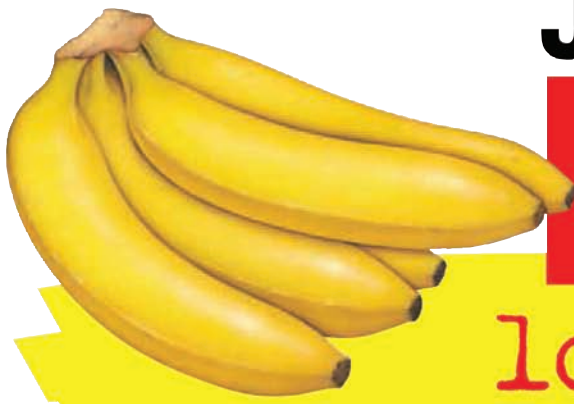
"Our roads and bridges need continuous work to maintain and improve their condition. With over 300 kilometres of roads we as a Township will always need to invest in our roads and bridges."

Cober lauded the countless volunteers who provide so much to the community in Ward 4 and throughout the township.

"Supporting our volunteers and local business community who sponsor and support so many activities and events throughout the township is important for all of us here in King Township. Recently, another hugely successful Main Street Christmas organized by our Schomberg Village Association, is a great example of our community spirit and strength.

"I would like to personally like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Ward 4 for their continuous support and partnership. I continue to enjoy supporting residents, the business community and volunteer groups with Township related inquiries and look forward to our work together in 2015.

"I wish everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous 2015!"



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Thursday, December 25	CLOSED	Wednesday, December 31	8am - 6pm
Friday, December 26	9am - 5pm	Thursday, January 1	CLOSED
Saturday, December 27	8am - 8pm	Friday, January 2	8am - 10pm
Sunday, December 28	8am - 7pm	Saturday, January 3	8am - 8pm
Monday, December 29	8am - 9pm		

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SPORTS

KING WEEKLY SENTINEL

Gage lifts Cougars past Devils to halt winless streak

By JAKE COURTEPATTE

After a slow start to the season resulting in only four points through the first 16 games, Schomberg Cougar John Gage has become one of the Junior C squad's most lethal producers on the scoresheet.

The second-year forward led the team in scoring in an 8-3 victory Thursday night over the Fergus Devils, earning a hat trick at home and adding an assist in the effort.

Ryley Egerton opened the scoring just three minutes in with his fifth of the year, followed shortly after by goals from Kiefer McIntosh and Gage to open a 3-0 lead.

After the Devils got on the board in the dying minutes of the first, Blake Culley restored the three-goal lead just 20 seconds later, one of three points on the night.

Schomberg dominated the Devils offensively in the opening frame, outshooting them by a total of 16-5.

The second period was a much more even affair, with goaltender Taylor Ewart making 11 stops and allowing two goals to cut the lead to one.

However, he would not be beat again, as the Cougars opened up for four goals in the third period, from Joseph Mete, Brandon Yorke, and two by Gage to complete the hat trick.

Now riding a seven-game point streak,

Gage has earned six goals and six assists over that period.

Schomberg's special teams were the deciding factor in the contest, as their power play squad went 3-6, improving greatly on the season numbers.

Meanwhile, they kept their own time in the box to only 21 minutes, quite an improvement over their league-leading 31.6 minutes per game average. They also scored a shorthanded marker in the third.

The win cracks a three-game losing streak for the Cougars, after dropping an OT decision in Huntsville last Friday.

With the GMOHL season winding down, a lot of work remains for the Schomberg team after a shootout loss on the weekend by Orillia and a win for Erin still has them only two points out of last-place in league standings.

They will be looking to gain more ground with a rematch in Fergus on Sunday, followed by a rare Tuesday home game against the Orillia Terriers on Jan. 30.

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

Joseph Mete absorbs a hit after making a pass against the Fergus Devils. The Cougars defeated the Devils 8-3 on Thursday.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte



King City's Christian Lakoseljic took the doubles title at the recent Orange Bowl International Tennis Championships.

Local tennis player makes his mark

It was just the right mixture of athleticism and fate for King City's Christian Lakoseljic in the Orange Bowl International Tennis Championships earlier this month.

He walked away the winner of the U16 boys' doubles tournament in Florida, along with partner Basil Khuma of India.

Ranked in the top 750 in the world, he was sixth on the list to compete in the tournament heading in, meaning a berth in the qualifications.

However, after driving down and signing in, six competitors pulled out that day to put Lakoseljic into the main draw.

It was fate that brought together the doubles pair the night before the opener, as Lakoseljic was hanging out with a friend one floor up from Khuma.

Taking the elevator, they happened to walk by Khuma among a group, where Lakoseljic's friend suggested the two pair up.

"Everyone's been telling me it's fate."

The competition was tough from the get-go, as the pair took on the number-five seed in the first round.

"It was really strong," said Lakoseljic. "It's all the best kids in the world my age. Most of them are already pretty big and strong, I've got to catch up and work hard."

Their quarter-final matchup was against the team that won the Eddie Herr International Championship just the week before, also in Florida.

After disposing of three seeded pairs on the way to the final, Lakoseljic and Khuma took the championship in straight sets.

Lakoseljic first picked up a racket at the age of four, competing in his first tournament just two years later.

By the time he was 12, he was finding tennis success nationally, making the decision to quit hockey to focus on the sport.

One of the most prestigious junior tennis tournaments in the world, the Orange Bowl has long been a "who's who" of some of the biggest names in tennis, including the likes of Andre Agassi, Steffi Graf, Andy Roddick, and Roger Federer ... a major influence on Lakoseljic's career.

"I really enjoy watching him play," said Lakoseljic. "I love his attitude. His on-court game is just fun to watch."

After adding his name to the star-studded list, Lakoseljic has no plans of slowing down. He's back on the court for a tournament after Christmas, before the season really picks up for a number of selection matches, provincials, and even some ITF events.

"As soon as the new year hits, it'll really be starting to pick up."

Coaches & Parents:

We want to hear from you! Send us your game reports, tournament results, etc. for Curling, Hockey, Figure Skating, Basketball, Volleyball, Gymnastics, Skiing, Martial Arts, and anything else sports-related that's going on in your community.

Email Mark at editor@kingsentinel.com



Club asks Township to reconsider fee hike for 2015

By Angela Gismondi

Fees and charges are going up in the Township and the King Curling Club is concerned about how the increase will affect their membership.

Mike Sidon, president of the King Curling Club, was at the committee of the whole meeting Dec. 15 to ask council not to approve the proposed 2015 rate for curling ice.

"The rate increase is excessive, unfair when compared to other Township organizations, and may damage the future viability of curling in our community," said Sidon. "Although our club has been extremely successful in recruiting members in the first three years, our membership rate has started to drop off. It is a demographic experienced by other rural clubs in our area where a decrease of 20 per cent is being experienced. If we pass on the proposed increase to our members we would certainly have a greater loss in membership and the Township in return would have a concurrent lose in revenue."

The proposed fee changes are designed to ensure that the cost of providing a specific service is fully or partially recovered from the user of that service while minimizing the cost and effect to all tax and user rate payers. A number of the proposed rates have been increased to reflect the fact that the cost of providing these programs and services is increasing.

"One of the major drivers is the utility cost is increasing," explained Chris Fasciano, director of parks, recreation and culture for the Township of King. "The cost of hydro is going up."

For most fees, staff recommended that the current fee be increased by



the annual CPI Index, which was determined to be an increase of 1.6 per cent over last year. Once approved, the new fees and charges bylaw and the new user fees would be effective January 1, 2015.

The net effective rate increase to the curling club would be 13.82 per cent for the 2015-16 season, Sidon explained. The proposed retail rate increase, which is intended to represent the operating cost, is to be increased by 6.23 per cent. The rate for the club is to be subsidized by the Township by 25 per cent, however, that subsidy for most groups has been dropped from 30 per cent from the previous year to 25 per cent this year. The proposed net effective rate increase to

the curling club would be 13.82 per cent.

"We are seeking rates that will allow us to stay competitive as compared to other curling clubs and can accept the rate increase offered to the other programs using the Trisan Centre such as hockey, where the retail rate hike will be four per cent, which is half that for curling, and for fitness and other classes where the rates have not been increased at all or by the by 1.6 per cent which is the CPI rate increase the finance department has applied to other services," said Sidon, adding 10 years ago, there were 245 curling clubs in Ontario and today there are 198. "I am looking for council's support to either keep the subsidy at 30 per cent or work with staff to arrive at some other meaningful reduction to the proposed rate increase."

What caught Mayor Steve Pellegrini's attention was the fact that the rate increases were different across the board. He asked that the rates be more consistent.

He added that rates for Cold Creek Conservation Area should be increased.

"I think we're missing a golden opportunity for rates to go up at Cold Creek," said Pellegrini. "I see the potential there for more revenue. It's very well rented."

Fasciano said that before increasing the rates at Cold Creek, the usage needs

to be maximized. Although it is well rented, it is not full yet.

Councillor Bill Cober asked why the subsidy for local groups has been decreased.

Fasciano explained council approved a model which sees the subsidies phased in over three years, starting at 35 per cent and decreasing by five per cent each year.

Councillor Linda Pabst asked her fellow councillors to consider phasing in the subsidy a little more and supporting a 27.5 per cent subsidy for the King Curling Club for 2015.

"I don't want our curling fees to exceed to such a level that we're going to lose more curlers," said Pabst. "They are new to King and I think we should help make them successful. Every new facility goes through growing pains and this is a way we can help them get through their growing pains. It's a minor thing that would help them and I'm hoping I can get some support from council."

Councillor Cleve Mortelliti said he would need more information before he could support that.

"I'm a little concerned about changing staff's recommendations without knowing how it will affect other groups," said Mortelliti, adding it may open up a can of worms. "If baseball or soccer hears we were considering a reduction, they might want to get in on it too ... if we do this for one, don't we have to do it for all?"

Councillor Debbie Schaefer pointed out that Councillor Pabst's request to increase the subsidy for the curling club means the club would be at a higher level of subsidy than other groups in the Township. She doesn't want the taxpayer to have to pay for the curling club's increased subsidy.

Township CAO Susan Plamondon reminded council that a lot of time and effort went into developing the policy and it was subject to considerable discussion and debate. She asked that council approve the user fees and charges bylaw for 2015 as soon as possible and said that staff will look into the issue of ice rates for curling.

"At least in the meantime, there is some basis for going forward," she noted.

The bylaw and a report on the curling fees will be brought back to the Jan. 12 council meeting.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

King Curling Club
By Shellee Morning

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house,
Not a curler was stirring, not even a mouse.

The brooms were all hung by the rink with such care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas, soon would be there.

The players' letters to Santa have all been sent
With wishes of great curling in their future events
These letters you see, were not mailed by their mom
But an email was sent, @the northpole.com

The Skips were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of Triples danced in their heads.
A double for Mike, a Draw for Dan,
And a quiet take-out for Pamela-Ann.

"Hurry Hard, Hurry Hard" is a true Curler's scream,
For that come-around in eight, is but more than a dream.

The members were settled for a long winters nap
When out in the rink there rose such a clatter.
The ice was in use and the rocks were a scatter
The four rookie curlers played a Long-Angled tap.

There in the rings stood Santa himself
Along with 2 reindeer, and a cute little Elf.
The giggles and laughter all came from his mates
The rock was in score, there was no debate.

From the great shot that Santa just made,
The team now offered their custom hand shake.
For the fun and a game that was truly well-played
Good curling my friends for jolly Good Sake.

It's time to go, so with a nod of his head and a quick little jerk
Delivering a sleigh full of toys is a full night's work.
Their faces were a glow all shiny and bright
As the new Skip himself said,
"Merry Christmas to all and to all a Good Night."

The King Curling Club executive and directors would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and for a safe, healthy and happy New Year!



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- Councillor Avia Eek



"Thanks, King Weekly Sentinel.
Your very active support for the Food Bank
is helpful beyond words."

- Carol Ann Trabert

King Weekly Sentinel

The King Weekly Sentinel was the proud recipient of the 2013 Chamber Special Recognition Award for outstanding coverage of businesses in King Township



Your Community. Your News.

Talented CDS athlete makes some tough choices

By **Zach Lawton**

Grade 12 student, Sjörland Gibson is no stranger to sports at The Country Day School.

Since joining her first team in Grade 4, she has been actively involved in many of the sports the School has to offer. Last year she made a big sporting decision in her life, one that she hopes will pay off in the future.

Sjörland is a very accomplished soccer player both at CDS and the various club teams she has played on. She was appointed captain of the CDS Senior Girls' Soccer team and averaged over a goal a game throughout the season and playoffs. The striker is proud of her soccer achievements at CDS, which include a 2012 CAIS National Championship when she was in Grade 10.

According to Sjörland, her CDS soccer coaches have played a big role in her development as a player. She credits Mr. Nugent, Ms. Switalski, and in particular, Mr. Milonas for their guidance. "Coach Milonas has always been so supportive and he has a very good

sense of the field, which helps me with my positioning on the pitch."

Her coach this fall, Geoff Nugent, is very complimentary of Sjörland and her commitment to the team.

"Sjörland is an excellent student of the game who always looked to elevate the team through her own example. It was no coincidence that we never lost a game in which Sjörland scored a goal. She also struggled to overcome illness and injury this season, never using these conditions as an excuse to give less than the best effort she could deliver on game day."

Outside of CDS, Sjörland has played on numerous club teams throughout her young career. She has played for Vaughan Azzuri, Unionville and most recently Aurora, where she won the Ontario Cup in 2012.

Sjörland faced a dilemma in 2013. Knowing how important her final two years of high school would be, she decided she needed to make more time for her academics at the cost of something she had done forever. Her deci-

sion to stop playing soccer was hard on to make.

"Soccer was a big part of me. I would train at school and then train with my club after school. It would eat up all my time, which meant I had to do my homework in the car between practices."

She hopes the decision will pay off and allow her to play at university next year. "I still enjoy soccer a lot and I think I have what it takes to make a school team next season."

In addition to soccer, Sjörland also plays volleyball and rugby for CDS. She speaks fondly of both teams, describing them as a close-knit family. Sjörland plans to help repeat CDS rugby history this spring, when the Girls' team goes for their 11th straight title. "We feel like we have to continue the legacy, there is definitely pressure."

Throughout her years at CDS, Sjörland has been recognized with a few personal accolades as well. She won the Most Improved Player award for volleyball in Grade 11, and Most

Sportsmanlike Player for soccer in Grade 9.

At the moment, she is weighing her options for university next year. We wish her all the best!



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708 DEATHS

BURGESS - Carole. December 18th, 2014 - While sleeping in her home in King Township, Ontario, Carole Lorraine Burgess (nee Pringle) in her 73rd year. Born May 10, 1941 in Chatsworth, Ontario and residing for decades in Owen Sound, Carole will be fondly remembered by her large family and many friends in the area. Carole leaves behind her siblings, Mrs. Elizabeth Boake of South Bend, Indiana; Mrs. Suzanne Micks and husband Ken of Owen Sound, Ontario and Mr. Paul Pringle and spouse Valerie of St. Albert, Alberta. Predeceased by one sister, Helen Pringle of Chatsworth, Ontario. Sadly missed by children, Corrine McCausland and her husband Lee of Winchester, Colleen Lewis and her husband Jerry of Owen Sound, Victoria Clark and her husband Dwayne of Owen Sound and Heather Terry, of King. Predeceased by a son, Ronald. Also predeceased by her parents, Ida Victoria Bestward and Joseph William Pringle, as well as her husband, the late Donald Burgess. Carole was well loved and will be greatly missed by all those who called her Grandma and Granny. Holly, Michael, Meghan, Bernadette, Naomi, Jamie-Lee, Samantha, Jesse, Cassandra, Cody, Joseph and Crystal. Stories and memories will also be shared with great-grandchildren, Nathaniel, Jaylen, Kiera and Marta as well those the stork has not yet delivered. Carole's many friends will remember her generous nature, always offering a place to stay, a meal to eat or a shoulder to lean on. She will forever hold a special place in the hearts of the Angels. A farewell service will be held on May 10th, 2015 in Chatsworth, Ontario. Donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association would be appreciated and may be made through the Brian E. Wood Funeral Home, 250 - 14th Street West, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 3X8 (519-376-7492). B52

708 DEATHS

HALL: Richard Torsten. Peacefully with his family by his side, on Wednesday December 17th, 2014, at his home in Schomberg. Richard Hall, at 62 years of age, beloved husband of Astrid (Iliohan). Loving father of Pamela Schlosser, and Amy and Jeff Matysek. Remembered with love by his 4 grandchildren, Maygan, Kyle, Diaz, and Dax. Dear brother of Brenda and Tim Gordon and beloved son of Helen and the late Henry (Hank) Hall. Fondly remembered by his extended family and friends. Cremation has taken place and a family service will be held at a later date. Donations to CANAAS (www.canaaf.org) or the Stronach Cancer Centre (615 Davis Drive Newmarket, ON., L3Y 9Z9) would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to Rod Abrams Funeral Home, 1666 Tottenham Road, Tottenham, 905-936-3477. www.rodabramsfuneralhome.com B52

MARRIOTT: Margaret - Passed away peacefully at Victoria Village, Barrie on Thursday, December 18th, 2014 at the age of 85. Treasured and beautiful mother of Helen Lee and Nerina and her husband, Chris Iliohan. Proud and special grandmother to Eric, Sean, Elizabeth, Molly and Josie. Predeceased by grandson, Justin and brother, Kenneth. Dear sister of Anne Liversedge and loyal best friends with Shirley Dixon. A private ceremony will take place in England following cremation. She is going home. Thank you to everyone at Victoria Village for their extraordinary care. If desired, donations in Margaret's memory can be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation or Epilepsy Canada. Online condolences can be made at www.rod-houseandrose.com. B52

700 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

708 DEATHS

COBURN: Brian Lennox. At Headwaters Health Care Centre, Orangeville, on Thursday December 11th, 2014. Brian Coburn at the age of 67 years. Loving father of Jennifer and Brian. Remembered with love by his grandchildren. Dear brother of Shirley Pendleton of Rosemont, Paul and Helen Coburn of Beeton, and Bobby Coburn of New Lowell. Cremation has taken place and a family service will be held at a later date. www.rodabramsfuneralhome.com B52

MARRIOTT: Margaret - Passed away peacefully at Victoria Village, Barrie on Thursday, December 18th, 2014 at the age of 85. Treasured and beautiful mother of Helen Lee and Nerina and her husband, Chris Iliohan. Proud and special grandmother to Eric, Sean, Elizabeth, Molly and Josie. Predeceased by grandson, Justin and brother, Kenneth. Dear sister of Anne Liversedge and loyal best friends with Shirley Dixon. A private ceremony will take place in England following cremation. She is going home. Thank you to everyone at Victoria Village for their extraordinary care. If desired, donations in Margaret's memory can be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation or Epilepsy Canada. Online condolences can be made at www.rod-houseandrose.com. B52

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 Ditsos 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

714 PRAYERS

A PRAYER FOR Monika Storr. When tragedy strikes and the time comes when only God can intervene, We ask of Him to hear our prayer. We cling to hope that He will change the course of direction that envelops our sadness. We ask of Him to take away the cancer from her body that is riddled with pain from this dreaded disease. Please grant to her Oh God the cure that only you can give when earthly intervention cannot. Hear our prayer Oh Lord as we seek from you the change that only you can grant. May you be with us while we wait in sorrow and may you help us not to lose the faith we so desperately need to embrace. Thank you God for hearing our prayer and we give to you all the Praise and the Glory. Amen. Monika's family and friends. B52

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Please recycle this holiday season!

ADVERTISING LOCALLY WORKS!

Everyone is a target in online scams, according to YRP

By Brock Weir

As the holidays season sinks in, it's a time when many are inspired with the spirit of giving. But, much as local organizations appreciate your generosity at this time of year, York Regional Police caution that this is also a time when false charity scams begin to ramp up.

Police are urging the public to be vigilant in the face of increasing on-line scams.

"Everybody is a target," said Constable Andy Pattenden. "Everybody whose information is out there is a target."

According to police, the top scam making the rounds is "phishing," where fraudsters use emails purporting to be from legitimate companies to "fish" for your personal information, such as internet passwords and credit card information. Such emails often claim to be sent on behalf of companies like Microsoft and iTunes, and even government agencies like the Canada Revenue Agency.

Also on the rise are "emergency scams," which also fall under the banner of "grandparent scams." According to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, the scam typically plays out with a phone call from a fraudster often to an elderly person claiming to be one of their grandchildren. Often, they will claim to have been in a car accident, or have run into some emergencies while travelling abroad, and ask for money to be wired to them immediately.

A fraudster would typically caution their potential victim that they should keep their request between them.

Similarly, "romance scams" are also on the rise where a fraudster attempts to gain the trust and affection of their intended victim, seeking their money, banking and credit card information.

According to Constable Pattenden, fraud has cost the Canadian consumer \$58 billion since 2013. Individual cases of people falling victim to any one of these scams, however, often go unreported. Guilt and

embarrassment are major factors in these cases going unreported, or that the amount of money they were bilked out of was relatively inconsequential, said Constable Pattenden, but that all adds up.

Awareness, he says, is the best defence against falling prey to these fraudsters.

"It is all about awareness that these types of scams exist, to help educate others to spread the word, especially in the case of the grandparent scam," he noted. "The fraudsters know enough or are able to draw enough information out of the elderly person through conversation. We have issued a lot of warnings about them, but people often think, 'Who could ever fall for that?' but people do fall for it all the time. Making people aware that these types of scams exist is the most important message."

Awareness aside, there are other practical pieces of advice the York Regional Police says can help prevent you from falling victim to these common scams. Shredding important documents and properly disposing of documents that contains identifying information, such as bank or credit card statements,

is something to keep in mind. If you receive calls from companies involving personal questions or questions to do with money, it is important to call the company back before volunteering any information.

"Any reputable company will understand why you are calling them back as opposed to just providing that information directly over the phone," said Constable Pattenden. "Everybody is a target. Everybody

whose information is out there is a target. [These crimes] can be anywhere, and that is the difficulty in trying to catch them. We try and get as much information and try to follow through with as many of the investigations as we can, but it really comes down to preventing it from happening, which is going to be the real answer to reducing the amount of fraud taking place."



Skate with Santa

Young skaters take their turn with Santa Claus at the King City Lions Club's Skate With Santa last Saturday.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

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Children's pageant at All Saints Church

King's Corners

King City United
By Eleanor Fry

Advent is a time of waiting, watching, a time to ponder, to celebrate. A time of peace, hope, joy and love. The fourth Sunday of Advent, the Estabrook Family let the first three candles, 2 blue and pink for hope, peace and joy. The final blue candle was lit for love.

Rev. Evelyn's sermon was related to the list of Advent words and a picture that was associated with each one.

The UCW Christmas luncheon at Fred and Betty's house is always an experience. All the Christmas decorations are so specially arranged, and usually a story goes with each one - where it came from, who gave it, how old is it? I can't wait for next year. Thank you, folks, for a wonderful time. The food was plentiful and delicious, and the kitchen help never stopped.

Christmas Eve is almost here. Worship is at 7 pm with story, carols and candlelight. Invite your friends and neighbours, perhaps someone from "Tim's" who may be looking for some inspiration and confirmation. For those who wish to stay, there will be a short communion service after worship.

Sunday, Dec. 28 service at 10 a.m. with lessons, a story, and lots of singing. We will celebrate Epiphany on Sunday, Jan. 4. Wear stars on that day.

Our office will be closed Dec. 25th to Jan. 5. For any emergency call Reverend Evelyn at 905-859-9077.

Tuesday, Jan. 6 the evening group of the UCW will meet at 7 p.m. in the chapel. They have big plans. January 31st they will hold a spaghetti dinner followed by a concert with Sandra Kirby and Oleg Somohkin. More details later.

Bible study resumes on Wednesday, Jan. 14 at 10:30 a.m. in the chapel.

Christmas is a time of being together and celebrating the birth of that tiny baby so many long years ago. A time of new beginning.

A merry, safe Christmas to all!

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.

The next Foot Clinic is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 6 from 2 to 4 p.m. downstairs in the Seniors Centre. Appointments are required. For further information, or an appointment call Kay Brooks at 905-833-5555 or Carol Field at 905-833-3324.

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

Christmas Eve worship at the York 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 Next Stage Production Company presented a comedy sketch at the King City Seniors Centre's Christmas Open House on Dec. 9. Pictured are the show's three stars, (l to r) Jean Sator, Marcel Dragoni and Will Hofstetter.

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

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 28th as we will be having a Concert of Prayer. Our time will be spent in prayer and worship in anticipation of what God's going to do in 2015!

We have Celebration Zone available downstairs for kids aged 3-Grade 10. We also have nursery available downstairs for babies 0-3.

Please also join us for our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be on Wednesday, Dec. 24 with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. followed by a 7 p.m. service.

St. Andrew's

By Kathy Patterson

Merry Christmas and may the New Year find us experiencing Christ's peace, joy and love every day.

We invite you to join us this Sunday after the busyness of Christmas and as we approach the New Year! Our worship service is at 10:30 a.m. Sunday school and nursery care run concurrently and will resume Jan. 4 (not available December 29). Following the service, everyone is welcome to stay for coffee and chat time.

Last Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Advent, the Rev. Dr. John Vissers spoke as Simeon, sharing his perspective on the wonder of the birth of the Christ Child, giving thanks to God for the privilege of living long enough to see Jesus, the Christ and being able to bless Him. What is our response? Do we really see Him for who He is and be filled with awe, thanksgiving and joy? We appreciated Cassandra Khani's playing the cello at the start of the service.

The Junior Youth made more Christmas Cookies last Friday and packaged and delivered them Saturday to the King City Lodge for distribution to the residents.

Many precious moments were experienced during the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service as we prepared our hearts to receive the King of Kings. Thank you to all who participated.

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.

Mark your new 2015 calendars! We are looking forward to having Lt-Col. (Retired) Susan Beharriell come to speak to us about Sustainability in King following the worship service Jan. 11. There will be a light lunch served.

For pastoral care needs please contact Lynn Vissers, 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 a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Join us this Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. for a joyful Children's Pageant telling the Christmas story with all your favourite carols, candlelight, communion and harp. Little ones are welcome to come and sit at the front as the story is told.

Later, at 10 p.m. is our candlelight choral communion. Both Christmas Eve services feature soloists singing beautiful renditions of 'O Holy Night.

On Christmas Day in the morning we have a relaxed acoustic communion service with your favourite carols. Children are welcome to bring a favourite gift with them (unless it's a pony). Then, on the first Sunday of Christmas, Dec. 28, we welcome our Bishop, Peter Fenty at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Bishop Peter will be our preacher. Please note that there will be no 8 a.m. service that morning.

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 is closed Dec. 23 to Jan. 6, but telephone messages will be checked daily. Please call 905-833-5432. Our website is www.allsaintskingcity.com.

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Norse began tradition of kissing under mistletoe

From Page 9

This brings us to kissing under the mistletoe a custom brought to North America by early British settlers although it originated with the Vikings

You see it seems Baldur the Beautiful, the Norse god of light and spring, was having bad dreams in which his life was in danger. His mother Frigga goddess of love travelled the world getting earth, water and air among many others to promise not to harm Baldur but she forgot to ask mistletoe Then Loki the god of fire who hated her son used a dart poisoned with mistletoe to kill him. Frigga's tears of sorrow became the white mistletoe berries and she decreed that this plant would never again be used as a weapon Further more she declared she would place a kiss of peace and love on anyone passing under sprigs of mistletoe thus a custom was born.

Among the thousand or so species of mistletoe are viscum (Latin for sticky, album, Latin for white) the most common in Europe – the one favoured by the ancients and phoradendron Greek for tree thief, leucarpum Greek for

white fruit, native to eastern temperate North America and is the one most sold in our area.

Mistletoe grows on the branches of a number of different kinds of trees. Its roots penetrate the bark of the host branch and take up some of its water and nutrients Mistletoe is classified as hemi (semi) parasitic as it does produce a little of its own food through photosynthesis but its continued presence will kill the branch and over time the whole tree. Mistletoe on the other hand serves as food to a wide variety of animals although it is poisonous to humans.

Its seeds are spread by bird droppings on tree branches or in some cases as the bird eats the berry flesh it pushes out the sticky coated white seed which then sticks to the branch. And eventually germinates producing a new plant.

The practical Romans had no use for the Celtic druids who vehemently opposed them so all across their new provinca of Britannia they cut down the sacred oak groves and trampled underfoot the fallen mistletoe. Years later invading Anglo Saxons, an unromantic lot at best, looked at this parasitic plant

growing in new oak groves, laughed and as they thought the white berries to be bird droppings called it "missel" their word for dung (actually the "s" word), "tan" the English word for stick or twig.

Thus the sacred gift of the ancient Greek and Celtic gods and the symbol of love and peace to the Vikings became the Anglo-Saxon mistletoe – dung on a stick!



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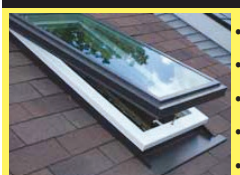


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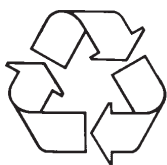
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Men and women of the Rangers feted for work on the home front

By Brock Weir

Sgt. Ryan Mitchell and Mass Corporal Rob Skelly thought they were being pretty macho signing up as members of the Queen's York Rangers.

Both men, then between the ages of 16 and 17, thought it would be a pretty cool way to pass the weekend, a rite of passage, perhaps even the next logical step on the road to manhood. And that might have been the case, if they didn't have to get a bit of a boost from mom.

"I was under the age of 18 and needed parental consent to move on with this ceremony of manhood, so my mom had to join me!" recalled Skelly, before a packed banquet hall at the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion recently as the community paid tribute to the work the Queen's York Rangers do here in Canada and, specifically, at the community level.

"Most of us are expecting a noble reason [on why I enlisted], but I have to finally, publically, admit why I joined," continued Skelly. "It was a high school co-op program when I was 16. One of my best friends was joining the co-op program and I was looking for a four credit, easy way out of Grade 11 and he approached me with this Queen's York Rangers outline of what we were going to be doing, (including) throwing grenades.

"'Stupid idiot,' I said, 'they're not going to let us throw grenades!' Anyways, it turns out they did! We swore in on February 18, 2004, and I haven't looked back since. It was by accident, and it is a unique story, but my country and my unit has kept me in this far along. Now the story is out!"

A cross-section of the community, including veterans, dignitaries ranging from the mayors of Aurora and Newmarket, councillors, and citizens at large, had the opportunity to hear many of these stories first hand from the serving Queen's York Rangers officers and cadets in attendance. Although event organizers did not give ticket holders the chance to throw a few pieces of weaponry around as Skelly got to experience in his formative years as a Ranger, they had the opportunity to get a handle on their guns, equipment, and try on the weight of their packs.

"I don't know if my story is as entertaining is that, but with most 16-year-old teens, I had the infinite wisdom and

wealth of knowledge that they all do," recalled Mass Corporal Harrison with a chuckle. "Somebody brought (the Rangers) up to me and said, 'They'll let you in, you can go and fire some rifles and do this.' I would like to say they were noble reasons (why I joined) but it just sounded cool at the time! After joining up, and going on nine years with the unit, it is the camaraderie that I formed with the men and women I work with that has kept me in it now."

While Harrison was proudly wearing the General Campaign Star for Southwest Asia in recognition of his active service in Afghanistan, focus was drawn to the everyday training these reservists do at home, particularly here in Aurora. Dubbed "O Canada: We Stand on Guard for Thee," that wasn't just a theme pulled out of a hat. It is very true as the Rangers are here on hand to serve in any eventuality.

"The men and women of the Queen's York Rangers, from its roots in the Revolutionary War, through two world wars, Afghanistan, and numerous peacekeeping operations abroad, have won numerous battle honours in recognition of their skill, courage and sacrifice," said Prime Minister Stephen Harper, whose words were delivered by Kelvin Brown, husband of Newmarket-Aurora MP Lois Brown. "I would like to commend the members of the Rangers, past and present, for upholding the tradition of service and loyalty that exemplifies their Regiment. You have earned the respect and appreciation of all Canadians."

In his remarks, Mayor Geoff Dawe said the event was a "great opportunity to show (the community) in a very tangible way the support for the Queen's York Rangers.

"It is a very important part of how we, as residents of this particular area, can give back to the Queen's York Rangers, who have given so much to us," he said.

This point was underscored Sandy Rumball on behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion, who presented event organizers and emcees Kimberley Kerr and Sgt. Mitchell a cheque for \$5,000 to further the work of the fund.

"I can assure you that all funds donated to the Rangers are treasured commodity with the Council," said Ms. Kerr, a member of the Regimental Council. "No funds are disbursed without thorough examination or discussion. The

council meets at Fort York and is kept up to date on all aspects of the Queen's York Rangers, their training, their service and equipment."



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