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Preliminary budget has 2.95% hike

By Mark Pavilons

By airing their wish lists and getting some insights from staff, King councillors are well on their way to fine-tuning the Township's 2016 budget that takes both financial realities and residents' needs into consideration.

Council received the 2016 draft budgets and business plan Dec. 14. With an anticipated increase in growth assessment revenue, and a review of its infrastructure reserve contributions, the Township may just be able to meet the bulk of the needs in the coming year.

Infrastructure – the cost of roads, water and sewer mains – is a major issue in King. The need is evident in every ward in the township.

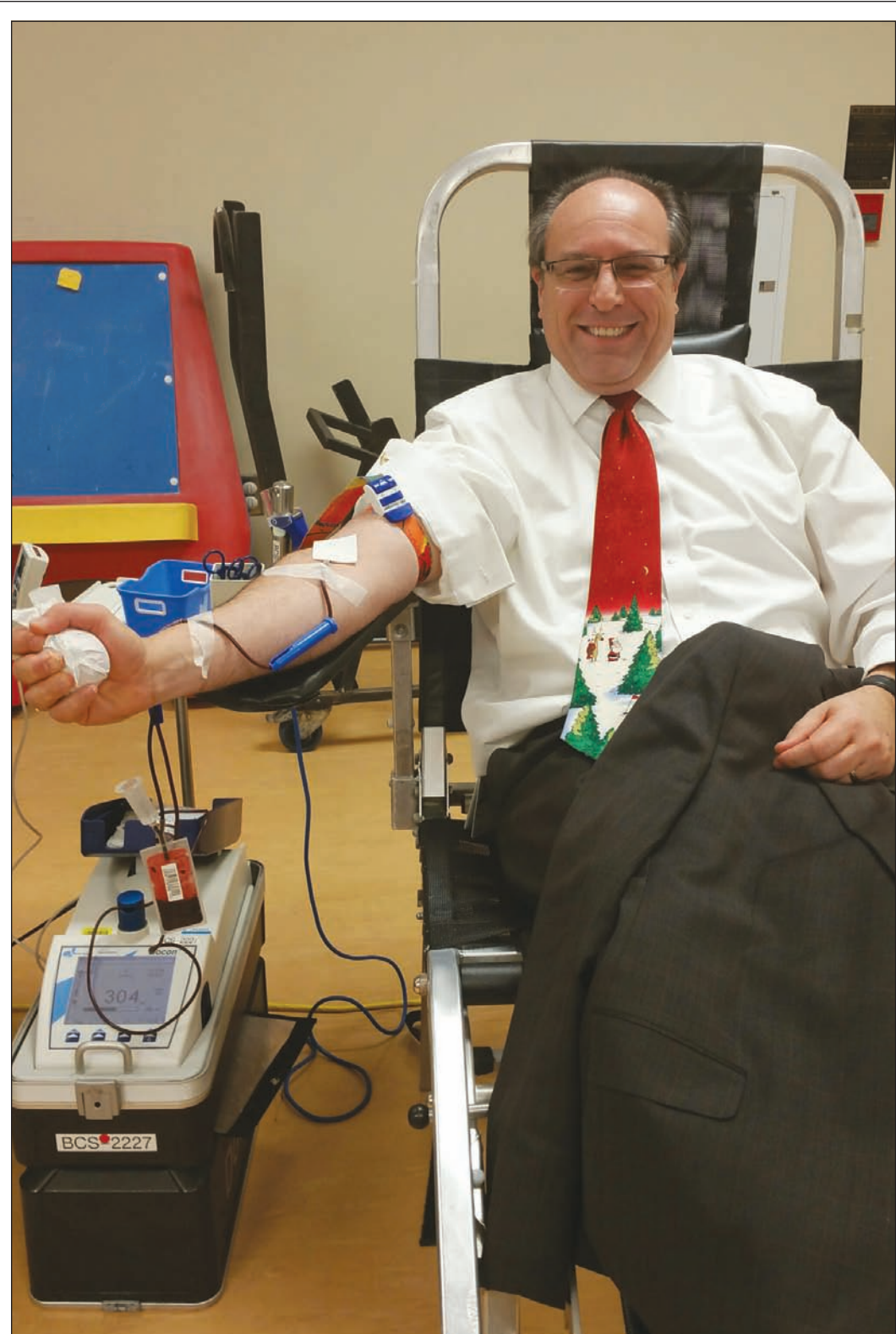
Mayor Steve Pellegrini admitted that a lot of infrastructure work hasn't been done and perhaps now is the time to take advantage of low interest rates and consider debenture financing.

According to Allan Evelyn, King's director of finance, staff have been working for months, trying to meet the needs of the Township today, tomorrow and for decades to come. Not an easy task, when they have to take into consideration maintaining service levels, meeting infrastructure needs and being very cognizant of reasonable tax increases.

Mayor Pellegrini has made it clear he won't accept a property tax hike of over 3%.

To that end, the 2016 budgets and business plan will, if approved, result in a 2.95% tax hike in King's share of the residential tax rate.

See 'Hydro' on Page 3



Residents give generously

Canadian Blood Services held another very successful blood donor clinic in Schomberg recently. In all, 72 units were collected. Of the donors Dec. 8, 16 were first-time donors, which comes as great news to Elaine St. Pierre of Canadian Blood Services. "We are overwhelmed by the generosity and commitment of the residents of Schomberg to continually come out and support us," she said. The next clinic will be held Family Day, Feb. 15, from 4:40-7:30 p.m. at the Trisan Centre.

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Groups weigh in on growth, Greenbelt.

See Page 6



Students raise funds for charity.

See Page 12

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



COUNCIL MEETINGS

MUNICIPAL OFFICE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Municipal Office, Council Chambers, 2075 King Road

Monday, January 11, 2016

6:00 pm – Council/Committee of the Whole

Monday, January 25, 2016

6:00 pm – Council/Committee of the Whole

• Consideration of 2016 Budgets & Business Plans for Adoption

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Taxation & Assessment Analyst (closes December 21, 2015)
- Summer Camp (various)
- Summer Aquatics (various)
- Recreation Program Instructors (various, casual, PT)
- Outdoor Program Facilitator (6 month contract, PT)
- Cold Creek Site Operator (6 month contract)

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

COMPETITIVE BIDS

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE

Township of King Municipal Offices will be closed for the holiday season as of 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 23rd, and will re-open for regular business hours at 8:30 a.m on Monday, January 4th, 2016.

FOR URGENT TOWNSHIP MATTERS Please call (905) 833-5321 and the Township answering service will contact the appropriate personnel.

NOTICE – UPCOMING MEETINGS
2016 BUDGETS & BUSINESS PLAN

Council Chambers at 2075 King Road, King City, ON

RE: Consideration of By-law for Adoption:
2016 Budgets & Business Plan

Monday, January 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

The Township of King adoption of the 2016 Budgets & Business Plan, will be considered at the January 25, 2016 Council Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend. Budget information will be available for review at the Township of King Municipal Offices at 2075 King Road or on the Township web-site at www.king.ca as of Thursday, January 21, 2016.

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

Allan Evelyn, Director of Finance and Treasurer, aevelyn@king.ca
Jeff Parks, Manager of Budgets and Accounting, jparks@king.ca

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

(Note: If necessary, Committee of the Whole may retire into Closed Session to discuss Personnel Matters)

Kathryn Smyth
Director of Clerks/By-law Enforcement
Township Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICES



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's Annual

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, January 16th 2016

9:00 am to 11:00am

Trisan Centre
25 Dillane Dr, Schomberg

Join us for a Free Skate with Mayor Pellegrini from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

REMINDERS

Winter Break Camp (December 21-24 & December 28-31)

Join us for fun and games this winter break. Spend a day doing crafts, playing games, daily ice skating and outdoor fun (weather permitting). Winter Break Camp will be located at Nobleton Arena between 9am-4pm at a cost of \$31.00 per day. Morning Extended Care (7:00am-9am) and Afternoon Extended Care (4:00pm-6:00pm) is available at a cost of \$3.50 per extended care. Please note Afternoon Extended Care will not be offered on December 24th & 31st. For more information or to register contact Kenzie Van Wagner at 905-833-5321 ext. 5237, or email kvanwagner@king.ca.



Christmas Tree Pickup and Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

Christmas trees will be picked up on Monday, January 11th, 2016 only. Please remove all decorations, nails, tree stands and plastic tree bags. Crews will not dig out a tree or climb a snow bank to retrieve one, and trees over 6 feet in height must be cut in pieces.

Please note that waste collection scheduled for Friday, December 25th (Christmas Day) will be picked up one day later on Saturday, December 26th, and Friday, January 1st (New Year's Day) will be picked up on Saturday, January 2nd.

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Holiday Cooking:
Unattended cooking is the leading cause of household fires in Ontario. Remember to watch what you heat this holiday season.

Lights and Electronics:
Examine lights, electric decorations and extension cords for signs of wear and tear. Replace damaged electrical products with new ones. When purchasing electrical products, make sure they bear the mark of an accredited certification agency. Watch that children don't put electrical decorations and cords in their mouth. Keep an eye on pets to make sure they don't chew cords. Use lights in proper locations (i.e. only use indoor lights inside). Never remove the third-prong or grounding pin. Before going to bed or leaving the house, turn off/unplug all holiday lights and electrical decorations.

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



Waste Collection Calendar 2016

Look for your 2016 Waste Collection Calendar in the mail the week of December 14th!



Watch for your 2016 Directory to arrive at your door in the King Weekly Sentinel, just in time to shop local for the holidays.

Printed copies available at:

- Township office @ 2075 King Rd.
- King Heritage and Culture Centre @ 2920 King Rd.
- King's Library Branches
- Trisan Centre, King City Arena, Dr. William Lacey, Nobleton Arena



Please recycle this holiday season!



Hydro, salaries, debt driving up King budget

From Front Page

Blended with York Region's anticipated 2.85% increase, and a zero hike in the education levy, the blended increase will be around 2.27% or an extra \$142 per household (based on an average assessment of \$664,000).

Hydro costs (with the removal of subsidies), staff salaries and servicing the debt on water and sewer works have all driven up King's budget needs.

These, and other factors, have led to a roughly \$700,000 shortfall, or hit to this year's budget.

On the bright side, revenue from assessment growth is higher than anticipated, beyond the projected 6.3% range. That will have a positive impact on the budget as staff fine-tune it over the coming weeks.

Staff anticipates gross spending for 2016 to come in at \$33.4 million, with revenue of \$32.7 million. The 2.95% hike on the Township's part will see homeowners paying an extra \$67.

The capital budget, on the other hand, is seeing a massive increase in costs. The 2016 capital budget is pegged at \$12.3 million, compared to the \$7.2 million in 2015.

King is making an investment in its infrastructure, Evelyn noted, with roads taking the biggest chunk - almost \$7 million alone. Addressing the growth issue, he said that more than half of the growth-related costs are being covered

by development. Development charges do help pay for growth and developers are paying their share, he said.

"As a growing municipality it is critical to take advantage of increased sources of revenue that are directly linked to assessment growth (new homes, retail and commercial activities) by ensuring a significant percentage of every incremental dollar of revenue is aligned with investment in infrastructure having a useful life greater than 20 years," Evelyn wrote in his report. "This approach can ensure that the municipality will be able to maintain service level standards as population growth occurs, while also managing associated impacts on tax rates in a predictable and responsible manner."

To cover the capital costs, some \$6.89 million is coming from the development charges reserve fund, while another \$1.61 million is coming from other reserves. Another \$2.7 million is being taken from the operating budget.

This does leave the Township is pretty good shape and opens up some funding options.

Evelyn noted that going forward, staff will be looking at a reserve strategy to meet its long-term needs. Going into debt is a viable option that should be considered, he told the councillors.

With property taxes and water rates the only two local sources of revenue, borrowing at today's rates is not a bad idea.

Staff presented councillors with their lists of recommended and non-recommended projects for the coming year.

Councillors are aware that King can't offer a lot of "frills" given the current financial demands. Evelyn admitted there are a lot of "competing interests" and priorities among various departments.

Mayor Pellegrini didn't want to do any massive cutting or adding, until the financial picture was more clearly defined and presented by staff. Once that is known, there may be some leeway in getting some projects "moved up the ladder."

Upgrading software, a culvert replacement on the Caledon-King Town Line, various road projects and a boost to King's tourism budget were all discussed.

Evelyn pointed out that transferring funds destined for the reserve, for these needed capital projects, is an "appropriate approach."

Councillor Avia Eek stressed there are a lot of roads that need attention and she hopes some will be done sooner than later.

Development charges, a very significant source of revenue, dictates what the Township can afford in the long term, according to CAO Susan Plamondon. She pointed out the recently passed development charges bylaw is being appealed.

It was also noted that the Caledon-King Town Line has been identified to be "uploaded" to regional government (either York or Peel). It was suggested that these negotiations start soon, so King can potentially avoid some costly repairs.

A King City resident urged council to consider upgrading Station Road, Findlay Avenue and Burns Blvd. for the dangers they present to motorists and pedestrians. He said several cars have ended up on his front lawn for various reasons and he wanted to draw this to council's attention. He also urged staff to address traffic and parking woes on Station Road, suggested they be less lenient in dishing out tickets.

Staff will return with a budget document for approval at the Jan. 25, 2016 council meeting.

KFES remembers Harry Noakes

The community lost a dear friend in Harry Noakes. Noakes was one of King City's original firefighters, a pioneer in firefighting in the community.

According to Gerry Binsfield, the townsfolk at the time felt an urgent need to have a fire service in town, which was until then covered from Aurora. Thanks to the dedication of those first firefighters, the station has grown to what it is today.

Noakes had a plumbing service in the area and he and his son Steve probably serviced most of the residents at one time or another.

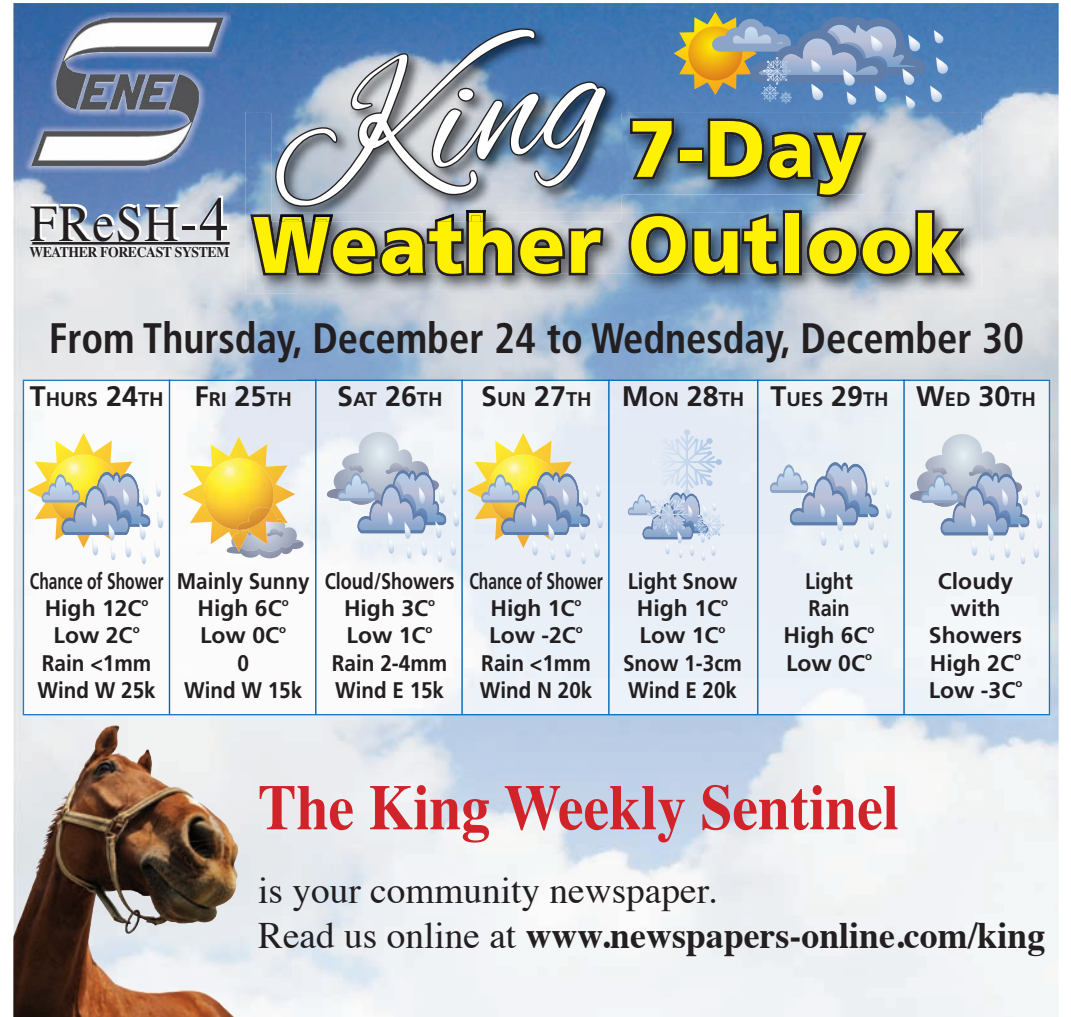
Harry was a familiar face at the fire station when alumni gathered on Friday evenings to play euchre twice each month.

"I always enjoyed talking to Harry about the history of firefighting in King City. He had some great tales of the fires and other emergencies that the originals attended," Binsfield said. "I am sure that today's firefighters have it easy compared to the originals due to advances in equipment, training and evolution in firefighting tactics.

"Another thing the originals knew how to do was have a good time after the dirty work was done. Harry and others demonstrated to me very early in my career that camaraderie and brotherhood was an important part of the volunteer service."

There may be a memorial service at some time in the near future.

The next time you are at Station 34 and see the plaques around the station remembering the original firefighters in King City, think of guys like Harry and thank them for passing down such a great service to the community.



King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, December 24 to Wednesday, December 30

THURS 24TH	FRI 25TH	SAT 26TH	SUN 27TH	MON 28TH	TUES 29TH	WED 30TH
Chance of Shower High 12C° Low 2C° Rain <1mm Wind W 25k	Mainly Sunny High 6C° Low 0C° 0 Wind W 15k	Cloud/Showers High 3C° Low 1C° Rain 2-4mm Wind E 15k	Chance of Shower High 1C° Low -2C° Rain <1mm Wind N 20k	Light Snow High 1C° Low 1C° Snow 1-3cm Wind E 20k	Light Rain High 6C° Low 0C°	Cloudy with Showers High 2C° Low -3C°

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Joy, Your Heart with
Love & Your Life
with Laughter.**

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The Royal LePage RCR Team

Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

~ Frank B. Kellogg

Consider the plight of the world's children

As we prepare to celebrate the holidays together and give thanks, many of us think about others, too.

We are welcoming the first wave of Syrian immigrants, leaving the conflict and strife behind.

Conflicts across the globe continue to put people, babies and children in grave danger.

According to UNICEF, more than 16 million babies were born in conflict zones in 2015 – one in eight of all births worldwide this year. This is a figure that underscores the vulnerability faced by an increasing number of children.

"Every two seconds, a newborn takes its first breath in the midst of conflict, often in terrifying circumstances and without access to medical care," said UNICEF executive director Anthony Lake. "Too many children are now starting their lives in extreme circumstances – from conflict to natural disasters, poverty, disease or malnutrition. Can there be a worse start in life?"

"In conflict-affected countries such as Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Iraq, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen, or on perilous journeys to escape fighting, newborn children and their mothers face enormous risks," said David Morley, UNICEF Canada president and CEO. "Canada has been a global champion for maternal, newborn and child health and for the education and protection of children in



Mark Pavilons

emergencies. Investments in 2016 will be critical to efforts to save the lives of the most vulnerable caught in these devastating conflicts."

Children are more likely to die before they reach their fifth birthdays and to experience extreme or toxic stress, which can inhibit their long-term emotional and cognitive development.

In addition to those born into conflict, more than 250 million – 1 in 9 – live in countries and areas in conflict and face enormous obstacles to their health, education and well-being. More than 200,000 children applied

for asylum in European Union countries in the first nine months of 2015, adding to the 30 million children across the globe forced from their homes by 2014 due to war, violence and persecution. More people are displaced now than at any time since World War II.

In South Sudan, up to 16,000 children are being used by armed groups and armed forces and 1,500 children have been killed in nearly two years of conflict.

The escalation of the conflict in Yemen has placed 9.9 million children in need of humanitarian assistance. Two million children cannot go to school and the threat of preventable diseases like diarrhea, measles and Polio are acute.

In the Central African Republic, more than one million children are in urgent need of assistance after three years of fighting. Around one third of the population has no access to safe drinking water and 41 per cent of children under five are chronically malnourished. But there is hope and UNICEF is making a difference. So far in 2015, more than 300 children, including several under 12 years old, have been released from armed groups in the country following a UNICEF-facilitated agreement by the groups' leaders to free all children in their ranks – the start of a process that we hope will result in the release of thousands of children associated with armed groups.

The violence in north-eastern Nigeria, caused by insurgent groups, has led to a humanitarian crisis stretching from Nigeria to Cameroon, Chad and Niger. A sharp increase in attacks by the armed group commonly known

as Boko Haram has uprooted over 500,000 children over the past months, bringing the total number of children on the run in northeast Nigeria and neighbouring countries to 1.4 million. Scores of girls and boys have been recruited by armed groups or subjected to violence, exploitation and abuse, and countless have been killed.

These are the harsh realities and countless humanitarian organizers are coming to their assistance. Many people argue that we should look after our own first, before extending aid to other countries. Perhaps.

But our children aren't dying of curable diseases, being killed by shrapnel or kidnapped and turned into hired guns.

My teenage son and daughter are heading off to the Dominican Republic in January, lending a hand where it's needed. They will be visiting some very desperate communities of Haitian sugar cane workers. They'll be handing out necessities – donations from members of our community – to help make their lives a little more endurable. For a while, at least.

I think beyond the lessons of such mission trips is one very important human factor – hope. By interacting with some generous teenagers from Canada, these people may just emerge with hope, likely the most powerful thing we have. For them, it's perhaps the only thing.

Here in Ontario, our little ones are snuggled in their beds, with visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads.

Santa may not be able to fit "world peace" under the tree, but that doesn't mean we can't hope for it.

Letter to the Editor

NVA offers its thanks

The Nobleton Village Association would like to thank all who participated in the Christmas In Nobleton event.

First and foremost, the entire Nobleton community for the tremendous outpouring of kindness in the toy donations for the Nobleton Toy Drive. The number of families that came out and enjoyed the evening was amazing.

To our sponsors who continuously show support for all things Nobleton: No Frills, Nobleton Feed Mill, Green Tractor, Nobleton Library, Tim Horton's, Mario's Bake Shop, Raffaele's Cantina, Cappuccino Bakery, BTN, Giosetta Belperio (Spectrum Realty), King Print and Design, The Office, Nobleton Lions Club, Nobleton and Kleinburg Rotary Club,

The fantastic student volunteers, under the guidance of Jim Streb. The puppet show put on at the Nobleton Library.

The NcNally family for the tree ornament drive. Alf Budweth for recruiting the beautiful farm tractor light display. The 30 businesses that participated in the gift bags and product and coupons. The food and drink vendors – No Frills, Mario's Bake Shop, Cappuccino Bakery, Raffaele's Cantina, Tom Horton's, and the Boyd Family.

Alloro Fine Foods for the decorations. Beasley Farms for the amazing horse display and music. Nobleton Public School and St. Mary's Catholic School for their choirs. Nobleton and King City Fire departments for the trucks and lighting. King Township Parks and Rec., and Tasha Veen for the sound system.

Ken Atkins for the wagon used for the stage. A special note to Mayor Pellegrini councillors David Boyd, Cleve Mortelliti and Avia Eek for coming out and supporting the community.

Oh, and a shout out to Santa, for putting big smiles on all the kids faces. Special thank you to the lady who came out and decorated the Santa stage.

Finally to the Nobleton Village Association committee for an extremely awesome job.

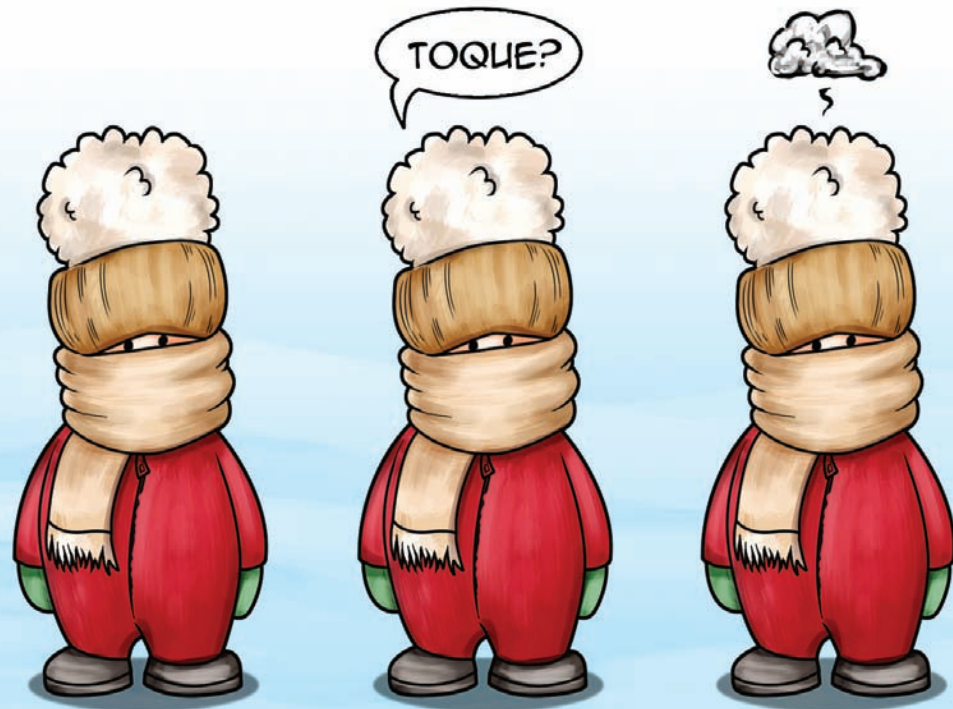
Patty Fleetwood
Nobleton Village Association

LESSONS FOR IMMIGRANT KIDS

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LAYERS.

WINTER IS ANOTHER LANGUAGE.

GO BEFORE HEADING OUT TO PLAY.



#WELCOMETOCANADA LA MONTAGNE cartoonink.com

Brainteaser



What has two banks but no money?

Last week's answer: An alphabet is a bet that can't be won!

King Township Trivia

The 4th King City Brownie Pack was formed in the fall of 1962.

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingweekly.com

Results from last week's poll:

Are you concerned that a high risk offender is living in the area?

a) Yes **63%**

b) No **37%**

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Did the lack of snow curtail your holiday plans?

a) Yes
b) No

So go to the website and cast a vote!

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<p>Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Limited, publisher of the King Weekly Sentinel and the New Tecumseth Times.</p>		<p>Published every Thursday</p>	

Some holiday hazards for your pets to avoid

While the holidays are a festive and fun time, there are many holiday hazards to your pets that you should be aware of. Avoiding these dangers is relatively easy and will make for a safer and more enjoyable holiday for everyone.

1. Holiday decorations and gift wrap: Tinsel and ribbon pose a serious danger to pets and are especially attractive to cats. If ingested, these stringy objects can get lodged in the intestine causing a linear foreign body which can be deadly. Veterinary care, and often surgery, is required in these cases. It's best to avoid tinsel in households with cats and ensure you keep ribbon put away.

Holiday ornaments, especially the round ones, can be very appealing as well. Pets can bite into these, with a risk of lacerations, choking or even a gastrointestinal foreign body. A good solution is to place these ornaments higher on the tree and to prevent access of your pets to your tree when you are not at home.

2. Chocolate: Most of us love chocolate, so it is no surprise that many dogs and cats love it as well. Chocolate contains caffeine and methylxanthines which can pose a serious hazard. The darker the chocolate and the smaller the pet, the higher the risk. Some pets will only suffer vomiting and diarrhea, but if enough chocolate is ingested, more serious risks including tremors, heart arrhythmias, seizures and even death may occur. Most people underestimate how resourceful their dogs can be regarding accessing chocolate.

Dogs can get into chocolates even if they are packaged or gift wrapped, so never place them under the tree!

3. Holiday foods: Most of us know that bones and fat trimmings are not

good for our pets, but pets often fall victim to these hazards when they get into the garbage after a festive meal or when holiday guests feed them.

Fatty foods can cause gastrointestinal upset or pancreatitis while bones can get lodged in the oral cavity, esophagus or further down the gastrointestinal tract. Other foods to avoid include grapes and raisins, many types of nuts and any sugar free gum. The best rule is to only feed your pet their regular diet.

4. Holiday plants. Poinsettias are mildly toxic, causing irritation to the mouth and stomach and are not usually life threatening. Lilies, on the other can be extremely deadly to cats causing kidney failure and I do not recommend keeping any lilies in a household with cats. Other holiday plants that can be toxic include holly and mistletoe. They both can cause vomiting and diarrhea, but mistletoe can also cause collapse and seizures and can be fatal.

5. Batteries. Electronics are popular holiday gifts and their associated batteries can be a major hazard. Both cats and dogs have been known to ingest these. Lithium button batteries are especially dangerous and can cause severe ulceration in the esophagus and stomach.

If your pet is exposed to any of these holiday hazards, you should contact your veterinarian or your local veterinary emergency clinic right away. They will be able to advise you and let you know whether your pet needs to be seen.

Dr. Ashley Boulbee is a veterinarian and the owner of Kingsdale Animal Hospital in King City. She lives in Schomberg with her husband, three children. They own a cat named Ziggy and a new puppy named Pippa.



Cooking and alcohol can be a very dangerous mix

With the holiday season upon us, we are entering one of the most festive times of the year. But it can also be a deadly time of the year.

King Fire & Emergency Services is urging everyone to pay special attention when cooking during the holidays, and to drink responsibly. Provincial statistics reveal that careless cooking is the number one cause of fires and the second leading cause of fatal fires.

"The hustle and bustle of the holidays can dramatically increase your risk of having a fire," said Fire Chief Jim Wall. "All too often, these fires are started by unattended cooking and in many cases alcohol is involved."

King Fire & Emergency Services would also like to remind everyone about the law requiring working smoke alarms on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas. Take a few minutes to test your smoke alarms and make sure everyone in the home knows exactly what to do if the smoke alarms sound in an emergency. Develop and practice a home escape plan with everyone in the home.

Enjoy a fire safe holiday season by following these tips:

- Stay in the kitchen when cooking. Cooking is a major cause of home fires, so don't leave the kitchen if there's something cooking on the stove. If a pot catches fire, don't try to move it. Cover the pot with a lid to smother the flames and turn off the burner.
- Keep things that can burn, such as cooking utensils and paper towels, a safe distance from the stove as they can easily ignite if they are too close.
- Drink responsibly and keep an eye on those who do not. Excessive alcohol consumption is a contributing factor in many residential fires.
- Install and maintain working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms outside all sleeping areas of the home. Smoke alarms also are required on every storey. Failure to comply with the smoke and carbon monoxide alarm requirements can result in a ticket for \$360 or a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for corporations.
- Develop and practice a home escape plan with everyone in the home.

*Provided by Shelley Langer
Public Educator/Fire Prevention Inspector*

Mayor, councillors host annual Pancake Breakfast

King Mayor Steve Pellegrini and members of council are inviting residents to the Township's annual Pancake Breakfast, to be held Saturday, Jan. 16 from 9-11 a.m. at the Trisan Centre in Schomberg. After this hearty breakfast, you can take part in a free family skate, along with Mayor Pellegrini from 11 a.m. to noon.

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Andrew Laird

"Probably."



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"If it's convenient."

Faces from King



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Groups weigh in on Greenbelt, growth report

By Mark Pavilons

Ontario has received recommendations on how to build more complete communities in the Greater Golden Horseshoe area – Canada’s fastest-growing urban region, the province’s economic engine and the home of the Greenbelt.

In the report, “Planning for Health, Prosperity and Growth in the Greater Golden Horseshoe: 2015 - 2041,” the Greater Golden Horseshoe is forecasted to grow by over four million more people over the next 25 years. The panel provides 87 recommendations about how to build communities in this fast-growing region with changing land use and housing needs, better access to services such as transportation, and better public spaces. The report recommends that the province grow the region in a responsible way by focusing on:

Investing in transit and infrastructure; supporting agriculture investments and viability; growing the Greenbelt; protecting the environment and natural heritage; creating jobs and responding to climate change.

The advisory panel, led by former federal Cabinet minister and former mayor of Toronto David Crombie, was asked to provide advice as part of the province’s co-ordinated review of land use plans in southern Ontario. The panel’s report is informed by public and stakeholder feedback from 17 town hall meetings, written submissions, research and by meetings with stakeholder groups and municipal officials.

Ontario will review the advisory panel’s recommendations and seek public input on any proposed amendments to the plans in early 2016.

The panel provided advice on how to improve: the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the Greenbelt Plan, the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and the Niagara Escarpment Plan.

The number of people living in the Greater Golden Horseshoe will grow from about 9.5 million people in 2015 to 13.5 million in 2041. It is Canada’s fastest-growing urban region.

The Greater Golden Horseshoe accounts for 70 per cent of Ontario’s GDP.

The Greenbelt contains over 800,000 hectares of protected land which includes Oak Ridges Moraine and the Niagara Escarpment.

“We hold a firm belief that our recommendations provide a strong foundation for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and beyond. While some of them may take longer to implement, it is essential the Province acts quickly in order to ensure the brightest future for everyone who lives and works in the region,” said Crombie.

Concerned Citizens of King Township (CCKT) is one of several key stewards of the Oak Ridges Moraine and Greenbelt and one of their mandates is environmental preservation and conservation.

“We’re pleased to see most of our key recommendations reflected in this document,” said Greg Locke, CCKT chair. “The report’s high-level support to curb sprawl, grow the Greenbelt, support agriculture, and address traffic congestion are all welcome to CCKT.”

CCKT supports the building of “complete communities,” communities, which includes protecting settlement areas from expanding; supporting a greater range of housing types within settlements and overall greater intensification of development within existing settlement areas. They also favour maintaining the size and diversity of employment areas to support robust local economies.

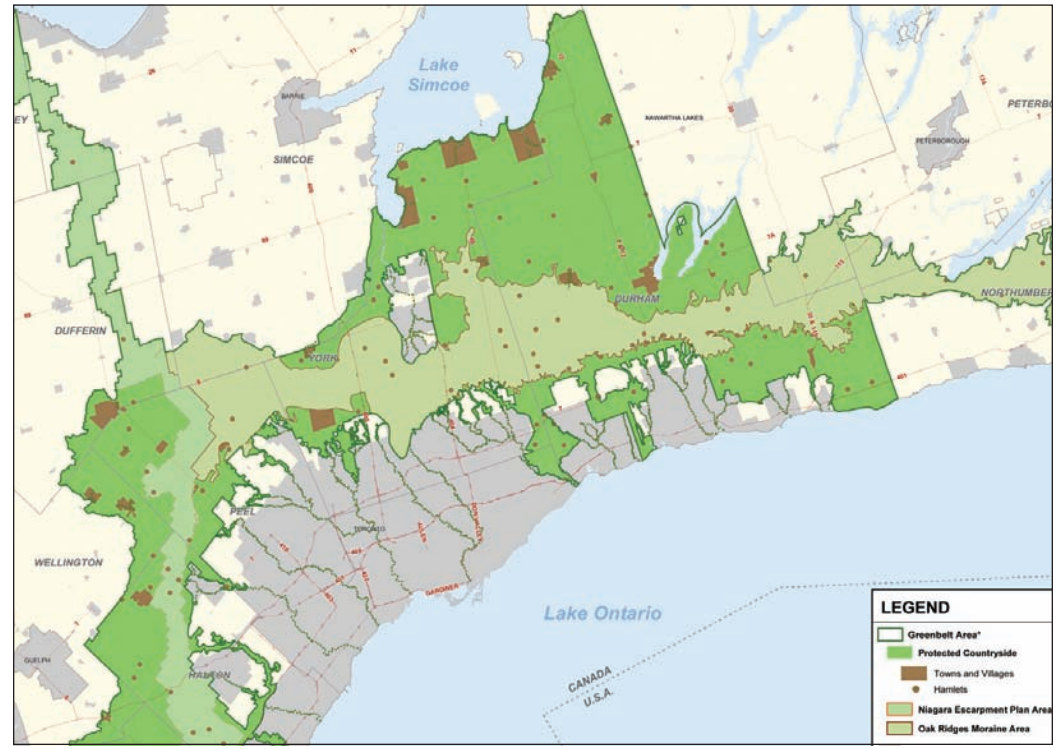
“We’re please so see support for the growth and increased protection for the Greenbelt for key watersheds and urban river valleys; management of excess soils from development sites; and for mitigating aggregate extraction balancing with its long term effects.

“We’re encouraged that the Province will maximize these key positive considerations. However, we’re particularly curious to see how the Province will enable more effective implementation of any revisions to the Plans.”

CCKT noted the province has not released monitoring and evaluation indicators. How can the provincial agencies measure the effectiveness of the plans without this key data?

CCKT believes in maintaining and strengthening a Greenbelt policy that prevents expansions or extensions of municipal water and sewage services within settlement areas that already do not have Great Lake or Lake Simcoe based services.

“We see this as a key requirement to prevent more damaging urban sprawl,” Locke said.



CCKT supports maintaining existing boundaries of settlement areas. Of late we have seen pressures within York Region to expand settlement boundaries areas of the provincial reviews. Intensification of the existing GTA urban centres with regular regional and local bus and train service should be the focus of growth, rather than new or expanded settlement areas located within the Greenbelt or Oak Ridges Moraine.

“We at CCKT are optimistic that with the Crombie Commission’s findings, the province will have an excellent means with which to evaluate and improve upon the excellence of the three environmental plans for years hence.”

Please visit cckt.ca for more.

The Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation (ORMF) is pleased that the report places major emphasis on the protection of water resources and natural heritage in the Greater Golden Horseshoe and specifically in the Oak Ridges Moraine, the Greenbelt Protected Countryside and the Niagara Escarpment.

The panel recommends developing a natural heritage system enhancement strategy for the four plans, including priorities and resources for securement, stewardship, restoration and enhancement of natural heritage features and functions – all key recommendations of the ORMF in its submission to the Province. Other key recommendations call for protection of source waters and integrated watershed planning across

municipalities and Conservation Authority boundaries to cover all four plan areas.

The ORMF is particularly pleased that the panel, chaired by Crombie, recommends the creation of an oversight entity, which would include the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation, for the four provincial plans (the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and the Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Plan). Among its responsibilities, this entity would oversee a funding mechanism to support grassroots efforts that contribute to the goals of the four plans.

“As a distinct and important ecological entity, the Oak Ridges Moraine requires dedicated management and a coordination body that will ensure we achieve the objectives of a strengthened Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan,” said Michael Jolliffe, provincial appointee to the ORMF board.

“The Oak Ridges Moraine should be preserved as a distinct entity with a clear focus on its unique geological, ecological, hydrological, recreational, social and economic attributes,” continued Jolliffe. “We’re very pleased that the advisory panel has recognized the Moraine’s importance. Overall, many of the recommendations reflect the ORMF’s input which was based on extensive research and stakeholder outreach.”

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ACROSS

1. Speech style
6. Heavy cord
11. Bridle control
15. Spokes
16. Tail
17. Slosh through surf
18. Old womanish
19. Tiny
20. Promise
21. Sting
22. Printing method
23. Genuflected
24. Solemn
27. Motorbike
30. Fasten with string
33. Staggering
35. Inhale and exhale
39. Elaborately adorned
41. Isolate
43. European deer
44. Stuffed chili
46. Object on radar
47. Detect
48. Particle
49. Cranky
51. Dutch ____ disease
52. Donated
54. Chief attraction
55. Subject to a levy

59. Period in history
60. Uses an ice rink
62. Knife maker
63. Lotion ingredient
65. Quick
67. Early bird?
68. Audio’s counterpart
70. Extend
72. Diced
75. Bar reorder
77. Atlantic coast
81. Continuously
82. Slanted font
84. Cheroot
85. Shortage
86. Shift back and forth
87. Desert plant
88. Hawaiian staple
89. Filch
90. “ ____ Blind Mice”

9. Santana’s “She’s ____ There”
10. Feminine sheep
11. Republic in Central Africa
12. Icicle holder
13. Golden calf, e.g.
14. Small amphibian
16. Shopping binge
23. Astute
25. Like a popular hot cereal
26. Gun type
28. Person who can read?
29. Brace
30. Crag
31. Ill will
32. Add spice to
34. One who works
36. Shiver
37. “Rebecca’s Garden” tool
38. Sniggler’s prey
40. Lily species
42. Literary initials
45. Petroleum number
47. Domicile
50. Informer
51. Ooze out

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Solution
on page 14

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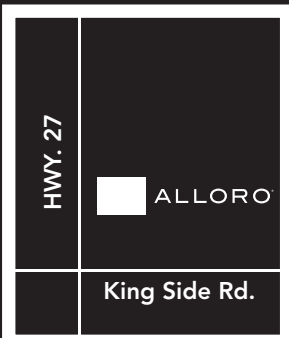
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Your Voice for Business in King



Reaching economic development goals in King

By Mark Pavilons

Bolstering the municipality's economic development is a very fluid concept. Affecting economic change requires partnerships on many levels.

That was one of the messages contained in an update on King's Economic Development Strategy, now two years into its five-year projections.

Approved in 2013, the strategy is intended to set the direction and pace for economic development and help shape the local business climate, through 2018.

According to the report by Jamie Smyth, economic development officer, there has been "significant progress" made on several recommended action items. These goals and objectives, he pointed out, are not isolated to his department, but overlap with strategies in other departments.

"Economic development programming for King cannot be conducted in a vacuum. The municipality needs to leverage the resources and economies of scale necessary to achieve economic sustainability by collaborating

and partnering with other organizations," Smyth wrote.

The strategy was implemented before the major announcement by Magna International to consolidate and relocate their international head office to King. This alone will have a major impact on King's economy when the more than 600 employees arrive in 2018 to their new home.

"This will have significant economic impacts on King City and the Township at large and create synergistic opportunities for suppliers and like minded businesses to invest and establish a presence in King," Smyth commented.

He further noted that the mid-term review of the strategy in 2016 will ensure the document remains relevant and on target to achieve the goals. It's recommended that staff undertake a thorough review and propose refinements to the strategy by fall of next year.

The collaborative approach is demonstrated with some key measures.

In 2013, King became a member of the Headwaters Horse Country initiative, a three-year partnership agreement that

promotes the region as a destination and centre of equine excellence. This summer's Pan Am Games provided a lot of exposure for the region.

King plans to maintain its relationship with the Headwaters Equine Leadership Group, and staff will be looking at options to build on past successes.

Just recently, it was announced that Vianet will be building a high-speed Internet cable through King and this will have a very positive impact locally.

The King City Library received their connection through a York Region contract, exponentially expanding local services.

The King Campus of Seneca College is poised for a major expansion and when the first phase is complete, it will provide space for more than 5,000 stu-

dents. By 2021, enrollment there is expected to top 7,000.

New business partners such as Coppa's and McDonald's, expected to arrive in 2016, have praised King Township and its staff for their cooperation.

Councillor Avia Eek praised Smyth for his work, noting all the pieces are coming together in King. York is a "big player" in the agri-food sector and Eek is optimistic positive economic forces will help move this sector forward as well.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini was pleased with what has been accomplished in such a short period of time.

"Just look at the stuff we're doing in economic development in this Township," he said.

York budget tops \$2.8 billion

York Regional Council approved The Regional Municipality of York's \$2.8 billion 2016 budget, which includes \$783 million in funding for capital projects and \$1.99 billion to deliver high-quality services to the Region's residents and businesses.

"York Region's 2016 budget aligns with our Council-approved 2015 to 2018 Regional Strategic Plan and addresses our responsibility to manage \$9.5 billion in infrastructure assets such as roads, service facilities and buildings," said York Region chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. "Our business plan balances the need to provide more services to our residents with the ability to pay for them, which we have achieved, while keeping the tax increase consistent with the outlook in last year's budget."

The 2016 budget includes a 2.85 per cent tax increase, representing an additional \$63 for an average residential property in York Region. King is working on its budget with a current 2.95% increase. If passed in January, the blended tax increase would be 2.27% or \$142 for every King household (based on the average assessment).

"The 2016 budget continues to address the Region's mandate to grow," said Richmond Hill Mayor David Barrow, chair of the Region's Finance and Administration. "At the same time, we are taking prudent steps to manage future capital needs."

Budget Highlights

- 17 York Regional Police officers and five civilian staff to address population growth, provide responsible and sustainable service and continue focus on changing demographics within the Region.
- 20 Paramedic Services staff to respond to increasing call volumes.
- \$721 million to build, expand, maintain and improve roads from 2015 through to 2018.
- \$1.6 billion investment in transit infrastructure with federal and provincial partners from 2016 to 2020.
- \$2.3 billion in water and wastewater infrastructure over the next 10 years.

New water and wastewater user rates passed by council in October 2015 ensure user rate revenues will fully recover the costs of maintaining and providing water and wastewater services by 2021.

Outstanding debt will peak at \$2.9 billion in 2017, which is \$2.3 billion less and three years earlier than the peak debt forecasts from 2013.

For 15 years, York Region has consistently maintained a strong credit rating. In 2015, Moody's reaffirmed its AAA rating and Standard & Poor's reaffirmed its AA+ rating. This allows the Region and our nine area municipalities to have excellent access to capital markets and finance debt at the lowest possible cost.

Additional Income		Amount
April	2,000	2,000
December	3,000	3,000
January	5,000	5,000
Total		10,000

Planned Expenses		Amount
November	450	450
December	600	600
January	300	300
January	880	880
Total		2,230

Annual Budget by Month					
March	6,610	April	9,915	May	13,220
June	7,000	July	7,000	August	16,525
September	0	October	7,000	November	21,830
December	3,695	January	0	February	7,000
March	0	April	3,695	May	2,000
June	0	July	3,695	August	3,695
September	15	October	0	November	0
December	13,220	January	16,525	February	3,695

OPA bid refused by council

By Mark Pavilons

An apparent lack of willingness to come to the table by the applicants led King council to nix a zoning and Official Plan amendment recently.

Despite general support from staff, councillors felt there were some outstanding issues. As well, a lack of action on helping to preserve access to the renowned SHIFT sculpture, led to some opposition from councillors.

The proposal from Hickory Hills Investments is to create two, rural non-farm residential lots on the west side of Dufferin Street, south of King Road.

The proposed severances are within the King City Settlement area, while the rest of the property is designed Oak Ridges Moraine Natural Core Area.

Staff have been meeting with applicants to address a number of issues. The review of the applications remains ongoing.

Peter Iaboni, of King's Heritage Advisory Committee, and Friends of SHIFT, said they've been working to obtain a secure access to the sculpture so the public can enjoy this feature. The public wants this sculpture preserved, but there's been a lack of commitment from the property owner, he said.

"Where's the community spirit?" he asked. He asked council to "proceed with caution."

Resident Susan Beharriell opposed the bid, pointing to some significant wetlands in the area. "This bid doesn't support nature," she said.

Councillor Cleve Mortelliti said there's a strong community passion for keeping the sculpture.

Councillor Debbie Schaefer said there seems to be too many issues yet to be resolved. She's disappointed that the owner won't pass on the buffer lands to the Township or Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini said they've been trying to work with the applicants, but they "don't want to come to the table."

York receives \$2.2 million for ice storm damages

York Region is receiving \$2,239,631.28 from the province to cover eligible response and recovery costs that were incurred as a result of the 2013 ice storm, such as setting up warming centres, and the cleanup of debris.

"This substantial aid for the regional municipality finalizes our government's commitment and determination to fully support our community with 100% of the eligible costs to cope with this severe weather event. We will always remember the extraordinary impact of the 2013 Ice Storm and the equally extraordinary response efforts made by our local governments and caring neighbours," added Michael Chan, MPP Markham-Unionville.

Ontario announced in February 2014 that it would pay 100 per cent of eligible disaster response and recovery costs to municipalities and conservation authorities severely affected by the December 2013 ice storm.

*Wishing You a Joyful Holiday Season
and a Happy New Year!*



Deb Schulte MP for King-Vaughan

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From all the Staff at the King Weekly Sentinel

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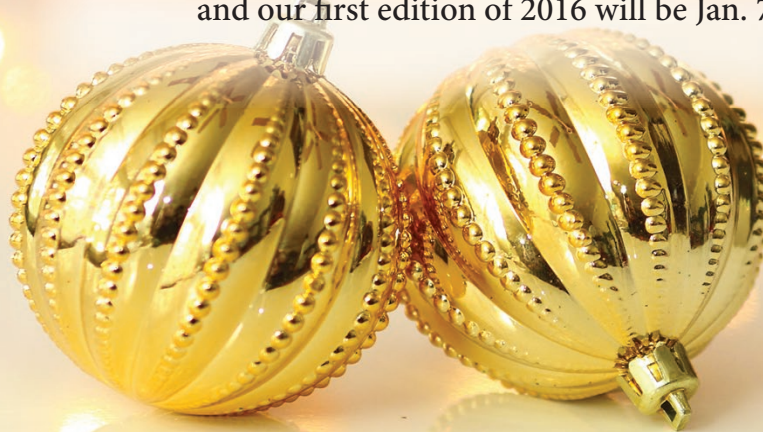
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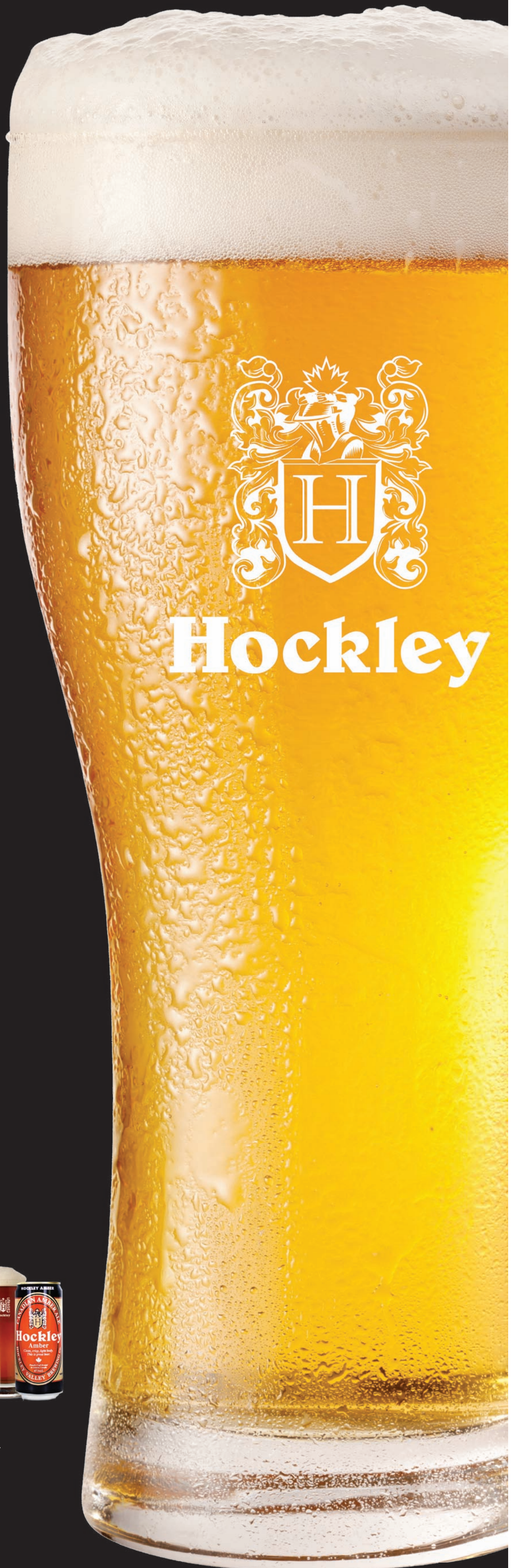
Closed Dec. 25th to Jan. 3rd, 2016
to spend the holidays with our families.

We re-open Mon., Jan. 4th at 9 a.m.

We will be publishing a year in review edition on Dec. 31st,
and our first edition of 2016 will be Jan. 7th.



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Ontario backs off on review of GTA West Corridor

By Mark Pavilons

Word that the province has suspended its work on the proposed GTA West corridor comes good news to opponents.

The Ministry of Transportation has suspended its work on the environmental assessment of the Greater Toronto Area West Highway Corridor (GTA West). The project will be reviewed and an update will be provided in spring of 2016.

It appears the province is rethinking its plan for a thoroughfare.

The province is making investments in public transit and transportation infrastructure to help manage congestion, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support the province's economy. With new emerging technologies and a steadfast commitment to protect our natural heritage in Ontario, including the Greenbelt, it is essential to have a

forward looking plan when it comes to relieving congestion.

The Ministry of Transportation extended its thanks to those who have participated in previously held public information centres as part of the environmental assessment process. No further public information centres will be scheduled at this time.

"Having the right transportation network in place that builds on our climate change commitments, our ability to embrace new and emerging technologies and the sharing economy, will help us plan for a flexible transportation system that adapts to our quickly changing landscape and positions our province for success for generations to come," said Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation.

This comes as welcome news to Environmental Defence.

"Investing in a redundant mega-highway over much needed transit is out of

step with the Ontario government's commitment to tackle climate change and create livable cities," according to Susan Lloyd Swail.

"The proposed route of the GTA West Highway – also known as Highway 413 – cuts through local farms, forests and rivers, as well as a portion of the Greenbelt. If built, it would encourage more car use, enable further sprawl and contribute to traffic congestion in the GTHA that damages the economy, our health and quality of life. Because of its high risks, the citizen and community movement to stop the 413 is growing. Transportation Minister Del Duca is doing the right thing by taking a second look at the need for this highway.

"In order to make a meaningful dent on carbon emissions, the province's future transportation infrastructure investments, including public transit and roads, needs to be aligned with key employment and urban growth centres. Another highway on the fringe of the GTHA would add to Ontario's emissions, and is inconsistent with sustainable growth. Investing the estimated \$4 billion cost for this highway in public transit will get more people moving across the region and is the healthier choice for the environment."

"We applaud the Ontario government for making the difficult, but necessary decision to suspend the GTA West Corridor project," said Burkhard Mausberg, CEO Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation. "With an estimated \$5 billion price tag and no research to show that our region's crippling congestion will be reduced, it's time for another look at this project in the context of the Province's review of the Greenbelt Plan."

Mausberg added there is nearly universal recognition that we need to build more livable communities and better align growth and infrastructure investments. This should not include the construction of an expensive and unnecessary 400-series highway – paving over sources of local food, the water systems that clean our drinking water, and the forests that filter the air we breathe.

"We look forward to hearing from the Province regarding the next steps in the review of this project," he added.

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (ORMLT) and the King Vaughan Citizen Coalition (KVCC) are thrilled with this decision and applauds Minister Steven Del Duca and MTO for listening to the local community throughout this process.

KVCC wishes to praise the provincial government and especially Minister Steve Del Duca for his recent proposal to better understand the Sensitive Protected Countryside of section 7 and of course "our beloved homes and community."

"We are delighted that MTO and the minister have considered the environmental impact of the proposed highway seriously and were willing to listen to

our concerns," said the Hon. Hal Jackman, ORMLT Trust Ambassador. The Land Trust protects ecologically sensitive properties within the study area that are protected through the Federal Ecological Gifts Program.

"Over the past year, we've been meeting with all levels of government including the Federal Ministry of the Environment, MTO staff, consultants, and local politicians. This decision demonstrates the government's commitment to protecting green space in Ontario," he added.

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust protects 50 properties across the Moraine and Greenbelt, ensuring the source of drinking water for much of southern Ontario is safe.

King Vaughan Citizen Coalition is a group of citizens from King and Vaughan. This group of enthusiastic homeowners and landowners reside on or near King Vaughan Road at Highway 27.

Citizen contributions honoured in park names

By Mark Pavilons

The contributions by local residents will forever be recognized as King council approved three new Nobleton park names recently.

Tasca Park is located at 49 Parkheights Trail; Budweth Park is at 40 Oliver Emerson Ave., and Kennedy Park will be in the new Tomlinson Gardens subdivision.

The Township has a street name inventory and requested use of local names having significant contributions are reviewed. Signage for the these parks will be put up in the future.

Tasca Park is in recognition of Joe and Bernice Tasca and the contributions they have made through the Nobleton Community Hall, Nobleton Lions and Nobleton Women's Institute. They have spent many hours volunteering in the community, ensuring Nobleton is a better place to live. Joe and Bernice have been an integral part of the community for decades. The park is located on the former farm property owned and operated by the Tascas.

Budweth is a well known name in the community. The park is named after Alfred Hermann Budweth, a pillar in the community. He operated the Nobleton Feed Mill, a mainstay in the community. He served several terms on King council and was known for his interactions with residents.

Kennedy Park is named after Charles Ross Kennedy, who served over 36 years as a member of the Nobleton volunteer fire department, earning the respect of his peers and the community, while rising to the rank of fire chief. Charles made tireless efforts to ensure Nobleton was a safe place to live and work.

Councillor David Boyd said these individuals are definitely pillars in Nobleton. "Their efforts to give back make them worthy of the recognition," he said.

"So many give so much," commented Mayor Steve Pellegrini.



Special visit from Smiles First

Smiles First Dental & Specialty Clinic in Nobleton showed some dental team spirit at Country Kids Nobleton Childcare Centre. They came together to share a common love for the holidays and the magical festive spirit of Santa Claus for our children. As the sound of Santa's bells rung, the class was filled with Christmas cheer and excitement. The children were able to take a picture with Santa Claus and his Elf, as well as interacting with the children to provide educational hands on experience for oral health education!



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KING CITY SENIORS CENTRE'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday, January 8, 2016 at the Seniors Centre

The meeting will commence at 2:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to come out and participate in the proceedings, which will include the installation of the Centre's 2016 Board of Management. The afternoon will also include a talk on astronomy by guest speaker Paul Delaney.

For further information, contact Carol Field at 905-833-3324



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Offer is not raincheckable. †† Until January 4, 2016, receive 4.59% APR purchase financing on new 2015 Ford Fiesta/Fusion/Escape/Explorer models for up to 72 months, to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: 2015 Ford Explorer \$43,655 (after \$3,500 down payment or equivalent trade-in, and Manufacturer Rebates of \$4,250 deducted) purchase financed at 4.59% APR for 72 months, monthly payment is \$646.23 (the sum of twelve (12) monthly payments divided by 26 periods gives payee a bi-weekly payment of \$298), interest cost of borrowing is \$6,648.78 and total to be repaid is \$56,031.44. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebates have been deducted. Down payment may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. All purchase finance offers include freight, air tax and PPSA charges but exclude applicable taxes and licensing. † Until January 4, 2016, lease a new 2015 Ford Focus/C-MAX for up to 48 months, and get 0.99% APR on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. For example, Lease 2015 Ford C-MAX SEL with a value of \$29,701.52 (after \$2,500 down payment or equivalent trade in and Manufacturer Rebates of \$750 deducted) at 0.99% APR for up to 48 months with an optional buyout of \$12,221.64, monthly payment is \$381.34, total lease obligation is \$17,479.88, interest cost of leasing is \$824.64. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebates have been deducted. Offers include freight, air tax, and PPSA but exclude applicable taxes. Additional payments required for optional features, license, and insurance. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Some conditions and mileage restriction of 80,000km for 48 months applies. Excess kilometrage charges are 12¢/per km for Fiesta, Focus, C-Max, Fusion and Escape; 16¢/per km for E-Series, Mustang, Taurus, Taurus-X, Edge, Flex, Explorer, F-Series, MKS, MKX, MKZ, MKT and Transit Connect; 20¢/per km for Expedition and Navigator, plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change, see Fines for details. ± Comparison payments are for reference purposes only and are calculated as follows: the monthly payment is annualized (multiplied by 12) and then divided by the comparison period (26 for bi-weekly, 52 for weekly). For example (\$381.33 x 12) / 26 bi-weekly periods = \$176. /52 weeks = \$88. ©2015 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under license. © 2015 Ford Motor Company of Canada. Limited. All rights reserved.

Hit the ice in holiday bonspiel with curlers

Schomberg Should Know

Wendy-Sue Bishop
905-590-0054
wsue52@hotmail.com

Curling Club holiday bonspiel

No need to hang up your curling brooms and curling gear, just yet, for the holidays, because there is one more Bonspiel being planned in Santa's workshop!

Come out and curl with fellow club members, non-member friends, and family at this fun club level Holiday Spiel on Sunday, Dec. 27.

Enter as a team or as an individual and any individuals will be placed on teams by the spiel organizers. This spiel is open for all, whether you are an experienced curler or a new curler. Any equipment will be available, if needed.

There will be door prizes, team prizes, individual prizes and even themed costume prizes!

Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection

The Dufferin Marsh Association is pleased to announce the launch of their new website. Visit www.DufferinMarsh.ca. There is information on events, programs, meetings and more. In addition, they have launched their own bird feeder trail program with information on birds, feeders, bird feed and local birding events; as well as an opportunity for you to be involved in mapping and sharing your observations on back yard birds. Have a look and get involved.

Schomberg United Church

Schomberg United Church Christmas Eve service starts at 7 with a service of Lessons and Carols. There will be a children's story and scripture readings to tell us the stories of old. The service ends with the singing of Silent Night.

On Dec. 27 at 9:30 a.m. we will have our service at Schomberg United Church where we will sing more carols and hear more of the Christmas story. The last Sunday service of each month

is usually held at the Kitchen-Breedon Manor, but on this occasion we will be at the church so that everyone can enjoy the seasonal decorations.

St. Mary Magdelene By John Arnott

Out of the darkness a child's voice singing the first verse of "Once in Royal David's City" sweetly dispels the silence. Other voices join to complete this 19th century carol.

Now the altar candles are lit and a flame from one is carried down into the nave so that candles held by the congregation may be lighted. Soon the whole church is filled with light. And the lovely Anglican Service of Lessons and Carols has begun. There follows the Bidding Prayer and one or more carols after each Bible lesson. Soloists and instrumentals are included.

The Anglican Parish of Lloydtown held its Lessons and Carols service this past Sunday, Dec. 20 in St. Mary Magdelene's Church in Schomberg.

In 1878 a carol service in Truro Cathedral Cornwall, England was held late Christmas Eve to replace the tradition of having the choir sing in the streets. By 1880 the Bishop of Truro Edward Benson had redesigned this service to include 9 Bible readings from both Old and New Testaments documenting the

advent or coming of Christ beginning with "the fall from grace" in Genesis and ending in the Gospel of John.

Thus the tradition of Lessons and Carols was born. It is said by irreverents the real idea behind the service was to keep men out of the pubs on Christmas Eve but that has always been denied!

The first service of the Feast of Nine Lessons and Carols as it was originally called was 10 p.m. Christmas Eve with 400 in attendance in a huge temporary wooden structure on the cathedral grounds serving a place of worship as the new cathedral was still under construction. In 2013 when Truro Cathedral recreated the original 1880 service more than 1,500 attended.

Lessons and Carols soon became a popular event and churches not just Anglican all over Britain and then the Christian world began to hold similar services but not always on Christmas Eve.

While different churches may make slight changes such as having organ preludes, some contemporary songs readings from non biblical sources only 7 lessons and short benedictions [blessings] after each reading, the original format is usually unchanged always beginning in darkness with "Once in Royal David's City."



Santa stops in for breakfast

Santa Claus stopped by Nobleton United Church for the church's annual Breakfast with Santa.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte



Giving students at Nobleton Public School included (l to r) Paige Kelly, Sarah Ashworth, Zachary Cafaro, Tia Suomela.

Nobleton PS students raise money for some local and global charities

Student council members of Nobleton Public School sold candy canes Dec. 8 and 14 to raise money for one local and one global charity.

The Nobleton Christmas Drive is the local charity recipient of \$304.00. By now, Mary (Mimi) Buchana-Lyons and the wonderful work she has been doing for 20 years in this community should not be news to readers. This is the 20th year the drive has provided warm clothing, food and toys to children and families of need in King Township.

Sleeping Children Around the World is the global charity the students are donating \$304.00 to. Sleeping Children Around the World, (SCAW), distributes bedkits to children in a ratio of 50% girls and 50% boys, who are aged 6 to 12, and are from any culture and any religion. Every child should be able to get a good night's sleep. The contents of a bedkit vary from country to country, but each \$35 kit always contains a mat or mattress, pillow, sheet, blanket, mosquito net, clothes, towel and school supplies.

Bedkits are manufactured or purchased overseas by trustworthy organizations and individuals who use their local knowledge and expertise to pick the best bedkit items for the children living in that area. All bedkits are assembled in the country of distribution to eliminate shipping costs and to stimulate the economy.

SCAW leads a 100% charitable global community of volunteers and partners who have transformed the lives of over 1.4 million children in developing countries through a good night's sleep. For more information please go to www.scaw.org.

Nobleton PS's Eco Club would like to thank Rona Schomberg for their generous donation of seven birdhouse kits. The Eco Club will be assembling and decorating the birdhouses in the late winter/early spring and placing them in the school's woodland-marsh area just in time for nesting.

NEXT

King for Refugees Meeting

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High-scoring weekend has Cougars roaring

By JAKE COURTEPATTE

Cougars maul Hawks

The holiday season just got a little more cheery for the Junior C Schomberg Cougars.

Following a less-than-ideal fall stretch, back-to-back wins have the Cougars back in the midst of the Georgian Mid-Ontario Hockey League standings heading into a short Christmas break.

A crucial home game against the Erin Shamrocks on Thursday could mean the difference between sixth and eighth place, a factor the Cougars clearly considered.

Kiefer McIntosh brought his point streak to five games by opening the scoring on the power play, with Vince Decastro breaking a nine-game drought to lead 2-0 after one period.

Erin added two in the second, but a goal from Connor Whiteside kept the Cougars ahead going into the final frame. Four straight goals from Evan Woodhead, Derek Neilly, Linden Sturrock, and another from Whiteside had Schomberg cruise to a 7-2 victory.

Justin Formenton added four assists.

In Caledon East on Sunday, the Cougars faced a surprisingly undisciplined Golden Hawks squad, a team that can usually be found on the positive side of special teams play.

It was Caledon who struck first, and second, on the power play, when Martin Lauzon was beat on a rebound with Ryley Egerton in the box. Midway through the first period, however, that was the end of Caledon's offence.

With time running out in the first, JP Crescenzi squeaked one in short side past Sam Procopio to break the shut-out. He went to the box minutes later, but his teammates went end-to-end on the ensuing face-off for a Ryley Egerton goal shorthanded to make it 2-2 after the first.

Heavy pressure in the second had the Hawks scrambling, with Carter LeRoux eventually spinning and firing underneath Procopio's pad to give the Cougars the lead.

Caledon had a glorious opportunity to tie the game midway through the period, earning a full 5-on-3 power play when

Lauzon knocked the net off during a breakaway attempt for Caledon's Daniel Cafagna, while Brendan Spencer picked up a slashing call on the same play.

The Hawks hit two posts, but no goal. Randy Chen, a workhorse for the Hawks night after night, was kicked for abuse of officials just seconds later.

On the ensuing power play, LeRoux buried another rebound to make it 4-2, prompting the pulling of Procopio for Brendan Macham.

Schomberg added another on the power play with James Pitsadiotis in the box early in the third, before Caledon captain Nicholas McNutt was also bounced for showing his frustration.

Egerton and Liam Spurgeon both added empty-netters for Schomberg, for a final score of 7-3.

The win was a refreshing one on the road, a situation the Cougars have not handled well so far this year. Their third road win of the season brings their record to 12-15-2, good for sixth place in the nine-team league.

With a week between games, the Cougars are back in action this Sunday facing the Shamrocks on the road. A thinly-spread holiday schedule has them back on Erin ice one week later, taking on the Shamrocks for the third time in four games.

The next home game is not on tap until Jan. 7, when the Cougars host the Huntsville Otters at the Trisan Centre.

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



Martin Lauzon makes the save on Caledon's Daniel Cafagna in the first period of Schomberg's 7-3 win over the Golden Hawks at Caledon East Arena on Sunday.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte



King United SC U13 boys start with a blast

With the indoor soccer league under way, the King United Soccer Club has entered two under 13 boys' teams (Royals and United) in the Hersey Centre's indoor league. In this league, the teams will be facing clubs they have never played before such as the Brampton Blast, Croatia Norval, Clarkson Comets and Oakville Soccer Club.

King City United is a newly formed team that are playing in the 2nd division.

In their first game, United tied 1-1 against Erin Mills SC 1. United's Nicolas Kubiak scored the game's first goal. The team fought very hard throughout the match but a late penalty kick goal by Erin Mills SC 1 tied the game up.

In their second game, United played a more experienced Islington Rangers team that have been playing together for a number of years. After trailing 1-0, United had a number of good chances to tie the game but a late goal from Islington made the final 2-0.

United's third match was on Dec. 12 and goalkeeper Lukasz Figlarz posted his first shutout in a 3-0 win against the North Mississauga Panthers. Marco LaVerde, Shamar Paterson and Nicolas Kubiak scored for United. The team currently has 4 points with a 1-1-1 record and are in fourth place in their division as they await their next match on January 2 against Milton Magic B.

The King City Royals are playing in the 1st division and won their first game of the season 3-1 against the Clarkson Comets. Although the Royals dominated the entire game, they trailed 1-0 at the half before scoring three unanswered goals in the last seven minutes for the win. Zack Donsky, Lucas Schiavello and Kahyl Jadavji were the goal scorers.

In their second game on Dec. 12, the Royals played Malton United and dominated most of the game to take a 3-0 lead. Malton United pressed hard during the last seven minutes of the game and scored two goals off free kicks but the Royals held on for a 3-2 win. Andre Dikho scored two goals while Kahyl Jadavji added the other on a penalty kick.

The Royals have 6 points with a 2-0 record and currently tied in second place with a game in hand. Their next opponent will be Brampton Blast Blue on Jan. 2.

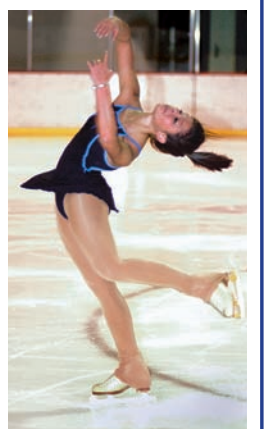
Good luck to both King City U13 boys' teams in their upcoming matches. If you are interested in trying out for either of these teams you can email your contact at kusc2003boys@hotmail.com as they are looking for a couple of key players.

Coaches & Parents:

We want to hear from you!

Send us your game reports, tournament results, etc. for Football, Hockey, Skiing, Figure Skating, Curling, Basketball, Volleyball, and anything else sports-related that's going on in your community.

Email Mark at editor@kingsentinel.com



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King Weekly Sentinel



Black belts from Purdy

On Dec. 5, the Purdy Center for the Arts presented two candidates before the Grading Council at the Canadian Naha-Te Goju Karate Association (CNGK) Black Belt grading. This grading represented another milestone for PCFA with both candidates receiving passing grades for the rank of Shodan. The students performed traditional and modern Kata, Kobudo (weapons), Bunkai (practical application of Kata), Board Breaking, and Kumite (sparring). Congratulations to Jesse Vella (age 17) and Calen Ancheta (age 16) from King Township for their success in receiving their first degree Black Belt! Any information regarding classes at the PCFA can be found at www.purdycenter.com. Sensei Blair Purdy (centre) joined Vella (left) and Ancheta.



Minor atoms help Santa

The minor atom AA NobleKing Knights dropped off handfuls of toys for the King City Fire Department's holiday toy drive on Saturday.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

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708 DEATHS

In Loving Memory of Linda Hawkyard
Linda passed away peacefully at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto on Sunday December 13th, 2015 at the age of 68 after a 3 year battle with cancer. At Linda's request, cremation has taken place and no memorial service or funeral will be held. Linda was known for her lifelong commitment to her love of animals, specifically her beloved Saluki sight-hounds who are appreciated by the Saluki community worldwide. Linda also owned Beeton's grooming parlour - Beauty for the Beast, servicing a wide-range of long standing clients in the region. Linda is survived by nieces Jennifer Hawkyard and Katy Rebrovich.

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708 DEATHS

MICHAEL BLAINE GAGNON of King City passed away peacefully on December 17th, 2015 with his loving family at his side. He is deeply mourned by his children Jay Gagnon (Lindsey Gagnon) and Lori Gagnon (Andrew Briggs), and by his adoring Grand daughters Josephine Briggs and Masyn Gagnon. Beloved brother of the late Gerald Gagnon, Shirley Barbe (late Ernest), the late Carl (late Roberta) and Arlene Bellamy (Ken). Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his many nieces, nephews and life-long friends. Mike was a loving, kind and generous family man. He was a survivor and an inspiration to many others battling cancer. He will be sorely missed by all. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday January 2, 2016 @ 1 pm at Thompson Funeral Home 530 Industrial Parkway South, Aurora. Reception to follow. In lieu of flowers donations to the King City Lions Club would be appreciated.

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708 DEATHS

Milligan: James "Jim" Noble,
Suddenly but peacefully, at his home on Sunday December 20, 2015. Jim Milligan at the age of 66 years, beloved husband of Nancy Milligan (nee: McKellar). Loving father of Katie (Robert Fedderson), and Mark. Dear brother of Bob and Margaret Milligan, and brother-in-law of Jim and Gail McKellar, and Bonnie Crawford. Lovingly remembered by his nephew and nieces: Andrew (Sarah), Mary Anne (Paul), April (Raj), Shaney, and great-grand nieces: Audrey and Grace. Predeceased by his parents Joe and Ruth, and fondly remembered by his mother-in-law Louise McKellar (the late Andy). Sadly missed by Farley and Tux. Forever in the hearts of his extended family and many friends. Rested at Rod Abrams Funeral Home 1666 Tottenham Rd., Tottenham 905-936-3477 on Monday December 21, 2015 from 6-9pm and Tuesday December 22, 2015 from 2-4 and 7-9pm. Funeral service was held on Wednesday December 23, 2015 at 11am in St. John's Church (5268 6th Line Tottenham). For those who wish donations to Spinal Cord Injury Ontario (www.sciontario.org) or St. John's Church (Box #807, Tottenham ON L0G 1W0) would be appreciated by the family. www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com

Remember your loved ones in a special way...
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709 IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Betty Simpson
March 21, 1926 – September 18, 2014
They say there is a reason
They say that time will heal
But neither time nor reason
Will change the way we feel
For no one knows the heartache
That lies behind our smiles
No one knows how many times
We have broken down and cried
We want to tell you something
So there won't be any doubt
You're so wonderful to think of,
But so hard to live without.
We love and miss you Mom

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In Loving Memory of Dad, Mom and our brother Jim Fleming - thinking of them at Christmas and always! Life goes on with many changes, Joy and sorrow, Smiles and tears, But with love you are all remembered. With passing of the years, We can't have old days back, When we were all together, But secret tears and loving thoughts, Will be with us forever. Always loved and remembered
Joan, Richard & Lois, Willy & Deb, Paul & Gladys and families.

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Please Recycle This Newspaper

Christmas comes early for champion curlers

By SHELLEE MORNING

'Tis the season to be jolly, and that is exactly what members of the King Curling Club were saying as the club's social leagues wrapped up the first half of the season with their first round of playoffs.

Christmas came early for Team Gerrits during the Wednesday League after a close game against friend and rival Chris Welch.

After giving up a steal in the first end, Welch re-bounded in the 2nd collecting 2 and for the go ahead point. Gerrits took 2 in the 3rd regaining the lead, but Welch succeeded with 2 more of their own in the 4th. In the 5th, Vice Barry Glen of Team Gerrits executed both of his shots with perfect draws to the button that were well guarded behind cover.

Skip Chris Welch, Ann Gerrits, Ross Tripp and Lloyd Bloom played a great game with expert sweeping and timely hit and rolls. Their efforts paid off in the 6th with a count of 4 to take a 3-point lead of 8-5. Skip George Gerrits and his team of Barry Glen, Lois Groombridge and Judy Trip were playing on all 4 cylinders in the 7th, as they played like the Grinch who stole Christmas collecting a 5-ender for a 10-8 score and the win.

The team concluded the night by adding a big red bow for the champions title.

Friday night social curlers also

played their first round of playoffs. The big 1 versus 2 game featured two of the leagues veteran players – Skips Gerry Duffy and Peter Kamstra – along with their mates all coveting for the biggest present – league champion.

Santa checked his list for who was naughty and who was nice, and it appeared that both teams had a little of each during the serious game at hand.

Team Kamstra who consists of Peter Kamstra, Dean Franchetto, Angelo DellDonne and Jeanne Pate threw everything they had at Team Duffy including a couple beauty draws to the button.

Skip Gerry Duffy and his elves of Dan Gavigan, Miriam Firth and Claire Murphy also gave Kamstra a gift or two with their own draws and brilliant take-outs. As both skips only wanted one thing from Santa, they were determined to give it their all. In the final end, it would be Team Kamstra's stocking that got the prize and not the coal as they earned the league title of champion.

Bells will be ringing in the final week of curling for 2015, with carolers singing "hurry hard, hurry hard," in this most wonderful time of year. As the curlers rock around the Christmas tree the rings of blue and red will look a little more like silver and gold.

For those that have yet to visit Santa, be sure to ask for a few more double take-outs and draws to the button as the new season of curling is expected to be as exciting as the first.



Skip George Gerrits (left) and his team of Judy Trip, Lois Groombridge, and Barry Glen are the Wednesday Social League Champions for 2015.

A curler's Christmas list

*A curler you see, is fairly simple at heart
We're a team of four, with each their own part
We want to have fun and play well for the team
For that perfect game, it's every skipper's big dream.*

Oh Dear Santa, here is my Christmas wish list

*I hope you can bring them, I really insist
Just a few little items that I really could use
Because my mates are now no longer amused.*

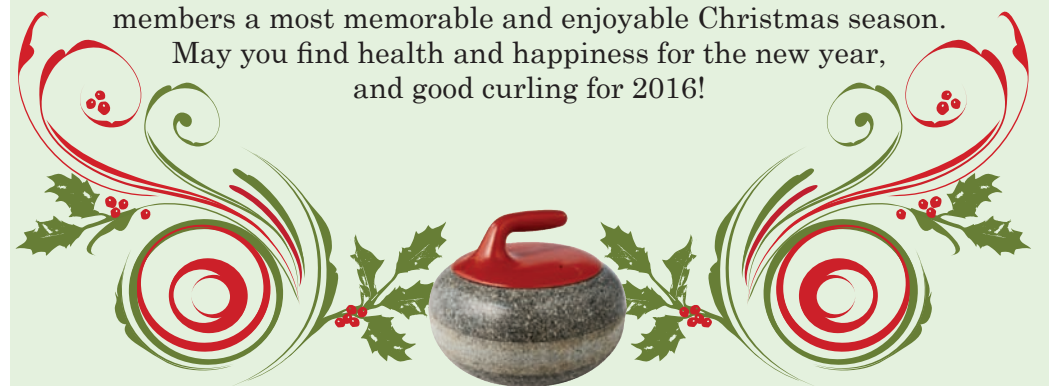
*I'd like a new broom either red or blue
With that directional fabric, it's a big breakthrough
This new technology is so light and fast
Cause my old one now, is really a thing of the past.*

*Some curling shoes just like the pros they wear
I'll increase my slide with this proper footwear
A stopwatch as well, so my mates will know
To sweep really hard when the rocks too slow.*

*There's one more thing I must ask you for
And please Dear Santa, we need a big score.
When I throw to my skip, Perfect weight is what I need
It's really required, for my team to succeed.*

*"Hit the Broom" is not what you think
It's what we aim with our rock, at the end of the rink.
So my Dear Santa, as you can tell
I ask for not a lot, but just to curl real well.
The tools we need help us reach our goal
Because us loyal curlers, we love this game
With all our heart and soul.*

The King Curling Club executive and board of directors wish all of its members a most memorable and enjoyable Christmas season. May you find health and happiness for the new year, and good curling for 2016!



Skate with Santa

Santa Claus stopped by King City Arena on Saturday for the Lions Club's annual Skate with Santa.

Photo by Jake Courtepatte

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Bethlehem has a long, fascinating history

Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone
905-859-5174

St. Paul's Church

Come join us on Christmas Eve for either one of our two gatherings at 6:30 p.m. – geared for children who may wish to come in their PJs and 8 p.m. for anybody else. On Christmas Day, we will celebrate the birth of our Lord with carol singing and Communion at 10 a.m.

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

For more information about any of our activities or events, please contact the church office at 905-859-0843 or visit our website at www.stpaulsnobleton.ca.

Nobleton United
By Joan Montgomery

The members of Nobleton United Church would like to extend a heartfelt Merry Christmas to one and all.

We invite you to our Christmas Eve service, which is at 8:30 p.m. This is always a very special evening of readings and carols. If you prefer to attend an earlier service on Christmas Eve, just up Hwy. 27 our sister church, Schomberg United, is having its service at 7 p.m.

On Christmas Sunday (Dec. 27), Epiphany (Sun. Jan. 3) and the Baptism of Jesus (Jan. 10), we will again welcome Ed Elliotson, LLWL (Licensed Lay Worship Leader), while Brian is away in Australia.

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, from 5-7 p.m. Messy Church's theme will be on Creation and appreciating the diversity and beauty of God's world. Crafts and activities from 5 to 6 p.m., story time from 6 to 6:15 p.m., then eating dinner at 6:15, followed by socializing or doing more crafts.

Messy Church started in England with concern that children were not learning the Bible stories. The ideas for various themes and activities are provided in Messy Church books and there are a number of denominations who are using these ideas. Families are very busy these days and they welcome a chance to have someone else provide activities and food for them to enjoy. There is no charge as Nobleton United sponsors this program.

On Sunday, Jan. 17, we will welcome Alexandra Kotyk, from "Lifeline Syria" to talk about the Syrian crisis and what we can do to sponsor and welcome Syrian refugees. We will continue on with Epiphany on Sunday, Jan. 24.

For more info, visit nobletonunitedchurch.com, our Facebook page, or call our church at 905-859-3976. The church office is normally open on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Messages are picked up regularly. We are located at 6076 King Rd., north side, about 6 buildings west of Hwy 27. We have a big parking lot at the rear of the building, an accessible ramp at the rear of the building, chair lifts for the 7 steps to get up or down and accessible washrooms.

Anglican Parish
By John Arnott

"But you Bethlehem in, the land of Judah are by no means the least of the among the rulers of Judah for out of you will come a ruler that will shepherd my people Israel." Thus wrote the prophet Micah telling what God had revealed to him over 700 years before the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.

The St. Alban's Anglican community in Nobleton notes the Amarna letters cut into clay tablets sent over 3,000 years ago from Egyptian officials in Palestine to the pharaoh back in Egypt, make the first mention of Bethlehem we know of. One of these official document sent by the Egyptian ambassador to Urusalem begs the pharaoh to send soldiers as the Canaanite town of Bit-Lahmi believed

to have been named for the Canaanite fertility god Lachama has been attacked by foreign marauders called Apiru/Habiru and Urusalem is threatened.

Many years later the Hebrew Bible claims this same town now called Bet Lehem (house of bread) is the city where David was anointed king by the prophet Samuel. And the tomb of Jacob's beloved Rachel who died giving birth to Benjamin is found just outside the town.

Christians and Muslims believe Jesus was born in a cattle shed in this city over 2,000 years ago

Some years after Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection Christians built a shrine on the place where they believed this shed stood. Although Bethlehem as Romans called it, suffered little damage when the future Roman general Titus levelled nearby Jerusalem in 70 AD, it was almost completely destroyed in 135 AD by Roman emperor Hadrian after another Jewish revolt. He then converted the Christian shrine into one dedicated to the Greek god Adonis.

About 200 years later while on a 2-year pilgrimage to Syra-Palaestina, the new name the Romans gave Israel, Roman empress Helena a Christian encouraged the rebuilding of the town and Eusebius bishop of nearby Caesarea an early Christian historian writes she had the first Church of the Nativity built on the site of Hadrian's shrine.

During the Samaritan revolt in 529 AD, Bethleem was sacked and its walls destroyed along with the Church of the Nativity. Both walls and church were rebuilt on the orders of Emperor Justinian I of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire. Vithleem was the city's name under the Greek speaking Byzantines.

614 AD saw Persians invade Israel, now known as Palestina Prima, and capture Vithleem but because a mosaic in the church showed the 3 wisemen in Persian clothes the building was spared. And 23 years later Muslim armies took over what they called Bayt Lahm (house of meat) but allowed the Greek Ortho-

dox Church to continue to keep the Nativity Church as well as guaranteeing any Christian access to the church.

Crusaders captured Bayt Lahm in 1099 and fortified it. They expelled the Greek clergy installing Western (Rome) Church clergy in their place. A new monastery and cloister was built beside the Nativity Church. And in the church on Christmas Day 1100 Count Baldwin I of France was crowned King of Jerusalem. However, the Muslims under Saladin recaptured the city in 1187 forcing out Western clergy and returning the church to the Greek clergy.

Just over 40 years later Bethlehem was briefly back in Crusader hands. But in 1244 the Muslims prevailed again. Now Christian pilgrims coming to town were few and far between and the city's pilgrim based economy faltered badly. For much of this time the majority of the city's inhabitants were Arab Christians.

Almost 200 years passed before the Ottoman Turks (also Muslim) took control organizing Muslims and Christians into separate communities each with its own leaders. Under the Ottomans the residents faced heavy taxes, severe unemployment relieved somewhat by compulsory military service. Many emigrated to the Americas.

The Ottomans remained rulers until British took over what was called Palestine in 1920 staying until 1948 and the birth of the Jewish state of Israel.

Today Bethlehem, a town of 25,000 with a substantial Palestinian Christian population, is administered by the Palestinian Authority and by law must have a Christian mayor. As it has for centuries its economy depends largely on pilgrims and tourists. It boasts markets selling fresh fruit and vegetables grown locally, reasonable restaurants as well as some 300 handicraft workshops and 30 hotels.

Despite the often uncertain political situation visitors arriving at this time of year without reservations may well find "no room at the inn."

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Churches offer wonderful Christmas Eve services

King's Corners

King City United
By Earle Laycock

Sunday worship was special with the young folk presenting a Christmas pageant. Written by our minister, Rev. Evelyn McLachlan, the pageant had the various characters (angel, Mary, Joseph, shepherd, innkeeper and a magi) tell what the birth of Jesus meant to them. This meaningful account was even more endearing with the younger children dressed up as angels, shepherds and sheep.

Thanks to all who participated in this lovely production. Following worship, everyone was invited to enjoy a potluck lunch for a time of fellowship and reflection.

Following worship, Rev. Evelyn, MaryLee Skurdellis and Sandra Kirby led a worship at Richmond Hill Retirement Residence. Rev. Evelyn brought some Christmas tree decorations and discussed the significance of them interspersed with the singing of many favourite carols and the reading of the birth narrative from Luke 2.

Did you know that the candy cane represents the "crook" used by the shepherds to care for their sheep? When held upsidedown, the crook or staff looks like the letter J, reminding us of Jesus. The colours have significance too: white for Jesus's purity, the green for everlasting life and the red for Jesus's blood shed for us.

The first Christmas tree was brought home by Martin Luther who noticed the stars shining through the forest trees, reminding him of the night of the birth of Jesus when the stars shone so brightly. Luther used candles in the evergreen to recreate this scene in his home.

On Fridays, Rev. Evelyn invites everyone to join her at the Sunset Grill for "Tea and Talk" at 10 a.m. It's a chance to have some breakfast and discuss the issues of the day. This week a special

"flash mob" of carollers from King City United Church joined us and treated Sunset Grill patrons to some Christmas carolling. The response was very positive and despite having no practice, many people joined in the singing. Lots of folks put down their knives and forks to take videos of the surprise carolling. Thanks to owners Mona and Fred for allowing everyone to have some Christmas fun.

Thursday, Dec. 24 is our Christmas Eve worship at 7 p.m. Both choirs and John Kell will be sharing in the ministry of music. We will end the worship with singing Silent Night as we circle the sanctuary with candlelight. After the worship ends, a brief, short, informal communion will be offered to whoever wishes to stay. We invite everyone to help celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve. Children are welcome as well as the young at heart.

Sunday, Dec. 27 is lessons and carols, so come prepared to sing - a lot! And bring your favourite Christmas present that day or if it's too large, a picture of it! You will have to attend worship to find out why Rev. Evelyn has made this strange request.

Rev. Evelyn will be away on vacation Dec. 28 to Jan. 5. Rev. Ross Carson will be on call for pastoral emergencies. Email him at: minister.yruc@rogers.com or call 905-727-8118 if there is an emergency. Rick McKinley will be leading worship on Jan. 3.

For any information, contact the office, 905-833-5181; email kcuc@bellnet.ca; visit www.kcuc.ca.

King Bible Church

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 27 as Pastor Mark Nowell will be completing our three-part Christmas series "The Promise." This week will be part 3.

Our children's ministry will also be performing part 3 of their performance.

Please join us for our Christmas Eve service Thursday, Dec. 24. We will begin with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. and the

service will begin at 7 p.m. There will not be child care for this service so that families will be able to celebrate. Our children will perform part two of their Christmas presentation.

King Seniors' Centre

New Year's Eve Gala - Come out and welcome in 2016 in fine fashion with your friends and neighbours. The festivities will include a fully catered hot meal with all the trimmings, wine and non-alcoholic drinks on every table. There will be music and entertainment from 9 p.m. until midnight hosted by our special guest celebrity Jack Garson, as well as door prizes and champagne at midnight. The Centre will open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person and are available from Vince Cancelli 905-833-6305, Vic Warner 905-833-3510 or Marlene Deacon 905-833-9841. Tickets are limited so book your table early!

Annual General Meeting - The King City Seniors Centre's Annual General Meeting will take place at the Centre on Friday, Jan. 8, 2016 at 2 p.m. The meeting will include a talk on astronomy by guest speaker Paul Delaney. For further information, call Carol Field at 905-833-3324.

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

St. Andrew's warmly invites you to join us at our Family Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 7 p.m. What a wonderful way to welcome the Christ Child, Jesus, Saviour of the World.

There will be no service on Christmas Day, but plan to worship with us on Sunday, Dec. 27 at 10:30 a.m. We look forward to Pastor John Mills being with us again.

Lynn Vissers portrayed Anna, last Sunday. During Advent we had "visits" from Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, John the Baptist (her son) and Anna, the prophetess. We got to know them better; hearing from their perspective what Jesus's

birth meant to them and how their lives were forever changed.

The Ladies' Prayer Group meets every Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. You are welcome to join us - to pray with us or quietly reflect. It is such a blessing to be together and as God has promised, He is with us, hearing and answering our prayers. Let us know how our God can bless you.

The Youth Group made cookies for the King City Lodge residents and the gifts collected for them were delivered on Sunday.

All Saints Anglican Church By Diana Armitage

Merry Christmas!

Please join us on Christmas Eve. There will be two Christmas Eve services. Please note that the times may be different from other years. The 5 p.m. service includes the children's pageant, and the 9 p.m. service will have a full choir with guest singers.

On Friday, Dec. 25, the Christmas Day service will be at 10 a.m. in the chapel.

Sunday, Dec. 27, there will be two services like usual at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

We are very happy to announce the winners of our Yule Market's raffle from November 28:

Catnip Play Mat donated by Nancy Wood (Heartsease) won by Janet Baron; a pendant donated by Daniele Roblot won by Glenn Murray; Christmas runner donated by Brenda Butterworth won by Claude Holmes; Chutneys donated by Leah Springford (The Oldspring Pantry) won by Gwen Curran; bracelet donated by Eurasia Jewellery Design won by Lynda Jeppesen; baby quilt donated by Pat Harris won by Christine Harris; crocheted Afghan donated by Donna Matthews won by Paul Ward; Christmas cookie hamper donated by Janet Rodger won by Mona Lancaster; quilt made by Quilting group of Nobleton United Church won by Elaine Robertson.

Congratulations everyone and thank you for supporting our sale!

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