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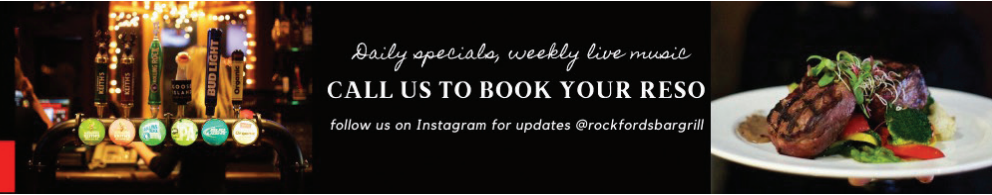
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In the spirit at A Main Street Christmas

Residents and King councillors donned period costumes and participated in the parade at the annual A Main Street Christmas in Schomberg on Saturday. The streets were packed with visitors to witness the festivities which ushered in the yuletide season. Turn to Page 12 for more photos of the event.

Budget pressures lead to slight tax increase in 2024

By Mark Pavilonis
Editor

As it stands, King residents are looking at a 3.75% blended tax increase next year.

Municipal staff found more than \$1-million in efficiencies and cuts, but a drop in revenue from development charges have put added pressures on the budget.

Staff presented their preliminary budget to council recently, showing everything from capital improvements and debt load, to mitigating rising costs.

Before the final budget comes before council for approval, staff agreed to bring it down a "hair," at Mayor Steve Pellegrini's urging.

Peggy Tollett, director of finance and treasurer for King, noted in her presentation that several factors are impacting



the budget. They include inflation (\$968,000), increases to maintenance contracts, a drop in DCs, fuel increases, labour contracts (\$1.29 million), grant reductions and an increase in capital projects. Combined, these have hit the budget for \$2.7 million in added costs.

Staff have come up with roughly \$834,000 in efficiencies. That, combined with revenue adjustments (\$200,000) and increased fees (\$470,000) result in \$1.5 million.

That leaves roughly \$1.2 million for King to absorb.

In 2024, recommended additions to the budget include a new water billing process; communications projects; IT and business software improvements, and staff additions. These total some \$670,000.

See 'Revenue' on Page 3

INSIDE	REGULAR FEATURES		
	Editorial	Page 4	 <p>Nobleton tree-lighting ceremony draws crowd. See Page 14</p>
	Business	Page 10	
	Sports	Page 19	
Classifieds	Page 21		
		 <p>King Fire personnel receive honours. See Page 17</p>	

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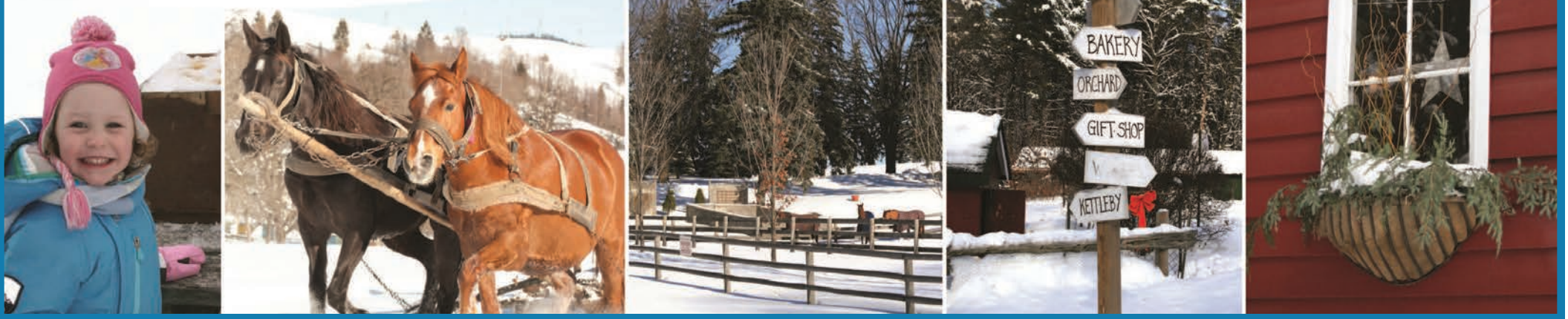
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, Dec. 11
6 p.m. – Council
In-person at the King Township Municipal Centre at 2585 King Rd and live streamed at king.ca/meetings

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Tuesday, Dec. 12
6:30 p.m. - King Township Public Library Board (Virtual meeting)
Tuesday, Dec. 12
11 a.m. – Accessibility Advisory Committee (Hybrid Meeting – Not live-streamed). If you wish to participate in the meeting virtually, register by emailing dmoratto@king.ca by 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting.
Wednesday, Dec. 13
6 p.m. – Committee of Adjustment - Hybrid Meeting (In-person/virtual participation, and live-streamed) Visit king.ca/cofameetings for more information.
Thursday, Dec. 14
6 p.m. – Heritage Advisory Committee (Hybrid Meeting – Not live-streamed). If you wish to participate in the meeting virtually, register by emailing cpang@king.ca by 12 p.m. (noon) on the day of the meeting.

To view full Council and Committee agendas, visit king.civicweb.net

BID NOTICES

For all bid opportunities, please visit <https://king.bidsandtenders.ca/Module/Tenders/en>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit the Township website at www.king.ca for employment opportunities. All applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on the day they close.

REMINDERS

ShopKing this holiday season

Please try to shop locally as much as you can this holiday season to help support our local business community. There are many ways you can do this, including giving a gift certificate from a local business, shopping online when possible and leaving a positive review of a business on social media. For more ideas and ways to shop locally, visit king.ca/shopking.



PUBLIC NOTICES



PUBLIC NOTICES



**NOTICE OF UPCOMING BUDGET MEETINGS
2024 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AND OUTLOOK
FOR 2025-2026**

The 2024 Operating and Capital Budget Book will be available at www.king.ca/budget as of Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

Council Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

2024 Operating and Capital Budgets and Outlook for 2025-2026
(Consideration of Budget By-law for Adoption, Monday, December 11, 2023)

The Township of King's 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets and Outlook for 2025-2026 will be tabled for consideration and adoption at the December 11, 2023, Council Meeting. This will include any changes to the 2024 Fees and Charges By-law. The Budget staff report will be available for review on the Township website at www.king.ca as of Thursday, December 7, 2023.

(Note: Budget adoption may be deferred to the January 2024, Council meeting at the discretion of Council, if required)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Watch the Council meeting virtually at <https://king.ca/meetings> on the day of the meeting. **NO** pre-registration is required.
2. Speak to Council in-person, virtually (through a computer or app) or by phone during the meeting by pre-registering with the Clerks Division at 905-833-4068 or email clerks@king.ca no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the day of the meeting.

Please visit www.king.ca/budget or contact Peggy Tollett, Director of Finance and Treasurer by email at ptollett@king.ca for further information regarding the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Dated: October 17, 2023
Denny Timm
Township Clerk

VILLAGE
URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES

Recommendation for Council Adoption

December 11, 2023
6:00 PM

for details visit: <https://www.king.ca/meetings>

The final draft of the Village Urban Design Guidelines will be presented to Council on December 11, 2023 for consideration of adoption. The Guidelines are available on the SpeaKING Project Page: <https://speaking.king.ca/urban-design-guideline-review>.

Contact the Project Team at policyplanning@king.ca for more information, or scan the QR code.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Children's Holiday Baking Workshop

For Ages 6-12

December 16th, 10am - 12pm
King City Seniors Centre, King Road
king.ca/recreation

Arrangement Making Workshop

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Revenue hit by drop in DCs

From Front Page

The capital budget includes \$1 million for bridges and culverts; \$1.6 million for road improvements; \$300,000 for tree planting; \$160,000 for traffic signals and calming, and \$145,000 for the development charge update study.

For the remainder of council's term, they're committed to \$2.1 million for the reconstruction of Kettleby Road; funding the \$86-million Township-Wide Recreation Centre; \$9.7 million for road reconstruction (10th, 15th and Highway 27) and \$4.2 million for Nobleton's revitalization strategy.

A New Initiative Reserve Fund will fund enhancements to Township assets that are non-growth related and not asset renewal (example: accessibility enhancements). The funding source is the tax rate levy.

King's growth related (tax supported) reserve fund provides funds to cover shortfalls in growth related capital funding relating to exemptions, reductions and limitations mandated by the DCA 1997 and exemptions prescribed by the Township's DC Bylaw. This will ensure that King tracks projects that were originally funded by development charges but are exempt now with the changes to Bill 23.

Tollett noted with the review of reserve funds and the change to address asset management, staff have consolidated 2 reserve funds as they have essentially the same purpose which are the Growth & New Infrastructure reserve fund and the infrastructure reserve fund. This has been consolidated and renamed the Capital Tax Levy reserve fund. The "New" Capital Tax Levy reserve fund is used to fund

both infrastructure projects and projects that have a tax and development charge funding source.

The noticeable drop in DCs has hurt the municipality. At an all-time high of \$39 million in 2021, DCs have fallen to \$700,000 this year. That's due to a slow housing market; interest rate hikes and impacts of Bill 23. The trend will likely continue through 2024, with only 138 residential units coming on stream. But it's progressively better from then on.

To recap, the 2024 budget has base operating increases of almost \$3 million, with \$1.5 million in offsetting revenues. With \$1.8 million in additional budget requirements, the resulting tax hike hits 5.49%

Tollett explained that the taxes go up 1% for every \$341,000 in expenditures.

Assuming King's hike stays at 5.49% and York Region comes in with a 2.75% increase (plus 1% for transit), the blended rate will see a 3.75% rise in taxes, or \$311 annually (based on the average assessment). That's \$26 per month or 85 cents per day

King's five-year average of tax hikes is only 2.74%

Tollett also explained that while King collects property taxes, the municipality only gets to keep 40% of the revenue. York takes 42% and the school boards take 18% of your tax dollars.

The ratio locally is still high on the residential side. King's assessment is 84% residential; 3.6% commercial; .82% industrial and 11% other (farm, etc.).

Council hopes to firm up its budget sometime in December.



Lions Reverse Advent Calendar a success

The second annual drive in support of the King Township Food Bank, sponsored by the three Lions Clubs in the township, culminated in the collection of boxes of food on Dec. 2. Several Lions and junior volunteer Raylan are pictured here with Glen and Nancy Broad who have just dropped off their donation at the Nobleton Arena. The three clubs extend their thanks to all in the community who gave to this worthy cause, which is even more critical this year as the number of clients of the Food Bank has increased by more than a third.

King ranks in top 100 of most livable cities, according to study

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

King Mayor Steve Pellegrini was thrilled to share the news that King shines among the most livable cities in Canada.

The results came from data collected by the Globe and Mail. They gathered information about 439 cities across the country, spanning a variety of categories including economy, housing, health care, education and climate.

The municipality ranked an incredible 6th overall in terms of safety.

King also garnered top 100-rankings. King placed 26th in health care; 80th in education; 86th in demographics and 97th in economy. They fell to 147th in community; 193rd in transportation; 261st in climate and 340th in amenities.

The mayor pointed out King's evaluation was high, compared with the 444 other municipalities in Ontario and more than 4,500 municipalities across the country.

The Globe's evaluation involved an analysis of 43 variables, which span 10 categories that we've identified as particularly crucial when an individual contemplates relocating to a new area. These categories are Economy, Housing, Demographics, Health Care, Safety, Education, Community, Amenities, Transportation and Climate.

Economy assesses a city's financial health by examining its job market, income levels and tax, and overall economic stability.

Housing evaluates the affordability of housing and the accessibility of housing options for seniors.

Demographics focuses on a city's stability and sustainability in population growth, diversity and cultural richness.

Health Care evaluates the accessibility and quality of health care services, and residents' general perception of their health status.

Safety examines the likelihood of crimes and residents' overall confidence in public safety.

Education assesses the educational qualifications of the community as well as the availability of schools, universities and other educational institutions in the area.

Community prioritizes social engagement venues, community events, volunteer opportunities, and the sense of belonging and connectivity within the city.

Amenities catalogues recreational facilities, entertainment options, shopping centres, parks and other leisure opportunities available to residents in the community.

Transportation examines the public transportation system, accessibility and overall ease of getting around the city.

Climate catalogues extreme climate, weather patterns and overall seasonal conditions from the past.

From the Archives

**Verna Cairns and pet dog
Eversley Farm, circa 1940s**

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"A newspaper is the center of a community, it's one of the tent poles of the community, and that's not going to be replaced by websites and blogs."

- Michael Connelly

We should all try to be as 'authentic' as we can

"A person who is truly authentic doesn't need to play a role in life, we think, but can simply be him- or herself"

- Robert Greene

Merriam-Webster has chosen "authentic" as the word of the year for 2023.

The popularity of the word is driven by online searches and people looking into artificial intelligence, along with culture and identity in a sea of fake social media.

While traditionally meaning "not false or imitation," people today see the word as meaning "true to one's own personality, spirit or character."

The dictionary also defines it as worthy of acceptance or belief as conforming to or based on fact; paints an authentic picture of our society; conforming to an original so as to reproduce essential features (an authentic reproduction of a colonial farmhouse) or made or done the same way as an original.

I tend to use it in terms of hard goods or antiques. I do collect some ancient artifacts and endeavour to check or verify that they are, in fact, authentic.

Is being authentic a trend? Elon Musk said people should be more authentic on social media. You think?

I must admit my addiction to Facebook has ballooned in the last year. But my passion is for authentic bits and pieces of the world.

I enjoy following social media influencers who give back and engage in philanthropy. Many are doing great work with the homeless and underprivileged.

On the flip side, don't you hate simulated, bogus, reproduction, counterfeit, forged, fabricated, or phony things and people?

It's kinda weird that we humans only made this differentiation in the last 100 years or so.

To our ancestors and forefathers and



Mark Pavilons

mothers, very few things were fake or reproduced. Of course, given our nature, we humans always tried to outwit one another through bogus promises, get-rich-quick schemes and the like. Some of our ancestors even forged coins from the Roman Empire. So, while our brethren lied and cheated, society back then, with all of its ills - was as real as it got.

Survival, plain and simple. While some of today's "reality" shows drop people in the middle of nowhere and watch them survive, it's nothing close to life and death.

Authentic? Nah, modern gizmos and a dash of entertainment always enter the mix.

Shakespeare advised us "to thine own self be true ..." He also noted "no legacy is so rich as honesty."

And let's not forget the very authentic Mother Theresa: "Honesty and transparency make you vulnerable. Be honest and transparent anyway."

Easier said than done?

Perhaps.

Humanistic psychologists say that by definition, authentic people possess a number of common characteristics that show they are psychologically mature and fully functioning as human beings. They tend to have realistic perceptions of reality. They are accepting of themselves and of other people.

Genuine souls are thoughtful and have a "non-hostile" sense of humour. We are able to express our emotions freely and clearly.

Real people are open to learning from their mistakes.

Authenticity, first and foremost, is about knowing yourself.

I think deep down, we all have it and were born with it. Children are the most honest humans there are and will often speak their minds, plainly and bluntly. They have yet to grasp the concepts of self-importance, ego and any sort of defence mechanism.

And we embrace it, especially when we see it in others. We remark how genuine and nice these people are. We praise compassionate and thoughtful people and avoid pretentious and narrow-minded individuals.

In terms of humour, I would add that authentic people accept their shortcomings and can make fun of themselves.

I am constantly chuckling to and at myself, in the confines of my own head, while typing maniacally on my computer keyboard.

I utter self-effacing insults to myself under my own breath, hoping no one will hear.

I appreciate humour at face value and the beauty of crafting a witty tale.

Authenticity also involves getting a glimpse of all aspects of society and human nature.

I believe all creative types - writers, artists, entertainers - are exposing themselves for the world to see. To be honest is to be vulnerable. There is no ambiguity in this.

Authenticity is also sticking by your true values, core ethics and beliefs. This has always been hard for people, especially given society's brutal criticism of others.

Only now in our evolution are we mostly accepting of the LGBTQ community; religious beliefs and traditions, and fearless demonstrations thereof.

Canada's Drag Race may not be your cup of tea, but if you view it as entertainment, you may start to understand it.

I'm a news person, but I admit that watching the evening news is getting a little depressing. I'd rather watch reruns of The Big Bang Theory than hear horror stories from the Middle East conflict or inhumane crimes.

Yes, being authentic means standing there, in plain sight, ready and willing to suffer the slings and arrows of public opinion.

Knowing oneself is a bit of a process to be sure. I am only now grasping my mortality and inner struggles with depression. And I am always willing to be open and upfront about such things.

Ask me a question, and I will give you an honest answer.

They say, what you see is what you get, but that doesn't mean we can't all "clean up nicely."

Let's celebrate the unique authenticity of our fellow human beings.

Nature

Community scientists wanted for the 2023/24 Christmas Bird Counts

There is a strong network of nature groups in Ontario called the Nature Network. These groups do all kinds of wonderful things for nature. This holiday season, at least 52 of those groups are leading Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs).

The Christmas Bird Count began in 1900, and today it is North America's longest-running wildlife census. Bird lovers of all ages and skill levels are invited to celebrate the 124th CBC by joining one of the many counts happening across Ontario this holiday season.

This year's CBC will run from Dec. 14 to January 5, 2024. Visit the Ontario Nature website (ontarionature.org/cbc) to find a Nature Network count near you. For a comprehensive list of counts happening across Canada, visit the Birds Canada website (birdscanada.org/bird-science/christmas-bird-count).

The Nature Network group counts are a fun way to learn more about birds and support their conservation. Count leaders are friendly and inclusive. Whether you are new to birding or have years of experience, you'll be welcomed. When you join a count, you get outdoors, spend time with other nature lovers and collect data that informs bird conservation.

Scientists use the data collected to monitor the health and status of resident and migratory birds over time. This helps develop conservation strategies for species in decline and their habitats. The Christmas Bird Count also teaches community scientists about the myriad bird species that live in, and migrate through, their communities.

There are also some Christmas Bird Counts geared towards kids that are a good way for budding nature lovers to become interested in birding.



Quote of the Week

"Everywhere you go will be somewhere you've never been."

- Natasha Trethewey

Trivia Tidbits

A female donkey is called a Jenny.

King Weekly Sentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Have you started Christmas shopping?

a) Yes **67%**

b) No **33%**

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Do you have a real or artificial Christmas tree?

a) Real
b) Artificial

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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The three factors eroding our economy

By Frank Stronach

There's been a lot of talk lately that Canada is heading into a recession.

Last week, Statistics Canada reported that the country's gross domestic product (GDP) dropped more than expected. Business investment and exports also fell, while consumer spending was flat.

A number of other signs are all pointing to an economic slowdown or contraction, which is remarkable when you consider that the US, our largest trading partner, is experiencing robust growth, and when you also consider

The Principles of an Economic Charter of Rights

that the government is pumping record amounts of fiscal stimulus into the economy.

With all the tens of billions Ottawa is flooding into the economy, you'd think our economy would be booming instead of looking down the barrel of a recession.

For me, the question is not so much: are we heading into a recession? The

question we should be asking is: why is our economy so feeble?

And I believe the answer to that question is that there are three key areas wreaking havoc on our economy, and until we deal with these three contributing factors, our economy will continue to decline year after year.

The first of these three factors is debt.

The fall economic statement announced a few weeks ago showed that the government is on track to spend \$20 billion more than it had initially indicated, and that the interest on the debt has more than doubled compared to only three years ago and will top a staggering \$60 billion five years from now. That's more than what we currently spend on health care today.

The second factor pummeling our economy is the out-of-control growth in government overhead. When I opened my own small tool and die business in the late 1950s, government spending as a percentage of National GDP was around 16 per cent. Canada's economy was robust and living standards were rising. Today, however, government spending as a percentage of National GDP is approximately 44 per cent, living standards are falling, our economy is anemic, and our middle class is being slowly eroded.

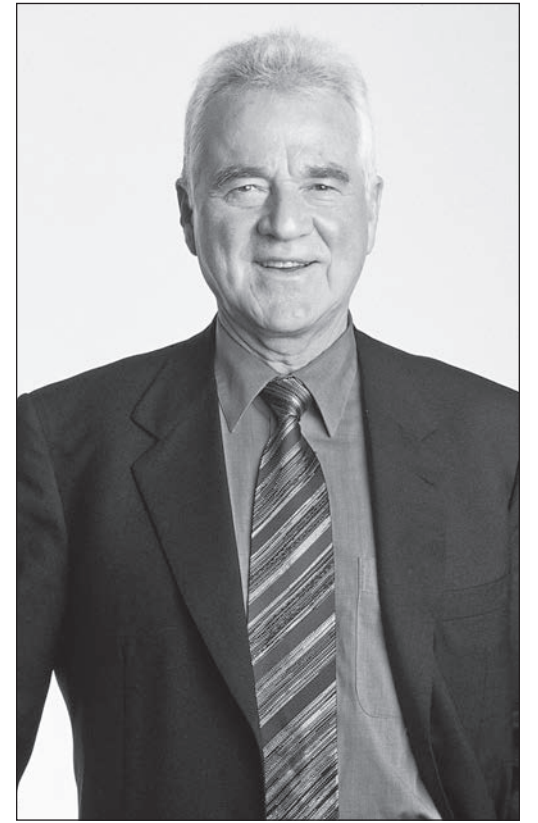
The most detrimental aspect of our ballooning bureaucracy is the stifling effect it has on business by tying up companies with red tape and obstacles that make it increasingly harder to do business in this country.

The third and final factor that's hobbling the Canadian economy is our complicated tax system. It benefits the rich and special interests and is slanted in favour of financial transactions and wealth transfer instead of investments in the real economy, which is tied to manufacturing products, growing food and extracting natural resources.

But an Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities would help us address these three structural problems holding our economy back. The Charter contains the following three key responsibilities that would ensure our country is governed by sound economic principles:

Reduce our national debt by 5 percent per year for 20 years so that we will be debt-free within two decades

Shrink our swollen bureaucracy by



reducing government overhead by 5 percent per year over the next decade

Simplify our tax system by making it black-and-white, clear-cut and fair, with no more loopholes and deductions for the rich and special interests

Not only would these three actions get Canada back on a solid economic footing, they would make our country one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

To learn more about the economic charter and how it could help restore economic growth and prosperity, email me at info@economiccharter.ca. Or to learn more about the economic charter, please visit: www.economiccharter.ca.

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame. Email: fstronachlpc@gmail.com

Network trying to ensure Peel's dissolution doesn't impact residents

By Zachary Roman

The Region of Peel will be funding a collective of local non-profits working to make sure Peel's dissolution won't negatively impact those they serve.

The Region is doing so on request of the Peel Region Transition Board, a five-member group appointed by the Province to dissolve the Region of Peel and make Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga independent.

At Region of Peel Council's Nov. 16 meeting, councillors unanimously voted to give a grant of \$300,000 to the Metamorphosis Network.

The Metamorphosis Network is made up of over 80 non-profit community organizations from across Peel that are all collaborating to address the impacts of Peel's dissolution. The network was launched on Oct. 24 with a media event at Queen's Park in Toronto.

Non-profits that serve Caledon, such as Caledon Community Services, are part of the network.

The Metamorphosis Network, in a request for funding memo sent to the transition board, said it needs funds for research work and building staffing capacity. It broke down where the \$300,000 it requested would go.

The network has partnered with York University to help with research work, with volunteers undertaking additional research progress. However, it did not have any luck outsourcing professional help.

"Outreach to a professional research firm stalled over resources. Their ap-

proximate budget of \$75,000 far exceeded the \$15,000 we have in grants for that area of work," reads the memo. "Research funding would be used to enter into a short-term contract with a respected research firm to do quantitative analysis that can help us get beyond the anecdotal data we most easily gather."

The network requested \$60,000 for research purposes.

The network also requested \$90,000 to fund the hiring of a full-time communications staff person. It said this person would generate communications materials for the network's member organizations and the general public, to "explain the transition process, clarify the strategies we are pursuing to address challenges, and promote participation in the process."

The network said this work has already begun, but it's become clear a staff member will be needed to complete the large volume of communications work needed.

The final \$150,000 request was for staff support and backfill, as leaders of the Metamorphosis Network are spending significant time away from their own organizations to address the dissolution process. The network said this funding would be used to mitigate the impacts of leaders being away from their non-profits, with other staff members filling in for them as needed.

A report from Sean Baird, Peel's commissioner of human services, said Peel Region will continue to collaborate with the community to build the capacity of the not-for-profit sector.



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Anatomy of the 'grandparent scam' explained

By Michelle Frauley

It is back. It is dangerous. It is heart-breaking. It is called the Grandparent Scam.

We have been educating and warning folks about this cruel scam for decades now.

Our phone rang. I answered the call. The caller sounded like a young male. He was frantic and was talking very quickly. I couldn't get a word in edgewise. He kept calling me "Grandma" and was racing with clipped minute details about riding in a borrowed car with a friend. They didn't know the car was stolen, they were pulled over by the police and are now in jail. They desperately and immediately needed money to be released.

"Please, please help, Grandma, I really need your help and I am so embarrassed - don't tell anyone."

Ah, I am thinking - so here it is. I am finally experiencing first-hand the "Grandparent Scam." Part of me wanted to play it out as far as I could, to hear them confirm the amount of money needed and how the transfer of funds would take place. Although I was tempted to engage further, I remember being warned against playing along with scammers out of curiosity and so prepared to shut down the conversation.

Before hanging up, I did ask him his name, and a perturbed voice said, "Come on, Grandma, you know who this is - how could you ask me that - it's me - your grandson."

I told him I was reporting this call to the police and hung up. I was struck by the precision of the performance, scripting, and acting. They were good. The Grandparent Scam is not a random act, but a finely tuned encounter designed to tug at the heartstrings and move you to their intended outcome of separating you from your money.

Let's dissect the elements that contribute to the scam's malicious genius:

Emotional Hijack: The scam is a master class in emotional manipulation, exploiting the protective instincts we hold for our loved ones. The urgency and fear seeded in the narrative are meant to overpower the logic that would otherwise flag the situation as suspicious.

A Faux Familiarity: The repeated use of 'Grandma' is no accident. It's a calculated move to forge a false bond to deepen the emotional entanglement in the fabricated crisis at hand.

Scripted to Perfection: The scammers have their script down to a fine art. Every frantic utterance, every supposed hiccup in the story is rehearsed to perfection, aiming to build a facade of authenticity and urgency.

Guilt, The Invisible Chain: The feigned indignation when asked for a name is a guilt-trip laid to make the grandparents feel wrong and not loving enough, a psychological trap meant to coerce cooperation.

A Whirlwind of Disorientation: The rapid-fire delivery and barrage of details are meant to disorient, to drive you into a state where clear thinking takes a back seat to the emotional turbulence they've provoked.

Veil of Secrecy: Urging secrecy is a maneuver to isolate the individual from the voice of reason that friends or family could provide, keeping the recipient trapped in the scammer's deceit.

Guilt, The Invisible Chain: The feigned indignation when asked for a name is a guilt-trip laid to make the grandparents feel wrong and not loving enough, a psychological trap meant to coerce cooperation.

Vague Vocal Resemblance: Though the voice didn't match perfectly, scammers often bank on the emotional turmoil and the vague familiarity to gloss over such discrepancies.

Immediate Financial Plea: The plea for immediate financial aid is a pressure tactic meant to push the individual into acting hastily, forestalling any deeper analysis of the situation at hand.

Curiosity, A Risky Enticement: The temptation to probe further is natural, yet dangerous. Each interaction is a chance for the scammers to glean

more information, to refine their deceitful art for the next target. To think we would never fall prey to these types of scams denies the sophistication of the crafting and the execution of these calls. There is a science to the composition of every word, pause, timing and emotion.

Understanding the layers of this scam is the first step towards arming ourselves and our community against such predatory antics. This scam is not just a tale of caution, but a reflection of the highly developed skill scammers employ to exploit the caring bonds that knit our families and communities together.

Deceit can sow seeds of anxiety and stress, often leading to sleep disturbances and a decline in self-esteem. The emotional turmoil brought about by betrayal may strain personal relationships and erode the fundamental trust we place in others. Over time, the cumulative stress from deceit can manifest physically, potentially leading to headaches or even immune system suppression.

Spirit: "If someone betrays you once, it's their fault; if they betray you twice, it's your fault." - Eleanor Roosevelt

Michelle Frauley is a nurse who specializes in palliative care, end of life, senior care and is a Certified Professional Consultant on Aging (CPCA). Michelle is also owner/operator of Hospall Private Homecare based in King City.

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Have your say on the Township of King's noise exemption permit process

The Township of King is currently reviewing its criteria for issuing noise exemption permits to determine whether the noise exemption permit process requires updating in 2024. Residents and business owners are invited to provide their feedback by taking an online survey by Friday, Feb. 2, 2024.

Most municipalities in Ontario have a noise bylaw that regulates when and what type of noise is allowed to occur. Noise in King is regulated by Noise Bylaw 81-142. Under this bylaw, amplified sound is not allowed at any time across the Township. To allow for special events, a delegation bylaw was passed in 2015 authorizing the Township Clerk to exempt some activities from the Noise Bylaw through a noise exemption permit.

The current process allows residents and businesses to apply for a noise exemption permit for the amplification of noise - such as music played through speakers or a live band - for a limited amount of time. Each property in the Township is permitted up to three

noise exemption permits per calendar year, until no later than 1 a.m. for special events and occasions.

The online survey will help the Township better understand the following:

Whether the community supports continuing to issue noise exemption permits.

What time amplified noise should be allowed to continue until.

If there are noise-related problems residents or businesses are having in their neighbourhood.

Whether rural and urban areas of the Township should have different noise exemption end times (i.e. should noise have to stop earlier in an urban neighbourhood).

The Township will report back to Council with the results of the survey in 2024 and recommend what, if any, changes should be considered to the noise exemption permit process.

For more information about this project, including a direct link to the online survey, visit speaking.king.ca/noiseexemptions.

Agents sponsor gingerbread competition

Attention all King Township families! Time to get everyone together for some decorating fun.

Join us this year for the 2nd annual township-wide Gingerbread House Competition.

The Gingerbread house kits are supplied by local realtors for you and your family to decorate. All you have to do is contact them via Facebook, email, social media or by calling the office at 905-939-2000. You can pick up at the Royal LePage RCR Realty Brokerage in Schomberg or it can be delivered to you.

They want participants to decorate them to your liking. Judges will be choosing 3 prize winners. This competition is open to all King Township residents - all you have to do is reach out to us and register.

Spend some quality time with the family on decorating your kit. Be as creative as possible, the opportunities are endless.

Make sure your masterpiece is completed by Dec. 20 and you have emailed pictures and videos of your spectacular creation to them at info@amandaleach.com

They are choosing 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners for the most creatively decorated house. Winners will be chosen Thursday, Dec. 21 and announced Dec. 22.

Follow them on social media for more updates on the competition: @amandaleach-realestate @marciawalter.realestate @gary_alison



King

7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, December 7 to Wednesday, December 13

THURS 7TH	FRI 8TH	SAT 9TH	SUN 10TH	MON 11TH	TUES 12TH	WED 13TH
Scattered Flurries High 4C° Low -1C° <1cm Wind S 14	Sun/Clouds High 6C° Low 3C° - Wind S 17	Cloudy/Showers High 8C° Low 7C° ~10mm Wind S 12	Rain High 8C° Low -1C° 15-20mm/<1cm Wind SE 24	Scattered Flurries High 0C° Low -3C° ~1cm Wind W 29	Scattered Flurries High 2C° Low -3C° <1cm Wind W 17	Sun/Clouds High 1C° Low -4C° - Wind W 14



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Renowned painter Helen Lucas passes away

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Painting is all Helen Lucas ever wanted to do.

The renowned painter passed away Nov. 27. She was 92.

Helen was a huge presence in the lives of all who knew her. Her legacy is one of kindness, grace, generosity, authenticity, and advocacy for the well-being of others. She had the heart and passion of an artist, as expressed in her joyous floral paintings.

The no-holds-barred artist painted for more than half a century, pushing the envelope and breaking the rules along the way.

Lucas's distinguished career, spanning over six decades, has produced deeply personal art – from the darker earlier works of her formative years, to her glorious floral paintings. The transition of her work was chronicled in an award-winning film by Donna Davey, *Helen Lucas: Her Journey – Our Journey*. The film included an interview with her friend Margaret Laurence, who made this observation: “The affirmation of life, in the midst of pain is the story of your art, my beloved friend.”

In addition to delivering lectures on women in the arts, and co-founding one of the first Women's Studies programs in Canada, the King City artist fre-

quently appeared on radio and TV from the 1970s to the 1990s. Throughout her career she has been awarded numerous awards, including the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal as well as an Honorary Doctor of Letters from York University.

Her paintings can be seen in countless private, corporate, and public collections including The Canadian War Museum, The King City Municipal Offices, Sick Kids Hospital, and The Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre. York University has the largest collection of her artworks, as well as her archive.

Why did she paint flowers? “I will always be drawn to the beauty and the courage of the flower,” she once said. “I am captivated by it. Flowers, more than anything else, are so life-enforcing.”

Helen was a genuine and authentic as they come.

“Helen will always stay with us,” said long-time friend and King artist Ernestine Tahedl. “Her art will be appreciated, loved and cherished. A lasting document of Helen's wonderful gift to all. Her love to paint, generosity, enjoyment of beauty in life and nature are the things I remember most about her and I am deeply grateful that I could call her a friend! Helen was truly an inspiration!”

Helen is survived by her daughter Michelle, her sister Mary and broth-



er-in-law Jeff, sons-in-law Frank and Alan, and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews and cousins; she is predeceased by her parents, husband Derek, sister Diane and brother-in-law William and, in 2014, her beloved daughter Andrea.

A private funeral will take place and visitation will be on Thursday, Dec. 7 between 4 and 6 p.m. at the Roadhouse & Rose Funeral Home – 157 Main Street South, Newmarket Ontario, L3Y 3Y9. In lieu of flowers kindly make donations to The Alzheimer Society.



Helen Lucas shares a joke with friend and fellow artist Ernestine Tahedl.

St. Paul's Church in Nobleton hosts walk-through event Dec. 9

Nobleton's St. Paul's church is inviting everyone to walk through the Christmas experience that started with Jesus Christ's birth so many centuries ago.

Live characters will tell the story of the event that we now celebrate the world over. Children of all ages will enjoy the live animals, a special passport to collect stamps and stickers on their journey, and a lovely Christmas ornament to take home

Do you like to sing? They'd love it if you joined us to sing songs of the season around the firepit with shepherds, angels, and joyful carollers from the neighbourhood. When you're ready to warm up, come inside for hot chocolate!

The Drive-Thru Prayer team will be available in the chapel for anyone that would like prayer. All ages are welcome.

The event runs Saturday, Dec. 9 from 3 to 6 p.m. Take as little as 30 minutes, or join them all afternoon. The event will be staged in the church parking lot at 5750 King Road.

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Local pharmacist among Canada's post powerful women

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

A King pharmacist is among a host of female entrepreneurs who are making a difference.

Annaflor (Anna) Feliprada-Patrizio, a Filipino-Canadian pharmacist and co-founder of Schomberg Village Pharmacy, was among the honourees at this year's Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Awards. Women's Executive Network (WXN) and its partners recognized 103 women across Canada who make a transformational difference in their fields and actively shape a more inclusive future, especially in under-represented areas.

The 2023 winners were honoured at the 21st annual Top 100 Awards Gala, hosted at the Fairmont Royal York Toronto Nov. 30.

"It takes a powerful woman to lead like a legend in her field, organization or community, and it takes a powerful woman to empower those around her to do the same," said Sherri Stevens, Owner and CEO of WXN. "This year's winners embody that power, giving us hope when we need it most, setting new bars and changing the status quo. They are legends celebrated not just for the things they do, but also how they touch the lives of others."

Anna Patrizio is receiving an award under the WXN's Professionals category which recognizes women who are professionals in practice and play a leadership role within their organizations. The Top 100 Awards span the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, with the winners selected by WXN's Diversity Council of Canada. The awards are presented to remarkable women in

12 categories.

Patrizio is a multi-awarded Filipino immigrant entrepreneur who is proud of her heritage roots. Patrizio leads her community pharmacy team, notably navigating the challenges of the pandemic. Her leadership set a high standard by successfully rolling out very early on, mass vaccination and rapid testing. This impact gained her the "Most Influential Filipina Woman in the World" title held in Lisbon, Portugal in 2022.

Reflecting on this year's WXN theme "Like a Legend" Patrizio says, "Legends to me, stand the test of time. I look back on my life and yes, I stood up every time I fall. With scrapes and bruises, I choose to fight each time. I picked self-growth over dictation of norms. I paid a personal price for challenging the status quo.

"I've always believed that I stand on the shoulders of giants. I am entrusted to live in a time where being myself is celebrated. I have a lifelong commitment that my voice and presence will be an instrument that no woman of uniqueness and independence will be prosecuted or denied for being themselves," Patrizio concluded.

This recognition did not sink in to her until the VIP night, even though she knew about this award for months.

"I had tears in my eyes after the welcome remarks. It was great to really take a pause and acknowledge yourself. For most women including myself, we mostly take care of everyone around us but ourselves. My heart and soul is filled with gratitude. My parents are my inspiration, they are the most courageous people I know. My husband Gianni keeps me centered and the most



generous human I know. I also want to honour all the women ahead of me. Because of the freedom and rights that were fought for me, I am entrusted to live in a time where being myself is celebrated."

WXN (Women's Executive Network), a member-based organization, is North America's #1 and only organization that meaningfully propels and celebrates the advancement of professional women at all levels, in all sectors, and of all ages. WXN delivers this advancement through training, events, mentoring, networking, and award and recognition programs for members and partners. WXN operates in Canada and the U.S. For media inquiries or to arrange an interview with Sherri Stevens, please contact: Garry Atkinson, Research & Analytics Manager gatkinson@wxnnetwork.com.

Schomberg Village Pharmacy is an independently operated community pharmacy that opened its doors Feb. 14, 2019, a fitting first day where clients are at the "heart" of its operations. Over the last three years and a pandemic throwing a curve-ball, it stepped-up and showed leadership in public health crisis management by participating very early on and still continues with mass vaccination efforts and a rapid testing hub. It also quickly responded and adapted pharmacy practice with little to no resources to continue the ef-

forts of serving the community. A story that was recorded and available for further reading by "King Weekly Sentinel: Progress 2021 Edition" published on October 21, 2021. More about Schomberg Village Pharmacy at: <https://www.schombergvillagepharmacy.com/>

Anna is one of the two Filipino women pharmacists that owns Schomberg Village Pharmacy. Prior to joining this business venture, her early professional career was in a corporate grocery-pharmacy chain, where she successfully managed different locations in her 14-year stint. Her work ethics has been primarily molded with her exposure to her mother's drugstore business and her father's farming which are both in the Philippines.

She is the first to admit that spending the summer school break at the family businesses was not her favourite childhood activity. She is also the first to generously credit these experiences to her resilience, tenacity and independence as an individual that is reflective in her career and personal life.

She is an alumna of La Consolation College - Binan 1997, Centro Escolar University, School of Pharmacy - Manila 2001, International Pharmacy Graduate Program, University of Toronto 2003. More about her professional career and affiliations on her resume and at: <https://www.linkedin/in/anna-patrizio>

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KingWeeklySentinel

Arts & Entertainment

A Main Street Christmas ushers in the season in style

A massive crowd of visitors descended on Schomberg Saturday for the annual A Main Street Christmas festival. Two parades, street and hall vendors, entertainment and great food drew people from far and wide, feeling that holiday spirit.



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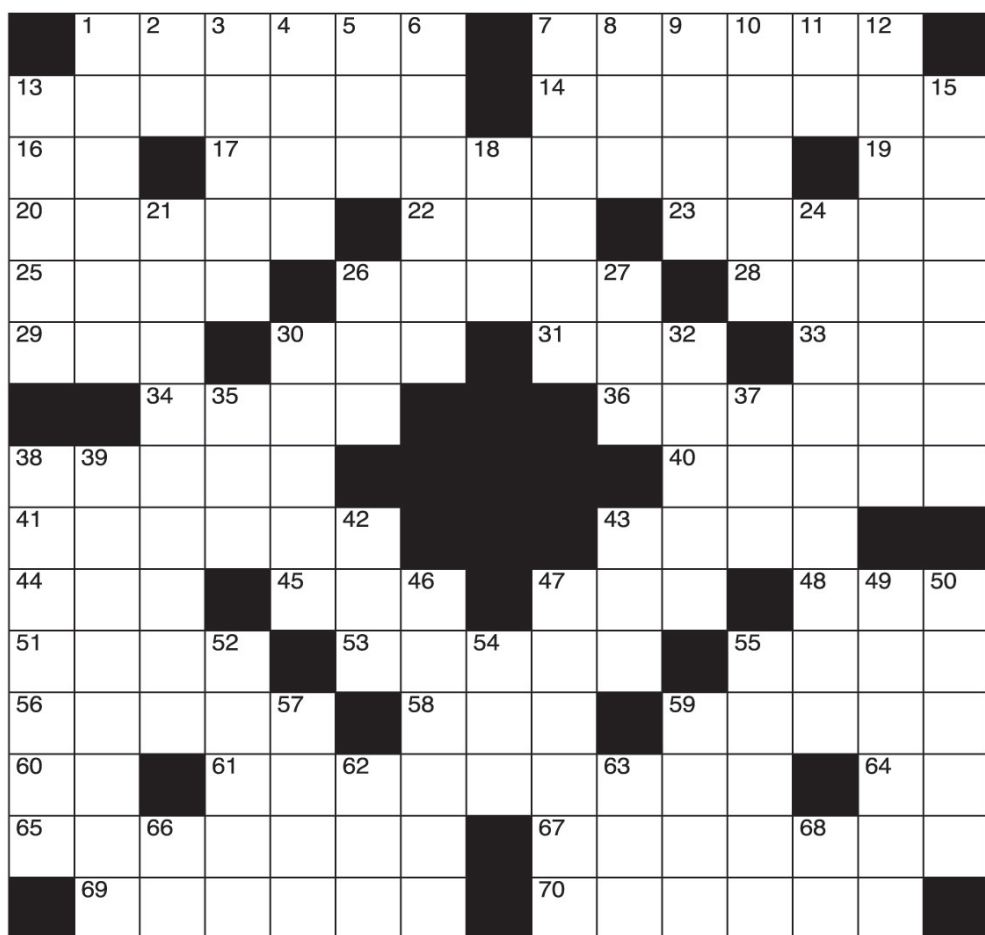
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Spiritual leaders
- 7. Salt
- 13. Fortified wine
- 14. Edible mollusk
- 16. It begins with them
- 17. A way to compare
- 19. Government lawyer
- 20. Back parts
- 22. 8th month (abbr.)
- 23. Very willing
- 25. ___ ex machina
- 26. Satisfies
- 28. Quebec river
- 29. A doctrine
- 30. Popular pickup truck
- 31. Dekagram
- 33. Naturally occurring solid material
- 34. Company officer
- 36. Villains
- 38. Cricket frogs
- 40. German founder of psychology
- 41. Endured

- 43. A female domestic
- 44. A "place" to avoid
- 45. Cigarette (slang)
- 47. Canadian politician Josephine
- 48. French ballet/acting dynasty
- 51. Employee stock ownership plan
- 53. Belonging to the bottom
- 55. Sound
- 56. Yankees' slugger Judge
- 58. Dickens character
- 59. More wise
- 60. Flash memory card
- 61. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- 64. Atomic #79
- 65. Longtime Braves pitcher Julio
- 67. Humor
- 69. Shawl
- 70. Preliminary assessment of patients

- 1. Animal disease
- 2. Commercial
- 3. Craft supply
- 4. Storage units
- 5. Investment vehicle
- 6. Colorado Heisman winner
- 7. In a way, sank
- 8. Post-birth brain damage (abbr.)
- 9. Lay about
- 10. Intestinal
- 11. The opposite of yes
- 12. Caused to be loved
- 13. Messianic in Islamic eschatology
- 15. Showing since conviction
- 18. Not safe
- 21. The number above the line in a fraction
- 24. Yard invader
- 26. Pouch
- 27. Swedish krona
- 30. Start anew
- 32. While white or yellow flower

- 35. Fourteen
- 37. Graphical user interface
- 38. Up-to-date on the news
- 39. Campaigns
- 42. Touch softly
- 43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
- 46. Violent seizure of property
- 47. One who supports the Pope
- 49. Anxiety
- 50. Body fluid
- 52. Phony person
- 54. Title of respect
- 55. Chilean city
- 57. City in central Japan
- 59. Silk garment
- 62. Draw from
- 63. Automobile
- 66. Man
- 68. Legal bigwig (abbr.)

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Snow enhances Nobleton's Christmas Tree lighting ceremony

By Jim Stewart

In an inversion of Dan Fogelberg's holiday classic "Another Auld Lang Syne," the rain turned into snow – just in time for Nobleton's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Gazebo on Sunday evening.

Local dignitaries illuminated the 45-foot Colorado Blue Spruce at 6:55 p.m. just as the temperature dropped from 2 to 1 degree Celsius to blanket all celebrants in big wet snowflakes instead of sideways rain that threatened to hamper the ceremony.

A meteorological miracle on Highway 27, indeed.

The snowfall created a more magical atmosphere to set off the photo op zones, including one with Saint Nick himself. Santa – at his congenial best and sheltered from the elements – seemed more than content to converse and pose with the over 100 celebrants in attendance.

Dozens of families braved the uncertain elements to enjoy the seasonal rite of passage in Nobleton. Parking was at a premium across the road at the Nobleton Plaza.

In his prepared media release, Mayor Steve Pellegrini noted that "the enchanting celebration of the Nobleton Tree Lighting Ceremony (is) a cherished tradition that brings people together in the true spirit of the holidays.

As we come together to celebrate, let's also remember those less fortunate during this season of giving. I encourage everyone to contribute to our toy and food donation drives to ensure that the joy of the holidays reaches every corner of our community."

To assist the Mayor's call to charitable action, a crew from the King Fire and Emergency Services accepted donations of non-perishable food items or new, unwrapped toys. The Christmas in King volunteer organization will distribute the collection to families in need to share holiday cheer. Donations can also be dropped off to Firehouse 34, located at 2045 King Road in the King City, until noon on Friday, Dec. 22.

In addition to the noble charitable goals built into Sunday's ceremony, the free, family-friendly event also featured face painting, holiday crafts, musical performances, and festive treats.

Christmas carols – sung by students from King City Secondary School, Nobleton Public School, and Aria School of Music – filled the air from the beautifully-illuminated main stage. Festive gustatory delights – such as apple cider and roasted chestnuts, homemade and served by local community groups – were available to participants as were complimentary hot beverages provided by Tim Hortons.



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The Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Welcome to December and after a very successful "Main Street Christmas" Schomberg is in full holiday mode. Even the weather knew not to mess around with this year's committee, which worked so hard and pulled off one of the best events I've personally witnessed in my 23 years here.

The parade went off without a hitch, well except for our "Schomberg Euchre Clubs" car malfunction, which was taken care of quickly, thanks to some locals that helped push the car to the side, and off we were again, and hardly a blip was noticed. We hope the candy canes make up for any inconvenience.

Huge congratulations are for all who worked so hard to pull this incredible event off so smoothly. It's a huge undertaking that wouldn't be possible without dedicated volunteers. I don't know if it was just me, but it seemed busier than I've seen it in a long while. Great job everyone!

I did hear a few people mention to our euchre club volunteers that they weren't aware Schomberg had a euchre club. Well, we do, and it's I include it in the "Scoop" every week. If you have a club and would like to attract more members, please reach out to me and I'll include your club here as well. Euchre night is Friday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room B at the Trisan. It is \$10 per night or \$20 a month. All are welcome, all ages, all genders, just bring your sense of humour and be prepared to laugh and meet lots of wonderful people. Just come out and join in.

"Unplugged on Main" presents a dramatic reading of Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol" Saturday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 313 Main Street. Cost is adults \$20 each, youth \$10 each, and you can purchase advance tickets by visiting www.unpluggedonmain.com. The evening will include six celebrity readers

retelling the story of "A Christmas Carol," with a reception to follow and feel free to wear a costume.

Schomberg Seniors (55+): Here is the line up for December and January, the info meetings have been postponed until the new year.

The big event "Festive Holiday Potluck Social" is coming up next week. It takes place Monday, Dec. 11, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. please make sure to bring a dish and enjoy great company and fabulous food. If the weather doesn't cooperate then it will be moved to Dec. 18, same time. If it's anything like our June Potluck, I guarantee you will not be disappointed!

Saturday, Dec. 16 from 2 p.m. we'll be heading to South Simcoe Theatre in Cookstown to see "Snow White & The Seven Aliens." Tickets are \$18.

Monday, January 8 - 10 a.m. - Carol Hindley and Barbara Hathorn will present "P.E.I. Adventure."

Monday, Jan. 15 - 11 a.m. - Introduction to Bridge 1. Registration is required and limited to 8. Contact klbird@hotmail.com

Monday, Jan. 22 - 10 a.m. - York Region Paramedic Heart Start - How to use the Defibrillator.

If there is something that catches your eye and you would like to attend any of the Theatre or workshops please reach out to Lynn Bird, klbird@hotmail.com or Margaret Crowe maggie.crowe@hotmail.com.

During the month December, we will be accepting membership registration renewals and new members' registrations for 2024. Come to any of the presentations/workshops and fill out a new form.

Annual fee is \$15 for individual and \$20 a couple or two people living at the same address for King residents. The cost is \$20 and \$30 respectively for non-residents. To keep up to date with events, please check online at king.ca/seniors.

Our 2024 events calendar is shaping up beautifully, but we always want to provide interesting workshops, outings, and presentations, so don't be shy, tell us what you would like to see us add

cause, please bring your donations to one of our Sunday services or leave a message at 905-859-3976 and someone will contact you.

Monday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m., we are having a Pot Luck Christmas Social at Nobleton United. The main course (turkey, buns, potatoes, cranberries) are taken care of. Please bring a side, salad, jellied salad or a dessert. There are always fun activities organized for this event, so be prepared to enjoy more than just a meal. Bring loonies or toonies to be donated to the King Township Food Bank. Dennis will be playing Christmas carols for us ... a great singalong to get everyone in a jolly mood. Everyone is invited, your friends and neighbours.

The next Messy Church is Wednesday, Dec. 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. Messy Church is for families. The theme is Christmas. There will be 5 optional activities until 6 pm. Then there is an interactive story and songs. At 6:15 p.m. we eat. Afterwards, we clean up. Please let me know if you plan to attend (nancyhopkinson@gmail.com).

On Christmas Eve (Sunday, Dec. 24), there will be a family friendly service at 3 p.m. at Nobleton United. There will be a more traditional Christmas Eve Service with communion at Schomberg United at 7 p.m.

Our Pastor, Richard Gardner, is in the Nobleton church office most Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you wish to meet with Richard, drop by or contact him at pastor.schomberg.nobleton@gmail.com or call the church office: 905-859-3976.

for next year. We are all in this together and your Team is only as good as your involvement in the Schomberg Seniors, we'd love for you to come out and join us.

All presentations and meetings will take place at the Community Hall in Schomberg, other than those indicated.

This quote spoke to me this week: "Volunteers do not necessarily have

the time; they just have the heart" ~ Elezabeth Andrew

Again, if you find a lost dog or cat, please secure it and call Vaughan Animal Control at 905-832-2281, they are responsible for this area.

Please reach out with your events, stories of happenings or anything you would love to see here porter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

The Geminid Meteor Shower

The annual Geminid meteor shower will peak on the night of Dec. 13 into the morning of the 14th.

This shower will produce up to 120 meteors per hour with some bright fireballs.

Annual meteor showers are produced when Earth crosses debris fields from comets as we orbit the sun, this is why various showers occur at the same time each year. In the case of the Geminids, Earth will encounter tiny sand-sized particles from the asteroid 3200 Phaethon with some gravel size pieces producing bright dramatic fireballs that will light up the sky as well as the ground.

The meteors will harmlessly vaporize some 80 kilometres above the ground at a slow 35 km/sec compared to the Perseids in August at twice that speed. A few meteors can be seen starting at about 7 p.m. locally when the constellation is low in the northeast. Greater numbers will be seen as the constellation rises higher throughout the night.

The moon will not interfere this year. This is a must-see event.

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Nobleton and Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Breakfast with Santa was once again indoors and enjoyed by many families last Saturday. Many thanks to organizer Linda Olsen and her many elves who cooked pancakes & sausages, served them, cleaned up the tables and reset for more families. Also many thanks to the families who donated a total of \$695 for Christmas in King.

We would love for you to join us for worship and refreshments as we continue Advent Services at Schomberg United, St. Mary Magdalene Church, 116 Church St., Schomberg at 9:30 a.m. or at Nobleton United Church, 6076 King Rd., Nobleton at 11:15 a.m.

We are both in person for our respective services (Schomberg United at 9:30 am and Nobleton United at 11:15 a.m.) and live online at 11:15 a.m. Go to www.youtube.com. Then search for Nobleton United Church, find the correct date and enjoy! The videos are recorded, so you can also watch them later.

Advent Study is being held at Schomberg United Church at St. Mary Magdalene Church on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Last one is Dec. 20.

"Inn from the Cold" needs donations of men's new warm socks and underwear. If you are able to support this

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THE BEST MOVE YOU COULD MAKE

King Fire personnel take centre stage at appreciation event

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Members of King Fire and Emergency Services (KFES) received deserved praise during the annual appreciation luncheon.

Fire Chief Jim Wall shared the story of a singer and an important message.

On Nov. 8, Jason Bradley DeFord also known professionally by his stage name “Jelly Roll,” won three CMA Music Awards for the song “Son of a Sinner.” The song is about a traveling musician who battles with perceiving what is “good and wrong,” a dilemma all of us have experienced at some given point in our lives. In Jelly Roll’s New Artist of the Year acceptance speech, he addressed the audience by saying the following:

“I don’t know where you’re at in life or what you’re going through. But I want to tell you keep going baby. I want to tell you success is on the other side of it. I want to tell you its going to be okay. I wanna tell you that the windshield is bigger than the rearview mirror for a reason. Because what’s in front of you is so much more important than what’s behind you.”

This was profound and Chief Wall said he doesn’t always know where his people are in life, but “as a cohesive team, and can I assure you, we’re going to keep going. I want to tell you that our team’s success will always be on the other side of it. I want to tell you that we will be okay. I want to tell you that our windshield will always be bigger than the rearview mirror for a good reason. Because what’s in front of us as a team will always remain more important than what’s behind us.”

Then Chief Wall took the audience on a mental journey, aboard one of King Fire’s trucks.

“From the driver’s seat, I need to ensure that the vision remains clear, the speed in which we get there is correct, and we don’t drive through any stop signs along the way.

“Watching out for blind spots, navigating potholes, and keeping an eye out for sharp bends is something that I need to be aware of at all times.

“And yes, there are days that it seems forever to get us on scene and there are other days that we have arrived so fast that we don’t have all of the information to formulate a complete decision.

“Responding with consistency to all matters is imperative, yet realistically, no two calls or situations are the exact same.

“However, as I adjust the driver’s seat, make sure all of the driver’s controls are in the right position, we can collectively set our speed to ensure that we arrive on scene safely each and every time with the right people in the cab of the truck.

“And there will be times where I may have to reference the trucks manual in order to ensure we are operating the apparatus correctly. And during this, there will be times the manual doesn’t answer the questions at hand. And that may necessitate a call to our service manager and his team. And that service manager is always a call away.”

The chief thanked Mayor Steve Pellegrini for his “sage advice and leadership when it really counts.

“The team behind you (council) is supportive and provides great insight when required. If there’s chips in the windshield along the way, we fix them. And the continued maintenance of this

apparatus will really depend on all of us as a team. The warranty can never run out, the doors can’t fall off of it, and the tires always need to maintain traction, so we continue moving forward.

“And as we head down the road, we need to keep that special cargo safe, and that’s our entire team of firefighters in the back of the cab, the customer service specialists. And these customer service specialists provide every imaginable service that you can think of that doesn’t involve a firearm. And, as you may have noticed I have mentioned customer service multiple times. Customer service does not start nor end with us just putting fires out. Through community engagement is where customer service really starts.

“This is through our door-to-door smoke alarm program, our guide light program, and 9-1-1 sign campaign just to mention a few.”

The chief pointed out that in 2020, just before the pandemic shut everything down, KFES knocked on 6,800 doors for its smoke alarm program. Despite changing times, they have knocked on an additional 700 doors since 2020.

He stressed that community engagement at all levels really matters. This is right from visiting a grade school, workplace, seniors home, or attending a community event. King’s team has saved more lives than what they actually realize.

For 2024, the chief has directed the entire team to be involved at a minimum in 12 hours of community engagement. With 150 staff x 1 hour a month x 12 months, that equals 1,800 hours of community engagement. And, if they only spoke to 1 person during that 1-hour time period, that’s 1,800 residents that we had spoken with at a minimum throughout the course of the year.

The chief said he wanted the entire team to cherish these golden moments where you had that opportunity to make a change in someone’s life.

“And that maybe through installing a smoke or CO alarm, practicing with a family on their home escape plan, or just providing accurate advice to one of our residents.”

The Honour Guard, including Piper Rory MacKinnon, led dignitaries into the hall.

Welcome remarks were delivered by Assistant District Chief Doug Bolton.

Remarks followed by King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce and MP Anna Roberts, as well as Mayor Pellegrini and fire personnel.

The Paul Jackson Memorial Award is awarded to a fire department staff member that exemplifies the values, dedication and commitment that was demonstrated by Training Officer Paul Jackson.

The candidate must be nominated in writing by his or her own peers which will include a written summary of why this person is deserving of this award.

In keeping with the way Paul Jackson lived his life, the candidate would be someone that consistently gives more than what is expected.

The candidate must be someone who is forever willing to go that extra mile. They are always willing to help out fellow staff members and the public at large.

The winner was Steve Bonollo. Members were presented with awards for their years of service.

Marking 25 years were Doug Bolton and Lisa Sinopoli.



King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce presented a service pin to firefighter Lisa Sinopoli.

“Today, we celebrate the incredible achievements of King Fire and Emergency Services, and the men and women who live by the motto of Duty, Trust, and Honour,” said MPP Lecce. “It was my honour to present a service pin to Lisa Sinopoli; I thank her, and all King firefighters for being great Canadian role models in our community.”

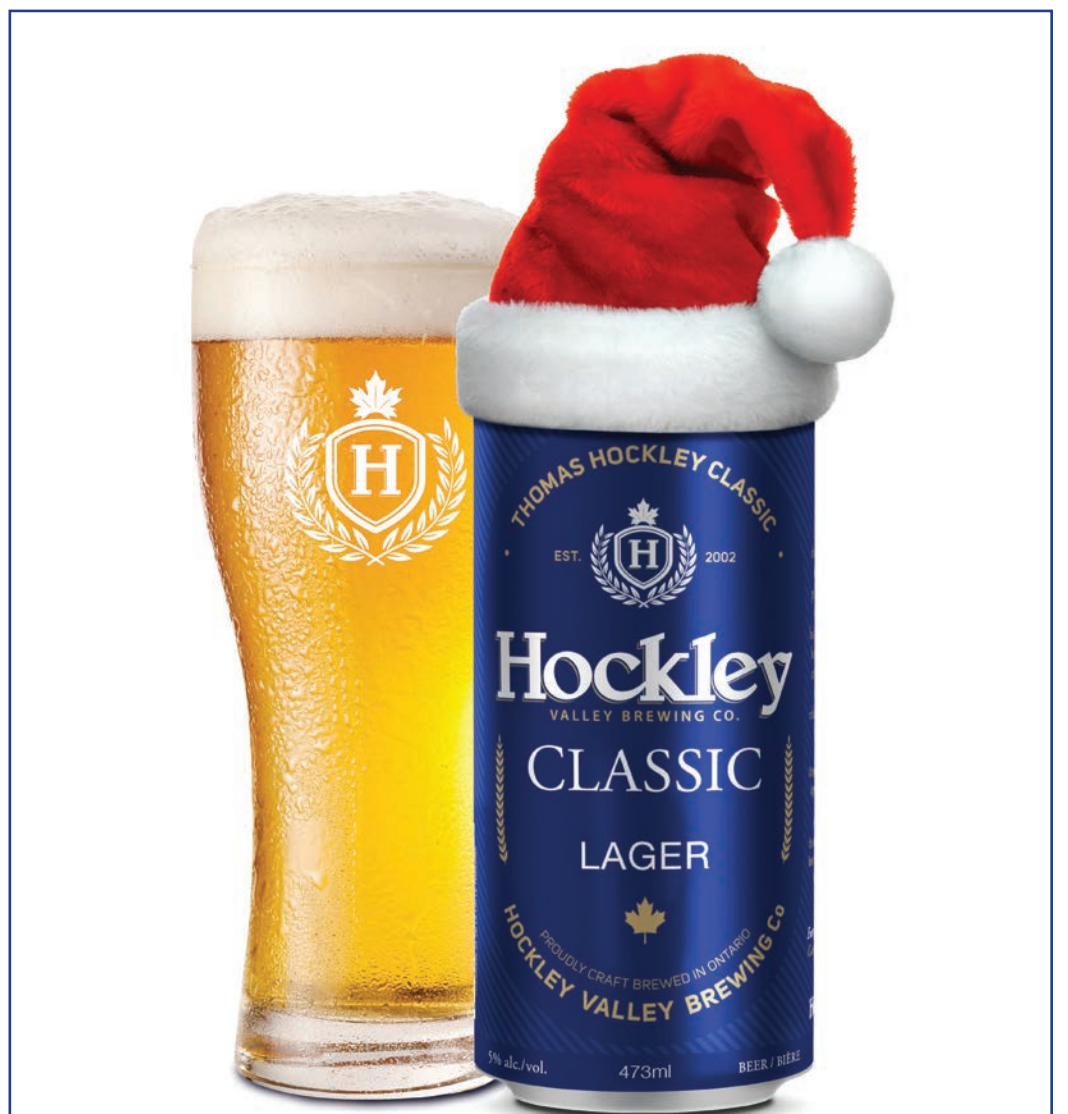
Bob Tibbitts received recognition for 20 years.

Getting a nod for 10 years were Alex Keillor, Andy Bowden, Damian Rivero, Jesse Gilmour, Larry Rocha, Massimo DeMaria, Philip Defina, Steven Bonollo, Warren Jackson.

Earning their 5-year pins were Brayden Chapman, Brayden Pitre, Dylan Prosper, Joseph Pagnani, Niko Rankovic and Rod Simonis.

The Distinguished Service Award is presented to members who distinguish themselves by a meritorious achievement, act, or service, performed in a manner substantially beyond normal expectations, or who demonstrate a special faithfulness or perseverance over time in providing high quality service in meeting and advancing the Department’s goals and objectives.

Earning this distinction were Firehouse 34, King City, Chris Charitou; Firehouse 36, Schomberg, Brayden Chapman; Firehouse 38, Nobleton, Marco Sacilotto.



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King Weekly Sentinel SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events
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Giovannone leads Knights to near-perfect season

By Jim Stewart

Villanova College Defensive Tackle Jerry Giovannone has his heart set on becoming an engineer as well as taking a shot at becoming a CIAU and CFL long snapper. After a near-perfect 2023 high school football season with the Knights and with stellar results in the classroom, the amiable Grade 12 Honor Roll student sees his post-secondary aspirations clearer than ever.

But for now he wants to celebrate this fall's successes on the gridiron.

The Captain of the Knights, along with Coaches Sam Papaconstantinou and Samir Chahine, who are both former CFL players and passionate football lifers, oversaw a resurrection of Villanova's football program this season as the team rose from winless dormats last year to finalists in this year's Tier 2 TDCAA championship game.

When asked about the highlight of Villanova's magical season, Captain Giovannone was clear: "At the end of the day, it was all about the record. Coming back from 0-7 last season started with our first game in September. We won 46-0 and started steam-rolling teams."

Giovannone's nuanced responses to my queries about the 2023 season belie his age and he notes that the season was based on defiance and heart: "What gave us fight and drive was that no one really believed in us. This gave us a common purpose and the season took off from there."

According to Giovannone, one of the big factors in the Knights' incredible improvement between the 2022 and 2023 seasons was people power: "As a captain, I saw big changes this sea-

son. The big thing was the number of players we had in uniform compared to 2022. The problem last year was we only had 22 players and so many guys had to play offence and defence and special teams. I was playing Defensive Tackle, Long Snapping, and playing Fullback. This year, we had thirty-five so we could get a breather."

The 35 Knights assembled for battle went undefeated in AA Conference play – beating Woodbridge College, Senator O'Connor, Henry Carr, Bishop Oscar Romero, and, in a preview to the TDCAA championship, Villanova defeated Bishop Allan 23-4 in a key regular season game. Villanova carted its pristine 5-0 regular season record into the final versus Bishop Allan, but fell to their divisional rivals 21-6 in a hard-fought climactic contest in which Bishop Allan scored their third touchdown in the final minute of play.

The 17-year-old student-athlete noted that the Knights' loss in the final game in Toronto "did not define us." Instead, Villanova's captain focused on the team's growth both in terms of athleticism and brotherhood: "We had the best offence and the best defense heading into the championship. We played for each other all season. In the final, we had more yards against Bishop Allan, we did so many things right, but it was the turnovers that caused the loss." Coach Papaconstantinou concurred with his captain and was philosophical about the loss and, more importantly, the development of the Knights: "The ball didn't bounce our way in the final, but the season was a success. We did it with what we had. It was about how to develop us as a team and these guys as good young men."

Coach Samir Chahine – who starred for McGill as well as Calgary, Edmonton, Hamilton, Ottawa, and Toronto in the CFL – also noted the growth of the "good young men" on and off the field: "This group of guys became a special group. I've been at this for 18 years and these guys were committed to winning. We met during lunches to go over plays. We watched game film and reviewed plays on a white board. Most importantly this year, we tried the limit the players going both ways. What really changed was the level of commitment and Jerry led us to so much improvement in resiliency. We built up so much from the 0-7 team. They battled and battled and Jerry led the way."

Coach Papaconstantinou elaborated on the factors that led to the incredible improvement of student-athletes like Jerry Giovannone: "We were able to go to two-hour practices and work on offence, defence, and special teams within a practice. We were able to coach skills and we could run plays, especially special teams. Guys like Jerry were able to develop as linemen with Coach Chahine's leadership. These guys really cared for each other. There was tremendous love for one another."

Papaconstantinou, whose been teaching since 1982 and has seemingly found the fountain of youth sought after by Ponce de Leon, has seen his fair share of success stories as a star linebacker with the UT Blues, in his seven-year CFL career, and his forty-year coaching career, but he heaped much praise on his Knights' Captain:



Villanova College Football Coaches Samir Chahine (left) and Sam Papaconstantinou (right) flank Knights' Captain Jerry Giovannone.

"He's come a long way. Jerry's been a great leader – so academically-sound and such a role model with his charity work. He's turned out to be a very fine young man. It's tangible that Jerry could play at the next level, especially as a long snapper in the CIAU. I hope he puts it all out there at Waterloo or wherever he chooses to study."

Giovannone appreciated his coach's assessment and agreed with the focus on studying: "Education is my #1 priority."

Thompson shuts out the Orillia Terriers 3-0 in Cougars' win

By Jim Stewart

Schomberg goaltender Christopher Thompson made 38 saves and the Cougars' opportunistic offence got goals from Carlo Lioni, Luke Szabo, and Wesley O'Hara en route to a 3-0 win over the Orillia Terriers on Thursday night at the Trisan Centre.

It was Thompson's second shutout of the season and he lowered his GAA to 2.79 with the whitewashing of the Terriers.

Schomberg's leading scorer Carlo Lioni got his team off to a quick start 73 seconds into the game. The veteran forward finished a pass from Anthony Nascimento and slid the puck past Terriers' netminder Jude Rondina to give Schomberg a much-needed early lead. Wesley O'Hara also drew an assist on Lioni's sixth goal and 19th point of the season.

Five minutes later, Luke Szabo's seventh goal of the season put the Cougars up 2-0 with helpers coming from Sam Degli Angeli and Evan Wilson. In stark contrast to the Shoresy-esque contest versus Alliston, there were no penalties called in the first period and the teams engaged in a free-flowing 20 minutes of hockey where the Cougars deployed their speed to capitalize on their opportunities.

Thompson looked strong in net for Schomberg in the opening frame – cutting down angles on Terrier attackers, surrounding pucks fired his way, and demonstrating excellent rebound control to keep Orillia off the scoresheet by turning away all 14 of the visitors' shots.

Thompson's steady play between the pipes seemed to inspire his teammates and the Cougars got off to another quick start to start the second period when O'Hara tallied his team-leading tenth goal of the season at 1:19 – blasting a puck from the slot that eluded Rondina. The big forward's goal was set up by a pass from Nascimento (his 11th of the season) and the two veteran Cougars set the tone for the second period by striking early.

The early goals in both the first and second periods were keys to the game, according to Schomberg's Captain Adam Miller: "That's been a big

emphasis for us this year. We need to have quick starts and play with urgency and energy." The ebullient Miller was pleased with – and relieved by – the team's victory after a challenging November in which the team went 2-3-0-1: "Tonight's win showed our resilience – it's been a difficult month but there's been no negativity. The locker room is tight."

The steady defenseman singled out his goaltender's stellar play versus the Terriers: "He held us in the game and made big saves to keep us in the game. It was a nice bounce back win for Chris and the whole team."

Cougars Coach Owen Heilemann echoed his captain's appraisal of Thompson: "He was fantastic tonight. At the end of the game, Chris remained solid in the net with Orillia pressing. He was smothering shots and had great rebound control."

Coach Heilemann was also pleased with the team's bounce-back performance: "I was happy with our effort tonight. We knew this was going to be tough month. We limited the damage in a tough schedule and need to keep up this positive energy that a game like this can provide for us moving forward. Playing the top teams in the division all month has created rivalries, even animosity, with this kind of schedule. We've been playing hard all year and tonight we cashed in on opportunities and have turned the corner into December. We'll play them a game at a time, starting with Penetang and then Huntsville at home next Thursday and Saturday."

With the win on Thursday night, the Cougars improved their fourth-place record to 13-6-0-1 and pulled to within two points of third-place Orillia who dropped to 14-5-1-0. Alliston leads the nine-team North Carruthers Division with 36 points and Stayner holds down second spot with 32. Orillia and Schomberg (with two games in hand on Alliston) have 29 and 27 points, respectively.

The Cougars kick off December by hosting the fifth-place Penetang Kings (8-9-1-1) on Thursday, Dec. 7 and the sixth-place Huntsville Otters (8-10-1-0) on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the Trisan Centre. Puck drop for both home games is 7:30 p.m.



King Curling Club Youth Coach Greg Switzer proudly stands beside Skip Sara Komljanec, Vice Katherine Jones, Second Marisa Farrugia and Lead Keira Scott with their medals after being crowned Champions of the U15 Stroud Curling Spiel. Team Komljanec went undefeated winning against teams from High Park and Dixie curling clubs.

U15 girls crowned spiel champs

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

Last weekend, King Curling Club was well represented in the U15 Stroud Curling Spiel.

Skip Sara Komljanec and her squad of Vice Kate Jones, Marisa Farrugia at 2nd and Keira Scott at Lead participated in the 10 team event that consisted of 2 games, food and snacks, and prizes. The girls are members of the club's Youth curling program with instructors Greg Switzer, Kathleen Gorsline, Beth Eagan and Barb Davis.

Team Komljanec played against teams from High Park and Dixie where they executed take-outs, guards and draws to the button.

Coach Greg commented on their strategy and execution of skills during the second games 4th end. Down to Skip rocks with no easy entry to score as the centre ice around the top of the rings was cluttered with multiple stones of both colours.

The opposition Skip threw to the wide side of the house placing a near perfect final end stone to count. Skip

Sara Komljanec had only one option; to duplicate the shot but with more weight to move the stone back enough and out-count the current shot stone. The shot would require a full team effort, to get their Skips stone by the guard maintaining enough weight and make the connection for the hit and roll. Perfect line calling by Vice Jones and superior sweeping by Farrugia and Scott executed the called shot perfectly to earn the well-fought for and difficult single point.

Coach Greg who was with them throughout the event inspired them with continual instruction and support. Switzer was proud of his girls who also displayed true sportsmanship and kindness both on and off the ice. They demonstrated genuine team spirit leaving not only themselves with pride but to the coaching staff, parents and the King Curling Club.

Team Komljanec went undefeated winning both of their contests after collecting the highest scores of wins and points scored. Congratulations to Sara, Kate, Marisa and Keira on being crowned Champions of the Under 15 Stroud spiel.

Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church
By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person for worship this Sunday at 10 a.m.

Our Pastor, Jeff Loach, will continue his new series on the book of Acts this second Sunday of Advent. Jeff's message, entitled "All I Want For Christmas is ... Courage," is from Acts 4.22-31. If you can't make it in person, our live-streamed broadcasts are available directly on stpaulsnobleton.ca or on our YouTube channel each Sunday at 10 a.m., or on demand at youtube.com/stpaulschurchnobleton.

You, your family and friends are invited to our annual Walk-Thru Christmas event which will take place outside the church on Saturday, Dec. 9 anytime from 3 to 6 p.m. Come and be ready to experience the real Christmas story. Bundle up for this free outdoor event at 5750 King Road. We will have the hot chocolate ready. If you are planning on attending the Nobleton Tree Lighting on Dec. 3 please drop by at the St. Paul's booth.

St. Paul's continues to look for God's choice for our part-time Pastoral Musician position. If you love Jesus, play piano and can lead a praise team and a congregation in worship, we'd like to hear from you! Send your résumé to jeff@stpaulsnobleton.ca.

Our "Junction" children's ministry is meeting in person for all children up to Grade 6 during worship. We continue to offer St. Paul's "At Home" boxes each month to facilitate God-focused family learning. If you would like to engage with this resource, tick the appropriate box on the connection card at stpaulsnobleton.ca/connect

St. Mary's Church

A gentle reminder that all children who are preparing to celebrate their First Holy Communion in spring 2024 are strongly encouraged to attend the Children's Liturgy of the Word Program on Sundays (St. Patrick's 9:30 a.m., St. Mary's 11:30 a.m.) as a supplement to the at-home Sacramental preparation program. Families should be attending the Holy Mass celebration on a regular basis, that is, every Sunday or Saturday vigil (5 p.m.). See Mass

schedule in bulletin.

We are hosting an Altar Server Training and Bowling Night for all new and existing Altar Servers on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Church followed by a bowling night social and pizza at Splitsville in Woodbridge. All Grades 3+ students and those who are already altar serving are invited to attend.

Altar Serving fosters a deeper devotion and understanding of the Holy Mass, future vocations; community with peers and opportunity for leadership. High school students receive community volunteer hours. Please RSVP by calling the parish office so that we may book the bowling lanes in advance.

St. Mary's Catholic Women's League would like to thank all of the generous donations we received for our pie making event. Due to your donations our event was a success.

Calling all Teens Grades 6 to 12, mark your calendars for the Greatest Christmas Party of all Time taking place on Saturday, Dec. 16 after the 5 p.m. Youth Mass. Please bring your favourite dish or desert to share as we celebrate the birth of Christ with a youth ministry dinner and party. Join us for Christmas season cheer while playing festive Christmas games, activities, crafts, competitions and The Epic Christmas Carol Battle. All craft materials will be provided!

Please RSVP by texting Zephania and let us know which dish or desert you plan to share!

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the Christmas Family events taking place at both parishes on Dec. 10. Join us for food, fun and fellowship as we usher in the Blessed Season of Christmas, the celebration of Christ's Birth!

Nobleton Seniors (55+) By Joanne Bailey

We welcome all Nobleton Seniors (55+) to the Nobleton Arena to participate in meaningful activities, create new friendships and to share ideas. We are located at 15 Old King Rd. (upstairs).

Our current schedule is as follows:
Tuesday: Mobility Matters – 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Friday: Mobility Matters – 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Our last Thursday will be Dec. 14.

Other scheduled events are as follows: Educational Thursdays – All Thursdays are from 10 a.m. to noon unless otherwise indicated.

December 7, Holiday Art by Angela

Del Borrello - (Freelance Artist). You will make a Wooden Holiday Sign to take home. The cost is \$25 for the art lesson and all the materials. Please register by calling 905-833-6565 or call Joanne at 416-706-9375.

We are currently seeking more volunteers for our Nobleton group. If interested please contact Joanne Bailey at 416-706-9375 or email Erin Burford, Coordinator of Recreation Programs at: eburford@king.ca

Be sure to visit the website- king.ca/ seniors for more information on programs, workshops, and senior memberships.

Nobleton Lions

Thank you for your support of the Lions Reverse Advent Calendar food drive for the King Township Food Bank. Donations were picked up at all three arenas in the Township last Saturday morning. We also enjoyed meeting our friends at the Nobleton Tree Lighting last Sunday where, hopefully, you in turn enjoyed some steaming chili and treats for the kids.

Continuing our Christmas outreach, you are invited to our annual Skate with Santa event at the Nobleton Arena on Saturday, Dec. 16, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free skating, a visit with Santa Claus and treats are in store for you and your kids.

Please visit our website, accessible by simply googling 'Nobleton Lions' which will bring up the link to the site. Check out "upcoming events" and "useful links" where you will find more information about organizations supported with your contributions. At the Homepage you will find an appeal for volunteers to help with the Home James program this Christmas season.

At our November 28 meeting we were pleased to induct a new Lion, Mike Ceolin, our third new member this fall. We continue to welcome new members with a heart to serve, both men and women. You may join us as a guest at an upcoming meeting by contacting Lion Andrew at andrew.bevil@sanofi.com We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from September to June at the Old Community Hall, just north of the arena, at 6:30 p.m. Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 12.

St. Alban's By John Arnott

A church is one of those buildings where coming the front door you find

yourself at the back but coming in the back door you find you're at the front. St. Alban's, Nobleton's oldest church building, is no exception.

Going into it through the Great South Door brings you into a little room where the ropes to ring the bell hang next to a small clear glass gothic style window whose sill for many years held a small free standing wooden cross. This tower or bell room was some times called the narthex which is from the Greek word for the vegetable we call giant fennel.

In early medieval churches the narthex was more a large roofed open porch where catechumens (those awaiting baptism), repentant criminals and sometimes women gathered to hear the service through the open door of the nave as they were not allowed to enter the main part of the church. Now what has all this got to do with fennel?

Well to tell the truth I'm not sure but in this same mediaeval period there were no pews in the main room of the church for people to sit other than a few built into the wall for the elderly or the disabled so most of the congregation either stood or knelt on the cold stone floor. Church officials called vergers were employed to keep clear away down the of centre of the nave for the priest and anyone accompanying him to walk. These vergers carrying long poles walked in front of the procession to ensure the congregants stayed at the verges or edges of open space. Vergers using their poles of authority would be called to keep order in porch with its mix of folk.

Perhaps these poles reminded people of fennel stalks and the name transferred from the poles to the place where they were often found. Many Anglican cathedrals and churches still have vergers in ceremonial processions and they carry poles topped by a small bronze cross. In smaller Anglican churches especially in England the caretaker is often called the verger.

From this narthex in St. Alban's a double brown vanished door leads into the main room called the nave where blessedly there were wide seated curved back blond oak long bench like seats called pews from the Latin podium through pui (old French and meaning raised place). Each bench was equipped with a red soft but tough topped kneeler pad used during parts of the Holy Communion Service.

St. Alban's nave held 16 pews – 8 on each side of the of the central aisle.

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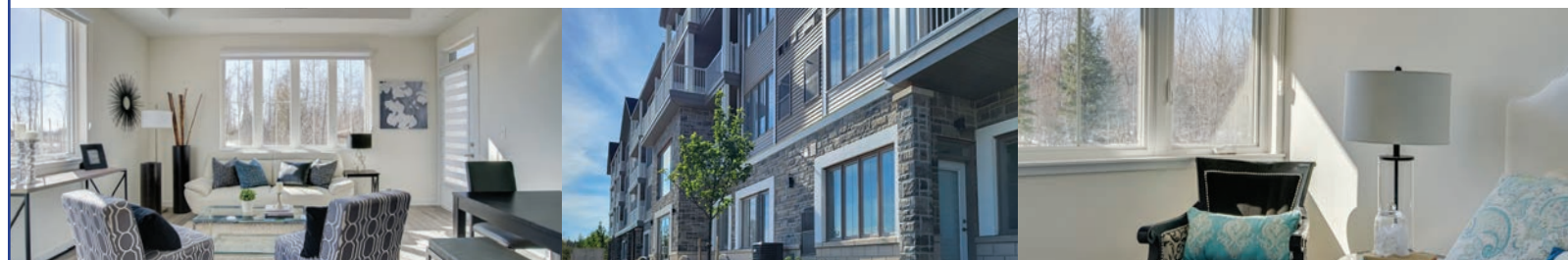
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King's Corners

King City United
By Sheryl Sinka

This Sunday Dec 10 is the second Sunday of Advent which we celebrate as the Sunday of Peace. We will be lighting our second Advent candle and this week we welcome Sandra Kirby to lead our worship at 10 a.m.

Christmas Eve worship this year will be at 7:30 on Sunday, Dec. 24. There will be no morning worship on that day. On Sundays there is a fellowship time following the worship and Sunday school is offered for elementary aged children during the worship hour. Please call Sheryl Sinka at 416-450-0140 for more information on this.

Weekly recordings have discontinued now that we have returned to in-person worship. Please join with us for in person worship and light refreshments after the worship.

For the PDF of past messages and recordings please visit our website at kcuc.net

We continue to encourage all to help out with the King Township Food Bank who is experiencing unprecedented needs and we encourage you to con-

tinue to help with donations of food or financial donations for the many needing assistance.

If you have any questions please contact the church office at 905-833-5181.

King Bible Church

Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. as we're in-person for our services. Pastor Mark will be starting our Christmas series, "Songs of the Saviour." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube.

We invite you to join us for our Christmas Eve service at 6:30 p.m.

Please visit our website for links and further information: www.kingbiblechurch.com

If you have any questions please email: Lisa Lethangue (lisa@kingbiblechurch.com), Administrative Assistant, King Bible Church, 1555 King Rd, King City, 905-833-5104.

King City Seniors (55+)

By Carolyn Kanitz

The last art class for the year will take place on Friday, Dec. 15.

Looking ahead to the new year, Friday Jan. 5 at 10 a.m., Rob Payne will

give a presentation on living in retirement and fixed income investments.

Activities are winding down for 2023. The activity schedule below will be in effect beginning Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024 with the exception of Mobility Matters which will begin Monday, Jan. 8.

Monday: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters; 1 p.m. – Music and Movement.

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing; 1 p.m. – Bid Euchre.

Wednesday: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters; 1 p.m. – Bridge; Cribbage; chess, other board games.

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – Gentle Motion; 1 p.m. – Carpet Bowling.

Friday: 9:30 a.m. – Art Class (2nd & 4th of the month unless otherwise noted); 1 p.m. – Euchre.

You may contact KCSC at 905-833-6565 or kingcityseniors@gmail.com

Sacred Heart Church

Feast of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Friday, Dec. 8, Holy Mass at 7 p.m.

Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Friday, Dec. 5 begins at 3:30 p.m., Benediction at 6:45 followed by Holy Mass at 7 p.m.

Christmas In Our Hearts Concert &

Brunch is Sunday, Dec. 10 after 10:30 a.m. Mass. Join us and Holy Redeemer Pilgrim's Choir for Christmas Caroling, food and a visit from St. Nicholas. Treats for all the children and picture taking with St. Nicholas. Entrance is a \$10 donation.

Narthex: "It is with profound gratitude that we give thanks and praise to God and to everyone who has contributed in making this 'Narthex Addition' possible. With great rejoicing, we invite you to share in our joy on this special occasion." Rev. John Arulthas M., O.S.A., Pastor Thanksgiving Mass presided by His Grace Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto on Friday, Dec. 15. Holy Mass at 7 p.m. Refreshments and Social to follow in the Parish Hall.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion: every Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. followed by Mass. Confession at 4 p.m. Saturdays. Weekend Mass at 5 p.m. Saturdays; and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) Program will begin in January. Any new participants kindly email the parish office at sacredheart-ki@archtoronto.org

There is still time to dedicate a new Glory & Praise Hymnal.

More on Page 22

Classifieds

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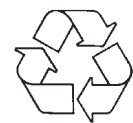
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From Page 21

Kindly place your dedication, your name and contact number and donation of \$50 in the offertory basket. We will begin using the new books this Advent.

York Pines United Church

This Sunday is the Lessons and Carols service led by the choir. Feel free to join us for coffee at noon. Next Sunday, Pat Edmonds returns to lead the service. York Pines is offering free ukulele classes in November and December on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to noon. The group will sing and play Christmas carols and pop songs targeting presentation on the Christmas Eve worship service. It's open to the public with both an in-person and virtual format. Participants may bring and share lunch after the lessons. For more details, please call the office at 905-727-8118 or email yorkpinesuc@gmail.com.

**St. Andrew's
By Kathy Patterson**

Welcome to St. Andrew's, King City. Join us this Advent as we lead up to

Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of the Christ child, God's matchless gift to the world. Our Sunday morning worship is at 10:30 a.m. and we hope you'll stay for coffee following the service.

This Sunday, Dec. 10 is the second Sunday in Advent symbolizing Peace. Alison Agnew will lead us in worship and bring us the message. Last Sunday we welcomed back the Rev. Peter Ma who brought us the message of Hope and presided over Holy Communion.

Our next monthly Fellowship Meal will be breakfast at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 17 before our morning worship! We hope you can come, but please RSVP at 905-833-2325.

Christmas Eve Day is December 24! We'll have morning worship at 10:30 a.m. and then a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. All are welcome!

Prayer-time hour is at the Church Office on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. This is a time where we pray for our community and for God's guidance and discernment for St. Andrew's. If you can't be with us, pray wherever you are!

The Wednesday Book Study is taking a break during December and will resume in January. If you need a book, the chapter question sheets or a ride,

please call the office.

Thank you to all for your donations towards the The Christmas Festive Food Hampers for Christmas in King (CiK). They will spread the joy and wonder of Christmas. The items for Evangel Hall, Toronto have not been delivered as yet, but will be by December 18. These items are winter clothing such as warm socks, hats, scarves, mittens and gloves along with Tim Hortons gift cards for Evangel Hall. If you have warm, clean coats and sleeping bags and spare mugs that you could donate, they would be graciously received as well, www.evangelhall.ca

Please call the office to drop off your donations.

**All Saints Anglican Church
By Patrick Gossage**

Amazing annual Christmas bake sale of homemade goodies of all sorts is this Saturday, Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. until noon. Prayer Time at All Saints every Friday morning from 10 to 10:30. Quiet prayer, meditation, music. Contact Leah to get Zoom info Leah49@gmail.com.

The End? Sermon by Rev. Erin Martin on Mark 13 – the return of the son of man:

"I don't recommend Google-ing "the Apocalypse." So far, since AD, there have been over 200 predictions of the end of the world. The last predicted date for the Apocalypse was in 2021 and we don't have any apocalypses until 2026 so we can rest easy for a couple of years. We're going to hear more and more about end times as we enter Advent because it is a season about anticipating the second coming of Christ and the end of the world.

"The Gospel today seems to point to this with Jesus' description of the end times and the darkening sky, falling stars, shaking heavens. It doesn't sound like a great end. Surely the end will not look anything like what we might imagine. The promise of Scripture is that Jesus will return and that God will bring all of creation to a good end, and that everything we think of as permanent is more fragile and vulnerable than we typically like to imagine.

"It's easy to get so caught up in the cultural pressure to have the perfect Christmas that we can lose a sense of what Christmas is supposed to mean.

"So all those things we would do if the world would end tomorrow ... we can go ahead and do them now."

Classifieds

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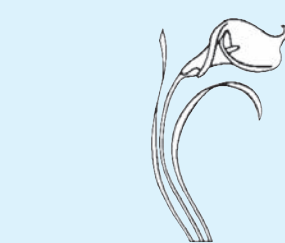
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708 OBITUARIES

Helen Lucas



Family and friends are mourning the passing of HELEN LUCAS on November 27, 2023.

Helen was a huge presence in the lives of all who knew her. Her legacy is one of kindness, grace, generosity, authenticity and an advocate for the well-being of others. She had the heart and passion of an artist as expressed in her joyous floral paintings. Inspired by her Mother's flower gardens, always bursting with colour, Helen's paintings featured intense colours and oversize shapes on large canvases. Surprisingly, they are intimate and approachable, inviting the viewer to enter Helen's world of love and joy.

From an early age, her artistic talents were evident. Born 1931 in Weyburn, Sask. to Greek parents, Effie (Eftihia) and William Geatros, she grew up in Saskatoon and then attended Ontario College of Art (1950-1954). After marriage and the birth of two daughters she started exhibiting her early black and white figurative works. Since 1953, Helen had more than 50 solo exhibitions and participated in numerous group shows in Canada, the U.S. and in Italy where she was invited to participate in the Florence Biennale. In 2017 a major retrospective of her artwork was presented by York University. Her paintings can be seen in countless private, corporate, and public collections including The Canadian War Museum, The King City Municipal Offices, Sick Kids Hospital, and The Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre. York University has the largest collection of her artworks, as well as her archive.

Between 1973 and 1979, Helen was a Drawing and Painting Master at Sheridan College, voted 'Teacher of the Year'. Other highlights of her career include an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from York University in 1991 and a First Place award in two categories for the hour long documentary on her life at the Chicago International Film Festival.

Additional awards include The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal, 2012, and three Grants from the Ontario Arts Council.

Helen published several books including A Christmas Birthday Story, in collaboration with Margaret Laurence in 1980.

Helen is survived by her daughter Michelle, her sister Mary and brother-in-law Jeff, sons-in-law Frank and Alan, and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews and cousins; she is predeceased by her parents, husband Derek, sister Diane and brother-in-law William and, in 2014, her beloved daughter Andrea.

Our hearts are heavy yet her spirit lives on in memory and in her paintings. We know that Helen will continue to enchant, while dancing with her Angels and Doves.

A private funeral will take place and visitation will be on Thursday, December 7 between 4 and 6 pm at the Roadhouse & Rose Funeral Home – 157 Main Street South, Newmarket Ontario, L3Y 3Y9. In lieu of flowers kindly make donations to The Alzheimer Society.

For more detailed information visit helenlucas.com

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