Tough decisions ahead for council during budget talks

In a two-day session in council chambers on November 22 and 23, staff prepared council members for the task ahead—the 2017 budget. In prefacing a review of various studies that have been conducted to prepare council for their 2017 budget negotiations, CAO Winanne Grant told council difficult decisions would need to be made.

“The process that we are going to go through during December and January is not going to be an easy process. There is going to be a lot of tough decisions,” she said.

In an effort to present council with as much information as possible department heads reviewed more than 35 studies and plans that have been conducted over the past five years.

One of the biggest hurdles facing council during the upcoming budget negotiations will be to decide how to proceed with the Multi-Use Recreation Complex (MURC) in south Keswick. Three recent studies, the Library Master Plan, the Fire Master Plan, and the Options Plan for the Civic Centre all offered recommendations to build new facilities on the same property as the MURC.

The MURC came to light in 2014 when the Recreation Facility Needs Study suggested the $30 million recreational facility is needed to serve the growth Georgina is experiencing in south Keswick. The 2016 Options Plan for the Civic Centre recommended a new $21 million administration building be co-located with the MURC and the Fire Master Plan is recommending a new fire station on the same property for $3.9 million. When the recommendation to construct a new $5 million library at the MURC is added in, the total cost of all these new facilities is approximately $60 million.

Treasurer Rebecca Mathewson told council that growth in Georgina is going to cost approximately $75 million and she presented a slide which demonstrated that development charges would pay for $30.2 million of the costs.

But the cost of growth is not the only challenge facing council. With 35 studies before them, all making recommendations for funding, the competition for support is going to be fierce.

“All of this comprehensive information that we have been gathering over the past few years is in front of you...so that you can comprehensively make your budget decisions and how you are going to allocate those scarce dollars against the variety of competing interests,” Ms. Grant said.

Maple Lake Estates lands subject of OMB appeal

The North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance (NGFA) has filed an appeal with the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) asking it to remove the “Urban Residential” designation from the Maple Lakes Estates lands currently identified as such in Georgina’s Official Plan. Removing the designation and converting the lands to an “Environmental Protection Area” would stop a pre-approved 1,073 unit housing development from moving forward on a provincially significant wetland, NGFA leaders say.

The appeal asserts that the Urban Residential designation is not consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and fails to conform with the York Regional Official Plan policies—both of which prohibit development on property identified as a wetland.

But Harold Lenters, Director of the Development Services Department in Georgina, disagrees and says the Official Plan “is in conformity with the York Region Official Plan and Provincial plans and policies.”
Georgina has an opportunity to capitalize on $3.3 million in funding being offered through the Province’s Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF). The Province recently announced that it would expand funding opportunities to municipal governments in an effort to assist with improving their infrastructure requirements. This includes improvements in things like roads, bridges, sidewalks and water/wastewater projects.

Prior to the announcement, Georgina was approved to receive $1,049,871 over three years (2014, 2015, 2016). But the expansion of the funding program means Georgina will qualify to receive $628,270 in 2017, $891,489 in 2018 and $1,382,660 in 2019. Additionally, Georgina can apply to receive “top-up” funding of $480,240 bringing the Town’s total potential grant award to $3.3 million.

If you recall during the election, the Ontario Liberal party did promise to spend millions of dollars to beef up the Province’s failing infrastructure systems. Some of the money, according to their campaign promises, was to come from the sale of Hydro One.

So, for me...here is the rub. The Town of Georgina will take the monies being offered and plow a huge portion of it into our water and waste water network. It is an aging system and will require massive upgrades worth millions of dollars in the coming years. The cool thing about these costs is, they are shared among the users of the systems so for those of us on well and septic, our taxes will not be affected. However, the monies coming out of the Province (monies supposedly coming from the sale of a public asset) should benefit all taxpayers and not just those on town services. It was agreed at council on November 2 that the entire $628,270 worth of grant funding in 2017 together with the $480,240 in top up funding (if approved) would be spent on water and waste water infrastructure projects.

So if you are a country dweller anywhere in Georgina without Town services, don’t expect a break in your taxes should an infrastructure project be needed near you in 2017.

So, how about this for an idea? Those on well and septic who live within 100 to 300 metres of either Lake Simcoe or a waterway flowing into Lake Simcoe have to pay $113 to have their septic systems inspected. Perhaps some of the infrastructure funding monies could be diverted to pay for these inspections so they could benefit from these public funding mechanisms too.

Karen Wolfe,
Editor.

We are all in this together
First impressions count

In a secret-shopper-type rendezvous, 10 Dunnville residents spent a day last month milling around Keswick to provide a critique of the community to help Georgina’s Economic Development Department focus on areas of improvement.

The visit was part of a visitor exchange program organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs through its First Impressions Community Exchange Program.

According to Karyn Stone, Georgina’s Manager of Economic Development, the information and first impressions gleaned from the visit will help formulate future decisions on capital projects and marketing efforts to attract investment and tourism.

In a report delivered by the visitors, they were impressed by the cleanliness, friendliness, transportation opportunities and recreational/sport amenities offered in Keswick. “Nice area for housing with incredible new housing developments,” they said.

However, the report focussed on a number of weak areas and offered suggestions for improvement.

First on their list of impressions was the lack of signage. “We were unsure of Keswick’s boundaries, when we entered and when we left,” they said. They described a drive along the lakeshore as “lovely” but felt there was too little public access to the water.

“Waterfront park’s picnic tables need work—same park has ‘no fishing’ signs, have to pay for parking—detering tourists,” the report said.

The visitors reported that Uptown Keswick “looked tired”, “neglected and disjointed” with storefronts that were “outdated” and were in need of upgrades.

“It would be nice to have more unique shops like Uptown Gifts and Décor,” they said.

They also questioned the decision to erect a large housing development right in the middle of the Uptown Keswick business district. “It takes away from business space,” they reported.

The visitors mentioned the lack of “anchor stores” such as banks and a liquor store in the Uptown area and felt the big box stores on Woodbine Ave. tended to “draw you away from Uptown.”

The group felt there was a lot of potential in Keswick to benefit from its waterfront location. They suggested a water sport rental business and felt there was “no link from waterfront to Uptown and it is only a block away.”

Some of the biggest challenges seen by the visitors were competition from Newmarket ten minutes away, the lack of overnight accommodation and no main thoroughfare to the Uptown business district.
After months of preparation by the Georgina/East Gwillimbury (GEG) Refugee Welcome committee, a Liberian refugee, Jefferson Daye, arrived in Canada to make his new home in Sutton. Mr. Daye, a Baptist preacher, related his long and tortured life’s journey to the local community at Knox United Church on Sunday, November 20 and thanked them for their support which allowed him to escape the conditions of the refugee camps.

“I feel honored and blessed to be able to settle in this part of the world and to be able to enjoy the peace and civility you enjoy in this country,” he said.

Born in 1964 to Liberian farmers, Mr. Daye’s life changed in 1985 when his family was rounded up by members of an opposing political faction and taken to a public square where his father was tortured and killed. Years later, after fleeing with his wife and six children to a refugee camp in the Ivory Coast, political unrest again forced the family to flee for their lives becoming separated in the process.

On December 16, 2010, while his children played outside, he began to hear anti-Liberian chants in the distance. Suddenly men appeared with machetes and chaos in the village ensued. Everyone ran in different directions, trying desperately to get away before being killed. That night, Daye slept in an empty, unfinished building a few kilometres away and amazingly, one of his sons found his way to the same building. But Daye would never see any other members of his family.

The next morning the Dayes, along with close to 900 others fleeing the militants, arrived at a United Nations Refugee Agency camp and the group was then given three options: repatriate to their home country; local integration; resettlement in another country. The last option was limited and resettlement was not guaranteed.

Against his advice, Mr. Daye’s son decided to return to Liberia and he has not heard from him since. Mr. Daye successfully argued that it would be unsafe for him to return to his homeland and his quest to be resettled in Canada began.

“Last week I had a communication from Ivory Coast that my wife and our children, as well as our grandchildren, are alive in the Ivory Coast,” he said. “But they are living in very, very deplorable conditions and if I had my way, I would bring them to Canada right now.”

Since he has been in Canada, Mr. Daye is exploring becoming a Personal Support Worker and working part-time while returning to school to become a nurse. “I want to be able to support my family,” he says.

“While thankful for this opportunity to be in Canada, I can’t forget those back in the Ivory Coast refugee camps struggling daily with dramatic situations,” he said.
On November 16, members of Georgina council were not prepared to decide how to fill the Regional Councillor’s position left vacant when incumbent Danny Wheeler passed away on November 1.

Georgina’s Clerk John Espinosa provided council with three options at their council meeting on November 16 but council members decided to postpone the decision to allow time for a more fulsome discussion on each of the options presented.

In accordance with the Municipal Act which governs the process when a municipal council seat is vacated, council can:

A) appoint a current member of Town council or elector to fill the vacancy;
B) recruit a qualified individual eligible to fill the vacancy;
C) conduct a by-election to fill the vacancy.

Because the seat was declared vacant on November 9, 2016 by council, an appointment must be made or a by-election declared by January 8, 2017, Mr. Espinosa said.

His report to council on November 16 provided cost scenarios for each option.

Should council decide to appoint a current member of council or other individual, he said there would be no financial impact.

Option B would require a communications strategy to recruit an eligible individual interested in filling the position and he estimated the cost would be $2,500.00.

If a by-election were called to fill the vacancy, Mr. Espinosa said the cost would be approximately $275,000.00.

The report was deferred for discussion to November 23.
LSRCA seeks solutions for Georgina’s lakeshore concerns

At a Town Hall-like meeting with the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee at the Link on November 10, representatives from the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) listened as dozens of lakefront property owners sought action to curb the degradation of their shoreline.

“There is something going on here,” said one Virginia lakefront owner as he described dramatic lakeshore changes such as a growing weed infestation, a deep silted bottom and unusually low water levels.

Although LSRCA says monitoring results suggest the health of Lake Simcoe is improving (phosphorous levels have been reduced from 22 mg/litre to below 10), the pervasive spread of invasive species such as mussels is causing other issues.

According to Brian Ginn, a Limnologist and Certified Lake Manager with LSRCA, there have been a number of changes in the lake since LSRCA began its science program in 2008.

He said the temperature of the lake has been slowly increasing as deep water temperatures of six degrees C in 1980 have increased to 10 degrees C in recent years. To demonstrate the point further, Mr. Ginn said complete ice coverage of Lake Simcoe lasted, on average, 118 days between 1853 and 1900. Since 2000, complete ice coverage of Lake Simcoe was, on average, 76 days. “In 2012, it was the first year that Lake Simcoe did not freeze over entirely,” he said adding, last year (2016) Lake Simcoe only froze over for six days.

He said a widespread emerging threat to the lake is the amount of salt/chloride content in the water. When first tested a few years ago, the salt content at Hotchkiss Creek in Barrie was 10 mg/litre. This had increased to over 6,000 mg/litre by 2013, a concentration close to that of seawater, Mr. Ginn said. A graph demonstrated that chloride concentrations in Lake Simcoe at the Atherly Narrows climbed from 11 mg/litre in 1971 to 47 mg/litre in 2014. If solutions are not found to curb the amount of salt/chloride entering the lake, concentrations could escalate to 120 mg/litre within 60 years, Mr. Ginn said.

The invasion of mussels in Lake Simcoe is also changing the ecology of the lake. While zebra mussel populations have peaked and are decreasing, another mussel, known as the Quagga mussel, a larger and more aggressive mussel, has taken its place.

In 2009, zebra mussels represented 84 per cent of the mussel population in Lake Simcoe. In 2015, the Quagga mussel represented 88 per cent of the mussel population and the zebra mussel was reduced to 12 per cent. As a result, Mr. Ginn said, the mussels in Lake Simcoe can filter the entire lake in five days, resulting in improved clarity which in turn, allows more sunlight in, to foster the growth of plant life along the Lake Simcoe shoreline. (On the upside, Mr. Ginn said the presence of the mussels has been responsible for an increase in bug populations which feed on the “poop” generated by the mussels. The bugs then provide a larger food source for fish species such as perch, white fish, bass and trout.)

Mr. Ginn estimated that Lake Simcoe now houses approximately 48,000 tonnes of aquatic plants—a biomass that has increased significantly due to increasing light levels, water clarity, nutrient richness, increasing water temperatures and climatic changes. However, solutions to effectively resolve the increase in plant growth were not readily

Continued on page 7...
Continued from page 6.

available. Residents were told it is illegal to remove the aquatic plants by the roots and the only weed harvesting option available was to cut off the tops of the plants.

“As far as aquatic plant management, we have to keep in mind that any management that we do, we have to treat the underlying problem, which is nutrients and controlling factors such as water clarity and mussels. We can’t just treat the symptoms, we have to treat the underlying problems as well,” he said.

The level of frustration over the growing weed situation and lower water levels was evident as resident after resident declared their lakeshore properties are becoming unusable for swimming and boating use. Water levels in Lake Simcoe are managed by Parks Canada and LSRCA CAO Mike Walters promised to address the issue prior to the next meeting of the Georgina Waterfront Committee meeting.

Georgina’s Fire Master Plan complete

A report tabled at the November 16 Georgina Council meeting provided 58 recommendations on how to restructure Georgina’s fire service in order to address current needs and future growth predictions. The 2016 Fire Master Plan was prepared by Emergency Management and Training Inc. and included 14 recommendations from the Fire Station Review. This Review calculated approximately $20 million worth of recommendations to service future growth and $500,000 worth of recommendations to address current needs.

The Fire Station Review recommended a new $3.9 million station be built in Pefferlaw to replace the small and 50-plus-year-old building. Fire Chief Ron Jenkins said that recommendation would be included in his 2017 budget for council’s approval.

Within a one to three-year timeline, the plan recommended a new station be built in south Keswick—perhaps to coincide with the construction of the Multi-Use Recreational Complex—in order to provide a four-minute response time to the growing population there. The cost of this station was estimated to be $3.9 million.

The plan identified the many deficiencies with the current Keswick station and consultants recommended that this station be replaced by a new station—located further north and in a more central location to serve outlying areas—within seven to 10 years. This station was estimated to cost approximately $7.8 million.

The Plan also recommended a $3.9 million firefighter training centre be built at one of the two Keswick stations.

Consultants identified that the residential location of the Sutton station hindered response time and it was recommended a new $3.9 million Sutton station be built in the area of Dalton Road and Black River Road within four to six years.

The 58 recommendations in the Plan dealt with three lines of defence for public safety: a) public fire safety education; b) code enforcement through inspections; c) emergency response capabilities. All of the recommendations can be viewed on-line at www.georgina.ca/sites/default/files/agendas-and-minutes/2016/fire_protection_services_master_plan_2016.pdf

Council moved to have the plan reviewed by council on November 23 for its possible adoption in principle after the public has had an opportunity to review it.
KESWICK SANTA CLAUS PARADE—Saturday, November 19

Although the weather for this year’s Santa Claus parade in Keswick was cold and rainy, it was also filled with plenty of smiles and holiday good cheer. Organizers of the parade estimated 60 parade floats participated in the event together with one marching band.

Below, friends Megan Bowen (left) and Cailyn Red (right) came prepared for the weather as they sat on the sidewalk protected by a tarp and heavy blanket—not to mention the festive hats and satchel to collect the handouts offered by parade entries.

One of the many giant blow-up Christmas symbols adorning the floats in this year’s parade was this humongous reindeer atop a float entry by Home Hardware in Keswick. The parade travelled north along the Queensway from Biscayne Ave. up Simcoe Street to Church Street.

Pefferlaw Lions and Pefferlaw Lioness Clubs
CHILDREN’S
CHRISTMAS PARTY
Come and Join us for the Fun!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016 – Noon to 3:00 pm
PEFFERLAW LIONS COMMUNITY CENTRE

FREE ENTERTAINMENT
HOT DOGS, SOFT DRINKS
GAMES
SANTA & MRS. CLAUS
WILL BE THERE TOO!
This parade entry seemed quite appropriate and at home as the streets filled with water from the rain.

Above, the 180 Mosquito Squadron of the Royal Canadian Cadets provided the sounds of Christmas along the parade route to the delight of onlookers.

(Right) How Sweet It Is...local realtor Edward Ward created a delightful gingerbread house amid a lollipop forest for his parade entry.

Rain did not dampen the spirit of these dancers as they performed enthusiastic routines throughout the parade.

Routes has been Georgina’s non-profit community transportation provider for over 28 years. Our amazing volunteer drivers use their vehicles to provide rides to people who are restricted due to life circumstances, enhancing their quality of life by improving their access to essential services, available resources, and opportunities for social inclusion.

WE NEED YOU!

volunteer drivers
Mileage Reimbursed

While you’re giving back to your community as a driver, we’ll be giving back to you!

- Flexible hours based on your availability
- Access to training opportunities

board members

We need specialists in:

- Finance  •  Fundraising  •  Transportation
- Legal    •  Governance  •  Administration

- And others with an interest in enriching our Georgina community by engaging our community!

Every year, Routes provides thousands of rides to residents.

volunteer@routescc.org  905-722-8191  routescc.org  112B High St. Sutton
Beaverton Santa Claus Parade

Congratulations to the organizers of the Beaverton Santa Claus parade on Friday, November 18. This was the first year the town organized an evening event and over 40 floats lit up the streets that were lined by onlookers. Above right, the Beaverton Figure Skating Club did a great job of their float entry and was chosen as one of the best five floats. Bottom right, the Beaverton Fall Fair entry was also selected as a winner.

Photos by Cindy Schaffer

For those of you wondering what those weird lines were on York Region roadways a week ago, it was an anti-icing application of water with a 23 per cent concentration of sodium chloride (salt). According to Joseph Petrugaro, Manager for Road Maintenance at York Region, the region depends on data from Environment Canada and from mini weather stations (such as the one located at Durham Rd. 23 and York Rd. 21) to predict the chances of black ice forming on roadways during winter storm events. He says this is a proactive method of balancing the environmental impacts of salt with public safety. When the mixture is applied, the water evaporates and leaves a deposit of salt to retard the formation of black ice and a build up of snow. And, it won’t get brushed away by plows or road traffic like granular salt will.

We send our heartiest congratulations to Nick Szemerdiaik who turns 100 on November 24. Nick was a long-time resident of Pefferlaw and will celebrate with his family, friends and long-time Morning Glory neighbours Ivan and Fran Foster.

TENNYSON TIDBITS

10

Special GIFTS for you, your family & friends!

“The Store to Explore!” since 1997
PEFFERLAW
Association of Ratepayers P.A.R.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Sunday December 4th 2016
PEFFERLAW FIRE HALL

Master of Ceremonies - Kevin Fullbrook
Free Hot Chocolate and Tim Bits
The Cedardale Singers
Live Nativity Scene - Cedardale Church
Goody Bags for the Kids

Mr. & Mrs. Claus

Starts at 7:pm - Santa & Mrs Claus arrive at 7:30

Cedardale Singers

For more information...Fronie 705-437-2945

Stoufville / Uxbridge
Town service Awards

Twenty-three Town of Georgina employees accepted long-time service awards during a council meeting on Wednesday, November 16. Accepting a 15-year service award were Linda Bogers, Doug Bolton, Ryan Cronberry, Sherrey Helleman, Nicole Perry and Teddi Thompson. Twenty-year awards were presented to Los Andrews, Anthony Brown, Cheryl Corcoran, Robert Gerrie, Ping Lin, Jeremy Morris, John Rowland, Jane Sabath and Gail Watson. Beverley McQuaig, Velvet Ross, William Sedore and Phil Small received 25 year award recognition and awards were presented to Greg Lockie, David Reddon and Rick Walker for 35 years of service. Dave Harding received a 45 year award for service as a Pefferlaw volunteer firefighter.
Hospice study supports day program

Based on the results of a six month study to determine the need for an adult palliative day program, Hospice Georgina has put out a Call to Action so it can move forward with the findings in the report. The feasibility study, conducted by Frances Yarborough of Yarborough Consulting and Training Services, demonstrated the need for a weekly program that would provide social interaction for those with life limiting and life threatening illnesses and respite for their caregivers. Ms. Yarborough presented the results of the study to a group of stakeholders on Monday, November 21 at the Link. She described a free, weekly program delivered from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm that would offer free transportation, hot meals, discussion and activities for clients. In addition, a day program would offer six hours of respite for family members.

“And if you’ve been a caregiver and walked that walk, you know what that means,” Ms. Yarborough said. “It is truly golden.”

Based on the demographics in Georgina, the study determined a day program would attract approximately 12 people initially—a number that would slowly increase as the baby boomer generation continues to age. Staffing and funding needs were also studied. Ms. Yarborough estimated the cost for the program would be approximately $26,500 annually with volunteers providing support for transportation and food preparation.

Marie Morton, Executive Director for Hospice Georgina, said the study has paved the way for Hospice Georgina to move forward with a day program. “We know what we need to do and how to do it best. We need to ID funding sources that will allow us to run a pilot project in the next year,” she said.
The Pefferlaw and District Lions Club presented an award to the winner of its Peace Poster Contest at Morning Glory Public School on November 9. Pictured left to right are: Paige Jackson, Second Place winner, Celeste Cutruzzola, First Place winner, John Van Koot, Director for the Lions Club and Akira Daigle, the Third Place winner. Ms. Cutruzzola’s poster will compete in Newmarket in the District competitions.

The Sugar Plum Fair sponsored by St. James Anglican Church attracted a great crowd to the basement of Knox United on Saturday, November 19. With dozens of items and a great selection of baked goods, few visitors went away empty handed.

Mrs. Claus and one of Santa’s helpers were on hand to pose for photos with the kiddies who went away with a copy of the photo.

When one child asked his mother why Santa wasn’t at the event, she quietly explained that Santa was getting ready for the Keswick parade.

Pictured left to right are: Ashley Clute, Declan Clute, Mrs. Claus, Jesse Sabbath, Keagan Clute, Santa’s Elf and Marie Rolfe.

With more than 50 vendors exhibiting at the GTTI—Georgina Training Centre’s One-Stop-Holiday-Shop, the event attracted close to 700 visitors on a blustery Sunday on November 20.

According to Executive Director David Geene, the weather did not deter shoppers as the sale exceeded the attendance experienced at the event last year.

Shoppers were able to browse through an eclectic selection of merchandise spread throughout the main hall and common area of the Link hub in Sutton.

Monies raised by GTTI will support its training programming and shoppers were asked to bring a non-perishable food donation in support of the Food Pantry.
I am always amazed by the talent and creativity of our crafters in this community. And without fail, while covering these events I always come across something that not only amazes me, but intrigues me as well. On the top right, is a photo of some Izzy Dolls—also known as comfort dolls that are knitted and created for members of our Armed Forces to take with them on missions around the world so they can be distributed to young children. These dolls were exhibited by Karen Henry at the Pefferlaw Arts & Craft Sale.

In the bottom photo is an Alzheimer Fidget Apron. I found these being displayed at the Salvation Army’s Annual Christmas Bazaar on November 12. Each apron has a variety of different sensory and tactile items attached to it. Things like zippers, a knitted mitten with marbles inside, a fuzzy snake-like toy, a silicone pastry brush and a string of beads.

Now, this was a screaming deal for some lucky shopper at the Sutton Legion’s Annual Christmas Craft Sale on Saturday, November 12. This giant Santa was sold for only $50. Pictured with the beast is one of Santa’s helpers, Sutton Ladies Auxiliary member Jean Harper.

Lorraine Hales (left) makes a purchase of preserves from the Pickle Lady at the Port Bolster Hall Board’s Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 12. Shoppers were treated to an assortment of hand-crafted items and a great selection of baked goods. (I couldn’t resist the butter tarts which were excellent!)
Don’t forget the Udora/Leaskdale Lions Spaghetti Dinner at the Udora Hall on Fri. Nov. 25 starting at 5:00 pm.

The GAC will host its Georgina Artists Christmas Sale from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on Sat. Nov. 26.

Come on out to the Festival of Lights and Old Fashioned Christmas at the Georgina Pioneer Village on Sat. Nov. 26. The fun starts at 5:15 pm.

The Beaverton Thorah Eldon Historical Society Christmas Pot Luck is on Sat. Nov. 26 at 6:00 pm. Call (705) 426-7808.

You are invited to Wilfrid Hall on Sat. Nov. 26 for a Variety Night. $12 includes hot snacks. Under 18 years of age, free.

Celebrate Christmas and Chanukah in Jackson’s Point on Sat. Nov. 26, 7:00-9:00 pm.

There is a fundraising event for accident victim Doug Warne at the Sutton Legion on Sat. Nov. 26 starting at 7:00 pm. $15.00.

Attend the Tree Lighting in Uptown Keswick on Sat. Nov. 26 at 6:00 pm.

Save the date! The Georgina Cares Live TV Auction will be held on Sun. Nov. 27 from noon to 6:00 pm. Check it out!

Beaverton Thorah Eldon Historical Society General Meeting will be Sun. Nov. 27 at

2:00 pm. 284 Simcoe St. in Beaverton.

The Udora Leaskdale Lions Club welcomes you to their Annual Breakfast with Santa event on Sun. Nov. 27 at 8:30 a.m. To register your children for a gift from Santa call (705) 228-8589.

ENCORE! presents a choral concert on Sun. Nov. 27 at Sharon-Hope United Church starting at 3:00 pm. Adults $15-Seniors $12.

Come to the Advent Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sun. Nov. 27 at 7:30 pm at St. James Anglican Church in Sutton.

Forrest & Taylor Funeral Home will host its Annual Christmas Memorial Service on Mon. Nov. 28 at 7:30 pm.

Santa comes to Town in Sutton for the “Parade of Lights” on Sat. December 3 at 5:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

The Pefferlaw Ratepayers’ Association will host its Annual Tree Lighting on Sun. Dec. 4 at 7:00 pm.

Christmas Party at Port Bolster Hall on Dec. 4 from noon ‘til 2 pm. Photos with Santa.

Breakfast with Santa at the Legion in Sutton on Dec. 4 from 9:00 am to noon. $7.

The Georgina Historical Society invites you to the Annual Christmas Reading at the Bri-

ars Resort on Sun. Dec. 4 at 7:00 pm.

Meet author Kim Echlin at the Sutton Library on Sun. Dec. 4 at 1:30 to 2:30 pm.

A Community Who Cares Alliance will meet at Boston Pizza on Mon. Dec. 5 at 6:30 for a Christmas fun filled evening.

Pins and Needles Christmas meeting at Knox United Church on Tues. Dec. 6 at 7 pm.

DEATH NOTICE

John David Stocks—Passed away at his home in Cameron, Ontario on Monday, November 14, 2016 in his 79th year. Predeceased by his parents Robert Henry Stocks and Margaret Helen Stocks (nee O’Neill) and elder sister Ann Boyuk. Survived by his siblings Bruce Stocks (Joan), Patricia Porter, Frances (Molly) McKenzie, Gloria Archer and Pauline Whelan (Steve); and many nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #636, 12847 Hwy. 35, Minden, Ont. K0M 2K0 on Sun. Nov. 27, 2016 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. If desired, donation made to the Canadian Heart & Stroke Foundation in his memory would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ont. K0M 2K0. www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com