

thecitizen

Brooklin

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Kindness can go a long way in Brooklin

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A look back at local Brooklin history

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Brooklin gathers to remember local heroes

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RYAN PFEIFFER / METROLAND

BROOKLIN -- Sebastian Ciancio, a Grade 4 student, called out bingo numbers during a 50th anniversary celebration for St. Leo Catholic School.

Brooklin's St. Leo celebrates 50 years

Staff, students take trip down memory lane during celebration

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BROOKLIN -- From humble beginnings to a flourishing, faith-filled community, St. Leo Catholic School has come a long

way in the last half-century.

Staff and students reflected on the history of the Brooklin school during its 50th anniversary celebration on Nov. 10 -- the feast day of St. Leo the Great, a 14th-century pope.

"In 1964, the original school opened its doors to four classrooms," said principal Colleen Strong. "There were few textbooks and barely any furniture but this tiny little school had lots of heart."

Ms. Strong, St. Leo's 14th principal, addressed hundreds of people packed

into St. Leo Catholic Church next door for mass, led by Father Charles Forget.

She explained that while there was no library or gymnasium in the school's early days, "the children and staff had faith, and out of necessity they learned to be stewards of creation enjoying the great outdoors."

The school was surrounded by open space and soccer fields where the students played during all seasons.

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Santa drops by Brooklin Nov. 27

BROOKLIN -- Experience the essence of an Olde Time Christmas at Christmas in the Village in downtown Brooklin on Nov. 27. Santa, his reindeer and friends will help light the tree at Grass Park.

Begin your Christmas shopping at one of the shops in the downtown and visit the Christmas Craft and Gift Show at the United Church. The Salvation Army's Fill the Sleigh annual food and toy drive will be accepting donations.

Christmas in the Village takes place Friday, Nov. 27 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Grass Park, 41 Baldwin St., Brooklin.

The following weekend is the Whitby Santa Claus Parade on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to noon. Enjoy marching bands, dance groups, floats, clowns and musical entertainment and another visit from Santa. The parade, operated by JCI Durham, runs along Brock Street South from Manning Road to Trent Street in downtown Whitby.

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