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# Salvation Army victim of fraud

A former employee with the Salvation Army's conference centre in Jackson's Point has been charged with defrauding the church of \$165,000.

According to York Regional Police Det. Fred Kerr, a man and his common-law spouse face charges of theft and fraud over \$5,000 in a two-year scheme that involved electronic money transfers from the Salvation Army to personal credit and debit cards. The transfers took place between November 1997 and November 1999.

"We're talking a substantial amount of money," Kerr said.

A 13-year employee of the centre was fired last November.

According to Kerr, when the Salvation Army had some cash-flow problems last year, the church hired an independent consultant to examine the operations.

"He found what the problem was. The Salvation Army then brought in their internal audit team from Halifax," Kerr said.

Kerr said it didn't take the auditors long to uncover the scheme.

"It's not rocket science."

Major Wally Simpson declined to comment on programs or projects affected by the fraud.

"I really have been instructed not to make any comment because it's before the courts," he said Friday.

Kevin Vansteendelaar, 30, of Cannington, and his 24-year-old common-law wife Christina Link face charges of theft and fraud over \$5,000.

### Dangerous driving charges

A 21-year-old Zephyr man, lucky to be alive, faces charges after a single car crash in Georgina May 6.

The man and a 21-year-old passenger left a party about 3 a.m. with friends, the group dividing into three separate cars.

The man was driving a 1969 Pontiac Firebird belonging to his passenger, with two cars following behind.

They travelled southbound on Park Road, passing one another and reaching speeds of 160 km/h.

The Pontiac's driver lost control on the gravel shoulder. The car hit the ditch and became airborne, flipping at least four times before landing. The vehicle was totalled.

The driver was ejected through his window, but suffered only minor injuries.

The passenger suffered major injuries and was driven to hospital by his friends in the other cars.

The man was charged with dangerous operation causing bodily harm at his home later that morning.

### Credit card fraud

Police are searching for suspects who rang up more than \$11,000 on two credit cards stolen from a Markham couple.

The couple doesn't know when or how the cards went missing, but they sure noticed when the bills started to come in.

Two Nevada Bob's golf stores, one in Newmarket and the other in Woodbridge, sold merchandise to the suspects, records indicate.

The Holt Renfrew store was also a stop for the thieves.

### Fraud charges laid

A former bookkeeper at a Markham company is charged with fraud after more than \$6,000 was stolen over the past two months.

Police say books were doctored to hide the theft. The irregularities were discovered after the company changed ownership.

A 43-year-old Richmond Hill man faces 14 counts of fraud and 12 counts of theft under \$5,000.

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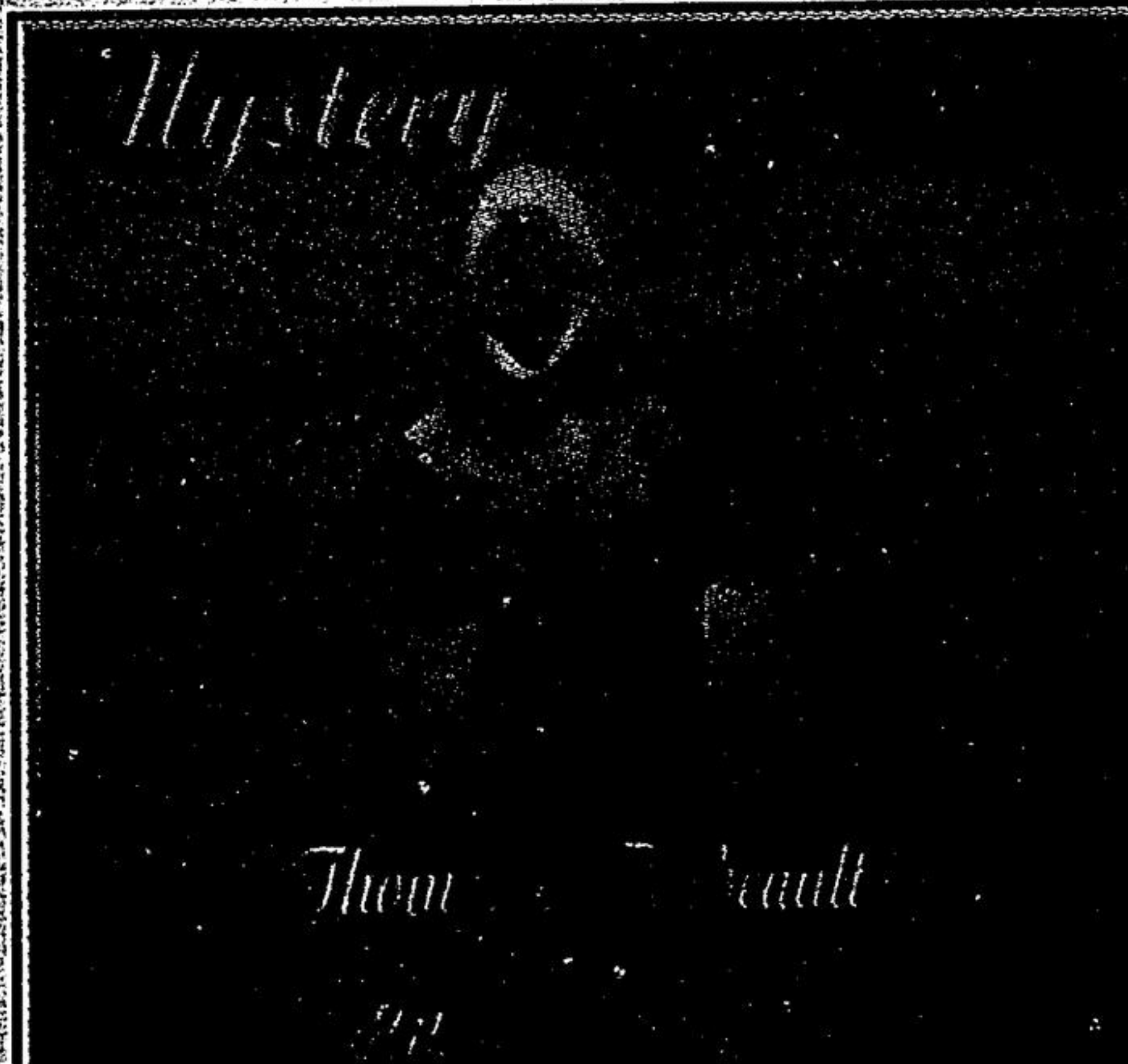
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Special thanks to all of the people who made the creation of Mystery a reality. Heart felt thanks to Joan Ransberry and the Markham/Economist for their wonderful story chronicling the birth and the special meaning behind the production of Mystery. Also my deepest gratitude to Andrew Paganini of Sound Strokes Studio for his brilliant arrangements and for his production of the CD, and to Cory Paganini for the graphic design, Mikhail Miroev for his beautiful performance and for his ideas in arrangement & most importantly to my mother, the Shrovan who was the inspiration behind the CD and the beautiful mother of my children, the lights of my life.

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