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King Weekly Sentinel

King's Community Newspaper

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Thursday, April 9, 2020

Volume 47, Issue 15

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Parade shows support for health-care workers

The community showed its appreciation to front-line health-care workers by organizing a parade near Southlake Regional Health Care Centre in Newmarket last week. The cars were driven by community members and other frontline workers showing support and solidarity to our healthcare heroes. Thank you Rebecca MacRae and the group at Honk for Front Line Heroes (Southlake edition) for organizing this! The staff were truly touched.



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Flato gives to local hospitals.
See Page 8



It's vital to help the pollinators.
See Page 10

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HOT NEW LISTING ON 10 ACRES!!!!
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This one has it all! An awesome 10 acre lot with pond, lovely landscaping & forest trails, minutes to Newmarket! Fabulous new (2017) 40 x 22 ft heated Workshop w/2 garage doors, and a spectacular bungalow w/ 2 car garage reno'd top to bottom, inside & out!!! Incredible gourmet kitchen w/island, open concept living/dining rms, 3 + 2 bedrooms & 3 stunning reno'd baths + huge fin. rec room! Hurry in for this one!

JUST LISTED IN SHARON!
\$2,299,000
Unique Executive Home on 1 acre w/5 car garage, 5000 sq ft luxurious finished living space! Custom floor plan, large principal rooms & 9 ft ceilings! Spectacular HUGE white gourmet kitchen w/ island & granite counters has w/o to fabulous backyard oasis w/ inground saltwater pool & special pergola lounge area & cabana! Very spacious family rm w/custom fireplace, diningrm w/ultra high ceiling & large bright windows t/out! Super finished bsmt!

JUST LISTED SOUTH OF BEAVERTON!!
\$450,000
Wonderful lakefront lot on Lake Simcoe, approx. 40 minutes from Newmarket near Port Bolster! 60 feet lake frontage x 238 feet deep. Super 50 ft. dock and spacious lakeside deck. Lot has hydro and a lake well, and is fully fenced too! Perfect for weekend getaways, park your trailer or put up your tent and enjoy this summer! Or build your dream home!

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Phone: 905.833.5321 Email: serviceking@king.ca



UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Municipal Office, Council Chambers, 2585 King Road

ALL COUNCIL, COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEETINGS ARE POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

To view full Council and Committee of the Whole agendas, visit king.civicweb.net/filepro/documents

BID NOTICES

For all bid opportunities, please visit the Township of King's website www.king.ca, click **Popular Topics** and click **BID OPPORTUNITIES**.

Or visit on the following link

<https://king.bidsandtenders.ca/Module/Tenders/en>

PUBLIC NOTICES

Half-load restrictions

The annual half-load period to limit vehicle weights to 5,000 kg per starts on designated Township roads effective March 1, 2020 to May 31, 2020 per our By-law 2010-141. For further information, call 905-833-5321.

Spring Street Sweeping

The 2020 Street Sweeping program will commence on April 6th, weather permitting. The contractor will progress through the villages of Schomberg, King City and Nobleton.

Municipal water flushing

Ansnoeveldt, King City, Schomberg and Nobleton

In the spring and fall the Engineering and Public Works Department flushes all water mains and hydrants. As a result, residents over the course of the next few weeks may experience low pressure and/or discoloration. This process contributes to the safe, effective delivery of municipal water and does not affect the quality of your water in any way. Should you require further information please contact Service King at 905-833-5321.

TOWNSHIP OF KING VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 2020 GRANTS

Non-profit community organizations which provide or develop recreation, cultural or social opportunities within the Township of King are advised that applications for Grants from the Township of King for 2020 must be completed and submitted to the Township by **Friday, May 15th, 2020**.

The Community Grants Policy Information and Application are available on the Township website at www.king.ca.

2020 Animal Licensing



It's time to renew your dog's life time tag or obtain a new tag for your dog/cat. Cats are required to be licensed. Complete the online animal licence application at www.king.ca and submit by email. Apply before April 15 to save \$5.



Please do your part & recycle!

Please see more King Township notices on page 3

PUBLIC NOTICES



With guidance from York Region Public Health and in an abundance of caution for both residents and staff around the COVID-19 pandemic, King Township is responding with the following changes in operations:

- King Township has closed all recreation, library, and cultural facilities until further notice.
- The Municipal Centre at 2585 King Rd. is closed to the public.
- All essential services will continue, including Fire and Emergency Services, water, wastewater, waste collection and roads and sidewalk maintenance.
- Some non-essential services may be impacted. For a list of all services please visit www.king.ca.
- During the closure, council chambers has been set up for King's Emergency Operations Centre.

Citizens can still do business with King on our website at www.king.ca, by phone at 905-833-5321 or by email at serviceking@king.ca.

LATEST UPDATES

Online COVID-19 resources for seniors

In order to protect some of our most vulnerable citizens, King has created an online information resource for seniors. It includes info on how to get essentials like groceries and prescriptions, financial assistance, and entertainment options. <http://king.ca/Government/Departments/Administration/Pages/Resources-for-Seniors.aspx>



No dumping of waste

We're reminding residents and businesses that **NO DUMPING** of any kind in any park or municipal receptacle is allowed. King Township has increased the limit of curbside garbage containers from two to three during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Household garbage and medical waste dumped in municipal receptacles may put our staff and others in danger, attract animals and create an unsightly mess. Please do your part to dispose of all waste responsibly through curbside collection or at a public waste depot.



Tax and finances

In order to help citizens through the COVID-19 pandemic, King is waiving monthly penalties on taxes through June 29, 2020. More information on due dates and payment methods can be found at <https://bit.ly/33AtzOW>

Garbage container increase

King has increased the number of accepted garbage containers from two to three. We know many residents are spending more time at home which means more garbage being produced. Additional bag tags can still be purchased through Online Services at <http://king.ca>.



Playground equipment

King's playground equipment is not being sanitized and can easily spread the COVID-19 virus in our community. Signage has been placed in all parks instructing people to not use the playground equipment, shade structures or skateboard areas.



Support for our local economy

King Township is collaborating with local business as they adapt to providing residents with physically distant shopping options. It has also created a central hub for residents to access local shopping while still maintaining physical distancing.

All King residents are encouraged to visit ShopKing to learn more about physically distant shopping alternatives that will support our local economy.

Local businesses that are offering physically distant alternatives and are not yet listed on the site are encouraged to contact King's Economic Development staff. They are also available to provide guidance, support and assistance to businesses looking for information on programs services and measures through and beyond these challenging times. Feel free to contact them by e-mail at ecdev@king.ca or by phone at 905-833-4016.

Additional resources are available from the following websites:

- www.economicking.ca/Covid-19/
- www.economicking.ca/social-distance-shopping/
- <https://www.kingchamber.ca>
- <https://www.yorklink.ca>



Collecting COVID-19:

Recording history in the midst of a global pandemic

The global coronavirus pandemic of 2020 is history in the making. The impact of the virus will be felt for years to come and related events will mark a significant place in history.

As countries struggle to gain control and stop the spread of this virus, Canadians are self-isolating and coping in different ways. The King Heritage & Cultural Centre would like to record the local impact, that is how King Township citizens are feeling amidst the crisis.

1. Describe your personal experience in any form (journal, poem, letter, drawing, photo, video clip, social media post, etc.).
2. Email kingmuseum@king.ca and request a donation form.
3. Complete the form and return with your contribution via email or social.
4. If you prefer to submit the original, please wait until the King Heritage & Cultural Centre reopens (date not yet determined).
5. Questions? Please email us at kingmuseum@king.ca.



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King Food Bank is accepting monetary donations

By Mark Pavilons

The King Township Food Bank is accepting financial donations at this time.

According to director Carol Ann Trabert, they are grateful for the spontaneous donations that have been coming in, but they are not encouraging food donations at this time. All the food that's being packed has been in the depot long enough to not be contaminated in any way.

Donations through the button on their website are most welcome. They are also happy to receive cheques by mail.

"It's impossible to really know what's ahead," Trabert said.

She said they may find themselves purchasing food at normal retail. As well, they may be restricted in how much they can purchase. Until those supply lines normalize to catch up with demand, quantities will likely be restricted.

Cash, not cans, seems to be the directive at this time.

The King Township Food Bank is a totally volunteer organization, which

means 94% of donations go to the kitchen tables of over 200 people in King.

Currently, they are well stocked with food even after a record increase in numbers this month. Changes in the economy could even double demand in the coming weeks, but they will not be turning anyone away, thanks to the generous community that is King, and beyond.

For more, visit ktfb.ca

The federal government has pledged support for food banks and local food organizations across the country. These organizations are facing an increased demand for their services, and added pressure from shortages in donations and volunteers. Now more than ever, they need our support to continue offering the services Canadians rely on to feel safe and healthy. Ottawa announced an investment of \$100 million to improve access to food for Canadians facing social, economic, and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Government of Canada will provide funding to national, regional, and local organizations across Cana-

da that are able to reach people and communities experiencing food insecurity.

This funding will be used to purchase food and other basic necessities. It will help these organizations find new, creative ways to reach people in need, so they can continue to carry out their important work while respecting physical distancing guidelines. They will be able to use the funding to buy or rent equipment and other materials to help address the unique needs of the communities they serve and the health-related challenges presented by COVID-19.

In 2019, there were 1.1 million visits to food banks and 5.6 million meals served on average each month. It is expected that visits to food banks will increase significantly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of the funding, \$30 million is earmarked for local-level organizations who serve people experiencing food insecurity.

Funding will be delivered through the Government of Canada's Local Food Infrastructure Fund. The Fund, launched in the summer of 2019, aims to strengthen food systems and facilitate access to safe and nutritious food for at-risk populations. Currently, more than 360 projects are receiving funding to increase accessibility of healthy, local foods within their communities, including through urban gardens, community kitchens, food banks, and greenhouses.

Eligible activities for this new funding include the purchase of food, support for the transportation and distribution of food, hiring temporary help to fill volunteer shortages, and activities to implement biosecurity measures, such as the purchase of personal protective equipment, to re-

duce the spread of COVID-19 among volunteers and clients.

The Local Food Infrastructure Fund is part of the Food Policy for Canada, the Government's roadmap for a healthier and more sustainable food system in Canada. The Food Policy's goal is to ensure that all people in Canada are able to access a sufficient amount of safe, nutritious, and culturally diverse food. It is focused on ensuring that our food system is resilient and innovative, sustains our environment, and supports our economy.

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Calculated Daily - Paid Monthly

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U.S. Dollar 0.35%

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As of April 7/20. Rates are subject to change without notice.

King has first COVID-19 related death

A 74-year-old man is King's first COVID-19 related fatality.

"On behalf of King Township council and staff, I would like to offer my most sincere condolences to the family and friends of the King Township resident who has passed away due to COVID-19," said Mayor Steve Pellegrini. "This is King Township's first death related to COVID-19. The man, 74, contracted COVID-19 in the community and not through travel.

"This serves as a sad reminder that COVID-19 respects no borders and that we need to continue being vigilant to stop its spread.

"I encourage residents to continue to wash their hands regularly, practice physical distancing and only leave the house for essential food or medicine. We must all continue to do our part to keep our entire community of communities safe."

For more information visit www.king.ca



www.king.ca



King Township
2585 King Road King City,
ON Canada L7B 1A1

Phone: 905.833.5321 Email: serviceking@king.ca

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Re: Site Alteration and Related Fees and Charges Draft By-laws for Consideration
Council Chambers located at 2585 King Road, King City, ON

Engineering, Public Works & Building / Clerks & By-law Enforcement Departments

King Township is closely monitoring COVID-19 developments daily. Please be aware that postponement of these meetings may be required.

RE: Committee of the Working Session: **Monday, April 20, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.**
Consideration of: Draft Site Alteration and Related Fees and Charges By-laws

Council of the Corporation of the Township of King will hold a Special Committee of the Whole Working Session for Consideration of Draft Site Alteration and Related Fees and Charges By-laws including a presentation by the Engineering, Public Works & Building / Clerks & By-law Enforcement Departments with a presentation by staff.

RE: Council Meeting: **Monday, April 20, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.**
Consideration of Draft Report, Site Alteration and Related Fees and Charges Draft By-laws

The Township of King Draft Site Alteration Report, Related Fees and Charges and Site Alteration By-laws will be considered at the April 20, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend. A copy of the Engineering, Public Works & Building and Clerks/By-law Enforcement Joint Report and Draft By-laws (Site Alteration & Amendment of Fees & Charges) will be available for review at the Township of King Municipal Centre at 2585 King Road or on the Township website at www.king.ca as of Thursday, April 16, 2020.

RE: Council Meeting: **Monday, May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.**
Consideration of Final Report and By-laws for Adoption: Site Alteration, Related Fees and Charges By-laws

The Township of King adoption of the Final Site Alteration Report, Related Fees and Charges and Site Alteration By-laws, will be tabled at the May 4, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend. A copy of the Engineering, Public Works & Building and Clerks/By-law Enforcement Joint Report and By-laws (Site Alteration & Amendment of Fees & Charges) will be available for review at the Township of King Municipal Centre at 2585 King Road or on the Township web-site at www.king.ca as of Thursday, April 30, 2020.

For further information regarding the Site Alteration and Related Fees and Charges By-laws, please visit the Township's website at www.king.ca or contact: Nancy Cronsberry, Deputy Clerk/By-law Enforcement, ncronsberry@king.ca

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

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

Township of King TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

Notice of Study Completion | Issued: March 13, 2020



ABOUT THE STUDY

King Township has completed the 2020 Transportation Master Plan (TMP) that incorporates updated population and employment forecasts to guide the enhancement of a multi-modal transportation network to the year 2031. With a heightened focus on transportation's role in climate change and updated transportation data, the intent of the 2020 TMP is to review the planned and previously proposed improvements to identify opportunities to encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transportation such as walking, cycling and transit.

This TMP followed Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process for master plans. The recommended preferred alternatives were determined and refined on a data-driven process and incorporate extensive public and agency input. These alternatives identify the next steps that the Township can take to improve how people travel within and through the Township.

By this notice, the TMP is being placed on public record for a 30 calendar-day review period in accordance with the requirements of the EA process. The review period will begin on March 13, 2020. Please provide all written comments by April 12, 2020. All comments will become part of the public record of the study, with the exception of personal information.

The TMP document is available for your information at:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, King Township's Municipal Centre is closed to the public until April 6.

The TMP is also available online at the Township's website: tmp.king.ca

Please send your written comments to the Township of King contacts below by April 12, 2020:

David Van Veen
Senior Project Manager
Engineering, Public Works & Building
Email: dvanveen@king.ca Phone: 905-833-4056

Brett Sears
Senior Project Manager
WSP
Email: Brett.Sears@wsp.com Phone: 289-982-4752

If concerns cannot be resolved through discussion with Township staff, a person or party may request that the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks make an order for a project to comply with Part II of the Environmental Assessment Act (referred to as a Part II Order). Requests must be made in writing to the Minister and the Township Clerk by April 12, 2020 at:

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
minister.meccp@ontario.ca

Township Clerk
2585 King Road
King City ON L7B 1A1
clerks@king.ca

Comments submitted to the Township of King for the purpose of providing feedback regarding the Transportation Master Plan are collected under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act. Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. Questions relating to the collection, use and disclosure of this information may be addressed to Peter Angelo, Director of Engineering, Public Works and Building at pangelo@king.ca or 905-833-4076



Please do your part & recycle!





Editorial, Letters & Opinion

"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

Is it time to wipe the slate clean again?

"And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good."

Yes it was.

Fast-forward several thousand years and here is God, holding his massive Etch A Sketch depicting his beautiful creation. Holding it in front of him, he gives it a massive shake, clearing the image.

He can now begin again.

Is the COVID-19 virus a precursor to a massive human "reset?"

Throughout history, seemingly advanced cultures, societies and cities have crumbled into obscurity. Others were mysteriously abandoned and many others pose mind-boggling questions.

Noah's Ark, Gobekli Tepe, the Olmec culture, Mayans, Anasazis and even the legendary lost city of Atlantis.

Legends, myths, ancient tales and actual archaeological discoveries all combine to reveal a litany of strange occurrences over the course of human history.

Many times in our past have our ancestors created technologically advanced societies, architecture and cities, only to perish or vanish. It was if some natural cycle determined it was time to wipe humankind from the face of the planet and start over.

Are we seeing signs of this now?

I have heard recent stories of locusts in parts of the world. East Africa has witnessed the worst outbreak in 70 years.

"And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

"And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power."

Coincidence?

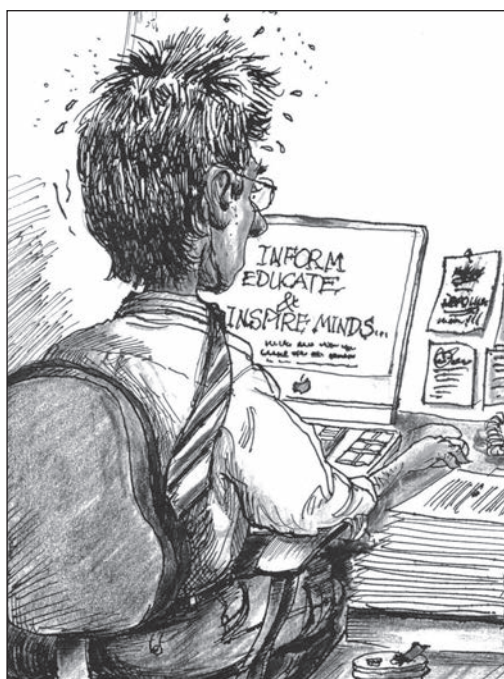
Plagues are another sure sign we're in for a heap of trouble.

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book."

Is a pandemic considered a plague?

Oxford published a paper last year on human extinction in the journal Scientific Reports. It found that people don't seem to see the loss of humanity as uniquely tragic.

In fact, they find the extinction of animal species worse.



Mark Pavilons

Our species' extinction has been predicted for centuries. A study in 2008 resulted in a list of risk factors that may lead to our demise.

It speculated that we have a one in five chance of being wiped out before the year 2100.

The study cites nuclear weapons, nanotech weapons, AI running amok, and an engineered pandemic as likely causes of humankind's premature departure from terra firma.

Let's not forget natural disasters and a possible impact with an asteroid or comet.

Interestingly, those taking part in the study were asked to offer some recommendations to governments and policy-makers.

Several wanted nuclear disarmament, or at least lowering the number of weapons under the threshold for existential catastrophe, as well as reducing stocks of highly enriched uranium and making nuclear arsenals harder to accidentally launch.

One option was forming global biotech-related governance, legislation and enforcement, or even a global body like the UN to study and act on catastrophic risk. There was a lot of interest in developing defences against misuses of biotechnology, and a recognition for the need of unbiased early detection systems for a variety of risks.

Other suggestions included raising awareness of the problems, the need

to build deeper societal resiliency, prepare for categories of disasters rather than individual types, building refuges and changing energy consumption patterns.

Let's not follow in these footsteps:

In February 1923, the 600 residents of the small Brazilian village of Hoer Verde simply vanished overnight, leaving their possessions and food behind. All around was a chilling silence. No birds, no insects, nothing.

The Anasazi tribe is regarded as one of the most sophisticated civilizations of the North American continent. Their civilization emerged around the 12th century BCE, and remains best known for stone and adobe structures built along cliff walls including Cliff Palace in Mesa Verde National Park, the White House Ruins and Pueblo Bonito at the northern rim of Chaco Canyon.

They didn't necessarily vanish, but for some reason abandoned their homeland in the 12th and 13th centuries.

One of the most powerful empires of Southeast Asia, the Khmer civilization, spread from modern-day Cambodia into Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar and Malaysia. The empire dates back to 802 AD. Other than stone inscriptions, no written records survive, so what we know about them is pieced together from archaeological investigations, reliefs in temple walls and the reports of outsiders. The Khmers practiced both Hinduism and Buddhism and built intricate temples, towers and other struc-

tures. Their ultimate fate remains a mystery.

In south-central Mexico was once a grand Pre-Columbian civilization that constructed incredible colossal heads, invented the concept of the number zero and essentially laid the foundation for every Mesoamerican culture that was to follow. The Olmec civilization might even have been the first civilization in the western hemisphere to develop a writing system, and possibly invented the compass and the Mesoamerican calendar. Dating to around 1500 BCE, the Olmec civilization deteriorated and collapsed.

We can ponder the great pyramids of Egypt, Stonehenge and other marvels. I find it strange that if our species possessed great knowledge thousands of years ago, shouldn't we be further ahead in our evolution today?

It seems just as we were on the brink of greatness, a mysterious force sent us scattering into the wind, leaving behind only unanswered questions.

Fortunately, now that we're at the height of our technological smarts, we can leave behind mountains of data, information, and details of every aspect of our society.

Unlike our ancestors, we have the power to monitor, predict and fight against future disasters, if we all work together.

Maybe we should concentrate on leaving something truly remarkable behind.

Letter to the Editor

It's vital to donate now

We are one of the wealthiest townships in the province, if not the country. It is time for EACH of us to do the right thing. DONATE!

There is not enough money in the Ministry of Health coffers to control, let alone stop, the corona virus. Your hospitals need you for this crisis, NOW.

Please, take the time to go online and make a donation to our local hospitals. It is the right thing to do, and as never before, our funds are needed. Let's all make a difference!

Donate now, it may save the life of someone close to you.

Brad Abernethy

KingWeeklySentinel **WEBPOLL**
www.kingsentinel.com

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Results from last week's poll:

Do you know anyone who has contracted COVID-19?

a) Yes 0%

b) No 100%

Has it been easy or difficult to adjust to being stuck at home?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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

THIS YEAR, THE EASTER BUNNY WILL BE MAKING DUE WITH WHAT'S AVAILABLE.

Thought of the Week

Lower those eyebrows!

Facial expressions are fine for actors and entertainers. But when speaking to another person, refrain from tell-tale signs that you find their comments less than appealing.

Trivia Tidbits

"Burning the candle at both ends" was coined by the American poet Edna St. Vincent Millay in 1920. It comes from her poem "First Fig": "My candle burns at both ends; / It will not last the night; / But ah, my foes, and oh, my friends-- / It gives a lovely light!"

<p>30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton ON L7E 5V1 Toll Free: 1-888-557-6626 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363 www.kingsentinel.com</p>	<p>PUBLISHER: London Publishing Corp. GENERAL MANAGER: Zach Shoub EDITOR: Mark Pavilons editor@kingsentinel.com PRODUCTION: Lisa Clendening ADVERTISING: Doug Sherritt doug@pcmedia.ca DISTRIBUTION: Cephise Cuming cc@cephisecuming.com OFFICE: Mary Cephise CREDIT DEPT.: Al Lord CLASSIFIEDS: admin@caledoncitizen.com</p>	<p>Advertising & Administration Head Office 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton L7E 5V1 Tel: 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. Copyright King Weekly Sentinel 2020</p>	<p>Subscription rates: Within 65 km except towns with letter carriers - \$39.00 + G.S.T. Beyond 65 km and towns with letter carriers - \$67.00 + G.S.T. Single copies 94¢ + G.S.T. or \$1.00 (includes G.S.T.)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: x-small;"> </div>
<p>Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Limited, publisher of the King Weekly Sentinel and the New Tecumseth Times.</p>		<p>Published every Thursday</p>	

Family has concerns over cell tower in King

Recently, it has been brought to our attention and utter disbelief that there is a 50-metre telecommunication tower installation proposed at 13565 8th Concession, Site Code ON1350. Our property is adjacent to it.

We understand that the surrounding area requires better cell phone reception but in the name of progress we feel that we are nothing more than collateral damage. The following concerns need to be addressed:

- Serious health issues arising from prolonged electromagnetic exposure.
- Extremely close proximity to our home.
- Devaluation of our house and property.

Why would a tower of this magnitude be placed so close to our home when these types of towers are usually reserved for hydro corridors or industrial parks? Unfortunately, we are directly affected by this unacceptable situation.

If small cell towers near homes are dangerous, then macro cell towers are even more so.

According to Dr. Magda Havas,

Letters to the Editor

people living within 500 metres of a cell tower may experience a myriad of health issues including electro-hyper-sensitivity, infertility problems, and increased cancer rates. Scientific studies show that the constant exposure to microwave radioactivity from cell towers impacts every living organism nearby. In other words, cellular tower antennas emit high frequency radio waves so the closer you are to a tower the greater the danger. We are definitely at risk as we fall within a circulation radius of only 120 metres.

Dr. Magda Havas is dedicated to the study of electromagnetic fields and electromagnetic radiation. Her aim is to provide information to the public about the harmful effects of "electrosmog." At the moment, safety guidelines set by Health Canada are inadequate. If you go to her website, magdahavas.com, you will find a very eye-opening 20 minute video entitled, Discussing the 5G Experiment. You can also find it on YouTube. We urge you to watch it if you are interested.

This tower will have a negative impact on our property and the surrounding community as the proposed tower will be visually prominent. Our property sits on fertile farmland in an equestrian community surrounded by environmentally protected land. We did not envision this scenario when we took possession of this idyllic, serene property.

This is our home, not an abandoned parcel of wasteland or an industrial park. We cannot fathom why an industrial-sized tower would be placed near our residence. Before people agree to such proposals, they should be made fully aware of all the long-lasting implications, including health and safety concerns.

The location of this proposed 50-metre telecommunication tower must be reassessed and moved by Signum Wireless before proceeding with any construction. There are many options to explore and we are confident that a more appropriate site will be located.

We are living in unprecedented times. In the spirit of cooperation, we hope that a viable, humane, and eth-

ical solution to this urgent problem can be found.

The Cirinna Family

York gets funding boost during crisis

The Ontario government is providing \$4,981,700 to the Regional Municipality of York to help protect the health and safety of the province's most vulnerable people in response to COVID-19.

This funding can be used by municipalities and social service providers such as homeless shelters, food banks, emergency services, charities and non-profits to support delivery of critical services, hire additional staff, acquire more personal protective equipment, and find ways to promote social distancing and self-isolation to keep people safe and healthy. York Region will determine how this funding is distributed locally to provide people in the community with the support they need.

"We are taking decisive action to keep families safe from COVID-19," said Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan. "At a time when so many families are concerned about the COVID-19 outbreak and the economic impacts of this pandemic, this investment will ensure our community gets through. We will do whatever it takes to overcome this challenge."

The government is providing \$148 million to local service managers and Indigenous program administrators all across Ontario to give them flexibility to expand the key services they already offer to meet their local needs. For example, this funding could be used for emergency loans for people having a hard time paying rent. It is up to communities to respond to local needs.

Chamber pressures governments to respond

Early last week we proposed a novel, massive and coordinated government response to business continuity during the COVID-19 pandemic (the Emergency Standstill Agreement). Last Friday the federal government announced business relief measures that largely mirrored our proposed approach.

Prompting our proposal was the unfolding tragedy of watching Ontario's businesses, and in particular small businesses, being quickly starved to death during this public health crisis of unprecedented scope and proportion.

Prior to March 27, the business and employee relief measures announced to date at all levels of government appeared to be creating a fragmented patchwork quilt of programs that were providing little meaningful business continuity support. In the last few days though, we have witnessed a much more coordinated response at all levels of government: federal, provincial and municipal.

Employers of all sizes have well established payroll systems or providers in place who are better positioned to get funds to employees affected by COVID-19 rapidly (either due to required leave or a layoff situation). As a result, we applaud the decision of the federal government to provide income support payments/subsidies directly

to employers v. burdening an already over-burdened (and inefficient) public sector bureaucracy to process EI applications.

Recently, the Canadian Olympic Committee took a radical stand, refusing to participate in the Games. This led to dramatic action on the part of the IOC in response.

Our statement issued last week was our call to action. It was a call to have our governments at all levels better coordinate their relief efforts and start thinking outside of the box to put together a coherent and sustainable plan for business continuity in response to the economic chaos being wrought on businesses as a result of the critically important public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although we take no credit for the shift in policy and level of coordination we have witnessed this past week, we do wish to applaud all three levels of government for their renewed leadership and crisis response.

Thank-you! Let's stand together and get through this together!

Angelo Santorelli

President

King Chamber of Commerce

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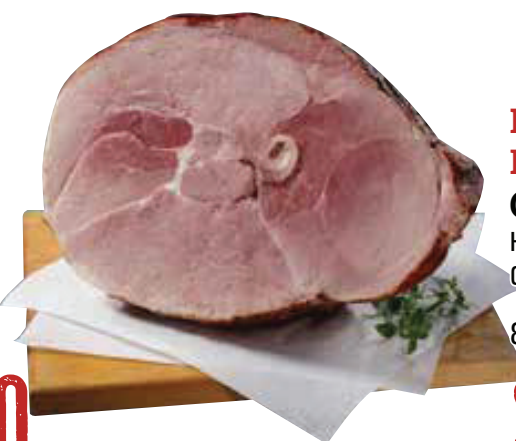
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Keeping food supply chain open is vital, councillor says

By Mark Pavilons

Keeping the food supply chain strong, and supporting farmers is vital during these uncertain times.

With closures and border restrictions due to the COVID-19 virus, protecting our food sources remains a priority.

Councillor Avia Eek, a Holland Marsh farmer, is closely monitoring the situation.

She noted the federal government has made the decision to lift the ban on travel for temporary foreign workers, those farmers like Eek hire through the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program. This program has existed since the 1960s, and is facilitated and coordinated through the Foreign Agricultural Resource Management Services.

“Growing fruits and vegetables for our country, and for export markets (economic development) is a labour intensive task. While farmers use technology to reduce the impact of agriculture on the environment, and to make some jobs easier, there are simply some jobs on the farm that require hands-on labour, and we count on labour from source countries like Trinidad/Tobago, Barbados,

Jamaica, Mexico, and the Eastern Caribbean to provide workers to help us grow food to put on consumers’ tables,” Eek said. “Without these workers, Canadians simply would not enjoy the fresh, local variety of fruits and vegetables that they currently enjoy.

“We would have to rely on trading partners to ship their products to us (and not all countries follow the same best farm practices, rules and regulations we must adhere to here in Canada).”

For more information about the importance of these workers, go to www.hortcouncil.ca

Eek is sympathetic for the dilemma faced by the federal government. She is also keenly aware of the importance of farmers getting their workers here to start this year’s growing season – it’s time to get this year’s fruit and vegetable growing season started.

“I know many farmers are getting anxious, wondering if they’re going to get their workers on time, and these are concerns that have merit. Growing healthy, safe, nutritious food is ALL about timing. I feel for those farmers who are uncertain whether they can start this growing season, whether they

will have to scale down their operation, or not be able to farm at all due to no workforce.”

Eek Farms employs three workers, who are scheduled to arrive from Trinidad/Tobago at the end of April. As of now, they are still coming, then after their 14-day quarantine, they will be transplanting the 10 acres of onions that are currently being grown for Eek in Beamsville.

For more information about the announcement exempting the TFWs from the travel ban, go to

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2020/03/canada-provides-update-on-exemptions-to-travel-restrictions-to-protect-canadians-and-support-the-economy.html>

“Everyone involved in this crisis is working hard to make sure all our concerns are being dealt with, and I thank them for that, this is not an easy time for any of us. We have to continue to collaborate, share ideas, and remember we’re all in this together.”

Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced important new measures March 23, to support farmers and agri-food businesses in Canada facing financial hardship due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Farm Credit Canada will receive support from the Government of Canada that will allow for an additional \$5 billion in lending capacity to producers, agribusinesses, and food processors. This will offer increased flexibility to farmers who face cashflow issues and

to processors who are impacted by lost sales, helping them remain financially strong during this difficult time.

In addition, all eligible farmers who have an outstanding Advance Payments Program (APP) loan due on or before April 30 will receive a Stay of Default, allowing them an additional six months to repay the loan. This important measure, which represents \$173 million in deferred loans, will help keep more money in farmers’ pockets during these critical months.

The Stay of Default will also provide farmers the flexibility they need to manage their cashflow when facing lower prices or reduced marketing opportunities. Applicable farmers who still have interest-free loans outstanding will have the opportunity to apply for an additional \$100,000 interest-free portion for 2020-2021, as long as their total APP advances remain under the \$1 million cap.

The Government of Canada remains committed to supporting Canada’s agricultural sector to ensure that farmers and businesses have the support they need to provide for their families and all Canadians during this critical time.

“Farmers and food producers work hard to put food on tables across our country, and they should not have to worry about being able to afford their loan payments or having enough money to support their own families. We are taking action now to give them more flexibility to meet the challenges ahead in these times of uncertainty,” the prime minister said.

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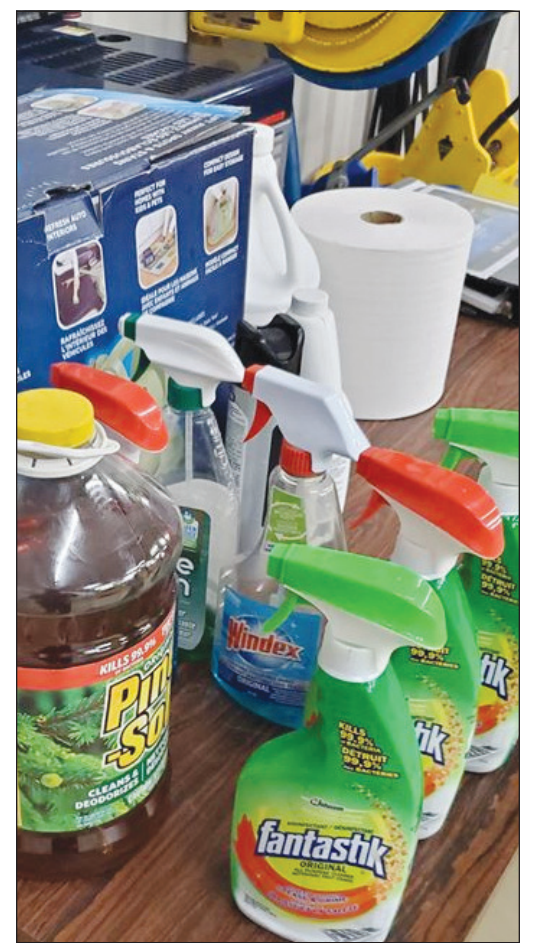
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King Fire upping its game

King Fire and Emergency Services personnel are on top of the COVID-19 pandemic. King Fire Chief Jim Wall said he’s “extremely proud of our staff members in regards to how serious they are taking COVID-19. Right from sterilizing the fire stations to sterilizing all of the fire trucks, our staff want to make sure that we are keeping both our customers and firefighters safe. A big thanks goes to F.F. Keillor and Nicholas for pulling every piece of equipment off our 36 rigs, cleaning the cabinets, and steam cleaning the interior of the trucks.”

Wall extended a big thanks to Deputy James Arnold for keeping the medical supplies going during these times, too.

“We have a great team at King Fire, right from my admin staff down to the newest staff member. We are here to serve our community.”

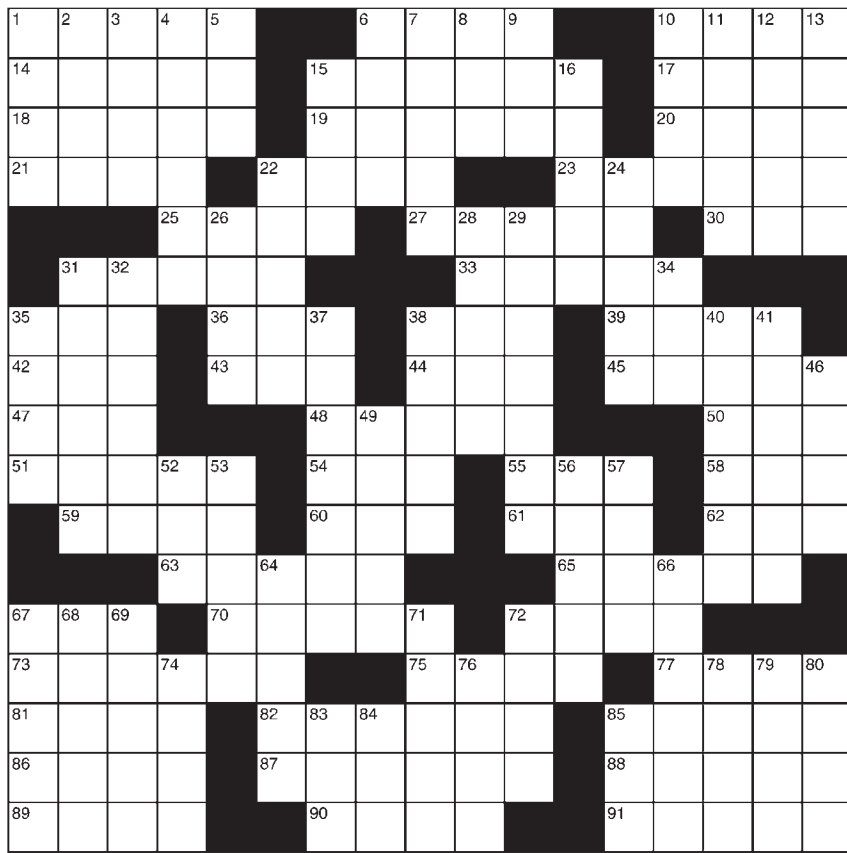
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- Reward
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 - Romp
 - Radius’s companion
 - Suspiciously alert
 - Of the eye
 - High seas
 - Bird of yore
 - Nuisance
 - Self-centered person
 - Elemental particle
 - Navajo dwelling
 - “Cry ____ River”
 - Lean one
 - Dark tea type
 - Bear hair
 - Keep a stiff upper ____
 - “____ fleece was white . . .”
 - Speck of dust
 - Tarzan’s friend
 - Cartoon frame
 - Young louse
 - Foe
 - Fresh
 - Tropical palm
 - Dieter’s retreat
 - Shake hands with
 - Coffee container
 - “____ kingdom come . . .”
 - Sardine can
 - Inspid
 - Auction buy
 - Observe
 - Unit of work
 - Lasso
 - Clergyman
 - Chubby
 - Stink
 - Nothing but
 - Flowering shrub
 - Seaweed gel
 - Mare’s child
 - Horrid
 - Light reddish brown
 - Con game
 - Unpleasant task
 - Pivot
 - Moving
 - Sleep
 - Minn. neighbor:
 - Hollow rock
- DOWN**
- Lacking hair
 - Cheaper spread
 - A friend in ____ . . .
 - Noisy commotion
 - Wary
 - Seal hunter
 - Moola
 - Visiting General Hospital?
 - “Alias” org.
 - Japanese sport
 - Allege
 - Licorice flavoring
 - Devilfish
 - Outline
 - Squeaking sound
 - Stray calf
 - Elflike being
 - Powder mineral
 - Sight-related
 - Develop slowly
 - Fantastic
 - Embroidery yarn
 - Long timespan
 - Snake’s tooth
 - Mollify
 - Bungling
 - Canopy frame
 - Type of apple
 - Yin’s opposite
 - Rustic
 - Part of ENT
 - “____ Dreams”
 - Overexcited
 - 12 months
 - Pile up
 - Make not as dangerous
 - Prefer
 - Nitrogen compound
 - Anklebone
 - Immature insect stage
 - Promenade
 - Or else
 - Nerd
 - Aware of
 - Caustic material
 - Folk wisdom
 - “My ____ True Love”
 - Purge
 - Satchel
- Solution on page 17**

ENE King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, April 9 to Wednesday, April 15

THURS 9TH	FRI 10TH	SAT 11TH	SUN 12TH	MON 13TH	TUES 14TH	WED 15TH
Mixed Precip. High 6C° Low -1C° ~1mm/~1cm Wind W 33k	Scattered Flurries High 3C° Low -3C° <1cm Wind NW 36k	Mainly Sunny High 8C° Low -1C° - Wind W 19k	Cloudy/Showers High 8C° Low 5C° ~5mm Wind E 16k	Rain High 9C° Low 0C° ~10mm Wind W 36k	Chance of Shower High 5C° Low -2C° <1mm Wind SW 37k	A Few Flurries High 4C° Low -3C° <1mm/<1cm Wind W 27k

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Business, Finance & Real Estate



Flato Developments supporting fight against COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has put a significant strain on all healthcare institutions and hospitals resulting in an increased need for donations to help protect workers.

As a response to this crisis, the team at Flato Developments, a builder and land developer of commercial and residential communities, has begun distributing personal protective equipment (PPE) in the form of KN95 and surgical masks to front line workers serving communities across southern Ontario.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford made a call to the people and businesses of the province to show the Ontario spirit and help our neighbours at this trying time. Flato thanks the premier for his leadership and has stepped up to help.

“Flato Developments is more than just a home building company. We want to give back to the communities where we operate and hold trusting relationships. Most importantly, we want to help the people within these communities who are serving the front lines,” said Shakir Rehmatullah, president and founder.

Masks will be dropped off at pre-arranged meeting points to different towns and designated drop-off locations at hospitals and community health centres.

Flato will make mask donations to the following health care centres and communities:

Markham-Stouffville Hospital, Town of Stouffville, Headwaters Health Care Centre, Stevenson Memorial Hospital, South East Grey Community Health Centre, Town of Shelburne.

“We understand this is a difficult time and hope all our customers and partners are staying safe and healthy.”



King Township staff focus on local priorities

King Township, like all municipalities across Canada, has had to make fast and far-reaching decisions in order to protect the safety of its staff, its citizens and the community as a whole in the face of a global pandemic.

While the new reality of physical distancing and other measures such as the closure of municipal facilities and cancellation of recreation programs are in effect (until further notice), staff at the Township are calibrating work plans and exploring alternative ways to continue delivering services and advancing projects so Council’s strategic priorities are not left behind.

In early March, council received a presentation about the Township’s new draft Corporate Strategic Plan – an ambitious plan, based on the priorities of council, charting the way forward for the remainder of Council’s term.

While the pandemic has certainly impacted day-to-day Township services (a list of these impacted services are available at king.ca), staff working behind the scenes are committed

to advancing major budget-approved capital projects as soon as they safely can, launching online public consultations and reviewing and preparing updated regulatory bylaws ready for the mayor and councillors’ return.

Important initiatives such as finalizing the Corporate Strategic Plan, launching the Stormwater Master Plan and finalizing the Transportation Master Plan will still progress. Although regulatory time frames required by the Province have been suspended, impacting planning applications and halting Local Planning Appeal Tribunal hearings, Township planning staff are continuing to review and process planning applications to the greatest extent possible.

“It is our essential workers who remain in the field that face the greatest challenge of balancing the health and safety of our community, and themselves,” according to a statement released by the Township. “Essential and vital services must continue operating to ensure safe delivery of drinking water, emergency calls are responded to and critical regulatory bylaws are enforced, all with the added safety protocols and precautionary measures to protect the health and well-being of our municipal workers.”

There may be no end in sight to the pandemic, but King staff are committed to delivering the services, programs and engagement that residents have come to expect to the extent safely possible.

King launches online resource for seniors

In order to inform and protect the health of one of King Township’s more vulnerable populations, King has published an online COVID-19 seniors resources webpage. It can be reached through www.king.ca or directly at:

<http://king.ca/Government/Departments/Administration/Pages/Resources-for-Seniors.aspx>.

“More now than ever, it’s important we help our seniors get the information and services they need in order for them to be able to stay at home during this global pandemic,” said Mayor Steve Pellegrini. “I know many of them are worried about how they’ll be able to get groceries or medications. Although King isn’t providing those services directly, we’ve put together a long list of organizations and companies that can.”

- Those resources include:
- Grocery Pick-Up/Delivery.
 - Prescription Refill Delivery.
 - Restaurant Dining Pick-Up/Delivery.
 - CHATS – Meals On Wheels.
 - Contact information for seniors groups.
 - Health information.
 - Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).
 - Distress Centres of Greater Toronto for crisis assistance.
 - Seniors Safety Line – Elder Abuse Ontario.
 - Entertainment at home.
 - Reporting fraud.

Mayor Pellegrini also urges citizens to reach out to seniors and the vulnerable either by phone, email or text.

“Take a few minutes out of your day to check in on your elderly loved ones or neighbours,” said Mayor Pellegrini. “Even if they don’t have an immediate need, staying in touch will help them feel more connected. Don’t visit older relatives or friends unless it’s absolutely necessary – as in, they need food, at home, supplies or they need their medications. Remember, we’re all in this together and together we’ll get through these difficult times.”

Although all municipal facilities are closed, citizens can still do business with King on the website at www.king.ca, by phone at 905-833-5321 or by email at serviceking@king.ca.

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Pottageville Mosquito Control Program

Notice of Aerial Application of Larvicide for Mosquito Control

Sometime between April 3 and April 30, 2020, Pestalto Environmental Health Services Inc. will apply a biological larvicide by helicopter in the Pottageville area. This application is for the control of spring Aedes Mosquito Larvae only and will be conducted over specific mosquito breeding sites within the boundaries of:

8th Concession to the West **Weston Road to the East**
19th Side Road to the North **18th Side Road to the South**

A detailed map that indicates the specific boundaries of application and affected properties for this program is available at the Township of King municipal offices and on the Township’s Website at www.king.ca.

The program will use a single spring application of VectoBac 200G (PCP# 18158) in a granular formulation. This product contains the active ingredient *B.t.i.* which is a naturally occurring bacterium found in soils and is very specific to mosquito larva.

If your property falls within the treatment area you will be contacted by direct mail. If you have any questions or concerns you may contact Pestalto at 1-866-648-7773 or by e-mail.

TECHNICAL AND PROGRAM INFORMATION

Pestalto Environmental Health Services Inc.
 501 Rennie St., Hamilton, ON, L8H 3P6
 Tel: 1-(866) 648-7773 ext. 234

Kevin Taylor kevin.taylor@pestalto.com

Township Contact: Clement Sin @ (905) 833-4061 or csin@king.ca

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Magna to roll out technology to help sterilize PPEs

By Brock Weir

Can already-established technology be used to help frontline workers sterilize their personal protective equipment (PPE) of COVID-19?

That is the question Aurora-based Magna is hoping to find out as they look to ramp up production on purification system already in production in Newmarket to aid in the fight.

The Puro is a cooler-sized box that was developed to harness the anti-microbial and anti-viral properties of ozone. Often used today as a way to kill odour-causing microbes on things like hockey equipment, Magna is working with partners in the science and medical fields to test the product to see if it can help aid the COVID-19 fight. If the results are successful, they hope to significantly ramp up production of the device in York Region.

“Our engineers dreamed up this product they call Puro, which is a box they can then attach an ozone creating device to fill up the space with ozone, and the ozone is highly effective in killing bacteria,” explains Scott Worden, senior manager, corporate communications, at Magna International. “The tests they had originally run found that it was effective in knocking out the MRSA bacteria (a bacteria that is frequently found in hospital and other healthcare environments). They were looking at things like hockey equipment and other sorts of household stuff that you can’t throw into the clothes washer necessarily and can get kind

of gross from bacteria. They developed this product about five years ago.”

Magna floated the potential efficacy of this product at the end of March as the Federal Government began engaging with large companies on redirecting their manufacturing energies towards products that can be used to address the pandemic.

Since then, Worden says reception from potential partners, including medical researchers, has been encouraging.

“Once we started discussing this publicly about a week ago, our team – the engineers and the Puro team – have received quite a bit of interest and feedback,” he says. “They are at a point now where they are working with some of testing facilities and there are multiple tests going on in parallel right now. One of the tests is just to test [whether] the ozone chamber in the Puro product knocks out the COVID-19 virus. Will it kill the virus the way that it kills bacteria? That is the first question we’re trying to answer with the tests.

“A parallel test they are doing is to test the N95 masks (in the chamber), one of the critical pieces of personal protective equipment that frontline workers need (and) if they can be reused after spending their time in the chamber being cleaned up and sterilized. That is the key: if we find out that we can put PPEs into the chamber, can it kill any COVID-19 virus that is on there and then have healthcare people reuse those masks? That will help alleviate the shortage and the anxiety over

having enough PPE.”

Worden said Magna anticipates it will take about two weeks to get through this testing stage.

“We’ll know at the end of that time period whether or not it is going to be effective in killing COVID-19. If we get the news we’re hoping for and the tests prove out our hypothesis and what we’re hoping, it is about six weeks to tool up and start being able to manufac-

ture Puro in higher volumes.

“Magna employees are problem-solvers by nature and so, in this situation, with the global pandemic going on and our regular business kind of on hold right now with all the automotive manufacturing that is on hold for everybody’s safety, we really want to try and find a way to help. We’re very much hoping we’ll be able to save some lives with this project.”

Tentative agreement with ETFO

Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, is pleased with the tentative agreement with the Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario (ETFO) and the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA), and ETFO Education Workers and the Council of Trustees’ Associations (CTA).

“Our government is pleased to announce a tentative agreement has been reached between the Crown, ETFO teachers and education workers, and the school boards trustees’ associations.

“This tentative ETFO agreement builds further momentum for deals and progress that students deserve, following the tentative agreement signed with the Ontario English Catholic Teachers’ Association (OECTA).

“We remain focused on landing further deals, to provide stability and certainty to students, parents, and educators.”



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Sameach

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Arts & Entertainment

The importance of fruit trees to pollinators

By Eleonora Schmied
Schomberg Horticultural Society

When hiking the trails at Cold Creek Conservation Area one comes along a stand of old apple trees that will be flowering soon and be “abuzz” with pollinators. Pollinators could be bees, butterflies, bats, flies, beetles, hummingbirds, etc.

Fruit trees bloom early in the spring when there are fewer perennials in bloom. Rather than a few flowers, fruit trees are covered in flowers containing nectar and pollen. They not only provide food but they provide also protection from the elements and a wind screen for our small friends when flying.

We all know what a honey bee is, honey bees make honey. They live in colonies, have one queen and a bunch of worker bees and most importantly, they make honey. Honey bees (*Apis mellifera*) are not native – they were first introduced to North America in the early 1600s by European settlers.

Do all bees make honey, you might ask? No, not all bees make honey, but, nevertheless, native bees are vital to Ontario’s ecosystems and economies since fruits and vegetables require animal propagation, so they are important crop pollinators. Fruit trees bloom early in the spring when there are fewer perennials in bloom. Rather than a few flowers, fruit trees are covered in flowers containing nectar and pollen. They not only provide food but they provide also protection from the elements and a wind screen for our small friends when flying.

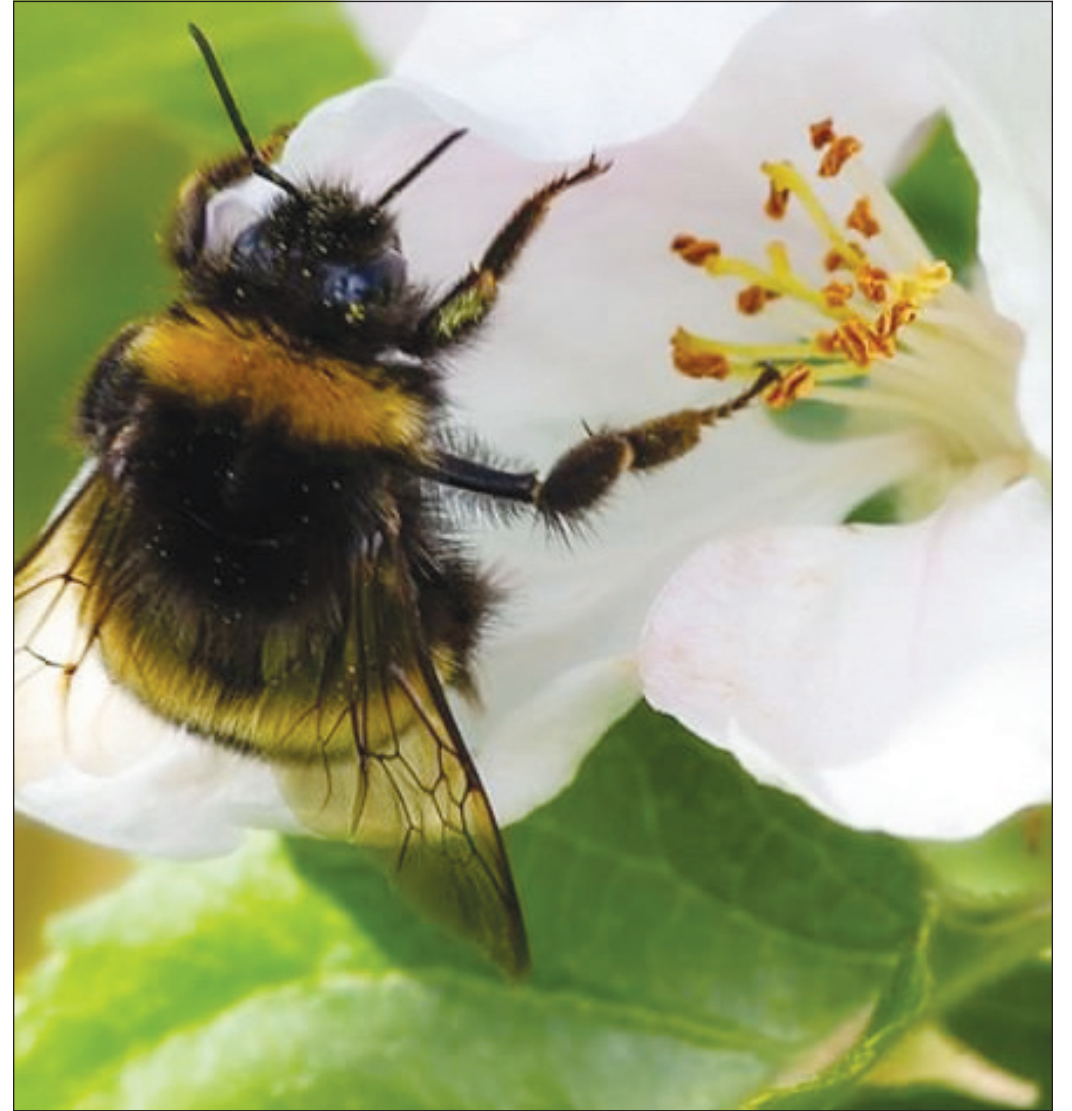
There are about 21,000 bee varieties in the world and 4,000 bee species are found in North America alone. These bees, called wild or native bees were here long before the honey bee arrived. The term “wild bee” is used for those species that don’t produce honey and even though they don’t do that, they are extremely important pollinators of our crops. Fruit trees need pollinators and pollinators need fruit trees.

So, let’s take a look at one of the largest native bees, the bumble bee.

Of those 4,000 native, wild bees about 50 species are bumble bees in North America. Bumble bees mate in the fall and the inseminated females called gynes, (destined to become queen) hibernate over winter. In the early spring when temperatures warm up, they emerge and start to forage. It is very important to not start cleaning up the yard and flower beds too early, because one might disturb an overwintering bumble bee.

The gynes will find a suitable nesting site, normally a ground nest and start to build nesting pots from secreted gland wax. They then gather pollen and moisten it with nectar and lay eggs and cover with more wax. They incubate the pollen ball and the eggs hatch in 3 to 5 days. The bumble bees continue to forage, gathering more pollen and nectar to continue building the nest.

The bumble bee’s size and strength allows them to work with a variety of flowers that would be difficult for other bees to work with. Not only are they larger, they are fuzzy. They collect pollen and nectar in sacks or baskets on their hind legs. Bumble bees buzz-pol-



inate by vibrating their flight muscles. By landing in the centre of a flower they “shake out large amounts of pollen in one flower visit.” This makes them six to seven times more efficient than honey bees.

Ontario’s pollinator populations have declined for various reasons, such as habitat loss, pests, disease, pesticides and climate change.

Fruit trees and pollinators have a mutually beneficial relationship – they benefit each other by providing food, by providing the future existence as well as protection. But the plants and the bees aren’t the only ones benefiting from this relationship. Every time you eat any Foodland Ontario fruit, remember our fuzzy, buzzy friends, made it happen.

Crime drops in York due to isolation

By Mark Pavilons

The only upside to the isolation brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic is a drop in crime.

York Regional Police noted that overall, crime has decreased roughly 13% in March, compared to the same time last year.

Traffic violations have seen a 32% drop, and impaired driving has finally eased up, with a 29% decrease. Frauds fell 16% while weapons offences saw a 13% decline.

Break-ins have seen a dramatic 45% decrease, while thefts from vehicles saw a similar 44% drop. Domestic incidents fell 22%.

Stunt driving incidents showed the biggest decrease – 60%.

YRP did receive more than 200 reports related to the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act in late March. The calls were related to non-essential businesses operating and people failing to isolate or maintain the recommended distancing. YRP hasn’t laid any charges so far and have been working to educate members of the community on what’s required in these times.

More information on the civil protection act can be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90e09>

York Regional Police facilities remain closed to the public as everyone is working to slow the spread of COVID-19.

YRP staff continue to respond and adapt to changes in crime trends and the changes in daily life in the community.

In the case of emergency, you can still call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies, call 1-866-876-5423. You can also fill out a form at yrp.ca/ReportIt

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Check Out the List of Resources Below to Keep You and Your Family Entertained

Just click on “Books, Movies and eContent,” found on the Library’s main page.

eZines – online Magazines

RBDigital Magazines

Read alouds - For Kids

TumbleBooks for Kids!

Online Resources

Our website provides you with the opportunity to learn something new including: languages, sign language, or a new skill. Just click on “Apps and Databases” found on the Library’s main page.

Language

Mango – Features over 70 languages including Pirate – Arr... Lol!

Signing Savvy – Learn Sign Language

A New Skill

Universal Class – You can learn accounting, health, medicine, DIY, science, web development and more!

King Township Lions Club’s

23rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Scheduled for April 11, 2020
has been cancelled
Due to COVID-19

CANCELLED

RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

AURORA/KING
VOLUME 8, ISSUE 4

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How lawns benefit from aeration

Compacted soil can have a dramatic effect on grass. Compacted soil blocks oxygen, water and nutrients from reaching the root systems of the turf. That creates a lawn with weak roots, which make grass more vulnerable to disease and compromising its ability to withstand harsh weather, such as summer heat.

The buildup of thatch, which is a matted layer of grass clippings and other organic debris that collects on the top of the soil, is one indicator that a lawn could benefit from aeration, a process in which the surface of the lawn is perforated to break up compacted soil and allow oxygen, water and nutrients to reach root systems. Other signs that aeration may be necessary include patches of thin grass, brown spots and a high concentration of clay in the soil.

When faced with a lawn that could benefit from aeration, homeowners may wonder if such as task lends itself to DIY or if it's best left to professional landscapers. Aerating a lawn is not always easy, and typically it involves the use of one of three types of aerators:

CORE AERATOR: A core aerator uses hollow tines to pull plugs of soil from the lawn. The plugs are left on the surface of the lawn. Homeowners can pick up the plugs or, according to the grass seed experts at Pennington, even leave them in the yard and allow them to break down.

SPIKE AERATOR: The experts at Pennington note that spike aerators employ solid, spike-like tines to poke holes in the soil. These aerators leave the spikes in the soil. Some people wear spiked aeration shoes while walking around the yard to mimic the effects of spike aerators.

SLICING AERATOR: According to Pennington, slicing aerators employ rotating blades that slice through thatch and down into the soil. These aerators leave the soil in the ground.

Aerators can be operated manually, though professionals tend to use motorized aerators. The machines are often heavy, so homeowners should consider their health and physical ability before deciding to aerate on their own. Hiring a professional landscaper who has experience aerating may be the quickest and most effective way to restore a lawn to full health.

During the cold months of winter, many people stare longingly out of the window dreaming of spring and time spent outdoors. For those with green thumbs, images of tending to the garden and other aspects of their landscapes no doubt dominate such daydreams.

Draw inspiration from those budding crocuses and daffodils pushing through the last remnants of snow and employ these tips to prepare for the upcoming gardening season.



- One of the first steps is to apply a preemergent weed killer to get a head start knocking out weeds that can plague the lawn during the growing season. Killing weeds at the roots early on can mean far fewer hassles in spring and summer, and may prevent new generations of weeds from cropping up each year.

- While it may be tempting to take a prematurely warm day as a sign that spring is in full force and purchase a bunch of annuals, it's better to know the last of the possible frost dates (check "The Farmer's Almanac"); otherwise, you may waste time and money planting flowers or vegetables only to have them zapped by another frosty day.

- Amend the soil so that it is the right consistency — just crumbling when lifting it. Soil that is too muddy after spring thaw can harden, making it difficult for plants to flourish later on. Speak with representatives at a local lawn and garden center about which types of amendments you can add to the soil in your particular area to enrich it.

- Lawn and garden experts at The Home Depot suggest filling in bare patches of lawn now by mixing a few shovelfuls of soil with grass seed. Then apply this patch to the bare areas, water, and continue to care for the area until the spot fills in.

- Spend a day in the garage or shed tending to the lawn mower and other gardening equipment. Clean all tools and ensure that everything works, repairing parts as needed.

- Give outdoor entertaining spaces a good scrubbing, clearing away dirt and grime that may have accumulated over the winter. Use a leaf blower to blow away any leftover leaves.

- Check if the front porch, railings or decking need painting and/or staining. Tackle these projects when the weather is cooler so everything will be ready for those peak spring days.

- Think about any annuals you might want to plant in the landscape this year that will complement any existing shrubbery or perennials. Come up with a theme so that the entire yard is cohesive.

Before homeowners know it, winter is gone and it is time to once again enjoy long days spent outdoors. Get a jump start on spring lawn prep as soon as you can.



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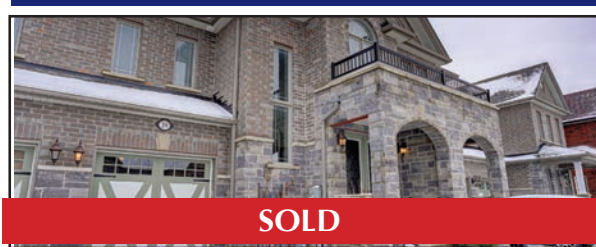


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Amanda Vizziello*

39 Walker Blvd, Alliston



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Amanda Vizziello* & Lynda Lacey*

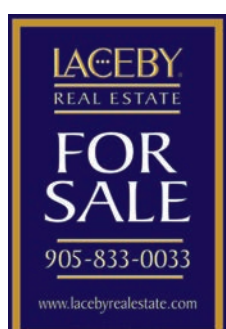
7469 Concession 4, Uxbridge



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David Nattress**



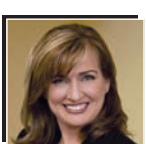
Lynda Lacey*



David Nattress**



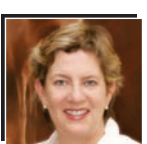
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**RESALE
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How is Real Estate dealing with Covid-19?



By Julien Laurion
The Big Tuna of Real Estate

WOW! What a difference a month can make! My article last month was prepping buyers for a crazy, bidding war style of environment this spring. Now, homeowners are faced with many new challenges to selling their home!

COVID-19 HAS REALLY SHAKEN UP the entire country and even though Real Estate was deemed essential, that does not mean it is business as usual. There have been quite a few changes and I think it is important to discuss them.

In this current atmosphere, buying and selling homes has become difficult because everyone's health and safety is paramount. This means that a number of traditional practices have had to be revised and changed so that social distancing is maintained. So, what's changed? Open houses - homeowners no longer want to have strangers walking through their homes. Buyers do not want to expose themselves to possible infection by entering a stranger's home. Foot traffic and face to face interaction has been virtually eliminated. The typical Saturday and Sunday open house signs are no-where to be seen.

In response, many Realtors are posting detailed virtual tours or even 3-D tours to allow purchasers a way of looking at a property without being in it. Now, you are probably thinking, how can I buy a house without actually seeing it? Most brokerages are accepting clauses that make a sale conditional, pending an actual viewing by the buyers. This means that you can come to an agreement to buy the home and have the ability to walk away without penalty should you view the property in person and feel it does not match your needs. A lot of people need to 'feel' the energy of a home before the purchase.

Additionally, OREA has introduced new State of Emergency Clauses that are to be included with an offer. The Unable To Complete clause provides that if the transaction is delayed due to the buyer or the seller's bank or mortgage provider is closed or if the land registry office is closed due to extraordinary events, the transaction completion date is automatically extended two business days following the resumption of those services without penalty. The clause allows for electronic signatures of documents as well as video conferencing for the signing of closing documents.

On the legal side of real estate transactions, the Law Society of Ontario had made the same type of changes in their regulations allowing for signatures to be executed electronically and witnessed via video conference. Legal offices have set up protocols in their offices to respect social distancing while finalizing all of the legal requirements to complete a transaction.

In summary, should you need to sell your home or buy a home. It is now more important than ever to work with an experienced Realtor like myself who can help you during these rapidly changing times.

Lastly, I want to take a moment to thank everyone who works ever so hard at keeping our lives somewhat intact. Now more than ever, we are grateful to all of the dedicated people who work in healthcare and put their lives on the line to save ours! As you know, there is a severe shortage of personal protective equipment in our hospitals. Our hospital, Southlake Regional Health Centre is in dire need of donations to help purchase that equipment to keep their healthcare workers safe. If you can, please make a donation at www.southlake.ca/foundation/donateCOVID-19

In addition, I would especially like to thank those people who, three weeks ago, were under-appreciated in their importance to our survival: our grocery store clerks, garbage collectors, delivery people, LCBO & Beer Store employees, our cleaners and drivers...

THANK YOU

for stepping up to the plate for our all of our benefit! You show how strong and selfless Canadians are.

To all my readers, the next time you go to any store, please take a moment to thank everyone you see. They are scared as well, but are working tirelessly to keep us going. Stay healthy everyone and, please, WASH YOUR HANDS AND DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE!

Julien Laurion AKA Big Tuna, is a local Real Estate Sale Representative with Royal LePage Your Community Realty in Aurora. I am a real estate agent who has expertise in both Real Estate and Renovations and have been involved in this community for over 20 years. If you have a question for my monthly article or if you are considering buying, selling or leasing a home please feel free to call or email me directly at (416) 402-5530 or julien@bigtuna.ca or by alternatively visiting my website www.bigtuna.ca or Facebook page @bigtunarealty

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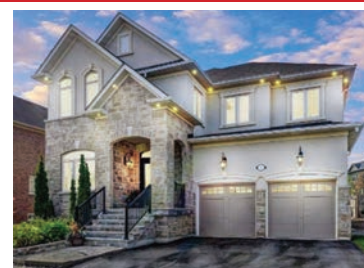
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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

Ask A Realtor®

We planned to start looking to buy a home and we aren't sure where to start, please help.



Start by having a conversation over the telephone with a REALTOR® and book a face to face video conference to discuss and assess your needs and build rapport and an understanding of what's involved. Next discuss the urgency around the timing of needing to buy a home.

The shift for real estate is how we serve others in a post-COVID-19 world under a current state of emergency. In a statement from the Ontario Real Estate Association to it's members: ' ALL REALTORS® should stop face-to-face business, including open houses, in-person showings, and maintaining agents and public office hours.'

Real estate is deemed as essential services to remain open for business. The understanding is that there are thousands across Canada that are in the midst of buying or selling a home and they still require support ongoing from their REALTOR® as well as a host of other business providers that are also deemed essential like their real estate lawyers, land registry office, lending institutions, moving companies, inspectors and appraisers to name a few.

Sellers may need to buy or lease their next home and require the support of a REALTOR®. Others may need to sell due to a variety of personal circumstances stemming from their life stage, health concerns, work changes, shifts in family relationships and more and require the support of a licensed professional without delay.

The best place right now defined by our incredible front line health care workers is home and wherever you currently call home now is where REALTORS® can start offering as much virtual information as possible on making a home purchase.

Real estate agents can provide buyer guides, buyer consultations, send documents electronically for

signature and review what's on the market and provide market analysis through video conferencing to safely serve clients. Further, they can connect you with lending professionals to help with pre-approvals, many lawyers are also equipped to serve virtually, stagers can be engaged for video consultations, inspectors and movers also engaged as needed. Each essential service provider should be conducting their business with safe measures protocols to protect themselves, their clients and the homes experienced.

If buying is an absolute necessity and as the selection of homes gets narrowed down, the REALTOR® can dig deeper to supply virtual tours, virtual open houses, floor plans and request a guided walk through tour on demand as well. If Buyers are in agreement to place an offer to purchase the home; with conditions, one of them may be that the home is viewed with in person upon acceptance of the offer to limit physical exposure to multiple homes. A safety protocol should be discussed prior to any physical face to face meetings.

If moving is not urgent during this pandemic we encourage Buyers to fully set their plan of action now, keep saving their money and following their lenders recommendations and gain more understanding of the market and prepare to take full action when safety conditions improve for the greater health of everyone.

– Written by Connie Power

Connie Power is the Assistant Manager, Sales Representative CNE® SRS® ABR® SRES® for RE/MAX Hallmark York Group Realty Ltd., Brokerage serving York region and beyond in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Empowering you in Real Estate. Call Connie today to make an appointment to discuss your next move at (905) 726-0856.

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POWERWASHING, also known as pressure-washing, utilizes a high-velocity water spray to remove dirt and residue from the exterior surfaces of a home. It is frequently used on vinyl siding, concrete and sometimes wood decks to treat mildew and other growth that accumulates over time.

Powerwashing can be a great way to remove grime without having to scrub by hand. But it requires a delicate touch to get it right. Sometimes it is best to leave the job to professionals. But homeowners willing to give it a go can try powerwashing themselves, as various stores rent power washers.

The home improvement website ImproveNet says that, until very recently, pressure washers were almost exclusively commercial machines sold to professionals or rented to do-it-yourselfers. Lately manufacturers have targeted homeowners looking to buy with lightweight options. For those who see powerwashing as a routine venture, purchasing a unit may be worth the investment.

It is important to exercise caution when operating a powerwashing machine. The high-velocity spray can tear through skin. It is key to get a feel for the washer, and try less pressure first to get a handle on the magnitude of the tool.

Don safety gear prior to using a pressure washer. Gloves, eye protection and ear protection can be handy. Most units will connect to a standard garden hose. Choose old clothing and expect to get wet. Never point a powerwasher hose at anyone and do not attempt to rinse feet or hands in the spray.

The renovation resource The Family Handyman suggests starting with a wide-degree nozzle to test out the spray on the surface that needs to be cleaned. A 15- or 25-degree nozzle is usually the wand for general cleaning and paint stripping without damaging the surface of the home. Experiment with an optimal distance of the washer wand to get the desired cleaning effects without causing any damage. Work using a horizontal and slightly downward angle to avoid driving water up under the siding of a home.

Avoid spraying any electric wires or components on the home. Also, try not to spray upward, and angle the spray away from doors, windows and vents.

Some washers have reservoirs that will hold a detergent solution. Choose the right detergent for the job. Keep in mind that cleansers containing bleach can damage surrounding plants, so they may need to be covered while the washing takes place.

Avoid the use of ladders when operating a powerwasher. The push-back from the wand can cause falls. Instead, opt for an extension wand to address the upper reaches of a home.

Powerwashing a home is an effective way to remove stubborn grime and refresh the look of a home's exterior.

On behalf of the Key Advantage Team, we want to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all of those working in the front lines during this global pandemic.

We are grateful for each and every one of you for your courage, strength and hard work, for your ongoing fight against Covid 19 and continued care around the clock to keep our communities safe.

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7 things to consider when buying a shed



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BACKYARD SHEDS can be useful assets. Sheds can create storage space in the garage, basement or other areas of the house that have become gathering spots for gear typically used outdoors. Sheds are ideal for housing mowers, tools and even pool-care equipment. But they can be put to other uses as well, such as being key spots to engage in hobbies or even as a child's clubhouse.

Various factors should be considered before building or buying a shed. A storage shed can be a significant investment. Once placed, sheds may remain in their dedicated spots for years to come. That means careful thought should go into the planning process.

1 Check your local building codes first. Before you accumulate building materials or order a shed, be sure to know the ins and outs of shed codes. The codes may impact the shed's placement, construction, the materials used, size, and numerous other factors. It's much easier to amend plans beforehand than to face the hassle and expense after learning you did things incorrectly.

2 Choose placement wisely. Spend several days assessing the yard and thinking about the uses for the shed. If you plan to store pool floats and chemicals inside of the shed, it should be located close enough to the pool to be convenient. Look at the lay of the land. If there is a soggy patch of land that can turn swampy under the shed's foundation, that is a poor location choice. If you need access to electricity, placing it far away from the house could necessitate running expensive wiring.

3 Consider the design. Just because a shed is for storage doesn't mean aesthetics should be overlooked. Choose a shed style that complements your home. You may also want to match certain architectural features, like arched doorways or dormers. Design also may relate to practicality. For instance, storing a riding mower inside may necessitate dual doors that open widely.

4 Invest in quality materials. Spending a little more and using quality materials can ensure it lasts long enough to be cost-effective. The right materials will be resistant to splitting, cracking, decay, and insect damage.

5 Prepare the site well. A proper foundation for the shed is almost as important as the shed itself. You cannot just drop the shed on the lawn and leave it, as the shed can sink or structural issues may arise if it is placed on a weak base.

6 Blend into the environment. Surround the shed with shrubs or plants so that it blends into the yard and complements the space.

7 Deck out the interior. Use every storage tool at your disposal to maximize floor, wall and even rafter space for storage. Plan where items will be kept and customize the storage options around those locations.

Sheds can be an asset and improve storage capability in the backyard.



Make garage organization go smoothly

Garages tend to fall victim to disorganization during the winter, when homeowners want to hurry inside and get some respite from the cold. As a result, many homeowners resolve to clean their garages come springtime.

Cleaning a disorganized garage overcome with clutter can be an all-day job, so homeowners would be wise to reserve a springtime Saturday or Sunday to get their garages back in order. Upon designating ample time to clean their garages, homeowners can then utilize a few additional tips to make the project go as smoothly as possible.

EMPTY THE GARAGE. The first step when organizing a garage is to empty it completely. Old machinery and rusted lawn and garden tools have a way of disappearing in garages, and those items may remain there for years if the garage is never emptied. Once you have emptied the garage, you might be surprised to learn just how much or even how little space you have to work with.

CLEAN THE GARAGE TOP TO BOTTOM After you have emptied the garage, give it a thorough cleaning. Cleaning the garage serves multiple purposes. A clean garage is less likely to be overcome with dirt and/or critters, both of which can contribute to the deterioration of tools and machinery stored in the garage. In addition, you may be less likely to let a clean garage fall back into disorganization, saving you the trouble of reorganizing the garage next spring.

LOOK UP Many homeowners fail to make adequate use of the vertical space in their garages. But keeping items off the floor can make it easier to clean the garage and will provide more room for your car or other machinery you don't want to leave in the driveway or a backyard shed. Install shelves so you can more safely store automotive fluids and cleaners, and hang some hooks or hammer a few nails into the garage walls so you can hang tools like rakes and garden shears.

GROUP TOOLS BY SEASON Grouping tools by season can make for a more organized garage and one less likely to be overcome with clutter. Designate one corner of the garage for lawn and gardening tools and another for winter tools like snow shovels or snowblowers. This makes it easier to find tools when you need them. When grouping tools, you can also group items by who uses them. For example, parents can designate one area of the garage for their tools, while kids can get their own area for their toys and bicycles.

RESOLVE TO PARK IN THE GARAGE One of the best ways to keep a garage organized is to park your vehicle or vehicles inside the garage each night. Parking in a garage protects your vehicle(s) from the elements, and you also won't be tempted to leave items lying around on the garage floor if you know you will eventually be pulling your vehicle in.

A few simple strategies can make springtime garage organization more effective and efficient.



Here's How

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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

How to control crabgrass before it appears

HOMEOWNERS who enjoy tending to their lawns know that grass is vulnerable to a host of problems, many of which appear at a time of year when lawn enthusiasts want to showcase the fruits of their lawn-and-garden labours.

Crabgrass is a common problem that appears in summer. According to Lowes, crabgrass plants produce thousands of seeds between midsummer and early fall. While



the first frosts of late-fall or early winter kill the crabgrass plants, the seeds produced by the plants remain dormant throughout winter and then begin to grow as the ground temperature warms up with the spring and summer thaw. As a result, controlling germination, which is the development of a plant from a seed or spore after a period of dormancy, is the key to preventing crabgrass from becoming an unsightly blemish that can harm your lawn in summer.

A proactive approach to crabgrass can save homeowners the headaches of dealing with this unwanted guest taking over their grass. The following tips, courtesy of Lowes, can help homeowners reduce the likelihood of their lawns being overcome by crabgrass as summer hits full swing.

- Recognize that routine lawn maintenance may not be enough. Even lawns that receive sufficient TLC can fall victim to crabgrass. A proactive, crabgrass-specific approach to lawn maintenance is the most effective way to control the problem before it pops up.

- Apply a pre-emergent herbicide. Pre-emergent herbicides kill crabgrass seedlings as they germinate. While these herbicides are highly effective, they must be applied at precisely the right time. The right time to apply them depends on weather patterns. For example, Lowes notes that homeowners who live in regions that might have experienced warmer than usual winters will probably need to apply the herbicides earlier than usual. While the manufacturer instructions should always be followed when applying herbicides, it's essential that homeowners take weather patterns into consideration as well.

- Wait until the ground temperature rises above 60 F. Applying herbicides when the ground temperature is below 60 F might render the products ineffective. Gauging soil temperature can be tricky, but Lowes advises monitoring shrubs and trees on the property. Once shrubs begin to bloom and trees bud, herbicide can be applied.

- Wait when treating newly seeded lawns. Pre-emergent herbicides might kill new grass seedlings, so homeowners with newly seeded lawns should wait until they have mowed their lawns three times before applying a herbicide.

- Emphasize uniform application. If a herbicide is not applied uniformly across the lawn, crabgrass can establish itself and ultimately spread to the rest of the lawn.

- Do not thatch or aerate after applying a herbicide. Thatching or aerating a lawn after applying a herbicide might break the product's chemical barrier, thereby rendering it ineffective.

Crabgrass can quickly spread on an untreated lawn. A proactive approach that prevents its growth can keep lawns looking great through summer.

Real Estate Market Update – Aurora

Safety First before Home Sales

March home sales rose by almost 19 per cent across York region with 1403 homes sold, a trend of growth established early in 2020. Average home pricing across York was 10 per cent higher at \$1,038,598 than prior year.

Across the neighbourhoods of Aurora 93 homes sold for an average price of \$1,009,804 an almost 17 per cent spike from 2019 and all indications showed a welcomed improvement in consumer confidence in real estate across most of York region. The month ended with less than a 3 month supply of homes for sale inventory to select from at this current demand. On average it took 15-20 days to sell what was available and Seller's on average received the full asking price. There were 181 homes placed for sale in March and at the commencement of April 164 were available for sale.

The story doesn't end there as the month of March was the timing of a huge disconnect in the strong market action defined as the pre-COVID-19-period and post-COVID-19 affecting some communities greater than others. Across Aurora, 36 homes sold in the final 16 days of the month; classified as the post-COVID-period by the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board which was on par to the market activity for the same timeframe of 2019.

With a state of emergency called due to the COVID-19 pandemic the message globally, federally, provincially and locally has been clear to place safety first and make social distancing the top commitment in a united effort to flatten the curve or spread of COVID-19. The Canadian federal government classified real estate amongst the 75 businesses that are deemed as essential services to remain open for business. This classification does not mean that business is as usual. Call a REALTOR® today and discuss any concerns, plans and needs in real estate and be sure to seek an understanding of how they can serve safely, virtually and share their COVID-19 best practice protocols.

– Written by Connie Power

Connie Power is an Assistant Manager and Sales Representative CNE® SRS® ABR® SRES®, for RE/MAX Hallmark York Group Realty Ltd., Brokerage serving York region and beyond in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Empowering you in Real Estate. Call Connie today to make an appointment to discuss your next move at (905) 726-0856.

*The statistics provided herein were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board; Summary of Existing Home Transactions of all home types, March 2019 and 2020 for all TRREB Areas.

***Not intended to solicit those currently under a real estate contract.



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Premium location at Yonge & Kennedy St in Aurora Village complete with R-5 zoning for potential home business or multiplex. Inviting front wrap around porch, 4 bedrooms plus 2nd floor den with enclosed porch. New family room addition with in-floor heating open to the kitchen and overlooking the large private 132 foot lot. Renovated kitchen boasts centre island, quartz counters & breakfast bar. Renovated master ensuite & w/in closet, updated electrical & more! Steps to Yonge St. Incredible opportunity! **\$1,050,000**



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AlteX Academy takes drones to a whole new level

By Robert Belardi

If you are driving down Lloyd-town-Aurora road and happen to see a sign named "AlteX Academy," it might be worth passing by and having a look at some of the high-tech, proverbial drones that are available. Yes, those things.

Operations Director at AlteX Academy, Yifei Zhao, claims drones have had mixed emotions over the past decade.

There is a new motive to change the glooming perspective of these high-end pieces of technology. And here is why.

Back in 2010, Zhao and her business

partner Alex Shvartsev ran a business known as NTFG Aerial. They were both known for many things. They were the first to use a co-axial drone in Canada, and assembled quad-copter and completed specialty projects for many companies such as Tesla. It wasn't an expandable type of business. They needed more.

Three years later, there was a knock on the door, that would open a new avenue that could turn this business right around.

"In 2013 is when Humber College came to us," said Zhao.

"They said, 'Look you guys were



Aurora-King Baseball going week by week

By Robert Belardi

Aurora-King baseball has actively prepared the league against the coronavirus pandemic, informing families and members with three written statements over the past month.

The league announced on March 13 all team-training sessions and gatherings are to be suspended until further notice. The league proactively, sanctioned the suspense of all operations for rep and select levels before any other league made an announcement, second year president, Shaun McGuire said.

On March 25, on the same day a virtual board meeting was held using GoTo-Meeting, two statements were released to update families. The first, to announce, that no decision has yet been made by the league.

The second statement, announced that the association will return all sponsorship money to companies that have donated to the house league program; unless, the board is told otherwise.

"We sort of set out three timelines," explained McGuire, on what was discussed last Wednesday.

"Our first timeline would obviously be, starting our season on time. The second timeline, would be how many games can we get in, if we are at this date? And, our drop-dead date, was sitting at July 6 for our house league."

Originally, the July 6 date was the last day before the board would effectively cancel the season.

However, on March 29, another virtual board meeting was held to eliminate the drop-dead date from the options. McGuire says the board wishes to salvage some of the season.

The next house league evaluation day is set for May 3.

With house league dates set for Aurora-King, McGuire says the rep program is out of the organization's hands.

The Ontario Baseball Association (OBA) and the York-Simcoe Baseball Association (YSBA) will be overseeing all rep baseball decision with regards to this pandemic.

As for other further preparations, Aurora-King has revised all by-laws and policies. VP of Finance and Admin, Andrew Backer has taken on the challenge. The board has purchased a new laptop with a USB stick, to pass on to the next board of management when the time is right and has also, instilled a protocol should another pandemic take place.

"We will have protocols and procedures going around if this ever happens again."

In his second year as president of Aurora-King Baseball, McGuire previously served as vice-president and has been a member on the board for the past 10 years.

Growing up in East York, McGuire began playing baseball at the age of six and stopped playing competitive baseball at the age of 40.

He is also currently the head coach of the U17, Team Ontario Astros club in the Canadian Premier Baseball League (CPBL); an ultra-elite division.

McGuire shared his views on what drives him every day as president of this league.

"Just being able to build something up to rival other programs. It's the challenge of trying to field our teams, field really good teams and help out the masses to try to get the enjoyment that I got for so many years out of the game."

McGuire wishes to grow the game of baseball even more and wants to get children out to come and play competitively. In doing so, with the program that Aurora-King has established, he says he has a five-year plan in place.

"This year was going to be the first year we were going to have an elite team playing in the EBLO (Elite Baseball League of Ontario). That would give us, house league, select, rep and elite baseball."

"So, we're looking to grow that part of the program as well over the next five years."

Aurora-King will continue to update the community as information continues to come forth regarding this pandemic.

the go-to, team in town. You were one of the first of three teams to start the drone department in film union here (IATSE Local 667), so we should take your skills and experience and build a couple of courses."

In 2014 it came into fruition and the school, Zhao and Shvartsev, had developed a partnership to offer college students training through continuing education.

Initially, between the College and Zhao, the initial reaction was for the program, to be intended for filming. Back then, Zhao and Shvartsev were the first in Ontario to offer Transport Canada compliant Ground School with a certificate course from community college.

Police, engineers and real estate agents came in for training. At that point Zhao and Shvartsev knew this was a business. In 2016, AlteX Academy was born.

Zhao says, the drone is used for more than just filming. The drone is the vehicle for the camera to film and to market. So, it comes down to, what else can you really use the camera for?

"Actually, there is another function because drones have a GPS system for navigation," said Zhao.

"When you capture images, you don't just capture the picture, you actually capture a picture with GPS data and your geomatics data as well."

For surveying land, for engineers, these employees want to know the topography of the land for cost of construction. To do this on the ground is time consuming. The drone, will provide that information effortlessly, taking photos at set intervals and processing the data through a software program.

The program is all completed through the cloud with the ability to adjust the data accuracy and send it back to the employer.

Two major departments in the police force also use drones for traffic accident reconstruction and search and rescue projects.

The police department is able to visually present an accident scene with information such as the speed, position and impact of vehicles and present the data in court for prosecution.

In search and rescue missions, a thermal camera was used in discovering a man in Saskatchewan who had

been involved in a roll-over accident back in 2013 (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/aerial-drone-locates-sask-man-injured-in-rollover-crash-1.1398942>). The drone was able to find the man with thermal signatures in the woods.

In using high-end pieces of technology for the justice system, Zhao says drones have been recently tested between the Toronto Police force and the University of Toronto for finding missing people.

The information and data of the person is inserted in the system and the drone will calculate the probability of where this person could have gone missing.

But, the biggest challenge is integrating rural police communities into this system. Forces, such as Toronto's, benefit from funding. Zhao says this is the biggest challenge currently that many rural communities face.

Since Transport Canada, at the federal level, has alleviated most of the restrictions on their legislation in the new document from 2019, it has become a lot easier to get into the industry.

More than 90 schools are listed on Transport Canada's compliant training list (<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/aviation/drone-safety/get-drone-pilot-certificate/find-drone-flight-school.html>). In Ontario, AlteX offers training with community college partners including Fleming College and Seneca College.

Last year, more than 3,000 pilots earned their advanced certificate to fly drones. More than 200 pilots, graduated from AlteX Academy. Last year's focus was more on certification. This year is different.

"Now we're focused on delivering results. Because, really, we focus on business applications for drones. Licensing is just the first step," explained Zhao.

AlteX Academy does not sell drones or any other pieces of equipment. Zhao says it is a conflict of interest as the focus is on the client.

"In this industry, you have to pick a side. You either pick the operators, the pilots or you pick the manufacturers," she laughed.

Zhao went on to add that it is all about education in this industry. Give it another couple more years and you will see a lot more drone applications used in our everyday life.

Coaches:

We want to hear from you! Send us your game reports, tournament results, etc. for Baseball, Football, Soccer, Equestrian, Cycling Aquatics, Martial Arts, and anything else sports-related that's going on in your community.

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Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone
416-917-0406

Nobleton United Church
By Nancy Hopkinson

St. Paul's is live online every Sunday! We'll celebrate Good Friday and Easter on Facebook Live at 10 a.m. each day (<http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsnobleton>). You don't need an account to watch this). Visit our YouTube page (search St. Paul's Church, Nobleton), and our website, stpaulsnobleton.ca.

For more information about ANY of our activities or events, please contact the church office (905-859-0843) or visit stpaulsnobleton.ca. Feel free to join in the live Q&A after the service!

All church events are cancelled until further notice.

Jeff's messages are posted at www.passionatelyhis.com each week. They are also available for viewing on Facebook Live, on the church's Facebook page (@stpaulsnobleton) and its YouTube page (search St. Paul's Church, Nobleton), and our website, stpaulsnobleton.ca. For more information about ANY of our activities or events, please contact the church office (905-859-0843) or visit stpaulsnobleton.ca.

Each week, Rev. Carol-Ann is trying to make contact with people. If you would like to have a copy of her reflection each week, or if you would like to contact her, please phone 905-859-3976 and leave a message or email her at ministrernobletonschomberg@gmail.com.

On our Facebook page, you can see three videos posted by Rev. Carol-Ann this past week. She did a video discussion about the significance of communion with Rev. Tom MacNeil. She also did her reflection on the meaning of Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday, Rev. Carol-Ann waved a green spruce branch as she filmed outside Sandra Kirby's home. Sandra sang an African-American spiritual called "Ride On King Jesus, No man is going to hinder me." Sandra introduced this song by saying that these spirituals were often borne out of great sorrow and trial, offering solace, hope and oft times double meanings, understood only by the singer and the slave.

For a complete service, the Moderator of The United Church of Canada

publishes one each week:

<https://www.united-church.ca/blogs/round-table/moderators-online-worship-april-5-2020>

Don't forget to contact some people this week to let them know that you care. In this time of isolation, it is especially nice to hear a friendly voice.

Nobleton tennis club

To see the status of this year's tennis season, visit nobletontennisclub.com.

NTC offers inter county team play (teams are currently being formed), tennis lessons for adults and juniors, house league, round robins, socials, clinics and more. Visit the website for more information.

Anglican Parish By John Arnott

St. Alban's Anglican community in Nobleton notes that the word Easter actually has no connection with Christianity.

It comes from Eostre the name of the Goddess of Spring in ancient Germany. A festival honouring Eostre was held at the time of the Spring Equinox around March 21 and as part of this celebration, a "feast of eggs" was held when wild duck eggs were gathered, cooked and dyed red, a colour thought to bring good fortune. Next, these red eggs were rolled over the farm fields to ensure good crops. Afterwards, some eggs were eaten while others were hidden in hares' or rabbits' nests, animals sacred to Eostre, to prevent witches from stealing them and thus angering the goddess. These hidden eggs were later searched for and retrieved.

The Angles and Saxons brought

these customs with them from their German homeland when they invaded and settled in post-Roman Britain and when they became Christian they kept many of them and used them as part of their celebration of Jesus's resurrection which they called Easter.

The red of the dyed eggs now represented Jesus's blood while the eggs, hares and their rabbit cousins, which had long symbolized the miraculous new and prolific life brought by spring in pre-Christian times, now represented Jesus's miraculous resurrection, the new life he promised, and the constantly increasing number of Christians.

In French, Easter is called Paques, while in Spanish it is Pascua and Pasqua in Italian. All these names are based on the Hebrew word Pesach for Passover, which usually coincides with Easter and is of course the Jewish festival Jesus was observing at the time of his arrest, crucifixion and resurrection. As well, the Pascal Candle lighted each Sunday of Eastertide in many churches traces its name to the same source.

In the early days of Christianity there was disagreement as to when Easter should be celebrated. Christians of Jewish heritage wanted the date set by the lunar calendar by which all Jewish holy days are governed but the growing number of European Christians favoured the Roman or solar calendar.

Then in the 4th century, with the help of astronomers, the decision was made that Easter would fall on the first Sunday after the full moon that follows the Spring Equinox (March 19, 20 or 21). Thus Easter can come anytime between March 22 and April 25.

King City Senior's Centre activities

By Carol Kanitz

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, King Township has closed all of its buildings to the public. This includes the King City Seniors Centre.

Effective until further notice, all activities at the Seniors Centre are cancelled. Please watch this space for when activities will resume.

Updated information can be found at our website - www.kingcityseniors.ca

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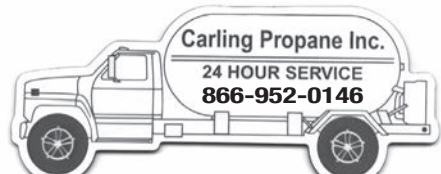
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King's Corners

King City United By Sheryl Sinka

To assist the Province of with reducing personal contact and keeping social distancing, we have suspended gathering for worship through the month of April. All small groups have also been suspended including the Prayer Circles at The Residences at Springhill, Friday Tea and Talk, The Lenten Discussions and Choir Practices.

The opportunity to worship with us online is available through our website at kcuc.net or through an e mail link. If you are not receiving emails and would like to, please contact the office so that we can add you to the contact list. Bulletins, news and sermons in hard copy will also be updated via the website.

Last Sunday was the second online worship gathering and we heard an inspiring message from Rev. Bruce entitled "Paul's Persuasion." With these uncertain times when many of us are not working, and staying home, opportunities exist for deepening our faith, reducing consumerism and reflecting on how we can assist others in this fight against the COVID-19 virus.

If you are in need of assistance please contact the office at 905-833-5181. The office hours are Tuesday to Thursday from 1 to 5:30 p.m.

Ministers can also be reached by phone - Rev. Andrew Lee, 416-999-5615; Rev. Bruce Roffey, 647-500-9138. The website is kcuc.net

King Bible Church

All of our Sunday morning services and all our weekly ministries will be

cancelled until further notice.

Please be in prayer for our world at this time.

Vacation Bible School 2020 s back. We invite your kids to join us the week of August 10-14 for "Concrete & Cranes"! This summer we will learn how Jesus is Our Strong Foundation.

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

St. Andrew's continues to share the love of Jesus in the community and beyond. How can we bless you during this very trying time? Please contact us at the numbers below. The church building is closed and all church and community groups using the facilities for services and meetings have been cancelled except for The King Township Food Bank which will follow their new directive.

Although the church building must be closed, we, the church can keep active by sharing and experiencing the love of Jesus.

Lynn Vissers has encouraged all of us to continue to worship in our homes Sunday mornings and suggested that we tune in to her son, the Rev. Grant Vissers's service from Knox Church, Waterdown on Sundays. He will be live-streaming each Sunday at 10 a.m. There is a link on our website: <http://standrews-kingcity.ca>

Last Sunday was the beginning of Holy Week with Palm Sunday. Grant continued with his "Sermon on the Mount" series and discussed a very common, but very important passage in Matthew 6 - the Lord's Prayer. How amazing that Jesus taught us to address God as "Our Father." That is the Easter message ... why Jesus died for us, reconciling us to God! Jesus also reminded us

that God's name is holy and needs to be kept in reverence and in awe.

The Women's Prayer Circle is meeting in spirit! Concerned about COVID-19's impact on you, your family and others? Let's talk and pray. Contact Kathy Patterson, 905-833-0391 or Lynn Vissers, 416-998-4652. May you know God's peace as we cast our burdens upon the Lord, for He does care for us. Philippians 4:6&7. When we're able, Prayer Walks will take place on Tuesday mornings.

Grab a coffee or a cup of tea and meet via Zoom with Lynn Vissers and others on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. "Tea and Conversation." Contact Lynn Vissers re topics and how to get set up.

To contact Pastor Niyazi and Irada Bilgen of the Greater Grace Fellowship call 416-878-8499.

All Saints Anglican Church By Patrick Gossage

Note: A live streamed Anglican service from St. James Cathedral in Toronto is available every Sunday at 11 a.m. <https://stjamescathedral.ca/>

From Pope Francis's Palm Sunday sermon in Rome: "The tragedy we are experiencing summons us to take seriously the things that are serious, and not to be caught up in those that matter less; to rediscover that life is of no use if not used to serve others. For life is measured by love."

Palm Sunday reflections from Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green - "As we celebrate Palm Sunday, our Lenten Pilgrimage takes a dramatic turn. Jesus enters Jerusalem with his friends in high spirits and full of hope and the crowd on his side as they welcome with shouts of joy, 'Hosanna in the highest, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.' This entrance is a very political one. At

the time of Jesus, victorious generals with their armies returned home and entered the city in similar fashion as the crowds waved branches and shouted out their names.

"No other Sunday in our liturgical calendar contains so much drama and tension. What begins with shouts of joy and victory will quickly change as the same crowd a week later will shout, 'Crucify him, crucify him.' His entrance into the city is also his entrance into his betrayal, denial, condemnation, suffering and death and ultimately his Resurrection. We are part of both crowds, and as we witness his suffering, we will also experience his Resurrection. We pray that as we enter into this most sacred of weeks with Jesus, we will be drawn closer to him and each other.

"How often do we take the time to pray and thank Jesus for everything he does for us? St. Therese was someone who tried to make everything she did a prayer to God, even washing the dishes or doing the laundry. Jesus wants to be a part of your day whatever you're doing. The next time you're doing your chores, just say a little prayer and ask Jesus to come and be with you. God in Christ Jesus wants to be part of everything you do - all that you are and all that you feel."

Tennis Club

Unfortunately due to COVID-19 we are unsure of the opening dates for our courts this season. We are awaiting news and we assure you that we will swing into action when we are given the green light. We are NOT having registration at the club on April 18 and 19 as previously advertised in the Spring Recreation Guide. Go to www.kingcitytennis.com. See you soon!



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Supporting each other goes way beyond Masterfeeds and our respective corners of the country throughout this COVID-19 crisis.

Farmers always rise to the challenge, it's what they do day-in and day-out. As do Masterfeeds employees. Keeping our mills operating and animals fed is a vital link in Canada's food chain – and particularly today. Keeping Canadians fed is our primary task at hand.

I would like to personally thank our farming communities, plant and office staff, our dealers and retail locations, and the many truck drivers who are getting the job done. Your overwhelming efforts in keeping our business operating effectively during this challenging time is very much recognized and appreciated. Well done.

ROB FLACK, PRESIDENT AND CEO



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