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King's Community Newspaper

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FREE Thursday, May 28, 2020 Volume 47, Issue 22

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MPP treats healthcare workers

In recognition of all the hard work and dedication of Mackenzie Health employees throughout the COVID-19 outbreak, Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan and Minister of Education, invited Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital healthcare workers to enjoy a complimentary coffee and tea last week. "I wanted to find a way to say thank you to our frontline healthcare workers, so I sponsored coffee for all of the women and men who inspire our community and country. We are so grateful to these real life healthcare heroes who are keeping King Township, Vaughan, and our province safe and healthy," Lecce said.

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King re-opening some outdoor facilities June 1

King Township is tentatively scheduling the re-opening of some outdoor facilities on June 1, although with strict guidelines on how the public can use them.

"The Township's first priority is to ensure the health and safety of all our citizens and staff," said King Mayor Steve Pellegrini. "At this time we are only opening some outdoor facilities. Staff are currently working on a wider re-opening plan that will happen only when the provincial government and health professionals say it is safe to do so."

Mayor Pellegrini added that although the number of COVID-19 cases in Ontario continues, on average, to decline, this is not the time to relax physical distancing and other safety measures.

"I know that with the arrival of nice weather, many

people will want to get outside. I'm asking you to do so in a safe manner. Make sure you continue practicing good hygiene, stay at least six feet away from anyone who doesn't live in your household and wear a face covering in situations where practicing physical distancing is difficult. We may have grown tired of the virus, but it hasn't grown tired. Please be vigilant."

The following list of amenities will be tentatively open June 1 - soccer fields, baseball diamonds, basketball courts, tennis courts, dog parks, open spaces, conservation areas and trails.

Remaining closed will be pavilions/shade structures, washrooms, playgrounds, splashpads and skateparks.

See 'Recreational' on Page 3

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Nursery spreads joy of nature.
See Page 8

Locals' film in awards festival.
See Page 10

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Municipal Office, Council Chambers, 2585 King Road
No meetings are currently scheduled.

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

**NOTICE OF MEETING
AUDIT COMMITTEE**

(Electronic Meeting during an Emergency, pursuant to Section 238(3.3) of the Municipal Act, 2001)

Due to the fact all levels of government are enacting stricter containment measures to slow the spread of COVID-19, King Township is extending the closure of its facilities and cancellation of recreational programs until further notice. This decision was made with guidance from York Region Public Health, the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our citizens and staff.

The Audit Committee of the Corporation of the Township of King will hold an Audit Committee Meeting to review, discuss and receive the Report to the Audit Committee – Draft 2019 Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2019. This meeting will be held remotely (virtually) on:

Monday, June 22, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Due to efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to protect all individuals, the Municipal Centre will not be open to the public to attend Council and Committee meetings until further notice.

Live streaming of the meeting will be available to the public, during the meeting, via <http://meeting.king.ca>.

*Note: Members of the Audit Committee will be participating in the meeting remotely.

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

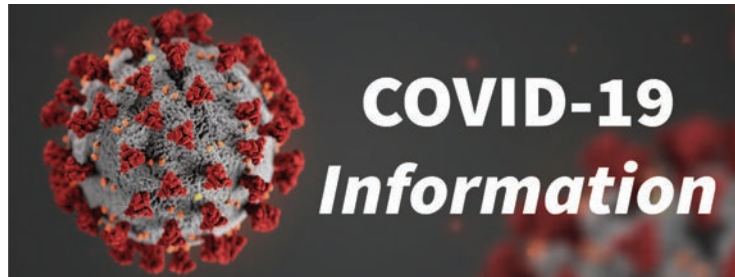
**Community Services
Master Plan**



Our Master Plans help to guide the Township's decision making for the next 5-10 years and sets standards and direction for service levels and types of activities (camps, programs and events) that will be offered. These plans also help the Community Services Department identify strategic priorities for all Community Services areas. We want to hear from you! Please visit our online engagement platform Speaking to complete the survey and send us ideas and suggestions!

<https://speaking.king.ca/cs-master-plan>

PUBLIC NOTICES



Due to the constantly changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects, this information may not be current. Please visit covid19.king.ca for the most up-to-date information.

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

King is tentatively re-opening some outdoor facilities on June 1. You can read the news release with more information at <http://bit.ly/kingre-opening>

The release includes extensive details on what's opening and what's not. It's important to note that gatherings are still limited to five people or less and we are requiring people to practice physical distancing, good hygiene and to wear face coverings when appropriate. These guidelines are critical to maintaining the health and safety of both staff and citizens. As Mayor Steve Pellegrini says in the release, we may have grown tired of life with the virus, but the virus has not grown tired of us.

What's Open June 1st KING www.king.ca

- Open for casual recreational use only (no team play or organized sports)
- No gatherings of more than 5 people (who are not from the same household)
- Keep 2 metres away from other people (who are not from the same household)

Open	Updates	Closed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer Fields • Baseball Diamonds • Tennis Courts • Dog Parks • Basketball Courts • Open Spaces • Conservation Areas • Trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Camps A decision on the status of summer camps will not be made until after June 2nd. • Nobleton Pool Will not be open for the 2020 season. • All Events (Public & Private) Cancelled up to and including Labour Day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor Facilities (Closed until at least June 30th) • Pavillions/Shade Structures • Washrooms • Playgrounds • Splashpads • Skateparks

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905-833-5321 or serviceking@king.ca

King Township's Public Library is developing a plan to safely offer modified services, such as curbside pickup, to ensure everyone's health and safety. The Library will continue to keep everyone informed as decisions are made and plans confirmed. If you have any additional questions, please email info@kinglibrary.ca. Emails will be answered between the hours of 9 - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

COVID-19 information

The risk to York Region residents of acquiring the virus in the community remains low.

Visit york.ca/covid19 for more information or call Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653. You may also contact Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 for medical advice. Telehealth Ontario is a free confidential service you can call to receive health advice or information. A registered nurse will take your call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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Visit KING.ca for ways to shop local while physically distancing.

FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES FOR KING BUSINESSES

COVID-19

VISIT KING.CA

Please see more King Township notices on page 5

Off-road vehicles banned in parks and trails

King Township is reminding citizens and parents that off-road vehicles are not permitted in parks or on trails.

Bylaw officers are focusing on

the illegal and unsafe use of off-road vehicles in King. The Township has received numerous complaints regarding the unsafe and illegal operation of dirt bikes and ATVs on local

roads, sidewalks and trails.

Residents should be advised that riding any off-road vehicles is strictly prohibited on any roads in not only King Township but all of York Region.

“Off-road vehicles are only permitted on private property. Riders are required to transport their off-road vehicles to properties where permission is granted by the land owner,” said Nancy Cronsberry, King Township’s manager of bylaw services. A bylaw officer may approach a rider or visit a property owner to provide education should a complaint be reported.

Pocket bikes, dirt bikes, mini bikes, ATVs, motorized scooters and power-assisted are not permitted on public roadways or sidewalks.

Also, off-road vehicles must be registered, plated and insured according to legislative guidelines. Riders must wear helmets and children must be supervised by an adult.

“Residents have complained ATV and dirt bike drivers are using roadways and sidewalks to access open areas popular with riders,” said Mayor Steve Pellegrini. “We’re asking our citizens to be respectful of their neighbours since illegal riding puts them in danger, especially children out playing on sidewalks or riding their bikes.”

King bylaw officers have increased their patrols in the areas of complaints, including in. Anyone found operating one of these vehicles and not complying with the law will face charges.

The vehicle may be impounded and fines may be as high as \$5,000. Parents of children riding unsupervised can also be charged.

Residents are encouraged to use the Road Watch Program to report those riding these vehicles illegally: bit.ly/YRProadwatch.

For more information on the laws governing off-road vehicles, visit the Ontario Ministry of Transportation website at <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca>.

Recreational uses only permitted

From Front Page

Signage is being developed to provide proper guidelines for use by members of the public.

“Recreational uses only” means not for organized sports such as softball, soccer, football, or basketball as these activities do not allow for proper physical distancing. Permitting recreation use will allow residents to spend time outdoors with their family. Please note: fields will not be groomed or lined at this time.

King Township’s Public Library is developing a plan to safely offer modified services, such as curbside pickup, to ensure everyone’s health and safety. The Library will continue to keep everyone informed as decisions are made and plans confirmed. If you have any additional questions, please email info@kinglibrary.ca. Emails will be answered between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Staff are currently working with the user group community to develop safe protocols for the opening of facilities.

A decision on the status of summer camps will not be made until after June 2.

The Nobleton Outdoor Pool will not open for the 2020 season.

Indoor recreation facilities will remain closed until at least June 30, in line with the provincial decision to keep schools closed.

All events (public or private) will be cancelled for the summer months, up to and including Labour Day. Fall events will be evaluated for a future decision to be made no later than July 31.

For the most up-to-date information on how COVID-19 is impacting King Township’s programs and services, please visit covid19.king.ca.

Stunt driving numbers continue to rise

By Mark Pavilons

Less congested streets have led to a rash of dangerous behaviour on roads in York Region.

York Regional Police is continuing to prioritize road safety as they respond to increasing incidents of excessive speeding. Thirty drivers were charged and had their vehicles impounded over the long weekend after they were caught driving in excess of 50 kilometres per hour over the speed limit.

Similarly, OPP laid 301 charges for stunt driving/speed racing during Canada Road Safety Week (May 12-18).

COVID-19 restrictions have resulted in a reduction in traffic on our roads and overall, we have seen a decrease in traffic violations. Unfortunately, the empty streets have brought on an increase in stunt driving charges related to extremely dangerous and excessive speeds.

York Regional Police is making stunt driving offences a high priority to ensure the safety of our streets for those people who are driving to work or going out for essential items. Anyone caught driving more than 50 kilometres per hour over the posted speed limit can expect to be charged, have their vehicle towed and their licence suspended.

Citizens are encouraged to report unsafe driving, either by 9-1-1 if the incident appears to be a potential life-threatening emergency or by reporting the incident through our Road Watch program at <https://onlinereporting.yrp.ca/RoadWatch.html>

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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

Understanding our concept of the passage of time

"Why can't things stay the way they are?" asked the young inquisitive teen.

"Because of the passage of time," was the learned response.

"Time? What does that have to do with anything?"

What indeed.

Our concept of time is based on our planet's position in our solar system. A day (24 hours) is based on one revolution of our pretty green blue marble. A year is how long it takes for our planet to circle our life-giving sun, or sol. That's 365 days give or take. One would think everything is perfect, in sync and in harmony with the heavens above.

Guess again.

This concept of time - minutes, hours, days, months, years - only applies to us on earth and our 7 billion inhabitants. But on nearby planets, with a sun of their own, minutes could be hours and days could be weeks.

Jupiter rotates once on its axis every 9 hours, 55 minutes and 29.69 seconds. A day on Venus lasts for 116 days and 18 hours, our time.

It's all relative.

We mark "earth hours." But there is no one correct time in the universe.

Here's some more space stuff to wet your whistle.

The Earth is travelling around the sun at roughly 30 kilometres per second. Our Milky Way Galaxy is motoring through space at a phenomenal 200 kilometres per second! There's a whole scientific exploration regarding space and time and their unique relationships.

With fancy timepieces on our wrists, and armed with smart devices, we always know exactly what time it is, here and around the world.

What if I'm lost in the forest or desert island, or choose to live off the grid? Am I out of sync? Do I have any concept of time? Does time really matter?

I've often fantasized about living in a log cabin, or deserted island, away from it all, from "civilization" as we know it. My wife says I'm stupid and that it's an escape.

But think about it.



Mark Pavilons

Stripping our lives to the bare bones, living in complete harmony with nature, with nary a carbon footprint.

As I drive through King's countryside, and during our occasional jaunts across Ontario, I scan the expansive countryside. There are many ideal locations for this cabin in the woods. I could pull off the road literally anywhere in Ontario, dash a few hundred metres into the woods, and set up camp. No one would know I was there or find me for months, maybe years!

Of course that's considered trespassing and squatting. But there's so much empty land out there waiting to be discovered and enjoyed!

My dad taught me to enjoy and respect flora, especially trees. I marvel at some of these beauties, especially giant willows and birch.

Sometimes I wish I were a tree, a 100-year-old oak, swaying in the breeze, catching the winds, the scents, the passage of time. I tower above mere mortals, enjoying the view.

Time may heal wounds and it will wash over the current scars left behind by the pandemic. That doesn't make it

any easier for those knee-deep in turmoil.

I don't think any of us will remember these times fondly, and share COVID-19 stories with our grandchildren or great-grandchildren.

Of course, time will also allow us to grow, evolve and innovate, resulting in some really cool gadgets, procedures and methods to keep us all safe in the future. We may end up owing a certain amount of gratitude to this nasty virus, for giving us a needed wake-up call.

Again, this won't soothe the pain for those who've lost loved ones too early due to the virus.

If only we could "turn back time."

Despite our mental prowess, our race is a young one in the cosmos. Plus, our species has only really "evolved" scientifically in the last 75 years or so. Check out our slow progress:

Humans have been on earth roughly 6 million years and modern humans evolved roughly 200,000 years ago. Civilization as we know it, arose roughly 6,000 years ago. Industrialization only started in the 1800s.

Yes, that's a long stretch of time, indeed.

Now we're on a roll, however. We're making progress, advances and innovations in leaps and bounds, on a yearly basis.

Tesla launched its first Roadster in 2008 and we've improved electric vehicles immensely in the past decade.

The iPhone is only 10 years old. Re-

markable innovations that occurred in the last decade include Android, GPS, social networks, YouTube and touch screens.

We've seen the cancellation of the Space Shuttle program, but it's being replaced by private contractors. Virgin Galactic plans to operate a fleet of five SpaceShipTwo spaceplanes in a private passenger-carrying service and has been taking bookings for some time, with a suborbital flight carrying an updated ticket price of \$250,000 U.S.

Time well spent?

So, while most of us are living on "borrowed time," we dwell upon it, or take it in stride.

I mentioned to my kids the other day that their lifespans may increase to as much as 150 in the decades to come. Innovations in medicine, robotics and organ cloning will all lengthen our longevity.

With that much extra "time on their hands" imagine what they can accomplish.

For me, chilling on a beach in the Caribbean, where time crawls at a drunken snail's pace, is just fine.

We all know we have a finite amount of time to spend on this beautiful planet. I know it's cliché to say we shouldn't waste a single moment, but our lives are made up of millions of moments, some of which are just boring and mundane.

I think a more sensible way of living is to spend time wisely. Always make time for love, fun and frivolity!

Letter to the Editor

'Swedish Model' ineffective

The May 21 commentary titled "It's time to reopen the economy" failed to note that "the Swedish Model" touted by Conrad Black was not successful. Although admired by economists wanting to loosen lockdown restrictions, it failed miserably in preventing needless deaths. Sweden now leads all Scandinavian countries in deaths per capita.

The Swedish model was designed by a single man: state epidemiologist Anders Tegnell who believed that it would not spread from China and that "herd immunity" would protect Swedes returning from vacations abroad. He was wrong.

His misguided policy was reversed by the Swedish government by the end of March and Sweden is still playing catch-up. Germany, with 8 times the population of Sweden, has a COVID-19 death rate 3 times smaller.

And you might not want to be promoting economic advice from a convicted felon who was shredding all his business records when they arrested him and took away his Order of Canada.

Skid Crease
Bolton



Thought of the Week

Spend money, save time!

We never have enough of either. Save what's important, until the very end!



Trivia Tidbits

Hiccups come from an irritation to the diaphragm or the esophagus. When the diaphragm or esophagus is irritated, it can spasm, causing the epiglottis (the flap that keeps food from going down the wrong pipe into your lungs) to snap shut. This is the clicking sound that accompanies hiccups.

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

What would you like to see re-open first?

a) Restaurants	<div style="width: 57%;"></div>	57%
b) Hair Salons	<div style="width: 43%;"></div>	43%
c) Theatres	<div style="width: 0%;"></div>	0%

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Do you think strict gathering rules should remain in place a bit longer?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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<p>Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Limited, publisher of the King Weekly Sentinel and the New Tecumseth Times.</p>		<p>Published every Thursday</p>	

Farm businesses are adapting to a new reality

By Peggy Brekveld
Vice-President
Ontario Federation
of Agriculture

Commentary

If there is one thing that has remained constant throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it's that farmers are experts at adapting to evolving situations and persevering through uncertainty. The resiliency of Ontario farmers to move forward and conduct business in a crisis environment was exemplified in the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's (OFA) latest survey results.

As part of our continued efforts to monitor and gauge the impact of this public health crisis on Ontario farm families and the agri-food sector, OFA has conducted a trio of surveys, beginning with a benchmarking assessment in March followed by a phase two study in April. Earlier this month, OFA launched its phase three survey resulting in 620 member responses.

Despite the endless list of challenges and disruptions caused by COVID-19, farmers have been adapting their businesses to survive in a new reality. The latest results revealed that farmers have progressed past anticipating changes to their businesses and finances and are now experiencing these effects firsthand. The survey showed that 80% of members have experienced a change in their operations.

The financial impact continues to rank as the top concern for members with 88% indicating that their farm businesses have suffered negative financial impacts. Other top concerns included a reduction in consumer spending, the potential of a global recession, trade issues and supply chain disruptions.

Farm businesses are working tirelessly to manage their operations through financial losses. The survey shows that 61% have experienced lost revenue and consumer spending, 57% are facing reduced cash flow and unable to conduct business as usual, 30% do not have the ability to expand their operations and 16% are facing financial struggles that will prevent them from paying their bills.

In terms of farm operations having the ability to return to business as usual if the pandemic were to end today, 62%

of members reported that it would take more than three months, which has significantly increased when compared to 41% in April and 22% in March.

Added to the phase three survey were questions aimed at assessing the stress and concern of farmers related to their mental health and well-being. Results have shown that two-thirds of farmers indicated they were experiencing more stress and concern about their mental health due to COVID-19. Many farmers are taking steps to cope with the stress as 36% of respondents indicated that they've reached out to family and friends, 33% have taken short breaks and 7% have taken steps to seek professional help.

The food supply chain has dealt with its share of disruptions through these unpredictable and uncertain times, including surplus products, reduced markets, meat processing plant closures and loss of contracts. In the survey, many members expressed concerns over shipping livestock to processing facilities, followed by the shipment of finished products and grain. Members also indicated significant impacts on the equine industry, maple syrup and honey sales, mushroom sales, loss of farmers' market access and on-farm sales.

Access to valuable information has become increasingly important to ensure Ontario farmers have the tools and resources they need to be successful during the pandemic. The survey data shows that two-thirds of farmers utilize websites for finding information, while 63% find information through media channels such as TV, radio and podcasts and 30% of respondents connect with staff and specialists to get the latest updates.

The phase three results also revealed that 42% of members designated the OFA website as the most helpful resource for farm businesses to cope with COVID-19. This was followed by government websites, services providers such as crop advisors and veterinarians, and commodity organization sites.

OFA is appreciative of all members who provided their input and feedback as we recognize this survey comes in

the midst of a busy spring planting season. We can assure farmers across the province these results have helped us to better understand the issues and will continue to guide our responses as we support our members and the industry

through this crisis.

It's been a long road for everyone as we adapt to a new reality, but we thank you, for continuing to produce food for our province and the world. Stay strong. Stay safe.



Farmers thanked for their efforts

Hannah and Lauralyn MacDonald spent the better part of two days watching the local farmers roll, cull stones, till, and finally seed the field at the back of their Schomberg property. They are eager to see this year's crop of soy beans start to grow. Impressed by the amount of work that went into planting the field, the girls decided to show their support for the local farmers. Thanks to our farmers!



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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.

Notice to property owners to destroy weeds

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 16 and 23 THAT unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the Municipality of the Township of King are destroyed by date of 1st June, 2020, and throughout the season, the Municipality may enter upon the said lands and have the weeds destroyed, charging costs against the land, as set out in the Weed Control Act.

All properties ten (10) acres or less may have noxious weeds destroyed without notice to the owner. The co-operation of all citizens is earnestly solicited.

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Clerks & By-law Enforcement

Township of King volunteer organizations community grants program applications still being accepted for 2020 grants

Non-profit community organizations which provide or develop recreation, cultural or social opportunities within the Township of King are advised that due to COVID-19, applications for Grants from the Township of King for 2020 are still being accepted.

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



KING urgently reminds residents to keep off-road vehicles on private property only. Please **DO NOT** operate these vehicles in public parks, or on public roads and trails.

If you have witnessed off-road vehicles driving on public property, By-law Enforcement Services wants to hear from you.

KING FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Want to have a fire?

King Fire & Emergency Services **905-833-2800**
fire@king.ca



Having a recreational/camp fire

No permit needed so long as:

1. There is no Fire Ban in effect. (Check www.king.ca for the latest updates).
2. You are burning **CLEAN** wood **ONLY**.
3. The fire is contained to a chimney or a pile that is a maximum of 0.75 metres (2 feet) in diameter by 0.75 metres (2 feet) in height.
4. The fire is a minimum of 3 metres (10 feet) away from anything combustible.
5. A means to extinguish the fire is immediately available (i.e. garden hose).

Cleaning up yard waste

1. Put yard waste out at the curb for bi-weekly pick up.

OR

2. Contact King Fire Administration to find out if you are eligible for a fire permit by phone at 905-833-2800 or email at fire@king.ca.

Please do your part & recycle!



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HOURS: Monday-Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm;
Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm; Sunday 11:00am - 3:00pm

KCSS student Luxsa Laventhiran honoured by York Region School Board

By Mark Pavilons

A King City Secondary Student received some well deserved praise from the York Region District School Board.

The board announced the names and accomplishments of the students who are this year's Celebrating Student Success recipients.

"Recognizing the many wonderful and varied accomplishments of YRDSB students is important to our board and to all of us who value student success in our school communities," said Juanita Nathan, board chair. "One way we recognize student excellence is through the annual Celebrating Student Success campaign, which highlights the achievements of students who are representative of the 128,000 students in our system achieving success every day with the support of YRDSB staff."

"They demonstrate leadership and qualities that all of us admire. Their accomplishments reflect persistence and hard work," said Louise Sirisko, director of education. "They have achieved so much and we wish them continued success with the support of our devoted staff and our partnership with our families."

Luxsa Laventhiran from KCSS is the local recipient. She was nominated by Julie Morris and Joanne Silver/

Luxsa was a member of the Me to We club, acting as co-president in Grade 11. Luxsa was able to promote the well-being of others through events such as the annual "We Scare Hunger" food drive, and battery drives that gather used batteries to recover the zinc in order to support the medical needs of people in Kenya.

Luxsa is also an integral member of the Relay for Life Committee. She helped to set up the event which has raised more than \$50,000.

Luxsa is now the co-chair for this year's Relay for Life. Luxsa is marketing the event, registering approximately 400 participants, chairing meetings, and training a team of volunteers.

Luxsa has been a member of the mentorship team since her Grade 10 year, working to engage the Grade 9 students through events such as our tran-



sition day on the first day of school, and a series of workshops held for Grade 9 classes.

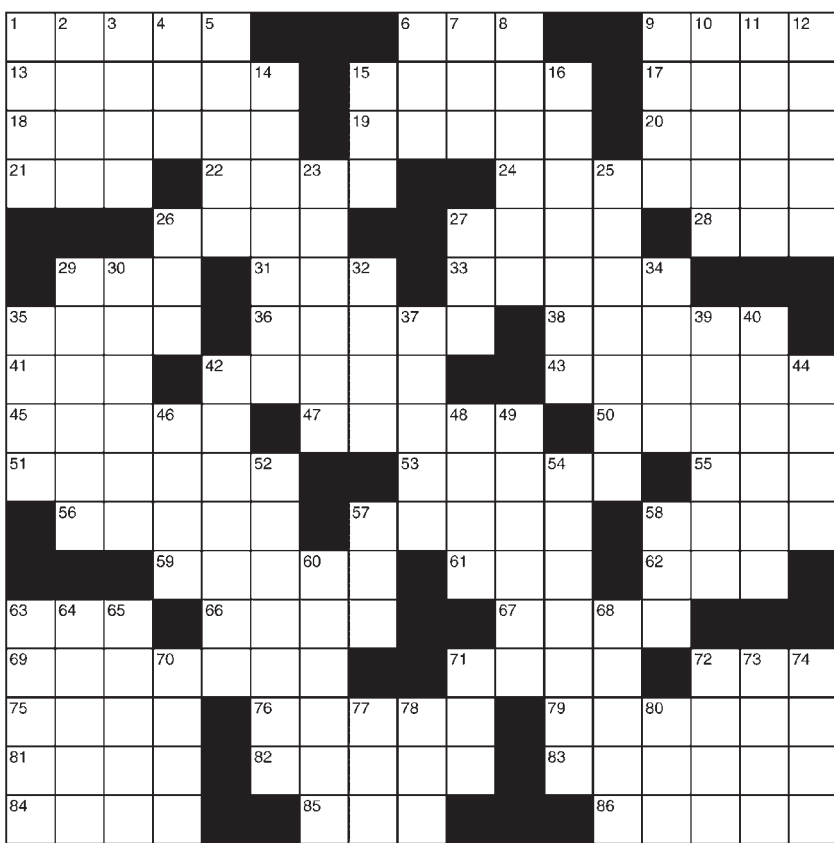
She is a camp mentor for the school's three-day trip with the Grade 9s to YMCA Camp Wanakita in Haliburton and is responsible for overseeing the safety and wellness of the Grade 9 students.

Luxsa assisted with the in-school camp program, helping to create an engaging program that included an outdoor experience at a local conservation area, a shared dining experience at a local restaurant, and an escape room type activity.

York Region District School Board is the third largest school district in Ontario with over 128,000 students in 180 elementary schools and 33 secondary schools. York Region students consistently perform above average in provincial testing and the Board is one of the top achievers in Ontario. For more information about the York Region District School Board, please visit the Board website and follow YRDSB on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn.

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 469



ACROSS

1. Omens
6. LummoX
9. Carried
13. Exotic pet
15. Inflexible
17. Quiz
18. Tenant's residence
19. Without company
20. Camp helper
21. Sandra _____
22. Muslim leader
24. Desert
26. Strategy
27. Lamenting cry
28. "Howards _____"
29. Before, to Shelley
31. Remind constantly
33. Command to Fido
35. Actor Dixon
36. Tilting
38. Serrated
41. Archeological site
42. Oak's nut
43. Without sound
45. Key in, as data
47. Drinking vessel
50. Tanning locale
51. Locust shrub

DOWN

53. Picket _____
55. Large snake
56. Heron
57. Of the ears
58. Bovine gathering
59. Absolute
61. Tennis point
62. Verse type
63. Go down the slope
66. Job
67. Hardy cabbagelike plant
69. Touch
71. Medieval slave
72. Santa's worker
75. Poison-ivy result
76. Dizzy
79. Mariner
81. On the sheltered shore
82. Uncanny
83. Break free
84. Airport exit
85. Bachelors
86. Belief

DOWN

1. Sparrow, e.g.
2. Molding curve
3. Kind of buggy
4. Stop for lunch
5. Shell dweller
6. Canola or motor
7. Gettysburg Address word
8. Conclusion
9. Lima or string
10. Zinc _____
11. Colorless gas
12. Correct
14. Annual data book
15. Battering _____
16. Argues
23. Not digital
25. Attribute
26. Mighty tool
27. Nautical rear
29. Make clear
30. Shabby
32. "That _____"
34. Hollow
35. Theory
37. Confusion
39. Ocean floor
40. Theater cry

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42. Short operatic piece
44. Trumpeter Jones
46. Eggshell
48. Vaccines
49. Light bites
52. Embassy official
54. Scrub
57. Noah's vessel
58. Work on the garden
60. Regard
63. Skinny one
64. Australian animal
65. Embed
68. Slightest
70. Quaker word
71. Catch someone's _____
72. Zest
73. Easy pace
74. Worry
77. Be
78. Loud uproar
80. Rink material

Solution on page 17

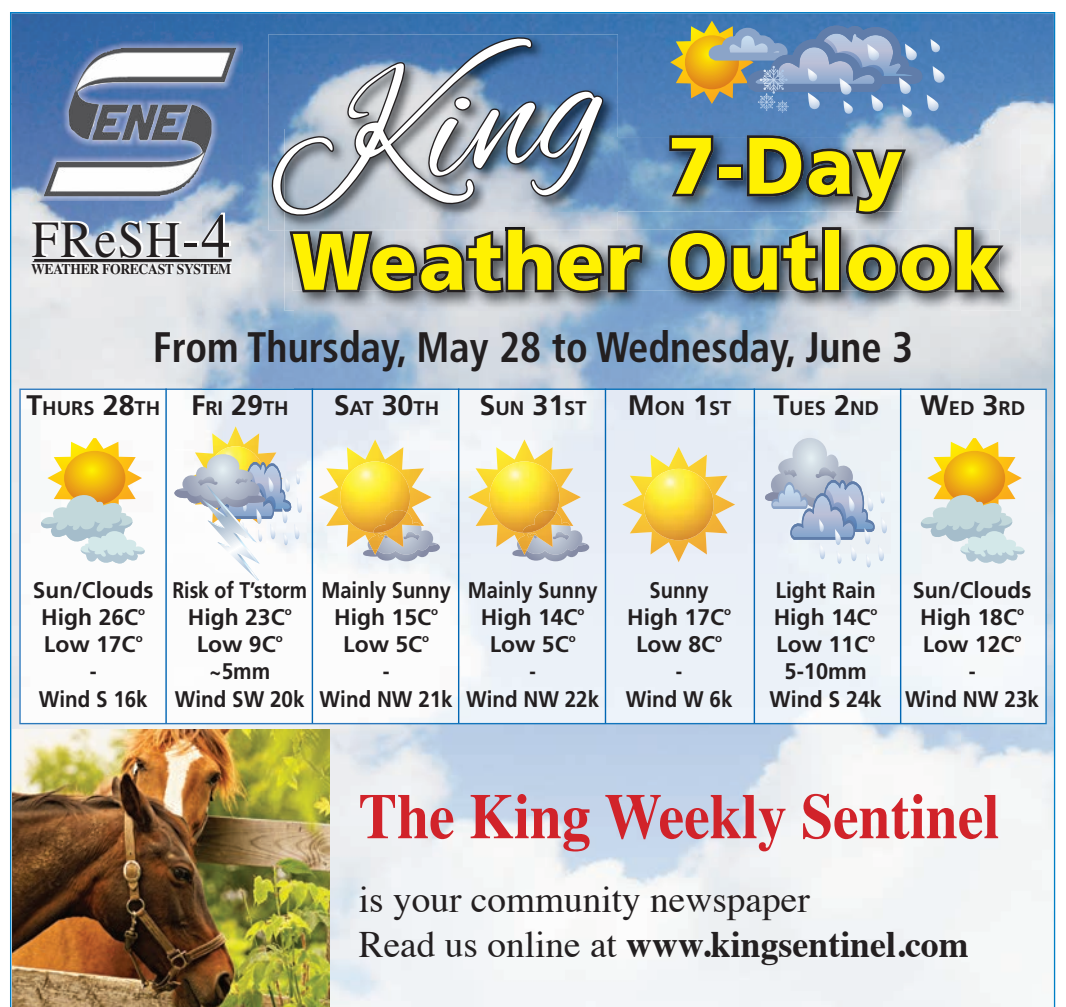
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7-Day Weather Outlook
From Thursday, May 28 to Wednesday, June 3

THURS 28TH	FRI 29TH	SAT 30TH	SUN 31ST	MON 1ST	TUES 2ND	WED 3RD
Sun/Clouds High 26C° Low 17C° Wind S 16k	Risk of T'storm High 23C° Low 9C° ~5mm Wind SW 20k	Mainly Sunny High 15C° Low 5C° Wind NW 21k	Mainly Sunny High 14C° Low 5C° Wind NW 22k	Sunny High 17C° Low 8C° Wind W 6k	Light Rain High 14C° Low 11C° 5-10mm Wind S 24k	Sun/Clouds High 18C° Low 12C° Wind NW 23k

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Strengthening support for seniors during pandemic

By Deb Schulte
MP for King-Vaughan
Canada's Minister of Seniors

We know that COVID-19 has had a big impact on seniors' well-being. Beyond the health risks, seniors are facing financial and social challenges as well. The government of Canada recognizes this, and as your Member of Parliament and the Minister of Seniors, I am committed to helping seniors through this difficult time.

Seniors are facing rising food costs and prescription dispensing fees have increased across many provinces. Deliveries come at a premium. Health experts caution them to, if possible, only leave their home for medically necessary appointments.

That is why I recently announced additional federal supports for seniors. The government of Canada will provide a one-time tax-free payment of \$300 for seniors who are eligible for Old Age Security. For seniors who also qualify for the Guaranteed Income Supplement, we will provide an additional one-time tax-free amount of \$200, for a total of \$500. That means couples can receive up to \$1,000 in support.

These payments will help 6.7 million seniors across the country and the 15,000 seniors living in our riding of King-Vaughan. It represents \$2.5 billion in direct financial support to seniors.

We are also investing an additional \$20 million in the New Horizons for Seniors Program to provide funding to local community groups to help them support seniors through the pandemic and maintain a social support network.

These measures build on those announced in March. We moved quickly early in the pandemic to provide more than \$1.3 billion to low- and middle-income seniors with a GST Credit payment worth an average of \$375 for singles, and \$510 for couples. Additionally, half a billion dollars was also provided to the United Way, local charities and food banks, so that they can get essential services, groceries, and supplies to vulnerable Canadians, including seniors.

We also reduced the mandatory minimum withdrawal for RRIFs by 25% for 2020. As well, seniors who were working and lost their job due to the pandemic also qualify for the monthly \$2000 Canada Emergency Response Benefit, regardless of their pension benefits.

While these measures go a long way in helping seniors, I recognize that there is always more to do.

I am committed to listening to your concerns, and to continue to fight to ensure that all seniors feel safe and cared for during this difficult time.

Seniors built our communities and

made Canada the great country it is today. They are our mothers, fathers, aunts and uncles, and our grandparents. They took care of us and supported us, and now in this very difficult time, we are taking bold and swift actions to help them and support their needs.



Kingbridge Conference Centre is giving back

During these challenging times, Kingbridge Conference Centre and Hotel is giving back to the community by opening their campus as a partner with the regional Municipality of York and the Salvation Army York Housing and Support Services to provide temporary shelter services to support our most vulnerable residents.

At the heart of disruption is the opportunity for collaboration.

Since the hospitality industry has been significantly impacted by the devastating effects of COVID-19, Kingbridge Conference Centre and Hotel is doing its part to support those most in need by providing temporary accommodations and food services.

Known as a longstanding pioneer in convening and problem solving and as a member of the York Region community, Kingbridge is proud to be helping bring people together to navigate change in ways where collectively, we can begin to rebuild healthy communities.

"I was pleased that York Region is partnering with Kingbridge Conference Centre and Hotel in King to provide a temporary transitional shelter to allow residents who are experiencing homelessness to self-isolate in order to move these individuals safely into temporary or permanent housing to help stop the spread of COVID-19," said King Mayor Steve Pellegrini. "During these challenging times it's awesome to see Kingbridge Conference Centre and Hotel giving back to the community by opening up their facility as they partner with The Regional Municipality of York and The Salvation Army York Housing and Support Services that will be the agency in charge."

For more, visit <https://kingbridgecentre.com/>



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Cousin's In-House Kitchen



Cousin's Potato Salad
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Connon Nurseries promotes health benefits from nature

By Mark Pavilons

We all need a little boost to our physical and mental health during these unusual times.

The benefits and sense of well being we get from plants, gardening and nature are undeniable.

With that in mind, King's Connon Nurseries is providing residents with a cornucopia of products and ideas to get you on the road to recovery.

The century-old family business, originally from Waterdown, arrived in King recently.

According to Valerie Kristjanson, marketing and media coordinator for Connon, the closure of many nurseries is potentially leaving a void for people who are wanting to garden, landscape and plant for the future.

"We felt that there was a need in the area that could be met with a facility such as ours. Our focus is first and foremost on plant material. The King community feels a lot like home to us."

Kristjanson pointed out they've been farming over 250 acres of land in Waterdown for over a hundred years and "it feels that this community has a strong sense of its beginnings and its roots."

Connon offers a vast selection of varieties and sizes of all types of plant material: deciduous and evergreen trees, flowering and evergreen shrubs, perennials, ornamental grasses, annuals, tropical plants and houseplants. They offer installation services for their trees as well.

"Our product selection complements our plants and is focused on landscape supply and garden products," which in-



clude soils, mulches, fertilizers, seeds, tools, pots and containers.

Kristjanson said their expertise is solid – they've been growers, wholesalers and retailers of all things garden related for many years.

"We have the ability to understand the needs of Trade Professionals and to provide them with the quality, service and expertise that they've come to know us for, while also having the knowledge required to help new and seasoned Home Gardeners making their plant choices and develop their love of gardening and plants," Kristjanson said.

In working with both of these markets, staff provide a Know+Grow Lecture Series throughout the season to help educate and enhance the skills of both markets. The sales yards also serve as a great meeting place for Trade Professionals to share their ideas with their clients regarding their projects and proposed plant material.

As agricultural growers, their products were deemed essential early in the pandemic which means they put COVID-19 protocol in place fairly early on.

"We have that learned that the im-

portance of plants, gardening and nature has never been more important than during this time. The physical and mental health benefits of our industry have always been studied and cited as beneficial, but an increase in public awareness and interest has emerged during this time. We continue to emphasize that we have always felt our industry is one that promotes growth, happiness and health."

This time of year marks the beginning of the garden season for many. First and foremost on people's lists are vegetable and herb plants. They've been seeing an increase in the growing interest of garden to table and more awareness around the carbon footprint lessening by producing one's own food. In addition, the demand for what is currently blooming in our communities cycles throughout the season.

"We often tell people who are looking for what will grow well in their locations to look at around at their neighbouring gardens and landscapes for inspiration and ideas. A great way to get outside too," Kristjanson added.

They're located at 1870 Davis Drive (Highway 9). For more, visit their website at <https://connon.ca/>

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Our readers start young!

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THE King Weekly Sentinel

MPPs host virtual roundtable

Minister of Education and King-Vaughan MPP, Stephen Lecce, and Associate Minister of Health and Addictions and Vaughan-Woodbridge MPP, Michael Tibollo, hosted a virtual roundtable to hear from the small business community in Vaughan on helping main street rebound from the effects of COVID-19.

The two Vaughan-area MPPs welcomed Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, Prabmeet Sarkaria, to listen to the concerns of local job-creators, and share the government's vision for the economic recovery in the months ahead. The ministers were joined by Thornhill MPP Gila Martow and the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce.

"Vaughan is a place that understands the value of hard work and the importance of small businesses to our local economy. That's why we are listening to local job creators and taking action to ensure we support economic growth and recovery," said Lecce and Tibollo. "Getting our economy moving again will help keep people working and ensure our province remains strong as we respond to this unprecedented challenge"

The virtual roundtable was part of a province-wide push undertaken by Associate Minister Sarkaria to provided local business owners across Ontario with a means to identify specific challenges, and suggest potential solutions for the government to consider.

"Whether it's the flower shop in King City or the hairdresser in Woodbridge, small businesses create jobs, foster opportunities, and are vital to our communities," said Sarkaria. "Our small business owners know better than anyone what it takes to jumpstart growth and get our economy moving again. This is why it is vitally important to draw on their strengths, expertise and know-how."

Minister Sarkaria is one of the members of Ontario's Jobs and Recovery Committee which is tasked with developing the staged action plan on how to move Ontario forward as it deals with the COVID-19 pandemic. Feedback from this and other provincial roundtables will help inform that committee and its necessary and critical work ahead.

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YRPA uses Police Week to honour healthcare workers

By Kinjal Dagli Shah

Over the past 50 years, Police Week (May 10 to 16) has been held to celebrate policing. In a break from this tradition, the York Region Police Association used it instead to thank the region's front-line healthcare workers by providing \$60,000 in funding to cover 4,500 meals for hospital employees and paramedics.

The funding went to the hospital foundations of Markham Stouffville Hospital, Mackenzie Health, and Southlake Regional Health Centre and money left over from the donations was poured back to help each hospital purchase equipment, technology and support patient care needs.

"Our health care workers are our true heroes. Each day, they are on the front lines putting themselves in the path of danger, so we salute them for what they are doing," said Rob O'Quinn, president, York Regional Police Association. "Our doctors, nurses, therapists, technicians, transporters, paramedics, pharmacists, custodial staff, security and everyone else who helps support patient care deserve our deepest gratitude for their service in caring for our communities and in the fight against COVID-19."

Mackenzie Health employees at the Richmond Hill hospital ate for free at the hospital's cafeteria on May 11 while on May 14, Markham Stouffville Hospital's staff received two mass food deliveries from local restaurants.

From coffee and pastries for breakfast to hot entrées and stir fry through the day, front-line heroes were spoiled for choice when it came to their meals through the week. Pre-packaged meals were also part of the available options.

Over the course of the week, members of YRPA, which represents over 2,400 uniformed officers and civilian members of York Regional Police, re-

ceived many messages of gratitude from hospital staff.

"Like many other staff at Mackenzie Health, I felt immensely grateful that York Regional Police Association stepped forward to support all healthcare workers at our hospital. As a nurse, I spend my time caring for patients, so it was nice to know that our partner YRPA was there to take care of

us when we needed them most," said Frances Timbol, registered practical nurse at Mackenzie Health.

"The YRPA initiative was a very visible show of support for staff that we are all in this together. Having that support gave us not only the nourishment we needed, but the encouragement to keep pushing forward during this very difficult time."



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KingWeeklySentinel

Arts & Entertainment

Local film students accepted into awards festival

By Mark Pavilons

Some local film students haven't let the current situation slow down their enthusiasm.

"Deeper than Blue" a short documentary made by a group of six students, including local Schomberg filmmakers Nicole and Sara Hayward, has been accepted into four film festivals around North America.

"Deeper than Blue" explores a shadowed medical crisis that affects mothers called postpartum depression. Told through Amanda Munday's heart-breaking and empowering story of her experience with postpartum depression following the birth of her daughter Fiona.

The film was made by six students during their second year of the Humber Film and Television Production Program. At the beginning of the semester, in September 2019, the idea for the film was pitched by director Devon Robertson and cinematographer Emily Mahu. Once pitched, the film was voted to be one of the fourteen films that would be shot over four days in October.

Already a part of the Gen Z Film Festival in Toronto, the film continues to be selected by more festivals and will be shown at the Hamilton Youth Film Festival on Sept. 11.

For the first time ever, The MHSA (Mental Health and Suicide Awareness) Film Festival in Colorado, USA, will livestream "Deeper Than Blue" from



Library holds 'Quaran-Teen' writing contest

Has social isolation got you bored? Want to bring that story idea out into the world?

In support of King Township's aspiring young writers, King Township Public Library in partnership with Write Now @ King is inviting all teens to participate in our first short story writing contest!

Check out "The Writing Desk" at kinglibrary.ca to help you with weekly writing prompts and ideas.

The topics are unlimited, it's up to you what you write about. The length is limited to a maximum of 4,000 words (16 pages typed, double spaced).

One entry per person is accepted. The age categories are 13-15 and 16-18.

The deadline is July 31.

You can submit your story to them via email at info@kinglibrary.ca with the subject heading "Writing Contest - (Title of your short story)". In the body paragraph, tell them a little about yourself, including your age (if you don't feel comfortable telling us your age, you can put down either 13-15 or 16-18) and where you are from.

A King Township Public Library card is not required for entering but the participant must live in York Region, Caledon or New Tecumseth.

Winners will be announced on Aug. 14.

the comfort of your home on Saturday, May 30. They want you to join them, in a safe place, to start the conversation about how we can break the silence around the epidemic of suicide and break the stigma around mental health. You can get tickets for free or donation on their website <https://www.bcevolution.org/annual-film-festival>.

Nicole said the film was shot in four days. Amanda, being a very busy woman, found it a challenging to fit the students in to her schedule to film B-Roll shots (additional footage after the interview). The joys of filming was getting the opportunity to meet Amanda and her beautiful family.

"It was also fun to get to work with our talented team. It is very interesting to see how much the film changed from the initial idea, to filming and then seeing the final cut."

Sara added that the fact that we had so many locations and so little time made it very difficult as camera operator to get the exact shots that they needed.

"One of the many joys filming 'Deeper Than Blue,' other than getting to hear Amanda's story in person, was learning along side our amazing Deeper Than Crew about the process of documentary film making."

Sara said she hopes that people see how important it is to talk about mental health and see how much of a struggle it is to go through something like post-

partum depression.

Nicole hopes the film helps anyone who may be going through something or knows someone going through someone to find the right answers to getting the help they need.

You can get tickets for free or donation on their website <https://www.bcevolution.org/annual-film-festival>. There is a Q& A part of the festival to so people can ask questions and a vote for the audiences favorite film so please vote if you enjoy it.

Nicole said she's interested in directing and screenwriting and is hoping to crowd-fund her short film "Heliophilia."

"Sara and I are also beginning to write a song cycle to submit to the Sheridan Musical Theatre Project. I hope to be able write and direct more stories showing women and other minorities as complex and strong individuals."

Aside from wanting to make the world a better place, Sara is currently writing a screenplay called "Portraits," a three-part trilogy.

"I am interested in continuing a career in screenwriting as well as directing and production design. My goal is to tell stories that are honest and inspire people the way I have been inspired."

For more information about the film visit the website <https://deeperthanbluefilm.wixsite.com/dtbl>

For more information, please contact Nicole at haywatts@yahoo.com

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King Weekly Sentinel



Dyson really ups the ante in home cleaning with V11

By Mark Pavilons

Our recent seclusion has likely led to a more meticulous household cleaning routine.

Keeping our homes spotless and free of allergens helps us breathe a bit easier.

The most common tool against dust, dander and dirt is our trusted vacuum.

Just as we embrace our smart phones and devices, we have a new tool in our arsenal. Dyson has once again upped the game with its smart V11 Absolute cordless vacuum.

This beauty captures 99.97% of particles as small as 0.3 microns, expelling cleaner air.

The V11 Absolute intelligently optimizes suction power and run time to deep clean anywhere and displays real time performance on a new LCD screen.

While using the torque-drive cleaner head in the new Auto mode, the V11 is able to adapt and adjust suction power depending on floor type, which allows users to get the most out of their battery life.

The new LCD screen displays mode (power), a run time countdown to the second, and machine performance in real time, helping users know how much battery is left.

The V11 has 20% more suction power and up to 60 minutes of fade-free battery for floor to ceiling cleaning.

The bottom line here is this cleaning companion does the work of any traditional upright.

The real bonus here is its versatility and convenient portability. The V11 easily transforms into a handheld unit when you need to tackle your couch, stairs or even the car.

It's the perfect tool for removing pet hair from furniture in no time at all.

There's a trend toward cordless, battery-powered vacuums. Until now, most were under-powered and not quite up to the task of daily cleaning.

Dyson has turned things upside down. Beautifully designed, this model doesn't look like it's capable of down and dirty hard work like corded models. Yet it is.

It's deceiving, and it's driven by the marvellous technology that only Dyson can deliver. Yes, it comes with a premium price, but there's no equal on the market.

You can tell right away as you unpack the vacuum, this is a "Tesla" of vacuums. Smooth, clean lines, everything fits together perfectly. Everything has a purpose.

The V11 sucked up a container's worth of dog hair and debris, even after a pass with our regular upright. It removed pet hair from our couches like

nothing has ever done before.

Aside from everything else, it's fun to use! Yes, vacuuming is now fun.

Three microprocessors on board the Dyson V11 vacuum bring a new level of intelligence to monitoring performance. The microprocessors are located in the Dynamic Load Sensor inside the High Torque cleaner head; inside the Dyson digital motor V11 and inside the battery. These advances mean that suction automatically adjusts depending on floor type, and the owner can see how much run time is remaining.

The High Torque cleaner head is Dyson's most powerful cord-free cleaner head ever. It features stiff nylon bristles that drive deep into carpet to remove ground-in dirt, and anti-static carbon fibre filaments that capture dust from hard floors and crevices. An integrated digital motor spins the brush bar up to 60 times a second.

Dyson engineers also devised a way to seal the High Torque cleaner head to the floor, by using a sealing bellow made of elastic polyurethane.

The nifty LCD screen intelligently reports in real time and shows current performance, including selected power

mode and remaining run time, giving the user more control of their clean.

The screen also reminds the user when to clean filters for optimum performance, and informs them of any blockages and how to clear them. Thanks to sensor magnets embedded in the filter assembly, the screen can tell the user when the filter isn't connected properly.

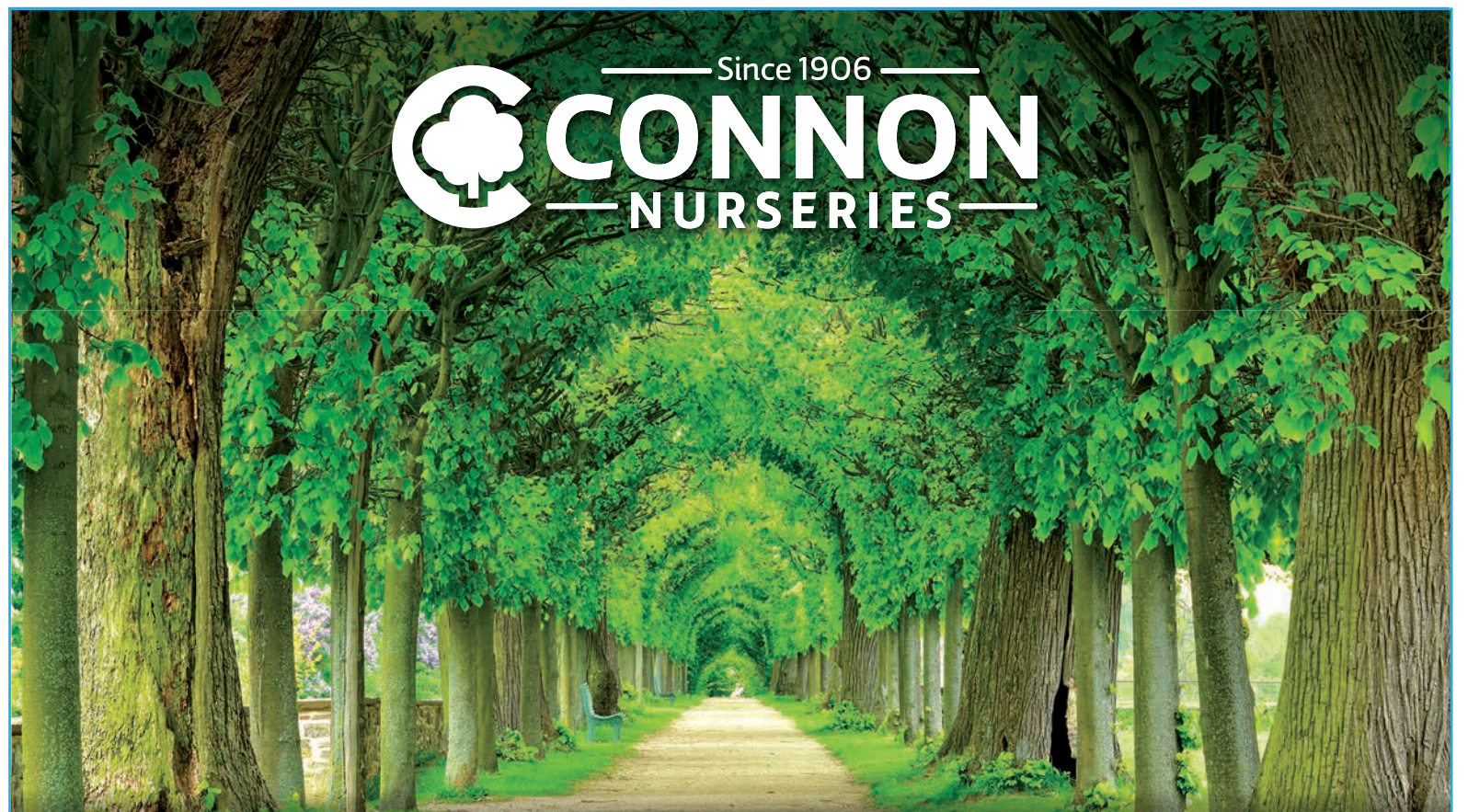
Dyson's most powerful battery pack has seven larger, high-capacity cells with nickel-cobaltaluminium cathodes to help deliver more suction power.

Aerospace materials are found in the motor, including phenolic compound casing which is used in satellites, and provides a high strength to weight ratio.

While all highly technical, the main point here is you're getting an engineering marvel charged with a simple task.

You can grab this unit anytime from its wall mount and clean, or touch up your living space. Having peace of mind and knowing your home is clean, is worth every penny.

For more on the V11 and other products, visit dysoncanada.ca



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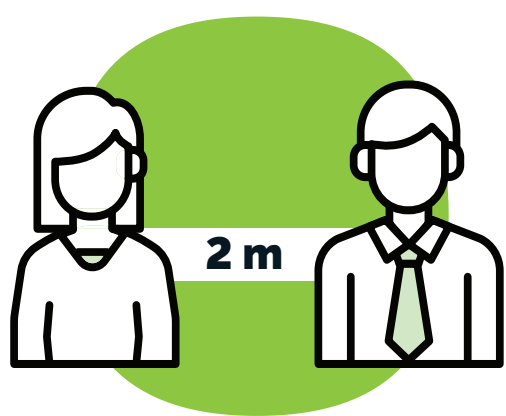
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We're Making a Difference to Keep Each Other Safe from COVID-19

As businesses begin to reopen, we all need to continue our efforts to protect each other.



Practice physical distancing.

Stay two metres away from others



Wear a face covering

when physical distancing is a challenge



Wash hands

thoroughly and often

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.

CHATS continues in virtual world which may define its future

By Brock Weir

CHATS – Community and Home Assistance to Seniors – has learned to thrive in a virtual world as response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and lessons learned in getting up to speed online might come to define its future.

As some businesses and services across Ontario fire up this week, CHATS is noting advice from health officials and gauging feedback from clients and their families in prioritizing which services can get back up and running, along with the two all-important questions: when and how?

According to Christina Bisanz, President & CEO of CHATS, the organization is evaluating future service on a number of factors, including level of risk, physical limitations posed by the “new normal” and the degree to which clients are isolated – “ultimately the comfort and confidence of clients themselves.”

“We’re listening very closely to what our clients are saying,” says Ms. Bisanz. “Even when things do open up again, there may be a period of time where people, particularly over the age of 70, may still be very reluctant and hesitant to come back to programs where they would be in a group with other individ-

uals. We’re being very mindful of that and starting to plan and think about how we might have to adjust our programs into the future.

“Where we may have had a wellness program that had 25 or 30 people meeting in a church basement or community centre for that activity, we may have to look at holding that group program in a smaller size so we can maintain physical distancing. We may have to look at other community spaces so we can ensure we have got physical distancing possibilities, and we’re also looking at how we can continue to offer supports and programs in the virtual setting.”

Translating vital programs to a virtual setting was priority number one for CHATS at the start of the pandemic.

At the time, they were working on programs they thought were “just going to be recessed for a short period of time.” The reality was, however, it was not going to be just a two or three-week blip on the radar.

They then looked at ways they could remotely deliver wellness and caregiver supports in a variety of online platforms, including Zoom.

“We really had to jump into developing programs that previously had brought people together in a virtual setting,” says Ms. Bisanz. “It also became very evident that we needed to ensure that we were providing support to our clients and other seniors, particularly those who are living on their own and don’t necessarily have the supports of family members or neighbours and that sort of thing, to help them with accessing food and groceries.”

They looked at expanding Meals on Wheels programs for low-income seniors, receiving support from the United Way to help subsidize meals. They continued their transportation pro-

gram while also developing new contactless delivery for clients ordering meals and groceries.

Other community organizations and businesses helped along the way, including donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to support frontline workers. Car dealerships, including Highland Automotive, have stepped up to assist with deliveries, and monetary donations have been received from across York Region and South Simcoe to support both their seniors and frontline workers.

These services and examples of outreach have helped seniors feel connected, as have what Ms. Bisanz describes as “virtual socials.”

Clients who have become adept at using new apps are finding it useful not only in staying connected, but also staying fit as volunteers lead virtual exercise classes.

Some seniors, however, might not have access to the tools to take full advantage of these online programs, so CHATS is working with the United Way to see how they can help seniors access devices and technical support.

“We want to work with other agen-

cies and groups to see how we can partner and collectively facilitate these virtual social programs for seniors in the community,” says Ms. Bisanz. “We know this (situation) is not going to just end one day and the next day we’re going to go back to normal. This will be an extended period where we will have to ramp up and it will be a while before there’s confidence and comfort of seniors to get back to coming out and participating in events.

“We want to make sure we continue to have the support to provide services to address some of the caregiver stress and mental health challenges that this prolonged pandemic has contributed to. I think we need to continue to be nimble, be flexible in identifying how the needs are changing, listening to our clients, hearing them, giving them a voice, to what concerns them and where we can continue to provide support to them. CHATS’ mandate is to enable people to stay in their own homes as long as possible, to do so safely, and do so with dignity, keeping them out of hospital and long-term care. That is our mandate, and it is becoming even more heightened.”

Ratification of the OSSTF agreements

Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, issued the following statement in response to the ratification of the final central agreements with teachers and education workers. The teachers’ agreement is between the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation (OSSTF) and the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA). The other agreement is between the OSSTF education workers, OPSBA, Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association (OCSTA), l’Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l’Ontario (ACÉ-PO) and l’Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC):

“I would like to congratulate all of the parties for the ratification of the 2019-22 central agreements, delivering needed stability for Ontario’s children, parents, and all education staff.

“Our government achieved our main priority - landing deals that advance the priorities of students, parents, and taxpayers. We now have successfully ratified central agreements with all of our education labour partners.

“Our focus will be to work with all partners in this unprecedented time to deliver the best education using every tool available – including technology – to support academic achievement. We thank teachers and education workers for playing a critical role in promoting positive learning environments for students in all corners of our province – most especially those conducting synchronous online learning. We know that while in-class instruction cannot be replaced, online synchronous classrooms can still provide a sense of community and an opportunity for collaborative learning, while students are home.

“While this ratification concludes the 2019-2022 teacher and education worker central negotiations, our commitment to parents remains unchanged. We will continue to stand up for parents to protect our children’s futures and invest in their potential.”

Board seeks advisory committee members

The York Region District School Board values parent, family and community engagement in public education and the positive impact it has on student achievement and well-being. The York Region District School Board is accepting applications for membership on the Board’s Parent, Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee (PEAC).

Applications are due June 15.

PEAC supports, encourages and enhances parent engagement at the Board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being. It represents the collective voice of parents who have children attending public schools in York Region.

Members are expected to attend a minimum of six meetings each year at the Education Centre in Aurora. The first meeting date for the new membership is Nov. 12.

Parents/guardians interested in serving as a member of PEAC are asked to submit an electronic application by June 15, (final deadline) using an online Google Form or calling Education and Community Services at 905-727-0022 ext. 2242 to submit a paper application.

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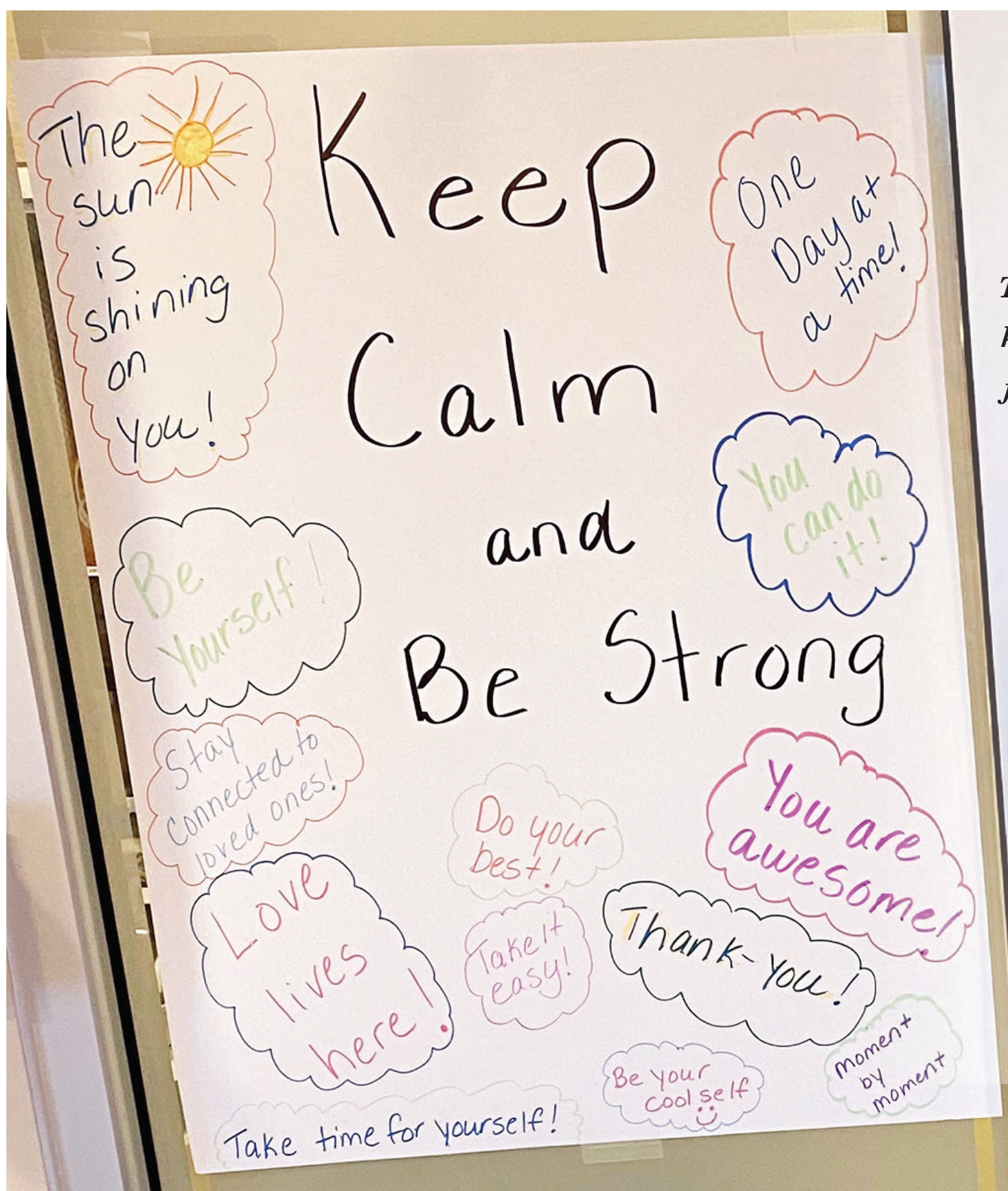
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Email: Stephen.LecceCO@pc.ola.org

www.StephenLecceMPP.ca



The understanding, kindness and acceptance from our residents and their limited, designated visitors during this time renews my hope every day and reminds me of the love I am blessed to witness that exists all of the time no matter the life circumstance or challenges.



Love truly never dies

Written by Hailey, one of our nurses at Margaret Bahen Hospice

Working in Hospice and Palliative care as a nurse is a complete privilege and joy to me.

I get to work in an environment that is so filled with love, so filled with acceptance - it is beautiful to witness. It is never easy to have to say goodbye to a loved one no matter what. It is a time often filled with uncertainty, fear and grief. Grieving what should have been

and what will no longer be. I feel many of us are feeling these emotions right now as together as a global community we face the challenges of COVID-19.

It has been difficult for us at Margaret Bahen Hospice as so much of what we do as hospice workers (and what we love to do!) is provide comfort, peace and a safe place to be vulnerable. To be human. This is often done through therapeutic physical connection and closeness that of course must be greatly limited at this time to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Another key theme that marks the hospice experience to me and that I so often see in practice is resilience, hope and above all else, love. Time and time again I have seen proven through my work how resilient the human spirit is and how hope; for a variety of different outcomes, and *love truly never dies*.

Together we are all battling through COVID-19 regardless of where we live or our specific situations, and together we will come through to the other side with our innate qualities of being human.

Please help us by donating to Hospice today...
www.myhospice.ca/support-my-hospice

Together, we will get through this!



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King City's Alex Formenton on AHL Rookie Team

By Robert Belardi

King City's Alex Formenton named to the 2019-2020 AHL All-Rookie Team.

The Belleville Senators forward was voted by coaches, media and players all across the American Hockey League (AHL).

Formenton finished second in scoring among all the rookies with 27 goals and 26 assists, behind teammate Josh Norris; who was also named to the All-Rookie Squad.

The 20-year-old winger got off to a strong start to the year, scoring his first goal against the Toronto Marlies.

In the second period, teammate Michael Carcone caressed the puck along the half-wall. A nifty pass across the slot found a streaking Formenton charging in on goal. With the blade of his stick, Formenton jammed the puck past Marlies goaltender Kasimir Kaskisuo. It was the Senators lone goal of the game. The Marlies went on to win that bout 4-1.

All throughout the year, Formenton has put his speed and agility on display. He has managed to race past defenceman day in and day out and get in close on goal.

Prior to the all-star break, Formenton amassed 12 points in a 10-game stretch. Most notably throughout that run was his first AHL hat-trick against the Rochester Americans on Jan. 10.

A few weeks later, on the last weekend in January, he was awarded the opportunity to participate in this year's,

AHL All-Stars Fastest Skater competition and Formenton surely didn't disappoint. As a matter of fact, he most definitely turned a few heads.

He raced around the rink in 13.356 seconds to open the competition and winning it. That time is good for third-all time, in the AHL.

The youngster already has a few accolades beneath his belt at a young age.

The Ottawa Senators drafted Formenton in 2017, 47th overall. In 2018, Formenton helped Team Canada win the world junior hockey championships, scoring the empty-net goal in the final minutes against Sweden.

As a member of the OHL's, London Knights, Formenton earned his name on the OHL Second All-Rookie Team and the CHL Top Prospects game in the 2016-2017 season.

Surely now, the goal is to return to the NHL and to the Ottawa Senators lineup.

He is on an entry level deal with the club.

Formenton scored his first and only NHL goal against the Arizona Coyotes. He redirected Chris Wideman's point shot past Antti Ranta on the road in Glendale, on Oct. 30, 2018 in a 5-1 loss.



Reins strengthen partnership with Lamaze

Canadian entrepreneur Mark Rein and his wife, Tara, have doubled their investment with 2008 Canadian Olympic champion Eric Lamaze and his Torrey Pines Stable.

Having partnered with Lamaze in

March to purchase three international show jumping prospects, the couple's Rein Family LLC has further invested in three more exciting horses. Falco de Tatihou, Corazon, and Delicalato v/h Marienshof have all moved to Lamaze's European training base in Écaussinnes, Belgium.

Falco de Tatihou is a five-year-old approved Selle Français stallion (Ogrion des Champs x JPC Modesto) purchased from the breeder, Philippe Noel. In addition to being developed for the top level of the sport, Falco de Tatihou will continue to be available for breeding. He marks the first stallion that Torrey Pines Stable will stand at stud.

"I have never seen a five-year-old horse that is so athletic, so level-headed, and with natural instincts that usually take years to teach a horse," said Lamaze, who has earned Olympic gold, silver, and bronze medals for Canada. "This is an exceptional horse, not only as a show jumping prospect but as a breeding stallion as well. He is literally the best five-year-old that I have ever come across in my career."

Corazon is a seven-year-old bay Brandenburg mare sired by Cormint and discovered by British-based horse agent Lexi Carter. A light and modern type, the mare competed in young horse classes and at the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) one-star level with Dutch rider and former owner Don Willemsen in 2019.

"Lexi suggested the horse to me after seeing it in Holland," explained La-

maze of the purchase process. "Due to the borders being closed, I asked my good friend (Canadian Show Jumping Team veteran) Chris Pratt who is based in The Netherlands to try the horse for me. After reviewing the video, I realized that this was more than just a good horse, it is a star! I'm really looking forward to bringing this horse along."

The most experienced of the three, Delicalato v/h Marienshof, is a 12-year-old grey Dutch Warmblood gelding (Calato Z x Indorado) also sourced by Carter. The horse has an extensive record competing at the two and three-star level in 2019 under the saddle of Swedish rider Sofia Westborg.

"This will be an exciting horse for Mark and Tara to have," said Lamaze. "After a few small shows to get started, the horse will quickly move up to the higher levels. Mark and Tara know our sport well, and it will be fun for them to come to shows and see it competing in the big classes. I think they will be especially thrilled with this horse."

In March, the Reins partnered with Lamaze to purchase Gatrona, a nine-year-old bay Dutch Warmblood mare (Canturano x Numero Uno); Egelund's Miss Unique, an eight-year-old bay Danish Warmblood mare (Numero Uno x Cajus); and Huriosa, an eight-year-old bay Dutch Warmblood mare (Cardento x Furioso II).

Mark and Tara Rein first met Lamaze met over 30 years ago when Lamaze was living and training in the Schomberg area.

Commentary

Is there light at the end of the tunnel for major sports?

By Robert Belardi

Cogitate on one simple presumption. Sports has to have some light at the end of the tunnel now.

Our lives have simply been vacant. Sports lovers, suffering at the hands of the authorities, stripping the joy and exhilaration from something we all love.

It's a distant memory even. But now, it's slowly coming back.

The King City Tennis Club president Suzanne Millar told the King Sentinel negotiations must be made with the city before she can open. Amateur golf courses have returned. Cardinal Golf Club and Nobleton Lakes will be booking tee-times at your behest.

For the professionals, the NBA, NHL and MLB continue to discover solutions. They continue to find ways to get their players ready and their league back up and running.

The NHL announced last week a 24-team tournament is in the works. ESPN's Brian Windhorst is reporting the NBA is considering 16-team playoffs, skipping the rest of the regular season and the location is to be further discussed with Disney World.

The German Bundesliga has already resumed action. No fans in the stadium and coaches keeping their distance on the bench is only part of what they're doing. Sportsnet is even showing their matches and all of a sudden, a dull Saturday morning has turned into a blissful rise from the bed sheets to the couch. They didn't stand for anymore of this. Time to get this damn show on the road.

It's practical to think that there is some hope. It would be essential for the sanity of every and fan and general viewer.

It would provide a sensible amount of joy. Living on a planet filled with a good amount of resources and medical knowledge surely, we can figure something out.

In 1919 the NHL wasn't so lucky. That year, the Stanley Cup finals between the NHL champion Montreal Canadiens and the Pacific Coast Hockey Association (PCHA) champions Seattle Metropolitans was halted right after game five because of a worldwide pestilence known as the Spanish Flu.

Yes, that thing. The other epidemic we compare that prickly ball that emerges on our television screens known as COVID-19.

Canadiens head coach George Kennedy offered Metropolitans coach Pete Muldoon the trophy. Muldoon, with an adequate sense of sportsmanship, respectfully declined.

Most of the Canadiens' team fell ill, including Kennedy, who died years later because of the flu's impact. Canadiens player Joe Hall contracted the flu that later, turned into pneumonia and passed away.

The remastered Stanley Cup trophy in 1948 embroidered both team names and "series not completed" beneath them. Later, in 2005, a lockout prevented another champion from being crowned.

Most pro leagues such as the Kontinental Hockey League (KHL), NBA G-League and American Hockey League (AHL) have been cancelled outright.

Junior hockey divisions were cancelled without a champion. Basketball leagues walk away with no champions either.

Other leagues such as Major League Soccer (MLS) and the Canadian Premier League (CPL) continue to find viable solutions to get things under way.

When considering the potential risks adjacent to the desire to play, could this be all a farce?

Have some of these leagues, trying to recover their seasons, showing little to no consideration for the athletes taking part and being stripped away from their families?

It's anyone's interpretation. Sports is stuck in limbo right now. Some cancel, others want to recover. But one thing is for sure, nobody has an idea on what the future will hold.

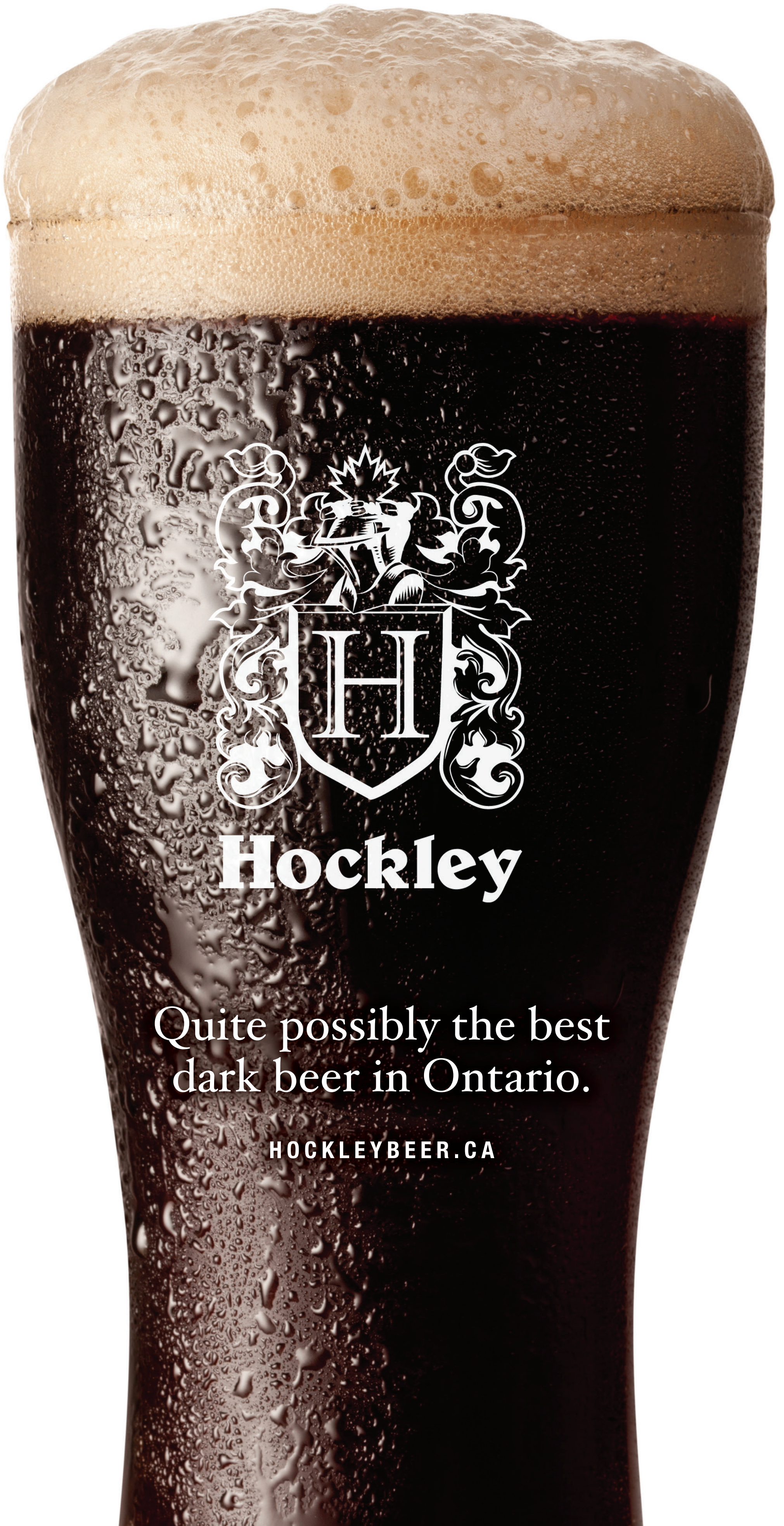
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Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone
416-917-0406

St. Paul's is live online every Sunday! Visit our YouTube page (search St. Paul's Church, Nobleton), and our website, stpaulsnobleton.ca.

Bible Fun Camp will be an at-home, online experience this year! We understand parents' concerns for kids' safety, so we're taking the physical distancing approach to our summer vacation Bible school for 2020 by putting it on our website. If you're interested in engaging your kids with a fun, Bible-centred online camp experience, send an email to secretary@stpaulsnobleton.ca and we'll get you registered. There will be a nominal cost of \$20 per household to cover activity packs that will be delivered to your front doorstep.

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!

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.

Nobleton and Schomberg United Churches By Rev. Carol-Ann Chapman

We, like other churches have currently suspended in person services. Each week I do a condensed recorded service that is sent out to my e-mail contacts. If you would like me to send this directly to you please let me know. The service is also available on the Nobleton United Facebook page and the YouTube channel.

I am also sending out links to music as well as a "Happenings" newsletter as other ways to connect with each other. If you don't have computer access and are interested in what is going on, I'm happy to drop off a text copy of the service or newsletter at your home.

You can contact me at ministernobletonschomberg@gmail.com or leave a message at the church at 905-859-3976.

Help keep Guide cookie sales from crumbling

Your local Nobleton Girl Guides

unit is trying not to let their traditional cookie drive crumble amid the coronavirus pandemic. Because of COVID-19, your local girl guides are not able to sell their cookies door-to-door and at local events the way they always have.

Cookies sales count for over 60% of Girl Guides revenue, and the proceeds from every box sold by your local unit goes directly to 1st Nobleton Girl Guides. Cookie selling is a big part of Girl Guide fundraising every year and helps supports weekly meeting activities, weekend outings and traditional Girl Guide camps. Due to the pandemic, the weekly in-person meetings have been cancelled, but unit engagement continues with virtual meetings and online activities with our leaders and young ladies.

Thankfully not all is lost! The Nobleton Pharmasave and Nobleton Guardian Drug stores have generously offered some selling space in their store for the Girl Guide cookies to be sold.

Please pick up a box or two and help local Guiding families with their Spring Cookie Campaign. And all proceeds from the sales go directly to Nobleton Girl Guides.

For questions, please contact 1stnobletonbrownies@gmail.com

Nobleton Lions Club

Your Nobleton Lions Club is alive and well and practicing physical distancing, as mandated by health authorities. Like many other groups, we meet via Zoom at our regular meeting times, and continue to operate to the extent allowed. The Club has proactively reached out to those organiza-

tions which we usually support, to offer financial aid in line with what we typically provide.

Events that have had to be cancelled for this year include the Easter Egg hunt in Pottageville, the Golf Tournament (which is the club's main fundraising event, held normally at the start of June), a spring poker night, and Victoria Day Parade and events participation.

The annual Walk for Guide Dogs has been postponed, as we are hopeful of hosting the event later in the year. While we all have learned how to socially distance, our furry friends may not have learned this new trick as yet.

Hopefully events scheduled for the fall and winter may be permitted when the time comes. Updates will be shown on the club's website at https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/nobleton/ Also located on the homepage of the website is a poster contest for kids between 5 and 19 which runs until June 1, offering a chance to win a \$200 prize.

Of note is a new service that the club is offering to people in self-isolation and others unable to leave their homes. The Lions are providing a free delivery service for Pharmasave prescriptions. Just call Club president Rick Evans at 1-905-806-9988, and we will drop packages outside your door.

In the meantime, we still welcome prospective new members. You may join us as a guest via Zoom at an upcoming meeting by contacting our Club president. From all of us to all of you, please respect the guidelines from our health authorities, and Stay Safe! We're in this together!

If there are any questions regarding the preceding please contact Tony Peters at 905-859-4788.

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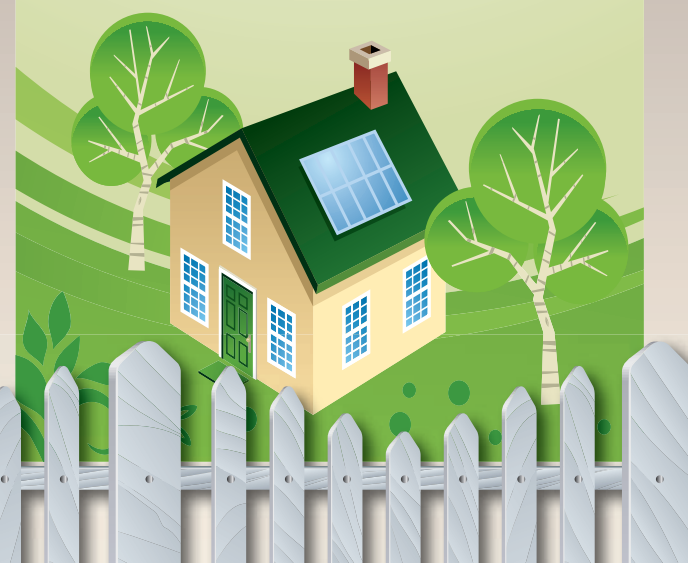
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King's Corners

King City United
By Sheryl Sinka

Regretfully our gathering for worship continues to be suspended indefinitely as well as all our small groups, however, it has opened up opportunities for us to connect in new and creative ways. There is a Virtual Coffee hour offered on Thursdays from 2-3:30. If you are interested in participating please send an email to Kristen at the office at kcuc@bellnet.ca.

The opportunity to worship with us online is possible through our website at kcuc.net or through an e mail link provided to those who receive the emails. 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.

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

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St. Andrew's
By Kathy Patterson

How can we bless you during this very trying time? Please contact us at the numbers below.

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>

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 Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. for "Tea and Conversation." Contact Lynn Vissers re topics and how to get set up.

Contact Lynn Vissers if interested in virtual "Art in the Park" classes.

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

For pastoral care please call Lynn Vissers, Director of Congregational Ministries at 416-998-4652 or the Rev. Paul Johnston, our Interim Moderator at 705-341-7738. Our church office phone number is 905-833-2325.

All Saints Anglican Church
By Patrick Gossage

Anglican Bishops advocate for Guaranteed Basic Income. From a re-

cent letter to all churches from our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil:

"While the patchwork of subsidies introduced by the government has brought relief and hope, still people fall through the cracks. It is this reality that has prompted a renewed interest in the Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI). On May 3, an open letter was signed by 41 Anglican and ELCiC bishops urging the government to implement a basic income. Members of our College of Bishops were signatories of the letter. We recognize that a basic income is not a panacea; it would need to be enough to lift people out of poverty (at least more than current social assistance rates). Before we go back, before we hurry back from whence we have come, let us strive to bring with us those who have slipped through the gaps. If you feel moved to support this Guaranteed Basic Income initiative, we encourage you to write to your local MP."

Last Sunday's Gospel was from Luke 14 – The Ascension of our Lord. "When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven." At All Saints we think of this critical event every time we are in church since our main stain glass windows shows Christ being taken up, here is Rev. Dr. Elizabeth's thoughts on the of the Ascension:

"Today we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. Ascension Day knows where it is going. It is going up.

Now, "up" we think, is where authority and power are found. We talk about "high-ranking" and "higher" powers. So, up is where the action is.

Think of all those wonderful paintings in the domes and ceilings of the world's churches and palaces where God sits on high, deciding things, ruling, and generally being the boss and top dog. Ascensiontide really does invite us to look up to God (which is no bad thing) and to think about his power (which might be a bit more problematic).

We have all listened to many conversations about decision-making and authority in the last few days. We need people who can make the right decisions; we rely on them. We have depended absolutely on the expertise and decision making of the medical profession and we will on go on doing that. We live in a world where people have power and authority. They have privileges, but they bear great burdens.

We pray for them because People "on high" are only human and need our prayers. On Ascension Day, we must not fall into the trap of thinking that the exaltation of Christ Jesus is just another decision made by God. God has no agenda and no 'to do' list. God is ever the same. God is always and forever a pouring out of love. No whims, no fancies, no decisions, and no strategy. On Ascension Day, Jesus carries his life (and yours and mine) into the heart of that love, forever.

We do not keep Ascension Day well if it makes us grovel in exaggerated obedience. God is indeed the only One who can create, the only One who can redeem. All things do depend on God. Even so, there are no decisions to be made and it is not obedience, or resignation, that is required from us. It is not power that we worship, it is love."

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