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King Weekly Sentinel

King's Community Newspaper

Weekly Circulation: 10,200

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FREE

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Volume 47, Issue 29

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Residents boost Food Bank coffers

With social distancing restrictions it's been difficult figuring how to have fundraisers to support different charities. Rev. Carol-Ann Chapman and Rev. Evelyn McLachlan decided to host a fundraiser for the King Township Food Bank with the director, Carol Ann Trabert's blessing. It was a "Foodless Food Drive."

On Canada Day, volunteers set up a table in front of the Nobleton United Church, put up flags and signs and invited folk to make a monetary donation to KTFB. A number of parishioners from Schomberg UC and Nobleton UC as well as from the community stopped by to make donations. Even some of the local politicians either came by or sent representatives (and one even brought ice cream sandwiches!). It was a hot but fun afternoon.

Thank you to all who donated. Organizers were able to raise \$1,200. A great way to celebrate this amazing country!



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Masks to become mandatory in York.
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Revamped Leonardo's opens in Schomberg.
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www.king.ca



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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

No meetings are currently scheduled.

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Wednesday, July 29th

6:00 pm - Committee of Adjustment

Virtual Meeting at <http://cofameetings.king.ca>

Email cofa@king.ca for more information

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>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- IT Desktop Support – closes July 23 at 4:30 pm
- Supervisor of IT Business Systems – closes July 23 at 4:30 pm

Please visit the Township website at www.king.ca for employment opportunities.

PUBLIC NOTICES

King and consultant WSP are WorKING For You!

The Township is preparing its 10 Year Road Paving Strategy and consultant WSP has been hired to prepare it. Part of developing the strategy is for WSP to conduct field investigations during the course of the project, which is anticipated to last until the end of August. WSP will be in neighbourhoods across the Township digitally recording the existing roadway conditions and visually inspecting them – so you may see them on your street in a car with a camera. Their vehicles are clearly marked with the red WSP logo on them. WSP will present its findings in a report for Council's consideration later this year.

If you have any questions regarding the fieldwork portion of this project, please contact ServiceKing at 905-833-5321 or email serviceking@king.ca.



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 indoor facilities until Labour Day. Some outdoor recreational amenities are reopening - see notice below.
- King Township Public Library remains closed but is offering curbside pickup service. Visit www.kinglibrary.ca for more information.
- 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.

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

As York Region enters Stage 2 of the reopening plan, King is taking a cautious and gradual approach to ensure outdoor recreational areas are safe for use and that proper procedures and signage are in place.

At this time, King Township is focusing its efforts on reopening some of its outdoor recreational amenities only. Please review the infographic below or visit covid19.king.ca for more details.

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.

MASK OR FACE COVERING REQUIRED



Exceptions include people who cannot wear a mask for medical reasons, children under the age of five or those who require accommodation in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Stay safe. Stay informed.
york.ca/COVID19



What's Open - Parks & Recreation



- Open for casual recreational use only (some exceptions)
- No gatherings of more than 10 people (who are not from the same household)
- Keep 2 metres away from other people (who are not from the same household)

Updates (as of July 10th, 2020)

- Camp in a Box #2**
Registration opens Monday July 20th!
- In place until Labour Day:**
No summer ice or indoor facility rentals
Indoor facilities closed
- Summer Camps - CANCELLED**
Full refunds to be processed.
- All Municipal Events - CANCELLED**
Cancelled up to and including Labour Day.

Closed

- Nobleton Pool (Closed for the 2020 season)
- Indoor Facilities (Closed until Labour Day)
- Playgrounds
- Washrooms
- Outdoor Fitness Equipment
- Washrooms (Under evaluation)

Open

- Baseball Diamonds
- Tennis Courts
- Dog Parks
- Basketball Courts
- Open Spaces
- Cold Creek Conservation Area
- Trails
- Splashpads
- Skateparks
- Shade Structures
- Soccer Fields

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.

REMINDERS

PROPERTY TAX NOTICE

Due Dates: July 29, 2020 and September 25, 2020



PROPERTY TAX NOTICES were sent in the mail. Please contact the ServiceKing immediately if you have not received your tax notice.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Tax	Payment Options
X	By pre-authorized debit bank withdrawal (PAD)
X	At most financial institutions, including via personal on-line banking
X	By cheque

If paying in person at a financial institution, please present the entire tax notice.

When making payments electronically, search for "King" and select Tax, enter your 15 digit roll number with no decimal (i.e. 000123456780000)

Pre-Authorized Debit Program (PAD): PAD program is available for property tax accounts. The enrolment form is available at www.king.ca (search for "PAD")

To ensure the PAD enrolment takes effect on the next billing cycle **2021 Interim**, the enrolment form must be received by **December 1st, 2020**.

Please visit our website for details.

Please see more King Township notices on page 5

KING FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Barbecue Safety

Grilled to Perfection Every Time!

USE BBQS OUTDOORS ONLY! They produce **carbon monoxide**, a poisonous gas that can lead to unconsciousness and even death. Never use or store propane cylinders inside any structure, including garages.

Take these steps when starting a BBQ:

- Open the hood.
- Turn on the gas release valve on the tank.
- Turn on the grill controls or heat settings.
- Take a step back.
- Push the igniter button.
- If there is no igniter button, insert a long match or BBQ lighter through the side burner hole first, then turn on the heat control knob.
- If the burner does not ignite right away, turn the gas off and wait five minutes, keeping the hood open, before repeating the procedure.

At the start of the BBQ season, do this THREE-STEP SAFETY CHECK of your BBQ:

- CLEAN** Use a pipe cleaner or wire to ensure burner ports are free of rust, dirt, spider webs or other debris.
- CHECK** Examine the hose leading from the tank to the burners. Replace it if cracked or damaged.
- TEST** Find leaks by applying a 50/50 solution of water and dish soap to propane cylinder connections and hoses. If bubbles appear, tighten the connection and/or replace the damaged parts and retest.

Stay Fire Safe!

Never leave the BBQ unattended when in use. Make sure grease does not build up on the burners or at the base of the BBQ. This could cause a grease fire.

Never throw water on a grease fire – this will only spread the flame.

DO NOT place the BBQ close to wooden fences or walls, vinyl siding, or anything that can burn. The area behind your BBQ must be free of anything that can ignite – this is where hot gases escape.

Keep loose clothing away from a hot BBQ. Keep children and pets at least one metre (three feet) away from a hot BBQ.

When finished barbecuing, turn the gas valve off first, then turn off the burner controls so no gas is left in the connecting hose. Allow the BBQ to cool completely before closing the cover.

If you live in an apartment or condo building, check with the building owner or property manager, or the Condominium Act of your building, regarding the use of BBQs on your building's balconies.

* SAFETY TIPS COURTESY OF THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND SAFETY AUTHORITY / WWW.SAFETYINFO.CA

King Fire & Emergency Services
905-833-2800

Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management
ontario.ca/firemarshal



Active Transportation Action Plan

King Township is currently developing an action plan to strategically implement the Transportation Master Plan's recommended active transportation network including sidewalk upgrades and new sidewalks, multi-use pathways, off-road trails, signed on-road cycling routes and mid-block crossings.

To prioritize these projects, we are inviting members of the public to share their feedback and opinions on how projects should be prioritized. Your input will help inform when and where the Township's active transportation projects get built, create a more comfortable environment for residents to walk and cycle to their destinations.

<https://speaking.king.ca/atactionplan>

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Face coverings become mandatory in York Region

By Mark Pavilons

Face coverings will be mandatory in King and throughout York Region, effective Friday.

This applies to anyone visiting enclosed public spaces in York. You must use a face mask or covering to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

York Regional Council endorsed a recommendation last Thursday from York Region Medical Officer of Health Dr. Karim Kurji to issue an instruction requiring operators of enclosed public spaces in York Region to have a policy in place that prohibits persons from entering premises of the establishment if the person is not wearing a face mask or covering. This policy is subject to appropriate exemptions.

“York Regional Council remains committed to the health and safety of our residents,” said York Region chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. “Businesses open to the public have worked diligently to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Face masks or coverings will play a key role for the continued successful re-opening of the economy and to safeguard our residents and visitors.”

Effective Friday, July 17 at 12:01 a.m., business owners and operators in York Region must have a policy in place to prohibit people from entering if they are not wearing a face mask or covering and must place approved York Region signage on the premises.

Outdoor settings and indoor spaces not open to the public are excluded. Additionally, a face mask or covering is not required at home with immediate fam-

ily members, while eating on a restaurant patio or in the workplace where other standards apply, such as the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

“There is growing public health evidence that widespread use of face masks or coverings when used with other public health recommendations is effective in the fight against COVID-19,” said Dr. Kurji. “This includes physical distancing in public spaces, frequently washing your hands and staying home when you are sick. We will get through this, but only if everyone does their part to protect the health and safety of everyone in our communities.”

In both indoor and outdoor settings, face masks or coverings do not represent a substitute for physical distancing. This instruction is to be applied in good faith and will be used primarily as an opportunity to educate people on the use of face masks or coverings, combined with other on-going recommended public health practices. The instruction will remain in place until Monday, Nov. 30, at 11:59 p.m.

The new rules apply to premises (or any portion thereof) which are used as a place of business for the sale or offering for sale of goods or services, and includes a mall or similar structure which contains multiple places of business. That includes churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, or other places of worship, community centres including indoor recreational facilities, libraries, art galleries.

Banquet halls, convention centres, arenas, stadiums, and other event spaces are also included.

Common areas of hotels, motels and other short-term rentals, such as lobbies, elevators, meeting rooms or other common use facilities.

The bylaw does not apply to schools, post-secondary institutions, child care facilities, apartment buildings and con-

dominiums, including their common areas.

Wearing a face mask or covering when in public or other settings is not a replacement for proven measures such as handwashing and physical distancing or at least two metres.



King Mayor Steve Pellegrini shows his support for the mandatory use of face coverings in York Region, including King Township. The move is meant to stop the spread of COVID-19 in public spaces.

The world has changed.
But our focus remains the same.



With the challenges we now face, the need for sound advice has never been as important. If you or a loved one is encountering difficulty navigating financial uncertainty, our team is here to help you along your journey – providing those we serve with a holistic approach to wealth management. With the ability to connect you with a wide array of specialists, we can help you work to alleviate financial pressures, while focusing on what matters most to you.

If you're **exploring your options** or simply looking for a second opinion, please feel free to contact us. Our team looks forward to meeting with you, and we are prepared to do so both **virtually** and **remotely** for your safety.



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www.mktotalwealth.com



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

Unfortunate encounter with deer changes everything

It's funny, you know, how things can change in an instant.

One minute you're driving home from a day at the beach and the next you encounter one of nature's cutest mammals. When you meet a deer in the road, the animal almost always wins.

My son had the misfortune of having a deer dart out and hit his car. While shaken, no one was injured and the impact itself felt minor. But these beasts can do a lot of damage.

Car-deer collisions are actually quite common, especially in rural parts of Ontario. In King and Caledon, they likely happen more than we know. In fact, I saw the aftermath of a mid-afternoon collision in downtown Bolton just a couple of weeks ago. The car was a mess and animal, alas, lay at the side of the hill. Unusual in that it was daylight and it was downtown Bolton. Just goes to show how much we're encroaching on nature.

I recall that my dad was hit twice by deer when we lived in rural Caledon, sometime in the 1980s. He told the story of one incident, in the early morning hours, when he saw the large male deer simply standing in the middle of Old Church Road. He slowed and actually stopped, just a few metres from the animal. It came closer, turned and kicked the car with both hind legs as it took off! It was as if he were defiant, telling us humans exactly where to go.

The VW Beetle sustained a couple of nice dents in the front hood.

Back in the "good old days," insurance claims and even the fix-it-yourself solutions were much easier. Depending on the value of the car, a couple of guys, a case a beer and some hammers were all you needed. Even if you did report it to your broker, a simple call, repair at the local body shop, and the cheque was in the mail.

I found out that a collision with an



Mark Pavilons

animal is considered as a "comprehensive claim" and doesn't affect rates.

Today, insurance and car repairs are a whole new breed of animal. Here in the GTA our car insurance rates are among the highest in the country. It's all based on numbers, population, traffic, incidents and claim percentages. Insurers have it down to a science, using formulas, book values, and pinpoint cost estimates. Instead of an adjuster coming to you with his clipboard, it's all technical, computerized, centralized, compartmentalized and finalized.

Today, insurers are more apt to write a car off than repair it. It's all bottom line economics. It's much cheaper to pay the client, take the car away and sell it as salvage. It saves man hours, paperwork and fees. It's that simple.

Also, as we all know our insurance rates - like death and taxes - rise every year regardless of our driving record.

We work to live, and pay bills. In our household, we pay roughly \$7,000 in combined car insurance annually. Over 10 years, that's a whopping \$70,000; more than enough to buy a very nice luxury car.

In Ontario, car insurance is mandatory, so we have no choice. Sure you can shop around, but the industry is so tight, and numbers rule, so there's little wiggle room. While some TV commercials promise the best coverage for really low rates, it never works out that way when actual quotes are prepared.

We pay for insurance in the off chance that we are in a serious accident. I've been accident-free most of my life, save a sliding bump in the snow. I think I've had one windshield replaced in my entire driving life.

I suppose I should consider myself and my family lucky. But it never feels like it when you're woken out of bed at 1 a.m. or spend hours on the phone with claims representatives. Sometimes I think dealing with administrators is more stressful than the incident itself.

I've been happy with my current broker, Anna Raeli of Desjardins in King City. Staff have always been responsible, understanding and explained everything in detail. I never felt uneasy or anxious about giving them a call and asking questions.

In this latest case, Certas was quite efficient, communicative and expedient.

The end result? My son has to look for a new set of wheels before he heads off to Seneca this September.

I recently spent about a month search-

ing for an ideal ride for Lexie, my oldest daughter. We found a very nice 2011 lime green Mazda 2 that she just loves.

After browsing many online venues for used cars, I found there are some real gems and bargains out there in the \$3,000 to \$5,000 range. For a 19-year-old though, that amount of money may seem like a fortune in part-time, minimum wage hours, but it's doable.

Dear old dad does most of the leg work, prep work and stands in line at the MTO office. I actually like the staff at the Bolton branch.

That in itself can be stressful. Buying a car is easy, it's the rest of the process that becomes time-consuming, challenging and potentially expensive.

I was lucky in that Norm at King Road Auto in Nobleton made buying my last two Buicks painless, quick and easy. If only more sellers were that accommodating.

Nevertheless, the search begins anew. And over the next decade, there will likely be a couple more acquisitions. Hopefully we can avoid the fauna and other inherent dangers.

We place a lot of faith, and literally our lives, in our metal and plastic contraptions. We hope they never fail us and we hope they keep us safe.

I cannot fathom the pain and suffering of those who've lost loved ones in motor vehicle collisions. It's the most senseless loss of life that modern society has created.

I pray for the drivers in my family every day. I hope you and yours have trouble-free wheeling. Stay safe!

Letter to the Editor

Florida should shut the doors!

Florida is currently the fourth highest ranked country, for the most new COVID cases a day, except that it's not a country, it's just one of the 50 US States. It should be time to shut its borders and go into isolation at home but what does it do? It opens Walt Disney World.

The Disney ads proclaim it as "The most magical place on Earth" and it must truly be magical if there is no further cases of virus spread. They are encouraging appropriate responses although they do warn that it is your responsibility if you go there.

Although the Disney site is only one of many that are open, it is probably one of the most famous and it should take the opportunity to set an example by staying closed and telling people to find the magic in their own lives.

Dennis Fitzgerald

We welcome letters to the editor

The King Weekly Sentinel welcomes letters from our readers. Feel free to email them to editor@kingsentinel.com

We reserve the right to edit for clarity, grammar and potential libel. Public opinion is vital to the democratic process, so be engaged!

King Weekly Sentinel **WEBPOLL**

www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Will you travel to any public beaches this summer?



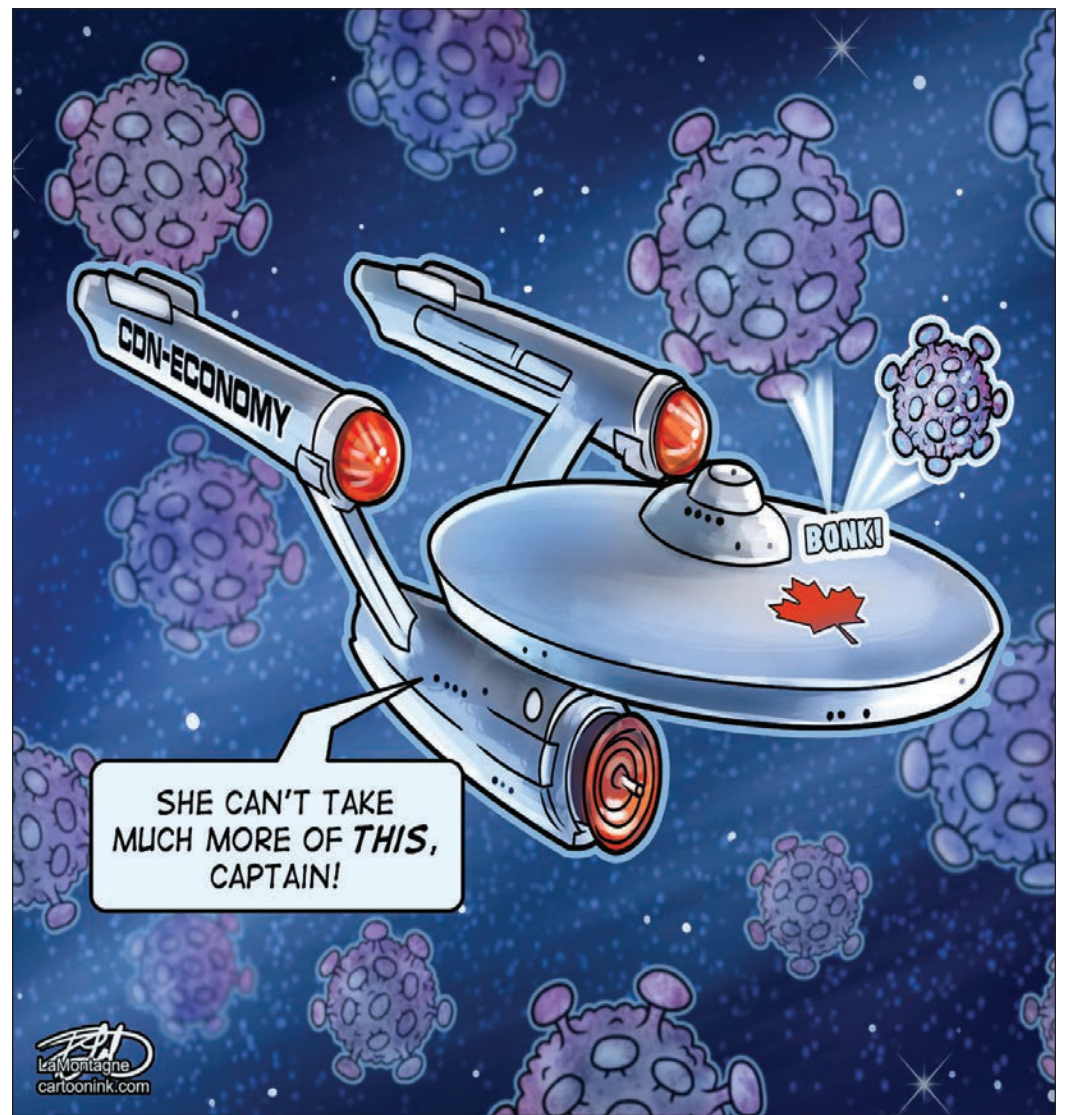
The results of this poll are in no way considered to be valid or infallible.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you in favour of making masks mandatory?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!



Thought of the Week

Few people can fit a tennis ball in their mouths!

But you wouldn't know it by the way some people spout off. Be thankful for ear wax.

Trivia Tidbits

The word "corned" comes from the English use of the word corn meaning any small particle, such as a grain of salt. Beef becomes corned by the application of saltpeter, which is also what gives corned beef its pink color.

KING Weekly Sentinel
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Advertising & Administration Head Office

30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton L7E 5V1
 Tel: 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363

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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 EXTENSION OF INTERIM CONTROL BY-LAW BY THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KING

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King extended Interim Control By-law Number 2019-037 on June 22, 2020 under Section 38 of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O., 1990, c. P.13, as amended.

AND TAKE NOTICE that Interim Control By-law 2019-037 will be in effect for an additional period of one (1) year from the date of passing, lapsing June 21, 2021.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF INTERIM CONTROL BY-LAW

The Interim Control By-law restricts Consents (severances) within "established residential areas" for the three Township Villages of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg until the Consent policies of the Official Plan are prepared through the on-going Official Plan Review, and the resultant policies and Zoning Amendment (if necessary) are approved and come into full force and effect.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or public body may appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) with respect to the By-law by filing with the Clerk of the Corporation of the Township of King, not later than the **21st day of August, 2020**, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection, together with 1 cheque in the amount of \$300.00 (certified cheque or money order only) payable to the Minister of Finance to cover the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) fee, and a cheque for \$225.50 representing the Clerk's Department Administrative processing fee, payable to the Township of King. Should this date fall on a holiday or weekend, you will have until 4:30 p.m. of the next business day to file your appeal notice of appeal, setting out the reasons for the appeal.

For more information about this matter, contact the Planning Department during regular business hours 8:30am-4:30pm Monday to Friday. Further enquiries or questions should be directed to Kristen Harrison, Planner-Policy, Planning Department 905-833-4065.

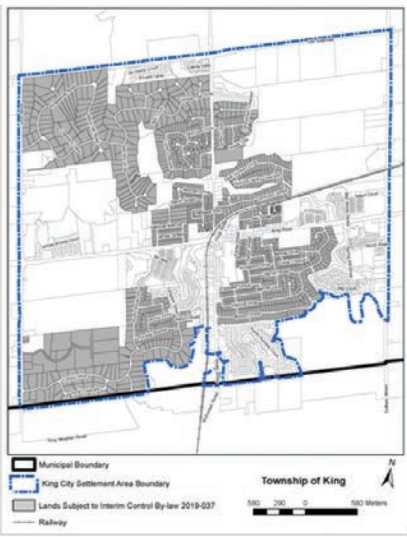
DATED at the Township of King this 16th day of July, 2020.

Kathryn Moyle, Township Clerk
Director of Corporate Services
Telephone: (905) 833-5321
Email: kmoyle@king.ca

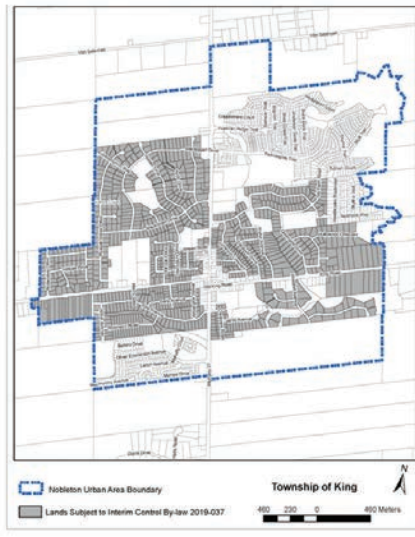
Comments and personal information are being collected in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter c.P. 13 as amended, and will become part of the decision making process of the application as noted on this form. Personal information will be protected in accordance with Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), all information received other than personal information may be included in the documentation which will become part of the public record. Should you have any questions or concerns with regard to the collection of personal information, please contact the Planning Department, Township of King at (905) 833-5321.

LOCATION MAPS

King City



Nobleton



Schomberg



NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

The Township of King has received applications for a proposed amendment to Township's Zoning By-law (2016-71) to facilitate the development on the property outlined below, submitted to the Township of King in accordance with section 34 of the *Planning Act*.

The Township has determined that the applications are considered complete and the Planning Department has commenced processing. We welcome your comments regarding this application.

SUBJECT PROPERTY

Location: Concession 8 Part lots 5 and RP;65R31006 Part 2
5815 King Road, Nobleton
Owner: Cosmo Oppedisano, 2093680 Ontario Inc.
Agent: Thorstone Consulting Services Inc.
Township File Numbers: Z-2020-02

PROPOSAL

The subject applications propose:

- To recognize a reduced planting strip width of 0.98 metres (3.2 feet) along the southern boundary of the property in order to facilitate a second drive-thru for the automated car wash, and to permit a full range of mechanical repairs within the existing service garage.

At such time as a public meeting is scheduled in accordance with the Planning Act, the Township of King will provide further notice specifying the date and time of the meeting. Any person may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed official plan amendment or zoning by-law amendment. Written comments will become part of public record.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A copy of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, as well as related background and supporting information, are available by contacting the Planning Department by telephone at 905-833-1018, Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or by email to Giuliano La Moglie, Planner I, at glamoglie@king.ca, quoting File Number Z-2020-02 (5815 King Road). Written comments may be mailed or emailed to the Planning Department and will become part of the public record.

Dated at the Township of King this 16th day of July, 2020.

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services
Township Clerk
Township of King



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PUBLIC NOTICE



PROJECT:
PAVING 10th CONCESSION
(From 15th Sideroad to 17th Sideroad)
LOCATION:



PUBLIC NOTICE



PROJECT:
PAVING 15th SIDEROAD
(From Weston Road to 8th Concession)
LOCATION:



WHY?

10th Concession will be paved to provide operational relief with respect to winter and summer maintenance activities.

WHEN?

Start: Mid July 2020
Expected Completion: Late July 2020

IMPACTS?

Lane restrictions will be in place during paving and some delays to the normal flow of traffic can be expected for the duration of the project. Local traffic will still be permitted for residents to access their driveways.

CONTACT

Township of King Robert Arcaro Construction Inspector (416) 559-5088 rarcaro@king.ca	Lisbon Paving Arlindo Araujo Site Supervisor (905) 775-4866 aaraujo@lisbonpaving.com
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WHY?

15th Sideroad will be paved to provide operational relief with respect to winter and summer maintenance activities.

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Councillor expresses concerns about growth plan

In the July 2 issue of the King Weekly Sentinel there was an article about proposed changes to Growth Plan for Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH). As the Growth Plan lays the foundation for decisions on where land, which is either natural and wild or farmed for our food, is developed for housing or business or roads I was interested to understand more.

The subject matter is daunting in its complexity. I have done further research and now know enough to be very worried about the proposal. Here are some of my learnings.

I will start with an easy observation. Determining the amount of land required for future growth requires assumptions and forecasts about how people will live and work. Because the pandemic has forced a huge portion of the working population to work at home, I would not want to make any significant decision with assumptions as to how much office space will be required in the future; the number of companies allowing employees to work remotely is growing. Would it not be prudent to wait two years? In addition, there will be a census in 2021; why not wait for this and leverage its demographic statistics?

One of the proposed changes is to have municipalities plan out until 2051. Given that statistics from Ministry of Finance indicate that there is adequate land zoned appropriately to meet forecasted needs through to 2041 (the cur-

Letter to the Editor

rent planning horizon) and given the critical uncertainty identified above I don't know why we would take the risk of municipalities developing Official Plans (OP) out to 2051 as there are significant risks. I have learned about these risks from the research and analysis of Kevin Eby, former planning director for the Region of Waterloo who also once worked on the Land Needs Assessment for the Province.

What is the risk? Recent history shows that growth has not occurred as forecasted in the Growth Plan. York Region's growth in population and employment from 2012 to 2019 is respectively 44% and 7% less than forecasted. In same period Toronto's growth was 27% and 138% greater than forecast. Consequences of poor forecasts are significant.

Municipalities designate land for development in their Official Plan and subsequently approve developments and build infrastructure using this plan. If the growth does not occur as planned by 2051 who do you think will pay? Answer: the taxpayers who are there. If the Province does its job it will build transportation networks to service the expected population; who is going to pay for this? Answer: Ontario taxpayers. And finally, land, which provides your local food, is unnecessarily consumed and pressures on the envi-

ronment are increased. On the other hand, Toronto does not build enough infrastructure to support its growth such as the relief subway line.

I have the privilege of living in the Greenbelt (GB). And we have heard that Premier Ford has said he recognizes the value of the Greenbelt. If I were living outside the GB, I would be very offended by the proposed amendment. It says that there will be new policies for aggregate operations (wayside pits, quarries) in the Natural Heritage System of the GGH which will be more permissive, but changes will not impact those systems in the Greenbelt. In other words, protection of endangered species and their habitats outside the Greenbelt appear to be not important such as those in Kitchener-Waterloo and Barrie.

I am worried about the details of this amendment and I am disturbed by the process. The amendment was posted for review by municipalities and public on June 16 with a deadline for comments of July 31. Those weeks for review are not typical weeks.

The nearly 12-week suspension of all planning applications was lifted on June 22. Since then, Planning Staff are busy re-activating files, etc.

The public is less able to assess the proposal due to upheaval in their personal lives due to pandemic; and with the re-activation of planning applica-

tions there are public planning meetings to attend.

Even in "typical times" many councils have fewer meetings in summer; hence their ability to review Staff input will be limited. Given that I do not see the urgency for this amendment I regretfully say that this reminds me of the Province's attempt to put through Bill 66, Schedule 10. In response to that, the public did protest throughout cold January 2019 and the offending schedule of the Bill was essentially dropped although indeed many of the details have been incorporated into other Bills.

There are serious problems with the Amendment 1 to the Growth Plan for Greater Golden Horseshoe. There is strong evidence that the population forecasts are inaccurate for many municipalities. Extending the forecast may result in more land than necessary designated for development and more pressure on taxpayers. There are alternate forecasting models which have been more accurate.

The lessons of COVID-19 must be incorporated into land use planning: the shift to remote work; the importance of local food; the significance of open and natural spaces.

Debbie Schaefer
King Township Councillor,
Greenbelt Alliance Member

Survey to gather feedback on ways to improve walking and cycling in King

King Township is developing an Active Transportation Action Plan and is seeking public feedback.

The development of an Active Transportation Action Plan was a key recommendation arising from the recently adopted 2020 Transportation Master Plan by King council. The goal of the Active Transportation Action Plan is to develop an implementation strategy to build a connected cycling and pedestrian network across the Township (and to connecting municipalities) that will enable a safer, more convenient travel by non-motorized modes.

The Township is inviting members of the public to participate in a survey to help shape the Active Transportation Action Plan on its online public engagement platform SpeaKING, accessible at <http://speaking.king.ca/atactionplan>. The survey will be available until July 31.

The survey asks residents to rank several active transportation projects by importance, and offers an opportunity for participants to pin on a map of the Township what projects should be prioritized within the next five years. Information from the survey tool will help inform when and where the Township's active transportation projects get built. Examples of these projects include sidewalk upgrades and new sidewalks, multi-use pathways, off-road trails, signed on-road cycling routes, and mid-block crossings.

"The Active Transportation Action Plan will be an integral part of our overall Transportation Master Plan and guide us into the future," said King Mayor Steve Pellegrini. "We are excited to hear from the community about how we can continue to improve pedestrian and cycling experiences in King. We know our residents and visitors love our trails and paths, and we want to elevate that experience and connectivity by enhancing our active transportation network across the Township with input from the public."

Staff will review responses to identify gaps and further understand priorities of the community. A final plan will be presented for council's consideration later this year.

For more information visit www.king.ca






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King

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From Thursday, July 16 to Wednesday, July 22



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Risk of T'storm High 29C° Low 19C° ~1mm Wind S 28k	Sunny High 31C° Low 18C° - Wind NW 11k	Sunny High 32C° Low 23C° <1mm Wind SW 17k	Risk of T'storm High 31C° Low 22C° 10-15mm Wind SW 20k	A Few Showers High 29C° Low 20C° 1-3mm Wind NW 14k	Risk of T'storm High 29C° Low 20C° ~10mm Wind SW 12k	Sun/Clouds High 28C° Low 20C° - Wind NW 13k



The King Weekly Sentinel

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King extends interim control bylaw

By Mark Pavilons

King council has decided to extend the interim control bylaw through 2021. The extension was adopted to permit the completion of the review of severance policies, upon which the bylaw was based.

Council approved the bylaw in April 2019, which restricted severances within "established residential areas" for King's three villages. The intent of the bylaw was to prevent severances before the new policies came into effect. Last September, King adopted its "Our King" official plan, which includes general policies for properties designated as "established neighbourhood" and rules for Kingscross that set a minimum lot area of two acres.

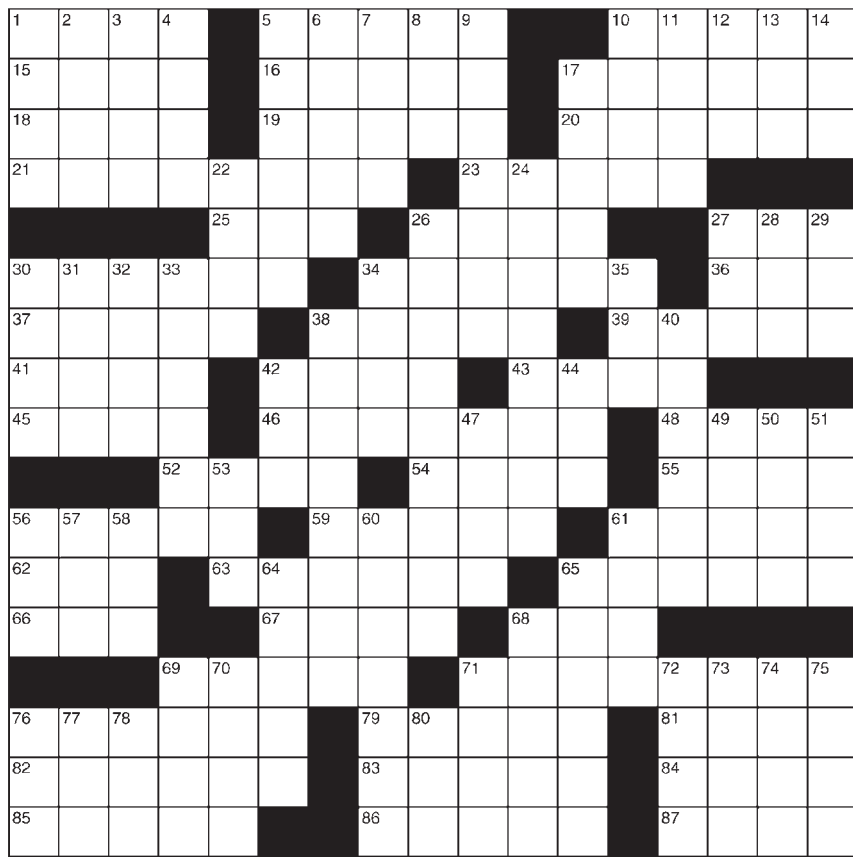
The new official plan is still before York Region for its final approval. Staff said they believe York will propose some modifications to King's plan and these will come before council in the near future.

Staff said the final plan will likely be before council this September and then the severance policies will come into effect.

Staff suggested the extension though June 21, 2021 to allow for time for York and King to finalize the official plan and put the relevant policies into force.

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 476



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| <p>ACROSS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In line 5. Scale 10. Covered with foliage 15. Daddy 16. Spokes 17. Country club worker 18. Load 19. Coral-landmass chain 20. Large ducks 21. Touse 23. Weeping 25. Whole ball of ____ 26. Pitch 27. Shade provider 30. Hunting hound 34. Focus 36. Colorful carp 37. Measuring device 38. Welsh herder 39. At the end 41. Spring bloom 42. Singe 43. Fashion 45. Doll's cry 46. Craftsperson 48. Granny 52. Van or skirt | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 54. Handbag 55. Religious picture 56. Groom 59. Beach 61. Mackerel 62. Mauna ____ 63. The outdoors 65. Lead sulfide 66. At any rate 67. Say it isn't so 68. Dance step 69. Get up 71. Roofing material 76. Cosmetics 79. Perch 81. Intertwined 82. Acquaint 83. Unevenly worn 84. Diva's specialty 85. Contour feather 86. Check 87. Squeal <p>DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footless creature 2. Hindu queen 3. Literary work 4. Bathe 5. Necktie | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Type of paint 7. Graven image 8. Wire measure 9. Beef jerky 10. Hideout 11. Circular current 12. Summer refresher 13. Douglas ____ (tree) 14. Okay 17. Discontinue 22. Jug 24. Approximate 26. Province 27. Enlarge 28. Skipper's diary 29. Actress Farrow 30. Hat's edge 31. Personal atmosphere 32. Marginal 33. "____ Street" 34. Cold-weather garment 35. Spit 38. Name 40. Degrading 42. Metal container 44. Billfold item 47. Irritated 49. Feel a dull pain | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 50. Midday 51. Small forest-buffalo 53. Resting place 56. Single thickness 57. Fish eggs 58. Ingest 60. Ten times ten 61. Flying stinger 64. Conform 65. Hose holder 68. Old-fashioned 69. "Mine eyes have ____" 70. Sandwich filler 71. Beep 72. Not present 73. Skin opening 74. Dreadful 75. Sincere 76. Swab 77. "Roses ____ Red" 78. Cousins, e.g. 80. Metallic rock |
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Solution on page 13

Application intake for broadband and cellular funding program open

By Mark Pavilons

King hopes to boost broadband internet service with funding from the province.

The Ontario government is expanding access to reliable broadband and cellular service in underserved and unserved parts of the province. The application intake for the \$150 million Improving Connectivity for Ontario program (ICON) opened last week.

This funding will help drive economic investment and job creation across the province, while allowing more people to work from home more efficiently, engage in online learning, and connect with family and friends.

“The outbreak of COVID-19 reinforced the need to improve access to reliable broadband and cellular service as more people work and learn from home in order to practice physical distancing,” said Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure. “By making these investments we will help to ensure every region in the province can participate in the modern digital economy, and contribute to Ontario’s economic recovery.”

Any areas across Ontario that do not meet the national standards for broadband speeds would be eligible for provincial funding. Up to 12 per cent of households in the province – mostly in rural, remote or northern areas – don’t have adequate broadband service, according to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

“King Township is aware of the broadband limitations in rural areas and are very interested in understanding what can be done to improve it, including the role of the Township, Region, Province, and federal governments as well as the private sector in

any initiatives to improve access,” said King CAO Daniel Kostopoulos. “Staff are reviewing this announcement and seeking additional information about the program to confirm if it provides viable opportunities for citizens in King. Once details are determined (these programs may require dedicated township funding, private sector investment and partnerships, may have defined implementation timelines, etc.), staff will evaluate the potential eligibility, feasibility, impacts/benefits and provide recommendations.”

Telecommunication service providers, municipalities, Indigenous communities and non-profits are invited to submit innovative proposals and lend their investment, expertise and experience to improve connectivity in communities across Ontario. The preliminary application deadline for the first intake of the ICON program is Aug. 21.

The province’s investment of \$150 million announced today is part of the \$315 million Up to Speed: Ontario’s Broadband and Cellular Action Plan. This action plan has the potential to leverage up to \$1 billion in partner funding for broadband infrastructure investments.

On June 3, Ontario announced the ICON program, a multi-year plan which aims to support approved projects as early as 2021.

National standards for adequate broadband service are defined by speeds known as 50/10 (50 megabits per second download, and 10 megabits for upload).

The Province is investing in the \$190 million Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) project to bring high-speed broadband to 50,000 more homes and businesses across southwestern Ontario.



MPP Stephen Lecce with Areti Gagaoudakis, founder of Kids Child Care Preschool discussing the state-of-the-art precautions taken on a daily basis to protect kids and staff.

MPP tours child care facility

King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce toured a newly opened child care facility in Vaughan July 6, that has excelled in taking precautions to best protect kids and staff during this pandemic.

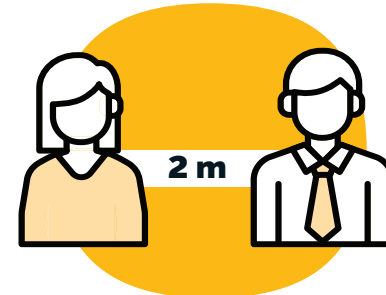
“We know the integral role child care plays in the restart of Ontario’s economy, especially when it comes to enabling parents to return to work,” said MPP Lecce. “I was pleased to see child care centres like kids in Vaughan going above and beyond to ensure that health and safety remain paramount. Our government will continue to support parents by directing childcare operators to not increase fees or give away the space, as part of our plan to protect consumers during this difficulty.”

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As more businesses and services reopen, and with social gatherings increased to 10 people, we all must continue our efforts to protect each other.



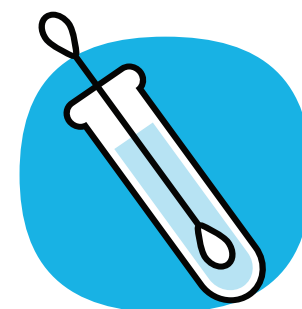
Practice physical distancing, stay two metres apart.



Wear a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge.



Continue to **wash hands frequently.**



Get tested if you are worried you may have COVID-19, or have been exposed to the virus.

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.



Business, Finance & Real Estate



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Schomberg's In This Corner attracts loyal following

By Kinjal Dagli Shah

In This Corner Bar & Grill may be located inside a quaint little plaza in Schomberg, but it certainly occupies a central spot in the hearts of patrons. While it had to close when the COVID-19 measures were announced, the owners have since been granted permission to build a patio in the courtyard and are hoping to open this week, with reduced hours and a selected menu.

As a family-owned business, Steve Franjic takes great pride in running it along with his father, Gord. The father-son duo double up as cooks for the restaurant and serve a variety of breakfast, lunch and dinner foods.

"I was pretty much born into the restaurant business as my parents owned a restaurant in Mississauga when I was born. Our family has owned a few different ones since then, but we have been at In This Corner for six years now," said Franjic, who believes

that great food shouldn't come at a steep price. "We focus on serving fast, fresh and delicious meals at an affordable price that will keep you coming back again and again."

Chef Gord has been in the restaurant business for over 40 years.

"He started in the old mill in Toronto when he was a kid and has lots of experience in different cuisines over the years. He claims he has cracked over 5 million eggs in his life," said Franjic, laughing. "My brother, Gord Jr. also owns the business with me but is mostly behind the scenes. He works in the kitchen some days as well."

In This Corner specializes in all-day breakfast, burgers, wraps, and sandwiches for lunch, while the dinner menu boasts of steak, ribs, and roast beef. "A big attraction is our hugely popular halibut and chips special on Fridays," said Franjic, who has been at the restaurant since it opened in 2013.

He lives in North York while his fa-



York Region supports small businesses

York Regional Council has authorized \$500,000 from the Innovation Investment Reserve Fund to provide COVID-19 support to local small businesses.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted our economy and local businesses," said York Region chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. "We are supporting York Region businesses through the re-opening of our community and economic recovery."

York Region's nine cities and towns can leverage their allocation of the \$500,000 to support small businesses across the Region either through existing municipal Community Improvement Plans or to expand the Starter Company Plus program. Starter Company Plus is a program delivered by the Small Business Enterprise Centres located throughout York Region on behalf of the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.

"As York Region slowly moves towards re-opening its economy, we are still seeing businesses suffer," said City of Markham Regional Councillor Jim Jones, chair of Planning and Economic Development. "Offering support beyond what is currently available through senior levels of government will help preserve our economic prosperity."

York Region continues to collaborate with all levels of government to implement economic recovery measures. Both the Government of Canada and the Ontario Government have launched multiple funding programs to ensure businesses are provided the tools necessary to survive the crisis and get back to work as soon as possible.

In addition, York Region has shared resources for businesses including a toolkit and other assets for download and use at york.ca/covid19forbusiness

The Regional Municipality of York consists of nine local cities and towns and provides a variety of programs and services to 1.2 million residents and 54,000 businesses with over 650,000 employees. More information about the Region's key service areas is available at york.ca/regionalservices

ther Gord lives in Schomberg.

"We feel like Schomberg is home because we spend so much of our time here. The locals have been amazing since we've opened. We have received so much positive feedback over the years. We have quite a few 'regulars' and it's always good to see them. We've become friends with many of them, and formed great relationships with so many. We are very thankful for our great customers," he said.

Franjic loves being part of a family business.

"I get to spend a lot of time with my close family and that's really special to me. We put in long days and work hard, clocking in early mornings and late nights every day."

Running a restaurant may be a labour of love but it often transfers to the food on the plate.

For details and reservation, call In This Corner Bar & Grill at 905-939-1000.

Service agreement allows infrastructure to proceed

By Mark Pavilons

King council has endorsed principles of a new "Spine Servicing Agreement" which will bring needed infrastructure to the development lands north of King City.

The agreement with the King City East (North) Landowners Group would allow the construction of water, wastewater, stormwater, roads and other related infrastructure to proceed, once the permit application is approved.

Township staff have been working with representatives of landowners for the past five years, to forward the development in the northeast quadrant of the King City Community Planning Area. Over the past year, discussions centred around a "Spine Services Agreement."

The agreement sets out a cost sharing plan among each participating developer. The proponents want to partner with the Township in a "spirit of orderly development" and this follows previous agreements which outline requirements regarding land servicing.

The Township, through this spine agreement, wants to ensure this development block proceeds in an orderly and efficient manner.

This agreement, staff noted, will also facilitate progress of other infrastructure projects, including the recreation centre planned for Seneca College King Campus.

The agreement will encourage timely development and also provide the Township with incremental sources of tax revenue.

"Another benefit of advancing the build-out of the King City Community Plan Area includes increasing the number of residents on municipal water and wastewater services, thereby absorbing available capacity and in so doing, improving the cost efficiency of delivering rate supported municipal services."



Rob Payne
Financial Advisor

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Masks now mandatory in the Town of Caledon

By Mark Pavilons

Caledon joined other GTA municipalities in making face coverings mandatory at all indoor public spaces.

The bylaw took effect July 10. Caledon was joined by Peel neighbours Brampton and Mississauga in making the masks mandatory.

"It's extremely important that we continue to follow the guidelines of public health officials and wear non-medical masks while inside a pub-

lic venue," said Caledon Mayor Allan Thompson. "Wearing a mask is just one way for us to keep ourselves and our families safe. Continue to follow the 'Core Four' - wear a mask, stay two metres apart, wash your hands often, and if sick, get tested and stay at home. Together we can stop the spread of COVID-19."

There's flexibility in the face coverings. Masks can include disposable or fabric masks, bandanas scarves, or similar items which are fitted to completely cover the mouth, nose and chin of a wearer without gapping.

Caledon officials note that masks must be put on properly before entering and while inside any public establishment, when using a transit vehicle such as a bus or while riding in a taxi licensed by the Town.

People exempt from wearing a mask include children under the age of two, anyone who has trouble breathing or has a medical condition and those who cannot remove a mask without assistance.

With some exceptions available to residents, the Town asks both residents and establishment owners to use caution and kindness when asking why some people are not wearing masks.

"While enforcement measures are available to the Town, we want to stress that we are relying on our residents to understand the importance of covering your face in public indoor spaces," continued Mayor Thompson. "Whether you are going shopping, going to work in and around the GTA, or to places of worship, we are counting on everyone to continue doing their part."

You also don't have to wear a mask if you're eating or drinking in businesses that are permitted to operate under the Emergency Order. People receiving services involving the face (e.g. spa/salon) are exempt, provided such services are permitted under the Emergency Order and physical distancing is maintained.

Also, municipal officials, who work in areas not accessible to the public,

also don't have to wear them.

Public establishments are pretty much every retail store and business. The bylaw also includes churches, indoor recreational facilities, malls, common areas of hotels and motels and other short-term accommodations, such as lobbies, elevators, meeting rooms or other common use facilities. It does not include the common areas of residential apartment buildings and condominiums.

Facilities that are exempt include day cares, schools, post-secondary institutions and other facilities used solely for educational purposes. School buses are also exempt.

Caledon staff note we all have to do our part to stop the spread of the coronavirus and that includes wearing masks in indoor public spaces. The

pandemic is causing considerable disruption to our lives, to the economy, to our usual routines and many people are experiencing hardship due to job loss, social isolation, and other factors. It is in everyone's best interest to remember that "we are all in this together" and to treat one another with kindness and respect.

Owners and operators have a duty to ensure that they have a policy in place and that there is visible signage so their customers or patrons are aware of, and comply with, the requirement to wear masks.

This bylaw remains in effect until 12:01 a.m. on Oct. 1, at which time it shall be repealed, unless extended or repealed by a resolution of council on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health.

York Board accepting online registrations for 2020-21 school year

The York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB), one of Ontario's top-performing school boards, continues to welcome new students for the 2020-21 school year. Student registrations, as well as assessments for secondary students who are new to Canada, will take place online throughout the summer, as a result of the Ontario public school closures due to COVID-19.

The YCDSB admissions department is accepting online registrations for Kindergarten to Grade 12 students during the summer at www.ycdsb.ca/admissions. The deadline to register a student is Aug. 17.

Students and families seeking to register past this cut-off date can register and will have to wait until early September, after the school year has started, to be assigned to a class and timetable. This deadline is necessary to help facilitate a safe and predictable school year start-up as per the Ministry of Education.

Parents/Guardians need to provide the following documents to register their child(ren):

- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate for elementary school (for child or parent); proof of age; proof of status in Canada; proof of residency (property tax bill or proof of purchase or lease/rental agreement and utility bill or phone bill); proof of English Separate School support, such as property tax bill or MPAC Property Assessment Notice.

Assessments for secondary students who are new to Canada need to be completed before a student can register for high school. As a result of COVID-19, assessments will take place virtually throughout July and August instead of in person at the YCDSB Catholic Education Centre, pending further notice from York Region Public Health.

Go to their website for more information regarding admission criteria, international students, or to match your residential address to your local school through locator.ycdsb.ca. Or call the Admissions Department at 905-713-1211.

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KingWeeklySentinel

Arts & Entertainment

Nobleton girl stars in 'Feel The Beat' Netflix film

By Robert Belardi

Carina Battrick has had quite a few luxurious birthdays in the past two years.

The Nobleton resident recently starred in a Netflix original film "Feel The Beat" released last month.

"She had to audition and last summer, exactly a year ago, she was cast," said her mother, Anna Battrick.

"When she won the audition she was six, she turned seven filming and she's going to be eight this week."

Carina is a competitive dancer and actress. Ever since she was less than a year old, she learned to dance before anything else.

"This is a funny story because, I have another daughter; she's older. That daughter started walking before she was one. Carina, actually, started walking later. She started dancing, holding on to furniture before she was able to walk."

At the age of three, Battrick entered dancing in a local studio and at the age of four, transferred over to Performing Dance Arts in Woodbridge.

Learning techniques and perfecting her role as a young actress landing a role in "Feel The Beat" is her biggest role thus far.

Carina appeared in Viggo Mortenson's directorial debut "Falling" last year as well. Mortenson is known for his protagonist roles as Aragorn in Lord of the Rings and as Tony Lip in Greenbook.

The film "Falling" will be recognized at this year's San Sebastian Festival in Spain and was selected to be in the Cannes Festival in France.

Yet, for Battrick, due to COVID-19, there hasn't been any room for a proper celebration.

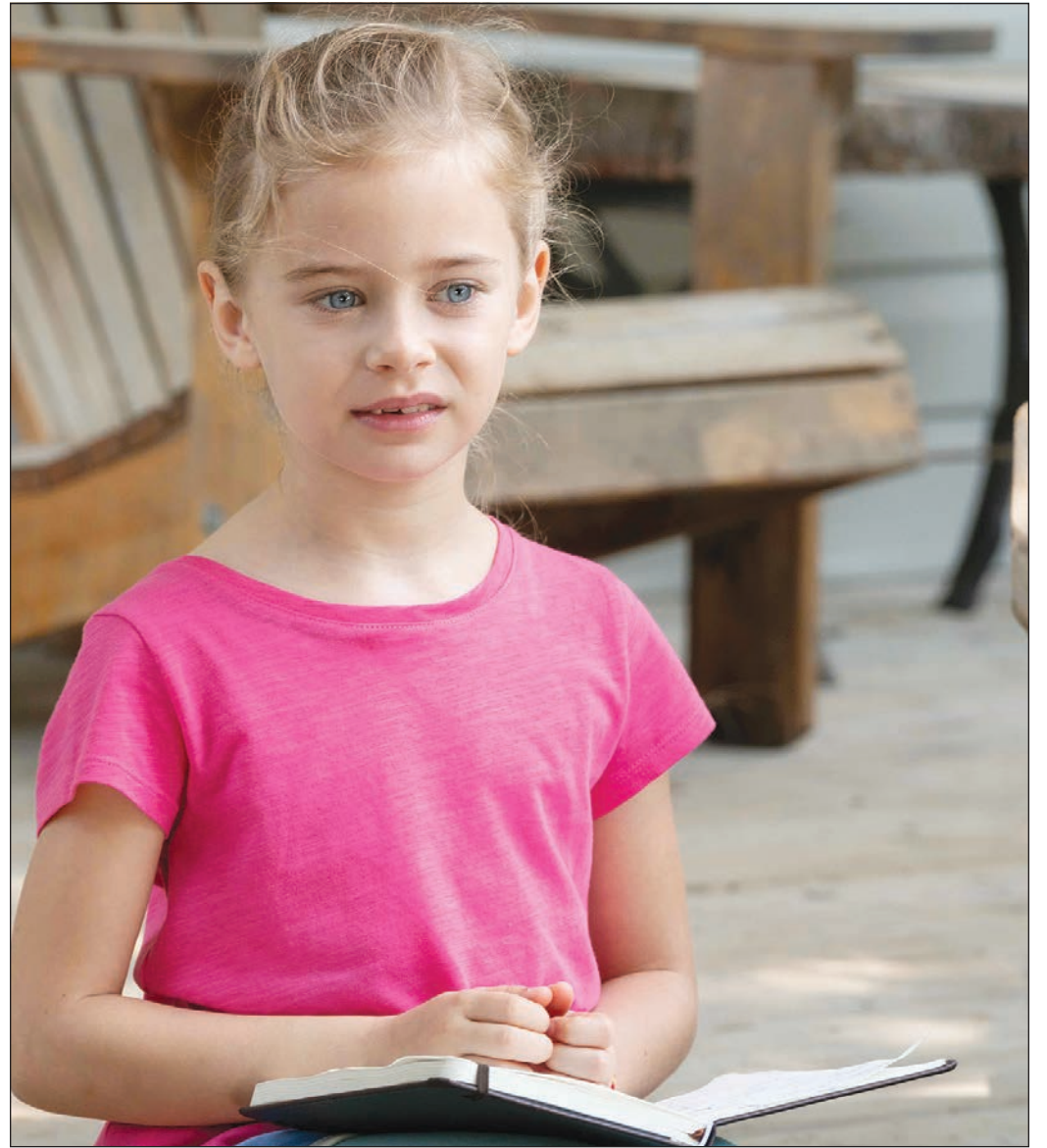
Released on June 19, she would have had the chance to revel with classmates and teachers at Nobleton Public School. Her mother says this would have made her feel more excited about her role.

"Now because she's at home, I don't think she really realizes how big this is. She never got to walk the red carpet. She never got to live any of that stuff."

Thankfully for social media, Battrick's Instagram page (operated by her mother) has seemingly exploded. She currently has 15.5k followers on her account and her mother says, she has received kind messages from people across the world.

Carina's mother Anna, originally from Kiev Ukraine, also said the acting industry is suffering immensely. Battrick was supposed to audition for another role this year.

Directed by Elissa Down, Feel The Beat stars Florida native Sofia Carson as April Dibrina, a small-town girl from New Hope Wisconsin trying to make it to Broadway. After being evicted from her apartment in New York, she returns home to her father Frank (played by another King resident Enrico Colantoni) to lead her childhood dance studio to nationals and recovering old-love lost with her ex-boyfriend Nick (played by Wolfgang Novogratz) in this family-teen comedy.



Partners join to provide virtual vet care

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society has partnered with Smart.Vet telehealth to give animal centre staff and volunteer foster families virtual access to veterinarians to ensure animals always have the best care possible, without the stress of travelling, regardless of their location, or the time of day when a health concern arises.

Through the Smart.Vet website, reaching a veterinarian is just a click or phone call away when health concerns arise after hours or on weekends. The telehealth veterinary service is designed to complement routine veterinary care.

The telehealth service will be used in Ontario SPCA animal centres across the province, and will also be accessible to volunteer foster families who care for animals in their own homes. Should a foster animal become ill, or if there is a concern for the animal's health after hours when veterinary clinics are closed, Ontario SPCA foster parents can access Smart.Vet and consult with a veterinarian without having to leave their home.

"Wherever possible, we will continue to work with our local veterinarians who have always provided exceptional care for the animals in our centres," said Daryl Vaillancourt, chief, Humane Programs & Community Outreach, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. "Smart.Vet is an extra level of care we can now provide to the animals in our centres, and it minimizes travelling to help slow and stop the spread of COVID-19."

Smart.Vet is also available to the public. In some areas of the province, such as remote northern communities, veterinary care can be hours away. For people in those communities, Smart.Vet is a tool that can help them triage health concerns with a veterinarian virtually to determine the best treatment plan for their animal.

"The Smart.vet team is really looking forward to this exciting new partnership with the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society," said Dr. Sharon Quinn, co-founder and medical director of Smart.Vet. "We are committed to improving access to veterinary care for all animals and welcome the opportunity to assist pet foster parents, as well as to work together with the Ontario SPCA on providing innovative solutions for those in underserved and remote communities."

To learn more about this telehealth service, visit Smart.vet
For more information on the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society, visit ontariospca.ca

WriteNow!@King

WriteNow!@King is a writers' group partnering with King Library on the first and third Thursday afternoons each month from 2-4 p.m. New writers and experienced alike are welcome to participate in stimulating writing exercises, in hearing guest speakers share their knowledge, and especially to read their works and receive feedback from peers. Link onto Webex through r.uthayakumar@kinglibrary.ca

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Comet Neowise appears in the night sky this month

By Gary Boyle

The Backyard Astronomer

A bright comet is now in the evening sky and you can see it without a telescope.

Comet F3 (NEOWISE) has been a fantastic object in the early morning pre-dawn sky but will be well placed below the Big Dipper to see and photograph over the next couple of weeks and hopefully into August. I have been following and imaging this comet since the first week of July and could see it even without binoculars (naked eye).

The comet was discovered on March 27 by the NEOWISE space telescope as it looks for near-earth objects that could potentially impact our planet. Measuring a little more than half the height of Mount Everest, this object falls into the category of a "once in a decade comet."

Every year astronomers both amateur and professional observe 5 to 10 comets with telescopes. In most cases, they show a green nucleus from the sublimation of frozen chemicals such as ammonia and others. The extremely faint tail is seen when photographed but all comets are different in composition and appearance as Neowise does not appear green.

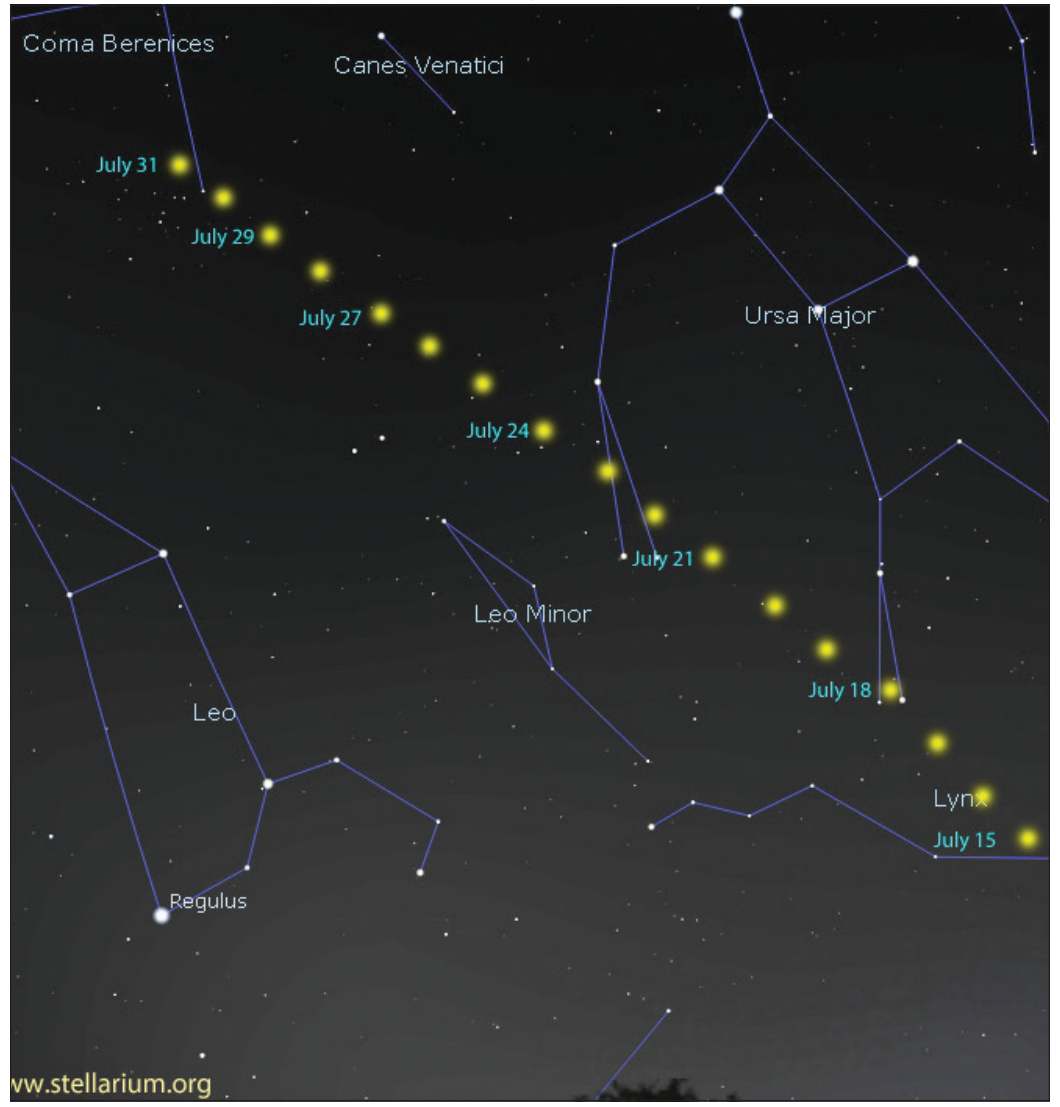
The last bright comet that was visible to the naked eye for the whole world to see was Comet Hale-Bopp in 1997. And like Neowise, it too had a blue ion or gas tail and a fan-shaped dust tail created when comets round the sun as

this one did on July 3 at a close distance of 43 million kilometres.

Neowise will be closest to earth on its way out of the solar system on July 22 at a safe distance of 103 million kilometres and will be starting to fade with a shortening tail as it retreats from the sun's heat and back to the icy depths of space.

Comet Neowise originates from the Oort Cloud, where long-period comets reside and will return close to 6,800 years from now. Halley's Comet is a short period comet originating from the Kuiper Belt. Along with this chart of the comet's path, many smartphone astronomy apps will also guide you to our celestial visitor. Enjoy this spectacular comet every chance you can as you never know when the next bright will come to visit.

Known as "The Backyard Astronomer," Gary Boyle is an astronomy educator, guest speaker and monthly columnist for the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He has been interviewed on more than 50 Canadian radio stations and local Ottawa TV. In recognition of his public outreach in astronomy, the International Astronomical Union has honoured him with the naming of Asteroid (22406) Garyboyle. Follow him on Twitter: @astroeducator or his website: www.wondersofastronomy.com



YRP deputy chief announces retirement

After almost 35 years of dedicated service with York Regional Police and to the residents of York Region, Deputy Chief André Crawford has announced his retirement effective Nov. 6.

"Deputy Chief Crawford has served with the utmost integrity, commitment and professionalism in his role as Deputy Chief over the last seven years and throughout his career. He is a very well-respected police leader, and the police services board is very appreciative of Deputy Crawford's important contributions to this Service and to the many communities in this Region," said board chair Virginia Hackson.

Deputy Chief Crawford commenced employment with York Regional Police in 1986. During his nearly 35-year career with York Regional Police, his assignments have included duties in #2 District and #5 District, Criminal Investigations, Intelligence, Sexual Assault, Crimes Against Children, Homicide/Missing Persons, Training and Education and Community Services, where Deputy Crawford was responsible for building partnerships and engaging citizens through innovative outreach programs, crime prevention initiatives and volunteer opportunities. He is the recipient of the Police Exemplary Service 20-year Medal and 30-year Bar. He has also been distinguished with a Chief of Police Award for investigative excellence, a Gold Medal from the Human Rights & Race Relations Centre, and the BBPA Harry Jerome Social Engagement Award. He was recently awarded the Order of Merit of the Police Forces from the Governor General of Canada.

"Despite the current climate surrounding the profession of policing, I know in my heart that I made the right choice all those years ago to become a police officer. I am especially proud that I am the first black officer promoted as Deputy Chief into an executive leadership role with no precedent by gender or diversity. I look forward to that legacy being surpassed. I fondly look back over the past 34 years and truly do feel blessed that I was a part of the York Regional Police family," stated Deputy Chief Crawford.

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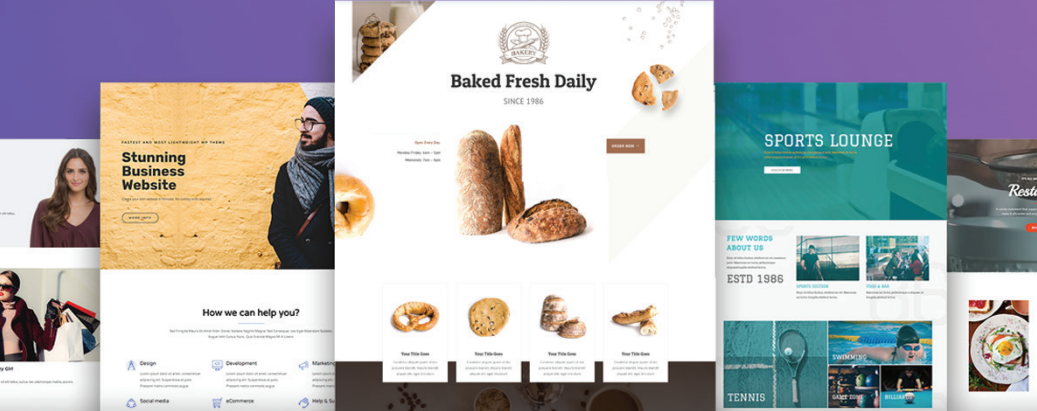
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King's Spray Lake Water Park is something to try

By Robert Belardi

Nine years ago, when Scott Boysen and his brother began with one cable and a small circumference of water, they both knew this was only beginning. The mind set was quite simple at the time – promote wake boarding and water skiing.

Boysen claims Spray Lake Water Park was one of two locations across the province. Now, there's over 10 wa-

ter parks across Ontario.

In nine years, Boysen has never persevered through a pandemic. The first question is, how are you going to do it?

In a rare case like this, his company had the luxury of remaining open through COVID. As a matter of fact, the virus gave Spray Lake Water Park time to revamp the office.

"We always wanted a deck there. Before, customers would have to come into our office and it was hectic because

Equestrian reflections

By Robert Belardi

We all remember that "shot," that insane goal, that sweet save and of course, that illustrious trophy. It's what defines sports. The memories will always live on as the sporting world relies on past history to explain current events.

But in a time where COVID make-shifts our every-day living, there is also a positive. There's time to take a moment and reflect on the past. To roll the film once again and relive the highlight reel and the glamorous times.

Playing the King Weekly Sentinel's past film wasn't a bad idea. A year ago, the sports section glistened on July 18, 2019 with hooves, saddles and Canadian Olympian Beth Underhill, commanding her horse "Count Me In" to victory.

The Schomberg native was crowned champion of the CSI2* Ottawa International at Wesley Clover Parks. At the time, she said she didn't expect to win it. She stated her horse simply rose to the occasion. But reflecting on this now, in the current state of our world, Underhill has a very different perspective on last year's win.

"The horse had a fantastic year last year in 2019, so coming off Ottawa, those two wins we then went to the Pan-Am Games as a reserve rider. We carried on and then he actually, ended up as Canadian Champion at the Royal Winter Fair; which is our finale for our show-jumping circuit. I felt we had peaked the horse the way I intended for the season," Underhill explained.

Underhill and "Count Me In" were fortunate to have represented Canada in multiple competitions down in the United States before COVID.

Now, Underhill says this pandemic provided an opportunity for the horse to rest and train to become stronger. Living out on a 50-acre farm, Underhill says she is fortunate to be living out in the country and commends the Canadian government for their concerted effort in mitigating the spread of the virus. She felt for the citizens who live in the city who were very restricted during this time.

As society fondles stage two with

the hope stage three comes out soon, Underhill took part in the Angelstone Tournament in Rockwood, Ontario this past week; the first tournament back into major league show-jumping.

"There were 26 (contestants) in the grand prix, which is the feature event and that is the first of our big shows coming back. Normally our summer circuit starts here in May in Canada."

Underhill says there are plenty of protocols in the industry. Everyone is wearing masks and everyone is adhering to social and physical distancing measures. A limited number of riders are to be on the course at one time.

As a member of the board of directors with the Royal Winter Fair, Underhill says an event of this calibre was unfortunately cancelled. This event must have spectators. All events currently do not have any spectators and are available for fans to watch via live stream.

"It's very much dependent on the location. It's expensive to have all these protocols in place. The extra man-power on the ground making sure everyone is following the protocols," Underhill said.

As the summer rolls along, Underhill says she sees the equestrian industry opening up competitions tentatively.



Beth Underhill at Angelstone.
Ben Radvanji Photography



it is a very small office. Because it's green space we don't build any buildings because we're mobile. And we rent the land," Boysen said.

Instead of scrawling together ideas and trying to execute heedless plans, Spray Lake Water Park has created an environment well suited for its customers.

All payments from general admission to lessons throughout the day can all be purchased online. The customer checks in outside of the main office on the deck and enters the premises from there.

For those looking to enter the property for a day in the water, general admission for adults is \$20 and for children and seniors it is \$10. Children under five, enter for free.

All picnic tables are chained down and measured six feet apart. Spray Lake is promoting up to five-person gatherings at this time. For the first time in nine years, no dogs will be permitted on the property due to sanitary concerns.

As for the key asset to the business, lessons can also be purchased online.

"If it's your first time we have a couple of different options. The shortest amount of time we sell is 15 minutes."

"If you're doing a 'never have I ever done a total watersport,' we have our 30-minute lesson. If you're a single

person ready to learn we recommend 30-minute extended build lessons behind the boat. If you're learning to wake-board, our more cost-effective option for that is on the cable."

On the cable system, it is \$80 for half an hour in the Learn to Ride package for wake boarding.

For water skiing, it is \$250 to be brought out on to the water and run the course being propelled forward by the boat.

For parents seeking a day camp, Spray Lake also offers day camps for children. With one eight children permitted in one camp with two instructors, Boysen says, the children experience a more, intricate lesson on boarding and skiing due to less numbers.

All equipment that is rented out to use throughout the day is sanitized and can be reused again when dry.

As the summer rolls along and the provincial government flirts with phase three, Boysen says he is working with the provincial government with an avid interest in reopening his water park on the grounds.

For now, lessons, camps and general admission will keep the business running smoothly until it's time to hang up the boards when the winter rolls around.

For more, visit <https://spraylake.ca>

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THE King Weekly Sentinel

Column

Youth sports in jeopardy

By Robert Belardi

The year arrived where sports families have encountered uncharted territory. It's already July and not a single summer sports league has resumed from house league to rep. Semi-professional leagues are still figuring it out and professional sports leagues in Europe have resumed.

When you envision a sports league decommissioned for the year, it's usually professional. It's usually a lockout over financial disputes or disagreements that involve players. The 2011 NBA lockout insinuated when the 2005 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) expired. Teams stopped working and voila, a tumultuous disagreement proceeded.

Whereas here, this is a very different scenario. We're talking about youth; adolescents seeking to make names for themselves for semi-pro and professional affiliates. We're also talking about young athletes playing sports and learning team camaraderie.

It was only months ago, speculations began on what protocols might look like and when seasons would begin. But we haven't gotten there yet. King City entities such as the Aurora-King Baseball and King United Soccer Club shut down as soon as this pandemic hit; like everyone else.

In May, Volleyball Canada released A Safe Return to Volleyball guideline to ensure their players have an outline on how to approach the summer.

Founder of Storm Volleyball Club in Aurora, Bruce Stafford claims the heads of this sport were well prepared with protocols.

"Both Volleyball Canada and Ontario Volleyball have been well ahead of the game with master plans and protocols and the whole bit," Stafford explained.

See 'Sports' on Page 13

Sports in transition

From Page 12

This document suggests volleyball training be moved outdoors with limited participants. Small group numbers have been encouraged until health officials deem it safe to proceed with higher numbers. Even that is the case, that might not be the right decision to have too many athletes all close together.

"I wish it would be that they don't. The main reason behind it is one of the reasons why we're not running any summer beach camps this year in any form. We could, with the protocols in place we could run one coach and four athletes on a court and try to leave space on the court. It's not worth the risk or the aggravation I guess, on trying to do something on such a small scale."

Stafford says running a full program will have difficulty adhering to the social distancing measures and further protocols in place. Some teams are currently practicing with limited athletes outdoors to stay in shape and that's about all they can do.

Within 2020's tapestry of events, it's quite difficult to solve the problem with clarity. Sports across Ontario cancelled

their fall competitions outright. Stafford says volleyball is set to return in January of 2021 and even that might not be enough. He believes there will be further delays closer to the end of the year.

Shuddered from the colossal impact of this virus, what is the next move for parents and their children? Health officials are warning citizens to be aware of a second wave later on this year.

A survey conducted by LeagueSide in the United States as described in a webinar hosted by the American University in Washington D.C. says, "49 per cent of parents believe their children will be less likely to participate in youth sports due to financial circumstances, which could leave 20 million kids on the sidelines."

League commissioners and presidents believe, according to LeagueApps, 89 per cent of sports businesses will be severely disrupted, 78 per cent of organizers believe children will not sign up out of fear and 74 per cent of organizations believe their sport will be shut down again due to another COVID-19 wave.

Assuming this is strictly the United States, is Canada all that far off? In smaller numbers we could be equally at

the same risk. It wouldn't be a rash assumption, as a matter of fact, it's probably more logical.

It's all speculation on our end but sports are in jeopardy for 2020. It seems for youth sports there's a tenuous line between remaining closed and returning to play, although, Ontario Soccer is

looking into their phase two approach, with practices and some inter-squad and intra-squad games permitted (only within the academy).

The Canadian Premier League is practicing ahead of a return to play and the NHL, NBA, MLS and MLB are all beginning this month.

Schomberg Should Know

St. Patrick Parish

By Wendy-Sue Bishop
905-590-0054
wsue52@hotmail.com

Everyone is welcome back. We have limited seating and rules to follow given to us by the Archdiocese. Face masks should be worn and hand sanitizer will be provided at the door. Social distancing protocol will be followed for safety purposes.

Schomberg Community Farm

York Pines United

The Farm is looking to expand their berry patch. If you have any red or black currant, elderberry, gooseberry or blueberry bushes, that you would like to share, the Farm would love to be the recipient of them. Raspberry is not needed, as they have plenty at this time. They can dig the plants up if preferred. Please contact them at schombergcommunityfarm@gmail.com

York Pines United Church has been offering online services since the end of March as a safe alternative to gathering together in person. Sunday, July 19 will again be an online service. The ministers will be taking a much deserved holiday from July 24 to August 24. There will be no services during this time. Online services will resume Sunday, Aug. 30. Continue to stay safe everyone and enjoy the summer.

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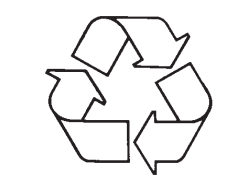
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Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone
416-917-0406

St. Paul's is open again. Limited seating will be available. York Region will be implementing a policy that requires the use of face masks while in indoor public spaces, effective July 17. That means that if you wish to come to the church building to participate in the live-to-air worship gathering, you will need to wear a mask, beginning this Sunday, July 19.

We will continue to be online every Sunday on our public Facebook page. Just visit facebook.com/stpaulsnobleton at 10 and join us live for a time of worship. If you are not able to join us on Sunday via live or through facebook, you are welcome to visit stpaulsnobleton.ca/worship to watch later at your convenience.

Jeff's messages are also posted at www.passionatelyhis.com each week in addition to the above links. For more information about ANY of our activities or events, please contact the church office (905-859-0843) or visit 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.

St. Mary's and St. Patrick's open

We are pleased to announce that both St. Mary's in Nobleton and St. Patrick's in Schomberg have reopened with certain restrictions implemented by public health and the Archdiocese of Toronto. We welcome our parishioners for our regular mass schedule on a first come, first served basis. The church capacity is 42 at St. Mary's Church and 22 at St. Patrick's.

We ask that you kindly wear a mask or face covering. Please maintain physical distancing guidelines in church and on church property.

For parish updates, events, and much more, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/stpstmchurch/>

Please visit www.archtoronto.org for COVID-19 updates, daily TV mass, recitation of the Holy Rosary and other devotions.

For more information please call the parish office at 905-859-5522 or go to our website, www.spmchurch.ca.

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

Nobleton and Schomberg United have decided to postpone in person services until September.

We continue to have recorded reflections each Sunday that can be found on the Nobleton Facebook page or can be sent via e-mail by contacting Rev. Carol-Ann.

Carol-Ann continues to send out regular newsletters and is available for outdoor social distance visits. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to serve you during this time.

You can contact Carol-Ann at minis-

ternobletonschomberg@gmail.com or leave a message at (picked up weekly) at 905-859-3976.

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 organizations which we usually support, to offer financial aid in line with what we typically provide. The local version of the annual Walk for Guide Dogs has been postponed, as we are hopeful of hosting the event later in the year. Stay tuned to this space for updates as they become available.

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-club-house.org/sites/nobleton/> Also located on the homepage of the website are links with options for anyone wishing to donate funds.

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!

This year marks Fox Run's 40th

Forty years ago Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope inspired millions of Canadians through a selfless act of courage. Terry asked us all to come together as a nation to inspire each other for a greater good. He inspired us all to be better; to make a difference. His values inspired us, because he allowed us to see them in ourselves. We believe a part of Terry exists in every Canadian.

In 2020 organizers will re-ignite the same passion and willingness to do good that exists in Canadians today. And inspired millions of Canadians to continue Terry's Marathon of Hope. While we cannot come together physically for now, we can continue his example of thinking of others.

The 2020 Fox Run will be virtual, and that includes the one in King Township. It takes place Sunday, Sept. 20.

This year, Canadians will unite in spirit, not in person, for their own version of the run. Register as an individual, family or a virtual team and start your fundraising effort today. Because Terry asked us to try and it's the 40th Anniversary of Terry's Marathon of Hope!

For further information or to order a 2020 Terry Fox Run t-shirt, please contact King Township Organizer Lisa Barenthin at lisakb.88@icloud.com. T-shirts are available in all sizes for \$20 (youth \$15). A list of other available merchandise can be found at www.shop/terryfox.org/collections

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King's Corners

**King City United
By Sheryl Sinka**

This Sunday is the last worship service before our ministers commence a much deserved 6-week vacation. We will reopen our worship on Aug. 30 and look forward to being able to gather in person, however, we are still under discussions on how that will happen. The office will remain open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 1 to 5:30 p.m. if you have a concern.

Our online service on July 19 will be held live through the Zoom app and will also be live streamed to the YouTube Channel. The ZOOM invitation link will be e mailed out and the YouTube link will be on the website. If you have any feedback it would be appreciated as this is a new trial as we experiment with new ways of connecting and bringing our ministry to you.

Last Sunday's sermon by Rev. Andrew K Lee entitled James and His Mother, is available on our website as well as the link to the online YouTube video.

The Women's Prayer Circle is still "open for business," and we can still pray together, even if not in person. Although our weekly Tuesday morning meetings at the condo building on Burns Blvd. are still suspended, they will resume as soon as the government rules are relaxed. Meanwhile, if you need prayer, for yourself or a loved one, please call Deana at 905-833-5375 and your request will be shared by phone with other prayer sisters. Surely we all agree that prayer is needed now, more than ever. Be still and be well.

The Virtual Coffee hour has been

rescheduled to 10 on Friday through Zoom. This week in preparation for the worship service, Rev Andrew Lee will be offering a format of an "Hour of Prayer." 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 or through an email 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 continue to be updated via the website.

If you are in need of assistance please contact the office at 905-833-5181 and leave a message.

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

This summer we will be holding three in-person Sunday services on July 19, Aug. 9 and Aug. 30. Why just three services you might ask? Firstly, this gives us both the opportunity we have been waiting months for to gather together in community for a time of worship. But it also gives us the opportunity to take some time in between our in-person gatherings to review and learn from our times together so that as we move forward towards regular gatherings they will be an impactful and safe experience.

Preparations are well under way to ensure that when you return in a few weeks, we can provide a safe place for you and your family to worship. Like the world around us, things are going to look different. You can read about the

specifics in our Re-Opening Plan which you will on our website (www.kingbiblechurch.com).

If you are not yet ready to return to in-person gatherings, the service in its entirety will be recorded and posted on our Facebook page later Sunday afternoon for you to enjoy. As well, during the weeks we are not gathering in person, we will continue to meet online Sundays at 11 a.m. available through our Facebook page.

**St. Andrew's
By Kathy Patterson**

St. Andrew's is looking forward to reopening in September! Our first worship service will be held Sept. 13 at 10:30 a.m. Over the summer, the church building will remain closed, however, the King Township Food Bank will continue with monthly food distribution, following their new directive.

We are open to hearing how we might be able to bless you during this very trying time. Please contact us at the numbers below.

Lynn Vissers, Director of Congregational Ministries, will be going on vacation, but welcomes emails, texts or calls for pastoral care: 416-998-4652. Calls can also be made to our Interim Moderator, the Rev. Paul Johnston at (705) 341-7738 or the Clerk of Session, Kathy Patterson at (905) 833-0391.

Have a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer. Keep in touch and we hope to see you in September!

**All Saints Anglican Church
By Patrick Gossage**

Words to Live by - Rev. Michael Peterson spoke from the familiar Parable of the Sower in Mark 4: "And

he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears listen!'

"The gospel is always about hope, hope firmly rooted in the abundance and generosity of God, and for that reason we need to focus on the figure of the sower in the parable, and on his reckless generosity with the seed.

Of all the parables in the gospels, this is one of the few that Jesus actually explains to us, and in his commentary Jesus focuses on the meaning of the seed, and not of the sower. The seed, he says is "the word of the kingdom" including his own teachings. The various types of ground in the parable indicate the varied receptivity of those who hear the word.

Not all who hear the word of God respond to it. Some are impervious to it because they are hostile, some are inconstant, and some are distracted by worldly concerns. Only a few respond positively and in them the word is life-changing, as expressed by the image of bearing fruit.

It's important to see Jesus as the sower in his own parable, tirelessly throwing the good news of the kingdom out there in the form of his words and teachings. The word of God needs to be scattered far and wide.

We exist because the word of God took root in our hearts and lives.



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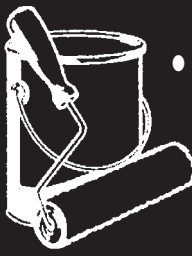
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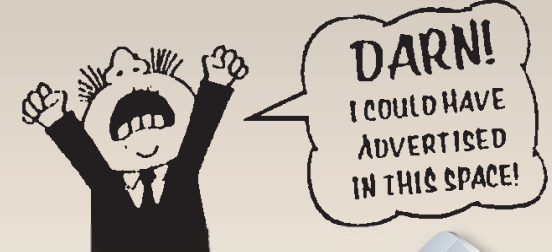
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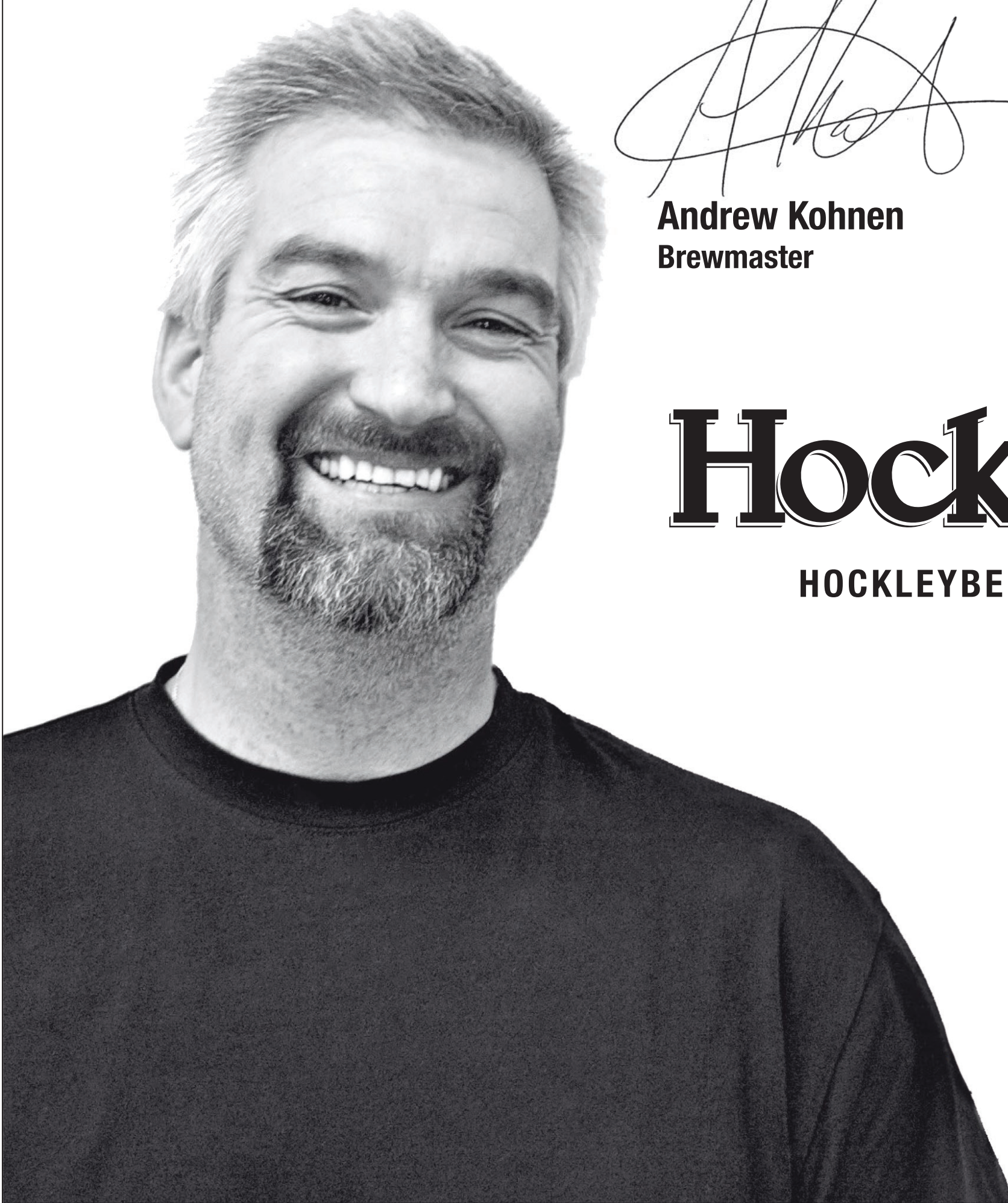
He took what he could from there and ventured to Scotland, Cornwall, and ultimately to Krefeld, Germany, working in the same brewery that had belonged to his ancestors. He came home to Canada for Hockley.

You could call it dumb, but we call it destiny.

Andrew Kohnen
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These days, home trends are about more than good design and aesthetics — they're about creating spaces that reflect our values and are more comfortable and enjoyable to live in. From net-zero and net-positive construction to tiny minimalist homes, trends are all about your family's lifestyle.

Whether you're shopping for a new home, renovating your own or creating a new build from scratch, here are some of the biggest trends you need to know for inspiration.

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN: This one has been popular for a long time, but green design has evolved to be about much more than energy-efficient appliances and LED light bulbs. Now, it's all about making sure everything in your home reduces your carbon footprint and minimizes any impact on the environment.

To try the trend yourself, think big and get creative — install solar panels on your roof, choose building materials that don't require deforestation and upcycle old furniture for decorative elements instead of buying new.

DISASTER RESILIENCY: Climate change affects us in so many negative ways, and one of the top concerns is the increase in natural disasters. From wildfires that last for months to major floods that affect entire cities, we now need to prepare for the worst when building our homes.

Switching to disaster-resilient materials is an important first step. Many builders now prefer to use stronger, more energy-efficient materials like insulated concrete forms (ICFs) instead of more traditional materials like wood. For example, Nudura ICFs can withstand winds of up to 250 miles per hour (equivalent to an F4 tornado) and offer a fire protection rating of up to four hours.

OUTDOOR LIVING: Many of us are now choosing to forgo getting a cottage or summer home and recreate the experience in our own backyards. This trend helps you make the most of your existing space and take full advantage of your yard or patio during the summer months.

You can design a full living space outside, complete with an outdoor television and comfy couches, as well as a kitchen and refrigerator for entertaining. Consider adding a fireplace or firepit to keep warm during cool summer nights and enjoy the outdoors through spring, fall and even winter if you're brave.

HOME AUTOMATION: This is another longstanding trend that shows no signs of slowing down. It has also evolved to encompass more of the home to make life even more comfortable and convenient. From an oven that can be turned on remotely to preheat, to skylights that can open and close auto-

matically to create the perfect ambient temperature, there are more ways than ever to integrate smart home technology into your living space.

You can start small with voice assistant and smart light bulbs and work your way up to a total smart home system that includes home security, temperature controls and all your electronic devices.

CUSTOMIZATION: You don't have to settle for what mass manufacturers decide to build, or what works for everyone else. Creating a home that's as unique

as you are is the latest trend, with custom-built storage and personalized architectural features to make your space stand out.

You can even go as far as building a custom home that's suited to your family. Older home demolitions and purchasing land-only properties is becoming more common, allowing you to work with an architect to create exactly what you want with a new build.

Find more information about the benefits of building a home with ICFs at nudura.com.



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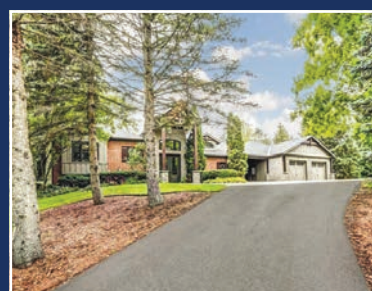
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What does a realtor do?



By Julien Laurion
The Big Tuna of Real Estate

RECENTLY, I was having a chat with a friend and she asked; what do I do as Realtor other than the obvious? I thought that this was such a great question I thought I would share my thoughts both on paper and a video for my website and social media outlets.

One thing to keep in mind is that even though Realtors in Ontario are apart of brokerages, we are independent contractors. Thus, we run our own business but must abide by the values and principles of our brokerage. Saying that I can only speak to what I 'do' since every Realtor's business model is different.

The obvious answer is I help trade real property. I help clients and customers buy and sell homes! However, there is a lot more to the job than just touring clients around homes.

When a Realtor has a listing they have to create and distribute all marketing materials, whether it be in print or digital form. This takes careful thought, insight and consideration of your marketplace. In today's world, I make sure that I use social media as a key part of my marketing strategy. In addition to this, I have to help clients prepare their homes for sale. How your home looks to a prospective buyer can make the difference between a quick sale for top dollar or a prolonged sale period for potentially less money. Doing things such as, decluttering the living space and closets, putting a fresh coat of paint in important areas of the home and getting around to those minor upgrades and repairs that have been ignored can have a huge transformational impact your home makes when that prospective buyer first walks through your door. You want the buyer to easily picture themselves living in your home.

When a sale or purchase agreement is signed, that is not the end of a Realtor's job. I continue to serve as the point person helping all parties to communicate and help facilitate a smooth closing, as well as providing advice and guidance for my clients. You'll remember from one of my last TRR articles that conditional clauses are a common part of a purchase and sale agreement so clearing those conditions is an ongoing responsibility that the Realtor assists with.

Additionally, I spend A LOT of time creating content to market your home. This includes writing articles, filming video clips for my social media and YouTube accounts, creating digital ads for Facebook and Google etc., photographs and blog posts. Sometimes I even use my drone to create captivating action shots of the property. This is especially important for the marketing of cottages or rural properties. It is the quality of the content that helps to differentiate between Realtors. You can see for yourself the difference good quality marketing content makes in promoting interest and activity in the sale of a property. I have no doubt that you have seen marketing material of some properties where the pictures are blurry or they are dark and do not do the property justice. You don't want that to be how your home is marketed! There are over fifty thousand registered Realtors in the GTA, so you want to select the right one.

There is so much more to what I do and am not able to fit it all in a half-page article. So please, check out my YouTube channel or website www.bigtuna.ca where you can find my latest video where I get more in-depth on this topic.

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 has 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 alternatively visiting my website www.bigtuna.ca or Facebook page @bigtunarealty

Real Estate Market Update – Aurora

Sizzling SALES

Steady buyer demand continues to deplete the stock of homes for sale on the market with 2.7 months supply available. There was a skyrocket 112 percent increase in home sales in the month of June throughout Aurora of all home types and the average price of the 87 homes that sold rose to was \$1,068,255 . There were 175 homes placed on the market and at the end of June, 207 were available to purchase. On average, it took 24 days for homes to sell. Sellers yielded on average 97 percent of their asking price.

The majority of sales in June were detached homes at an average price of \$1,274,838. There was a steep increase in condo apartment sales from 1 in May to 19 sold in June for an average of \$779,000. The average price for a townhome was \$788,463, semi-detached homes average pricing was \$799,688, condo townhouses average price was \$709,300 and one linked home sold for \$595,000.

Home values have continued to increase since May.

There were five sales ranging from \$2-5 million in Aurora compared to none in that price range since the end of March of 2020.

Discuss your real estate needs with a REALTOR® today including a review of COVID-19 safety protocols including the use of Personal Protection Equipment in advance of meeting in person.

– Written by Connie Power

Connie Power is the Manager, Real Estate 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; Regional Housing Market Tables; York Region, Aurora for May, June of 2019, 2020 and the Summary of Existing Home Transactions of all home types, 2020 for all TRREB Areas.

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

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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

Conserving water during drought and dry periods

WEATHER CAN BE UNPREDICTABLE. Carefully developed plans for days spent in the great outdoors can be derailed by unexpected rainstorms, while sudden bursts of sunshine can turn overcast afternoons into chances to get outside and breathe some fresh air.

Lawn and garden enthusiasts know just how mercurial Mother Nature can be, especially during summer. The spectre of drought looms every summer, but the National Weather Services Climate Prediction Center does not anticipate any broad-scale areas of a drought developing in the Lower 48 states in 2020. While that's good news for lawn and garden enthusiasts, it's wise to remain prepared for drought.

In recognition of the difficulties drought can pose, the Environmental Protection Agency offers the following tips to homeowners to ensure that water is available to meet critical needs.

LEARN LOCAL REGULATIONS. During dry periods and droughts, local water utilities put restrictions in place. These restrictions are not meant to be nuisances, but designed to ensure water is available to fight fires and meet other critical needs. Adhering to these guidelines, no matter how difficult they can be, helps your community stay safe. Periodically visit local water utility websites to learn if there are any restrictions in place.

INSPECT FIXTURES FOR LEAKS. Conservation is the goal of water restrictions. Leaky fixtures compromise conservation efforts, so inspect all interior and exterior faucets and pipes for leaks and fix them immediately.

LOOK INTO UPGRADES. Upgrading outdated bathrooms and other water features can be a great way to conserve water without changing daily habits. For example, the EPA estimates that water-conserving toilets can reduce water consumption by as much as

60 percent each year. That saves consumers money while also helping them too conserve during droughts or periods of dryness.

WATER WISELY. The EPA notes that experts estimate that as much as 50 percent of the water we use outdoors is lost to evaporation, wind or runoff due to overwatering. The EPA recommends watering primarily in the early morning and evening, after the sun goes down, so less water is lost to evaporation. If you have an irrigation system that uses a clock timer, consider replacing the timer with a WaterSense labeled irrigation controller, which acts as a thermostat for a sprinkler system, using local weather and landscape conditions to tell the sprinkler system when to turn itself on and off.

Drought and dry conditions in summer highlight the importance of conserving water.



How tree services can protect your property

Cold weather can take its toll on a property, especially in regions of the world where winters are harsh. Most parts of the landscape are vulnerable to damage from winter storms, but trees may be especially susceptible. By the end of winter, many homeowners wonder if their trees would benefit from some professional TLC.

Tree services provide a host of services. While fall is a popular time to remove trees from a property, doing so in spring is not unheard of, especially if trees were affected by winter storms and now pose a threat to a home and the people who live inside it.

Homeowners considering tree services can explore the following ways that some professional arbor attention can protect them and their homes.

• Tree services can help protect a home's foundation. Old trees that stretch well into the sky can be captivating, but they also can pose a threat to a home's foundation. Such trees may have especially large root zones that may extend beneath walkways and even a home. In the latter instance, foundations may crack as roots try to stake their claim to the ground beneath a home. According to the home improvement resource HomeAdvisor, homeowners pay an average of just over \$4,000 to repair foundation issues, though major problems can cost considerably more than that. A professional tree service can remove aging trees that might be beautiful and awe-inspiring but still pose a threat to a home and the areas surrounding it.

• Tree services can improve visibility. Trees that have aged a bit since their last trimming might affect the view of a property from inside a home. Overgrown branches can compromise residents' ability to see and experience the natural beauty just outside their windows. The average homeowner may be able to trim short trees on his or her own, but if views from the second floor of a home or higher have been compromised, it's much safer to call a professional tree service. Such services have the right tools and experienced personnel necessary to safely trim high branches on tall trees.

• Tree services can help prevent future damage. Even if trees made it through a recent winter unscathed, that's no guarantee next winter or even the coming seasons of spring, summer and fall won't ultimately prove their undoing. Travellers Insurance notes that weather-related roof damage, including damage resulting from falling limbs and branches weighed down by snow during the winter months, accounted for more than half of all Travellers property loss claims between 2009 and 2016. According to BNC Insurance and Risk Advisors, homeowners may be liable if a tree they knew posed a threat falls onto a passerby or a neighbour's property and causes damage or injury. Having all trees properly trimmed each year, but especially those that can fall on your home and your neighbour's homes, may prevent future damage and legal issues.

Tree services can ensure trees maintain their awe-inspiring beauty and help homeowners protect their homes and their belongings.



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The importance of safety when swimming in backyard pools

Backyard pools provide families with ample opportunities for recreation. It's easy to be distracted by all the fun when swimming in a backyard pool, but it is crucial that homeowners take steps to ensure everyone is safe when spending time in the pool.

ESTABLISH A BARRIER

The Consumer Product Safety Commission warns that drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death in children between the ages of one and four in the United States. Pools attract curious children, so maintaining a barrier between the home and the pool is essential. Many municipalities require some sort of fencing around pools or ladders that self-latch or can be closed off to climbing. Locks and alarms on windows and doors that face or provide access to the backyard also can serve as barriers.

KEEP PLAY UNDER CONTROL

Children and even adults may be swept up in the fun and engage in potentially dangerous behaviours. Pool users should not be allowed to run around the perimeter of an in-ground pool, as the cement can get slippery when wet and lead to falls that can cause injuries.

Exercise caution when using diving boards or diving into pools. It's easy for divers to hit their heads when diving off a board into a pool due to close proximity of the transition wall in the deep end of the pool or by diving into shallow water. The Red Cross recommends a water depth of 11.5 feet for safe diving and the transition wall should be at least 16.5 feet from the tip of the diving board. However, the standard depth for many pools is 7.5 feet of water and a slope beginning seven feet from the board.

EXERCISE CAUTION WITH INFLATABLES

The Good Housekeeping Research Institute found that inflatable pool toys are especially dangerous. Such toys can flip easily, putting children at risk for injury (from striking the sides of the pool) or drowning (especially if the children were ejected into deep water). Inflatables also can prevent access to the surface of the water for submerged swimmers.

CHOOSE A BACKYARD LIFEGUARD

At least one person should be designated as backyard lifeguard when the pool is in use. This person should always direct his or her focus on the pool, counting swimmers and keeping track of who enters and leaves the pool. Safe Kids Worldwide suggests rotating water watchers every 15 minutes.

Pools are fun places to spend summer afternoons, especially when every step is taken to ensure the safety of swimmers.

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We are looking at homes in York Region for sale online and they seem to be selling so fast, what should we do next?



Competition is on the Rise across Toronto and the Greater Toronto area including York Region. Work with a Buyer Specialist to develop your competitive advantage of tactics to bring forth when you find that next home you want to purchase. Be prepared to take action if the right home is found and that there may be a competition that could come between achieving a successful purchase if there is hesitation.

In any buying situation including a multiple offer situation, buyers should review and understand recent comparable sales in the area and have an understanding of the current market conditions. Ask your REALTOR® to share the approximate value of the home in question before the offer to purchase is even created. A REALTOR® would provide you with a Current Market Analysis using information gathered from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board (TRREB) and this is not the same thing as an appraisal. Try to uncover whether the selling price is too low to be accurate, current market-priced or above market priced to figure out the strategy the Seller's and their agent have.

Once buyers know the range of what the home value is, compared to the amount that's been pre-approved it's prudent to stay within your means. If the home sells far above market value the home may not appraise for that price and the mortgage lender may require more money for the down payment or deposit to make the deal happen. Buyers need to know in advance if they can still go ahead with closing the deal and should talk to their lender in detail about their financial situation. If Buyers stay within their budget and don't win in multiples because the winning offer was from Buyer's who could pay more that's not really losing, if they know financially there was no room to go higher.

Ask your Accredited Buyer's Representative ABR® designated agent the top 10 Strategies they will use when representing Buyers to help their competitive edge. As a Buyer understand that conditions can be added to the offer and if they are removed this needs acknowledgement. An offer may be more attractive with no conditions added but many require a financing condition, home inspection, Approvals from a Solicitor or Insurer and more. Know in advance how much can be available for deposit and offer ideally 5 percent or greater.

The buyer specialist should ask probing questions to seek understanding about the home that may not be answered on the home listing information sheet or provided in attachments. If as a buyer there is concern that the offer was ever presented, the Seller's agent can provide a signed copy of the offer conveyance when supplied with the offer.

Don't be afraid to share what you desired about the home that inspired the offer to purchase. A brief icebreaker letter may be another appreciated touch Seller's may be looking for. Seller's may be attached to their home or hope that the next homeowner will be a good neighbour to their friends on the street.

If the right home in the preferred neighbourhood of choice is currently not for sale ask your Buyer Specialist their ideas and resources available for finding off of market opportunities. Patience and persistence are important assets to uphold until the home purchase goal has been achieved.

— Written by Connie Power
 Connie Power is Manager, Real Estate Sales Representative CNE® SRS® ABR® SRES® for RE/MAX Hallmark York Group Realty Ltd., Brokerage serving York region and beyond.
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