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FREE

Thursday, December 10, 2020

Volume 47, Issue 50

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Enjoy Christmas in King Holiday Light Tour

Want to enjoy the lights of the season around King Township while supporting a great cause? Christmas in King (CiK), a sister organization of the King Township Food Bank, is coordinating a Holiday Light Tour for both residences and local businesses to raise needed funds and provide a COVID-friendly driving event for all.

A map with the addresses of almost 30 participants is available for \$10 from christmasinking.ca. With your purchase, you will also get an opportunity to vote for both your favourite residential and business light display. The winners will receive an exterior service valued up to \$300, donated by Shack Shine, and will be

announced in the King Weekly Sentinel and on social media.

Funds raised from this event will be used by Christmas in King to provide King Township individuals and families with their choice of gifts, a hamper of festive foods, and other items to help make the holiday season brighter.

Special thanks to the Township of King, LPC Media, King Weekly Sentinel, Jewel 88.5 FM, Vaughan and Beyond Media, Shack Shine and The Country Day School.

Come experience the holiday lights of King Township while helping others have a happy holiday season!

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INSIDE	REGULAR FEATURES		
	Editorial Page 4 Business Page 8 Sports Page 15 Classifieds Page 16		Chamber honours businesses. See Page 8
			Parade of Lights a success. See Page 13

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2585 King Road King City,
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Phone: 905.833.5321 Email: serviceking@king.ca



UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Monday, December 14

5:00 pm – Special Committee of the Whole Working Session rd: Draft Site Alteration By-law and Related Fees & Charges By-law

6:00 pm – Council and Committee of the Whole
Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://meeting.king.ca>

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Thursday, December 10

3:00 pm – Holland Marsh Drainage System Joint Municipal Service Board virtual meeting

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

- **Public Works - Civil Engineering Technologist** – closes Dec. 10
- **Administration - Supervisor of Spatial Data Engineering** – closes Dec. 18
- **Corporate Services - Corporate Information Co-ordinator** – closes Dec. 18

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

PUBLIC NOTICES



TEMPORARY ON-STREET PARKING PERMITS

A reminder to all residents that temporary on-street Parking Permits for municipal roads are available to accommodate overnight guests, deliveries, or driveway repairs. Permits are valid for a period of 24 hours and are granted for a maximum of twelve (12) days per vehicle per year (limit of 4 permits during annual winter parking restrictions). Permit Fee: **Free**

Permits are not valid for York Regional roads. Requests to park on Regional roads must be made to York Region.

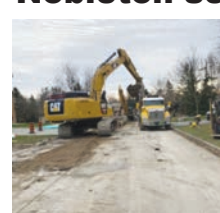
To apply for a temporary parking permit visit <https://parking.ca> or email parking@king.ca.

Winter Parking Restrictions

Please be advised there is no vehicle parking on any roadway between the **hours of 2 am and 6 am**, from **November 1st to April 15th** of each year, as well as no parking at any time to interfere with snow removal to allow for the expedient clearing of snow and the safe passage of Emergency Vehicles. To learn more about parking in King such as how to pay or dispute a parking ticket, you can visit our parking enforcement page at www.king.ca or by calling ServiceKing at 905-833-5321.



Nobleton sewer works



King Township has started the third contract of the second phase of providing infrastructure for residents to connect to the municipal sewer system in Nobleton.

Phase 2, Contract 3 sanitary sewer and concurrent works in Nobleton will take place in and around the following roadways: Sheardown Drive, Dobson Court, Cain Court, Hazelbury Drive, Chamberlain Court, Russell Snider Drive, Witherspoon Way,

Mactaggart Drive, Holden Drive, Robb Drive and McCutcheon Avenue affecting approximately 200 homes.

Weather permitting, work is scheduled to take about 27 months to complete.

Residents who have any questions about the project can visit <http://majorprojects.king.ca> or contact ServiceKing at 905-833-5321 or serviceking@king.ca.

LATEST UPDATES

The contractor is continuing with sanitary sewer installation on Chamberlain Court and then will proceed along Sheardown Drive. Base asphalt is expected to be installed by the middle of December in the Sheardown and McCutcheon area.

King Township 2021 Waste Calendar

Look for the 2021 edition of King Township's waste collection calendar in your mailbox delivered by Canada Post by the end of December. It will also be available online at www.king.ca.



Please do your part & recycle!



Please see more King Township notices on page 5

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 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 until the end of 2020.
- 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

The number of people who can gather indoors at social gatherings and public events in King Township will be reduced from 10 to 5. The limit on outdoor gatherings will remain at 25. There are no other changes to restrictions in King Township under the Red-Control zone at this time. You can read the news release here: <https://bit.ly/3lQrhDD>

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.

NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION CONCERNING PROPOSED DRAFT PLAN OF SUBDIVISION AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT TO BY-LAW 2017-66 AND 74-53

The Township of King has received applications for a proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision and a proposed amendment to the Township of King Zoning By-law 2017-66 and Rural Area Zoning By-law (By-law 74-53) as amended by Oak Ridges Moraine Conformity By-law 2005-23, from Janeking Holdings Inc. & Janeking Holdings Inc. South & King Hill Inc., to facilitate the development on the property outlined below, submitted to the Township of King in accordance with Sections 51 and 34 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13*, as amended.

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

SUBJECT PROPERTY

Location: Part of Lots 3 and 4, Conc. 4; King City
12805 & 12665 Jane Street; and 2955 King Road

Owners: Janeking Holdings Inc. & Janeking Holdings Inc. South & King Hill Inc.

Agent: Malone Given Parsons Ltd.

Our File Numbers: 19T-20K01(King Hill); 19T-20K02(Jane-King);
Zoning By-law Amendment Z-2020-08
Related File: Official Plan Amendment Application OP-2017-01

PROPOSAL

The subject applications propose to amend the Township's Zoning By-law and seek approval for applications for Draft Plan of Subdivision. More specifically, the development plan for the King Hill parcel includes public roads and blocks identified for employment and future development. The employment block, proposes to permit a variety of low-rise, low-density offices or industrial buildings with some limited commercial uses. The uses for the future development blocks, which are subject to a conversion request with the Region of York, have not yet been determined.

Residential units are proposed for the Janeking Holdings parcels and include 170 single-detached homes and 39 street access townhouses, as well as 65 Lifestyle units geared towards seniors, for a total of 274 units. The Lifestyle units will include 52 townhouse units, ten semi-detached units, and three single-detached units. All residential units will front onto public roads. The subject lands consist of separate parcels by each land owner. The applications for each parcel are being pursued jointly in a coordinated manner.

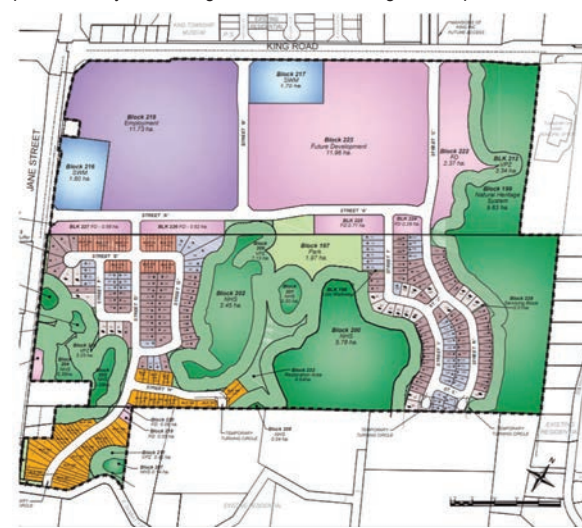
At such time as a public meeting is scheduled in accordance with the Planning Act, the Township of King will provide further notice specifying the date and time of the meeting. Any person may attend the public meeting (or participate virtually if meeting is a remote meeting due to public health restrictions) and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the Draft Plans of Subdivision or Zoning By-law Amendments. All written comments will become part of the public record.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A copy of the Draft Plans of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendments, as well as related background and supporting information, are available for inspection by contacting Gaspare Ritacca by email at gritacca@king.ca or by telephone at 905-833-4064, quoting **File Numbers 19T-20K01, 19T-20K02, Z-2020-08, OP-2017-01**. 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 9th day of December, 2020

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services
Township Clerk
Township of King
2585 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1A1



We are seeking feedback on the Draft Site Alteration By-law! Join the conversation and have your say by visiting our Speaking page.

<https://speaking.king.ca/site-alteration-by-law>



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Council board members resign over Bill 229

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

The provincial government's stance on Bill 299 has led to mass resignations from the Greenbelt Council.

Council chair David Crombie submitted his resignation to Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Crombie said recent actions taken by the Government in committee hearings on Bill 229 "have confirmed that we differ fundamentally on policy directions affecting the Greenbelt.

"You will recall that the Council had urged your Government on previous occasions to withdraw Schedule 6 from Bill 229. This advice is grounded in the view that Ontarians can successfully realize the great values and benefits of the Greenbelt through the effectiveness of watershed planning, the strength

and resilience of the Conservation Authorities and the power of public participation and open debate.

"It is now clear that the Government's direction under Schedule 6 of Bill 229 disastrously assaults all three of these primary conditions. It cuts out the heart of integrated watershed planning and management; severely cripples the Conservation Authorities in the pursuit of their historic stewardship of environmental issues, and now with the grossly expanded use of Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZO) and other procedural revisions, essential public discussion and debate will be stifled or shut down."

Crombie said this is not policy and institutional reform. It's "high-level bombing and needs to be resisted."

Council member Deborah Martin-Downs followed suit, noting the province doesn't value the advice of the council, and the role that conservation

authorities play in public safety and environmental quality.

"It is now clear that the government's direction under Schedule 6 of Bill 229 is a blatant assault on conservation, the environment and transparent governance," she said.

Environmental Defence said Crombie's departure is a shame.

Kevin Eby, Leith Moore, Pamela Blais, Wayne Caldwell and MPP Lynn Morrow all resigned.

"It is a great shame and a loss to the people of Ontario that David Crombie, the chair of the provincially appointed Greenbelt Council, had no alternative but to resign ...," said Executive Director Tim Gray. "His resignation comes as a direct result of Minister Steve Clark's refusal to listen to the Council's advice and remove Schedule 6 from Bill 229 (the budget bill)."

Gray said Crombie and the Council have been key thinkers and advisors to the Ontario government on how to best protect farmland, natural features and economic prosperity. It is tragic that

their impartial advice has been ignored and overridden by the self-serving demands of developers.

"It is not too late for the Ontario government to finally listen to the advice of the Council and remove the attacks on our future, contained in Schedule 6 of the budget bill. All Ontarians are watching," Gray said.

COVID claims more lives at King Lodge

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

The toll from COVID-19 continues to grow. The virus claimed the lives of six more residents of King City Lodge.

On Monday, a 90-year-old woman and 89-year-old man passed away.

Two fatalities were reported by York Health on Friday. One was an 88-year-old female and the other was a 72-year-old male.

A 91-year-old woman died Dec. 3 and an 84-year-old male died Nov. 22.

Currently, York Region has 61 open outbreaks (23 institutional, 25 workplaces, 11 schools, 2 child care) and 362 closed outbreaks.



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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

"A newspaper is the center of a community, it's one of the tent poles of the community, and that's not going to be replaced by websites and blogs."

- Michael Connelly

Money, it's a gas, but it's also a burden

"Every day is a bank account, and time is our currency. No one is rich, no one is poor, we've got 24 hours each."

- Christopher Rice

If this whole existence thing is all about money, then we're in a heap of trouble.

After 50-odd years on this planet, it only recently dawned on me that "it's only money."

By that I mean daily living is expensive, and things cost money. We can't fret about it or worry ourselves into the fetal position.

Sure, we have to have enough to live, to pay our bills and keep that rather expensive roof over our heads. We have to feed our always-hungry offspring, who want the good stuff, and seldom ask for Brussels sprouts and broccoli. We have to put fuel in our ever-hungry, polluting vehicles.

We also have to wear socks, unless of course you're one of those forever young beatniks who wears sandals no matter what season it is!

Alan Watts concurred when he said there are many people accumulating what they think is vast wealth, but it's only money.

While living pay cheque to pay cheque is my reality, it used to cause me a lot of sleepless nights. What if something happened? What if we needed a new roof, a new car, a new body part? What if?

Experts argue that we should all have



Mark Pavilons

at least three months' salary socked away as savings, as our rainy day fund. I'm not sure how many actually have it, some nine months into a pandemic.

But again, let's say we worked our butts off, putting in extra hours, holding down an extra job, just to sock away a little something. That something would be eaten up in a flash, in the face of one of those emergencies. So, does all that time and effort just go into plugging the hole in the leaky dam?

Those rainy days seem to combine together and become that proverbial

storm of the century, or at least storm of the month.

It must be quite lucrative being an umbrella salesperson these days.

Life, it's been said, is a game and money is how we keep score. But just who's keeping score?

The Big Guy has no use for money or any earthly possessions. All he cares about is what is in your heart and soul.

And good, old Ben Franklin said money doesn't fill a vacuum, it creates one.

Our forefathers seldom had full pockets, but that didn't hold them back. In fact, empty pockets forced them to make a living and succeed.

So, let's get some advice from a certain historic book.

The bible is packed with more than 2,000 scriptures about money and possessions. That's twice as many bible verses about money than faith and prayer combined.

In fact, 16 out of 38 of Jesus's parables deal with money and possessions and one out of 10 verses in the Gospels deal with money.

Matthew 6:24: "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Luke 16:11-12: "If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?"

So basically my brothers and sisters, money is a tool and ownership is meaningless. Possessions come with a great deal of weight to bear.

The earth, our own subdivision lot or rural estate, doesn't really belong to us. It was never ours to own.

Ever since man began laying stake to real estate, building structures and creating wealth, it paved the way for

the strange, money-motivated journey we're on.

The misconceptions behind having a lot of money include:

We will be happier; we will be content; we don't have to work, or worry or lose sleep. We can eat at the best restaurants, drive the nicest cars and sit on a beach somewhere, being served tropical drinks of every colour.

Is this how we describe paradise? Is this how we were meant to live?

At this point in our wealth management journey, money is still all powerful.

Fact: my children will need \$1 million to buy a house. Fact: they likely won't be able to get it.

The money I have socked away will act as a salve over any new wounds. It will heal the scar of the day.

But it will never give me eternal youth, or ensure immortality for my children and their children yet to come.

When I think of the best moments of my life, they seldom involved a lot of money.

We were lucky to have enjoyed years of summer family vacations.

I smile when I think of the board games, poker nights, Christmas tree trimmings, family dinners, playing with our dogs at the lake, fishing, flying a kite, the smell of summer, bullrushes, a baby's laughter, the smell of coffee, hotdogs, potato chips, riding a bicycle, eating an ice cream cone and sharing the last bit with your dog, letting your daughter paint your nails, playing with toys, listening to music with the windows open, putting a quarter in a pin-ball machine, taking a photo of the sunset, a sad dog movie, BBQ with friends, snowflakes ...

"Money, it's a crime ... Share it fairly but don't take a slice of my pie ..."

Will we even use money on the dark side of the moon?

Letter to the Editor

MZOs usurp the law

Yet more Minister's Zoning Orders (MZOs) from Doug Ford's government.

In the past two weeks alone it has rammed through approval for the construction of a foreign owned glass factory in Stratford that will require the taking of around one million litres of groundwater each day and the destruction of the Lower Duffins Creek, a 20 hectare provincially significant wetland complex in Pickering, for the building of both a casino and a warehouse complex.

Now, in times past the Stratford project would have required an automatic Environmental Assessment. However, we live in different times. We have a government that believes it knows better than the experts and in the name of "cutting red tape," has made it a policy of moving forward like the proverbial "bull in the china shop."

Its arrogance and short sightedness are reminiscent of a previous Conservative government that also believed it knew best and chose to cut red tape. The result was sickness and death in Walkerton.

In the case of the Lower Duffins Creek, the Ministry of Natural Resources designated this wetland provincially significant in 2005. Ontario's Provincial Policy Statement prohibits all development and site alteration within provincially significant wetlands. It also prohibits development on adjacent land. The requirement to ensure their protection is also included under the Conservation Authorities Act.

The government's response has been to declare it will remove the provincially significant wetland designation to allow the casino and warehouse complex to proceed.

Obviously, this government has no time for the rule of law. Its total contempt for standing legislation that provides environmental protection can be seen in the excessive use of MZOs. In fact, it would appear that this government is democratic in name only.

Evidence of this abuse can be seen in section 6 of Bill 229, an omnibus bill presented in the legislature. If passed, it will gut the conservation authority's power to protect our environment.

The government would have you believe that these initiatives are necessary to combat the ravages of COVID-19. The truth is that the only beneficiaries of this disregard of the rules are the rich and powerful developers and speculators that contribute generously to the Conservative party of Ontario.

Mike Shackelford



Quote of the Week



"When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you may learn something new."

- Dalai Lama

Trivia Tidbits

Chimpanzees, gorillas and koalas have human-like fingerprints.

KingWeeklySentinel **WEBPOLL**
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Will you curtail your holiday shopping this year?



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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Do you think York Region is headed toward lockdown?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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PUBLIC NOTICES



Season's Greetings

On behalf of Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Members of Council, we would like to extend our warm wishes to all of our residents and their families this Holiday Season. Please stay safe and remember to support our local businesses and ShopKING!



NOTICE OF MEETINGS

DRAFT 2020 DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BACKGROUND STUDY AND DRAFT BY-LAW
(Electronic Meeting pursuant to section 238 (3.1) (3.3) of the Municipal Act, 2001)

As the Municipal Centre is now closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these will be electronic meetings held remotely and live streamed via <http://meeting.king.ca>

In accordance with the Development Charges Act, 1997, Council of the Township of King is holding the following meetings:

RE: Council/Committee of the Whole Meeting: **Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**
Final 2020 Development Charges Background Study and Draft By-law presented for Adoption

The Township of King Council/Committee of the Whole will consider the Final 2020 Development Charges Background Study and Draft By-law, at the January 11, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Council will consider adoption of the By-law at this meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend (virtually) to ask questions and/or submit comment. Information will be available for review on the Township website at www.king.ca as of Thursday, January 7th, 2021.

Public Comment

To comment in writing, please send written comments to the Clerk's Office at clerks@king.ca no later than **12:00 p.m. (noon) on the day of the meeting**. Written comments will be circulated to Members of Council prior to the start of the Meeting and will become part of the formal record of the meeting.

Anyone wishing to speak to Council virtually (Audio-telephone in) must register by contacting the Clerks Department at 905-833-4068 or email clerks@king.ca no later than **12:00 p.m. (noon) on the day of the meeting**. When your registration is received, a confirmation message and instructions for participating in the virtual meeting will be provided.

Please provide your full name, address, contact details when contacting the Clerks Department. Please note that all comments will become part of the public record.

For further information regarding the Draft 2020 Development Charges update process, please visit the Township of King website at: www.king.ca or contact: Dan Elliott, Interim Manager of Revenue, delliott@king.ca or by telephone at 905-833-4571.

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

Kathryn Moyle
Director, Corporate Services & Township Clerk

NOTICE OF MEETING

Special Committee of the Whole Working Session

(Electronic Meeting pursuant to Section 238 (3.1) (3.3) of the Municipal Act, 2001)

As the Municipal Centre is now closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this is an electronic meeting held remotely and live streamed via <http://meeting.king.ca>.

**TOWNSHIP OF KING PRESENTATION:
"DRAFT SITE ALTERATION BY-LAW AND RELATED FEES & CHARGES BY-LAW"**

Council of the Corporation of the Township of King will hold a Special Committee of the Whole Working Session by the Growth Management Services Department – By-law Enforcement Division and Public Works Department – Development Division on:

- The Township of King's Draft Site Alteration By-law and Related Fees & Charges By-law

**Monday, December 14, 2020
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

For further information regarding the Draft Site Alteration By-law and related Fees & Charges By-law, please visit the Township's website at www.king.ca or contact: Nancy Cronsberry, Manager of By-law Enforcement/By-law Enforcement Division, ncronsberry@king.ca

Telephone: 905-833-4001 Fax: 905-833-2300

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services
Township Clerk

NOTICE OF MEETINGS – REVISED
2021 MISCELLANEOUS FEES & CHARGES and BY-LAW, 2021 WATER & WASTEWATER RATES and BY-LAW, DRAFT 2021-2022 BUDGETS & BUSINESS PLAN

As the Municipal Centre is now closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these will be electronic meetings held remotely and live streamed via <http://meeting.king.ca>

RE: Presentation of 2021 Miscellaneous Fees & Charges: **Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.**
Consideration of By-law for Adoption, Monday, January 11, 2021

The Township of King 2021 Miscellaneous Fees & Charges will be presented at the December 14, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The By-law will be considered by Council for adoption at the January 11, 2021 Council Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend to ask questions and comment.

RE: ADDED: Presentation of 2021 Water & Wastewater Study: **Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

The Township of King 2021 Water and Wastewater Study will be presented at the January 11, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting. This presentation will be provided by the Township's consultant, Gary Scandlan, Watson and Associates Economists Ltd. The By-law will be considered by Council for adoption at the Monday, January 25, 2021 Council Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend to ask questions and comment.

RE: Council Working Session: **Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**

Presentation of 2021-2022 Budgets & Business Plan
The Township of King's preliminary assumptions, feedback received to date, context and strategic directions relating to the Draft 2021-2022 Budgets & Business Plans will be discussed at a Working Session on Monday, January 25, 2021. Interested parties are invited to attend to listen in on discussions relating to the DRAFT 2021-2022 Budgets & Business Plans.

RE: Presentation of 2021 Water & Wastewater Rates: **Monday, February 8, 2021**

MOVED TO January 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
(Consideration of By-law for Adoption, Monday, January 25, 2021)
The Township of King 2021 Water and Wastewater Rates Report will be presented at the January 25, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The By-law will be considered by Council for adoption at the Monday, January 25, 2021 Council Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend to ask questions and comment.

RE: Council Meeting: **Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**
Draft – 2021-2022 Budgets & Business Plan (Consideration of By-law for Adoption, Monday, February 22, 2021)

The Township of King's Draft 2021-2022 Budgets & Business Plan, will be tabled at the February 8, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend. Budget information will be available for review at the King Township Municipal Centre at 2585 King Road, King City or on the Township website at www.king.ca as of Thursday, February 4, 2021.

RE: Council Meeting: **Monday, February 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Consideration of By-law for Adoption: 2021-2022 Budgets & Business Plan
The Township of King adoption of the 2021 Operating Budget & Business Plan and 2021-2022 Amended Capital Budgets, will be tabled at the February 22, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Interested parties are invited to attend. Budget information will be available for review at the King Township Municipal Centre at 2585 King Road, King City or on the Township website at www.king.ca as of Thursday, February 18, 2021.

For further information regarding the 2021-2022 Budget & Business Plan, please visit the Township's website at www.king.ca or contact: Peggy Tollett, Director of Finance and Treasurer, ptollett@king.ca
Telephone: 905-833-5321 Fax: 905-833-2300

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services
Township Clerk

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Move to strip CAs is shortsighted

Letter to the Editor

Kudos to Councillor Debbie Schaefer for her very well-reasoned and concise observations regarding Ontario's recent legislative assault on the Conservation Authorities (CAs) through the introduction of Bill 229, including the egregious Schedule 6 which includes:

"Mandate that the municipal councillors appointed by a particular municipality as members of a conservation authority be selected from that municipality's own councillors only." Let's not rush into this!

In a nutshell, Doug Ford's team wants to remove "authority" from the CAs by appointing politicians to cover the duties of CA staff who include qualified scientists. A nutshell would be the correct analogy to represent the amount of thought that went into this proposed legislation, which is part and parcel of another one of the Ford government's new overlaid omnibus bills.

There is a well-known dilemma in "public service" caused by so many municipal (regional and provincial) politicians who rely so much on private campaign donations from developers. Robert MacDermid captured this dilemma in "Funding City Politics: Municipal Campaign Funding and Property Development in the Greater Toronto Area":

"Does it matter who funds candidates? It may not matter to voters who are unaware of how the campaigns of their local politicians are financed. However, the pattern of giving by large backers in the development industry suggests some very calculated decisions about which candidates to support. Developers want councils that are favourable to rapid development and to their own development proposals and they spend accordingly.

Unsustainable urban sprawl, high transportation costs, environmental degradation, and a weak sense of community that undermines political organization and representation, are all traceable to pro-development councils and the provincial regulatory framework for urban development. Organizing to reverse these patterns is very difficult when development supported candidates and councils get elected and re-elected by the few citizens who vote."

Clearly, CAs must remain scientifically-qualified and apolitical in their primary structure. Their boards of directors are already laden with political representatives. In a recent case, the LSRCA Board sided with developers when issuing Section 28 Permits (established in 2006) under the Conservation Authorities Act "to implement and enforce the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation."

A Section 28 Permit issued by the LSRCA board in 2018 put the provincially significant wetlands (PSWs) at the heart of the North Gwillimbury Forest at risk until a publicly-funded campaign and consequent LPAT hearings, where a final decision rendered in December 2019, determined 90% of the lands were too significant in terms of being an important PSW. Development and Section 28 permit denied. PSWs are important water sources, and water is essential to all life.

It is also noteworthy that the public, who funds every level of government and their agencies, had to raise more funds on their own to pay a law firm to represent this case at LPAT hearings, despite the clarity of public legislation that protects PSWs. Governments are very costly to the public! So, why do all the benefits go to developers who can deduct their donations as cost of doing business, and also receive tax credits for their donations? Who pays for those

tax credits that come out of general revenues? Taxpayers!

Too often, politicians pretend to strengthen legislation for the sake of optics, while weakening enforcement, and/or providing no penalties for not reaching non-existent performance metrics. A good example is the recent federal Bill C-12, which promises net-zero emissions by 2050. No definite targets; no penalties to ensure changes start now. Too little, too late. Utterly toothless.

In Ontario, we have a government that is deliberately revising and/or revoking environmental legislation to the growing detriment of already compromised ecological services. CAs oversee watershed planning to ensure water quality, flood control, and the conservation of important key natural areas.

Pretending to be concerned exclusively about COVID-19, this government has jettisoned any public consultations, while extending and exerting more control over local councils to ensure developers get what they want. COVID-19 Emergency Measures have even prevented the Ontario government from consulting with the full Legislature, but communication lines to developers appear to be working better than ever.

While Ontario is working to undermine CAs, it is also seeking to de-certify the PSW known as the Duffins Creek wetland complex, in order to bulldoze, fill, level, pipe and pave the area for yet another casino and yet another warehouse, more housing, more roads, more cluttered "density" and congestion. This project is called "Durham Live!" to be crowned by a new blaze of lights. Currently, the Planning Act prohibits the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and Natural Resources and Forestry, or the CAs from approving development of PSWs. If the province succeeds at de-certifying this PSW, it won't stop there.

The mayor of Pickering favours this new project, while the mayor of neighbouring Ajax is very worried about the impacts of this development along his town's immediate boundary. The Town of Ajax was invited to negotiate the terms of this appeal-proof Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO) with the City of Pickering before the city decided to eliminate the town from further discussions with involved parties.

Pickering and Ajax share the same watersheds. Such site by site development is short-sighted, demonstrating a complete disregard for careful planning at the watershed level. All we seem to get in Ontario is expanding cluttered density where one congested development site after another rolls right across municipal boundaries, ensuring indistinguishable crammed contiguous "copies" of the preceding monotonous developments.

The result is the "geography of nowhere." The landscape is denuded and bulldozed to produce a vast sterile monoculture in hues of gray, ensuring the extension of harmful over-development. More congestion and pollution, too.

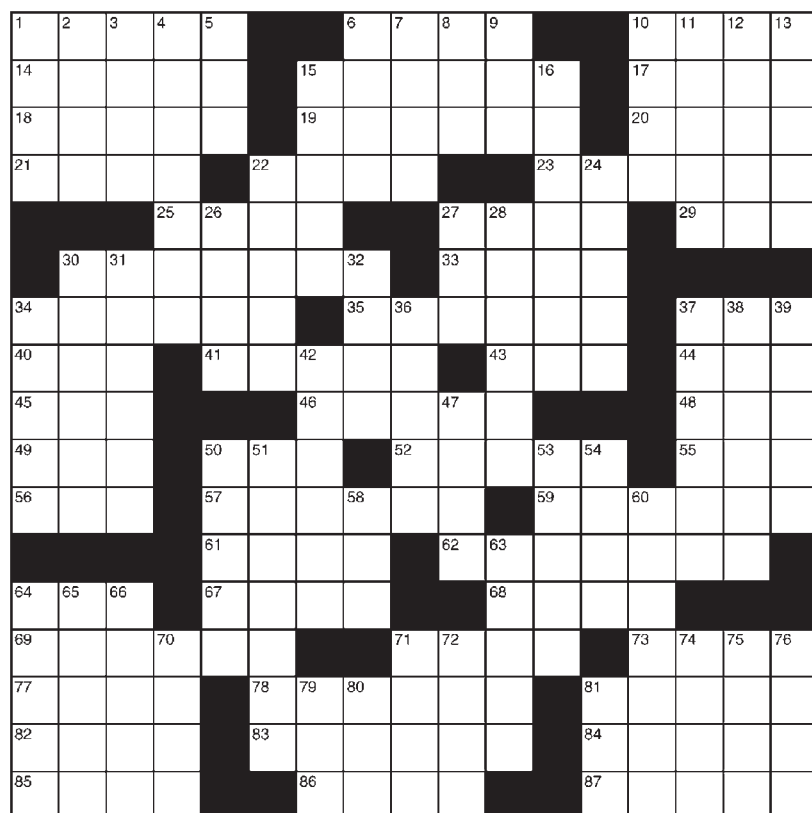
Doug Ford's government has turned the MZO into an iron-clad appeal-proof planning tool, something akin to a sledge hammer, and his government has already issued 30 MZOs for more developments on PSWs, waterfront, and farmland.

Add MZOs to the down-grading of CAs, and de-certification of PSWs, and what have we got? Environmental degradation at top speed!

Vicki Hotte

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 422



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ACROSS

- Moved slowly
- Quarrel
- Float through the air
- Indian coin
- String
- Peter, Paul & Mary, e.g.
- Garnish
- Shudder
- Parched
- Net
- Bird's "arm"
- Manor
- Head woe
- Come again?
- Soak flax
- Push down
- Detest
- Detection device
- Attire
- Army NCO
- Western clock zone
- Ride a bike, e.g.
- "The ___ Shoes"
- Bistro brew
- "___ Gang"
- Subside
- Craggy peak
- Drink cubes


- Etna's output
- Among
- Santa has one
- Dreg
- Islamic ruler
- Cheddar or provolone
- Peter, Paul & Mary, e.g.
- Oppression
- Athens vowel
- Muslim leader
- Declaration
- Hunting expedition
- Conceited
- Water growth
- Dance costume
- Yamaguchi, e.g.
- Negative atom
- Straightforward
- Way out
- Go swiftly
- Brazen
- Greek consonant
- Pasta variety

DOWN

- Compress
- Uncalled for
- Heroic poem

- Maybe
- Finger count
- Embroidered
- Prudish one
- Islet
- Private eye
- "Go ___ , young man"
- Close by
- Specialty
- Chirp
- Squalid sites
- Cover protectively
- Reporter's question
- Charger
- Riding whip
- Owl's question?
- Animosity
- Infer
- Meal course
- Picket-line crosser
- Rot
- Andean climber
- Lustrous cotton fabric
- Shiny
- Laconic
- Showy flower
- Shade of color
- In motion








Solution on page 17




The King

7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, December 10 to Wednesday, December 16

THURS 10TH	FRI 11TH	SAT 12TH	SUN 13TH	MON 14TH	TUES 15TH	WED 16TH
						
Sun/Clouds High 3C° Low -1C°	Mainly Cloudy High 6C° Low 3C°	Light Rain High 5C° Low -1C° ~10mm/~1cm	Scattered Flurries High 0C° Low -3C° <1cm	Mainly Sunny High 0C° Low -3C°	Scattered Flurries High -1C° Low -3C° 1-3cm	Snow High -1C° Low -3C° ~10cm
Wind NW 11k	Wind S 16k	Wind S 18k	Wind NW 33k	Wind W 21k	Wind NE 9k	Wind E 26k



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King council supports eliminating gas-fired plants

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

King Township has thrown its support behind organizations who want to eliminate gas-fired electrical plants in the province.

Council unanimously approved a motion by Councillor Debbie Schaefer, which asks Queen's Park to place an interim cap of 2.5 megatonnes per year on our gas plants' greenhouse gas pollution. It further asks the Province to implement a plan to phase-out all gas-fired electricity generation by 2030 so we can meet our climate targets. A copy of King's resolution will be passed on to local MPPs, provincial party leaders, York and AMO.

Jack Gibbons, chair of the Ontario Clean Air Alliance, made a virtual presentation to council recently, asking for their support.

He pointed out the provincial government is actually increasing its reliance on gas-fired plants, replacing the Pickering Nuclear Station, which is slated to close in 2024. The demand for electricity will rise roughly 1% per year, and virtually all of our needs will be met by ramping up the gas-fired plants.

Re-building 10 of Ontario's aging nuclear reactors is estimated to cost of \$25.8 billion.

Enbridge is seeking permission from the Ontario Energy Board to build a large pipeline in Hamilton to enable it to import more fracked gas from Pennsylvania.

Both of these measures will be accompanied by an increase in utility rates, the Alliance stresses.

The Alliance worries that the amount of greenhouse gas emissions

(GHG) from electricity plants will skyrocket by more than 300% by 2025 and 400% by 2040.

The Province, they charge, is not on track to meet their climate goals to reduce GHG pollution by 30% by 2030.

Gibbons noted we were on the right track when Ontario phased out its goal plants, resulting in a 95% decrease in emissions between 2005 and 2017. But numbers are rising again.

Gibbons said by phasing out the gas-fired plants, we can achieve our climate goals.

He pointed to some "easy" and "cheap" ways for our province to obtain the electricity it needs.

He suggested using Quebec's massive water power and stores. He said we have the capacity to triple the clean, low cost energy from Quebec. Their three-pronged recommendations not only include improving the corridors from Quebec but also upping the use of wind and solar power. All of these efforts will also create jobs.

An Alliance report noted our lowest-cost source of renewable electricity is spot market purchases of Quebec water power, which had an average cost of 2.2 cents per kWh in 2017.

Hydro Quebec, the Alliance says, is offering to sell us a firm supply of waterpower at a price of only 5 cents per kWh under a long-term contract. Hydro Quebec's proposed price for a 20-year firm supply is less than one-third of OPG's forecast price of nuclear electricity in 2025.

The report further notes that Ontario procured new wind and solar resources in 2016 for 8.6 and 15.7 cents per kWh respectively. The costs of these options continue to fall and in 2018 the Province of Alberta procured wind power for a



cost of only 3.9 cents per kWh; and in 2019 it procured solar power at a cost of only 4.8 cents per kWh. Bloomberg New Energy Finance is forecasting that the cost of wind and solar power will fall by an additional 48% and 63% respectively by 2050.

"As a consequence, if Ontario ramps down its planned expenditures on high-cost nuclear reactor re-builds while it increases its imports of Quebec water power and invests in energy efficiency and Made-in-Ontario renewable electricity, it will be able to simultaneously phase-out its gas plants and lower our electricity bills," the report stated.

Gibbons pointed out that some 50 organizations, and other five municipalities (Kitchener, Halton Hills, Hamilton, Burlington, Woolwich) have also endorsed their stance and passed similar resolutions.

One of the main stumbling blocks is not only provincial policy, but the Ontario Power Generation (OPG). The government-owned company is Ontario's largest fossil-fuel electricity generator. It owns five of Ontario's largest gas-fired power plants. The OPG, he said, wants to keep the gas-fired plants running through 2040.

King council declared a climate emergency in 2019. It has created internal policies to reduce corporate emissions by 35% by 2030.

Councillor Schaefer noted "we need to step up and make a statement."

Mayor Steve Pellegrini observed that King is only a small portion of the big picture, but if everyone reaches out, it will make a difference. "It's all of us," he said.

The province, he said, needs to work hard at this and reaching their goals.

Man charged with assault at KCSS

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

A 21-year-old Richmond Hill man has been charged with assault, following an incident at King City Secondary School last week.

Investigators with the #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau made the arrest after tips from the public following the release of a public announcement.

On Tuesday, Nov. 10 shortly before 11:30 a.m., the man gained entry to King City Secondary School. He walked around the first floor of the school, then went upstairs to a classroom on the second floor. He walked into a classroom and punched a teacher in the face. He then fled the school west on King Road.

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King Chamber honours local entrepreneurs

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

Local entrepreneurs had a chance to shine last week during the King Chamber of Commerce's first virtual Excellence in Business awards night.

Each year, the Chamber honours local businesses in King for their dedication and accomplishments.

This year's event took place over Zoom, and while it had a virtual feel, the sentiments expressed were heartfelt and genuine.

It's been a tough year for many, so the Chamber event was a moment to pause, reflect and celebrate.

Chamber president Angelo Santorel-

li said he's glad the organization was able to continue this important tradition.

He admitted it's been a very different year and Chamber board members did what it could to keep things rolling along. They held roundtable talks with government officials; virtual monthly meetings; special virtual events with guest speakers and more.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini said the Chamber is like an extended family and it has done an awesome job promoting local business, which is more important now than ever before,

York Region, he said is holding its own, and doing what it can to prevent being put in lockdown. He said he's proud of what everyone here in King is

doing to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Excellence in Small Business Award TaLii Towels

TaLii Towels and owner Lisa Iafate picked up this award.

Lisa Gattoni Iafate has lived in the rolling hills of King Township for 25 years. She's a King City resident, single mom to 21-year-old Talia. Talia was born and raised in King and has attended King Township programs since she was 18 months old. Social clubs, brownies, sports teams, camps, and the schools in King. From pre-school, King City co-op Nursery School to present day Seneca College King campus. You just can't get this girl out of King.

Lisa has been on many boards during this time contributing to our community, including King soccer club, PTA and Christmas in King. She is presently a member of the Catholic Women's League an active member of The Seneca College Women's Giving circle. She recently received and accepted an invitation to join the King Chamber of commerce as a board member.

You may know her as the CEO of her company TaLii Towels, affectionately named after her daughter. In 2015 she took TaLii Towels to the hit CBC show Dragons Den and received 2 offers. She has been on every morning show in Toronto with her product.

An enthusiastic entrepreneur that executes 100 consumer trade shows, fairs, and festivals a year in Ontario, Vancouver and Calgary and three major boat shows in Florida a year as well.

"We are proud to say we use a portion of our revenues gained nationally to give back to those charities that need in King Township."

Talii Towels pivoted their business in March to make masks that are getting rave reviews from the universities. They manufactured masks for all three King fire stations and the Township staff as well.

Her ask? Please shop and support local.

Excellence in Large Business John's No Frills

This year, John Ciarallo, owner of John's No Frills in Nobleton, celebrates 40 years with Loblaw companies. He's been a No Frills owner for over 22 years and has been fortunate since opening the Nobleton store in 2012.

"I am grateful for the support from the community of King Township and surrounding area. I am proud to be a member of the King Chamber of Com-



merce, and to have developed many meaningful relationships within the business community and truly appreciate the loyal customers and friendships that make doing business in King township a wonderful experience."

See 'Hospall' on Page 9



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Hospall a double winner at Chamber awards night

From Page 8

He added he was humbled to receive this honour and is looking forward to shaking hands with friends and customers again.

Sustainable King Award Roost Cafe

The Roost Cafe, owned by Cathy Russell, earned the Sustainable King Award.

The Roost Café is a community hub situated in a renovated historic home in the heart of King City on Keele, just south of King Road. At The Roost, they care about creating a comfortable inclusive space, preparing tasty homemade, wholesome food and serving the best coffee in King City.

The Roost was established in 2016 by Alison Mumford. In August 2019, Cathy Russell, an employee at the time, purchased The Roost and is the current owner. Cathy brings her background in nutrition and design and love of cooking and baking to the Roost. Her vision is to create an eclectic, vibrant community space that respects and celebrates the history of the house and property.

She said they're in the process of making small changes to the interior of the cafe, to bring out its historical character. The space they've created respects the house and the property.

Excellence in a New Business Award People's Choice Award Hospall Private Home

Michelle Frauley and Hospall Private Home was a double recipient this year, taking both the New Business and People's Choice awards.

Michelle Frauley has over three decades of nursing experience, including: family medicine, palliative and end-of-life care, women's health, complex long-term care, operating room, and community nursing. Her experience has taught her that providing quality healthcare is built from a foundation of care and compassion.

Michelle is committed and caring, someone whose attention to detail fuels her passion and success. In 2016, she received an award from the International Nurses Association as a Worldwide

Leader in Healthcare for her overall achievements with Hospall and in her prior position at King City Medical Associates. She is highly respected by clients/families, and colleagues and has been nominated 3 times for the Toronto Star Florence Nightingale Award for Ontario nurses. Michelle is a Certified Professional Consultant on Aging (CPCA).

Michelle loves living and working in King Township. She finds contentment in the relationships that she has built, and the ability to nurse in ways she could have never imagined. She is a board member of the King Chamber of Commerce also a member of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Michelle loves to help support our local business by shopping and dining in King Township. Michelle and her business offer ongoing support to King City Food Bank and is looking forward to getting involved in other local charities.

Michelle founded Hospall Private Homecare in 2013 with the belief that she could lead an amazing group of caregivers in building something remarkable for residents of King and surrounding areas. Hospall is a member of Home Care Ontario and the Ontario Home Care Association and Accreditation Canada. Hospall is also a registered Age Friendly Business.

Michelle as experience showing that interactive caregiving is a method of caring for seniors that promotes physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being.

Her group of caregivers share in Hospall's vision and mission. They believe that trust and compassion are integral components in hiring a care provider. The Hospall team that she has built, provides caring, dependable assistance and reliability 24 hours a day. Their objective never changes, providing the highest degree of care to all patients and the utmost focus on quality of life for all.

In her spare time Michelle loves to travel with her husband Bruce and family and friends. Michelle has a passion to help in the community when needed and abroad communities when she travels. Michelle also loves to boat and enjoys nice wine and great food with family and friends. Michelle truly believes that life is a gift!



Entrepreneur of the Year Kroma Salon

Kroma Salon and Stephanie Karellas earned the Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

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Arts & Entertainment

Residential gardens can offer year-round appeal

By Eleonora Schmied
Schomberg Horticultural Society

Winters in Canada can be long, so creating winter interest in gardens by leaving the seed heads on coneflowers, black eyed Susan, blazing star, Joe Pye weed, tickseed, sun flowers, sedums and ornamental grasses.

They add structure, motion and movement to your cold-weather garden. Keeping the landscape lights on all winter adds mystery to a snow filled back yard, while an urn filled with winter greens, natural stems and berries creates a focal point on the deck.

For most birds, the dried inflorescences of ornamental grasses furnish

essential food, while the plants themselves provide great wildlife habitats. Add drama with fiery stems and emphasize intriguing bark and highlight unusual natural branch structure. The seeds and berries of viburnum, beauty-berry, mountain ash, sumac, crabapple and serviceberry supplement the diet of our feathered friends and welcome migratory birds upon their return in the spring.

At this time of the year, messages like "putting your gardens to bed" are popping up all over social media, gardening magazines and educational seminars. Granted, there are certain items on the checklist that absolutely have to be done, but for the most part,



gardens really don't need to be put to bed permanently when the snow starts flying. Don't put so much pressure on yourself!

Chores like draining the garden hose, blowing out the pipes of the sprinkler system, storing the pressure washer inside so it does not freeze, emptying the rain barrels and storing them upside down, bringing in tender plants, are a must. Clay pots need to be emptied and washed with a mild bleach solution and stored for next year. If leaving them outside, they have to be off the ground and turned upside down.

Clean and put away garden tools and treat the wooden handles with linseed oil or tung oil. Spring is just around the corner, so continue to plant spring flowering bulbs until the ground freezes.

This would also be a good time to put stakes around the trees and bushes that need protection from road salt (like boxwoods), drying winds and a scalding winter sun. However, it is recommended to wait with wrapping the plants after the ground freezes. That way the little critters that were looking for a cozy home inside your wrapped bushes will have gone and found another home for the winter.

Rhododendrons should be loosely wrapped with burlap while burning bushes benefit from being protected from hungry critters with a wire mesh.

Horticulturists recommend to cut back peonies, phlox and other plants

that are prone to mildew but urge us to leave hollow stems at about 12 inches high, so beneficial insects can lay their eggs or hibernate in them. Slugs might hide and overwinter under dead hosta leaves, so they should be removed.

After the first frost and when daytime temperatures are below freezing for a couple of consecutive days, protect roses from freeze and thaw cycles by piling fresh soil or compost over the part where they were grafted by using fresh soil, not soil that was scraped from around the plant.

Don't get carried away with the leaf blower, as it is important to leave the leaves on the garden beds. Insects hide in them, which then become food for backyard birds. Leaves are packed with trace minerals that trees draw up from deep in the soil. When added to your garden, leaves feed earthworms and beneficial microbes. They lighten heavy soils and help sandy soils retain moisture and they make an attractive mulch in the flower garden. Leaves are a fabulous source of carbon to balance the nitrogen in your compost pile. And they insulate tender plants from cold.

Leaving leaves on the lawn might harm the grass, unless they are finely mulched, which then turns them into an important source of nutrition.

With all this in mind, let's enjoy our gardens for year-round appeal, let them feed our souls and spirits.



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The best thing about King is its people!

Volunteers the driving force behind the Parade of Lights

By Julia Galt

“Seeing the joy on everyone’s faces is what makes it special.”

It’s the motto that’s (quite literally) driven Dennis O’Hara, Schomberg’s Farmers’ Parade of Lights’ organizer and founder, through 21 years of the annual Christmas tradition.

In 2020, the year of COVID-19, cancelled events and innumerable restrictions, no one would have faulted the

O’Haras and the 20-odd participating farming families for putting the event on hold. After all, 2020 has spelled the cancellation of the 170th Schomberg Agricultural Spring Fair and Schomberg’s Santa Clause parade, which traditionally precedes the Farmers’ Parade of Lights by several hours.

“From the very beginning, we were on virtual calls trying to find some way to make the parade work,” said O’Hara. “We knew we were going to have it one

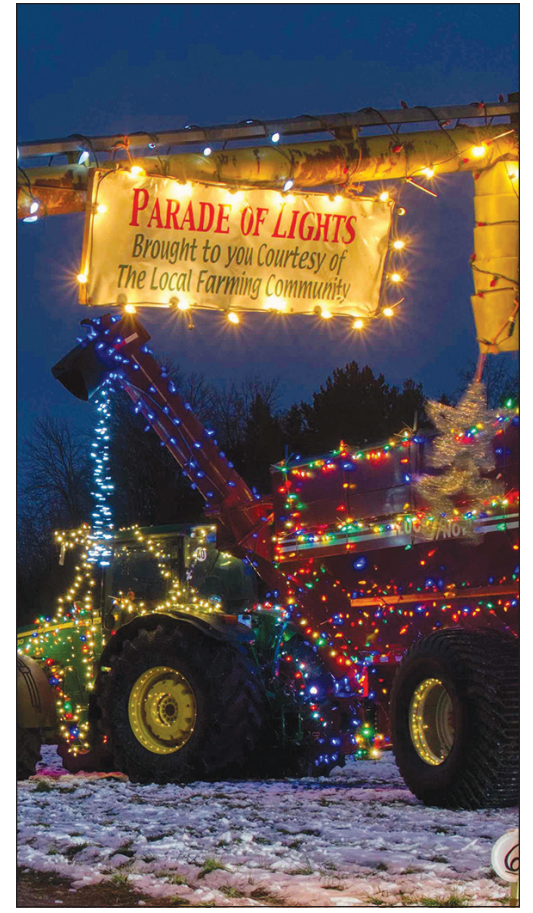
way or another, even if that meant we were going to have to drive the parade through the back roads.”

After considering downsizing the number of tractors and taking less populated routes, a final decision was reached. Adapting the traditional tractor parade down Main Street to a stationary drive-through tour through the Schomberg fairgrounds wasn’t the easiest of undertakings, but the only option that fit the bill.

With a plan in place, there was muddy grounds to contend with, and strict COVID-19 regulations to be followed. Volunteers from the Schomberg Village Association worked tirelessly the week proceeding to ensure the day went smoothly, while Trisan Construction volunteered gravel, machinery, and manpower to grade a driving path through the fairgrounds. As the day rolled around, volunteers from the local Lions Club, Village Association, and more could be seen directing traffic, giving instructions, and spreading general good Christmas cheer.

Most spectacular of all volunteer efforts, of course, were those of the local farmers, who spent countless hours decorating their machinery to dazzling effect.

“We wanted to give back to the community, even during a year like this that has been so bad in so many ways,” said O’Hara. “It’s our way of saying thanks.”



Photos by Tom Wray


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The safest way to celebrate indoors is only with the people who live in your home. People who live alone can get together only with one other home.

Gatherings with friends and extended family can carry an increased risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. Consider celebrating outdoors or virtually with others that are not part of your household.

Know the gathering limits in your area before you choose to entertain with family and friends indoors. Indoor gatherings are not permitted in regions in Grey-Lockdown.

For all gatherings with anyone you do not live with:

- maintain 2 metres physical distance
- wear a face covering
- avoid potlucks or shared utensils
- ensure everyone washes hands regularly, including before and after meals

Self-isolate if you are sick, even if your symptoms are mild and ask guests to stay home if they feel unwell.

Follow provincial and local public health advice to keep you and your loved ones safe this holiday.

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King fire crews busy

King Fire and Emergency personnel have been busy in recent weeks. A dumpster fire, apparently intentionally set, kept them on their toes. Another day, crews from three stations responded to a large structure fire, which was fully involved when they arrived. Fire Chief Jim Wall praised Chiefs 34, 35, 38, and 39 for their solid work.



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The podium in sport is not just for medals, but for history

By Robert Belardi

If 2020 has taught us anything, it's that sport is more than just a professional game where athletes make their millions. It's about enlightened competitive athletes who write an anecdote in the thick-dusty sports encyclopedia that will never stop being written.

And this year's headlines far exceed previous "normal years." It's not just the ominous coronavirus that seemingly won't stop complicating the process. It was the stand in the professional game on social injustice across multiple sporting competitions and even without fans, millions around the world heard the message.

It was also the chance for women to continue to make their mark in male sporting history and shed the gender-gap eclipse.

Kim Ng became the first female general manager in Major League Baseball for the Miami Marlins, writing her story for sports pantheons.

It's a huge accomplishment. This year, many WNBA games were televised. Even Kim Davis, executive VP of social impact, growth initiatives and legislative affairs (one of the highest positions a woman has in the NHL), spoke of ending the racism in hockey this year.

But looking at the NHL, no woman has even been a GM or assistant GM before. Aurora resident Michela Lio would like to be the first.

"I've always dreamed of being the first woman, whether a GM or assistant GM (in the NHL). It's a huge stretch but it's definitely something that I want to work as hard as I can for. But you know, there's steps to get to that point," Lio said.

Lio officially accepted her Div.1 hockey scholarship on Nov. 14th, to the College of Holy Cross in Worcester,

Massachusetts.

She will be studying business at the school and looks to be involved in Sports Management. To get there she'll do anything, even if it's bringing cups of coffee to the office and even, if it is working for Toronto's arch-nemesis; the Boston Bruins.

"Holy Cross has internship programs whether it be the Boston Bruins, or the AHL affiliate team. The girls on the hockey team have done it before, even if it is a six-month thing. I was talking to my coach and she told me about that," Lio said.

In her unique hockey journey, Lio was a late-bloomer in fact. Growing up in an Italian household, she began playing soccer in the summer and basketball in the winter. She played rep in both sports before playing house league hockey when she was nine.

At that tender age, hockey was a co-ed sport and she was willing to play with the guys. Lio comes from a sports family, and it was clear it's who she was. It defined her every-day lifestyle.

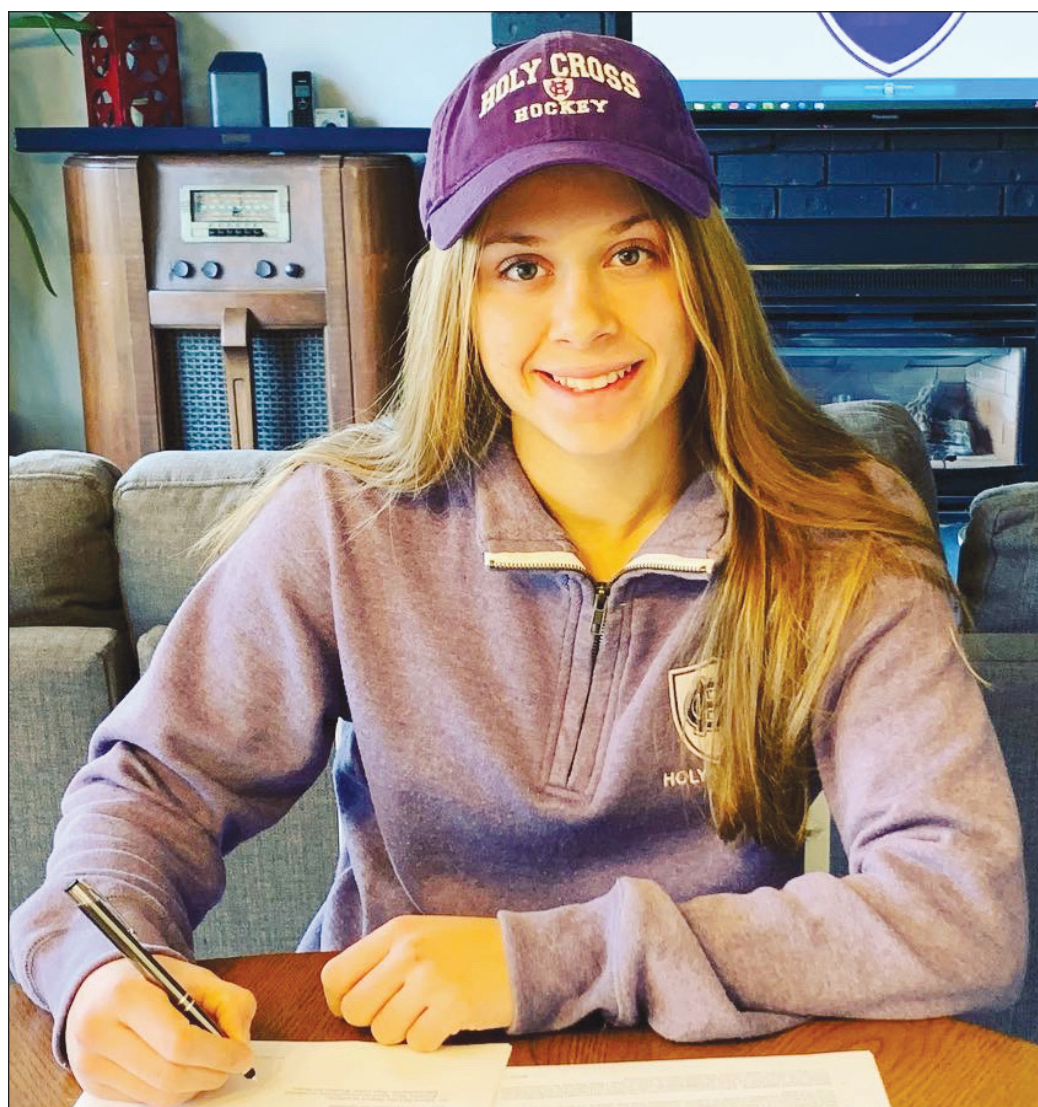
She began as a defenceman for the Etobicoke Dolphins, playing house league for her first year before moving up to select.

She moved over to the North York Storm a few years later; where she transitioned into a forward at the pee wee level and then moved over to the Toronto Aeros for midget AA.

Her coach with the Storm, Dave Gwyn, who she had developed a special relationship with, moved to the Durham West Jr. Lightning and she went with him to the Provincial Junior Women's Hockey League.

She attributes all of her success to Gwyn and his coaching style that has developed her into the player that she is today; mentally and physically.

"I learned so well from him. He's always there for me, he's like a second



Women have been making their mark in the sporting world over the years and with Kim Ng becoming the first female GM in the MLB, Michela Lio, aspires to achieve that goal in the NHL.

dad to me. We're extremely close," Lio said.

"It became very obvious very early on she became what I like to call a 'hockey player' and what I mean by that is, she doesn't just play the game. a constant student of the game. And I think, combined with the work she puts in. You know, her being super fit and working on things like strength are important," Gwyn said.

"To me, that's one of the things that makes her really unique. She is a student of the game and it's going to help her tremendously as she moves forward."

Lio has done it all to be in this position; a point in time where so many outlets have become open to her. Even being a player. But that's going to be difficult.

A friend of hers in the Canadian Women's Hockey League; Canada's professional level, said her salary was \$5,000 a year. In comparison to the

men, that's peanuts to put it bluntly.

But one day, with the hope of making a difference in the hockey community and an impact on the ice, Lio dreams of women playing the sport with a sustainable salary. Even if it isn't the millions, as long as it is something to live off of. She's good.

And her dream, to preach women's hockey to young girls in Canada who want to play the sport just like the boys do, she hopes one day the women's game becomes large enough for other girls to fulfill that dream.

But when it's said history repeats itself, Lio wants to be the gateway for many women seeking management roles. Coaching barriers and trainer barriers have been broken. It's getting there.

Keep an eye out for her name for years to come. One day, she might be making headlines. And even if she isn't the first one by then, she definitely won't be the last.

First-Assist Program going virtual

By Robert Belardi

The Ontario Junior Hockey League Foundation First Assist Program has become a virtual tool.

In the third year of the program, this year's version is modified to adapt to the mental distress of COVID-19 for all 507 elite-student athletes in Junior hockey.

Assistance will be provided via Zoom calls and players will have access to this tool on their smartphones and laptops.

"We couldn't deliver it the way that we did so we actually revamped the programming," Executive Director of the OJHL Foundation, Rick Morocco said.

"Our programming will be done virtually and it's changed a little bit. We have the mental health refresher, but, we're really trying to focus on all of these mental health issues and how maybe, they've become more apparent as a result of what COVID's impact has been."

The program will help athletes who are suffering from disparities such as loneliness, isolation, stress and simply coping with the virus itself.

For those seeking help, sessions will run 1.5 hours with "interactive discussions," focusing on team-building exercises. These sessions will also direct a player on where to seek help.

The official document written on March 21 by the First Assist Program is available on the OJHL website.

"The mental wellness of our players has always been a top priority of the OJHL and is a major reason why in 2018, our Foundation went to industry experts to develop a mental wellness program designed specifically for Junior aged hockey players," OJHL Commissioner, Marty Savoy said in the statement.

This program was discussed far before its creation in 2018.

In 2013, an individual on a team in the league, suggested there should be

a not-for-profit foundation encouraging the mental well-being of players.

Much to the dismay of the intention, the program was sidelined for three years until Morocco was hired. His effort essentially catapulted the program into where it is today.

The OJHL Foundation, worked closely with Glenn Crichton from The Coping Centre and PhD Rebecca Pister from the Canadian Mental Health Association to tie this all together.

"We really tried to break down the barriers and the stigma of mental health. Working with Glenn, he put together a team, including Rebecca Pister, who sought to develop a program we ultimately went with," Morocco explained.

"She started, by sending a request for information from our players, asking a number of questions and based on that feedback, we started to put together that program. That program was meant to be interactive and developed as a campaign."

This program was meant to be run in a classroom setting. A handbook was published each year and handed out to the players. A campaign style call to action was installed that if any of the players have experienced thoughts where they need support, they have an outlet.

Players who chose to remain anonymous, were completely funded by the OJHL and are directed by Crichton on where to go for the help itself.

"We'd like to think we've helped everybody. That's what our goal is. I can tell you, there has been a dozen players that have required some intervention in our league," Morocco said.

"We've always said If we can help one player in the trajectory of their life that we feel it's been a success."

Morocco added the program is continuing to expand and discussions are currently being held with regards to helping staff and coaches. Although no coaches have reported difficulties mentally, Morocco says this expansion is necessary.

Space is indeed a colourful place

By Gary Boyle

Telescope images are colorized and enhanced to a certain extent to bring out various features of a particular celestial object. There are colours in space, however, human eyes cannot see colours when looking through the eyepiece of a telescope: photography is required. Space does have colour because various elements emit a certain colour when burned such as fireworks.

Most of the emission nebulas where stars are created appear red signifying hydrogen which is the most abundant element found in stars. Our sun is 71% hydrogen, 21% helium and 3% are trace elements, all found on the periodic table.

So yes, space is a colourful place that can be overemphasized at times. But even so, it is done to show the beauty of the cosmos.



Totally volunteer-run with a team of 30 who perform all the needed tasks, the KTFB serves nearly 300 residents of King Township with a weekly allotment of food items or food cards every month. KTFB is celebrating its 15th year of service, thanks to the generosity of the community. The annual Web Sponsorship program is an important part of our funding.

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Christmas in King, as a sister organization to KTFB, provides a Merry Christmas to any resident of King Township, including Food Bank families, as requested. CIK has a team of 15 volunteers who perform all the tasks to deliver a Merry Christmas to those in King in December.

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Schomberg Should Know

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

Parade of Lights

The SVA really pulled off a very successful event on Saturday night with a minimal amount of time to pull it all together. Charles Cooper and his gang actually only had 10 days from their final approval from the powers to be until December 5th to decorate up the town and the fairgrounds, gather up over 40 very capable volunteers, fully book their allotment of cars to drive through the fairgrounds viewing the Parade of Lights. But they were more than up to the task!

The community of farmers, with Dennis and Sandy O'Hara leading them on, put on another exceptionally dazzling show, displaying their pride, passion, love of community and Christmas cheer.

There were over 700 cars that went through this year's exceptional parade.

Santa, as always, was there to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

With all the oohs and ahs, smiles and thank-yous, I would say that the entire community loved the event.

The SVA and the community of farmers wish to thank the entire community for their support in making this 2020 Parade of Lights a veritable success!

Since the Craft Show or Village Market was always a big part of AMSC every year, Sarah Ogborn and Lisa Cole have come up with an innovative replacement.

The Schomberg Village Association is proud to present our Online Schomberg Christmas Market, bringing local vendors and artisans directly to you in the comfort of your home. The market will run through Dec. 23 and can be found at www.Schomberg.ca/ChristmasMarket. We are currently accepting vendor applications, so please visit the website to register. Happy shopping!

We have also created a Main Street Christmas poster for 2020. This heart-wrenching, profound poster representing the 2020 AMSC, created by our very own Lisa Cole, AKA "The Paint Lady," dedicated volunteer and SVA member. It really says it all.

This beautiful little African-Ameri-

can girl is reaching up, almost reaching the doorbell, heralding her presence to the neighbours within. The bright light shining from the windows depicts a warm hearth and a welcoming home. Her gift lovingly placed on the doorstep is waiting for her neighbours to be pleasantly surprised as they open the door for her. With her mouth covered and sleigh in hand, to deliver gifts to the next house, she is ready to stand back and social distance to keep everyone safe and healthy.

This symbolic act of good deeds and good cheer illustrates to us all that we, in the world, will get through these strange times. By supporting, giving and caring for each other and all doing the right thing, we can collectively pray for our lives to achieve a sense of normalcy, health and wellness and can all be eternally grateful for what we have and what we can give!

If you would like to purchase one of these memorable posters, please go to schomberg.ca or email amscontact@gmail.com (with the word poster in the subject line).

Children's Coat Drive

The coat/boot drive is once again

happening to benefit "Coats For Kids." This organization distributes kids' coats, boots, snowsuits, hats, mittens and scarves to individuals in need in York Region.

You can drop off these gently washed items to Schomberg Chiropractic in Brownsville Court until Dec. 15. For further information please call 905-939-7569 or visit their website www.schombergchiropractic.ca

Nobleton, Schomberg United Churches

We continue to have recorded on-line worship each Sunday that can be received by e-mail, viewed on the Nobleton Facebook page, or via the Nobleton YouTube channel. If you add your name to our e-mail list, you will also receive our Newsletters and links to some music selections. If you would like a text copy of the service, please contact Carol-Ann so she can drop one off for you.

On Saturday, Dec. 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Nobleton United will hold a Christmas "Eve" drive thru. Light displays and a live Nativity will be the focus and the Jolly man in the red suit will also make an appearance. Christmas Eve service will be online.

Classifieds

Phone 905-857-6626 or 1-888-557-6626
or email admin@caledoncitizen.com

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Unfortunately deadlines do not allow us to take ads after 5:00 p.m. on Monday. When there is a holiday Monday, the deadlines will be Friday at 5:00 p.m. All ads must be paid in advance by deadline or the ad will not run. WE ACCEPT VISA, MASTERCARD, AND AMERICAN EXPRESS PAYMENTS OVER THE PHONE

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Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone
416-917-0406

St. Paul's Church meets for worship at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Please wear a face mask; if you don't have one, we will provide one for you.

This Sunday, Jeff's message is entitled, "Picking Up The Peaces." Our live broadcasts are now available directly on stpaulsnobleton.ca live each Sunday at 10 a.m., or on demand anytime. You can watch previous services or messages at youtube.com/c/stpaulschurchnobleton.

This month, you are invited to participate with us in a Reverse Advent Calendar, where each day we will set aside items for the King Township Food Bank. You can download the calendar at stpaulsnobleton.ca/giving.

While we continue to host in-person worship on Sunday mornings, the leaders have decided that our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship gatherings will be online only, and available on demand on our YouTube channel. While we wish we could gather in the traditional way, we believe that it will

be in the interest of community safety, given the potential numbers, to offer online-only worship for Christmas this year.

LifeConnect Groups have started up again online. These are safe groups where we can just dig a little deeper into the Word, as well as encourage each other. If you would be interested in joining, please just email the church at secretary@stpaulsnobleton.ca.

Our Alpha programs have begun as well, one for adults and one for youth. If you were not able to make it for the fall session, please watch for further information on opportunities to join Alpha.

This Christian-based program is specifically designed to provide a safe place for all people to learn and explore, ask questions, discuss, share opinions, make friends and have fun. If you'd like to find more information on this, check out the link <https://alphacanada.org/en>.

St. Mary's Church

Second Sunday of Advent Prayer for the Advent Wreath:

"Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son,
"Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel,

the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all. O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the first and second (purple) candles of our wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. Amen."

St. Patrick's Church

St. Patrick's CWL will be accepting donations of poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary of St. Patrick's Church for Christmas. If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia to a loved one, please purchase any size or colour Poinsettia and deliver to St. Patrick's Church before the 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. masses on Dec. 20. For more info, please contact Antonella: 416-804-6077.

Our local St. Vincent de Paul reps are collecting various gift cards from the following merchants: Walmart, No Frills, Foodland and Tim Hortons. The gift cards will be distributed to local families in need, in time for the Christmas Holidays.

Please follow these 3 steps: Step 1: Purchase gift card loaded with desired amount.

Step 2: Write amount loaded on the gift card with a marker and place in a sealed envelope with your name, address and amount of gift card enclosed.

Step 3: Drop off in basket marked St. Vincent de Paul on the back table at St. Patrick's and St. Mary's Church at all Masses. You may also deliver or mail your gift cards to the parish office: St. Mary's Church, 190 MacTaggart Dr., Nobleton, L0G 1N0 Please call the parish office at 905-859-5522 for an appointment to drop off gift cards.

A tax receipt will be issued by for a minimum \$10 gift card donation. Envelopes available at the back table of both churches. Thank you for your continued support of our local community, especially those who are in need.

Nobleton, Schomberg United Churches

We continue to have recorded online worship each Sunday that can be received by e-mail, viewed on the Nobleton Facebook page, or via the Nobleton YouTube channel. If you add your name to our e-mail list, you will also receive our newsletters and links to some music selections.

More on Page 19

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How to create a durable gingerbread house

Gingerbread cookies and houses are one of the many symbols of the holiday season, alongside Christmas trees and twinkling lights. In fact, few confections symbolize the holidays more so than gingerbread.

Many a child (or a child at heart) has spent hours carefully trying to create decorative gingerbread houses. Although gingerbread recipes span various cultures, gingerbread houses originated in 16th century Germany. The fairy tale "Hansel and Gretel" helped solidify the popularity of gingerbread, which became part of Christmas traditions.

Even though gingerbread houses can be fun to make, there's no denying it can be exacting work — especially for those who strive for perfection. Prepackaged kits attempt to take some of the guesswork out of the equation, but those who are crafting from scratch can employ these tips as they build their gingerbread houses.

- Go for form and not flavor. Few gingerbread houses ever get eaten, so focus on finding a dough that will bake up rock hard as opposed to one that tastes good.
- Get the right icing texture. Pastry artist Catherine Beddall says royal icing is the preferred "glue" to adhere gingerbread pieces. Beddall says icing should be thick like peanut butter and not runny.



- Mind the dough. Do not roll out the gingerbread dough too thin or it may become brittle after being cooked. Always cut out shapes before the gingerbread is baked. Let the baked pieces sit overnight to cool completely before using them to build.
- Patience is key. Allow the icing to dry for at least a couple of hours after adhering each piece and before moving and handling the house, says Beddall. Work in stages so that individual items can be decorated and allowed to dry. Then the walls can be put together, followed by the roof pieces.
- Kids likely will need help.

Children may not have the patience or steadiness to handle complete gingerbread construction. They can decorate the separate pieces of the house while the components are laying flat, which is easier for kids. Adults can do the main assembly later on.

- Utilize a template. Free-handing may not be easy. Cut out templates using cardboard or posterboard for various gingerbread pieces.

One of the most important tips is to have fun. Don't take gingerbread house making too seriously as a novice. Rather, enjoy the experience and the centuries-old tradition.

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King's Corners

**King City United
By Sheryl Sinka**

Worship will be online only, and can be accessed through our website and email.

If you would like to receive an email please contact the church at kcuc@bellnet.ca

We hope you will join us virtually for the third Sunday of Advent with Rev. Bruce Roffey presiding. As the numbers in our province have risen we have decided to move back to only worshipping online for the coming weeks. We will update you when we resume onsite worship but we hope that you will stay home, stay safe and join with us virtually in this season of Advent.

Our YouTube channel is York United Ministries and all our services and postings can be viewed and you will receive notifications to new content if you subscribe.

If you have any questions you may contact the King City office for more information at 905 833 5181. We are grateful for your cooperation in following our safety protocols when entering our buildings. Our churches have opened adhering to the guidelines of the Province of Ontario, York Region and Shining Waters Region (United Church of Canada) and we continue to comply with the RedZone requirements for worship.

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.

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

King Bible Church

It has been quite the year hasn't it? Who could have imagined as we entered 2020, that this year would contain so much uncertainty?

Let's face it we are all in need of some good news! Enter the message of Christmas, that into the messiness of our world, in the small town of Bethlehem a Saviour was born. And during this season where so much seems to be different, we would like to invite you to join us at King Bible Church as we seek to reconnect with the reality of God's love for us, proclaimed through the story of that first Christmas.

Our series entitled, "The Christmas Experience" focuses on some of the traditional themes of advent. We are currently meeting online only for the next number of weeks. Please visit our website www.kingbiblechurch.com for directions on how to join us online.

Pastor Mark will be speaking on "Experiencing God's Plan and Purpose" on Dec. 13!

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

Welcome to our online Sunday service at 10:15 a.m. Although it is challenging and not usual to meet virtually,

St. Andrew's wishes to provide a safe and comfortable worship experience for all and until further notice we will only be having online services throughout this special time of the year.

Thank you to Jim and Corky Agnew for lighting the Advent candle of Peace last Sunday, the second Sunday in Advent.

Please go to our website st-andrews-kingcity.ca where you will find a link to our Sunday morning service at 10:15 a.m. A virtual "Coffee Fellowship" is held following the service. Grab your coffee and do get in touch should you wish to join us afterwards.

The King Township Food Bank is still continuing with its safe monthly food distribution and the Greater Grace Fellowship is meeting Sunday at 5:00 p.m. in the lounge for their Bible Study. To contact Pastor Niyazi and Irada Bilgen call 416-878-8499.

Virtual "Art for the Soul" is Wednesday afternoons with Lynn. Lynn and her artists are presently working on a large canvas to be displayed on the south wall of the church in time for Christmas in King's Holiday Light Tour Display 2020, Dec. 12-31. Buy a map for \$10 to support CiK by going to christmasinking.ca.

Lynn has arranged for special weekly emails during this Advent Season with thoughtful messages leading up to Christmas including wonderful ideas to do with your children or grandchildren, helping them to know the real meaning of Christmas. The Rev. Konnie Vissers has prepared this weekly package. Please contact Lynn should you wish to be included on the mailout.

For pastoral care, call or text Lynn Vissers, Director of Congregational Ministries at 416-998-4652 or the Rev. Paul Johnston, our Interim Moderator at 705-341-7738.

May you know God's presence daily, bringing peace and joy as we give our worries to the Lord, for He cares for us. Philippians 4:6&7.

Keep in touch and we hope to see you soon.

**All Saints Anglican Church
By Patrick Gossage**

Pandemic Prayer Project: Since many of us are cut off from those we love this Christmas, we have started the Pandemic Prayer Project. We will put photos of our missed loved ones on our church wall and pray that God keeps us all safe until our reunions with them. Please send photos to us via allsaints3@bellnet.ca, identifying who they are and why they are dear to you.

We also welcome pictures of those who have passed away since COVID and ask God to keep them in His eternal care.

Words to live by - Fr. Michael spoke on Mark's gospel: "the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (1.1), is first announced by John the Baptizer, "the voice of one crying out in the wilderness" (Mk 1.3). This austere figure lives in the wilderness, calling us to confess our sins and receive a baptism of forgiveness.

"This is good news? Admitting those things we are not proud of, and asking forgiveness from a scary man in an inhospitable desert? Though many of us would not welcome this as good news, we do want to improve ourselves - just go on a website like Amazon, search for "self help", and you'll find a mountain of books. Not many of them address the idea of sin.

More on Page 19

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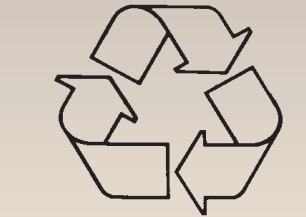
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King's Corners

From Page 18

There are many books with titles such as Good Vibes, Good Life: How Self-Love is the Key to Unlocking Your Greatness. To say that we are sinful is

more profound. It is to admit that we are deeply flawed and in need of help.

While we aren't inclined to dwell on our own sins, we are quite willing to recognize them in others, as "cancel culture" attests. We've developed rituals to shame and disgrace adulterous politicians and fallen celebrity pastors, and yet we don't really forgive them Je-

sus isn't interested in our disapproval of others.

He often says things like why does that speck in your brother's eye bother you when you've got a plank in your own? Jesus's point is that focusing on the flaws of others is hypocrisy. Our disapproval of others keeps us from ever being honest with ourselves. If we were more honest with ourselves, we would be less likely to ignore our flaws. Honesty is thus a pre-condition for spiritual growth and transformation, which is the goal of the Christian life. This idea of attaining a whole new identity is much bigger than the idea of sin and repentance. Repentance leads to a more Christ-like place where we can look

charitably on others and want the best for them, pray for them, see ourselves in them, which is far better than wanting others cancelled for their crimes.

"Finally, John's baptism involves the confession of sins (1.5) but does John have the power to forgive these sins? John's baptism may be a sign of God's grace, but Jesus's baptism IS God's grace, God's plan and God's power to remake us into the beloved children God always wanted us to be. That's the good news of Christ, that even though we are called into the wilderness, even though we are called to look deeply and honestly into ourselves, when we look back at Jesus we see only the transforming love of God."

Nobleton Notes

From Page 17

If you would like a text copy of the service, please contact Carol-Ann so she can drop one off for you.

On Thursday mornings we will continue with our Zoom coffee social from 10-10:40, followed by an Advent Study from 10:45 to 11:30. Please contact Carol-Ann for a link to the meeting if you'd like to join.

On Tuesday mornings during December you may see some carollers in the area. Weather permitting the Joyful Spirits are scheduled to visit various Seniors residents to do some social distance outdoor caroling. We will ensure that all of the current COVID-19 guidelines for York Region will be met.

On Saturday, Dec. 19 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Nobleton United will hold a Christmas "Eve" drive thru. Light displays and a live Nativity will be the focus and the Jolly man in the red suit will also make an appearance. Cars will enter via Hawman Ave. and exit onto King St. where the minister will offer a blessing to each car as they leave.

Christmas Eve service will be online and distributed like our Sunday services. A short outdoor candle-light service will happen outside of St. Mary Magdalene at 7:30 p.m. Numbers will

be limited based on the current restrictions.

If you would like to support our ministry, you can find us on CanadaHelps.org.

You can contact Carol-Ann at ministrnobletonschomberg@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, conducting meetings via Zoom. Updates on club activities are shown on the club's website at <https://e-club-house.org/sites/nobleton/>

Also of note is an ongoing 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!



Church delivers flowers

Church elder Bev Baker, along with her husband Jamie, delivered poinsettias to residents of Nobleview Pines, on behalf of St. Paul's Church, with a Christmas greeting that encouraged them to know they are not alone, and are being prayed for. Pictured is Mary, who accepted the poinsettias on behalf of the residents of the building. She and two other residents distributed the plants to each apartment in order to avoid large gatherings in the lobby.

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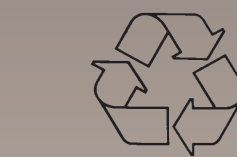
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8 TIPS TO SUPPORT A GRIEVING FRIEND THIS HOLIDAY

Knowing how to support a friend who is grieving is never easy. Though one size doesn't fit all, here are a few tips to get you started:



SUPPORT THEIR HOLIDAY CHOICES

You may not love their decision to skip certain holiday events, drop or change traditions, fly to Bali, or whatever else they have decided to do to cope. Keep in mind the holidays are incredibly difficult in grief, so respect and support their coping choices.



INVITE THEM TO HOLIDAY EVENTS, BUT DON'T PUSH

Extend invitations to participate in holiday festivities such as zoom meetings, socially distanced gatherings or outdoor cheer, but make it clear that you absolutely understand if they aren't up for it. Even if they said no in previous years, still extend invitations and leave the decision with your friend as to whether they attend or not.



BE PREPARED THAT PLANS MAY CHANGE

Whether it's a last minute bail on a holiday activity, or a last minute acceptance, try to be flexible and understanding.



SEND A THOUGHTFUL HOLIDAY CARD

It can sometimes be hard to see all the smiling, happy families without feeling the tinge of pain about their new incomplete family. Instead of the standard photo card, send a thoughtful handwritten note acknowledging how tough the holidays must be, while including a special memory with them.



CONSIDER A MEMORIAL DONATION

If you exchange gifts with your friend, there are many beautiful memorial gifts out there that may be a good option. You can also acknowledge their grief this holiday season by making a donation in memory of their loved one to a charity that is important or that was important to their loved one.



OFFER PRACTICAL HELP AND SUPPORT

Try to offer something specific rather than something vague. Some things that might be helpful are offering to help them with decorating (if they plan to decorate), help with holiday shopping, gift wrapping, watching their kids so they can go shopping, offer to take their kids to holiday events they might not be up for, or preparing a holiday meal.



LISTEN WITHOUT MINIMIZING, JUDGING OR GIVING ADVICE

If your friend just needs to vent, complain, and emote about their misery trying to make it through the holidays, just listen and support them. Don't try to find silver linings, don't tell them they should be over it, don't tell them what they 'should' or 'shouldn't' do. Just be there to listen!



REMEMBER, GRIEF DOESN'T ONLY IMPACT THE FIRST HOLIDAY SEASON!

After the death of a loved one, grief just becomes a part of a person's holiday season. Many people will probably make your friend feel like they should be 'over it' by the second or third holiday season. Make sure you provide them with the same kindness, support, and consideration you did in the first year.

Honour someone special with a gift to your Hospice – www.myhospice.ca



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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

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We made it!

We are finally
at the end of 2020.

What a crazy year!



By **Julien Laurion**
The Big Tuna of Real Estate

AS WE ALL KNOW, this has been a very hard year in so many ways. Unfortunately, some have felt the impact of the pandemic more than others. The end of each year gives us time to reflect and hope for a better New Year. There is definitely a lot that could get better! That said, many positive things came from 2020.

Remarkably, the real estate market has stayed very strong and resilient. Sellers are getting some of the highest prices for their homes. Low-interest rates continue to fuel and support the buying and selling of residential properties.

Many have stepped up to the plate in their workplaces and helped our community in more ways than what was ever originally expected of them. Many have learned new hobbies or rekindled past passions. Additionally, we have heard of so

many great stories of those in our community who are giving back and helping out those who need it most in this difficult time. A lot of us are getting to spend much more time with our families. We have also learned how important small and local businesses are to the quality of our communities. The emphasis on shopping local is at an all-time high.

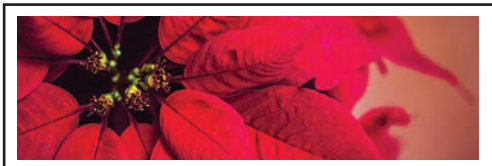
Finally, and probably the best news of all. When we can finally mingle at holiday parties and gatherings again, those who are not a fan of small talk now have a plethora of things to discuss when we are feeling awkward at socials. No need to discuss the weather anymore!

Once we get to looking back at 2020 and COVID-19, we will all have lots of stories to share about the challenges we faced and how we overcame them!

Stay strong, everyone! I wish all my readers,

neighbours, friends, and family a happy holiday season and a joyous, prosperous and healthy 2021.

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



Help make your poinsettias last longer

Poinsettias are synonymous with the holiday season. These colourful plants brighten up homes with their vibrant hues in variations of red, white and pink, making them a holiday decoration many people cannot live without.

While they're most visible during the often chilly holiday season, poinsettias prefer warm weather. Poinsettias are native to Central America and originally flourished in an area of southern Mexico. The Aztecs used the plant for decorative and medicinal purposes.

The poinsettia may have remained a regional plant if not for the efforts of Joel Roberts Poinsett, who was the first United States Ambassador to Mexico under President James Madison. Poinsett, who would later found the Smithsonian Institution, had a love of botany and became enamoured with the brilliant red plants he saw in Mexico. Eventually, Poinsett began growing the plants at home in South Carolina, and friends and others soon coveted them.

Poinsettias are beautiful and the bracts (modified leaves) can be vibrantly coloured. That signature vibrancy is why many people would like to preserve their poinsettias to last beyond the New Year, which is possible with the right care. The following are some tips, courtesy of Mother Natures Network, Habersham Gardens, Oregon Live, and Phoenix Flower Shops, to keep poinsettias thriving past the holiday season.

Start with healthy plants that have full leaves, bracts and deep colours.

Poinsettias do best when the temperature is between 18 and 24 C. Temperatures below that or drafts from cold windows can cause leaves to drop.

Position the plant in a room that gets indirect sunlight for at least six hours per day. If direct sunlight can't be avoided, diffuse the light with a sheer curtain.

Poinsettias need well-drained soil. Overwatering or allowing roots to sit in wet soil can cause the leaves to fall off prematurely. Water thoroughly only when the pot looks dry. In households with temperatures around 21 C, the plant should be watered about once a week.

Fertilize the plant after the blooming season with a balanced, all-purpose fertilizer.

Try placing poinsettias in or near a bathroom, as they prefer high humidity.

It may be possible to get poinsettias to rebloom next season. Allow the poinsettias to dry out a little more in the spring. In May, cut about four inches from each stem to produce a lush, full plant during the winter. The plants can be moved outside in June and during the summer, but keep them away from direct sunlight. Return the poinsettias indoors beginning around October. Make sure the plants get at least 12 hours of darkness per day for around eight weeks in October and November. This will help them develop a deep hue and bloom on time for Christmas.

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Keep family traditions alive

(NC) The holidays are here and while this year may feel a bit different, it's important to keep our family traditions alive.

Every family has their own set of traditions that has been passed down from generation to generation, as well as new ones created each year.

Secret's out of the bag.

Secret family recipes are a seasonal staple, but at some point all recipes need to be passed down to the next generation so the traditions can live on. This year, have the keeper of those precious family recipes host a virtual cooking class to walk close family members through the steps so that everyone can still enjoy the coveted dish this year.

Keep active.

Holidaytime can be stressful and we may be eating a little more than normal, so it's important to try to maintain regular physical activity. Spending time outside with family can do you a world of good, so go build that snowman or organize a snowball fight - two great socially distanced activities. You can also bundle up for a walk around your neighbourhood to see all the twinkling lights or go skating at a local outdoor rink.

Sip smart.

With multiple virtual events planned you're likely going to find yourself enjoying foods and beverages with higher sugar content. Eggnog and other festive drinks contain more sugar than you may realize. Enjoy them, but in moderation. Have one of your favourite cocktails, then switch to sparkling water flavoured with fresh fruit and herbs, such as cranberries and rosemary for a festive touch.

If you're looking for more tips and simple ways to boost nutrition, Loblaws registered dietitians are here to help. To book a session to learn how to eat healthier during the holiday season and into the new year visit loblaws.ca/dietitians.

www.newscanada.com

Many of our customs are centred around food - whether it's mom's decadent chocolate yule log, nana's savoury sausage rolls, or nonna's famous cappelletti soup, you don't have to miss out on those special treats just because our celebrations might need to change.

Let's go virtual.

If you're unable to gather with friends and family, take your traditions online. Prepare for your virtual get-together by hanging your stockings and decorating your tree. Organize an epic gift exchange and traditional potluck. You can make a few porch drops ahead of jumping online with your crew for some festive cheer. Or you can share your favourite recipes ahead of time so that everyone is able to enjoy the same dishes.



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Tips for getting your home ready for *winter*

(NC) With colder weather fast approaching, it's time to get your home prepped and ready for the upcoming season. Need some tips on how to properly prepare your property? Here are a few easy ways to winter-proof your house without breaking the bank.

Inspect your roof for any needed repairs. Your roof is an integral part of your home's structure, so make sure it is intact to avoid issues such as mould or water damage. While thoroughly cleaning your eavestroughs of any dirt and debris, make sure to

conduct a roof inspection for damaged, loose or missing shingles. Also, check your attic to confirm it has sufficient insulation to help reduce heat transfer. Finally, ensure your roof vents are not blocked so you can prevent moisture buildup in the attic that could damage the roof structure.

Check your furnace. Conduct routine maintenance checks on your furnace and have it professionally serviced ahead of the winter months to avoid malfunctions or problems when you need it the most.

Unexpected heating issues can easily be avoided through filter and wire inspections and routine checks, which ensure proper air flow and energy efficiency, ultimately saving you time on inconvenient breakdowns.

Shut down outdoor water systems. After a long summer of tending to the outdoor garden, it's time to disconnect your garden hose and properly

drain any remaining water. Turn off all outdoor faucets to prevent fixtures from freezing or causing long-term damage to your plumbing system. If you're closing your hot tub or pool for the winter, make sure to follow the owner's manual for proper procedure. Consider using antifreeze to help prevent broken pipes and expensive damage come springtime.

Cover your needs. Make sure you always have the best insurance coverage, as choosing appropriately is an important task of homeownership. Find the right insurance for your needs by comparing providers to find the best rate and coverage. When taking into account the coverage you need, remember to consider the value of your home in addition to its contents, and the threat of any potential risks such as theft or weather damage. For more information, check out PC Insurance at pcinsurance.ca.

www.newscanada.com

Decorate with a nose toward inviting holiday aromas

Holiday decor is as much about the sights and sounds as it is about the scents of the season.

Few things evoke the holiday spirit as much as the aroma of fresh evergreen or spicy cinnamon and cloves. Incorporating inviting aromas into holiday decor can make homes feel even more special.

Filling a home with fragrant decor takes a little ingenuity and planning. Here are some ideas to incorporate the scents of the holiday season into your decor.

- **Use a real Christmas tree.** An easy way to create a pine-like scent indoors is to select a real Christmas tree. Ask the tree farm which varieties are the most fragrant. If a fresh tree is not possible, fill a decorative basket with pine cones and evergreen boughs for that woody appeal.

- **Create a seasonal scented simmer.** Take to the stove to make a homemade air infusion from ingredients in and around the house. Simmer pine branches, citrus peels, vanilla, nutmeg, cinnamon, and whatever else can be placed in a pot or slow cooker with water. The scents will permeate the house for hours if enough water is added to the mixture.

- **Make holiday sachets.** Some of the same ingredients for the holiday simmer can be dried and sewn into sachets. Add ribbon and hang on real or artificial trees. Or tuck the pouches into various areas around the house.

- **Experiment with scented candles.** Scented candles can be found at various stores during the holiday season. Select among popular holiday aromas like pine, cinnamon, apples, and Christmas cookie varieties.

- **Utilize essential oils.** Natural food stores and other retailers may sell essential oils, which can be diluted and sprayed on surfaces or into the air. Exercise caution around upholstery, or test for staining before use.

- **Spend more time in the kitchen.** Add delicious scents to the home by way of freshly baked goods or holiday meals. Nothing beats the smell of cookies right out of the oven, and the scents can linger for hours.

- **Make beeswax ornaments.** Add scented oils to melted beeswax and pour into molds. Hang these creations as ornaments on trees or in other areas of the home.

- **Craft some "gingerbread" ornaments.** A mixture of cinnamon, applesauce and glue can be used to make ornaments or gift tags that resemble gingerbread cookies, and these ornaments have more staying power than actual cookies.

- **Design a pretty pomander.** Stud an orange with cloves. Cut off the top of the orange and hollow out a place for a small tea light. The warmth of the flame will produce more scent.

Rich and inviting aromas can fill a home with the holiday spirit.

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In 2020, there were many who felt real estate sales would halt and instead, there was a steady rise in transactions after a quieter spring due to initial lockdowns and uncertainty about COVID-19. Interest rates remain incredibly low, and demand outweighed the number of homes for sale, causing home values to increase to the delight of many Sellers.

What an incredible year it's been in real estate across the Greater Toronto area. In uncertain times one thing is for certain that many need to buy and sell homes of all descriptions for a variety of reasons in any given month. First-time homebuyers still wanted to own real estate, those needing to downsize pushed that priority forward, investors continued to do so, and some took the leap to purchase their dream estate home.

Real estate professionals had to learn to become more tech-savvy if they weren't already and much more business takes place virtually. REALTORS® started adopting communication tools like Zoom,

Google Meets and more to meet with clients and share homes for sale and review documents. Live video showings bridged the gap for some shoppers unable to experience homes in person due to health and safety concerns or showing restrictions. I-Guide and Matterport technology, digital floor plans and professional video walk-throughs have been ideal visual aids to elevate the Buyers experience. Virtually staging properties has become another safer solution for some, and digital brochures have been replacing paper-based brochures to reduce touch in homes for sale experienced in person. Face to face open houses became restricted, and registrants have adapted by hosting virtual open houses.

The latest real estate accessories have become personal protective equipment consisting of gloves, mask, hand sanitizer, booties and COVID-19 pre-screening declarations before appointments.

Buyer criteria have shifted in many cases, with more people being able to work from home, making the suburbs more appealing. Travel bans

have caused others to consider cottage life across Ontario as a solution for weekend getaways and remote working settings. Many homeowners renovated their homes to love them before selling if they planned on deferring the sale to the future.

Toronto Regional Real Estate Board registrants have been meeting clients virtually and physically distanced, staying as safe as possible while learning buyer's and seller's needs and wants to help them realize their real estate dreams. Happy holidays to all, and stay safe and attentive to personal safety recommendations. Call a REALTOR® today to book a virtual consultation to discuss 2021 goals in real estate and to design an action plan custom suited to your needs.

— Written by Connie Power
Connie Power is Manager, Real Estate Sales Representative
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Real Estate Market Update – Aurora

No letting up in seller's market

An incredible flurry of home buying activity continued into November with 102 home sales of all home types in Aurora, 60 percent more homes than the prior year. There were 114 homes placed for sale in November, 142 in all of Aurora were available to purchase on December 1st. Home average pricing increased by more than 20 percent year over year at \$1,120,122. At this rate of purchasing, compared to homes available for sale, there are only two months of inventory available for purchase, and this demand tends to drive home values higher for the benefit of the Seller(s). Sellers continue to yield on average 98 percent of their asking price, and it often takes about 32 days for homes to sell.

When comparing the sales year to date, there have been 1052 compared to 914 last year at this time. If we take the highest and lowest sale from the equation of every month this year, we are left with a median home value of \$940,000, which is 13 percent stronger than last November's year-to-date calculation.

As interest rates remain low and COVID-19 safety precautions are followed, December home sales are likely to finish ahead of the prior year as well. Wishing all happy holiday wishes for safe, healthy, happy and memorable times with loved ones, whether in person or virtually gathered.

— 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
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*The statistics provided herein were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board; Summary of Existing home Transactions for all home types for November of 2019, 2020 and the Regional Housing Market Tables for York region, Aurora November 2019, 2020

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



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**RESALE
HOMES
COLLECTIONS**

Get the best mortgage financing deal

Few people are able to walk into a home, like what they see and then pay for a house in cash. In the vast majority of home purchases, mortgages make the dream of homeownership a reality.

Getting a mortgage requires research and some preparation on the part of borrowers if they hope to get the friendliest terms possible.

Homes are substantial, decades-long investments, so it's smart to shop around to find the best rates and lenders available. These tips can make the process of applying and getting a mortgage go smoothly, and may even help borrowers save some money.

Learn your credit score. Your credit score will be a factor in determining just how much bargaining power you have for lower interest rates on mortgage loans, according to the financial resource NerdWallet. The higher the credit score, the better. Well before shopping for a mortgage, manage your debt, paying it off if possible, and fix any black marks or mistakes on your credit report.

Investigate various lenders. The Federal Trade Commission says to get information from various sources, whether they are commercial banks, mortgage companies, credit unions, or thrift institutions. Each is likely to quote different rates and prices, and the amount they're willing to lend you may vary as well. Investigating various lenders can help you rest easy knowing you got the best rate for you. Lenders may charge additional fees that can drive up the overall costs associated with getting a mortgage. Compare these fees as well so you can be sure you get the best deal.

Consider a mortgage broker. Mortgage brokers will serve as the middle person in the transaction. A broker's access to several different lenders can translate into a greater array of loan products and terms from which to choose.

Learn about rates. Become informed of the rate trends in your area. Lower rates translate into significant savings amounts per month and over the life of the loan. The rate may be fixed, though some are adjustable-rate mortgages (also called a variable or floating rate). Each has its advantages and disadvantages, and a financial consultant can discuss what might be in your best interest.

Discuss points with your financial advisor and lender. Some lenders allow you to pay points in advance, which will lower the interest rate. Get points quoted in dollar amounts so they'll be easier to compare. If you're unfamiliar with points, discuss the concept with your financial advisor.

The vast majority of homeowners secured a mortgage to purchase their homes. Learning about the mortgage process can help new buyers navigate these sometimes tricky financial waters.



**6 steps
to organize
your home office**

Remote working has become popular in recent years, but the working-from-home economy bloomed exponentially as the world was forced to confront the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Stanford economist Nicholas Bloom, as of summer 2020, 42 percent of the United States labour force was working from home full-time.

The need for home office spaces has increased as more people work from home. Many people have retrofitted various spaces around their homes into areas to get work done. More organized home workspaces can increase productivity. Individuals can follow these guidelines to create effective, organized home offices.

BEGIN WITH THE DESK

The desk is the primary spot where work will take place. The right desk accessories can provide visual appeal and also serve practical purposes. Have cups for holding pens and pencils, baskets and bins for

larger items, and store whatever you can elsewhere so it does not lead to clutter on the desk. Store wireless printers in a cabinet or even on a bookshelf so it doesn't take up real estate on the desk.

CREATE A PRINTING STATION

While you're moving that wireless printer elsewhere, designate a space to serve as the central printing hub. This way children who need to print assignments for school will know where to go as well. Printer supplies like extra ink cartridges and printer paper can be kept in decorative storage boxes nearby.

INCREASE YOUR SHELVING

Shelving can help keep items organized and off the desk in home offices without closets or drawers. Look for shelves that blend in with decor but are sturdy enough to be functional.

ORGANIZE PAPERWORK

Figure out a system that works for you to help tidy up papers you choose to save. While some papers can be

scanned and stored as digital files, colour-coded file folders can organize statements and other important documents. This makes it easy to find the folder you need when looking for certain documents.

ESTABLISH A CHARGING STATION

Repurpose certain items, such as a desk organizer, into an easily accessible electronics charging station where phones and tablets can charge at one time.

MAKE ESSENTIAL BINDERS

HGTV suggests making binders that can store the most important papers for easy access even in an emergency. Set up a binder for automotive paperwork, including repair receipts, a medical binder where key medical records are kept, a binder for manuals for devices in the home, and one to store financial planning documents.

These organizational tips can help remedy common problems around a home office.

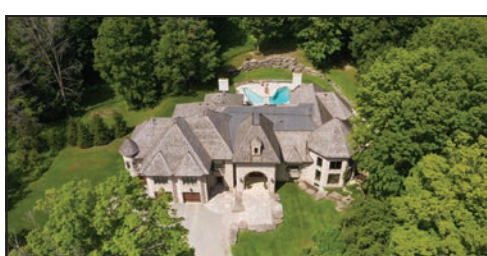


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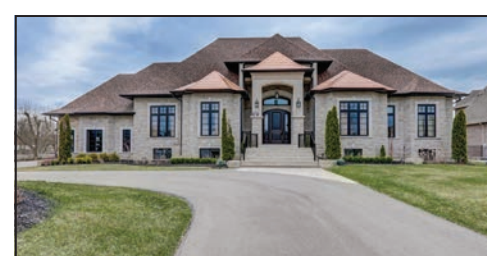
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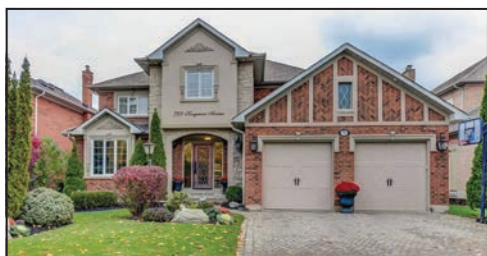
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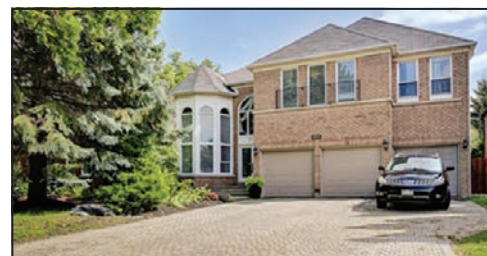
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**RESALE
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4 ideas for family game night



FAMILY GAME NIGHTS can be a great way for families to disconnect from their devices and spend quality time together. Much in the way that family dinners can facilitate conversation and closeness, game nights can spark companionship and hours of fun.

Game nights are easy to organize and are particularly handy on those nights when there's not much to do or when the weather makes outside activities impossible.

To get started, use these game ideas as a catalyst for fun.

1 STICK TO THE CLASSICS. Certain games remain tried and true family favourites. These include Monopoly, Trouble, Risk, Clue and Scrabble. Adults who had a favourite game growing up can play it with their children and see who outsmarts who.

2 LEARN CARD GAMES. From War to Spades to Gin to Uno, many card games have withstood the test of time. This is a great way to bridge gaps between grandparents and grandchildren. The older generation can teach these familiar games to children, and everyone can join in the fun.

3 STRENGTHEN DRAMA SKILLS. Charades is a game in which teams must act out a word or phrase based on certain categories and have others on their side guess what is being mimed. Charades often lead to lots of laughs and stumped participants.

4 SHOP FOR NEW FUN. Take a family trip to a toy store or another retailer and browse the games aisle. Let each family member pick out a game that appeals to them and then include them in your family game night rotation.

Families can engage and converse over entertaining games that bridge generations.



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**RESALE
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Incorporate
eggnog
into your

holiday BRUNCH

Food is a big part of the holiday season. Big meals are typically the focal point of holiday gatherings with family and friends. Seasonal beverages also have a special place at holiday dinner tables and parties. This holiday season, hosts can incorporate a beloved beverage into their holiday brunches by whipping up the following recipe for Baked Eggnog French Toast with Cranberries and Apples, courtesy of Betty Rosbottoms Sunday Brunch (Chronicle Books).



Baked Eggnog French Toast with Cranberries and Apples

Serves 6

GLAZED CRANBERRIES AND APPLES

- 2 cups apple cider
- 6 tablespoons light corn syrup
- 2 tablespoons light brown sugar
- 8 tablespoons unsalted butter, diced
- 3 Golden Delicious apples (about 1 1/4 lb), peeled, cored and cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries (see note 1)
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar, plus more if needed

1 For the Glazed Cranberries and Apples: Whisk together the apple cider, corn syrup and brown sugar in a large, heavy saucepan over high heat. Boil until reduced to 1 cup, about 15 minutes. Whisk in 4 tablespoons of the butter until melted. Remove from the heat and set aside.

2 Melt the remaining 4 tablespoons of butter in a large, heavy frying pan over medium heat until hot. Add the apples stirring, for 2 minutes. Add the cranberries and granulated sugar, and stir until cranberries begin to pop about 2 minutes. Stir in the reduced cider mixture and cook until the mixture has reduced to a syrup-like consistency,

about 6 minutes. Taste and stir in more sugar, if desired. (The cranberries and apples can be prepared 1 day ahead; cool, cover and refrigerate. Reheat, stirring, over medium heat.)

3 For the Eggnog French Toast: Arrange the bread slices in a 9-by-13-inch shallow baking dish. Whisk together the eggnog, nutmeg and cinnamon in a medium bowl. Pour the mixture over the bread. Cover the pan with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 6 hours, or overnight.

4 Arrange a rack at center position and preheat the oven to 450 F. Butter a large, rimmed baking

EGGNOG FRENCH TOAST

- 1/2" thick (34-inch) bread slices, cut on a sharp diagonal from a day-old baguette (see note 2)
- 2 1/2 cups purchased eggnog (see cooking tip)
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- Pinch of ground cinnamon
- 3 tablespoons melted unsalted butter
- Confectioners sugar

sheet with some of the melted butter. Using a metal spatula, transfer the bread slices to the baking sheet. Brush the bread with the remaining melted butter.

5 Bake for 10 minutes, and then turn and bake until golden brown on the outside and still soft inside, 5 to 6 minutes more. Watch carefully so they do not burn.

6 Arrange 2 slices on each of six dinner plates and mound the warm fruits on top. Dust generously with confectioners sugar and serve.



NOTE 1: If using frozen cranberries, defrost and pat dry.

NOTE 2: You also can use a good, crusty sourdough bread; cut 3/4-inch slices from it, and if they are large, cut them in half.

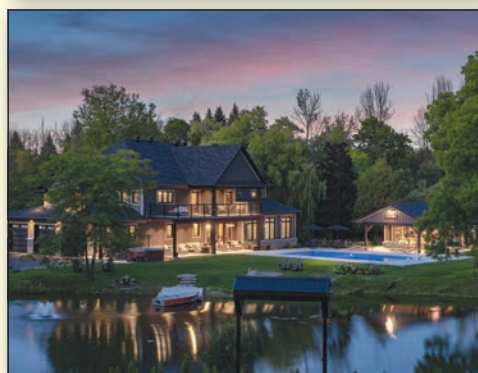
COOKING TIP: If eggnog is not available at the supermarket, whisk together 4 egg yolks, 1/2 cup sugar and 2 cups light cream to blend. Then proceed with the recipe.

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