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King Weekly Sentinel

King's Community Newspaper

Weekly Circulation: 10,200

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Society helps 'grow kindness'

Volunteers from the Schomberg Horticultural Society repurposed the display at the Centennial Garden in Schomberg, at the corner of Main Street and Hwy. 27 and turned it into a Valentine's display. It is intended to cheer up the community during the pandemic and to welcome guests to Schomberg. Under the leadership of Janice Crone, an executive member, and in keeping with their commitment to sustainability, Volunteer Valentines created hearts out of recycled and natural materials. The Society wishes everyone a Happy Valentine's month, with many blessings and most of all best of health during these difficult times.

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King's blended water rates going up by 2.87%

By Mark Pavilons
 Editor
 Local Journalism Initiative

Although some projects are being delayed, King residents are being protected from double-digit water rate increases this year.

King council and staff delivered a plan to service all the needs, and protect infrastructure. Average homeowners will face a blended 2.87% hike in their combined water and wastewater rates in 2021.

Staff and councillors were quick to point out the water and wastewater system is based on a user-pay scenario. Both are calculated by usage so the more you use, the more you pay.

For average users, they won't noticed much of a difference this year.

Based on lower tier, 270 cubic metre use, it will cost homeowners roughly \$49 more per year or \$4 per month.

This, according to Treasurer Peggy Tollett, was the lowest staff could comfortably come up with, keeping taxpayers in mind. Helping keep the increase low was a commitment by York Region for a zero hike this year.

"There's a lot going on for that 2.87%," Tollett pointed out. King's average rate of roughly \$1,686 per year is at the high end in York Region, where rates vary from a low of \$1,211 in Markham, to a high of \$1,771 in East Gwillimbury.

Tollett noted the Township is also allowing residents to spread out their payments, interest-free. As well penalties will be charged 5% interest, down from 10%. Residents also have the option of paying online with their credit cards.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini stressed that King's operating and capital budgets can't subsidize the water and wastewater rates. These costs can't be offset through taxes because of the difference in consumption across the municipality. Of King's total tax base, roughly 5,300 houses are on municipal water, while the remainder are on wells and septic systems.

See 'Staff' on Page 3

Ann Duncan is Fluent in Multiple International Languages and Has Access to International Buyers and Investors. For Free Market Evaluation, Contact Ann Duncan Team At: **416-820-5858** Direct: **647-895-6355** www.AnnDuncan.ca

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INSIDE

REGULAR FEATURES	
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Matt Morson releases his new single.
 See Page 12

Winners!
 Open up this issue to the Centre Spread to see the winners of our **WHOSE DOOR CONTEST** \$1,000 in Gift Cards from local businesses!

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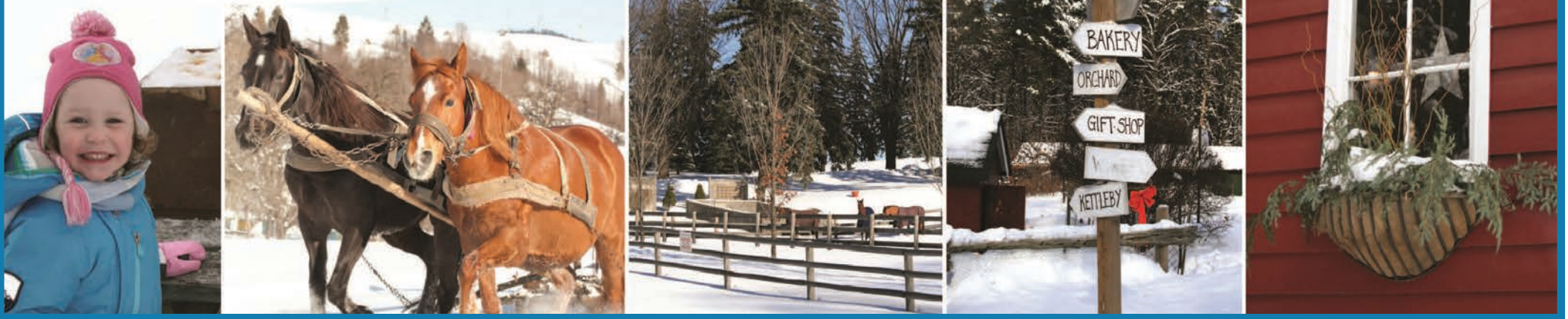
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www.king.ca



King Township
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ON Canada L7B 1A1
Phone: 905.833.5321 Email: serviceking@king.ca



UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Monday, February 22
6:00 pm – Council and Committee of the Whole
Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

Monday, March 1
6:00 pm – Council Public Planning Meeting
Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

Monday, March 8
6:00 pm – Council and Committee of the Whole
Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Tuesday, March 16
6:00 pm – King Township Public Library Board (virtual meeting)

Wednesday, March 17
6:00 pm – Committee of Adjustment
Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX NOTICES

1st Interim Installment
Due Date: February 24, 2021
PROPERTY TAX NOTICES are due.



Please contact **Service King** at 905-833-5321 or serviceking@king.ca immediately if you have not received your bill.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- Pre-Authorized Debit bank withdrawal (PAD) for installment due dates or over a 10 month period
- On-line with your financial institutions
- By Credit Card – Visit the Township Online Services Portal at www.king.ca
- By Mail (Must be stamped and mailed prior to due date and received on time)
- Drop off box located at Municipal Centre, 2585 King Road, King City

Due to COVID the Municipal office is closed and we are not accepting cash payments at this time.

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

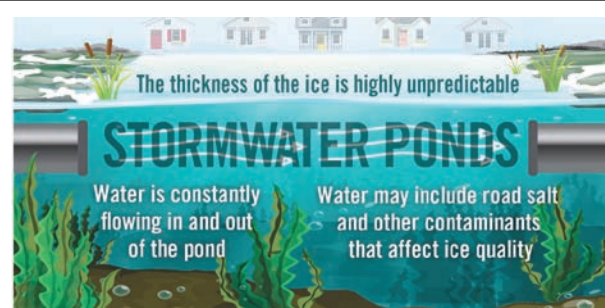
When making payments electronically, search for "King" and select **Tax**, enter your 15 digit roll number with no dashes (i.e. 000123456780000)

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

To ensure enrollment please apply prior to due date.

The deadline to enroll for the monthly PAD program is **June 1, 2021** in accordance with the Township By-law 2021-074 unpaid balances following the due date, a penalty of one and one quarter per cent (1.25%) per month, shall be levied on the first day of the next calendar month following the due date and each month until paid in full.

Please visit our website for details.



Stay off stormwater ponds

Staff and by-law officers are reminding residents found using stormwater ponds for skating that this is prohibited and unsafe due to possible changing conditions. As indicated by the conservation authorities:

Stormwater ponds are designed to continuously collect stormwater from surrounding roads and neighbourhoods

No matter how deep into the winter or how thick the ice may appear, temperature changes and water flowing in/out can cause major variations in ice thickness

Air pockets are also easily formed under the surface and contaminants like salt weaken the ice

Stormwater ponds are dangerous in winter. All these factors combined, create dangerous and unpredictable conditions that put your safety at risk.

You can book ice and use the four open municipal ice pads (King City, Nobleton, Schomberg & Cold Creek). More details can be found at king.ca/OutdoorRinks and booking can be completed at <https://townshipofking.perfectmind.com/>

PUBLIC NOTICES



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

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

- King Township 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 Province of Ontario has moved York Region and King Township into the Grey-LOCKDOWN level. It has also implemented a stay-at-home order. People should only leave their homes for essential trips for things like food, medicine or essential work.

All sport and recreational fitness facilities were closed as of Monday December 14th at 12:01 a.m. The Province has advised that the LOCKDOWN phase will last for a minimum of 28 days. In addition, the in-person by-appointment services offered at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre have also been cancelled for the duration of the Provincial LOCKDOWN.

For a complete list of all Grey-LOCKDOWN level restrictions visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-response-framework-keeping-ontario-safe-and-open#lockdown>.

The Township has, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, been offering all administrative services to our businesses and residents virtually. King Township remains open for business. Many services – including things like building permits, planning applications, garbage bag tags and the payment of water bills – can all be accessed online. We have also introduced virtual recreation programming and will continue to offer as many outdoor recreation programs as possible in the coming weeks. Learn more at www.king.ca.

All essential services have continued, including Fire and Emergency Services, water, wastewater, waste collection, by-law enforcement and roads.

King is encouraging residents to support local businesses during the lockdown as much as possible.

You can visit our website at www.king.ca, call us at 905-833-5321 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) or email us at serviceking@king.ca.

For the latest King Township COVID-19 related information, please visit www.covid19.king.ca or <http://bit.ly/yorkregioncovid19>.

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 PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING

pursuant to Section 28 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF KING

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

(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://king.ca/meetings>.

Purpose of the Public Planning Meeting

TAKE NOTICE that Council for The Corporation of the Township of King will be holding a virtual Public Meeting under Section 28 of the Planning Act to consider an updated Community Improvement Plan (CIP). The purpose of the virtual Public Planning Meeting is to provide the public with an opportunity to understand and comment on the proposed Plan, which relates to all lands located within the Township of King.

Purpose of the Community Improvement Plan Review:

A Community Improvement Plan is a document that is prepared in accordance with Section 28 of Ontario's Planning Act. This tool is commonly used by municipalities to promote community revitalization.

Council approved the Township's current Community Improvement Plan in 2014 for the commercial cores of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. This exciting action-oriented program is being used to promote beautification, property improvements and economic development in the three communities. The Plan includes programs to promote business façade/signage improvements; landscaping/property improvements; accessibility/cycling; as well as other matters.

Now that the Community Improvement Plan is approximately 6 years old, there is a need to review its relevance and effectiveness. In particular, there is an opportunity to make grants available within other areas of the Township, including the Hamlets and rural/agricultural areas. There is also an opportunity to consider grants that will help businesses adapt to the current pandemic and future trends. This Review will result in a revised Community Improvement Plan, including new financial grant programs and new Community Improvement Project Areas.

Public Participation

The public meeting is an opportunity for members of the public to learn more about the proposed Community Improvement Plan.

You are invited to participate in the public meeting by submitting comments and/or concerns via email to the Township Clerk at clerks@king.ca by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the day of the meeting in order that they can be circulated to Members of Council prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will form part of the public record.

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 **Monday, March 1st, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)**. When your registration is received, a confirmation message and instructions for participating in the virtual public meeting will be provided.

Please provide your full name, address, contact details and the item you wish to speak to when contacting the Clerks Department. **Please note that all comments will become part of the public record.**

Appeal Procedure

If a person or public body that would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal ("LPAT"), does not make oral submissions at a virtual public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of King before the Township of King the proposed Community Improvement Plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a virtual public meeting, or make written submissions to the Township of King before the proposed Community Improvement Plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal ("LPAT") unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

How To Stay Informed

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Council of the Township of King regarding the proposed Community Improvement Plan, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Township of King, 2585 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1A1, or by email at clerks@king.ca.

Additional Information

A copy of the proposed revised Community Improvement Plan and related information and material will be available for inspection via the Township's public engagement website, SpeakKING at: <https://speaking.king.ca/community-improvement-plan>, on **Monday, February 8, 2021**.

For further information contact Kristen Harrison by email at kharrison@king.ca by telephone at 905-833-4065. Written comments may be mailed or emailed to the Planning Division and will become part of the public record.

Dated at the Township of King this 4th day of February, 2021.

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

Comments and personal information (PI) are being collected in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.P.13 as amended, and become part of the decision making process of the application as noted on this form, also become part of the public record. Should you have any questions or concerns with regard to the collection of personal information (PI), please contact the Planning Department, Township of King at (905) 833-5321.

Please see more King Township notices on page 5



Staff kept increases low

From Front Page

Tollett explained King uses both a variable, tiered rate, and a fixed rate. Those who are less frugal with their water will feel the pinch and pay more.

Staff also moved some capital

projects further out to 2024, to delay funding and focus on building up the reserves.

A Nobleton woman wondered by her village's consumption is much higher than the rest of King, upwards of 43% more. Staff could not find an explanation.

Tollett noted the municipality has many legislated obligations, not the least of which is providing safe drinking water. The rates are geared toward long-term cost recovery and the Township needs this revenue stream to plan for the future.

Tollett did say King achieved modest savings through 2020 due to the pandemic. Staff did their best to stabilize the rate as best as possible.

She presented some anecdotal data about typical water use. With showers, baths, dishwasher use, laundry and toilet flushes, the average home uses roughly 246 cubic metres of water per year. That's below the tier one threshold of 292 cubic metres.

Tollett said roughly 71% of King households are at the tier one level, while 7% hover in the middle, and 22% are in the upper end.

If you have a swimming pool and use a sprinkler, you'll jump into the higher tier three bracket quickly, and the charges will be noticeable.

As well, King has to make do with only 28% of the water/wastewater revenue, since York Region takes the lion's share of 72%

These rates, Tollett said, are reviewed each year. Staff have spread out the capital work projects to help stabilize the rate.

King's water and wastewater reserves have a deficit of just over \$1 million. In 2020, the biggest cost was the lining west of Highway 27 and Western Ave. waterman, at just over \$413,000.

The Township won't be fully cost recoverable for several years. Tollett pointed out that deferred or delayed increases in the rates will ultimately delay the Township in reaching financial stability and full cost recovery.

York boards get funding to reopen

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

York school boards will have some extra funds to protect students, thanks to contributions from Queen's Park.

Ontario is providing the York Region DSB, York Catholic DSB and CSC MonAvenir with \$18,419,031.

Of that, York District School Board will receive \$11.76 million, and the York Catholic board will get \$4.75 million.

This funding comes from an additional \$381 million investment provided by the federal Safe Return to Class Fund. Although transmission in schools has been low, this funding will be used to improve air quality and ventilation in schools, support online learning, promote student mental health and hire more staff.

With this additional funding, Ontario is providing more than \$1.6 billion to better protect students, staff and families. A total of \$113,668,583 in COVID-19 resources have now been allocated to these three school boards.

As more students return to in-person learning, Ontario, on the best advice of experts, is introducing additional measures to further protect students and staff, including:

- Province-wide access to targeted asymptomatic testing for students and staff, using a combination of lab-processed PCR and rapid antigen tests.

- Mandatory masking for students in Grades 1-3, including outdoors where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

- Enhanced screening of secondary students and staff.

- New guidance discouraging students from congregating before and after.

- Temporary certification of eligible teacher candidates who are set to graduate in 2021 to stabilize staffing levels, following high levels of absenteeism.

"To protect Ontario students and staff, and with the aim of reopening all schools, we have again strengthened our plan with tougher measures and new investments," said Education Minister Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan. "We agree with parents and medical experts that kids need to be learning in class - alongside their friends and teachers - as it is crucial for their mental well-being and development. We will continue to follow expert medical advice and work to get all schools open, for children in all regions of our province."

Targeted asymptomatic testing has helped to identify cases early, inform public health action, and manage outbreaks. Expanding access to targeted asymptomatic testing will be a valuable tool for local public health units and schools.

To support the expansion of targeted asymptomatic testing, the Ministry of Education has procured test collection capacity for up to 50,000 tests per week, to be deployed at the discretion of local public health units in collaboration with schools.

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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

The rich bounce back, but others never will

“Life is a dream for the wise, a game for the fool, a comedy for the rich, a tragedy for the poor.”

– Sholom Alechem

John F. Kennedy once said that “if a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.”

The “mega-rich” will recoup COVID-losses in record-time yet billions will live in poverty for at least another decade.

A recent report by Oxfam revealed that the 1,000 richest people on the planet recouped their COVID-19 losses within just nine months, but it could take more than a decade for the world’s poorest to recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic.

Aptly titled “The Inequality Virus,” the report shows that COVID-19 has the potential to increase economic inequality in almost every country at once, the first time this has happened since records began over a century ago. Rising inequality means it could take at least 14 times longer for the number of people living in poverty to return to pre-pandemic levels than it took for the fortunes of the top 1,000, mostly white male billionaires, to bounce back.

The rich get richer, and the poor get



Mark Pavilons

poorer, is a cry heard throughout the civilized world, said Friedrich Schiller.

In Canada, the fortunes of the country’s 44 billionaires have increased by almost \$63.5 billion (CAD) since March 2020. Oxfam estimates this would be enough to give every one of the 3.8 million poorest people in Canada a cheque

for \$16,823.

Let’s do it!

“We stand to witness the greatest rise in inequality since records began. The deep divide between the rich and poor is proving as deadly as the virus,” said Diana Sarosi, director of policy and campaigns for Oxfam Canada.

Women and marginalized racial and ethnic groups are bearing the brunt of this crisis.

“This kind of extreme inequality is not inevitable, it is the result of policy choices. Canada and governments around the world must seize this opportunity to build more equal, more inclusive economies that end poverty and protect the planet.”

A global survey of 295 economists from 79 countries, commissioned by Oxfam, shows that 87 per cent of respondents, including Jeffrey Sachs, Jayati Ghosh and Gabriel Zucman, expect an “increase” or a “major increase” in income inequality in their country as a result of the pandemic.

Oxfam’s report shows how the “rigged economic system” is enabling a super-rich elite to amass wealth in the middle of the worst recession since the Great Depression, while billions of people are struggling to make ends meet. It reveals how the pandemic is deepening long-standing economic, racial and gender divides.

The world’s 10 richest men have seen their combined wealth increase by half a trillion dollars since the pandemic began – more than enough to pay for a COVID-19 vaccine for everyone and to ensure no one is pushed into poverty by the pandemic. At the same time, the pandemic has ushered in the worst job crisis in over 90 years with hundreds of millions of people now underemployed or out of work.

These figures are just astounding and when you equate them to real human circumstances, it’s crazy.

I encourage you to watch the Netflix

film, White Tiger. It centres around a man from a small town in India, who eventually rises out of servitude to become an entrepreneur. I learned a lot about the Indian culture in this film, most notably that the caste system locks people in to a certain social status, one that is next to impossible to move out of. Millions of Indian citizens simply aspire to be servants to wealthy families.

It really put things in perspective, almost like a punch to the gut.

Many of us have no idea of the struggles and tribulations of people in other lands, and in other cultures and other socio-economic groups. We’re sheltered.

We have it so very good here and yet we’re also keenly aware of the division between rich and poor.

What’s worse is this massive inequality is costing lives. Afro-descendants in Brazil are 40 per cent more likely to die of COVID-19 than white people, while nearly 22,000 black and Hispanic people in the United States would still be alive if they experienced the same COVID-19 mortality rates as their white counterparts. Infection and mortality rates are higher in poorer areas of countries.

Oxfam noted that if a temporary tax was placed on excess profits made by 32 global corporations (that have gained the most during the pandemic) it could have raised \$104 billion in 2020. This is enough to provide unemployment benefits for all workers and financial support for all children and elderly people in low- and middle-income countries.

The World Bank finds that if inequality increases by 2 percentage points annually, and global per capita GDP growth contracts by 8 per cent, 501 million more people will still be living on less than \$5.50 a day in 2030.

We need to remove the “us” and “them” mentality entirely from our way of thinking.

It’s been said over and over, we’re all in this together. Let’s prove it!

Editorial

Be engaged, but be informed

An effort to be fully transparent backfired on King council.

The rigamarole centred around potential plans for a seniors’ complex at the Marylake property, owned by AFOI. The staff report included a clause to delegate site plan authority to the director of growth management services.

This is routinely done internally, to make the process more efficient. It does not give anyone carte blanche. It was only done in this case as a favour to the public, who wanted to be kept informed.

Even a strong declaration by Mayor Steve Pellegrini failed to sideline the delegates who lined up in opposition to a possible long term care development on the property. There is no such application, only a hint of such a project back in December, when council voted against the MZO. All associated plans are now off the table.

And yet, delegate after delegate debated the logistics, necessity and land use guidelines on the Oak Ridges Moraine.

We have some very intelligent residents and citizen’s groups. They are articulate and know planning rules inside and out. And yet there were mistakenly stirred up.

Most should have known there is no proposal on the table, and the Township was in no way fast-tracking any such move.

Try as he may, Mayor Pellegrini could not get people to digest this nugget, and hold off on debating the merits of such a plan, should it ever come to light.

Further, citizens overlook one basic democratic principle – the Township is obligated to hear ANY proposal, regardless of its merit. Anyone, any land owner in King, has the right to make a presentation and proposal to staff and council. A resident who wants to build a rocket launch pad in his back yard has the right to come to council. A homeowner who wants to build a moat around her home, can make such a plea.

Residents also need to ask themselves a few simple questions before attacking staff and council on their actions and/or recommendations. Has council ever skirted the rules and approved anything behind our backs? Has council ever curbed full public consultation? Has King ever ignored environmental guidelines?

People are so quick to jump to conclusions and look for conspiracies. They’re also quick to hop on social media spreading inaccurate information.

Save your arguments and opinions until the time is right, when an application actually does appear. It will likely begin with a public information session, followed by many, many opportunities for input.

Have faith in the process. The result may surprise you.

MP, Editor

KingWeeklySentinel **WEBPOLL**
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week’s poll:

Are you pleased to see the kids going back to school?

a) Yes **60%**

b) No **40%**

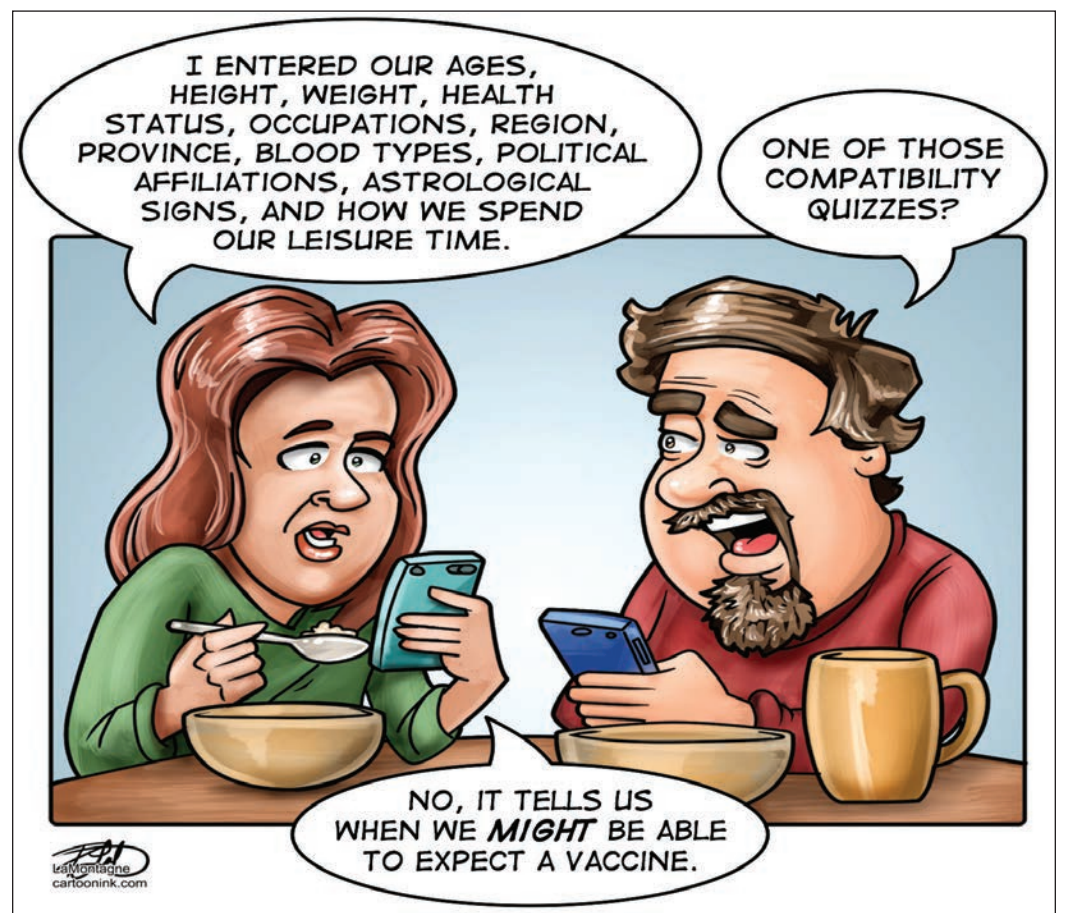
The results of this poll are in no way considered to be valid or infallible.

THIS WEEK’S QUESTION

Are you hoping for a quick reopening of local businesses?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!



Quote of the Week



“The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.”

– Walt Disney

Trivia Tidbits

The Caesar salad was actually invented in Mexico.

<p>KING Weekly Sentinel 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton ON L7E 5V1 Toll Free: 1-888-557-6626 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363 www.kingsentinel.com</p>	<p>PUBLISHER: London Publishing Corp. GENERAL MANAGER: Zach Shoub EDITOR: Mark Pavilons editor@kingsentinel.com PRODUCTION: Lisa Clendening ADVERTISING: Doug Sherritt doug@pcmedia.ca DISTRIBUTION: Cephise Cuming cc@cephisecuming.com OFFICE: Mary Speck CREDIT DEPT.: Al Lord CLASSIFIEDS: admin@caledoncitizen.com</p>	<p>Advertising & Administration Head Office 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton L7E 5V1 Tel: 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363</p> <p><small>The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. Copyright King Weekly Sentinel 2021</small></p>	<p>Subscription rates: Within 65 km except towns with letter carriers – \$39.00 + G.S.T. Beyond 65 km and towns with letter carriers – \$67.00 + G.S.T. Single copies 94¢ + G.S.T. or \$1.00 (includes G.S.T.)</p> <p></p> <p><small>Funded by the Government of Canada Canada We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.</small></p>
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www.king.ca



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2585 King Road King City,
ON Canada L7B 1A1
Phone: 905.833.5321 Email: serviceking@king.ca

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KING

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Township of King passed Development Charges By-law 2021-002 (the "By-law") on the 11th day of January, 2021 under subsection 2(1) of the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997 c.27 (the "Act"), as amended;

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or organization may appeal the By-law to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) as stipulated under Section 14 of the Act, in respect of the By-law, by filing with the Clerk of the Township of King on or before the 20th day of February, 2021 a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons supporting the objection. (**NOTE:** If the final appeal date falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the appeal date will extend to the first Monday at 4:30 p.m., following the last appeal day.)

The development charges in the By-law will apply to all new residential and non-residential development, subject to certain terms, conditions and limited exemptions as identified in the By-law.

Development charges are levied against new development to pay for the increased capital costs related to the provision of such municipal services as Water, Wastewater, Services related to a Municipal Roadway, Public Works and Waste Diversion.

The development charges imposed by the By-law, which comes into effect on January 12, 2021, are as follows:

Service/Class of Service	RESIDENTIAL					NON-RESIDENTIAL (per sq.m. of Gross Floor Area)
	Single and Semi-Detached Dwelling	Multiples	Large Apartments	Small Apartments	Special Care/Special Dwelling Units	
Township-Wide Services:						
Services Related to a Highway	\$ 17,047	\$ 14,439	\$ 10,705	\$ 7,332	\$ 5,392	\$ 83.53
Fire Protection Services	958	811	602	412	303	4.74
Parks and Recreation Services	11,740	9,944	7,372	5,050	3,713	21.10
Library Services	1,587	1,344	997	683	502	2.80
Growth Studies	506	429	318	218	160	2.58
Total Township-Wide Services (A)	31,838	26,967	19,994	13,695	10,070	114.75
Urban Services						
Stormwater Services	391	331	246	168	124	1.94
Water Services	2,748	2,328	1,728	1,182	869	13.24
Water & Wastewater Studies and Capital Improvements	315	267	198	135	100	1.61
Total Urban Services (B)	3,454	2,926	2,170	1,485	1,093	16.79
Area Specific Services						
Wastewater Services - King City (C)	3,484	2,951	2,188	1,499	1,102	17.01
Wastewater Services - Nobleton (D)	3,976	3,368	2,497	1,710	1,258	4.41
Total King City (A + B + C)	\$ 38,776	\$ 32,844	\$ 24,352	\$ 16,679	\$ 12,265	\$ 148.55
Total Nobleton (A + B + D)	\$ 39,268	\$ 33,261	\$ 24,661	\$ 16,890	\$ 12,421	\$ 135.95
Total Schomberg (A + B)	\$ 35,292	\$ 29,893	\$ 22,164	\$ 15,180	\$ 11,163	\$ 131.54

No key map has been provided in this notice as the By-law applies to all lands located within the Municipal boundaries of the Township of King. Charges for water and wastewater are applicable where municipal services are available.

Due to the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-10, a copy of the By-law is available on the Township of King's website at www.king.ca

For further information regarding the 2020 Development Charges, please contact: Peggy Tollett, Director of Finance and Treasurer, ptollett@king.ca

DATED at the Township of King, 2585 King Road, King City, ON, this 14th day of January, 2021.

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services/Township Clerk
clerks@king.ca

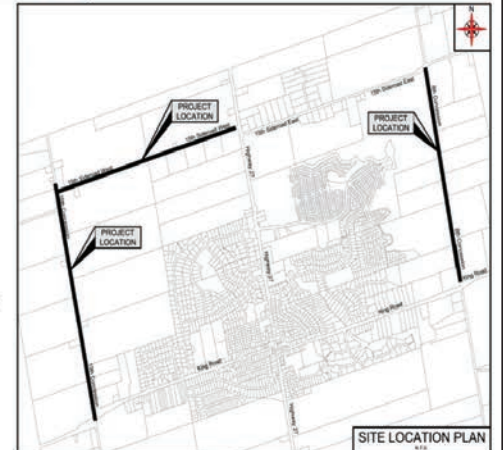


**TOWNSHIP OF KING
Road Reconstruction of 16th Sideroad, 8th and 10th Concessions
Schedule 'B' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment
NOTICE OF COMPLETION**

The Project

The Township of King initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) Class EA for the reconstruction of 3 segments of roadway in the Nobleton area. The roadways are approximately 2.3 kilometers of 10th Concession from King Road to 15th Sideroad, 2.0 kilometers of 15th Sideroad from 10th Concession to Regional Road 27 and 2.1 kilometers of 8th Concession from King Road to 15th Sideroad, as illustrated in the study map. The purpose of this undertaking is to improve the existing cross-section, pavement structure, road surface and overall condition of the aforementioned segments of 15th Sideroad, 8th Concession and 10th Concession, as well as address sightlines and drainage improvements within these portions of roadway. This undertaking is classified as a Schedule 'B' project in accordance with the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Oct. 2000, as amended 2007, 2011 & 2015)*.

The Township of King hosted a virtual Public Information Centre on September 17, 2020 to present alternatives for reconstruction and to solicit input from interested parties. After a review of comments received, Alternative 4 has been selected as the preferred solution and involves the reconstruction of each road segment to Town standard cross-section and substantial improvement of sight lines and grade line, requiring a 26 metre right of way.



Project File Report

In accordance with the Schedule 'B' MCEA process, a Project File Report (PFR) has been prepared to document the MCEA process completed for this undertaking and by this Notice is being placed in the public record for a 30-day public review and comment period. A digital copy of the PFR will be available on the Township of King's website on February 18, 2021 at <https://www.king.ca/majorprojects>. At this time hard copies of the PFR are not available to view.

Interested persons may provide written comments to our project team by March 19, 2021. All comments and concerns should be sent directly to Mr. Wayne Pinkney of the Township of King at wpinkney@king.ca. In addition, a request may be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study, or that conditions be imposed, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered. The request should be sent in writing or by email to:

Minister Jeff Yurek
Ministry of Environment, Conservation
and Parks
777 Bay St. 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
minister_mecp@ontario.ca

Director, Environmental Assessment and
Permissions Branch
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and
Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W., 1st Floor
Toronto ON M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

Requests should also be sent to Mr. Wayne Pinkney of the Township of King by mail or email. Please visit the ministry's website for more information on requests for orders under section 16 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/class-environmentalassessments-part-ii-order>

All personal information is collected, under the authority of section 30 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public. As this information is collected for the purpose of a public record, the protection of personal information provided in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)* does not apply (s.37). Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. Issued by the Township of King on February 18, 2021.

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

Site Alteration By-law Review

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

KING TOWNSHIP RURAL ZONING BY-LAW REVIEW

Call for Participants: Hamlet and Agricultural Area Zoning By-law Review Workshops

The Township will be hosting two community workshops to discuss specific zoning issues and opportunities in the Hamlets and Agricultural/Rural areas of King Township. Members of the public are invited to register and attend!

Two community workshops are being planned for approximately late February 2021:

1. A workshop to discuss zoning within the Hamlets of the Township; and
2. A workshop to discuss zoning issues in the Agricultural and Rural areas.

How can I register to attend or find out more about the workshops?

Please visit speaking.king.ca and click on "Rural Zoning By-law Review" to register.

Alternatively, or if you require assistance, you may contact Kristen Harrison, Policy Planner, at kharrison@king.ca or 905-833-4065.

More details about the format and materials will be provided to registrants closer to the meeting date.

KING FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Calling all residents of King Township. Help your local fire fighters help YOU with Adopt A Hydrant!

When Seconds count, which would you feel more safe with?
After a snowfall, check your nearest hydrants for a 3 foot (1 metre) radius of clearance

Please do your part & recycle!

Nobleton sewer works

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.

LATEST UPDATES

- Sheardown Drive between Highway 27 and Holden Drive and all of Chamberlain Court have been completed up to base asphalt.
- There are currently crews working on Sheardown Drive from Holden Court to Russell Snider Drive, Cain Court, Hazelbury Drive between Cain Court and Sheardown Drive and at McCutcheon Drive installing sewers north of Sheardown Drive.
- Temporary road restoration will follow mainline sewer crews.

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.

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DEPARTMENT

COLD CREEK SNOWSHOE & X-COUNTRY SKI RENTALS

WEATHER PERMITTING AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK

*Pre-registration is required and spaces are limited
NO DROP-INS PERMITTED

REGISTER UP TO 3 DAYS IN ADVANCE
Visit coldcreek.ca or email coldcreek@king.ca for more information

Visit townshipofking.perfectmind.com to check the status of upcoming time slots

WEEKLY Trivia Night

Go to facebook.com/KTPLibrary/events to join!

Township recognizes long term care use at Marylake

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

An information report by King Township staff caused an uproar among members of the public.

In a follow-up to a potential proposal by the owners of Marylake Monastery north of King City, staff accepted the fact the property has been used for long term care purposes. While no application has been made, staff and councillors wanted full transparency, since it's a contentious local issue.

Many delegations at the Feb. 8 virtual council meeting once again voiced their objections to a large-scale seniors housing complex on the property, even though no application is before the Township.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini, several times during the evening meeting, pointed that fact out to delegates. He stressed all aspects to a recent request for a Ministerial Zoning Order made in December are off the table. Debating the pros

and cons of any potential project was therefore moot.

The only real information at hand was confirming the property has historically been used for long term care and it be recognized as such, should an application come forward in the future.

This report stems from a 2019 request of Township staff by Augustinian Fathers (Ontario) Inc. (AFOI) whether a long-term care facility is permitted on the site. Staff confirmed it, noting they're "... satisfied that a long term care facility use has historically occurred on the Marylake property and continues and/or has been intended to continue to do so."

Staff received documents from AFOI showing the long history of care services provided at the monastery.

The level and extent of these services have fluctuated over time, but have been ongoing since the 1950s.

That point was stressed by Quinto Annibale, speaking on behalf of the AFOI.

The fathers and friars on site are old



Modified Southlake run nears

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

The annual Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake has been modified to any activity this year for participants.

Organizers are accepting registrants for the annual "walk" or "run."

With the pandemic, they cannot hold this incredible fund-raising event for the needs of Southlake, in person. In 2020, the event was held virtually, and this year will be no different.

For almost 100 years, Southlake has shown a passion to care for our communities. From its beginnings as a six-bed care home, Southlake has evolved to become a 500-bed regional health centre that provides leading edge hospital services. Southlake is building healthy communities through outstanding care, innovative partnerships, and amazing people.

King Councillor Avia Eek is one of Southlake's biggest supporters. She also helps motivate councillors and staff every year to get involved.

"Southlake is OUR hospital, it is where our friends, families, and neighbours go to receive leading edge care close to home. Whether it's the birth of a new baby, complex cardiac care, cancer treatment or emergency visits, Southlake is proud to serve our communities," she said.

From April 12 to May 9, this 4-week virtual challenge will enable you to build on skills developed the previous weeks and help you warm up after the cold winter months.

Registration is already open at runforsouthlake.ca. Registration is \$50 per person for all ages. This includes your t-shirt, medal, race kit bag, plus access to exclusive content throughout the 4-week challenge. Be among the first to register and get a pair of custom running gloves as a bonus gift.

King Township will once again "enter" a team and try to regain the coveted mayor's challenge trophy.

and ailing, and Marylake has cared for retired friars since the 1950s. The facility has been used as a convalescent home for retired friars and is well equipped. An infirmary was added in the 1980s complete with patient beds and medical equipment. The facility has been used for long-term care and palliative care.

Resident Susan Swail, on behalf of two Oak Ridges Moraine organizations, wasn't convinced the property meets the threshold to qualify for long-term care use. "It remains to be determined whether this site was used as institutional licensed long-term care home in the past," she said.

She reiterated the fact the ORMCP does not support large-scale developments and in fact, a long-term care home is not a permitted use in the rural area of the ORMCP.

Swail cautioned council not to rush through this proposal.

One resident questioned whether this was the time to force a "Field of Dreams" scenario on the public - build it and they will come.

Several residents also debated the necessity and scale of the project and lack of servicing.

Some residents believe the site is too far from urban amenities, making it undesirable. But Annibale stressed that facilities tend to be outside urban areas for one main reason - the cost of land. The Province dissuades such facilities from being built on prime development land in urban areas.

He said their plan is to relocate a long-term facility - Mariann Home - operated by the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood in Richmond Hill.

It is a licenced, non-profit registered charity, caring for roughly 64 nursing home residents.

They are funded and approved by the Province and hopes are the facility can move to Marylake.

The request from staff was made to facilitate the transfer of bed licences, should the project move forward.

The AFOI would be subsidizing the

Sisters and not making any profit because "it's the right thing to do," Annibale said.

The plan would likely take two years to complete and Annibale noted King's new Official Plan would be in full effect and the project would have to abide by the new rules and guidelines.

He said AFOI has spoken with York Region officials who said the use on this property seems compatible.

The main source of public outcry is that the 800-acre property is situated on the Oak Ridges Moraine and there are many environmental safeguards that would prevent large-scale development.

The AFOI isn't "jumping the queue" and any proposal is subject to approval from the Ministry, following full review.

The public saw the report, and a suggestion to delegate site plan authority to the director of growth management services, as a was to fast-track the project.

That recommendation was withdrawn.

When council refused to endorse the MZO last year, they did recommend a round-table discussion take place with all stakeholders to see what is appropriate on the property. These discussions will include "potential future uses and options for these lands."

Staff noted that neither York Region nor TRCA identified any concerns or issues with the long-term care use.

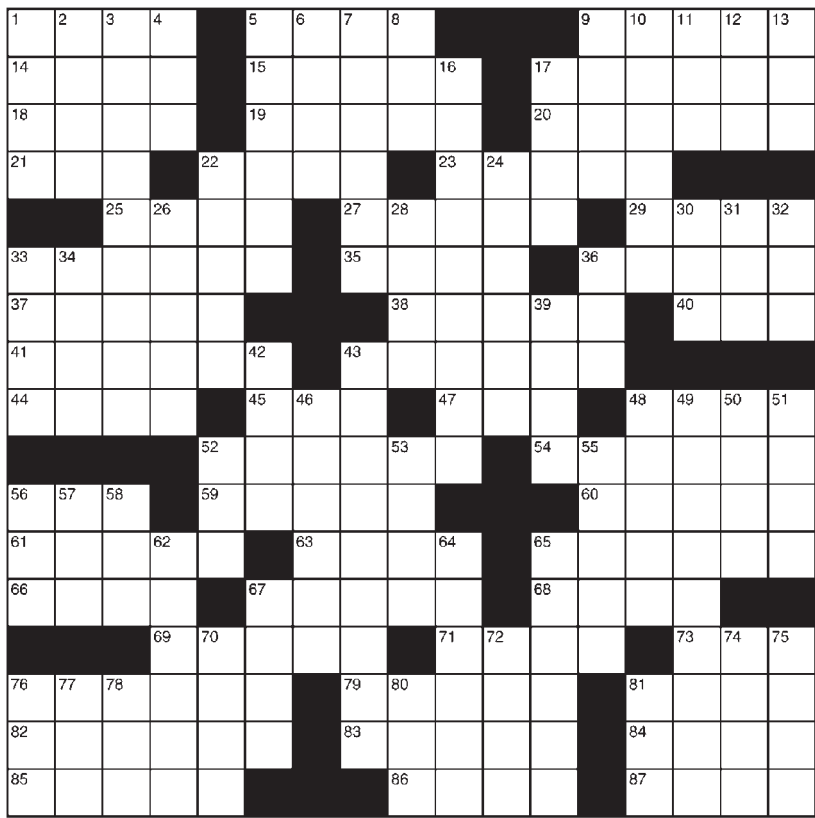
AFOI said they're prepared to engage in the talks.

Staff noted there are many steps ahead, should AFOI choose to proceed. These include a pre-consultation process, a formal application and standard review process.

One of the reasons it was suggested that the director of growth management services be delegated authority was in response to Marylake's request for a speedy process, especially during the summer months when council meetings are not held regularly.

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 432



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ACROSS

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Earring's site | 52. Three-bag hit | 2. Hound's trail | 48. Drab |
| 5. "Million Dollar _____" | 54. Highest point | 3. Where to buy a novel | 49. Pleasant |
| 9. National bird | 56. Cultivating tool | 4. Santa's aide | 50. Bridle part |
| 14. Movie hero | 59. "_____, Dolly!" | 5. Northern | 51. Close-knit group |
| 15. Survey alternative | 60. Of trivalent gold | 6. On the peak | 52. Friend's pronoun |
| 17. Deft | 61. Dental work | 7. Himalayan kingdom | 53. Missing |
| 18. "Up on the _____" | 63. Spoon's companion | 8. Up until now | 55. Macaroni |
| 19. Road taken | 65. Concur | 9. Appetizer cheese | 56. Towel pronoun |
| 20. Greek consonant | 66. Round before the final | 10. Arsenal | 57. _____ and all (everybody) |
| 21. Biblical boat | 67. Lasso | 11. Old salt | 58. "Peyton Place" street |
| 22. Reserved | 68. Eye woe | 12. Hat | 62. Martial art |
| 23. First-class | 69. Familiar | 13. Zeta follower | 64. Bob or beehive, e.g. |
| 25. Athenian portico | 71. Shred | 16. Repeat | 65. Starworts |
| 27. Shoelace end | 73. Aardvark's tidbit | 17. Came down | 67. Auditor's goal |
| 29. Large crucifix | 76. TV-reception aid | 22. Australian "bear" | 70. Bugs |
| 33. Custom | 79. Chisel | 24. Tell | 72. Baking box |
| 35. Tack | 81. Yield to commands | 26. Dutch export | 74. Straight |
| 36. Side road | 82. Tiny bit | 28. Suck in breath | 75. Sort |
| 37. Island chain | 83. Influential tribe member | 30. Be obligated to | 76. Implore |
| 38. Unnerve | 84. Tab | 31. Rowing device | 77. Swift-running bird |
| 40. Sooner than, to a bard | 85. Honors | 32. Easter-egg coloring | 78. Dispose (of) |
| 41. Weekly TV show | 86. Eternities | 33. File | 80. Leeds libation |
| 43. Indifference | 87. Banquet | 34. Cato's route | 81. Switch position |
| 44. Get ready | DOWN | 36. Turkish title | |
| 45. Home ruler? | 1. Milan money, formerly | 39. Ratite bird | |
| 47. "Tin Cup" prop | | 42. Draw | |
| 48. "Eyes of Laura | | 43. Labor-saving device | |
| | | 46. Moisture problem | |

Solution on page 18



The best thing about King is its people!



7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, February 18 to Wednesday, February 24

THURS 18TH	FRI 19TH	SAT 20TH	SUN 21ST	MON 22ND	TUES 23RD	WED 24TH
Mainly Cloudy High -5C Low -9C ~5cm Wind E 17k	Light Snow High -5C Low -11C 2-4cm Wind NW 10k	Sun/Clouds High -4C Low -15C - Wind NW 15k	Mainly Sunny High -2C Low -6C 2-4cm Wind S 11k	Light Snow High -0C Low -5C 1-3cm Wind E 20k	Light Snow High 1C Low -3C ~1cm Wind W 17k	Mainly Cloudy High 0C Low -8C - Wind W 18k



The King Weekly Sentinel

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Muzzo given full parole

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

Marco Muzzo has been given full parole.

Muzzo was convicted in the 2015 impaired driving related deaths of four members of the Neville-Lake family. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison and given a 12-year driving ban.

The collision claimed the lives of nine-year-old Daniel Neville-Lake, his five-year-old brother, Harrison, their two-year-old sister, Milly, and the children's 65-year-old grandfather, Gary Neville. The children's grandmother and great-grandmother were also seriously injured.

The Parole Board of Canada made the decision during a virtual hearing held Feb. 9.

"I'd like to start off always thoughts and prayers always with the Neville-Lake family, Neville family and Frai family," Muzzo said during the virtual hearing. "My heart bleeds every day, me knowing my actions killed their three beautiful children Daniel, Harry and Milly and a loving and probably awesome grandfather Gary."

Victim impact statements were read, including one by Jennifer Neville-Lake, who says Muzzo still does not take full responsibility for his "dis-

gusting actions."

"I have never heard him say, I, Marco Muzzo, killed nine-year-old Daniel Neville-Lake, five-year-old Harrison Neville-Lake, two-year-old Milly Neville-Lake and 65-year-old Gary Neville," she said. "I, Marco Muzzo, am the man who killed all three of Jennifer Neville-Lake's children because I am a selfish and irresponsible drunk driver."

Muzzo, now 34, was first granted day parole in April 2020. It was extended six more months last November, with the hint full parole was coming.

As a prelude to last week's decision, the board noted in November:

"It is the board's opinion that you will not present an undue risk to society if released and that your release will contribute to the protection of society by facilitating your reintegration into society as a law-abiding citizen."

Conditions of his parole include he cannot visit King City, Brampton or Aurora. The victims' families live in Brampton, and that's where the deceased are buried. There are memorials to the victims in both King City and Aurora. Muzzo is also prohibited from possessing or consuming alcohol. He also can't enter establishments where they sell alcohol.

His statutory release date was June 18, 2022 and the end of his sentence was originally set as July 28, 2025.



YRP marks its 50th anniversary

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

Policing in King and York Region has marked a milestone.

York Regional Police is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

The force has curated a collection of archival photos that represent the achievements and people that have helped shape the organization over the past half-century.

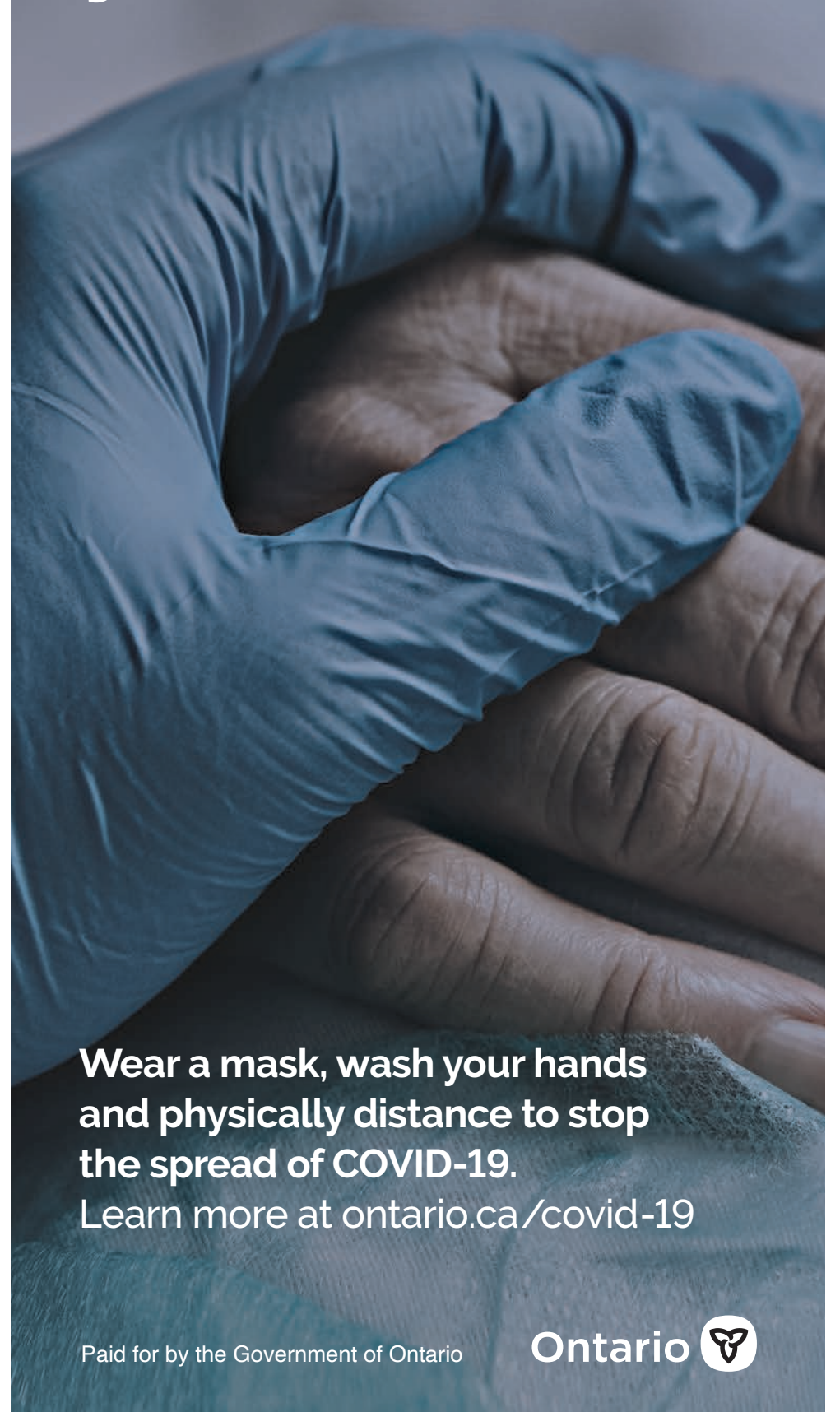
From the swearing in of their first female officer to the evolution of investigative and support units, YRP is sharing these outstanding memories throughout the year on our social media channels. Be sure to follow them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to join in the celebration.

When 14 municipal police departments and the York County Security Police amalgamated to form York Regional Police on Jan. 1, 1971, the region looked a lot different than it does today. At the time, roughly 200 York Regional Police members served roughly 169,000 citizens, who were grappling with the thought that they may lose their neighbourhood cop. High-ranking municipal officers were also adjusting to the idea of sacrificing their own professional stature to join a larger team – to be a part of something greater, even if that meant working as a constable or a sergeant, rather than an officer in command.

Today, YRP's 2,300 members are proud to serve the 1.2 million residents of York Region, which has become one of Canada's fastest-growing and most diverse communities. Officers patrol nine unique municipalities that range from rural landscapes to urban cityscapes, ensuring that citizens feel safe and secure through excellence in policing. Over the years YRP has worked closely with community partners to promote equity and inclusion, so everyone in York Region feels that they belong.



A harmless coffee break can do more harm than you think.



Wear a mask, wash your hands and physically distance to stop the spread of COVID-19. Learn more at ontario.ca/covid-19

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Free Webinars:

Wednesday, February 24
7:00 pm

or
Wednesday, March 24
7:00 pm

A recent attendee praised the webinar saying "Keith has a compelling case for electrifying your mobility!"

To register go to:
www.ClimateActionKing.ca





Business, Finance & Real Estate



www.KingChamber.ca
Your Voice for Business in King



Car insurance premiums vary across the GTA

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

There's no question automobile insurance in Ontario is among the highest in the country.

New data reveals a \$1,678 difference between the least to the most-costly premiums province-wide.

If you live in Brampton, Mississauga, Vaughn, Richmond Hill or Markham, you paid more for auto insurance than your fellow drivers from other parts of the province, according to RATESDOTCA.

According to RATESDOTCA's data, the average Ontario auto insurance premium in December 2020 is estimated at \$1,616, a 9.7 per cent increase from December 2018.

Cities including Toronto (\$2,201), Ajax (\$2,141), Pickering (\$1,961), Whitby (\$1,777), Hamilton (\$1,755) and Oshawa (\$1,636) are above the provincial average.

Brampton and Mississauga lead the way in Peel, with rates of \$2,698 and \$2,372 respectively.

Three York Region areas are among the tops. The average price in Vaughan is \$2,372 with Richmond Hill (\$2,286) and Markham (\$2,222) not far behind.

King City, Nobleton and Schomberg are all in the \$1,547 range.

Nearby Caledon \$1,547 and Orangeville are also at roughly \$1,547.

The difference between the most and least expensive rates in the province was \$1,678 per year.

At \$1,103, Kingston, Brockville, Napanee and 10 other cities, are among the municipalities with the cheapest premiums.

Ontario drivers can discover the average cost of auto insurance in their postal code by visiting Insuramap, a unique interactive online map offered by RATESDOTCA.

"Despite insurance companies offering \$1 billion in premium relief to Ontario drivers to soften the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the cost of car insurance in the GTA remains the highest in the province," said Liam Lahey, editor, RATESDOTCA. "The premiums GTA drivers pay can be attributed to many factors such as the number distracted driving fines and car accidents in the region, as well as the escalating costs to repair technologically advanced vehicles."

As the sixth most expensive city in Ontario, the average Toronto auto insurance premium was \$2,201 in December 2020, up by 12.9 per cent from \$1,948 in December 2018. However, drivers who live in the northern areas of the city may have paid more for coverage with premiums in these parts of Toronto ranging from \$2,202 to \$3,000 per year.

The difference between the highest and lowest rates in Toronto was \$1,305.

"Car insurance rates vary considerably from one municipality to another and between different insurance companies," Lahey added. "The only way to know if the premium you're paying is the best and right one for the type of coverage you need, is to shop around by comparing policies and quotes online. By taking a few minutes to compare rates and using Insuramap, you may be able to discover a lower premium."

RATESDOTCA is Canada's leading rate comparison website that offers a quick and simple digital experience to compare the widest selection of in-



urance and money products in the market. RATESDOTCA aims to help Canadians make better insurance and money decisions so they can save time and money to spend on what really matters to them.

Social Distance Management initiative petitions to open all small businesses

By Robert Belardi

Social Distance Management initiative owner Edward Henry begins petition to keep small businesses open for good.

Days after Premier Doug Ford's latest announcement is planning to slowly reopen the province, Henry says he has grown tiresome of the government's closures that have produced little results.

"Over the course of last year, we've seen this become political. People, have seen opening as reckless and locking down as being safe," Henry said.

"Somewhere in the middle of that, we need to be thinking. As I spend more time on this we have a much bigger problem here."

The initiative has studied other health and safety protocols in other countries in the Americas to analyze how the other nations have tackled the COVID-19 outbreak.

Henry has contacted election officials about his proposal. He says they have appreciated his effort and have guided elsewhere.

He has phoned and emailed Premier Doug Ford, only to see his efforts be dodged and ignored.

"I've used almost 70 per cent of my resources in my office while I still try to keep my own business doing this. We've been paying consultants to do work outside. We funded this whole thing," he said.

His report predominantly focuses on business continuity and Social Distancing Compliance as models for small businesses to use.

Business continuity is the ideal solution as business owners, must uphold their responsibilities to a higher standard.

And to accomplish this, cue Social Distance Compliance as the initiative's primary focus.

The compliance of business owners will indicate they are fully on-board with all of the health and safety measures and there should be no reason to be unlawfully forced to close their doors again.

Henry is encouraging more business owners to put up more signs, arrows, enter and exit doors if possible. He hopes this platform will earn him some credibility.

"I don't know if this is going to be something. All I know is this. If I keep saying something loud enough, maybe somebody will realize this is an important thing."

Henry is currently working with big-box stores such as Walmart, to be leaders at this time. He hopes their offices can advocate for the opening of other small businesses.

"Social distancing means more than just what you do in a store, it means spreading things out. The way our lockdowns are set up is that we close a number of stores and we direct all of the traffic to certain places," Henry mentioned.

"If we spread it out and make compliance a thing, we actually make everything safer for everyone. By spreading it out and allowing our economy to circulate, we're also creating a healthier demeanor."

Social Distance Management now has a petition on their website. If you head to <https://socialdistancemanagement.com/> and head to the petitions tab, patrons can fill it out there.

Lecce hosts business consult

Last week, Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan, hosted a consultation with King and Vaughan small business owners and non-profit organizations with Prabmeet Sarkaria, Ontario's Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction.

This consultation was jointly hosted with the King and Vaughan Chambers of Commerce.

Lecce, along with his colleagues, promoted the small business grants Ontario has offered to support small businesses throughout the pandemic.

"It is critical we continue to consult with, and listen to, the voices of small business and non-profit organizations in King and Vaughan, and provide them with the support they need to get through this pandemic," said Lecce.

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Ontario delays March Break to reduce virus transmission

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

This year's March Break is taking on a whole new look.

Kids won't be getting a break until April.

King-Vaughan MPP and Minister of Education Stephen Lecce said March Break is being postponed, to April 12-16.

The decision was made with the best advice of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and public health officials, including consultations with many local Medical Officers of Health.

"Many students have been learning remotely since the start of 2021. It is critical we follow public health advice to protect schools and avoid a repeat of the concerning spike in youth-related cases over the winter break, when students and staff were out of schools for a prolonged period of time. We are taking this precaution based on advice from health experts, including the province's Science Table and the Chief Medical Officer of Health, to help protect against the emerging COVID-19 variants of concern," he said.

"We appreciate the hard work of students and staff in the education sector and I want to be clear: March break is being postponed, not cancelled. To keep schools open, we must keep them free of COVID-19. The actions announced

today serve to limit opportunities for congregation - while reaffirming the evidence that schools are safe for students. By continuing to follow public health advice, and by introducing additional safety measures and more testing, we are supporting our collective efforts to keep COVID-19 from entering our schools.

"With respect to travel, our government's position on this is unchanged. Ontarians should refrain from traveling, particularly given the increase in new variants that pose a direct risk to our country. Please stay at home as much as possible and continue following the direction of public health officials so that we can keep schools open and protect our seniors, frontline health workers and all families.

"These decisions - based on the advice of medical experts - are never easy, but they are necessary to keep Ontario families safe."

On Feb. 2, the Ministry consulted with trustees' associations, teacher federations, education worker unions, and principal and vice-principal associations to get their valuable perspectives. Additional feedback was provided from stakeholders via written submissions.

On Feb. 3, Ontario announced the return dates for in-person learning for all remaining Public Health Units (PHUs).

To support the safe return of in-person learning, Ontario has enhanced new measures to continue to protect

students and staff against COVID-19 in the classroom. These measures include:

- Increased province-wide access to targeted asymptomatic testing for students and staff;
- Mandatory masking requirement for students in Grades 1-3, and masking requirement for Grades 1-12 outdoors where physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Providing 3.5 million high quality masks to schools as back-up supply for

Grade 1-12 students.

- Guidance discouraging students and staff from congregating before and after school.
- Temporary certification of eligible teacher candidates who are set to graduate in 2021 to stabilize staffing levels.

These new measures build on the more than \$1.6 billion that Ontario has provided in additional resources to protect schools against the spread of COVID-19.



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York working on clinic sites

York Region is planning for multiple fixed COVID-19 vaccination clinic sites, drive-through sites, mobile clinics in combination with an outreach program for areas disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

Details are currently being finalized for five static vaccination clinic locations to be located in the Town of Newmarket, Town of Georgina, City of Richmond Hill, City of Markham and City of Vaughan. Sites are being chosen based on accessibility criteria, population distribution and vulnerability.

Details are also being finalized for two additional drive-through vaccination clinics; one at Canada's Wonderland in the City of Vaughan and one at the Markham Fairgrounds in the City of Markham.

Vaccination clinic sites are subject to change based on capacity and operational needs; additional sites may be added or may replace a pre-identified site.

The supply of COVID-19 vaccines is not arriving all at once, so distribution is happening in stages. When more supplies become available, vaccines will be offered to everyone who wants one in the priority order. Learn more about the three-phased vaccine distribution plan at york.ca/covid19vaccine



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Hometown Guess Whose Door of King Contest

Winners List

Four weeks ago The King Weekly Sentinel took pictures of the front doors for participating businesses in our "Guess Whose Door Contest" published for 3 consecutive weeks. All submissions were entered into a draw to win one of three prize packs.

Thank you to all who entered and for the overwhelming responses! A big **THANK YOU** to all the participating businesses for taking part in this fun feature.

Congratulations to our winners:

First prize: \$500 "Local Gift Card Bundle" **Lynne Hayes**
Second prize: \$250 "Local Gift Card Bundle" **Sydney Hayward**
Third prize: \$250 "Local Gift Card Bundle" **Andrew Winter**

Thank You for Participating!

ANSWER KEY:
 Match the doors to the businesses below:

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2. Global Pet Foods	13. Diner King
3. Roost Café	14. Schomberg
4. Chic Eyes Optical	Tru Country
5. Nobleton Feed Mill	15. Foodland Schomberg
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7. Aqua Auto Spa	17. Nobleton Green Tractor
8. Schomberg Village Pharmacy	18. King Automotive
9. Seasons Floral Studio	Repair Service
10. Leonardo Pizza	19. Winghouse Schomberg
11. Schomberg Pizza	20. Oil Changers

"We are all in this Together"
 It is more important than ever to support one another and our local community businesses. We would like to once again say Thank You to all the participating businesses. It was a proud moment for everyone here at The King Weekly Sentinel to purchase 20 different local gift cards to fill the prize pack.
Congratulations to our winners!

Thank You for Playing!

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KingWeeklySentinel

Arts & Entertainment

Nobleton singer releases new single, 'Take a Chance'

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

A Nobleton singer-songwriter has put his emotions on his sleeve with his new single.

Country artist Matt Morson offers the public "Take a Chance," a ballad that's a song of hope, as much as it's a song of love.

The three-minute, 20-second track is chocked full of slide guitars, reverbs and tear-jerking, yet uplifting chord progressions. There's also a beautiful and roaring guitar solo, which simply

oozes raw emotion. On top of that, the hard-hitting chorus is backed and harmonized by a "beautiful (and mysterious) female voice."

Morson explained the singer is Rebekah Hawker.

"I was looking for someone to play the harmonies when she was brought to my attention by my producer. To be honest there was another person intended for that but they bailed last minute. Funny how that happens because it sounds better than I could have imagined."

In the chorus of "Take a Chance," the duo complement each other perfectly when they sing: "So baby take a chance / Open up your heart and grab my hand / Break down those walls and learn to love again / Try to understand that you can."

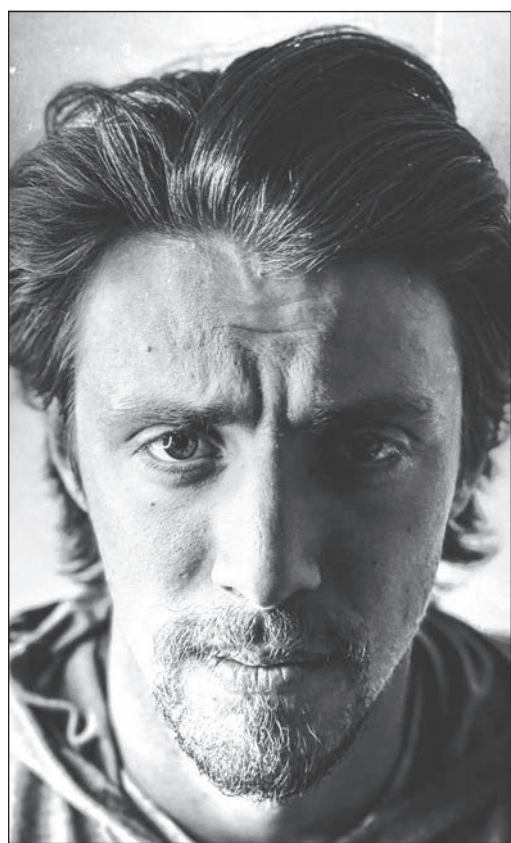
"The message 'take a chance' could be applied to anything," Morson said. "Because of all of this, it is a song I am very proud of and one that a great many people had input in to make perfect."

"I want people to hear it and smile. Just feel good you know? Obviously, that's what I take away from it but that is the beauty of music. Everybody's thought and takeaway is uniquely their own."

"Take a Chance," had actually been written for a while, many months ago for his girlfriend.

The release marks a comeback of sorts because the band has been touring "everywhere" for the past few years. They're now "attempting to pump out" more new music.

Morson's music is heavily influenced by the classic sounds of the southern rock, blues and country genres – from



near and far. The rising star first picked up a guitar at the age of 11 when growing up in the rural community based just outside of the GTA. His goal? To master Led Zeppelin's 1969 classic "Communication Breakdown."

He loves the guitar and still has a fascination of the instrument, one that's as strong as it was when he was 17.

"There is such versatility in that instrument," he said. "The many different styles and techniques give you unlimited possibilities if you have the patience to learn."

"I do love Zeppelin, but who doesn't? My guitar playing now is much different from those days but I like to think I incorporate a little of all my influences from time to time. Though at face value there doesn't seem to be a relation between country and rock, when you begin to play and feel it out you realize they are more similar than most think."

He said his style definitely varies from song to song, but it's not always intentional.

"When I write I usually write the music first and the lyrics second – Elton John style. So, the rhythm and melody are always based on emotion. I don't know about you but emotion for me can be all over the map. As a result, the style and sound follow suit and it is never the

same as the last."

As he honed his skills and mastered the art of a stage presence, Morson began incorporating his passion for music in his work by assisting in production and general event logistics for various Canadian music festivals. Over time, the charismatic artist discovered a burning desire to perform, and eventually landed himself on stage with the same high-energy band he still performs with to this day.

Over the last five years – with the help of his bandmates and various producers and collaborators – Morson has released a handful of singles, including "Don't Cry Over Me, Wanted Man, Nevada Girl, Girl On the Bar" and 2020's "Why Woman."

Morson is working on a full album and he's just waiting for the right time to release it.

He said he's "dying to get out there" and do more live shows.

"Honestly, it's the biggest thing me and the band miss doing. Aside from that, I write music and work like a dog."

"Take a Chance" is available now.

"Take a Chance" is available on all streaming services including Apple and Spotify. You can find him on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or by visiting mattmorson.com

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King Weekly Sentinel



Author gets to the heart of truth for Black History Month

By Brock Weir

Toronto's City Hall stands tall in the heart of the city.

With its forecourt, Nathan Phillips Square, a popular gathering place and focal point, few realize the complex and comparatively recent history underfoot.

Dr. Cheryl Thompson does.

A professor at Ryerson University, Dr. Cheryl Thompson has become intimately familiar with the history of "The Ward," a once-thriving multi-ethnic community that was levelled to make way for the city's seat of power. During recent excavations of the site, archeologists found numerous telling artefacts, including a souvenir plate made to commemorate Harriet Beecher Stowe's 1852 novel Uncle Tom's Cabin, prompting Dr. Thompson to delve deeper into a complex topic.

She brought her findings – virtually – to the Aurora Public Library recently, to help kick off Black History Month.

Dr. Thompson's work on the "Uncle Tom" plate found its way into "The Ward Uncovered," a collection of stories illustrating the forgotten history in the core of Toronto, but her work wasn't done. It inspired her forthcoming book "Uncle: Race, Nostalgia and the Politics of Loyalty," due out this month.

"Why would you find an Uncle Tom's Cabin plate? The book was a sensation," Dr. Thompson explains. "There were plates, wallpaper, napkins – Uncle Tom's Cabin was literally put on everything. When I was writing this chapter and having conversations with my editor, he said, 'I think you should write a book about this.'"

Dr. Thompson was already familiar with the story, knowing that when the name "Uncle Tom" was applied today it was applied specifically to Black men and invariably in a negative context. In short, it was a slur, but that didn't necessarily jive with her reading of the subject matter.

"When you read Uncle Tom's Cabin, Uncle Tom in the book is kind of a hero," she says. "He's seen as a Christian man, very loyal, and he basically dies a martyr's death. He's very adverse to violence of any kind and that is what led to the thesis of my book. Why is it in my lifetime that I have only known this word to be negative and hurled as an in-

sult, yet when we go back to the book he is a hero?"

"At the same time, the way Uncle Tom is used in media culture, people go right back to the 1852 book. I thought, 'There have been so many iterations of Uncle Tom since 1852, how come people don't mention that? I wanted to go on an exploration to literally find every case that I could on how Uncle Tom morphed from the book, to the stage, to advertising, to film, to radio, to television – and now, in the contemporary, we see that archetype showing up in politics, especially Black conservatives. I wanted to trace all the twists and turns from the novel of today so it would kind of answer the question: Why we shouldn't be referring to the novel of the 19th century, because it really has no bearing on the way 'Uncle Tom' is used today?"

One of the reasons Dr. Thompson says it is still invoked is out of "a sense of loyalty," pointing to "Uncle Tom" being levelled at the Kentucky Attorney General's handling of the murder of Breonna Taylor.

"Why he was called an 'Uncle Tom' is he was seen as not really being sincere to the Black community," says Dr. Thompson. "Instead, he was kind of doing the work of the 'White' institutions that have historically disenfranchised [Black communities]. Since this moment in 2020 with Black Lives Matter, there has been a lot more of a sense of being on the right side of history and being on the right side of people who have been victimized. This book illuminates the racial conversations that do come up around this idea of being loyal to your community. Even when you sort of go up the ranks and attain power, there is always this push-pull that you still have a mindset towards your community and do things the community would agree with and not do things only to service White institutions or people in positions of power."

At the end of the day, she says it is important that people understand the power of stereotypes and hopes her book will help achieve that goal. Stereotypes have been with us for centuries, but sometimes we don't recognize them because they change over time.

"I always think of the 'Fresh Prince of Bel-Air'," she says. "It was a sitcom,

but it was actually kind of the truth: either you're this squeaky-clean Carlton who is out of pace and kind of a nerd, or you're Will who was supposed to be 'from the streets.' Just make that connection between where these things come from and what it means that you're complicit in consuming them, but not really asking questions about

what it is you're consuming.

"If you want to understand why a lot of people don't like (U.S. Supreme Court Justice) Clarence Thomas, or why a lot of Black people don't like, say, another Black male you really like and can't understand why the community doesn't like them, this is the book that is going to explain why."

Caledon company sending cameras to the moon

By Alyssa Parkhill

A Caledon technology company is getting a once in a lifetime trip.

Canadensys Aerospace Corporation, alongside Quebec-based company NGC Aerospace LTD, is being supported with funding to conduct a technology demonstration on the Moon.

The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) is committing \$3.3 million to support the two companies in the first ever trip to the Moon for a Canadian technology demonstration in lunar orbit.

Canadensys Aerospace Corporation works and supports exploration missions organized by both the government and commercial organizations by providing systems specifically tailored for extended performance and longevity in the lunar environment, from long-range mobility and enhanced situational awareness to lunar night survival and shadowed region operations.

"Canadensys Aerospace Corporation is a space systems and services company with a focus on high reliability missions from Earth orbit out to the Moon, Mars and beyond," said Canadensys founder and CEO Christian Sallaberger. "Canadensys also provides robust high-performance spacecraft systems to international commercial customers."

\$2.4 million is being awarded to the local aerospace company, who is planning to develop a 360-degree camera that will capture images of the Moon's surface, while \$840,000 is going to the Quebec company for their planetary navigation system demonstration.

The camera will be able to capture images and videos, as well as being able to live monitor and inspect the lunar surface for future guidance and instruction for any rovers to prepare for human missions.

"These cameras are very compact but also very robust and capable. They have been designed to survive lunar night, which is colder than -200 degree Celsius. We test each of them in our cryogenic test chambers in our Caledon facility. On top that, they have to withstand the high radiation environment on the Moon," explained Sallaberger.

The cameras are tested for radiation at the University of British Columbia, who also look into the camera's ability to withstand abrasive dust, and the image processing and compression to ensure successful transmission of images and videos back to the team here on Earth.

Sallaberger added, "As it happens, the moon has just about one of the harshest environments in the solar system, so if a system can survive lunar night, it is almost bullet-proof in environments such as low-earth orbit. For this reason, we have quite some demand for our lunar designed cameras, computers, and other systems from customers that want very robust and high-performance systems for their satellites and spacecraft in earth orbit."

"We feel very privileged and humbled to have been selected for this funding contribution by the Canadian Space Agency," he said. "The camera technology we are launching to the Moon build on Canadian innovation and know-how developed thanks to the past vision, commitment, and support of both the Canadian Space Agency's space exploration program and Canadian Department of National Defence's IDEaS innovation program."

The launch is planned for April 2024.



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Ontario adding more mental health beds at Mackenzie Health

The Ontario government is providing over \$700,000 to add new in-patient mental health beds at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital. This funding is part of the government's comprehensive mental health and addictions plan Roadmap to Wellness.

This plan is delivering high-quality care and building a modern, connected and comprehensive system to support those dealing with mental health and

addictions issues.

"By investing in mental health services and expanding hospital beds right in our community, we are delivering better care for Vaughan and King families," said Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan. "We have significantly enhanced mental health funding for our youth and seniors — and today's investment adds another layer of support for residents who are facing difficulty

from this pandemic."

"Ontarians in every corner of the province have felt the impacts of COVID-19. Increased periods of social isolation, coupled with the uncertainty of the future, have created added pressures, which can be difficult for people to handle," said Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and MPP for Vaughan-Woodbridge. "We will not waiver in our

commitment to ensuring every person has access to the highest-quality mental health and addictions care that meets their unique needs. This investment brings us one step closer to our goal of creating a comprehensive, connected and integrated system, where everyone is fully supported in their journey towards mental wellness."

"Now more than ever, it is critical that Ontarians have access to effective mental health and addictions services when and where they need them," said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP for Newmarket-Aurora. "We're continuing to work with our partners to close gaps in care, expand services that support our most vulnerable populations and provide better more connected care in our mental health system."

"We know that mental health is underserved in our community," said Altaf Stationwala, president and CEO of Mackenzie Health. "Every day, the team that makes up the mental health program at Mackenzie Health does their utmost to care for patients, often when they're at their most vulnerable. This funding provides the additional resources they need to continue to deliver the care our community needs."

"Supporting the mental health and well-being of residents is vital to building strong, caring, safe communities. On behalf of York Regional Council and The Regional Municipality of York, I extend our appreciation to the Government of Ontario for their on-going commitment to expanding mental health services across York Region," said York Region Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson.

"This funding will provide support at a time when it is needed most," said Thornhill MPP Gila Martow.

"Mental health impacts everyone of every age, from every walk of life," said Logan Kanapathi, MPP for Markham-Thornhill. "Thanks to leadership of Premier Ford, Minister Elliot, and Minister Tibollo our government is creating three additional mental health beds at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital to ensure adequate care for everyone."

"I'm very excited for what this investment will bring to the table for the people of York Region," added Richmond Hill MPP Daisy Wai. "Mackenzie Health, here in my riding of Richmond Hill, has received \$700,800 for 3 in-patient mental health beds. As our area continues to grow, it is imperative that a corresponding amount of support and services are provided, so that healthcare remains accessible for all."

The beds will support patients experiencing mental health challenges, including those who are experiencing a mental health crisis that require treatment and care that is more appropriately provided in a hospital setting. These new beds build on the 52 additional in-patient mental health beds that the province created in 2019 to address critical gaps in Ontario's mental health and addictions system and provide more people and families with high-quality mental health care closer to home.

The province is also providing several additional investments to ensure Ontarians have the mental health and addictions care they need, including:

- \$1.1 million to support the operations of the Baycrest Hospital Behavioural Neurology Unit, which provides 20 in-patient mental health beds for individuals diagnosed with dementia and who have exhibited significant behavioural symptoms. This program also includes supports for families and caregivers, in addition to facilitating a patient's smooth transition from the hospital back into their community.

- Up to \$164,000 in additional funding to support the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's (CAMH) Wellbeing in Later-Life education and awareness program for seniors. This program will provide training for health care and support staff working within retirement homes and long-term care homes to increase their understanding and awareness of the mental health challenges and unique needs of older adults for whom they care. This program will also integrate anti-racism, anti-oppression and inclusive principles into the facilitator training and workshop materials to ensure a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment.

- Enhanced support to the Seniors Safety Line with an additional investment of up to \$130,000 to hire and train more operators to address the higher call volumes generated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Up to \$194 million in additional emergency mental health and addictions funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has expanded existing services and created new services, such as virtual tools and counselling.

Love Train Revue melds artistry with Black history

By Brock Weir

There ain't no stoppin' us now is not just a sentiment expressed by the late American singer Marvin Gaye, it is a driving force for musician George St. Kitts as he takes his show on the virtual road.

This month, in honour of Black History Month, the Snowball-based singer has rethought and revived his popular Love Train Revue show for a digital realm, a reboot that is not just about music but the accomplishments of Black Canadians, as well.

The Love Train Revue, which was launched online Feb. 5, and will take place on Facebook each Friday night at 8 p.m. through Feb. 26, is a blend of Motown, Jazz, Funk, Blues, Reggae and more.

In the first show, music met the life of the late Lincoln Alexander, Canada's first Black Member of Parliament and the first person of colour to represent the Queen in Canada as Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. Mr. St. Kitts shared vignettes from Alexander's storied life, tied to song.



"Lincoln Alexander talked about the love of his life, how he lost his wife, how they fell in love, and one of the songs I really latched onto was the Reggae song, 'She Is Royal', talking about his beautiful wife and what she meant to him," said Mr. St. Kitts.

At the end of the show, we have 'Ain't No Stopping Us Now, We're On The Move' and we're going to keep moving on despite all the adversities we go through in life. Nothing is going to stop us, especially in this pandemic; we will get through this and we will prevail."


A pandemic wasn't going to stop George St. Kitts from getting back into the Love Train groove. While he was not averse to bringing the show online, he says he is a "stickler" for both good sound and good video, as well as the fact that people online need something great to hold their attention for more than 15 minutes.

"I just thought with Black History Month and the Love Train Review, I could bring some life back into it and do it," he explains. "I am not getting paid because I love what I do, but I was kind of going back and forth whether to make it a ticketed event and charge people something so at least us, as the artists, can get something back because we're all not working at all; we're locked down. I thought, okay, let's just do it for the month of Black History Month and do the show every Friday night and feature prominent Canadians, their struggles, and what they went through growing up in Canada, and, most importantly, being Canadian."

While Mr. St. Kitts says he wants the stories to tell themselves, stating "I am just a performer," these are stories he is curating for a very specific purpose.

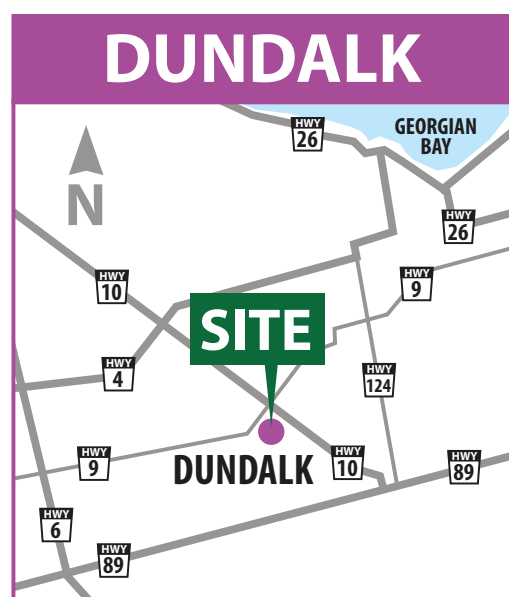
"I want to not only educate people but let them know the wonderful things these giants have done in our society as Canadians. We always think of [leaders like] Martin Luther King, and they are great, but we always think of Americans and we have got them right here in Canada. The songs might be a little bit American, but the people are Canadian.

"I want (audiences) to leave saying, 'That was a great show, fun to see, and maybe they can share it and enlighten others with it,' just knowing we have some great Canadian talent here. COVID's got us down, but we're still kicking. I just want to entertain and share my joy of music with others."



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Pandemic has caused decline in education quality, poll shows

By Mark Pavilonis
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

Pandemic stress is not only affecting businesses and individuals, but post-secondary students are suffering, too.

University students, faculty, and academic librarians are struggling with social isolation, stress, and a lack of institutional support, according to the results of a new poll. It also finds that those working and studying at Ontario's universities believe the shift to online education has negatively impacted quality.

Without immediate action from universities and the Ontario government to address these concerns, it is likely that quality will degrade even further.

"These results demonstrate that meaningful engagement between students and faculty is fundamental to the learning process," said Rahul Sapra, president of the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations. "As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the scramble to move courses online, we have lost that human connection and educational quality has suffered."

The poll of 2,700 Ontario students, faculty, and academic librarians was commissioned by OCUFA and conducted by Navigator Inc. It reveals that 62 per cent of students and 76 per cent of faculty and academic librarians believe that the adjustments universities made to move teaching online have had a negative impact on education quality.

Financial security, care demands, and work-life balance are significant stress points for both groups. A third of students and two thirds of faculty and academic librarians revealed that they have care-giving responsibilities that they are struggling to balance while working or studying.

When asked about the impacts of the pandemic, a majority of students said they are concerned about their education quality and academic performance, their financial security as a result of high tuition fees and fewer opportunities to earn income, their mental health, and their ability to manage

non-academic responsibilities, including caregiving, while studying.

"Since the beginning of the pandemic students have raised concerns about the quality and affordability of their education," said Kayla Weiler, Ontario Representative of the Canadian Federation of Students. "These results further indicate that universities and the Ontario government must take action to improve learning and working conditions."

Faculty and academic librarians, who have been working harder than ever during the past eight months to deliver the best education possible online, feel they are still falling short of their own expectations.

With many universities making unilateral decisions about course delivery, a majority of faculty and academic librarians said they are concerned about their ability to teach and support students, their professional development, their mental health, and their ability to manage non-academic responsibilities, including caregiving, while working.

Financial security, mental health, and the challenges of balancing work and care responsibilities are of significantly higher concern to contract faculty. Most of these faculty work contract-to-contract with little job security, while receiving much lower pay than their securely-employed colleagues.

"Since this pandemic began, we have been hearing heart-wrenching stories from contract faculty across Ontario," said Kimberly Ellis-Hale, a contract faculty member at Wilfrid Laurier University. "As dedicated instructors, we are committed to providing our students with exceptional educational experiences, but the reality is that, because we are contract faculty, we are not getting paid for the enormous amount of work it has taken to put these courses online and deliver them remotely, or to provide the additional support our students need and deserve. All this extra work and overtime is taking a heavy toll."

The results of the poll also make it very clear that, even once the pandemic has ended, online education will not see the enthusiastic adoption that many have claimed. On the whole, neither students nor faculty view online learning as a desirable approach to a university education.

It is clear that most students, faculty, and academic librarians will not be returning to campus any time soon. However, there are still important actions Ontario's universities can take to address these concerns. Reducing class sizes by hiring additional, securely employed faculty, will ensure students receive more one-on-one support and a better educational experience. Lowering tuition fees will help students struggling to make ends meet, now and after the pandemic. Finally, investments in better resources for students, faculty, and academic librarians – especially technology supports – would improve educational outcomes and address the mental and emotional burn-out many are feeling.

However, Ontario's universities will have difficulty making these changes without additional support from the provincial government, which made substantial cuts to postsecondary education funding prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Ford government, critics say, has displayed a pattern of behaviour by consistently ignoring those working on the front lines of Ontario's public education system. It is not too late to change course.

"Throughout the pandemic, the Ford government has stood on the sidelines and watched as university students, faculty, and academic librarians struggle," said Sapra. "Even in the middle of the pandemic, the top concerns for students and faculty are fees and funding. It is time for the provincial government to step up, set an example, and invest in Ontario's underfunded universities so that they can improve the educational experience and help students and faculty succeed."

Reversing cuts to education by investing in smaller classes, good jobs, and lower tuition fees will not just help Ontario's universities during the pandemic, but will lay the foundations for students, faculty, and academic librarians to effectively pivot back to the in-person educational experience they say is most effective.

Founded in 1964, OCUFA represents 17,000 professors and academic librarians in 30 faculty associations across Ontario. It is committed to enhancing the quality of higher education in Ontario and recognizing the outstanding contributions of its members towards creating a world-class university system. For more information, please visit the OCUFA website at www.ocufa.on.ca.



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York Catholic board announces new director

The Board of Trustees of the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) is excited to announce the appointment of Robert Hofstatter as their new Director of Education, effective March 1.

"The selection of Mr. Hofstatter for this key position signals a bold, new era of leadership, driven by a desire for excellence in Catholic education, visionary innovation and collaborative involvement with staff and students," said Dominic Mazzotta, chair of the board. "With this appointment, we are excited to build on our Catholic values and strategic commitments in fresh and dynamic ways, to propel learning forward in the 21st century and continue our track record as a high-performing school board."

Hofstatter brings to his new position more than 20 years of progressively responsible leadership roles in financial security services, software technology and advanced strategies for STREAM schools (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts and Math). He holds Master's degrees in Business Administration and Education, is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), a Project Management Professional (PMP) and is a member of good standing with the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT).



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Why disc golf would be a nice add for the community

By Robert Belardi

In 2014, while mountain biking on the trails behind the Ontario Science Centre, Jeff MacKeigan stumbled on a new sport. He saw people throwing a frisbee (disc) into a chain holder attached to a metal pole.

"It was a really snowy year, so we said let's give this disc golf thing a try," MacKeigan said.

"Fast forward a few weeks later and we're talking on the phone, we were talking about where we were going disc golfing next."

It's how most people find this game. MacKeigan says this isn't a sport most people grow up with. It is one to be found.

Disc golf is a sport that began oddly by students throwing pies around in New Haven, Connecticut. The owner of Wham-O – a toy company in California – Ed Headrick was intrigued by this as word spread swiftly across the country. He developed a plastic version of these pies and called it a frisbee.

That's how disc golf was born. Similar to the way golf works, the objective is to throw your frisbee into this metal basket in the least amount of throws as possible. You "tee-off" with your frisbee and play each hole as you would on a golf course.

In 2018, he was a full-time employee with a consumer packaged goods company. MacKeigan was awarded employee of the year by the company; an honour he still holds in high esteem to this very day.

His passion for the sport of disc golf and the community of people within it,

continued to grow. MacKeigan made the call to pursue disc golf full-time and quit the consumer-packaged goods company in 2019.

Later that year, he and his business partner Cara Hovius, installed a beginner-friendly disc golf course at Marilyn Bell Park in Toronto. In the fall of 2020, he opened Scarlett Woods in the city as well.

"Seeing the passion this game instills in other people, is amazing. We launched Scarlett Woods Disc Golf Course in November (2020). It's really cool, the Mayor of Toronto (John Tory) made the announcement. That weekend, we were at the course both days to ensure everything flowed smoothly," MacKeigan said.

And the opening weekend went by in a flash. What was most remarkable, were the emails that were sent to the mayor giving thanks for the course. Some people included us in their notes. They were incredibly heartwarming.

"There are people going through unbelievable challenges in their life. It's really quite amazing, you see people out there, throwing frisbees into metal baskets and you can tell this is one of the best parts of their day. It's hard to describe but easy to experience".

In the past 31 years, the City of Toronto had three-disc golf courses in total. MacKeigan and Hovius have doubled that to six in the past three years.

And they are working on many more. One player, Aurora resident Todd Billo, invited MacKeigan and Hovius to speak to Aurora Town Council to propose the construction of a disc golf course.



Jeff MacKeigan and Cara Hovius (pictured here) want to keep growing the game as much as possible as Canadians continue to show more interest every year in disc golf.

They shared the disc golf community concept with metrics on how the game is growing in popularity and how cost effective the sport is.

According to the PDGA, disc golf courses in Canada, grew by 18 per cent in 2017, 11 per cent in 2018, 12 per cent in 2019 and 9 per cent in 2020.

Membership increased by 17 per cent in 2018 and again by 28 per cent in 2019. This past year even through COVID, disc golf membership has increased by a whopping 33 per cent.

MacKeigan also says he will work with the Town of Aurora and build a course in a location which best meets the town's planning criteria. One of his biggest concerns is safety. Courses are designed to peacefully co-exist with other park users.

He awaits the council's response.

What a disc golf course would bring is inclusivity. Anyone can show up to play. No matter who you are, or what your background is, it doesn't matter.

It is a place where everyone is welcome.

Disc golf brings a wide range of people together. In its first year, their Marilyn Bell Park Disc Golf Course has seen a marriage proposal, new players learning the game, pro disc golfers honing their skills and even a father and daughter team who try to get in a round every day after school.

This game is for all ages and there is a sense of camaraderie between those that play. New players will often find disc golfers willing to share some starter discs and tips on improving their game.

During this time of uncertainty and anxiousness, a disc golf course and community seems to offer exactly what so many of us are looking for right now. This sport can be played at any time (day or night) through all the seasons (winter and summer) and is often free to play. Having one in this community as well, might benefit us all.

Update on King's athletes

By Robert Belardi

Sometimes we ask the curious question, how are our athletes from King City doing during this time?

Especially since all professional and semi-professional leagues continue to be harboured by COVID protocols and the what-ifs when a team and/or player come down with the virus.

Let's take the Vegas Golden Knights for instance. Last week against the Anaheim Ducks, Knights forward Thomas Nosek was yanked mid-way through the game because of a positive test.

That of course raises a few eyebrows. Not only is COVID a proponent for raising concern, but the Knights have already had three games postponed thus far this year.

Who knows what will transpire out of all of this. But for now, let's take a look at some of our hometown athletes and how they've been doing in their respective situations.

Alex Pietrangelo

Since we're on the topic, Alex Pietrangelo signed a lucrative deal with the Vegas Golden Knights this off-season. The former St. Louis Blues captain left the team he was drafted by to sign a seven-year-\$61.6 million-dollar deal. That's good for \$8.8 million a year.

Drafted fourth overall by the Blues back in 2008, Pietrangelo has cemented himself as a number one defenceman across the league. Moving to the Knights, who were in search of a number one talent on the back-end, the organization filled the void with the 31-year-old.

As of this past Monday, in 10 games played he has amassed four points.

Vegas currently sits on top of the West Division, one point ahead of his former club.

Pietrangelo missed three games due to COVID protocol and is poised to have another great season, after accumulating 16 goals and 36 assists last year.

Rosie MacLennan

The 32-year-old, two-time Olympic

gold medalist – the first trampolinist to win gold in back-to-back Olympics in history – is looking for a third medal this year in Tokyo to complete the trifecta.

Back in January, Tokyo2020.org released a compelling story on MacLennan. Entitled "Rosie MacLennan: Beyond Her Wildest Dreams," the story sheds light on her Olympic aspirations since she was a young girl, to her gold medal podiums, to her struggles with injuries and to now, with an opportunity at a three-peat.

MacLennan won Canada's only gold medal at London 2012 and triumphed again in Rio 2016.

She now looks forward to the Tokyo Olympics this upcoming year with hopes of making Canada and herself proud once again.

A video of all of this can also be seen at olympicchannel.com.

Alex Formenton
and Kody Clark

Forward for the Belleville Senators Alex Formenton and forward for the Hershey Bears Kody Clark got their seasons up and running.

The American Hockey League, released their schedule in late January. The league began Feb. 5.

Now in his second year with the Belleville Senators, the Ottawa Senators' 47th overall pick back in 2017 will look to ride on his form from last season.

He amassed 27 goals and 26 assists in 61 games and was announced to the AHL All-Rookie team last May.

Drafted one-year apart, the 47th-overall choice by the Washington Capitals in 2018, Kody Clark got off to a hot start in his AHL campaign last week.

The 21-year-old got the Bears goal-scoring tally under way in their 2-1 overtime loss to the Lehigh Valley Phantoms. Defenceman Eddie Witchow from the right side of the net, wafted the puck out in front to a streaking Clark who chipped the puck up and over the shoulder of Phantoms goaltender Zane McIntyre.

In 31 games last year, Clark recorded three goals and six assists. He looks to have a better sophomore year.

Witnesses sought in serious collision in King Township

York Regional Police investigators are looking for witnesses to a serious, single-vehicle collision in King Township.

Police report on Saturday, Feb. 13 at roughly 1:15 a.m., they responded to a collision at Dufferin Street and Miller Sideroad. Upon arrival, they found a black Subaru Impreza with two occupants that had gone off the road and down into a ravine.

The driver, a 27-year-old male from Richmond Hill, was transported to hospital with life-threatening injuries. The 21-year-old female passenger, from Holland Landing, was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

The investigation is ongoing and police are asking witnesses, or anyone with dashcam footage to come forward.

Please contact YRP major collision investigation unit at 1-866-876-5423, ext 7704.

King Weekly Sentinel

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Firefighter has strong connection to her community

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Local Journalism Initiative

A Nobleton firefighter sees her service as another way to be involved in her community.

Sasha Kuyumju has been a certified personal trainer and yoga instructor working in King township for 10 years.

The King native had been training some of the firefighters at station 38 for a few years when they suggested that she should consider applying for the next recruit class.

"I love working and volunteering in my own community and saw this as another way to get involved," she said. "It was the encouragement of my station's firefighters and a desire to try something new that made me apply."

She admitted that when she was in elementary school she wrote that she wanted to be a firefighter when she grew up.

"So I guess deep down I always wanted to do this."

What makes KFES a standout service and what sets it apart from other

Women who Serve

departments is the people.

"We are so fortunate to have so many firefighters who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table that it helps a new recruit like myself start out on the right foot.

"In my experience the firefighters working for KFES have always been very passionate and willing to pass on their knowledge and lessons learned on to us new recruits."

Kuyumju said the firefighters at KFES are always furthering their education, taking new courses, getting certified in new skills.

"I believe all this shows when we arrive on scene."

Kuyumju said she had always heard that firefighters refer to themselves as brothers and sisters and she never really understood it until she finished her recruit training.

"The camaraderie I have experienced in the hall has been amazing. The amount of times a fellow firefighter has offered to come in to the hall on their

own time to help me with some extra training, or to check in on me the next day after a tough call, are countless, and I am very grateful to them all."

She admits that COVID-19 was the biggest obstacle for her training.

"We had to put our class on hold for about a month and it was hard to try and continue to study and not lose motivation or all the skills we had learned when we weren't really sure when we would be going back."

She admitted that working a full-time job and going through recruit training can also be difficult. "But if you manage your time properly you can get it done."

Her "sisters" have helped pave the road in equal treatment.

"I have to thank all the female firefighters at KFES who came before me and who helped pave that road for me. I also have to thank the male firefighters who have been open minded and willing to accept women as a valued team member in a job that was once not so open minded."

Her family, friends and loved ones have always been her biggest support.

"There were times when I wasn't



sure if I could get through recruit training and they were always there to give me the push I needed."

Her advice to any young aspiring female firefighters would be to not second guess yourself and just do it. "Do your research and come talk with us so you really have an idea of the job. It can be a really fun and rewarding job but you have to be ready to put in the work."

The "Women who Serve" series features female firefighters in King Township, and showcases their stories.

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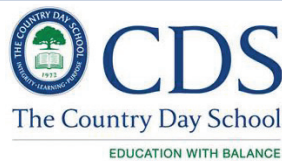
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Managing Director

Lord Dufferin Centre Retirement Residence
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Fax: 519-941-2615

Email: dkholwell@lorddufferincentre.ca
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Nobleton Notes

St. Paul's Church By Linda Blydorp

It's not too late to register for our Alpha Course which will be running weekly every Wednesday 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Zoom until April 21. If you are looking for a virtual gathering that will provide a safe place for you to learn and explore, ask questions, discuss, share opinions, make friends and have fun, all in a Jesus-centred environment, please go to our website, stpaulsnobleton.ca, and check out the trailer and find the instructions for registration.

A Bible Study for Youth has also begun via Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Our current Bible study is aimed towards teen girls. If you are interested in joining, or know of someone that might be, please contact Jenna at jkkddvm@gmail.com for more information.

Our women's Life Connect Group meets every Tuesday morning on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. On Thursday at noon the Women's Good News Fellowship meet every week. If you are interested in joining either of these groups, please

go to our website, and check out these LifeConnect Groups under Ministries. 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 office at secretary@stpaulsnobleton.ca

This Sunday, Feb. 20, Jeff will lead us in worship. His message is entitled, "The Needy Church," based on Romans 15:23-33. Due to the lockdown, our in-person gatherings are cancelled until further notice. Our live-streamed broadcasts are available directly on stpaulsnobleton.ca or on our YouTube channel each Sunday at 10 a.m. You can watch previous services or messages anytime, also on our YouTube channel (youtube.com/stpaulschurchnobleton).

St. Mary's Church

Dear parishioners, greetings in the Lord. We hope and pray that you are staying healthy, both physically and spiritually. We thank you for your ongoing support during this period of great uncertainty. Please let us know how the parish can help you during these uncertain times. If you would like to receive a copy of the weekly parish bulletin,

please contact the parish office. For more information and updates, please visit our parish website and Facebook page.

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

Online services continue to be available via the Nobleton United YouTube

King's Corners

King City United By Sheryl Sinka

Last Sunday, Rev. Andrew Lee encouraged us to gently contemplate the question "What is your vision for the present and future. What is your intention?" A good question to ask as we enter the Lenten season.

We invite you to view our recorded services and past weeks messages on our website kcuc.net. Please join with us this coming Sunday morning for our online worship at 10 where Rev. Dr. Bill Fritz will join us once again as our guest minister.

Beginning Thursday, Feb. 25 there

channel, or on the Facebook page.

You can also get a typed copy of the service, or links to some weekly music choices if you wish.

If you'd like to support the ministry of Nobleton United or Schomberg United, find us on CanadaHelps.org.

You can contact me, Carol-Ann at ministernobletonschomberg@gmail.com or leave a message at 905-859-3976. (messages are picked up weekly).

will be a weekly Lenten reflection offered by Rev. Andrew that will continue through the season of Lent and broadcast from the York United Ministries Collaboration YouTube Channel. If you subscribe to this channel you will receive updates as the worship events are posted.

If you would like emails with the link to the worship please contact the church at kcuc@bellnet.ca to be put on the list for the Sunday morning worship link.

Rev. Bruce Roffey is on a 3-month medical leave and will not be available for that time. Any pastoral cares can be directed to Rev Andrew Lee at this time.

More on Page 19

Classifieds

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708 OBITUARIES

Bauer: Joachim "John" Max

Suddenly, on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021. John Bauer, at the age of 63, beloved husband of the late Kathleen (née Morrison). Loving father of Aaron Bauer, dad of Lisa Lewis (née Morrison), Amy Burnes (Scott Hickey), and Katie Burnes (Jimmy Cappellano). Sadly missed by his grandchildren Jordan, Liam, Brock, Alexander, Kieran, Caleb and Joshua (Kayla), and his great granddaughters Chloe and Ivy. Dear son of Ruth Bauer and the late Nikolaus Bauer, and brother of Carol Bauer. Forever in the hearts of his extended family and friends. Following Pandemic protocols on gathering size, an invitational Funeral Service will be held at Rod Abrams Funeral Home, 1666 Tottenham Road, Tottenham, 905-936-3477 on Friday, February 19, 2021 with visitation from 12 pm until the time of Funeral Service at 1 pm. Springtime Interment will be held in Mt. Forest Cemetery. A public Celebration of John's life will be held at a later date when we can once again gather safely in groups. Please watch the funeral home website for updates. The family service will be posted to the Rod Abrams Funeral Home Facebook page the following day for all to watch at their convenience. Everyone is encouraged to show support to John's family by leaving tributes and condolences at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com. Donations to the Canadian Mental Health Association or the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

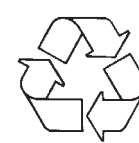
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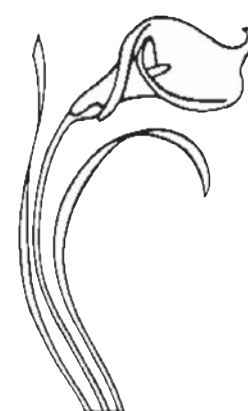


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612 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS



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From Page 18

King Bible Church

Youth and young adults were invited to share their questions about church and God and faith with Rev. Lee. He will be discussing these questions and thoughts on a Thursday broadcast from the YouTube channel. Our YouTube channel is York United Ministries

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 or have any question please contact the King City office at 905-833-5181.

Please join us online on Sunday, Feb. 21 at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Mark will be continuing our sermon series Living Between Two Worlds with a talk about "The Witness of Suffering."

Living Between Two Worlds: "Elect Exiles," this is the title Peter gave to the recipients of his first letter, Christ followers who found themselves caught living between two worlds, their earthly home and their eternal one. It is also the reality of every Christian that has ever walked this planet, the pressure of knowing that because of Jesus, we no longer fit in with the world around us, yet also knowing that while we are still here, we are called to be both salt and light to the world around us.

This brings us to the theme of the journey we are going to be taking through the letter of 1 Peter, to learn how to effectively live in this place between two worlds, to understand how our identity in Jesus, informs our actions so that we maintain both our call-

ing to be to be holy and our calling to love others?

All of our services are available through Facebook and YouTube. Missed it? You can also find previous services and sermons on there too. Please visit our website for full details on our sermons as well as other online ministries. www.kingbiblechurch.com

St. Andrew's
By Kathy Patterson

St. Andrew's invites you to join us online as we continue to worship together, at standrews-kingcity.ca, Sundays at 10:15 a.m. Last Sunday we concluded our series on the Lord's Prayer and were able to watch a sermon about the last lines we say when reciting this wonderful prayer. The Rev. Dr. John Vissers preached on Remembrance Day 2014 and it happened to be recorded!

"Coffee Fellowship" is held after Sunday morning worship, so pour yourself a coffee or tea and click on your invite link. Get in touch with Lynn or Kathy

at 905-833-0391 if you need the link or have any questions. We are all enjoying our time together in this way!

Virtual Art for the Soul is on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Contact Lynn for the Zoom link.

We hope you have a look at our new mural on the exterior south wall of the church when out for a walk or driving by the church at 13190 Keele St. It is St. Andrew's tribute to the Frontline Workers! We can't thank them enough and we are keeping them and their families in our prayers.

Mark your calendars for our Annual Congregational Meeting Feb. 28 at noon. A link will be sent to you a few days before. Hard copies of the Annual Report are available should you prefer to have one. Please let us know.

The King Township Food Bank is continuing with its safe food distribution each month. Need more information? ktfb.ca

For pastoral care, call or text Lynn Vissers, at 416-998-4652 or the Rev. Paul Johnston, at 705-341-7738.



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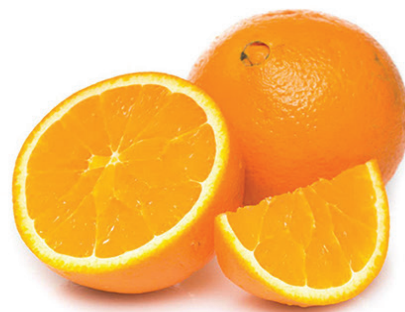
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