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King's Community Newspaper

Weekly Circulation: 10,200

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Thursday, December 9, 2021

Volume 48, Issue 49

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Holiday Food Bank Drive

It's that time of year again when all three of our King Township Fire Stations collectively participate in an annual food drive for our local food bank. This Saturday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., King Fire and Emergency Services will be teaming up and collecting food at the Foodland grocery store in Schomberg, John's No Frills and Cousins Market in Nobleton, as well as Coppa's Fresh Market in King City. Last year with support from all of our communities, King Fire were able to accept and raise more than \$13,000 in groceries.

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Schomberg Hall to get a needed face lift

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

The Schomberg Community Hall will be getting much needed renovations.

King councillors approved the plan to spend \$1.27 million on the work, to meet code requirements and improve accessibility, energy efficiency and overall usability.

Hopes are it will be completed by next spring, so the hall can be used for the Schomberg Spring Fair.

A 2014 audit showed a number of deficiencies in the building, which included structural challenges.

As part of the work, the hall will get a new elevator, thanks to a federal grant.

Also on tap will be LED lighting, structural shell and insulation upgrades, improvements to the HVAC system. The interior fixtures, kitchen, washroom and flooring will all be revamped, too. The washrooms will be made

accessible from the outside to support community events. Staff is working with the architectural firm to ensure all the details and timelines are met.

Of the total, \$1 million will be funded from the Growth and Infrastructure Reserve Fund, and \$100,000 from the federal grant.

The project drew support from Schomberg resident Mary Asselstine.

She said there is a great opportunity in this renovation to accomplish two additional goals:

- Design the renovation with the climate emergency in mind.
- Restore the structure with heritage protection and restoration in mind.

With regard to the climate emergency, she said materials being used in the renovation should be considered.

See 'Need' on Page 3

INSIDE	REGULAR FEATURES		
	Editorial Business Sports Classifieds	Page 4 Page 8 Page 15 Page 16	EV chargers coming to ONroute locations. See Page 8
			Parade of Lights shines bright in Schomberg. See Page 13

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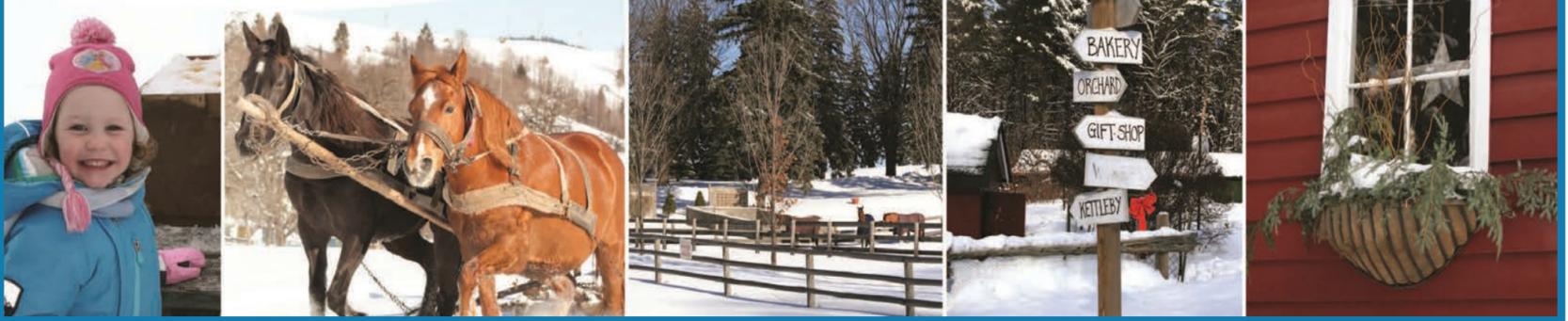
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MEMBER



www.king.ca



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



UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Monday, December 13
6 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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Thursday, December 9
3 pm - Holland Marsh Drainage System Joint Municipal Services Board Electronic Meeting (noon) on the day of the meeting
Tuesday, December 14
1 p.m. – Accessibility Advisory Committee (Virtual Meeting – Not Live-Streamed). If you wish to participate in the meeting virtually, register by emailing dmoratto@king.ca by 12pm (noon) on the day of the meeting.
Tuesday, December 14
6 pm – King Township Public Library Board (virtual meeting)
Wednesday, December 15
6 pm – Committee of Adjustment
Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

BID NOTICES

For all bid opportunities, please visit <https://king.bidsandtenders.ca/Module/Tenders/en>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

All applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on the day they close.

- **Administrative Support – Data Entry (Contract) – Deadline December 13**
- **Marketing, Advertising & Sponsorship Coordinator – Deadline December 14**
- **Manager of Facility Services – Deadline December 15**
- **Fitness Instructor (Contract) – Until Position is filled**
- **Personal Trainer (Contract) – Until Position is filled**
- **Fitness Floor Monitor (Contract) – Until Position is filled**

PUBLIC NOTICES



King is geared up and ready to tackle the snow and ice this winter. Our winter maintenance crews are responsible for clearing over 320 kilometres of roads. The Township's fleet includes two graders, 12 plows—complete with sand and salt units—and three contracted sidewalk plows. King will remove snow from roads when severe accumulations affect two-way traffic and the ability for on-street parking. This may take several days after accumulations occur and is performed on a priority basis.

First priority is given to commercial areas and areas where safety is a concern.

Residents are reminded to avoid parking on the street so that snowplowing and snow removal crews can operate effectively.

Some snowstorms last many hours or have initial freezing rain that turns into snow. In these conditions, a re-plowing of priority streets may be required to maintain traffic safety. Re-plowing may occur before road crews can move on to other local streets. The priority of snow clearing is based on Minimum Maintenance Standards Regulations.

Class of Road	Total Snow Accumulation	Time to Clear
Arterial Roads	8 cm	12 hours
Collector	8 cm	16 hours
Local	10 cm	24 hours

Due to varied shapes, sizes and presence of centre islands, cul-de-sacs require specialized snow removal equipment and procedures. The Township road system currently contains many cul-de-sacs and we understand the frustration that can occur for affected residents.

Most routes are completed with a 12-hour period. Clearance times may be longer when snowfall is exceptionally heavy, there are complications due to freezing rain, many cars are parked on the street or crews are working during peak traffic times. In accordance with Ministry of Labour Regulations, drivers cannot work more than 13 hours without a rest period. This can impact snow clearance time.

For more information on snow removal in King, please visit www.king.ca/snowremoval.



Please see more King Township notices on page 5

PUBLIC NOTICES



Season's Greetings

On behalf of Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Members of Council we wish all of our residents and their families warm wishes for this Holiday Season.



King Township Services

As part of a cautious approach to maintaining public and staff safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, King continues to gradually reopen in-person services, including at the King Township Municipal Centre.

The following in-person customer services are available at the Township Centre from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., as of Monday, Nov. 22:

- Garbage, bulky item and appliance tags
- Green bin, kitchen catcher and blue box sales
- Yard composters and rain barrels
- Payments for taxes, water bills and recreation programs
- Dog Tags

Passive screening and mandatory masking will be in place.

The following services are available in person each Wednesday and can be booked in advance by contacting clerks@king.ca or calling 905-833-4069:

- Marriage licences
- Commissioning services.

The following services are available in person each Wednesday and can be booked in advance by contacting serviceking@king.ca or calling 905-833-5321:

- Planning applications and some planning services
- Building permits and some building services.

Most in-person recreation, cultural and library services are in place with ongoing COVID-19 safety guidelines and restrictions. Visit www.king.ca/recreation-living.

See a full list of services, below. For information about King and COVID-19, visit www.king.ca/covid19.

**NOTICE OF PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT
RE 12828 WESTON ROAD
BY THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KING**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King passed By-law Number 2021-107 on the 29th day of November, 2021 under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990.

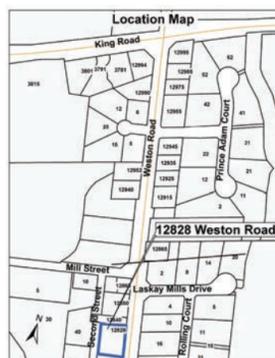
AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal ("OLT") in respect of the by-law by filing with the Clerk of the Corporation of the Township of King not later than the **29th day of December, 2021** a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection, together with a filing fee **per application** being appealed, in the amount as specified on the OLT website (www.olt.gov.on.ca), along with a cheque for \$231.00 per application being appealed, payable to the Township of King representing the Clerk's Department 2021 Administrative processing fee. Should this date fall on a holiday or weekend, you will have until 4:30 p.m. of the next business day to file your appeal. If you wish to appeal to the OLT, a copy of an appeal form is available from the OLT website at www.olt.gov.on.ca. Please note the Tribunal will only accept filing fee payments by certified cheque or money order.

Only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a by-law to the Ontario Land Tribunal ("OLT"). A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the OLT, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

Comments were received and considered during the Public Meeting of January 27th 2021 for the Zoning By-law Amendment Application. These comments have been taken into consideration during the review of the application and have been responded to throughout the Planning Division's Recommendation Report (GMS-PL-2021-004) dated February 8th 2021. To view the report, please refer to Agenda Item #10.3 of the February 8th 2021 meeting of Committee of the Whole available on our website (www.king.ca) or at <https://king.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.aspx?Org=Ca&Id=1241>.

An explanation of the purpose and effect of the By-law and a key map showing the location of the lands affected by the By-law are available on our website.



DATED at the Township of King this 9th day of December, 2021.

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services
Township Clerk
2585 King Road, KING CITY, ON L7B 1A1
Telephone: (905) 833-5321
Email: kmoyle@king.ca

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

Township moves ahead on urban design guidelines

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Things are coming together for a comprehensive urban design document for King Township.

Council recently received the draft discussion paper, setting the stage for the Village Urban Design Guidelines.

These are a series of design criteria that will outline the types of elements that will shape development in King. The guidelines outline key matters and issues and so far phase one concluded with three open houses this past October.

The new guidelines build on four separate documents, including village plans for King City, Nobleton and

Schomberg.

Urban design is informed by a variety of disciplines including architecture, land use planning, design, landscape architecture, and engineering. Building orientation and siting, streetscape elements, built form massing and special locations (such as gateways) in the villages can all be addressed through the guidelines.

Each village in King has unique characteristics, circumstances, and issues that must be considered in the Urban Design Guidelines. To that end, consultation with the public and stakeholders has been structured to gather an understanding of the local context and ensure that the guidelines respond to design considerations spe-

cific to each village. The structure of the guidelines document is anticipated to contain chapters which speak to the key design considerations for each village.

The outcome of the review process is anticipated to be a new, consolidated set of Urban Design Guidelines for the Township's villages. The guidelines will be prepared to implement and align with other recent Township initiatives such as the Official Plan, Community Improvement Plans, and Urban Area Zoning Bylaws.

The three key areas under examination are village cores, established neighbourhoods and employment areas. These will complement streetscaping and beautification plans, green strategies and King's Climate Change Action Plan.

The plan will also include how to move forward on employment lands.

It will be a go-to strategy with design elements that point to desired results that help shape each community. It will consider housing, mobility options, public spaces and heritage structures.

The guidelines will address village cores, with an emphasis on compatibility, heritage and "vibrant main streets." Taller buildings, streetscape goals, and transportation will all be looked at.

The GO Transit hub in King City is a vital component across the municipality. Intensification is planned around the station in King City. The guidelines will help shed some light on the need for intensification in King City, along

with different types of buildings, up to six storeys in some cases. Already, council is reviewing plans for condos and townhouses in the village.

Project manager John Tassiopoulos noted longer buildings are coming, too and the guidelines will help address the logistics of these types of uses.

Established neighbourhoods take precedent and any future additions, replacements or new builds will have to fit in the existing neighbourhood characteristics.

Employment lands, typically located at village entrances, or gateways, will need to be part of a clear vision. There's an emphasis on prestige industrial developments.

It is expected the draft will be released to council and public for review and consultation in early 2022. The second round of public engagement will take place in February/March 2022 and is anticipated to include a virtual question and answer sessions with Township Staff and WSP.

Councillor David Boyd said he's excited to see the guidelines moving forward.

Tassiopoulos said there's always a "typical conundrum" of pedestrian versus vehicular issues. The goal is to find a "fit" that works.

Stephen Naylor, Director of Growth Management Services, said it's a layered approach, but it won't "cure all ills."

Mayor Steve Pellegrini said he wants the public to be informed every step of the way.

Need to retain character

From Front Page

There are many products available that are sustainable and some may be sourced locally. In addition the long term use of the building needs to be considered.

"As we know, it is in the flood plain and as such should be flood protected. But could it be used as a future cooling centre for example? What opportunities are there to assist in climate resilience? And how do we use this building to keep people in Schomberg and be less eager to get in their car and drive somewhere else? Maybe there is a space for office sharing for example."

With regard to heritage, people of Schomberg are very proud of their Main Street and the heritage character of the street, she observed. Many renovations have happened to the Community Hall over the years, which have undermined its heritage character. She hopes it's possible to retain the interior/exterior heritage elements and perhaps restore some of the elements that have been lost in the past.

"There is a great opportunity here to showcase this renovation and make it the standard for renovations in other Township buildings," she said.

Resident Susan Beharriell said while there's pressure to have the work done in time for the spring fair, she wanted more time spent on the details. Her penchant for environmental efficiencies led her to

ask for a more phased-in approach.

She said King has declared a Climate Emergency and these plans do not yet meet King's requirements.

"Why not phase in the work, pause, and then complete it after the event?" she asked. "Is there any reason why the hall cannot be used in the 2022 fair as it is now? Is there a safety issue that would prevent this? If so, then what is the required work? If this work is not completed what would happen?"

She's concerned the renovations won't be close to net zero emissions and work may have to be redone in a few years.

She said some of the planned improvements are luxuries that may not be necessary.

"I maintain that our Climate Emergency is a much higher priority! In this day and age, is there really any need for separate facilities anyway? We need clear discussion and argument about the various alternatives," she said.

Beharriell said council has allocated some funds to The Climate Emergency and Climate Change. She asked councillors to consider using some of these funds to cover the costs of some of the energy savings and emission reductions for this heritage building.

"Please let us all look at the big picture and do this important work, properly, the first time. May the Hall serve us all well into its next 100 years," she said.

York reports first case of Omicron variant

The Regional Municipality of York has been notified of a positive case of the COVID-19 Omicron variant.

The case is travel-related from the southern African region. The youth, under 12 years old from the City of Vaughan, returned to Canada on Nov. 22 and has been isolating at home since then.

York Region Public Health continues active follow-up of all close contacts of this case. The individual's close contacts are also isolating at home.

"York Region Public Health continues to monitor and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and we should expect to see the number of Omicron variant cases rise across York Region," said Dr. Barry Pakes, York Region Medical Officer of Health. "Our best protection against COVID-19 and the variants of concern remains vaccination. If you are eligible for your first, second or third vaccine, I strongly urge you to get it."

Canada reported its first cases of the Omicron variant on Nov. 28. The impacts of the variant are being evaluated globally to better understand the potential implications of vaccine efficacy and transmission.

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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

Worry and anxiety detrimental to our health

"Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength."
- Corrie Ten Boom

Living in the modern age, we take worry and stress in stride. It's part of our daily life and it's something we've come to expect.

It comes in all shapes and sizes, from trying to open one of those tiny butter containers in a restaurant, to misplacing your debit card.

As William Inge once pointed out "worry is interest paid on trouble before it comes due."

Throughout my high school and college days, I was your typical "worrywart." I was taken aback when I discovered that synonyms for this condition include "doomsayer, killjoy" and "prophet of doom."

Prophet of misfortune or disaster, really?

I can say that I tend to be skeptical, but that's a good quality, especially in my profession.

But I've never been a killjoy. Heck I spread joy everywhere I go, ask anyone!

Worrying is a normal reaction to the stresses in our lives. Worrying unduly is where the problem arises.

As curious creatures, we're constantly asking ourselves, what if? That's great if we're testing new scientific theories, but not so good if we can't get out of bed in the morning.

I've experienced both.

When we face a stressful situation, we perceive it, rationalize it and sometimes experience the "fight or flight response." This means our bodies gear up for a confrontation that sees a surge in adrenaline, muscle tension, increased heart rate, etc. Of course, this came in handy when our ancestors were running away from saber tooth tigers. But not so much today.

Most of us know that worry and stress aren't good for us. Chronic worry and emotional stress can trigger many health problems. Too much worrying



Mark Pavilons

and anxiety results in excessive hormone release which can spike blood sugar levels and blood fats. You can feel dizzy, suffer headaches and fatigue.

When the excessive fuel in the blood isn't used for physical activities, the chronic anxiety and stress hormones can have serious side effects such as a suppressed immune system, digestive disorders, and even heart issues.

The number of us who suffer from depression know these things all too well. I "came out" with it following a job loss and searching for work. Who wouldn't be depressed after such a thing?

One of the first symptoms of my anxiety was that famous "heart flutter." It's not a heart flutter at all, but muscle spasms in the chest. Sure, if they're strong enough, it can feel like you're having a heart attack.

Our bodies are pretty cool little gizmos. We don't often notice what's going on inside, but believe me, millions of things every second keep us breathing, smiling, thinking and engaged. Even if we don't recognize a problem, our body

does and tries to fight it. Often, this conflict results in physical abnormalities. I see it like a pressure cooker, that slow release valve that lets the steam out.

I find that in my case, it often blindsides me when I least expect. There's no one trigger or event, just a build-up over days or weeks.

My brain also compensates by giving me very vivid, if not odd, dreams on a nightly basis.

I also enjoy a glass of Crown Royal, but we know that's not the solution.

Every time the Bob Marley classic Three Little Birds comes on, it makes me smile and often stirs me to start wiggling. Hey, I'm past my jiving days. Here's his good advice:

"Don't worry about a thing 'Cause every little thing gonna be all right ..."

Oh how I long to get up every morning to the sound of tropical birds, ocean waves and breezes.

As strong as we seem on the surface, we are all fragile at times.

Mood and anxiety disorders are the most prevalent mental health problems in Canada. The number of Canadians who say they're experiencing high levels of anxiety has quadrupled since the pandemic began.

Sure, a lot of this is related to COVID-19, and an optimism is gaining ground with the majority of Canadians now being vaccinated. But recent travel

restrictions and the unknown Omicron variant have thrown us another curve ball. Most of just want to know when all of this will be over. More shots on the way?

Heading into the holidays, maybe we'll have a little more glee and become a bit more joyful and triumphant.

It's been a long time since families could share a special occasion together. This year will be an important one, indeed.

Our boats may be leaking a bit, but as long as we have an oar and part of a rudder, we can help each other steer.

There is strength in numbers and sharing the pain can help.

Whether you're an academic or hands-on fixer, head work is an entirely different realm. Each person, and every brain, is as unique as each snowflake that lands on your eyelashes.

I've always found laughter is the best medicine and I have the laugh lines to prove it. Sure, I laugh inappropriately at times but again, it's that release valve letting out the steam. For those brief few seconds, or minutes of laughter, the weight slides off our shoulders; our woes seem less horrible and the sun peaks through the clouds.

I can't think of a more fitting piece of advice than from this tidbit from Regina Brett:

"Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks."

Letter to the Editor

Article hit all the points

I hope that all Sentinel readers took the time to read Bert Duclos's superbly, poignant article about the history and importance of Holland Landing for all of us.

Bert's revelations about the Landing's involvement with so many important peoples and events of our past were remarkable - the Anishinaabe and the Wendat, Fathers Brébeuf and La Salle, Governor Simcoe, surveyor Augustus Jones, the Queen's Rangers, the War of 1812 ...

One has to wonder why this historic treasure is being ignored and why it is now threatened with being paved over and forever disappearing from our view.

Over the decades, Ontario has promoted the expansion of settlement areas and road networks, frequently without serious consideration for the environment, nor to the essential importance of farmland to feed the population. The sheer joy of being in woodlands and beside creeks and rivers, observing wildlife, enjoying fresh air has often been ignored with the attitude that there's so much land and water in Ontario, there was no reason to be cautious.

Sadly, King Township continues to see expansion at the expense of woodlands and farmlands and now the beautiful grounds of Mary Lake are threatened with development for profit.

As Bert has urged, Ontarians need to become aware of the treasures that we are in danger of losing.

Gavin Watt
King

ROUND AND ROUND THE VARIANTS GO, WHEN THEY'LL STOP...

LeMontagne cartoonink.com

Quote of the Week

"Pressure is something you feel when you don't know what the hell you're doing."

- Peyton Manning

Trivia Tidbits

In France, the most popular colour for toilet paper is pink.

King Weekly Sentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Will you do in person Christmas shopping, or do most online?

a) In Person 0%

b) Online 100%

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Will you consider a COVID booster or third shot?

a) In person
b) Online

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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

Significance of Lower Landing can't be overstated

As chair of the Ontario Marine Heritage Committee, and licence holder for a marine archaeological assessment of the Lower Landing – East Holland River, I would like, on behalf of our membership, to add our support to Bert Duclos and his article on the Lower Landing.

The site is of provincial significance, and is multi-component both in cultural affiliation (Indigenous and Euro-Canadian) and also in the site type – both on land and under water. This site and area are now in jeopardy from the proposed Bradford Bypass.

Letters to the Editor

The OMHC advocates strongly for avoidance and protection of the area and the site specifically. As a full archaeological assessment of the area has not been conducted, and the earlier assessment being wholly inadequate, it is imperative that the government recognize the provincial importance of this site. This was the site of early resource use and encampment by early Indigenous people. It was the terminus of the ear-

ly Yonge Street, and before that Lieutenant-Governor John Simcoe and this party visited this area. The site became the terminus for the early stage coach where passengers would disembark for excursions by boat. There was early ship building in this location and the erection of a fort which became a trading post, where gift giving to the Indigenous people occurred. The archaeological site has not been fully documented, and at this point, the government has only addressed parts of the land, and nothing in the water.

There are reported cannon in the river, and much of the prehistoric, contact and Euro-Canadian site has washed directly into the river. The latter actually protects these artifacts.

Ideally the entire site should be subject to an initial archaeological assessment whereby the site limits can be determined, and then protected and avoided. In the absence of this happening, a full and comprehensive land and underwater archaeological assessment will be required.

In this day and age where archaeological sites are routinely excavated (a type of destruction) to have the opportunity to protect such an important site should be seen as an opportunity. To destroy this site, would be a loss to the people of Ontario.

Scarlett Janusas
Chair, Ontario Marine Heritage Committee

Don't abuse handicapped parking spots

I don't know why Foodland even has Handicapped marked parking spaces at the front of their store. The majority of people who park in them are not handicapped and certainly aren't carrying or displaying a handicapped sign.

One day last week, I sat in one of those spaces and watched 6 cars park in the 2 spaces to the left, marked handicapped. Not one person got out of those cars and showed any evidence of being handicapped. One car actually had the sign, but the person driving got out of the car and was obviously not the handicapped person that the sign was intended for.

When you park in one of these spaces and are not handicapped, you make life decidedly more difficult for someone like me. I am just asking for a little more respect for someone in need and the law and I would ask the stores to care a little more, as well.

Wendy-Sue Bishop



www.king.ca



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

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

The Township of King has received an application for a proposed amendment to the Township's Rural Area Zoning By-law #74-53, as amended by Oak Ridges Moraine Conformity By-law 2005-23 in accordance with section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13, as amended.

The Township has determined that the application shall be considered complete and the Planning Division has commenced processing. We welcome your comments regarding the application.

SUBJECT PROPERTY

Location: 3653 and 3655 Lloydtown Aurora Road
Conc. 5, Part Lots 27 & 28

Owner: Capobianco/Turner

Applicant & Agent: Groundswell Urban Planners

Township File No.: Z-2021-13

PROPOSAL

The Zoning By-law Amendment application is intended to address proposed reductions to the lot area minimum and lot frontage minimum requirements of the Rural General (RU1) zone to facilitate the severance of the property for rural residential purposes, whereby each of the existing dwellings will be on a separate parcel of land. In this instance the proposed severed and retained lands will each measure 3.98 hectares with 96.3 metres of frontage whereas the zone standard requires 10 hectares and 180 metres of frontage.

At such time as a public meeting is scheduled in accordance with the Planning Act, the Township of King will provide further notice specifying the date and time of the meeting. Any person may attend the public meeting (or participate virtually if the meeting is remote due to public health restrictions), and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed official plan amendment or zoning by-law amendment.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A copy of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment application as well as related background and supporting information, are available for inspection by contacting Paul Kulyk, Planner II at pkulyk@king.ca or by telephone at 905-833-5321, ext. 4063, quoting File Numbers Z-2021-13 (3653 and 3655 Lloydtown Aurora Road). Written comments may be mailed or emailed to the Planning Department and will become part of the public record.

Dated at the Township of King this 9th day of December, 2021.

Kathryn Moyle
Director of Corporate Services
Township Clerk
Township of King
2585 King Road, King City, ON
L7B 1A1
(905) 833-4018



Recycle Coach

Ever wished you could just take a picture of something to see if it's recyclable? Now you can! Use the new image search feature to look up your waste on the Recycle Coach app today at <https://www.king.ca/waste>

Check Out Our New Image Search Feature



Look for the 2022 edition of King Township's waste collection calendar in your mailbox delivered by Canada Post by the end of December. It will also be available online at www.king.ca/waste

KING FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES



COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Enter for a chance to win

King Township Public Library is developing our Strategic Plan for 2023-2026. We need your help!

**Complete Survey 1
between now and Dec 20***

All survey participants will earn a mini-prize and a chance to win a **\$100 gift card to a local restaurant**

*Survey 2 to be available in January

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COMMUNITY SERVICES





AudiPro Audiology Clinic

COMPLETE HEARING HEALTH CARE

We are a family-owned, independently operated clinic serving King Township to provide patient-centered care for hearing problems.



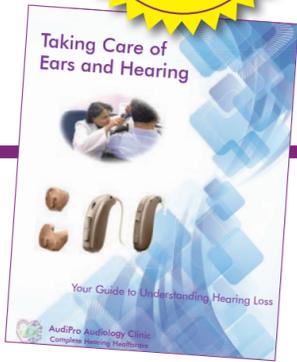
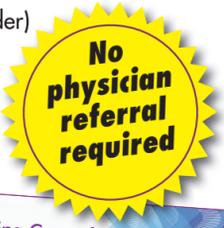
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- Hearing aid prescription and fitting
- Hearing aid maintenance and reprogramming
- Aural rehabilitation
- Tinnitus evaluation and management
- Earwax removal
- Custom ear plugs

We also specialize in assessment and therapy for central auditory processing disorders (CAPD) for both children and adults.



Clinician Info:

Lalsa S. Perepa, Doctor of Audiology is a registered audiologist and speech language pathologist with more than 10 years of experience in treatment of hearing disorders including hearing loss.

13065 Highway 27, Unit 5, Nobleton L0G 1N0

Email: info@audiproaudiology.ca Website: www.audiproaudiology.ca
 Phone: **647 872 1788**

Clinic hours: 9 am to 4 pm Mon to Fri.

We also see patients outside regular business hours by appointment only.

Make this a green Christmas

By Climate Action King & Earth Easy

Comment

Christmas is fast approaching, the trees in our villages are being lit and the local farmers have shared their sparkling farm equipment with us in their fine Main Street Christmas tradition. And all this despite the recent rains disrupting the harvest and while some equipment is still thoroughly stuck in the fields.

In this season of giving, we can all choose to make this Christmas a little better for our suffering planet.

Many people do not realize that conventional wrapping paper is not always recyclable. In Canada, the annual waste from gift wrap and shopping bags equals about 595,000 tons. If everyone wrapped just three gifts in reused paper, newspaper, or fabric gift bags, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 hockey rinks. You can add a layer of mystery and magic to gifts without adding waste. You can reuse paper, bows and ribbons from previous holidays. Newspapers and magazines make colourful alternatives to store bought wrapping. Use pictures from old calendars, scraps of fabric and wallpaper, and tie gifts with string rather than tape. Get creative!

We invite you to use this newspaper for your own giftwrap. Look for our special gift tag printed in this newspaper and, when you are finished reading, use the paper to wrap and label your gift!

During this time of giving, we all need to think about our footprint. Consider giving services instead of goods, experiences, homemade goodies, or gifts of social services and animal welfare.

Gifts of service require little or no use of natural resources and are very personal and memorable. The gift of You – your time, energy or expertise – is as ‘gift-worthy’ as anything you can put in a box. How about a gift of a few scheduled dog walks, some babysitting, lawncare or shoveling a walk? What about a few seed packets and an offer to help plant them?

Giving the gift of an experience can bring fun, learning and memories that last for years. For example, tickets to a sports event, show or concert can offer lasting value with minimal impact on resources. Memberships can also be a great gift, such as garden clubs, art galleries and museums.

So many people, at least in our part of the world, already have so much. But

homemade gifts from your kitchen are always appreciated. Your time, energy and culinary creativity are heartfelt. And the gift of food is personal, easy on the environment and not likely to go to waste. Plus, it is fun to do!

Looking for a gift for someone with a green thumb? You could give flower bulbs with instructions for growing them inside. Or send a gift certificate for planting some perennials in the spring from your own garden or a local nursery. Or deliver a promise of some cut branches that can be forced (bloom) inside for lovely spring flowers like forsythia and pussywillow. What a nice touch in late winter!

Maybe your special someone likes jewelry. Consider that “old” gold looks just as good as new. Many jewelers can recast new designs with gold supplied from antique or out of style pieces. Look for used gold jewelry at antique shops, swap meets and jewelry stores. It takes 30 tons of ore to produce a single new gold ring. If our consumption of new gold jewelry was significantly reduced, then the gold stored in reserves could last the world for close to a century!

It's time to look at “used” in a new light. Giving a used gift was once out of the question – it made the gift-giver feel cheap. And no one wants to risk offending the recipient. But used gifts are the kindest of all to the environment, as no new energy or resources are expended.

If you're still uneasy with the concept of giving a used item as a gift, write a note on the gift card. “We know how you love nature ... this gift comes to you at no new expense to the environment.”

Remember that there can be plenty of fun with toys without batteries! We are all familiar with how much fun a young child can have with a huge box, some markers and their imagination!

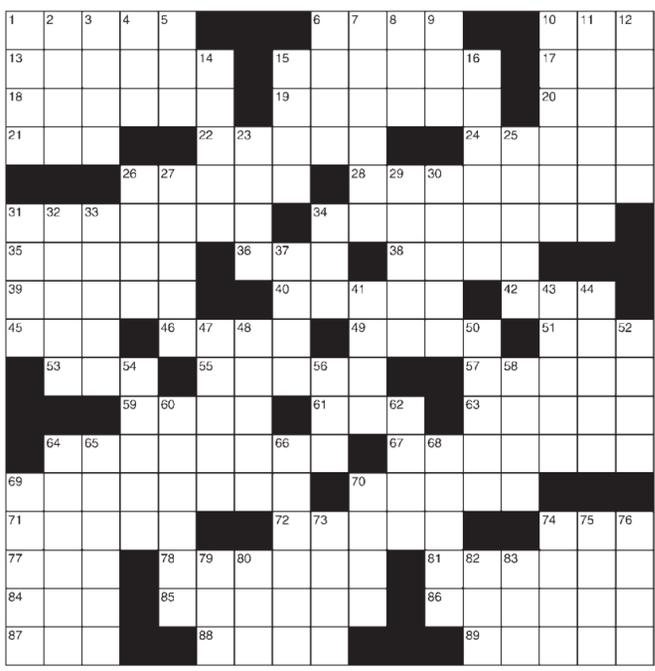
Finally, you can also consider giving to charities, or environmental, conservation or wildlife protection agencies. It is always good to do a little research to ensure that your gift does the work you intend.

Many of us ask just what I and my family can do to help in the Climate Emergency. There are many ways we can all be kind to our friends, families, and Mother Earth this Holiday Season. Let us all do our part.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 477



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- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ACROSS | 53. Lass's counterpart | 5. Old pronoun | 52. Sign of crying |
| 1. Slapping noise | 55. Type of chisel | 6. Tweety, for one | 54. Ship's crane |
| 6. Top | 57. Alpine ridge | 7. Set up tents | 56. Neckline style |
| 10. Tattered cloth | 59. Cartridge-box contents | 8. Mediterranean or Caspian | 58. Sit a spell |
| 13. Educated | 61. Unit of energy | 9. Large wine cask | 60. Shooting star |
| 15. Batting order | 63. Busybody | 10. Parrot | 62. Alum |
| 17. Holiday night | 64. Bugle call | 11. Fly a plane | 64. Consider |
| 18. Dry creek bed | 67. Hen's mate | 12. Category | 65. Pass by |
| 19. Esoteric | 69. Demean | 14. Theme | 66. Alliance |
| 20. Diaper fastener | 70. Entire range | 15. Rural road | 68. Last Greek letter |
| 21. Command to oxen | 71. Chalcedony | 16. Former Spanish coin | 69. Guitar's relative |
| 22. Zoo creature | 72. Notwithstanding | 23. Sad cry | 70. Brace |
| 24. Pledge an oath | 74. Sketch ____ | 25. Twist | 73. Relay |
| 26. Facial expression | 77. Brief doze | 26. Window part | 74. Design |
| 28. Gradual | 78. Asian wild ass | 27. Lodging place | 75. Singing voice |
| 31. Pudding | 81. Grating | 29. Give a view | 76. "The ____ Hunter" |
| 34. Desire for food | 84. Some sons: abbr. | 30. Ornamentation | 79. Likewise not |
| 35. Glorify | 85. Plump | 31. Jazz or Magic | 80. Had a snack |
| 36. Fa's follower | 86. Supply with oxygen | 32. Along the middle | 82. Steep flax |
| 38. "Yes ____" (Sammy Davis, Jr. autobiography) | 87. "The Bard," e.g. | 33. Spaghetti or linguine | 83. Strong rage |
| 39. Seat request | 88. Bamboo, e.g. | 34. Entirely | |
| 40. Treeless plain | 89. High male voice | 37. Dairy-case selection | |
| 42. Shoot the breeze | DOWN | 41. Declare | |
| 45. Scatter rug | 1. Buck | 43. Go-between | |
| 46. Burden | 2. Whittle | 44. Mesa | |
| 49. Active word | 3. Fishing implement | 47. Own up to | |
| 51. Kind of feeling | 4. Back in time | 48. Wry | |
| | | 50. "Blue ____" | |

Solution on page 17



The **King Weekly Sentinel** is your community newspaper!

King

7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, December 9 to Wednesday, December 15

THURS 9TH	FRI 10TH	SAT 11TH	SUN 12TH	MON 13TH	TUES 14TH	WED 15TH
Scattered Flurries High 0C° Low 0C° 1-3cm Wind SE 18k	Mainly Cloudy High 5C° Low 4C° 5-10mm Wind S 8k	Mainly Cloudy High 12C° Low -2C° ~1mm Wind SW 37k	Mainly Sunny High 2C° Low 0C° - Wind W 17k	Mainly Sunny High 7C° Low -2C° - Wind SW 15k	Mainly Sunny High 5C° Low 0C° - Wind S 12k	Sunny High 6C° Low 5C° - Wind SE 15k

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 Read us online at www.kingsentinel.com

Petition launched to protect historic Hambly House

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Residents and members of the King Township Historical Society have banded together to urge the powers that be to protect the historic Hambly House.

The Nobleton heritage building, located on the northwest corner of Highway 27 and King Road, is showing signs of disrepair on the exterior.

Members of the King Township Historical Society have noticed the iconic building looks vacant, even shabby. Shingles are missing from at least two places on the roof with the holes visible from the road. One hole in the shingles on the southwest roof, back portion, looks particularly bad.

The group understands the developer, who bought the corner lots, intends to incorporate a restoration of the designated heritage building in his plans.

"However, the restoration apparently can't go forward without a sewer plant upgrade. Why does a roof repair and restoration require a sewer plant upgrade? "A new development, yes, but unless the roof is fixed soon the water damage may be irreparable putting this building at imminent risk to rot and decay. This seems like demolition by neglect," the board states in a letter.

Nobleton resident Susan Lloyd-Swail started an online petition, which board members eagerly signed. It has amassed more than 500 signatures.

Hambly House was built around 1884 by Charles Hambly, owner of a local general store and postmaster in the community for many years. His forebears were United Empire Loyalists so the family's roots in Canada go back over a hundred years before the house was built.

"Nobleton's iconic Hambly House, a plaqued heritage home, must be restored. The developer is not maintaining the house, the roof or the grounds. We demand the Township of King step it to ensure the house is restored before any approvals or development on the site is allowed to proceed," the board said.

Swail said she started the petition due to concerns about the neglected state of Nobleton's historic Hambly house.

"In particular I wanted to draw attention to the recent holes in the roof. These old brick houses were made to last but damage to the roof needs to be fixed to prevent further damage to the structure.

"The Hambly house is a historic plaqued house. The developer who is redeveloping the property, would have

been aware of the importance of restoring the building when she/he bought it. I understand from discussions with Councillor Boyd that the owner has committed to restoring the house as part of the site redevelopment. Rehabilitating the Hambly House to its original appearance not only adds character and beauty to Nobleton, but helps attract investment, as well as tourists.

"I encourage Nobleton families and friends to sign the petition. I plan to present the petition to Council once there are face to face meetings, probably in the New Year.

"In the end, I hope the petition expresses overwhelming support for the restoration this landmark. With your support we can encourage the Township and developer to work together to preserve the Hambly House.

"As property owners in Nobleton for the last 10 years, we see the Hambly house as a unique asset to our property. We are eager to start the next steps of our project as well as the rejuvenation of such a historical Nobleton staple," said Chris Gabriele, owner of Gabriele Properties.

Councillor David Boyd noted the Hambly House is a central part of Nobleton's history. The Township recognizes the significance of the house and its importance to the Nobleton community.

The property owner "applicant" has been working progressively with the Township and is nearing the point of a site plan approval. The focal point of the application includes full restoration of the house as a stand-alone feature while maintaining its heritage attributes. Hambly House will remain in its current location, the grounds will be landscaped, and include a courtyard in front of the home which will serve as a community space.

The proposal provides a mixed use of retail and commercial space on the ground level with residential above. The residential component aligns with the Official Plan and will provide some needed diversity in Nobleton's housing stock. The plan calls for 40 condo style units and five live/work units, similar to those off of Wilsen Road.

"The redevelopment of the Hambly House property is an essential component that will positively impact the revitalization of Nobleton's core.

"It's important to note that the Hambly House is a fully designated Heritage property - this offers the greatest level of protection under the Heritage Act and gives Council the tools to ensure the conditions of the site plan and that full restoration is achieved. I take comfort in knowing the plans, decisions, and approvals that have been put in place will help safeguard the house to be fully restored and remain a valued Nobleton landmark for generations to come."

He did say that this project does present some challenges. The biggest hurdle is moving the development forward with Nobleton's residential servicing constraints.

"As the Ward Councillor, I will continue to maintain that the Township must protect a percentage of any new servicing to facilitate the revitalization of the Nobleton core.

"I appreciate the concern of those who have asked about the condition of the house. I hope this information will help the community take some comfort in knowing that the Hambly House will be restored. At present, staff are working with a heritage architect to ensure the building remains preserved and ready for revitalization."



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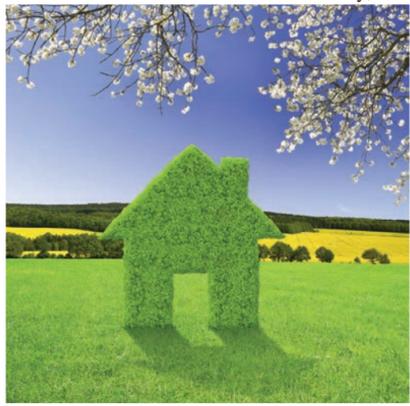
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Business, Finance & Real Estate



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Your Voice for Business in King



Chamber of Commerce launches holiday gift guide

As part of its “King/It’s All Here, the King Chamber of Commerce has launched a digital holiday gift guide, making it easy for King residents to shop local this holiday season.

The guide features over 40 local businesses, each highlighting up to four items. Categories include food and sweets, festive décor and gifts for the home, gifts for the family, two and four-legged as well as ways to relax. The guide also features five local charities or not-for-profits, including the King Township Food Bank and Arts Society King, for residents looking to make a donation this festive season.

“The kind of items you can find in King are absolutely amazing. We have gift ideas that are one-of-a-kind, and are bound to surprise and delight. What little kid wouldn’t want an authentic John Deere XUV ride on? There is wine, golf gear and family portrait sessions, and even high fashion for dogs. And the food options are incredible,” said Angelo Santorelli, president, King Chamber of Commerce. “When you shop from our Holiday Gift Guide, you aren’t just making this a wonderful holiday season, you are also giving back to our community by supporting local business.”

Participation in the Holiday Gift Guide is completely free, and is open to both members and non members of the King Chamber of Commerce. Twelve of the items from the guide are featured in an ad in this week’s paper, which was also free to business owners. When it comes to supporting local business, the Chamber is walking its talk. Not only are all the businesses featured in the guide from King Township, the guide was created by a local agency, all pho-

tos were done by a local photographer and related printing is being done right here in King.

“For a small local business, this kind of free support and publicity is priceless,” said Molly Robins, owner of Molly’s Market in King City, a nutritionist-designed healthy and local market that offers food, home, and gift options. “I’m so excited for the opportunity that will come from the gift guide, as I believe it will reach people who have driven by and wondered what was inside, as well as those who haven’t yet heard of Molly’s Market because we are a new small business that emerged in the middle of the pandemic.”

The Holiday Gift Guide initiative is part of the “King/It’s All Here” campaign, which is being funded by a \$60,000 grant from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce to support shopping locally. The initiative also includes an on-line digital membership directory, ongoing social media and numerous videos profiling businesses and ways to shop in King – all at no costs to local businesses.

The King Chamber of Commerce has also collaborated with King Township to incorporate the ShopKING brand into its campaign.

“Nothing says shop local more clearly than ShopKING,” added Mayor Steve Pellegrini. “We used this brand prominently during our resident survey in 2016, and also as a way to communicate ways to shop local in 2020 and 2021, both to support our local businesses and to help residents stay safe, close to home. And now King Township is absolutely delighted to be collaborating with the King Chamber of Commerce on this initiative.”

It is not too late to add a business to the guide. If your business fits with festive shopping, please email info@kingchamber.ca with your information. For now, let’s all plan to shop local and give the gifts that keep on giving – right back to our community.

The King Chamber of Commerce was formed in January 2008, when the

King Township Chamber and the Nobleton Schomberg District Chamber of Commerce officially merged. its mission is to promote a healthy, sustainable, and environmentally responsible business climate in King Township. It has over 150 members who operate throughout King Township, and beyond.

Network will help province attract investments in auto solutions

The Ontario government has launched a flagship program to drive innovation and investment across Ontario’s electric, connected and autonomous vehicle sector. Its \$56.4 million investment in the Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN) is part of Driving Prosperity – The Future of Ontario’s Automotive Sector, the government’s plan to drive deals and secure production mandates for hybrid and electric vehicles, create a domestic battery ecosystem, and strengthen Ontario’s position as a North American automotive and electric vehicle (EV) innovation hub.

At GM Canada’s Canadian Technical Centre (CTC) in Markham, Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade announced the province’s latest commitment to putting Ontario at the forefront of global demand for cleaner, safer, more sustainable transportation solutions.

Delivered in partnership with the Ontario Centre for Innovation (OCI), OVIN is Ontario’s response to the rising global demand for EV and Connected and Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) technologies and infrastructure. Building on the success of previous programs that encourage partnerships between small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), industry, academia and municipalities – OVIN will help to strengthen Ontario’s auto industry and make the province more competitive for new investments in EV and CAV technologies. It will act as Ontario’s hub for the province-wide coordination of activities and resources related to EV and CAV research and commercialization.

OVIN is anchored by six main objectives:

- Bridge Ontario’s technology and manufacturing clusters to support the growth of Ontario’s automotive sector.
- Advance the growth of regional clusters and world-class testing locations to drive the deployment, adoption, and piloting of smart mobility technologies across the province.
- Deliver ongoing support for SMEs in commercializing technologies, scaling-up, attracting investment, and accessing global markets.
- Strengthen Ontario’s automotive and mobility workforce and talent pipeline through skills development and training programs.

• Drive public education, research, analysis, thought leadership activities, and raise awareness of the opportunities for Ontario – and our global competitive advantages.

• Convene stakeholder groups, act as a bridge for collaborative partnerships, and serve as a concierge for new entrants into Ontario’s thriving ecosystem.

Combined with the province’s \$85 million investment in the previous Autonomous Vehicle Innovation Network (AVIN), Ontario’s total investment in this flagship initiative is almost \$142 million.

As a key element of the province’s Driving Prosperity Phase 2, OVIN will be the driving force behind the programming, province-wide coordination of activities and resources, and Ontario’s push to lead in the future of the automotive and mobility sector globally.

Together, Driving Prosperity and OVIN will position Ontario as a leading jurisdiction for new investments in for EV, CAV, battery technology, critical minerals and advanced manufacturing – reinforcing Ontario as the manufacturing hub of Canada.

Positioning Ontario as a leading jurisdiction for investment in electrified and less carbon-intensive transportation technology is also part of the province’s plan to meet emission reduction targets and build a stronger, more sustainable Ontario.

“Ontario’s wheels are in motion to create a more sustainable future for the transportation sector. A critical pillar in our plan is strengthening Ontario’s position as an electric vehicle production hub, making these vehicles more accessible to drivers across the province,” said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation. “Our new flagship program will go a long way towards supporting our talented workforce, driving electric vehicle research and development, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.”

More than 300 Ontario companies and organizations are active in the development of connected and autonomous vehicle technologies.

In North America, Ontario ranks as the number two auto producer (after Michigan) and the number two Information Technology cluster (after California).



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York Region

Electric vehicle chargers coming to all ONroute locations

By Robert Belardi

Electric vehicle fast chargers will be coming to all 23 ONroute locations across Highway 400 and 401 within the next few years.

Minister of Energy Todd Smith and the Minister of Transportation Caroline Mulroney spear-headed the announcement along with all their partners last Wednesday in King.

“This is all possible thanks to a landmark agreement between the Government, Ivy Charging Network (owned by OPG), ONroute and Canadian Tire, which responds to consumer demand and builds the infrastructure and the economy of Ontario,” Smith said.

“This announcement also bolsters Ontario’s place in North America as a leading jurisdiction in the auto sector and we know that electric vehicles are the way of the future.”

By next summer, 17 ONroute locations will have charging stations available. By 2023, all 23 charging stations will have at least two stations for consumers to power up their vehicles.

Currently there are 67,000 electric vehicles on the roads in Ontario. Smith announced, that the government is currently in phase two of their driving prosperity plan. The goal is to grow the auto sector to produce 400,000 electric and hybrid vehicles by 2030.

To power these vehicles, Ontario currently holds a 94 per cent emission free electricity system that will be used to power these vehicles.

“Bringing these electric vehicle chargers to our province’s busiest highways, is a big step in the right direction.

One of the most common concerns that we hear from drivers who are looking to make the switch to electric vehicles is where they will be able to charge them,” Mulroney said.

Accompanied by both Minister’s to share a few more announcements, was the President and CEO of Hydro One Mark Poweska, CEO of ONroute Melanie Teed-Murch, senior vice president of automotive at Canadian Tire Micheline Davies and MPP of King-Vaughan Stephen Lecce.

“Proud to announce that our government is deploying EV charging stations to every ONroute across the province, and starting here in King City,” said Lecce. “It was great to host this announcement at ONroute in King City that will make life easier for commuters, create jobs in the green economy, and protect the environment for future generations.

“Local families deserve clean air and a healthy environment, which is why our government is committed to expanding electric charging stations in King-Vaughan and across Ontario. Installing public fast chargers in King, along with parking and station improvements at Maple, Rutherford and King GO Stations is another practical step forward as we reduce air pollution and congestion for local families, seniors, and students.”

Davies alluded to Canadian Tire’s future initiative, that over 140 sites in the near future will have electric vehicle charging stations. She also said staff will be educated more on electric vehicles and stock will be up to date with the latest products to serve EV consumers.



On hand for the announcement that ONroute will provide EV chargers were (l to r) Angelo Santorelli, Chamber president; King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce, York-Simcoe MPP Caroline Mulroney and King Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

The deployment of charging infrastructure will see ONroute locations along highways 401 and 400 equipped with at least two EV chargers at each site, with busier sites equipped with more. The EV chargers will be available to all drivers on a pay per use basis and will serve all vehicle types.

“With more electric vehicles coming onto our roads each year, it’s vital that drivers have the ability to conveniently charge their vehicles along the province’s busiest highways,” said Mulroney. “In addition to building new highways that will alleviate congestion in Ontario, the installation of Ivy Charging Networks at all ONroute locations is a big step forward to support EV owners.”

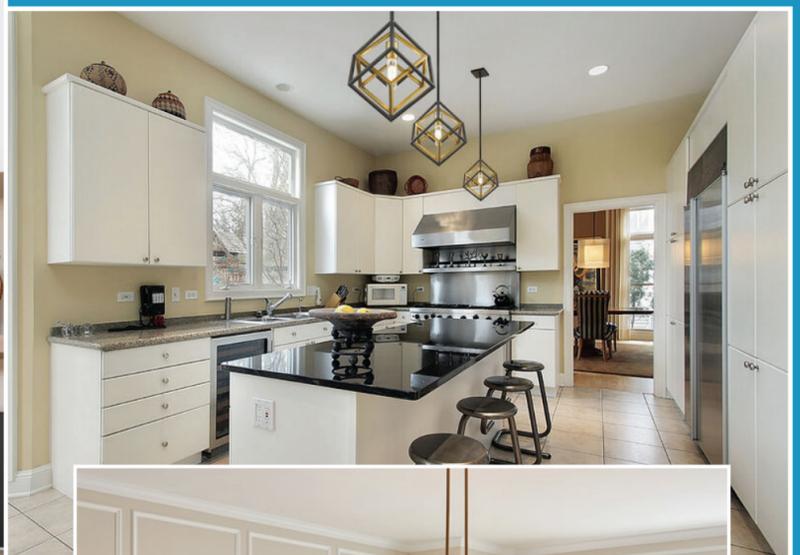
These chargers will further encourage the electrification of the transportation sector in Ontario by making EV charging more accessible, and as the EV population grows more chargers may be added at each site. The electrification of the province’s vehicles will continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by shifting away from gas-powered vehicles and utilizing Ontario’s 94 per cent emissions-free electricity supply.

“The future of the automotive sector is shifting to electric vehicle produc-

tion, and this critical announcement in partnership with Ivy, ONroute and Canadian Tire means that Ontario will have the infrastructure in place to support the shift to more EVs on our roads,” said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. “Through the second phase of our Driving Prosperity plan, our government is preparing Ontario to be a world-leader in the transition to EVs by closing deals for new automaker mandates for hybrid and battery EVs, attracting a new battery assembly plant to the province and increasing exports of Ontario-made auto parts and innovations around the globe.”

As of October 2021, there are 66,757 EVs registered in Ontario. By 2030, one out of every three automobiles sold will be electric.

ONroute operates 23 service centres along highways 401 and 400. Ivy’s fast chargers will be at 17 ONroute locations along Highway 401 and 400 by next summer. Three additional sites (King City, Barrie and Innisfil) will open later in 2022. Chargers at the last three sites (Maple, Ingersoll and Newcastle) are currently anticipated to open between 2023-2025 as part of planned renovations at the sites.



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KingWeeklySentinel

Arts & Entertainment

Radio show has kept people connected during pandemic

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

We take listening to the radio for granted.

But in the past couple of years, it has become a lifeline of sorts to many people.

King's Ronnie Littlejohn hosts "The Gumbo Kitchen" Friday nights on JAZZ.FM91. And listeners have reached out in record numbers during the pandemic.

Littlejohn recalls vividly receiving an email from a listener about two years ago; a guy who was on a cruise ship docked in Port of Yokohama. He told Ronnie he was stuck on the ship in Japan after an outbreak of something called the Coronavirus.

"This was the first time I'd heard those words. He would email me during my show saying he was streaming the show in his tiny cabin and could I play some Louis Armstrong for him."

Littlejohn noted that in the past couple years, the folks who listen to both his show and the station have been looking for escapism.

"I can tell you that before the pandemic I would get a good bunch of emails during every show. During the pandemic the connection was undeniable. My emails went through the roof. All the hosts at JAZZ.FM91 will say the same thing. People were thanking the station and the show hosts for keeping them sane. And it went both ways. There were some bleak, grey days when doing my show was one of the only things getting me out of bed. So the listeners kept me going as well. Now you talk about a connection!"



Littlejohn said with all the choices – podcasts and streaming services – listeners have a lot of options. However, these streaming services just don't have the content. What's also important are the stories behind the music and the personalities behind the microphone.

"And there are some colourful personalities at this station! There is usually a very cool story behind songs and folks love to hear about them. That's

what I try to do. Tell folks the stories behind the music. Folks lean in when you do that. People also love to know there is a beating heart on the other end," he explained.

Littlejohn said when he started his show, he wanted to take people on a musical journey down to New Orleans every Friday night.

"I know a good deal about the music from the south, but in the three short

years I've been at it, I have been introduced to a ridiculous amount of music I otherwise may never have heard," he said.

The mantra at JAZZ.FM91 is "Discover Music" but that doesn't just go for the listeners. The hosts are discovering as well. It's a musical journey together.

Littlejohn noted the reception has been overwhelming.

"I get letters every week from all over the world in all different time zones. Some folks are unwinding on a Friday night after a long week while someone else is listening half-way across the world on what is their Saturday morning.

"People enjoy that it is not just one style of music. It's a 'gumbo' of all different things.

"New Orleans jazz, old southern rhythm and blues, Zydeco, Gospel. I like to call it radio with a side of hot sauce."

Littlejohn is made for it, and his perch behind the mic.

He said he had a pretend radio station in his bedroom when he was a kid. There, he spent hundreds of hours in there recording commercials, promos, and top 30 countdowns.

"Somehow, I've managed to turn that dream into a reality. I'm having a blast."

Littlejohn urges all listeners to support live music.

"Stay off the streaming services and go to Bandcamp or your local record store or buy music directly from the artists. They need it now more than ever."

Littlejohn offers "Mardi Gras" every Friday night from 9 until 1 a.m. without having to buy a plane ticket to New Orleans.

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Nobleton lights up for the holiday season

By Robert Belardi

The Township of King made sure that everyone in Nobleton is already in the festive spirit.

This past weekend Santa Claus got his Christmas Cruise in both on Saturday and Sunday morning, waving to everyone who stepped out on to their driveways. This was in partnership with King Fire & Emergency Services, Schomberg Firefighters Association and York Regional Police.

And on Sunday night, local residents came out to the public event hosted by the Township in front of Nobleton Public Library for the tree lighting.

Children were able to take pictures with their families underneath the gazebo at the intersection of Sheardown Drive and Highway 27.

As families geared up for the lighting there was plenty to do in the meantime. Children also had the chance to head into the fire truck stationed on site, families had the chance to enjoy some delicious food on the premises and had the chance to enjoy music by Aria School of Music.

Many sponsors attended such as the Knights of Columbus, Tim Hortons, Nobleton Family Dental, Robby Singh and many more.

As everyone gathered beside the

brightly lit stage and the lineup of lit-up tractors next to it, MPP Stephen Lecce along with players from King Rebellion minor hockey counted down the lighting of the tree around

6 p.m.

On a lovely snowy evening, the large tree right near the main road was lit up and everyone celebrated the annual event.



Drive-Thru Breakfast with Santa

By Linda Olsen

Nobleton United Church was the scene of its first Drive-Thru Breakfast with Santa.

Because of COVID, we were unable to meet together for breakfast, so instead we asked guests to pre-register and pick up their meals at designated times.

Families arrived and were directed where to park and went to visit Santa. We had a beautiful antique sleigh for the children to pose with Santa while their picture was taken. Each child received a plush gift courtesy of Ganz Toys and were able to tell Santa their secret wishes. Then each family collected their breakfasts to take home and enjoy and free will donations were made to the "Christmas in King" fund.

The kitchen staff prepared the meals that included pancakes, sausages, syrup, chocolate chips for decorating and juice boxes.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who made this event possible. More than \$1,100 was collected for "Christmas in King."

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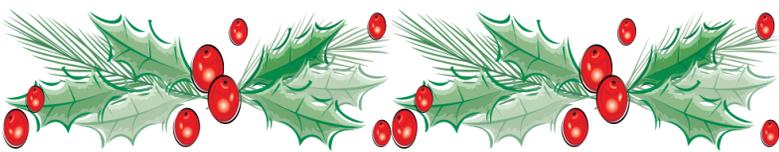
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To that end, we are able to tap into a rich, longstanding culture in which boys are able to explore, in safety, the breadth of the human condition, and their unique place within it. In this school culture, artistry and creativity are not labelled as 'feminine,' but rather as human.

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But there is more to it than that. Boys carry a natural wariness for things that are not genuine, and become bored easily when the activity at hand does little to forward their own sense of meaning. To that end, our teachers create an authentic curriculum; help boys find purpose in life; train them to care for themselves and others; and endow them with a sense of personal commitment and integrity. These goals become more realizable in a culture that presupposes one can be much more than what can be offered by the limiting stereotypes of masculinity. <<

Dr. Michael Paluch, Assistant Head, Director of Academics



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King Weekly Sentinel

SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events
Classifieds • At Your Service



Graduation day for 'Adult Learn to Curl' group

By Shellee Morning

This Year's Adult Instructional League is host to a full capacity group of eager "Learn to Curl" adults that arrive each week on Sunday afternoons from 1-3 p.m.

In its 4th season, the 8-week session and one of the club's most successful programs, offers a curriculum outlined by Curling Canada. It's basic strategy and curling skills technique that has the participant game ready at its completion. With 8 certified club instructors and a 90% retention rate every year, the objective is to place the students within the clubs various leagues that begin in the new year.

Each week the session will centre its concentration on a skill, whether it be in the throwing field or the technique of sweeping all the while emphasizing on the fun and social aspect of the game. Starting the 5th week a mini 2-end game is introduced increasing the number of ends played weekly until the 8th and final session which is a full game day.

The success of the program speaks volumes for the club's membership as all told the club will have graduated

114 new curlers in the 4 years of running the program.

Karl Davis, one of the program instructors since the beginning said: "Most of the students enter one of the social leagues to start, but I am seeing more of them in the team leagues every year." The program is not offered after Christmas because of the importance of placing the graduated curler into a league immediately following so they remember what they have learned and accomplished. Davis also commented that "the best part of the program I have found is the fact that the group gets to know each other and participate in the social part of the club. It is extremely gratifying to look around our current club and see a bunch of our former students participating and volunteering (and sweeping and delivering the rock properly)."

Participant Kelly Cowan commented on the program, saying it was very well organized and that "the coaches were kind, informative, and the technical support moved at a very good pace." When asked if the program was fun Cowan added "the social aspect in the program was excellent and was great to be a part of. I felt this was especially



Graduation Day for the members of the 2021 Adult Instructional League. Pictured in front are coaching staff Mark Inglis, Karl Davis, Peter Kamstra, David Hymers, Barb Davis and Greg Switzer.

needed after the year we've all had."

Sean Nugent a very enthusiastic participant spoke about the instructors after their final day of skills said "the program's instructors were patient and very encouraging throughout which is very important when you are a beginner. There's a lot to take in and it's not as easy as it looks on TV."

The general consensus amongst the "newbies" as referred by Karl Davis, is that everyone is anxious to move onto a league in the new year and continue to use what they have learned into regular play. The excitement down at ice

level was contagious and continued off the ice afterwards with analytical talk of the day's hits and draws. Greg Taylor randomly but happily stated that "I just love to throw take-outs, and don't ask me to throw a draw." A round of laughter exploded around the table as the drinks were lifted in agreement of his declaration.

Grad day was Dec. 5 and the program instructors along with the club's executive and members congratulate the graduates and look forward to seeing them in their new leagues for the remainder of the season in 2022.

Cougars tied for 2nd in north

By Robert Belardi

The Schomberg Cougars defeated the Huntsville Otters 5-3 on the road in their lone game of the week last week.

This win gives the Cougars 27 points thus far this year, tied for second in the division with the Orillia Terriers.

In their last meeting things got a little bit chippy in the latter half of the game as some fights and scrums ensued.

This time around it was anything but that as the Cougars got right down to business.

In the first period the Cougars pounded in four goals past goaltender Ian Crane, forcing Otters coach Jon Percival to yank his backup goaltender after 20 minutes.

Andrew Parsons scored his fifth of the season and although Adam Lewis made it 1-1, Jacob Futas, Jordyn Palazzo and Austin McKibbin put three more in to give the boys a 4-1 lead.

Just over four minutes the Cougars made it five as Stuart Barber knotted home his 10 of the season. Nate Markle and Kain Harrietha each scored their fourth goals of the season to bring the game to 5-3 in the second and third pe-

riod respectively.

Cougars goaltender Tristan Szymanowski was awarded his eighth win of the year.

Tonight at the Trisan Centre is a game you will not want to miss.

The Cougars will host the first place Stayner Siskins in just their second game of the 2021 calendar year.

The Siskins have had a tough stretch only going 3-2 in their last five games. Most notably, their 10-0 victory against the Midland Flyers surely was a statement win at the beginning of December before falling 7-6 to the Alliston Hornets last week.

As head coach Stan Kondrotas has always preached, as long as the Cougars stick with the system and everyone does their job the boys should be fine.

If their focus is deferred away with what the Siskins have to offer; anything to do with causing a raucous if needed be, then the Cougars' fate might just be held high up in the air.

But this team is superior than to other team's in year's past and when push comes to shove and the Cougars have to hash out every details before matches, this group knows exactly what to do.

Puck drop tonight is at 7:30 p.m.

King City Lions are in exhibition action in YRAA

By Robert Belardi

King City Secondary School took on St. Andrew's U18AAA team in their second exhibition game before the start of the regular season.

The Lions, who were crowned YRAA Champions pre-COVID-19, will come into this season with Michael Critelli as captain and came into this game in particular, with players who were trying out for the first team. Seven starters will left out of this one.

At the Aurora Community Centre last Friday the Lions were just getting their feet wet up against a tough St. Andrew's group who had just returned from the Cold Turkey Tournament in Tam-O-Shanter, Sylvania, Ohio.

For not having a whole lot of time for practice ahead of this game, the Lions got on the scoreboard first.

Marcus Salvador's ferocious fore-check paid off as he found himself in all alone, firing the puck low blocker side past the Saints' Ukrainian netminder Yehor Zhukov.

The Lions almost made it to two-zip as Sebastian Lisi was denied on the breakaway before Grady Duggan was thrown to the box for tripping. On the ensuing power play, Cody Kumm ripped a shot glove side past grand-nine netminder Andrea De Melis.

Once the Saints got on the board, momentum seemed to of rolled in their favour as Aurora native Jack Hudson's point shot trickled past De Melis and close to the end of the period captain Dan Iwai made it 3-1.

The Lions had a bunch of opportunities as the game went on and ultimately ran into Zhukov who got more and more into the game.

In the final frame, Iwai added another goal to make it 4-1 but a nice anecdote to add was the play from De Melis who was a stud in goal.

Although the score ended 4-1, the Lions played fairly well and gave themselves good chances to get back in it. After the game, Critelli pointed out what the boys need to work on.

"Definitely was turnovers. Even the



physicality caught us by surprise a little bit. We got to work on it. We've only been on the ice two weeks together so we just got to work it out," he said after the game.

Originally, the season was supposed to get underway a little while back but the YRAA put a halt on high school hockey and the boys had to wait a bit longer.

But for their second exhibition game on the ice and trying to see who can crack the first team roster, head coach Bradley Matwijec told his boys to stay positive.

"I told our guys keep your heads up because in the third period they carried the last seven, eight minutes. They played really well, they weren't limping out of there that's for sure," Matwijec said.

Most of the group is new and all the boys except for Critelli have never been to OFSAA. Having walked away with two OFSAA medals and a few YRAA championships, Critelli said that OFSAA is the goal so he can give this group a taste on what it feels like.

The boys play their first official game of the season today on the road against Stouffville District Secondary School.

Puck drop is at 2:30 p.m. at the Stouffville Clippers Sports Complex.

Pacific FC win Canadian Premier League title

By Robert Belardi

Pacific FC brought home their first ever Canadian Premier League title after silencing all of Tim Hortons Field last Sunday.

Pacific ended up winning the match 1-0 in a shut-down performance and did-so, while only controlling 30 per cent possession of the ball.

The first real opportunity came almost 20 minutes into the game when a cross from Kwame Awuah found the head of Kyle Bekker but the 31-year-old, Oakville native sailed it wide.

Almost 10 minutes later, a ball whipped into the danger area found an open Omar Browne. Acrobatically, he tossed the ball on target with an overhead kick and upon the blocked effort, plenty of Forge FC put their hands in the air protesting for a hand-ball. No hand-ball was given.

For the majority of the first half it was all Forge FC. Molham Babouli, Emery Welshman and Bekker for a second chance, should have had a goal each but the half ended at 0-0.

At the beginning of the second half, Browne scuffed a left-footed effort wide as he dragged the ball across the top of the box before hitting it.

But in the 59 minute the moment of magic arrived. A free-kick whipped in by Gianni Dos Santos was headed home by Alessandro Hojabrpour at the near post to give Pacific FC the lead.

Just a minute later, Tristan Borges found himself open at the penalty mark and skyed the ball above the net, summarizing Forge FC's day.

Pacific could have had a second goal as Josh Heard smacked the ball off the post.

That one goal proved to be enough as Pacific FC held on to defeat Forge FC 1-0 and give the Langford, B.C. club their first ever title.

This was also the first title for their manager Pa-Modou Kah.

The Banjul, The Gambia native came over to manage Pacific FC after being an assistant the year before with FC Cincinnati in the MLS.

Surely the right move to bring him over and what a start to his CPL career.

This was also the first championship for former York United midfielder Manny Aparicio.

The free-kick magician last year in the Island Games for The Nine Stripes played an integral role in Kah's midfield to help capture the title.

Simcoe County donates \$1.2 million to Southlake

County of Simcoe Warden George Cornell and Deputy Warden Lynn Dollin announced an investment of \$1,244,650 in Southlake Regional Health Centre.

The investment is part of a \$45-million commitment over 15 years that Simcoe County has made to seven hospitals that care for Simcoe County residents.

The funds are supporting the creation of Southlake's new Emergent Mental Health Assessment Unit, a 12-bed expansion to our Adult Inpatient Mental Health Unit, and the revitalization of existing spaces to provide an outdoor patio for patients.

With a third of Ontario's group homes in York Region – eight within walking distance of the hospital – Southlake sees a disproportionately high number of Ontarians seeking mental health care. These critically important expansions to our Mental Health Program help to bridge the gap between community- and hospital-based services and better integrate care in southern Simcoe County.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an increasing demand on hospital care, frontline healthcare services

and essential healthcare workers," said County of Warden Cornell. "The County's longstanding investment in area hospitals is more important than ever, as we continue to work collaboratively to improve physical, social and psychological supports for our residents. We are pleased to provide this investment of over \$1.2 million towards Southlake to help support the increasing number of hospital visits relating to mental health. We know that this facility will be a regional asset and provide a safe space for residents of south Simcoe to receive the care they need."

This \$1.2 million investment, coupled with the contribution of \$164,000 received last year, brings the total contribution for mental health care to \$1,410,650.

The County of Simcoe is investing a total of \$2.7 million in Southlake as part of its 15-year, \$45 million commitment. In total, \$107 million has been committed over a 37-year period (1994-2031) to support the seven area hospitals that make up the Simcoe County Hospital Alliance.

"The County of Simcoe's contin-



ued investment in Southlake shows a commitment to improving healthcare services for residents and creating a healthier community overall," said Arden Krystal, President and CEO, Southlake Regional Health Centre. "This latest investment supports a more patient-centred and healing environment for those seeking urgent mental health care at Southlake. As the healthcare system becomes more integrated, we will continue to forge more and deeper partnerships like the one we have with the County."

While the Ministry of Health funds most of a hospital's operational cost, it does not cover all of the costs of renovations nor equipment costs. To contin-

ue to modernize and expand services, Southlake relies on the generosity of the community through donations and investments, such as this one, from other levels of government.

To cover the costs of the broader mental health program expansion that the Ministry of Health does not fund, last fall Southlake launched "Better Begins Today," their campaign to transform mental health care at Southlake Regional Health Centre.

They still have to raise a critical \$1.3 million to build spaces that heal. To learn more about Southlake's Mental Health Campaign, Better Begins Today, and to make a donation please visit southlake.ca/better.

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Schomberg Should Know

By Wendy-Sue Bishop
905-590-0054
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Schomberg Blood Clinic

Make saving a life your greatest gift! This Blood Donor Clinic is at the Trisan Centre, 24 Dillane Drive, Schomberg on Wednesday, Dec. 29 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Book your appointment at blood.ca or on the Give Blood App and please keep your appointment to help save lives.

Schomberg United Church By Nancy Hopkinson

Members of Nobleton United and Schomberg United are joining together at the 9:30 a.m. in-person worship at St. Mary Magdalene Church.

Sunday, Dec. 12, is the third Sunday of Advent and Rev. Evelyn McLachlan will be leading that service. Each Sunday in Advent, we usually light a different purple candle, symbolizing Hope on the first Sunday, Peace on the second

Sunday. The third Sunday of Advent is different. This time the candle is pink, to symbolize Joy.

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Tuesday Dec. 21 is the Longest Night. For some, this time of year is very difficult, for many reasons ... you're missing someone, a relationship has been broken, you've lost employment, Covid continues ... and all the while, you're told through social media, music, stories that it's the most wonderful time of the year, when for you it is the most dif-

ficult. On Dec. 21, 4 to 8 p.m., Nobleton United Church will be open for people to drop in, light candles, listen to quiet music, pray quietly. Rev. Evelyn McLachlan will be available to pray with people or simply talk. It has been a difficult time for all of us including additional challenges of grief or loss. If you know someone who would appreciate some quiet time in a quiet space, please pass the word along.

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We continue to have a Zoom Coffee hour on Thursday mornings 10 to 11 a.m. Let me know if you want to be included in the email blast or want to join via phone. Contact me, Nancy, at 905-859-0761 or nancy@hopkinson.ca. Our chat topics are wide-ranging.

Your Schomberg Lions Club is our one Service Club for our Community. They have been chartered in Schomberg since 1947 and have been instrumental

in many successful projects and charities, making our Community a better place to live, work and play!

Coats for Kids

Carla Day, our resident Chiropractor in town, is running her "Coats For Kids" in York Region and Carla has been running this for many years. This coat-boot drive, benefitting kids in all of York Region, is looking for gently-used children's coats, snowsuits, boots, hats, scarves and mittens. These items can be dropped at Schomberg Chiropractic in the courtyard of the Brownsville Junction Mall, on Highway 27 from now on until Dec. 15.

Horticultural Society

The Schomberg Horticultural Society has created a Christmas display at the Centennial Gardens at the "Gates of Schomberg." The Society's intention is to bring joy to the community in these uncertain times. They hope you see their wonderful Christmas display with trendy gnomes and a lush Christmas tree adorned with Cardinals, red berries and bright solar lights. This is a great place for a Christmas Selfie!

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708 OBITUARIES



Smith: Thomas Vincent
(Former Owner of Tom Smith Towing and Recovery)

After recuperating at home, under the kind, patient care of his loving wife Delia, Tom was moved to Matthews House Hospice, Alliston where he passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 5th, 2021. He was the loved dad of Lindsay (Mike) and loved Papa Tom to Emily and Sarah. Tom will always be remembered for driving his tow trucks, helping people in need and for having his Tim Hortons close by.

The family will receive friends at Rod Abrams Funeral Home, 1666 Tottenham Road, Tottenham, 905-936-3477 on Friday, December 10th, 2021 from 10:00 am until time of funeral service, in the chapel at 12:00 noon. Interment will follow in Schomberg Union Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Tom's memory to the Provincial Towing Association of Ontario, Benevolent Fund, 13775 Highway 17 East, Thessalon, Ontario, P0R 1L0 or to Matthews House Hospice, Alliston, would be appreciated by the family. www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com

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King Weekly Sentinel

Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church
By Linda Blydorp

We welcome you to join us in-person for worship this Sunday. Masks still must be worn and households are to be kept two metres apart from each other.

Our pastor, Jeff Loach, who will be leading our worship this week. Jeff has entitled his message, "What a Concept(ion)!" 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. Paul's invites you for a family friendly "Walk-Thru Christmas" on Saturday, Dec. 18, anytime between 3 and 6 p.m. This will be a short stroll through our parking lot capturing a flavour of what that day might have been like when Christ, our Saviour was born. This will take place outside so please dress appropriately. Masks must be worn and households will be asked to please keep 2 metres apart from each other.

St. Paul's will be coordinating with the King Township Food Bank in the distribution of "St. Paul's Love Bags." These bags will include items that are seldom donated and are in high demand for those less fortunate. If you would like to help by contributing to this mission, please check www.stpaulsnobleton.ca to find a list of items needed.

We will worship together on Christmas Eve at 7 p.m. There will be an attendance cap, so please pre-register not later than December 19 to ensure there is a seat for you.

Neighbourhood Watch

We are setting up a Neighbourhood Watch in various areas of Nobleton and surrounding area. If you are interested please send an email to: amaccarone999@gmail.com.

St. Mary's Church

We continue to welcome our parishioners back to St. Patrick's and St. Mary's Church for our regular Holy Mass Schedule.

For those unable to attend the Holy Mass in person, please join us online every Sunday for the livestreamed celebration of the Sunday Holy Mass at 9:30 a.m. from St. Patrick's Church, Schomberg.

Visit us on our Facebook page to join us virtually for the celebration of the Sunday liturgy.

Browse our websites:

St. Patrick's Parish: <https://stpatrickssc.archtoronto.org/>

St. Mary's Mission: <https://stmarysno.archtoronto.org/>

The Children's Liturgy of the Word Program is on Zoom every Sunday. More details in the parish bulletin or contact Rose Pallotto on: 416-605-6843.

Perfect for those preparing to celebrate their First Holy Communion in 2022 and their siblings from JK to Grade 5.

Holy Rosary Group: Don't forget to join us every Monday at 7:30 p.m. to pray the Holy Rosary on Zoom.

New Meeting Code <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4383316713> or call on the new phone number: 647-374-4685 followed by the Meeting ID: 980 5411 8568#, Passcode: 079342

If there is anything we can do to support you, please call the parish office on 905-859-5522 or email us at: stpatandstmarysc@archtoronto.org

You may continue to request Mass Intentions, Roses for Our Lady of Guadalupe devotion, as well as weekly Sanctuary Light Offering and intentions. You may contact the parish office with your request.

A really green gift!

This season the Nobleton/King City Garden Club is offering 2022 Membership Gift Certificates as stocking stuffers. Each certificate entitles the recipient to learn from a series of 7 speakers about a wide range of gardening topics - a perfect way to meet new folks (ZOOM or in person) and get outside! There are also flower shows, a plant sale, discounts and member events. Email us at nkcgardenclub@gmail.com for more information. Shop local! Merry Christmas!

Nobleton United Church By Nancy Hopkinson

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via phone. Contact me, Nancy, at 905-859-0761 or nancy@hopkinson.ca. Our chat topics are wide-ranging.

Nobleton Lions

Your Nobleton Lions Club is up and running for another year. In a few months, we will mark 60 years of service to the community. Like many other groups, we meet via Zoom at our regular meeting times, and continue to operate to the extent allowed. The Club has proactively reached out to those organizations which we usually support, to offer financial aid in line with what we typically provide.

The Club wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to Susan, Dave, and Stephanie Zacchigna - "Team Zacchigna" for their ongoing support, marked by their latest effort, a community street sale held last month which raised more than \$800, which they kindly donated to the Club. Those funds will be put to good use in the community.

Just in time for Christmas shopping, the Club will be hosting an online auction featuring a host of new and gently used items. Watch this space and the Club's website for details.

Calling all knitters and crocheters! The Club has become aware of a need for cozy, homemade slippers at various Ronald McDonald Houses. It seems that people sometimes find themselves needing to stay in close proximity to hospitals when their children require hospitalization on an unexpected basis. Ronald McDonald Houses provide what they can, and here is a chance for us to help them. If you have the time and wool, patterns are apparently available on the internet, for slippers of any size or colour. The Nobleton Lions will collect them and forward them to various RMHs in south central Ontario. For followup details please contact Rick Evans at 1-905-806-9988.

Do you know a student who has skills in maintaining social media account websites such as Twitter, Facebook and possibly Instagram? The Club is looking for volunteers, and will certify the time spent, to help fulfill the requirements for volunteer hours. Contact Lion Rick as above, or Lion Ek at ek.heidebrecht@gmail.com

The Lions are providing a delivery service for Pharmasave prescriptions. Just call Rick Evans, and we will drop packages outside your door, contact free.

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King's Corners

**King City United
By Sheryl Sinka**

This Sunday we will celebrate the third Sunday of Advent, lighting the candle of Joy. As we move through the Sundays getting closer to Christmas, we encourage you to remember those who are facing challenges at this time of year including those who are supported through the King Township Food Bank. Ways to support the Food Bank are available through their website kftb.ca with either monetary or food donations available. Let us spread some joy to our sisters and brothers in the community this Christmas season.

We hope that you will take the time to worship with us virtually or in person though the Advent season and if not in person, sermons and the link to the on-line recording will be available on our website at kcuc.net

Weekly worship has resumed and if you would like to attend worship next Sunday, Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. please RSVP to the office at 905-833-5181 or email kcuc@bellnet.ca

We are requiring those who attend to confirm that they have full vaccination status with a Health Canada approved vaccine and there is a full list of protocols and precautions on our website. The online worship will be available later Sunday afternoon for those who worship from home and previous weeks worships, are available on our YouTube Channel at YorkUnitedMinistries.org or our website at kcuc.net. 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.

The Women's Prayer Circle is still "open for business," and we are still praying 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 it is deemed safe to do so.

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.

King Bible Church

Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. as we're back in-person for our services. We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube.

Please visit our website to register for our services (we require everyone to pre-register for the service) at www.kingbiblechurch.com

Pastor Mark will be continuing our sermon series Witness of a New Era – the Book of Acts.

We invite you to join us for our traditional Christmas Eve service on December 24th at 6:30pm. It will be both in-person and online. Please register ahead of time on our website if you will be joining us in-person.

Please visit our website for links and further information. www.kingbiblechurch.com

Garden Club's Gift Certificates

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Kingcrafts Raffle

The winners of the Kingcrafts raffle, held Nov. 28 were:

The 6 Prize Baskets went to Naida Harris-Morgan, Meagan D'Agostini, Tim McSorley, Nancy Antonacci, Lee-Ann MacKenzie, & Bob Hardisty.

To see what they won. check out: www.kingcrafts.ca

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

Welcome to St. Andrew's, King City! Our worship Service is at 10:30 a.m. We are pleased to be having in-person services and are very careful to follow the Public Health Rules.

This Sunday, the third Sunday of

Advent we'll be lighting the Candle of Joy as we are reminded why God provided the world with the greatest gift, the Lord Jesus Christ. Alison Agnew brought us the message of Peace last Sunday and used Luke 3 as her text where John the Baptist is preparing the way for the Prince of Peace.

The worship services are recorded and the videos are posted later Sunday evening on YouTube (St. Andrew's, King City) or by going to our website (standrews-kingcity.ca).

Contact Lynn Vissers for more information about Art for the Soul and the Bible Study group. These groups have been online and will be taking a break during Advent and the Christmas season.

The King Township Food Bank continues with its safe food distribution each month. If you need more information contact kftb.ca

St. Andrew's is taking part in the Christmas in King Light Tour fundraiser again this year! Coming soon, an enhanced Christmas Story mural on our outside south wall of the church, by Lynn Vissers and her youthful, creative friends!

Pastor Niyazi or Irada Bilgen of the Greater Grace Fellowship may be reached at 416-878-8499 regarding their Sunday Bible Study. Please check re their change of time to the afternoon.

For pastoral care please call Lynn Vissers: 416-998-4652, or our new Interim Moderator, the Rev. Jonathan Dennis: 1-905-724-1979.

Has your contact information changed? Please let Kathy Patterson know at 905-833-0391.

All Saints Anglican Church By Patrick Gossage

Lots of Christmas Music at All Saints – throughout Advent at our 10:30 service with our choir and classical organ music. Then a special evening of Carols and Lessons on Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. Please join us and sing with us as we share the joy of the season.

Knowledge of Salvation: A Sermon by Fr. Michael Peterson on the Second Sunday of Advent. Text: "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. (Like 1:78-79)

"To give knowledge of salvation."

These words are given by the Holy Spirit to the priest Zechariah after the birth of his son John, who we know as John the Baptist.

"Advent is about salvation, and Advent tells is that salvation is something real and certain and factual. It's what we're all about as church. So, what does "knowledge of salvation" mean to you? Do we understand salvation? Can we explain salvation to others?"

"Last week I had the amazing experience of being in a room full of people who know what their salvation looks like.

"I met these people at an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. I was not prepared for what a powerful experience this would prove to be.

"Here's three things that I admired about these people.

"First, I admired their total honesty. Everyone who speaks has to begin by admitting their addiction: "Hello, I'm Joe, and I'm an alcoholic." Each speaker recognized that they had been in the thrall of something dark and powerful that had blighted their lives. They spoke with a fearlessness that took my breath away.

"The guest speaker, a former policeman, told of how he had hit bottom, about to be fired as a hopeless drunk, and one night he found himself in his cruiser with his gun in his mouth while trying to pray the AA serenity prayer. He felt that prayer was answered, and day by day since then he turned his life around. That man knew about salvation.

"Secondly, I admired their belief in a higher power. If you know addiction is a power that can control you, then it stands to reason that you believe in a higher power (addiction), and so you believe only an even higher power can save you.

"Finally, I admired the love in that room. Everyone in that room showed sincere love and support for one another. I don't think you could stand up and speak with such vulnerability and honesty without that love and support. People spoke with pride of how far they had seen one another come, and what a difference they had seen AA make in one another.

"I wonder if we just haven't thought enough about what salvation really means.

"My friends, this Advent, I encourage you to ask yourselves, what does salvation mean for me?"



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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

AURORA/KING
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Senior Account Executive
ZACH SHOUB
zach@auroran.com

Account Executive
KAREN NEMET
karen@pcmedia.ca

Senior Account Executive
DIANE BUCHANAN
diane@auroran.com

Art Director
SARAH DIDYCYZ

Published By:


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King Weekly Sentinel • www.kingsentinel.com



THE KEY ADVANTAGE TEAM

Key Needs Challenge
in support of Yellow Brick House

The Key Advantage Team with Royal LePage RCR is coming together this holiday season to help those in need. This year's Key Needs Challenge is in support of the Yellow Brick House, a shelter for women and children.

The Key Needs Challenge all started with the York Region team 4 years ago, and the annual impact has been noticeable. The local Key Advantage Team is community-centred and always gives back.

They reached out to Yellow Brick House to find out just what their specific needs were. They went shopping to fulfill the wish list of much-needed items. They are challenging their Royal LePage RCR family, the local community and other realtors across Canada to get involved in their community's local shelters and food banks prior to the holiday season.

Susie Strom, Team Leader, said it has been a domino effect, and donations have increased each year. While the pandemic proved challenging, the realtors pivoted to meet the demand. They're simply overwhelmed by the outpouring of local support.

"We love it," Kerri Fillier, Operations Manager, said. "We're actively involved in our communities, and we love giving back and showing gratitude to the communities that give us so much." She noted it's hard to believe that their one small step has had such an impact all across the country.

Lindsay Strom, Broker, said they hear heart-warming stories of agents in other communities giving back in unique ways, all sparked by the local team's efforts.

They also invite the community to make donations. You can drop them off at the office at 17360 Yonge Street, Newmarket office.

Fillier said, "Home is more than the four walls around you – it is the community you live in," and their accomplishments speak volumes for the joy they spread around the areas they are living and working in.

The local team is known for supporting their community on a regular basis. As active members of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, they've been involved in fundraising events and golf tournaments, street fairs and more. They received an award from the Chamber for their community involvement. From offering an athletic bursary to the Female Athlete

of the Year for the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame and supporting nurses during the pandemic to pedalling the Big Bike for Heart and Stroke, the Key Advantage Team has set the bar pretty high.

The Yellow Brick House provides help 24 hours a day. Every day, the facility operates at capacity, their goal is to empower women and children to rebuild their lives. Last year, some 375 women stayed at the shelter, and they supported 5,581 women and children.

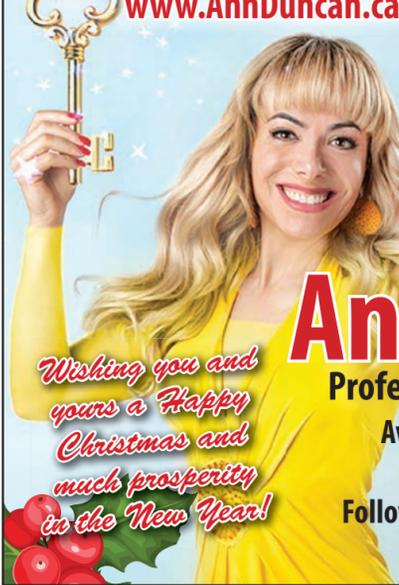
Royal LePage is the only national real estate company with its own charity – the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation. The Key Advantage Team is in the top 10 percent of donors to the Foundation. Proceeds nationally go to regional shelters. The team donates a portion of every commission on behalf of their clients, as a thank-you for entrusting them with their business.

"Together, we can make a difference!"

– Written by Mark Pavilons

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"I just wanted to say thank you for doing such a great job in selling my custom home in only 5 days for 99% of the asking price! You and your team got the job done! After countless frustrating attempts trying to sell it before by myself and also trying unsuccessfully with 5 other realtors, Daryl you came in and went above and beyond, with your experience, negotiating skills, and doing a beautiful pre-listing video, plus live videos and lots of marketing of my house really helped. Thank you!"



"I would highly recommend Daryl King. When we were thinking of selling our house, we reached out to him as he has sold many luxury houses in our neighbourhood. After meeting with Daryl we knew we were in good hands, Daryl and his Team are very professional. He did an in-depth market analysis to help us determine a selling price. We sold our house in just 5 days for the highest price in the neighbourhood! If you are looking for an agent to sell your house, Daryl King should be your first choice."

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**RESALE
HOMES
COLLECTIONS**

Celebrating the wonder of food this holiday season

(NC) Food can be the most celebrated part of Christmas. For your family, perhaps it's turkey, sausage stuffing or flaming plum pudding. The recipes could come from your mom's cookbook or your favourite online resource.

Nothing beats those delicious aromas wafting through the house and the joy of cooking together. And the knowledge that we're preserving traditions through special holiday foods.

SHARING FOOD IS SHARING LOVE

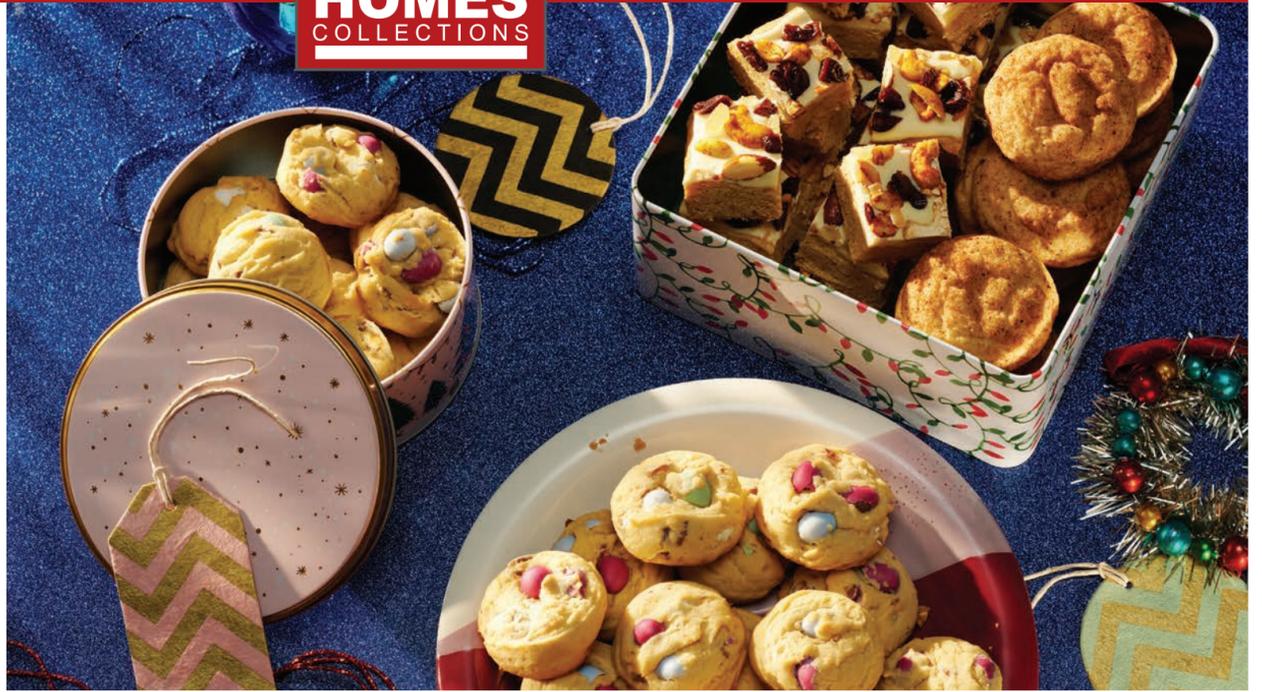
But across Canada and globally, many households won't be preparing their favourite meals in the months ahead. Some may have the very basics, but we know food is about so much more than subsistence. At least, it should be.

Everyone on our planet deserves to gather, laugh, savour, share and honour precious traditions. So, this season, why not give a thought for someone on the other side of the world...or just around the corner?

Here are three ideas:

- 1 Drop by the home of a neighbour in need with a batch of freshly baked cookies. Bring a thermos of coffee and a couple of mugs, and feel the joy of creating a new tradition.
- 2 Shop for some festive items to add when you're donating non-perishable goods. Festive crackers, mini sticky toffee puddings, tinned oysters, pie crust mix and filling are just some ideas.
- 3 Honour a friend or loved through a donation in their name to help a family in an impoverished region of the world celebrate food. The World Vision gift catalogue offers hens and roosters, fruit trees and seeds, and more.

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A spiced and creamy holiday twist for a classic cookie

(NC) Snickerdoodles are a true classic, with the distinctive crackled top and sweet cinnamon sugar coating. While this soft and chewy favourite can be enjoyed all year long, why not give it a holiday twist by adding another timeless tradition — the flavour of eggnog?

Spiced Eggnog Snickerdoodles

Prep time: 25 minutes Cook time: 20 minutes Makes: 20 cookies

INGREDIENTS:

- Cookies:**
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
 - 1/3 cup granulated sugar
 - 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
 - 1 large egg, room temperature
 - 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
 - 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
 - 1 tsp cream of tartar
 - 1/2 tsp baking soda
 - 1/4 tsp salt
- Topping:**
- 2 tbsp granulated sugar
 - 1 tbsp PC eggnog spice seasoning blend

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 375°F (190°C). Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. Beat butter, granulated sugar and brown sugar in large bowl using electric hand mixer on medium-high speed until creamy and light in colour, 2 to 3 minutes; alternatively, beat in bowl of stand mixer using paddle attachment. Beat in egg and vanilla, scraping down side of bowl as needed. Set aside.
3. Whisk together flour, cream of tartar, baking soda and salt in separate bowl. Add to butter mixture; beat on low speed just until combined.
4. Stir together sugar and eggnog spice in small bowl. Scoop cookie dough and roll into balls. Roll balls in sugar mixture to coat.

Nutritional information per cookie: calories 100; fat 5 g; sodium 65 mg; carbohydrates 13 g; dietary fibre 0 g; sugars 8 g; protein 1 g.

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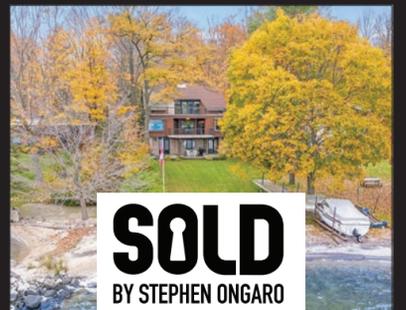
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**RESALE
HOMES
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Memories of a holiday season



By Julien Laurion
The Big Tuna of Real Estate

The end of the year brings the opportunity to reflect on the past year, both professionally and personally.

ON THE professional side, I am deeply grateful to all my clients for their trust. To my clients who bought their first homes, I thank you for letting me help you find and land that daunting purchase. This was a crazy year to buy a house! My family and I are fortunate to be able to relate to the stress and pressure of buying your first home.

Three years ago, my wife and I moved into our first home four months after we had our beautiful daughter.

We were incredibly stressed and tired! It was challenging to organize the move and settle in – while caring for a four-month-old baby. Now that we have spent three years making our house our home, we welcomed another baby daughter into our family 4-months ago – we could not be happier! It's because of my own recent experiences, that I really enjoy working with first-time home buyers and why they like working with me! I walk them through all of the intimidating aspects of making that big commitment. I get it. Not only the stressors of buying a house but all the typical steps that also go hand in hand with the first purchase.

To all of my readers who are living in their first home, I congratulate you and wish you many years of making fun memories after these past two crazy holidays. To my readers who are crunching their num-

bers and contemplating making this commitment in 2022, know that the right house is out there for you and together we can find it!

I wish all my readers, Orchard Heights neighbours, friends and family a happy holiday season and a joyous and prosperous 2022. Cheers to all of you!

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



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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

Tips for outdoor DECORATING



(NC) Before heading outside for holiday decorating, have a plan in mind so you'll be prepared to deck the halls safely. Here are some tips to consider:

LOOK UP AND AROUND

When installing lights, be mindful of your surroundings and locate overhead powerlines. They may be hidden within trees. Always keep you and your decorating tools such as ladders and extension poles three metres away from powerlines. Electricity can arc and direct contact is not required for serious injury.

ADD COLOUR

Lights come in all shapes and colours. Consider a palette that goes with the outside of your home, and even the neighbourhood. You can collaborate with your family and neighbours on a fun look this year.

PLUG IN SAFELY

Make sure that your electrical décor is approved or certified and for outdoor use. Remember, it's best to plug electrical decorations into GFCI-protected outlets. This ensures protection from a potential fault with decorations.

If you don't have GFCIs, you can use a portable one or hire a licensed electrical contracting business to install one permanently. And remember to ask for the business' ECRA/ESA licence number to ensure they do the work safely and legally. It should be on their website, trucks, quotes and business cards.

GREEN YOUR CHEER

While it is fun to brighten up outside, be mindful of energy use. Set a reminder or use an approved automatic timer to turn décor on and off.

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3 WAYS TO SAFELY BRIGHTEN YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON

(NC) Many of us may be putting more into holiday decorating this year in anticipation of hosting family and friends over the festive season. This means decorations of all kinds strung around the home and lights that twinkle and keep everything aglow.

While bringing out new and old decorations this year, it's a good time to brush up on some important electrical safety tips:

LIGHTING THAT'S MERRY AND BRIGHT

Before choosing the right places for your light decorations, take a moment to check for any damage after a year or two being tucked away — including cords, plugs, exposed wires and ornaments. If anything is broken, don't use it and replace right away.

As for the tree or setting up the mantle, be sure to choose the right light string. On packaging you'll notice there's direction for the lights' use, either indoors or outdoors.

LESS IS MORE

Although you may want to deck the halls more than last year, remember that simple décor can go a long way. Pick a few statement items for bigger areas in the home, and don't be afraid to leave smaller areas untouched.

As for plugging in lights, figurines and even toys for the kids, remember to not overdo. If you can, avoid using extension cords and only plug in lights or decorations as needed. Too many things plugged into an outlet can lead to overloaded circuits overheating and possibly a fire.

KEEP KIDS INVOLVED

An easy way to make sure little ones are getting in on the holiday decorating spirit is to ask for their advice on where things should be put, or even the right playlist to set the mood. Be sure to keep electrical decorations and cords out of the hands and mouths of children and pets, too.

While some may wish the season lasted all year, holiday decorations aren't designed for always-on or year-round use or display. So be sure to turn off and unplug any lights before going to bed or leaving the house or use an approved automatic timer to perform this task for you. Pack lights and ornaments safely to protect them from any potential damage while tucked away until next year.

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DIY holiday HOME decor ideas



(NC) Decorating your home for the festive season is a perfect opportunity to get creative and try some do-it-yourself crafts. Not only will this be a fun activity for you (and the kids), but it will make sure your décor is completely unique and something no one else has. Here are some ideas:

PINECONE PICTURE FRAME ORNAMENT

This is a cute, rustic way to display photos. Go outside to take a picture of a pinecone or snowman, then print and glue to some cardstock. Get a pinecone from a nearby forest or your local craft store and use small floral clippers to remove the scales. Then glue the scales to the cardstock create a frame. Glue on a looped ribbon to the back of the cardstock hang on your tree.

PERSONALIZED WRAPPING PAPER

Instead of buying giftwrap at the store, create your own with a few simple things you already have on hand. Start with brown craft or butcher paper. Make stamps out of potatoes by cutting a spud in half, firmly pressing into it with a holiday cookie cutter (like a Christmas tree), and then cutting

around the cutter to ensure the shape protrudes. Finally, dip in paint and stamp all over the paper for a handmade look.

ORNAMENT VASES FOR PLACE SETTINGS

Give your holiday table a crafty aesthetic by transforming clear, round, shatterproof ornaments into mini vases. Simply remove the metal caps and use a hot glue gun to fasten a wood round to the curved bottom for the base. Put a sprig of holly or single poinsettia leaf inside each vase and fill with water, then set on top of the plate at each place setting.

BEAUTIFUL FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS Pictures of your family are a fun and easy way to decorate, and they're super affordable if you take them yourself or enlist a friend to help. Take beautiful, natural images

by choosing a location that's familiar, whether it's home or a favourite park. Dress in comfortable outfits that are friends, not twins – such as all in white or all in cardigans. Then just have fun and cut loose — the best photos are candid and organic.

Be sure you have the right equipment for the job by using a tripod with your camera or smartphone. For example, Manfrotto tripods reduce camera movement and improve picture quality, so you can shoot pictures that truly capture your family. Find a huge selection of tripod options and more at henrys.com.

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Season's Greetings

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4 TIPS TO SIMPLIFY HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

(NC) The holidays can be stressful as we prepare to host family and friends, but they don't have to be. There are plenty of shortcuts you can take to simplify entertaining while still providing your guests with a night to remember.

1 SET THE TABLE.

Whether you're planning a sit-down meal or buffet, a Pinterest-worthy tablescape is likely in the works. Rather than purchasing linens for every holiday, a crisp white tablecloth is always timeless. Bring the holidays to your table by using poinsettias of varying sizes. Poinsettias come in so many beautiful shades including classic reds, burgundy, pink and white and make a great parting gift for friends and family to enjoy at home for weeks to come.

2 CUT CORNERS WHERE YOU CAN.

When planning a party, appetizers are generally a go-to and the easiest thing to check off your list. The frozen section of your local Loblaws has everything you need to ensure your guests leave satisfied, from puff pastry hors d'oeuvres to plant-based options. At the deli, you can also order ready-made charcuterie boards

with a selection of meats, cheeses, fruits, crackers and accompaniments.

3 SERVE A SIGNATURE COCKTAIL.

Simplify the bar selection to a few options, offering a signature cocktail to ensure you can enjoy the evening and aren't bartending all night. Try your hand at making this spiced pineapple and cherry rum cocktail to bring some tropical flavour to your celebration:

Fill cocktail shaker halfway with ice. Add a ¼ cup pineapple juice, 1 ounce spiced rum and 2 teaspoons of cherry syrup. Pour over ice into stemless wine glass or cocktail glass. Top with one can of PC ginger beer. Garnish with cherries and pineapple wedge. Tip: Make the mixture ahead and serve in a pitcher and let guests top their own cocktail and garnish it.

4 MAKE GIFT-GIVING EASY.

Whether you need a gift for your guests or are looking for a hostess gift to take to a holiday party, pre-assembled gift baskets are a great option for the food lovers in your life. Options include classic holiday chocolates and cookie tins or everything to satisfy a much-needed caffeine fix. Best of all, they come gift wrapped so you just need to add a card.

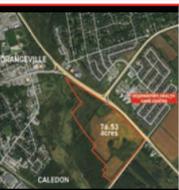
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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

Hot markets and bidding wars What does this mean for Buyers?

Whether or not you are currently in the market, you are likely aware of the current flourishing market. Presently there is an exceptionally low inventory and a very high demand for properties. It has been common to see homes sell within 24 hours of listing, with buyers selected from several competing offers.

COMBINING a lack of inventory, a large pool of motivated buyers, and a high market, you are bound to see an influx of bidding wars.

The dedicated real estate experts at The Michele Denniston Team are here to discuss the bidding wars we see within King and surrounding areas and advise on how to navigate this environment as a buyer.

1 KNOW YOUR LIMITS

The most important thing is knowing your maxes before stepping foot into any showing or open house. The limits of your budget, neighbourhood, home criteria, land acreages, and so on are all key to pinpoint before thinking of offers. Questions to ask yourself or your partner are: What is your absolute max budget? Is there wiggle room? What elements of a home are you open to renegotiating; the number of bedrooms, bathrooms, etc? What elements of a home are absolute must-haves? Are there different neighborhoods you can consider living in? Are there any neighbourhoods you refuse to live in? Our team suggests setting time aside to contemplate and write a concise list illustrating your answers and commit to honouring them before you begin your search. This is exceptionally important, as there is a lack of available inventory options matching your ideal criteria; you may be more likely to sway away from your benchmark and end up with



buyer's remorse. Our team would rather push our clients to wait and find the next-best match than have you settle for a home that you wouldn't purchase in a down market.

2 HAVE CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

After determining your bandwidth as a buyer, we suggest you take time to understand what to expect buying in today's market.

A. A HIGH MARKET = IS A SELLER'S MARKET. As a buyer, you are likely aware there is a lack of options for you to choose from. Knowing there are handfuls of other buyers looking to purchase a home may be intimidating, but coming to terms and accepting this will take considerable pressure and stress off of the buying process.

B. FIRM OFFERS MEAN NO CONDITIONS. This can be a hard pill to swallow for buyers, but when a bidding war develops, buyers typically give offers firm, with no conditions. You will have to get mortgage approval, financing, and inspections done before you put in your offer. We recommend bringing an inspector or a knowledgeable homeowner with you during your viewing to get ahead of the crowd. These extra first steps will help you feel more secure and confident if you decide to put in an offer.

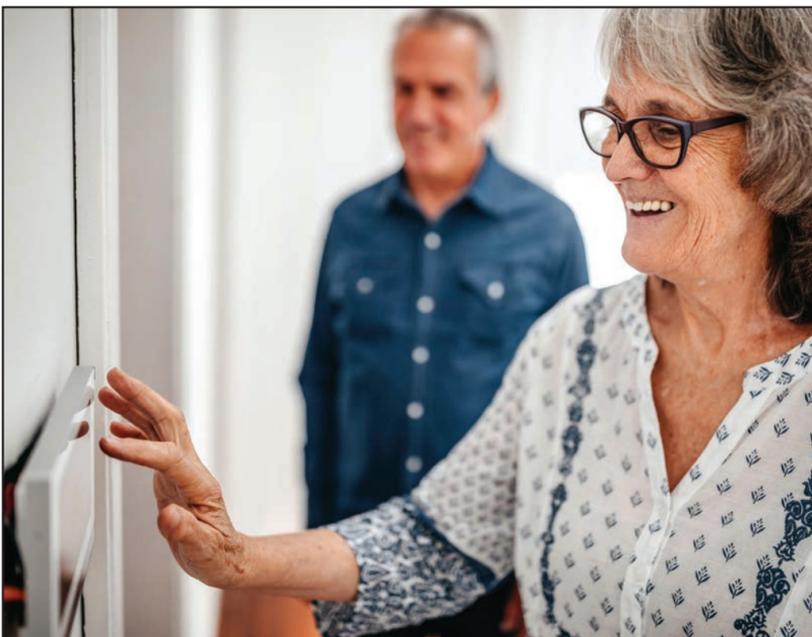
C. YOUR VALUE TRUMPS ALL

In a hot market like today, standard home values are no longer deemed the end all be all. As a buyer in a seller's market, it becomes about what you think the house is worth. With an influx of motivated buyers in a bidding war, this is the reason why you see homes

selling for 100k+ over asking. When demand is high, and inventory is low, record-breaking offers are made and accepted. Sometimes paying a bit extra in a hot market is not bad if you end up with a house that meets all your criteria.

3 WORK WITH AN EXPERIENCED REALTOR

The Michele Denniston team is passionate about providing clients with exceptional buying and selling experiences. We understand buyers may feel like they are presently at a disadvantage and be apprehensive about entering the current market. However, we are here to support you, help educate you, and help you feel prepared. If you have any questions about navigating the current market, contact Michele Denniston at our local Schomberg office at (416) 433 - 8316, we look forward to connecting with you soon!



5 Ideas for lowering your heating costs this winter

(NC) A cozy and warm space to relax in is a wintertime must for many Canadians. But cranking up the heat can really add up. Here are some ways you can stay toasty without incurring sky-high costs:

1 CHANGE FURNACE FILTERS.

If you have an oil or gas-burning furnace, remember that it must work harder if the filter is dirty. If your electricity bills seem unusually high, try changing your filter more frequently and/or getting your machine serviced.

2 USE A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT.

Many of us know that turning down the heat at night or while we're away all day can boost savings, but it's inconvenient to constantly be making those adjustments and easy to forget. A programmable thermostat lets you set it to automatically turn up the heat gradually in time for your morning routine, or remotely manage your settings - turning on your heat as you drive back from the airport.

3 AUDIT YOUR ENERGY AND TAKE ACTION.

An energy audit is a formal test to determine where energy is lost in your home. Maybe it's through a thin roof, poorly insulated walls or drafts around your

windows and doors. This kind of test can help you discover the and the amount of money you're spending to make up for energy loss and offers ways to reduce it.

4 INSTALL A HEAT PUMP.

A heat pump works by transferring heat from outside your home to the inside. It's more energy efficient than other types of heating, like electric heat since the pumps don't have to generate heat from scratch. Instead, they move and intensify the heat. This means you likely won't be paying as much for your heat each month, though there can be higher initial buy-in costs.

5 SWITCH TO SOLAR.

While there is some upfront cost to this solution, it can be a major cost-saver pretty quickly. Not only can this be better for your wallet, but it's also better for the environment, helping reduce your greenhouse gas emissions and do your part to combat climate change.

Some insurance providers, including Aviva Canada, may offer better insurance rates if you utilize green replacements. Whatever household updates you decide to make, be sure to let your insurer know - that way they'll be able to update your coverage appropriately, and, who knows, you might just qualify for a better rate.

Find more information at aviva.ca.

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From my family to yours....

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Good health and happiness in the New Year!**



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5 WAYS TO CREATE AND CAPTURE holiday memories

(NC) The hustle and bustle of this time of year can often mean we spend more time stressing about the festive season than actually enjoying it. Here are some tips for being present, having fun and documenting those special memories.

- 1 FIND LOCAL ACTIVITIES.** After many events got cancelled last year, municipalities and businesses are stepping up to offer socially distanced outdoor experiences this season. From mulled wine tastings for the grownups to magical drive-thru light shows for the kids, there's something for everyone. Check your local paper for listings.
- 2 PHOTOGRAPH THE SEASON.** We tend to reserve all our photo-taking for Christmas Day, but holiday spirit shines throughout late November and most of December. Whether it's picking out the perfect evergreen at the tree farm, decorating your home or wrapping presents, be sure to capture all those treasured moments.
- 3 TRANSFORM YOUR TO-DO LIST.** There are plenty of tasks you must do, so why not take the ones you're dreading most and turn them into something fun? For instance, if you have no idea what to buy grandma, try having a friendly competition in the family — whoever has the best suggestion wins a small treat or is relieved from an evening of dish duty. Or, hate baking dessert? Use it as an excuse to sample local bakeries to find a tasty, ready-made pie or cake.
- 4 GO ON A NATURE WALK.** Take a breather from your obligations and re-energize by connecting with nature. Visit your neighbourhood park after a fresh snowfall for a dose of calm. This is also a perfect time to pick up some pinecones and greenery for your décor and take a few pictures that portray the beauty of winter.
- 5 EMBRACE CANDID MOMENTS.** Stiff, posed portraits are so outdated. Instead of failing to get everyone together for the perfect group photo, casually snap a few pictures throughout a party to capture what the event was really like. This is especially a good idea for kids, who can rarely sit still when they're excited.

Whether you're shooting people or nature, you'll capture better detail take better photos with the right camera, like a top-rated one from Sony. The brand has a range of high-quality mirrorless cameras, from enthusiast to pro. Look for retailers that price match like Henry's, which will beat the advertised price from another retailer by 10 per cent of the difference.

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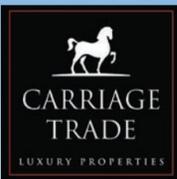


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Winter outdoor entertaining tips: How to host a cold-weather get-together

(NC) Over the last year and a half, many of us have embraced outdoor living and started enjoying our balconies, patios and backyards to the fullest. But just because it's cold out doesn't mean spending more time outside needs to stop. Be a great cold-weather get-together host by following these tips:

ALWAYS KEEP GUESTS WARM

Probably the top concern when it comes to cold-weather get-togethers is making sure everyone is warm and comfortable. Fortunately, you can accomplish this in style with a rustic firepit, chiminea or patio heater. You can also light candles and provide cozy blankets for some added warmth.

DECORATE WITH SEASONAL ITEMS

Enhance the theme of a festive winter get-together with country and farmhouse décor, like plaid linens and pillows. You can also create a nature-inspired tablecape with fresh pinecones and evergreen branches. A vintage wooden sled makes for a charming side table to set with drinks and snacks.

SERVE COMFORT FOOD AND DRINK

There's nothing like old favourites to make spirits bright. You'll never go wrong with a classic hot chocolate and marshmallows or s'mores by the fire. If you're feeling creative, try French toast fingers dipped in maple syrup. Want to give guests a hearty meal? Make some chili earlier in the day and reheat it, or fire up the grill for some maple-glazed wings and stuffed squash to add some extra warmth.

EXPERIMENT WITH SOUND

Nothing sets a positive atmosphere quite like some good music. Bring people together and create the perfect ambience for an evening with friends or family with ad-free music from SiriusXM. Simply connect the SXM App to your smart speaker and browse through the extensive catalogue of genres and artists to find the right soundtrack for a memorable, merry gathering.

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