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King's Community Newspaper

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York Regional Police Detective Jim Killby provided an update to the media Tuesday morning, following a "callous" attempted murder in Lloydtown early Sunday morning. The 65-year-old male victim remains in critical condition in hospital.

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Victim fights for his life after drive-by shooting

By Mark Pavilons & Jim Stewart

A Lloydtown man is fighting for his life following a shocking drive-by shooting Sunday morning. York Regional Police are searching for suspects and witnesses in the brazen attempted murder.

At a packed press conference Tuesday morning at King's municipal building, YRP Detective Jim Killby said 65-year-old victim was out walking his dog at roughly 8:40 a.m. and after "flagging down" a speeding motorist, was hit multiple times by the perpetrator. In all, 13 shots were fired through the window of the SUV.

Residents say he apparently chastized the motorist who was driving dangerously through the hamlet, who then turned around, came back and shot the man. According to residents, a neighbour came to his aid and the victim was hit 7 times. He remained critical in hospital (at press time). York Regional Police haven't confirmed that information.

Police report the incident occurred on Centre Street between Rebellion Way and Church Street. The suspect or suspects fled the area going west on Centre Street in a white four-door SUV, possibly a Lexus RS350.

Det. Killby said the suspect is described as a "light, brown-skinned male."

"This was attempted murder, another example of illegal firearms plaguing our community," Det. Killby said. It was a "callous act of violence."

Police said the dog walker was only "out for exercise and did nothing to incite the shooting," ruling out road rage. YRP are asking for any witnesses to come forward. They're also appealing to anyone who may have dash cam footage. Police said witnesses and nearby security footage has already yielded "promising leads."

Anyone with information is asked to contact the #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-8765423, ext. 7141, or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com.

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See Page 6

Koffler getting a needed face lift.
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Monday, February 27
6 p.m. – Council and Committee of the Whole
Virtual meeting live streamed at king.ca/meetings

Monday, March 6
6 p.m. – Council Public Planning meeting
Virtual meeting live streamed at <http://king.ca/meetings>

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

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.

REMINDERS



Parking Restrictions

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

Apply for your King Township pet licence(s) by April 15th!

king.ca/online services

PUBLIC NOTICES

SCHOMBERG MAIN STREET TASTE OF MAIN

FEB 18 - MARCH 5

A culinary event hosted by the restaurants and cafes of Schomberg Main Street.

schombergmainstreet.ca

KING SUBSCRIBE TO THE KING BULLETIN NEWSLETTER

Keep up to date on Township news, notices, and events delivered right to your email every month.

www.king.ca/kingbulletin

Please see more King Township notices on page 5

PUBLIC NOTICES

**THE TOWNSHIP OF KING
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY OF
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST
UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 29
PART IV OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990
AS AMENDED**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King intends to designate lands and premises described as East half of Lot 9, Concession 6, and municipally known as **13500 Weston Road**, in the Township of King in the Regional Municipality of York, Province of Ontario, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV, S. 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990.

Description of Property

Located on the West side of Weston Road, South of 15th Sideroad, the property is known municipally as 13500 Weston Road in the Township of King and legally described as East Half of Lot 9, Concession 6.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Significance

The property's historical/associative value lies in its association with William Wells, the founder of the community of Strange (originally named Williamstown). The community would be later renamed to Strange to recognize Dr. Frederick William Strange, who was elected by the Conservatives to represent North York and for his efforts in securing a post office for the settlement. This historic one-time community of Strange was an early settlement area in the Township that developed into a small rural community. William Wells acquired the property in 1839 from his father-in-law, Richard Machell, who was an early and prominent settler in the Town of Aurora. Following in his father-in-law's footsteps, Wells had plans to establish a Town on and around the subject property. He established a store in 1841 that served the local pioneers with groceries, hardware, boots and shoes and other much needed supplies. Between 1852 and 1853, a decision was made for the railway to be built through Springhill (King City) instead of Strange and Wells had to abandon his hope to establish a Town. While the community never flourished to become a full town or village, Wells was a key figure in the initial development of the community of Strange as his efforts would later assist in the establishment of community life in the form of churches, a school, store, cemeteries, and housing in the area. Wells also served and held multiple local office positions at the Township as Deputy Reeve and Councillor in the 1860's.

The farmhouse at 13500 Weston Road is a representative example of an Ontario Cottage with Neo-classical influences. Ontario Cottage style houses are characterized by a small building constructed by the Owner of a factory or farm intended for the living quarters of individuals or families. Ontario Cottages range from simple and vernacular frame structures to more elaborately detailed examples built of brick or stone and inspired by the Georgian, Neo-classical, Regency and Gothic Revival styles.

The physical/design value of the farmhouse at 13500 Weston Road is displayed by its one-and-a-half-storey height, red-brick construction, side gable roof with paired chimneys, symmetrical three-bay facade and central front entrance and are all characteristic of Ontario Cottages. The neo-classical influence of the farmhouse is seen in the design of the front entrance surround and the multi-lite transom and sidelights.

The farmhouse is a representative or early example of a style, type, expression and material of Ontario Cottages that were found across the Province. It was one of the first houses built in the community of Strange and is an early example of a style and type of farm residential buildings in the area. Design/physical value of the farmhouse is also displayed in the craftsmanship in the front south room and entrance hall which consists of deep wood baseboards with wood paneling and moulded and paneled window surrounds. The level of detail in the craftsmanship of this rooms suggest it was likely used for entertaining guests.

The property has contextual value as the farmhouse contributes to the nineteenth century historic agricultural character of the surrounding area. The area remains dominated by agricultural fields along with their agricultural farmhouses. As the subject property contains one of the first dwellings built in the Community of Strange, it is also historically linked to the community through the remaining buildings that have survived such as but not limited to the Wesleyan Old Methodist Cemetery, and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and cemetery.

Notice of Objection

Any person wishing to file a notice of objection to the designation must file such notice of objection together with a statement of reasons, with the Township Clerk of the municipality within 30 days (Monday, March 6, 2023), after the date of publication of this notice in the King Weekly Sentinel newspaper. Further information respecting the proposed designation is available by contacting Colin Pang, Planner III/ Heritage Coordinator at 905-833-4067 or email at cpang@king.ca.

Second Publication Date: February 16, 2023.
Deadline for Objections: Monday, March 6, 2023

Objections should be directed to:

Denny Timm
Township Clerk
Township of King
2585 King Road
King City, ON L7B 1A1
dtimm@king.ca

Dated on this 2nd day of February, 2023.

UPCOMING EVENTS

KING Nominations Open for Volunteer Appreciation Awards

Award Categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Special Recognition Award
- Non-Resident
- Senior Citizen Award of Merit
- Lifetime Achievement
- Youth Award of Merit

For more information or to submit a nomination, visit www.king.ca/awards.

Have questions? Contact clerks@king.ca or 905-833-5321.

Deadline: March 13, 2023

Small increase in user fees for 2023

By Mark Pavilonis
Editor

User fees in King Township are going up this year, to help offset the costs of delivering services.

As part of the 2023 budget process, adjustments were made to fees and charges for municipal facilities and programs, with some rising by between 2% and 3%.

According to staff, the increased fees will generate an estimated \$328,000, to help reduce pressure on local property taxes.

Staff pointed out that municipalities are constantly facing increasing costs to deliver essential services that residents require.

Fees and charges assist the Township to cover all or a portion of the cost of delivering certain municipal services therefore alleviating the financial impacts on tax and water/wastewater rates. Although full cost recovery is not always achievable, all budgeted user fee revenue are applied against the total cost for the service area prior to the calculation of property tax or water and wastewater user rates. Any increases or decreases to the fees and charges have a direct impact to the respective rates.

Traditionally, fees and charges have been developed and recommended using a combination of assessing the adequacy of direct costs to deliver the service and in some instances the inclusion of overhead and administrative cost components. In addition, consid-

eration has also been given to market comparison with neighbouring municipalities.

Along with the general 2% hike, some new fees were added this year.

Fees for development applications are going up, ranging from \$130 to \$1,565, based on the number of staff hours needed to review the bids.

Many new fees are being added for processing planning documents.

Some additional fees are proposed within Municipal Consents and Road Occupancy Permits to give some flexibility with the billing for different circumstances.

Within Environmental Services they have added some fees related to works surrounding Water and Sanitary levels to provide some flexibility with the administration fee to have a maximum of \$1,200 as opposed to a maximum of 15% of the fee. This will assist property owners with the cost of construction and implementation of certain infrastructure.

Building permit fees, and those associated with pools and accessory buildings, are also up.

The fees impact local groups such as hockey clubs, the curling club, etc. Ice time rates are increasing by 3% at King arenas. Rental fees are also up at all local halls and community centres.

Using the King Heritage and Cultural Centre is costing more this year, and fees are up slightly across the board for summer camp programs.

For the full list of new charges, visit king.ca

Small urban mayors discuss impacts of Bill 23, want to work with Province

The Small Urban GTHA Mayors met Feb. 10 to discuss the implications for small urban municipalities of Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022.

The mayors agreed that they support attainable housing for all. They want to work with the Province to ensure local government has the financial support needed to avoid shifting the financial burden of development onto local taxpayers.

The Small Urban GTHA Mayors encourage residents and anyone interested in the implications of Bill 23 for municipalities to watch one of two virtual meetings taking place on Thursday, Feb. 23, at York Regional Council and Region of Peel Council. Both meetings are available live online.

"The Small Urban GTHA Mayors will request that the Premier and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing meet with the group of Mayors and that the Small Urban GTHA Mayors and the Province work together to create a bright future that includes housing for all," said King Mayor Steve Pellegrini, Chair of the Small Urban GTHA Mayors.



MPP shares the love

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan, volunteered at the Valentines for Seniors project by the Maple Community Church that provided gift bags to 300 seniors in long-term care homes across the community. "The Valentines for Seniors project is yet another example of the Maple Community Church giving back to the community," said Lecce. "Our seniors worked hard, sacrificed, and helped build our incredible province, so I was proud to take part in this worthwhile initiative. That's why spreading joy and sharing kindness matters so much."

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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

Kindness is something we have in abundance

"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love."

- Lao Tzu

We are at a tipping point in society today.

After years of doom and gloom, and lingering pain, we need a guiding light, a ray of sunshine.

Mental health issues are at an all-time high among all age groups. And so is personal debt.

There are more awful soundbites each day than good news stories.

Often it's hard to help ourselves. But that shouldn't stop us from helping others.

A kind word, gesture, smile and nod may make someone's day. It could mean all the difference in the world.

The other day I received an anonymous photo in the mail. It was a picture of a sign in the shape of a penguin, at a lakeside park. On the penguin it reads: "Smiling is contagious, send a smile out into the world today!"

It worked. I smiled. Okay, I was a little surprised, but I can understand and fully appreciate the gesture.

It's meaningful on several levels. Someone took the time to print off the photo, stick in an oversized envelope and drop it in the mail.

That's effort! And for that I thank



Mark Pavilons

you, whoever you are. Right back at you!

We refer to these as random acts of kindness, but I'd like to encourage their use, so they're no longer "random," but become part of our everyday routine.

I come across dozens of cute and meaningful sayings on the Internet each day. Some are great, and others I jot down, and keep a growing list. Some I used here on this page in the paper.

They're meant to not only evoke

thought, but perhaps make someone smile. And boy do we need more of those.

I read one of those quotes recently that says you should compliment someone if you see something special in them.

I often tell total strangers they sport a cool look or have fantastic hair or tattoos. Self-expression is wonderful and if it makes me smile, I like to tell them.

My wife finds my conversations with strangers a bit odd, but hey, I'm just sharing the warmth.

I've been watching videos online recently that depict purposeful acts of kindness. They range from helping the homeless to rewarding kindness. Many are from social influencers who raise money from followers and pass it along to those who need it most.

I'm amazed at how gestures, even tiny ones, are received with wide eyes, smiles and joy. A \$5 donation to a Nigerian labourer is welcomed with bright eyes, smiles and hugs. Giving strangers gift cards and covering people's groceries is met with confusion, then amazement, then total appreciation.

Some YouTubers ask strangers what makes them happy or what message they would like to share with the world. Many tell the viewers to be kind, compassionate and share love.

Many of the homeless recipients turn around and share their new-found bounty with another. They praise the Lord.

And many are just thankful that someone stopped to say hello, to recognize their very existence.

That's both sad and great at the same time.

Some online influencers I follow just ask people if they can sit down and chat. They're almost always welcome to join and share.

We don't need free laptops or \$100 bills to feel good. While helpful, we don't require windfalls to be grateful or feel special.

Of course, there are those who are a bit apprehensive when strangers ap-

proach. Good Samaritans are sometimes viewed with a suspecting glance.

I say to hell with it. Cut through the clouds and negativity and spread some joy.

My ultimate desire, should I win the lottery or become wealthy, is to go on a mission, and help everyone I encounter. From handing out ridiculous tips to fast food employees to building "tiny homes" for the homeless, I'd want to help.

For those who are approaching, or in retirement, they need something to do. After working our entire lives, what's next?

Yes, some of us have to continue working. Others volunteer to fill the hours. Some are lucky enough to stretch their long legs on sandy beaches.

But if you're lucky enough, and in good health, to enjoy a long retirement, why not give back?

As I mentioned, if I was blessed with mountains of cash, I'd be quick to set up a foundation of some sort and get to work spreading goodwill here at home and abroad. I'd form a team of like-minded adults and youth and create another avenue of change.

There's no glamour in this, or recognition. I see it as a civic duty, a responsibility to others.

When I see how others live and struggle in horrible conditions, it breaks my heart. When I know that a pair of shoes is worth more than a car, I am motivated to pitch in.

I accompanied my son on a school mission to the Dominican Republic a few years back, assisting Haitian field workers. I didn't necessarily feel sorry for them, but I wanted to run into those very fields, roll up my sleeves and work alongside them. Admittedly, I wouldn't last more than an hour in those conditions.

The need may be huge, even overwhelming. But it's not insurmountable or out of our reach.

There are so many ways to help. And it all starts with sending a smile out into the world!

Letter to the Editor

Breathing life back into Main Street

Friday, Feb. 3 proved itself to be a day of mixed blessings for me. I spent the afternoon at a Celebration of Life for a dear life-long friend and while there were many laughs and some tears, I was left with a melancholia and sadness, then wonderment, at how incredibly fast time passes us by and how fleeting our lives here on earth actually are!

Then, another great friend of mine, Cyndy Rowlands, called me and asked if I would like to go to the re-opening of the Schomberg Community Hall. Although, I was tempted to say no and just commiserate at home, I thought, no, that is exactly what I needed!

The Schomberg Community Hall, this "Grand Dame" of our Main Street, has been closed for any public use for over three years. This building and space has played an integral role in the glorious history of Schomberg and indeed Brownsville and its closure left a glaring hole in the life of Main Street for those three years.

Although I was disappointed that more Schombergians did not come out to feast their eyes on this restoration, I for one agreed with Mr. Stewart when he called it a "delightful" re-opening." Mr. Filice and Mr. Milani, the construction and Project Managers, were so proud of their accomplishment and really welcomed our critiques.

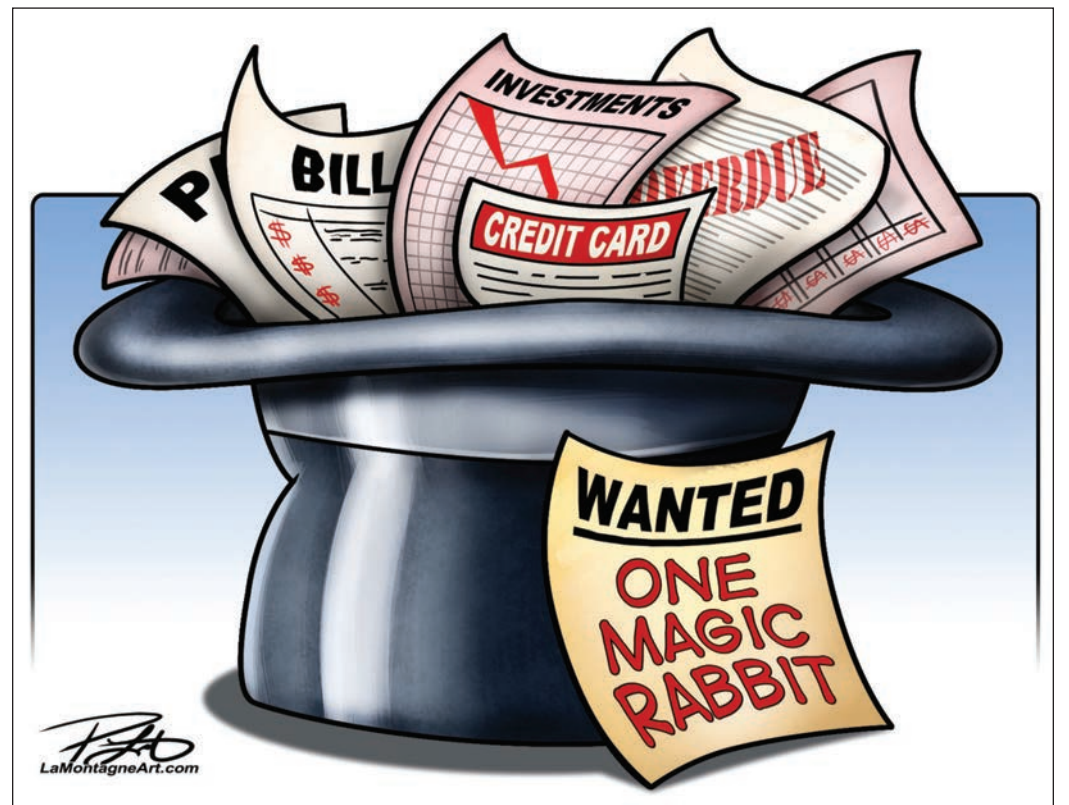
Somehow, I fell into the role of "resident bartender" of Schomberg when I and my friend Donna Church, took over the management of the Hall, in the early '80s. Over two generations enjoyed my Caesars and Wendy-Sue Specials at weddings, anniversaries, birthday parties, family Christmas parties, graduation parties. And then there were all the town dances, minor hockey, figure skating club, nursery school, Lions Club and the Knights of Columbus. Those were the days when the town could support two sold out New Year's Eve dances - one in the Arena and one in the Hall.

Then we lost the Arena on our Main St. Then the Cenotaph was moved off Main Street and ultimately the Hall was closed. I can only hope that this major restoration will breathe life back onto our Main Street. So many of our major cultural events have suffered without the use of the Hall to anchor their events - Main Street Christmas, our Fair and the Street Gallery, to name a few.

So, when you pass by this grand old edifice - The Schomberg Community Hall - please appreciate the history that it yearns to share, of the last two centuries and why Brownsville was known as "the largest market north of Hogtown" in its day.

If I wasn't such a procrastinator, I would have had the "History of the Hall" completed but now I think that Friday, Feb. 3 was the nudge I needed!

Wendy-Sue Bishop



KingWeeklySentinel **WEBPOLL**
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Do you know someone who is struggling financially?

a) Yes **36%**

b) No **64%**

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you concerned about the increasing number of violent crimes?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

Quote of the Week

"You're only given one little spark of madness. You mustn't lose it."

- Robin Williams

Trivia Tidbits
A group of frogs is called an army.

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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>	

Canada desperately needs 'real' discount grocery stores

By Sylvain Charlebois

Comment

This may come as a surprise to some Canadians, but our country doesn't really have a real discount grocery chain.

With higher food prices and a growing number of consumers seeking refuge from record-setting food inflation at the grocery store, real discount grocery stores would really come in handy. But the option is simply not there.

Rebates have grown scarce in recent years as No Frills and other value grocers such as Empire's FreshCo and Metro's Food Basics took a noticeable step back from their ongoing fight with Walmart. Quebec is in even worse shape: shoppers can find Metro's Super C or Maxi, owned and operated by Loblaw. Sobeys doesn't even operate a discount chain in Quebec. All banners and stores are connected to just a handful of grocers controlling the Canadian market.

Now Walmart is doing its own thing with price locks, and Loblaw just ended its 14-week price freeze, which failed to show beyond a reasonable doubt that consumers were indeed saving money. While consumers likely saved some money in January, after a few months of double-digit food inflation, it was not clear to many.

Rebates are just not as overly aggressive as what you would see in European-based discount stores. Every now and then, some impending threat will shake our industry's giants, and they try to fight for market share. But as soon as the danger passes, some sort of truce overwhelms the market. This is what happened when Target came and quickly went in 2015, and with Amazon Fresh a few years ago when rumours were swirling that they would attempt to enter the Canadian market.

For years, reports have suggested

that both Lidl and Aldi would enter the Canadian market. We're still waiting. But Lidl, a German international discount retailer chain, opened its first store in the United States in 2017 and now operates almost 200 stores. Aldi, another German company, now has over 2,300 stores in the United States. Both have similar business models, centering all of their efforts on discounts, plain and simple. With both, what you see is what you get, although Aldi does own Trader Joe's in the U.S.

Unlike traditional grocery stores, both Lidl and Aldi operate on a restricted selection strategy, offering only a curated selection of private-label products and a smaller range of national brands. Lidl may have more branded products, depending on location. This leads to lower overhead costs and allows stores to sell products at lower prices when compared to competitors. Moreover, these discount grocers implement cost-saving measures such as a bring-your-own-bag policy, an incredibly minimalistic store design, and an efficient checkout process. In fact, in Europe, where Aldi and Lidl originate, clerks typically sit down while working at these discount grocery stores as most of the bagging work is done by customers themselves.

Lidl and Aldi's strategies benefit the consumer with lower prices and contribute to a more sustainable and efficient retail environment. Some no-frills stores, such as No Frills, do some of that but not nearly at the same level. Lidl and Aldi are also known for their emphasis on quality: their products must meet strict quality standards while still being affordable.

In recent years, non-traditional gro-

cers like Costco, Dollarama, Giant Tiger and Walmart have slowly shifted and tried to fill the discounting void we have in Canada. Costco stands out. Only 15 years ago, Costco was a mediocre food retailer, at best. Today, it processes many of its fresh products onsite, while the quality and freshness rarely disappoint. Deals are impressive, but shoppers need both a car and the space at home.

The bottom line is this. Canada needs a disruptor, a new player that will redefine competition in the grocery industry. Loblaw just converted more than a

dozen stores into discount Maxi stores in Quebec simply because the company sees the writing on the proverbial wall. Grocers, coupled with the complacency of our regulators, have gotten comfortable. Perhaps too comfortable.

One can only hope that either Aldi, Lidl or another non-Canadian discount grocer reads this column. Canadians are calling you.

Dr. Sylvain Charlebois is senior director of the agri-food analytics lab and a professor in food distribution and policy at Dalhousie University.

Government workers receive 10.9% higher wages than private-sector workers

Government workers in Ontario enjoy a wage premium and more generous benefits compared to comparable private sector workers, finds a new study published by the Fraser Institute, an independent, non-partisan Canadian public policy think-tank.

"At a time when governments are facing serious fiscal pressures, bringing government sector compensation in line with the private sector would help reduce costs without necessarily affecting services," said Ben Eisen, a senior fellow with the Fraser Institute.

The study, Comparing Government and Private Sector Compensation in Ontario, 2023 Edition, finds that the wages of government employees in Ontario are 34.4 per cent higher, on average, than wages in the private sector in 2021, the most recent year of available comparable data from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey.

After adjusting for differences such as age, gender, education, tenure, type of work, industry, and occupation, government employees are still paid 10.9 per cent higher wages (8.8 per cent when unionization is taken into account).

But wages are only part of overall compensation. Government workers across Ontario enjoy more generous non-wage benefits, too.

Pensions: 83.9 per cent of government workers in Ontario are covered by a registered pension plan, compared to 25.1 per cent of private-sector workers. Of those covered by a registered pension plan, 94.5 per cent of government workers enjoyed a defined-benefit pension compared to 36.9 per cent of private-sector workers.

Early retirement: Government workers in Ontario retire earlier than their private-sector counterparts – about 2.5 years on average.

"It's important that all levels of government in Canada – municipal, provincial and federal – continuously review expenditures with an eye to producing better value-for-money to taxpayers," Eisen said.



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King City Branch

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Solutions to climate crisis exist, but we need the will to change

By David Suzuki

Comment

Resolving the climate crisis is a challenge – but not for lack of solutions. What’s needed is political will and public support.

Considerable research shows existing methods and technologies could quickly shift the world away from fossil fuels – even without accounting for rapidly advancing renewable energy and storage technologies.

As Stanford University professor Mark Jacobson told the Guardian, “We have wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, electric cars. We have batteries, heat pumps, energy efficiency. We have 95% of the technologies right now that we need to solve the problem,” adding that the remaining five per cent “is for long-distance aircraft and ships ... for which hydrogen-powered fuel cells can be developed.”

In his forthcoming book *No Miracles Needed*, Jacobson lists other benefits, including reducing pollution and related health care costs and deaths, lowering energy prices and improving energy efficiency (much of the energy from fossil fuels is lost as heat).

David Suzuki Foundation research shows that by prioritizing wind, solar, energy storage, energy efficiency and interprovincial transmission, Canada could reach zero-emissions electricity by 2035 “without relying on expensive and sometimes unproven and dangerous technologies like nuclear or fossil gas with carbon capture and storage.”

Although Jacobson sees a possible role for “direct air capture” technologies that remove CO2 from the air, he’s skeptical about carbon capture and storage, new nuclear, biofuels and blue hydrogen (which requires fossil fuels with carbon capture and storage to produce).

“Carbon capture and storage is sole-

ly designed to keep the fossil fuel industry in business,” Jacobson told the Guardian. As many, including me, have pointed out, nuclear is expensive and takes a long time to build, while renewable energy is readily available at far lower costs. Biofuels still pollute and often require lots of land.

As for the oft-repeated claim that mining for renewable energy materials is too destructive, Jacobson says the mining required for wind and solar is about one per cent of that required for the fossil fuel system in terms of the mass of materials. (That doesn’t mean we should dismiss mining-related issues.)

Not everyone shares Jacobson’s optimism, but he makes compelling arguments and backs them with substantial research. Why wouldn’t we employ all available solutions, when failing to do so will lead to catastrophe?

Much of the pushback is from oil, gas and coal interests and the short-sighted politicians, “dark money” groups and media that support them — as has been the case for the many decades we’ve known burning fossil fuels and destroying natural systems that store carbon are causing the world to heat to levels inhospitable to humans and many other beings.

Plenty of industry propaganda is misleading and disingenuous, and counts on widespread lack of awareness among the public, especially older people who tend to vote more often. For example, arguments that Canada’s oilsands industry is cleaning up its act and reducing emissions fail to mention this only refers to operations emissions and not the far more serious problems caused by burning the fuels in countries we export to.

Although the fossil fuel industry is

responsible for significant misinformation, promoters of other large-scale power sources are also digging in, as it’s easier under current economic systems to profit from these often-monopolized sources.

As one small example, a racketeering trial just got underway in Ohio against top Republican lawmakers accused of taking \$60 million in bribes – mostly funnelled through a secretive, tax-exempt dark money group called Generation Now – to bail out ailing nuclear power plants by adding a surcharge to customers’ energy bills.

A Guardian article notes the case follows similar scandals in Arizona, Louisiana, Alabama and Florida. Money was also channelled through Generation Now to subsidize ailing coal plants by raising prices. Along with lobbying to increase solar costs, these moves increase prices for customers and slow

or prevent cleaner energy from coming online.

Governments worldwide are finally realizing we don’t have time to waste in shifting to cleaner energy and that doing so comes with many benefits beyond those for climate — especially if they ensure affected workers and marginalized people and communities are looked after in the transition.

Politicians are accountable to the people they serve, not to wealthy corporate interests, so it’s important for all of us to demand action, through petitions, letters, calls, demonstrations and voting. People have the power!

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with contributions from David Suzuki Foundation Senior Writer and Editor Ian Hanington.

Learn more at david Suzukis.org.



Schulte hosts Family Day skate

Please join in for a free Family Day Skate on Monday, Feb. 20, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at King City Arena, 25 Doctors Lane.

Join Hon. Deb Schulte, Gillian Vivona, and the King-Vaughan Liberal team for some family fun “on and off” the ice!

Please bring your skates, as rentals are not available. Helmets are recommended.

Refreshments will be served, and other activities will be available, so please join us even if you do not wish to skate!



Staff raises almost \$14,000 for United Way

King Township staff has raised almost \$14,000 in the annual United Way campaign.

King staff raised the money through a payroll deduction program and events throughout the year: United Way donation

King Township and the United Way have enjoyed a long partnership, stretching back to 2006.

The money donated will help United Way fight local poverty.

According to the 2021 Canada census, around 6 per cent of King’s 28,000 residents live in a low-income home. Almost a quarter of those people are children.

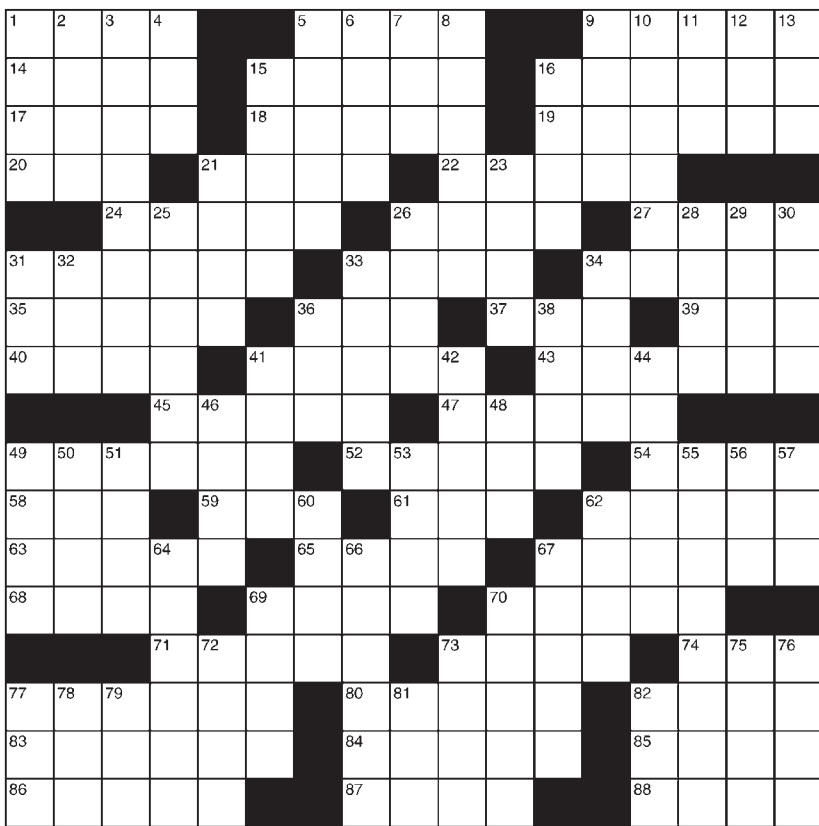
Homelessness in York Region exists across all demographics, and much of it is invisible. While for many it is a temporary situation, it is also a chronic problem with people cycling in and out of homelessness.

United Way Greater Toronto works to reduce poverty by ensuring access to a broad range of programs and services for everyone, close to home.

King Township citizens have access to the hundreds of agencies supported by United Way Greater Toronto.

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 473



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ACROSS

- 1. Thus
- 5. Better late _____ never
- 9. Underwater worker
- 14. Frog’s cousin
- 15. Witty old woman
- 16. Soil with mud
- 17. Heal
- 18. Lariat
- 19. Do again
- 20. “Take _____, She’s Mine”
- 21. Partridge’s tree?
- 22. Brownish gray
- 24. Bit of land
- 26. Waist accessory
- 27. Plate
- 31. Revolver
- 33. Storm
- 34. Therefore
- 35. Bypass
- 36. Young grizzly
- 37. Unclose, poetically
- 39. Salt
- 40. Harmony
- 41. Violin’s kin
- 43. Nut variety
- 45. Prepare to pray

DOWN

- 1. Write with acid
- 15. Soul
- 18. Chemical compound
- 21. Liquid measure
- 25. Small banknote
- 29. Utmost
- 31. Cut with an axe
- 32. Summary of beliefs
- 33. Market
- 35. Remote
- 37. Capital of Angola
- 38. Antler prong
- 39. Stratagem
- 40. Search party
- 41. Advertising leaflet
- 42. Gooley stuff
- 43. Belly
- 44. _____ photograph
- 45. Foreigner
- 46. Mama’s spouse
- 47. Heir to the throne
- 48. Actor Hayes
- 49. Pedestal occupier
- 50. Indian’s abode
- 51. Fencer’s blade
- 52. Heredity unit

- 2. Dissolute fellow
- 3. Military post
- 4. Sonnet’s kin
- 5. Trick or _____!
- 6. Frost
- 7. Tiny crawler
- 8. Put in order
- 9. Vertically long
- 10. Hinder
- 11. Scramble (for)
- 12. Time division
- 13. Steep hemp
- 15. Fish basket
- 16. Wine type
- 21. Trudge
- 23. Singing part
- 25. Gooley
- 26. Newborn
- 28. _____ thin air
- 29. Scrutinize
- 30. Grazing group
- 31. Ballet step
- 32. Wall clinger
- 33. Spend it in Moscow
- 34. Ship’s wheel
- 36. Bee’s follower
- 38. Twosome
- 41. Landlord’s income
- 42. Provide food for

- 44. Plaid cloth
- 46. Naught
- 48. Not used
- 49. Asking price
- 50. Not pro
- 51. Modern gaslight
- 53. Light carriage
- 55. Traitor
- 56. Remark further
- 57. Extinct bird
- 60. Hearty’s partner
- 62. Tooth point
- 64. Purify
- 66. Graze
- 67. Daft
- 69. Mound
- 70. First-year cadet
- 72. Decorative fabric
- 73. Mock
- 75. Once _____ a time . . .
- 76. “A Bronx _____”
- 77. Ordinarily disposed
- 78. Before, to Browning
- 79. Shred
- 81. Pool circuit
- 82. Porky, for example

Solution on page 14



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Business, Finance & Real Estate



Koffler Scientific Reserve gets a modern face lift

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

The venerable facilities at Koffler Reserve in King are getting a new lease on life.

The site, situated on the Jokers Hill on the Oak Ridges Moraine, is part of U of T's Koffler Scientific Reserve.

The new project, designed by Montgomery Sisam Architects, includes a new Dining and Operations Centre with a cluster of bunkies. The style, design and proximity all work to reinforce the synergies between the teaching, research and social dimensions of the field work done there.

The Reserve has been used for many decades, but needed this upgrade. It basically functions as a traditional college, with classrooms, dormitory, refectory, bathing facilities, commons

rooms, sitting rooms, hall, cloister and quad. It was designed to accommodate research students and faculty for extended periods of time.

The current property, stitched together over 100 years, features an estate house, several small farms, beautiful woodlands, watercourses and fish lakes.

KSR has seen a dramatic increase in use over the past decade and lacks in housing, teaching and dining space. To overcome this challenge, a new purpose-built Dining and Operations Centre will be built. Twenty new 3-person seasonal bunkies will also occupy the site to provide more accommodation for students during the peak warm weather months. With this initiative, KSR will gain much needed residential and multi-purpose teaching space in proximity to their lab building, capi-



talize on efficiencies between facilities, and discontinue use of several inconvenient outlying buildings.

Inspired by the work of KSR's scientists and students (who study everything from the smallest microorganism to the largest scientific system), the relationship between macro and micro, and the big scale and the little scale became a lens through which the design solutions were evaluated.

Reminiscent of agrarian building forms, the venue took the form of a barn that was taken apart, put back together again, and cut in half, with one part turned around. The building was also adapted to include lanterns for natural light, overhangs for appropriate solar response, covered walkways, and a courtyard.

The building's alignment with the sun, the moon and the stars will augment research goals and measure the passage of time, in days, seasons and years.

Extensive climate analysis was conducted to help design each facade – exterior shading to deal with solar heat gain in the summer; south facing windows to leverage solar heat gain in winter; reducing peak indoor temperatures by leveraging natural ventilation and thermal mass in shoulder seasons.

The project is targeting net-zero-carbon, net-zero-energy performance and LEED Gold. This robust sustainability mandate is met through passive design strategies that minimize energy use, while offering year-round comfort to

students and faculty.

The building's carbon footprint was reduced by the selection of low-embodied energy materials and renewable resources such as the mass timber structure and wood interior finishes. Renewable energy resources onsite (the photovoltaic panels on the roofs and the battery storage) will produce and store 100% of the annual electricity required by the building, while excess energy will be fed back to the municipal power grid.

"Our approach to the design evolved with our understanding of the work of KSR's scientists and students. Their diligent study of the tiniest changes in one specific type of plant or insect species can yield findings that speak to issues on a global scale, such as climate change. This relationship between micro and macro became a lens through which we viewed the development of the design," the architects noted.

The Dining and Operations Centre with its exposed timber structure is the social heart of the Reserve – a place to gather, to share, to enjoy. Nestled into the topography with generous glazing on both its upper and lower levels, the building sits delicately on the site; views in, out reinforce a sense of openness and transparency while large overhangs, covered walkways and a courtyard promote strong indoor-outdoors connections.

The building is expected to be complete by this December.



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KingWeeklySentinel

Arts & Entertainment

Heritage and Cultural Centre on track with goals

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Despite a slow start in 2022 with leftover pandemic restrictions, King's Heritage & Cultural Centre progressed through 2022, meeting most of its goals.

In fact, KHCC is well on its way to reaching its action items contained in its Master Plan.

There were also some firsts last year, including the annual International Women's Day Art Show, featuring 24 artists from across Ontario and Quebec.

York Region Arts Council joined King in installing the Indigenous Trail Marker on the grounds, created

by artist Donald Chretien.

The site also welcomed more than 350 people for its first Truth & Reconciliation Day, a joint effort with the York Region Indigenous Action Committee.

Last year also saw the 50th anniversary exhibition of the KTHS.

Other events at the centre included the Pollinator Community Art Project; Bookshelf Project and Travelling Wedgwood exhibit.

Challenges last year included a delay in accessibility renovations due to supply chain issues. After extended closures, staff spent some time determining new public needs. There were also some staff changes.

But the year also presented some opportunities, such as new partnerships and the purchase of a collections management software.

This year is starting strong, with the current exhibit, Stereotype Smash, celebrating International Women's Day.

Selfie Kings will run March 25 through May 27, followed by a Pride art exhibit, taking place June 3 through Aug. 12. Running Aug. 19 to Nov. 10 will be a special presentation on the Monarch butterfly.

The centre, and its public reach, are increasing.

The centre amassed more than 150 artifacts and 300 archival documents, which were donated last year alone. There's a large collection representing the Kettleby Post Office and General

Store. Other items include textiles made in King; an original rocking chair from the Schomberg Hotel; thousands of archaeological fragments, and photos and documents from the Cairns Family.

The centre has also enjoyed some financial infusion, thanks to more than \$120,000 in government grants, and a portion of funds raised through the Mayor's Cultural Gala.

The community is responding in kind.

The KHCC saw a 14% increase in social media followers last year, and a whopping 172% hike in visitors. There was a 142% increase in volunteer hours as well. All of these were likely due to the facility being open again to the public.



Arts Society King offers free workshop series

Arts Society King (ASK) is giving locals the opportunity to work with award-winning artists.

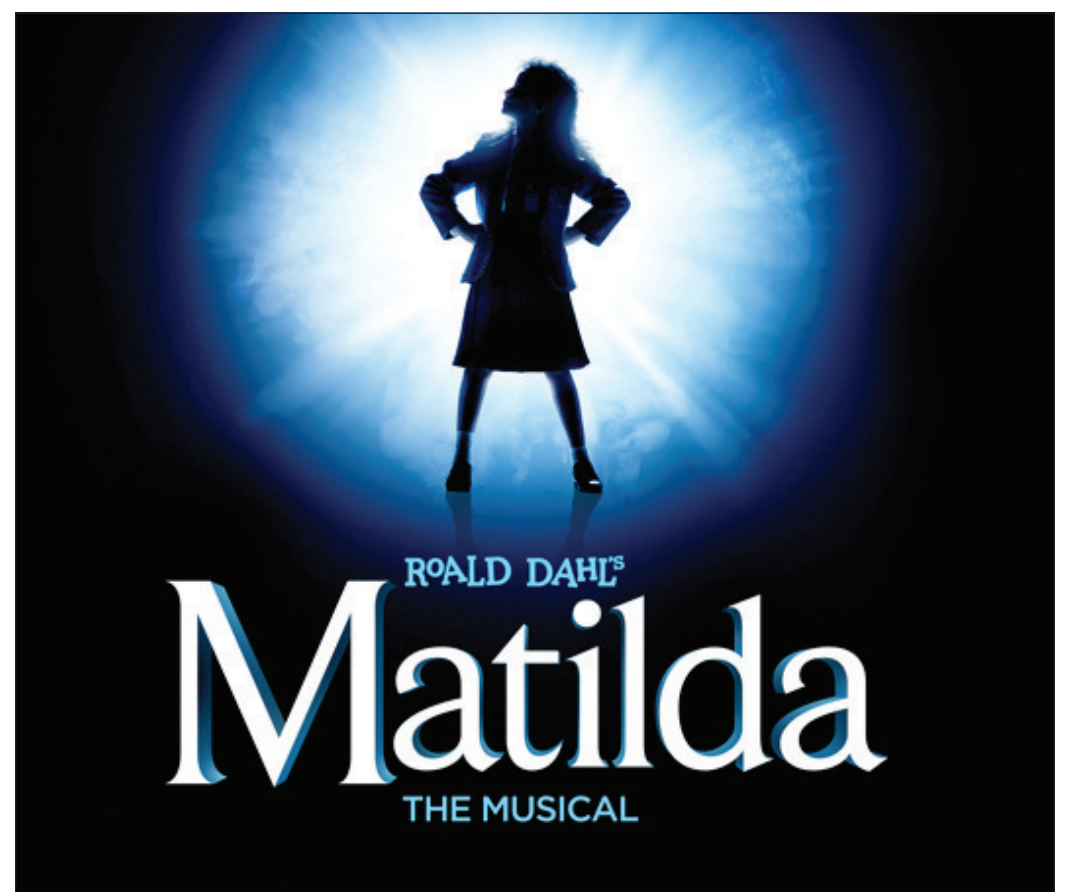
The Art Lab Series of sponsored painting workshops is funded through donors and special incentive government grants given to ASK.

Artists of all levels are invited to take this unprecedented opportunity to build their skills through insightful approaches and expand their horizons with the most inspiring and engaging Canadian instructors for a nominal registration fee for members, non-members and youths. Workshops of this calibre are valued at \$250. Participation is capped at 14 participants to insure personal attention and held in various King locations TBA.

The Art Lab Series begins on March 25 with the ever-popular Andrew Sookrah, renowned for his vibrant landscapes and transformative teaching style. Andrew twice adjudicated ASK's Autumn Reflections En Plein Air contest where his constructive impressions were enthusiastically received. Of his workshops, Helen Hermanns, one of King's most venturesome painters, said, "... always entertaining and informative. Andrew has tons of talent and has no problem helping you to find and enhance your abilities while leaving your mind full of possibilities afterwards."

The workshops are organized by Dorita Peer and Helen Hermanns. Please contact doritapeer@bell.net with your questions.

For details and registration please visit artsocietyking.ca and/or email info@artsocietyking.ca



CDS presents Matilda the Musical

The Country Day School is bringing Matilda the Musical to its stage March 2-4. Based on the Roald Dahl children's book, this is the story of an extraordinary girl who, who armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. This is a joint Middle and Senior School production and open to the local community. Show times are March 2 and 3 at 7 p.m. and March 4 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased in advance at www.cds.on.ca/tickets

Repair Café coming Feb. 25

Residents can take advantage in a Repair Cafe, held in partnership with the King City Public Library, Newmarket & York Region.

A Repair Café brings together people with items to repair and volunteer fixers willing to share their skills and tools. Bring your broken item (one per person) and any replacement parts your repair might need to be fixed for free.

It takes place at Cold Creek Conservation Area, Education Centre, Feb. 25 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Another Repair Café is happening on Saturday, March 25 at the Schomberg Public Library if those interested in attending arent able to make it out to the Repair Café in February.

To register please visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/486848646407>

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THE ROXBOROUGH
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING WITH Verve

Great Backyard Bird Count provides global purpose

By Jim Stewart

It's a busy time of year for The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Birds Canada, and the National Audubon Society. On Feb. 17, 18, 19, and 20, these three esteemed conservation organizations will be encouraging nature lovers across the world to watch birds in their backyards or other favorite settings and report their findings.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual event that invites participants to take a break from their hectic lives and count the birds. It provides a welcome break from the winter blahs often associated with February and is a per-

fect activity for Family Day 2023. However, the main reason February is chosen is that most birds around the world have not begun their spring migration and the international bird population is at its most stationary.

Kristen Martyn, who is the owner of Wild Birds Unlimited in Newmarket, is a local proponent of the Great Backyard Bird Count and related conservation measures to protect avian populations.

Participation is easy and free. All you need to do is identify and count the birds you see in your yard (or any other location you wish) for at least 15 minutes Feb. 17-20. You can participate

on all days or whichever day(s) you are available to do so. After your count is complete, you upload your results on eBird (registration is free). If you are new to bird identification, the Merlin Bird ID app is a great tool. If you have participated in the count before, you can upload your results on the eBird Mobile app or on eBird.org. For more information on how to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count visit birdcount.org

"This is one of our favourite events of the year," Martyn said. "We have lots of resources available in store to help with identification, optics for viewing birds, and a variety of bird feeders and foods to attract the birds to your yard. We provide guidance on how to participate through conversations in store and with our online community via our social channels. Every year, we also send out reminder emails before the count to assist people in signing up and participating."

By participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count, you are participating in the world's largest biodiversity-relat-

ed community science project. Your information becomes part of an extensive database that is analyzed by scientists to better understand important trends in bird populations, range expansions, habitat changes, and shifts in migration patterns. Tragically, recent studies have shown that we have lost 2.9 billion birds in North America since 1970. Participating in community science projects is an easy way for anyone to take action and help birds.

"Collectively, the more we work together as a community to help birds and wildlife, the bigger an impact we will have. My goal each and every day is to contribute to conservation efforts to help birds and wildlife. It's extremely rewarding. I love hearing and celebrating the individual success stories from our customers and community."

Visit <https://www.birdcount.org/learn/faqs/>

"One thing I would add is that anyone with a camera is encouraged to take and share photos on their count lists. This is a really fun part of the count."

The Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Hands up how many of you tried the "Smokey spicy margarita?" It was delicious, right?

I hope everyone had a lovely Valentine's Day and was treated to flowers, an evening out or a lovely gift.

With two fabulous florists, several great gift stores, and lots of delicious places to eat and celebrate, there is no need to venture into the big city. I've said it before and I'll say it again, we've got it all right here in our little village.

If you still haven't tried all our local restaurants yet, this is your lucky week, the "Taste of Main" starts this Saturday with 5 participating restaurants, The Schomberg Pub & Patio, Craft Kitchen & Beer Bar, Port Soiree, Hollywood Pizza, Leonardos Pizzeria & Smokehouse, 307 on Main Café and The Grackle Coffee Company.

You'll have until March 5th to check out the specially prepared menus and as a bonus, dine in restaurants have also each created a unique signature cocktail to commemorate the event. For more info check out schomberg.ca/taste-of-main/

I'd like to suggest walking to Main, now the weather is a bit milder, especially if you plan on trying all those cocktails. Heck even a cocktail bar hopping might be in order. Now that sounds like a good plan.

Speaking of Main Street restaurants, a reminder that Leonardos is also donating 5% of all their pizza sales in February to our own King Township Food Bank. Always a great cause in my book, a way to help neighbours that you may not even realize need help.

If you're not too full after attending the Taste of Main make sure to check out the events at the local churches, seems it's pancake season.

St. Mary's Magdalene Church at 116 Church Street on Feb. 21 from 5 to 7:30. It includes pancakes, of course, as well as sausage, dessert and tea and coffee.

York Pines United Church is holding a short Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 22 at 11 a.m., followed by a Meagre Meal of soup and will include anointing of the cross. Attendees are asked to RSVP to the office at 905-727-8118 or email yourpinesuc@gmail.com, All are welcome.

If you are still craving pancakes, Cold Creek is hosting Maple Syrup Fest, Saturday, March 11, it will include a Pancake Breakfast, hosted by the Rotary Club. Outdoor activities, vendors, sugar bush hike and much more. The first 500 attendees will receive a reusable cup provided by Chilly Moose. Tickets on sale now at coldcreek.ca/maplesyrupfest.

King Township is hosting a Para Ice

hockey event at the Trisan on Tuesday, Feb. 28, 4:30 to 6 p.m. You'll even get a chance to try it yourself. Way harder than it looks.

If you're looking to register your kids for King Summer Camps, registration starts March 1 for residents and the 8th for non-residents. I remember staying up until midnight to get my son registered for "Adventure Camp" it was always so popular and what a great experience he had at all those King Camps.

Seniors, Schomberg Public Library is offering a "Seniors Digital Genealogy Workshop" Thursday, Feb. 23 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. I may have to drop into that, I've been researching my family tree these past 2 years, during COVID and found out my family never moved from a 100-mile radius of the small town in northern England where my parents were born. Although I was shocked to find I had strong Irish roots (I'd never heard that before), I was thrilled that I can now officially wear one of those "Kiss me I'm Irish" buttons on St. Paddy's day, which is coming up soon.

The Schomberg Club 55+ is back and will be meeting at the Schomberg Community Hall at 10:30 a.m. every second Monday, next meeting is Monday Feb. 20. Membership is \$15 per person, or \$20 per couple. I might join myself after I can manage to accept the fact that I am now a senior.

King City Library is hosting a "Repair Café" on Saturday, Feb. 23 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., where volunteers will fix your small appliances in need of repair. Not officially Schomberg, but I felt it was such a great idea and something we could all use I'll bet. Hard to find someone to fix anything these days.

The Dufferin Marsh is once again sponsoring their Annual Community Bonfire, Saturday Feb. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. Hotdogs, marshmallows, hot chocolate, and coffee will be served. Skating on the Marsh only if the weather permits and the ice is safe; for more info contact Mary Asselstine at 905-939-7544.

Hope to see you all at Taste of Main! Again, any story ideas, events, or anything you want to see in this column, please reach out spporter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

Schomberg United Church

By Nancy Hopkinson

You are welcome to join our friendly group for Sunday worship at 9:30 a.m. with our new minister Richard Gardner. There are refreshments afterwards.

The Community Singing Group practices at Nobleton United Church on Fridays at 2 p.m. For more info, please contact Dennis Kowal at 416-550-5083.

The next Seniors' lunch and entertainment is on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 11:30 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level. Please arrive at 11:15 a.m. Wear a mask when not eating.

More on Page 17

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<div style="background-color: white; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Jiffy Professional Peat Pellet Greenhouse Seed Starter Kits</p> <p>20% OFF</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: white; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>MIRACLE GRO SEED STARTING POTTING MIX</p> <p>8.8L Reg. \$7.99 SALE \$5.99</p> </div>
<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Flower & Vegetable seed packs have arrived</p>	
<div style="background-color: white; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Cuddles Cat Litter</p> <p>15KG Reg. \$14.99 SALE \$12.99</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: white; border-radius: 10px; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Armstrong Flying Friends Songbirds' Favourite Bird Seed</p> <p>7kg Reg. \$29.99 SALE \$25.99</p> </div>

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King Weekly Sentinel

Sports • News • Community Events
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From a family affair to winning gold in Oshawa

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

A Family Affair

It was a family affair when husband and wife Steve Bradley and Maria Ruksa were matched up to play against one another as well as sisters Beth Egan and Linda Thompson in the Wednesday afternoon Social league, aka "The Pub League."

Team Bradley, who had Grant Morning, Corrie Oukes and Linda Thompson while Team Ruksa consisted of Beth Egan, Al Courneya and Kim Campbell, all played a key part in the family reunion. Both masterful Skips skillfully guided their mates for precision shot making and pin point guards. During the 4th a measurement was required for the scoring point that brought silence to the group of 8 while they waited for what turned out to be a 2,000th of an inch difference. Verdict went in favour for Ruksa.

The final end displayed a house full of granite with one loan rock perched neatly on the button surrounded by a

wall of stones. The lone rock was delivered by Lead Lynda Thompson to which miraculously remained after several attempts to remove it. Down to Skip stones and no possible way of entry for the point, Team Bradley made the corporate decision to throw the stone away for fear of removing their tying rock on the button.

Grant Morning, a relatively new curler played Vice and commented how he likes the position that allows him to try a variety of shots and still be able to sweep. He also commented that "it was cool to bring out the measure stick on our one shot because you couldn't tell who was shot and to actually see just how close the stones really were."

So with a tie, as there is no real loser it was decided that the ride home for the spouses would be pleasant one.

Gold for King Wheelchair Parasports

King's Team Thurston continued with their winning ways at the Ontario Parasport Games.



Skip Jon Thurston, Collinda Joseph, Karl Allen and Christie Molnar as well as King curling member and coach Bruce Gorsline proudly display their gold medals from the Ontario Parasport Games.

The Games welcomed approximately 500 participants competing in 10+ different sports. Skip Jon Thurston, Collinda Joseph, Karl Allen and Christine Molnar were in Oshawa last week participating in the 3-day event against 5 other teams from Newmarket, Toronto (2), Ottawa and Ilderton.

Team Thurston, who is coming off of their recent crowning of Ontario Provincial champions, were undefeated going into the final against Ottawa. Thurston collected 2 in the 1st then Ottawa responded with 2 of their own in the 2nd end. Thurston proceeded with steals in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th when Ottawa conceded and shook hands in the 6th.

Thurston, who is sponsored by Green Tractors (Karl and Barb Davis), won gold with a 6-0 record with Ottawa earning silver and Toronto for the bronze.

Too close for comfort

As the club nears the closing of the 2022-23 season, the leagues are building with excitement for another thrilling playoff period.

The Men's B Division currently posts

a 5-way tie for first. The A division may be a little more spread out in total points, but will certainly be exciting down to the wire as anything can happen.

The ladies league has concluded their final regular season with a 1-point difference between first and second and 4 points from 3rd to first. A 3-way tie for 4th in the Mixed Team Entry league and only 4 points back from first makes it anyone's game to win. With a few more weeks to go in regular play, the final playoff positions will come down to the last rock.

Canada vs. Scotland

After 33 days and 95 games, The Strathcona Cup Tour of Canada has completed its cross-country crusade. The exciting finish came down to the final game that resulted in Team Canada collecting the higher overall points of 2,454 with Scotland just behind with 2,317 points. The camaraderie was top-notch and the curling was exciting as King Curling was extremely proud to be part of such a prestigious event. The two countries will meet again in 2028 hosted by Scotland.

King invites residents to try Para Ice Hockey at two events

By Jim Stewart

The Township of King announced two opportunities for residents to try Para Ice Hockey before the end of the winter sports season.

Dori Wilner, Recreation Coordinator for Camps and Inclusion, offered many reasons for trying this version of hockey: "Participants can learn a different brand of hockey and learn how to adapt to new equipment and rules. They'll also understand the challenges of the sport, appreciate the rigor of the sport for its participants, and try something new!"

In her second year of service to the King community, Wilner discussed the rewarding aspects of her role as recreation coordinator: "In addition to promoting healthier lifestyles for residents, our recreational programs bring a range of sports to the community. Programs like Para Ice Hockey deploy equipment that we have purchased for King residents' use. It's also rewarding to promote free events. Most importantly, we want to create fun activities to do with friends and family." Wilner invited residents to mark their calendars and participate in these upcoming Para Ice Hockey events."

All abilities are welcome, no previous experience necessary. All participants are required to wear a CSA-approved helmet with a face cage, protective gloves, and closed-toed shoes. If obtaining this equipment is a barrier to participation, please let staff know.

The Trisan Centre will host the first event Tuesday, Feb. 28. It will run from 4:30 to 6 p.m. and there is no charge. Participants 4 years old and up are encouraged to attend.

The event is run in conjunction with Children's Treatment Network and Seneca College.

In partnership with Children's Treatment Network and Seneca College, residents are invited to try it during the March Break.

Sledges and sticks will be provided. Attendants and helpers must wear ice skates or ice cleats and a helmet while on ice and participants must bring their own helmet.

The March 16 event will take place at the Nobleton Arena from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. It's also free for those 4 and older.

For registration, visit <https://www.ctnsy.ca/Events/2023/March/Township-of-King-Try-it-Para-Ice-Hockey-King-City.aspx>

If interested participants have any further questions about these Para Hockey events, please contact Dori Wilner - dwilner@king.ca and/or Stefanie Cuda, scuda@ctnsy.ca.

Gallow scores twice to pace Schomberg to 4-2 win over Penetang

By Jim Stewart

Zach Gallow fired two goals and Cougar goalie Vann Kulba turned aside 22 of 24 shots to lead Schomberg to a 4-2 victory over the Penetang Kings in PJHL action on Saturday night at the Trisan Centre.

The Cougars held a decisive edge in play to start the first period as they kept the Kings hemmed up in their own end. The pace of play was dictated by the home side and with seven minutes remaining in the period, Captain Kokeilj dug the puck from a scrum and fed Zach Gallow between the circles who one-timed it past Kings' goalie Wade Monague.

Otherwise, the Penetang netminder stood his ground admirably for the duration of the period and the Cougars closed the first with a narrow 1-0 lead despite outshooting the Kings 18-6. Many of those opportunities were generated by Cougar forward Luke Miehm, who not only assisted on Gallow's opening goal, but was a big part of the Cougars' puck possession advantage in the first period. Schomberg Head Coach Stan Kondrotas singled out Miehm's "aggressive forechecking and his work on the power play as a team asset."

Cougars' netminder Vann Kulba was called upon to make some point blank saves in the second period as the Kings pushed back against Schomberg. Owen Vandusen converted a goal mouth opportunity when linemate Kyle Robillard fed him a pass from behind the Cougars' net to tie the game at 8:44 of the middle frame. Although Coach Kondrotas was "disappointed with his team's performance in the second pe-

riod that allowed Penetang to tie the game," the Cougars did bounce back from their mid-game lull. Schomberg fired two quick goals within 36 seconds to take a 3-1 lead to close the period. Cameron Kokeilj fired his 27th of the season at 15:24 and Matthew Lychek scored his 10th goal of the season at 16:00.

The Cougars took a 4-1 lead with a power play goal at 9:34 of the third period when Gallow one-timed a beautiful feed from Miehm. Kulba's stand-up style of goaltending served him well in a busy third period. The Schomberg netminder made a dazzling save on a clear-cut breakaway with 12 seconds left to preserve his team's margin of victory. Luke Miehm praised his young backup goalie's play and noted "that the team is confident in Vann's abilities, especially in big games."

Miehm echoed his coach's assessment of the game in that he thought the key to victory was "our team's forechecking. We stayed on our game by getting pucks deep in their zone." The veteran Cougar also singled out "Zach Gallow's goals on our power play tonight, especially with Lioni out of the game due to sickness." Coach Kondrotas praised Miehm's "veteran leadership which helps us close out games", but also offered accolades to his core four penalty-killers - "Futas, Lychek, Roberts, and Palozzo because these guys know what I want. Palozzo was big tonight on the PK and Palozzo was an outstanding performer, too."

The Cougars held Penetang to 1/8 on their power play, including killing off 4 minutes and 23 seconds of a five-minute major.

King Weekly Sentinel



CONTEST WINNER

Taras Kunynetz

Taras has won a set of 4 tickets to the
2023 Canadian International AutoShow,
February 17-26, 2023 at the
Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

THANK YOU to all of the entrants
for helping make this contest a success.

King's Corners

King City United
By Sheryl Sinka

"You Are Important." The title of Rev. Bruce's message speaks volumes. You are important! In his exploration of Matthew 5: 13-16 we were reminded that God works through us in many ways. We are called to act, "seasoning that bit of earth entrusted to you" and bringing "a glimmer to the places we touch."

"You are a somebody! God acting in you to make a difference." May it be so in all of our lives. To read the full transcript please visit our website at kcuc.net

Our next worship will be on Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. when Rev. Andrew K. Lee will be presiding. We hope to see you there.

For the PDF of past messages and recordings please visit our website at kcuc.net

We encourage all to help out with the King Township Food Bank who is experiencing ever growing needs and we encourage you to continue to help with donations of food or financial donations at this time of year which can be most difficult for many needing as-

sistance.

If you have any questions please contact the church office at 905-833-5181.

King Bible Church

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

We invite everyone for our Pop up clothing and toy giveaway event on Saturday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

We also have virtual Bible studies over Zoom. Further information is on our website under "Small Groups." If you have any questions please email Lisa Lethangue at lisa@kingbiblechurch.com.

King City Seniors By Carolyn Kanitz

A reminder that tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 17 is the date of the next potluck lunch. Each attendee is asked to bring either a main course item or a dessert to share. Enjoy a great lunch with friends old and new beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 20, Family Day, is a statutory holiday so the Seniors' Centre will be closed. Mobility Matters will not take place.

Friday, March 3 at 10 a.m. we will have a presentation on Alzheimers. Please indicate your interest by calling the Centre at 905-833-6565.

New members are always welcome to join. Our schedule is as follows:

Monday: 9:30 a.m. Mobility Matters (level 2/3); 11 a.m. Mobility Matters (level 1).

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing; 1 p.m. Bid Euchre.

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. Mobility Matters (level 1); 1 p.m. Bridge.

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. Gentle Motion; 1 p.m. Carpet Bowling.

Friday: 9:30 a.m. Art Class (2nd and 4th of the month); 1 p.m. Euchre.

Community Singing Group

We practice on Fridays at 2 p.m. at Nobleton United Church, 6076 King Rd., Nobleton.

For more information, please contact Dennis Kowal at 416-550-5083 (cell) or 905-857-4033 (home). You can email him at dennis5k@hotmail.com

Kingcrafts workshops

Kingcrafts Studio is once again offering its very popular workshops. Check our website for further information and registration.

First up March 4 is Introduction to Inkle Weaving. Learn the ancient craft of inkle weaving to make beautiful woven bands.

Then on March 18, take in The Joy of Watercolour for Children (with an accompanying adult). Bring your 6-10-year-old (child/children) to learn how to paint with watercolours.

On Saturday, April 1, they're offering Priceless Platters: Pottery Workshop for Beginners. Make your own handmade pottery platter with colour, imprint, size and handles unique to you. It can become a family heirloom!

Visit www.kingcrafts.ca

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church welcomes you! Our Sunday Worship Services are at 10:30 a.m. If you can't join us in-person, our services are recorded and posted later in the afternoon at standrews-kingcity.ca.

More on Page 14

Classifieds

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

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DEADLINES

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

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Please send resume to coc@rogers.com

IF YOU MEET ALL REQUIREMENTS ABOVE AND ARE INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION!

505 GENERAL HELP WANTED



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**SELL IT
IN THE
Classifieds**

From Page 13

This Sunday, Lynn Vissers will be taking the service. Both John and Lynn are continuing with their sermon series from the book of Ephesians in the New Testament.

Join Lynn on Tuesdays at the virtual Bible Study or on Wednesdays for Art-for-the-Soul. Remember, you don't have to be an artist! Contact Lynn for information and the ZOOM link. Call 416-998-4652.

If you have prayer requests and/or praises to God, contact Lynn (416-998-4652) or Kathy (905-833-0391). We'll be happy to pray with you or for you in confidence.

A favourite verse is Proverbs 3:5,6. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and don't depend on your own understanding, but in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path."

Contact Lynn or Kathy (905-833-0391) regarding prayer requests or to share in thankfulness to God. We'll be happy to pray with you or for you in confidence. Philippians 4:6,7 reads: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard

your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Contact Pastor Niyazi and/or Irada Bilgen at 416-878-8499 about The Greater Grace Fellowship.

Mark your calendars: our Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) is following the worship service on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 12:30 p.m. Coffee/tea, and dessert will be served, but bring your "bagged lunch." There will be time before the ACM starts.

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

**All Saints Anglican Church
By Patrick Gossage**

Lent at All Saints - Shrove Tuesday drive by Pancake Dinner. Tuesday Feb. 21 at the Church on Keele St. Pickup a full dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. By donation - reserve at 905-833-5432. Next day Ash Wednesday services at noon or 7 p.m. in the chapel for imposition of ashes. Taise special meditative services during lent Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the chapel.

Make Me an Instrument - a sermon by Rev. Erin Martin on The Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:

"The Sermon on the Mount, contains the central principles of the Christian faith. In this section Jesus gave examples of how to keep some of the basic laws given in the Ten Commandments. He took time to discuss those laws because the people of the time had lost the spirit of the law. In the first passage, Jesus spoke about the law against committing murder, the law against committing adultery and the law against speaking falsely.

"Jesus shared the deeper spiritual issue behind the law against murder. We need to challenge our feelings and attitudes of hate, fear and anger that lead us down darker paths. It's only when we've identified those attitudes and feelings that we can move toward peace and forgiveness.

"It can be so hard to forgive people who've hurt us. Jesus said that before we come before God, we should make sure that we're reconciled with others first. It's an amazing yet very challenging spiritual discipline to present ourselves to God knowing that we've done our very best to forgive and be forgiven by others

"When Jesus talked about the law against committing adultery, the spiritual issue was about faithfulness. We have the constant temptation to be

dissatisfied with what we have. Faithfulness is hard work because it calls us back from our tendency to keep our eyes open for whatever we think might be better than what we've got right now. Faithfulness helps us get to a place where we rediscover love, excitement and joy. Faithfulness helps us be more satisfied long-term and enables us weather whatever comes our way. Jesus also explained that the law against speaking falsely. We live in a society where half-truths or even outright lies, secrecy and betrayal seem rampant.

"We're encouraged not to trust or be honest about our thoughts and feelings, because if we are, we might lose the upper hand. Jesus tells us that it's better to be truthful and open; to be simply who we are, and allow others to be themselves as well. Deciding to live honestly isn't the easiest choice to make, but if we can do it we'll know exactly who we are and what we stand for. And it will be well with our souls.

"The law that God has given us isn't really about rules; it's about important spiritual disciplines and attitudes that include good things like peace, faithfulness and honesty. If we can make these disciplines and attitudes part of our lives, I believe we'll live more fully and joyfully."

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708 OBITUARIES



Audrey Cragg

Mom's bedroom is empty as is our heart. Mom has gone to meet her Saviour Jesus. Audrey passed away on February 2nd, 2023 at the age of 95 in our home in Moonstone. She is now reunited with her husband Edward and her son Neil (Catharina). Incredible mom to Sherry (Rick). Loving grandmother of Shanell (Andy), Angela, Jason (Lygia), Tim, Shara, Heather. Great Grandmother to Mercedes (Matt), Paige (Jeremy), Trent, Timaya, Kyla, Trinity, Josiah, Winter, Summer, William, Leyland, Fallon. Great great-grandmother to Bodhi, Poppy and Baby Weston to come. Predeceased by her siblings Vera and Leslie. Audrey will be sadly missed by many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Audrey was the ultimate mom, grandma and friend. Her happy place was loving, nurturing and entertaining children. There was a constant parade of children through her home, and on summer days, everyone would be packed up to go to the beach with a big picnic basket while Ed waited patiently in the car for hours with a Tim's. Audrey taught all the family children as well as many others to swim as she was an avid swimmer and won numerous trophies in competitions. Audrey was an introvert but would put herself out there to help or nurture anyone in need. Between Audrey and her husband Eddie, they left a legacy of kindness and compassion that we could all aspire to. The family would like to thank Kimberly (PSW), Trudy (PSW) and Dr. Stokreef for all their care and compassion. Arrangements entrusted to the Nicholls Funeral Home, Midland. In Audrey's memory donations can be made to the Salvation Army. Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

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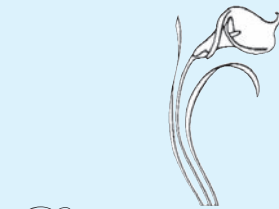
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Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person for worship this Sunday at 10 a.m.

Our Pastor, Jeff Loach, will be sharing a message entitled "The New Jerusalem," based on Revelation 21. Following the service, we will enjoy refreshments. We hope you can come! If you can't make it in person, our live-streamed broadcasts are available directly on stpaulsnobleton.ca or on our YouTube channel each Sunday at 10 a.m., or on demand at youtube.com/stpaulschurchnobleton.

Our "Junction" children's ministry is meeting in person for all children up to Grade 6 during worship. We continue to offer St. Paul's "At Home" boxes each month to facilitate God-focused family learning. If you would like to engage with this resource, tick the appropriate box on the connection card at stpaulsnobleton.ca/connect.

Our Tuesday morning LifeConnect Group for women is meeting with a mix of Zoom and in person meetings every Tuesday morning at 9:30. A LifeConnect Group, open to anyone, also meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are a mix of online and in person. These groups go deeper with questions related to the previous Sunday's message. It is a good way to do life together with other followers of Jesus, and inquirers, in a more intimate setting than you can get on a Sunday morning. For details of our LifeConnect groups, be in touch with us via our online connection card, stpaulsnobleton.ca/connect.

Quilting and/or Knitting continues meeting Tuesdays at 1 p.m. in the lower hall of the church. We will be sewing and tying quilts for people who could really benefit from them. We would love to have you join us, if this might be of interest to you.

St. Paul's is coordinating with the King Township Food Bank in the distribution of "St. Paul's Love Bags." These bags 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.

St. Mary's Church

We hope and pray that you and your families are doing well as we look forward to celebrating the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Marriage Sunday in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Join us this weekend at St. Patrick's or St. Mary's for the Sunday Holy Mass celebrations to pray for each other, give thanks as a parish community, and to reverently receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist "the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC 1324).

Please note, we are hosting our sixth Confirmation preparation class (Class #6 - Relationships) this evening at 7

Schomberg United

From Page 11

The entertainment will be Mary Asselstine, speaking about the Schomberg Community Farm, where people of all ages can gather, learn, grow, dig, plant and eat. The meal will be hamburger soup, Caesar salad, crusty roll, with a chocolate dessert and ice cream. Please let Sheila Kelly (905-939-2315) if you are interested in attending. Space is limited. If you prefer, the meal can be delivered in the afternoon in time for dinner.

Our Zoom Coffee hour is Wednesday 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. We would love to have you drop in and say hello.

Our Annual General Meeting is on Sunday, Feb. 26. There is a joint service with Schomberg United Church at St. Mary's Magdalene Church at 11 a.m., with a pot luck lunch at noon (please bring something other than dessert, as there will be a big cake for dessert), and the AGM is at 12:45 p.m. Rev. Lisa Naumann will be present to represent Shining Water Regional Council.

There is a Zoom workshop celebrating P.I.E. Day (March 14, 7-8:30 p.m.) This is your chance to learn about 2-Spirit people. The special guest is Ozhawa Anung Kwe who will discuss some of their life story living as a brown Anishinaabe 2-Spirit person. Here is the link to sign up for the workshop. <https://shiningwatersregionalcouncil.ca/justice/social-justice/pie-day-resources/pie-day-registration/>

Schomberg United Church meets at 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg. My contact info is 905-859-0761 or nancykhopkinson@gmail.com.

p.m. Pick up time is 9 p.m. Please bring your notebooks!

A gentle reminder that we have moved the classes to the church proper.

LifeTeen Parish Youth Group: We invite all teens (Grades 9-12) for our Life Nights to share in faith, fun, food and friendship.

Kindly contact our Youth Minister Zephania: 905-830-2644 or zganl@archtoronto.org to join our events. Hope to see you there!

All adults are invited to join Fr. Ignacio and the Heralds of the Gospel this evening at 7 p.m. for "The Search," the second of seven sessions of our Parish Adult Formation Program.

See insert for details! Highly recommended for parents and guardians of students preparing for the Sacraments this year. This program is presented in the parish hall. Drop-ins welcome!

Browse our websites:

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

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

The Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession is also available on the first Friday of the month at St. Patrick's Church after the 9 a.m. Mass and St. Mary's Church after the 7 p.m. at Mass (during Eucharistic Adoration).

Society welcomes members

The Schomberg Horticultural Society is welcoming new members. Come and join this enthusiastic group of volunteers, whose mission it is to beautify the town you live in and educate its members in anything horticultural. Attend meetings with exciting speakers on every 4th Tuesday of the month, except for July, August, November and December.

Social time with refreshments follows every meeting. Participate in the much anticipated plant sale in May and the highlight of the year, the garden tour, on the last Sunday in June. It will feature amazing gardens and properties in and around Schomberg in our beautiful township of King. Single membership is \$20 and family membership is \$25. For more, email schomberghortsociety@gmail.com

Nobleton United Church By Nancy Hopkinson

You are welcome to join our small friendly group for Sunday worship at 11:15 a.m. with our new student minister Richard Gardner. Afterwards we gather for some refreshments and chat. It is a great way to get to know people.

The Community Singing Group practices in our church on Fridays at 2 pm. For more info, please contact Dennis Kowal - cell 416-550-5083, home 905-857-4033 or dennis5k@hotmail.com.

"Messy Baptism" is the theme of the next Messy Church on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 5 p.m. Messy Church is a fun way to learn about Bible stories. The activities are aimed at children from 2 years to young teenagers, accompanied by a responsible adult. There are 6 optional crafts (5 to 6 p.m.) and at 6 p.m., there is an interactive Bible story (to 6:15 p.m.) and then a meal. One of the activities is always cookie decorating. Please let me know if you are interested in bringing your children or grandchildren, as I need to have enough crafts and food for all. For more info, please contact me.

The next Seniors' lunch and entertainment is on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 11:30 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg. For more info, please read the "Scoop for Schomberg."

The famous DiFebo Pasta and Meatball Dinner with Caesar salad and a dessert of fruit salad, ice cream and a pizzelle cookie is Friday, Feb. 24 at 6:30 p.m. To reserve your seat, please contact Linda Olsen at 905-859-0442. The cost is \$22 per adult, and ages 5-12 years \$10, and children under 5 are free.

Our Zoom Coffee hour is Wednesday 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. We would love to have you drop in and say hello.

Our Annual General Meeting is on Sunday, Feb. 26. There is a joint service with Schomberg United Church at St. Mary's Magdalene Church at 11 a.m., with a pot luck lunch at noon (we recommend something other than dessert as there will be a large slab cake for dessert), and the AGM is at 12:45 p.m. Rev. Lisa Naumann will be present to represent Shining Water Regional Council.

There is a Zoom workshop celebrating P.I.E. Day (March 14, 7-8:30 p.m.). This is your chance to learn about 2-Spirit people. The special guest is Ozhawa Anung Kwe who will discuss some of their life story living as a brown Anishinaabe 2-Spirit person. Here is the link to sign up for the workshop. <https://shiningwatersregionalcouncil.ca/justice/social-justice/pie-day-resources/pie-day-registration/>

Nobleton United Church is at 6076

King Rd., Nobleton, about 6 buildings west of Hwy 27, north side of the King Rd. There is a large parking lot in the back. My contact info is 905-859-0761 or nancykhopkinson@gmail.com.

Nobleton Lions

Mark your calendar, and save the date! The Club announces a new fundraising Charity Poker night on Friday, Feb. 24, upstairs at the Dr. William Lacey Arena in Nobleton. Doors open at 6:30, and the tournament starts at 7:30. Please note that tickets will be sold in advance, and not at the door. For more info, or for tickets contact Gunther at 416-807-5469, or Rick at 416-859-1922.

The knitting and crocheting slippers initiative for Ronald McDonald Houses continues to move ahead. For followup details please contact Lion Carol at her office number, 905-951-0503.

We invite you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@nobletonlionclub), on Twitter (@NobletonLions), and on our website, by simply Googling 'Nobleton Lions' which will bring up the link to the site.

In the meantime, we still welcome prospective new members. You may join us as a guest at an upcoming meeting by contacting Lion Andrew at andrew.bevil@sanofi.com We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from Sept to June at the Community Hall, just north of the arena.

St. Alban's Church By John Arnott

It began its existence in the Bronze Age between two rivers, the Nera and the Serra, this now industrial city of Terni, as Nahars, a small settlement of the Naharti, a tribe of the Umbrian people in central Italy, long before the rise of the Romans. When it did fall under Roman control centuries later in the 3rd Century BC it became known as Interamna Nahartium, meaning place of the Naharti between the rivers. In time the village was established as an important walled municipium on the Via Flaminia, the main paved Roman road connecting Rome with northern Italy. The Germanic Lombards conquered Terni in the 8th Century AD and it was here in 742AD the Lombard king met with Pope Zachary in a small basilica, then the town's principal church, to arrange for the return of prisoners and territory taken by the Lombards with the signing of a 20-year peace treaty.

When Terni achieved city status a cathedral was built on the site of ruined pre-Christian temple but of it or its Romanesque replacement nothing remains to be seen above ground. The present structure on site dates from only the 1700s AD. In 1174 AD the city fell to another Germanic invader the Holy Roman Emperor, Frederick Barbarossa, and it was so badly damaged that it lost much of its importance. But in the 14th Century AD Terni began to make a comeback issuing its own constitution and rebuilding and enlarging its damaged walls.

Now the city threw in its lot with the nearby Papal States thus coming under the rule of the popes and in doing so became involved in the struggle to control central and northern Italy between Ghibellines supporters of the popes and the Guelphs who supported the still powerful Holy Roman emperors headquartered in Germany. As a result Terni's fortunes quickly declined. Further disasters struck the beleaguered city when plague and famine drastically reduced its population.

Then came the 1800s and the dawn of the Industrial Revolution when the city's fortunes steadily recovered as it took advantage of the nearby iron ore deposits. Slowly the once struggling city became Italy's Hamilton, a major producer and exporter of high quality steel. But unfortunately this success would bring more disaster, World War II, and Terni's mining facilities, steel mills, foundries and industries were relentlessly bombed by the allies.


During August 1943 the ancient city was devastated with nearly 80% of it being destroyed.

Why all this about Terni? Well mid-winter in central Italy is grey, cold, wet and in a word dreary so considering this along with the fact that Terni claims no appreciable ancient ruins Roman or otherwise, no Romanesque or soaring Gothic cathedral with irreplaceable stained glass windows no mediaeval castle or fortress, things that bring in flocks of tourists.

Why then do they come and they do especially in cold rainy February? The answer notes the St. Alban's Anglican community in Nobleton, is to be found in that small ancient basilica, host to those long ago peace talks, tucked on a now side street Via Papa Zaccaria miraculously escaping disaster after disaster. And where under its high altar lie the mortal remains of Terni's first bishop - the martyred St. Valentine.


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Dr. Michael Paluch, Deputy Head of School, Director of Academics



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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

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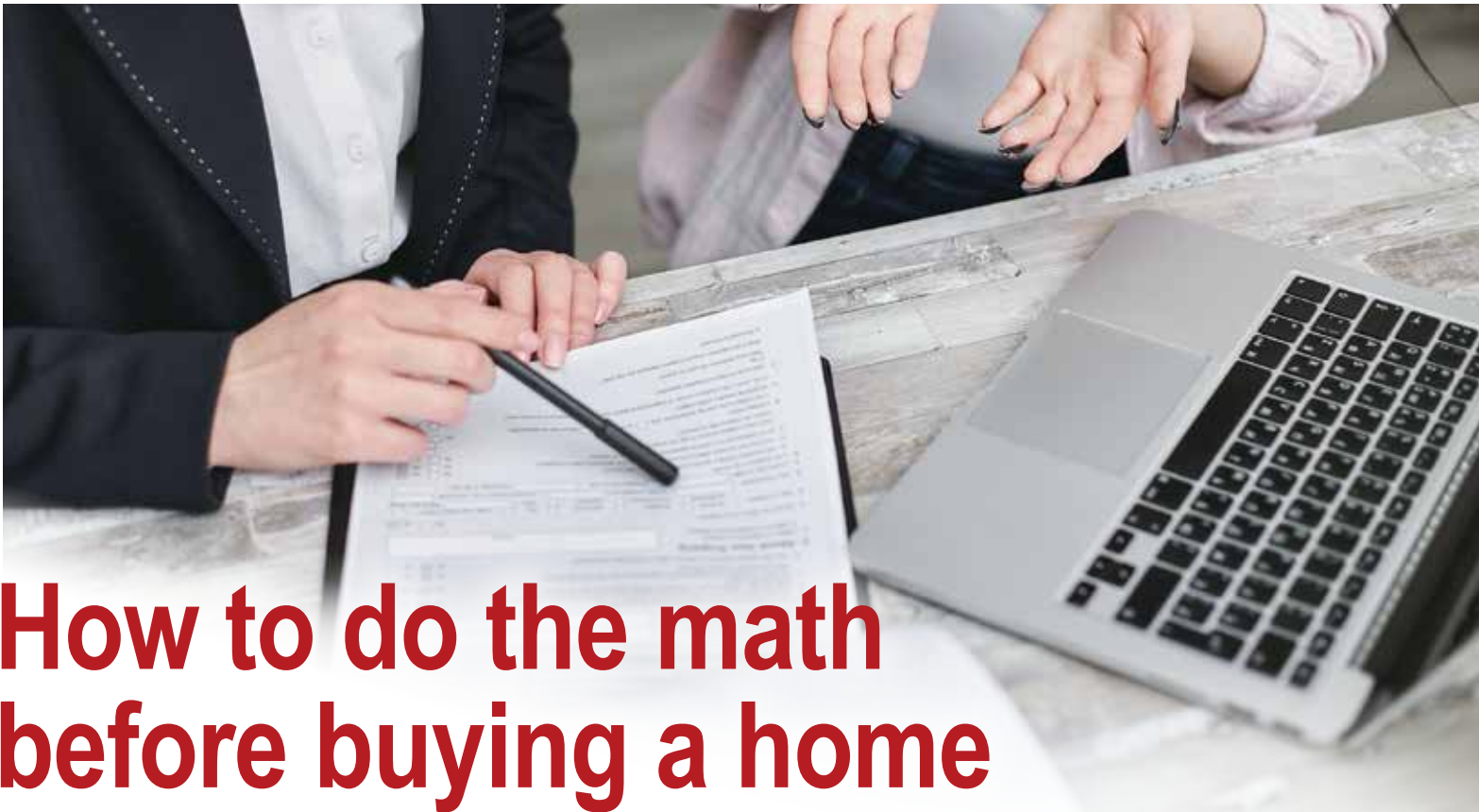
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How to do the math before buying a home

(NC) The high interest rates we are seeing make borrowing more costly. What you can afford may have changed in recent months. So, if you're thinking of buying a home, make sure to assess your financial situation and compare different options to see what makes sense for you.

Here are a few tips:

UNDERSTAND MORTGAGE OPTIONS

As a first step, compare the different types of mortgages available. Mortgage lenders offer different options such as variable or fixed interest rates and open or closed mortgages. Each have their own pros and cons. For instance, consider if you're comfortable with your interest rate potentially rising. If not, a fixed-interest-rate option may be better for you. As well, with a closed-term mortgage, there are usually limits on how much extra money you can put toward your mortgage each year. But the interest rate is usually lower than on an open mortgage.

ORDER A COPY OF YOUR CREDIT REPORT

A potential lender will look at your credit report before approving you for a mortgage. Before you start shopping around for a mortgage, order a copy of your credit report and make sure it doesn't contain any errors. If you don't have a good credit score, a mortgage lender may refuse to approve your mortgage or decide to approve your mortgage for a lower amount or at a higher interest rate.

ASSESS WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD

Before you lock in a mortgage, compare different financial scenarios by running through different mortgage amounts and features. This will help you see the big picture and understand how much money your entire mortgage will cost. The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada has an online mortgage calculator that's not trying to sell you on anything. You can see what your payments would be like if you made them monthly as opposed to bi-weekly or how they would change with different down-payment amounts. You can also see how different amortization periods would change how much interest you'd pay in the long run.

CONSIDER OTHER COSTS

It's important to keep in mind that there are other costs beyond your mortgage when you buy a home. These can include property taxes, legal fees and home inspection fees. Home insurance fees can also add up, as do costs for repairs you may need to do in the future. Be sure to consider how all these expenses fit as you figure out your home-buying budget.

Find more tips and financial tools to help you plan for a mortgage at canada.ca/money.

www.newscanada.com

STRESS-FREE TIPS FOR MOVING

(NC) Moving day can bring a mix of emotions, from the sadness of leaving your old home and neighbourhood and the joy of what your future holds. With all that going on, it's important to try to minimize the stress of the actual moving process. Here are some tips to help streamline your next move.

DON'T WAIT

It's never too early to plan your move once you know the date. Start decluttering right away so you'll have less to pack, and be sure to promptly secure people and vehicles to help – whether that's confirming the date for your buddy's truck or booking a team of professionals.

FUEL UP

Moving day can be so busy that it's easy to forget to pause for meals. But you know it's important to eat so you can keep up your strength and stay hydrated.

DRESS RIGHT

All the bending and lifting you'll be doing on moving day can put a real strain on your body, so proper clothes and well-fitting, supportive shoes are crucial. A pair of insoles like Dr. Scholl's Tri-Comfort Insoles or Custom Fit Orthotics can provide the cushioning and support you need to move all day, pain free.

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MARKET UPDATE – JANUARY 2023	
AURORA AVERAGE SALES PRICE \$1,498,266 AVERAGE 22 DAYS ON MARKET NUMBER OF SALES 32 72 NEW LISTINGS SALE TO LIST RATIO 96% YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE -10.34%	KING AVERAGE SALES PRICE \$2,035,000 AVERAGE 44 DAYS ON MARKET NUMBER OF SALES 9 42 NEW LISTINGS SALE TO LIST RATIO 96% YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE -12.32%
<small>*The statistics provided were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's Market Watch JANUARY 2023. Summary of Existing Home Transactions for All Home Types JANUARY 2023 + Focus on the MLS Home Price Index for Composite for York Region's Aurora and King</small>	
Inventory overall still remains low, despite the pace of transactions. Buyer demand is picking up and the number of showings are increasing on nicely appointed homes. Open Houses are generating significant traffic again. Homes that are well appointed and show well are still obtaining top dollar, selling in an average number of days on market. We are encouraging Sellers to be listing ahead of the spring rush to capitalize on low inventory levels. There are a strong number of Buyers who did not secure a home in the last quarter of 2022 and are actively looking. We are encouraging Buyers to be speaking to their trusted real estate advisors and mortgage agents to ensure pre-approvals are in place, as multiple Offers are not uncommon due to low supply.	
<small>– Provided by Key Advantage Team Royal LePage RCR Realty Susie Strom, Sales Representative www.KeyAdvantage.ca 905-836-1212 info@KeyAdvantage.ca * Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract.</small>	

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New year, new changes to GTA Real Estate

WITH THE NEW YEAR COMES NEW RULES – as it pertains to Ontario Real Estate – by now, you may have heard about the implementation of the Foreign Buyers Ban, as well as the Vacant Home Tax. Our goal at the Michele Denniston Real Estate Group is always to keep you informed of any changes to the GTA Real Estate market and how they affect you.

FOREIGN BUYER BAN

Formally known as the Prohibition on the Purchase of Residential Property By Non-Canadians Act, this ban came into effect on January 1st, 2023. Simply described, the purpose of this two-year federal ban on foreign homebuyers is to temporarily reduce foreign demand for Canadian real estate in the hopes of improving the housing crisis in Canada and ensuring Canadians have more access to purchasing homes.

Some key points:

- The ban DOES NOT affect foreign buyers who entered into agreements of purchase and sale prior to January 1st, 2023.
- The ban DOES apply to foreign buyers signing pre-construction agreements of purchase and sale during the ban (January 1st, 2023 to December 31st, 2024, inclusively)
- The ban DOES NOT apply to any areas outside a Census Agglomeration or a Census Metropolitan area. This means that properties situated in less populated areas are not included in the ban – as it is meant to exclude recreational properties, mainly cottages, from the ban. However, GTA's more populated cottage country areas, such as Collingwood,

Wasaga Beach & Kawartha Lakes ARE included within the ban.

- The ban DOES NOT apply to residential properties with 4 or more units, such as quadplexes, apartment buildings etc.

Consequences for contravening or helping someone to contravene the foreign buyer ban include a fine of up to \$10,000. This applies to buyers, real estate agents, builders, lawyers and even sellers. The court may also order the sale of the property purchased under the Foreign Buyer Ban.

TORONTO'S VACANT HOME TAX

The City of Toronto's Vacant Home Tax (VHT) also came into effect in 2023. The purpose of this tax is to increase the available supply of housing in the city by discouraging owners of residential properties from leaving their homes or condos unoccupied. Homeowners are required to submit a Declaration of Occupancy Status via the City of Toronto website by no later than February 28th, 2023 (extended from the original deadline of February 2nd, 2023). Toronto homeowners will be subject to this tax if they choose to leave their residential properties vacant. The City of Toronto has stated that revenues generated by this tax will be allocated towards affordable housing initiatives.

Exemptions to the tax include:

- Properties that are the principal residence of the owner
- Properties that are the principal residence of a tenant or permitted occupant

- Properties that qualify for an exemption (i.e. death of the homeowner, a homeowner in long-term care or hospital, repairs or renovations, to name a few)

Working with a knowledgeable and reputable real estate group that is aware of the recent changes in GTA real estate can save you time and money. If you have questions about the recent changes or how we can better assist you with your real estate goals in 2023 and beyond, visit us at 50 Doctor Kay Dr. Unit C-22 in Schomberg, or contact Michele directly at (416) 433-8316 or michele@micheledenniston.com! We are committed to providing you with expert, reputable and top-tier real estate service; we look forward to connecting with you soon!



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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS



(NC) One great thing about building a custom home on land you already own is the freedom to design it to your personal tastes.

But it also comes with significant risks. What if the contract between you and the builder breaks down before your home is finished? The financial losses and stress from a broken contract can quickly turn your custom home dream into a nightmare.

Doing things right from the get-go is the best way to protect yourself. Here are a few important tips to keep in mind before you sign any contracts:

HIRE A LICENSED BUILDER

Does the builder you're thinking of hiring say they don't need a license? If so, that's an instant red flag. The truth is that all builders of new homes in Ontario must be licensed with the Home Construction Regulatory Authority (HCRA). The HCRA ensures builders have the required skills to build and sell new homes and holds them to professional standards of conduct. They also manage an online provincial builder directory that you can use to confirm the builder you're interested in is licensed. Make sure your builder is licensed before you enter into any agreements.

MAKE SURE YOUR CONTRACT IS WATERTIGHT

It's easy to get carried away during negotiations with your custom home builder and lose sight of reality. One of the biggest mistakes you can make is to rely on verbal agreements. These can easily fall apart and make it difficult to prove what was agreed on. As a rule of thumb, make sure everything is in writing. Your contract should clearly state what you're getting, how much it's going to cost and what each person is responsible for. To further protect yourself, have a real estate lawyer prepare, or at least review, your written contract before you sign it.

UNDERSTAND YOUR WARRANTY COVERAGE

Does your builder tell you that you don't need the new home warranty? That's yet another red flag.

Almost all new build homes in Ontario must be enrolled into the province's new home warranty program. As a buyer of a "contract home," the warranty covers you against financial loss if the relationship between you and the builder breaks down before your home has been completed. It also provides coverage on work and materials for a total of seven years after you move in. Take some time to understand the warranty protection so you can be prepared if you need it.

Find more information at tarion.com.

www.newscanada.com

How to green your home on a budget

(NC) It's getting harder to ignore climate change as we witness more extreme weather every year. Although it's a massive problem with no single solution, there are many ways to play a small part in a greener world – and they don't have to break the bank.

Here are a few ideas:

CLOSE THE GAPS

For just a few bucks, re-caulking your windows or adding weather stripping to cover the crack under your doors can dramatically reduce your energy use and keep your home warm.

TURN DOWN THE HEAT

You're unlikely to notice if the heat's one or two degrees lower, and even that small shift can make a major difference to the energy you use. Plus, people usually sleep better in cooler temperatures.

PLAN YOUR MEALS AND LOVE LEFTOVERS

Food waste is a major culprit when it comes to your carbon footprint, and Canadians are big offenders. You'll not only help the planet, but you'll also save money by planning out your menu and repurposing extra servings.

SET UP A SHOWER TIMER

Avoid water waste by putting a timer in your shower. You might be surprised how much quicker you are once you can see time ticking away while sudsing your hair or after you've turned bath time into a competition for speediest clean. A low-flow shower-head is a good idea too.

USE REBATES AND CREDITS

Look for programs to help you cut costs for more significant updates. For example, the Climate Action Incentive payment is a quarterly payment for residents of certain provinces that use the federal government's carbon pricing system. You can use these payments to help you make some simple changes.

Find more information at canada.ca/cai-payment.

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2023 Projected Market Forecast

Real estate experts are projecting the York Region real estate market will rebound and experience a slight price increase even as the housing market declines slowly in much of the GTA.

SUPPORTING THIS FORECAST, TRREB just released Market Sales Stats for January, and prices were up in Aurora, Newmarket, King, Markham, Stouffville & East Gwillimbury.

While the volume of homes trading hands has dropped steeply, home prices have held on with relatively modest declines. We see this as a continuing trend in 2023.

Canada's housing market closed out in 2022 much as expected. Activity levels were down sharply compared to the hyper-charged state we experienced during the pandemic, with home prices flattening or showing modest declines.

While the red-hot market conditions are behind us, there remains a widespread shortage of homes in Canada that cannot be offset by temporary cooling demand.

Many sidelined buyers are waiting patiently for the bottom to be revealed. Once interest rates stabilize – and consumers adapt to their new normal, many of today's sidelined buyers will be back sooner than many analysts are predicting.

In an era characterized by the unusual, the current market correction has not followed historical patterns.

While the volume of homes trading hands has dropped steeply, home prices have held on with relatively modest declines. We see this as a continuing trend.

Several important factors will continue to support home prices in Canada, including high levels of employment, strong household savings, and growing household formation – as well as record immigration rates.

2022 saw the largest number of people ever welcomed in a single year in our nation's history. Ottawa says it plans to welcome up to half a million new residents each year for the next three years.

While demand has slowed in this rising interest rate environment, we know that many families are waiting on the sidelines for conditions to stabilize. Soon enough, these buyers will return to the market and will be met with the realities of low inventory and much competition. While we do not expect the same level of frenzied demand seen at the height of the pandemic, buyers moving forward will put price pressure on our limited supply of available homes.

A stress test is an effective tool that has been successful in ensuring Canadians can withstand higher lending rates and tighter economic conditions. It is as a result of such policies that Canada has the historically low rate of mortgage defaults it does. Going forward, however, with interest rates likely to hold steady, Royal LePage believes this is the right time to ease up on such tight restrictions and allow more Canadians the opportunity to enter the housing market. With home prices modestly cheaper today than at the height of the pandemic boom, offsetting some of the impacts of rising rates,

and household savings remain above long-term norms, make it easier to overcome down payment hurdles.

Much focus has been directed at the negative impact of rising rates; there has been far less discussion on factors supporting home prices.

The supply of homes for sale must exceed demand in order for prices to drop materially. Canada is struggling with an acute, long-term housing supply shortage. Smaller household sizes mean more housing units are needed per capita than in the past. Pent-up demand is growing from buyers who have the ability to transact but have chosen not to in these turbulent times.

Royal LePage issued its 2023 Market Survey Forecast projecting that the aggregate price of a home in Canada will decrease a modest 1.0 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2023, compared to the same quarter in 2022.

On a quarter-over-quarter basis, the national aggregate home price is expected to flatten in Q2 before beginning to modestly recover over the remainder of the year. At the same time, year-over-year comparisons are expected to show progressively less price decline as the year goes on.

While home prices nationally are forecast to see modest quarterly gains in the third and fourth quarters of 2023, values are expected to remain lower than the same periods in 2022 throughout the year. We expect year-over-year comparisons to show progressively less price decline as the year goes on, with small week-to-week improvements in the third and fourth quarters, allowing Canadian home values to end 2023 essentially flat to where we are today.

While home prices have come down from the record highs recorded in the first half of 2022, they remain

well above pre-pandemic levels. The projected aggregate price of a home in Canada in the fourth quarter of 2023 is expected to sit 15.0 per cent above Q4 of 2020 and 18.4 per cent above Q4 of 2019.

Without a significant increase in housing supply, a return of buyers to the market, some driven by very high rental rates, should start to put upward pressure on prices again. And, in a tight-inventory market, sellers will remain hesitant to list their properties if they are unable to find a move-up home to purchase.

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JANUARY MARKET STATISTICS (2023)

Real estate experts are projecting the York Region real estate market will rebound and experience a slight price increase even as the housing market declines slowly in much of the GTA as evidenced in the January Sales Stats.



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5 EASY DIY HOME IMPROVEMENTS

(NC) Most of us want a home we feel proud of. Here are five ways to spruce up your home this season and make it a safe sanctuary – even if you're a total do-it-yourself beginner.

1 RESEAL WINDOWS, DOORS AND FOUNDATION

A tight building envelope, without unnecessary air gaps, not only boosts the energy efficiency of your home and helps you save on utility bills, it can also help prevent water damage to your home in the event of a flood. You can purchase a caulking tool from a hardware store and get to work.

2 TEST YOUR SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors can help save lives. But they can only do that if they're in proper working order. It's recommended that you check,

test and clean them regularly. You should also replace the backup batteries a couple of times a year. You should also have a fire extinguisher in your kitchen in case of a fire. Make sure that it's easily accessible and that everyone in your household knows where it is located. Periodically check the pressure dial to make sure the unit is charged and inspect for any damage.

3 PRUNE AND PLAN YOUR LANDSCAPING

Outdoor spaces offer plenty of DIY opportunities, and they don't all have to be complicated. Simply maintaining healthy plant cover and trimming trees and bushes neatly away from your home can really improve your curb appeal. This work also helps prevent damage to your home from flying branches in wind or ice storms and may help slow the path of a fire.

4 REPLACE YOUR FILTERS

Your heating and cooling system requires clean filters roughly every six to 12 months – maybe more

often depending on the type of filter and other factors like pet hair and dander. Check other appliances like your clothes dryer and range hood for filters too. This simple home improvement benefits your indoor air quality and may help prevent accidental fires. Replacing a filter requires no special skills or YouTube tutorials, simply a trip to the hardware store for a fresh one. Or, if the filter is reusable, give it a good vacuum, wash and dry.

5 LEARN PLUMBING 101

While plumbing emergencies should always be left to a professional, a simple leak in your faucet or toilet is often appropriate for a home improvement beginner. There are lots of tutorials online to walk you through the process. It's also a good idea to replace an aging sump pump if you have one and to add backflow valves to basement drains and toilets.

Find more ways to improve your home and prevent emergencies at getprepared.ca.

www.newscanada.com

Protect your home and personal safety while you're away

(NC) After a couple of months cooped up indoors, many of us are ready to get on the move. Whether we're visiting friends and family or simply seeking warmer temperatures, here are some tips to keep yourself, your loved ones and your home safe while you're away.

PLAN FOR YOUR MAIL

A pile of packages outside your door is a clear sign to would-be thieves that no one is home. Ask a trusted neighbour to collect it or get Canada Post to hold your mail until you return. Place a temporary pause on any newspaper subscriptions you have. This gives you peace of mind knowing that nothing will pile up while you're gone.

ADD ENTRYWAY CAMERAS

Installing cameras at your front and back entrances allows you to easily check in on what's happening outside your home. For a simple and effective setup, look for an all-in-one option like Telus SmartHome Security, which includes 24/7 monitoring and real-time alerts so you know if something's up, as well as automation for lights, heating and devices. Security signs on your front lawn and cameras are also known to deter criminals since they don't want to risk exposure and getting caught.

TIME YOUR LIGHTS

It's obvious no one's home when the lights don't turn on for hours or days on end, especially in the dark winter months. Set up your most-used lights on timers to go on and off at typical times of day so no one can tell you're not there.

TRY WEARABLE TECH

Apart from the home, consider upgrading your family's personal safety with new technology woven into wearable devices. Telus SmartWear Security for instance includes wearable personal safety devices disguised as stylish necklaces, bracelets and keychains with a hidden panic button that will share your location and can instantly connect you with contacts or help dispatch emergency services with a double click.

REVISIT YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA APPROACH

You may love to post about special occasions on social media, but it's important to be careful of how much you share and when. Before you depart, look through your feed for any posts that give out personal information about your habits and your home – even a street name or house number. Consider waiting until you get home to post about vacation activities, and be sure to disable geotagging in your settings.

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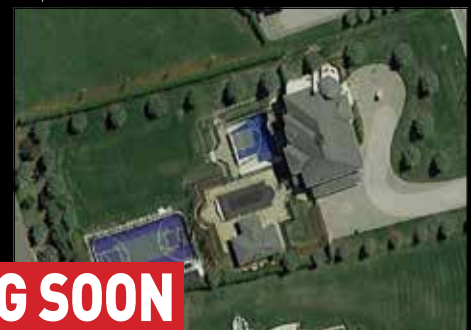


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Is mortgage protection worth considering?

(NC) Moving into a new home or renovating your current one can be an exciting time with many decisions – from renovations and upgrades, to landscaping and furniture selection. But in tough economic times it can feel risky.

And while these decisions are important, a key consideration is how to help ensure you can keep your home for the long run.

As a homebuyer, you probably already know about home insurance, but you may not know that there are optional coverage choices which may help protect your ability to remain in your home in case of a covered health event.

Optional mortgage critical illness and life insurance, like TD Mortgage Protection, can pay down or pay off the remainder of your mortgage balance in case of certain health events, so it may be worth considering.

According to a 2022 TD survey, almost half of Canadian respondents reported their homes as the most important asset they have. And just over 30 per cent of respondents said they would be willing to cash out their investment assets to save their home in the event something unexpected happens, including a covered critical illness.

But what if they didn't have to worry about that?

Find more information at td.com/mortgageprotection.

www.newscanada.com



Tips to find a more affordable place to live

(NC) We all want a safe and comfortable place to call home – but for a great many Canadians it's a serious challenge to find somewhere that won't break the bank.

Here are some tried-and-true tips and tricks to help you find a great place within your budget:

ASK YOUR NETWORK

You never know who might have a lead on a home. Put the word out that you're looking for a place and see what comes back. What's more, if you hear of a place through a mutual connection with the landlord, your application might get priority with the help of your contact's good word.

WATCH THE MARKET

Keep an eye out for listings you would consider for several months before you plan to begin your search in earnest. With more time, you'll have a sense of where the market is at and what a good price looks like, and you will know if a place is worth it when the time comes.

SEE IT IN PERSON

Photos tell a lot about a place, but they don't mean everything. The spot without photos may be hiding something or perhaps it's a hidden gem no one else thought to check out. Just be sure to never rent a home sight unseen. If you aren't available, send a trusted friend or family member to view the property in your stead to avoid a rental scam.

WORK ON YOUR CREDIT

Landlords want to know you can pay, so many prioritize rental applications with a great credit score. It's the same with most mortgage brokers.

If you're thinking about moving in the future, request your credit report, look for any errors and work to improve your number. It will be worth it when you move. Good to know: If you request it, the Canadian credit bureaus must mail you your credit report for free one time a year.

APPLY FOR BENEFITS

There's a new one-time top up to the Canada Housing Benefit available for eligible lower-income renters. If you made \$20,000 or less as an individual, or \$35,000 or less as family in 2021, and paid at least at least 30 per cent on rent, you might be eligible. You don't need to receive other housing benefits to get the \$500 top-up payment, and it's not taxable, so you won't need to report it on your 2022 tax return.

You can quickly find out if you're eligible and apply for the benefit online at canada.ca/one-time-housing-benefit.

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Taking a unique path when completing renovations



By Julien Laurion
The Big Tuna of Real Estate

When considering upgrades to your home in Aurora and King City, it's important to keep-in-mind that not all upgrades are created equal, and some unique upgrades can hold your home back from getting top dollar. Here are a few unique upgrades to consider:

1 OVER-THE-TOP RENOVATIONS:

While you may love your unique design elements, such as a themed bathroom or a boldly patterned wall, these elements can be distracting and off-putting to potential buyers in the Aurora and King City areas. Stick to neutral colours and classic styles that will appeal to the widest range of buyers.

2 PERSONALIZED DÉCOR:

Personalized décors, such as collections of figurines or sports memorabilia, can detract from the overall appearance of your home. Consider removing these items and replacing them with more neutral décor.

3 OVER-THE-TOP OUTDOOR FEATURES:

Outdoor features, such as a hot tub or a swimming pool, can be expensive and difficult to maintain. While these features may be appealing to some buyers, they can also be a turn-off to others in the Aurora and King City areas.

4 NON-STANDARD FLOOR PLANS:

Homes with non-standard floor plans, such as a split-level or a multi-level, can be difficult to sell in Aurora and King City. These homes often have

awkward spaces that are difficult to furnish and decorate. If you have a non-standard floor plan, consider making cosmetic changes to make it more appealing to buyers.

5 UNUSUAL OR EXCESSIVE UPGRADES:

Making too many upgrades or upgrades that are unusual for the area can be a double-edged sword. On the one hand, it can increase the value of your home. On the other hand, if the upgrades are too extensive or too high-end for the neighbourhood, it can make your home stand out in a negative way. Stick to upgrades that are in line with the homes in your area.

6 LACK OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY:

Energy efficiency is becoming increasingly important to buyers in Aurora and King City. If your home is not energy efficient, it may hold you back from getting top dollar. Consider upgrading your insulation, windows, and HVAC system to improve energy efficiency.

In conclusion, while upgrades can help increase the value of your home in Aurora and King City, it's important to consider the type of upgrade and its

impact on the overall appeal of your home. Some unique upgrades, while interesting, can hold your home back from getting top dollar.

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



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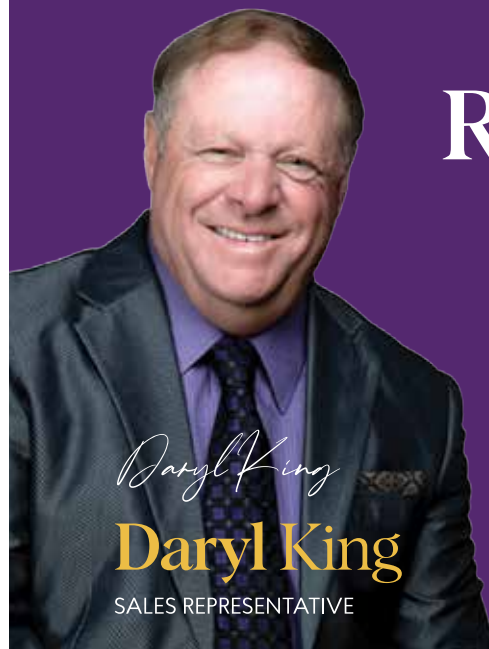
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*As per REMAX stats for Large Residential Teams, March 2022. Not intended to solicit clients currently under contract with another Brokerage.