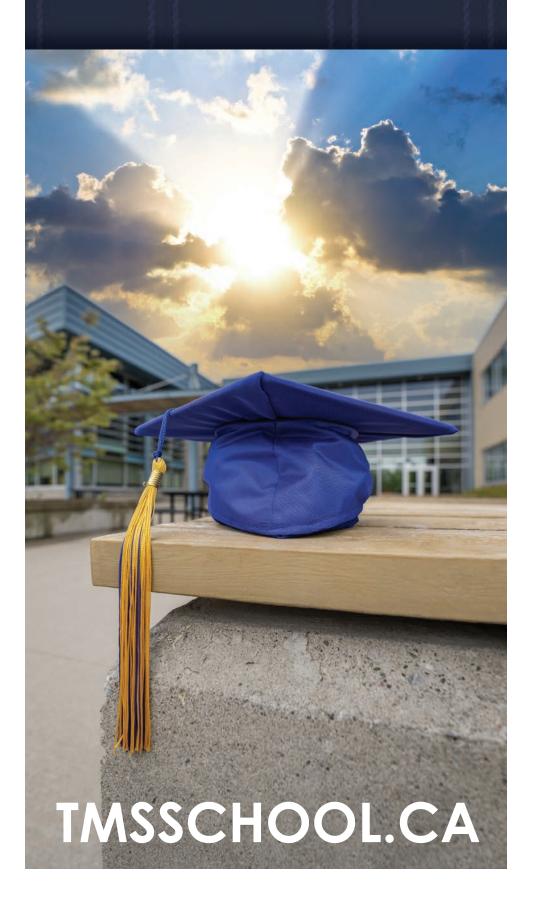


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Read more inside ...







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Thursday, June 29, 2023

Volume 50, Issue 26





Strong support for tourney

Councillors David Boyd, Jordan Cescolini, Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Ritson were on hand for the Andrew Mizzoni Charity Golf Classic. The tournament, which has raised almost \$550,000 over the past 20 years, donates proceeds to pediatric cancer research at SickKids. For more, turn to page 19.

Pressures pushing up King's 2024 budget

By Mark Pavilons **Editor**

As King prepares for its 2024 budget deliberations, staff are warning councilors that next year's increase cold be in the 4% to 5% range.

However, that's just an estimate at this point, and staff have been directed to prepare options for council's consideration to "reduce and offset" the 2024 tax increase through service level adjustments.

Councillors, at the June 12 meeting, heard from Treasurer Peggy Tollett on the timing of budget talks.

For 2024, staff will have to account for new expenses, ones that are required as mandated by provincial legislation. For example, if there is a federal or provincial mandate to carry out a particular service within and/or for the community, this may require the Township to incur costs that need to be captured within the budget.

Some of the areas forcing costs to rise include labour. This is directly linked to the existing staffing and includes negotiated union contract adjustments, economic adjustments, job rate progression and benefit adjustments such as statutory deductions (CPP, EI, etc.).

Inflation also tends to increase prices for services and commodities the municipality purchases. For example, if the cost of construction material has significantly increased, the budget will need to account for additional ex-

Utility rates also rise annually facility.

To offset rising costs, staff always look for efficiencies - adjustments will be used to capture cost savings or improvements. For example, a decrease in the use of office supplies as a result of moving services online would be considered an efficiency to be captured. Departments continually strive to find base operating budget efficiencies without a reduction to the current service levels.

See 'Staff' on Page 3







REGULAR **FEATURES**

Editorial Page 4 **Business** Page 8 Sports Page 19 Classifieds Page 24



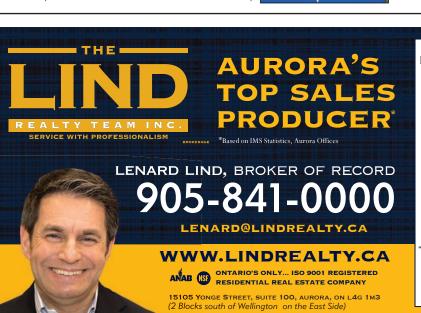
Long-term changes to Blue Box are coming.

See Page 3



New recruits for King Fire welcomed.

See Page 7



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King Township

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Thursday, July 6

6 p.m. – Heritage Advisory Committee (Hybrid Meeting – Not Live-Streamed)

If you wish to participate in the meeting virtually, register by emailing cpang@king.ca by 12 pm (noon) on the day of the meeting.

Wednesday, July 19

6 p.m. – Committee of Adjustment

Hybrid meeting in-person at the King Township Municipal Centre at 2585 King Rd, virtually by telephone and live streamed.

Visit king.ca/coameetings for more information.

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

BID NOTICES

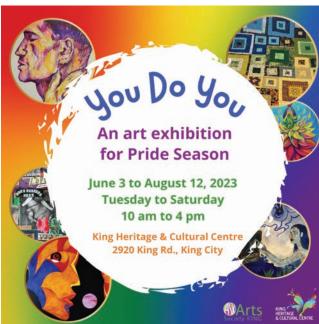
For all bid opportunities, please visit https://king.bidsandtenders.ca/Module/Tenders/en

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





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PUBLIC NOTICES

<u>Traffic Disruption Notice</u> <u>Main Street, Schomberg</u>

Please be advised that Main Street between Dr. Kay Drive and Church Street will be temporarily closed for the:

Sidewalkable Saturday

Saturday, July 22nd 2023 Between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

This portion of the road will be accessible for directly affected residents to allow for entry into their properties. Non-local vehicle traffic will be required to take alternative routes during this period. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated during this time.

For more information contact Mercedes Lato at mlato@king.ca or (905-833-5321, ext. 1049).



Dated at the Township of King June 29, 2023

Be a good neighbour

Clean Yards By-law 2016-68 sets out minimum standards for properties in the Township including some rules on litter, waste and property maintenance to help ensure that properties are safe, clean and attractive in relation to adjacent properties.

Reminder to Owners and Tenants:

- All properties must be kept free and clear of long grass and weeds.
- All properties are to be free of garbage, litter, yard waste, standing water, storage bins and demolition project material, and construction equipment.
- All properties need to be clear of derelict vehicles, including vehicles that are not currently licensed for operation.

The Clean Yards By-law is the Township's tool for addressing and responding to concerns about property maintenance. Bylaw Enforcement Officers work with property owners and tenants through education to achieve voluntary compliance, but alternatively orders may be issued to obtain compliance with the by-law standards.

For more information on Clean Yards please visit our website at www.king.ca.



UPCOMING EVENTS





Please see more King Twp. notices on page 3

King planning to take the lead on blue box program

By Mark Pavilons **Editor**

The blue box program in Ontario is going through a transition, and municipalities are asked to take the lead in taking over the program by 2025.

The current Blue Box program, administered by Stewardship Ontario on behalf of stewards and operated by municipalities, will transition to the new framework of full producer responsibility between July 1, and Dec. 31, 2025.

The Township of King is scheduled to transition on Dec. 31, 2025, and staff is seeking delegated authority to negotiate and/or execute any agreements between York Region's northern six local municipalities (N6) and Producer Responsibility Organizations, to exercise available contract extensions through the current waste contract with GFL, and to negotiate and execute an amendment to the GFL contract to ensure continuity of collection services.

The regulation establishes the transition of the current Blue Box Program to full producer responsibility, making producers of Blue Box material financially and operationally responsible for the end-of-life management of their products and/or packaging. The transition schedule indicates that all Ontario municipalities will transition between July 1 and Dec. 31, 2025. Transition will occur through the province gradually with different geographical areas transitioning at various times.

York Region, including all nine lower-tier municipalities, will transition to ated into the contract. In addition, the

full producer responsibility on Dec. 31, 2025. Residents will continue to receive uninterrupted blue box collection services throughout the transition period.

Under the Blue Box Regulation, blue box collection will become the responsibility of the producers through a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). A PRO is an organization established to contract with producers to provide collection, management and administrative services to help producers meet their regulatory obligations under the Blue Box Regulation.

As the Blue Box collection system administrator, CMO is managing the procurement of curbside collection, depot collection, public space collection, promotion and education, and receiving facilities.

Given the extensive scope of work and limited timeline to implement a province-wide collection system, CMO presented a standard offer to municipalities to provide residence and facility collection service during their transition period. As the Township of King is set to transition at the end of the transition schedule, the Township will not be affected by transition.

The Township of King is part of a shared waste collection contract between the Northern Six municipalities of Gwillimbury, and Newmarket, King, Georgina, Whitchurch-Stouffville, and GFL Environmental Inc. (GFL). In anticipation of these regulatory changes, termination clauses allowing the N6 to terminate the contract were negoti-



collection contract has two 12-month extension options, at the discretion of

Collectively, N6 staff support transition of the Blue Box program to producers. PROs will be responsible for securing their own service provider(s) for residential Blue Box collection as well as for providing containers, promotion, education, and customer service.

The N6 has two broad options for collection of the other waste streams (garbage, organics, yard waste, metal items, and bulky items).

Staff recommend pursuing the option of exercising available extensions and amend the current Blue Box contract.

While fees paid to GFL for continuing solid waste collection services may increase (in line with the current contract), annual total contractual costs are expected to decrease with the discontinuation of blue box collection within the contract Township of King. Staff are seeking delegated authority to negotiate an amendment on behalf of the N6 to waste collection contract.

Details about what the Blue Box collection program will look like post-transition are largely unknown at this time.

Township staff are requesting delegated authority for the Director of Public Works to negotiate and execute agreements with Circular Materials Ontario and Producer Responsibility Organizations for all works related to Blue Box service continuity. As soon as details are available, staff will bring an information report to council to detail the new service levels being provided by the PRO.

Due to the mix of residential and commercial buildings in the Township's village centres and hamlets, staff recommend maintaining recycling collection in these areas in order to maintain current collection service levels. The N6 are in alignment with this approach as other N6 municipalities are proposing to continue Blue Box collection services for their small businesses and BIAs.

The exact cost to continue to service these locations will be included in the negotiations with the N6 waste collection contractor (GFL).

Providing municipal waste collection services to IC&I establishments is not considered a responsibility of Ontario municipalities. Although collection practices and service levels can vary amongst municipalities, municipalities are not legislatively required to provide waste collection services to IC&I establishments.

Staff will also be conducting a comprehensive review of the bylaw to ensure information reflects current waste collection program requirements and will bring a revised bylaw to council prior to transition.

Staff hopes to mitigate impacts

From Front Page

Pre-approved Council initiatives can carry over from year to year. One big example is the new Township Wide Recreation Centre (TWRC), which will impact future budgets for several years.

The Township recoups some of its costs through recovery related fee increases.

Some programs may need to be curtailed or cut to maintain costs.

Staff noted the 2024 Capital Plan will be reviewed and amended as required as part of the overall budget approval process for Operating and Capital programs. Council will be asked to approve only the 2024 budget and forecast commitments for term of Council projects (2023-2026).

Based on a preliminary analysis, staff identified the following tax levy budget pressures for 2023 which will carry-forward into the 2024 budget cy-

- Inflation currently estimated at 4.4%
- Fuel price and Utility increases continue from 2023
- Growth pressures with increase in development in King City and Nobleton
- Increase in insurance rates between 15-20% based on previous 3 years actual expenses.
- Increase in base level funding for the Town Wide Recreation Centre (TWRC) operating budget for 2024 for \$253,530 to establish the full annualized funding target of \$934,060.
 - Estimates for Labour and Benefits.
- Operating impact from previous approved capital projects for increased infrastructure added (i.e. parks).
 - Increase in funding allocation for

the Growth and Infrastructure (Capital Tax Levy) Reserve Fund and the Infrastructure Reserve Fund of \$250,000 per vear.

- · Potential Increase to staff complement in 2024.
- Impacts to the paving strategy results.
- · Additional Climate Change initia-
- · Asset Management and its funding requirements to meet legislative requirements.

Staff said all of this may lead to a budget impact of between 4% and 5%. The new Corporate Strategic Plan from 2023-2026 will need to be fully assessed as part of the 2024 Budget to better understand and prioritize financial requirements throughout the term of

"It is important to note the Township has strived to maintain budgets with tax levy increases far below inflation for several years. This has been accomplished largely through innovation and modernization that have driven efficiencies. Township staff are dedicated to continuing on this journey, but it is recognized that low hanging fruit has been harvested and with new regulatory and growth pressures it is clear that this approach is no longer sustainable," staff reported.

To mitigate the increases, staff will look at prioritizing programs, leveraging grant funding from senior levels of government and using reserve funds from the Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund if needed.

This past February, council passed the 2023 budget, which carried a 4.95% increase for taxpayers. That translated to an average tax hike of \$285 for the year (based on a \$1-million assessment).

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COMMUNITY SERVICES







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

Unclench and enjoy the simple pleasures!

Imagine this: a man and his dog, sitting on a sidewalk bench on a pleasant Saturday afternoon.

The little pup, whose adventures in the real world are limited, stayed close by the man's side, watching as each car and person passed by.

It was a lot for the little one to take

For the man, he held his pup tight and enjoyed the warm breezes. He soaked up the "incredible lightness of being." The man was reminded of other pleasant bench experiences, mostly with his best half watching boats inch by in the channel at their favourite re-

It's funny how a somewhat uneventful moment can be so fulfilling. It may have been a picture-postcard scene, but there was no one to capture it, or even make some quick sketches. Everyone who passed by seemed busy, on a mission to this place or that, despite the fact the bench was on the main street of Tottenham.

The man was relaxing, as men tend to do. The pup most likely experienced sensory overload, seeing cars, motorcycles and other humans dash to and fro.

She did not care much for this noisy world of humans. Why would the man take her to such a place, she must have thought to herself.

And what the heck was that place where other dogs barked, whined, and got stuck with needles?

All the head tilting in the world won't answer those questions.

A world without dogs is like a world filled with pain. And even so, there's still lots of that to go around.

I grind my teeth because of what's night because of what's been.

So what to feel in between the clenching and the crying? Fear, ya, and maybe a bit of self-loathing at my imperfections and faults. Yes, I know that's not very productive.

But at times it feels much worse than thing. finding a hair in your soup. It's more like an age-old family recipe that has ly, all on his own.



Mark Pavilons

gone terribly wrong, despite using all the right ingredients.

It's really not fair to set us frail, often unprepared humans into the world all on our own, unsupervised and all.

All of our previous knowledge and wisdom was passed down by our ancestors, through stories, photo albums, written works and the DNA of subsequent members of the lineage along

We arrive, quite literally vulnerable and afraid. Just when does that feeling leave us?

I watch our two new puppies grow, learn, and experience new things every day. Almost everything is new to them. It's really cool to watch sometimes.

Most of us can't remember being to come. And I sob quietly to myself at really young children. My first clear memories go back to kindergarten, pushing around a cart filled with pilfered plastic produce. I was a bit of a terror and class clown, even at that age.

Just where did my penchant for tomfoolery come from? My parents Mind you it didn't all happen all on were mostly sombre folks and sure we its own. Oh, no, it took years to incu-laughed and played, but they didn't bate, nurture and let loose on the world. have side hustles as clowns or any-

It's funny because until you have little ones of your own, you can't re-inherent and instinctive, things passed ally watch, in real time, the progress, down for literally generations, embedgrowth and evolution of young ones ded in their DNA. into older ones.

comes to our kids' pre-school years. soon, but they do look ready! Even first steps and first words escape

But my wife Kim recalls a million little things with a clarity only a mother needs can be whittled down. We can

When our now grown kids act a certain way, Kim can recall the first arrival of such characteristics when they were tots or pre-teens.

ferred the finished product, even if it ings, emotions and memories of just required touch-ups.

That rings true whether it's building model planes or molding children. Of choices. Like the famous Kung Fu Mascourse, they're both interesting and exciting journeys, filled with twists and

Right now, we are the rule setters and boundary makers for our pups. We try to act stern, but they have that look can choose, and you can refrain from in their eyes like "ya okay, but I'll do it

damentals in their new surroundings, and get a new perspective. but they are still intent on gobbling their food, racing around given the or just chill in an egg chair or hamchance, and play fighting on a level seen in the UFC.

I realize a lot of a dog's behaviour is

I doubt the two new additions will My memory is a bit fuzzy when it need to take down a hyena any time

Simple needs. Simple pleasures.

If only our lives could be the same. If you boil it all down, our wants and

simplify. Simple pleasures are all around us

I've seen and felt them. During the Father's Day weekend,

I perched myself outside, feeling the Me, I never had much patience for sun and breeze on my face. It was like a the crafting end of things. I much pre-slow-working cocktail, awakening feelchilling.

> Life should be about very simple ter Oogway once said: "Quit. Don't Quit. Noodles. Don't noodles. You are too concerned with what was and what will be."

> You can veer left, or stay right. You making a choice.

You can grind your teeth and sob, or They are starting to grasp some fun- you can look into your puppies' eyes

Do chores, get cracking at the grill,

Do whatever unclenches that jaw!



Letter to the Editor

Privatize the mail service!

Several months ago we were informed by Canada Post that they would no longer deliver mail to our mailbox because of safety reasons.

Pick up mail at the PO 7 kilometres away.

Eventually we were handed a key to a community mailbox 3 kilometres away. After some time we found no longer any mail there.

the PO. Canada Post opened 6 service tickets because of us. Despite repeated promises

to discuss alternative home delivery options with us, nothing has happened. We receive newspapers and parcels at the house, be rain, snow or shine.

If Canada Post does not want to deliver mail at our house, they should hire a private delivery service to do it. It would be part of the postage we pay.

King is fortunate to have the King Weekly Sentinel as a community resource. Vaughan – 10 times the size – has no comparable newspaper.

> Sig Langhammer Dufferin St.

KingWeeklySentinel WEBP Results from last week's poll:

Do you have a regular Family Physician?

80% a) Yes b) No 20%

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

THIS WEEK'S **QUESTION**

Do you have a student in your family heading to college or university in the fall?

a) Yes b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!



Quote of the Week

"Never fear shadows. They simply mean there's a light shining nearby."

- Ruth E. Renkel

Trivia Tidbits

Hawaiian pizza is a Canadian invention.



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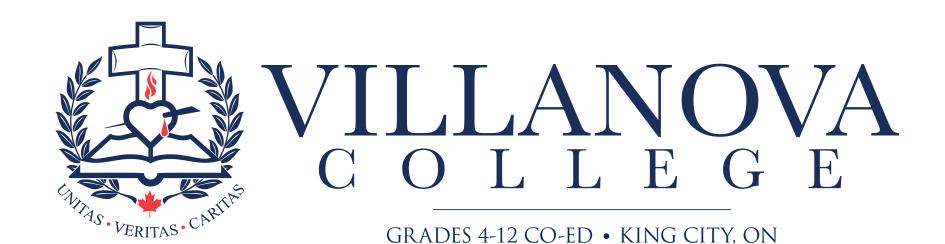




Canada We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada

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Villanova College Congratulates the Graduating Class of 2023!

The 78 graduates of the Class of 2023 are dynamic, ambitious and talented young adults who are ready to enter the world as confident, compassionate leaders. We are proud of their many accomplishments including an average of 5 acceptance offers per graduate, an individual scholarship of \$330,000 and acceptance to 20 prestigious international, national, and provincial universities including Villanova University, USA.



Number of Graduating Students





Highest individual scholarship offer \$330 K

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There's no time left to waste addressing climate crisis

By David Suzuki

In 1989, I did a radio series for CBC called It's a Matter of Survival. It examined how humans were altering the environment in detrimental ways, including heating the planet by burning massive amounts of coal, oil and gas for power and transportation. Listeners were so concerned that 17,000 sent in letters (this was pre-email days) asking what they could do. That led to the David Suzuki Foundation's start in 1990.

It wasn't the first time I had discussed the looming climate crisis. In 1977, I interviewed writer Isaac Asimov, who spoke about the "greenhouse effect." He explained how carbon dioxide in the atmosphere absorbs infrared light, acting as a "heat shroud." He noted that burning coal, oil and gas raises CO2 levels in the atmosphere and that, in "another 50 years or so ... instead of three hundredths of a percent, it might be five hundredths of a per cent." (It's now over four hundredths of a per cent.)

Even though that seems like a small increase, he said, it could melt polar ice caps, raise sea levels and cause runaway effects.

In 1988, just before the CBC series, renowned NASA scientist James Hansen testified to the U.S. Congress that climate change was, in fact, occurring and that failing to address it quickly

could lead to dangerous consequences. In his presidential campaign, Republican candidate George H.W. Bush vowed to combat the problem if elected. Four years later, under his presidency, the U.S. became a founding member of the **United Nations Framework Convention** on Climate Change, which continues to be the international forum for efforts to address climate change.

Even though politicians of every political stripe from around the world vowed to take climate change seriously, emissions have risen by 68 per cent since then, and fossil fuels have gone from supplying 79 per cent of the world's energy needs to 81 per cent.

Greenhouse gas emissions have reached a record high, and scientists say it's now too late to save summer Arctic ice. We're seeing the effects: massive wildfires in Canada - where warming is occurring faster than southern parts of the world - droughts, floods, extreme weather events, growing numbers of climate refugees leaving increasingly inhospitable parts of the world.

What's astounding is that fossil fuel spokespeople, politicians and media pundits are still saying the same things they've been saying for at least the past four decades - that we can't get off fossil fuels overnight (it's been a long night), that we need to keep burning fossil gas as a bridge fuel (it's a long bridge) and that we can't afford to transition to renewable energy (it's long outdated information).

Then there are those who still deny there's a problem at all, or who say our concerns are alarmist or hysterical. If you aren't alarmed, you don't understand the science.

If it seems dire, it's because it is. But it's not hopeless. We're running out of time, but we've made progress, and we have numerous solutions - more every day. Evidence shows that employing those solutions will make the world better for just about everyone except, perhaps, those raking in massive profits from fossil fuels and destroying forests, wetlands and agricultural land. Even their lives would likely be more satisfying if they realized there's more to life than profit and power.

Energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy storage solutions have advanced by leaps and bounds, far faster than anticipated. Not only that, but costs have fallen to the point that renewable energy is less expensive than

coal, oil and gas.

Overall, we'd all be better off economically if we shifted rapidly to more affordable renewables, especially given the volatility of fossil fuel markets. Our health would be better without the pollution burning fuels causes. Ecosystems would improve. And, if done right, the shift could bring greater equality as power and wealth wouldn't be as concentrated as it is in the fossil fuel economy.

Of course, we still have the responsibility to stop consuming so much, to rethink our wasteful ways of living. As human populations increase, the planet can't support endless growth and consumption.

There are no excuses left to continue exploiting and burning any fossil fuels, and there's no time left to waste. Nature has spoken. We must listen and act now.

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

Learn more at davidsuzuki.org.

Teens plagued by mental health challenges

By Emma Chianelli

Mental illness in teenagers is growing exponentially.

As a teenager, I can attest that the many contributing factors that are causes of stress, depression, and anxiety, are stemming from many different levels of school, work, and social me-

Growing up in today's society is not a simple feat. The pressure of trying to decide what post-secondary education will look like while trying to grow into adulthood has never had so many difficult passages. Technology has changed the way the world works, and where it makes something easier, the natural way to learn and make decisions has never been harder. Balancing school work, a part-time job, and extracurricular activities, while trying to navigate into your future, with little guidance leads to confusion and anxiety.

The worldwide pandemic changed a lot in today's world, and for a teenager trying to find their way – after being isolated for such a long time – creates further fear and anxiety. We've been trained to learn digitally, how have we been taught to talk to people?

Balancing the amount of homework. with regular chores and duties, can be very overwhelming, creating a need to learn to prioritize to ease stress. Learning these past few years has definitely been a challenge as the world adapted to a new way of thinking and doing. We managed and coped, but it hindered our social skills.

Social media increased our awareness of the world and everything that was happening, but in there also lies all the additional stress that a young teenage girl finds vulnerable and image threatening. This can gradually undermine the confidence of many young girls, cause them to lose sight of who they are, and make them believe that they are unworthy.

We are completely unaware of how to function within society "normally," however, at 17, we are tasked with choosing a learning path for a career

32. Capital of

33. Breezed through

Zimbabwe

that will bring us such happiness and financial gain. I'm sure I'm not alone when I say I have no clue what tomorrow will bring.

Comment

How do we decide how we want to grow, when we've been so sheltered and hidden. How do we present ourselves to the general public, when we've been hiding behind a screen? How do we find acceptance and build trusting relationships when our views are so skewed by what is the latest trend?

I'm hoping a bright light will shed on the correct path so that I can grow to be financially independent and live happily ever after. Until that light, I will take the endless love and support that my family gives me and know that all will come in time.

However, times can get difficult and we need to find our own ways to cope. My thoughts, opinions, and feelings are often kept to myself. But doing this to me isn't usually the smartest thing to do since I end up under a lot of strain and I start worrying about little things and begin overthinking. This, I believe, is due to my difficulty in placing my trust in others. Despite the fact that I may have known them for a significant portion of my life, I feel as though my thoughts are not important enough to occupy their time or that they might share things that I would have preferred to remain private. Despite their repeated demonstrations that this is not the case.

Because I know my parents will always be there for me, regardless of the situation, if I need to vent, I will typically go to them. The fact that I don't have to worry about them telling anyone when I talk to them and that I know they care about how I am feeling so that they can try to help me typically relieves a lot of stress and anxiety and is my preferred way of getting what I need off my chest.

These experiences have taught me the finest strategies to assist myself when I need to.

35. Make an effort

36. It's in the surf

aboriginal people of

40. Cliff in Hawaii

41. Extremely wild

42. All persons

45. Popular kids'

48. A difficult

43. Aromas

37. Member of

38. Discounts

Japan

person

game



It's Time to Enjoy the Outdoors! (at last...)

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12 14 13 19 15 16 20 21 23 24 26 28 31 32 33 34 36 37 38 39 40 42 43 41 44 46 47 49 48 50 51 52 53 54 55 57 58 59

CLUES ACROSS

1. Excited movements

Patsy

13. Unknowing 14. Dangerous

mosquitos 15. Exaggerated and sensationalized

19. Military policeman 20. Touch softly

21. Wrap 22. A story of one's

east and southeast 24. Toward the mouth

or oral region 25. A list of dishes available at a

restaurant 26. Changes the

meaning of

30. Semitic Sun god 31. Sneaker parts

8. Soap opera actress

34. Partner to pedi 35. Becomes less intense

38. Bottoms 39. Tested 40. Vistas 44. Take care of

45. Traditional rhythmic pattern 46. S. African political party

48. Men 23. Midway between 49. The Science Guy 50. Gospel author

> (abbr.) 51. Act of signing up 55. Human feet 57. A very short time

> > 58. Streetcars 59. Cuplike cavities **CLUES DOWN**

47. Cologne

1. A type of pool 2. Malaise

Puzzle No. 236410 • Solution in Classifieds 3. Seasoned

4. A pair 5. Young male 6. Make a mistake

7. Experienced 8. It often

accompanies injury 9. Old world, new 10. Commercial 11. Course of lectures

12. Promote 16. Female horses 17. Greek

18. Small amount 22. Orthodox church altar

mythological figure

25. Actress Tomei 27. Excited

28. Looked directly at 29. Popular cold

desserts 30. More reasonable

32. Disk above the head of a saint 34. Devoted to the

extreme

situation 51. Popular Georgia rockers 52. It's in all living cells 53. Unspoken language 54. 'Talk to you'

abbreviation 56. Influential lawyer

No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a crossword puzzle with a pen.

King Fire & Emergency Services welcomes new recruits



King Fire and Emergency Services is extremely proud to acknowledge and welcome aboard 21 new recruit fire-fighters.

The recruits were piped in June 7 by Rory Mckinnon, followed by the Fire admin team, council, and the new recruits.

The recruits started their first class at the beginning of January and finished all of their training a week prior to this evening. During the past 6 months, this class of 21 was certified to the NFPA Standard 1001, Level I and II, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, and NFPA 472, Hazardous Materials Operations.

Other studies included and not limited too: auto extrication, medical emergencies, structural fire fighting, and rural fireground operations. Further training will also include knowledge and experience in fire and life safety education (public education and relations) while addressing all of our customers needs.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini brought greetings from council and welcome these new members aboard. As well, Deputy Chief Ritson and Chapman both spoke and congratulated the entire team on their accomplishments to date.

Fire Chief Wall spoke and pro- with 21 new recruit firefighters."

vided not only some history on the Township's fire department, but also current state. Wall emphasized to the recruits that "King Fire is a combination of personal sacrifice and volunteerism especially when your community calls for help ... it's where you need to take stock in fully understanding and truly appreciate and respect what your personal contributions will really mean to the community that you live in and the one that you have sworn to protect. This is where you will soon realize that we (King Fire) exist to provide an exceptional level of service for all of our communities. This service is extended to all residents all hours of the day, every day of the week, and all year 'round - with no exceptions."

The evening finished off with welcoming the new recruits and families to the department. Each recruit was recognized with a certificate of completion, the fire department's challenge coin, and uniform items. The recruits will be on probation for another 12 months (18 months in total), before being tested and advancing to a 4th Class Firefighter.

In closing Fire Chief Wall reminded the recruits that "our citizens deserve the best, and we just delivered on this with 21 new recruit firefighters"





JENNIFER ANSTEY

Ward 3 Councillor

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

King Township's natural beauty makes it the perfect place to celebrate Canada's "birthday". I hope you have a chance to explore the stunning landscapes that surround us and truly appreciate the splendor of our great nation.

For regular updates on what I'm doing on Council, please sign-up for my enewsletter at www.JenniferAnstey.ca

Get in touch:

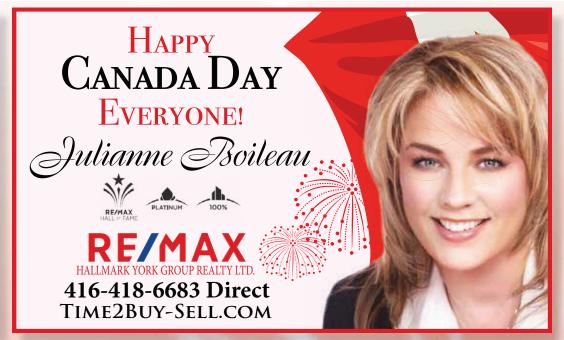
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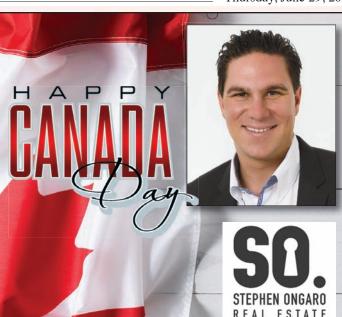
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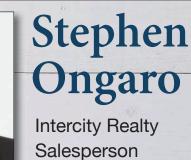
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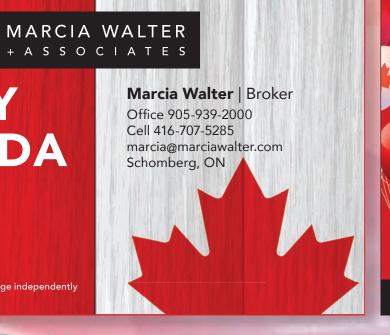
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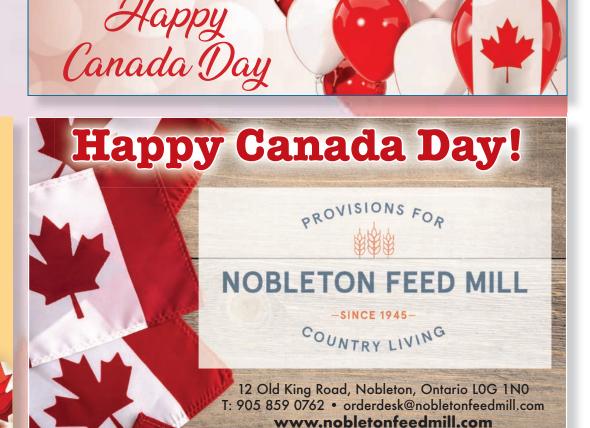
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Your Voice for Business in King



Kroma Salon's Nobleton opening draws many supporters

By Jim Stewart

Over 150 clients, dignitaries, friends, and family attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony at Kroma Salon on Saturday afternoon in Nobleton.

DJ Paria Mirazimi's dance beats and the aroma of popcorn filled the salon as guests mingled with staff and owner Stephanie Karellas. The radiant owner welcomed MPP Stephen Lecce, King Councillor David Boyd, King Chamber Treasurer Theresa Sherwood, and King President Michelle Frauley to her salon at McTaggart and Highway 27. The provincial and municipal representatives presented Karellas with commemorative certificates to mark the grand opening of Kroma's second location.

Karellas was moved by the occasion

and noted that "the best part of this ceremony is sharing it with my newborn son 3-month-old Adonis, my husband, Romeo, as well all the clients, friends, and family who attended the celebration today." She explained that "We've worked extremely hard to open our first location at King and Keele. This is our second location. In total, we employ 25 residents."

Karellas pitched that her business is a "full-service hair salon - cutting, coloring, extensions - with top of the line products." When asked why King residents should come to Kroma, Karellas focused on community: "King residents are from small communities and we're a small community that provides a family environment and a luxury experience."

The ribbon-cutting was, indeed, a co-flect my Greek heritage." lourful experience – thus reflecting the origins of the salon's name as Karellas explained: "Chroma means color in the celebration on Saturday afternoon Greek so I changed the CH to a K to re-

The salon is clearly near and dear to Karellas's heart and heritage as was in Nobleton.



King Chamber Treasurer Theresa Sherwood, Councillor David Boyd, Kroma owner Stephanie Kerellas, her son Adonis and husband Romeo, Chamber president Michelle Frauley, and MPP Stephen Lecce participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

King dishes out community grants, revamping the program

By Mark Pavilons **Editor**

King Township is in the habit of giving, and community groups seeking help can find it.

King's Community Gants Fund totals some \$23,000 annually that is available for qualified non-profit groups and organizations.

ducted from the total budget each year evaluating the program criteria and and allocated to the below community eligibility to broaden the scope and groups:

Secondary school graduation awards total \$1,600, while both the Schomberg Fair and Nobleton Firefighters Victoria Day fireworks event received \$1,000. The Schomberg Village Association got \$750, while the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund received \$400.

Staff are recommending that \$13,300 be disbursed for new applicants for 2023. The total allocated in 2023 from the grant budget is \$18,050, leaving \$4,950 is remaining. That will be disbursed for the remainder of the year, or the balance of the remaining funds will be dispersed automatically to: Southlake Regional Health Centre, Mackenzie Health, and United Way Toronto & York Region as per council's

The program is advertized throughout the community and on the Township website. The selection panel consists of the CAO, treasurer and director of community services.

The panel also considered past grant allocations provided to volunteer non-profit community groups/organizations in 2022 as part of the assessment process.

Through the transition of the Community Grant Program to the Commu-Of that, \$4,750 is automatically de- nity Services Department, staff are streamline municipal funding programs. Due to these proposed changes applicants that have received funding in previous years are not guaranteed to qualify for future funding.

> The total budget for community grants for 2023 is \$23,000 less pre-approved allocations of \$4,750, which leaves \$18,250 to be considered for further distribution.

> Councillor Debbie Schaefer asked staff why there were so few applications. She pointed out that we hold our volunteers in high regard and King knows how valuable volunteer groups are in the community.

> Staff did say they are in the process of overhauling the program, adding funding is still available.

> Mayor Steve Pellegrini said new organizations and groups may not be aware of the program.

King to enforce fireworks bylaw over Canada Day weekend

The Township of King will be enforcing its fireworks bylaw on the Canada Day weekend to help keep residents and property safe.

Instead of setting off private fireworks, residents are being encouraged to attend the Canada Day Fireworks display on Saturday, July 1, in Kettleby.

The event starts at 5 p.m. in Kettleby Park. There will be food, music and a fireworks show at this family-friendly event. Attendees can bring their own food or purchase some at the event. There will be children's games, free cake, stage and grounds entertainment, historical tours of Kettleby and the event will end with spectacular fireworks.

Enforcement will take place over the Canada Day weekend. Enforcement will include any prohibited activity occurring in parks or on roads.

To report a complaint or concern contact the Bylaw Division at by-law@ king.ca. Please report any issues as soon as possible.

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Chartwell's Valley Vista celebrates Italian heritage event

By Jim Stewart

Chartwell's Valley Vista Retirement Residence celebrated Italian Heritage Month with a lively event on Saturday afternoon attended by hundreds of family, friends, and residents. CHIN Radio provided the musical background and the aromas of Italian food filled the spacious entrance of the fourteen-year old retirement residence.

Chartwell General Manager Oliver Stone and his hospitable staff pulled out all the stops to provide an "authentically-Italian" experience for the 150 residents who now call the palatial five-star hotel-like facility home: "We have traditional Italian fare being served inside and outside our residence this afternoon for guests and residents. We have an Espresso bar with biscotti, a Sicilian ice cream station featuring three kinds of gelato, a traditional wood-burning oven where we are baking delicious pizza outside our main entrance, there's an authentic Italian donut or bombolini station featuring raspberry, lemon, chocolate, or pistachio pastries, and we're serving Italian Sausage on a bun in the dining room."

Stone noted that "98 per cent of our residents are of Italian heritage in our 139-suite residence. We have a lot of long-time employees on our staff of fifty including our Executive Chef Antonietta Marchese who puts her heart and passion into all our food preparation. Everything is made from scratch – sauces, breads, soups--to appeal to the palates of our residents."

Stone introduced me to 100-year old resident Alessandra Marinelli, a spirited lady who noted-- through Sandra our translator – that "I love the food and the people here – everyone is so nice." The charming centenarian told us that "every night I gather with my nine friends from my corridor. They've become the same as family." Signora Marinelli participated in the group photo taken in front of the Valley Vista Drive residence – clearly a happening place for its 150 residents.

Stone explained that "We engage $\,$ was festive, indeed.

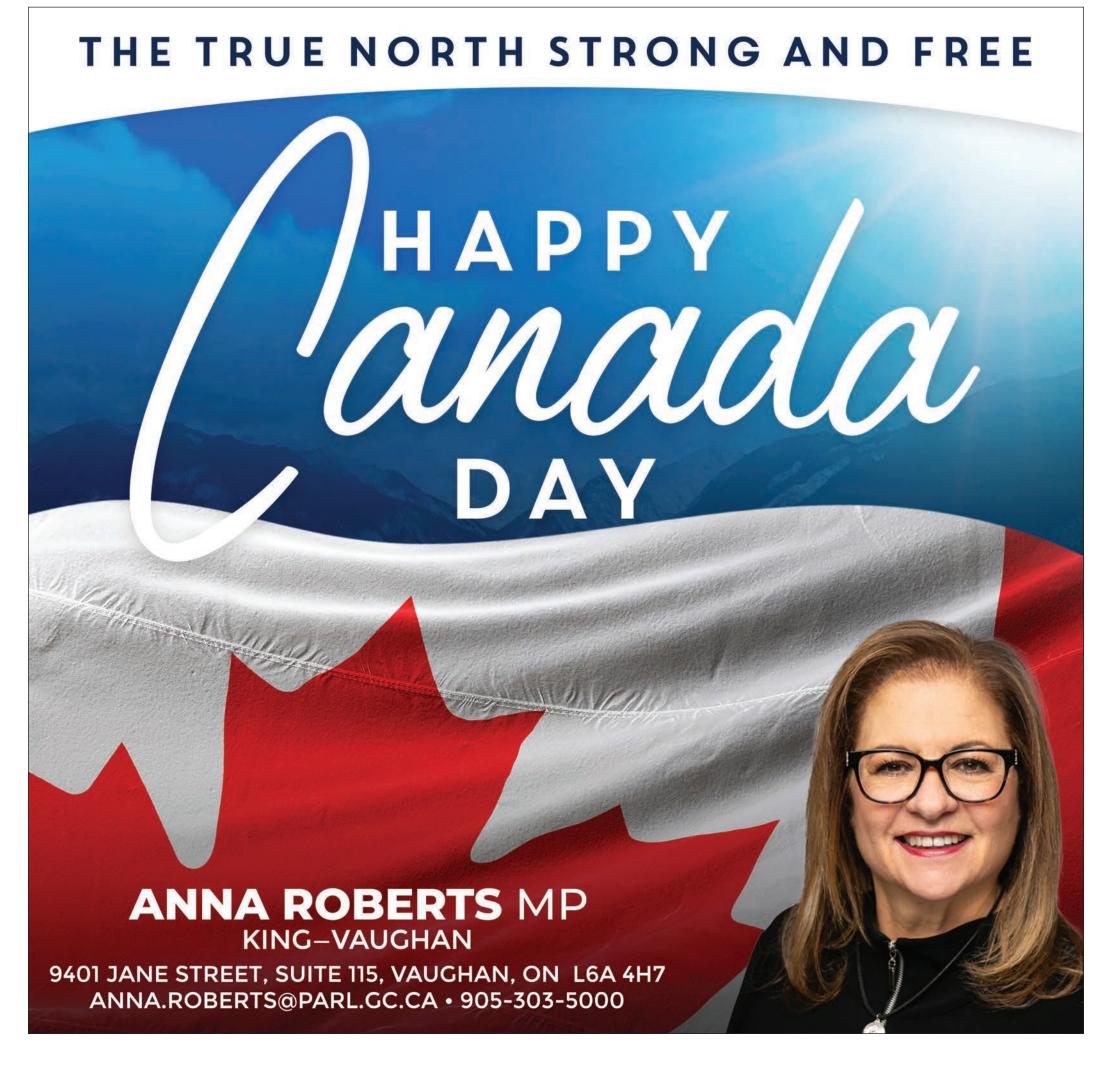


our residents like Alessandra with exercise sessions and with outings to the mall to casinos to farmers' markets in Caledon to name just a few."

I experienced the hospitality of Chartwell Valley Vista first-hand as I finished my main floor tour and visits with residents and staff. Alexandra Mello, who joined the Chartwell Valley Vista staff eight months ago, "likes the organization, the teamwork, the space, and the residents." The amiable hostess prepared this fortunate reporter an Italian sausage on a bun, topped with red peppers, mushrooms, and onions, a container of freshly-cut fruit, and Mello's colleagues dispatched me to my vehicle with a scoop of delicious maple walnut gelato and an exquisite lemon bombolini. To say that I thoroughly enjoyed the gustatory delights at Chartwell Valley Vista and the company of its staff and residents would be an understatement.

General Manager Oliver Stone and his friendly staffers created a welcoming and warm atmosphere for hundreds of guests on Saturday and their Italian Heritage Month event was festive, indeed.







Resident presents radio with a 'side of hot sauce'

Buy Mark Pavilons Editor

A King resident's love of jazz has propelled him into the spotlight, meeting and interviewing some of the top names in the industry.

Snowball's Ronnie Littlejohn hosts The Gumbo Kitchen Friday nights from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on JAZZ.FM91 or online at jazz.fm

Not only has Littlejohn slid comfortably into the chair behind the microphone, he often can't contain himself or his love of music. His passion, knowledge and interest in jazz have given him rare opportunities to engage the biggest and best.

"I have had the honor of interviewing some of my musical heroes and sheroes – folks I grew up listening to as a kid," he said. "Music icons who have shaped the musical landscape. I've had a ball doing it and have learned a lot of lessons along the way. I must add that this would only be possible because of a radio station like JAZZ.FM91. There isn't another radio station like it anywhere in the world."

Littlejohn selects and "chases down" each person. He presents his list so far of some of the best, toughest and most interesting celebrity interviews, here in his own words.

Most difficult interview to get: Smokey Robinson.

"Smokey's manager is a guy who has been in the business forever. He has represented Don Rickles, Tony Bennett and a whole bunch of other big-time guys and gals.

"I hounded this poor guy. He was always very polite and appeared to be sincere about an interview. I didn't let up. I would follow up every couple of weeks. I figured if this guy was around in the legendary mob days of Vegas there was probably very little I could do to ruffle his feathers. Then COVID came and his tour was cancelled, and the chance of an interview was gone. Or was it? Two and a half years later Smokey was booked to play Toronto. I called his manager back. 'Hey, it's Ronnie Littlejohn,' I said. 'I know,' was his reply. We went back and forth for months trying to schedule something and we finally did. It had to be a phoner because Smokey doesn't do Zoom.

"I got his manager on the phone that morning who would connect me to Smokey. Just before he connected us, I said 'I hope I wasn't too much of a pain in the you know what. 'Oh, Ronnie you



were! But I like you.' Now, the sweetest words I've ever heard were 'Say hello to your new daughter' but the runner-up was 'Ronnie say hello to Smokey Robinson'

"Smokey shared so many great stories. I interviewed him again a year later. This time, however, his manager put me in touch with someone else.

Most Intimidating Guest: Irma Thomas (Soul Queen of New Orleans).

"When the Stones heard Irma sing 'Time is on My Side' they knew they had to record it. It became a huge smash for them. So much so that Irma stopped performing because she was tired of people asking why she was singing a song by The Rolling Stones.

"When I approached Irma for an interview, she had two conditions. 'Do your homework and don't ask any stupid questions.'

"No pressure! After about two minutes of speaking with her on the phone she put me at ease. It was like talking to your favorite auntie."

Biggest potential train wreck: The Isley Brothers, R&B legends.

"The Isley Brothers have been a part of my life since I was 13. 'Shout, It's Your Thing, That Lady, Twist and Shout,' are you kidding me? I was granted a chat with Ronald and Ernie Isley over Zoom. The interview was smashing! Better than I could hope for. At the end of the interview I thanked them and we all logged off.

"I texted my wife "THAT WAS IN-CREDIBLE!" Words spoken too soon. The file containing the interview was GONE. Nowhere to be found on the computer. I felt nauseous. What was I going to do? I called the manager back. 'Hi Ronnie, is everything ok?'

"'Umm yes I just wanted to thank you again and ummmm well ... there's a bit of a problem. You think we can do it again?"

"Explaining that I had lost the file was easily the most embarrassing moment in my short career. The manager (Ronald Isley's wife) cut me off 'I have a call coming in I have to let you go.'

"She hung up. I BLEW IT! That great chat with the music icons was gone. A few minutes later I get a text from Ronald Isley's wife. 'Let's do it again in 10 minutes.' The Isley Brothers sure didn't need to give me a second chance. I can only assume that our conversation went so well that they thought, hey why not. They logged back into the zoom as I kind of awkwardly stammered 'hey guys, long time no see.' Silence.

"We did take two of the interview almost word for word. That was a close one. Lesson learned BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING!

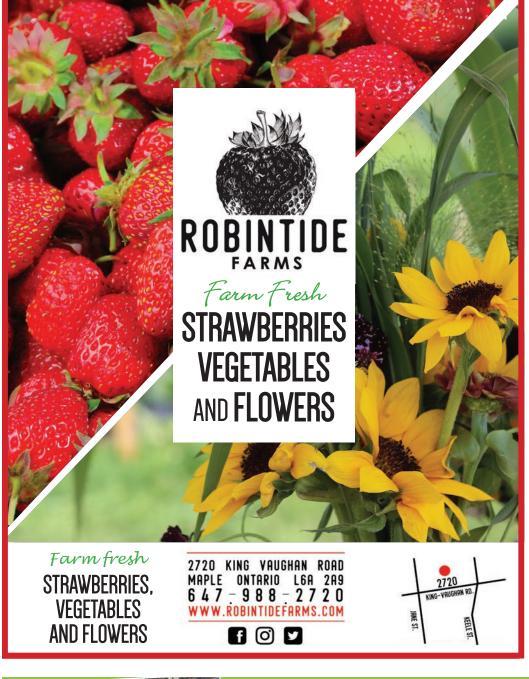
Most Nervous: STING. "When Sting had his m

"When Sting had his musical production The Last Ship in Toronto he and his manager stumbled across my program. His manager reached out and told me how much they enjoyed it. Half-jokingly I said, 'Hey if Sting ever wants to be on the show!'

"How is next Tuesday? WHAT?"

"Up until this point my interviews lasted until all the questions were done. Some had gone on for 40 minutes or so. I had never even considered time constraints.

See 'Littlejohn' on Page 13





Littlejohn recounts some of his best interviews

From Page 12

I was told Sting was doing press all day for his new album and I only had a tight 15 minutes with him. We scheduled the Zoom interview. That morning my wife cleaned the entire house as if Sting were coming for dinner. Sting was scheduled to perform on Jimmy Kimmel that night so I asked him jokingly if he was nervous about being on MY show. 'Yes, I've been up fretting allnight wondering what you were going to ask me Ronnie.'

"At the 10-minute point of the interview they cut me. 'Gotta go Ronnie, thanks for the chat!' Sting's music is the soundtrack of my life. I had my first high school dance to 'Every Breath You Take.' Speaking with him was slightly surreal."

Politest thanks but no thanks: Keith Richards.

Most edited interview: (Tie) Taj Mahal & Bobby Rush.

"Blues man Taj Mahal's manager warned me. 'With Taj you either get 10 minutes or an hour and half.' Lucky for me Taj was in fine form and I got the latter. He told me interesting stories about how he took care of Bob Marley after he and the Wailers were kicked off a Sly & The Family Stone tour because the crowd were too enthusiastic.

"This segment could have been two hours after the music was edited in so I had to do some chopping. I could have done part 1 to 4 with Taj.

"Bobby Rush is a legendary blues thing you want to talk about. The past,

man out of Mississippi In his late 80s Bobby doesn't mix words.

"If it's on his mind, he says it. Not all of his jokes are fit for radio, so I had to spend LOTS of time editing them out. Unfortunately, those are some of the best parts. Bobby does this thing where he tells the radio host that they are the best and he follows their show all the time. I fell for this the first time till I heard him say it to another guy. That is how Bobby has remained so near and dear to radio hosts all over the world. He knows how to make you feel good. He is so likeable."

Best Timed Interview: Jon Batiste.

The timing for this could not have been better. Somehow, I got to interview Jon Batiste days before he won 11 Grammys. I'm curious if I would have landed this one after the Grammys.

Some favourites:

"Daniel Lanois: I had the iconic Canadian record producer on the show in 2020 and again in 2023. Just before his second visit I had a strange inkling that he only wanted to talk about his latest record. I'm not sure why I did this, but I reached out to his people to feel them out. I had never done that before. They got back telling me I was correct, Daniel only wanted to discuss the new record and future plans. Fair enough.

"So, in preparing for our second interview that's what I did. Only questions about the new record. After about 20 seconds into our conversation, he tells me 'Ronnie let's talk about anything you want to talk about. The past



the present, the future. I'll follow your lead.'

"It ended up being one of my best interviews. The lesson here is ask for forgiveness not permission!"

Booker T Jones: "The legendary leader of Booker T. & the M.Gs played on pretty much every Otis Redding song as well as Stax records. This was maybe the most in-depth interview I've done to this day. Booker T and I chatted for nearly an hour. He took me through his entire career. We spoke about recording 'Try a Little Tenderness, Green Onions,' him producing Willie Nelson and Bill Withers. I've never been more riveted."

Steve Cropper: "Guitarist Steve Cropper who wrote 'Dock of the Bay' and played on every Otis Redding and Stax recording told me about the time he first heard Otis sing. Otis was the driver for some band and drove them to the studio that day. It was Otis's job to lift the band's gear and go get them lunch. As the recording session was winding down the unknown driver quietly sat down at a piano and starting singing 'These ... Arms . of . Mililiine!'

"Steve Cropper's jaw hit the floor and the rest was history. No one is sure what became of the band Otis was driving that day.

"Steve Cropper told me 'I can't imagine how awkward it was in that car on the drive home."

Most of these interviews can still be heard online at jazz.fm

Excitement builds for the Schomberg Street Gallery as summer approaches

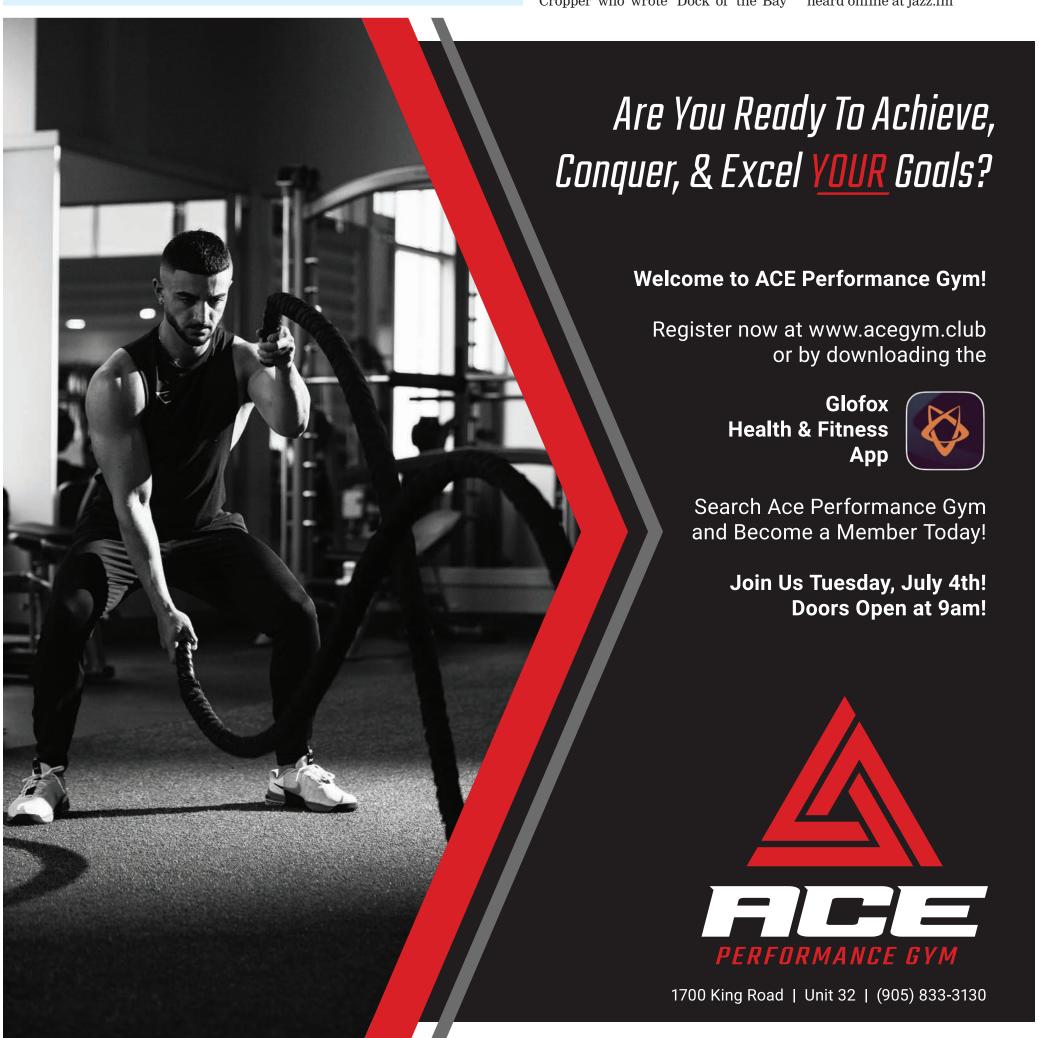
Arts Society King is proud to present the annual Schomberg Street Gallery which will be held on Sunday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Main Street will be closed to traffic so that visitors can stroll at their leisure and engage with the artists and artisans showcasing their creations. Street musicians will entertain at various locations.

Art lovers of all ages will be inspired by the artsy vibe. We encourage families to discover the Hendrika Ono Youth Arts Tent where they can create a masterpiece of their own to take home.

Artists and residents alike are eager to welcome the crowds that attend this highly anticipated event. Admission is free.

Don't miss this opportunity to apply if you are an artist and would like to take part. Go to www.schombergstreetgallery.ca. Watch the video and check out the photo gallery.



Two York Regional Police officers honoured for bravery

By Mark Pavilons Editor

Two York Regional Police officers were among the recipients of bravery medals from the Ontario government.

In all, 21 police officers and 13 fire-fighters were presented with the Ontario Medal for Police Bravery and the Ontario Medal for Firefighter Bravery. The medals are the province's highest honours and are given to police officers and firefighters who have demonstrated great courage in risking their lives to save the lives of others.

Two York Regional Police officers were among the recipients. Staff Sergeant David Mitchell and Constable Mark Burnett.

On Feb. 6, 2021, police responded to several 9-1-1 calls from neighbours reporting that a man had stabbed his pregnant wife and sister. The man was also threatening to stab his two children, aged four and two. Staff Sergeant David Mitchell was first on scene. He found the wife and sister outside the home. Unfortunately, the wife's injuries were fatal and the sister's life-threatening. Without backup, the staff sergeant entered the house, fearing for the children's safety. Inside, he was confronted by a man holding a small child in his arms and a knife on the floor, next to him. As Staff Sergeant Mitchell tried to de-escalate the situation. Constable Mark Burnett entered the house to assist. Despite their best efforts, the man retreated into an adjacent room and rearmed himself with another knife.

The officers used lethal force to rescue the children who were suffering life-threatening stab wounds and rushed them outside to waiting paramedics. The swift actions of Staff Sergeant David Mitchell and Constable Mark Burnett, with little regard for their own personal safety, saved three lives that day.

"I have spent much time thinking about the constant risks and dangers that first responders face. Our province has benefitted greatly from their service, and today, we recognize the remarkable bravery of 34 police officers and firefighters from across Ontario," said the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. "In accepting these medals, I hope that these brave men and women will re-commit themselves to serving

the public with integrity, knowing that their accomplishments will help motivate a new generation of Ontarians to join their ranks – looking to follow their example."

"Ontario is fortunate to be home to the best police officers and firefighters in the country," said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. "When confronted with the perils these men and women faced, most of us would have hesitated – they didn't. They ran toward danger. And for that we honour them with the province's highest award for bravery – their work is an inspiration to us all. On behalf of a grateful province, we thank them for their dedication to their communities and their extraordinary courage."





Staff Sergeant David Mitchell (left) and Constable Mark Burnett were honoured for

Schulich ExecEd partners with YRP for program

Schulich ExecEd, Schulich School of Business, York University in partnership with York Regional Police (YRP), is proud to present the Future of Leadership in Policing Program, which launched in May.

The Future of Leadership in Policing Program is curated specifically to strengthen the business acumen and leadership skills of both sworn and civilian members. Schulich ExecEd and YRP have created a highly customized program; ensuring synergy to the learner's current job position, driven by organizational values, and intended to help professionals identify potential avenues for growth at YRP.

The program is a series of five streams designed to support the various units, job positions and members at YRP, ensuring accessibility to education across the organization. Participants will also have access to this program in a fully live, virtual format, to enhance the learner experience by providing a further layer of accessibility for those who are remote or in the field. The Future of Leadership in Policing Program was designed with the goal of fostering growth at each career stage, inspiring exemplary leadership knowledge at every level of an individual's career.

Schulich ExecEd is proud to be an education provider for York Regional Police, as the workforce and policing industry evolve; providing skills for

success is crucial to continuing our mission to empower employees, the community, and organizations. Rami Mayer, Executive Director of Schulich ExecEd, states:

"We are excited to announce the Future of Leadership in Policing Program in partnership with York Regional Police (YRP). We are proud to partner with YRP as it addresses the challenges of policing in perhaps the most diverse region of the country and one that serves the community of York University. YRP has recognized that the high standards and values of the police service are reinforced and strengthened by leadership training at all levels of the organization. As such, it is making a significant and important investment in its people."

"We have long held at Schulich ExecEd that leadership values, skills and decision-making capabilities are a continuum from early in-career to senior roles. Leadership behaviours must be demonstrated in different ways across the talent pipeline. York Regional Police has recognized this, and the training provided will be customized and targeted at different job categories and roles, each with their own specific challenges and the respective leadership skills required," said Mayer.

"The best part of the Future of Leadership in Policing Program is that it was designed with our people at top of mind," said Jim MacSween, Chief of

York Regional Police. "Our members work in so many different roles and diverse working environments across the region, so it was critical to find education opportunities that were accessible to all."

"Designed to include five unique learning streams and virtual classroom instruction, I'm confident that our partnership with Schulich ExecEd has resulted in a program that puts our people, and their professional and personal development, first," Chief MacSween said

Each module has been developed with the unique leadership competencies and strategic objectives from York Regional Police for a fully comprehensive, synergized, and custom experience for learners. This approach will take participants directly from the classroom back into the working environment.

Upon completion of the program, each participant receives a Schulich ExecEd digital micro-credential. At Schulich ExecEd, accelerated reskilling is the way forward to allow professionals to grow their careers, level up for senior roles and enable them to diversify their skillsets, specializations, and knowledge. Receiving a micro-credential identifies YRP team members' commitment to embarking on their professional development journey and commitment to being exceptional leaders in their communities.





Owners sought after \$500,000 in stolen jewellery is recovered

York Regional Police has recovered \$500,000 worth of stolen jewelry and is looking to locate the owners following the arrest of two people.

In June 2023, two suspects were identified as being involved in distraction thefts and robberies within York Region. The suspects, operating an SUV, would approach elderly victims and engage in conversation. During the interactions, the suspects would replace the victims' real jewelry with cheap costume jewelry. In some instances, they used force and assaulted the victims in an attempt to remove the items.

On June 5, Nicolaie Oinescu and Isaura Alesandru, both 26 and of the City of Toronto, were charged. On June 16, officers executed search warrants and seized over \$500,000 worth of stolen jewelry.

Investigators are now attempting to identify the rightful owners and have set up a Flickr album with photos of the recovered items.

The link is here: https://flic.kr/s/ aHBqjAJseV

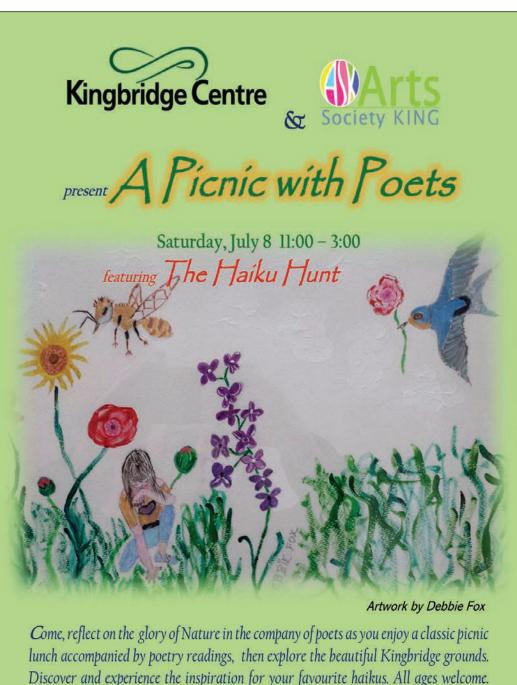
It's believed the accused have been operating throughout the Greater Toronto Area, including Hamilton. Investigators are urging other victims, or anyone who recognizes their items, to contact police.

Investigators are sensitive to the fact that some victims may be reluctant to come forward.

"We are here to help. We encourage anyone who has been a victim of a distraction theft to contact police. Friends and family who believe a loved one may have been a victim is asked to review the photos at the above link to recover their property."

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police #4 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, extension 7445. Anyone wanting to provide information anonymously can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS or provide a tip online at www.1800222tips.com.





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Ontario launches fund to build skilled trades training centres

for workers by investing \$224 million to build and upgrade training centres and help tackle the province's historic labour shortage. Applications for the new Skills Development Fund (SDF) Capital Stream opened June 30.

It will help unions, Indigenous centres, and industry associations with funding to build new training centres, or upgrade and convert existing facilities into new training centres with state-of-the-art equipment and technol-

"This new program will help boost the province's training infrastructure, providing more people opportunities to learn new skills and advance their careers into good-paying, in-demand jobs," said Premier Doug Ford. "We're taking the steps needed to create a bigger pipeline of talent to ensure we continue to have the best workforce in the world to keep attracting investments and to build Ontario."

Every day, roughly 300,000 jobs are going unfilled in Ontario, costing the province billions in lost productivity. The new capital stream will be open to a wide range of applicants in in-demand industries and support facility expansions, renovations, repairs and retrofits, and new building construction. Over their lifetime, these improved training centres are projected to help more than one million workers get the training they need to land better jobs and ensure businesses can find the skilled workforce they need to grow the economy for everyone.

"Ontario is facing the largest labour shortage in a generation, and our government is on a mission to help workers train for the well-paying jobs we know are available," said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "We will continue to invest in innovative training programs and ground-breaking infrastructure to prepare jobseekers in every corner of our province for the future of work."

In addition, the Ontario government is investing \$535,000 through the SDF program to launch two innovative projects that will expand apprenticeship opportunities to future boilermakers in Northern Ontario and across the province. Led by the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local 128, these free programs will provide 1,350 participants with the opportunity to explore rewarding careers as boilermakers, which can pay up to \$38 an hour.

"Our government is proud to invest in new funding to build, upgrade and convert training centres across the province. Investing in these training centres is crucial to building a stronger Ontario by getting workers trained and into the workforce," said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. "By empowering individuals with the skills and knowledge to master their crafts, we are creating a future of innovation, and economic prosperity. As we continue to invest in critical infrastructure, these trained workers will be helping build Ontario for generations to come."

The first project will give 1,200 highschool students hands-on experience with welding, cutting and rigging work and the opportunity to pursue apprenticeships in the trade. It will prioritize women, Indigenous people and others in rural Northern Ontario communities interested in learning about work in the skilled trades.

"To meet the demand for skill trades in the province, it is vital that we develop the skills and abilities of those individuals that are interested in a career within the trades, which is our

The Ontario government is working mission with these projects," said Jonathan White, International Representative - CSO at International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. "The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers commends the tremendous decision of the Ontario government to further invest in the trades through their Capital Stream of the Skills Development Fund, which will add to and improve training centres that will be used to build the highly skilled workforce needed to support Ontario's infrastructure and to expand opportunities within industry."

The second project will provide free lodging, travel and food for 150 new jobseekers from around the province as they begin introductory apprenticeship training. Participants will complete rigorous course work covering rigging, working at heights and construction safety as they prepare to become boilermaker apprentices.

These two projects are funded through the existing SDF, an over \$700 million initiative, which supports ground-breaking programs that connect jobseekers with the skills and training they need to find well-paying careers close to home.

Visit t https://www.ontario.ca/ page/skills-development-fund-capital-stream.

open on June 30 and will be accepted until Sept. 25, at https://www.ontario. ca/page/available-funding-opportunities-ontario-government.

Brotherhood The International of Boilermakers represents workers throughout Canada in industrial construction, repair, and maintenance; manufacturing; shipbuilding and marine repair; railroads; mining and quarrying; cement kilns; and related industries.

Those interested in the boilermaker programs can learn more or apply directly at info@ibblocal128.org.

There are expected to be over 100,000 job openings in Ontario this decade in the construction sector.

Through its first three funding rounds, the SDF has supported 596 projects, to help half a million people around the province take the next step in their careers

Ontario's Skills Development Fund is supported through labour market transfer agreements between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.

"(The) launch of the SDF Capital Stream is critically important in addressing the current skills trade deficit that is challenging the future growth

The SDF Capital Stream applications of our economy. With Premier Ford's and Minister McNaughton's increased focus and promotion of the skilled trades, we have witnessed more and more people entering the skilled trades. The SDF Capital Stream investment into the 'bricks and mortar' expansion of our training facilities will increase our capacity to meet this growing demand and further add to the increased success of the Skills Development Fund overall. We look forward to working with Premier Ford and Minister Mc-Naughton on this incredibly important initiative," said Jack Oliveira, Business Manager, LiUNA! Local 183, LiUNA! OPDC.

"The IBEW Construction Council of Ontario (CCO) once again applauds the leadership of Minister McNaughton and his initiative to strengthen the industry's and IBEW's labour capital training requirements. To my knowledge, this is the first time any Ontario government has provided bricks and mortar dollars to the industry or IBEW. The IBEW CCO salutes Minister McNaughton's historic initiative and welcomes his approach of partnership with labour," added James Barry,

Executive Secretary Treasurer, IBEW Construction Council of Ontar-

McCahon is new CEO of Mackenzie Health

Mackenzie Health and Mackenzie Health Foundation are pleased to announce the appointment of Nicole McCahon as the new President and CEO of Mackenzie Health Foundation, effective June 19.

Nicole was selected after a thorough executive search and recruitment process. For more than two decades in the health care philanthropy sector, Nicole has been an exceptional leader, championing a vision of excellence, surpassing fundraising goals and building meaningful relationships to enhance community and team building.

Throughout her career, Nicole has demonstrated outstanding leadership and a passion for making a positive impact in the health care sector. Most recently, Nicole served as senior vice president, philanthropy at William Osler Health System Foundation. Prior to that, Nicole was the executive director at Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Foundation. Over the last decade, Nicole has been responsible for raising more than \$80 million through successful capital campaigns, major gifts. planned and annual giving programs. Driven by excellence, collaboration and optimism, her contributions have enhanced the organizations she represented and positively influenced the community.

Nicole joins Mackenzie Health Foundation during an exciting time. Mackenzie Health recently doubled access to exceptional care with the opening of Canada's first smart hospital. Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, which now works in tandem with Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital to provide the very best in community-based medicine to western York Region and beyond.

Mackenzie Health and Mackenzie Health Foundation thank Luci Anderson for serving as Interim President and CEO during this transitional period. For the past nine months, Luci's dedication, leadership and tireless efforts have been instrumental in ensuring Mackenzie Health Foundation's forward momentum. Luci will continue to support the Foundation in her role as Vice President, Philanthropy.

"We warmly welcome Nicole McCa-

hon as the new President and CEO of Mackenzie Health Foundation. Her exceptional leadership will further our vision to grow and innovate so our community will always have compassionate and leading-edge care close to home. Mackenzie Health is on a remarkable journey – one that is supported by the power of generosity to ignite fundamental change for the future of health care. We embrace the arrival of our new President and CEO, bringing her fresh perspective and visionary leadership to serve and support our growing community," said Moris Pilla, chair, Mackenzie Health Foundation Board of Directors.

"I am pleased to welcome Nicole McCahon to the Mackenzie Health family in her new role as President and CEO of Mackenzie Health Foundation. Nicole's deep experience in health care philanthropy as well as her strong connection to our community will play an essential role in helping us power the future of world-leading health care in York Region. The future of Mackenzie Health is indeed very bright. We look forward to working together with Nicole and the Foundation team to ensure Mackenzie Health remains a beacon of health care excellence in our communitv." noted Altaf Stationwala, president and CEO, Mackenzie Health.

"I am excited and honoured to join Mackenzie Health Foundation as the President and CEO. Vaughan is my home, and I am eager to serve our growing community with excellence alongside our remarkable team. Together, we will build upon the Foundation's strong foundation of transformative philanthropy to create a future where world-leading, compassionate health care is accessible to all. I am committed to driving positive change, fostering meaningful relationships, and inspiring generosity to fuel our mission," McCahon said.

Mackenzie Health is proud to serve a population of more than half a million people across western York Region and beyond. It is one of the fastest growing and most diverse communities in Canada. For more information, please visit mackenziehealth.ca or mackenziehealthfoundation.ca

York board and CUPE 1734 ratify agreements

York Region District School Board (YRDSB) ratified a four-year collective agreement with CUPE 1734 staff members. Members of CUPE 1734 include approximately 3,200 staff members at YRDSB in more than 70 job classifications, including school office support, educational assistants, information technology staff members, designated early childhood educators and others.

"I would like to thank the bargaining teams from our Board and CUPE 1734 for their leadership to complete this agreement," said Board Chair Ron Lynn. "Staff members represented by CUPE 1734 are highly skilled and valued, and ensure our students and other staff members are well supported. We are pleased to have reached a deal that will allow them to continue supporting student success and well-being."

"We have reached a local agreement that has been endorsed by our membership," said Todd Canning, President of CUPE 1734. "In the years ahead, we look forward to a continued partnership that furthers support for all students."

The agreements between the YRDSB and CUPE 1734 include items bargained locally. As part of the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, the local agreement will be combined with the centrally bargained terms of the provincial agreement.







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Addiction Services marks 40 years of making a difference

By Brock Weir

Over the last 40 years, recognizing and treating addictions has come a long way – and at the forefront of tackling these challenges in the community has been Addiction Services Central Ontar-

Previously Addiction Services of York Region, the organization, which serves York Region, South Simcoe, and North York, celebrated the start of its special anniversary year in May, with a special reception held at the historic Aurora Armoury.

The anniversary is a time to not only celebrate the strides that have been made, but how they have grown and developed to serve a community that has done the same.

"As we looked at things, 40 years ago is quite a while for an organization to be around and to be providing services and programs," says Addiction Services Central Ontario Executive Director Penny Marrett. "I think COVID really told us about how important the work that we were doing was to individuals. Particularly if you think about the first 12 to 18 months that social isolation that many people felt, the challenges because you were basically told to shelter at home as much as possible unless you were an essential worker and we had more calls and we knew that people really needed help and needed support.

"It really brought home, I think, that the services that we provided are critical to the communities that we serve. 40 years for us is really a terrific milestone to demonstrate that we were important when we first started and we are just as important now."

Since its inception, the goal of Addiction Services has been to support individuals with addictions, but 40 years ago there was a concerted focus on substance use and what Marrett describes as "problem gambling." Those

Nobleton Notes

From Page 20

Like peonies astrantias which are members of the carrot family and cousins of Queen Anne's lace need a stretch of cold weather to survive. But unlike this "royal" relative they are far from weedy as their delicate blooms show. Astrantias grow about 20 to 60 /1to 2 ft. in height and eventually form a clump with a width about these same measurements. The almost leafless stems grow from a near ground whorl (cluster) of leaves that at first glance look somewhat like maple leaves.

The many flowerheads come in shades of shell pink, rose and wine. The actual flowers are the tiny pin-like florets held by circle of small papery sepals[petal-like modified leaves giving the plant its colonial name, Hattie's pincushion.

Astrantias like shade and don't do well in full sun unless the soil is constantly damp (not soggy). My astrantias grow in full shade becoming dappled shade part of the day and are doing well.

These sometimes hard to find plants (try Botanix on Hwy. 89 just seconds west of Alliston), like all newly planted perennials and annuals, require TLC for at least a couple of weeks after introducing into their new home until they become established. Have their "forever home" all ready for them and plant them as soon as possible after purchasing, preferably in the early morning or even better early evening.

two areas are still under their umbrella but the areas they tackle have become increasingly complex and numerous.

"Our clients have always been complex, but I think there is an increasing number of individuals," she says. "I think, actually, that some people who maybe before the pandemic may not have reached out for a variety of personal reasons started to reach out. There is a little bit more, I think, who realized they needed the support to be able to continue their own journey.

"We continued all our services throughout the pandemic, but we also saw that there were so many different issues that people were facing. People who perhaps had a job and lost their job during COVID; at the height of the pandemic, people who perhaps had more precarious jobs, those jobs became even more precarious if that is even possible; and we also had individuals who, because we obviously started to offer virtual services, wouldn't have been able to come to one of our satellite clinics, or to our main office for clinics, who were calling because they could do it for free. We hadn't done virtual in the way that we did during the pandemic and that will continue."

An aspect of Addictions Services Marrett says she's particularly proud of is the fact their services are "wraparound." An individual may come to them to reduce or stop using substances and, in turn, they're able to provide community withdrawal management services so people can still be at home in a safe place while they work with a counsellor. Individual counselling is available, but so is group counselling and after care. It's a "full piece to enable someone to really be able to take the time they need to look at the issues" and set goals - and they work in conjunction with each individual's list of

When she looks ahead to the future, Marrett says they will continue to respond to the needs of the community - and that recognizes "it's not always about people coming to us, it's about us going to people."

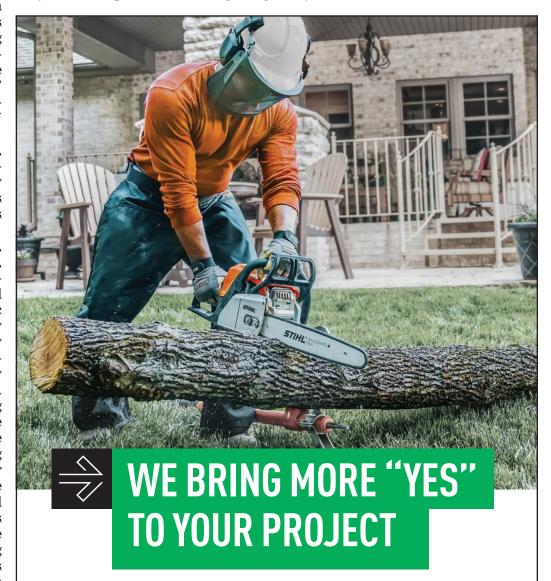
"We might not be 'just' our four walls, whether it is a satellite office or clinic, but we will be in the community. We received money for and have purchased a van for a mobile addictions clinic and we may have more of those. Many of our clients need primary care, they need that addiction support, but primary care, and there's not a lot of primary care available to Ontarians these days. We have a lot of people who are retiring who are primary care providers and we might be able to partner and provide some of that for our clients. During COVID we had a number of clients for whom food security was a huge issue for them so we partnered with food banks and with other organizations for the delivery of the food hampers we purchased. We had received funding to be able to do that. One of the things that people don't realize is substance use and substance health, it's from all socio-economic levels. It's not only one specific group of people, it's everybody.

"The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addictions recently came out with updated low-risk guidelines so we're looking at that to see how do we incorporate that research into some of the psychoeducation pieces. We offer court support in two courts - Newmarket and Bradford, primarily, but we know there are other courts in the areas we work in. Are we going to be able to expand that program? Are we going to be able to continue to support youth and families? It's a really important



"I think much of what we'll be doing over the next 10, 20, 30 years is really expanding and strengthening the work we're doing today and making sure that we're also continuing to respond to the needs of the community. That may mean we pivot instead of getting

the community to pivot. We're ready to pivot to best respond to the community. We're thrilled we have been able to serve the communities and we look forward to being able to continue that and responding to the needs of the community at the same time."



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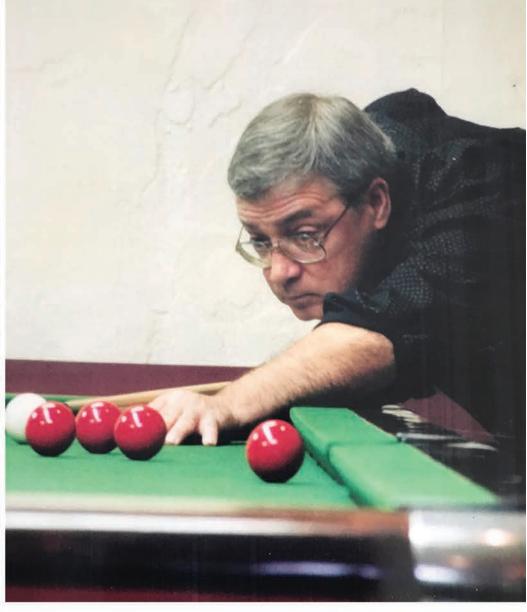




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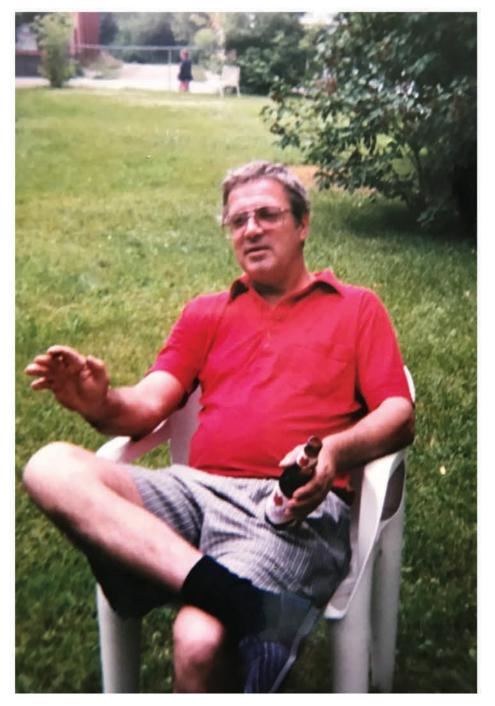


"IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME THAT I MIGHT LOSE MY BROTHER ONE DAY. AFTER ALL, I'D NEVER KNOWN A LIFE WITHOUT HIM."

John and I were the fourth and fifth of six siblings, and we were always close. We grew up in a small town in the Georgina area, along with our parents and four other sisters. His presence was a constant – for me, and for our town.

It was only after he was rushed to the hospital in December 2020 that I found out my brother had been feeling unwell for some time. Soon enough, we received the diagnosis everyone fears. Cancer quickly robbed my brother of his independence. Within a couple of months, he lost the ability to walk. By August, we were told it was time to consider end-of-life care.

That's when John was transferred to Margaret Bahen Hospice. After months of visiting John in a cold and impersonal hospital environment, I was amazed by the serenity I felt as soon as I walked through the hospice's front doors. The staff greeted me warmly. The halls were filled with light. I was overwhelmed by relief to know my brother would be well cared for even when I couldn't be there myself.



For the first time since his hospital admission, I was able to truly exhale. Every family deserves the comfort of knowing their loved ones are safe and well supported during their last days.

I never had to worry that my brother was lonely or ignored, because they truly took the time to get to know him. They wheeled John out into the sunshine when the weather was good. They wrote

game times on his whiteboard so he never had to miss out on the sports he loved. They even filled his room with balloons on his 70th birthday!

The hospice's care made a difficult time so much easier. When John eventually passed away last spring, we felt at peace knowing he'd had every comfort possible.

You never really think about what the end of someone's life will look like until it's happening, but I can't imagine a better place to be for your final chapter. You see, the hospice relies on the support of people like you and me for the "extras" that make it such a wonderful place for families. From stocking the kitchen with snacks to bringing in special activities for residents, it's the community that ensures Margaret Bahen Hospice feels like a home away from home.

Make a gift today to Margaret Bahen Hospice in their mission of providing serenity to other families that need it most in the community. www.myhospice.ca/jays-story/.

Sincerely,

Jay Beaudrow





To read more about Jay's story, visit our website: www.myhospice.ca/jays-story/

Annual YRPA golf tournament nets \$13,000 for charities

(YRPA) hosted its 33rd Annual Memorial Golf Tournament at RedCrest Golf Club to raise funds for Salvation Army Central York Region and the YRPA Benevolent Fund. This year, the tournament raised \$13,000 to support these two charities.

"The participation and generosity of our police association members, golfers and sponsors help to make this tournament such a success," said Rob O'Quinn, President, York Regional Police Association. "Too often our members see first-hand the challenges facing our communities, as well as the need for funding for Salvation Army Central York Region so they can continue to provide hope and support to children, families and individuals that need it most."

"A portion of the money raised from today's tournament will also help to support our YRPA Benevolent Fund which provides assistance to members of YRPA and their families due to death, illness or injury," said Mike Buchanan, Vice President, York Regional Police Association and Chair of the Me-

York Regional Police Association morial Golf Tournament Committee.

More than 140 golfers attended the tournament, which is held each year in memory of, and in honour of York Regional Police officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. Over the last nine years, the YRPA Memorial Golf Tournament has raised over \$80,000 for the Salvation Army Central York Region.

"The Salvation Army Central York Region is honoured to be a recipient of donations generated from the annual York Regional Police Association Memorial Golf Tournament. This year the funds will be earmarked toward The Pathway of Hope program which focuses on identifying and addressing root issues for people living in poverty. It is a high impact, strength-based, case management approach providing targeted services to people who desire to take action and pursue positive change. At the same time, we are investing in our mental health support programs which includes individual counselling and group therapy provided by registered psychotherapists," said Fred Reid, Captain, The Salvation Army Central York Region.



Members from YRPA's Memorial Golf Tournament Committee pictured with Captain Fred Reid and Carolyn Reid from Salvation Army Central York Region.

helped to make the tournament possible, including SurNet Insurance Group, raffle prizes and silent auction from Brauti Thorning LLP, Plus VG Architects, Epstein & Associates and Allegra and sponsors.

There were many sponsors who Aurora. The association also received over 100 tournament donations for the local businesses, community partners

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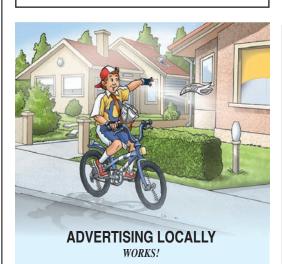
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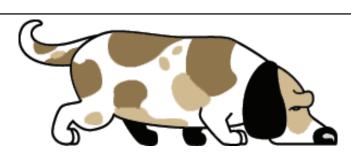
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King's Corners

From Page 22

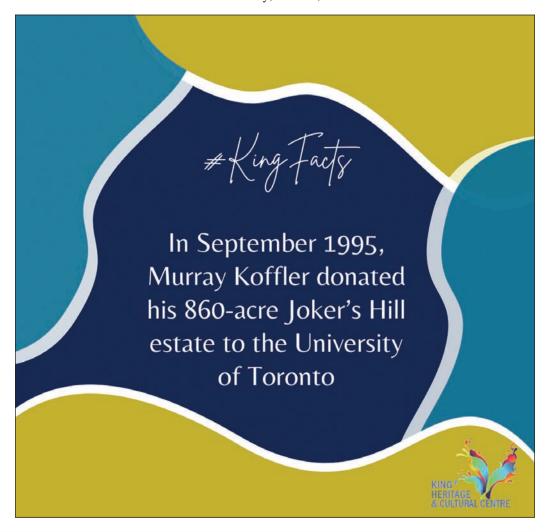
"Sometimes we can be lulled into thinking our religion is strictly one of peace. It would be nice if that were true. This gospel, moves us beyond that sentimental kind of Christianity to think about a riskier version of discipleship – one that addresses the realities of our world. Theologian Debie Thomas wrote, 'If an unrisky religion is what we feel entitled to practice, we've misunderstood Christianity. If neither you nor anyone within your sphere of influence has ever been provoked, disturbed, surprised, or challenged by your life of faith, then things are not okay in your life of faith.'

"And she's right. Jesus also said in our gospel today that, 'Those who lose their life for my sake will find it.' The life of faith is sacrificial, It doesn't guarantee our safety, our health, or our financial or social success. The life of faith is arduous

and. 'to preach otherwise is to make a mockery of the Gospel.' (Debie Thomas)

"This brings us back to Jesus saying he came not to bring peace but a sword. Jesus was reminding us that the peace that he offers us is not a false peace, peaceful only on the surface but hiding what's underneath. And it's not the peace of complacency, denial or dishonesty. The peace that Jesus offers is a truth-telling, life-changing, heart-rending peace that can hurt before it heals, and cause us great discomfort so that we can experience true peace.

"In the Bible, whenever people met Jesus, they were transformed in some way, compelled to change. But I believe they experienced a peace that divides, a peace that brings us to the point of crisis, a peace that is given to us by the God. I pray that our faith will always be robust; engaged in justice and truth, full of conviction and powered by love. I pray that as we live that deeply risky faith that we will experience God's peace and presence which sustains us."



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right to edit, revise, classify or reject any advertisement.

In that short and precious time, you brought us so much love, today we send you all of ours, way up in heaven above.

Your leaving caused us many tears, and such a lot of pain, but we will always remember you, until we meet again.

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The Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Sadly, this past Saturday the entertainment for Sidewalkable Saturday had to be cancelled due to the risk of thunderstorms, but our stores were still able to have their goods out on display on the sidewalk part of the sale. Luckily, the rain mostly held off but we did spot some lightning and heard some thunder in the area. Don't fret though because there will be more opportunities to enjoy entertainment and do some shopping coming this summer.

July 22nd, Main Street will be closed and it's requested you don't park on the street that day, to allow for the next Sidewalkable Saturday with a twist. Main Street has partnered with the "Four Seasons Market" to host a pop up market. There will also be sidewalk sales, live music by "Mainstreet" Band and more. I'll have the link for vendor registration shortly, but make sure to mark that in your calendar.

This weekend we will be celebrating

Canada Day, it's the 156th birthday of our wonderful Country. Canada ranks 7th in the world in the 2021 Human Freedom index, and is still considered one of the top freest countries in the world. In case you were wondering the USA isn't even in the top 15. Despite what you've heard, we still seem to be doing very well here and have a lot to be grateful for.

Speaking of Canada Day celebrations this Saturday there will be a celebration, including fireworks, music, food and fun at Kettleby Park starting at 5 p.m. running to dusk. As a reminder, fireworks can only be set off on Canada Day on private property, but why not just leave it to the professionals and head to Kettleby Park.

The 55+ Group had their potluck luncheon this past Monday to celebrate summer and the success of this wonderful group. We are now up to 68 members and growing. There are so many great things coming up, including a few trips to local theatres, jewelry making, Christmas planters and there are also a couple of adventures, including a day trip to Bala for the Cranberry Festival in October. There is something for ev-

The group is taking a break for the

summer so the next meeting will be at the Schomberg Community Hall, September 7 at 10:30. Cost to join for King residents is \$15 single or a couple (two people residing at the same address) \$20, non-residents \$20 single and \$30 for a couple. These fees are annual not monthly.

Euchre night is Thursday nights from 7:00 to 9 p.m. in the Curling Club at Trisan. It's \$10 per night or \$20 a month. Everyone is welcome to join but be prepared to laugh a lot and meet some great people. All welcome so come out and join us.

Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to one of our founding members, Mary Murphy, who is leaving the area and moving to Guelph, just a bit too far to drive on a Thursday night. Mary started out never having played Euchre before but quickly caught on and even won high score a couple of weeks back. Good luck Mary, you will be missed.

King Township is organizing a new volleyball league starting on July 19 in Osin Lions Park on Wednesday night from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$63 per player or if you'd like to enter a team it's \$378 per team (minimum of 6, maximum of 8). This will run for 7 weeks. Check out king.ca/leagues for more info.

I've been trying to come up with a saying for this article, something to inspire and something to make this community a little bit kinder. I know we've seen a lot of kindness and giving over the years, but with that we've also seen a lot of "not so nice" things done and said. I couldn't find one saying that worked, I found several so I thought I'd share one each week and hope it inspires us to maybe be a little bit kinder and stop and think before we speak.

"Blowing out someone else's candles doesn't make yours shine any brighter" author unknown.

Happy Canada Day all, we sure have lots to celebrate! Stay safe everyone.

Again, if you find a lost dog or cat, please secure it and call Vaughan Animal Control at 905-832-2281, they are responsible for this area.

Please reach out with your events, stories of happenings or anything you'd love to see here sporter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.





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York Greening Strategy makes significant gains

The Regional Municipality of York's 2022 Greening Strategy achievements showcases on-the-ground actions York Region, its partners and local cities and towns have taken to protect and enhance the natural environment.

"York Regional Council is committed to our Greening Strategy which supports a healthier, more resilient and sustainable natural environment and continues to enhance our green spaces," said Wayne Emmerson, York Region Chairman and CEO. "Since the Greening Strategy was first developed in 2001, we have made remarkable progress to plant a legacy for future generations, provide cleaner air and water. habitat for wildlife and mitigate impacts of climate change."

The 2022 Greening Strategy achievements exceeded targets in several areas, contributing to a greener York Region with:

• 110,391 trees and shrubs planted in schoolyards, backyards, municipal parks, private forests, conservation areas, along streets and in the York Regional Forest; the largest number of plantings in a single year since 2011.

- 6,000 pollinator-friendly plants and 900 pollinator seed mixes planted or distributed to create habitat for butterflies, bees and other pollinators.
- 13.7 hectares (34 acres) of land secured to protect and enhance natural areas.
- 123 outreach events (21 virtual) to inspire stewardship and action held with 8,621 participants.

"I am encouraged to see more opportunities for residents, businesses and partners to work together and get inspired making York Region a greener and more resilient community," said Richmond Hill Mayor. David West. Chair of the Region's Public Works Environmental Services. "The Greening Strategy is wisely using investments from senior levels of government to further York Regional Council's commitment to protect and sustain the natural and built environment to reduce our ecological impact."

In 2019, York Region was awarded \$10 million in funding through Infrastructure Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund towards implementing a \$25 million natural infrastructure

project over eight years. Annual tree ing Strategy has been used as a tool to planting achievements and conservation land acquisitions through Greening Strategy programs contribute to our funding commitments.

Since its adoption in 2001, the Green-

realize York Region's Sustainable Environment priorities.

Learn more about York Region's Greening Strategy at york.ca/greening

Deliberate fire costs taxpayers thousands

By Mark Pavilons **Editor**

A deliberately set fire in one of the washrooms at Memorial Park will cost the Township thousands in tax dollars.

On June 2 around 5 p.m., a fire was deliberately set in one of the washrooms at Memorial Park in King City. This placed this washroom out of service until further notice. Damage is pegged between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Fire Chief Jim Wall said the cause was determined to be deliberate in nature. The following evening (June 3), a garbage can was also set on fire in the same vicinity. Both of these incidents required both fire and police to

While not confirmed, the mayor speculated the fire was lit by local teens, prompting his message to parents: "We should all know where our children

If anyone has any information on these fires, please contact York Regional Police, or Fire Prevention Officer Tibbitts at King Fire and Emergency Services at 905-833-5321.



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