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King's Community Newspaper

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Students show generosity

The kindergarten students at Nobleton Public School learned generosity before the holidays. The students painted "Generosity Jars" that they took home and collected loose change and donations. Just before the Christmas break, the King Township Food Bank came to the school to collect the money the students raised. The kindergartens managed to raise over \$912 for the food bank to help families in need have access to perishable food items like fruit and vegetables.

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Environmental Action Team takes over from SAC

By Mark Pavilonis
Editor

The new King Environmental Action Team (KEAT) is the boots-on-the-ground effort to address local initiatives. Replacing the former King Sustainability Advisory Committee, KEAT will be comprised of local residents, community groups and even schools. KEAT will support staff in undertaking municipal and community based environmental action projects and initiatives within King Township. King created the SAC in 2012, as part of the development of the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. Over time, SAC's mandate became unclear and even redundant. Provincial regulations mandated that municipalities develop and implement policies. SAC also struggled to retain membership. It was dissolved this past March.

Staff recommended the creation of KEAT that would be more focused on the implementation of municipal and community-based projects and initiatives and be more hands-on. Consultation began this spring and summer, gauging interest from the community. A survey was also posted and staff discovered that residents were indeed interested in being involved. KEAT will act as a link between citizens and Township Staff to address and assist in the implementation of projects that will enhance the local community. Key initiatives that KEAT will support include:


- Tree, shrub and wildflower plantings.
- Workshops related to environmental projects.
- Undertake guided hikes across the Township.
- Participate in monitoring activities.
- Host a community clean-up.

See 'KEAT' on Page 3

INSIDE


REGULAR FEATURES

Editorial	Page 4
Business	Page 8
Sports	Page 13
Classifieds	Page 15



Southlake, York ink deal to address issues.

See Page 8



Curlers crown first half champs.

See Page 13



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UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, Jan. 8
6 p.m. - Public Planning Meeting
In-person at the King Township Municipal Centre at 2585 King Rd and live streamed at king.ca/meetings

Monday, Jan. 15
6 p.m. - Council
In-person at the King Township Municipal Centre at 2585 King Rd and live streamed at king.ca/meetings

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Wednesday, Jan. 17
6 p.m. - Committee of Adjustment
Hybrid Meeting (In-person/virtual participation, and live-streamed)
Visit king.ca/cofameetings 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.

- Finance Clerk – Accounts Receivable / Accounts Payable – Finance – Deadline January 12
- Operator II – Facilities – Community Services – Deadline January 12
- Recreation League Convenor – Community Services – Deadline January 19



king.ca/employment

WE'RE HIRING

Spring/Summer Seasonal Positions



PUBLIC NOTICES

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Review

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HAPPY NEW YEAR



York Region approves \$4.2 billion annual budget

York Regional Council approved a \$4.2-billion budget for 2024, the second year of the multi-year budget aligning with the term of Council.

The budget includes a tax levy increase of 2.75% and a 1% Rapid Transit/Infrastructure levy, consistent with the outlook endorsed by Council as part of the 2023-2026 budget. Regional Council also endorsed the outlook for the remaining two years of the current multi-year budget: 2.60% and a continuation of the 1% Rapid Transit/Infrastructure levy in both 2025 and 2026.

“Approving a budget is not only a fiscal decision, but also reinforces our commitment to investing in our shared vision for a strong and sustainable future,” said York Region Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. “As we look forward, our focus remains on ensuring cost-effective Regional infrastructure, programs and services are accessible today, and positioned to meet the evolving needs of our residents tomorrow. This is especially important as we continue to understand the significant financial short and long term impacts of the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Bill 23), as well as post-pandemic economic conditions and other world

Budget tax increase adds \$105 to average property tax bill

events.”

The \$4.2-billion budget is comprised of \$3.2 billion in operating costs and \$1 billion in capital expenditures.

The 2024 \$3.2-billion operating budget covers day-to-day expenses, with 82 cents of Regional property tax dollars funding frontline programs and services. This includes 33 cents for Public Works Environmental Services and Transportation, 29 cents for York Regional Police and 20 cents for Community and Health Services.

The 2024 \$1 billion capital budget includes spending on growth-related projects plus renewal of existing assets. These expenditures are part of a record high 10-year capital plan of \$11.6 billion, which reflects new provincial direction on servicing growth in northern municipalities, invests in infrastructure needed to achieve provincial housing targets and continues investing to tackle critical community housing needs.

York Region’s multi-year budget aligns with the Region’s Strategic Plan, emphasizing priorities during Council’s four-year term. The budget supports these priorities, with each department using it to guide spending.

“The 2024 budget provides required resources to continue delivering on key Council priorities,” said Township of King Mayor Steve Pellegrini, Chair of Finance and Administration. “Housing is top-of-mind, and we are moving forward with accelerating construction of infrastructure to give our cities and towns the best chance to meet new provincially mandated housing targets.”

York Region’s financial management is guided by the Fiscal Strategy, aiming

for the long-term goal of financial sustainability through prudent management of the capital plan, reserves and use of debt. This strategy ensures a balance between the needs of current and future taxpayers.

Additional information regarding the 2024 budget can be found at york.ca/budget

The Regional Municipality of York consists of nine local cities and towns and provides a variety of programs and services to more than 1.2 million residents and 55,600 businesses with more than 615,000 employees. More information about the Region’s key service areas is available at york.ca/regional-services

KEAT readies for first meeting

From Front Page

- Host a local “green fair.”
- Partner on grants applications.
- Participate in circular economy events and initiatives.
- Host KEAT booths at events to promote the team and engage with citizens.
- Assist with projects related to climate change and sustainability issues impacting King Township.
- Collaborate with other community groups.

Staff will contact all those who expressed interest in joining KEAT and continue recruitment over the next few months. A preliminary workplan that identifies key initiatives for the teams consideration will be established in conjunction with municipal strategic plan alignment and seek feedback from KEAT members at the first meeting in January 2024.

Region approves YRP budget

York Regional Council has approved the 2024 York Regional Police operating and capital budgets, allowing YRP organization to continue to deliver nationally recognized crime prevention and law enforcement programs as well as investigative leadership to our more than 1.2 million citizens living in one of Canada’s safest communities.

The approved net Operating Budget for 2024 is \$410.1 million, representing an increase of 4.6% over 2023. The capital budget is \$30.5 million, with capital spending authority for multiple-year projects of \$36.1 million.

YRP will be adding 46 additional members in 2024 to meet growth demands across York Region and workload pressures, while maintaining

quality service levels. These additional members will address the objectives of safety and well-being, inclusion and belonging, recruitment and retention, with a continued focus on innovation and continuous improvement


The capital budget will provide funding for the new Vaughan Metropolitan Centre substation, a new helicopter hangar, a CCTV project, replace vehicles, renovations of key facilities, and the annual purchase of specialized equipment.

This budget supports our policing environment and business plan, with a continued focus on our people and our community, while maintaining the lowest gross cost per capita among comparators.




Lion Ken Orr recognized for service

Lion Ken Orr was recognized Dec. 5 for 45 years of service to the community and the King City Lions Club by District Governor Lion Sudha Verma. Lion Ken has held many roles with the King City Lions Club including past-president and with District A-16. Lion Ken is currently Region 18 Chairperson for District A-16.



Did you know in March 2023 King Township was officially certified by Nature Canada as a Bird Friendly City?

#KingFacts



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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

- Michael Connelly

Internet habits reveal humankind's weaknesses

It's been said for generations that you are what you eat.

Unfortunately, our North American diet is sadly lacking in nutrition and is laden with chemicals and substances not found on the periodic table.

We've known about this for some time and in the last decade, there's been a bit of a revolt, or resurgence in a more balanced diet and lifestyle.

But of course, that comes with a cost and since most of us are keenly aware of the rising costs of food, our perfect choices may have to be curtailed.

Data released by the Salvation Army indicate that parents are actually skipping meals, so their kids can have more to eat. I've done it, and I really feel for these families. I'm not sure how we let this happen in our society but here we are, in 2024, with food prices pegged to rise yet again and record numbers going to food banks.

Our appetite for goodies aside, let's examine our online hunger for knowledge and entertainment.

The Internet was created in Research at CERN in Switzerland by British computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee in 1989-90. It resulted in the World Wide Web, linking hypertext documents into an information system, accessible from any node on the network. The dramatic expansion of the capacity of the Internet, enabled by the advent of wave division multiplexing (WDM) and the rollout of fiber optic cables in the mid-1990s, has had a revolutionary impact on culture, commerce, and technology.

This made possible the rise of near-instant communication by email, instant messaging, voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone calls, video chat, and the World Wide Web with its discussion forums, blogs, social networking services, and online shopping sites.

Youngins weren't around when the world changed but Boomers will remember going from fax, to flip phones and from dial-up to amazing connectivity.

I will admit that most of our holiday shopping this year was done online,



Mark Pavilons

with only a few jaunts to stores and one trip to the mall.

Yes we've embraced the ease and convenience of having our parcels delivered to our door in a day or two.

Through my work, I am also on the computer a lot, communicating and searching for information.

OntarioBets.com sifted through Google Trends and released the list of top searches of 2023. The results paint a rather interesting picture of our species.

The number one search was for ChatGPT, which I had to Google. ChatGPT (Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer) is a chatbot developed by OpenAI and launched on Nov. 30, 2022. Based on a large language model, it enables users to refine and steer a conversation towards a desired length, format, style, level of detail, and language.

So that's what I'm exposed to every time I call a customer service hotline?

This seems to be a bane to our existence.

The 2023 Indian Premier League of cricket teams was also widely searched, likely for results of matches. The Sau-

di Arabian football club Al Nassr was next. Sports fans of the world unite!

The movie John Wick 4 was 4th on the list. Yes, I did see it and I admit that my son and I are staunch Wick (Keanu Reeves) fans.

"Israel" came in next, for obvious reasons given the current conflict in Gaza.

Taylor Swift was 6th on the list.

Sure, I understand fandom and the music industry, but come on.

Being a Boomer, I've seen all of the entertainment greats - Elvis, Elton John, Queen, Michael Jackson and Prince. You can't put our modern day, candy-coated singers in the same league, not even close.

Imagine sifting through the wasteland of a post-apocalyptic ruins and finding a Taylor Swift on the cover of some scorched magazine? Oh, the humanity! And yes, only Boomers will get that quote.

eConestoga, the online learning platform for Conestoga College, was next. But that's a very good thing, indicating young people were looking at learning options.

Unfortunately, MyBenefits Ontario was next. This is a web portal for Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program. It's an indication of the plight of our citizens and the state of our economy. Sad, but true.

QuillBot rounded out the list. Here is the magic. It's a free tool that helps you rephrase text for writing assignments, papers and essays. Really it's a way to cheat and make something sound like it's your own work.

Ingenious, sure, but is this what we've come to?

Okay, students have been prone to finding shortcuts since pencil and paper were invented. We resorted to some pretty clever ways to bend the rules when the teacher wasn't looking.

It may very well be a commentary on the current state of the education system, at all levels.

Being a journalist and editor, I have helped all my kids with their papers throughout high school and beyond. One would think that together, we'd produce some Grade-A work and yet, the marks did not reflect that. Even comments about bad grammar and plagiarism were noted. What? You're kidding me, right? Clearly there's more subjective marking than technical prowess at work here. And that's not fair to the students.

Having all three of our kids go through the same high school I also discovered the exact same assignments, study sheets, topics and preferred readings. That indicates the board hasn't changed its curriculum in at least 10-15 years. That, my friends, is ridiculous. Shame on them.

So maybe it isn't surprising that kids have to find new ways to analyze Hamlet or Motorcycles & Sweetgrass.

Long live QuillBot!

So my friends, what have we learned? From this list I can only surmise that many of our fellow citizens are out of work sports fans who like pop music and don't have time for homework.

That's reassuring!

Provincial News

Ontario calls for additional clarity for Highway 413

The Province is asking the federal government to "get out of the way" so it can proceed with Highway 413.

Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, said: "I am urging them to (similarly) get out of the way so that our government can get shovels in the ground on Highway 413.

"Until the federal government provides the certainty we need by acknowledging that its unconstitutional legislation doesn't apply to this vital infrastructure project, Ontario will continue to move forward with our judicial review of Highway 413. As we do, we will also continue to follow our world-leading environmental assessment processes and respect our duty to consult obligations.

"As Ontario continues to grow at unprecedented speed, we need to build the infrastructure required to keep pace with our historic growth. It has never been more important to build roads, bridges, highways and public transit to connect our communities and tackle gridlock. Now is the time for the federal government to work with provinces to move critical projects forward, including Highway 413, so we can continue to build a stronger and more connected Ontario."

The Supreme Court of Canada last October released an opinion that held that the vast majority of the federal government's duplicative Impact Assessment Act was unconstitutional. The federal government's refusal to accept that decision prompted Ontario's immediate application for judicial review for Highway 413 and Ontario Place. The province is using the legal tools at its disposal to ensure landmark infrastructure projects can proceed without unnecessary delay.



Quote of the Week

"Turn your wounds into wisdom."

Oprah Winfrey

Trivia Tidbits

A Chatham, Ontario man created Hawaiian pizza in 1962.

KingWeeklySentinel **WEBPOLL**
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Results from last week's poll:

Were you able to spend time with family over the holidays?

a) Yes **80%**

b) No **20%**

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you optimistic about 2024?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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Farm, rural prosperity will boost provincial economy

By Drew Spoelstra
Vice President, Ontario
Federation of Agriculture

Comment

Although economic news regularly dominates headlines these days, the economy will be of particular focus on this week's public and media calendar.

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual Ontario Economic Summit in Toronto this week, and the provincial government will be releasing its annual Ontario Economic and Fiscal Review, or what we more commonly know as the Fall Economic Statement.

The Summit will bring together leaders and stakeholders from the public and private sectors to network, as well as discuss and learn about the current economic landscape and solutions that could help drive prosperity, encourage innovation and investment, and address pressing issues like housing, inflation, healthcare, education and economic prosperity.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) will have representatives at the Summit, and I'll be one of them. I'm a Vice President with the OFA, the largest general farm organization in the province, representing close to 50,000 Ontario farmers and farm families. I also farm with my family near Binbrook in the city limits of Hamilton, giving me unique perspectives into both the farming community and the intersection of urban and rural issues.

Many Ontarians probably don't know that agriculture is one of the largest sectors of the provincial economy, generating more than \$47 billion in economic activity every year and supporting 750,000 jobs or about 10 percent of the province's workforce.

That makes farming and rural Ontario directly connected to most if not all major segments of the provincial economy, from transportation and manufacturing to infrastructure, education and healthcare.

And that's why, for me, this is one of the most important and interesting events to attend every year. The needs of agriculture and rural communities can be quite unique, and I find it extremely valuable to learn more about where our sector intersects with others, to explore where common goals might lie, and to engage with people and organizations representing different interests and perspectives.

This year, perhaps fittingly, the theme of the Summit is partnerships for prosperity which mirrors OFA's overall mission of Farms and Food Forever and our drive to work collaboratively with sectors, organizations and individuals who share a similar vision.

The government's Fall Economic Statement will provide a snapshot of where public finances are at, as well as serving as a kick-off to Ontario's annual provincial budget consultations. This is where Ontarians will be able to submit their ideas to the government about what they believe should be priority spending areas for the coming provincial budget year.

OFA takes part in this consultation every year, making sure that the needs and priorities of farmers and rural communities are communicated to government. We present ideas for action on both short-term, immediate issues in need of solutions, as well as recommendations for larger, longer-term challenges that have impact beyond our own stakeholder community.

Sound investments in rural Ontario will enhance farming, agri-business and rural economic growth, which will spillover into the rest of the provincial economy.

Investing in critical infrastructure like energy, broadband internet, roads, bridges, schools, and healthcare for our communities helps distribute economic development across the province.

Access to natural gas, and reliable and affordable electricity and broadband internet is essential to keep rural Ontario competitive and productive – and appealing for families.

This means long-term investments in rural roads, bridges, high-speed internet, natural gas to attract new businesses and residents in rural communities. And it means social infrastructure investment in schools, healthcare and mental wellness to make rural Ontario

an attractive option for families.

We appreciate the critical investments the government has made in broadband services, new and updated hospital projects, and other important infrastructure. It's essential that these projects happen quickly, and that the government continues to invest in critical infrastructure that supports rural Ontario's residents and businesses and drives the provincial economy forward.

Mackenzie Health welcomes first baby of 2024

Mackenzie Health welcomed its first baby of 2024 at Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital – Mia, born at 12:27 a.m. New Year's Day, weighing 7 lbs, 14 oz. This is the first baby for proud parents Vic and Katie from Maple.

"We're very grateful to everyone here," said Vic and Katie. "Having the first baby of 2024 was really special."

The Woman and Child program at Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital offers a one-stop suite of services accessible by direct elevator to support women and children through pregnancy and delivery to neonatal and pediatric care.

Mackenzie Health relocated its Woman and Child program to Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital from Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital when the new hospital opened in June 2021. It provides a full range of services for mothers and children conveniently located on one floor accessible by a direct elevator. The program offers access to a wide variety of specialists close to home, including obstetricians, pediatricians, midwives, neonatologists, maternal-fetal doctors for high-risk pregnancies, social workers, psychiatrists, diabetes coordinators and lactation consultants to help new moms with breastfeeding.

By relocating the program to Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, Mackenzie Health has significantly increased its capacity to bring babies into the world.

In 2023, the labour and delivery team at Mackenzie Health supported thousands of families delivering more than 3,800 babies. This is compared to the 2,650 babies delivered at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital in 2020.

The Woman and Child program at Mackenzie Health includes state-of-the-art birthing suites, a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), a Pediatric unit,

and pregnancy, newborn and pediatric clinics. These are all conveniently located at our hospitals so women and children can transition easier and faster between services, and health care providers can collaborate on care plans that honour the needs, expectations and beliefs of the entire family. In 2023, Mackenzie Health expanded the Woman and Child program to offer a Pediatric Urgent Care Clinic at both Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital and Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital to be able to care for even more sick kids across Richmond Hill, Vaughan and King. There have been more than 6,800 visits to the Pediatric Urgent Care Clinic since it opened across both hospitals.



It's official – flu season is here along with COVID-19 and RSV

Influenza (flu) has now crossed the threshold in Canada to declare flu season and numbers are rising in Ontario. This comes with already very high levels of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses circulating in our communities, and exceptional strain on our acute care hospitals in York Region and across Ontario.

York Region Public Health is strongly recommending individuals over age 65 to get their COVID-19 and flu vaccines.

"It is critically important for those at risk of getting very sick, such as people 65 years and older, to get updated flu and COVID-19 vaccinations," said Dr. Barry Pakes, York Region Medical Officer of Health. "The updated vaccine received in the last six months is specific to circulating strains will help avoid severe outcomes, such as hospitalization and death from both serious illnesses."

To date, almost one-third of residents over age 60 have received the updated COVID-19 XBB vaccine. York Region Public Health vaccination clinics are open and accessible to ensure everyone who needs the vaccines can get them before gathering for the holidays. Staying up to date with vaccinations continues to be the best defence against severe outcomes from COVID-19 and flu infections. It is safe and convenient to receive both the COVID-19 and flu vaccines at the same time.

In York Region, the levels of COVID-19 circulating in communities are very high and new and ongoing hospitalizations due to COVID-19 have continued to increase steadily. York Region anticipates a steep increase in flu circulating in communities throughout December and into January. This upward trajectory of respiratory viruses circulating heading into the holiday season puts an exceptional strain on hospitals, making it challenging to help others who are extremely ill and in need of emergency care.

We all play an important part in protecting ourselves and our loved ones this respiratory season, including:

Staying up to date with vaccinations.

Wearing a well-constructed mask in potentially crowded indoor public settings for anyone at high risk of severe infection.

Staying at home when you are sick.

Covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze and washing your hands often.

If you are at high risk and get sick, it is advisable to test for COVID-19 as you may be eligible for antiviral treatment to prevent severe infection.

Visit a York Region COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic by appointment or just walk into any of its five clinics or any participating pharmacy.

For more information on how to avoid getting and spreading the flu visit york.ca/Flu

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COP28 climate summit shows we must stand up to Big Oil

By David Suzuki

Environmental Issues

Like the tobacco industry before it, the fossil fuel industry is doing all it can to survive – and to keep raking in excessive profits – in the face of irrefutable evidence of its harms. Nowhere was that clearer than at the COP28 climate summit in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Hosted by a major oil-producing nation and headed by that country's top oil executive, and attended by an army of lobbyists, representatives and supporters of the oil and gas industries, it often seemed more like a conference to throw industry a lifeline than to come to grips with the most serious threat humanity has ever faced. The Alberta and Saskatchewan governments even sent delegations, acting more as representatives of the oil and gas industry than of their citizens' best interests.

But we can't let the oversized presence of the industry responsible for the crisis overshadow the efforts of governments from around the world to reduce emissions.

Before the conference, COP28 president and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company head Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber claimed that there is "no science" showing that phasing out fossil fuels will achieve the goal of keeping global warming below 1.5 C. He also repeated the false argument that phasing out gas, oil and coal would "take the world back into caves."

United Nations secretary general António Guterres was more realistic: "The science is clear: The 1.5 C limit is only possible if we ultimately stop burning all fossil fuels. Not reduce, not abate. Phase out, with a clear time-frame."

The myth that transitioning from deadly fossil fuels to cleaner energy will cause economic harm doesn't hold up even in the current economic paradigm. Research shows it could create more jobs and economic opportunities.

A Deloitte study for the World Economic Forum found that "the global economy could gain US\$43 trillion over the next five decades by rapidly accelerating the transition to net-zero," and that failing to do so "could cost the global economy US\$178 trillion."

A report by the Business & Sustainable Development Commission found sustainable development measures could generate up to 380 million jobs by 2030, mostly in developing countries.

The costs of climate disruption are already rising, from extreme weather-related infrastructure and agriculture damage to pollution-related health care costs and migrant crises. Markets for gas, oil and coal are also volatile, and subject to industry profiteering from global conflict, which creates a "fossilflation" affordability crisis. At the same time, costs for renewable energy continue to drop, with wind and

solar now cheaper than gas, oil or coal, even with storage, as well as being far less damaging.

While COP28 should be about the severity of the threat of climate change and how best to address it, some delegates questioned whether it's even a threat. Instead of being informed by what science tells us about the state of the planet and the dangers created by our actions, we give economic and political considerations equal, if not greater, priority. The extent of our willingness to act to meet the crisis is not determined by the magnitude of the threat but by what is possible within the constraints of the economy and politics, which are driven by deadlines set in amped-up human time.

Despite industry hijacking of the climate narrative, we can't dismiss the progress made at COP28. On the first day of the conference, November 30, countries agreed to set up a loss and damage fund to help vulnerable countries respond to climate change impacts. A couple of days later, 118 countries pledged to triple renewable energy

capacity by 2030. Later, Canada joined other countries, including the U.S., in announcing regulations to cut methane emissions from the oil and gas sector, with Canada pledging to reduce industry's emissions of the potent greenhouse gas by at least 75 per cent below 2012 levels by 2030.

These and other agreed-upon measures have justifiably been criticized for not being enough to confront rapidly rising emissions and global temperatures, but they're a start. Again, fossil fuel supporters, including the Alberta and Saskatchewan governments, have pushed back, but we must all speak louder in calling for stronger, not weaker, global action.

For the sake of humanity, we have to get this right. We must heed the evidence. We're running out of time.

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki Foundation Senior Writer and Editor Ian Hanington. Learn more at david Suzuki.org.

Former councillor Morning passes away

King has lost one of its long-serving residents.

James Morning passed away peacefully at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket on Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023 at 88 years of age.

He was a chartered member of Kettleby Pottageville Lion's Club; member of Schomberg Agricultural Society; former 20-year councillor on King Council; past Kettleby Cemetery board member and recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Award.

Beloved husband of the late Audrey Morning (nee Stiver). Loving dad of Grant (Shellee) Morning, Donna Blakely, Drew Morning (Sylvia) and Brent Morning (Kathie Roach). Proud grandpa of Christopher (Dawn), Aaron

(Kimberly), Katie (Alysha); Ryan (Alana), Kevin; and Mackensie. Dear great grandpa of Noah, Tyler, Liam, Liliana, and Carter. Dear brother of late Marie McVety (late Lorne James and late Ev McVety), late Blanche (late Thom) Leslie, and late Cora (late Floyd) Billing. Jim will also be fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held at Skwarchuk Funeral Home, 30 Simcoe Rd., Bradford (1-800-209-4803) on Monday, Jan. 8, 2024 from 1-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Funeral Service will be held at the Funeral Home on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024 at 11 a.m. Interment at Kettleby Cemetery.

In Jim's memory, donations may be made to Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation.

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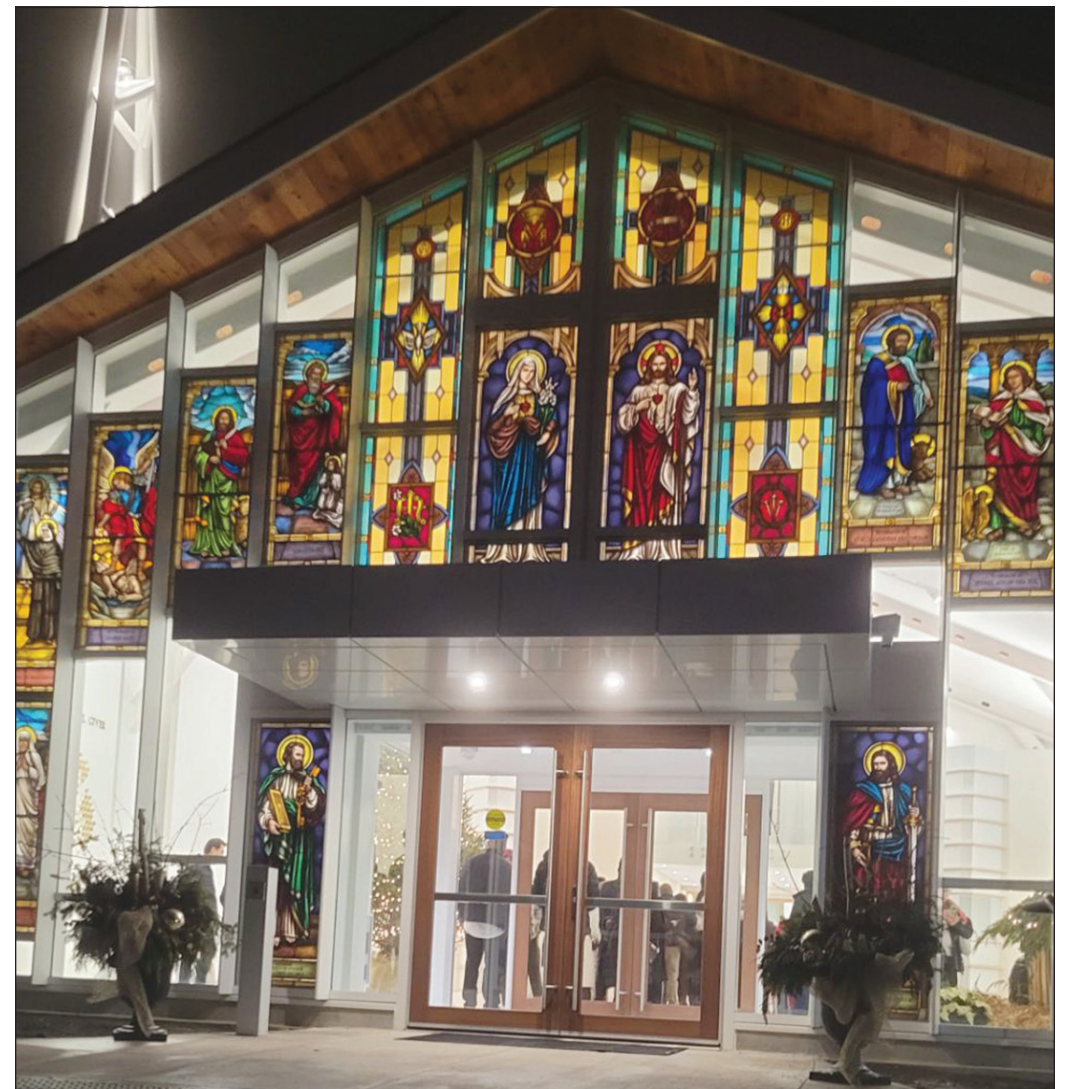
King

7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, January 4 to Wednesday, January 10

THURS 4TH	FRI 5TH	SAT 6TH	SUN 7TH	MON 8TH	TUES 9TH	WED 10TH
Mainly Sunny High -6C° Low -8C° Wind NW 25	Mainly Sunny High -1C° Low -5C° Wind W 18	Mainly Cloudy High -1C° Low -4C° ~1cm Wind E 17	Light Snow High -2C° Low -5C° 1-3cm Wind E 14	Sun/Clouds High 1C° Low -3C° Wind S 11	Snow High 0C° Low -1C° 5-10cm Wind E 33	Scattered Flurries High -1C° Low -6C° <1cm Wind SW 37

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A sight to behold

The Narthex at Night – the new entrance to Sacred Heart Church in King City prior to Christmas Eve Mass. The illumination of the stained glass windows was so warm and welcoming on a damp and foggy Christmas Eve. The Narthex was blessed in a ceremony officiated by Archbishop Francis Leo on December 15.



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Bolton firm counting down to historic Jan. 12 launch

The International Lunar Observatory Association of Hawai'i (ILOA Hawai'i) is set to embark on a groundbreaking lunar mission with the launch of its ILO-X astronomy precursor instrument suite integrated onto a lunar lander made by Intuitive Machines.

The milestone involves a Bolton aerospace firm.

Intuitive Machines' IM-1 lunar mission is targeted for a multi-day launch window which opens no earlier than Jan. 12, and is targeting a landing area in the South Pole region near Malapert A crater at the base of Malapert Massif "The Mountain on the Moon."

The anticipated landing on the lunar surface is expected approximately six-and-a-half days after launch, marking one of the first American missions to the surface of the Moon since Apollo 17 in 1972. The enterprise is made possible through NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services and will utilize the ILO-X instrument suite designed and built for ILOA by Bolton's Canadensys Aerospace on a Nova-C lander named Odysseus, developed by Intuitive Machines.

The ILO-X precursor instrument suite, consisting of Ka 'Imi NFOV and as-yet-unnamed WFOV, has ambitious goals that promise to advance our understanding of the cosmos and pioneer new frontiers in astronomy and lunar exploration:

Galaxy Imaging: ILOA aims to capture high-resolution images of the Milky Way Galaxy/Centre, contributing to the study of cosmic structures and evolution, as well as 21st century science education.

Invited Astronomy Observations: The mission invites 10 distinguished astronomers / observatories from around the world to participate in lunar-based observations, fostering international collaboration and expanding the frontiers of astronomical research and capability.

Hawai'i 21st Century Astronomy: ILO-X aligns with the ILOA founding purpose to advance 21st-century new dimensions of astronomy for Hawai'i, utilizing Maunakea Observatories and Malapert Mt unique vantage points for

groundbreaking observations.

Lunar Broadcasting: ILO-X attempts to explore Interglobal, Earth-Moon communications and broadcasting, amplifying one's message from the Moon to global audiences, informing lunar commerce and developers, and inspiring the next generation of scientists and explorers.

Support for ILO-1/2 Flagship, Backup: Identify and confirm contributors, contributions, awards, contracts enabling ILOA ascending, expanding operations for ILO-1 Flagship to Malapert Point E and ILO-2 Backup possibly to Artemis 3 touchdown site 2025-2027, and support for ILOA HQ 2222 in Kamuela.

Intuitive Machines recently delivered its Nova-C lunar lander to Florida where ILO-X and other payloads will undergo final checkouts before its multi-day launch window which opens next month.

Steve Durst, ILOA Hawai'i Director said: "ILO-X, precursor to the ILO-1/2 flagship and backup missions, aims to conduct Galaxy imaging and pioneer global, interglobal and Hawaiian Astronomy, as well as lunar broadcasting. We are honored to be aboard the IM-1 Nova-C Moon lander using Canadensys-made dual imagers, as the USA returns to the Moon for 21st century multi world advancement."

Christian Sallaberger, Canadensys Aerospace CEO added: "Humanity is on the cusp of expanding our economic, scientific, and cultural sphere of influence to encompass all of cis-lunar space. We are honored to be a part of this historic mission with ILOA and our entire team is very excited to see the images that the instruments will take of the celestial sky from the surface of the Moon!"

"Our turnkey solution for delivering, communicating, and commanding customer payloads on and around the Moon is revolutionary," said Steve Altemus, President and CEO of Intuitive Machines. "Delivering the International Lunar Observatory Association's ILO-X precursor instrument suite and other commercial payloads to the lunar surface are critical steps toward Intuitive Machines creating and defining the lunar economy."



The Canadensys Near Field of View (NFOV) and Wide Field of View (WFOV) optical instruments designed and built for the ILO-X mission are mounted on top of the IM-1 Lunar Lander, arrived at the NASA Kennedy Space Center and is being prepared for launch.

2023 YRP Holiday Heroes food, toy drive a success

York Regional Police would like to thank members of the community, donors, volunteers and corporate sponsors for their generosity and hard work which helped to make the 2023 Holiday Heroes campaign a big success.

Beginning in mid-November, generous donations of money, toys, food and clothing were collected to be distributed to those in need in the community through our partners at the Salvation Army and Victims Services of York Region. Cash donations alone totalled more than \$100,000.

York Regional Police works closely with Victim Services of York Region and the York Region Centre for Community Safety to deliver the donations to pre-identified families who have been victimized by crime, including intimate partner violence.

"Partnerships with these organizations, along with corporate sponsors, donors and volunteers are essential to making this campaign grow year-over-year," said York Regional Police Chief Jim MacSween.

The donations are collected and organized at York Regional Police headquarters by dozens of volunteers, who work hard for more than 1,000 hours collectively each year. Their efforts allow Holiday Heroes to help support around 3,000 families each year.

York Regional Police is thankful to the more than 50 schools, 150 businesses and hundreds of private donors who contribute to the Holiday Heroes campaign each year.

The search for holiday heroes goes on long after the snow has melted. Consider donating in the future with your family, or at your workplace. Learn more about sponsorship opportunities at yrp.ca/HolidayHeroes or by sending an inquiry to holidayheroes@yrp.ca.

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Southlake and York U ink deal to address 'pressing challenges'

By Brock Weir

It was a handshake to look at “addressing pressing challenges” in the community, and in the New Year, Southlake Regional Health Centre and York University will use their respective strengths to do just that.

On December 11, Arden Krystal, Southlake’s outgoing President & CEO, was joined by Rhonda Lenton, President and Vice Chancellor of York University, to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that will enable both parties to “explore mutual areas of interest and goals, opening conversations and furthering health knowledge, practice and policy, and care.”

In a statement, Lenton said this kind of collaboration between healthcare groups and places of education are “more critical than ever to feed the talent pipeline” and foster an environment for life-long learning, leading to ground-breaking research and innovation.”

“I am delighted to continue York University’s partnership with Southlake,” said Lenton. “This MOU signing will leverage York’s long-standing reputation as a leader in healthcare education, while advancing our shared goals of increasing the quality and accessibility of care in York Region and Simcoe County. Together, I am confident we can make important advancements that im-

New Ontario Health Team will serve North York Region and South Simcoe

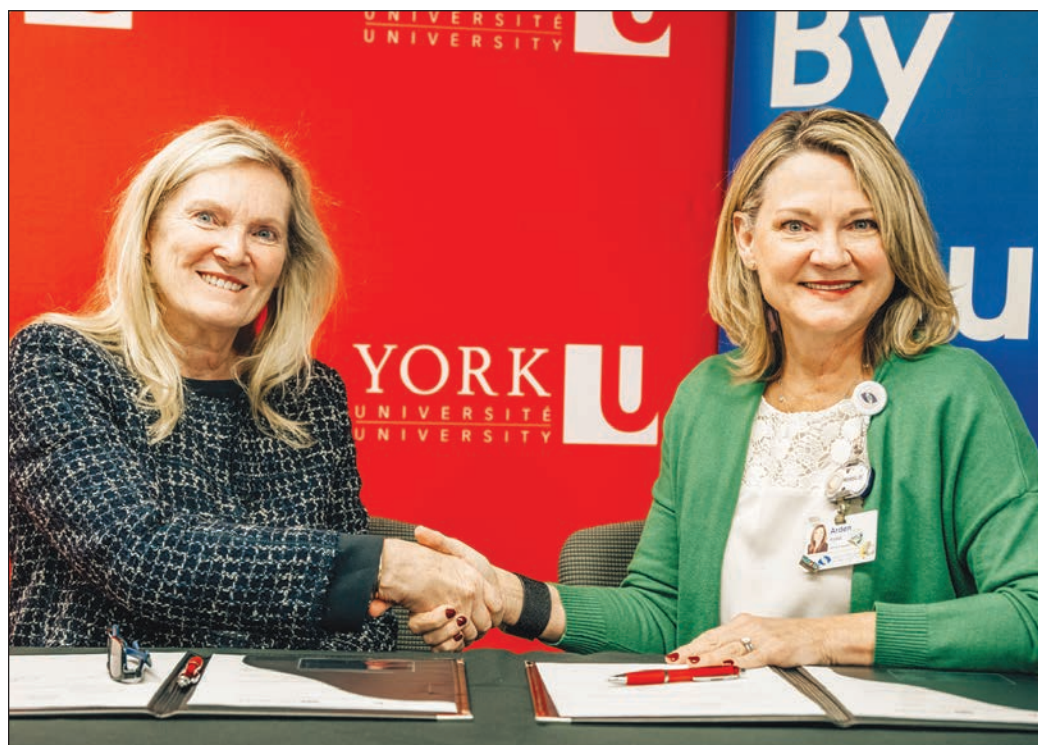
prove the health outcomes, wellbeing and quality of life of Ontario’s diverse and rapidly-growing communities.”

Added Krystal: “Southlake is proud to foster an environment of innovation, growth and learning, while providing leading edge care to our communities. This partnership with York University will allow us to enrich care for the patients we serve, support professional development and enhance collaboration with the mutual goal of improving care delivery.”

As part of the agreement, York and Southlake will be able to partner on improving health informatics and analytics, as well as health technology to develop digital health solutions, machine learning, and diagnostic imaging collaborations.

Community development initiatives will also be explored through the MOU, which the parties say will result in “positive change for both institutions, along with the students, staff, faculty and communities they serve.”

“This would include providing Southlake employees with learning opportunities at the University and jointly hosting community events to help raise



awareness of local health concerns,” they said. “This collaboration spans the full spectrum of care – from infant, child and adolescent health to healthy aging and seniors’ care. It will usher in better care for generations by leveraging expertise in cancer research, neuroscience, and disease modelling, including diabetes, addiction, cardiovascular disease and more.”

New Health Team

It was a busy week for the local hospital as Southlake announced it was joining the South Simcoe Ontario Health Team to better connect with the communities it serves.

While Southlake Regional Health Centre serves the communities of northern York Region with an increased presence in Newmarket and Aurora, its catchment area also covers portions of southern Simcoe County.

Southlake detailed the creation of the Northern York South Simcoe Ontario Health Team, which is a merger between the two separate health teams serving both geographic areas.

“As the communities we serve grow and change, it is essential that we broaden our horizons to meet our patients’

needs,” said Gayle Seddon, Executive Director, Southlake Community OHT, in a statement. “In the spirit of collaboration and providing high-quality care, the Northern York South Simcoe OHT is forging a new path of excellence to elevate service offerings in our communities and transform the healthcare landscape.”

Added Jody Levac, President and CEO of Alliston’s Stevenson Memorial Hospital: “As we enter this new chapter, meeting the needs of our population and communities will remain as the driving force in the work we do. We are eager to enter this new era of unity, demonstrating our commitment to collaboration, community care, and quality partnerships.”

The new Northern York South Simcoe OHT will provide collaborative healthcare in Aurora, Newmarket, New Tecumseth, East Gwillimbury, Bradford West Gwillimbury, Georgina, Cookstown, Essa Township, Base Borden, Adjala-Tosorontio and Mono.

“The Southlake Community OHT and the South Simcoe OHT both shared an overarching goal of bringing connected care to the communities they serve, ensuring that the unique needs of their populations are met,” they said.

New data of affordable housing needs

The Alliance for a Liveable Ontario (ALO) released new data that shows the deficit of affordable housing in Ontario by unit type and income.

“Size wise, the biggest need is for about 300,000 one-bedroom units renting at about \$1,100 per month,” said Franz Hartmann, ALO Co-ordinator. “More generally, there are almost 640,000 households in Ontario that are living in homes that are the wrong size and cost way more than what people can afford.”

The data was compiled by the Housing Assessment ResearchTool (HART) team using 2021 Federal Census data. They looked at household and dwelling size, household income, and how much money people were paying for shelter costs (rent, mortgages, etc.). People living in a home that wasn’t the right size and/or paying more than 30% of their household income on shelter costs were considered living in a housing deficit.

“We need governments from all levels to make it a priority to get these different housing types built and keep them affordable,” said David Crombie, ALO Founder and former Toronto Mayor who oversaw massive housing construction in the 1970s. “Unfortunately, this isn’t happening in Ontario.”

“The Province is still pushing for more sprawl style housing that is too expensive and not suited to meet Ontario’s real housing deficit,” said Crombie. “Every big house that gets built out in the suburbs diverts labour and construction material from building the types of housing we need where people already live.”

“The data confirms that building ‘McMansions’ on the Greenbelt or prime farmland is not the answer to our affordable housing crisis,” said Anne Golden, ALO Founder and former head of the Conference Board of Canada. “We need government policies and incentives directed at solving the real housing deficit. We need governments to work with both non-profit and private housing developers and providers. And we need to ensure the building industry has a streamlined and shortened approvals process that allows them to put shovels in the ground for the housing we need.”



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Wishing you peace, harmony, prosperity, and good health this Holiday season and in the New Year! We're grateful for our clients and friends who bring smiles to our faces every day. Thank you for your ongoing support and referrals.

As the year comes to a close, we reflect on the memorable adventures and look ahead with joy and hope. May the New Year bring everything you've hoped for, sprinkled with friendship and love.

From our hearts to yours, a joyful Holiday Season and a peaceful New Year for you and your family!

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TRIDEL'S LAKEVIEW GEM: STYLISH TOWNHOME

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Arts & Entertainment

Schomberg 55+ Club a growing hive of activity

By Susan Heslop

This past year the Schomberg 55+ Club has had a resurgence, in part thanks to Ida Haesler.

Ida wanted to get the club up and running, so she took on the task and organized a wonderful committee of dedicated women to get the Schomberg 55+ club active again.

I know Ida credits her incredible team, but she is the one that took on the task, and it was she that found just the right people to help build back the club.

As we all know staying active and socializing with others is the key to longevity, and who among us doesn't want to stay around as long as possible? I sure do.

There are so many seniors with so much to offer, with their knowledge, expertise, and wisdom, it's a crime not to put those to use. As Monty Python once said, "we aren't quite dead yet," a little tongue in cheek maybe, but it's so true. Seniors retire, and all that life experience is never tapped into again, while they have so much to offer and it's also never too late to meet new people and make new friends.

The plan was highly successful, and the club took off last year and has had steady growth through 2023, and there are almost 60 signed up for 2024 and the year has just begun.

The club meets on Mondays at the Schomberg community Hall and has had several speakers and events to keep everyone active.

From glass ornament to Christmas arrangement making, to laughing yoga. From Handwriting analysis to Ghost stories of the local area and even a visit from our York Region Police on keeping yourself safe from scam artists. Valuable knowledge especially in this day and age.

The group also organized many wonderful excursions, from wading in a cranberry bog, to local theater and symphony, and even a trip to a local Dairy.

Of course, no club would be complete without the odd party now and then and they managed to do that as well, a spring potluck which included some wonderful food and at the Christmas potluck they even had the real Santa pay a visit.

From new friendships formed, many laughs, the Schomberg 55+ committee is committed topping 2023, in 2024.

If you're over 55 and want to learn some new skills, make new friends, and take in a show or two, please come out and join the group in the new year.

Our next meeting is Monday, Jan. 8 at 10 a.m. at the Schomberg Community Hall. Happy New year and we hope to see you in 2024.



King's 2024 Winter Recreation Activity Guide is now available

Winter in King will be 'snow' much fun! From dancing, crafting, and cooking to playing sports or experiencing the ultimate Canadian winter adventure (snowshoeing or cross-country skiing!) there's a recreation program for everyone.

The full listing of programs can be viewed in the new 2024 Winter Recreation Activity Guide, available online at king.ca/recreation.

Registration for winter programs, including P.A. Day and March Break camps, is now open at townshipofking.perfectmind.com. The Township's online recreation registration system is conveniently available 24/7 and allows you to search for programs by day of the week, age, location and area of interest. Registration can also be completed in-person at the Trisan Centre or the King Township Municipal Centre.

Programming begins on January 2 and runs until March 31 at various Township community facilities. Highlights include:

All Ages & Family: snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hiking to the Sugar Bush, and creating winter arrangements.

Preschool: soccer, basketball, arts & crafts, Zumba, ballet, jazz.

Children: badminton, soccer, ball hockey, basketball, volleyball, tennis, Zumba, cooking, baking, ballet, jazz, hip hop, and an inclusive dance program for all abilities.

Adult: pickleball (leagues and learn-to-play), Nordic pole walking, Chinese square dancing, and line dancing.

P.A. Day and March Break camps: full-day camps for ages seven to 13 will be offered from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the February 2 P.A. Day, and during March Break, which runs from March 11-15.

Programming for seniors ages 55 years and older is delivered in partnership with the King Township Seniors Board. For more information about a membership and programs, visit king.ca/seniors.

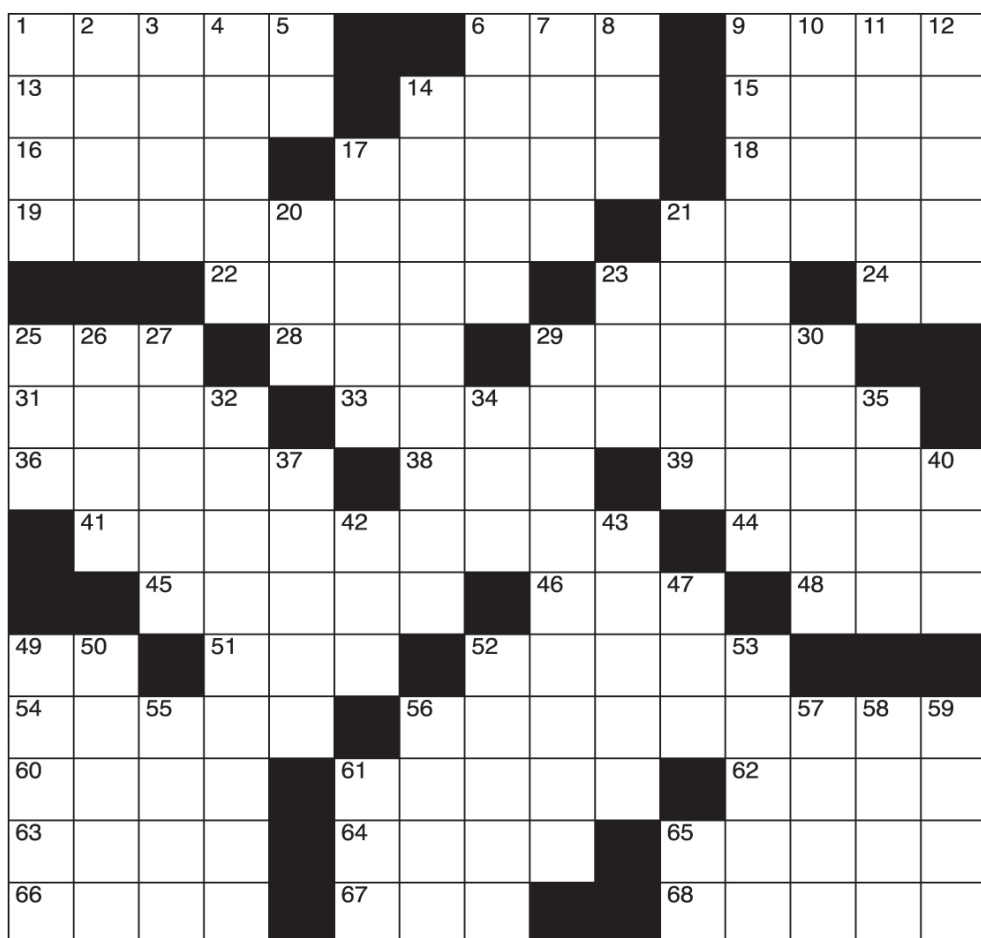
Can't commit to a full program? The Township also offers a variety of drop-in programming, ranging from arts, sports, skating and a parent and child playgroup.

For more information about winter recreation programs, visit king.ca/recreation. If you require assistance creating an online registration account, call ServiceKING at 905-833-5321 or email serviceking@king.ca.



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Bleated
6. Snakelike fish
9. Database management system
13. Russian-American violinist
14. Wendy's founder Thomas
15. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
16. Negatives
17. Rescued
18. Self-immolation by fire ritual
19. Assigns tasks to
21. Island nation native
22. Trade
23. Detergent brand
24. Famed NY Giant
25. Before
28. Split pulses
29. Extremely angry; highly incensed
31. Body part
33. American state
36. David __, US playwright
38. Move one's head

39. Secret rendezvous
 41. Improved
 44. A place to exercise
 45. 18-year astronomical period
 46. Automobile
 48. You can take it
 49. A radio band
 51. Jaws of an animal
 52. Short-billed rails
 54. Chinese province
 56. Shameless and undisguised
 60. Horizontal passage into a mine
 61. Adult males
 62. Fail to entertain
 63. Dried-up
 64. City in north-central Utah
 65. Southern U.S.
 66. German river
 67. Oxygen
 68. Make law
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Curved segment
 2. Wings
 3. From pentane

- (Chemistry)
4. Gradually gets into
5. Commercial document (abbr.)
6. Overhang
7. Christmas and New Year's have them
8. Type of bulb
9. Lacking a plan
10. Tattle
11. Rockers like it "heavy"
12. One who's been canonized
14. Indicate time and place
17. Nobel Prize winner in physics
20. The voice of Olaf
21. Fragmented rock
23. They __
25. Master of Philosophy
26. Backside
27. Landmark house in L.A.
29. An act of undue intimacy
30. From which a later word is derived
32. Equal to 10 meters
34. Neither
35. Computer language
37. Sacred book of Judaism
40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
42. A way to dedicate
43. Challenges
47. British Air Aces bank
49. Large, influential bank
50. Portended
52. Cavalry-sword
53. Vaccine developer general
55. Napoleonic Wars
56. Italian Seaport
57. Hip joint
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Insect repellent
61. Decorative scarf
65. Delaware

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

Southlake to tackle wait times with new Provincial funding

By Brock Weir

Wait times will be tackled at Southlake Regional Health Centre through \$17 million in new Provincial funding.

Announced at Southlake's Stronach Regional Cancer Centre on Friday afternoon, \$11 million will support the continued operation of 41 acute surgical, transitional and acute mental health beds for children and youth. A further \$3.1 million will come to the hospital through the Province's Health Infrastructure Renewal fund to "complete critical upgrades and repairs to create a safer, more comfortable space for people and their families connecting to care and services at the hospital."

"I am thrilled to deliver this exciting news for our community on behalf of Premier Ford and Minister Jones and our entire government," said Newmarket-Aurora MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy, Parliamentary Assistant to Health Minister Sylvia Jones, at the November 10 announcement. "As many of you know, Southlake Regional Health Centre is a hospital near and dear to my heart, serving as a pillar of our community for patients and their families, as well as myself and my family as well. Our government is continuing to take action to build a better-connected healthcare system for all Ontarians, including right here in York Region and South Simcoe. That is why I am thrilled to announce that the Ontario Government is investing more than \$17 million this year to increase hospital capacity, reduce emergency department wait times, and support critical upgrades here at Southlake.

"This includes over \$11 million to support the continued operation of 41 acute surgical transitional and acute mental health beds for children and youth, which is part of our govern-

ment's investment of over \$1.5 billion this year to support the continued operation of over 3,500 beds across the Province. Southlake will also receive \$3.8 million to help reduce emergency department wait times through local innovative solutions that will help people receive care faster and reduce their length of stay in the emergency department."

The funding, she added, is part of an Ontario-wide investment of \$44 million to 165 emergency departments across the Province to cut down on wait times.

"This more than \$17 million investment in our local hospital will help ensure patients in Newmarket, Aurora and beyond can connect to the high quality and convenient care that they need and deserve right here in our community for years to come - because whether you're a patient sitting with your child in the emergency department or if you are a loved one recovering from surgery, you deserve to be able to connect to care close to home," said MPP Gallagher Murphy.

The impact this funding will have on local healthcare services will be immediate.

According to Stella Johnson, Director of Emergency and Mental Health for Southlake, the emergency department serves an average of 117,000 patients each year, or approximately 320 patients every day.

"That's one patient every four minutes or 55 ambulances every 24 hours," said Johnson. "Our community needs these investments in order to continue to deliver that type of care our community expects from the providers - the physicians and the team that work here at Southlake in our Emergency Department."

"Despite our volumes, Southlake continues to rank in the Top 10, from a performance improvement perspec-

tive related to wait times, and these investments will allow us to continue to do lots of that great work and invest in new opportunities to really continue to focus on our wait times, our length of stay, and our hospitals' overall performance. Our unique model of care prioritizes that patients are seen in a timely manner by a physician in one of the best wait times in the Province. This is thanks to the over 200 dedicated staff, providers and individuals who work in the emergency department and are dedicated to the care we provide every single day."

In recent months and years, however, Southlake has seen a "significant increase" in patients' lengths of stay in the emergency department when they require admission to the hospital and an in-patient bed. Sometimes up to 40 individuals are waiting for care in different areas of Southlake at any one time, she added.

"We have approximately 25 stretcher spaces in the emergency department to care for those 300 individuals and when someone is waiting, upwards of

24 hours to move to that next care setting," she said. "It does create congestion...we have been experiencing every day.

"Our hospital has a quality improvement plan, which is our commitment to the public to really focus on some of those quality indicators. This year we have committed to reducing our time to inpatient bed metric to 31 hours to really commit to making that change and seeing an improvement in those wait times."

And those wait-times could be eased just in time for an important milestone in Southlake's history.

"Southlake needs critical upgrades and today's healthcare infrastructure renewal fund investment will help with that improvement," said Marilee Harris, Chair of the Southlake Regional Health Centre Board. "(These are) important enhancements to ensure Southlake can reach our 100th anniversary next year and continue to serve patients in the next 100 years. Just keep that 100 in our mind as we go forward with our advocacy."

Conservation scientists shed light the most common nature questions

Humans are curious creatures, and nothing piques our interest quite like nature. Questions about species, their habitats and what we ought to know about living in harmony with the country's lands, waters and wildlife come up on the regular.

As one of the country's largest and longest-standing conservation organizations, Ducks Unlimited Canada fields thousands of these queries from inquisitive and concerned people throughout the year. To mark Science Literacy Week in September, its conservation experts have stepped in front of the camera to answer some frequently asked questions about wetlands, waterfowl and wildlife.

Why do some ducks stay north in winter? Ducks Unlimited Canada receives many questions about why some waterfowl stay in Canada and why they aren't bothered by the cold. In this episode of Duck Doctors, research scientist Matt Dyson provides the answers.

Why do some ducks stay north for the winter? Why are dragonflies important? How does blue-green algae affect our favourite lakes? Tune in to Ducks Unlimited Canada's "Duck Doctor" video series on YouTube to find out. Answering the questions are some of the world's foremost researchers with expertise in wetland and spatial ecology, avian demography, statistics, GIS technology, ecosystem services, carbon cycling, knowledge transfer, boreal ecology and more.

"Ducks Unlimited Canada has an

85-year history of delivering conservation science across the country and continues to deliver ground-breaking research that's shaping how people understand the natural world," says Janine Massey, chief marketing and communications officer. "We have recognized a strong appetite amongst our supporters to hear more from our science team and are pleased to offer a growing library of short Duck Doctor videos answering their burning science questions in simple terms."

Science Literacy Week is marked annually and showcases the many ways people can explore and enjoy the diversity of Canadian science. It's an opportunity to learn what goes on in lab rooms and field study sites from those who are delivering innovative research.

Science has been - and continues to be - the backbone of Ducks Unlimited Canada's conservation activities and success. Do you have a question for the Duck Doctors? Send it to us, or reach out to arrange an interview to discuss a topic that has you intrigued and yearning to learn more about Canada's wetlands, waterfowl and wildlife.

Learn more about Ducks Unlimited Canada's science-based conservation at www.ducks.ca/science

Ducks Unlimited Canada is the leader in wetland conservation that partners with government, industry, non-profit organizations, Indigenous Peoples, and landowners to conserve wetlands that are critical to waterfowl, wildlife and the environment.

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The Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Happy New Year! 2024, is full of promise, hope, new beginnings, resolutions to do better, get healthier, or whatever it is you want to accomplish this year, we wish you well and hope that this is a much better year than 2023.

If you stayed home and watched Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen, spent it with friends, or decided to spend the new year in warmer climes, we hope you had a fun ending to 2023 and were able to spend it with friends, family or friends that are like family.

We ventured out, which we hadn't done in years, and had a wonderful dinner at Historia Cantina. We still made it home in time to watch the ball drop at Times Square and then off to bed, because the fact we made it to midnight was enough miracles for one night. I noticed all our local restaurants were busy. As I've said before we have wonderful options right here on Main Street, no need to leave Schomberg.

We wish you and your families all

the best for 2024, and may this year be filled with adventures, good health, and all good things. While it won't be perfect, there will certainly be perfect moments.

Please reach out to me by email with your event line up for this year, or anything you'd like to promote.

Schomberg Euchre Club: Euchre is on Friday nights at the Trisan, 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$ 10 for the evening or pay monthly for \$20. All welcome, all ages, men, ladies, you just need to know the basics, and how to laugh, enjoy a great group of people and not take the game or yourself too seriously.

Schomberg Seniors (55+): Seniors will kick off 2024 next week with a presentation, Monday, January 8 – 10 a.m. where Carol Hindley and Barbara Hawthorn will present their "P.E.I. Adventure."

Monday, January 15 – 11 a.m. – Introduction to Bridge 1. Registration is required and limited to eight. Contact klbird@hotmail.com

Monday, January 22 – 10 a.m. – York Region Paramedic Heart Start – How to use the Defibrillator.

Monday, January 29 – 11 a.m. – Introduction to Bridge 2.

Monday, February 5 – 10 a.m. – Lynn

Holden presents "Canada's Heritage."

These events all take place at the Schomberg Community Hall.

If there is something that catches your eye and you would like to attend any of the Theatre or workshops please reach out to Lynn Bird, klbird@hotmail.com or Margaret Crowe maggie.crowe@hotmail.com.

If you haven't renewed for 2024, please come out and sign up or if you're new come to any meeting and we can get you sorted for this year.

Annual fee is \$15 per person or \$20 per couple (or two people living at the same address for King residents). For non-residents, its \$20 and \$30 respectively. To keep up to date with events, please check online at king.ca/seniors.

Our 2024 events calendar is shaping up beautifully, but we always want to provide interesting workshops, outings, and presentations, so don't be shy, tell us what you would like to see us add

for next year. We are all in this together and your team is only as good as your involvement in the Schomberg Seniors, we'd love for you to come out and join us.

All presentations and meetings will take place at the Community Hall in Schomberg, other than those indicated.

This quote spoke to me this week...

"We spend January 1st walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to patch. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives, not looking for flaws, but for potential." ~ Ellen Goodman

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 would love to see here sporter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

Together, as a united community, let us carry the essence of this season into the coming year, spreading kindness and compassion to all.

Come and experience a warm welcome Sundays at Schomberg United, St. Mary Magdalene Church, 116 Church St., Schomberg at 9:30 a.m. or at Nobleton United Church, 6076 King Rd., Nobleton at 11:15 a.m. Stay and chat afterwards and enjoy some refreshments.

"Inn from the Cold" needs donations of men's new warm socks and underwear. If you are able to support this cause, please bring your donations to one of our Sunday services or leave a

message at 905-859-3976 and someone will contact you.

The next Messy Church is Wednesday, Jan. 17, 5 p.m. For more info, please contact me at nancykhopkinson@gmail.com

We are both in person for our respective services (Schomberg United at 9:30 am and Nobleton United at 11:15 a.m.) and online at 11:15 a.m. Go to www.youtube.com. Then search for Nobleton United Church, find the correct date and enjoy! The videos are recorded, so you can also watch them later.

Our Pastor, Richard Gardner, is in the Nobleton church office most Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you wish to meet with Richard, drop by or contact him at pastor.schomberg.nobleton@gmail.com or call the church office at 905-859-3976.



U13s win Green & White Tournament

King Rebellion U13 AA team won the London Green and White Tournament in November. The event featured 18 teams, six of which were top-10 ranked in the province. With the team's record, and this tournament, the U13s became the number-one ranked team in the Province, and also ranked number one in North America.

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King curlers close out the year with festive cheer

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

Annual Elves Spiel

King curlers have closed out the 2023 season in typical festive fashion with social league playoffs and Christmas themed attire for their final games of the year. Red and green were the choice of colours for the costumes that also included bells, hats and even a few antlers.

The Wednesday evening social league concluded their first half with a 2-game total accumulation point play-off format that took to the last game and last rock to determine this year's first half champions. With the good cheer already having begun upstairs, it was quickly put aside once the players were at ice level and ready for some serious curling.

Team Clark was evidently on Santa's nice list after winning both of their games earning them the highest total points to claim the title of First Half Season Champions.

Team Rhind who was the top team before playoffs traded a loss and a win over Team Gerrits for a second place finish while Team Boutin with 3 spares for their final game managed to win and capture third place.

The elves worked very hard this Christmas for Santa, and its tradition to host a spiel in honour of their hard work. Traditions are a big part for many families as is the Elves Spiel for the King Curling Club's family. Two 6-end games, brunch, desserts and prizes as well as a prize for best costume were included in the day's festivities.

As the elves began to arrive organizer; Andrew Kolody was informed that several elves were not able to come leaving many teams short a player. As curlers do they find a way to make it work and after the teams were shuffled around the games and began. The atmosphere at ice level was a combination of excitement and fun that spread to the lounge and throughout both of the draws.

Several game breaking shots were delivered including a pressure draw to the button for the tie-breaking win. The Hit and Rolls, draws and double take-outs were also on display that concluded with game analysis over brunch and beverages. First place winners for the early draw were Fiore Gagliardi, Andrew Kolody, Pauline Van Roon and Karen Mellow-Gagliardi.



Wednesday evening Social League first half Champions are Team Clark. Mike Bolger, Bryce Clark, Brenda Clark and John DeAppollonia accumulated the highest score in the 2-game total point playoff series.

A coin toss decided the 2nd place winner and was awarded to Tom Allen, Ken Clarke, Glen Allen and Ethan Clarke. Late draw winners were Heidi Beck and her parents Nick and Ingrid Beck. Second place went to Shellee Morning, Cody Harris, Claudine Hubbard and Rosemary Kerz. Best costumes were awarded to Lloyd and

Gavin Bloom.

Congratulations to Andrew Kolody and his amazing team of volunteers for all their time and efforts. Special mentions go to Gina Strano for the wonderful brunch of delicious food and snacks and to the bar and kitchen volunteers who contributed in making the event the success that it was.

Cougars 4-2 in December

By Jim Stewart

The Schomberg Cougars did not run the table to close out 2023. Instead, they split their final two games prior to the Christmas Break to compile a steady 17-8-0-1 fourth-place record in an ultra-competitive nine-team division.

Based on winning percentage, four of the PJHL's Top 20 teams – #9 Alliston (.786); #11 Stayner (.778); #17 Orillia (.704); and #19 Schomberg (.673) – are co-existing uncomfortably atop the North Carruthers.

After a 4-2 win on home ice versus the Caledon Golden Hawks followed by a perplexing 5-1 loss to the Kings in Penetang, Head Coach Mark Hrinco offered a mixed review of his team's uneven performance prior to Christmas: "Against Caledon, Chad Walker played another great game in net for the Golden Hawks. Caledon hung around long enough to keep it close. We started scoring in the second period and played a good game. In Penetang, the final score wasn't indicative of how close the game was in their small arena. It was a disappointing game. We missed a few chances and, unfortunately, we played their game and didn't play our free-skating style of hockey."

Against the Golden Hawks and Kings, five different scorers tallied for Schomberg: Sam Degli Angeli, Joey Furlano, Zach Gallow, and Matthew Lychek found the back of the net against Caledon in the Cougars' comeback victory while Carter Longland fired his second goal of the season in Schomberg's four-goal loss in Penetang.

The team's balanced scoring is a mixed blessing, according to Coach Hrinco: "It's our strength and our weakness. We don't have Cam Kokelj and Luke Miehm from last year's team who were top finishers and scorers in the league. We are looking for guys on the roster to take those roles and step up. We are definitely looking for more scoring and for guys to finish."

The fact that the light-scoring Cougars – with no players among the PJHL's Top 135 Scorers and whose 91 goals ranks 29th in the PJHL – are able to play .673 hockey is a testament to the range of scorers the Schomberg coaching staff can send over the boards on any given shift. The Cougars' Top

10 Scorers' List reveals the squad's balanced scoring and the range of players that have provided big goals so far:

1. Anthony Nascimento, 23 points, 9 goals and 14 assists in 22 GP, GWG 0.
2. Carlo Lioni, 23 points, 7 goals and 16 assists in 22 GP, GWG 2.
3. Wesley O'Hara, 19 points, 11 goals and 8 assists in 26 GP, GWG 3.
4. Matthew Lychek, 19 points, 8 goals and 1 assist in 24 GP, GWG 0.
5. Joey Furlano, 19 points, 7 goals and 12 assists in 19 GP, GWG 2.
6. Luke Szabo, 18 points, 9 goals and 9 assists in 21 GP, GWG 0.
7. Andrew Hrinco, 18 points, 8 goals and 10 assists in 25 GP, GWG 2.
8. Adam Miller, 13 points, 4 goals and 9 assists in 25 GP, GWG 1.
9. Jacob Duggan, 12 points, 5 goals and 7 assists in 24 GP, GWG 1.
10. Jordyn Palazzo, 12 points, 3 goals and 9 assists in 23 GP, GWG 0.

Remarkably, the Cougars have also secured seven game-winning goals so far this season from five players outside their top 10 scorers, thus suggesting the depth of this playoff-ready hockey team: Rookie Michael Termini (2); Rookie Spencer Natale (2); Rookie Sam Degli Angeli (1); Evan Wilson (1); Zach Gallow (1).

In addition to the balanced attack, the Cougars have developed a skillful group of penalty-killers because Schomberg has had much practice being short-handed in its first 26 games.

The Cougars' 721 PIM ranks second in the 61-team PJHL. Notably, the North Carruthers division is truly a bruising, black and blue grouping with four of its nine teams ranked in the top 15 in PIM: Huntsville – #1 with 750; Schomberg – #2 with 721; Alliston – #8 with 613; and Stayner #15 with 585.

Coach Hrinco discussed the efficacy of the Cougars' penalty-killing units: "We work on it once a week at practice. We also do extensive video review to see other teams' power play tendencies. As good as we've been at killing penalties, we need to stop getting penalties."

The Cougars skate back into action on Thursday, (Jan. 4) at the Trisan Centre when they host the Midland Flyers. Puck drop to kick off the 2024 segment of their PJHL season will be 7:30 p.m.

U10AA Rebellion team donates toys and goods

By Jim Stewart

The King Rebellion U10AA rep hockey team is a success on and off the ice as it skates into 2024. This Rebellion squad, which plays its home games out of the Nobleton Community Centre, has put together a tidy 12-5-4 record heading into the second half of its season—good enough for second place in its division.

The U10 Rebellion squad is clearly putting forth a first-place effort in terms of charitable contributions to its community. The team – comprised of thirteen young hockey players from King City, Nobleton, and Schomberg – collected over 40 toys and numerous bags of canned goods for those less fortunate in King Township. On Dec. 20, the socially-conscious tweens donated their collection of toys and canned goods to the King City Fire Department to help families struggling with food insecurity and Christmas present purchases.

Nobleton resident Natalie Pagura, one of the U10AA King Rebellion team managers who helped organize the Christmas collection, discussed the importance of the charity drive for the players: "It's a great group of kids – they've been together for three years – and they understood the importance of giving to families who aren't as fortunate as they are."

Pagura, whose son Nicholas plays on the U10 Rebellion squad, noted "how excited Nicholas and all the boys were when they were buying toys for the Kris Kringle Exchange – with all the toys in the exchange and all the canned food prize bags going to help local families."

When asked about the most satisfying aspect of the toy and food drive, Pagura offered both personal and team-wide perspectives: "For me, so many families have been helped with our team's efforts and to see the excitement of these boys when they handed their toys and canned goods to the firefighters was great to see. All the toys stayed in the community to be given to local kids at Christmas. It reminded the boys how fortunate they are to be able to afford to play hockey and have a good family life. It helped them appreciate the importance of giving to charity and helping others."

Pagura stressed the significance of how this event and how it has brought the team closer: "We're like family and it was nice to see this family of hockey players helping families in need in King. Their trip to the fire station was a lot of fun for them, but giving toys and canned goods really taught them a good lesson about being more socially aware about the needs of our community."



Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person for worship this Sunday at 10 a.m. We welcome Adelle Lauchlan, who will lead us in worship this week. Adelle's message from the book of Matthew, chapter 11 will be an encouragement to you. We offer children's ministry and nursery during the service. After the service you are welcome to join us for a time of socializing over coffee and goodies. If you can't make it in person, our live-streamed broadcasts are available directly on stpaulsnobleton.ca or on our YouTube channel each Sunday at 10 a.m., or on demand at youtube.com/stpaulschurchnobleton.

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

St. Mary's Church

Please note, Confirmation preparation Class # 7 will take place this Tuesday, Jan. 9 at St. Mary's and Thursday, Jan. 11 at St. Patrick's. Kindly attend the seventh Confirmation class taking place at both St. Patrick's Church and St. Mary's Church, according to your respective parish. Please remember to bring your Chosen Student Workbook, pen/pencil and water bottle if needed.

Parents are reminded that at least one parent or guardian is required to attend the Confirmation Classes with the Confirmand as part of the preparation program.

Confirmandi are also reminded to attend the celebration of the Holy Mass on Sundays or Saturday Vigil as part of their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Families should be attending the Holy Mass celebration on a regular basis, that is, every Sunday or Saturday vigil (5 p.m.). See Holy Mass schedule in bulletin.

Jan. 20/21 - Let our Lady Bless your Home. The Apostolate of the Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be presented in our parish on the weekend of January 20-21 by the Heralds of the Gospel. It aims to make Repara-

tion to her Immaculate Heart for the offenses received from mankind. This Apostolate started with a blessing of St. John Paul II in the year 2001 and is now spread to over 70 countries. Sign-up sheets will be available in the foyer in January.

Feb. 3 - Life Teen Valentine's Party. Calling all teens in Grades 9 to 12, mark your calendars and save the date for the We The North Valentine's Day Dinner Dance taking place on Saturday, Feb. 3 after the 5 p.m. Youth Mass at St Mary's Parish Hall.

We will be joined by our sister parishes in the northern region for a delicious dinner, live DJ and new friendships. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks!

Please RSVP by texting Zephania at 905-716-4837 and let us know that you're joining us!

Bible in a Year - Podcast - New Year's Resolution

If you wish to dive deeper into Scripture, join Fr. Mike Schmitz on his podcast - Bible in a Year.

Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLeXS0cAkuTPqFMtZQ379qdEmcfxO1SvXc>

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

St. Mary's Mission: <https://stmarys-no.archtoronto.org/>

Nobleton Seniors (55+) By Joanne Bailey

We welcome all Nobleton Seniors (55+) to the Nobleton Arena to participate in meaningful activities, create new friendships and to share ideas. We are located at 15 Old King Rd. (upstairs).

Our current schedule is as follows:

Tuesday: Mobility Matters - 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Friday: Mobility Matters - 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Mobility Matters classes for 2024 will be on Mondays and Fridays, same time.

January 11 - Chair Yoga by Zoom.

January 18 - "Bone Up to Osteoporosis" speaker presentation.

January 25 - Naturopathic Overview presented by Dr. Christina Carew.

February 1 - Balance Health Studio Chiropractic presented by Nicole Joseph.

February 8 - HosPall, understanding their services. Please register for this event.

February 15 - Fun Day of board games and cards.

February 22 - "See Snow? Drive Slow" presented by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario.

February 29 - "Frauds and Scams" presented by York Regional Police.

All weekly Thursday programs in Nobleton will be \$1 for members and \$2 for non-members unless otherwise indicated. Remember to sign up for your 2024 membership.

We are currently seeking more volunteers for our Nobleton group. If interested please contact Joanne Bailey at 416-706-9375 or email Erin Burford, Coordinator of Recreation Programs at: eburford@king.ca

Be sure to visit the website- king.ca/seniors for more information on programs, workshops, and senior memberships.

Nobleton Book Club

Our schedule for meetings is the second Tuesday of the month, at 7 p.m. in the Nobleton Program room.

While the Nobleton Book Club has been meeting regularly over the past 11 years, new members are always most welcome! Come by and check out these interesting, lively and varied group discussions. It does not matter if you are able to come every month, but rather, come when you are able. Whether you have read the book or not, you will enjoy an entertaining evening discussion - with so many different points of view! All these titles are available through the Nobleton Public Library and other King Township libraries.

Here is the reading list for 2024:

Tuesday, January 9, 2024: Homecoming by Kate Morton.

Nobleton Lions

You will want to mark two popular events on your 2024 calendars now. On Friday, Feb. 23, the annual poker tournament will be held at the Nobleton Arena. Then on Sunday, June 9 the long-running, much-anticipated golf tournament will be staged at the Nobleton Lakes Golf Club. Details for these events as well as announcements of other events, once they are planned, will follow on the website and on social media.

Please visit our website, accessible by simply googling "Nobleton Lions" which will bring up the link to the site. Check out "upcoming events" and "useful links" where you will find more information about organizations

supported with your contributions. At the Homepage you will find an appeal for volunteers to help with the Home James program this Christmas season.

Having inducted three new Lions this fall, we continue to welcome new members with a heart to serve, both men and women. You may join us as a guest at an upcoming meeting by contacting Lion Andrew at andrew.bevil@sanofi.com We meet at 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from September to June at the Old Community Hall, just north of the arena. Our next meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 9.

St. Alban's By John Arnott

Certainly the bright red of poinsettias has helped cheer up the cold gray rainy weather we've experienced over the holidays.

This plant, native to Mexico and Central America where it can grow up to 1 m/ 3 ft. high and is considered a shrub first caught the eye of Joel Poinsett a botanist and American diplomat widely traveled in Latin America and the United States' first ambassador to Mexico back in the early 1800s. He sent many poinsettia plants to his greenhouses in South Carolina and from there, gaining in popularity, they spread across the U.S. and eventually into Canada.

Before acquiring the name by which we know them they were called Mexican flame flower or painted leaf. Botanists refer to them as *euphorbia pulcherrima* (beautiful spurge). Euphorbias was ancient Greek doctor and botanist. With almost 100 million of them being sold each November through December every year in just Canada and the States it's claimed they're the most economically important potted plant on the planet. Hybrids of these plants come in white, pink, salmon and bi-colours. Seeds of these hybrids often don't come true to the plant that produced them and seedlings reverting to the original wild red ones. Thus growers take and root cuttings.

The Aztecs of Mexico skillfully cultivated poinsettias for use in herbal medicines and to get a red dye.

The reds of the plants are not petals but rather modified leaves called bracts with the actual flower being tiny cup shaped constructions in yellow centre of the whorl of red. Surprisingly it is not known how these centre pseudanthia cyathia (false flowers) are pollinated.

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Our brewmaster, Andrew Kohnen, threw away a successful career in logistics to pursue his dream of reconnecting with the brewing roots of his family. This carried him to the UK's prestigious Brewlab in Sunderland, England, where he procured the alchemy that would drive his signature brewing style.

He took what he could from there and ventured to Scotland, Cornwall, and ultimately to Krefeld, Germany, working in the same brewery that had belonged to his ancestors. He came home to Canada for Hockley.

You could call it dumb, but we call it destiny.

Andrew Kohnen
Brewmaster

Hockley

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King's Corners

**King City United
By Sheryl Sinka**

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

Please remember the King Township Food bank in your givings this season. For those who use the foodbank, the extra support is an expression of kindness and generosity for which so many are grateful. We encourage you to continue to help with donations of food or financial donations for the many needing assistance.

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

King Bible Church

Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for our Sunday Worship service! Pastor Mark will be completing our Christmas series—"Songs of the Savior." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and You Tube.

Join us starting January 7 as our new series "Tough Questions" begins!

Please visit our website for links and further information: www.kingbi-blechurch.com

blechurch.com

If you have any questions please email: Lisa Lethangue (lisa@kingbi-blechurch.com), Administrative Assistant, King Bible Church, 1555 King Rd, King City, 905-833-5104.

King City Seniors (55+) By Carolyn Kanitz

Tomorrow, Friday January 5 at 10 a.m., Rob Payne will give a presentation on living in retirement and fixed income investments. Keep watching this space as special presentations are offered the first Friday morning of each month.

Reminder: When you purchase a membership for King Township Seniors, you have access to all activities in King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. When attending most activities, a token fee of \$1 is charged for members and \$2 for non-members. For special events and presentations, there is no fee unless there is a cost involved for the event/presentation. In such a case the fee will depend on the cost involved. Memberships for 2024 may be purchased using the contact information below.

As we approach the snowy season there may be times when conditions

make travel unsafe. If the school buses are cancelled in the Township, then all seniors' activities will be cancelled as well.

Beginning Jan. 8 all programs will be under way. If any of these activities are of interest, please come out and join the group.

The following activities are available at the King City Seniors' Centre.

Monday mornings: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters

Monday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Music and Movement; Cribbage; 2 p.m. – Knitting/Crochet classes.

Tuesday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing.

Tuesday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Bid Euchre.

Wednesday mornings: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters.

Wednesday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Bridge; Chess; Board Games.

Thursday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Gentle Motion (similar to Tai Chi).

Thursday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Carpet Bowling.

Friday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Art Class (2nd & 4th Friday of the month unless otherwise noted). Friday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Progressive Euchre.

You may contact KCSC at 905-833-6565

or kingcity.seniors@gmail.com

Sacred Heart Church

We've had a busy and momentous December with the preparation not only of Christ's birth but also the opening of our new and beautiful Narthex. Please visit our website for pictures showcasing this event. Many, many thanks to the numerous volunteers for all the behind-the-scenes preparation.

"Christmas in Our Hearts" Concert was celebrated with joy by many. Thank you to the Holy Redeemer Pilgrim Choir for their polished and enthusiastic performance; to Cristiana Alves and Maria deLurdes for organizing and making Brunch, and decorating the Hall. St Nicholas (Piotr Krysz), many thanks for your visit to the children and providing treats. To those who cleaned up, your work is not unnoticed and is much appreciated.

One sad notation is the passing of Rev. Louis J. Campbell, OSA who passed away Dec. 19, 2023 in the USA. Father Louis was Pastor here from 1983-1984 and 1991-1996.

More on Page 16

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First Friday January 6, 2024 Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 3:30 p.m., Benediction at 6:45 followed by Holy Mass at 7 p.m. Prayer Vigil begins 8 p.m. to Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. followed by Benediction and the Celebration of Mass. You are all welcome to attend! This Friday is also the Feast of the Epiphany!

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion: every Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. followed by Mass. Private Confession in our new Narthex at 4 p.m. Saturdays. Weekend Mass at 5 p.m. Saturdays; and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. The Rite of Christian Initiation For Adults (RCIA) program begins in January. Any new participants kindly email the parish office at sacredheartki@archtoronto.org

Offertory envelopes for 2024 are available in the 'breezeway' or ask our ushers. For convenience parishioners can enroll in the Pre-Authorized Giving Program (PAG) where every 20th of the month your designated offering is withdrawn by the Archdiocese and deposits the funds into the Parish account monthly. Website: sacredheartki.archtoronto. Email: sacredheartki@arch-

toronto.org. Facebook & Instagram: Sacred Heart Parish King City. Contact Rectory office at 905-833-1161.

York Pines Church

This Sunday, Rev. Andrew will be leading our Epiphany service at 11 a.m. Feel free to join us for coffee at noon. It will be our current organist last service. Scott Martin returns next Sunday, and we welcome a new organist and choir director.

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

Prayer-time hour is at the Church Office on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. Come if you can and pray for our community and for God's guidance for our church. If you can't be with us, pray wherever you are. For pastoral care, call our new Interim Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Jeff Loach at St. Paul's, Nobleton at 905-859-0843, call St. Andrew's, King City at 905-833-2325 for Alison Agnew, or call one of the Elders.

**All Saints Anglican Church
By Patrick Gossage**

Proverbs 16 : 9 - Advice for New "In

their hearts humans plans their course, but the LORD establish their steps."

Now Let Your Servants Go In Peace - Sermon by Rev. Erin Martin on Luke 2:22-40.

"For much of the world it seems as though Christmas is over - but in the church, it's really just begun. The church knew that there was no way we could really comprehend, the Incarnation in a day, so it recognized 12 days of Christmas. The larger culture has all but forgotten that. Otherwise, it's on to planning New Year's celebrations, making resolutions. But while we're planning for the year ahead I just want to say that it's really important that we keep Christmas a while longer, to process everything that Jesus coming into the world means. And this story in the gospel of Luke, the story of Simeon and Anna is the perfect passage for us to reflect on during this Christmas season.

"We notice, first, what an odd song Simeon sings to Mary and Joseph. It is a song about his death. 'Lord lettest now thy servant depart in peace' meant he was saying that he was ready to die. He'd been longing, to see the sign of God's redemption and, having beheld God's commitment to the world made manifest in this child, was now asking

to die, happily and at peace. After praising God for the light Jesus would shed on all nations, Simeon blessed Mary and Joseph, but also told them that their son was destined for the rise and fall of many and would be a sign that would be opposed and concluded by telling Mary that a sword would pierce her heart also, letting her know that it wasn't just a difficult path for Jesus. Glory and agony, beauty and sorrow, gladness and opposition. All these and more would be contained in the child ... and in each of our own lives, also.

"And that's why we need Christmas to last longer than 24 or 48 hours, why we need it to keep us strong throughout the year. Because this life is wonderful, and difficult.

"This is what it means to have Christmas courage - rooted in the promise that in Jesus God became one of us and so is, indeed, Emmanuel, God with us. Christmas courage is what I hope we know that God is with us - every single day of our lives - granting us the peace and confidence to face the new year and leading us to thanksgiving for all that God has done and for us, with us, and through us."



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April 13-14 - 2 Day - Gas & Oil, Advertising & Toys	May 19th - New Home Builder's Sell Off Sale	June 16th - Reid's Heritage Homes - Staging Blowout
July 27th - Comic Book Craze & Sport's Collectibles	August 22-26 - 4 Day Straight Shooter Sale	September 29th - Vintage Toys & Collectibles
October 13th - Annual Fall Equipment Sale	November 3rd - Antiques, Collectibles, Quality Household	December 8th - Coins, Art & Jewelry Sale

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708 OBITUARIES

MORNING, James (Jim)
Chartered Member of
Kettleby Pottageville Lion's Club
Member of
Schomberg Agricultural Society
Past Member of King Township Council
for 20 years
Past Kettleby Cemetery Board Member
Recipient of the
Queen's Golden Jubilee Award
Peacefully passed away at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket on Sunday, December 31, 2023 at 88 years of age. Beloved husband of the late Audrey Morning (née Stiver). Loving dad of Grant (Shellee) Morning, Donna Blakely, Drew Morning (Sylvia) and Brent Morning (Kathie Roach). Proud grandpa of Christopher (Dawn), Aaron (Kimberly), Katie (Alysha); Ryan (Alana), Kevin; and Mackenzie. Dear great grandpa of Noah, Tyler, Liam, Liliana, and Carter. Dear brother of late Marie McVety (late Lorne James and late Ev McVety), late Blanche (late Thom) Leslie, and late Cora (late Floyd) Billing. Jim will also be fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Visitation will be held at Skwarchuk Funeral Home, 30 Simcoe Rd., Bradford (1-800-209-4803) on Monday, January 8, 2024 from 1-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Funeral Service will be held at the Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 11 a.m. Interment at Kettleby Cemetery. In Jim's memory, donations may be made to Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation. Condolences may be made at www.skwarchukfuneralhome.com

708 OBITUARIES

Norma Marion Broad
Peacefully, surrounded by her loving family, in her home, Nobleton, on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, Norma Marion Broad, at the age of 73 years, beloved wife for 54 years of Roy Broad. Loving mother of Norman and his wife Jeanette, Stephen and his wife Kim, Cindy and her husband Jason Peelar. Cherished grandmother of Riley and Austin Broad; Emily, Amy and Tyler Peelar. Dear sister of Dorothy and Jim Clarke (both deceased), Helen and John Schaly, Barbara and Bill (deceased) McLean, Katherine and Cecil (deceased) Peddle, Marilyn and David Walker, Bruce and Sharon Leonard, Margaret and Anthony Leonard-Robinson. Dear sister-in-law of Ailene Mabee and Cyril, and predeceased by Ken Mabee. Private funeral service will be held at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213). Interment Nobleton Cemetery. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Princess Margaret Hospital, (www.thepmcf.ca). Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

709 IN MEMORIAM

**In Loving Memory of our
dear husband, father and
grandfather,
Bill Bible**

*Those we love don't go away
They walk beside us everyday
Unseen unheard but always near
Still loved, still missed and very dear
Your memory is our keepsake
With which we'll never part
God has you in his keeping
We have you in our hearts*

Always loved and forever missed
Helen, Deb and Ian, Ron and Kim, Nicole
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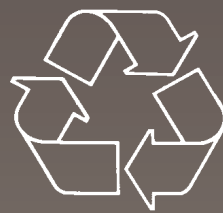
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