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King Weekly Sentinel


King's Community Newspaper

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Council votes to keep Nobleton Hall in place

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

The Nobleton Community Hall will remain as is. King council listened to the public, and backed off moving or demolishing the structure.

In the face of numerous public delegations and an estimated two-hour debate, Mayor Steve Pellegrini told the audience in the council chambers of the move. Councillor David Boyd drafted a motion for council to withdraw its intention to repeal the designation bylaw. The move negated both options recommended by staff.

"We are a council that listens to everybody," Mayor Pellegrini said.

Councillor David Boyd noted the Township has received numerous correspondences indicating that many community members have an emotional attachment to the hall and recognize it as a vital part of Nobleton's history. There are many factors to consider.

Boyd said while his motion was scheduled to come before council, he didn't want to curtail citizens' rights to speak. He did point out there is a difference of opinion in the community and all options have ramifications.

"A motion like this doesn't come without hard work and balance," he said.

Despite the efforts to mitigate superfluous debate, several residents still took to the podium to voice their concerns, essentially agreeing with council's move.

The mayor's announcement apparently fell on deaf ears

as resident after resident reiterated their opinions and calls against repealing the bylaw, something assured by the mayor at the outset.

In summary, Mayor Pellegrini noted the building stands as a testament to honouring King's local history.

"Retaining this heritage building is not merely an act of nostalgia, but a pragmatic decision with far-reaching benefits," he said.

Council will need to rethink its approach to its long-term use, which may include retrofitting and repurposing.

See 'Fate' on Page 3

MOE not investigating LTC

In the Feb. 22 issue of the King Weekly Sentinel, an article incorrectly stated that the Ontario Ministry of the Environment has launched an investigation into the proposed St. Rita at Mary Lake LTC development.

A request was made by a coalition of King Township activist groups including Save the Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM), the Kingscross Ratepayers' Association, and Concerned Citizens of King Township (CCKT).

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks is currently completing an assessment of the Environmental Bill of Rights Application for Investigation. An investigation is not currently under way.

The Sentinel apologizes for the error.



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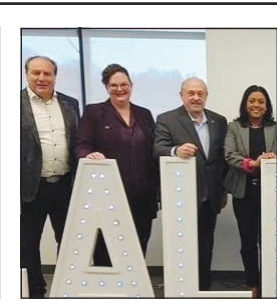
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Mayors, officials talk about health issues.

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KFES honours 2 for years of service.

See Page 12

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, March 4
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, March 18
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

Thursday, March 7
6 p.m. - Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting (Hybrid Meeting - Not live-streamed). If you wish to participate in the meeting virtually register by emailing cpang@king.ca by 12 p.m. (noon)
Wednesday, March 6

Wednesday, March 20
6 p.m. - Committee of Adjustment - Hybrid Meeting (In-person/virtual participation, and live-streamed). Visit king.ca/cofameetings for more information.

Monday, March 25 (Rescheduled from Tuesday, March 12)
11 a.m. - Accessibility Advisory Committee (Hybrid Meeting - Not live-streamed). If you wish to participate in the meeting virtually, register by emailing dmoratto@king.ca by 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

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.

- Supervisor of Special Events – Community Services – Deadline March 6
- Camp Counsellor – Community Services – Deadline March 15
- General Program Instructor – Deadline March 15
- Inclusion Camp Counsellor – Deadline March 15
- Outdoor Program Facilitator (4 Month Contract) – Deadline March 15
- Outdoor Program Facilitator (6 Month Contract) – Deadline March 15
- Outdoor/Nature Camp Program Coordinator – Deadline March 15
- Specialized Program Instructor – Deadline March 15
- Sports Camp Program Coordinators – Deadline March 15
- Aquatics Lifeguard/Instructor – Deadline December 20
- Aquatics Lifeguard – Community Services – Deadline December 20

PUBLIC NOTICES



king.ca/employment

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MARCH 7

Puneeta Chhitwal-Varma

Author, Speaker, Food Advocate

Anna Raaij, Agent
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PUBLIC NOTICES

Meet the Mayor & Ward Councillors



Tuesday, February 27, 2024
King City Public Library
1970 King Road, King City
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Councillors Debbie Schaefer
Jordan Cescolini

Tuesday March 26, 2024
Nobleton Public Library
8 Sheardown Drive, Nobleton
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Councillors David Boyd &
Jennifer Anstey

Tuesday April 23, 2024
Schomberg Public Library
77 Main Street
Schomberg
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Councillor Mary Asselstine

Tuesday May 7, 2024
Ansnovald Park Picnic Shelter
18997 Dufferin Street
Newmarket
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Councillor Avia Eek

Discuss Township/Ward Issues



Not sure what Ward you live in? View the King Township Councillors and Ward Map at king.ca/maps.
Learn more about your Mayor and Council here king.ca/council

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PASS AMENDING BY-LAW TO REMOVE A HOLDING (H) SYMBOL

Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

This Council Meeting will be held in a hybrid format, both in-person and live streamed at <https://www.king.ca/meetings>.

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King intends to consider an amending by-law under Section 36 of the Planning Act to remove the Holding (H) Symbol for the lands described below. The earliest Council will consider passage of the by-law is the Council Meeting on Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

Subject Property

Location: Part of Lot 8, Concession 3
Owner: King Rocks Developments CR Inc.
File Number: Z-2023-05

The subject lands are located in the northeast quadrant of the Village of King City; north of the railway corridor, west of Dufferin Street and south of 15th Sideroad, and comprise Phase I of a draft approved plan of residential subdivision, which will include 70 single detached lots and 2 partial lots (19T-06K03). The location of the lands are legally described as Part of Lot 8, Concession 3. The portion of lands subject of this application are shown below in the hatched area on the location map.

The total landholding subject of the application (Phase 1) is zoned Residential Urban Single Detached "A" - K1A Exception Holding ('R1A-K1A(H)') Zone; Residential Urban Single Detached "A" - K2A Exception Holding ('R1A-K2A(H)') Zone; Residential Urban Single Detached "A" - K3 Exception Holding ('R1A-K3 (H)') Zone; Institutional Exception ('I-4') Zone; and Open Space ('OS') Zone to Schedule 'A' (Map 3 - King City Area) of By-law No. 74-53 (Township of King Zoning By-law) and Residential Single Detached "A" - K1A Exception Holding ('R1A-K1A(H)') ('R1A-1') Zone; Residential Single Detached "A" - K2A Exception Holding ('R1A-K2A(H)') ('R1A-3') Zone; Residential Single Detached "A" - K3 Exception Holding ('R1A-K3(H)') ('R1A-6') Zone; Institutional Exception ('I-4') Zone; and, Open Space ('OS') Zone to Schedule 'A4' of By-law No. 2017-66 (Schomberg and King City Urban Areas), pursuant to the approval of amending Zoning By-law Nos. 2019-075 and 2019-076, respectively, on September 23, 2019.

The removal of the Holding (H) Symbol will, in part, facilitate the development of Phase I of the lands in the manner intended by the draft approved plan and will implement the applicable zoning standards on the property.

Lead Planner

Additional information relating to the amending By-law, including supporting information, is available by contacting Alexander Gambin, Planner I, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. with reference to the address or file number for more information. Please contact 289-800-2652 or agambin@king.ca.

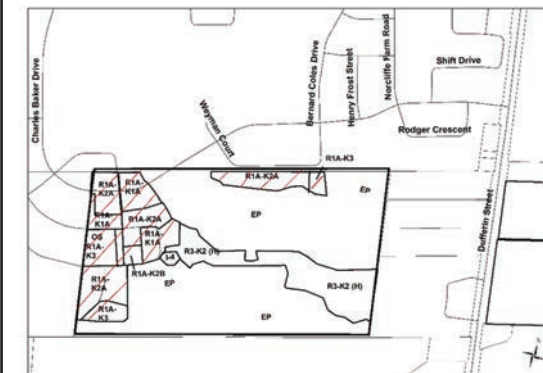
Written comments in advance of the meeting may be sent to:

Alexander Gambin, Planner I
Email: agambin@king.ca
Telephone: 905-833-5321

Written comments will become part of the public record.

How to Stay Informed

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



Dated at the Township of King this 29th day of February, 2024.

Denny Timm
Township Clerk
Township of King
2585 King Road
King City, ON L7B 1A1

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

2024 Volunteer Appreciation Awards
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Deadline: March 13, 2024

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Fate of Nobleton Hall discussed for several years

From Front Page

“Retaining this heritage building is a statement of our commitment to environmental sustainability. Retrofitting and repurposing existing structures is inherently more eco-friendly than demolishing and rebuilding from scratch. It reduces waste, conserves resources, and minimizes carbon emissions, aligning with our responsibility to be stewards of the environment,” Pellegrini said.

“Lastly, retaining this heritage building is an affirmation of our values as a community. It demonstrates our respect for diversity and our dedication to preserving the stories of all who have contributed to our shared history. It fosters a sense of pride, belonging, and connection among residents, strengthening the social fabric of our community.

“The decision to retain this heritage building transcends mere bricks and mortar. It is a declaration of our commitment to preserving our past, enriching our present, and shaping our future. Let us choose wisely, let us choose to honor our heritage, and let us choose to leave a legacy of stewardship for generations to come.”

Resident Nancy Hopkinson urged council not to repeal the hall’s heritage designation and she presented a video tour of the building, pointing to its unique physical attributes.

“Many wanted to have the Hall stay where it was and keep its heritage designation.”

She said several community groups have inquired about using the building, contrary to data from the Township.

“Vote to keep the Hall in situ, make it accessible and get air conditioning for it. Then advertise at a reasonable rent and they will come!”

Staff presented two options for council to consider – demolition, or relocation.

Staff pointed out that a public survey was done last fall and of the 225 responses, the majority of residents were in favour of demolition.

A decision on the future of the Nobleton Community Hall (NCH) has been subject to review for more than 15 years, beginning around the time the building was being considered for heritage designation in 2007.

At that time, staff focused heavily on the cultural value and emotional connection. Following the 2007 report, staff and the Hall Board continued to maintain the facility, investing capital and emergency funds where required, and where approved by council. This lease eliminated community use from the upstairs portion of the building but was vital in ensuring revenue was available

to offset operational costs.

In 2018, council endorsed an evaluation of service levels related to community halls across the Township as part of the Facility Services Master Plan process.

Even at the time, staff pointed out that future consideration will need to be given to the facility.

Last year, when council discussed the Nobleton Revitalization Strategy, it was decided to begin the process on removing the heritage designation associated with the Nobleton Community Hall and conduct a public survey outlining the options.

Staff engaged ERA Architects Inc. to complete the heritage assessment. ERA found the facility is not a “rare example of a Depression era vernacular institutional building” and holds nominal physical value tied to its representation of a rural Ontario community hall typology.

ERA also noted the cultural value lies in its longstanding historical association as a space for community congregation and community-based service organizations, including the Nobleton Women’s Institute and Nobleton Lions Club, and resulting community benefits.

Further, the architects said the hall doesn’t define or support the character of the street.

They recommended demolition and commemoration that is informed by continued community engagement, including engagement with the Nobleton Lions, former members of the Nobleton Women’s Institute and the Heritage Advisory Committee.

“Understanding the cultural value of the NCH to the community, it must be commemorated.”

Staff met with the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) on two occasions in 2023 to discuss the options listed within this report. While the initial discussion centered around demotion of the facility, HAC asked staff to explore the feasibility of relocating the building as an alternate option.

Following this exercise, staff met with the HAC a second time to present the relocation option and HAC said they are not in support of “the de-designation or demolition of the Nobleton Community Hall based on the cultural heritage evaluation completed. The HAC continues to recommend to council that the HAC is in support of the relocation and moving of the Nobleton Community Hall based on the criteria in support of the retained cultural heritage value established in the Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment completed.”

Staff have continued to maintain

and operate the facility since the 2019 report, with the facility closed for a portion of that period due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Community usage has steadily declined and community groups that once used the building have relocated.

Staff said the building has continued to deteriorate since 2019 although minor repairs have been made over that period.

Demolition of the facility was estimated to cost \$200,000 inclusive of ensuring parts of the facility are preserved for future use to commemorate the history of the NCH.

Relocation of the facility as noted in

Option 2, including the construction of required infrastructure and restoration work was estimated to cost \$500,000.

The Township is also embarking on a block planning exercise for the land surrounding the park focused on how this area should be revitalized and how best to maximize the potential of the Lions Community Sports Park and Old King Road to create a Main St. like area with amenities for the community to enjoy. Early ideas include closing Old King Road from Highway 27, limiting vehicle access, and implementing zoning that would encourage low-rise mixed-use development with small shops with a piazza-like feel.



Coat donations

While the winter weather turned out warmer than usual, donations haven’t cooled off. Captain Marco Sacilotto from Nobleton Station #38, and his son Massimo, collected coats for the Open Closet Outlet in partnership with King Bible Church. It’s all in support of the King Township Food Bank.

King break-in suspect arrested

Investigators with the York Regional Police #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau are seeking additional suspects involved in residential break and enters following the arrest of a man in the Township of King.

On Thursday, Feb. 15, just after 9 a.m., police responded to a break and enter in progress in the area of Keele Street and Sculptors Gate. The complainant told police he was following a suspect that had just attempted to break into his residence.

When officers arrived on scene, they reviewed security camera footage and were able to quickly put up a perimeter to locate the suspect.

Frontline officers, with the assistance of the Air Support Unit and Canine Unit, located the suspect hiding in a wooded area nearby.

Investigators believe a vehicle seen in the area at the time is connected and are seeking further suspects.

A 45-year-old Toronto man was charged with Break and Enter x2, Disguise with Intent x2.

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police York Regional #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau – Property Crime Unit at 1-866-876-5423, ext.7142, or call Crime Stoppers at 1800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com.

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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

We need to be leery of rising human stupidity

"Never underestimate the power of stupidity," Robert Heinlein once warned.

Martin Luther King, Jr. contended that "nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."

And the late, great Stephen Hawking said we are destroying ourselves by our greed and stupidity.

Try as we may, no government has been successful in legislating against stupidity.

The dull-minded among us are growing in number. It's like they have a secret club where they're cloning the most deficient humans en masse. Sounds like a great theme for a novel or Netflix movie.

The astute members of society are constantly plagued by these morons and they continue to outpace all expectations.

From warnings on consumer packaging to dumb crooks and dim-witted everyday actions, our brethren keep on bringing us down.

I pause for a moment, with head bowed, asking God for forgiveness in wasting the grey matter he gave us.

I'm not sure if it's the aspartame or radiation leaking from our smart devices, but mindless behaviour is here to stay.

We buy "miracle cures" on infomercials and invest in expensive gadgets that we can't explain or maintain. We look for the toy in the bottom of the cereal box, only to be disappointed.

Edward Abbey once noted that for "real bona fide stupidity, there ain't nothin' can beat teamwork."

Right on.

Herd behavior is among the main causes of stupidity. Scientific studies have shown how individual humans can be swayed by the crowd to adopt positions which go against all logic.

And our "collective stupidity" is something we all need to be leery of. Sometimes, stupid people are elected to



Mark Pavilons

run our communities and our country. More stupid people, who have no obvious power, vote.

Let me define it a bit better. Stupidity, in our current state of affairs, is not about intelligence or knowledge. It's about using one's cognitive abilities – what God gave you – effectively.

And you can "fix stupid", by offering guidance, knowledge, common sense and awareness.

Politicians, bureaucrats, experts and spin doctors run our democratic system. They must be skilled, intelligent, hard-working types, right? I am reminded we're talking about people, not dolphins.

Given the barrage of scandals, government waste and freedom-infringing laws, it seems something is off.

Where do harebrained schemes, policies and laws come from?

Our MPs and MPPs are surrounded by competent staff, who research, draft and vet all sorts of documents, speeches and pieces of legislation. They are not supposed to be biased or political-

ly swayed. But I suppose the reality is, when politicians get their hands on well crafted documents, sometimes their party bias and desire to stay in office rules out. What we can be left with is a watered-down, self-serving democracy that backtracks more often than innovates.

For a profound thought on evil and stupidity: "Reasons fall on deaf ears; facts that contradict one's prejudgment simply need not be believed ... and when facts are irrefutable they are just pushed aside as inconsequential, as incidental. In all this the stupid person, in contrast to the malicious one, is utterly self-satisfied and, being easily irritated, becomes dangerous by going on the attack," said Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was executed for his role in the attempted assassination of Adolph Hitler in July of 1944. He also noted that, in order to combat evil and stupidity, you have to first recognize them.

An inherent problem with human beings, particularly the dumber of the species, is they don't recognize their own ignorance. Add to that, they underestimate the ignorance of others.

That's a recipe for disaster, to coin a phrase.

Sir Richard Branson, CEO of Virgin Airlines, admitted he was "dumb" in school, was dyslexic and hated math. He attributes his success to being surrounded by "highly knowledgeable and extremely competent people."

That's what anyone in a seat of power would, and should, do.

We only have to look at the current conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine to prompt our collective heads to shake. Doesn't someone, somewhere, know this

is all really stupid? No one can argue that losses on all sides – economically, socially and human lives – are worth it, or make any kind of sense.

Does that mean these countries are led by madmen or half-baked luners? Just what is the end game here? More land, changing borders on a map?

History will judge the actions of all participants.

Back at home, in our comfy abodes, sometimes dopiness slips in, just under the door where the draft comes in.

Social media and the internet are additional methods of infecting the masses with nonsensical ideas. Heck, anyone is allowed to own and use a computer, tablet and smart phone. With great power... yet people continue to wreak havoc using these tools. They insult, bully, berate and hate with impunity.

In our society, we allow those with the bare minimum of intelligence to operate a motor vehicle, fly a drone, order on Amazon, raise children, vote in elections and stream reality TV. Some of the reality TV shows make me cringe in embarrassment and I find myself welcoming the Second Coming.

As a herd, we all share in the blame because we empowered it. It wasn't hidden in our deli meats – we welcomed it with open arms.

At times, I look at our primate cousins and ponder how we took the right path to evolution. Maybe it's better, and less stressful, to simply pick fleas off of our mates and live off the land.

My friends, do not operate heavy machinery while watching the news and refrain from drinking prior to entering the voting station!

Housing targets

Policies still impede new home construction

Despite progress by various municipalities and the provincial government, significant impediments to homebuilding remain in Ontario, finds a new study published today by the Fraser Institute, an independent, non-partisan Canadian public policy think-tank.

"The high cost of housing remains a major concern for Ontarians, and government barriers, both municipal and provincial, to home construction remain part of the problem," said Steve Lafleur, senior fellow at the Fraser Institute and author of Barriers to Housing Supply in Ontario and the GTA.

Barriers to home construction in Ontario include:

Onerous building requirements: These include zoning bylaws and design guidelines that restrict building opportunities – for example, certain land zoned for residential use may allow only single-detached homes.

Costs of approval timelines: Individuals and firms wishing to build in Ontario often endure long wait times for permit approvals from various government departments, which increases the costs of building.

High land costs: Several provincial policies restrict land available for development, which increases prices for remaining land and drives up overall housing costs.

High development fees: Local governments levy fees including application and permit fees and "community benefits" fees, which all drive up the cost of housing development. Per-unit fees for high-rise units in the GTA ranged from \$46,412 to \$121,562 in 2022.

"By reducing or removing barriers to development, governments in Ontario can help address the province's housing crunch and increase affordability for families across the province," Lafleur said.

The Party Politicians' Spelling Bee

Accountability

Pronunciation: ac-count-a-bil-i-ty
Origin: derived from the Latin word "acomptare," meaning "to account."
Sentence use: "The lack of accountability erodes public trust in government."

THE WORD THAT STUMPS MOST PARTICIPANTS.

Quote of the Week

"Know more today about the world than you knew yesterday and lessen the suffering of others."

— Neil deGrasse Tyson

Trivia Tidbits

Bananas are the most-consumed fruit in Canada.

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Have you experienced long delays in health care?

a) Yes **36%**

b) No **64%**

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you paying more attention to food prices than ever before?

a) Yes
b) No

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The gas-powered car era is coming to a close

By Frank Stronach

The Principles of an Economic Charter of Rights

Federal Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault stirred up a hornet's nest two weeks ago when he said Ottawa will stop investing in new large-scale road infrastructure projects.

Even before Guilbeault spelled out Ottawa's polarizing new policy, the federal government announced a few months ago that it was phasing out the sale of gasoline-powered vehicles by 2035.

The truth is we're now living through a period that can best be characterized as the last gasp of the gas-guzzling vehicle.

Even without government-imposed electric vehicle mandates, the future of the gas-powered vehicle is bleak at best. There are simply too many factors lined up against the continued production and sale of vehicles with internal combustion engines.

One of them is the growing concern about the amount of carbon emissions that come from vehicles.

Another factor is the price of gasoline, which I believe will skyrocket over the next few years. The coming price increase will be driven by various causes, including the gradual depletion of oil reserves and continued global instability resulting from regional conflicts.

However, the major cause for soaring gas prices in the years ahead will be food shortages triggered by population growth, drought, soil depletion, and vanishing farmland.

What does food have to do with gasoline?

The price of fuel in Canada and the US is being kept artificially low by the increased use of ethanol, which is made mostly from corn, and then blended with gasoline. When drivers fill up their gas tanks, around 10 per cent of the fuel they're pumping comes from ethanol.

Approximately 40 per cent of the an-

nual US corn crop, representing well over 100 million tons of grain, goes toward the production of ethanol for use as automotive fuel. But in a world grappling with growing food shortages, there will be zero tolerance for turning one of our biggest food staples into automotive fuel.

So, if this scenario pans out, as I expect it will, how will we get around?

I believe we'll move toward an increased reliance on public transportation – specifically, the light rail transportation you see in many large Canadian cities.

But I also think we'll see the widespread adoption of small electric vehicles, sometimes referred to as "micro-mobility" vehicles. These zero-emission, one-or-two-person cars are small and very affordable. Best of all, they only cost around a dollar per day to charge, and they come with much lower maintenance and insurance costs.

Micro electric vehicles are also tailor-made for the tight confines of urban driving and could put a real dent in the traffic congestion clogging up most of Canada's big cities.

The biggest impediment to the large-scale transition to electric vehicles is the North American electric power grid, which isn't up to the task of powering millions of electric battery-powered vehicles. It will take decades and trillions of dollars in investment. The best and most environmentally friendly way to get there, in my view, is to build small nuclear power reactors across the country to boost the capacity of our electric grid.

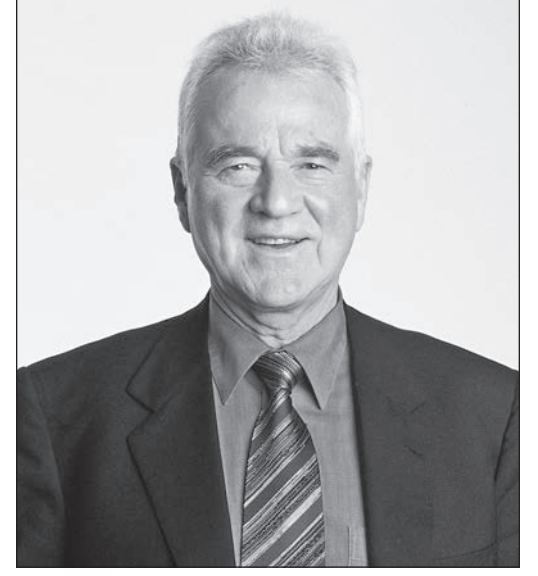
Micro electric vehicles will get us to net zero carbon emissions a lot faster

and at a much lower cost. I also believe that Canada can become a world leader in micro-mobility technologies and other green transportation solutions, but we have to first wrap our heads around the fact that the days of driving around on fossil fuels are about to end.

When it comes to transportation, we're going electric come hell or high water. We might as well start preparing for it.

To learn more about how we can "Regenerate Canada", email me at info@economiccharter.ca.

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame.



From the Archives



Isaac and Susan (Wells) Smelser, Township of King



Happy February 29!

Leap Day (Feb. 29) happens once every four years and the tradition originated with Julius Caesar (Julian Calendar) in 46 B.C.

The Earth orbits the sun in 365.24 days and the extra day is added every four years to keep the calendar aligned with our revolution around the sun.

Leap Day fun facts:

According to DC Comics, Superman was born on Feb. 29.

Pierre Trudeau announced his resignation on Feb. 29, 1984.

An Irish legend allows women to propose to men on Feb. 29 which became known as "Bachelor's Day."

If you are born on this day, you are referred to as a "Leapling."

Advertorial



Your easy path to free home upgrades

Living in an older home with high energy costs? The Enbridge Gas **Home Winterproofing Program** provides support for **income-qualified Ontarians**. Upgrade your home and save energy with insulation, draft proofing and a smart thermostat—all professionally installed at no cost. Whether you rent or own, you may qualify based on household income or if you receive assistance from certain government programs.

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- 1. An authorized program delivery agent** will contact you with a few short questions. They'll ask for proof of income, such as a benefit statement. This will be kept confidential.
- 2. Then they'll visit your home** to check whether it's properly insulated, or if air is escaping through windows and doors. This home energy assessment usually takes about two hours.
- 3. If your home is eligible** for free upgrades, professional contractors will

install them at your convenience. It's quick and clean, and there's no cost to you.

- 4. Finally, a delivery agent** will make a follow-up visit to make sure everything's working properly and to answer any questions.

To learn more about the program and see if you qualify, visit enbridgegas.com/winterproofing or apply by phone at **1-844-770-3148**.

"I qualified and had my attic upgraded with insulation—all free, plus a smart thermostat!"

Program participant



Transit riders can now transfer systems at no extra charge

The Ontario government is keeping costs down for public transit riders with the launch of “One Fare,” which will save riders an average of \$1,600 each year. Riders pay only once as they transfer for free between the TTC and participating transit agencies in the Greater Toronto Area, including GO Transit.

“Our government is on a mission to keep costs down for the hardworking people of Ontario,” said Premier Doug Ford. “One Fare will eliminate double fares and put \$1,600 back into the pockets of transit riders. Alongside the hundreds of dollars we’re saving for drivers by cutting the gas tax, scrapping road tolls and eliminating the licence plate sticker fee, we’re providing commuters with real, tangible relief.”

“We are cutting costs for commuters in King-Vaughan and saving riders an average of \$1,600 each year. In addition to delivering major expansion to the Maple, Rutherford and King City GO stations, our government is eliminating double fares and putting money back in the pockets of transit riders in our community,” said Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan. “Our priority is to keep investing to reduce gridlock and get people moving across the GTHA.”

Fully funded by the Ontario government, One Fare will lead to over eight million new rides every year and will make cross-boundary travel more affordable and convenient for students, seniors and other commuters transferring between GO Transit, TTC, Brampton Transit, Durham Region Transit, MiWay and York Region Transit.

“At a time when many families feel like they’re struggling to get ahead,

our government is making public transit simpler, more convenient and more affordable,” said Vijay Thanigasalam, Associate Minister of Transportation. “Under the leadership of Premier Ford, we will continue to make historic investments in public transit and put money back in commuters’ pockets, where it belongs.”

One Fare builds on improvements the government made in 2022 to eliminate fares between GO Transit and several transit agencies in the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The government will continue to work with municipal partners to identify opportunities to make transit more seamless for riders by harmonizing discounted fares and other measures.

Over the next decade, Ontario is investing \$70.5 billion to transform public transit in the province, including the largest subway expansion in Canadian history with the Ontario Line, the Scarborough Subway Extension, the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension and the Yonge North Subway Extension. By 2031, the province will introduce two-way, all-day GO train service, every 15 minutes in key corridors in the Greater Golden Horseshoe to connect more people to transit, jobs and housing for generations to come.

Since 2023, transit users have been able to tap debit or credit cards on PRESTO devices to travel on all PRESTO participating transit agencies throughout the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, and there have been more than 29 million PRESTO contactless boardings to date.

The province continues to expedite the planning, design and construction of its five priority transit projects un-

der the Building Transit Faster Act, 2020, which includes the Ontario Line, the Scarborough Subway Extension, the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension, the Yonge North Subway Extension and Hamilton Light Rail Transit project.

Ontario’s One Fare Program is part of over 100 actions outlined in the Greater Golden Horseshoe Transportation Plan, including fare and service integration.

“Transportation remains a top priority for York Regional Council, our more than 1.2 million residents and 66,500 businesses. Simplifying fare payments with the new One Fare Program puts travellers’ experience first and makes our collective transit systems even more convenient, reliable and affordable. One Fare removes boundaries and barriers to travelling across different municipalities, allows

for more convenient access and supports our growing communities,” said Wayne Emmerson, York Region Chairman and CEO.

“York University commends the Ontario government for eliminating the need for double fares by creating a more integrated fare system. The new One Fare Program will have a significant impact on our community as over 74 per cent of our students, and most of our faculty and staff, commute to campus via GO Transit as well as the two subway stations on our Keele Campus. An integrated fare system will not only create a more affordable, accessible, and efficient transportation network but also continue to provide a sustainable transportation option that will help to reduce our community’s carbon footprint,” said Rhonda Lenton, president & Vice-Chancellor, York University.

Ontario streamlining EA approval processes

As the Ontario government is investing nearly \$98 billion over the next ten years to build new roads, highways and public transit, including Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass, it is streamlining and simplifying the complex 50-year-old environmental assessment (EA) process to make it easier and faster to build the infrastructure needed to support the province’s growing population.

“As Ontario grows at record speed, it’s never been more important to build new roads, highways, public transit and homes, so we can get drivers out of bumper-to-bumper traffic and bring the dream of home ownership into reach for more people,” said Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. “Our government is supporting municipal partners by streamlining and simplifying complex environmental assessment processes to get shovels in the ground and finish major projects faster. We’re doing so while protecting strong environmental oversight and ensuring meaningful consultations before projects can move forward.”

After several months of consultations, one of the changes to the EA process is moving to a project list approach, which will list the types of infrastructure projects that still require the highest level of environmental assessment such as large landfills and electricity generation facilities. The project list approach is a shift from the previous focus on project proponents to what the project is and its potential for environmental effects. Using a project list approach will bring Ontario in line with other similar jurisdictions, including the federal government, Quebec and British Columbia.

These changes will help get highways, rail and electricity transmission lines built up to four years sooner by allowing them to follow a streamlined EA process that will save time and money while maintaining environmental safeguards. The projects that are being moved to streamlined processes continue to have requirements to identify and mitigate environmental impacts and for consultation, including Indigenous consultation, prior to implementation.

For example, the comprehensive EA process for the East-West Tie Transmission Project that runs from Wawa to Lakehead in Northern Ontario took more than five years to complete. With these changes, a similar project could follow a streamlined process and be completed within two years, while still undergoing a man-

datory consultation process and continued strong environmental oversight. Some of the time savings are a result of the streamlined processes not requiring a Terms of Reference (up to two years) for the project as the streamlined process already sets out the requirements.

The Ontario government is also beginning consultation, including with municipal partners, on a new streamlined process for certain municipal water, shoreline and sewage system projects. This new process would help accelerate project planning by limiting the process to six months from 18 months or more. These time changes could be achieved by providing a regulated timeline, whereas under the current process there is no time limit.

An example of a municipal project that would be able to go through this proposed process is building a new large wastewater treatment plant. To build this, the municipal class EA process can take up to two years or more. The proposed process could see the EA process completed in as little as six months.

The government is also considering a minor change to the Environmental Assessment Act that would make it clearer for municipalities, provincial ministries and agencies that expropriation is one of the ways property can be acquired for a project before the EA process is completed.

This measure is part of the upcoming Get It Done Act, that kicked off the spring sitting of the legislature. The Act would make it faster to build and easier to save money.


The environmental assessment process provides important environmental oversight by assessing environmental impacts and showing how impacts can be avoided or reduced.

Streamlined environmental assessment processes already exist for projects like transit, which is being used successfully by Metrolinx to help get projects done faster.

Consultations were held in 2020, 2021 and 2023 on the planned changes to move Ontario’s environmental assessment program to a project list approach. The ministry sought feedback on what projects should be subject to a comprehensive environmental assessment, the highest level of assessment. The ministry then consulted on draft regulations setting out the projects proposed to be subject to a comprehensive EA and related actions required to move to a project list approach.

KING


The best thing about King is its people!



King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, February 29 to Wednesday, March 6

THURS 29TH	FRI 1ST	SAT 2ND	SUN 3RD	MON 4TH	TUES 5TH	WED 6TH
A Few Flurries High -5C° Low -6C° <1cm	Mainly Sunny High 8C° Low 1C°	Sun/Clouds High 10C° Low 2C°	Sun/Clouds High 11C° Low 4C°	Sun/Clouds High 12C° Low 6C°	Light Rain High 12C° Low 2C° 1-3mm	Sunny High 7C° Low -3C°
Wind NW 33k	Wind SW 20k	Wind SW 12k	Wind SE 16k	Wind SE 17k	Wind SE 21k	Wind W 21k



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GTHA mayors hear from officials on mental health issues

The Small Urban GTHA Mayors welcomed the Honourable Sylvia Jones, the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and the Honourable Michael A. Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, for a discussion on health care and mental health community-based supports.

The Feb. 16, meeting was held at the Town of Caledon's Humber River Centre, a new community and business hub located in downtown Bolton.

Officials spoke about various concerns, ranging from health care wait times and waitlists to attracting human resources and funding of medical schools and hospitals.

The Honourable Sylvia Jones provided an overview of recent health care policy changes, and highlighted that Ontario is leading the pack when it comes to stabilizing recruitment; the province has experienced a two-year, historic high in the number of practicing nurses and is continually onboarding more nurses, lab technicians and physicians. Some of the change-affecting measures include: utilizing clinicians-in-training at colleges and universities, and enabling people to seek

treatment for symptoms related to 19 different ailments at a pharmacy instead of visiting a doctor or hospital.

"We were encouraged to hear that plans are also underway for 'as of right' practice-ready assessments, which would remove equivalency barriers around internationally educated individuals," said King Mayor Steve Pellegri.

The Honourable Michael A. Tibollo spoke to the impact of mental health on communities, and the focus to build economical community-supports and alleviate the pressure off hospitals. One way in which the Province has made headway is by implementing youth wellness hubs, which is integral to early intervention. We were pleased to hear that the Province is working diligently to build a data-driven system to better provide access to treatment, therapies and after-care support services for individuals with anxiety, depression and addiction issues, in communities where they are most needed. This would support a healthy workforce and, over time, also help address homelessness.

The Small Urban GTHA Mayors are

appreciative of the Province's efforts to provide quality health care to residents.

"We acknowledge the great advancements made towards mental health wrap-around services and community

supports for youth, children and adults. However, we recognize that more work needs to be done, especially in regard to aftercare initiatives and building medical schools to accommodate residences.



King Township launches Enrich King to support residents, businesses, community groups

The new Enrich King program is set to revolutionize access to funding and support for residents, businesses and community groups in King Township. The initiative will streamline the process of obtaining funding, donations and in-kind services from the Township and its partners by allowing users to apply through a centralized, online platform, available at enrichking.ca.

The new program amalgamates the existing four different funding/grant programs offered by the municipality: Community Assistance Program, Heritage Property Grants, Community Improvement Plan and the Community Grant Program.

Each program has multiple streams of funding tailored to diverse needs, ensuring a broad spectrum of support for King's community members.

Community Grant Program: The Community Grant Program prioritizes activities, events and initiatives that have outcomes that support the following goals: Active Living, Inclusion and Access, Connecting People and Nature, Supportive Environments and Recreation Capacity. For example, an individual or community group could apply for funding to start a community program aimed at mitigating climate change. Grants of up to \$1,500 are available for special initiatives, community events and developing inclusive communities and up to \$5,000 for environmental initiatives.

Community Assistance Program: The Community Assistance Program offers financial support for participants of community group programs or activities who need help paying for registration fees or equipment. Examples include recreation programs for children or a fitness membership for adults. The purpose of the Community Assistance Program is to provide fee assistance that is fair, equitable and easy to access for low-income King Township residents.

Community Improvement Plan: The Community Improvement Plan helps eligible businesses to receive grant funding for various initiatives such as new signage and enhanced accessibility features. King offers two different streams of the program: one for the villages of

King City, Nobleton and Schomberg, and another rural stream that covers several sections of rural King.

Heritage Grant Program: The Heritage Grant Program allows municipalities to provide grants for the purposes of paying the cost of alteration or other works which have the effect of conserving and maintaining the heritage attributes associated with a Designated property.

There is also a donation fund individuals or community grants can apply for. Some of the donations that can be requested include a free week of traditional summer camp, a one-month unlimited fitness membership or a four-hour rental of a community hall. These donations are typically requested as prizes for nonprofit fundraisers.

In addition to the funding programs, Enrich King also offers a Community Group Affiliation Policy, aimed at established or new community groups whose mandate is to provide recreational, art, cultural, heritage, social, environmental and/or sport programs and services that benefit King Township residents. By becoming an Affiliated Community Group with the Township, groups will have access to various tools and resources, including discounted municipal space and funding support. The application form is available online here.

For more information about the Enrich King program, visit enrichking.ca or email communityservices@king.ca.





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Business, Finance & Real Estate



Province gives Peel transition board new mandate

By Zachary Roman

Peel's three municipalities may soon be tasked with providing more services.

The Province has given the Peel Region Transition Board a new mandate. The mandate is outlined in a Jan. 24 letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Paul Calandra to John Livey, Peel Region Transition Board chair.

Instead of leading the dissolution of Peel as originally planned, the board will now make recommendations on transferring the following Region-provided services to Caledon, Brampton, and Mississauga to manage themselves: land-use planning, water and wastewater, regional roads, and waste management.

All other Region of Peel services are not within the transition board's scope at this time.

Peel's dissolution was cancelled in December 2023 and it was then that a new mandate for the transition board was first announced.

Calandra's letter provided some clarity on the mandate, which the Province claims will make local government in Peel more efficient.

Calandra said the goals of the new mandate include accelerating the building of homes in Peel, reducing "duplication" and "layers of bureaucracy", and ensuring continuity of services.

The transition board is being asked to "move expeditiously" to ensure Caledon, Brampton, and Mississauga are equipped with necessary resources and personnel to undertake the transfer of planning authorities.

With regards to water and wastewater, the board is being told to ensure recommendations brought forward will maintain public ownership and

control of the services. Calandra also mentioned the transition board could look at creation of a municipal services corporation or services board.

"On all services listed above, any options or recommendations put forward by the Transition Board must ensure service continuity for residents without disruption," said Calandra.

He said all options or recommendations from the board must take into account labour relations, back office support, and include a detailed financial analysis on local impacts.

"The Transition Board should continue to prioritize the preservation of frontline workers," said Calandra.

Calandra said he would like to see recommendations from the transition board this spring, and said his staff will be available to provide support to the board.

Calandra's letter, and a Region of Peel staff report on the transition board's new mandate, were presented to Regional Council for information at its Feb. 8 meeting.

The staff report was authored by Sherona Hollman, Peel's director of strategy and transformation, and submitted to Council by Peel's CAO Gary Kent.

The report explains that the new mandate impacts approximately 25 per cent of the Region's staff. It also said it remains unclear if the transition board's recommendations, when ready, will be made public.

The transition board has hired the services of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP and Hemson Consulting to work with Peel staff on creating "evidence-based options and recommendations."

On the Region's part, it said it's committed to working with Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff, the

transition board, local municipalities, and third-party consultants to develop recommendations and options for Calandra by spring.

"Peel staff have provided over 700 documents (translating to over 10,000 pages) to support the Transition Board, Ministry staff and the local municipalities," reads the staff report. "Peel staff have also participated in over 40 meetings with the Transition Board and

local municipalities through service working group meetings and critical milestone meetings."

Peel staff will continue to meet with the transition board bi-weekly until the end of April.

The staff report says financial impacts of the new mandate are unknown at this time, and that staff will continue to assess financial implications on an ongoing basis.

Community organizations can apply for funding for initiatives benefiting those 55+

Applications are now open for the Ontario Seniors Community Grant Program. The seniors grants support local, not-for-profit community groups and organizations to deliver programs and learning opportunities for Ontarians aged 55+.

Every year, the Ontario government provides hundreds of Seniors Community Grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 each. This funding allows community groups across the province to offer a wide variety of activities that help seniors to live independently, ensure their safety and security, connect them to their community, avoid isolation and help them achieve greater financial security and social connections.

"Our government is keeping our seniors safe, active and socially connected," said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. "That's why we're proud to provide support through the Seniors Community Grant Program, which gives so many people the opportunity to learn new skills, socialize and take part in community life."

Activities and services supported by the program include:

Fitness and nutrition classes to keep adults aged 55+ active, healthy, and socially connected to their communities.

Opportunities for community engagement, such as book club gather-

ings and technology training seminars, to reduce social isolation and increase volunteerism.

Increasing access to information through initiatives such as free lectures and supports for health prevention and promotion.

Applications for 2024-25 are open now until March 28, 2024. Community organizations interested in applying can visit Ontario.ca/getfunding for more information.

Last year, approximately \$6 million in funding was given to over 280 Seniors Community Grants. Throughout their lives, seniors have helped build and contribute to Ontario's quality of life and these community grants provide them with new ways to engage with their local communities to promote physical, mental and social well-being.

The Seniors Community Grant Program is dedicated to promoting health, community engagement and well-being for Ontarians aged 55+.

Seniors are Ontario's fastest growing demographic.

Eligible organizations must apply for a Seniors Community Grant through Transfer Payment Ontario.

In 2022, the Ontario government doubled its Seniors Community Grant Program funding to \$6 million.

Be a vendor at King's Food and Drink Fest

Calling all local chefs, caterers, craft beverage makers and restaurants!

King Township is inviting the best food and beverage vendors in the area to participate in the King Food and Drink Fest on Saturday, June 8 from noon to 9 p.m. at Memorial Park, located at 25 Doctor's Lane in King City. The deadline to submit a vendor application is March 4.

Historically known as the annual "King City Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival," in celebration of its 10th anniversary this year, King Township has decided to expand what's on the menu for 2024! This year's festival will feature some of the best bites and bevies in the area, much to the culinary and sipping delights of foodies from near and far.

Over the years, this festival has attracted over 3,500 attendees from King Township and surrounding communities, and we expect an increased crowd this year as we plan our biggest festival yet. Event attendees will nosh on culturally diverse cuisines and taste (so many!) libations - whisky, beer, cider, cocktails, and even mocktails - while enjoying non-stop, live entertainment on two separate stages.

Food and drink booth vendors get a 10x10 foot space at the event venue. Food trucks will be also be accommodated. Fees start at \$200 for beverage vendors and \$250 for food vendors. Don't miss out on the fun - or the opportunity to attract loyal new customers!

Visit kingfooddrink.ca to download the vendor package. Vendor space at this event is limited. To be considered, complete the vendor application form and email, along with a sample menu, to events@king.ca by Monday, March 4. The King Food and Drink Fest Committee will review all applications and notify successful applicants by Monday, March 11.

Sponsorship opportunities to showcase your businesses are also available. For sponsorship levels and recognition, view the sponsorship package at kingfooddrink.ca.

The King City Skating Club (KCSC) is has been around almost as long as the King City Community Center and Arena!

The opening of the building and the certification of their figure skating club occurred in the exact same year, 1972.

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Next 'Meet the Mayor and Ward Councillors' event is in Nobleton March 26

Meet the Mayor and your Ward Councillor at one of four informal, drop-in sessions running throughout the winter and into spring. Your local leaders work hard to make progress on important issues that face your communities, and they want to connect with you!

These gatherings aim to promote open dialogue and enhance communication and engagement between King Township residents and their elected representatives. Attendees will have the chance to share their thoughts, concerns and ideas in an informal setting. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Sessions run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Pre-registration is not required.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini will attend all four sessions.

The next one will be Tuesday, March 26 at the Nobleton Library. Councillors David Boyd and Jennifer Anstey will be on hand to answer questions.

The third event, hosted by Councillor Mary Asselstine, will be Tuesday, April 23 at Schomberg Library.

Wrapping things up will be Councillor Avia Eek, welcoming residents to the Ansnorveldt Park Picnic Shelter Tuesday, May 7.



MP hosts family skate

MP Anna Roberts celebrated Family Day by hosting a family skate at the Nobleton Community Centre. Over 400 people enjoyed snacks, coffee, hot chocolate, and some time on the ice. All enjoyed a fun filled afternoon. MP Roberts thanks the community, King Fire and York Regional Police for attending.



MPP welcomes families

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan, hosted his annual Family Day skate event for local families at the Maple Community Centre. Lecce and members of Team Lecce distributed pizza and hot chocolate, as well as mini hockey sticks to the kids in attendance. "It was an amazing afternoon on the ice with Team Lecce and families from across King and Vaughan at my largest Family Day skate," Lecce. "I want to thank families across our community for making King-Vaughan one of the very best places to live, work and raise a family."



Hundreds attend Schulte's family skate

On Family Day, more than 350 people from all across King, and beyond, came out to the annual free Family Day Skate hosted by Deb Schulte at the King City Arena. In addition to the skating, there were refreshments, crafts, face-painting and King Fire with Sparky. Lots of fun was had by all, which was made possible by the many Provincial and Federal Liberal volunteers who came out to help. Thanks to Councillor Debbie Schaefer and Public School Trustee Nadeem Mahmood for dropping by. Thanks also to everyone who came out and made the event such a success.



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Arts & Entertainment

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with 'Diva in the Rough'

King's sweetheart Catherine Hughes, aka Diva in the Rough, is coming back to the stage for a special one-night-only St. Patrick's Day special performance.

Markham Little Theatre invites you to celebrate the Irish national holiday with Lilt, Laughter & Song, written by and starring the inimitable Hughes.

The show includes tales of folklore and fairies, jokes, shaggy dog stories and a curated collection of dramatic readings from Yeats to Wilde. You'll also hear about the history of Irish Whiskey and get a lesson in the translation of "Dublin," or How To Speak Dublin.

"Everyone has a little Irish in them, if not genetically then spiritually. St. Patrick's Day doesn't have to be about green beer and staggering home through the hedgerows for it to be fun," says Hughes. "I promise to bring you an evening to remember. I'm even making the soda bread and potato leek soup myself!"

This grand night promises an evening full of laughter, a sing-along,

door prizes, and features the talents of MLT company members Kirsty Campbell, Shelagh Carlini, John Fetherston, Nicky Marsh and Andrew Pawaroo. Musical accompaniment will be provided by the one and only Don Guinn on piano, Darel Wernik on fiddle and Emmett Martin on guitar.

"I'm honoured that the great folks at MLT asked me to do this. I did a play with them recently which was a lot of fun, so when they asked me to write a special show for them I immediately agreed. They're a lovely, talented bunch to hang out and work with," said Hughes. "As well, there will be some Irish fare for your gob and drink for your soul. Welcome one and all ... Cead Mile a Failte or One Hundred Thousand Welcomes await you. See you there!"

As a warm-up to the show, Hughes is back to daily posts of her oft imitated never replicated "Irish Word of the Day" which is now in its 5th "season" and gets thousands of views around the

world on Instagram. Follow divaintherough for a daily laugh if you're not too knackered or banjaxed.

Tickets are just \$20 and are selling fast. The show is a short drive away at Markham Little Theatre's intimate Backstage space, located on the

grounds of the Markham Museum at 9350 Markham Road, just North of 16th Avenue.

For tickets please contact www.markhamlittletheatre.ca/box-office

Food and drink will be available for purchase in the lobby.



'Diva in the Rough' Catherine Hughes

King recreation guide available

Bring on spring (and sure, why not summer too) in King! From playing disc golf and pollinating a garden to crafting a mixed-media masterpiece or mastering karate, there's a recreation activity for everyone.

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

Registration for spring and summer recreation programs opens at 7 a.m. on Friday, March 8 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.

Spring programming begins April 1 and ends on June 30, while summer programming runs throughout July and August at various Township recreation facilities and parks. Highlights include:

All Ages & Family: disc golf, rock climbing, astronomy, guided hikes, Indigenous dot-painting, gardening and backyard birding.

Preschool: gymnastics, dance, sports, arts & crafts, and animal adventures in the park.

Children and Youth: karate, crafting, sports, dance, archery, 3-on-3 ice hockey leagues, adapted gymnastics, and (lots!) of outdoor eco-adventures, including

challenge course climbing.

Adult: archery, disc golf, pickleball (leagues and learn-to-play), Nordic pole walking, line dancing and new kickboxing workouts led by Canadian Karate Olympian, Daniel Gaysinsky.

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.

Free Community and Special Events: Residents ready to get into spring cleaning mode can look forward to community clean up, tree planting, yard sale and electronic recycling events.

Many fan-favourites – and essential kick-offs to a Canadian summer – are also returning, including Victoria Day and Canada Day celebrations. And, to the culinary and sipping delights of everyone, the King Food and Drink Fest (formerly known as the King Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival) will feature some of the best bites and bevies in the area. Refer the guide for a full listing of community and special events scheduled to run April through July.

For more information about spring and summer recreation programs, visit king.ca/recreation.

Comedy in King returns this March

Back by popular request, Christmas in King is thrilled to announce that it is bringing back Yuk Yuk's Comedy in King on March 22 at the Kingbridge Centre in King City.

Comedy in King is the premier fundraiser for Christmas in King which reaches beyond food bank registrants to help those who can manage 11 months of the year but need that extra support during the holidays. Proceeds from last year's show went to help more than 500 people in our community have a brighter and merrier holiday season.

If you missed Comedy in King last year, you won't want to miss it this year. It promises a wonderful night of laughter and fun, all for a very worthwhile cause in our own community.

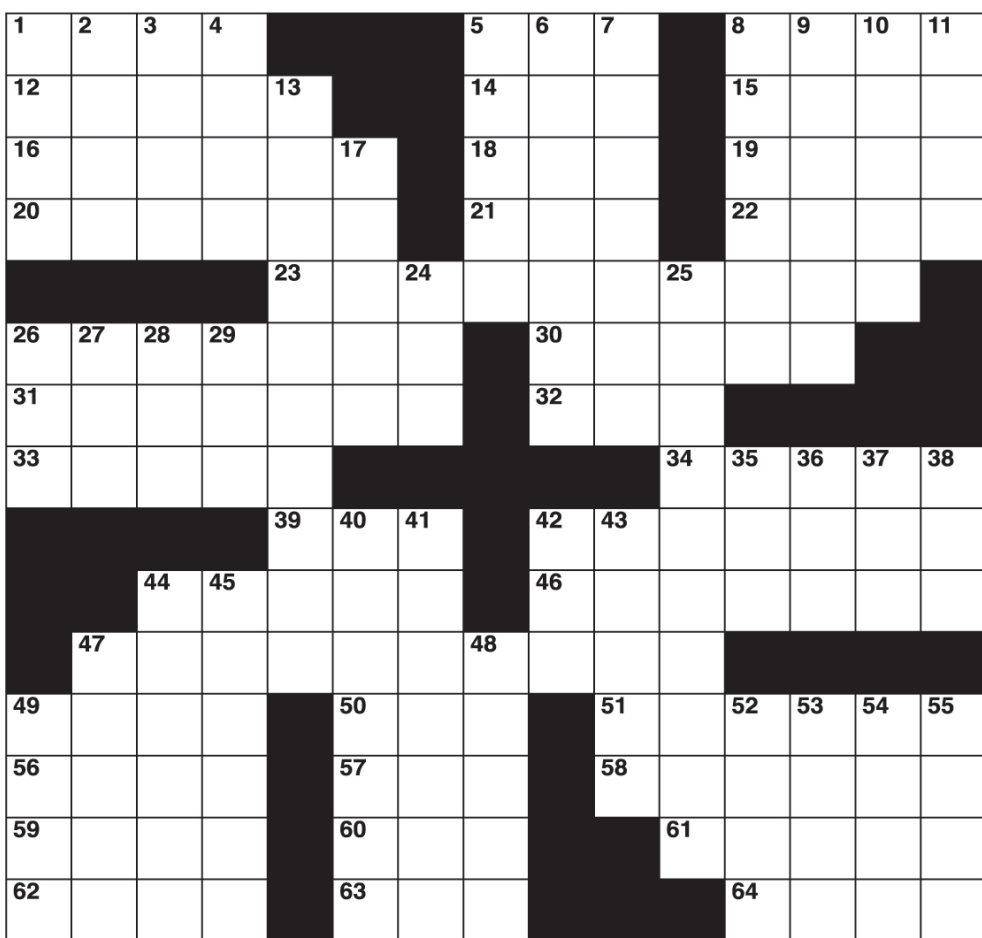
Comedy in King will feature Martha Chaves, who is returning as the headliner, along with Chuck Byrn and Fiona O'Brien.

Comedy in King is supported by Arts Society King and the Township of King. A huge thank you to our generous sponsors Schomberg Dental & Orthodontics, IG Private Wealth Management – Spence and Associates, IPG Renewables, Nicola Institutional Realty Advisors and beverage sponsor Hockley Valley Brewing Co.

Tickets are on sale now at christmasinking.ca for \$60 each. Doors open at 7 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. A shuttle service will be available on site at the Kingbridge Centre, 12750 Jane St., King City. Get your tickets today before they sell out!

CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 242410 • Solution in Classifieds



CLUES ACROSS

1. Home of Iowa State University
5. ___-fi (slang)
8. Mottled green and yellow fruit
12. Capable of thinking and expressing oneself clearly
14. Sports broadcaster Eagle
15. Midday
16. Kinsmen
18. Cable network
19. Simpleton
20. Brunch beverage
21. Fed
22. European capital
23. Native inhabitants
26. Mechanical device
30. Rare geese native to Hawaii
31. Bedroom furnishing
32. The products of human creativity
33. Mass transit option

34. Made a mistake
39. Sacred sound symbol
42. Large N. American reindeer
44. Dull and flat
46. Partner to huffing
47. Written works
49. Monetary unit of Serbia
50. Midway between east and southeast
51. Peninsula of southwestern Asia
56. Widely used multiuser OS
57. Aggressive dog
58. Varnished
59. Hindu queen
60. Time units, abbr.
61. Farm animals
62. Capital of Latvia
63. Where golfers begin
64. Takes to civil court

CLUES DOWN

1. One who graduated
2. An inspired holy person
3. Electronic counter-countermeasures
4. A place to store things
5. Indian instrument
6. Spanish saloon
7. Whole number
8. Not fastened
9. Gives a boost
10. Lounges about
11. Interested in
13. Remove salt
17. Type of sword
24. Naturally occurring solid material
25. Gets involved without being invited
26. Feline
27. Bobby ___, NHL champ
28. "Kill Bill" actress Thurman
29. Hawaiian dish
35. Moroccan coastal region
36. Baseball statistic
37. Long period of time
38. Moved earth
40. Central Netherlands city
41. Take stock of
42. Central processing unit
43. Distinctive qualities one generates
44. Getting stuck
45. Loss of bodily movements
47. Veranda
48. Abrupt
49. What cats do
52. Expresses pleasure
53. Type of cheese
54. Professional STEM organization
55. Automatic data processing systems

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

Province 'guts' endangered species rules, groups say

Some 68 organizations across Ontario expressed their strong opposition to a proposal from Ontario's Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to amend regulations under the provincial Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA).

MECP claims that these changes will improve implementation of the legislation, however, this is only true if you think better implementation of species protection legislation involves making it weaker. The proposed changes will speed up development approvals and reduce costs for developers engaging in harmful activities that impact Ontario's most vulnerable plant and animal species, the groups charge.

With over 230 species at risk and counting, Ontario's rarest and most vulnerable plants and animals require more protection, not less. Environmentalists say MECP's latest proposal will further dismantle the ESA and undermine species protection in the following ways:

Reduce habitat protection for the endangered Redside Dace minnow.

Permit disregard of reports of Butternut tree health experts before allowing development activities to proceed that will harm this endangered species and its habitat.

Subject all newly listed at-risk species to the harmful impacts of activities authorized through exemptions.

Expand the exemptions for early mineral exploration, despite the ministry's failure to inspect or enforce compliance with current rules and the lack of any system to track collective impacts incurred to date.

"The proposed changes demonstrate the Government of Ontario's persistence in prioritizing harmful projects over protection of even the very rarest of species and ecosystems. For example, the Redside Dace and Butternut are just two of many species at risk that would be impacted by the proposed giant Highway 413. The only reasonable explanation for these proposed changes is that they would reduce the environmental protection standards required if the Highway were to be built.

"Ontario's Endangered Species Act has been weakened throughout the years through policy changes, exemptions and poor implementation. These proposed changes will further demolish the act and create more loopholes

for developers to easily harm species at risk and their habitats. The MECP's proposal makes clear that the Ontario government cares little about the unpayable costs of biodiversity loss. Gutting remaining protections is particularly irresponsible given the current global biodiversity crisis. If we have any hope in halting and reversing biodiversity loss, the government should not proceed with these recommendations," said Rebecca Kolarich, Biodiversity and Nature Manager at Environmental Defence.

"Once again, the government is unraveling environmental protections to serve the interests of developers. Across the board, the proposed changes will weaken the level of protection for species at risk. The overall direction is to speed up approvals and reduce costs for those who want to undertake activities that will harm Ontario's most vulnerable plants and animals," said Dr. Anne Bell, Director of Conservation

and Education at Ontario Nature.

Claire Malcolmson, of Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition, pointed out "as go the endangered species, so do we.

"It's high time that we acknowledge that cutting red tape is code for removing barriers for developers, and that these developers do not have public interests at heart. They are there to make money. As we have seen, the government of Ontario is delighted to do the bidding of highway and sprawl developers by changing provincial policies in their favour. The changes to the Endangered Species Act, as they relate to a little fish called the Red Side Dace are a good example: In Halton in the path of Highway 413, reducing the protections this fish's habitat means that 65% of the locations where this fish is found in Fourteen and Sixteen Mile Creeks in Halton will no longer be protected. The Red Side Dace known habitat flows into the rivers that will be affected by the Bradford Bypass but the MTO's re-

ports on fish indicate that they will get no special protection."

"It's tragic to see these proposed exemptions to protections for at-risk species come from the very Ministry that is meant to lead the way in ensuring their conservation and recovery. The changes have nothing to do with science or ecological knowledge but instead seem laser-targeted to remove 'inconveniences' to developers at the expense of wildlife and the waters, forest and grasslands that support them," added Katie Krelove, Ontario Campaigner at Wilderness Committee.

"Brick by brick, we're witnessing the provincial government dismantle the Endangered Species Act, as brick by brick new developments arise in areas that used to be homes for wildlife. This government continues to prioritize industrial resource extraction and development over all other values," said Rachel Plotkin, Boreal Project Manager at David Suzuki Foundation.

King's Cold Creek Maple Syrup Fest promises a day 'stacked' with sweet memories and pancakes

Brace yourselves for an oh-so Canadian, maple-infused adventure! The much-anticipated Cold Creek Maple Syrup Fest is set to take place on Saturday, March 9, at the picturesque Cold Creek Conservation Area in Nobleton.

Get ready to indulge in a day filled with sweetness, laughter and family fun. Event highlights include pancakes, hot chocolate and Chilly Moose magic.

Fuel up for the festivities with a scrumptious pancake breakfast, followed by warming sips of hot chocolate served in a complimentary reusable cup provided by the fantastic folks at Chilly Moose. Attendees can snag these eco-friendly cups while supplies last!

Once your belly is satisfied, embark on a journey to become a bona fide maple syrup expert. Join guided hikes through the sugar bush, witness tree tapping demonstrations and immerse yourself in lessons at the evaporator. It's an educational experience that's as sweet as the syrup itself.

Cold Creek offers a plethora of activities to keep the whole family entertained. Weather permitting, try your hand at archery and snowshoeing, or let the little ones enjoy face painting while you bask in the magic of the strolling magic show. Explore the vendor market featuring local artisans and discover unique treasures to take home.



Buy your tickets online at coldcreek.ca/MapleSyrupFest. Individual tickets are \$12 or \$40 for a family of 4. Children 2 and younger are free.

Cold Creek Conservation Area is a 190-hectare natural area located in the upper headwaters of the Humber River that is managed by the Township of King. This ecologically significant area is home to a wide array of plant and animal species. The property is used for educational and recreational opportunities by school groups and for day use by community groups and the public who enjoy the trails, open spaces, picnic shelter and facility rentals offered on site.

"I am thrilled to invite everyone to the much-anticipated Cold Creek Maple Syrup Fest on March 9 at the enchanting Cold Creek Conservation Area. Brace yourselves for a maple-infused adventure filled with sweetness, laughter and family fun. Indulge in a scrumptious pancake breakfast, enjoy Chilly Moose's warming hot chocolate and embark on a journey to become a bona fide maple syrup expert. With activities for all ages, this event promises to be dripping with fun and memories. Secure your spot and join us for the sweetest event of the season," said Mayor Steve Pellegri.

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International law, human rights, the UN and Canada

By Ann Raney

Comment

The world is heating up and not just literally. Major conflicts in the world are making it less safe "by the day" according to the United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres.

On Feb. 26, in Geneva, the UN Human Rights Council (the UN's top human rights body) opened its 55th session. Secretary General Guterres made a plea to the world to give higher regard to human rights and peace, saying combatants in regions like Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan and Myanmar are turning a "blind eye" to international law. He also said that "Our world is changing at warp speed" and that "the multiplication of conflicts is causing unprecedented suffering. But human rights are a constant."

The world's top diplomat added that human right abuses take many forms and called for debt relief for the world's poorest countries, for greater efforts on climate change, and he defended UNRWA, the UN agency for all Palestinian refugees inside Gaza, all of Palestine/Israel, and Palestinian refugees in surrounding countries. He made clear what international aid agencies have been saying, that UNRWA is the "backbone" of aid efforts in Gaza.

When Israel's government accused 12 UNRWA employees of participating in Hama's Oct. 7 attacks, UN Secretary General immediately removed those accused from working at UNRWA, while launching an investigation into the claims. This was done in short order to maintain confidence in UNRWA's important work. UNRWA is critical in Gaza as the largest aid agency and only one capable of coordinating and disseminating humanitarian aid effectively and efficiently in Gaza. On Jan. 29, PBS reported that "The UN condemned the abhorrent alleged acts" and fired nine of the accused workers, who include teachers and a social worker.

Since the accusations, the Secretary General has made public requests for Israel to provide whatever evidence they have for their investigation. The United Kingdom reported publicly that they too have requested proof and have not received any from Israel regarding the dozen accused UNRWA workers. In the last few weeks, the United States of America has also admitted that they have not been provided any evidence from Israel that would back

their claims. Nevertheless, Canada, along with other major donors, reacted swiftly to Israel's accusations, unfounded as they appear to be, by cutting off its funding to the critical UN aid agency and despite the swift dismissal of the accused UNRWA employees by the Secretary General.

The world's humanitarian aid agencies cannot deliver aid for many reasons but they all have defended UNRWA and expressed shock that countries like ours had ceased its funding and put many more people at risk. The UN has had to announce that its aid funds will run out by March, if not before, at a time when so many lives depend on it.

Canadians need to call on our government to restore Canada's funding commitment to UNRWA so that it can continue its essential work.

The International Court of Justice, established as the supreme legal body of the UN in 1945 and otherwise known as the "World Court" at the "Peace Palace" in The Hague, has warned Israel that humanitarian aid must be increased to meet the need in Gaza. The World Court also told Israel to refrain from genocidal acts, and that Israel's leaders must stop incitement to genocide.

Israel receives funding from Canada. Canada also allows for exports to Israel of weapons, weapon parts, and armaments to the tune of tens of millions of dollars just in the last two months alone. Canada is therefore at risk of contributing to violations of International Humanitarian Law including possible war crimes in Gaza, and possibly genocide.

Many established groups in Canada, faith groups, charities, and Jewish organizations such as Independent Jewish Voices, have demanded Canada stop contributing to the humanitarian catastrophe and to restore Canada's promised funding for humanitarian aid to UNRWA.

Canada and Canadians need to pay attention to the information provided by world leading international organizations who have people "on the ground" such as the United Nations, its agencies and partners, and internationally recognized human rights groups like B'tselem of Israel, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch.



KFES honours years of service

King Fire and Emergency Services typically honours its members each year at a special ceremony, marking milestones in five-year increments. Chief Jim Wall said instead of waiting every 5 years to recognize a member's accomplishments and milestones, "we are going to do our very best in recognizing all of our members anniversaries on an annual basis." Happy 27th to Deputy Chief Kevin Ritson. "Your accomplishments to date are greatly appreciated!"



Congratulations to Assistant District Chief Doug Bolton on 26 years of service. "Hands down, Doug is one of the best in this industry. He's a true leader, friend, and part time comedian all rolled in one! Absolutely one of the best! Chief Wall said.

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King's Corners

King City United
By Sheryl Sinka

This Sunday, March 3 we welcome all to worship at 10 a.m. with Rev Evelyn McLachlan leading our worship on the third Sunday of Lent. We will be celebrating World Prayer Day with prayers and reflections based on the theme "I Beg You ... Bear with One Another in Love."

In 2017, a group of ecumenical Palestinian Christian women were chosen by the World Day of Prayer International Committee to write the 2024 service from which Rev Evelyn will be sharing some of the elements of that worship.

Sunday school has resumed for elementary grades and takes place during our worship hour. On Saturday, March 2, from 11 to 12 we will be gathering at KCUC for a fun hour with children from Grades 1 to 6 for an activity time and to explore some fun and games like pickleball, ping pong, etc. If this is something you are interested in please contact Rev Andrew Lee or Sheryl Sinka at 416-450-0140.

For the PDF of past messages and recordings please visit our website at kcuc.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 continuing our sermon series "Tough Questions." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube.

Our next Open Closet Outlet will be Saturday, March 23 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We invite you to come and shop! For personal use only; limits apply.

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

If you have any questions please email: Lisa Lethangue (lisa@kingbiblechurch.com), Administrative Assis-

tant, King Bible Church, 1555 King Rd, King City, 905-833-5104.

King City Seniors (55+)
By Carolyn Kanitz

Tomorrow, Friday, March 1 at 10 a.m. – Chantal from York Region Police will discuss their Project Lifesaver program which combines radio technology with co-ordinated police response to locate wandering and disoriented loved ones. In addition, there will be a discussion on Crime Prevention. RSVP by calling the Centre at 905-833-6565.

Friday, March 15 at 10 a.m. – Presentation on how to stage your home for selling. RSVP.

For those who would like to play chess, the boards are available Wednesday afternoons from 1pm. Bring a friend, sign in at the office and enjoy a game.

For those who would like to play chess, the boards are available Wednesday afternoons from 1pm. Bring a friend, sign in at the office and enjoy a game.

The following activities are available at the King City Seniors' Centre. If you see something that is of interest, please come out and join the group. All are welcome.

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; 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

King City Tennis Association Prepares for Season

The King City Tennis Association is getting ready for its 2024 season, which runs May through September.

The King City Tennis Association is

a non-profit tennis club established by volunteers over 40 years ago in partnership with King Township.

The 2024 KCTA website opens on Friday, March 15 ready to accept 2024 early bird discount membership payments 1st and then please register for tennis programs. Visit kingcitytennis.com

Markus Ziegler, OTA Certified Head Tennis Coach of several years, is ready to provide tennis programs for all ages and levels of ability. He offers many excellent and varied Junior Programs starting in May which continue to September.

Don't forget the very popular 1 to 4 p.m. daily Junior Summer Camp in July and August. A total of 9 different weeks to choose from. Each week is limited to only 24 juniors, so sign up early.

Schomberg AA meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are held weekly at Suburban North at 116 Church St. They're held every Monday and Thursday in-peron at 7:30 p.m.

Kingcrafts Studio Workshop

One-of-a-Kind Felted Bracelet Workshop for Adults. Learn how to create unique wearable art using this wet-felted technique. It is fun and easy, incorporating merino wool, soap, water and embellishments. You will soon be inspired to make many other felted items. Instructors are Maureen Mewett and Debbie Hanks and all material is included for this March 3 workshop.

Sacred Heart Church

First Friday, March 1: Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 3:30 p.m. Holy Rosary at 5:30 p.m. followed by Benediction at 6 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 6:15 p.m. First Friday Prayer Vigil starts at 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. Saturday, March 2, followed by Holy Mass.

All are welcome to "World Day of Prayer Service" at Sacred Heart Parish on Friday, March 1 at 11 a.m. to join the CWL in prayer for the people of Palestine. Everyone is invited to attend this Ecumenical Service. Light refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall afterwards.

Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, March 3 following Sunday Masses. Please plan on attending this event sponsored by our Knights of Columbus.

Our thanks to Tony Pascuzzo and Pe-

ter Bozzo for cleaning and organizing part of the storage room in the Upstairs Board Room and to Doss Mariyanayagam and his team for installing and varnishing the wood railing as you go upstairs to the two meeting rooms.

The Restless Outreach Team will be organizing a "Street Patrol" (handing out food as you walk the downtown streets) on Saturday, March 23, 11 a.m. More information on donation of food required will be given next week. This is a great opportunity to fulfill your Lenten sacrifice. Email restless.sacredheartparish@gmail.com if you want to register.

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.

Website: sacredheartki.archtoronto.org. Email: sacredheartki@archtoronto.org. Facebook & Instagram: Sacred Heart Parish King City. Contact Rectory office at 905-833-1161.

York Pines Church

This Sunday, Rev. Andrew leads us in a contemporary praise and worship service for the third Sunday in Lent. Did you know that if you give up something for Lent, you can still enjoy it on Sunday? Feel free to join us for coffee/tea and cookies at noon. Rev. Bruce returns for a special guest appearance next Sunday. It is also Hungry Sunday when donations to the Food Bank are appreciated including egg cartons.

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

St. Andrew's warmly welcomes everyone to our morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. It is our Communion Sunday, March 3 and we welcome back the Rev. Peter Ma who will preach and preside over the Communion service.

What a wonderful Annual Congregational Meeting we had last Sunday. For those who couldn't attend in person, we extended a ZOOM link! It was exciting to hear about God's faithfulness and provision in 2023 and the future plans for the church in 2024!

Alison Agnew's contract will be finished at the end of March, but all agreed to have it changed to permanent half-time! The pizza lunch was delicious and enjoyed by many.

More on Page 16



BEST-IN-CLASS

TECHNOLOGY, DATA ANALYSIS & GRAPHICS

ABOUT US

Ace Track Golf is the premier destination for golf enthusiasts in Aurora, Ontario and surrounding areas. Our state-of-the-art facility combines cutting-edge technology with a passion for the game, offering an unrivalled high-tech golf simulator experience. Equipped with precision ball tracking, swing analysis, and real-time feedback, our TrackMan simulators enable you to refine your skills and perfect your swing. Whether you're a seasoned golfer looking to fine-tune your game or a beginner eager to learn the fundamentals, our facility is the perfect place to practice.

MISSION AND VISION

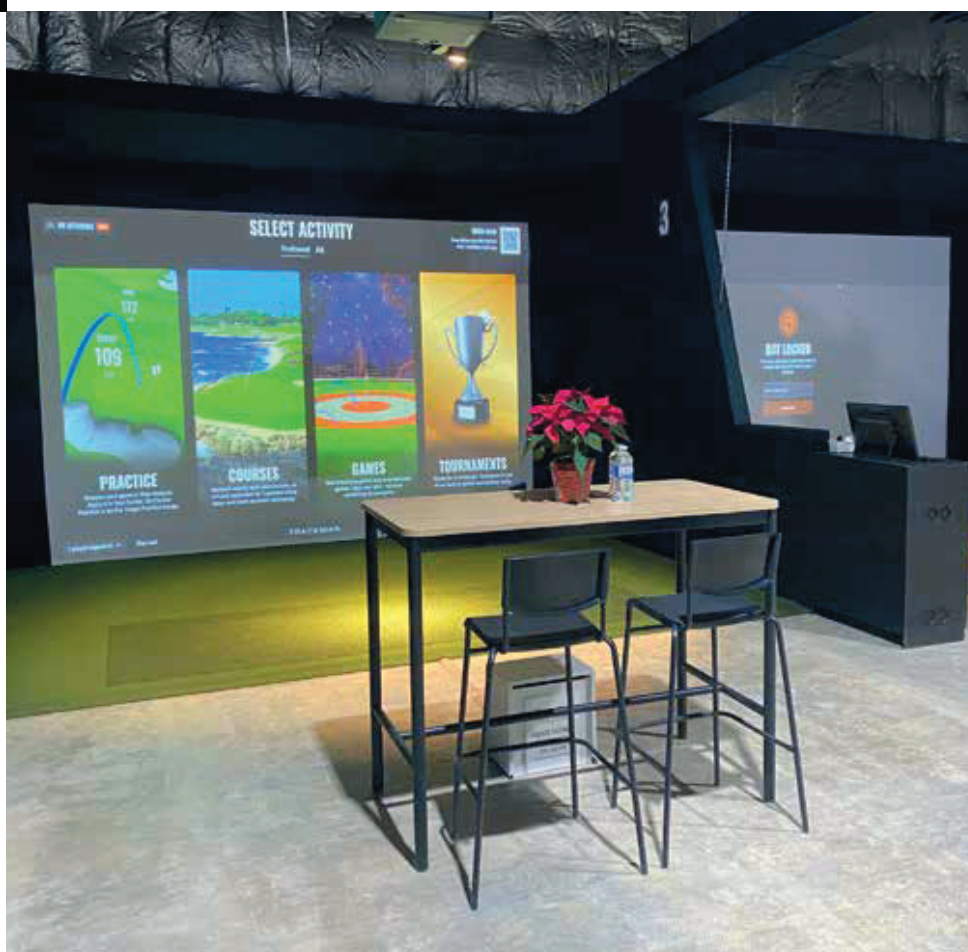
Ace Track was created with a mission to provide golfers with the best technology and support to improve their game at an affordable cost. Our goal is to create the premier golf performance facility in Canada, for golfers of any age and experience level, and expand our network across the country.

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Our fully-autonomous facility is currently equipped with two washrooms and four spacious TrackMan simulator bays offering best-in-class technology, data analysis, and graphics. Both left hand and right hand play is available with TrackMan's software, which boasts over 160 of the best courses in the world and a sleek mobile app to stay on top of your progress online.

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TrackMan is the premiere golf technology brand in the world, renowned for having the best ball-tracking and simulator play in golf. It is trusted by the top pros as its dual-radar system provides the most accurate and detailed club and ball data analysis on the market. Customers want a complete experience when using simulators, and only TrackMan combines outstanding technology with a real-life golf experience.



COACHES AND PARTNERS

At Ace Track, we believe in forging strong relationships within the golf community. Whether it be through coaches or partnerships, our goal is to elevate the golf experience for our customers and help our partners thrive. We are currently partnered with 6 organizations and have 8 amazing golf professionals teaching out of our facility. Discover the advantages of partnering with Ace Track today and together we'll drive the future of golf in Aurora.

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We are proud to offer some of the best rates for TrackMan simulator play in the GTA. We also offer monthly memberships where members receive a 50% discount on our standard rates for only \$125/month (+ HST). Also included in our memberships are: 1) members-only giveaways and tournaments; 2) no limits on hours booked per month; and 3) the ability to cancel at anytime.

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Wednesday social league grows in numbers, caliber

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

Lorna Jacobs and husband Steve needed to fill in their spare time now that the kids are grown and the position of taxi driver to the hockey rink has come to a close.

Lorna, who curled many years ago, decided to join the Wednesday night social league and although Steve had never thrown a rock before agreed to join as well.

As many new curlers are encouraged to sign up for the Learn to Curl program first, Steve figure he'd just "learn on the go" and has taken to the sport somewhat seamless with solid balance on delivery and a keen interest to the strategy of the game.

During last week's game the Jacobs, who play front end for Skip Andrew Kolody and vice Ken Clark, were matched up against Team Komljanec. With Skipper Komljanec away the writer was invited to spare as Skip for Vice Ann Gerrits and Lead/Second Grant Morning.

The team of 3 battled back and forth against Kolody with all players delivering some great shots. Skip Kolody commented during the game that this was Lorna's best game so far with several key draws for a guard to help set up her team while Steve Jacobs delivered

a number of hits that kept their opponent in the chase.

Although Grant Morning struggled a bit with guard weight, he was spot on with his take-out weight corresponding with Gerrits on a couple pristine take-outs of her own. The final end with a 1-point lead for Team Kolody, Team Komljanec had one counter to tie but come up heavy on the last shot for the winning point. A well-played game by both where every point was earned that ended in a tie was the best outcome decided by all.

The league, with 15 new registrants of whom 8 were Learn to Curl graduates and 4 who brought husbands, have all picked up the game quickly and enjoying the social aspect of the event. Convenor Ann Gerrits said that "many members have stepped up to the challenge of playing Skip and Vice and as the season has progressed, the games scores have become very close." A testament to the quality of learning from the Adult program as well as the help and encouragement from the club's seasoned players.

Teams Allen, Rhind, Boutin, Pizzicarella, Wasylkiw, and G. Gerrits all found the winner circle while Kolody and Komljanec played to a tie. The top 5 teams are all within a single point of each other so a win or a loss can easily shuffle the standings.



Bryce Clark, Chris Welch, George Gerrits and Allan Courneya captured 2nd place overall in a nail-biting final at the Men's 40th Annual Rockbuster Spiel in Minden.

KCC Honourable Mentions

Skip George Gerrits and his rink of Chris Welch, Bryce Clark and Allan Courneya travelled to Minden recently for the 40th Annual Rockbuster Men's Spiel. After a perfect 3-0 record in the 2-day event Team Gerrits earned a spot in the final, which was a nail-biter 6-5 score after 6 ends. A millimeter miss on Gerrits final rock gave their opponent the win. A well-played event and a finish for second overall earned the Gerrits team a prize for a very tasty BBQ.

Team Sue Sheardown of the ladies league switched player rotation this past week and was Skipped by Rosie Kamstra.

The Sheardown team played on all four cylinders, but according to Lead Cindy Phillips it is was Rosie who delivered 2 key shots to secure the win.

Team Larry Sheardown and his mixed team came back from a 6-1 deficit to win their contest 9-6. And Skip Shellee Morning and her mixed team down by 1 in the final end executed a wide angle raise to knock out her opponents rock on the button to sit 3 for the win.

King Curling Club once again opened their doors to full capacity for Family Day fun. Ninety participants that included adults and youth in a session with learning the basic skills of curling that concluded with a short game before snacks and social.

Congratulations to Head coach Kathleen Gorsline and her assistants Peter Kamstra, Barb and Karl Davis, Beth Egan, Dave Hymers, Karen Mellow, Jack Campbell and Bob Belcher along with many other club volunteers for another successful Family Day event.

Ceremony honours O'Hara, Gallow, Hrinco, Miller

By Jim Stewart

Prior to the Innisfil-Schomberg tilt on Thursday night at the Trisan Centre, the Cougars honored its four graduating players: Schomberg resident Wesley O'Hara, King City resident Adam Miller, as well as Zach Gallow of Etobicoke and Andrew Hrinco of Mississauga.

The centre ice ceremony – complete with flowers for the hockey moms, a framed portrait of each convocating Cougar, and red carpet treatment for their families – was a warm expression of thanks by team management for the players' contributions to the franchise's rich hockey culture. All four players are in their final year of PJHL eligibility.

Cougars' Secretary/Director and Public Address Announcer Nicki Sellers introduced each player and encapsulated their hockey careers.

Sellers emphasized Wesley O'Hara's connection to the community in which he has played: "Wesley has played his entire minor hockey career in Schomberg and King Township, so it was only fitting that after one year of playing for the Lakefield Chiefs while attending school, he returned home to complete his junior hockey career in Schomberg. Wesley came in as a defenceman, but quickly demonstrated his versatility to play both defense and forward."

O'Hara tied for the team lead in goals this year with 17 and Sellers noted that "Wesley has been a key piece to the Cougars' success in his 87 games played with us to date and the 44 points (he has scored). We are so proud to congratulate Wesley on his accomplishments."

Assistant Captain Zach Gallow, whose robust presence has created space for other Cougars all season, "played AA for his entire minor hockey career, for teams in Etobicoke including the Humberview Huskies and the Mississauga Terriers," according to the Cougars' PA voice. "He played his first season with us in 2021, and to date has played 125 games in a Cougars jersey, with an impressive 85 points. Zach has always been a force to be reckoned with, since the first time he stepped on the ice with us."

The tenacious Gallow, who scored 12 goals and added 10 assists in the regular season, was described as a fiery competitor by Sellers: "He wears his heart on his sleeve, and gives everything he has in every game he plays. We are very proud to congratulate Zach

on his successes in junior hockey."

Defenceman and power play quarterback Andrew Hrinco, who led the Cougars in scoring during the regular season with 13 goals and 22 assists, is a veteran of three PJHL seasons. Sellers summarized the Assistant Captain's career: "Andrew played his minor hockey career with the Credit Valley Wolves and graduated to the Mississauga Terriers AA. During his time with us, Andrew has played 134 games to date and has netted an amazing 84 points."

Sellers described Hrinco's defensive prowess: "His solid defensive skills have proven to be unbeatable. Opponents realize quickly how strong and poised Andrew is when they are stopped at the blue line time and time again. Congratulations on all your achievements, Andrew!"

Cougar Captain Adam Miller's roots in King Township were delineated by Sellers in the pre-game ceremony: "Adam, a King City resident, began his hockey career playing for NobleKing. He later went on to play out of Richmond Hill on the AA teams. In his two years with our team, Adam has made a tremendous impact. With 27 points in his 65 games, Adam is a big presence on the blue line. His physical play and keen awareness of the game makes him a force to be reckoned with as he patrols the blue line and fiercely protects his zone. Congratulations on your accomplishments, Adam!"

Three of the four honorees discussed the meaningful nature of the ceremony after their tidy 4-1 win over the Spartans.

Leading scorer O'Hara, who fired the game-winning goal versus the Spartans, thought the best part of the ceremony "was getting my dad and mom out on the red carpet to thank them for supporting me – it was great to have a lot of my family in the stands tonight, too."

Assistant Captain Hrinco, who fired two goals and added two assists against Innisfil, echoed his teammate's sentiments. The high-scoring defenceman was happy to have "my grandma and dad at center ice with me tonight – unfortunately, my mom is in Florida and couldn't be here, but it was great to have my grandma out there."

Captain Miller, whose steady veteran presence on the blue line was evident all game, thanked "the team owners – Randy and Debra Hull – for their really nice gesture at centre ice tonight. It's appreciated by the four of us and the whole team."

Hrinco's four-point night leads Schomberg to 4-1 win over Innisfil

By Jim Stewart

Schomberg defenceman Andrew Hrinco scored 2 goals and added 2 assists to impel the Cougars to a 4-1 win over the Innisfil Spartans on Thursday night at the Trisan Centre. The club's final regular season home game was a rematch of last Sunday's contest won by the Cougars 4-3 during which they peppered Spartan goaltender Francesco Sciabbarrasi with 79 shots.

Between the pipes to face the Schomberg shooting gallery on Thursday was Arlen Beatty and he held the Cougars off the scoresheet after 20 minutes of play. The free-flowing first period was penalty-free until Schomberg's Arunas Scott slashed a Spartan and reported to the sin bin with five minutes to play. Despite generating three good scoring chances on the PK, the Cougars were stymied by Beatty. It was Innisfil that got on the scoreboard first when Jesse Floros beat Schomberg netminder Nicolas Morvan at 18:12 of the opening frame and the visitors took their 1-0 lead into the dressing room.

The Cougars' energetic play to start the second period was rewarded at 7:11 on a highlight reel goal by Hrinco. The high-scoring d-man stormed down the right wing, drag-deked the Spartans defender, and wired the puck high glove side to beat Beatty to even the score. Hrinco blasted one off the crossbar minutes later and it was evident that the Cougars were focused on shooting high on the Spartans' diminutive keeper.

Six minutes after the tying goal, the Cougars took the lead when Hrinco led a left wing rush and fired a shot that Beatty blocked, but big Wesley O'Hara pounced on the rebound to give Schomberg its first lead of the game. It was O'Hara's 17th of the season and Hrinco's 20th assist.

Hrinco added to his team's lead 92 seconds into the third period when he blasted a high shot from the left blue line that whistled by Beatty and bulged the twine. Blue line partner Carter

Longland feathered the perfect pass to Hrinco to earn his 18th assist.

Veteran Jordyn Palazzo ensured the victory at 13:48 of the final frame when he buried a rebound off a nice power forward move by Nick Winiarczyk to give the Cougars a 4-1 lead. Hrinco – who was awarded First Star of the Game honors by PJHL staff – earned his second assist on Palazzo's 11th of the season and thought the key to victory was "keeping it simple tonight. We weren't pinching as much tonight and not taking as many penalties."

O'Hara, who notched the game-winning goal and was voted Second Star of the Game, thought the Cougars "were dominant tonight. We needed to be better than our last game against them and we needed to get more pucks to the net."

Captain Adam Miller emphasized his team's "resilience after being down 1-0, despite dominating them in the first period. Our second period effort was excellent and we were rewarded with two big goals."

Newly-acquired netminder Nicolas Morvan earned the W by stopping 24 of the 25 shots he faced.

The Cougars, who lost 3-2 in OT in Alliston to the first-place Hornets on Friday night, finished fourth in the North Carruthers Division with a solid 27-12-2-1 record.

The Cougars opened the playoffs on Tuesday (Feb. 27) when they hosted Penetang Kings. Game 2 of the best-of-7 series will be in Penetang Friday, March 1 at 8 p.m. The series shifts back to Schomberg for Game 3 on Saturday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Trisan Centre.



Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person for worship this Sunday at 10 a.m. Our Pastor, Jeff Loach, will continue his series on the book of Acts.

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 at stpaulsnobleton.ca/connect.

If you know young people who need volunteer hours for school, we would be pleased to have them volunteer to run our audio-visual booth on some Sundays throughout the year. Training is provided. Interested individuals can reach out to our Pastor through the connection card at stpaulsnobleton.ca/connect.

St. Mary's Church

St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus are raffling off two Raptors vs. Charlotte Hornets Tickets for the Sunday, March 3 game at Scotiabank Arena valued at approximately \$300 each. 2 Raffle Tickets for \$10 or 5 tickets for \$20. Tickets will be sold after the Holy Mass celebrations at St. Patrick's, or you may contact John Pallotto - Grand Knight, KofC, St. Patrick's Council at 416-525-9450. The draw will take place on Thursday, Feb. 29.

Students in Grades 6-8 are invited to join us on Friday, March 8 at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish Hall for an evening of food, fun, and a great discussion on "Honesty" called "Cross My Heart."

We will begin with the Stations of the Cross at St. Mary's Church at 6:30 p.m. followed by Holy Mass at 7 p.m. Then, we will head into the parish hall

for our Edge Night. We will have a meat-free pizza dinner, drinks and snacks followed by fun games and activities surrounding the topic of honesty. Hope you can join us! Invite your friends and make this the best Lent ever! I encourage the parents of teens to promote our youth ministry and events with your teens. You won't regret it! For more information, contact our youth minister Zephania Gangl and see our youth ministry social media.

March 2 - Life Jesus Higher Rally 2024 - "Take Heart: By His Wounds we are Healed."

There are still spaces on the bus for the "Lift Jesus Higher" event taking place at the Metro Toronto Convention Center. This is an annual event supported by the Archdiocese of Toronto where hundreds of catholic adults and youth gather to listen to amazing speakers, live praise and worship music, followed by Eucharistic Adoration, Confession and the celebration of the Holy Mass. For more information, contact our youth minister Zephania Gangl and see the poster in the bulletin.

Join us for an unforgettable night of Food, Fun, Music, Dancing and Fellowship April 13 for St. Mary's Starlight Gala fundraiser. It features an Antipasto Bar, Three Course Gourmet Meal, Dessert station, Late Night Food, Deluxe Bar, Exceptional Live Entertainment and so much more! Tickets will be available soon! Contact Rick Minicucci at 416-768-5564 or Robert Laurendi at 416-768-5564 for tickets and sponsoring and prize donation opportunities. Don't Miss Out!

Did someone say Road trip? Calling all high schoolers! In our ever-changing world, Jesus is the answer to the longing of our hearts for meaning, fulfillment, security, and love. Join hundreds of Catholic teens journeying from Toronto to Steubenville, Ohio, for the Illuminate Conference from June 28-30 to be illuminated in the light of Christ. There will be Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, excellent speakers, praise and worship music, and delicious food. Non-refundable deposits of \$60/participant are due this weekend. The total cost per teen is \$440 Canadian, however, we will be doing significant fundraising to offset costs. If you are interested in joining us, please email zgangl@archtoronto.org to reserve your spot. It will be a truly memorable, faith enriching experience for all of us!

Browse our websites:

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

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

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

The Parish Office will remain open from Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed for lunch break 12 to 1 p.m.).

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:
Mobility Matters classes Monday and Friday - 1 to 1:45 p.m.

Educational Thursdays - from 10 a.m. to noon unless otherwise indicated.

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

March 7 - CPR and Defibrillator presented by King Fire & Emergency Services (Kevin Ritson).

March 21 - Tai Chi presented by Judy Leeming.

March 28 - "First Impressions Count" (clothes, jewelry, hair) presented by Frank De-bartolo.

April 4 - Councillor David Boyd - Ask your questions to our Nobleton Councillor.

April 11 - Adaptive Living for Seniors - How to Remain in Your Home.

April 18 - Learn to Bake Cannoli with Rose.

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.

Kingcrafts Studio Workshop

One-of-a-Kind Felted Bracelet Work-

shop for Adults. Learn how to create unique wearable art using this wet-felting technique. It is fun and easy, incorporating merino wool, soap, water and embellishments. You will soon be inspired to make many other felted items. Instructors are Maureen Mewett and Debbie Hanks and all material is included for this March 3 workshop.

Working With Enamel (Adult Workshop). Come and learn to enamel! We will create one blue or one green flower from start to finish. The flower is approximately 2" in diameter with an 8" stem. You can keep it for yourself or give as a gift. Mother's Day is just around the corner! Workshop includes full instruction, tools and supplies.

All material included for this April 20 workshop. It's limited to 8, so register early! The last day for registration is midnight on Monday, April 8.

Small Wire Bird (Adult Workshop). Come out and create your own whimsical wire bird. Your sculpture is approximately 8" to 10" tall and waiting to be named. It runs May 4.

For further information and registration go to our website at www.kingcrafts.ca

Nobleton Book Club

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

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.

Tuesday, March 12, 2024: Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.

Tuesday, April 9, 2024: The Maid by Nita Prose.

Mark your calendars, come and join this lively and interesting group of Nobleton readers.

Nobleton Lions

The Club extends its thanks to the participants in last week's annual Fundraiser Poker Tournament with proceeds going to community organizations.

More on Page 16

Arthritis: New Approach Delivers Remarkable Results



If you suffer from Arthritis you need to be aware of effective advancements that can eliminate years of pain, suffering, immobility and frustration.

You may have told your doctor you suffer with one or more of the following: sore, stiff knees, painful achy hips, low back pain, mid back pain, neck stiffness or pain, hand stiffness, shoulder pain or elbow pain.

You may find that your pain or stiffness affects your work, housekeeping, leisure activities, exercise, sports or other activities. You go to the drug store or to your doctor and get pills to help relieve your pain. But you find the pain keeps returning. Alternatively, the doctor may refer you to a specialist who may tell you that surgery is needed or is an option for you.

However, many people are hesitant to have surgery given its invasive nature. It is important to know that although surgery is sometimes necessary, it is considered a last resort in most cases.

Also, you may have heard that there are serious health risks associated with chronic use (or overuse) of pain pills or anti-inflammatory drugs that include damage to the liver, kidneys and gut.

There is a new, natural, safe and highly effective approach that has helped many sufferers improve their

lives dramatically: Laser therapy uses light to favor and accelerate the body's natural healing processes. The innovative Multiwave Locked System (MLS) Laser produces a safe, efficient and simultaneous effect on pain, inflammation, swelling and water retention, exceeding the limits of traditional LLLT (Low power) and concerns of HP (High power) laser therapy.

What does this mean for you?

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It is the very latest in medical technology, with years of clinical studies supporting its safety and efficacy and we are very proud to offer our patients effective solutions to their recent or chronic conditions.

"This new, natural, safe and highly effective approach has helped many sufferers improve their lives dramatically".

Come in and allow us to help you achieve the results you deserve! Call (905) 773-2225 to book your FREE consultation and examination at King West Wellness Centre 141 King Rd., Unit 10, Richmond Hill (In the Home Hardware Plaza)

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HOURS: Monday-Friday 8:00am - 5:30pm;
Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm; Sunday 10:00am - 4:00pm

King's Corners

From Page 13

Tuesdays at 2 – prayer time will be in the lounge this week since all churches in our Oak Ridges Presbytery have been invited for the 4th Tuesday of the month. Have a look at this wonderful statement on prayer found in the New Testament, Philippians 4:6,7. What a blessing! If you're not able to come, but wish prayer, call the office at 905-833-2325. Next week, we'll meet in the office from 2 to 3 p.m.

This Friday, March 1, is The International Day of Prayer, (the first Friday of March). All are welcome to Sacred Heart Catholic Church (this year's host) at 11 a.m. The program this year is written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Palestine. - Ephesians 4:1-3 - I Beg You ... Bear With One Another in Love.

Wednesdays at 7 will start again March 6, 13, 20 with Lenten Devotions.

More to follow.

After Easter, March 31, The Q and A (sermon-based) groups will start in April – both virtual and in person.

For pastoral care, call St. Andrew's, King City at 905-833-2325 to speak with Alison Agnew, or phone one of the Elders. Our Interim Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Jeff Loach can be contacted at St. Paul's, Nobleton at 905-859-0843.

All Saints Anglican Church By Patrick Gossage

Each Monday during Lent a group meets on Zoom to study the Gospel reading for the coming Sunday. Lectio Divina is scriptural reading, meditation and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's Word. Call the church at 905-833-5432 for Zoom info.

You Carry My Weakness, My Sickness, My Brokenness – Sermon by Rev. Erin Martin on Mark 8 – Living in the way of Jesus.

"It's been a really hard year. Beyond

some of the personal sorrows we've experienced within our own lives, there's been significant pain in the world; the continued War in Ukraine, the escalating violence between Israel and Hamas and the horrifying loss of innocent life, global recessions and the financial strain on daily life. There are just so many personal, community, national and international tragedies and hardships that we have had to endure. What Jesus is calling us to do is to embrace the pain of others ... not take it on so that it overwhelms us but embrace it rather than explain it away, or even to cry out against it ... but embrace it trusting that God is with us and working for us."

"Every human being on this planet has experienced pain and brokenness. We don't like to display our brokenness to others. Maybe we've wondered if people will still respect us or take advantage of us if we show our vulnerabilities. We tend to favour strength over weakness, health over sickness, and self-sufficiency over dependence. De-

nying pain and sadness, weakness and brokenness is understandable. Peter did it. He was flabbergasted at even the possibility that God's Messiah came to suffer and die rather than conquer and rule. So he rebuked Jesus.

"The idea that Jesus would suffer and die were things that he felt should be avoided at all costs. What Peter didn't understand is that it would be through the cross that God demonstrated that there is no place that God would refuse to go in God's quest to love and redeem all of us. While we might be called to embrace the brokenness of our neighbours. I hope we experience God calling us to courage through the resurrection.

"The resurrection call could be in various forms. Perhaps it will be to stand with our Jewish siblings through their pain as they face a startling rise in antisemitism, and perhaps we join our voices to those crying out for a ceasefire in Gaza. Perhaps it will be to hold vigil with someone who is facing death and knows it. We must go beyond thoughts and prayers. Jesus showed us that God wants to be intimately and powerfully present with us in our brokenness, and in doing so transforms our perspectives and encourages us in our struggles.

"If loss, suffering and death cannot separate us from God's love, what is there to fear?" (David Lose) Today, if you are in pain, or weakness, or brokenness – know that God is committed to joining you there. Let's make room for the God of the cross and resurrection to transform us and embolden us so that we can embrace others and be with them through the process that leads to life – the life of love and abundance to which God calls every human being."

Nobleton Notes

From Page 15

Next up, on Saturday, March 30, at 10 a.m., your kids can look forward to the free township-wide Easter Egg Hunt at the Nobleton Sports Park, sponsored by the three Lions Clubs in King. Thousands of plastic eggs will be "laid" on the grassy areas for the kids to gather and then traded in for the real prizes ... chocolate Easter bunnies.

Later this spring the Nobleton Lions, along with other community groups, will take part in the Nobleton Victoria Day festivities. On the following Sunday, May 26, you and your pets are invited to walk in the annual Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides. For more information about the walk and how you can participate and donate, please visit <https://www.walkfordogguides.com/>

Then on Sunday, June 9 the long-running, much-anticipated golf tournament fundraiser will be staged at the Nobleton Lakes Golf Club. For information, please contact Lion Jerry MacBain at 905-859-4633. Details for these events as well as announcements of other events, once they are fully planned, will follow soon on the website, on social media, and in the King Weekly Sentinel.

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 learn more about events and organizations supported with your contributions. From the Homepage you can access our social media pages.

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., with dinner at 7:00, 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 February 27.

St. Alban's By John Arnott

At this point in the winter there is about an extra hour of late afternoon daylight as the solemn church season of Lent deepens. The St. Alban's Anglican community in Nobleton notes that the name Lent isn't based on anything religious but rather on lencten the old Anglo-Saxon word for spring and from which we get our words length and lengthen. Our daylight hours are surely lengthening.

In some early Christian communi-

ties the religious season of Lent wasn't observed at all. But in places where it was marked its length varied from one place to another and from generation to the next.

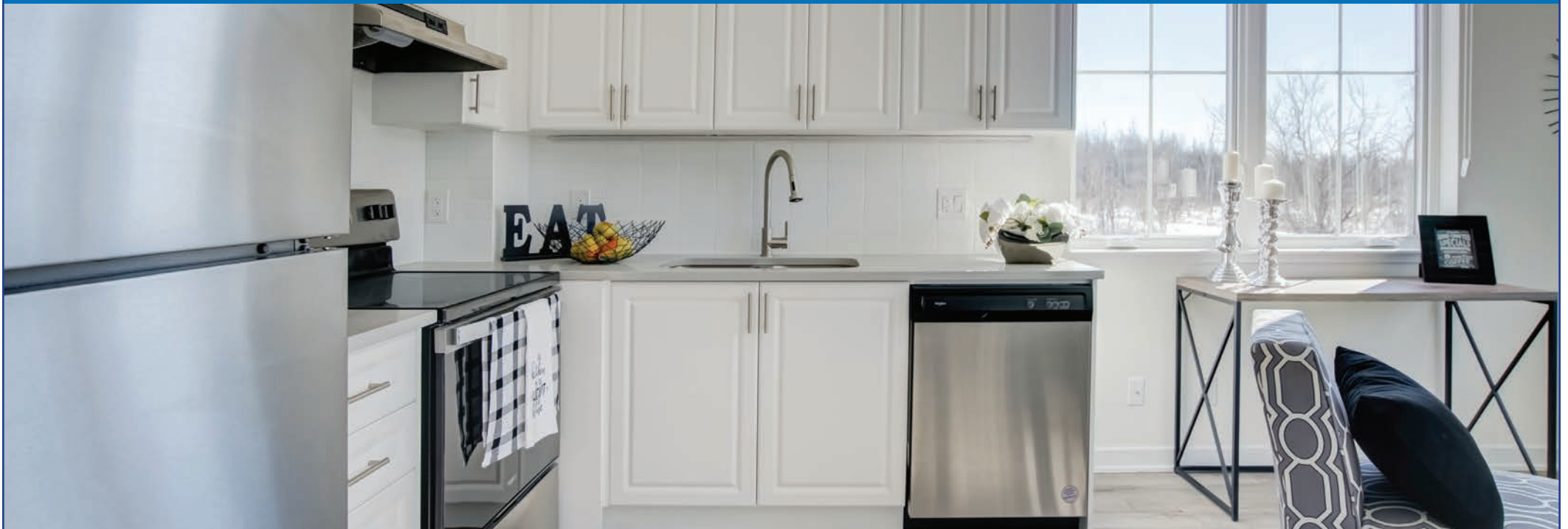
St. Irenaeus of Lyons in Gaul/France (130-200 AD/CE) wrote that in some Christian areas the Lenten fast was held for 1 or 2 days before Easter while in other places this fast was just 40 hours in remembrance of the actual time Yeshua was in his borrowed tomb. By the mid-200s AD/CE many Christians in Egypt especially in Alexandria kept the Lenten fast during the 6 days leading up to Easter. In Rome, however, fasting was on course for 3 weeks before Easter.

In 325 AD/CE at a meeting of Christian leaders called by Constantine, the first Christian Roman emperor, convened in Nicaea Anatolia (modern Turkey). One of the decisions made was that Lent should be 40 days long excluding Sundays to commemorate the time Yeshua spent alone in the semi-desert wilderness of Judea (modern Israel) praying, fasting, communing with God and surviving using the skills he'd learned camping out in the wild with his cousin John the Baptist.

Gradually Christians began to extend this fasting season for several days then 2 or 3 weeks, but took many years before the 40-day observance became widespread.



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Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Has spring really sprung?

Next week is looking promising though so maybe you can start to think about putting away those heavy coats and boots and get out the shorts and flip flops. Can't wait!

This month we have an extra day to enjoy, so happy birthday to those that only get a celebration every four years. The 29th of February was also known in Irish tradition as "Bachelors Day" or "Ladies Privilege" coming from a time where it was uncommon for woman to propose marriage, so this day gave women the option to propose. Which worked well for women fed up with waiting.

Speaking of spring, Conscious Finds at 289 Main Street is having a "Spring Sip & Shop" event, to show off their new arrivals and they'll also be serving complimentary food and drink. Go check it out and spruce up your spring wardrobe.

Looking for something to keep your children busy this summer? Well, registration for King Camp opens March 8. You can find the link to register and what camps are being offered at King.ca. There are many camps to choose from. My own son loved the King camps as a child and learned a lot of different skills. Make sure to get online March 8, because the most popular fill up fast.

Cold Creek Maple Syrup Fest is back for its second year. Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You can purchase tickets at coldcreek.ca/maplesyrupfest

Schomberg Euchre Club: Euchre is on Friday nights at the Trisan, 7 to 9. 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. We've had a few new members lately and we'd love to see more.

Schomberg Seniors (55+): We have 74 members to date, but we still have room for more, so if you're over 55 and want to learn a few new skills and make a new friend or two, please come out and join us.

Schomberg Seniors (55+): We have

seventy-four members to date, but we still have room for more, so if you're over 55 and want to learn a few new skills and make a new friend or two, please come out and join us.

This past Monday we had our "Trivia" contest, and the winners are, Janice Boykach, Barbara McClelland, Kathy Tremblay, Gillian Vicone, Linda Baker, and Carol Hindley. Congratulations to all our winners.

Thanks to Lynn Bird and Maggie Crowe for coming up with all the great questions to try and stump everyone. Good job ladies, if you missed it, no worries, we will be doing it again in the fall.

Calling all Bridge game players, or Bridge wannabees! Are you 55 or over? If so, we welcome you to join us on any Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. for a couple of hours of playing or learning to play Bridge.

Coffee, tea and treats available. Luga-mug and help save the environment by not contributing to the 500 billion disposable coffee cups that end up in landfill each year. Costs to play are \$1 for members of Schomberg seniors 55+ club and \$2 for non-members.

We've got some great events and workshops coming up, so come on out.

Monday, March 4 - 10 a.m. - Speaker Frank Smith, Ukulele sing along.

Monday, March 18 - 10 a.m. - Lynn Bird presents "Adventures in New Zealand."

These events all take place at the Schomberg Community Hall, except as indicated.

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.

Annual fee is \$15 for individuals and \$20 per couple or two people living at the same address for King residents. To keep up to date with events, please check online at king.ca/seniors.

This quote spoke to me this week, and this week's quote comes with a story. My son wanted to get a tattoo, and I wasn't sure if I should agree. He is 17, so even if I said no he'd be able to get one at 18 anyway. When we went in the tattoo artist asked me if I wanted a tattoo. "Yes, I would but no idea what I would get?" I decided to look online, so I googled "popular sayings for tattoo" thinking that something might resonate with me.

More on Page 18

Classifieds

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Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Don't forget to come to the famous DiFebo Pasta Dinner at Nobleton United Church on Friday, March 1 if you have reserved a seat. The meal of pasta with meatballs, salad and dessert starts at 6:30 p.m., so please try to get seated before 6:30 p.m. It is a great time to socialize, as we do not rush out afterwards. If you forgot to reserve a spot, check with Linda Olsen (437-552-0442) to see if there is any room left. The cost is \$25/adult, \$12 for 10 years and under, free for those under 5.

This Sunday, March 3, we will be having our regular 2 services, one at 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church (enter by back door for Schomberg United) and one at 11:15 a.m. at Nobleton United Church. Coffee and refreshments afterwards at both locales.

We are also 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 and sing along. But it is all better in person!

The next Lenten Lunch is on Monday, March 4 at 11 a.m. at Nobleton United Church. The main course will be supplied. Please bring a salad or a dessert. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone in our community to come together, share in fellowship, and enjoy a warm meal. The lunches continue on Mondays. The location alternates each week between Schomberg and Nobleton.

The next Seniors' Luncheon is Tuesday, March 12 at 11:30 a.m. (arrive by 11:15 a.m.) at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg. Musician Joe Crone will be singing '50s and '60s music. The meal is on the St. Patrick's Day theme: leek and potato soup, corned beef sandwiches, and a festive dessert. Please let Sheila Kelly (905-939-2315) know if you are interested in attending. Space is limited. If you prefer, the meal can be delivered. Although the meal and entertainment are free, we do appreciate any donations you are able to make to offset some of our costs.

The next Messy Church (usually the third Wed of each month) is moved forward one week to the March break on Wednesday, March 13 at 5 p.m. This is a fun family time. There are optional crafts and activities for the first hour, then an interactive story time relating the activities to the Bible story, and then we eat dinner together at 6:15 p.m. All is free. When dinner is over, we do clean-up. We know that families are busy, so it is fine to come later or leave early. Please contact me (nancykhopkinson@gmail.com) to say that you intend to come so that we have enough

crafts and food for everyone. Grandparents are welcome too and they also enjoy the activities.

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.

Schomberg United Church meets at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg. It is accessible. Nobleton United Church meets 6476 King Rd., Nobleton.

Schomberg Scoop

From Page 17

The first thing that comes up is a group of sayings laid out on a sheet and what catches my eye is the saying "Little by Little, one travels far" ~ JRR Tolkien.

And that really resonates with me because my father used that quote very often, especially when I was feeling defeated or trying to learn a new skill. I felt like he was speaking to me,

so that's what I got on my left arm as a reminder. It's a great reminder to all of us that tasks we see as overwhelming are better done in smaller chunks and to look back at your life on occasion and see how far you've come.

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 spporter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

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708 OBITUARIES

JOSEPH EDWARD BURTON

August 22, 1965 – February 22, 2024

It is with heavy hearts and many tears, that we announce the passing of Joe, after a courageous battle with GBM.

Beloved husband of Adine. Proud father of Cody (Michelle) and Cade. Adoring grandfather of Chloe.

Joe was a dedicated associate at Honda of Canada Mfg for 35 years. He enjoyed trivia, the outdoors, listening to many genres of music, playing baseball and caring for his feline fur babies.

Joe will be missed by many family members and friends.

Many thanks to the care team and volunteers at Matthews House Hospice, who provided ongoing comfort, kindness and compassion for Joe.

To respect Joe's wishes, no services will be held.

In Joe's memory, donations to Matthews House Hospice would greatly be appreciated.

We love you, Joe! You are forever in our hearts and memories...♥



708 OBITUARIES

Thomas Josef Hansel

Thomas J. Hansel passed away on Saturday, February 10, 2024 in Richmond Hill. Thomas was the husband of Debbie Beuker-Hansel; and is predeceased by his father Henry, and survived by his mother Anny, and his brother Eric Hansel. Tom leaves behind his step-children Jenn Christie (Curt), and Jason Beuker (Tiffany) and his grandchildren Hudson, Julia, Grayden, and Silas.

Cremation has taken place, and a memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at a later date. Details will be communicated to friends and family once they are finalized.

May Thomas rest in peace, and may his memory live on in the hearts of those who cherished him.

Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.peacefultransition.ca



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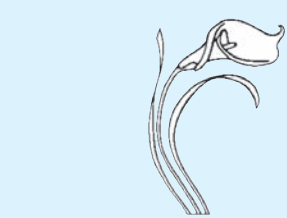
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All claims against the estate of Henry Raymond Ankenmann, late of Tottenham Ontario, who died on December 16, 2023, must be filed with the undersigned Estate Trustee on or before the 29th of March 2024; thereafter, the undersigned will deliver the assets of the said estate having regard only to the claims then filed.

Dated February 29, 2024.

Michael Ankenmann,
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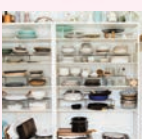
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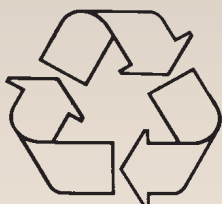
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Fully Renovated Masterpiece, \$500K+ Upgrades: Stone, Stucco, New Driveway, Hardwood, Stylish Staircase. Chef's Kitchen, Wall-2-Wall Cabinets, High-End Appliances. New Ensuites & Closets in Bedrooms. Extended Deck for Nature. Finished Basement, 3 Ensuites—Perfect for Inlaws. Priced at \$1,849,000.



RIVERSIDE DELIGHT: IDEAL INVESTMENT HOME

Perfect for first-time buyers or investment. Move-in ready, centrally located near amenities. Well-maintained home with cozy living spaces, finished basement for potential rental income. Fully fenced yard with deck. Close to Lake Simcoe for year-round activities. Offered at only \$779,000.



WATERFRONT RETREAT

Escape to this 5-bed, 4-bath waterfront retreat, under an hour from Toronto. Revel in stunning sunsets at the westerly-facing 4-season lake house on Lake Simcoe. Enjoy the sunroom, cedar deck, and create family memories around the fire pit. Over \$200K in extras available. Offered at \$778,000.



RICHMOND HILL'S SERENE 2-ACRE HAVEN

Embark on a unique opportunity with this extraordinary 2-acre forest property. Revel in remarkable usability and privacy. The backyard features a stunning interlock patio, in-ground pool oasis, enclosed gazebo, and expansive grass area—a canvas for endless customization. Your dream haven awaits! Offered at \$3,799,000.

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