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King's Community Newspaper

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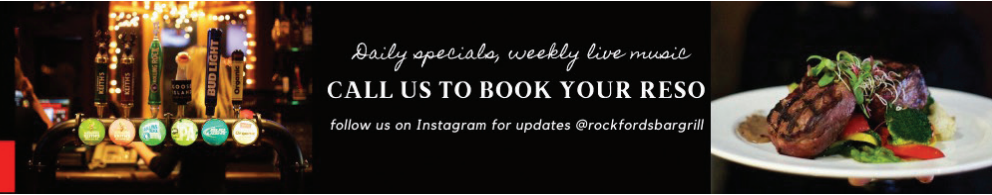
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A Main Street Christmas brightens the season

Schomberg's annual extravaganza –A Main Street Christmas –lit up the streets Saturday. Two parades, including the famous Parade of Lights, highlighted the event, which included street vendors, crafts and more. Turn to Page 14 for more photos of the event.

Council asking governments to move on bail reform

By **Mark Pavilons**
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

sure to enhance public safety.

A copy of King's resolution will be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, and the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services for their consideration and necessary action.

It will also be sent to all municipalities in York Region and to York Regional Police, for their information and support.

The motion follows spikes in violent crimes across Canada and York, which include break-ins, assaults, robberies, sexual violations, thefts of motor vehicles and weapons violations.

See 'Local' on Page 3

King council is urging provincial and federal governments to get moving on bail reform.

Councillor David Boyd tabled a motion at council recently, asking the federal and provincial governments to come together to ensure that all bail reform changes made as part of Bill C-48 are being effectively implemented, resourced, and are meeting the goals and outcomes intended in the legislation.

Further, council is calling on Ottawa to consider the call by Queen's Park to implementation additional mea-

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INSIDE

REGULAR FEATURES

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Chamber celebrates with a speakeasy.

See Page 9



Lions treat local seniors to annual social.

See Page 14

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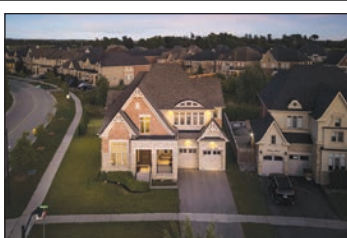


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Making life better in King

Upcoming Meetings



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, January 06
6 p.m. - **CANCELLED**
Council Public Planning

Monday, January 13
6 p.m. - Council Public Planning

Monday, January 13
6 p.m. - **CANCELLED**
Council Meeting

Monday, January 27
6 p.m. - Council

In-person at the King Township Municipal Centre and live streamed at king.ca/meetings

View full Council and Committee agendas at king.ca/meetings

Recent Planning & Heritage Notices

- **Notice of Complete Application Concerning a Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment Re 14855 Highway 27, King, ON**

View full planning and heritage notices at king.ca/news and subscribe to receive these notices by email at king.ca/subscribe



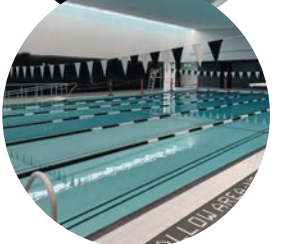
We're looking for a diverse group of residents who are passionate about King's sporting history to help induct the **class of 2026** in the inaugural **King Township Sports Hall of Fame**. Located at the Zancor Centre, the Hall will be dedicated to recognizing past and current King athletes for their achievements in sports, in an exhibit featuring memorabilia and photos.

Applicants must be aged 16 years or older and will be required to attend in-person monthly meetings, starting **January 2025**.

Questions? Email kingmuseum@king.ca

kingheritageandculture.ca/sportshalloffame

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View job postings at king.ca/employment



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KING

Join our team

We're hiring part-time aquatic instructors and lifeguards to work at the new Zancor Centre.

View the job postings and application details online.

king.ca/employment



Water Bills

Due Date: December 18

king.ca/WaterBilling

Winter parking restrictions are in effect until April 15, 2025

On-street parking between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. is prohibited to allow for snow clearing; even on-street parking permits are invalid. **Parking infractions will be ticketed \$100.**

For more information, visit king.ca/SnowRemoval

Water Bill Notice

Due to the **Canada Post strike**, mailing of the **water bill** due on **December 18** (for the period of September to October) will be delayed.

Avoid missing your payment! Residents are strongly encouraged to register for **ebilling** so they receive their water bill directly to their email and enroll in the pre-authorized debit program (PAD) for automatic withdrawals.

For more information, including links to ebilling and PAD enrollment, visit king.ca/WaterBilling.

Alternate options:

- **Call ServiceKING** at 905-833-5321 and an Associate can provide you with the amount you owe over the phone.
- **Pick-up a print copy** of your water bill at the King Township Municipal Centre (free of charge).
- **Email serviceking@king.ca** to receive a copy of your bill via email.

Registration is now open!

2025 Winter Recreation Guide

There's snow place like King this winter: the Township has planned a fun lineup of recreation programs (including swim lessons!) for the coolest season of the year.

Dabble in musical theatre, try cooking, coding or cross stitching, take a dance class, join an ice hockey league, play sports or explore the wintry outdoors snowshoeing or cross-country skiing! **Plus, P.A. Day programs and March Break camps for the little ones!**



view online at king.ca/recreation



Winter-ready: King is prepared for the snow removal season

Snowplowing occurs in priority sequence, with major roads first, followed by neighbourhood roads, and cul-de-sacs last - to ensure that fire and emergency services are able to drive on the roads and respond to calls. Road servicing is typically completed within a 12-hour period after the snowfall is complete but can take longer during a Significant Weather Event.

If your street is missed during snow clearing, **call 905-833-5321** or email ServiceKING@king.ca.

For more information, visit king.ca/SnowRemoval



Internet upgrades will connect homes in King Township

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan, was joined by Steven Del Duca, Mayor of Vaughan and Steve Pellegrini, Mayor of King to announce that YorkNet’s high-speed internet network expansion in King and north Vaughan is expected to be completed by the end of 2025.

The Ontario Government invested \$29 million into the Universal Broadband Fund to connect underserved communities in York Region to high-speed internet access.

“When I was first elected in 2018, I made a commitment to bridge the gaps in high-speed internet infrastructure across our rural communities – and I am proud to say we are one step closer to finally ending the digital divide,” said Lecce. “Through our government’s investment, we are delivering high-speed, reliable internet to homes, farms, and small businesses so no one in our community is left behind.”

The project will bring reliable, high-speed internet to 3,800 underserved homes in rural communities and hamlets in York Region including in King City, Nobleton, Lloydtown, Schomberg, Pottageville, Kleinburg, and North Vaughan.

Streets in Vaughan with homes receiving high-speed internet infrastructure upgrades include: Teston Rd., Kirby Rd., King-Vaughan Rd., Dufferin St, Jane St, Weston Rd, Pine Valley Dr, Kipling Ave, Huntington Rd, Cold Creek Rd., Highway 50, Phillips Ln.,

Shady Vale Ln., Nesver Ct., Mattucci Ct., and Abbruzzo Ct.

Streets in King with homes receiving high-speed internet infrastructure upgrades include: Dufferin St., Keele St., Weston Rd., Holancin Rd., 2nd Concession, Hanemaayer Ln., 7th Concession, 8th Concession, 10th Concession, 11th Concession, Caledon-King Townline, King Rd., 15th Sideroad, 16th Sideroad, 17th Sideroad, 18th Sideroad, 19th Sideroad, Lloydtown-Aurora Rd., Davis Dr W, Woodchoppers Ln., Miller’s Sideroad, South Canal Bank Rd., Bernhardt Rd., Emma Rd., Wilhelmena Rd., Juliana Rd, Graham Sideroad, and Pump House Rd.

“Access to reliable high-speed internet is a necessity, not a luxury. This investment will transform the lives of thousands of residents in King Township by enabling access to education, business opportunities and essential services. I want to thank MPP Lecce, the Province of Ontario and YorkNet for their commitment to bridging the digital divide and supporting our rural communities,” said King Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

Vaughan Mayor Steve Del Duca added: “In this digital era, having access to reliable high-speed internet is no longer a luxury, but a necessity. I am pleased to hear the provincial government is investing to bring this vital resource to residents across York Region. I want to thank Minister Stephen Lecce for his dedication and commitment to

ensuring everyone in Vaughan has access to high-speed internet.”

“Our government is continuing to make progress to ensure that every community across Ontario has access to reliable high-speed internet by the end of 2025,” said Kinga Surma, Ontario’s Minister of Infrastructure. “Thanks to incredible partnerships with organizations like YorkNet, we are expanding local broadband infrastructure to connect thousands of residents and businesses in York Region to the reliable high-speed internet services they need.”

MPP Lecce previously delivered \$600,000 in 2021 to connect 262 homes and businesses in King Township to high-speed internet under the Improving Connectivity for Ontario (ICON) program as part of the Ontario Government’s \$14.7 million investment into 13 high-speed internet projects. The province has invested a sum total of \$4 billion to ensure all Ontarians are connected to high-speed internet by the end of 2025.

Canada’s Connectivity Strategy aims

to provide all Canadians with access to internet speeds of at least 50 megabits per second (Mbps) download / 10 Mbps upload. The Universal Broadband Fund (UBF) is a \$3.225 billion investment by the Government of Canada designed to help provide high-speed internet access to 98 per cent of Canadians by 2026 and achieve the national target of 100 per cent access by 2030.

Today, 93.5 per cent of Canadian households have access to high-speed internet or are targeted to receive access through existing program commitments, compared to just 79 per cent in 2014. On July 29, 2021, a Canada-Ontario broadband partnership was announced. This agreement will bring high-speed internet access to more than 280,000 households across Ontario, with a total investment of more than \$1.2 billion, co-funded equally by both levels of government.

The Ontario government is investing nearly \$4 billion to bring access to reliable high-speed internet to every community across the province, by the end of 2025.

Local politicians continue to advocate

From Front Page

The premiers of all 13 provinces and territories have written letters to the federal government calling for meaningful bail reform. The York Regional Police Service Board’s 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets include a proposed net budget increase to \$441.5 million, reflecting the need for additional resources and staffing to address rising crime rates and enhance community safety and wellbeing.

The York Regional Police Service Board recognizes the importance of partnerships and prevention strategies in addressing complex organized and violent crimes, and aims to improve community safety through targeted initiatives and enhanced bail reform measures.

York Region Police have implemented a geo-fence to monitor activities in Nobleton and installed video surveillance to address recent troubling events. They are actively working to eliminate criminal elements and restore residents’ confidence in their safety.

Locally, Mayor Pellegrini and Councillor Boyd continue to advocate for the community’s concerns with York Regional Police, who have assured us that extra resources are currently active in Nobleton.

“In response to our advocacy, York Region has approved funding for 150 new police personnel, with recruitment under way,” Boyd said.

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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

Holidays shouldn't be financially stressful

Harley Pasternak once said that "life is all about balance, and there are certain times of the year ... that are meant to be enjoyed without guilt."

They say Christmas is not a season, but a state of mind.

Well, the state of mind among our fellow Canadians is a bit depressing this year.

According to Spring Financial's annual holiday survey, Canadians are stressed out, in debt and taxed to the limit when it comes to holiday spending.

According to the survey, over half of Canadians (56%) - in particular Gen Z (66%) and millennials (64%) - find the financial strain of buying gifts as the most stressful part of the holiday season.

Another 38% of Canadians are feeling more financial stress about buying gifts this year than last year, a big increase from the 13% in 2023.

"Canadians are feeling the financial strain of holiday spending this year more than ever," shared Tyler Thielmann, President and CEO of Spring Financial. "In these tough economic times, it's encouraging to see so many people finding creative ways to avoid debt and consider alternative gift options. I hope this shift reassures those who are financially stretched that they're not alone - and that it's perfectly okay to explore meaningful, less costly ways to celebrate."

Nearly 74% of Canadians - and 79% of both Gen Z and millennials - agree they are more likely to reduce their holiday spending budget this year due to rising living costs.

Almost 31% of Canadians cannot afford to buy gifts this holiday season, this is highest among millennials (38%) and Gen Z (36%).

Half of Canadians are considering alternative gifts like homemade items or experiences, with younger generations leading the trend; Gen Z at 71% and millennials at 58%.

Though the Bank of Canada recently lowered interest rates, only 16% of Canadians feel it eased holiday financial



Mark Pavilons

stress.

While 75% of Canadians plan to pay off holiday debt by the end of January, 4% anticipate needing a full year.

Experts are also predicting Canadians' food bills will rise again in the new year. Many are already struggling with the cost of groceries and this won't help at all. Any token gesture by governments in the form of "rebate" cheques will be gobbled up in no time.

Some of these sentiments have filtered through our household this year.

My wife and I once again spoiled the kids, but did tone it down a bit. Her parents always spent the same on each sibling, so we've carried on that tradition, even though it can be challenging.

I mentioned, just loud enough for all to hear, that some gifts remain unopened from previous Christmases, and that irks me to no end.

I tend to be frugal - okay cheap - but my heart is in the right place LOL. I believe some gifts should be practical and useful. There is always a place for the silly and extravagant, but only when it doesn't break the bank.

There have been holidays when I was

spent, in every way possible. And I've had my share of credit card druthers. This year, however, my wife and I avoided using our cards and instead paid as we went, sometimes going into overdraft. But that's preferable to big credit card balances come January.

My wife and I are exchanging stockings, filled to overflowing with little gifts and goodies. To be honest, I don't need anything, and I still have several unopened bottles of cologne. I have but a couple of hobbies, and my tastes are unique, meaning it's not something you can buy in any store.

We have done a lot of online shopping this year, and try to shop Canadian as much as we can. I noticed bags and boxes on our doorstep almost every day for a month.

My wife already got a head-start on the wrapping and our tree is looking quite full this year. Yes, there will be something for our three dogs as well, even though they deserve to be on the naughty list.

My only "wish" is to be together, enjoy some quiet time, some old movies and great food. My wife asked all of us to pick our favourite films and the list is quite interesting. I can't choose between Forrest Gump and Wizard of Oz. My kids all recall with fondness Stuart Little, Chestnut and Recipe for Disaster. My wife is not a big movie fan, but does

like the Night at the Museum series.

My wife and I host a Christmas Eve buffet for our extended families and this year will be no exception. It's been a tough one, not only for me, but for my in-laws, brother- and sister-in-law. All have had challenges.

While the holidays bring us all together, there's no question we are all getting older, grayer, even more frail.

So it's a bit of a catch-22 where we are slowing down.

But that's all the more reason to count our blessings and truly cherish the time we have together. All I want to hear is laughter, jokes and tall tales.

I want to stuff myself with pot-stickers, chicken wings and cheese balls. I want to sip some aperitifs and watch the ice cubes swirl around in my glass of whisky. I want to curl up on the couch and enjoy the warmth as the cold winds blow outside.

I also want peace and calm, even though I realize with five souls in our home, squabbles are a given.

And, unlike those in the aforementioned survey, I welcome a small debt load and less financial stress.

The new year is certain to bring its challenges, but hopefully we can all face them with renewed strength and a sense of well being.

My advice? Spend less, enjoy more. And yes, you can have seconds!

Education

York board elects officers

The York Region District School Board held its election of officers for 2025 at the Dec. 2 inaugural board meeting.

Trustee Ron Lynn was re-elected by acclamation as Board Chair.

The results of elections for other positions are as follows:

Board Vice-Chair,

Pamela McCarthy; Finance and Property Standing Committee Chair, Carolyn Butterworth; Learning, Equity and Well-Being Standing Committee Chair, Cindy Liang; Policy and By-Law Standing Committee Chair, Michael Chen; Ontario Public School Boards' Association directors, Nadeem Mahmood and Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair.

"I would like to congratulate all of our newly elected officers for 2025. Together, we form a strong and dedicated governing body that works collaboratively with board staff to serve YRDSB students and families. Our steadfast focus remains on advancing our Multi-Year Strategic Plan - elevating student achievement, fostering well-being and cultivating inclusive education for our students," said Ron Lynn, Board Chair. "I am deeply grateful to my colleagues for entrusting me once again with the responsibility of leading our district and I look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to ensure success for every student."



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Quote of the Week

"You are what you do, not what you say you will do."

- Carl Jung

Trivia Tidbits

Canadian golfer Mike Weir has the most PGA tour wins.

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Results from last week's poll:

Do you think Trump's tariffs will hurt both countries?

a) Yes 100%

b) No 0%

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Have you been impacted by the postal strike?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton ON L7E 5V1
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www.kingsentinel.com

PUBLISHER: London Publishing Corp.
GENERAL MANAGER: Zach Shoub
EDITOR: Mark Pavilons editor@kingsentinel.com
PRODUCTION: Lisa Clendening
ADVERTISING: Karen Nemet karen@lpcmedia.ca
DISTRIBUTION: Sheila Ogram sheila@lpcmedia.ca
OFFICE: Mary Speck
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Do these politicians really understand carbon?

By David Suzuki

The Environment

At its early November annual general meeting in Red Deer, Alberta's governing United Conservative Party passed a resolution to "recognize the importance of CO2 to life and Alberta's prosperity" and "recognize that CO2 is a foundational nutrient for all life on Earth." The party also voted to get rid of critical net-zero emissions targets, among other measures.

Are they ignorant about climate science, physics and carbon cycles? Are they trolling? Or are they so deep in the fossil fuel industry's pockets that they'll do anything to support it? The Alberta government appears to be taking cues from the U.S. MAGA movement, so any or all of that is possible.

Regardless of their origin, these attacks on everyone and everything from transgender people to important and effective climate measures have dangerous, real-life consequences.

It's true that carbon dioxide is "a foundational nutrient for all life on Earth." We're carbon-based beings, and the carbon cycle — which circulates carbon through living things, the ocean, minerals and the atmosphere — is a big part of what keeps Earth habitable. And plants do require carbon dioxide.

But, as the NASA Earth Observatory states, "Any change in the cycle that shifts carbon out of one reservoir puts more carbon in the other reservoirs. Changes that put carbon gases into the atmosphere result in warmer temperatures on Earth."

Most carbon is stored in rocks, ocean, atmosphere, plants, soil and fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are solar energy that has

been super-concentrated over millions of years. In converting sunlight to energy through photosynthesis, plants, algae and bacteria absorb and store CO2. Plants and the animals that eat them release it when they die and decompose. Plants and some animals buried millions of years ago get compressed over time, creating super-concentrated stores of carbon as coal, gas and oil.

Burning fossil fuels releases the concentrated carbon into the atmosphere as CO2 — far more than under normal cyclical processes and more than can be reabsorbed through natural processes. It remains for hundreds or thousands of years. Excess atmospheric CO2 — along with other human-generated greenhouse gases such as methane, nitrous oxide and hydrofluorocarbons — allow solar radiation to enter Earth's atmosphere but prevent increasing amounts from reflecting back into space. This creates a heat-trapping blanket that's been affecting air, water and land at accelerating rates.

Most of our species' relatively short time on Earth has been during a slowly changing geological era (by human time scales), in which solar energy absorption and reflection have provided the relatively steady conditions we need to survive and thrive — overall, not too hot or cold, somewhat predictable weather patterns and natural systems capable of renewing and regenerating.

That's quickly changing. As we burn fossil fuels and pump massive volumes of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and destroy plants and waters that store carbon, we're disrupting the

carbon cycle and causing the planet to heat at an alarming rate, creating more extreme weather, shifting ocean and air currents, throwing water cycles out of whack, causing droughts, floods and wildfires and making equatorial regions increasingly inhospitable, leading to greater conflict and human migration.

And while plants need CO2 for photosynthesis, more isn't necessarily better. Increased atmospheric CO2 causes some plants to initially grow faster and bigger but studies show accelerated growth dilutes nutrients such as phosphorus, iron, zinc and protein. This affects the entire food web.

Research also shows the overall benefits to plants diminish over time and as CO2 levels rise. Global heating's impacts — droughts, floods, wildfires, storms and excess heat — also negatively affect plant growth and reproduction. As for agriculture, rising CO2 often helps weeds more than crops.

It's all basic science, much of it understood for hundreds of years, with knowledge growing steadily. That's why the anti-climate positions of some state, provincial and federal parties and governments in Canada and the U.S.,

especially Alberta and Saskatchewan, are so bewildering.

The justifications are blatantly facile and anti-science and serve only to bolster the fossil fuel industry, which itself is finding it difficult to continue its lies and disinformation around evidence even its own scientists provided as far back as the 1950s!

Decisions must be based on knowledge and science — especially when it comes to our survival! We all deserve better from our political leadership.

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



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Letter to the Editor

Main Street Xmas was a joy

Every year I look forward to A Main Street Christmas and this year has more than lived up to my expectations.

It is interesting to walk in the parade as you can see all the excitement and smiling faces that reflect the mood of the whole event.

I want to thank the organizing community group, the Schomberg Village Association, that I know, after a brief rest, will be starting to organize again for next year. Thanks also goes out to all the volunteers, participants and sponsors who bring their positive energy and spirit to the many tasks.

This event is a wonderful start to the holiday season and I wish everyone a joyful and peaceful time ahead.

Mary Asselstine
Councillor Ward 4

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The best brussels sprouts and other Christmas dinner tips

By Aladin Jarrah

Chef Pops
Budget Gourmet

At this time of year, I get asked so many questions about The Big Bird Dinner.

So...
Yes, you should brine your turkey – you can reach out to me or look it up on-line if you don't know how. It certainly makes a big difference and is worth the effort.

No, you shouldn't buy those weird "baby carrots" in a bag. Get real baby carrots, cut all but 1/2 inch of the greens from the top, peel them and pan-roast them with thyme, cumin seeds, olive oil and a little bit of brown sugar.

Yes, it matters which potatoes you roast. Use russets, peel them, parboil them, toss them about in a colander to rough up the surface and roast them in duck fat, which you can get in a tub at most grocery stores.

No, don't buy the canned tube of cranberry jelly. Use fresh cranberries simmered with orange juice, orange zest, a bay leaf and as much sugar as you think it needs based on your own

preference.

And yes, real gravy is easy to make with the pan drippings, a little sage or poultry seasoning, some stray white wine/chicken stock and a cornstarch slurry to thicken it up. If you can't pronounce the ingredient list on the powder-in-a-box stuff, don't put it in your body. Right?

But by far the most frequently asked question is this: "How did you make those amazing brussels sprouts you used to serve at the pub?"

Well, here's how: (serves four)

- 1 lb fresh brussels sprouts, halved
- 1/2 yellow onion, sliced
- 1/2 red bell pepper, sliced
- 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tbsp real maple syrup
- 2 pieces of bacon, slivered
- 1/4 tsp cajun seasoning (or paprika)
- 1/2 a lemon cut into four wedges

Toss the sprouts in the olive oil and some salt, and roast in a single layer until slightly browned and tender-crisp, 20-30 minutes. You can do this bit in advance if oven space is at a premium.

In a large skillet, cook the bacon until browned. Add the onion and bell pepper and fry in the rendered bacon fat for a few minutes until softened, scraping the bottom of the pan to get all those flavourful brown bits incorporated. Depending on the quality of the bacon you've got you might need to add a little more olive oil.

Add the brussels sprouts to the pan along with the cajun seasoning and toss to warm through.

Tip them out onto a serving dish and drizzle with maple syrup. Add a little salt and cracked black pepper and arrange the lemon slices around the dish so your guests can squeeze it on nice and fresh.

Sit back and enjoy the praise and the sounds of happy munching.

I'd be happy to answer any and all questions you might have about this high-stakes dinner. It should be a fun time of gathering and you needn't be a ball of stress over it.

You can reach me at chefpopskitchen@gmail.com. It'd be my pleasure, and a tiny little Christmas gift from me to



you.
Peace and love to you, yours and the whole topsy-turvy world this season.

Aladin Jarrah is a semi-retired Professional Executive Chef and is the founder of Pops' Kitchen Personal Chef Services.



Santa visits fire station

Firehouse 34 in King City had a chance to visit with Santa recently. Seen here sitting on Santa's knee is Brayden. He either wants a new exhaust for his car, or a new car. Captain Nino Nicolo, he's as solid as they come. He wants the ice to freeze for his backyard rink. He loves watching his boys play hockey. The elf was a mystery guest. It may be Amanda, who just got her DZ licence.

Gonsalves appointed

York Regional Council has appointed Lisa Gonsalves as Commissioner of Community and Health Services for The Regional Municipality of York.

"Ms. Gonsalves's exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment to serving our residents has been evident throughout her 24-year career with York Region," said York Region Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. "Regional Council is confident her extensive experience and dedication will continue to drive excellence, helping us meet the needs of our growing and diverse communities."

Since joining York Region in 2000, Ms. Gonsalves has held numerous leadership positions, including Acting Commissioner of Community and Health Services since June 2024. Previously, she held the role of General Manager of Paramedic and Senior Services.

Over her career, she has led various initiatives such as community invest-

ment allocations, strategic social policy and the development of the Region's Newcomer and Seniors' Strategies. Her leadership on the Inclusion Charter for York Region earned international recognition from the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

Ms. Gonsalves holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy and Administration from York University and a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Toronto. She also serves as Board Chair for the United Way Greater Toronto, reflecting her ongoing commitment to community service.







Reporting directly to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Commissioner of Community and Health Service is responsible for providing strategic direction and overall department leadership, which includes public health, paramedical services, social assistance, housing services, seniors' services, children's service and strategic policy and planning.




King

7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, December 12 to Wednesday, December 18

THURS 12TH	FRI 13TH	SAT 14TH	SUN 15TH	MON 16TH	TUES 17TH	WED 18TH
						
Flurries High -5C° Low -10C° 1-3cm Wind SW 32k	Mainly Sunny High -6C° Low -11C° ~1cm Wind W 9k	Mainly Cloudy High -1C° Low 0C° - Wind SE 18k	Cloudy/Showers High 3C° Low 0C° <1mm Wind S 13k	Mainly Cloudy High 3C° Low 2C° - Wind S 12k	Mainly Cloudy High 6C° Low 0C° - Wind SW 17k	Mainly Cloudy High 1C° Low -4C° - Wind W 21k



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Emmerson celebrated upon his retirement as regional chair

By Brock Weir

Wayne Emmerson was celebrated by the Region of York recently as the long-time Chair brought the gavel down on his final meeting of Regional Council.

It brought a nearly 30-year career in municipal politics to an end, as Emmerson officially retired Nov. 29.

At the final the meeting steered by Emmerson, former mayor of Whitchurch-Stouffville, tributes were offered by Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti, who was tapped to do so by his colleagues as the longest-serving Regional Council member.

“Your leadership, your vision and your unwavering dedication to the residents of York Region has truly set a standard that all politicians should aspire to,” said Scarpitti, delivering remarks after Council formally approved the 2025 Budget. “Over the years, you have been a steady hand at the helm, fostering collaboration, championing innovation, and building trust among all partners. You made it look pretty easy and [that] is the mark of a seasoned pro.”

Emmerson was lauded for his support of the Yonge Subway Extension into York Region, up to Highway 7, his dedication to improving telecommunications Region-wide, and his “strong, steadfast support” of the York Regional Police.

“What has been truly outstanding has been your commitment to serve with integrity that has truly set the tone and shown what leadership truly means. It has been a privilege for all of us to work alongside you and I am sure everyone here will agree that we have learned a lot from you – including how to stay calm during a meeting, even if it seems like the room might spontaneously combust,” Scarpitti continued. “Your mentorship and steadfast commitment has inspired us to do better, to be better, and to serve with purpose – and, most importantly, with heart.”

“While today might mark the end of your time in politics, it is truly far from the end of your legacy. Your work and your commitment to York Region will continue to shape the work that we do

here, like a well-constructed building that never goes out of style.”

While one Regional Councillor was delegated to give the testimonial at Emmerson’s final meeting, Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas noted in a social media post, “I’d like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to my colleague, mentor and most importantly friend Wayne Emmerson on his well-deserved retirement after an incredible 33 years of dedicated service to Stouffville and York Region! Wayne’s unwavering commitment and leadership have left a lasting legacy in our communities.”

Following a standing ovation from Regional Councillors, an emotional Emmerson began his remarks, saying “it has been an honour” to serve, and played a video he’d recorded lest his emotions get the better of him.

“I want to thank York Regional Council, past and present. Your leadership is much appreciated. You have made a difference for our residents. I want to thank you for your friendship and thanks to those also who have supported me over 10 years. It has been a great career for me, and 10 years being the Regional Chair is the best job I have ever been able to do.

“I have really appreciated working with you over the past 10 years. I hope we have made a difference together and I hope you continue to do this over the years and keep working on the best interest of the communities.”

In his remarks, Emmerson thanked York Region MPs and MPPs for their collaboration, as well as Regional staff, Chief of Staff Lina Bigioni, and his family, particularly wife Deborah for helping him to follow his dreams for the past 49 years.

“This has been a great opportunity for me to work with so many different people and make a lot of friends,” he concluded. “I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart and may

God bless – and take a little time to enjoy the view.”

The formal process to appoint Emmerson’s replacement was expected to begin, but on Dec. 2, the Province announced the appointment of former York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe

to the role.

Traditionally, a chair is appointed by a vote amongst Regional Council, but, in the wake of Emmerson’s retirement, speculation was rife that an appointment could be made directly by the Ontario Government.



MPP, MP joins community for CP Holiday Train stop

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan, and MP Anna Roberts joined the community for the CPKC Holiday Train’s stop in Vaughan. They joined by Vaughan Mayor Steven Del Duca.

Since 1999, the Holiday Train has raised over \$24.3 million and over 5.3 million pounds of food to help people struggling with food insecurity.

“Over 150 years ago, Sir John A MacDonald commissioned this railway to be built from sea to sea – so we are literally on that very path that unified our country – and it’s very fitting we stand here ahead of Christmas which is time we come together as a community,” said Lecce. “Thank you to those that came out to support the Vaughan Food Bank – and thank you to our amazing first responders that show up every single day to keep our communities safe.”

More funding sees opening of active living centres

The Ontario government announced the largest single-year expansion for Seniors Active Living Centres in its history. Ontario is increasing funding by \$17 million to expand services and activities and adding up to 100 new Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) programs over the next year.

“This is the largest single-year investment in Seniors Active Living Centres by any government in Ontario’s history,” said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. “This shows Premier Ford’s and our entire government’s commitment to keeping our seniors fit, active, healthy and socially connected in their communities.”

The government is investing up to \$17 million extra over three years, beginning in 2024-25, increasing the number of SALCs across Ontario from 316 to 416, expanding access to services for seniors and those with disabilities in underserved communities. A call for proposals was launched in July 2024 and successful new SALC recipients will be announced starting in early 2025.

Due to the overwhelming success of the more than 300 Seniors Active Living Centres, recent changes in effect this year now enable more types of organizations to deliver Seniors Active Living Centre programs, including municipalities, non-profit corporations, registered charities, Indigenous groups, Legions, Lions Clubs and recreational clubs.

These changes are one more way the province is meeting the needs of Ontario’s aging population and better supporting the people who care for seniors by improving and expanding supports for seniors no matter where they live.

On June 1, 2024, changes to the Seniors Active Living Centres Act, 2017 came into effect letting more types of organizations provide the 20 per cent contribution requirements towards SALC programs’ operating costs. A call for proposals for organizations to deliver SALC programming opened July 16.

Funding for the expansion was approved in the 2024 Fall Economic Statement.

SALC programs will be able to request up to \$55,000 for maintenance and operating costs, an increase from the previous maximum of \$50,000 in 2024 and up from \$42,700 in base funding from 2023.

Elderly Persons Centres were created in 1966.

KING NOTICE

Notice of Complete Application Concerning a Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

Take Notice that the Township of King has received a complete application for a proposed amendment to the Schomberg and King City Urban Areas Zoning By-law 2017-66, as amended, to facilitate a re-development on the properties outlined below, submitted to the Township of King in accordance with Section 34 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter P.13*, as amended.

The Planning Division has commenced processing the application. A Council Public Planning Meeting will be scheduled and held at a later date, with formal notice being provided pursuant to the statutory requirements of the *Planning Act*.

If you have received this notice as an owner of a property that contains seven (7) or more residential units, please post this notice in a visible location to all residents of the land.

Subject Properties

Location: 125, 137-145 Dew Street, King City
Registered Plan 337, Lots 21, 22 and Part Lot 23
Owners: 1000029269 Ontario Inc. & CLSN Holdings Limited
Agent: Groundswell Urban Planners Inc.
Township File No.: Z-2024-11

Proposed Changes

The subject application proposes to amend the Schomberg and King City Urban Areas By-law to facilitate a re-development of the subject properties for a residential condominium project. Specifically, the application proposes a total of 32 townhouse units measuring 3-storeys with each unit having a single car garage. A private laneway is proposed for access to Dew Street. A total of 5 townhouse units will have access directly from Dew Street.

The subject site is located on the south side of Dew Street, west of William Street in the Village of King City. The site measures 0.71 hectares with 91.42 metres of frontage on Dew Street and currently supports three single detached dwellings, a detached garage and a shed. The subject lots are designated ‘Village Core’ under the Township Official Plan ‘Our King’ and are currently Zoned ‘Residential – Single Detached “C” (R1C)’ by Zoning By-law 2017-66. The purpose of the Zoning By-law Amendment is to rezone the subject site to a ‘Residential – Townhouse (R3)’ zone to implement the described development and provide for site specific provisions to address minimum lot area, lot frontage, minimum yard requirements, lot coverage and height.

How to Stay Informed

A copy of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment application, as well as related background information and supporting information are available by contacting Paul Kulyk, Senior Planner, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., with reference to the address or file number Z-2024-11 for more information. Written comments in advance of the staff report being published may be sent to:

Paul Kulyk, Senior Planner
pkulyk@king.ca, (905) 833-4063

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Council of the Township of King regarding the proposed Zoning By-law 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 11th day of December 2024.

Denny Timm
Township Clerk
Corporation of the 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 Department, Township of King at (905) 833-5321.

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Quick, easy, comprehensive car appraisals in King

By Brittany Grecni

King Township is home to a rising dynamo in the automotive industry, GTA Appraisals, founded by the passionate and well-versed, Victoria Minotti.

With deep roots in the car industry and a wealth of experience, Victoria has built a business that combines expertise, honesty, and a genuine love for all things automotive.

Victoria's journey into the car world started early. At just 14, she began working in her father's body shop as a detailer, where she developed hands-on skills and an appreciation for the artistry involved in vehicle repair.

Over the years, she gained further experience working at mechanic shops, dealerships, and auto body repair shops, immersing herself in the complexities of automotive maintenance and the broader car market. Her background not only shaped her knowledge but also solidified her commitment to quality and integrity.

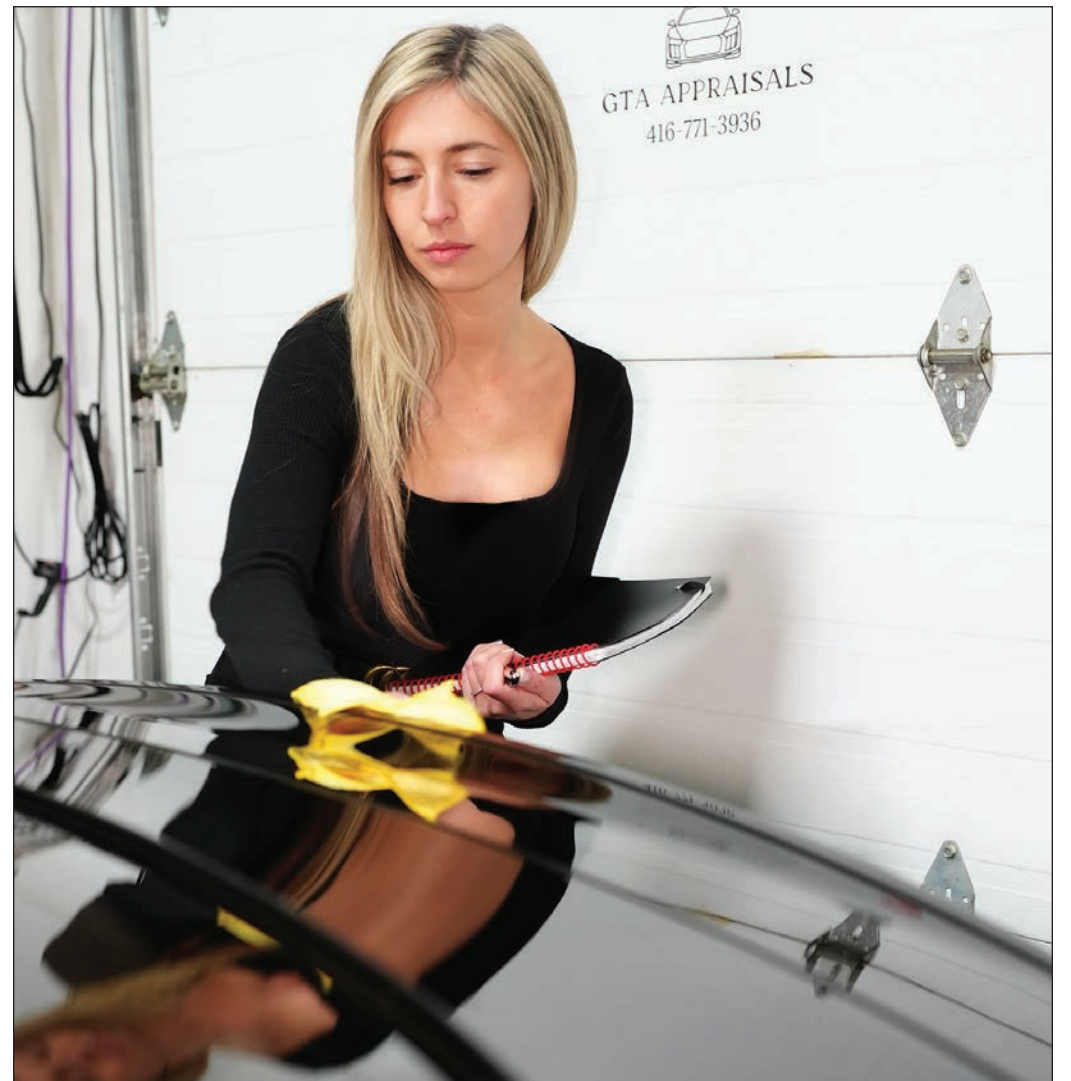
In 2023, Victoria took a leap of faith and launched GTA Appraisals, turning her lifelong passion into a thriving business. Her mission is straightforward: to offer precise, impartial car appraisals

that help clients make well-informed decisions about their vehicles. Whether it's for insurance purposes, buying or selling, determining a car's true value, or getting a second opinion, her evaluations are trusted and comprehensive.

Victoria's credentials reflect her dedication to excellence. She holds a CPPAG Certification, making her a Certified Personal Property Appraiser. Her completion of ICAR courses demonstrates her comprehensive understanding of vehicle repair and safety standards. All of this in addition to her education from Georgian College Business School, her OMVIC Salesperson License, and obtaining her Independent Appraiser Number with Service Ontario.

Growing up immersed in the automotive world, Victoria's connection to cars is more than professional; it's personal. Her unique blend of expertise and passion is the driving force behind GTA Appraisals' growing reputation.

For anyone seeking accurate, reliable car appraisals, Victoria and GTA Appraisals are setting the standard in King Township and surrounding areas. For more information, visit, gtaappraisalsinc.com, or call, 647-454-8550.



Ontario supporting women and families in the trades

The Ontario government will soon introduce legislation that, if passed, will support families and help more women enter and remain in the skilled trades by creating a new job-protected parental leave for adoptive parents and parents through surrogacy. The government would also create a new 27-week job-protected leave for workers with serious illnesses and support women in the trades by requiring all sectors to have properly fitting personal protective clothing and equipment (PPE) for women.

"Our government has a clear mission: ensure Ontario continues to be the very best place to live, work, and raise a family," said David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. "That means making sure Ontarians never have to choose between being a worker or a parent, and that if a worker gets sick with a critical illness they can take the time to recover without worrying about their job. We're also promoting and protecting tradeswomen as an essential part of our workforce in every sector: we see you, we value you, and we can't build Ontario's future without you."

The province's upcoming legislation will propose a new 16-week job-protected leave under the Employment Standards Act for adoptive parents and parents through surrogacy, to ensure they have adequate time to meet the demands of the adoption or surrogacy process, attach and welcome their child into their new home. This would also align with upcoming federal changes to create employment insurance (EI) benefits for adoption.

The government also intends to propose a new 27-week long-term illness leave for employees unable to work due to a serious medical condition as defined by a medical practitioner, such as cancer, multiple sclerosis or Crohn's.

Mayors meet with House Speaker on illegal land use

The SUM-GTHA Mayors welcomed the Honourable Ted Arnott, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills, Chair of the Board of Internal Economy and Speaker in Halton Hills recently. Arnott, who, from his perspective as Speaker of the House, provided insights into how provincial government can work together with local council to address pressing issues at a grassroots level.

A discussion regarding illegal land use, such as contractor yards and trucking depots on agricultural zoned land followed, and Arnott's assistance was requested in bringing the issue to members of the Legislature.

Illegal land uses are affecting property values and the quality of life for citizens in the form of road safety issues, including an increase in fatalities, and degradation of environmental lands.

The existing legislative and policy tools surrounding illegal land use are cumbersome, economically inefficient and often ill-suited to address realities, and enforcement is becoming increasingly difficult and costly.

Municipal bylaw officers are facing barred entry and intimidation at illegal land use sites, the group argues. They often need to seek police intervention to keep the peace. Offenders view the costs associated with non-compliance as nominal, and simply just the cost of doing business. More powerful tools, such as injunctions, are required to enforce regulations and have offenders prosecuted through the court system as AMPS does not apply to land use issues as per The Planning Act.

"We invite the province to join in creating a joint provincial/municipal working group aimed at tackling illegal land use issues," the mayors aid.

"We are appreciative that the Province continues to listen to the leaders of small urban municipalities and show support by making legislative changes to help our communities thrive. The SUM-GTHA looks forward to our continued collaboration on the issue of illegal land use and reach a solution."



King Mayor Steve Pellegrini joined his SUM-GTHA colleagues in meeting with House Speaker Ted Arnott.

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A festive night at the Chamber's Speakeasy Holiday Party

The King Chamber of Commerce hosted its first-ever Speakeasy Holiday Party, adding a touch of 1920s glamour to the holiday season.

The event brought together the Chamber's annual sponsors, volunteer board of directors, and dedicated committee members to celebrate a successful year of collaboration and meaningful connections within King Township.

Held at Hogan's Restaurant, the evening featured lively conversations, festive cheer, and a special moment honoring Zancor Homes, one of the Chamber's Annual Platinum Sponsors. Zancor Homes was presented with the 2024 Excellence in a Large Business Award, as they were unable to attend the awards night earlier this year.

The Chamber proudly recognized the contributions of its 31 annual sponsors, whose support drives business growth and fosters connections in the community. Over the past year, the King Chamber of Commerce has seen remarkable growth, with over 250+ members and a significant increase in annual sponsorships. Long-time sponsors such as HosPall Private Homecare, Sherwood

Farm Retreat, and Trisan Construction exemplify the strength and loyalty within this network.

Annual sponsorship with the Chamber offers exceptional value, including complimentary tickets to signature events, newsletter features, social media mentions, and branding at all events. These incentives are designed to maximize business exposure and engagement within the vibrant King Township community.

The event also highlighted the work of the Chamber's volunteer committee members, who dedicate their time to advocating for businesses, recruiting members, developing programs, and hosting successful events throughout the year.

The King Chamber of Commerce is always welcoming new businesses to join its growing network. For more information on membership or sponsorship opportunities, email info@kingchamber.ca.

This festive celebration was a wonderful close to the year, and the Chamber looks forward to continued success and collaboration in 2025.



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Arts & Entertainment

GTA 'Masters' in collection showcased at Aurora Cultural Centre

By Brock Weir

Treasures from "Seven Masters" in the collection of the Georgina Centre for Arts and Culture are experiencing a homecoming of sorts at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

The Aurora Cultural Centre formally opened its latest exhibition entitled "Seven Masters," a curated show featuring works collected by the Georgina Centre for Arts & Culture (GCAC) since its inception in 2004.

The bulk of the works in question were donated to the GCAC by York Region artist and collector Bruce Smith and features works created by artists who might be familiar to Aurora Cultural Centre patrons: Albert Chiaradini, whose work was exhibited at the Church Street School in the Cultural Centre's second show in 2011, and Helen Lucas, who hosted her final solo show at the Aurora Cultural Centre in 2018. Their work hangs alongside those created by Kay Murray Weber, Travis Shilling, York Wilson, Tom Zsolt, and Bruce Smith himself.

"Over a year ago, Charlotte Hale from the GCHC and I began discussing the possibility of an exhibition featuring works from the permanent collection right here in the Aurora Cultural Centre. For some reason it felt right to place this show early in our programming schedule. It felt like sort of a homecoming," says Samantha Jones, Gallery Manager for the Aurora Cultural Centre.

"Little did I know this decision had already been made before. When the Aurora Cultural Centre first opened in 2010, its second exhibition was entitled York Region Vistas. This exhibition featured paintings by Albert Chiaradini, paintings that just happened to be from the Georgina Centre for Arts and Culture. "We had no idea that this had been the case until after we announced it to our team, and our Communications Manager Jane Taylor, one of our original Cultural Centre staff members pointed out."

Once this connection was made, they found even more as they looked into each artist's ties to the area – and found that the wife of one of the artists, York

Region, attended school at Aurora Public School, when it was housed at the Church Street School, the scene of the new exhibition.

"That's why we titled these rooms Homeroom Galleries... because this used to be a public school. In addition to that, we were also delighted to welcome back the works of Helen Lucas. Helen actually opened up her last solo exhibition with us in 2018 that was titled Why Do I Paint Flowers? This was right before our temporary relocation for the construction of the Aurora Town Square projects. Sometimes exhibitions choose us and we just roll with the current it takes us in. We're housing these works for the next two months and excited for our community to experience the work."

GCAC Artistic Director Charlotte Hale says the donation from Smith amounted to hundreds of pieces, including nearly 200 painted by Chiaradini alone.

"Bruce Smith donated his own work and over the years other donations have been added either curated in or added in along the way by other significant donors," Hale says, adding that deaccessioning some items from the collection recently has allowed them to purchase more to broaden their collection. "Following our new mandate of diversifying the collection, we have made some really great purchases. It becomes more dynamic. The collection has become more dynamic and will stay that way, which is a good thing."

"The most exciting thing about a collection, and it happens organically almost, is there is a thread of connection, a thread of storytelling, that seems to pop up suddenly and it is there and intentional when a collection is developing and being presented ... There is always a little moment of magic or connection, or an ah-ha moment, and you are just able to tick in a little deeper to that artist and learn about them. It's a really rich experience when you're working behind the scenes."

Seven Masters will be on display at the Aurora Cultural Centre through Jan. 26, 2025.

For more information, visit aurora-culturalcentre.ca/seven-masters.



Suzanne Haines, Executive Director of the Aurora Cultural Centre, right, discusses the works of Helen Lucas with art patrons.

Photo by Brock Weir

Markham Little Theatre presents 'What The Dickens Is The Diva Up To?'

Markham will play host to a Christmas show starring and written by King's own Diva In The Rough, Catherine Hughes. It also features the MLT Christmas players and, as always, the talented Don Guinn on piano.

Come and share in some Christmas mirth and merriment. Dickens is back from beyond the grave and running the show. With a Victorian ghost as your host, what could possibly go wrong?

Christmas, comedy and carols await you. Plus prizes to be won and some goodies to be had. Get your voice

warmed up for some caroling and laughter.

Shows are Friday, Dec. 13 and Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., and a 1 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Dec. 15. Tickets are limited so please reserve soon!

To reserve tickets email boxoffice@markhamlittletheatre.ca, pay at the theatre. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors.

Backstage Theatre is located at 9350 Markham Road on the grounds of the Markham Museum.

The Diva and her Christmas players can't wait to celebrate with you!

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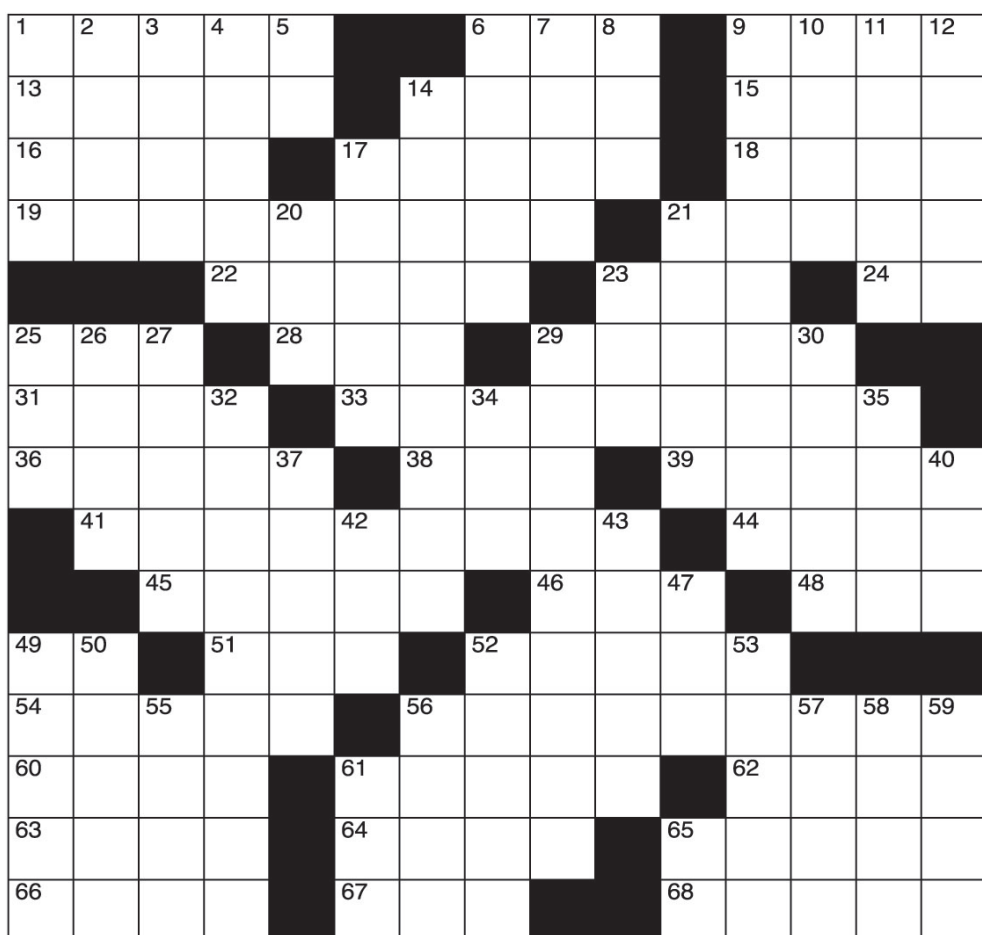
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The best thing about King is its people!

CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 24C210 • Solution in Classifieds



CLUES ACROSS

1. Thou __ do it
6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
9. Brainstem part
13. Town in New York state
14. Little (Spanish)
15. Continent
16. Retch
17. Short-billed rails
18. Small period of time (abbr.)
19. Confused
21. A team needs one
22. Woman in ancient times
23. Republican Party
24. Spanish be
25. "The Godfather" character Johnny
28. Not around
29. City in Zambia
31. A type of beginning
33. Numb
36. Gurus
38. Small, gray-headed crow
39. Vehicle type

41. Disorders
 44. One point east of southeast
 45. Indian soldier
 46. Tree type
 48. Midway between south and southeast
 49. It cools your home
 51. Corn comes on it
 52. Ship's deck
 54. A way to bake
 56. Improvised
 60. Butterfly genus
 61. Baseball fields have them
 62. Designated space
 63. Discharge
 64. Two of something
 65. Once more
 66. Part of your face
 67. Tax collector
 68. Cassia tree
- ### CLUES DOWN
1. One-time Aaron Rodgers target
 2. Wings
 3. Overly studious person
 4. They protect your

5. The Volunteer State
6. Non-hydraulic cement
7. Horse mackerel
8. Jackson and Diddley are two
9. Splendid displays
10. Mountain in NE Greece
11. A daughter or your brother or sister
12. German surname
14. Having more than one husband at a time
17. Romanian city
20. Energy
21. Makes less hot
23. Gas diffusion electrode
25. Former CIA
26. Set an example for others
27. Support of a particular person
29. One from the Big Apple
30. Mountain range
32. Violate the sanctity
34. Supervises flying
35. Talks
37. Persian male given name
40. Born of
42. Forcibly take one's possessions
43. Discounts
47. Knockouts
49. Posh Colorado destination
50. Form of therapy
52. British rock band
53. Type of virus (abbr.)
55. The U. of Miami mascot is one
56. Volcanic crater
57. Middle Eastern nation
58. Sinn __, Irish organization
59. Ethiopian lake
61. Bits per inch (abbr.)
65. Equally

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



On Now

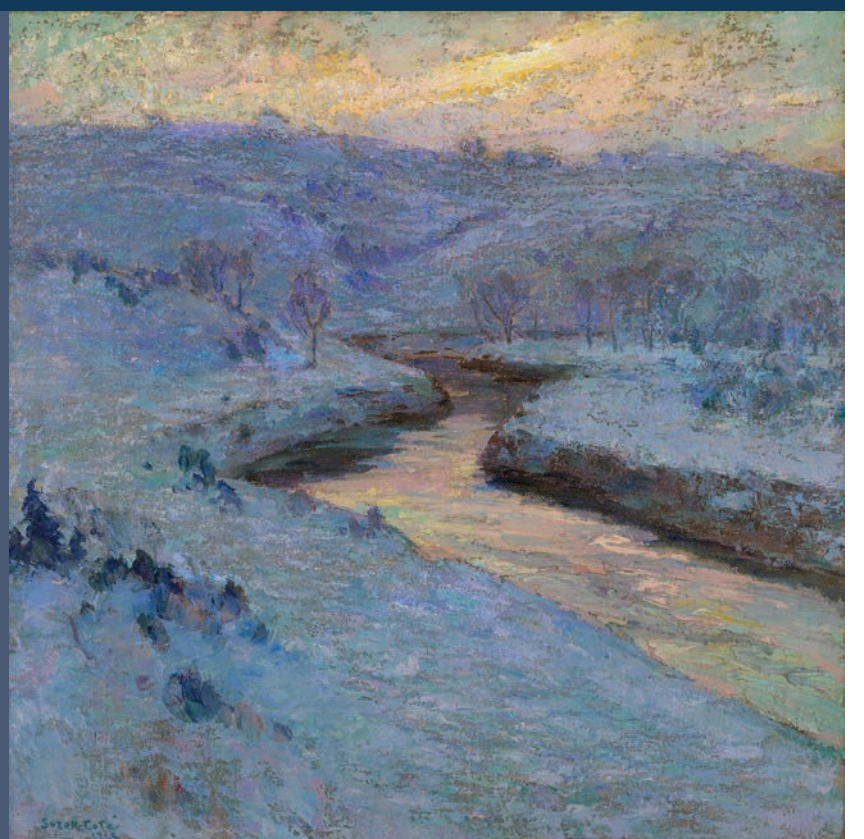
MARIA CHAPDELAINÉ CLARENCE GAGNON

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TOP: Clarence Gagnon (1881-1942), *Honfleur* (detail), 1928/1933, gouache over colour monotype on paper, 20.5 x 19.9 cm, Gift of Colonel R.S. McLaughlin, McMichael Canadian Art Collection; BOTTOM: Marc-Aurèle de Foy Suzor-Coté, *Sunset, Nicolet River* | *Coucher de soleil, rivière Nicolet*, 1925, oil on canvas, 116 x 116 cm, Collection of the Musée d'art de Joliette, Gift of the Clerics of St. Viator of Canada, 2012.043, Photo: Guy L'Heureux

A Main Street Christmas



Schomberg lit up with holiday cheer last Saturday when A Main Street Christmas returned to the charming village.

The fun-filled family outing, presented by the Schomberg Village Association, transformed Main Street into a winter wonderland featuring lively street performers, carollers, and children's entertainers.

Fireside readings and arts & crafts added to the festive atmosphere, along with an opportunity for some holiday shopping at the Christmas Market, located inside Schomberg Community Hall.

The Santa Claus Parade was alive with creative floats, costumed walkers and music to get one into the Christmas spirit.

In the evening, Main Street was transformed to a by-gone era with carollers serenading, live entertainment and carriage rides. Festive treats were on offer by various food vendors, including hot chocolate, roasted chestnuts, kettle corn and cookies.

The evening culminated with the Farmers' Parade of Lights, featuring local farmers showcasing their farm equipment in a dazzling procession down Main Street.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED AND BY MARK PAVILONS





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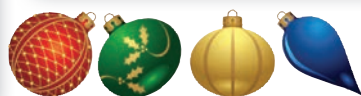


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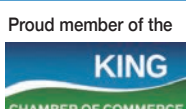
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Wishing everyone a Happy & Safe Holiday Season



For more information:

905.539.0309 | hospall.com |   

Hospice Wish List

Consider making a gift to our hospices this holiday season. Below is a list of common items that we need year round.

Margaret Bahen Hospice

- Bean bag heating pads (magic bag)
- 9x13 baking dishes (glass)
- Soft, extra plush blankets and throws.
- Grip socks men and women (all sizes)
- Short sleeve t-shirts for men (all sizes and any colour)
- Short sleeve nightgowns for women (all sizes and any colour)
- Combs and brushes
- Adult colouring books
- Virtual goggles
- Gift cards from major retailers to make purchases for household items such as towels, sheets, grocery items, kitchen supplies, etc.

Doane House Hospice

- Amazon or Chapters gift cards to purchase supplies such as grief books
- Play-Doh
- Colored sand
- Medium and large watercolor paper pads and large sketch pads
- Small canvases
- Small art journal books
- Gift cards for major retailers to purchase art supplies, garden materials, etc.
- Scrapbooking materials
- Colored, construction paper
- Paint in small containers
- Paint brushes

If you would like to donate any of the items on our wish list, please drop them off at our locations Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm.

For more information, please phone us at 905-967-1500.



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653 Queen St, Newmarket,
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King Weekly Sentinel

SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events
Classifieds • At Your Service



Kojokaro and Kamakaris k-o Collingwood in 4-1 win over the reigning CJHL champs

By Jim Stewart

Evin Kojokaro scored two goals and James Kamakaris made 36 saves in his OJHL debut to lead the King Rebellion to a 4-1 win over the Collingwood Blues on Sunday afternoon at the Nobleton Community Centre.

Head Coach Mark Joslin was pleased with his team's effort versus the Blues after King was shut out 4-0 by the Cougars on Friday night in Burlington: "We won more battles, both foot races and sticks. I thought we had a much better 'shoot first' mentality. They did that well today."

Coach Joslin praised Kojokaro's timely two-goal game: "After getting shut out on Friday, I reminded them that we're in desperation mode and need to win games. Evin was shooting the puck well this afternoon. He let the puck do the work and stickhandled less. He's shooting the right way."

The veteran OJHL bench boss also credited his rookie goaltender's per-

formance for the win over the Blues: "We showed our confidence in James today to go out and win his first OJHL start against the Canadian champions. I couldn't be happier for him. We knew him well from our training camp so when James became available from St. Thomas in the GOJHL, we signed him."

Kamakaris noted that he "felt great" during his OJHL debut: "I was a little nervous at the start of the period, but everything worked out and I was able to settle into the game."

The 6'3" Toronto resident discussed the pressure he endured during Collingwood's 6-on-5 advantage during the final three minutes of the game: "There was lots of traffic and I was fighting through screens to see the shots. Winning a game like that is everything to us. It felt great when we were finally able to get the puck out of our end. I felt good throughout the game."

Kamakaris's first OJHL win also marked the second time this season



Rebellion Captain Aaron Andrade (81) earned assists on both goals by Evin Kojokaro (90) in King's 4-1 win over the reigning CJHL champion Collingwood Blues.

that the King Junior A Rebellion has beaten Collingwood (23-7-2-10). The Rebellion beat the Blues 5-3 on September 13 – Collingwood's first loss on home ice in two years.

On Sunday afternoon, the Rebellion (11-16-1-4) skated with the CJHL champs throughout the scoreless opening period, outshooting the blue-clad visitors 19-13.

Seven minutes into the second period, Kojokaro gave the white-clad Rebellion a 1-0 lead when he tipped a shot by Captain Aaron Andrade past Blues goaltender Colten Drillen-Roach. Andrade earned his 15th assist of the season on Kojokaro's 11th.

Eighteen seconds into the third period, the Blues' leading scorer Damen Boose rifled a puck top shelf side from the right face-off circle that beat Kamakaris. Boose's 12th of the season was the only goal that King's rookie goaltender would surrender on Sunday.

The Rebellion rebounded from Boose's quick marker. Kojokaro – who scored 41 goals for the Brantford 99ers last season prior to the franchise's transfer to King – bulged the twine behind Drillen-Roach with a rocket off the left wing at 5:13 to finish a nifty two-on-one break spearheaded by Andrade and Sam Black. Andrade and Black each added two assists to King's attack versus Collingwood.

The home side increased its lead to

3-1 just 28 seconds later when Marshall McCharles fired a puck into a yawning cage to finish off a nice three-way passing play with Mikhail Zakharov and Artem Narkekov.

With 3:24 left in the game, Collingwood's coaching staff called a timeout and pulled Drillen-Roach for an extra attacker in King's zone. The 6-on-5 strategy created tremendous pressure as the Blues kept the Rebellion pinned defensively. Only the acrobatic goaltending of Kamakaris kept Collingwood from creeping closer on the scoreboard. Kamakaris repelled a furious series of shots by the reigning Canadian champs in a two-minute stretch during which the rookie goaltender made six saves to preserve King's two-goal lead.

Justin Pavese's shot from the centre dot into Collingwood's empty net iced the big win for King with 76 seconds left. Dalton Kane earned his 14th assist of the season on Pavese's seventh goal.

Upcoming Home Games: On Friday the 13th, the King Junior A Rebellion will host the Buffalo Junior Sabres at the Nobleton Community Centre. Puck drop will be 7 p.m. On Sunday, Dec. 15, King will host the Oakville Blades. Opening faceoff will be 3. Both games have playoff implications for the Rebellion who are jockeying for the eighth spot in the OJHL West with Buffalo and Oakville.

Szabo and Sakitkovski tally two goals each in Schomberg's 6-1 win over Caledon

By Jim Stewart

Luke Szabo and Jacob Sakitkovski spurred the Schomberg offence with two goals each in the Cougars' decisive 6-1 win over the Caledon Golden Hawks on Thursday night at the Trisan Centre.

The Cougars got off to a quick start in the opening frame by scoring four goals in twelve minutes and outshooting the struggling Golden Hawks 15-4. Szabo opened the scoring at 6:08 with helpers from Matthew Lychek and Henry Kotyk. Two minutes later, Szabo notched his second goal on a power play deflection assisted by Jordyn Palazzo and Anthony Nascimento.

The veteran forward, who was named First Star of the Game by PJHL staff, described what turned out to be the game-winning goal: "We won the draw on the power play and I went to the front of the net – I don't normally stay there on the power play – the shot came in from the point and I didn't try to tip it, but it hit my stick out front and went in."

Szabo, the Cougars' leading scorer with 22 points, earned his third point in less than six minutes when he and AP linemate Sebastien Ferris set up Lychek at 11:39 to increase Schomberg's lead to 3-0.

Less than one minute later, rookie forward Roenik Mahal notched his team-leading 12th goal of the season to get the Golden Hawks on the board at 12:13. Schomberg Captain Jordyn Palazzo restored the Cougars' three-goal lead by scoring his team-leading 12th of the season with 1:21 left in the opening frame.

Sakitkovski increased the Cougars' lead to 5-1 at 12:01 of the middle frame. The rookie forward discussed the factors that led to his sixth of the season: "I crashed the net and Lessard got it to me. I turned and shot it. My girlfriend was in the stands so I didn't want to miss."

The impact of his girlfriend's presence must have been profound on Sakitkovski because he closed the scoring with 8:36 left in the final frame. While the teams were playing 4-on-4, Sakitkovski converted Ferris's pass by backhanding the puck past Caledon goaltender Mason Milone.

Sakitkovski, who was named Second Star of the Game by PJHL staff, discussed the importance of the team's decisive win over the Golden Hawks: "It was really important that we got off to a quick start tonight against them. We haven't had good starts against Caledon this season. Tonight's 4-1 lead after the first period made a statement from the start. These are points we have to have."



Rookie forward Jacob Sakitkovski (21) and Assistant Captain Luke Szabo (19) fired two goals each in Schomberg's 6-1 win over Caledon.

Szabo echoed the urgent tone of his teammate: "These games against Caledon are must-wins for us. There are so few points between us and the teams just behind us like Little Britain and Port Perry. We want to catch Georgina and get the second seed for the playoffs." The veteran Assistant Captain agreed with Sakitkovski's insights about the importance of a quick start against Caledon, but he also applauded the efforts of Cougars' netminder Nicolas Morvan and his defense corps for their fine play on Thursday night: "Our goalie made some big saves in the third period when we had to kill 5-on-3 penalties. Our D did a very good job carrying the puck out of our zone and putting pressure on Caledon all game, especially Henry Kotyk who was selected to the PJHL's all-star team."

Kotyk, the smooth-skating defence man who earned two assists versus Caledon, was named Third Star of the Game by PJHL staff.

The amount of pressure pass rushers exerted on Caledon was indicated by the shots on goal total which favored the home side 53-19.

With the emphatic win, the third-place Cougars improved their record to 13-9-2-0 and trail the second-place Georgina Ice (15-5-1-0) by only 4 points in the East Orr Division. The seventh-place Golden Hawks slipped to 1-21-2-0 with the loss.

The Cougars' next home game will be Thursday, Dec. 19 when they host the fifth-place Little Britain Merchants (11-11-0-0). Puck drop will be 7:30 at the Trisan Centre.

'Sturling' is best of both worlds

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

A new format of curling called Sturling is grabbing a substantial amount of interest for curlers that maybe approaching a different age bracket or heaven forbid, a change in physical ability.

(S) Stick or Slide, (T) Two person, and uring. All put together reads Sturling.

Tuesday afternoons the sheets of King include 2 curlers per team that play with either a stick or the traditional slide delivery. Teams are created beforehand which allows members to play with different people each week. One player holds the broom and calls the end while the mates throw 6 rocks each at one end of the sheet.

At the conclusion of the end, players switch their position and the 6 rocks are thrown back by the other teammate to the other end. The strategy is mostly draws to the button and or Tap ups (tapping a stone further up the scoring area). No stone anywhere in the playing area can be removed before 3 rocks have been thrown, even if its in the house where in regular format its a removable or hittable stone.

Sweeping is allowed only from the Hogline in towards the rings for the whole game. Scoring remains the same, but what makes this in a category of its own is the pace of play and the fact that

curlers will have thrown 54 rocks in a matter of an hour and a half.

A great way of curling for those who don't (usually) or cannot sweep and for those that really want to practice their draw weight.

Larry Sheardown, convener and avid "Sturler" played in an National event last season, says "it's the best of both worlds for curlers to keep playing in a non-traditional format."

Curling clubs in Western Canada are facing a Sturling frenzy with some having more members in their Sturling leagues than in their regular leagues. As we get older and less flexible, Curling once again has found a way to keep us in it to be physically active, socially active and most of all keep having fun.



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 wrap up our time in the book of Acts with a message that reminds us that we continue as "the young church in action." We will do a quick review of three highlights from the book that will help us build God's Kingdom.

We offer children's ministry and nursery during the service. 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.

You are invited to join us in some old-fashioned carolling at the St. Paul's Hay Wagon on Saturday, Dec. 14. We will be making stops at No Frills at 4:15 p.m., the Nobleton Library at 5:20 p.m. and at Nobleview Pines on Wilsen Road at 6 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Christmas Eve worship will be Tues-

day, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m. We invite you and your friends to hear the story of the new-born King Jesus at St. Paul's as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. On Christmas Day, we are offering an online family experience that will premiere at 10 a.m.

Our Junction Ministries serve our children's and families each Sunday. FirstLink is our staffed ministry time with our youngest attendees, and Junction is an age appropriate time of teaching with our elementary aged children.

Our mid-week LifeConnect small groups are an opportunity to connect with others and grow in faith. Groups meet for discussion, study, and prayer throughout the week.

Students in Grade 7 to 12 are invited to our YouthConnect every other Friday. We will be taking a break over the Christmas season and continue meeting on Jan. 10, 2025. Join us as we explore questions about life, faith, and Jesus with the youth Alpha program.

St. Mary's Church

Winter coats, snow pants, hats and mittens drive: The Knights of Columbus are hosting this drive. There is a box in the foyer of the church. Church is open all week from 9 to 5 so please

drop off your gently used items.

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.

Nobleton Seniors (55+) By Joanne Bailey

Please register for each program you plan to attend. Material and food is purchased according to the number of people registered.

All Educational Thursdays are \$1 for members and \$2 for non-members.

Dec. 12 – Christmas Party. Come festive and join in with fun, games and more. A hot lunch will be provided. Please bring a dessert or salad. Special Guest Councillor David Boyd. This will be our last day until January 2025.

January 9, 2025 – "One Year Older." Bring in your vintage piece, (jewellery, china, clothing, childhood toy etc.). Tell us the history of this special heirloom.

Share your "treasured story" with the group.

January 16 – Heart to Home. Presented by Teri. An explanation of this service to seniors. Meal options will be explained. Sample foods will be provided to enjoy. Register by January 13, to be included in the food sampling.

January 23 – Nobleton Pharmasave. Learn about the services the pharmacy provides beside prescriptive drugs. Information hand-out will be prepared by the pharmacist Matt & presented by Joanne. Services available, blister packs for medication, medication review, blood pressure, compression stockings and more.

Nobleton Lions

Christmas festivities continue and the Nobleton Lions have events for entire families to enjoy. Thanks for dropping by our booth last Sunday at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the Nobleton Gazebo. We hope you enjoyed some hot chili. This Saturday evening, December 14, 6 to 7:30 p.m., come out for a visit with Santa and a skate at the Nobleton Arena. Hot chocolate for all and candy for the kids. It's a great opportunity to see friends you have not seen for some time.



Breakfast with Santa a hit

Saturday's Breakfast with Santa event was well attended and enjoyed by all. Visit Nobleton United Church's Facebook page to see photos of the event. This event raised over \$800 for the Christmas in King program.



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King's Corners

**King City United
By Sheryl Sinka**

Are you looking for some home baked treats? Christmas Bake Sale, on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at King City United Church. Lots of goodies and cookies and Christmas baking to have for the holidays.

Dec. 15 Rev. Leslie Sedore will lead worship on the third Sunday of Advent marked to celebrate "joy." The excitement builds as we wait with joyful anticipation for the birth of the baby that brought gifts that have lasted thousands of years. Hope, Peace, Joy and Love are gifts that came in the form of a baby, born in a stable. Worship begins at 10 a.m. and all are welcome to join. Sunday School takes place during the same hour and for information on the Sunday School please contact Sheryl Sinka at 416-450-0140.

Christmas Eve worship will take place at 7:30 on Tuesday, Dec. 24 at King City United Church

We encourage all this season to make an effort to contribute to the King Township Food Bank or their Christmas in King program. Information is available at kttfb.ca

The donations to the King Township Food bank continue to be needed in greater quantities than ever before and the community can make a significant difference if it works together to continue to support the Food Bank and the families that access this much needed service.

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 Nowell will be speaking on our Christmas series; "Journey to the Nativity." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and You Tube.

We invite everyone to our Christmas Eve service at 6:30 on Dec. 24.

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

King City Seniors (55+) By Carolyn Kanitz

Holiday closings for the King City Seniors Centre: The last activities for 2024 will take place on Friday, Dec. 20. Activities will resume on Monday, January 6 as scheduled. PLEASE NOTE: The 10am Mobility Matters class is full. There is still room in the 11 a.m. class for those interested in participating in this popular activity in the new year.

The following activities are offered 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: 10 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.

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 kingcityseniors@gmail.com

York Pines United

On Third Advent this Sunday, we light the pink candle in the Advent wreath in joyful anticipation of Christmas. We continue decorating the sanctuary for the Christmas season, just garlands to go. Feel free to join us for coffee at noon.

Christmas Eve service on the 24th starts at 7 p.m. and is a Communion service. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

In preparation for Christmas, Rev. Andrew is offering ukelele lessons at our sister church King City United on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Ukeleles can be provided. Contact him at either church to participate.

Our Christmas Fellowship Lunch is on Friday, Dec. 13 at 12 p.m. at the Newmarket Swiss Chalet. Come, bring a

friend and enjoy their Festive Special. Let the office know if you plan to attend by calling 905-727-8118 or emailing yorkpinesuc@gmail.com.

Schomberg AA meetings

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

Sacred Heart Church

Father John reminds us that the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus. Peace is the theme – let us pray for peace in our families and peace in our world. Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace. Next weekend brings Gaudete or Bambinelli Sunday where we 'rejoice' in celebrating the coming of Jesus into the world. Join parishes around the world by bringing the figurine of Jesus from your family crib to next weekend masses to be blessed with Holy Water.

Confessions before Christmas: Friday, Dec. 20 7:30-8:30 p.m. following Mass at 7 p.m.

Last reminder: Youth Bowling with Fr. John, Friday, Dec. 13, 7-10:30 p.m. Contact the rectory or see website.

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

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

The Second Sunday in Advent was December 8 and Jim Agnew was our reader and lit the Candle of Peace in our Advent Wreath. All candles signify God's gifts to us when Jesus is in the centre of our lives.

The Rev. Alison Agnew's sermon was about the Triune God. When we think of Jesus, is He just the "Baby in a Manger" at Christmas or is He God? Alison pointed out many scripture references which attest this truth.

Our Christmas Party and Carol Sing is this Sunday, December 15 at 10:30 a.m., taking place during our service time. Come and enjoy refreshments, carol singing, the lighting of the third Advent Candle of Joy, the Christmas Story of God's Grace and party bags. All are invited. We hope you can come.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is at 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening. All are welcome! Bring your family.

The Sunday services are recorded each week and posted on our website. Have a look. (standrews-kingcity.ca Click on the YouTube frame)

Last Saturday morning was Refresh at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Nobleton – a time for ladies to be together, sing God's praises, pray, hear Pastor Alison's devotional and enjoy some delicious refreshments! What a lovely way to start such a busy month. The ladies were from Barrie, Bradford, Tottenham, Bolton, King City, Kleinburg, Richmond Hill and Nobleton.

Donations for the King Township Food Bank are needed! Please call the office first if you wish to donate during the week call 905-833-2325 and visit the Food Bank's website at kttfb.ca to determine which foods are needed. Also, look at christmasinking.ca if you would like to participate as a donor.

If you have any questions or if you need pastoral care or prayer, please call St. Andrew's, King City at 905-833-2325 for the Rev. Alison Agnew or phone one of the Elders.

All Saints Anglican Church By Patrick Gossage

God's Word and People Like Us – Sermon by Rev. Erin Martin on Luke 3 – John the Baptist prepares the way:

"In the letter from Philippians we read from Paul, telling the people of that church how he thanked God for them because of all the ways they shared the Good News of God's love. He thanked them for loving him and caring about him because at the time, he was in prison, but he didn't feel alone because he knew that whole communities were upholding him in prayer.

"We are in that kind of community. I've witnessed the same kind of love and compassion from all of you. I've seen it in the way you've come to the aid of people who have had surgery or been ill You give wholeheartedly and without reservation. I've seen it in the way you serve others who need love and acceptance. If you're like me, sometimes it's hard to accept that kind of praise, even if it's warranted. Sometimes, we can't imagine ourselves as the type of people that God's Word is alive in. We can't see ourselves as vessels of the Holy Spirit. But I assure you, you are.

"If you still have trouble, just take a look at the Gospel reading from Luke.

Luke was the only one of the four gospel writers to include a formal introduction. In it he named all the important people of the time. He did this to anchor the story of Jesus in the larger political and historical events of the world at the time. But then, with the last line of his

introduction, he shifts – he said "... the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness."

John the Baptist is a kind of a celebrity, his hairy robes and diet of locusts.

More on Page 22



Seniors holiday open house

King seniors gathered for the annual holiday celebration and open house, led by King City Lions. They enjoyed entertainment, prizes and a visit from Santa himself. Lion Dave Beasley (aka Santa Claus) and Lions President Rob Payne, were on hand to greet the roughly 85 residents who attended. They enjoyed Christmas carols and a social time. Payne extended his thanks to the board volunteers for their hard work and service.



We Serve

KING CITY LIONS CLUB

Skating with Santa!

Join us as we skate with Santa
on

Saturday, December 21st

5:00 – 6:30 pm

King City Arena



**Donations welcome to the
King Township Foodbank**

Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Another successful A Main Street Christmas is in the books and from what I saw, it was wonderful.

The day parade was the biggest ever, and as someone who helped organize the floats, everything went very smoothly. The Parade of Lights is always the jewel of the event, and it seems to get longer and longer and more creative each year, which is wonderful. I also noticed a lot of young families on the float, so it's great to see the next generation taking the reigns and moving things along.

The Market had some wonderful local artisans selling their wares and was very busy all day.

Congratulations to all the volunteers and the Schomberg Village Association, that bring this event to Schomberg each year. What a fantastic job you all did, and I'll speak for the community when I say, thank you for volunteering countless hours to this, without people willing to step up to the plate, we wouldn't have these community events, you are all champions in my book.

A reminder King Townships winter parking restrictions which run until April 15. On-street Parking between 2 and 6 a.m. is prohibited to allow for snow clearing; even on-street parking permits are invalid, and the fine is \$100. Make sure you inform your family and any overnight guests.

Anglican Parish

Sunday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m. Lessons and Carols.

Sunday, Dec. 22, combined service at 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene, Schomberg with our Bishop Riscylla Shaw.

Christmas Services, Sunday, Dec. 22 9:30 at CCK and 11:15 at SMM.

Tuesday, Dec. 24, candlelit Christmas Eve services 7 p.m. CCK, 9 p.m. SMM.

Wednesday, Dec. 25, 10:30 on ZOOM.

Schomberg Euchre Club

The Euchre group is open to all, and is 7 to 9 on Friday nights, at the Trisan in Room A. The cost is \$10 for the evening or pay monthly for \$20. All welcome, all ages, men, women, all you

need to know is how to play (no beginners please), how to laugh, enjoy an excellent group of people and not take the game or yourself too seriously.

Schomberg 55+

This past Monday we had a wonderful trivia contest hosted by Maggie Crowe and Lynn Bird. They stumped us a few times but the worst part about being a senior now I find, is I know the answer but can't think of it. For the life of me I couldn't think of Mark Twain, and I certainly couldn't remember his real name, Samuel Clemens. Thanks to Lynn and Maggie for producing those tough questions, and the '60s music trivia brought back some great childhood memories of dancing contests and pajama parties.

As I mentioned previously, both our Chair, Ida Haesler, and our Vice Chair, Barbara Burt are stepping down come January, and we will sure miss them. As we move into 2025, it will be Lynn Bird as Chair and myself as Vice Chair to fill the big shoes left to us by Ida and Barb. We are both honored to be taking over from them and only hope we can keep up to the high bar that they set. We look forward to your continued support as we move into the next phase of our group.

I'm happy to also report that as of this week, we hit Ida's magic number of 100 members. What a huge way we've come in just 2 years.

Onward and upward, as they say, and we send our heartfelt thanks to both for their wonderful leadership.

If you're interested in sponsoring one of our speakers or events, please reach out to me at sporter5952@gmail.com or Lynn Bird at klbird@hotmail.com. We are always looking for local sponsors.

Bridge will continue each Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at Schomberg Community Hall

Monday, December 16 – Festive Season Luncheon- our last event of the year. It's a potluck, so remember to bring your favourite dish. We will start at 11 for social time, enjoy the food at 11:30, then they'll be a few games then our very own "Tightly Wound" ukulele group with a couple of popular Christmas tunes. Then from what I've been told, we have a special visitor the finish off the party. Please make sure to dress festive and if you can, break out your ugly Christmas Sweater. I know I'll be wearing mine.

Monday, January 6 – 10 a.m. – Bill Anderson, the Flagman. Bill's presentation will take you through the Mediterranean Sea, stopping at ports along the way. It is hoped that the script will remind you of your own experiences or what you know of the region.

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

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

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



From the Archives KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Man's best friend, Hunter Family, circa 1880s

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Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

This Sunday, Dec. 15 is the third Sunday of Advent. Joy is the theme for this service, and it will be featuring a stick puppet show by the Messy Church folk to tell the Story of Jesus birth at Nobleton United Church at 11:15 a.m. Schomberg United will be joining us. We hope that you will, too. Plan to stay for lunch (I hear it is pizza, salad, ice cream bar) and enjoy some Christmas games, too.

The last Advent Bible study (led by Rev. Richard Gardner, with lots of sidetracks) is Thursday, Dec. 19 at 10 a.m. at Nobleton United Church. The group will ponder about its meaning and how it shapes & affects our daily lives. There are people coming from the Community and you would be welcome too. We are collecting new socks for men and women through a program called "Inn from the Cold." If you would like to support this initiative, please bring the new warm socks or underwear for

males or females to Sunday service (either Schomberg or Nobleton) or on Wednesday morning or early afternoon when the quilters meet (at Nobleton).

Last Saturday's Breakfast with Santa event was well attended and enjoyed by all. Visit Nobleton United Church's Facebook page to see photos of the event. This event raised over \$800 for the Christmas in King program.

Not feeling like Christmas is a joyful occasion? For many, it can be a time of mixed emotions, grief, or longing. A Blue Christmas Service is a quiet, contemplative gathering where we acknowledge the complexities of this season and find comfort in God's presence. Through gentle music, prayer, and reflection, we create space for healing and hope in the midst of life's challenges. Come as you are and feel the embrace of God's peace. This is on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m., in the Nobleton sanctuary. Everyone is invited to come, if you need a ride during the evening, please let Rev. Richard (416-371-7295) know, and he will make sure you have a lift.

The Christmas Eve services are at 3 p.m. at Nobleton United for a family friendly service and at 7 p.m. for a candlelight service at Schomberg United.

The next Seniors' Lunch is Tuesday,

Jan. 14 at Schomberg United. Please arrive at 11:15 a.m. so that the program can start at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker is Schomberg's Jack Campbell. Jack will be speaking about Kim and Jack's Trip to Iceland (with lots of pictures). The meal will be "Breakfast for Lunch" with an egg dish, sausages, muffin, and fresh fruit salad. Please let Sheila Kelly know (905-939-2315) if you plan to attend, as space is limited. The meal can be delivered, if you prefer.

The next Messy Church is on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 5 p.m. at Nobleton United. Families are welcome to this free event. January's theme is "New Beginnings and God's Promise to Noah." One of the activities is always decorating cookies in the theme of the month. We always have at least 5 other optional activities. At 6 p.m., we talk about Noah, the Ark, and God's promise. At 6:15 p.m., we eat. Please contact me 416-316-5064 or nancykhopkinson@gmail.com to let me know that you intend to come or for more info. We need to know numbers to have enough crafts and food for all.

On Wednesday mornings, we have a Zoom Coffee chat (10 to 11 a.m.). The quilters join us! We talk on a huge variety of topics, mainly current events. You are welcome to join us. Just send

me a message nancykhopkinson@gmail.com to request the link.

Schomberg United Church meets at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg. It is accessible. Nobleton United Church meets 6076 King Rd., Nobleton. It has a wheelchair ramp and a chair lift to go up the 7 steps to the Sanctuary. The phone number for Rev. Richard and for our secretary Sharon is 905-859-3976.



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More Classifieds next page

King's Corners

From Page 19

But back then he was just a small-time travelling preacher. And yet, Luke placed him among the ancient Palestinian elite saying that indeed, it was to this veritable nobody to whom the Word of the Lord came.

"God tends to choose regular people to do the important things. God tends to find people far away from the seats of wealth, power and influence.

"And it is there that God chose John to prepare the way for God's own Son to come among us. God chose Mary, the unwed teenager to give birth to Jesus and guide him into adulthood. God chose a motley crew of shepherds to attend Jesus' birth and be the audience to the heavenly choir.

"All of this is good news for us. We may not have roles of power or prestige and but God is eager to

use us to do wonderful things. God is eager to use our particular gifts to change this world, even if it's in small ways. I have witnessed how just one word, one gesture, has saved whole lives so don't ever underestimate what God is capable of doing through you.

"God has a habit of going away from places of power and privilege and finding ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Each of us has the potential to receive the Word of God and to be people through whom God prepares the way for Jesus to come and God's Kingdom to be manifest so that all people might see and know God's love and redemption.

"In the words of the Apostle Paul, '... this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.'"



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602 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Helen Lucas original for sale - "The Holy Spirit"



For sale is a unique original painting by renowned floral artist, the late Helen Lucas. "Holy Spirit," is an original acrylic on wood frame piece that captures spirituality in a simple way, through a dove. Created in 2017. The small set of originals was meant to be printed as art cards for a church fundraiser. Only 5-6 of these doves exist (in different poses) so they are truly rare. This is the only one of its kind. Measures 19.5" by 23.5." Lucas originals are quite valuable and sought after. This is unlike anything else in her collection. "... the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily form, as a dove, upon him, and a voice came out of heaven, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased." Asking \$500. Email mpavilons@rogers.com for more.

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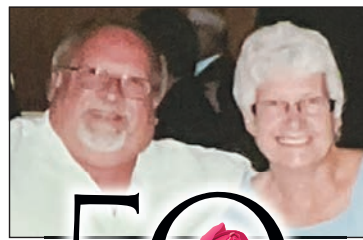
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50 Years

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1 - 4 pm Open House
Rotary Hall
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Stories, Laughter & Best Wishes only
A donation to the Food Bank would be appreciated.

709 IN MEMORIAM



Stephanie Lee Hrassnig (Crawley)

November 20 1981 - December 14 2020

If tears could build a stairway
And memories a lane
We'd walk right up to Heaven
And bring you back again

It broke our hearts to lose you
But you did not go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home
God looked around His garden
And He found an empty place
Then He looked down upon the earth
And He saw your precious face

He put His arms around you
And He lifted you to rest
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best
Yes, He always takes the best

We knew that you were suffering
We knew you were in pain
We knew you would never get well
On this earth again

So He closed your weary eyes and
He whispered "Peace be thine"
Then He took you up to Heaven
So gently, so kind

We miss you every day Stephanie

Love Baron and Xavier your boys
Mom and Dad, sisters Karrie, Coleen & Meghan
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Original Arathoon canvas for sale



For sale is "Pine on the Ridge" (Small Study) by Canadian artist David Arathoon. It was created in the 1990s and sold at a Caledon-based charity auction. Frame measures 20" by 17.25" and canvas is 11.5" by 8.5". Valued at \$450. David Arathoon has achieved national success with numerous solo and group exhibitions in many private and public galleries, such as the Hummingbird Center for the Performing Arts, Toronto. Arathoon has been instrumental in successful fundraising efforts with his original art and limited edition prints. His prints have raised over \$100,000 for various charities. Asking \$300 obo. Email mpavilons@rogers.com



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C	A	N	S	T	S	S	B	P	O	N	S		
O	L	E	A	N	P	O	C	O	A	S	I	A	
B	A	R	F	S	O	R	A	S	N	S	E	C	
B	E	D	E	V	I	L	E	D	C	O	A	C	H
S	I	B	Y	L	G	O	P	E	S				
O	L	A	M	I	A	N	D	O	L				
S	E	E	D	U	N	F	E	E	L	I	N	G	
S	A	G	E	S	D	A	W	S	E	D	A	N	
D	I	S	A	R	R	A	Y	S	S	E	B	E	
S	E	P	O	Y	O	A	K	S	S	E			
A	C	C	O	B	O	R	L	O	P				
S	H	I	R	R	M	A	K	E	S	H	I	F	T
P	E	B	A	B	A	S	E	S	A	R	E	A	
E	M	I	T	P	A	I	R	A	G	A	I	N	
N	O	S	E	I	R	S		S	E	N	N	A	

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CHATEAU-INSPIRED LUXURY WITH POOL

Nestled on a premium lot in the prestigious Fontainebleau community of Oak Ridges/Lake Wilcox, this chateau-inspired executive home features a 3-car garage, 10-ft ceilings, and a gourmet kitchen. Enjoy a private backyard oasis with a heated saltwater pool. Luxurious finishes, expansive living spaces, and thoughtful upgrades make this home truly extraordinary.



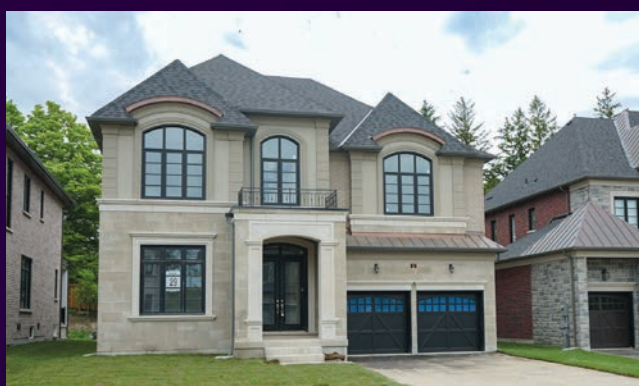
LOCATION. LUXURY. LIFESTYLE.

Experience luxury living at King Heights Boutique Condominiums in King City, with suites from \$534,465. Spacious 1-3 bedroom layouts feature 10' ceilings, custom cabinetry, quartz countertops, and Miele appliances. Enjoy amenities like a rooftop terrace, fitness studio, and lounges, all steps from the GO station, parks, and community center.



BRAND NEW HOME ON SPACIOUS DOUBLE LOT

Brand new custom-built executive home on a premium 96' x 126' lot in Richmond Hill. This masterpiece boasts an open concept layout, high-quality craftsmanship, 10' ceilings, chef's kitchen with quartz counters and Bosch appliances, spa-like ensuite, spacious bedrooms with walk-in closets, and a 38' x 126' easement. Perfect for luxury living.



LUXURIOUS 'FERNBROOK' HOME IN AURORA

Introducing the exquisite 'Fernbrook' executive home in Aurora Estates, boasting over \$200K in upgrades. Highlights include a gourmet Downsview kitchen, elegant finishes, a main-floor bedroom, and four ensuite-equipped upper bedrooms. Conveniently located near Yonge Street, transit, and amenities, this home offers unparalleled luxury living.



PREMIUM FEATURES, PRIME LOCATION

Welcome to this stunning 4+1 bedroom, 4-bath executive home in Vaughan's desirable community. Boasting a gourmet kitchen with Viking appliances, an open-concept family room, a luxurious primary suite, spacious bedrooms, and a professionally finished lower level, this home offers elegance, comfort, and convenience near parks, schools, Maple GO, and more!



ELEGANT FAMILY HOME WITH SALTWATER POOL

Beautifully upgraded 4+1 bedroom home on a quiet street backing onto a peaceful walking trail with no rear neighbors. Features a chef's kitchen with high-end appliances, vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, and an open-concept layout. Includes an in-law suite with a walkout. Backyard oasis offers a saltwater pool, patio, and scenic conservation views.



LAKE WILCOX LUXURY HOME HAVEN

Brand new custom executive home being built on a 150' lot in Lake Wilcox. This 4+1 bedroom, 5 bath home boasts upgraded features perfect for family living and entertaining. Chef's kitchen with JennAir appliances, open concept living areas, luxurious primary suite, and a finished lower level. Close to Lake Wilcox Park and trails.



PERSONALIZE YOUR EXECUTIVE DREAM HOME

Magnificent brand-new executive home by renowned 'Fernbrook Homes' with over \$200K in upgrades. Set on a large lot in prestigious Princeton Heights, Aurora Estates, this stunning home features a Downsview chef's kitchen, elegant finishes, spacious bedrooms with ensuite baths, a covered loggia, and proximity to Yonge Street, transit, and amenities.



AURORA HIGHLANDS MODERN BACKSPLIT

Step into this stunning 3-bedroom backsplit in Aurora Highlands with a 6-car driveway. Featuring modern upgrades like a renovated kitchen, hardwood floors, pot lights, and spacious living areas, it's perfect for entertaining. Enjoy a private fenced backyard and convenient access to schools, parks, and amenities!



TRANQUIL BACKSPLIT WITH SCENIC YARD

This charming 4-level brick backsplit with a double garage is nestled in Whitchurch-Stouffville's sought-after Ballantrae community. With 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a bright open-concept layout, cozy fireplace, spacious kitchen, balcony, and scenic yard views, it perfectly blends comfort, convenience, and character.



CUSTOM 2.2-ACRE RAVINE ESTATE

Welcome to this stunning custom-built estate on 2.2 sunny acres backing onto a private ravine. Highlights include a grand foyer, formal living/dining rooms, a spacious kitchen, luxurious primary suite, oversized bedrooms, finished basement with walk-up, and a private backyard showcasing breathtaking year-round views.



CUSTOMIZE YOUR DREAM LAKE WILCOX HOME

Introducing an opportunity to customize your dream executive home in Lake Wilcox. This to-be-built residence is designed with 4+1 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, and a chef's kitchen outfitted with high-end JennAir appliances. Envision luxurious finishes throughout, with the chance to select your preferences to truly make it your own.

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