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An array of dignitaries and politicians, including Premier Doug Ford, helped King's mayor and councillors cut the ribbon to officially mark the opening of the state-of-the-art Zancor Centre.

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Hundreds attend Zancor Centre's opening

By Jim Stewart

Hundreds of residents, visitors, and dignitaries attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony in the Municipal Maintenance Athletic Centre at the Zancor Centre on Sunday morning.

The grand entrance of Premier Doug Ford, MPP Stephen Lecce, and Mayor Steve Pellegrini through the north doors caused a stir among those assembled for the 9 a.m. event. Premier Ford, Minister Lecce, and Mayor Pellegrini traversed the length of the artificial turf field along the synthetic track. The gregarious trio mingled freely with hundreds of folks assembled on the tarped multipurpose sports court prior to the ceremony.

The Premier was in full electioneering mode – as if the writ had been dropped. It was a dynamic, politically-charged event. With a provincial election imminent and Donald Trump spewing anti-Canadian invective in his first week back in the White House, the content of the Official Opening speeches reflected last week's intriguing political developments.

Mayor Pellegrini emceed the ceremony and was flanked by 18 dignitaries who spanned the width of the artificial turf field. On hand were King Councillors Jordan Coscolini, Debbie Schaefer, Avia Eek, Mary Asselstine, Jennifer Anstey, and David Boyd as well as Uxbridge Mayor Dave Barton, Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Iain Lovatt, Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas, East Gwillimbury Mayor Virginia

Hackson, and Vaughan Mayor Stephen Del Duca. Other dignitaries included Seneca Polytechnic President David Agnew, Vaughan-Woodbridge MPP Michael Tibollo, and King-Vaughan MP Anna Roberts.

The mayor noted in his introductory remarks that "This project has been twenty years in the making. This has been my dream." The congenial civic leader jolted the solemnity of the occasion when he pulled his Speedo from a jacket pocket – an artifact from his lifeguarding days. The moment of levity served as a reminder that King residents had to travel for decades to surrounding towns to use recreational swimming pools and he pointed to the Aqua Tech Solutions Aquatic Centre as "a place to improve the physical fitness of residents. This facility is a miracle. It was built with only \$678,000 of local tax-supported dollars."

Mayor Pellegrini thanked the partners assembled for their generous support and noted the "significant contributions of \$21.1M from the Canadian government, \$17.6M from the Ontario government, and \$20M from developers' charges that made the Zancor Centre possible. We're sitting on 25 acres due to our partners at Seneca Polytechnic who provided the land for \$1 per year for the next 99 years."

The mayor applauded Zancor Homes, JTF Homes, and Country Day School for purchasing naming rights to the facility and the two ice hockey rinks.

See 'Team' on Page 3

WHO WILL THEY BECOME?



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INSIDE

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Huge crowd for Mayor's Pancake Breakfast.

See Page 7



Courtney Allen is King's new Fire Chief.

See Page 13

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Making life better in King

Upcoming Meetings

COUNCIL MEETINGS
Monday, February 03
6 p.m. – Council Public Planning
Monday, February 10
6 p.m. – Council

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS
Thursday, February 06
6 p.m. – Heritage Advisory Committee

Virtual meeting

Tuesday, February 11
11 a.m. – Accessibility Advisory Committee

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

Property Tax
Due Date: Feb. 19
Water Bills
Due Date: Feb. 26

king.ca/WaterBilling
king.ca/PropertyTaxes

Are you getting married and require a marriage licence?

King Township is giving traditional wedding planning a modern twist by offering couples the convenience of applying for their marriage licences online at king.ca/marriage as part of Service Ontario's pilot program.

Marriage services offered:
Marriage Licence Application: Apply and book your appointment online. Remember, a marriage licence is valid for **90 days**, so plan accordingly.
Civil Marriage Ceremonies: held at the King Township Municipal Centre. Couples must attend a pre-consultation meeting with the Marriage Officer at least one week prior.

For more information, visit king.ca/marriage



King Climate Resilient Agriculture Workshop Soil Health & Cover Crops

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 - Preschool Camp Program Coordinator
 - Seasonal Environmental Field Labourer
 - Sports Camp Program Coordinator
 - Fitness Specialist
 - Fitness Instructor
 - Fitness Attendant
 - Recreation League Convenor
 - Inclusion Facilitator
 - Aquatics Leadership Instructors
 - AquaFit Instructor
 - Aquatics Lifeguard/Instructor
 - Attendant I - Facilities
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- View job postings at king.ca/employment



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Intro to Snowshoe Running:
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For more information, visit coldcreek.ca



Due to popular demand, **pre-registration for select drop-in recreational programming, including, aquafit, sports, and fitness classes, at all King Township recreation facilities is now required.** Drop-in skating and shinny hockey does not require pre-registration.

Online registration opens 24 hours in advance of the drop-in program and is available 24/7 at townshipofking.perfectmind.com.

Pre-registration in a drop-in program ensures your spot is saved and you won't be turned away at the door if the program is at capacity.

For drop-in schedules, visit king.ca/DropInPrograms



Sports Hall of Fame

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.

Questions? Email kingmuseum@king.ca

Apply online at kingheritageandculture.ca/sportshalloffame.

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Team effort was needed to make facility a reality

From Front Page

As a segue into the Premier's speech, Pellegrini presented Ford with a navy blue King Junior A Rebellion jacket which the Conservative leader donned immediately.

Premier Ford expressed his gratitude for the Rebellion gear and praised the state of the art recreation complex: "What a spectacular facility. Recreational facilities bring the community together." He noted that "It's great to be back in beautiful King" and acknowledged the importance of intergovernmental cooperation: "You can't do this without many partners."

Ford also projected the prospective careers of current facility users: "Future Olympic athletes and NHL players could be working out and competing at this recreation facility."

Lastly, the Premier praised the unity of purpose that created the Zancor Centre and suggested the limitations of political partisanship: "I don't give two hoots about political stripes. It's important that we work together."

Ford's remarks about political unity in Ontario and, by extension, Canada elicited a hearty round of applause from an appreciative audience and led to a smooth segue to Mayor Pellegrini's introduction of Seneca Polytechnic President David Agnew. King's mayor noted that with "only 9,500 households in King, we couldn't have built this facility without the help of partners such as Seneca." President Agnew acknowledged that "the property on which Seneca's King Campus is situated and the twenty-five acres that have been leased to King Township for 99 years were purchased from the Eaton family in 1972."

The importance of history and cooperation was echoed by MPP Lecce who joined Pellegrini on stage and offered an amusing remark about the mayor's Speedo before reinforcing the importance of keeping political promises. As King's MPP, Lecce secured a \$17.6 million investment to ensure the centre's completion — the largest provincial infrastructure investment in King's history. He noted triumphantly that "after delivering the largest infrastructure investment in the history of King Township to build the Zancor Recreation Centre, I proudly stand with Premier Ford and Mayor Pellegrini to officially open it. A promise made — a promise kept."

Lecce also observed "how many times Premier Ford has said 'yes' to King. I remember mentioning to him that we needed just \$17 million. Because of our Premier's support, this project

will be with us for the next 99 years and longer." Lecce's upbeat remarks elicited much applause.

Vaughan-Woodbridge MPP and Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Michael Tibollo reinforced the theme of national unity and thanked former MP Deb Schulte for her dedication to the building of the Township Wide Recreation Complex: "This project was championed by Deb and she passed the baton." In addition to praising Schulte, Tibollo pointed to the importance of infrastructure project investments across the country: "Infrastructure is the backbone of any country. It creates spaces for us to come together. It's incredible what we can do when we work together. These are safe and welcoming places for us to go. There is nothing that can stop Canadians from working together. There is only Team Canada."

Tibollo's call for national political cooperation was echoed by MP Anna Roberts after she, too, offered a humorous remark about Mayor Pellegrini's Speedo. After the laughter subsided, Roberts's remarks reinforced the event's recurring theme: "This is about working together to achieve the goals of the future. This recreation complex will be a safe space for our children — a great place to raise our families. We now have a world class facility in King." Prior to her exit from the stage, Roberts presented a commemorative certificate from the federal government to the mayor and his council to mark the official opening of the Zancor Centre.

After the speeches were delivered and the obligatory group photos were completed, hundreds of attendees poured out into the Zancor Centre's sunlit foyer where dozens of community organizations had set up information booths. The displays spanned the length of the facility and included kiosks sponsored by King Heritage and Cultural Centre, King Curling Club, King United Soccer Club, King Township Recreation Programs, Central York Panthers Girls Hockey Association, Seneca Polytechnic, and the King Rebellion Junior A Hockey Team.

Tours of the facility were conducted by King Township staff and the Zancor Centre sprang to life when its ice rinks, turf field, track, pools, basketball court, and community meeting areas were filled with recreating residents. Adding to the ambience of these healthy activities was the aroma of pancakes and sausages on the griddle as folks lined up for the Mayor's Annual Pancake Breakfast prepared so ably by the King City Lions Club.



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Gillian Vivona

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Gillian

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Authorized by the CFO of KVPLA

Editorial, Letters & Opinion

"A newspaper is not just ink and paper; it is the heartbeat of a community."

Every day is a challenge for many people

World Cancer Day is Feb. 4

For those who are suffering – from any kind of illness – every day is a challenge.

It takes every ounce of strength just to get out of bed, go through the motions, only to sink back into your pillow at night with a sense of indifference, even dread.

We put on a brave face – for our friends and loved ones. When asked how we are doing, we mutter something like "okay."

But we're not okay, not by a long shot. My current response is something along the lines of "I'm hanging in there." Not like the funny feline on those cute calendars, but more like someone who's dangling from a suspension bridge, who's gone through the boards, clinging for dear life.

I'm suffering, more than most know. My battle with cancer has exacerbated my mental state. Minor physical ailments come and go and I take my meds and host of supplements each morning, like clock work. For the most part, you wouldn't even know I'm sick.

But the shadow of uncertainty – of mortality – looms large. The phrase "monkey on your back" comes to mind. For those not familiar with the term, it means grappling with a significant problem (or addiction) that is difficult to shake off. Like that monkey clinging to my shoulder, sometimes scratching its way around, it's an enduring burden.

Positivity alone won't shake it. Hope won't force the monkey to find another perch.

This Feb. 4 is "World Cancer Day," a day set aside to raise awareness about cancer, encourage prevention and mobilize action worldwide.

Several organizations believe it's important to shift the focus to the voices that matter the most: the patients.

"Across all types of cancer, the patient experience is an invaluable source of insight into how we can improve care," according to Breast Cancer Canada.

"While groundbreaking research



Mark Pavilons

and advanced treatments are vital, the true measure of progress lies in how patients experience care and outcomes. Patient-reported outcomes (PROs) are transforming how cancer care is delivered by ensuring the human side of the disease is never overlooked. By listening to patients, we're uncovering critical gaps in care, improving clinical decision-making, and driving innovations that reflect what patients truly need."

Here goes:

My metastatic prostate cancer is like a ticking time bomb. For now, all we can do is try to slow down the ticking and ideally force the gears to come to a grinding halt. The success of my chemo treatment last year was inconclusive.

A phone consult in February, following blood work, will give me an idea as to how things are, and whether my PSA levels remain in check. That's the key, according to my oncologist. If those levels can remain consistently low, I can continue on.

But that's my life now. I have to take things week by week, month by month.

It's a mental struggle and a puzzle that offers nothing but mis-aligned pieces.

A recent announcement from the provincial government noted a new radiation treatment for prostate cancer.

I'm not sure whether I'm in line at this point, or even if I need it. But it's good to know things are progressing on that front.

Several oncologists I saw over the past couple of years noted scientists are aggressively working on prostate cancer and constantly looking for new treatments and protocols.

That's good news for those who are newly diagnosed, and those who will be in the future. I only hope something concrete, even miraculous, is on the horizon so I can benefit. I would give anything in the world to live another five or six years.

I avoid reading the life expectancy data for those in my "boat," or "dinghy." One has to keep in mind that prostate cancer studies, by and large, relate to older male patients, those typically in their 70s or even 80s. That was the typical age group affected by prostate cancer, but that's no longer the case.

During my visits to cancer centres, I was told more men in their 40s and 50s are getting the disease. While it is often slow-moving and treatable, every case is different.

When confronted by such a thing we often wonder if we could have done something to prevent it. Could I have curbed certain behaviors, exercised more and cut out aspartame or KFC? I read that prostate cancer is one of the few that aren't linked to lifestyle, but rather a breakdown or failure in genes. Do I blame my ancestors and shake my fist at the heavens for passing down the genetic material for this evil?

With that double-edged sword comes the knowledge that my existence (like all of ours) is a miracle in itself. Some 150 generations were needed to pass on the genetic material for me to even be alive today. And I beat the odds of some 400 quadrillion to one of coming into being.

One would think that making it out of the womb in one piece – to face this brave new world – is a feat reserved for the fittest in the animal kingdom. Bravo

to us all!

And yet, how much time have we frittered away in our lives, not realizing the gift we've been given? Why do we waste so much of it when time is the only real, meaningful commodity?

Unfortunately, we don't live in a utopian society where everything is provided and we can sit around philosophizing in our togas, eating fruit from endless bowls. We have to struggle, and earn every step we take.

We have to work and earn money in order to live. We have to strive for more, in order to get more. We have to be a bit lucky as well, to be in the right place at the right time.

The odds are also against us meeting the love of our lives, settling down and having children. We are all part of that mathematical formula that makes life so inexplicable.

We are not machines, easily programmable with embedded directives. We are thinking, feeling, hurting beings.

We internalize a lot and our brains – which can outthink any supercomputer – can be our nemesis. Never a dull moment I should say.

And from the time we have a grasp on our mortality, the clock winds down. We know what faces us all and yet we believe, somehow, it won't happen.

Immortality isn't possible at the moment. But I can see humanity being downloaded into a massive, collective computerized "soul."

I saw a video of a doctor who has spoken with many patients who've had near-death experiences. They all say something similar about the great beyond – it's a place where everyone is accepted and you feel like you're home.

I'm not saying that's something to look forward to, but any tiny morsel of "more than this" is a comfort.

Why can't we make this place, this world, accepting and hospitable? This life, and all that it contains, should also feel like home.

Let's try to make it that way, while we still have time!

Letter to the Editor

Ford's unnecessary election

Ford has called an election and hopes to get an even bigger majority than he already has. I hope that this blows up in his face.

Spending \$175 million on an unnecessary election is absurd. Is he worried about the RCMP investigation into the Greenbelt scandal? Is he worried that when Pierre Poilievre gets into power, that he will drastically cut the money coming into the provinces and that will upset the electorate, as he will need to cut more programs?

Personally I think that his "Canada is not for sale" is a great cap, but it reminds me too much of how Trump relies on symbols like the "MAGA" cap to hide how much they both favour the rich.

In Ford's case, the rich developers are highly favoured and the reason that he has removed the protections that are usually provided by the Conservation Authorities to prevent floods, etc. Build those houses anywhere you like, developers. Oh yes, build a LTC care home on the Oak Ridges Moraine where the dewatering will have to be massive and will cause the precious nearby lake to become polluted. Oh yes, remove the bike lanes, even though traffic will be improved as more people switch to cycling if there are bike lanes. The list goes on ...

Nancy Hopkinson, Nobleton



Quote of the Week

"One of the luxuries and requirements of a country like Canada is that we need to be engaged."

— Joe Clark

Trivia Tidbits

Three oceans border Canada – the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic.

King Weekly Sentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Are you optimistic that Donald Trump will turn things around?

a) Yes **40%**

b) No **60%**

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you ready for an early election?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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Vivona launches 'Your Voice for King-Vaughan' campaign

Provincial Liberal Candidate Gillian Vivona has officially launched her election campaign under the banner of "Your Voice for King-Vaughan."

"As MPP in King-Vaughan, I'll be focused on you and your needs – putting more money in your pocket, helping you get ahead and get a home, free public health care when you need it, great education and safe schools for your kids, and beautiful green spaces to enjoy. No politics - just hard work!" says Vivona.

Gillian is focused on delivering results. She believes that being an MPP is about respecting every resident and representing what's important to them.

As a dedicated high school teacher, elected president of an association representing 2,500 teachers, and a certified

conflict resolution mediator, Gillian is a passionate advocate who will deliver results as she has countless times before.

She's concerned about making sure everyone has a family doctor, fixing traffic congestion, building affordable homes, investing in schools, and making life better and more affordable for us all.

She notes there are 57,119 people in King and Vaughan who don't have a family doctor, while Doug Ford sinks \$2.33 billion of taxpayer funds into a private spa at Ontario place and moving the Science Centre. Doug Ford is running the largest provincial deficit and debt in the history of Ontario. Housing starts in Ontario in 2024 were the lowest they have been in 70 years,

despite his promise to build 1.5 million homes.

Gillian believes that the people of King-Vaughan deserve a government that's working for them, not itself.

Vivona feels strongly that calling this election one and a half years early shows how out of touch Doug Ford is with regular Ontarians, noting, "Doug Ford has called a self-serving election costing 175 million dollars at a critical moment for Ontario and Canada. He's chosen his own job over the needs of Ontarians. King-Vaughan residents need doctors, affordable homes, reduced costs of groceries and the promise of a better life for their kids. They don't need an election; they need a government that is serving and representing them."

Gillian Vivona and Bonnie Crombie are offering residents in King-Vaughan an MPP and Premier who will put them first and deliver more of what matters to them.

For more, go to www.voteGillian.com



King's Ann Raney running for Greens in King-Vaughan

Local volunteer and environmentalist Ann Raney is carrying the Green Party banner into the provincial election.

The election is slated for Feb. 27.

Growing up in Thornhill, Ann has lived in King-Vaughan for the past 19 years with her husband, Helmut. Both enjoy spending time outdoors with family and friends.

Ann is no stranger to politics – she was the King-Vaughan Green Party candidate for the 2015 and 2019 federal elections, and believes in non-partisan politics between election periods.

As a professional engineer, Ann comes with a wealth of knowledge and practical experiences. Her first degree in physical metallurgy, led her to work as a design and production engineer of microwave switches for a communication satellite sub-contractor in Ontario (ComDev). However Ann's work has primarily been in historical building conservation with contractors and as a consultant, where she utilized her master's in structural engineering. Additionally, she has a degree in education.

Ann's enthusiasm has been a driving force in organizing community volunteers and as a front-line volunteer herself. She has helped and worked with seniors, been a counsellor for at-risk youth, a math tutor, a distress phone-line volunteer and executive, and a soc-



cer coach. Since 2015, she has directed her energy toward local climate action initiatives and supporting the private sponsorship of refugees.

Favouring long-view leadership and the pragmatic policies of the Green Party of Ontario, as your representative, Ann will work diligently toward building alliances for climate action, a caring resilient economy, and transparency in government.

"We all must pull together to create more possibilities for everyone, now, and in the future," she said.

MPP says stakes never been higher

By Stephen Lecce
King-Vaughan MPP

As we look forward into 2025, the stakes could not be greater.

Now more than ever, leadership matters.

Ontario's economy and affordability matters.

Standing up for Canada matters.

I am writing with two purposes. First, to reflect on the progress we've made together in King Township and Vaughan.

As your MPP, I was proud to deliver a new Youth Wellness Hub in Vaughan, offering wrap-around mental health services for our kids.

I delivered funding and now opened the Zancor Recreation Centre for families in King, and announced two new long-term homes.

We cut the gasoline tax by 10 cents per litre and are standing strong against the punitive Liberal carbon tax.

We are hiring more police officers while urging the Federal Government to enact bail reform that keeps repeat offenders behind bars.

And beyond our community's borders, I am working closely with Premier Ford to defend our jobs and economy from the threat of tariffs from the US. We are standing up for Ontario families and for the future prosperity of Canada.

I will never stop working for you. It is an incredible honour to serve you.



The best thing about King is its people!

RE-ELECT

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Authorized by the CFO of the Stephen Lecce Campaign



'Jack Day' fundraiser in Nobleton Feb. 2

The family of Jack Shepherd will be hosting "Jack Day" Sunday, Feb. 2, a memorial Friends and Family Community Skate at the Nobleton Arena, honouring what would have been Jack's 17th birthday.

An avid dirt biker, talented hockey player and true gentle soul, Jack tragically passed away last August at the age of 16. He was a proud member of the King Rebellion, and truly loved being on the ice.

From a very early age, Jack wanted to use his birthday as a way to give back, and it wasn't unusual for him to ask for donations to charities that he cared about instead of gifts. On his 10th birthday he raised \$1,300 for Sick Kids. He also helped his family raise well over \$150,000 for colon cancer research and patient support in memory of his mom, Tanya.

Jack's family is so grateful to the community that reached out their

arms and surrounded them with so much support and comfort after Jack's passing. They all truly felt lifted up by the amazing community in King, many of whom they'd never even met, and this community skate is a small token of appreciation for all of the support during their darkest time.

So, in honour of Jack please join his family, friends and fellow community on the ice at the Nobleton Arena this Sunday, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. The family is collecting donations to the King Township Food Bank during the event, so please consider bringing a non-perishable item.

There are many ways the family is keeping Jack with them in everything they do, and to continue to honour him with his spirit of generosity is one of them.

All are welcome! Let's fill the ice and fill the bins for Jack!



Kerry's Place Autism Services to launch a program that promotes inclusivity

The Ontario government is investing approximately \$30,000 in a new initiative from Kerry's Place, EnAbling Inclusive Futures Project, which is designed to enhance the inclusivity and accessibility of services and programs for autistic individuals across any public, private, or community-based setting.

The EnAbling Inclusive Futures Project supports new and innovative inclusive practices by offering a unique professional training workshop, resource guide and individualized consultation service.

"We are very pleased to receive this grant from the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility for our EnAbling In-

clusive Futures Project," said Susan VanDeVelde-Coke, CEO and President, Kerry's Place. "This funding will help us launch important training - co-developed and delivered by Autism Advocates - to a wide range of organizations across Ontario."

Kerry's Place received this funding through the 2024-25 EnAbling Change Program, which accepted applications last year. The EnAbling Change Program funds not-for-profits, municipalities, industry organizations and professional associations across the province that develop and implement innovative initiatives to make Ontario accessible to people of all abilities.



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Woman shot in Nobleton home invasion

Investigators with the York Regional Police #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau are seeking at least three suspects after an armed home invasion resulted in an adult female being shot in the Town of Nobleton.

Police report that on Jan. 21 at approximately 3:50 a.m., officers responded to reports of a female shot at residence in the area of Highway 27 and King Vaughan Road. When officers arrived, a 47-year-old woman was located and was transported to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Officers learned that the victim's residence was broken into by three armed suspects. The victim was confronted by the suspects who then shot her. The suspects poured an accelerant within the residence and attempted to ignite it. They also shot both of the victim's dogs, one of which succumb to its injuries.

The three suspects then fled the scene in a dark-coloured sedan.

All three were described as male, young, and wearing dark clothing. At least two firearms were observed. There were four other people in the residence at the time of the incident and no other injuries were reported.

This is an isolated incident and believed to be targeted.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7141, or leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, or online at <http://1800222tips.com>.

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ENE
FRASH-4
WEATHER FORECAST SYSTEM

King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, January 30 to Wednesday, February 5

THURS 30TH	FRI 31ST	SAT 1ST	SUN 2ND	MON 3RD	TUES 4TH	WED 5TH
Sun/Clouds High -3C° Low -1C° Wind S 20k	A Few Flurries High 0C° Low -17C° <1cm Wind N 16k	Mainly Sunny High -13C° Low -13C° Wind N 7k	Scattered Flurries High -2C° Low -1C° ~1cm Wind S 19k	Clouds/Sun High -2C° Low -15C° Wind W 25k	Sun/Clouds High -10C° Low -15C° Wind NW 14k	Sun/Clouds High -10C° Low -14C° Wind W 21k



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Lions Club serves up feast at Mayor's Annual Pancake Breakfast

By Jim Stewart

Mayor Steve Pellegrini moved seamlessly from ribbon cutting festivities in the Municipal Maintenance Athletic Centre to the griddle in the King City Lions Community Room where he hosted his Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning. The Mayor's hospitality team included six intrepid Lions Club volunteers who grilled the fluffy pancakes and sizzling sausages for hundreds of visitors.

A quintessential quintet of Councilors – Debbie Schaefer, Mary Asseltine, Jordan Cescolini, Jennifer Anstey, and David Boyd – kept the line moving, served the grilled goodies, and chatted with participants who enjoyed their hot breakfast in the zero-carbon daylight dining area.

The lineup for the Lions Club's excellent breakfast fare curled its way out of the Gord Orr Community Room, around the corner past the newly-installed King Township Sports Hall of Fame display case, and extended to the entrance to the fieldhouse.

Those patient souls who braved the

hot breakfast lineup were immersed in a presentation of the rich athletic history of the Township. Contents in the KTSHOF display case included artifacts, biographies, and international sporting achievements connected to Alexander Pietrangelo (Hockey), Adriana Leon (Soccer), McKinley Hunt (Rugby), Rosie MacLennan (Trampoline), Jeff O'Neill (Hockey and Broadcasting), David Wilson (Athlete, Coach, Choreographer—Figure Skating), and Beth Underhill (Equestrian).

Those in line noted the municipality's message commemorating the beginnings of the KTSHOF: "This sports-themed exhibition was created in celebration of the opening of the Zancor Centre in January 2025 and in preparation for the first inauguration (sic) of athletes in the King Township Sports Hall of Fame in 2026."

The engaging content of the KSHOF display – as well as the prospect of free pancakes and sausages around the corner – provided residents with relaxing reading and comfort food on a blustery January morning.



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Business, Finance & Real Estate



Township adopts road map for using Artificial Intelligence

King Township is leading the way in digital transformation with the adoption of a “Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI) Roadmap” that outlines the Township’s AI principles, results of maturity assessments, future plans and more.

This road map supports the Township’s Digital Transformation Framework (launched April 2024) providing a blueprint for integrating innovation with a focus on several key priority areas, including digital services, data transparency, connecting the community, internal digital transformation and continuous improvement. As one of the first municipalities in Canada to implement an AI-specific road map, King Township is committed to leveraging the benefits of AI while implementing high standards of safety and integrity.

One of King’s recent standout achievements was the introduction of Kingsley, an AI-powered virtual assistant available on king.ca. Kingsley offers 24/7 availability, enhances users’ web-browsing experience, and provides

seamless first-point-of-contact assistance. The virtual assistant ensures intuitive natural language interactions, reducing wait times and simplifying information searches.

King has received encouraging feedback from users in its first six months of operation, with key insights including more than 1,000 conversations, an 88% satisfaction rate and 40% of chats happening outside of business hours.

King recently upgraded its data sources to include integration with website information from York Region, providing even more answers in one place for residents.

The Township has also launched an internal AI Productivity pilot leveraging Microsoft Copilot, to augment staff’s capabilities. From content creation to editing material and summarizing meetings, King is encouraging staff to experiment with AI and automation to create efficiencies and capacity for more challenging tasks.

AI tools offer numerous advantages that can significantly enhance municipal operations:

Efficiency: Automating routine tasks and generating draft content quickly.

Enhanced services: Providing better and more personalized services to residents.

Informed decision-making: Offering data-driven insights and recommendations.

Innovation: Encouraging creative solutions and new ways of thinking.

While AI presents exciting opportunities, it also comes with risks that must be managed, including ensuring the accuracy of AI-generated content, protecting sensitive information from unauthorized access, cybersecurity threats, reducing bias in AI outputs to ensure fairness and safeguarding proprietary information.

To address these risks, King Township has established the following six guiding principles related to the use of AI at the Township:

A human-centric approach: AI projects are led by people to create efficiencies and enhance value for citizens, businesses, staff and the community.

Responsible and safe: A strong commitment to safeguarding user data, reducing cybersecurity risks, and establishing protocols to address potential issues promptly.

Transparent: Informing affected

groups about AI systems, including what data is collected.

Understandable: Making sure AI is easy to understand.

Value-driven: AI projects should have clear goals that provide real benefits.

Fairness: Making AI tools accessible to everyone and reducing bias.

Before procuring any new AI tools, King Township staff are required to submit an “AI Suitability Form” with a business case for approval to an internal Leveraging Technology Steering Committee. Approved tools will undergo regular reviews to confirm they remain safe and effective. Staff using GenAI tools must complete required training and follow best practices on responsible use. Staff are also required to attend mandatory AI training sessions.

“King Township is proud to be a leader in the responsible use of Artificial Intelligence. By adopting a Responsible Artificial Intelligence Roadmap, we aim to harness the power of emerging technologies to enhance operations and improve citizen experience, with safeguards in place to mitigate risks. By being transparent about our use of AI, we aim to inspire confidence among our citizens and serve as a model for other municipalities,” said Daniel Kostopoulos, King’s CAO.

Tourism fund accepting applications

Applications for the York Region Tourism Fund are now open. Organizations have the chance to receive up to \$5,000 to boost tourism across York Region by promoting local events and attracting visitors.

Eligible applicants include:
Registered charitable organizations, non-profits, local municipalities, business improvement areas, chambers of commerce, boards of trade, destination marketing organizations, arts associations and community groups.
Events must take place by Dec. 31, 2025. Apply early, as spots are limited and applications close once all spots are filled.
Learn more: <https://www.yorklink.ca/york-region-tourism-fund/>

Sutton Group welcomes Kings Cross, Marc Cioffi as their new partner

Sutton Group is excited to announce Sutton Group-Kings Cross as its newest franchise partner located in the King and Newmarket area, to further strengthen Sutton’s leading national network of franchise partners and 6,000 agents.

This innovative brokerage is led by owner Marc Cioffi, who’s transitioning into a promising new career while continuing to serve his community through real estate.

“Marc has already made a remarkable difference in his local community through his dedicated work as a first responder. Kings Cross represents the type of individuals that we strive to partner with at Sutton that demonstrate a commitment to community, trust, and transparency. We are thrilled to welcome them to Sutton, where they will bring their experience and trusted, community-first approach to real estate,” said Ross McCredie, CEO of Sutton Group.

Previously operating as Kinsby Real Estate Inc., the growing brokerage is gaining attention in the King City and Newmarket area. This growth has been spurred by focusing on serving first responders and their real estate needs, as well as bringing on new agents with a background as first responders. Kings Cross is partnering with Sutton to enhance services for real estate agents and homeowners, ensuring first re-

sponders can live and work in the communities they serve.

“From the very first conversation we had, it was clear that Sutton not only shared our vision for growth but also had a deep understanding of our mission to build wealth through real estate using a trust base and community-centric approach. Their commitment to these values and their forward-thinking approach truly stood out to us. That alignment in goals and mind set made our decision to move forward with them an easy one,” said Marc Cioffi.

Kinsby, now Sutton Kings Cross, was founded in 2021 by Marc, who has a distinguished career in law enforcement. Marc, a Detective Sergeant, established Kinsby in 2023 to meet the unique needs of the first responder community. He is building a dynamic real estate presence driven by his passion and determination.

“What stood out about Sutton was how aligned they were with our goals, especially around launching a First Responder focused program across the brand. Their excitement matched ours, and we knew instantly that this was the right place for us. They not only understood our vision but brought fresh ideas and energy to the table, making the collaboration feel seamless and inspiring from the very beginning,” said Cioffi.

To learn more about Sutton Group visit: <https://sutton.com>

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New facilities to be built in Caledon and Toronto

The Ontario government is expanding access to comprehensive mental health and rehabilitation treatment for first responders affected by work-related stress or trauma, including post-traumatic stress injury (PTSD), by investing in the construction of Runnymede Healthcare Centre's Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Centre of Excellence for First Responders. This new funding builds on the \$10.7 million the government previously invested to support early capital planning for Runnymede Healthcare Centre's two new facilities.

One new facility is slated to be built in nearby Caledon.

The province's investment will support the construction of two new facilities in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) to deliver comprehensive PTSD rehabilitation-focused programs and services tailored to the needs of first responders and support them throughout their journey to recovery. Services include mental health assessments, rehabilitation and residential treatment, virtual care, 24/7 crisis support, peer support and navigation support.

The new facility in Caledon will provide 40 residential beds to connect first responders to tailored and comprehensive treatment services. In Toronto, the new facility will focus on providing

rehabilitative services including assessment, intensive outpatient therapy, and aftercare, while housing recreation programs and facilities that encourage health and recovery.

As a next step, the ministry is working with Runnymede Healthcare Centre to complete planning and design for this project. A construction schedule will be confirmed once future planning is complete and the project is tendered and awarded.

It is estimated up to 23 per cent of first responders and public safety personnel suffer from PTSD, a higher rate than that of the general population. Once opened, the Runnymede Healthcare Centre will provide care to 1,500

workers each year, accommodating 41,700 visits. Over time, this program has the potential to expand to serve additional volumes and frontline professions, improving access to safe, tailored and effective supports when and where they are needed.

First responders and public safety personnel are eligible for mental health and rehabilitative treatment services at Runnymede Healthcare Centre's Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Centre of Excellence for First Responders and include police officers, firefighters, correctional officers, paramedics and frontline healthcare personnel.

Through the new Mental Health Supports for Public Safety Personnel

program (MHS4PSP), the province is investing more than \$32 million to ensure first responders and public safety personnel have access to mental health supports.

Over the next 10 years, Ontario's investments will lead to nearly \$50 billion in health infrastructure across the province, building 3,000 new beds in addition to over 3,500 critical care, acute and post-acute beds the government has added since 2020.

"First responders work in challenging and demanding environments. This will be a great step forward in addressing the needs of those with post-traumatic stress injury. The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs applauds Premier Ford and the Ontario government, for this important investment which supports those who step up to serve Ontarians," said Deputy Fire Chief Rob Greenwood, President, Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs.

King Township launches online marriage services

King Township is giving traditional wedding planning a modern twist by offering couples the convenience of applying for their marriage licences online at king.ca/marriage as part of Service Ontario's pilot program.

Now, soon-to-be-married couples can apply for a licence online through a secure portal and submit their identification and supporting documentation electronically, before picking the licence up in-person.

Municipalities issue provincial marriage licences. Using the new system, couples can submit their documents electronically to the participating municipality. The municipality ensures the application is correct and complete and then the applicant can pick up the licence. The online process minimizes risk of errors, is efficient, saves time and reduces paper for the municipality and the applicant.

The Clerks Division at King Township offers two key marriage services:

Marriage licence application – Couples can now apply for their marriage licence and book an appointment online. Remember, a marriage licence is valid for 90 days, so it's important to plan your appointment accordingly.

Civil marriage ceremonies – The Township also provides civil marriage ceremonies at the King Township Municipal Centre.

Civil marriage ceremonies are held in the Council Chambers at the King Township Municipal Centre. Couples are required to attend a pre-consultation meeting with the Marriage Officer at least one week prior to the ceremony.

Marriage licence fees are \$192 (tax exempt) for King Township residents and \$225 (tax exempt) for non-residents.

Civil marriage ceremony fees are \$325 (plus HST) for King Township residents and \$475 (plus HST) for non-residents.

For more information or to book an appointment, please visit king.ca/marriage or contact the Clerks Division at 905-833-4069 or email marriage@king.ca.



King firefighter Abrar Mohar joins MPP Stephen Lecce in congratulating Breanna Di Battista as a recipient of the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

MPP Lecce presents Coronation medals to young leaders

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan, hosted a ceremony to recognize five young community leaders receiving the prestigious King Charles III Coronation Awards. They included King Township's Breanna Di Battista.

Breanna is a 22-year-old university student who made it her mission to help others by volunteering her time to supporting women overcoming addiction, survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation, and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities with compassion and love.

"The King Charles III Coronation Medal is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our country to elevate and celebrate individuals that leave a powerful legacy – so I was proud to recognize five young, generational leaders that have made a lasting difference in their communities," said MPP Lecce. "Together, we say thank you for your leadership, and for making us all proud to call ourselves Canadians."

Funding to protect firefighters from cancer-causing chemicals

The Ontario government is investing \$30 million over three years to provide 374 municipal fire departments with funding to support cancer prevention initiatives.

The funding through the Fire Protection Grant will be used to purchase equipment and make infrastructure upgrades to help reduce the long-term effects of exposure to fire-related contaminants and chemicals.

These funds will see fire services across the province purchase specialized washing and drying equipment to decontaminate bunker gear and wildland firefighting coveralls. It will also allow for facility and infrastructure upgrades to allow for proper air purification and ventilation systems.

Firefighters are more likely to experience health problems because of exposure to hazardous chemicals. In Canada, 50 to 60 firefighters die of cancer every year and half of those are from Ontario. This funding will ensure firefighters are kept safe, while they are keeping our communities safe.

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Crews respond to house fire

King Fire and Emergency personnel responded to a house fire Jan. 23, shortly after 9 p.m.

All three Firehouses responded to a reported structure fire in the area of Jane Street and 17th Sideroad. This was the second reported fire of the day – the fourth reported structure fire for this week.

Crews arrived on location to find fire through the roof as well as fire coming out a bathroom window. All occupants escaped without injury.

Fire attack was started and a search of the house commenced. Crews encountered both moderate smoke and heat conditions throughout the home.

Fire Chief Jim Wall said overall, solid work from all 3 firehouses were a success. He offered a big shoutout to the IC for a job well done.



KingWeeklySentinel

Arts & Entertainment

CHATS holds 'Better with Age' Whisky Tasting & Dinner

CHATS – Community & Home Assistance to Seniors – is once again holding its “Better with Age” Whisky Tasting and Dinner fundraiser on Thursday, Feb. 27. This year marks the 11th year that CHATS is bringing this event for whisky connoisseurs – or those who just enjoy a “wee dram” – to Aurora.

Local whisky sommelier Keith Scott and the Aurora Whisky Society will lead this in-person, interactive experience. This year’s event promises to be better than ever, with exciting things planned for the 11th year event.

The evening will take place at the Stonehaven Banquet Hall. Beginning with a cocktail reception followed by a sit-down meal prepared by Chef Roger Wakileh, the whisky learning opportunities await you. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

“I am looking forward to celebrating the 11th year of presenting at the CHATS whisky event,” says Keith Scott. “The Aurora Whisky Society and I are so proud to be in partnership with CHATS, helping seniors in our community,” he added.

“CHATS is thrilled to once again partner with Keith and the Aurora Whisky Society. Social events demonstrate how important it is to be engaged and active, learning something new, and being connected to your community,” says Christina Bisanz, CEO of CHATS. “Through activities like this, CHATS is able to raise funds to help us deliver and expand programs, which keep our clients socially connected with friends, family and their community, helping them to live well and improve their physical,



mental, and emotional wellbeing,” she says.

We thoroughly enjoyed our evening at the Better with Age event,” said Tyler Chalk. “Great whiskies, delicious food and conversation made for a fun night, but the best part was knowing the impact the event will have for older adults in our communities served by CHATS.”

CHATS is delighted to welcome back Basil Developments as a sponsor for the Better with Age Whisky Tasting & Dinner. Basil Developments has been supporting this event since its inception eleven years ago, and CHATS is grateful for the much-appreciated support. Every sip and every moment of this

unique experience supports initiatives to combat isolation and promote mental health in older adults.

CHATS is a not-for-profit organization, advocating for and delivering high-quality, person-centred home and community services to older adults and caregivers living in York Region and South Simcoe.

For event details, and to purchase tickets online, visit www.chatsbetterwithage.ca Early bird pricing in effect until Feb. 14.

For further information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kelly Broome, VP of Philanthropy & Communications, at 905-717-9003, or by email at kbroome@chats.on.ca

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The entertainment is exceptional. Bent Fork Improv is a new sensation in York Region. Bring your friends and family for a memorable event. Consider making it a Valentine's date! Don't miss out on this unique combination of food and entertainment! Tickets on sale through our Website:

<https://www.memorylanehomeliving.ca>
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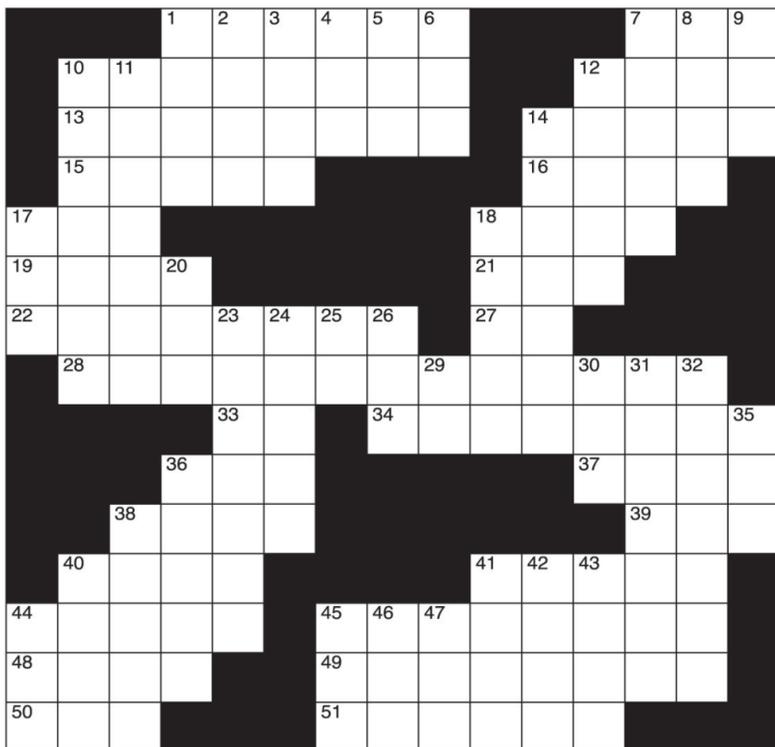
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1. Where entertainers perform
7. Miller beer variety
10. Ageless
12. River in SE Europe
13. Able to be repaired
14. Type of wrap
15. Atomic #54
16. Type of tent
17. U.S. Treasury position
18. Opposed to
19. Protective covering
21. Bridge building degree
22. Clouding of the lens
27. Priestess of Hera loved by Zeus
28. Unacceptable
33. Mr. T's "The A-Team" character
34. American national
36. One point south of due east
37. Assist in a crime
38. Greek mythological personification of Earth
39. A major division of geological time
40. German courtesy title
41. English family dating back to Norman times
44. Discounts
45. South American nation
48. Former Milwaukee Buck Michael
49. Hostile
50. Passports and drivers licenses are two
51. Discourages from doing

CLUES DOWN

1. Supreme god of ancient Egyptians
2. Nevada city
3. Energy, style and enthusiasm
4. Bird's beak
5. Language
6. Midway between south and southeast
7. Punjab village
8. Small biting flies
9. Sportscaster Patrick
10. A way to get around
11. Repeat
12. A way to cook with fat
14. Temporary loss of consciousness
17. Reciprocal of a sine
18. Fir tree genus
20. "Transformers" director Michael
23. Criminals who steal
24. Genus of leaf-footed bug
25. Music product
26. "Talk to you"
29. Santa says it three times
30. Doctors' group
31. African nation
32. Ageless
35. When you hope to get somewhere
36. Worn
38. Deprives of vigor
40. Used to have (Scottish)
41. Where you live
42. Muslim ruler title
43. Basics
44. Type of drug (abbr.)
45. Spanish soldier
46. It precedes two
47. Illuminated

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

History of Holland Marsh embraced, naming clarified

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

The history of one of Ontario's finest agricultural gems was relayed at King council recently.

Art Janse provided a brief but interesting retrospect to councillors, marking the Marsh's 100th anniversary.

He noted that 59% of Ontario's "Salad Bowl," as it's known, is situated within King Township.

Many believed the Marsh was named after Dutch settlers in the area, but Janse dispelled that myth. He said it was named after surveyor Samuel Holland, who played an important part in surveying the area. He went down in history as one of the greatest surveyors and map makers of his time.

Holland entered the Dutch army as a cadet in 1745, where he put his mapping skills to work. He then joined the British army and one of his first accomplishments was surveying Prince Edward Island. From there, he surveyed and mapped the lands along the St. Lawrence River, from Montreal to Quebec.

Following the influx of Royalists after the American Revolution, Holland played an important role in Ontario's settlement.

He lent his extensive skills to map-

ping not only PEI and the east coast, but the Holland River.

He passed away in 1801. Ontario Governor George Simcoe named the Holland River after him and other namesakes followed, including the Marsh itself, Holland Street in Bradford and Holland Landing. Many more places bear witness to his achievements.

A decision was made in 1852 to divide the Holland River between King Township and West Gwillimbury. A portion of Highway 9 to the river became part of King.

In May 1910, West Gwillimbury council received a petition for a drainage plan, which included hiring an engineer. In February 1911, King councillor L. Gibson addressed West Gwillimbury regarding the marsh land drainage scheme. He felt that if the plan was carried out, it would be a great asset to both townships.

The plan was shelved but in January 1924 it surfaced again, sparked by Marsh landowners. It asked West Gwillimbury council to appoint an engineer to survey these lands and prepare and estimate for the cost of the drainage work.

That estimated was presented by council June 19, 1924 and included specifications for the construction of the dredge cut and embankment, along with



a pump house and steam plant. The project was estimated to cost \$130,077.

In 1925, the firm of Cummings and Robison was selected to carry out the work, with completion pegged at three

years. Marking the 100th anniversary, the Historical Society of West Gwillimbury created a calendar. They are for sale with proceeds going to the society.



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PROFESSIONAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION

COMMUNITY THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE
PRESENTED BY BELLVUE ENTERTAINMENT & DREAMTHEATRE PRODUCTIONS

The King and I

Starring
Shirley Loureiro as Anna and John De Pinto as the King; Alexandra Felicia as Lady Tiang; Courtney Pan as Tuptim

Bellvue Entertainment, in conjunction with Dreamtheatre Productions is jumpstarting theatre at the Vaughn Metropolitan Centre (VMC). With the launch of the King and I production (at Bellvue Manor, 8083 Jane St.), it will provide community theatre, at the professional level. The Cast is highly experienced – a number of actors are currently on stage in Canada and the US. Combined with a live Orchestra, the audience will be totally immersed in auditory and visual experience typically only available at high end theatre. Those who choose the dinner/tickets show will also have the culinary experience Bellvue is known for. With 5 shows over 4 days, patrons will have a wide range of options and price points to experience theatre at its best! The King and I is one of Broadway's best-known shows. The great Actor, Yul Bruner, starred in the original Broadway production and the movie. Order your tickets now for a delightful and exciting theatre experience!

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FITZDARES

SPORTS BETTING & CASINO

Courtney Allen named new Fire Chief for King Township

Following a competitive recruitment process, King Township is pleased to announce that Courtney Allen has been named the new Fire Chief of King Fire and Emergency Services. Chief Allen will officially assume his new role on Feb. 1, replacing Chief Jim Wall who is retiring at the end of this month.

Chief Allen brings a wealth of experience and a strong commitment to



community service, with over 20 years of progressive leadership in fire and emergency services, including four years as Fire Chief with the Municipality of Meaford.

In Meaford, he prioritized operational efficiency by implementing modern technologies, transitioning to paperless truck operations and introducing digital tools to enhance reporting and resource allocation.

Prior to his role with the Meaford Fire Department, Chief Allen served as Acting Sector Chief and Captain for Ottawa Fire Services from 2004 to 2020. Both his roles in the fire services in Meaford and Ottawa involved working with volunteer-based teams in various forms.

He also has a background in Information Technology and Digital Services, serving as Director of Global Information Technology at Saba Software.

Chief Allen also has a Fire Service Executive Management Certificate from Humber College, a Fire Leadership Certificate from Dalhousie University and a Master's Certificate in Business Analysis from Carleton University.

Chief Allen represents a strong blend of operational knowledge and strategic thinking that will assist with King's modernization journey that is

part of the Township's Corporate Strategic Plan.

Most importantly, he has demonstrated his understanding of a volunteer-led service and the importance of building a positive culture that leads to long-term retention of his employees.

Under the leadership of Chief Allen, two Deputy Fire Chiefs, and six Senior Command Officers, King Fire and Emergency Services is responsible for protecting an area of 333 square kilometers and a population of over 28,000 residents. With firehouses in King City, Nobleton, and Schomberg, and a team of 150 dedicated volunteer firefighters, the organization provides a range of services including fire and life safety education, fire prevention and fire investigations, fire suppression, medical

aid response, and specialized rescue services. Its primary goal is to deliver the highest level of service and emergency response while ensuring the safety of its firefighters, King's residents, and the public at large.

"We are thrilled to welcome Courtney Allen as the new Fire Chief of King Fire and Emergency Services. Chief Allen's extensive experience and dedication to community service make him an excellent fit for King Township. His proven track record in enhancing operational efficiency and strategic planning will be invaluable as we continue to prioritize the safety and well-being of our residents. We look forward to the positive impact he will bring to our community," said Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

York Region remains committed to addressing homelessness

The Regional Municipality of York is thankful for the significant work undertaken by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) and HelpSeeker Technologies with the recent release of Municipalities Under Pressure: The Growing Human and Financial Cost of Ontario's Homelessness Crisis report.

This report builds on data presented to York Regional Council in November 2023 to forecast homelessness in York Region. The report shows a significant growth in homelessness across all 47 service managers, underscoring the need for coordinated action by all levels of government.

"The report presents a stark picture of the realities faced by people experiencing homelessness across Ontario," said York Region Chairman and CEO Eric Jolliffe. "Addressing homelessness is a priority requiring continued partnership and coordination to ensure people at risk of or experiencing homelessness have access to wraparound support services to help them find and keep housing."

Within York Region, homelessness is a growing concern impacting people across all nine cities and towns. The estimated number of people experiencing chronic homelessness almost quadrupled in 2023 to an estimated 473 people, compared to 124 in 2019. Chronic homelessness describes people who have been experiencing homelessness for six months or longer in the past year, or people who have experienced homelessness for more than 18 months in the past three years.

The 2024 to 2027 York Region Homelessness Service System Plan draws on research, data analysis and forecasting plus community consultation to set a vision, and establish goals and priority areas to prevent and reduce homelessness in York Region. Rapid Deployment Actions to support implementation of the plan are underway, including adding 139 beds to the emergency and transitional housing system and expanding outreach services for people who are experiencing homelessness. York Region appreciates continued investments from the federal and provincial governments, which are instrumental in advancing key milestones outlined in the 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan.

As part of the 2025 budget, Regional Council committed \$72 million in capital funding to support construction of two new facilities, with up to 135 beds and \$56 million in funding to replace three existing emergency and transitional housing facilities - Porter Place, Leeder Place and Sutton Youth Services - with 152 additional beds.

Homelessness is a complex issue. Ending chronic homelessness requires investments from senior levels of government that target root causes, optimize system capacity and ensure housing and supports meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness.

York Region is working with its partners across all levels of government and within our communities, using a human rights-based approach, to address homelessness and encampments.



Retirement party for Chief Jim Wall

King Fire and Emergency Services and the Schomberg, Nobleton and King City Firefighters Association's invite all community members to celebrate the incredible career and dedication of Fire Chief Jim Wall, who is retiring after 39 years of exceptional service. We are hosting a Retirement Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. at WaterStone Estate & Farms, 17900 Dufferin Street. This is a wonderful opportunity to share memories, express gratitude and wish the Chief well in retirement. Refreshments and appetizers will be provided, and all are welcome to attend. The Chief never missed an issue of the King Weekly Sentinel!

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King Weekly Sentinel





Apply now for September 2025!

Join girls from around York Region in this unique opportunity to be a St. Anne's School Cygnet. Girls will thrive in an inspirational and progressive learning environment creating a culture of exploration, discovery, and achievement. The school's focus on STEM/STEAM, community giving, leadership, and wellness will develop well-rounded, global-minded citizens. Is your daughter ready to build the vision and fabricate the legacy that will be St. Anne's School?

At St. Anne's, we:

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- Embolden an 'I can do anything attitude'
- Build leadership capacity for a complex and uncertain world

- Foster sisterhood and promote lifting each other up
- Construct self-belief
- Push back against injustice
- Inspire truth
- Celebrate equity, diversity, and inclusion
- Develop student voice



With limited positions available for September 2025, we encourage you to apply sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

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For more, visit www.stannes.ca or apply now at www.stannes.ca/admission.

King Weekly Sentinel

SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events
Classifieds • At Your Service



A 'no pressure' performance by local curler

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

The race towards the season's final playoff rounds is tighter than it's ever been in King Curling's Social leagues.

Since the Christmas break and the start of new teams and new round robins the parity of play between teams has grown to an equality that has not only enriched the players but the strength of each league. Total points in the standings are a proven testament to the base level of great strategy and shot making week after week.

This past week the Wednesday evening social league not only embarked on some very high scoring games, but they were also in need of a high number of spares. Teams played with 3 players to fill the spots which to most, is an advantage. The front end of the team gets to throw 3 rocks instead of the traditional 2 in each end (the Skip throws the regular 2). This allows the player a greater chance at feeling the weight better, or getting that second or third chance at the same shot.

All 4 sheets on this blistery cold evening included a victim of a high scoring affair. In the case of Teams Wells and Burleigh, the board included multiple scores for both. Skip Cameron Wells, teammate Emma Pellegrini and spare Joan Montgomery earned 2 in the first and 4 more in the second for a very commanding lead. Skip Mark Burleigh and crew didn't seem to be fazed at all by the scoreboard and went about their business placing rocks in more than suitable positions to collect their own 4 score in the 3rd end. Within the count of 2, the strategy becomes slightly motivated towards the offensive side of play to which Wells capitalized in the 4th by earning another 4 on the board.

Pellegrini, who played Lead, was consistent with guard weight allowing her team to control the top of the rings. Montgomery also played a solid light touch game with takeout deliveries and come-arounds setting up the shot for her skipper Wells.

As a spectator, this sheet had all the makings of excitement with multiple rocks in play where the score could rebound at any shot. Wells went on to win the game but the chatter was all about the big movement on the scoreboard and how it was back and forth.

The only game that was a bit of a competition was between Teams Rhind and Koroluk. Rhind held Koroluk to a point in the first. Koroluk copied the strategy with Rhind only getting a sin-

gle in the 2nd. Koroluk took 1 more in the 3rd as both teams felt like the game was to be a tight defensive match.

With consecutive steals in the next 3 ends, Rhind appeared to be tightening the reigns for the win. Koroluk made the final end interesting but it would be Rhind that held off for the win.

In the Allen versus Johns game on Sheet K, the atmosphere was light hearted and complimentary. Skip Tom Allen, who's motto is "no pressure," was key to the performance of his squad. Lead Carrie Anderson and spare Shellee Morning went about their business setting up the house for thier Skip to execute guards protecting the counting rocks already in place. Anderson, considered a fairly new curler played a very impressive game with solid weight control.

When asked for a tight guard, she delivered. When asked for freeze (be placed onto of or beside) on another stone to be shot, she delivered. An unbelievable feeling of comfort for a Skip when his/her mate is able to carry through like that. A keen player that will be a force to reckon with as this week's highlight player of the week.

Winners included Pizzicarola, Zupanic, Schneider, Allen, Wells, Rhind, Clark and Boutin.

Afternoon social curling was also a mixture of spares and 3-some teams. The 9-team roster is posing to be another close encounter between teams with 3 games now in the history books while sweeping towards their final playoff championships. A single point separating the top 4 teams overall clearly shows how well these teams are evenly balanced. Convenors in the social leagues work very hard putting the teams together ensuring that the calibre is spread out making the roster as fair as possible. Obviously, the club's Social convenors have nailed this attribute.

Veteran Steve Bradley sits with a 3-0 record that comes with a string of 4 teams breathing down his neck. Ray Honey sits alone in 2nd one point back, while Team Campbell owns the 3rd spot, 2 points back of first. Teams Bayley and Mellow-Gagliardi share the 4th spot to fill the podium for a possible take-over. Scoreboards are being watched and the whispers are all about who-beat-who.

Team Fiore Gagliardi gave the Bradley bunch all they had in a back and forth 6-4 decision for Bradley to hold the top spot. Craig Honey and Karen Mellow-Gagliardi played to a 5-5 tie



Carrie Anderson delivered with consistent weight control and was a key factor in her teams Wednesday Evening Social win. Her Skip Tom Allen praised Anderson's solid "no-pressure" performance.

Stock photo by Shellee Morning

that gave Mellow enough points to sit in the tie position overall.

The game between Campbell and Bayley was the decision maker for the 3rd place overall. The score board resulted in an exchange of points right down to the last end with the last rock. Due to injury, Grant Morning stepped

into the Skip position for Kim Bayley. Morning's debut at the helm didn't go unnoticed by the opposition giving the Campbell team a good run through their rocks. A miniscule miss on his last throw for a tie awarded the 6-5 victory to Campbell who knew he had just earned a very hard win.

King Rebellion capture 'home opener' at Zancor Centre with 4-2 victory over Caledon

By Jim Stewart

Sunday's official opening ceremonies at the Zancor Centre culminated with the first OJHL game played at the new state of the art recreation facility.

The main tenants of the JTF Homes Arena did not disappoint in their "home opener" as the King Junior A Rebellion skated to a narrow 4-2 win over the Caledon Admirals.

The Rebellion came out firing and outshot the Admirals 20-3 in the first period, but the stellar play of Caledon goaltender Nolan Godfrey limited the home team to one unassisted goal by Ryan Fairbairn at 11:49. The Admirals evened the score when Eric He fired Jack Fang's feed behind King netminder Tre Altman with thirty-nine seconds left in the opening frame.

Rebellion defenceman Evan Hjelholt's blast from the right point eluded a screened Godfrey and restored King's one-goal lead with five seconds left in the second period. Owen Bruining and Justin Pavese earned their 20th and 21st assists of the season, respectively, on Hjelholt's power play goal. The Rebellion outshot the Admirals 36-8 after

two periods of play at JTF Arena, but led only 2-1 on their brand new centre ice scoreboard.

It took the inspired play of one of the Rebellion veterans to tip the scales in King's favor on Sunday afternoon. Power forward Marshall McCharles scored a pair of clutch third period goals to lead King to a much-needed victory. The Rebellion's leading scorer - who has accrued 21 goals and 18 assists in 45 games this season - enjoyed the team's first game at the Zancor Centre, but acknowledged that King was even more motivated to win for their Head Coach Mark Joselin who is being inducted into a nearby Sports Hall of Fame this week: "Before the game, we did a video for the Richmond Hill Sports Hall of Fame to say thank you to our coach for all he has done for us. It was a great team activity and got us ready for our first game at the Zancor Centre. We wanted to win it for Jozy."

McCharles's game-winning-goal ensured the win for the Rebellion's beloved coach and he complimented his teammate Jacob Xu for setting up the big goal at 3:10 of the third period:

See 'Rebellion' on Page 20

Lionti and Nascimento lead Cougars to a 4-1 win over Uxbridge Bruins

By Jim Stewart

Veterans Carlo Lionti and Anthony Nascimento provided 3-point efforts in Schomberg's 4-1 win over the Bruins in Uxbridge on Friday night.

It was the Cougars' fifth consecutive victory to strengthen their hold on the #3 seed in the East Orr Division.

However, Schomberg's five-game heater came to an abrupt end on Saturday evening when the Georgina Ice scored the first five goals en route to a 6-2 win at the Trisan Centre.

On Friday night in Uxbridge, Nascimento opened the scoring, with helpers from Lionti and Reece Muir, at 16:53 of the first period.

Uxbridge's Jack Kemp tied the game with his 13th of the season at 8:31 of the second period, but it was all Schomberg after that.

Less than two minutes into the third period, Lionti tallied the game-winning goal. The Cougar forward's power play marker, assisted by Henry Kotyk and Nascimento, was his 11th of the season.

Nine minutes later, Lionti notched his 12th when he was set up by leading scorer Luke Szabo's 22nd assist.

Andrew Watt's empty netter at 18:03 quelled the Bruins' game-closing extra-man efforts. Nascimento earned his 17th assist of the season on Watt's

knock-out punch.

Nicolas Morvan - selected as the PJHL's Goalie of the Month - made 32 saves to earn the W.

On Saturday night in Schomberg, the second-place Ice opened a 3-0 lead after the first period on goals by Isaac Mengers, Sett Ursomarzo, and Cooper Vickerman.

Georgina extended its lead to 5-0 with a pair of second period goals by Austin Paulmert and Ryan Cutler.

The Cougars got on the board at 6:06 of the final frame when Ethan Tierman notched his third of the season with helpers from Muir and Watt.

87 seconds later, Nascimento's power play goal narrowed the deficit to 5-2. Lionti and Muir earned assists on Nascimento's 14th of the season.

Jack Geniole closed the scoring to ice the victory for Georgina at 14:29. The mighty Ice squad improved their record to 27-5-2-1 - trailing the perennial powerhouse Clarington Eagles by only two points in the race for first place in the East Orr Division. Georgina is ranked 7th in the 63-team PJHL while Clarington holds down the #4 spot overall.

The Cougars (20-14-2-0) host the Uxbridge Bruins (15-16-3-0) on Thursday, Jan. 30. Puck drop at the Trisan Centre is 7:30 p.m.




FAMILY & FRIENDS COMMUNITY SKATE

February 2, 2025
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Nobleton Community Centre
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Mitchell Penning competing for Canada at the Junior World Ski Jumping Championships in Lake Placid

By Jim Stewart

Pottageville's Mitchell Penning continues to fly high in ski jumping championships across the world.

Penning, who attends Northwood Prep School to avail himself of the training facilities in Lake Placid, New York, secured a Top 30 placement in Europe this past Fall. His fine international showing in meets the continent – including Estonia, Slovenia, and Norway – elevated the high-flying ski jumper to the Continental Cup Level.

In addition to moving to pre-World Cup status, the Grade 12 student-athlete

also qualified to compete for Canada at the Junior World Championships in Lake Placid starting on February 11.

Penning's excitement about this winter's events was evident during our phone interview recently. He feels like he has settled into his second year at Northwood Prep: "The teachers are really accommodating here. I'm really enjoying my Entrepreneurship course. Our teacher lets us work on our own which is my style of learning."

The amiable athlete is considering a gap year after his Grade 12 graduation at Northwood: "I'm thinking of taking a post-graduate year so I can compete



across the world. I would be taking three College credits that I would use at either St. Lawrence in Canton, NY or St. Michael's University in Vermont. I'm still interested in being an ophthalmologist so both schools have excellent programs. I would attend full-time in 2026-27."

Until he commits to either of his post-secondary choices, Penning has upcoming competitions on his mind: "In February, I'll be competing in the Continental Cup Iron Mountain championships in Michigan. I'll probably have to jump between 100 and 110 metres to do well in Michigan next month. Most of my jumps this season have been over 100 metres. Our East regional team will be in fifteen meets this season."

Penning also noted his recent achievements in Alaska where he finished second in the U18 division and

"loved jumping in front of the big crowds. The best jumpers from Canada and the U.S. were competing there. The podium finish made me very happy. The best part was my ski jumping team swept the podium in our age group. We went 1-2-3. We put a lot of work in."

"We practice six days a week and have Sunday off. I couldn't believe that I was able to get a second place. It's amazing that I've progressed enough to compete equally with these people."

The Pottageville-raised Penning hopes to have the same success at Iron Mountain: "We'll be flying out of Albany, NY to Michigan. We leave on Wednesday. Everything is a big adrenaline rush this year. I am feeling great in the air. The wind and the air pressure against your face make this such an enjoyable sport. Our East team should do very well at Iron Mountain."



Skater takes 1st

King City Skating Club is proud to announce that Megan Lawson took home a first-place win at the Stratford Provincial Series recently. The club would also like to thank King Township for adding adaptive ice to their drop-in programs. This has allowed Megan to add more ice to her training schedule. Megan's goal is to be part of the Provincial Special Olympic Team.



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Jan. 31 - Feb. 2

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King's Corners

**King City United
By Sheryl Sinka**

All are welcome at worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. and we invite all to join in some fellowship time in the auditorium following the service for conversation and company.

For any pastoral care needs please contact Rev Andrew Lee through the church office. Sunday School takes place during the same hour and for information on the Sunday School please contact Sheryl Sinka at 416-450-0140.

We encourage all this season to make an effort to contribute to the King Township Food Bank. Information is available at ktfb.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 "Greater - The Book of Hebrews." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube.

We invite everyone to the next Open Closet Outlet on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Restrictions apply. For personal use only.

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

Friday, January 31 - 10 a.m. - Presentation - We will have an opportunity to learn about alternative therapies to keep us healthy. Refreshments will be available so please register by calling the Centre at 905-833-6565.

Friday, February 7 - 10 a.m. - Vaughan Community Health will dis-

cuss 'Fatty Liver.' Information will be provided on the causes, prevention and how to deal with issues arising from it. Refreshments will be provided. Please register by calling 905-833-6565.

Thursday, February 20 - 10 a.m. - Annual General Meeting - This meeting updates members on actions of the board over the last year and approves the slate of officers for 2025. There will be information on the results of the recent survey and what is ahead for Township Seniors. Our guest speaker, Dena Silverberg from Older Adults Centres' Association of Ontario, will discuss the topic "Social Prescribing for Older Adults." Refreshments will be provided following the meeting. Please register at 905-833-6565.

Friday, February 21 - noon (note the new starting time) - Potluck Lunch. Each attendee is asked to bring either a main course item or a dessert to share. This is an opportunity to relax and enjoy good food and good company.

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.

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 kingcity.seniors@gmail.com

York Pines United

Rev. Andrew told us last Sunday about his trip to Cana to see large stone jars like the ones where the water was turned to wine. Rick McKinley will lead this Sunday's service at 11 a.m. Feel free to join us for coffee at noon. Next Sunday, our annual congregational meeting follows the service.

A Bible reflection group starts Feb. 6 at 10:30 a.m. at King City United on Elizabeth Grove. It will explore the concept of Forest Church with Rev. Andrew and Rev. Ross Carson leading the discussion. The group will run for three weeks. Bring your lunch.

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

The Sports Raffle Draw held January 12 results: Tickets for Raptors vs Orlando were won by Nadia Pascuzzo and those for Maple Leafs vs Panthers went to Joanne Bozzo.

Board Game Night, Friday, Jan. 31. Invitation to all youth ages 14 to 26 to bring a friend, a board game. We'll have light refreshments and goodies after 7 p.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. Register via QR Code found on the parish website or bulletin.

Faith & Family Gathering Friday, Jan. 31 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall. It's for children and families.

You are cordially invited for Coffee and Friendship after 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. after Holy Mass in the Parish Hall.

If your family would like to participate by bringing baked goods, kindly contact Nadia Pascuzzo at npascuzzo@archtoronto.org

Exposition and Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each Friday begins at 3:30 p.m., Holy Rosary at 5:30 p.m. Benediction at 6:30 p.m., Celebration of Mass at 7 p.m.

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

Join us this Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for morning worship and afterwards everyone is welcome to stay for coffee time.

Our Pastor, the Rev. Alison Agnew, continued her Sermon series from the Book of Exodus last Sunday. The text was Exodus 16 where God provided daily for His people in the desert and we were reminded of the importance of trusting God, who is the Bread of Life. He has our back!

You can hear her message on YouTube by going to our website and clicking on the YouTube frame. (standrews-kingcity.ca)

Life Connect is on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Alison will send the questions about Sunday's sermon at the beginning of the week. Call Kathy at 905-833-0391 for directions to Renate's house. It's a wonderful time when we are able to review the sermon, ask questions, hear answers, grow in friendship and learn more from God's Word.

The King Churches' Souper Bowl Challenge has until Sunday, Feb. 9 to bring donations to the KTFB of tins of soups, chunky soups, ravioli, stews and all kinds of crackers. The bin in the Narthex of St. Andrew's is overflowing, but there's lots of room on the bench beside it! And we have two more Sundays to go before the Super Bowl!

Our Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) is February 23 after our morning worship and pizza lunch! We hope you will join us as we review our 2024 reports and look forward to God's blessings and guidance as we move into 2025.

For pastoral care please call the church office to speak with the Rev. Alison Agnew: 905-833-2325.

All Saints Anglican Church By Patrick Gossage

Announcements: Service of Healing is Sunday, Feb. 16 at 10:30 a.m. This service is open to all who need special prayers for healing.

Power - A sermon by Rev. Erin Martin on Luke 4 - Jesus reads in Synagogue:

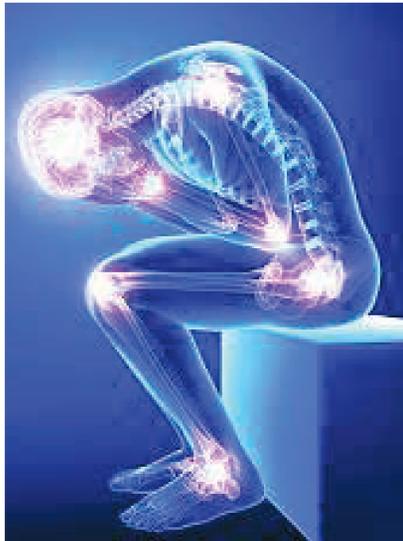
"When we hear the word power we often think of things like influence, wealth, position, authority, and physical strength. We heard today that Jesus was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Luke's first description of Jesus's public ministry was the scene of Jesus preaching in his hometown. That set the tone and named the priorities for Jesus's work and mission.

"Jesus began by naming people who had no power at all. He named the poor, the captive, the blind and oppressed. They were the people who earned pity, not admiration, they were the ones that were systematically overlooked, they were the misunderstood and the maligned - and yet, Jesus said he came especially for them to bring them good news, release, freedom and hope.

More on Page 19

Advertorial

Arthritis: New Approach Delivers Remarkable Results



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What does this mean for you?

Our patients have reported a 90-95% relief of their symptoms, more mobility, increased flexibility and vastly improved function!

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

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

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

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

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 lead the service this morning continuing with a new series entitled, "The ABC'S of Discipleship." This week's message is entitled "Dwelled In" and will be focusing on Ephesians 3.14-21.

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.

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. 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

Educational Thursdays – Members \$1, non-members \$2.

Please register for each program. Call 905-833-6565, email seniors@king.ca or online at www.townshipofking.perfectmind.com

We now have weekly Indoor Bocce upstairs in the arena every Thursday from 10 am to 12 noon.

January 30 – HosPall Private Home-

care. Presented by Michele Frauley CEO. "Coping with Loss & Embracing Change with Aging." Michelle will explore the stages of grief & practical self-care tips. Register by January 27. Snacks & refreshments provided by HosPall.

February 6 – Older Adult Fire Safety & Fall Prevention. Presented by Heather Watson, Community Resilience Officer, King Fire/Emergency Services. Learn about escape planning, mobility concerns, accidents in the home, lithium and ion batteries, and more.

February 13 – Art with Angela. Learn the technique of painting a planter pot. Once painted you will take your pot home. Cost TBD, which include all materials and instructions. Register by February 10 so materials can be purchased.

February 20 – Osteoarthritis, presented by the Arthritis Society of Canada. Learn about the impact of OA if left unattended. Discuss the management of OA to improve your quality of life. This presentation will be done on zoom.

February 27 – Crime Prevention. YRP, Presented by Constable Danielle Froud. Topics will include fraud & scams, distraction thefts, vehicle safety, and information on the Community Safety Data Portal.

Nobleton Lions

Poker players mark your calendars for Friday, Feb. 28 for the Texas Hold'em

Poker Fundraiser at the Nobleton Arena. A buffet dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. with poker under way at 7:30. For tickets, please contact Lion Gunther Vetter at 416-807-5469 or any other Nobleton Lion.

The Lions continue to welcome new members with a heart to serve, both men and women. You may join us as a guest by contacting Lion Jerry MacBain at nobletonlionjerry@outlook.com

We meet at 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 7, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from September to the end of May at the Old Community Hall, just north of the arena. The next meeting is on January 28.

To view more information about how the Nobleton Lions engage with both the local community and the wider Lions International worldwide community, please visit our website at www.NobletonLionsClub.com. You may also follow us on Instagram at [nobleton.lions.club](https://www.instagram.com/nobleton.lions.club)

Book club

The Nobleton Book Club is resuming its in person, monthly discussions of books at the Nobleton Library, located on 8 Sheardown Drive. Our schedule of meetings is on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the program room.

The Nobleton Book Club has been meeting regularly for over the past 12 years; new members are always welcome to join! Whether you have read the book or not, come by and check out these very interesting, lively and entertaining discussions. All these titles are available to borrow, for free, through the Nobleton library and other King Township libraries. If you have any questions, call Heather, our facilitator, at the Nobleton Library at 905-859-4188. Come and join this group of Nobleton readers.

Here is the reading list for the Nobleton Branch Book Club for 2025:

Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025, Forager by Michelle Dowd.

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, Tom Lake by Ann Patchett.

Wednesday, April 9, 2025, Crow by Mary Kathleen Grissom.

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, Yellow Face by R.F. Kuang.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025, Someone You Know by Catherine Fogarty.

Agri-food is a major driver in York

York Region's agriculture and agri-food sector is a major driver of the local economy, contributing \$3.8 billion annually.

This sector not only provides safe and nutritious food consumed locally, across Canada, and abroad but also supports a diverse range of businesses.

From the fertile soils of the Holland Marsh to a vibrant mix of food and beverage enterprises, York Region's agriculture and agri-food sector includes:

Agricultural input suppliers: fertilizers, crop protection products, seeds, feed mills, supplements for livestock and poultry, agri-tech, machinery companies, and service providers.

Agricultural advisors and support services: veterinarians, livestock/poultry nutritionists, certified crop advisors, professional agrologists.

Primary agriculture: farmers and producers.

Food and beverage processors; food retailers: grocery stores, bakeries, butchers. Food and beverage distribution, wholesale, and storage, transport, cold storage.

Food service providers: restaurants, catering businesses.

Discover more about York Region's thriving agriculture and agri-food sector at yorklink.ca/agrifood.

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King Weekly Sentinel

King's Corners

From Page 17

Jesus used the power of the Holy Spirit that day.

"For Jesus that power is demonstrated by what it accomplishes for others. Real power sets others free, builds others up, and is used for the betterment of those around us. Jesus' sermon was all about what God will do for the least of those in the world tells us that God gives special attention to those the world does not want to see.

"Just this past week Bishop Mariann Budde of the Diocese of Washington, preached a sermon at Washington Cathedral in the presence of the new president. She spoke about the same kinds of things that Jesus preached to the people in Nazareth. She talked about compassion and mercy toward marginalized communities. She made a plea to the new president to have mercy upon the people in the United States who were afraid, and specifically named 2SLGBTQ+ people, immigrants and refugees fleeing war and violence. Her words have caused an uproar with some praising her bravery speaking

truth to power and others on saying her message was dangerous. She received threats of violence and even death.

"God is never satisfied that we are all we can ever be. God loves us enough to see us, God loves us enough to forgive us, God loves us enough to challenge us, and God loves us enough to send us out into the world to see and love others – especially those people the world does not see. If we can let ourselves be challenged and sent to love others in this way, we will be able to experience the power of the Holy Spirit that drove Jesus and has continued to drive others.

"The challenge before us today is clear. The same Spirit that filled Jesus and empowered him to proclaim good news to the poor fills us as well. It pushes us to stand alongside the poor, the marginalized, the misunderstood, and to proclaim that they, too, are beloved by God. This isn't easy work, it's unsettling, uncomfortable, and at times dangerous. But it is holy work. And when we take it on, we don't do it alone. The Spirit goes with us, empowering us to love boldly act justly, and live generously.

"May we, like Jesus, like Bishop Budde, be brave enough to wield God's power not for ourselves but for the transformation of the world."



Knights of Columbus mark 25 years

Congratulations to The St. Mary's Knights of Columbus of Nobleton on celebrating 25 years. Becoming a Chartered Council on April 13 1999, The Knights of Columbus have hosted and been actively involved in numerous charitable events within the Nobleton community and for St. Mary's Church. Their participation and generosity is to be commended and an inspiration to all. "To our Brother Knights thank you for your loyalty and efforts over the past 25 years. To the Community, thank you for your support."

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or email admin@caledoncitizen.com

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201 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

NEW TWO-BEDROOM apartment for rent with laundry and two car parking. Utilities included. No pets, no smoking. 1st/last required. Available January 15th, 2025. \$2100.00. Located at 9th line in Bradford. For more information please call 905-960-0661 or 905-960-0697

406 VEHICLES WANTED

WANTED: 2017 or older F150. Super cab 4x4 5 litre engine. 6.5 box with low km. Please call 905-868-6921.

WE PAY CASH for scrap vehicles - any size. We also buy construction and farm equipment. Open 7 days a week. Call 905-859-0817 (Peter)

610 FIREWOOD/TREES


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Bush Cord \$500
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Please email resumes to: antonina@masterwebinc.ca

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blackcow@sympatico.ca

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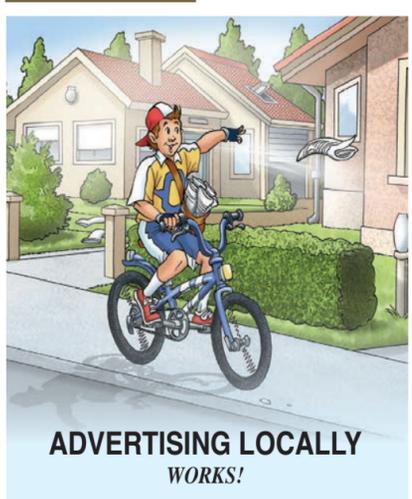
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zach@lpcmedia.ca



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Rebellion battling

From Page 15

"It was a nice pass from Jacob that gave me the space for the goal. I saw the left side of the net open and I was able to get a great shot away."

McCharles's goal was timely because Caledon forward Henry Brady scored at 5:40 to narrow the margin to 3-2. The fatigued Admirals, playing their third game in less than four days, pressed the Rebellion in the waning minutes of the contest by pulling goaltender Nolan Godfrey with 2:05 during a 30-second timeout called by Admirals' Head Coach Chris Taylor.

Tre Altman made two game-saving stops with the Admirals pressing their man-advantage. Rugged King forward Kyle Baston delivered the Rebellion from harm's way by stealing the puck in his own zone and feeding McCharles in open ice behind two Caledon defenders. McCharles's shot from above the circles missed the net by inches, but he collected the carom off the end boards and snapped the puck into the cage from a challenging angle for his 21st of the season. Mc-

Charles discussed what the Rebellion will have to do down the stretch to secure a playoff spot: "We need to come to the rink and be prepared to work hard to earn wins. We have a great coaching staff that gives us great strategies and structure. We have to follow their game plan to make the playoffs."

Eighth-place King (18-21-1-5) will continue its quest to lock up a playoff spot when they host a pair of games this weekend at the Zancor Centre. The Rebellion will battle the sixth-place Buffalo Junior Sabres (23-17-2-1) on Friday, Jan. 31. Puck drop will be 7 p.m. On Sunday, February 2, the "Groundhog Day Game" will commence at 3 p.m. and the seventh-place Niagara Falls Canucks (21-19-0-4) will provide the opposition. Both games will have huge playoff implications for King's Junior A squad as the Rebellion trails Buffalo and Niagara Falls by only 7 and 4 points, respectively.

With the 4-2 win over the Admirals, King nudged ahead of Georgetown (17-18-2-4) by two points in the OJHL West standings, but the Raiders have four games in hand. The Rebellion's final regular season stretch features 11 remaining games on their 56-game schedule.



Teams hit the ice at Zancor

The official opening of the Zancor Centre featured hockey games among local teams. Here, two squads of Tim Hortons teams line up, ready for action.

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602 ARTICLES FOR SALE

602 ARTICLES FOR SALE

612 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS

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.

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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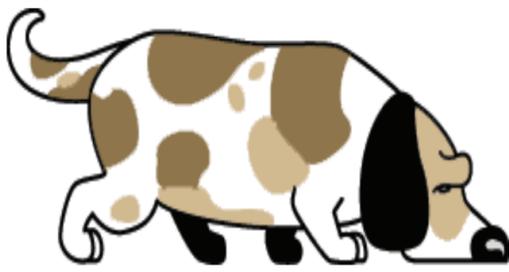
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If you're interested in absentee bids or consigning in any of our upcoming sales then give us a call anytime.

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BRAND NEW CUSTOM-BUILT HOME

Discover modern luxury in this exquisite custom-built home near tranquil Lake Wilcox. Featuring 10ft ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, and a gourmet JennAir kitchen with a 16ft quartz island, it's perfect for entertaining. Enjoy a finished basement, private fenced yard, exclusive lake access, and proximity to top amenities, parks, and schools. A true masterpiece!



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.



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.



PRESTIGIOUS CUSTOM HOME, 82X150 FT LOT

Welcome to a custom-built residence in St. Andrews-Windfields, Toronto. Highlights include soaring ceilings, a grand foyer, spacious bedrooms, and a walk-up basement with bars, sauna, and floating stairs. Nestled on an 82x150ft lot near top-rated schools, parks, and transit, this luxury home offers endless renovation potential. Envision your dream here!



RAVINE-FACING LUXURY FAMILY HOME

Facing a ravine, this stunning 10-year-old detached home features 4+2 bedrooms, 5 baths, and a chef's kitchen with granite countertops and a central island. The open-concept family room boasts a gas fireplace. A finished basement with 2 bedrooms, kitchen, and separate entrances offers in-law suite potential. Conveniently close to schools, transit, parks, and trails.



GREEN AND SMART EXECUTIVE HOME

Absolutely Stunning Brand new "green" & "smart" executive home in South Aurora's prestigious Royal Hill Community. This luxurious masterpiece features a gourmet chef's kitchen, spacious layouts, hardwood floors, and breathtaking views. Close to Yonge Street, schools, trails, and amenities, offering modern elegance and unparalleled convenience in a serene setting.



FERNBROOK HOME WITH \$200K UPGRADES

Introducing a brand-new, meticulously crafted Fernbrook executive home in the prestigious Princeton Heights enclave, Aurora Estates. Featuring over \$200K in upgrades, this luxurious residence boasts hardwood floors, a Downsvie-designed kitchen, main-floor bedroom, and spa-like primary suite. Nestled on a large lot, it's steps to Yonge Street, transit, shopping, and amenities.



BRAND-NEW EXECUTIVE HOME, LAKE WILCOX

Brand new executive home being built on a 150' lot in Lake Wilcox. This 4+1 bedroom, 5-bath home offers a chef's kitchen with custom cabinetry, quartz counters, and premium appliances, plus 10' main floor ceilings and elegant finishes. The finished lower level features a rec room, gym, wine cellar, and separate entrance. Walk to Lake Wilcox Park!



LUXURIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME IN VAUGHAN

Welcome to this stunning 4+1 bedroom, 4-bath executive home in Vaughan's sought-after community. The gourmet kitchen boasts Viking and Miele appliances, granite countertops, and a spacious island. Enjoy the open-concept family room, luxurious primary suite, finished lower level, and private backyard. Ideally located near parks, schools, Maple GO, and more.



LUXURY TOWNHOME WITH ROOFTOP TERRACE

Experience luxury living at "The Bond on Yonge" in Richmond Hill. This 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom (1331 sqft) townhome boasts a 375 sqft private rooftop terrace, stainless steel appliances, quartz countertops, 9ft ceilings, and floor-to-ceiling windows. Conveniently located near Yonge Street, schools, parks, shops, and transit, it's perfect for modern, elegant living.



TRANQUIL BACKSPLIT WITH SCENIC YARD

Discover this 4-level brick backsplit home in Ballantrae, Whitchurch-Stouffville. Boasting 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, and oversized windows, it's filled with natural light. Highlights include a functional kitchen, family room with fireplace, and a primary bedroom with balcony views. Conveniently located near schools, parks, and essential amenities!



FREEHOLD TOWNHOME WITH DOUBLE GARAGE

Welcome to your dream 3-bedroom freehold townhome on a quiet street in Stouffville! Enjoy a spacious 3-storey layout with a double car garage, upgraded kitchen, bright open-concept main floor, walk-out terrace, and upper-level bedrooms with stunning views. Conveniently located near GO Station, highways, parks, schools, and amenities. Don't miss out!

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