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Stephen Lecce was re-elected as the MPP for King-Vaughan in last Thursday's provincial election. Party faithful gathered in Vaughan to celebrate his return, marking an historic "three-peat" victory by the Conservatives, led by Doug Ford.

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Lecce wins his second consecutive term

By Jim Stewart

King-Vaughan MPP-elect Stephen Lecce cruised to victory on Thursday night, much to the delight of hundreds of supporters who gathered at the Premier Place Banquet Hall in Concord for an opulent victory party.

Lecce's easy electoral win – during which he defeated Liberal candidate Gillian Vivona by over 16,000 votes – was part of an historic "Blue Tidal Wave" that swept Doug Ford and the Conservatives to their third consecutive majority government.

No party has won three majorities in a row in Ontario since 1959.

The results from King-Vaughan were delayed until after 11 p.m. on Election Night – one of nine ridings across Ontario that experienced glitches in the reporting process.

The glitches delayed Minister Lecce's victory speech at Premier Place where hundreds of vocal supporters displayed the patience of saints as the King-Vaughan riding results failed to show on the CP24 News Ticker on monitors above centre stage at the banquet hall.

The sumptuous victory buffet was opened to celebrants at 8:44 with the soulful and soothing strains of Sade's "Your Love is King, Hang on to Your Love, "Smooth Op-

erator," and "Jezebel" offering background lyrics meshing nicely with the unfolding political events of the evening. Despite the melodic soundtrack, the results from King-Vaughan remained elusive to the party-goers who mingled freely with Lecce and his handlers. The affable former Minister of Education posed for photos with hundreds of his supporters while his campaign team worked to secure data from Elections Ontario.

The CTV Decision Desk projected a Conservative majority at 9:07 p.m., eliciting much cheering from the confident and partisan crowd assembled. The rout was confirmed three minutes later when CTV's "Seats and Vote Share" table revealed the Blue Tidal Wave with the Conservatives leading or ahead in 79 ridings (44%) with the NDP and Liberals leading or ahead in only 24 (18%) and 13 (29%) ridings, respectively. The Green Party led in 2 ridings – garnering 5% of the vote.

At 10:33 p.m. Lecce's campaign manager reassured the milling crowd that the King-Vaughan incumbent had, indeed, rolled to "a decisive win by capturing over 60% of the votes."

See 'MPP-elect' on Page 3

INSIDE

REGULAR FEATURES

Editorial Page 4
Business Page 8
Sports Page 15
Classifieds Page 17

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.

McMichael celebrates federal funding.

See Page 10

Si, Lo So.
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Making life better in King

Upcoming Meetings



COUNCIL MEETINGS
Monday, March 17
6 p.m. - Council
 In-person at the King Township Municipal Centre and live streamed at king.ca/meetings

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS
Wednesday, March 19
6 p.m. - Committee of Adjustment
 Hybrid meeting (in-person/virtual participation, live-streamed). Visit: king.ca/cofameetings for more information.

Tuesday, April 08
11 a.m. - Accessibility Advisory Committee
 View full Council and Committee agendas at king.ca/meetings

NEW  Scan here to view the guide!

Spring & summer recreation programs + swim lessons



Registration opens at 7a.m. on **March 10**

king.ca/recreation

Celebrate the strength and creativity of women at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre

Experience the new exhibit, **Resist & Persist**, a powerful art exhibition in honour of International **Women's Day**. Artists were challenged to reflect on the past, present and future of women's rights and the ongoing fight for equality, acceptance and empowerment. **The result?** A stunning, thought-provoking display featuring the work of over 25 talented Canadian women artists from King Township and beyond.

Join us for an inspiring afternoon on **Saturday, Mar. 8**. The opening reception takes place from 1-2p.m., followed by an artist forum from 2-3p.m., where artists will share the stories behind their incredible work. Visitors are welcome throughout the event.

Reserve your spot by emailing kingmuseum@king.ca.

For more details, visit kingheritageandculture.ca



20 Volunteer Appreciation 25 AWARDS

Nominate an unsung hero!

- Citizen of the Year
- Senior Citizen Award of Merit
- Youth Award of Merit
- Lifetime Achievement
- Special Recognition Award: Resident & Non-Resident

Deadline Sunday **March 9**

king.ca/awards




Avian influenza (H5N1) circulating in York Region


King Township urges everyone to avoid contact with sick, injured or dead wild birds such as Canadian Geese and ducks.

Birds that become infected with avian influenza may show one or many of these signs:

- Lack of energy or movement
- Nervousness, tremors, or lack of coordination
- Swelling around the head, neck and eyes
- Coughing, gasping for air, or sneezing
- Diarrhea
- Sudden death

If you spot any ill or dead birds, report them to **Vaughan Animal Services at 905-832-2281** or email animal.services@vaughan.ca.

For more information, visit york.ca/AvianFlu



Funding partly provided by:  **2025 Taste of KING**  **Until March 8** king.ca/TasteOfKing **KING**

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- Inclusion Facilitator
- Aquatics Lifeguard/Instructor
- Attendant I - Facilities

View job postings at king.ca/employment




March Break Activities

Spend your March Break, skating, swimming or playing shinny hockey, pickleball, basketball and (lots!) more sports. View schedules at king.ca/DropInPrograms.

Or brave the elements and explore the wintry outdoors at **Cold Creek Conservation Area**, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing across 7km of snowy trails. Snowshoe rentals and ski and pole rentals are available (while supplies last) and can be rented for as long as you like during chalet hours. For more information, visit coldcreek.ca.



MPP-elect Stephen Lecce stresses 'Canada is not for sale'

From Front Page

With victory confirmed unofficially by Elections Ontario, the telegenic manager invited Lecce to the stage, festooned with blue and silver balloons and framed with provincial and national flags as well as 14 blue posters on either side of the lectern that read "Canada Is Not For Sale."

The ebullient Minister shook

hands with dozens of ecstatic supporters before ascending the dais to delivery his victory speech with a giant Canadian flag serving as backdrop, reflective of surging patriotism across the country in light of Donald Trump's existential threats to Canada's sovereignty.

The Minister of Energy and Electrification thanked those gathered and focused his gratitude on his family, especially after "celebrating his grandmother's 100th birthday." Lecce thanked her for "instilling values in me."

He also thanked his campaign team – "an impressive, hard-working group. They made this campaign meaningful. Thank you for believing in me and for standing up for this amazing country."

Lecce noted that "this election was about the future of this country's sovereignty. I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and do the hard work required to protect Canada."

He reiterated that "Canada is not for sale" and congratulated "Premier Ford for his leadership and for fighting for this country."

The Minister of Energy also thanked "all candidates who ran in this riding," but the gracious remark elicited no response from the partisan group.

Lecce noted in closing that "being elected a second time and serving in Cabinet is a Canadian dream come true" and, with the timeless lyrics of Queen's "We are the Champions" play-



ing in the background, he exited the stage.

Lecce waded into the adoring throng and posed for photos as the music transitioned to "Celebrate" by Kool and the Gang. Happy Conservatives bobbed blue signs to the beat and reveled in their total beatdown electoral victory.

Local dignitaries, who dropped in to congratulate Minister Lecce, included King Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Councillor David Boyd.

According to Elections Ontario, the unofficial final results of the Thursday's snap winter election showed the dominance of Lecce in the King-Vaughan riding.

Lecce garnered 28,529 (64.18%) of the ballots cast and won by 16,077 votes

over second-place finisher Gillian Vivona of the Liberal Party.

Vivona captured a 28.01% vote share, based on the 12,452 ballots cast for the Grits.

Rick Morelli of the NDP finished a distant third with 1,714 votes (3.86%).

Anne Raney of the Green Party, Christopher Bressi of the New Blue Party, and Maria Morgis of the Ontario Party collected 933 (2.1%), 569 (1.28%), and 256 (0.58%) votes, respectively.

Only 39.97% of eligible voters in King-Vaughan cast ballots at the riding's polling stations and at advance polls, a disturbing downward trend in electoral participation. Over 60% of the riding's eligible voters decided to sit this one out.



Police warn residents to look out for counterfeit bills

Investigators with the York Regional Police #2 District Criminal Investigations Bureau are warning the community about the use of counterfeit currency in exchange for items through buy-and-sell sites.

Since October 2024, there have been 14 incidents of counterfeit currency used in exchange for high value items from sellers on buy-and-sell sites. When the suspects met with the victims to provide payment in-person, \$100 Canadian bills were used and later determined to be counterfeit.

In a majority of the incidents, the bills were found to have serial numbers GJR6710018 and GJR710022 printed on them. The words 'PROP MONEY' was also located in the window of the bills.

Police are providing some tips to watch out for:

Each bill will have its own serial number. Be sure to check the serial numbers if given multiple bills. Inspect the window on the bill and ensure the tiny numbers in it match the denomination. Ensure the portrait in the window matches the main portrait. Ensure the image in the window changes colour.

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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

Democratic principles even more important today

Ontarians just had a chance to exercise their privilege of voting in last week's provincial election.

Like the outcome or not, we are lucky that our system allows for, and even encourages, our input and participation. Believe it or not, our politicians want us to be engaged.

We have a bit of a love-hate relationship with democracy but now, more than ever, our democratic principles are vitally important.

Canadians will have another chance to exercise this privilege when a federal election is called, perhaps as early as this spring.

There has been some turmoil lately, as federal parties gear up for a vote. While Trudeau is on his way out, he still touts our Canadian way of life and our strong sense of nationalism. He tells the world, and more specifically our American neighbours, that we are strong and united. We will not give in to thugs or economic extortion.

During all of this, we should cherish all of the sacrifices made – in two world wars and various conflicts – to preserve our free way of life. We should never take our freedoms for granted, ever.

We've enjoyed ever-expanding human rights under our Charter since 1982. The anniversary is marked every year on April 17. This document (I was lucky enough to witness its implementation) solidifies the very essence of democratic rights – religion, speech, media, assembly and more.

We get stuck on minor hurdles in our evolution to become truly "woke." But that's okay. And we constantly ask for more. And that's okay, too because we are allowed to.

Essential elements of a democracy include pluralistic political parties, fair elections, transparent governance, politically engaged citizens, civil liberties, and free media.



Mark Pavilons

We have those in spades, but many, many countries do not. Our southern neighbours used to enjoy these, too, but lately they're being curtailed, much to the world's chagrin.

The Human Freedom Index is an annual report that evaluates the state of human freedom in 165 countries and territories around the world, representing 98.8% of the human population as of the 2023 HFI report. The HFI is a broadly comprehensive measure that encompasses both personal and economic freedom and then merges the two into a single value titled simply "human freedom."

The Human Freedom Index is co-published by the Cato Institute, the Fraser Institute, and the Liberales Institut at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom. The countries with the highest Human Freedom Index scores are widely considered to be among (the freest countries in the world).

The Human Freedom Index gives each country a score from 0 to 10, in 86 indicators. These scores are carefully weighted and combined to determine the values for personal freedom and economic freedom.

In 2023, the Scandinavian countries dominated the top 10. Sitting pretty were Switzerland and New Zealand in number one and two respectively. Canada came in at number 13.

The worst include Syria, Yemen and Sudan.

Personal freedom involves such indicators as the fairness of the laws, personal safety, freedom of movement and assembly, freedom of religion, freedom to run for political office, freedom of the press, freedom of speech and expression, and freedom to pursue same-sex relationships or obtain a divorce.

We have these in spades, too, but the landscape is constantly changing.

North Korea is controlled by a dynastic totalitarian dictatorship, which maintains its harsh control with extensive surveillance, arrests and brutal punishment for those suspected of political offenses. The ruling Communist Party in China has grown more restrictive with state agencies, the internet, religious groups, universities, and businesses. Thailand is ruled by a unit of military leaders that has suppressed political opposition and exercised "unchecked powers" secured in the constitution that restrict citizens' civil and political rights. In Qatar, other political parties are not permitted, and elections don't affect the highest levels of government. Political parties are banned within the seven Emirates and hereditary rulers hold all power, with which they restrict civil liberties of citizens and visitors alike.

Many of these are rampant with corruption. It seems humankind's hunger for power and greed are alive and well, and reducing citizens to serfs.

By censoring the internet or barring

access, authoritarian governments and dictators can more effectively keep their citizens oppressed, and people in these countries lose a vital tool that would help them set up fairer, more democratic institutions.

President Trump has already curtailed certain freedoms and made widespread funding cuts that will also hinder social freedoms. He is also selective in which media gets to report on the White House.

To me, these are all dangerous precedents. They may set the stage for other countries to simply jump on the oppressive bandwagon and continue to thwart human rights.

We see the problems; have identified the countries and leaders with poor track records. If we truly believe in furthering democratic principles around the globe, I say we take stronger actions.

I believe we should decrease ties, implement sanctions and shame those who routinely suppress human rights, imprison and harm their citizens.

I have always been optimistic that all world nations can come together, cooperate and end imperialistic, totalitarian dictatorships, so people can be free.

And yet, recent actions by the strongest free nation in the world have left me with a heavy heart.

The former guardians of world peace are quickly becoming self-appointed crusaders, for the interests of a few, not the many.

What is happening to those enshrined unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?

"That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government ..."

If the U.S. continues to slash civil liberties and mutual aid, we are in for a heck of a ride.

Buckle up, everyone.

Letter to the Editor

Conservatives will put 'Canada First'

Common Sense Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre laid out his plan to put Canada First.

Liberal pundits claim Donald Trump's threatened tariffs mean Conservatives must change our message. They're wrong. His tariffs prove Conservatives were right all along about everything. Conservatives have been talking about our plan to put Canada First for years.

Take the carbon tax. Conservatives have fought to axe the tax because it makes gas, groceries, and home heating more expensive. Now, combining Trump's tariffs with Carney's carbon tax will decimate our industries and destroy the jobs of our workers. Only Conservatives will axe it for good.

We'll build homes by removing the GST on new homes under \$1 million, saving homeowners \$40,000 or \$2,200 per year in mortgage payments.

Within 60 days of becoming Prime Minister, Poilievre will create a Tax Reform Task Force to lower taxes on energy, work, homebuilding, investment, and making stuff in Canada.

We'll stop the crime by ending Liberal catch-and-release laws (C-5 and C-75), bringing jail, not bail for repeat violent offenders. We'll impose life sentences on fentanyl kingpins and invest in treatment and recovery to bring our loved ones home drug free.

Conservatives will take back control of our border, end cancel culture and stop the war on our history, repeal the No-New-Pipelines law (C-69), remove inter-provincial trade barriers, and restore in-person citizenship ceremonies.

Simply put, we'll restore the promise of Canada—where with hard work anyone from anywhere can do anything.

Canada First. Canada Always. Canada Forever.

Anna Roberts
MP, King-Vaughan



Quote of the Week

"Where you see wrong or inequality or injustice, speak out, because this is your country. This is your democracy. Make it. Protect it. Pass it on."

Thurgood Marshall

Trivia Tidbits

Canada and the U.S. have the world's longest bi-national border of 8,891 kilometres.

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:
Did you vote in the Provincial election?

a) Yes **75%**

b) No **25%**

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Will you make an effort to buy Canadian in light of the U.S. tariffs?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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How Canada's highest court got climate change wrong

By Jack Wright

Climate Change

The Supreme Court of Canada sits at the top of the country's judicial ladder, but its reasoning isn't always flawless. Mistakes and inconsistencies in its decisions can ripple through the legal system and spark harmful litigation when these errors are treated as binding precedents.

This is what happened with the carbon tax case, Reference re Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act (2021), which carries profound economic, political, and social implications for Canadians.

In Greenhouse Gas, a 7-2 majority upheld the federal carbon tax based on the "national concern" doctrine of the famous "peace, order and good government" clause of Canada's constitution. Advocates for aggressive climate action quickly framed the decision as a binding precedent, with some courts and environmental groups leaning on Greenhouse Gas to demand a constitutional "right to a stable climate." – as if the courts or Parliament could stabilize the global climate.

This wave of "lawfare" depends on the false premise that the Supreme Court's non-binding comments are legally binding precedents. But this was a "reference" case – a legal opinion requested by governments to determine a constitutional issue. Reference cases are launched at the appeals-court level, but appellate courts lack the evidentiary procedures of trial courts.

The Greenhouse Gas decision case hinged on two critical premises that were not proven with material facts. They were wrong, based on faulty assumptions and flawed reasoning.

The two key contentions were, first, that climate change poses an existential threat to humanity and, second, that Canada's emissions significantly influence Canada's climate. Neither is supported by evidence.

Taking the second of these assumptions first, Chief Justice Richard Wagner's majority opinion relied on a fallacy I call the "Carbon Wall." This is the idea that severely harmful effects of emissions will mostly be caused by – and suffered by – people living closest to the geographical origin of the emissions. It equates carbon dioxide (CO2) with localized pollutants, analogous to river contamination, implying it can be "walled off" by government regulation.

If Canada's senior-most justices understood the basic mechanics of climate, they would have known that virtually the entire cause of Canada's changing climate – 98.5 percent – comes from outside the country, since Canada generates only 1.5 percent of global CO2 emissions, a minuscule contribution in the context of global climate dynamics. Even if Canada ceased all emissions tomorrow the impact would be negligible, quickly offset by emissions growth from developing nations. Simply put, there was no evidence and no basis for the Supreme Court to find a "national concern" on a discrete Canadian CO2 wall, controllable by the federal government through a carbon tax.

The other critical assumption the court got wrong is that climate change presents an "undisputed threat to the future of humanity."

But in fact, many climate experts specifically reject the "undisputed threat" notion. Nobel Laureate William Nordhaus, the Yale University economist considered the "father" of the carbon tax, does so in his book *The Climate Casino*. Even the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has written that "for most economic sectors, the impact of climate change will be small relative to the impacts of other drivers" such as population, income and technology.

The court's "undisputed threat" comment seems to rely on an affidavit by John Moffet, a federal government manager. He's a corporate lawyer by training, with no apparent expertise in climate change causes or impacts, who reportedly played a significant role in crafting the federal carbon tax.

Moffet's affidavit would have been filed as legislative history to provide some context for interpreting legislation and understanding its purpose. There is no expert qualifications process, oral testimony, or cross-examination on such affidavits. Moffet's document cannot be the foundation for a binding Supreme Court statement about an existential threat to humanity.

The judgment in Greenhouse Gas is, in my opinion, inadequate. It contains no true factual findings of an existential threat to humanity, or of a Carbon Wall around Canada, or of a possible Carbon Wall controllable by federal reg-

ulation around each of our provinces. The decision is not authority for lower courts to adjudicate the cases that come before them under the guise of saving Canadians from climate change.

Unfortunately, the decision is already driving litigation. The case of *Mathur v. Ontario*, for instance, asks the court to direct the Ontario government to override its own legislated emissions targets and re-direct its resources. *Dykstra v. Saskatchewan Power* demands that the Court of King's Bench prohibit expansion of natural gas-fired power generation facilities in the province.

We cannot allow single-issue activists (often generously funded by Otta-

wa) to use the courts to achieve goals that they were denied through the ballot box. Governing inevitably requires difficult trade-offs. Far better for these to be determined by people elected by and accountable to the public than by unelected judges, who are not required to endure the consequences of their decisions.

The original, full-length version of this article was recently published in *C2C Journal*.

Jack Wright is a retired litigation lawyer who practised public law with a government legal department and has filed legislative history evidence in various courts.

YRP go 'Fishing for Impaired' drivers

York Regional Police is pleased to mark the launch of the Fishing for Impaired initiative, partnering with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) York Region, Arrive Alive Drive Sober, Ontario Provincial Police and Georgina Island Police to remind ice fishers, snowmobilers and anyone planning winter activities on the ice, that impaired driving, whether on the road or on a frozen lake is a criminal offence.

York Regional Police's Road Safety Bureau and Marine Unit are focusing their attention on ensuring that the individuals engaged in the sport of ice fishing, and other winter activities on Lake Simcoe are doing so responsibly and safely.

Officers will be out on the ice of Lake Simcoe focusing their enforcement efforts on snowmobilers and ATV operators who feel it's acceptable to consume alcohol while operating their vehicles. Similarly, sobriety checks were be con-

ducted on ice fishers who are heading back to their personal vehicles. When it comes to drinking and driving, the same rules apply when out on the ice as when you're operating a car on the road. The penalties for impaired snowmobiling or impaired operation of an ATV are also the same.

For more information on marine safety, please contact the York Regional Police Marine Unit at 1-866-8765423, ext. 7321.

"We are not giving up. Together with our partners and our community, we continue the fight against impaired driving. If you see a driver that you suspect is impaired, call 9-1-1.

"We will respond to these calls through our Safe Roads: Your Call program."

If you consume alcoholic beverages or drugs, do not get behind the wheel. Ensure you always have a plan to get home safely.

Letter to the Editor

Time for unity, not fear-mongering

When voters hear negativity and fear mongering from politicians, at a time when there is a need for uniting us and speaking with reason about what we can all do to improve things and be prepared for what may come, many people tune out.

The cynical way in which our politics has turned has us following the American example. Strategic voting, or voting against another instead of voting in favour of the candidate one feels best suited to represent you, is a big part of building a two-party system. It is a sort of "them or us" mentality that can be very difficult to reverse.

But we are Canadians who believe in taking care of each other and the vulnerable and the sick. We believe in a smaller income gap so that everyone, and every child, is healthy, well educated, and has a chance to really contribute to the wealth of the nation.

Canada is a more peaceful and productive country because of this long term thinking. We need to break from the influences of our neighbour to the south and think for ourselves and about each other with positivity.

In elections, negative campaigns used to fail in Canada; let that continue. I have not met anyone who has regretted voting for a candidate they favoured, even if they did not win because it is not a horse race, it is about your choice.

Ann Raney
Green Party Candidate
King-Vaughan

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King-Vaughan candidates reflect on election results

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

Local candidates for the Liberals and Greens shared their reflections on the Conservatives' third majority victory last week.

Liberal candidate Gillian Vivona placed second behind incumbent Stephen Lecce. She earned 12,452 or a 28% share. Vivona improved on her 2022 results by roughly 1,000 votes.

Liberal Candidate Gillian Vivona arrived at 9 Baci restaurant at 9 p.m. election night to welcome hard-working and enthusiastic volunteers, most of whom had spent the day with her knocking doors to get out the vote.

She thanked everyone saying, "it's been a wild wonderful winter campaign and thank you all for being on this amazing journey with me, Leo and our family! It's been an honour to carry the Liberal banner for you in King-Vaughan and I am deeply grateful for all of you."

She went on to thank the tremendous efforts of her volunteers and donors who helped knock on doors, make calls and put up signs among a myriad of other activities all during one of the snowiest winters in recent memory.

Vivona acknowledged it was not a "usual campaign" and that she was proud of what was accomplished - "we did a lot more with a lot less time and a focused canvass strategy."

Vivona went on to list some of the

highlights of the campaign, including having over 22,000 conversations at the doors and on the phones in just 30 days.

Her supporters clearly appreciated her gratitude and respect for them and residents, her positivity and her trademark optimism.

Gillian also has a message for King-Vaughan residents telling them: "From the thousands of conversations that I have had over the past years with Liberals and non-Liberals, I am firmly convinced that we have the same goals and desires. We want outstanding health-care. We want education that will help to provide a future for our children, we want a stable economy with available jobs, we want a clean environment."

"I have never met a non-Liberal who said I don't want any of those things. What we disagree on is how to get there and who is going to pay for it. So, we're not all that different. I'm firmly convinced that if we can find common ground like that to build our relationships, then we will build a better Ontario."

King's Ann Raney, Green Party candidate, Raney was 4th, earning 933 votes, for a 2.1% share of the vote.

She offered her congratulations to MPP-elect Lecce and all of the candidates and volunteers who participate, and the voters themselves who made their voices heard.

"I especially wish to thank those people who voted for me to represent them and those who donated to my campaign," she said.

"In the coming days, I look forward to personally thanking those who offered their talents with time and effort."

"It is a humbling experience, and I am most grateful to have had the support of my husband, grandson, old friends and new."

"Many people I spoke with at the door, in stores, in gatherings, on the phone, or by message, were unhappy with the timing of this winter election and felt that it was unnecessary or self-serving. Elections Ontario's website lists the voter turnout as 40% for King-Vaughan. Low voter turnouts do not bode well for a healthy democracy and we know that there is a federal election around the corner. Let's hope that spring will bring out greater interest and participation for our federal election."



Liberal candidate Gillian Vivona shares time with her supporters during election night.

Large win margins for King's incumbent MPPs

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

Both of King's MPPs were re-elected by large margins over their opponents, in last Thursday's provincial election.

The majority victory for Doug Ford's Conservatives saw voter confidence grow locally, giving both Conservative politicians a renewed mandate.

Stephen Lecce took King-Vaughan handily, earning 28,529 votes, for a 64.18% share of the vote.

He had a 16,077-vote margin over Liberal candidate Gillian Vivona, who collected 12,452 votes or 28%.

NDP Rick Morelli was third with 1,714 votes, or a 3.86% share.

Green Party candidate Ann Raney was 4th, earning 933 votes and a 2.1% share.

Christopher Bressi, New Blue Party candidate, came in 5th with 569 votes, or 1.28% of the vote. Maria Morgis pulled up the rear with 256 votes, or .58% of the vote.

In King-Vaughan there were 111,214 registered voters and voter turnout this time was 39.97%.

In York-Simcoe, incumbent Caroline Mulroney's showing was equally strong. She earned 24,705 votes, for 59.4% of the vote. She held a 14,768-vote

margin over the Liberal candidate Fatima Chaudhry, who pulled in 9,937 votes for a 23.89% share.

NDP candidate Justin Graham was next with 3,216 votes, or a 7.73% share of the vote.

Green candidate Jennifer Baron was 4th with just over 2,000 votes and a 4.82 share.

New Blue Party candidate Brent Fellman was next with 841 votes, or a 2% share.

Libertarian candidate Sean Conroy followed with 434 votes; just over 1% of the vote.


Ontario Party candidate Alana Hollander was next with 317 votes and Ontario Moderate Party candidate Franco Colavecchia was last with 138 votes.

York-Simcoe had a 40% voter turnout with 103,146 registered electors.

"I want to extend congratulations to Stephen Lecce and Caroline Mulroney on their third election victories. I look forward to continuing to work with both MPPs for the betterment of King Township," said King Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

"Congratulations to both of our incredible MPPs Caroline Mulroney and Stephen Lecce on your re-election. I am glad we have the opportunity to continue sowing the seeds of success through working collaboratively together," said Councillor Avia Eek.





King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, March 6 to Wednesday, March 12

THURS 6TH	FRI 7TH	SAT 8TH	SUN 9TH	MON 10TH	TUES 11TH	WED 12TH
Scattered Flurries High -2C° Low -5C° ~1cm Wind NW 30k	Sun/Clouds High 0C° Low -8C° Wind W 22k	Sun/Clouds High -6C° Low -10C° Wind W 24k	Sun/Clouds High -3C° Low -4C° Wind W 13k	Clouds/Sun High -1C° Low -9C° Wind NW 18k	Mainly Sunny High 1C° Low 3C° Wind SE 13k	Mixed Precip. High 3C° Low 0C° ~1cm/~1mm Wind SE 14k

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Residents urged to report sick, injured wild birds

York Region is currently experiencing positive and suspected cases of avian influenza (H5N1), also known as bird flu, in wild birds such as Canada Geese and ducks. With avian influenza present in York Region, other parts of the Greater Toronto Area and across Canada and the world, King Township is reminding residents to avoid contact with sick, injured, or dead wild birds.

Birds that become infected with avian influenza may show one or many of these signs:

Lack of energy or movement; nervousness, tremors, or lack of coordination; swelling around the head, neck and eyes; coughing, gasping for air, or sneezing; diarrhea; sudden death.

Avian influenza is primarily transmitted through wild birds but can also affect commercial poultry and other mammals. While rare, the virus can



York Region Public Health is investigating confirmed case of measles

York Region Public Health is investigating a confirmed case of measles linked to international travel.

If you were on the following flight or were present at these locations, you may have been exposed to measles:

Korean Air: Flight KE 073: Departed Seoul, South Korea, on Feb. 22, at 10:28 a.m. KST. Landed at Toronto Pearson International Airport, Terminal 3, at 9:35 a.m.

Southlake Health: Located at 596 Davis Drive in the Town of Newmarket, Emergency Department: Feb. 24, from 10:45 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST. Pediatric Unit: Feb. 25, from 8:25 a.m. to 4 p.m.

York Region Public Health is following up directly with anyone who was at Southlake's Emergency Department or Pediatric Unit.

If you were present at the above dates, times and locations AND if ANY of the following apply:

You were with an infant under 12 months of age; you are pregnant; you have a weakened immune system.

Please call York Region Public Health immediately at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77280, 7 days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or at 905-953-6478 outside of these times as you may be eligible for preventive treatment.

York Region Public Health advises anyone who believes they may have been exposed to the measles virus to do the following:

Confirm you and your family members have two doses of measles vaccine (MMR or MMRV); those born before

1970 would likely have had measles illness as a child and are protected; immunizations are one of the safest ways to protect you, your children and your community from serious and potentially deadly vaccine-preventable diseases.

If you develop symptoms, stay home and do not attend work or school; call your health care professional before going to be seen to inform them that you may have measles and require additional precautions; you may also call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77280, Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or 905-953-6478 outside of these times.

Measles is a highly contagious viral infection that spreads very easily through airborne transmission. The measles virus can live in the air or on surfaces for up to two hours. Infants under one year of age, pregnant individuals and those who have a weakened immune system are at increased risk of severe complications, including encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) and death.

Symptoms of measles start 7 to 21 days after exposure and may include high fever, cough, runny nose, red, watery eyes (i.e., pink eye or conjunctivitis), red rash.

Even individuals who are up to date with the measles vaccine should watch for symptoms of measles for 21 days after exposure (until March 18).

More information on measles can be found at york.ca/Measles

spread to humans, typically after close contact with infected birds or contaminated environments. According to the Public Health Agency of Canada, wild birds are natural carriers of avian influenza viruses. Some may appear healthy despite being infected.

To improve public safety, King has extended its agreement with Vaughan Animal Services to manage suspected avian influenza cases among wildlife in the Township. Residents are urged to report any sightings of wildlife suspected to be sick, injured or dead as a result of avian influenza to Vaughan Animal Services at 905-832-2281 or via email at animal.services@vaughan.ca.

For all other concerns or questions about wildlife in the Township, residents are encouraged to contact the Toronto Wildlife Centre's hotline at 416-631-0662. King contracts the Toronto Wildlife Centre to assist King residents by providing access to expert wildlife advice, rehabilitation of sick, injured, and orphaned wild animals with the goal of returning them to the wild, and trained rescue of animals in dangerous

or risky situations.

Safety reminders and preventative measures:

Do not touch dead wild birds or other wildlife.

Keep a distance from wild birds and animals; do not touch, feed, or handle them, especially if they appear sick or are dead.

Avoid contact with surfaces contaminated with bird droppings.

Wash hands thoroughly after touching bird feeders, bird baths, or potentially contaminated areas.

Keep cats indoors and dogs on a leash to prevent contact with infected birds.

Stay off bodies of water as ice and water conditions are unsafe; do not attempt to rescue birds in distress.

King Township is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents and wildlife. We appreciate the community's cooperation and vigilance in reporting and preventing the spread of avian influenza.

Learn more about avian influenza at york.ca/AvianFlu. For tips on dealing with wildlife, visit king.ca/wildlife.



Lecce returns to Washington

On Feb. 20, Stephen Lecce returned to Washington D.C. to participate in a roundtable discussion with nuclear industry leaders on bi-national economic and energy security and to meet with state governors in response to President Trump's tariffs on Canadian aluminum and steel. "Just days after President Trump mused about leveling new job-killing tariffs, I returned to Washington to drive home the message that China wins when America attacks its closest friend and top trading partner," said Lecce. "It was good meeting with Governor Polis from Colorado and Governor Stitt from Oklahoma making clear that our national and energy security benefit from collaboration, not confrontation."



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King sets targets for its long-term growth strategy

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

King is shoring up its growth forecasts over the next 25 years.

Councillors engaged in a lengthy discussion on the report and details prepared by staff and consultants on King's long-term growth and employment figures. Councillors didn't all agree on the density figures and where future growth should occur.

In the end, council endorsed almost two dozen recommendations, but voted to lower density targets. The main point was they didn't want to be locked into a certain path or direction regarding both residential and commercial growth numbers and locations in its three main villages.

They endorsed Phase 2 of its Growth Management and Employment Land strategies.

This, according to planner Kristen Harrison, is a "significant milestone" for King and helps staff shape and form local guiding documents such as master plans and the Official Plan. She pointed out the "robust recommendations" will help the Township make future decisions as time goes on.

Consultant Adam Fischer, from Watson & Associates, noted it's a broad framework to refine options and the process will continue to unfold over the next year or so. The options presented were based on many assumptions and current trends and these will evolve over time.

Council agreed with the population growth forecast of 21,200 people, resulting in a total population of 51,000 people for the Township.

And a forecast of 8,400 new households, resulting in a total of 17,400 households for the Township. They also sided with the employment growth forecast of 7,060 new jobs, resulting in a total of 17,700 jobs for the Township.

The forecasts pegged the population by village.

King City is forecast to grow to a population of 23,220 people, requiring an additional 5,210 households.

Nobleton is projected to grow to a population of 13,580 people, requiring an additional 2,190 households.

Schomberg is forecast to grow to a population of 3,340 people, requiring an additional 300 households.

That the remaining rural area is forecast to grow to a population of 10,860, requiring an additional 120 households.

Council endorsed an intensification rate of 50% for the total housing growth between 2024 and 2051, and the following intensification rates for the Built-Up Area (BUA) for each Village:

55% for King City; 37% for Nobleton, and 84% for Schomberg.

Staff projected that commercial land in the municipality will grow by 25% for Nobleton and Schomberg and 30% for King City.

These numbers, the ramifications and suggested growth areas, were debated by councillors. Some had very different ideas about what direction to take.

Council also endorsed employment growth forecasts as a minimum density target of 35 people and jobs per hectare for the Township's Designated Greenfield/Growth Area Community Areas.

Council endorsed the following targets for commercial land areas:

A target building coverage of 28%; a commercial land intensification rate of 25% for Nobleton and Schomberg; a commercial land intensification rate of 30% for King City, and commercial space per capita rate of 37 square feet/resident.

Council okayed the following minimum Employment Land Use forecasts, by market sector:

Major Office: 400 jobs, 6% share of growth; Employment Area: 2,540 jobs, 36% share of growth; Population-Related: 3,960 jobs, 56% share of growth; and Rural: 160 jobs, 2% share of growth.

Councillors also agreed on fan intensification target of 15%; a 40% land vacancy factor for Schomberg; an overall employment density of 30 jobs per net hectare, and a gross-to-net ratio of 55%.

As far as minimum targets for each village, they agreed on 1,090 new employment area jobs in King City; 770 for Nobleton and 680 for Schomberg.

Councillor David Boyd noted the servicing constraints in Nobleton – limited water and wastewater capacity – will impact our ability to accommodate the projected population and the speed at which the village can grow. It's also

important to highlight that other documents will be utilized in planning for growth. An example would be the King Transportation Master Plan. Planning for growth is an essential aspect of the Municipality's responsibilities.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini felt the intensification numbers were too high and too locally concentrated. He suggested to his colleagues to open up more lands and spread the numbers around more evenly.

While the current trend may be for condos, townhouses would also be sought-after housing types.

Bringing more lands online would see "gentler intensification," he said.

King, like many smaller municipalities, struggle with high residential-to-commercial ratios, putting the tax burden on homeowners. Any strategy, the mayor said, needs to address the problem, not just provide projections.

He also suggested more review of Highway 400 corridor lands for commercial uses.

Councillor Jennifer Anstey agreed that the current projects don't "move the needle" of ratios very much at all.

Fischer noted the two main blocks earmarked in Nobleton include lands on both sides of Highway 27, south of King Road.

He said the consultants assessed the Township's needs and provided options. These may change as the need arises.

Some of the options created a debate among councillors and Fischer noted they don't want to introduce any conflict in the planning process, but merely present the options to meet provincial criteria.

The recommendations are intended to give staff ideas of where to look, and they're not endorsing any concrete moves.

Fischer also pointed out that the Official Plan review takes place every five years, so planning needs change constantly. Many of the figures in the report are meant as estimates, which may or may not materialize.

The OP, currently under review, will set out the specific appropriate land use designations.

Council gave staff the go-ahead to do further analysis of the settlement area expansion for King City to address its 9-hectare shortfall of commercial land needs.

King's "Whitebelt lands" will also be examined.

Staff noted the Phase 2 Report also considers additional long-term options for Employment Area growth by designating additional Employment Lands beyond the minimum 2051 need, which is permitted in accordance with Policy 2.3.1 of the Provincial Planning Statement, 2024 (PPS 2024).

The PPS directs municipalities to define and identify growth targets.

Candidate expansion areas and options for re-designation have been assessed based on criteria such as connec-

tivity, market demand, and proximity to infrastructure.

The Township retained Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. (Watson) in early 2024 to prepare Growth Management (GMS) and Employment Land (ELS) Strategies. The Strategies are intended to support and inform the Township's Official Plan Review, which will guide growth in King to 2051. They provide an assessment of existing conditions and King's long-term potential for growth, as well as population, housing, and employment forecasts for each of the Township's Villages and, land needs analyses.

These forecasts will also inform the Township's ongoing Master Plan studies, including the Water and Wastewater Master Plan, Parks, Facilities and Trails Master Plan, and Transportation Master Plan, as well as the Development Charges Background Study.

Since the Report to Council on September 23, 2024, the Township's Official Plan Review (OPR) has progressed. This has provided an opportunity for synergies between the projects including the opportunity to incorporate the Phase 1 and Phase 2 findings from the ELS and GMS into the discussion and preliminary policy directions of the draft Discussion Papers for the OPR.

Additional consultation has also occurred between January 22 and February 11, in the form of pop-up engagement sessions and targeted consultation with Township Boards and Committees, including with the Age Friendly Community Advisory Committee, at the Zancor Centre Grand Opening, Mayor's Youth Action Team, King Chamber of Commerce, Heritage Advisory Committee, and Accessibility Advisory Committee. Consultation is also scheduled with the King Environmental Action Team (KEAT) for Feb. 27, 2025.

Staff pointed out that Employment Areas are designated urban lands intended to support industrial and business activities, primarily manufacturing, warehousing and distribution facilities. These areas are "crucial for economic development" and are characterized by their proximity to major transportation corridors, efficient land use, and specific development and infrastructure requirements.

Recent changes have been made to Provincial policy and legislation regarding Employment Areas in Ontario. Amendments to the Planning Act came into effect on Oct. 20, 2024, and changed the definition of "Areas of Employment." Concurrently, the new Provincial Planning Statement (PPS 2024) came into effect on the same day and carried forward this definition for Employment Areas, and introduced new policies for employment.

King's employment target was set out in the 2022 York Region Official Plan (YROP).

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A rare 2+ acre double lot in Kleinburg backs onto a scenic conservation area and river, featuring a fully upgraded 6-bed, 4-bath bungalow. Highlights include an open-concept layout, skylight, modern kitchen, walkout basement with second kitchen, and 332 ft of waterfront. Enjoy direct trail access, stunning views, and endless customization potential!



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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.



FERNBROOK HOME WITH \$200K UPGRADES

This meticulously designed home boasts \$200K+ in upgrades, an AyA chef's kitchen with marble countertops, a great room with a gas fireplace, and an elegant dining area. Featuring 5 spacious bedrooms, each with an ensuite, plus a main floor bedroom and office. Steps to Yonge St, transit, shopping, golf, and top-tier amenities. Luxury living at its finest!



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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.



LUXURIOUS 'FERNBROOK' EXECUTIVE HOME

This brand-new luxury home features \$200K+ in upgrades on a prestigious Princeton Heights lot. Enjoy a chef's AyA kitchen with premium appliances, a family room with a gas fireplace, and a covered loggia. Upstairs, 4 spacious bedrooms with ensuites and a lavish primary suite with a spa-like bath. Prime location near Yonge St, transit, shopping, golf, and top amenities!



LUXURIOUS 1+DEN WITH EXPANSIVE TERRACE

Welcome to this upgraded 1+Den suite in Minto Watergarden, featuring a 400 sq. ft. L-shaped terrace for seamless indoor-outdoor living. Enjoy new vinyl flooring, zebra blinds, and an in-suite washer/dryer. Includes parking by the elevator. Top-tier amenities: gym, BBQ area, concierge, guest suites, and more. Prime Thornhill location with easy access to everything!



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!



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!



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!



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!



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.

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Annual Run for Southlake is set for April 27

By Brock Weir

Southlake Health's biggest annual fundraiser, the Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake, is set for Sunday, April 27, and organizers are hoping to set new records for the local hospital.

Southlake began the countdown to the 2025 Run at Nature's Emporium's flagship store in Newmarket.

Last year's Run, which was held in conjunction with Southlake's centennial year, saw a record turnout and organizers are hoping to keep that momentum going this year.

"We had the most people, it was a lot of fun, but one thing that was amazing is we hit the \$450,000 milestone last year," said Southlake Health Foundation CEO Jennifer Ritter at the recent launch event. "Today's launch is exciting because we're setting another milestone goal and looking to raise over \$500,000 this year in a steady march to the \$1 million goal."

This will be the thirteenth year Na-

ture's Emporium has lent its name sponsor to the event, which grew out of Aurora as the Hartwell Challenge, named after late councillor and runner Bob Hartwell.

"This holds a special place in our hearts," said Nature's Emporium owner Joe D'Addario, underscoring the value Southlake brings to the community. "Over the years, this event has grown into more than just the Run; it has become a celebration of community, health and hope. It's a testament to what we can achieve when we come together for a cause that matters for all of us, ensuring that Southlake continues to provide world-class healthcare close to home."

"At Nature's Emporium, our mission has always been to inspire and empower individuals [and] this event aligns perfectly with that mission. It's a way to support the health and wellbeing of our community, not just through the nutritious organic food and wellness products we offer, but contributing to the resources that make a real differ-

ence in people's lives."

These vital needs at Southlake – and the real difference participants and community members as a whole can make – were driven home by Karyn Popovich Executive Vice-President, Quality, Practice and Patient Experience and Chief Nursing Executive, an avid runner herself.

"(The Run) speaks to many things I am really passionate about: getting outside, staying active, and being part of a movement that supports the communities that Southlake serves and the 6,000 medical staff, volunteers and learners who care for them every day," she said. "It is truly inspiring. Generous community support is part of the reason Southlake Health has built a century-long legacy of compassionate leading-edge care that transforms lives. Each and every participant who fundraises for Southlake through this event has helped to fund important upgrades and things like critical equipment and advanced technology so that our teams can contribute to providing leading-edge care close to home to some of the fastest-growing and aging communities in Ontario."

Citing recent equipment upgrades like York Region's PET-CT station, surgical scopes, and neo-natal care centres, she said these additions were "game changers for Southlake Health's ability to diagnose and treat cancer right here in our communities."

"These investments are possible because of the generous commitment of our sponsors and supporters here today and thousands of participants who fundraise through Nature Emporium's Run for Southlake each year. When participants fundraise for Southlake, they are literally putting the tools in the hands of our staff and our medical staff so we can continue to save lives and push boundaries and bring leading-edge care closer to home for generations to come."

To continue helping Southlake push boundaries, and maybe even push some of your own in the process, the Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake will take place on Davis Drive, Newmarket, on Sunday, April 27.

For more information, including how to sign up, visit southlake.ca/foundation/ and select the Run from the Events menu.



Youth fair coming in April

King Township's Youth Opportunity Fair is scheduled for Thursday, April 10, at the Zancor Centre. This event provides an excellent platform for local businesses and organizations to connect with the community and showcase their offerings to King's youth. Hosted by the Mayor's Youth Action Team (MYAT), the fair will run from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. and will feature a variety of engaging activities and opportunities aimed at youth. In addition to vendor booths, the fair will include free sport drop-ins, food and beverages, and door prizes for attendees. Vendors interested in participating can apply using the online form available at king.ca/MYAT.

Collision reporting goes digital

The Collision Reporting Centre (10720 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill) closed now, most motor vehicle collisions involving only property damage are to be reported online.

York Regional Police is the first police service in Canada to have a fully digital collision reporting system.

Online collision reporting began with a pilot project that launched in select locations throughout the region in the spring of 2023. To date, motorists reporting collisions online report a 90 per cent satisfaction rate.

The online reporting method allows motorists to report at any time of day on their smartphone or another digital device. Motorists no longer need to report during collision reporting centre hours or wait in line upon arrival.

Before reporting a collision online: Motorists must determine if their collision is self-reportable by calling the non-emergency line at 1866-876-5423 to speak to a call taker or by visiting yrp.ca/CollisionReport.

Motorists must receive an inci-

dent number from a call taker at the non-emergency line.

The following collisions may not be reported online:

Collisions that resulted in injuries of any kind.

Collisions that involve a pedestrian, cyclist or public transportation vehicle.

Collisions that involve a commercial motor vehicle larger than 11,000 kilograms or a commercial motor vehicle transporting dangerous goods.

Collisions that involve a criminal act (e.g. impaired driving, assault).

Collisions that occurred on a 400-series highway, such as Highway 427, 407, 400 or 404, as those types of collisions must be reported to the Ontario Provincial Police.

As indicated in the Highway Traffic Act, a collision involving damage less than \$5,000 does not need to be reported to police unless it meets one of the criteria noted above.

Visit the YRP Collision Reporting Page for more details about online reporting.



Final Release

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Casey Pfenning at [905\) 967-1500 x136](tel:905-967-1500) | cpfenning@myhospice.ca



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Arts & Entertainment

Government invests \$25 million in net-zero home for McMichael Collection

The Honourable Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, Francesco Sorbara, Member of Parliament for Vaughan—Woodbridge, and Sarah Milroy, Executive Director and Chief Curator of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, announced a federal investment of \$25 million through the Green and Inclusive Community Buildings program.

The current facility will be renovated and expanded to meet net-zero carbon building standards. The project will increase exhibition space by 30%, upgrade and modernize art-handling facilities, meet current accessibility standards, and provide an additional 60% more space for public events and artistic performances. As one-third of McMichael's collection is Indigenous, the project will also help to further integrate and share Indigenous art and teaching.

The federal government recognizes the importance of community spaces and remains committed to strengthening and revitalizing Canadian communities, ensuring we remain connected through common interest and shared

spaces.

"With this investment, we're not just renovating and expanding a gallery – we're building a greener, more inclusive space where Canadian and Indigenous art and culture can be experienced and celebrated," said Erskine-Smith.

"The McMichael Canadian Art Collection is one of the largest and most important galleries for the preservation and display of Canadian and Indigenous art. The federal government's investment will not only expand exhibition space, but help make it accessible and more environmentally sustainable – making more art available for everyone," added Sorbara.

Milroy stressed: "All of us at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection are deeply inspired by the federal government's visionary support of our project. In the years ahead, we will be rebuilding a true national treasure, and outfitting it for a long, prosperous, and sustainable future, for the benefit of all Canadians. Now more than ever, our country needs a place to come together, share our stories, explore our differences, and celebrate all that we share. The McMichael is that place."



Celebrating the funding announcement were (l to r) Eric Jolliffe, Chairman of York Region; Rosanna De Francesca, Ward 3 Councillor for the City of Vaughan; The Honourable Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities; Sarah Milroy, Executive Director and Chief Curator, McMichael Canadian Art Collection; Francesco Sorbara, Member of Parliament for Vaughan—Woodbridge; Andy Pringle, Chair, McMichael Board of Trustees; Steven Del Duca, Mayor City of Vaughan.

King's 'Diva in the Rough' Catherine Hughes presents a true Irish experience

"Lilt, Laughter & Song," A St. Patrick's Day Celebration, is coming back to a theatre near you.

The show is brought to you by King's own Diva in The Rough, Catherine Hughes, with her signature blend of poetry, playwrights, history, folklore, humour, and of course plenty of beautiful Irish songs sung as only she can. It's an immersive experience that does more than throw on a "kiss me I'm Irish" t-shirt paired with a pint of green beer, Hughes explains.

"We want to elevate St. Patrick's Day to talk about the real Irish experience ... all while having lots of Irish fun," says Hughes. "The Irish are much more than a bad relationship with alcohol. They are poets and storytellers, musicians and gritty survivors. Their words make you laugh and then cry as quickly as you had laughed. I've kept the same name for the show over the years, but I never run out of things to talk about or songs to sing, and I have no interest in simply repeating previous years' shows. There is so much to talk about and tell when it comes to the Irish that if I were to put everything into one show it would need way more than 2 hours ... more like, 2 days!"

Hughes will be joined on stage by a stellar cast of actors and musicians, including the inimitable Don Guinn on piano. This year, audiences can expect a load of surprises as well as visits from St. Patrick, a nun, Pirate Queen Grace O'Malley and quite possibly some Aer Lingus flight attendants. With a rousing sing a long at the end and a chance to raise a glass of Guinness, the audience will also learn some Dublin speak. It promises to be a fun and festive evening.

The show on St. Patrick's Day at The Curtain Club in Richmond Hill is sold out, but you can still catch the same show presented by Markham Little Theatre's Backstage Theatre, a wonderful intimate space at 9350 Markham Road, Markham.

Markham Little Theatre presents Lilt, Laughter & Song starring Diva In The Rough Catherine Hughes on Friday, March 14 at 7 p.m., and a matinee on Saturday, March 15 at 1 p.m. Tickets are still available at just \$25. Food & drink will be available at the bar.

Don't miss out on the lilt, laughter and song of Diva In The Rough. For tickets call 437-440-3385, or better still go to <http://www.markhamlittletheatre.ca/box-office>

The Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program was created in support of Canada's Strengthened Climate Plan: A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy. It supports the Plan's first pillar by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing energy efficiency, and helping develop higher resilience to climate change.

The program launched in 2021 with an initial investment of \$1.5 billion over five years towards green and accessible retrofits, repairs or upgrades.

Budget 2024 announced an addition-

al \$500 million to support more projects through GICB until 2029.

At least 10 per cent of funding is allocated to projects serving First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities, including Indigenous populations in urban centres.

For more information, please visit the Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada website at: <https://housing-infrastructure.canada.ca/gicb-bcvi/index-eng.html>.

Federal funding is conditional on the signing of the contribution agreement.

Resist & Persist Art Exhibition for International Women's Day

The King Heritage & Cultural Centre (KHCC) is pleased to announce the opening of Resist & Persist, a new art exhibition in recognition of International Women's Day (IWD). For this fourth annual IWD exhibition at the KHCC, artists were challenged to consider the past, present and future of women's rights and the struggle for equality, acceptance and empowerment.

Artists drew inspiration from personal struggles, notable women, moments in history and more. The result is a thoughtful, dynamic exhibition displaying the work of over 25 emerging and established Canadian women artists from King Township and beyond.

Resist & Persist opens on International Women's Day (Saturday, March 8), and is on display until Saturday, April 26. Visitors are invited to an opening reception on March 8 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and an artist forum to follow during which select artists will speak about their artwork.

Attendees can reserve a spot by emailing kingmuseum@king.ca. For more information, visit kingheritageandculture.ca.

CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 253110 • Solution in Classifieds



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cut a little bit off
- 5. State with confidence
- 11. River in NE Scotland
- 14. Not narrow
- 15. Lacking social polish
- 16. Amount of time
- 17. Frame
- 19. Automobile
- 20. Toadstools
- 21. High school dances
- 22. Utilize
- 23. Challenged
- 25. One-sided
- 27. Showing extreme greed
- 31. Potted plants
- 34. Everyone has one
- 35. Lake in Botswana
- 38. E.T. rode in one
- 39. Juniors' parents

- 41. Small amount
- 42. Mother of Perseus
- 44. Ornamental box
- 45. Gov't investigators
- 46. Uncertain
- 49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- 51. The vast grassy plains in S. America
- 55. Your consciousness
- 56. Noted consumer advocate
- 60. Spanish sports club
- 61. Body part
- 62. Tractability
- 64. Woman (French)
- 65. Ready and willing to be taught
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Brushed aside
- 2. Water sprite
- 3. Ones to look up to
- 4. Monetary units
- 5. A number everyone has
- 6. Marine invertebrate
- 7. One who takes you to court
- 8. Indicates outer
- 9. Parallelograms
- 10. Strains
- 11. Cross
- 12. A way to remove
- 13. Some pages are dog-__
- 18. Ukraine city
- 24. A citizen of Denmark
- 26. Summer month (abbr.)
- 28. Hindu queens
- 29. Jewelry brand
- 30. Fictional rider of Rohan
- 31. Wet dirt
- 32. Russian city
- 33. Observed
- 36. Furious
- 37. Drivers' licenses
- 39. Musical composition
- 40. Auction
- 43. They __
- 45. Women
- 47. Inspire with love
- 48. Japanese ankle sock
- 49. Appears
- 50. Old World lizard
- 52. The leading performer
- 53. Type of protein
- 54. Pennsylvania town
- 57. Art __: around 1920
- 58. __ Blyton, children's author
- 59. Abnormal breathing
- 63. A place to sleep
- 66. Muslim ruler title
- 67. Depressed
- 68. Gradually gave way
- 69. Clear-thinking

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

Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

This weekend we “Spring Forward” and as a result, we will be enjoying longer days of sunshine, which is much needed. All we need now is for all the snow to melt and the temperature to keep rising. I feel like this has been an exceptionally long winter, in more ways than one. We are all ready for it to be over and get outside and enjoy community events.

Earth Day is coming up on March 22, and Cold Creek will be hosting a fun afternoon building bird feeders and exploring the trails. King is also offering a “Climate Resilient Agriculture Workshop” to learn about climate resilient agriculture practices, at the Schomberg Community Hall, Thursday, March 27 from 10:30 to 1 p.m. and this event is free.

Horticultural Society

A limited number of tickets are still available for the upcoming 90th anniversary celebration of the Schomberg Horticultural Society on Tuesday, April 15 at the Schomberg Community Hall. Our program committee is diligently

preparing for a grand celebration, featuring TV personality Frankie Flowers as a special guest, an anniversary themed flower show, door prizes and refreshments. Browse our archives and displays on the main floor of the Schomberg Community Hall, where you will find interesting historical information.

On the upper floor of the hall, enjoy refreshments and a presentation by gardening celebrity Frankie Ferragine, who will give a talk on “Facts, Folklore, and Fun in the Wacky World of Gardening.” Tickets for this event are limited and can be purchased for \$20 on Eventbrite.ca. Doors will be open for registration at 6:30 p.m. with the presentation at 7 p.m. There will be a unique “People’s Choice” flower show with the theme “90th Anniversary – a Grand Celebration.”

Anyone attending the event (including our guests) may submit an entry to the flower show, which will be judged by the attendees. Flower show arrangements should arrive at 6:15 p.m. on April 15.

The Society is always welcoming new members, and invites everyone to come out and “Learn to Grow a Dream Garden” at the first meeting of the year on Tuesday, March 25 at the Schomberg Community Hall at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 for a single annual membership, or \$30 for a family. The March 25 meeting is free to members,

or \$5 at the door for non-members. The guest speaker’s topic is “Designing with Edible Plants.”

In March, members are invited to participate in the “Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice!” baking competition which will be held for members to compete with their special recipes for squares, savories, pies, and cookies. After judging, attendees will be invited to taste the entries.

For more information, email: schomberghortsociety@gmail.com

Schomberg Euchre Club

The Euchre group is open to all, and is 7 to 9 on Friday nights, at the Trisan in Room A. The cost is \$10 for the evening or pay monthly for \$20. All welcome, all ages, men, women, all you need to know is how to play (no beginners please), how to laugh, enjoy an excellent group of people and not take the game or yourself too seriously. We’ve been having a record turnout lately, so feel free to join, we can always add more tables.

Schomberg 55+

This week we learned how important feet health is, especially as you age. Our Thanks to Alex Krutow, Registered Chiroprapist from Asteri Family Foot Clinic on Main Street, in the Balance Health Studio, who gave us a wonderful presen-

tation about foot care. We all learned so much and we are so grateful to have our questions answered by Alex, who is incredibly knowledgeable.

These will be used to join in with the “Flailing Shilaleighs” at our upcoming “Maritime Kitchen Party” on March 22 at the Trisan. While the event is sold out, you can add your name to the waiting list by calling King Senior centre at 905-833-6565 or email seniors@king.ca

If you’re a local business and would like to sponsor one of our events, please reach out to me at sporter5952@gmail.com or Lynn Bird at klbird@hotmail.com. We are always looking for local sponsors.

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

Our Tightly Wound Ukulele club will now meet at 3 p.m. on Thursdays. If you’re interested in learning to play and you’re a member, feel free to come out. If you’re not a member, you can sign up at Trisan or one of our meetings.

Monday, March 10 - 10 a.m. – Speaker – Joseph Sharon – curious musical instruments.

Monday, March 17 – 10 a.m. – Ugly Stick Awards and East Coast Music singalong with the Tightly Wound Ukulele Band.

Annual fee is \$20 per person for residents, and \$25 per person for non-residents.



Hundreds of visitors enjoy King’s Maple Syrup Fest

On Saturday, March 1, nearly 400 guests braved the snow and wind to attend the Cold Creek Maple Syrup Fest at Cold Creek Conservation Area in Nobleton. They fueled themselves for a day of fun with a pancake breakfast, went on guided hikes through the sugar bush, watched tree tapping demonstrations and lessons at the evaporator, and snowshoed across the trails. They sipped on hot chocolate courtesy the hot beverage sponsor Chilly Moose and munched on maple taffy sponsored by Gervasi Real Estate. Little ones enjoyed face-painting and magic tricks.



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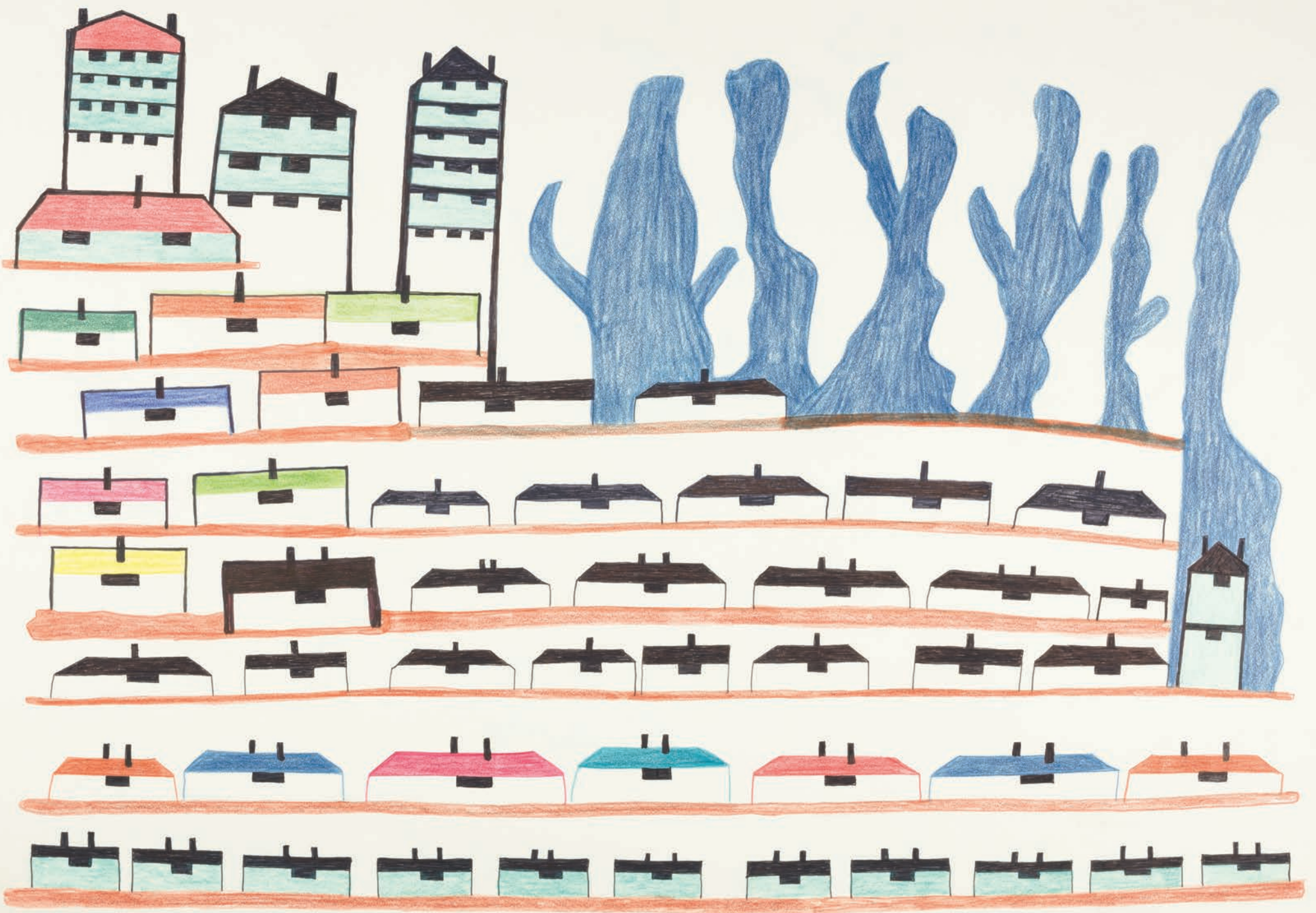
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FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: Pudlo Pudlat (1916–1992), *Untitled*, 1985–86, coloured pencil and felt-tip pen on paper, 51.1 cm x 66.2 cm, collection of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative Ltd., on loan to the McMichael Canadian Art Collection CD.24.4034. © Dorset Fine Arts; Canadian violinist Cristina Zacharias, Tafelmusik, Photo credit: Dahlia Katz

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King Weekly Sentinel

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Rebellion clinch seventh-seed to close regular season

By Jim Stewart

In an entertaining tilt that closed the OJHL regular season for both play-off-bound teams, the fifth-place Toronto Patriots and the seventh-place King Rebellion put on a double-overtime show for the patrons at Zancor Centre on Sunday and settled for a 3-3 tie after 70 minutes of compelling hockey.

Junior A Rebellion Head Coach Mark Joslin was pleased with his hockey club's dominance in double overtime versus the Pats: "We played with great spirit in overtime. We created some great scoring chances. I also thought we responded well to being down 2-0. I was most happy with how we came back strong and dominated the two overtime periods."

Coach Joslin was also impressed by the 46-save performance of backup goaltender James Kamakaris: "We committed to supporting him before the game because Kamakaris hasn't

started for a long time. I thought he made highlight reel saves this afternoon to earn us a point."

Kamakaris's highlight reel saves helped King finish the week undefeated after reining in the Chargers 10-3 in Mississauga on Wednesday evening and manhandling the Menace 4-1 in Milton on Friday night to pass Niagara Falls and clinch the seventh seed. The Rebellion trailed the Canucks by as many as eighteen points in the OJHL West standings.

Although the Rebellion will avoid an opening round series with the first-place Leamington Flyers (45-7-3-1) currently ranked #4 in Canada, King will have the unenviable task of cooling off the red-hot Collingwood Blues.

By winning 13 consecutive games to close the regular season, the reigning Canadian champs (43-9-3-1) finished in second place and are ranked #8 in the country. The morphed Rebellion roster – which rolled to a 9-7-1 record

(.560) in 2025 after a flurry of trades in December – climbed from 10th place to seventh place in the OJHL West and will start their opening round series on Friday night in Collingwood.

Coach Joslin suggested that the task for his transformed hockey team will be to withstand the pressurized atmosphere created by the Canadian champs and the 1,000 rowdy fans at Eddie Bush Memorial Arena on a Friday night: "We'll have to stay disciplined and play the right way. We have to stick to our systems and we'll have to weather an early storm that will be brought by the Blues' fans. It'll be a great atmosphere and we're playing a well-coached team with a great goaltender. We've made so many changes since last year. Only two players are still on our roster from when we played Collingwood in the first round of the playoffs when we were in Brantford: Jake Anderson and Artem Narbekov. We've developed great chemistry with a bunch of young guys who were given more ice and responsibility when our leadership group departed through trades. The group has rallied together and we have a 100% buy-in. Everyone was working towards a common goal in Mississauga and against Milton this week. Beating a heavy team like the Menace was a great win for us on Friday night."

Also in King's favor is the experience of a thrilling 5-3 victory in September in Collingwood on Friday the 13th.

Sunday afternoon's game versus the Patriots felt like a playoff game. The Patriots peppered Kamakaris with twenty shots in the opening frame and the Rebellion netminder stood his ground until Jonathan Careri banged in a rebound at 10:03 to give the black-clad visitors an early lead. With less than a minute remaining, Anthony Giacalone got behind two King defenders, and completed a breakaway off the right wing by roofing one over Kamakaris that blew up the goaltender's Cwench bottle and gave Toronto a 2-0 lead heading into the first intermission.

With 7:55 remaining in the middle frame, Milo Tian feathered a beautiful cross-ice pass on to the tape of AP Matthew Scozzesse who one-timed a low shot that found the back of the net behind Toronto netminder Braeden Shaikh. It was Scozzesse's first OJHL goal.

Thirty-six seconds into the third period, Patriots' defender Camryn Warren drew a hooking penalty and the Rebellion power play responded with oppressive pressure and slick passing. After a pair of nice passes from Artem Narbekov and Jacob Xu, Ben Armatage skated out of the corner into open ice and rifled a wrist shot past Shaikh high glove side to tie the game at 1:58.

However, King forward Adam Smeeton earned a trip to the sin bin for tripping at 3:06 and 54 seconds into the ensuing Patriots' power play, Aiden Nicholson beat Kamakaris at the edge of the crease to restore Toronto's lead.

Smeeton atoned for his untimely penalty three minutes later when he sniped one off the crossbar and behind Shaikh to notch his 10th of the season and tie the game 3-3. Kamakaris shut the door firmly in the final five minutes of regulation play and robbed a series of Patriots to send the game into overtime.

Shaikh and Kamakaris put on a goaltending clinic in the two overtime periods and earned a point for their teams, especially during the 3-on-3 double overtime where so much open ice generated glorious scoring opportunities for both playoff-bound clubs.

On Friday night versus the third-place Menace, a win in Milton would clinch seventh place in the OJHL West. With this team goal in mind, King took a 3-0 lead on Adam Smeeton's first period goal, Mikhail Zakharov's power play goal in the second period, and Owen Bruining's 15th of the season at 2:55 of the final frame.

Ivan Fabjan got the Menace on the scoreboard at 8:54 of the third period, but King leading scorer Marshall McCharles delivered the knockout punch at 12:50 when he scored his 24th of the season with helpers from Smeeton and Ryan Fairbairn.

Rebellions' star goaltender Tre Altiman was at his heroic best between the pipes for King by repelling 40 of the 41 shots he faced in Milton and outdueling former Rebellion goaltender Carter Bickle who was saddled with the loss after surrendering four goals on 28 shots. For good measure, Altiman earned an assist on Bruining's marker to help his squad both defensively and offensively in the clinching game.

On Wednesday night in Mississauga, Mikhail Zakharov asserted himself against the Chargers by putting forth a 5-assist night. Tian opened the scoring at 11:37 and the Rebellion took a 3-0 lead by the end of the first period when Zakharov set up Narbekov at 14:26 and Bruining at 18:55.

After Mississauga's Nate Brentnell's power play goal cut King's lead to 3-1, the Rebellion responded with a pair of power play goals by Antonio Cerqua at 10:29 and 15:56 followed by Bruining's second of the game with 35 seconds left in the middle frame to establish a commanding five-goal lead for the surging visitors.

When Max Cervjakovs scored less than two minutes into the period for the Chargers, King banged in three more consecutive goals by Tian, AP Brayden Boyle, and Kyle Baston to make it 8-2.

Wyatt Jinman's power play marker at 17:46 reduced the Chargers' deficit to five, but Boyle made his OJHL debut even more auspicious by firing his second goal of the game at 18:16 after being set up by Zakharov's fifth helper to give him 26 assists this season.

Tre Altiman stopped 13 of 14 shots after 40 minutes of work to earn the W. Backup goaltender James Kamakaris took his place between the pipes for the third period and blocked 7 of 9 shots.



Joanne Anderson, Gina Stano, Kim Baldesarra and Michelle O'Brien from the King Curling Club are this year's Section A Champions in the Women's Mini Major League.

Playoffs front and centre at King Curling

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

King Curling was well represented last week at the Women's Mini Majors playoffs that were held at the Oakville CC.

King Team 1 that consisted of Michelle O'Brien, Kim Baldesarra, Gina Strano and Joanne Anderson clinched their berth into the playoffs by finishing first overall in their Section A.

The team's first game was against Leaside where the squad pushed from the hack earning a huge 5 points in the first end.

Leaside crawled back with points in the next 4 ends, but King hammered down winning the 6th and 7th ends with Leaside conceding the win to King by a score of 9-7.

King's second game and tied in 5th place was against Team Orangeville who was tied for 2nd place before going into the match up. After a hard-fought battle and heroic curling, Orangeville came out top winning the game and eventually went on to win the Championship title.

Team Entry Leagues

The Ladies League concluded their regular season play last week and will begin their playoff round to determine this year's League Playoff Champion. The 12-team roster resulted with some very impressive curling this year and has proven once again that fun and competitiveness is truly a good match.

Final standings were posted with just a 30-point deficit between first and last (which is not a lot after a 21-game (approx.) schedule). Over the next 3 weeks, the sheets of King will witness some of the finest rocks thrown by the women in this league which is anticipated to be a very exciting playoffs season.

Final standings in order were Morning, Hamilton, Gorsline, Stronach, Sinclair, Gerrits, Cairns, D. Holmes, DeWinter, Beck, Fraser and J. Holmes.

Men's League, which is always packed with action, has just 2 games left in their regular season before playoffs.

Team Pelland currently sits in first place, but all eyes are on teams Campbell, Barber, Inglis, and Sheardown who are all just a breath behind the leader. Five points separates this pack of robust curlers who with win/loss can challenge the top spot. Every week it's a must win in this group to keep solid placement in their quest for the League Champions title.

Winning teams from the team entry regular season of play and the playoff champion are eligible to represent the King Curling club at next season's Club Championship Ontario Zone Qualifier, a prestigious honour for any curler.

Highlight of the Week

This past week during the Wednesday afternoon social league, a.k.a. the Pub League, Charlie Pringle turned many heads in his scheduled game. Pringle, who plays Vice position for Team Bayley (Shellee Morning spared as Skip), was asked to deliver a draw; placing his rock in the 4ft red circle or on the button in the 2nd end. Pringle responded with accurate weight allowing his sweepers to minimally brush his stone exactly to the spot.

In the 3rd end, Pringle, with his first throw, was once again asked for the draw behind guards for the possible steal. Again, Pringle delivered. On his 2nd throw the opportunity for another draw was requested. Yes, Pringle answered with another perfect draw.

The 4th end draw was executed by Pringle and with a 4 for 4 record of drawing to the button, Pringle earned the nickname of Charlie "Draw" Pringle. When asked when was the last time he had a night like tonight with his draw-making, Pringle said "never." For the remainder of the game, and going forward, members will no doubt continue to call him Charlie "Draw" Pringle.

'King Proud Charity Golf Challenge' set for June 26

By Jim Stewart

One of King Township's biggest charity fundraising golf tournaments will take place this summer at the Cardinal Golf Complex's West Wing course.

In a save-the-date Facebook post on Wednesday, event organizer Brent Morning stated "I am thrilled to announce the return of the Charity Golf Challenge to the Cardinal Golf Complex West Course on Thursday, June 26."

Morning delineated the new name for his annual event and the charities that will benefit from the tourney: "The event will be rebranded as King Proud Charity Golf Challenge. Proceeds will be shared by King Township's Lions Clubs, the King Chamber of Commerce (Morning Youth Grant), and Easter Seals Ontario to send kids with physical disabilities to Easter Seals Camp."

In a telephone interview, the long-time Pottageville resident expressed the satisfaction of organizing a charity event comprised of over 100 golfers: "Working with the people from the Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, and Easter Seals is ideal and all the charities are a perfect fit. It's great to raise money, but this is also a rebuilding and a rebranding of the event that was affected by the Pandemic."

In his announcement, Morning noted that "the event website will be updated and invites will be emailed in early-March." It is expected that the website updates will be completed by Feb. 26.

For more information about the King Proud Charity Golf Challenge, email brent@charitygolfchallenge.ca

King's Corners

King City United By Sheryl Sinka

Last Sunday Rev. Andrew Lee spoke a message recounting the military life and commitment of Nova Scotian, Jeremiah Alvin Jones, who was awarded posthumously The Canadian Forces Medallion for Distinguished Service for his participation and courage at Vimy Ridge in WWI. Jeremiah's commitment to fight for Canada was great and we still remember his bravery and sacrifice for our country. Without the commitment of our brave soldiers, our peace and life as we know it would not exist. Thanks be to God and may he protect those fighting for freedom around the world.

Sunday we welcome back Rev. Bill Fritz to lead our worship.

Save the date - April 12 at 6 p.m. KCUC will host The Spaghetti dinner with musical guests "The Sentimental Journey." Last year the dinner was sold out and there are a set number of tickets available this year. For information or tickets please call the office at 905-833-5181.

We encourage all 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, March 15 from 9:30-11:30 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, March 7 - 10 a.m. - Presentation by Hospall - Michelle Frauley will discuss the specialized private in-home care that the service provides for your loved ones - where they feel most comfortable, safe and independent. Refreshments provided. Please pre-register by calling 905-833-6565.

Friday, March 21 - Workshop - Create a spring wreath with artist Angela Del Borrello. The class is capped at 20 people so register early. The cost is \$5 per person for the wreath and the (artificial) flowers. Stop by the office to sign up.

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

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

Monday afternoons: 1 p.m. - Music and Movement/Cribbage; 2 p.m. - Crochet class.

Tuesday mornings: 10 a.m. - Line Dancing.

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

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

Wednesday afternoons: 1 p.m. - Bridge.

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

Thursday afternoons; 1 p.m. - Carpet Bowling.

Friday mornings: 9:30 a.m. - Art Class (2nd & 4th Friday of the month unless otherwise noted).

Friday afternoons: 1 p.m. - Progressive Euchre.

You may contact KCSC at 905-833-6565 or kingcityseniors@gmail.com

York Pines United

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent. If you give something up, you can have it on Sunday. Feel free to join us for coffee at noon after the service at 11. It's also Hungry Sunday when donations to the food bank are appreciated including empty egg cartons. Lesley Morris returns next Sunday for the second Sunday in Lent.

This Friday, March 7 at 12:45 p.m., we start a Lenten study group at our sister church in King City. Music is the theme used in Something Sacred, this year's study guide from the United Church of Canada, It's still available from ucrd-store.ca in e-book format. Bring your lunch and join us for a lively discussion of our faith.

If you like to sing, please consider joining our church choir. You don't have to read music to participate, and our choir director, John Clements, is very talented. Choir practice is Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Sacred Heart Church

Confessions during Lent: Holy Name Catholic School (Students/Staff) Wednesday, March 26 and Friday, March 28 (9:30 a.m. - Noon); Sacred Heart Church Wednesday, March 26; Friday, March 28 Wednesday, April 2; Friday, April 4 (After 7 p.m. Holy Mass until 8:30 p.m.).

Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday evening beginning at 6:15 p.m., followed by Holy Mass at 7 p.m. during Lent. Please join us as we prayerfully meditate on Christ's suffering and sacrifice.

Please join Sacred Heart CWL in supporting St Andrew's Anglican Church, King City with the World Day of Prayer Service Friday, March 7 at 11 a.m.. This year's theme "I Made You Wonderful" from Psalm 139:14.

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

Welcome to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church! Our Morning Worship Service is at 10:30 a.m. and join us afterwards for coffee time.

Our Pastor, the Rev. Alison Agnew has arranged for Christine Samuel to come back next week, March 9. Christine is presently taking her Masters in Theology at Knox College, U of T. while she and family attend St. Andrew's, Newmarket. She was with us last Sunday and spoke about the Transfiguration, celebrated March 2.

You can hear other services on YouTube by going to our website and clicking on the YouTube frame. (st an-

draws-king city.ca), but unfortunately there was a tech glitch and our service was not recorded.

When Alison returns from vacation, Life Connect will be on Thursdays at 2 p.m. at the church. All are invited to see a four part video on Easter during Lent, starting March 20. The other Thursdays are March 27, April 3 and April 10. Come and discuss what Easter is all about.

We had a wonderful event called Gather25 last Saturday, which was hosted by Jacquelyn Lawson. The main purpose of Gather25 which was happening globally on Saturday, March 1 was prayer and praise including a time of prayer for persecuted believers. We look forward to more prayer and praise gatherings.

This Friday, March 7 is the World Day of Prayer. This year, in our community, it will be held at 11 a.m. at All Saints Anglican Church on Keele St. The women who wrote the service for this year are from the Cook Islands. All are invited!

For pastoral care while Alison is on vacation, please call the Rev. Dr. Jeff Loach at St. Paul's, Nobleton at (905) 859-0843 or call your Elder. Our office number is 905-833-2325.

All Saints Anglican Church By Patrick Gossage

Lent is upon us.

Transfigured People - sermon by Rev. Errin Martin on Luke 9 - the transfiguration of Christ:

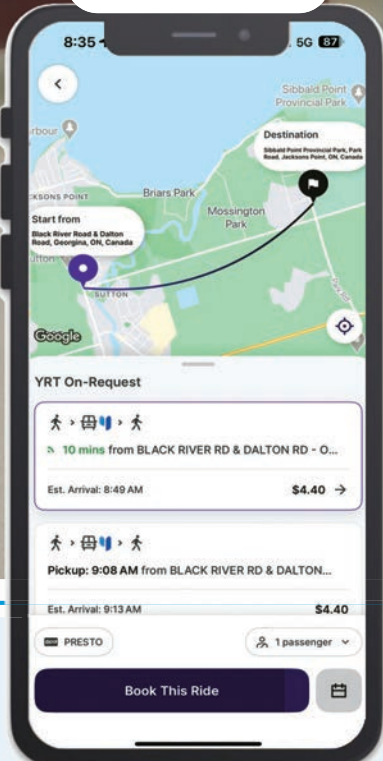
"The readings today are all about the transfiguring power of God's glory. His whole body shone with it. We've all been given a measure of that glory - to reflect to the world - to share with the people around us. But it's there for all of us, waiting to shine, waiting to be reflected to the world.

"As Lent approaches I invite you to search for the glory of God that is dwelling within you, that spark of light that God has given to each of us. We're called to let the light shine into every corner of the earth so that people will know God and God's love.

"So let's do everything we can to shine God's light in the world and point to the source of that light, because bathed in its transfiguring glow, every human being will know that they are loved, valued, and precious and they'll be changed. That's the goal; that's our purpose and I can't wait to shine that light with all of you."

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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 ABCs of Discipleship." This Sunday's letter is I for "Imitator" from Ephesians 5.1-14.

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

Browse our websites:
St. Patrick's Parish:
<https://stpatrikssc.archtoronto.org/>
St. Mary's Mission: <https://stmarys-no.archtoronto.org/>

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

The Parish Office will remain open from Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Nobleton Seniors (55+) By Joanne Bailey

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

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

Indoor Bocce is now available every Thursday, upstairs in the large room in the Nobleton arena from 10 a.m. to noon.

March 6 – The History of Tattoos and their Artistic Expression. Presented by Sapphire. Tattoos have gone through movements and trends. Come out and listen to this information.

March 13 – Ageism and Abuse Elder Prevention. Presented by Yellow Brick House. Learn the relationship between ageism and how it is impacted by abuse in this interactive workshop.

March –20 The History of the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. Learn about the museum in King and the research that they do and the history of this centre. A representative from the museum will do a presentation.

March 27 – Spring Floral Painting with artist Angela Del Borrello. Step by step instructions will be provided by Angela on how to do an acrylic floral painting. Cost is \$10 which includes all materials. Registration required by March 24.

April 10 – It's a pizza party. Come out and learn how to make homemade pizza with Rose. The pizza will be cooked and enjoyed by all. We will supply some other goodies. The cost is \$5. Register

by April 7.

April 17 – Easter décor with Artist Angela Del Borrello. Make a centerpiece for your table. Cost to be determined, all instructions and material will be included. Register by April 14.

April 24 – Annie Tulk a Registered Psychotherapist and Life Wisdom Coach Master will discuss coping strategies and techniques in dealing with feelings of anxiety and depression.

Nobleton Lions

A big thank you is extended to all the poker players who participated in last week's Texas Hold'em Poker Fundraiser. Proceeds will support numerous community organizations and Lions Clubs International in a number of health initiatives as well as disaster relief.

Stay tuned for information about upcoming events like the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides on Sunday, May 25 and the annual golf fundraiser in early June.

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 Jerry MacBain at nobletonlionjerry@outlook.com

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Phone 905-857-6626 or 1-888-557-6626
or email admin@caledoncitizen.com

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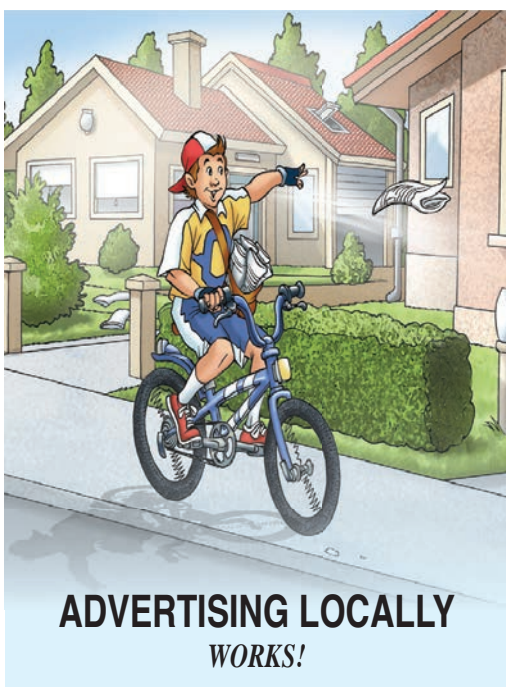
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Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Our regular Sunday services are: 9:30 am @ St. Mary Magdalene Church (lower level), Schomberg and 11:15 am @ Nobleton United Church. Both churches offer refreshments afterwards.

Did you enjoy pancakes on Pancake Tuesday? That is the feast day before the 40 days fast, which many Christians do. This reminds Christians of the temptations that Jesus endured for his 40 days in the wilderness, before his ministry began. Our United Church of Canada does not encourage this fasting, although our Muslim friends are fasting during the month of March during the daylight hours. Muslims call this Ramadan.

The famous DiFebo Pasta Dinner is on Friday, March 14 at 6 p.m. at Nobleton United Church. The meal includes pasta with meatballs, salad & dessert. It is a great time to socialize. The cost is \$25/adult, \$10 for 10 years and under, free for those under 5. Seating is limited.

ited. Contact Linda Olsen at 437-552-0442 to reserve your seat ASAP.

A series of Lenten Lunches are starting this Thursday, March 6 at 11:30 a.m. at Schomberg and alternating each week with Nobleton United until Thursday, April 17. There will be a short reflection, followed by a lunch. Rev. Richard will provide the main course and those attending are invited to bring what they can, a salad, a dessert, some bread and butter. Everyone is invited to attend. People do not need to belong to our congregation.

Schomberg United Church is hosting the World Day of Prayer at St. Mary Magdalene Church on Friday, March 7 at 1 p.m. The theme is Cook's Island (the service was created by the women of that area). This is open to everyone, including men.

The next Seniors Lunch at St. Mary Magdalene Church is Tuesday, March 11. Please arrive at 11:15 a.m. The program starts at 11:30 a.m. The Flailing Shilaleighs will help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day by playing a mix of



foot-stomping Irish, Scottish and East Coast Canadian classics, along with their own original music. Anthony Clayton will provide rhythm guitar and lead vocals. Matti Palonen will be playing flutes, mandolin and accompanying vocals.

The meal is leek and potato soup with corned beef on rye grilled sandwiches, vanilla cupcakes with a green icing and ice cream. The meal can be delivered, if you prefer. Please let Sheila Kelly know (905-939-2315) if you plan to attend. Space is limited. Although this is a free event, we do appreciate any donations that you are able to make to help cover the costs.

We are also grateful to the Township of King for some additional financial support.

The next Messy Church is on Tuesday, March 11 at 5 p.m. at Nobleton United. Families are welcome to this free event. The theme is Crossing the Red Sea (Deep Faith). One of the activities is always decorating cookies. We always have at least 5 other optional activities.

At 6 p.m., we will talk about faith & Moses crossing the Red Sea. At 6:15 p.m., we eat. Please contact me 416-316-5064 or nancykhopkinson@gmail.com to let me know that you intend to come or for more info. We need to know numbers to have enough crafts & food.

The Schomberg U.C.W. is restarting meetings. The next one is Thursday, March 13 at 1 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church. All community members are welcome.

The next Community Pot-Luck Lunch is Tuesday, April 1 at 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church. Lunch is at 11:50 a.m. Remember to bring something to share for the meal.

On Wednesday mornings, we have a Zoom Coffee chat (10 to 11 a.m.). We talk on a huge variety of topics, mainly current events. You are welcome to join us. Just send me a message nancykhopkinson@gmail.com to request the link.

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

708 OBITUARIES

Joan Megraw

July 27, 1935 – March 1, 2025

With profound and heartfelt sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved mother, Joan Megraw, on the morning of Saturday, March 1, 2025. She left us peacefully in the early hours, leaving behind a legacy of love, strength, and unwavering faith.

Joan Megraw (née Mitchell) was born in Belfast, County Antrim, Northern Ireland (The Isle of Erin) on July 27, 1935. The second daughter of four children born to George and Sarah Mitchell.

Predeceased by her loving husband Gerald Megraw. Beloved mother of seven children: Deborah Donnelly, Joanna (Alan Blenkinsopp), Karene, Helen (Paul Sturge), predeceased by son John (Janet Simmons-Megraw), Michael (Abbie M.), and Megan.

Cherished Grandmother (Nana) of Sarah Donnelly, Mitchell Donnelly, Samantha McGillion, Stephanie Megraw-Fabian, Dakota V., Liam Megraw, R.J. M., and Great Grandmother to Nolan Donnelly and Wrenley Griffin.

At the heart of everything Joan did was love—love for her family, her community, and the performing arts. A gifted soprano, she graced the stage with the Waterford Light Opera in Ireland before immigrating to Canada, where she embraced a new life with unwavering determination. In 1966, she founded the South Simcoe Music Theatre, now nearing its 60th year, bringing the joy of theatre to her small town.

Beyond the stage, Joan was a tireless volunteer and advocate for culture and community, serving as Vice-Chairwoman of Cultur-All, an active CWL member at St. Paul's Church in Alliston, and a recipient of multiple awards, including the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture & Recreation Outstanding Achievement Award. Yet, her true legacy lies in the countless lives she touched with her indomitable spirit and devotion to community and human connection, her boundless generosity, and her playful sense of humor that drew people in like a warm embrace. Joan's grace and purpose-driven life left an enduring mark on all who had the privilege of knowing her.

**"Oh blessed art
in how many grey hours...
have you kindled
my heart...
have you taken me away
to a better world..."**

**'An die Musik' (Ode to Music)
~ Franz Schubert / Franz von Schober**

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Phone 905-857-6626 or 1-888-557-6626
or email admin@caledoncitizen.com

602 ARTICLES FOR SALE

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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602 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Helen Lucas original for sale - "The Holy Spirit"



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

612 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS



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- MAR 28TH** – CURRENCY SALE (Because cash is king)
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- APR 18TH** – HIGHLAND FARMS EQUIP SALE (Big iron, big savings)
- APR 25TH** – SPRING TOOLS & EQUIPMENT AUCTION (The right tools for the right price)
- MAY 2ND** – PLANES, TRAINS & AUTOMOBILES – GAS & OIL W/ VINTAGE VEHICLES (Rev up for some serious nostalgia!)
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Crossley, Joseph Daniel

Born: April 13, 1929 in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, passed peacefully on Feb. 25, 2025 in Newmarket, Ontario.

Loving son of the late Carlton Charles and Mary (Sturdy) Crossley. Brother to the late Allan Crossley (Shirley), Marion Kelly (Jim) and Roderick Crossley (Bonnie). Fondly remembered by his many nieces and nephews.

Throughout his life Danny was often drawn to the north, born there, and spending many summers in places like Biscotasing, and Temagami, Ontario. Content to live in a tent, fishing and camping in amongst the forest and lakes, this is probably where he found his passion for geology. Danny graduated from the University of Toronto in 1954 with a degree in Geological Engineering. His career as a geologist took him to many places throughout the world such as Greenland, Iceland, The Middle East, Africa, California and Canada's Far North. During his travels he met many who became lifelong friends, connecting and corresponding whenever possible.

Danny was also an avid airplane pilot, like his father. He held a commercial pilot's license with multi-engine and helicopter ratings. He would often visit friends with his float plane, staying for a meal and conversation, sometimes bringing along one of his many musical instruments, such as a guitar, banjo or mandolin. Music was another passion he held.

Our family want to thank the caregivers and Brookside Court in Richmond Hill as well as those at Newmarket Health Centre for their care and concern with Danny over the past few years.

A celebration of life will be planned for a later date.

If you are considering a donation in Danny's Memory, Temperanceville United Church was his place of worship, 734 King Road, Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4E 2Y8

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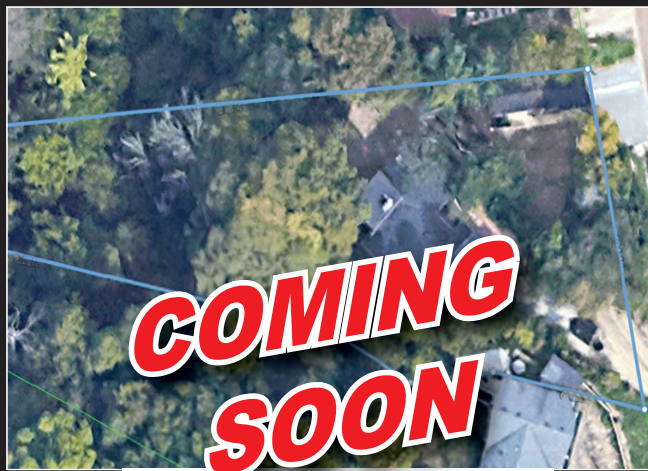
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