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King's Community Newspaper

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MP hosts New Year's skate

King-Vaughan once again ushered in the new year with her annual skate at Maple Community Centre. Many families across the riding joined in to kick off the year with some family fun.

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What residents need to know about new recycling system

The Province of Ontario is now responsible for municipal recycling programs as part of a broader mandate under the Provincial Regulation 391/21 in the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016.

In compliance with the province-wide mandate, King Township has transitioned to the new recycling collection system, operated by Circular Materials.

Green For Life Environmental (GFL) has been contracted by Circular Materials to provide curbside collection in King Township and is the contact for all recycling inquiries.

Here's everything residents need to know about the new recycling system:

King Township households received a 360-litre wheeled, lidded recycling cart ahead of the transition, and recycling collection has moved to a bi-weekly schedule. All materials must be placed inside the newly issued recycling carts, with the lid fully closed to be ready for collection pick up. Material placed outside the recycling cart or in a blue box

will not be collected.

Starting this week, residents can apply online at circularmaterials.ca/king for a second 360-litre recycling cart at no cost; this is the only size option available for a second cart. This only applies to households with a 360-litre recycling cart. A second cart will not be provided for households which requested an exchange for the smaller 240-litre size recycling cart.

More information about the second cart application process will be shared with residents as soon as the form is available online. We appreciate your patience while Circular Materials finalizes the details in order to support residents' needs.

If the 360-litre cart size does not meet your needs, you may request an exchange for a smaller 240-litre cart by completing the Recycling Cart Exchange Request Form, available online at circularmaterials.ca/king.

See 'Residents' on Page 3

INSIDE

REGULAR FEATURES

Editorial	Page 4
Business	Page 8
Sports	Page B1
Classifieds	Page B5



Annual Township breakfast draws hundreds.

See Page 7



Resident receives medal for his work.

See Page 13

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Making life better in King

Upcoming Meetings



COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, January 26**
6 p.m. – Council
- Monday, February 02**
6 p.m. – Public Planning Meeting
- Monday, February 09**
6 p.m. – Council
- Monday, February 23**
6 p.m. – Council

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

- Wednesday, January 21**
6 p.m. – Committee of Adjustment

Hybrid meeting (in-person/virtual participation, live-streamed).
Visit: king.ca/cofameetings for more information.

- Thursday, February 05**
6 p.m. – Heritage Advisory Committee

Virtual

- Tuesday, February 10**
11 a.m. – Accessibility Advisory Committee

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

Subscribe to receive email notifications regarding Council meetings & agendas at king.ca/subscribe

Recent Planning & Heritage Notices

- **Notice of Public Planning Meeting Concerning a Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment**
Re: 4129 Highway 9 & 17380-17400 Weston Road, Kettleby, ON (File No. Z-2025-16)

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

Water bills for the sixth period (Nov. to Dec. 2025) are due February 18

Avoid missing a payment! Register for eBilling to receive water bills directly via email and enroll in the Pre-Authorized Debit Program (PAD) for automatic withdrawals.

Monitor your water usage online!

With the online portal you can sign up to:

- Access your daily water consumption
- Receive warnings of high consumption and potential problems
- Track your history and usage

For details, visit king.ca/WaterBilling



Help shape strategic planning at the York Regional Police Service Board and York Regional Police

York Regional Police Service Board and York Regional Police are updating their Strategic Plans and are seeking input from residents, businesses, and community partners via a community survey. Responses will help the police and Board identify the safety priorities and evolving needs of our community. Be part of the conversation: Take the Community Survey today!

The survey is anonymous and available in multiple languages. It is open until **Sunday, February 15.**



SCAN HERE to take the survey

KING

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2026

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Scan here to learn more

Old recycling boxes will not be accepted in your curbside recycling

Consider reusing your old recycling boxes for storage or re-purposing it for another use.

You can recycle your old blue boxes at a designated drop off location inside select King Township facilities until February 27.

Please empty and clean your blue boxes prior to drop off at one of the following locations during regular operating hours.

- King Township Municipal Centre
- Trisan Centre
- Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Community Centre & Arena
- Zancor Centre

Learn more. Read the FAQs at circularmaterials.ca/king.



905.833.5321



serviceking@king.ca



2585 King Road King City, ON, L7B 1A1

KING

Residents should reuse old bins, can exchange for another size

From Front Page

Before requesting an exchange, it is recommended that you try the cart for at least three bi-weekly pick-ups

to gauge your actual capacity needs. Please keep in mind that recycling collection has moved from a weekly to a bi-weekly schedule, the list of accepted materials expanded, all items must fit

inside the cart with the lid closed, and only one cart exchange will be permitted per address.

While collection frequency has changed from weekly to bi-weekly, your pickup day remains the same. For more information on your collection day, view the 2026 Waste Collection Schedule at king.ca/waste.

Below are some guidelines for setting out your recycling cart to ensure items are collected. As a reminder, all materials must be placed inside of the newly issued recycling carts, with the lid fully closed.

Set your recycling cart so that the wheels are away from the curb (towards your home, and the lid opens to the street).

Place recycling and garbage carts at least 3 feet in front of or beside fences or vehicles.

Place your cart on a flat surface clear of any snow and ice.

Residents are now able to recycle more materials, including:

Black plastic containers.

Hot and cold beverage cups (coffee cups).

Frozen juice containers.

Ice cream tubs.

Deodorant stick containers and toothpaste tubes.

Chip bags and food wrapping (including plastic and foil wrappers).

Pet food bags and Styrofoam™.

For the full list of accepted materials, visit circularamaterials.ca/king.

Old recycling blue boxes will not be accepted in your curbside recycling neither empty or full. Residents can drop off old blue boxes for recycling now through February 27 at a designated drop off location inside select King Township facilities. Please ensure you empty and clean blue boxes prior to drop off at one of the following locations during regular operating hours:

King Township Municipal Centre, Trisan Centre, Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Community Centre, and Zancor Centre.

Residents experiencing a temporary or permanent physical disability that prevents them from setting out their recycling cart at the curb may qualify for assisted collection service through the Special Accommodation Recycling Service Application. A physician's note is required to apply for this assisted service.

Please call GFL at 1-833-779-4351 or email N6Recycling@gflenv.com if you have questions regarding missed collection, recycling carts and more.



For more information on the recycling transition, visit circularamaterials.ca/king.

Large item collection now follows a scheduled, call-in process, similar to the system already in place for appliances and large metal items.

For more information on King Township's waste collection services including the 2026 Waste Collection Schedule, visit king.ca/waste. Residents can also download the Recycle Coach App for pick-up reminders, sorting information, and more.



Councillor David Boyd honoured Bob Phillips with the seniors' award in 2023.

Community loses dedicated volunteer, Lion

A long-time volunteer and fixture of the Nobleton Lions Club has passed away. Bob Phillips passed after a lengthy illness.

"With overwhelming enthusiasm he participated in virtually every event and activity over the years and would be one of the first to volunteer and one of the last around when it came time to clean up. He received the two most prestigious Lions awards (Hellen Keller and Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards)," according to the Lions Club. His passing leaves a big hole in our membership. Lion Bob will be greatly missed."

At the Annual Nobleton Lions Golf Fundraiser dinner on June 11, 2023, Councillor David Boyd, on behalf of the Township of King, presented the provincial Senior of the Year Award to Lion Bob Phillips, a long-time hard-working member of the Club.

That same year, at the Township of King Volunteer Appreciation event, Lion Bob was honoured with the Township Senior Citizen Award of Merit.

He has served his community by joining the Lions in 2009, serving as President of the Nobleton Lions Club from 2011 to 2014, and enthusiastically and generously donating many hours to the many Lions events held for the betterment of Nobleton and the wider community.

In his introduction that night, it was noted: "You have been an integral part of the Club's success. Your professional experience, enthusiasm, generosity, and unyielding commitment to community service is truly admired. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to your community!"

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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

Numbers and stats don't lie – we are all miracles!

We were given the most precious gift of all, through all the odds, twists and turns, global events. We emerged from a loving mother, and hopefully were welcomed into a gracious family.

We had no choice where, when or to whom we would be gifted. Given the vast array of situations and inequities on this planet, we could have ended up on desert plains, snowy mountains or modern, urban centres.

We could have been brought into this world by a tribal shaman or aristocrat's midwife.

Unlike the Christ child, our fate, future, path, journey and entire lives were uncertain. Some of us, past our prime, are still trying to sort things out.

No matter how you look at it, YOU are nothing short of a miracle. We are a mathematical oddity.

If you examine the numbers and data in physics, chemistry, geology, cosmology and astronomy, it seems like we are here for a reason. One scientist believes the universe "saw us coming."

Cosmologist Roger Penrose calculated that the Big Bang and the universe's initial expansion occurred within a window so narrow that any deviation would have prevented stars from forming. The late Stephen Hawking acknowledged that if the rate had differed by one part in a hundred thousand million million, the universe would have either collapsed or expanded too rapidly for stars to form.

The early universe's formation revealed astonishing uniformity and an unfathomable precision. Perfect math if you will.

If density variations had been just 0.0001% greater, excessive gravity would have collapsed the universe; 0.0001% less, and matter would never have come together into galaxies at all.

So, my fellow miracles, the universe was like a nursery, paving the way for humans. Talk about beating the odds and being welcomed into existence.

Then came our small, quiet planet, tucked away at the outer rim of the Milky Way.

Earth maintains its position within a habitable zone so narrow it allows liq-



Mark Pavilons

uid water to exist. Just 5% closer to the sun and we'd experience a greenhouse effect like Venus (over 900°F). And 20% farther and we'd become a frozen wasteland like Mars (average -80°F).

This is a precise orbital "choreography," hand-made for we humans.

Our planet's atmosphere is composed of precisely 78% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, 0.9% argon, and 0.1% trace gases – a mixture that sustains complex life through an extraordinarily delicate balance.

Just 4% more oxygen would make forests spontaneously combust during lightning storms, while 4% less would make complex animal life impossible.

Our gravitational pull strikes the exact balance needed for complex life – strong enough to retain an atmosphere but weak enough to allow large organisms.

British physicist Brandon Carter noted that even small gravitational variations would make trees structurally impossible, preventing ecosystems from developing oxygen-producing forests and complex land animals.

And let's not forget our biggest partner – our unusually large moon. At roughly 1/4 Earth's diameter, it stabi-

lizes Earth's axial tilt at a nearly constant 23.5 degrees. Without this precise stabilization, Earth's tilt would chaotically oscillate between 0 and 85 degrees over millions of years, causing extreme climate fluctuations incompatible with complex life.

The moon formed through an extraordinarily precise collision with a Mars-sized protoplanet. This cosmic accident had us "winning the lottery."

The origin of all life on this planet is even more unbelievable.

Simple protocells require at least 10-15 specifically arranged molecular systems functioning together to create life. While simple organic molecules form naturally, the leap to integrated, self-sustaining systems would require at least 382 genes arranged in a functional sequence.

Eukaryotic cells – the foundation of all complex life – arose through what evolutionary biologist Lynn Margulis described as an "improbable endosymbiotic event" where one bacterium somehow took residence inside another without being digested, eventually becoming mitochondria. Biochemist Nick Lane's analysis shows this event was so extraordinarily unlikely it probably occurred just once in Earth's history, roughly 2 billion years ago.

All of these things so far in this journey to creation are staggeringly improbable. Hello Mr. Improbable; good day Ms. Extraordinary.

And what paved the way for us to be walking upright, using our hands and brains?

Scientists say high intelligence evolved just once, concluding that intelligence is not an evolutionary inevitability.

Human brain development required

a perfect storm of unlikely factors: bipedalism freeing hands, precise vocal apparatus changes enabling speech, specific dietary shifts increasing available energy, and unique social structures supporting language. Despite sharing over 98% of our DNA, even our closest primates never developed language, mathematics, technology, or abstract reasoning anywhere approaching human capability.

The staggering mathematical improbability of these and other factors aligning perfectly demands our "deep gratitude."

We exist in a universe where countless variables had to be calibrated with impossible precision for conscious life to emerge. This knowledge transcends scientific disciplines and philosophical divides, making us marvel at our extraordinary cosmic situation.

Whether through chance, necessity, design, or multiverse, our existence represents what physicist Paul Davies calls "the biological equivalent of a miracle."

Yes, my friends, you and I are miracles, so rare and mathematically unlikely that we should embrace our frozen tundra or high-rise amenities. We should be amazed every time we shake hands and smile at one another.

When you dial your phone to order Uber Eats, trillions of things would have had to come together to allow this to happen. And the person delivering your food is equally as "improbable" as you.

From one miracle to another – congratulations. I'm glad we made it this far.

(With information from Chuwic, "Were the odds ever in our favor? 25 statistical proofs that life is a miracle," Science Sensei.)

Letter to the Editor

Planning needs attention

The Vaughan councillor has a valid point ("King's transportation plans should stay within its borders" Jan. 5), and those residing in Vaughan certainly know how horrible traffic can be when poor planning is in effect.

Poor planning has come north and we in King are now faced with such.

Planning in the Doctor's Lane area is a case in point. Multi-storey residential buildings were proposed which would feed even more traffic onto an already congested King Road. When questioned at a community meeting about widening King Road the consultant said it is a regional road and they did not reach out to the region. So that is our planning process in King; propose something but don't consider the ramifications.

Apologies Councillor Iafate, we should not be solving our problems by giving them to another municipality. But to be fair, most King residents may not realize in which jurisdiction KV Road lies, and based on the quality of King's planning staff and consultants, they may not know either.

Just watch King Township as we mirror the poor planning of Vaughan of the past and end up with similar traffic gridlock.

John Kay
King City



Quote of the Week

"You don't have a soul. You are a soul. You have a body."

— C.S. Lewis

Trivia Tidbits

Quebec was the final Canadian province to grant women equal suffrage rights in 1940.

King Weekly Sentinel WEBPOLL
www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Do you think the U.S. is overstepping its authority in Venezuela?

a) Yes	<div style="width: 67%;"></div>	67%
b) No	<div style="width: 33%;"></div>	33%

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Do you support the federal government's gun buy-back program?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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Snowmobile safety week highlights the need for respect

By Marnie Wood
Director, Ontario
Federation of Agriculture

Agriculture

This week marks International Snowmobile Safety Week, a timely reminder for farmers, landowners and snowmobile riders that winter recreation and farm safety are closely connected.

Ontario has already seen several tragic snowmobile accidents this season — and winter is only a few weeks in. At the same time, farmers across Ontario are reporting an increase in trespassing incidents.

Snowmobiling is deeply woven into rural Ontario. A trail network of more than 30,000 kilometres, maintained by Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) and its volunteers, allows riders to explore the province and supports local winter economies through tourism, fuel, food, accommodations, and equipment sales.

But that entire network depends on one essential ingredient: respect.

My family and I farm near Cannington in Durham Region, and I am also a director on the board of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, representing farmers in my area.

We don't have snowmobile trails running on our farm, but we are surrounded by properties that do — and my fam-

ily and I are also snowmobile riders, which gives me a unique perspective of both sides.

As farmers and landowners, we have a responsibility to respect the trails when they're on our property and riders have a responsibility to respect the land they're crossing and make sure they stay on the trails.

Ontario's local snowmobile clubs make significant investments of time, energy and equipment to establish, manage and maintain the trail system every year. When riders leave marked trails, the consequences go far beyond broken rules.

For farmers, off-trail riding can mean stress for livestock from fast, loud machines moving too close to animals. It can mean soil becoming compacted and damage to crops that might be hidden under the snow. Gates may be left open, fencing damaged, or wildlife access created where it shouldn't be.

There are also serious safety risks for riders themselves, however, from venturing off-trails or riding in areas where there are no trails.

The snow hides water drainage tiles, culverts, rocks, old fencing material, or farm equipment that can pose risks to



riders; speed combined with unknown terrain is incredibly dangerous.

That's why trail status matters. Before setting out, riders should make sure they know what the current status is of where they hope to ride; the OFSC Interactive Trail Guide, available at ofsc.evtrails.com/#, is the perfect resource for this.

Trails are only ever shown as available (green), limited availability (yellow), or unavailable (red). Riding an unavailable (red) trail is trespassing — even if it looks rideable.

Anyone riding this season must also hold a valid 2026 Ontario Snowmobile Trail Permit, available online only through the OFSC. As well, snowmobilers are responsible for understanding the legal requirements under Ontario's Motorized Snow Vehicles Act and for following the ABCs of safe snowmobiling:

Abstaining from alcohol and drugs; being prepared for the unexpected, and

riding with caution, care, and control at all times.

According to OFSC CEO Ryan Eickmeier, trespassing on private property and entering prohibited areas must become as unacceptable socially as it is legally. Land use permission is a privilege, not a right, and it must be respected by every snowmobiler.

Landowners who experience trespassing incidents, including riding on unavailable trails or off marked routes, should report them to their local police detachment.

Snowmobiling and farming have successfully coexisted in Ontario for generations because most people do the right thing. Ontario Snowmobile Safety Week is a reminder that safety, access, and the future of the trail system all depend on respect — for landowners, for riders, and for the communities we share.

The season is still young. Let's make sure it's also safe.

King home target of two shootings in three days

Investigators from the York Regional Police Firearms Investigations Team are seeking witnesses after a residence in the Town of King was targeted in two separate shootings.

On Sunday, Jan. 11, at approximately 7:50 p.m., police responded to a report of a shooting at a residence located in the area of Dufferin Street and King Road. A suspect was observed firing multiple rounds at the house before fleeing in a dark-colored sedan.

On Tuesday, Jan. 13, at approximately 5:20 a.m., officers returned to the same address after receiving another report of a shooting. The suspect knocked loudly on the front door multiple times before shooting at the house and two vehicles in the driveway. The suspect fled in a red coupe.

The residence was occupied during both shootings, but no injuries were reported.

Investigators are seeking any additional video surveillance from the area or anyone who may have captured dashcam video on the roadways during or around the time of either shooting.

Anyone who has information and has not yet spoke with police is urged to contact the York Regional Police Firearms Investigations Team by calling 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7817. Anonymous tips can be sent to Crime Stoppers by calling 1-800-222-TIPS or by visiting www.1800222tips.com.



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MAYBERRY HILL
Grand Valley

Watching out for homebound seniors during the winter months

By Michelle Frauley

Seniors' Health

As winter settles in, many older adults quietly become more isolated than they were in warmer seasons. Snow, ice, colder temperatures, and shorter daylight hours can make it difficult — and sometimes unsafe — for seniors to leave their homes. What often starts as staying in for a few days can turn into weeks of isolation.

During the winter months, families, neighbours, and community members play an important role in recognizing when a senior may be struggling.

Why Winter Increases Risk

Winter conditions can significantly impact seniors' mobility and confidence. Icy walkways raise the risk of falls, while cold temperatures can worsen chronic conditions such as arthritis, heart disease, or respiratory illness. Reduced daylight and fewer social ac-

tivities can also contribute to low mood and withdrawal.

Even seniors who were active in the fall may become unexpectedly homebound once winter weather arrives.

Signs a Senior May Be Struggling

There are often subtle warning signs that become more noticeable during the winter months:

Cancelled appointments or social outings.

Hesitation to leave the house until "the weather improves."

Snow or ice left uncleared at entrances.

Mail or deliveries piling up.

Limited fresh food in the home.

Increased stiffness, pain, or difficulty walking.

Low mood, forgetfulness, or missed medications.



These changes may indicate that everyday tasks are becoming harder to manage safely.

How Families and Communities Can Help

Small actions can make a meaningful difference during the winter months:

Check in regularly, by phone or in person.

Ensure walkways and entrances are cleared and well lit.

Help arrange grocery or medication delivery.

Encourage safe social connection, even if outings are limited.

Watch for changes in health, mood, or mobility.

Many seniors are reluctant to ask for help, worried it may signal a loss of independence. Reassurance, patience, and practical support can help them remain safe while preserving dignity.

Winter is often when small gaps in

support become larger risks. Addressing concerns early can prevent falls, hospital visits, and unnecessary stress for both seniors and their families. Support doesn't always mean full-time care — sometimes it's simply regular check-ins, help with errands, or companionship during a long season indoors.

Looking out for seniors during the winter months is a shared responsibility. Families, neighbours, and friends all play a role in helping older adults remain safe and connected when weather limits mobility.

Sometimes the most important thing you can do during the winter months is simply call. A conversation can uncover small concerns before they become serious problems.

Michelle Frauley is a nurse who specializes in palliative care, end of life, senior care and is a Certified Professional Consultant on Aging (CPCA). Michelle is also owner/operator of Hospall Private Homecare based in King City.

Canadian families brace for rising food costs as grocery prices climb 3.4%

Grocery prices are up across Canada and a new study shows which provinces are feeling it the most at the checkout.

The analysis from money experts Dollarwise analyzed data from Statistics Canada's Consumer Price Index (CPI) reports for May 2025. The analysis compared year-over-year price changes (May 2024 to May 2025) for food products across all Canadian provinces.

Food prices across Canada went up 3.4% between May 2024 and May 2025, data from the Consumer Price Index reveals, meaning Canadian families must dig deeper for their weekly grocery shop.

"Many Canadian families already struggle to make ends meet, and these food price hikes make things worse," says Jack Prenter, CEO of Dollarwise. "What's particularly troubling is beef, with some provinces now paying nearly a quarter more than they did last year."

The figures show which items hurt shoppers most. Fresh or frozen beef led nationwide increases at 12.7% (+\$2.12kg ground beef) in 12 months. Oranges cost 15.8% (+\$0.88) more across Canada.

"Beef prices have risen so dramatically it's truly alarming," says Prenter.

"Depending on which province you live in, you're paying between 6% and 24% more for this protein source than you did a year ago."

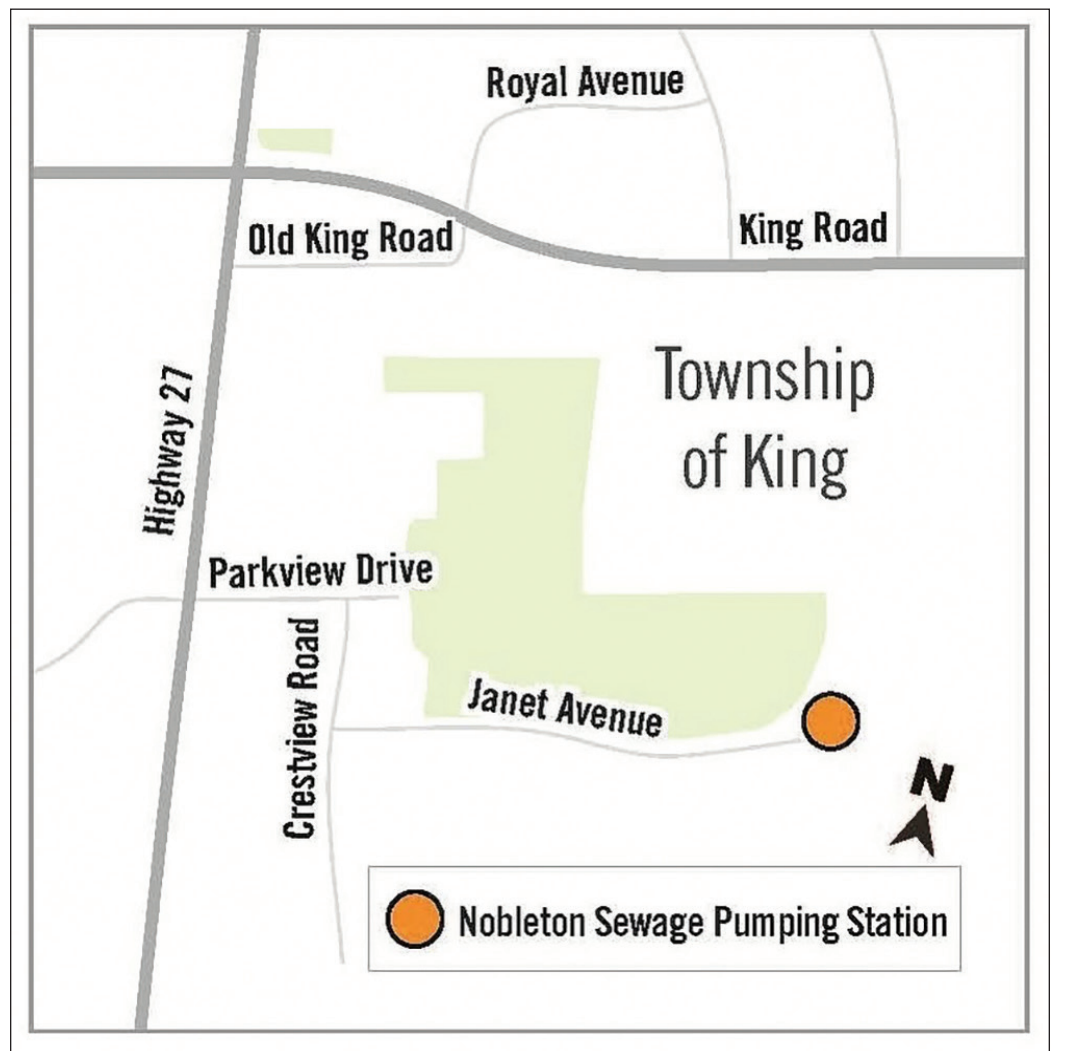
Looking at April to May 2025 shows more price shocks. Potato prices rose 9.6% (+\$0.2kg) in just four weeks. The one bright spot was for fruit and veg, tomato prices dropped 9.7% (-\$0.17kg) and cucumber prices fell 10.1% (-\$0.05) during this period.

Monthly data shows wild price fluctuations for certain foods. Grape prices jumped 21.4% (+\$2.19) from April to May 2025. Berry prices went in the opposite direction, falling 8.6% in the same timeframe.

The worst category increases hit coffee drinkers, with roasted or ground coffee up 20% (+\$0.72) nationwide. Beef eaters felt similar pain, especially those buying ground beef, which rose 16.3% across Canada.

"Not all food categories face the same increases," Prenter adds. "Families should look at shifting their shopping habits toward items with more stable prices to better manage their food budgets."

For more, visit <https://dollarwise.ca>



Pumping station upgrades

York Region is upgrading the Nobleton Sewage Pumping Station at 66 Janet Avenue starting this winter with expected completion in summer 2028.

There will be no impact to water or wastewater service and the road will remain open.

As part of the site preparation, and in consultation with an arborist, some trees will be removed. Residents may notice construction-related noise and dust, though every effort will be made to minimize disruptions.

For more, call 1-877-464-9675 or email accessyork@york.ca

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King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, January 15 to Wednesday, January 21

THURS 15TH	FRI 16TH	SAT 17TH	SUN 18TH	MON 19TH	TUES 20TH	WED 21ST
Sun/Clouds High -12C° Low -15C°	Scattered Flurries High -4C° Low -4C° <1cm	Scattered Flurries High -2C° Low -8C° <1cm	Mainly Cloudy High -7C° Low -11C°	Scattered Flurries High -9C° Low -15C° <1cm	Sun/Clouds High -13C° Low -16C°	Mainly Cloudy High -11C° Low -13C°
Wind NW 27k	Wind S 20k	Wind SW 8k	Wind SW 11k	Wind SW 10k	Wind W 15k	Wind SE 14k

The King Weekly Sentinel

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Hundreds attend annual pancake breakfast

On Saturday, January 10, Mayor Steve Pellegrini and members of Council kicked off a new year in King at the annual Mayor's Pancake Breakfast. Roughly 250 residents attended the free, family-friendly event, which ran from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Community Centre & Arena. They enjoyed a morning of good food, company and conversation while feasting on pancakes, bacon, sausages and other breakfast classics, all prepared by the Nobleton Lions Club.



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Business, Finance & Real Estate



Township staff highlight initiatives of accessibility plan

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

King councillors received a progress report on the multi-year Accessibility Plan.

The 2026-2030 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (MYAP) captures on-going and proposed accessibility initiatives for the Township of King.

Staff worked with the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) and took a new approach in the planning stage to capture clear and pragmatic goals for improving accessibility in King.

The 2024 Accessibility Status Report (Status Report) provides a review of the Township's accessibility accomplishments for the past year in accordance with the 2018-2025 MYAP.

Both the MYAP and the Status Report form part of the Township's statutory responsibilities under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (A.O.D.A.) and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (I.A.S.R.).

Staff noted the new MYAP will establish accessibility priorities and initiatives for the Township through the next five years.

This report also reviews the 2024 Accessibility Status Report (Attachment 2) which shares progress towards the objectives set out in the 2018-2025 MYAP.

In 2013, the Township was required to modify how it prepares and develops its accessibility plan. And this required King to establish, implement, maintain and document a multi-year accessibility plan, which outlines the Township's strategy to prevent and remove barriers, meeting its requirements under the

regulation. It also mandates the plan be reviewed and updated every five years, the status of the plan be reported on annually, and the plan and status reports be made available to the public by posting on the municipality's website.

The current MYAP was adopted by Council in 2019 and expired this past Dec. 31.

The 2026-2030 MYAP completely replaces the 2018-2025 MYAP and affirms the Township's commitment to ensuring all persons will have equitable access to employment, programs, services, goods, and facilities in ways that respect their dignity and independence.

The new MYAP alters the structure of the previous plan to better align with the requirements and service areas:

Customer service; information and communications; employment; procurement; training, and design of public spaces.

Early in 2025, Clerks staff began working with the A.A.C. to gather feedback to build around these service areas. Two workshops were held using the "note and vote" and "good-better-best" techniques resulting in a creative and engaging process for the committee and a significant volume of ideas for staff. The Clerks Division then engaged with staff responsible for the corresponding service areas to discuss the feedback, the existing plan and business plans to determine opportunities for implementing accessibility initiatives in King.

The approach allowed staff to engage directly with a community based advisory committee and set informed objectives for the next five years. This resulted in many new commitments including but not limited to:

Revamp and enhance the website to

improve accessibility and user experience.

Expand the accessible equipment rental program with the goal to extend the service to all of the Northern Six municipalities in York Region (King, East Gwillimbury, Aurora, Georgina, Newmarket, Stouffville).

Explore new training opportunities for subject matter experts to increase understanding of accessibility in specialist service areas.

Conduct accessibility audits during design, construction, and handover of new capital projects.

Furthermore, through identifying the subject matters experts and having them set the targets, the plan ensures greater commitment and clarity around goals and increases the likelihood of King not only meeting the requirements but exceeding them.

Staff will now finalize the MYAP and post it on the Township's website.

Staff noted the AAC reviewed 29 planning applications in 2024 in relation to accessibility and carried out an accessibility audit of Laskay Hall.

Curbside service continued to be provided to Township citizens who could not access the Municipal Office for services such as commissioning of documents.

The Plan and the subsequent accessibility accomplishments by the Township form a direct contribution towards enriching community well-being in King. The Plan and the actions taken foster a welcoming and inclusive community where diversity is celebrated and where everyone can develop to their full potential, participate freely in society and live with respect, dignity and freedom from discrimination. Creating and maintaining accessible communi-

ties improves services and experiences for everyone and therefore additionally contributes to the Township becoming an age-friendly community by 2026.

The 2024 Status Report demonstrates the continued progress and success of the existing plan. "Together, these efforts affirm King's dedication to creating a welcoming environment where everyone has equal opportunity to live, work, and thrive," the staff report noted.

York Region updates Signs on Regional Roads Bylaw

York Regional Council approved the Signs on Regional Roads Bylaw 2025-62 update to enhance safety and compliance.

"York Region is committed to maintaining safe and accessible roads," said Eric Jolliffe, York Region Chairman and CEO. "This balanced approach to amending the bylaw protects infrastructure, enhances road safety and supports business advertising while offsetting enforcement and program costs."

Key highlights of the Sign Bylaw update include:

Addressing safety concerns like signs obstructing sightlines and interfering with transit stops and utilities, increasing non-compliance and deterring unapproved signs.

Defining sign types and size requirements for business, real estate, development and election signs.

Increasing permit fees to offset the cost of managing the temporary sign program, including removal blitzes and regular patrols.

Designating sign placement at approximately 700 designated intersections across York Region, with maps and printable guides to be made available in January 2026 at york.ca/RoadPermits.

Issuing mandatory identifier stickers on permitted signs to ensure visibility and compliance.

Changes to this bylaw follow extensive consultation with local cities and towns, industry stakeholders and the public, and respond to Council's direction to adopt a more progressive approach to managing signs on Regional roads.

"Last year, more than 35,000 non-compliant signs were removed from Regional Roads," said Town of Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas, Chair of Public Works – Transportation Services. "Introducing new mandatory identifier stickers and restricting sign placement at over 700 intersections will make a big difference in keeping our roads safe."

Between June 2024 and June 2025, York Region removed approximately 35,000 non-compliant signs and 3,100 signs were permitted during the same period.



Dignitaries visit new shop

Members of the King Chamber of Commerce and provincial politicians paid a visit to the Cookie Crumble Cafe in King City. Joining MPP Stephen Lecce was Ontario's Small Business Minister Nina Tangri. Both were put to work trying to make the perfect espresso. This sweet stop serves espresso, coffee, freshly baked treats, sandwiches, and more.



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Community Housing Grant increases to \$30.2 million

The Regional Municipality of York has more than doubled its funding from \$14.5 million to \$30.2 million to support non-profit and co-operative housing organizations across York Region.

“York Region is committed to building inclusive, sustainable communities by expanding housing options and supporting partners through initiatives like the Community Housing Supply Grant,” said York Region Chairman and CEO Eric Jolliffe. “Building on the success of this pilot program, York Region will make it permanent in 2026.

These efforts are helping to create a more resilient future for all residents by providing housing solutions for individuals of all abilities, incomes and life stages.”

The Community Housing Supply Grant provides capital funding to non-profit and co-operative organizations to create affordable housing through new construction, redevelopment or conversion of non-residential buildings.

A call for applications for the grant was issued in May 2025. Five successful

projects, representing 536 units, with 288 units below market-rent, include:

Markham Inter-Church Committee of Affordable Housing in the City of Markham.

Sandgate Women’s Shelter of York Region in the Town of Georgina.

Trinity Coptic Foundation in the Town of Newmarket.

Islamic Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Toronto in the City of Vaughan.

Crescent Village Seniors Housing Corporation in the City of Richmond Hill.

“Increasing affordable housing in York Region requires shared commitment, and the Region is leading the way through innovative, locally driven solutions and strong partnerships,” said Town of Newmarket Mayor John Taylor, Chair of the Region’s Housing and Homelessness Committee. “We know we can’t do this on our own, however, supporting organizations with common goals can help advance these important projects to provide more affordable housing in all of our communities.”

The Community Housing Supply Grant was initially piloted in 2023 and extended through 2025 to expand community housing availability. In 2024, two projects totalling approximately \$10.2 million were funded through the program:

Blue Door in the Town of Newmarket was awarded \$3.6 million; project began construction in 2025 and will include 14 stacked townhouses, four emergency and transitional housing units and 10 affordable housing units.

Richmond Hill Ecumenical Homes Corporation in the City of Richmond Hill was awarded \$6.6 million; proposed intensification will add 90 new housing units, 37 of which will be affordable housing units, 28 of those funded by the Community Housing Supply Grant.

“Affordable housing is the foundation of thriving communities,” said City of Richmond Hill Mayor David West, Vice-Chair of the Region’s Housing and Homelessness Committee. “This grant is supporting organizations that are creating a safe place residents can call home, where they can be supported in communities they love.”

Given the success of the project, the Community Housing Supply Grant will become a permanent, ongoing program

in 2026, ensuring sustained support for non-profit and co-operative partners to build more affordable housing across York Region.

Projects funded through the program must include at least 10 new affordable units, or a minimum of 5 units when an addition is undertaken, with rents at or below 100% of average market rent and remain affordable for a minimum of 20 years. Eligible proponents must also meet the Region’s evaluation criteria, which consists of the following key sections:

Project details, development and operational qualifications, corporate viability, financial information and plans, project timeline and development schedule.

“Trinity Coptic Foundation is deeply grateful to York Region for awarding us the Community Housing Supply Grant 2025. This vital support empowers us to advance our shared commitment to rapidly expanding affordable rental housing by enabling us to build new units, ensure long-term affordability and uplift vulnerable populations. We are honoured to partner in a mandate that aligns with broader national goals to strengthen housing supply and address the pressing housing crisis, and we remain fully committed to delivering on this mission with integrity, diligence and compassion,” said Fr. Pishoy Salama, Trinity Coptic Foundation.

“On behalf of the Board of Directors and Management of Crescent Village Seniors Housing Corporation, we would like to thank York Region’s 2025 investment into the community housing for awarding this grant to build eight additional units for seniors in Richmond Hill. This is a continuation of the wonderful partnership we have had with York Region for many years, and we are grateful and very excited to embark on this project to aid those that need our help the most,” added Hamida Merchant, Property Manager, Crescent Village Seniors Housing Corporation.

“MICAHA is grateful for the Region’s support of our core belief that ‘Affordable Housing Changes Lives’. This generous contribution to our building of 161 new units of deeply affordable housing will help The Markham Inter-Church Committee For Affordable Housing (MICAHA) advance our core belief,” noted Mike Clare, President, MICAHA.

Traffic-calming measures coming to school and safety zones

The Ontario government is investing \$210 million through the Road Safety Initiatives Fund (RSIF) to support increased road safety in school zones and community safety zones without using speed cameras that make life more expensive for drivers and taxpayers.

The RSIF will instead provide financial support for proven road safety measures that do not raise costs for drivers, including traffic-calming infrastructure like speed bumps, raised crosswalks, and roundabouts as well as high visibility signage and increased police enforcement in school zones and community safety zones where municipal speed cameras were previously deployed.

“Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is standing up for drivers by banning cash-grab speed cameras and supporting proven road safety measures that will make a real difference,” said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. “Ontario has some of the safest roads in North America and our new Road Safety Initiatives Fund will build on this record by ensuring municipalities have the resources they need to implement proven traffic-calming measures without making life more expensive for drivers.”

As part of the RSIF, the Ontario government will provide \$42 million in immediate funding to support traffic-calming measures in school zones and community safety zones that previously deployed municipal speed cameras. Early next year, eligible munic-

ipalities will be invited to apply to the RSIF for the remainder of the funding and submit construction plans for traffic-calming infrastructure.

In response to public concerns over the increased use of municipal speed cameras as a revenue-raising tool, the Building a More Competitive Economy Act, which received Royal Assent on Nov. 3, prohibits the use of municipal speed cameras as of Nov. 14. These concerns were driven by a significant increase in the use of speed cameras by certain municipalities, with more than 700 cameras added since 2019. The use of these cameras resulted in Ontarians being charged with millions of dollars in fines, including a single camera in the City of Toronto that issued more than 65,000 tickets and took in nearly \$7 million in fines prior to 2025.

All municipalities that previously used municipal speed cameras will be eligible to apply for the Road Safety Initiatives Fund. The \$210 million in funding provided through the RSIF is one-time funding.

For 25 years, Ontario has ranked among the top five jurisdictions in North America for road safety, with one of the lowest fatality rates per 10,000 licensed drivers.

The Road Safety Community Partnership Program provides funding to not-for-profit organizations for public awareness initiatives, campaigns or events that address priority road safety issues. Municipalities can partner with applicant organizations, which are eligible to apply for funding.

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Arts & Entertainment

Celebrate King Township's roots at the 2026 Mayor's Cultural Gala

King Township is partnering with Arts King Society (ASK) to present the fourth biennial Mayor's Cultural Gala On February 26.

Single tickets (\$275) and tickets for a table of 10 (\$2,500) are available to purchase online now through February 26 at king.ca/MayorsGala.

In an ode to King Township's Local Legends – the 2026 Mayor's Cultural Gala will honour and celebrate the people, places and stories that define King Township. Enjoy an exquisite meal, activities including a photo booth, and live performances by Pianist Elliott Barenthin and the band Sensations.

The event will take place at The Manor Event Venue, located at 16750 Weston Road, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and a reception service that includes an antipasto bar. A plated dinner service with duo entree starts at 7 p.m. Guests will receive two complimentary, standard drink tickets. Two bottles of wine (one white, one red) are included at each table, and a top shelf cash bar is available. The event will also feature an exclusive silent auction, offering guests the chance to bid on exceptional items while making a meaningful impact in their community.

The 2026 Mayor's Cultural Gala will

serve as the inaugural induction ceremony for the King Township Sports Hall of Fame, marking a historic celebration of local athletic excellence. The Sports Hall of Fame, located at Zancor Centre outside the entrance to the Municipal Maintenance Athletic Centre, will honour the first class of inductees whose achievements have shaped King Township's sporting legacy. This milestone moment highlights the Township's commitment to recognizing the individuals and teams who inspire pride and community spirit.

Funds raised from the event will go towards supporting the important work of ASK and the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. This includes arts, culture, heritage-based programming, exhibitions, and special events, as well as the preservation and restoration of important heritage buildings.

The Mayor's Cultural Gala is a biennial fundraising event, hosted by King Township in partnership with Arts Society King. The last gala event, held in February 2024, was a tremendous success raising \$73,000 in support of arts, culture and heritage in King Township.

Local businesses and owners have an opportunity to make a significant impact by supporting this event through sponsorship, donating to the silent auction, or attending the evening's festivities. Every donation makes a difference and helps raise essential funds for the cause.

"The biennial Mayor's Cultural Gala supports the heartbeat of what makes life better in King – with all funds raised going towards arts, culture and heritage-based programming to help preserve our rich history and diverse stories. Honouring 'Local Legends' serves as a testament to the outstanding impact residents have as community builders: from athletes to artists, it is the people who weave the cultural fabric that makes King such a spectacular place to call home. Thank you in advance for any support you can give, whether it be by donating to the silent auction, sponsoring or attending the event," said Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

For more information on event sponsorship opportunities, donating to the silent auction, or purchasing tickets, visit king.ca/MayorsGala.

Girls' empowerment hits the road

By Brock Weir

Girls Inc. of York Region is driven to empower young women in our community – and now they're able to do so quite literally thanks to a financial infusion from the Ontario Government.

The Aurora-based organization celebrated the receipt of a \$75,600 grant from the Provincial government with Newmarket-Aurora MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy at Newmarket's Poplar Bank Public School.

The non-profit has used the grant to secure a 15-person van, painted in the vivid red that has become Girls Inc.'s trademark, which will help them connect even more teens with opportunities in the community and Greater Toronto Area.

"I want to start by recognizing the exceptional leadership of Barb Wallace and the entire team at Girls Inc. of York Region. Your unwavering dedication to empowering young girls is shaping brighter futures across our Region," said MPP Gallagher Murphy. "The Ontario Government has awarded Girls Inc. of York Region a capital grant of \$75,600 through the Ontario Trillium Foundation. We knew the funding was going to support the purchase of a large 15-passenger van as well as tablets and laptops – vital tools that will help enhance the delivery of year-round programs and help Girls Inc. reach and connect with more girls across York Region.

"Programs like Sporting Chance, Project Bold, Operation Smart, and the Mental Health Support Program do more than just teach skills. They create spaces where girls can thrive, explore their potential, and prepare for meaningful futures.... I want to thank everyone at Girls Inc. of York Region for their dedication and their unwaver-

ing commitment to the rights [and] the well-being of girls in our community. This funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation will strengthen your ability to reach more young women, expand your programs, and continue empowering girls to reach their full potential. Together, we can build a future where every girl has the confidence, skills, and support to shape their own path and make a positive impact in our society."

Executive Director Wallace said the new vehicle will help get their teens to activities and programs they otherwise wouldn't be able to do.

One past example she cited was receiving a call from a benefactor offering Girls Inc. 15 tickets to a Jonas Brothers concert. It was a great offer, but the logistics in making it happen were something of a challenge.

"Having the van, we can put a call out and say, 'Come with your parent' and off we go, or be able to take a smaller group down to one of our corporate partners for a visit," she told The Auran. "We work closely with Benefit Cosmetics at their offices in Toronto and to be able to put some teens on the van, get down there, and have some time to do some mentoring and learn about the cosmetics industry... we have worked with American Express in Markham, the local York Regional Police department, and some really great businesses, and this is our chance to be able to get the girls there and back in a safe way."

Another benefit of the vehicle was helping pick up donations received during the holiday season – including the generosity of CHUM Christmas Wish – and to distribute them as well.

"I wish the girls an amazing time with Girls Inc. You will definitely flourish, I know. Thank you, Barb, once again for everything that you do," added Gallagher Murphy.

Join King Township's summer camps team and get paid to play!

Are you a creative artist, budding chef, adventure seeker, sports enthusiast, or science whiz? Your skills can inspire the next generation – and earn you a pay cheque.

This summer, become a camp counsellor, coordinator, or director at a recreation facility in King Township. You'll earn competitive wages (ranging from \$18.10 to \$22 per hour depending on the position) while having fun and building leadership and communication skills that stand out on your resume or college/university application.

The Township is looking for candidates with interests or expertise in a variety of areas, including: science; outdoor nature education (orienteering, hiking); creative arts; preschool/early childhood education; cooking and baking; sports (hockey, badminton, basketball, pickleball archery, volleyball and soccer).

Candidates must meet the following minimum requirements:

Minimum 16 years of age. Minimum of one (1) year of experience working with children. A Social Insurance Number. Standard First Aid & CPR-C. A Clear Police Vulnerable Sector Check (Obtain upon hire). HIGH FIVE®: Principles of Healthy Child Development (course offered by King Township or HIGH FIVE National).

Applying is easy. View job postings at king.ca/employment.

Simply email your resume to hr@king.ca by 4:30 p.m. on March 13, 2026.

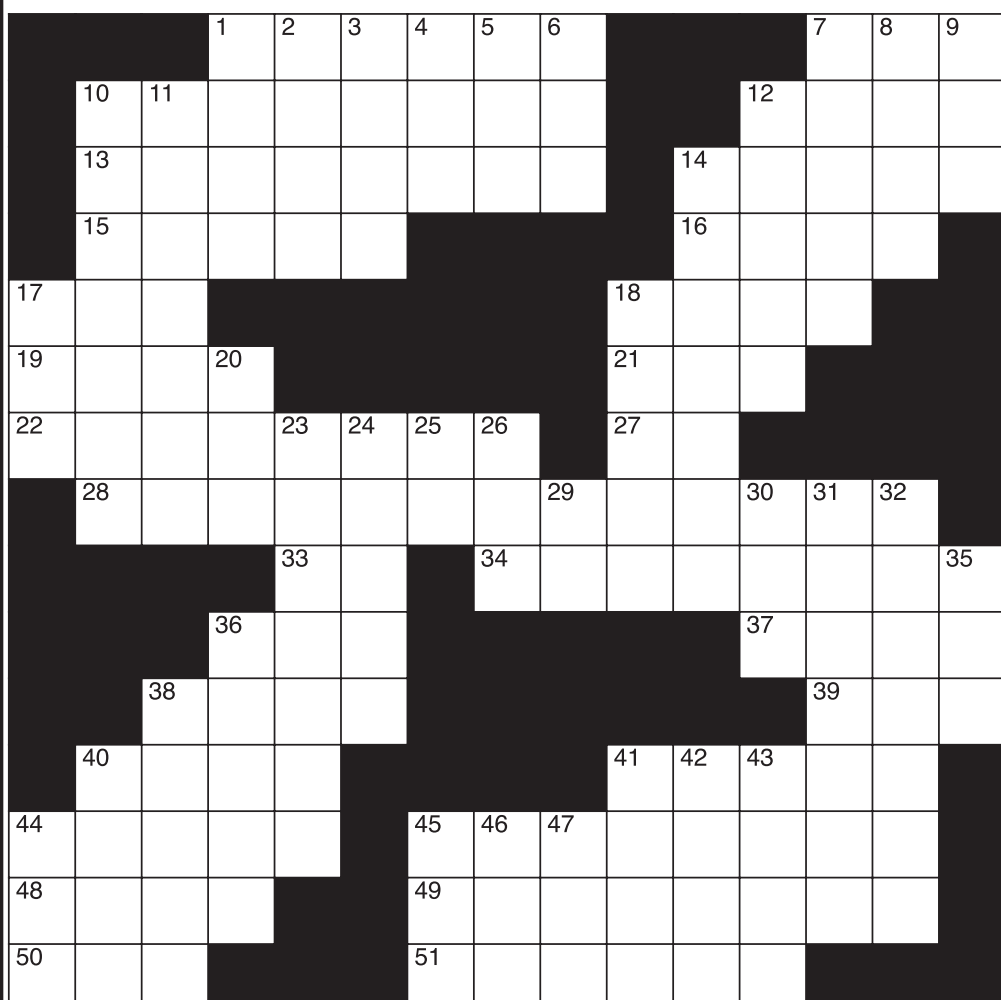
Successful, qualified candidates will be contacted for an in-person interview.

Camp locations include: Zancor Centre, Nobleton Arena, the Trisan Centre, Schomberg Community Hall, King Township Municipal Centre, King Heritage and Cultural Centre, and Cold Creek Conservation Area.

Camp runs from June 29 to September 4, with one-week sessions running from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Flexible drop-off for campers starts at 8:30 a.m. with pick-up ending at 5 p.m. The Zancor Centre and Nobleton Arena will also offer extended care from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Mechanical lever
7. Rocky peak
10. Leave a country
12. Discount
13. D.C. ballplayer
14. Partner to "oohed"
15. Engine sound
16. Japanese
- ornamental box
17. Fido is one
18. Amounts of time
19. DiFranco and Phylo
- are two
21. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
22. Make secret plans
27. "Tiny Bubbles" singer
28. "His Airness"
33. Morning
34. Perfected
36. Winger guitarist
- Beach

CLUES DOWN

37. Abba __, Israeli politician
38. Self-immolation by fire ritual
39. A way to save money
40. Pulpit
41. Make ecstatically happy
44. Once more
45. Works on
48. Nocturnal S. American rodent
49. State again
50. Expression of disappointment
51. Type of door
1. Yugoslavian communist leader
2. Exchange rate
3. High school dance feature
4. Peter's last name
5. When you anticipate

CLUES ACROSS

6. Israeli city __ Aviv
7. Goat-like mammals
8. Margarine
9. End-of-the-spectrum color
10. Make poisonous
11. Popular beverage
12. Actress Lathan
14. Where planes land and depart
17. Political fundraising entity
18. The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
20. Buffer used in microbiology
23. Light, open carriage
24. Metrical feet
25. Email subject line feature
26. A street with lots of nightmares

CLUES DOWN

29. Rapper Rule
30. River in Scotland
31. One who settles a dispute
32. Most chummy
35. We all have our own
36. Arab tribe
38. Slap
40. Ottoman military commanders
41. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
42. Emit coherent radiation
43. Sun or solar disk (Egyptian mythology)
44. Inclined to
45. Olfactory reference syndrome
46. Chest muscle (slang)
47. Body part

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

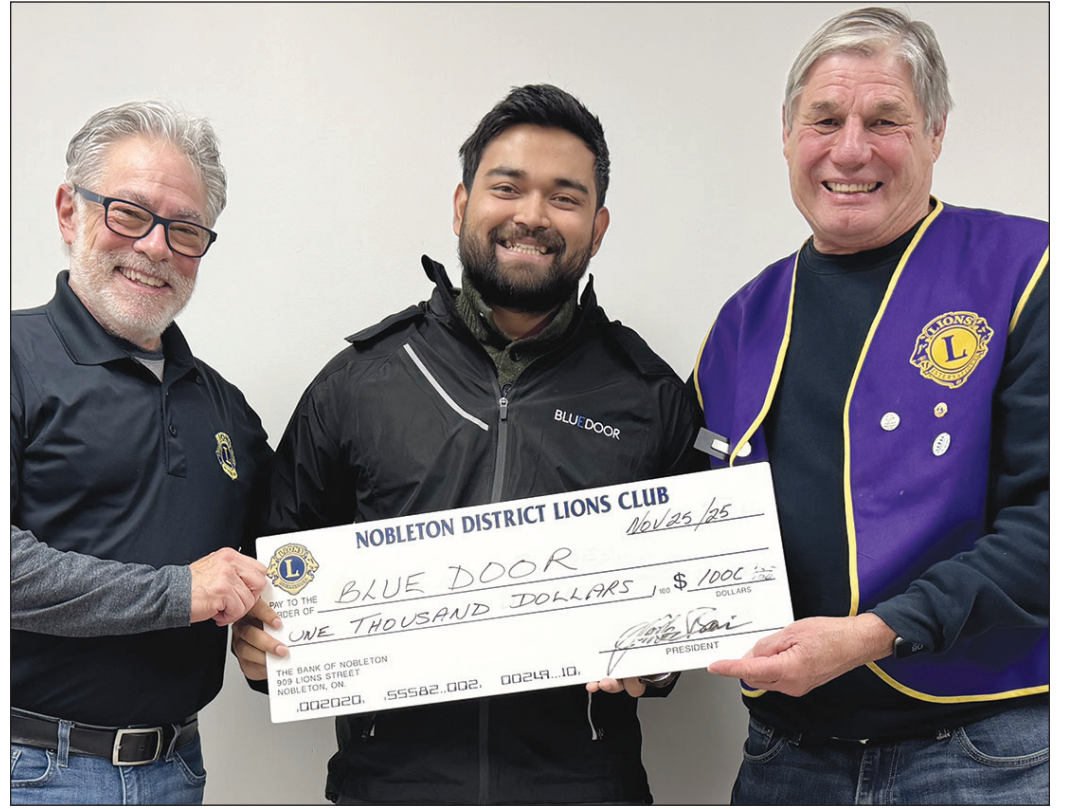
Nobleton Lions Club supports Blue Door with donation

At a recent club meeting, Aaraf Ahmed of Blue Door, one of the charities supported financially by the Nobleton Lions, shared the progress being made in the area of training workers for construction jobs.

Founded in 1982 and the largest emergency housing provider in York Region, Blue Door is a registered charity that offers more than 10 innovative and collaborative housing, employment, and health programs aimed at addressing the root causes of homelessness.

An award-winning expert in providing population-specific support and launching new solutions, Blue Door transforms the lives of youth, adults, seniors, and families, helping our community's most vulnerable escape homelessness and access dignified housing. For more information, visit its website at <https://bluedoor.ca>

Here Lion Gino Difebo and Club President Jerry MacBain present a cheque to Mr. Ahmed to support this much-needed work.



York notes paramedic response times

York Regional Council received a report outlining paramedic response times exceeded nearly all targets in 2024.

Council also approved the immediate expansion of Paramedic Services vehicles using York Region's dedicated bus lanes (rapidways) to help maintain response times for all calls, mitigate delays and support safer, more efficient emergency response.

Previously, Paramedic Services vehicles were only permitted to use rapidways when responding with both lights and sirens for high-priority incidents.

"York Region Paramedic Services continues to deliver timely, dependable emergency care by implementing innovative strategies to improve efficiency and safety," said York Region Chairman and CEO Eric Jolliffe. "By expanding rapidways access, we are leveraging existing infrastructure to reduce delays and maintain high standards of care for our growing communities."

In addition to amending the existing bylaw, Regional Council also received an update on the 2024 York Region Paramedic Services response times. Highlights include:

Responding to 95,511 incidents, a 3.3% increase from 2023; incidents are expected to continue to increase with a growing population.

Managing average hospital transfer of care times below a 30-minute target, with support from hospitals and the provincial Dedicated Offload Nurse Program.

Exceeding six of seven response time targets; achieving average re-

sponse time for the most severe and life-threatening cases (sudden cardiac arrest or absence of breathing) of 5 minutes and 40 seconds, while least urgent cases (minor ailments or general pain) of 12 minutes and 6 seconds.

Paramedic Services narrowly missed non-life-threatening response time average by 1%, an expected outcome of the new Medical Priority Dispatch System launched in November 2024. The dispatch system prioritizes and more effectively sends emergency services to life threatening patients, using lights and sirens. This results in clinically safe patients experiencing longer wait times for non-urgent calls. Since the introduction of this system, use of lights and sirens has dropped to 47% from 70%, reducing the risk of collisions, improving road safety for paramedics and the public during emergency responses.

"The Medical Priority Dispatch System is already delivering positive results, helping us prioritize the most critical patients while improving overall efficiency," said Vaughan Regional Councillor Gino Rosati, Chair of Community and Health Services. "Combined with expanded rapidways access, these changes enable York Region Paramedic Services to meet growing demand and continue providing exceptional care."

York Region's team of skilled paramedics provide emergency and non-emergency medical response to York Region residents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information on York Region Paramedic Services, visit york.ca/Paramedics.

From the Archives

The Schomberg & Aurora railway line operated from 1902 to 1927 - it connected passengers with tram service running along Yonge Street and into Toronto.

KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

WE DON'T BREW OUR BEER FOR THE AWARDS.



BUT HE DOES!

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

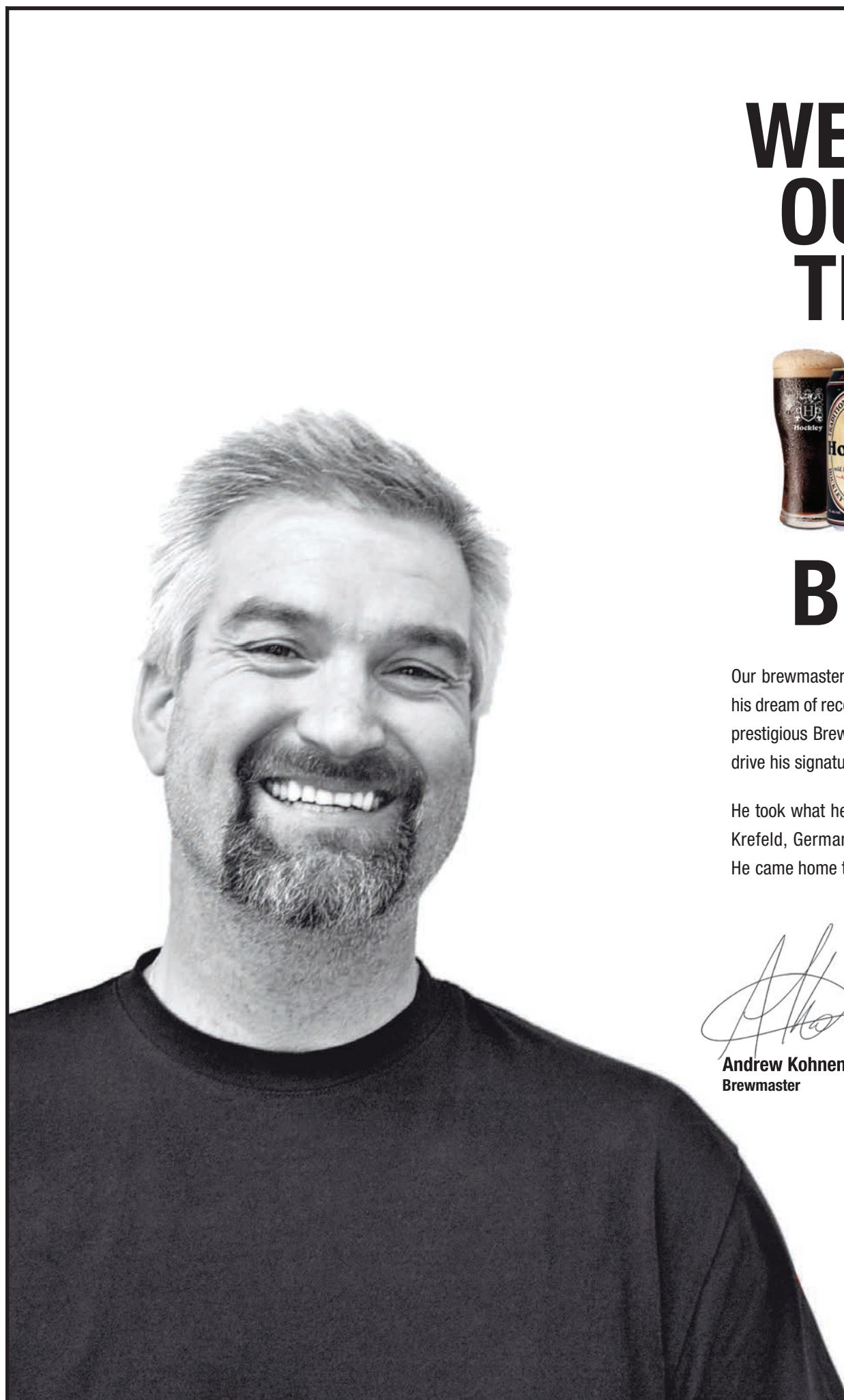
He took what he could from there and ventured to Scotland, Cornwall, and ultimately to Krefeld, Germany, working in the same brewery that had belonged to his ancestors. He came home to Canada for Hockley.

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

Andrew Kohnen
Brewmaster

Hockley

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TALES OF EMPIRE

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Stan Douglas (b. 1960), *Masonic Lodge, Barkerville* (detail), 2006, laserchrome print, 127 x 145 cm, courtesy of the artist, Victoria Miro, and David Zwirner © Stan Douglas

MEDIA PARTNER



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McMichael

Plan to build memorial in Richmond Hill to victims of PS752

The Ontario government is providing \$350,000 to the City of Richmond Hill to support the construction of the Flight PS752 Memorial, honouring the victims of Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752, which was shot down by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps on Jan. 8, 2020.

"We honour the 176 victims of Flight PS752 by building Ontario's first memorial in Richmond Hill — a permanent place for remembrance," said Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan. "I am thinking of King Township resident Shahin Moghaddam, who tragically lost his wife Shakiba and 10-year-old son Rosstin at the hands of the brutal Iranian regime. We stand with the defiant Iranian people today who long for a democratic and free Iran, as they courageously take to the street to bring an end to this regressive dictatorship and its terrorist practices."

"Ontario is proud to support this important initiative that honours the victims of Flight PS752 while providing a space for reflection and healing," said the Honourable Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism. "This memorial is a place to remember the lives lost and to recognize the enduring strength of the families who continue to seek justice and accountability."

The Flight PS752 Memorial represents a collaboration between the City of Richmond Hill, provincial and federal governments. Construction is set to begin mid-2026 and is expected to be completed in 2027.

Designed by the City of Richmond Hill in partnership with families of the victims, the memorial will feature a series of steel panels and an engraved granite base listing all names, along with accessible pathways and integrated lighting. It will serve as a civic landmark in Richmond Hill's Unity Park, creating a public space that honours the lives lost.

Announced on the sixth anniversary of this tragic loss, the investment reflects Ontario's unwavering commitment to stand with Iranian Canadians and all families who lost loved ones on this day, and ensure this tragedy is never forgotten.

On January 8, 2020, UIA Flight PS752 was shot down moments after take-off from Iran on its way to Canada via

Ukraine. There were no survivors. The tragedy took the lives of 176 people, including 55 Canadian citizens and 30 permanent residents.

Forty-four of the victims lived, worked or studied in Richmond Hill, making this the largest single-day loss of life in the city's history.

Nobleton's Shahin Moghaddam lost his wife Shakiba, and their son Rosstin.

This will be the first memorial for the victims of Flight PS752 in Ontario. The City of Winnipeg unveiled the first permanent public memorial in Canada on July 5, 2025.

In 2024, the Canadian Government listed the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist entity under the Criminal Code.

"I extend my deepest gratitude to the Association of Families of Flight PS752 Victims for helping to make this memorial possible. Our government is proud to stand with the victims' families and to honour the memory of those we lost on that terrible day six years ago," said Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services.

"I am deeply grateful for our government's support in honouring the victims of Flight PS752. As our community continues to grieve, this memorial will create a space for Richmond Hill residents to come together in memory of those whose lives were tragically lost. It will stand as a lasting promise that their stories will be remembered and carried forward, always," added Daisy Wai, MPP for Richmond Hill.

"I'm so thankful for this provincial funding, which combined with the previously announced federal funding and Richmond Hill's own contribution, will enable our City to create a memorial for the victims of the tragic downing of Flight PS752 in 2020. This will give our community a dedicated space to collectively mourn our families and friends, and ensure that we will never forget," said Richmond Hill Mayor David West.

"We are deeply grateful for the Government of Ontario's approval of permanent funding for the Flight PS752 memorial in Richmond Hill. Combined with the previously announced federal funding and the strong support of the City of Richmond Hill, this commitment allows us to move forward with a dignified, permanent space to honour

the 176 innocent victims of this tragic crime. This memorial will be a place of remembrance, reflection, and collective mourning—ensuring that the lives lost on Flight PS752 are never forgotten and

that the pursuit of truth and justice remains alive in our community," added Kourosh Doustshenas, spokesperson for The Association of Families of Flight PS752 Victims.



MP helps mark anniversary

King—Vaughan MPP Anna Roberts showed her support in marking the 6th anniversary of the tragic downing of Flight PS752.

"Six years ago, early in the morning, Flight PS752 took off, bound for Kyiv with many aboard returning to Canada. They were coming back from the holidays, spending time with family and friends, or even from their wedding. They were travelling back to communities across our country from Victoria to Halifax.

"None would make their connecting flights home. Just seven minutes after takeoff, two missiles from the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps murdered all 176 passengers, including 55 Canadian citizens and 30 permanent residents.

"This was a barbaric act of terrorism against our people. We join with the families and loved ones of those whose lives were taken in seeking justice for their murder.

"Iran's culpability in this crime is without dispute, as the Ontario Superior Court of Justice awarded the families of victims close to \$250 million. Yet for years, they have been denied compensation, despite frozen regime assets that could have been used to provide justice.

"As Iran continues to intimidate our citizens here at home, Canada must expose and expel agents of foreign regimes and ensure our country remains a safe place for all Canadians."

Last week's event was a memorial for PS752, however, given the current situation, all in attendance were expressing their support for Iranians during their current protests.

"Conservatives stand unequivocally with the people of Iran in their fight for freedom against the murderous Khamenei dictatorship. This weekend, Canadians joined millions around the world in peaceful marches, standing shoulder to shoulder with the Iranian people who show extraordinary courage in the face of savage crackdowns, executions, and decades of brutal repression. The regime rules by fear. The people answer with bravery. May freedom prevail. And may light triumph over darkness," Roberts added.



Love receives Coronation Medal for life-long conservation work

A tireless conservationist has received a prestigious honour for his work.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada nominated King's David Love for the Charles III Coronation Medal to recognize his lifetime of service to conservation both in his work and volunteer life.

David fundraised his first dollar for the environment in 1969 and he is still going today, 57 years later! He helped found Pollution Probe and went on to work at WWF-Canada for 20 years, and remains involved in efforts across the sector to inspire legacy giving.

He and his wife Ann donated part of their Happy Valley Forest property to the Nature Conservancy of Canada in 2012, as testament to his complete and utter dedication to nature.

"And we have been so fortunate to have him on our Ontario board these past six years," the Conservancy says.

David was vice president of WWF Canada, Executive Director of the Living City Foundation (TRCA), a faculty member of WWF International College, as well as consultant on communications and fundraising to many conservation, environmental, and social justice groups.

In his private life, David served as a member on volunteer boards including Sierra Legal Defence Fund (now Eco Justice), Birds Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Small Change Fund, Natural Burial Association, Natural Step, Sustainability Network, Forest Canada – and more.

David received his medal recently in a private ceremony. He is shown here with his medal and Pia Vahabi, NCC Director of Development Operations, Ontario Region.



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- Promote teaching and learning strategies that support girls
- Embolden an 'I can do anything attitude'
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- Inspire truth
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King Weekly Sentinel SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events
Classifieds • At Your Service



New-look King Rebellion snaps seven-game winless streak

By Jim Stewart

It was a revamped and renovated Rebellion roster that took to the ice on Friday night in the club's 4-2 win over the Georgetown Raiders at the Zancor Centre.

Both OJHL clubs were busy at the trade deadline.

Georgetown — last in the West Division — traded its leading scorer James Wong to the Burlington Cougars and dealt Jacob Carroll to Navan of the CCHL.

King — clinging to eighth in the West Division — made significant changes to shake up a team that was nationally-ranked while on an eight-game heater at the end of October.

Rebellion General Manager Jay DeGennaro shook the foundation of his struggling hockey club — mired in a seven-game winless streak. Many core players were jettisoned to OJHL East Division teams as well as the BCHL and PJHL.

Defenceman Ryan Fairbairn, leading the team in assists with 24 and the quarterback of the power play, was dispatched to the fourth-ranked Haliburton County Huskies in exchange for forward Julius DaSilva.

Forward Owen Bruining — a top scorer all season for the Rebellion — was traded to the fifth-ranked Newmarket Hurricanes for forward Reggie Taylor and defenseman Lucas Preiano.

Rugged forward Kyle Baston was traded to top-ranked Stouffville for Lucas Manikis, an offensive defenceman with 27 points for the high-flying Spirit squad.

Productive playmaker Deacon King, who tallied 32 points in 35 games for Caledon, was secured from the Admi-

mand delivered the game-winning goal 7:47 into the final frame on the Rebellion's 40th shot. Smeeton used his 6'2, 190-pound frame to create space in the slot and banged in his own rebound off Larmand's shot outside the circles. When the 3-2 score flashed on the scoreboard, an exquisite sense of relief was evident across the Rebellion bench and the arena.

The impact of the new players — acquired in a flurry of trades on January 8 — was immediate.

The contribution of the new arrivals was not lost on newly-appointed Captain and King leading scorer Jared McNeil: "The new guys broke the slump for us. We've been struggling and they've come in here and created a relaxing vibe in the room. We're feeling less pressure and we're having more fun because they're here. Their play on the ice tonight turned the game around for us."

Taylor, King, and Manikis made their way on to the scoresheet in their first game with the Rebellion.

After the black-clad Raiders struck first on Denimes Moser-Plata's power play goal at 2:33 of the first period, the home side evened the score. Seven minutes into their new digs at the Zancor Centre, King set up Taylor who promptly put the puck past Georgetown netminder Ivan Kastelan. Both created a positive first impression on the King coaching staff and fans.

Manikis made his presence known, too, especially at 12:55 of the second period when he took a pass from Lincoln Edwards and snapped a shot from the circles high blocker side past Kastelan to give the Rebellion their first lead of the game.

Sixty-four seconds later, however, the plucky Raiders — beset with the second-worst record in the 24-team OJHL — evened the score when former Caledon Admiral Owen Meli slipped the puck past King goaltender Logan Kennedy.

King's top line of Jared McNeil, Adam Smeeton, and Lachlan Lar-

mand delivered the game-winning goal 7:47 into the final frame on the Rebellion's 40th shot. Smeeton used his 6'2, 190-pound frame to create space in the slot and banged in his own rebound off Larmand's shot outside the circles. When the 3-2 score flashed on the scoreboard, an exquisite sense of relief was evident across the Rebellion bench and the arena.

McNeil, who earned his 20th assist of the season on the GWG, described the importance of Smeeton's greasy goal: "We were due for one. We've been all around the net the last few games and our line is one of the only ones kept together after all the trades. It was important that Smeeton went to the dirty areas; that's the way out of a slump, to score those kinds of goals."

With King clinging to its 3-2 lead, Kastelan was pulled for the extra attacker with 1:18 left, but Edwards showed his marksmanship after securing a clearing pass from Ryan Castle in the neutral zone. From his side of the centre red line, Edwards slid the puck along the ice, off the right pipe of the vacated cage, and past the goal line to stifle the Raiders' rally with 7.8 seconds left on the clock.

The timely victory solidified the Rebellion's hold on the eighth and final playoff spot in the OJHL West. King (20-15-1-0) pulled seven points ahead of Caledon and trail seventh-place Mississauga (19-17-4-0) by only one point with four games in hand. Supplanting sixth-place Burlington (18-13-3-5) is also on the horizon for the Rebellion. The Cougars lead the Rebellion by three in the standings, but King has three games in hand.

McNeil discussed what it will take

for his club to overtake the Chargers and the Cougars in the standings to get a better playoff seed: "The biggest thing is not to get too high and not to get too low. We got down on ourselves and there was lots of negativity after we went from a heater into a slump. We've got a fresh new vibe in the room with all the new guys. In addition to creating a positive feeling, we need to hold each other accountable. We'll be building new chemistry and start having some fun again. I'm looking forward to having our first practice with all the new players that we've brought in. We need to work on our power play — it needs to be good for us to win in the playoffs."

To complicate matters on Friday night, the radically-altered Rebellion rolled into a must-win game without their Head Coach Geoff Schomogyi. McNeil explained his veteran coach's absence behind the bench versus Georgetown: "He was suspended by the league for one game after he let the refs have it after our (5-1 loss) here against Lindsay. (Coach Schomogyi) was angry with the penalties that were called that created all the 5-on-3 situations we found ourselves in on Sunday. He took one for the team."

Two core Rebellion players that will not be taking one for the local Junior A team for the balance of the 2025-26 season are Max Anderson and Antonio Cerqua who have departed the OJHL for the BCHL and PJHL, respectively.

In a pair of road games with significant playoff implications, King travels to Caledon on Thursday, January 15 to take on the ninth-place Admirals and to Oakville on Saturday, January 17 to battle the tenth-place Blades.

Steinberg tallies two for Schomberg, but Cougars edged 5-4 in OT by Little Britain Merchants

By Jim Stewart

Tyler Johnston deftly deflected Beckham Reznik's centering pass in the slot past Schomberg goaltender Rafael DeFina with 27 seconds left in the first OT to lift the Little Britain Merchants to a 5-4 win over the Cougars on Thursday night at the Trisan Centre.

Schomberg power forward Michael Ciarvella sent the game to OT and helped earn the Cougars a point in the standings by finishing Captain Jack Geniole's feed with 5:54 left in the third period.

Neil Amor Steinberg tallied two goals eleven minutes apart in the middle frame to give the home side a 2-1 lead before Filip Djordjevic tied the game with 1:56 left before second intermission.

Tyler Pellizzari, set up by Steinberg and Ciarvella, restored the Cougars' lead 1:48 into the third period.

However, an unassisted goal by Reznik four minutes later tied the game. Mitchell Yates's power play goal put the Merchants ahead 4-3 with 6:17 left to create another lead change in the see-saw affair.

DeFina turned aside 31 of 36 shots to help the Cougars earn the OT point. It was Schomberg's third OT loss this season.



Cathy Zimmer delivers one of her takeout shots during the Wednesday evening social league. Zimmer was a key player in her team's opening game victory for the second half of the season.

Sweepers return to the rings

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

The brooms of King are back in action as the club sweeps into their second half of the season.

Team Pelland of the men's league continues to impress with their 12-0 record after another win returning from the Christmas break. Teams Allen, Kolody, Barber and Gerrits are in their own race sitting just behind Pelland.

This week's games were of high intensity and pressure packed. Skips Tom Allen and Alan Scott had a front window seat in a wild scoring frenzy of a game. Allen up 5-0 after 3 ends were in a very comfortable position, at least they thought. Scott thought differently by scoring 5 of their own in the 4th, giving up 1 in the 5th then earning 2 more in the 6th moving ahead 7-6.

With the hammer and most likely the last end with time running out, Team Allen kept the brooms down, setting up the house with guards and come-arounds for a multiple score. Team Scott did all they could with takeouts, but it would Tom Allen and his squad of Lukas Koroluk, Glen Allen and Ken Clark who finished the end earning 2 for the win.

Other winners included Kolody, Gerrits, Inglis, Gagliardi, Wasylikiw and Pelland while Team Pizziccarola and Johns ended in a tie.

Wednesday evening Social began their second half with new team arrangements as members took to the ice with a fresh sense of energy and fun.

Skip Carlo Policicchio in his first year of curling after graduating from the Adult Learn to Curl, led his team of wife Dianna along with Rina Pietriangelo and spare John Urbanski in a very impressive game of leadership and strategy against Team Zimmer.

The game proceeded along with fun, some great shot making and personal bests. Vice Cathy Zimmer was called several times for, and delivering, precision takeouts and timely guards setting up the rings for skip spare Shellee Morning. A very solid performance by 2nd Steve Jacobs and wife Lorna for their game contributions of Lead guards by Lorna and hits and draws by Steve.

The game ended in a Zimmers victory but honourable mentions for the calm and positive demeanour of Skip Carlo. This rookie team is keen and clearly shows their love of the game.



MP lauds hockey legend

Holy Mackinaw! King-Vaughan MP Anna Roberts hosted Canadian broadcast hockey legend Joe Bowen at her constituency office to congratulate him on his remarkable 44-year career. She presented him with a certificate from Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre on behalf of the Official Opposition in Canada's Parliament.

King's Corners

King City United By Sheryl Sinka

New worship time! Sunday, Jan. 18, King City-York Pines United Church will worship at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Bill Fritz leading our worship hour at 50 Elizabeth Grove. We invite all to join in our journey as we explore faith and what it means to us and live our lives as expressions of God's love in this world.

This month's Fellowship Lunch is on Wednesday, Jan. 28 at noon at the Sunset Grill in King City. Come and bring a friend! Please contact the office at kcuc@bellnet.ca or 905-833-5181 if you wish to attend or for more information.

"Serviceberry," by Robin Wall Kimmerer, is the subject of the next Book Club meeting on Monday, Jan. 26 at 10 a.m. This book is a lovely treatise on gratitude. You don't need to have read the book to join in. Contact the office at 905-833-5181 or kcuc@bellnet.ca to participate remotely on Zoom.

We would like everyone to know that the church does have an accessible entrance and lift to the auditorium floor for anyone needing this assistance.

If there are any pastoral emergencies please leave a message at the office at 905-833-5181.

Please remember the King Township Food Bank in your givings. Support through the food bank is an expression of kindness and generosity for which so many are grateful. We encourage you to continue to help with donations of food or financial donations for the many needing assistance.

King Bible Church

Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for our Sunday Worship service. Pastor Mark will be speaking on our sermon series, "The Unstuck Life." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube.

We will have an Open Closet Outlet on Saturday, Jan. 24 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Please bring your own bag. Limit restrictions apply and items are for personal use on and not for resale.

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

Upcoming events at KCSC:

Friday, January 16 – 10 a.m. – Presentation – Llja Warmels from CHATS will discuss bone health and also discuss information on the services provided by CHATS. Registration requested at 905-833-6565.

Friday, January 30 – 10 a.m. – Presentation – Joy Schwartz of the MTO will provide winter driving tips and how to renew your licence. Registration re-

quested.

Friday, February 6 – 10 a.m. – Presentation – Mark Shimor of RBC will discuss fraud and seniors. Registration requested.

Friday, February 13 – 10 a.m. – Workshop – Angela will provide a hands-on workshop in which valentine décor will be created. Cost \$10/pp due by January 30.

The following activities are offered at the King City Senior Centre.

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

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

Tuesday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing. Tuesday mornings: 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. – Bone Fitness.

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

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

Wednesday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Standard American 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 at Laskay Hall).

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

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

King City-York Pines

New worship time! Sunday, Jan. 11 King City-York Pines United Church will worship at 10:30 a.m. when we worship as a body of Christ together at 50 Elizabeth Grove. We invite all to join in our journey as we explore faith and what it means to us and live our lives as expressions of God's love in this world. Rev Bill Fritz will lead worship at 10:30.

This Sunday is Hungry Sunday when donations to the King Township Food Bank are appreciated especially dry pasta and tinned fruit.

"Serviceberry," by Robin Wall Kimmerer, is the subject of the next Book Club meeting on January 26 at 10 a.m. This is a lovely treatise on gratitude. You don't need to have read the book to join in. Contact the office at 905-833-5181 or kcuc@bellnet.ca to participate remotely on Zoom

We would like everyone to know that the church does have an accessible entrance and lift to the auditorium floor for anyone needing this assistance.

If there are any pastoral emergencies please leave a message at the office at 905-833-5181.

Please remember the King Township Food bank in your givings. Support through the food bank is an expression of kindness and generosity for which so many are grateful. We encourage you to continue to help with donations of food or financial donations for the many needing assistance.

Sacred Heart Church

Enrolment for the Sacrament of Confirmation Saturday, Jan. 17 5 p.m. Mass and Sunday, Jan. 18 10:30 a.m. Mass.

We welcome into the Church of Jesus Christ through Baptism, Alexander Antonio Foti son of Julian & Stefania. May the Lord Jesus pour His blessing on Alexander and his family.

Adult Faith Education Meeting & Pot-Luck Supper Saturday, Jan. 17 following 5 p.m. Holy Mass in the Parish Hall. Topic this month: The Advantages and Disadvantages of Artificial Intelligence (Part 1) Speaker: Jourdain Casale.

Roast Beef Family Dinner Saturday, Jan. 24 6 to 10 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Tickets and reservations of tables are being encouraged. Kindly see the Knights of Columbus after Mass.

Price: Adults \$75 Seniors \$60; Children under 12 \$25; Free for children under 5. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

Part of being Catholic involves giving to others. Please consider joining us at Coffee Sunday; an invitation for you to be the recipient of that generosity. Also, if your family would like to sponsor a "Coffee Sunday," please fill out the sign-up sheet located outside the kitchen area. For information, contact Nadia Pascuzzo NPascuzzo@archtoronto.org

Rectory: 905-833-1161. Email: sacredheartki@archtoronto.org Website: sacredheartki.archtoronto.org

Facebook & Instagram: Sacred Heart Parish King

Kingcrafts Studio Spring Artisan Sale

Join us for our annual Spring Studio Sale featuring 40+ local artists.

Shop unique handcrafted items and gifts: card making, decorative arts, enamelling, fibre art, fine art, fused glass, jewellery, leather art, needlework, pottery, stained glass, rug hooking, wire sculpture, weaving.

The sale runs Friday, and Saturday, April 24 and 25, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kingcrafts Studio is located at 12936 Keele Street.

Schomberg AA meetings

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

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

St. Andrew's wishes everyone lots of blessings during 2026. Our church is 13190 Keele St., just 2 blocks north of the King Rd.

Our Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. and all are welcome! Join us afterwards for coffee time. Pastor Alison continued with her new sermon series based on our alphabet, with the letter "B," for Branch. We are to remain (abide) in Christ and He promises to remain in us through His Spirit. We are the Branches and will produce the Fruit of the Spirit if we abide in Him. (John 14, and Galatians 5). The idea was from Alistair Begg's book called "C is for Christian: An A-Z Treasury of Who We Are in Christ." Check us out on our website: standrews-kingcity.ca

Sunday, Jan. 25 is our next Fellowship Meal – a Chili Lunch, following our morning worship service! All are welcome! We would love to see you!

The next Session meeting is this Thursday, Jan. 15 and our Annual Congregational Meeting is February 22, following Morning Worship. Mark your calendars.

For pastoral care, please call the office to speak with the Rev. Alison Agnew, or your Elder – 905-833-2325.

All Saints Anglican Church By Kit Woods

For many people, the idea of walking into a church for the first time, or the first time in a long while, can feel daunting. Questions arise quietly in the heart: Will I fit in? Will I know what to do? Will I be expected to believe or say things I'm not ready for?

In an Anglican church, we hope you will discover something deeply reassuring: you don't need to do anything at all.

You are welcome to come just as you are. You may sit wherever you like. You may join in the prayers and hymns, or simply listen. You may follow along, or let the words wash over you. Even the choice to stand or kneel is one you can make without pressure. There will always be an invitation to participate, but never an expectation to or a judgement if you just want to be still and observe. There is no right or wrong way to be present.

This Sunday at 10:30 a.m., our service will be Morning Prayer. This is a quiet, reflective service shaped by scripture, prayer, and moments of stillness. It is often experienced as a gentle place to begin, especially for those who are exploring faith, seeking peace, or longing for a spiritual community that makes room for questions and curiosity.

At our church, welcome is not just something we say, it is something we practice. Clergy, staff, leadership, and parishioners alike are always glad to greet new faces. Whether you are searching for a spiritual home, returning after time away, or simply wondering what an Anglican church might be like, you are welcome here.

If you are longing for connection, calm, or a place to rest for a while, we would be honoured to walk alongside you.

Please see our website, allsaintskingcity.ca, for information about our services and other upcoming events.



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**Contact Karen Nemet
at karen@lpcmedia.ca
or Zach Shoub
at zach@lpcmedia.ca**

King Weekly Sentinel

Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person this Sunday at 10 a.m. We welcome Andrew Stirling who will lead us in worship.

We offer children's ministry and nursery during the Sunday service. After worship, you are welcome to join us for a time of fellowship over coffee and goodies. If you cannot 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 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 Youth LifeConnect Group meets every second Friday, with the next meeting being Friday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. This is a fun time with a range of activities open for all ages from Grades 7 to 12.

St. Paul's monthly men's group meet on the first Saturday of every month. Our next meeting will be Saturday, Feb. 7 at 9 a.m. Our mid-week LifeConnect small groups are a great opportunity to connect with others and grow in faith. Groups meet for discussion, study, and prayer throughout the week.

St. Mary's Mission St. Patrick's Parish

Mass Time Changes: St. Pat's Church - 7:45 a.m. and 9 a.m. Sunday. St. Mary's Church - 5 p.m. Saturdays; 10:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Sundays.

St. Patrick's Parish will celebrate its 150th Anniversary with Cardinal Francis Leo on Sunday, March 8, at 1:30 p.m. There will be a fund raiser dinner at 4 p.m. We are creating a historical photo directory. We will also be celebrating 171 year anniversary of St. Mary's in Nobleton during 2026.

In these cold, gray days of winter, one need not look any further than our Catholic schools for a warm bright light, as our school leaders and wonderful students provide so much for us to be proud of. I went to the school during the Covid lockdown, knowing that I would not be able to see the children,

however, God had another plan.

It seems that my conversation with the secretaries and the principal were being piped through the school because someone left the microphone on after the last time they made an announcement. The custodian came running in to tell us that the mic was on and we could be heard all over the school. So all the children knew I was in the school and thinking of them, and how I was sad that I could not be with them. But this brightened and warmed my heart on such a cold winter day.

Our Catholic schools are all different but, share the same goal to teach academics while also teaching our faith beliefs and practices to our students. Catholic schools are not just schools, they are a way of life. God is incorporated so deeply into their existence and into every decision that is made for the growth, health and well being of everyone. All of their work is intentional for growing in faith and for the Glory of God. How cool is that?

This 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, we are praying for Christian Unity. So instead of curling up with a book on a cold winter night, let's open up the best Good Book and invite God into our hearts

I did have a rather comical experience this week, I was told to get on the scale by a doctor to check my weight. As I was sucking in my belly, the doctor laughed and said, "That's not going to help." And I said: "Sure it does, it's the only way I can see the numbers!"

As always, if no one told you that they loved you today, let me be the first. I love you!

- God Bless Fr. Bob

Nobleton Seniors (55+) By Joanne Bailey Program Chair

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

Mobility Matters will be on Monday and Friday from 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

January 15 - Decorate Your Home with a Winter Door Hanger. Artist Angela Del Borrello will give instructions on how to create a wood door hanger. Register by January 8, cost is \$10 which includes all materials.

January 22 - Sit back and relax and watch a movie on the new TV screen. Choice of movie will be determined by the group.

January 29 - Are your affairs in order? A coffee and tea workshop on being prepared. Guest speaker Gordon MacGregor, certified executive advisor on behalf of Egan Funeral Home in Bolton will discuss the & key steps in being organized.

February 5 - Create your own Acrylic Winter Forest Scene. Artist Angela Del Borrello will give detailed instructions on painting a winter forest scene with acrylic paint. Register by January 29, cost is \$10 which includes all materials.

February 12 - Ministry Transportation of Ontario. Joy Schwartz Regional Strategic Outreach Coordinator will discuss testing requirements and licensing for seniors over 80, trends & statistics for older drivers.

February 19 - Heart to Home - Traditionally Balanced Meals. Heart to Home will discuss their menu, how it caters to various dietary needs and the delivery of the food. Sample foods will be available to try.

February 26 - Frauds, Scams and Financial Abuse. Mary Shkoury, Prevention Consultant with Elder Abuse will talk about recognizing frauds, scams and financial abuse to seniors.

Kingcrafts Studio Spring Artisan Sale

Join us for our annual Spring Studio Sale featuring 40+ local artists. The sale runs Friday, and Saturday, April 24 and 25, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Nobleton Lions

The Nobleton Lions look forward to continuing to serve in our community in 2026 and doing our small part to making Nobleton a great place to live. Our first fundraiser is the poker tournament on February 27. For tickets, please contact Gunther Vetter at 416-807-5469 or any Lion.

Sadly, last week the club lost one of its most active members, Bob Phillips, after a lengthy illness. Lion Bob served for over 16 years including three years as President. With overwhelming enthusiasm he participated in virtually every event and activity over the years and would be one of the first to volunteer and one of the last around when it came time to clean up. He received the two most prestigious Lions awards (Hellen Keller and Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards) and was recognized in 2023 by the township of King with the Senior

Citizen Award of Merit. His passing leaves a big hole in our membership. Lion Bob will be greatly missed.

Regular meetings of the Nobleton Lions Club are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from September to mid-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 Lion Jerry MacBain at nobletonlionjerry@outlook.com.

To learn more about how the Nobleton Lions engage with both the local community and the wider Lions International worldwide community, please visit our website which can be accessed by googling "nobletonlions.com" At the website on the Upcoming Events page you will also see announcements for events offered by non-profit organizations in King. If you have an activity that qualifies, please contact Lion Jerry MacBain.

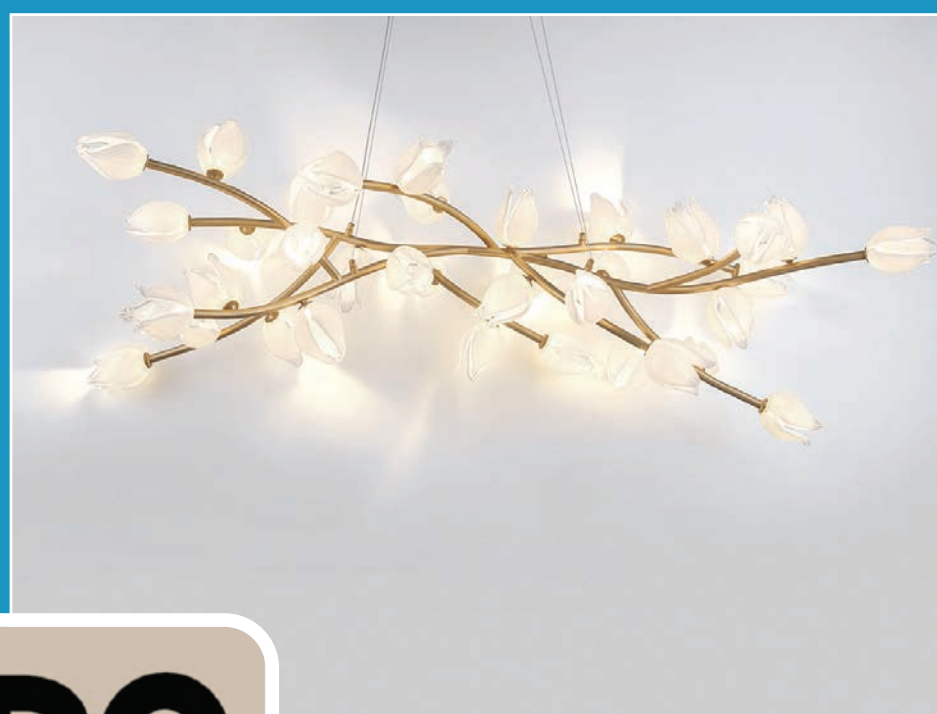
St. Alban's History By John Arnott

With 2 weeks to go the pace of work increases to have St. Alban's as ready as far as possible in time for the June 23, 1889 opening. Outside, 2 sets of sturdy wooden stairs have replaced the rough haul planks, giving access to the Great South Door set in the large imposing gothic arch holding the main entrance into the building and a 2nd much smaller regular door leading into the vestry cum office, where the priest would change into robes and official ledgers and business papers would be kept.

Inside lengths 4 in./10 cm high, finished and already varnished base boarding to protect the walls from scuffing from chairs pews brooms wash mops and water buckets are being carefully nailed in place. Along the front of the chancel there's a gap between its subflooring and its higher finished flooring where the ends of the large pine beams lying horizontal and crossed by narrower spruce boards can readily be seen. This is already being boxed in.

Framed wainscotting/partition panels are ready to line the top edge of the chancel floor to physically and symbolically separate chancel from nave a custom haling back to mediaeval churches.

Back then these partitions were called a rood screens and many of these high delicate constructions were intricately carved from stone or wood.



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Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Our regular services are 9:30 a.m. at Schomberg and 11:15 a.m. at Nobleton. We warmly welcome everyone, even if you just want to drop in for a short prayer. If you do stay for the service, we invite you to have coffee or tea and some snacks afterwards.

Last week, when Rev. Richard was away, the topic was "Remember Your Baptism." Rev. Evelyn McLachlan used an evergreen branch dipped in the baptismal font's water and flicked the branch towards each one of us, separately, with the instruction "Remember Your Baptism!"

Our next Messy Church is Monday, Jan. 19 at 5 p.m. at Nobleton United. The activities and crafts (5-6 PM) are based on different Bible stories. "Jesus Calms the Storm" is January's theme. At 6 p.m., we have story time until 6:15 p.m. when we eat.

Children must be accompanied by

a responsible adult. One activity is always decorating a cookie in the theme of the day. Please let Nancy Hopkinson know (text 416-316-5064 or email nancykhopkinson@gmail.com) if you would like to attend, as we need to have enough food for everyone.

Join us for our next Community Potluck Lunch taking place on Tuesday, Feb. 3. We gather at 11:30 a.m. and have lunch at noon at St. Mary Magdalene Church. This is an opportunity to make friends and enjoy warm conversation over a shared meal. This event is free but bring some food to share with others.

On Feb. 8, Superbowl Sunday, our churches will be gathering soup & crackers for the annual SOUPER Bowl Fundraiser to support the King Township Foodbank. This fundraiser began in the 1990s with a Presbyterian minister in South Carolina who was concerned about those who could barely afford to feed their families while those watching the game had plenty. He challenged his church and SOUPER Bowl was born. Since then over \$220 million in food & funds have been raised around the world to support local food banks & food programs.

Rev. Evelyn McLachlan is continuing

this by challenging congregations, faith communities & community groups to take part. Preferred soups are: Chunky soups, beef stew, mild chili, Habitant soups, Campbell's condensed soups and Knorr dehydrated soups. We hope you will take part in this challenge on February 8!

Our next Schomberg Senior's Luncheon is Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Schomberg. The meal will be Ruthie's chicken casserole served with a green salad with maple syrup dressing. Dessert will be apple cranberry crisp with ice cream. The entertainment will be provided by Joe Crone from Aurora, singing '50s and '60s music. Joe has entertained us before and is recently back in Canada after travelling around the world with his family. Please RSVP with Sheila Kelly (905-939-2315 or 905-751-5190) if you plan to attend as space is limited. Although the meal is free, donations are appreciated to defray costs.

The Schomberg United Church Women will meet on Thursday, Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring scissors and glue to make Valentine cards!

Our Bible Study group is taking a



break but will resume in a few weeks.

On Wednesday mornings, we have a Zoom Coffee chat (10 am - 11 am). 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.

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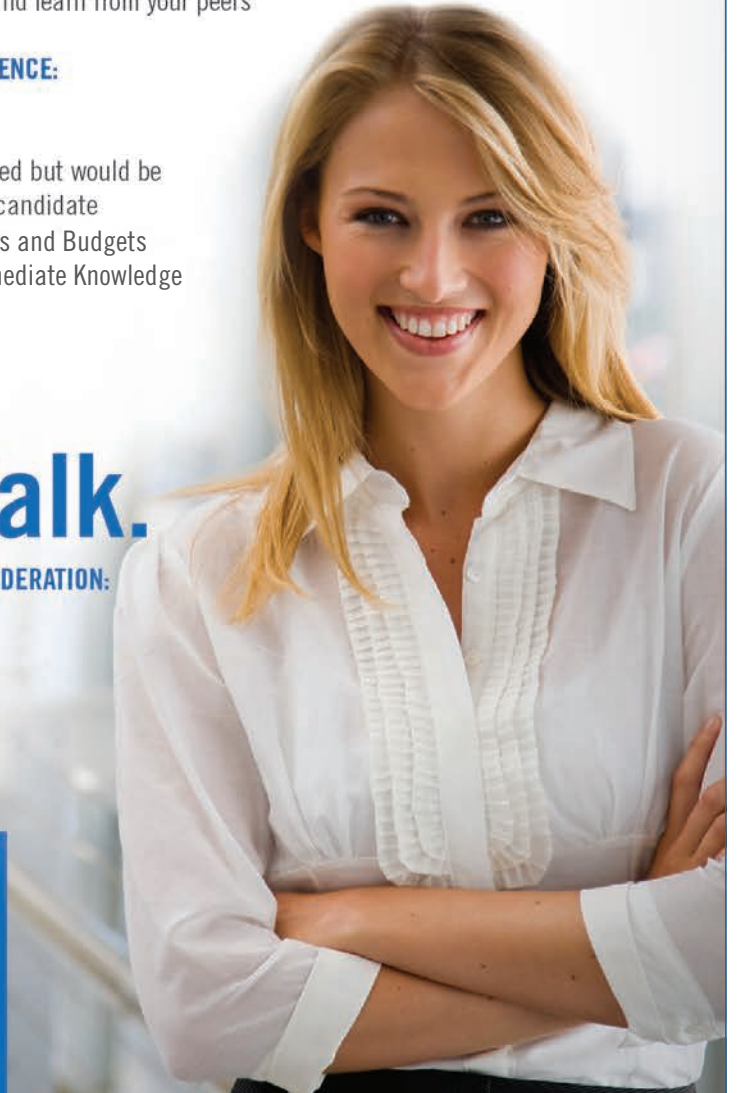
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zach@lpcmedia.ca



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Fraser Institute rankings of Ontario elementary schools

The Fraser Institute released its annual rankings of Ontario elementary schools, allowing parents to compare the academic performance of schools across the province.

“Our Report Cards offer parents information they can’t easily get anywhere else, about how their child’s school performs and how it compares to other schools in Ontario,” said Paige MacPherson, a Fraser Institute senior fellow.

This year, the Report Card on Ontario’s Elementary Schools ranks 3,052 public, Catholic, and independent schools based on nine academic indicators derived from provincewide test results.

And contrary to common misconceptions, the data suggest every school can improve regardless of type, location, and student characteristics.

“It doesn’t matter where a school is ranked, or what challenges its students may face. The evidence is clear – all types of schools, located all over the province with different types of students, are all capable of improvement,” MacPherson said.

For the complete results on all ranked schools and to compare the performance of different schools, visit www.compareschoolrankings.org

St. Mary Catholic Elementary School in Nobleton had a strong score of 8.4, ranking 231st out of 3,052.

Schomberg Public School was 351/3052 with a score of 8.

Nobleton Public School ranked 2385 out of 3052, with a score of 4.6.

King City P.S. placed 2762/3052 with a score of 3.5.



Resident’s 102nd birthday marked

King-Vaughan’s politicians brought greetings to Michelina Iacobellis, marking her 102nd birthday. The Chartwell Valley Vista resident is a landed immigrant from Bari, Italy. Michelina lived through a World War, worked hard, and sacrificed for a great life for her and her family in Canada. Both Anna Roberts and Stephen Lecce marked the occasion. “102 years ago, the Queen of Chartwell Valley Vista was born,” said Lecce. “We celebrated Michelina’s 102nd birthday, sharing stories of her immigrant journey, the family she raised, and the pride she carries for both her heritage and this country.”

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Robert Gordon Phillips
Peacefully, surrounded by his family, at Bethell Hospice, Inglewood, on Thursday, January 8, 2026, Robert Phillips, at the age of 79 years, beloved husband of Susan. Loving father of Trevor, Kevin, Tara and her husband Paul Inman. Cherished grandfather of Hailey and Courtney. Dear son of the late Frances and Thomas Phillips. Dear brother of Carolyn, Wayne, Gary and the late Judy Phillips. The family received their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Monday afternoon 2 – 4 and evening 6 – 8 o’clock. A Lions Service was held on Monday evening at 7:30 o’clock. Funeral service was held in the chapel on Tuesday morning, January 13 at 11 o’clock. Interment Nobleton Community Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Bethell Hospice Foundation (bethellhospice.org). Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

Elizabeth Dean
Aug. 26, 2008 - Jan. 18, 2024

Never Not Remember You
I know you’re up in heaven
But damn it hurts like hell
Cause I’d just be pretending
If said anything else
And I know God don’t make mistakes
But this sure feels like one
That won’t change the facts
That won’t bring you back

So I’ll cry cause it’s over
And smile because we had you
Packed a whole lot of living
Even though it ended all too soon
And in time I’ll start healing
But even when I get that feeling
No matter where I go or what I do
I’ll never not remember you

Thank God for all the memories
And pictures on my phone
They don’t fill the empty
But I feel less alone
And I know you’re with the angels
Right where you belong
Cause you were one to us
You left a legacy of love

You lighting up a whole room like that
You made us think, made us feel, made us all laugh
You always giving us your love
I miss you bad, I miss you bad

So I’ll cry cause it’s over
Smile because we had you
Pack a whole lot of living
Even though it ended all too soon
And in time I’ll start healing
But even when I get that feeling
No matter where I go or what I do
I’ll never not remember you

Oh I promise you
I’ll never not remember you

Beloved daughter to Brad and Meghan Dean,
loved little sister to Connor Dean
Cherished granddaughter to George and Lorie Dean,
Margaret and Murray Crawley
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Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

The year is off to a very snowy, chilly start. I'm looking forward to spring myself, as I'm sure many of you are. This is our first week for our two-weeks recycling pick-up and I don't know about you but ours is full.

Speaking of our new recycling program, you can now drop off your old blue boxes to either the Trisan, Zancor or Nobleton arena to be recycled until February 27th. Please empty and clean your boxes before dropping them off.

If you're still feeling like the large bin might be too large for your needs you can call 1-833-779-4351 and exchange it for the smaller 240-litre recycling cart, but it is suggested that you at least try the cart out for three bi-weekly pick-ups before requesting a smaller bin, because there will only be one bin per household and pick-up will now be every other week from now on.

Annual Gala

Join Mayor Pelligrini on Thursday, Feb. 26 at The Manor Event Venue for an unforgettable evening celebrating King's "Local Legends." Enjoy a gourmet dinner, live performances by Pianist Elliott Barenthin and the band Sensations, activities including a photo booth, and an exclusive silent auction – all while supporting arts, culture, and heritage in King Township.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for a reception service that includes an antipasto bar. A plated dinner service with duo entree starts at 7 p.m.

This year's Gala marks the inaugural induction ceremony for the King Township Sports Hall of Fame, recognizing the athletes and teams who inspire pride and community spirit.

Tickets are available now single \$275 or table of 10 (\$2,500). All proceeds support Arts Society King and the King Museum.

Purchase your tickets and learn more about sponsorship or donating to the si-

lent auction at king.ca/MayorsGala.

Simcoe Currency Club

Interested in coin/currency collecting? Wondering how to connect with other collectors? Come out and share your interest and learn from other collectors. The Simcoe Currency Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Cookstown Curling Club (18 Church St, Cookstown) at 7 p.m. Membership is \$25 for the year.

They have exciting draws, auctions, news, and a featured speaker every month. For more information visit their website simcoecurrencyclub.com or call 647-200-7007.

Schomberg Euchre Club

Euchre is every Friday night at Trisan in Room A/B from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$10 for the evening or pay monthly for \$20. 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 are back after the Christmas break.

Schomberg 55+

General meetings start at 10 a.m. for coffee and 10:30 a.m. for meeting.

Monday, January 19 – Presentation – Naomi Simpson, professional astrologer and coach, will discuss dealing with times of change through effective communication and conflict resolution to help transform relationships and personal growth.

Monday, February 2 – Game Time with Maggie and Lynn – Celebrating the love month with "Roses are red, trivia is tough."

Monday, February 9 – Presentation – Lynda Quirino will give a talk on "Demystifying Ghostly Phenomena" Lynda is the founder and President of the "Georgina Paranormal Society" and will be discussing the kinds of ways ghosts and spirits present themselves, and why they may be present in the first place. She'll cover topics like poltergeist phenomena, orbs, portals and will be bringing along her equipment and give us all a live demonstration.

Weekly Events:

Monday afternoons – 2:15 p.m. – Mobility Matters (Trisan Centre).

Tuesday afternoons – 1:30 pm to 3:30 p.m. – Bridge – in Multi Room B at Trisan.

Wednesday mornings – 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. – Bone Fitness.

Wednesday afternoon – 2 to 4 p.m. – Mahjong –in the Curling Lounge at Trisan.

Thursday afternoons – 1 p.m. – Carpet Bowling - at Trisan. Thursday afternoons – 3 to 4:30 p.m. – The Tightly Wound ukulele group in the Multi Room B at Trisan.

Friday afternoons – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – Bid Euchre in Multi Room A at Trisan, coming January 9th, newbies welcome

Friday afternoons – 2:15 p.m. – Mobility Matters (Trisan Centre).

Some new additions to our agenda that you might be interested in are

Line Dancing, Tuesday, Jan. 20 at SCH., 7 to 9 p.m. No partner or experience needed, just come and have fun! \$20 in advance or \$30 cash at the door. Register here: <https://www.cheatinhearts.ca/events> (Many thanks to Carolyn LaPenta for this suggestion).

Snowshoeing, Wednesday, Jan. 21 at Cold Creek Conservation Area, 1:30 to

3:30 p.m. This event is in partnership with the Schomberg Horticulture Society and includes equipment, fitting, snowshoeing techniques, and a one-hour guided trail walk. Warm up afterwards at the Visitor Centre Chalet with tea, coffee, or hot chocolate. Cost is \$21.50. Space is limited, so RSVP me at klbird@hotmail.com by January 13th if interested. (Thanks to Eleonora Schmied for the invitation.)

Mosaic Lamp Workshops with Art Masterclass Canada. Workshops are held twice a month. The next session is February 1 at either 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. at Best Western in Orangeville. The 2.5-hour guided workshop includes all materials and Turkish tea service with treats. (Thanks to Ida Haelser for this suggestion).

Annual 2026 memberships remain at \$20 for King Township residents, \$25 for non-residents. For members that hold a valid Rec Pass at the Trisan Centre, the 55+ membership fee is included at no additional cost.

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

Please reach out with your events, stories of happenings or anything you would love to see here spporter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

#LocalGovWeek

Who Does What?

RESPONSIBILITY BY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT

Federal	Provincial	Municipal
<p>Services affecting the whole country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizenship Immigration International Relations Currency & Banking Income Tax & Sales Tax Census Defense International Trade Postal Service Transportation 	<p>Services affecting the province of Ontario:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture Employment Education Health Care Highways Planning & Development Framework Social Services Sales Tax Mental Health Income Tax 	<p>Services affecting a local municipality, region, or county:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Support & Homelessness Emergency Services Libraries Parks, Trails & Playgrounds Planning & Development Decisions Roads, Bridges, Sidewalks Waste Management Drinking Water Sewers & Wastewater Snow Clearing Animal Services



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