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King's Community Newspaper

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CCTV cameras are now active in King, and Vaughan. On hand for the official announcement were YRP #4 District Inspector Carl Matinen; YRP Deputy Chief of Police Paulo Da Silva; King Township Mayor and Chair of YRP Services Board Steve Pellegrini; Vaughan Mayor Steven Del Duca; Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan; YRP #4 District Superintendent Blair Steer.

CCTV cameras are now active in King

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Three new CCTV cameras are active in King, specifically in Nobleton.

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan, announced last week that all seven CCTV cameras in King—Vaughan, funded by the Province of Ontario and York Regional Police, are live and operational.

Three cameras positioned in Nobleton at Highway 27 and Parkheights Trail, Highway 27 and Oliver Emmerson Avenue, and Wilkie Avenue and Ballard Drive. There are four cameras in Maple, along the Jane Street corridor located at the intersections of Major Mackenzie Drive, Avro Road, Norwood Avenue, and Rutherford Road.

These cameras are funded in part by the Ontario government through a \$255,000 CCTV Grant to help York Regional Police expand its video surveillance systems and better protect the community against violent crime.

“Families in Vaughan deserve to live in safety, which is why Ontario stepped up to deliver crime stopping cameras — helping police catch criminals before they can escape,”

said Lecce. “Our government has been clear since day one: we will do everything in our power to keep our neighbourhoods safe — using cameras equipped with modern license plate recognition technology to track down stolen vehicles often used in violent and organized crime.

“While Ontario takes action, we continue to call on the federal government to introduce bail reform and reinstate mandatory minimum sentences in to ensure dangerous criminals are off our streets and held to account.”

Funding for these cameras was delivered through the Ontario Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Grant Program and can be used to replace outdated equipment, expand or enhance current technology, and install new or additional CCTV surveillance cameras in areas where gun and gang violence and correlated crimes, such as drug and human trafficking, are most prevalent.

“CCTV surveillance systems are an important part of local police work to detect, prevent and deter criminal activity, especially in areas of gun and gang violence and other serious crimes,” said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner.

See ‘Surveillance’ on Page 3

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RECYCLE

PENS, PENCILS AND MARKERS WASTE

Township offers way to recycle textiles, art supplies.

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HAPPY FAMILY DAY!

Coloring Contest

SCAN HERE TO ENTER

Sentinel presents its Family Day Colouring Contest.

See Inside

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Upcoming Meetings



COUNCIL MEETINGS
Monday, February 23
 5 p.m. - Council Working Session
 6 p.m. - Council
Monday, March 02
 6 p.m. - Public Planning Meeting

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS
Wednesday, February 18
 6 p.m. - Committee of Adjustment

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

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

 **Property Tax | Due Date: February 17**
Water Bill | Due Date: February 18
king.ca/WaterBilling
king.ca/PropertyTaxes



20 Volunteer Appreciation 26 AWARDS
 Nominate an unsung hero!
 Deadline: Saturday, Feb. 28
king.ca/awards

We're HIRING



- By-law Student
- By-law Enforcement Officer Level 2 (Contract)
- Public Works Student
- Elections Assistant (Student)
- Mechanic
- Cold Creek Conservation Area Site Operator
- Summer Camp positions
- Outdoor Program Facilitator (4 & 6 Month)
- Seasonal Environmental Field Labourer
- Inclusion Facilitator
- Parks Summer Student
- Parks Seasonal Worker

View job postings at king.ca/employment

Drawing a new future for hard-to-recycle art supplies: TerraCycle comes to King Township

Keep dried-up markers, crayons, broken pencil crayons and ink cartridges out of the landfill by dropping them at any King Township Public Library branch for recycling in a TerraCycle box.

The materials are turned into plastic pellets and remade into new products like outdoor furniture, decking, pallets, storage bins, playground surfaces and more.

These TerraCycle boxes add to King Township's waste-diversion programs—repair cafés, e-waste events, textile bins, battery recycling and our annual Community Yard Sale in May.

All of this supports the King Community Climate Action Plan and our goal to cut community emissions 35% by 2030. Waste currently contributes 1,283 tonnes of CO₂e, making diversion more important than ever.

For details, visit king.ca/WasteDiversioin



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 Cold Creek Conservation Area TOWNSHIP OF KING

KING king.ca/events

Family Day Activities

Great memories happen when you're busy having fun!
 Make lasting ones on the Family Day holiday on **Monday, Feb. 16** spending quality time together at your local recreation facility or Cold Creek Conservation Area.

Drop-in for skating, swimming, shinny hockey, pickleball, badminton or open turf activities like soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, frisbee and football. Try aquafit, Yoga or Body Sculpt, or bring little ones (ages 1-6) to Playgroup for climbing, jumping and playtime.

View schedules at king.ca/DropInPrograms.

Embrace the winter weather cross-country skiing or snowshoeing at Cold Creek Conservation Area. Snowshoe, ski and pole rentals are FREE (while supplies last) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Warm up with a drink from our on-site vendor J. E. Drinkwalters Homestead Recipes, then lace up your skates for a glide across the new outdoor "backyard" rink under the pavilion.

To learn more, visit coldcreek.ca.



Surveillance is an important part of police work

From Front Page

“Through this grant program, our government led by Premier Ford is ensuring police services have the tools and resources they need to help protect their communities and keep Ontarians safe.”

Launched in August 2020, the Ontario CCTV Grant program is part of Ontario’s Guns, Gangs and Violence Reduction Strategy. The funding provided to York Regional Police supported one of 14 projects across the province, for a total investment of \$2 million for 2024-2025.

York Regional Police will use CCTV footage to investigate and solve crimes if criminal activity is reported in the area. The cameras will only monitor publicly accessible areas. Camera views are restricted from recording private dwelling spaces. These cameras are also equipped with automated license plate reader (ALPR) technology, which will help police to identify and locate stolen vehicles.

“We are pleased to receive this funding from our partners at the provincial government,” said York Regional Police Deputy Chief Paulo Da Silva. “The CCTV Community Camera program has already delivered positive results, and we are confident the addition of Automated Licence Plate Reader technology will further support our front-line officers in keeping communities safe — helping us detect, deter and arrest those who commit crime.”

“Keeping our residents safe is one of our top priorities. Together we are investing in crime-fighting cameras across our city to help deter criminal activity and support police in identifying and catching the criminals responsible. I want to thank the Government

of Ontario and MPP Stephen Lecce for their partnership and support in funding these cameras, as well as York Regional Police for the exceptional work they do every day to keep our neighbourhoods safe. In addition to the cameras funded by the province and YRP, the City of Vaughan is also purchasing 10 new cameras to further strengthen public safety across our city. Together, all levels of government and our policing partners are working hand-in-hand to keep our communities safe and ensure criminals are kept behind bars,” said Vaughan Mayor Steven Del Duca.

“On behalf of King Township, I want to thank the Government of Ontario for investing in the installation of three new CCTV cameras in King. This funding supports our ongoing efforts to enhance public safety and provide our law enforcement partners at York Regional Police with the tools they need to protect our community. The security and well-being of our residents remains a top priority, and we have zero tolerance for criminal activity in our neighbourhoods. These cameras are an important step in keeping King a safe and peaceful place to live and raise a family,” added Mayor Steve Pellegrini, Chair of the YRP Services Board.

CCTV monitoring will be conducted in a professional, ethical and legal manner in accordance with the Ontario Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the Human Rights Code and in compliance with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario guidelines.

The grant funding covers 50 per cent of project costs up to a maximum of \$300,000 for each successful project.

Footage will only be retained for 72 hours unless it is needed for an investigative purpose.



Officers charged in Project South

York Regional Police investigators have arrested and charged seven Toronto Police Service (TPS) officers, one retired Toronto Police Service officer, and 19 additional suspects in a seven-month investigation into organized crime and corruption.

The investigation, dubbed “Project South,” began in June 2025, after police uncovered and stopped a conspiracy to commit murder at a home in York Region.

On June 20, a suspect vehicle attended the residence and collided with a marked York Regional Police cruiser that was stationed at the home. Ultimately, three suspects, including two youths and one adult, Almar Heath, were taken into custody.

Investigators allege that prior to this incident, TPS Constable Timothy Barnhardt had unlawfully accessed a police database, performing a query that produced confidential information.

Through further investigation, police found evidence of numerous unlawful queries alleged to be conducted by Constable Barnhardt and other officers within the Toronto Police Service. In multiple cases, investigators determined the addresses returned by the unlawful queries were later the location of criminal incidents, including an extortion, commercial robberies and shootings. Investigators allege that the confidential information gleaned from the queries was shared with Brian Da Costa, Elwyn Satanowsky and others, who police believe are known to various criminal networks.

In all, three officers and one retired officer have been charged with offences

related to unlawful queries and the distribution of confidential, personal information.

At the scene of a shooting in the City of Vaughan in September, police arrested Kaejean Doman, who was alleged to be in possession of a firearm police believe was imported illegally into Canada. Forensic examination has since connected that weapon to at least eight shootings across southern Ontario.

Doman was charged with a number of firearm-related offences and remains in custody. Police allege that Doman, along with Median Jackson and Devonte Barker Campbell, had access to confidential information obtained by Constable Barnhardt and were recruiting other actors to conduct crimes at various locations.

Police also uncovered a plan, led by Da Costa, in which Toronto police officers intended to support the operation of illegal cannabis dispensaries by accepting bribes to obstruct any possible enforcement action to be taken at those locations.

Four officers face bribery charges in connection to this operation. Three Toronto officers also face charges related to the trafficking of cocaine. One officer faces charges for the theft of personal property, which included drivers’ licenses, health cards, passports and credit cards.

Investigators working on Project South also arrested numerous suspects who face charges for the commercial drug trafficking of cocaine, methamphetamine, illicit cannabis, fentanyl, heroin and oxycodone.

See ‘Charges’ on Page 6

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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

Are people in our lives by chance or design?

“People are guests in our story, the same way we are guests in theirs. But we all meet each other for a reason because every person is a personal lesson waiting to be told.”

— Lauren Klarfeld

I’ve often wondered about just how and why certain people end up in our lives, or become a few paragraphs in our personal storybook.

Sure, our work and social circles bring us into contact with literally hundreds of souls. But we don’t click with each and every one. We aren’t drawn, like electricity, to everyone’s heart and soul.

And yet, we find them, or they find us. I’ve stopped believing in chance and the randomness of things. During my soul-searching, I’ve come to think that we are walking miracles, souls with energy, or like Jerry Lee Lewis described, “great balls of fire.”

Simone Sinek once said that life isn’t beautiful because of the things we do or see, but “because of the people we meet.”

In my line of work – a journalist for more than 30 years – I’ve encountered thousands of interesting people. Statistics indicate we average humans will meet 10,000 people over the course of our lives. I’ve always believed there’s a lesson to be learned in meeting new people, and absorbing their energy and listening to their tales.

I’ve tried to be genuinely interested in them, not so they can return the favour, but simply because I believe we should extend courtesy to everyone we meet.

I’ve been so blessed that many of these have “stuck,” and become much more than “work acquaintances.” They are my friends. Were they destined to



Mark Pavilons

become part of my orbit?

Maybe not Friday night euchre game kind of friends, or Sunday brunch chums, but kind souls you can count on, turn to, rely on, or even ask for favours.

It’s funny when people enter our lives – some quiet and unannounced, others with a bang. We never know if that certain someone will become a trusted friend or life-long pal.

They say opposites attract, and so do magnetic forces and static electricity. Most of the people in my circle are quite different – entrepreneurs, designers, creators, artists, volunteers – just decent folks. Sure, by day, some are politicians, law enforcement officials and front line responders. But share a coffee and they are people – spouses, parents, good samaritans and much, much more.

Behind the facades, people are so complex and deep, that they task you to ex-

plore and uncover their riches. Why? To become part of the human story.

We don’t sit in the corner of a dark and dusty century home parlour and write our own book of life. We can’t live in isolation or merely by glancing out the streaked windows.

We join in, kiss a fish, maybe dance the jig or shout one, two, three “g’suffa!” You don’t need lederhosen to join in the fun. And yes, I’ve jumped off a dock in my birthday suit, just because.

That’s the freshness of the orchard of humanity.

Many of us believe that almost every person we meet has a purpose in our lives, directly or indirectly. This makes “chance” encounters so important and precious. If this is the case, shouldn’t we all be more polite, more compassionate, and open when meeting strangers? I always tell cashiers to have a nice rest of the day, regardless of the situation. Maybe I’m the only one who offers this salutation that day, and can bring a smile to a stranger’s face.

Sanju Pradeepa Danthanarayana says people we meet along the way, no matter how briefly, “have shaped your journey in ways you may never fully comprehend. There are no coincidences. Each person who crosses your path does for a reason. Some are there to teach you, others to challenge you, and a few to lift you when you need it most.”

I’ve researched the odds of each of us being here today, and the near impossibility of life evolving on Earth. The probability of the right sperm and egg creating “you” is one in 400 quadrillion. You can’t dismiss this unfathomable way we’ve beaten the odds. These cal-

culations have turned many scientists and mathematicians from atheists into believers.

I liken it to a massive bowl filled with gumballs or jellybeans. Each of us and our friends are in there, somewhere. What are the odds that the ones you select from the jar at random become life-long comrades? What of the others that are “brushed” aside by your fingers?

The odds of two of these “beans” becoming peas in a pod are close to impossible. And yet we challenge and beat those odds every single day.

Coincidence? I think not! Some studies have estimated that we encounter more than 300 people per day – making eye contact with people at the mall, arena, at work, on the bus, in restaurants, in the check-out line, etc. I have started conversations with people in all of these instances. Of course, few will be ingrained into our brains, but perhaps one or two will.

When I was young, bumping into people was commonplace. We ventured out almost daily.

With the advent and chaos caused by our devices – smart phones and tablets – we’ve shut out many of those who could become important chapters in our ongoing history.

Leave them in your pocket when you’re out and about. Look around and smile, and see the reaction.

Some people say meeting people is the meaning of life, for everyone you encounter knows something you don’t.

My advice? Be a traveller; listen to stories; meet new people, and dream.

Oh, and keep reaching into that giant jar of jellybeans!

Wellness

York Region is age-friendly

York Region was officially recognized by the Government of Ontario as an Age-Friendly Community, reflecting a strong commitment to supporting older adults through its Plan to Support Seniors.

This recognition follows a detailed assessment by the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, which reviewed the Region’s community profile and findings from the annual Age-Friendly Community Initiative Survey. A panel of experts evaluated York Region against provincial criteria to determine its eligibility. The Region’s efforts have helped strengthen programs, services and policies which enhance inclusion, accessibility and overall well-being for older adults.

The achievement was formally celebrated Jan. 18 at the Ontario Age-Friendly Community Recognition Ceremony, held during the Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference. This milestone underscores York Region’s ongoing dedication to building communities where seniors can stay active, engaged and well-supported as they age.



We welcome your letters to the editor.

Please submit your comments / thoughts / ideas to editor@kingsentinel.com, including your name and telephone number.

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL

www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week’s poll:

Do you believe Pierre Poilievre is the best choice to lead the Conservatives?



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

THIS WEEK’S QUESTION

Have you been watching the Olympic coverage on TV?

- a) Yes
- b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

Quote of the Week

“The best chapters kick off with a hello you didn’t see coming.”

— Anon

Trivia Tidbits

The first Indigenous athletes to rep Canada at the Olympics – Sharon and Shirley Firth – competed in cross-country skiing.

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What birders tell us about our connection to nature

By David Suzuki

The Environment

On Christmas Day, a taiga flycatcher flew into Vancouver. What's remarkable about this relatively non-descript bird's visit is that it was the first record of it appearing in British Columbia and Canada. It should have been spending its winter in southern Asia. It might have arrived here on a ship or perhaps it was blown off course.

What's even more remarkable is the crowd of enthusiasts from all over Canada and the United States who gathered in Vancouver's West End to catch a glimpse. Some returned multiple times, many willing to wait for hours to see it.

These birders were motivated by the chance to see this species for the first time in Canada. But the crowd's enthusiasm also hints at a much deeper connection to nature.

Politicians rarely justify a decision because it's good for nature. Talk of a new pipeline from the Alberta oilsands to the B.C. coast late last year sparked concerns that it would require over-

turning a moratorium on oil tankers off the north coast — but most opposition to removing the ban was framed around a spill's risk to industry, the economy and Indigenous ways of life. Mainstream political parties didn't defend the moratorium because overturning it would put nature at risk, nor did they mention the importance of conserving local flora and fauna.

American writer and naturalist Henry Beston wrote of the need for "a wiser and perhaps a more mystical concept of animals. ... We patronize them for their incompleteness, for their tragic fate of having taken form so far below ourselves. And therein do we err, and greatly err. For the animal shall not be measured by man. In a world older and more complete than ours, they move finished and complete, gifted with the extension of the senses we have lost or never attained."

We humans are not terribly good at

assessing the value of other species, because we largely view them through a human lens.

We've already devised ways of quantifying or putting a price on nature — developing systems based on "natural capital accounting" and "biodiversity asset" schemes. However, these measures have not proven effective in reversing decline.

A 2026 report by the United Nations Environmental Programme found that for every dollar invested in protecting nature, US\$30 is spent destroying it — despite numerous studies showing the benefits to human health from being in nature, including cognitive, mood and mental health improvements.

Some studies report specifically on the human physical and mental health benefits of birding. For example, a recent study published in the journal *Landscape and Urban Planning* found that birdwatching reduced blood pressure and heart rate in participants. Self-reported mental wellbeing, as measured by the questionnaires, was also higher after the walks.

But why do we need to put economic and human-centric values on nature for us to value it?

The annual Christmas bird count has been running in North America for more than 125 years. It's one of the first examples of community science, a movement now engaging thousands of people worldwide in science — thanks largely to technology. The value of the

bird count dataset is not only its completeness (many survey points) but also in its longevity (temporal). The data collected each December through January have been used to monitor trends in bird diversity as well as changes in spatial distribution throughout the survey areas.

Enthusiasts often endure freezing winds, rain and snow to properly survey as much of their designated areas as possible to ensure data completeness. The knowledge and passion these dedicated people have is astounding. Their expertise includes how to distinguish between gulls based on subtle differences and how to identify various sparrow species based on their calls.

Last year, more than 83,000 people in Canada, the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the annual count. These numbers suggest people are passionate about nature. We are not alone; we are a growing force of interested, enthusiastic people who care deeply about what happens to all life forms that share the planet.

We must renew focus on re-building and re-energizing the environmental movement to include multigenerational work that works to halt and reverse what's happening right now — the largest extinction event in Earth's history.

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki Foundation Nature Director Erin Roger. Learn more at davidsuzuki.org.

York establishes insurance pool

York Regional Council approved the establishment of the York Region Municipalities Insurance Pool program.

Implementing an insurance pool increases purchasing ability and lowers overall cost of insurance for participating municipalities by offering greater premium stability than if coverage was purchased directly from an insurance provider individually. Analysis of financial viability and sustainability indicates potential insurance cost savings of approximately 20% or \$5.5 million annually for York Region and participating municipalities.

"Positioning our communities for a strong, sustainable future includes providing residents with value for their tax dollars," said York Region Chairman and CEO Eric Jolliffe. "Establishing the York Region Municipalities Insurance Pool reflects our commitment to fiscal responsibility with projected cost savings of approximately \$30 million over the next five years."

Municipal insurance pools have been established in other regions previously, with the Simcoe Municipalities Insurance Pool launched in June 2025.

"The Municipalities Insurance Pool

will help foster effective, open and collaborative communications between York Region and participating local municipalities to ensure effective implementation and long-term sustainability," said King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini, Chair of Finance and Administration. "In addition to financial efficiencies, this new program will promote and strengthen alignment of our collective risk-management practices to report, investigate and manage claims."

An Insurance Pool Board will be established to direct future decisions and oversee management of the insurance pool. York Region has been selected as host and will provide management and administrative functions needed to support the pool. This includes implementing proactive risk-management practices, standardized claims handling, contract reviews, accounting services and consistent operating procedures across all participating municipalities.

The pool is set to launch on Wednesday, July 1, with interested municipalities seeking prior approval from their respective municipal councils to participate.

Rasmus Lerdorf, who attended King City Secondary School, is best known as the creator of PHP, a web development language that is essential to major platforms like Facebook and Wikipedia.

#KingFacts



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HOMES

There's a lot to be learned from winter bird habits

By Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation

The Oak Ridges Moraine has recently experienced an extended cold snap paired with deep, persistent snow.

Wetlands have frozen, food sources are buried, and long winter nights place intense demands on wildlife. While many bird species migrate south to escape these conditions, a surprising number remain on the Moraine year-round. These winter residents offer a powerful example of adaptation, resilience, and perhaps a few life lessons for the rest of us.

If winter birds could talk, their advice would probably be short, blunt, and very practical:

- Eat first. Worry later. Chickadees don't skip meals when it's cold, they treat every daylight hour like an all-you-can-eat buffet. Turns out functioning in winter is easier when you've had a healthy snack.

- Dress for the weather, not for aesthetics. Birds don't "power through" winter, they puff up, look ridiculous, and stay warm. Layers matter.

- Stick close to good neighbours. Some birds huddle together on the coldest nights. Apparently, sharing body

heat beats being brave and freezing alone.

- Always know where the snacks are. Blue jays remember hundreds of hidden acorns months later. If only we planned ahead that well before a snow-storm.

- When the sun shows up, drop everything. Birds bask whenever they can, because winter warmth is rare and should never be wasted. Honestly, they're not wrong.

Several bird species continue to call the Oak Ridges Moraine home. Common year-round residents include the Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Cardinal, Blue Jay, American Crow, Dark-eyed Junco and many owl species. These birds are well adapted to forest edges, mature woodlots, hedgerows, and wetlands, features that are abundant across the Moraine, for now.

Cold snaps make winter a balancing act for birds. They have to find enough food during short days and still save energy to make it through freezing nights.

Deep snow buries seeds and vegetation, making food scarce and hard to reach. Winter birds rely on creativity



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and flexibility to find their food. Species such as chickadees, nuthatches, and woodpeckers focus on insects, larvae, and eggs hidden beneath bark, food sources that remain accessible even when snow is deep. Blue Jays depend heavily on acorns and other nuts they cached earlier in the fall, using their impressive spatial memory to retrieve them months later. Crows and Ravens use their incredible intelligence to take advantage of a wide range of foods, from natural sources to scavenging opportunities.

To stay warm, birds fluff up their feathers to trap heat and spend much of the day eating to fuel themselves. Specialized blood circulation in their legs and feet reduces heat loss, allowing them to perch on ice and snow without freezing. When it's really cold, birds like chickadees and woodpeckers shelter in tree cavities, thick shrubs, or evergreens for protection.

Winter birds show us that getting through tough times isn't about waiting it out, it's about being ready and adapting as conditions change. They rely on healthy places to live, like mature forests, wetlands, and connected natural areas across the Oak Ridges Moraine,

which offer shelter and food when the weather is at its worst.

These behaviours reflect survival strategies shaped by thousands of years of evolution, strategies that allow birds to persist through the harshest conditions winter can deliver.

They also remind us that community matters. Whether it's sharing roosting spots or using the same habitats in different ways, birds do better when landscapes support many species at once. As weather extremes become more common, protecting and restoring natural areas like the Moraine matters more than ever.

Check out our free winter bird checklist of the moraine here, where you can see which birds you might find along the Moraine during the winter, how common they are, and where you can find them.

The Oak Ridges Moraine is more than a scenic ridge; it is a lifeline. For over 25 years, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (a registered charity) has worked to safeguard ecologically significant lands, protecting wildlife, clean water, healthy forests ... and birds, for the future. Learn more at www.oakridgesmoraine.org.



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Charges lead to wider investigation

From Page 3

Project South is an outstanding example of inter-agency collaboration, and would not have been possible without resources and contributions from York Regional Police, the Toronto Police Service, the Ontario Provincial Police and the Correctional Services within Ontario's Ministry of the Solicitor General. Supporting these investigators was a dedicated team of prosecutors from the Ministry of the Attorney General and the Public Prosecution Service of Canada.

The successful completion of Project South was also made possible through funding provided by the Ontario Government, Ministry of the Solicitor General in which the Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario supported this investigation.

"We will not rest until we are sure corrupt, criminal actors and anyone abusing their power as a police officer is held accountable," said York Regional Police Chief Jim MacSween. "Corruption has no place in policing - it is never, and will never, be tolerated."

"This investigation also underscores the insidious, corrosive nature of organized crime, and highlights how these criminals find a way to infiltrate even the most well protected institu-

tions across our society," said Chief MacSween. "The impacts of organized crime on our community, on our safety and well-being cannot be understated."

"Since June 2025, more than 300 officers have played a role in the success of this case," said York Regional Police Deputy Chief Ryan Hogan. "The investigating officers represent the very best in what we expect of our police officers, demonstrating integrity, professionalism, ethical investigations and a commitment to uncovering the truth and holding offenders accountable—including fellow police officers."

"We understand this news is deeply disappointing for Torontonians and our members," said Toronto Police Service Chief Myron Demkiw. "Throughout this investigation, our highest priority was to do everything possible to respond in a way that preserves the trust of the people we serve. From day one, that has meant offering our full support to the York Regional Police Service, and to pursuing the evidence, wherever it leads. We have left no stone unturned. These are serious allegations and I can assure Torontonians they will be met with an equally serious response from our Service."

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact police or Crime Stoppers anonymously.

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King

7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, February 12 to Wednesday, February 18

THURS 12TH	FRI 13TH	SAT 14TH	SUN 15TH	MON 16TH	TUES 17TH	WED 18TH
High -4C° Low -12C°	High -1C° Low -5C° ~1cm	High -1C° Low -8C°	High -1C° Low -4C° ~1cm	High 1C° Low -5C°	High 0C° Low -3C°	High -1C° Low -6C°
Wind NW 18k	Wind SW 20k	Wind W 7k	Wind SE 11k	Wind NW 13k	Wind N 10k	Wind W 20k

The King Weekly Sentinel

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King champions sustainability with textile diversion

King Township is committed to sustainable waste habits, encouraging everyone to embrace the five Rs – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose and Repair—as the community continues making real progress in keeping waste out of the landfill.

Ontario’s landfills are filling up fast, making local waste diversion efforts more important than ever. Recent data shows the province generated 16.88 million tonnes of waste in 2024, with 12.75 million tonnes ending up in landfills, and current landfill capacity could run out by 2037.

Waste diversion plays a key role in supporting a Circular Economy and aligning with the King Community Climate Action Plan. King Township has set a 35 per cent community emissions reduction target by 2030 based on data from the 2018 community emissions inventory. The inventory listed solid waste (including recyclables, compostable materials and garbage) as contributing 1,283 tonnes of CO2e greenhouse gas emissions. For more information, visit king.ca/CommunityClimateChange.

Reducing waste sent to landfill

through community initiatives and programs directly reduces methane emissions. The Township’s efforts have recently been expanded to now include used pens, pencils, markers, and ink cartridges through the new TerraCycle recycling waste diversion pilot program.

TerraCycle: Drop off dried up markers, crayons, broken pencil crayons and ink cartridges for proper processing through TerraCycle’s hard to recycle waste stream with boxes now available at all King Township Public Library branches. For locations, visit king.ca/TerraCycle.

The collected materials are ground down into plastic pellets. Manufacturing companies purchase the recycled material and repurpose it into new products, including outdoor furniture and decking, plastic shipping pallets, watering cans, storage containers and bins, tubes for construction applications, flooring tiles, playground surface covers, and athletic fields. For more information, visit terracycle.com.

Textile diversion: Give old textiles new life! Textile donation bins, avail-



able 24/7 at community facilities, provide secure and convenient drop-off points for used textiles. Since its inception in March 2017, King has successfully diverted 486,273 lbs of textiles from landfill sites, with 109,708 lbs diverted in 2025 alone. For donation locations or to schedule a pick up, visit king.ca/TextileDiversion.

Battery recycling: Batteries contain heavy metals and toxic chemicals, making proper disposal critical. King Township’s Battery Recycling Program in partnership with Call 2 Recycle allows residents to dispose of single-use batteries at designated locations, preventing harmful materials from entering landfills. All collected batteries are sorted and recycled to reclaim valuable materials. Since the program’s launch in 2017, 6,251 lbs of batteries have been collected. For drop-off locations, visit king.ca/BatteryRecycling.

Is your mind on warmer weather and the spring cleaning that comes with it? King Township has many opportunities to properly dispose of or give a second life to your unwanted items, including electronic-waste events during the

warmer seasons, Curbside Giveaway Days in partnership with York Region (April to October), Repair Cafes hosted in partnership with NewMakIt and York Region and the annual Community Yard Sale/ Community Electronic Recycling event in May.

By reducing waste and supporting King’s diversion programs, we can help extend landfill life, protect natural resources, and move toward a more sustainable and greener community for future generations.

For more information, visit king.ca/WasteDiversion.

With 2,151 volunteers giving their time at environmental events throughout the year, there is plenty of opportunity to give back to the community. From becoming a Waste Champion at King Township events (including the upcoming Maple Syrup Fest), planting a tree or participating in a community cleanup, volunteering is a rewarding experience and a great way to earn high school volunteer hours.

For more information, visit king.ca/volunteers.



Company presents new composter

King Mayor Steve Pellegrini said he was excited to receive a LILA aerobic composter, made by VCycene. “It’s a great new invention by a King start up success story,” he said.

George Yin, CEO and co-founder of VCycene Inc., says their LILA composter is in a category all on its own.

The major competitors are simple dehydrators (crushing and drying process) that cause massive electrical bills and produce dirt that has to go into the green bin anyways.

“LILA is the only product that produces organic compost within 7 days, certified by the third party as Category A compost in Canada to use without restrictions. No need for any additives or filters with LILA. It freshens kitchen air while composting. LILA has ample capacity, perfect for every home.”

For more on the unit, visit www.lilacomposter.com



Monday February 16th, 2026

2:00PM-4:00PM

Nobleton Community Centre,
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RSVP: ANNAROBERTSMP.CA/SKATE

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or email zach@ipcmedia.ca with your name, address, email & phone # and a pic of your art.

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Business, Finance & Real Estate



Historic barn to be relocated on rural property

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

King council gave its consent to the relocation of an historic barn.

Staff recommended council not object to the move and they will continue to work with the landowner over a possible future historic designation of the structure.

The owner had given notice of the planned relocation of the barn on the same property, at 13840 10th Concession.

The subject property was listed on the Township's Municipal Heritage Register on September 14, 2015.

As a result of the need for a demolition permit to undertake the desired works, on Dec. 1, 2025, the owner of the subject property submitted a 60-Day Notice of Intent to Demolish or Remove a Building or Structure with supporting documentation (structural assessment, photographs, cover letter and relocation plan). This matter is in regard to the proposed relocation of an

accessory structure (barn) within the same property.

Staff reviewed the proposal and submission materials and are confident the proposal reflects a clear intent to retain and conserve the barn, rather than remove it.

The subject property is a listed heritage property under Section 27(3) of the Ontario Heritage Act (OHA).

The property is approximately 16 hectares in area. Current land uses on the property include two single detached dwellings, a detached garage and a historic bank barn.

MHBC Planning Urban Design and Landscape Architecture submitted the request on behalf of the property owner.

The Heritage Advisory Committee reviewed the proposal at its meeting on Jan. 8, and adopted motions supporting the relocation of the historic barn within the subject property. The Committee further recommended that Council direct staff research, evaluate, and discuss with the property owner the po-

tential for designation of the property.

Staff conducted a site visit on the afternoon of Dec. 18, 2025, accompanied by the owner, the agent (MHBC), and the owner's engineering consultants to review and document the barn structure and the proposed relocation approach. At this time, staff are not recommending designation of the property under the OHA. Pursuing designation during the current application would introduce procedural complexity and could impede timely conservation measures.

Staff pointed out the barn is in failing condition and requires immediate relocation to ensure its preservation; the relocation of the barn proposes a positive conservation approach that avoids permanent demolition. The potential for designation may be revisited following the relocation.

Under the Ontario Heritage Act (OHA), municipalities are responsible for identifying, evaluating and conserving heritage properties. This responsibility is further emphasized through the Provincial Planning Statement, which states that Planning authorities are encouraged to develop and implement proactive strategies for the conservation of significant built heritage resources. The Provincial Policy Statement also states that protected heritage properties shall be conserved.

Section 27 of the OHA provides that the Clerk of a municipality shall keep a register of property that is of cultural heritage value or interest. In addition to properties designated under the Act, the register may include property that has not been designated but that the council of the municipality believes to be of cultural heritage value or interest, and shall contain, with respect to such property, a description of the property that is sufficient to readily ascertain the heritage structure within the property. These non-designated properties on the Municipal Heritage Register are commonly known as "listed" properties.

The rules state owners must provide at least 60 days notice in writing of the owner's intention.

A report on the condition of the barn indicates that the existing foundation walls are original and are generally in poor structural condition. Additionally, the wood sill plate above the foundation is also in poor structural condition and appears to be failing in several locations.

Several main structural wood posts supporting the ground floor were also noted to be in poor structural condition.

The east addition to the barn is noted to have been constructed on a well/cistern. The visual structural condition review report notes that standing groundwater was observed through a hole in the basement floor. This addition was also noted to be out of plumb.

Based on the review, it is the opinion of Engineering Link that the barn structure is in poor structural condi-

tion, is structurally unsafe and should not be occupied in its current state.

It was recommended that a new foundation system be designed by a professional engineer, with stabilization measures taking place in the interim.

The proposal contemplates relocating the structure approximately 30 to 50 metres to the northwest, within the same general area of the property. The proposed location maintains a similar grade condition, allowing the bank-barn form to be retained and re-established. The relocation area remains in close proximity to the barn's existing setting and is considered an appropriate context for the structure within the overall property. The proposed relocation ensures that the barn remains a visible and integral component of the farmstead, thereby retaining its physical value and its contextual association to the surrounding landscape. While relocation may diminish some aspects of contextual value, this intervention is consistent with accepted conservation practices where stabilization and structural renewal are necessary to secure the future of a heritage resource.

Staff are therefore of the opinion that the proposed works represent a proactive conservation measure that will extend the lifespan of the barn and allow it to continue contributing to the heritage character of the property.



Chamber holds After Five at Global Pet

By Brittany Grecni

King City residents came together recently at Global Pet Foods for a relaxed King After Five event that put community and local business front and centre.

Held Feb. 3, the after-hours gathering welcomed business owners, local professionals and furry friends for an evening focused on making connections inside one of the township's beloved businesses — Global Pet Foods — located at 4-1700 King Rd., in King City.

The event gave attendees a chance to learn more about the space and its offerings. A pet treat tasting bar was available as well as a refreshment table for visitors.

One of the highlights of the night was a pop-up from Boreal, an Ontario-operated pet food company known for its clean, Canadian-made pet food. A Boreal representative was on hand to share information about the brand and speak about ingredient quality and locally made pet nutrition.

King After Five is one of many initiatives that reflects King Township's commitment to supporting local businesses in approachable, community-driven ways. Events like this make it easier for people to connect, learn about local brands and strengthen relationships.



Explore outdoors at Cold Creek

Explore the wintry outdoors this weekend cross-country skiing or snowshoeing across 7 k.m. of scenic, snowy trails at Cold Creek Conservation Area. Snowshoe rentals are \$10 per person and ski and pole rentals are \$20 per person and can be rented for as long as you like during chalet hours from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The Township is offering free rentals on Family Day, Monday, Feb. 16. For more, visit coldcreek.ca



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Arts & Entertainment

King Township's 2026 Summer Camps guide now available

Closing the chapter on school and starting the adventures at summer camp— King Township has lined up more than 45 different ones for young campers to choose from! Parents can start planning their summer by browsing the new, interactive 2026 Summer Camps guide, now available online at king.ca/camps.

Whether your child is a baker or builder, an artist, actor, into science and sports, there's a summer camp experience waiting for them! Registration for residents opens at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at townshipofking.perfectmind.com.

The summer camp season begins on Monday, June 29 with camps running for one-week sessions until Friday, Sept. 4 at various recreation facilities located in Nobleton, Schomberg and King City.

Camps are categorized by areas of interest to make the search easier for parents and kids. Choose from camps for ages four to 13 in the categories of arts and culture, culinary, sports, science and technology, the outdoors and special themes, as well as leadership training for youth ages 14 to 16.

In addition to specialized programming, children at all camps enjoy traditional camp activities including sports,

arts & crafts, and water play. Zancor Centre campers over the age of 7 can also take advantage of dedicated recreational swimming times (excluding hockey camps).

New this summer, campers can opt into the hot lunch program on Tuesdays (BarBurrito) and/or Thursdays (Pizza Pizza) for \$10 each for all camps, except for We Be Tripping.

Many camp classics are making their return by popular demand, including: Cooking, Summer Sizzle, We Be Tripping, and Cold Creek Conservation Area's flagship Outdoor Adventure Camp. King's summer camps team has also been busy planning several new options for every young creator and athlete: Soccer blends high-energy drills, friendly scrimmages, and skill-building challenges; Glamour features self-care activities like yoga, DIY crafts, and a spa day; Film in a Box teaches hands-on stop-motion animation; and, Lego sparks a world of creativity as campers design imaginative structures and contraptions.

Camp sites include the following locations: Zancor Centre, Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Community Centre & Arena, Trisan Centre, Schomberg Community Hall, Tasca Park, King Town-

ship Municipal Centre, King Heritage and Cultural Centre, and Cold Creek Conservation Area.

The types of camps vary by location. The camp day runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with flexible drop-off for campers starting at 8:30 a.m. and pick-up ending at 5 p.m. Bussing is only available for field trips departing from select camps.

Extended care is available at Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Community Centre & Arena and Zancor Centre. Morning extended care runs from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., while afternoon extended care is offered from 5 to 6 p.m.

All camp staff are certified in Standard First Aid, CPR- C and HIGH FIVE® Principles of Healthy Child Development and have received a clear Police Vulnerable Sector Check. They attend comprehensive training sessions

prior to the summer camp season and wear many hats throughout the summer to maintain safety and supervision of campers, organize and lead group activities and mentor youth working as camp volunteers. Inclusion support staff for children ages four to 15 with disabilities is provided free of charge to Township of King residents, pending availability.

For more information about summer camps, view the 2026 Summer Camps guide at king.ca/camps.

To ensure a seamless registration process, parents are encouraged to make sure all personal information on their online registration account is up to date prior to February 17. If you require assistance creating an account, call ServiceKING at 905-833-5321 or email camps@king.ca.

Experience winter your way this Family Day in King Township

Great memories happen when you're busy having fun! Make lasting ones on the Family Day holiday on Monday, Feb. 16 spending quality time together at your local recreation facility or Cold Creek Conservation Area.

Go skating, swimming, or play shinny hockey, pickleball, badminton and tackle the open turf during a game of soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, frisbee or football between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Zancor Centre. Try aquafit or take a Yoga or Body Sculpt class. Bring the little one (ages 1 to 6) to Playgroup where they can climb, jump, ride and play on equipment and toys.

The Trisan Fitness Centre is open for a workout from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hatha Yoga and a Body Balance class are also offered in the morning.

Dedicated times for youth shinny and parent and tot skate are available at Nobleton Arena.

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

Pre-registration is not required for public swimming, skating or shinny hockey. All drop-in activities are included with a valid monthly RecPass otherwise pay-as-you-go fees apply.

Programming varies by location. View schedules at king.ca/DropInPrograms.

Brave the elements and explore the wintry outdoors at Cold Creek Conservation Area, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing across 7 km. of snowy trails. Snowshoe rentals and ski and pole rentals are FREE (while supplies last) for Family Day and can be rented for as long as you like during chalet hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Warm up (or stay refreshed) between activities with a drink from our on-site beverage vendor, J. E. Drinkwalters Homestead Recipes.

Lace up your skates for a glide along the new 'backyard' rink built by staff under the pavilion. The unsupervised rink accommodates a maximum of 25 skaters at one time and is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weather permitting.

For more information, visit cold-creek.ca.



Young readers joined by canine companion

By Brittany Greci

For some children, reading out loud can feel intimidating.

The King Township Public Library recently offered a thoughtful solution — a calm, welcoming program that paired young readers with Marley, a patient, four-legged listener.

The library hosted its first-ever Paws 4 Stories session on Feb. 3, inviting children and families to experience a new approach to building reading confidence. Delivered in partnership with the St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog Program, the initiative allows children to spend one-on-one time reading to a registered therapy dog and their handler in a relaxed, supportive setting.

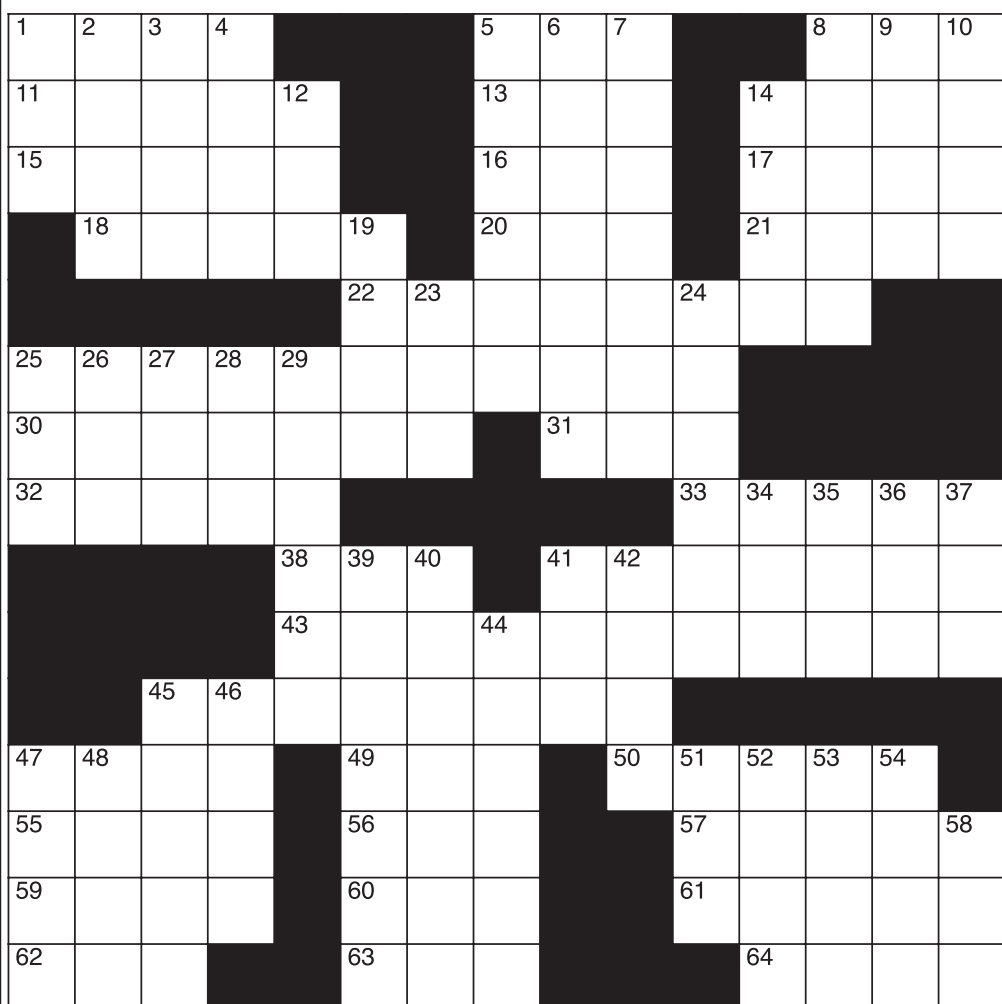
Designed for children ages 5 to 10, Paws 4 Stories creates a space free of pressure or judgment. The presence of a therapy dog helps ease nerves, allowing young readers to focus on the joy of storytelling rather than the fear of making mistakes. Each session encourages children to take their time, read at their own pace and grow more comfortable speaking aloud.

Following the positive response to its first session, the King Township Public Library will host another Paws 4 Stories program on Tuesday, Feb. 17, from 4 to 5 p.m. Space is limited, and families interested in participating are encouraged to contact the library at 905-833-5101.

Sometimes all it takes is a quiet space, a good book and a friendly companion to help confidence grow.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Breezed through
5. Consumer protection agency
8. Criminal syndicate
11. Moves back from
13. Satisfaction
14. Feel concern or interest
15. Monetary units
16. Congressman (abbr.)
17. Israeli city
18. Restaurants
20. 2,000 lbs.
21. Grandmother
22. North, South and Central
25. In an early way
30. Foes
31. Social networking platform
32. Early term for basketball player
33. Another name for

- sesame plant
38. Disallow
41. Provide greater detail
43. Inaccessible
45. Evoke emotions
47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
49. Celtic punk rockers
50. A fencing sword
55. Actor Idris
56. Affirmative (slang)
57. Afflicted in mind or body
59. One point north of northeast
60. Born of
61. Social media hand gesture
62. Hong Kong food
63. Opposite of stall __ pai dong
64. Email function

CLUES DOWN

1. Sign language
2. Fashionable
3. Borough in Helsinki
4. Inability to hear
5. More quickly
6. An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth
7. Shrewdly
8. Rooney and Kate are two
9. Mediterranean port
10. Benedictine monk
12. Midway between south and southeast
14. Town in Galilee
19. Satisfy
23. Mice genus
24. Brass instrument
25. Chest muscle (slang)
26. Transmits genetic information from DNA
27. Records electric currents generated by the brain
28. Woman (French)
29. Short route aircraft
34. Pitching statistic
35. Pointed end of a pen
36. Popular sports league
37. Body part
39. Inoffensive
40. Yellowish cotton cloth
41. Feline
42. Does not tell the truth
44. Seduced
45. Spiritual leader
46. Abba __, Israeli politician
47. Repair
48. Olive genus
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. C. European river
54. Keep under control
58. Father

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

Township's Community Grant Program now accepting applications

Do you have a project or initiative that needs funding?

Turn your vision into action and make a meaningful difference in the community by applying for King Township's Community Grant Program through Enrich King. Applications can be made online now through Nov. 1, at enrichking.ca/community-grant-program.

The Community Grant Program sup-

ports eligible community groups, businesses, organizations and individuals that prioritize activities, events and initiatives that align with the five main goals of King Township's Recreation and Community Master Plan: Active Living, Inclusion and Access, Connecting People and Nature, Supportive Environments and Recreation Capacity.

Applicants must select a minimum of one Master Plan goal area to demon-

strate how the outcomes of its activities, events and initiatives will align.

The Community Grant Program includes four funding streams, and projects must fit into one of the following:

Community Events: Public events where there is added value to the entire community.

Inclusive Communities: Projects promoting healthy, safe and inclusive community development.

Environment King: Projects tackling climate change, sustainability and environmental issues.

Special Initiatives: New activities and initiatives that innovatively seek to meet or resolve a defined need within the community.

Grants of up to \$1,500 are available for special initiatives, community events and developing inclusive communities and up to \$5,000 for environmental initiatives.

Since 2024, over \$50,000 in funding has been granted by King Township to support meaningful local initiatives. Highlights include support for Bee Ambassadors Canada to deliver environmental education for kindergarten to grade 6 students, Big Brothers Big Sisters Peel York to strengthen volunteer recruitment, and Hope House Community Hospice for its Children's Grief Awareness Month event. Funding also helped Kettleby Cemetery host its Remembrance Day Service and enabled the King Chamber of Commerce to run its annual Holiday Lunch & Toy Drive.

Community recreation and youth programs benefited as well, with support for the King Rebellion Jr. A Hockey Club to provide a free game experience for Nobleton Public School, and funding for the Kingcrafts Studio sale promoting local arts. Essential services such as the King Township Food Bank received grants for its Back-to-School program and relocation to Schomberg Main Street.

Environmental and educational groups – including Kinsland Community Garden, the Learning Disabilities Association York Simcoe, and multiple school parent councils – were supported for projects ranging from pollinator garden creation to inclusive after-school programming and school charity events.

Agricultural and rural community organizations such as the Schomberg Agricultural Society, Schomberg Community Farm, and Schomberg Horticultural Society also received funds for fairs, farm-to-table events, and garden tours.

Additional grants supported community well-being and social connection, including the Schomberg Lions Club for a free family skating event, Schomberg United Church for seniors' lunch programming, and Yellow Brick House for its annual Celebration of Resilience Gala supporting women and children affected by domestic violence.

The Enrich King program, launched in 2024, is designed to empower residents, organizations, businesses and community groups by providing streamlined access to funding and support. By merging four distinct funding streams into one centralized, online platform, Enrich King makes it easier than ever to obtain the resources needed to bring impactful projects to life.

The funding programs available include the Community Assistance Program, Heritage Property Grants, Community Improvement Plan and the Community Grant Program. Each program has multiple streams of funding tailored to diverse needs, ensuring a broad spectrum of support for King's community members.

To learn more about community grants and eligibility requirements, visit king.ca/CommunityGrants. Email communityservices@king.ca

Nominations for King's 2026 Volunteer Appreciation Awards are open to Feb. 28

Help celebrate the unsung heroes in King Township – those who make the community a better place through their tireless work and selfless actions – by nominating them for a 2026 Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Nominations can be submitted until Feb. 28 at king.ca/awards.

The nomination categories are:

Citizen of the Year Award: An award given to a citizen to recognize and honour outstanding contributions to the Township.

Lifetime Achievement Award: An award to recognize outstanding citizenship within the community, with many years of dedicated service and devotion to the residents of King.

Senior Award of Merit: An award given to a senior citizen to recognize and honour special contributions to the senior's population.

Youth Award of Merit: An award given to a younger citizen to highlight special contributions to the Township.

Special Recognition Award – Resident and Non-Resident: An award given to one or more citizens or an organization for a special contribution made to the community in whole or in part.

Last year, 34 award recipients were recognized for their contributions to making King an exceptional place to live. Their areas of volunteering include youth sports, arts, charity and community events, libraries, environmental advocacy and initiatives, the King Township Food Bank and the Mayor's Youth Action Team.

Learn more about last year's recipients at king.ca/AwardRecipients.

Submitting a nomination is an opportunity to highlight and celebrate the impact of those who continually

give their time and energy to making a difference in King Township.

All nomination forms must be submitted online, in-person or via mail by the deadline of Saturday, Feb. 28 at 11:59 p.m. Submit a nomination online at king.ca/awards.

Hard copy versions can be submitted in-person or mailed to King Township's Events Division at Community Services - Events Division, Township of King, 2585 King Road, King City, L7B 1A1.

The 2026 Award recipients will be celebrated during a special invitation-only ceremony for family and friends, to be held at the King Township Municipal Centre on Thursday, April 23 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

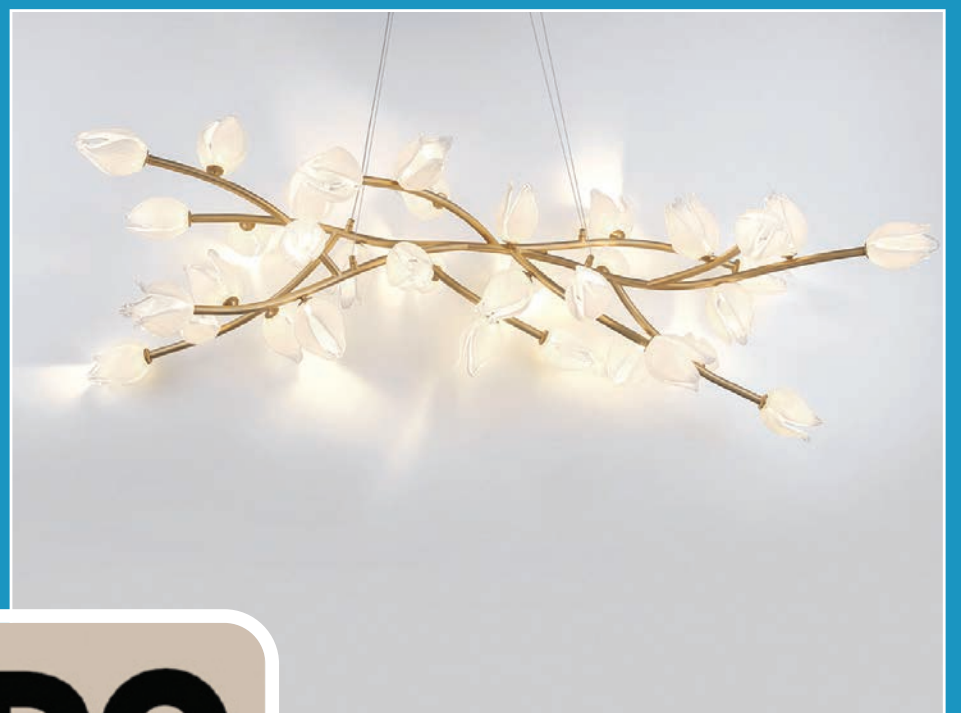
The awards ceremony will come during National Volunteer Week from April 19 to 25 and recognizes the vital role volunteers play in strengthening our community. Volunteering not only enriches the lives of those who give their time but also creates a more connected and supportive community for all.

"Volunteers are the driving force of our community, and their dedication to making a difference is what makes life truly better in King. I encourage everyone to nominate those who continue to step up and make an impact so we can shine a spotlight on their invaluable contributions and recognize their efforts as community builders for King Township," said Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

To learn more and view the full list of criteria, visit king.ca/awards.

Questions or looking for support in the application process? Email events@king.ca or call 905-833-5321.

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New provincial funding will support long-term care staff

The Ontario government is delivering on its plan to protect the province's long-term care system by investing more than \$26 million in programs that will train nearly 3,000 new long-term care staff, support professional development and enhance the care residents receive, while giving students the opportunity to study and work in their home communities.

"Our government continues to make historic investments to train more staff in long-term care," said Natalia Kusen-

dova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care. "These new investments will help train a new generation of professionals and support those already qualified to grow their careers, ensuring long-term care residents receive the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve."

The government's investment builds on its existing \$4.9 billion four-year staffing plan, which focused on recruitment, training and retention and helped add tens of thousands of per-

sonal support workers and nurses to the provincial workforce. Continuing this momentum, Ontario is investing more than \$26 million to train nearly 3,000 new long-term care staff through two targeted programs:

Supporting Professional Growth Fund – Ontario is providing an additional \$5.5 million, for a total of \$15.5 million in 2025-26, to train and upskill staff currently working in long-term care homes. Since 2022, this fund has helped more than 92,000 eligible staff advance their careers and provide better resident care.

Living Classrooms – Ontario will invest \$21 million to integrate education into long-term care homes and expand the existing program to introduce practical nurse (PN) Living Classrooms, allowing students to stay in their home communities as they study and apply what they learn as they work with residents. Ontario's funding will train nearly 3,000 long-term care personal support workers (PSWs) and registered practical nurses (RPNs) by 2029.

Unlike traditional PSW and RPN training programs, where students start with classroom education and then move on to clinical placements, Living Classrooms integrate education into a long-term care home. Students alternate between in-class learning — delivered in the home or nearby — and applying what they learn as they work with residents within the home.

"Every day, long-term care workers deliver compassionate and high-quality care for our loved ones throughout the province," said Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security. "Through this investment, our government is protecting Ontario by ensuring that future long-

term care providers get both the world-class education and hands-on skills they need to thrive in their careers and meaningfully contribute to our health care workforce."

Building the long-term care workforce is one more way the government is ensuring Ontario residents get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve. The plan to improve long-term care is built on four pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe and comfortable homes; and connecting seniors with faster, more convenient access to the services they need.

The government recently announced \$180 million for programs to attract and retain close to 8,000 highly skilled nurses.

In August, Ontario invested nearly \$60 million to expand enrolment in nursing programs at publicly assisted colleges and universities across the province.

Compared to 2021, daily direct care from nurses and PSWs has increased by over an hour per day. This represents a 36 per cent increase, equivalent to 15 days of additional care per resident per year.

"Programs like Living Classrooms and the Supporting Professional Growth Fund let people learn where care happens — inside homes, alongside residents and care teams — so staff can start and grow rewarding careers while making a real difference in residents' daily lives. We thank the Ontario government for its continued leadership in building a strengthened long-term care system and helping people build meaningful careers in long-term care," said Donna Duncan, CEO, Ontario Long Term Care Association.



MP, MPP attend unveiling

King-Vaughan's MP Anna Roberts and MPP Stephen Lecce were honoured to attend the recent unveiling of the official portrait of Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Lecce describes him as "a principled and deeply patriotic Prime Minister who made us proud to be Canadian."

"On the 20th anniversary of his election, it was a true honour to attend the unveiling of his official portrait."

"The nostalgia definitely hit. I look back with such gratitude on the five-plus years that I served in the Prime Minister's Office, knowing that I worked with the finest professionals and for the greatest PM."

Roberts noted it was a true honour to join friends, colleagues, and fellow parliamentarians from all parties at the unveiling of the official portrait, and honouring of the incredible legacy of the Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, Canada's 22nd Prime Minister.

"Under his leadership, Canada had a world class economy, a prosperous middle class, and earned deep respect globally."

"Thank you, Prime Minister Harper for your dedication and service to Canadians. We are forever grateful."



Read Local

Keep up with your community!

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.

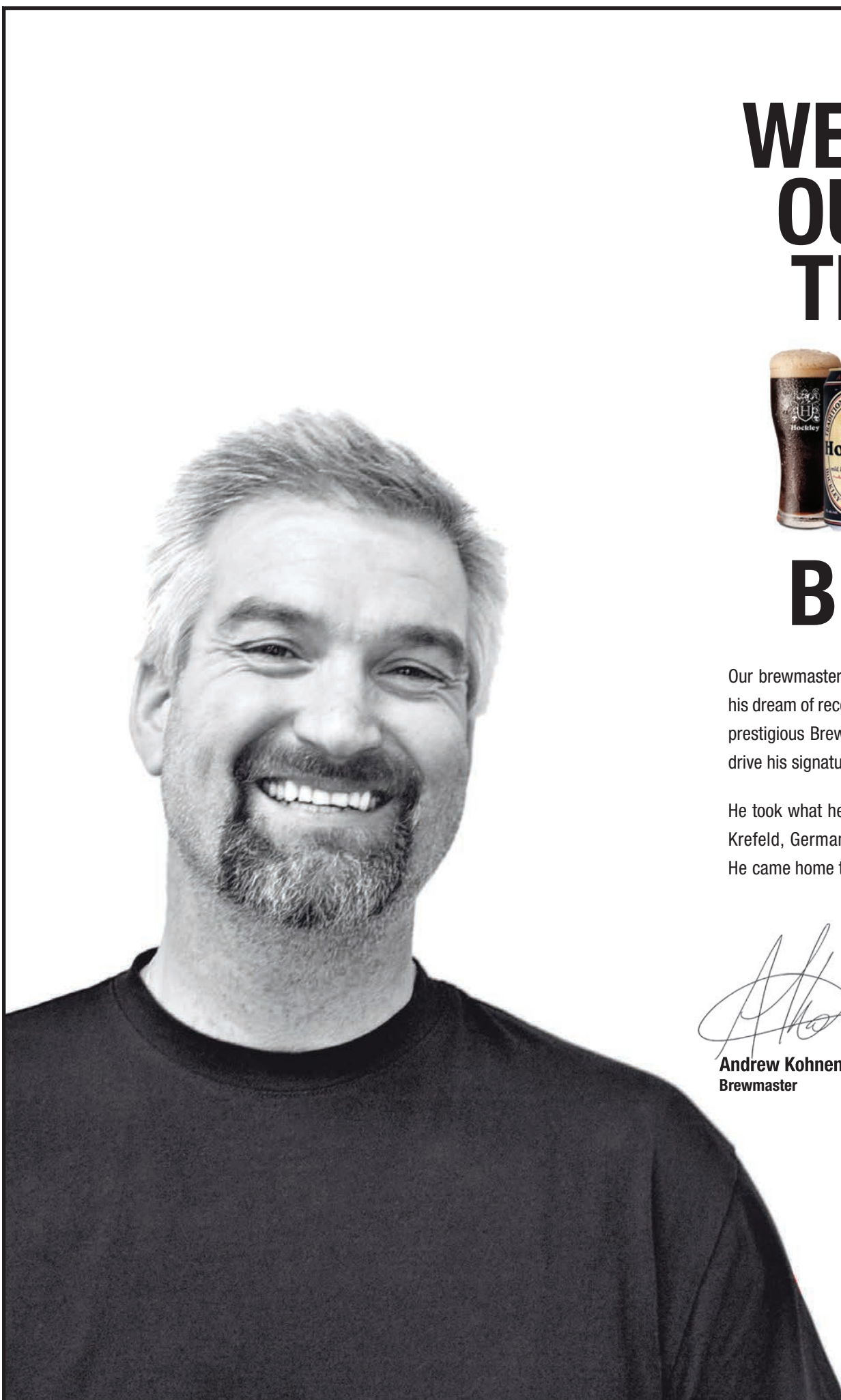
He took what he could from there and ventured to Scotland, Cornwall, and ultimately to Krefeld, Germany, working in the same brewery that had belonged to his ancestors. He came home to Canada for Hockley.

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

Andrew Kohnen
Brewmaster

Hockley

HOCKLEYBEER.CA



Investment will add health-care workers to primary care teams

The Ontario government is continuing to deliver on its commitment to protect Ontario's health-care system by investing \$30 million to expand the province's primary care health-care workforce. This new funding will upskill over 1,400 registered nurses for primary care, create 170 primary care nurse practitioner education seats and add up to 150 physician assistant education seats as part of the government's \$2.1 billion Primary Care Action Plan to connect everyone in Ontario to primary care by 2029.

"Our government is continuing to take bold action to further protect Ontario's world-class health-care workforce now and for years to come," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "By increasing the number of nurse practitioners and physician assistants, while upskilling registered nurses, we are taking one more step towards our goal of ensuring everyone can connect to primary care."

To support the recruitment and retention of nurses in primary care, Ontario is investing over \$4.5 million for a new, innovative program that will help over 1,400 registered nurses gain skills and experience in primary care, including:

Chronic disease management; cancer screening; maternal and child care; immunizations.

Launching this year, the program will be delivered in partnership with Conestoga College, Lakehead University, Trent University and Western University to equip registered nurses with the skills they need to immediately work in a primary care setting. As one of the first programs of its kind, Ontario is leading the way in health-care training and freeing up more time for family doctors and nurse practitioners to focus on patients with more complex needs.

"(This) investment builds on our government's critical work to protect Ontario's health-care workforce today, and into the future," said Nolan Quinn, Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security. "This new upskilling program and seat expansions will ensure that Ontario continues to have highly skilled workers to connect more people across the province to compassionate health care, close to home."

Ontario is also investing \$8.5 million to add up to 170 new primary care nurse practitioner education seats starting this year. Nursing schools implementing these new seats include Lakehead

University, Laurentian University, McMaster University, the University of Ottawa, Queen's University, Toronto Metropolitan University, the University of Toronto, the University of Windsor, Western University and York University. This expansion will create more nurse practitioners in Ontario working in primary care, enabling faster and easier access for families across the province.

"Strengthening Ontario's primary care system depends on a highly skilled health workforce," said Dr. Jane Philpott, Chair, Primary Care Action Team. "These new education and upskilling initiatives will help ensure that nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants are equipped to provide the comprehensive, team-based care Ontarians rely on, close to home."

In addition, starting in 2026-27, the government is investing a further \$16 million to add up to 150 new physician assistant education seats at Ontario universities. Physician assistants help reduce wait times and improve patient access to primary care services across Ontario. Under the supervision of a physician, physician assistants may work with other members of health-care teams to provide health-care services.

The primary care upskilling program for registered nurses is a 12-week program that provides additional education and training to support working in primary care settings. Upon completion, registered nurses will receive a certificate from the program.

Since the launch of the government's \$2.1 billion Primary Care Action Plan, Ontario has already attached over 275,000 new patients to a primary care provider, putting the province on track to meet or exceed its target of connecting 300,000 new people to care in 2025-26 and every Ontarian to a primary care provider by 2029.

The government is investing in the largest medical school education expansion in more than a decade by adding 340 undergraduate seats and 551 postgraduate positions by 2028-29, representing a 67 per cent increase in family medicine graduates.

Nurse practitioners have an expanded scope of practice and can diagnose, order and interpret diagnostic tests, prescribe medications and perform specific procedures, making them essential in primary care environments.

Since 2018, Ontario has added over 100,000 new nurses and nearly 20,000 additional physicians to its health-care workforce, including an over 14 per

cent increase in family doctors.

"The addition of 170 nurse practitioner education seats, alongside the upskilling of 1,400 registered nurses for primary care practice, represents a significant investment in Ontario's health-care workforce. Strengthening nursing capacity in primary care will improve access and continuity of care for Ontarians. Primary care is a hallmark of any advanced health system," said Dr. Doris Grinspun, CEO, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario.

"The Canadian Association of Physician Assistants is thrilled with the Ontario government's continued investment in the Physician Assistant profession. This expansion comes at a

critical time for Ontario's health-care system. Adding 150 new Physician Assistant training seats will help grow the pool of highly qualified health-care providers needed to support patients and care teams across the province. Physician Assistants are essential members of health-care teams, improving efficiency and increasing access to timely, high-quality care. In primary care, more PAs will help connect patients with providers more quickly. The impact of investing in the PA profession will be felt across the system. PAs are part of the solution – and Ontario deserves PAs," added Ryan Bennett, President, Canadian Association of Physician Assistants.



Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Francophone Affairs, President of the Treasury Board, and MPP for York—Simcoe; Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario and MPP for Etobicoke North; Jill Dunlop, Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response and MPP for Simcoe North; Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines and MPP for King—Vaughan.

MPP Lecce wraps up successful Ontario PC Party Convention

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan, participated in Ontario PC Party's Annual Policy Convention bringing MPPs and party members together for exclusive discussions on the future direction of the party. MPP Lecce spoke on a policy forum panel in his capacity as Ontario's Minister of Energy and Mines about protecting Ontario's economy.

"With another successful convention in the books, we are standing up for Canada's economy, united under the leadership of Premier Ford," said MPP Lecce. "It was great to meet so many new members and discuss our plan to build Ontario's self-reliant economy with large-scale nuclear and our unmatched critical mineral potential in the Ring of Fire. Our Premier stated passionately and with confidence that nothing can nor will stop the momentum that's behind Canada and Ontario in 2026."



Team Roberts shows its support at Convention

Team Roberts showed up in big numbers at this year's Conservative Convention in Calgary to support leader Pierre Poilievre with pride.

"As I expected with such a great and enthusiastic crowd, Pierre received over 87% support from delegates. Canada's Conservatives stand united behind him, for hope, for a better future, for change. We are heading back to work and I'm proud to stand by Pierre and will be by his side fighting for King—Vaughan and Canada," said Anna Roberts, MP for King—Vaughan.

Technology site coming to York

Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade announced the launch of the OVIN 2.0 Regional Technology Development Sites (RTDS).

Through the Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN), nine RTDS will be established across the province, including one in York Region. Backed by a \$15 million combined investment, the York Region RTDS will support the development, testing, prototyping, and commercialization of next-generation transportation and smart mobility technologies.

Small and medium-sized enterprises will be able to access York University YSpace, ventureLAB, and real-world testing environments, connecting them with the partners and resources needed to accelerate their path to market.

At the announcement, York Region Chairman and CEO, Eric Joliffe, highlighted the Region's strength as a leading technology hub in Canada and home to the largest independent auto parts and electronic manufacturing cluster. This positions the York Region RTDS as an ideal location to drive the future of mobility.

"We look forward to the continued collaboration with the province, OVIN, Ontario Centre of Innovation, program partners and the innovative businesses that will be developing market-ready mobility solutions."



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King Weekly Sentinel

SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events
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Curling volunteers are true champs, curlers honoured, too

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

King curling is very fortunate to have so many of its members that dedicate numerous hours of their valuable time to volunteer. The day-to-day work is solely operated by volunteers to which many do not realize what it takes to keep the club running smoothly, all the while promoting a camaraderie that we all enjoy and benefit from.

These special individuals offer their time with ice maintenance, bar tending, convening leagues as well as administering and conducting spiels. The Board of Directors and their executive are the backbone of the club who make the decisions and implement the rules of the organization. Duties that all take effort and time to ensure that their members receive the best curling experience and fun all season long.

King members recently volunteered for Canada Curling at the Women's National Curling Championships; The Scotties Tournament of Hearts. This national event required 400 volunteers from 51 clubs in and around the GTA that included 6 from King Curling. Vice President Charlie Pringle and Ice Technician Richard Quick were part of the ice maintenance crew that spent 40 hours helping to prepare ice in between games. President Larry Sheardown, Sue Sheardown, Cindy Phillips and Ann Gerrits were on Access and Accreditation, assisting access for the media, players and sponsors. Their involvement over the

course of the week-long event was approx. 30-40 hours.

When asked what they thought of the experience, the answer was conclusive – “it was amazing!” Aside from the feeling of satisfaction from a job well done, wonderful new friendships and memories were made and that is something you cannot buy.

Invitational Spiels

King curlers have been very busy this season with invitational spiels at other clubs.

This past weekend, Dave Barber, Peter Kamstra, Dan Steenhoek and Simon Prigmore won the men's invitational at the Huntsville Curling club. A prestigious event that was once won by legendary curlers Russ and Glen Howard.

Entering with a 2-0 winning record into the championship game the King boys down 5-1 after 3 ends earning steals in the last 4 ends for a 7-5 victory. Large credit for the win goes to Peter Kamstra for a timely draw to the button ultimately changing the momentum for the come-back win.

Meanwhile at the Uxbridge Mixed Cash Spiel, two mixed teams from King were also making a statement. Sylvain Pelland, Kim Battershell, Andrew Kolody and Veronica Wilson won their first game after a pressure draw to the button made by Kim for the win. Due to an injury to Pelland in game 1, the now threesome played a tight 2nd game that went back and forth until



Shellee Morning, Trevor Battershell, MariaChristina DeRose and Fausto Mussato (above) captured first place at the Uxbridge Mixed Cash Spiel Invitational.

Dave Barber, Peter Kamstra, Dan Steenhoek and Simon Prigmore (below) won first overall at the Huntsville Men's Invitational.



the final end with an opponent win on the last rock.

Shellee Morning, Trevor Battershell, MariaChristina DeRose and Fausto Mussato the 2nd team from King won both of their games claiming first prize overall.

In the 7th end of the championship game Trevor Battershell executed a perfect angle tap to the button for the tying point then delivered a well placed guard to ensure. A miss by the opponent left Shellee Morning a tight take-out for the win. Needing 2 for the win, a total team shot with superior sweeping by DeRose and Mussato while Bat-

tershell called the line for a perfect hit collecting 4 and the title.

Spiel the Wine

King Ladies' annual “Spiel the Wine” was a sold-out event this past weekend.

Ann Gerrits, Cindy Phillips, Sue Sheardown and Judy Tripp were Draw 1 winners while Marnie Deathe (King) and her Fenlon Falls team were Draw 2 winners and captured first place overall.

Many thanks to the sponsors and to all the volunteers that helped make this another successful spiel.



KCC Club President Larry Sheardown awarded Sue Sheardown, Judy Tripp, Cindy Phillips and Ann Gerrits for first place in Draw 1 of the Ladies Spiel the Wine Bonspiel.

King sweeps crucial 6-point week with wins over Oakville, Niagara Falls, and Milton

By Jim Stewart

The Rebellion opened their crucial six-point week with a tidy 4-0 win over the Oakville Blades on Tuesday afternoon at the Zancor Centre.

The Rebs followed their beatdown of the Blades by conking the Canucks 7-1 in Niagara Falls on Friday night.

On Sunday afternoon at the Zancor Centre, King hit the troika with an impressive 4-2 win over the third-place Milton Menace—a potential sneak preview to Round One of the OJHL West playoffs.

The three wins improved the Rebellion's record to 27-18-1-0 and moved the surging squad into seventh place – only two points behind the sixth-place Buffalo Junior Sabres with three games in hand.

On Tuesday, Dylan Turcotte and Lincoln Edwards ignited the offense with two goals each and Noah Mavin turned aside 32 shots to earn his second consecutive shutout.

King Township's Junior A squad played with the kind of urgency befitting a hockey team hungry for a better playoff seeding.

The newly-acquired Turcotte was the embodiment of that urgency when he tallied two goals in nineteen seconds by the midway point of the first period to give King a 2-0 lead.

Turcotte opened the scoring at 8:50

when Mavin's long clearing pass ricocheted off the boards and on to the cutting winger's tape. The former Stouffville Spirit winger described his first goal in a King jersey: “Noah made a perfect bank pass on to my stick and, into the zone, I was able to use the dman as a screen, and the goalie didn't see the shot. It felt good to get the goal and get the monkey off my back. It's great to help our team get wins.”

The Rebellion forward's second goal was the result of his line's hard work and some old-fashioned puck luck. He explained the turn of events that put King up 2-0: “Reggie Taylor did a great job to get the puck loose and create a turnover. I chipped it ahead toward the net and the dman put it in his own net. I'll take them any way I can.”

Turcotte noted the importance of getting off to a quick start against the Blades on Tuesday afternoon: “It was huge. Last game, we got blown out so we had to show our coach that we were ready to win. We're trying to push for a better playoff spot so we have to win our games in hand. We took care of business today.”

Turcotte also credited the win to the outstanding goaltending of Mavin: “He's been huge for us. Noah's one of the best goalies in the league and his back-to-back shutouts have really helped our team.”

After Turcotte staked King to a 2-0

lead after twenty minutes of play, Edwards finished a perfect cross zone pass from Lucas Preiano at 3:29 of the middle frame, with 15 seconds left in the power play. From the left faceoff circle, the steady forward one-timed the puck past Oakville goaltender Max Grovestine to give the white-clad Rebellion a three-goal lead.

Edwards put the game away 2:12 into the third period when he snapped the puck past Grovestine from between the circles to give the home side a commanding four-goal lead.

On Friday in Niagara Falls, King spotted the home side a 1-0 lead when Tim Marcotte beat Mavin at 9:58 of the first period.

It was the only shot to elude Mavin who kicked out 34 of 35 to raise his SV% to .940 – third-best in the OJHL.

The Rebs rallied in the second period by scoring five goals and firing 30 shots at beleaguered Niagara Falls netminder Dylan Bourque.

Ten seconds into the middle frame, Owen Kahl finished Edwards's pass to pull King into a 1-1 tie.

In rapid succession, Taylor, Justin Pavese, Jared McNeil, and Deacon King beat Bourque over the span of 12 minutes to stake the visitors to a 5-1 lead after 20 minutes of play.

Turcotte and Edwards – scoring heroes on Tuesday – finished the scoring with third period goals at 5:52 and

17:46, respectively, to provide the six-goal margin of victory.

On Sunday afternoon, the Rebellion's two-goal victory over the Menace provided excellent pre-Super Bowl entertainment.

Deacon King got the Rebellion rolling with his 18th goal of the season at 6:45 of the first period. The NCAA commit's power play marker was assisted by Taylor and Preiano.

Seven minutes later, Ashtyn Pacheo tallied his 25th of the season to pull the Menace into a 1-1 tie before the first intermission.

Milton's Nathan Catalano beat Mavin 59 seconds into the second period to give the visitors a 2-1 lead, but Mark Daryavin's first of the season tied the game 2-2 at 12:27 of the middle frame.

Mavin shut the door the rest of the way, stymying Milton's high-powered offence.

With 1:19 left in the second period, rugged defender Matthew Anderson scored the game-winning goal to restore King's lead at 3-2.

King Captain McNeil's empty-netter closed the scoring with 37 seconds left on the clock.

By backstopping the Rebs to three consecutive wins in six days, Noah Mavin was selected by the OJHL as its Second Star of the Week. Mavin turned aside 28 of the 30 shots he faced versus Milton.

King's Corners

**King City United
By Sheryl Sinka**

New worship time! Sunday, Feb. 15 King City-York Pines United Church worships at 10:30 a.m. with Daniel Cho leading our worship hour at 50 Elizabeth Grove. Everyone is welcome to join in our journey as we explore faith and what it means to us.

Last Sunday, Rev. Bill shared a message about grief, his personal experience and that of the disciples when Jesus ascended into heaven. Though all of our experiences we can rest assured that we are not ever truly alone, God is always by our side and we can always reach out to God in prayer. The topic was suggested by a congregant.

We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable family day long weekend!

Our Lenten study starts on Saturday, Feb. 21 at 10 a.m. and continues every Saturday until Easter. We are using the e-book, "Bless, Break, Share: Recipes for Faithful Living" available through ucrdstore.ca. Feel free to join us for an insightful discussion of our faith.

Monday, Feb. 23 the Book Club will meet at King City United Church at 10 a.m. "Serviceberry" by Robin Wall Kimmerer will be the subject of that meeting which was rescheduled from January due to snow. This book is a lovely treatise on gratitude and you don't need to have read the book to join in. For more information contact the office at 905-833-5181 or kcuc@bellnet.ca or to participate remotely on Zoom.

Fellowship Luncheon: February 25 at 12 p.m. Welcome to this York Pines United Church tradition and now King City's too! Friends from the community are invited to this fellowship lunch when we will be trying a new adventure for our group at Orchid Thai 15474 Yonge St. on the West side of Yonge, north of Wellington (just N. of Aurora Hts. Dr.) Contact the office as above if you plan to attend.

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 you may 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 You Tube.

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, 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.

Friday, February 20 – from 11:30 a.m. – Potluck Lunch – Come out and enjoy a delicious buffet. Each attendee is asked to bring either a main course item or a dessert.

Friday, February 27 – Presentation – Kathy from Vaughan Community Health will discuss Type 2 Diabetes.

Friday, March 6 – 10 a.m. – Cooking Demo – Alma, Sheila and Sharon will demonstrate how to make soup and cheese tea biscuits. \$5/pp due by February 27. Spaces limited – no walk-ins.

Friday, March 13 – 10 a.m. – Workshop – Angela will provide a hands-on creative painting workshop. The theme will be hydrangeas. \$10/pp due by March 6.

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 (must be registered with the Township).

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

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

Wednesday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Bridge.

Thursday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Gentle Motion (similar to Tai Chi). Thursday mornings, 11 a.m. – Qigong (must be registered with the Township).

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

The merged United Churches of York Pines and King City invite you, friends and neighbours to join us for our monthly fellowship luncheon, a well loved tradition of York Pines.

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 you may leave a message at the office at 905 833 5181.

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

Easter Sunday. During Lent, Catholics recall their baptism and do penance – fasting, prayer. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Holy Mass will be at 7 p.m. Stations of The Cross every Friday at 6:15 p.m.

We welcome into the Church of Jesus Christ, Veronica Gianna Cariati, daughter of John & Justine; and Julian Filiberti Carroccia, son of Andrew & Briana. May the Lord Jesus Bless pour His blessings on these children and their families.

Adult Faith Educational Meeting and Pot-Luck Supper Saturday, February 28. Topic: Evil's Ideologies (Part 2) Climate Change VS Change of Climate, What to Believe.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, Feb. 13: Silent Adoration begins at 3:30 p.m., Benediction at 6:30 p.m., Celebration of Mass at 7 p.m.

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all those who attended the Roast Beef Dinner. A special thank you to Robert Pedretti (DJ services); Tony Spataro (Kitchen) Mike DiBari, Greg Maltby, and all those who helped set-up and cleaned up afterwards. The proceeds from the evening totalled \$6,100. The Knights of Columbus will donate \$2,500 to a parish family who is in need. Thank you for your support!

Volunteers are needed! We need your help in making our "Coffee Sundays and Fellowship" a more frequent part of our parish life. These informal gatherings after 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Mass are wonderful ways in building community, sharing conversation, and connecting with one another.

To make this possible, we're looking for parish families or groups to host a Coffee Sunday. Coffee, supplies, training, and support are provided – you just bring your hospitality and your personal touch. If you're interested in hosting, please fill out the sign-up sheet located outside the kitchen area. For information, contact Justine Cariati, thecariatifamily@gmail.com OR Nadia Pascuzzo NPascuzzo@archtoronto.org. Thank you to the Leon family for sponsoring the latest event.

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

Welcome to St. Andrew's, King City this Family Day Weekend! On Sunday, Feb. 15, we are thrilled to have a joint service with The Well, King City, our space-sharing partner of our building! Our Morning Worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. (St. Andrew's usual time.) and we hope you'll join us afterwards for coffee time. Last Sunday, Pastor Alison continued with her sermon series and we were looking at the letter "F," for forgiven! That's who we are in Christ! We focused on Psalm 32: 1-5 and I John 1:9 which says that if we confess, God will forgive us! Check us out on our website: standrews-kingcity.ca

We are having "Thursdays at Three (3 p.m.), a Life Connect Group, leading up to Easter, at the church. It will be a great time of casually getting together over coffee and Pastor Alison will lead us using a book called What if God was serious about Prayer? by Skye Jethani. bringing our prayers for peace, unity, healing, compassion and guidance for our lives, community, and the world. The Thursdays will be on February 19, 26 and March 19 and 26.

The Annual Congregational Meeting is February 22, following our Morning Worship Service with Communion and following a pizza lunch!

We're collecting tins of soup, stews, chilis, ravioli and crackers for all of February for KTFB.

Also, mark your calendars for Friday, March 6. St. Andrew's is hosting the World Day of Prayer in the morning at 11 a.m. and there will be a light lunch following. The theme country is Nigeria. All are invited. Look for the posters throughout King City. If you have a place for one, call the church office.

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

As we move through the final weeks after Epiphany, our church community is already beginning to turn its heart and attention toward the sacred season of Lent.

Lent is often described as a time of quiet reflection, prayer, and intentional simplicity. It is a season where we are invited to slow down, to listen more deeply, and to draw closer to God. But before we enter that quieter, more contemplative time, our tradition wisely invites us to gather, celebrate, and feast together.

More on Page B5

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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. Our Pastor, Jeff Loach, will lead the service this morning with a message entitled, "Three Bad Examples" from Mark 2.13 – 3.6.

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, Feb. 13 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. 14 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.

We are one parish with 2 Historical Milestones of 150 and 171 years of Faithfulness and Loving Service as One Faith Community. The year 2026 will be full of ways to celebrate our anniversaries.

The first highlight will be an 150th Anniversary Fundraiser, March 7, with Irish entertainment at Copper Creek Golf Course in Kleinburg, tickets \$150.

St. Patrick's Parish will celebrate its 150th Anniversary with Cardinal Francis Leo on Sunday, March 8 at 1:30 p.m.

We are creating a historical Family photo directory. Much more to come. Our historical photo directory will take place at St. Mary's Church the weekend of Feb. 18 & 19 and at St. Patrick's Parish the weekend of Feb. 21 and 22. We hope to see you there.

I hope you all enjoy the Family Day long weekend. Just a reminder that Sunday is Valentine's Day and if you are blessed enough to have a woman or man who loves you, don't forget to acknowledge the wonderful gift of love.

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

Joke for the week: A husband buys his wife a beautiful, expensive diamond ring for Valentine's Day. And a friend asks, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty new Jeep SUVs?"

The husband replies, "She did. But where was I gonna find a fake Jeep?"
God Bless, Fr. Bob Glynn

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.

Regularly scheduled programs are:
Mobility Matters – Tuesdays 12:15 to 1 p.m. and 1 to 1:45 p.m. Fridays 2:15 to 3 p.m. and 3 to 3:45 p.m. Participants are welcome to bring their own weights, balls and resistance bands.

Bone Fitness – Wednesdays at 1 p.m. (must be registered with the Township).

Educational Thursdays run weekly from 10 am. to noon.

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.

March 5 – Freshen Your Home with a Fragrant Mist – Hands on Presentation. Angela Del Borrello will do a presentation on essential oils (citrus, peppermint, lavender & rosemary). You will take home your own spray bottle. Cost is \$10, which includes materials, register by February 26.

March 12 – A fun day of singing and entertainment by a musician. This

event will be sponsored by Richview Manor of Maple under the direction of CEO Joseph Gulizia. Snacks will be provided as well.

March 19 – The Red Carpet is ready for a movie on our TV screen. Sit back and relax and enjoy the snacks provided. Movie will be selected by the group.

March 26 – Emergency Preparedness. Presented by Deputy Fire Chief, Kevin Ritson. CPR will be demonstrated and the seniors will be able to participate and review the technique of CPR. Be informed and know what to do when an emergency arises.

For more information on 55+ programming, memberships and services visit king.ca/seniors or call 905-833-6565.

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.

Nobleton Lions

Want something to brighten up the dark days of winter? Our first fundraiser of the year is the poker tournament on Friday, Feb. 27, at the Dr. William Lacey Arena in Nobleton. For tickets, please contact Gunther Vetter at 416-807-5469 or any Lion.

Looking ahead to spring, Easter comes early this year and so does the Annual Easter Egg Hunt which will be held on Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. at Tascapark. This is a joint event put on by all three Lions Clubs in King Township, working together.

Looking out further, on Sunday, May 31 the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides will take place to raise funds for training dogs as service dogs. To donate, please visit <https://www.walkfordogguides.com/> and search Nobleton.

Next, mark your calendars for the annual Golf Fundraiser on June 7, more details to follow.

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. You may also follow us on Instagram at [nobleton.lions.club](https://www.instagram.com/nobleton.lions.club)

Book club

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

The Nobleton Book Club has been meeting regularly for over the past 13 years; new members are always most welcome to join! Whether you have read the book or not, come by and check out these very interesting, lively and entertaining discussions. All these titles are available to borrow, for free, through the Nobleton Library and other King Township libraries. If you have any questions, call Heather, the Branch Supervisor, at the Nobleton Library at 905-859-4188. Come and join this wonderful group of Nobleton readers!

Here is the reading list for the Nobleton Branch Book Club in 2026:

Wednesday, March 11, The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride.

Wednesday, April 8, The Laundryman's Boy by Edward Lee.

Wednesday, May 13, Indians on Vacation by Thomas King.

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 Diva, by Daisy Godwin.

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Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Pancakes for all next Sunday, Feb. 15, at 10 a.m. at Nobleton United Church. No service in Schomberg. Joint Service at 11:15 a.m. in Nobleton.

The Schomberg United Church Women will meet today, Thursday, Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church. Everyone is welcome to attend. The theme of hearing and discussing stories of Women in the Bible continues.

Please bring scissors and glue to make Valentine cards!

Lenten Study is starting Thurs. Feb. 19th at 1 pm at Nobleton United for scripture, reflection and good conversation. This will continue each Thursday until close to Easter. All are welcome.

Our Joint Annual General Meeting is on Feb. 22 at Nobleton United. Service at 11:15 a.m., followed by a light lunch and then the AGM.

Our next Messy Church is Monday, Feb. 23 at 5 p.m. at Nobleton United. The activities and crafts (5-6 p.m.) are based on different Bible stories. "The Lost Sheep" is February's theme, emphasizing Jesus's love for every one of us. At 6 p.m. we have story time until 6:15 p.m. when we eat. Children must be accom-

panied 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.

The next Community Potluck Lunch is on Tuesday, March 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.

Our next Schomberg Senior's Luncheon is Tuesday, March 10 at 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Schomberg. The entertainer is Beeton's Nancy Chapple-Smokler. Nancy grew up in B.C. and when she was 10 years old, she was on the first episode of the Beachcombers (1971). The meal will be leek & potato soup with corned beef on rye sandwiches with dessert of vanilla cupcakes with green icing and ice cream.

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.

Normally the World Day of Prayer is celebrated on the first Friday of March. This time it will be on the second Friday, March 13 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by a light lunch.

On Sunday, March 15, there is no service at our local churches. We are all invited to Pie (Public, Intentional, Explicit) Day at Knox United Church in Caledon at 10 a.m. This is an Affirm Service and there will be a joint choir. There will likely be pies afterwards!

New 15 minute Reflection on Zoom. Begin each week with hope. Short scripture, reflection and prayer. Starts on Monday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. until Monday, March 30.

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

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

Local Liberals holding family skate

The King-Vaughan Federal Liberal Association and the King-Vaughan Provincial Liberal Association are holding a free Family Day Skate event again this year at the Zancor Centre. They will have refreshments and a craft table, as well as skating, so it should be fun for all ages and abilities. It will be held Feb. 16, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Classifieds

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

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King's Corners

From Page B2

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, we will do just that at our annual Pancake Supper, because, as the saying goes, we feast before we fast. There will be both dine-in and take-out options available, and we are pleased to offer gluten-free pancakes and sausages for those who need them. If you would like to place an order, please get in touch with the church office. This is always a joyful, lively evening of fellowship, and we would love for you to join us.

Then, on Wednesday, Feb. 18, we enter into Lent with our Ash Wednesday services at 12 and 7 p.m. At these services, we will receive the imposition of ashes. This is a powerful and humble reminder of our mortality and our dependence on God's grace. Whether you are new to this tradition or have experienced it many times before, you are warmly invited to begin Lent with us in prayer and reflection.

As Lent unfolds, we will also gather in a different, deeply prayerful

way on Friday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 pm for a Taizé-style service. This evening of chant, scripture, and silence offers a gentle, meditative space to encounter God through music and stillness. It is a beautiful way to rest your spirit in the midst of a busy week.

And even in Lent, we make space for joy and community. On Sunday, March 1, following our 10:30 a.m. service, we will celebrate our annual Soup Sunday. Our talented home cooks will bring a variety of soups to share, and parishioners and visitors alike are welcome to stay, eat, and enjoy one another's company. It's a simple meal, but a meaningful one, rooted in hospitality and connection.

As we move from feasting to fasting, from celebration to contemplation, we hope you will find a place for yourself in the life of our community. Whether you join us for pancakes, ashes, song, or soup (or all of the above) know that you are welcome here.

We want you. We are glad you are here. Come and see.

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



'Hearts for Hunger' campaign supports King Food Bank

George at Leonardo's Pizzeria & Smokehouse with a heart-shaped pizza. Every order supports the King Township Food Bank's annual Hearts for Hunger campaign. The initiative continues to grow, with seven local establishments offering heart-shaped menu items and donating a portion of their proceeds to the King Township Food Bank.

Classifieds

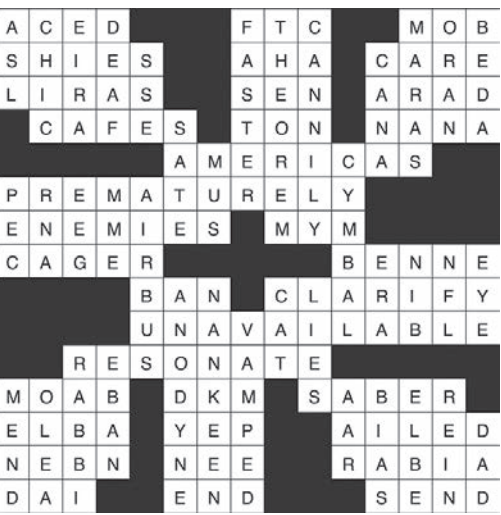
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708 OBITUARIES

Bonsi: Mario

Peacefully passed away at his home in Beeton, on Thursday, February 5, 2026. Mario Bonsi at the age of 82 years, beloved husband of Gianna Bonsi (née: Galli). Loving father of Claudio (Crystal), Angelo (Christine) and Marco (Tarah). Dear grandfather of Alyssa, Jacob, Luke, Daniel, Sandro and A.J. Forever in the hearts of his extended family and friends.

The family received friends at Rod Abrams Funeral Home, 1666 Tottenham Rd., Tottenham 905-936-3477 on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Donations in Mario's memory to the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation would be appreciated. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com.

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708 OBITUARIES

Butler, Colleen



Passed away gracefully, surrounded by family and friends at Matthews House, Alliston on February 2, 2026 at the age of 50. Much loved daughter of Jay and Peggy, loving wife and partner to Craig, and the best Mom to Lily (Alessandro), Nathan (Diana) and Owen. She was an amazing sister to Jamie (Anne), Mary, and Trish (Elise). Colleen was the "cool" aunt to Ellery, Calleigh, Maya, Lia, J.J., Ellis, Lukas and Niklas. Beloved daughter in law of Anne Butler (the late Doug), and dear sister-in-law of Geoff (Johnna), and Rod (Jessica).

Colleen is remembered by friends and family as a strong, graceful and especially kind woman, whose roots and ties ran deep to her hometown community of New Tecumseth. After graduating from St. Thomas Aquinas in Tottenham, she attended King's College at Western, where she met her husband-to-be Craig, while she worked as the after hours receptionist, and he as the after hours security guard. She completed a degree in Political Science, and continued her education at the Universities of Ottawa and Carleton, earning a Law degree and her Masters of International Affairs.

After graduating, she began her law career at Fraser, Milner, Casgrain in Toronto, and then moved north, back to Tottenham, to help raise her growing family. She continued her law practice as a partner at Feehely Gastaldi, and threw herself into various volunteer endeavours in the community. Over the years, she has volunteered on the boards of many non-profit and community organizations, such as Stevenson Memorial Hospital, CLASS, Next Step Literacy Council, CANAAF (Alopecia), and the Adjala Credit Union.

In her spare time, you could usually find her reading next to HER dog, Ringo, aiming to maintain an uninterrupted and successful Wordle streak, working on a puzzle, travelling to places near and far or hiking local trails with family and friends. She was a genuine, whip-smart, empathetic, funny woman whose infectious smile and laughter could not be dampened even, as she would say, "by stupid cancer".

The family received friends at Rod Abrams Funeral Home 1666 Tottenham Rd., Tottenham 905-936-3477, on Sunday February 8, 2026 with Visitation from 10am-1pm and 3pm-6pm. Funeral Mass was held at St. James Church Colgan 2118 Adjala Tecumseth Townline Tottenham, on Monday February 9, 2026 at 10:30am. Reception followed at The Gibson Center 63 Tupper St. W. Alliston.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation or CLASS, in memory of Colleen Butler. Your contributions will support vital healthcare services in our community. Condolences and memories may be left for the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com.

Sandra von Hunnius



After a long battle with dementia, Sandra Elizabeth von Hunnius passed away surrounded by loved ones and caring staff on Saturday Jan 31, 2026, at Sunset Manor in Collingwood at the age of 83. Sandra was the beloved wife of Sigurd (Sigi) and the loving mother of Jennifer (Jamie Parly), Marc (Jacquie) and Tanya (Graham Matthews). She was also the cherished Oma of Eric and Justin von Hunnius and Raymond, Alexander and Eowyn Matthews. Survived also by her brother Don and his wife Jacquie Lowe and predeceased by her parents Delsie (Drover) and Harold Lowe.

Sandra grew up in a busy multi-generational house in New Toronto where she maintained a precious lifelong friendship with her cousin Jackie Clancy, who was also by her side when she passed away. It was in New Toronto where she met Sigi while working at LePage's Glue. The two were married Dec 11, 1965. They recently celebrated 60 years of marriage in December at a party thrown for them at Sunset Manor full of music and cake.

Sandra and Sigi brought up their three children in what was then considered a small village known as Tottenham. There didn't seem to be a cause she didn't volunteer for (e.g., soccer, figure skating and baseball leagues, the school, the Anglican Church and the Food Bank to name a few) and the door was always open for their many friends and family, as well as their children's friends. Sandra was a familiar face at the Tottenham Post Office where she worked as a desk clerk but retired as a Postmaster.

Sandra and Sigi went on to run a small cottage rental property on the shores of Lake Kushog in Haliburton called Kushog Korner. When full retirement finally came, they found a home in a quiet neighbourhood in Wasaga Beach that was only a short bike ride away from the shore. Sandra loved to be by the waterfront.

Sandra's baking was top-notch and admired by those who were lucky to partake. When she wasn't getting mad at her sewing machine, she created fashionable outfits and amazing quilts. Sandra was an avid gardener and a genius with indoor plants. In later years, she enjoyed her outdoor time in the courtyard at Sunset Manor where she shared many peaceful sunny afternoons with her family. It would bring her and her family great happiness to contribute additional trees and plants to this very same courtyard so that other residents may also enjoy it for many years to come. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Sunset Manor Courtyard Fund in Sandra's memory, either by phone 705-445-4499 x6001 (easiest) or by cheque payable to the County of Simcoe/Sunset Manor (Courtyard Fund on the memo line) or through the County of Simcoe website - Sunset Manor (<https://simcoe.ca/lc/homes/donations/>). Alternatively, donations may also be made to the Simcoe County Alzheimer Society (https://alzheimerc.ca/simcoecounty/en/contact#DONATE_NOW).

A special mention to all the staff at Sunset Manor who came to be such a large part of Sandra and Sigi's life. They always treated her with dignity, and they championed her care until the very end.

At the family's request, cremation has taken place with a Celebration of Life to be held at a later date. Friends may visit Sandra's online Book of Memories at www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com

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Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Just a reminder to make sure and order your flowers because Valentine's Day is just a few days away.

If you want to make more than just your better half happy, why not help the people of King Township by purchasing some heart-shaped pizza or goodies. King Township Food Bank is sponsoring "Hearts for Hunger" where part of the proceeds from these participating businesses will go to the food bank. Make sure to drop into Si, Lo, So, Schomberg village Pizzeria, Leonardos Pizzeria and Smoke House, Hollywood Pizza or the Grackle locally in Schomberg, and if you're out and about and find yourself in King City you can also check out Pine Farms Orchard or Molly's Market. What a great way to do something for your loved ones and help others in need. It's a win/win!

King Township is looking for nominations for the volunteer awards, so if you know someone who gives back to the community and is always ready to help, then submit their name before Saturday, Feb. 28, at King.ca/awards.

Looking for a place to skate outdoors? Well good news, the picnic shelter at Cold Creek Conservation Area has been transformed into a seasonal outdoor skating rink.

Lace up your skates and embrace the chill this weekend on the "backyard" rink built by Township staff.

Free, unsupervised skating (max. 25 skaters at one time) is available daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; weather permitting.

For details, visit Coldcreek.ca.

Schomberg Lions Club presents a free Health & Wellness Interactive Workshop led by a leading Health Coach Ann Rockley, Saturday, March 7, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Trisan Centre, Room A. Join us for an engaging, hands-on workshop focused on whole-body wellness, yoga movement demonstrations, and sample healthy living food choices. All are welcome!

Horticultural Society

The Schomberg Horticultural Society has an exciting year planned and is accepting new members. If you're a seasoned gardener or novice there's always more to learn so, consider joining this enthusiastic group. Here are some important dates to remember:

Tuesday, March 24, SHS General Meeting with Guest speaker Maria Shtembert on "Container Gardening," along with a baking contest "Sugar and Spice & Everything Nice" baking contest and pizza party.

Tuesday, April 28, SHS General Meeting with Guest speaker Kristen Martyn, "20 Facts about Backyard Birds."

Saturday, May 9, Annual Plant Sale, Schomberg Community Farm 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, May 19, SHS General Meeting, Guest Speaker Kathleen Gorsline, "Square Foot Gardening."

Tuesday, June 23, SHS General Meeting with Guest Speaker Karen Hollingshead, "Soil to Table."

Sunday, June 28, Annual Garden Tour, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 22, SHS General Meeting, Guest Speaker Cathy McDougall, "Sustainable Garden Hacks."

Tuesday, Oct. 27, SHS General Meeting, Guest Speaker - Brandon Hebor, "The Future of Farming."

Tuesday, Nov. 17, Annual General Meeting & Banquet, 6 to 9 p.m.

All events will take place at Schomberg Community Hall on Main Street, for more information please contact schomberghortsociety@gmail.com

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. Please note that due to conflict we won't be playing on March 27.

Schomberg 55+

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

This past Monday, Lynda Quirino gave us a highly informative talk on "Demystifying Ghostly Phenomena." Lynda is the founder and president of the Georgina Paranormal Society and taught us all about visitations, poltergeists, and residual spirits. Lynda was a huge hit, and we had a sold-out crowd. I can't thank Lynda enough for taking the time out of her busy ghost busting schedule to visit our group.

Friday, February 20 - Presentation - Liam Bird - The story of the saxophone, includes a performance. RSVP klbird@hotmail.com

Monday, February 23 - Presentation - Joy Schwartz (MTO) Over 80 licence renewal tips process plus winter driving tips.

Monday, March 9 - Presentation - Marie Loureiro will discuss 'The Art of Becoming'.

Monday, March 16 - St. Patrick's Day celebration with the 'Tightly Wound' ukulele players.

Weekly Events:

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

Tuesday afternoons - 1:30 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 af-

ternoons - 3 to 4:30 p.m. - The Tightly Wound ukulele group in the Multi Room B at Trisan.

Friday afternoons - 1 to 3 p.m. - Bid Euchre in Multi Room A at Trisan, 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

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.

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



MP at Olympics

King-Vaughan MP Anna Roberts was in Milano, as part of Canada's official delegation to the 2026 Winter Olympics, and taking the opportunity to strengthen our diplomatic ties. Thanks to Senator Luigi Nave, Chair of the Italy-Canada Interparliamentary Group, and Canada's Ambassador to Italy Elissa Golberg for your incredible friendship and the great discussion.

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