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Mayor's Gala a huge success

The 4th biennial Mayor's Cultural Gala was a huge success, with the community throwing its full support behind the fundraiser for Arts Society King and the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. Mayor Steve Pellegrini was thrilled by the support. The night also featured the introduction of the inaugural members of the King Sports Hall of Fame, introduced by Councillor David Boyd. Turn to Pages 12 and 13 for the full story.

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WHO WILL THEY BECOME?

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EDUCATION WITH BALANCE

Council approves all-way stops in rural areas

By **Mark Pavilons**
Editor

King will install all-way stops at four intersections in rural King.

Councillors approved staff recommendations to go ahead with the stop signs at Graham Sideroad and Bathurst Street; 8th Concession and 15th Sideroad; Graham Sideroad and Pump House, and 15th Sideroad and 7th Concession.

Staff noted a detailed traffic safety review was conducted by retained consulting firm RJ Burnside and Associates. The study involved a comprehensive assessment of existing conditions, including traffic volumes and types, operating speeds, collision history, and sightlines.

The staff report summarizes the traffic data, collision history, and field observations collected as part of the study, and outlines the recommended traffic control measures, including the associated by-law amendment required to enact the proposed stop controls.

The Township retained R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited to undertake AWSC warrant reviews at the identified intersections.

The study was informed by several key data sources, including mid-block speed counts and turning movement volumes collected by Ontario Traffic Inc., collision data from 2018 to 2025, and the Township's 2024 Road Needs Study.

As part of the scope of work, Burnside completed turning movement counts on all approaches, 72-hour speed and AADT measurements on uncontrolled approaches, and a review of relevant policies and collision records. A field investigation was also conducted to assess roadway geometry, sightlines, roadside conditions, and existing traffic control measures. The findings were evaluated in accordance with the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 5 to determine whether AWSC is warranted at each location.

The 7th Concession & 15th Sideroad was chosen due to the sightline limitations, high operating speeds, and the warranted volume split indicates that a higher level of traffic control is appropriate. The all-way stop is expected to provide modest improvements to intersection delays and overall safety.

See 'Volumes' on Page 3

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YRP make arrests in Nobleton home invasion.

See Page 3



Southlake to unveil patio this spring.

See Page 11

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FULL PAGE AD

Police arrest suspects in Nobleton home invasion

Investigators with the York Regional Police Hold-Up Unit charged three suspects with numerous offences in connection with a November 2024 armed home invasion in the Township of King.

Officers, including members of the tactical unit, executed search warrants Feb. 26, following a lengthy investigation. Police arrived at residences in the Town of Grimsby and Cities of Toronto and Oshawa.

As a result, investigators with the Hold-Up Unit, assisted by the York Regional Police Emergency Response and Canine Units, as well as the Niagara Regional Police Emergency Task Unit, arrested three male suspects.

Charged were:

Clayton McFarlane, 44, of Oshawa, Attempt to Commit Murder; Robbery with a Firearm; Possession of Prohibited or Restricted Firearm with Ammunition; Theft Under \$5,000; Possession of Firearm Contrary to Order; Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5,000, and Possession of Break-In

Instruments.

Darnyl Campbell, 33, of Grimsby, Attempt to Commit Murder; Robbery with a Firearm; Disguise with Intent; Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking.

Andrew Dove, 39, of Toronto, Fail to Comply with Release Order.

The charges stem from a Nov. 2, 2024 incident when police responded to reports of a shooting at a home in the area of Paradise Valley Trail and Fairmont Ridge Trail. A 39-year-old male was located at the scene and taken to a trauma centre with non-life-threatening injuries. It was learned a residence had been broken into by two armed suspects. A male not associated to the residence attended to assist the homeowners, when he was confronted by the suspects who shot him before fleeing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police Hold-Up Unit at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 6630, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. Anonymous tips can also be sent online at www.1800222tips.com.

YRP warn public about distraction jewellery thefts

York Regional Police is alerting residents about ongoing jewellery distraction thefts following two recent reports involving the same suspects in the City of Markham.

In these distraction-style thefts, suspects drive through neighbourhoods looking for vulnerable individuals, most often seniors, who are alone and wearing visible jewelry. One suspect may approach the victim on foot or lure them closer to a vehicle by asking for directions.

During a brief interaction, the suspect will remove the victim's jewelry and replace it with fake gold items such as a bracelet, ring or necklace before quickly fleeing the area.

In two incidents on February 19, a female suspect approached victims in grocery store parking lots and attempted to engage them in conversation while offering fake gold jewelry. After stealing the victims' jewelry, she ran to a grey Honda sedan occupied by additional suspects, and the vehicle fled the scene.

There were no injuries reported in either incident.

Police are reminding the public to remain vigilant and take the following precautions:

Be cautious of strangers attempting to converse with you in public.

Be wary of individuals who are overly friendly or asking for directions while intruding on your personal space.

Secure your valuables in a way that makes them difficult for others to access.

Immediately report any suspicious activity or persons, or if you become a victim, to the police.

Criminals take advantage of opportunities. Don't give them the chance to make you a victim.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police #2 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, extension 7244. Anyone seeking to provide information anonymously can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS or visit www.1800222tips.com.



Mayor Steve Pellegrini said he had the privilege to attend a pre-dawn tactical briefing, followed by the execution of a warrant and subsequent arrest of a suspect in connection to a home invasion and shooting in Nobleton. He said he's "extremely proud of the men and women of YRP."

Volumes warrant all-way stops

From Front Page

The stop at 8th Concession & 15th Sideroad is warranted because of high traffic volumes, excessive operating speeds, a warranted volume split, and a significant collision history. AWSC installation is expected to provide modest improvements to intersection delays and enhance overall safety.

Based on the warrant review, Graham Sideroad & Pump House Road is recommended to provide modest improvements to intersection delays and enhance overall safety.

Graham Sideroad & Bathurst Street needs the stop based on total traffic volume, minor-road approach volume, and volume split, which all exceed the

required thresholds. AWSC is expected to improve intersection operations and help balance delays between approaches.

The proposed improvements will cost approximately \$750 per intersection. The costs are covered by the Public Works Traffic Calming Budget of \$75,000.

The All-Way Stop Control (AWSC) warrant reviews undertaken for these intersections were informed by detailed traffic data, collision history, operating speeds, and field observations. Based on the findings, the implementation of AWSC at these locations is expected to improve intersection safety, enhance operational clarity for road users, and better balance delays between approaches.

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Why do we seek to feel or be 'forever young?'

Who is this man looking back at me in the mirror with bags under his eyes, Einstein-like hair and facial scruff?

It can't be me, can it? We all know the answer.

Maybe it's some grand marketing scheme, where substances are placed in the glass that exaggerate images or reflect them back with defects, to make us go out and buy rejuvenating cream, hair color or supplements.

Okay, it's age. But it's not just the passage of time and the creases it causes on the body. It's about the inner self.

That's what's weird about my latest mirror experiences. Inside I'm nowhere what my driver's licence says. At times, I feel like a high school senior, and others like a frat boy. But this guy, staring back at me? That's not me.

Would a ponytail help? Maybe an earring or a tattoo? Leather pants? Don't laugh, I actually had a pair in my 20s.

My summer attire – colourful Hawaiian shirts – speaks volumes about my out-going and carefree nature. But in reality, I'm more like the Kool-Aid Man, given my rotund mid-section.

According to Alphaville:

"It's so hard to get old without a cause I don't want to perish like a fading horse

Youth's like diamonds in the sun
And diamonds are forever."

I'm not talking about immortality and being "forever young." But I do admire seniors who look and act decades younger than their true age. In my opinion, to be youthful, and perhaps live upwards of 200 years, combined with wisdom, is the best scenario. With those qualities, we would be unstoppable.

So, let's start a GoFundMe campaign to immortalize Boomers, tap their minds and extend their lives, for the betterment of all humankind. Who's with me?

"Wisdom is the reward for surviving our own stupidity," according to Brian



Mark Pavilons

Rathbone, Regent.

It's been said the wisest are the most annoyed by the passage of time. I don't know about you, but lately, my patience is wearing thin with the increasing number of idiots in this world. From tailgaters and speeders to just plain rudeness, my fellow humans are showing signs of wear and tear.

Some say men and women age differently, but many agree that life is written on your face. My laugh lines (that's what I like to call them) and miles of bad road on my kisser were all well earned. Every line, dent, scar and wrinkle has a story to tell.

I'm so lucky in that my wife and her mom are quite youthful looking. On occasion, some people have asked my wife whether she's my daughter. Not sure whether to be insulted or impressed by that question. Regardless, some strong genes on that side.

In photos of my dad, the description that comes to mind is "stone face," a

rather serious, careworn look. We've uncovered some family photos, circa the turn of the century, where men were complete with expressionless faces and those exquisite handlebar moustaches. The portraits look more like a group shot at a funeral, than a happy family occasion.

During my first chemo session, my wife snapped a pic of me and I looked just like my late uncle did in his 70s. Sure, I realize DNA sneaks up on you, but boy.

Being a bit of a foodie, I've learned that age is important when it comes to wine and cheese. I love cheese. Also, not everyone gets to age gracefully, or at all. Many don't make it into their 70s or 80s anymore.

Dr. Seuss once said that adults are obsolete children. But have you seen Dr. Seuss characters? What strange world of elongated and exaggerated features did these hail from? On second thought, seeing one of these peer back at me from the mirror may frighten me at first, but I'd get a good, hearty chuckle at it.

When you think about it, humans are the only creatures on earth who are concerned about youth, longevity, looking good and achieving some sort of status.

For our lower-level mammal friends, their skills and intelligence is directed towards food, shelter, safety and the pod or family. Yes, there's a hierarchy, but it's one set by nature and the alpha takes on the responsibility of leader.

They don't have an ego (or so we believe), so they merely do their job as nature intended. They lead, protect, provide and often bark out orders or directives. I don't think they spend a lot of time preening or looking at their im-

age in the calm pond waters and remark how good looking they are.

And they likely don't do any soul-searching or take stock of their lives.

I doubt whether animals have the same concept of time as we do, and they sure don't understand the nature of the universe or the unique aspects of time and space. Well, I'd keep an eye on dolphins and octopuses because I'm positive they aren't telling us everything.

Luis Barragan once said that a garden must "combine the poetic and the mysterious with a feeling of serenity and joy."

We are our own gardeners and I believe we all have a bit of mystery and poetry in our lives. We've all experienced joy. Serenity, well that's a tough one.

Maybe we're all mistaking youth for inner qualities that outlast all others. Age means nothing, but if we're filled with peace, calm, compassion, honesty, motivation and contentment, then I think we've partly mastered this thing called life.

Our mirrors won't reflect back what we could be or should be. But that strange, light-bending optic device may show us the way. It may indicate it's time for a change, a change of diet, attitude, approach or demeanor.

I may not give my mirror self the thumbs-up or finger gun salute, but I may not hate him so.

He may be on to something.

If only there's a device to look through us, into us, and find that joyful, rambunctious child. I'd love it if we could get those x-ray glasses at the back of comic books and see into a person's soul and witness their goodness.

Then we'd have no use for mirrors at all!

Recycling

Cart exchanges taking place

King Township residents who requested a smaller 240-litre recycling cart in place of their current 360-litre cart will see exchanges take place from Tuesday, March 10 to Friday, March 13, following regular recycling collection days. Exchanges will occur between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.



Please leave your existing 360-litre recycling carts at the curb for up to five days after your regular collection day to allow crews enough time to complete the exchange. Due to the size of the service area, carts may not be swapped on the same day as collection.

If a cart is not accessible or properly placed at the curb, exchanges will be rescheduled for the next bi-weekly recycling collection week.

If you submitted an original request form but did not provide confirmation and/or correct address details by the February 13 deadline, you will be moved to a second phase cart exchange, and further information will be provided in the coming weeks.

Learn more at circularmaterials.ca/king.



Quote of the Week

"Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength."

— Betty Friedan

Trivia Tidbits

The fielder's baseball glove was invented by Toronto's Arthur "Foxy" Irwin in 1883.

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL

www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Did you get up early to watch the Canada-US Olympic hockey game?

a) Yes 20%

b) No 80%

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you concerned about escalating tensions in the Middle East?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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Trade without accountability, pollution without borders

By David Suzuki

The Environment

A new international order is emerging, according to representatives at this year's World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, and at the Munich Security Conference — one of fragmented states acting in their own self-interest, sovereign fortresses sliding toward economic nationalism.

A Munich conference statement places much of the blame on Canada's neighbour: "The international order is 'under destruction' because the country that has long shaped and defended it, namely the United States, is now governed by actors who prefer sweeping demolition over incremental reform and repair."

The political fiction of fortresses hides the fact that dismantling the rule of law in one state shreds environmental, health and human rights accountability across borders, particularly where markets remain deeply integrated.

Canada, the United States and Mexico are bound by one of the world's most integrated economic systems. Supply chains, energy systems, food production and manufacturing operate across borders that don't recognize chemical pollution, toxic emissions and other ecological harms.

Yet the forthcoming review of the

countries' trade agreement is unfolding in a context in which one party — the U.S. — is rapidly breaking down environmental, health and safety regulations while demanding deeper market access.

In light of the recent repeal of the U.S. "endangerment finding" — the legal determination that greenhouse gases threaten public health and welfare — Canada and Mexico must defend science as the foundation of trade and regulation.

An integrated market with a rogue deregulatory state will inflict damage on the whole continent. Meaningful accountability regarding the human rights, ecosystem and public health impacts of trade is already lacking in the Canada-Mexico-U.S. agreement. Environmental provisions are weak, enforcement is constrained and climate obligations are absent.

As the U.S. accelerates deregulation — allowing factories to pollute more and exempting industries from rules that safeguard air, water, land and human health — any renewed trade agreement will export harm to people in Canada, Mexico and globally.

This is the reality of integration

under deregulation. Carbon pollution, contaminated air and toxic water move through connected, borderless ecosystems. Supply chains predictably distribute toxic exposure to workers, Indigenous and other historically marginalized communities, children and the elderly. When environmental standards collapse in one jurisdiction on a continent with contiguous borders, everyone absorbs the costs.

Yet trade negotiations are framed as matters of national security and economic necessity — arguments used to justify secrecy, speed and public exclusion. Governments insist on prioritizing competitiveness over environmental and health safeguards. This political strategy is designed to shield trade governance from transparency, accountability and scrutiny.

The result is a black box: trade agreements are negotiated behind closed doors, insulated from democratic participation and ratified with little opportunity for meaningful challenge. Once in force, they restructure economies, lock in regulatory trajectories and leave future policy spaces without mechanisms capable of responding to the detriments they produce. This model is intensifying globally.

In the face of the U.S. threat, corporate executives are consolidating control over trade and investment policy. Legislatures are being sidelined and accountability mechanisms are being weakened or quietly abandoned. National security language has become the most powerful tool for normalizing this shift. In its shadow, environmental protection and public health are being

reframed as expendable.

Canada and Mexico must urgently break the chain of deepened integration with the U.S., as the latter has proven to be driven by violence, openly hostile to regulation, dismissive of international norms and indifferent to the deleterious cross-border consequences of its policies. The only certainty is the increased pollution and regulatory chaos that can't possibly be contained within U.S. borders.

No executive — in Washington, Ottawa or elsewhere — should have the unilateral power to dismantle protections, bypass accountability and impose dangerous consequences on people beyond their borders. Yet this is the model being normalized: centralized authority, minimal transparency and the erosion of public recourse, all in the name of trade and security.

The global public must wake up to this reality. Trade and investment agreements determine water and air quality. They govern decisions about whose land will be sacrificed and who will bear the long-term health costs. Treating trade governance as a sealed domain governed by security imperatives is reckless.

People across borders must reject the lies of securitized trade, demand transparency and insist that economic integration can't come at the cost of life itself.

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki Foundation Director-General for Quebec and Atlantic Canada Sabaa Khan. Learn more at david Suzuki.org.

York stands with residents amid Middle East hostilities

York Region is deeply concerned by the escalating hostilities in the Middle East related to Iran.

Officials recognize these events are affecting members of our diverse community, including those with family, friends and loved ones abroad.

"We stand for peace, safety and respect and remain committed to fostering a community where everyone feels supported during uncertain times."

"Our thoughts are with the people of Iran and the escalating hostilities and continued instability across the Middle East," said Eric Jolliffe, York Chair and CEO.

"Many residents here in York Region have family, friends and loved ones directly affected by these events. In times of uncertainty and unrest, the human impact is felt most profoundly by families and communities.

"... members of our community gathered in the City of Richmond Hill for

a rally in solidarity with anti-government protesters in Iran. We respect the rights of individuals to peacefully assemble and to raise their voices in support of safety, human rights and democratic freedoms.

"York Region is one of the most diverse communities in Canada and that diversity is our greatest strength. It connects us to the world, deepens our understanding of one another and reminds us that global events are never far from home. When one part of our community is hurting, we all feel it.

"We stand with the people of Iran seeking safety and opportunity. We also stand with our residents here at home who are carrying the weight of worry for loved ones abroad.

"At moments like this, our strength lies in compassion, unity and our shared commitment to peace and human rights for all."

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#KingFacts



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Ontario 

A budget-friendly Coq Au Vin recipe for the family

By Aladin Jarrah

Chef Pops
Budget Gourmet

The mission:

Feed a family of four a nutritious gourmet dinner for around \$20. The rules: No hard-to find obscure ingredients allowed; everything has to be a pantry staple or available from local grocers. No processed foods or packaged items with unpronounceable ingredients; everything has to be made from scratch ... and it has to be easy to put together; no weird or fancy techniques or equipment allowed. Lastly, it has to be so delicious that it raises an eyebrow on the first bite.

This has been a tough winter so far, so this week we've got a recipe that pushes back against snow, dropping temperatures and rising food costs.

Coq au vin is a pretty fancy French dish. It simply means "chicken in wine" and is traditionally made with red wine. I prefer it with white wine, but you can use whatever you like. Like most truly great classics, it's inexpensive and simple to make, and once you try it you just might add it to your fancy

dinner party roster.

Here goes:
Spend your \$20 on this:

- 4 skin-on, bone-in chicken thighs. Honestly, use whatever chicken is on sale. My preferred cut is skin-on chicken thigh, but it'll work with any part of the bird, or a whole one cut up.
- 4 strips of bacon, sliced
- 1 large onion, or two medium ones, sliced thinly
- 200g or so of mushrooms, halved
- ½ bottle of drinkable wine (see side bar on cooking with wine)
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced (or a spoonful of garlic)
- Chicken stock
- 1 TBSP corn starch
- Freshly chopped parsley for garnish
- 1 nice crusty baguette

Preheat your oven to 350 C. Start

with a heavy oven-safe pot or deep skillet with a lid. On low to medium heat, cook the bacon until it's crispy. Using a slotted spoon, scoop out the bacon leaving the fat behind.

Add a knob of butter to the bacon fat, turn the heat up to medium and sear the chicken skin side down until golden. It doesn't need to be cooked through at this stage. Pull out the chicken and set aside.

You'll be left with a bunch of brown bits on the bottom of the pot. It's called fond, and the flavour lives here. Turn the heat to low and dump in the onions. Fry them gently for 20-30 minutes until they are soft and deep golden colour, scraping up the fond as the onions sweat out.

Be patient with your onions, this part is the backbone of the flavour of this dish. At this point throw in a couple of bay leaves (if you have some), a big pinch of salt and pepper, the garlic, the mushrooms, a shake of Worcestershire sauce (if you have it) and some dried herbs. You can use whatever herbs you like – a jar of pre-mixed Herbes de Provence works great, as would the ubiquitous "Italian seasoning." If you don't have either of those, try some thyme and a little rosemary.

Fry this for a couple of minutes until you no longer smell raw garlic, then chuck in half a bottle of wine. Save the rest for the chef.

Bring it up to boil and let it bubble away until you no longer smell the alcohol cooking off. At this point, return your bacon and chicken to the pot. Add enough chicken stock to just cover the chicken, throw on the lid and stick it in the oven for an hour.

After an hour, remove the lid, mix the cornstarch with a few tablespoons of water and add it to the pot. Give it a stir and another 15 minutes in the oven. Garnish with the parsley, et voilà.

Put the pot on the table with a basket of baguette, torn into chunks, to sop up the sauce.

A green salad or some green beans on the side would be nice. Bon Appétit. Let me know how it turned out. Questions or comments are always welcome: chefpopskitchen@gmail.com



Questions or comments are always welcome: chefpopskitchen@gmail.com

Cooking with wine

I advise against cooking with any wine that you wouldn't drink. Sure, you can get bottles of cooking wine at the grocery store – but they keep it next to the vinegar for a reason.

You're better off buying a simple, well-balanced bottle from the LCBO. I default to La Vielle Ferme from France. They make a red and a white that are perfectly drinkable at about \$12 a pop. They're both great for cooking and are a perfectly pleasant glass of house wine. You'll be amazed what a splash will do to enhance all kinds of sauces, or to lubricate a reluctant cook – I always have a bottle of each on hand.

Broadly speaking, use red for red meats and red sauces like tomato sauce, white for poultry, fish and light coloured or creamy sauces.

When cooking with wine, always reduce it by at least 15%; this ensures that all the alcohol has cooked off.

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

Farmland Forum brings experts together

The Ontario Farmland Trust (OFT) is set to host its annual Farmland Forum on March 19, bringing together experts and advocates from across the province to Elora, Ontario, at The GrandWay Events Centre. This full-day hybrid event will offer both in-person and online participation.

Building on the growing number of Canadians raising concerns about farmland loss and food security, this year's theme, Municipalities and Farmland Protection, highlights the critical role municipalities and local decision-makers play in safeguarding farmland. The day will feature a revitalized program shaped by past attendee feedback, designed to foster meaningful learning, collaboration, and forward-thinking dialogue in support of a stronger, more resilient agricultural sector.

"With municipal elections taking place across six Canadian provinces this year, there has never been a more important time to engage," says Martin Straathof, Executive Director of the Ontario Farmland Trust. "Communities care deeply about protecting the land that feeds us. This Forum is about helping people feel informed, confident, and prepared to participate in local municipal discussions and decision-making around farmland protection."

"There is tremendous power in community-level engagement. When residents, farmers, and local leaders come


together to speak up, their collective voice can meaningfully shape planning decisions and influence the future of Ontario's agricultural sector. That impact simply cannot be overlooked."

The Farmland Forum will feature a keynote address by Rene Van Acker, President of the University of Guelph; a farmer-centred panel discussion; and informative sessions led by leaders in agriculture and land-use planning. Attendees, both in-person and virtual, will have opportunities to participate in knowledge-sharing and thought-provoking discussions, making this a unique space for collaboration.

A highlight of the day will be an action-oriented workshop delivered by The Community Company, a social enterprise dedicated to transforming Canada's non-profit and charitable sectors through innovation and collaboration. This lively facilitated session will guide participants in transforming the day's insights into a practical engagement plan they can carry back to their communities, ensuring that learning translates into action long after the Forum concludes.

Tickets are selling fast! Register and explore the event details at: ontariofarmlandtrust.ca/forum

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Cloudy/Showers High 5C° Low 1C° ~1mm Wind E 14k	Clouds/Sun High 3C° Low 2C° - Wind SE 10k	Cloudy/Showers High 13C° Low 2C° ~1mm Wind SW 26k	Mainly Sunny High 10C° Low 3C° - Wind SW 21k	Sunny High 8C° Low 1C° - Wind NW 20k	Cloudy/Showers High 15C° Low 7C° ~1mm Wind S 24k	Mixed Precip. High 8C° Low -5C° 1-3mm/<1cm Wind N 11k



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Proposal for units moves forward, creates mixed reaction

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

A four-storey complex in King City has received the go-ahead from King Township, generating some mixed reactions.

Local councillors believe the project, on Banner Lane in King City, is the right fit and provides much-needed housing. Residents, however, feel the building encroaches on the existing mature neighbourhood.

A zoning change was needed to accommodate the application for a 16-unit, four-storey apartment/condominium building. It will also have 25 underground parking spots, outdoor shared amenity spaces and individual private balconies and terraces.

This debate was fueled by a previous presentation on King being an age-friendly community and the need for “attainable” housing.

It was pointed out that smaller, less expensive units are ideal in this community that typically consists of large detached homes.

This proposal sits opposite the large, six-storey Zancor building and staff believe it’s a logical transition.

One resident said it’s incompatible with the surrounding homes and this would negatively impact the street and increase traffic problems. She said it would be more appropriate on the Keele or King Road corridor.

Councillor Jordan Cescolini asked staff why they thought this was an appropriate spot and they said it’s in the core development zone, on the border of the intensification area. Provincial mandates are encouraging municipalities to fully develop the urban centres.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini noted that the reality of increased development is that it takes place “up” or “out.” Staff and politicians are trying to maintain the integrity of the established neighbourhoods, while accommodating new builds. Village cores are the only real choice in King and the mayor pointed out in neighbouring Caledon and Aurora, they are contemplating buildings of upwards of 18 storeys.

He also noted that simply refusing applications is a sure trip to the OLT tribunal, which results in substantial costs. A fight at OLT can result in a 1% tax increase, he noted.

“This is what we have to balance, and make these decisions,” he said.

The mayor admitted they have to “do better” on the housing stock in King.

Councillor Debbie Schaefer noted this will be a nice looking development and the underground parking will help keep the area visually appealing.

The applicant still has to submit detailed designs and a draft plan of condominium for the project.

The subject property, at 24 Banner Lane, measures approximately 0.18 hectares in area and has approximately 32 metres of frontage along Banner Lane. The property contains a single-detached dwelling, which is proposed to be demolished.

An existing single storey commercial building is located directly north of the subject property.

To the south and west of the property are low-rise residential neighbourhoods comprised of single detached dwellings. To the east is the six-storey condominium building.

The proposed unit mix consists of three-bedroom units (25%); two-bed-

room units (50%); and one-bedroom units (25%).

A statutory public meeting was held in 2024, and public comments included concerns about traffic, affordable housing, architectural design, land use compatibility, and loss of privacy.

The subject lands are designated “Village Core” in the Official Plan and this use is permitted. While the municipality favours two or three storeys, up to six can be contemplated, provided certain criteria are met.

Staff said the compatibility of the building with respect to adjacent low-rise residential areas and sensitive uses is addressed using setbacks, buffers, angular plane requirements, as well as the sensitive location of windows and balconies to minimize privacy impacts.

Other design techniques have included the use of landscape and vegetation buffering, privacy screening and balcony features, and amenity areas to mitigate privacy and shadowing impacts.

The proposed building utilizes step backs at the 4th floor of 3.6 metres at the north and south elevations, and 1.8 metres at the east and west elevations, to achieve a 45-degree angular plane from the property line. The angular plane is used as a planning tool to minimize privacy and overlook concerns with taller buildings by increasing the setback of the building away from neighboring properties as it gets taller. In practice, this means that the proposed building will not infringe on a sight line of a person standing at the property line, looking upward at a 45-degree angle.

The building is proposed to be sited in a manner which maximizes the separation distances from the low-rise residential located to the south, while still providing sufficient separation on the north side where it abuts the existing commercial lands.

The proposal also provides sufficient rear yard separation to accommodate the proposed courtyard, which creates additional separation from the residential property to the rear. Concerns related to privacy and the rear yard of the adjacent neighbour to the south are proposed to be mitigated by the installation of a 1.8-metre-tall privacy screen. In addition, planters are proposed to be incorporated into the balconies above the second storey which will further mitigate privacy and overlook concerns.

Landscaped areas are also proposed to be utilized to assist in mitigating

concerns related to privacy. Planting strips along the southern and northern property boundaries are proposed and would provide visual screening between the proposed development and the neighbouring residential lots. The proposed rear courtyard area consists of plantings and landscaping features which, together with the existing vegetation on the site, provides additional screening and privacy.

The primary entrance to the proposed building is located along Banner Lane, with the secondary and tertiary entrances being located along the southern and northern property boundaries. Therefore, pedestrian activity would be focused along Banner Lane and would interface with the existing six-storey condominium to the east, whose primary entrance is located at the intersection of Banner Lane and King Road. The proposed building would be setback approximately 8 metres from Banner Lane. The setback of the building along the front yard provides sufficient area for landscaping, snow-storage, and waste collection pick-up. All primary building entrances are located at grade and are universally accessible, with no stairs required for entry.

The proposal would provide common amenity space at the rear yard (courtyard). An accessible route to the outdoor amenity space is provided via a walkway along the west elevation, which connects to the rear building entrance by way of a ramp. The proposal also incorporates private terraces, which enhances the overall functionality of the building, providing opportunities for private outdoor recreation. The roof is to be finished with a high albedo finish and is to include a green roof that is to measure approximately 91 square metres.

Overall, the impact of the proposed development on the adjacent transportation network is considered minor, staff said, from both a volume and an operational perspective. The amount of traffic generated from the proposed development would not result in any adverse impact to the adjacent transportation network.

The applicant’s engineer has identified that the proposed development will be serviced by a new sanitary service and determined that the existing local sanitary sewer system along Banner Lane will have sufficient capacity for the proposed development.

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Minister Lecce meets with Australia's High Commissioner and Consul General

Recently, Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan and Ontario's Minister of Energy and Mines met with Australia's High Commissioner Kate Logan and Consul General Shelley Jackson at Queen's Park. "With global alliances under threat, Ontario is strengthening our energy partnership with our allies in Australia," said Lecce. "It was a pleasure hosting Australia's High Commissioner and Consul General at Queen's Park, as the world turns to Ontario and Canada as stable and reliable democratic partners and an energy superpower."

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Additional languages to be used in municipal election

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

King Township will offer language support for voters in the upcoming municipal election.

Council okayed the plan and recommendations by staff that a bylaw be adopted permitting the use of additional

languages in election communications.

Staff recommend maintaining the Township's existing Use of Corporate Resources During an Election Period Policy and not adopting a separate recount policy.

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (the "Act") requires municipalities to consider and, where appropriate, adopt

certain election-related policies by May 1 in an election year.

The Act requires that all prescribed election forms and notices be provided in English.

However, municipalities may pass a bylaw authorizing the use of French in prescribed forms and/or the use of French or other languages in non-prescribed materials. This authority allows municipalities to enhance accessibility and voter engagement through multilingual communications.

Before May 1 in an election year, municipalities are required to adopt a Use of Corporate Resources policy which governs the use of municipal resources during the election campaign period. This ensures that public assets are not used to support or oppose any candidate or campaign.

The Clerk is required to prepare a plan to identify, remove, and prevent barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities. This plan must be made available to the public before voting day. A post-election report on the implementation of the plan must be published within 90 days after voting day.

Staff reviewed opportunities to enhance election-related communications by improving language accessibility, as permitted under the Act. The goal of this review was to broaden outreach and support meaningful participation by electors who may benefit from receiving election information in languages other than English.

To assess community language needs, staff analyzed demographic data from the most recent Statistics Canada Census of Population. Specifically, the review focused on the "Knowledge of Language" dataset, which identifies the languages spoken and understood by residents of the Township of King. Based on this data, staff compiled a list



of languages known by at least 2% of the Township's total population, which may warrant consideration for inclusion in election communications.

The list is as follows – Italian, 14.7%; French, 6.7%; Russian, 3.1%; Spanish, 2.6%; Mandarin, 2.6; and Iranian/Persian, 2.1%

Staff recommend adopting a bylaw that grants the Clerk discretion to provide election-related information in additional languages, guided by this percentage-based threshold. This approach supports accessibility and voter engagement while allowing flexibility in determining which materials and languages are appropriate. It is important to note that prescribed forms under the Act may only be issued in English or French.

The Township's Use of Corporate Resources During an Election Period Policy, adopted in 2018, has been applied during the 2018 and 2022 elections. Staff have reviewed the policy and recommend no changes for the 2026 election period.

Staff assigned to work as a part of the election team are developing the 2026 Election Accessibility Plan and intend to consult with the Accessibility Advisory Committee. The plan will be made public in advance of the voting period in accordance with the Act. A post-election report will also be published within 90 days of voting as required by the Act.

Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition calls for legal reform to address road salt pollution

At a press conference at Queen's Park, the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition joined municipal leaders, industry representatives, and environmental advocates from across Ontario to call for provincial action on road salt pollution and winter maintenance reform.

The event was hosted by Kristyn Wong-Tam MPP, Ontario NDP Opposition Critic for the Attorney General. Participants included representatives of the Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition, Dani Lindamood of Water Watchers, Green Party MPP Aislinn Clancy, Joe Salemi of Landscape Ontario, and Julie Wright, Executive Director of Our Living Waters and a City Councillor in Waterloo.

Jonathan Scott, Executive Director of the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition and a Councillor in Bradford West Gwillimbury, focused his remarks on the legal drivers behind excessive salt use.

"We are here today because Ontario has a road-salt problem," Scott said. "And at its core, this is a problem of law. The law is creating incentives that no longer work. And our lakes are paying the price."

Chloride levels in rivers, streams, and lakes across Ontario are rising steadily. Once chloride enters a watershed, it does not break down — it accumulates over time.

For Lake Simcoe and its tributaries, that trend presents long-term ecological and infrastructure risks.

"Some of our watercourses are now running saltier than the ocean," Scott said. "That should concern every one of us."

Scott pointed to Ontario's Occupiers' Liability Act, which requires property owners and contractors to take reasonable care to keep premises safe.

However, Ontario currently provides no clear statutory due-diligence defence for winter maintenance providers who follow recognized best practices in good faith.

"In this system, the response is predictable: we use too much salt," Scott said. "The law does not reward evidence-based practice. It rewards visible over-application."

He argued that the result is environmental damage, higher municipal and small-business costs, infrastructure corrosion, and continued legal uncertainty.

Scott called on the Province to modernize the occupiers' liability framework by creating a clear due-diligence defence tied to provincially approved winter maintenance standards.

"If a contractor or property owner can demonstrate they followed recognized best practices, that compliance should be recognized in court as evidence they met their duty of care," he said.

He noted that similar reforms in New Hampshire led to significant reductions in salt use while maintaining public safety.

"This file sits squarely with the Attorney General," Scott added. "Attorney General Doug Downey represents communities within the Lake Simcoe watershed. He should understand that we can protect public safety and our lakes at the same time. The problem is clear. The solution is known. Now we need to act."

The Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition is a non-partisan environmental organization dedicated to protecting and restoring Lake Simcoe and its watershed. The Coalition advances practical, evidence-based policy solutions to safeguard water quality for current and future generations.



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Southlake ranked among World's Best Hospitals for 8th year

For the eighth consecutive year, Southlake Health has been recognized by Newsweek as one of the World's Best Hospitals, a distinction that underscores its role as a leader in Canadian healthcare and a top performer globally.

While major academic centres are often seen as the destination for complex care, Southlake continues to prove that advanced, high-quality treatment can

be delivered closer to home. This year, Southlake has also been recognized as one of the top three community hospitals in Ontario for the fifth year in a row.

"Eight consecutive years of global recognition speaks to the sustained excellence of our people and their dedication to our communities," said Paul Woods, MD, President and CEO, Southlake Health. "We're excited to build on

this legacy and bring care even closer to home as Southlake transforms into a Distributed Health Network over the next decade."

Over the past eight years, the hospital has taken significant steps to ensure patients continue to have access to advanced care. Southlake has recruited top international physicians and continues to train the next generation of healthcare workers. It has opened new

clinics and units and formed first-of-their-kind partnerships with other top hospitals. Meanwhile, its teams continue to innovate by bringing robotic knee surgery to York Region, investing in Canada's first Elekta Harmony Linear Accelerator for cancer treatment, and achieving major healthcare milestones in Canada, North America, and the world.

Southlake's Strategy for the Decade Ahead will build on these achievements as the hospital transforms into a Distributed Health Network, bringing leading edge care even closer to home. Patients across all Southlake sites – from the hospital on Davis Drive to off-site clinics and units – benefit from the same standard of care that has earned the organization global recognition.

"This recognition reflects the dedication of our clinical and non-clinical teams," said Charmaine van Schaik, MD, Chief of Staff. "Across every discipline and every role, our teams are committed to providing high-quality, patient-centred care. I am incredibly proud of what they have accomplished."

Southlake's recognition extends beyond clinical performance. It was recently named one of Canada's Most Admired Corporate Cultures and one of GTA's Top Employers, reinforcing the connection between a strong workplace culture and exceptional patient care.

Powered by Statista, a global data firm, The World's Best Hospitals ranking by Newsweek was developed with input from a global board of renowned medical experts supporting the continuous development of the ranking's methodology. Four data sources were used to evaluate the best medical institutions in 30 countries:

Recommendations from medical experts: an international online survey of more than 80,000 healthcare professionals.

Patient experience: publicly available data from existing patient surveys was used to analyze patient experience.

Patient reported outcome measures: standardized, validated questionnaires completed by patients to measure their perception of their functional well-being and quality of life.

Hospital quality metrics: quality of care measures for specific treatments, and indicators such as hygiene measures and patient safety.



Outdoor patio for mental health inpatients opening in spring

Southlake Health is creating an elevated outdoor patio space for patients receiving inpatient mental health care at the Davis Drive site, offering a safe and healing outdoor environment specially-designed to support adult patient's well-being.

Located on the third floor of Southlake's West Building, the new 2,900-square-foot seasonal patio will include a variety of seating areas for reflection and connection, as well as planters filled with seasonal plants and flowers to bring natural elements to the space. The space offers a primarily southern exposure, providing natural light and open views through glass partitions that maintain safety precautions.

"Access to outdoor space is an important part of a healing experience," said Mahdi Memarpour MD, Chief of Psychiatry and Nathan Robinson, Director for Capital Development at Southlake. "This new patio will give our patients the opportunity to step outside

in a safe and therapeutic setting, supporting their recovery and overall mental wellness."

Construction coordination is already underway, with on-site work beginning this month thanks to the communities' generosity. Donors to Southlake Health Foundation's Better.Begins.Today. Mental Health Campaign thoughtfully invested over \$7.5-million to support a variety of expansions and upgrades to transform Southlake's Mental Health Program, including the addition of this patio space.

"We are deeply grateful to our donors and community for helping make this vision a reality," said Jennifer Ritter, President and CEO, Southlake Health Foundation. "Their generosity ensures that patients in our Mental Health Program have access to the same kind of healing spaces that benefit so many others across the hospital."

The new space reflects Southlake's ongoing commitment to advancing mental health care and creating sup-

portive environments that optimize patient and visitor experiences, including:

An expanded Emergency Department that opened in January 2025, creating an additional 2,400 square feet of space to meet the communities' growing needs.

A new artificial intelligence (AI) enabled MRI introduced in May 2025 to transform diagnostic imaging capacity.

A new Starbucks, Tim Hortons, retail and patient food services opened over the past two years as part of a complete culinary transformation project, and much more.

This work is reflective of Southlake's evolving capital redevelopment plan, which will maintain acute care capacity at the Davis Drive site. While contractual approvals are ongoing to secure land on which to build a second acute care hospital; refurbishments to the Davis Drive site will continue as Southlake works to transform into a Distributed Health Network over the next 10 years.

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Arts & Entertainment

Mayor's 'Local Legends' Gala raises \$75K for King Heritage & Cultural Centre and Arts Society King

By Jim Stewart

The King Township 'Local Legends' event – enjoyed by hundreds of attendees at The Manor on Thursday night – was a rousing success.

Donors and sponsors raised \$75,000 for the King Heritage & Cultural Centre and Arts Society King (ASK).

In addition to being a formidable fundraiser, the Mayor's Biennial Cultural Gala was a meta-event. It was comprised of a Keynote Address during which Mayor Pellegrini praised the attendees' support of cultural institutions in King; a spirited open auction that raised funds for Arts Society King and the King Heritage and Cultural Centre; a 'reveal' of the four inaugural inductees being enshrined in the King Township Sports Hall of Fame; and a plated dinner and dance party enjoyed by guests in the elegant environs of Carrying Place's Event Centre.

Michele McNally performed the dual role of emcee and auctioneer with grace, charm, energy, and efficacy.

The musical stylings of Elliott Berenthin soothed the early arrivals and buffet grazers, while 'Sensations Live Music' – a seven-person ensemble from Vaughan – provided the drumrolls for each of the KTSOHF inductees, musical backdrop for the auction, and the

engaging entertainment for the dance party.

McNally, president of Arts Society King since 2020, introduced Mayor Pellegrini who welcomed guests and applauded the dignitaries in attendance including King-Vaughan MPP and Minister of Energy and Mines Stephen Lecce, as well all six King Township Councillors: Jordan Cescolini (Ward 1), David Boyd (Ward 2), Jennifer Anstey (Ward 3), Mary Asselstine (Ward 4), Debbie Schaefer (Ward 5), and Avia Eek (Ward 6). Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas showed his support for the gala fundraiser by his presence as well.

Mayor Pellegrini made sure that he thanked "his lovely wife Barbara" and cited the Township's long-standing support of the arts in King as well as the brand new Sports Hall of Fame: "This is our fourth night to support ASK and the King Heritage Cultural Centre. Their efforts are integral in preserving our rich local history. I also invite you to visit the new King Township Sports Hall of Fame at the Zancor Centre. All proceeds from tonight's gala will support local arts-based and heritage projects. We saw the importance of these projects when we restored the King Christian Church and the oldest Railway Station in Ontario last year. I hope you enjoy the delicious dinner and the



great dancing tonight. Let's continue to make life better in King and ensure that our rich cultural history is enjoyed by generations to come."

The mayor's keynote was followed by a much-anticipated announcement by the King Township Sports Hall of Fame. Emcee McNally called KTSOHF Selection Committee Chair David Boyd to the stage to reveal the inaugural class of builders, coaches, and athletes. Councillor Boyd extended the suspense by praising the Class of 2026: "Each of these incredible athletes' stories remind us that greatness is not an accident, but a culmination of passion, tireless work, and relentless dedication in pursuit of your goals and dreams. Tonight, we honor their extraordinary efforts and commitment to sport and the King community. Know that these community builders continue to inspire our athletes of tomorrow and prove what is possible with hard work and perseverance."

The KYSHOF Selection Chair requested drumrolls from Sensations Live Music and, one by one, the inductees were revealed to the assembly.

In the Builder Category: James "Jim" Elder.

In the Coaching Category: Mike Kitchen.

In the Athlete Category: Rosannagh "Rosie" MacLennan and the posthumous enshrinement of Suzanne Morrow Francis.

Councillor Boyd praised Elder as "one of Canada's most celebrated and accomplished equestrians. Over his international career, he competed in six Olympic Games between 1956 and 1984 – earning a bronze medal at the 1956 Melbourne Summer Olympics and a gold medal at the 1968 Mexico Summer Olympics.

His success extended beyond the Olympic stage, with multiple Pan-American Games medals and a World Championship title in 1970. For 50 years, Jim and his late wife Marianne operated Elderberry Hill Farm in nearby Aurora, helping to inspire young athletes and shape the region's reputation as a world-class equestrian hub. His legacy is celebrated across Canada through numerous honours, including induction into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame, and Canada's Walk of Fame.

More on Page 13

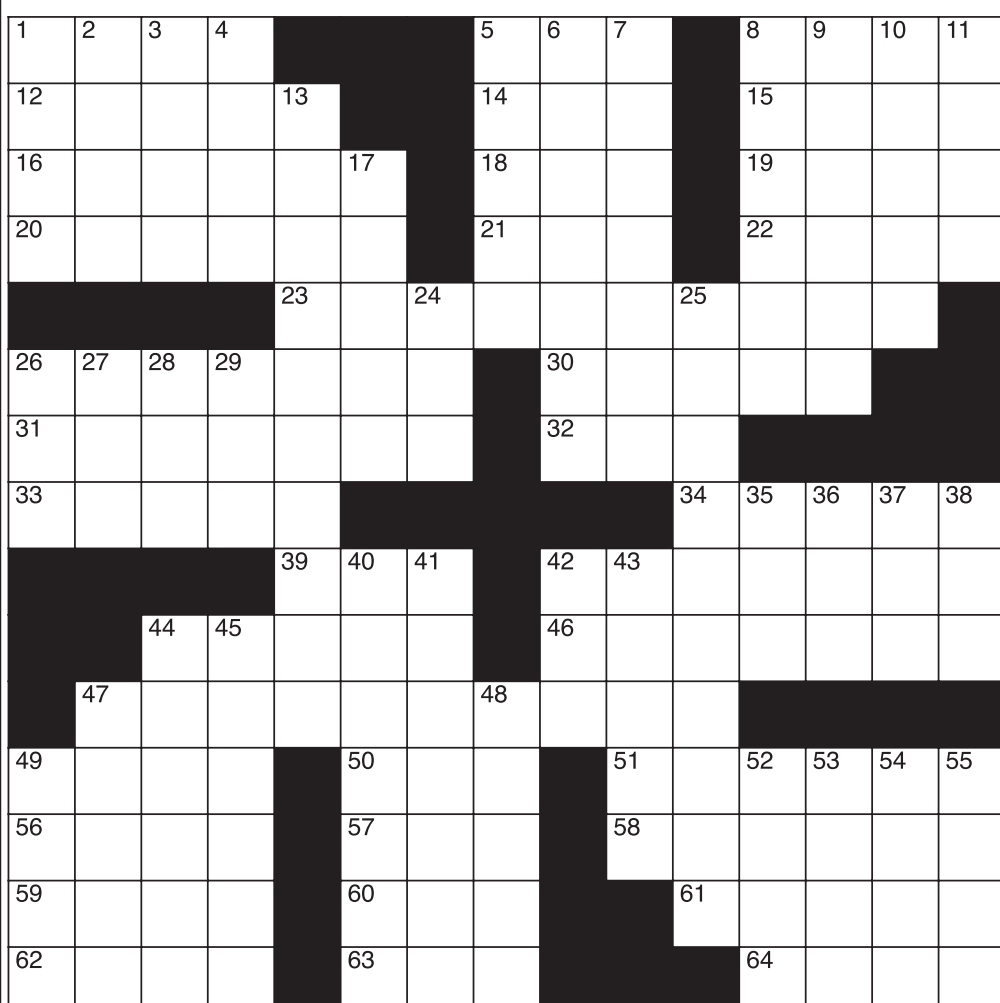


Councillor Schaefer showed off her art work that was auctioned to raise funds.



CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 263110 • Solution in Classifieds



CLUES ACROSS

1. Unit of dry measure
5. One who defies authority
8. Social media giant
12. Render holy
14. "Much ___ about nothing"
15. Computer manufacturer
16. Creed
18. Immoral act
19. Mountain pass
20. Winged nut
21. Don't know when yet
22. Elected officials
23. Corrupt tendencies
26. Popular adult beverage
30. Made a mistake
31. Morally correct
32. Type of whale
33. Portable conical tent
34. Native people of

the Congo

39. More (Spanish)
42. Classroom implements
44. Cognizant of
46. One who tells
47. Free from bondage
49. Thick piece of something
50. Containing two adjacent nitrogen atoms
51. Removed from the record
56. Legendary singer
- Turner
57. Broke up the earth
58. Hunting expedition
59. Contributes
60. Unit of work or energy
61. Wreckage on the sea bed
62. Affirmative! (slang)
63. Witness
64. Scrape (Archaic)

CLUES DOWN

1. "___ and flows"
2. Humble request for help
3. A position of leadership
4. Continent
5. Adherent of a particular religion
6. Things that can be eaten
7. Self-governing
- Netherlands territory
8. Long-tailed crow
9. Repeated
10. Bluish greens
11. Humanities
13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
17. Labor (Spanish)
24. Zero
25. Shared by involving three parties
26. Queens ballplayer
27. Consumed
28. Rest here please
29. Men's fashion accessory
35. American time
36. Sound unit
37. They ___
38. Soviet Socialist Republic
40. Places to play video games
41. A sudden attack of illness
42. When you hope to arrive
43. Charges
44. Actress Seyfried
45. A tributary of the Ohio River
47. Omit when speaking
48. Armored fish
49. Remain
52. From a distance
53. Adventure story
54. Geological times
55. Eat dinner

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

Mayor bursting with community pride at gala support

From Page 12

After another drumroll for effect, Councillor Boyd extolled Mike Kitchen's considerable achievements as both an NHL coach and player: "Growing up in Schomberg, Mike played with the Schomberg Red Wings where he was part of several championship teams before winning the Memorial Cup in 1975 with the Toronto Marlboros. During his NHL playing career with the Colorado Rockies and New Jersey Devils, Mike was known as a disciplined defensive defenceman who competed with consistency and toughness.

Following his retirement in 1985, Mike would establish a successful coaching career that included roles with the Toronto Maple Leafs, St. Louis Blues, Florida Panthers, and Chicago Blackhawks where he helped the Hawks win the 2013 and 2015 Stanley Cups. Mike was known for his strong defensive strategies, hard work ethic, and his ability to mentor younger players.

"With over 2,400 NHL games as a coach, Mike's legacy is minted as one of the league's most experienced bench leaders. His success in bringing home the Stanley Cup to the community has also helped inspire the next wave of young local athletes."

Councillor Boyd didn't miss a beat as the next drumroll introduced a list of accomplishments by Rosie MacLennan: "One of Canada's most accomplished Olympians as a two-time trampoline champion. Growing up in King City, and training at Skyriders Trampoline Place in nearby Richmond Hill, Rosie was the first trampolinist in history to win back-to-back Olympic gold medals at the 2012 London and 2016 Rio Summer Games. She represented Team Canada as a flag-bearer in 2016. Not only is she a four-time Olympian, but she also earned multiple World Championship titles and Pan-American Games gold medals – making her one of Canada's most successful gymnasts.

"Following her retirement in 2022, Rosie has continued to be a passionate advocate for removing financial barriers to sport for children and youth across Canada. She remains committed to advocacy, mentorship, and advancing safe, inclusive, and equitable sport across Canada. Rosie embodies the confidence, resilience, and leadership that defined her athletic career, and her legacy has forged the path for the next generation of Canadian trampolinists and athletes."

The inaugural induction ceremony was completed with the posthumous enshrinement of world-class figure skater Suzanne "Suzi" Morrow Francis who passed away on June 11, 2006. Councillor Boyd described Morrow's "technical skill and artistry" and her illustrious career: "At the 1948 Winter Olympics in St. Moritz, she and her partner Wallace Diestelmeyer won a bronze medal. They would go on to make history by performing the first one-handed death spiral in Olympic competition.

"Following her retirement from competition, Suzi became a prominent

judge and official and the first woman to take the Olympic Judge's Oath at the 1988 Calgary Winter Games. In 1992, Suzi was inducted into the Skate Canada Hall of Fame. We are honored to recognize her legacy here in King, celebrating not only an exceptional athlete but someone who embodies the true spirit of the community. We are pleased to have Suzi's long-time best friend, Patricia Soanes, here this evening."

Patricia Soanes stood, acknowledged the assembly, and Councillor Boyd thanked her "for joining us to honor Suzi's legacy in King."

The meta-event shifted from a celebration of builders, coaches, and athletes to the gustatory delights served by the hospitable staff. The plated dinner service in Alexander Hall was a Winter feast for guests at The Manor.

Its first course was Casarecce in a Tomato Basil Sauce followed by a decadent main entrée: a 4-ounce veal tenderloin, a port wine reduction 4-ounce grilled Atlantic Salmon Filet, champagne beurre blanc with "My Mothers" potatoes aka Lemon Greek Potatoes, Red Pepper slivers, and asparagus as well as an assortment of fresh baked focaccia and a bottle of "My Mothers" olive oil per table. The entree was complemented by an assortment of freshly-baked focaccia and a bottle of "My Mothers" olive oil per table. Dessert was a duo of sweet confection minis including Raspberry Swirl with White Chocolate Chunks Cheesecake, and Belgian Chocolate Mousse.

After dinner was enjoyed and the auction raised thousands of dollars for two significant Township cultural institutions, Mayor Pellegrini savored the scene during our interview: "I couldn't be prouder of the community – to have such a great turnout and such an eclectic mix of guests to support arts and culture in King. We are so blessed to have the Arts Society King and the King Heritage and Cultural Centre as significant contributors to life in the Township."

Mayor Pellegrini also expressed his community pride in the newly-formed King Township Sports Hall of Fame and its inaugural class: "We have so many great hockey players and Olympians that have grown up in King. It's a really good tribute to another key part of King's culture and tributes to Rosie, Jim, Mike, and Suzanne will be unveiled a future event at the Zancor Centre. So many of our great athletes are celebrated in paintings in our gym (at the King Township Municipal Centre). Now, I'm looking forward to seeing our athletes' careers on display at the King Township Sports Hall of Fame."

The affable civic leader offered his summation of the setting: "This is a dazzling formal event with so many good things happening – the food and the atmosphere are great. For Peter and Paul's, this is a premier event here at The Manor. All the support given to ASK and the Cultural Centre – where we restored the King Christian Church and the King Railway Station in 2025 – is appreciated. We really punch above our weight for a Township of 30,000 people."



'Sensations Live Music' – an ensemble from Vaughan – provided the drumrolls for each of the KTSHOF inductees, musical backdrop for the gala.



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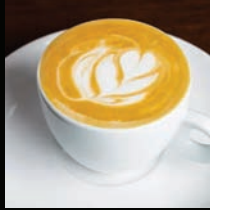
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Walmart's 'Fight Hunger. Spark Change' campaign supports food security in York Region

Walmart Canada kicked off its 10th annual national "Fight Hunger. Spark Change" campaign in partnership with Food Banks Canada to raise funds for local food banks. Since its launch in 2017, Walmart's campaign has provided more than 100 million meals to Canadians in need.

Walmart stores across York Region are sponsoring The Food Bank of York Region (FBYR) for this year's campaign in support of their food services for families, seniors, and people experiencing food insecurity. The 2026 campaign will run until March 6, during which time Walmart customers in York Region are invited to join the fight against hunger.

The campaign provides various options to make it easy for Walmart's customers to support their local food banks by facilitating donations. Customers can round up their purchase at the cash register or self-checkout, add a donation to their online purchase, and drop off non-perishable food items or essential household items at their community Walmart store.

Food insecurity has been continually rising in Ontario since 2020 at an alarming rate, and York Region is not an exception. The Food Bank of York Region currently serves 34,000 people in York Region, nearly 10,000 of whom are children.

"Nutritious food is essential for vitality and critical for good quality of life and health," said Alex Bilotta, CEO of the Food Bank of York Region. "Every shopper who donates to this campaign

is helping us to support people in our region struggling to put food on the table for themselves and their families."

Food insecurity is the catalyst to a host of socio-economic issues such as stress, childhood malnutrition and a deterioration of general and mental health. Food insecurity can be particularly detrimental to children's health and wellbeing, and social and academic development.

Walmart customers in York Region are invited to support the campaign as we work together to ensure that no one in our community has to go hungry.

The Food Bank of York Region (FBYR) serves as a regional food collection and distribution centre for York Region, serving a network of 70+ food pantries, schools, shelters, and non-profit community organizations. To support and learn more about The Food Bank of York or to make a donation, visit www.fbyr.ca.



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**Saturday, November 21, 2026 - 9am to 4pm; and
Sunday, November 22, 2026 - 10am to 3pm**

Indoors at the Orangeville Fairgrounds,
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orangevillehollyfest.ca



To apply to be a vendor at the show, scan the QR code, visit our website or email shows@lpcmedia.ca for a vendor application form. Apply before June 1, 2026 and be eligible for early acceptance on June 26.



King Weekly Sentinel

Sports • News • Community Events
Classifieds • At Your Service

King's winless streak reaches eight in season finale

By Jim Stewart

The Oakville Blades edged the King Rebellion 5-4 on Sunday afternoon at the Zancor Centre to extend the home side's winless streak to eight games.

King (29-24-2-1) concluded its regular season in seventh place in the OJHL West and earned an upcoming playoff date with second-place Collingwood (41-10-2-3) for the franchise's third season in a row.

The highlight of King's disappointing regulation loss was an impressive four-goal effort by the line of Julius DaSilva, Dylan Turcotte, and Lincoln Edwards. The hard-working trio provided hope for the home side and its fans by tallying three goals in the third period to erase a 4-1 deficit.

Their final frame surge was started at 5:30 when Turcotte fired the puck from the slot past Blades' goaltender Max Grovestine on King's 40th shot to reduce the Rebellion's deficit to 4-2.

Six minutes later, the trio clicked again when Edwards one-timed the puck on the doorstep to capitalize on a turnover created by DaSilva and Turcotte's tenacious forechecking. Edwards's 16th of the season pulled King to within one goal of the upstart visitors. The DaSilva-Turcotte-Edwards combo saved their most dramatic moment for a late-game power play

during which they completed the furious comeback.

DaSilva, who contributed three-points in the regular season finale, described his line's tying goal with 4:50 left on the clock: "Coach Schomogyi was telling us to use high screens and low screens on the power play. We created the screens and I was able to get one on net."

The swift-skating centre opened the scoring 1:50 into the first period when he jammed the puck inside the left post and past Blades' goaltender Max Grovestine to give King an early 1-0 lead – earning assists for Turcotte and Edwards.

DaSilva – a sparkplug who has scored a number of early game goals for the Rebellion, described his 20th and his line's improved play of late: "I saw the pass coming in off the side of the net and I went to the net looking for a rebound. We've created those kinds of chances lately and we've been playing together really well over the last couple of weeks. We've built chemistry and we feel great – it's building confidence for our line going into the playoffs. We know what we have to do. I love playing on a line with Turcotte and Edwards. We're looking forward to the playoffs."

After DaSilva's opening goal, the 12th-place visitors lit the lamp four times behind King goaltender Noah

Mavin before the second intermission to take a three-goal lead. Marcus Chielia's first period power play goal at 8:41, followed by Matthew Ross's 27th of the season at 19:25, lifted the Blades into a 2-1 lead.

Thirty-six seconds into the second period, Ross struck again with another Oakville power play goal to give the visitors a two-goal margin. Kaleb Young's goal at 1:27 of the middle frame chased Mavin from the game and staked the opportunistic Blades to a shocking 4-1 lead before the second period was two minutes old.

The Blades deserved full credit for the unlikely road victory. They took advantage of King's poorly-timed penalties, scored three power play goals, including Johnny Brooks's game-winner which he one-timed past Logan Kennedy with 2:04 left to ruin the Rebellion's storybook ending. Oakville also got 48 saves from the acrobatic Grovestine, including 18 stops in the third period, to extend King's winless streak to eight.

King's winless streak reached seven on Saturday night with a narrow 3-2 loss to the top-ranked team in the OJHL West, the Toronto Patriots (47-8-0-1).

The Patriots – the #1 team in the OJHL and ranked #3 in Canada – opened the scoring on Saturday on Antonio Bonavota's goal at 10:21 of the first period. The Rebellion responded four minutes later when Captain Jared McNeil's power play goal, set up by

Lachlan Larmand and Lucas Manikis, tied it 1-1.

Bonavota's second goal of the game at 11:30 of the middle frame restored the Patriots' lead and Cole Cooksey delivered the game-winning goal at 12:10 of the third period.

Gritty King centre Justin Pavese notched his 13th goal of the season with 39 seconds left in the game, but the feisty Rebellion club could not get the equalizer at Westwood Arena.

King's winless streak reached six on Thursday afternoon when the Rebellion were edged 2-1 by the top-ranked team in the OJHL East, the Trenton Golden Hawks (45-9-0-2) at the Zancor Centre.

DaSilva tallied the Rebellion's only goal with 2:16 left in the third period, with assists earned by McNeil and Turcotte.

Prior to facing off against the two top clubs in the league, King's winless streak had reached five last Sunday after a heartbreaking 2-1 OT loss on home ice to the Leamington Flyers – ranked third in the OJHL West (40-14-1-1).

DaSilva seemed unaffected by his club's four consecutive one-goal losses to Leamington, Trenton, Toronto, and Oakville. Instead, he noted how much his linemates are looking forward to playing Collingwood in the first round and offered a recipe for playoff success: "We'll have to play with grit, with determination. We'll need to stick to our systems and play with physicality."

From sweeping to eating, club provides an array of leagues

By Shellee Morning
King Curling Club

Each week the King Curling Club's elite competitive and evening social curlers are featured and reported on. But King Curling has a very healthy variety of day leagues as well, that include veterans, new comers and an array of members that play both in the evening and during the day.

The Stirling league that plays a format significantly different from the traditional 4-person team play has generated a huge interest among the curling world. This is a 2-person stick league that is a fast pace for 6 ends and does not allow sweeping between the hog lines (centre ice section).

Another league called the Shorter Game League focuses on learning and executing double and triples with a modified Stirling format of play. This is open to any curler, stick or no stick, experienced or new to the game.

The club also has Recreational Tag leagues where teams are made up each week upon arrival. This is a relaxed league for those that cannot commit each week. Veterans and shift workers alike enjoy on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Women's Day league is popular with a variety of calibre skill levels on the ice, but a very strong heart when it comes to the camaraderie and snacks! The ladies of this league can be competitive for the win and overall standings, but they also enjoy the afternoon social where the food is mouth watering.

The future stars of the club belong to Little Rocks, or the U15, U18, and U21 programs. Here the youth are accompanied by qualified club coaches where the basics of the game and skills are engineered along with game play. Laughter and enthusiasm is contagious amongst this group while the club encourages to fulfill the program even further.

Friday afternoons include a Jitney League that sets itself apart from the other leagues. They not only have a robust amount of friendly camaraderie but they also include monthly pot-lucks! Who doesn't like to eat? Each month the league creates a theme pot-luck dinner such as Asian cuisine and family favourites "Around Europe." All ranks of curlers are welcome in this tag-draw format where teams are organized on arrival. Perfect for the curler who maybe cannot commit each week.



Fausto Musato and his team of Andrew Kolody, Trevor Battershell and Karl Davis won the B Qualifier event this past weekend at the Best Western Challenge. The King team now advances on to the Provincial Championships March 27-29 in Welland.

Fun is emphasized and the eating is fabulous.

So, King Curling truly has leagues for everyone whether you are a seasoned curler or a new curler who wants to join the epic attention this sport is receiving.

The recent Olympic curling that had both Canadian teams earning medals, has sparked the interest of many new little Rock curlers who will undoubtedly one day be the Stars of the Club.

Best Western

This past weekend 2 teams from King participated in the Best Western Challenge Provincial Qualifier Tier 2 event that was held in Milton. Andrew Kolody, Trevor Battershell, Fausto Musato and Karl Davis won the B Final with a 7-5 score over Brampton. The win qualifies King and will now advance on to the Provincials March 27-29 in Welland.

Kelly Evans, Veronica Wilson, Kelly Stronach and Kimberly Battershell were the womens team that participated in the qualifier and while they didn't get the results they wanted, they played with integrity and a never-give-up attitude while keeping their games within reach. King congratulates both teams on their fine representation at the Best Western.

King-Brantford's incremental improvements over three seasons

Over the last three years, the Brantford 99ers/King Rebellion franchise has made incremental season-to-season improvements.

In their final year in Brantford, the 99ers finished 8th in the OJHL West with a 26-26-0-4 record for 56 points which earned them a playoff series with the Collingwood Blues. Collingwood swept the 99ers in four games and went on to win the Canadian championship in 2024.

In 2024-25 in a tough nomadic first year shuffling between Nobleton and King City – the Rebellion eked out a 7th place finish and accrued a 24-25-2-5 record, 55 points, and another playoff series with the second-place Blues. After defeating Collingwood at the Eddie Bush Arena in Game 1 of the series, the Rebellion seemed to have positioned themselves for a long series with the reigning Canadian champs. However, the veteran-laden Blues won the next four games to eliminate King from the playoffs.

This season, in the club's first full year at the Zancor Centre in King City, the stabilized Rebellion climbed as high as fourth in the OJHL West, but fell back into a 7th-place finish. Its 29-24-2-1 record and 61 points in 2025-26 earned King yet another opening round playoff series with the second-seeded Blues.



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PROCEEDS BENEFIT



King's Corners

King City-York Pines By Sheryl Sinka

New worship time! Sunday, March 8, King City-York Pines United Church will worship at 10:30 a.m. when we welcome back former King City resident Jon Brooks to lead the service on the third Sunday of Lent. Jon will also lead worship on March 15.

Last Sunday we heard the message entitled "Journeys into the Unknown." We are all on a journey, those in the past who we remember through our scriptures and in today's world as we navigate the complexities of today's realities. As King City and York Pines merge to one congregation, we welcome all to join in our journey as we explore our faith and how it shapes our futures together.

Our Lenten study continues this Saturday, March 7 at 10 a.m. at King City United Church and 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.

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 YouTube.

We have a Small Group Bible Study that meets at the church every Wednesday night at 7 p.m. We will be studying "The Unstuck Life."

Our next Open Closet Outlet is Saturday, March 28 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. We invite you to come and shop for free! Restrictions apply and not for re-sale.

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, 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.

Wednesday, March 11 – 1 to 4 p.m. – Workshop – Dorita Peer, author, will lead a workshop on how to write your memoirs. Registration is limited. Call 905-833-6565 to indicate your interest.

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.

Friday, March 20 – 10 a.m. – Cooking Demo – Serena, a Culinary Arts graduate, is excited to demonstrate how to create simple, flavourful and easy to

make nutritious Italian dishes designed for seniors. Cost \$5/pp due by March 13. Limited space so registration is necessary. No walk-ins.

Friday, March 27 – 10 a.m. – Presentation – You have a medical emergency in your home. You call 911. What happens next? Who will help you? What do you need to know? A representative of York Paramedics will walk us through dealing with an emergency to prepare us, in a calm setting, on how to handle an emergency.

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 afternoons: 1 p.m. – Progressive Euchre.

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

Sacred Heart Church

World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service Friday, March 6 at 11 a.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 13190 Keele St., King City. Join us as we pray for The Christians in Nigeria. There as in many other African countries and in the Middle East suffer terrible violence and persecution. The Theme this year is: "I will give your rest."

Lenten Schedule: Holy Mass, Mondays; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m.

Wednesday and Friday at 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross, Every Friday evening at 6:15 p.m.

Confessions – Wednesday, March 18, Friday, March 20, Wednesday, March 25, Friday, March 27 (after 7 p.m. Mass).

Tenebrae Service is Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m.

We welcome into the Church of Jesus Christ, Isabella Chiara Provenzano, daughter of Roberto & Alyssandra. May the Lord Jesus pour his blessings on Isabella and her family. The Sacrament of Baptism will be held on Saturday, March 14, at 11 a.m.

First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins at 3:30 p.m. with an all-night Vigil following the 7 p.m. Mass. The evening consists of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, personal quiet contemplation, hymns of praise and worship, and the Rosary of the Father. You may join at any time and can stay as long as you want. Access to the church is through the breezeway/

Last week's Coffee Sunday was supported by the Leon family. Do consider hosting as a family or group. Support and supplies are provided. Contact Justine Cariati, thecariatifamily@gmail.com OR Nadia Pascuzzo NPascuzzo@archtoronto.org

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

King City Tennis prepares for season

The King City Tennis Association is a non-profit tennis club established by

volunteers over 40 years ago in partnership with King Township. The King City Tennis Association outdoor season runs from May to October 2026.

The 2026 KCTA Website Opens on Sunday, March 15 at 9 a.m. ready to accept 2026 Early Bird KCTA Memberships with discounts, until April 13.

The KCTA Website Homepage is found at: kingcitytennis.com

KCTA 2026 Registration of individuals addresses and contact information and Membership Payments must be completed and paid by credit card, before registering for KCTA tennis programs on-line.

Markus Ziegler, our OTA Certified Head Tennis Coach of several years, is ready to provide tennis programs and lessons for all ages and levels of ability.

Markus offers many excellent and varied skill-level tennis instruction for Adults, in addition to Junior Programs for ages 4 to 14 years, starting in May and which continue to October.

Don't forget the very popular 1 to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, Junior Summer Camp in July and August. A total of 9 different weeks to choose from. Each week is limited to only 28 Juniors, so please sign up early.

The KCTA executive looks forward to seeing our members playing tennis this spring.

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.

St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

Welcome to St. Andrew's! Our morning worship service is at 10:30 a.m.

The World Day of Prayer is this first Friday in March at 11 a.m. and we hope you can stay for a light lunch. All are welcome! St. Andrew's is the host this year in King City and other churches have been asked to participate. The theme country is Nigeria and the pro-

gram is written by Nigerian ladies (see WICC-Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada).

Last Sunday, March 1, Pastor Alison continued with her sermon series and the letter "H" for Helper. We looked at the book of IThessalonians 5:14-15 and Hebrews 13:15-25 where there are many examples of how to be helpers. You will find the YouTube link on our website: standrews-kingcity.ca

We have 2 more "Thursdays at Three" (3 p.m.), in our church lounge March 19 and March 26 as we lead up to Easter. It is a great time to get together over coffee/tea. Pastor Alison leads us, using a book called What if God was serious about Prayer? by Skye Jethani. Join us, if you're able.

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

Did you know that instead of taking something away in Lent, you can add something? What if Lent became less about deprivation and more about intention?

At All Saints Anglican Church in King City, we're walking through Lent a little differently this year. We're inviting people into what we're calling "Saintry Quests." Each day offers a small, meaningful action, something prayerful, mindful, or practical, that helps us live more consciously in the way of love.

The word quest might sound adventurous and, in many ways, it is. A quest is simply a journey with purpose. And Lent is exactly that: a journey toward the heart of God.

The beauty of a holy Lent isn't found in grand gestures. It's found in small, consistent acts that shape who we are.

A Saintry Quest might look like:

- Reach out to someone you've been meaning to check on and simply say, "I'm thinking of you."
- Spend five quiet minutes in silence, noticing your breath and offering your worries to God.
- Forgive someone in your heart, even if you're not ready to say it out loud.
- Perform one act of kindness without telling anyone.
- Take a slow walk and thank God for five specific things you see.

None of these are complicated, but practiced daily, they gently turn our hearts.

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THE BEST MOVE YOU COULD MAKE

King WOMEN in BUSINESS



Women-owned businesses are thriving

Women entrepreneurs are not to be underestimated. Data affirms that women-owned businesses are growing and thriving.

According to North One banking, women-owned firms account for more than 12 million businesses in the United States. In addition, the 2024 Wells Fargo Impact of Women-Owned Business Report, in partnership with Ventureneur, Core Women and Women Impacting Public Policy, found the number of women-owned business increased at a rate of 4.5 times between 2019 to 2023. Women-owned businesses are driving economic growth, and a deeper look at some of the numbers supports that notion.

- The Women's Business Enterprise Council says there are 12.3 million women-owned businesses in the U.S., which comprises about 40 percent of the total number of businesses.
- Women-owned businesses bring in nearly \$2 trillion every year, says the National Women's Business Council.
- During the pandemic, women-owned businesses added 1.4 million jobs and \$579.6 billion in revenue to the economy, says Wells Fargo.
- World Bank indicates that roughly one-third of

principal owners of all businesses are female.

- WBENC advises that 64 percent of new women-owned businesses are started by women of color.

- Women's Business Enterprises Canada says more than 85 percent of buying decisions are influenced by women. The Canadian Minister of Small Business notes that women business ownership is growing. In 2023, approximately 18.4 percent of all businesses in Canada were majority owned by women, compared to 15.6 percent in 2017.

- According to Forbes, women-led tech companies achieve a 35 percent higher ROI. A Forbes study with First Round Capital, a venture capital firm, found female-founded businesses in their portfolio outperformed male-founded companies by more than 60 percent.

Women-owned businesses are making a large impact on North America and around the world. Such firms continue to employ millions of people and foster strong economies.

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King WOMEN *in*



Anna Raeli, Desjardins Insurance

I HAVE BEEN a Desjardins insurance agent since 1998. I previously worked for two agents prior to opening my own agency in King City in Oct 2007. I pride myself on providing value-added, remarkable and a memorable client experience. My goal is to help people protect assets and preserve wealth. My passion for helping families and giving back to my community is the reason I do what I do. I reside in King Township with my husband and son and I love the small town feel that the community embraces. My agency provides insurance for your Auto, Home, Business, Life, Disability and Critical Illness. Experience matters. And it matters most when reviewing your insurance needs.



Anna Raeli, Agent

2946 King Road
King City, ON L7B 1L6
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annaraeli.com



416-420-3556
www.crinteriordesign.ca

Cassandra Richardson, CR Interior Design Inc.

AS FOUNDER of CR Interior Design Inc., I have served King Township, Toronto, and the GTA for over 25 years, supporting residential and commercial clients on projects ranging from custom houses and renovations to additions, accessory buildings, multi-unit developments, and commercial spaces. I am a Registered Interior Designer (ARIDO, IDC) and BCIN-qualified designer authorized for house, small, large, and complex structures. I deliver end-to-end design including permitting, planning, zoning analysis, construction drawings, documentation, and site coordination, collaborating with consultants and municipalities to achieve compliant, efficient, well-managed results. My focus is practical creativity and projects that are efficient, code-compliant, on schedule, and budget.

Design, human connection, and efficiency guide my work. I'm designing and building an accessible small home on our property so my parents can age in place close to family. Thoughtful small homes help support generations and strengthen women, men, children, grandparents, friends, and neighbors. When we create space for one another, we build community and care. Time is precious, good design helps us spend more of it together with the people we love.



Savita Despot: Founder & Executive Director

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH CONNECTION, COMPASSION & IMPACT

SAVITA DESPOT IS THE VISIONARY Founder and Executive Director of The Blue Marble, a community-driven organization dedicated to bringing people together through education, meaningful programs, and shared experiences. With a passion for empowering families, supporting local initiatives, and creating inclusive spaces, Savita has built The Blue Marble into a trusted hub for connection and growth.

Under her leadership, The Blue Marble has championed community collaboration, intergenerational learning, and social impact initiatives that strengthen the fabric of the region. Savita believes that when women lead with authenticity and purpose, entire communities thrive.

A committed advocate for community development and women in leadership, Savita continues to inspire others through her resilience, generosity, and unwavering dedication to service.



**BLUE
MARBLE**

2163 King Road,
King City, Ontario
905.833.3233
www.thebluemarble.ca

ENGEL & VÖLKERS
MELISSA MACKENZIE

Melissa Mackenzie, Engel & Völkers

IN A BUSINESS often defined by contracts and closing dates, Melissa Mackenzie is redefining real estate with energy, heart, and a sense of fun. A local broker, investor, and proud community champion, Mackenzie has spent nearly two decades helping families find not just houses, but places to truly belong.

Since beginning her career in 2007, Melissa has built a reputation for sharp negotiation skills, creative marketing, and unwavering integrity. As a broker with Engel & Völkers, she combines global reach with personal attention, giving her clients a powerful advantage in today's market.

But what truly sets Melissa apart is her approach. Known for sharing laughs, easing stress, and celebrating milestones, she transforms what can be an overwhelming process into an exciting journey. Her involvement in school councils, charities, and local events reflects her deep love for the communities she serves.

For Melissa, real estate isn't just business — "it's about helping people feel proud of where they live and making every move a memorable adventure."

Melissa Mackenzie, Broker
Engel & Völkers Toronto City -
York Region
905-539-9511

Melissa.mackenzie@evcanada.com



Angela Colliopoulos & Ally Phillipps The Hair Boutique

ANGELA & ALLY have been proudly working together side by side for 10 years. Growing not just a business but a partnership built on trust, loyalty, and shared ambition.

Through long days behind the chair, evolving trends, and the constant rhythm of salon life, they've supported one another with steady confidence and mutual respect.

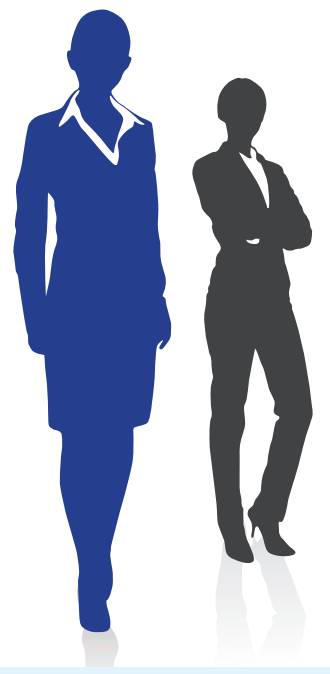
Over the years, we've been incredibly grateful for the clients who have trusted us with not only their hair, but their stories, milestones, and everyday moments. Your loyalty, referrals, laughter, and continued support have allowed our partnership to grow and our vision to flourish. Because of you, our chairs have been filled with connection, creativity, and community. We don't take that trust lightly—every appointment, every conversation, and every transformation has meant more to us than words can fully express. Thank you for being part of our journey. We are forever grateful for all of you.

**THE
HAIR BOUTIQUE**



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Ally: 416.409.1640
allyphillipps@gmail.com
Angela: 647.884.4733
thehairboutiquekingcity@gmail.com

BUSINESS



Anne Hilliard, Broker, Coldwell Banker Ronan Realty

A TRUSTED REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL and proud King Township resident of more than 35 years, Anne Hilliard has been helping clients navigate one of life's most important decisions since 2013, earning her Broker designation in 2019. Known for her strong negotiation skills and warm, family-centred approach, Anne combines deep local knowledge and experience to deliver exceptional results across every stage of the real estate journey.

Anne's commitment to community is at the heart of her work. Through Coldwell Banker Ronan Realty's longstanding "Giving Back" philosophy, she actively supports initiatives that strengthen families and neighbourhoods, including the King Township Food Bank and My Sister's Place in Alliston. She believes that successful business leadership means investing in the wellbeing and resilience of the communities she serves.

For Anne, real estate is more than transactions — it is about building lasting relationships, supporting local growth, and helping clients feel confident and cared for every step of the way!



annehilliard.ca
anneh@ronanrealty.com
c: 416.795.4920

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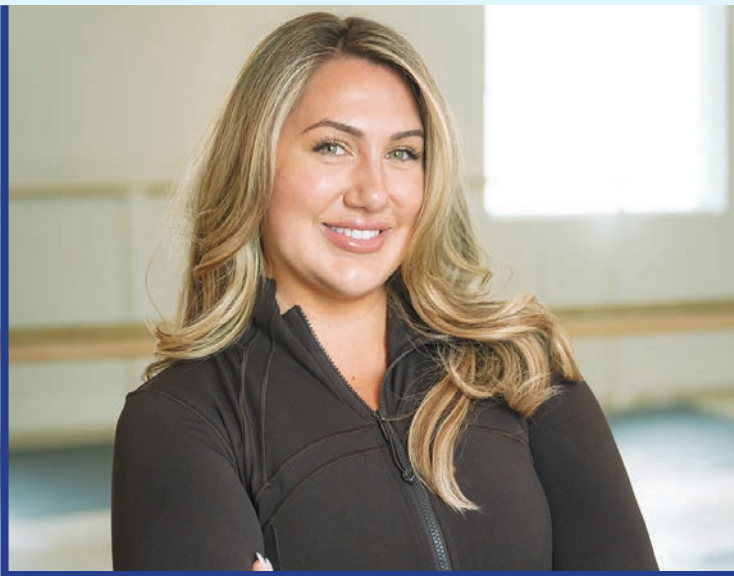
Jillian and Chris, Historia Cantina

THREE YEARS AGO, Jill and Chris opened the doors to their restaurant with a simple but deeply personal goal: to create a space that felt like home. A place rooted in culture, good food, and the joy of sharing a meal together.

Both women spent most of their lives working in hospitality, learning the craft from the floor up as servers. Those years shaped not only their work ethic, but their belief that restaurants are about people first. When the opportunity arose to open their own place, they chose a historic building in a town they love—drawn to its character, its stories, and the strong sense of community that surrounds it.

Their menu reflects how they love to eat: tapas-style plates meant to be shared, enjoyed slowly, and experienced together. It's food inspired by culture and comfort, designed to bring people to the table and spark connection.

As women in business, Jillian and Chris are proud to have built something together from the ground up—through hard work, resilience, and a shared vision. Their restaurant stands as a reflection of who they are: welcoming, thoughtful, and built on the belief that we are always better together.



Alexis Ciancio, ClubWell

ALEXIS CIANCIO IS THE CO-FOUNDER OF CLUBWELL — a women-only space in King City built with one clear intention: creating a place where women can prioritize themselves in a way that feels elevated, supportive, and deeply community-driven.

Since opening in 2023, ClubWell has grown into a destination that brings fitness, wellness, and advanced aesthetics under one roof. From Reformer Pilates, yoga to naturopathic medicine and cutting-edge skin treatments, the studio takes a truly holistic approach — supporting women's strength, confidence, hormones, skin, and overall well-being at every stage of life.

Alexis is hands-on in every part of the business, from vision and strategy to branding and client experience. But she credits ClubWell's growth to her incredible team of instructors, practitioners, and front-of-house leaders who care deeply about the women they serve.

As the brand approaches its third year — with a major renovation underway — Alexis and her team are excited to welcome new faces. ClubWell is currently accepting new members and inviting women to experience the space for themselves.



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clubwellinc.com



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meredithnichols.ca

Khalen Meredith & Kim Nichols, Sotheby's International Realty Canada

COMBINING a deep-rooted passion for the local landscape with a "live and breathe" approach to the northern GTA, Khalen Meredith and Kim Nichols form a dynamic real estate team serving King, Aurora, Caledon, and the surrounding countryside. Kim, an Aurora resident, known for her involvement in The Country Day School, past Toy Tea's and Welcome Table, spends her spare time hitting the slopes or walking her French Bulldog, Mouse, through the Farmer's Market in Town Park. Complementing this energy is Khalen, a King local who is unabashedly "horse mad" and can almost always be found at the barn during her downtime or hiking with Ellie and Harris, two very disheveled Standard Poodles, on local bridle trails. Together, they offer clients an authentic perspective on the north-of-the-city lifestyle, blending professional expertise with a genuine love for the unique character of these vibrant communities.



Anna Patrizio, Schomberg Village Pharmacy

ANNA PATRIZIO is an Ontario pharmacist and visionary leader whose career bridges community healthcare and international trade. As co-owner of Schomberg Village Pharmacy, Patrizio became a local pillar during the pandemic, spearheading vital vaccination efforts and earning a Business Excellence Award from the King Chamber of Commerce.

Pivoting toward global entrepreneurship, she founded the importing company, Bighani Canada /big-HAH-nih/ to champion exquisite purpose-led wellness brands. Last February marks the Canadian debut of DE MOI by Demee Koch—a Switzerland conscious skincare brand. Already beloved in 35 countries—launched as Bighani's inaugural brand portfolio, introducing the Conscious Beauty Movement. Recognized as one of Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 and the 2022 "Most Influential Filipina Woman in the World," Patrizio is dedicated to paying it forward. Through mentorship to Canadian Pharmacists Association international graduates and advocacy for young women in Philippine agriculture, she continues to empower the next generation of global pioneers. She is a sought-after key opinion leader, speaker and article contributor on health, business and social impact. Her journey stands as a masterclass in resilient, transformation and mission-driven leadership.



www.demoui.ca
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schombergvillagepharmacy.com

King WOMEN in BUSINESS



NOBLETON
— FAMILY DENTAL —

13305 Hwy 27, Tim Hortons Plaza
905.859.5170

www.nobletonfamilydental.com
info@nobletonfamilydental.com

Diane Contino, Nobleton Family Dental

IN THE HEART OF NOBLETON. Dr. Diane Contino leads Nobleton Family Dental with a philosophy rooted in balance, compassion, and community. Since 2011, she has been dedicated to caring for patients of all ages — from children at their first visit to seniors maintaining lifelong oral health.

The practice, located in King Township, is known for its welcoming, family-focused atmosphere. With a team of 13 staff members, Nobleton Family Dental provides comprehensive services including preventive care, crowns, veneers, and other restorative treatments. Under Dr. Contino's leadership, the office has earned the Readers' Choice Award for Best Dental Office for eight consecutive years, as well as the 2025 Excellence in a Small Business Award from the King Chamber of Commerce — a testament to the trust it has built within the community.

Beyond dentistry, Diane embraces wellness as a way of life. A devoted yoga and fitness enthusiast, she believes mindful movement helps her maintain the physical stamina and positive mindset required in a demanding profession. As a mother balancing career and family life, she understands the realities busy families face and strives to make dental care approachable and stress-free.

At Nobleton Family Dental, caring for smiles means caring for people — one patient at a time.



Canadian entrepreneurship growing among women Federal strategy helping to close the gap

By Sam Odrowski

Canadian women have taken the business world by storm over the last 50 years, more than doubling the number of female-owned businesses.

While women owned less than 10 per cent of Canadian businesses in the mid-1970s, they now own roughly 20 per cent of all private-sector businesses in Canada today.

However, greater advocacy is needed to achieve true gender parity in the business world. Male ownership accounts for the remaining, approximately 80 per cent, of businesses, and women face systemic challenges when pursuing entrepreneurship.

To help close the gap, the Government of Canada launched the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy (WES) in 2018, a nearly \$7 billion initiative that offers a variety of supportive programs.

“Studies show that advancing gender equality and women’s participation in the economy can add billions in GDP. Since creating Canada’s first-ever Women Entrepreneurship Strategy, our government has helped hundreds of thousands of women start new businesses, grow their existing businesses and expand into global markets. Investing in women entrepreneurs isn’t just the right thing to do; it’s an economic imperative and a smart strategy for a thriving future,” said Rechie Valdez, Minister of Small Business.

One challenge that women face when starting a business is access to financing. To address this, the WES Inclusive Women Venture Capital Initiative is helping to create a

more equitable venture capital environment. The initiative funds projects that “strengthen and build a more inclusive venture capital environment for Canadian women,” according to the Government of Canada.

Another key support to address funding challenges is the WES’s Women Entrepreneurship Loan Fund, which provides loans of up to \$50,000 to female entrepreneurs and business owners.

The WES Ecosystem Fund helps strengthen the entrepreneurship ecosystem’s capacity and provides the resources women entrepreneurs need to launch or grow a business.

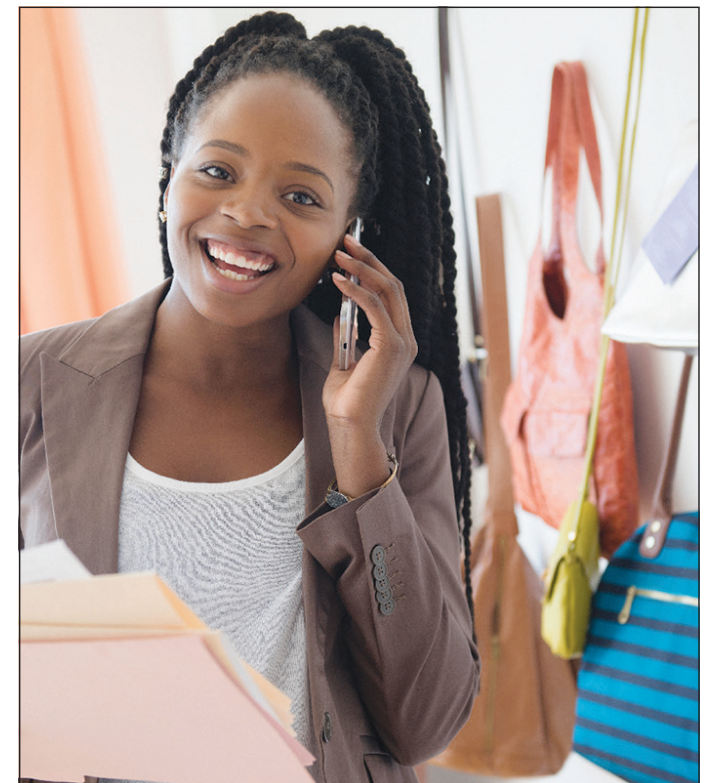
The WES’s Women Entrepreneurship Knowledge Hub provides a one-stop source of knowledge, data and best practices for female entrepreneurs. The hub is a collaboration between 10 regional hubs, more than 250 organizations and thousands of women entrepreneurs.

To date, over 400,000 women have been supported through the WES strategy.

“Women-owned businesses are not only driving economic growth through job creation but also bringing in higher revenues year over year, generating over \$90 billion in sales revenue across Canada, and accounting for more than 865,000 jobs,” said Wendy Cukier, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Strategy at Toronto Metropolitan University.

“There are also multiplier effects of SMEs, including those owned by women, across sectors and communities. And women are more likely to contribute to sustainable

development goals. There is a surge in women-founded companies across sectors from technology and finance to health care and consumer goods, attracting significant investment and market attention. As we move into challenging times, we need to ensure women entrepreneurs are central to strategies for resilience and self-sufficiency.”



Practical ways to support women in everyday life

(NC) ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES DON'T AFFECT everyone equally, and women often feel the biggest impact. While these realities are rooted in long-standing systems, progress happens when people take action — big or small. Here are some ways you can help create change:

SUPPORT WOMEN'S HEALTH.

Women’s health isn’t just about what we can see. It also includes everyday realities that often go unnoticed. For instance, did you know that, in Canada, about one in six people who menstruate struggle to afford period products? It’s a phenomenon called period poverty, and it’s a lived reality for many women, who have to choose between paying for period products or other necessities like rent or groceries.

CREATE A SUPPORTIVE WORKPLACE FOR WOMEN.

Women bring diverse perspectives, skills and experiences to the workplace, but they can face unique challenges, from systemic bias to gaps in equity and inclusion. Creating a safe, respectful and shame-free environment helps women feel valued, confident and empowered to contribute their best. By fostering policies, practices and a culture that actively supports women, organizations can unlock the full potential of their workforce while building a more equitable and thriving workplace for everyone. How can you play your part? For many people, the challenge isn’t a lack of good intentions, it’s uncertainty about where to start. Topics that are still surrounded by stigma, like periods, can

feel unfamiliar simply because we haven’t been encouraged to talk about them openly. Building comfort and confidence through education is a meaningful first step. Organizations like The Period Purse offer free workshops and practical resources that help reduce period stigma and support the creation of shame-free spaces.

The issues affecting women’s health are complex and deeply connected to broader social and economic systems, and they won’t be solved overnight. But small, intentional actions can add up to real change over time. Learn more about how to support women’s health at theperiodpurse.com.

www.newscanada.com



INTERNATIONAL Women's DAY

ANNA ROBERTS MP
KING—VAUGHAN
SHADOW MINISTER FOR SENIORS

ANNA.ROBERTS@PARL.GC.CA
ANNAROBERTSMPC.A
905-303-5000



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, "Sleeping Through the Storm" from Mark 4:35-41.

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, March 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, March 7 at 9 a.m. Our mid-week Life-Connect 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 all sinners. We're all imperfect. Our imperfection is the crack in the armour, the "wound" that lets God into our hearts and lives. As Master Eckhart wrote almost 700 years ago: "To get at the core of God at His greatest, one must first get into the core of himself/herself at their least."

To truly be followers of Jesus – to be His disciples – means we reach out and be Christ to all our sisters and brothers. As we continue our Lenten journey, the following story poignantly captures the importance of reaching out from where we stand in life:

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the pups and set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard. As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of a little boy. "Mister," he said, "I want to buy one of your puppies." "Well," said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck. "These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money." The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then, reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer. "I've got 39 cents. Is that enough to take a look?" "Sure," said the farmer. And with that, he let out a whistle. "Here, Dolly!" he called. Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain-link fence. His eyes danced with delight. As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse.

Slowly, another little ball appeared, this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp, it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up. "I want that one," the little boy said, pointing to the runt. The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, "Son, you don't want that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would." With that, the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down and began rolling up one of his trouser legs. In doing so he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe. Looking back up at the farmer, he said, "You see, sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands."

The world is full of people who need

someone who understands. Christ asks us in lent to be the understanding heart, mind and soul to those in need.

Jokes of the Week: Pastor and Farmer: "Do you smoke, drink or curse?" The pastor asked the old farmer. He replied with a hesitant, "Well, every once in a while." "You know, John, I don't smoke, drink, or cuss ..." "Yessuh, pastor, but you don't farm either ...!"

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

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. May not be suitable for anyone sensitive to these fragrances.

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

Hey Kids! Come on out for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. at Tasca Park. There will be free chocolate bunnies for kids to age 10 and hot chocolate for everyone. This is a joint event put on by all three Lions Clubs in King Township, working together.

Next, look for our float in the parade and visit us at our booth at the arena grounds on Victoria Day, May 18. 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. Registration at the Library Gazebo starts at 9 a.m. and the walk gets underway at 10 a.m. To donate, please visit <https://www.walkfordogguides.com/> and search Nobleton. Remember also to 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:

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.



MPP Lecce continues Valentine's Rose Tour

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan, visited local senior homes and long-term care residences for his annual Valentine's Rose Tour, giving senior women a rose for Valentine's Day. "The Lecce Rose Tour was a huge success — a beautiful tradition that brings heartfelt joy to so many seniors in our community," said Lecce. "All I can say is, I feel blessed by the warm embraces and love. Because that's what this is all about."

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OBITUARIES

FOREVER IN OUR *Hearts*

Douglas Arthur Hill

March 27, 1937 – February 18, 2026

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Douglas Arthur Hill on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 88 years of age.

Born in Newmarket, Ontario on March 27, 1937 to George and Hazel Hill of Nobleton.

Doug is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Margaret Hill (née Thacker), his 3 children Kerri Hill-Schafer (Paul), David Hill (Tracy), and Janice Calverley (Shaun), and his brother Wayne Hill (Joanne). "Pa" will be greatly missed by his grandchildren Alexander (Kayla), Brett, Dylan, Ryan, Natalie, Madeline, Matthew, Jenna, step-grandkids Josh, Ryan (Kali), and Matt, and great grandson Landon (Alex and Kayla). He will be missed by his many sisters and brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews, cousins and friends. Doug is predeceased by his infant brother Kenneth, and his sister Vera (Clark).

A graduate of the University of Toronto, Doug was a devoted science and chemistry teacher at Orangeville High School and then King City Secondary School where he worked most of his career until retirement. Doug treasured his teaching career, students, and was a respected staff member. After retiring, Doug and Marg purchased the family insurance brokerage in Nobleton, and worked side by side for several years until he retired again.

Beyond professional accomplishments, Doug was known for being a dedicated family man. He was kind, well read, and easy to talk with. Aside from his family, he also touched countless lives through community involvement including coaching minor hockey and baseball, founding the Nobleton Soccer Association, playing hockey, and being a member of the Nobleton's Lions Club, Masons, and Nobleton Cemetery. Doug remained proud of Nobleton and his family's King Township heritage. Doug had a love of hockey and loved his Toronto Blue Jays. He was also an avid researcher of family heritage.

Everyone will remember Doug for his love, wisdom, loyalty, dedication to education, and his sense of humour. His unwavering spirit and legacy will continue to live on in all who knew him.

The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street South (Hwy. 50) Bolton (905-857-2213) on Sunday, March 8th from noon until time of memorial service in the chapel at 2pm. Followed by a reception.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com
May Douglas Arthur Hill rest in peace and remain forever in our hearts.



Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m. at Schomberg United and 11:15 a.m. at Nobleton United. We would be thrilled to have you join us and enjoy refreshments afterwards.

This year King Township will be celebrating the World Day of Prayer at two different locations on two different days. One is this Friday, March 6, at 11 a.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 13190 Keele St., King City. The theme is "I Will Give You Rest: Come," written by the people of Nigeria.

There is a light lunch afterwards. The other one is Friday, March 13 at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 91 Church St., Schomberg followed by a light lunch.

Time to reserve your seat for the famous DiFebo Pasta Dinner which is on Friday, March 20 at 6 p.m. at Nobleton United Church. The meal includes pasta with meatballs, salad & dessert. It is a great time to socialize. The cost is \$20



per adult, \$5 for 12 years and under, free for those under 5. Seating is limited. Contact Nancy Hopkinson at 416-316-5064 to reserve your seat ASAP.

Easter is coming. If you would like to place a pot of tulips in one of the churches, as a floral memorial, the cost is \$10. Tulips can be ordered through Kim Campbell (for Schomberg) or Sue DiFebo or Val Ball (for Nobleton).

The next Lenten Bible Study is each Thursday at 1 p.m. at Nobleton United for scripture, reflection and good conversation. Last one is Thursday, April 2. All are welcome.

There is a 15-minute Reflection for

Lent on Zoom every Monday at 7 p.m. Begin each week with hope. Short scripture, reflection and prayer. Last one is Monday, March 30.

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.

The Schomberg United Church Women will meet Thursday, March 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.

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!

Our next Messy Church is Monday, March 23 (changed) at 5 p.m. at Nobleton United. The activities and crafts (5-6 p.m.) are based on different Bible stories. The theme for March is the Prodigal Son. God always welcomes us home. At 6 p.m., we have story time until 6:15 p.m. when we eat. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. One activity is always decorating a cookie in the theme of the day. Please let Nancy Hopkinson know (text 416-316-5064 or email nancykhopkinson@gmail.com) if you would like to attend, as we need to have enough food for everyone.

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.

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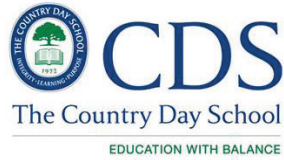
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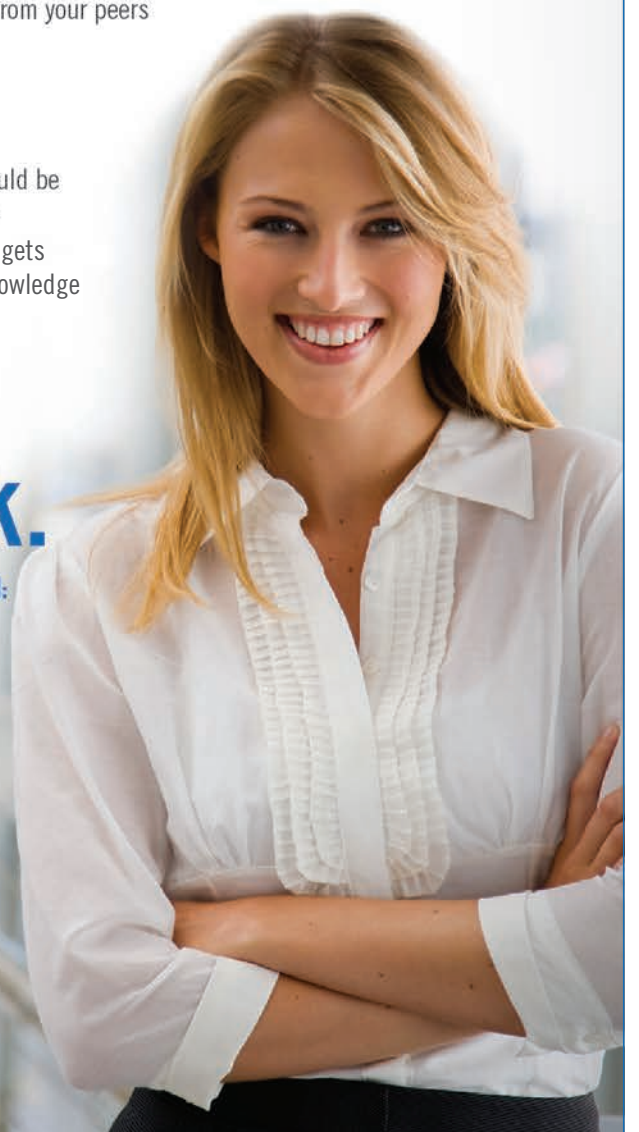
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Girls Night Out going 'camping' for International Women's Day

By Brock Weir

Get all the fun of camping without all the hassle of packing and braving the Canadian winter when NewRoads Automotive Group partners with Girls Inc. of York Region for the annual NewRoads Girls Night Out.

Hosted each year to coincide with International Women's Day, this year's Girls Night Out is set for Thursday, March 5, from 6 – 9 p.m. at Newmarket's NewRoads Performing Arts Centre.

It's a night "celebrating the strength, creativity, and impact of women in our community," with vendor tables featuring products from local women-owned businesses, an inspiring panel discussion, and a camp-themed menu created by A Million Mouthfuls Catering.

"This is our 15th year and we're really excited to celebrate International Women's Day," says NewRoads' Rachel Hawtin. "We do it every year on the first Thursday of March to commemorate International Women's Day. This year we're calling it Girls Night Out Goes to Camp, which we thought would be a really nice theme to tie in with Girls

Inc. because they are all about summer camps, celebrating girls in our community, and providing them with really amazing opportunities at their camps.

"This is our fourth year working with Girls Inc. of York Region and we've really loved the partnership with them. They really bring so much great energy to the event as well. As this year is all about camp, we have a really amazing 'elevated camp' menu, we have a badge-system that we're employing through the evening where you can collect some badges, and there's going to be amazing drinks as well! Then we have our vendor market that are all women-owned businesses. That's a big part of the evening – celebrating our local small businesses that are all women-owned. We have a lot of returning booths and we have some new people as well, which is really great."

Returning for 2026 after a few years' absence is a panel of local women entrepreneurs.

Set to take the stage are Shabi Monzavi of Market Candle Company, Lauren Francis-Smithson, founder of Lo+Co, Lynnette Lanning, co-founder of

Neighbour Media, and Anne-Marie Million, founder of A Million Mouthfuls.

"They have such a presence in our community," says Hawtin. "I hope people leave feeling empowered, celebrated, and I hope they feel inspired. This is a great opportunity to bring someone in your life who is a female out to the event for a really fun night out. There's shopping, and who doesn't love shop-

ping? You're supporting a great cause, you're going to have delicious food and drinks, and you're going to have a quick little inspirational moment in the theatre. It's short and sweet, but I think it's impactful."

For more information on this year's NewRoads Girls Night Out, including tickets, visit www.newroads.ca/girls-night.

Former councillor passes away

Dorothy Jane Zajac (née Hudson) died on January 31.

Born in Toronto, she spent summers in Muskoka, surrounded by nature and cousins. She worked at a Summer Camp as a swimming instructor; then as Waterfront Director. She graduated with a BPHE from the University of Toronto and began teaching in Orillia.

In 1958, she married her high school sweetheart Andy Zajac. For 24,647 days they danced and shared their adventures together. Over the years, she traveled to more than 50 countries.

Dorothy was a passionate advocate for Education, Environmental Stewardship and Justice. She was elected Trustee for the York Region Board of Education and became its Chair. She served as a Councillor for King Township.

Dorothy and five like-minded women formed the "Crazy Ladies" adventure group, which for more than 25 years met for two weeks each summer to challenge expectations.

Dorothy leaves behind a husband, two sons, four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, all their kin, friends and neighbours. And, to a one, they would say of her: "She's something else." She will be missed.

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Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

March came in like a lion, with the cold weather anyway, so I'm expecting it to go out like a lamb and be followed by an early spring. Well, a girl can dream!

Bird Watching Club

All are invited to join the newly formed "Bird Watching Club" which meets every third Saturday at the corner of West Canal Bank Road and Highway 9, remember to bring binoculars, spotting scope, and dress for the weather.

Maple Syrup Fest

If that's not your thing, maybe you love Maple Syrup? I mean, who doesn't! King's Cold Creek Maple Syrup Fest promises a day 'stacked' with sweet memories (and pancakes)! Join in on Saturday, March 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the scenic Cold Creek Conservation Area in Nobleton. Tickets are \$12 (plus HST) per person and \$40 (plus HST) for a family of four and can be purchased online until 11 p.m. on March 13. Prices increase at the door. Buy your tickets now at coldcreek.ca/MapleSyrupFest

Taste of King

Now if you're not big on maple syrup but you do love food, good news, the "Taste of King" is back, and many local restaurants are participating this year. For more information and menus, check out king.ca/TasteOfKing Through March 14, savour exclusive prix fixe lunch and dinner menus, specialty combos and signature dishes at some of King Townships best restaurants. Restaurants include Craft Kitchen, Historia Cantina, Holland Marsh Wineries, In This Corner, Koharu, Leonardos Smoke House, Misoya Sushi, Pine Farms Orchard Port Soiree, Raffaele's

cantina, Taj Royal, The Schomberg Pub.

Health Workshop

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., 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

Book club

Looking to stay warm and cozy and meet your 2026 reading goals? Join the King Township Public Library Bood Club. Each branch has its own clubs, and they meet the second week of each month. For this month's book and to register, visit your local branch.

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, and we will be moving to Thursdays, April 2, in the Curling Lounge.

Schomberg 55+

If you would like to sign up for the bus trip just head over to the Trisan or if you're computer savvy, you can log in and sign up online at www.townshipofking.perfectmind.com

All welcome. Date: Thursday, March 19. Bus departs at 9:30 a.m. Trisan Centre, 25 Dillane Dr., Schomberg, 10 a.m. 25 Doctor's Lane (King Rd. & Keele). Enjoy a five-hour visit to Niagara Falls-view Casino and receive \$20 in slot play and reserved at Le Grand Cirque Show time: 3 p.m. Arrival back in King City approximately 7 p.m.

Le Grand Cirque Maximum Velocity

is a breathtaking explosion of energy, artistry, and daredevil brilliance! From jaw-dropping aerial feats to heart-stopping acrobatics, this is live entertainment at its absolute peak — an adrenaline-charged spectacle that will leave you gasping, cheering, and wanting more.

The price for the trip is \$89 per person. Contact Jackie Treadwell at 416-580-6514 or Susan Porter at 416-460-5952.

Meetings are in the Curling Lounge at Trisan, Coffee at 10, presentation at 10:30.

Friday, March 6 - Liam Bird, The Saxophone, includes performance (rescheduled from Feb. 19).

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:

Please note new times for Mobility Matters!

Monday afternoons - 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Mobility Matters Trisan Centre (new time).

Tuesday afternoons - 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Bridge - in Multi Room A at Trisan.

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

Wednesday afternoon - 2 to 4 p.m. - Mahjong - in the Multi Purpose Room A at Trisan.

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

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

Friday afternoons - 1 to 1:45 p.m. (new time) Mobility Matters (Trisan Centre).

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 to sporter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

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

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