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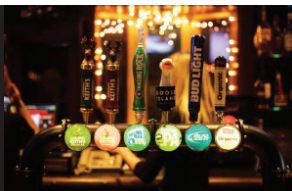
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King Township councillors welcomed inductees into its inaugural Sports Hall of Fame during a ceremony at Zancor Centre. The public had a chance to meet a couple of the famous athletes, including equestrian Jim Elder and NHL legend Mike Kitchen. They cut this cake to mark the occasion.

King unveils inaugural Sports Hall of Fame

Members of the community gathered to celebrate local athletic excellence during the unveiling of the Sports Hall of Fame exhibition at the Zancor Centre.

Attendees had an opportunity to meet Mike Kitchen and Jim Elder and hear a special message recorded by Rosie MacLennan.

The unveiling honours the inaugural class of inductees: Jim Elder, Mike Kitchen, Rosie MacLennan and Suzanne Morrow (Francis). Inductees were be presented with a jacket to mark the occasion, and the exhibition will feature a fresh new look that includes biography panels showcasing each of their stories.

"We celebrate four individuals who have made a lasting impact on the cultural and athletic fabric of King – forging new trails for future generations," noted Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

"This unveiling not only honours their outstanding achievements but also highlights the power of sport.

"With its unveiling, this exhibition reminds us that sport is about more than results – it's about community, commitment and the people who inspire us to be better.

"I am thrilled that Jim, Mike, Rosie and Suzanne's stories will live on display for all of King to enjoy.

"Their resilience, discipline, leadership and work ethic are a testament to their perseverance within their respective fields.

"Their values transcend sport itself – helping to build a stronger community in King.

"It was a pleasure to meet Mike Kitchen at the unveiling of the Township of King's new Sports Hall of Fame at the Zancor Centre. As a proud Schomberg native and inductee in the Coaching Category, Mike's NHL playing and championship-winning coaching career is a significant source of pride for our community," said Councillor David Boyd.

The inaugural inductees were initially introduced during the 2026 Mayor's Cultural Gala, and with the official unveiling of the exhibition, their legacies will be cemented in King Township history – inspiring the next generation of local athletes.

See 'Local' on Page 14

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Firefighters recognized for years of service.

See Page 7



ARTROOM 2026 was a huge success.

See Page 10

ANNA ROBERTS

Member of Parliament for King-Vaughan
Shadow Minister for Seniors



www.annarobertsmp.ca



anna.roberts@parl.gc.ca



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KING

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Making life better in King

Upcoming Meetings



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, April 27
6 p.m. - Council

Monday, May 04
6 p.m. - Public Planning Meeting

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Tuesday, April 21
11 a.m. - Accessibility Advisory Committee

Thursday, May 07
6 p.m. - Heritage Advisory Committee

Virtual

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

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



Report sod damage by May 1

Noticed **sod damage** to your property that you think a King Township snowplow may be responsible for? You can file a claim for repairs.

Find the form to submit a claim at king.ca/OnlineServices

KING votes

Oct. 26 2026

Get on the Voters List for the 2026 Municipal Election.

king.ca/elections

We're HIRING



- Manager of Revenue / Deputy Treasurer
- Mechanic
- Mechanic (Team Lead)
- Project Manager - Fleet Services (12 Month Contract)
- Senior Fitness Instructor (Part-Time)

View job postings at king.ca/employment

Community Yard Sale

It's time to do some spring cleaning and turn that clutter into cash! If you have unique items that need a new home, register for a space at King Township's annual Community Yard Sale on **Saturday, May 2 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.** at the Trisan Centre.

Register for a space by April 17.

Prices (plus HST) are:

- 6-foot space: \$15
- 12-foot space: \$25
- 18-foot space: \$35

Table rentals sold separately



For more information, visit king.ca/events

2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan

Year 3 Annual Progress Report

The **third annual progress** report conveys the progress made on all 29 Key Results in the third implementation year of the plan both qualitatively through a list of actions, and quantitatively through a percentage towards completion.



king.ca/StrategicPlan

Monday May 18 noon to dusk

Nobleton Victoria DAY

Presented by

Tim Hortons

Dr. William Lacey Nobleton Community Centre

- Parade (starting at 11am)
- Mid-way Rides & Games
- Artisans & Food Trucks
- Fireworks
- Battle of the bands



Scan HERE to donate Watch (and donate to!) the largest publicly funded fireworks display, put on by the Nobleton Firefighters Association.

king.ca/events



Meet the Mayor & Council Tuesday, April 28

From 3-7p.m. at the King Township Municipal Centre

Voice your questions, concerns and ideas (or just come and say hello!) to Mayor Pellegrini and/or your Ward Councillor.

Your local leaders work hard to make progress on important issues that face your communities, and they want to hear about what matters most to you. Come as an individual, group, or family to have a one-on-one conversation with a King Township elected official of your choice.

Fifteen-minute appointment time slots are available, and pre-registration online is encouraged to reserve your preferred timeslot. **Walk-ins are welcome pending availability.**

Book your appointment at king.ca/MeetCouncil



905.833.5321



serviceking@king.ca



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KING

Celebrate Nobleton Victoria Day as a vendor, sponsor or performer

Calling all local artisans, entertainers and community groups!

King Township is getting ready for summer and invites you to help welcome sunny days by participating in one of its signature events: the Nobleton Victoria Day Fair and Fireworks Show, presented by Tim Hortons. The event will be held on Monday, May 18 from 11 a.m. to dusk at the Dr. William Lacey Community Centre and Arena, located at 15 Old King Road in Nobleton.

This family-friendly summer kickoff has been enjoyed by the community for over 50 years, attracting thousands of attendees for a day of live entertainment, midway rides and games, a parade, fireworks and a variety of food and retail vendors.

Don't miss out on the chance to connect with audiences in a meaningful way! Here's how you can get involved to make this year's event even more unforgettable:

This event offers businesses a unique and interactive way to build brand recognition, foster customer loyalty, and increase sales by applying to be an event vendor or sponsor.

Vendors receive a 10x10-foot space indoors at the event venue from noon to dusk and must be operational between noon and 9:30 p.m. Fees start at \$150 (plus HST) for profit vendors and \$35 (plus HST) for non-profit vendors. Applications close on Monday, May 4 and space is limited so make sure you don't miss out!

Elevate your brand through a variety of sponsorship opportunities tailored to fit every budget. From entertainment and fireworks sponsorships to becoming a friend of the celebration, businesses can gain meaningful brand exposure while supporting community connection.

Battle of the Bands

Do you play in a family-friendly band? Register online for the chance to take part in the Battle of the Bands competition. Competing bands will each play a 15-minute set on stage, with the winner, selected by the audience, securing a spot as the opening act for King Township's Canada event headliner. Registration closes on Monday, May 4 and bands selected to play will be notified by Friday, May 8. All genres welcome.

Participate in parade

Make it a festive start to your day by registering a float for the annual No-

bleton Victoria Day parade. The parade begins at the Nobleton Library (Sheardown Drive and Highway 27) at 11 a.m. and ends at Old King Road. From the library, the parade travels south on Highway 27, turning east on Hill Farm Road and south on Wellar Avenue. The parade then weaves its way down Weller Avenue connecting with King Road. The parade then turns west on King Road and ends at Old King Road. Registration to participate in the parade closes on Friday, May 1.

For more information about the event, including application packages and registration forms, visit king.ca/NobletonVictoriaDay.

Questions? Email events@king.ca.

The Victoria Day event culminates with its signature fireworks show, beginning at dusk. Credited as one of the best Victoria Day fireworks displays in Ontario, it is also the largest publicly funded show and relies on donations from business and residents.

Starting this week, crews from the Nobleton Firefighter's Association will be going door-to-door in the Nobleton community to collect monetary donations. Donations can also be made online at king.ca/OnlineServices. Tax receipts will be provided for donations of \$10 or more.

This year's event and fireworks show will go on, with some modifications.

As phase two of the Nobleton Park Revitalization project continues to take shape, vendor and entertainment spaces are being thoughtfully adjusted around ongoing construction of the park to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.

Changes to expect:

Reduced family fun zone (no inflatables).

Market vendors relocated indoors.

Limited walk-in access through the park; enter via 15 Old King Road.

Fireworks viewing area limited to the two baseball diamond outfields.

Local watch parties are encouraged! Enjoy the show from your nearby property or consider hosting a street viewing party.

For more details, and to view an aerial map of the event layout, visit king.ca/NobletonVictoriaDay.

Revitalization project is anticipated to be completed in summer 2026, bringing new recreational and cultural amenities to the Nobleton community, including a wading pool that converts to a refrigerated outdoor ice rink in winter; an amphitheatre, lit pickleball courts, a soccer field, formalized walking paths, and a program facility. Learn more at king.ca/MajorProjects.

Police asking victims of theft to come forward

Investigators with the York Regional Police #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau have charged a man in connection with a retail theft investigation in the Township of King.

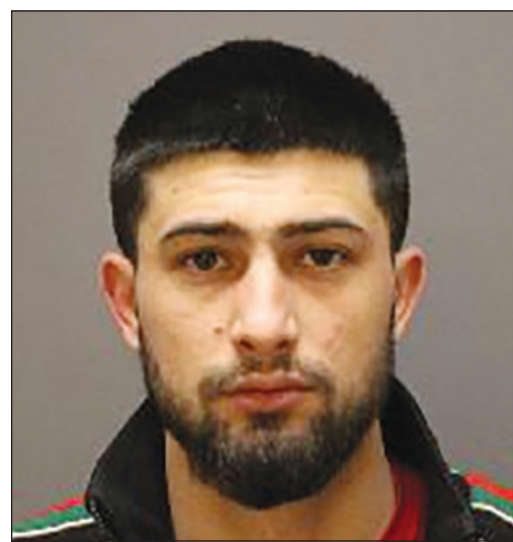
And they're asking others to come forward if they've been a victim.

On Monday, April 6, officers responded to reports of a theft at a retail establishment in the area of King Road and William Street. The suspect stole a quantity of beauty supplies and fled the store.

Through investigation, officers identified the suspect and on Tuesday, April 7, he was arrested and charged. A search warrant was executed at a residence in Pickering where investigators recovered additional stolen property.

York Regional Police is releasing an image of the suspect as they believe there may be additional victims. Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to contact police.

Alex Ciorrii, 23, of Pickering, was



charged with Theft Over \$5,000, and Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5,000.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau by calling 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7142. Anonymous tips can be sent to Crime Stoppers by calling 1-800-222-TIPS or by visiting www.1800222tips.com.

During WWII, dried milkweed was used to stuff life preservers for air and navy vessels.

Students at rural schools helped by picking milkweed outside of school time. In King Township, students at Linton School with teacher Miss Evelyn Courtney picked 410 bags (1 1/2 tonnes) of milkweed for the war effort!

#KingFacts



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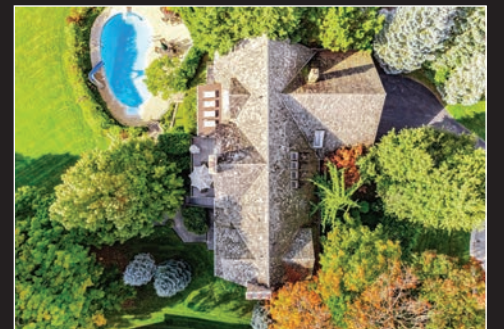
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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

Wasting time, waiting for our own 'expiry date'

"There's never enough time to do all the nothing you want."

– Bill Watterson

Bill was on to something. We all know, even at a young age, that we will die one day, after our life here has come to an end.

Kids don't really get it, although they may witness the passing of loved ones from time to time.

Some people contend that simply "doing nothing," is quite enjoyable. And yet, I can't help but wonder if we shouldn't be doing "something" every minute of every day.

So many self-help gurus and motivational types have much to say on the topic. They will tell us to get fit, get motivated, get involved, be happy, don't worry ...

Easier said than done, trust me.

It's fine when you're young or middle aged, when time is on your side. You have all the time and resources at your disposal to pursue health and wellness, do Tai Chi, meditate, get off-grid and go to the beach on any given weekend.

Fast-forward to the current state of Boomers like myself and the hourglass is running dry. Time is our enemy, our nemesis.

We've paid our dues and spent our lives working, providing, living up to our responsibilities and ensuring our families are taken care of. Maybe we had time to travel and enjoy frivolous times and frosty, tasty beverages.

For me, there's a shortage of well, everything – time, money, opportunity and resources.

My "bucket list" is shrinking. Even though I just dug out my passport from its hiding place, it's unlikely I'll be trekking to places unknown. I don't think a "trip of a lifetime" is in the cards.

My loving oldest daughter offered to take me on a trip anywhere my heart desires. But I had to decline, out of modesty, frugality and practicality.

Sure, a visit to a tropical island would definitely soothe this tired soul. But I worry that unforeseen delays, hotel disasters, missed buses, cartels and just general annoyances may turn the



Mark Pavilons

dream into a nightmare.

I don't want my adventure to disappear beneath the waves.

I suggested day trips across Ontario this summer, and perhaps a jaunt across one of the bridges connecting Canada to our U.S. neighbours. I have a list of restaurants to visit and some minor "wishes."

I've been rather self-absorbed for the past year or two, dwelling on my cancer journey. Okay, no one knows for sure when my train will leave the station, but it is inevitable. I don't think my family members have come to grips with my mortality. Despite facing this monster day in and day out, maybe I haven't quite grasped it, either.

I don't want to.

Some say our lives, and deaths, are somewhat predestined. When we were created, everything lined up and came into being. Our purpose was cemented into our DNA and our beings were let loose on the world, to witness, create, join, love, help, contribute and yes, enjoy doing something or nothing.

We were given free choice by the Almighty, free to dance beneath the stars, skip stones on every pond we encounter, and sit around the fire, talking about

what was, and what could be with our friends and loved ones. That may not sound very profound, but these were some of my fondest moments. Now, I cling to them like white on rice.

I've also taken to reflection, taking stock and judging my life. Flipping over those moss-covered rocks is not a pleasant task. But it helps create an interesting picture book.

More and more, I'm led to believe we are in fact, "God's handiwork," created to do good work, which has been prepared for us in advance.

Many of us talk about finishing the race. We are urged to put away our fear, as we are worth "more than many sparrows."

But here's the painful truth. As we count our days on our own personal calendar, we still sit around, wasting precious time.

They say once you get devastating health-related news, you shift your perspective and soak up every bit of sunshine. Perhaps. But we can't just run out into the streets dancing, looking for rainbows and climbing trees like teenagers. We have burdens – payment for the lifestyle we've chosen.

I go to work every day and try to find things to occupy my mind. I look for distractions. I can still laugh.

When I get home, there are chores waiting for me in the kitchen sink. We eat, clean up, make sure the kids are well fed and happy. We gather our doc-

uments for our income tax, make sure our appointments are scheduled, pay our bills, get our oil changes and then watch TV.

Not a great existence. And definitely not things on anyone's bucket list.

Yet we can't shirk our responsibilities just to indulge in frivolity, can we?

We are encouraged to rejoice, pray and give thanks in all circumstances.

Can we do this easily, in the face of rising grocery prices, a hike in mortgage rates, and awaiting test results?

Some of us choose to ignore the goings-on in this troubled world. Conflict, war, death, disease, hunger, political chaos, and uncertainty. Surely, the worst of times are upon us.

Whether our fate lies in the Second Coming, or a large asteroid on a collision course, we need to be reminded of the urgency of our existence.

But in our rather twisted, materialistic society, how do we set aside sufficient time and resources to ponder the profound? How do we manage our bucket lists while, at the same time, live life to the fullest, without burden, stress or tension?

I can't dwell on the end, nor can I wear a happy face every minute of every day. I can't commune with my deity every spare second.

And yet, simply enduring "wasted days and wasted nights" is not an option.

Any suggestions?

Letter to the Editor

MP remains committed to constituents

I am deeply grateful to the residents of King–Vaughan for the trust they have placed in me, first in 2021, and again in 2025, to represent them as a Conservative Member of Parliament.

Earning that trust is a responsibility I take seriously. The people of this community made a clear choice at the ballot box, and I will always remain committed to upholding that choice with integrity and accountability. I was elected as a Conservative, and I will remain a Conservative.

Public service must always be grounded in accountability to the people we serve. The trust of the community will always outweigh any personal or political gain. That is the standard I hold myself to, and the promise I intend to keep.

My duty is, and always will be, to the residents of King–Vaughan. I took an oath to serve with loyalty and I will continue to stand by the principles I was elected on to represent our community with honesty, consistency, and respect for the mandate I have been given.

I am proud to serve you, and I will not take that responsibility lightly.

Anna Roberts
MP King–Vaughan

KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL

www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

Have world events impacted your summer travel plans?

a) Yes 25%

b) No 75%

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

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Are you cheering for the Toronto Raptors in the playoffs?

a) Yes
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!



Quote of the Week

"Becoming fearless ... is impossible. It's learning how to control your fear, and how to be free from it."

– Veronica Roth

Trivia Tidbits

The space between your eyebrows is called the gabella.

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Birds, insects are disappearing – that should worry us all

By David Suzuki

The Environment

Rachel Carson's 1962 book *Silent Spring* should have been a wakeup call to the world. It opened my eyes — and it's a big part of the reason I started questioning my career in genetics and decided to devote my life to environmental causes. It exposed the limitations of reductionist Western science and showed how our actions can create unintended consequences throughout interconnected natural systems.

Yet, it drew — and still draws — tremendous, often sexist, backlash from mainstream scientists, industry and media. It cast doubt on the wisdom of awarding someone like Paul Müller a Nobel Prize in 1948. The Swiss chemist had discovered DDT, a powerful insecticide credited with reducing the incidence of malaria. While its use on disease-carrying mosquitoes undeniable saved human lives, it also led to the deaths of millions of bald eagles, osprey, pelicans and other birds.

Part of the problem, as Carson reported, is that studying phenomena in labs, flasks and growth chambers doesn't mimic real world conditions, where wind and rain carry molecules into air, soil and waterways, causing effects that can take months or years to show up, such as weakened eggshells.

Powerful insecticides don't just kill target insects and, as geneticists know, the "pests" targeted can mutate over time to resist pesticides. Scientists also discovered another important factor: biomagnification. This occurs when toxins become increasingly concentrated throughout the food chain. When birds, bats, lizards and other animals eat insects exposed to chemical poisons, the pesticides accumulate in them and then

in other animals, including humans, that eat the birds and other creatures.

What have we learned in the 64 years since *Silent Spring* was published? Apparently not much. Bird populations are declining catastrophically, as are insects. Scientists point to widespread insecticide use and a heating climate as likely factors.

A recent study in the journal *Science* analyzed 261 bird species in North America and found that half "showed significant declines from 1987 to 2021, and a quarter showed accelerating declines. Hotspots of accelerating abundance decline were located in regions with high-intensity agriculture (high cropland area, fertilizer use, or pesticide use)."

A 2019 study by Georgetown University ornithologist and dean Peter P. Marra and other scientists found bird numbers in the United States and Canada fell by 2.9 billion, or 29 per cent, since 1970. Another study found bird declines were prevalent among those that ate insects — which is most of them — whereas some that don't rely on insects increased in number. The *Science* study found many bird species living in forests were stable or increasing.

Marra, who specializes in bird populations, said the study illustrates the folly of society's focus on constant economic growth.

"The American dream turns into the American nightmare as we start to look at what we're doing to biodiversity and systems that we depend on as humans," he told the *New York Times*.

Besides insect declines, driven largely by pesticide use, birds face numerous

other threats, including habitat loss, collisions with building windows and predation by cats.

When are we going to realize everything is connected? Insecticides are a crazy way to "control" pests. Insects are the most numerous, diverse, abundant and therefore important group of terrestrial animals on the planet. They not only feed a huge number of species — from fish, frogs, reptiles and mammals to birds and even plants — they are also critical for pollination and food production. And they control many other insects by predation.

We think spraying powerful insecticides to eliminate a tiny fraction that are "pests" to us (mosquitoes, fleas, potato beetles or cotton borers) is sound management. It's a bit like eliminating murder in a city by killing everybody.

A world without insects and birds

is unimaginable. Every terrestrial ecosystem would collapse without insects and countless species would go extinct.

We've reached a point where the primary life form the planet could do without is us. A world without humans would be covered in forests and greenery and filled with diverse, abundant species. That's only because we as a species have become too numerous, technologically powerful and demanding to be a benign rather than negative force on this fragile planet. We must remember that we are part of nature before we destroy everything that keeps us alive and healthy.

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki Foundation Senior Writer and Editor Ian Hanington. Learn more at david Suzuki.org.

Forum on community safety

Is our community getting more dangerous, or does it just feel that way?

York Regional Police is hosting a non-partisan Community Safety Forum: Facts Over Fear, Join them on Wednesday, April 29.

In a region of 1.25 million residents and 1,600 officers, we cannot be "passive passengers." Safety is a partnership we navigate together.

The evening includes a keynote briefing: Localized crime data from York Regional Police. A frontline panel features a dialogue with Crime Stoppers, Victim Services, and more.

It will be held at the Newmarket Community Centre, 200 Doug Duncan Dr., Newmarket

Admission is free, but seating is limited. Register here: <https://forms.gle/8Em3QVRW4jM8S84F6>

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King City Lions Club

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TEXAS HOLD'EM CHARITY POKER TOURNAMENT

Friday, May 8th, 2026

King City Arena, upstairs in the Gord Orr community hall

Dinner & Beverages: 6:30pm Poker Games & Draws: 7:30pm

Age requirement 19+ \$120 per person

DINNER INCLUDED ~ RAFFLE PRIZES

For tickets, please call or text Lion Rob Payne
at (647) 338-1447

Why planting native on the ORM is about more than flowers

By Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation

At first glance, planting native species in your garden might sound like an environmental checkbox, good for pollinators, good for the planet, and good for wildlife. But on the Oak Ridges Moraine, a landscape shaped by glaciers and defined by its rolling hills, aquifers, and forests, the story is far more interesting than that.

Here, planting native isn't just about gardening. It's an act of innovative design and quiet repair.

For decades, suburban development and manicured landscaping have unintentionally chipped away at the Moraine's natural systems. Perfectly trimmed lawns and non-native orna-

mental plants might look neat, but they leave little room for the complex web of relationships that once flourished here. Native plants are not simply alternatives, they are infrastructure. They anchor soil, filter water, and knit together habitat corridors that animals and pollinators rely on to survive.

And yet, the real magic is something you don't often hear in a typical native plant pitch.

A garden planted with native species doesn't just support biodiversity; it invites a dynamic feature back into a landscape which has been overly controlled. Instead of a yard that demands constant intervention, watering, fertilizing and spraying, native plantings lean toward self-sufficiency. They don't just tolerate local soil and climate; they



evolved in them. That means less water, chemicals, and mowing.

When you plant species that belong here, you begin to see seasonal rhythms in a new way. A patch of milkweed are not just plants; it becomes a nursery for the endangered Monarch Butterfly. A native shrub isn't just greenery; it becomes a refuge for birds. And what may look like an untidy patch in early spring often becomes a living corridor long before the end of spring, alive with movement, sound and life.

Native gardens also challenge dated expectations of beauty. Instead of the dated, perfectly symmetrical beds and rigid design, they invite a more natural rhythm, layers of texture, shifting colours through the seasons, and a living quality that changes year to year.

There's also a quiet resilience at work. In a time of unpredictable weather, intense rain events, dry spells, shifting seasons, plants that evolved here are better equipped to cope. That resilience extends outward: stronger roots hold soil in place during storms, and diverse plantings help slow and absorb runoff before it reaches creeks and wetlands.

On the Oak Ridges Moraine, where groundwater recharge feeds streams and wetlands far beyond your backyard, that matters. Every garden becomes part of a larger system.

Perhaps the most surprising outcome isn't ecological at all, it's personal. Many gardeners report that once they shift away from conventional lawns, their relationship with their land changes. They start noticing the bumblebees, the birds, and the butterflies moving through their gardens. They begin to see their yard less as dull

and controlled and more as a diverse, shared space, one shared with some pretty amazing creatures!

For those curious to see what this looks like in practice, an upcoming talk offers the perfect starting point. On Sunday April 12 from 1:30-3 p.m., renowned horticulturist and native plant advocate Sean James will present "Nifty Native Plants Too," at the Link at 20849 Dalton Rd, Georgina.

This will be a lively and practical session that goes beyond the usual plant lists to showcase adaptable, beautiful, and often overlooked native species for local gardens. Whether you're just beginning your garden, or looking to deepen your approach, the talk promises fresh ideas, real-world insight, and a reminder that native gardening can be as creative as it is ecological. To register for this event, please visit oakridgesmoraine.org/workshops-and-events.

So, the next time you look at your yard, consider what it could be doing beyond looking tidy, because on the Oak Ridges Moraine, a garden can be more than decoration. It can be a diversity of life. It can be protection. It can be part of the living fabric that makes this landscape so remarkable.

And the best part? The work begins with a single plant.

The Oak Ridges Moraine isn't just a scenic ridge – it's a vital natural lifeline. For more than 25 years, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust, a registered charity, has been protecting ecologically important lands, preserving wildlife habitats, clean water, and thriving forests for generations to come. Learn more at www.oakridgesmoraine.org.

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Tuesday, April 28

Backyard Birds

7:30 pm (doors open at 7:00 pm)

"20 Things You Didn't Know About Backyard Birds", presented by international birder and naturalist, Kristen Martyn.

Schomberg Community Hall
325 Main Street, Schomberg

Schomberg Horticultural Society

FREE to members. Guests are welcome, \$ 5.00 at the door. Flower show, refreshments, door prizes.



ENE King 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, April 16 to Wednesday, April 22

THURS 16TH	FRI 17TH	SAT 18TH	SUN 19TH	MON 20TH	TUES 21ST	WED 22ND
Risk of T'Storm High 21C° Low 12C° ~5mm Wind SW 14k	Sun/Clouds High 18C° Low 9C° - Wind N 10k	A Few Showers High 15C° Low 5C° 2-4mm Wind SE 18k	Wet Snow High 5C° Low -3C° <1cm Wind W 27k	Sun/Clouds High 2C° Low -3C° - Wind NW 22k	Mainly Sunny High 5C° Low 0C° - Wind NW 28k	Chance of Shower High 10C° Low 4C° ~1mm Wind W 15k



The King Weekly Sentinel

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Local firefighters in the spotlight at appreciation event

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

The efforts of King’s brave men and women, who make up King Fire and Emergency Services, were recognized last week at the annual appreciation dinner.

Several dignitaries were on hand to offer their praise and support for the efforts of the local men and women who serve.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini noted they “exemplify courage and an unwavering commitment to our community.”

“As firefighters, you serve as the backbone to King Township’s emergency response. You are the ones who always answer the call and in the face of danger you respond with the ultimate courage, determination, compassion and empathy.

“You are the everyday heroes of King, giving your time, energy and risking your personal safety to protect our families, homes and our community.”

He pointed out they are more than first responders – they are mentors, educators, family members and neighbours.

“You keep King safe through your ability to respond in a crisis and through prevention, education and community leadership. Your tireless efforts and commitment to making life better in King inspires all of us to show up for each other.

“Your service is a testament of the relentless spirit that drives King and

makes our community a truly spectacular place to live. King is a safer place because of your continued duty, trust and honour.”

King–Vaughan MP Anna Roberts acknowledged the exceptional service and sacrifice of our local firefighters.

“Every call answered, every life protected, and every act of courage reflects their deep commitment to our community. Thank you for all that you do to keep King Township safe,” she said.

King–Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce helped pass out the awards.

“Honouring the women and men of King Fire, who make our community proud,” he said. “We thank them and their families for living out their new motto each and every day: One Service, One mission – a power concept of unity right now as Canadians that we have to stick together – be a one united force. We are one township and one mission.”

“I could not be more proud of the firefighters of King Fire & Emergency Services. The professionalism, sacrifice, and commitment they show – often while balancing full family lives and full-time employment – speaks volumes about their dedication to this community. Awards nights like this are one small but important way to recognize the countless hours, quiet sacrifices, and unwavering service our firefighters give to the residents of King Township every single day. Continued community support – whether through simple recognition, attending events, or supporting fire service initiatives – goes a long

way in ensuring our firefighters know their efforts truly matter,” said Fire Chief Courtney Allen.

The firefighters were given federal and provincial awards for years of service.

Earning their 5-year pins were Mitchell Barker, Brian Richardson, Eric Manganelli, Selene Mallone and Michael Alberga.

Getting the nod for 10 years were Heather Watson, Carmine Curcio, Daniel Middleton, Thomas Fortin, Colin Young, Andrew Zacchigna.

Taking a bow for 15 years of service were Dan Malone, Neal Nicholas, Roberto Bruno and Shawn Burns.

Making a milestone 20 years were

Dan Cullen, Yvette McHugh.

Reaching the quarter-century mark were Nairn Robertson, Kelly MacGregor and David Boyd (Provincial Award).

“I’m grateful for the opportunity to serve our community alongside such a dedicated team,” Boyd said. “I’m also thankful for the support of my family over the years, and fortunate to have a wonderful partner working by my side. I’ve had the benefit of learning from many mentors, leaders, and teachers, and carry their lessons with me every day.”

The 35-year recognition went to Neil Wootton and former Chief James Wall received his for an unprecedented 40 years.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that on behalf of Anthony Di Battista, an application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario for an Act to revive King Square Holdings Inc.

The application may be considered by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs. Any person who has an interest in the application and who wishes to make submissions, for or against the application, to the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs should notify, in writing, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Building, Queen’s Park, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A2. Dated at Maple, Ontario, this 5th day of March 2026.

Anthony Di Battista

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Council amends its fence bylaw, allowing higher limits

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Fences in King can now rise to six feet in height.

Council recently approved an amendment to the Township's Fence By-law to increase the maximum permitted height of front yard fences of open type construction (open-concept) on lots zoned Estate Residential and Rural Residential from 1.22 metres (4 feet) to 1.83 metres (6 feet).

The proposed amendment is supported by a jurisdictional review of comparable municipalities and reflects evolving land use patterns and community expectations within the Township.

Staff noted it's important to stress that this change would not be applicable to every property in King only those zoned Estate or Rural Residential.

In January, council directed staff

to undertake a review of the as it relates to front yard fencing on Estate and Rural Residential lots within the Township. This direction was provided in response to ongoing concerns and requests from property owners regarding the appropriateness of the existing front yard fence height restrictions in these zones.

The current bylaw was approved by Council in 2012 and established maximum permitted fence heights for front yards in Residential and Rural Residential Zones. Under the existing provisions, front yard fences are limited to a maximum height of 1.22 metres (4 feet) for open-concept and 0.92 metres (3 feet) for closed/solid type fences. At the time of adoption, these standards were intended to balance aesthetic considerations, neighbourhood character, and sightline safety. Closed/solid fencing in a Front or Exterior Side yard poses



a significant risk of obstructing traffic sightlines and detracts from the viability or effectiveness of traffic signs on public streets.

Open-concept fences are defined as a fence constructed so that at least one third of its vertical surface area is open, enabling motorists and pedestrians to have a clear view through such fence. Closed or solid fencing is defined as a fence constructed of solid materials or a hedge which limits the ability of motorists and pedestrians to see through such fence.

Since the enactment of the bylaw, development patterns, lot sizes, and community expectations within Estate and Rural Residential Zones areas have evolved. Larger lot frontages, increased traffic volumes on rural roadways, and requests for enhanced property delineation have prompted staff to review whether the current height restrictions remain appropriate and align with comparable municipalities.

Staff found that several comparable municipalities permit increased front yard fence heights where fences are set

back from public roadways, recognizing reduced impacts on sightlines and public safety.

Scanning fence bylaws for the municipalities of Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Newmarket, Richmond Hill, and Vaughan, the review focused on permitted front yard fence heights applicable to lots within Estate and Rural Residential Zones, particularly where proximity to public roadways is a consideration.

Based on their findings, Bylaw Services recommended an amendment to the Township's bylaw.

This approach maintains sightline safety while offering greater flexibility and consistency with comparable municipalities.

This approach maintains public safety and sightline considerations while providing greater flexibility to property owners and aligning the Township's regulations with contemporary standards and practices. Approval of the proposed amendment will modernize the Fence Bylaw and ensure it continues to reflect the character and needs of the Township.

Apply now for York's Summer Company

Are you a student enrolled in a secondary or post-secondary institution and thought about launching your own business over the summer?

Each summer, in partnership with the Government of Ontario, the York Small Business Enterprise Centre administers its Summer Company program.

The program is designed to foster and develop the entrepreneurial spirit in students between the ages of 15 to 29, and who are registered to return to school in the following school year. All that's required is a good idea, commitment and hard work.

Students receive expert coaching and entrepreneurship guidance; company exposure opportunities through program showcases, and mentorship to develop and launch a summer business.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Spaces may fill before the official deadline, so we encourage early submission. Book a free consultation with us if you need help in refining your business idea. The deadline is April 30.

If you have any questions about the Summer Company program, please contact them at ysbec@york.ca or fill out the general inquiry form.

The program period runs May 23 through Aug. 21.

Participants can expect 1 to 2 scheduled activities per week, such as workshops, showcases, or mentorship sessions, throughout the program.

Before summer holidays: Activities typically take place on weekends or weekday evenings. During summer holidays: Activities are held during daytime hours.

Basic eligibility criteria includes that students attend high school, college or university, live in York Region, are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, and are between 15 and 29. They cannot already run a business and are not working at another job or going to school for more than 12 hours per week. They also must be a student returning to school in the fall of 2026 (full-time, part-time, homeschooling, e-learning, distance learning, apprenticeships, trade schools, etc.).

Selected candidates will be invited for an interview within two weeks of submitting their completed business plan and cash flow documents.

Applications close on April 30 and organizers recommend applying early, as spots are limited and accepted on a rolling basis. Spaces may fill before the deadline.



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KING Pottageville Mosquito Control Program
Notice of Application of Larvicide for Mosquito Control

Between **April 1st and May 31st, 2026**, G.D.G. Canada Inc will be applying a biological larvicide by air and ground to stagnant water to control larval mosquitoes that impact on the residents of Pottageville. The applications are weather dependent.

Specifically, the sites to be treated lie within the area bounded to the North by Highway 9, to the East by Highway 400, to the South by 18th side road, and to the West by 8th Concession road.

The program will use multiple applications of the biological larvicides **VectoBac 200G** (granular, PCP#18158) or **My-Crobe 200G** (granular, PCP#34628) or **Aquabac 200G** (granular, PCP#26863) and **VectoBac 1200L** (liquid, PCP#21062) or **My-Crobe XT** (liquid, PCP#34633) or **Aquabac XT** (liquid, PCP#26860). The granular will be applied by helicopter or drone and the liquid by backpack sprayers.

The treatment area map and details of the program may be accessed online at king.ca/mosquito.

For more information, call ServiceKing at 905-833-5321 or email ServiceKING@king.ca.

For further information regarding the larvicide application email GDG at info.mosquito@gdg.ca or toll free at 1-877-227-0552.

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Condo building proposal in King City under staff review

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

Township staff are reviewing a proposal for a six-storey condo building in King City.

Details were provided at a public planning meeting recently.

The site consists of two properties located on the south side of Clearview Crescent, between Keele Street and Patricia Drive, in King City. The property measures .27 hectares and has approximately 43 metres of frontage on to Keele Street, approximately 42 metres of frontage on to Clearview Crescent and approximately 42 metres frontage on to Patricia Drive. The site is located south of the King Heights mixed-use development and is located approximately 170 metres north of the King City GO Station.

The subject site currently supports two single detached dwellings which are proposed to be removed.

The applicants want to build a 6-storey residential condominium apart-

ment building containing 41 dwelling units, along with 41 parking spaces. The proposed building would include a mix of studio apartments and 1 to 3-bedroom units.

A total of 13 parking spaces would be located within a ground-level garage inside the building, while the remaining 28 parking spaces would be located at grade. A single vehicular driveway access is proposed from Patricia Drive.

Zoning changes are needed to support the new development.

The subject site is located within the Village boundary for King City which is identified as a Settlement Area by the Provincial Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (ORMCP). Under the ORMCP, Settlement Areas are encouraged to continue to develop for a range of uses in accordance with the Township Official Plan, including transit supportive densities through intensification and re-development within existing urban areas while minimizing im-

pacts on natural heritage and hydrological features.

The Transit Station Area policies provide for buildings heights of between two to four storeys with greater heights up to 6 storeys being permitted when conformity with the criteria noted above is demonstrated.

The subject site is zoned residential, which currently permits only single detached dwellings. The by-law amendment would provide for apartment dwellings together with the site-specific provisions, which include minimum lot area and setbacks.

The subject Application is currently undergoing a planning review together with anticipated technical responses from internal departments and external agencies with respect to the details of the proposal. The primary planning and land use matters being considered include:

Appropriateness of the proposed development standards.

Building height, massing, density

and FSI.

Visual and shadowing impacts.

Building tiering, step backs and setbacks.

Public realm and urban design considerations.

Compatibility with adjacent properties.

Outdoor amenity area.

Traffic and parking considerations.

Availability of sanitary and water servicing capacity and allocation.

Staff will continue to process the Application and identify planning and land use comments with the Applicant, including comments provided by the public and Council, and comments raised through the technical review of the Applications by Township departments and external agencies. Based on these comments, the Applicant will have an opportunity to address the issues and comments presented. A Staff report will be brought forward to Council at a later date with recommendations in regard to a decision on the Applications.

York-based robotics team represents Canada in May

A team from York of seven students in Grades 7 and 8 will represent Canada at an international robotics competition in Mexico in May.

The team has a robot capable of a rare perfect score in the robot game.

These same students have also created, tested, marketed and are now selling a product to tackle decreasing math scores in Ontario and worldwide.

This is the 4th year in a row that Équipe Francobotique has been selected to represent Canada at an international robotics competition.

Composed of 7 students in Grades 6 and 8, and mentored by 3 high school students in Grades 10 and 11, Équipe Francobotique will travel to Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico from May 26 to 31 to compete against over 90 champion teams from 30 different countries at the Mexico International FLL Open Championship.

Last year, this team achieved a very rare perfect score in the robot game at the International FLL Championships held in Worcester, Massachusetts and won the coveted 1st Place Robot Performance Award.



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Arts & Entertainment

Iconic Sharon, Lois and Bram singer reminiscences

By Brock Weir

As she headed into a Toronto TV studio in the early morning hours to record a promotion for an upcoming music event in the city, Sharon Hampson had an encounter with a well-wisher that remains as vivid today as ever before.

It was just after 7 a.m., and Hampson was greeted by a fan with tears in her eyes.

Despite having to get to work that morning, the fan just knew she had to make a stop along the way to say thanks for all Hampson, and her musical partners Bram Morrison and the late Lois Lilienstein, had brought into her life.

"I said to her, 'It's okay to get weepy because you're remembering childhood memories, and that's only good,'" says Hampson, one third of the iconic Canadian music trio, Sharon, Lois and Bram. "I'm grateful when people get teary when they meet me because I know they're thinking back to times that were good for them. But, it's not always like that, there are some people for whom we were a rescue, and I'm very aware of that as well."

Whether their music brought joy, an escape, or a little bit of both, the music of Sharon, Lois, and Bram is an inextricable part of the lives of generations of Canadians.

The public had a chance to meet Hampson, along with her daughter Randi and grandson Ethan, March 21 at an event sponsored by the Aurora Public Library and Town of Aurora.

Sharon, joined by Randi and Ethan, sat down with Andrew Applebaum of the Toronto Legends podcast with reminiscences, tales and song.

"Lois used to come into my kindergarten class growing up, so the chance to talk to Sharon for the Toronto Legends podcast was a no-brainer," he says. "Sharon was nice enough to do (the podcast), we had a great time, and fast-forward to now we're doing live events where I share stories with these personalities for the bigger audience."

"So many people of my generation really resonate with the whole Sharon, Lois and Bram story."

The Sharon, Lois and Bram story began in 1978.

Hampson tells The Auran they had no inkling that when they came together to make that first record they were starting a completely new career trajectory, but what was clear from the outset was the singers shared "three fundamental goals: really good music, don't cheap out because it's for the kids, and make sure it's for the children and the family."

"Take the music into your heart so you have it forever"

Those fundamentals, says Hampson, never changed – whether they worked as a trio, as Sharon & Bram after Lilienstein's passing, and now as a family act of Sharon, her daughter, and grandson.

"It just came out to us in a really natural way, to sing good songs, to engage the audience, to find physical ways to express ourselves so that they could also join in – we got better at doing that, we got more relaxed about it, but, I don't know, I think we had something unique to offer."

"She's not going to say it, but I can say it was like lightning in a bottle," Randi interjects. "They just really complemented each other and when they would do the three-part harmonies, there was just nothing, nothing like it at the time."

Randi grew up in a musical family. In addition to her musical mom, her late father, Joe, was a folk singer and often did musical arrangements for the band.

"My dad would be working on harmonies and he and my mom and I would sit at the piano together and run through tunes together, I would sit in the studio when they were recording and it was just really fun to be in the thick of that. I felt really lucky because we got to hang out in a recording studio or go to the Juno Awards."

"Or be the elephant at the Juno awards!" adds Sharon with a laugh, revealing perhaps a Polkaroo-level secret.

Sharon, Randi and Ethan came together formally as a family band during COVID.

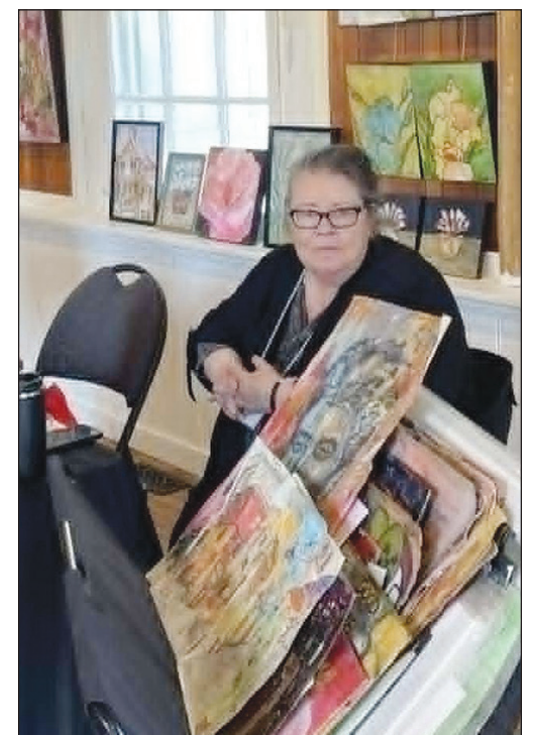
Sheltering in their bubble, they sat down for an impromptu living room concert one day and were astonished to find more than 10,000 viewers watching from around the world. It started off with a capella songs from the Sharon, Lois and Bram songbook before Ethan jumped in with a few chords, his brother Elijah adding some vocals, his dad Jim joining the fun, and it evolved from there.

"There has been a boom in the growth of community choirs, and I think there is a huge appetite among adults to sing and make music together," says Randi. "What you can do if you go to a Sharon, Lois and Bram singalong is a family singing together, making music together, and, for a lot of people, reconnecting with your child spirit. A lot of the people who come to the shows now grew up on the music and really want to be

transported back to the memories of a simpler time when they could just be carefree. Times are hard, so having a few minutes of respite from the reality of day-to-day life, I think helps to enable us to continue sharing the music."

This is a sentiment close to Sharon's heart.

"One of our goals was (for listeners) was to take the music into your heart so you have it forever, and I think that we accomplished that because we provided music that people could have access to," she says. "I think they saw real people on TV or on the stage. We were not characters."



ARTROAM King 2026 a success

Arts Society King presented the inaugural ARTROAM King 2026, involving 28 artists at four historic King buildings.

After more than two decades of artists opening their home studios to the public through Studio Tour King, ARTROAM King introduced a fresh, centralized format. By bringing all participating artists together in one location, visitors experienced the full event in a single stop – making it easier than ever to meet artists, browse their work, and enjoy the creative energy that defines King Township.

CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 264310 • Solution in Classifieds

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
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CLUES ACROSS

- Greek goddess of marriage
- Tropical American blue jay-like bird
- Abba __, Israeli politician
- Dark olive black
- Light, crinkled fabric
- Notre Dame has a golden one
- Leaked blood
- Confronted
- Negligible amount
- Facilitated
- Hill or rocky peak
- Minneapolis suburb
- Songs to one's beloved
- Brake horsepower
- Angry
- Children's game
- Spelling is a type of one
- Obtained in return for labor
- Indicates center
- Chinese dynasty
- Old World

CLUES DOWN

- Buffaloes
- Slang for time off
- Fabric
- Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- Defunct regional economic organization
- Philly footballers
- Female sibling
- Peter Griffin's daughter
- Digital audiotape
- Insecticide
- Scientific instrument
- Pages may be dog-__
- Israeli city __ Aviv
- Type of sword
- Middle Eastern military title
- Wise individuals
- French Polynesian island Bora __
- Popular shoe type
- One of 50
- Divulge a secret
- Dish of cooked meat mixed with potatoes

- Actress Zellweger
- Romanian city
- Greek cupbearer of the Gods
- Ancient Syrian city
- Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
- Range of mountains
- One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- Spoke
- City in Georgia
- Theatrical
- CNN's founder
- Icelandic poems
- Bjorn __, tennis player
- Bowfin genus
- One point north of northeast
- Political divisions in ancient Greece
23. Electroencephalograph
- Cool!
- Male parent
- Where some gymnasts work
- Capital of Vietnam

- Sailboats
- Shelter (Scottish)
- Completed
- Discharge
- Arrest
- Partner to cheese
- Coffee receptacle
- Stagnate
- Satisfies
- Snakelike fish
- Consume food
- Type of school
- Erase
- Inform
- Girl's given name
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- Every one of two or more things
- Northern India city
- Seventeenth stars in a constellation
- Weapon
- Amounts of time
- Isodor __, American Nobel physicist
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Witness

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

Mother's Day tea an 'Afternoon of Wonder' with Hope House

By Brock Weir

Hope House Hospice will host its second-annual High Tea on Sunday, May 3, just in time to get a head-start on Mother's Day.

Built around the theme of "Step into an Afternoon of Wonder," this year's event, which will take place at Newmarket's Old Town Hall, will feature traditional tea fare, including decadent pastries, finger sandwiches and scones prepared by Million Mouthfuls Catering, live entertainment, a silent auction and raffles, and more, with all proceeds benefiting compassionate care in Aurora and King.

Specifically, ticket sales will support the In-Home Visiting Hospice Volunteer Program coordinated by the Aurora-based community hospice, which provides specialized, compassionate support to individuals in the comforts of their own home.

"This is a magical afternoon you won't want to miss," says Heidi Bonner, Executive Director of Hope House. "We invite everyone to don their finest headwear, vintage hat or fascinator, and join in the fun. This event is a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together to support our programs, and it makes a great gift idea for Mother's Day."

Tickets are \$100 per person and all proceeds will stay within the community.

Last year's event was a sell-out well in advance and Hope House's Director of Development, Rhonda Flanagan, hopes support will be just as strong in its second year.

"This year's event is aimed at bringing some awareness as well as raising funds to support our hospice programs in the community and [focusing on] our in-home visiting hospice volunteer program. We could use more volunteers for the program, but in addition to that, there's always the need for additional funding," says Flanagan. "Our in-home visiting volunteer provides non-medical, emotional and social support for individuals with life-limiting illness and their families. What we have available is trained volunteers that go into people's homes, they provide companionship, some caregiver respite, and some practical help with things like light chores, reading and that type of thing for two to four hours a week, always at

no cost, and these volunteers are actually quite essential in helping our clients to maintain their quality of life while staying in their homes."

People always prefer to stay in their own homes if care is needed, and as Hope House is a community hospice rather than a residential hospice, all of their programs are out in the community supporting people where they are.

"The idea is to be there for them for their whole journey and that's what these volunteers allow us to do. We're there for people from the moment of diagnosis with their life-threatening illness, as well as for people who care for them – and we're there afterwards for people that are bereaved," says Flanagan.

"We have a lot of people asking for a match in this area, and it's difficult sometimes to get the word out and have people realize that this is an opportunity to volunteer. We're looking for people from every background too because oftentimes we have people who request that they would like someone with a specific language, for example. The more that we can get this information out, then hopefully the more that we can attract more volunteers and be able to provide the supports that people are requesting from us."

May's High Tea is an afternoon "celebrating the women in our lives as well as those we cherish in our memories," and it's also a chance to "rally around our hospice programs and to celebrate the impactful work of Hope House in the community."

"Every ticket sold, every donation made impacts our ability to provide these essential services out in the community," says Flanagan. "The event itself is just a fun-filled afternoon where people can come out, gather your girlfriends, your moms, your daughters, your aunts, your besties and join us to take this opportunity to kick back, relax, and have a little fun."

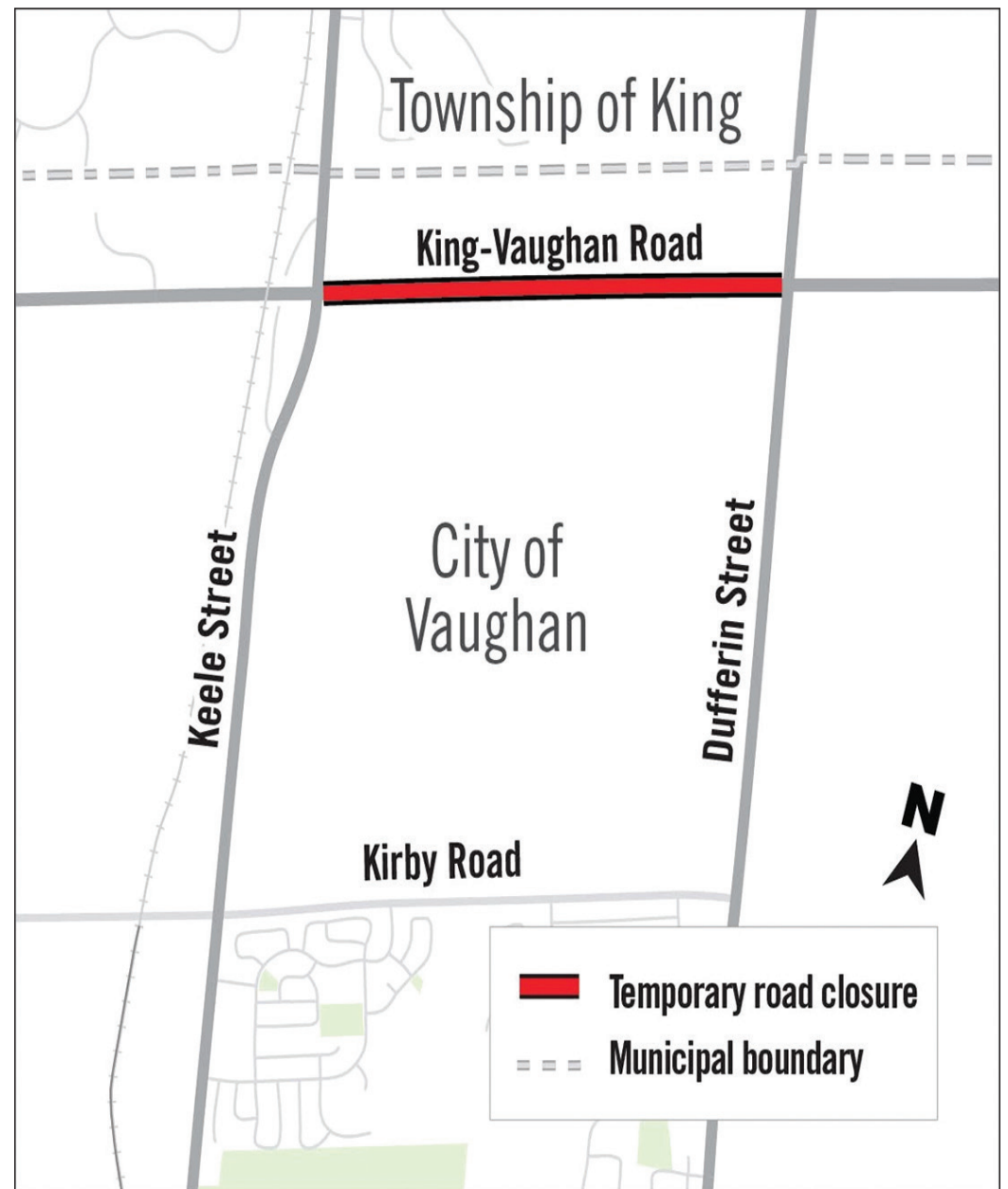
And, she adds, the fellas are welcome, too!

"Oftentimes, programs or events like this, awareness is often the first step towards support. So, many people are unaware of the resources that are actually available to them when they are dealing with a life-threatening illness or during a time of grief. In addition to our in-home visiting programs, we also

offer programs for all ages. We have our Children's HUUG program, Help Us Understand Grief, which people often don't know or realize, we have caregiver support programs, we have wellness programs that are ongoing, monthly. People are unaware of the resources that are available to them in their own communities. All of our programs are always free of charge. If this helps us get that information out there, then we've achieved our goal.

"We really encourage people to come out to don their finest hats or their fascinators and join us. There's everything from door prizes to delectable treats, and it's just, it's a great gift, I think, for Mother's Day. I know a number of people are bringing their moms and we would love them to come out and join us."

For more information, including tickets, visit hopehousehospice.com/hightea.



Upcoming road closure

King-Vaughan Road, between Keele Street and Dufferin Street in the City of Vaughan, will be temporarily closed on Sunday, April 19 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for Alectra Utilities to facilitate hydro pole installations. This work is being led by Alectra Utilities as part of their pole installation project in the area. All travellers will need to detour around the closure. Signs will be in place to guide travellers. Learn more: york.ca/RoadClosures

AMICA

AURORA PROMENADE



4 Ways Amica Aurora Promenade Is Elevating Senior Living In Aurora

Imagine sipping coffee in the sun-filled atrium, looking forward to a fresh morning stroll, participating in an engaging workshop with friends, dropping by the spa and then enjoying dinner prepared by a Red Seal-certified chef. Discerning seniors have all this and more at Amica Aurora Promenade.

1. Premium amenities, design and location

Amica Aurora Promenade has it all, with refined amenities such as a solarium, private dining room, fitness centre, home theatre, hair salon and spa, gardens and multiple terraces, so you don't need to leave the residence to host a family celebration, exercise, or meet a friend for dessert—the possibilities are endless. With tasteful décor in colours inspired by the natural stone and lush greenery of the region, the residence features elegant-yet-accessible design. "You can't beat the location, because you have access to all the downtown shops and restaurants, and it's steps from the Aurora Town Centre," says General Manager Meghan Solimine.

2. Staying connected and empowered

Each day, you'll have the opportunity to live on your own terms. You can spend time with like-minded peers during enriching activities such as walks, wine tastings, fitness classes, holiday celebrations, cultural events, wellness seminars, excursions with scheduled transportation and more. The building is also designed with many social spaces that encourage you to sit and chat with friends. Whatever your perfect balance is between doing things independently and being social, you can find it at Amica Aurora Promenade.

3. Exceptional dining

Choose from a menu of delicious, balanced meals prepared daily by our culinary team using fresh local ingredients. Our talented Chef creates seasonal rotating menus, for every day and special events, to suit every palate. Dietitian-approved and customized to residents' diets, each dish accommodates seniors' special nutritional needs, including puréed options for a smoother dining experience. Our flexible dining options also allow you to eat wherever you'd like, whether it's in the dining room, sun-filled atrium, our bistro, or from the comfort of your own suite.

4. Best-in-class care

We offer lifestyle options of Independent Living, Assisted Living and Memory Care at Amica Aurora Promenade. "That continuum and level of care is unique, and it means you don't have to move if your needs change," says Solimine. Even with different care needs, couples can continue to live together.

As part of our Memory Care program, residents live on a secure floor with a dedicated Memory Care Coordinator. Our certified team delivers specialized programming to improve cognitive function and foster a sense of purpose.

No matter which lifestyle residents live in, they receive professional, personalized care delivered through a Personalized Wellness Plan. As their needs change, so too does our care. This, along with 24/7 on-site nurses, offer peace of mind for residents and loved ones.



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amica.ca/aurorapromenade
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At Margaret Bahen Hospice and Doane House Hospice, we honour the vital role of Seniors within our community. Whether navigating the challenges of a life-limiting illness, grieving the loss of a loved one, or serving as dedicated Volunteers, Seniors and their Families remain at the core of our mission.



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Ontario introduces legislation to hold school boards accountable

The Ontario government introduced the Putting Student Achievement First Act, 2026, to strengthen school board oversight and accountability and ensure more consistent learning experiences for students to prepare them for the jobs of tomorrow.

The proposed changes would move Ontario toward a more accountable, consistent and modern model of high-quality education that better serves students, families and educators across the province.

“Ontario’s education system must remain focused on its core responsibility: student success. In some school boards, that focus has been lost, and students are paying the price,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Education. “Ontario’s teachers and education workers are dedicated professionals who work tirelessly every day to support students, often under challenging circumstances. They deserve stable, accountable leadership that supports their work and puts learning first. If further action is required to protect students and reinforce respect for the professionals who teach them, we will not hesitate to act.”

Despite Ontario’s record investments in education, too many boards are facing financial mismanagement, weak governance and decision making that prioritizes politics over student outcomes. Since 2025, eight school boards have been placed under provincial supervision and the recent Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) results show that while there has been progress in reading, writing and math, there is still more work to be done.

Ontario is taking decisive action to put an end to ongoing governance breakdowns and financial mismanagement in English public and English Catholic district school boards by proposing changes that would clearly define roles, strengthen accountability and close the gaps that have allowed failures in oversight. Through the Putting Student Achievement First Act, 2026, the government is putting students first by proposing changes that would:

Limit trustee discretionary expenses and honoraria, standardize the number of elected trustees to a maximum of 12, require trustees to pay out-of-pocket for certain external organization membership fees and improve oversight over school board subsidiaries and their use

of public funds.

Equip English-language district school boards with qualified leadership by establishing two new roles: the Director of Education would become known as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who would be responsible for financial and operational oversight and required to have business qualifications; and a Chief Education Officer, who would be appointed by the CEO to focus on student achievement and required to hold pedagogical qualifications, including Ontario College of Teachers membership or equivalent.

Strengthen school board budget oversight and accountability by requiring the CEO to lead budget development, while referring budget matters to the Minister for decision when trustees are unable to reach an agreement and ensuring that the termination of the CEO requires Minister approval to help prevent reprisals and dismissals while they are carrying out their responsibilities.

Professionalize school board bargaining by designating the Council of Ontario Directors of Education as the central employer bargaining agency for English public and English Catholic boards to ensure collective bargaining is led by professional school board staff who have expertise in the board’s operational matters.

Set clear expectations for school board communications to ensure communications on official channels are focused on important day-to-day functions.

Mandate the use of ministry-approved learning resources in classrooms across the province to support greater consistency in delivering the new curriculum while making it easier for teachers to access high-quality materials, ensuring students have an equal chance to succeed no matter where they live.

Prepare students for postsecondary pursuits by introducing mandatory written exams on official exam days in Grades 9-12 and providing greater clarity on how students’ final marks are calculated.

Encourage improved engagement in the classroom by requiring attendance and participation to be part of the final mark for students in Grades 9-12, with attendance worth 15 per cent for Grades

9-10 and 10 per cent for Grades 11-12.

This proposed legislation builds on the government’s work to strengthen school board oversight and accountability to help ensure they deliver high-quality education, with every dollar spent focused on preparing students with practical skills for good-paying, stable careers.

Ontario is providing historic levels of education funding in 2025-26, with an investment of \$30.3 billion in Core Education Funding to focus key resources where they matter most: on student success.

The government is providing \$16.8 million over three years to support Associate Teachers with an honorarium, recognizing their role in mentoring teacher candidates and expanding

practicum opportunities.

On March 11, the Ontario government launched the Classroom Supplies Fund to provide elementary school homeroom teachers with direct access to \$750 in funding each school year for classroom supplies.

In November 2025, Ontario passed the Supporting Children and Students Act, 2025, which amended the Education Act to simplify, streamline and broaden the Minister of Education’s powers of oversight, including over school board finances, governance and program performance.

When school boards fail to meet their responsibilities, the government has not hesitated to act. Eight school boards are currently under supervision to address concerns.

Hope House Community Hospice is the Smile Cookie beneficiary

From April 27 to May 3, two Tim Hortons locations will donate 100 per cent of Smile Cookie sales to Hope House programs and services in the community.

Each freshly baked chocolate chunk cookie, decorated with a signature smile, represents more than just a sweet treat — it’s a simple way for King Township residents to support a meaningful local cause.

“The Smile Cookie campaign is our way of giving back to the community in which we do business,” says Tim Hortons restaurant owner Rita Mizzone. “It’s an exciting event powered by our fabulous team and the thousands of guests who said yes to a cookie with a cause.”

“We’re incredibly grateful to Tim Hortons and the Mizzone Family for choosing to support Hope House Community Hospice,” said Heidi Bonner, Hope House Executive Director. “The Smile Cookie campaign shows how small acts — like buying a cookie — can make a big difference in supporting those in our community facing a life-threatening illness, their caregivers, and those who are bereaved.”

Funds raised through the 2026 Smile Cookie Campaign will enable Hope House to extend its outreach into the King community, offering hospice/wellness programs and bereavement services to residents here.

Since its inception, the Smile Cookie campaign has raised millions of dollars for charities and community groups across Canada, demonstrating the power of collective action and community generosity.

How you can help – Visit the Hope House website at www.hopehousehospice.com/smile-cookies to:

Volunteer. Gather your friends and family and sign up for a shift at either the Nobleton or King City store locations.

Purchase a bulk order for your workplace, school, family or friends by filling in the order form on our website.

Come into the Tim Hortons restaurant from April 27 through May 3 and buy often!

Hope House Community Hospice is dedicated to providing care, comfort, and support to individuals and their loved ones facing life-limiting illnesses in York Region. Through the support of events like the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign, they continue to offer compassionate and specialized care and dignity to our community.

Answer the call.

Volunteer with Ontario Corps.

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ontario.ca/OntarioCorps

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Roy Wright: A legend's life on the curling sheets

By Shellee Morning
with Jack Campbell
King Curling Club

Roy Wright, a long time curler who lives Caledon, is also very well known in the King Township farming community, has thrown rocks for nearly 60 years. At 86 years young, Wright who has made the tough decision to retire, stands as a remarkable symbol of dedication, sportsmanship, and love for the game of curling.

Wright, a dedicated and lifelong dairy farmer in Caledon who back in the day started before 5 a.m. has built an empire from hard work, resilience and pride. With his brother Keith and nephew Ryan the Wright family have worked nearly 1,000 acres of corn, soybeans and hay crop as well as operating a very up-to-date robotic milking system of approximately 55 head of cattle.

Wright is very much involved on the front lines of field work, hay production, seeding and fall grain harvest. In the farming off-season, Wright can be found up to his elbows tearing apart and re-building with major repairs to combines and tractors. Along with field crops, Roy has a special passion for the family vegetable garden, growing varieties of squash, potatoes and tomatoes. Over one acre of sweet corn is fresh-picked daily and made available to the public at a roadside stand.

Nowadays, Roy's nephew Ryan does most of the work where both of them can sleep in until a more respectable hour. And, in between all of that, Wright still finds the time to curl a couple times a week.

Wright recalls he began curling around the age of 25-26 years old, and has driven from rink to rink over the past 6 decades. He has graced the ice with sharp strategy and an unwavering passion that has inspired teammates and generations of curlers that followed. He is a man of quiet patience with precision skills of play making and execution. He has shown that excellence is not defined by age, but by commitment and heart.

He was a member of the Woodbridge Board of Trade curling club before joining the Nobleton Curling Club for several years then he joined (the current) King Curling Club that opened in 2011. Through the years of rock throwing and sweeping, Roy's true legacy lies in the spirit that he brings to the game. Always with a smile on his face, even when the score board is not in his favour, he reminds us all why curling is more than a sport – it's a community. Curling is a social network of camaraderie that engulfs members before, during and of course after each game played.

When asked what curling has given

to him over the years Wright without hesitation said "it's given me so much enjoyment and many friendships over the years, and winning the Nobleton Mixed League Championship was a highlight."

Wright who started curling on dedicated curling ice mentioned that when they made the move to Nobleton to curl, it was quite an adjustment to the once-a-week hockey ice/converted to curling ice, and trying to figure out how the Zamboni lines might effect the path of their curling rocks.

Jack Campbell, member of the King Curling Club and long time friend of both Roy and his wife Edna, has played for many years with and against Roy. Campbell commented that Roy "had his own strategy of draws and gentle tap-backs as opposed to the heavy hitting game" and when he played as his Vice "for several years we managed to stay in the A-Division and had good fun doing it."

John and Norma Jean Frans, former King curlers, were also long-time curlers with Wright in the Nobleton CC. Norma Jean appreciated his patience and encouragement as a new curler and described him as "a calming force."

During my interview with him, we laughed that over the years we had never played with or against each other. We had played on sheets beside one another where he'd lean over with that big smile on his face and ask if I was winning.

Roy Wright's journey is a testament



Roy Wright of the King Curling Club delivers and calls his last game on the announcement of his retirement. His love for the game spanned nearly 6 decades and has created a passion and inspiration for many curlers that followed.

to perseverance, camaraderie, and lifelong passion. At 86, he continues to inspire everyone around him, proving that the love of the game only grows stronger

with time.

Here's to you Roy – "may your stones stay true and your legacy endure for many ends to come."

Local heroes take their rightful place

From Front Page

Established in 2025 with the opening of Zancor Centre, the King Township Sports Hall of Fame highlights the rich sporting history of the local community and honours those who have made a lasting impact on their chosen sporting discipline in various capacities. New inductees will be welcomed biennially during the Mayor's Cultural Gala, with their achievements celebrated through the Sports Hall of Fame exhibition.

James "Jim" Elder (Builder Award): Jim is one of Canada's most accomplished equestrians, having competed in six Olympic Games between 1956 and 1984 and winning both gold and bronze medals for Canada. A key figure in elevating Canadian show jumping on the world stage, he was part of the legendary trio with James Day and Thomas Gayford that secured major international victories in the late 1960s and 1970s. Elder spent decades contributing to equestrian sport in King Township and the surrounding

area, recognized locally as one of the region's most notable Olympians. His legacy is cemented through numerous honours, including induction into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and his appointment as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Mike Kitchen (Coach Award): Mike Kitchen is a Canadian former NHL defenceman and long-time coach. He began his hockey journey with the Schomberg Red Wings before advancing to Junior A and winning the 1975 Memorial Cup. He went on to play for the Colorado Rockies and New Jersey Devils before beginning a coaching career that included roles with the Toronto Maple Leafs, St. Louis Blues, Florida Panthers, and the Chicago Blackhawks, where he helped win the 2013 and 2015 Stanley Cups. Known for his defensive expertise and leadership, Kitchen has coached in more than 2,400 NHL games, making him one of the league's most experienced bench coaches.

Rosannagh "Rosie" MacLennan

(Athlete Award): Born in King Township, Rosie MacLennan is a two-time Olympic trampoline champion and the first athlete in her sport to win back-to-back Olympic gold medals at London 2012 and Rio 2016. She has also earned multiple World Championship titles and Pan American Games gold medals, making her one of Canada's most successful gymnasts. Known for her high difficulty routines and exceptional consistency, MacLennan has represented Canada at four Olympic Games and served as Team Canada's flag bearer at Rio 2016.

Suzanne Morrow (Francis) (Legacy Award): Suzanne Morrow (Francis) was a Canadian figure skater who won the bronze medal in pairs at the 1948 Winter Olympics alongside Wallace Diestelmeyer. The pair also made history at those Games by performing the first one handed death spiral in Olympic competition. In addition to her pairs success, she excelled in singles, placing 14th in 1948 and 6th in 1952 at the Winter Olympics.



Team White takes King City GHL title

Team White, with a decisive 6-1 victory, wins the championship in the King City GHL league.

The men of King City's GHL, Team White and Team Black went head-to-head again this year, in a lopsided championship game, at the Zancor Centre.

The first half of the game was a tight-checking game by both teams, with Team Black, evening the score to 1-1 at the 25-minute mark with a beautiful tip-in goal by Kyle Tobin.

The second half of the game was all Team White, scoring 5 unanswered goals, while backstopped with brilliant goal tending by Tony Santaguida. Kevin Stewart with 2 two goals, and goals by Enzo D'Amico, Kevin Mako, Luis Salazar and Dave Humphrey combined for the decisive win for Team White.

The players of the King City GHL look forward to celebration their 20th anniversary season in when the puck drops again in September.



Team White (left) was crowned champs of the King City GHL. Shown (bottom row) Dan Demitrof, Jason Bryant, Peter Racco, Tony Santaguida, Steve Smith, Luis Salazar, Rob Critelli, (top) Hugh Sutherland, Chris Neilsen, Mirko Gojic, Enzo D'Amico, Andre Lalonde, Dave Humphrey, Kevin Mako, Kevin Stewart. Missing was Danny Maced. Chris Neilsen (above) was named GHL Finals MVP. Commissioner Matthew Paric presented his award.

King's Corners

King City-York Pines
By Sheryl Sinka

Last Sunday, Daniel Cho spoke about the relationship between pain and joy. The joy of lifting up a child reminds you of your back pain. The pain of the Crucifixion of Christ on Good Friday lead to the joy of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. We are an Easter people!

Rick McKinley returns to King City next Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with a traditional message on our faith.

Mark your calendar for our next annual Spaghetti Dinner & Music Night on April 25 at 6 p.m. Tickets at \$25 are available through John Kell and Alma Feindell. Please call Kristen at the office at 905 833 5181 for contact information and to reserve tickets.

Monday, April 27 The Book Club will meet at King City at 10 a.m. The book chosen is "The Armour of Light" by Ken Follet set in Kingsbridge, England during the war. This is an easy book to read, but not an easy one to put down. You don't have to have read the book to participate. Contact the office for more information or to participate remotely on Zoom.

The next Fellowship Lunch is on Thursday (note change of day) April 30 at noon at Kenji's Japanese Restaurant, 2118 King Road, King City. Please join us and bring a friend for the love of food and fellowship. Let Kristen at the office know if you plan to attend

We would like everyone to know that the church does have an accessible entrance and lift to the auditorium floor for anyone needing this assistance. If there are any pastoral emergencies, you may leave a message at the office at 905-833-5181. Prayer shawls are available on request.

Please remember the King Township Food Bank in your givings. At this time the Food Bank is appreciative of donations of food, money or toiletries such as shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes, soap, etc. Diapers, especially larger sizes 4 and 5, are in demand.

King Bible Church

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

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."

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, April 17 – 10 a.m. – Presentation – Lianne Harris will present 'Undressed: A Short History of Hygiene.' If you have seen Lianne before, you know that this will be a lively, entertaining look at one aspect of history. Don't miss out on this popular presenter. Call the Centre now to save your spot. Sponsored by Kingsway Place Retirement Home.

Friday, April 24 – 10 a.m. – Presentation – Do you ever wonder what your astrological sign says about you? Come out to hear Naomi Simpson discuss astrology to gain insight into human affairs, personality and potential future events.

Please call the Centre to let us know you will be attending.

Friday, May 1 – Presentation – Rose Pallotto from Hope House Hospice will discuss how to prepare for health decisions if you cannot speak for yourself. Please call the Centre to let us know you will be attending.

Sunday, May 3 – 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – Mad Hatter's Tea Party – Enjoy an afternoon of great musical entertainment and delicious treats at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party. Find your best hat and join us for a wonderful time. Spaces are limited so pre-registration is required. Sponsored by Chartwell Retirement Homes.

Thursday, May 7 – Musical concert. The music students from King City Secondary School will be presenting a spring concert for our enjoyment on the morning of May 7. Also included will be a display by KCSS visual arts students and a demonstration by our Gentle Motion class. Spaces are limited for this event so be sure to register your intention to attend. Doors open at 8:45 a.m. and the concert will start at 9:15 a.m. Refreshments will be provided after the concert and before the Gentle Motion demonstration.

Friday, May 8 – 10 a.m. – Creative workshop with artist, Angela Del Borrello. Theme TBA. Cost \$10/pp due by May 6.

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

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

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

Tuesday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Line Dancing. Tuesday mornings: 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. – Step at a Time (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, next session starts in June).

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

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

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

Sacred Heart Church

Invitation to all to join in to meet and welcome our RCIA candidates at our Cake & Coffee on Sunday, April 19 following 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall.

Save the date: Parish Spring Pasta Dinner; Saturday, May 2 at 6 p.m.

Help Not Harm – Take Action to Support Bill C-218 – Write your Member of Parliament today! Visit: HelpNotHarm-Canada.ca. This Act would amend the Criminal Code to prevent Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) from being provided when mental illness is the sole underlying condition. Without this change, MAID will be available for those suffering from mental illness alone beginning in March 2027.

The 33rd Adult Faith Educational Meeting & Pot-Luck Dinner: Join us on Saturday, April 25 in the Parish Hall after Mass. The theme this month will be "The Living Word of God" subtitle: How God Wants Us to Read and Understand the Bible. Michael Pallotto and Frank Donato are presenters.

Upcoming March for Life – Join us on Thursday, May 14 – The bus will be leaving from St. David's Church, Maple at 6:30 a.m. and will be leaving Ottawa at 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$50 per person. Please contact Gerry Sciara at 647-501-1173 or

email gerrysciara8@gmail.com and reserve your seat.

Annual Golf Tournament Thursday, June 4, at Redcrest Golf Club. Tee off at 9 a.m., lunch at 2 p.m. Cart, food and beverage stations provided. Portion of proceeds go to the Blue Door. See flyer at <https://sacredheartki.archtoronto.org/en/bulletin/> for contacts and registration.

Rectory: 905.833.1161. Email: sacredheartki@archtoronto.org Website: sacredheartki.archtoronto.org

Facebook & Instagram: Sacred Heart Parish King

Garden Club

Join the Nobleton & King City Garden Club. No gardening experience is required, just a willingness to learn about gardening and nature. Our meetings are held on the 4th Monday of each month between March and November at Laskay Hall 2920 King Rd., King City. Guest speakers present at each meeting on a variety of garden-related topics. Our line-up for this year is as follows: Monday, April 27, "The Monarch: An Icon on the Edge" with speaker Lisa Massie-Xerces Ambassador. Monday, May 25, "Natural Garden Design" with speaker Shaun Booth. Monday, June 22, "Benefits of Mushrooms" with speaker Geoff Norton. Monday, September 28, "Garden Maintenance with Pollinators and Birds in mind". Speaker Dorte Windmuller. Monday, October 26, will be our last speaker, Dugald Cameron presenting "All About Summer Flowering Bulbs."

This is the perfect time to become a member! Annual membership fee is \$30, non-members' fee is \$10. Contact us at nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com Come grow with us this year, we'd love to have you!

King City Tennis Club

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 to October 2026. The KCTA website homepage is found at: kingcitytennis.com

St. Andrew's

By Kathy Patterson

All are welcome at St. Andrew's! We are just two blocks north of the King Road on Keele St. Our morning worship service is at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Alison continued her sermon series with the letter "L" – Light, based on Alistair Begg's book "C is for Christian: An A-Z treasury of who we are in Christ."

Have a look at our website standrews-kingcity.ca. which will give you the link for YouTube.

Our "Thursdays at Three" starts next week, April 23. There will be 4 sessions again using the book "What if Jesus was Serious about Prayer?," by Skye Jethani. The sessions will be April 23 and 30 and then May 21 and 28. We hope you can join us.

For Pastoral Care, please call the office to speak with the Rev. Alison Agnew, or speak to your Elder; 905-833-2325.

All Saints Anglican Church

By Kit Woods

There is something special about finding a hidden treasure, a book you've been meaning to read, a piece of jewellery that catches your eye, or something unexpected that simply makes you smile.

At All Saints Anglican Church, that spirit of discovery is at the heart of our upcoming "Best of the Best" Rummage Sale.

For months, our community has been sorting and preparing a wide variety of items, including treasures, jewellery, clothing, linens, books, and much more. Each item has been given with care and is ready to find a new home.

It takes place at our church, 12935 Keele St (just south of King Rd.), Saturday, April 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Entry is \$1, and children 12 and under are free.

This isn't just a chance to shop, it's an opportunity to connect. Whether you're searching for something specific or simply browsing, you'll be greeted with warmth, friendly conversation, and a welcoming atmosphere.

Come and see what treasures you might find and enjoy a morning of community along the way.

For any inquiries, please call our church office at 905-833-5432 on Wednesday or Thursday mornings or visit our website at allsaints-kingcity.ca for more details about the rummage sale or any of our church services.



Read Local
Keep up with your community!

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

Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church
By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person this Sunday at 10 a.m. Our Pastor, Jeff Loach, will lead the service this morning with a message entitled, "A Faith-Filled Picnic" based on Mark 6.30-44.

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 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, April 24 at 7 p.m. This is a fun time with a range of activ-

ities open for all ages from Grade 7 to Grade 12.

St. Paul's monthly men's group meet on the first Saturday of every month which includes a delicious breakfast. Our next meeting will be Saturday, May 2 at 9 a.m. Our midweek LifeConnect small groups are a great opportunity to connect with others and grow in faith.

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.

Bone Fitness - Wednesday 1 p.m. (must be registered with the Township).
Educational Thursdays run weekly from 10 am. to noon.

April 16 - Chair Yoga via YouTube with Kierstie Payge (level 3). Improve your flexibility, strength, balance, and mental well-being as we participate in this session together.

April 23 - Chair Zumba with Frank

De-Bartolo. This fun, low-impact workout will improve cardiovascular health, strength, flexibility, balance, and mood. Surprise Frank and wear your favourite hat.

April 30 - "Fables, Fairytales and Rhymes," will be presented by Liana Harris, Historian. Turn the pages of classical Fairytales and Mother Goose Rhymes and see how they give us the lessons to navigate in real life.

May 7 - Floral Painting for Mother's Day with artist Angela Del Borrello. Create a floral painting, cost is \$10 which includes all materials. Please register by April 30 so materials are available for you.

May 14 - Energy Reset - 5 Natural Ways to Raise Your Energy. Guest Speaker, Brian DeCastro, Holistic Health Practitioner, Reiki Master will lead us into an experience of feeling grounded, mentally clear and re-energized. Cost is \$5 per person. Please register by May 7.

Garden Club

Our next Garden Club meeting takes place on Monday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m., at Laskay Hall, 2920 King Rd., King City. Our upcoming Garden Club meeting

features Lisa Massie, Xerces Ambassador, who will be presenting: The Monarch: An Icon on the Edge. Learn more about The Monarch butterfly, perhaps the most well-known and beloved butterfly in North America. Their arrival in Ontario each year is viewed by many as a welcome sign of the change in seasons from spring to summer. Bring a friend and join us for an evening of knowledge and connection. (\$30 annual membership or \$10 guest). This meeting will include our first Flower Show of the season. Come and enjoy a fun evening with us.

Nobleton Tennis Club

Registration is now open for summer 2026. Registration can be made on line only at nobletontennisclub.com.

We will be offering Adult and Junior lessons, private instruction with qualified tennis instructors, round robins, socials, tournaments, adult clinics and junior camps. We are also currently recruiting for our Intercounty tennis league teams, we are recruiting for our mixed teams, our ladies A team and our +55 A team. ICTA tennis will begin the week of May 12.

More on Page 17

Classifieds

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Nobleton Notes

From Page 16

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.

Nobleton Lions

Thank you for participating in the Annual Easter Egg Hunt last Saturday at Tasca Park. Thanks to the chocolate bunnies and hot chocolate, nobody seemed to mind the weather. This was a joint event put on by all three Lions Clubs in King Township, working together.

Looking ahead, the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides takes place on Sunday,

May 31, and the Community Fundraising Golf Day is set to tee off on June 7. Information about these events, including entry and sponsor forms for the Golf Day, is available on our website.

Our website Upcoming Events Page includes a section for non-profit community organizations to publicize their events. This month you will see listed The Olive Branch for Children's fundraising gala at Paradise Banquet Hall in Vaughan on May 2. For tickets visit www.theolivebranchforchildren.org Also on this page, you will see information about the Charity Golf Challenge hosted by Brent Morning and Friends on June 25.

Regular meetings of the Nobleton Lions Club are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from September to mid-June upstairs at the Nobleton Arena. 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.

Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Schomberg's Anniversary is this Sunday, April 19 at 9:30 a.m. This is a Joint Service with Nobleton United. The guest speaker is Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Cunningham. She is a retired minister who did collaborative ministry in Cambridge-Oakwood-Cannington-Woodville United Churches. She also ministered in Stouffville, and Mt. Albert. She has spoken about the current issues facing United Churches.

She is an accomplished organist. She has walked the Camino Trail 4 times and plans to tackle it again soon. She has a grandchild living in Holland. She is married to a farmer in the Mt. Albert area. Her doctorate is in homiletics, the art of preaching. There will be a light lunch after the service.

Our next Messy Church is Monday, April 20 at 5 p.m. at Nobleton United. The activities and crafts (5-6 p.m.) are based on different Bible stories. The theme for

April is the Easter story. At 6 p.m., we have story time until 6:15 p.m. when we eat. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

The next Schomberg Senior's Luncheon is Tuesday, May 12 at 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Schomberg. The entertainment is "Through the Eyes of a Landscape Architect."

Mark Inglis, a designer and planner in parks, recreation and culture, will take us on vacation with him looking at cities of the world in a new light. Come prepared to contribute to this conversation. The meal is Mrs. Ingram's Chicken (chicken with mushrooms & rice), spinach salad & fruit, buns, with rhubarb cake or crisp for dessert. 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 meet on Thursday, May 14, 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 the second Thursday of the month.

To contact us, phone 905-859-3976.

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Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

It's that time again to do your spring clean, and if you'd like to turn your clutter into cash, please register for a space at King Townships annual Community Yard Sale on Saturday, May 2 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Make sure to book your space by April 25. For more information and to register visit king.ca/CommunityYardSale.

Please note that yard waste pick-up resumes this week but must be placed in kraft paper bags or garbage containers with no lids, marked "yard waste" and put out on the curb before 7:00 AM. Make sure to bundle branches with twine only, no rope. For more information, visit king.ca/YardWaste

King Clean-up day is April 25, you can pick up your clean up kits at the Schomberg Library or Trisan from April 20. If you do not have a location to clean up and would like to join a clean-up group, meet at Dufferin Marsh (115 Doctor Kay Dr, Schomberg) - April 25 at bulletin board anytime between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Need a ride? YRT Viva's On-Request North-Central service area offers weekday non-rush hour and weekend service for King Township residents.

Service hours Monday to Friday: 5:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday: 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday/Holiday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

This flexible ride-sharing service lets you book York Region Transit rides when and where you need them within designated service areas throughout

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Book your ride during service hours or schedule in advance (up to one day ahead) through the YRT On-Request app OR by calling 1-888-762-2950.

For more information, visit yrt.ca/OnRequest

Horticultural Society

The Schomberg Horticultural Society invites members and friends to their next General Meeting on April 28 at the Schomberg Community Hall. Doors open at 7 p.m., presentation starts at 7:30. Topic: "20 Things you did not know about Back Yard Birds," presented by Kristin Martyn. Kristen is a birder and naturalist whose passion for wildlife led her to pursue a Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology as well as a post-graduate program in Ecotourism and Adventure Tourism Management. Kristen is an avid birdwatcher, who has birded all over North America, the Caribbean, Central and South America, Australia and Southern Africa. She has spent countless hours leading birding tours and birding in the field. It will be a delight to get her insight into the birds we see in our own back yard.

Free to members, \$5 at the door for guests. Flower show, refreshments, door prizes. For membership information contact: schomberghortsociety@gmail.com

All General Meetings: Will be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Schomberg Community Hall at 325 Main Street, unless otherwise notified. Virtual meetings may be held if and as necessary. Members will be notified by social media (e.g. Facebook) and emailed of any changes. At these meetings, a sales table is set up, and as

a member of the Society, we hope you will donate previously loved gardening books or magazines, vases, cuttings, perennials, seeds, small plants and whatever you might want to share with other gardeners. Please label plants along with instructions for their care. This table is dedicated to Clara, a former and long-time member of the Society, who used to bring in bouquets of flowers to sell.

Contact Information: schomberghortsociety@gmail.com.

Simcoe Currency Club

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

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+

This past Monday we had Lynn Holden who took us on a tour of Canada's

World Heritage Sites. Lynn has visited them all and made us all feel as though we have been there as well. Thank you once again, Lynn for another great talk.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, April 20 - Bill Anderson - The Caribbean Cruise with stories behind the flag of each place.

Monday, April 27 - Terry Turner, Ancestry Research Tips on British Family Ancestry.

Tuesday, April 28 - Sean Cisterna - Silver Screamers-a film screening, 1 hr. film making workshop (register).

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).

Please reach out with your events, stories of happenings or anything you would love to see here porter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

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ROCCO RACIOPPO

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When you have decided to make a major life decision and purchase a home, it will likely be the biggest investment of your lifetime.

Having an experienced and knowledgeable realtor you can trust will make your home buying experience less stressful, provide peace of mind, and help you achieve the results you are hoping for.

Rocco Racioppo of RE/MAX REALTRON Realty Inc., has over 40 years of experience buying and selling residential properties. He is a highly regarded professional and is considered an expert in the industry.

Rocco entered the world of real estate when he was just 21 years old and achieved his real estate license in 1980 while living in Toronto. Over four decades later, he still has the same enthusiasm for the industry and enjoys engaging with the public and his clients.

After starting his journey in Toronto, Rocco moved to Unionville to gain more experience before relocating to Newmarket in 1995.

Rocco recently made another move that really places him in the heart of the area he serves.

After spending several years in the Town of Sharon, he made the decision to relocate to a new address that was more suitable for his life style.

Like many people, Rocco decided it was time to downsize to a smaller home which will require less maintenance and upkeep. He now lives in the north end of Richmond Hill and is enjoying his new lifestyle.

As someone who decided to downsize, Rocco knows what it is like for many local residents who have found themselves going through the 'empty nest' period of life.

The Baby Boomer generation, for the most part, have raised their families and are now enjoying watching their children raise their own families. As a result, many people find that those extra bedrooms and a big lawn are not really needed anymore and they are moving to smaller homes or condominiums that are more suitable to their style of living.

Rocco has been working with many residents in King City, Aurora, Richmond Hill, Newmarket, and East Gwillimbury, who have decided to leave their luxury style properties for a more relaxed living experience with less maintenance to worry about.

As an expert in luxury properties in the region, Rocco spent years helping people find their dream home luxury property. Now, he is helping many clients sell their luxury homes and downsize to a more easily managed home.

Over the course of his career, Rocco transitioned to a real estate agent who specializes in high-end luxury homes, country estates, and waterfront properties. He has helped many clients find the right home when they are looking for that special place that offers luxury amenities.

Known as a personable and outgoing individual, Rocco easily blends into any social situation and uses his natural talent to expertly lead real estate negotiations to produce the best results for his clients.

Working in the luxury property market can be a challenge as many high-end properties have unique features that may make it difficult for some realtors to appraise for a true market value.

Due to his experience and knowledge of the luxury market, Rocco has the expertise to evaluate a property and determine a selling price that is fair and equitable in the current market while ensuring his clients achieve the best results.

Marketing a property requires a strategy that will ensure the right potential buyers will be aware that it is for sale. If potential buyers don't know a property is on the market, they will never make an offer.

Rocco designs marketing strategies that take advantage of several ways to present a home in its best light to attract potential buyers who will be interested in that property.

This includes using strategies that target the right demographic for a particular market.

First impressions are very important in real estate. Rocco can advise clients on the small details that will present their home in the best possible way to anyone who views the property.

...Rocco designs marketing strategies that take advantage of several ways to present a home in its best light to attract potential buyers who will be interested in that property...

Many of Rocco's clients are repeat clients who have had such a good experience that they return to him when they make a decision to buy a new home. Whether they are hoping to upgrade and move to a luxury property or have decided it's time to downsize and moved to a smaller home, they turn to Rocco and trust his expertise in helping them make that move.

This level of trust means many new clients have been referred by those who have had such a good experience, they recommend Rocco to family and friends.

It is his expertise, experience, and outgoing and friendly personality that allow Rocco's clients to trust him to help ensure their biggest investment is protected and they achieve the best results when selling or buying a home.

If you are planning a move and need expert help to go get you through it all, you can call Rocco at 905-841-4787, or send him an email at: rracioppo99@gmail.com.

WRITTEN BY Brian Lockhart

STUNNING BUNGALOFT - BACKS ONTO POND!!



\$1,020,000

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HOT NEW LISTING IN SHARON!!



\$389,000

Beautiful modern and renovated detached bungalow with a two car garage on a 75 x 200' private lot with mature trees! Truly stunning renovated white kitchen with centre island is open to the spacious living room with large picture window! Gorgeous dark hardwood floors throughout main level! Three spacious bedrooms and beautiful, renovated five piece bathroom as well! Don't miss this one!

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Wonderful brick bungalow & gorgeous landscaped lot w/ spacious 2 car garage & lots of upgrades! Fabulous reno'd kitchen is open to dining room w/walkout to covered deck & private south exposure backyard. Large living room has crown moulding & a separate nook w/built-in office desk. Great finished basement w/very large bedroom, lovely recreation room, 3 pc bath & office area! Minutes to shopping, rec centre, parks, Hwy 404 & GO train! Renos: kitchen reno (2021), new windows (2014), new well (2012), 25 year shingles (2013), new main floor flooring (2024)!



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MOVE-UP BUYERS IN A SLOWER MARKET: How families can upgrade without overextending

For many families in King and the surrounding communities, the home that once felt “perfect” can start to feel tight. Kids grow, schedules get busier, work-from-home becomes permanent, and suddenly you’re craving an extra bedroom, a finished basement, a bigger yard, or a layout that functions better day to day.

But in a slower market, hesitation is normal. Families ask: What if our home takes longer to sell? What if we buy and then can’t sell? What if we stretch too far and regret it? These are valid concerns. The good news is that a calmer, more balanced market can actually be a healthier environment for move-up buyers — if you approach it with a clear plan.

WHY A SLOWER MARKET CAN HELP MOVE-UP FAMILIES

In the fast-paced markets of recent years, move-up buyers often faced the worst of both worlds: competing aggressively to buy while racing to sell. That pressure pushed many families to compromise on location, waive protections, or pay more than they felt comfortable with.

A slower market can shift the experience in practical ways:

- More selection and less urgency: more time to view homes, compare options, and decide based on fit — not fear.
- Better negotiating opportunities: buyers may be able to negotiate price, repairs, closing dates, or inclusions.
- More flexible terms: sellers may be more open to longer closings or thoughtful conditions, which can help families coordinate a sale and purchase.
- Fewer emotional decisions: the calmer pace makes it easier to stay disciplined and avoid overextending.

Slower doesn’t mean “bad.” It means the market tends to reward preparation and smart strategy.

THE REAL RISK ISN’T MOVING — IT’S OVEREXTENDING
Most families don’t get into trouble because they move. They get into trouble because they move without clear numbers, or because they buy based on maximum approval rather than monthly comfort.

A smart move-up plan keeps three things in balance:

- 1 what your current home can sell for in today’s market,
- 2 what your next home will realistically cost (including closing costs), and
- 3 what payment and lifestyle your family wants to maintain.

This isn’t about limiting your goals — it’s about making sure the upgrade improves your life instead of creating long-term stress.

STEP 1: DEFINE WHAT “MORE SPACE” REALLY MEANS
“More space” isn’t always just square footage. For some families it’s another bedroom. For others it’s two home offices, a quieter basement, a better yard, or a location that supports school and commuting needs.

Before you fall in love with listings, get specific:

- What are your must-haves (beds, baths, yard, office space, basement)?
- What’s your non-negotiable location (school, commute, community)?
- What are your nice-to-haves you’ll only pay for if the numbers still feel good?

Clarity prevents “house hopping” fatigue and keeps you

from paying extra for features you won’t truly use.

STEP 2: GET ACCURATE NUMBERS — NOT GUESSES
In a slower market, precision matters. Online estimates and neighbourhood chatter don’t replace a proper local review.

A move-up plan should include:

- a realistic price range for your current home based on recent comparable sales and current competition;
- a clear picture of what your next-home options look like at different price points;
- payment estimates that reflect today’s rates and your comfort level (not just the bank’s maximum);
- a full cost picture, including legal fees, land transfer tax, moving costs, and any immediate updates you’ll want to make.

When the numbers are clear, decisions get calmer and smarter.

STEP 3: CHOOSE THE RIGHT SELL/BUY STRATEGY FOR YOUR FAMILY

Move-up stress is usually about timing, not desire. The right approach depends on your finances, risk tolerance, and timeline. Some families prefer to sell first for certainty. Others may buy first if equity and financing support it. In a slower market, strategies like conditional purchases or flexible closing dates may also be more realistic than they were during peak frenzy.

The key is choosing a plan that reduces risk and fits your family’s life — not forcing a one-size-fits-all approach.

THE BOTTOM LINE

A slower market often gives move-up families something they rarely get in a frenzy: time to think, room to

negotiate, and the ability to buy with less pressure. Yes, selling may take more planning — but buying can be more strategic.

If you’re considering a move and would like straightforward advice on your options in today’s market, feel free to contact Michele Denniston at 416-433-8316 or michele@micheledenniston.com.

WRITTEN BY: The Michele Denniston Real Estate Team



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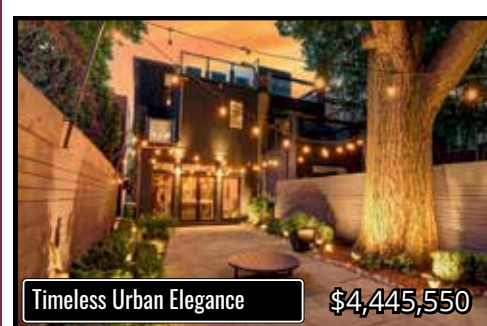
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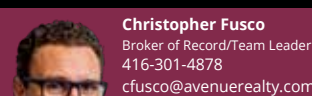


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A guide to buying your first home



Buying a home is one of the most significant financial commitments a person can make.

Individuals may wonder when is the right time to jump in to the real estate market. The answer may boil down to affordability.

The housing market is continually evolving. Buying a home now is a little bit different than it was even a few years ago, as inventory is starting to recover from a lengthy period with limited offerings, according to Realtor.com. But even though inventory may have increased, home prices have not come down. The median home price now sits at around \$410,000 in the United States and approximately \$676,335 in Canada, and interests rates hover around 6 percent for a 30-year fixed rate.

Before it's time to sign a contract and get the keys, potential buyers can follow this guide as they navigate buying a home for the first time.

KNOW YOUR BUYING POWER

Before browsing home listings, buyers should conduct a financial audit to see how they stack up. It's worthwhile to sit down with a mortgage broker who can run your numbers. Credit score is a significant variable that will be checked during such consultations. If necessary, identify ways to boost that score in the months before applying for a mortgage.

FOLLOW THE 30 PERCENT RULE

Rocket Mortgage says the 30 percent rule dictates that total monthly housing costs, including principal, interest, taxes, and insurance (PITI) should not exceed 30 percent of a borrower's gross monthly income to maintain financial stability.

BUDGET FOR THE EXTRA COSTS

Buyers should concern themselves with all of the costs that go into buying a home. In addition to the down payment, closing costs can come in at around 2 to 5 percent of the home's price. An inspection and appraisal can run around \$1,000. Additional costs may include termite inspection, and other out-of-pocket costs to get the home up to code.

LOWER YOUR COSTS

A rising trend in home buying is a surge in down payment assistance (DPA). Bankrate says DPAs provide eligible individuals, typically first-time or low-to-moderate-income buyers, with assistance that covers costs like down payments and closing fees. These programs may be offered by the government, non-profits or private lenders.

UTILIZE A REPUTABLE INSPECTOR

A home may seem like a dream until a person pulls back the curtain on some hidden red flags. It's always worth the expense to have a housing inspector or a trusted contractor walk through the property prior to making an offer to ensure that the home is in good condition.

CHOOSE A VALUE MARKET

First-time home buyers may want to select metro areas that offer the best balance of earnings versus home prices. According to a 2026 report from Realtor.com, areas that provide the best value in the U.S. are largely concentrated in the Northeast and Midwest. Hartford, CT; Rochester, NY; Worcester, MA; Toledo, OH; and Providence, RI, are some of the top housing markets for the year. Real estate experts at CalgaryHomes.ca found Alberta, Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick offer the best value for home buyers.

First-time home buyers must consider a range of variables as they inch closer to making their home ownership dreams a reality.

MARKET UPDATE – MARCH 2026

AURORA

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

\$1,187,555

AVERAGE 28 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

51

172 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

98%

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

-13.58%

KING

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

\$2,020,000

AVERAGE 39 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

16

100 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

93%

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

-9.46%

*The statistics provided were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's Market Watch MARCH 2026; Summary of Existing Home Transactions for All Home Types, MARCH 2026 + Focus on the MLS Home Price Index for Composite, MARCH 2026 for York Region's Aurora and King

As we move into April, inventory levels are continuing to build, offering Buyers more choice than in previous spring markets. This has created a balanced and more Buyer centred market, where strategy for Sellers is now more imperative than ever. Days on market is increasing, which reinforces the need for a strong positioning strategy from the start. This is no longer a market for Sellers to test pricing, but to list and market their homes with intention. The homes generating the best sales results are those that show very well, are priced sharply, and compel Buyers from the start, rather than playing catch up with price refinements later. There is a window of opportunity for Buyers right now - more selection and less competition exist in the market place, leaving room for tactful negotiations and the opportunity to do due diligence, unlike previous years. Working with a trusted advisor is always best to navigate the shifting of the York Region market and Key Advantage is always here to offer knowledge, professional advice and care.

– Provided by Key Advantage Team Royal LePage RCR Realty
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Did you know?

A well-manicured lawn appeals to homeowners when they look out their windows.

BUT SUCH A VIEW also can look nice when homeowners peruse their bank statements after selling a property. According to the "2023 Remodeling Impact Report: Outdoor Features" from the National Association of Realtors®, standard lawn care service yields an estimated cost recovery of 217 percent. Landscape maintenance, with an estimated cost recovery of 104 percent, and an overall landscape upgrade (100 percent) also yield great returns for homeowners. The NAR® report also noted the effects of such projects related to homeowners' desire to spend time on their property. Among homeowners who participated in the NAR® report and committed to standard lawn care service, 58 percent indicated they had a greater desire to be at home since completing the project, while 46 percent indicated they have an increased sense of enjoyment when spending time at home.



Cost-effective curb appeal booster

One shouldn't judge a book by its cover. However, that often is hard not to do, particularly when it comes to homes.

Curb appeal bears significant influence regarding how a property is perceived. A property that is neat and aesthetically appealing probably will be preferable to one that looks like the homeowners did not maintain it.

Boosting curb appeal is a common focus of sellers before listing a property. But what can those who don't have big budgets for major overhauls do to improve their curb appeal? Plenty of projects can offer maximum output with minimal investment.

REFRESH THE FRONT DOOR

Painting the front door can add brightness and improve the look of a home's entryway. Most exterior paint costs between \$30 and \$40 per gallon, so this is undeniably a budget-friendly improvement. If money allows, replacing the door altogether will generate bang for your buck.

IMPROVE OR ADD LANDSCAPING ELEMENTS

Landscaping should be designed to highlight the home's best features. It should look symmetrical and feel manicured. If it's not possible to plant new flowers or bushes, simply cleaning up debris and weeds, and trimming existing greenery can make it feel neater and more polished.

CLEAN UP

Power-washing the siding, cement walkways and garage door can create instant impact. It's amazing how much dirt and mildew can reduce the luster of a home. Cleaning off years of grime can be a fast and inexpensive refresh.

RESEAL THE DRIVEWAY

Make sure the driveway is clean and tidy. If it has cracks or discoloration, filling in cracks and applying a new coat of sealer will make a big difference. Homeowners can hire someone to reseal the driveway or do the work on their own.

ADD MORE LIGHTING

Updating front porch lights and accent lights around the property will cast a more positive glow on a home, both literally and figuratively.

ADD A SEATING AREA

If space by the front door allows, add a bench or some chairs to create a welcoming seating area. A potted plant or two nearby will help the area seem intentional.

Improving curb appeal doesn't have to cost a lot of money. A few easy touches can boost the look of any property.



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THE MASTERS OF THE MARKET

Why selling your home is a lot like Augusta



By Julien Laurion
Real Estate

Every April, something shifts. The grass gets greener, the air feels a little lighter, and for a few days, the world seems to slow down as eyes turn to The Masters Tournament. It's tradition, precision, and excellence all rolled into one—and if you watch closely, it's also a pretty good lesson in how to win in real estate.

Now, I'm not teeing it up at Augusta National Golf Club anytime soon, but in my world, I see the parallels all the time. Because selling a home—especially in a competitive market—isn't just about putting up a sign and hoping for the best. It's a process. A strategy. A game where every move matters.

At Augusta, nothing is left to chance. Every inch of the course is intentional, from the slope of the greens

to the placement of the bunkers. The same approach applies when preparing a home for market. Before we ever talk about listing, I walk through the property with a critical eye—what needs attention, where we can add value, and how we can elevate the overall presentation. Sometimes that means a full bathroom refresh or updated flooring. Other times, it's as simple as lighting, paint, and knowing exactly where not to overspend. The goal isn't just to improve the home—it's to position it so it stands out.

Of course, preparation is only half the battle. If you've ever watched Tiger Woods read a putt, you'll know it's not just about distance—it's about understanding the subtle breaks. Pricing a home works the same way. It's not about picking a number and hoping it sticks. It's about analyzing comparable sales, understanding buyer behaviour, and creating a strategy that builds momentum. The right price doesn't just attract attention—it creates competition. And in this market, that's where the real value is unlocked.

Presentation plays a massive role as well. At the Masters, everything is immaculate—clean lines, perfect visuals, nothing out of place. That same level of care goes into staging a home. We're not just decorating; we're telling a story. One that allows buyers to walk in and immediately picture themselves living there. It's often the difference between a showing and an offer. I've seen homes increase their perceived value

dramatically simply by presenting them the right way. That's not luck—it's intentional.

Then comes the moment where everything is on the line. In golf, they call it Amen Corner—a stretch of holes where tournaments are won or lost. In real estate, that moment is negotiation. Offers come in, conditions are discussed, and decisions need to be made quickly but strategically. This is where experience matters most. Knowing when to push, when to hold firm, and when to create leverage can have a significant impact on the final outcome. It's not just about accepting an offer—it's about maximizing it.

And finally, we get to the finish. The last putt drops, the crowd cheers, and the green jacket is awarded. In real estate, that moment is closing day. But what most people don't see is everything that led up to it—the preparation, the strategy, the positioning, and the execution. Because while the sale price is important, how you got there matters just as much. Did you create competition? Did you showcase the home properly? Did you leave money on the table?

The best golfers in the world aren't great because of one skill—they're complete players. Driving, irons, short game, putting—it all comes together. That's how I approach my business. Real estate and renovation, strategy and execution, vision and results. It's not about doing one thing well; it's about doing

everything well so that when your home hits the market, it doesn't just compete—it stands apart.

You don't need to be a golfer to appreciate the Masters, and you don't need to be an expert to sell your home. But having the right approach—and the right person guiding you—can make all the difference.

Because in this game, we're not just playing to participate.

We're playing to win.

Julien Laurion
All About Homes

Julien Laurion
Realtor. Contractor. Local Dad.
All About Homes.
Serving Aurora, King City, and the communities in between.

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HEART OF NEWMARKET

Renovated 4 bdrm residence offers contemporary open concept design anchored by stunning white oak hrdwd flrs & wood staircase w/ wrought iron accents. Chef-inspired kitchen features centre island, quartz counters and built-in appls, walk out to huge deck w/ pergola & sunny South/West exposure. Oversized family rm w/ custom built-in display shelves and a sleek linear fireplace, living & dining areas accommodate large family gatherings. 4 generous bdrms, primary suite with custom walk-in closet & 3pc ensuite. Main flr laundry w/ direct garage access, parking for 6 cars + unspoiled bsmt ready for your personal touch. **\$1,235,000**

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4 Vata Court, Unit 16, Aurora

A prime industrial unit offers a 50/50 split. Half is office space, while the other half is unfinished industrial space featuring a large roll-up drive-through door. This is ideal for service-based businesses or business just starting out or investment.
\$720,000
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105 Orchard Heights Blvd, Aurora

This meticulously renovated four-bedroom, three-bathroom home is move-in ready. Located on a pristine corner lot, it offers ample outdoor space for kids to play, relax, and create lasting memories. The home also features a large outdoor heated workshop, perfect for an office or storage.
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All about homes.



What to know about floor-to-ceiling WINDOWS

Modern homes showcase many dazzling features, but perhaps none draw as much as instant attention as floor-to-ceiling windows.

Often seen in high-rise apartments that boast panoramic city views, floor-to-ceiling windows also are right at home in single-family dwellings.

Homeowners considering floor-to-ceiling windows may have lots of questions. The following rundown can provide some basic information that can help homeowners decide if floor-to-ceiling windows are right for their homes.

COST

Cost is often the primary consideration when mulling a home renovation, and that's even more significant as the world confronts the rising costs associated with inflation. The cost of installing floor-to-ceiling windows depends on a host of variables, including how many windows will be needed and where homeowners live. According to Modernize®, a service that facilitates connections between renovation-minded homeowners and local contractors, a floor-to-ceiling window wall costs somewhere between \$700 to \$1,600 per linear foot. Framing and glazing will add to those costs. Homeowners considering floor-to-ceiling windows are urged to receive several estimates for the project prior to choosing a contractor.

LIGHTING AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

One of the more appealing aspects of floor-to-ceiling windows is all the natural light they allow in. Of course, all that light also can drive up energy costs on sunny summer days. One way around that is to install energy efficient windows. Such windows include extra insulation to prevent cool air from escaping the home on summer days, which can reduce the need to lower the thermostat on your air conditioning. A wall of glass also can provide less insulation against the cold. The extra insulation

in energy efficient windows also helps keep warm air from escaping a home in the winter. Energy efficient windows may cost more than less efficient alternatives. However, over the long haul, a wall of less efficient floor-to-ceiling windows will likely cost more due to excess energy consumption.

PRIVACY AND FADING

It's easy to be overwhelmed by the view floor-to-ceiling windows provide, especially in homes surrounded by serene natural settings like woods or properties that abut waterways. But that view outward also provides a view in, potentially compromising privacy. All that extra exposure to sunlight also can cause fabrics to fade over time. Floor-to-ceiling blinds and shades can protect homeowners' privacy and reduce fading on furniture, but this extra feature will add to the final cost of the project. Smart window tinting is another way to improve privacy and reduce fading, but this feature also will drive up the cost.

Floor-to-ceiling windows can be awe-inspiring. Homeowners considering such windows for their homes are urged to do their homework to ensure their homes are well-suited to this unique feature.



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Notable features of MODERN BATHROOMS

Bathrooms are more than just places to wash up. These spaces are evolving from utilitarian rooms to high-tech sanctuaries with all the modern conveniences one can imagine.

Homeowners are increasingly investing more into their bathrooms, reflecting a growing desire for quiet luxury and personal health.

According to the 2026 National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA) Trends Report, 72 percent of designers report that clients are enlarging their bathrooms to accommodate new wellness-centered features. Modern bathrooms are defined by some notable features.

HOME SPA SHOWER

The NKBA reports more homeowners now prioritize a larger, feature-rich shower over just a bathtub. Steam showers are no longer niche; they integrate aromatherapy and chromotherapy (mood-enhancing light) systems into the designs. Although open, walk-in showers are still popular for their accessibility, there's a rising trend in shower pods, which are enclosed, cozy spaces that more effectively retain heat and steam.

AGING IN PLACE ELEMENTS

Features once associated with getting older are now being rebranded as high-end design elements. According to Forbes, curbless entries and built-in benches are some luxury safety features built into modern bathrooms.

SMART TECHNOLOGY

Polaris Market Research says the global smart bathroom market is projected to exceed \$11 billion in 2026. Technology focused on efficiency and hygiene is popular. Intelligent toilets that have self-cleaning UV nozzles, heated seats and motion-activated lids are rising in popularity. Smart faucets with precise flow control and leak detection also are becoming standard, with Houzz saying sustainability features like these are a must-have for 84 percent of renovators.

EVOLVING MINIMALISM

Organic minimalism is a defining style within modern bathroom trends for 2026. This idea prioritizes clean looks with natural materials like stone and wood, which are replacing cool grays and stark whites that have been dominating bathroom schemes for some time, according to Re-Bath design expert Jenny Mars. Designers favor large-format slabs or tiles to minimize grout lines. Earthy tones like sage green, terracotta, and warm wood vanities also are popular.

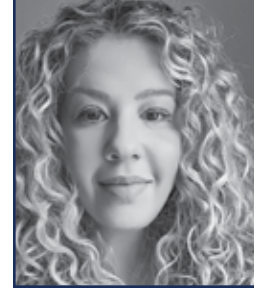
LAYERED LIGHTING

Design pros are using lighting as a functional tool, and say that task lighting must be layered for the best effect. Nighttime-specific low-glow lighting and integrated mirror LEDs support a natural circadian rhythm while offering comfort and safety. The NKBA says 91 percent of respondents cite lighting as a top priority in their bathroom designs. Mood lighting in showers and other lighting features are popular requests.

Modern bathrooms continue to evolve with features that add aesthetic appeal, sustainability and technology to these historically utilitarian spaces.



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