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King Weekly Sentinel

King's Community Newspaper

Weekly Circulation: 10,200

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

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FREE

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Volume 53, Issue 34

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Township staff and councillors gathered last week to mark the start of construction on the new Nobleton Water Treatment Plant.

Construction begins on new Nobleton Water Treatment Plant

A major milestone for Nobleton's water future – construction is now under way for York Region's new Nobleton Water Treatment Plant, marking the start of a significant investment in the community's water infrastructure.

Work includes building the new water treatment plant and incorporating iron and manganese removal technology, at the location of the current Nobleton Wells 5 & 6 facility at 12860 Highway 27 in Nobleton.

This important project will help ensure a reliable, high-quality drinking water supply for Nobleton's growing community. Supporting this work, York Region has invested \$30.6 million through its 2026 ten-year capital plan for the construction of the new plant and upgrades to existing well facilities.

Earthworks has started and is expected to continue through December 2028. Work will occur Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

No water service disruptions are expected, and access to homes and businesses will remain open. Increased construction traffic, noise and dust may be noticeable in the area.





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Let's talk

INSIDE

REGULAR FEATURES

Editorial	Page 4
Business	Page 8
Sports	Page 14
Classifieds	Page 16



Meet special guests at annual Sip & Savour.
See Page 13



The King Ride is a huge success.
See Page 14

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Making life better in King

Upcoming Meetings



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday, September 09
6 p.m. - Council Public Planning

Monday, September 14
6 p.m. - Council

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

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Tuesday, September 08
11 a.m. - Accessibility Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 10
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

King 55+ Senior Active Living Fair: Vendor applications are open

Are you a local business or community group looking to connect with seniors and caregivers? Take part in the first King 55+ Senior Active Living Fair on **Thursday, Oct. 22 from 2 to 6:30 p.m. at Zancor Centre.**

Showcase your services, connect with seniors and caregivers, and support healthy, active and independent living.

The event will feature an afternoon filled with activities, presentations, health clinics, giveaways, prizes, food and refreshments, providing an opportunity for older adults and caregivers to connect with products, services and resources.



Learn more and apply at king.ca/seniors

KING votes

Oct. 26 2026

Municipal and School Board Election

Have your say, your way.

Voting Options

For the first time, King Township is offering online voting, giving residents more ways to cast their ballot:



NEW

Online advance voting



In-person advance voting



Election Day (In-person only)

Electors will receive their **Voter Information Letter** in September which will contain their unique online voting PIN, and in-person advance and Election Day voting information.

Learn more at king.ca/elections

Registration for fall recreation programs & swim lessons is open



Programs begin the week of **September 14**

king.ca/recreation



Community Electronic Recycling Event

Have old TVs, computers, phones, printers, speakers, power tools or small appliances collecting dust?

Recycle your unwanted items safely and properly (for free) at our next electronic recycling event at **Trisan Centre on Saturday, August 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Residents are required to unload their own items. Ensure you protect your privacy by wiping all personal data and removing batteries.

king.ca/EnvironmentalEvents

Safety Improvements at King City Public Library and Senior's Centre

In partnership with York Region, new safety measures will be implemented at the accesses to the King City Seniors' Centre and Public Library on King Road, with work being completed throughout Summer 2026.

New safety measures include:

- Installing a new traffic signal at the west access to the senior centre and library to replace the pedestrian signal
- Changing accesses to one-way traffic:
 - The east access will be for entering only
 - The west access will be for exiting only
- Installing new signs and road markings to help guide motorists

This work is part of York Region's Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan to improve traffic flow and safety of all road users.

For more information about the project, visit york.ca/IntersectionSafety.
For general inquiries, call **1-877-464-9675** or email transportation@york.ca.



We're HIRING





- Attendant 1 - Facilities
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- Equipment Operator

View job postings at king.ca/employment



Stormwater Management Plan

King Township is updating its Stormwater Management Master Plan and wants your input. This plan guides how stormwater runoff is managed across the Township to:

- Reduce flooding and protect public safety
- Prevent erosion and property damage
- Protect local water sources and ecosystems
- Support sustainable growth
- Prepare for climate change impacts

Residents will have opportunities to share feedback both online and in person throughout the project.

Once complete, the plan will help shape future stormwater management policies, guidelines and asset management decisions.

Learn more and subscribe for updates at speaking.king.ca



Ontario investing over \$12.7 million to support hospitals in western York Region

The Ontario government is investing \$12.75 million to support improved operations and reduced wait times at Mackenzie Health. This funding is part of a \$1.1 billion investment into our hospital sector as part of Budget 2026, A Plan to Protect Ontario, which represents a 4 per cent increase in annual support for the fourth year in a row.

“Our government is doubling down on our commitment to deliver better healthcare, closer to home by once again increasing funding for Mackenzie Health’s hospital network,” said Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan. “This increased funding will help meet patients’ needs at both the Richmond Hill Hospital and the Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, where last month we announced a newly dedicated primary care team — expanding access to a family doctor for over 13,000 residents in King, Vaughan and York Region.”

“I am thankful for our government’s continued investments in health care to improve wait times and access to care in Richmond Hill,” said Daisy Wai, MPP for Richmond Hill. “This funding means Mackenzie Health can meet growing demand while continuing to deliver the essential services families count on. Investing in our health care system means investing in the wellbeing of every resident in our community.”

This investment will support the operations of Mackenzie Health’s core clinical services so they can better meet patient needs. This includes funding to address increased patient volumes across Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital and Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, support inflationary and wage pressures, and reduce wait times for diagnostic imaging and surgical procedures, so that people can connect to care faster.

“Our government is making historic investments to protect Ontario’s

health-care system, ensuring that more people in Richmond Hill and King—Vaughan can connect to the care they need, where and when they need it,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “This investment will allow Mackenzie Health to continue delivering the highest standard of care while reducing wait lists and wait times for patients and families, for generations to come.”

Ontario continues to make historic investments in health care. Over the next 10 years, Ontario is investing approximately \$64 billion in major health infrastructure. This is part of the government’s plan to get shovels in the ground on more than 50 major hospital projects across the province, which will deliver approximately 3,000 new hospital beds to enhance access to quality care and build a connected, people-first health-care system.

“We appreciate the Ontario government’s ongoing investment in hospital care and its recognition of the growing needs of the communities served by Mackenzie Health,” said Carmine Stumpo, Mackenzie Health President and CEO. “This funding will help support the delivery of safe, quality care across our hospitals while addressing the realities of increased patient volumes, rising costs and ongoing capacity pressures.”

Mackenzie Health is a dynamic regional health care provider that includes Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital and Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital, each with a full-service emergency department, core services such as surgery, medicine, critical care and medical imaging along with specialized programs. Its community-based locations and services continue to provide additional support to western York Region, one of the fastest growing and most diverse communities in Canada with more than 550,000 residents.

Celebrate at the King Community BBQ

Pack your appetite and bring your family, friends and neighbours to the King Community BBQ on Thursday, Aug. 20 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2920 King Road.

Hosted by the Township in partnership with the King City Lions Club, this evening celebrates community connection with good food, great company, and opportunities to explore local heritage in a welcoming public space.

The King Heritage & Cultural Centre is set against scenic grounds that are home to four of the Township’s most iconic heritage buildings. Whether you’re visiting for the first time or returning to reconnect, everyone is invited to come together and discover what the hub has to offer as a place to gather, learn and belong.

Purchase BBQ favourites, including hamburgers and sausages and cool off with a sweet treat from the on-site ice cream truck. Throughout the evening, residents can enjoy a variety of family-friendly activities and heritage experiences, including:

- Lawn games, a bubble station, colouring and crafts, sidewalk chalk art, storytelling corner featuring tales of local legends, a scavenger hunt on the grounds, heritage-themed photo booth, featuring costumes and props.
- Guided tours of the heritage buildings, including Laskay Hall (c. 1859) and the recently restored King Railway Station (c. 1852) and King Christian Church (c. 1851) are also on tap.
- Enjoy lessons from Kahéhta, the Indigenous Medicine Garden: Learn the important role of pollinators and discover pollinator-friendly plants.
- Guests can also explore the museum’s heritage displays and exhibitions – including historic maps and photographs from the Township archives – and learn more about local initiatives at the community services information booth featuring volunteer opportunities, engagement activities, a vision wall and message board.

Admission is free; however, residents are encouraged to pre-register online to help organizers plan food quantities and ensure enough BBQ favourites are available for everyone. Those who register in advance will have their name entered into a prize draw.

For more information about programs and events located at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre, or to book a tour, call 905-833-2331, email heritage@king.ca or visit kingheritageandculture.ca.



Catch basin inserts

Keeping litter out of local waterways starts at the source. King Township has installed 10 LittaTrap stormwater catch basin inserts along Main Street in Schomberg thanks to funding from Lake Simcoe Conservation. These innovative mesh baskets capture litter and debris before it can wash through the stormwater system and into the West Holland River, helping protect water quality and the environment. Township staff will regularly check the traps and clean them when they’re full.

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

Burdens, trust and the ‘economy’ of a higher power

We’ve been encouraged to bear one another’s burdens.

If we truly can do that, we embrace the truth and learn to trust.

Religious doctrine aside, we’re asked to love others, to be righteous, honest, genuine and at times, altruistic.

Humans are also trustworthy, but we’re quite guarded. Trust has taken a beating over the past decade and we’ve lost faith in our political leaders, large corporations, and others in our greed-based money economy.

We in the west live by the all mighty dollar – the economy of the marketplace. We measure success by wealth, but is money just a tool?

We’ve let money rule us – that’s the system we’ve built over centuries, from our ancestors sailing the oceans to modern entrepreneurs sending satellites into orbit.

What if we could substitute money for human commodities like love, compassion, aid, support and giving?

We throw around the word “love” like it was an everyday salutation. But we should really mean it, feel it and give it freely.

That’s what it’s all about.

I reconnected with a high school friend recently, during an hour-long conversation. Geoff, who was the best man at our wedding, moved to the U.S. many years ago for work and he’s been a successful entrepreneur. He admitted that he put business and self interests ahead of reaching out to friends, and so we seldom spoke or exchanged emails over the past 10 years.

But this one conversation, which he initiated after reading one of my columns on Facebook, was a much-needed spark, a flame of love if you will.

He was genuine in his motives, to help give me strength and hope in my time of need. We fed off of one another’s energy and at the end of the conversation, I was



Mark Pavilons

renewed, emotionally shored up.

We’re both quite intelligent and articulate so we click quite well.

The journalist in me probed and prodded and he let me into to his world, and his journey of awareness and what’s truly important in the world.

In his case, he found solace, guidance and yes, purpose, in his faith. He admitted it’s a constant journey, one that relies on the support of family, friends, even business associates.

He’s driven by Christian values and that’s reassuring, especially in the world today. We need those lessons, words of wisdom and common sense given to us in Scripture, to not only feel human, but to be part of the human equation.

He’s written a book, “The Kingdom Economy – Build a Legacy of Love in a Transactional World.” His message is simple – “Allow it open your imagination to a life – and a legacy – formed not by transactions, but by love.”

Changing our values from a monetary economy to a “Kingdom economy,” reshapes our decisions, restores our peace and transforms the way we lead, give and live.

Geoff pointed out that every economy around the globe runs on exchange – we trade something for something else. But the intent in the world economy is one of achievement, profit and control. It “rewards accumulation.”

The Kingdom economy, however, runs on relationships, not transactions.

“Love creates what pressure never can. Hope grows where fear once dictated ... And purpose begins to breathe again,” Geoff writes.

Life Geoff’s message, I think we all get to a point where we asked ourselves, “is this all there is?” We also ponder the true meaning of wealth and happiness and how we measure these things. Why don’t we gauge them in terms of love, mutual respect and understanding?

It’s really about values, since success alone can’t satisfy our lives. I believe, as Geoff does, that we all have a true calling, and have much more talent than we let on. We are born with inherent skills, unique qualities that are meant to be shared.

Mine tend to reveal themselves in the written word. But my words would be meaningless if they weren’t backed by feelings, honesty, a sense of all things human. I’d be creating gibberish if I didn’t believe in every syllable that I write.

I have often wondered, and written the phrase, “there must be more than this.”

In recent years, many people have chosen to slow down and abandon the inclination to move faster and achieve more. When we do that we see more, feel more and understand the world around us. I have always appreciated this beautiful world, from the unique abilities of

tiny insects to the composition of the Earth’s atmosphere. Every plant, tree and of course every human being, is a miracle. We all know we’re unique, and should be treating one another as priceless gems.

We humans, regardless of our heritage or country of residence, abide by rules, guidelines and laws. These laws set out government powers, and what behaviours are expected of us. Most tend to reflect basic values – refrain from committing crimes against our fellow men and women. We should be more intent on contributing, and not taking.

Sure, many regimes curtail human rights, to the point where people cannot act the way they feel in their hearts. They are prevented from gathering, protesting, and practising their religion of choice.

But here, our Charter of Rights and Freedoms, provides certain guarantees:

“Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms: (a) freedom of conscience and religion; (b) freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication; (c) freedom of peaceful assembly; and (d) freedom of association.”

With those freedoms comes responsibilities – the duty to respect others and share our beliefs and opinions. We are obligated to gather, feed off one another’s joy and energy and live in a more peaceful collective.

Our Charter is a contract – between the government and us, and between people themselves. We are bound to live in acceptance, follow our conscience and perhaps even grow and learn.

Maybe part of our journey should be to re-examine the reign of money and look to the dominion of love and personal relationships.

Who’s with us?

Letter to the Editor

Congratulations to Lions Den owners

On behalf of myself and the entire DiMeo Family, we extend our heartfelt congratulations on the opening of the Lions Den Sports Bar.

We are thrilled for all of you and excited to see the incredible accomplishments that lie ahead. We are over and above happy that all of your hard work and dedication and remarkable achievement has truly paid off.

Being residents of Nobleton for the past 58 years, we have seen and experienced several wonderful, successful attractions and businesses. This one, for sure, will be an amazing one!

May God bless you all, protect you, and keep you in loving care!

May your business be blessed with prosperity, exciting ventures and immense growth.

Cheers to your success and wishing you many health, successful years ahead.

Lina DiMeo Family
and Cutone Family



Quote of the Week

“Patience is a byproduct of tribulations.”

— Anon.

The **King Weekly Sentinel** is your community newspaper!

KingWeeklySentinel **WEBPOLL**
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Results from last week’s poll:

Have you enjoyed family activities this summer?

a) Yes

80%

b) No

20%

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

THIS WEEK’S QUESTION

Are you preparing for back to school?

a) Yes

b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

Trivia Tidbits

Your tiny toe or finger is called “minimus.”

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Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Limited, publisher of the King Weekly Sentinel and the New Tecumseth Times.			Published every Thursday

Canada can stop the bad bots blitz online

By Stig Ørskov
& Paul Deegan

Media

Humans are now outnumbered on the internet. According to researchers, bots account for more than half of all internet traffic. The consequences of this development are starting to show.

A bad bot, or a stealth bot as it is also called, is a crawler that intentionally conceals or falsifies its identity or purpose, circumvents access controls or rights reservations, or impersonates human traffic. A new bipartisan proposal in the United States - the Stealth Bot Prohibition Act – starts from a simple principle: automated crawlers should say who they are and why they are visiting websites. It is an idea WAN-IFRA, the World Association of News Publishers unreservedly endorses and that lawmakers around the world should embrace.

For news publishers, the consequences of today’s bot invasion are increasingly serious.

Malevolent actors use bad bots to steal news content - also behind paywalls – to then put it on what media analysts have called a billion-dollar reseller market, one where AI developers buy from the owners of the bots, not the journalists and publishers. They then use the stolen journalism to create substitutive products that directly compete with the publishers’ websites.

In the words of A.G. Sulzberger, “This theft isn’t just happening because publishers are leaving their toys out on the lawn; it’s happening when they are locked up safely in the house.”

Uninvited bad bots can hit pages millions of times in a single day, slowing down websites for human readers and

potentially leading to extra bandwidth charges or even total outages.

In August 2025, one UK technology site was taken offline after being scraped 1.6 million times in a single day. The problem has only escalated since: The Wikimedia Foundation, which hosts Wikipedia, now blocks or throttles roughly a quarter of all automated requests hitting its infrastructure, amounting to billions of requests a day from crawlers that ignore its access policies.

This new flood of traffic is changing the makeup of the internet itself, and in the process, creating a significant financial burden for newsrooms both large and small. Publishers have tried to stop these bots on their own by deploying sophisticated blockers, but it’s almost impossible to stop them when malicious bots are able to disguise themselves and act with impunity. Local news providers, already operating at razor-thin margins, can’t afford the higher technical costs.

The U.S. Stealth Bot Prohibition Act is deliberately straightforward. It would require AI bad bots to disclose their identity and purpose, giving news publishers and other content providers the information they need to protect their work from actors that currently often disguise themselves as humans.

The proposal has received broad support from news publishers. News Corp Chief Executive Robert Thomson has described stealth bots as “the silent scavengers of the internet,” while Condé Nast CEO Roger Lynch has warned that disguised bots scrape orig-

inal journalism “with zero accountability.”

Transparency is also the essential first step towards a functioning licensing market. Publishers cannot negotiate with companies they cannot identify or protect content when they cannot see who is taking it. The EU’s Copyright in the Digital Single Market Directive gives rightsholders the legal right to reserve “in a machine-readable way” their content from text and data mining, and since Aug. 2 AI developers can face fines of up to €15 million or 3% of global turnover for ignoring those reservations.

But that right is hollow if the machines knocking on the door are allowed to lie about who they are. An opt-out only works if the crawler reading it identifies itself honestly in the first place, and enforcement is only as strong as the ability to tell truthful crawlers from dishonest ones.

The consequences of the bad bot invasion are real. Publishers bear the cost of producing original reporting and maintaining the digital infrastruc-

ture from which it is distributed. Yet bad actors can extract that work, sell access to it and help create AI products that compete directly with the original sources.

The strip-mining of journalism must end not by pitting publishers against AI companies, but by fixing a market that currently cannot function at all. Transparency about who is crawling, and enforceable consequences when they lie about it, are the precondition for any functioning digital marketplace, whether that market rewards publishers, AI developers, or the readers both ultimately serve.

Canada, which has been a leader in smart media policy, should introduce bad bot legislation as a first step toward building a fair AI licensing market.

Stig Ørskov is CEO of WAN-IFRA (the World Association of News Publishers), representing 20,000 publications in more than 120 countries.

Paul Deegan is vice-chair of WAN-IFRA’s Committee of Directors and president and CEO of News Media Canada

Ontario releases first quarter finances

The Ontario government released the First Quarter Finances, the first update on the province’s economic and fiscal outlook since the release of the 2026 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario.

The report provides updated information on Ontario’s finances, demonstrating that the government’s prudent and responsible fiscal plan has kept the province on track while keeping costs down for families, despite ongoing economic uncertainty.

“Our government’s prudent and responsible management of Ontario’s finances has enabled us to navigate economic uncertainty and make strategic investments that strengthen our economy and communities, while cutting taxes,” said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. “Our plan will continue to protect Ontario’s workers, businesses, and jobs from the impacts of U.S. tariffs while building a more resilient and self-reliant economy for

decades to come.”

Despite increased global economic uncertainty, the government’s fiscal outlook remains largely unchanged. Private-sector forecasts for Ontario’s real GDP growth in 2026 have moderated since the release of the 2026 Budget, reflecting weaker-than-expected economic growth in the first quarter and ongoing overseas conflicts.

As of the 2026-27 First Quarter Finances, revenue is expected to improve to \$232 billion, \$0.1 billion higher than expected in the 2026 Budget, while Ontario’s net debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to remain unchanged at 37.7 per cent. Program expense is projected to be \$227.1 billion, increasing by \$0.1 billion from the 2026 Budget, while the deficit projection remains \$13.8 billion.

The government will provide its next update on the province’s economic and fiscal outlook as part of the 2026 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review later this year.



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Framework will attract data centre investment, create jobs and deliver benefits

The Ontario government launched a framework for its Data Centre Playbook, which will help the province attract the best data centre investments that drive economic growth, ensure Canadians’ data remains in Canada and deliver significant and meaningful benefits to local communities.

This framework will also ensure data centres pay the full cost of electricity, with the government only offering non-financial support to attract investments. As part of the government’s plan to protect Ontario and build the most competitive economy in the G7, this Playbook is an early initiative and key enabler of the province’s forthcoming artificial intelligence (AI) strategy to leverage the economic opportunities AI adoption will bring, including generating \$122 billion in economic growth by 2035 and creating more than 17,000 new jobs every year.

“Ontario has a choice: we can build the economy of the future and ensure Canadians’ data remains in Canada, or we can get left behind and risk Canadians’ data being sent to the U.S. and elsewhere,” said Premier Doug Ford. “Through our new Data Centre Playbook, our government is choosing to build the economy of the future to generate billions in economic growth and create thousands of new jobs, while ensuring new data centres play by the right rules and pay the full cost of electricity. Any data centre investment will need to invest significantly in local communities and pay more for electricity so no energy costs are passed on to hardworking families.”

As part of the Protect Ontario by Securing Affordable Energy for Generations Act, the Ontario government enacted new authorities that will give the Minister of Energy and Mines the final decision on which large-load facilities are permitted to connect to the province’s electricity grid, including data centres. With these enhanced authorities in place, Ontario’s Data Centre Playbook will only consider projects that accelerate economic growth with significant community investments, on terms that prioritize Ontario’s interests. The Playbook is anchored in three pillars to guide approvals for new data centres:

Advance economic development: projects that bring in significant investment, job creation and new tax revenue for the province and municipalities, support Ontario and Canada’s domestic supply chains and help businesses be more productive.

Protect data security and digital sovereignty: projects that can advance Ontario and Canada’s digital sovereignty to protect critical data and safeguard people’s information. Canadians’ data will stay in Canada.

Invest in communities and earn public confidence: projects that bring real benefits to local communities, significantly investing both financially and non-financially in host communities to drive local infrastructure developments, job creation and training, and future economic growth.

The province will only offer non-financial support to attract data centre investments, leveraging Ontario’s existing strategic advantages such as a clean and reliable electricity system, ample land space, cool climate and skilled workforce. Data centres will also pay for the cost of their impact on the electricity system, ensuring people’s electricity bills are not in-

creased. This will include proposed measures to address data centres’ impact on the electricity system by encouraging projects to build their own power generation and by establishing a separate rate class for large new data centres.

Under this proposal, new data centres above 1 megawatt (MW) in size would pay a higher rate than the industrial rate program for large electricity users. With more modern data centre technology available today than there was decades ago, Ontario will only advance data centre projects that meet Ontario’s strict environmental standards around water consumption and noise, prioritizing projects with closed-loop systems that use virtually no water during operation.

“As demand for digital infrastructure continues to grow at an unprecedented pace, our government is taking bold action to ensure Ontario’s interests remain protected and prioritized,” said Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. “The Data Centre Playbook will serve as a strategic assessment tool, ensuring that projects looking to break ground in Ontario offer significant economic, security and community benefits.”

The government is seeking public input through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) and the Ontario Regulatory Registry (ORR) for a 30-day public comment period beginning August 13, 2026. Input received through the consultation will help refine the proposed draft framework before the Ontario government releases the final Data Centre Playbook to support the broader upcoming AI Industrial Strategy that will lay a foundation to attract investment, support workers, protect intellectual property and build critical infrastructure.

“We have designed a system that protects families and ensures data centres pay for complete cost of power — every single cent. To make this point, Ontario will be introducing a new higher electricity rate for data centres, in addition to prioritization for projects that generate their own power. While we work to attract investment and store Canadian data on Canadian soil, we have strong guidelines that safeguard families every step of the way,” said King-Vaughan MPP and Minister of Energy and Mines Stephen Lecce.

Digital infrastructure projects can generate substantial community benefits including new infrastructure builds and upgrades to the electricity grid, roads, water and wastewater treatment.

Ontario is home to one of the most concentrated tech clusters in North America, with nearly 450,000 tech workers at 26,000 businesses, including more than 1,600 AI-related companies.

Since 2018, the province has secured tens of billions of dollars in technology investment in sectors such as AI, fintech, cybersecurity and quantum technologies.

Ontario has taken steps to ensure data centre growth does not come at the expense of ratepayers. The Protect Ontario by Securing Affordable Energy for Generations Act establishes regulatory authority to require specified large-load facilities, including large data centres, to receive government approval to connect to the grid.

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From Thursday, August 20 to Wednesday, August 26

THURS 20TH	FRI 21ST	SAT 22ND	SUN 23RD	MON 24TH	TUES 25TH	WED 26TH
Mainly Sunny High 23C° Low 14C° - Wind NW 18k	Sun/Clouds High 24C° Low 16C° - Wind SE 12k	Risk of T'Storm High 24C° Low 15C° ~5mm Wind S 16k	A Few Showers High 20C° Low 14C° 2-4mm Wind NW 16k	Mainly Sunny High 20C° Low 13C° - Wind NW 14k	Sun/Clouds High 22C° Low 14C° - Wind S 11k	Light Rain High 23C° Low 15C° ~1mm Wind SE 14k

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Ontario’s Joint Air Support Unit deploys first helicopter in Peel

As part of its plan to protect Ontario and keep communities safe, the Ontario government has delivered the first Joint Air Support Unit helicopter in Peel Region. The deployment marks the first helicopter to enter service through Ontario’s Joint Air Support Unit, a \$191 million provincewide initiative that is expanding aerial policing capacity across Ontario.

“Criminals are becoming more sophisticated, and our government is making sure police have the tools to stay ahead of them,” said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. “This new helicopter will help officers respond faster, coordinate more effectively and strengthen the fight against organized crime, auto theft and dangerous criminal activity.” The new H-125 helicopter will help



Peel Regional Police track stolen vehicles, respond to critical incidents, monitor dangerous driving and support investigations targeting organized crime. Equipped with advanced aviation and surveillance technology, the aircraft will strengthen frontline policing by helping officers locate suspects, coordinate emergency responses and support major public safety operations. The helicopter will also support regional and provincial policing operations through collaboration with neighbouring police services and the Ontario Provincial Police.

Ontario is investing \$134 million in the Joint Air Support Unit for police services to acquire five helicopters to serve the GTA and Ottawa, and an additional \$57 million, announced in Budget 2025, for two H-135 helicopters that will support Windsor Police Service and Niagara Regional Police Service.

“Thanks to the Ontario government, Peel Regional Police is expanding its air support capabilities through the Joint Air Support Unit, with the addition of its first helicopter. This helicopter will greatly assist our officers in locating missing people faster, safely tracking suspects from the sky, and responding more effectively to critical incidents. It is another important tool that will help our officers stay ahead of evolving threats and continue keeping our com-

munities safe,” said Peel Chief Nishan Duraipappah.

“The Ontario Provincial Police is pleased to support Peel Regional Police’s new H-125 helicopter through the Joint Air Support Unit. Aviation is an effective tool used during time-sensitive incidents, such as locating vulnerable missing persons, tracking suspects and supporting frontline operations. Together with our policing partners and support of the provincial government, we continue to strengthen our collaborative approach across Ontario to enhance public safety and protect the communities we serve,” added OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique.

“Every aircraft we deliver carries a critical responsibility, and we are deeply honoured by the confidence that Peel Regional Police and the Province of Ontario have placed in Airbus. Strong safety networks depend on true collaboration between government leaders, first responders, and industry partners. Equipping Peel Region’s frontline officers with the H-125 gives them an advanced overhead advantage combined with the visibility, performance, and reliability they need to protect residents, deter criminal activity, and build safer neighbourhoods for Ontario,” noted Dwayne Charette, President, Airbus Helicopters Canada.

Join the Mayor’s Youth Action Team

King Township is inviting youth between the ages of 14 and 18 to help shape local decisions through the Mayor’s Youth Action Team (MYAT).

Applications are now open for the 2026/27 term of this volunteer advisory group, which provides students with opportunities to engage with municipal government and share their perspectives on issues that matter to young people.

Since 2015, MYAT has empowered youth across King to champion important issues and contribute to community initiatives. Open to secondary school students in Grades 9 to 12, members work together on projects, events and recommendations that support and strengthen opportunities for youth in King Township.

As a member, you’ll have an opportunity to:

Develop leadership, communication and teamwork skills.

Build your resume and earn volunteer hours.

Connect with like-minded youth and community leaders.

Help plan and support initiatives such as the Youth Opportunity Fair, National Youth Week, the Mayor’s Cele-

bration of Youth Arts (and more).

Make your voice heard and help make life better in King.

MYAT’s objectives:

To act as an advisory body to the Mayor and Council on matters which have an impact on youth in King.

To identify and bring forward issues which will have an impact on King youth.

To foster a positive image of youth in our community by participating actively in community events and activities.

To promote positive meaningful activities for youth in partnership with the community.

To act as an advocate for youth issues.

To encourage youth to become more familiar with the workings of local government through education, involvement and participation.

MYAT meets once a month with the meeting schedule determined based on members’ feedback and availability. Members will receive volunteer hours for all meetings and events.

Become part of the next generation of community leaders. Submit your application by Friday, Oct. 9. Learn more and apply at king.ca/MYAT.



IVAN RAPPA

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I want to hear your thoughts, your concerns, and your vision for our community. Join me for a meet & greet at the dates and locations shown below, and stay tuned for additional events I will be hosting throughout our community.

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Schomberg Eye Care marks five years of serving the community

By Brittany Grenoi

There was plenty to celebrate at Schomberg Eye Care Aug. 12, as the clinic marked its fifth anniversary with an open house for the community. Residents stopped by to enjoy light refreshments, try their luck at fun raffle games with great prizes, and browse a wide selection of affordable eyewear.

Dr. Jessica Sgro and her team spent the evening chatting with visitors, sharing stories from the past five years, and thanking the community for the incredible support that has helped Schomberg Eye Care grow into the trusted practice it is today.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini also stopped by to congratulate Dr. Sgro and her staff on the milestone, while taking part in the festivities.

Over the past five years, Schomberg Eye Care has become much more than just an optometry clinic—it's become a valued part of the community. From helping patients with everything from routine eye exams to more complex vision concerns, the team has made a lasting impact on the lives of countless residents. Whether it's finding the perfect pair of glasses or providing compassionate care when it's needed most, Dr. Sgro and her staff consistently go the extra mile for their patients.

Schomberg is fortunate to have such a dedicated local business, and the anniversary celebration was a wonderful reminder of the relationships, trust and community spirit that have been built over the past five years.



Funding will connect long-term care residents to the right care, closer to home

The Ontario government is investing \$35 million to help long-term care homes across the province support residents with complex needs.

The Local Priorities Fund (LPF) supports initiatives that connect people with the right care for them, reducing unnecessary emergency department visits and hospital stays. This investment is part of the government's plan to protect Ontario by ensuring long-term care residents get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve.

"Our government is protecting our long-term care system by investing in the specialized equipment and staffing needed to address complex conditions," said Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care. "Providing consistent, multi-year funding to the Local Priorities Fund will ensure long-term care homes across the province have access to the tools they need to provide the care that residents deserve."

Minister Kusendova-Bashta made the announcement in Scarborough at the Midland Gardens Community long-term care home, which received \$67,000 in funding through the program in 2025-26 to purchase diagnostic and specialized equipment, such as a vital signs machine, to help reduce emergency department visits.

Originally launched in 2022, the Local Priorities Fund invests in staffing, equipment and services to support people's transitions from hospitals to long-term care homes, meet the needs of long-term care residents with complex conditions, and prevent unnecessary hospitalizations.

Last year, the fund supported 1,168 projects at 394 long-term care homes and service providers.

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

The Local Priorities Fund is administered by Ontario Health, an agency of the Ministry of Health.

More than 60% of long-term care residents have a dementia diagnosis.

As part of its plan to fix long-term care and address waitlists, the government is building 58,000 new and upgraded long-term care beds across the province.

"This targeted funding provides the kind of support long-term care homes need to best serve seniors. Residents are coming to us with increasingly complex health needs, but one thing hasn't changed: they deserve to live with dignity, respect and happiness. With the right tools and technology, our teams can identify changes in a resident's health earlier and help prevent unnecessary hospital visits ... residents can remain in the comfort of their long-term care community, and our teams can spend more time focused on what matters most to them and their quality of life," added Nitin Jain, President and CEO, Sienna Senior Living.

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King’s Haven Greens is developing solar facility

By Mark Pavilons
Editor

A King-based agricultural operation is making a significant investment in green technology.

Haven Greens is developing a 2 MW nameplate capacity ground-mounted solar facility that will generate renewable electricity for its greenhouse, helping offset a significant portion of its energy needs on-site.

“Aligned with our commitment to sustainability, it’s an important step in producing more of our own energy to support the growth of operations while reducing our environmental footprint, generating in excess of 3,700,000 kWh, and offsetting over 16,000 tonnes of CO2 annually,” said Jay Willmot, Founder & CEO.

Combined with their advanced greenhouse technology and automation, it’s another way they’re creating a more sustainable model for growing fresh, local leafy greens for Canadians year-round.

There are few global examples of this level of renewable energy integration with an indoor farm that achieve what Haven Greens is setting out to accomplish.

“What makes this project stand out is how we’ve designed it to work hand in hand with our greenhouse. Greenhouse growers in Ontario have experimented with agrivoltaic integration; however, past projects are either smaller in size and capacity, or are not designed to work in a localized micro-grid intended to directly support farm operations. Haven Greens is pushing the envelope regarding what has been achieved in the past by moving to a co-located single axis tracker based ground-mounted array to be placed alongside the Haven Greens greenhouse,” Willmot added.

The proposed facility design provides several key advantages over past agrivoltaic integrations with greenhouse operations, including:

Considerably greater behind-the-meter utilization of generated electrons.

Enhanced generative output through integration with smart tracking technology.

The ability to dump snow more effectively, thereby permitting greater electrical output in winter months.

Locating modules on the ground per-

mits greater sunlight inside the greenhouse operation, thereby facilitating greater crop cultivation efficiency vs. previous building integrated designs.

Facilitating soil health recovery and biodiversity gains through cover cropping with pollinator plantings, offering an added productive local food source for Kinghaven Farms’ (Haven Greens’ parent company) apiary operations and also periodic grazing of other livestock.

Every kilowatt the solar facility produces will be used on-site to help power their operations, pairing renewable energy directly with year-round food production while making our greenhouse more resilient and reducing our environmental footprint.

“Renewable energy isn’t an add-on at Haven Greens. It’s part of how we’ve designed our greenhouse from the beginning, combining automation, local production, and renewable energy to rethink how leafy greens are grown in Canada,” Willmot noted.

This project helps raise the bar at Haven Greens by strengthening the resilience of their operation through lower and more predictable long-term energy pricing, reducing emissions associated with production, and supporting their goal of delivering high-quality, locally grown greens with a smaller environmental footprint.

Willmot said they hope it helps demonstrate what’s possible for the future of greenhouse agriculture in Canada.

Canadians are prioritizing domestically-grown products and have reacted extremely positively to Haven Greens since their first harvest in March of 2025.

“Beyond supporting a local business, they love our unparalleled crunch and freshness across our various pesticide-free, ready-to-eat leafy green varieties and salad kits. We’re currently the #1 indoor lettuce grower in Ontario and our retail footprint spans retailers like Costco, Whole Foods, Sobeys, Metro, No Frills, and Giant Tiger across eight provinces. We produce more than 12,000 pounds of lettuce every day and, to meet growing demand, preparation for construction of phase two of our greenhouse is currently under way, which is planned to double our facility to 10 acres of growing space under glass,” Willmot said.



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Terry Fox encounter stirs memories for local runner

Some moments last only a few minutes but remain vivid for a lifetime.

Fifteen-year-old Diana Chubb experienced such a moment in July 1980. She was returning from a family camping trip, traveling south on Hwy. 69 near Parry Sound when she spotted a lone runner followed by a slowly moving van heading north.

She immediately recognized the runner with the distinctive stride as Terry Fox. His curly hair and t-shirt were soaked with sweat, yet his determination never seemed to waver. Diana pleaded with her parents to turn around and follow Terry. Although passing motorists honked and waved their encouragement, Diana's family was the only one to follow the Marathon of Hope van.

As luck would have it, the van soon pulled over to the side of the road. "There was only the driver of the van and one other boy," Diana recalls. She realized years later that it must have been Terry's younger brother, Darrell. She remembers hearing him call out, "Let's get you cooled down and change your shirt."

Diana jumped out of her parent's car and hurried over to Terry.

"He didn't disappear into the van, but made himself available to me," she relates: "you could tell he needed rest and that he was in discomfort. He was hot and his curly hair was dripping wet, and yet, he was kind, approachable – and he was cute! I told him how much I admired him and he thanked me."

Having learned about Terry's Marathon of Hope at school, Diana was already inspired by him and his mission: "I was in awe and took it all in. He gave me a moment that has stayed with me forever. He looked exactly like he does in the famous poster. He showed everyone what we should strive to be – caring instead of selfish. He was doing this for a great cause despite his own challenges and he wasn't giving up. Someone that special should never be forgotten nor should the cause that meant so much to him and continues to affect all of us."

That brief roadside encounter left a far greater impression than Diana could ever have imagined. Only weeks later, Canadians were heartbroken when Terry was forced to end his run after the cancer had spread to his lungs. He died the following year at the age of 22, but his dream of raising money for cancer research had already inspired a nation.

On Sunday, September 20, our community will once again have the opportunity to carry Terry's dream forward



at the 46th Annual Terry Fox Run at Wellesley Park (northwest corner of King Road and Keele St.) from 9 a.m. to noon. Whether you run, walk, rollerblade, bike, stroller, wheel, or donate, every effort honours Terry's remarkable legacy and helps fund vital cancer research.

To register and/or donate at: run.terryfox.ca/kingcity

Farm to Table dinner returns to King August 26

The King Chamber of Commerce invites the community to experience the best of King Township at its signature Farm to Table event, proudly presented by Eek Farms, on Wednesday, Aug. 26 at Sherwood Farm Retreat in King City. Open to the public, the evening is a celebration of local food, agriculture and community.

Guests will enjoy a farm-fresh dinner featuring locally sourced food from King Township farms and businesses, including grilled meats, roasted vegetables, pasta, crisp garden salad, fresh local bread and homemade desserts.

But there's more than great food on the menu. The evening will feature live music, line dancing, a local vendor market and beverages from local producers, all in the beautiful setting of Sherwood Farm Retreat.

Guests are also encouraged to bring a non-perishable food donation in support of the King Township Food Bank, helping give back to local families while celebrating the farmers, businesses and community that make King special.

Whether you come for the food, the entertainment or simply a great evening with neighbours and friends, Farm to Table is a celebration of all things local. Reserve your seat today.

Scan the QR code or visit kingchamber.ca/event-details/2026-farm-to-table



King Township is covered with kettle lakes, small, round bodies of water that were formed thousands of years ago.

After the last Ice Age, buried ice melted and filled small craters, creating Lake Seneca, Lake Marie, and smaller ponds.

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Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

Nancy Hopkinson

There will be a wonderful Ecumenical Service at the Dufferin Marsh on Sunday, Aug. 23 at 10 a.m. Nobleton-Schomberg United, St. Mary Magdalene & Christ Church Anglican, and Emmanuel & St. Andrew's Presbyterian will be sharing in the worship, which will be followed by a finger food potluck and fellowship.

Bring a chair, some finger food to share, a hat, sunscreen and bug spray! Entrance is 100 metres east of main Street on the south side of Dr. Kay Drive at the pumping station in Schomberg.



Please park along the street. Call Jack or Kim if you have any questions, 905-939-2992. This is a worth while event. People can help carry stuff for you.

The Wednesday Hymn Sings and Pot Lucks (in place of regular Sunday services) are continuing at Schomberg in August and throughout September. We gather at 5:15 p.m., for the Hymn Sing to start at 5:30 p.m. On Wednesday, Aug. 26, the hymn sing program will be lay led. We eat about 6 p.m.

The next Senior's Luncheon is Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Schomberg. The entertainment is a presentation by Rev. Nicola Skinner from Markham of her recent learning Tour in Kenya on behalf of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

The meal is an onion and cheese quiche with green salad and either peameal bacon or breakfast sausage. The dessert will be apple crisp served with ice cream. Please RSVP with Sheila Kelly (905-939-2315 or 905-751-5190) if you plan to attend as space is limited. Although the meal is free, donations are appreciated to defray costs.

On Wednesday mornings for our Zoom Coffee chat from 10 to 11 a.m. We discuss a variety of topics, including current events. If interested, email Nancy Hopkinson at nancykhopkinson@gmail.com to request the link.

Nobleton-Schomberg United Church meets at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg.



MPP Lecce welcomes 47 new Canadians

On Canada Day, Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan, welcomed 47 new Canadians at a citizenship ceremony at Vaughan City Hall. "We started Canada Day off strong welcoming 47 new Canadians at the City of Vaughan citizenship ceremony," said Lecce. "As I watched their eyes light up with pride, I reflected on my own family raising their hands to take the Oath of Citizenship, over half a century ago. Welcome home!"

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Mayor returns as honorary chair for Sip & Savour’s ‘Pura Vida’ adventure

King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini is once again lending his support to the King Township Food Bank, returning as Honorary Chair for the 13th Annual Sip & Savour fundraiser on Thursday, Oct. 22, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Holland Marsh Wineries.

This year’s theme, “Pura Vida,” transports guests to a Costa Rican rainforest, with cascading vines, tropical blooms and the sounds of the canopy setting the scene for an evening of tastings, live and silent auctions, and community celebration.

Pellegrini embraced the spirit of the theme wholeheartedly, posing with a pair of exotic parrots perched on his shoulder in the lead-up to the event, a good-humoured nod to Costa Rica’s wild canopy and a preview of the immersive atmosphere guests can expect on event night.

The mayor has served as Honorary Chair for Sip & Savour in past years and has consistently pointed to the Food Bank’s entirely volunteer-run model as a reason the event matters so much to the community.

You can meet Toookie and Ruba (shown with the mayor right) at the event, thanks to Rafat.

Sip & Savour is the Food Bank’s signature fundraiser, drawing supporters from across King Township for an eve-

ning built around food, entertainment and generosity. Guests can look forward to a tasting menu inspired by Costa Rican flavours, Latin-infused music, a keepsake photo opportunity, and La Feria, the event’s market-style auction featuring items available for bidding both in person and online.

More information is available at ktfb.ca.

‘Pure Life’

“Pura Vida” is a phrase that is commonly heard in Costa Rica. Literally translated, “pura vida” means “pure life” in English. In Costa Rica, “Pura Vida” is more than just a saying – it is a way of life, a cultural philosophy, and a state of mind. It embodies a simple, uncomplicated, and laid-back approach to life, emphasizing an appreciation for the simple things and a focus on living in the moment. It is a philosophy that values happiness, contentment, and peace above all else.

One of the key aspects of “Pura Vida” is its emphasis on gratitude and appreciation for what one has. Costa Ricans take time to savor life’s simple pleasures, such as enjoying a cup of coffee with friends, listening to the sound of the waves.



FALL REGISTRATION GUIDE



Cool Sport.
Warm Welcome.

King Curling Club welcomes youth aged 7-20 to play a game that is affordable, inclusive, social and active. Our learn-to-curl program is led by certified coaches. No experience necessary and all equipment is provided.

Start something cool this winter at the King Curling Club.

Registration opens August 24, 2026.
Sign up today at kingcurling.com

www.kingcurling.com

Fall Skating

All classes take place at the Nobleton Arena

- Canskate: Mondays 5:30pm, Wednesdays 5:30pm & Saturday mornings 8:15 and 9am
- Teen / Adult Learn: Saturdays 9am
- Power Skating: Fridays 4pm and 5pm
- Starskate: Mondays, Wednesdays & Saturdays

Starskate begins September 9
Canskate & Power begin September 28

Please visit our website for full schedule & prices.
Registration is done through our website.

Spaces are limited so be sure to register early!

Remember, all it takes is a pair of skates!

nobletonskatingclub.com
Teaching kids to skate since 1958!!
905.859.4943



King Weekly Sentinel

Sports • News • Community Events
Classifieds • At Your Service

The King Ride attracts hundreds of cyclists

The King Ride, presented by Engel & Völkers Di Matteo Team, was a tremendous success, surpassing its rider-registration goal and bringing cyclists, families, local businesses, and community members together for an unforgettable day.

Organized by B1 Gruppo in collaboration with the Di Matteo Team, the event offered something for everyone: a family-friendly 20 km. ride, a scenic 58 km. route for recreational and intermediate cyclists, and a challenging 104 km. course for experienced riders.

The longer route also featured an exciting King and Queen of the Mountain Challenge, adding a competitive element for those looking to test themselves.

Participants enjoyed coffee and pastries before the ride, followed by a fantastic lunch for riders and non-riders alike. An incredible selection of raffle prizes added even more excitement, with attendees eligible to win simply by participating.

The outstanding turnout and tremendous community support made the event a day to remember – and this is only the beginning. The King Ride is set to become even bigger in the years ahead!



Annual Race for Plunkett Torch Run

York Regional Police was proud to host the annual Race for Plunkett (Law Enforcement Torch Run) in support of Special Olympics Ontario.

The race took place Aug 5 in Newmarket.

The event raised \$35,000 for Special Olympics Ontario and hundreds of runners, walkers, volunteers, sponsors and donors honouring Detective Constable Rob Plunkett and his support of this amazing cause.

These athletes are going to thank you with a W at the Special Olympics national games in Medicine Hat and with the spirit and camaraderie on display at every event.

York Regional Police has supported the Law Enforcement Torch Run for more than 35 years. Detective Constable Rob Plunkett, who was killed in the line of duty in August 2007, served as Chair of the 2000 Special Olympics Spring Games in York Region and participants in the Race for Plunkett honour his memory and commitment to Special Olympics.

Law Enforcement Torch Run events raise funds and awareness for the Special Olympics movement.

Law enforcement officers from more than 30 countries carry the Flame of Hope in honour of Special Olympics athletes worldwide. The Torch Run is the largest fundraiser for Special Olympics in the world.

All Race for Plunkett participants support Special Olympics through their registration fee and any personal donations they collect. All money raised goes directly to Special Olympics Ontario. Registrations and donations can be done at yrp.ca/TorchRun



JCC Games host the world

For the first time in 40 years, the GTA hosted the world as 2,000 athletes came to compete in the JCCs of Greater Toronto Maccabi Games, alongside 20,000 spectators. Vaughan was the proud co-host of these Olympic-style games — a community that never wavers in our fight against antisemitism. Stephen Lecce, King–Vaughan MPP, said it was exciting to welcome — baruch haba — young Canadians from Maple to Montreal and well beyond, with Laura Smith and Chris Ainsworth.

King's Corners

King City–York Pines By Sheryl Sinka

Sunday worship has resumed at 10:30 on Sundays and we welcome back Rev. Lesley Morris on Aug. 23 to lead worship. You are welcome to join us in the auditorium for coffee, tea and conversation at 11:30 after the service.

It is with great sadness that we impart the news that a much loved member of York Pines/King City United Church, Christine Gunter, passed peacefully into our Lords comforting arms on Aug. 11, 2026, in the presence of loved ones and friends. Christine's sense of humour and laughter and her "glass half full" attitude leaves us with wonderful memories. There will be a funeral service at King City Untied Church on Saturday August 22 at 11 a.m. with light refreshments to follow. Rest in peace Christine

We would like everyone to know that the church has an accessible entrance and a 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. Let us know if there is someone we can pray for.

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, "Marks of Disciple." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and You Tube.

We will have our Open Closet clothing giveaway event on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Restrictions apply; for personal use only and not for resale.

Please visit our website for links and further information. www.kingbiblechurch.com

If you have any questions please email: Lisa Lethangue (lisa@kingbiblechurch.com) Administrative Assistant, King Bible Church, 1555 King Rd., King City, 905-833-5104.

King City Seniors (55+) By Carolyn Kanitz

The following activities will be offered at the King City Senior Centre throughout the summer months.

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 afternoons: 1 pm – Bid Euchre
Wednesday mornings: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters.
Wednesday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Bridge.
Thursday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Gentle Motion (similar to Tai Chi).
Thursday, mornings: 11 a.m. – Qigong (must be registered with the Township).
Thursday afternoons; 1 p.m. – Carpet Bowling.
Friday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Progressive Euchre.
You may contact KCSC at 905-833-6565 or kingcityseniors@gmail.com

Sacred Heart Church

We warmly welcome to Sacred Heart Parish – Rev. Peter Poel of the Capuchins of Central Canada who celebrated Holy Mass this past weekend. Who lives out the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience to God. Their lives and ministries are commitments to the poor, the sick and the needy.

Thank you to Messina Electrical for installing the LED lighting in the church area.

Upcoming events:
Sunday, September 20 – Annual Carnival & BBQ Picnic.
Saturday, October 24 – Fundraising Gala at Primavera Place; Tickets available after Mass or from the Rectory by cash, cheque or credit card.

The first phase of our Hall Renovations (washroom facilities) has been successfully completed. Our heartfelt appreciation to Arulmadha Renovation Inc. for outstanding workmanship. Much gratitude is extended to Prestige Marble & Granite, Primo Mechanical Inc, Interstone Marble & Granite Ltd, RAM Iron & Metal Inc and The Berkshire group for significant donations to modernizing the facilities. Your support is deeply appreciated.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions: Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.; Holy Mass at 7 p.m.
Holy Mass at 7 p.m.
Rectory: 905.833.1161. Email: sacred-heartki@archtoronto.org
Website: sacredheartki.archtoronto.org

to.org Facebook & Instagram: Sacred Heart Parish King

King Terry Fox Run

Join us on Sunday, Sept. 20 for the Terry Fox Run – King City/King Township and help continue Terry's dream of a world without cancer. Choose from 2 km., 5 km., or 10 km. routes, all of which are wheelchair and stroller accessible.

The event takes place at Wellesley Park (northwest corner of King Road and Keele Street), with participants welcome to start anytime between 9 a.m. and noon.

All donations support cancer research in Canada. Visit run.terryfox.ca/kingcity to donate or register today.

Garden Club

Join the Nobleton & King City Garden Club, we'll get ya growing! 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. No meetings in July and August. Guest speakers present at each meeting on a variety of garden-related topics.

Our line-up for the rest of the year is as follows, 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."

St. Andrew's Church By Kathy Patterson

Our morning worship is at 10 a.m. for the summer.

Last Sunday we had an "All Together Sunday" when our partnership church, The Well, joined us – all three campuses: King City, Bolton and Vaughan! The next "All Together Sunday" is September 6. Next Sunday Pastor Alison will continue her sermon series on "Spiritual Disciplines."

Please continue to use the East Entrance (Keele St.) Our main entrance and lobby (south) is undergoing renovations which should be ready in September.

To date we've looked at Fasting and Prayer, Silence and Solitude. Have a look at our website: st-andrews-king-city.ca.

The evening of Thursday, August 20 a group from St. Andrew's are going to Pine Farms Orchard to see the play, Pavilion. For the past three years we've looked forward to Theatre King Company's plays.

Oak Ridges Presbytery is having "Gather in Grace for Every Season" at St. Andrew's, King City on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9:30 to noon. So ladies, mark your calendars and get a ticket to reserve your spot from Pastor Alison (\$5). The money will go to support children and youth in York Region. Enjoy breakfast and the speaker, the Rev. Dr. Kristine O'Brien from Crieff Hills Retreat and Conference Centre.

All Saints Anglican By Kit Woods

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples a question that seems simple at first: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter answers him, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

It's one of those familiar passages that can be easy to read as though the question was asked long ago, answered by Peter, and settled. But I wonder if Jesus' question is one that each of us is invited to answer throughout our lives: Who do you say that I am? Who is Jesus to you?

Perhaps that is a question we don't ask ourselves very often. We may call ourselves Christians. We may attend church, say our prayers, know the stories, sing the hymns and participate in the traditions of our faith, but underneath all of those things is a much more personal question: What does Jesus actually mean to me and to the way I live my life?

Perhaps an equally important question is this: Is my answer still changing? Because we don't need to have all the answers. Faith isn't an exam we eventually pass by figuring everything out. It's a relationship that grows and changes as we do. There will be times when we feel certain of what we believe and other times when we struggle. There will be questions that lead to answers and answers that lead to even more questions. It isn't a failure of faith because often that's how faith deepens.

We gather around the ancient stories, but we bring our present lives with us: our joys and griefs, our doubts and hopes, our experiences and questions. Together, we keep discovering what those stories mean.



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800-667-9328 or sunbeltrentals.com



Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul’s Church
By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person for worship this Sunday at 10 a.m. We welcome Tim Walker who bring God’s word to us.

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.

St. Paul’s monthly men’s group meet on the first Saturday of every month which includes a scrumptious breakfast. Our next meeting will be this Saturday, Sept. 5 at 9 a.m.

St. Mary’s Catholic Church

CWL upcoming events – Bingo on Sept. 2 at 7:30 church hall and continuing every 1st Wednesday of each month. Regular CWL meetings will start every 2nd Tuesday of the month; first one Tuesday, September 8 at 7:30.

Nobleton Seniors (55+)
By Joanne Bailey
Program Chair

Regular Nobleton King Connections 55+ Scheduled Programs are: Regular scheduled educational Thursday events have ended for the summer months.

We will resume on Thursday, Sept. 10 at 10 a.m. Fall events to be announced in late August.

CHATS 55+ Fitness Program (FULL). Wednesdays 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. Nobleton Senior Room – Nobleton Arena.

This program is currently full, however, participants can still join the waitlist if interested. The next session will start in September. More details to be released in August.

Cards and Social – Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:15 p.m. Nobleton Senior Room – Nobleton Arena. Join us for cards and

social time. Various games to choose from!

A valid King Connections 55+ membership is required.

Art Social – Fridays 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Nobleton Senior Room – Nobleton Arena. Join us for conversations and art making. Bring your own creative projects and enjoy making art side by side. Participants are required to bring their own supplies.

A valid King Connections 55+ membership is required.

Non-members are welcome in all King Connections 55+ programs. There is a fee \$3 for residents and \$5 for non-residents.

Valid King Connections 55+ members have access to daily drop-in programs out of all 3 senior spaces – King City Seniors Centre, Nobleton Senior Room and Trisan Centre. Members also receive discounts and a weekly email to stay up to date with all King 55+ programs and services. To learn more about becoming a King Connections 55+ member visit king.ca/seniors, email seniors@king.ca or call 905-833-6565.

Garden Club

Join the Nobleton & King City Gar-

den Club, we’ll get ya growing! 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. No meetings in July and August. Guest speakers present at each meeting on a variety of garden-related topics.

Our line-up for the rest of the year is as follows, 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

Kingcrafts Studio
Art Show & Sale

Showcasing local talent, we invite you to come engage with the artists and other art lovers.

More on Page 17

Classifieds

Phone 905-857-6626 or 1-888-557-6626
or email vicki@lpcmedia.ca

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WE PAY CASH for scrap vehicles - any size. We also buy construction and farm equipment. Open 7 days a week. Call 905-859-0817 (Peter)



602 ARTICLES FOR SALE

ALLOY RIMS from 2012 Nissan Sentra SE-R for sale, P225/45R-17", bolt pattern 5x4.5", all season tires have a season or two left in them. Asking \$100. Call or text 705-434-8936 (Cookstown)

601 ARTICLES WANTED

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Call James at 416-569-9976.

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Year Round! Pick-up Available
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602 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Grass fed/finished Angus freezer beef for sale. Sides, quarters and bundles.

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905-460-4662,
blackcow@sympatico.ca

610 FIREWOOD/ TREES

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Zach Shoub
416-803-9940
zach@lpcmedia.ca



SUPPORT YOUR
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Nobleton Notes

From Page 16

Browse & shop a variety of unique fine art pieces. We look forward to welcoming you!

The show runs Saturday, September 26, and Sunday, September 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kingcrafts Studio is located at 12936 Keele Street, King City.

Nobleton Lions

Proceeds from the Club's fundraising events go to caring organizations like Hope House Community Hospice. Hope House provides free, compassionate support to individuals and families navigating serious illness, caregiving, grief, and bereavement. Through professional staff, trained volunteers, and community-based programs, it offers care that honours dignity, choice, and the whole person – mind, body, and spirit.

The Lions continue to welcome new members with a heart to serve, both men and women. You may join us as a guest when regular meetings resume on September 8 by contacting Lion Gunther Vetter at 416-807-5469. We meet at 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 7, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from September to the end of May at the Nobleton Arena.

To learn more about how the Nobleton Lions engage with both the local community and the wider Lions International worldwide community, please visit our website which can be accessed by Googling "www.Nobleton Lions Club" At the website on the Upcoming Events page you will also see announcements for events offered by non-profit organizations in King. If you have an activity that qualifies, please contact President Lion Gunther Vetter at 416-807-5469.

You may also follow us on Instagram at nobleton.lions.club



MPP hosts BBQ, World Cup watch party

It was a great afternoon at Minister Stephen Lecce's annual Family BBQ, followed by an exciting FIFA World Cup Final watch party. Congratulations to Spain on becoming the 2026 FIFA World Cup Champions! Thank you, Team Lecce, for hosting another fantastic community event. Always great to connect with residents and enjoy a day of community and soccer. Here, Lecce is joined by Vaughan councillors Linda Jackson and Chris Ainsworth.

Classifieds

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or email vicki@lpcmedia.ca

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SEPT 18TH - Tool & Equipment Sale

SEPT 25TH - Currency / Art / Jewelry Auction

OCT 8TH - Locked & Loaded Sale

OCT 9TH - Gas and Oil Auction - Pumps, signs, cans, toys

NOV 23RD-28TH - Straight Shooter Sale

DEC 11TH - Antiques, Collectibles & Quality Household Items

DEC 18TH - Currency / Art / Jewelry Auction



Interested in absentee bids? Consigning in an upcoming sale?
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602 ARTICLES FOR SALE



Ancient Scythian short sword, dating to roughly 200 BC. A very nice, preserved specimen at 22" long. With wood stand. Scythian pommel swords (a variation of akinakes), were characteristic of Scythian and Sarmatian nomadic cultures in Eurasia. Discovered in Ukraine. Professionally cleaned and sealed with micro wax. A great, rare collectible. Asking \$1,200.
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THURS. AUG 27TH @ 6:30 PM
VIEWING THURS. AUG 27TH 11 AM - 2 PM
PICK UP FRI AUG 28TH 10 AM - 2 PM

Sale Offers John Deere 2755 - 2 WD tractor w/cab, 8 sp, remotes, A.C.; John Deere1830 - 2 WD tractor w/cab, (10 hrs on new rebuilt engine); John Deere 2130 w/145 ldr.; Buhler Allied 9620 dble 8' snowblower; Frontier RC2072 -6' rotary mower (as new); harrows; J.D. grader blade; 50' & 80' overhead pipe bale elevators; barn fans; Belgian horse pictures; Carlsberg barrel plaques & jackets; horse blankets, wraps, ladders, benches; furniture; appliances; Wayne gas pump; J.D. D150 lawn mower; Tool box, tools, weed eaters; etc. Loader available. **For full list and pictures go to severnauctions.hibid.com**

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Bob Severn Auctioneer
severnauctions@hibid.com

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Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

The countdown has started for the return to school, just over two weeks till all the kids go back. The Ex starts this Friday and as I write this the phrases “Doggy Doggy” and “do you want to go faster” come to mind. Not to mention the double bubble and huge bag of chocolate bars from the food building, great memories. Time to make some memories before summer ends.

Mug Run

The “Schomberg Mug Run and Beer-fest” is back and this year takes place on September 19; you can find more information on their website Schomberg-mugrun.com.

Country Run

Also returning is the 16th annual Schomberg Country Run, which takes place on Saturday, September 26. They are looking for volunteers to help, if you’re interested, please reach out to Steve at starcress@rogers.com or call 416-723-4510. Time to get in shape and get those runners out of the closet.

E-waste drop-off

King is hosting an e-waste drop off this Saturday, August 22, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Trisan.

Grant program

Residents, organizations, and community groups are invited to apply for the 2026 Enrich King Community Grant Program.

If you have an idea that will support community events, inclusion, environmental action or innovative community solutions, funding may be available to help bring it to life. Last year, more than \$30,000 was awarded to support local initiatives across King. Applications close November 1, 2026.

Learn more and submit your proposal at enrichking.ca.

Free mulch

Give your garden the nutrients it needs to grow! Help yourself to FREE woodchips (mulch) at Cold Creek Conservation Area, while quantities last. Stop by the Visitor Centre parking lot between 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. any day of the week. For more information, visit coldcreek.ca

Artists sought

Calling all artists! “A Main Street Christmas” is searching for a local artist to create the featured artwork for their 2026 commemorative poster. The medium can be a 2D artwork, including oil, acrylic or watercolour. The theme is winter and must include a sleigh, and bright eye-catching colours are encouraged. The selected artist will receive \$500 cash, a commemorative plaque featuring the poster, four event passes. You can apply at Schomberg.ca.

Farmers’ Market

Calling all local farm stands, produce growers, artisans, handmade goods vendors, and food producers! Take part in the first-ever Harvest King Fall Farmers Market on Sunday, Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the King Township Municipal Centre. Hosted in partnership with the King Environmental Action Team, this free community event celebrates the deep agricultural roots that continue to shape King Township today.

Vendor details: Space: 10’ x 10’, Set-up: 8 to 9:15 a.m., Teardown: 2 to 3 p.m. Table rentals (6 and 8 ft): \$15 (plus HST). Fees to secure a spot are \$25 (plus HST) for businesses; spots are free for designated Township community group affiliates.

Connect directly with residents, attract new customers, and build brand awareness in King Township and beyond! Apply online by September 4 at king.ca/KEAT

Sip & Savour

King Township Food Bank is thrilled to announce Pura Vida, its 13th annual Sip & Savour fundraiser, happening Thursday, Oct. 22 at Holland Marsh Wineries. Mayor Steve Pelligrini has graciously agreed to return as honor-

ary chair. Volunteers are working creatively behind the scenes to bring you an immersive Costa Rican rainforest experience that you won’t want to miss. Whether you’re a longtime supporter or curious first-timer, Sip & Savour delivers a great night of good food, fun and fundraising for a worthy cause. Tickets go on sale soon — stay tuned for details.

On a personal note, I will be out and about in Schomberg looking for donations for the silent auction, watch for me or if you would like to donate, please drop me an email.

Simcoe Currency Club

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

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

Schomberg Euchre Club

Euchre is every Thursday night at Trisan in the Curling Lounge 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.

Schomberg 55+

Our next bus trip will be Toronto City Lunch/Boat Tour scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 15, max capacity 50, \$159 for members, \$169 for non-members. Pick up at both the Trisan and King City Arena. You’ll enjoy a bus tour of the city with Bruce Bell, followed by lunch at the Hot House Café, then a guided harbour cruise followed by a visit to the Cheese Boutique, return home by 6 p.m. You can sign up online or in person at Trisan, King City Senior Centre, Zancor or Nobleton Arena

Our Schomberg 55+ Group is taking a summer break and will be back September 3. We have lots of exciting things lined up for the fall, so stay tuned for our fall line-up.

Please note that all the weekly activities end this week and will resume in September, except for bid euchre which will be going through the summer, it will change over Wednesdays 1 to 3:30 p.m in Multi Room A at Trisan.

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

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

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



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What buyers can do to improve chances their offer is accepted

The real estate market can be highly competitive. When inventory is limited and prices are high, prospective buyers must be ready to pounce and make an offer before the competition kicks up and the home is off the market.

The ability to move quickly with an offer can help buyers land a home in a competitive market, but that decisiveness may not be enough to ensure an offer is accepted. Buyers accustomed to the home buying process know there's no guarantee an offer will be accepted, but they can take steps to improve their chances of standing out in a competitive market where sellers may be fielding multiple offers at once.

- Use recent sales data to inform your offer. Though there are places with non-disclosure laws that do not mandate property sales prices be made public, such data is readily available in many areas. That information can be invaluable to home buyers in competitive real estate markets because it gives them a strong idea of how much homes have been going for in towns and even specific neighbourhoods they're targeting with their search. That data also tends to be relied upon when sellers list their homes. Sellers may see how much a neighbour's home sold for and use that to set the price of their own homes. With that knowledge in hand, buyers can tailor their offers to reflect recent sales figures.

- Obtain a mortgage preapproval. Bank of America notes that a mortgage pre-qualification estimates what buyers might be able to borrow based on a credit check and information they provide, such as income data. Once that information is provided, prospective buyers may obtain a preapproval if a lender deems them creditworthy. A preapproval is important because it shows sellers that a buyer has the credit and financial backing necessary to follow through on an offer. Many sellers ask if bidders are

preapproved because the preapproval facilitates a quicker sale.

- Increase your earnest money offer if you're truly committed to buying a particular home. Fulton Bank advises buyers to offer more earnest money, which is akin to a good faith deposit toward the purchase of a home. A typical earnest money deposit may be somewhere between 1 and 3 percent of the purchase price, but an earnest money offer of 5 percent may indicate to sellers that you're a committed buyer. But Fulton Bank notes that buyers who rescind their offers may or may not have their earnest money offer refunded.

- Speak to your agent or realtor about including an escalation clause. It's always best that buyers work with a real estate agent or realtor when looking for a home. When you find a property that interests you in a competitive market, discuss with your real estate representative if an escalation clause might boost the chances that your offer is accepted. Rocket Mortgage notes that an escalation clause is part of a real estate contract that indicates a buyer is willing to automatically raise their offer on a home if the seller receives a higher offer. The escalation clause indicates the most a buyer is willing to offer. The inclusion of an escalation clause is a big decision, which is why it can be so helpful to speak with your representative before deciding for or against including one in your offer.

It can be hard to compete in the real estate market. But there is much buyers can do to increase the chances their offers are accepted.

MARKET UPDATE – JULY 2026

AURORA

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

\$1,301,811

AVERAGE 57 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

62

163 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

95%

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

-4.57%

KING

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

\$2,028,099

AVERAGE 71 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

20

88 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

94%

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

-5.23%

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

The York Region market continued to gain momentum in July as conditions became more competitive for buyers. Across the GTA, home sales were only slightly lower than last July, but new listings dropped much more significantly, giving buyers fewer homes to choose from and tightening overall market conditions. As a result, well-priced homes are seeing strong interest, and if this trend continues, average selling prices could stabilize through the second half of the year.

For buyers: While you still have more choice than during the peak market years, quality homes are moving quickly. Being prepared and ready to act when the right property comes along is becoming increasingly important.

For sellers: Buyers are active but selective in their searches. Homes that are priced strategically, marketed professionally, and show well are continuing to attract serious interest and strong offers.

Whether you're planning to buy, sell, or simply curious about your home's value, understanding today's market can help you make confident decisions. The Key Advantage Team is always here to provide trusted advice and guidance.

– Provided by Key Advantage Team Royal LePage RCR Realty

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* Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract.



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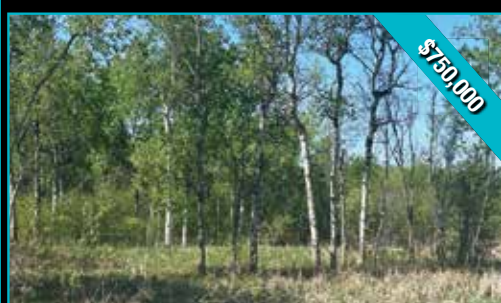
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For many long-time homeowners, the family home represents more than four walls. It holds years of memories, milestones, and hard work. But there comes a time when the home that once fit perfectly may no longer support the lifestyle you want now.

Too many stairs, unused rooms, rising maintenance costs, yard work, repairs, and the day-to-day responsibility of managing a larger property can become overwhelming. For many homeowners in King and the surrounding communities, downsizing is not about giving something up. It is about creating more freedom, more comfort, and a better plan for the years ahead.

One of the biggest realities facing today's downsizers is this: many homeowners are equity rich but cash poor. They may own a valuable home, often with significant equity, but still feel limited by monthly cash flow, rising expenses, taxes, maintenance, utilities, and the cost of everyday living.

That can create a difficult feeling. On paper, the homeowner has wealth. In daily life, they may not feel financially comfortable.

This is where a thoughtful downsizing plan can make a meaningful difference.

Selling a larger home and moving into a property that better fits your current needs may allow you to unlock equity, reduce expenses, and create more flexibility. The proceeds from the sale can potentially be used to support income, improve lifestyle, reduce financial pressure, help with future care needs, or assist family members. The key is to make those decisions with the right professional advice.

Downsizing should never be treated as simply selling one house and buying another. It is often a major financial, legal, emotional, and lifestyle transition. Done well, it can create a more secure and comfortable next chapter. Are you looking for a bungalow, condo, townhome, retirement community, or something closer to family and amenities?

A strong downsizing strategy starts with understanding your full picture. What is your current home realistically worth in today's market? What repairs, updates, staging, or preparation will help maximize the sale price? What type of next home will truly support your lifestyle? For many people, the emotional side of downsizing is just as important as the financial side.

Just as important, what will the financial impact be after the sale?

Many downsizers benefit from speaking with financial professionals about how to turn home equity into income in a way that supports their monthly lifestyle. This may include investment planning, tax planning, cash-flow planning, and conversations about how much money should remain accessible for future needs.

Legal planning is also an important part of the process. Homeowners should understand how their assets are structured, how their estate plan is set up, and what steps may help reduce unnecessary probate costs so more of their money goes to the people and causes they care about — rather than being lost to avoidable fees or delays. These decisions should always be made with qualified legal and financial professionals, but they should not be ignored until the last minute.

There are also practical considerations. What should be sold, donated, stored, or passed down to family? How much space will you actually need? What furniture will fit? What belongings are truly meaningful? For many people, the emotional side of downsizing is just as important as the financial side.

That is why having the right team matters.

Michele Denniston understands that downsizing is not just a real estate transaction. It is a life transition.

Through trusted professional collaborations with top-notch specialists — including financial, legal, organizing, staging, moving, and real estate professionals within trusted companies such as The Co-operators and RBC — Michele helps ensure all the important bases are covered. The goal is to make the process smoother, less overwhelming, and focused on the best possible outcome: helping you move into a more comfortable next chapter with confidence.

If you are starting to wonder whether your current home still fits your life, the first step does not have to be a sign on the lawn. It can simply be getting informed.

To request your **FREE copy of our 32-page comprehensive Downsizing Guide**, contact **Michele Denniston, Broker, Century 21** at **416-433-8316** or **michele@micheledenniston.com**. This valuable resource is designed to help you understand your options, avoid common mistakes, and start planning your next chapter with clarity.

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WRITTEN BY: The Michele Denniston Real Estate Team



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How to make a real estate listing stand out

The real estate market is notably competitive. While the competitive nature of real estate is often discussed in terms of buying, sellers might face some stiff competition when trying to make their properties stand out.

The popularity of real estate listing websites like Zillow, Trulia and Redfin has made it easier than ever for buyers to find properties for sale. But those sites feature so many listings that it's not always easy for sellers to make their properties stand out. With that in mind, homeowners can work with their real estate agents or realtors to tailor a listing that's sure to draw the attention of buyers.

• IDENTIFY WHAT MAKES YOUR PROPERTY UNIQUE
Homeowners can take a tour of their properties with their real estate representative to identify what makes their homes and grounds unique. Details like the number of bedrooms and bathrooms and the

total square footage certainly draw the attention of buyers, but neighborhoods tend to feature similarly sized properties. But an emphasis on unique features, whether it's a fully finished basement or a recently remodeled outdoor living space, can make a listing stand out.

• READ A LISTING AS IF YOU WERE A PROSPECTIVE BUYER
In addition to emphasizing the unique features of your home, you can read a draft of your listing to see if it would appeal to you if you were a buyer. Does the listing adequately convey what makes your property special? Is there enough information about the property? Does the listing get into specifics or is the description generalized? Buyers will look at an assortment of listings, and it can be easy to confuse one with another. Concise but detailed characterizations can increase the chances buyers remember your listing.

• EMPHASIZE KEY CHARACTERISTICS IN BULLET POINTS
A listing that's too wordy may not be read in full, but work with your real estate representative to identify points of emphasis and even list those as bullet points to make the listing more reader-friendly.

• BE HONEST
Buyers come from all walks of life, but none want to read a listing and then feel as if they've been misled upon visiting a property. While it may seem as though everyone wants a move-in ready home, many buyers will not scoff at a listing that notes DIY potential. At the same time, if a home is indeed move-in ready, emphasize that so buyers who don't want to swing any hammers know they won't have to if they buy your home. An honest characterization will attract buyers, while a misleading description of the property will come across as a red flag that will make buyers wonder what else sellers might be hiding.

• HIGHLIGHT THE AREA AS WELL
Buyers aren't just investing in a home, they're investing in a place to set down roots. Consider the town where you live and use the listing to highlight its strong points. If your town is a walkable locale with a thriving local shopping and food district, emphasize that in your listing. If the town boasts a top-notch school system, be sure to allude to that in the listing.

Sellers and their real estate representatives can employ various measures when writing a property listing to make it stand out.

Renovations with the biggest bang for your buck

While many renovations add value to a home, some offer more value than others. When allocating dollars to renovations, particularly when finances are tight, homeowners may want to direct their efforts to those projects that will offer the highest rate of return on investment. Each year Zonda Home, in conjunction with Remodeling magazine, puts together a list of high-return projects. Exterior projects drive the most value for owners who are selling their homes, and they consistently top the list of high-ROI improvements. Here are five projects offering a strong ROI that homeowners may want to consider.

1 GARAGE DOOR REPLACEMENT: A garage door replacement is part of the curb appeal improvements homeowners can consider. At an average cost of \$4,672, it offers a recouped cost of 267.7 percent according to the 2025 Zonda report.

2 STEEL DOOR REPLACEMENT: Also boasting an ROI north of 200 percent, a steel door installation is a wise choice for homeowners who want to drive up the value of their homes.

3 MANUFACTURED STONE VENEER: Manufactured stone veneer is a manmade masonry product that looks like natural stone but is lightweight and easier to install. It can offer a recouped cost of 207.9 percent on the \$11,702 investment.

4 FIBER-CEMENT SIDING REPLACEMENT: Homeowners in the market for new siding can consider fiber-cement siding, which will see the investment recoup slightly more than 100 percent of its cost.

5 MINOR KITCHEN REMODEL: Kitchens are the heart of a home, and a minor remodel offers a 113 percent return. Inside the home the golden rule is to keep things simple. Minor remodels tend to offer a better rate of return than major ones. Buyers will pay for move-in ready and updated, but sellers likely will not recoup the costs for luxury upgrades or over-the-top renovations.

It's important to note that 2025 was the first time a practical backup generator made the list of top improvements. Falling into the number seven spot, the generator averaged a return of 95.3 percent, which underscores how homeowners are gearing improvements toward the changing climate and unpredictable weather.

Those remodeling primarily to increase equity for future sales may want to consider exterior projects and basic kitchen improvements.



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Cleaning tips for a healthy home

(NC) Many Canadians won't wait for winter to wind down to tackle a major cleaning. It can give a real feeling of a fresh start and a sense of ownership and pride in your space. Whenever you get around to deep cleaning your home, here are some safety tips to keep in mind:

READ AND FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Many cleaning products—even some labelled eco-friendly or organic—contain ingredients that can harm your health if not used properly. Always read the label before using a new cleaning product to be aware of the hazards and understand the precautions you should take during use. Never mix different cleaning products together. Combining bleach with ammonia, for example, can create a toxic gas.

LEARN THE HAZARD SYMBOLS

Hazardous cleaning products include safety information on the label. Look for hazard symbols on the front of the product to give you information about the danger.

There are three types of hazard labels you should know about:

- **A FLAME:** the product is flammable
- **SKULL AND CROSSBONES:** the contents are poisonous
- **A BONY HAND:** the product is corrosive.

The frame of the hazard symbol is also important:

- **A TRIANGLE:** symbolizes that it is the container that is dangerous
- **AN OCTAGON:** symbolizes that the contents inside are dangerous

Teaching children from an early age to stay away from containers with hazard symbols can help keep them safer.

GEAR UP

Reading the label will tell you if you need to wear protective equipment like gloves when using certain products. In other cases, you'll want to wear clear safety glasses or goggles to protect your eyes. You should also remove your contact lenses if you wear them before starting cleaning to prevent irritation from contact with chemicals or particles in the air.

SAFE STORAGE

Always leave cleaning products in their original containers so everyone can read the safety information on the label. If you have young children in the house, all cleaning products should be stored in a locked cupboard or on a high shelf that's out of their reach.

By taking some simple steps, you can enjoy a sparkling clean living space and keep yourself safer. Find more safety information at canada.ca/healthy-home.

www.newscanada.com



(NC) With the cost of living on the rise, many homeowners are skipping big renovations and opting for smaller, smarter updates instead. A few DIY refreshes can make your home feel brand new, create a great space for hosting and even add value, all without breaking the bank.

Something to note: Some major updates can affect your home's replacement value, so you should check with your insurer before starting. Some providers, such as Belairdirect, have apps that let you review your coverage, get a quote in minutes and make updates easily, all from your phone. That way, you can move forward with confidence and get straight to the fun part:

1 GIVE YOUR SPACE AN INSTANT FACELIFT.

You don't need a full renovation to make your home feel fresh. A coat of paint or swapping outdated cabinet hardware, door handles and light fixtures can make a big visual impact and are easy to do yourself.

2 SET THE MOOD WITH SMARTER LIGHTING.

Good lighting changes how a space looks and feels. You can get brighter, longer-lasting light at a lower energy cost by replacing incandescent bulbs with LEDs. Outside, solar pathway lights or string lights can instantly create a warm, inviting atmosphere, per-

fect for that casual summer get-together.

3 CREATE YOUR OWN BACKYARD RETREAT.

Pick one area and make it feel like an extension of your home. You can add shade with a canopy or umbrella, bring in comfortable seating, lay down an outdoor rug to define the space and add planters or flowers for a pop of colour.

4 KEEP THE COOL AIR IN.

Check windows, doors and doorframes for small gaps that let cool air escape. Weatherstripping or caulking is a simple, affordable fix that helps keep your home comfortable year-round. A programmable thermostat can also help manage heating and cooling automatically when you're not home.

With a little creativity and a weekend or two, you can make your home feel like new again. Find more home tips at belairdirect.com.

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Your house is not a Costco hot dog



By Julien Laurion
Real Estate

There are very few things in life that have managed to resist inflation, market swings, interest-rate changes, and general economic chaos. The Costco hot dog is one of them. Your house is not.

And yet, when it comes time to sell, homeowners can become remarkably attached to a number they have in their head. Maybe the neighbour got \$1.6 million three years ago. Maybe an online calculator suggested a magical number. Maybe a friend at a barbecue said, “You’d definitely get at least...” Dangerous words.

Real estate markets move, sometimes quickly. What a buyer was willing to pay in 2021, 2022, 2024—or even six months ago—doesn’t automatically tell us what they’ll pay today. That doesn’t mean your house suddenly became worse. It means the market changed.

This is probably one of the hardest conversations I have with sellers because our homes aren’t just financial assets. They’re personal. We remember the renovations, the new roof, the kitchen we spent six months arguing over, the landscaping, the hardwood floors, and the contractor who somehow disappeared for three weeks halfway through the bathroom. We know what we spent. Unfortunately, buyers don’t care nearly as much as we do.

A \$100,000 renovation does not necessarily add \$100,000 to the sale price. Sometimes it adds more. Sometimes less. And occasionally that custom feature you absolutely love causes a buyer to stand there quietly wondering how expensive it will be to remove. That’s real estate.

The biggest mistake sellers can make in a changing market is pricing based on what they want the house to be worth instead of paying attention to what buyers are actually doing. The market gives us clues: How

many comparable homes are available? How long are they sitting? Are they selling under asking? Are buyers competing? What condition are the homes in? And, most importantly, what did the most recent sales actually achieve—not the ones from two or three years ago that make everyone feel warm and fuzzy?

Here’s the part that sometimes sounds backwards: pricing higher doesn’t necessarily result in getting more money. In fact, it can do the opposite.

The first couple of weeks a property hits the market are usually when it gets the most attention. Buyers who have been watching the neighbourhood see it immediately. Agents send it to their clients. Everyone takes a look. If the price feels disconnected from reality, many buyers don’t negotiate. They simply move on.

Then two weeks becomes four. Four becomes six. Eventually the price gets reduced, and suddenly everyone starts wondering what’s wrong with the house. Usually, nothing is wrong with it. It was just priced wrong. And that’s where sellers can end up chasing the market downward instead of meeting it where it is.

None of this means you should give your house away. Quite the opposite. Good pricing is about extracting the strongest possible result from the market that actually exists. There’s a big difference between pricing aggressively and pricing unrealistically. One creates interest. The other creates lawn-sign longevity.

As both a Realtor and someone who spends a lot of time renovating houses, I probably look at value a little differently. I’m always thinking about what a buyer

sees, what needs updating, what adds value, and what simply makes the home nicer to live in. Those aren’t always the same thing.

Sometimes a relatively small investment before listing can create a meaningful return. Fresh paint, lighting, repairs, decluttering, landscaping, or finally fixing those little things you’ve stopped noticing because you’ve lived with them for ten years can make a major difference. Other times, spending \$80,000 renovating a kitchen three months before selling makes absolutely no sense. The trick is knowing the difference.

So if you’re thinking about selling, try to forget the number your neighbour got during the frenzy. Forget what someone at the golf course told you your house is worth. Start with what buyers are telling us today.

Because while I admire Costco’s commitment to keeping that hot dog at the same price forever, unfortunately the housing market has never agreed to the same deal.

Julien Laurion
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Low maintenance
landscape features

Outdoor entertaining spaces have come a long way over the last several decades. While a simple deck or patio might once have been the norm, outdoor entertaining spaces have now evolved into multi-purpose spaces featuring full kitchens, living rooms equipped with televisions, and areas to gather around a fireplace or built-in firepit.

While hardscaping garners considerable attention when planning an outdoor entertaining space, landscaping should not be overlooked. Many homeowners want to enjoy their outdoor entertaining spaces without having to spend too much time tending to the surrounding grounds, which can make these low-maintenance landscape features the perfect fit.

NATIVE PLANTS: Native plants are low maintenance because they are naturally adapted to the local climate. That means homeowners won't have to expend extra effort and energy watering plants or amending the soil. Non-native species may provide some bold colors, but that comes at the cost of additional maintenance. There's also an environmental cost when planting non-native species, as the United States Environmental Protection Agency warns that non-native species typically displace natives, which can adversely affect the local ecosystem.

PERENNIALS: Homeowners looking to accent their outdoor entertaining areas with flowers can choose perennials over annuals. Perennials live for three or more years, and some species can even live for a decade or more. While they might require some seasonal pruning, perennials will not need to be replanted each year like annuals.

TOLERANT PLANTS: Plants that can tolerate the local climate generally fall under the native category. But it's especially important that homeowners who don't want to expend much effort on landscape maintenance look for plants that can tolerate drought. A recent study from researchers at UCLA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, and CIRES predict drought conditions will last longer, cover wider areas, and become more severe as the climate continues to warm. Drought-resistant plants may still require some watering if such predictions hold true. However, such plants will not require as much maintenance as those that are less equipped to handle drought. Homeowners who choose plants with drought-tolerance in mind won't have to spend as much time watering and also can protect their financial investment.

Outdoor entertaining spaces are meant to be enjoyed. And homeowners may enjoy such spaces a lot more if they opt for low-maintenance landscape solutions.



Is a
sunroom
right for you?

There is no denying the appeal of a sunroom. Sunrooms bring more of the outdoors inside by bridging the gap between home and yard.

Demand is shifting, with more than 61 percent of homeowners now preferring four-season insulated rooms for year-round use, according to Market Reports World. A sunroom has the potential to offer a roughly 50 percent return on investment and can cost anywhere from \$22,000 to \$72,000 on average.

A sunroom addition is a significant investment and a decision not to take lightly, as it changes both the interior floor plan and backyard space. To decide if a sunroom really is a worthwhile endeavor, it's important for homeowners to consider the footprint of their homes/ yards, how they plan to use the space, and the amount of sun the home receives.

HOME FOOTPRINT

Professionals with the National Association of Realtors say that a sunroom should not consume more than 30 percent of the remaining backyard and urge homeowners to avoid over-developing a lot. If installing a sunroom will leave a homeowner with only a

small patch of yard afterwards, the result can feel heavy and unbalanced. It also won't match the neighborhood. Another consideration is the local zoning ordinances where a person lives. The City of Los Angeles, for example, warns that most towns require a setback between the sunroom structure and the property line. It's also important to look at the home's roof and whether or not the sunroom will fall right under the eaves or if it will require an expensive tie-in to the existing roof.

UTILITY

It is vital that homeowners determine how they will use the space and when. This will dictate the type of sunroom that should be built. A three-season room is typically uninsulated with only single-pane glass. This is ideal if someone is looking for a screened-in retreat without all of the bugs and a little weather protection. Four-season rooms are fully insulated and tie into a home's HVAC system. This space will be functional all year long, but it is a more expensive undertaking as well.

LIGHT EVALUATION

The purpose of a sunroom is to benefit from the sun. The value of the space will depend entirely on which way the room faces. North-facing sunrooms have soft light with minimal heat or glare that likely can be used all day. Morning people can appreciate an east-facing sunroom while drinking coffee or reading, and the space will cool down in the afternoon. South-facing rooms will be bright most of the day and may need high-end HVAC hookups or shades to stay comfortable, even in cooler months. West-facing sunrooms are great for watching sunsets, but the hot afternoon sun must be considered. UV-rated glass to prevent floor fading and even sunburn likely will be needed.

It is important to work with a company that specializes in sunrooms. Such firms are experienced in helping homeowners design and ultimately build these spaces to avoid common pitfalls, advises Champion, a window, sunroom and home exterior company.

In general, a sunroom is not a DIY project since it typically involves a major structural change. It can be a viable addition to a home when built correctly to remain durable through every season.

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How to brighten INTERIOR spaces



If spring and summer are seasons when homeowners focus their renovation energy on outdoor living spaces, that attention shifts back inside upon the arrival of fall.

People tend to spend much more time indoors than outside come late fall and throughout the winter. The ambiance inside in fall and winter is notably different, as fewer hours of daylight can darken interior spaces. Finding ways to brighten home interiors can make spaces more inviting in late fall and throughout the winter.

LAYER WITH SHEER AND BLACKOUT CURTAINS

The simplest way to brighten interior spaces is to allow natural light to illuminate them, but that can be difficult in homes with blackout curtains. Blackout curtains are highly effective at keeping light out, but they won't do much to brighten interior spaces in the winter. Layer blackout curtains with sheer curtains so you can still get some privacy but brighten interior spaces with natural light at the same time.

ADD LIGHTING WHEREVER POSSIBLE

The days when interior lighting was limited to floor lamps and overhead fixtures are long gone. Various types of lighting can now be used to brighten interior spaces throughout winter. Recessed lighting is a relatively inexpensive upgrade that can brighten any room in a home at any point in a day. Unlike a traditional overhead fixture where the light emanates from a single source, recessed lighting can be installed in various points in the ceiling so each corner of a room can be lit up. In addition to recessed lighting, under cabinet lighting in kitchens and on bookshelves can brighten spots that traditional fixtures typically fail to illuminate. Layering the lighting so light comes from various sources can create a brighter feel.

USE COLOR TO YOUR ADVANTAGE

Color is another tool that can be used to brighten interior spaces in the winter. If homeowners are reluctant to paint walls with new and brighter colors, then accents can lend rooms a lighter feel. Vibrantly colored throw pillows, blankets and fixtures can create a lighter feel when residents and guests enter a room. Artwork with light colors also can help to brighten interior spaces.

WASH THE WINDOWS

They are easily overlooked, but dirty windows can block natural light and greatly reduce the amount of light entering a home through the windows. Clean the interior and exterior of your windows prior to winter so any grime that has built up in recent months and years is not preventing light from entering your home.

Turn your bedroom into a relaxing retreat

People who use their bedrooms as a work space may find they're compromising their well-being by introducing activities into the bedroom. The Sleep Foundation says having an office in the bedroom blurs the lines between work and personal life, which can have serious effects on sleep. Rather, people should be looking to turn their bedrooms into relaxing retreats that offer a respite from the outside world.

• **REMOVE BLUE-LIGHT EMITTING DEVICES.** Computers, tablets, smartphones, and other electronic devices emit blue light, which can compromise natural melatonin production in the body that contributes to sleep. Such devices should not be used at night in the bedroom.

• **USE A NEUTRAL COLOR PALETTE.** Neutral color palettes evoke a spa feeling. Walls can be painted white, beige or a light shade of gray. This can help the room feel calming and welcoming.

• **DECLUTTER THE ROOM.** A sense of calm can be achieved simply by removing excess clutter. There is some evidence that the brain is more calm near an empty dresser, desk or clothes hamper. Therefore, removing excessive items from the room is a first step to making a nice retreat.

• **ADD SOFT LIGHTING.** Adjust the intensity and the color of the lighting in the bedroom. It should be subtle and warming. Dimmers enable homeowners to adjust lighting as needed.

• **INSTALL AN ELECTRIC FIREPLACE.** There is something to be said for the relaxing effects of gazing into the flames of a fire. A crackling (faux-wood) fire is an added layer of indulgence in a bedroom.

• **ADD AN AREA RUG.** Even in rooms with carpeting, an area rug under the bed can further define the perimeter of the bed and add extra plushness underfoot.

• **INVEST IN AROMATHERAPY DIFFUSERS.** Certain smells can create a relaxing mood. These may be sandalwood, lavender or jasmine. Utilizing their preferred scents, homeowners can employ reed diffusers in their bedrooms to enjoy the aromas of natural oils.

• **USED CLOSED STORAGE.** Open shelves and visible closet interiors may not hide a mess. Exposure to clutter can contribute to feelings of anxiety. Store items that shouldn't be on display behind closed doors or drawers.

• **BRING IN LUXURY LINENS.** Homeowners should not skimp on comforters, sheets, duvet covers, and pillows for their beds. A cozy bed to dive right into can serve as the centerpiece of a bedroom retreat.

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