

## what's up

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 15

- EVENTS**
- A Buddhist meditation class takes place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kuluta Buddhist Centre, 182 Wellington St. Suggested fee is \$10. For details, 613-544-1568.
  - **Magic: The Gathering Booster Draft** takes place at 7 p.m. at Action Packed Comics, 724 Princess St. The cost is \$10 and everyone is welcome.
  - A SAIL (Services to Assist Independent Living) **walking club** meets at the Lou Jeffries Arena in Gananoque from 10 to 11 a.m. For details, call 613-382-1175 or 1-800-561-8024.
  - A SAIL (Services to Assist Independent Living) **walking club** meets at the Mallorytown Community Centre from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. For details, call 613-382-1175 or 1-800-561-8024.
  - Edith Rankin Memorial Church holds a **FunFit Football** session at 9:15 a.m. For details, call Janice at 384-3181 or e-mail fun-fit4you@cogeco.ca
  - Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together (SMART) **exercise classes** take place at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 130 Clergy St. E., at 10 a.m. and at St. Andrews By The Lake United Church at 1 p.m. For details, call 613-634-0130, ext. 414.
  - Winter **indoor walking** takes place at the Invista Centre from 9 to 10 a.m., at the Memorial Centre from 9 to 10 a.m. and at La Salle Secondary School from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
  - **Community Harvest Market**, 3 to 7 p.m., Wally Elmer Centre.
  - Canadian Blood Services holds a **blood donor clinic** at 797 Princess St. from 3 to 7 p.m. To make an appointment, phone 1-888-236-6283.

THURSDAY, DEC. 16

- EVENTS**
- **FunFit aerobics** at Edith Rankin Memorial United Church, 4080 Bath Rd., from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For details, call Janice at 613-384-3181 or e-mail funfit4you@cogeco.ca.
  - A SAIL (Services to Assist Independent Living) **walking club** meets at the Lansdowne Community Centre from 10 to 11 a.m. For more information, call 613-382-1175 or 1-800-561-8024.
  - Kingston Irish Folk Club holds **Skeleton Park Irish Dance** classes at Artillery Park Aquatic Centre, 76 Ordnance St. from 6 to 7 p.m. Beginners are welcome. Adults, youth and children over 5 years old are welcome to come to the classes. A partner is not required. Classes are \$7 or \$10 if there are two or more people from the same family per class. To register, or for details, call Tony O'Loughlin at 613-389-0754.
  - A Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together (SMART) **exercise class** takes place at St. Mark's Anglican Church hall, 268 Main St. in Barriefield, at 9:30 a.m. For details, call 613-634-0130, ext. 414.
  - **Bridge and euchre** are played at the parish hall of St. Paul the Apostle, 1111 Taylor-Kidd Blvd. Annual membership is \$10, plus \$2 every time you play. For details, call 613-548-7936 or 613-389-0968.
  - Winter **indoor walking** takes place at the Memorial Centre from 9 to 10 a.m.
  - Canadian Blood Services holds a **blood donor clinic** at 797 Princess St. from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To make an appointment, phone 1-888-236-6283.

**MEETINGS**

- **Downtown Kingston Toastmasters** meet for the final time this year, at 7 a.m. at the Cafe Church, 259 Ontario St. Newcomers are welcome. For details, e-mail Gerald at downtownkingstonm@gmail.com.

### COLLECTIBLES: Great Canadian Roadshow's 'buying show' is in its second week in Kingston



MICHAEL LEA The Whig-Standard

Bev Martin watches as Eddie Shor of the Great Canadian Roadshow, a collectibles-buying company that has set up shop in the Peachtree Inn for the week, looks over some of the coins she brought in in a chest owned by her father-in-law.

# Sellers cash in on the past

MICHAEL LEA  
The Whig-Standard

Terry Koutros has people's lives laid out on the tables in front of him.

Family heirlooms passed down from a great-grandfather, coin collections from a favourite uncle, dolls from a mother — they all end up in front of his experts of the Great Canadian Roadshow, an antiques-buying company.

The company has been in business since August, crisscrossing Ontario in its search for items worth buying. It is in its second week in Kingston, set up at the Peachtree Inn on Princess Street.

Koutros, the show manager and a part-owner of the Thornhill-based firm, describes it as a "buying show."

"We buy antiques, collectibles with value, on behalf of a group of collectors."

The collectors, about 7,000 of them globally, regularly update a database with items for which they are looking, and if any of those items turn up at one of his shows, an offer for purchase is made, Koutros said.

"We are trying to grow our Canadian collectorship. We are working mostly with people in the United States."

The show also buys gold and silver based on the day's com-

**You wouldn't believe that a Dinky Toy could go anywhere from \$100 to \$250. ... People that are 60 and 70 now collect them. They want to relive their youth, so they are highly sought after."**

Terry Koutros, Great Canadian Roadshow show manager

modity prices, he said.

"We buy a lot of coins. We buy a lot of war memorabilia. We buy a lot of older toys."

Dinky Toys, miniature metal models of cars and trucks, are popular items for collectors, he said, largely because most baby boomers tossed them out as they got older.

"You wouldn't believe that a Dinky Toy could go anywhere from \$100 to \$250," Koutros said. "Collectors are looking for them. People that are 60 and 70 now collect them. They want to relive their youth, so they are highly sought after."

War memorabilia is always in high demand, he said. The value depends on how unique the item is. The same applies to coins — the most valuable ones are those of which only a small number were produced.

Koutros said many people believe that just because something is old it must be antique and collectible.

"Even in the 1930s and '40s there were still mass-produced items. So these items, although

they are old, are not as valuable as you might make them out to be.

"A lot of people get passed down items from their grandparents and it has a lot of sentimental value, but sometimes it's not as collectible as you might imagine."

Even some of today's mass-produced, high-tech items may be worth something in the future if they are the original models, he said, just like first-edition books are worth more than any subsequent printing.

"The first-generation iPod will be collectible," he said. "I can guarantee it. It has already started to be collectible."

Koutros said his staff have to know a little bit about everything when it comes to determining value.

"We go to the United States and we get trained by experts in each field."

He said that his first week in Kingston was "tremendously busy."

"We saw some really amazing native art, World War I, World

War II memorabilia.

"One gentleman came in with tons of medals. He had an amazing collection of swords and bayonets. We are in the works right now to try to buy these items from him."

Not everyone may walk out of the show with a cheque, but Koutros said he wants everyone to leave with some added information on their items.

Everyone likes to hear stories about people who unknowingly have valuable items they bought for a song and Koutros has a beauty.

He recounted the story about a woman in Cambridge who showed up with a stained glass window of Jesus that she had bought at a garage sale for \$5.

"She brought it to the show and she wanted some information on it," Koutros said.

A quick cleaning and an online check showed it to be a Tiffany window from a New York City cathedral, one of a series showing Jesus and the Apostles. The other windows in the group hold sold at auction for \$25,000 each.

"She literally fell off her chair. She couldn't believe it," Koutros said.

"She almost started crying. She started hugging us. It was a very amazing moment for us."

Koutros said the burgeoning field of antique selling and buy-

ing has been greatly affected by the Internet and the easy availability of information.

"Twenty years ago, 30 years ago, an item would be worth a lot more because you wouldn't know someone else had it in another state, in another part of the country or another part of the world."

People who thought they had a unique item may suddenly discover there are thousands of them out there, he said.

"So the value goes down."

The Internet also makes it easier to purchase collectibles from around the world.

"Now you can buy a collection overnight if you have a Visa card."

People can also check online to see what their items are worth.

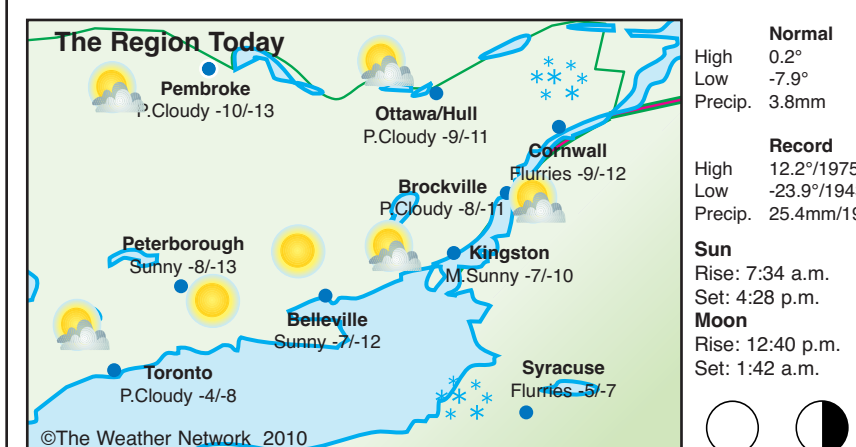
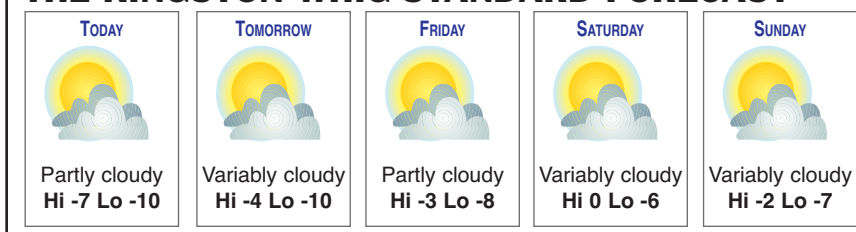
"Twenty or 30 years ago you had an item and you knew it was worth something, but you didn't know specifically what it was worth. You didn't know how many were made. Now you know exactly, up to date, what everything is worth."

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### THE KINGSTON WHIG-STANDARD FORECAST



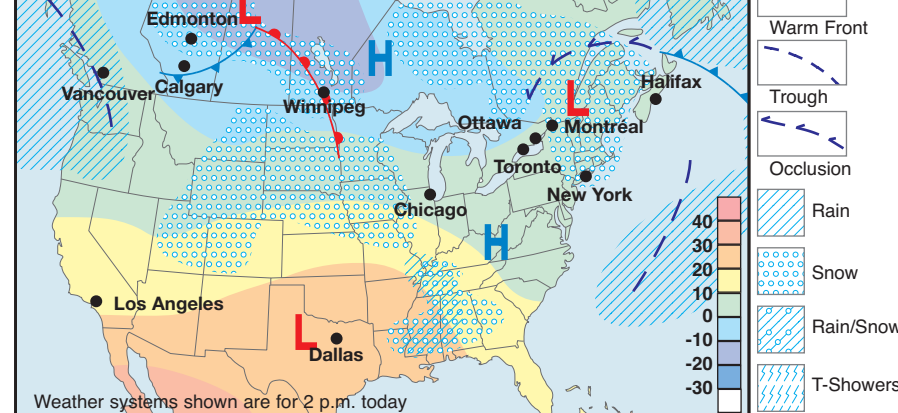
**Today's Marine Forecast**  
Eastern Lake Ontario:  
Today  
Kingston to Cornwall:  
Today  
Boaters check the latest weather forecasts and marine conditions.



Canada	today	tomorrow
Banff	p.cloudy -2/-14	p.cloudy -7/-18
Charlottetn	rain 9/0	flurries 2/-3
Edmonton	flurries -7/-20	flurries -13/-20
Halifax	p.cloudy 7/-2	flurries 2/-3
Iqaluit	snow 1/-2	p.sunny 2/-3
Montreal	flurries -9/-11	flurries -6/-8
Niagara F.	p.cloudy -3/-4	p.cloudy -1/-5
Ottawa	p.cloudy -9/-11	flurries -7/-11
Quebec C.	flurries -8/-11	flurries -7/-12
Regina	p.cloudy -4/-17	p.cloudy -10/-20
Saint John	rain/snow 2/-6	flurries -2/-7
St. John's	p.cloudy 5/4	showers 7/3
Toronto	p.cloudy -4/-8	p.cloudy -2/-7
Vancouver	rain 7/4	rain 7/3
Whitehorse	flurries -21/-24	p.sunny -20/-22
Winnipeg	cloudy -10/-16	cloudy -12/-15
Yellowknife	p.cloudy -16/-23	p.cloudy -16/-25

Resorts	today	tomorrow
Acapulco	sunny 30/22	sunny 29/21
Barbados	cloudy 30/24	p.sunny 30/24
Bermuda	p.sunny 15/13	p.sunny 20/13
Buenos A.	sunny 25/24	sunny 24/23
Cancun	p.cloudy 23/18	sunny 26/20
Havana	sunny 20/10	sunny 24/12
Dom. R.	p.cloudy 26/21	cloudy 26/21
Kingston	p.sunny 26/20	p.sunny 28/22
Montego B	sunny 25/20	p.cloudy 28/22
Nassau	sunny 21/14	p.cloudy 23/15
Puerto Rico	rain 27/24	cloudy 26/24
Rio de Jan.	rain 29/22	p.sunny 31/23
Trinidad	tshowers 31/23	tshowers 31/23
Veradero	p.cloudy 19/11	sunny 24/14

Look to [www.thewhig.com/weather.aspx](http://www.thewhig.com/weather.aspx) for the latest weather



U.S.	today	tomorrow	World	today	tomorrow
Boston	rain/snow 4/1	showers 12/10	Amsterdam	rain	3/-1 rain 5/1
Buffalo	flurries -3/-6	cloudy -1/-5	Bangkok	p.cloudy	34/26 showers 33/26
Chicago	flurries -5/-7	flurries -2/-5	Berlin	snow	-1/-3 cloudy -3/-7
Dallas	sunny 3/-2	rain/snow 4/3	Brussels	rain	2/-3 rain 2/1
Denver	p.cloudy -5/-7	flurries -1/-8	Beijing	sunny	-7/-12 p.cloudy 1/-8
Houston	sunny -3/-6	flurries 0/-5	Beirut	sunny	21/14 sunny 22/14
Los Angeles	showers 14/9	p.cloudy 15/9	Hong Kong	rain	20/16 showers 10/8
Miami	sunny 19/7	sunny 24/16	Istanbul	cloudy	7/3 cloudy 13/5
Myrtle B.	sunny 5/-2	frz rain 10/0	Jerusalem	cloudy	16/4 sunny 19/6
New York	p.cloudy 20/15	p.cloudy 22/15	Kiev	cloudy	-4/-9 p.sunny -4/-8
Phoenix	flurries -1/-3	p.cloudy 0/-2	London	cloudy	5/0 rain 7/4
Portland	p.cloudy 23/11	showers 18/8	Melbourne	p.cloudy	27/15 p.cloudy 21/13
San Diego	showers 6/4	showers 6/2	Mexico City	sunny	20/1 sunny 20/1
Seattle	cloudy 16/8	cloudy 16/5	Moscow	cloudy	-8/-11 snow -9/-10
Washington	windy 0/-4	p.cloudy 1/-1	Mumbai	sunny	30/22 sunny 30/23
			Munich	snow	-5/-6 flurries -3/-8
			New Delhi	sunny	21/8 sunny 22/8
			Paris	p.cloudy	2/-3 rain 4/3
			Rome	cloudy	6/2 p.cloudy 7/0
			Singapore	tstorms	30/26 tstorms 31/26
			Sydney	p.cloudy	28/21 showers 25/20
			Tokyo	p.cloudy	12/8 cloudy 9/7
			Warsaw	cloudy	-7/-10 cloudy -8/-9

Information that's reliable when the weather isn't.  
Active weather tools at [theweathernetwork.com/activeweather](http://theweathernetwork.com/activeweather)