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Vol. 7 No. 30 AURORAN, Week of May 29, 2007 905-727-3300



Aurora employee Chris Catania demonstrates new sport of "in line boarding" during the second annual Bike and Board Rodeo held at the Leisure Complex Saturday. A rider is known as a "dirtsurfer".
Auroran photo by David Falconer

Aurora won't withhold payment to the region

Tuesday's council meeting became a shouting match when Councillor Evelyn Buck was shot down 8-1 as she tried to gain support for her motion to withhold that portion of the levy pertaining to Aurora's share of regional money that was once sent to cover some of Toronto's social budget.

She said a previous government had imposed an "unjust burden" on the taxpayers of York Region by requiring them to help pay for social services in Toronto without receiving any benefit.

The current provincial government announced plans to phase out the levy over a 10-year period but there was no indication York intended to cancel that part of the levy for region taxpayers.

Her motion also included a recommendation that the region be informed that the town does not agree to continue to impose this unfair burden on Aurora taxpayers.

She pointed out it was taxation without representation and the actions of York in retaining the cancelled portion of the levy for regional use was appalling.

The treasurer said the cancelled portion of the levy was about \$15 million but with the cancellation of a provincial grant, the net benefit to the region was about \$6 million and this was being used to pay down the regional debt.

A staff report noted that if Aurora pursued its proposed action it could end up in the courts involving legal costs and the region could impose interest charges for late payments.

At Tuesday's meeting Councillor Buck presented her motion again and referred to the bumpy ride it had received. Councillor Grace

Please see page 14

Restored barn becomes official during Doors Open

The Aurora Historical Society will use this year's Doors Open Aurora to officially unveil the refurbished barn in the back yard of Hillary House.

Officials were struggling with two dates to mark the opening of the refinished historic barn, but both dates have come and gone.

As a result, the barn will be on this year's Doors Open tour, which, last year, attracted thousands of people to 14 Aurora sites.

Doors Open is a worldwide phenomenon. It began in 1984 in France and since then, European Heritage Days have become important annual events to provide an opportunity to celebrate the unity and diversity of a shared cultural heritage.

Soon, the Doors Open movement expanded to North America and the Ontario Heritage Trust launched the program in 2002.

Since then nearly two million

Please see page 7

Briefly

The move is on

Next week, keep your fingers crossed, The Auroran will come to you from a new location.

By the end of May we will have vacated our space at 75 Mary Street, and will take over more space at 95 Edward Street.

Simply, we've outgrown Mary Street.

While R & R Revisited probably won't open for business until later in June, The Auroran will continue to publish on a weekly basis.

Next week, we should have a brand new newspaper to show you. Stay tuned.

Paved parking lot

Theatre Aurora patrons received good news in the town's 2007 capital budget as council approved the paving of the parking lot at an estimated cost of \$61,082.

As agreed to in the 10-year lease with Theatre Aurora, the town will proceed with the parking lot paving and curbing restoration in lieu of capital projects that were assigned to the town but completed by Theatre Aurora.

The paving project was originally considered for the 2006 capital budget but put on hold when a mixture of brick, concrete and steel at several locations under the parking lot site was found.

The project was deferred for consideration in the 2007 capital budget.

It's scheduled to start in June and be completed by August.



The young Regency Acres Public School student, Alice Sandiford - the girl who had all her hair cut off to raise money fighting breast cancer - was doing it for the same cause Saturday, with help from her brother, Alexander. They were selling lemonade at the Yonge-Murray location of Shoppers Drug Mart and when the day was over, had raised \$360.59.
Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

Continuing until June 10, Wellington Gallery in Aurora features figurative artworks of Henry Asencio and Vidan, two highly acclaimed artists of international fame. Gallery is at the corner of Wellington Street West and Machell Avenue.

The 3rd Aurora Scouting Group has spaces available in Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. For registration information or to volunteer call 905-726-2393 or 905-841-0556.

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its second season. Every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., you will find comfort food and a sense of community at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. A lunch of hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert will be provided.

Aurora Agricultural Society meets the first Monday of every month from 6.30 to 9 p.m. at the Aurora Community Centre. New members welcome. For more information, call 905-713-6773, e-mail at info@aurorafair.ca, or visit www.aurorafair.ca.

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members welcome. For further information, call 905-841-1352.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge #148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street (south of Wellington). For more information, call 905-830-9205.

Masons' Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at The Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7.30 p.m.

Robertson Masonic Lodge meets the third Saturday each month at 57 Mosley Street at 10.30 a.m. Coffee club at 9 a.m., lunch at noon. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080.

Gamblers Anonymous, every Tuesday night, Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria Street, 7.30 p.m.

Progressive Euchre every Thursday night. Aurora Legion, 7.30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

Canadian Federation of University Women has monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

Bid Euchre at the Legion, 1 p.m. every third Sunday.

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Seniors Choir practice under the direction of Tom Rainsford every Wednesday from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Seniors Centre.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

Aurora's York Professional Care and Education group hosts a fundraising golf tournament at Cardinal Golf Club in Newmarket. All proceeds from the event will be used to send children from York Region Big Brothers

Big Sisters and Girls Inc. to summer camp. Children from Aurora and Newmarket are selected. For further information, call Sharon Blotti at 905-841-1314, ext. 23.

Aurora Seniors Association is sponsoring a presentation on: "Protecting Your Estate: Keeping it safe from Creditors, Taxation and Your Family" from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Aurora Seniors Centre. Speaker is Daniel Collison, CFP, TEP, Regional Director, Investors Group Financial Services. To register, call 905-895-6718 ext 411. For more information call Marie Leone at 905-713-0608 or leoneml@aci.on.ca.

Tim Horton's Spring Swing Golf Classic Charity Event in support of Community Living Newmarket Aurora District at Newmarket's Glenway Country Club with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. with a dinner after the game. Call Ann Boden at 905-898-3000, ext. 258, to register.

Public Open House of the Aurora Heritage Centre from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Church Street School to enable citizens to make comments and provide input. Presentations will be made by the architect and staff at 7 and 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

Aurora's Frank Klees, candidate in the October 10 provincial election, will host an informal breakfast round table discussion at Gabby's Restaurant, 16925 Yonge Street, Newmarket at 8 a.m. Admission is free but advance registration is required by calling 905-727-0145.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Aurora Optimist Club annual street dance 7 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. on Yonge Street, between Murray and Henderson. Last year's tickets will be honoured. \$10 in advance; \$15 the evening of the event. Call Diane Buchanan at 905-727-9817 for further information.

Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary School hosts its annual "Blast Off" to summer fun fair and the 10th anniversary of the school with a blessing of the site at 11.30 a.m. by Father Don MacLean.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Twelfth Annual Aurora Street Festival on Yonge Street. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

Tuesday Philosophy Club features Aurora resident and philosophy teacher Ronen Grunberg, at the Aurora Public Library from 7 to 9 p.m. Event is free but to pre-register, call 905-727-9493, option 4, or visit the Adult Information Desk.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Community Recognition Awards Ceremony including the Citizen of the Year presentation at the Town Hall.

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast at Westview Golf Club, 1563 Vandorf Road, Aurora. 7.30 a.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

The Aurora Seniors' Association Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers in the seniors' centre at 1.30 p.m. preceded by a giant barbecue starting at 10.30 a.m.

The Aurora Seniors "Evergreen Seniors Choir" concert will be held at 7.30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Mosley and Victoria Streets. Tickets available at the Seniors' Centre (905-726-4767) or from choir members.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

Aurora seniors attend the races at Woodbine Race Track. Cost is \$46 for members and \$50 for guests.

Deadline for citizens to volunteer to be a member of the town's Graffiti Abatement Ad Hoc Committee. For further information call Chris Alexander, Bylaw Services Coordinator at 905-727-3123 ext.4241.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

Be entertained at a candle-lit coffeehouse while supporting a youth initiative to raise funds to help the women and children of Darfur, Sudan. Coffeehouse in St. Andrew's Hall, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets, beginning at 7.30 p.m. Admission \$5 per person.

Aurora Writers' Group presents "Writing Well", a workshop led by Ryerson University creative writing instructor Brian Henry. To register, phone Susan Stevenson at 905-751-1674. Event begins at 10 a.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Mosley Street.

Fundraising barbecue and garage sale at Shoppers Drug Mart (Yonge and Aurora Heights Drive) will raise money for the Cancer Society. Event will held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A highlight will be a live performance by "The Expos" from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Women's Centre of York Region in Aurora invites you to attend the 5th Annual Charity Golf Tournament at Sleepy Hollow Golf Club. For more information, contact Shelley Lundquist at 905-727-5837, extension 107.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

A Seniors' Health Fair will be held at the seniors' centre between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. with 30 exhibitors, four guest speakers and a traditional English Tea for participants.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Deadline for applications to the Aurora Arts and Culture Fund. Send applications to the

Arts and Culture Fund c/o the Mayor's Office.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

A "Save Our School" Rally and Dr. G. W. Williams Flag Football Jamboree for all Grade 8 boys interested in playing football at Williams this fall. The Save Our School Rally will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Five meeting, at East Side Mario's, Bayview Avenue. 5.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

Aurora Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting and election and induction of Chamber Officers and Directors at Howard Johnson Hotel. Luncheon at 12.30 p.m.

JUNE 23-24

"More Musical Mayhem", a hilarious new musical review at the Factory Theatre with shows at 2 and 7.30 p.m. June 23 and a 2 p.m. matinee June 24 with part of the proceeds going to Breast Cancer Research. Musical is directed by Irene Ilic with choreography by Pat Wilson.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Aurora Horticultural Society presents a lecture on "Creating a Living Wreath" at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North, at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Annual July First activities in Aurora. Watch The Auran for details.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society hosts its Annual Garden Tour from noon to 5 p.m. Seven unique gardens on the list. Tickets \$10 each may be purchased after June 1 at Mary's Flower Shop, 15210 Yonge Street; Flowers by Terry, 14799 Yonge Street; R & R Revisited, 95 Edward Street; and Black Forest Garden Centre, 15445 Keele Street. Call 905-727-5926 for more details.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Aurora Horticultural Society presents lecture on "Unusual Perennials" at the Royal Canadian Legion, Industrial Parkway N., at 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 7-9

Second annual Aurora Ribfest.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

Aurora Chamber of Commerce annual Business Excellence evening in Aurora.



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By the time this weekend's over, you'll be in great shape or nursing several aches and pains.

The 12th annual World's Longest Street Festival on the World's Longest Street, gets underway at 11 a.m. Sunday, and walking is what it's all about.

By hitting at least eight booths along the Yonge Street distance between Murray Drive and Wellington Street and having a passport stamped, you can qualify for some pretty nifty prizes.

The specials booths will be marked by signs in the middle of the road so you can't miss them, but you also can't drive around from one end to the other to qualify for prizes.

Along the way you'll have an opportunity to visit hundreds of vendors, who have snapped up 606 vendor spaces, giving the annual event another sell-out.

If the weather holds, you'll probably be part of about 40,000 people who are expected to attend.

The festival continues until 5 p.m. Sunday afternoon, then vendors have an hour to clear off the street before it's reopened to vehicular traffic.

The event started in 1996 as a way to help Yonge Street celebrate its 200th anniversary as a street.

Today, it's in the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest road in the world, starting at Lake Ontario and ending at the Wisconsin border...about 1,400 miles in length.

All this happens after you have spent Saturday night on Yonge Street, dancing to the Optimist Club's street dance.

Last year, bad weather

drove the event indoors and this year, if that happens again, the dance will be moved to the Aurora Community Centre.

The Yonge Street dance begins at 7 p.m. and continues until 11.30 p.m. on the street between Murray and Henderson Drives.

If you purchased a ticket last year and elected to stay home because of the weather, the ticket will be honoured Saturday night.

Advance tickets, now on sale, are \$10 and if you purchase admission at the gate, it will cost you \$15.

All in all, it will be a healthy, or painful, weekend.



Kay Nishimura, left, shows her painting which won the "Chocolate Moose Award" at the Aurora senior citizens' 13th annual Art Show and Sale Saturday. With her is painting instructor Dorothy Clark McClure.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

This event promises to raise money for the cancer society

Aurora's Susan Gwilliam knows how to raise money, and this year, she has more reasons than ever to do it.

She has lost two sisters to cancer, and Sue does everything in her power to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society.

This year is no exception. She will once again organize a fund-raising barbecue and garage sale at Shopper's Drug Mart, the one at the corner of Yonge and Aurora Heights Drive.

Long-time Aurorans will remember this drug store as once being Doane Hall Pharmacy, even though the location may be different.

And it was back in the "Doane Hall" days, when Sue began her fund-raising adventures.

"Both my sisters were long-time employees of Shoppers Drug Mart Doane Hall," she said. "Val McNulty was an assistant front store manager and worked there for 10 years. She passed away in July, 2005, from melanoma."

That prompted Sue and her sister Nancy Shannon to participate in the Canadian Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" event last year in memory of Val.

"We had a team of 24 members last year and we raised \$5,400," she said. "Then, in October, Nancy was diagnosed with cancer and she passed away in November."

So, on Saturday, June 9, Sue will be behind the barbecue and garage sale to raise money for the Cancer Society.

The event will held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the barbecue will include hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, drinks, pizza

slices and special cookies.

"We will also have a multi-family garage sale, a sidewalk sale and a silent auction," she said. "The auction will include two baby quilts, a \$350 gift certificate for teeth whitening, a three-month gym membership, a six-month Taikwondo membership with uniform and four hours worth of landscaping service.

Highlight of the event will be a live performance by "The Expos", who will perform from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Melanoma is a malignant form of skin cancer that occurs in cells called melanocytes, which produce pigments that give skin its color.

A year ago, the disease took the life of popular Jeff Barker, who lived in Aurora for 26 years.

He was 52 when he died from metastatic melanoma at Southlake Regional Health Centre.

In 1988 Jeff joined the 2nd Aurora Scouts.

He was a Beaver leader then, became "Akela" for the 2nd Aurora Cubs, scout leader, group support leader, and finally became a Commissioner.

During almost 20 years contributing to Scouts Canada, Jeff taught thousands of youngsters in Aurora.

Melanoma usually appears as an irregular brown, black and/or red spot, or an existing mole that begins to change color, size or shape.

While melanoma only represents about three per cent of all skin cancers, it has the highest death rate of all types, and is more likely to spread.

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Poor Richard

Missed federal call, but we're still going to have an election

*The federal election is a goner,
As Harper got cold feet;
But another one is looming,
Parties will fight for every seat.*
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Earlier in the year, I was foolish enough to predict that Prime Minister Stephen Harper would arrange a federal election which would be held May 14.

The date has come and gone and there wasn't an election.

At the time, he was running relatively high in the polls, the budget had been adopted, he was in control and the Liberals were still trying to get their party together after the leadership campaign.

Stephane Dion was also having internal party problems.

The attack ads had started, the buses had been booked and the Tories rented their war room for what was believed to be a spring election.

In hindsight, it was a missed opportunity and since then, Harper has lost his focus, plunged in the polls, and the public is questioning his stand on Afghanistan and the environment.

The House and the committees are in constant turmoil as the opposition parties gang up on the Tories.

Harper is no longer in control.

While Harper is still seen as the most suitable leader for the country in the polls compared with the other party leaders, the Tories are literally tied with the Liberals so he blew his window of opportunity.

But, don't be too disappointed as there will be an election on October 10 right here in Ontario and that's only about five months away as Premier Dalton McGuinty asks for another mandate.

The Tories under Leader John Tory have run a few TV ads portraying Tory as a real leader and NDP leader Howard Hampton has a website exhorting voters to go orange.

So far the Liberals are very quiet, almost too quiet and it's a far cry from the 2003 election when the Liberals were showering the unsuspecting public with brochures and

election promises detailing the millions of ways in which they would improve the province.

The quiet was broken when the opposition pounced on the slush fund scandal and after three weeks of denial, McGuinty was forced to request the Auditor General to investigate.

But the debate gave a good indication of the type of a campaign it might be, as it took just seven words for the Premier to destroy his Mr. Clean image.

His attack dog personality occurred at the time when reporters asked if he was suggesting that the Tories and NDP were racist for questioning the slush fund grants his government gave to multicultural groups with ties to the Liberal party.

"I'll let Ontarians draw their own conclusions," he said.

It was part of a deliberate strategy to sling mud at the opposition in hopes that some would stick.

His attack was seen as a prelude to what is expected to be a nasty election campaign in which the Liberals want to appeal to the legions of the ethnically diverse regions as the party that best helps new Canadians and at the same time leaves the impression that Tory and Hampton might be racist.

When it's time for the opposition to start delivering their election bullets they have lots of targets with McGuinty's list of broken promises made during the last campaign, the health premium in spite of a promise not to impose any new taxes and the ever increasing hydro rates.

The Liberals will no doubt depend on their record in office and boast about the action the government took on the budget, class sizes and medical waiting times.

Toronto voters may not forget the government's action in granting additional taxing powers to the dysfunctional Toronto Council and other voters may still be smarting from the downloading of provincial programs and services to local government without the accompanying fiscal resources.

Get ready to belt yourself in as it's going to be a long, hot summer.

AURORAN

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Editorial policy

Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran. Letters must include name and phone number, although number will not be published. Names may be withheld assuming a compelling reason to do so. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

Advertising policy

Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.

URBAN POLLING DIVISION No 115

NOTICES TO ELECTORS

Sittings for Revision

The sittings for the revision of the preliminary list, as printed hereunder, will be held at 22 Yonge Street South, Aurora, between 10 and 11 a.m. and between 7 and 10 p.m. (Standard time) of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the 6th, 7th, and 8th days of June, 1968, when all applications for corrections in and additions to the said preliminary list will be dealt with by the revising officer.

Affidavits of Objection

During the sittings for revision on the Thursday and Friday mentioned opposite, any duly qualified elector of the revision district in which the above-mentioned urban polling division is comprised may appear before the revising officer of such revision district to subscribe to an affidavit of objection attacking the qualifications as elector of a person whose name appears on this list of electors.

Location of Ordinary

Polling Station

The polling station at which you may vote on the 25th day of June, 1968, between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. (Standard time), will be located at or near

Mr. Dennis Reed
res., 100 Tyler St.
Aurora

Advance Poll

You may vote at the advance poll (1) if your name appears on the list of electors for your polling division; and (2) if you have reason to believe that you will be absent from and unable to vote in your polling division on the ordinary polling day, and you take and subscribe to an affidavit to that effect before the deputy returning officer at the advance polling station.

If such conditions exist, you may vote at the advance polling station located at or near St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Standard time) of Saturday, the 15th day of June, 1968, or of Monday, the 17th day of June, 1968.

Certificate

I hereby certify that the list printed hereunder is the preliminary list of electors for urban polling division No. 115 of the electoral district of York-Simcoe as prepared by the enumerators in connection with the pending federal election.

Given under my hand at Queensville, this 15th day of May, 1968.

REX SMITH
Returning Officer

QUEENSVILLE, ONT.
Office address

895-8407
Telephone number

NOTE—This list of electors should be preserved until after polling day at the pending federal election.

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

URBAN PRELIMINARY ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ELECTORS

Electoral District of York-Simcoe, Town of Aurora, Urban Polling Division No. 115

Comprising that part of the town lying east of the westerly town limits, south of the centre line of Wellington St. West, west of the centre line of Yonge St., South and north of the centre line of Tyler St. to Tannery Creek following its most northerly branch to the westerly town limits.

The following names have been enumerated during a recent house-to-house visitation in the above mentioned polling division by a pair of urban enumerators.

1 Atkinson, Mrs. Elizabeth, widow, 50 Tyler St.	104 Linton, Mrs. Marjorie — 96 Tyler St.
2 Beach, George, millwright, 80 Tyler St.	105 Lloyd, Raymond, salesman, 30 George St.
3 Beach, Mrs. Maude — 80 Tyler St.	106 Lloyd, Mrs. Gudrun — 30 George St.
4 Berg, Mrs. Thalia, widow, 30 George St.	107 Lloyd, Mrs. Mabel, widow, 15 Wellington St. W.
5 Bruce, Wesley, box maker, 74 Tyler St.	108 Long, Mrs. Margaret, widow, 29 George St.
6 Bruce, Mrs. Viola — 74 Tyler St.	109 Long, Gordon, press operator, 29 George St.
7 Byford, William, engineer, 1 Harriman Rd.	110 Long, Mrs. Carol — 29 George St.
8 Byford, Mrs. Ruth — 1 Harriman Rd.	111 Matheson, William, retired, 58 Tyler St.
9 Black, George, carpenter, 21 George St.	112 McAnsh, Charles, retired, Apt. 2, 49 George St.
10 Black, Mrs. Margaret — 21 George St.	113 McAnsh, Mrs. Myrtle — Apt. 2, 49 George St.
11 Black, Miss Pauline, secretary, 21 George St.	114 McClenny, Mrs. Ethel, widow, 42 Mill St.
12 Cable, Harry, truck driver, 63 Wellington St. W.	115 McClenny, Ken, driver salesman, 32 Tyler St.
13 Carson, Mrs. Ella, widow, 28 Tyler St.	116 McClenny, Mrs. Alma — 32 Tyler St.
14 Caruso, Frank, merchant, 46 Yonge St. S.	117 McClenny, Edward, policeman, 34 Tyler St.
15 Caruso, Mrs. Phyllis — 46 Yonge St. S.	118 McClenny, Mrs. Sharon — 34 Tyler St.
16 Caruso, Miss Mary, merchant, 46 Yonge St. S.	119 McDonald, Roy, O.P.P., 57 Wellington St. W.
17 Caruso, Miss Rose, merchant, 46 Yonge St. S.	120 McDonald, Mrs. Verna — 57 Wellington St. W.
18 Chapman, Miss Rita, order clerk, 28 Tyler St.	121 McGhee, Robert, truck driver, 50 Temperance St.
19 Chapman, Fred, retired, 33 George St.	122 McGhee, Mrs. Isobel, widow, 50 Temperance St.
20 Chapman, Mrs. Alice — 33 George St.	123 McGhee, Kenneth, mailer, 34 George St.
21 Chesney, Mrs. Olive, widow, 50 Tyler St.	124 McGhee, Mrs. Ellen — 34 George St.
22 Collett, Charles, elevator operator, 85 Wellington St.	125 McHenry, Madeline, clerk, 34 Yonge St. S.
23 Collett, Mrs. Phyllis — 85 Wellington St. W.	126 McInnis, Mrs. Ethel, widow, 50 Tyler St.
24 Collins, Mrs. Mary, widow, 50 Tyler St.	127 Metcalfe, Charles, cabinet maker, 62 Tyler St.
25 Cordell, Dennis, plumber, 7 Wellington St. W.	128 Milgate, Mrs. Margaret — 50 Tyler St.
26 Cordell, Mrs. Shirley — 7 Wellington St. W.	129 Miller, Mrs. Ella, widow, 50 Tyler St.
27 Cox, Mrs. Isobel, widow, 58 Tyler St.	130 Munshaw, Fred, truck driver, 38 George St.
28 Dadson, Ivan, retired, 63 Wellington St. W.	131 Munshaw, Mrs. Verda — 38 George St.
29 Davis, Miss Grace, machine operator, 48 George St.	132 Murray, Mrs. Ethel, widow, 50 Tyler St.
30 Davis, Mrs. Edith, widow, 48 George St.	133 Operkuch, Herbert, driver, 21 Harriman Rd.
31 Denning, Mrs. Reita, retired, 50 Tyler St.	134 Operkuch, Mrs. Florence — 21 Harriman Rd.
32 Diamond, James, sales agent, 46 Mill St.	135 Operkuch, John, machinist, 21 Harriman Rd.
33 Diamond, Mrs. Betty — 46 Mill St.	136 Pattison, Richard, hospital attendant, 37 Harriman Rd.
34 Doan, Norval, retired, 46 Wellington St. W.	137 Pattison, Mrs. Mary — 37 Harriman Rd.
35 Doolittle, Albert, foreman, 37 George St.	138 Patterson, Jack, O.P.P., 66 Tyler St.
36 Doolittle, Mrs. Clarine — 37 George St.	139 Patterson, Mrs. Jean — 66 Tyler St.
37 Dresdner, Paul, clerk, 32 Mill St.	140 Patrick, Albert, tanner, 58 Temperance St.
38 Dresdner, Mrs. Mary, practical nurse, 32 Mill St.	141 Perry, Donald, postmaster, 54 Temperance St.
39 Easterbrook, Miss Diana, clerk, 53 Wellington St.	142 Perry, Mrs. Dorothy — 54 Temperance St.
40 Egerton, Eric, systems analyst, 89 Wellington St. W.	143 Peetoom, Adrian, publisher, 49 Wellington St. W.
41 Egerton, Mrs. Phyllis — 89 Wellington St. W.	144 Peetoom, Mrs. Joan — 49 Wellington St. W.
42 Elmer, Donald, scaler, 84 Tyler St.	145 Pierson, Mrs. Gertrude, widow, 63 Wellington St. W.
43 Elmer, Mrs. Audrey — 84 Tyler St.	146 Pratt, Gertrude, office clerk, 45 George St.
44 Elmer, Ken, progress chaser, 92 Tyler St.	147 Preston, Raymond, labourer, 26 George St.
45 Elmer, Mrs. Grace — 92 Tyler St.	148 Preston, Mrs. Carol — 26 George St.
46 Elmer, Norman, truck driver, 28 Mill St.	149 Reynolds, Leila, spinster, 16 Tyler St.
47 Elmer, Mrs. Reta — 28 Mill St.	150 Reed, Dennis, inspector, 100 Tyler St.
48 England, John, service station att., 38 Tyler St.	151 Reed, Mrs. Dorothy — 100 Tyler St.
49 Engler, Frederick, supt., Apt. 4, 49 George St.	152 Roberts, Mrs. Elizabeth, widow, 62 Tyler St.
50 Farmer, Mrs. Doris — Apt. 4, 49 George St.	153 Rosenberg, Leonard, char. accountant, 13 Harriman Rd.
51 Fines, Walter, truck driver, 85 Wellington St. W.	154 Rosenberg, Mrs. Dorothy — 13 Harriman Rd.
52 Fines, Mrs. Joan — 85 Wellington St. W.	155 Saunders, Gordon, assembler, 6 Yonge St. S.
53 Folkeard, Gordon, mechanic, 88 Tyler St.	156 Saunders, Mrs. Eileen — 6 Yonge St. S.
54 Folkeard, Mrs. Joyce — 88 Tyler St.	157 Scott, Mrs. Ethel, widow, 50 Tyler St.
55 Forhan, Lucille — 55 Temperance St.	158 Sim, Alexander, office worker, 44 Mill St.
56 Foster, Norman, materials controller, 50 Mill St.	159 Sim, Mrs. Adrienne — 44 Mill St.
57 Foster, Mrs. Eileen — 50 Mill St.	160 Simpson, Wilfred, electrician, 22 George St.
58 Foss, Reginald, scale maker, 45 Wellington St. W.	161 Simpson, Mrs. Elaine — 22 George St.
59 Fowler, Gordon, architect, 108 Tyler St.	162 Simpson, Robert, retired, 42 Tyler St.
60 Fowler, Mrs. Eileen — 108 Tyler St.	163 Sisman, John, retired, 29 Harriman Rd.
61 Gardiner, Rev. F. J., retired, 50 Tyler St.	164 Sisman, Mrs. Edith — 29 Harriman Rd.
62 Gibbard, Harold, biologist, 25 Harriman Rd.	165 Skillins, Nicolas, chief draughtsman, 33 Harriman Rd.
63 Gibbard, Mrs. Mary — 25 Harriman Rd.	166 Skillins, Mrs. Sarmette — 33 Harriman Rd.
64 Gibbard, Walter, teacher, 49 George St.	167 Storie, Delbert, labourer, 37 Temperance St.
65 Gibbard, Mrs. Eleanor — 49 George St.	168 Storie, Mrs. Velma — 37 Temperance St.
66 Glover, Mrs. Carrie, widow, 50 Tyler St.	169 Sweet, Mrs. Elena, widow, 63 Wellington St. W.
67 Green, Bertram, manager, 78 Tyler St.	170 Taylor, Stan, merchant, 70 Tyler St.
68 Green, Mrs. Mary — 78 Tyler St.	171 Taylor, Mrs. Edith — 70 Tyler St.
69 Groome, Mrs. Edwina, widow, 50 Tyler St.	172 Taylor, Paul, sheet metal worker, 70 Tyler St.
70 Gordon, Donald, truck driver, 44 Mill St.	173 Terry, Walter, retired, 61 Wellington St. W.
71 Gordon, Mrs. Mary Ellen — 44 Mill St.	174 Terry, Mrs. Marjorie — 61 Wellington St. W.
72 Harrison, Mrs. Ira, widow, 45 George St.	175 Taddell, Mrs. Florence, widow, 5 Harriman Rd.
73 Harrison, Robert, retired, 15 Wellington St. W.	176 Taddell, Terry, carpenter, 5 Harriman Rd.
74 Harrison, Mrs. Katie — 15 Wellington St. W.	177 Taddell, Mrs. Eugenia, hairdresser, 5 Harriman Rd.
75 Hawman, Edward, truck driver, 74 Tyler St.	178 Tulloch, Ronald, painter, 57 Temperance St.
76 Hawman, Mrs. Eileen — 74 Tyler St.	179 Tulloch, Mrs. Joan — 57 Temperance St.
77 Heise, Mrs. Jennie, widow, 32 Mill St.	180 Tunney, Mrs. Marjorie, widow, 50 Tyler St.
78 Herswynen, Peter, labourer, 44 Mill St.	181 Tunny, Miss Annie, retired, 50 Tyler St.
79 Hillman, Albert, asst. sales manager, 49 George St.	182 Tomlin, Mrs. Annie, widow, 50 Tyler St.
80 Hillman, Mrs. Constance — 49 George St.	183 Underhill, Mrs. Elma, widow, 70 Tyler St.
81 Hjelholt, Mogens, contractor, 17 Harriman Rd.	184 Vines, Albert, mill hand, 41 George St.
82 Hjelholt, Mrs. Karen — 17 Harriman Rd.	185 Vines, Mrs. Edith — 41 George St.
83 Huizingh, Lambert, accountant, 9 Harriman Rd.	186 Webb, Mrs. Ethel, unemployed, 50 Temperance St.
84 Huizingh, Mrs. Ann — 9 Harriman Rd.	187 Wright, Harvey, stationary engr., 39 Temperance St.
85 Humphrey, Donald, mechanic, 46 Temperance St.	188 Wright, Mrs. Hilda — 39 Temperance St.
86 Humphrey, Mrs. Mary — 46 Temperance St.	189 Wray, John, engineering tech., 65 Wellington St. W.
87 Ing, Ray, restaurant owner, 42 Mill St.	190 Wray, Mrs. Joyce — 65 Wellington St. W.
88 Jackson, Albert, retired, 25 George St.	191 Watson, Mrs. Frances, nurse, 50 Tyler St.
89 Jackson, Norman, finisher, 25 George St.	192 Watson, Miss Lynda, student nurse, 50 Tyler St.
90 Jackson, Mrs. Kay — 25 George St.	193 Wilson, John, shipping receiver, 55 Temperance St.
91 Jennings, Arthur, dry cleaner, 58 Tyler St.	194 Wilson, Mrs. Shirley — 55 Temperance St.
92 Jennings, Mrs. Dorothy — 58 Tyler St.	195 Waller, John, tower operator, 42 Tyler St.
93 Jones, Jack, carpenter, 42 George St.	196 Waller, Mrs. Edna — 42 Tyler St.
94 Jones, Mrs. Esther — 42 George St.	197 Wostyn, Joe, janitor, 42 Tyler St.
95 Judge, Roy, truck driver, 62 Tyler St.	198 Watson, Douglas, baker, 46 George St.
96 King, James, labourer, 12 Tyler St.	199 Watson, Mrs. Adelaide, widow, 46 George St.
97 King, Mrs. Dorothy — 12 Tyler St.	200 Willoughby, Mrs. Helen, widow, 50 Tyler St.
98 King, Robert, inspector, 12 Tyler St.	201 Wilson, Melvin, janitor, 38 Tyler St.
99 Knight, Mrs. Brenda, bookkeeper, 34 Yonge St. S.	202 Wilson, Mrs. Eleanor — 38 Tyler St.
100 Knox, William, retired, 54 Temperance St.	203 White, Arthur, tanner, 42 Temperance St.
101 Knox, Mrs. Doris — 54 Temperance St.	204 White, Mrs. Ada, widow, 42 Temperance St.
102 Learn, James, teacher, Apt. 4, 49 George St.	205 Yarrow, Joseph, manufacturer, 29 Harriman Rd.
103 Linton, Ross, general manager, 96 Tyler St.	206 Yarrow, Mrs. Eileen — 29 Harriman Rd.
	207 Yake, Mrs. Marjorie, dispatcher, 46 Tyler St.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is the printed preliminary list of electors for urban polling division No. 115 of the electoral district of York-Simcoe, as prepared by the appropriate enumerator for use at the pending election.

Dated at Queensville, this 15th day of May, 1968.

REX SMITH, Returning Officer

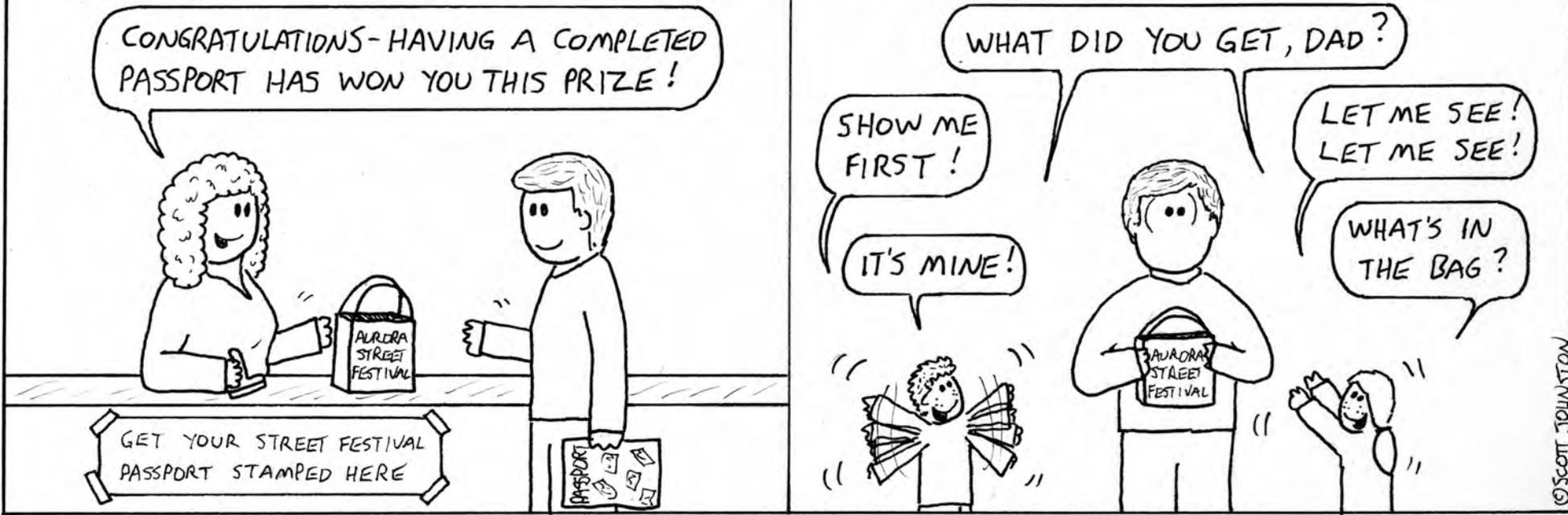
Printed by the Banner Printing Company, whose address is 64 Temperance Street, Aurora, Ont.

This polling division notice from 1968 showed up when Aurora's Dody Fry was moving. It had been put away among "memory stuff". You may recognize a few names on the list, which centres in the old section of Aurora, south and west of Yonge and Wellington.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE 2007 AURORA STREET FESTIVAL

PASSPORTS ...

... AND CUSTOMS



Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Garage sale bargains

Saturday and Sunday mornings driving through Aurora I, for the most part, have been blissfully unaware of the weekly special event that goes on around us.

It is a right of spring, just like the Toronto Maple Leafs being consigned to the golf course.

What's the event you ask?

Why, the garage sale, of course.

The only time I ever really notice these happens when a mess of cars have been lined up on a particularly busy thoroughfare or when a street would be basically shut down as its residents collectively decide to have a giant garage sale.

In fact the last time I directly participated in one had to be more than 30 years ago.

As I recall, my goods did not fetch much.

The reason that I now notice garage sales is that a couple of weeks back I wanted one of my nephews, Brock, to accompany my son and I to the store on a particular Saturday morning.

I, on a weekly basis, am invariably sent to the store with a very detailed grocery list and told to stick to the list, with "no improvisation allowed".

What usually occurs is that I leave the house with a list of five items costing \$30 and I come back with 25 items costing \$75.

Continually blaming this on my three-year old son does not work, so blaming this on a ten-year-old would seem to be a most welcome change of pace.

My nephew was not really interested in coming with us as he had better things to do, i.e. play with his electronic Game Boy, but he said he would be interested in making a deal with me.

I was curious as to the type of deal he envisioned, but I was also in less than a stellar negotiating position for two reasons.

First, I did not have a lot of leverage because I simply enjoy it when my nephew comes with us.

Second, I was told, in very certain and definite terms by the boss that I was not to spend any more money on my nephews nor my son on my Saturday morning sojourns.

The reason for this stems from the previous weekend when I took both my nephews and my son to the grocery store. After a rather lengthy and highly animated four-way negotiating session that took place in the middle of aisle number 16, all three children came home with their own large box of cereal (although there may have been eight or so boxes already at home), a magazine of their choice and either ice cream or a chocolate bar.

Me? I came home with a lighter wallet.

The deal that was proffered by Brock was that, in return for him accompanying us to the grocery store, and also me not buying him anything at said store, we would go to two garage sales.

I am proud to announce this was negotiated down to one garage sale.

So, after the trip to the store, where for the first time in recent memory only three items were added to the list - with a total value of \$15 - we stopped in at a garage sale on Kemano Drive.

A lady was sitting there as we walked up the driveway so we said hello.

She had a ton of stuff for sale, including a canoe.

I pre-empted both my son and nephew by stating that the canoe was definitely not being purchased, nor was the television set for that matter.

Brock went poking through all the various bins and he pulled out some sort of transformer-like creature from a never before opened Lego box that probably had a value of \$25 when new.

Of course, he wanted to buy the item.

I kind of knew the answer, but I had to ask the question any-

way.

"Brock, do you have the money for this?"

He looked at me sheepishly; with the kind of the look I give my wife when she catches me polishing my black shoes with one of the white coloured towels.

He said "No, Uncle Steve, but I will gladly read Ryan some stories or do some other work for you".

I said that is all right. I then asked the lady the price. She said \$1.

I said sure. Brock also found a Pokemon book for 10 cents for his brother and Ryan found a SpongeBob Squarepants pencil case for 10 cents.

A couple of bargains all around!

Now that the boys had something to take home, I was on my own unique quest, kind of like Indiana Jones searching for the Holy Grail; only my quest is a little different and far more important.



INSIDE AURORA

By Scott Johnston

Street celebrates 211th birthday

It's almost time for the World's Longest Street Festival on the world's longest street.

You may think the longest road running through town is Wellington, but it just seems that way, if you get stuck in the chaotic exodus that follows the arrival of an afternoon GO train.

No, the record holder is Yonge Street, which stretches from Lake Ontario to Rainy River - a distance of 1,896 kilometres.

Six of those kilometres, or about 0.3 per cent of the total length, run through Aurora.

But Yonge Street wasn't always here, of course.

In the late 1700s there wasn't a lot up this way, except forests, wildlife, and "Coming Soon - Semi Detached Townhome" signs.

Then, in 1793, Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe announced the military would build a road to connect Toronto and, of all places, Holland Landing.

The forests were soon filled with sweating men armed with shovels, saws, and construction pylons.

Correctly envisioning the road rage that would eventually occur at congested intersections such as Wellington, Simcoe named the new street after Sir George Yonge, the British Secretary of War.

By 1796, it was completed.

In the beginning, the road was a pretty simple affair. Basically a mud path, it followed every hill and contour, of which there were many.

By 1804, there were enough buildings in the Yonge and Wellington area that the core of what would become Aurora was established.

Yonge Street was soon put to use by the military in the War of 1812 to send troops northwards.

And, in case you were wondering, they were not running away, but trying to fend off an expected American attack via Georgian Bay.

Following the war, Aurora's stretch of Yonge Street saw some famous travellers.

Sir John Franklin, for example, came through in 1825, no

I am looking for the entire 1960s and early 1970s hockey card collection that my mother sold for \$1.50 at her garage sale between the hours of 9.23 a.m. and 10.13 a.m. June 19, 1985.

According to the police report that I filed, the assailant was described as male, four feet six inches tall, approximately 65 pounds, wearing a Quebec Nordiques baseball cap, and heard laughing as he drove off on his dark, unknown model year tricycle.

Any help in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

I asked the lady if she had any hockey cards for sale. Alas, she said no.

Any mothers out there who have children born between the years 1960 to 1965 and who are thinking about holding a garage sale are kindly asked to contact me.

**Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com**

doubt on the way to one of his own Arctic Adventures.

Of course, through much of the road's first century, the main users were horses and pedestrians.

And they left lots of droppings (the horses, not the pedestrians).

In fact, it's been reported that every spring stretches of Yonge Street through town had manure to a depth of almost 10 cms. (Aurora's motto at the time: "You're in Good Company - and Watch Where You Step").

Apart from a lot of horse...um...fertilizer, one equally unwelcome feature that Yonge Street boasted at that time was a toll booth.

And its location, to reinforce the adage of the only certainties in Aurora being death and taxes, was near the cemetery.

By the late 1800s changes were afoot.

Many of Yonge Street's hills and contours - nature's original traffic calming devices - were smoothed out.

And that was a good thing, because 1899 saw the arrival of the Metropolitan Railway up the middle of the street.

Ironically, in that same year, Aurorans were introduced to the railway's future rival, when the first motorcar was spotted in town.

Eventually, cars replaced both trains and horses on Yonge Street.

And as vehicle speeds increased, and sidewalks were installed, the days of pedestrian traffic were over.

But this Sunday, during the Street Festival, we have a unique opportunity to walk right down the middle of Yonge Street, just as the early Aurorans once did - except with fewer hills, less mud and no horse droppings.

So join in on June 3rd. Best of all, it's free.

At least, for now.

With the way the town's finances are these days, you never know when council might take another look at Yonge Street, and decide it's time to put in another toll booth.

**Feel free to e-mail Scott at:
machellscorners@gmail.com**

Bouquets & Brickbats

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Mayor Phyllis Morris, council, and staff for organizing the excellent reception for the Aurora Tigers to welcome the team back to Aurora after winning the Royal Bank Cup, representing the National Junior A championship and all the citizens who attended to pay tribute to the team.

BRICKBATS to the same council for wasting so much time on unnecessary questions and comments, refusing to accept the professional opinion of staff and dragging out a general committee meeting to 11.30 p.m. By now they should realize the brain can only absorb what the seat can endure.

BOUQUETS to Home Depot for providing a Home Depot Playground to the children of the Machell's Corners Co-op to be erected July 19 in southwest Aurora, near Light of Christ Catholic School. The co-op still needs \$12,000 and is conducting a fundraising campaign.

BRICKBATS to those in Leisure Services for not advising council some time ago they were unable to find volunteers to organize the Canada Day Parade. Leaving it to the last minute left council without the option of seeking volunteers resulting in the traditional parade being cancelled.

BOUQUETS to the member of Aurora Council who will initiate a Sports Hall of Fame proposal to honour Aurora athletes similar to that being done in Newmarket who have scheduled a public meeting to discuss and review the proposal of honouring past and present residents.

BRICKBATS to the daily press for completely ignoring the win of the Aurora Tigers in taking the Dudley Hewitt Cup for being the top team in the Central Ontario championship and then going on to win the Royal Bank Cup for the national championship. It was worth reporting!

BOUQUETS to Shane Doan for leading the Canadian team to a World Championship after all the cheap political torture he was put through by federal politicians debating an issue in what he was alleged to have been involved two years before and was cleared by the NHL. In an election, he would do better than the politicians!

BRICKBATS to those in the Ontario governments, past and present for their failure to grant the Ombudsman the power to investigate complaints against hospitals. Ontario is the only province that fails to provide this transparency. What is it hiding?

BOUQUETS to Greg Foster of M & M Meats in Aurora for raising \$4,089 to assist the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation at his recent hamburger and hot dog event with hundreds of people stopping by.

BRICKBATS to the sadistic person who sliced the ears off a six-month-old German Sheppard-Rottweiler mix. The Windsor Essex County Humane Society is investigating what happened to the puppy and who is responsible. It is hoped the guilty party is found and sentenced to the full extent of the law.

BOUQUETS to Premier Dalton McGuinty for finally doing the right thing by calling the Auditor General to investigate allegations that his Liberal government used a \$32 million slush fund to reward Liberal friends, after three weeks of stalling. It may be too late as the damage has been done.

BRICKBATS to federal governments for its neglect of aboriginal land claim issues over the past several years inviting the Indian anger and frustration at the lack of action and causing them to break the law with road and rail blockades.

Letters to the Editor

Streetlights are needed for Mosaics' residents

To the editor,

I was very pleased to read "Street lights master plan gets underway" in this week's Auroran.

Now that the Aurora Council has accepted the staff report for an "overall master plan" regarding municipal street lights, I do hope it includes addressing areas in Aurora without any street lights!

The residents on Mosaics Avenue have been without street lights over an easement/sidewalk/roadway that runs west from Yonge Street onto Mosaics Avenue for more than two years.

This is a very dangerous situation for pedestrians, many of whom are young adults who attend college and have to leave before sunrise and often

don't return until after sunset.

This means they are walking down a very, very dark walkway/roadway to get to their buses and homes.

Through our condominium fees, we pay for the street lights on Mosaics Avenue.

Surely the Town should be responsible to ensure that the lights over our easterly neighbour's easement/sidewalk/roadway are left on throughout the entire time of darkness.

Unfortunately, the commercial neighbour who owns the property that this easement/sidewalk/roadway runs through also controls the light switch that turns the lights on and off. For some unknown reason this neighbour doesn't care

about the safety of the people in its community and Aurora Council and staff don't recognize their responsibility to force the neighbour to leave its lights on.

Perhaps this neighbour is not aware that at the time the overall property (formerly the site of Sterling Drug) was being considered by Council for development, an operating agreement was signed by the three parties to the site development that required, among other things, the easement access to Mosaics was to be treated the same way any residential street is treated (i.e. adequate lighting at night). The agreement even specifies

that the lights for the two adjoining commercial properties are to go on and off at the same time.

This would ensure that the safety of residents was being properly addressed, consistent with the Town's obligations under the Planning Act for safety of the Town's citizens.

Do the members of Aurora Council and staff realize that ALL Aurora urban residents deserve proper street lights for the safety of ALL of its residents?

Does somebody need to be hurt before this problem is corrected?

D. A. Massey
Aurora

Church cancels drop-in program

To the editor,

I would like to thank the Aurora Cornerstone Church (ACC) for hosting the Drop-In program run by Judy Hoffmann.

It is unfortunate that the church can no longer accommodate this program.

It has heightened people's awareness of the ACC and extended goodwill that has benefitted hundreds of families.

The Drop-In provided a venue to meet newcomers to Aurora looking to connect with the community and meet other families with young children in a safe, fun, caring environment.

The unconditional support and exchange of ideas and experiences was invaluable.

Nutritional lunches, crafts, and games, along with regular visits by a Children's Literacy Specialist enhanced the program.

It is disappointing to see Judy's vision of creating an affordable, welcoming place

extinguished.

Her passion for children and their well-being is contagious. She established a fundraising campaign to raise more than \$7,000 for a play structure by having parents donate money to the ACC by giving of her own time, babysitting on evenings and weekends.

For the second year in a row, Judy is running a lunch program at her cost with the parents' donations going to the ACC.

Both national and local media have highlighted and recognized Judy and her endeavours.

Additionally, Judy was honoured as Caregiver of the Year by Today's Parent Magazine in 2005 which exemplifies how we feel about her and her unyielding commitment.

Thank you, Judy.

Mary Beth Kelly
Aurora

ED. NOTE: The drop-in program will officially end June 30.

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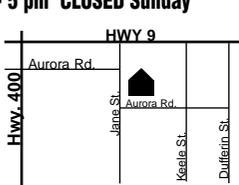
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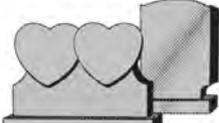
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Campaign canvassers hit goals in record time

To the editor,

Community members from the communities of York Region North have shown incredible support for the 2007 Person to Person Campaign during February, Heart Month in

Canada.

The final canvassing kits have been returned, the final donations tabulated and the volunteers have celebrated. What can you say about 102 captains, 718 canvassers in towns stretching from Aurora in

the south, Georgina in the north, Stouffville in the east and Nobleton in the west?

Well, it's very difficult when you are speechless!

Not only did our canvassers bear the coldest February in 28 years they

exceeded their campaign goals in record time. They canvassed in their neighbourhoods and at their workplaces; they shared their personal heartfelt stories at more than 20,000 doors.

The generosity of mem-

bers of our communities this year was truly incredible.

Their donations will truly help the Heart and Stroke Foundation continue their research into the effects of heart disease and stroke.

As the Chair of the 2007 **David Hanson**

Person to Person Heart Month Campaign I would like to thank all of our supporters in all of our communities.

It's amazing what happens when we put our hearts into it!

Doors Open Aurora August 11

From page 1

visits have been made to hundreds of heritage properties across the province.

Aurora joins 43 other Ontario communities from June to October for the annual event and Doors Open Aurora will take place August 11.

On that date, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Aurora opens the doors of a variety of sites of heritage, cultural and community interest and everyone is welcome to explore the town's most notable buildings and tour Aurora's historic downtown core.

Building upon the success of last year, Doors Open Aurora offers the public a rare opportunity to explore sites of interest, many of which are not normally open to the public, and it's all for free.

The concept of Doors Open Aurora was initiated in

2005 by the Heritage Advisory Committee based on the success of similar events in other Ontario municipalities and around the world.

Last September, the Heritage Advisory Committee authorized the expenditure of committee funds to register with the Ontario Heritage Trust as a participating municipality for Open Doors Aurora 2007.

There will be many new features for visitors to see for the event as 10 of the 16 sites are new for 2007.

An additional three will be offering something new for 2007.

These include St. Andrew's College featuring a tour of the Masters House, The Auran at its new premises on Edward Street, and the restored barn at Hillary House. Aurora United Church returns this year as a

full site after a limited opening last year.

Other sites include the Aurora Community Arboretum, the Barnes Garden, Mary's Flower Shop, Aurora Heritage Centre, the Grimshaw House, Mac Fleming Paint and Wallpaper and Sheppard's Bush Sugar Bush buildings.

Also included are the Edward Street Fire Hall and Fire Museum, Victoria Hall, Hutcheson House, Seth

Ashton House and the Factory Theatre.

An additional attraction for 2007 is the Art Event "En Plein Air" (Open Air Painting) coordinated by the Society of York Region Artists.

Also planned is a walking tour of Aurora's historic downtown area, led by noted author and local historian John McIntyre.

For further information contact, Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator, at 905-727-3123 ext. 4762.

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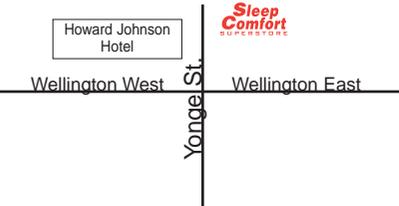
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Believed to be only the second and third members in Canada to complete the new Brownie program, Kathryn Toffolo, left, and Alisha Clarke, of the 6th Aurora Brownie Unit, display badges attached to their sashes. The girls completed all 71 interest badges and 10 program keys - a feat accomplished by only one girl across Canada last year. Their accomplishment was recognized at a ceremony at Holy Spirit Catholic School recently. Some of the badge work was done in the unit, but the girls did most of the work on their own. Badge requirements ensure the Brownies get involved in the community and help out at different levels. The unit visited a seniors' centre, played bingo and sang songs. On another outing, they visited the Aurora Food Pantry and helped stock shelves.

Town financially sound

The 2006 financial statements for Aurora represented the first full year of the current Financial Services Management and were presented on time with most of the management items from the 2005 audit being eliminated and more improvements promised for next year.

At year end the consolidated surplus was \$301,717. While the operating budget had a surplus of \$1,224,205, the water/wastewater account had a deficit of \$922,488.

Treasurer John Gutteridge said the deficit was due to a wet summer which reduced demand and a water loss of eight per cent, which had not been included in previous years. He said the average loss was around six per cent.

The Library Board ended the year with a surplus of \$47,135.73 but it has been the practice in the past to move any surplus to the Library Capital Discretionary fund.

He pointed out that at a previous meeting council had approved transferring \$45,000 of the 2006 surplus to the Accessibility Committee Capital Projects and the remainder be transferred to the Municipal Capital Reserve Fund and no change was recommended.

In reviewing the audited statements he said outstanding taxes receivable had decreased from \$6.6 million to \$5.8 million as more action was taken on collections.

Obligatory reserve funds are collected for specific purposes and may only be used for those purposes and the total for 2006 was \$6.3 million

compared with \$1.5 million in 2005.

The development charge account was overspent by \$525,183 and this will be recovered from development charges in future years.

Reserve funds at the end of the year totalled \$44.7 million, up from \$42.7 million of which \$39.1 million are discretionary.

Bridge results

Tuesday, May 8: Catherine Balant & Ross Jenkinson; Marg Burt & Victor Bailey; Paul Graves & Paul Macfarlane; James Longley & Olly Smolak.

Wednesday, May 9: N/S - Shirley Hulbig & Paul Graves; Vivien Thomas & Marg Farmer; Don & Lena Jackson. E/W - Ross Jenkinson & Wally Browne; Gord Saul & George Payment; Dave Neil & Betty Saley.

Friday, May 11: N/S - George Jordan & Irma Field; Paul Graves & Ross Jenkinson; Gail Model & Steven Lariviere. E/W - Gerald Heath & Marg Farmer; Marg Burt & Marg Little; Bob Hull & Peter Blakemore.

Tuesday, May 22: Victor Bailey & Marg Burt; Don & Lena Jackson; Paul Graves & Linda Lord; Dan & Mike MacNeil; Ross Jenkinson & Catherine Ballant.

Wednesday, May 23: N/S - Don & Lena Jackson; Marg & Paul Macfarlane; Ross Jenkinson & Wally Browne. E/W - Hans Jacob & Linda Lord; Priscilla Hull & Ruth Rea; Virginia Smereka & Marg Burt.

Friday, May 25: Lib McWilliams & Gord Saul; George Jordan & Irma Field; Marg & Paul Macfarlane; Ross Jenkinson & Don Jackson.

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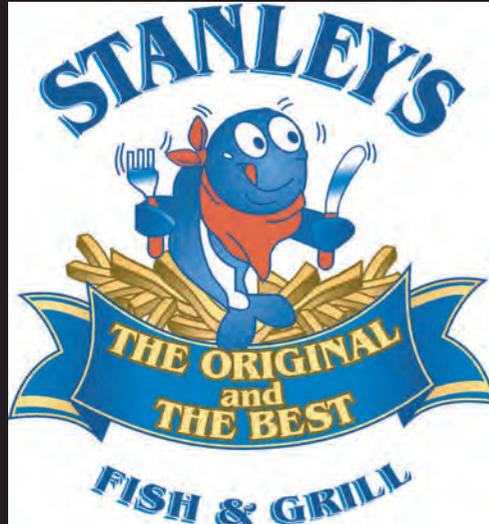
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The Aurora Tigers hockey team wasn't the only Aurora group in British Columbia last week. Some 70 musicians from Aurora's Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, representing the school's sen-

ior concert and jazz bands, were in Vancouver competing in national music finals. They did quite well, thank you. The concert band scored a Gold "superior" rating, while the jazz band brought

home a Silver "excellent" rating. The students qualified for the nationals by winning gold medals at the Toronto Music Fest. Williams' Music Director Penny Sedore is seated centre.

Website will help people seeking contractors

Aurora is the head office of the Registry of Professional Contractors of Ontario and this month the organization introduced a website to help people find reliable home renovators.

The site may be seen at www.renocontractors.com.

The registry is a professional organization which promotes its members through the website and strives to help homeowners find good contractors to suit their needs.

It was created so women could find a central source of dependable contractors on whom they could rely for skill, integrity and value.

It's women who drive the renovation industry. Women looking for a contractor often turn to friends and family for referrals but if that is not forthcoming then for convenience within busy lifestyles, their next research method is the internet, said Margaret Mackay, executive director

of the organization from her Simmons Crescent, Aurora, office.

"From personal experience, we know that women tend to be very uneasy about hiring a contractor because of a select few who have done sloppy and

unprofessional work", she said. "This has resulted in serious damage to the reputation of all the true professionals in the industry. The Registry vets their members to ensure that only the best are accessible through the web site."




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AURORAN SPORTS



Winners

Aurora Jays capture gold

The Aurora Jays captured the Vaughan Vikings Invitational Midget AAA tournament last week at the Vaughan-Grove Sportsplex in Woodbridge.

The Jays rallied from a 4-1 fifth inning deficit to edge the Pickering 1 Red Sox 6-5.

Tournament MVP Chris Cammerota keyed the Jays' victory with three RBIs in cold, windswept conditions.

The Jays third baseman drove in three runs, including the game-winning RBI.

Cammerota and first baseman Chris Owens steadied the Jays' infield with stellar play at the corner infielder positions. Centrefielder Alex Stewart made the game-winning catch and was the catalyst of the Jays' offence with two hits, three stolen bases, and one RBI.

Lefthander closer Steve Scobie earned the victory for the Jays by pitching two innings of scoreless relief.

The Jays completed the 16-team tournament with a 6-0 record, including an impressive 9-1 victory in the championship semi-final over the Mississauga White Majors. Dylan Kelly threw a complete game victory over the Majors, mixing his pitches, and keeping the Mississauga squad off-balance for seven innings.

Centrefielder Steve Scobie led the Jays' well-balanced offence with two RBIs.

Matt Crescenzi contributed two hits and scored two runs.

In the quarter-final against the Pickering 2 Red Sox, Kevin Kryshka led the Jays to an 8-2 victory.

Kryshka threw a complete game, inducing 10

ground ball outs.

Second baseman Zac Davies was the offensive leader against Pickering with three hits and two RBIs.

Jordan Koen and Ryan Van Veen also added two RBIs.

The Jays won their pool with a 3-0 record to advance to the quarter-finals.

In the Jays' 10-2 win over Toronto Playgrounds, Davies was the offensive leader with three runs scored and four stolen bases.

Dylan Kelly added three hits and had two RBIs.

Rightfielder Darrin Goodale drove in two runs.

Winning pitcher Johnny Bethune made his season debut on the mound with a complete game, six-strikeout

performance.

In other pool games, the Jays defeated the Mississauga Gray Majors 11-6.

Jesse Barker pitched a complete game and struck out seven Majors.

Alex Stewart had three hits and three RBIs. Zac Davies scored three runs.

In the tournament opener, the Jays bounced back from a four-run deficit to defeat the Pickering 1 Red Sox 9-8. Winning pitcher Dylan Kelly contributed to his own cause with three RBIs.

Steve Scobie and Chris Cammerota chipped in two RBIs each.

The Jays improved their overall record to 9-0 with the clean sweep in Vaughan.

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Karni Ghazarian, daughter of Jays Peewee team sponsor Shant Ghazarian of Goodyear in Aurora, throws out the ceremonial home opener first pitch. Jays tied Newmarket 7-7, after overcoming a 6-0 deficit.

Aurora Goodyear Jays rally for tie in opener

The Aurora Goodyear Peewee Select Jays hosted the Newmarket Hawks at Town Park on Friday evening and put on a great show for their fans.

Erasing a 6-0 deficit, the Jays batted around in the bottom of the third inning and wound up in a final 7-7 tie.

Joe Ariganello led off the inning with a walk. Trevor Best took one for the team, advancing Ariganello to second.

After Mike Miacci moved the runners into scoring position, Ariganello scored on an error on a hard smash by Wade McFarlane.

Billy Ferguson advanced the runners into scoring position on a ground out, and with two outs, Best and McFarlane crossed home on a single to the gap in left-centre field by Andrew Seguin.

Gordie Turtle singled and Seguin scored on an infield throwing error.

After Braedan Mackenzie and Matthew Johnson walked, Eliot Harkin ham-

pered a one-hopper to shortstop, forcing a fielding error and scoring Turtle.

Kurtis Lindner hit a clutch two-out single to left, scoring Mackenzie and Johnson to lift the Jays to a 7-6 lead.

Coming on in relief of a strong start from Ferguson, lefty Seguin had the Hawks off-balance for an inning and third.

But after a one-out infield error and two stolen bases, the Hawks tied the score before Turtle came on to close the door on the Hawks, thanks to some strong outfield defense from Lindner and McFarlane.

The Jays had a chance to win the game in the bottom of the final inning, with a two-out walk for McFarlane and a Ferguson single.

But with McFarlane at third, the Hawks induced a fly-out from Seguin to send the appreciative crowd home with a 7-7 tie.

Next home game for the Jays is Sunday, June 3 at noon, when they host the Bolton Braves in an afternoon double-header.

Aurora Skating results

The following members of the Aurora Skating Club successfully completed tests recently.

Preliminary Dance

Dutch Waltz: Alana Wise, Elise Popa, Katie Pearson, Megan Howe, Sarah Kim, Megan Bailey, Yianna Hachem.

Canasta Tango: Emilie Ruecker, Nicole Marshall, Sarah Warner, Taylor Pearson.

Baby Blues: Sarah Barbary, Courtney McGrath, Stefanie Smylie-Crea.

Junior Bronze Dance

Swing: Jasmine Biasi, Sarah Barbary, Jessica Jamieson, Julia Steiner, Monica Churchill.

Fiesta Tango: Emma Smith, Stephanie Morawietz, Sarah Blois.

Willow Waltz: Mathew Warner.

Senior Bronze Dance

Ten Fox: MacKenzie Maunder.
Fourteen Step: Kailee O'Connor, Alicia Saunders, Molly Oulahan, Savannah Hendy.
European Waltz: Carley Steiner, Sabrina Brochu.

Junior Silver Dance

Keats Foxtrot: Marilena Perri, Samantha Duncan, Christina Kubiw-Kalashnik.

American Waltz: Hailey McGrath, Teija Rom-Colthoff.

Rocker Foxtrot: Taylor McDowall.

Senior Silver Dance

Paso Doble: Jihyun Cha.
Starlight Waltz: Janet deVries, Jennine Brunton, Samantha Galati, Kate Sutton, Alana Fabbicino, Zahra Rajan.

Blues: Sierra Chovenec, Lauren Blanchet.

Kilian: Emma Laverty.

Gold Dance

Viennese Waltz: Garth Miller, Jordanna Goldman.

Westminster Waltz: Fayme Cockshutt.

Quick Step: Ariel Kwan, Tayler Sim.

Argentine Tango: Allie Sutton.

Skating Skills

Preliminary: Julia Steiner, Alicia Alberton, Courtney McGrath, Taylor Piotrowski, Jasmine Biasi, Stephanie Smilie-Crea, Sarah Blois, Nicole Marshall.

Junior Bronze: Alyssa Simon, Savannah Hendy, Kailee O'Connor, Molly Oulahan.

Senior Bronze: Carley Steiner, Christina Kubiw-Kalashnik, Lauren Blanchet.

Junior Silver: Samantha Galati, Alana Fabbicino, Taylor McDowall, Emma Laverty, Kendall Mannella, Hailey McGrath.

Senior Silver: Ariel Kwan, Jordanna Goldman.

Gold: Emma Hayzelden.

Free Skate Elements (Part A)

Preliminary: Alessia Chiovitti, Alyssa Simon, Carley Steiner, Jackieanne Abbey, Matthew Warner, Marilena Perri, Samantha Duncan.
Junior Bronze: Jihyun Cha, Robyn Fiorda, Hailey McGrath, Julia Chiovitti.

Senior Bronze: Samantha Galati, Nicole Relke, Jordanna Goldman.

Free Skate Program (Part B)

Preliminary: Ashleigh Calvert, Shelby Olesovsky, Alicia Saunders, Alyssa Simon, Kailee O'Connor, Kaitlyn Van Winckle.

Junior Bronze: Shauna O'Connor.

Senior Bronze: Hailey Riggs.

Interpretive

Introductory: Fayme Cockshutt.
Silver: Allie Sutton.

Gold: Jennine Brunton.

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Frankly Speaking

Frank Klees, MPP

Dear Aurora Resident,

Please allow me to introduce myself and the objective of this column.

My family and I have lived in Aurora for more than twenty years, and it is a place I am proud to call home. As a member of the Provincial Legislature for the past 13 years, it has been a privilege to work with members of our community and advocate for the needs of all residents. I am proud of my record over that time as a champion of the environment, my role in securing approval for Southlake Regional Health Centre's Cardiac Care Centre, and, as Minister of Transportation, my support of the VIVA Rapid Transit System.

My commitment as an MPP has always been to be accessible to all of my constituents – to listen to your ideas and concerns, and to help in any way that I can. Our community has grown considerably since I was first elected, and I want to ensure that every resident of this riding has an opportunity to get to know me and let me know how I can be of assistance to them.

Through this column, and in conjunction with events I will continue to hold such as our monthly breakfast round-tables, I would like to engage our community in a meaningful dialogue on the issues that are affecting us all – the effect of growth on our community and the environment, access to health care services and a family doctor when we need them, and the impact of gridlock on our quality of life.

I invite your views on these issues and those of personal interest to you and welcome your advice on how we can make government more responsive and more effective. By becoming involved in the political process, you CAN make a difference. Your participation in my campaign would be welcome and appreciated.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to call me on my direct line at (416) 509-8999 or visit my website listed below.

Together, we can ensure that our community is the best place in the world to live, to work, and to raise a family. I look forward to hearing from you.

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Pat Little supervises Robert and Michael Nash as the 3rd Aurora Scouts secure mulch pads around a new planting in the Aurora Community Arboretum recently. The pads will keep down the weed competition and help retain moisture near the young trees for the next couple of years.

It's time to renew idea for sports hall of fame

The original concept of a Sports Hall of Fame in Aurora was the brainchild of the Leisure Complex Fundraising Committee several years ago.

The committee wanted the hall of fame for the complex but it never happened.

The goal was to honour and perpetuate the names and deeds of those whose athletic prowess brought fame to themselves and the community.

It was even proposed that the number elected to the hall of fame not exceed three in any year.

Hall of fame members would submit nominations with detailed information to the nomination committee. The committee would evaluate the nominations and reduce the list to five.

Then the vote would be taken for the three to be elected and the voting would continue until the successful candidates received a minimum of 60 per cent of the number of members voting.

Each newly elected member would be formally inducted at an official ceremony and presented with a suitable certificate of recognition.

It was also proposed that the hall of fame include officials, sponsors, executive members, trainers, coaches, etc. whose work over the years had been outstanding in providing a consistently high level of contribution to sports in Aurora.

A considerable amount of planning went into the proposal for the Sports Hall of Fame but it never happened.

Now, some feel that it should be resurrected because the new recreational complex is operational.

One of the names to be considered for the Sports Hall of Fame is Aurora's Harry Holmes, a name that is unfamiliar to most Aurorans.

He was born in Aurora in February, 1892, and loved to play hockey.

There were no organized junior teams in those days.

He laced up his goalie pads and played every opportunity.

Long before the NHL and the Toronto Maple Leafs, he turned pro in 1912 with the Toronto Blueshirts of the National Hockey Association and went on to win the Stanley Cup.

He was later lured to the Pacific Coast League in the United States and played for Seattle and, in 1915, the team won the Stanley Cup, his second.

In 1917 the NHL was founded and Holmes

returned to Toronto to play for the Toronto Arenas, the forerunner to the Maple Leafs and another Stanley Cup was won.

In 1923, he went out west again to play for the Victoria Cougars and was successful in winning another Stanley Cup, his fourth while playing on four different teams.

He retired in 1928 and died in 1941 in Florida, much better known in the United States than he was in his own hometown.

There are many more Aurorans who have excelled in sports and brought fame and credit to Aurora and they should be remembered in a Sports Hall of Fame.

Soap Box Derby returns

After an absence of several years the popular Soap Box Derby returns featuring children 8 to 16 years of age June 3 in conjunction with the annual Street Festival.

Thanks to the Optimist Club of Aurora.

Cousins Drive will close from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. but residents will be allowed access.

Participants in the derby will drive and race their soapboxes from Edward Street to Yonge.

The pits will open for the Optimist Downtown Dash at 8.30 a.m.

The First Race starts at 10.20 a.m.

The Optimists have arranged several prizes for the winners and T-shirts and medals for all participants.

Back in the 1960 the volunteers of the Aurora Fire Department organized an annual Soapbox Derby that took place on the Tyler Street hill and kids of all ages participated.

In October, 1971, the Aurora Optimists sponsored a derby and by 1977 the Aurora Orchards Homeowners Association took it over for the young people of the area on Orchard Heights Boulevard.

Then soapboxes disappeared in the Town of Aurora until this year, and officials are hoping the activity will, as in past years, become an annual event.

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New chess club set to get going

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Another Victoria Day is now a memory and with it the fire-crackers which fascinate the youngsters.

True to the season, our gardens are springing to life and so are we as we exercise our authority over what grows where; the grass where it belongs, and the flowers where planted and the weeds displaced, dispatched and hopefully, departed.

And the wonderful sun has shown up, AWOL for a while but daily climbing higher in the sky bringing our annual measure of hot weather.

The Aurora Seniors Association is promoting a chess club which I have agreed to lead.

If you have an interest in chess, please leave your name and phone number or e-mail address at the front counter.

I plan to start at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, in the games room, and you are welcome to attend.

Please bring a chess set with you if you own one.

In any group of chess players, some will play better than others, therefore, it does not matter how strong you are, or are not.

If you are interested, join the group and we will all find a comfort level.

If the chess club gathers some interest then we can look at other games to add to our club, such as checkers or cribbage.

An instructional DVD on how to play billiards for beginners will be presented at the ASA Wednesday, May 30, at 1 p.m.

Most of our players are men but, billiards is finding strong interest with our lady members who have formed a group among themselves and play each Friday.

Snooker and pool are available in the pool room also and if any demand for instructional videos materializes, I feel sure we will accommodate it.

Dart games are played also and friendly card games materialize and the place is altogether a good place to be.

The centre is buzzing with activity and you will be pleasantly surprised at the activity that elders can generate and enjoy enough to return week after week, or every day in some cases.

Seniors come in all shapes and sizes and from 55 years of age, are eligible to join the ASA.

To stimulate your interest we have line dancing and Tai Chi and card games, crafts, a sewing club, artists painting, some advanced and some at the beginner stage.

Wednesdays we have the budget bistro which is enormously popular and we have a coffee shop Thursday mornings.

There is much more going on, including meeting new members and the constant bonding of groups and personal friendships which I believe is an invigorating and health promoting lifestyle for seniors.

An instructional digital imaging course 'Digital Imaging Suite 2006' will be offered on Tuesdays, beginning July 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration for this course is on June 19 only.

Please note this course is not for beginners; a minimum norm requires that you should be able to download camera to computer, carry out assignments and understand how to manage folders.

Drive-thru discussion canned by the clock

At 11 p.m. after spending four hours listening to three subdivision applications at a public planning meeting last week, councillors put off tackling an application dealing with drive through policies due to the late hour.

Noting that one visitor was still in the council chambers, Councillor Grace Marsh moved that the rules of procedure be waived, the delegate be heard and the application be deferred to a future public planning meeting, which was adopted by council.

A representative of the Tim Horton chain said the company planned to develop other Tim Horton Drive-Thru locations in Aurora and he would welcome the opportunity to sit down with staff to discuss the report.

In a staff report it was pointed out that as a result of increased development pressures related to drive-thru facilities adjacent to residential uses, staff initiated an official plan and zoning bylaw amendments to better regulate the integration in these areas.

It is also planned to specifically identify areas where drive-thru facilities should be prohibited.

Staff members obtained data from several other municipalities and reviewed policies that could be applied to Aurora.

They recommended a minimum distance separation between drive-thru facilities and a residential zone of 30 metres or 98.4 feet, which is used in Toronto and survived an Ontario

Municipal Board hearing.

After a public hearing pertaining to a Tim Horton drive-thru at Bayview Avenue and Hollidge Boulevard the separation between the facility and the residential property was set at 10 metres.

This separation was also applied to the Tim Horton drive-thru to be constructed at Yonge Street and Cousins Drive, although the applicant requested a five-metre separation resulting in the need for a drive-thru policy to be included in the official plan and zoning bylaw.

Staff members also recommended council consider extending the prohibition of all drive-thru facilities in the historic core.

It was further recommended council consider extending

the prohibition of drive-thru facilities to include all of Yonge Street because of high traffic volumes.

The report will be included on the agenda for the June 27 public planning meeting.

These historic awards recognize excellence

The presentation of awards of excellence for outstanding achievements in activities related to local heritage conservation is an activity undertaken by many municipalities including Aurora.

It is an easy way of recognizing excellence and saying thank you to those local residents who have helped to bring the goals and objectives of the Heritage Advisory Committee to reality.

The Ontario Heritage Trust presents annual Heritage Community Recognition Awards based on recommendations from local municipalities. These awards are given in

five categories: Lifetime Achievement, Natural Heritage Conservation, Built Heritage Conservation, Heritage Garden Conservation and the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Conservation.

The Aurora Heritage Advisory Committee also presents its own awards related to a variety of categories including outstanding restoration, compatible new construction, and volunteerism.

Although not awarded in recent years, the Heritage Advisory Committee endorsed a program to re-establish the Awards of Excellence program as part of the Civic Appreciation

Awards, which takes place this year June 6.

Each entry should include a completed entry form, photographs illustrating all relevant exterior views and an outline of the project describing the work undertaken.

Possible categories include Heritage Planning, Restoration Corporate, Restoration Private Residential, Infill, Additions, Education, Individual efforts in the field of Conservation and Outstanding Achievement Award.

More information may be obtained by calling Community Planner Michael Seaman at 905-727-3123, ext. 4351.



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Water problems over the years

Today, homeowners in Aurora are accustomed to water restrictions during the summer months, but as far back as April, 1971, water supply was an on-going problem for council.

Planned improvements to the town's waterworks system had to be put on hold resulting in the council of the day adopting a resolution to the Ontario Municipal Board requesting urgent consideration for the Aurora project.

In those days it was necessary to obtain OMB approval before capital projects could be started.

Council was concerned as the OMB had advised no approvals would be granted until the newly established York Region approved its budget and capital quotas, even though the Aurora situation was critical.

TURNING A HOBBY INTO A LIVELIHOOD

In April, 1991, Michael Cheslow decided to turn his hobby into a livelihood as he opened Professional's Choice on Wellington Street in Aurora, after selling his Christmas decoration manufacturing business.

An avid horseman and polo player, he was aware there was no local supplier offering polo equipment, grooming equipment, gifts for horse lovers and a range of equestrian supplies.

His shop was endorsed by equestrians and horse lovers from the area.

Two of his trophies were on display at the store, the Toronto Polo Club Special Award for 1990 and the runner-up award from the United States Polo Association Delegates Cup Trophy for 1991.

A CAREER AS A TRAVEL AGENT

In April, 1986, with funding from Employment and Immigration Canada's job re-entry program, travel agents Allan and Eleanor Morton launched a new job creation program, Careers in Travel, in Aurora.

The 26-week program was designed to train individuals in the fundamentals of travel counselling.

Upon completion, each trainee had all the necessary skills to be a competent travel counsellor.

Instruction included airline tariff ticketing, Air Canada computer training, geography and the basics of the travel industry.

The program was designed for people who hadn't had a

full-time job for three years.

WHEN JUDO CAME TO AURORA

Today various types of martial arts and fitness centres are available in Aurora, but back in 1970 a judo club was relatively unknown or if people knew about one, it was usually considered to be a group of muscle-bound fanatics.

The Aurora Judo Club was formed in February, 1970, sponsored by the town's recreation department and members met once a week at Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School for two hours of instruction and practice.

Then in July, 1973, the club submitted a proposal to the town to convert the former public works building into a Martial Arts Centre, which met strong opposition from some council members.

Aurora Judo Club instructor George Thomson appeared before council to repeat the club's proposal and suggested a joint committee of council and Judo Club members be established to conduct a study of the building.

But council members said the old works building was an eyesore and a disgrace to the town and expressed doubts that it was structurally sound enough to renovate.

The joint committee was established and a month later reported that renovating the old building wasn't feasible and the club decided to seek alternative sites.

In March, 1974, the Aurora Martial Arts Centre was officially opened in a renovated auto body shop on Wellington Street East.

Instead of cutting the traditional red ribbon for the opening, Mayor Evelyn Buck chopped a board of balsa wood with her bare hand.

Although the Aurora Martial Arts Centre has long since disappeared, other martial arts centres have opened and the sport is more popular than ever.

WILL THAT BE CASH OR CHARGE?

It was in 1968 when a bank credit card arrived in Canada to be soon followed by the question, "Will that be cash or Charge?"

By August, 1993, Charge had become Visa.

More than 15 million Canadian Visa card holders charged more to their plastic money than the per capita averages in all countries, except Iceland.

On average, about \$35 billion in purchases were made

each year, about \$2,300 per card for everything from clothes to dinners in restaurants and dentist bills.

At the time, Visa still hadn't edged out cash for purchases, but much of the cash spent came from automated teller machines activated by a Visa card, locally, or at airports and hotels around the world.

By June, 1993, some 55 million credit and retail cards were held by Canadians.

In 1993, on Mastercard and Visa alone, cardholders racked up \$43.1 billion in sales and as of October, 1992, they owed \$11.4 billion.

By January, 2004, Canadians owed a whopping \$827 billion in mortgage or credit card payments or about \$69,450 per household.

This was 105.2 per cent more than disposal income, meaning that people owe more than they take home.

PUPILS CAME TO AURORA

In May, 1973, students from Ballantrae Public School which had been partially gutted by fire were accommodated in other regional schools with Grade 3 and 4 students transported to Regency Acres Public School in Aurora because of a decrease in enrolment.

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Tax payment causes debate

From page 1

Marsh, who had seconded the motion at the previous meeting, said she found it necessary to withdraw her support in view of the staff report.

Councillor Buck said her motion called for a political decision and had nothing to do with staff and she objected to it being referred to staff.

She also complained that at a previous meeting the Mayor and Councillor Evelina MacEachern had been allowed to speak and everyone else had been cut off.

Councillor MacEachern suggested that council adopt the option in the staff report that council send a strongly worded resolution to York objecting to their handling of the roll back and suggest that the funds be returned to the municipalities in the form of a grant or returned to the

taxpayers.

Other councillors said they had every right to ask for a staff report as there could be possible legal implications.

As there were two parts to the Buck resolution it was agreed a separate vote be taken on each part.

On the first part to withhold Aurora's share of the levy it was defeated by an 8-1 vote with only Councillor Buck in support.

On the second part that the region be informed the town does not agree to continue to impose the burden on the Aurora taxpayers, the item was supported 8-1 with Councillor Wendy Gaertner in opposition.

In dealing with the staff report Councillor Marsh suggested a strongly-worded resolution be sent to the region objecting to their handling of the roll back and that

it should be returned to the municipalities or the taxpayers.

She said she had contacted Ontario Treasurer Greg Sorbara's office and had been advised they believed there would be consultation between the regions and the area municipalities at either the staff or political level.

A letter from Regional Chairman Bill Fisch that had been printed in The Auroran was introduced.

The letter pointed out that by applying the returned

\$6.5 million to the region debt, interest payments decreased by \$635,000 and this was of benefit to all citizens.

During the discussion it was noted that if Aurora did not pay the regional levy, some Aurora taxpayers may use the example not to pay their taxes.

In addition to supporting the Marsh motion to send the resolution to the region it was also agreed 9-0 to send copies to area municipalities seeking support.

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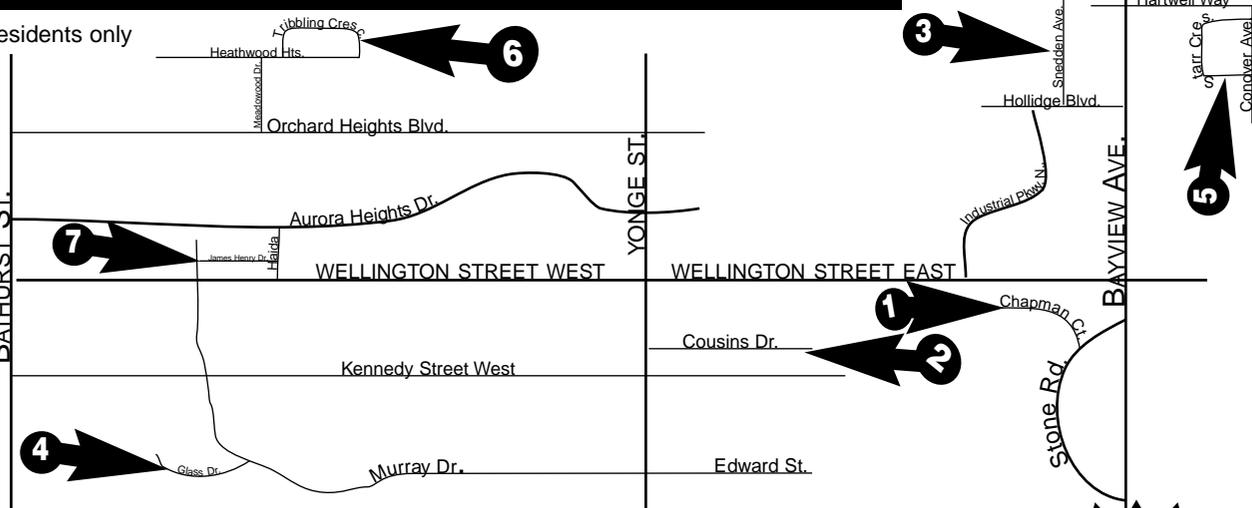
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