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THE AURORAN

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FREE

Week of June 26, 2007

Stronach recovering from cancer operation

Newmarket-Aurora Member of Parliament Belinda Stronach is "in high spirits" following an operation last week to deal with a form of breast cancer.

She has known about the problem since mid-April, but word of her disease was only released in a daily newspaper story Saturday.

Through her executive assistant, Greg MacEachern, Belinda is reported to be in high spirits and looking forward to returning to her duties.

She won't, however, be at the second annual "From the Hill to the Grill" event planned Thursday at the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

Mr. MacEachern told The Auroran that she would be well represented at the event.

He said she was resting in a Toronto area hospital but wouldn't reveal which one.

According to reports, she underwent a "mastectomy and breast reconstruction" Tuesday.

Mr. MacEachern discouraged people from sending flowers to Belinda's home, and suggested anyone wishing to

do that could support one of two of Belinda's favourite charities: www.spreadthenet.org or www.rethinkbreastcancer.com.

Culver is new president

Sharon Culver of Whitehots Inc., an Aurora book distributor, is the new president of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

She was elected during a ceremony last week at the Howard Johnson Aurora hotel.

Sharon replaces Stephen Forsey, who served as president for two years.

Over the years it has become a tradition for the mayor of Aurora to deliver a State of the Town address at the election of officers of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and take part in the induction of Chamber officers and directors.

This year was no exception.

The luncheon meeting was held at the Howard Johnson Aurora and in addition to the election and induction of officers by Mayor Phyllis Morris there was also a message about Character Leadership and Character communities by Lois Tori.

She pointed out how character attributes assisted in leadership development and sales experience and how the schools, home and communities benefited through citizens caring for each other with respect as people are a community's valuable resource.

The Chamber Nominating Committee recommended a slate of Officers and Directors and the election was conducted by Past President Patricia Davidson of



Members of the cast of Musical Mayhem ham it up after their Saturday evening performance at Aurora's Factory Theatre. They are, left to right, Matthew Monopoli, Ashley Cross Marques, Moira Lemme, Adam Miceli, Stephanie Wilson, Megan Kingsbury, Katie Mauti and Kyle Merrithew. Group performed Saturday and Sunday.

Aurora photo by David Falconer

Town's Leslie St. lands will be sold

Aurora will sell the land it owns on Leslie Street.

After a private session, Aurora Council agreed to declare the town-owned lands surplus.

Staff members had prepared a background report dating back to June, 2000, when council purchased the 89 acres of land at a cost of \$4.2 million although the land, with a farmhouse, was assessed at \$381,000.

The lands were originally pur-

chased to be partially used for municipal recreational facilities and a fire station, provision of active parklands and economic development initiatives.

They were seen to be a major impetus to the attraction of future business to the municipality and development of the employment area at Highway 404 and Wellington East.

The firm of Templeton Lepak was engaged in January 2002 to

prepare development concepts for the 89 acre parcel. Following several working sessions in February 2003 council received a revised development concept incorporating a mixture of employment, recreational uses and a fire hall.

Then in June, 2003, following a private meeting, council approved the purchase of 32 acres of land on Wellington Street for \$4.8 million for a recreational complex,

Please see page 16



Belinda Stronach

Please see page 16

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COMING EVENTS

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.

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.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Aurora Council meets in the council chambers of the Town Hall at 7 p.m. Aurora Cable Internet will telecast the meeting at 6.30 p.m. the following night and at noon on the following Saturday and Sunday.

A Public Open House will be held in the Holland Room of the Town Hall to provide information and receive comments of an Infill Study Bylaw currently being undertaken by the Town. This is not a statutory meeting under the Planning Act as that meeting will be held at a later date.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Aurora Horticultural Society pres-

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

Public planning meeting at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Second annual "From the Hill to the Grill" takes place at the Aurora Seniors' Centre from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Dance in the park at Lambert Willson Park.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Celebrate Canada's Birthday in Aurora, Canada's Birthday Town, with activities and programs for all ages at the Leisure Complex and Lambert Willson Park.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

Merlin Gardens Open House on Centre Street. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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 North, at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 15

Merlin Gardens Open House on Centre Street. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

Aurora senior citizens are going out to the ball game as the Blue Jays take on Minnesota.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

Second Annual Doors Open takes place all day in Aurora. Several historical sites available for viewing.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

Aurora senior citizens will attend the Seniors Jubilee at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

Aurora's senior citizens will enjoy an afternoon boat cruise along the Toronto waterfront.

SEPTEMBER 7-9

Second annual Aurora Ribfest.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Second annual Aurora Historical Society golf tournament at Westview Golf Club. Only 60 spaces available. Known as the KSG (Kiss Summer Goodbye) tournament, the event will feature dinner and a silent auction at DiNardo's, The Mansion. \$150 gets you the package; dinner only is \$50. Tickets available at Hillary House, Westview Golf Club and The Auroran. Tournament gets underway at 11 a.m. and will not use the "shotgun" format.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

Aurora Chamber of Commerce annual Business Excellence evening in Aurora.



Members of the Upper Canada Chordsmen welcomed The Auroran staff to their new premises with song and flowers Friday. Singers Bill Brown, John Parker, Dave Leitch and Herb Hatch presented publisher Ron Wallace, centre, with flowers and songs to welcome the staff to their new location at 95 Edward Street at the corner of Harrison Avenue.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Bad roads force Aurora to repair them a year early

Bad roads have caused reconstruction plans to move ahead by a year.

Although the reconstruction of Allaura Boulevard and Engelhard Drive from Edward Street to Furbacher Lane was scheduled for 2008 in the town's 10-Year Capital Plan, funding for the two projects was approved in the 2007 capital budget due to the condition of the roads.

The existing roadways are deformed and rutted, the sidewalk needs to meet current demand and the storm sewers are aged and in need of replacement.

The intersection of Engelhard Drive and Industrial Parkway South needs to be rebuilt to meet current standards and traffic signals are also warranted at the intersection of Engelhard

Drive and Edward Street.

Based on town staff's evaluation, the firm of Totten Sims Hubicki Associates was recommended to do the work at a bid of \$68,303 which was approved by the general committee.

Funds in the amount of \$98,000 were approved in the budget.

The issue was expected to be ratified by council this week.

Celebrate Aurora

June 30th

Lambert Willson Park

Come out for dancing

live entertainment

5:30 p.m.
Aurora
Teen Idol Competition

7:00 p.m.
The Sean Armstrong Band

8 - 11 p.m.
The Glenn Marais Band

Kids

will enjoy the Midway

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Surrounded by his family and partner, solicitor Chris Sorley, seated, hosted a re-opening of his law office at Yonge and Reuben last week. From the left are Anne Sorley, Will Sorley, Katherine Still and Claire Sorley. The office of Sorley and Still was remodelled after popular Aurora doctor Bill Diamond retired.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Market controversy continues

Aurora's Farmers' Market is now open but the controversy continues.

It is held every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon until Thanksgiving at the Temperance Street parking lot, south and west of Yonge and Wellington.

The market was started several years ago when Aurora Councillor Nigel Kean believed it might bring people to the downtown core to help local businesses.

For a while it appeared as if there wouldn't be a market this year but the town picked up the pieces and called for vendors and volunteers and the market opened.

At last week's general committee meeting Gordon Barnes expressed his support for the farmers market and its value to the town and expressed his appreciation to Nigel Kean for starting it.

Paul Ellis, one of the vendors at the market, was listed on the agenda as a delegate, but due to the lateness of the hour had left the meeting.

An e-mail from Councillor Evelyn Buck regarding the farmer's market was listed on the agenda at the request of Mayor Phyllis Morris and it was brought forward for discussion.

In the e-mail to all members of council, Councillor Buck noted that Chris Alexander, the town's bylaw coordinator, was listed on the ad for the farmers' market and she was under the impression it was being run by volunteers.

She expressed concern that running the farmers' market would interfere with his duties as a bylaw officer and this was done without reference to council.

She said there was little

she could do to make a difference and from her perspective there was a need for a difference.

Staff members said bylaw staff has been involved since the market started as the vendors require a permit which is issued by that

department.

It was also noted that the market now has 13 vendors and that Councillor Stephen Granger had agreed to be the council liaison.

He said there was tremendous interest in the market.

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Poor Richard

Home buyers need to be aware of area

*It's a very big expenditure,
But questions are seldom asked;
About what happens around them,
Maybe, it's too big a task.*

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

It's hard to believe that new home owners are willing to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars for a new home in a subdivision, but few take the time to ask about the zoning of the vacant property or what is planned for the land around them.

It may be in the excitement of buying a new home, especially if it's their first one, they forget to ask questions, or even if they do question the sales agents of the developer, they may not get a straight answer.

Sales agents are in the business of selling homes.

It's always wise to check with the planning department of the municipality as to the zoning and future plans, if known, or, if school-age children are involved, check with the school board regarding the location of the schools the children will attend, before signing the sales agreement.

Ron Wallace, when an Aurora Trustee on the York Region Board of Education, recalled that during one three-year term he received only one phone call from a prospective homebuyer about school locations.

There have been too many cases of people buying homes and then complaining to council that an apartment is being built next door, or a gas station is planned for the corner of the street.

For example, back in 1986 the original owners of homes on Moorcrest Drive never enquired about the berm in their backyards before they purchased their homes, or if they did it's not known what answer they received.

But after they moved in it was a different story as homeowner after homeowner appeared before council to complain about the barrier that took up a portion of their backyard.

Council explained that the berm was required as a condition of approval for the subdivision by CN Rail as railway tracks were directly behind their homes.

A notice about the berm had been included in the purchase agreement.

In addition, the lots had been planned with extra depth to help make up for the loss.

In fact one angry homeowner phoned Mayor John West to complain about a train travelling behind his house during the night as it woke him up and he wanted to know what the mayor was going to do about it.

Mayor West tried to explain that trains had been running on the track for more than 100 years, and home buyers had been warned in their purchase agreement, but the complainant continued.

When Hydro One proposed that the transmission corridor running from Markham to Newmarket through Aurora be enhanced with higher towers to carry a heavier load to supply an increasing demand, the neighbouring residents rose up in arms.

In this case they were successful as Hydro One backed down to seek alternative solutions but with the warning that the region could experience brownouts or blackouts.

During the discussions some residents said that when they purchased their homes next to the transmission corridor they were told by the sales agent that the lines were to be buried but they failed to get it in writing or check with the town.

Recently there have been several complaints to council about heavy trucks and safety concerns on the Vandorf Sideroad by residents living in subdivisions south of the roadway.

Vandorf Sideroad has been an east-west collector road as long as most residents can remember carrying traffic of all types long before the homes were built.

When people bought their homes there, they must have been aware of the existence of the roadway and the types and volume of traffic it carried.

In too many cases, people move in and then question what's happening around them.

When making a major purchase, the old rule of "Buyer Beware" applies.



This fine-looking group of youngsters made up the Aurora Boys Band. The photograph was taken on the steps of the then Aurora High School (you know it today as Wells Street Public School) and the band was under the direction of Robert Moore, front left. Picture was supplied by Aurora resident Lowell McClenny, who is in the photo somewhere.

Letters to the Editor

She wonders why there's no parade in Aurora July 1st

To the editor,

I am not a very 'political' person, however I am a true Canadian and I just heard that there will be NO Canada Day Parade on Yonge Street for the Town of Aurora this year.

I don't know how or why this decision was reached and only just heard about it.

I couldn't believe that it was true.

I contacted Carla Adams at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce who confirmed that there will be NO PARADE in honour of our Country's Day this year...our home.

How did this happen?

I am truly saddened - I believe we Canadians are developing a strong Canadian identity and that we are PROUD of our country.

I personally look forward to the parade every year - it is a wonderful community event that helps to underscore our love for our wonderful country.

It's something we need to grow large - not abandon.

Maybe there was some

mention but I didn't see any publicity about this, and a few friends I've asked were also unaware of this decision.

Perhaps there was an advisement somewhere and we all missed it.

However, I feel the citizens of Aurora and surrounding areas should all definitely know that there will be NO Canada Day Parade and be given a chance to try to rally for one or at least know why.

Why would a true Canadian ever wish to cancel our National Parade Day?

Can you imagine any American cancelling a parade in their small town honouring JULY 4th?

I find this really unbelievable - maybe I'm alone in this but it feels like one million steps backwards in one swoop.

Is there any way to have the decision to have the parade back on the table?

Could you perhaps get opinions and/or votes before having it cancelled?

So many of us enjoy coming to this parade in Aurora every July 1st - just

to sit on Yonge Street and enjoy a parade in honour of our home.

Maybe I'm missing something here and I welcome information.

I guess it's fairly obvious, I am a proud Canadian who supports the Canada Day Parade 100 per cent and I feel very sad that such a decision could even be thought of, let alone made.

The words of our nation-

al anthem ring in my ears and I hear us sing "The true north strong and free - we stand on guard for thee".

Apparently in Aurora we're not willing or able to put our little street parade together to honour our amazing home.

It feels very wrong and reflects badly on community spirit.

Sher St. Kitts
King Township

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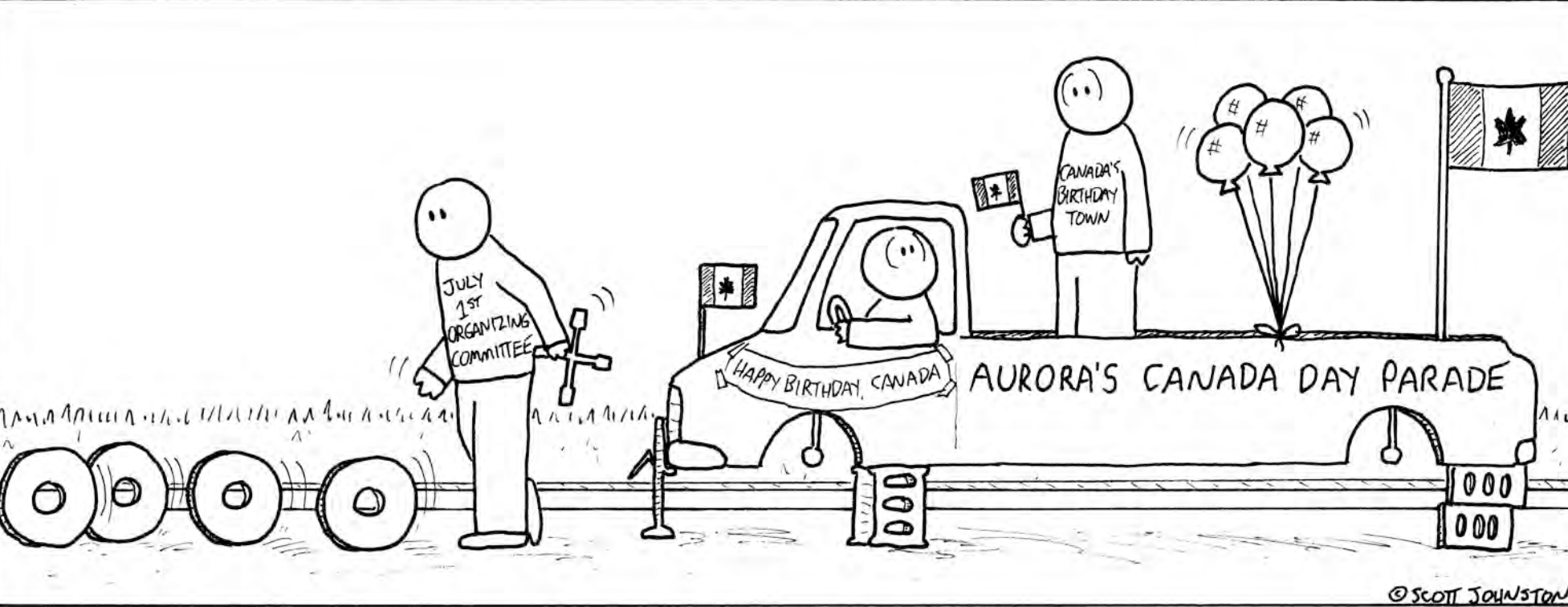
To the editor,

Aurora won't have a Canada Day parade - however, the mayor has time to parade around in front of Al Gore to fight for our "Right to Dry".
Maybe she should put

the time towards fighting to celebrate the birth of our country.

That would be time well spent - but alas, no publicity value.

Bill Hogg
Aurora



Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

I have written a couple of recent columns based on the premise that the type of development the Town allows on the rest of Aurora's land could have serious long-term ramifications for our way of life and that the residents of the community should be active participants in the process.

I also quoted extensively from the Hemson Consulting Ltd. Report, which was delivered to the Town of Aurora in 2006. The formal name of the report is "Planning justification for urban designation of the 2C lands".

According to the report, "The 2C area in northeast Aurora is the last remaining part of the Town with the potential to be designated for urban uses."

The two main things that I came away with from some rudimentary research was that only 11 per cent of Aurora's land is left for development and we are also expected to share in the York Region intensification burden.

Based upon this research, I posed five questions:

Can Aurora comfortably grow to 75,000 people while maintaining our 'small town' atmosphere? Is the additional 2,800 units of the right mix for our Town? What does this mean for our property taxes? Will these units ensure that Aurora has affordable housing? And why not change the ratio of proposed low density housing in the 2C area to a much higher percentage of high-density dwellings?

This column will examine the first question, which is clearly the toughest to answer.

From a purely selfish point of view, who wouldn't want to see all growth and infill stop so that we can try and preserve our commu-

nity and green spaces - in perpetuity - exactly as it is today.

But Aurora does not exist in a vacuum; we are part of a larger region that is experiencing tremendous growth.

Of the nine York Region municipalities, Aurora's share of the population growth will be in the lower end.

So the burden we are being asked to carry, on a relative basis to the other local municipalities, is low.

So, we do need to accept some growth. But is the 75,000 figure too much?

From a purely political perspective, it probably is too high because the type of growth that will need to take place to meet the 75,000 target will most certainly cause a severe backlash by a large number of our fellow citizens.

I believe a letter to the editor last week summed up this particular position quite well, "Who says population density is a good thing?"

Look at some simple numbers: As of January 1, 2006 Aurora had about 4,061 remaining units of supply.

From page eight of the Hemson Report: "In 2026 an Aurora population of 75,000 will require about 26,800 housing units. At the end of 2005, Aurora had about 15,450 total housing units. Adding the above estimate of remaining housing supply of 4,061 units results in a total potential of 19,500 units, excluding potential additional units through intensification. As a result, there would be a requirement of about 7,300 additional units to meet the Region's 2026 population forecast."

Again, from the Hemson Report: "If the 2C lands were to remain

How can Aurora maintain small-town atmosphere?

rural, then about 7,300 units over the next 21 years would be required through other areas within Aurora. All of these units would have to be provided through intensification, infill development and development of designated high density housing sites."

And the item from the report that will cause the most debate/controversy: "This requirement equates to about an average of 350 units every year during this period. Given the size of Aurora, potential intensification opportunities, market demand and community acceptance, this level of intensification would be difficult to achieve."

While the community would probably not welcome this type of high-density development, I submit that the large potential increase in our population base by 2026 should not affect our "small town" feel for two reasons; the geographic boundaries of the Town are a given; people can still get from one side of Aurora to the other in fairly quick order, and most of the things that define a "small town" atmosphere will still be in place; tons of activities for children, lots of sports facilities and plenty of community programs.

As well, while the look of the community would change, the fundamental character of our community would not be altered as the population grows.

The generous nature and pleasantness of the people in Aurora will ensure welcoming arms and a seamless transition to those newcomers to our Town.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

Husband survival strategies

Okay, so here it is: the course that every wife in Aurora has been anticipating...dreaming of...waiting for...

Yes, HUSBAND SURVIVAL STRATEGIES has come to Aurora. And here's the curriculum:

Class 1: The Taming of the Shrewd: We will explore the female need to spend and the conflicting male need to NOT spend. Upon completion of this unit, grumpy old men will acquire the finesse needed to enthusiastically say "Yes, Dear!" to major household purchases and renovations and ultimately become the perfect shopping companion - a life goal to which every man surely aspires!

Class 2: Remembering Anniversaries - Is It Really Necessary to Buy a Card? The importance of cards (particularly in the absence of gifts) will be the focus of this session. Studies have shown that men suffer from mental atrophy (forgetting things) far more often than most women can tolerate. This class is intended to provide forgetful men with the ability to use technology for survival - namely recording important dates in the day-timer, the Blackberry, or on the forehead...and given the newly acquired shopping skills of husbands, wives can expect to be lavished with two-carat diamonds upon completion of this class.

Class 3: Asking for Directions - Will It Kill You? Also known as "The Long and WHINING Road", this class will educate men on the merits of asking questions versus always knowing all the answers to EVERYTHING and will conclude with real life testimonials from men who dared ask for directions, survived, got there on time, and stayed married throughout the process.

Class 4: Drive, OVER-Drive and the Need to Downshift Once in a While: This class will be "geared" towards the man who CANNOT NOT drive and will explore the male obsession with sports cars, revving the engine (even when it is a four-cylinder minivan in the showroom with no key in the ignition), and excessive car washing behaviour. The relationship between male pattern baldness and the hair-tearing activities of males who cannot keep their sanity when a woman is driving (much less parallel parking) will also be covered. NOTE: the prerequisite for this class is: "Relaxation, Meditation and Breathing Techniques" also known as "Downshifting 101".

Class 5: Real Men Empty Lint Traps: The correlation between doing 50 loads of laundry (in a row) without emptying the lint trap and need to purchase a new dryer will be examined. This class will refine the skills of "helpful" men by answering such questions as: Why you should never toss her fancy lace bra in with your load of socks, shin pads and sweaty soccer gear; why white towels should never be washed with black socks, and why labels that say "Dry Clean Only" are there for a reason. This class should not be missed as it has been known to extend male life expectancy.

Class 6: Buying Underwear - Does Size Matter? This class will examine the age-old philosophical question: "Boxers or Briefs?" and explain to men that if they wish their wives to purchase their underwear, they had better be prepared for...neither. We will also cover the coverage problem that arises when the tag is bigger than the underwear. Men can earn extra credit by enrolling in the class entitled

"Buying Underwear II - Does Comfort Matter?" which will include a field trip to a department store.

Class 7: Valentine's Day - Does it Give You Heartburn?

This class will explain how flowers, chocolates, lingerie, jewelry, candle-lit dinners, fine wine, and romantic music stoke the female fire, and why neglecting her wish list will result in his wish list going up in smoke. We will also discuss the importance of dressing appropriately for the occasion (i.e. wearing the thong she bought you), with special emphasis on sucking in the gut, using mouthwash, and the critical importance of shaving.

Class 8: Staying out of the Doghouse: Also known as "Essential Differences between Mother and Wife", this class will explain why his mother will always forgive him for such things as forgetting her birthday, failing to call when he's going to be late, and washing her finest lace bra with his soccer gear - but his wife NEVER will! Also covered will be why his mother's cooking will kill him, and how complaining about his wife's cooking will kill him even faster.

Due to the overwhelming popularity of this course, it is presently overbooked, but if you would like to put your husband on the waiting list, please do not hesitate to e-mail me with your complaints, as it may lead to a graduate degree program!

Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at:
laughingmatters@aci.on.ca



BOUQUETS to Dorothy Clark McClure on being named Aurora's 2007 Citizen of the Year and to Cliff Davis who was named Senior Citizen of the Year by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration.

BRICKBATS to members of the general committee for approving a report from the Leisure Services Advisory Committee that the arena bulkheads at the new Recreation Complex need reconstruction without asking why they need reconstruction, the cost and who pays. It would be nice to know why.

BOUQUETS to the volunteers who came forward to reactivate the Farmers' Market now open every Saturday on the Temperance Street parking lot.

BRICKBATS to council members who were able to drag out a council meeting for nearly 4 fi hours with nine agenda items plus Open Forum and two presentations. Only six items were discussed due to councillors' incessant questioning and being unable to arrive at a decision.

BOUQUETS to the politician who can explain how the CRTC, as a federal regulator, can approve or reject rare increases for telephone companies and the Ontario Energy Board can control prices for the use of energy, but no agency has the power to control gaso-line prices, as motorists are gouged at the pumps.

BRICKBATS to York Simcoe MP Peter Van Loan as Conservative House Leader for sinking to a new low and making a mockery out of Question Period, by answering about how the Liberals were holding up Senate Reform when asked about Canada's position on the G8 climate change accord. No wonder the public is cynical about politicians!

BOUQUETS to 80-year-old Joyce Carter who flew from Nova Scotia to Ottawa for taking on Prime Minister Stephen Harper for breaking his word. He promised her two years ago in writing, when he was opposition leader that a Conservative government would immediately extend the Veterans Independence Program to the widows of Second World and Korean War veterans, but so far the government has done nothing.

BRICKBATS to the Alberta Supreme Court for ordering a new trial for the man who beat Dougald Miller into a vegetative state, because the trial judge took too long to submit his written ruling. The man was declared a dangerous offender and sentenced to an indefinite prison term after he was found guilty in the attack that left Miller unable to speak, move or eat without help. This is justice?

BOUQUETS to Aurora Council for finally getting around to selling the town-owned Leslie Street Lands but when the issue was fully discussed at a private meeting and a decision made, it was difficult to understand the questioning and discussions that took place at the council meeting.

BRICKBATS to the protocol that required a pair of RCMP officers and a couple of British security guards to accompany Prince Harry and an army buddy to a raunchy Calgary nightclub. He is in training in Alberta for possible deployment to Afghanistan. Does this mean the British security officers and police officers will have to accompany him into battle?

BOUQUETS to Aurora's Hot Spot Youth Club for raising \$400 and donating it to the York Region Abuse Program, as part of its "Kids Helping Kids" initiative.

BRICKBATS to the City of Toronto for failing to take action to fix up an apartment building it owns, as no action has been taken on repair orders from city inspectors. Since June, 2005, city inspectors have issued 45 work orders, more than they have issued to any other apartment building.

Peter Virtanen
CLU. Agent, Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Jones left hydro job to Morris, reader says

To the editor,

RE: "Mayor's right to dry misleading: reader", letter to the editor, The Auroran, June 19

As far as I'm concerned, The Auroran is very entertaining to read, mainly because it often says as much or more between the lines as it does in its content.

There is no question that there were others concerned about the power supply issue and supportive of the concerns of impacted citizens on the past council and I am thankful that S. Williams shares those concerns because the same issues have yet to be finally resolved.

Councillor Nigel Kean spoke well on the transmission line issue, as he did on many others, and he took the time to meet with me and respond to e-mails.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner attended Task Force meetings, made an

effort to become better informed and offered much appreciated support during very difficult and seemingly never ending challenges.

Others did vote to pass resolutions but clearly no one came close to the efforts of our current mayor to address the power supply issue facing our community.

It is true that neither Mayor Phyllis Morris nor the former mayor won the overall vote of every electoral district in the last election and the 750 votes that our current mayor won along the hydro corridor represented more than 250 more votes than Tim Jones received.

Had 206 votes gone the other way, the election outcome would have been different.

The voters along the hydro corridor know full well who took action to represent them over the past few years, which is precisely the point.

It was Phyllis who called the public meetings, drafted

or promoted the town's resolutions (despite real resistance in some cases), who participated on the Task Force and in the OPA's Working Group meetings.

It was Phyllis who responded to e-mails and actually made phone calls to many of the key players in the discussion.

For the record, I do not recall ever once getting a proactive e-mail or phone call from Mr. Jones and he never once attended a Task Force meeting in the 18 months in which we sat.

He left that job to Phyllis.

Mr. Jones only appeared for 20 minutes at the end of the five full days of OPA Working Group meetings held in the summer of 2005 and I do not recall any forceful comments made in defence of our community or potentially impacted residents.

He left that job to Phyllis and the Town of Markham in particular.

The fact that Mr. Jones claimed at the top of his webpage during the past election that the power supply issue was his biggest accomplishment while in office spoke volumes to me.

Contrary to S. William's understanding, some of us in Aurora and many more people in the Province actually are restricted from drying our clothes outside and many environmental watch

dog groups have expressed their support for Mayor Morris's efforts.

All you have to do is go to Phyllis's website to see the list of letters of support or actually ask our mayor to send you the supporting material.

Trust me, you will get a response.

As silly as the clothes line issue may sound to some, the issue of global warming and sustainable development are very real and these are not matters to flippantly dismiss for political or personal reasons.

We need to rethink the way in which we approach power supply and sustainable development issues.

I have not yet met a perfect person (excluding those in my immediate family, of course), let alone witnessed a perfect government, therefore I share the view that holding government accountable is important but I hope that our town can have a more factual and balanced debate on important issues going forward.

This town has nothing to be ashamed of other than the occasional nasty letter to the editor, which all things considered is not the worst imaginable sin, so let's count ourselves lucky for a change.

**Richard D. Johnson
Aurora**

We're lucky to have Southlake, he says

York Region residents are fortunate indeed to be served by Southlake Hospital.

Over the years several members of our extended family have been treated at Southlake ranging from sports injuries to diverse other conditions.

All of us are unanimous that this medical complex has few peers anywhere.

Over the years, the hospital seems to have grown - seemingly organically - into a huge complex which is architecturally pleasing yet ergonomic in providing the increasingly complicated services which we, the public, demand from our medical practitioners.

Recently I went in for an extended check up at Southlake. Again, I was amazed at the efficiency of the system as I arrived.

My medical history checked, then a wristband attached which became a continual monitor as I was routed through the system, ensuring that I was always on

the right track for consultation, treatment and recuperation.

I found that at all times, patients were treated with respect and kindness backed up with a great array of medical expertise and sophisticated equipment.

There is also a very friendly and helpful group of volunteers who give freely of their time and who add to the ambience of Southlake.

Many, perhaps most, patients are nervous when entering a hospital so it is no small matter to be greeted by a friendly volunteer who will point the way or even lead you to your destination.

When one considers the political instability and violence which troubles much of the world, we feel lucky to live in Canada, lucky to live in the Province of Ontario, and lucky to live in York Region; and finally, lucky again to have Southlake Hospital.

**Tom Davey
Aurora**

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Dunning site “superior”: reader

To the editor,

There has been an uproar in Aurora over the proposed replacement location option for Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School; Dunning Avenue or Bayview Avenue.

A lot of emotion and logic has been poured into the writing of all the letters, each of them on their own merit deserves praise. Today I write to you because I want to focus on the facts and only the facts.

This is not about East versus West, this is not about sentiment, it is not about emotion, this is about the facts, it is about making a well thought out decision based on the needs for the community as a whole.

Fact: Feasibility Study is still a Draft Report

The fact still remains, that the School Board's Feasibility Study, fewer than 10 days before the York Region District School Board trustees are to vote on this issue, is still in Draft form. Numerous questions and inaccurate data in the Feasibility Study have not been answered to date. A major decision that will impact Aurora students and the community for the next 60+ years may be based on erroneous information.

Fact: Feasibility Study full of Erroneous Data

Analysis of the Feasibility Study revealed questionable

estimates in the future student population:

1. Omission of 775+ units within the Rural Zone, leading to unreasonable student decline student projections
2. Omission of Whitchurch-Stouffville, also part of the Rural Zone for Dr. G.W. Williams further contributes to the unreasonable decline student projections
3. Omission of 2,800 units of intensification further suppresses the total future student population for the Town of Aurora
4. Unreasonable aggressive decline in student enrolment from the West zone
5. Aggressive increase in the student enrolment from the East zone
6. Residential developments within the Town of Aurora will take another 20 to 25 years to complete. Overall, the student enrolment projections are understated.
7. Omission of the RECAPP Validation Survey (RVS), which validates and justifies the renewal and/or replacement events (projects) in the School Board's RECAPP database that are scheduled to occur in the next five years.

Fact: Dunning Site not just 'optimal' but 'superior'

Site Characteristics: The Dunning site currently has a 400 metre oval track, one regulation football field with end zones, two

regulation soccer/lacrosse fields (one with end zones so it could double as a second regulation football field), one baseball diamond, one practise area, two long jump pits, mature trees and green space at 18 useable acres.

The proposed Bayview site will have a 100-metre track, one regulation football field with end zones and two practise soccer fields on 13.7 usable acres.

Location: With respect to location, the Dunning site is centrally located within the community; all public feeder schools are within four kilometres. The Dunning location is within walking distance to the Aurora Public Library, Sheppard's Bush, tennis courts and the Aurora Heritage Centre and Museum.

The proposed Bayview site is located some eight kilometres away from some of the feeder schools, it is not within walking distance to the Aurora Public Library and it is away from a central location within the community. The Bayview location is amongst an area that would take approximately another 15 to 20 years to fully develop.

Fact: School Board Contradicts their own Student Accommodation Policy 462.

The focus of the Board's student accommodation objectives and activities is the provision of appropriate facilities to meet

educational program needs and enhance student achievement. Regarding accommodation, it is the policy of York Region District School Board to: "locate schools central to an attendance area, wherever possible". The characteristics of optimal secondary school sites include the following; "a minimum site size of 16 acres", "in close proximity to libraries", "free from excessive noise created by traffic on railway lines, arterial road..."

The Feasibility Study suggests that the 13.7 usable acres at Bayview is within an "acceptable range". The Board is considering the sale of land it owns to purchase a smaller site; a site that is less than what it recommends as optimal in its own Student Accommodation Policy 462.

Why would the Board settle for "acceptable" when it already owns "optimal"? Why should the students have to accept that?

Fact: Aurora's population will grow to between 71,000 and 75,000

Over the next 20 to 25 years, the Town of Aurora is expected to grow to approximately 71,000 to 75,000 people.

Fact: Aurora could support three high schools in the future

King Township with an estimated population of 20,000 enjoys one secondary school,

while the Town of Newmarket with a population of approximately 75,000 supports four secondary schools.

Over the next 20 to 25 years, the Town of Aurora is expected to grow to approximately 71,000 to 75,000 people. As Aurora's population increases, Aurora will need a third High School. The Bayview site could accommodate a future high school to serve the future population growth to the north-east sector of the Aurora.

Fact: Markham receives preferential treatment by YRDSB

Markham District High School has also been identified for a replacement school by the York Region District School Board. The replacement of the MDHS is to take place at its existing location. It is stated within the School Board's Public Presentation Report April 12, 2007, that "the replacement of Markham DHS maintains a school to serve the existing community in spite of projected decline at elementary schools in the area." It further states that "the opening of Bur Oak SS in 2007 will reduce the number of students served by Markham DHS."

The building time frame for the Markham DHS is estimated at 18 months, but the projected building time frame for Dr. G.W. Williams is 26 months.

Reason for potential replacement of Dr. G.W. Williams SS, to the Bayview site is the decline in student population within the south-west area of Aurora (incorrectly projected), while the Markham DHS can be replaced on its existing location "in spite of projected decline in elementary schools in the area."

Why the difference? Why such an imbalance between municipalities?

Are Aurora students and the community not treated the same as Markham?

Based on the facts provided, the trustees should demand and expect the additional supportive data and more time, more than 10 days, to make a well thought-out decision on the replacement location of Dr. G.W. Williams.

Their decision, July 3, will impact Aurora students and community for many years.

Dr. Benson, at the May 7th Standing Board Meeting stated that the if school trustees are not confident in the planning department's numbers and rationale about the third school for Aurora, then additional data should be provided to convince the trustees.

The current Dunning site meets and exceeds the Board's own policy and is clearly the optimal site at 18 acres and within walking distance to the Aurora Public Library, Sheppard's Bush, tennis courts and the Aurora Heritage Centre and museum.

Why consider a replacement school at the Bayview Site 20 years before it may be needed? The fact is that the Dunning Site is superior on every aspect. The preferred replacement site is Dunning.

Join concerned citizens and attend the School Board's July 3 meeting, and persuade the trustees to keep Dr. G.W. Williams on Dunning Avenue.

Our children deserve nothing less.

George Skoulikas
Aurora

The Hemson Report authors had “vested interest”, he says

To the editor,

Re: Stephen Somerville's column “Insight in Hemson Report”.

Come on, Stephen, in every report that was ever written to justify something the author usually has a vested interest. Authors of the Hemson Report are no different.

Let's assume for the moment that the lands are left vacant. Where does that excess demand go?

Well, it can go only to two places.

One, it causes upward pressure on the prices of homes in Aurora. As a result, those of us who already live here win big time as a result of increased housing prices.

The other place the demand can go is to other jurisdictions in the surrounding area, causing those prices to rise and ultimately serve to put upward pressure on our housing prices.

These are good things, and a basic course in urban economics would have been able to tell the authors of the Hemson Report that.

To justify the opening of the 2C lands on the basis that some bureaucrat is forecasting a housing shortage in Aurora defies even the minimum of logic.

Flooding the Aurora market with 11,361 new homes only serves to prevent current residents from realizing a higher price for their homes in a shorter period of time and further impoverishes current home owners by making them pay for the services required to build and support these homes through higher property taxes.

It has been well documented that residential growth no longer pays for residential growth.

As a homeowner, why should I subsidize those who wish to move to Aurora?

The Hemson Report is asking me to do just that.

A shortage in supply guarantees a higher price.

You may not like it if you don't own a home, but those are the realities of the marketplace.

If you doubt that, take a look at the latest posted price of gas at your local service station.

J. Ireland
Aurora

Correction

To the editor,

There is an error in the article for St. Joseph Peace Garden in last week's Auroran.

It says that Father Don MacLean “dedicated the garden” when in actual fact the St. Joseph statue and sur-

rounding garden were dedicated to him.

He was present to receive the dedication and to bless the garden, subsequently. I would be appreciative if the correction was printed.

**Sue DiGioacchino
Aurora**



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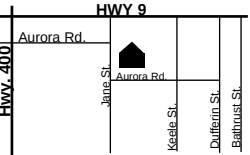
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Letters to the Editor



The Beaton Track team

Relay for Life team thanks its sponsors

RE: Relay for Life - "The Beaton Track"

On behalf of the 17 members of our Aurora staff team, thank you Auroran for being our title sponsor for the Relay for Life event held recently at Lambert Willson Park.

And thank you to our other sponsors and supporters including:

Bake Sale/Silent Auction: Sobey's Aurora, Hurst Bakery, Wendel Clark, Gary Gerganis, Anthony Martelli, and our cupcake 'frosters', Tim, Sam and Judy.

BBQ/Silent Auction: Greg Foster, Larry

Gallagher, Recreation Leisure Services Ltd., Tim Jones, Featherlite Industries Ltd., Belinda Stronach, Bob and Lynn Panizza, Denise Conohan, A&G The Road Cleaners Ltd., Aurora Public Works Yard employees, Margaret Campbell, Fer-Pal Construction Ltd., Sara Tiencamp, Frank Mete, Shelly Pohjola, Vineland Estate Wines, and the Town of Aurora -Leisure Services.

Relay Event: Rick Roylance (for all your advice, supplies, from tent set up and take down we could never have done

it without you), The Aurora Volunteer Fire Brigade Inc., Tim Jones and Frank Clark (set up), Carol Green and Nichole Campsall for accessories, Al's Decorating and Carpet Services, Home Hardware, Phil Sheppard.

And thank you to the many other friends and associates who supported our cause.

And, as team captain, I would also like to thank each member of our team from the bottom of my heart who never hesitated when I asked them to join the team and who contributed in so many ways to make our fundraising

goal and this experience one we will all remember!

And finally, thank you to the community at large for supporting our fundraising events.

We were recognized as the best dressed site, a Dream Team (for raising more than \$5,000), and the third highest fundraiser.

To date we have raised more than \$11,000.

What a great event, we all look forward to next year!

**Heather Green
Relay For Life
Team Captain
(The Beaton Track)**

SportAurora participating July 1st

To the editor,

The other day at work a colleague remarked, "It takes a village to raise a child."

This came after I praised the basketball coaching my eight-year-old received this year.

His game has really improved since he started last September - equipped with little more than his enthusiasm. The coaches, both volunteers for many years, did far more than supervise and teach the game; they pushed each of the boys to reach his potential.

This exchange recalled my own days growing up with community sports.

I remembered the several XC ski coaches I had, ranging from the impossible to please Czech, demanding correct technique, to the tirelessly encouraging Canadian, keeping the motivation up in the face of criticism.

I remember the coach I had later, in high school, sitting at our kitchen table

going over my training program.

"You're going to have to choose between rock concerts and skiing, my boy."

And this was the same fellow who blasted Billy Idol out of the back of his Country Squire wagon as we roller-skied in July.

All three men were volunteers who worked other, unrelated full-time jobs.

Away at university, I had a small photo of five-time Tour de France winner, Bernard Hinault pasted above my desk. It showed only his face, fixed with concentration, about to commence an important time-trial stage.

Hinault was nicknamed The Badger for his tenacity.

Being away from home for study, anxious about doing well enough to get where I wanted, my life in sports brought some faith to face the challenges that lay ahead. Melodramatic? Admittedly, yes.

But the connection I drew between sport and life was and remains a conscious one.

The years and experiences since that time, having de-emphasized the hero-worship of my youth, have deepened my awareness of the role that community sports played in my life.

What we learn as children through participation and achievement in sports, strengthens the people we become as adults.

I owe a lot to the men and women who gave their free time to provide sport opportunities for my friends and me while growing up.

Our community in Aurora is home to many such men and women.

Every year they perform an anxious mental tally of commitments before agreeing to coach or volunteer in some way to promote a sport and create opportunities for their children and their neighbours' children.

Do they think about teaching fair play, or about developing self-esteem, or about enriching relationship networks? Probably not.

But, if they were asked, I doubt that many would point to sports as simply about

ability, or an activity to let off steam. Instead, these adults likely recall their own experiences as children and young adults in sport, and how they benefitted from being a part of something, being encouraged, being challenged, having something healthy as well as fun to take part in.

We know that being involved in sports is about much more than sport itself- it is about the character of individuals, and the character of communities.

SportAurora has chosen a "Sport Village" theme for its part in our upcoming Canada Day celebrations at the Leisure Complex.

There you will find members of various sport groups teamed up to provide fun, information, and spirit to our community celebration.

Why not come out and see what's going on?

Be a part of the village that is helping to raise children, no matter how young or old they may be.

**Philip Dodgson
Aurora**

Many contributed

To the editor,

On behalf of St. Joseph Catholic School in Aurora, I would like to extend a great big thank you to the following community supporters for helping us build our Peace Garden: Archterra Design, Aurora Home Depot, Aurora Home Hardware, Cedar Valley Property Services, Pathway to Perennials, Sheridan Nurseries, Tarcova Precast Ltd. and The Town of Aurora.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to all the students, staff and parents who contributed their time, efforts and monetary

support.

A special thank you goes to parent Allison Armstrong for the landscape design and to parent Carol Ferguson for her help in coordinating the volunteer schedule.

Thank you to staff members, Mrs. Cinelli, Mme Varone, Ms. Welk and Mr. Cooney for their dedication towards this project.

A heartfelt thank you and farewell extended to principal, Ms Diane Sharp, who inspired us to build this garden.

**Sue DiGiacchino
Aurora**



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Residences to proceed on Bloomington

Aurora's general committee meeting agenda last week included three staff reports regarding the proposed Ballymore residential development on the northeast corner of Bathurst Street and Bloomington Road on the same property as the French Catholic High School currently under construction.

Larry Dekkema of Ballymore Homes appeared before the committee to speak to the three reports

including the servicing agreement with the Town of Richmond Hill, the subdivision agreement and approval for the pre-servicing agreement.

He noted that an agreement had been reached between Aurora and Richmond Hill to service the 60-unit residential development similar to that arranged for the high school and this had been approved by York Region.

Staff members pointed

out that the two sites could be serviced by the town system via the construction of a sanitary pumping station and a forcemain extending east on Bloomington to hook up with the existing system.

A more efficient system was to connect it to the Richmond Hill system across Bloomington to the south.

Aurora will pay Richmond Hill for the volume of sewage entering the Richmond Hill system and recover the

costs from the residents.

With assurance from staff members that they had no concerns, the committee adopted the report as presented.

Regarding the zoning bylaw amendment and subdivision, Mr. Dekkema said the staff report regarding a no pre-sales agreement with respect to the Phase 2 lands comprising 27 units had been lifted by the region and no longer applied.

This was confirmed by staff who advised committee members that the information had been received after the report had been prepared.

Councillor Evelina MacEachern expressed concern about the need for a park and the cost of maintenance for a development of 180 people and suggested the park policy be read-dressed.

Other members of council said that while there was no harm at looking at the policy, there was a need for parks of all sizes and asked staff members to forward a copy

of the parks policy to all members.

They also approved an amendment for staff to review the section of the agreement dealing with parks.

Councillor Evelyn Buck opposed the amendment.

Councillor Grace March questioned why a sidewalk was not included for Bathurst Street now being reconstructed.

Staff members said the need for a sidewalk had been previously discussed and was not included as it was believed few people would be walking on Bathurst Street.

A sidewalk has been included for Bloomington.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner questioned the public planning meeting claiming it only dealt with the high school and did not include the residential development and said there was a need for a public planning meeting.

Councillor MacEachern said she had similar concerns as she could not recall

any discussions at that time regarding the residential development but agreed council had rejected the Bathurst Street sidewalk.

Staff members said the public planning meeting included the entire application and the necessary statutory planning requirements had been met and the residents who had appeared at the public planning meeting had been advised of the agenda items.

The amended motion to delete the reference to the no pre-sales agreement for Phase 2 was adopted with Councillor Gaertner opposed.

Mr. Dekkema said the pre-servicing agreement was the standard agreement and he asked for support.

He added the lots were large and compatible with the Elderberry subdivision to the east.

With support for the agreement by staff, the report was adopted without discussion.

Council is expected to ratify the decision this week.

Earlier council action slows school planning

While there is general agreement from councillors to proceed with renovations of the Church Street School, their hands are tied by the actions of the previous council.

It was their hope to use \$2.3 million from the proceeds of the \$34.5 million sale of Aurora Hydro to PowerStream but the previous council put restrictions on the use of the funds. A consultant was retained in January, 2006, to advise

council on the proposed management of the proceeds that would be compatible with the Strategic Plan goals and objectives.

In June, 2006, the consultant suggested 80 to 90 percent of the proceeds be transferred to a State of Good Repair Reserve in order to maintain the town's infrastructure.

The remaining 10 to 20 percent should be transferred to a reserve to fund new capital projects, not eli-

gible for funding from development charges revenues, the consultant recommended.

After considerable debate it was finally agreed that 90 per cent of the proceeds remain in an investment fund and the earned interest of approximately \$1.2 million annually be utilized for new initiatives identified in the Strategic Plan.

It was also agreed that should council wish to use any of the principle from the investment fund proper notice must be provided to the public at least 30 days in advance of any discussion in open council.

It was also agreed that a two-third vote of the entire council was required in spite of a warning from staff that such action was contrary to the Municipal Act.

The remaining 10 per cent was to be used to establish a Council Discretionary Reserve Fund to be expended at the discretion of council and the terms and conditions of the use of these funds be reviewed at the beginning of each new council.

As the required 30-day notice had not been given, the issue will be included in the agenda of the July 17 council meeting.

A staff report, recommending tenders be called to prevent further delay, was okayed by the committee.

New shopping area gets okay from town

Sometime in the future Aurorans will be able to shop at a new commercial centre planned for the 8.9 acre property at the northwest corner of Bayview Avenue and Wellington Street East.

Aurora's general committee approved a site plan application and implementing zoning bylaw, subject to a satisfactory review by the Site Plan Committee, last week.

In May, 2006, a public planning meeting was held to consider amendments to the official plan and zoning bylaw to allow for a multi-commercial development to include a grocery store anchor with retail/service

units, two free-standing restaurants and a second retail/service commercial block.

Council approved the amendments in principal subject to resolution of outstanding issues.

Staff members said they are satisfied the applicant's site plan conforms to the town design guidelines and development standards.

A total of 403 parking spaces will be provided exceeding the 396 required and 10 handicapped parking spaces will be available although only four are required.

Council is expected to ratify the decision this week.

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If you can't follow the rules...

By BRYAN MOIR

Bryan Moir is a member of Aurora's Economic Development Advisory Committee

As part of my interest in reporting on economic matters that affect the Town, I attended the Finance and Audit Committee meeting Monday, June 18, to hear the findings of the Region's internal auditors on the operations of the Town of Aurora.

While there were some concerns expressed by the auditors, they found that the Town of Aurora was "in the middle" of the pack as far as adherence to procedures were concerned.

Coming from a family of auditors, I understood that overall the Town was doing a reasonable job and that improvements were being made where necessary.

However, the big story was not the internal auditors report, but the "rowdiness" of the meeting and its abrupt dissolution.

Winston Churchill said democracy might be "the worst system of government, except for all the others" but in order for democracy to work there is an accepted set of procedural rules that dictate how meetings of elected officials are to be run. Without adhering to these rules, there is no civilized way of resolving disputes or maintaining order.

This was a demonstration of how without adherence to the rules, meetings degenerate into chaos.

It began with Councillor Evelina MacEachern questioning the Region's internal auditors about the procedures used when an employee is fired or leaves.

These procedures were a focus of some concern in the report. These types of procedures would include ensuring the departing employee turned in such things as pass-cards, vehicles, had their signing authority removed on cheques and bank accounts, that their passwords were changed and email account cancelled.

The auditors had noted that in some cases purchase order signing and approval authority had not been removed from former employees.

The councillor then asked if the recommendations had been implemented, as what would be the point in paying \$20,927 for a report to have the recommendations ignored.

She raised this concern, as there had been recent examples of these procedures not being followed, one of which was the former mayor retaining his e-mail account for two months after his defeat in the last election (the mayor is considered an employee of the Town).

When it was Councillor Evelyn Buck's turn to speak on this issue, instead of adding to the debate or asking a relevant question of the auditors, she chose to launch into a tirade questioning

MacEachern's motives for making reference to the former mayor's e-mail account.

Several attempts were made by Mayor Phyllis Morris to restore order, including asking the CAO to confirm Councillor MacEachern's facts pertaining to the matter.

Asked repeatedly to apologize for her outburst and accusations, Councillor Buck refused. She was called out of order twice more and was given a number of opportunities to apologize so that the meeting could continue. She refused.

The mayor then made a motion to recess and called for a vote in order to cool the situation and to allow Buck to reconsider her position.

Councillors Bob McRoberts, Grace Marsh, and Alison Collins-Marakas, along with Buck, voted against the motion for a recess.

Mayor Morris, Wendy Gaertner, Stephen Granger and MacEachern voted to recess. The vote was lost in a tie, thereby stalemating the proceedings.

Thwarting the recess did not help either restore decorum or allow time for Buck to withdraw her comments or apologize. In fact it made things worse as the meeting was rendered in limbo.

Despite the differences between the two camps that have formed at council, the motion was an attempt to restore order after Buck refused to either apologize or leave the chamber. Even the attempt by the mayor to allow Councillor McRoberts to mediate the situation by temporarily taking the chair had no effect.

To quote Margaret Thatcher, "the lady's not for turning". But unlike the former British PM, Councillor Buck would not be reasonable either. Sometimes maturity and responsibility does not always come with age.

With a number of councillors expressing disgust and walking out of the meeting, quorum was lost, forcing the dissolution of the meeting in front of staff, the auditors and the public.

Is our Council dysfunctional? It was last Monday night.

The real losers were the people of Aurora. The intransigence of a councillor who should have exercised better judgement, and the inexperience of those who did not allow for the recess, and the inability of the mayor to eject the councillor, rendered our government ineffectual and an embarrassment to those who came to offer advice on its improvement.

If council can't agree on the simplest of rules to guide the proceedings, how can we expect them to protect our best interests on matters concerning our community's social and economic well-being?

New medical building offers eye surgery, cancer screening

York Region and south Simcoe County residents' access to advanced health care services such as cancer screening and corrective eye surgery, was made easier recently with the official opening of the Medical Arts building in Newmarket.

Southlake serves as Aurora's local hospital.

The Medical Arts Building will house one of Canada's only fully digital mammography centres, York Region's first eye centre, and state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment clinics.

"At Southlake, we understand that the best health outcomes result from always being on the cutting edge of new knowledge, new practices, and new technology, and we are committed to ensuring that we are at the forefront, for the benefit of the patients we serve", said Dan Carriere, President and CEO of Southlake, at the official opening of the Medical Arts building. "By expanding the services we offer, we will be able to reduce wait

times for our patients in a number of surgical and diagnostic areas."

While the Medical Arts building will have a wide array of services, it will play an important role in Southlake's evolution as a centre in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Over the next two years, as Southlake builds the Regional Cancer Centre, scheduled to open in 2009, the Medical Arts building will support a focus on cancer screening and diagnosis.

The digital mammography centre will provide increased detection rates for many women, reduce wait times for non-urgent patients, and allow more

women to be screened every year.

By 2012, with three fully-functioning digital mammography units, Southlake will double the number of annual exams to more than 20,000.

As the focus on cancer evolves, Southlake plans to establish a Breast Diagnostic Unit and a Lung Oncology Centre in the near future to help improve patients' experience by reducing the diagnostic time for lung and breast cancer.

The building's new Eye Centre will open in early July with the capacity to perform 3,500 cataract surgeries per year.

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Committee approves Catholic High School

After more than a year of negotiating and waiting plus an hour's discussion at last week's general committee meeting, the York Catholic District School Board received a partial green light as the committee directed staff to prepare the official plan amendment.

If approved, the board will build a new high school on Wellington Street East, east of Industrial Parkway.

Dan McCowell, Senior Manager of Administrative Services for the Board, appeared before the committee and after providing some background information said he agreed with the staff report and hoped the committee would support it.

Elizabeth Crowe, Aurora/King Trustee and Board Chairperson also asked the committee for their support, as Board staff had worked with Town staff to address

concerns previously listed.

The new school was badly needed, she said, and the Board was open to staff discussing the use of playing fields by the town.

They were supported by Father Don MacLean of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church who stressed the need for the new school and its influence on students.

Representatives from the parent councils of Holy Spirit, Light of Christ, Our Lady of Grace, St. Joseph and St. Jerome Catholic Elementary Schools also addressed the committee to stress the need for the new school due to the overcrowding at Cardinal Carter.

Mr. McCowell said Aurora's Cardinal Carter had 24 portables and Sacred Heart in Newmarket had 22 portables and the new school would include technical

courses not available at the other schools.

He expected about 75 per cent of the school's population would come from Aurora.

Capacity of the school will be 1,200 but it would open with Grades 9 and 10.

He hoped the structure would be ready September, 2009.

The staff report provided comments regarding concerns including traffic, parking, peer review, regional transit, playing fields, easements, employment lands and a community theatre and, with the exception of the community theatre, action had been taken to address the concerns.

Aurora's general committee gave unanimous approval to proceeding with the official plan amendment as discussed.

Last year, the Board applied to the town for a permit to demolish five

residential properties on the north side of Wellington Street East in order to construct the new school at an estimated cost of \$20 million.

House needs to relocate

With recently announced plans to sell the town-owned Leslie Street property, council will have to make a decision as to the future of the historic Petch log house.

In 2003, council approved an agreement with Whitwell Developments to move the house to a temporary location on the town-owned Leslie Street property until a permanent site could be found for the historic home.

The home was built in 1844 and is said to be the oldest house in Aurora.

In 1990 several artifacts from the Petch family were given to the Aurora Museum, including the surviving parts of an ensemble worn by Donald Webster's mother,

The proposed school, on 20.6 acres, will have Wellington Street frontage, with playing fields in the rear with a right-in, right-out access

Eva Petch, at her 1906 wedding.

The Petch name was also connected with one of largest additions to the Museum.

In 1990 an auction was held at the Petch farm located on the east side of Leslie Street, north of Wellington Street East.

It is the site of Aurora's new Walmart.

The farm had been occupied by the Petch family since 1817.

The museum purchased a buggy, a clover seeder and a harness-maker's bench.

In 2005 the Heritage Advisory Committee received an update report on the Petch Log House.

The planner was asked to

bring forward a further report to the committee outlining progress with respect to determining a permanent future location for the building and an update to restoration.

Council was expected to ratify the decision this week.

Town staff members were asked to review other possible site locations including the Town Hall property as possible relocation areas.

Last year an inquiry was made at the Heritage Advisory Committee about the status of the Petch House.

No funds were included in the 2007 capital budget for the restoration of the heritage home, nor have any plans been made for a permanent location.

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THE AURORAN

SPORTS

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Winning Peewee Jays

Strong Peewee team captures tournament

The Aurora Jays captured the Chatham Peewee "A" Baseball Tournament going undefeated in a five-game round robin then defeating South West London 21-5 in the championship game recently.

The Jays racked up some impressive numbers in the tournament, scoring 93 runs while allowing only 13 against.

Of the runs scored, 79 were awarded as RBIs, and of the runs scored against, only eight were earned.

Coach Don Gillespie, Don Cook, and William Wu managed a pitching staff that saw eight different Jays take the mound during the week-end.

Pitching was solid throughout, and the Jays had plenty left in the tank at the end of the tournament.

Zack Cook, Ryan Belz, and Mathew Stewart even combined for a no-hitter.

Mark Robertson struck out 10 batters in six innings pitched and picked up the win in the final.

Devon Wu, Matthew Stewart, and Ward Benn combined for 12 score-

less innings.

Third baseman Mark Robertson was the offensive leader with 12 hits for a .631 tournament batting average, capped by 13 RBIs.

Four Jays hit over .500: David Baccelleri, Cook, Daryl Taube, and Robertson.

Short stop Taube blasted the only Jays home run, and added two triples, three doubles and 9 RBIs.

Infielder Sam Copeland scored 11 runs and drove another 11 in.

Catchers Taylor Chick and Ryan Belz each drove in nine runs.

Infielder and lead off hitter Matt Stewart scored 15 runs and stole 10 bases.

Kevin Langdon had an on base average over .700.

First baseman Andrew Welsman was responsible for a perfectly

executed triple play in a round robin game against Belle River.

Turf is installed; controversy lingers

Construction of the artificial turf field in Sheppard's Bush has been completed but the controversy continues.

John Sergeant appeared before council last week to express his opposition to the project as he had in April.

At that time he questioned the \$600,000 cost of the project and the argument that it wasn't costing the taxpayers anything as it was being paid for by development charges.

He claimed the funds could be used for other projects.

This time he questioned the steel fence being left around the field and whether it would be open to the public.

He also questioned the use of development charges to pay for the field claiming the public didn't have an opportunity to comment on how the funds might be used.

He also noted that the contractor had only used two men on the project and questioned whether town staff had been used.

He said many people were

angry as it appeared certain groups were being favoured.

Staff members agreed the contractor had used only two men and had hired local people to assist. Some staff had been used and the cost was charged to the contractor.

It was also noted that parking was a problem before the artificial turf was installed and continued to be a problem.

Mayor Phyllis Morris said she was confident with council's decision, but Councillor Evelyn Buck said she supported Mr. Sergeant as he was speaking for many others.

It was in February that the general committee approved in principle the installation of the artificial turf at the soccer playing field based on research carried out by the Leisure Services Department and the controversy has continued since then.

Later on in last week's meeting, Councillor Buck asked when an official opening would take place.

She heard a report would be prepared for council.

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Tough schedule has no effect on Jays

A late cancellation forced the Aurora Major Bantam Jays to play three back-to-back games but it didn't stop them from winning the Kingston Thunder tournament recently.

Due to the last-minute dropout of a team from Québec, the Jays were forced to play a wild schedule to qualify for the semi-finals.

While other teams were at respective hotes relaxing, the Jays charged into their heavy schedule.

Early in the tourney, the Jays played the Kingston Thunder, edging them 6-5 in an exciting, well-played ball game which featured the Jays going into the bottom of the seventh down by two runs.

Mike DelPlavigano led off the inning with a single to centre which was followed by another ground ball up the middle by Chris Blumreisinger.

DelPlavigano was brought home by Ozzie Bryan's single.

Michael Gray then tied the game with a single to centre to bring home Blumreisinger.

With men on second and third the Thunder intentionally walked Tim Gaweco to load the bases and brought in their infield and outfield hoping to keep the winning run from scoring.

Clean up hitter, Tyler Clements, who had been having a tough day at the plate going 0 for 3 to that point in the game, with the bases loaded quickly fell behind in the count 0-2.

Fears he might strike out were thwarted when Clements drove the ball to the left field wall bringing in the game-winning run.

Corey Jeffery and Tim Gaweco pitched four and three innings respectively holding the Thunder to five runs with Jeffery striking out six in his four innings of work giving up only three runs and Gaweco holding the Thunder to two runs over his three innings to get the win.

A few minutes later the Jays started a game against the Port Hope River Rats and quickly jumped out to an eight-run lead in the second inning when they sent 13 batters to the plate.

However, the Jays bats went silent the rest of the game after the River Rats sent out a crafty, slow pitching lefthander and the River Rats mounted a comeback scoring 12 runs over the last three innings of the game.

With each team completing two games, the clubs were seeded and the Jays ended up having to play the River Rats again an hour and a half later.

However, this time the River Rats found they were swimming against the current when the Jays sent out Michael Gray to pitch against them as Gray pitched a complete game holding the River Rats to only three runs, two of which were earned, in a 13-3 victory for the Jays.

Gray struck out six and walked only two in his seven innings of work.

His performance was all the more impressive given that he had caught the seven inning game played against the Kingston Thunder earlier that morning.

On offense, Jake Boyle led the way going four for five with a double and four RBIs.

Gray went two for three with two RBIs while Ozzie Bryan and Corey Jeffery both went two for four.

Chris Blumreisinger, James Welsman and Joseph Gurgis also contributed.

The victory over the River Rats sent the Jays to the semi-final game against the plucky Quinte Royals which they won by doubling the Royals 12-6.

At the beginning of the game the Jays looked like they were sleepwalking, perhaps because of their heavy schedule the day before and it took a few innings for the Jays to wake up.

After five runs in the fourth inning, the Jays were on their way.

Highlight of the game was a leadoff home run that Kevin Klinowski drove over the centerfield fence in the sixth inning which landed on the next diamond over interrupting the other semifinal game.

Other notable offensive performances were provided by Ozzie Bryan who went two for two with a double, Marlon Young who crushed a ball to left-centre for a dou-

ble and a RBI and Tim Gaweco who also hit a double to right-centre that knocked in a run.

On the pitching front, left-handed pitcher Tim Gaweco pitched two innings giving up three runs, Tyler Clements pitched one inning giving up a run.

Jake Boyle entered the game and earned the win by pitching three innings, striking out four while giving up only one run before being relieved by closer Brayden Jones who finished out the game by pitching a one-run seventh inning.

During the Quinte game, the Jays were frightened when Jake Boyle badly twisted his ankle pulling up at second base on his double in the fourth inning but Boyle continued to pitch for two more innings helping to cement the victory.

The championship game was played against Scarborough Stingers, from the Toronto Baseball Association.

The Stingers were three-time champions of the tournament and had returned to defend the title they had won the year before.

Undefeated and well rested going into the championship game, the Stingers came up on the short side of a 10-9 Jays win in one of the most exciting games many had seen in years.

The game entered the bottom of the fourth inning knotted at two when the Stingers got to the Jays starting pitcher Corey Jeffery for five runs on six hits.

In the top of the fifth, the Jays responded by putting four runs up on the scoreboard so that the game entered the top of the seventh, with Stingers ahead 7-6.

Clements, Gray, Jeffery opened the seventh inning all getting singles with Jeffery's hit scoring the tying run.

Jake Boyle then laid down a sacrifice bunt to get Gray and Jeffery into scoring position and Kevin Klinowski came up and hit a hard ground ball to the second baseman sending Gray in with the go-ahead RBI.

Klinowski reached on an error by the second baseman so with one out Braden Jones came up and stroked a single up the middle knocking in both Jeffery and Klinowski with what turned out to be the game-winning RBI.

In the bottom of the seventh, Corey Jeffery, who pitched the entire game, walked the Stinger's leadoff man and then gave up two hits to score two runs and allow the tying run into scoring position for the Stingers.

The Stingers comeback was halted by two stellar defensive plays by the Jays middle infielders Ozzie Bryan and Marlon Young with the Jays holding on to claim the tournament championship.

The Jays continue to be tied for first place in Tier 2 of the York Simcoe Baseball Association.

Midgets edge Barrie 3-2

The Aurora Midget Jays rallied from a 2-0 sixth inning deficit to defeat the Barrie Red Sox 3-2 in YSBA action at Aurora Leisure Complex Wednesday night. Starter Dylan Kelly struck out six and allowed only one hit over eight innings to earn the victory.

Kelly's performance was particularly efficient as he threw only 92 pitches over his innings of work. Closer Jesse Barker pitched the nervous ninth to pick up the save.

Barker keyed a rare 3-1-4 double play that erased two Red Sox baserunners and stopped Barrie's comeback attempt.

Third baseman Kevin Kryshka drove in two runs for the Jays with a clutch hit in the sixth inning that tied the game.

DH Jordan Koen delivered the game-winning RBI with a sharp single up the middle in the bottom of the eighth.

Centrefielder Alex Stewart scored the winning run for the Jays after getting on with a standup triple. Koen and Matt Crescenzi also scored runs for the Jays.

The Jays improved their first place YSBA record to 12-0.

Peewee Selects

Recently, the Aurora Goodyear Peewee Select Jays played two of the toughest teams in their division.

In the first game, they overcame a five-run deficit in the last inning to defeat the Barrie Bobcats 8-7. A perfectly placed squeeze bunt by Andrew Seguin brought in Wade MacFarlane for the winning run.

The Jays played a double header the next day against the Collingwood Jays but lost both games, 10-2 and 8-6 respectively.

Their overall league record to date

stands at five wins, two losses and two ties.

Peewee House League

June 18: Scotiabank 5, Bradford Lions Club 4
June 20: Scotiabank 6, Bradford Lions Club 5
Rotary Club 13, Aspen Ridge Homes 5

Mosquito House League

June 19: ReMax 12, Royal LePage 10
Greenpoint 11, King 6
June 21: ReMax 12, Armstrong 12
BMO 13, Royal LePage 10
Harris 11, Greenpoint 5
Scholars 8, King City 5

Aurora Olympian teaches Nordic walking exercise

By JOANNE RICHARD

According to Aurora's Gerry Faderbauer, Nordic walking is the optimal fitness exercise that works off weight and stress, and boosts health and fitness levels.

And he's advising people try it to keep, or get back into, shape.

"Unlike walking or even running, Nordic walking gives your whole body a total workout, including your upper body," says Faderbauer, a personal trainer who's got NHL goalie Curtis Joseph walking Nordic style during the summer months to stay in shape.

And since it engages more muscles - 600 versus 300 - more calories are burned.

"Normal walking burns about 280 calories per hour while Nordic walking

burns 400 and up depending on the intensity of the training," says the 38-year-old Olympian and three-time world rowing champion.

Faderbauer, who moved from Austria to Aurora five years ago, not only talks the walk, but walks the talk.

He promotes and teaches the sport, and practises Nordic walking as a form of cross-training to stay in shape for the Austrian rowing championships he participates in every year.

The 40-time Austrian national rowing champion founded the Canadian Nordic Walking Association last year and its gaining ground.

"Walking is your body's most natural form of exercise and the poles add resistance," says Faderbauer, adding that the specially-designed, light-weight aluminum

poles propel the body forward during the exercise.

The advantages of the sport include the fact it can be done year round and adapted to individual fitness levels - from beginners to fitness enthusiasts who are looking for a total body aerobic workout that attains the same heart rate levels as running or jogging produces but without the damaging load on knees and other joints.

Nordic walking is a Finn fitness craze that's becoming a rage throughout Europe.

"It was originally developed in Scandinavia in the 1930s by cross country skiers using their poles during summer training programs. It let them stay in shape even when there wasn't snow," he said.

For more information on Nordic walking click on cnwa.info or lwalk2.com.



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	LIST	<i>Sale</i>		LIST	<i>Sale</i>
P175/70r13	\$108.10	\$54.05	P205/75r14	\$145.30	\$72.65
P175/65r14	\$123.90	\$61.95	P205/70r15	\$157.05	\$78.53
P185/65r14	\$132.25	\$66.13	P215/70r15	\$167.70	\$83.85
P195/70r14	\$141.60	\$70.80	P225/60r16 98s	\$181.40	\$90.70

ASSURANCE TRIPLETRED

	LIST	<i>Sale</i>		LIST	<i>Sale</i>
P185/70r14	\$196.05	\$ 98.03	P205/65r15	\$234.30	\$117.15
P195/70r14	\$202.05	\$101.03	P215/60r15	\$244.50	\$122.50
P195/60r15	\$222.55	\$111.28	P205/55r16	\$253.20	\$126.60
P195/65r15	\$218.15	\$109.08	P225/60r16	\$259.20	\$129.60
P205/60r15	\$234.30	\$117.15			

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Aurora Youth SOCCER RESULTS



HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B TH - June 7 - Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 4 (P. Irwin 1, D. Atasiei 1, J. Salomons 1, S. Gable 1) vs **Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre** 11 (C. McDonald 2, C. McGoldrick 4, J. Perkins 5, P. Turner 2); **Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's** 1 (J. Krawczyk 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors** 3 (L. Langlois 1, R. Thomas 1, S. Gallos 1); **Navy/Czech Repub - Aurora Orthodontics** 4 (T. Cambell 2, M. Masci 1, C. Thatcher 1) vs **White/Canada - Bell World** 3 (J. Coker 1, R. Cameron 1, E. Pears 1); **U8/9G M/W - June 18 - Red/Poland - AIIM** 2 (M. Judson 1, C. Evans 1) vs **Pink/Spain - WOWIT** 5 (A. Fermo 3, B. Gardiner 1, K. Caporusso 1); **Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza** 6 (D. Tavakoltadeh 1, Z. Webster 2, K. Munslow-McNeil 1, K. Devries 2) vs **Gold/Brazil** 3 (B. Howell 3); **Navy/Czech Repub - Open Road BMW** 4 (L. Dubeau 1, A. Kearney 1, A. Kramer 2) vs **Purple/France** 4 (S. Pietrolungo 1, L. Brock 1, B. Nunn 1, J. Elliot 1); **Forest/Portugal** 0 vs **White/Canada** 5 (C. Wolka 2, S. Jamieson 1, S. DeCesare 1, C. Trotter 1); **U8B M/W - June 14 - Orange/Netherlands - HSBC** 6 (C. De Vogel 3, T. Wilson 1, J. Malowney 1, D. Kauffeldt 1) vs **Navy/Czech Repub - HSBC** 1 (C. Corner 1); **White/Canada - HSBC** 4 (J. Kagan 1, M. Carpenter 1, J. Camplin 1, M. MacDonald 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - HSBC** 5 (P. Criukshank 4, J. Brecht 1); **June 20 - Red/Poland - HSBC** 7 (G. Logan 2, J. Samson 2, E. Turner 1, A. Winchamest 2) vs **Orange/Netherlands - HSBC** 1 (C. DeVogel 1); **Gold/Brazil - HSBC** 2 (D. Persaud 1, J. Hobbs 1) vs **White/Canada - HSBC** 0; **U8B TH**-No reported scores from the divisional convener/coaches. **U8G T - June 14 - White/Canada - Power Stream** 5 vs **Kelly/Italy** 3; **Pink/Spain - riterate.ca** 4 vs **Navy/Czech Repub - Highland Chevrolet Cadillac** 2; **June 19 - Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza** 5 (G. Dasilva 1, E. Carriere 1, M. Coutts 1, M. Graham 1, C. Tremblay 1) vs **Kelly/Italy** 2 (J. Aben 1, A. Dipetro 1); **Navy/Czech Repub - Highland Chevrolet Cadillac** 3 (G. Armstrong 1, J. Scott 1, K. Haywood 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's** 0; **White/Canada - Power Stream** 4 (S. Cunningham 2, J. Stel 1, V. Jonasson 1) vs **Red/Poland - Marwick Manufacturing Inc** 0; **Pink/Spain - riterate.ca** 2 (L. Spagnuolo 1, A. Delzotto 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable** 2 (L. Michelberger 1); **U9B M** - No reported scores from the divisional convener/coaches **U9B T/TH - June 7- White/Canada - Port Royal Mills** 7 (A. Badali 4, C. Dyer 1, K. Sample 1, M. Law-Heese 1) vs **Navy/Czech Repub** 2 (B. Kissack 2); **Forest/Portugal - Aurora Viking Shrine Club** 3 (N. Campbell 2, E. Shennan 1) vs **Red/Poland - McDonalds** 3 (D. Mettel 1, J. McKay 1, J. Stroz 1); **Gold/Brazil - Betz Cut Stone** 1 (F. Dagher 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 8 (B. Russel 1, E. Duarante 2, N. Hatzitouos 1, C. Aldis 1, C. Gonsalves 1); **U9/10G W - May 30 - Silver/Austria** 4 (T. Howard 1, M. Bell 1, K. Belgue 1, H. Jones 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's** 2; **Sky/Argentina** 3 (D. Bova 1, J. Peacock 2) vs **Sage/USA** 2 (E. Velovic 1, C. Smith 1); **Pink/Spain - Mirconex Inc Industrial & Trade Supplies** 1 (H. Park 1) vs **Navy/Czech Repub - Waits Bathroom Plus** 1 (E. Storimans 1); **June 6- Orange/Netherlands - Century 21** (Martin Read 2 (M. Maynard 1, S.

Steeles 1) vs **Navy/Czech Repub - Waits Bathroom Plus** 3 (V. Petinarelis 1, L. Corrick 1, M. Nelson 1); **Pink/Spain - Mirconex Inc Industrial & Trade Supplies** 2 (M. Douvinos 1, J. Rahim 1) vs **Red/Poland - A Plus Accounting Services** 2 (M. Nisula 2); **June 14 - Navy/Czech Repub - Waits Bathroom Plus** 4 (R. Campbell 1, J. Durbano 2, M. Nelson 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's** 5 (E. Clarke 1, J. St. Germain 1, J. Colwell 1, M. Jakubas 2); **Silver/Austria** 6 vs **Sage/USA** 0; **Sky/Argentina** 5 (A. Thompson 2, S. Moody 2, M. Colasimone 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 3 (H. Towharian 1, S. Carmasino 1, S. Marra 1); **June 18 - Sky/Argentina** 5 (A. Thompson 2, S. Moody 2, M. Colasimone 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - Aurora Landscape Contractors** 3 (H. Towharian, S. Carmasino 1, S. Marra 1); **U10B JUNE 13 Navy/Czech Repub - Rick Legrow Agent** 4 (D. Leeper 1, S. Semeraro 1, Q. Bell 2) vs **Red/Poland Kavanagh Roofing** 5 (E. Bortolotti 1, M. Bablona 1, J. Harrison 1, S. Prost 1, A. Rival 1); **June 19 Navy/Czech Repub - Rick Legrow Agent** 4 (D. Leeper 1, S. Semeraro 1, Q. Bell 2) vs **Red/Poland - Kavanagh Roofing** 5 (E. Bortolotti 1, M. Bablona 1, J. Harrison 1, S. Prost 1, A. Rival 1); **Orange/Netherlands** 2 (J. Battison 1, W. Thompson 1) vs **Silver/Austria** 3 (E. Biziotis 1, J. Ventrella 1, S. Sebastia 1); **Gold/Brazil** 2 (B. Ruuskanen 2) vs **White/Canada - AMG Metals Inc** 7 (A. Movin 1, A. Dos Santos 1, A. Ross 1, C. Kemp 1, J. Gordon 1, P. Bourrie 1, T. Davidson 1);

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	2	0	0	6
Red	2	0	0	6
Silver	2	0	0	6
Navy	1	1	0	3
White	1	1	0	3
Orange	1	1	0	3
Sky	0	1	1	1
Kelly	0	1	1	1
Maroon	0	2	0	0
Gold	0	2	0	0

U10G - June 13 - Navy/Czech Repub - Summers & Smith 1 (M. Gans 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 5 (I. Sharpe 3, A. Barnes 1, M. Baile 1); **Orange/Netherlands** 2 (M. Patterson 2) vs **Red/Poland - Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre** 4 (P. Dutchyshen 2, A. DePiero 1, M. Gilliland 1); **Pink/Spain - Himelfarb Proszanski LLP** 5 (T. Issarus 2, C. Dusome 1, J. Farewell 1, S. Vocino 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Hartwell Thayer Financial Services Group** 1 (B. Gatzos 1);

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	2	1	0	6
Red	2	1	0	6
Navy	2	1	0	6
Pink	1	1	1	4
Orange	1	2	0	3
Gold	0	2	1	1

U11B - June 19 - Navy/Czech Repub - Laurion Law Office 3 (M. Tanel 1, R. O'Brien 1, M. Schouten 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands - CIBC** 4 (L. Pozzebon 1, T. Abushinov 1, M. Wieland 1, J. Bell 1); **Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiner's Drillers** 3 (G. Killby 2, N. Steiner 1) vs **Red/Poland - Barb Blaser** 1 (C. Morache 1); **Forest/Portuga - Wikoff Color Corp** 1 (L. Coll 1) vs **White/Canada - CIBC** 0;

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	3	0	0	9
Gold	2	0	1	7
Navy	2	1	0	6
Orange	1	1	1	4
Red	0	3	0	0
White	0	3	0	0

U11G - June 13 - Red/Poland - Gringler, Iskov, Lerner 2 (C. Danziger 1, M.

Duguay 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Forever Young Hair Studio** 1 (A. Cortese 1); **Purple/France - Dr. Weeden** 1 (S. Powell 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - Timetech** 2 (C. Pickett 1, M. Chick 1); **Orange/Netherlands** 2 (K. Colin 1, K. Dimatulac 1) vs **Navy/Czech Repub - CIBC** 5 (M. Blom 2, D. Skloud 2, S. Daniel 1);

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	3	0	0	9
Navy	2	0	1	7
Red	1	1	1	4
Purple	1	2	0	3
Gold	0	2	1	1
Orange	0	2	1	1

U12/13B - June 14 - Sage/USA 3 (J.P. Hudon 1, J. Caruso 1, D. Collier 1) vs **Navy/Czech Repub** 1 (J. Schweinberger 1); **Orange/Netherlands** 4 (P. Hess 1, B. Rossetto 1, Z. Richards 2) vs **Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiner Drillers** 4 (P. Steiner 1, L. Beeson 1, A. Pitura 1, K. Lukezic 1); **White/Canada - La Prairie Inc.** 2 (Z. Kercz 1, Z. Prezio 1) vs **Silver/Austria** 2 (J. Eberlin 1, M. Warchol 1); **Forest/Portugal** 8 (E. Cristillo 1, D. Cierpka 1, A. McDonald 2, R. Baskin 2, M. Tenuta 2) vs **Maroon/Japan** 4 (J. Bentolila 1, N. Heintzman 1, T. Karsala 1, J. French 1); **Royal/Scotland** 5 (D. Dilena 1, T. Indos 2, K. Neice 1, D. Takla 1) vs **Kelly/Italy** 2 (S. Faiello 1, A. Graham 1); **Sky/Argentina** 3 (R. Pritchett 1, C. Cherubini 1, M. Zuber 1) vs **Red/Poland - Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre** 1 (L. Varone 1);

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	3	0	0	9
Royal	3	0	0	9
Sage	3	0	0	9
Gold	2	0	1	7
Silver	1	1	1	4
Orange	1	1	1	4
Sky	1	2	0	3
Navy	1	2	0	3
Maroon	1	1	0	3
White	0	2	1	1
Red	0	3	0	0
Kelly	0	3	0	0

U12G - No reported scores from the divisional convener/coaches.

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Purple	1	0	0	3
Red	1	0	0	3
Navy	1	0	0	3
Gold	0	0	1	1
Forest	0	0	0	1
Silver	0	1	0	0
Orange	0	1	0	0
Pink	0	1	0	0

U14/15B - June 11 - Forest/Portugal 2 (B. Rivers 2) vs **White/Canada - Homemade to Go** 6 (A. Scott 4, B. Tjoe-A-Long 1, C. Wessler 1); **Gold/Brazil - Dr. Orschel's Drillers** 7 (G. Iaboni 2, K. Karamci 3, T. McGowan 1, B. Rival 1) vs **Red/Poland - Scotia Bank** 4 (S. Linley 1, B. Strachan 1, M. Garner 1, S. Dinning 1); **Navy/Czech Repub - R & J Concepts Inc** 6 (J. Chappell 3, T. Sikura 3) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 7 (T. Brewer 3, D. Eveleigh 3, C. Freitas 1);

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Gold	3	0	1	10
Red	3	1	0	9
Orang	2	2	0	6
White	1	1	2	5
Navy	1	2	1	4
Forest	0	4	0	0

U13/14G - June 19 - Kelly/Italy - En Ville Event Design and Catering 5 (J. McNamee 1, R. Funston-Clarke 1, D. Cantarutti 1, R. Skolud 1, H. Werda 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - BMPS** 2 (F. Ambrose 2); **Navy/Czech Repub - Carproof** 2 (J. Carswell 1, J. Costa 1) vs **Silver/Austria** 0; **Orange/Netherlands - CIBC** 1 (S. Cork 1) vs **Purple/France - Timetech** 4 (J. Sunstrum 2, N. Kuria 2); **Red/Poland -**

CGI 1 (C. Fantin 1) vs **Sage/USA** 1 (S. Klein 1); **Royal/Scotland** 3 (S. Lerner 2, A. Rulli 1) vs **Maroon/Japan** 4 (J. Bain 2, M. Shields 1, K. Swain 1); **Sky/Argentina- Immersive Media** 3 (G. McIlraith 1, V. Partland 2) vs **Forest/Portugal** 1 (R. Knetsch 1);

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Sage	3	0	1	10
Red	3	0	1	10
Sky	3	0	1	10
Pink	2	0	2	8
Orang	2	1	1	7
Navy	2	1	1	7
Kelly	2	2	0	6
Royal	1	3	0	3
Forest	1	1	0	3
Purple	1	3	0	3
Gold	0	3	1	1
Silver	0	4	0	0

U15/16G - No reported scores from the divisional convenor/coaches.

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Silver	3	0	0	9
Gold	2	0	1	7
Navy	1	1	1	4
Orang	1	1	1	4
Fores	1	1	1	4
Red	1	2	0	3
Sky	0	2	1	1
Purpl	0	2	1	1

U16/19B - June 12- Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza 4 (J. Domanico 1, R. Pizzurio 1, R. Smeriglio 1, A. Contacutti 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Omars Shoes** 2 (M. Mikhaili 1, A. MacDonald 1);

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	2	1	1	7
Navy	2	1	1	7
Orang	2	2	0	6
Gold	1	3	0	3

U17/21G T/TH- Fifth Consecutive win for Aurora **U17 Girls** team 2. Game played **June 18** against Whitby resulted in a 2-1 win for Aurora. Aurora goals scored by S. Plank and C. Vogel. Congratulations Girls and Coaches!

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	3	0	0	9
Navy	2	0	1	7
Gold	1	1	1	4
Purple	1	2	0	3
Orange	0	1	2	2
Red	0	3	0	0

COMPETITIVE STINGERS RESULTS - U9 Boys Rep - June 14, Aurora Stingers 2 vs **Vaughan Azzurri** 0. A fabulous team effort from the boys! Both goals scored by team captain C. Thiessen. **U17G-** The **AYSC U17 Girls** Team 2 are off to a smashing start for their 2007 Outdoor soccer season! Four league games played resulting in 4 wins for Aurora. First game **May 21** against **West End United** - 4-3 win for Aurora. Aurora goals scored by S. Hyslop 1, S. Plank 1, and K. Smith 2. **Game May 28** against **Newmarket** - 1-0 win for Aurora. Fabulous goal scored by K. Davidson. **June 4** game against **Uxbridge** resulted in the third win for Aurora 2-0. Aurora goals scored by J. Neale and S. Plank. 4th game **June 11** against **Darlington**, another win for Aurora 6-1... first game played on the new turf at Sheppard's Bush. Goals scored by K. Davidson, J. Neale 1, S. Donato 1, S. Plank 2, and K. Sukhraj 1.

GAME OF THE WEEK
One team, one club, one town. Come out and support our players. Enjoy the atmosphere and be apart of the AYSC spirit. The **GAME OF THE WEEK** runs throughout the summer.

UPCOMING GAMES
Complete listings and the **GAME OF THE WEEK** results can be found on the club's website: www.aysc.ca.



St. Andrew's



Aurora United



Victoria Hall



Four churches on Doors Open tour

By **JACQUELINE STUART**
Heritage Advisory
Committee of Aurora

Doors Open Aurora 2007, August 11, invites visitors to four structures erected as places of worship.

One is the chapel of St. Andrew's College, at the edge of town.

The other three are within a few hundred yards of each other in the very centre of the community.

The oldest of these three is Aurora United Church, formerly the Methodist church.

There has been a church on the corner of Yonge and Tyler since February, 1818, when a log building was erected on land donated by William Tyler.

The log church was not replaced by a frame structure until 1855. A fire in 1877 severely damaged the second building, and the decision was made to build completely anew.

The strength of the economic link between the town and the surrounding countryside was indicated by the fact that the decision to rebuild was deferred until the condition of that year's crops was known.

Apparently the harvest was bountiful, because a fine and imposing church was erected. Standing at the top of a long hill, its towers surmounted by tall, slender spires, the Aurora church was a landmark from afar.

(Those tall spires were replaced by somewhat sturdier structures after

being destroyed by a tornado in 1893, and even the replacements were taken away in 1943.)

While the spires were removed, the grand buff brick structure has been added to several times, most recently some 20 years ago, and its interior altered.

Another major change involved not the physical structure but church organization.

In 1925, the Methodist Church, Canada-wide, joined with the Congregational Church, about 70 per cent of the Presbyterian congregations in the country, and a small union of churches in the west to form the United Church of Canada.

Paradoxically, church union divided the local Presbyterian congregation.

The St. Andrew's Presbyterian congregation did survive the loss of almost half its membership in 1925, and today's St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church will be open to visitors during Doors Open Aurora.

Presbyterians in Aurora first banded together in 1871 and in the spring of 1872 made the decision to build a church across the street from the Mechanics Hall (now the Lions Club).

The building, which was opened a year later, was a single storey brick structure, far from flamboyant but with stone trim, a relatively grand entrance, and a rose window over the door.

The rift caused by church union in 1925 was a blow to the Presbyterian congregation. Even the

minister left to join the new denomination. However, the remaining Presbyterians soldiered on and the congregation recovered.

By 1951 a new church hall was needed to accommodate church education and other activities and it was added to the north end of the old building.

Just over a decade later the church itself was replaced. Lieutenant-Governor J. Keiller Mackay was at the dedication service in November, 1962 and his aide-de-camp on that occasion was Wing Commander Richard Illingworth of Aurora.

The 1962 building is in overall shape a version of the original small church, with a tall, steeply pitched roof enveloping the sanctuary and providing a gable

over the Mosley Street door.

Most other traces of traditional Gothic ecclesiastical design have been erased in the clearly modern structure.

One tangible link between old and new does remain: the rose window from over the front door of the old church was preserved and reinstalled in the church hall.

The third of the Doors Open Aurora 2007 town-centre places of worship is Victoria Hall. This building at the south-west corner of Mosley and Victoria streets was erected in 1883 to house the local congregation of the Disciples of Christ denomination.

This small group seems to have struggled to survive through most of its

Please see page 19



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Monday, July 9

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Senior Scape

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Party Thursday

MP Belinda Stronach invites everybody to attend "From the Hill to the Grill part Two", which will happen Thursday at the Aurora Seniors' Centre starting at 11.30 a.m. and continuing until 1 p.m.

We expect a huge turnout, so bring your cameras - you never know what unforgettable opportunity may present itself - dress in Canada red if you can - but most importantly demonstrate the importance of senior life by doing what the members do so well which is living life gently with a generous serving of pleasure. Another important event in the year happens when all unite as one July 1 at Lambert Willson Park to celebrate Canada Day.

Starting at 1 p.m., The Aurora Opera Company will sing from their hearts, songs from famous musicals, including compositions from Gershwin, Gilbert and Sullivan and others which will inspire, as well as entertain, all who attend. Sarah Kyle, who is the event organizer and an international opera singer and Joe Likuski, an excellent tenor, will be featured singers.

Seniors are expected to attend in force and programs are being designed which will involve seniors since they enjoy participating enthusiastically.

This is the season when many members are on holiday, some at the cottage, and others further afield.

Two of our reception volunteers, Olga Kitsch and Evelyn Meleta spent their holiday in Russia and had a fabulous experience first in St Petersburg, which has fantastic architecture, blending characteristics from east and west beautifully.

That was followed by a trip down the Volga, in Moscow.

While this meeting of east and west progressed, stay-at-home members continued to saunter through late spring diverted by such important matters as the Annual General Meeting in early June.

The ever popular trips continue to draw interest and a trip to a Blue Jays game, Wednesday, July 25, has room for a few more participants.

Sue Weston who taught yoga is retiring and we all wish her well. Sue is a determined leader, and many of us will remember her fondly.

Several new instructors will be in place during the summer including a Yoga teacher.

Nordic walking continues to draw enthusiasts and this appears to be a pretty good and popular exercise.

Friday is probably the quietest day of the week but it has the sewing club which is composed of a solid but jolly group of ladies who sew excellently.

If you require sewing knowledge, this is the group to help you help yourself.



Just to set the record straight, the person on the right, as it was stated in a recent Auroran, is NOT the editor's sister. That's his long lost (48 years) cousin. As a reader was quick to point out: "...I fail to believe that the lady on the RIGHT side of you is your sister. You could be twins with the woman on the left side of the photo. Identical twins. I think either the names were reversed or your parents didn't tell you the truth!" She's right. One more time, the person on the left is the editor's sister from St. Catharines (she's also three years younger than the editor) and the person on the right is Lynne Tompkins, his first cousin, from Milton.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Culver is new Chamber president

From page 1

Avalon Training Group.

President for the past two years Stephen Forsey of Jones, Gable and Company became Past President with the election of Sharon Culver of Whitehots Inc. as President.

First Vice President is Kathy van Nostrand of van Nostrand and Partners and Sean Herbinson of Re/Max Group Realty is Second Vice President, Jim Wasyliw of Scotiabank is Treasurer and Marion Tripp of Virtual Option is Secretary.

Directors include Geoffrey Dawe, Edna Findlay, Donna Gerrits, Brenda Snape, Allan Cruickshank, Nick Caple, Paul Smith, and Cynthia Proctor.

In accepting the office of President Ms Culver promised to do everything she could to move the Chamber forward.

In her State of the Town address, Mayor Morris promised to work with council and staff to make local government more open, more transparent, more accountable and more inclusive.

She noted the importance of the Town's vision and strategic plan and the need to be open to change, and that the new council had been voted in on a mandate of change.

Aurora faces a challenge with a fast pace of growth, a need to create and maintain a diversity of employment, to protect and restore the natural heritage system and provide supportable infrastructure and

adequate human resources, she said.

She listed some of the accomplishments of council during the first few months including amending the council procedural bylaw, amending and establishing the terms of reference for the advisory committees and committing \$2.7 million for the renovation of the Church Street School as a Heritage Centre.

In addition, she provided

an update on the town's economy including residential growth and business initiatives including new businesses being established in Aurora.

In closing she said the Town and the Chamber needs to work together towards a prosperous vision for Aurora and to look to the future while not forgetting the past and that by working together it's possible to make Aurora even better.

\$22 TUESDAY SPA PEDICURE

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Professional Nails & Waxing for Men & Women

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

Where is the Good Neighbour Award?

In March, 2005, Rebecca Beaton attended a meeting of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee to seek the addition of a new category to the annual Civic Awards, entitled the Good Neighbour Award.

She suggested that it be an annual award presented to an individual who on an on-going basis assisted a neighbour(s) by showing kindness, generosity and warmth in various ways.

Realizing the deadline for the 2005 awards was drawing close, the committee adopted the suggestion in principle for the award to be considered for 2006.

It was also recommended that an ad hoc committee be established comprised of two members of the Advisory Committee, a citizen and a staff member to develop criteria for the Good Neighbour Civic Award.

Dawn Irwin and Stephen Dupuis were appointed to represent the committee and Rebecca Beaton was appointed the citizen member, but then - nothing!

It is now too late for the 2007 awards. Maybe in 2008?

IT'S WORTH THE WADE

In October, 1993, Aurora's Kary Dick decided to have a wading pool in the Town Park and formed a residents' group to raise \$8,000 for what she termed Worth the Wade.

Her idea was to create a place for kids to play while parents meet and enjoy the summer weather.

She suggested the new style wading pool include a sprinkler to attract toddlers and preschoolers.

It was an idea that ended in success as a splash pad was installed for the enjoyment of the kids.

NOW YOU KNOW

If you ever wondered what happened to former Ontario Premier Ernie Eves, he recently joined the firm of Jacob and Company Securities, which specializes in infrastructure and energy deals.

The founder Sasha Jacobs and Eves worked together when Jacobs was a policy advisor at Queen's Park, and Eves' role will be to open doors for the new firm.

A LOOK BACK TO AURORA IN 1967

- Aurora Council considered a proposal to include garbage collection charges on the general tax rate instead of a separate billing on the water bill as was the practice

at that time.

- Residential building in Aurora was less than a third of the previous year as only nine new homes received permits compared with 55 in 1966 for the first half of the year.

- Commercial properties quadrupled during the same period due to an expansion of the Aurora Highlands Golf Club and the new federal building and post office on Wellington Street.

- Aurora School Board Chairman George Dawson turned the first sod to signify the start of the new senior school on Wellington Street West.

- Aurora Council met with Yonge Street merchants to discuss the impact of widening Yonge Street.

- Bill Hodgson was first elected to the Ontario Legislature following long time MPP Lex Mackenzie.

- Due to growth council decided to split the duties of clerk-treasurer and as Bill Johnson preferred to remain as treasurer, Bud Rodger moved to Aurora from Tilbury to become town clerk.

- Ontario Housing Corporation carried out a survey in Aurora to determine the need for a low-rental housing project and for senior citizen housing with rents to range from \$32 per month based on occupant's income.

- Abnormal rainfalls flooded basements in Regency Acres and flooding in Holland Marsh was worse than Hurricane Hazel with Lake Simcoe four to six inches higher than the Hazel storm.

Those were some of the events that helped make up Aurora in 1967.

NOT MUNICIPAL BUSINESS

In April, 1995, Aurora Council received a request from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters for support in its fight against the federal government gun control legislation.

Just as Councillor Judith Ochalski was about to move a motion of support, Councillor Chris Sorley stopped the debate by asking what handguns had to do with municipal government.

It wasn't relevant, he said.

Council members agreed and received the federation request as information and took no action.

Markham school project makes Aurorans wonder

Aurora citizens and council are currently engaged in a struggle with the York Region District School Board over the potential move of Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School from 19 acres of land with several playing fields.

One decision could move Williams to a site on Bayview Avenue on about 13 acres of use-

able land with limited playing field facility.

The recent announcement by the School Board and the Town of Markham about the partnership on the development of a major sports field complex in conjunction with a new school has added fuel to the fire.

The Town of Markham has committed \$2 million

to upgrade the sports fields being built at Markham's new Bill Crothers Secondary School for Athletics and Healthy Active Living.

The school is named after the current Chairman of the School Board, a Markham Trustee for 18 years who has served 14 years as Chairman.

He won a Silver Medal

in the 1964 Olympics as a middle-distance runner..

The three artificial turfed, lit fields will be located on the school's 30-acre site in Markham Centre, and Crothers calls it a win-win situation for the board.

Work is already underway on the Bill Crothers School with the unique school focusing on the total integration of academic and sports excellence.

The School Board has failed to explain to those interested why the Markham school was planned on 30 acres and the proposed Aurora school on about 13 acres of useable land, which is below their minimum requirement of 16 acres.

Aurora Bridge Club

Tuesday, June 12: Lena & Don Jackson; Marg Farmer & Shirley Hulbig; Linda Lord & Paul Graves; Catherine Balant & Ross Jenkinson.

Thursday, June 14: Suzanne Nunn & Mitzi Brown; Kris & Phil Dontigny; Rosemary Nichols & Gail McIntyre.

Friday, June 15: N/S - Marg Farmer & George Payment; Marg MacFarlane & Paul Graves; Rani Mahood & Lib McWilliams.

E/W - Rosemarie Masson & Don Jackson; Catherine Balant & Ross Jenkinson; George Jordan & Irma Field.

Aurora Seniors

Monday, June 11: NS - Carole Gordon & Brenda Smith; Mary Oglanby & Ruth Rea; Eva Guttman & Sheldon Fast. EW - Gretta Ogden & Marcella Lawless; Audrey Robertson & Evelyn Dickie; Judy Salmon & Lucille Sequeira.

Monday, June 18: NS - Mary Oglanby & Joan

Rotenberg Melody Irving & Ruth Rea; Gloria Smith & Rose White. EW - Audrey Robinson & Evelyn Dickie; Shirley Laurin & Suzanne Nunn; Noreen Hashen & Marion Warburton.

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VISITING A RECREATION COMPLEX IN B.C.

In October, 1973, Mayor Evelyn Buck, and Councillors Walt Davis and Ron Simmons and Clerk Bud Rodger travelled to British Columbia to pick up some pointers on the development of the proposed civic complex for Aurora.

Mayor Buck said she got the idea after addressing the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and outlining the council's concept of a civic complex for Victoria Street, now referred to as the Library Square.

A Chamber member told the Mayor he had just returned from B.C. where he had visited Vernon, a municipality about the size of Aurora, and as they had just opened a new civic complex suggested a delegation go to investigate.

Council decided the idea had some merit and approved the delegation.

WATER PRESSURE A WORRY

It was a summer like all summers as in July, 1978, Aurora residents were asked to conserve water and abide by the restrictions of the lawn-watering bylaw to ensure sufficient water pressure in the event of a sudden emergency.

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Churches on tour

From page 15

existence in Aurora, rarely able to employ a minister and largely supported by two prosperous local stalwarts.

The building shows almost the barest bones of the Gothic Revival style so closely associated with 19th century churches: a steeply pitched roof, pointed-arch windows, modest buttresses supporting its side walls.

A slightly more decorative window with simple tracery has disappeared from over the door of the entry porch.

The date stone over the main entrance is a permanent reminder of the original purpose of this small building.

Like other brick structures of its age, this once buff-coloured building was turned a sombre grey by decades of smoke from coal and wood fires.

The remnants of the Disciples congregation sold the church to the trustees of the Aurora Public School in 1922.

In conjunction with the municipality the school board operated Health Hall here. The needs of babies and school children - the public school was just down the block at the corner of Church Street - were addressed by a public health nurse and the local medical community.

In 1945 the former church took on a new use as the location for the public library.

Fortunately Marjorie Andrews, the librarian, was also organist at the Presbyterian church across the way and had a

key to the church and its facilities.

Fortunately, because there was no toilet in the library!

Nor, for many years, a telephone.

Improvements were made, including the removal of a stage, and the library remained there until 1963 when it moved into the first phase of a new building on Victoria Street.

In 1965 the old Disciples church acquired its current name of Victoria Hall.

It has been used ever since as a meeting place, for such groups as the Women's Institute; as a location for some of the Town's own programs; and as a space for rental.

Victoria Hall and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church are integral parts of this neighbourhood of 19th and 20th century public and organizational buildings and private homes, a rich mixture of styles and functions.

Just across Yonge Street, but so prominently visible along Mosley Street that it almost becomes part of the same neighbourhood, the Aurora United Church building serves both as an individual landmark and as part of this cultural corner.

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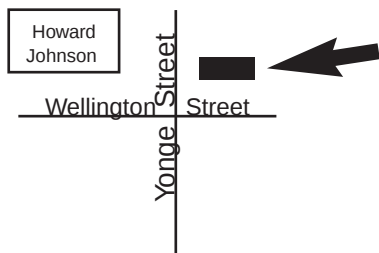
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