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Still nothing final on bicycle routes

With the ever-increasing gridlock on the roadways, limited parking facilities and escalating prices of gasoline, some motorists are seeking alternative means of transportation and the lowly bicycle may be the answer.

It isn't a new initiative as back in March, 1993, Aurora

Council discussed the need for designated bicycle paths in Aurora and on regional roads and adopted a resolution supporting bicycle paths on regional roads.

Nothing much was done about the paths on local roads until December, 1998, when

Please see page 9

BRIEFLY

Artists, volunteers sought

An added feature of Doors Open in Aurora this year will be the participation of local artists who will be painting some of the doors open sites throughout the day.

The public can witness the artists at work as they record Aurora's history in paint.

There are a number of sites available for local artists to participate in this event and showcase their talents.

Volunteers are also sought to help out at the Doors Open Sites, Saturday, August 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If you are interested in participating please contact Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Aurora at 905-726-4762.

Hillary House for kids

Here's an opportunity for children to participate in crafts, stories and games while learning part of Aurora's history.

This summer Hillary House will be running programs until August 23, every Tuesday and Thursday, and the programs will include archeological digs, ancient artifacts and a party day in the famous Hillary House ballroom.

The house is located at 15372 Yonge Street, between Wellington and Aurora Heights Drive.

Admission is \$7 per person. Call 905-727-8991 to book a spot.

Trying for Grand Slam

Aurora's Paul Berry hopes to accomplish a trick that will need a lot of luck.

Last week, he was the Early Bird winner in the Big Brothers Big Sisters of York draw that won him four passes to Eagle's Nest Golf Club, a prize estimated to be worth about \$800.

But Paul wants the grand prize, an all-expenses paid golf week in Scotland, valued at more than \$24,000.

"I'm hoping to make history by having my same ticket drawn for the grand prize," he said.

The prize includes accommodations, and five rounds of golf, including one on the old course of St. Andrew's.

That draw happens Sept. 6, and tickets, at \$100 each, are still available.

For further information, call Big Brothers Big Sisters of York at 905-895-0289, or visit their website at www.bbbsy.ca.



Every Saturday morning crowds increase in size at the Aurora Farmers' Market, located in the Temperance Street parking lot, just south of Wellington West. Several mer-

chants report a booming business and this week there are two letters on the subject in your Auroran.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Wilf Bridgeford dies at 94

Aurora lost one of its oldest and most respected citizens with the death of Cyril Wilfred Bridgeford at Southlake Regional Health Centre last week.

He was 94.

Major Bridgeford, with his wife Renee and son Barry, moved to Aurora in 1962, after arriving in Canada in 1956.

He was a British Army veteran having served in India, Germany and the Middle East and was one of the Allied fighters during D-Day.

After the war he served as acting Lieutenant Colonel assigned to assist in setting up municipal councils in parts of Germany.

While working as a management specialist with the Ontario government, he helped streamline the Ontario Municipal Board.

His duties with the provincial

government took him to the Department of Planning and Development, the Department of Municipal Affairs and the Ministry of the Attorney General, where he was manager of operations.

In the early 1960s, he was deputy coordinator of Metropolitan Toronto Civil Defence and then Chief Staff Officer at Toronto Target Area Headquarters in Newmarket.

Major Bridgeford served with the Queen's York Rangers Militia from 1957 to 1963 and earned the Canadian Forces Decoration.

He was one of the founders of the Queen's York Rangers Cadet Corps in 1966 and its first Commanding Officer.

He was also a representative of the Army Cadet League of Canada and President of the

Queen's York Rangers Rifle Association.

He also formed the Aurora and District Film Council in 1965 and was appointed its President by the National Film Board.

He was an active member of the Aurora Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

A winner of the King's Badge for his efforts during the war, he was also the recipient of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in November, 1977.

In 1978 after 17 years with the provincial government he retired and ran for a seat on Aurora Council in hopes of applying his experience in his adopted town, but was unsuccessful.

During his long and active life, Major Bridgeford influenced the lives of many people,

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COMING EVENTS

During the month of July the Skylight Gallery in the Town Hall will feature the work of Nancy Hallas with a series of semi-abstract acrylic and mixed media paintings on canvas exploring themes on nature. Regular viewing hours are 8.30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday with a reception July 5th from 7 to 9 p.m.

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 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.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

Concerts in the Park presents Green River playing the best loved music of Credence Clear Water Revival. Town Park, Mosley and Wells Streets. 7 to 9 p.m., weather permitting.

MONDAY, JULY 23

Yard waste collection in brown kraft paper bags or clean, open, rigid reusable waste con-

tainers must be placed at the curbside by 7 a.m. to ensure pickup.

TUESDAY, JULY 24

Food, fun and a film are back at the Seniors' Centre at 4.30 p.m. Register at the front desk.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

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

Concerts in the Park presents an Eric Clapton Tribute. Town Park, Mosley and Wells Streets. 7 to 9 p.m., weather permitting.

Christmas in July at Gateway Lanes, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., serves two purposes. First it is a food drive for the Aurora Pantry. Second it is a day to celebrate families. Bring any family member to the bowling alley and bowl for free by bringing a non-perishable food item. The bowling alley will be decorated for Christmas and Christmas music will be playing.

The Canadian Red Cross will be at the Seniors' Centre at 1.30 p.m. for a free seminar on "How to Prepare for a Disaster". Register at the front desk.

THURSDAY, JULY 26

Blood donor clinic at the Aurora Legion Hall from 2.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 28

Third Annual Calmar Crescent Street Festival and according to the organizers will be bigger and better with more children's activities, raffles, prizes and entertainment. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds go to a local charity.

TUESDAY, JULY 31

Deadline for applications for the Aurora Arts and Culture Fund. Applications should include the nature and general activities of the individual/group and the specific use to be made of the grant. Send applications to the Town Hall, c/o the mayor's office.

JULY 31 TO AUGUST 2

Aurora Seniors are on a Ontario Musical Theatre Getaway. Call Pam at 416-630-3499 for details.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1

Concerts in the Park presents Carol Lynn Friesen, Canadian singer/songwriter. Town Park, Mosley and Wells Streets, 7 - 9 p.m. weather permitting.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

Concerts in the Park presents the Black Board Blues Band playing soul, rock and blues music from the 60s to the present day. Town Park, Mosley and Wells Streets, 7-9 p.m. weather permitting.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

Blood donor clinic at the Town of Aurora offices, 1 Municipal Drive, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

Aurora senior citizens will attend the

Seniors' Jubilee at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto.

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

Concerts in the Park presents the 48th Highlanders pipes, drums and military band. Town Park, Mosley and Wells Streets, 7-9 p.m. weather permitting.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

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

Concerts in the Park presents Neu Jenarshun with an evening of Caribbean rhythms. Town Park, Mosley and Wells Streets, 7-9 p.m. weather permitting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

Aurora's next Great Curbside Giveaway when Aurorans can place all unwanted items at the curb marked "free" for others to take away, as one person's trash may be another person's treasure. Remove any items left at the curb by 6 p.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 27

Yard waste collection in brown kraft paper bags or clean, open, rigid reusable waste containers must be placed at curbside by 7 a.m. to ensure pickup.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Aurora council meets in general committee at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall.

SEPTEMBER 7-9

Second annual Aurora Ribfest.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

20th annual Wild Wild West Magna Hoedown on the Magna grounds, Wellington Street East. Watch for further details.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Second annual Aurora Historical Society golf tournament at Westview Golf Club. Fewer than 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.

NOVEMBER 4 to 19

Aurora seniors will take a 15-day Hawaiian cruise. Call Pam at 416-630-3499 for details.

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Parking issue still not resolved here

Currently, the town's parking bylaw allows a vehicle to be parked on a street in town for 24 hours where there are no other existing parking restrictions except during the winter months when overnight parking is prohibited.

Town staff members, however, continue to receive complaints from residents concerning cars being parked for extended periods of time on the streets.

Some complainants find the 24-hour limit unacceptable and want the period reduced.

As a result a presentation was made by Chris Alexander, Bylaw Service Coordinator to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee recently on how the community would be impacted by a reduced parking limit.

He pointed out that in the summer of 2001, the town implemented a three-hour parking limit on one side of three streets in the Aurora Grove subdivision to address residents' concerns.

A survey found most of the vehicles parked on the street belonged to residents who lived on the street. The restrictions have proven successful in keeping the streets clear of parked vehicles.

It was also noted that a three-hour parking limit was common in municipalities in the GTA and all municipalities in the region currently have a three-hour limit including regional roads in Aurora.

Unlike the provisions of the town's parking bylaws such as fire routes and disabled parking, the enforce-

Aurora ambassador to compete at the "Ex"

Omid Salari is going to the "Ex".

A former ambassador of the Aurora Fair, Omid will compete for similar honours at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto August 17 to 19.

Since its inception in 1972 more than 3,500 young people from across the province have come to the CNE to compete.

Now in its 35th year of pageantry, the Ambassador of the Fairs contest continues to offer young women and men from rural Ontario the opportunity to actively promote Ontario agriculture at fairs across Ontario.

Once involved in the competition, he will be judged based on his knowledge of the CNE and agriculture, poise, personality, interview and overall impression for a chance to represent the CNE next year.

The winner will be crowned August 20.

ment of the three-hour limit would be on a complaint basis.

The implementation of the three-hour limit does not require the installation of signage on each street, as signs would be posted at the various entrances to the municipality to warn motorists in the same manner as winter parking restrictions.

Staff members also reviewed accident records for the past 10 years and found 250 reported accidents on town streets involving parked cars.

The TSAC adopted the staff report and recommendations to impose the three hour town-wide parking restriction and the new regulations would be effective January 1, 2008.

However, when the committee report came to council, Councillor Al Wilson expressed concerns about the program operating on a complaint basis rather than enforcement.

Councillor Grace Marsh,

chairperson of the committee, said the committee had received an excellent presentation and suggested the item be referred to the July council meeting so that a similar presentation could be made, which council approved.

It is not a new issue.

Last August the advisory committee made a similar recommendation, but as council was not given any rationale for the proposed change, the report was rejected.

It was pointed out that on-street parking problems had been created by council due to housing density approved for some subdivisions and as not all sections of the town were the same, problems should be dealt with on an individual basis.

Others supported the report but suggested a six-hour limit, claiming motorists were able to find another place to park their vehicles during the winter months.

The issue was expected to be discussed this week.

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Poor Richard

Too many items being discussed away from public

*It can be very frustrating,
As answers we never get:
Technology is the problem,
As e-mails, we can't vet!
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

The Supreme Court of Canada issued a useful reminder for municipal politicians recently in a ruling that public business must be carried out in full view of the public.

In a 7-0 judgment, the Court ruled London City Council was wrong to hold a meeting in private on a controversial development proposal and make a decision and then adopt the decision in open council without discussion.

The Municipal Act clearly spells out what issues can and what can't be discussed behind closed doors and planning issues are not included on the list.

In addition, such decisions must be ratified in open council.

All municipal councils - Aurora included - hold closed meetings at times and often forget to explain the reasons why.

The agenda merely states a "Legal" or "Personnel" issue, which could be interpreted to mean a variety of issues.

Municipal solicitors would be wise to read the court's decision in detail and brief council members what they can legally discuss behind closed doors.

While they are at it, they might want to discuss the use of e-mails in conducting public business, as it would appear more and more public business is being discussed by e-mail, without the public's knowledge, similar in a way to a closed door meeting.

This came to light recently when Councillor Evelyn Buck distributed an e-mail to staff and all members of council on two separate issues, which in this case were placed in the public agenda, one by the mayor and the other by Councillor Evelina MacEachern.

The two issues were not that important as one dealt with the Farmers' Market and the other with comments made by a resident during an Open Forum session, regarding the cost of the artificial turf at a previous meeting.

After a brief discussion both e-mails were received as information and no action taken, but it could be the thin edge of the wedge.

Have there been other e-mails which didn't end up on the public agenda that dealt with more important issues?

After the exchange, the mayor expressed concern about the flurry of e-mails regarding town business as a number of them were not made public and suggested action be taken to impose some form of control over the handling of e-mails circulated to staff and members of council.

Before e-mails there was a problem with internal memos being circulated without being made public.

Back in April, 2005, then Councillor Ron Wallace complained that during the weekend of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Home Show, the town's bylaw enforcement officers were overzealous.

He pointed out that the Home Show added substantially to the economy of the community and it was surprising the bylaw officers were active on weekends, when they fail to enforce bylaws during the rest of the week.

He explained that some exhibitors and visitors had been issued \$45 tickets for parking on the grass when there were no signs posted to warn that such parking was illegal.

His comments were referred to staff for a report. It was expected the report would come to council as was the normal procedure, but that wasn't to happen.

In a subsequent status report of the council pending action list, there was a notation that a memo had been sent to members of council, which was never made public.

In November, 2004, a mystery surrounded the awarding of the contract for the pre-grading of the site for the Seniors' Centre.

The contract was awarded to a firm at a tendered price of \$239,000.

For some never explained reason, following a private session, it was announced that the pre-grading contract had been awarded to another contractor for \$312,302, an increase of \$73,000 from the original award.

It does happen in even the best of councils but why? What are they hiding?



Before Wells Street Public School became an elementary school, it was a high school, and the first building looked like this. Built in 1892, this building lasted until 1923 when the existing building was erected. The location remained as a high school until 1952 when the current Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School was opened on Dunning Avenue. Parts of the above building are believed to have been incorporated into the new structure, which currently is undergoing engineering tests to see if its structure is safe. This postcard was supplied by Aurora Councillor Bob McRoberts.

Letter to the Editor

Market "self-sufficient", this councillor believes

To the editor,

A recent e-mail exchange between myself and the Director of Corporate Services, satisfies me the Farmers' Market is 99.99 per cent self-sufficient.

Chris Alexander, our Bylaws Officer, processes permit applications.

He also keeps the Notice in the Town Bulletin up to date. Public Works drop off a couple of barricades to keep cars out of the Temperance Street parking lot while The Market is happening on Saturday mornings.

The market vendors form their own management committee and run things themselves.

Minimal expense to the Town is covered by a small permit fee.

The mayor tabled my first e-mail of enquiry at the last council meeting.

Present at the meeting were a number of vendors and citizens to show their support and enthusiasm for the continuation of the market.

For my tax money, the Market is a complete success, with no apparent help from politicians.

I was surprised therefore, when the mayor announced Councillor Stephen Granger would be "Council's" liaison with the Market.

I think it is never wise to tamper with success.

At this week's council meeting, there is another

surprise. Councillor Granger has put forward a motion as follows:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council allocate \$5,000 towards the operating and development of the 2007 Aurora Farmers' Market and request staff to find the funds now because the Farmers' Market is currently in high need to establish the next necessary steps to make this operation successful."

Immediately prior to Councillor Granger's appointment, there was a show of support in the council chambers for the popularity and success of the market from residents and vendors.

Since Councillor Granger has only been the liaison for one Saturday...the question comes to mind...what could possibly have happened in the mean time?

There are only seven Saturdays and 30 hours of vending left in the 2007 Market year.

What can \$5,000 of taxpayers' money be expected to accomplish?

Council has been given no notice of this motion.

There is no indication of a seconder.

Why it appears on an agenda of almost 30 items of business, represents something of a mystery in itself.

We are more than halfway through a year which took five months to

produce a budget.

The lowest increase in years was trumpeted from on high. At every council meeting since, spending has been approved which was not in the budget.

Some items, removed from the butchered budget, have even been replaced since it was

struck.

But I digress.

No doubt this week, the question of success of the Farmers' Market in the hands of Councillor Granger at a cost of \$5,000 of tax revenue will be revealed to all of us.

Evelyn Buck
Aurora

THE AURORAN

"Aurora's Community Newspaper"

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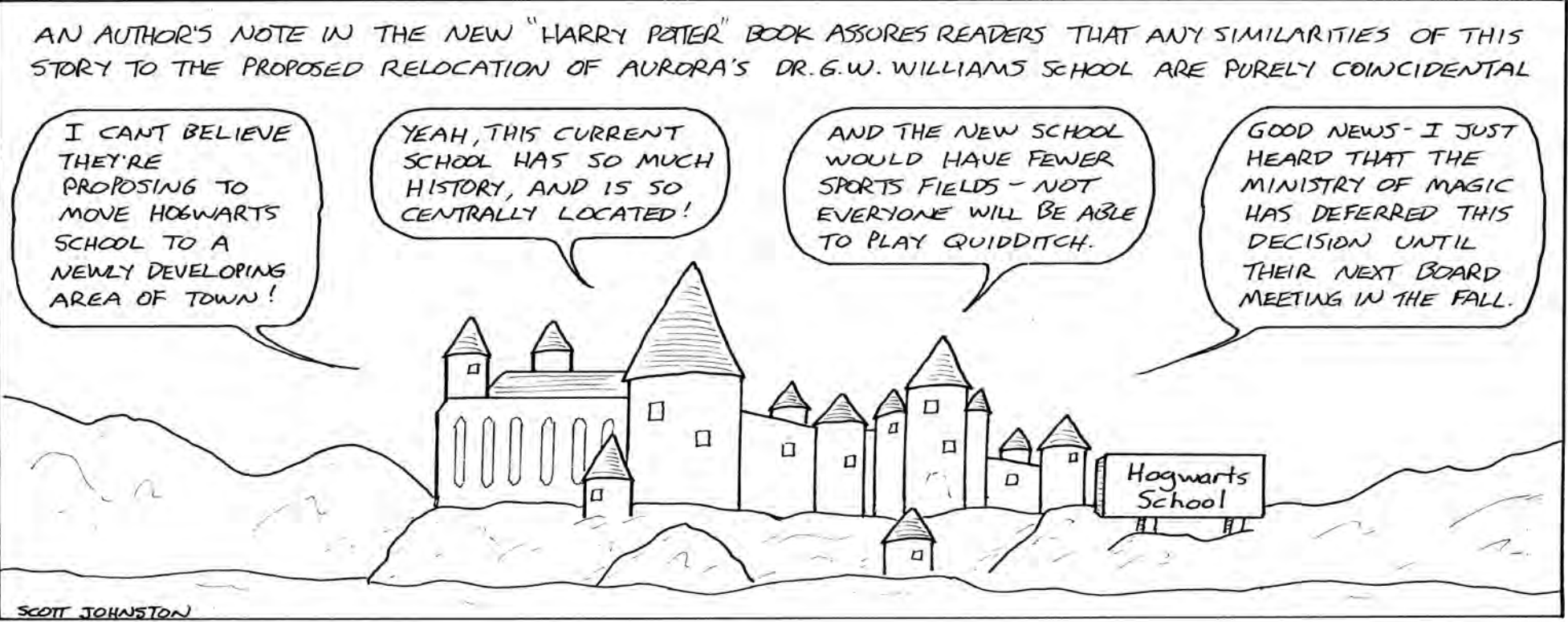
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

This is the third in a series of short profiles on the members of the Aurora Town Council.

The plan is to publish one of these every month or so. During last fall's municipal campaign, I attended the first public forum that took place at the Legion Hall, presented by the Aurora Community Sports Council.

The event was dedicated to recreation and sports in our community.

At the time, I was struck by the diversity of backgrounds of the candidates and amazed by the amount of, and depth of, volunteer experience that each exhibited.

But there were a few candidates with community accomplishments and volunteer experience that stood out from the rest.

I wondered when these people found the time to sleep. One of those candidates was Bob McRoberts.

Although he was seeking office for the first time, he ended up with the most votes and for this, has been awarded the title of Deputy Mayor, and presides over Council when the mayor is away.

Mr. McRoberts has been a secondary school mathematics teacher for 31 years.

For the past 20 years he has acted as the Department Head of Mathematics at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School in Aurora.

He also has the qualifications to teach computer science, special education, and physical education.

He has earned a Bachelor of Mathematics degree from the University of Waterloo and an MA from York University.

He has been married to his wife Kim for 31 years.

Both their children went to Wilfrid Laurier University and have degrees in Kinesiology.

Marnie has recently finished a second degree from Sheridan

College and is an Athletic Therapist. Kyle is studying at Griffith University in Australia to become an elementary school teacher.

Mr. McRoberts finds that, after his teaching and council work, his time for other pursuits, is "somewhat limited". He does, though, enjoy watching old television shows, finding old postcards of Aurora, visiting flea markets, collecting a variety of things, doing voiceover work, and singing as a Member of the Aurora United Church Choir (41 years).

Although he has not read a novel in a long time, he usually reads "journals, newspapers, textbooks, and agendas. I enjoy reading The Wrapper, Non-Sport Update, Ontario Mathematics Gazette, and The Three Stooges Journal. My two favourite movies are The Adventures of Robin Hood and The Wizard of Oz. I enjoy watching old TV shows such as Andy Griffith and Leave It to Beaver. I guess I enjoy the opportunity to escape to a simpler time. They help me to unwind."

Mr. McRoberts has lived in Aurora all his life, except for four years in Newmarket in the late 1970's when he was first married. So, he has lived in Aurora for 50 years. His family has lived here since 1923.

While all his volunteer activities are too numerous to list here, some of them, prior to winning office, include: Past Chairman of Town of Aurora Heritage Advisory Committee, Second Vice-President of Aurora Historical Society, Coach for both boys and girls basketball teams (38 teams over 28 years), Organizer of basketball tournaments for Aurora Schools (15 teams over eight years) and Regional Coordinator of Gauss Mathematics Contest (25 years).

Why did you seek office?
"This was my first time to run for office. My primary reason for running was to take my turn at helping to make Aurora a great

Meet Bob McRoberts

place to live, work, and play. As I get closer to retirement from teaching, I was looking to get more involved outside my school life. I sat in on a few months of council meetings and decided that I, too, could make some contributions. I signed up as a candidate on the first day possible in early January, 2006."

What are the Town's biggest two challenges/opportunities?

"Since this term began, I've been keeping and sorting hundreds of e-mails. One of my folders is called "issues". So far, it contains 70 subfolders. My point is that there are many people with a variety of issues and concerns of importance to them. I think a big challenge to council is to help attract sufficient and suitable businesses to Aurora to help offset the current imbalance in the residential component of the tax base. I also see as a challenge, and perhaps more as an opportunity, for council to make some tough decisions about what to do with currently empty town owned buildings (hydro, seniors, library) and the possible need for centres for youth, fitness, animal control, community groups, and town owned equipment."

Where do you stand on the traffic-calming project in the northern quadrant of Old Aurora? Which way did you vote in the general committee meeting and which way did you vote when this motion came to public council?

"This is a question that I cannot answer. Given the traffic calming features are to occur in front of my house (on Catherine Ave.) they could cause the value of my property to change. I declared a pecuniary interest to avoid a possible conflict. I also sought written legal advice that agreed with my position."

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

It was July 17, 1982. I stood in the driveway of my parents' house.

It's hopeless, I thought, it's going to storm for sure. This was not a good thing because it was my wedding day.

A man drove by, and seeing me standing there, my veil and gown billowing in the wind as I surveyed the dark threatening sky, stopped.

He rolled down his window, and shouted: "It is NOT going to rain! I promise!"

It rained. In fact, it poured.

Three of my bridesmaids nearly drowned.

My cousin took them home and administered CPR to their wilted curls and water-logged wedding attire.

Desperate times call for desperate measures, so Sana did what she had to do: she tossed everything into the dryer - dresses, shoes, hairdos...and a prayer.

Needless to say, my wedding was not the perfect fairy tale I had been dreaming about since I was a little girl. I even got mustard on my white satin shoes! The park where we had pictures taken had a hot dog stand...if only I had worn glass slippers!

Even the proposal wasn't storybook!

I was madly in love with this guy named Damir, and couldn't wait to hear those four lovely words: "Will you marry me?"

Then one night I got to hear them...during a hockey game.

The only thing that could have made the proposal more romantic would have been...well, something romantic like candles and wine and, um...if the words had come out of his mouth...

They slipped out of mine.

"YES!" he shouted with all the enthusiasm a girl expects when offering to pledge her troth to a sports addict. I didn't care that his

team had just scored and he didn't even hear what I said.

I took "YES!" to mean...well, "YES!"

By the time the game finished, I had all my bridesmaids picked out, I knew what colour they would be wearing, and most importantly, I had decided on "the ring". All that remained was to pick a date for the wedding.

Damir swallowed hard and stared at me like he'd just been lobotomized.

Come to think of it, he didn't say much for weeks after that - which was very convenient.

I invested heavily in bridal magazines and chattered so much he couldn't get a word in edgewise anyhow.

Hey, I was young and innocent and into fairy tales - full of excitement and anticipation and...well, I hadn't met his mother yet.

I didn't know about fundamental incompatibility and irreconcilable differences until...his mother met mine!

Romantically, marriage is the union of two people. Realistically, it is more like the collision of two families. They call it "visiting".

Every time my mother came to visit, she would bring me curtains and rugs and rearrange our furniture.

Every time Damir's mother would come and visit, she would stock our fridge with Croatian cuisine and I could never tell if it was animal, vegetable or mineral.

We didn't give them grandchildren for more than two years because...they kept visiting!

And after the grandchildren finally arrived...they stayed even longer!

The closeness was killing me... I tried to put a little distance between us, but Damir kept giving

them our new address!

Had I been writing a column back then, I would probably have written a piece called "In-Law Survival Strategies". It would have covered such topics as: "Fencing Options: Barbed Wire or Electric?"

When we moved to Aurora, things started to change. It was a brand new house and it needed some work.

I got into the habit of hanging my "do-list" on the fridge and miracles happened. On one visit, my father-in-law built us a deck and on another visit, he built us a cabana.

My mother-in-law was always by his side like an OR nurse, anticipating his needs and efficiently handing him tools, materials, a cold drink.

Damir and I learned a lot about household improvement, but what we learned about teamwork and unity from my parents and his (both have been married for more than 50 years now) has sustained us through a quarter century of marriage.

Okay, so my wedding day was not the fairy tale I had been dreaming of since I was a little girl, but that was one day - 9,130 days ago!

Since then, I have learned that all of us have faults and foibles and imperfections.

It is only when we choose to love each other anyways that our lives become a story of enchanted love.

Frogs turn into princes...pumpkins turn into coaches...and gold can be spun from straw.

So maybe the secret is to live happily...EVEN after.

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

Will you marry me?



Bouquets & **BRICKBATS**

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Grade 12 Aurora High School student Derek Hoffman on earning a spot in the top 22 in the Canadian Idol contest, while at the same time keeping up with his studies at school.

BRICKBATS to the trustees of the York Region District School Board for advertising a public board meeting at 8 p.m. and not assembling to get the meeting underway until 8.34 p.m. and keeping a standing room only audience waiting until 9.24 p.m. to hear that a decision on Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School was delayed until the fall.

BOUQUETS to former Sacred Heart Catholic High School student and Aurora resident Mara Jones who represented Canada in international rowing for five years, including the Athens Olympics, and retiring quietly last year to continue her studies in medical school at the University of Toronto.

BRICKBATS to R. Gee for his negative letter to The Auroran about Canada Day in response to a previous letter about the loss of the July First Parade, listing many of the country's faults and stating that he stopped being a proud Canadian a long time ago. With all our faults, is there any other country you would rather live?

BOUQUETS to newly-elected Rotarian Greg Foster as he takes over the president reins of the Aurora Rotary Club from Rotarian Wendy Browne, who served as president for the past two years.

BOUQUETS to Newmarket-Aurora MP Belinda Stronach who acknowledged eight Aurora secondary school students and 10 Newmarket students with 2007 Give Back Awards. Each received a \$500 bursary from a fund established by Ms Stronach in 2004.

BOUQUETS and happy retirement to Jane Young who served the public for 37 years in the Pediatric Ward at Southlake Regional Health Centre. She is the daughter of Frank and Betty Young of Aurora.

BRICKBATS to U.S. President George Bush for interfering with the justice system by commuting the prison sentence of former senior White House aide Lewis "Scooter" Libby convicted of obstructing justice, perjury and lying to prosecutors investigating the so-called CIA leak case.

BOUQUETS to Bud Switzer for finishing first and Neil Pemberton who finished third in the Senior Star competition sponsored by the three Chartwell retirement residences as part of Seniors' Month. Both winners are Aurora residents.

BOUQUETS to Parkers Cleaners on Yonge Street North for winning the prestigious international 2007 Award of Excellence for Quality Cleaning and Customer Service given by the Clothing Care Council.

BOUQUETS to the residents of the Catherine Avenue area for keeping the July First Parade alive in Aurora with children decorating their bikes and marching from McMahon Park around the block.

BRICKBATS to Ontario Health Minister George Smitherman who was mailed a letter last February from the Toronto Oral Health Coalition recommending a five-year pilot project for dental clinics to provide basic dental care for the working poor at a cost of \$1.2 million annually. The coalition is still awaiting reply.

BOUQUETS to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for recognizing the 175-year-old, 202-kilometre Rideau Canal as a world heritage site, as the best preserved example of a slackwater canal in North America.

Letters to the Editor

The Williams school issue from a young perspective

To the editor,

In the middle of the 06/07 school year the Board of Education announced that Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School may be moving to Bayview Avenue near the St. John's Sideroad.

The site where Williams might go would be 4.3 acres less than what they have now.

If you looked at Williams now you would see a football field, many soccer fields, a baseball diamond, and a 400-metre track.

Williams would not have football, rugby, field hockey, baseball or a lacrosse team.

There also would not be any track team except for the 100-metre team.

Right now Williams has a Tim Horton's, Reid's Dairy, a Pizza Pizza, and Pizza Nova providing a short but tasty lunch.

If Williams does move it will only have a Pizza Pizza and the Great Canadian Superstore.

Parents and students are also mad about the topic because many kids will pay

for a YRT (York Region Transit) bus pass that costs \$65 per month!

Williams is also in the heart of Aurora, but if Williams moves it will be in the "New Aurora".

I can see why the Board wants to move Williams into the "New Aurora" because there are many families moving into those new homes.

If you walked from my house (the top end of Seaton Drive) to Williams it would take about 20-30 minutes, but if I walked to the site for the new Williams it would take 1½-2 hours.

When classes start around 8.15 a.m., kids would have to leave their house around 6.15 and wake up around 5.30.

There is a proven fact that when kids are tired they do not perform as well as when they are rested, but sometimes kids will sleep-in and be late for class so they will have to skip breakfast which also has an effect on grades.

If kids go to bed late and don't eat breakfast you will see a major decrease in

grades.

I think Williams should stay where it is because the government keeps complaining that kids are more obese these days, so why take out sports teams and 4.3 acres

that keep kids active?

It makes no sense, right?

Kevin Grasse
Grade 7
Regency Acres
Public School

Pump problems caused water shortage: reader

To the editor,

Thanks, Ms. Robinson, for the letter in response to Mr. Gee.

Last week when I read the letter from Mr. Gee, I immediately turned to the first page to make sure I was reading The Auroran and not the Aryan Nation News.

Then I thought, perhaps Mr. Gee was indigenous to this country and was, in fact, a North American Indian.

Could he be a North American Indian who owned the land, that was stolen when immigrants (settlers sounds much better, but the land was already settled, wasn't it) came?

If he is, in fact, a North American Indian then why not also complain about the way the immigrants have used the Natural Resources, destroyed the air, taken away the farm land, ignored

treaties, brought disease, brought bigotry, celebrated Christmas, complained about other immigrants...my list would be endless.

My brain keeps thinking, that "no, Mr. Gee probably isn't a North American Indian, but well, probably an immigrant or an immigrant's offspring."

In regards to the issue regarding the water outage in North West Aurora, I live in the area and was told that there was a problem with the pump, and they actually had workers at the pumping station 24 hours a day monitoring the situation until it was fixed...I know because I could see them.

This had nothing to do with the water supply since we were in Stage 2 and at 50 per cent capacity.

J. Preston
Aurora

A child could answer water shortage woes

To the editor,

All this talk about a water ban and the water levels being low may be confusing to some, but just ask a child why we have this problem and the answer is simple.

Why are we building so many homes and destroying what once was a beautiful town when we can't even afford to supply people with water?

Is it the black eye of greed at our town hall and all the taxes collected that creates a tainted visor for our councillors?

Will we be receiving a rebate in property tax for the loss of water supply?

I don't think so.

Many people go out and try to make our community beautiful by keeping their yards inviting.

This costs a pretty penny to most.

I don't invite 100 people over to my house because I can't accommodate them.

So, why does Aurora build so many homes, if that's what you call them (see the disgrace facing Bayview Avenue, north of Wellington) when it can't supply its own people with water?

I am sure there are some people making a good income to plan our growth.

Should we not be prepared beforehand?

We have already wiped out most of our green pastures; I am hoping we plan a little better before we find little pieces of greenery to build more homes on.

Danny Da Ponte
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Power failure left hotel in jeopardy

ED. NOTE: The following letter was sent to the Aurora mayor and members of council and the author has given permission to The Auroran to reprint it.

Dear Mayor and council members:

I recently had the pleasure visiting your wonderful town, and staying at a hotel on Yonge Street.

While staying at this hotel, I experienced something, which, in my opinion, could have turned into a catastrophe, leading to the injury or death of many visitors to your town, as well as unnecessarily taxing the emergency resources of your community.

As I am not familiar with all of the jurisdictions of your government, I thought best to bring this information to your attention.

In the early morning hours of July 9th, the Howard Johnson Hotel experienced a complete power failure from 12.50 a.m. until approximately 8.20 a.m.

During that time, the hotel staff took little or no action to protect its guests, and placed many of them in grave danger.

As it was dark outside when the power went out, the hallways and exits were only lit by battery operated lights. These lights are typically designed to last an hour to an hour and a half.

About an hour into the power failure, the sole employee on duty learned that power would not be restored until some time after 7 a.m., leaving the hotel in total darkness for more than six hours.

During the onset of the power failure, I tried to call the front desk to find out what was happening, but the phones in the hotel were not working, so I went down to the main desk in the lobby.

As I traveled to the lobby, I encountered many fire doors that had closed, as the magnetic holders that normally

held these doors open were now without power. One set of doors that I came across, was stuck closed, and I had to hit the door with the my shoulder to get them opened.

By 3 a.m., most, if not all, of the emergency and exit lights had gone out, as the batteries were now completely drained. The hotel was now in total darkness, with no lights in the rooms, hallways or stairwells, and no working exit signs.

Although the hotel's staff was aware of the situation, they took no action to alert the guests that in case of an emergency they would be required to exit the building in total darkness, nor did they make any provisions to have the hallways and stairwells lit.

In fact, even after the sun came up, the stairwells were still dark, as they have no windows that allow outside light in. At around 7.30 a.m., my sister and her husband encountered an elderly couple trying to get down the darkened stairwell carrying their luggage.

Had it not been for the assistance of my sister and her husband, I have doubts that this couple could have made it to the lobby without getting injured. When they arrived in the lobby, they advised the staff that there were no lights in the stairwells and that people were trying to get down the stairs.

They asked if they should station some employees with flashlights in the stairwells to assist the guests, but it appears they never did, as when they made additional trips down the stairs, they found the stairwell was still in total darkness, and no staff members could be found.

Had some other emergency occurred during this power failure, the guests would have been forced to attempt to evacuate the hotel in total darkness.

Yet, the staff had ample opportunity to address the issue by warning the guests and giving them the opportuni-

ty to move to the lobby while the emergency lights and exit signs were still working, or even distribute flashlights to the guests.

Something is always better than nothing, and they did nothing.

From my discussions with the local power company afterwards, power failures are becoming the norm in your area of Ontario, just as they are here in New York.

It's my understanding that under your laws, the hotel needs to be prepared to deal with situations such as this, as well as have an employee on duty trained to deal with these same issues.

In this case, the employee had no idea who to call or even what power company served the hotel. He attempted to find the information at the front desk, but could not. I found a local phone directory, and located who I thought may be the power company.

When I gave this information to the employee, he informed me he had no way to call for help, as the phones were not working. We then used my cell phone to report the outage.

I can only imagine what would have happened if a guest using a candle or matches for light accidentally started a fire.

The panic generated when guests tried to evacuate the building in total darkness, surely would have resulted in injury or death to many of these people.

Aurora also experienced some extremely hot and humid weather during my stay. I know when I returned to my room, it was very hot.

I attempted to open the window to let in fresh air, but the window only opened about two inches, due to a stop installed in the window track.

I could only imagine how this must have affected the elderly guests, or any guest who had any type of medical or breathing problem. How would

they have called for help, or even made their way to the lobby to get help? It would be impossible considering the conditions.

Again, the staff did nothing to warn these people that it would be dark, and the temperature in the rooms would climb, and that they would not get much fresh air from the windows.

As I said, I'm not sure what level or department of your government has jurisdiction over these issue, or even if there are laws or regulations that cover them.

If there are no laws or regulations, then I can only hope that as the elected leaders of the Town of Aurora, you can consider some type of legislation that will prevent a potential catastrophe such as this from happening again.

As a volunteer firefighter, and emergency medical technician, I know all the ingredients were there for what I believe could have been a significant incident resulting in injury or death to many people.

A four-story hotel containing 98 rooms should not be allowed to operate in total darkness for six hours with a single employee who has little or no knowledge of what to do. They should not be allowed to ignore the safety of their guests by standing back and doing nothing.

I, for one, would prefer to be woken up at 1 a.m. and told that the power has gone out, and that there is only an hour of emergency lighting, and have the option to relocate to a lower floor, then die trying to find my way out of a fire or other incident.

I am sure there are laws that require these emergency lights, as well as the exit lights to be installed, but the laws are insufficient if they allow the building to be occupied for any length of time when these

lights are no longer functioning.

I have attempted to discuss these issue with the general manager of the hotel, but he has not contacted me after I left two messages, so it would appear they they have little or no concern about the safety of their guests.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns.

**James R. Reid
Troy, New York**



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Market founder doesn't see much council support

To the editor,

I was glad to see a letter regarding the Farmer's Market from John Abraham. (Auroran, July 10).

I guess he must be new to Aurora or just new to the market. For the past four and a half years when I was on council, I struggled every Saturday morning setting up the market at 6.30 a.m. and making sure that the needs of each vendor were addressed.

At the same time I set up the Hurst Bakery booth after picking up the product at the bakery so that there would be bakery product at the market.

I then stayed at the market every Saturday morning and at the end picked up

the advertising signs and put away the garbage bins, getting home by 1 p.m.

At the end of last year's market I met with Lisa Cooper and Mike Howard to discuss the 2007 market so that it would be continued this year.

The market last year was very successful as it had grown each year for the years that I started it and ran it.

To say that council and the mayor supports the council is a little overdoing it.

The current mayor is at the market most Saturdays.

In fact when I go there I normally see her getting her picture taken at the booths.

I have yet to see Steve

Grainger at the market. I have seen Wendy Gaertner and Al Wilson there.

If council, as a whole, supported the market then why is Councillor Evelyn Buck trying to destroy the market since as she puts it, "It wastes staff time".

To me the mayor should be there most weeks to show her support, that is part of her job.

I know that most weeks over the past four years the then Mayor Tim Jones was there each week to show his support and to buy produce and other product.

But, thanks again, to Mr Abrahams for recognizing the market in a letter.

**Nigel Kean
Aurora**



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Bike paths still elude Aurora

From page 1

former Councillor Peter Healey proposed bicycle paths to link local neighbourhoods to commercial outlets and reduce the use of the automobile.

Stone Road, south of Wellington East and west of Bayview Avenue was one of the first streets to be considered for a bicycle path.

It was proposed that a two-metre bicycle path be planned with possible parking restrictions on the odd-numbered side of the street. It didn't take long for the citizens to react.

Residents came to council in numbers to object to the proposal, claiming if they know about the possibility of a bicycle path they would not have purchased a home on the street.

Council discussed bicycle paths on a number of locations and finally in April, 1999, asked town staff to investigate alternative options through consultation with other municipalities.

Staff members reported that the Stone Road bicycle path had been planned as part of the works to be constructed by the developer and the street was constructed

two metres wider than would otherwise be necessary

It was also pointed out there were no obvious cycling linkages whereby the proposed bike paths would provide continuity with other bike paths or sidewalks.

In June, 1999, it was decided that the bicycle path be implemented on Stone Road as originally planned and the enacting bylaw be given two readings and to give notice to the residents prior to third and final reading.

Citizens were quick to point out that the bylaw had many flaws and said Stone Road did not meet the criteria.

As there were a number of conflicting opinions about on-street bicycle lanes and while they are seen as a benefit to many communities, there were a number of concerns respecting liability

for the municipality.

Due to the lack of an overall policy to establish the design parameters as well as the future routing of bicycle paths, council agreed to appoint a committee to review the bylaw.

In February, 2000, while dealing with the provision of bikeways as part of the capital budget, council agreed to defer any action until a report was received from the Bicycle Review Committee with Councillor Healey in opposition.

With the reconstruction of Yonge Street in April, 2000, staff members were directed to investigate the possibility of including a bike lane from Rueben Street to Murray Drive.

They reported that as four metres was needed for a centre turn lane, an additional two metres

would be required for the bike lane, so it was not included.

A year later, the Bicycle Review Committee submitted a report to council which included a series of proposed bike routes and sign locations.

Council referred the report back to the committee to consider the elimination of the signage.

In June the committee confirmed the system of signed bicycle routes, which had been selected as having the right combination of road and traffic conditions with safety as the overriding concern.

The selected routes

included connections to existing trails, links to public and commercial centres and readily accessible circuitous routes to encompass the entire town.

The committee noted the signs were a critical component of the routes as they created aware-

ness among drivers as to the existence of the bike pathways.

While council approved the proposed routes, they rejected the request for \$8,500 to install the signs, and maybe that's the reason the routes don't exist today.

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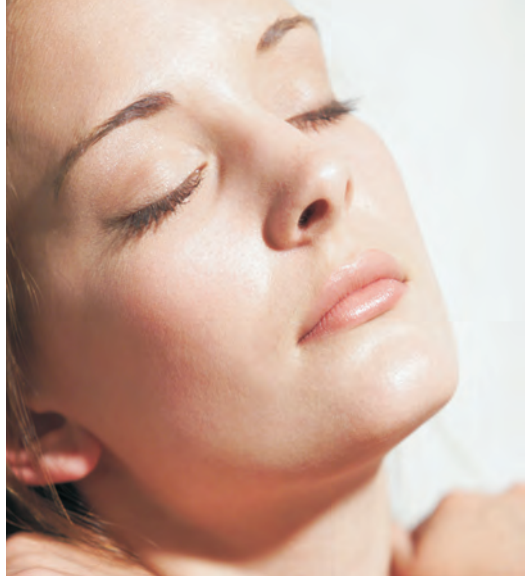


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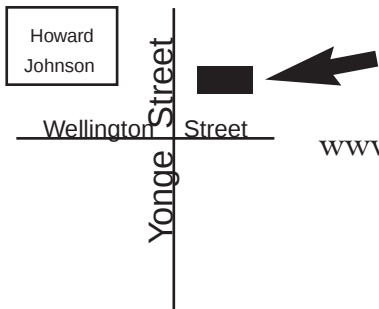
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Writer shares memories of Aurora's Royal Theatre

By ELIZABETH MILNER
Special to The Auroran

...and if you've got any other plans,
my God, don't let me upset them.
Only every now and then I've got to
go to the movies."

- Sabina, Act 3, Page 160, *By the Skin of Our Teeth*
by Thornton Wilder

In May of 1934, the middle of the great depression, moving pictures had a new venue in Aurora at number seven Centre Street. Who built that theatre? Why Hollywood did, didn't it? Didn't they send those early appealing posters (that now sell for thousands) as well as the films featuring glamorous movie stars on the big screen?

In actual fact, Mr. G. A. Phillips sold his old shed on Centre Street, mentioned in an 1885 insurance plan and shown on later maps, to Mrs. Matilda Jenkinson in December of 1933. A contract to alter the shed subsequently went to a Mr. Browning who owned Aurora Building Company and work began to enlarge the building into a "talkie" theatre 40 x 90 feet.

The cost of the project was \$10,000, a hefty sum at the time.

The completed building was to have 425 leather seats, an up-to-date heating and ventilation system and the latest and best Northern Electric sound equipment.

Mr. Warren, Mrs. Jenkinson's brother, was to be the manager.

Films were to be shown three nights a week at 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children.

On Saturday evenings and holidays, the second show was going to be 10 cents more.

On nights when films weren't shown, the theatre was available for public meetings.

Children's tickets for the Saturday matinees were going to be 10 cents.

All these exciting notices were in The Aurora Banner and I'll bet people in town couldn't wait for the movie theatre to open.

Cold weather delayed work, but the theatre opening took place in May just as the Banner of April 27 had promised. The first film shown was the 1934 hit "The Cat and The Fiddle" starring Ramon Novarro.

"The Royal" likely seemed the perfect name to the first audiences. Mayor Boulding, J. M. Walton (President of the Board of Trade) and others made speeches at the Thursday night opening and there was two minutes of silence out of respect for the death of T. H. Lennox, the Aurora Politician who had been a town councillor, MPP and MP.

Included in other films of 1934 was the academy award winning film, "It Happened One Night" starring Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert.

Aurora folks must have been delighted to have such a theatre, to see thrilling films and to hear famous actors and actresses speaking their lines.

Some of the 1930 film stars were Greta Garbo, Marlene Dietrich, Gary Cooper, Gene Autry, Judy Garland, Fred Astair, Margaret O'Brien, Lillian Gish, Shirley Temple and the evil Peter Lorre and Sydney Greenstreet.

All films were black and white, but a few were in colour by 1935.

During WWII, news of the war was always shown before the feature films.

It was startling and frightening for audiences to see actual events of war, but unlike today the most savage sights weren't shown.

War, however, had never been presented so clearly to people.

I remember audiences clapping and cheering when a short was shown of Canadian troops and a successful battle was reported.

The first film with colour was Becky Sharpe made in 1935. It used a process called "three colour Technicolor." Technicolor reached its peak in "Gone with the Wind" in 1939 and by the 40s, the colour process was simplified so Technicolor films could be shot with ordinary motion picture cameras.

I remember clearly the theatre on Saturday afternoons after 1945.

Kids came from all directions of town to the matinee. It was like the call of the Pied Piper, or a trip to Disneyland for a child today.

Most of us walked to the theatre, no matter how far away we lived, and each of us had the precious 10 cents for admission in our shoe, pocket, or sticky little hand.

For the next two hours or more, parents had a little freedom and we were transported away from Aurora.

Magic time began at 1.30, as I recall.

The theatre would fill with rambunctious, wiggling little bod-

ies and I can remember a harried usher sometimes had to come up to the front of the theatre and say, "The picture show will not start until you are quiet and in your seats." The announcement always worked. No one wanted to slow up the production.

Then, the lights lowered and cartoons began our adventure to other times and places.

Walt Disney began his cartoon series "Oswald the Rabbit" in 1927 and the Mickey cartoons began a year later.

In 1938 he created his first feature, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs".

By the 40s, we were treated to a full diet of cartoon characters: Donald Duck, Mickey Mouse, Elmer Fudd, The Road Runner, Felix the Cat, Porky Pig, Mr. McGoo (my favourite) and many other hyperactive characters.

The main attraction followed two or three cartoons and often, in those years, it came in the form of a singing western.

The good guys were in white, the bad guys were in black and the cowboys sang on their horses, to their horses and to their girls.

The good guys always won and the bad guys always got just what they deserved. There was inevitably a happy ending with a concluding song by the hero who rode off into the sunset, or under a blue sky: alone, with his buddies, or with his lady who was dressed in the best white, cowgirl outfit you had ever seen.

The films often took their titles from the main song in the "flick", which was sung often more than once by the film idol. Such was the case in unforgettable adventures like "Wagon Wheels" and "Home on the Range" starring Randolph Scott,

"South of the Border, Down Mexico Way" and "Mule Train" starring Gene Autry and "Tumbling Tumbleweed" and "Eyes of Texas" featuring the inimitable Roy Rogers on his horse, Trigger, along with Dale Evans, his lovely, ageless partner.

When the bad guys in the movie robbed the bank, we boomed.

When Gene, Roy or Randolph chased the crooks through the mountain passes, or across the western plains, we stamped our feet.

Some kids got so excited they bounced up and down on their seats, or jumped periodically to their feet and kids behind them called out, "Down in front".

Seeing the movie was an interactive experience for us. There was nothing sedentary about those afternoons.

The theatre was a moving mass of bodies, arms, hands and feet.

As well as motions stimulated by the screen action, kids scrambled up and down the aisles, visited friends, begged candy when they heard who had some, went to the washroom and changed seats just for the fun of it.

The only adult present was usually a haggard usher who tried to keep the peace.

No sane adult came to a film on a Saturday afternoon and there was no need for an adult to be there since it was a safe place for us.

When I recall those afternoons, I can distinctly see before me the wriggling, hand-flailing silhouettes of a sea of restless kids against the bright movie screen.

I can recall the odor of the Saturday matinee, too. It smelled of kids' earthy bodies, old running shoes, sweaty hair

and candy and, on rainy days or snowy days, there was added the pungent smell of damp wool drying and rubber boots.

Everyone loved a western, but they weren't the only flicks we saw.

We watched Laurel and Hardy, we saw the beautiful Elizabeth Taylor, all those Hardy movies with Judy Garland and Andy Rooney when they sang and danced and put on a show in the barn to raise money for something.

Who could forget "Babes on Broadway" starring Margaret O'Brien and again in "Little Women" and "The Secret Garden" released in 1949.

She deserved the special Academy award for a child actress that she won in 1944.

The long walk to the Royal was certainly worth every step and it was worth the 25 cents when prices soared in the fifties.

In 1945, the Banner December 7 announced that Mr. Edward D. Warren, proprietor of the Royal Theatre, had died.

Two years later the executors for Jenkinson and Warren leased the Royal Theatre to Odeon Theatres.

As my contemporaries and I got older in the 50s, we gave up the matinee on Saturday and went to the seven o'clock shows at night.

Not too many people went to the last shows, which began around nine.

I mean, by the time the second show ended it was awfully late to be out for most Aurora folks.

At times, ladies could collect dishes that were given out at evening shows. Housewives thought this was a good deal.

Most teenagers couldn't go to the Royal on school nights.

Please see page 16

*This month's
business features...*

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce,

we would like to thank all those who have been so involved with our events during the past year.

Without the support of major sponsors and a multitude of businesses and individuals in the community who contribute their money, expertise or products, some of these events would never come to pass.

Congratulations to the winning team at our recent golf tournament held at King Valley Golf Club - Tad Gacich, Bruce Bundy, Stuart Bundy and Mike Morris.

Some projects and signature events of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce:

- Annual Aurora Home Show
- Annual Golf Tournament
- Aurora Town Map
- Business Achievement Awards
- Networking Breakfast and Business After Five
- World's Longest Street Festival on the World's Longest Street
- Scholarships to the Local High Schools
- Seminars & Luncheons with Guest Speakers

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Rookies come up short at Niagara Falls tourney

On Saturday, the Aurora Rookie Jays rep team came up blank at a Niagara Falls rep tournament against some very stiff competition.

While they did not win any of their round robin games, coaches and players were pleased with their efforts. Notable defensive performances came from Matthew Glionna and Charles Bennett

with some brilliant double plays, while in the third game, Wyatt Dane, dove for two spectacular outfield catches.

Meanwhile, a week ago, the Aurora Major Peewee Jays beat Oshawa 7-1.

Relief pitcher, Devon Wu, pitched four shutout innings as he sat down nine consecutive batters and gave up only a single base hit.

The Aurora Goodyear Peewee Select Jays were in Buffalo to compete in a select tournament on the weekend.

against a series of all-star calibre American rep teams.

The first game against the Western New York Stars ended in a 12-5 loss.

After a weak first inning, the Jays rallied for a 15-5 loss against the Buffalo Katz.

In their final game, the Jays scored two runs against the tournament leading Pittsburg Pirates - more runs than any other team managed to score against the talented rep team.

Game MVP honours went to Billy Ferguson, Eliot Harkin and Braedon Mackenzie.

On Saturday, the Bantam Select Jays put a Friday night loss to Barrie behind them and trounced Uxbridge by a score of 12-6, thanks in part to home runs by Hugh Turtle, Michael Machin, and Blair Stiver.

Pitcher Dylan Lastuk picked up the win.

They continued their winning streak the following afternoon with a 9-8 victory in a tight match against Bolton.

Blair Stiver hit a whopping 390-foot three-run homer to bring the Jays to within one run.

After Dylan Lastuk hit James Harkin in for the tying RBI, Ryan Laird hit Matthew Miller in to clinch it.

Closing pitcher Connor Murray claimed the win for the Jays.

Aurora Minor Ball Association

Rookie Ball House League

July 9: McAlpine Ford 10, Trophy Sportswear 10 - Home runs by George Caccamo and Daniel DellaRocca of McAlpine Ford.

TVS Developments 13, Aurora Diggers 9

Mastercut 6, Priestly Demolition 6

July 11: Mastercut 9, Trophy Sportswear 6

July 11: McAlpine Ford 10, Aurora Diggers 7

Mosquito House League

Team	G	W	L	T	Pts
Re/Max Derek & Leslie Ho (A5)	14	13	0	1	27
Bank of Montreal - Mike Searle (A2)	14	9	5	0	18
Royal LePage - Larry Willert (A1)	14	7	7	0	14
Greenpoint Laser Products (A3)	11	4	7	0	8
Scholars Education Centre (A4)	13	3	9	0	6

July 10: ReMax 10, Scholars 5

King 6, Royal LePage 5

BMO 10, Armstrong 8

July 12: ReMax 13, Reagens 6

BMO 20, Greenpoint 3

Notice of Proposed Changes

PowerStream "Conditions of Service"

Every electricity distributor in Ontario has a Conditions of Service document to communicate its operating practices, connection policies and the types and level of service available to customers within its service area.

PowerStream has proposed a number of amendments to its Conditions of Service to take effect September 28, 2007. The proposed Conditions of Service is available for viewing on the PowerStream website www.powerstream.ca or at the following locations:

PowerStream East

8100 Warden Avenue
Markham

PowerStream West

2800 Rutherford Road
Vaughan

Vaughan Civic Centre (Cashier)

2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Maple

Comments related to the proposed changes to PowerStream's Conditions of Service may be submitted **no later than September 19, 2007**, by postal mail to Mr. J. J. Mulrooney, Director of Engineering, P.O. Box 3700 Concord, Ontario L4K 5N2, or by email to info@powerstream.ca



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A PERFECT FIT



Aurora-based professional triathlete, Paolina Allan, celebrates her third place finish in the 60 kilometre road race last weekend in Beauce, Quebec. She also won the the Master's 15 kilometre Individual Time Trial.

Aurora's Paolina Allan is a champ

Aurora based professional triathlete, Paolina Allan, has for the time dropped swimming and running and taken on some of the best cyclists in the country.

Last weekend, Allan, 37, entered in the Tim Horton National Road Racing Championships in Beauce, Quebec, won the Master's 15K Individual Time Trial and finished third in the 60K road race.

It was an extraordinary performance considering the Mugford Road resident has only just started to take road racing seriously this year, with only a handful of races under her belt.

The championship winning

performance in the time trial was not unexpected, as Allan is one of the strongest cyclists in the sport of triathlon.

However, the strong showing in the road race against some very experienced competition where tactics and strategy are very important, was a surprise.

"I knew that I was as fit as the other girls based on how I did in the time trial", she said. "But road racing is much more about tactics and strategy and I am still learning all about that. I have been training quite a bit with my friend Leigh Bianco and she has been helping me out with the strategy end of things and Leigh had an awe-

some race, to finish in fourth place in the Road Race".

Bianco, also from Aurora, finished fourth in both the time trial and the road race.

Allan has had to take some time off from triathlon training this year due to a foot injury that has not allowed her to run since January, but has not affected her cycling.

It's unfortunate, as she had recently signed a contract with one of the few professional triathlon teams - Team Timex in the U.S. - to race for them.

She is the first GTA based triathlete to be offered a spot on the prestigious Timex triathlon team.

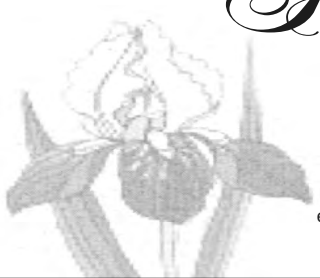
Allan, who runs her own hair

design in Aurora, had qualified for the Ironman Triathlon World Championships later on this year at the famous Ironman Hawaii race.

However, the foot problems have put an end to that and she turned to bike road cycling instead.

"It's something I always wanted to do, and this seemed the perfect time to have a go at it," she said.

Next up for Allan is her home town race - the Cyclissimo Aurora Grand Prix bike race August 5, which is part of the Ontario Cup Road Race series and after that the Provincial Road Race Championships in Milton August 26.



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Eastbound signs protect ducks crossing the road

Heading east on Henderson Drive from Bathurst Street as motorists approach Salamander Pond, they will notice an attractive yellow sign with a mother and three baby ducks in black as a Duck Crossing warning.

Strangely enough, as Cheryl Warner pointed out in a recent letter to The Auroran, there is no warning sign for westbound motorists.

It isn't a new problem in Aurora. In May, 1992, Aurora Council discriminated between Canada geese and Mallard ducks in road crossing signs.

At a council meeting approval was given to a citizen's request for a goose crossing sign on St. John's Sideroad, to warn motorists of the wetlands and bird sanctuary in the area following the death of a Canada goose by a car.

Requests had previously been received from residents of Brookland Avenue in the vicinity of the Aurora Highlands Golf Course for a duck crossing sign due the number of ducks crossing the roadway.

Concerned that requests would be received for squirrel and other animal and bird crossings areas, council rejected the request resulting in calls of discrimination by some members of council.

A councillor said the problem was caused by ducks being overweight due to people feeding them.

Peterborough County Council is also having problems with animal road crossing warning signs, as a group of 10 youngsters from "Kids 4 Turtles" appeared before council over its decision to end a turtle-crossing sign program.

The kids had started the

program five years before when they raised \$4,000 to buy 42 signs for county roads near wetlands that turtles cross during the spring and summer.

The group was formed by children who learned about turtles' plight as part of a pre-school nature program.

Two hours of turtle talk by the young people persuaded councillors to reconsider their decision.



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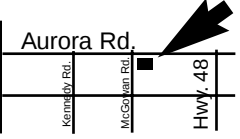
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HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B TH - June 28 - Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 3 (J. Krawczyk 3) vs Navy/Czech Repub - Aurora Orthodontics 6 (T. Campbell 3, G. March 1, M. Schwarze 1, T. Barnett 1); Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors 7 (A. Hernandez , B. Langlois, C. Schoenenhofer, J. Fulford, J. Clements) vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 2 (J. Salomans 1, S. Gable 1); Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre 4 (C. McDonald 2, J. Perkins 2) vs White/Canada - Bell World 2 (M. Rossi 1, E. Pears 1);

U8B M/W - May 30 - Red/Poland - HSBC Bank Canada 5 vs Navy/Czech Repub - HSBC Bank Canada 0;

July 4 - White/Canada - HSBC 2 (J. Kagan 2) vs Forest/Portugal - HSBC 6 (P. Ckruckshank 2, E. McGhie 1, M. Valvasori 3); Orange/Netherlands - HSBC 5 (C. Devogel 1, T. Wilson 2, A. Warner 2, L. Dervishi 1, N. Yantsis 1) vs Navy/Czech Repub - HSBC 0;

Gold/Brazil - HSBC 1 (M. Bailey 1) vs Red/Poland - HSBC 6 (E. Turner 1, A. Winghamwest 2, D. Andrisani 1, T. Tsiatis 1, A. Hurwich 1);

U8G T - June 26 - Navy/Czech Repub - Wait's Bathroom Plus 1 (K. Haywood 1) vs Red/Poland - A Plus Accounting Services 1;

July 3 - White/Canada - Power Stream 4 (B. Harris 2, S. Cunningham 1, J. Stel 1) vs Pink/Spain - Riterate.ca 2;

June 2 - Red/Poland - Marwick Manufacturing Inc 0 vs Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza 5 (G. Dalsiva 1, M. Graham 2, S. Iemsisanith 2); Navy/Czech Repub - Highland Chevrolet Cadillac 5 (B. Wong 1, J. Scott 1, A. Godson 1, A. Christakakos 2) vs Kelly/Italy 0;

U8/9G M/W - July 2 - Forest/Portugal 3 (C. Gibson 2, E. Colin 1) vs Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza 1; Navy/Czech Repub - Open Road BMW 0 vs Pink/Spain - WOWIT 4 (A. Fermo 2, C. Brown 1, K. Caporusso 1); Red/Poland - AIIM 0 vs White/Canada 5 (C. Trotter , S. Boisseau , C. Wloka , J. Petsinis); Purple/France 4 (L. Brock 4) vs Gold/Brazil 3 (B. Howell 3);

U9B M- No scores reported from convenor/coach

U9/10G W- June 20- Orange/Netherlands-Century 21 Martin Read 6 (C. Read 2, M. Maynard 1, S. Steeles 2, C. West 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 2 (J. Peacock 2);

July 4 - USA/Sage 2 (E. Velovic 2) vs Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 4 (E. Clarke 2, M. Jakubas 1, B. Ferguson 1); Orange/Netherlands - Century 21 Martin Read 8 (M. Maynard 5, C. Read 1, S. Steeles 1, M. Reiter 1) vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Landscape Design 1;

June 27 - Purple/France 2 (H. Luker 1, K. Wood 1) vs Sage/USA 0; Pink/Spain - Miconex Inc Industrial & Trade Supplies 4 (S. McGee 1, H. Park 1, L. Finlay 1, A. McNern 1) vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Landscape Contractors

U9B T/TH - May 31 - Gold/Brazil- Betz Cut Stone 1 (J. Pickett 1) vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Celtic Club 4 (C. Zinner 2, J. Edyt 1, N. Campbell 1); White/Canada - BMPS 2 (A. Badali 2) vs Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza 2; Navy/Czech Repub - Wait's Bathroom Plus 5 (G. Adams 2, B. Diamond 1, M. Stamatopolous 1, B. Kissack 1) vs Red/Poland - McDonalds 4;

June 28 - Red/Poland - McDonalds 1 vs Canada/White - Port Royal Mills 3 (C. Dyer 1, A. Orlandi 1, M. Heese 1); Forest/Portugal - Aurora Viking Shrine Club 0 vs Orange/Netherlands 5 (S. Broad, L. Verre, B. Russel, J. Chierenza, E. Faber); Gold/Brazil - Betz Cut Stone 0 vs Navy/Czech Repub - Core Micro 3 (C. Eby 2, G. Adams 1);

U10B- No scores reported by convener/coach

U10B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	4	2	0	12
Kelly	3	1	1	10
Silver	3	0	0	9
Forest	2	0	0	6
Red	2	1	0	6
White	2	3	0	6
Navy	1	2	0	3
Gold	1	4	0	3
Maroon	1	4	0	3
Sky	0	2	1	1

Aurora Youth SOCCER RESULTS

U10G - July 4 - Navy/Czech Repub - HSBC 2 (M. Gans 1, C. Kenwell 1) vs Red/Poland - HSBC 4 (A. Depiero 1, P. Dutchyshen 1, A. Point 1, M. Point 1);

U10G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	5	2	1	16
Navy	4	2	2	14
Orange	3	4	1	10
Forest	2	2	3	9
Pink	1	3	4	7
Gold	2	4	1	7

U11B - June 24 - Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiner's Drillers 3 (G. Killby 1, R. Manson 1, S. Green 1) vs Navy/Czech Repub - Laurion Law Office 4 (G. Perfetto 1, R. O'Brien 1, B. Wilson 1); Orange/Netherlands - CIBC 2 (L. Pozzebon 2) vs Forest/Portugal - Wikoff Color Corp 2 (L. Coll 1, A. Nogueira 1); Red/Poland - Barb Blaser Remax 4 (M. Slack 2, L. Blaser 1, O. Jones 1) vs White/Canada - CIBC 1;

June 26 - Navy/Czech Repub - Laurion Law Office 1 (R. O'Brien 1) vs Forest/Portugal - Wikoff Color Corp 4 (L. Coll 1, A. Nogueira 1, J. Stel 1); White/Canada - CIBC 2 (I. Dunlop 1, G. Robinson 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiners Drillers 5 (A. De Roos 1, R. Manson 1, N. Steiner 3); Orange/Netherlands - CIBC 1 (J. Bell 1) vs Red/Poland - Barb Blaser Remax 5 (L. Blaser 1, D. Johnston 1, B. Opinca 1, M. Sakala 1, A. Ramirez 1);

July 3 - Navy/Czech Repub - Laurion Law Office 0 vs Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiner's Drillers 4 (N. Steiner 2, N. Pellarin 1, M. Arnew 1); Forest/Portugal - Wikoff Color Corp 4 (D. Brozdynchenko 3, A. Nogueira 1) vs Orange/Netherlands - CIBC 4 (L. Pozzebon 1, T. Abushinov 1, T. Rotilio 1, V. Chadarov 1); White/Canada - CIBC 2 (I. Dunlop 1, T. Futerer 1) vs Red/Poland - Barb Blaser Remax 1 (M. Slack 1);

U11B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	5	0	2	17
Gold	4	2	1	13
Navy	4	3	0	12
Orange	1	2	4	7
Red	2	5	0	6
White	1	5	1	4

U11G - No scores reported by coach/convener/coach

U11G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	5	0	2	17
Red	4	2	1	13
Forest	3	1	3	12
Purple	3	4	0	9
Orange	1	4	2	5
Gold	0	5	2	2

U12/13B- No scores reported by coach/convener

U12/13B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Gold	6	1	1	19
Sage	6	0	1	19
Navy	6	2	0	18
Silver	5	1	2	17
Royal	5	1	2	17
White	3	4	1	10
Orange	2	1	4	10
Forest	3	5	0	9
Maroon	3	5	0	9
Sky	1	6	1	4
Red	0	6	2	2
Kelly	0	8	0	0

U12G - June 12 - Navy - Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0 vs Japan/Maroon - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 (M. Underwood 1, M. Vloet 1); Red/Poland - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (H. Kearney 1) vs Brazil/Gold - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 (J. Martin 1, K. Nogueira 1); Forest/Portugal - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 5 (T. Partland 3, J. Burt 1, S. Young 1) vs Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 (M. Luker 2);

June 19- Navy/Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (H. Cathers 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0; Silver/Austria - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 4 (C. Reed 1, S. McCormick 1, H. O'Hara 1, L. McKerracher 1) vs Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 (S. Brockington 1, M. Sykula 1); Maroon/Japan - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 4 (C. Pagniello 2, M. Churchill 1, M. Vloet 1) vs Forest/Portugal -

Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (T. Partland 1);

June 19 - Navy/Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (H. Cathers 1) vs Gold/Brazil- Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0; Silver/Austria - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 4 (C. Reed 1, S. McCormick 1, H. O'Hara 1, L. McKerracher 1); Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 (S. Brockington 1, M. Sykula 1); Maroon/Japan - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 4 (C. Pagniello 2, M. Churchill 1, M. Vloet 1) vs Forest/Portugal - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (T. Partland 1);

June 23- Forest/Portugal - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 vs Purple/France - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0; Navy/Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial Residential 2 (H. Cathers 1, S. Marsden 1) vs Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0; Red/Poland - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0 vs Maroon/Japan - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (H. Black1); Forest/Portugal - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 (P. Guzikowska 1, T. Foote 1) vs Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1; Gold/Brazil - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0 vs Maroon/Japan - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (M. Green 1); Purple/France - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 vs Navy/Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0;

June 19 - Purple/France - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 4 (J. Briscoe 2, B. Gibb 1, A. Dial 1) vs Red/Poland - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (S. Little-John 1);

U12G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Purple	5	1	2	17
Forest	5	1	2	17
Pink	5	1	1	16
Navy	3	3	1	10
Gold	2	3	3	9
Red	2	4	0	6
Silver	1	3	1	4
Orange	0	7	0	0

U14/15B - June 18 - Gold/Brazil - Dr. Orschel's Drillers 6 (G. Iaboni 1, A. McCaw 1, T. McGowan 2, B. Rival 1, T. Sandhaus 1) vs Forest/Portugal 5 (M. D'Andrea 2, S. Glaysher 2, J. Pellerin 1); Navy/Czech Repub - R & J Concepts Inc 2 (T. Sikura 2) vs Red/Poland - Scotia Bank 3 (C. Boyce 1, L. Lamanna 1, D. Teacher 1); White/Canada - homemadetogo.com 1 (A. Scott 1) vs Orange/Netherlands 5 (K. Blaser 2, D. Eveleigh 3);

June 23 - June Festival - Orange/Netherlands 2 (G. Marshall 1, C. Freitas 1) vs Forest/Portugal 2 (A. Kerezsi 1, M. D'Andrea 1); Gold/Brazil - Dr. Orschel's Drillers 6 (C. Annear, G. Iaboni, K. Karamchi, T. McGowan, T. Sandhaus) vs Navy/Czech Repub - R & J Concepts Inc 1 (T. Sikura 1); White/Canada - homemadetogo.com 2 (A. Scott 1, B. Tjoe-A-Long 1) vs Red/Poland - Scotia Bank 5 (L. Lamanna 1, M. Gardner 1, D. McConnell 1, S. Dinning 1, C. Boyce 1);

2nd Game - Gold/Brazil - Dr. Orschel's Drillers 3 (G. Iaboni 2, K. Karamchi 1) vs Red/Poland - Scotia Bank 1 (T. Nelson 1); Navy/Czech Repub - R & J Concepts Inc 1 (L. Braithwaite 1) vs Orange/Netherlands 2 (D. Eveleigh 2); White/Canada - homemadetogo.com 0 vs Forest/Portugal 3 (S. Glaysher 2, J. Pellerin 1);

June 25- Forest/Portugal 1 (D. Coley 1) vs Orange/Netherlands 6 (C. Lawrie, K. Blaser, D. Eveleigh, G. Marshall, T. Brewer); Navy/Czech Repub - R & J Concepts Inc 4 (J. Chappell 1, R. MacFarlane 1, J. Seto 1, T. Sikura 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Dr. Orschel's Drillers 5 (C. Annear 2, C. Ferreira 1, M. Orschel 1, B. Rival 1); Red/Poland - Scotia Bank 2 (M. Garner 2) vs White/Canada - homemadetogo.com 7 (J. Peters 1, C. Weese 1, D. Perryman 1, K. Gamble 1, J. Ross 2);

U14/15B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Gold	7	1	1	22
Orange	5	3	1	16
Red	5	3	1	16
White	2	4	2	8
Forest	2	5	2	8
Navy	1	6	1	4

U13/14G - July 5 - Gold/Brazil - BMPS 1

(N. Dagher 1) vs Maroon/Japan 5 (S. Guzikowski 1, S. McCormick 2, C. McCrae 1, R. Swain 1); Kelly/Italy - En Ville Event and Catering 2 (D. Cantarutti 1, J. Kramer 1) vs Navy/Czech Repub - Carproff 1 (J. Kizovski 1); Purple/France - Timetech 2 (E. Manasis) vs Sky/Argentina - Immersive Media 2 (V. Partland 1, R. Hardy 1); Royal/Scotland 0 vs Orange/Netherlands 0; Sage/USA 2 (E. Gauthier 2) vs Forest/Portugal 0; Silver/Austria 1 (K. Nice 1) vs Red/Poland - CGI 5 (B. Cardelli, A. Rice, D. Oomaen, B. Barton);

U13/14G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	7	1	1	22
Sage	6	0	3	21
Pink	5	1	3	18
Forest	5	4	0	15
Sky	3	2	4	13
Kelly	4	5	0	12
Royal	3	4	2	11
Navy	3	4	2	11
Orange	2	5	2	8
Gold	2	5	2	8
Purple	1	5	3	6
Silver	1	6	2	5

U15/16G - June 27 - Silver/Austria 8 - R & J Concepts Inc 7 (O. Chappell, L. McMurray, L. Street, K. Courtemanche, L. Lostracco, T. Orser, C. Zuber) vs Gold/Brazil 0; Orange/Netherlands - IZZI Popat Royal LePage 4 (A. Kerr 4) vs Navy/Czech Repub - SSL Group Chartered Accountants 3 (T. McKay 1, E. Hazelden 1, A. Cowie 1); Forest/Portugal - Nantucket Woodworking Ltd 1 (C. Pagiello 1) vs Purple/France - Dr. Weaver's Drillers 2 (S. Neagle 2);

July 4 - Purple/France - Dr. Weaver's Drillers 3 (K. Velz 1, D. Cardelli 2) vs Orange/Netherlands 6 (A. Kerr 2, M. Stanniewski 2, D. Emery 1 S. Chefero 1); Forest/Portugal - Nantucket Woodworking Ltd 3 (S. Kastanis 3) vs Navy/Czech Repub 3 (T. McKay 1, A. Ing 1, A. Nichols 1); Gold/Brazil 3 (K. Perry 1, N. Richmond 1, R. Ettinger 1) vs Sky/Argentina - System labyrinth Inc 1 (N. Bailey 1);

U15/16 GIRLS STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Silver	5	0	2	17
Orange	4	1	4	16
Gold	4	4	2	14
Forest	2	3	4	10
Red	2	3	2	8
Purple	2	3	2	8
Navy	1	4	4	7
Sky	1	3	4	7

U16/19B - July 3 - Gold/Brazil - Omars Shoes 5 (M. Mikhaili 3, H. Kane 1, C. Wong 1) vs Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza 0; Navy/Czech Repub - Freshwave Chiropractic 4 (A. Di Rosa 2, B. Sing 1, J. Bentolila 1) vs Red/Poland - Tirecraft 4 (D. Bisogno 1, F. Lenuzza 1, A. Munn 1, C. Divincenzo 1);

U16/U19B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	5	4	0	15
Red	4	3	2	14
Navy	4	3	2	14
Gold	3	6	0	9

U17/21G T/TH- No scores reported from convener/coach

U17/21G T/TH STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	6	0	2	20
Orange	5	1	2	17
Forest	5	3	0	15
Gold	3	3	2	11
Purple	2	2	0	6
Red	0	0	0	0

COMPETITIVE STINGERS RESULTS -

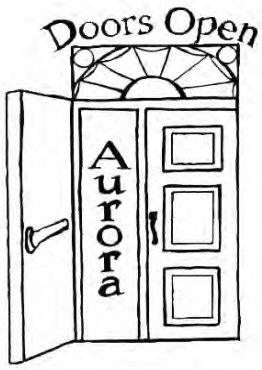
U9B REP - June 28 - Aurora Stingers 5 vs Oak Ridges 1. Goals scored by A. Sesto 3, M. Menna 1, and C. Morrison 1. Great effort from the boys!

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.

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

Gardens included in this year's tour



The seventh article in the Doors Open series features some landscapes that can be seen at this year's event, which takes place Saturday, August 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Barnes' Garden

New to Doors Open Aurora this year is the unique and inspiring garden of Gordon and Marie Barnes located at 11 Catherine Avenue in Aurora's first Heritage Conservation District.

When you arrive at the Barnes' Home, a beautiful yellow brick Gothic Revival dwelling built in 1889, and the lush full garden that greets you provides only a taste of the landscape that awaits beyond the garden gate.

Here along the paths and through the arbours that cross the garden, you will find not a flower garden, though there are beautiful flowers to be seen.

Instead you will find something far more interesting, for the Barnes' Garden is a virtual living museum of rare and historic plants, particularly vegetables, that over the decades have vanished from farms and grocery stores by the standardized world that we live today.

Although both are art teachers by profession, Gordon and Marie came from strong family traditions in farming and gardening respectively, so it was natural that they would have a mutual passion for rare plants and vegetables.

Gordon grew up on a 120-acre mixed farm in Minnesota, while Marie grew up in Prince George, B.C., the daughter of Danish immigrants who were dedicated gardeners.

In 1993, the garden "came alive" as Gordon and Marie say, and they began the process of converting a relatively ordinary landscape of poplar trees into the innovative demonstration garden we see today.

Since then, the Barnes' have grown an incredible variety of rare plants and vegetables in their garden.

Not content with simply growing the vegetables for their own use, they are active participants in a seed heritage program that saves and shares the heirloom seeds of our garden heritage forming a living legacy that can be

passed down through generations.

In growing and saving seeds, the Barnes are part of an ancient tradition as stewards, nurturing our diverse, fragile, genetic and cultural heritage.

Another way that the Barnes use their garden to contribute to the community is by hosting their annual Tomato Tasting fundraiser each August in aid of the Aurora Arboretum.

This year's event will be held Sunday, August 26, when the tomatoes in their garden have reached their peak of ripeness.

Though many tomatoes will still be green when Doors Open Day arrives August 11, the Barnes plan to have a tasting for visitors of their many varieties of tasty tomato preserves which they produce from the garden each year.

If you are interested in gardening, the Barnes' garden is must see on this year's Doors Open Aurora tour.

Aurora Arboretum

Another interesting heritage landscape on the Doors Open Aurora tour is Aurora Community Arboretum (ACA).

Since its beginnings in 1995, the Aurora Community Arboretum Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, has been dedicated to the education and promotion of the values of Aurora's natural environment and heritage.

The Arboretum is a living, growing tree museum, a natural area, a place for quiet enjoyment of Aurora's outdoors, a place to commemorate important people and events, and a means to learn more about trees.

The area is large, the plans are large, and the first decade of the arboretum has seen incredible progress.

In this year alone, some 3,000 trees and shrubs have been planted, a good start toward the goal of 30,000 in 10 years. For a preview visit www.auroraarboretum.ca.

The Aurora Arboretum encompasses the river valley between the Town Hall and the Leisure Complex, and extends from Wellington Street in the south to St. John's Sideroad.

On its way north to Lake Simcoe, the East Holland River wanders through this 100-acre flood plain parkland, which like much of the land in York Region, was forested before the settlers came.

One of the objectives of ACA is to help restore areas of natural heritage through the planting of a large variety of trees and shrubs suited to this area.

ACA has worked with the Town of Aurora Leisure Services, Aurora Parks Department, plus York Region



Garden of Gordon and Marie Barnes

and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority in this ambitious project.

Part of the river valley parkland is shared with existing sports facilities and a leash-free dog area; the rest is dedicated to the Arboretum for planting of specimen trees, naturalized forest, meadow and wetland.

The Arboretum lands serve nearly 50,000 residents of Aurora, and will remain and grow as an urban oasis for passive recreation as the population continues to climb.

A current project, "Flora Aurora" will see hundreds of flowering trees and shrubs planted in the area near the Leisure Complex over the next two years.

In future years these will be a showcase of blossom every spring.

Visit the Aurora Community Arboretum on the Doors Open Aurora tour to learn more about the trees,

flowers and wildlife of the Arboretum landscape.

Meet at the gazebo by the Leisure Centre for a self-guiding walking tour, a display of the Arboretum Master Plan and discussion with members of the Board of Directors.

For more information about Doors Open Aurora see the Doors Open Aurora web site at www.e-aurora.ca/doorsopenaurora.

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Historic names and events in Aurora

By **DICK ILLINGWORTH**

Most residents of Aurora are familiar with the names of Robert Machell, John Mosley and Charles Doan, but there are many others who played an important role in the development of this community.

Names that are important in the history of Aurora include early settlers Colonel William Graham, Mark Scanlon, Johnathon Petch, Walter Wood, Thomas Appleton, William Linton, Richard Wells, William Baldwin, William Taylor, Daniel Clark and Dr. Robert Hillary.

Other names include the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson who lived in Aurora as a boy, attended Church Street School (then known

as the Aurora Public School) and grew up to become one of Canada's Prime Ministers.

Newmarket's Mazo de la Roche, a Canadian novelist, had many family connections in Aurora.

Others include Wing Commander Lloyd Chadburn, one of Canada's most decorated and top fighter pilots in World War II, Colonel Fred Tilston, holder of the Victoria Cross, and Herb Lennox, who defeated William Lyon Mackenzie King, then Liberal Leader in 1925.

The Aurora branch on the Royal Canadian Legion is named after Tilston, once president of Sterling Drug located at the corner of Yonge and Murray.

Not to forget John

Bowser, who is buried in the Aurora Cemetery beneath a seven-foot replica of the Empire State Building. He helped build the 102-story building, once the tallest building in the world at 1,472 feet.

Aurora's Temperance Hall was the scene of one of Canada's best known political speeches in 1857 when the Honourable George Brown gave his famous "representation by population" speech.

Brown expounded a theory that made Confederation possible.

The Act of Union gave both Upper and Lower Canada equal representation in Parliament.

Brown pointed out that Ontario was growing faster than Quebec and deserved

more representation in Parliament and it was Brown's Aurora speech that made the eventual union possible.

In 1874, the rafters of the Aurora Drill Shed shook as the crowd applauded the Hon. Edward Blake, who defined a new nationalist viewpoint for Canada in what has become known as the Aurora Speech.

Blake, a member of Alexander Mackenzie's Liberal government, called for a strong national feeling for Canada.

He wanted not only a strong national feeling, but Senate reform, compulsory voting and proportional representation in what was to become the Canada First movement.

"The future of Canada, I

believe, depends very largely upon the cultivation of a national spirit," he said. "We are engaged in a very difficult task of welding together seven provinces which have been accustomed to regard themselves as isolated from each other, which are full of petty jealousies, their provincial questions, their local interests."

So from the soft padded footsteps of the Indians, the solid plod of the Quakers, the angry march of the mud-spattered rebels and the political wisdom of the years, may new and future residents capture the spirit of Aurora and bring new strength and commitment to Aurora - Our Goddess of the Dawn.



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Memories of the Royal Theatre

From page 11

I mean, by the time the second show ended it was awfully late to be out for most Aurora folks.

At times, ladies could collect dishes that were given out at evening shows. Housewives thought this was a good deal.

Most teenagers couldn't go to the Royal on school nights. Those were the nights for homework. We went to the Royal on Friday and Saturday nights with friends.

The theatre was, of course, closed on Sundays. Nobody ever expected to see theatres open on Sundays.

Boys usually came to the theatre in a group, as did the girls. Then, sometimes they paired off once inside.

If you went with one girlfriend, you were taking a chance some times.

She just might go off after saying, "You don't mind if I go and sit with him, do you?"

"No, go ahead," you grudgingly answered.

Then, there you were at the movie alone scrunched down in your seat thinking, "that's the last time I'll come with her."

With all that cigarette smoking up on the screen you simply wanted to try one.

Do you remember how they held them and gestured? Do you remember the handsome leading man lighting two cigarettes and handing one to the sultry, leading babe in the evening gown?

You knew what they had on their minds just by the way they handled those "fags".

Then, there were the bad guys who talked with "ciggies" in their mouths and flicked the butts into their coffee, or threw them to the floor and wigged them out. They had to be nasty characters, if

they did that.

The cigarette was a major prop. How have we managed with so few of them in films of late?

My girl friend Alice was an usher at the Royal in the late 50s.

I thought she was lucky to be able to work there. Why, she was part of the glamour of the place - kind of a part of Hollywood, you might say, in her dark skirt and white blouse and with a flashlight in her hand.

In the 30s, 40s and early 50s, the Royal Theatre in Aurora, was a marvelous place to go.

Films in those decades had a special and unique appeal to patrons, but alas by 1958 televisions brought theatre into most living rooms and Aurora's movie house, like many small theatres, was out-of-date and out-of-money.

So the magic house on Centre Street in Aurora closed its doors and became a dark, haunted, landmark of the past.

In 1961, the executors

for Jenkinson and Warren sold the Royal Theatre to Mr. Rubin.

In April, The Aurora Banner reported that the theatre was going to be demolished for more parking for the IGA on Wellington Street.

The once cherished, but humble building which had provided so much pleasure to Aurora folks, disappeared.

Where the Royal Theatre once stood, there was a utilitarian bit of land for a while.

I like to think that if you are on that piece of turf on Centre Street on a Saturday afternoon, or at night between seven and eleven, you can hear the jumbled voices of the great stars of the big studio days saying eternal lines, the laughter, gasps and tears of grown-ups and kids and maybe even "Th.. th..that's all folks".

We take films for granted today because we can watch them endlessly at home and in huge movie complexes

with eight or more theatres.

I think it's sad but true that too much of anything kind of takes away its splendor.

**Part Two
next week**

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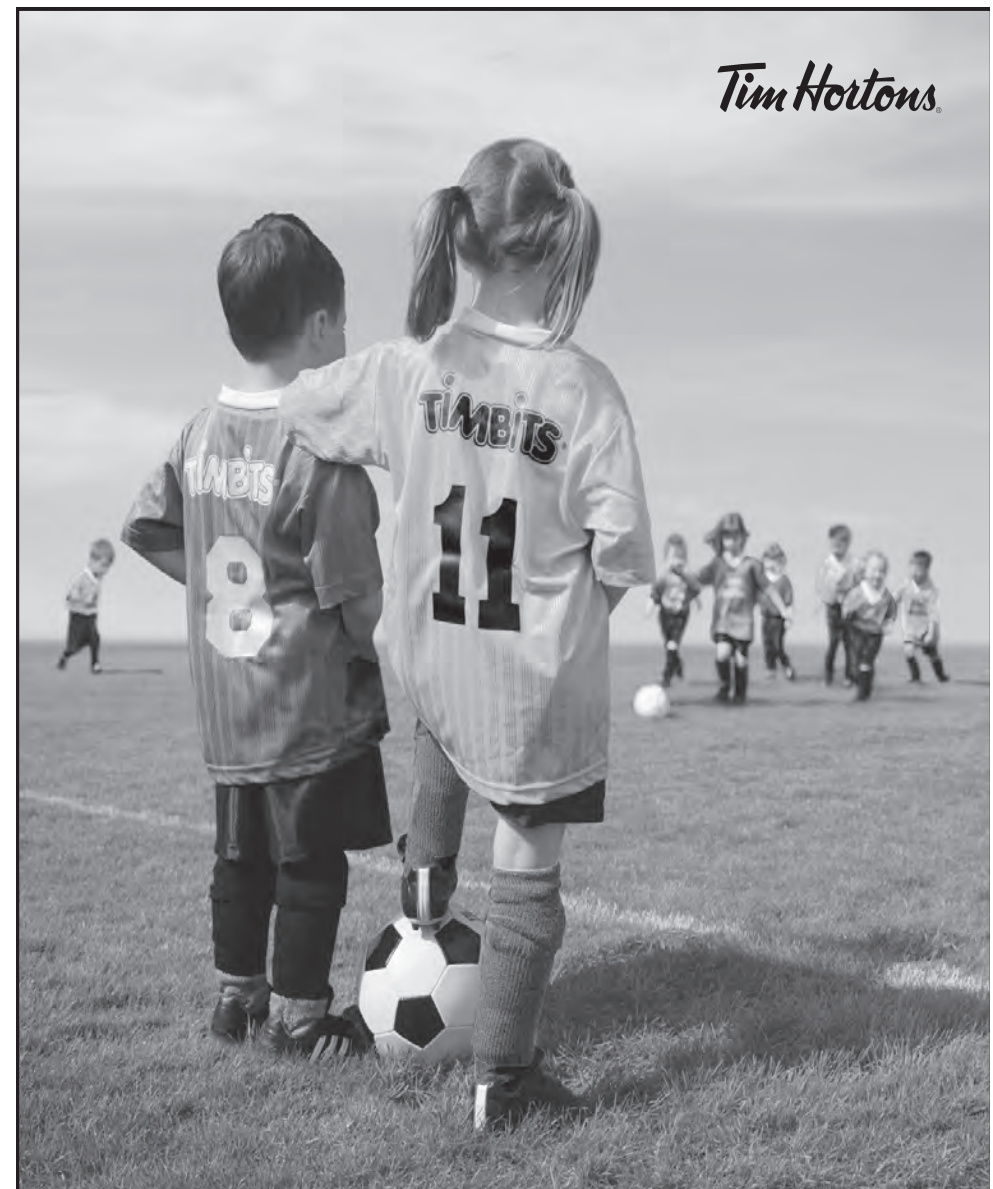
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The first goal is having fun

RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

The anti-idling challenge

In April last year the York Region Environmental Alliance suggested local municipalities in the region challenge other municipalities in reducing gas emissions through the adoption of anti-idling bylaws.

Markham arranged a successful challenge with Newmarket and Richmond Hill challenged Aurora in a similar partnership.

At the time, then Councillor Phyllis Morris recommended the challenge be referred to a future general committee meeting to discuss possible costs and the possibility of finding a sponsor for the challenge.

In June that year the Environmental Advisory committee approved in principle the installation of anti-idling signs which would include both the town and the committee logo.

In addition, staff was asked to work with the committee as to the use of a portion of the committee's public awareness budget as the anti-idling issue was seen as a priority.

In July, the committee recommended that council designate no idling zones in front of town facilities and allocate funds in the 2007 budget for signage and also that the town accept the Richmond Hill challenge.

Staff was also requested to investigate an anti-idling for council's consideration. That was almost a year ago, so what happened?

WHERE ARE THE ALPACAS?

Patrick Harrison and his wife Judy Loukras were childhood sweethearts and fellow athletes while attending Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School.

After graduation, he obtained a degree in kinesiology and she graduated from an occupational program.

They developed a medical business from the ground up and captured a market manufacturing seats for wheelchairs.

It was so successful they were able to retire in their mid-40s and returned to the Loukras family property at Bayview Avenue and the Vandorf Sideroad.

While on a globe-trotting adventure in 1996 they learned about alpacas, native to the Andes Mountains in South America.

The alpaca is a relative of the llama.

After considerable research they purchased 33 animals in 1997 and in May, 1999, felt like proud parents after greeting four 15-pound bundles of joy at their Qolmesa Alpaca Ranch in Aurora.

That brought their alpaca family to 60 and like family pets, they all have names.

The animals are sheared every May.

The fibres are packaged and sent for processing at special plants in the United States and Peru.



Senior Scape

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Keep July 24th open on your calendar.

That date will feature a special fun, food and film summer evening and will start at 4.30 p.m. with a choice of activities including Bocce Ball, Carpet Bowling and Pickle Ball.

The movie shown will be "Casino Royale" with Daniel Craig and Eva Green.

It's smart to get your tickets in advance.

The ASA has been asked to assist in selling raffle tickets for the planned Regional Cancer Centre at Southlake Regional Health Centre.

A car, valued at \$42,849, will be the grand prize and a \$25,000 gold tennis bracelet, 41 stone, will be the second prize.

Tickets, at \$25, are on sale at the ASA front counter.

We can never know who or when cancer will strike, and whether it will be the rich or poor, the young or not so young.

Clearly, those stricken with cancer require the best medical expertise available, and the money raised will help avoid travel and provide the finest medical cancer

care in our community.

A worthy consideration for seniors would be to undergo a complete annual physical medical examination.

It is easier, by far, to contain medical problems at an early stage than in an advanced stage.

After the summer quiet period and beginning in September on the third Tuesday in each month, the travel desk will be staffed once more.

In the meantime, volunteers at the front desk will be happy to answer any questions concerning trips.

Upcoming trips include a Toronto Harbour Boat Cruise, Wednesday, August 22.

This is a four-hour cruise on a private boat with bus

A sweater can cost upwards of \$400 while an alpaca coat can sell for as high as \$1,200.

Now with a plan of subdivision on the former Loukras property, what happened to the alpacas?

DATES TO REMEMBER

In June, 1947, the first reported sighting of a UFO occurred near Ashford, Washington.

Ken Arnold of the US Civil Air Patrol described them as flat rocks skipping on a pond, "like flying saucers" and the name stuck.

In 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first men to walk on the Moon.

In August, 1911, J.A.D. McCurdy and Charles Willard flew from Hamilton to Toronto in 65 minutes thrilling thousands of viewers lining the shore of Lake Ontario.

In August, 1940, 120 members of Norway's army and air force arrived in Toronto to set up a training camp at Little Norway located at the foot of Bathurst Street, behind what was the Maple Leaf Stadium, now part of Harbourfront.

In August, 1945, Paul Tibbets piloted the Enola Gay over Hiroshima to drop the first atomic bomb resulting in the death of more than 200,000 in the holocaust and aftermath.

In 1916, the 127th York Rangers Battalion won second place in a giant field day at Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto.

PUBLIC OPINION POLLS

With Parliament adjourned until September, the party leaders are out on the hustings to meet people and try to win them over.

Strange things are happening.

A poll indicated that if people were planning a day on the golf links, a barbecue or a camping trip, they would want to go with Stephen Harper, but if they planned a day at the art gallery or museum, they preferred Stephane Dion.

Harper led in four of the five categories, beer and a barbecue, golf, camping and fishing, even though Dion is an avid fly fisherman.

However, for a trip to an art gallery or museum, they preferred Dion over Harper.

NDP and Green Party supporters preferred Dion in all categories while the Bloc Quebecois preferred to camp or play golf with Harper, could enjoy a barbecue with both but preferred a museum visit with Dion.

VOTING FOR SUNDAY SPORTS AND MOVIES

In October, 1966, Aurora Council decided to add three

This date promises plenty of activities

transportation from the ASA centre and an excellent lunch on board.

A cruise last year received excellent comments and was a lot of fun.

In the planning stage is a trip to the Fallsview Casino in Niagara Falls and the date and time will be posted shortly. There is nothing like a little blackjack or a crack at the slots to liven up a quiet summer day, especially with a group of like-minded seniors!

On August 14, the RBC Seniors Jubilee will be held at Roy Thompson Hall, while "Oklahoma" at Stratford September 13, sounds exciting.

Other trips are available for investigation; to avoid disappointment, please book early.

We welcome to our ASA team, Patti O'Neil who began teaching Yoga classes in June, and we also welcome Fay Maitland-Coyle and Brenda Leeper, who are fitness teachers.

Because professional instructors must operate these classes, there is a cost attached and details may be obtained at the front desk.

questions to the 1966 municipal election ballot.

Citizens were asked to vote on whether they wanted to extend voting rights to roomers and boarders, or non-tax-payers, and Sunday sports and movies, even though the town didn't have a movie theatre at the time.

The Sunday sports issue came about as a result of a request from the Aurora Tigers with the opening of the Community Centre with plans to play home games on Sundays.

The movie question was in hopes of attracting a movie theatre.

The extended franchise for voting was approved by 1,519 to 605, Sunday sports 1,740 to 422 and Sunday movies 1,740 to 381.

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ORCA



Aislyn Reynolds of Aurora enjoys the flowers growing in the Monkman Court garden of former Mayor Tim Jones during annual tour held by the Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society last week. A total of seven gardens were on the list for the visitors who took advantage of the tour.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Aurora air raid siren didn't bother local residents

There was little reaction on May 9, 1984, when the air raid siren, located on a tall pole at the rear of the former Victoria Street fire hall went off for the second time in three weeks.

Bell Canada officials could not provide any reasons for the false alarm that lasted three to four minutes.

The Aurora Fire Department received a few calls from curious residents regarding the loud wailing of the sirens, but town hall officials reported they didn't receive a single call.

The previous alarm on April 26 was more explainable.

Construction workers set off the alarm, which lasted about 10 minutes, when underground cables were severed in Richmond Hill.

The large siren was part of a nation-wide warning system installed in 1964 to alert Canadians to an imminent nuclear attack during the days of the Cold War.

Aurora residents were awakened back in December, 1974, when the sirens in Southern Ontario started to wail in the middle of the night and were unable to find out what was happening.

Radio and television stations, supposedly tied into the emergency system to disseminate the news, were com-

pletely uninformed.

The Ottawa headquarters of the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) didn't answer calls as no one was on duty. No one knew what triggered the alarm system.

Again on January 20, 1986, sleepy-eyed Southern Ontario residents were jolted from their beds at 2.45 a.m. for about 45 minutes when high winds and freezing rain triggered about 200 National Defence air raid sirens.

By 1990 even officials in federal departments such as Defence, Emergency Measures and Communications admitted the air raid alarm system was not effective and they had known that for the past five years.

At the time, 50 per cent of Canadians were not covered by the warning system and experience had shown that the majority of Canadians did not recognize the wail of the siren even if the system did work.

It had been found that the sirens were being used to make honey, squirrels prized them as a storehouse for nuts and birds were nesting in them.

Other alarm systems were considered but no action taken as they were low on the government's priority list.

Finally in April, 1994, the

federal government scrapped the 1,700 air raid sirens installed across Canada in the 1950s.

Bridge results

Aurora Bridge Club

Tuesday, July 10: Paul Graves & Linda Lord; Paul & Marg Macfarlane; Mike & Dan MacNeil; Steven Sanderson & Marg Farmer.

Wednesday, July 11: N/S - Hans Jacob & Linda Lord; Rose Morrell & Viktoria Spearin; Paul Graves & Shirley Hulbig. E/W - Marg & Paul Macfarlane; Don & Lena Jackson; Joan Rotenberg & Jane Demers.

Friday, July 13: N/S - Ross Jenkinson & Catherine Balant; Virginia Smereka & Doug Farmer; Ron Smith & Hans Jacob. E/W - Don & Lena Jackson; Gerald Heath & Marg Farmer; Joan Rotenberg & Mary Oglanby.

Aurora Seniors

Monday, July 9: N/S - Priscille Hull and Gloria Smith; Ella Bremner and Nan McLean; Carol Bell and Isobel Garrett. E/W - Carol Gordon and Brenda Smith; Betty Dyson and Zelma Shand; Marcella Lawless and Greta Ogden.

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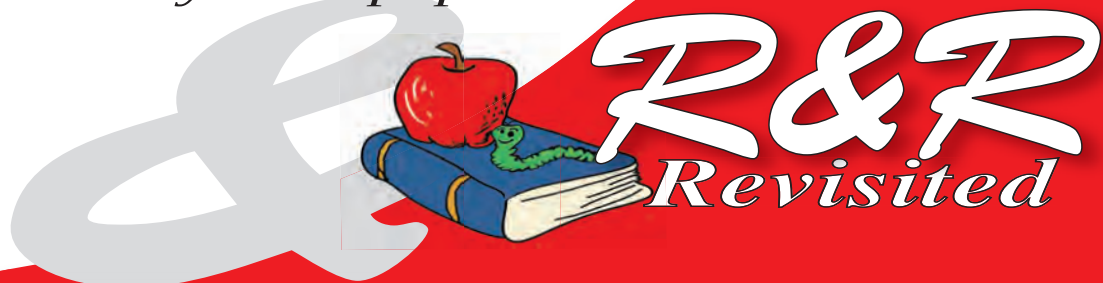
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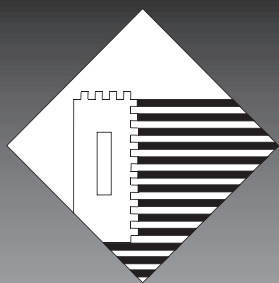


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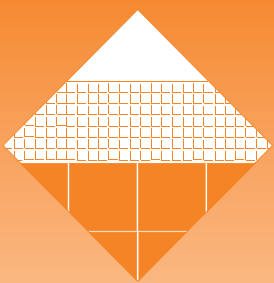
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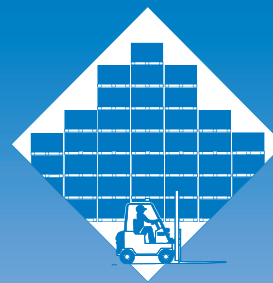
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