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See page 3

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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 7 No. 44 905-727-3300 auroran.com FREE Week of September 11, 2007

BRIEFLY

Author appearance

Marina Nemat, Aurora resident and international bestselling author of the book "Prisoner of Tehran", will make two appearances in York Region this month.

On Monday, Sept. 17, she will speak at the monthly meeting of the Aurora Writers' Group at 7.30 p.m. at the Aurora Town Hall in the Leksand Room.

On Saturday, Sept. 29, she will participate in the day-long Words Alive event being held at the Sharon Temple.

At the Monday meeting, Marina will be interviewed regarding her experience with publication, her book tour, and the media response to her story.

Entrance to that event is free but space is limited so advance registration is required.

To reserve a spot, call Malcolm at 905-898-5484 and leave a message.

Opti Recreational Hockey

The Aurora Optimist Recreational Hockey League is an ice hockey skill development program for girls and boys between the ages of 5 and 6 years old.

And now is the time to enroll.

The league is operated with the support of the Optimist Club of Aurora.

The season starts Sept. 28.

For more information and to register for the 2007-2008 season go to www.auroraoptihockey.ca.

Terry Fox Run

The annual Aurora Terry Fox Run happens this Sunday, Sept. 16, starting at 10 a.m.

It would be to one's advantage for participants to be there early to register.

The location is Sheppard's Bush and parking is available at the north end of the bush at the end of Industry Street or at the GO station on Industrial Parkway.

Pledge sheets are available throughout Aurora at many local businesses.

Hot Spot

Hot Spot, the place for youngsters in Grades 6 to 8, begins its 16th season of fun Friday evenings from 7.30 to 10 p.m. The popular event is held at the Aurora Lions Hall at the corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets.

For further information, call Wendy Gaertner at 905-717-1002.

Activities get underway this Friday night.

Candlelight vigil

The Aurora Legion will once again this year host a candlelight vigil at the Aurora Cemetery.

This Saturday night, candles will be lit on the gravesites of all Veterans and it makes an impressive sight for motorists driving by the Yonge Street cemetery.

The next day, at 2 p.m., a drumhead tribute service will be held at the cemetery, and members of the public are invited to attend.



Larry Murphy from Brewton, Alabama, was among the Ribfest competitors in Aurora's 2nd annual Ribfest weekend just ended. Thirteen years ago, Murphy introduced ribfest competitions to Canadians, and they have been successful ever since. Crowds were heavy all weekend at Machell Park.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Candidates lined up for Wednesday meet

There will be four, and maybe as many as five, candidates at Wednesday's all-candidates' meeting at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

The event, co-sponsored by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and The Auroran, will feature a two-person panel asking questions of the candidates running in the new riding of Newmarket-Aurora in the October 10 provincial election.

Committed to attend are Progressive Conservative Frank Klees, Liberal Christina Bisanz, New Democratic Party candidate Michael Seaward and Tad Brudzinski from the Family Coalition Party of Ontario.

Also running is Newmarket's Eve Simson for the Green Party. The Aurora Chamber had not heard from her at press time.

Ms Simson is a single, full-time
Please see page 10

Johnson expected

Ada Johnson, 104, is expected to be guest of honour later this month when construction of a park named after her begins.

Ms Johnson, currently a resident at Aurora's Park Place Manor, has lived in Aurora for 99 years, a record no one else can come close to.

She is expected to join members of her family, and representatives of Aurora Council Tuesday, Sept. 25, for the ground-breaking ceremony.

The new park, to be known as the Ada Johnson Park, will be constructed at the corner of Hartwell Way and Conover Avenue in Aurora's east end.

Official activities will begin at 6 p.m.

For 79 years, Ms Johnson lived in a house on Connaught Avenue.

She celebrated her 104th birthday July 17.



Colleen Abbott, Chief Executive Officer of the Aurora Public Library, has tendered her resignation, effective December 31. She has been with the library for some 20 years and was integral in its growth from Victoria Street to its new home at Yonge and Church Streets. Colleen has decided to spend more time with her family.

Photo by David Falconer

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COMING EVENTS

The York Region Women's Centre will hold a series of orientation sessions for women interested in learning more about the Enterprising Women business course. Orientation sessions are scheduled at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, Sept. 18, at 9.30 a.m., Sept. 25, at 1 p.m., Sept. 26, at 9.30 a.m., and Oct. 3, at 9.30 a.m. For more information contact Kirsten Eastwood at 905-727-5837, ext. 203 or by e-mail at ew_kirsten@yahoo.ca. Candidates must attend an orientation session before joining the program.

From Oct. 3 until Nov. 28, on nine Wednesday evenings, the Bereavement Support Group, for adults experiencing the loss of a loved one, will meet at Aurora United Church, 15186 Yonge Street from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. For more information, call Mary at 905-727-6984. There is no fee for this program.

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its third season. Every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., comfort food and a sense of community is available in the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church hall, Aurora. Any funds raised are directed to other community outreach projects.

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, 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.

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.

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, SEPTEMBER 12

Probus Club of Aurora meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Legion, Industrial Parkway North, at 10 a.m. Guest speaker will be Jennifer Lam of Scotia Bank discussing fraud. Annual elections will also be held. Guests are welcome.

All-candidates meeting for the upcoming provincial election. Aurora's Howard Johnson Hotel at 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and The Auroran.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast hosted by MPP Frank Klees at 7.30 a.m. at Graystone's Restaurant, 14889 Yonge Street. Pre-registration required. Call 905-727-7262.

VARIOUS DATES SEPT. 14 TO 29

Theatre Aurora presents "Charley's Aunt" by Brandon Thomas. Call the box office at 905-727-3669 for further details.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Aurora Seniors visit the Stratford Festival to see the musical "Oklahoma".

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

20th annual Wild Wild West Magna Hoedown on the Magna grounds, Wellington Street East.

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.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Regular meeting of the Aurora Historical Society with guest speaker Jackie Stuart on the topic "Then and Now" at 8 p.m. at Hillary House.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Amnesty International meets at 7.30 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street. New members welcome. For more information, call 905-713-6713.

Aurora Chamber of Commerce invites its members to Hillary House at 5.30 p.m. for a presentation of the 2007 audited financial statements, followed by complimentary food and refreshments. Pre-registration required. Call 905-727-7262.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Clear Aurora's streams and ponds of trash by participating in the TD Canada Trust Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup. To work on the McKenzie Marsh, contact Rebecca Camino at 905-660-6529. For other areas contact the Town of Aurora's Environmental Advisory Committee: auroraec@hotmail.com or call Info Aurora at 905-727-8214.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Business After Five meeting hosts members from the Aurora and Newmarket Chambers of Commerce at Skyview Dental Care, 372 Hollandview Trail. Pre-registration required. Call 905-727-7262.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Aurora Horticultural Society presents lecture on "Four Months of Blooming Iris" at the Royal Canadian Legion, 8 p.m., 105 Industrial Parkway North.

Aurora Council public planning meeting at 7 p.m. in the council

chambers of the Town Hall.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

The first ever Words Alive Literary Festival will be held all day at the Sharon Temple and features several people from Aurora. The festival celebrates a rich literary heritage providing a showcase for contemporary local authors. Words Alive is a non-profit organization. The festival will feature Aurora's Marina Nemat, Dr. John McIntyre, and Ron Wallace. Also making an appearance are Roy MacGregor, Eliza Clarke and Barry Dempster. For more information, visit www.wordsalive.ca.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Blessing of the Animals at the Rectory lawn of Trinity Anglican Church. Bring your pets, large or small, for a blessing as church celebrates St. Francis Day.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Aurora and Newmarket members of the Chambers of Commerce will host a Business After Five meeting at Georgian Downs racetrack in Innisfil from 5.30 p.m. Cost is \$10 which includes buffet. Pre-registration required. Call 905-727-7262.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

The Aurora Seniors Association has teamed up with Opera York's Concerts for Seniors to present the live, tour-de-force production of Rossini's comic opera, "The Barber of Seville".

The one-hour show will be held at the Seniors' Centre, Thursday, at 2 p.m. Tickets, at \$10 each, are currently on sale at the centre, but are limited

to 200. Call 905-726-4767 for further information.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Provincial election and Referendum Day.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

CHATS presents its United Way Fundraiser "Around the World" from 6 p.m to 9 p.m. at the Aurora office. It will be an international food sampling, wine tasting and silent auction. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the Aurora Office, 126 Wellington Street West, or call 905-713-3373, ext. 6032.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

Aurora Chamber of Commerce annual Business Excellence evening in Aurora. Pre-registration required. Call 905-727-7262.

OCTOBER 19 and 20

Aurora United Church Fall Rummage Sale, 15186 Yonge Street. Hours on October 19: 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. on October 20, 9 a.m. to noon. For more information call 905-727-1935.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Aurora Horticultural Society presents lecture on "Festive Entertaining" at the Royal Canadian Legion, 8 p.m., 105 Industrial Parkway North.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

York Chamber Ensemble begins a four-concert series with a Bach motif featuring renowned guest violinists Gerard Kantarjian and Gayane Bareghamyan. The concert, conducted by Aurora's Tony Browning, will be held at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, available at the door, are \$15; \$10 for students and seniors.



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Aurora's Bingo World occupies 35,000 square feet of space in this Industrial Parkway South building.
Auroran photo by David Falconer

Bingo hall closing?

By JOHN KLEIN
Special to The Auroran

Aurora's Bingo World, self-professed to be Ontario's largest at 35,000 square feet, may close its doors as early as next year.

The business, located at 240 Industrial Parkway South, is owned by Perry Kereakou, and managed by Ron Tripp.

When asked about the possibility, Kereakou was quick to point out the closure was, at this stage, only an option and that no final decision had been made.

Reasons for the possible closure were not directly addressed by the owner as he preferred not to speculate on a situation that, in his view at least, is not yet an issue.

He did say that the closure could occur as early as January or February next year.

If the hall were to close, players from the community

would be forced to take their business to other halls in the region, mainly Newmarket and Richmond Hill, both of which are rumoured to be owned by Kereakou.

However, lost in all the rumours of the possible closure of the hall is the impact it would have on local charities.

Aurora's Bingo World is very much involved in charity events that directly raise funds for participating regional charity groups.

These groups are listed in detail on the hall's website. Volunteers from various participating groups attend bingo nights and sell bingo cards along with lottery tickets, the proceeds of which go directly to the charitable organizations at the rate of 40 per cent.

Autism Ontario's York Region branch is one of these charitable groups that works with Aurora's Bingo World.

Although Autism Ontario could not be reached for comment, their web page notes that their joint efforts with Aurora's Bingo World directly raises funds for their Autism Ontario Kids Camp (AOK).

The AOK camp provides 'a fun summer experience' for young adults and children ages 4-21 who are afflicted with Autism Spectrum and related disorders.

All funds raised at the bingo hall go to directly subsidize the costs of the camp.

When approached at Sunday's Battle of Yonge Street charity hockey event held in Newmarket, Progressive Conservative candidate for Newmarket/Aurora, Frank Klees, commented on the rumours.

"It would be a significant loss," he said, referring to the possible closure of the hall. "Any opportunity for organizations such as Autism Ontario York Region to raise funds is critical."

Klees, who has been critical of Ontario's handling of autistic children, was quick to note that "he was not surprised at all," at talk of a possible closure of the bingo hall, and added legislation put in place by the current provincial government makes it almost impossible for bingo halls, such as Aurora's Bingo World to turn a profit.

It is this inability to make a profit, in the opinion of Klees that forces them to close, which in turn makes it difficult for organizations such as Autism Ontario York Region and others to raise money.

Chamber event ticket purchase irks councillor

Councillor Evelyn Buck reopened a controversy about council buying tickets to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Awards at Tuesday's general committee meeting.

The Economic Development Advisory Committee decided to purchase up to five tickets to the Chamber event for citizen members of the committee.

Councillor Buck questioned the purchase of the tickets as she had two years ago when the committee recommended the town purchase a Gold Level sponsorship package for the Business Achievement Awards at a cost of \$3,500 plus event tickets.

At that time she asked how she could explain to taxpayers the expenditure plus what she claimed was the purchase of 40 tickets for the previous gala at a cost of \$125 each and asked for the rationale of the town's extravagance.

Tuesday, Councillor Al Wilson, chairman of the advisory committee, said the tickets had been purchased for citizen members of the committee and the town had purchased a Platinum sponsorship package which included eight tickets and the funds were in the committee budget, which had been approved by council.

Councillor Buck questioned whether the mayor

would be sitting at the head table and when Councillor Wilson replied that he wasn't aware of the seating plan, Buck said he must insist on it.

She added that she was not speaking about a name but about the position and if the mayor was not seated at the head table, it would be a

slight to the position.

The mayor and other members of council came to the defence of the Chamber stressing the importance of the organization to the town as the businesses were local the town benefitted from the event.

Committee members approved the purchase.



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"No mass exodus" as Town of Aurora has 26 vacancies

A report from the Manager of Human Resources listing full-time staff positions that were vacant as of the end of August but in varying stages of the recruitment process was presented to the general committee Tuesday as information.

The list contained 26 positions causing concern for Councillor Wendy Gaertner who questioned how the town could operate with so many vacancies and recommended the list be referred to a private council session, but was unable to obtain a second.

Staff members replied that several positions had already been filled and others were in the recruitment process.

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that in any large organization there were vacancies for a variety of reasons such as a move to another area, retirement etc. but there was no mass exodus.

He assured members of the committee the town wasn't in any jeopardy and the only department under some

stress was Public Works which needed four servicemen and two crew chiefs.

Meanwhile, members of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce executive heard last week that Chief Librarian Colleen Abbott and Chief Town Planner Sue Seibert, will retire at the end of the year.

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Poor Richard

Listen carefully to the candidates

*A provincial election is coming
And there are many issues to note:*

*Do your homework and study.
On October 10, get out and vote.*

-Poor Richard's Scrapbook

There are many issues to be considered in selecting the next government for Ontario and one of the most divisive will no doubt be the faith-based school issue, promised by the John Tory Progressive Conservatives, which the McGuinty Liberal government calls segregationist.

Tory has appointed former Premier Bill Davis to advise him on the faith-funding issue, but it is the same Bill Davis who pushed through Bill 30 that guaranteed full funding from Grade 10 to 13 for the Separate School system resulting in the construction of Catholic high schools.

In deciding the issue of full-faith funding, obtain assurances from the candidates that the funding formula for the public school system is reviewed in light of current conditions and full-faith funding, if approved, will not have an adverse financial impact on the public school system.

But remember it was Premier Dalton McGuinty who destroyed the College of Teachers by handing over control to the teachers' unions.

The College was initiated by Rob Rae's New Democratic Party government as a professional college for teachers to provide public scrutiny and enacted by the Harris government.

Also it was McGuinty and the teachers' unions who opposed the standardized tests, including the basic literacy test that measures student progress.

Premier McGuinty has promised to assist all municipalities by uploading the crushing costs of certain downloaded social services imposed on property taxpayers by the previous Mike Harris government, but there's a catch.

He will only take action to correct this injustice if he is re-elected.

He had had four years to do something about this problem and did nothing, so he's offering a bribe for your vote.

Another issue that could have an impact on the election is autistic children. Parents of children with the developmental disorder need treatment but the list of children needing treatment has grown under the Liberal government because McGuinty broke an election promise and cut-off treatment at age six.

Last August the Liberal government pledged \$12 million to provide intensive behavioural intervention that would remove more than 200 children from the waiting list, but critics pointed out 1,042 children still remained on the wait list.

It may be too little, too late.

Another issue to be resolved is inter-provincial trading relations.

There is free trade between countries, but not between provinces.

In 1994, with considerable fanfare, the federal and provincial governments signed an Agreement on Internal Trade, but little or nothing has been done since then.

The Conference Board of Canada points out that the barriers cost the economy millions of dollars in lost productivity and make companies less competitive. Another study notes that the barriers cost every family in the country an extra \$1,000 a year in payments for goods and services.

Health care and medical waiting times will no doubt be an issue in deciding the candidate to vote for.

You will have to determine if the health premium you are paying after McGuinty broke his promise not to increase taxes has been beneficial in improving health care in Ontario.

Control of growth especially in the regions surrounding Toronto, especially York could well be a local issue.

The rampant, almost uncontrolled growth without the infrastructure to support it is causing gridlock, water shortages, lack of affordable housing, etc. and is affecting the lives of many people.

This also includes control of the Ontario Municipal Board and although changes have been promised to return planning back to municipalities based on their official plans and zoning bylaws, nothing much has happened and developers are still in control, with the aid of the OMB.

The end result is to vote for the candidate who you believe will work hard for you, your community and in the best interests of the province.

Make sure the candidate doesn't say one thing to get elected and another after being elected.

In any case make sure you vote Oct. 10 or don't complain afterwards about the government.



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Imagine buying a four-bedroom house in Aurora for less than 15 grand. According to this ad, you could...back in 1959. And this model, the Kelton, also came equipped with a "bomb shelter" if you ordered it. This model made up part of Regency Acres, Aurora's second subdivision, built because of a move of Sterling Drug from Windsor to Aurora. Sterling, a huge pharmaceutical plant at the corner of Yonge Street and Murray Drive, closed more than 20 years ago. We have never seen a Regency Acres home with a "shelter" installed. If you live in one, call us.

Letters to the Editor

They tried to censure committee member, this reader maintains

To the editor,

Transparency and openness were supposed to be the hallmarks of this current Aurora Council.

Freedom of information and the uncensored expression of a person's opinion are key.

However, you would never know that these were to be the cornerstones of Mayor Phyllis Morris's council if you caught the last General Committee meeting Sept. 4.

In an attempt to prevent a citizen member from writing a column for The Auroran and using the tag line "Member of the Economic Advisory Committee", Councillors Stephen Granger and Al Wilson brought to council a resolution asking for a ruling on the "intent" of a policy that had not been studied, debated,

or approved, that would prevent members "from submitting letters to the editor, or writing a regular column in the newspaper, or hosting/co-hosting a regular televised program".

Having sat on council for six years, I can tell you that advisory committee members play a valuable role in shaping policy and advising council.

They do not sign the same oath of office as councillors and mayors, and this allows them more latitude in expressing themselves.

To further reinforce this ideal, the Municipal Act is silent in this area.

It is silent because it recognizes that to do otherwise would be seen as an infringement on our constitutional rights to freedom of speech and expression.

It is silent on these matters

because the Municipal Act understands that citizen participation and the expression of their own opinions is an essential ingredient in keeping a democracy alive and vibrant.

Councillors Granger and Wilson, and especially the mayor, as elected officials should never have allowed this type of a motion to come forward.

It is anti-democratic government.

Perhaps this mayor and certain councillors should be concentrating on motions and actions that will truly help this great town rather than trivial self-serving nonsense like this failed attempt at gagging a volunteer committee member.

Nigel Kean
Aurora

THE AURORAN

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Who pays for water for sod?

To the editor,

The last issue of The Auroran had a number of articles on our water problems.

Two thoughts came to mind.

The other day I was driving up Bathurst.

They were laying sod in the culverts on each side of the road, an area you would be hard pressed to see, plus they were doing it during a dry spell.

On my way back there is a tanker truck filling up at the first hydrant on Cranberry. Does anyone know how much water a tanker holds?

A couple of days later there is a truck spraying some brown gunk higher up in the same culverts on Bathurst, above the previous laid sod.

Next, he is also at that hydrant on Cranberry getting water. Who pays for this?

This week I had construction crews, who are doing "man hole" repairs, come to my house twice and ask for water to make concrete.

Just how much water disappears through construction?

Ian Allison
Aurora



Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

This is the fourth 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. If perseverance and persistence is a virtue, then first term councillor Al Wilson has it in spades.

After a few tries at elected office, Mr. Wilson has finally been elected.

And he did it the right way; prior to winning last November, he prepared himself by attending council sessions, committee meetings and writing various letters to the editor over the years, mostly on tax and budget issues.

That is why in a column last year, I referred to him as the 'tax fighter'; it was not a slight at the other councillors - Mayor Phyllis Morris, for example, during last fall's race emphatically stated that taxes "are the number one issue in this election".

The other reason that I slipped this shoe on Mr. Wilson is that whenever we would meet and chat about local politics the talk would always turn to titillating things like the Aurora budgeting process and the need for lower taxes.

He did cure my insomnia on more than a few occasions!

Like the other councillors, Mr. Wilson has a distinguished level of commitment to this community.

Some of the Aurora Town Committees that he served on include the Traffic Safety Advisory Board (TSAB), the Communications Advisory Committee and Leisure Services Advisory Committee.



Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

I get out of my car having just finished listening to Bobby McFerrin singing "Don't Worry, Be Happy". The song gets stuck in my head.

I come in the front door to a quiet house, where the dust puppies have settled softly in the corners.

Hmm...which one of the kids, I wonder, was on vacuuming duty this week? Then I realize that it's the first week of September. The summer cleaning schedule has expired. I am on vacuuming duty this week...and next week...and the week after that...

Don't worry...be happy...

I put my grocery bags down, and the dust puppies get excited.

In the absence of kids to yell at, I turn to glare at the maker of all the floating fur-balls - my thick-coated dog, Jake.

"You need a shave!" I shout.

Jake curls up a little tighter in his bed.

"Don't worry," he sighs...blowing a fur-ball onto my ice cream. "Be happy."

I don't think Jake suspects that every once in a while, I have fantasies about waxing him.

I start a pot of pasta, put my groceries away then flip through my mail. Hydro bill...Visa bill... Tuition bill that was due August 22...My blood pressure starts to climb...

...and what's this horror addressed to me? A parking ticket? There must be some mistake! I couldn't have committed

He also served on the United Way of York Region Funds Allocation Committees.

Why did you choose to run?

"As you are aware, I have run for Council before, but last year with six incumbents choosing not to run, the opportunity for change was evident. I have consistently been a strong critic of the budgeting processes and resulting rising tax rates in our Town...it had to stop. It needed a different approach. It was possible. I have lived in Aurora for 20 years and for the first ten we had no increases, then in 1999 the increases started coming, and coming; five per cent and in some years, nine per cent."

How has your first ten months in office been?

"I am thoroughly enjoying my role on council! Having been involved in the process, I thought I understood how things worked; not true, I am learning every day. The best part of this job is the opportunity to work with and meet so many people.

"The greatest part of the council is that we each bring a particular strength to the table that is unique...and I think that balance makes for a group around the table that is able to work at the issues and challenges that are before us each meeting."

What do you believe is the council's biggest accomplishment thus far?

"In ten short months I think we have accomplished a lot; I must say, in spite of what you read in the press, it has been a team effort...I am very proud to be a part of this along with my cohorts.

a parking sin in Toronto! I haven't been to Toronto in months! But my son has...

I call him on his cell phone.

"Tim! I just paid one of these!"

"Don't worry, mom," he says calmly. "It was cheaper than the parking lot - really."

"Of course," I say. "Don't worry, be happy..."

"Yeah! That's the idea!"

I don't think my son realizes that I have access to his bank account.

I go into the laundry room to put away some paper products. I step around soccer equipment, a Frisbee, and piles of clothes, toiletries and shoes - the residential arsenal that Tim will hopefully cart off to his new digs in St. Catharines by, um...October?

I snag my brand new pants on a wire that is sticking out of his laundry bag and...Omgod!!! Looking at the two inch tear inspires me to begin speaking in tongues.

#%\$! Don't worry...be happy...#%\$!

I take the pants off to better assess the damage and just then, the pot of pasta I started begins to boil over. I rush from the laundry room into the kitchen just as the doorbell rings.

In the hallway, Jake is kicking up clouds of dust puppies as he assumes guard posture - complete with skull splitting sound effects. I swear I have the loudest dog in Aurora!

As I rush into the hallway, I realize something that makes

Meet Al Wilson

"First, we passed a record budget for the past ten years - a three per cent increase budget in the 2007 budget without affecting service levels. Some say it took us too long, however, I assure you it was a process that was necessary.

"Second, we declared three major town-owned properties surplus - you will see the 'For Sale' signs go up soon.

"Third, we approved the new Arts and Culture Centre in the downtown area - construction to start as soon as possible.

"Fourth, we implemented the Green Bin collection system - Sept. 10th - our goal is to reach 65 per cent diversion this term."

What has surprised/frustrated you about the way Council works?

"My greatest frustration is the wheels of government move ever so slowly! My second is that the emphasis of the press seems to be on personalities rather than results. Our lowest tax increase in ten years and it barely made it to page six! Wonder what page it would have been on had it been the opposite?"

What are the Town's biggest challenges/opportunities?

"I do believe that our greatest challenges during this term will be continued economic development that is good for Aurora and continuing to control taxes."

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

Don't worry...be happy

me suddenly pivot and head back towards the laundry room. I can't answer the door! I am in my underwear!

Don't worry...be happy...

I quickly put my torn pants back on and rush back to the door, but Jake has apparently neutralized the threat. I'm not surprised. The brilliance of installing ceramic tiles in the hallway a few years ago has resulted in an echo that makes Jake sound like a pack of dogs. Nobody hangs around my door very long.

I go back to the pasta mess on the stove and consider my options: Advil or Scotch?

Jennifer comes home from work. She is very upset. Rough day at the office...the traffic lights were out on Yonge Street in Richmond Hill...heavy traffic...crazy drivers...

I don't think my daughter realizes that I understand exactly how she feels.

I get the bottle of Advil out of the cupboard, take one and hand her the bottle.

"Don't worry," I sing in my best Jamaican accent (which comes out sounding somewhat Macedonian), "Be happy!"

She looks at me strangely.

"Oh, and leave the Advil out on the counter. Your dad and your sister will be home any minute now."

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



Bouquets & BRICKBATS

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

 **BOUQUETS** to Aurora's Ross Mackay on earning the Accredited Speaker Award for Professionalism and Outstanding Achievement in Public Speaking at a Toastmasters International event in Phoenix, Arizona. He is a professional keynote speaker who works with companies who wish to improve their success through effective thinking and more powerful goal achievement.

 **BRICKBATS** to Poor Richard for forgetting to mention in his item "Historic Doan Hall now just a Memory" that the Shoppers Drug Mart Doane Hall received a plaque from the Aurora Heritage Committee designating the site as historic as it had been the residence of Charles Doan, the man who named Aurora and was its first reeve. Where is the plaque now?

 **BOUQUETS** to Nick Park, a student at St. Andrew's College in Aurora and Moon Young Lee, a student at Sir William Mulock High School in Newmarket for forming Korean Students Volunteer Association to raise awareness for innocent children caught in the crossfire of conflict around the world.

 **BRICKBATS** to the York Regional Police for their lack of surveillance and failure to take action for the massive transport trucks using Cousins Drive in spite of a "No Heavy Trucks" sign at Yonge Street. Cousins Drive is used by kids going to neighbourhood schools and there are parks on both sides of the street in one area. What's the use of a bylaw when it isn't enforced?

 **BOUQUETS** to former Aurora resident and Legionnaire Mike Giovanetti, now a resident of Bradford and member of the Bradford Legion who took over as Zone E-2 Commander after the death of Legionnaire Jack DeGraaf.

 A Belated **BOUQUET** to former councillor Nigel Kean who was instrumental in founding the Saturday morning Farmers' Market and its mainstay during its formative years. It has carried on due to the hard work he did in building it on a strong foundation.

 **BRICKBATS** (submitted) to Kylemore Communities, developers of 48 executive townhouses on a plot of land, east of Sheppard's Bush. In a mailing to residents, they note the houses are "ideally situated backing onto Shepherd's Bush Conservation Area". If the developers want to make money in Aurora, they should at least learn how to spell.

 **BOUQUETS** to Lynn Wilson for her letter to The Auroran suggesting the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority make the historic Sheppard Home in the Sheppard's Bush as a creative centre and showcase for artists to use it for an exhibition or a workshop and other such uses. It could be made similar to the McKay House in Unionville. Great suggestion!

 **BRICKBATS** to the Ontario Police Service Act which only permits a Police Chief to suspend a police officer for breaking the law, but according to the legislation the suspension is with pay. Given the backlog in the courts, accused officers often receive pay cheques for years while their cases drag through the justice system. Taxpayers deserve better.

 **BOUQUETS** and a Happy Retirement to Marlene Lambros of Aurora for her service to the Ontario Provincial Command of the Royal Canadian Legion ending up as executive director. She was involved in moving of the .Ontario Provincial Command headquarters from Toronto to Aurora.

 **BRICKBATS** to Canada's Health Ministers for bragging about how medical wait times have been reduced through increased government funding, yet an Alberta woman had to be flown to Montana at an estimated cost of \$200,000 as there weren't sufficient neo-natal beds in Calgary or across Canada for the delivery of quadruplets. She was the fifth Alberta woman to be flown to Montana so far this year due to bed and staff shortages.

 **BOUQUETS** to Judge John Gomery of the federal Adscam inquiry for warning politicians that the law in Canada was becoming available only to the wealthy or extremely poor due to the high cost of lawyers and the long delays in the justice system.

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Letters to the Editor

Green bin hints: Part two

To the editor,

Okay, now that I've lectured you on why you shouldn't throw stuff into the green bin without giving it some serious thought, here's what you can do to keep your green bin efforts below your "yuck threshold".

1. You don't have to line your scrap collection bucket with a plastic bag. Drop some shredded paper in there after you've emptied and rinsed it, and let that absorb the liquid (that 70 per cent I told you about in the previous letter) as you collect what you don't think you can put in your own garden. Dump it into your big green bin.

2. The hinged lid on this beauty is enough to keep bugs from finding ways to freeloader in your house, as long as you don't overfill the container. The lid MUST close all the way, or little vinegar flies (they're not fruit flies, they're attracted to fermenting foods) will become firmly established. Empty your collection bucket into the green bin every night. Stay on top of this, and you will

not suffer a wilderness adventure in your own kitchen.

3. Line your green bin with a strong plastic bag, without holes. Drop some shredded paper (about 2 inches worth) in the bottom of that bag, as a sort of nest to absorb more fluid, and to cushion whatever goes in first. I'm thinking chicken bones again: they aren't as likely to poke through the plastic liner if they're not pushing directly against it on the bottom. Used rodent pet litter is perfect for a bottom-of-the-bin application, if you can't bring yourself to mulch your garden with it. After each time you empty your collection bucket into the bin, cover it with more shredded paper. Think that's a lot of effort? Have a heart: the collectors have to tip bin after week-old bin of rotting garbage every single day!

4. Let everything else that goes into your green bin NOT be packaged in plastic, or you will find yourself leaving your reusable shopping bags at home because you've "run out" of disposable ones. Paper absorbs liq-

uids. Liquids that get absorbed do not stink, and are not as powerful a vermin magnet.

5. Baking soda is your friend. Baking soda sprinkled into the bin and scrap bucket (maybe from that really old box you've had at the back of your fridge for the last two years?) also helps keep odours down... and it also makes an excellent scrubbing powder for your scrap bucket.

6. If you keep your green bin outside, bungee it shut to keep the raccoons out. And since you're outside when you tip your collection bucket into it, why not use the rain barrel (okay, or your garden hose) to rinse it out... and pour that nutrient-rich juice in your garden!

7. For bathroom collection of "stuff", use a paper bag, not a plastic bag, to transport your "stuff" to the green bin. The tops of paper bags can be rolled closed, and you know what, ladies? Sanitary products designed to absorb liquid don't get other stuff wet. That's why you use them. They can go in a sturdy

paper bag, on top of all those brush-bundles and toenail clippings. Roll your infant's diapers shut and close them tight with the tapes before putting them in the paper bag.... or transport them to the green bin immediately, instead of letting them accumulate in a diaper genie. (Wow, all that plastic for each and every diaper!) The only bathroom things I can see really needing to go into plastic bags for transport are adult diapers.

8. When your bin is full and ready to roll out to the curb for collection, throw some more of that miraculous shredded paper on top (notice how you've layered your bin like a lasagna), and tie it tightly shut. When the collector comes to tip the bin, it's not going to make him vomit. (Which he might do into your bin, but no worries: you can hose it out over your azaleas or blueberries; they like acid soil.)

That's a lot of work, you say? Not really: it's just a lot of words.

Now WHEN are we going to have a Household Hazardous Waste collection at the curb?

My box of dead Tamagotchi batteries, birthday-gift aerosol cans, and leftover paint is almost full, and I can't seem to find a day when I have time to truck this stuff over to the depot myself when it's open.

Oh, and I have two compact fluorescent bulbs that have to be safely disposed of, thanks to the mercury contained in the ballast.

Can't put that in the regular garbage stream.

Colin A. Macdonald
Director of Rates & Accounting
PowerStream Inc.

Elfie B. Taylor
Aurora

To the editor,

This letter is response to Stephen Somerville's comments on Aurora's electricity rates that appeared in his column in the August 28 edition of The Auroran.

Mr. Somerville very effectively captured the challenges related to the future supply of electricity to the Province of Ontario.

With respect, I would like to make one correction to Mr. Somerville's comments.

The 8.2 per cent decrease in the total bill for a typical residential customer in Aurora (the front page headline in the July 31 edition of The Auroran) is due to

PowerStream harmonizing distribution rates across the four municipalities that we serve.

This rate harmonization (or averaging) process, which required an application to, and approval by, the Ontario Energy Board, fulfills a commitment made to the Town of Aurora when Aurora Hydro was acquired by PowerStream in 2005.

The change in Hydro One's transmission rates that was referred to was announced on August 16 and results in about a 1 per cent decrease in the total bill for a typical customer.

Achieving rate harmonization was by no means a trivial exercise for

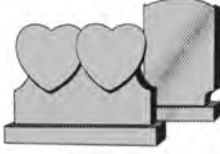
PowerStream and we are pleased with the OEB's timely decision that will allow customers in Aurora to pay lower electricity rates.

Thank you for the interest that The Auroran has in the electricity sector.

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Letters to the Editor



Walton Dr. residents “gridlocked”

To the editor,

Re: The Housser's comment (Letter to the Editor, The Auroran, Sept. 4)

We live on Walton Drive, but, evidently on the wrong end. We are located north of Mark Street and south of Batson Drive.

And, as we were so “graciously” and repeat-

edly told at the public meeting with the consultants regarding the traffic calming issues, “we are not in the study area”.

Interpretation: your opinions and concerns really don't count. Silly us, we forgot that nothing exists north of Mark Street in the north east quadrant!

In fact, the majority of the north east quadrant lives north of Mark Street.

We invite the Houssers to come and see Walton Drive and Batson Drive between 9 and 9.30 a.m. and 3.30 and 4 p.m. now that it appears all the buses for the French elementary school have been re-routed due to the chicane hell at the other end of Walton Drive, diverter woes at Spruce Street, and the one-way at Centre Street.

This does not include

what is still yet to come.

We are gridlocked and unable to get out of our driveways at times.

Please see the photo of our street that we have submitted (above).

Don't get us wrong, traffic calming is a fantastic idea.

But moving the problem from one end of a quadrant to the other is simply foolish.

Perhaps parking only on one side of Walton Drive between Mark Street and Batson Drive during the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., a bylaw officer there to enforce these restrictions and also a police officer to deter people who wish to speed and ignore the stop signs, may make all of these traffic calming measures work for EVERYONE.

We recognize the fact that Walton Drive is a collector road; we do not feel we should have to sacrifice our safety, our property values or our sanity.

A million bouquets to “Poor Richard” for his article. Bang on, Sir.

**The Dunns, the Shaws, the Whytes and the Woods
Aurora**

To the editor,

Traffic Calming - "Stop the Bellyaching!"

We have created a society of whiners, crybabies and victims.

It is always someone else's fault or I have rights!

Nobody wants to be accountable for their own actions.

Fight the fight when it is illegal.

Fight the fight when it is unethical, unfair or oppressive.

Traffic Calming was a PROCESS with very many public workshops and information sessions. If you are such an expert, where were you? Too “busy” to participate? Would rather be an armchair critic?

If you participated and disagreed, thanks for your opinion but this was THE process!

At the end of the day, the project might be unsuccessful. Perhaps the neighbourhood, consultants and council got it all wrong but give them a chance to fail. It will provide a precedent for the

future.

Or...maybe, they all got it right!

Too many self-absorbed, cell-phone-obsessed drivers are tearing about with their own personal agendas, cutting through to get to the GO or Hwy. 404. Don't you read this article in denial, as if you have never seen these drivers! The weekend highway carnage bears this out.

These drivers are already ignoring the “Do Not Enter” signs on Centre Street at Spruce Street. I have witnessed them driving over and through the island at Catherine Avenue and Spruce Street before the posts were installed.

They speed down the middle of the chicanes as if they have the right-of-way. They will do whatever they want until they are held accountable.

A few well-placed Provincial Offence Tickets will wake them up (York Regional Police).

Then, watch for those crocodile tears. It boils down to morons behind the wheel.

You are welcome to drive

through the neighbourhood to get to wherever.

If you can drive your motor vehicle with due care and attention, or reasonable consideration for others, then you can manage chicanes and speed humps.

If not, sorry for the inconvenience but find another, speedier route!

Let the project take its course, sink or swim and stop your bellyaching, Aurora!

**Gary MacDonald
Aurora**

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Embalming more appropriate than traffic calming: reader

To the editor,

embalming seems more appropriate than calming.

Having now seen the intrusive size of these new traffic calming devices -

**Tom Davey
Aurora**

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Not everyone favoured traffic plan, Buck states

To the editor,

With respect to John and Linda Housser's letter, their expression of gratitude to Mayor Phyllis Morris and council with the exception of moi, is slightly askew.

In the first place, it is

property owners at large who have given residents of the north-east quadrant the advantage of being able to sit on their front porches undisturbed by traffic and the freedom to teach a very young child how to safely ride his bicycle on the road because of

the absence of traffic., at a cost of millions to the public purse.

Some of it mine.

In the second place, not all councillors voted for the traffic calming plan designed by Mr. Housser and his neighbours.

Councillor Bob

McRoberts could not participate in discussion pertaining to the issue.

He had been advised more than once by his legal counsel that he had a conflict of interest in the matter.

The value of his property would improve as a

result of the implementation of the plan.

Councillor Alison Collins Mrakas was not in attendance when the plan was approved.

At the previous committee meeting, the councillor, along with others, voted against recommending the project to council.

I recall only Mayor

Morris and Councillor Evelina MacEachern were consistent in their support; Councillor MacEachern because of the issue of "safety"; Mayor Morris because the neighbourhood was "special".

Evelyn Buck
Aurora

Tree permit bylaw mystery to reader

To the editor,

On its website, the Town of Aurora says all the right things about its commitment to tree preservation, based on the many environmental, aesthetic and economic benefits of trees.

The Town has a Tree Permit Bylaw to regulate the injury and removal of trees on private property.

A permit must be obtained, fee paid,

arborist report included, notice given including to nearby residents, etc. Contravention of the bylaw can bring a fine up to \$10,000 or \$1,000 per tree.

The problem is that the bylaw applies only if an owner injures or removes more than four trees per year (in Toronto each and every tree is protected).

How the magic number of four was arrived at is a mystery to me.

My guess is it was seen as a "balance" between being seen as virtuous, "an environmentally responsible community" (from the website), and not wanting to upset too many voters.

The result, however, is ludicrous.

Anyone has the right to destroy up to four trees on their property each year.

If they want to get rid of more, they can simply delete three per year with

no worries based on motives that totally ignore the bylaw's intent.

On my walks I have seen owners removing fine old trees for no apparent reason and with no sanction.

Example: a magnificent weeping willow on Morning Crescent, suddenly gone.

If its true intention is to protect and preserve the valuable tree cover in Aurora, Town Council must revisit this bylaw and make it realistic (according to Town staff only five permits have been issued in the last six years).

If that's too much for our elected reps, they should at least delete from the website all those grand-sounding phrases. They can't have it both ways.

We citizens, and the trees, deserve better.

Reg Lang
Aurora

Reader finds objection to Progressive Conservative faith-based education plans

To the editor,

"Inclusive education", as Frank Klees' advertorial on September 4th put it?

My foot!

He talks about John Tory's "straightforward, fair and responsible" proposal "to bring the 53,000 students who are now attending independent faith-based schools into the public education system".

The proposal may be described as a blatant election appeal to the traditionally liberal voters in ethnic communities in the Greater Toronto Area, but surely, there is nothing straightforward or responsible about it.

As a matter of fact, John Tory himself admits that he hasn't the foggiest idea of how the proposal would work in practice.

All he can say is that the details would be worked out by a special commission if the Conservatives are elected.

In a York Region school where a close friend teaches, some two-thirds of the students in the lower grades are Muslim.

Working and playing together with Christians, Confucians, Jews, Buddhists, Zoroastrians and others, these kids are indeed part of an inclusive public education system that helps them become distinct yet integrated members of a future Canadian society.

But if Ontario offered publicly funded faith-based schools, virtually every Muslim student would be transferred to a Muslim school, as the par-

ents readily admit, partly out of conviction and partly in response to intense faith-community pressure.

How irresponsible to talk about "53,000 students"!

How dishonest to call a segregationist idea "inclusive"!

Instead of publishing the advertorial blurb prepared by Party Headquarters, Frank Klees should take a principled stand.

Peter Bartha
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

More women, minorities, need to run, reader says

To the editor,

As we approach the 2007 provincial election, it is important to look at what parties have considered electing more women and visible minorities into the legislature. Presently, Ontario's MPPs are predominately male, white and come from middle class backgrounds.

In the 2003 election, women held only 25 per

cent of the 103 seats, as MPPs and the proportion of visible minorities held less than nine per cent of the elected MPPs.

In an attempt to bolster the ranks of minority members and women elected to the Legislature, all parties agreed that they would try to significantly improve the proportion of their female candidates, by the 2007 election.

Frankly speaking, the

Conservatives have failed to accomplish this objective.

However, the Liberals and the NDP parties have met this goal.

Here are the facts for women candidates in Ontario: the Liberals are running 38; the NDP, 36; Progressive Conservative, 24 and the Green 10.

Similarly, for the visible minorities candidates in the province: the Liberals

are running 16; the NDP, 16, the Progressive Conservatives, 11; and the Greens, three.

The Liberal Party has increased their number of female candidates substantially.

Dalton McGuinty is pleased to see that 50 per cent of the candidates are women, in the ridings not held by the party. There has been a sincere attempt on the Liberals' and NDP's part to get more women into politics and to get them engaged into the political process.

John Tory's Conservatives, on the other hand, have not kept their promise to promote women into office.

The Conservatives are not "inclusive" of 52 per cent of the population.

Social change and poli-

cies which promote equality have stalled for the Conservatives. Shame on them!

In Ontario, it is time to advance more women and minorities into the demo-

cratic process so that they are represented in the legislature more proportionally.

Jim Jackson
Aurora

Reader has a suggestion to fix Yonge-Wellington

To the editor,

Maybe this is a thought to help solve the road problem at the Yonge and Wellington intersection.

Make Yonge Street, both north and south, a double advanced left turn only lane.

The advance time should be longer than it is now.

Straight through or right turns only from the right lane.

Make Wellington Street, both east and west a double advanced left turn only lane.

Right lane same as the

above for Yonge.

The existing parking may be affected only on the northbound and southbound Yonge Street by one or two parking spots.

Existing bus stops may have to move by 30 to 40 feet.

I must add that the intersection of Bathurst and Wellington, east and west should also be a double advance left turn only.

More parking enforcement is needed on Yonge Street during rush hours.

I realize that we have both the Town and York

Region involved with this.

John Swarbrick
Aurora

Stop all development until water woes fixed

To the editor,

As we all know, Aurora is facing some water problems.

Isn't our additional development making the problem worse?

Why don't we just stop the progress of expansion, for now? Also, what about the homes of animals?

Aren't we sort of destroying them by this growth?

If we just were patient, we can think of some good solutions!

This would help stop furthering the problem.

We could put it on hold, until the water issues are mended. We can't really afford to keep on developing.

We have to stop all this developing until we can fix the water problems!

Sarah DiPaola
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Opening “Bush” house great idea, reader says

To the editor,

Lynn Wilson's suggestion to open the Brookland house in Sheppard's Bush to the public is an inspired idea! ("Open House to Public", Letters to the Editor, The Auroran, Aug. 21.)

The use of the house for an art studio and party

rental space is just what Aurora needs.

If you have ever been to the Cedar Ridge Creative Centre in Scarborough or the Williams Mill in Glen Williams near Georgetown, you would see that a vibrant art community thrives there.

For local townspeople and tourists to have the opportunity to watch artists

at work and to purchase art directly from the artist would give Aurora a uniqueness and charm it is quickly losing as big box stores and sprawling developments slowly take away our small town feel.

Lynn Wilson's suggestion to have a skating rink with the beautifully lit home as a backdrop and the

"Sugar Shack" as a hot chocolate station just solidifies her idea as a year round attraction.

Well done, Lynn!

With ideas like this, we actually may be able to keep Aurora from becoming another look-alike suburb.

Carolyn Grandin
Aurora

Reader can't get hydro credit back

To the editor,

Previously with Aurora Hydro, I was on the monthly set billing plan.

When I got a credit of good amount I would phone and get an immedi-

ate adjustment on my next bill.

At the present time while watching my expenses, on fixed income, I now have a credit of \$201.13.

My billing date is the 6th of each month, they send

out a bill every two months (Aurora Hydro sent one monthly), this one was sent on Aug. 29, and arrives on the Sept. 4, long weekend.

That gives me one day before the next billing to contact them.

I ask Power Stream about my credit, they will review my account in October, after I have made two more payments at what seems to be a too high rate.

But what about my \$201.13?

"Oh, we do not send that back to you", so how do I get it back?

"It will be amortized over your next 12-month billing".

She said they have another plan. Does that get me my credit back? No!

When my natural gas bill has a credit, Enbridge adjusts. Why not Power Stream?

Is this what the Aurora Council did to us?

Ian Allison
Aurora

Town unleashed zoning bylaw dog on new business

To the editor,

Re: Mortgage Sisters Zoning (Story, The Auroran, Page 3, Sept. 4)

Collectively we have been

alarmed about the decline of our Town core, wringing our hands, and wondering what havoc the next big-box store will bring to the downtown.

However, the minute we have a new corporate entity

move to Aurora, and invest in offices located in the downtown core, we unleash the zoning bylaw dog and make life difficult for them.

Northwood Mortgage is one of the fastest growing firms in its industry, and yet instead of extending them a hand for choosing to locate in Aurora's downtown core, we slap them in the face.

Leadership is the art of accomplishing more than what the zoning laws and bureaucracy says is possible.

Leadership and vision is something that Aurora Council severely lacks.

Maybe in another three plus years – and counting- we will finally get some.

John Galt
Aurora

Candidates preparing for meeting

From page 1
time working mother employed as a Municipal Standards Officer.

She ran against Aurora's Glen Hubbers when the Green Party held its federal nomination some months ago.

While there will be no questions from the floor, the public will have a chance to talk to the candidates before and after the scheduled meeting.

From 7 to 7.30 p.m., the public is invited to meet with the candidates at their showcase tables.

At 7.30 p.m. Chamber president Sharon Culver will open the formal part of the meeting.

Each candidate will have two minutes for an introduction, followed by pre-arranged questions to all the candidates from local media.

Following that, each candidate will have another two minutes for closing remarks.

There also will be a power point presentation regarding the referendum question which will be on the ballot.

From 8.30 to 9 p.m., the public can again speak with individual candidates

at their showcase tables.

The Sept. 12 activity takes place in the Queen Elizabeth Room on the hotel's third floor.

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Aurora Community Centre turns 40

The Aurora Community Centre is 40 years old.

It will celebrate its 40th Anniversary this Saturday, September 15.

To celebrate the occasion the Town of Aurora is offering a free one-hour, 60's themed public skate at the centre that day from 11 a.m. to noon.

Skaters have the option of dressing in sixties clothing and the Town will be playing 60's music on the sound system.

That event will be followed by a cake cutting and coffee will be served in the centre's

boardroom from noon to 1 p.m.

The Aurora Community Centre is an integral part of sporting and community events in Aurora.

The arena added a second ice surface in 1996 and it was supported by several community fundraising efforts

The centre is home to the Royal Bank Cup champion Aurora Tigers, the Provincial Junior A hockey team that won the title in 2004 and 2007.

The ACC is also the home rink of the St. Andrews College Saints who have earned sever-

al championships over the past 20 years.

It also houses the offices of the Aurora Minor Hockey Association and the Central York Girls Hockey Association.

The Aurora Home Show has been held at the ACC for the past 25 years. Minor lacrosse was played there in the 1980s, in addition to roller hockey, ball hockey (men's, ladies and youth leagues) and other sports that have been played at the ACC.

The Aurora Skating Club holds its carnival every two

years in the ACC and there have been concerts, wrestling matches, and circuses held inside the building.

The annual review for Queen's York Rangers and 140 squadron Air Cadets is hosted by the ACC.

When Aurora's popular July First party started in 1969, an afternoon beer garden was held in the building.

The most recent renovations at the ACC include a new arena floor and rink boards, a renovated auditorium in 2006, a new entranceway door sys-

tem in 2005 and a new lobby flooring and ticket booth in 2004.

For more information, con-

tact the Marketing & Communications Department at 905-727-3123 ext. 4228 or e-mail commar@e-aurora.ca.

Van-Rob firm solves parking problems

Since purchasing the Tetra Pak plant on the Vandorf Sideroad, Van-Rob

Industries has increased its number of employees from 250 to 750 and needed

more parking.

Last September, following a private session, Aurora Council agreed to sell six acres of town-owned land on the Vandorf Sideroad to Van-Rob for \$230,000 and staff were authorized to take all the necessary steps to complete the transaction.

When the public heard about the sale there was quick reaction and when the enacting bylaw came before council several residents appeared as delegations to oppose the sale.

Klaus Wehrenberg said there was the possibility of the plant being expanded into the property which was low-lying and considered as parkland and the East Holland River valleylands.

He added that the woodlot on the property was a mature forest that had not been logged for more than a generation.

With a series of photographs he pointed out the impact of the proposed sale to the area and the trail system.

Other citizens spoke and presented similar messages and there were complaints about lack of public notice regarding the proposed sale.

It was finally agreed not

to adopt the bylaw and for staff to negotiate the sale of a much smaller site near the front of the property which never materialized.

Van-Rob has now submitted an application to the town for a site plan amendment to permit the construction of an additional 35 parking spaces located on the westerly part of the vacant lands of parking lot area.

It has also updated the Stormwater Management Report to reflect the additional area.

Subject to the resolution of all outstanding issues, Aurora's general committee Tuesday authorized the Director of Planning to execute the site plan agreement.



Kim Dunn, Molly Maid owner in Aurora, is surrounded by pink bags filled with food following Molly Maid's 3rd annual "Christmas in July" food drive. Molly Maid clients were left the bags and asked to fill them with food for the Aurora Food Pantry. Last Wednesday about 300 pounds of food and a cash donation of \$100 were presented to the pantry.

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Aurora's Brian Larter, as he did last year, played the music at the 2nd annual Battle of Yonge Street hockey game Sunday afternoon in Newmarket. At one time, Brian was organist at Maple Leaf Gardens and currently operates an advertising business at the corner of Yonge and Wellington in Aurora. In the exhibition hockey games, the NHL Oldtimers were expected to defeat the Newmarket Hurricane oldtimers, and they did, 7-4, but it was anticipated the Aurora Tigers would easily handle this year's edition of the Hurricanes. That didn't happen as Newmarket skated to a 4-3 victory. Aurora led by a goal after the first period. In a shootout between Aurora's Tim Jones and Newmarket's Tom Taylor, Taylor won 2-1 to win the event for the second consecutive year.

Auroran photo by Rob Schuetze



Newmarket-Aurora PC candidate Frank Klees installs lawn sign in Aurora in preparation for Ontario's October 10 election.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Scotiabank Peewees win Aurora baseball tourney

The annual Aurora Minor Baseball wrapup tournament recently saw the Scotiabank squad roll over Goodyear 16-7 in the final game for the Pee wee division.

These two teams battled to a 6-6 tie earlier in the tournament in a well-played game, so the stage was set for a great final.

Scotiabank got out of the gates early, scoring five runs in the top of the first inning, with key hits from Wade McFarlane, Michael Lever, and Alex Solty.

Goodyear responded with two runs of their own with Braedan Mackenzie leading off with a single to third base.

In the second, Andrew Hunter started the inning for Scotiabank with a single to third, stole second and

scored on a hit by Kurtis Lindner.

After Joe Ariganello reached base, Cameron Albert doubled down the right field line to score Lindner, with Ariganello thrown out at home on a close play.

Albert scored on a clutch single by Patrick Tardif to give Scotiabank a 9-2 lead.

Strong starting pitching from Ariganello, who finished with a four-pitch, three-up, three-down inning in the third paved the way for Scotiabank.

They extended their lead to 12-3 in the fourth as Eric Bolduc, McFarlane and Lever all scored with two out.

Lever came in to pitch solid fourth and fifth innings, with strong supporting defence, particularly a catch by Louis Ricchiuto in centre field.

Louis' brother Matthew started a four-run offensive outburst in the sixth and final inning, with Andrew Seguin clearing the bases with a double.

Douglas Nisbet lined out to end the inning.

Seguin pitched a scoreless sixth inning, leaving the bases loaded with a line out to third baseman Wade McFarlane for the victorious Scotiabank squad.

Big building planned for Industrial N.

Subject to a review by the Site Plan Review Committee, Aurora's general committee authorized a site plan agreement between the town and Geotech Ltd. for the construction of an industrial building Tuesday.

The site is on the east side of Industrial Parkway, south of the leash-free dog park.

The applicant proposes to construct a two storey building of 19,719 square feet with 60 parking spaces and to landscape the perimeter with deciduous trees and various shrubs.

At the same meeting the general committee moved the reconstruction deadlines Machell Avenue from 2010 to 2007 to coincide with the planned construction of a regional watermain along Machell Avenue.

The general committee also authorized staff to hire a consultant for the design of the reconstruction of Machell Avenue.

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Festival slated for Farmers' Market

There will be an Apple and Honey Festival at the Aurora Farmers' Market next week.

And, if you can bake, you might win a prize.

Set up for Saturday, Sept. 22 from 8 a.m. to noon, the event will take place at the market on Temperance Street, just south of Wellington Street, one block west of Yonge.

The event features a home-made apple crumble and apple pie baking contest that is open to all Aurora residents.

You bake it, then fill out an entry form, available all over

town, and drop it off at the Info Aurora desk at the town hall before 4.30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 21.

Late registrations will be accepted the next day prior to 9 a.m.

In addition to the contest, there will also be an Aurora Restaurant challenge for the best original home made apple dessert.

Music at the event will be provided by George St. Kitts.

For further information, call Aurora Councillor Stephen Granger at 905-727-3123, extension 4266, or e-mail him at sgranger@e-aurora.ca.



Representing four groups of scouts from Aurora who attended this year's 100th anniversary of the Canadian Jamboree, these youngsters took time to display the Aurora flag. Representing the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Aurora Scouts, the group took part in several activities at the jamboree held north of Montreal. Currently, youngsters of all ages have an opportunity to enroll in the various programs Wednesday night, Sept. 12, at Aurora Public Library from 7 to 9 p.m.

Aurora author to appear at Sharon literary event

We've all suffered from nightmares. Some seem so realistic that the horror can eat at you for days.

Now imagine having nightmares of being blindfolded and taken from your family, of suffering beatings by a masked person and being forced to watch your friends executed.

Those are the kinds of true life internal nightmares that Marina Nemat has endured for more than 20 years.

An Aurora resident since 1993, Marina Nemat has been traveling across the world with her new book "Prisoner of Tehran".

Her self-expression about her Christian beliefs in a Muslim society and her desire to read Western novels and become educated without any political agendas are what would lead her to become the target of false charges in 1982, arrested and condemned to die.

At the age of 16 when teenaged girls are experiencing their first kiss, the beautiful dark-haired Marina was sent to Iran's notorious Evin Prison for more than two years.

"Prisoners under the age of 18 were destroyed by torture and intimidation," she said.

She remembers each one in her cramped cell of 70.

"We slept elbow to elbow often times waking each other to get to the bathroom." The cell mates hung on to each other looking for solace knowing that the next day might take one of them to the firing line.

But Marina would not be the one who would die thanks to her captor who protected her by asking her to marry him. His life ended brutally and she was released to return to her family.

Marina had a chain of memories that kept coming back to haunt her.

The beatings, the firing squad and her parents' denial of her pain needed to be expressed not repressed and she began her catharsis in 2002.

She had no structure at first, but with the help of her writer's group and creative writing classes, she finally put the pain on paper.

"It was difficult, especially trying to place names and events."

She knew that divulging the victim's names would be sensitive for them and she didn't

know how many were still alive.

The safety of the prisoners was so important to her that she had to create a way of protecting them.

"If I went to a book store and brought home a book to read and discovered it was about me, how would I feel?"

Her first submission to a publisher was rejected but in 2006 an agent who believed in her vision took it to Penguin Books where she became published. Marina thought that perhaps after the publication she could put the horrific events to sleep but it was not to be.

"I learned there would be no such thing as closure. I was still in an emotional prison. We lie to ourselves when we think an experience like this can just go away. There is no changing the past, only

changing the future."

Marina has written poetry as a young child and admits it was "a lot of reading that made me who I am today."

As neither an insider nor an outsider she has managed to break the heroic image of political prisoners and has angered many political groups who look at her as a traitor.

The Aurora resident will talk about her book at the Words Alive Literary Festival at the Sharon Temple on Saturday, Sept. 29.

For more information click on www.wordsalive.ca

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	5 Pin Bowling Buddies	(Starts Sep 11th)	7:00 pm
	10 Pin Seniors League	(Starts Sep 4th)	1:00 pm
Wednesday	5 Pin Mixed League	(Starts Sep 5th)	7:00 pm
Friday	10 Pin Senior League	(Starts Sep 7th)	1:00 pm
Saturday	10 Pin Mixed League	(Starts Sep 8th)	2:00 pm

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HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B TH - July 12 - Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors 3 (R. Thomas 1, J. Fulford 1, L. Langlois 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 2 (T. Nagk 1, J. Krawczyk 1); Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre 4 (M. Niro 1, C. McDonald 1, J. Perkins 1, P. Turner 1) vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 2 (T. McKay 1, S. Gable 1); White/Canada - Bell World 1 (J. Arcuri 1) vs Navy/Czech Repub - Aurora Orthodontics 0;

July 19 - Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 1 (S. Gable 1) vs White/Canada - Bell World 2 (R. Cameron 1, E. Pears 1);

July 26 - Navy/Czech Repub - Aurora Orthodontics 2 (T. Campbell 2) vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 2 (S. Gable 2); Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors 3 (J. Clements 1, A. Rosales 1, R. Thomas 1) vs Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre 1 (J. Perkins 1); White/Canada - Bell World 4 (G. Scott 2, A. Sault 1, M. Rossi 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 2 (T. Nagle 1, M. Coaswell 1);

August 2 - Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 3 (T. McKay 1, D. Atasiel 2) vs Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors 1 (J. Dugal 1); White/Canada - Bell World 2 (J. Arcuri 2) vs Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre 5 (C. McGoldrick 1, J. Perkins 2, P. Turner 2);

August 16 - Gold/Brazil -Philthy McNasty's 0 vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 1 (S. Gable 1); Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors 1 vs White/Canada - Bell World 2 (I. Rogalska 1, M. Rossi 1); Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre 6 (M. Niro, C. McGoldrick, C. McDonald, J. Perkins, P. Turner) vs Navy/Czech Repub - Aurora Orthodontics 1 (M. Schwarze 1);

August 23 - Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet 7 (J. Salomons 2, S. Gable 2, D. Atasiel 3) vs Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre 2 (C. McGoldrick 2) ; Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 0 vs Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors 5 (B. Langlois 2, A. Resale 1, J. Pugas 1, B. Sadegh 1);

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Red/Poland - Aurora Shopping Centre 4 vs Orange/Netherlands - Clements Interiors 1;

U8B M/W - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Red/Poland - HSBC Bank Canada 2 vs White/Canada - HSBC Bank Canada 1;

U8G T- No results have been recorded

U8/9 Girls M/W - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results- Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza 4 vs Pink/Spain -WOWIT 3;

U9B M - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Red/Poland - Enviocar Paint & Collision 7 vs Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 2;

U9/10G W - August 22 - Pink/Spain - Mirconex Inc Industrial & Trade Supplies 4 (H. Park 1, A. McNern 1, J. Rahim 1, L. Finlay 1) vs Sage/USA 0;

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Gold/Brazil - Philthy McNasty's 1 vs Orange/Netherlands - Century 21 Martin Read 0

U9B T/TH - July 12 - Orange/Netherlands 3 (L. Verre 1, J. Charenza 1, M. Gardiner 1) vs Gold/Brazil - 0; Navy/Czech Repub - Core Micro 5 (B. Kissack 2, G. Adams 2, R. D'Antimo 1) vs White/Canada - Port Royal Mills 1 (C. Dyer 1); Forest/Portugal - Aurora Viking Shrine Club 2 (J. Eydt 1, E. Shennan 1) vs Red/Poland - McDonalds 1;

July 19 - Gold/Brazil - Betz Cut Stone 2 (J. Bryant 2) vs Red/Poland - McDonalds 0;

Navy/Czech Repub - Core Micro 2 (C. Eby 1, J. Reeves 1) vs Orange/Netherlands 6;

White/Canada - Port Royal Mills 3 (M. Heese 1, C. Dyer 1, P. Servideo 1) vs Forest/Portugal - Aurora Viking Shrine Club 2 (G. Sanford 1, J. Eydt 1);

July 26 - White/Canada - Port Royal Mills 4

(M. Montesanti 1, C. Dyer 1, A. Badali 1, R. Sinnins 1) vs Gold/ Brazil - Betz Cut Stone 2 (R. Walsh 2); Forest/Portugal - Aurora Viking Shrine Club 3 (E. Shennan 2, N. Campbell 1) vs Navy/Czech Repub - Core Micro 2;

August 2 - Navy/Czech Repub - Core Micro 2 (B. Kissack 4, E. Woodhead 3) vs Gold/Brazil - Betz Cut Stone 1;

White/Canada - Port Royal Mills 5 (M. Dowling 1, P. Servideo 1, A. Badali 1, R. Simmons 1, M. Heese 1) vs Red/Poland - McDonalds 1 (J. Sangha 1);

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - White/Canada - Port Royal Mills 0 vs Orange/Netherlands 3;

U10B T/TH - August 28 - Final Standings - Gold/Brazil 3 (J. Laird 1, K. Nocon-Willatts 2) vs Sky/Argentina 7 (B. Kublick 3, B. Bilotta 1, P. Habbald 2, D. Findlay 1);

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results- Forest/Portugal 2 vs Sky/Argentina 1;

U10B FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	11	1	1	34
Silver	9	3	1	28
Kelly	8	2	2	26
Sky	5	5	2	17
Orange	5	6	1	16
Red	5	7	1	16
Maroon	4	9	0	12
White	4	9	0	12
Navy	3	5	2	11
Gold	2	9	0	6

U10G - August 1 - Gold/Brazil - Hartwell Thayer Financial Services 0 vs Forest/Portugal 3 (A. Barnes 2, N. Crouse 1); Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 1 (S. Kazakov 1) vs Navy/Czech Repub 1 (K. Lamaire 1);

August 22 - Pink/Spain - Himelfarb Proszanski LLP 3 (A. Kern 2, A. Wayne 1) vs Forest/ Portugal 3 (A. Barnes 2, M. Baile 1); Navy/Czech Repub - Summers & Smith 1 (M. Gans 1) vs Orange/Netherlands 1 (J. Devries 1); Red/Poland - Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 4 (A. Point 2, E. Wotherspoon 1, P. Dutchyshen 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Hartwell Thayer Financial Services Group 1 (R. McCormick 1);

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Pink/Spain - Himelfarb Proszanski LLP 2 vs Forest/Portugal 1;

U10G FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	7	2	5	26
Red	7	3	4	25
Forest	5	4	5	20
Pink	4	5	5	17
Orange	4	7	3	15
Gold	2	8	4	10

U11B - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiner Drillers 1 vs Forest/Portugal - Wikoff Color Corp 0;

U11B FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	9	1	3	30
Navy	8	4	1	25
Orange	5	3	5	20
Gold	5	7	1	16
Red	4	8	1	13
White	2	10	1	7

U11G - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Red/Poland - Gringler, Iskov, Lerner 2 vs Forest/Portugal - Timetech 0;

U11G FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	9	2	3	30
Red	8	4	2	26
Forest	5	4	5	20
Purple	6	7	1	19
Orange	3	7	4	13
Gold	2	9	3	9

U12/13B - August 16 - Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiner Drillers 2 (W. Salomons 1, K. Joyce 1) vs Forest/Portugal 3 (M. Tenuta 3); Sage/USA 3 (J. Caruso 1, E. Jones 1, A. Cackirovski 1) vs White/Canada - La Prairie Inc 1 (C. Corsi 1); Maroon/Japan 1 (J. French 1) vs Sky/Argentina 1 (C. Cherubini 1); Orange/Netherlands 4 (Z. Richards 3, B. Markus 1) vs Kelly/Italy 6 (T. Braunstein 2, L. Marneris 1, J. Delplavignano 1, L. Driedger 1, V. Ruscica 1);

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Gold/Brazil - Dr. Steiner Drillers 2 vs Silver/Austria 1;

U12/13B FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Sage	13	0	1	40
Royal	10	2	2	32
Gold	10	3	1	31
Forest	8	5	1	25
Navy	8	5	1	25
Silver	7	4	3	24
Maroon	6	6	2	20
Orange	4	6	4	16
White	4	9	1	13
Kelly	2	12	0	6
Red	1	11	2	5
Sky	1	11	2	5

U12G - July 24 - Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 3 (M. Sykula 1, M. Manning 1, S. Brockington 1) vs Silver/Argentina - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0; Navy/Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (K. Klinger 1) vs Gold/Brazil - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 4 (T. Mansillo 1, J. Martin 1, E. Thompson 1, C. Denault 1); Forest/Portugal - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 (T. Partland 1, T. Foote 1) vs Maroon/Japan - Lotus Interior Specialties Copmmercial/Residential 0;

July 31 - Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0 vs Navy/Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 3 (J. Neudorf 1, S. Marsden 2); Silver/Austria - Lotus Interiors Specialties Commercial/Residential 0 vs Gold/Brazil - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (C. Denault 1); Forest/Portugal - Lotus Interiors Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (T. Partland 1) vs Purple/France - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 0; Red/Poland - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 vs Maroon/Japan - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 1 (M. Churchill 1);

August 14 - Forest Portugal - Lotus Interior Specialties 0 vs Navy/Czech Repub - Lotus Interior Specialties 0;

Silver/Austria - Lotus Interior Specialties 2 vs Red/Poland - Lotus Interior Specialties 3; Orange/Netherlands - Lotus Interior Specialties 2 (O. Biziotis 1, M. Sykula 1) vs Purple/France - Lotus Interior Specialties 1 (R. Gaudio 1);

Gold/Brazil - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residental 0 vs Maroon/Japan - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residental 1 (M. Churchill 1);

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Gold/Brazil - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residential 2 vs Purple/France - Lotus Interior Specialties Commercial/Residental 1;

U12G FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	9	2	2	29
Pink	7	3	3	24
Purple	6	3	4	22
Red	6	6	1	19
Gold	4	5	4	16
Navy	5	7	1	16
Silver	4	6	3	15
Orange	2	11	0	6

U14/15 B - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results- Navy/Czech Repub - R & J Concepts Inc 1 vs Gold/Brazil - Dr. Orschel's Drillers 0;

U14/15B FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Gold	11	2	1	34
Orange	8	5	1	25
Red	8	5	1	25
White	4	8	2	14
Navy	4	9	1	13
Forest	3	9	2	11

U13/14G - August 20 - Gold/Brazil - BMPS 0 vs Navy/Czech Repub - Carproof 3 (A. Morisani 1, C. Marshall 1, A. Hamilton 1); Orange/Netherlands - CIBC 0 vs Forest/Portugal 3 (T. Askew 1, R. Knetsch 1, A. Rustico 1); Pink/Spain 1 (S. McCormick 1) vs Kelly/Italy - En Ville Event Design & Catering 4 (M. Scully 1, C. MacLeod 1, H. Werda 2); Red/Poland - CGI 3 (C. Fantin 2, J. Dobson 1) vs Purple/France - Timetech 0;

Royal/Scotland 2 (S. Ierner 2) vs Sage/USA 3 (C. Layton 1,M. Loverock 1, E. Gauthier 1); Silver/Austria 1 (E. Herschorn 1) vs Sky/Argentina - Immersive Media 1 (V. Partland 1);

August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Sage/USA 2 vs Forest/Portugal 0;

U13/14G FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	10	1	3	33
Sage	9	1	4	31
Sky	7	2	5	26
Forest	8	6	0	24
Pink	6	3	5	23
Kelly	7	7	0	21
Navy	6	6	2	20
Royal	5	6	3	18
Purple	3	8	3	12
Silver	3	8	3	12
Orange	2	10	2	8
Gold	2	10	2	8

U15/16G - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Orange/Netherlands - Izzii Popat Royal LePage 5 vs Sky/Argentina - System Labyrinth Inc 4;

U15/16 GIRLS FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Silver	11	0	3	36
Red	8	3	3	27
Orange	6	2	6	24
Navy	4	6	4	16
Gold	4	8	2	14
Forest	3	6	4	13
Purple	2	7	3	9
Sky	1	7	5	8

U16/19B - No scores reported from Coach or Convener

U16/U19B FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	10	4	0	30
Red	7	5	2	27
Navy	5	7	2	17
Gold	4	10	0	12

U17/21G T/TH - August 26 - Final Stinger Cup Results - Navy/Czech Repub - Xerox - Digital Business Systems 1 vs Gold/Brazil - Dr. Orschel's Drillers 0;

U17/21G T/TH FINAL STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	9	2	3	30
Forest	9	4	1	28
Orange	6	5	3	21
Gold	5	6	3	18
Purple	3	9	1	10
Red	3	9	1	10

Frank has a successful track record on issues important to Newmarket and Aurora.

HEALTH CARE

- Secured expansion for Southlake Hospital

“Frank Klees has been a vocal advocate of Southlake...He was instrumental in assisting the hospital in acquiring approval for the regional cardiac program.”

*Daniel Carriere, President & CEO
Southlake Regional Health Centre*



Frank Klees with Dan Carriere reviewing expansion plans for the Southlake Regional Health Centre

ENVIRONMENT

- Championed and passed into law the “Oak Ridges Moraine Protection Act”

“We have appreciated your support from day one... (Your) leadership was instrumental in helping the public understand the location and the importance of the Moraine.”

*Michael Scott, Executive Director
Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation*



Frank helping children understand the importance of our environment

- Approved funding for York Region’s rapid transit system
- Approved 404 extension, HOV lanes and improved GO train service

Traffic congestion is the number one concern for York Region residents and our rapid transit plan is critical to addressing our current and future transportation needs. Your voice has been instrumental in helping us build the momentum - both locally and at Queen’s Park - which helped bring the first phase of VIVA to York Region.”

*Bill Fisch, Chair and CEO
Regional Municipality of York*



Frank is a strong advocate for the continued development of rapid transit in York Region

For more information contact or visit our Campaign Office at
1111 Davis Drive 404 Plaza, Leslie & Davis Newmarket, 905-954-1221



Senior Scape

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Fall activities in full swing

This is the time of year when we do a sharp about turn from summer activities and bend our minds back to the reality of work, school, retirement, shorter days and changing weather.

The holidays were fun but familiar faces are welcome and it is good to be back.

We welcome Lucas Hiltz, who assumes the coordinator's responsibilities temporarily, while Kelly is off on maternity leave.

The woodworking shop is open for business and we have a new Tuesday evening chess club and we would love to see you.

We have constructed a ramp down to the Arboretum and built pits for tossing horseshoes at the east side of the building.

Many new faces mean new potential friendships, and pretty well everything is in good working order and the place looks inviting, comfortable and agreeable which is a credit to everybody who made the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) happen and who continue to support the seniors.

Impacting significantly on senior life is the success of many hundreds of seniors, who have challenged the computer successfully by learning to compute.

I draw your attention to signing up for computer lessons every Tuesday between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in the computer room.

We diminish inevitably as we age, but sharpening computer skills for the years to come opens the door to e-mail, processing digital camera images, accessing the wonders of the internet, and mitigates loss of physical mobility and is a powerful positive, generating optimism for the life ahead.

An upcoming art show and sale is planned with the date to be announced.

However, if you would like

to participate in this year's event you need to register for a course with Dorothy or Sheila.

Please check at the front counter for details and if you have some skills, come on over and see how professional help may develop the quality of your work.

Through the summer holiday months which are always quieter, the ASA continued daily programs and activities, with some enjoying very good attendance.

I noted that the card games, some variety of which are played every day had what appeared to be excellent attendance, which speaks to its popularity.

If cards, scrabble or bingo attract you, come on over and check out what suits your time schedule and interest.

In the balance of our senior lives, a golden age offers itself to seniors, and it is our responsibility and those who follow to bring it to reality.

A golden age will evaporate if we prove unworthy of it, and the best way to bring a golden age to reality is by allowing it to happen with the benefit of full senior participation.

A membership drive has been announced for Friday, September 28 and your membership will encourage and strengthen every senior who walks our halls and corridors and enjoys the fruits of longevity.

Please join the ASA if you are not already a member!



Rev. Timothy K. Hanley was formally installed as pastor of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Aurora Sunday morning, by the Most Reverend Peter Hundt, auxiliary bishop of Toronto. He replaces Father Don MacLean, who recently retired.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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Junior Rangers for the summer

In August, 1969, 24 Junior Rangers returned to Aurora tanned and in glowing health after working for the summer in the Methodist Point Park north of Penetanguishene.

As employees of the provincial Department of Lands and Forests, now the Ministry of Natural Resources, they spent six weeks learning first hand about resource management, supervised by a camp foreman and two assistants.

The boys were kept busy clearing the underbrush along roadways, spraying for poison ivy control and carrying out other duties related to forest protection, fish and wildlife and timber management.

Their headquarters had been a trailer camp which was equipped with a kitchen and dining trailer with a resident chef, running water and a washing machine.

The recreational program included swimming, canoeing, boat trips on Georgian Bay, baseball games and the occasional excursion into town to see a movie.

Also included in the program, were weekly lectures by department staff on all branches of the department's work.

REMEMBERING 1947

Everyone will have their own memories of 1947 but on the political scene, MacKenzie King was Prime Minister of Canada and George Drew was Premier of Ontario.

Instead of deregulation, the old Ontario Hydro was considering conversion from 25 to 60 cycle service, daily newspapers sold for three cents and Newfoundland was still two years away from becoming Canada's 10th province.

NOTHING HAS CHANGED

For many seniors, Bank Inspector Fraud is just as common today as it was in August, 1969, when Staff Superintendent Jim Erskine of the Ontario Provincial Police Anti-Rackets Squad came to Aurora to warn about Bank Inspector Fraud.

He said investigations indicated many criminals practice

several variations of the scheme to get money from trusting senior citizens.

Any time during banking hours of a weekday, the telephone may ring in an average middle-class home, usually that of an elderly widow.

The male caller, in a very business-like and authoritative manner would identify himself as a bank official or a member of the Police Department investigating a dishonest bank employee suspected of tampering with the customer's account.

The caller would then, in a very persuasive tone, obtain from the victim information concerning the amount of money on deposit in her account.

He would then ask that she go to the bank and withdraw a substantial sum of money from the account.

The caller would then advise her that the money she received could be counterfeit and he would pick it up to examine it for her.

The officer stressed that bank inspectors and police officers do not ask people to withdraw money from the bank under any circumstances and any person approached under these conditions should call their local police.

Nothing much as changed over the years as trusting elderly people still try to help the phony bank inspector catch so-called dishonest bank employees.

ARE SCHOOL SUPPLIES STILL PROVIDED?

There was a disturbing article in the press recently about school supplies not being supplied in some school areas resulting in parents having to spend hundreds of dollars on paper, pens, dictionaries and other supplies and in one case, students had to bring their own toilet paper to school.

It was reminiscent of the Aurora Public School Board and Wells Street Public School prior to 1963 when each child attending school was provided with a list of supplies that were required in each grade and it was up to the parents to provide them.

There was a little store on Yonge Street near Scanlon's Bakery, operated by two elderly sisters, which carried the supplies and they made quite a good living doing so as it was the only shop in town where the supplies were available.

By that time many new residents had arrived in Aurora, many from Toronto where school supplies were provided, and the school board started to receive complaints.

Even some of the teachers complained as they had been buying supplies for some children as parents couldn't afford them.

In 1963, trustees decided to change the system and start supplying workbooks, pens, pencils, rulers, etc.

As the school board didn't have a full-time administrative staff, Trustee Dick Illingworth took on the task of compiling the requirements with the help of Principal Del Babcock and issuing a tender call.

Unfortunately, such action effectively forced the two little ladies to close their store as there was no longer a demand for their supplies.

REMEMBERING OFFICER ED

In October, 1986, York Regional Police acquired a \$30,000 computerized constable complete with regulation cap and uniform to aid in the education of children and in crime prevention programs.

As the robot arrived without a name, police officials arranged with the school boards for a naming contest.

All elementary students were invited to enter the competition and the name Officer Ed (for education) was declared the winner.

It was submitted by Joshua Krepel, a Grade 4 student at Westminster Public School in Vaughan.

Officer Ed worked with the Community Services Branch and visited schools, malls, seniors' homes and other organizations to enhance child safety.

He was a regular visitor to Vic's Shoe Repair Shop on Yonge Street in Aurora.

Bridge results

AURORA BRIDGE CLUB

Tuesday, Sept. 4: Marg Farmer and George Payment; Andy Williams and John Jarman; Mike and Dan MacNeil; Marg and Paul Macfarlane.

Wednesday, Sept. 5: N/S - Beth Stokell and Alex Carpenter; Vivien Thomas and Marg Farmer; Linda Lord and Hans Jacob. E/W - Ross Jenkinson and Don Jackson; George Jordan and Paul Stanbury; Paul Macfarlane and Lena Jackson.

Friday, Sept. 7: N/S - Paul Graves and Shirley Hulbig; Hans Jacob and Ron Smith; Gail Model and Marta Vigneux. E/W - Gerald Heath and Marg Farmer; George Payment and Priscilla Hull; Virginia Smereka and Marg Burt.

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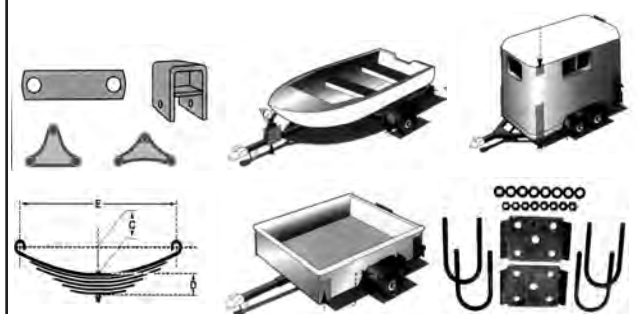
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Frank Klees, MPP

What's It All About? Quality of life!

That's what residents of Newmarket and Aurora love about their community. And protecting and enhancing that quality of life is what residents expect from their elected representatives. That was the recurring theme at a recent community meeting I hosted in Aurora.

Access to healthcare when it's needed, quality education for our children, safe neighbourhoods and a healthy environment are all elements that define our quality of life. One issue that is increasingly seen as a threat to our quality of life is gridlock. Clogged roads are affecting us every day and in everything we do. When cars and trucks idle, they are at their worst for creating greenhouse gas emissions. From stealing time from our families and personal lives at home, to lost jobs and productivity, gridlock is a serious problem that impacts the entire community.

Despite these growing concerns and their impact on our economy and quality of life, the McGuinty government's re-sponse after 4 years in office is to make conditional promises that may or may not ever be implemented! As a former Minister of Transportation I know this is simply not good enough. The impact gridlock is having on all of us is far too important an issue to risk being on the wrong end of yet another broken promise.

While it will take the cooperation of all three levels of government, it is the responsibility of the provincial government to lead in the planning and funding

of a comprehensive transportation plan that incorporates a long-term transit strategy and expansion of much needed highway infrastructure. In York Region, we can no longer afford to delay the planned extension of Hwy 404 north and we have to get on with construction of the Bradford By-Pass to provide a link between Highways 404 and 400. More frequent weekday train service between Newmarket, Aurora and Union Station is essential for encouraging people to choose public transit. Add weekend and evening Go Train service and think of how many Leaf and Jays fans would opt to choose the comfort of transit over the congestion of the 404?

Planning subway extensions into York Region has to become more than political announcements for some far-off date in the future. Firm timelines and funding commitments rather than the conditional and meaningless promises we've seen from the McGuinty government are needed. John Tory's plan to dedicate 100% of gasoline and fuel taxes to transportation and transit will ensure that stable, multi-year funding is available for these projects. A John Tory PC government will provide both the leadership and practical funding to ensure we build the transportation system we need, and preserve and enhance our community's quality of life. After all, that's what it's all about!

As always, I welcome your thoughts on this or any other issue of importance to you. Please visit my website at www.frankklees.com or call me personally at 416 509 8999. I look forward to hearing from you.

Frank

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Many thanks to Sean Herbinson for sponsoring our Garage/Lawn Sales again this year.

FREE Garage Sale Map
Free to Aurora residents

Call The Auroran at **905-727-7128** to put your garage sale on the map.

905-727-1941

SATURDAY SEPT 15TH

1) 28 Boulding Dr. 10 - 5
2) 53 Snedden Ave 7.30 - 1.30
3) 149 - 154 Spruce St. 8 - noon

4) 6 Hammond Dr. 7.30 - noon
5) 27 Glenview 8 - 1

SEPT 22 - 67 Willis Dr. 8 a.m.

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Advertise all year for as little as \$7 per week. (*This section only) Call 905-727-7128, Fax 905-727-2620 or go to www.auroran.com

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WORKSHOP for ENTERPRISING WOMEN

Sept. 18, 25, 26 & Oct. 3
See below for details

Business Basics for Enterprising Women

Enterprising Women is a course offered by Women's Centre of York Region for women who have a business idea and want to learn key business management skills in order to start their business. This is a five-month course that combines in-class training with individual business coaching. Orientation sessions for the next session will be held September 18, 25, 26 and October 3. Interested participants need to attend one session only; all sessions are held at Trinity Anglican Church, Aurora.

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Carpentry • Decks & Fences • Professional Painting
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STUDY GROUP

STUDY GROUP (MAD MONEY) meeting in Aurora. Learn about investing. Books required. Day-traders welcome. No fees. Educational only. Call 905-751-6013 to be added to our mailing list for scheduled meetings.

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HORSES • HORSES • HORSES

Learn How to Ride

- INDOOR & OUTDOOR ARENAS
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- CAMPS MARCH & SUMMER

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www.wesequestrian.ca

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For people on the go!

We offer lessons for adults and kids. Learn the language and enjoy the culture

Adult, Youth and children classes available
Bring a friend and get

10% off!
flexible hours.

www.spanishtogo.ca

YOGA CLASSES

www.yogaforlife.ca

YOGA
For stress relief & health.
Fall classes begin
Sept. 17, 2007
Spaces available
Mon/Wed. Evenings
Mon/Fri. Mornings

Aurora Public Library
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Andrea Roth cert. yoga teacher since 1979.

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LATIN/BALLROOM DANCE CLASSES

LATIN/BALLROOM CLASSES AND PARTIES

with Steve Miller

REGULAR CLASSES

START SEPT. 10 FOR 8 WEEKS

Mondays 8 & 9 p.m.
at the Aurora Legion (8 week course)

NEXT DANCE PARTY
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ONE HOUR Cha Cha Lesson
7 p.m. - midnight in the
Aurora Legion Ballroom (\$17)

Strict Tempo Music - Line Dances - Refreshments - Cash Bar - Door Prizes

—Couples and Singles Welcome—
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Site: www.SteveMillerDance.ca
or call Steve Miller at 416-439-6557

A Message from Frank

It has been a privilege to serve as a Member of Provincial Parliament in York Region since 1995. My goal is to always be accessible to my constituents and to do my utmost to be an effective advocate for their needs.

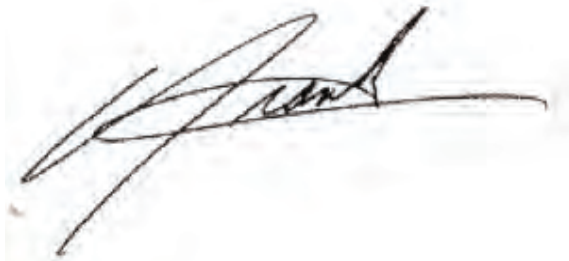
I am proud of my record as a champion for the environment, my efforts to make health care more accessible, and my role in ensuring provincial support for our transportation needs.

By working together, we can ensure that we have the best place in the world to live, to work, and to raise a family. A community where our economy is vibrant, our neighbourhoods are safe and our environment is healthy and sustainable.

It will require bold and determined leadership to realize that vision, and I look forward to working with you to make that vision a reality.

I am pleased to share with you the policies put forward by John Tory and the PC Party. As always, I welcome your thoughts on this or any other issue of importance to you.

Please visit my website at www.frankklees.com or call me personally at 416-509-8999. I look forward to hearing from you.



Frank Klees, MPP



Frank along with his wife Jaine, daughter Alissa and son Robert have lived in Aurora since 1987.

FRANK KLEES

He Gets Things Done!



For a Better Ontario
Leadership Matters



The PC Party Plan
for Ontario's Future