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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 7 No. 49

905-727-3300

auroran.com

FREE

Week of October 16, 2007

BRIEFLY

TOAST at it again

The Town of Aurora Staff Together Committee, better known as TOAST, will hold a silent auction and bake sale next month. This event is usually a huge success. It will be held Saturday, Nov. 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the New Recreation Complex, 1400 Wellington Street East, in the main lobby. All proceeds will be donated to the York Region Children's Aid Society "Holiday Gift Program". Anyone wishing to make a donation should call 905-726-4740.

Meanwhile, this weekend

This Friday and Saturday, Oct. 19 and 20, Aurora United Church will hold its annual Fall Rummage sale. There's plenty there to see and buy, including gently used clothing for the winter, household articles, books, and a selection of Hallowe'en costumes. All proceeds go directly back into the community as outreach to Women and Men shelters as well as the Welcoming Arms Program. On Friday, the event runs from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, the sale is on from 9 a.m. to noon.

Okay, repeat after me...

Teacher to the editor of The Auroran: "Go to the blackboard and write one million times: Stone Road Public School is really Aurora Grove Public School."

We not only got it wrong once on the front page of last week's Auroran, we got it wrong twice. For that, there can be no forgiveness.

Wanna hear Elvis?

Elvis Presley impersonator Randy Skelcher will be one of the attractions this Saturday at a fall fair being held to raise money for a new playground. The event, organized by residents of the Charles Darrow Co-op, will be held at 135 James Henry Drive, near Wellington and Haida. In addition to Skelcher, there will be a barbecue, cotton candy, a bake sale, a costume and singing contest, pumpkin colouring, crafts, face painting and a haunted house. The event runs from noon until 6 p.m.

Great voices

If you have never heard the York Regional Police sing, here's your chance. The York Regional Police Male Chorus will hold its 15th Annual "In Harmony With the Community" Concert Saturday, Nov. 10, at 7.30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, Leslie Street in Newmarket. The event will feature three police choruses, the singing group Vivace, and tickets, at \$10, are available by calling 905-727-2429 or 905-727-6470.

Once he had been declared winner, Frank Klees spent some time Wednesday night thanking his assistants for their help in the election campaign. At the top of his list were his wife Jayne and son, Rob, who joined him on the podium.

Auroran photo by Rob Schuetze

Klees wins riding

The brand new riding of Newmarket-Aurora has a veteran politician representing it at the provincial level. Progressive Conservative Frank Klees, 56, was elected Wednesday night, after a nail-biting evening that saw him narrowly edge newcomer Liberal Christina Bisanz by about 1,300 votes. With all 231 polls accounted for, Klees won the election 19,435 to 18,088, and while his margin was never great, he led throughout the evening. Klees, a former cabinet minister, is an Aurora resident, who for the past two terms has served as MPP in the Oak Ridges riding. When riding boundaries were changed to follow federal boundaries, Klees said he would run in the newly-formed Newmarket-Aurora riding, while the Liberals went with politically unknown Christina Bisanz. "We knew going in we were 2,000-vote underdogs," Klees told The Auroran Wednesday night. "We knew it wasn't going to be a cake-walk." Liberal Bisanz, along with the man Klees defeated when he was first elected to the provincial legislature in 1995, Charles Beer, showed up to congratulate Klees at his victory party in Aurora. Earlier, she addressed a small gathering at the Newmarket Legion hall. "I am pleased with the results," she said. "We had a small team and no resources." She told The Auroran her plans in future politics are still unknown but she would remain active in the community. "It's my community; I care about the community and I'll always be involved in the community," she said. Ms Bisanz has been a resident of Aurora and Newmarket for about 25 years, and currently lives in Newmarket. Traditionally, third place in the race usually goes to the New Democratic Party, however, this time out, NDP's Mike Seaward finished fourth, behind Green representative John McRogers. McRogers took that spot by nearly 1,000 votes, but was not in the running as far as winning the riding was concerned. Craig Hodgins of the Libertarians and Tad Brudzinski, representing the Family Coalition Party, were the other two candidates in the race. Meanwhile, Klees was unsure what would happen to PC leader John Tory, who lost his bid to get elected in a Toronto riding. Klees, who came third in a three-man battle for the PC leadership in September, 2004, threw his support behind Tory, who won the campaign. The other candidate was Whitby-Ajax MPP Jim Flaherty.

Please see page 16

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COMING EVENTS

A drop-in centre will operate every Wednesday at the Community Bible Church, on Bathurst Street, just south of Henderson. Operating from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. it's open to all parents, grandparents and caregivers. For more information, e-mail Judy Hoffmann at jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

Scottish Country Dancing is held every Friday morning at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m. No partners are needed and beginners are welcome.

Until Nov. 28, on 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 and interest groups. 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 and Enid Maize every Wednesday from 3.30 to 5 p.m. at the seniors' centre.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Aurora-based Women's Centre of York Region Annual General Meeting to be held at the Regional Municipality of York Administration building in Room "A", 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket from 6 to 7.30 p.m.

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce will start selling exhibitor booths to Chamber members in good standing at 8 a.m. on a first-come-first-served basis for the Aurora Home Show April 18 through 20. Call 905-727-7262 for further information.

A Public Open House on the Green Bin will be held at the Aurora Town Hall from 6 to 9 p.m. to answer questions and concerns.

Aurora Historical Society will hold a meeting at Hillary House at 8 p.m. Guest speaker is Dr. Carl Benn, Chief Curator of the City of Toronto's Museum and Heritage Services and his topic is "First Nations Material Culture Around Lake Ontario in the 18th Century". The event will be followed by light refreshments.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

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

To celebrate Ontario Public Library Week, the Aurora Public Library will welcome Aurora's Marina Nemat who will read from her memoir "Prisoner of Tehran" from 7 to 9 p.m. Copies of the book will be available. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4. Event is free with ticket and seating is limited.

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

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

The musical comedy "Nonsense" opens at the Howard Johnson Dinner Theatre at 6 p.m. for hot and cold buffet with the show at 8 p.m. Show continues October 26, November 2, 9, 10, 16, 23, and December 7, 8, 14 and 15. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

Deadline for applications for citizens to serve on the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee. The committee will provide advice to council on all matters related to Arts and Culture within the municipality. Call 905-727-3123 ext. 4222 for further information.

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.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

A sale of many types of used books, including an array of cookbooks, will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in St. Andrew's Hall, Mosley at Victoria Street. Proceeds will go towards the purchase of church library resources.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce holds a Business after Five meeting at the Cineplex Odeon Cinema from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m. Pre-register for the event by calling 905-727-7262.

Aurora Council meets in the council chambers of the Town Hall at 7 p.m. Aurora Cable Internet will telecast the meeting at 6:30 p.m. the following night and at noon the following Saturday and Sunday.

Tuesday Night at the Movies at the seniors' centre features "Don Juan DeMarco", starring Marian Brando, Johnny Depp and Faye Dunaway.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

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

For advanced computer operators, "Beyond Google", a one-hour session on advanced search strategies, using electronic databases will

be held at the Aurora Public Library beginning at 6 p.m. Pre-register at the adult information desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4. Mouse and keyboarding experience required.

Public Planning meeting in the council chambers of the Town Hall at 7 p.m. Agenda includes proposed zoning bylaw change regarding infill housing or monster homes

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

For advanced computer operators, "Beyond Google", a one-hour session on advanced search strategies, using electronic databases will be held at the Aurora Public Library beginning at 10.30 a.m. Pre-register at the adult information desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4. Mouse and keyboarding experience required.

The staff of Aurora Cable Internet hosts "The Nightmare Before Christmas Charity" Hallowe'en Party at DiNardo's Haunted Mansion with proceeds to help area families who otherwise would have a bleak Christmas. For tickets and information call Tracy Mead at 905-727-1981, ext. 249.

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.

Celebrate Hallowe'en at the Aurora Farmers' Market as part of customer appreciation. Lots of prizes and activities will be featured. Good food, crafts and contest winnings for best costumes.

York Chamber Ensemble begins a four-concert series with a Bach motif featuring renowned guest violinists Gerard Kantarjian and Gayane Bareghamyan. The concerts, 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 and \$10 for seniors and students,

Sheppard's Bush becomes a Haunted Forest from 6 to 8 p.m. and all ghosts, goblins and friendly monsters are invited for a spooky night of haunted trails. Call 905-726-4762 for details.

The last Great Curbside Giveaway for the year. Take unwanted items to the curb and mark them free. If not taken leftovers must be removed by 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

The "Howl on the Hill" at St. Andrew's College will raise funds for Girls Inc. of York Region. Registration starts at 8 a.m. with the run at 10 a.m. featuring a five and a ten kilometre run and a 3 kilometre trick-or-treat hike along a haunted trail. Call 905-830-0776 for details.

NOVEMBER 4 to 19

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Christmas Bazaar at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church hall, Victoria and Mosley Streets. St. Andrew's Guild is presenting baked goods, crafts, and treasures from 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Hot lunch will be served from 11 a.m. Tickets: \$7; \$3.50 for children under nine.

York Regional Police Male Chorus 15th Annual "In Harmony With the Community" Concert. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, Leslie Street, Newmarket, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are \$10. For further information call 905-727-2429 or 905-727-6470.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Aurora Film Circuit presents "La Vie en Rose", starring Marion Cotillard as "La Mome". French with English subtitles. Tickets are \$10 and available at R & R Revisited, 95 Edward Street and the Aurora Public Library. All screenings take place at the Cineplex Aurora, with door prizes at 6.45 p.m. and film at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Big Brothers Big Sisters of York presents its Annual Gala "Catch A Dream" at DiNardo's Mansion, 400 Industrial Parkway South, with reception at 6.30 p.m. and dinner at 7.30 p.m. Evening includes cocktails, dinner, raffles, live and silent auction and dancing. Tickets are \$150 per person and may be reserved by calling 905-895-0289.

12th annual Christmas Fair & Artisans' Craft Sale, takes place in Lynett Hall, 16 Catharine Avenue, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by Our Lady of Grace Catholic Women's League.

Trinity Anglican Church presents 'Winter Wonderland' Christmas Bazaar from 9.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church. Luncheon is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds for A.C.W. Anglican Outreach and Parish needs.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Coffee House at Trinity Anglican Church.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Santa Claus Parade from 5 to 8 p.m. under the stars. Sponsors and volunteers required. Call 905-727-3123 ext.4218, for details.

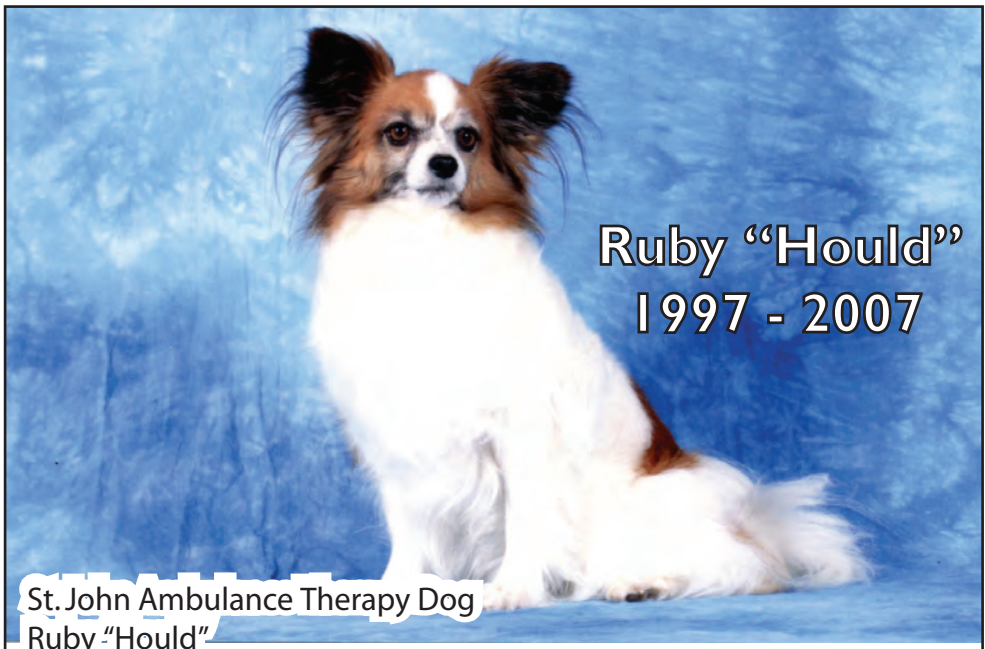
Aurora Seniors' Christmas Bazaar from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with baked goods, boutiques, hasty notes, paintings, greeting cards and silent auction.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

Aurora Seniors are off to Lindsay for a Living Christmas Tree Musical including a coach bus trip, performance by an eight-person choir, visit to a tea room, shopping and dinner.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Tree Lighting Ceremony from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. at the Town Hall with festivities, carol singing and tree decorating.



Hayeshaven Ruby, CD, CGC, SJA TD-Papillon
'The Butterfly Dog' July 20, 1997–October 3, 2007

Ruby passed away on Wednesday, October 3, 2007 in the loving arms of her 'mom', Vivian. Ruby was the most amazing Therapy Dog. For over 9 years of her short life she brought unconditional love to thousands of people as she visited so many in nursing homes and retirement homes, especially her friends at Park Place Manor in Aurora. Ruby was instrumental in the establishment of the 'I Play it Safe With Dogs' Program in the Schools in Aurora helping to educate over 15,000 children in York Region on how to be safe around dogs. Ruby loved to wear her Therapy Dog scarf, leash and was so proud of the tags she wore when she would go visit her friends. Ruby completed over 700 visits, more than any other Therapy Dog in York Region. Even after having been viciously bitten 3 years ago and nearly dying and struggling for the past 3 years, Ruby continued to do her Therapy Dog work and loved it. She finally couldn't continue any longer and flew away using her beautiful butterfly ears.

Ruby was so loved by her family and will be truly missed by her little Papillon brother, Cinders and especially by her mom Vivian.

Many thanks for the excellent care for the past 9 years to the doctors and staff at Abbotsford Animal Hospital in Aurora



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Central York Fire Services firefighters literally took a car apart Saturday at Aurora's Edward Street station, during demonstrations held as part of the department's open house. Using the "Jaws of Life", firefighters ripped through this car then demonstrated the power of airbags.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Woman wants parade back

If an Aurora area woman has her way, Aurora's July First parade, cancelled last year for the first time in more than 35 years, will be back on track.

Sher St. Kitts, a resident of the hamlet of Snowball on Wellington Street in King Township, was upset when last year's parade was cancelled, and she wants to try and restart it.

To that end, she has sent letters to various businesses and individuals seeking support, and has even asked several Aurora service clubs if they would be involved.

Aurora Rotary president Greg Foster was expected to bring it before the membership at a regular meeting Monday night.

In her letter to various businesses, Mrs. St. Kitts said, "I am writing you to ask for your support for the revival of the Canada Day Parade in Aurora for 2008. As you know, Aurora is considered Canada's Birthday Town. I was very upset that we had no parade in 2007 and would like to ensure that Aurora will always have a fabulous Canada Day Parade going into the future for our children and theirs."

Mrs. St. Kitts, wife of famous entertainer George St. Kitts, said she would work hard to ensure Aurora had a July First parade next year.

Aurora's July First parade debuted in 1969, when the Town organized the first town-wide birthday party, building on a number of street parties that had been organized for Canada's Centennial in 1967.

The two-day event featured a Yonge Street parade led by hundreds of costumed children pushing various forms of transportation.

"I've always enjoyed the parade with my children," Mrs. St. Kitts said. "It gives me a great sense of pride to be a Canadian and wave our flag and the parade provides us all a moment in time to be thankful for being part of such a great nation."

"It is the best country in the world and Canadians need to celebrate Canada," she said. "We need to teach our children to have pride in our home. We need to cheer for our veterans, our soldiers, our community leaders, our schools, service clubs and our unique Canadian ways and values."

In her efforts to restart the parade, the woman listed a number of ideas that could be incor-

porated including having each school enter a float, having students who 'work' on the parade using hours of work towards their Community Service requirements, having a 'veterans/soldiers of Canada' float in the parade, and inviting all businesses belonging to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce to put together floats in honour of their own success.

She also said it was important that newer Aurora residents become involved in the activity.

"Everyone who is proud to be Canadian will be glad to march in a Canada Day Parade - and the kids will love it," she said.

In her letter to the Rotary Club, she said, "I know that the Rotary Club of Aurora does a lot

for our community already, and I'm hoping you can extend your reach to our national birthday. I would greatly appreciate your support to help revive the Canada Day Parade in Aurora."

Similar letters to other Aurora service clubs.

The parade some of its attraction when most other activities were moved from the Aurora Community Centre to the Leisure Complex in the town's east end.

The parade would end at the Centre, but those watching it would then have to move to the Complex to continue celebrations.

Two years ago, a party in the Town Park, held the night before July First, was relocated to the Complex.



Dr. Craig Dingman

Dear Readers,

I am writing this article to introduce my column which you will find every other week on page 7 in this paper. The reason I am writing this column is because I have found out in my years of practice that most people don't truly understand what health is.

Here is what I know: Health is more than just how you feel. It is how your body works and how you adapt to the every day stresses of life, both physically and mentally. It is about having mind and body working optimally without any interference. It is being able to do all of the activities that bring you joy, like playing with your children, running through the woods, walking on the beach or just sleeping soundly through the night.

It is about living life on your terms – you deserve it!

I have discovered that our health is based on four very important principles and everything we do in our office is based on these four principles:

1. Your body is a self-healing organism. It is designed to heal itself! For example, you get a brand new liver every month. All the cells in your liver die and are replaced with brand new cells every 24 days! Amazing!

Every four months all of your red blood cells are wiped out and your body creates a completely new set. Incredible!

You get a completely new stomach lining every 5 days.

Your taste buds are replaced every 11 days.

At night when you go home and take off your clothes before bed, thousands of dead skin cells float down to the floor and then you vacuum yourself up the next morning! Did you realize that most of the dust in your house is YOU? You are a very dusty person!

I use these examples to emphasize that your body is in a constant state of change and repair. In order to do this it follows a very exact program. So my job is to find out why you are not following the program! Why your body is not doing what it is designed and programmed to do. And that is absolutely not OK!

2. Your nervous system is the thing that runs this program. It is like a computer central command centre that runs you. As long as your nervous system is able to communicate effectively with every organ, tissue, cell, every little nook and cranny of you, you should have the very best health that you have ever had in your life. This is called normal.

3. If something interferes with the function of your nervous system and it is not able to do this, your body will not be able to do what it is designed and programmed to do. It will do its own thing...and this is the beginning of your problems.

4. My job as a chiropractor is to restore law and order to the way your body functions!

I hope this makes sense to you. If it does I'm sure you will appreciate this week's column titled "ARE YOU POISONING YOUR KIDS?"

If you have any questions or require additional information please feel very welcome to contact me.

(905) 841-0400
www.healinghandsaurora.com

Aurora Cable faces another challenge

It was in 1964 when Jim Irvine faced a challenge in starting Aurora Cable television to cover the Aurora/Oak Ridges market.

He submitted his application to the CRTC and was granted coverage for the area.

He went door to door making his pitch for seven crystal-clear channels for \$4.75 a month.

Service started in 1965 and by the end of the year Aurora Cable Television had 350 subscribers.

By April, 2005, Aurora Cable, now known as Aurora Cable Internet with a staff of 50, was providing high speed internet services as well as a telephone service in addition to the cable service.

Now he is about to face the biggest challenge in his 42 years with a competitive threat as Rogers, Canada's biggest cable empire, plans to lay cable in Irvine's territory.

Ted Rogers says he has to do this so he can sell his quadruple play of telecommunications services across Ontario and better compete with his chief rival, Bell Canada.

Before filing a request with the CRTC to extend his

cable territory, Rogers presented Irvine with an offer to buy Aurora Cable, and although not particularly interested in selling he countered the Rogers offer with what he considered a hefty but fair price, but the two companies were unable to come to terms.

Irvine remains excited by the challenging technology that broadened the number of products and services he sells to his cus-

tomers and he cites that as the chief reason he is unwilling to sell to Rogers who provides service to the balance of York Region.

Despite the David vs. Goliath appearance of the situation, Irvine says he is not worried about the potential competition, as Aurora Cable already competes with satellite TV companies which are not restricted from operating in the region.



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Poor Richard

Aurora Council is a paradox

*It looks like a comic opera,
As round and round they go;
Decisions are hard to come by,
Causing taxpayers lots of woe!*

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Aurora Council is a paradox. As individuals they are all hard-working citizens who are interested in serving the best interests of the town and its residents, but when they get together as a council, they are dysfunctional.

Much of the problem goes back to the traditional off-site retreat when newly-elected councils went away for a weekend to be briefed on current issues by senior staff and to get to know the senior staff and each other.

That event no longer exists.

During the social periods they discussed issues informally and by setting a vision for themselves for the coming term, they developed a team spirit and the ability to work together.

The tradition was broken during the last term of council when the retreat was held but was boycotted by Councillors Phyllis Morris, Nigel Kean and Wendy Gaertner.

This term, with five brand new members of council, there was no mention of an off-site retreat even though such an event has been authorized by the Municipal Act providing it is held within the region or an adjacent municipality.

Mayor Morris attended the regional retreat in Niagara-on-the-Lake which had been arranged prior to the amendment to the Municipal Act and according to Ministry officials was permissible for that occasion.

Also in the earlier days when council met on Monday nights which was the parade night of the Queen's York Rangers, members of council, staff and the media adjourned to the Armories for a social hour as the meetings were usually over in about two hours.

When the meetings were switched to Tuesday nights the social hour took place in the late Councillor Herb McKenzie's recreation room or around his swimming pool.

Today with council meetings longer than four hours on average, sometimes close to five, there is no time for a social hour even if there was a willingness to have one.

There isn't and a team spirit is sadly lacking.

As members of council are elected as independents, it is to be expected they will have strong opinions and will debate their point of view vigorously but the procedural bylaw is often ignored.

The procedural bylaw states quite clearly that members can speak twice on any issue, but it is the norm for members of council to speak five to six times on an issue, whether it be a question or a comment.

All this adds to the length of the meeting.

It is quite normal, after a general committee meeting with all members present coming to a majority vote on an issue, for the same topic to be rehashed at a council meeting in front of the TV cameras with the same arguments used.

It does nothing but add to the length of the meeting.

A recent general committee meeting showed council at its worst.

A decision on the use of town-owned vacant buildings such as the hydro building and the former library and seniors centre on Victoria Street has been long outstanding.

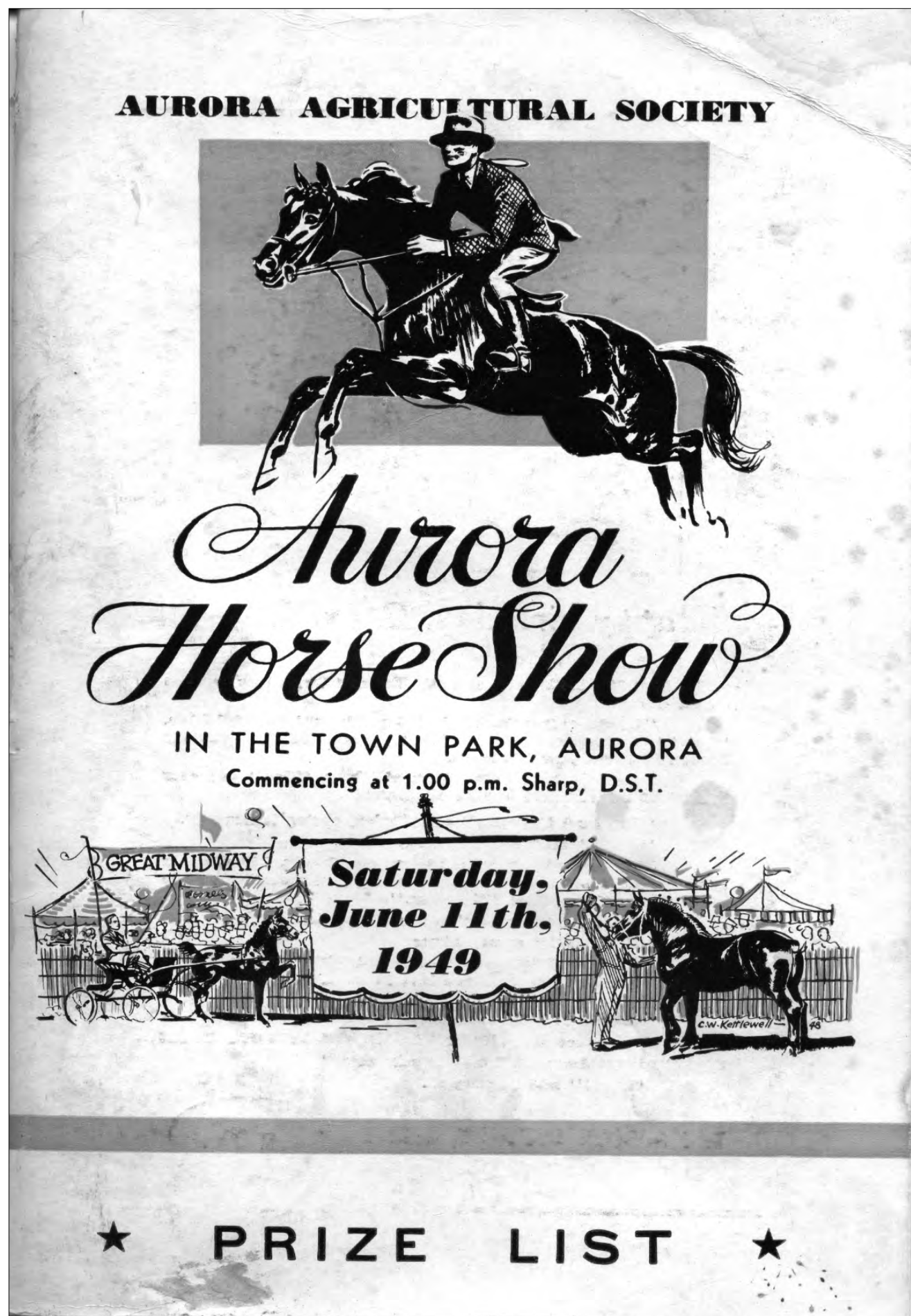
Staff members presented a comprehensive report on suggested uses for the buildings which was so functional that an average council would have adopted the report in principle with the final details to be worked out for budget considerations.

But not Aurora Council.

The report was met with considerable opposition with requests for more information and cost benefit options such as selling the hydro building and property and purchasing other property to construct a new building for the Parks Division which has to move out of the Works building due to the growth of the town.

It was even suggested that the Victoria Street building be demolished to provide parking for the Heritage Centre and the Library although a recent \$30,000 parking study of the downtown area found there were more than 1,000 on-street and off-street parking spaces available.

They are the authors of their own misfortunes and the town is suffering for it.



This is the cover from a prize list book, printed for the Aurora Horse Show in 1949. It was one item found in several boxes of Horse Show material hiding in the attic of Jack Wood's farmhouse on Edward Street. The farmhouse, owned by the Town of Aurora, was a day care centre but is now vacant. Town workers cleaning the building came across the horse show documents. Once we work around the mouse droppings, we'll see what else is in the boxes. By the way, several people attempted to answer our question from last week (to whom was the first long-distance call made?) but no one got it. The call was made to the mayor of the City of Aurora, Illinois.

Letter to the Editor

Councillor is unbelievable

To the editor,

Re: Residents enjoying the public purse, Letter to the Editor, Oct. 9, by Evelyn Buck.

I am just wondering, how many other letters from Evelyn Buck are missing important facts? The councillor is

unbelievable.

If you have ever watched the Town Council meetings, you will know how important it is to make an informed decision when casting your vote in the municipal elections!

**D. Vanherk
Aurora**

THE AURORAN

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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Some final musings and observations from the campaign trail.

The results were a lot closer than I thought. My prediction was that the margin would be between 2,500 and 3,000 votes in Progressive Conservative Frank Klees' favour, not the 1,347 votes that it actually turned out to be.

But then again, just keep in mind that I confidently predicted Kim Campbell would win 100 seats in 1993 and that incumbent Tim Jones would retain the mayor's chain by about 350 votes over Ms Morris last November!

I won't be headed to Las Vegas or Casino Rama, for that matter, any time soon!

For regular readers of this column, you will know there are two hobby horses that I consistently ride; the first that people need to get out and vote, and second, the travails of having your mother-in-law live approximately seventy five and a half feet directly across the street from your house.

Regarding the first issue, voter turnout for this election was a record low - only 52.6 percent of eligible provincial voters cast a ballot, beating the previous all-time low of 54.7 percent, which occurred in 1923.

In Newmarket - Aurora, we did slightly better than the province wide average; 45,606 of 82,376 eligible voters cast a ballot, or 55.4 per cent.

Not pretty! Oh well, looking on the bright side at least it beat the 38 per cent voter turnout from the municipal election last year.

As to the second issue, I tried to have my mother-in-law barred from voting on grounds that, according to the deposition I filed, she had "insufficient reasoning ability to render a

just and proper ballot".

I can't say any more about this right now while the case works it way through to the Supreme Court of Canada.

From about 4 p.m. on election day, I was situated at Devins Drive Public School. Four polls were held within the school. The local people employed by Elections Canada were great. Collectively, they were friendly and efficient.

About 6 p.m., the gymnasium was jammed with voters. As I watched and listened to them talking and laughing with their neighbours while they waited to cast a vote, I was struck by, for all its faults, how well our democratic system works.

There were no armed guards outside the school, no one was coerced into voting one way or another, there were no UN inspectors monitoring the proceedings to ensure fairness and no one was fearing for their life (apart from me as a direct result of the death stare cast by my mother-in-law).

A friend of mine, Daryl Wolk of Newmarket, put it best on his website prior to election day:

"For the past couple of weeks we have seen unbelievable footage out of Burma where monks and democracy activists have been beaten and in some cases killed or imprisoned for the right to contest elections.

"Our veterans fought hard and many gave up their lives for our right to vote. Not all countries have the same opportunity as we do. In China, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Zimbabwe, North Korea, Cuba and in many other nations, dictatorships oppress their people and do not allow them a say in their future or the direction of their communities.

"I have stated my preference, but regardless of who you prefer; please take your right and duty seriously, make sure

Election notebook - final thoughts

you are informed and make sure you go out and cast a ballot on election day. Thank you for voting. - Darryl."

Liberal candidate Christina Bisanz came over to Dinardo's to concede to Frank Klees on election night. Class gesture by Ms. Bisanz.

My overall volunteer campaign record climbs to a stellar 15-14. Don't laugh. My winning percentage is better than the Leafs so far this season!

A federal election could be coming up shortly.

My wife says, "Fantastic, that's great news". Can you just feel her sarcasm oozing through the newsprint!

My last item has absolutely nothing to do with politics.

At about 8:50 p.m. on election night, with no voters in sight, and before the Elections Canada staff locked us in the Devins school gym for the counting of the ballots at 9 p.m., I was looking at the class photos and the children's handiwork on the walls that adorned the hallways when I came across the following poem that was posted on the door to the office. It made me smile:

By Kyra:

"My dog Bailey.
I treat her like a human.
Make her nice with hair ties and clips.
She is almost my sister.
She is my most special friend in the world."

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



Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

Men think there are two kinds of women in the world: High Maintenance (HM) and Low Maintenance (LM).

According to men, HM women are like sports cars. They are expensive, attract a lot of attention, and can make A MAN feel like THE MAN.

Unfortunately, they need a lot of shine and polish before they show at their best, can't navigate rough roads...and can leave you stranded in the middle of nowhere if you don't take care of them exactly right.

LM women are like mini vans. They're easy on the budget, versatile, and unlikely to get taken for a joy ride.

On the downside, although they are generally reliable they can't handle too much shifting or revving and they don't have a very impressive turning radius.

According to women, there are two kinds of men in the world: those who "get it" and those who don't. The ones who don't "get it" are High Maintenance.

Whereas HM women take forever to get dressed, HM men are incapable of dressing themselves.

A woman might be considered HM if she won't take the garbage out to the curb without doing her hair and make-up first, but the HM man won't take the garbage out at all.

The HM woman insists on fine dining while the HM man considers any diner without a drive-thru window a class establishment.

Generally, the HM man prefers to be served dinner in front of the TV by an LM woman who doesn't believe in vegetables.

The HM woman will not go to the gym before getting her

hair, make-up and nails done and there will be no sweating of any kind!

The HM man doesn't go to the gym. He doesn't need any kind of movement to sweat. It comes naturally...

The HM woman is always dressed to the nines - perfectly coordinated from top to bottom.

But just because a woman is eye-candy, doesn't automatically mean she is HM. There is another breed of woman on the market these days.

She is neither a sports car nor a mini-van, but more like a hybrid: sporty, sexy and energy efficient. Let's call her a "Real Woman".

This new breed of eye-candy doesn't take hours upon hours getting ready - she only looks like she does.

And if she looks like she's had a face lift, it's probably because she met a Real Man who "gets it". He makes her happy and she glows from within.

Real women love a manicure/pedicure just as much as HM women. The difference is that real women see it as a luxury and HM women see it as a necessity. Don't be confused...

Real women care about how their hair looks, but they are not obsessed with it. The reason it always looks professionally done is because she knows her hair better than the professionals.

A Real Woman can take care of children all day long and look like she spent the day at the spa. That's because she has the parenting skills that make a tough job look easy.

High maintenance

Whereas an HM woman will greet her man at the door with complaints about her day, a Real Woman will pour him a Scotch and give him a back rub before she tells him that the mini-van got repossessed this morning.

A real woman won't throw a tantrum or even pout when her man says he's golfing with the boys next weekend. She has girlfriends. But if the man is golfing every weekend, he has problems.

Real women know what they want, what they need, and what they think and have the confidence to express it.

Real Men know the difference between being "hen-pecked" and being in a relationship.

Men who understand what is important to Real Women - independence, autonomy, individuality - are happy men. The Real Man knows that if his Real Woman is happy, he will be ecstatic.

The more he notices and appreciates that she looks great, the better she looks. The more he does for her, the more selflessly she gives to him. The more he admires and respects her, the less he feels like A MAN...and the more he feels like THE MAN.

The Real Woman is the kind of woman that men all over Aurora are burning out their clutches to find. She is the best of both worlds and she DOES exist. So don't be fooled by the beautiful exterior...

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

BOUQUETS to Gordon Barnes and all the Aurora volunteers, including high school students who participated in the recent TD Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup in the Aurora Community Arboretum. In addition to lots of water bottles and general litter they found steel oil drums, rusting shopping carts and broken office chairs.

BRICKBATS to Aurora Council for being the most talkative and least productive for hours spent in the recent history of Aurora. At a recent meeting it took almost an hour of confused debate about setting dates for special committee meetings on various issues following similar discussions at two previous meetings.

BOUQUETS to Mary and Bill Higgins of Aurora on the celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary. The couple took a trip back to England where they were married.

BRICKBATS to whoever is responsible for holding an Open House to show the residents of Knowles Crescent the draft plans for the reconstruction of the roadway and then making a relatively major change in the grade of the roadway affecting the grade of the homeowners' driveways without informing them. They weren't aware of the change until the curbs were installed and it was too late!

BOUQUETS to the staff of the Aurora Works Department for explaining to Poor Richard that while it may look as if the blue box and the green bin are being dumped together in the same truck, there are two compartments with about 80 per cent for the blue box and 20 per cent for the green bin.

BRICKBATS to the Ontario government for down-loading the land ambulance service to regional governments without adequate funding to provide the service, but refusing to down-load the Communication Centre which is handled by the Georgian Central Ambulance Communications Centre located in Barrie. It provides dispatch service for York.

BOUQUETS to the very kind and thoughtful unknown gentleman at the Aurora Town Hall who brought a cup of coffee to the volunteer at the Info Aurora desk.

BRICKBATS to the absent-minded or careless people at CTV the other Sunday when they played the same segment of Craig Oliver interviewing newly-elected Quebec MP Tom Mulclair back to back on Question Period.

BOUQUETS to all the seniors who picked up on the initiative of Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas "Warm Hearts Warming Hands". They are busy knitting children's mitts, hats and scarf sets for the winter weather and the sewing group who are making up sets from Arctic Fleece.

BRICKBATS to the Toronto District School Board for sending two trustees and two staffers to China with the purpose of encouraging Chinese students to pay \$12,000 annually to attend high school in Toronto.

BOUQUETS to Penny McKee for advising Poor Richard that the large, low flying airplane over downtown Aurora about 2.30 p.m. Sept. 27 was experiencing trouble but made its way safely to Buttonville Airport.

BRICKBATS to the federal government and Environment Minister John Baird for quietly imposing a broad spending freeze on several environmental programs when the government has a large surplus.

Letters to the Editor

Reader takes exception to Anglican Church ads

To the editor,

Re: Trinity Anglican Aurora ads in The Auroran.

I have to say, with all due respect, that I am really disappointed by the recent ads that the Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora, have been running!

First, they ran an ad that said something like "It's okay to dress casual (for church) - Jesus did."

While I think that their message was trying to say that it's more important to go

to Church, than what you wear to Church, they were really dumbing it down.

Remember, Jesus was a poor carpenter's son.

It is likely that when he entered the temple, he was wearing the "best that he had", sandals and all!

If you or I were going to a wedding or out for a special dinner, most of us would dress up a little.

If that's the case, then why wouldn't we, out of respect, dress up a little to meet God at his house?

Currently, the Trinity

Anglican Church in Aurora, is running an ad that reads, "Our Fall worship schedule allows time for your other religion (illustration of a football is shown). Chances are you can catch our opening song and worship service before kick off..."

Again, I think the intent of this ad is asking that we fit some Church time into our schedules.

I understand what they are trying to do and appreciate how difficult it can be to draw people into Church.

However, I expect stan-

dards to be raised by Religious Institutions, not lowered for public convenience.

"Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy," is interpreted many ways, by many people, but my Sabbath Day will never be squeezed into a "drop in session" between football games or trips to the mall!

You can do better, Trinity Anglican Aurora - be a light and not a loophole.

**Julie D. Wood
Aurora**

Dedicated Yonge busway is bad planning, he says

To the editor,

Re: Yonge Street Rapid Transit

The plan to have a dedicated busway on Yonge Street is bad planning.

It will cost tens of millions of dollars in lost business and travel disruptions, and unnecessary infrastructure modifications.

In the end, it will free up even more space for automobiles, as the buses will no longer be in four of the lanes.

This is totally counter-productive because it results in more congestion and air pollution, as it is an incentive for people to continue using cars.

And there will be even more cars on Yonge Street as more residential developments are completed: each new home adds potentially a minimum of two more cars to an already overcrowded roadway.

Anyone who has used mass transit on Yonge Street for the last ten or more years will be able to

tell you about longer commute times due to more traffic.

A useful, simple cost-effective solution would be to dedicate north and south curb lanes now as bus only lanes during specified rush hour periods.

The number of transit "police" used by Viva for ticket monitoring could be increased, and given additional training and authority to enable them to pull violating drivers over to issue hefty tickets.

This solution would

cost a very tiny fraction of what is being proposed, while improving mass transit effectiveness with very little disruption in the Yonge Street corridor.

Let's use simple, straightforward solutions rather than costly counterproductive grand plans!

Like everyone else who pays taxes, I am sure that there are more effective ways to spend our money.

**R. Ryan
Aurora**

Reader enjoyed Cathy's column

To the editor,

An open letter to columnist Cathy Vrancic:

I am at home for a few days on holiday for the first time in years, husband's away on business and boys are at school.

I never realized how much fun it is to just read a paper or do nothing for one whole day!

I read your article on the Joys of Shopping and laughed so hard I was crying.

I used to get so mad at

my husband for ruining the few times a year I actually shopped for myself.

We would get into flaming arguments just shopping!

It always confused me how a man could look like he was dying after only a couple of hours in a mall...

I realize it's not just my husband, and if there is a next time I go with him (which is doubtful) I will definitely look at him differently.

Thanks for the laugh.

**Annette Kinder
Aurora**



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Our Fall worship schedule allows time for your other religion.

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Letters to the Editor

Private member’s bill needs approving

To the editor,

My wife is a former dialysis patient and the recipient of a donor kidney. I am a retired officer who dealt with many fatal accidents. We were among those who encouraged MPP Frank Klees as he developed his private member's bill, which would have asked everyone renewing a driver's licence if they wished to be an organ donor: yes, no or unsure.

Simply being confronted with the question and having it noted on your driver's licence would have increased donor organs substantially. Police officers and ambulance attendants would have advised staff at the hospital. The bill passed 2nd reading and had all party support. Mr. McGuinty dissolved the legislature a week early and left this bill on the floor,

ensuring longer wait times (up to eight and 10 years) for a kidney and the earlier death for some. The Premier in turn is suggesting a bill to compensate living donors for time away from work. Both bills are needed. Later my wife came down with cancer and needed care above and beyond. Again, Frank Klees was there fighting for us and encouraging us. We will not be in Mr.

Klees' new riding, but we need him in the legislature. Your help will be appreciated.

Dennis Seeley
Whitchurch-Stouffville



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Local businesses helped SuperWalk be a success

To the editor,

I just wanted to give a huge thank you to the Aurora residents who took the time out of their busy lives to come out and walk at the Aurora/Newmarket SuperWalk for Parkinson's at Fairy Lake. With their help this year's walk and charity BBQ raised more than \$17,500 for the Parkinson Society of Canada. That is an increase of more than \$2,500! Also, a huge thank you to our local businesses for their generous donations and support - Biggs' Gallery, Body Beautiful Spa, Dominion Plus, Home Hardware, Hurst Bakery, R. Parypa Nesbitt Burns, Starbucks Coffee, Tickle Your Tummy Inc. and Topper's Pizza. I was truly amazed by their generosity. Without their contribu-

tions our event would not have been nearly as enjoyable for our walkers. Special thanks to Jane Eves of Royal Pathways for her beautiful Yoga demonstration, Tim Jones for his words of encouragement at the opening ceremony and to Ron Wallace for helping to advertise this event. It is wonderful to see a community come together with such enthusiasm and compassion. Thank you again, Aurora.

If any of you would like to learn more about Parkinson's or find out about local support groups please visit www.parkinson.ca.

Kim Rouse-Parypa,
Aurora/Newmarket
SuperWalk Committee



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Dr. Craig Dingman



Are You Poisoning Your Kids?

How many of you have felt uneasy over the amount of “diet” soft drinks your children are consuming each day? If your intuition has given you internal warnings, you are correct. As a chiropractor I am very concerned with the increasing use of artificial sweeteners, especially by children. The most widely used of these is ASPARTAME, marketed as “NutraSweet”, “Equal”, and “Spoonful”. At a recent World Environmental Conference, the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) announced that there was an increasing epidemic of Multiple Sclerosis and Systemic Lupus, among others, caused by a then unknown toxin. It was soon discovered that the toxin in question was Aspartame.

When the temperature of Aspartame exceeds 86 degrees F, the wood alcohol (methanol) in Aspartame converts to formaldehyde and then to formic acid, which then causes metabolic acidosis. If you think this is not a problem, think again. Body temperature hovers around 98.6 degrees, perfect conditions for aspartame to be converted to formaldehyde. Formaldehyde is grouped in the same drug class as cyanide and arsenic - deadly poisons. It is also used to embalm corpses. It has no business being in your child.

Aspartame changes the brain’s chemistry and has been responsible for many neurological problems such as seizures, manic depression, rage, violence, etc. This methanol toxicity mimics Multiple Sclerosis; thus people were being diagnosed with MS in error. In the case of Systemic Lupus, it is becoming rampant, especially among Diet Coke and Diet Pepsi drinkers. It is triggered by Aspartame. With continued use, it can be life threatening. When kids get off Aspartame, those with Systemic Lupus usually become asymptomatic, but the disease cannot be reversed. Those diagnosed with MS (when in reality the disease is methanol toxicity), have noticed most of their symptoms disappear.

If your children are suffering from fibromyalgia symptoms, spasms, shooting pains, numbness in the legs, cramping, dizziness, headaches, joint pains, depression, anxiety attacks, slurred speech, blurred vision, or memory loss, they may be suffering from Aspartame Disease.

This product is being promoted to children

as a weight-loss sweetener. Nothing could be further from the truth. Aspartame makes one actually crave carbohydrates. Diabetic specialists and world experts on aspartame poisoning, stated at a Congressional hearing recently, that the average weight loss was 19 lbs. in people who got off this chemical. It also has been found that Aspartame stimulates the brain causing brain damage of varying degrees.

Why has this chemical not been taken off the market? Well...the manufacturer funds the American Diabetes Association, the American Dietetic Association, Congress, and the Conference of the American College of Physicians. Need I say more?

For safe and sweet alternatives to Aspartame you can try fructose, stevia, barley malt, honey, dark molasses, and demerara sugar, all available at your local health food store. Let’s take care of our kids!

If you would like additional information or wish to speak with me personally, please feel very welcome to contact me at (905) 841-0400 or www.healinghandsaurora.com.



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Letters to the Editor

Downtown store will be missed

To the editor,

Downtown Aurora without a grocery store - it is taking some getting used to.

I have lived at the north end of Temperance Street for some years and have always shopped at IGA, Food City, Sobey's or Price Chopper, whatever the store has been called over those years,

and I do miss the convenience of being able to scoot across Wellington and pick up milk, wine, or whatever I needed if friends dropped by.

I know there are many people in this area without transportation who will find it very inconvenient to get to any of the five supermarkets in our town particularly when you have to get through

the Yonge/Wellington intersection to get to most of them.

The convenience is not the only thing I miss.

There were staff members who had been there through all the changes of owners with the same helpful manner and smiles for everyone.

It is like losing your next door neighbour of many years.

Anne, enjoy your retirement after 34 years in the same location; Lorraine, Diane and Elaine - I hope to see you at Sobey's on Bayview but it won't be the same friendly atmosphere I have been accustomed to for so many years.

Good luck to you all.

Barbara McGowan
Aurora



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Motorists wouldn't stop to help driver

To the editor,

There was a bad car accident on St. John's Sideroad between Leslie and Bayview recently.

I came up over a hill and an Aurora Cable Internet van had stopped.

Ahead of him I could see about 10 cars making their

way through the wreck.

I stopped behind him and there was a man lying in the ditch bleeding.

In the other vehicle there was a man obviously hurt by the crash who could not get out of his car because of the damage.

A woman was trying to help that man and the ACI

fellow and myself were trying to help the other man until the medics, etc., showed up.

They had had a head-on collision and there were car parts, tires, etc., all over the place.

The man I was trying to help had climbed out of his car and crawled into the

ditch because he thought his car was going to blow up.

While he was doing this, people were actually driving by.

I could not believe these 10 or so people just left and would not even stop to see if anyone needed help or if they were even dead.

I have never been so disgusted by these people in our community.

Pretty sad.

Anonymous
Aurora

"Charley's Aunt" had lots of input

To the editor,

Thank you so much for your coverage of "Charley's Aunt".

Many people have commented on the wonderful photograph that appeared in your paper.

We had more than 40 people working on the crew and many people in the community loaning us

their antique furniture and making donations towards our production in one form or another.

We had two students from Newmarket High School and a co-op student from Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School working on props, and some young students working on set building.

These young people,

including David Ing, our lighting designer, certainly do make us proud to know students of such integrity, talent and commitment.

The contribution by everyone enabled us to have a very successful show.

Jo-anne Spitzer
Producer
Aurora

Town problem "like an iceberg"

To the editor,

Bryan Moir's recent column clearly spells out some of the issues that have plagued Aurora over the years - no vision, no plans, and no managerial

Reader wants chicanes removed

To the editor,

Re: Mark Street, Walton Drive and surrounding area.

Please allow me to express my extreme disappointment with the Town Council for giving in to the wants of a handful of people and ignoring the "good of the Town of Aurora".

I live in the "northeast quadrant" and abhor the mess that has been created with the chicanes.

Now, in this past week, there have been many new street signs erected.

They have even installed several "Traffic Calming Neighbourhood" signs - just to add insult to injury.

Is there any way that we, the other citizens of this town, can have the chicanes removed?

M. Gargarella
Aurora

control - with the taxpayer picking up the tab for the incompetence of those spending our hard earned tax dollars.

Where are all the grandiose plans that the mayor referenced in her "throne" speech?

Where is the direction to staff to bring forward plans to execute these ideas?

Like an iceberg, the problem is bigger than it

appears.

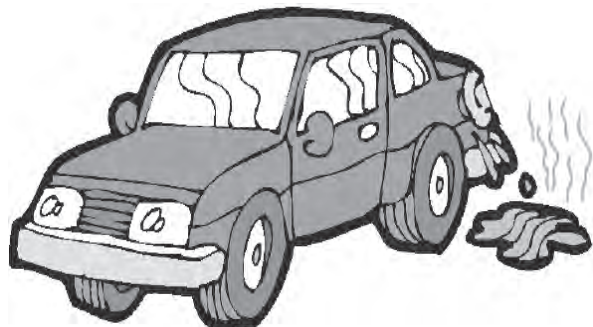
It would seem Mr. Moir is not alone in these observations as Mr. Hanes has raised the same issue.

Once burned twice shy.

Finally, a ray of light shows why the bureaucrats are unable to deliver services cost effectively to the residents of Aurora.

John Galt
Aurora

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Many demolished buildings preserved in town paintings

Many Aurora buildings have been demolished in the interests of development but in some cases their memories have been captured in paint as part of Preserve Aurora in Paint category of the Annual Aurora Art Show.

Although the art show was first held in Victoria Hall in 1962, it wasn't until 1975 when the Preserve Aurora category was introduced as a means of preserving in paint the historic buildings of Aurora.

In 1983 the Aurora Heritage Committee suggested the town purchase or have the right of first refusal for the winning painting in the Preserve Aurora category to start a permanent collection for the municipality.

Council approved an annual expenditure of up to \$500 to purchase paintings.

As a result the town has a growing collection of local buildings and scenes by local artists, which are on display on the second floor of the Town Hall.

At one time the paintings graced the stairway of the Wellington Street West administration centre, but were stored in boxes when the move was made to temporary accommodation on Industrial Parkway North.

The paintings remained in storage even after the move to the new Town Hall although some were hung in various offices, but were not available for public viewing.

After pressure from some artists the paintings were put on public display.

They are located on one of the interior walls of the second floor of the Aurora Town Hall and are available for viewing during normal business hours.

In 1983, the first year of the policy resulted in a tie for first place.

Trish Stevens painted "The Belfrey of Church Street School" and Bette Jenkins painted "The Artist Colony" then located at Yonge and Centre Streets.

Both paintings were acquired by the town.

The Artist Colony had previously been the livery stable for the old Queen's Hotel, a taxi dispatch office, law office, Decadence Dessert Shop, Mr. Dart's Emporium and the Humane Society's Odds and Togs Gift Shop.

The building was later demolished for a commercial complex, but the town has the painting.

Jenkins was also the winner of the category in 1975 with a painting of Thompson's Furniture store and Tallyman Books on Yonge Street, but that was before the town agreed to purchase the winning painting in the Preserve Aurora category.

She also submitted a second painting of Mary's Flowers and Caruso's Fruit Market on Yonge Street, which is also in possession

of the town.

A painting, "April Showers" by Ronald Wilson, was purchased in 1985 showing a view of the buildings at the southeast corner of Yonge and Wellington Streets.

In 1986 the town purchased another Wilson painting titled "Second Hand Shop Aurora" which was a landmark on Yonge Street in downtown Aurora before it was demolished.

A painting of the Aurora railway station titled "Waiting for the Night Train" by Dorothy Clark McClure was selected in 1994.

In 1995 it was "Aurora's Rolling Hills" by Johanna VanKempen and in 1996 Dorothy Clark McClure's painting of "Castle Doan 200 Years Yonge" was the 1996 selection.

Several comments were heard at the 1999 show that many of the so-called Preserve Aurora paintings were not unique to Aurora but could be found anywhere in Ontario.

As a result it was suggested that members of the Aurora Historical Society or the Heritage Advisory Committee jury the entries in the Preserve Aurora in Paint category, not for artistic merit, but to ensure the paintings reflect Aurora in some way.

In 2000, the winning painting almost created a problem between the town and the show sponsor, Investors

Group. The painting was "Memories Soon to be Lost" by Pat Barber of the old buildings at Church and Yonge Streets, which were demolished for the new library.

A representative of the Investors Group also selected the painting to purchase for the firm. As a compromise, Investors Group agreed to loan the painting to the town for hanging in the new library.

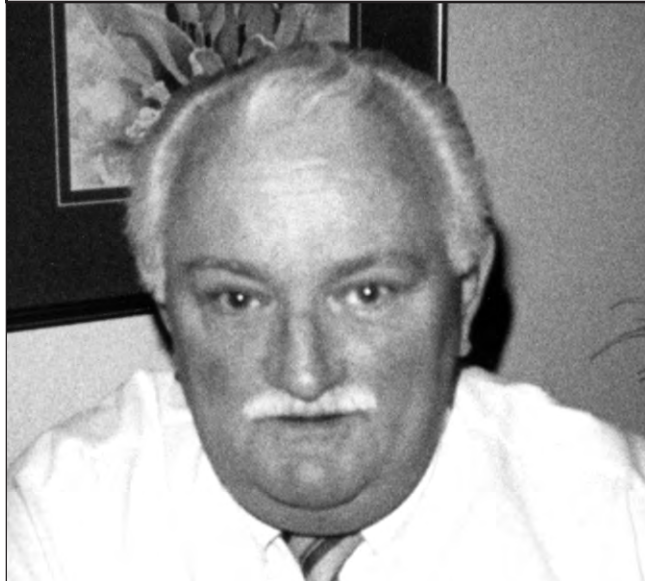
This resulted in the town acquiring "Wells Street Swings" by Jan Pugh with the school in the background.

Purchases have continued every year as part of the Art Show and Sale and provide a permanent reminder of places and buildings, many of which have been demolished.

People flocked to the Aurora Legion last weekend as the Society of York Region Artists (SOYRA) held its 20th annual art exhibit and sale. Proceeds from the three-day event went to Southlake's new cancer centre.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

In Memoriam



Reg Whiten

1933 - Oct. 15th 2001

A loved one is a treasure of the heart,
and losing a loved one is like losing a piece of yourself.
But the love that this person brought you did not leave, for
the essence of the soul lingers.

It cannot escape your heart, for it has been there forever.

One clings to the memories

and lets them find their way to heal.

The love and laughter, the joy in the
togetherness one shared, can only make you strong!

You came to realize that your time together,
no matter how long, was meant to be and that you were
blessed to have such a precious gift of love in your life.

One keeps the heart beating with the loving
memories and by trusting one's faith to guide you through.

Though life moves on, the beauty of love
stays behind to surround and embrace...

A loved one has left that, to hold in your heart forever.

**Yolande Whiten,
and your beloved children:
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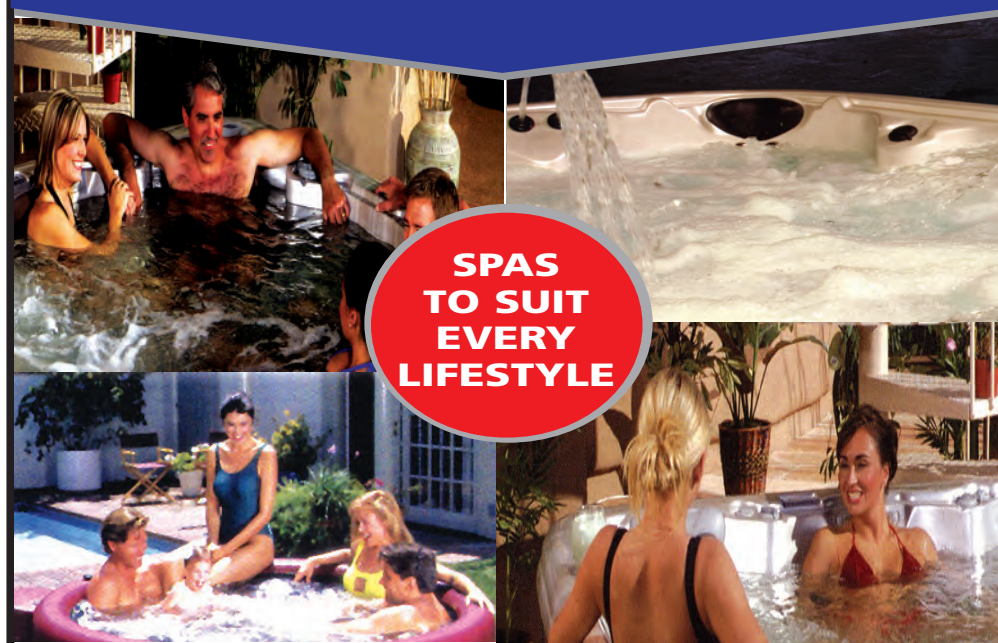
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Time: Begins at 9 a.m.

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Tigers crush Orangeville, slay Villanova

By JOHN KLEIN

Aurora Tigers have now skated through more than eight periods without having a goal scored against them, while burying their opponents with 19 goals.

In two weekend games, Aurora blanked the Orangeville Crushers 7-0 at the Aurora Community Centre Friday night, then bombed Villanova College 8-0 Sunday afternoon.

The Villanova Knights squad is only the second high school team to play in the Provincial Junior A Hockey League, and their home games are played at Canlan Ice Sports rink in Toronto.

The other high school team comes from St. Michael's College.

Aurora last gave up a goal October 6 in Orangeville against the Crushers when Nicholas Hewko scored on a powerplay at 2:37 of the first period.

Aurora came back to win that game 4-1.

Since that first period goal - a total of more than 177 minutes - Aurora has kept its opposition off the scoreboard.

Now, if the Tigers could just get some fan support, they'd be well on their way to another national championship.

Friday night, again, fewer than 300 people were at the game to watch Aurora blank the Crushers.

Crowds this year have yet to surpass the 300 mark, yet at one time, more than 1,000 people would crowd into the community centre to watch junior hockey.

In fairness, 375 people were at the Community Centre Sept. 21 when Aurora lost to Newmarket 7-6, however, it's believed many of the fans were from Newmarket.

On Friday, the Tigers hosted the Orangeville Crushers and a dominant performance by Aurora allowed them to beat the hard working Crushers team 7-0.

Scoring for the Tigers with nine combined points was the trio of Jeff Harbach, Mark Thorburn and Jordan Watts. Other goal scorers were Sam Yearsley, Michael Sardella and Mark Mayea.

The Tigers then

hooked up with Villanova for a road game on Sunday.

Villanova held off the Tigers' attack for two periods, but could not sustain their efforts in the third, as the Tigers blasted through the Knights 8-0, scoring five times in the final 20 minutes.

Two goals each came from Jeff Harbach and Jordan Watts, who led the way in both weekend tilts finishing off the two games with 11 points shared between them.

Veteran Mark Thorburn added another four assists on his weekend tally to finish off the weekend with an impressive seven points.

Additional Aurora scoring came compliments of Jeff Vanderlugt, Mike McLaughlin, Tyler Turcotte and Mark Mayea.

The two one-sided games seem to suggest the Tigers, last year's number one ranked Junior team nationally, is on the rise once again in the Ontario Hockey Association and that the expectations Head Coach Jerome Dupont spoke so passionately about at the start of the year are starting to become a reality.

Tigers, which should give Aurora any additional motivation needed going into Friday night.

The Tigers have still played fewer games than any other team in the Division, and boast a winning percentage better than all but the first place Newmarket Hurricanes, a team they do not face again until November 11th.

"We are starting to play as a team and everybody is making a contribution" said Coach Dupont referring to the victory over the Crushers.

"If we played three periods, who knows what the outcome could have been?"

Tigers play two home games this weekend; the first Friday evening against Huntsville and the second Sunday afternoon when they host the Sequin Bruins at 2:30 p.m.

Both games are at the Aurora Community Centre.

FRIDAY
AURORA 7
ORANGEVILLE 0

First Period
 No scoring

Second Period
 A: Sam Yearsley (Evans, Cacciatore) 1:51
 A: Mark Thorburn (Bodley, McGarry) PP 6:18
 A: Mark Mayea (Dupont, McLaughlin) 9:17
 A: Michael Sardella (Paolo, Novak) 11:05
 A: Mark Thorburn (Harbach, Watts) 16:19

Third Period
 A: Jeff Harbach (Thorburn, Watts) 3:07
 A: Jeff Harbach (Watts, Paolo) 11:50

SUNDAY
AURORA 8
VILLANOVA 0

First Period
 A: Jordan Watts (Herbach, Thorburn) 8:24

Second Period
 A: Mark Mayea (McLaughlin) 1:01
 A: Jeff Harbach (Thorburn, Paolo) PP 14:16

Third Period
 A: Jeff Harbach (unassisted) 1:55

A: Tyler Turcotte (unassisted) 2:57
 A: Mike McLaughlin (Watts, Thorburn) 9:13
 A: Jeff Vanderlugt (Morley, Yearsley) 14:02
 A: Jordan Watts (Siekris, Thorburn) 18:20

Monday Night Hockey League Standings							
TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS	
Highland Chev-Cad	2	0	1	16	9	5	
Masterclean Contracting	2	0	1	18	13	5	
Tom & Jerry's	1	0	2	11	8	4	
Priestly Demolition	2	1	0	14	10	4	
Baldwin's	1	2	0	13	15	2	
Rec Cycle N' Sports	0	1	2	10	14	2	
Law Insurance Brokers	0	2	1	7	13	1	
FPL Aggregates	0	2	1	9	14	1	
WEEKLY SCORES							
Highlands Chev	6			Priestly Demolition	5		
Law Insurance	3			FPL Aggregates	0		
Masterclean	6			Tom & Jerry's	4		
Baldwins	4			Rec Sports	4		



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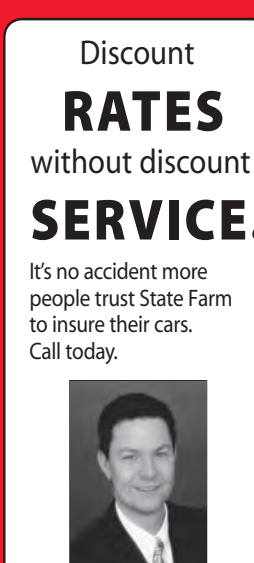


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Where's the ball? Aurora Barbarians and the Brantford Harlequins prepare for action during quarter-final rugby game played Saturday at Fletcher's Fields. Aurora handily won the game.

Photo by José Lagman

Barbarians head to semis with win over Brantford

The Aurora Barbarians Rugby Football Club took another step towards a second straight appearance in the McCormick Cup final with a win over Brantford Harlequins in their quarter-final match at the Fletcher's Fields rugby complex in Markham Saturday.

They won the game 36-12.

Last year the club lost in the final of the annual fall classic of Ontario rugby 20-18 to the Irish Canadian Rugby Club based in Toronto.

The Barbarians began the game with 20 minutes

Watch Marlies practice in town

If you would like to watch the Toronto Marlies practice, and you don't want to drive to the city, you'll get a chance next week.

The Marlies will hold an official one-hour practice at the Aurora Community Centre (Rink 1) Wednesday, Oct. 24, beginning at 6.15 p.m.

In addition, the club will hold an exclusive autograph session for all ticket holders on the second floor of the centre.

The event will cost \$5 to get in, with proceeds going to the Aurora food bank.

Marlies, an American Hockey League squad, have set up the practice in conjunction with the Aurora Minor Hockey Association and will host the group at a special Aurora night at the Ricoh Coliseum in Toronto in November.

of sustained pressure in the Brantford end of the field, and opened the scoring with a five-point try from fullback Damon McLachlan.

Brantford Harlequins are an excellent team and welcomed back Aaron Carpenter, who had returned last Monday from the Rugby World Cup in France where he had represented Canada.

The Harlequins played solid defensive rugby in the first half and held the Aurora team to just the single score and a slim 5-0 lead at the half.

But the Aurora Club played outstanding rugby in the second half and gradually used their strength, fitness and speed on a tiring Brantford squad.

Eight minutes into the half Aurora scored on an 80-meter move that went through eight different sets of hands before former Canadian international player Marco Di Girolamo touched down in a display of open attacking rugby.

Kicker Dave Ashwood added the two-point conversion to bring the score to 12-0.

Di Girolamo, a Kettleby resident, added two more

trys in the half to complete his hat trick.

Although Brantford were committed to the end and scored two trys of their own, they could not handle the power of the Aurora forward pack and yielded a penalty try for purposely collapsing a scrum near their goal line.

Ashwood added the conversion.

Nearing fulltime, Barbarian flanker and former Dr. G.W. Williams standout, Shaun Allen timed a burst through the Brantford line perfectly, intercepting a pass and running 60 meters for the final try of the match.

Ashwood completed the scoring with the conversion.

Following the game Barbarian Captain and former St. Andrews College rugby star Robbie Carter admitted to some team jitters prior to the game.

"We had not played Brantford this year and weren't sure what to expect," he said. "They have given us tough games in the past and five members of their squad played for the Rugby Super League Champions, Niagara Thunder. It was a good win for us."



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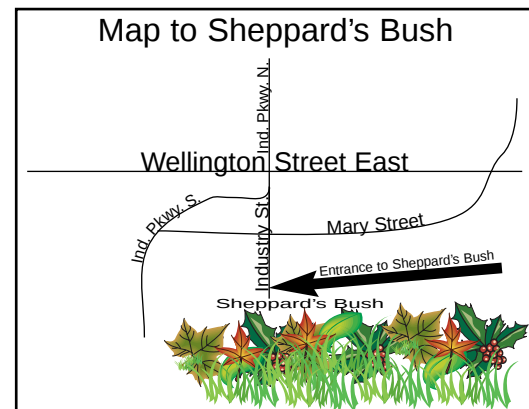
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Four members of the Upper Canada Chordsmen took time out Thursday morning to sing to the staff of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. Enjoying the music were, front row, left to right, Administrative Co-ordinator Kathy Halbert; Operations Manager Mary Lynn Stephenson; and Executive Director Carla Adams. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

Council meetings could get shorter

Aurora's procedural bylaw says no item of business shall be considered

Watermain is coming

York Region's 2007 capital budget includes the installation of the Yonge Street watermain in Aurora and Newmarket.

The Yonge Street section is north from Orchard Heights Blvd. to just south of the St. John's Sideroad.

The total amount to be expropriated is just over one acre.

Offers of compensation must be made under the Expropriation Act to all the owners of the listed parts on the reference plan.

These offers must be made within 90 days of the registration of the expropriation plans.

Funds have been included in the 2007 budget.

The provision of increased municipal water servicing water capacity to the community will accommodate growth for future employment lands and recreational areas as well as provide security for future growth.

Toastmasters honour members

Three members of the Towns of York Toastmasters will be honoured next week as the club celebrates Toastmasters Month in Aurora.

Ronda Theaker, Ross Mackay and Helve Reppo will be honoured at Park Place Manor, Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.

"We will honour members from our ranks who have exemplified the spirit of personal growth and development espoused by the mission of Toastmasters International," said vice-president, public relations, Dorothy McDonall.

The event will also feature the presentation of annual awards to a number of other club members.

by council after 10.30 p.m. unless a majority of the council approves waiving the bylaw to extend the meeting.

Since the start of this term, council meetings have dragged on until well after 11 p.m. and on occasion last until midnight.

The procedural bylaw also says if council is still in session at midnight it shall be adjourned unless a two-thirds majority agree to an extension.

Last week, Councillor Bob McRoberts presented a proposal to change the procedural bylaw.

He recommended the bylaw be amended to change midnight to read 11 p.m. unless a two-thirds majority votes to extend the hour for council and general committee meetings, including closed sessions.

He said meetings that last more than four hours have proven to lead to overtiredness and it was important to carry on the business of the town while one is fresh and alert.

Councillor Al Wilson said he had some concerns about the proposed amendment as sometimes delegations could drag on and it would be 9 p.m. before council got to the agenda items.

He suggested the procedural bylaw be enforced as it states that members can only speak twice and often they are allowed to speak several times.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said that she normally leaves around 10.30 p.m. as she was not able to make a sensible contribution after that time and it was necessary for members of council to use judgment as some monopolized the discussion.

ment as some monopolized the discussion.

With the two-third majority escape clause, council adopted the motion to amend the procedural bylaw as presented.

It was ironic that the motion was presented at the shortest council meeting of the term with the open session lasting just under an hour, but then there were no members of the public in attendance for Open Forum, no delegations and of the six items on the agenda, three were discussed.

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

Keeping the public informed

One of the goals of the current Aurora Council is open and transparent government and keeping the public informed of the actions of council and one of the best ways to do this is a Mayor's Report in the local press.

It started back in 1969 when the then editor of the Aurora Banner Bob Buchanan invited newly elected Dick Illingworth to write a weekly Mayor's Report.

He hesitated at first claiming he had never written anything other than a high school essay but was talked into it and the Mayor's Report carried on continuously since then until the present council.

Former Mayor Tim Jones accepted an invitation from The Auroran to continue the mayor's report.

The whole purpose of the weekly report was to keep the public informed as to the decisions council had made and the reasoning behind those decisions and to inform the public of upcoming legislation or programs.

Sometimes when a member of council disagreed with the mayor the councillor's column was printed and Councillor Richard Barker, who made an unsuccessful attempt for the mayor's chair, was an occasional contributor.

An offer was made to Mayor Phyllis Morris on her election to continue the tradition of a Mayor's Report in The Auroran but for some reason it wasn't accepted and the citizens are the losers.

REWIRING THE BRAIN

In June, 1985, Gloria Stevens of Aurora's Life Education Centre told the children that the brain is like a computer and when the programs aren't wired up properly, the computer doesn't work properly.

The Life Learning Centre was a supplement to the education system, not an alternative to the school system.

In a pubic meeting at the Aurora Library she explained how and why the programs in the brain's computer get messed up.

The Life Education Centre offered many services for children who had perceptual or audio-visual blocks that may interfere with their ability to learn at school.

Where are Gloria Stevens and the Life Education Centre today?

REMEMBERING THE OPTI-MRS. CLUB

The Opti-Mrs. Club of Aurora was founded in 1969 to serve the youth of Aurora and aid those individuals, groups, or communities in need.

Funds were raised through bake sales, rummage sales, dances and other events.

At that time service clubs were primarily male only, resulting in

the members' spouses forming their own club, which outlasted the first Aurora Optimist Club.

Since that time they installed playground equipment in Machell Park and made numerous donations to the Yellow Brick House and the children's ward at York County Hospital.

In 1975, the Club presented a \$1,500 cheque to the Aurora Public Library to provide for a children's section at the Victoria Street Library.

In September, 1981, a Vita Par Course Fitness Trail was under construction in Sheppard's Bush and when completed would include eight fitness stations.

The estimated \$3,000 to \$4,000 cost for the trail was shared by club members and the town.

In May, 1985, the Club contributed to a fund to help construct a new creative playground at Regency Acres Public School.

In September, 1996, when a young man fell through the cracks of Ontario's medical system, the Opti-Mrs. took over and covered the \$5,700 cost for a customized wheelchair which his parents couldn't afford.

There were likely many more good deeds by the hard-working club members and their efforts today are missed by a thankful community.

WHEN AURORA WANTED MORE LAND

In January, 2000, Aurora wanted to annex parts of King Township and Whitchurch Stouffville.

In King the plan was to extend Aurora's westerly boundary at the Bathurst Street to Highway 400 and in Whitchurch Stouffville from Highway 404 to Warden Avenue.

As it was more than a minor boundary adjustment it did not fall within the mandate of the Municipal Boundaries Negotiations Act, so that the only way for Aurora to proceed was an amendment to the Region of York Act or a Private Member's Bill.

Staff members from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs advised that the Ministry had no plan for any changes in local government in the GTA and nothing happened.

Prior to regional government, annexations were quite common, but afterwards there were none.

JUST ASKING

Last March staff members presented the 2006 Annual Report to council but for some reason or other it was deferred and has never come back to council.

Each year as an annual exercise, departments compile statistics related to their operations and a summary of their accomplishments and initiatives and it is forwarded to the Administration Department for collation into the Annual Report.

Klees wins nail-biter

From page 1

If Tory decides to retire from politics, Klees would not answer the question about whether he would seek the leadership again.

"I'd only answer that after a long, long discussion with my wife," he said Wednesday night. "I hope he (Tory) stays on as leader."

Klees expanded his profile during that leadership race and while serving as an MPP in the Oak Ridges riding, was the PC Critic for Education and Citizenship & Immigration in the legislature.

He was also a member of the Justice Committee.

From 1992 to 1994, Klees was third vice-president and policy chair of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario.

He was first elected to the legislature in the election of 1995, defeating former Liberal leadership candidate Charles Beer and was easily re-elected in the 1999 provincial election.

In 2000, Klees was preparing to run as a candidate for the leadership of the new Canadian Alliance, but withdrew because one of his key financial backers insisted on a last-minute deal to make a significant funding commitment conditional on Klees throwing

his support to one of the other candidates on the second ballot.

Klees stepped down from his ministerial position on July 30, 2001, for what he described as personal reasons.

After returning to the backbenches for a year, he was reappointed to cabinet in 2002 as Minister of Tourism and in 2003, he became Minister of Transportation, and served in that position until the defeat of the Ernie Eves government in the October 2003 election.

Klees was re-elected in 2003 (one of only 24 Progressive Conservatives) and was a candidate in the leadership election which took place Sept. 18, 2004.

Klees was born in Landau, West Germany. At the age of five, he came with his family to

Canada by boat and settled in Leamington.

He first ran for the Ontario legislature in the 1975 provincial election in a traditionally Liberal riding, narrowly losing to Liberal Remo Mancini in the southwestern riding of Essex South.

He lost to Mancini a second time in the 1977 election, and did not run as a candidate again until 1995. He remained active as a party member.

He worked as a businessman, then became an entrepreneur, and started a sports agency which represented professional athletes.

Klees also co-founded the Municipal Gas Corporation in 1990, and served as its executive vice-president until 1997. When he sold the business, it had grown to a significant enterprise with 55,000 customers.

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This comprehensive review tells council and the public of performance highlights of the municipality for 2006 and sets out goals for 2007.

It was an interesting and informative report and should have received council's stamp of approval so that the public could be made aware of some of the highlights of the past year and goals and objectives for the current year, but it got lost somewhere.

Just asking.

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Karen Zorn, right, presents Sheri Fiegehen of CHATS (Community Home Assistance to Seniors) with a cheque accounting for money raised at the charity table from the Pine Tree Potters' Guild Pottery Sale. Their next sale will be at the St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club, 368 St. John's Sideroad in Aurora Nov. 15 to 17, and again the Charity at this sale is going towards CHATS.



Senior Scape

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Movie nights prove popular

Among the most popular and well organized functions offered by the Aurora Seniors' Association (ASA) is the Tuesday Night Movie, which includes refreshments.

It is a very informal social gathering, with members sitting with spouse or friends depending upon the mood of the evening.

Movie night started in July, 2006, and has been a strong attraction ever since, and it appears it will continue into the future.

Members are retired mostly but many, even in retirement, maintain a busy schedule, so it's important to sit and relax.

The Oct. 23 movie will feature, "Don Juan Demarco", starring Marlon Brando, Johnny Depp and Faye Dunaway, and the Oct. 30 movie will feature, "Monster in Law" starring Jane Fonda and Jennifer Lopez.

The Friday night dances are in full swing once more with the next one the Oktoberfest Dance scheduled for Friday, Oct. 19, starting at 8 p.m., in the West-McKenzie Hall. There will be refreshments and a cash bar.

The dances have been a weekly feature of the seniors program for many years and provide an excellent opportunity to enjoy sophisticated big time dance music, in the good company.

If you have favourite music you wish to hear or a recording of music by a particular artist, inform Charles Sequeira, the master of ceremonies, and Charles, if the music is appropriate, will look into finding it.

While the weather remains balmy or summer-like, perhaps the walking club is an attraction.

Walkers meet at the centre every Wednesday morning at 9.30 a.m. and Oct. 24, the Holland Valley Trail to the St. John's Sideroad is the chosen walk.

This trail through the park upon which the centre borders, may appeal to some of the new members since it is not demanding, and it is a great way to meet other members, and enjoy a great walk in the fresh air.

It is not necessary to pre-register, just show up and join the group and give yourself a great start to your day!

On the travel agenda is an overnight trip to the Niagara Falls Festival of lights Nov. 26 to 28.

It will include two nights accommodation, some meals and several tours including the Festival of Lights tour.

On Nov. 27, transportation by coach and a luncheon followed by the show, "White Christmas" at the Hummingbird Centre in Toronto, promises excellent entertainment.

If you have any thoughts on trips that excite your imagination, please inform Lucas or Virginia.

Fresh input of ideas is stimulating and often generates further ideas, so if you have something on your mind, please do not keep it to yourself.

The computer club will not offer computer instruction lessons or the Tuesday Drop In sessions in December.

It is to be expected that Christmas will see seniors receiving new digital cam-

eras and new computer equipment so be sure to check the newsletter for announcements of when instruction resumes in the New Year.

Congratulations to the Liberal party for winning the provincial election and to Progressive

Conservative Frank Klees who won a close battle in the Newmarket-Aurora riding and I believe Frank, who has visited the centre on many occasions, will represent us well at Queen's Park.

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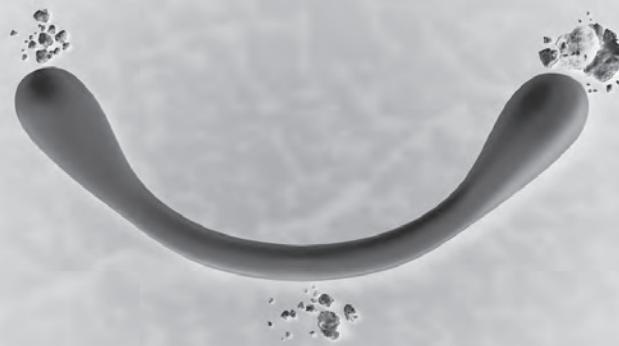
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Back in the 60s

Tough sell to get water meters installed

Today when many Aurorans are complaining about water restrictions and shortages while new subdivisions are being constructed, residents may find it hard to believe that not too many years ago, Aurora water as plentiful and cheap.

In March, 1969, council decided to review the water rate structure. This led to a proposal by Councillor Bill Trent that the committee include the use of water meters in the review.

He argued that experience in other municipalities had shown lots of water could be saved by the introduction of meters. He received little support.

All was quiet on the water scene in Aurora until 1977. Council received complaints about water restrictions as well as from pool owners who objected to paying a \$10 surcharge for filling pools in addition to the flat rate of \$7 per household every two months.

The complaints resulted in another study. In August, 1977, Aurora's council in committee received a report providing an estimate of the capital costs of purchasing and installing water meters in Aurora.

At the time Aurora Hydro was billing 3,659 residential dwellings for water service at a flat rate, and as 234 homes in Golf Glen had unused water meters installed as part of the subdivision agreement, there were 3,425 residential developments requiring the meters.

Including administration and other charges the total cost to install meters for the 3,425 homes was \$316,464.112 or \$92.39 per residence.

When the report came to council the proposal to install meters was defeated 6-3.

The majority of councillors argued there was no immediate water problem and they were skeptical about the benefits of water conservation. The majority of citizens opposed meters, claiming the problem of rusty water should be cleaned up first.

In March, 1982, council asked staff members to investigate the various types of meter reading system alternatives.

Since 1958 Aurora Hydro had billed and collected all town water accounts for a fee of 65 cents per bill. With the installation of meters, it was suggested a new billing system would be required.

In May, 1984, a staff

report pointed out that metering of water had several advantages, primarily reduction in water consumption, as the per capita use of water in Aurora was 80 gallons per month compared with the regional average of 50 gallons.

On a 4-3 vote, council approved in principle the installation of meters.

Metering could also save on the overall cost of sewage treatment, as the town was billed by the region on a per gallon basis.

Disadvantages to metering were shown as costing more than the flat rate system and maintenance costs could increase as the meters age, especially with the town's hard water.

It was also recommended the new billing system not be implemented until all meters had been installed.

Council adopted in principle the concept of water meters.

The public was quick to react, with complaints that council considered approving the concept in principle without first allowing for public input.

Long-time residents said the town had used a flat rate billing system for years and it had worked well.

By March, 1985, with the cost of installation estimated at \$125 per unit, it was proposed the cost of the meter and installation should be collected as a surcharge on the water bill at a rate of \$3 per month over a four-year period

Council approved the staff report and made application to York Region and the Ontario Municipal Board to debenture \$525,000 over five years for the meter nstallation.

A regional report in 1987 stressed the need for residential metering to conserve water from the Yonge Street aquifer supplying the water needs of Aurora, Newmarket and East Gwillimbury.

The region also recommended that further development be curtailed until the issue of water supply had been resolved, which angered Aurora councillors over what was considered regional interference in local affairs.

The issue of water meters dragged on into 1989. Newmarket council appealed to the Region and the Ministry of the Environment to stop Aurora from wasting water by not installing residential water meters.

An assessment of water use, carried out by the Region, showed that the average per capita

consumption in Aurora was 77 gallons per day, compared with 57 in Newmarket.

In 1989, council was unanimous in agreeing the town would finance the installation of water meters from the Waterworks Reserve Fund at an estimated cost of \$2 million. Property owners would not be charged for the meters.

By 1990 the installation of residential water meters was substantially complete with 137 meters still to be installed.

In November that year, there was still a division on council as to whether there should be a minimum charge even with meters.

Some argued that with meters people should only pay for what they used, while others said a minimum charge should be set to cover infrastructure and administrative costs.

In 1991 after years of water rationing during the summer months, council decided citizens could water lawns and gardens at will until September.

However, the bylaw provided for immediate restrictions in the event of a water shortage emergency due to environmental, mechanical or unseen circumstances.

When installation was complete at the end of 1990, two full-time water meter readers were hired for the public works department.

Each of the town's 8,000 meters was read three times a year with approximately 40 meters added each month.

By 1995 the average family was paying \$150

per year with meters with the understanding the price could go to \$226 by 2000, but there were no restrictions as to use.

Homeowners started to question the so-called water shortage now that people could use all the water they wanted, providing they were prepared to pay for it.

In spite of the installation of meters and an increased supply of water from Lake Ontario, water restrictions are still being imposed during the summer months, as residents well know.



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Councillor questions Bloomington landfill site

The former landfill operation on the north side of Bloomington Road between Bayview and Leslie Streets has been a problem for Aurora Council and adjacent residents since the early 1990s.

Although the landfill has been inactive since 2003 the issue was raised last week by Councillor Evelina MacEachern.

She questioned the

activity at the landfill site as dumping was going on.

She said she had received several phone calls and e-mails about more dumping at the site and it had been difficult to obtain information.

Finally, she noted the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority had approved the dumping.

She questioned why the town's landfill bylaw had not

been used, especially after spending about \$80,000 in legal fees over the years.

CAO John Rogers said the town had been working with authority officials and the current activity at the landfill site was to level off some grades as some areas had become depressed due to compaction underground.

It was agreed staff members would follow up with

conservation authority officials and submit a written report.

The site was actively mined in the 1950s and as part of the rehabilitation process for the former gravel pit, a permit was granted for a clean fill operation.

The fill operation continued over the years and adjacent residents expressed concern about the amount and quality of

the fill as most of it came from construction sites in Toronto.

Residents worried about possible well contamination.

In 1997, the town received a report from a consulting engineering firm regarding soil samples taken from the site.

It was found that some of the samples contained petroleum hydrocarbons in

concentrations slightly in excess of applicable guidelines at that time and that future shipments be rejected if their source was from petroleum-impacted areas.

In early 2003 the landfill operator sued the town claiming municipal officials abused their authority and interfered with his ability to do business.

Since that time the landfill has been inactive.



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(Also residents of Aurora for 60 years)

on Oct. 18th, 2007
CELEBRATED IN AURORA
OCTOBER 6TH, 2007

Love from your children and daughters/sons-in-law

Jennifer (Robert), Laurel (Jim), Eric (Miriam), Dwight, Garth (Liz) and grandchildren
Marcus, Matthew, Alexander, Christopher Jonathon, Andrew, Lindsay, Keith, Jennifer and Katie

CLEANERS

CLEAN WITH CARE experienced efficient, thorough home cleaning with an added personal touch 905-727-2353.

STORE ANNIVERSARY

FIRST ANNIVERSARY FOR TRADEMAKERS. The Newest Napoleon Fireplace Store. 24 Industry Street, Aurora, 905-726-1019. 10% Off with this ad.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

OFFICE FOR RENT, Yonge and Mosley area. For more information, call Telly at 905-717-4073.

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PROFESSIONAL CLEANING with a personal touch
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• Customized Services
• Same Professional and Reliable Staff
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FOR ANY OCCASION

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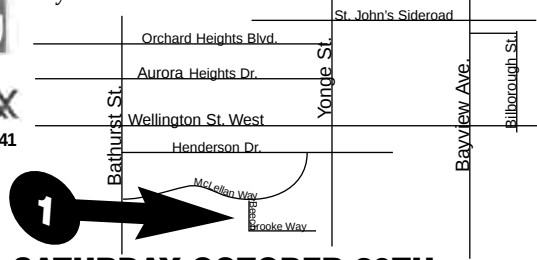
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Sean Herbinson
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SATURDAY OCTOBER 20TH

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YOGA

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Judy studied academic painting and drawing in Florence, Italy. She has appeared on City Line TV.
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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT - DANCE CLASSES

Watch Steve Miller Teaching Dance on

ACI TV

4 PART SERIES
Starting Wed., Oct. 10th 4 p.m.
repeated Thursdays at 8.30 p.m.
plus, Saturdays & Sundays
at 11 am & 10 pm.

Foxtrot, Waltz, Rumba & Jive

OCTOBER 19TH-DANCE PARTY

ONE HOUR Rumba 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

For more info on on-going classes with Steve in Aurora:

Steve Miller
Email: Steve@SteveMillerDance.ca

Site: www.SteveMillerDance.ca

or call Steve Miller at 416-439-6557



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We are the Mortgage Sisters

Specializing in Refinancing

Debt consolidation, also referred to as ‘refinancing’ is quite common these days. It’s not because more people are in debt, it’s simply because it just makes sense. Pulling equity out of your home at today’s great interest rates can save you as much as 17% a month interest charges! The valuable equity that you may already have in your home can be used to consolidate credit card debts, credit lines and even car loans.

In the past, for a client to consolidate credit card and loan debts, a second mortgage was your only choice. Did you know second mortgage rates can be as high as 19%? Today, you can top up your existing mortgage to incorporate those debts and remove the debt load without having to take out a second mortgage. Why would you choose that expensive avenue over refinancing at today’s 5 year rate of 5.79% fixed.



Debbie

Kelly

Before Debt Consolidation		After Debt Consolidation	
Existing Mortgage		New Mortgage	
Property Value	\$400,000	Property Value	\$400,000
Mortgage Balance	\$260,000	Mortgage Balance	\$300,000
Interest Rate	5.25%	Interest Rate	5.79%
Term	5 Yrs / 25 Yrs	Term	5yr / 40 yr
Monthly Payments		New Monthly Payments	
Credit Cards \$15,000	\$450.00	Credit Cards	\$0.00
Other Debt \$18,000	\$540.00	Debts	\$0.00
Mortgage	\$1,191.84	One New Mortgage	\$1,592.75
Total Payments	\$2,181.84	Total Monthly Savings	\$589.13

As this example shows, we were able to refinance the existing mortgage before the term was up and get them the money they needed to pay off all debts and lower their monthly payments by \$589.13

The total SAVED is \$589.13 per month or \$7,069.56 per year and they could put that extra savings into a possible investment account for their retirement or put it towards their mortgage and pay the mortgage off in 18 years instead of 40 years.

- **Refinance**
- **Purchasing**
- **Tax Deductable Mortgages**

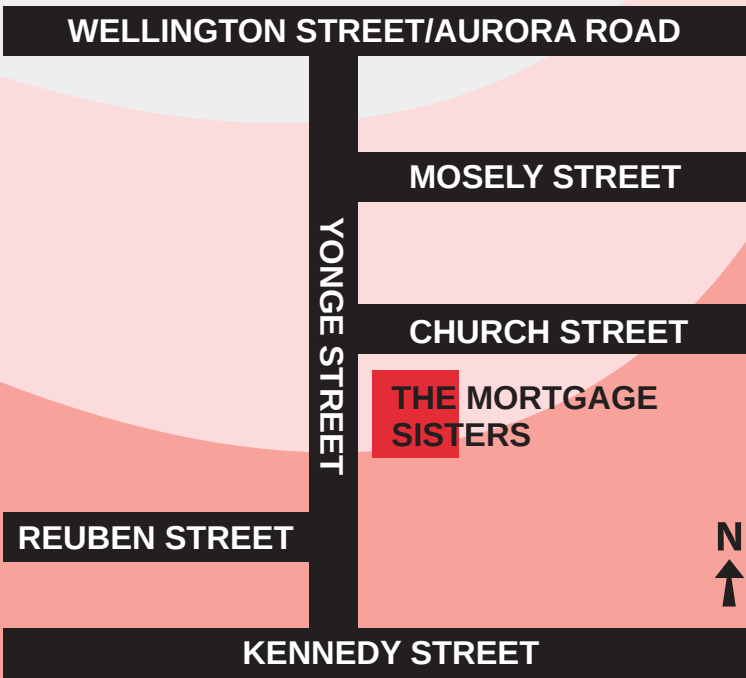
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