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Actors Eli Ham and Shannon Currie filled the roles of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth in a production of Shakespeare’s masterpiece produced by the Humber River Shakespeare Company. The company’s tour of Macbeth stopped in Aurora on Saturday night and played before many enthusiastic people at the Town Park band shell.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

## Public to be asked how to spend \$33m pot

By Brock Weir

You may soon have your say on how to spend the \$33 million you may have never known you had.

As The Auroran reported this spring, Aurora's Town Council was considering ways on how \$33 million garnered from the sale of Aurora Hydro in 2006 could be used. The matter came to a head earlier this year when Councillors considered the future of the proposed youth centre, which has now been rebranded as a "community space for youth."

Rather than renovating and building onto an existing facility like the Aurora Family Leisure Complex, which was the way Council eventually leaned, Councillor Evelyn Buck put forward a motion looking at the possibility of using this money to raze underused buildings along Victoria Street between Church and Mosley and building a new, multi-storey, multi-purpose facility which could have a youth drop in as one of its many components. Such a building would replace the old Aurora Public Library building, which is currently used by the Town for some storage, office space, and rented out to community groups, and the adjacent former site of the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

At the April 24 meeting of Council, members asked staff to report back on consulting with the community on how these funds should actually be spent and that consultation could be decided at Council this

Continued on page 3

## Five Aurorans awarded Jubilee medal

By Brock Weir

Heralded for their services to the community, 14 residents - including five Aurorans - were honoured with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal last week.

The recipients, all of whom were nominated by Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees, received their medals at a special ceremony at Queen's Park on Wednesday where Mr. Klees invested his nominees with the medal himself.

"This is a very special occasion," said Mr. Klees. "This year marks the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne. This makes her the second-longest reigning monarch, only after Queen Victoria.

"To commemorate the milestone, we join millions of people in celebrating her Diamond Jubilee. This is our chance to look back and thank her for her tireless service to Ontario and to Canada. We honour her kindness and her spirit and her tremendous sense of duty. We admire her for guiding the monarchy into this modern world through very challenging times. We can't help but be inspired by her resilience and her commitment to service."

The nominees honoured on Wednesday reflected this

Continued on page 8

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# HAPPY 109th BIRTHDAY, ADA!



**Aurora's oldest resident, Ada Johnson, is celebrating her 109th birthday this week quietly with friends and family at her residence at Park Place Manor. Mrs. Johnson, pictured left at her birthday party last year, also has the distinction of being the longest ever resident of Aurora, having moved here a three year old girl. The Grande Dame of Aurora was born July 17, 1903 and told The Auroran last year her advice to residents is: "laugh and enjoy yourself. Enjoy each day and make the most of it because that day never comes again."**

**Auroran photo by David Falconer**

## Meetings, surveys will decide future of Hydro cash

**From page 1**

Tuesday.  
On the table will be a recommendation from Town CAO Neil Garbe calling on Council to approve an amount up to \$35,000 to "support a community-wide education and consultation campaign" which will be handled through an outside consultant.

"Recognizing the financial scope of the decision and the potential for hundreds (or thousands) of different suggestions for disbursing the funds, it is highly advisable to engage a reputable third party that specializes in designing and administering community-based surveys," said Mr. Garbe in his report to Council.

According to Mr. Garbe, a third party would be able to provide Aurora - and thereby the public - with specialized expertise on "messaging and surveying", ensure that the whole process

was auditable, and make sure discussions are "in the hands of a neutral party."

"While there are other consultation options, including conducting our own surveys or public consultation sessions, they do not provide the advantages of a neutral third party with specific expertise in guiding, collecting and analysing resident responses," said Mr. Garbe.

"At the very least, a third party can be engaged to assist with the initial set-up of questions as well as administration and analysis of the survey. This would narrow the field of choices for consideration by Aurora Town Council.

If all goes according to plan, Mr. Garbe hopes to start consultations in September, including beginning the search for the consultant and doing informal surveys with members of the public at Ribfest. By October, a contract is planned to be

awarded with the first public meeting scheduled for later that month. This will be followed in November by phone surveys and continued intercept interviews before a further public meeting and Council workshop in December.

"Engaging the public on an issue of this scope would require a fully transparent and accountable process to ensure that there is no unfair attempt to influence the decision," said Mr. Garbe in his report. "Retaining a reputable third party that specializes in community-based surveying to help design, implement and analyse the results of a community survey would provide the necessary expertise, fairness and integrity to conduct a verifiable and accountable public consultation with residents."

What to do with money in the Hydro Reserve was the subject of the most recent episode of Our Town, hosted by former

councillor Alison Collins Mrakas. Joining her to discuss the issue were Councillor Buck and former mayor Tim Jones. To watch, visit [www.theauroran.com](http://www.theauroran.com).

How do you think the Town should spend this money? Are there any burning needs you think the money can address? Are there any projects you would like to see become reality? Have your say! Email your suggestions to [brock@auroran.com](mailto:brock@auroran.com).

### Briefly

#### MORRIS CASE RESUMES TUESDAY

Arguments for costs between former Aurora mayor Phyllis Morris and residents Richard Johnson and Bill Hogg are to resume this week. Tuesday's hearing is a continuation of arguments which commenced on April 26 regarding costs sought from Morris by Johnson and Hogg.

The men are two of three citizens who were sued by Morris in the final weeks of her term as mayor. She alleged those named in the lawsuit had knowledge of anonymous posters on the Aurora Citizen blog who she alleged defamed her. The Council of the day voted to go forward to bring a resolution to this matter, but the majority of participants in the discussion later argued they were not aware their authorisation was going to lead to a lawsuit. The current Council voted to discontinue any municipal involvement in the case in the early weeks of their term. Morris later dropped the lawsuit. She also had to pay the two a total of just over \$27,000 in costs for her failed Norwich motion, which would have compelled the parties to release any information they had on the identities of the anonymous bloggers.

Hogg and Johnson currently seek approximately \$38,000 in additional costs related to the entire case. This week's hearing is expected to be dominated by lawyers for Morris who began their arguments in April but were cut off midway due to time constraints following arguments from the other side.

#### CORRECTION

Last week, The Auroran published a photo of Newmarket fiddler Bob Arbuckle participating in events hosted in Town Park by Kerry's Place and Art in the Park. Arbuckle was actually playing in the Aurora Farmers' Market on behalf of the Aurora Festival of the Arts, promoting the upcoming Aurora Jazz+ Festival.



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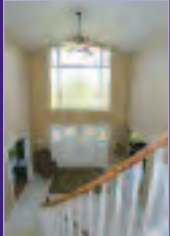
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# Letters to the editor

## Hoedown sponsorships available

We are fortunate to have a busy, supportive business community who are very much engaged in activities supporting the Town.

I know business owners understand the concept of corporate social responsibility. You need look no further than the example set by Magna in terms of their Corporate Charter that commits a percentage of annual revenue to support areas of social responsibility.

Magna has underwritten the costs associated with presenting the Hoedown to the tune of 12.5 million dollars over the last 24 years.

Like Magna, business owners just need to know how their donations will be spent and that the community appreciates and respects their support. This very opportunity

exists by way of a \$500 "Community Champion" sponsorship for this year's Hoedown. Businesses, or individuals for that matter, can boast of supporting our 20 charities, not-for-profits and community groups directly by becoming part of the growing list of Hoedown supporters.

Please consider joining a great group of "Community Champions". For more information on Hoedown sponsorships, please call John Crowell at 905-726-3737. Help us make this year's Hoedown the best ever by showing your support for the many organizations who work hard to make our community great.

**Steve Hinder, Chair  
2012  
Hoedown Committee**

# Special Olympics fundraiser was a success

Golf tournament coordinators Cheryl Duckworth, Deb Finniear and Nicola McGovern would like to extend their thanks to all the supporters and participants of the Inaugural Fundraising Golf Tournament in support of Special Olympics-Aurora. Many thanks go to those who sponsored holes or played in the tournament, or both. There were 53 golfers, 15 hole sponsors and a hole-in-one sponsor. The prize donations from our friends and businesses in the community, the purchase of raffle tickets, and a putting competition made the day a great success. Thank

you to our volunteers who donated their time to help at the tournament. Finally, thank you to Mike Nisbet at Westview Golf Club, and his staff, for a fabulous day and a tournament which was extremely well run. \$6,122 was raised to support Special Olympics Ontario - Aurora Community. This will help fund new sports, support and develop the existing sport clubs, and help send some of our athletes to different levels of competition. Planning for next year's tournament is underway.

**Special Olympics  
Aurora**

THE AURORAN

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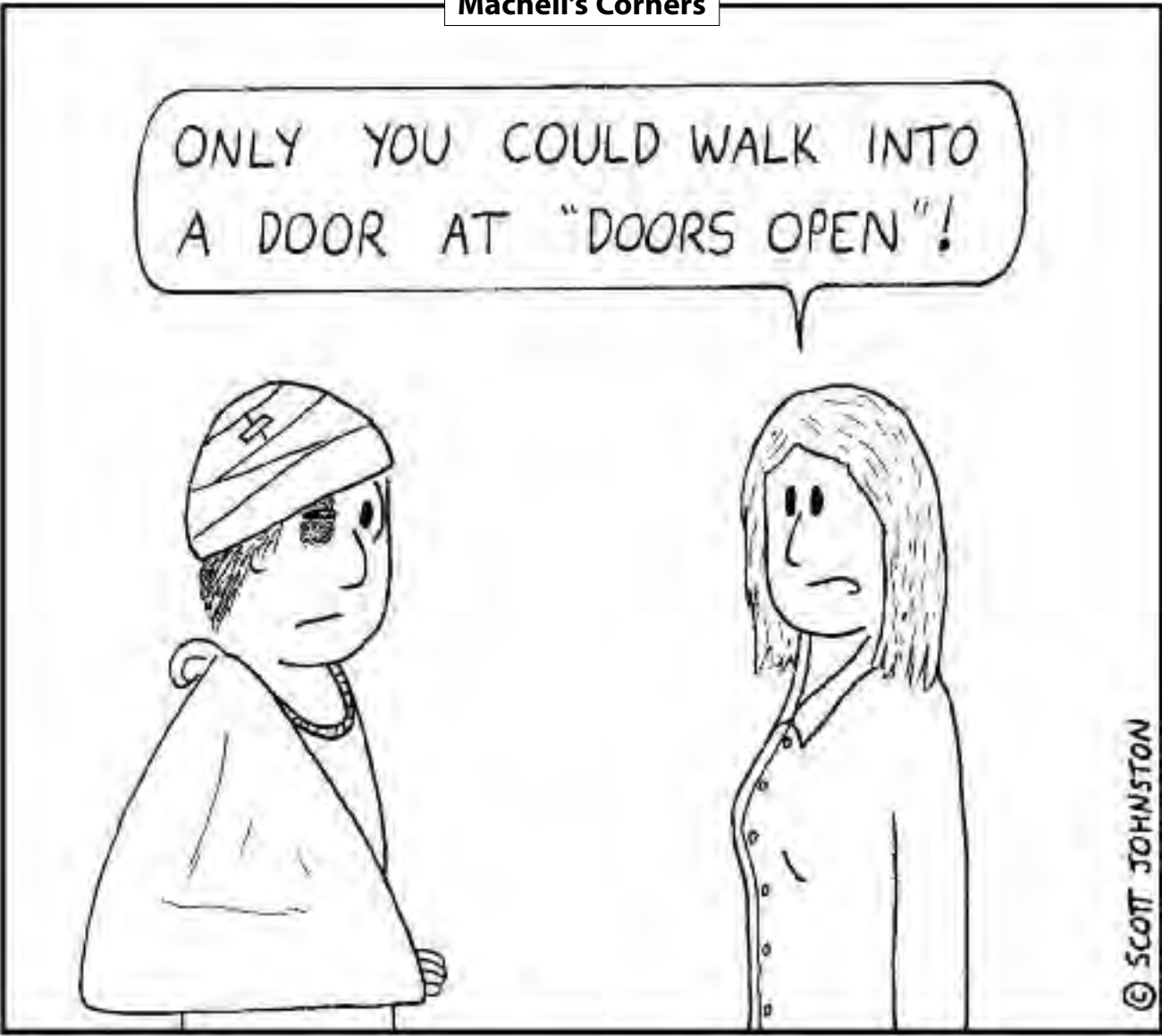
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To submit a letter to the editor please send your email to  
letters@auroran.com – deadline for submissions is Saturday at 1 p.m.

# Want to fill a seat? You bet!

“Dream big, Brock.”

That’s what one of my more sarcastic friends in high school said the day after the Oscars, or the Emmys... or something. What prompted this exchange was my idea of how great it would be to –just once – be a seat filler at one of those shows. You get to enjoy the show live and in the flesh, but don’t have to put in the hard work and deal with the temperamental people to get there.

Before this person suffered a potentially fatal bout of eyestrain from rolling theirs too hard, the conversation shifted gears onto a completely unrelated subject, but the idea was still in the back of my mind.


When I sat down to check my email one day in the middle of last month, with the hubbub of Charles and Camilla’s visit to Ontario and the excitement of the Jubilee just starting to drift into history, I had no idea that I would have a fleeting brush with the teenage flight of fancy.

It was a Thursday and the following Monday evening, the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario was hosting a Gala Reception at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto for all recipients of the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario currently residing in the province. The purpose of the evening was twofold – to celebrate the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee and for these Order members to receive their own Diamond Jubilee medals.

I found out in March that I was nominated for a medal for my volunteer work with an organization spread over many years, and to expect a couple of possible dates for an investiture sometime in the Fall. When I got an email saying that some of the members of either Order were unable to attend the ceremony and organizers had a few seats to fill, somehow my name was selected at random to go down there, get my medal, and enjoy the show.

Well, needless to say, they didn’t have to ask me twice!

Going in there I didn’t know what to expect because since I had neither



**BROCK’S  
BANTER**  
Brock Weir

order, I knew I would stick out like a sore thumb, but was content just to take it all in. The way it was set up was that of the 600 or so medallists there that day (very intimate!), about 25 people had been selected to help the Governor General, the Lieutenant Governor, and their spouses, hand out the award. These ranged from news anchors Peter Mansbridge (the emcee for the concert) and Lloyd Robertson to actors Gordon Pinsent and Shirley Douglas to activists Craig and Marc Kielburger.

Part of the fun of waiting in the exceedingly long line to get in was just who would be your presenter. As luck would have it, I got Mike ‘Pinball’ Clemons. Following the presentation, the concert began and included such high spots in Canadiana including Inuit songstress Susan Aglukark, jazz singer Molly Johnson, Gordon Lightfoot (carrying his own amp, of course. A personal highlight), and performances by the Famous People Players and bands representing Aboriginal communities and military life.

Before and after the concert, however, the best part was just people-watching. Almost everywhere you turned there was someone instantly recognizable, but what was of particular interest were the number of people there to get their medals that evening who have graced these very pages in recent years.

The first one I spotted was Aurora

resident Harry Lumsden, a member of the Order of Canada, who has been featured in The Auroran several times for his work for natural heritage in Ontario, particularly his work reversing the swan song of the trumpeter swans.

Another recipient I bumped into a few times that evening (once, almost literally) was Ann Mortimer. Although (technically) a resident of Newmarket, this acclaimed ceramic artist found her way into our pages last year due to her participation with the Aurora Cultural Centre. Her intriguing exhibition, the Great Umbrella Caper, was the inaugural exhibition hosted by the Centre in its Red and Blue Galleries in January 2010.

Ms. Mortimer was there too as a member of the Order of Canada, and stopped for a moment to share some memories of her time at the Cultural Centre, which featured her eye-catching works of uniquely painted and decorated ceramic umbrellas influenced by her travels throughout Asia, and working with kids and other enthusiastic artists as they rendered their own visions onto paper umbrellas.

Finally, there was Dr. Bette Stephenson, who appeared in our November 30, 2010 issue which, if memory serves, was only the second time Poor Ronnie let me hold the reins of this paper in his absence. The occasion of Dr. Stephenson’s appearance in our paper was the opening of the Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning in Oak Ridges. As was planned at the time, and as it continues to be, her namesake building was built by the York Region District School Board as a Regional hub for continuing education.

She was kind enough to pass along her good wishes on Ronnie’s recent retirement and my appointment as editor, but kindly asked that we ramp up the number of photos in the paper.

I hope our page of images taken during Doors Open Aurora 2012 will do the trick!

NEW POLL  
www.theauroran.com

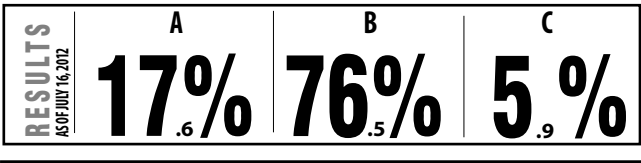
The Aurora jazz+ Festival will soon be upon us. Do you plan on attending the three day festival in Town Park at any point from August 3 - August 5?

- A) Yes  
B) No  
C) Undecided

Final Results:

Aurora is considering ways to celebrate the Town's 150th birthday next year. While a number of events could be in the pipeline, debate has surrounded who should plan the festivities. Who do you think should oversee the plans?

a) A Project manager costing upwards of \$60,000?  
b) A volunteer citizen committee  
c) Don't Know



Please participate in our POLL - go to [www.theauroran.com](http://www.theauroran.com), scroll down and look to the bottom right of the home page to VOTE.



This dinner plate, part of the fine china collection of the Hillary Family was made by George Philips Pottery, based in Longport England. Philips produced pottery only from 1822 to 1847. The delicate image on the plate is rendered in light blue against a white background. The central image shows two peacocks, with trees and buildings in the background. An intricate pattern of vines and flowers decorates the rim of the plate. It is currently on display as part of the 150 Artefacts for 150 Years exhibit at Hillary House. If you are interested in adopting this or any other item in the Aurora Historical Society's fundraising initiative, contact the AHS at 905-727-8991.

Diamond Jubilee Medals Awarded

This year marks the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne. This makes her the second longest reigning monarch after Queen Victoria, whose Diamond Jubilee was celebrated in 1897.

In a world fraught with political and economic instability, it is truly remarkable that any monarch would survive 60 years. What is even more significant is the fact that Queen Elizabeth II enjoys the highest personal approval rating of any public figure. This, despite the tumultuous decade of the 90s when marital separations, indiscretions, the death of Diana, Princess of Wales and public questioning of the relevance of the monarchy were daily topics in the world media.

Through it all, the Queen carried out her royal duties with dignity and re-assuring confidence. She continues to be a symbol of stability, not just in the Commonwealth, but

throughout the world. We can't help but be inspired by her resilience and commitment to service.

To celebrate this Diamond Jubilee, Ontario is presenting outstanding Ontarians with the Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of their contributions to our province and to our country.

As a Member of Provincial Parliament, I was granted the privilege of nominating fourteen individuals to receive these medals, and this past week, I had the honour of presenting those medals to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to making our community and our province a better place.

We are proud of them and their accom-



FRANKLY  
SPEAKING

Frank Klees  
MPP Newmarket-Aurora

plishments.

Each one has made - and continues to make - a difference in the lives of the citizens of our communities, of our province and of our country.

Whether through outstanding accomplishments in business or industry, dedication to community service, leadership in public service at various levels of government, or selfless and courageous dedication to ensuring our continued

freedoms through military service.

Each recipient is a true reflection of Her Majesty's legacy. Some of the recipients will be recognized because of their public persona. Some names have never been mentioned in any media reports and may only be

known by those whose lives have been touched by their selfless acts of community service.

Join me in thanking these outstanding citizens of our province, now recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal:

Suzanne Bolton, The Honourable Rose Boyko, Robert B. Callow, Corporal Denny Choe, Ernie Crossland, Dr. Shahid Hashmi, Gary Hicks, Steve Hinder, George Marcello, Derek Murray, Gustav Schickedanz, The Reverend Canon Shea, Michael R. Springford and Ron Wallace.

I want to thank the family members and friends of the recipients who joined us at Queen's Park for the medal presentation ceremony. It was truly a memorable event.

As always, I welcome your comments and advice. I can be reached through my website at [www.frankklees.com](http://www.frankklees.com) or by calling 905-750-0019.

Cartoon Convention

What do global warming, health care, Afghanistan, and a recent Aurora municipal election have in common?

They were all the subjects of cartoons that appear in "Cartoon Canada", a book highlighting the work of the Association of Canadian Editorial Cartoonists. (ACEC)

Over the Canada Day week-end at the ACEC convention in Montreal, the country's best political cartoonists (and me) gathered for a few days of presentations and shop talk.

The event was kicked off by a surprise visit from Justin Trudeau, who told us that growing up, the first time he really realized what his father did for a living was from reading editorial cartoons.

The first set of speakers was a trio of cartoonists and cover illustrators from "The New Yorker" who, based on the amount of submissions that are rejected, must have extremely thick skins.

Over the next couple of days we toured an animation studio, and heard about topics ranging from cartooning and censorship in China, to the preservation of histor-

ical cartoons, to the rise in popularity of graphic stories.

There was also a special gallery opening that accompanied the launch of "Cartoon Canada". All of the cartoons (yes, even the one poking fun at local Aurora politics) will be on display at the McCord Museum for the next several months.

Proving that politicians at all levels are good sports, at our wrap-up session, former Prime Minister Paul Martin told us that he'd never been upset by a political cartoon aimed at him. In fact, he encouraged us, noting that "you people have the ability to reach Canadians in a way no one else does... with your talent to draw and make a point."

I can only assume that he hadn't seen my cartoon yet when he made that "talent to



INSIDE  
AURORA

Scott Johnston

draw" remark.

But the highlight for me that week-end was the opportunity to meet and spend time with the cartoonists themselves, who came from across the country. They ranged from those who worked for the national and big city newspapers, to those who had their own comic strips, to people who drew for local publications, to freelancers. There were

even a few Americans in the crowd.

It was interesting swapping stories, and knowing that we have all had similar experiences with deadlines, rejection, the change in print media, and the universal sentiment that you never know what will provoke a response.

For example, we all had experiences of cartoons that we had put tons of time and thought into, and felt perfectly nailed a controversial subject, but resulted in no feed-

back whatsoever. Meanwhile, a quickly scribbled effort that one normally wouldn't draw except you were out of ideas and staring down a fast-approaching deadline, is your most popular cartoon of the year, and elicits tons of comments.

As for The Auroran cartoon that appears in the book (below), it's one I drew several years ago that I had sent in as a sample of my work when I joined the ACEC. According to our president, it was "an excellent example of the effectiveness of community cartooning".

I'm not actually sure how effective it was - after all, there have been two municipal elections since I drew it, and nothing much has changed - but I appreciate the compliment, and meeting so many fellow cartoonists has inspired me to keep plugging away.

If you're interested in seeing how Canadian cartoonists view the world these days, copies of "Cartoon Canada" are available on-line through Chapters and Amazon.

Feel free to e-mail Scott at:  
[machellscorners@gmail.com](mailto:machellscorners@gmail.com)





## A Trip to Queen’s Park

Received my Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal at Queen’s Park Wednesday afternoon.

Thank you, Frank Klees.

It’s been a very long time since I was last at Queen’s Park and I’ve never taken the guided tour through it. There was one going on when we arrived.

A couple of years ago when Patricia and I were vacationing through Ottawa, it was a no-brainer to take the tour through the Centre Block on Parliament Hill. It never occurred to me, really, to be a tourist in the city closer to me.

Queen’s Park is an impressive structure on its own, let alone the history that’s happened within the walls.

If you have any kind of mobility, meaning you’re okay with walking a distance, that whole area, with the Royal Ontario Museum and the Art Gallery of Ontario close by, should be on your list of places to visit.

Frank had been invited to nominate 14 candidates to receive the medal, and I was one of them.

Of the 14, I knew half of them: Suzanne Bolton; Bob Callow; Ernie Crossland; Gary Hicks; Steve Hinder; Derek Murray, and Gustav Schickedanz.

The others I had never heard of: Derwyn Shea; Mike Springford; George Marcello; Dr. Shahid Hashmi; Corporal Denny Choe; or the Honorable Rose Boyko.

Frank gave a brief bio of each recipient.

An impressive group of accomplishments, to say the least. I was humbled to be among them.

Stories about these people should be in The Auroran somewhere since the editor Brock Weir and photographer David Falconer were both



## POOR RONNIE

Ron Wallace

there.

Falconer was the official photographer, while Weir was actually covering the event.

Klees, who is the Member of Provincial Parliament for the riding of Newmarket-Aurora, in setting up the presentation,

allowed each person four visitors, and I elected to take Patricia, my wife, since she had to do the driving anyway.

Aw, heck, she’s cute, too.

The story about my driving, or lack thereof, will be told in my next column, currently scheduled for July 31.

\*\*\*\*

Took a few days off last week – you can do that when you’re retired – and took over Patricia’s sister’s trailer at Buckhorn, more specifically Sandy Lake.

I had been there before, and Jim and Sylvia, while there, were the perfect hosts.

Aside from the distance to Buckhorn (it was a two-hour drive) things were pretty much as I remember them.

Peaceful and green with an abundance of blue jays, chipmunks and a family of annoying raccoons.

When you drive east on weekend, you don’t have to deal with much traffic because it’s all heading north! But don’t tell anyone or they’ll all head that way.

It’s not the first trailer park I’ve been in.

I owned a trailer on Lake Bernard for several years, but sold it once I got married and realized we weren’t using it that much.

It took about three hours to drive there but one could always stop in Orillia, if the mood struck you to do a bit of gambling at Casino Rama.

The mood seemed to strike me often.

## Letters to the editor

### Resident seeks return of equipment

I am a 28 year old living in Aurora. I grew up riding horses, and have still have my horse Lucy even though it's an expensive hobby for someone my age.

About a month ago, I received a call from the OSPCA saying that the barn where I board Lucy was under an active investigation for not feeding or providing water to the horses. I hadn't gone to see Lucy in a couple of weeks, and when I went to see her I was appalled by

the conditions.

I was told by the OSPCA that I had to move my horse from that facility ASAP or Lucy would be confiscated into the care of the OSPCA. I had 5 days to move. I scrambled to find a barn that was close to my home but still affordable - I don't have a very high budget. I also had to find someone to pay to trailer my horse to a new facility - unfortunately, Lucy doesn't fit in the trunk of my car!

It cost me hundreds of dollars to move her and pay again for board that I'd already paid but would not get back. I found out at the same time that the barn owner was defrauding me out of hundreds of dollars - money she told me was going to the vet for care of Lucy, but the vet confirmed she never gave him the money and thus Lucy was not getting any vet care.

I thought this was all behind me. I found a new barn and Lucy seemed happy. We've been at the new barn for just under a month. And then, when I went to go riding this Monday, I arrived at the new barn to find all of my riding equipment stolen. Everything! My saddles, bridles, navajos, saddle pads, draw reins, side reins, lunge lines, training martingales, bits, spurs and everything in between. Everything. Gone. I'm talking about thousands of dollars and a lifetime of riding equipment stolen. The thing I'm most upset about is my saddle. I've had it for 15

years and taken painstaking care of it. It had a brass nameplate with my name (Kayla Smith, my maiden name) on it, but I'm sure it's been removed.

I luckily had a pretty good picture of it. The first thing I did was file a police report with York Region. I've posted on Facebook, I've put up an ad with a reward on Kijiji. The owner of the barn has also posted a link on Kijiji and put flyers up in feed and tack stores in the area. I've called a bunch of stores that sell equipment on consignment. I called all the auction houses hoping that they might recognize it. I just don't know what else I can do, so I am reaching out to The Auroran to see if we can get this out there even further. Here's my Kijiji Link: <http://toronto.kijiji.ca/c-pets-other-STOLEN-RIDING-TACK-All-my-riding-equipment-stolen-Reward-W0QQAdIdZ394984384>

Kayla Lanzillotta  
Aurora

## Another glance...

The centre spread of the Auroran (June 26) while detailing the benefits of living in Aurora, have neglected to mention the Catholic elementary schools presently in Aurora under the jurisdiction of the York Catholic District School Board.

For the record, the names of the Catholic elementary schools, which were omitted, are as follows:

Our Lady of Grace C.S.  
Holy Spirit C.S.  
Light of Christ C.S.  
St. Jerome C.S.  
St. Joseph C.S.

With the exclusion of the Catholic elementary schools listed above, home hunters/buyers/residents are decidedly not getting "most of the relevant community info at a glance."

Rosalyn A. Gonsalves  
Aurora

## Another one bites the dust...

Anyone that grew up in the 80s would have heard the song "Another One Bites The Dust" by Queen. That's how my kids and I felt recently when we went to have breakfast at the Zellers Diner.

We knew Target was coming, but did not realize that the "target" was going to be on our favorite breakfast place. We went in, and to our disappointment, it was closed!

My wife and I made a pledge that we would make a conscious effort to have our children familiar with proper behavior while eating at restaurants. We were the ones, before having children, that would whisper to each other at how misbehaved "those" children were. So we decided we would start early and frequented the Zellers Diner when Dante was one.

Along came Tosca and the tradition continued. We would go

every so often, first visit the toy aisle (strategically placed) and then have breakfast served by the always smiling and jovial Sue (we will miss you, Sue) and made sure the kids sat properly, ordered on their own, and had a great time.

Now we can go to any restaurant and only have two glasses spill, at least one major stain on someone's shirt, and notice only one other couple indiscreetly say "look how misbehaved those children are."

Yes, Zellers Diner has taught us a lot and we will miss it. Not sure if Target will open a new one, but it just won't be the same.

To all those who think that good things last forever, be careful, the word on the street is that the big boxers are saying..."Hey, I'm gonna to get you too".

John Gallo  
Aurora

## Letters to the editor

### Telephone Tips

Re: Telephone Hang-ups by Scott Johnston

I read with some amusement your account of your attempt to make an appointment, in this week's edition of the Auroran. (July 3, 2012) As you indicated, sometimes dealing with a "live" person can be as equally frustrating as interacting with an automated system.

With respect to the latter issue, I wanted to let you know the method I've discovered for dealing with interminable voice-mail systems. All I do is pretend that I'm calling from a rotary dial phone, and not respond to any of

the prompts.

With most systems, this eventually allows me to speak with a real person. Of course, with some systems, you are asked to state "the reason for your call" or something similar, which can be tricky. However, even with these systems, the absence of any response on the caller's part usually is rewarded by the call being transferred to a "live" person.

Just thought I'd contribute my two cents worth to the discussion.

Colin Guenther  
Aurora

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# All's quiet on the Seniors' front, unless...

If you're a card fanatic, you will find an avid group still visiting the centre every week. Nothing seems to stop these players.

While others have found alternative activities for the summer, these members seem to play every week day.

You have a choice of duplicate bridge, big euchre, bridge, poker and canasta.

My groups - scrabble and rummi-kub - tend to wax and wane, depending on the summer schedules of our players. I figure, two out of a possible six to eight players ain't bad, considering that the card sharks almost fill one of the larger rooms. For them to lose 10 players in a session has little if any effect on their game.

Fortunately, you only need a minimum of two people to play either of our games which is good, because last week, only one person showed up for rummi-kub besides me.

We had fun, regardless.

Even the pool room is frequently empty, at least during the times when I drop in. This, too, can be turned into a positive.

My aiming skills need a lot of practice, which I'd rather do when no one is watching. So, I take advantage of the empty room to open up one of the small tables and practice a few games as I did last week.

There was quite a steady flow of passersby, for some reason. One person stopped to say hello so, with mixed feelings, I invited him to join me. While I do enjoy having someone to help me sink the balls, this time I was relieved when he chose not to join me.

By now, you're probably asking, "Where did all the seniors go?"

Well, I can tell you that they could well have been having more fun than I. Last Thursday, they went on one of the many trips that the centre offers.

They spent all day at Casino Rama and a one-hour cruise on Lake Couchiching.

I don't gamble, but I'd gladly forfeit a day at the centre for that cruise!

If you missed it, there's a similar trip coming up on August 2 to Niagara Fallsview Casino. Don't worry. This one doesn't have you hanging over the Whirlpool Rapids. Instead, it includes a tour of Rossi Glass.

Watching an artisan blow glass into wonderful shapes is awe inspiring. As it happens, Rossi Glass is the largest manufacturer of Cranberry collectible glass in Canada. During the tour, you can



## SENIOR SCAPE

Sylvia Dickens

watch the creations emerge from non-descript wads of soft glass.

### Our Seniors are winners

On June 12, senior members competed in the Senior Star Competition 2012. This is a singing and musical instrument competition open to any Canadian resident who is 65 years and over. It was held at the Aurora Legion.

Of the 10 seniors, four were members of the Aurora Seniors' Centre. Bud Switzer won first place singing "Some Enchanted Evening". He, Jytte Gillies and Neil Pemberton are members of the Evergreen Choir. Jim Edwards was our fourth competitor.

Once again, the ASA

has won an award for its float in the Canada Day parade. The float represented "our heritage as a fragile thing, too easily lost or forgotten, so the Aurora Seniors' Centre's float will take you back to the days of the pioneers with their log cabin homestead."

Ron Coe and several volunteers assembled the sturdy and rugged-looking log cabin in the centre's workshop.

Congratulations to the Float Committee, headed by Judy Buchanan and Ron Coe, in creating this winning float being awarded the Best Original Theme for 2012. The plaque sits proudly in the Seniors' Centre's

display case in the main lobby.

### Petch House soon to arrive

Last year, it was decided that the historic Petch House should take up its new home behind the Aurora Seniors' Centre. Last week, crews were busy digging a hole - not to put it in, but to create a foundation that will hold the house.

In my view, this is an ideal location for an old log cabin that represents Aurora's long history. The setting is backed by trees, with the beautiful Aurora Arboretum gate and flower display on John West Way creating a welcoming entrance.

## A case of fairness

Among the many conversations I have with residents, a number invariably revolve around programs and services provided to our community.

During these discussions, there are often questions about who provides these services. Is it the Town of Aurora or The Regional Municipality of York?

It's not always a simple answer.

Regional governments were established in Ontario by former Premier Bill Davis in 1971. The idea behind this second layer of municipal government was to provide large scale services to communities that would produce savings through economies of scale.

It's a model that, for the most part, has worked quite well. In many instances, the Town works very closely with the Region to provide seamless service to residents. In the case of garbage, the Town collects your trash from the curb and the Region disposes, recycles or composites the materials. In the case of drinking water, the Region builds and maintains the equipment needed to acquire, sanitize and distribute the water to each community and the Town bills for the service and distributes the water to homes and businesses.

In both of these examples, two separate organizations work hand-in-hand to provide the high-quality services our residents pay for through their property taxes. As elected officials, it is incumbent upon us to ensure the effective continuity of this service and ensure we receive the best possible value at the best possible price. Our residents expect and deserve no less.

In Aurora, nine elected representatives protect the interests of our residents and ratepayers by thoroughly debating budget priorities and zealously scrutinizing our spending. With one-third of residential property taxes funding Town infrastructure, programs and services, having fully-engaged Council members who meticulously evaluate multiple options is critical.

When you consider that a full 44 per cent of residential property taxes go to the Region for programs delivered under their mandate, the issue of



## IN GOOD COMPANY

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe

debate and representation is even more acute.

While members of York Regional Council put a great deal of effort into critically examining services and expenditures, the issue of representation is a cause for concern.

Although nine representatives prioritize programs and services covered by 33 per cent of tax bills, I am the sole representative protecting the interests of our ratepayers' 44 per cent contribution to the Region.

The Town of Aurora is one of nine municipalities in York Region. From a proportional perspective

we are properly represented on the Region's 21-member Council. From a practical standpoint, we are not.

The City of Markham, the Region's largest local municipality, has five Regional representatives. This is more than Aurora, King, Georgina and Whitchurch-Stouffville

Continued on page 14



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## Back Pain Workshop to Reveal Powerful Secrets for Lasting Relief

I want to share my story. My back pain was horrible. I tried pain medication at first. But it didn't provide lasting relief. It hurt so bad I couldn't even pick up my children without wincing from the pain. I went to my doctor but he told me I would just have to live with the pain and take muscle relaxants and painkillers whenever my pain became bad. But it only got worse.

I tried physiotherapy and massage too - but without lasting relief.

I was about to look into surgery when I spoke to a friend who suggested I try a different approach that had worked for him.

My friend told me he found great information about back pain from a complimentary workshop he attended. He told me he learned effective ways to get rid of his pain. And it

worked for him!

I admit it seemed too good to be true. But it obviously worked for my friend. Regardless, I went to the workshop and learned a lot. I applied what I learned and gave it a little time. I can now honestly say my back pain is a thing of the past. It's remarkable.

You are likely frustrated by having to suffer with ongoing back pain or stiffness. But you may also be concerned on your dependency on pain pills ... and their possible side effects.

You may have heard that there can be serious health risks associated with regular use, or overuse, of pain pills. These risks include damage to the liver, kidneys or gut.

I learned that although the pain killing drugs are designed to numb the pain they do

not correct the underlying root causes of most back pain.

Most doctors focus on medications or physiotherapy to give relief but sufferers need to be aware that there are additional choices available for most cases of back pain that are effective, natural and safe.

To help sufferers an upcoming workshop is scheduled to reveal ways to provide lasting back pain relief by addressing the problem at its root. This eye opening information has helped many sufferers change their lives forever.

As a community service this workshop is free.

The workshop will be held on Wed July 25 from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm. at the King West Wellness Centre 141 King Rd., Unit 10, Richmond Hill. Seating is limited.

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Local recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal nominated by MPP Frank Klees are pictured outside the doors of the Legislative chamber following their investiture on Wednesday afternoon. Pictured in the first row, left to right, are Ernie Crossland, Mr. Klees, Michael Springford, Dr. Shahid Hashmi, Ron Wallace, Suzanne Bolton, the Hon. Rose Boyko, Steve Hinder, Cpl. Denny Choe, and George Marcello. Back Row: Gustav Schickedanz, Rev. Canon Derwyn Shea, Gary Hicks, Derek Murray, and Robert Callow.

Photo by David Falconer

## Medal ceremony salutes “community builders”

**From page 1**  
resilience and commitment to service to their community. Aurora recipients included Ron Wallace, founder and former editor of The Auroran, Neighbourhood Network co-founder and former Councillor Steve Hinder, seniors advocate Derek Murray, Corporal Denny Choe of the Toronto-based Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, and entrepreneur and community volunteer Bob Callow.

"I have the honour of presenting these medals to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to making our community, our province, and our country a better place," said Mr. Klees. "We're proud of them and we're proud of their accomplishments. Each one has made, and continues to make, a difference in the lives of the citizens of our communities, for our province, and for our country; whether it is through outstanding accomplishments in business and industry, dedication to community service, leadership and public service at various levels of government, and selfless and courageous dedication to ensuring our continued freedoms through service in our armed forces. Each recipient is a true reflection of Her Majesty's legacy and a fitting way to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee."

Other recipients of the medal from Newmarket, Vaughan, a city which used to share an MPP with Aurora, and from further afield included Suzanne Bolton, a constituency assistant in Mr. Klees' office, who was singled out for her work with persons with disabilities, the Honourable Rose Boyko, the first Aboriginal woman appointed to a Canadian superior court, Ernie "Mr. Newmarket"

Crossland, Dr. Shahid Hashmi, an advocate for Pakistani-Canadians and businesses, Gary Hicks for his work with Ugandan schools; organ donation advocate George Marcello; business leader Gustav

*"I have the honour of presenting these medals to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to making our community, our province, and our country a better place," said Mr. Klees.*

Schickedanz; politician Reverend Canon Derwyn Shea; and long-time Lions Club champion Michael Springford.

Mr. Callow was the first resident of Aurora that afternoon to receive his medal.

"Bob, as he is known in the community, is a successful entrepreneur, community volunteer, and philanthropist," said Mr. Klees before presenting him with his medal. "He is dedicated to making his community and country a better place. During his nine year term of service on the York Region Police Services Board, Bob earned a reputation as a citizen advocate and as a strong voice for community safety. Bob has served in a leadership role on many community boards and organizations and has made a significant contribution to Canada as an activist in the political process."

"Bob is an untiring volunteer, a builder of communities, and loves our great country [which he demonstrates] through his daily life."

Next up was Cpl. Choe

who, through his work as a member of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, and through life as a civilian - Mr. Choe is a Grade 7 homeroom teacher - was dubbed "twice the citizen."

"This moniker stems from the fact that not only do they serve their country as soldiers in the Canadian Forces, most are also employed within civilian organizations and volunteer their time to community organizations," said Mr. Klees.

"Throughout his 10 years of service, Cpl. Choe has performed at an extremely high standard in the completion of his duties."

Mr. Murray, during his presentation, was saluted by the MPP as being an "inspiration" to the community, a reputation which, he said, precedes him in the community. For this advocate for Aurora's senior community, age doesn't seem to be a personal factor at all.

"Age is irrelevant," said Mr. Klees of Mr. Murray, who also works with Pace Credit Union. "If there is something to be done, he wants to do it and it gets done with excellence. Derek is a tireless advocate for seniors' issues and dedicates countless volumes of hours to senior organizations throughout our community."

"He serves his peers in the Aurora Seniors' Centre, although they say he is far too young to belong! He has done extensive service through Community Home Assistance to Seniors (CHATS) where his years of business experience combine with a heart for the community, who gets things done."

"Derek comes into my office every Friday and he checks on me to ensure that the person the people of Newmarket-Aurora have elected is doing his job and I thank him for that."

He's someone who is always ready to serve and has made a difference in the life of our community."

Over the next few weeks, The Auroran will single out these winners with individual profiles on just how these recipients have impacted their community and their fellow residents, but from Mr. Klees' perspective it is clear - "we are a very blessed community and we're a very blessed province because of these kinds of people who live in this great province and are willing to dedicate themselves to making our province and our communities greater. "You are all community builders and our province is what it is today because of you and because of your dedication."

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# Auroran founder awarded Jubilee medal

By Brock Weir

When Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees presented The Auroran founder Ron Wallace with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal on Wednesday afternoon, he was singled out as "Mr. Aurora."

But Mr. Wallace, unusually at a loss for words, rejected that idea out of hand.

"I don't think I am Mr. Aurora, frankly," said Mr. Wallace following the ceremony. "I think there are an awful lot more people who are more deserving of the title than I am. Where it came from, I had no idea."

Well, let's hear what Mr. Klees has to say on the subject:

"Ron Wallace, affectionately known as Mr. Aurora is truly an exemplary citizen," said Mr. Klees in his remarks during the awards presentation, which also recognized four other Aurora residents. "Ron served as an Aurora Town Councillor, York Region District School Board Trustee, Aurora Chamber of Commerce Director, Volunteer Firefighter, and, in his literary life, enlightened the community through his several incarnations as reporter, writer, journalist, editor, and publisher."

"To quote Ron, 'I am in love with Aurora and all there is to it. I would do anything I could for the Town.' And there isn't much more that one person could do. Despite his retirement, Ron continues to be actively engaged in community building through the support of the Aurora Historical Society and through his regular column in The Auroran, the news-

paper he founded and recently sold, Ron continues through that column to remind the community of Aurora of its proud history and serve as its conscience as it plans for the future."

Relaxing in the reception in the Legislative Dining Room following the medal presentation,

*"Dick Illingworth was the guy I admired the most and he was the guy who when I was covering Council said, 'Hey, Ron!' instead of, 'Hey, you with the pencil!'"*

~Ron Wallace

Mr. Wallace said that he was struck with the Aurora bug when he first arrived on the scene in the mid-1960s and then Councillor and Mayor Dick Illingworth made a lasting impression in him, becoming a key influence in his life. Following his retirement from being an active player in the political scene as well, Mr. Wallace even brought in Mr. Illingworth to train his keen political eye on the Town as one of the primary editorial contributors to The Auroran in its formative years, until his death in the spring of 2009 at the age of 92.

"Dick Illingworth was the guy I admired the most and he was the guy who when I was covering Council said, 'Hey, Ron!' instead of, 'Hey, you with the pencil!' From that moment on, I was sort of sold on Aurora," said Mr.

Wallace. "That's why I named my daughter Aurora. It's a good thing she wasn't born in Walla Walla, Washington!"

"[This medal] is quite an honour. Half of the people that were nominated I had never heard of before, so obviously [Frank] did some homework in picking out the 14 people involved. And it is quite an accomplished group!"

In selecting members for this accomplished group, Mr. Klees said first and foremost in his mind was the impact they had had on the community and not "limiting it to the typical impact that people think of when we think of elected officials, for example, or someone of a very high profile."

"The issue of how our individuals and families within our communities are affected by these people," said Mr. Klees. "What sustains a community and, to a large degree, its families and what impact have these people had on our society? The ability to encourage individuals to become the best they can be. That was really my primary focus."

"As we look at these individuals who were honoured today, there is a common denominator that all of them have - and that is their ability to put themselves aside and put others first in many, many ways. It is a lot easier for every one of these people to have considered themselves first and yet all of these people have taken the time to ask themselves, 'what is it that I can do for my community?'"

Ron, however, was much more casual about the whole thing:

"If I can get it, anyone can get it, right?"



Auroran founder and columnist Ron Wallace received his Diamond Jubilee medal from Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees at Queen's Park on Wednesday.

Photo by David Falconer

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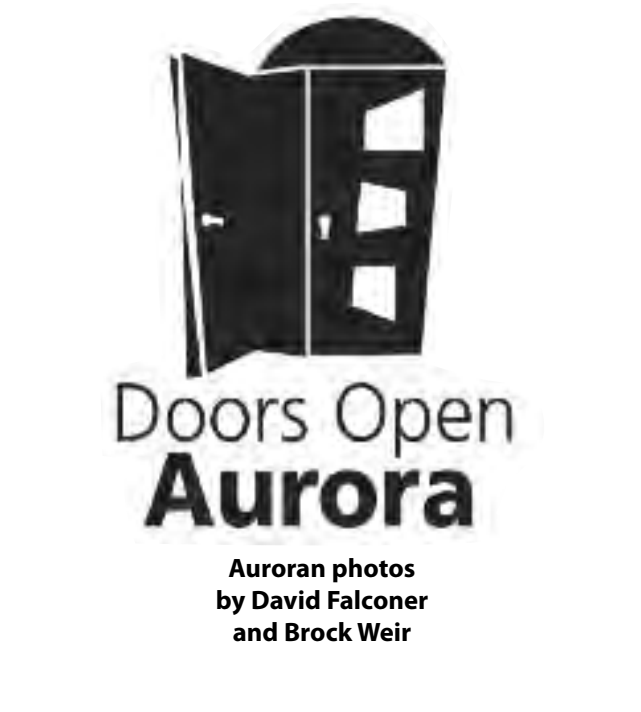
Will, Bijoy, and Amy welcomed visitors to the name-sake Bijoy’s Restaurant on Temperance Street, one of a number of historic homes which have been outfitted for businesses in Aurora.



Fathers Antonel and Stefan opened the doors of the Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste Romanian Orthodox Church. The church, located at Victoria and Mosley Streets, calls the former Aurora Lions Hall home.



Young Aurorans and the young at heart were captivated by a lively display of trains at Victoria Hall, courtesy of the Scarborough Model Railroaders.



(above) Warrant Officer Duncan Nyberg, of the Queen’s York Rangers, explained the history of the old Larmont Street armoury to event-goers, as well as stories of serving in the Regiment and in the Canadian Army. (Below) Rob showed off his 1937 Chevy Master Deluxe at the classic car show at Machell Park, put on by the Newmarket Car Club.



Katherine Belrose (left) and Ranim Miri showed kids how to braid wheat and helped them learn about Aurora’s Fleury Works in a booth at Town Park.



The Mettel family were but five of the 314 individuals who came through Hillary House on Saturday to view the grounds, take in the building, and participate in activities – including a scavenger hunt!



Dorothy Gummersall was on of many voluteers stationed at Town Park and the Aurora Farmers’ Market to help Doors Open participants find their way around Town to over 20 sites and activities.



## Kofflers named co-chairs of Hillary House Ball

By Brock Weir

When Murray and Marvelle Koffler were recently asked to be honorary co-chairs of the Hillary House Ball this fall, it was the renewal of an ongoing relationship between the Aurora Historical Society and the well-known philanthropists.

The Hillary House Ball, which will be held the evening of Friday, October 19 at The Mansion (DiNardo's) on Industrial Parkway South is planned to be the culmination of the year-long celebrations commemorating the 150th anniversary of Hillary House, Aurora's only National Historic Site.

In advance of the ball, the Aurora Historical Society (AHS) will deck out The Mansion in a Victorian theme, reminiscent of 1862, the year ground was broken on Hillary House and guests will be encouraged to join in the revelry with Victorian costumes as well.

The relationship between the Kofflers and the AHS began decades ago when the

couple lived in King Township on the Joker's Hill estate. For them, Aurora was the place to be, at least when it came to shopping and dining out, so when John McIntyre of the AHS approached them to help secure an extensive collection of medical equipment, they didn't hesitate to say yes.

Thus, the Koffler Museum of Medicine, which still calls Hillary House home, was born.

"We were terribly honoured [with the naming] and said it wasn't necessary, but they said it was a good idea and we accepted graciously," Mr. Koffler told The Auroran from his north Toronto home.

"I am just interested in the AHS and they keep me informed from time to time and whatever they ask I say yes to," he added. "They haven't asked for very much and it was very pleasant to receive this letter that they would like us to be honorary co-chairs."

Although Mr. Koffler might not see the "asks" of the AHS as very much, it is evident that

their contributions have been greatly appreciated. Indeed, there is little doubt that their wide range of philanthropy is appreciated across Ontario.

Mr. Koffler, the founder of Shoppers Drug Mart, has always been one to "give back" to his community, although he seems to bristle at the idea that this is what they have been doing. Whatever you want to call it, they have founded the Koffler Centre of the Arts in Toronto, the Murray Koffler Urologic Wellness Centre, and the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital. They also donated their Joker's Hill estate to the University of Toronto, where it is a hub of outdoor research, including the effects of global warming. That was, incidentally, the largest and most valuable land gift ever given to a Canadian university.

"Everybody thought I was a little off my rocker at the time to give it to them but I thought it was a wonderful thing to do to have something

Continued on page 14



Rounding out the cast of the Humber River Shakespeare Company's production of Macbeth, which hit Town Park on Saturday night, were Sarah Moyle (Malcolm, Witch), Neil Silcox (Macduff, Captain), Kanika Ambrose (Lady Macduff, Seyton, Menteth, Witch), David Sklar (Banquo, Caithness), and Steve Coombes (Duncan, Lennox, Porter, Siward, Doctor). Their tour continues this week with a stop at the Richmond Hill Heritage Centre on Tuesday, and two performances in Kleinburg on Wednesday and Thursday. The tour continues through August 5.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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## Exhibit highlights farming history

Farming isn't the first thing most people think of anymore when one thinks of Aurora.

Aurora's proud history as an agriculture innovator, however, will have almost a mini-renaissance starting Wednesday with the Sowing the Seeds of Heritage, a new exhibition due to open at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

The exhibition, the finishing touches for which are being made Tuesday, is an effort of six area historical societies and museums, each members of the York-Durham Association of Museums, including the Aurora Historical Society.

The exhibition opens on July 18 and will be open from 1 - 4 p.m. in the Aurora Room. A launch reception, featuring a "dousing" demonstration will be the official kickoff at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Aurora's portion of this joint project is a team effort with the Richmond Hill Heritage Centre on creating a farming vignette. To people familiar with Aurora's farming history, you don't need to be told that a Fleury Plough, an innovative piece of farming machinery invented right here in Town at the turn of the last century, will be a centrepiece of the farming vignette. Completing the scene are materials such as wagon wheels and barn doors from Richmond Hill.

"We're pulling together material from our respective collections to speak about farming and agriculture in the area," said Catherine Richards, curator of the AHS. "We've got a Fleury Plough, a cutter, a wheelbarrow, and potentially some other ancillary items, but those are the main ones. They're not tiny artefacts!"

"I hope [people who come] learn something new not only about the information that is on display for each artefact, but also our neighbouring sites. We think this is just such a great opportunity to get a taste of other local museums and local sites

that they can visit during the summer.

"Get out and see some things in your own backyard and explore history that is all local to you!"

Sowing the Seeds of Heritage runs at the Aurora Cultural Centre from Wednesday, July 18 to Tuesday, August 28. Admission is free. For more information, visit [www.auroraculturalcentre.ca](http://www.auroraculturalcentre.ca) or call 905-713-1818.

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# Rejected tennis plans could get new life

By Brock Weir

Plans for a new covered tennis facility in Aurora are still forging ahead, despite a funding rejection from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Councillors will consider beginning a study next month that could push the project for an all-weather tennis facility at Fleury Park forward by at least a step. This comes from a motion from Councillor John Gallo, which will be tabled this week.

Councillor Gallo calls on Council to authorise staff in going ahead with a feasibility study with the Aurora Community Tennis Club on working together on the possibility of "a multi-use, all seasons public facility" at the park so it can be discussed as part of the 2013 Budget Process this fall.

If the project comes to fruition, a steel structure will be built over the existing tennis courts in Fleury Park to create an all-weather multi-purpose facility, which could also be used for Town events

such as Concerts in the Park, and even the Aurora Jazz Festival.

Spearheaded as a public-private partnership by the Aurora Community Tennis Club, with an investment from Terry Redvers, the man behind the Aurora Sports Dome, the plan was to initially petition the Trillium Foundation for \$125,000 to construct two new tennis courts (for a total of six) and moving existing floodlights to another location. With those out of the way, the construction could then begin.

The proposed building would also come equipped with rooftop solar panels that could be sponsored by community groups allowing them to generate power and reap the financial rewards of feeding power back into the grid.

Tennis would be open to the public in the summer months, but over the winter there would be a user fee, similar to the sports dome.

"We were not successful with receiving the Trillium Grant," said Brent McKinnon of the Aurora

Community Tennis Club, when questioned recently by Councillor Wendy Gaertner, who sits on the Town's Parks and Recreation Committee, on the status of their application.

The committee had previously recommended that Council support the Club's Trillium application, which it duly did in the late winter.

"The Trillium Foundation sees this as outside their purview and sees this as a municipal initiative, so it is likely we overstepped what they believe is their

position. We have received Trillium Grants in the past and it is a question at times as to their rationale of it, but that is the reality of it."

Despite the rejection from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Aurora Community Tennis Club is still planning on getting backing, this time from the municipality, for a public private partnership - and, this time, as something to coincide with Aurora's sesqui-centennial. And consult your program - the project, is going to get a new name for

the occasion - The Fleury Plough House, in tribute to the story behind the family behind the park's name.

"The model has evolved over the past two years from an open-sided tent or fabric structure to an open-sided steel structure," said Mr. McKinnon. "In both, the key was to have open sides to allow the unobstructed flow of flood water should a deluge occur in the Fleury Park Flood Plain.

"We now recognize the merit of a public only option. This option addresses issues

identified in surveys and conforms with the goals of the [Aurora Parks and Recreation] Master Plan."

Mr. McKinnon asked Council to ask staff to investigate the feasibility of working with the Club, its board of directors, and other companies that might be taking part in the solar panel co-op in making the project a reality.

"It is multi-level, there are many dynamic issues to this and we welcome the opportunity to moving forward with the Town's participation."



Members of the Aurora Youth Soccer Club put on their western duds earlier this month at the official kick-off of the 2012 Magna Wild West Hoedown campaign. Auroran photo by David Falconer

## Soccer club to use Hoedown funds to help special needs players

By Brock Weir

Budding soccer stars with special needs will soon have more opportunities than ever to take the field after next month's Wild West Hoedown.

The annual charity event hosted by Magna International has selected 20 local charities from York Region to share in the proceeds of the fundraising party, including the Aurora Youth Soccer Club.

The Aurora Youth Soccer Club (AYSC), through the money they raise and receive during the rest of this Howdown campaign, will expand the operations for their already very successful Aurora Stinger Stars team, which practices over the summer at Sheppard's Bush.

The Stinger Stars is a special program under the AYSC which allows soccer players with developmental disabilities to hit the field running and play enthusiastic soccer matches with their peers, coaches, and volunteers.

"It is extremely popular

and what we find is we can't contain the program just to smaller age groups," said Louise Dyer of the AYSC. "We have ages from five to 20 and they love each other; they enjoy each other's company, and they don't care that there is a 15 year age difference when you are in a special needs situation.

"The interesting scenario is that we have a lot of people coming in from outside Aurora into that program because I think it just tells you that the Special Needs programs are in such high demand. It's not just in Aurora but all over."

With the Hoedown proceeds, Ms. Dyer said the AYSC program hopes to have further opportunities to give special needs kids in Aurora and York Region a chance to play, but said they would like to see other sports groups in the Region also increase their capacity to provide programs for special needs kids because evidently the need is out there.

Continued on page 16

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## Jays start week with Knights

**From Page 12**  
sixth inning - with two out - to seal the deal.

"It all kind of came together really well," said coach Rob Wilson on the Orillia game. "Everything was rolling the way it needed to be. To get that win after we've been struggling means a lot to the ball club."

Ian Milne pitched a strong six innings of work for the Jays, while Chris Rettie pitched a scoreless seventh inning to pick up the save. Brothers Ian and Chris Rettie picked up two hits each for the Jays, while Jake Pinnegar was able to reach base in all four of his plate appearances.

Aurora brought the success and momentum from the Orillia game to their date with the Clearview Orioles on Wednesday night and managed to use both to muster out a 7-1 victory.

Brent Owen tossed a gem for the ball club, while Rettie and Ted Beadle went a combined eight for eight en route to the victory.

A Sunday game scheduled with Angus was rained out and has not been rescheduled.

The club now has five games remaining on their regular season schedule, including four home games which Wilson believes will be extremely beneficial to the club in their fight for a high playoff spot.

"It's very important, as the season is kind of gone by, we've really, really had a lot of success at home," noted Wilson. "To be able to play host really helps us out."

The Jays have a record of 8-1 at Lambert Willson Park this season, so their push for a top four seed in the standings - and, in turn, home field advantage in at least the first round - is

a key priority for the club.

Aurora will be facing a very difficult final set of games at home, however, as they take on the top four teams in the league: New Lowell, the Bolton Brewers, Creemore Braves, Clearview Orioles, and starting with first place New Lowell on Tuesday.

"We will approach [these games] the same as we would approach those teams in the middle of the season," said Wilson. "We know they will be tough games but we know we can beat those teams, it's not like we've never had success against them."

The Jays have certainly had success against New Lowell this season, as in their only other meeting of the season the Jays were able to hand the Knights one of their four losses on the season with a 5-3 defeat on May 27.

Aurora sits in sixth place heading into action this week, but are just two-and-a-half games back of first place, so jumping ahead into the top of the standings is certainly not out of the question.

If the ball club is to make their climb, they must continue to receive strong starting pitching from their top three hurlers, Ian Rettie, Ian Milne, and Owen, while also receiving strong contributions from back-enders Zach Wiseman and Andrew Bukovec.

First pitch against the Knights is scheduled for 7.30 p.m. at Lambert Willson with either Milne or I. Rettie getting the start on the hill for the Jays.

"Having this home stand is a little ace in the hole for us," said Wilson, analyzing the final few games. "In terms of how we're preparing, we defiantly understand the significance [and] we just need to keep the screws a little bit tighter as we prepare and get ready for those games."

## Contributing is Canadian way: Koffler

**From page 11**  
not be developed."

"I just think it is part of the Canadian culture that if you do well - and we have done extremely well with Shoppers Drug Mart and various things and we're very much involved with the university and the hospital - you do it and it has given us a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure," said Mr. Koffler.

"It's not a matter of giving back, although we are involved in a tremendous amount of things. I'm just gratified to have had a very successful career."

Some might think even calling it "a very successful career" is a bit of an understatement. Mr. Koffler built an undisputed empire of pharmacies, starting out with one humble store at Bathurst and St. Clair, and growing it to over 1,250 stores. Now 88, Mr. Koffler retired from an active

chairmanship from the company at the standard age of 65 when the chain was at approximately 700 and he credits the continued growth of the chain to the number of "very astute and bright" individuals that have carried on his role.

A key to the success, he said, was the philosophy of considering Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacists as associates in the business, an idea which originated with him.

"That caught on in giving an individual pharmacist a business and we did the financing," he said. "We didn't ask them for any funding. We were really giving pharmacists the opportunity to own their own businesses so we had everybody seeking me and that's how we developed."

"It has been a beautiful story."

For more information on the AHS and the Hillary House Ball, call 905-727-8991.

## Mayor: A case of fairness

**From page 7**  
combined. These areas have one person - the Mayor - representing their constituent interests. Should personal or professional obligations keep a Markham Regional Councillor away from Regional Council meetings, he or she has colleagues to represent their community. This is not the case with the smaller communities, including Aurora.

Should I be called away from Regional business, there is no one to speak for our community. I find this troubling.

I have raised this issue with York Region Chairman Bill Fisch since I become mayor in 2010. It is why I recently seconded a motion by Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson to consider additional representation for York Region's smaller communities.

It is a tricky issue to manage. There are costs to consider as well as balancing interests evenly across our Region. At the very least, if Regional Council considers the use of alternates for communities with only one

representative, it will go a long way to creating a more equitable system.

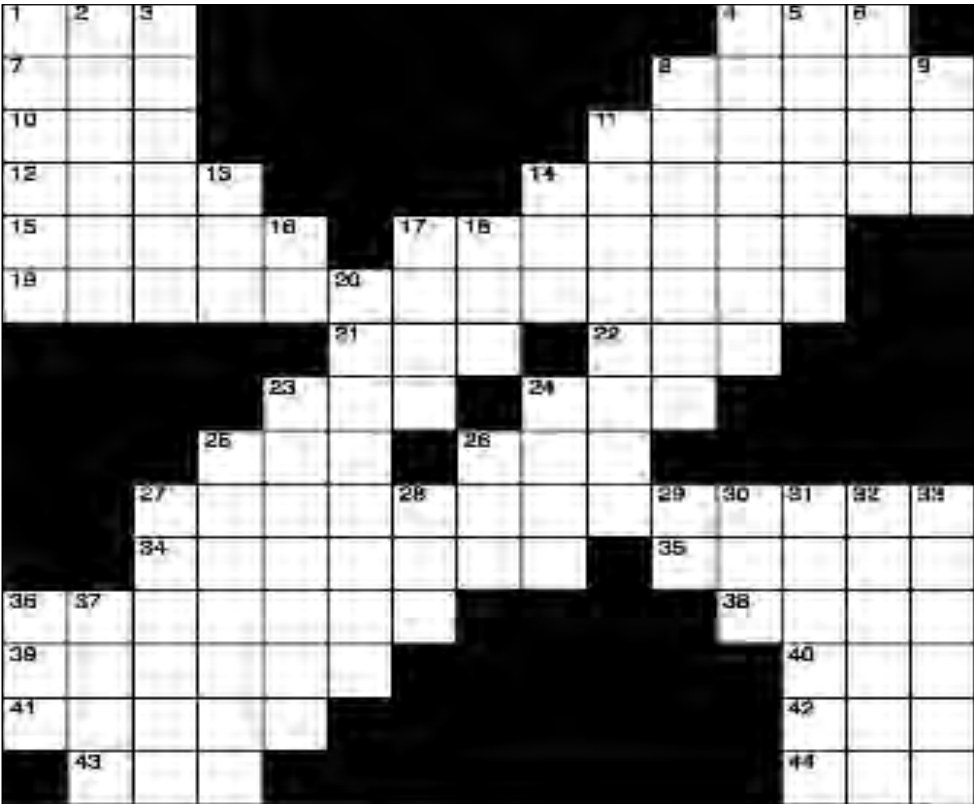
It is only fair.

In my last article, I mentioned the many events I am able to attend as mayor. I was very pleased to see so many people at our recent Canada Day celebration. With great events for people of all ages, not even a few technical glitches with our fireworks display were enough to dampen spirits. People were having a wonderful time and it was a pleasure to be part of that positive community spirit. Many thanks go to our staff, who did a superb job organizing the events.

I also had the opportunity to speak at the recent media launch of the Magna "Wild, Wild West" Hoedown. This annual event will take place on September 15 and is always a fantastic venue for entertainment. I hope to see a great turnout in September!

My monthly article will not appear in August, as I am taking some much anticipated time away with my family. Best wishes to all residents a wonderful summer!

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Deal a blow to

4. Group of vineyards in France

7. Doctors' group

8. River of the Argonne

10. 33 1/3 records

11. Incombustible fire residue

12. Hops drying kiln

14. Light in a protective case

15. Canarium luzonicum

17. Concluding state of pregnancy

19. Holiday bells organization

21. General's assistant, abbr.

22. Side sheltered from the wind
23. Cook in hot oil

24. Deep hole in the ground

25. Actress Ryan

26. Brew

27. 20th US President

34. Speech

35. Genuinely

36. Thrashed

38. Read superficially

39. Reviewed harshly

40. Leave me alone (text)

41. Thin continuous marks

42. Romanan airport code

43. Auto

44. Spring ahead time

### CLUES DOWN

1. Aurus

2. Antelope with ridged curved horns

3. Mortarboard adornment

4. 1/100 Senegal franc

5. Impolitely

6. Consumer

8. A mosque tower

9. Sea eagle

11. \_\_\_\_ King Charles spaniel

13. Tobacco mosaic virus

14. Local area network (abbr.)

16. Farm state

17. Orderly and neat

18. Mythological bird
20. Aimed at object

23. Those bearing young

24. A course of action

25. Navigator of a ship

26. Gone by or past

27. One of Regis' daughters

28. Comedian Caesar

29. 12 inches (abbr.)

30. Tax collector

31. Greek mathematician

32. Artiodactyl mammals

33. A hereditary ruler

36. Burns gas or wood (abbr.)

37. Of a hyperson

## Last Week's Puzzle Solution





# Groups requests Town Park designation

By Brock Weir

Residents of the Wells Street area are leading the charge to have Aurora's historic Town Park become a specially designated heritage area.

The project is being spearheaded by the H.E.A.T. (Heritage East Aurora Taxpayers), who submitted their request to Aurora's Heritage Advisory Committee for their meeting last week.

Although Town Park is currently being studied as a landmark within the potential Southeast Old Aurora Heritage Conservation District, an ongoing project which could lead to the establishment of a second heritage district in Town, the neighbours want the Town to go the extra mile.

In their correspondence, the group said that the park in question is the best known in Aurora and despite its "extensive history, it is not well documented or fully known."

"We were quite surprised to learn that our beloved historical Town Park, the Town-owned property forming the core of our neighbourhood has not been designated heritage," said H.E.A.T. in their letter. "The Wells Street Neighbours would like to remedy this situation by applying for heritage designation through the Ontario Heritage Trust as soon as possible.

"Town Park has been Aurora's meeting place for generations. From a friendly pick-up game of baseball, to tournaments for both baseball and children's soccer, the annual Horse Show, the Queen's York Ranger marshalling in the park to go off to war, Farmers' Market of yore to present day, Music in the Park Sundays...[and] the Aurora jazz+ Festival...our Town Park has witnessed it all."

Although the request did not pick up steam around the table at Monday's Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) meeting as they believed everything would already be covered through the potential designation of the area as a whole, the group is pressing on with the issue and taking it upon themselves to document the history of the park.

Susan Morton Leonard, a spokesperson for the Wells Street Neighbours, said the group felt it was "appropriate" to ensure that the park itself is designated since it has been a community meeting place since the 19th century, but it is clear that the reason the group wants the park designated with a complete documentation of its past, is just as much political as it is a love of heritage.

"One of the reasons is because there is just so much misinformation out there that we would like to see the record set straight and that was one of the reasons if we asked for separate designation," said

Ms. Morton Leonard. "It would get out there to everybody what the correct history of the park is so that we would have stop having all these rumours and what activities could go on in the park and what couldn't go on in the park. This is getting kind of boring. Every year it seems to come up with somebody. Let's know exactly."

The "rumours" she is referring to is the ongoing concerns that some Councillors have, particularly Councillor Evelyn Buck, with continued plans to fence off much of Town Park for the upcoming Aurora jazz+ Festival, which will be held August 3 - 5. In heated discussions surrounding the Festival which crop up whenever it is up to the Town to address the issue of the park, the Councillor argues that public parks such as this should not be fenced and that everyone should have access to it.

But, according to Ms. Morton Leonard, if the "record" is "set straight", it would be evident that the precedent has already been set for fencing the park, and not just for the Aurora Jazz Fest.

"I don't think anybody realises that the Farmers' Market that we have now is not the first Farmers' Market," she said. "Originally when the property was purchased by the Town, it was for the purposes of having a market. Of course, there is such a huge history about the Horse Show and the fact it had reached national proportions. We have pictures showing a picket fence around the entire park. How it links to the horse show is that [towards the horse show] they would put boards across the bottom so that people couldn't wiggle in, so that would suggest it is a gated event. With the Jazz Festival and all the years people have complained about it being a gated event, well, it's not the first. It seems like the Horse Show was the first gated event here.

"These are little things we would like to have an accurate history so by doing a designation it would bring all that forward."

When asked, however, if that having all this history in hand would be used to counter some of the arguments, Ms. Morton Leonard said it would.

"I don't think she can carry on saying [fencing] has never been done because now there is proof that - yeah, it was. It just wasn't in your time and you didn't take the time to research it. Once it is there, nobody will have to be researching it the way that we have. It's there for everybody to see and that's what a designation we believe will have."

But, according to Councillor Sandra Humfries, chair of HAC, the feeling around the committee table was that having a separate designation for Town park



**Aurora Festival of the Arts chair Sher St. Kitts (top) and her husband George St. Kitts kept things rolling Sunday night at a special kick-off event for the 2012 Aurora Jazz+ Festival at Jonathan's restaurant. The evening featured performances from Mr. St. Kitts and other local musicians, a silent auction, the debut of the "Who Dunn-It?" gallery, which was sold during the evening, and other merriment. The Jazz+ Fest runs August 3- 5 at Town Park.**

Auroran photos by David Falconer and Brock Weir

would be a "duplication of effort" considering it is already going to be part of a potential heritage district.

"For me, at the end of the meeting, I thought it was appropriate to just have it included in the regular study and go from there," said Councillor Humfries. "That's how we left it. I don't know if that is ultimately going to change or if someone will bring it up again, but now it is in the southeast district study."

## Developments compromise trail plans: activist

By Brock Weir

Two new developments will set a bad precedent when it comes to ensuring the future of Aurora's trails.

So says Aurora trails advocate Klaus Wehrenberg.

Mr. Wehrenberg made his feelings known when the two projects came up for approval at the most recent Council meeting. The first one was related to a housing development on Vandorf Sideroad, and the second was works in conjunction with the latest Aurora business park in the Leslie Street/Highway 404 Corridor.

The low density development in question is slated to go in at 908 Vandorf Road. It is an application for 20 homes with a capacity for 66 residents. A report to Council by Marco Ramunno,

Aurora's Director of Planning states that concerns were raised by one individual during the course of public meetings regarding the trails.

Under the existing Aurora Trails Master Plan, which was passed last fall, this area would normally be serviced by a 6 metre wide trail link along the property, but that was not what was before Councillors.

"Based on the grading constraints along the northern limit of the property and the fact a link was not provided for on the adjacent property, a three metre trail block provided was agreed upon to be sufficient for the provision of a trail link in this area," said Mr. Ramunno in his report. "The link will extend across the entire northern limit of the property."

This, however, did not wash with Mr.

Wehrenberg.

"The problem with this three metre alignment is we are setting a precedent of sorts because we have a policy that you endorsed in November by accepting the Trails Master Plan," he told Councillors at the meeting. "If we let one landowner get away with three metres then the next one is going to come and ask us for three metres as well, so we're then back into the position where the Trails Master Plan is being compromised and will continue to be compromised."

Mr. Ramunno, however, said that discussions were undertaken between him, Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Parks and Recreation, and the developers and determined that a three metre trail connection up to 400 feet would be sufficient for this area. The developers, he said, argued that a



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## Trees at the root of Spruce Street complaints

By Brock Weir

Ongoing reconstruction on Spruce Street has left some residents seeing red over potential damage to area trees.

The root of the problem is the exposure of tree roots in the area, particularly along the east side of the street of the middle section of the north-south corridor. After several complaints to Councillors and indeed to this paper, the trouble was recently discussed at Council where the Director of Infrastructure insisted that all as well.

"I drove along Spruce Street because I had heard some comments about how close some of the excavations were and how tree roots have been sliced off within 15 inches of the trunk," said Councillor Evelyn Buck. "I was appalled at how much and how close. I can't see how the trees are ever going to be the same again with the way their roots have been sliced off within the road allowance."

Everything, however, has been done by the book and done in accordance with arbourists' recommendations, according to director Ilmar Simanovskis.

"What you see on Spruce Street this year is what we have done on other projects," said Mr. Simanovskis. "The period of construction is for a fairly short duration. We've worked closely with the Parks Department to address issues that might arise during the construc-

tion and we haven't lost any trees based on our construction practices in recent years."

He added that in-house staff are on site daily throughout the project to make sure everything is done correctly.

According to the arborist's report, there were a number of trees which were identified to require some additional protection, including fencing. Disturbance, they said, can be minimised by limiting work and equipment around trees. It also outlined how they were going to handle roots which might pose an obstacle to construction.

The report indicates that "where possible", workers were instructed to "hand dig areas closest to each tree to prevent any unnecessary tearing or pulling of roots."

"Removal of roots that are greater than 2.5 cm in diameter or roots that are injured or diseased should be performed as follows: Preserve the root bark ridge. Directional root pruning is the recommended technique and should be employed during hand excavation around tree roots. Roots are similar to branches in their response to pruning practices. [Here] objectionable and severely injured roots are properly cut to a lateral root that is growing downward or in a favourable direction."

"All roots needing to be pruned or removed shall be cut cleanly with sharp hand tools by a certified arborist."

No wound dressings or pruning paint shall be used to cover the ends of each cut [and] avoid prolonged exposure of the tree roots during construction - keep exposed roots moist and dampened with mulching materials, irrigation, or wrap in burlap if exposed for longer than four hours."

Midway through construction, however, exposed roots, as indicated in the photo, were not covered up and, in some cases, had additional gravel from the road construction thrown on top of it.

While some residents are seeing red over the root problem, others have pointed out further issues with the construction.

"I don't think the tree problem was a result of them cutting the roots," said one resident. "We were watching them one day in front of our house and it was the diesel exhaust that was coming out and it was a matter of days later that the branches and the leaves around that area shrivelled up and died. They probably could have taken better care because they are parking under the trees, which is my assessment."

"I'm not an arborist but I have seen where roots have been cut before and it hasn't killed the trees. I don't think there is any way they could have avoided it, not to defend them for doing it, but I don't think they could have avoided it because the trees were planted in the boulevard close to the street to begin with."



Cut and exposed roots on Spruce Street, such as those in the photo above, are typical along the boulevards in the ongoing road reconstruction.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

## Field availability, costs at issue for AYSC

**Continued from page 13**

"We'll be able to expand the program, offer it all year round and not have to limit it to just the summer," said Ms. Dyer. "The time [at the Aurora Sports Dome] is probably the most expensive thing from a field perspective that we have to pay for, so it limits the ability to offer something for free when it is held indoors."

"The more revenue financing and funding that we get, the better the opportunity we get to add that program free over the coming years."

Special needs players, however, will not be the only focus for money gained through Hoedown. The money will also go towards expanding programs throughout the AYSC's mandate in the community and

trying to make sure all kids in the club have time on local sports fields.

"Most of our initiatives and efforts are towards the actual development programs, whether it is for house league, whether it is for special needs, which is near and dear to our hears, but it could also be for the rep programs and the development of soccer for kids so they can become better at something, they can feel good about themselves, and become part of a larger community."

"[Soccer ] is one of the most popular sports in Aurora and we want to encourage our community to be a part of that."

That being said, in order to make that happen, the AYSC needs to address issues of player capacity on

their fields, an issue which they say has become difficult to address with a shortage of sports fields in Aurora to meet their needs.

"The capacity lies with how many fields we actually have," she said. "If you look at the number of fields per player compared to the other sports we're very underutilized and we want to build that back up again. It takes space, it takes land and that type of thing, but we have been waiting for additional fields and I think it is time that we stepped that up a bit. That is definitely a priority."

Now, until they sell out, groups such as the Aurora Youth Soccer Club will be selling event tickets and tickets for the Prospectors' Raffle on September 15. For more information, visit [www.hoedown.ca](http://www.hoedown.ca).

# THE AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS

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**SATURDAY, JULY 21.** 9 am - 2 pm. 119 Allenvale Drive, Aurora. Collectibles, household items, furniture, books, etc.

What to do with money in the Hydro Reserve was the subject of the most recent episode of Our Town, hosted by former councillor Alison Collins Mrakas. Joining her to discuss the issue were Councillor Buck and former mayor Tim Jones. Now playing on: **www.theauroran.com.**

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Alexandra Logozzo, pictured above outside her home while preparing for a trip to Carleton University last week, received a Give Back Award.  
Auroran photo by Diane Buchanan

## Cardinal Carter grad’s goal is to help troubled youth

By Brock Weir

Cardinal Carter Catholic High School student Alexandra Logozzo had the benefits of giving back to her community brought home to her from an early age. It is these lessons that will stand Alexandra in good stead as the Carter graduate embarks on a new chapter of her life this fall studying criminology at Ottawa's Carleton University.

Before her departure, however, she got a return on some of her personal investment in the community in the form of a \$500 Give Back Award.

The Give Back Award, which is now administered by Neighbourhood Network, a division of Magna for the Community, was started by Belinda Stronach, the Network's founder, in 2004. At the time of the founding, Ms. Stronach was MP for Newmarket-Aurora, and from that point, the money received as salary for her services as the area's representative in the House of Commons went to the establishment of this scholarship fund.

Since then, two students - typically one male and one female - from each secondary school in Aurora and Newmarket - have received the awards. The 16 winners for 2012 were selected based on "the exceptional contributions they have made to their fellow students and citizens by donating countless hours of volunteer work back to Aurora, East Gwillimbury, and Newmarket," according to organizers.

"I was really excited," said Alexandra. "I can't believe I got this award. I never win anything, but I went for it anyway."

Although in its eighth year, this is the first year of a new format for the awards. Instead of students being nominated by the schools themselves, this year students had to take the initiative and apply for them on their own. Evidently it was a successful shift, and so too was Alexandra's work in the community.

Organizers of the Give Back Award saluted Alexandra for her volunteer work with the Aurora Food Pantry and the Newmarket Winter Fair. She has also been an active volunteer in the Newmarket Santa Claus Parade and in Toronto's Caribana Festival.

While she said each of these activities provided her with valuable experiences and a good way to give back, she said volunteering with the Aurora Food Pantry was most rewarding.

"I was put into the Metro at Henderson and people would walk in to do their shopping and I would give them a paper bag to buy non-perishable food for the Food Pantry," said Alexandra. "On their way out, they would give me the full bag and it would go to them."

"With the [other activities] I can see how it can be giving back, but here for sure I know my job asking people to donate food is actually going to help someone. With the parades and stuff I can see the smiles on kids' faces, which is great, but this food is actually helping people in need."

"If you do good, then good will come back to you." It is this philosophy that she is taking with her to Carleton where she hopes a degree in criminology, a noted program at the University, will lead her to a career as a youth probation officer. She said her volunteer work in the community will enable her to see both sides of the coin when she is working with troubled youth and helping them get their lives back on track.

"It helps you see the other side of it that things don't always have to be bad," she said. "There can be a lot of good through giving back. It makes people feel good and then it makes you feel good as well."

# 5 ways to beat the heat in Aurora

By Wendy Soloduik

With summer in full swing, and temperatures soaring, residents of Aurora are encouraged to play it cool.

York Region has released five key ways to beat the heat and play it safe.

“While enjoying the sunshine with family and friends this summer, it is important to be mindful of the negative health effects of too much sun,” according to the Region of York.

These five tips are:

- Reduce exposure when sun is strongest – Playing outside can be fun, however it can also increase exposure to ultra violet (UV) rays from the sun. The UV rays from the sun are strongest between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and residents should reduce sun exposure during this time. To check the local UV index, visit Environment Canada at [www.ec.gc.ca/UV](http://www.ec.gc.ca/UV)
- Lather up and cover up –

Protect your skin from UV rays by applying a sunscreen with an SPF 30 or higher. This should be applied at least 20 minutes before going outside and reapplied every two hours and after swimming and sweating. Babies under the age of six months should not wear sunscreen and babies under one year should not be exposed to direct sunlight.

- Beware of sunburn – Two or more sunburns during childhood can double the risk of developing skin can-

cer later in life, and, according to the Canadian Cancer Society, one in seven Canadians will develop this deadly disease. Although a sunburn or suntan resulting from sun exposure will fade away, the damage done to skin cells builds up with each exposure.

- Protect yourself from extreme heat – York Region issues heat advisories relating to extreme temperatures and humidity in the area. Extreme heat can cause heat-related illness and everyone is at risk. Warning signs of heat related illness can include dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting, weakness and confusion. If you experience any of these symp-

toms, seek medical attention immediately.

- Stay hydrated – The amount of fluid you need depends on your age, gender and level of physical activity. To stay hydrated, drink plenty of cool liquids, especially water, before feeling thirsty. Also, limit caffeinated or alcoholic beverages, as this might increase your risk of becoming dehydrated.

The Town of Aurora has also opened cooling stations and Centres and outdoor splash pads to help residents stay cool:

Swim the sun away at: Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (1400 Wellington Street East), Monday to Friday from 7.30

a.m. to 10 p.m. and weekends from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 905-726-4770 for more information; Aurora Family Leisure Complex (135 Industrial Parkway North), Monday to Friday from 5.45 a.m. to 10 p.m. and weekends from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 905-841-7529 for info.

Just want to cool off? Drop by Town Hall, at 100 John West Way, Monday to Friday from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Want to make a splash this summer? Visit the splash pads at Town Park (Wells and Mosley) and Ada Johnson Park (Hartwell Way and Conover) seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.



Home Sweet Home: Construction work has begun on the future site of the Petch House. Digging commenced last week at the entrance of the Aurora Community Arboretum which will be the new home of the re-assembled historic log building. The house will be rebuilt atop a concrete slab.  
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

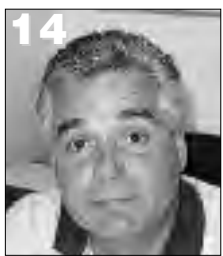
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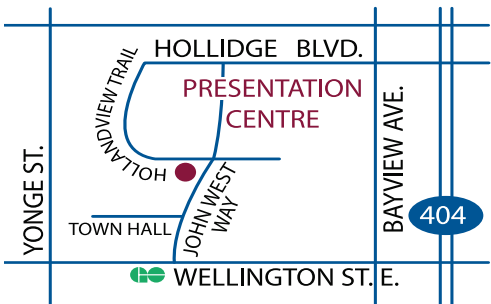
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