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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 11 No. 46 905-727-3300 **theauroran.com** **FREE** Week of September 13, 2011

Council set to approve new procedural bylaw

Councillors are set to approve this week a number of measures contained in a new draft procedural bylaw recommended by Town Clerk John Leach which could see revised and reiterated rules on how members of council should conduct themselves at the table.

Rules pertaining to the behav-

iour of individual councillors dominated much of the discussion, as it did when proposed changes to the procedural bylaw last came forward in June.

Particularly, some members wanted clarification on what measures could be taken by the mayor

Please see page 16

Board member explains why Aurora gave school desks to another museum

The Aurora Historical Society has refuted claims made at Town Council by heritage advocate David Heard that some of Aurora's historic artefacts have found homes in museums beyond town limits.

Mr. Heard made his claims as a delegate at last week's gener-

al committee meeting where he said there was a "serious concern" about some artefacts unaccounted for in Aurora's collection, with some ending up on display at the Whitchurch Stouffville museum.

"He stated they had acquired some items and are also receiv-

ing grants to acquire more pieces from our collection," said Mr. Heard, citing conversation he had with an unnamed member of the Whitchurch Stouffville Heritage Committee. "It may have been hogwash, but I visited our curator and found the statement to be partially true. There were some items turned over to the Whitchurch Stouffville Museum and the Stouffville curator confirmed this.

"Who approved giving our items away?" he asked. "In my opinion they belong to the citizens of this community through the generosity of our ancestors."

But not so fast, said John McIntyre of the Aurora Historical Society.

According to Mr. McIntyre, the only items from Aurora's collection that have gone to the Whitchurch Stouffville Museum were a select few items that did not have any connection to Aurora's past.

"There are a number of school desks which have, in fact, gone to the Whitchurch Stouffville Museum," he said. "They were previously in the collection of the Historical Society but they are not Aurora artefacts. That is the important thing. Whitchurch Stouffville has a one-room school and as part of

Please see page 9



The Magna Hoedown, held in Aurora Saturday Night raised a total of \$521,000 for a number of local charities. The figure was \$7,000 higher than last year. Frank Stronach, left, was the host of the event.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Time kills discussions

Council has once again put off discussion of the Town's proposed new litigation and indemnification policies, this time until a general committee meeting in October.

This is the second time the items were deferred, following a recommendation from staff to do so at last month's council meeting to September 6.

The items were deferred to

October from last Tuesday's meeting due to time constraints faced in a three-and-a-half hour council meeting.

Of the three-and-a-half hours in the chamber before council resolved into closed session to discuss two further items, approximately five minutes were covered by the approval of the agenda

Please see page 15



Crowds were larger than usual at the 6th annual RibFest held in Aurora on the weekend. Above, Davor Zuddr, from Uncle Sam's Barbecue in Albuquerque, New Mexico, shows off ribs that were on sale.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Briefly

OPEN HOUSE

If you are looking for ways to keep active after summer winds down and may be apprehensive about taking that first step into the gym, you can have your chance this Saturday as Club Aurora opens its doors.

Club Aurora will host its fifth annual open house on Saturday, September 17 from 7.45 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex on Industrial Parkway.

"Healthy lifestyles and being active are important for families in our community," said Mayor Geoffrey Dawe in a statement. "We invite the public to attend our open house and have a chance to get fit and have fun!"

According to Melodie McKay, Manager of Recreation for the Town of Aurora, the Club Aurora open house is a perfect opportunity for families with kids 10 and up to see what facilities the Town has to offer and family fitness classes will be running throughout the day, including cycle programs and a "Yoga in the Park" event from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the neighbouring Lambert Willson Park.

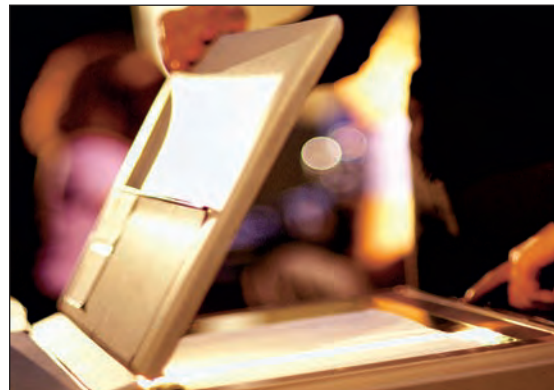
If thinking about attending the open house but have younger kids in tow, Club Aurora will be providing child care service onsite.

OPENING

If you are enthusiastic about Aurora's heritage and would like to put that interest into action, the Town of Aurora is seeking an additional citizen member for the Town's Heritage Advisory Committee.

Interested members of the community are invited to submit their application to Deputy Clerk Cindy Janzen either by writing at cjanzen@aurora.ca, by fax at 905-726-4732, or in person at the second floor administration desk at Town Hall by Wednesday, October 12, 2011.

Heritage Advisory Committee members appointed earlier this year included David Heard, Erina Kelly, John McIntyre, former deputy mayor Bob McRoberts, Jacqueline Stuart, and Councillors Sandra Humfries and John Abel. Stuart has retired.



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COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Baby Talk supports language development with Blue Balloon and will be part of a free seminar with a pediatric health specialist covering normal language development and how best to support language acquisition in your child, with games and activities at the Aurora Public Library beginning at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

"Surrealism, High Realism, Expressionism." Join three exhibiting artists at the Aurora Cultural Centre this evening for a free Opening Reception from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. In the Blue Gallery, high realism painter George Boyer presents Moments in Time show and sale of paintings; the Red Gallery will host abstract painter Katja Van den Enden with the exhibition and sale Freedom of Expressionism. Surrealist artist Marcelo Suaznabar will present an Artist Walk and Talk at 7.15 p.m. to discuss his new large scale works in the exhibition "Mensajes del Tiempo" (Time Messages). Aurora Cultural Centre is located at 22 Church Street and is fully accessible at the north entrance. For more information send an e-mail to info@auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

The Probus Club of Aurora resumes regular meetings today at the Royal Canadian Legion hall, 105 Industrial Parkway North at 10 a.m. New members are welcome. For more information call: Marilyn Munslow at 905-727-9344, or Bob Staley, at 905-727-5017.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

The Aurora Seniors' Centre will hold its second annual Dog and Mutt Show behind the centre on John West Way from 1 p.m. (rain or shine). A barbecue will also be available. Registration forms are now available from the centre. Maximum is 30 entrants. For further information contact Michelle Sterner at 905-727-3123, ext. 3611.

Walk of Hope to raise funds for the Ovarian Cancer Canada happens today from the Farmers' Market at 9 a.m. Contact Gayle Palmer for further information at gaylepalmer@msn.com.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

The annual Terry Fox Run takes place today from the Sheppard's Bush soccer fields beginning at 8.30 a.m. with registration. Participants have the choice of a five-kilometre run/walk/bike/roller blade or a two-kilometre forest stroll. For more information go to www.terryfox.org which also includes on-line pledging or contact Hank Van Bakel at hvanbakel@ortech.ca.

Paul Neufeld's popular Sunday sessions returns this fall with the first of a set of four relaxed afternoon monthly jazz piano concerts, each with a special guest. Today Paul invites Hugh Marsh, an improvising violinist who has worked with everyone from Loreena McKennitt to Moe Kauffman, Bruce Cockburn and Robert Palmer. Tickets are \$15 each, or \$45 for a family of four. The session begins at 2 p.m. at the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Today is the start of Fall Programs and Workshops for children, teens and adults at the Aurora Cultural Centre. From group guitar, to painting, drawing, wood and stone carving, to teen drama, songwriting, arts classes, a variety of one-day workshops will take place. Check out the website for all the program offerings or call for a brochure. The Aurora Cultural Centre is fully accessible at north entrance. For more information send an e-mail to info@auroraculturalcentre.ca, www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Movie tonight at the Aurora Seniors' Centre is "Arthur" starring Russell Brand, Helen Mirren and Jennifer Garner. Arthur is a rich, alcoholic playboy with no regards to his working life. After another drunken run-in with police, his aloof mother has had enough and forces him to marry Susan, a proper business woman, or else he will lose his inheritance. Just as he's engaged to Susan, he meets Naomi a free-spirited girl who Arthur thinks is perfect for him. Any attempts at holding down a job are fruitless, so Arthur has to decide, what is more important: love, or his mother's money.

Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and costs \$1.50 for members.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

This year the Aurora Chamber of Commerce's Annual General Meeting will be held this evening from 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., at the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street. The 2010 - 2011 Audited Financial Statements and year end reports will be presented, followed by the induction of the Board of Directors. A cocktail reception, catered by Maunders Food Shop, will follow the formal part of the meeting. Cost is \$10 for members.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Spirit Nights - A Taste of Wine at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Enjoy an evening of 'tutored tastings' of limited edition wines, paired with artisan cheeses, all led by wine expert Chris Price. Round out the evening with visits to all three galleries with the artists in attendance to talk about their works, and the melodies of jazz pianist Paul Neufeld. Tickets are \$60 each and tables of eight are available for groups. Net proceeds benefit programming at the Centre. For tickets or inquiries contact the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, at info@auroraculturalcentre.ca or phone 905-713-1818. Mark your calendars for two more Spirit Nights: Friday, October 21, 2011 Oktoberfest! With George Kash's lively band & Saturday, December 3, 2011 Scotch - A Night of Nosing sampling the finest single malts.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

The Art of Stenciling, with Deborah Mores, an artist, teacher, home furnishing designer and business owner. She will bring more than 30 years of expertise to this workshop from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Lebovic Room. \$20 per person and you must be 18 years and older. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Movie tonight at the Aurora Seniors' Centre is "Pride and Prejudice" starring Kiera Knightly. Sparks fly when spirited Elizabeth Bennett meets single, rich, and proud Mr. Darcy. But Mr. Darcy reluctantly finds himself falling in love with a woman beneath his class. Can each overcome their own pride and prejudice? Movies start at 6:30 p.m. and costs \$1.50 for members.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

The Triple P Parenting workshop series returns to Aurora Public Library. Join the group the last Wednesday of each month, September to May, excluding December. A variety of topics will help you answer your parenting questions and needs. All meetings at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce first Business After Five meeting is a complimentary event hosted by Apple Suites, 16 Industrial Parkway South, which runs

from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Theatre Aurora presents Michael Healey's The Drawer Boy. This thoughtful and touching Canadian drama tells the story of two boyhood friends, Morgan and Angus, who live together on a farm. Morgan is a tough-minded, stubborn man who cares for Angus, who suffered brain damage and memory loss during the bombing of London in the Second World War. Angus is initially identified as "the drawer boy" because he used to design buildings, and has the talents of an architect. A visitor threatens to unravel their memories. Produced by Kay Valentine and directed by Andrea Emmerton. Performances are September 30, October 1, 6, 7, 8, 9 (matinee), 12, 13, 14, 15, with evening performances at 8 p.m. and the matinee at 2 p.m. Theatre Aurora is located at 150 Henderson Drive, Aurora. Purchase tickets on-line through the web-site www.theatreaurora.com, or you may contact the box office by email at taboxoffice@bellnet.ca or by telephone at 905-727-3669.

OCTOBER 1, 2, 6 AND 7

The Canadian Cancer Society: Holland River Unit will be running the Pink Ribbon event in October. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and volunteers from the Canadian Cancer Society will be selling pink ribbons on the above dates to raise awareness about breast health. Funds raised during this campaign will support breast cancer research and community programs for people liv-

ing with breast cancer and their families.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

The Juno nominated Sultans of String bring their CD release tour to the Aurora Cultural Centre tonight at 7.30. Tickets are available at the door from the Cultural Centre for general admission seating for \$30. Advance tickets are \$25.

You're invited to be part of the Aurora Artist Studio Tour 2011, a group of professional artists along with emerging artists from Aurora, inviting the public into our homes for our second year two day annual studio tour on Saturday and Sunday, October 1st and 2nd, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The following artists are already participating: Jean Beard, David Beard, Deborah Campo, Eva Folks, Maya Rodrigues, Judy Sherman and Christine Valentini.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

The Tuesday Philosophy Club meets tonight at the Aurora Public Library in the Lebovic Room at 7 p.m. What is the meaning of life? Why are we here? Is there an ultimate purpose to my existence? If these questions have ever crossed your mind, join the club. No prior experience in philosophy is required. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

Please see page 19

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Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty, centre, visited the riding of Newmarket Aurora Friday. With him is Christina Bisanz, right, who is running in the riding for the Liberal party.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Premier visits riding

The 2011 Provincial election campaign kicked into high gear last week as the first of the party leaders made a campaign stop in Newmarket-Aurora.

Liberal Premier Dalton McGuinty arrived in the riding Friday morning and, accompanied by Newmarket-Aurora Liberal candidate Christina Bisanz, toured SunEdison production at Flextronics in Newmarket.

A manufacturer of solar panels and related solar energy, the Premier's visit to the facility coincided with the announcement of the Liberal Party's goal to create 50,000 new jobs through the Liberal Clean Energy Plan.

"Because of our energy plan, so far we have created 20,000 jobs and have about 30 businesses that have either set up shop here or spend here and employ 20,000 people," Premier McGuinty told about 150 employees gathered in the factory. "By the end of next year, we're going to have 50,000 people working in clean energy and I hope you get a great sense of satisfaction doing it because you're enabling us to shut down coal fire generation in Ontario."

"Coal is just not good for our health; it is not good for our air. It costs \$3 billion every year in health care costs. We're going to be the first in North America to shut down our coal generation. We're also the fastest growing energy jurisdiction in all of North America."

He went on to tell employees that Ontario's opposition parties oppose the Liberal energy plan and this would put their jobs at risk.

"I wish I had something different to tell you, but I don't," he said. "Those are the facts. Let's keep moving forward together. Let's not turn backwards; let's, as an economy and a society, do all we can to harness the sun and the power of the wind and stop burning coal. Let's protect our children's health, and let's create energy jobs for the future."

Following his tour of the facility, Premier McGuinty held a media scrum in which he was asked if by telling the SunEdison/Flextronics employees that their jobs would be at risk created "fear mongering".

He replied that it is his job to give them the facts and only one party was committed to a clean energy future and one party that had a plan "nailed down to the bedrock of our economic reality."

"If you believe it is right for us to shut down coal, if you believe it is right for us to clean up the air for our children, if you believe it is right for us to take advantage of a window of opportunity when it comes to clean energy then there is only one party that is going in that direction and it is our direction," he said. "If you don't believe in that, there are some other choices and I believe Ontarians in their heart of hearts want new jobs and they want a clean environment."

For local Liberal party candidate Christina Bisanz, the Premier's visit to the riding "reinforced" to the people of the community the advantages of the Liberal's clean energy policy.

"We are gaining the advantages of clean energy policies of the Liberal government and not only in terms of job creation, but positioning us here as a centre for excellence in technology that will serve our community but ultimately the world," she said.

"I think that there will be other opportunities for organizations involved in the research and development of renewable energy technologies with suppliers to this organization to come and locate and be close to this company and for other offset industries to align themselves with what is happening here."

Both the Premier and Ms. Bisanz also promoted the Ontario Government's Feed In Tariff (FIT) Program which offers subsidies to encourage clean energy production such as wind and solar, a program the Progressive Conservative party

claims is costly and promises to scrap if they form the next government.

Ms. Bisanz said the program's objective was to provide "seed funding" to enable clean energy technology to "get grounded and grow, and this happens in any new industry".

Once it gets to scale, she said, then the prices come down considerably "when we get to that point with the economies of scale."

During the factory tour, a company employee extolled the virtues of the FIT program, noting the jobs it helped create, but this statement, however, provided a counterpoint to a claim by PC candidate and incumbent MPP Frank Klees who told The Auroran last month that the president of the company told him the FIT program is "unsustainable and they prefer to have an open bidding process for renewable energy" and had the belief that keeping the program would only result in an increased energy cost "because taxpayers

are forced to subsidize it".

When asked to reconcile the statement with the enthusiasm shown by the company on Friday, Mr. Klees said, "They're civil. Why would they not be?"

"[The company is] obviously going to take whatever comes their way and that is the program in place today," he said. "They have invested here, they are going to continue to invest, but I can tell you that they do not want this program, this business, to go under. They don't want to shut down the 400 jobs that are here. They will have to if the McGuinty government program continues."

"That's why in discussions with the executives here just three weeks ago they expressed in no uncertain terms to me that the program that the PCs are putting forward to put in place a competitive, open bidding process for the development of solar energy is what they would welcome because they know that is the only way to sustain this business."

Magna International Inc., with head offices in Aurora, this week announced that the company will match a \$1 million contribution from the community toward the establishment of Belinda's Place, York Region's first homeless shelter for single women.

Magna is matching a \$1 million contribution that has been pledged by the Belinda's Place Foundation, established in June 2009.

The \$1 million contribution from Magna will be used to create an endowment fund that will support programs and services for women who access the shelter.

Funds raised by local residents through the Belinda's Place Foundation will be used

for the capital expenses associated with building the shelter, which will be located in Newmarket.

"Magna is proud to be a supporter of this vital community initiative," said former Aurora CEO Marc Neeb, Executive Vice-President, Global Human Resources at Magna. "The Magna donation will help give women without a home the

shelter, skills and resources they need to get back on their feet and start anew."

Expected to open in 2013, Belinda's Place will offer single homeless women the opportunity to rebuild their lives through life-changing services that promote stability, dignity and self-reliance.

For more information, visit www.belindasplace.ca.



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Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

Another rock, roll evening to attend

Seems people realize how old I am, or is it just my imagination? The Aurora Historical Society is holding an "At the Hop" dance next month and you can bet I'll be there. According to a Press Release "the event will feature music, favourite foods, fashion and décor from the 50's!" They'll get moving to the groove with The Domino Show Band (Aurora's own Brian Larter tickling the ivories) and another Aurora favourite, The Thursday Night Jam Band rounding out the night. You can expect some cool stuff to be raffled off at their "Go For Pinks" raffle.

I had to think about that one. Then I remembered the movie "Grease" where the Danny character announces "We're racing for pinks." "Pinks?" "Pinks, you punk! Pink slips! Ownership papers!" No worries. They assure me they're not racing scooters down Church Street. Just a fun theme to raffle off great stuff donated by supportive businesses in town. Needless to say sponsorship opportunities are available. The event will be held Saturday, October 29 from 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. at the Aurora Cultural Centre, better known as the Church Street School. It'll cost you \$40 per person to attend or for \$300 you'll get a reserved VIP Table, which includes eight guests and a bottle of bubbly. I'm told there are a limited number of event tickets so be sure and reserve yours early. By attending you will help support the required restoration and enhanced exhibit space at Aurora's National Historic Site Hillary House.

In 2012 Hillary House will celebrate its 150th Anniversary and it's worth our support, in my opinion, to maintain it as a viable piece of the Yonge streetscape, not only as a key element of Aurora's history but also as a destination for tourists and special events to help support it. If you're a regular reader of this column, you know that Patricia and I toured a few historic places this summer. All very interesting and well-kept by what we imagined were multitudes of volunteers over the years and significant community investment. The Historical Society plans to keep Hillary House around for many, many years. Support from the private and corporate sectors is critical to that vision. We're lucky to have a National Historic Site in this town and sometimes we need reminding of that. So get your poodle skirt and tight jeans out of mothballs and join Patricia and I "at the hop". To reserve your tickets contact The Aurora Historical Society at 905-727-8991 or cdo@aurorahs.com.



100 Watts

By Christopher Watts

No museum here

Aurora was awarded the Prince of Wales prize in recognition for its commitment to heritage, specifically the planning of a state of the art museum inside the Church Street School. There's one small problem. We don't have one. Instead a fully restored building for that purpose relegates the town's historical collection to a storage area so that a "Culture Club" can hold wine tastings, galas and other elitist events. The excuse made for this switch reads like a page from Doug Ford's playbook: "Museums don't make money." Like a museum, the Aurora Public Library isn't in the business of making money. Are we to believe that somehow lessens its value? It's extremely rich for anyone to claim that a museum shouldn't exist when the very organization that has usurped it has proven themselves incapable of operating without \$500,000 of the town's money annually. If there is any value in operating a "Cultural Centre" it should not come at the cost of our museum. Heritage is not about plaques and awards. Aurora needs stewards that understand that sharing the stories that shaped our past and making them come to life for a community in a museum setting is nothing short of priceless.



You could never guess where this house was, so we'll tell you. The house in question, both pictures, was located at the corner of Yonge and Reuben Streets, just north of Kennedy. Today, the site is occupied by a two-storey building and is the home of Sorley and Still, Barristers and Solicitors. It was once full of doctors' offices. Thank you to David Heard for supplying the photographs.

Letter to the Editor

Voice Festival seeks donations

To the editor,

This year the Newmarket Voice Festival, a sleeping giant, will be held November 7 to 12. The Newmarket Voice Festival is in its 16th year, and has been fortunate over the years to attract some very distinguished, talented and accomplished adjudicators to assist the singers in their field of study. This year the adjudicators are Ingemar Korjus, Jennifer Tung and Tom Oliver. The Festival provides a wide variety of categories, representing many styles of singing and the music of many cultures. Contestants range in age from eight years and under to university students, and are primarily from Aurora, Newmarket and other areas of York Region. With ever rising tuition costs for many of today's university students, the Festival supports the further development of the art of singing and of talented singers through the provision of awards, trophies and scholarships. Scholarship recipients are chosen by the adjudicators, and the minimum award is \$100 to \$1,500 for the higher disciplines.

Funds for these awards are made available through the generosity of individuals and business leaders within the community, and income tax receipts are available. We are building awareness in the community and beyond, and encourage you to check the festival's website www.newmarketvoicefestival.com where everything from entry, syllabus and scholarship donor forms may be downloaded. It is our hope that you will be able to assist us in providing these young singers with the support necessary to improve their skills, and achieve a level of excellence in the art of singing. It is astonishing that with the right exposure, the nervous beginner quickly becomes the poised professional. We look forward to your participation in this wonderful event, and know that it will be a rewarding experience for you whether you are a competitor, or someone we can count on for financial support.

Irene Ilic
Executive Director
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Rosalyn Gonsalves
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—THE AURORAN—

"Aurora's Community Newspaper"

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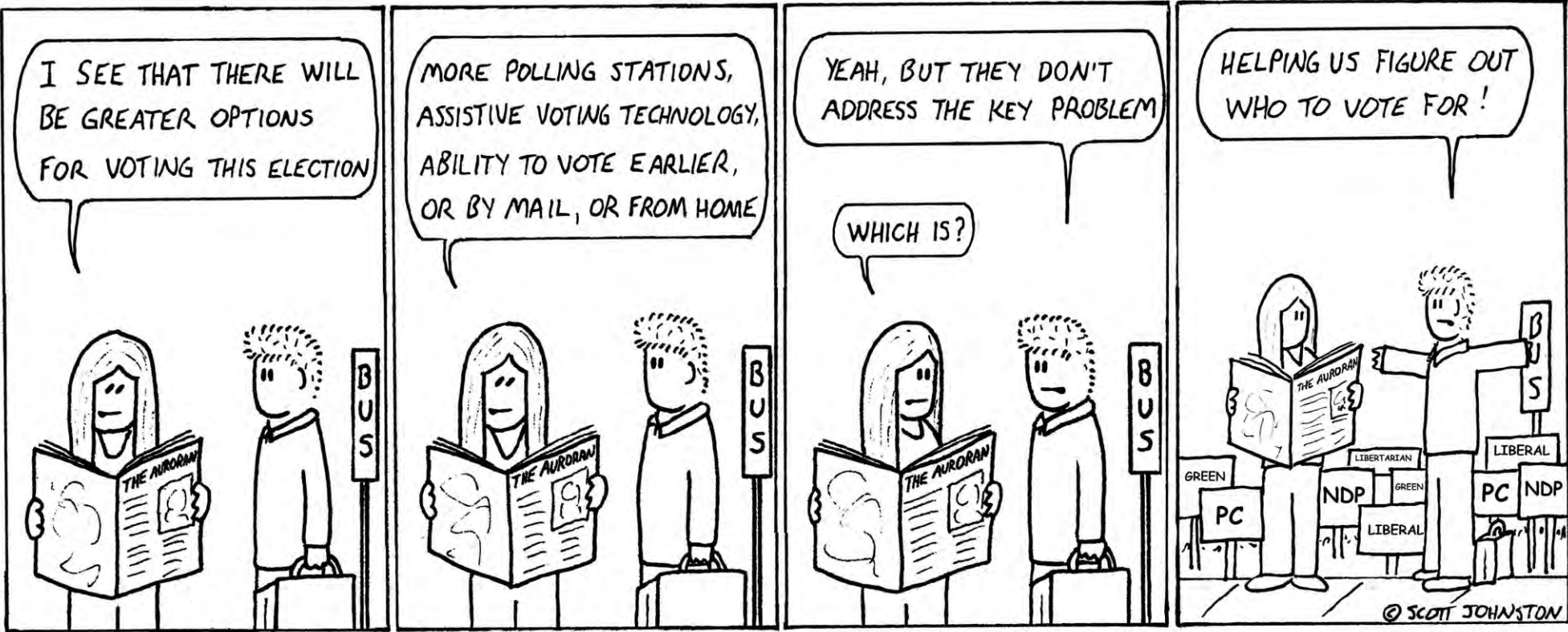
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Machell's Corners



Children had to go to Toronto to see King, Queen

When our fox hunting Prince of Wales, as reported in a recent edition of The Auroran, succeeded to the throne following the death of his father George V in January 1936, his 11-month reign as Edward VIII came to an early and abrupt end when he abdicated in favour of his younger brother Prince Albert, Duke of York to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson.

As the former King and future Duke of Windsor packed his bags for Europe, his brother, now King George VI his wife Queen Elizabeth (later the Queen Mother) and their two daughters Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret packed their bags for the move to Buckingham Palace.

Having been crowned at Westminster Abbey in the spring of 1937, their bags were packed once more two years later as the new King and Queen set sail for Canada in 1939.

It was the first visit of a reigning King and Queen to Canada and the people of Aurora may

have been disappointed to discover that their monarchs' coast-to-coast rail tour of Canada passed to the east of Town through communities like Pine Orchard rather than coming through Aurora like George VI's three predecessors.

If Aurorans wanted their kids to see George VI and Queen Elizabeth with their own eyes, they had to go to them - and that is exactly what they did... with all Aurora students loaded onto buses in the wee hours of the morning to head for the Big Smoke.

Before the Royal Couple arrived in Toronto on May 22, 1939, the May 19 edition of The Aurora Banner told of the journey being prepared to take the local school kids to see the King and Queen in the provincial capital at Exhibition Place.

"Final arrangements have been completed for transporting all of the school children in Town to Toronto Exhibition Park for the Royal visit of Their Majesties on Monday," they reported.



"The party will leave in ten buses at 2.45 for the park, where reservations have been made.

"Sanitary arrangements in both parks have been provided by the Parks Department of the City of Toronto, and this Department has also arranged for a supply of drinking water for children. St. John Ambulance Corps has provided for the setting up of four first aid stations in the Park."

If it rained that day, arrangements had also

been made to accommodate all the school children in the park within the Ex's Horticultural Building and Process Building (since demolished) until the King and Queen were about to arrive.

At that point, they were to be ushered into their reserved waiting areas to wave at the motorcade as it passed by.

The 1939 article also provides an interesting contrast to the pains school boards now go to

in order to ensure the safety of their charges.

"The children will be taken only with the consent of parents," the article notes. "Those in charge will exercise every care, but the school board assumes no responsibility."

The article also makes mention of an interesting memento it gleaned out of the trip from the Member of Parliament for the day, William Pate Mulock - son of Sir William Mulock who was still going strong at 96 -

an envelope bearing three commemorative postage stamps issued by the Royal Mail (now Canada Post).

The three stamps - one depicting the King and Queen, another with dual images of the two Princesses, and one of the Canadian War Memorial, which the King was to unveil in Ottawa - were sent directly to Aurora from the post office aboard the Royal Train and bore the postmark, consisting of the King's standard.

Letter to the Editor

His choices don't include current sites

To the editor,

I have been following Aurora Councils for quite a while: receiving my first paycheque as a volunteer firefighter in 1959, attending to our parks for 24 years, and through the 1980's where I, too, served on council.

During those 12 years there were a number of decisions made that I did not agree with nor support. Even now I question some decisions.

The Town Hall: Our beautiful square-plan red

brick Administrative Centre was built on a side hill. Our building is cracked and splitting. My choice would be instead of spending millions renovating and an addition, make the Seniors' Centre an annex to the Admin Centre, find a new larger centre for the seniors, complete with the needed parking for this group.

(We had our chance to buy 13 acres and turn the large building into our Seniors' Centre and Library. The cost....1.2

million. Council turned it down. And here we are, outgrowing both locations.)

Library: The current site is landlocked on three sides with little parking and no expansion area. The present site and building cost 16 million. Where will we construct a new library? Look to Bradford as an example of how it should be!

Seniors' Centre: Happily, the number of seniors is growing every year and will soon out-

grow their present site. Adding to the present location would be prohibitive in cost, with the town offices needing more space. We need a new Centre on a location with parking.

Leisure Complex: I was and still am against the Leisure Complex site. The building lot was a substandard choice and dozens of concrete stilts 80 feet deep were required to hold up the ice surface. My choice was to add an ice surface to the Stronach

Centre. Years later my choice remains the same: to close the ice surface at the Leisure Complex and centralize all ice making equipment at the Stronach Centre. The pad at the Complex could be used for soccer, ball hockey (a TV sport now), and othersports. The Leisure Complex ice plant uses thousands of gallons of our drinking water to cool the ice plant and make ice. This goes on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

And, finally, I hear that

it is for sale, so let's buy the armouries on Larmont Street and do something with it!

The above is not about saving citizens on the tax bill as I believe we get great value for our tax dollars.

I believe we have a great mayor and council who will look at the past costs piled up by our former town leaders and make the needed changes.

**Norman Weller
Aurora**

Letters to the Editor

President reminds readers of candlelight ceremonies

To the editor,

The Royal Canadian Legion Col. Fred Tilston V.C. Branch 385 Aurora,

asks you to please join us on Saturday, September 17, 2011 and Sunday September 18, 2011 for our Annual Candlelight

Tribute at the Aurora Cemetery on Yonge Street.

Late in the afternoon of Saturday, September

17th, Branch members, Ladies Auxiliary members, Cadets from the Queen's York Rangers and the 140 Aurora Air Squadron will

be placing a small red candle and Canadian flag on all known Veterans grave sites (if you know of a Veteran that we have

missed, please let us know and we will add their name to our list).

We will be placing approximately 430 candles which will remain burning throughout the night in silent tribute.

Please take the time to drive through the cemetery on Saturday night, or view the candles from Yonge Street.

You will be amazed at what a beautiful sight it is.

On Sunday, September 18th at 2 p.m., we will be holding a Drumhead Service on the grounds of the Cemetery.

We invite all members of the public to come out and share in these ceremonies.

Remember they were willing to risk their lives so that we may enjoy the type of life we have today, so I'm sure giving up an hour of your time to say "thank you" to them is such a small sacrifice.

On November 11th, we remember our War dead.

On the September 17th weekend, with these special candles and the memorial service, we remember those who came home and have since passed on.

"We Will Remember Them".

Rick Preston
President
Royal Canadian Legion, Aurora



Preparing for their annual candlelight event at the Aurora Cemetery were, left to right, Frank Young, Leona Watson, Aurora Legion president Rick Preston and Joyce Remy.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Why are the bloggers such cowards, reader wonders

To the editor,

Thank you, Mr. Mol and Mr. Doughty for your recent letters.

I am an Aurora citizen who is glad to see peoples' concerns relating to former Mayor Morris' lawsuit finally reflect the core concern of reputation damaging statements and potential threats hiding behind anonymity in social media.

Responsible print media won't print anonymous "criticism", including this newspaper (although this paper did so during the last pre-election year).

Regarding the new internet world, let's agree that anonymous damaging assertions in cyberspace is not just a local, but an international problem.

This problem is fuelling court cases and think tanks all over to determine what are appropriate and effective controls.

Courts need to set precedents and laws to be enforced.

Our justice and police cannot enforce laws against defamation or physical threats, and nor can individuals pursue libel against themselves, without named perpetrators.

Handy, if you don't want to be held accountable.

To our court case here in Aurora: why don't the current three defendants stop prolonging this case by simply and swiftly fulfill-

ing the case' straightforward request?

Why not give, under oath, their information on the anonymous bloggers in question...especially if they stand by their moderators' right to post that particular content?

It is important that the courts uphold the request.

Better still, why don't the anonymous bloggers themselves, if they do truly believe that their anonymous statements were not threatening or libelous,

and theirs to freely express, just come for-

ward and own them?? Why such cowardice?

Catherine Marshall
Aurora



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Letters to the Editor

I'm punished for wanting good service

To the editor,

Not being one to complain! Well, not usually, just when warranted. Lately, I have encountered, not only incompetent but actually rude service individuals. As I have stated before, I have an on-going battle with my "Star" delivery person who

I think reads The Auroran because my deliveries have gotten worse. I guess I am being punished for expecting good service. A friend of mine recently related a story about her getting charged for unsolicited text messages from her provider (Rogers).

The customer service person said that she would no longer be charged and when she asked if the charge would be coming off her bill the answer was "you must be kidding-it is only 15 cents". How rude and it didn't help that this individual's English wasn't the best and they were not located in Canada.

I am still fighting with Enbridge about their delivery charge. I still maintain that they are close enough that I can pick it up. I guess I was raised with the expression "watch your pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves". I have been known to pick up pennies on the street, sidewalk etc. Have you noticed that young people just toss loose change back on the counter-they see no value in coppers and even quarters? I digress. Lately, I attended the opening of Tutti Panini, a real-

ly good Italian sandwich and pizza restaurant, at my local plaza and observed loads of people taking advantage of free food. Unfortunately, some also didn't notice the wastebaskets and they had no compulsion about strewing their refuse wherever. The parents set the example for their kids who saw no harm in dropping pieces of food and paper stuffs all over. Part of my parenting stemmed from what I was taught. Good manners, being polite, treating all including the environment with respect, and above all deal with others as

you would like to be dealt with were the cardinal rules. There was even a business etiquette course when I attended High School (in the time of the dinosaurs). Is it just me, or has the state of our young people especially in the service industry gotten worse? The topper came this week. I put a sign on the door of my van that read "Inquiring Minds - Practice Random Acts of Kindness" and the phone # of my business. You guessed it! Someone stole it!

Bonnie Tiffin
Oak Ridges

This resident likes traffic calming in north east Aurora

To the editor,

In reviewing this week's Auroran newspaper (week of September 6th), I became frustrated after reading several articles about my neighbourhood in the north east corner of Yonge and Wellington. The letter to the editor describes the traffic calming project as having caused great inconvenience to the parishioners of Lady of Grace

parish and Evelyn Buck seemed to imply that the majority of the neighbourhood is dissatisfied with the traffic calming measures that have been put in place. I would like to put forward another opinion. As a resident of Spruce Street (south of Mark Street, north of Maple) for the past eight years I can only describe how my family has found this traffic calming project a truly worthwhile endeavour.

as we felt that the road was just too unsafe. The difference since the traffic calming measures were put in place has been remarkable. Children are now playing in their front yards and bicycling on the sidewalks and I no longer worry so much about being rear-ended while reversing out of my driveway, by quick moving vehicles trying to take a short cut off of Yonge.

There was once a time eight years ago when I had difficulty backing out of our driveway due to the large volume of traffic racing down this street, without care for the residents. We thought we had bought a house in a peaceful old neighbourhood and were shocked by the volume of traffic racing down this narrow street. Before we had our daughter (now 3), we considered moving

Although this project may cause some inconvenience to the parishioners who travel our streets very heavily on the weekend, and other Aurora residents looking for a short cut, I know that many of the residents of this area are pleased that this project has allowed families, particularly with young children, a safer place to live.

Rachelle Galliford
Aurora

Reader seeks info on great-grandparents

To the editor,

My great grandparents were from Aurora, Joseph and Mary Atkinson. My grandfather George Henry Atkinson married at 18 to Agnes Minerva Gower and moved out to Innisfail, Alberta as pioneers. They had 12 children and my father Ernest Atkinson was the last one to pass away at 92 years. He never knew any of the relatives back east so I decided to do a tribute in his memory for the family out west and myself. Have you come across on any information on this particular family? I have received some from the Aurora Historical Society and hopefully they can send more. I did trace the family back to Joseph's parents that came from Yorkshire, England - John and Jane (Watson) Atkinson. I would like to know more about Jane and what was happening in history to bring them to Canada or if they went to the U.S. first as loyalists and then to Canada?

Carrol Atkinson
teagran@telus.net
Lacombe, Alberta

X-Ray Associates Offers Ontario Breast Screening Program

Breast cancer is the most common female cancer and is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in women. In 2010, it was estimated that 8,900 Ontario women would be diagnosed with breast cancer and that 2,100 would die from the disease. Screening detects breast cancer earlier, when treatment has a better chance. Research shows that regular screening of women age 50-69 can reduce deaths from breast cancer by at least 30%. Breast cancer death rates for Ontario women in this age range have decreased by 35% between 1990 and 2007. The Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) has been providing organized screening services to Ontario women age 50 and over since 1990. Since the program started screening women for breast cancer 20 years ago, it has provided more than 3.6 million

screens to over 1.1 million women. Women who are screened at OBSP sites receive services that are accredited by the Canadian Association of Radiologists. The OBSP provides high-quality mammography and meets Canadian standards for the early detection of small invasive cancers. Women participating in this organized program receive: Results notification Automatic recall Coordinated follow-up and evaluation In addition, this program: Assists family physicians to keep track of the breast health of their patients Allows patients direct access without a doctor's referral. X-Ray Associates offer OBSP at their new state of the art clinic located at 125 Pederson Drive in Aurora. From timely day and evening appointments,

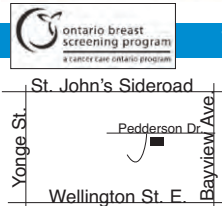
friendly and professional staff, to easy access wheelchair-accessible facilities, your experience is designed to be relaxing and comfortable. There is also ample free parking available at this facility. X-Ray Associates Radiologists are medical doctors specializing in diagnosing disease and injury by interpreting images obtained from medical imaging procedures. They are board certified and hold staff positions at York Central Hospital and Southlake Regional Health Center. X-Ray Associates work hand-in hand with these institutions to ensure that your health is our priority. X-Ray Associates offer four locations with services in X-ray, Ultrasound, Bone Mineral Density, and Nuclear Medicine Imaging. You can learn more about their locations and services at www.xrayassociates.com or call 905-751-1500 for an appointment.



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Aurora gave school desks to another museum

From page 1
their historical expansion they are furnishing that building as a one-room school.

"At least 20 years ago, Jacqueline Stuart, the former curator at the museum and I picked up those desks in Toronto. I remember the day very well when we rented the van, drove into the city, and actually picked them up from an ESL school that was going out of business at that time, but they had nothing to do with Aurora."

Mr. McIntyre said that before the Church Street School was renovated and eventually became the home of the Aurora Cultural Centre, the school desks were on display in a school room display installed in the former museum space for a school program.

But he stresses they were not original to the Church Street School and were not from any other school in Aurora.

"We do have some desks that are still in the collection at the Historical Society which do have Aurora connections and are still very much part of the collection," he said. "When the Cultural Centre opened, there wasn't the

space and it was felt there wasn't the need to set up that kind of display again."

The whereabouts of the desks aside, Mr. Heard continued to express concern that Aurora's muse-

um no longer has a permanent home at the Cultural Centre, despite money being raised in the past to house the museum in the venerable building.

"If we are not going to

have a museum, why the collection of funds dating back to 1980 in the location of the Church Street School?" he asked council. "Why was a climate-controlled room installed

[in the Church Street building] if it wasn't going to be a museum? Why are people saying there is no money in history when the investment is actually to be proud of where you are

from or where your journey has brought you?

"I must say I am disappointed and I hope that you will not let our downtown core disappear like our museum has."

Camera club focuses on 28th season

Country Images Camera Club, with Aurora members, is looking for digital photographers of all ages and abilities to attend its meetings, outings, competitions, and workshops for the 2011-2012 season.

The first meeting of the season is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20th at the Ray Twinney Recreation Complex, Lounge #1 (100 Eagle Street West, Newmarket) beginning at 8 p.m.


The Club has been active since 1984 and attracts members living in the north York Region area who want to improve their skills at making photographs while also having fun with like-minded people.

Club competitions are held regularly to help improve individual artistry through constructive commentary provided by experienced and qualified judges.

Club president Chuck Carson is enthusiastic about the roster of activities for the 2011-2012 season. "We are bringing in a wide range of guest speakers who will inspire and challenge the members to explore the art of photography," he said.


For the first meeting, guest photographer Michael O'Brien will discuss his approach and philosophy in creating intuitive, natural people portraits, based on a foundation of trust and respect for his subjects.

For more information, check out the club's website at www.county-images-newmarket.com or call 905-727-6713 in Aurora or 416-464-1249 (mobile).




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Week of September 13, 2011

Home opener Saturday

Aurora wins 3 of 4 at tournament

The Junior A Aurora Tigers showed great strides in preparation for their opening home game here Saturday night, at a hockey tournament in Vermont last week. In that tournament, Aurora lost only one game of the four played and that was a shootout against the South Shore Kings 3-2 Friday. They won their opening game over the NE Huskies Jr A squad 5-2 late Thursday afternoon. The Tigers also defeated the CD Selects 6-2 Saturday, then edged the Junior Wolfpack Jr A team 5-4 early Sunday morning. Nearly 100 games were played over the four-day tournament. Started in 2004 with

only six teams; USA vs. Canada at the Junior A level The Woodchuck Classic is considered the most highly recruited Junior A, Junior B and Midget AAA tournament in North America. With an average of 110 College and Pro Scouts throughout the weekend teams in the Woodchuck have seen over 1000 college commitments and 100 NHL Draft picks as it finished up its sixth year. In its 6th annual Woodchuck Classic the event hosted 48 teams from Canada and the US. The success of the event revolves around the USA vs. Canada format. Teams travel from Michigan, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Philadelphia, New Jersey, New York,

Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Quebec and Maine And if you like tailgate parties, you'll love this Saturday's opener against the Milton

Icehawks, but it will be the third game Aurora has played this season. Their first game is in Newmarket Thursday night, when they play the Hurricanes at the

Twinney Arena at 7.30 p.m. On Friday night they tangle with the Markham Waxers in a game in that town beginning at 7.30 p.m.

Saturday's home opener at the Aurora Community Centre begins at 7.30 p.m., but if you want to enjoy the tailgate party it starts at 5.30 p.m.

“Field of gold” planned here

Aurora Residents, Nancee Webb and Dan Thomas are raising money to plant a daffodil garden called "Fields of Gold" which will be a first for Aurora and York Region. The daffodil is a symbol of hope to everyone touched by cancer and the garden will provide people with the opportunity to honour and remember loved ones lost, celebrate survivors as well as caregivers. The Town of Aurora and the Aurora Community Arboretum have offered a home for the garden and volunteers will be planting the bulbs. As this will be a naturalized garden, no upkeep will be involved and the

bulbs will multiply over the years to become a field of gold. Individual bulbs can be purchased for \$7 for one bulb, three for \$15 and five for \$20. Corporate sponsors are able to purchase 100 bulbs for \$350 and larger quantities are available. If you would like to help out or purchase bulbs, please contact Nancee Webb at 905-727-6474 or n.webb@rogers.com. The planting ceremony will be held October 22nd at 10 a.m. and Mayor Geoffrey Dawe will plant the first bulb. Everyone is invited to attend. All money raised will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society.



Tigers 2011-12
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Aurora Bantam team wins all the marbles

The Aurora Jays Bantam Rep Baseball team travelled to Sault Ste Marie recently to represent York Simcoe Baseball Association (YSBA) in the "A" Provincial championships and came away winners.

The YSBA Champion Jays met 10 teams from all over the Province in a double knockout format tournament.

In the first round the Jays defeated Windsor 5-0 on the strength of pitcher Brian Langdon's 6 2/3 innings one hit shutout.

On offense a double by Johnathan Read and a triple by Michael Moffat led the way.

Next up for the Jays was the tough LDBA champions North London. The Jays fell behind 2-1 early and battled back led by RBI doubles by Moffat and Matt French before winning 10-9 in the bottom of the 7th with a tournament changing clutch bases loaded walk off line drive to the gap by Nick Pettinaro.

Jessie Silligmann, Jordan Radevski and French shared the pitching duties.

Game three saw the Jays take on the ICBA Champions Ancaster.

The two undefeated teams staged a tight battle with the Jays going up 3-1 in the first inning. Ancaster battled back to tie the game 4-4 in the top of the seventh setting the stage for some more bottom of the seventh heroics.

With two outs in the seventh Pettinaro singled to load the bases and French hit a line drive shot for the Jays second walk off win of the day.

For the Jays third game the last two undefeated teams faced off as the Jays played the 2-0 Guelph Royals.

Aurora trailed the whole way but pitchers Graydon Gardner, Joel Gouveia and Radevski combined with a couple of defensive gems by Moffat and Read to keep the game close.

Once again the Jays loaded the bases in the 7th inning but came up short this time losing 5-3.

As the rains came in the night the Jays woke the next morning as one of four teams still remaining. After a lengthy delay they faced the tough Thunder Bay Lakers.

The Jays were down 2-0 after two but a run in the fourth cut the deficit to one run.

Jordan Clements led off the 6th with a walk and Paul Neophytou drove in the tying run with a clutch two out single.

In the top of the 7th with the game tied 2-2 the Jays erupted for 10 runs and sent the Lakers packing 12-2.

Langdon pitched another stellar game to pick up his second win on the mound.

In the other semi-final Guelph beat Pickering to set up the rematch with the Jays.

Since Guelph was still undefeated the Jays would need to beat them twice to win the crown while a single win would hand Guelph the coveted Baseball Ontario Trophy.

Silligmann got the win with six strong innings as the Jays went up 2-0 in the first inning and never trailed beating the Royals 6-3.

Langdon came in with a man on base and no outs in for the 7th to pick up the save with a game ending Langdon to Neophytou to Benn double play.

A great throw by Radevski from right field to gun down a runner at home, a deep sacrifice fly by Clements and doubles by Gardner and Benn (his 4th of the weekend) were the highlights of the game.

This set up a winner take all match with Guelph which due to rain got pushed over to the next day seemingly giving the Royals time to recharge.

Aurora however had other ideas. The Jays jumped out to a 1-0 lead on a Moffat RBI double in the first inning. Guelph managed to force the Jays to the brink with two runs in the third and one in the fourth to go up 3-1.

As the pressure mounted Pitcher Gardner and catcher Gouveia combined to keep the game close and in the

top of the fifth after a Gouveia walk Gardner doubled over the centre fielder to cut the lead to one run. Neophytou and Benn knocked in runs to give the Jays a 5-3 lead.

In the 6th after a

Langdon single and a perfect bunt by Clements that moved Langdon all the way to 3rd, Silligmann hit a pinch hit RBI double off the wall in left.

Radevski and Moffat added RBI's in the 7th to put

the Jays up 8-3.

French pitched the final two innings and ended the game on a strikeout at which point the Aurora players, coaches, and families erupted in well deserved celebration.

After losing in the semi finals in 2009 and in extra innings in the finals in 2010 the ever improving Jays had achieved their goal of becoming the Baseball Ontario Bantam "A" Champions.



Aurora athlete wins two medals

Aurora student Shaina Harrison will come home a double medallist after winning a silver and bronze at last weekend's Commonwealth Youth Games in the Isle of Man.

Shaina won a bronze medal at the games for the women's 100 metre track event on Saturday and a silver medal as part of Canada's 100 metre women's relay team on Sunday.

Team Canada won eight

medals in athletics - of which two were Shaina's - five medals in gymnastics, two in boxing, and one in cycling.

When speaking to The Auroran last Tuesday, her first day on the ground in the host island - she said she was adapting to the time change well and a tour of where she was set to compete gave her focus for the big event.

"Today I did a warm up and

I did a couple of starts out of the blocks just to work on the first part of the race," said the Aurora athlete who went into the games ranked second in Canada for the 100 metres.

"I'm also doing relay and we practiced hand-offs as well. Tomorrow we'll be doing the same thing, so I will be going to practice myself and practice with the relay team as well.

"I'm pretty relaxed and I'm

not that nervous...yet. I definitely want a medal in the games; I do have high expectations of myself, so I am just going to do my best."

Shaina first stepped into the athletic world as a gymnast, but her father Kevin soon saw that she had potential in running and she took up track in grade nine.

"Ever since then I have been growing and been growing

stronger and my talent grew, so I decided to stick with it," she said.

One factor that also played into her decision was the potential to score a sports scholarship from major universities.

The focus has paid off and she is now fielding offers from universities, currently leaning towards overtures from the Syracuse University and Cornell University to study fine arts and creative writing, with the goal of finding making a career out of screenwriting.

But Shaina's track career has led to less tangible benefits as well, she said, as it has allowed her to meet new people not just from across Canada, but now through the Commonwealth Youth Games, fellow young athletes from across every continent.

"I didn't know anyone on the team to begin with and I have been making new friends," she said. "[The sport] has also allowed me to travel and I love travelling. Track has given me the opportunity to travel and the more I work hard towards my goals, the more it can help me in the future."

When Shaina was named a member of Team Canada earlier this summer, a wave of excitement went through her as this was the first opportunity she has had to be on a national team, let alone compete internationally.

Since then she has worked with coaches on the National Team who have been helping

her better her technique in preparation for the big day.

"They have been helping me fix up a couple of mechanics I have been struggling with," she said, noting that one of the coaches pointed out she was not using the lower half of her body to her full advantage. "Basically I was stomping on the ground instead of clawing it, so those are things I have been working on to make my run more efficient and make me faster."

While preparing for the events in the Isle of Man last week, Shaina said the entire Canadian team was staying in the same hotel ("that creates a sanctuary for us," she said) but added she was looking forward to taking on the international completion, something she said would be an "amazing" experience.

For younger athletes, she said commitment to sport is the key to success.

"You have to be really committed to what you do because it isn't easy," she said. "I know sometimes I am not up to going to practice, but if you don't practice you don't get better, so you have to stay committed and focus on your goals."

For Shana, the goal of the week was to get a medal out of the games.

With a bronze and silver in her bags ready to head home, she can enthusiastically check that off her list.

Next up? The 2012 World Junior Championships in Spain.



Aurora's Shaina Harrison, #7, takes off at Commonwealth Youth Games in the Isle of Man on the weekend.

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Town could hire a new integrity commissioner

Aurora could go one step closer to appointing a new Integrity Commissioner this week - but then again that step could be in the opposite direction, as council readies to debate a motion Tuesday calling for the vacant position to be filled.

The Town's controversial Integrity Commissioner position - one who is appointed to oversee the Aurora's equally controversial Code of Conduct - has been vacant since February following the resignation of former Ontario Cabinet Minister David Tsubouchi.

In his absence, Councillor Wendy Gaertner made a motion earlier this summer calling on council to "direct the CAO to immediately commence the recruitment process by advertising for the services of an Integrity Commissioner [and] identify the appropriate funding sources for the Integrity Commissioner".

Although her original motion called on Town Staff to present a list of candidates by September 6, the item was deferred at last month's council meeting to September 13.

When she first introduced her motion, Councillor Gaertner told The Auroran that filling the vacancy left by Mr. Tsubouchi has been a long time coming.

"I believe there was an intention this term to decide what to do about the Integrity Commissioner and nobody has said anything about it, so it is time," she said. "We're [several months] into the process. It has just been on my list. As you know, there have been a lot of things on [the council's] agenda and I just got around to it."

Councillor Gaertner said that she thought having an Integrity Commissioner on call to handle Code of Conduct complaints was "the way of the future", and one initially undertaken by the Town of Aurora right out of the gate.

It is also, she noted, a process being undertaken by several other municipalities.

"I think Aurora is a community that wants to be ahead of the pack," she said. "We showed that by having a Code of Conduct and the Integrity Commissioner it is the

right thing for our community."

Councillor Gaertner is likely to face significant opposition from some of her council colleagues many of whom - including Mayor Geoffrey Dawe - ran on a campaigns that were not favourable to the role of an Integrity Commissioner. "My opinion has not changed on that at all," Mayor Dawe told The Auroran after Councillor Gaertner's motion was first introduced.

One area where the two do find some common ground, however, is looking at options to save money on having an "in house" Integrity Commissioner, as was the case with Mr. Tsubouchi. Councillor Gaertner said she was in favour of "anything that can save us money" when asked if she would be open to sharing a commissioner with one or more area municipalities.

Mayor Dawe also said he would be in favour of a combined agreement if it came to that.

"But that has to go to the root of the issue, which is whether or not it is needed," he said. "Nothing has happened yet to make me change my mind that we

need it."

In her weekly internet program Our Town, former Councillor Alison Collins Mrakas, who served as councillor coinciding with the tenure of both Mr. Tsubouchi and his fired predecessor David Nitkin, she expressed her opinion that while there are "some issues" at the council table in how some members comport themselves during meetings, documents such as the Oath of Office and procedural bylaw outline the responsibilities of councillors.

"There is evidence to suggest that residents want - or even demand in some cases - the right to more direct or immediate means of holding their elected officials accountable, and it is not just Aurora but across the board, and one such means is purported to be an Integrity Commissioner."

Re-appointing the integrity commissioner might "further damage fissures" that are only beginning to heal, she said.

"I have never seen anything like what I witnessed and experienced as a councillor with regards to how the Code of Conduct was created, how the Integrity Commissioner was installed," she said. "Other municipal councils engaged their communities in the process."

Such means of civic engagement, she said, included citizen committees to draft a code of conduct, and holding Town Hall meetings, two things that were not undertaken by the council at the time, she said. This resulted in an "extremely rushed process" which, in her opinion, was "doomed to failure".

"It seemed to me to at least be initiated and designed to address the personal concerns of some members of council on the judgement or behaviour of their colleagues and I think we are still feeling the outcomes of that imperfect process today," she said. "In its current form it is easily abused and manipulated to serve political purposes as, in my opinion, we saw rather clearly last term. The code of conduct and the office of the integrity commissioner were not intended to be such."

That being said, however, Ms. Collins Mrakas said she was not opposed to having an Integrity Commissioner, but one that should be more arms length.

A better solution, she said, would be to have an integrity commissioner appointed at the Regional Level that would serve each municipality in York and would be funded through resources pooled by each municipality.

"In Aurora's case, putting out a call for yet another

contract hire, which I assume is what the councillor is proposing in her motion, where the details of the contract and the job specifications are going to be discussed in closed session, behind closed doors, by the same members who will ultimately decide whether to impose the recommended sanctions or even terminate the contract of the person recommending the sanctions is an ultimately futile and fruitless exercise.

"We are going to end up where we started and I don't think any of us would like that. I also think if you had a regional integrity commissioner, and this is pre-supposing that the community wants to go forward with this at all, a regional Integrity Commissioner would truly be arm's length, so the issue of councillors charging fellow councillors under the code of conduct can be a more impartial manner. Such allegations can be assessed on their merit and there can be a better determination on whether they are vexatious or frivolous or not without fear that the person who is doing the assessment is going to

get canned."

Our Town can be viewed online at www.theauroran.com Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

A full archive of the shows can be found at TV Aurora at the web address listed above.

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Bijoy Kianianthra shows some of the bowls available for purchase during the 2nd annual Empty Bowls event. Tickets for the bowls went on sale last week, and if it goes like last year they will be sold out well before the event. Empty Bowls website states \$45 for both the lunch and evening sittings. Basically a number of Aurora restaurants, Bijoy's on Temperance Street is one of them, will offer one of the restaurant's signature dishes in a bowl made by the Pinetree Potters. The bowl can then be taken home by the guest.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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Mayors from three municipalities, Aurora, Newmarket and East Gwillimbury joined forces last week to officially open the Nokiidaa Trail Connection. They assisted in the ribbon-cutting on the St. John's Sideroad near Aurora's Hadley Grange Seniors' Residence. The trail link combines more than 35 kilometers of trails that link the three municipalities.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

I have a conflict, Buck says, no, you don't, lawyer answers

While some members of the public waiting patiently in the viewing gallery at last week's general committee meeting for councillors to tackle the potentially contentious issues of the proposed litigation and legal indemnification policies presented by the Town's legal department, councillors did offer a taste of things to come at the start of the session.

Before the September 6 agenda was approved, Councillor Evelyn Buck declared a conflict with the proposed indemnification policy, based on her ongoing lawsuit against former mayor Phyllis Morris, former councillors Stephen Granger, Evelina MacEachern and Al Wilson, and sitting Councillors Wendy Gaertner and John Gallo.

"I don't believe I can be objective in the discussion of this issue [and] I believe I am not alone," Councillor Buck said. "My question is about the appropriateness of putting forward this policy at this time. Three members of council are not able to participate and I don't see the urgency for bringing this forward."

From Councillor Gallo's perspective, however, what was before councillors was a "go forward" change that does not have an effect on anything that has happened in the past.

This sentiment was

shared by Councillor Gaertner, who added that it did not affect "things that are already in the works."

Their stance was backed up by Town Solicitor Warren Mar, who said that the bylaw did not apply to matters "currently ongoing or any matter that happened prior to the effective date the bylaw is passed."

This was advice Councillor Buck said she was not prepared to accept.

"I don't believe I can be objective [with] this policy on a go-forward basis," she said. "It is in fact before us because of the

past."

This back and forth continued among the three councillors and Mr. Mar.

"I am certainly comfortable that I have no conflict of interest with respect to this policy," said Councillor Gaertner before asking for confirmation once again that the matter covered nothing in the past; confirmation which she received from Mr. Mar.

"Then I hope I don't see anything written in the blogs tomorrow about my participation," replied Councillor Gaertner in a remark directed to Councillor Buck.

But according to Councillor Buck, advice from Mr. Mar in this matter should not come into play with regards to a conflict.

"The onus rests with the councillor to declare a conflict of interest," she said. "Nobody can give advice on that, including the Town Solicitor. I still maintain that there is a conflict of interest."

This argument promises to continue when councillors attempt once again to take a crack at discussing and debating the proposed indemnification bylaw and litigation policies in October.

Time runs out

From page 1
process, in which Councillor Evelyn Buck declared a conflict with the proposed indemnification policy, six minutes were taken up by a delegation from heritage advocate David Heard, and the other three hours and 20-odd minutes were dedicated to a discussion of the Town's procedural bylaw.

The discussion of the procedural bylaw - an hour and 50 minutes of which were taken up with questions and concerns raised by Councillor Buck - came after a lengthy special general committee meeting devoted entirely to the subject on June 14.

Several such deferrals also took place at the last meeting of council on August 16 when 14 items were pulled for separate discussion along with three motions for which notice has been given.

Of the 21 items and motions which had been pulled for separate discussion over the course of the

last two meetings, only seven have actually made it to the table without being deferred due to a shortage in time.

The bulk of the items held over from the August 16 council meeting come back to the table this week, including the proposed approval of plans for private property parking enforcement, a review of capital projects, discussion about the Town of Aurora's water audit, a trillium application from Sport Aurora, community and cultural grants, policies for the sponsorship of third party events, the reallocation of capital project funds, as well as two motions from Councillor Gaertner and one from Councillor Gallo.

Individual members of the public who waited in the public gallery with equal parts patience and baited breath to hear councillors debate the litigation and indemnification policies will have to continue exercising that patience for when the items eventually come back to the table on October 4 or October 18.

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It was corn roast time at the Aurora Seniors' Centre Friday night. Serving up the goodies were Tony Schuster, left, and Frank Leone.
Auroran photo by David Falconer

Resident is upset with sewer notice

At least one Aurora resident is raising a stink about sewer maintenance undertaken in one particular neighbourhood just after Labour Day after his street was given just 24 hours notice on Labour Day to ready their homes for incoming maintenance.

Christopher Watts, a resident of Banff Drive - and a columnist for The Auroran - first vented his frustration online, where he said he was given notice of the service disruption on his street on Labour Day, the day before the work was to commence, as neighbourhood families were either away or getting their kids ready to go back to school.

"Unless it is the Town's position that combining these activities with the inconvenience of not drawing water, using washing machines, laundry tubs, having showers, baths or flushing toilets, this seems to be a planning oversight," he wrote.

In the notice to residents provided by the Town of Aurora and LiquiForce, residents were told that as part of the ongoing program to improve sewer infrastructure, the company had been contracted by the Town to "rehabilitate the existing sewer" without digging.

"Your sewer connection will be out of service for about 12 hours on the date," they said. "To reduce any inconvenience to you, we ask you to minimize your water use during these hours. This will stop the possibility of sewage from your premises backing up into your basement or building plumbing."

Residents were advised to pour one gallon of water in every floor drain, laundry tub, bath tub, and shower drain in

their basements to fill dried out traps that could allow fumes from LiquiForce's lining process to seep into homes.

Expected to be working in the area from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. last Tuesday, crews were still on the scene nearing 10 p.m., said Mr. Watts, who said he followed the guidelines outlined in the letter despite the lack of notice.

"I had gone through the process of following their instruction of dumping water through the drain to stop whatever they claimed they were going to put in, and what they wanted to do was give you a back stop so the fumes don't come into the house," he said. "I don't think the amount of water was sufficient, or if they were just very aggressive, but it smelt like they had taken black Sharpies and lit them on fire in the house. It was quite disgusting."

His frustration is twofold, he said.

Not only was there a lack of "forewarning" on the part of the Town and LiquiForce, he said, but there was also a problem in bringing these concerns to the Town through avenues such as their social media, including their Facebook page and blog.

The first option, he said, did not provide an option for him to post his concerns to the Town's wall, nor was there a component on the blog to submit concerns aside from responding to an existing blog post.

"Unless I put it on Twitter, there is very little ability for me to engage the Town using social media," he said. "There was an issue on how best do I go through the process of relaying it to somebody and then I get

stymied on that.

"If you look at the microsite for the Strategic Plan, there is the ability for you to put comments in there and I found the one that was most applicable and that is where I deposited my comments and made it more of a direction to customer service."

In response to inquiries from The Auroran, the Town of Aurora was apologetic.

"We apologize to anyone who was inconvenienced by the recent disruption in service," said Jason Ballantyne, Manager of Corporate Communications for the Town. "We realize that it was particularly inconvenient coming the day after Labour Day.

"The Town works with contractors to try and give as much notice as possible - in some cases up to a week - prior to service disruptions. However, due to the complex scheduling nature of some projects, shorter notice times are sometimes an unfortunate necessity.

"In some emergency cases - like water main breaks - there may not be any notice. In those cases our staff will go door to door to explain why the service has been disrupted."

Council could approve new procedural bylaw

From page 1

or the committee chair if a councillor or member was deemed to be out of order.

Councillor Chris Ballard asked if a member persists in "disobedience" as outlined in the bylaw, whether the chair would be able to not recognize that member to speak for just the following meeting or if they would have the option of continuing that through future meetings.

Mr. Leach told Councillor Ballard that it could indeed cover future meetings.

"These provisions provide the chair with the authority to expel or exclude a member from a given meeting, or depending on the nature of the offence, as it were, to allow a person to remain in meetings but fail to recognize them for the given meeting or subsequent meetings.

"I think it needs to be kept in mind that if the chair - and I'm not suggesting the chair were - but if the chair were to become a little heavy handed, perhaps in the use of these two clauses, there is always a way to appeal the ruling of the chair and if it is council's will, that would prevail.

"My aim in putting these two sections is to give the chair the authority that may be necessary depending on the circumstances that may arise, whether or not expulsion from the meeting would be sufficient or whether or not...it was a member of council's character that was being impugned, perhaps a one meeting expulsion would not be seen to be sufficient. It would depend on the circumstances and I think that these sections would give the chair sufficient authority as may be required to deal with any particular situation."

For Councillor Wendy Gaertner, one thing she said she would have liked to see in the procedural bylaw is clarification outlined on what exactly constitutes improper conduct to eliminate any grey areas.

Included in the bylaw were rules saying no members shall partake in several behaviours ranging from the use of "offensive words, inappropriate actions or unparliamentary language in or against Council" or staff to using electronic devices in any disruptive manner; and

from leaving their seat while a vote is being taken to criticising "any decision of council except for the purpose of moving that the question be considered."

Although Mr. Leach said the things itemized already within the document were contained purely for "illustrative" purposes, it wasn't supposed to be a definitive catalogue.

"It wasn't meant to be totally inclusive of all conduct that might at some point be inappropriate," he said. "That list could be exhaustive."

"Disobey" and "disobedience" were two words in the draft that came under closer scrutiny later of the meeting when Councillor Evelyn Buck said she objected to its use in association with council and its members.

"We are not children in a classroom," she said. "Each of us come here with the authority to speak and the purpose of the rules of order is we agree with each other on the rules that allow us to carry out our functions civilly. It isn't a question of obedience; it is a question of conducting ourselves in a manner suitable for the authority that we carry."

In the draft presented by Mr. Leach, the passage that caused concern governed the "Conduct of Members".

In section 4.6 (H) it read, "No member shall: disobey the rules of council or a decision of the chair or of council on questions of order or practice or upon the interpretation of the rules of Council.

"In case a member persists in any such disobedience, after having been called to order by the chair, chair shall not recognize that member, except for the purpose of receiving an apology from the member tendered at that meeting or any subsequent meeting."

While Councillor Paul Pirri made a motion that each clause be written in the affirmative rather than having a laundry list of negative clauses, that motion was defeated and eventually councillors decided that the word "contravene" would have a less negative connotation than "disobey" or "disobedience."



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NEW POLL

With the Aurora Public Library set to start looking at ways to expand to better serve the needs of the growing community, what direction do you think they should go? (Suggestions received will be published in a future edition of the The Auroran)

To participate in this POLL please go to www.theauroran.com and scroll down the home page -- it's on the right side.

Watch Our Town



WEEKLY SHOW with Alison Collins-Mrakas

THEAURORAN.COM

Please note: time and date change

Thursday nights at 7 p.m.

- This week in Aurora • Council Watch
- Mail Bag • This Week's Topic

Watch the show on your smartphone. Here's how...

1. On your 'Smart Phone' browser go to getscanlife.com and download the free application Scanlife.com reader (or any app you prefer) onto your phone.
2. Press the download button when the site auto-detects your device.
3. The app will be downloaded to your phone.

Click on the ScanLife icon to scan QR codes or barcodes.

"Our Town" with Alison Collins-Mrakas



If you don't have a smart phone, go to www.theauroran.com --click on the video --to go to TVA

Watch community Videos just posted

- Ribfest AURORA - go to... www.theauroran.com

Watch for new community videos each week. If you have an upcoming event and would like it covered by theauroran.com please have your event co-ordinator email cynthia@auroran.com

Thank you to our videographers: Steve Mitchell and Sean Casey

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SULTANS OF STRING

Sultans of String coming to Aurora

The raucous roots super-group Sultans of String, "Canada's ambassadors of musical diversity," showcase their new CD at the Aurora Cultural Centre on Saturday, October 1st at 7.30 p.m.

The multiple award-winning and Juno-nominated group present a brand new mix of their celebration of world music styles, with influences embracing Gypsy Jazz, Cuban rhythms, Arabic folk and Spanish Flamenco themes in a display of musicianship.

The evening promises to be a musical travelogue, with a variety of lush swaying tunes, fiery North African rhythms, to upbeat bluegrass beats and passionate vocals and instrumentals, according to Cultural Centre's Program Co-Ordinator Jane Taylor.

This new album, she said, is a blend of their own world music compositions, with a few surprises, including a stunning cover of Neil Young's track "Heart of Gold".

The musical pedigree of this group of five is astounding, with an eclectic constellation of instruments spanning four and six-string violins, guitars, mandolin, bass and a varied distinctive percussion mix. Members of the group have played with everyone from The Parachute Club and Jesse Cook, to Chantal Kreviazuk and The Chieftans.

The Sultans are based in Toronto under the guidance of Chris McKhool, whose name may be familiar to school-children in Aurora, where he has performed his school-age set to local students.

The group has been recognized time and time again throughout Canada for their world music prowess, which is often described as a "global sonic tapestry".

Their armload of accolades and wins span many categories - from Best Latin Jazz, to Best Song, Best World Music, Best Instrumental Group of the Year, and Best International Acoustic Music Award Finalist.

The result promises to be a warm and inviting night of music in their debut public performance in Aurora, Ms Taylor said.

General admission tickets are \$25 in advance, or \$30 at the door, and are on sale at the Centre. Payment can be made over the phone with a credit card, or in person with cash, cheque, debit or credit card.

The concert will take place in Brevik Hall at the Centre, an intimate and cosy performance venue located in this beautifully-restored heritage building, also known as the Church Street School.

Check out their music at www.sultansofstring.com

Tobias is guest speaker at 3rd prayer breakfast

Dr. Rick Tobias brings his passion and strategies for community-wide change to Aurora next month.

Best known for his life-long advocacy on behalf of low-income and marginalized people and for collaborating with business and professional leaders to promote change in the city, Dr. Rick Tobias, President and CEO of Yonge Street Mission, will be the guest speaker for the Third Annual Aurora Prayer Breakfast on October 18th at The Mansion on Industrial Parkway South. The location is formerly known as Dinardo's.

The Aurora Prayer Breakfast is a not-for-profit event, focusing on gathering to pray for elected officials, business leaders and the residents in Aurora.

The Vision of the Aurora Prayer Breakfast is "Prayer as the Foundation of a Peaceful and Secure Community"

The event begins at 7 a.m. and concludes at 9 a.m. The \$25 per person admittance includes a hot breakfast.

Community leaders will be joined by members of the community at this

breakfast meeting of prayer, worship, music and testimony. Everyone is welcome.

The Aurora Prayer Breakfast previous breakfasts featuring Paul Henderson last year and Reverend Dale Lang in 2009, have sold out. The committee is anticipating another sell-out this year.

For further information, call 905-506-0566 or check the website www.auroraprayerbreakfast.ca.



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Progressive Conservative
Candidate: Frank Klees



Liberal Candidate:
Christina Bisanz

Discussion begins in the council chambers at 7.30 p.m.
Panellists, asking questions, to be announced.
Hosting the show is Alison Collins-Mrakas

"To submit a question to be asked during the debate, please send your name, question, and the name(s) of the candidate(s) to whom your question is directed to brock@auroran.com."



Tell us about your summer

By BRIAN WARBURTON

With the approach of fall and the return of seniors from their summer vacations, and golfing and everything that captures the imaginations of seniors during the good weather, welcome back!

Senior Scape needs stories, your stories, what did you do?

What turned your summer into something special, or what gave you quiet private pleasure, no matter how small or insignificant you think it may be?

We all talk a little with close friends about the wonderful places and people with whom we spent time, or the shows enjoyed, so share them through Senior Scape and give other people exciting ideas to influence their future plans.

My wife and I visited Stratford where we saw Twelfth Night at the Festival Theatre.

Shakespeare's work needs to be experienced live by an audience to allow the magic of his language full scope.

Time has not dulled this work and modern presentations allow unrivalled mastery of the English language appreciation in full.

Twelfth Night is a long-term addition to my favourite archives and now I ask again, what adventures excited you?

What new reminiscences caress heart and mind, leaving a growing nostalgia for such times that must inevitably recede into the past?

Better by far to live in the moment and create more good times, more friends, but stories have a place also, so share them with senior colleagues in this column and enjoy the fun once more.

A tray for my mail sits in the office behind the front counter.

Postponing social opportunities when they exist extinguishes hope for good times, particularly where seniors' retired life is concerned.

Procrastination in any form wastes time uselessly for everybody to some degree and the older we become, the less time remains and we should not waste it.

Yet, seniority is a wasteland for some, while presenting viable opportunity to others.

The Seniors' Centre creates opportunities for many seniors and often, new members find ways to engage their time successfully in ways they never ever imagined.

Think or dream realistically of what you would like to do with your years of retirement.

What success lies in your future? What is in the here and now? What have you dreamed of that the Seniors' Centre makes available to everyone?

For those who aspire to acting, the Silver Stars Drama Club needs four men and four women to perform in two short plays on October 26th, so opportunity knocks immediately for those with stage ambitions.

In addition, stage helpers often find this leads to parts in future performances.

For more information, contact Judy Buchanan at 905-841-2385 or e-mail her at judy202@rogers.com for more information.

Members of the woodworking shop, with practical imaginations, construct from wood everything they believe possi-

ble, carvings, furniture, cabinetry, repairs to household wooden objects, anything useful or artful and anything to which, they set their minds; all projects find expression among the woodworkers.

The woodworking shop is open to all members, men and women, experienced or not, and probably, as much retired satisfaction exists among the woodworkers, as it is possible to find anywhere.

I mentioned the Wood Shop and Entertainments, because they provide good subjects

about which, to write and they attract men and women.

Finding a new diversion can be as simple as playing mah-jong, enjoyed by many and still a mystery to others.

So please note that a sign up sheet is on the bulletin board requesting interested members to attach their names.

I counted nine names, which indicates to me a lively interest from members who have heard of mah-jong but never played it.

I played it for many hours; it is a fun game, and I recom-

mend it as well worth your time to explore this possibility.

It is lively, interesting and challenging enough to draw participants back for more.

Many activities draw seniors to retired life where they derive their daily pleasure from what they choose to do.

Some find choice difficult after a life of doing what they must, but pleasure is appealing, and once former workers accept that retirement means pleasure in all its shapes and forms, they will find they never have enough.

Seniors with positive attitudes reach for the good life in this wonderful world with the passion of those determined to derive all the fun from retirement that is humanly possible.

Tables are currently on sale for the Holiday Bazaar.

Vendors are welcome for the Bazaar slated for November 12th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Past Bazaars have been remarkably successful, so it is time to get your plans organized for another great sale, to ensure your participation.

COMING EVENTS

From page 2

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Join the Aurora Chamber of Commerce at the black tie (optional) 2011 Business Achievement Awards Dinner, which will be held at The Manor, 16750 Weston Road, Kettleby. Cocktails start at 5.30 p.m., with dinner and awards ceremony at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$125 per person plus HST. Visit the Chamber website for details and to purchase tickets.

OCTOBER 12-15

Theatre Aurora presents Michael Healey's The Drawer Boy. This thoughtful and touching Canadian drama tells the story of two boyhood friends, Morgan and Angus, who live together on a farm. Morgan is a tough-minded, stubborn man who cares for Angus, who suffered brain damage and memory loss during the bombing of London in the Second World War. Angus is initially identified as "the drawer boy" because he used to design buildings, and has the talents of an architect. A visitor threatens to unravel their memories. Produced by Kay Valentine and directed by Andrea Emmerton. October 12, 13, 14, 15, with evening performances at 8 p.m. Theatre Aurora is located at 150 Henderson Drive, Aurora. Purchase tickets on-line through the web-site www.theatreaurora.com, or you may contact the box office by email at taboxoffice@bellnet.ca or by telephone at 905-727-3669.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

The annual Aurora Prayer Breakfast will be held this morning from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. sharp. Guest speaker is Dr. Rick Tobias who will speak on "Breaking the cycle of multi-generational poverty, with a particular focus on youth-at-risk". Dr. Tobias brings his passion and strategies for community-wide change to Aurora. Best known for his life-long advocacy on behalf of low-income and marginalized people and for collaborating with business and professional leaders to promote change in the city, the President and CEO of Yonge Street Mission, will be the speaker. The event will be held at The Mansion, formerly Dinardo's, 400 Industrial Parkway South, and the \$25 admission includes a hot breakfast. For tickets contact www.auroraprayerbreakfast.ca or call 905-506-0566.

Celebrate Ontario Public Library Week, October 17-21. Meet award-winning author Camilla Gibb who will read from and discuss The Beauty of Humanity Movement. this evening at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Admission is free with ticket. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

OCTOBER 21 AND 22

The Aurora United Church presents its fall Rummage Sale today and tomorrow. Judging by the success of the spring sale there is still a need for people to acquire gently used items. All proceeds go back into the local community including the Welcoming Arms project. Friday, the event runs from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the individual sale and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon for the Bag Sale. Items include clothes, books, toys and linen. For further information, call 905-727-1935.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

Join Aurora resident Lisa Turner for this 2-part adult craft workshop. Fee includes all supplies. Workshop happens at 7 p.m. and costs \$10 per person. Seating is limited. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493 option 4.

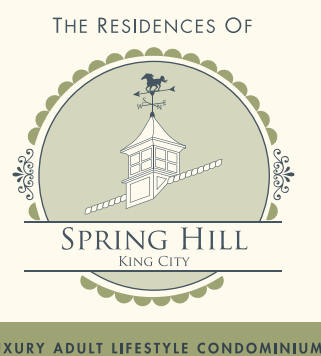
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Join Aurora resident Lisa Turner for this 2-part adult craft workshop. Fee includes all supplies. Workshop happens at 7 p.m. and costs \$10 per person. Seating is limited. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493 option 4.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Aurora's Pine Tree Potters' Guild announces that it will be hosting its second annual Empty Bowls fund-raising event. Tickets, at \$45, go on sale September 6 and are available from the Aurora Cultural Centre, Vic's Shoe Repair and Meridian Credit Union.

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How Big Is Ontario's Debt ?

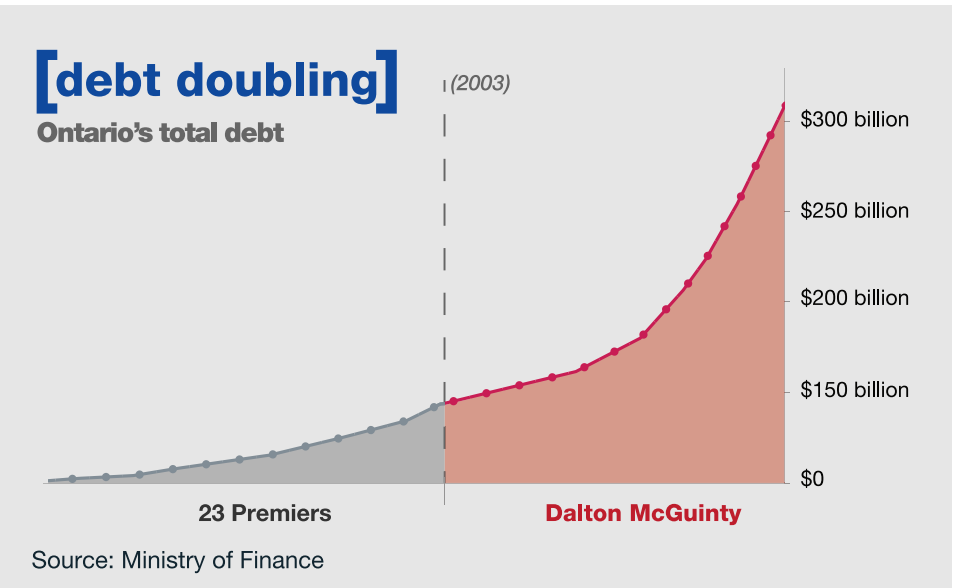
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- Bring public sector pay cheques in line with private sector standards.
- Public sector compensation must reflect the ability of families to pay the bills.
- End Dalton McGuinty's practice of striking secret wage deals. It's wrong.



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