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E THE AURISON KA

Aurora's Community Newspaper

theauroran.com FREE Week of August 7, 2013 Vol. 13 No. 39 905-727-3300

Jean-Paul Reymont brought a touch of Broadway to Town Park Saturday in a lively performance as part of the annual "Seniors' Day" at the Aurora Farmers' Market. Jean-Paul, winner of this year's Senior Stars competition this spring at the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, was joined by local senior singers, dancers, artists **Auroran photo by David Falconer** and artisans.

# **LOCAL TALENT JAZZES UP NEWMARKET**



Aurora singer Stacey Kaniuk was just one of a full roster of local talent taking part in the inaugural Newmarket jazz+ Festival last weekend. Formerly held at Aurora's Town Park, this year's festival was headlined by singer-songwriter Justin Hines.

**Auroran photo by David Falconer** 

# Klees welcomes leadership vote after by-elections

By Brock Weir

With five provincial ridings up for grabs last Thursday night, Ontario's Progressive Conservatives are wondering just what went wrong.

Garnering only one of the ridings - with Toronto Councillor Doug Holyday carrying the Etobicoke Lakeshore riding - with two apiece going to the governing Liberals and the NDP, some PCs - including Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees – say a leadership review of Tim Hudak will be a positive step in the right direction.

Despite efforts leading up to last week's by-elections, party message was lost in the shuffle, says Mr. Klees. It is a common refrain, and one which was heard in the 2011 provincial election, but Mr. Klees says it is going to "take some time" to get all the analysis in place on what exactly went wrong.

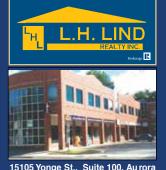
A few things at this point, however, are clear. The Progressive Conservatives, he says, were not able to differentiate themselves as a "clear alternative" to the Liberal government, something which is "disappointing."

"We have no one to blame but ourselves which is why, over the next couple of weeks, we have a responsibility to get that feedback from not only our party members but also the general public," says Mr. Klees, noting a caucus meeting scheduled for the end of the month.

There, MPPs will be providing feedback from themselves and their constituents to Mr. Hudak, and then the next step will be up to him.

 $\hbox{``I will provide that information to the leader and it will be up to him to determine}\\$ 

Continued on page 7



#### 15105 Yonge St., Suite 100, Aurora (2½ blocks south of Wellington on the east side) \*Some conditions may apply based on IMS Statistics, Aurora Office

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# **Weekly Notice Board**

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# **COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Thursday, August 8 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 13 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 15 7 p.m. Sesquicentennial Ad Hoc Committee Thursday, August 22 7 p.m. **Economic Development Advisory Committee** 

Meetings are open to the public and held at Aurora Town Hall. Council meetings can be seen on Rogers TV, channel 10. For a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit www.aurora.ca/calendar

# **AURORA 150 FACT:**



Image courtesy of Aurora Historical Society

#### Bank of Montreal

This building opened in 1922 and was demolished in 1973. Originally, the old Doan store used to be where the bank is today.

# **CELEBRATE AURORA 150**

#### Sign the Town's Memory Book

Share your stories and memories of Aurora by signing the Town's memory book at the following locations:

- Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge Street
- Aurora Seniors' Centre, 90 John West Way

The books will be placed in a time capsule at the end of the Aurora 150th birthday celebrations. Thank you!

# **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### **Notice of Commencement: Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan**

The Town of Aurora has initiated the development of a Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan (CSWM-MP) in accordance with the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) Guidelines for the Development and Implementation of Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plans in the Lake Simcoe Watershed and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process.

As of June 2, 2009 the policies of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan came into legal effect as provided by the Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008, S.O. 2008, c. 23, as amended. Policy 4.5 of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan states that "within 5 years of the date the Plan comes into effect, municipalities, in collaboration with the LSRCA will prepare and implement comprehensive stormwater management master plans for each settlement area in the Lake Simcoe Watershed". The Town of Aurora is a settlement area within the Lake Simcoe Watershed and therefore needs to prepare a comprehensive stormwater management plan that can be implemented before June 2, 2014.

The Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan study will be prepared following a Master Planning approach under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process. The long range planning approach that is undertaken within the process will enable The Town of Aurora to identify opportunities and be proactive in addressing stormwater management issues.

The Town retained the services of Aquafor Beech Limited to complete the study.

Public input and comment are invited for incorporation into the planning of this project and will be received until December 2013. Subject to comments received and the receipt of necessary approvals, The Town of Aurora intends to proceed with the finalization of this project in January 2014.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Glen McArthur, Municipal Engineer, Town of Aurora at 905-727-3123 ext. 4322 or gmcarthur@aurora.ca

#### **Skateboard Park Public Meeting**

Committee of Adjustment

Are you between the ages of 12 and 17? The Town of Aurora would like to hear from you! Join us on Thursday, August 15 at 3 p.m. at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex (AFLC), located at 135 Industrial Parkway North. This public meeting is an opportunity to voice your opinion about the new skateboard park. For more information please contact Kim Teixeira, Administrative Assistant to the Manager of Recreation, Town of Aurora at 905-727-3123 ext. 4329 or kteixeira@aurora.ca

#### **Notice of Service Disruption**

Residents are advised of a scheduled service disruption at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex (AFLC) and Aurora Sports Dome, located at 135 Industrial Parkway North, as the Town repaves the parking lots. Paving will be phased-in to help accommodate resident parking demand.

The disruption includes:

 No parking along the side and rear parking areas of the AFLC from Thursday, August 1 to Friday, August 9

Thank you for your patience as these improvements are undertaken.

#### **Emerald Ash Borer Update**

The Town has contracted with Green Lawn Limited to provide treatment services to combat the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer



(EAB), an invasive insect that kills healthy ash trees. The contract will provide for the preventative application of TreeAzin, a pesticide approved in Canada that has

shown to protect ash trees from the EAB. Approximately 2,000 publicly-owned trees along boulevards and rightsof-way have been identified in the Town's street tree inventory as potential candidates for treatment. Trees meeting the treatment criteria will be marked by Town staff with a small but highly-visible painted dot.

Also, through the terms of the contract, residents who wish to protect ash trees on their property will have the option to contract with Green Lawn for the same price as the Town. Property owners wishing to have their own trees treated using the Town's contractor can contact the Parks & Recreation department at 905-727-3123 ext. 3223 or email stienkamp@aurora.ca

#### e-PLAY is now free!

As of July 16, the Town's e-PLAY online registration system became free of charge, with no user fees. As part of this change, the Town retired the telephone-based system, Tele-PLAY, on July 19.

For your convenience, program registration remains available by mail, fax or in-person at our recreation centres. For more information, please visit www.aurora.ca/e-PLAY or call 905-726-4770.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Vote for the Aurora Stingers to become BMO Team of the Week!

your help! From



August 5 to August 19 visit www.bmosoccer.com and vote daily for the U9 Girls Aurora Stingers soccer team who are striving to become the BMO Team of the Week 2013 National Champions. If selected, the Aurora community will receive \$125,000 towards refurbishing one of our local fields.

#### 2014 Skylight Gallery Draw

Located on the third floor of Aurora's Town Hall, the Skylight Gallery is an open space with a dramatic skylight dedicated to featuring exhibitions by local artists. Backboards and tracklighting are set up to display artwork in a striking setting and access to this ever-changing art gallery is free to the public.



Each month, the work of a different

artist is featured. The draw for those who will exhibit in 2014 will be held this year on Wednesday, September 4. Application forms are available at www.aurora.ca

The 12 artists chosen will represent one month during the year. Artists within York Region and beyond are invited to enter the draw. The featured artist also has the opportunity to host a reception in the Skylight Gallery during his/her chosen month.

For more information, please contact Laura Malone, Special Events Co-ordinator, Town of Aurora at 905-727-3123 ext. 3132 or Imalone@aurora.ca

#### **Skylight Gallery Artist of the Month**

During the month of August, the Skylight Gallery will be featuring the artwork of Oscar Juarez and his "Seeing Through the Lens" exhibit. Juarez, a proud father of two young children, loves to capture people, nature and animals through his passion of photography. His artistic portfolio also includes various mediums such as oils, pastels and sketches. Regular viewing hours are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### The Aurora Avengers Defend their Title

Once again, the staff of The Town of Aurora are gearing up to participate in the 10th Annual Dragon Boat Festival in support of United Way York Region. Come cheer the Aurora Avengers to victory on Saturday, August 17 at Seneca College, King Campus located at 13990 Dufferin Street in King City.



Special thanks to Rice Group, Hawkins Contracting and Pool Craft for sponsoring the Town's Dragon Boat team.

#### Concerts in the Park

Bring your family, friends and chairs or blankets to Aurora Town Park (Wells Street and Mosley Street) and enjoy the 2013 Concerts in the Park series!

The concert season continues with the Neu Jenarashun performance on Wednesday, August 7. Celebrate Caribana right here in Aurora and hear the irresistible rhythms of this hot soca group.

On Wednesday, August 14, Chuck Jackson and the All Stars brings blues and early rock and roll to Aurora Town Park. Chuck is an award-winning singer and one of Canada's most revered blues vocalists.

Both concerts run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and are free of charge. We kindly ask spectators to bring a donation to the local food pantry. For more information, please visit www.aurora.ca or call 905-726-4762.

#### **Summer Youth Drop-In Programs**

Monday to Friday from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. until August 16

Youth ages 12 to 16 are invited to Aurora Senior Public School located at 125 Wellington Street West for exciting drop-in activities including basketball, badminton, arts and crafts, volleyball and movies. Cost is \$3 per activity

For more information, visit www.aurora.ca/youthprograms or call 905-841-PLAY.

# REMINDERS

#### **Debris on Roads**

Homeowners constructing pools or undertaking other building projects are reminded to keep roads, sidewalks and rights-of-way (the Town-owned section of property bordering the road) free of construction debris. Keeping these areas free from bricks, timber, soil and other materials is essential to pedestrian and traffic safety. Construction permits do not allow storage of these materials anywhere except your property.

#### **Outdoor Water Use Bylaw**

The Town of Aurora enforces a municipal bylaw related to outdoor water use. It is important that all residents and businesses observe the regulations, as they have been put into place to ensure a continued abundant water supply. Even/Odd watering restrictions are in effect.

For more information on these and other Town bylaws, please call 905-727-3123 ext. 4240 or visit www.aurora.ca/bylawservices



Jamie Attridge is the fifth generation of his family to own and operate Aurora Custom Mouldings, a local company whose work can be seen locally – and in prestige properties in Toronto and beyond.

# **Growing Together: Aurora Custom Mouldings**

By Brock Weir

The Auroran continues its series on Aurora's longest-serving businesses this week with Aurora Custom Mouldings.

A simple "You're Fired!" spat out by real estate impresario Donald Trump is enough to send a shiver down the spines of the best of us.

But Aurora Custom Mouldings, a business founded by the Attridge Family in Aurora over 90 years ago, is made of sterner stuff. Since they shifted gears in the 1980s from more of a general hardware store to a company focused specifically on custom mouldings, they have stayed true to their hometown roots while chasing those high-end prestigious projects.

A recent pinnacle for them is providing all mouldings for Toronto's Trump Tower.

"It is a lot of work to infiltrate any of those organizations to get the work," says Jamie Attridge, 31, the fifth generation operator Aurora Custom Mouldings. "It's a lot of leg work, and it's a lot of phone calls, a lot of trips and a lot of travelling. It is just an awesome feeling to get a job like that and you can't explain how happy you are when you get them.

It's not likely you would be able to tell from a change of expression on his face, but it seems "The Donald" was pleased as well as Mr. Attridge says "not one stick of material" was returned to them with a complaint during the project.

"We strive for quality," he says. "When we say we can do those jobs and ship them and do everything on time; that is our thing. We strive to make sure those jobs are perfect, 100 per cent. When you can complete a project like that, it is just an awesome feeling."

This "awesome feeling" extends as well to the completion of Toronto's Ritz Carlton, as well as closer to home. Their work can be seen extensively, for instance, within the Magna Headquarters just off Wellington Street East, as well as the Rockport Condominium developments currently underway on John West Way, historical buildings such as Victoria Hall and the Aurora Cultural Centre, and private homes the length and breadth of Aurora.

Since the business was founded in 1921, its evolution has been nonstop and has grown along with the community itself.

"There are big shoes to fill," says Mr. Attridge of being the fifth generation. "It is definitely hard to make sure everything is going in the right direction and keep the shop going. That is the big struggle throughout all these generations. It's a lot of weight on your shoulders."

His shoulders started to carry a bit of the burden at a very young age, however. Mr. Attridge recalls working in the shop over the summer from the time he was eight years old, getting a kick out of feeding the wood chipper at first before duties were piled on over the years.

Since that time, he has witnessed the business significantly streamlined towards focusing specifically on architectural wood mouldings away from a full-service hardware

store in the showroom with rows of nails and tools not unlike Home Hardware or Aurora Downtown Hardware.

"I think there was just too much competition on the market," he says. We chase strictly custom like historical replication of mouldings and the restoration of old stuff, buildings, and new sky-rises. We have focused on the bigger projects rather than wearing out our equipment making stuff, for instance, for Home Depot. We have chased more prestigious projects in that regard and we have been successful at it."

Their business model is not the only thing that has evolved. While Attridge prides himself that they still often use the tools of his grandfather and greatgrandfather because they remain top of the line in getting the job done, they are becoming increasingly automated for precision projects.

Case in point: one computerized machine is busy working away

on carving out highly detailed fish on a piece of pine. The fish is not destined for a sconce or a piece of moulding, but really showing off just what the machine can do.

**Auroran photo by Brock Weir** 

"[Through modernizing] and the optimizing of our material, our waste is so minimal now. We send absolutely nothing to landfill. We're certified by the Ecology Centre Canada. We're 100 per cent green and we're also FSC certified for all of our materials and I think we're one of two mill workshops that are to that standard. With the technology we have been able to maximize every piece of the wood fibre that we bring in to make sure we have a 100 per cent clean product.

"I think we have changed directions to follow the times and that is really what it is. When markets change and things change, you really have to think on your feet and change directions to follow the right market, or you will be left holding the bag."

#### Briefly

#### **GET OUT THE VOTE!**

Voting is now open for the ultimate prize in BMO's Team of the Week. Aurora's U9 Stinger Girls are in the running against 14 other teams from across the country. Our local girls won the "Team of the Week" honour in Week 11, just before Canada Day. If your votes translate to the ultimate prize, not only will the Girls get their glory and a trip to a Toronto FC game, but the community will also benefit with \$5,000 going to the local charity of choice and \$125,000 for the refurbishment of a community soccer field. To support the Stinger girls visit www.bmosoccer.com

# SPEND MORE THAN "TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE"

The curtain rises on Theatre Aurora's latest production, "Tuesdays with Morrie", next Wednesday, August 14, at the Factory Theatre on Henderson Drive. Based on the autobiographical story by Mitch Albom, "Morrie" tells the story of Mitch, who has "a last class in the meaning of life" re-connecting Morrie, his former college professor battling ALS. The show runs on select dates through August 14. For more information, visit www.theatreaurora.com.

"Swimming Team
Financially Supports
Athletes To Attend
High Performance Meets"

# RICHMOND HILL AQUATIC CLUB

The Richmond Hill Aquatic Club (RHAC), a local swim team, has been developing athletes for the past forty- three years. Recently, RHAC has started to produce very successful athletes on both the national and international scale.

To show support for their athletes, RHAC, in conjunction with a Richmond Hill resident, Bruce Palmer, has created a high performance fund for the athletes in the Club. Swimmers who attend big swim meets have the opportunity of having their expenses, and even their travel paid for by the Club. Many swimmers have already saved thousands of dollars and been able to attend more meets thanks to this fund, and more will benefit in years to come. Sponsorship on this scale is incredibly rare in amateur sports.

When asked why the outpouring of support for athletes, Head Coach Konstantin Danailov indicated that RHAC will always support high performance swimming and will try to develop athletes to the highest caliber to which they want to perform. "The high performance fund is just to help alleviate the financial burden that swimming fast usually brings. Money should not be the reason athletes achieve their swimming dreams".

To learn more about the **Richmond Hill Aquatic Club**, their successes, or the fund, please visit their website at www.rhac.ca. "







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## Letters to the editor

# Aurorans deserve good government

Re: Brock's Banter - The Money Pit (July 24, 2013)

Your article hit the nail on the head, if I may add to

The issue of cost escalation has become a matter of trusting our local government to conduct due diligence and to be open with citizens. Surely the present state of the AFLC should have been assessed and duly presented to Council before any financial approval was given. Throughout we have been subjected to creeping variable increases.

When the subject first came to Council, I believed that the Recreation Department survey was not well done. It didn't sound as though the survey was randomized. It would be interesting to see how the questions were presented. For some time I have been skeptical when hearing a Rec Department presentation that expands its activities; sometimes called empire building.

I don't have the answer to the following question but it should have been debated at Council, "What is appropriate for a local government to provide for youth development, and occupation of leisure time?"

Before proceeding with more funding, I suggested that there should be an inventory of all facilities and services in Aurora of which youth may take advantage, for example schools, churches, Cultural Centre, privately operated sports and arts businesses, as well any town facilities, including the Seniors' Centre.

Then a youth centre could be designed to fill any gaps. This should have been accompanied by a determination of the rate of youth participation in existing programs.

Early in the discussions I sent these comments to Councillor Pirri, "I find your quoted comments in The Auroran on this subject (youth centre) very disturbing in that you seem to deem that your responsibility to support staff, overrides your responsibility to the citizens of Aurora, (i.e. to ensure that our taxes are used wisely).

Staff deserves to be challenged to ensure their conclusions are not biased. I would appreciate seeing a clear vision of the need for this youth centre before our funds are expended on any consultants."

There also appeared to be reluctance by the recreation director to provide a business plan. Again, judging by his quote in The Auroran, he seemed to say he couldn't develop a plan until a facility was chosen.

Surely his responsibilities include being able to envisage and to develop complex proposals without having a specific location and facility.

In the end, the agenda was pushed forward without a comprehensive vision and business plan in spite of some thoughtful Councillors pushing for them.

I am sure that this process does not meet the standard that Dr Ursula Franklin, a noted Canadian scientist and social activist, had in mind when she put forward her concept that, "Canadians deserve good government."

> **Robert Cook Aurora**

## A word of thanks from Aurora Food Pantry

Thank you to all those who have supported the Aurora Food Pantry over the past years.

We continue to need donations throughout the summer and want to thank those who drop off donations at the local grocery stores or fire hall.

We would like to also thank those who bring donations to the Concert in the Park events on

Continued on page 5

#### THE AURORAN

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**Editorial policy** 

Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran.

Letters must include name and phone number, although number will not be published, and be limited to 600 words.

Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

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# OPTIMISTIC OR DILUSIONAL?

ONCE THE DEVELOPERS OF THE CELL TOWER PROPOSED FOR MID-TOWN HEAR AURORANS CONCERNS AT THE SEPTEMBER OPEN HOUSE, THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL STILL BUILD IT!



To submit a letter to the editor, please send your email to letters@auroran.com. Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 1 p.m.

# Aurora's Bermuda Triangle

What is it about the few buildings that comprise what is known as Library Square that causes such paroxysms of indecision amongst our elected officials?

Is Library Square the new Bermuda triangle, where staff after staff after staff reports go only to disappear never to be seen again?

I say this because this past Council meeting saw this item the disposition of the buildings of library square – rear its head yet again.

On the July 16th Council agenda was the umpteenth staff report (PR13-034) about the "Future of Library Square". I think we could literally paper the walls of Town Hall completely with all the reports that have been generated as a result of the political hand wringing over what to do with those now rather forlorn buildings.

The staff report is fairly blunt about this. Stating that since round the turn of (though it seems like the last "...the century...) buildings within the Library Square have been a topic of discussion and generated 19 staff reports during this period of time." So, in the past dozen or so years, staff have prepared 19 reports about the buildings - that's more than one report a year!

For heaven's sake, unless there has been a tectonic shift in the earth beneath the buildings, how much more information is needed on the matter?

Yes, I know the report was necessitated by the public engagement exercise the Town engaged in earlier in the year. From January through May, there were a series of public information gathering exercises which sought the input of residents about what to do with the buildings- knock them down, refurbish them, build a parking lot, etc.

I applaud the Town attempting to engage the



# **POLITICS**

Alison Collins-Mrakas

population about this "issue" but given the rather sparse attendance, I think it was a rather futile endeavour.

Engagement, perhaps, but all it did was delay making a decision yet again.

I took a look at the paper trail about the matter and found a rather curious disconnect between the "what to do" then (2006) and the "what to do" now

From the June 27, 2006 Council meeting, Council voted in favour of the following, "...that NO buildings in Library Square be demolished; that staff prepare a list of issues to be resolved... and that an outside consultant be obtained to address the outstanding issues."

So, in essence, keep buildings and fix them.

From the July 16, 2013 Council meeting, the following recommendation was before Council, "THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report authorizing the capital and operating implication of the two options: 1) Demolition of 52 and 56 Victoria Street and construct a multi-use community facility, and 2) Demolition of 52 and 56 Victoria Street and construct a parking lot and urban square.'

I thought that odd. Staff is now recommending that we demolish the buildings when just a few years ago they recommended keeping them? Looking back a bit further, it was the Council of the day that wanted to keep the buildings. The original recommendation from staff was "...that some or all of the buildings on the Library Square property be demolished to increase parking for the library and Church Street School."

Within that same report, Council was informed that it would cost about \$100,000 to demolish both buildings and approximately \$480,000 to refurbish them. One can only imagine that those costs have risen exponentially.

We have had myriad reports, numerous scenarios, and a handful of consultants that all speak to the issue of the buildings in the Library Square and still no decision has been made about what to do with them.

When asked for my opinion about the issue (as a Councillor when our Council was dealing – or should I say NOT dealing – with this issue), I supported the idea of demolishing at least one building and in its stead creating a kind of Town Square or piazza framed by the old and the new the glorious Church Street School and the modern Library.

That didn't go anywhere.

A decision needs to be made. No more dithering about. The Library Square is an important resource for our town - both physically and financially. It's at the heart of our downtown core and thus should be a vibrant, energetic place not an idle spot of disrepair.

Council moved to defer the matter-surprise!—until August 13th Council meeting. So, folks, this is your town. That is your square. You have one final opportunity to let them know what you think should be done with the Library Square. I know I will!

Until next week, stay informed, stay involved because this is, after all, Our Town.

Editor's Note: Brock's Banter will return to its regular spot next week in the August 14 edition of The Auroran. Thanks, Alison! -B.W.

# NEW AURORAN POLL

Do you support building a Youth Centre at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex along with the increased price tag?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Undecided

Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!

RESULTS

August 6, 2013

B

B

C

1 %



On your mark! These runners, getting ready to take off at Town Park beside the Aurora Armoury, looked like they meant serious business. Will some of these gentlemen's sports exploits figure into the first Aurora **Sport Hall of Fame this fall?** We'll know in November! In last week's photo, the kids playing ball were identified by historian Jacqueline Stuart as playing in the yard of the former Church Street School, now occupied by the old Public Library build-

> Image courtesy of the Aurora Historical Society via Sport Aurora

## **Truth Telling To Power**

Former U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neil made it a habit to speak truth to power and ultimately was fired by the Administration because he was not seen as a "team player."

Indeed, the moral challenge O'Neil faced almost daily during his tenure in Washington was to weigh the balance between two competing goods: the frequently opposed organizational virtues of loyalty and truth telling. The character trait needed to appropriately adjust that balance has been described as integrity.

After 39 years as a member of the organizational

Ontario PC Party, a candidate in seven provincial elections, elected in the last 5, resulting in 18 years as a member of the PC Caucus, I think I have a fairly good sense of the political landscape.

Over the years, I have often felt the tension between those so-called organizational



## FRANKLY SPEAKING

Frank Klees
MPP NEWMARKET-AURORA

virtues of loyalty and truth telling and have wondered why there should ever be a tension at all. Shouldn't everyone want to know the truth and be willing to tell it?

the But term "shooting the messenger" comes from the fourthcentury B.C. play Antigone by Sophocles, in which the perils of speaking truth to power is the

major theme.

Nothing has changed over the centuries. It is difficult for any organization - political or otherwise – to deliver the hard news to their leadership. Those who risk doing so, will inevitably be labeled as disloyal and will suffer the consequences.

# The conditions for PC gains could never get better

Winning only one of five byelections this past week left many PC party members disillusioned and wondering what it will take to throw the scandal-ridden Liberals out of office.

Criminal investigations are underway in the wake of the Ornge Air Ambulance and Gas Plant scandals, the public knows that millions of their tax dollars were wasted through mismanagement, incompetence and partisan self-interest.

Both the former and current Liberal Premier have admitted that they repeatedly put the Liberal Party's interests ahead of the public interest and under their watch, Ontario has become a have-not province with the highest unemployment rates in the country. The interest payments on the provincial debt are higher than the entire budget of some provinces with promises of even higher taxes

and more debt.

Against this backdrop, the conditions for PC electoral gains could never get better. So, not surprisingly, the question on the minds of many Party members is this: Why were we not able to break through in more than one out of five ridings?

# What will it take to win a Majority PC Government?

Here are some facts about the recent by elections:

For the first time since 1995, the PCs took a seat in the Liberal stronghold of Toronto. We are proud of that and welcome Doug Holyday to our Caucus.

The Liberals lost three of five ridings previously held by senior cabinet ministers.

The PC share of the popular vote increased in four of five ridings.

We had more votes in Toronto than any other party, and across Ontario more people voted for the Ontario PCs than any other party

I want to hear from you. Tell me the top two things the PC Party must do to regain the confidence of Ontario voters to form the next government. For these submissions to be credible, please include your name and contact information.

I will compile your responses and share them with my Caucus colleagues and Tim Hudak at our next Caucus meeting. I assure that your voice will be heard. I also ask that you register your vote on my website's Weekly Poll. This week's question is:

If the PCs want to win a majority gov't they must (a) present a clear alternative to the present Liberal government; (b) Be more specific about their policy; (c) communicate more effectively.

#### www.frankklees.com

# Good News / Bad News

Once again the well-intentioned folks at the Town have presented me with one of those good news/bad news scenarios.

As you may be aware, a non-native insect called the Emerald Ash Borer is thriving on the local smorgasbord of ash trees, and is rapidly cutting a swath of

devastation across the province. In the not too distant future, the growing multitude of borers is expected to kill off most of the ash trees in southern Ontario.

Soon, we could be left with just a few stately survivors, like the local elms that managed to avoid succumbing to Dutch Elm disease many years ago.

Recently, the borer has weakened many of the trees in Toronto, so it's no surprise that inevitably, it now has a toe-hold, or at least some sort of articulated appendagehold, in Aurora.

Facing the potential demise of thousands of ash trees, the Town initially thought it would allocate funds over the next several years, and just replace the ones that were killed, hopefully, with a less tasty species.

Then it was discovered that the previously high cost of treatment had come down, so instead, the Town is spraying hundreds of our ash trees in an effort to save them (and the Town's budget).

As has been noted in recent weeks on the Notice Board on page 2 of The Auroran, trees to be treated are being identified with an unobtrusive painted dot.

Which brings us to the good news/bad news.

We have an ash tree on the boulevard in front of our house, which in recent weeks has sported an orange dot. So the fact that the Town is spraying it is good

The bad news is that our ash was





obviously the runt of whatever tree nursery it grew up in, and over the years has demonstrated a number of less endearing personality quirks.

These include being the last to come out in leaf in the spring, and the first to drop its leaves in the fall. And sometimes during the year, just to be different, it has been known to jettison them

all for no apparent reason.

Of course, it isn't a particularly straight tree, having a kind of vertically zigzag shape, despite the efforts of the Town's arborists, who trim boulevard trees every few years.

It also has an unusual branching habit. Many of its limbs grow downwards, as if it was more interested in the sunlight reflecting off of the grass than was available from the sun itself. Or maybe it thinks it's a banyan tree.

It got to the point that several years ago, we planted a maple tree on our front lawn, mainly to provide some additional shade, but I expect at least in part to hide the view of our boulevard tree.

This isn't just our opinion, and we have received comments from others. In fact, the ash's quirky nature was reinforced by the young man who came around to do the anticipated pesticides spraying last week.

His unsolicited observation; "it's not the best looking tree, is it?"

So now our tree has been treated, and should be able to fight off any borers who would like to call it home.

But saving it is a bit of a mixed

blessing.
On the one hand we will have an older

tree at the end of our driveway, and not have to wait another 20 years for a younger replacement to mature.

On the other hand, that tree will be the decidedly odd one we have now.

Feel free to e-mail Scott at: machellscorners@gmail.com

#### Letter to the editor

#### From page 4

Wednesday evenings in the summer. Most of these donations are going right on the shelves.

The pantry currently needs to buy a lot of the staple foods like, canned vegetables, fruit and pasta, so all donations are appreciated.

Thank you to all whom attended the Celebrate Aurora Music Festival at the

Town Park and brought donations for the Aurora Food Pantry and who bought 50/50 tickets to support the food bank. The lucky winners were:

Friday: Paul McIntosh, who donated his share of the \$135 pot (\$67.50) back to the Food Pantry. Thank you Paul! On Sat. despite the rain we collected \$182. The Weir family won \$91. On Sun. it was a great day. The pot was \$514

Congratulations to "Cracker" (Graham Dinwoodie) who won \$257!

Thank you to all who came out & helped sell tickets and thanks again to all who bought them! Thanks also to Habachat for all the hard work that made this event possible. It was a good weekend.

Lorna Rummenie Director – Aurora Food Pantry



stock.

trouble keeping them in

first time as a vendor

at the outdoor Market,

she is loving being there

and looking forward to

the rest of the season.

I recommend that you

visit her booth to see the

inventive and practical

recipe from Eva which

represents her Hungarian

**GULASH SOUP** 

10 1/2 oz. shank of beef

1 oz. lard

1 large onion

½ tsp. paprika

Salt to taste

½ tsp. caraway seeds

3-4 peppercorns

1 medium carrot cut in

quarters

1 medium parsnip cut in

quarters

1-2 sweet paprika peppers

left whole

1 pound potatoes peeled

potatoes into 3/4 inch

pieces. Stew the onion in

lard over low heat until

the heat, add the paprika,

salt, meat and 1 quart of

water. Add the caraway

seeds and peppercorns in

a tea ball or cheesecloth

bag for easy removal before serving. Return pot

to low heat and simmer,

adding the vegetables

after 30 minutes. When

the meat is nearly tender,

another 30 minutes, add

the potatoes. Then, when

every ingredient is tender,

immediately or reheat when required. You can

serve some dried hot

paprika on the side which

may be crumbled into the

soup to taste. Also, fresh

white crusty bread is

always served with this

soup, which is often served

in a small cauldron. Enjoy! The Farmers Market

would like to thank all

from the Aurora Seniors

performed for us all last

Saturday on Seniors' Day at

the Market. Special thanks

to Charles Sequeira, our President, to Judy

Buchanan who leads the

Silver Stars performers,

to Joy Gannicott who

accompanied one of the

singers and to Richard

Heinzle, the Director

of the Evergreen Choir,

who played the piano to entertain us in the

thank you to all the

talented performers and

line dancers who were wonderful. Thank you

also to the young band,

One Percent, who played

for the remainder of the

See you at the Market!

Of course, a huge

seniors

who

talented

Association

morning.

market day.

You can serve the soup

the dish is done.

Remove the pot from

golden but not brown.

Cut the meat and

Here is a delicious

designs she creates.

heritage.

Although this is Eva's

It's now August at the sells so well that she has Market and Farmers' there's not very much that the farmers don't have vet on their tables. There are leafy greens of every variety: cucumbers, onions, beets, zucchini, eggplant. beans both green and yellow, peas and edible pods, carrots in a range of colours, broccoli, cauliflower. several varieties of mushrooms, peppers of many types and lots of corn.

Come to the Market to see for yourself all the wonderful local produce that our farmers bring to us each week.

When it comes to fruit, there is a huge variety available now at the Market. We still have lots of late and ever-bearing strawberries, raspberries in several colours, each type with a unique flavour. blackberries, red and black blueberries, currents. apricots, plums. peaches are now ready.

It is a season of plenty at the Market so be sure to visit us to have your choice of the freshest local produce. If you want a large quantity for preserving or baking, it would be best to come early in the day or to place an order with your favourite farmer to ensure that your choice will be available.

The next vendor I'd like you to meet is new to the outdoor Market this year and shares a booth with Nancy Wood of Heartsease Co. Eva Nagy of Design by Eva has been living in Aurora for nine years, having moved here after her husband died.

She has always been a busy person and still is.

She became involved in sewing for a few reasons. She had always loved to sew and finds it very relaxing, just as she does spending time with her variety of exotic birds. Another reason was because of necessity. She needed something to carry ner jazzercise exercise mat in as well as a few other items. So, she took some fabric that she had on hand, designed a pattern and made herself a bag.

When her classmates saw it, she made some more for them to purchase. The possibilities were endless when it came to the choice of fabric textures and colours, it developed into an art project.

Realising that her bags were popular, she decided to start a small business doing what she loved to do. In addition to the mat bags, she created totes, shoe bags and bottle bags. She also designed and made some portfolio bags for artists to carry their artwork to shows and exhibitions.

One of her most popular items is her adorable small jewellery pouch, which

# **Doors Open Aurora 2013: Become a tourist** in your own back yard!

By Vanessa Hicks Manager, Heritage **Planning Town of Aurora** 

The 8th annual Doors Open Aurora event will held on Saturday, August 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This is your chance to become a tourist in your own backyard.

Participation is free and no tickets or reservations are required! Come out and join thousands visitors exploring Aurora's hidden treasures, many of which are not normally open Doors Open reno to the public. This year, Doors Open Aurora

features 17 participating sites.

Don't miss Trinity Aurora Church located at 79 Victoria Street on Doors Open day. This magnificent Gothic Revival building was constructed in 1884 to replace a previously built church.

building The was completed in 1846 by James Bosanko and the steeple by Thomas Harris. The church displays elaborately detailed dormers, stained glass windows and stenciled ceilings and walls. A new sanctuary was completed in 2001.

Also participating this year, another Gothic Revival church, Aurora United, which was built by Henry Langley in 1878. The first church on this site was a log structure built in 1818.

Originally Methodist, the congregation became part of the United Church in 1925. The building lost one of its original spires in the great storm of

1893, and both spires were removed in having 1943 been struck lightning by several times. The sanctuary was renovated in

The Rising Sun Masonic Lodge was

originally the King Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It was purchased by the Masons in 1885, and remains in use by the Masons today.

Aurora

The building features a fantastic interior which will be readied for Doors Open visitors as it would for a formal Masons meeting.

Many more sites are also featured this year, including Horton Benjamin Place, the Stephenson House, the Aurora Armoury, the Absalom Blaker House, Merlin's Hollow, Wells Street Schoolhouse Lofts and more!

Don't forget to join David Heard on his historic walking tour "Vision to Virtue Aurora: The Little Town that Did". This tour departs from the *Doors Open* Aurora headquarters in Town Park at 10 a.m.

For additionalinformation about Doors Open Aurora and to print a copy of the Doors Open

Aurora 2013 Map Guide, please visit www.aurora. ca/doorsopen2013

Guides also be available at the DoorsOpen Aurora headquarters boothat Town Park, located at Mosley Street and Wells Street and other **Doors** Open Aurora participating sites on the day of the event.

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A letter to Aurora from Frank

A&F **Hair Elite** on his

Anniversary

Born and Raised in Italy in 1940, came to Canada in June 1963 with wife Rita who was 7 months pregnant.

Lived in Toronto and began working as a Barber at Spadina and College (Donato's Barber Shop). Then left, and came to Aurora and worked for Tony & Bruno Barber Shop located in the Aurora Shopping Centre.

In 1969, unfortunately Tony passed away and I purchased the business. At this time, there were 3 people working - myself, Alfred and Ross. Alfred and I became partners and our barber shop started to grow.

Along the way we met wonderful people and have been working on 3 to 4 generations of families.

I now employ 5 barbers and 5 hairdressers who have been with me for many years. I have had a wonderful experience here in Aurora and have had the pleasure of meeting all walks of life.

To this, I owe my gratitude and appreciation to the Town of Aurora.

I would like to thank all past, present and future customers of A&F Hair Elite. My sincere thanks for all the great memories.

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# Klees remains loyal to Hudak as leader ahead of caucus meeting

#### From page 1

what he does, not only with the information I give him and the advice that I provide, but also the advice that will no doubt be coming from my other caucus colleagues," he says.

"In any organization, whether it is a political party, a business, or a non-governmental organization, at the end of the day the buck always stops with the leader, with the head of the organization. There is no question that those are concerns and the leader is hearing that."

It is unlikely there is a Progressive Conservative in all of Ontario who does not share similar concerns about just what went wrong last week, he adds, particularly making stronger inroads into the ridings that were up for grabs. Information collected over the next few weeks

Underpass plan falls short of the

mark, says trails advocate

will be "cumulative," and Mr. Hudak has a "responsibility" to listen carefully "and understand this is not about any individual" but rather what is best for the province.

"I think we have to take this a step at a time," says Mr. Klees on a potential leadership review. "I believe at the end of the day...there is an option for [Mr. Hudak] to voluntarily the provincial executive to schedule a vote of confidence at the upcoming convention. I believe that would be a very positive step because it gives the leader the opportunity to put to rest any negatives if, in fact, he comes out of it with a solid confidence

"He can then get on with organizing towards the next election. At the end of the day, that is what the leader needs. undercurrents leading up to the election. He needs the full support and confidence of the party and the party membership to go into that next election. In the end, it is going to be his decision what he does with the advice that he gets. I am one person who has a responsibility to provide the best advice I can give."

Mr. Klees was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 1995. Since that time, he has served cabinet minister under a number of different portfolios. In 2004, after Premier Ernie Eves stepped down, he faced off against John Tory and Jim Flaherty for party leadership, a race ultimately won by John Tory. He took a second kick at the can in 2009, ultimately coming in second place to Tim Hudak.

As long as there is a party leader, Mr. Klees refuses to discuss "what may or could be" and he has, as a member of the caucus, the responsibility to maintain loyalty to Mr. Hudak.

"That does not, in any way, absolve me from my responsibility of giving my best advice," he says. "Tim Hudak has, and will continue to get, my best advice and that advice is never compromised. He will always hear the truth from me. Until such

time as the leader makes the announcement he is stepping aside, my commitment is to the leader of our party."

Looking ahead, Mr. Klees says the Progressive Conservatives "have to be very clear" about decision-making as a government. Accountability and transparency is what Ontarians want "more than any other promises", he adds.

"As a former minister, I believe I bring some credibility on those issues. I also believe very strongly that there has to be a balance between the fiscal and the social issues that our province faces. You cannot talk about fiscal strictly responsibility. You also have to be willing to discuss the challenges that we have on the social side and both have to be

seen as a priority for our party."

In the meantime, with two new caucus members, Mr. Klees says he believes a key to their success will always address the needs of their constituents and everything else will fall into place. Top priorities should be access to healthcare and long-term care, unemployment, and particularly employment opportunities for youth.

Advertorial

# Hope for Sufferers of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and Wrist/Hand Pain

If you suffer from Carpal Tunnel Syndrome or wrist / hand pain you should be aware that an upcoming workshop in Oak Ridges will reveal eyeopening solutions to help those suffering with these conditions.

The workshop will reveal the underlying causes of most wrist and hand pain as well as share why these causes are frequently overlooked by doctors.

Attendees will discover why a failure to address these underlying causes usually results in continuing pain and suffering. These ongoing symptoms may include: pain, tingling, numbness, burning, aching, stiffness, swelling, weakness and limited movements.

The workshop will discuss the track record

of common treatments including: pills, surgery, splints and exercise and reveal exciting non drug, nonsurgical treatments that are safe and effective.

A major concern is that many patients continue to be plagued by wrist pain, despite repeated visits to their doctor.

Many patients fear the risks and invasive nature of wrist surgery. The workshop will reveal that many patients that have wrist surgery wind up frustrated that their pain only resolves partially or not at all. In many cases the pain reoccurs later after surgery.

Surprisingly, a very common but hidden cause of hand and wrist pain is not even located in the wrist! The presentation will explain why most doctors are not trained to

check for this underlying

There are other approaches, beyond the use of drugs, that have safely and effectively helped many Wrist/Hand pain sufferers feel better.

The workshop is free and is being offered as a community service. It is provided to help eliminate pain and suffering in those affected.

The workshop will take place Wed. Aug. 14, 7:30 pm – 9:pm. Seating is limited.

To make reservations call 888-837-0407.

. . . . . .

#### While Councillors could be poised to approve cofunding two pedestrian underpasses on Leslie Street next month, municipal recommendations were met with a mixed review

By Brock Weir

from ardent trails activists.

Speaking to the issue when it was floated once again at Council earlier this month, trails advocate Klaus Wehrenberg said the proposals from the Region and Town Staff fell short of the mark by not including a

third underpass just south

of St. John's Sideroad. Although they recommending going ahead with underpasses beneath Leslie Street north of St. John's Sideroad and just north of State Farm Way because a further look at what is actually needed in this area would cost less than initially thought, Mr. Wehrenberg said cost factors for not going ahead with the third option could be equally inflated.

"Their reason is the creek's culvert in that location will not have to be replaced and hence the substantial decrease in costs that apply where culverts are being replaced is not going to be realisable

and the incremental costs would be greater," said Mr. Wehrenberg. "The cost of constructing this underpass is still estimated at \$1.2 million, a cost estimate that still has not been substantiated by showing how it was calculated.

"It was the acknowledgement that the previous cost estimates for the two Leslie Street underpasses that now go ahead were vastly overstated and that led to them being recommended for construction. \$1.2 million cost estimate the Wesley Creek underpass that is now not recommended is as unreliable as the other two – it is basically the cost of a standalone project."

Constructing underpass while Leslie Street is already being reconstructed - work slated to begin in 2015 – would be more cost-effective in the long-run, he concluded. He argued including the third underpass in the tender for Leslie Street reconstruction at the Regional level will help determine what the true costs of such underpasses will be.

If they are reluctant in going forward with the

# **Avoid 6 Costly Errors When Moving to a**Larger Home and Save Thousands

Aurora - A new report has just been released which identifies the 6 most common and costly mistakes that homebuyers make when moving to a larger home.

Unlike the experience of buying a first home, when you're looking to move-up, and already own a home, there are certain factors that can complicate the situation. It's very important for you to understand these issues before you list your home for sale.

Not only is there the issue of financing to consider, but you also have to sell your present home at exactly the right time in order to avoid either the financial burden of owning two homes or, just as bad, the dilemma of having no place to live during the gap between closings.

In answer to this issue, Industry Insiders have prepared a FREE special report entitled "6 Mistakes to Avoid When Trading Up to a Larger Home."

These six strategies will help you make informed choices before you put your home on the market in anticipation of moving to a larger home.

To order a FREE Special Report, visit www.AuroraHomeBuyer.ca and go to "Special Report"

Get your free special report NOW to find out what you need to know to make your move-up to a larger home worry-free and without complication.

This report is courtesy of Andrew Fogliato - Sales Representative with RE/MAX York Group Realty Inc., Brokerage. 15004 Yonge Street, Aurora, Ontario. L4G1M6. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2013

Continued on page 16



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# Financing for big ticket items up for consideration

By Brock Weir

They are some of the capital projects biggest facing Aurora over the next two years, and the multimillion dollar Youth Joint Operations centres could be financed by loans from Aurora's Hydro reserves.

Council originally planned to finance the new projects, including the Joint Operations Centre and its \$17 million price tag largely through land sales, and relying on municipal reserves. A recommendation before Councillors next week, however, calls for a change of course, financing the projects through debt financing.

If approved, staff will be tasked to devise a program for debt financing, including intergovernmental grant and loan initiatives, and all other resources, including the Province of Ontario's Green Municipal Fund.

According to Town Treasurer Dan Elliott, Aurora's reserve accounts have become perilously low, a problem which was highlighted to Council through the 2013 Budget talks.

"Council has apprised of concerns related to sufficiency of reserve fund balances and on-hand sources of financing for major capital projects," said Mr. Elliott in his report. "Staff recently completed a report on reserve fund strategy for reserve fund related directly to the sustainability of existing infrastructure assets and for tax source funding for new and growth capital. The reserve fund strategy report contemplates some debt financing to ensure our reserves will remain healthy."

Mr. Elliott recommends continuing with financing the projects in part from the sale of municipally owned lands on Leslie Street, and from the sale of lands occupied by the current works department on Scanlon Court. His forecast also includes development charges (DC).

"Both the DC reserves and [Repair and Replacement] reserves will have difficulty accommodating this project at this time," said Mr. Elliott. "DC reserves are overdrawn while R&R reserves are low. Accordingly, a large part of the project could be financed with debt, with principle and interest payments funded from a combination of future collection of DCs, as well as cash proceeds from the sale of lands."

When all is said and done, \$21.6 million will need to be financed if Council accepts his recommendation – then the next step is figuring out whether to finance it internally or externally. If they look to outside sources finance the project, whatever is loaned would be subject to interest rates pegged at market rates, fixed payments, and other restrictions. Financing it internally through the Hydro Reserves will give the Town more freedom.

internal "Formalized financing has been done

in the past at Aurora for outstanding debt related the future-sizing of building the library construction," he said. "Internal debt allows the debt to be fully open, with interest rates fixed or variable. A formal resolution of Council would establish the terms of the internal financing.

"Internally rather than externally financing these two projects will reduce the interest cost to the corporation. Being more flexible than external debt, internal financing will allow repayment to occur as the development charges are collected, and whenever the sales of various parcels of land currently for sale transact."

The Town, he added, must be "cognizant" of the impact new debt will have on forecasted tax rates.

The future of Aurora's Hydro Funds have been at the centre of significant debate over the last year, with many ideas coming forward on how to better use the money.

was not shared vocally by

three streets are adamant

and sincere they don't

want the work done right

now and we have the

month to check with them

and make sure that is

the case throughout [the

neighbourhood], it seems

really simple to me," said

"If residents on these

others.

Suggestions have included using the money to offset tax increases, creating a new building on Victoria Street to replace the outmoded former homes of the Aurora Public Library and Aurora

Seniors' Centre, and taking about a third of the money to partially finance a proposed heritage park on Yonge Street between Aurora Heights Boulevard and Irwin Avenue.



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## Residents delay road reconstructions, want more options That viewpoint, however,

By Brock Weir

Residents of Hunters Glen Road and Fox Point should brace themselves for six weeks of road reconstruction beginning next month, but those living on adjacent streets have won a bit more time in fending off the plans.

While the reconstruction of Hunters Glen, Fox Point, Hilldale Road, Hillside Drive, and Kenlea Court have been part of Aurora's 10 year Capital Reconstruction Program slate for this year, Councillors voted to hold off on approving reconstruction of Hilldale, Hillside, and Kenlea until next week after pleas from residents.

The roads currently have gravel shoulders and ditches and plans included pulverizing the existing asphalt and resurfacing the roads and refurbishing the shoulders, while paved shoulders pulling double duty as bike lanes are part of the plans, specifically for Hunter's Glen.

Residents of Kenlea Court, however, appeared before Council last month to speak out against the plans, arguing that further public consultation should place.

"We have a concern we weren't consulted," said Diane McGregor, a Kenlea resident. "I understand that road design" and reduces

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when it is a simple resurface, the community may not be consulted. However, there are substantial changes to the design we were only made aware of recently."

Their concerns, she said, related to a guardrail. The neighbourhood, she added, is very "countrified" and putting guardrails on both sides of the road would "denigrate" area. Roads such as hers should be "urbanized" like many of the other roads in Aurora, she argued, noting neighbourhood residents would prefer grass shoulders rather than gravel.

For neighbour Templin, the roads as they are have served the community well and if the best way to avoid a guardrail is to urbanize the street, get rid of the shoulders and ditches and install storm sewers, that would be the

"If the Town can't afford to do it immediately and it has to be put off a year, we don't see the problem with that either," said Ms. Templin.

Ilmar Simanovskis, Aurora's Director Infrastructure, said shoulders were concerns his department was aware of, but replacing the gravel with grass on a permanent basis would "not allow for proper

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the life of the surrounding asphalt. Responding to their concerns over the proposed guardrail, he said that is something that could be reviewed with project designers.

"There is no guardrail there right now and we are trying to bring the road up to current standards and that is why that was included," he said. "The lighting was also reviewed due to substandard lighting similar to what we brought forward earlier this year to Hunters Glen and Fox Point, however the changes are minimal."

Councillors ultimately supported the residents' requests for more time to hear from staff about the project. Councillor Wendy Gaertner said she agreed with the residents that the guardrail would be "unattractive" and asked if any other solutions could achieve the department's objectives. Mr. Simanovskis said a review would look at whether or not that can be left out for the design but cautioned that alternatives could come at a higher cost.

Speaking against the deferral to August 13 was Councillor Evelyn Buck. who argued that the money had already been spent on the designs and it would be a waste of money to simply scrap the whole project.



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# Advocate eyes national recognition for Aurora Pet Cemetery

By Brock Weir

Aurora's historic pet cemetery, a quiet leafy area near Ridge Road in south Aurora, is likely to become a designated heritage space this fall.

The leafy site has been for many years, and to use a pun with every possible intention, a pet project for local historian David Heard. As chief promoter of the project since uncovering many familiar names on the mossy tombstones, he has, however, a loftier goal: national designation.

As The Auroran reported this spring, the land on

which it sits, where generations of Aurorans buried their beloved pets and companions from the Turn of the Century through until the end of the post-war baby boom, is slated to receive heritage designation this fall, according to Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning.

For some, including many local heritage advocates, and some members of Council, it will be the first step in ensuring the public access to what could be the nation's very first documented pet cemetery.

"The Pet Cemetery and [adjacent] home heritage are designated and listed," said Ramunno. "The owners have agreed to that designation. We have incorporated a condition and we will follow through with passing a designation bylaw for the pet cemetery and home at a future

In speaking to the future of the pet cemetery, Mr. Ramunno paid credit to Mr. Heard, the developers of a significant new property development at the south end of Town, and the Town's own Heritage Advisory Committee on agreeing to preserve the

"It's a relatively small site with plagues for some that have been buried

there and they have agreed to recognize it, install some commemorative plaques, and we will pass a bylaw not only to commemorate the cemetery and provide access to it, but also the heritage property on site.

Although details on just how the public will be able to access the relatively remote plot of land will likely be clarified as the bylaw comes closer to fruition, Mr. Heard has not shied away from presenting a vision for its future.

Speaking out on Council's plans to spend \$25,000 on a feasibility study for the proposed Hillary-McIntyre Heritage Park on Yonge Street between Irwin Avenue and Aurora Heights Drive, Mr. Heard said the pet cemetery property could also be a "destination" to and within the Town.

'Maybe there is alternately somewhere at the entrance to the community that is a beautiful oasis, that is already at the entrance to our community from Toronto, near the Chamber of Commerce, a space of great beauty and potential, with a large cache of artefacts found in the area.

'What I envision for the property is we talk about our

Although he admits that access to the property is limited, future development could ease that access.

"I believe people in Canada want to see this, not just Aurora," he said.

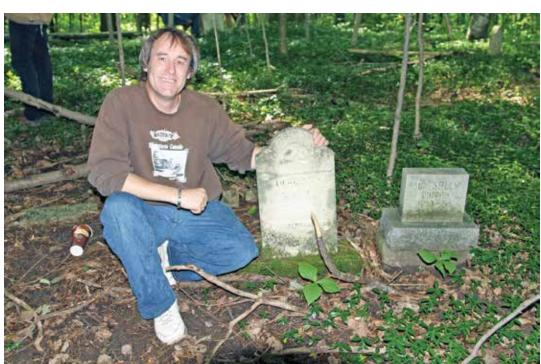
If the Town is to accept the challenge of securing national designation for the Aurora Pet Cemetery, they will have to prove, beyond a shadow of a doubt that it is indeed the first site specifically designated for fourlegged friends in the country, according to Vanessa Hicks, Heritage Planner for the Town of Aurora.

"The heritage impact assessment that was done on the property evaluated it under Ontario policies and the

problem with designating a pet cemetery as a national historic site is the kind of research that would have to be done," said Ms. Hicks.

Ms. Hicks said she brought the conundrum to a leading expert in the field of heritage designations for cemeteries and there is very little precedent in North America on how to chart a course forward. Should human remains be found on the site - and Mr. Heard said his family has reason to believe a maternal ancestor of his family who owned the property in the 19th century could be buried on site - Ms. Hicks said the course could become clearer.

problem "The designating this is that it is very unknown in Canada," she said. "I'm not saying it is impossible, but we don't really have a lot of policies for designating pet cemeteries. I would have to be on rock solid ground to defend it was a national historic site. If I had that information to prove that it was [the first in Canada], I would be willing to go through the work to do that."



Local historian David Heard is pictured amongst the leafy setting of the Aurora Pet Cemetery on Friday morning. With research pointing to it being among the first - if not the first - cemetery dedicated to four legged friends, Mr. Heard is pushing for national recognition after it receives heritage designation this fall. **Auroran photo by David Falconer** 

salvage materials at the Heritage Advisory Committee. I recently went down to Toronto's Distillery District and was absolutely amazed by what they had done with that. I can see the bricks from all of our old buildings that we are tearing down doing an incredible walkway to this pet cemetery and maybe some of our old buildings moved on the 20 acres that are now available for sale on that property, but the public input would raise the funds."

From formal designation this fall until the surrounding development is complete, full access to the site is likely to be at least a year or two away. In the meantime, residents can have a closer virtual look at the cemetery during Mr. Heard's Sprit Walk around the Hallowe'en Season. Operating out of Victoria Hall this October, ticketholders for the annual spooky walking tour will be treated to a video tour of the site, as well as local ghostly encounters.

# Aurora talent shines in Newmarket jazz+ fest







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Talent from across York Region lit up stages at Newmarket's Riverwalk Commons last weekend for the inaugural Newmarket jazz+ Festival. Festival-goers can look forward to much more music in the future. Just days before the Newmarket event kicked off, Arts Music Festivals of York Region, formerly the Aurora Festival of the Arts, received a \$57,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the next two years. "I'm pleased to see that Arts Music Festivals York Region continues to grow from strength to strength, especially in its promotion of York Region as a must-see music festival destination," said Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees in a statement.

Clockwise from Top Left: Chris Hau, Julian Troiano, Festival Organizer Sher St. Kitts with a furry friend from this month's CNE, and Stacey Kaniuk.

**Auroran photos by David Falconer** 

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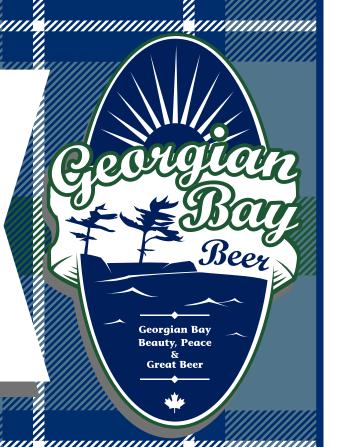
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**U12** Sabrina Imseis Roval Lepage, Pink 0 Sky 0.

**U12** Oakridge Outfitters, Scarlet 3 -H.Gagne, V. Palozzi, B. Hartwell Thayer, Gold

C. Gummersall, A.Hofmann

**U12** Magna International, Purple 0. Volkswagen Richmond Hill, Royal 3 -A.Tsatsura, D. Khodari, A. Corner.

# **Aurora Youth Soccer Club**

# **HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS:** July 25 - July 31, 2013

**U13 Lifestyles Home** Creations, Maroon 1 -G. Bennett. Home Hardware, Gold

A. McGregor 2, E. McGregor, E. Ledrew, J. Sproul.

**U13** Scotia Bank, Scarlet 0 Guaranteed Roofing, Emerald 3 -K. Topping, L. Shaw, T. Britton.

U13 Sky 3 -S. Macleod 2, C. Kiriakakis. CGI, Black 4 -M. Lamoure 4.

U14-15 Golder Associates, Lime 0 Stirling Cook, Purple 5 -C. Srouji 4, G. Roel-D'Angelo, S. Ryan.

**IJ14-15** Canadian Vascular Labs, Gold 3 -M. Shortt, Z. Webster, K. Dimatulac. Port Royal, White 3 -

E. Colin, M. Brenzel, A.

Alberton.

U14-15 Michelberger Orthodontics, Teal 1 -J. Aben. Upper Canada Mall, Emerald 1 -N. Mete.

U14-15 **Pink 1 -**N. Maugeri. StillWaters, Royal 1 Michael Tough, Scarlet 0-Upper Canada Mall, Sky 3

#### **BOYS**

**U12** Backyard Pools, Sky 5 -A. Wolanski 2, D. Berko 2, D. Henriquez. Micronex, W. Sherman 3, C. Williams 3, M. Gennaro.

ICE Photo, Sky 3 -N. Arias, R. Parente, D. Blom.

**Priestly Demolition.** Red 5 - B. Fleischaler 3, J. Hosmer, A. End.

Upper Canada Mall, Gold 2 -



Emerald 2-A. Marsland, T. Kiriakakis Upper Canada Mall, Scarlet 6

L. Fiedeldey, R. Smith. U16-18 Upper Canada Mall,

B. Wilson, M. Smith.

Black 2 -

Upper Canada Mall,



# **AYSC U14 Boys Team wins Silver Medal at Disney International Cup**

The entire U14 team of 18 players of the Aurora Youth Soccer Club travelled to Florida from July 13 -21 to compete in the Disney International Cup at the ESPN Sports Center.

A total of 200 teams in various age groups competed in this prestigious tournament which attracts teams from all over North and South America.

Finishing their round-robin group on top after winning against a tough and talented team from Honduras, the team went on to the semi-finals against a Florida team who were used to the high temperatures of up to 40 degrees Celsius!

However, with support of their 30 parents and siblings on the sidelines, AYSC advanced to the finals

In the championship game against Venezuela, the Aurora athletes finally found their match and had to concede in a 1-0 game which was open until the end. Coaches Thomas Seidel and Edgar Carmona are very proud of their team and the way the boys represented Aurora and Canada.

"The tournament experience strengthened the team's bond. It exceeded everybody's expectations and created many 'magical' memories," they said.

Participants from top left to bottom right were: Evan Lambert, Peter Sergejewich (Trainer), Barrett Scott, Jacob Mikucki, Andrew Sergejewich, Aidan Elder, Giuliano Accardi, Adam Scanlon, Amir Hodjat, Niklas Seidel, Thomas Seidel and Edgar Carmona (Coaches), Chris Koehl, Hasib Mirza, Jack Camplin, Stephen Marchewka, Ruben Campos, Edgar Carmona, Jr., Sean Kallan, Nicolas Vecchiarelli, Kyle Neshovski.



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# THE AURORAN—

# **SPORTS**



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FREE Week of August 7, 2013

# A facial injury sidelined Aurora's Kevin from part of the play in Calgary as a member of the Ontario Blues. **Auroran photo by Jeff Doner**

# Local rugby player takes on nation in Calgary

By Jeff Doner

Kevin Rush isn't sure where his rugby career is going to take him yet, but the Aurora native recently had the honour of representing his province at the U19 Canadian Rugby Championship in Calgary as part of the Ontario Blues squad.

Playing for the Laurier Golden Hawks during the school year and the Aurora Barbarians senior men's team in the summer, Rush said he was proud to make the team and that the experience he gained was beneficial.

"Unfortunately, I didn't play as much as I wanted to, but it was really good," he said "I was surrounded by the best in the country in my age group and it was just really cool to see the Canada guys. It was good seeing all the different teams and what they bring-BC has got some huge guys that can run a whole game. It was just really cool to play with Ontario."

Part of the reason why he didn't see much playing time was because of an injury in his first game of the tournament against British Columbia.

"In the first eight minutes I got an elbow against BC," he said, pointing to a gnarly scar over his eye. "I got 18 stitches from that and it took an hour and a half to stitch up."

With his team expecting to make it deep into tournament, they fought hard against the competition, but were humbled by the Prairie Wolf Pack, a team composed of players from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

"That was a game we lost, but should have won," he said. "We didn't really perform. A lot of people had the mentality that BC and Ontario would be in the finals, but Alberta came out gunning this year and we simply underperformed, they just kept putting on pressure."

But the team brushed it off and went on to defeat Quebec handily to earn tournament bronze.

Rush, 18, did get some more playing time in, which he said is important if you want to take your rugby career further.

"The big thing for the U19 team is to showcase yourself for the U20 Canada team," he explained. "That's what a lot of guys think of it as, because a lot of the coaches and personnel for Canada teams are there watching."

He also said nationals wasn't just about playing the games, but there was a huge educational side of things as well. There were tutorials and seminars on what it would take to play for Team Canada that included sessions on workouts, nutrition and hydration and strength and conditioning.

"They were all important if you want to get into U20. It taught us what we need to be at if we want to play with them."

tighthead prop, the former football player, who found himself gravitating towards rugby, hopes to continue to gain experience on the field with the Ontario squad.

"I'm a very physical player, which is why I think I made it to Ontario; my only problem is knowing every play of the game. I'm not at the point yet where I can predict a play, but that's just due to a lack of experience."

But obviously the coaches of the Ontario team liked what they saw for him to make it on the 24-man roster.

These days, Rush is playing quite a bit of rugby between the Barbarians and Golden Hawks varsity team.

Going into his second year studying computer science, Rush said he is loving Laurier, but admitted he has his eye on maybe transferring to Queen's in hopes of joining their rugby program.

Back at home, he is in his fourth year with the Barbs and gave credit to the Aurora organization for helping him succeed in the sport he loves.

"I started with the Barbs and that's where I learned all the basics," he said. "That's where I fell in love with rugby and the Barbs are just a great club. We have all sorts of natural talent here. There have been some great guys.

Barbarian "Fellow Nolan [Ott] has been a really good mentor for me. He always talks to me, tells me what I've got to do and why."

Rush now faces many big decisions about his rugby career and where it is

"Rugby-wise, I just want to get better. I won't be here for the finals for the Barbs because I'll be in school and I won't be able to play a lot of the games unless I come home. Ontario/ Canada-wise, I'm not sure, but if I can keep going and play rugby for Canada, I would love that. To play the top level of rugby for my country, that would be so cool."

## Jays end season on high note ahead of playoffs Bloom not only pitched said it was neat to see the

**By Jeff Doner** 

The Aurora Blue Jays ended their regular season on a high note with a convincing 9 - 2 win against the Barrie Angels last week.

In order to keep their starting pitchers fresh for the upcoming playoffs, the Jays rolled out some variety, including some who hadn't pitched in vears.

Getting the start for the Jays was Nathan Drury who pitched two innings. Although he got into a bit of trouble with a bases loaded situation. the defense backed him

well, but made a highlight reel pickoff at second

"I channeled teammate Ian Milne there," he said laughing. "It was probably the selfish thing to do, but when you get the opportunity to pick someone off when you haven't pitched in seven years, I couldn't pass up the opportunity to spin and fire one to second."

Despite the fact the team had little riding on the game against Barrie; the Jays know how they need to be in top form with playoffs rapidly approaching.

team grow together over the years. "It has been amazing

to grow with these guys and see the progression of everybody maturing; it's fun to be a part of," he said.

After being knocked out in the first round last year, Lewis thinks the team will come in with a lot of knowledge about what it takes to move on.

"We're looking good. We're lucky that we have the amount of guys that we have to fill in all the positions and I'm confident now with our big pitching staff and the team that we're playing, we match up well against them, so we're hoping to make the finals this year."

Bloom agreed that the matchup against Clearview will be a good one for the Jays.

"It's always a tough park to play in and usually we play early games [no lights], so it's tough to get guys to the park on time, but they're a good team, they're in the playoffs and they've won some big games this year," he said. 'They've always given us a run for the money, so it should be a pretty good series. I'm expecting that our team will lock together and we'll all go out and do our job. If we do that, we shouldn't have too much trouble with them."

The Jays playoff schedule is as follows: Game 1 - Tuesday, Aug. 6, 7.30 p.m. Game 3 -Thursday, Aug. 8, 7.30 p.m. and if necessary game 5 on Tuesday, Aug. 13, 7.30 p.m. all at Lambert Willson Park.

For a full schedule, stats or team info, visit www.ndbl.ca



Aurora Jays' catcher Rob Wilson jumps up and throws a runner out at first last week.

**Auroran photo by Jeff Doner** 

up and converted a double play to hold Barrie to a single run in the first.

Following Drury was regular starter Ian Milne, who was credited with the win for his one inning of work in the third when the Jays took a two run

Andrew Bukovec, Rvan Lewis, Chris Bloom and Chris Leslie each pitched an inning to finish off the

Lewis and Bloom, in particular, hadn't pitched in years, but both said it was fun to get out there and hurl a few pitches.

"It was fun. It was good have a game where we could take the pressure off a little bit and have some fun," said Bloom. "It's been probably seven years since I have pitched, so it was kind of fun for me and 'Louie' [Lewis]. We've been barking and joking about it for quite a while, so it was good to get in there."

"I think we're feeling confident," said Bloom. 'We know it's going to get serious really quick and that from here on out there's really no breaks, but over the last few years we've kind of learned the ability to kind of lock in when we need to, so I think we're all excited and turned in the right direction after stumbling a bit out of the gate this season."

Lewis agreed that the Jays seem to be running a well oiled machine and as a veteran of the team,





# Aurora's Mack Lemmon attends Maple Leafs prospect camp

By Scott Wheeler

From July 9-to-12, the Toronto Maple Leafs hosted their annual prospect camp, inviting 34 highly regarded young players to take part in a variety of drills, skates, scrimmages and off-ice workouts.

The camp, hosted out of Etobicoke's MasterCard Centre for Hockey Excellence, grants many of these young men the opportunity to taste hockey at the professional level, something they've strived for their entire lives.

This year, for Aurora native Mack Lemmon, a dream became a reality when he received his invite.

For the undrafted Niagara Ice Dogs forward out of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), this experience was extra special.

"I was fortunate enough to get invited as a free agent and I'm extremely thankful that I was given the opportunity," he says. "Since I was a young kid, it has always been my dream to make it in hockey professionally."

After being selected twentythird overall by the Belleville Bulls in the 2011 OHL Priority Selection, Lemmon has spent the last two years with Belleville and later Niagara when he was traded, coming back to attend Aurora for schooling and the summers.

For the self-described physical power forward, this Leafs camp was an all-time high though.

"My first pro camp was definitely one of the better experiences I've had in my life so far," Lemmon says. "I learned so much"

As an 18-year-old at his first professional camp, Lemmon felt it went well.

"I played alongside Josh Burnside from the Mississauga Steelheads of the OHL and Kevin Goumas from the University of New Hampshire," he says. "I played my style of game and felt like I left a good lasting impression."

With big expectations, Lemmon hopes the camp wasn't his last stint with an NHL jersey on, hoping to take his game to new heights this upcoming season.

"I've been training hard all summer so far," Lemmon says, explaining that the NHL remains his goal. "I hope to get drafted by an NHL team in 2014. It's been a dream for me to hear my name called by an NHL team at the draft for many years so I'm going to do my very best to make that happen."

Last season, Lemmon registered five goals and four assists to go along with 115 penalty minutes in 52 games for Niagara. Known more for his physical game, Lemmon hopes to add more of a scoring touch to his game this year.

As a hopeful professional and travelling junior hockey player, Lemmon is quick to point to the Aurora community for undying support along the way. Like many young hockey players, Lemmon feels fortunate to have grown up in an enthusiastic hockey community.

"My friends have been great; they have shown so much support over the past couple of years and I don't think they know how much I appreciate it," he says, also paying tribute to his coaches.

In the end though, more than anything else Lemmon credits his family.

"My family have always been there for me. Without them I wouldn't be where I am today. I couldn't thank them enough for everything they've done for me so far on and off the ice," he says. "I'm a very lucky guy."



The York Women's Summer Hockey League have stepped up to help local kids follow in their footsteps, donating \$400 to Sport Aurora's All Kids Can Play Program. The program, which helps fund financially disadvantaged kids in the community participate in organized sports, welcomed the gift and the money will be directly used to help subsidize families whether their kids are looking to lace up their skates and get out on the ice, or simply step up to bat.

**Submitted photo** 



# Breakfast of Champions Spotlight



# Qualifying for Provincials with Special Olympics?

# It's no easy task!

By Nancy Black

The Ontario Provincial Games are held on a 4-year rotating basis, games three of every four years, based on Spring, Summer and Winter Sports. Athletes must compete at the official Regional Qualifying Competition in order to be selected to

attend Provincial Games. Mary Haberer and

Mary Haberer and Cindy Noble passed by competing in two qualifying meets and performing at the top of their respective divisions in 2011 - one at St. Andrews College and another in Bracebridge. This is no easy feat!

Once qualified, there

are more steps to ensure athletes train for and perform at their best. In order to compete at the Spring Provincial Games in Kingston, May 31- June 3, 2012, Mary and Cindy had to guarantee a minimum training standard would be upheld. In order to do so, additional training

time was booked and the ladies swam at one extra practice per week.

These extra practices take not only time but commitment and perseverance!

Sincerest thanks to their coaches, Head Coach Hillary Richardson, Assistant and Provincial Coaches A. J. Kirkpatrick and Lloyd Brown during this entire process.

In addition, it is exciting to note that Mary was the torch bearer at the Provincial 2013 Summer Games held throughout York Region!

Congratulations to Mary and Cindy on their achievements!





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Photo of Mary Haberer Courtesy of Special Olympics Ontario - Aurora





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# -THE AURORAN-

# Art & Culture

# Culture is stronger together, says Aurora Roundtable

**By Brock Weir** 

King Arthur may have had his roundtable, but Aurora's cultural scene has Jane Taylor and Reccia Mandelcorn to maintain its honour.

Both women, Ms. Taylor of the Aurora Cultural Centre and Ms. Mandelcorn of the Aurora Public Library, help spearhead the Aurora Cultural Roundtable, a group which brings together the collective brainpower and resources of not just the respective organizations, but also the Aurora Historical Society, Aurora Farmers' Market, and Theatre Aurora.

Now going into their second year as a collective, the group is busy putting the finishing touches on a program for Culture Days next month which promises to be a feast for the senses, and a source of food for the mind, body and the soul.

"The Aurora Cultural Roundtable is the name group eventually came up with after much deliberation," says Ms. Mandelcorn. "Jane and I had collaborated on items before and we had been talking about how wonderful it would be to have the Library and the Cultural Centre collaborate some individual programs. At the same time, and parallel to that, there was a conversation going on between our CEO and [Cultural Centre Executive Director] Laura Schembri about the need for some of the cultural organizations in Aurora to be able to talk, share, and collaborate."

Their first meeting took place in June of 2012. From there, they looked at "culture" from a very broad perspective. Bringing together the Market and Theatre, they aimed to get down to the basics of what they hoped to provide to the community, ensure that they didn't overlap, but also make sure there were opportunities to cross-

promote, support, and make sure "culture" is promoted as a team effort.

Their first opportunity to put the plan in action was early last fall when Aurora made its first foray into "Culture Days", a national drive to celebrate all things which could be classified as "culture".

"Everyone was on board and we all came up with a different program," says Ms. Mandelcorn. "We made sure we had a wide variety of offerings for the community to make sure we weren't taking the same audience, collaborated so we would be able to maximize media in the community and it was really, really successful."

collaboration The continued well beyond Culture Days 2012. Throughout this spring and summer, for instance, the Aurora Farmers' Market has regularly provided space for the Library for story time and other programs, which have been a hit with local youngsters, and other events to get these programs to as wide an audience as possible.

The collaboration will once again culminate in Culture Days 2013. Building on the success of last year's events, they came away with ideas of what to do, what not to do, and good ideas which needed a little bit of tweaking. This year builds upon that foundation. Aurora Library, for instance, will host a "human library", featuring the chance to "sign out" real people in the community with real stories to share for a time to answer all your "burning questions" about their field of work or experience. This year's roster of "books", include local author Gerry award-winning Fostady musicians Bonnie Silver and Norbert Kraft, and local horticulturalist, poet and

artist Dierdre Tomlinson.
The Aurora Historical
Society will welcome
Culture Days participants

once again to Hillary House for a full day of activities as well as a chance to see ongoing exhibitions on health, recreation, and culinary arts.

The Culinary theme continues at the Aurora Farmers' Market with tastes from days gone by

"We're all doing different activities and people are going to have a really fun day," says Ms. Mandelcorn. "Between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, the Aurora Farmers' Market is doing 'A Taste of Yesteryear'. All of the chefs are using locally sourced ingredients and they are going to be creating and preparing dishes on site. Food is culture and that is part of the human condition, but it is going to be fun and delicious.

"When people come to the library, children will have a story time, the Human Library - and all of our books are local! People will be able to engage in something that is exciting, new and refreshing in a way that is 'Aurora.' I hope they will come away with a sense of fun and a sense of culture in their community, as well as a sense that culture is endemic with the human condition."

Culture Days gets underway at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 28.

When Culture Days 2013 is another chapter for the history books, that won't be the end of the collaboration until 2014. Ms. Mandelcorn says the community can look forward to much more collaboration. The reason? Well, above the fact they are simply having fun doing it, they believe it is good for the community.

"We know that people are very sharing in nature," she says, "and all of us come away a little stronger than where we started."

For Culture Days activities going on in Aurora and indeed across Canada, visit www.culturedays.ca.



Evening rains didn't stop singer Marshall Dane from reaching out to touch a new fan Wednesday night as part of Aurora's Concerts in the Park series. Dane's concert blended country and rock and evidently appealed to all ages! The Concert series continues this Wednesday, August 7 at 7 p.m. with the energetic Soca music of Neu Jenerashun.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



Reccia Mandelcorn, Manager of Community Collaboration at the Aurora Public Library, has joined forces with Jane Taylor of the Aurora Cultural Centre, as well as representatives from Theatre Aurora, The Aurora Farmers' Market, and Historical Society to form the Aurora Cultural Roundtable. Together, they will be bringing "Culture Days" to Town for the second year next month.

**Aurorn photo by Brock Weir** 

# Youth, businesses to have more summer job opportunities: MP

By Brock Weir

For young job hopefuls, waiting for word on your application and resume is often the hardest part.

The agony of waiting could be a bit shorter next year for hopefuls looking for a job through Canada's Summer Jobs Program.

This year, potential employers and hopeful employees will find out earlier, with deadlines now set at January 10, 2014.

"This will allow employers more time to complete their hiring processes and will give students more notice when they get their summer jobs," said Newmarket-Aurora MP Lois Brown in an announcement at the Aurora Cultural Centre last week.

To see the benefits of the Canada Summer Jobs Program, one only needs to look as far as the Church Street landmark, she said. Indeed, Ms. Brown was joined in her announcement not only by Frank Pulumbarit, President of the Aurora Cultural Centre Board, but also by Stephanie West, a summer student hired by the Centre with a nearly \$4,000 grant through the Youth Employment Strategy.

A third year student at the University of Waterloo, Ms. West was hired with funds obtained via the Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations grant.

"Stephanie has brought her incredible talents to the Aurora Cultural Centre," said Ms. Brown, adding she was the bearer of good news for students throughout the riding. "Through the Canada Summer

Jobs component of the Summer Work Experience Program, we are helping local employees create 94 summer job opportunities for students. Across the country, Canada Summer Jobs is providing up to 36,000 important job opportunities and experiences for students this summer.

"Organizations the York Region Food Network, Habitat for Humanity York Region, Doane House Hospice, the Aurora Historical Society and the Aurora Youth Soccer Club are all benefiting [from the program.] This helps students gain the skills and the experiences they need to be successful now and in the future. These jobs strengthen the local economies and the communities where students live and work. There is no doubt that workplaces also benefit from fresh ideas."

It is a "win-win-win situation, added Ms. Brown, and one, she said, which will only get better. This year's Economic Action Plan has earmarked a further \$70 million over three years to fund 5,000 additional paid internships, she said. Grants will also be available to help students focus on skilled trades through apprenticeship programs and initiatives.

These efforts will allow young Canadians to get a better work experience that will only strengthen the future of the Canadian workforce," she said.

"Today's students are tomorrow's workforce," she said. "Investing in them helps to contribute to Canada's long-term growth, competitiveness, and overall prosperity. With an investment this important, we want to ensure that as many local employers as possible can participate in the summer work experiences program."

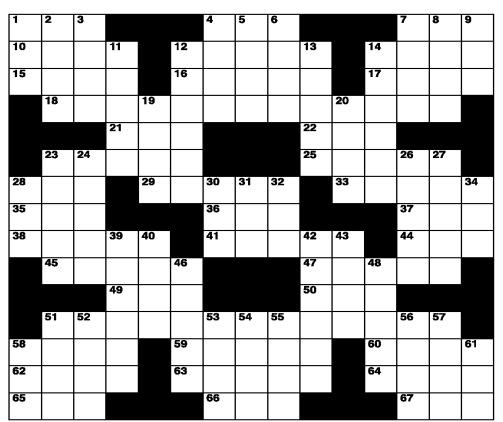
As the Aurora Cultural Centre reaps the benefits of Stephanie's time in their employ, Mr. Pulumbarit said he and the Cultural Centre Team, including Executive Director Laura Schembri, are encouraging her to leave her own mark on the institution and something which she will be proud to showcase.

"Philosophically, that is how we work," he said. "We have a framework and strategic plan and five overriding priorities. These kinds of things drive our everyday business but the way those things are delivered is in the creative manner and the philosophy around it is delivered in a creative way. Whenever we can reach out and find awesome people to work with who share that same philosophy, that is a great combination and one we would like to do over and over again."

Government support for the Centre, he added, has been fantastic and he hopes they are returning the favour.

"We are passionate about what we do here and hopefully it shows and we're also passionate about our contributions to the Town of Aurora and beyond," he said. "We hope that that passion is matched only by our passion towards contributing to the lives of our young people and the careers that they are going to go on to fulfil for the Town they live in."

## **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**



#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Droop
- Rested in a chair
- 7. Thai (var.)
- 10. Draw out wool
- 12. Coatis genus
- 14. Taxis
- 15. Beige
- 16. Supplementing with difficulty
- 17. Capital of Norway
- 18. A personal written history
- 21. Cologne
- 22. Australian flightless bird
- 23. Lowest freeman; early Eng.
- 25. 18th C. mathematician Leonhard
- 28. Cabinet Dept. for homes
- 29. Languages of Sulu islands

1. Midway between S and SE

11. Broad-winged soaring

12. A collection of star systems

14. Links subject & predicate

20. Asian river between China

23. Physicists Marie or Pierre

24. Excessive fluid accumula-

\_Dunlap, pageant title-

3. Personal spiritual leader

4. Japanese rice beverage

- 33. More scarce 35. Before
- 36. Swiss river

CLUES DOWN

2. Genus of birds

5. Eared owl genus

6. Wood oil finish

8. Competently

9. Equal, prefix

13. Be in accord

(linguistics)

and Russia

tion in tissues

hawks

19. Paddles

holder

7. Hyphen

- 66. Previously The Common
- 67. Upper left keyboard key

- 37. Actress & director Lupino
- 38. Edges
- 41. Thousand Leaves prefecture
- 44. Soldier hero of Spain El
- 45. Gains through work
- 47. To the front
- 49. I (German)
- 50. Price label
- 51. Barack's 1st lady 58. Drench with liquid
- 59. Child (scot.)

- 64. Union busting worker
- 65. A priest's liturgical vestment
  - Market

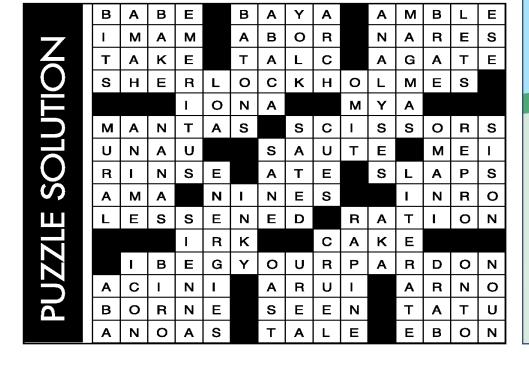
- 28. Norse goddess of death
- 30. A waterproof raincoat
- 31. Express pleasure
- Lanka
- 34. Radioactivity unit
- 39. Clay blocks for building
- 40. Linear unit
- 42. Conductor tools
- 43. Whale ship captain
- 46. Queen who tested Solomon
- 51. A gangster's girlfriend
- 52. Unstressed-stressed
- 54. Old Italian monetary units
- 56. Ceremonial staff of authority
- 57. Fabrics of camels or goats
- 58. Large body of water
- 61. Basics

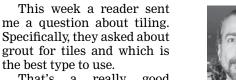
- \_ Honeymoon" 60. "Aba \_
- 62. Disappearing shade trees
- 63. Cricket frog genus

27. Made again

- 48. Good Gosh!
- 53. Draw through holes
- 55. Musician Clapton

## Last Week's Puzzle Solution





the best type to use. That's a really question because the right or wrong grout can have a big impact on your tiling job.

There are two main types of grout: you have your sanded and un-sanded.

Your un-sanded grout is made to be used with tiles

that are spaced 1/8" or smaller. It is also recommended for use for any polished tile as it will not scratch the surface during installation.

Un-sanded is also easier to work with, but should not be used for anything with spacing larger than the 1/8". It may be tempting given how much easier it is to work with, but believe me, it will be a mistake if you do, and this is because when it cures, it shrinks and in a bigger space it will tend to pull away from the tile leaving an ugly gap.



**Good Grout!** 

Now for sanded grout: It is used for grout lines that are 1/8" or larger. It will ensure proper adhesion to your tile and guard against too much shrinkage.

Sanded grout has fine sand added to it. This prevents the grout from shrinking too much as it cures. That's why it is used for larger grout lines and should be used for the majority of tile installations.

When you are choosing your grout, read the label and know the size of your grout lines; that way you will choose the right grout for your tile job, and it will be correct and look spectacular.

Until next week, remember a good job, is a job well done!

If you have any questions you can reach me at www.facebook.com/ anastasisdesign or on Twitter, @ ADesign\_build and by email, of course, at Anastasis@anastasisdesign.ca.

# Region, activists at odds over Leslie Street

From page 7

designs, Mr. Wehrenberg said a "duly qualified Ontario civil engineer" has stepped up to the plate to provide designs free of charge when designs for the Leslie Street reconstruction are 90 per cent complete. Those, he added, are still only at the 60 per cent stage.

Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Parks and Recreation, said this offer was not one which was likely to be taken up by the Region.

Wehrenberg] "[Mr. would like to see that work carried out by the Region and then capture the actual cost for it," said Mr. Downey. "In discussions with the Region, they are not interested in doing

they are not interested in shopping. If Council wishes to commit \$1.2 million for this underpass, which is the estimated cost of the work, then the Region is more than happy to put this design into the tender. However, they will not put the work unto the tender without a commitment from Council for funds."

Rather than going ahead with a ramp in this location, the Region has proposed 120 metre ramps leading up to and down to pedestrian signals at the intersection of Leslie and St. John's Sideroad. But this solution, according to Mr. Wehrenberg, runs the risk of posing problems for people with mobility

that. That is shopping and issues and other physical problems.

"It is a well-established reality that commuting trail users, which will be the majority who will use this trail, will seek the shortest possible way to get to their destination," he "This ramping approach will do absolutely nothing promoting linkages between the residential and employment areas on either side of Leslie as a viable transportation option for the community, as the Regional [and Municipal] governments intend to do.

"It will not cost you one red cent to find out how much that underpass will really cost by including the underpass design options in the tendering documents."



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Our Seniors' Centre has been a busy place. Activities, programs and special taking place, we owe first to our volunteers working in

events Senior Centre out the bumps.

different capacities within the Association, and to all our members who have supported us all through the year.

with Along supporting our activities is the staff: Our Seniors coordinator Karie Papillon, Facility Operator Bill Hawke, the part-time staff and our cooperation with and from the Town.

This is what makes our Centre a success.

We have many volunteers at our Seniors' Centre and, quite frankly, our Centre could not operate without Thank you!

Hollandview Trail Retirement Residence sponsored our weekly barbeque on Wednesday, June 26. The luncheon was very successful with close to 75 members enjoying the lunch. We thank the Hollandview Trail staff for hosting this event. Proceeds from the ticket sales (\$360) were donated to the Seniors' Wish Association.

Deputy Mayor John Abel was our guest barbeque chef at our weekly barbeque this Wednesday, July 24. We enjoyed the food and, to top it off, John sang, accompanied by his guitar, some beautiful music which was enjoyed by all. Thank you, John!

#### Bocce anyone?

On Tuesday, August 13 at 2 p.m., The Town of Aurora and the Aurora Seniors' Association will officially mark the opening of the new ASA Bocce courts with a ribbon cutting at courtside. To learn more about Bocce, the Official Rules of the Game of Bocce are posted in the workshop window adjacent to the Bocce courts.

play scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m., weather permitting. The bocce courts are available to ASA members Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on a first come-first served basis.

Our Thanks to Ranee Gerald Batchellor

for donating a "roller" that will be used to roll on to the bocce **Charles Sequeira** courts to smooth

## **Volunteers: Our Best!**

Have you ever wanted to sing with a group, but are not interested in singing with a choir? Well, now's your chance! Come and join us as we sing some very popular tunes on Thursday

**New Activity** 

Keep Singing!

Rooms. The lyrics will be provided so there is no memorization required. Just show up on Thursday, August 8 for a great time!

mornings from 10.30 a.m.

to 11.30 a.m. in the Priestly

#### More congratulations

This time to two more ASA medal winners at the York Region 55+ Summer Games 2013 held in the month of May at various locations in York Region. We missed them in our previous announcement: Prediction Women75+ Gold: Margaret Payne and Golf Calloway Men, Bronze: Thomas Keates.

#### **Country and Western Dance**

On Friday, August 16 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., put on your cowboy boots and hats and join us in a Country and Western dance at the Seniors' Centre. There will be country and western music, dancing, refreshments, line dancing demonstrations and lots of door prizes all for \$5 a ticket. Tickets are on sale at the front desk of the Centre. Get your tickets in advance to avoid disappointment.

#### **BBQ Lunch**

Come and enjoy a special summer barbeque hosted by Stouffville Creek Retirement Residence on Wednesday, August 14, and by Amica Retirement Community on Wednesday, September 4, 2013. Proceeds will be donated to charities. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the front desk at the Seniors' Centre.

#### Special Movie afternoon

Please ioin Wednesday, August 21 at 1.30 p.m. for the movie Safe Haven. Don't forget our weekly Tuesday night movies, August 6: "Nothing but the Truth" and August 13: "The Perks of Being a Wallflower"

Be active and stay healthy!



Seniors Day also included line dancing demonstrations movement which shaped from the Aurora Seniors' Association.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

## Historical Society fostered new sense of community identity, says Founder

By Brock Weir

In the second part of our interview with Dr. Leslie Oliver, founder of the Aurora Historical Society 50 years ago this year, he reflects on the foundations of the Society itself.

There are three key ways to tackle history, according to Dr. Leslie Oliver, who founded the Aurora Historical Society 50 years ago this year.

These three principles are what have guided him through his lifelong passion for where we have come from and where we are going.

Overall, it is most important to understand what history teaches and what it tells, he says, but one way to tackle that broad, if not intimidating, starting point is looking at history simply as the good old days. Another view is to look at history as a story of human progress. The third, and one he personally subscribes to, is we're living in history right now and contribute to it every day.

Dr. Oliver has certainly lived in history, and undoubtedly contributed to it. When asked what inspired him to form the Aurora Historical Society in 1963, he points to a snapshot taken by his father of Lester B. Pearson while Prime Minister sitting at a social event marking Aurora's Centennial sitting next to a very dapper looking gentleman.

Both men in the picture were graduates of Victoria College at the University of Toronto, and the man sitting beside him was Aurora's E.H. Clarke.

"These were two very erudite gentlemen for the time," says Dr. Oliver. "They were very liberal thinkers. They had a very profound understanding of humanity. They were guys who had been through the First World War, the greatest depression the world had ever known and they said there had to be a better way. We all know where that got Pearson, but Ernest did his things locally and he was a seminal influence on me."

40 years his junior, Dr. Oliver looked on Mr. Clarke as a grandfatherly figure. When he found himself saying something about life, he made it a point to sit up and listen. One of the things he said was, "Leslie, what this Town needs is a historical society!' and Dr. Oliver took the ball and ran with it.

As Pearson Clarke "were very liberal thinkers", society at the time was also largely swinging in that direction. It proved to be the perfect point to launch the Aurora Historical Society (AHS) as there were great changes ahead - what Dr. Oliver describes as the "Citizen Participation Movement."

This was a seminal the role of historical societies in the province, he says.

"Council were historically held behind closed doors and I remember trying to talk to Councillors back in the 1960s and you couldn't get near them," he recalls. "So many things came There together. was interest in the Centennials of Canada and Aurora, and all those events coalesced and produced a whole new kind of culture.

"People were all of a sudden interested in history, community. community identity, and national identity. It didn't blow up overnight, but the effects were cumulative and quite dramatic between what happened in the 1960s and 1980s."

During that 20 year period, the AHS matured in Dr. Oliver's estimation and the understanding of its associated collections also matured. There was also a heightened degree of activism on the part of AHS members. One of the first events to see this sense of purpose in action were plans to widen Yonge Street from two to four lanes, plowing through the Yonge and Wellington corridor.

"I was part of a demonstration that closed traffic on Wellington and Yonge in the late 1960s," he says. "We were very active in saying you can't do this and here are the reasons why. There was a lot of heat generated, the AHS was very much at the centre of all that and it really paid off. From

the vantage point of 2013, it is hard to imagine what things were like in the 1960s and early 1970s. It was a whole different world and all that advocacy produced results."

These results included legislation allowing municipalities to form architectural conservation and advisory committees, efforts which Dr. Oliver says computed and changed community life as a whole.

More fruits of their include labour the preservation of what is now the Aurora GO Station.

"The Historical Society has been a significant driving force in the development of this Town for the last 50 years, which most people don't understand and don't really care," he says. "But we're in fundamentally new times. Those functions that a not-for-profit volunteer organization did in the 60s and 70s were so damned successful that the Town has taken over those functions and made them staff functions. We have planners, we have a heritage planner, and all that stuff is now in-house.

"As a society, we have contributed fundamentally to a new understanding of community identity and what community is all about. Now we have got to move onto something

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GOODS and contents of the following spaces will be sold for cash or otherwise disposed of to satisfy rental liens for unpaid rent in accordance with Ontario statutes. Chapter 425 and lease agreement on August 14, 2013, 10:00 a.m. sharp at northern self storage, 122 Bales Dr., Newmarket L3Y 4X1 - 2 Units, Chris Woodbridge and Karla Offenbeck.

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# **ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CLERK**

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#### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Collaborate with the Billing Department to maintain collection goals and general A/R performance levels Communicate with internal/external sales representatives and accounting/tax professionals as necessary to complete job duties.
- Complete credit analysis and review of new clients. Determine credit limits and annual review of major client accounts.
- . Receive and fill out receipts for third party payments, whether by cash, cheque, credit, and other forms of payment
- Review all credit balances, refunds, and adjustments, and apply adjustments and/or corrections to corporate billing records Balance daily A/R batches; prepare and distribute income reports and statistics to key personnel
- Ensure the strict confidentiality and privacy of financial records as they relate to the organization and its customers · Form collection strategies to mitigate customer objections to making timely A/R payments.
- Investigate collection problems and advise customers on corporate A/R policies and procedures . Make arrangements for payment of outstanding and late accounts; prepare documentation for management Investigate and resolve billing discrepancies or misapplied cash transactions.
- . Maintain a filing system for all financial documents.
- Ensure the confidentiality and security of all financial and employee files. Provide backup support to the receptionist for answering of phone calls.
- · Assists in other duties as needed and directed.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

- . Applicants should possess the following qualifications: • Some direct experience in an A/R capacity would be an asset
- Demonstrated ability to accurately calculate, post, correct, and manage accounting figures Have knowledge of collection regulations and fair credit practices
- · Possess a high level of moral judgment for handling confidential information and m
- · Able to perform moderate account reconciliations • Strong diplomatic, negotiation, conflict resolution skills in order to handle late payments and delinquent accounts
- · Basic knowledge of accounting systems, Simply Accounting, Quick Books etc
- Effective attention to detail and a high degree of accuracy with the insight to coordinate priorities efficiently
- Strong work ethic and positive team attitude.
- Sound analytical thinking, planning, prioritization, and execution skills . Excellent teamwork and team building skills.
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#### **DEATH NOTICE**

#### **Price, Frances Erma**

It is with great sadness that the Price family announces the passing of Frances Erma Price. She passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her loving family on Thursday August 1, 2013 at the age of 56, after courageously battling cancer. Beloved wife of James Price and loving sister of Bob MaGee (Linda), Sylvia Child (Craig), Carolyn MaGee (Jack Lewis) and brother Reg. Proud daughter-in-law of James Price Sr. (Anne), and devoted sister-in-law to David Price (Terri), Liz Van Ooyen, and John Price. She will live on through her three children Dacia, Christopher (Jennifer), and Shannon, as well as her grandchildren Dakota, Tarin, and baby to be. She will be fondly remembered by her many friends, coworkers, and relatives as a strong, caring, loving woman who devoted herself to others as a respiratory therapist at Newmarket Hospital for the past 35 years. Her warm smile and honest laugh will be deeply missed by all who knew her. Visitation will be held at the Thompson Funeral Home, 530 Industrial Parkway South, Aurora (905 727-5421) on Thursday August 8, 2013 from 2-4, and 7-9pm. Memorial Service on Tuesday, August 13th at 2:00pm at Aurora United Church, 15186 Yonge St, Aurora. On-line condolences may be made at www.thompsonfh-aurora.com

# **Coming Events**

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7**

Celebrate Caribana tonight at Town Park with Neu Generation from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. It is a night to party and come out to hear the irressistable rhythms of this hot Soca group. This is the sixth in this year's Concerts in the Park series offered by the Town of Aurora. Don't forget to bring a donation to the Aurora Food Pantry!

the Aurora Food Pantry!

AUGUST 7 - 13

The Shelburne Rotary Club will host the 63rd Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Championship. Featuring Canada's top fidlers in competition for thousands of dollars in prizes, the event includes camping, a giant fiddle parade, an open air market, a Saturday afternoon Cape Ceol Fiddle and Stepdance Show, fiddle jam sessions, and much more. For more sessions, and much more. For more information, including ticketing, visit www.shelburnefiddlecontest.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 10** Book a session for a family portrait to remember at Hillary House today with a one-of-a-kind opportunity with photographer Karen Merk. Capture and preserve memories of your fun-filled morning at the beautiful National Historic Site. Karen will make your family feel at ease while the unique images will forever connect you with your town's heritage. Plus, you can feel good knowing that some of the proceeds from the session will help support the ongoing restoration of the site. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. For more information, contact the Aurora Historical Society at 905-

#### 727-8991

AUGUST 12 – 15
The Canadian Red Cross celebrates a Week of Youth – Youth Imagining, Creating & Inspiring Change. Are you between the age of 14-30 and looking for ways to make an impact in the local and global community? Join us for a week of workshops where you will have the opportunity to take action through the Canadian Red Cross and be a youth that inspires change! Space youth that hispires change: Space is limited. Register early. A one year commitment of 5 – 10 hours volunteering per month with the Red Cross is required. For more information, call Lynda at 905-830-

#### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14**

Come out to Town Park tonight from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the music of Chuck Jackson and the All Stars - a hot night of blues and early rock and roll. Come out to hear legendary Canadian blues crooner, Chuck Jackson. Chuck is an award-winning singer and one of Canada's most revered blues vocalists. This is the seventh in this year's Concerts in the Park series offered by the Town of Aurora. Don't forget to bring a donation to the Aurora Food Pantry!

AUGUST 14 – 24

Theatre Aurora presents
Tuesdays With Morrie, the
acclaimed play based on Mitch
Albom's bestselling memoir of
his relationship with his college
professor. Sixteen years after
graduation, Mitch happens to catch
Morrie's appearance on a television Morrie's appearance on a television news program and learns that his old professor is battling Lou Gehrig's Disease. Mitch is reunited with Morrie, and what starts as a simple visit turns into a weekly

pilgrimage and a last class in the meaning of life. For show times and ticket information, visit www. theatreaurora.com.

#### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 15**

The Aurora Historical Society will present Curator's Talk: Creating the Medical Practices Exhibit at 7 p.m. at Hillary House. Free admission. This talk will walk participants through the development of the Medical Practices Conjunctive Community. development of the Medical Practices: Caring for the Community exhibition. From the inception to installation, this talk will cover all the stages of developing an exhibit and working collaboratively with Southlake Regional Health Centre.

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

Put on your cowboy boots and hats and join the community at the Aurora Seniors' Centre for a Country and Western Dance from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. There will be country and western music, dancing, refreshments, line dancing, demonstrations and lots of door prizes to be won. Tickets are only \$5 and are for sale at the front desk of the Aurora Seniors' Centre. Cash bar available. All ages welcome.

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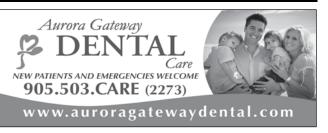


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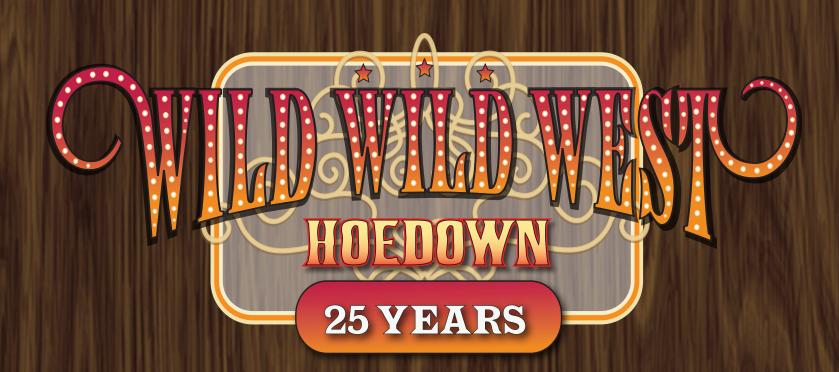
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