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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 10 No. 26 905-727-3300 **auroran.com** FREE Week of April 20, 2010

Aurora will take bids to fix house

The Town's interest in taking bids for the restoration of the Petch House was formally approved last Tuesday, despite criticisms of the cost and practicality of seeking a Request for Proposal.

Councillor Al Wilson, who has adamantly opposed any drive to spend further public money on the building, reiterated his stance at last week's meeting.

"I would not be consistent if I did not continue with that thought," said Councillor Wilson, pulling the item from the evening's agenda to make his stance known.

Some Councillors, such as Councillors Stephen Granger and John Gallo, again voiced their support for the motion arguing that going through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process is the only way to get a

Please see page 11



Aurora Rotarian Tony Anderson keeps plastic frogs away from the shores of Tannery Creek Sunday afternoon as the Rotary Club of Aurora held its fourth annual "frog race" in the creek. Nearly 1,000 frogs vied for the three top positions and the winners were Dave Roshier (\$300), Sharon McMorine (\$200) and Bren Marsh (\$100). *Auroran photo by Ron Wallace*

Tree-planting program conflicts with anti-litter day, Aurora mayor says

Neighbourhood Network has had to scrap much of the Aurora leg of their tree planting initiative this weekend, a move which has forced them to scuttle plans to plant trees in town parks and move the bulk of their activity that day to Newmarket.

Neighbourhood Network's selected date of April 24 conflicted with Mayor Phyllis Morris' Anti-Litter Day, according to the organization's ambassador Tom Taylor, former Mayor of Newmarket.

"We were talking to the Parks people in Newmarket and Aurora both," said Mr. Taylor. "I was not

aware that the date was conflicting with Mayor Morris' clean up day and we were going along on the same basis in both municipalities, going through their parks and recreation people.

"About a week or two ago I attended a meeting at Aurora with Mayor Morris and some staff people there and they were explaining the problem they felt we were encountering because of the conflict of dates. I had suggested at the meeting there were probably enough volunteers to accommodate both of the activities.

"I apologized to them that we

did not seek council approval because we did not think it was necessary, quite frankly, doing this type of thing based on the fact we had gone through staff at the beginning.

"The way it was left was that we would be unable to do any planting on municipal property in Aurora and that next year if we do the program again we should try to sit down in advance and eliminate any conflict of dates."

The matter was brought up at last Tuesday's council meeting by Councillor Evelyn Buck, who asked

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Volcano dust strands students

Eighty-eight Grade 11 and 12 students from Aurora High School are currently stuck in Vienna, Austria, after their expected return to Canada from a band trip on Sunday was thwarted by ash from an Icelandic Volcano.

The eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull on April 14 sent plumes of volcanic ash into the air.

It threw Europe's airports into a

state of disarray, forcing the grounding of incoming flights to and outgoing flights from the Continent.

The students, who left for Europe on April 9 accompanied by eight Aurora High staff members are currently being accommodated "comfortably" at their Vienna Hotel, according to Ross Virgo, Communications Officer for the

Please see page 11

Briefly

Spring sale

The annual spring sale, put on by the Aurora senior citizens, will have a twist in it this year.

They're adding a mini-Aurora Farmers' Market to the mix.

Co-ordinator Carol Hedenberg says a barbecue will also be held.

The sale happens this Saturday, April 24, beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing until 2 p.m. at the centre, 5 Municipal Drive, across the parking lot from the Aurora Town Hall.

New music

Songwriter Gregg Lawless, a music graduate from Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School in Aurora, will join with Penny Sedore's Grade 11 music students, to collaborate on writing the words and music to a song on the social injustices of the world.

You'll be able to hear the results of it at the Williams Spring Concert, scheduled for Wednesday, May 12 beginning at 7 p.m.

Gregg, a guitar-playing Juno nominee, will join the award-winning secondary school band to come up with the song.

Winner

Aurora resident Tom Davey has won the Geoffrey T.G. Scott Memorial Award, an award initiated in 2009 "to commemorate Geoff's inspiration and contribution to the water environment industry".

The winner of the award was announced by the president of the Water Environment Association of Ontario recently.

Davey received the award at WEAO's 39th Annual Technical Symposium Luncheon Monday.

Geoffrey Scott also lived in Aurora.

Davey, meanwhile, has won about 30 awards for his environmental writing and is the author of two books.

Currently, Tom is the senior consulting editor of Environmental Science and Engineering, a bi-monthly publication.

Open House

Windfall, located in Aurora's Sheppard's Bush will hold an Open House this Friday, April 23rd. Officials will showcase new projects and celebrate past achievements.

Throughout the day there will be a number of interactive information sessions covering a wide range of topics including: a Pukwis Community wind park update and going solar.

Visitors may tour the historic Sheppard House, highlighting the energy efficiency retrofit work that has been completed and the new technologies now in place.

Activity gets underway at 2 p.m. and continues until 7 p.m. at 93A Industrial Parkway South.

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COMING EVENTS

CONTINUING

The Aurora Probus Club meets every second Wednesday of the month (except July and August) at the Aurora Legion. Memberships consist of retired and semi-retired PROfessional and BUSiness people, hence the name Probus. It is a fun fellowship with well-chosen speakers. New members are welcome. For more information call Marilyn Munslow, 905-727-9344 or Bob Saunders, 905-841-3558.

Currently on display at the Colleen Abbott Gallery, located on the second floor of the Aurora Public Library, is an exhibit of paintings by Aurora's Philippa Hajdu. The paintings are selections from the artist's self-portrait series and her novel series inspired by the works of James Lee Burke and Janet Evanovitch. This exhibit will run through May 30.

A selection of landscape works from the collection of Albert Chiarandini is currently on display at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Chiarandini, born in Udine, Italy, in 1915 was a prolific painter until his death in December, 2007. The display will continue until May 1.

Alateen meets every Sunday at 8 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner of Victoria and Mosley Streets. Al-Anon meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the Aurora United Church on Yonge Street. For more information go to al-anon.alateen.on.ca.

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North in Aurora. Visitors are welcome for only \$2. For more information call Ray at 905-727-6168. On May 26th, Master Gardener from Brantford, Nancy Lee-Colibaba, will speak on Gardening for Health.

York Highlands Chorus is an award-winning a cappella Sweet Adelines chorus, a group of women who gather Tuesday evenings at the Old Firehall, Newmarket, to sing, share in the harmony of friendship and learn the barbershop art form. York Highlands is always looking for new women who share the love of a cappella music. Call Karen at 905-726-2113 or Vikki at information@yorkhighlands.com.

The Upper Canada Chordsmen, Aurora-Newmarket's award winning chorus, is looking for male singers. The group meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old Firehall, 140 Main Street South, in Newmarket.

The Optimist Club of Aurora meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Aurora Legion. New members are welcome. Call 905-727-5012 for more information.

The Aurora Lions Club meets the second and fourth Thursdays at the Aurora Lions Hall, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets. Co-ed club welcomes new members. For further information, call 905-727-6079.

Every Thursday, Martha's Table serves home-made soup, sandwiches, and dessert

in St. Andrew's Hall at the Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria Street. Cost is minimal, and the volunteer-run program enabled the church to give more than \$5,000 to local charities in 2008 alone. You can enjoy lunch, conversation, and a sense of community between 11.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. weekly.

The York Regional Police Male Chorus is looking for new members. You do not have to be a police officer nor are you required to read music to volunteer. The group rehearses Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. For further information, contact the chorus supervisor at 905-727-9676 or the coordinator of volunteer services for YRP at 905-830-0303, extension 6717.

Aurora's Air Cadets meet every Tuesday night at Cardinal Carter School from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., and offer a program for 12 years and older boys and girls.

Aurora Opera Children's Chorus welcomes treble voices. It is a choir dedicated to nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. The chorus is open to boys and girls ages 5-17. Contact the general director at keepsinging@rogers.com

Community Home Assistance to Seniors (CHATS) is looking for volunteers to assist with the activities in its Adult Day Program. The positions call for a commitment of a few hours a week at its Aurora location. Various times are available. Call Christine at 905-713-3494.

Every Wednesday from 6.30 to 8 p.m. the Pioneer Club for boys and girls, age three to Grade 4 and the Junior High Club for boys and girls, Grades 5 to 8, will be held at the Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. For more information call 905-841-8884.

A drop-in centre will operate every Wednesday at the Community Bible Church on Bathurst Street just south of Henderson from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information e-mail Judy Hoffmann jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

Scottish Country Dancing on Tuesday evenings at 8.15 p.m. at the Aurora Heights Public School and on Friday mornings at St. Andrews' Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m. No partners are needed and beginners are welcome.

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members are welcome. For further information call 905-841-1352 or 905-713-9356.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge 148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street, south of Wellington. For more information call 905-830-9205.

Masonic Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at the Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7.30 p.m.

Robertson Masonic Lodge meets the

third Saturday each month at 57 Mosley Street at 10.30 a.m. Coffee Club at 9 a.m. and lunch at noon. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080 for more information.

Gamblers Anonymous meets every Tuesday night at Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Progressive Euchre every Thursday night at the Aurora Legion at 7.30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

Canadian Federation of University Women holds monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir practice in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Seniors' Centre, every Wednesday from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. under the direction of Enid Maiz.

APRIL 23 AND 24

Aurora United Church spring rummage sale at the church, 15186 Yonge Street at Tyler. Times on April 23 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., for the individual sale and April 24 from 9 a.m. to noon for the bag sale. For further information, call 905-727-1935.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

Aurora Nursery School Family Fun Day, on today, consists of children's entertainment (Lenny Graf as seen on TV Treehouse), children's activities such as face painting, vendors, refreshments, a silent auction, raffle and door prizes. The event is a "Family Fun-d-raiser" for the oldest not-for-profit co-operative nursery school in Aurora and will take place at the Aurora Lions Hall from 2 to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 10. For more information and tickets call Nicole at 905-395-2879 or email auroranursery@gmail.com.

The annual senior citizens' Spring Sale will add a mini-farmers' market to its roster this year at the Aurora Seniors' Centre from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Among other things there will be a 50-50 draw, a just for kids store, a white elephant sale and barbecue crafts. The Centre is located at 5 Municipal Drive, across from the Town Hall.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

The Aurora Lawn Bowling Club Spring Meeting and Open House begins at 1 p.m. at the clubhouse in McMahon Park. New members are welcome.

MAY 1 AND 2

The annual Aurora Art Show and Sale takes place at the Aurora Town Hall Saturday, May 1 from 10 a.m., to 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For all art enthusiasts this is an important event featuring more than 200 pieces of artwork. Amateur and professional artists from Ontario will be displaying their original two and three-dimensional artwork created in any medium except computer-generated art.

MAY 6 TO 8

The Pine Tree Potters' Spring Pottery Sale will be held May 6, 7 and 8, at the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, Aurora. On Thursday and Friday May 6 and 7 the sale will operate from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, May 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is free parking, free admission and a door prize. Call 905-727-1278 for further information or visit <http://www.pinetreepotters.ca>.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society is having their annual plant sale at the Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge Street, Aurora from 9.30 a.m. to noon. Everyone is welcome.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Guest speaker for the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society is Nancy Lee-Colibaba, a master gardener, from Brantford. Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. Visitors are welcome for only \$2. A Youth Gardening Program will begin at 6.30 p.m. for one hour. Called "A Walk in the Aurora Arboretum", you can get more information by calling Ray at 905-727-6168.

SATURDAY, MAY 29

Aurora Grove Public School's 10th Anniversary Spring Fling and Reunion begins at 10.30 a.m. and continues until 3 p.m. Cake cutting ceremony at 11.15 a.m. Included will be Bouncers, a Silent Auction, music with a DJ, a Kidz Play Zone, a raffle, face painting, food, prizes, and a memory lane for the reunion.

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Under the guidance of Aurora firefighter Jim Davis, left, firefighters from Central York Fire Services prepare to haul hose into Hi Tor bush Wednesday to fight one of three fires believed set by people in Aurora. Trucks, and 19 men from CYFS and Richmond Hill Departments responded to blazes in Hi Tor, Case Woodlot off Henderson Drive, and an area off Dawlish Avenue in Aurora's south-west corner. Hi Tor is a huge parkland located in the south end of Aurora near the Bathurst-Bloomington intersection.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Proposal needs more input

The Town of Aurora is seeking the input of the Church Street School Cultural Centre to develop a new plan for public art.

The formal direction came at a recent council meeting after councillors received a delegation the previous week from local artist Deborah Campo about installing an eight-foot rendering of her Peace Flame Tree sculpture outside of the Town Offices.

Ms. Campo said she created the Peace Flame Tree sculpture as a thank you gift to St. Andrew's College to mark the 2008 Historica Fair.

Newmarket-Aurora MP Lois Brown has a small version of the stainless steel sculpture at her Ottawa office, according to Ms. Campo, who added Ms. Brown has met with the Minister of Veterans Affairs to have this sculpture considered for possible placement at Canadian locations as well as NATO.

"Although this image has successfully presented itself [in] various venues, it would be a pleasure to achieve my goal and vision to have my large scale version located in Aurora," Ms. Campo said. "I am also thrilled to be placed in the forefront of allowing our community to create a public art policy for not only my opportunities but for all other artists wishing to be a part of

our town's art and culture."

Councillors voted to accept Ms. Campo's sculpture for a \$1,000 honorarium (materials and installation have been donated to the artist) in the first step towards a public art program.

While selecting the statue was the first step, there are many more to follow, including the drafting of the public art policy and determining the actual location of the Peace Flame Tree at the Town offices.

Some councillors, however, raised concerns over the merits and implications of accepting the sculpture in the absence of an official public art policy at the municipal level.

"I'm a little worried about putting the cart before the horse with regard to art policy," said Councillor John Gallo. "I would support having some kind of discussion with [the Church Street School Cultural Centre Board] and some kind of streamlined policy put forward before this goes forward."

Councillor Bob McRoberts also expressed concerns that this might be a precedent-setting move.

"There may be some other enthusiastic artists in town that might have similar request and whether this is precedent setting or putting the cart before the horse, I think it would bode us well that the Town will have some policy or guidelines," he

said. "If we decide too quickly about this one, I don't know how we would be able to say no to others that might come forward."

Looking to other municipalities and analyzing their policies towards public art seemed practical to Councillor Evelyn Buck, who concurred with Councillor McRoberts that this might set a precedent.

"If we were a foundation this discussion would be perfectly in order," she said. "We are not a foundation, we are a public body. I think we have quite the treasure trove of artists in Aurora. Whatever we do in response to one proposal we would have to consider that we would have to do it in response to other proposals that come before us."

The issue was more clear-cut, however, for Councillor Al Wilson.

"The world doesn't stop until you develop a policy," he said. "When you see something great happening you capture it. Do we need a policy? Yes, we probably do, but I don't need a policy to tell me this is okay."

Councillor Wilson's arguments in favour of going forward evidently swayed the opinion of Mayor Phyllis Morris.

"You just changed my mind on something," said Mayor Morris. "When you see a piece

of art you do go for it."

Mayor Morris, however, shared some concerns over the safety of the sculpture raised by other councillors. As proposed, the branches or flames of the tree come to points and concerns were raised that if the sculpture was freestanding outside the Town Offices, those who misuse the sculpture could be injured.

While the proposed sculpture was originally a free standing structure, Mayor Morris suggested it might work - and avoid safety concerns - best by being installed flush to a wall.

Spirited discussion resumed at the council meeting, but the outcome remained the same.

"In general, I understand what Councillor McRoberts is saying that generally one should have a policy in place prior to making such a decision," said Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas this week, voicing her opinion after chairing the general committee meeting that got this ball rolling.

"However, I do think this situation is somewhat unique. It is a unique situation and the artist has already garnered considerable support and has found means and a method in which there is minimal cost to the town and it has proven quite lovely, so I will be supporting this motion."



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Porter



Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

Glee Club photo - who are they??

There was some fun over the photo that ran on this page last week.

No, not the one of me enjoying the company of two pretty young things in Las Vegas recently.

I'm talking about the photo of the Glee Club from 1961 that I unceremoniously lifted from the Aurora High School (Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School today) yearbook.

Aurora's Kathy Taylor thought it was the wrong picture, and in an e-mail to me suggested it was the Glee Club at R.H. King Collegiate where she went to school from 1959 to 1964.

She wrote "unless I'm losing it, I think the photo of the Glee Club of Aurora High School 1960-1961 is a photo of the Glee Club from R.H. King Collegiate of the same year. Could this be the wrong photo? Too many people are the same ones that I recognize from RH King. Or do all the hairstyles make everyone look like someone else?"

She was Kathy Lindstrom at the time.

The thought that I had selected the wrong photo made my blood run cold, especially since I knew two people in the photograph, and talked to one prior to running the picture.

But Kathy wanted to see what her former classmates thought, so she sent a copy of the picture and a note and got the following responses:

1. "Maybe I am losing it too but I don't see me in there. I also don't remember wearing the classy (!!!) outfits they have on. I see people that do look like us but I don't see me. I may be in the same quandary with you!!!!"

2. "They certainly do look like they are from our era. I see Vicki L...second row from the back at the far left, Wendy H. fourth from the right in the second row from the back, Charlotte S...second row from the front at the far left, Sally B...second row from the back, 7th from the left, Bob R....back row, fourth from the right and Heinz D...back row, 6th from the right. Yes, we all did seem to have the same hair styles, nothing much longer than shoulder length, but definite curls as opposed to our daughter's styles....straight, long, with a part in the middle!!! Those tunics look like the ones we used to wear as part of our everyday uniform in England!"

3. I have the feeling that it is a case of everyone looking the same. I certainly was never in any Glee Club, anywhere. If you were to look at a picture of teenage girls in the mid/late 60's they would all look the same with long hair. No wonder we don't always recognize each other when grown up.. not that I have ever done that .. grown up that is."

4. "Yes there were several kids that looked very similar to the ones we went to school with, but it has to be impossible that they are one and the same. The picture is somewhat blurred, so maybe b/c of mystical persuasion, or fond memories, or desperately seeking Susan so to speak, we're all seeing people who really aren't there. However, I did find this interesting, and was tickled pink to take a longish peek at our possibly former school chums. Thanks for the fun."

"Well Ron, I think the consensus is.....we see what we want to see because it conjures many fond memories of a time gone too quickly by....sigh." Kathy wrote.

So, someone sent pix of the junior and senior Glee Clubs at R.H. King that year, and I share them with you here.

Junior Glee Club



Senior Glee Club



The above photo, as it appeared on a postcard back, probably in the 50s, is a picture of an existing church in Aurora. Where is it? Phone in your answer after noon Friday, April 23 to 905-727-3300 and the first right answer will receive a lunch for two at the Aurora Legion. We need to know the location of the church.

Letter to the Editor

Council had good idea to install artist's work, this reader maintains

To the editor,

Re: Peace Flame Tree

Bravo, Aurora Town Council!

You are going to install local artist Deborah Campo's wonderful sculpture outside of Town Hall. What a good idea!

I agree that we should have a public art strategy, the sooner the better.

It looks like this sculpture will be the catalyst for formulating such a strategy.

We should take advantage of the Planning Act of Ontario that allows for having a say in design aspects, in planning and building matters.

Aurora is in the middle of an Official Plan Review.

Incentives favouring the inclusion of artistic components in every new or rebuilt structure, and every public open space, could be included in the Official Plan redraft, in addition to any allowable art and design related standards – standards with teeth, hopefully.

A town hall meeting

might generate wonderful ideas about how to accommodate art in every undertaking in Aurora.

That might lead to once and for all getting rid of boxes like the new Catholic High School and the GO parking garage or at least retro-fitting them with exterior artistic embellishments.

We need to set some higher architectural standards – so we can be proud of what we put into Aurora's townscape, so we can leave legacies.

And may the spirit of the Peace Flame Tree not only be a catalyst for public art in every nook and cranny of Aurora, but permeate our Town Hall walls, right into the council chambers, and outward, permeate every nook and cranny of the world.

May art be with us!

And may peace be with us!

Klaus Wehrenberg
Aurora

More letters
see Page 6

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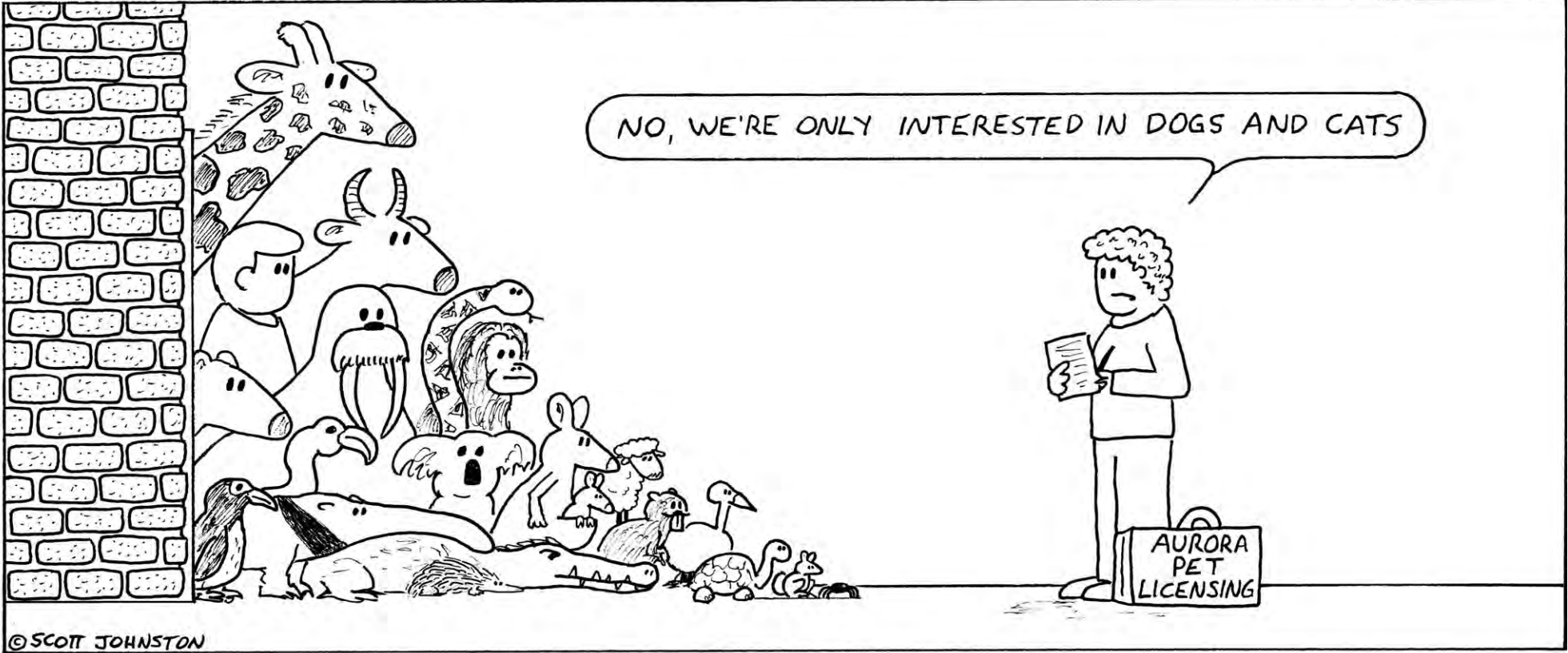
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Party politics in municipal races?

Should political parties enter the Aurora municipal realm by supporting philosophically like-minded mayoralty and council candidates?

We are all aware that election-voting patterns at the federal, provincial and municipal level have been on the decline and that the lowest voter turnout occurs for municipal elections.

Any measure that can be utilized to both further educate and interest our fellow citizens in voting and for a better and more effective local government should be thoroughly examined.

Closer scrutiny of the issue does beg more questions:

- 1.- Would a candidate even want a party endorsement if proffered?
- 2.- If a particular riding association did vote to support municipal candidates, then what type of support would be envisioned?
- 3.- Would it simply be a press release stating that they are backing a specific candidate?
- 4.- Would it be organizational assistance to the candidates?
- 5.- Would it, or could it, involve the utilization of some of the ridings' financial resources in support of candidates?
- 6.- Are there limits under the Canadian Elections Act as to what can be done?
- 7.- As well, by what internal party process is the decision made to support a specific candidate(s)?

If party politics is not introduced to the municipal election process then at the very least the mayoralty candidates should run 'slates' of councillors on a co-coordinated platform.

In Aurora, where we have a nine-person council (including

the mayor), the mayoralty candidates this fall should run - as a team - with a minimum of four other councillor candidates, clearly identifying a coherent and focused policy platform that they will seek the public's confidence on this fall.

This is especially important in our town, as there is not a 'strong' mayor system in place.

Under the current setup our mayor merely has one vote on council, meaning that any legislative agenda that they may have is at the mercy of their council colleagues.

Of course it is important for a mayor to gain consensus and buy-in for their program, and there are obviously informal ad-hoc coalitions on certain issues, but by formalizing an alliance, the voters would know what to expect on the large issues, and, just as important, who to hold accountable if the expected program is not implemented.

Although the work and contribution of every individual councillor is important, we look or should look to the mayor for leadership and to his or her team for the development of a legislative agenda.

This is not to say that a mayor and his/her slate of councillors, once elected to office, would not disagree on certain issues, and appropriately enough, vote differently.

No one expects unanimity on every issue. But we should reasonably expect to see the major platform issues that the team campaigned on get implemented within a reasonable time frame.

Having individuals run as a team may increase voter turnout,

as people may be more likely to come out and vote for a person who is associated with a particular side.

It may even help in the recruitment of volunteers.

It is well known that incumbents enjoy a significant advantage in name recognition.

Running as part of a slate could help generate new blood on council and may significantly reduce the individual expenses associated with seeking office as brochures and signs would only need to be done for the team.

The other nice thing about the campaign slate concept is the symbiotic relationship between the mayoralty candidate and his/her team; they really do need each other.

There is a shared interest in making things work during the campaign and later on while in office.

Electoral platforms and campaigning does matter. The citizens of Aurora deserve a vigorous and respectful debate this upcoming fall on the issues of growth, the level, quality and costs of services, and the appropriate level of taxation.

Clearly drawn policy battle lines could engage and galvanize voters and volunteers alike.

Let's hope that the mayoralty candidates, in between getting ready to attend all those barbecues this summer, assemble a strong campaign slate, which will be ready this fall to offer a vision that resonates with Aurorans.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Heard About Town

By David Heard

Please return, Lord Stanley

The young man you read about in the last few columns is about to take the next positive step.

He is returning to school in September to study Social Work at a local college and with the past as a learning tool as that of a plough turning new soil and fresh growth.

I want to thank the community and know I will love going back to school and come back to community educated and a stronger will to help others move forward.

Thanks to everyone for their support to make this dream a reality.

Around 1990 I started to pick up my passion for hockey again having admired Borje Salming and Jacques Plante then later Doug Gilmour and the Buds new birth.

The Leafs at last didn't suck.

At that time frame I was more impressed with another NHL player who taught me about dedication to community.

He was also the very first Korean to play at that level.

Jim Paek is a humble man with a respect and kind interest in others first.

I am proud to have a signed poster of him with the Pittsburgh Penguins when he was promoting the Food Banks.

Having played with the likes of Mario Lemieux and Wayne Gretzky he also was respected by many in and out of the game.

This, I feel, because of his incredible spirit that resulted in three Stanley Cup rings.

After the 1992 season I received a call from the Paek home.

The Cup was on its way.

Standing in the family driveway neighbours and friends relished in Jim's accomplishment and Jim was smiling from ear to ear and making sure everyone had some time with Mr. Stanley, and himself.

He was making everyone feel like the celebrity, and between the lessons about the food banks and his warmth to others I got a strong message where he got it from.

Then I looked over at his parents.

The acorn had not fallen far from the tree.

Jim's father last week explained to me how they first came to Canada in 1968, a year after Jim was born.

He told his children to work hard and to give back but they had to appreciate what they had and not what they didn't.

Strong words from a man who lost his father at age two. The spirit and values he spoke about made me understand how his son had won all those rings and was on the 1989 gold medal Canadian National Team and won two Turner Cup rings.

His father always wanted Jim to focus on education and the Oshawa Generals gave him that chance to go to school and play the game.

A stay at home defenceman with that simple principal rooted early.

Play unselfish in the game, at home and in community.

Jim got involved during his career supporting sick children as well as blood donor clinics and drug and alcohol prevention and

awareness.

He is now assisting with coaching the Detroit Red Wings in this year's playoffs.

More than 400 people shared the joy of Lord Stanley that day here in Aurora and we owe this to an NHL first.

Thank you, Jim Paek and family for a fantastic memory and helping me renew my passion for the game that is our heritage.

I hope the mug comes home again or just down the DVP a bit.

One day soon I know the cup will be hoisted not far from Aurora because I feel the energy again.

Possibly, when an NHL first happens next year, when Nazim Kadri sports the blue and white as the first Muslim player in the league.

To Nazim I pray he has that same positive attitude as Jim and will lead the team to great heights.

It has been way too long with another spring and no bars full of cheering fans or backyard parties with the TV on the patio.

To Nazim I say, God be with you.

I wish I could type Arabic.

On your quest to the Stanley Cup, we are pulling for you. I have to be optimistic that day is coming soon.

I believe because the sky is blue because God, too, is a Toronto Maple Leafs fan.

David Heard can be emailed at:
astepintimeaurora.Yahoo.com

Letters to the Editor

Licensing system for pets “ideal situation”: reader

To the editor,

This letter is in response to Councillor Al Wilson's concern about door-to-door licensing and he feels that the citizens know of the by-law therefore they will get a license for their pet. (The Auroran, April 13)

I disagree. People know to file their taxes, and it doesn't mean everyone does.

People know to NOT park in handicapped parking (if not handicapped), or

in clearly marked NO parking areas.

Unfortunately, I see every day many people parked outside the schools in areas that are designated NO parking.

We had two dogs that I renewed the licenses for every year.

Unfortunately, we don't have any dogs now, but I didn't and don't mind people coming around to check.

First off, it's an ideal situation.

Dogs might bark, or a

cat might stroll by when the canvasser is at the door.

This makes it harder for someone to circumvent the system.

I also didn't mind people coming by because I didn't think it was fair that I renewed every year and others didn't.

In the past years, I have found at least four dogs.

One I drove to the OSPCA in Newmarket (Aurora uses them instead of the Kennel Inn), one I took all the way to Scarborough with me to

work (wee hours in the morning) so I could call the vet when it opened because it had only the rabies tag.

One I took to the emergency vets to see if it had a microchip and when it didn't I took it back to the area I found it (at that time dog control was not open Sunday) and spent an hour walking it around until the owner showed up.

This wasn't the most convenient thing, because I had a baby and toddler at home.

The last dog I took home to my house because there was a phone number to contact the owner.

I guess my point is that I alone have found four stray dogs, and I've tried my best to get them back to their

owners.

If people use the Town tags, then this will help the OSPCA (they should have a copy of the list) track the owner down quickly.

J. Preston
Aurora

Daffodils Days big success in Aurora

To the editor,

From March 25 to 28, more than 250 volunteers with the Holland River unit of the Canadian Cancer Society donated many hours selling Hope Daffodils.

This year was sunny, chilly and a little rainy but through it all the commitment to Fight Back made a huge impact.

Daffodils Days kicks off Cancer Awareness

Month and our annual Residential Campaign.

As usual, Aurora residents joined the fight and tens of thousands of stems found a home.

We could not do that without the many volunteers who made it happen.

I asked a long time volunteer what motivates her and she said "It's because every now and then somebody looks you in the eye and says thank

you and you know they have a cancer story of their own and you know they mean it from the bottom of their heart".

We would like to recognize the Aurora businesses who opened their doors to our volunteers to make this a successful campaign.

We would also like to make a special mention of Skelton Truck lines who generously stored and refrigerated our daffodils

for the duration of the campaign.

Thank you to all our volunteers and donors.

We hope that this year will bring many new discoveries in the fight against cancer.

Keep an eye out for our door-to-door canvassers!

Alex Reil
Unit Manager
Holland River
Unit, Canadian
Cancer Society

Column sent “shivers” up, down spine: reader

To the editor,

I read with much interest your article "Where do you park?", in the April 13th edition of The Auroran.

Firstly, your recommendation to tear down the two buildings and pave them

over for a parking lot sent shivers up and down my spine.

The old library houses the 140 Aurora Air Cadet Squadron, and a few other groups.

The Air Cadets are a not-for-profit organization

that grows our young teenagers into highly respectful adults.

If the Town decides to tear down this building, there is nowhere in Aurora that we can have our headquarters.

It is very difficult to run

this organization without worrying about our building being taken out from under us.

As far as the Aurora Cultural Centre goes, why can't people walk, park further away and take the bus?

After all, exercise is good to get.

I thought Aurora was a Town to admire and cherish as a home-grown town and not a parking lot.

If the Aurora Cultural Committee knew they would be such a success, didn't they think there might be a parking problem?

Heather Horton
140 Aurora
Air Cadet Squadron
SSC Treasurer

Signs already?

To the editor,

Well, what have I missed in the Town of Aurora?

It is April and I see election signs up already.

Did I miss a notice that moved the election date up to early in the year from the November date?

I thought that there was a law or bylaw on time limits for placement of election signs?

Do we really have to put up with this eye pollution for seven months?

Having asked all those

questions just begs for more.

Who is Clowater for Mayor?

I thought that I knew all the mayors and councillors in Aurora, never heard of that name here before.

I think that before he or anyone runs for the top position in the Town of Aurora, he/they should do a little studying of the rules etc. and perhaps spend some time on council.

John Swarbrick
Aurora

EDITOR'S NOTE: It's our understanding that the signs have been removed. We also know the date for the next municipal election is Monday, October 25.

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Frankly Speaking

By Frank Klees

McGuinty's drug war

The McGuinty government's recent decision to legislate away a substantial portion of the income that pharmacists receive from generic drug companies has created a storm of controversy.

So what is it that has our neighbourhood pharmacists up in arms?

For years, a portion of a pharmacy's income has come from "professional allowances".

These are payments to pharmacists by generic drug companies, based on the volume of their prescription drugs dispensed by the pharmacy.

The more generic drugs a pharmacy dispenses, the higher the professional allowance.

Not only is there a financial incentive to the pharmacy, but by encouraging the substitution of generics for brand-name drugs, pharmacists have also been saving consumers and the government millions of dollars because of their lower prices.

These incentive payments have been an integral part of the commercial terms under which pharmacies do business in this province for many years.

In fact, it was the McGuinty government that passed a regulation in 2006 that designated these payments as "professional allowances", and prescribed that they could only be used for specific "patient-focused" services.

These services include counselling to patients with conditions such as diabetes, asthma and high blood pressure to manage their conditions and complex medication regimes.

As part of this direct patient care, pharmacists provide care for minor ailments and support to patients concerning their treatment and prescriptions for what are often complex medical conditions.

These professional allowances are an essential part of the revenue of pharmacies, and it is this revenue source that the McGuinty government is now characterizing as a "kick-back" and is legislating away.

What does this mean to your pharmacist?

For the average-sized pharmacy in Ontario, it means a decrease in revenue of more than \$300,000 per year.

The McGuinty government is arguing that this loss of revenue will be offset by a one dollar per prescription increase in dispensing fees and a new professional service fee.

But according to local pharmacists, these won't even come close to offsetting the loss of revenue represented by the professional allowance.

Now you know why your neighbourhood pharmacist is so concerned and is mounting an all-out effort to fight the McGuinty government's so-called "drug reform bill".

We should all stand with them, because there is a principle at stake that goes far beyond what is playing out between the pharmacists of Ontario and the McGuinty government namely, what gives this government the right to dictate to a private sector business the commercial terms under which it conducts its business?

To wash our hands of this is to endorse yet one more intrusion of government into our lives, our businesses and into our private affairs.

Which profession or business is next in line for this "government knows best" attitude of the McGuinty government?

I know many of our local pharmacists and I know them to be upstanding and responsible members of our communities, providing important health care services.

Dalton McGuinty's assault on these professionals is unwarranted and an insult to them and to their profession.

I support and will defend our community pharmacies and will be advocating for a fair and responsible resolution to this dispute.

Within the next few days, I will be organizing a round table meeting with pharmacists in our community to develop a specific action plan.

By standing with our pharmacists, we will also be defending a fundamental principle of free enterprise.

A principle we cannot afford to allow the McGuinty government to erode - regardless of how subtle the attack.

As always, I invite your comments and questions on this or any other issue of interest to you. Please feel free to contact me on my direct line at 416-509-8999 or through my website at www.frankklees.com.

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SUMMER MORTIMER

Aurora Duck heads for the Netherlands

Summer Mortimer, shown above, and Coach, her dad, Craig Mortimer from the Aurora Ducks Swimming Club have just been selected to the Canadian Paralympic Team heading to the World International Parlympic Championships at the Peter Van den Hoogenband Swimming Pool, Eindhoven, Netherlands in August this year.

Canada will be sending a team of 30 swimmers.

At the recent Spring Can-AM National Championships, for Paralympics Athletes at Palo Alto College, San Antonio, Texas; Summer set two world records in the 100 and 200 backstroke in the S-10 disability category.

She also set three number

one world rankings in the 50 free, 100 free, and 200 Individual Medley; giving her five gold medals and one bronze medal in the 400 Free where she broke the Canadian Record.

Summer is 16 years old.

Competing at the meet were teams from Canada, the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Columbia and Turkey.

This meet served as the selection meet for the 2010 World IPC Championships in Eindhoven.

Summer is coached by her father Craig, who is one of the original directors of Ducks Swimming and a long-time national level coach.

Reg Chappell, President of Ducks Swimming, said that Craig has been an invaluable

asset to Ducks Swimming both from an administrative and coaching side.

Craig was thrilled with Summer's efforts, the quality of the meet; the camaraderie of the athletes and an eye opener as to the tenacity of many individuals who have had real life setbacks and don't give up.

Summer was an aspiring able bodied athlete until a trampoline accident left her disabled.

She and her father did not give up their dream and after a long rehabilitation period have fought their way back to success.

After the meet, Summer is now focusing on the 2012 Paralympic Games in London, England.



Aurora Minor Hockey Association



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING 2010/2011 REGISTRATION AND REP TRYOUTS (AAA, AA, A, AE, SELECT)

Registration for the 2010-2011 hockey season will begin online APRIL 9TH, and in person on APRIL 9th.

Please refer to our website www.auroraminorhockey.net for further information.

Registration fees for the 2010/2011 season are:

\$500.00 (Tyke to Minor Midget)

\$535.00 (Midget)

The AMHA will accept children born in 2004 for our Tyke Hockey Program.

It is recommended that they have either taken skating lessons or completed one year of Opti Hockey.

A PERMISSION TO SKATE FOR AAA TRYOUTS CANNOT BE PROVIDED UNTIL APRIL 12TH (after the completion of the OHF Championships).

In order to receive a permission to skate or tryout for an AMHA Rep Team (AA, A, AE, SELECT) PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) You must reside in Aurora or reside in a right of choice area (refer to OMHA website for information on right of choice areas).
- 2) You must be registered with the AMHA and the fee paid in full.

IF YOU ARE A NEW RESIDENT OF AURORA, YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE THE NECESSARY TRANSFER PAPERWORK PRIOR TO REGISTRATION. PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR THIS PROCESS.

For those requiring registration for AAA tryouts, the AMHA office will be open:

SAT APRIL 24	MON APRIL 26	WED APRIL 28
10AM – 1PM	7PM – 9PM	7PM – 9PM

DURING THESE AMHA OFFICE HOURS WE WILL ONLY REGISTER THOSE WHO REQUIRE A PERMISSION TO SKATE.

AMHA Rep tryouts will begin on April 27TH. Once the schedule is confirmed it will be posted on the website.

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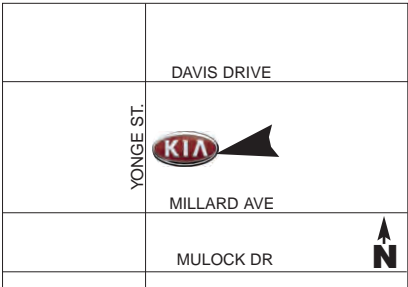
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Last week, members of the Aurora Optimist "Quarter Century Club" received their 25-year pins from the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration in a ceremony in Richmond Hill. In the top photo, 25-year charter members Grant Perry, Steve Hinder, Ken McIsaac and Alex Ansell are joined by Optimist President Ken Banks, left, and Frank Klees, MPP Newmarket-Aurora. In the lower photo, two Aurora residents, as well as two from Newmarket, all members of the York Regional Police Male Chorus, received their 15-year pins and certificates which were presented by Mr. Klees at the same event. They are Ross Bovair, right, and Lowell McClenny. Other Aurora award winners included Carol, Jason and Ron Wake, John Smale, Joan and Jack Patterson, Karen Connors, Ron Weese, Stephen Kimmerer, Judy Janzen, Mike Curci, Mike Hindle, Ken Smith, Judy Ryan, Janice Witty, Barbara Thornton, Marianne Mandryk, Peter Blakely, Rob Whiting and Janice Walsh.

Aurora will take bids to fix house

From page 1
true cost analysis on what it would take to restore the Petch House to its former glory.

"I am at a bit of a loss to understand the councillors who are not supporting what is before us, why they wouldn't want to take this extra step at no cost... to see what the actual cost of repairing this would be," said Councillor Gallo. "There is no cost. That is all we're requesting to do."

Councillor Wilson, however, was not swayed.

"I do believe there is a soft dollar cost here," he said. "There is staff time involved in putting out the RFP, managing the RFP, sending it out to companies that have to prepare. We weren't happy with the level of detail in the last cost analysis, so there would be a fairly detailed cost analysis, very specific. I think that is all time and money, and coming back [to the Council table] is time, so I would suggest, in my humble view, there is a cost."

For Councillor Buck, opposing the motion was a matter of practicality.

The motion, in addition to sending out an RFP, called on the mayor to sit down with Whitwell Developments to see if they are still committed to its 2003 agreement which states they would cover the costs of moving the building.

"At that time, [the Petch House] could be moved in one piece," said Councillor Buck. "It has sat there for all these years with a huge hole in its roof with rain and snow pouring through, with animals living and dying inside the building, with mold growing across the floor and up the walls, and boards rotting regularly."

"We've had two experts...which have advised us that it couldn't be moved in one piece. It would have to be taken apart and vintage boards found to reconstruct it, and the first one said it could-

n't be reconstructed in its current size; it would be about the size of a three-hole privy by the time they finish taking out all the rot."

Councillor Buck said Whitwell agreed to move the house in one piece and the Town needs to receive clarification from them on their current position first before going forward.

Not knowing this going in, she said, would make it difficult to receive an accurate proposal.

"I don't see how we can ask anyone to submit a proposal to do something with this building if they don't know where they are actually beginning," she said. "I think the meeting with Whitwell needs to be held first to establish what costs they are willing to accept now, different from what they were willing to do seven years ago when the building could still be moved in one piece."

Mayor Phyllis Morris said the resolution did not incorporate a time frame and that she would listen "to my colleagues and Councillor Buck's comments that [the meeting] should happen first."

The motion passed 6-2, with Councillors Wilson and Buck voting against it.

Councillor Evelina MacEachern was not present.

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From page 1
York Region District School Board.

"We're working with tour operators and airlines to provide for return travel at the earliest possible opportunity," said Mr. Virgo. "They are certainly being advised that there will not likely be any flights taking off or landing for the next couple of days anyway but, like everybody else, we're continuing to monitor the situation."

The Tour was organized by Ellison Travel, and Mr. Virgo said they are doing a "first rate job" trying to organize a swift return of the students and staff.

"[They are] keeping the school informed almost on an hour by hour basis of any new developments or opportunities. They have been really excellent at making individual accommodations for specific students."

"We had one student, for example, who had taken only enough medication for the expected period of the trip so arrangements were made to get some replacement medication via this group and they have been really exemplary in terms of the level of serv-

ice."

The Aurora students currently have access to a school close to their hotel where they are able to make use of the school's gymnasium.

The school is also providing them with internet access to stay in touch with parents and teachers.

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Coyotes spotted in Aurora district

If walking in an area with reported coyote activity, Mr. Ballantyne said there are a number of safety tips to take into consideration: carry a personal alarm and bright flashlight; keep your pets leashed at all times; keep

If you are approached by a coyote, "make yourself appear larger and shout and/or clap your hands together; make sure the coyote sees you as a person and not as its next meal; stay calm, hold your ground; and never run."

The interim control bylaw does restrict the current use of the laneway for residents.

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Correction notice: Last weeks presentation with Kam Sadiq, right, and John Welsh said John is a Physiotherapist, however he is actually a Massage Therapist in Aurora. You can book an appointment with John at 416-676-7681 or email him at jwelsh@mobilitymassage.ca.

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In a brief, but effective, ceremony, the Aurora Food Pantry held its official opening at its new location Thursday night. The Pantry has moved from its former location in the basement of Aurora's old post office on Yonge Street to the rear of the building once used by Aurora Cable Internet on Industrial Parkway South. Handling the ribbon cutting chores (the "ribbon" was made from recycled milk bags) were, left to right, Lorna Rummenie, Monica Day, board treasurer and Patricia Wallace, board secretary. The Pantry operates every Saturday, and the second and fourth Thursday evenings each month. On hand for the event were members of the Irvine family, owners of the building.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Planting plans thwarted

From page 1
Mayor Morris for clarification on the issue.

"I believe [April 24] is the Mayor's Anti-Litter Day and I believe that is the day Neighbourhood Network had organized for trees to be planted by students from high school and town parks and were refused that opportunity," said Councillor Buck.

Mayor Morris said she didn't "recall anyone asking to come and plant trees on town property".

"What I understand is that they selected a date that was the same day as the Mayor's Anti-Litter day and we are looking for volunteers at the same time," she continued. "So I think they're actually going ahead on that day anyway so we're not involved in that. That's a separate thing they're doing on different property. That is not something that is involved in the Mayor's Anti-Litter Day."

Councillor Buck, however, questioned this.

"It is a Neighbourhood Network project and it was planned already," Councillor Buck continued. "It's taking place in Newmarket and your response immediately as that you weren't aware that anyone made a request this was happening. Am I to understand from that all Neighbourhood Network needs to do is make a request to go forward with these plans?"

No request was made to put trees on Town property, reiterated Mayor Morris, adding that sites selected need to go through staff to bring it to Council, the Leisure Services Advisory Committee, or the Environmental Advisory Committee.

"Without the request being approved by Council, LSAC, or EAC, it would be difficult to cooperate with that," the mayor said. "If a request was made and granted then that wouldn't be a problem. So we can take from that if someone wants to plant trees on Town property and they make a request and it is granted they are permitted to do so."

However, Mr. Taylor said Neighbourhood Network did go through staff.

"I would have thought that whatever was necessary to be done in terms of protocol of the Town would have been done by the staff or they would have advised us that we were acting improperly," he said. "But we did go through the staff and we thought we were taking the right approach, which was the same approach we took in Newmarket."

In advance of Neighbourhood Network's tree planting program, the

organization went to all area high schools looking for between 25 and 30 students from each school to plant trees in allocated parks or open spaces in Aurora or Newmarket, preferably close to their schools.

While some plantings will take place on non-municipal lands in Aurora, Neighbourhood Network anticipates some Aurora volunteers heading to Newmarket to help with projects there.

Duplicate bridge results

Monday, April 12: N/S - Newman and Murray Lucille Sequeira and Dave Sinclair; Audrey Robertson and Mitzy Brown; Melody and Dennis McFadden; Irving and Jeannine Mary Oglanby and Bernie Mackie; Bonnie Scheel and O'Brien. E/W - Don Pat Varney, (tie).

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Senior Scape

The Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) Spring Sale takes place this Saturday, April 24th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This week is the time to bring in donations to the seniors' centre, and items urgently required include books, baked goods and household items including ornaments and all kinds of functional saleable items (except clothing) in need of a new home.

Among the crafts is a treasure of white elephants or glorious peacocks, depending entirely on your point of view or taste, but as always at Spring Sales, the eye of the beholder is enabled by keen insight.

From the treasures seeking a new home, fine pickings emerge to become the proceeds of shrewd shopping.

Many items discovered in previous sales have been reborn as the prized possessions of astute new owners.

A mini-Aurora Farmers' Market will join with the ASA this year and will offer their variety of excellent wares in addition to merchandise from other vendors, added to the ASA groups of crafts and other treasures derived from Aurora.

The mayor's volunteer, litter clean up campaign, which is always well supported by seniors from the ASA, also starts at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 24th, which is an unfortunate coincidental clash with the Seniors' Spring Sale, but is a worthy venture and deserving of support by all residents.

Hopefully, volunteers will spend time picking up litter and have enough enthusiasm, to visit the Spring Sale also.

Seniors find rivers and streams, ponds and lakes worthy of attention, since if waterways are healthy and able to support fish and other aquatic life, that provides a visible and vibrant indication that the water is reasonably healthy.

The appearance of ducks and geese is a good

sign, but deep down health resides in the mud of our waters and the creatures that live therein.

Healthy waterways vibrating with life portray our town in a good light.

The Board of Directors searched for several months for a quality candidate to bolster the depleted ASA By-Law Committee, and congratulations are in order for Eric Stangl who has accepted his appointment as chairman of this demanding position.

For the many who struggle unnecessarily while operating computers, please note, the month of May is expected to be the last opportunity to take computer lessons until the fall, when lessons may start again, depending upon demand and teacher availability.

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Seniors coordinator Karie Papillon was a guest at the recent Computer Club Executive Committee meeting, and Karie had a project to present and requested Computer Club participation.

The project is "Try it Week", which briefly is an attempt to offer friendly persuasion to members to try some activity in the Seniors' Centre, other than what they usually do.

Support among the committee members was immediate; Karie gave a bright and articulate presentation.

The project is scheduled for the week of June 21st, and sounds interest-

ing and challenging to members to open up their imaginations to what other members enjoy doing.

Karie suggests finding something active or interesting or something that always had appeal but never quite drew you to try it and then take a crack at it.

Jytte Gillies has hit a home run with her initiative to present opera in the seniors' lounge on the sec-

ond and fourth Tuesdays of every month.

I describe her initiative as a home run because of the outstanding attendance and the great atmosphere that attends her presentations of celebrated music, plus the animated discussions which follow.

The opera group is not a singing group, it is for those who enjoy listening to great music and who like

to discuss it afterwards with kindred spirits, or pay attention to what others have to say.



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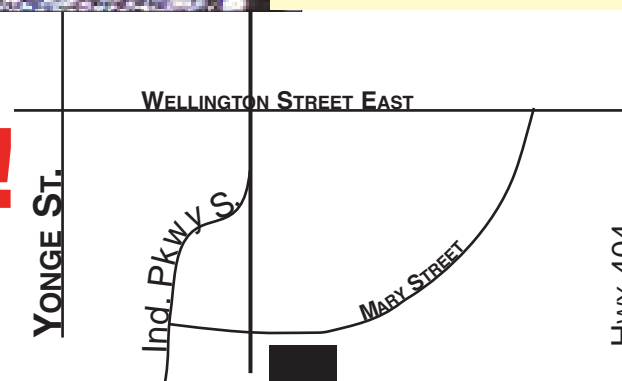
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