

# Please see inside for our *Kids'* Summer Camp Guide

**TIRECRAFT**



**905-841-0319**  
29 Industry St

**Beverley Varcoe 905-727-3154**

Highly Qualified to Handle Your  
Real Estate Needs with Over 20  
years of Award Winning service!

**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
YOUR COMMUNITY REALTY  
BROKERAGE  
Independently Owned & Operated



**SRES**  
Seniors Real Estate  
Life. On your terms.™

Your Community Realty, Aurora  
**www.beverleyvarcoe.com**



BROKER, CRES, SRES  
Market Value Appraiser



**Open Road BMW**  
**www.openroadbmw.ca**

87 Mulock Drive,  
Newmarket  
(just east of Yonge St.)  
**1-888-295-8714**

# THE AURORED

*Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper*

Vol. 10 No. 29

905-727-3300

**auroran.com**

FREE

Week of May 11, 2010

## Road repair under budget, council learns

Council is expected this week to tender contracts to various providers to begin working on the reconstruction of seven area streets: Nisbet Drive, Sandusky Crescent, Kemano Road, Sioux Gate, Foreht Crescent, Davis Road, and Jones Court.

These projects have come in \$1.2 million under budget.

The reconstruction of Nisbet Drive and Sandusky Crescent is slated to include replacing the granular base and asphalt surface of the thoroughfare, as well as the replacement of curbs and gutters, improving the storm sewers, and replacing the damaged sidewalk.

Improvements to Kemano Road, Sioux Gate, Foreht Crescent, Davis Road, and Jones Court include replacement of the road itself, as well as the installation of curbs, gutters, storm sewers, catch basins, and a new sidewalk.

Davis Road and Jones Court will also see the construction of a new water main.

"The reconstruction of Nisbet Drive, Sandusky Crescent, Kemano Road, Sioux Gate, Foreht Crescent, Davis Road, and Jones Court are included in the Town of Aurora 10-Year Capital Reconstruction Program for 2010 with design work having been completed in 2009," said Ilmar Simanovskis, Director of Infrastructure and Environmental Services in a report to Council.

The total costs for the Nisbet Drive and Sandusky Crescent projects come in at \$823,764.25, while the combined projects for Kemano

**Please see page 8**



## Breakfast is served!!

The annual Aurora Farmers' Market opened Saturday at the Town Park for another year. Serving breakfast, as he usually does, is Gabriel Schacher from Gabriel's Cafe on Yonge Street. Even though the temperatures were below normal, a good crowd attended the opening of the market, which is located across from the controversial Wells Street Public School.

*Auroran photo by David Falconer*

## Grand Master to visit Aurora for celebration

The leader of Ontario's more than 50,000 Freemasons will visit Aurora this Saturday, as the lodge celebrates its 150th anniversary with a party at the Aurora Legion.

Raymond Daniels, elected Grand Master for a two-year term last July, will attend a rededication of the cornerstone for Rising Sun Lodge, followed by the lodge's anniversary celebration.

Mr. Daniels, a retired music and history teacher from Kitchener, who also served as a conductor and church choirmaster, has said he is anxious to increase understanding of Freemasonry, which has been active in Ontario for more than 150 years.

"Our fraternity has been in exis-

tence for a very long time and we've been quietly endeavoring to assist men to be better citizens and better men and through their efforts, have an impact on their community," he said. "The real problem facing our craft in general...is the lack of understanding of the full potential of Freemasonry to develop men's lives."

Masonry initiates more than 1,300 men in more than 570 lodges across the province each year. Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternal organization. Today, there are more than four million Masons worldwide, half of them in North America.

Activity Saturday at the Legion gets underway at 6 p.m. and includes a dinner at 7 p.m.

## More money needed for disabled population

The Town of Aurora might need to increase program funding to adequately meet the growing needs of the Town's disabled population.

In a meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee last Wednesday, the Committee recommended that Council ask the Parks and Recreation department to consider preparing an annual fund to cover more integration workers for summer camps and all leisure services in Town to accommodate kids

with special needs.

The Committee also expressed its support for a measure allocating an additional \$3,000 from the Accessibility operating budget to help narrow the gap in services this year.

The move comes after several appeals by Aurora resident Nevin Bhimani on behalf of her 16-year-old daughter, Natasha, who has special needs.

As The Auroran reported

**Please see page 8**

## We're the Pack and Ship Experts!

- Packaging Supplies
- Courier Services
- Ask about our pack and ship promise

**The UPS Store®**  
14845-6 Yonge Street  
Aurora, ON L4G 6H8  
T: 905.713.1632  
store73@theupsstore.ca



**The UPS Store**



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.

\*\*\*\*\*

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 keepsing-ing@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.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

At the Aurora Seniors' Centre will be the movie "Leap Year" starring Amy Adams, Matthew Goode, and John Lithgow. Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and admission is \$1.50 for members and \$2 for Non-Members. Admission price includes the movie, refreshments and treats.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

Amnesty International meets at 7.30 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church in the Rectory (house east of parking lot), at 79 Victoria Street. New members are welcome. For more information, call 905-713-6713.

SATURDAY, MAY 15

A buffet-style brunch, known as the "Pomegranate" Brunch, will take place in St. Andrew's Hall at the Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria from 10.30 a.m. to noon. Tickets are \$15 per person or two for \$25, and must be purchased in advance. This event is sponsored by the Outreach and Missions team. Call 905 713-3203 for further information.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Women's Centre of York Region (WCYR) presents its Second Annual Home and Garden Party at the Tuscany Event Centre in Aurora. All proceeds from this fundraising event will go to support WCYR counselling programs. Event gets underway at 11 a.m. and continues to 3 p.m. For more information or to order tickets go to www.wcyr.ca or call 905-853-9270, extension 107.

SUNDAY, MAY 16

The Bernard Pears Chorale will present their spring concert at the First Baptist Church, 33 Wellington Street East at 6.30 p.m. Light refreshments will follow the concert.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

At the Aurora Seniors' Centre tonight the movie will be "Invictus", starring Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon. Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and it'll cost \$1.50 for members and \$2 for non-members. Price of admission includes the movie, refreshments and treats.

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.

TUESDAY, MAY 25

The movie tonight at the Aurora Seniors' Centre is "Serious Moonlight" starring Meg Ryan and Timothy Hutton. The movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and admission is \$1.50 for members and \$2 for non-members. Ticket price includes the movie, refreshments and treats.

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.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

Launch of Artcures Art Exhibition Show and Sale at the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, at 7 p.m. A display and sale of York Region visual artists; works in a variety of media including oil, watercolour, acrylic, pottery and more. Artcures is a local not-for-profit organization dedicated to inspiring wellness through creativity. Ongoing through to June 13th; for sale hours call the Centre at 905-713-1818 or send an e-mail to

info@auroraculturalcentre.ca. There is no admission fee for this event.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Merlin's Hollow, the English flower garden, is open, free of charge, to the public today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 181 Centre Crescent.

SATURDAY, JULY 3

Merlin's Hollow, the English flower garden, is open, free of charge, to the public today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 181 Centre Crescent.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society invites you to attend its annual Aurora Garden Tour. Spend an afternoon on a self-guided tour of seven gardens where the owners and creators of these lovely landscape designs will be present to chat with you. The tour is from noon to 5 p.m., rain or shine! Tickets are \$10 and are available in Aurora at Art of the Matter, 2 Orchard Heights Boulevard; Caruso & Co., 15210 Yonge Street; Flowers by Terry, 14799 Yonge Street; and R&R Revisited, 95 Edward Street; and at our booth at the Aurora Farmers' Market June 19th, 26th, and July 3rd. For more information call 905-727-5926 or visit <http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/aurora/news/details/5469>.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

Merlin's Hollow, the English flower garden, is open, free of charge, to the public today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 181 Centre Crescent. The three-quarter acre garden was started in 1981 and contains more than 1,500 different plants. Plants from the garden are sold on the four open days only.

GIGANTIC  
Yard Sale\*

Saturday May 15th  
8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
and Sunday, May 16th,  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS:  
ELECTRICAL • PLUMBING  
WINDOWS & DOORS • FLOORING  
VANITIES • TOILETS  
BARBECUES

Shop early  
as quantities are limited

\*Please note that this sale excludes  
products from our warehouse.



Aurora Home Hardware  
Building Centre  
289 Wellington Street East Aurora,  
Ontario L4G 6H6 905-727-4751

Aurora Fine Foods

More than 80  
varieties of  
FROZEN ENTRÉES  
and MEAT PIES  
Buy SIX —  
get ONE FREE!

EASTER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

☒ Turkey with all the trimmings ☒ Beef  
☒ Chicken ☒ Lamb ☒ Ham

Call now to place your order: 905-727-2288.

Don't forget...  
We have KAWARTHA  
DAIRY ICE CREAM!

Our Specialty is Gourmet Foods — Cheeses, Paté, Hors d'Oeuvres, Lobster Tails, Crab Legs, Fresh Fish

14879 Yonge Street, Aurora - located in the Rogers Plaza Tel: 905-727-2288



# Long-time town employee dies

The Town of Aurora lowered the flags outside Town Hall this week in mourning for long-time Town employee Brad Schonauer.

Mr. Schonauer died Tuesday after a lengthy battle with cancer.

He is survived by wife Darlene, children Amanda and Lindsey and their families.

Mayor Phyllis Morris remembered Mr. Schonauer as "a decent guy."

"I've known Brad a long time

being one of our long-serving staff members," Mayor Morris told The Auroran. "At this time we're remembering Darlene and the family, our concern is for them and our condolences are for them. He was a really helpful, nice man to work with"

Aurora CAO Neil Garbe called Mr. Schonauer "a dedicated public servant."

"Brad [served] the residents of Aurora for over 32 years," said Mr. Garbe. "Brad started with the

Town in September of 1977 as a Union Service Person, then became a Technical Assistant and in 1990 became the Roads/Traffic Supervisor.

"Brad will be missed greatly, personally and professionally."

Councillor Evelyn Buck recalled the camaraderie between Mr. Schonauer, Town Staff, and councillors.

"Brad was an important member of the family that provided Aurora with first-class service," she said, recalling the time he and his family came to council when he was honoured with

an award for his 30 years of service with the Town.

"In times past, we would have gathered in a room in the Town Hall, served sandwiches and hoisted a glass to celebrate the things we had done well together," she added. "Politicians are nothing without people like Brad Schonauer. He has been sorely missed during his illness. He will be hard to replace."

Viewings were held at Newmarket's Cedarview Community Church on Friday, followed by a funeral Saturday morning and burial in the

Queensville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations in

Brad's memory go to Southlake's Stronach Regional Cancer Centre.



**DAMIR VRANCIC  
LAW OFFICE**  
**BUSINESS LAW,  
REAL ESTATE,  
WILLS & ESTATES**

**905-841-6411**

Providing valued and trusted legal advice since 1983



The Pine Tree Potters' Guild held their Spring Pottery Sale at the Aurora Cultural Centre last week. Here, member Cathy Harris displays some of her pottery. Sales at the centre were brisk, even though the weather did not cooperate.

*Auroran photo by David Falconer*

**GRAYSTONES**  
RESTAURANT

**gourmet to go**

**Schnitzels our specialty**

**905-727-9561**

14889 Yonge Street, Aurora  
www.graystonesrestaurant.ca

**TOO TIRED TO COOK?**

**RELAX...**

Let us prepare your meal. You just pick it up, take it home and

**ENJOY!**

**10% DISCOUNT ON TAKE-OUT!**

Sorry - no delivery available

**GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**



THE RESIDENCES OF

SPRING HILL  
KING CITY

ACTIVE LIFESTYLE CONDOMINIUM  
FOR SENIORS

**PICTURESQUE  
COUNTRY  
SETTING**

**KING CITY**



**REGISTER TODAY**

[residencesofspringhill.ca](http://residencesofspringhill.ca)

**905-833-9030**

**THE RESIDENCES OF  
SPRING HILL**

**Luxurious Condominium Living  
for Seniors**





## Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

# Here’s how the other half lives

Had a chance to experience how the other half lives Saturday night,

Pretty impressive.

I crashed a party given in the wilds of Whitchurch-Stouffville to raise funds for Christine Elliott, one time PC leader candidate and the wife of Jim Flaherty, Canada's Minister of Finance.

I wanted to go to this shin-dig because I learned a high school friend of mine, Mike Harris, once Premier of Ontario, was going to be there.

And he was, along with about 100 other people, jammed into the foyer of this be-it-ever-so-humble home located off Kennedy Road, (Sixth Concession) between Bloomington and the Aurora Sideroad.

The foyer was probably as big as the house I live in.

Anyhow, all the pictures were taken (see below), the greetings were made and I was ready to leave. I had been there about three minutes.

But because I was travelling with MPP Frank Klees, and he was busy doing whatever MPPs do at events like this, I settled in and talked to whomever would talk to me.

Actually, I spent most of the evening with Georgina Mayor Rob Grossi (who describes his town as the municipality “above everything”), East Gwillimbury Mayor Jamie Young, and Richmond Hill Regional Councillor Vito Spatafora.

Spatafora was elected Regional and local councillor in 2006 after he won the Ward 1 councillor (Oak Ridges) in 1993.

He can’t understand why Aurora doesn’t have a ward system, and guffawed at my idea that Oak Ridges should be part of Aurora.

He also said Aurora doesn’t need a regional councillor because every other York Region municipality would want another one, too.

Vito and his wife, Frances, (she was there Saturday night, too) raised three children and have lived in Richmond Hill since 1979.

Rather than get into a full-scale argument over why Aurora should or should not have a ward system, I suggested we meet later to discuss the issues.

He agreed, so neither of us had to go outside and pound the other person silly.

Maybe later...

On the drive from Aurora to Whitchurch-Stouffville, we were greeted by a snowstorm (and it was May 8), which I told Frank I had arranged so Mike Harris would feel like he was back in North Bay, where, according to one person, it snows six months of the year.

Yep, it was quite a night...



Mike Harris, former premier of Ontario, was one of the guests at a fundraiser near Aurora Saturday night. He met up with an old schoolmate, Ron Wallace, editor of The Auroran (top photo). In the photo beneath, Mike, in 1960, was a member of the high school ski team and the photo came from a yearbook.

Top photo by David Falconer



It was once referred to as “muddy Yonge Street” and this postcard shows why. Back in the early 1900s, Yonge Street was the route used by a street railway that ran up to Sutton through Newmarket. Streetcars could share the line with railway cars because the gauge was the same. It wasn’t unusual to see a box-car being pushed or pulled from the overpass in the south end to Collis Leather, on tracks that went north on Yonge, west on Wellington and south on Mill Street to the leather building, which is still there. Building in the background of the above postcard was, for years, the home of Aurora’s Town Office, fire department, police department and library, however, it started out as the home for the original Aurora’s Farmer’s Market.

### Letters to the Editor

# He needs to pay money to get an answer from town

To the editor,

I've been down this road before.

The Town of Aurora is following the “Freedom Of Information” (FOI) process by the book and they are preparing a cost estimate for the town to answer a simple question, namely, is the list of recent senior and mid-management turnover typical or some kind of an anomaly when compared with the previous three council terms?

I asked the Clerk to answer this question and he then promptly asked me to submit an FOI request and pay \$5.

Now apparently the games begin.

The initial posting on the Aurora Citizen Blog is called: A Monument to the Leadership of Mayor Phyllis

Morris, posted by auroracitizen on April 18.

Further discussion was generated when a follow-up posting appeared on the blog in which it came to light that the town's solicitor tried to have information pulled from the site.

His reasoning was that he was trying to protect the employee(s) of the town which struck me as incredibly disingenuous and ironic given the very point of the initial posting in question and the subsequent comments as to how poorly the employees (and in some cases contractors) were being treated by the town.

The town will now very likely try and make the costs associated with getting an answer to my simple question, cost prohibitive.

One would think that the town's Human Resources

department knows, or at least would care, if the recent spate of resignations and firings during this council term is typical or not, but I may just have to start a fund-raising campaign to get a straight answer.

Of course a staff report requested by council could also clarify this issue at no cost to me, but once again one would have to assume that the council actually cares about such matters.

The most amazing thing of all is that there is little

doubt that Mayor Morris will try and suggest to the voters of Aurora that she has created a new, more civil and more transparent town hall, but I guess we will all have to check the promises made in the 2006 inaugural speech for delivery before we cast our respective votes.

How we will pay for all of the necessary answers to our questions remains to be determined.

Richard Johnson  
Aurora

## THE AURORAN

### “Aurora’s Independent Community Newspaper”

Published weekly by The Auroran Publications Inc.  
at 95 Edward Street,  
Aurora, L4G 1W1

**Publisher Emeritus**  
Rosemary Schumaker

**Editorial**  
Ron Wallace  
ron@auroran.com

Brock Weir  
brock@auroran.com

**Advertising**  
Bob Ince  
bob@auroran.com

Diane Buchanan  
diane@auroran.com

Trish Miller-Kostin  
trish@auroran.com

**Production**  
Cynthia Proctor  
cynthia@auroran.com

**Photography**  
David Falconer  
dfalconer@sympatico.ca

**Main Number**  
905-727-3300

**Classifieds**  
905-727-7128  
classifieds@auroran.com

**Facsimile Machine**  
905-727-2620

#### 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.

#### Advertising policy

Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.

## He suggests dandelions should take over town

To the editor,

Our town has gone "nuts".

With the ban on herbicide usage homeowners are pulling their collective hairs out.

Actually it is dandelions with a "picker" tool.

You cannot drive down a street without seeing someone using one.

The dandelion has a pretty brilliant yellow flower which, when fermented, makes a very delicate white wine.

What is the obsession with grass?

It is just another plant such as clover or dare I say it, dandelion.

I owned a farm property in Ontario for nearly 10 years and had a great lawn of clover and dandelions.

No watering, no fertilizer and very little mowing - and it was green ALL summer.

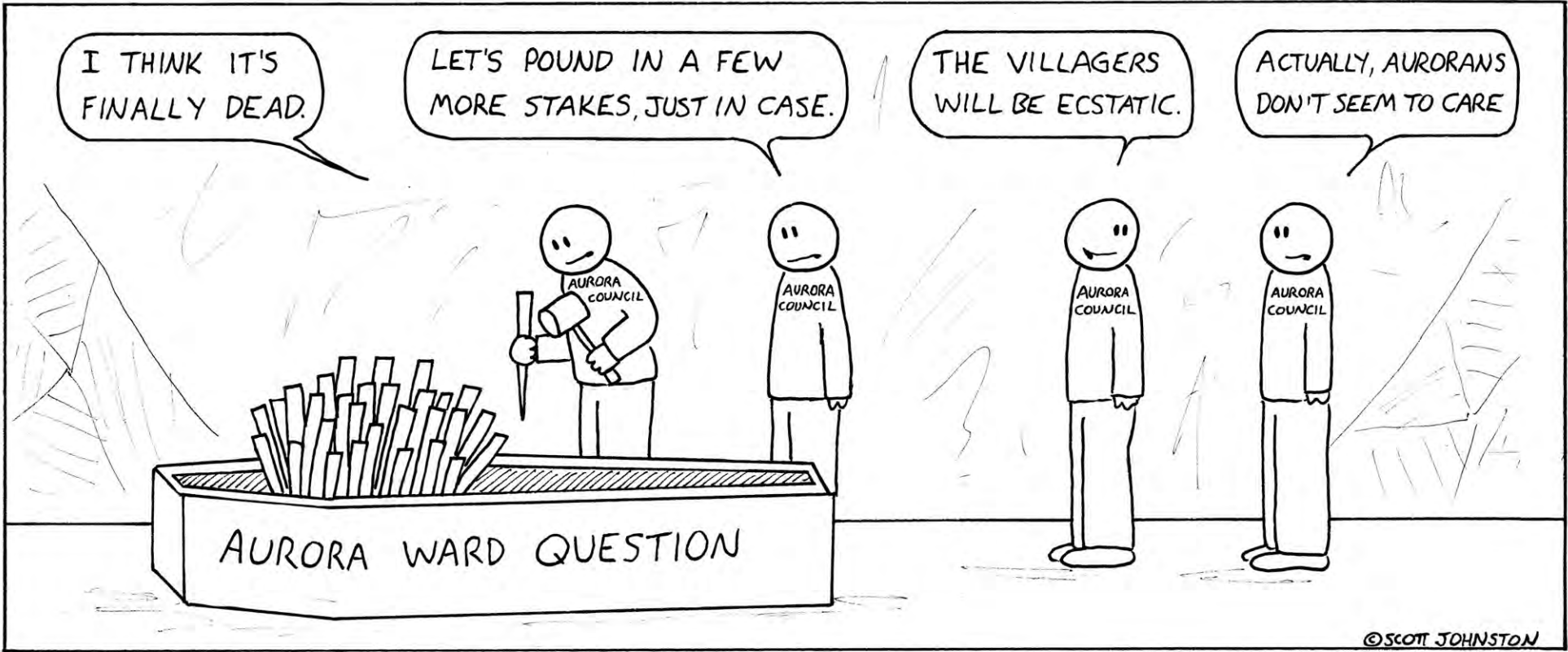
Let dandelions take over our town and replace grass.

Get real, Aurorans - just enjoy a different green, reduce our water consumption and stop trying to spend your money (and now your time on green grass).

If we all had dandelion/clover pastures you would not have to "keep up with the Jones's".

Frank Snape  
Aurora





## Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Last week I was walking by Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School and what I saw brought back some memories.

A bunch of Grade 9 boys - wearing their school issue uniforms - were running around the outdoor track.

The gym teacher had his stopwatch and was timing their efforts over the 1,600-metre distance.

Some of the young men finished strongly while others had a great deal of difficulty and a few of the students had stopped running and were simply walking.

Not much of a different scene than what I went through some 30 years ago.

But it got me thinking about something that I don't see enough of today.

I don't see kids playing street hockey or getting together to play baseball or football in the park anymore.

I recall playing street hockey from morning until night with my buddies.

We would even take on other "streets" where I grew up.

First team to 20 was usually considered the winner.

Maybe it takes too much effort to get everyone together.

But it is a different and more likely reason for not playing that concerns me.

There seems to be more youth "coach potatoes" today than when I was growing up.

Granted, the only computer game back then was the Commodore Vic 20 (for the younger ones reading this column, ask your parents to explain this contraption), video games were in a nascent stage and we spent the majority of the time in our high school computer class filling out punch cards.

Yes, I know, it was medieval times.

Two recent newspaper articles drive the point home about our children's unhealthy eating habits and general lack of exercise.

The first, in the Toronto Star entertainment section May 5th, reported on a study done in the U.S. by Weight Watchers.

The Study concluded that the family has to eat well and exercise to help children drop pounds.

"Fighting fat isn't a one-person job - it's a family responsibility that can directly affect overweight children", revealed the study.

The study was done over four years.

Parents concerned about their children's weight were asked to adhere to five basic rules: eat nutritious food; limit treats; maximum two hours' screen time a day after homework; one daily hour of activity; and everyone in the family follows the same rules.

Sixty-eight of the 114 children participating in the study attained a healthy weight and maintained it for a year.

According to the article, the Canadian Childhood Obesity Foundation's key tenets - five servings of fruit and vegetable daily, no more than two hours of screen time, one hour of activity and zero sugar beverages - are similar to the Weight Watchers family program.

Dr. Tom Warshawski, the chair of the foundation, says the single most important thing a family can do is to get rid of sugary drinks including pop, fruit drinks and energy drinks.

The other article was also from the Toronto Star back in late April.

The headline: "Toronto: The couch potato capital of Canada".

The report was prepared by Get Active Toronto, a coalition of

public and private organizations, including Toronto Public Health, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario and the Toronto District School Board.

The lack of time was most frequently cited barrier to getting fit.

"Work-life balance is a major factor," said Cat Girotti, manager of Get Active Toronto, explaining why people have less time for physical activity. "Toronto likes to work. It's the centre of commerce, and that comes first."

There were a series of graphics in the article that showed the percent of Toronto population inactive during leisure time.

The numbers were quite scary.

Twenty seven per cent of males, aged 12 to 19, were inactive while the number was exactly double for girls of the same age.

The numbers climbed to 52 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively, for males and females aged 20 to 34.

Not good news.

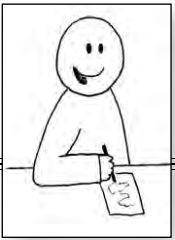
The organization says the report can be a valuable tool in building a healthier city.

Measuring and analyzing physical activity can help government and community agencies find ways to encourage active lifestyles.

I wonder what the numbers are for our children here in Aurora?

At the family level, I guess it means everyone needs to be singing from the same song sheet when it comes to exercise and to eating right.

Stephen can be contacted at:  
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



## Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

It's Spring, and while parks and boulevards throughout town are becoming greener, my yard is turning yellow.

No, I'm not talking about the dry, crispy yellow that denotes Aurora's lawns during the depth of the annual water ban.

It's the yellow of dandelions.

These brightly coloured pests are always a challenge to deal with, but they've been especially bad this year.

Maybe it's because of the unseasonably warm weather over the past month, or maybe these weeds have been secretly growing in numbers ever since the banning of pesticides and herbicides in Ontario.

In any case, they've gotten completely out of control.

Fortunately, I only need to deal with my little patch of town, but it's still a daunting undertaking.

It's only early May, but already I've spent an inordinate amount of time on my hands and knees digging them out.

I haven't been too successful in putting a dent in their numbers, but I have managed to develop a number of aches and pains, put fashionable grass stains in the knees of my pants, and use enough sunscreen to cause a noticeable jump in Coppertone's corporate profits.

Part of the challenge is that you can't excise a dandelion completely from the ground on its own. With it comes enough

dirt to fill a front-end loader.

And while it's always good to aerate your lawn, once you've finished weeding, the preference would be for your yard to contain more dirt than air.

And it doesn't take long for a pail full of soil and dandelions, in a weight ratio of 20 to 1, to get pretty heavy to lug around the yard.

Perhaps it wouldn't be so bad if my War of the Weeds was waged solely against Taraxacum officinale.

But there are other herby challengers out there trying to stake a claim on my lawn: thistles, creeping Charlie, crabgrass, and a bunch I haven't identified.

And sadly, not all of these weeds announce their presence with the clarity of a dandelion's bright yellow flower, so they're often easy to miss, until they've really established themselves.

Of course, there are ways you can cheat on pulling dandelions.

For example, you can mow them. When you do, the lawn will look great, at least until the next day, when a whole new crop of fresh yellow heads appear.

Then you have to mow again. And again.

Sooner or later you'll collapse from either exhaustion, or from inhaling too many lawnmower fumes.

## Not so dandy

One other solution is stymied by the town's reluctance to allow grazing animals as pets.

Otherwise, you could take care of your weeds that way.

I can just envision the sales pitch at the local yard care centre:

"I see you're looking at a zebra. Beautiful animals, and excellent for eating broadleaf plantain, but they hate dandelions. For those you need a kangaroo. In fact, they're on special this week. If you get two or more, we'll throw in a black rhino for half price. That'll keep your hedges nice and trim."

Sadly, even if the town's bylaw folks would allow us to keep a kangaroo, we probably couldn't afford the cost of installing 12-foot high fences around our property to keep it in.

So for now, I guess I'll have to continue my uphill battle to stave off the dandelions' advances the old fashioned way; by digging them out.

Fortunately, I shouldn't need to do it much longer, because soon the summer water ban will be with us.

That'll either kill these weeds, or turn the lawn yellow enough that they blend in and no one notices them.

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



Letter to the Editor

# Money needed to implement trails program

To the editor,

Now I would like to discuss some of the potential barriers to making the most preferred version of the Aurora Trails Network become reality.

This version would include barrier free trail crossings of at least the regional roads and the railroad tracks, via underpasses or overpasses across these motorized traffic arteries; a version that includes trails crossing many a private property; and a version that requires spending some real dollars, to allow the acquisition of trail corridors, either outright or via easements, and that requires investment in the design and construction of those underpasses or overpasses.

Let me start with the funding requirements.

For more than a century all levels of government have increasingly provided for, or subsidized capital funding and financing of rail lines and roads.

In the last half century subdivisions were built across the country with no limit on how much developers were expected to spend on the arteries for motorized transportation.

Many of these arteries included sidewalks for pedestrians, but little attention was paid to the best option for moving non-motorized traffic.

Those subdivisions were almost without exception of the sprawl variety.

As a result, today distances between residences and major community destinations, such as supermarkets and schools, are often such that it is not possible for walkers to reach those destinations in a reasonable time.

Nor would it be enjoyable because travel is alongside roads, and requires constant street crossings.

So, in effect, we have spent just about all of our public and private funding on traffic arteries for the motorized traffic participant, whether that be recreational or utilitarian, with no serious effort to accommodate self-propelled modes of traffic.

Today the majority of at least the urban population does most of its walking with 10 fingers, on keyboards, cell phones, iPods, and what have you. The feet are more or less idle.

Public Transit, where available, is prohibitively cost-inefficient.

We heavily subsidize public transit because of our dedication to the motorized mode of traffic, as the guide as to how far one can be expected to travel, before reaching essential community

destinations.

In the meantime, there is report after report on how the health of today's generation is going downhill, now also including younger persons.

Obesity, heart attacks, type 2 diabetes, even dementia. No wonder: more and more non-physical work; more television, computers, electronic gadgets, for recreation; larger and larger schools, requiring more and more bussing of students; etc, etc.

It is time that we not only talk about a healthier life style, but act as if we meant it.

We could do worse than shift some of the roads budget into infrastructure funding for non-motorized traffic, and to require all upper-level government agencies to fund grade separations for self-propelled traffic across all of the motorized traffic corridors that are under their jurisdiction.

Perhaps some road sections should be routed under level pedestrian traffic corridors, instead of the other way around.

Planners should actually mix commercial, industrial, institutional and residential land uses in such a way that non-motorized commuter traffic can be expected to move between these uses.

What is needed is an affirmative action plan, to retrofit communities, Aurora included naturally, with infrastructure that will allow any urban community to balance the motorized with non-motorized modes of traffic. And more.

What is needed is infrastructure, such as a nature trails network, that will be so inviting that it will make it compelling for any traffic participant, especially commuters, to want to switch away from the use of the car for good.

That will not be achievable overnight, but that type of creative approach has to permeate all planning.

With the insights we

have today, with all those reports on how poorly we fare healthwise, there is no excuse for continuing with sprawl type communities.

Aurora will have an opportunity to show how one can implement the mixed use concept, when planning the 2C lands, the north-eastern part of town.

Alas, it has already been determined that the so called 'employment' lands will all be along Hwy 404, east of Leslie, so the mixing of the various uses is already being compromised.

On the positive side, Aurora Council has endorsed the trails routings as proposed by the Trails Sub-Committee, for the 2C lands.

However, how well that will stand up to what the developers have in mind remains to be seen.

Nevertheless, it is this kind of pro-active policy setting that will advance the implementation of the Trails Master Plan, once it has been finalized, and has been incorporated as part of Aurora's Official Plan.

As part of writing the development rules for the 2C lands, we also need to assert that the trails will be constructed at the same time as the roads.

That is a clear change of policy that will confirm that we are beginning to treat equally the self-propelled and the motorized modes of traffic.

But to return to funding: the need to shift funding from motorized traffic facilities to infrastructure for non-motorized traffic is paramount.

Without that type of shift of emphasis within the traffic budget a relatively small part of The Trails Master Plan is likely to be implemented.

Another major stumbling block could be the lack of barrier free trail passage across major motorized traffic arteries.

The quality of an off-road trails network will heavily depend on barrier-free crossings of the trails under or over the railroad tracks, the regional roads,

and even Highway 404, when it comes to continuing the network to neighbouring communities.

A good sampling of what continuity is all about can be experienced in Newmarket.

On the Tom Taylor Trail, also known as the Nokiidaa Trail, there are underpasses under Green Lane, Davis Drive, Queen Street, and Mulock Drive.

These underpasses allow for practically uninterrupted travel for six kilometers, not counting the northerly extension of the Nokiidaa Trail, beyond Green Lane.

Accordingly, that trail is very heavily used. A nice outing can be had there, with accessibility of the downtown shopping area.

In Aurora we need to work intently on eliminating the barriers. Funding sources will have to be found to achieve such objective.

Shift of funding from the roads budget, fundraising, land and easement acquisition, and tapping our Hydro fund nestegg are options.

Any underpasses would need to be airy, with good sight lines, and with lighting.

For every underpass and overpass, there also is a need to acquire easements or rights-of-way

across the lands that would be on either side of these structures, or to purchase these lands outright.

We currently do have one underpass, under John West Way, but it is largely not used, because the trail that leads through that underpass does not continue as had been expected, across Wellington Street East, through an underpass under that regional road.

The chance to build

that underpass under Wellington was missed when that road was widened.

Re-construction of a regional road is the perfect opportunity for obtaining an underpass, at the least cost. That does not mean at low cost - underpasses are expensive, but necessary for a well-functioning trails network.

Klaus Wehrenberg  
Aurora

### Better teen driver meets bigger discounts



**Peter Virtanen**  
CLU Agent, Aurora

Let me show you how our Steer Clear® discount can teach your teen better driving habits while you save money.

Are you there?

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR STATE FARM IS THERE.  
Providing Insurance and Financial Services

**905-727-8400**  
220 Industrial Pkwy S., Unit 37  
(Just south of the soccer fields)



St. Andrew's Realty Inc.  
Brokerage

**Anna Runco**  
Sales Representative

**(905) 841-1030**  
**(416) 565-3727**  
**www.listwithanna.com**  
*Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract*



*My goal is to make your real estate dreams a reality!*

# Spring Art Show & Sale



It's that time of year. The birds are singing, the flowers are blooming and it's time for the **3rd Annual Spring Art Show and Sale.** Featuring Original Artwork by Established and Emerging Artists. There will be a wide variety, something for everyone!

The studio is located in the heart of Olde Aurora, 89 Temperance St. (near Yonge and Wellington)  
**Date: Sunday May 16** **Free admission**  
**Hours: 10am - 5pm** **Contact: 905.726.8883**

## MONUMENTS BY THOMPSONS

A New Approach to Memorial Design.

- \* Granite markers and monuments
- \* Cemetery lettering and restoration
- \* Bronze markers and vases
- \* Serving all cemeteries and nationalities
- \* Portrait Etchings



**Quality and Satisfaction Guaranteed**  
**Day, Evening and Weekend Appointments**  
**905-727-5421**  
530 Industrial Pkwy S., Aurora L4G 6W8

Thompson Funeral Home is proud to be part of Service Corporation International (Canada) Ltd.



Letters to the Editor

# One year later, look what happened...

To the editor,

It was May 12th, 2009, Sher St. Kitts came to council with a written presentation containing a variety of unfounded and unsubstantiated allegations against a councillor, demanding council take action and declaring her intention to file a complaint against said

councillor.

The Town Solicitor attempted on two occasions to intervene and advise the matter was not for council to deal with.

The mayor persisted.

Ms St. Kitts was requested to provide her written comments to staff.

A resolution was presented to suspend the Procedure

Bylaw to permit Ms St. Kitts' comments made in the public forum, to form part of the formal record.

There was a bit of a kerfuffle about the two thirds requirement for suspension of the Procedure Bylaw.

The mayor dealt with that, too. She simply found the vote

to be two thirds and declared the motion passed.

Two weeks later, May 26th, Ms St. Kitts' comments did not appear in the minutes presented for approval.

The minutes were challenged.

A review was requested. And denied.

Unfounded and unsubstan-

tiated accusations and allegations accepted in a public forum against a member of council, by the mayor, against advice of the solicitor, despite a formal resolution of council directing they be included in the formal record, were not.

The Chief Administrative Officer reported to council; the solicitor, himself and the clerk had conferred and decided "to follow precedent" and not record the full comments.

In response to public outcry and demands for explanation, the observation was made, in colloquial terms: "the minutes were doctored".

May 11th, 2010, council meeting, minutes of the April 27th, 2010 meeting are before council for approval:

111. Open Forum  
Ms Walmer (the mayor's friend and campaign organizer)

spoke.

No motion was passed to suspend procedure to allow the comments to form part of the public record.

No kerfuffle about what constitutes a two-thirds majority.

No conference necessary between the chief administrator, solicitor or municipal clerk.

Yet there they are. Twenty-four lines. Every word recorded. In paragraphs yet. As if provided in writing.

No precedent followed. No synopsis created.

A year almost to the day. For a complete turn around and contradiction.

Who says minutes are not doctored to fit particular circumstances?

Pshaw! Let the record show.

**Evelyn Buck**  
**Aurora**

# Reader will water lawn when he feels like it

To the editor,

I would like to thank the members of council for their decision to raise water rates 14 per cent for the ratepayers of Aurora. (The Auroran, Vol. 10, No. 28, Week of May 11, 2010),

They praise us on our

efforts of water conservation, how it's paying off because the town is using less water.

We have shown the world the right message, we can conserve and keep our water consumption down.

So now the town,

because of the short fall in revenue due to the fact we are using less water, is going to gouge us with a huge increase in water rates.

This year I think I'm going to ignore the odd/even watering schedule and water my lawn and

wash my car any day I feel like it.

If this is the way they thank us for our water conservation, then who cares?

Thank you councillors and Town of Aurora.

**Ron Mockford**  
**Aurora**

# Network official thanks students

To the editor,

Neighbourhood Network would like to thank the more than 160 local high school students and volunteers who

recently planted close to 1,000 trees in environmentally-sensitive areas throughout the community – part of our first annual "Planting A Future: Students For The Environment".

It was a great example of the many ways in which volunteers contribute to our community.

We encourage students from every high school in Newmarket and Aurora to join

us at next year's "Planting A Future" event on Saturday, April 23rd, 2011.

**Steve Hinder**  
**Neighbourhood Network**

# Governments don't earn money: reader

To the editor,

Are politicians finally learning that as they spend, we the taxpayers become poorer?

Finally the Region is learning that we can't afford their over \$1 billion

debt they created.

Regional governments, like municipal governments, should be prohibited from making debt.

Now York Region needs money because of their largess.

Would Aurora govern-

ment tell us how much they are spending from the capital fund?

What's left of the \$32 million they got from selling Aurora Hydro?

Governments have been spending beyond our means.

And it's not their money. Governments have never earned a cent.

We, who don't live off the tax dollar, are the ones who pay.

**Gail McIntyre**  
**Aurora**

# Advertising sparce for market opening

To the editor,

My wife and I attended the first weekend of the Aurora Farmers' Market this past Saturday.

Although still a bit early in the season for the full complement of fresh vegetable vendors to show, the market was very active and well attended.

Speaking with the vendors, several commented they were looking forward to working within an independently-run market, with the town no longer running the show.

There was some disappointment in the fact that there was virtually no advertising for this year's market.

"I guess now that the town's no longer directly involved, they've decided to forget about us" was one comment.

Too bad – you'd think that even though there's no direct involvement from council (or their friends), the town would still want to promote a wonderful community event as is the Aurora

Farmers' Market. One other vendor said to me "It's nice to not have the politics around here anymore – this is about the market, about the people. Take the politics outside."

I couldn't have agreed more.

The market air was refresh-

ingly clear, in what has become (thankfully) a "mayor & friends-free" zone.

If you can, get out on Saturday mornings and support our local farmers and businesses.

The Market's a great place to

be; full of friendly folks, kids, dogs, as well as terrific vendors, fresh produce, meats, cheeses, coffee, etc., and lots to see from local craftsmen and artists.

**Matt Maddocks**  
**Aurora**

## Do You NEED it?

**promotional marketing.ca**  
A division of The Partnership Network Inc

**Premium & Incentives \* Special Event Products  
Trade Show Needs \* Apparel \* Staff Outfitting  
Employee Programs \* Graphic Design \* Awards**

**905-841-0916**  
**sales@promotionalmarketing.ca**

**VISIT**  
**theauroran.com**

### KEAN for AURORA MAYOR



**Experienced in Politics  
Background in Business**

*Join my campaign team  
by calling*  
**416-888-0173**  
or email: [nigelkean@aol.com](mailto:nigelkean@aol.com)



### VIRTUAL OPTION

*Maximize performance. Minimize overhead.*



Your overhead-free option for administration and sales support!

**(905) 841-9364  
(800) 361-4895**

Email: [info@virtual-option.com](mailto:info@virtual-option.com) • [www.virtual-option.com](http://www.virtual-option.com)

### BIRTHDAY PARTY SPECIALISTS

**CALL TO BOOK YOURS TODAY**



**Gateway Café & Lanes Aurora**  
210 Edward St., 905-727-2900  
[www.gatewaylanes.ca](http://www.gatewaylanes.ca)

Want some serious

# SUMMER FUN?

**The Aurora Lawn Bowling Club is looking for new members.**  
**Bowling Monday and Thursday evenings at 6.45 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 1.45 p.m.**  
**FREE instruction and coaching.**



*Visit* the Club at McMahon Park, Aurora or call Alan Dean at 905-926-9501 or email [alandean@rogers.com](mailto:alandean@rogers.com)



# Disabled seek more dollars

**From page 1**  
last month, Ms. Bhimani was on hand to plead for increased funding in next year's Accessibility Plan to provide for additional integration workers in Aurora's summer camp program.

She was on hand once again last week to state her case and ask questions.

"I came last month (to speak on) budgetary concerns about the lack of one on one integration workers in the summer camps and the situation where a parent is limited in only getting two weeks (of camp sessions) during the summer," she told the committee. "At the time I wondered why (the Town) hadn't actually done some planning and given some thought (because) parents are going to come back and ask for the opportunity for their special needs children to attend summer camps."

"Since I came a month ago, I have now got approval that they have allocated my daughter two weeks of summer camp with a one on one integration worker, but in terms of the fact I need six weeks I'm still trying to source volunteers for the other four weeks."

Ms. Bhimani explained that without sourcing her own volunteer workers to assist her daughter in the programs, she is unable to

enroll Natasha in camp for the additional four weeks.

"I challenged myself to find volunteers because I am a working parent and I need to make sure I've got a camp set up for my daughter so she has a valuable summer experience," she said.

While she has found volunteers to cover three of the four weeks, one needed week is still outstanding.

"I still don't have the ability to register my daughter for the fourth week that I need," she said. "My concern is the effort is all on the parent to try and do this and I'm wondering why they are not prepared to accommodate parents because they know this is going to happen time and time again, year after year."

Although parents of children without special needs are able to enroll their kids in summer camps for an unlimited number of weeks, parents of children with special needs are limited to two in light of the shortage of one on one workers.

"This is a barrier for you to get the number of weeks you need in order to have your daughter in camp," said committee member Tim Savage. "While other parents in Aurora can sign their kids up for camp for 10 weeks if they want, there

is no limit."

"There is a limit on disabled children, not fully-abled children," added John Lenchak, father of a daughter with special needs himself.

This gap is a budgetary concern, according to Aurora's Accessibility Advisor Ivy Henriksen.

"It's my understanding from Leisure Services that the integration fund is not an established budget item so it is at an as-needed basis," said Ms. Henriksen. "What's happened is we've seen the population grow and we've seen more children with special needs requiring camp support and that hasn't been built into the budget."

"I have asked them to keep it on the radar and to have those budget discussions with management for the 2011 budget because it really needs to be allocated before it happens."

"They do some fundraising, but in the last year they have operated on a loss. They typically have three integration workers available, but the need in the community is more like six or seven."

The Town is always trying to come up with solutions, added Ms. Henriksen.

Discussions have included following the leads of other municipalities where parents with special needs children

would have to pay for integration workers.

The Town is reluctant to pursue that, however, in order to keep the fees equal to those paid by families with fully able children.

"I went to management to appeal on your behalf and other parents' behalf to see if I can move some of my operating budget specifically for integration this year," Ms. Henriksen told Ms. Bhimani.

"The committee and I discussed this after you came up to the forum and I know the (volunteers are) just a stop-gap solution. We really should have paid integration workers with these children. There has been concern from the community that a volunteer is great, but it's still not a specially trained integration worker."

Ms Henriksen said she has yet to receive a response from the department on whether moving \$3,000 from her operating budget to help with the need for integration workers is allowable.

"We figured out that the ballpark figure was \$10,000 to \$15,000 that would be required to support the families that have expressed an interest, so it is a drop in the bucket, but I figure it is a move in the right direction."



**ONTARIO New DRIVERS**  
**Aurora**

- **Aurora's First Choice For Driver Training**

**905-713-3733**

- **MTO Licenced & Approved Course Provider**

ON-GOING MONTHLY CLASSES

**www.ontarionewdrivers.ca**



**Yen Nails**  
*Professional Nail Care*

- **Manicure**
- **Spa Pedicure**
- **Bio Gel**
- **Solar Nails**
- **UV Gel Nails**
- **Acrylic**
- **Air Brush Design**

**Walk-ins welcome**

**130 Hollidge Blvd. • 905-727-6030**

**ROCK BAND CAMP**

 **Learn to play in a band**  **Learn to sing**  
 **Learn to play an instrument**  
 **Learn to record**

Whether you are a beginner, have 6 months experience or an intermediate player, **ROCK BAND CAMP** has a program for you.

Camp will be run at the Aurora Montessori and Private School. Half days and full days are available to accommodate busy family schedules.

**SESSION DATES: 9:00 AM– 4:00 PM**  
**Two Week Tour Dates**  
July 12 - July 23  
July 26 - August 6  
August 9 - August 20

Contact:  
**MICHAEL LANTEIGNE**  
**Phone: 416-721-2430**  
**www.rockbandcamp.ca**

# Town saves on street repairs

**From page 1**  
Road, Sioux Gate, and Foreht Crescent come to \$1,555,811.31.

The latter project includes \$32,000 from PowerStream "to relocate eight hydro poles that are affected by the proposed reconstruction."

Improvements to Davis Road and Jones Court come with a \$1,203,158.04 price tag.

The three projects combined, however, come in \$1,231,666.39 under budget.

At last Tuesday's General Committee meeting, Councillor Al Wilson heralded this report as "great news".

"I would just like to say how pleased I am with this particular report," he told fellow councillors and staff members. "If we had reports like this every meeting I would be ecstatic."

Mr. Simanovskis attributed the projects coming in under budget to changes within his department.

"A couple of the reasons for this, trying to identify the exact scope of work during the budget process was one of the

items, as well as some changes within our staff over the last year and a half," he said.

"We have started with a new role within our department and we have an identified quality assurance/quality control individual who, in addition to his project management responsibilities will also oversee the coordination of all tenders and all capital projects. He's sort of the follow-through person to make sure there is con-

sistency and accuracy in all of our projects going forward."

Councillor Wilson wondered if this leftover money could be used to bring additional projects forward without re-opening the capital budget.

It would, but the Town does not have any projects that are completely designed at this point, said Mr. Simanovskis.

The money might allow the Town, however, to look at sidewalk improvements.


**MOON GARDEN**  
Since 1969

**SPECIAL** Dinner for 5- **\$39.95**

- 5 Egg Rolls
- Sweet & Sour Chicken Balls
- Chicken w/Vegetables & Almonds
- Chicken Chow Mein
- Cantonese Lo Mein (Noodles)
- Chicken Fried Rice

**Business Hours**  
Mon. - Closed (Except Holidays) Tues. - Thurs. 11:30am - 11pm  
Fri. 11:30am - 12pm Sat. 4pm - 12pm Sun. 4pm - 11pm

TAKE OUT OR DELIVERY  
**Fully Licensed under L.L.B.O.**  
15229 Yonge St., Aurora Just south of Wellington.  
Parking in behind. 905-727-3101



**An Important Message for PowerStream Customers on Equal Payment Plan**  
(York Region Service Territory)

Recently, customers who pay their PowerStream bills through our Equal Payment Plan (EPP) received a notice informing them of an adjustment to their monthly payments for the period May 1 to October 31, 2010. For many EPP customers, the new amount is considerably higher than previous adjustments due to a number of factors that PowerStream, for the most part, does not control.

**These factors include:**

- The Ontario Energy Board announced on April 15, 2010 increases in the Regulated Price Plan (RPP) commodity prices for all electricity customers in Ontario which will add 6% to PowerStream bills.
- The Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) being introduced on July 1, 2010 will add another 8% to all customer utility bills across the province.
- A small 'Regulatory' charge that has been added as required by the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure to cover the cost of provincial conservation initiatives.
- For customers of licensed Electricity Retailers, the new EPP amount takes into account customers' contracted pricing with their respective Retailer as well as the increasing Provincial Benefit charges which Retailers may place on customer bills.
- Water and wastewater rates charged by municipalities (where applicable, e.g. Town of Markham and the City of Vaughan).
- Customers with a season-ending amount owing have had that balance carried forward and factored into the new amount.

PowerStream, as a municipally-owned local electricity distribution company, continues to provide service at a cost which enables us to maintain distribution rates (the portion of the bill that PowerStream controls and is part of the 'Delivery' line found on customer bills) that are amongst the lowest in Ontario.

It is expected that most of these factors will also contribute to significant increases in bills for all utility customers in the province including those PowerStream customers currently not on the Equal Payment Plan. In order to minimize the impact on their bills, customers are encouraged to take advantage of conservation programs including some that are offered by PowerStream. For more information visit: [www.powerstream.ca/conservation](http://www.powerstream.ca/conservation).

[customerservice@powerstream.ca](mailto:customerservice@powerstream.ca) 1.877.963.6900



# Kids



## Summer Camp Registration Guide

*What will you be doing  
this summer?*

**Teaching you How to Swim,  
Where you Swim**

We bring water safety to your backyard by offering:

- Red Cross Learn to Swim Program
- Lifesaving Society Program
- Lifeguards for Pool Parties

All of our instructors are Red Cross Certified, fully trained Lifeguards. We offer professional lessons and training for babies, children and adults of all ages. We even train other instructors and lifeguards. We swim around your schedule, in the private and familiar surroundings of your own backyard. Coming to you from all over York Region, let us make a splash in your neighbourhood this summer.

905 727 0000 • info@swimtogo.ca • www.swimtogo.ca  
\*Now welcoming resumes from qualified instructors

### Aurora Montessori and Private School Summer Camps

For children ages 18 months to 13 years  
Choose from:

- AMS Fun Camp
- Rock Band Camp (6-13 yrs)
- Art Camp
- French Camp
- Sewing Camp

All programs offer Extended Care from 7am to 6 pm

Visit our website for details and registration forms  
www.auroramontessori.com

Tel: (905) 841-0065 Fax: (905) 841-2022  
330 Industrial Parkway North, Aurora, ON L4G 4C3

### Junior GOLF

**Junior GOLF CAMPS** ..... Offered 9 weeks during the summer  
Ages 8-14 years old

Daily instruction on full swing, trouble shots & short game  
Lunch provided • Wide range of learning aids are implemented to help the development of skills  
Daily golf at Kettle Creek

**Tiny Tot's GOLF CAMPS & CLINICS** ..... Ages 5-7 years old

Introduce your child to the great game of golf in a no-pressure environment. In addition to hitting balls, chipping & putting, we will be covering safety & etiquette of golf.

**CARDINAL GOLF CLUB**  
To register, please contact  
Cardinal Golf Club: 905.841.7378 ext. 229  
2740 Davis Drive West (formerly Hwy. 9), Newmarket  
WWW.CARDINALGOLFCLUB.COM

## Seneca KING DAY CAMP

### OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

**REGISTER NOW  
SPACES STILL AVAILABLE!  
SPRING OPEN HOUSES**  
May 27 and June 2, 2010 from 5 to 7 pm

**PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN  
AGES  
4 to 16**

Brochure hotline (416) 491-5050 ext. 5216  
**www.kingdaycamp.com**  
Seneca College, King Campus, 13990 Dufferin St. N. King City, ON

OCA Ontario Camps Association

## SUMMER CAMP 2010

YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURE STARTS AT ACC SUMMER CAMP!

**Aurora Children's Centre abc**  
Educating through play

Are you looking for a  
**summer**  
packed with  
fun times,  
exciting trips,  
and new friends?

Providing  
quality care  
since  
Jan 1988

**Look no further than the  
Aurora Children's Centre  
Summer Camp!**

Our program features a variety of themes that are sure to keep your child active all summer long - no matter what their interests.  
*With many cool trips to places like:*

|                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Hockey Hall of Fame | Wonderful World of Circus |
| Round's Ranch       | Royal Ontario Museum      |
| Scanlon Creek       | Active Kid's Zone         |
| Johnson's Beach     | Rock N' Chalk             |
| Kortright Centre    | Medieval Times            |
|                     | Toronto Zoo               |

*It's not too late to register your child for a fun filled summer - but spaces are limited so call or click today to avoid disappointment!*

**(905) 841-3422**  
**www.AuroraChildrensCentre.ca**



# **Aurora's # 1 creative technology camp!**

**July 5th to August 20th, 2010**

# **icamp<sup>TM</sup>**

**phone: 416-993-2503**

**website: [www.ctworkshop.wordpress.com](http://www.ctworkshop.wordpress.com)**

**Pick from **HUNDREDS** of projects or create your own!**

## **Video Game Making**

Create your very own video games...  
Add players, levels and special powers!

## **Engineering & Robotics**

Build LEGO robot inventions using special motors, sensors and more!

## **Movie Making & Animation**

Make awesome digital movies with sound and special effects!

## **Visual Art & Sound**

Design your dream home, create a new fashion label or a movie soundtrack!

**icamp Aurora @ Aurora High School**

**July 5th until August 20th**

**icamp Richmond Hill @ Richland Academy Private School**

**July 5th until August 27th**

**Full Day and Half Day Sessions Available**

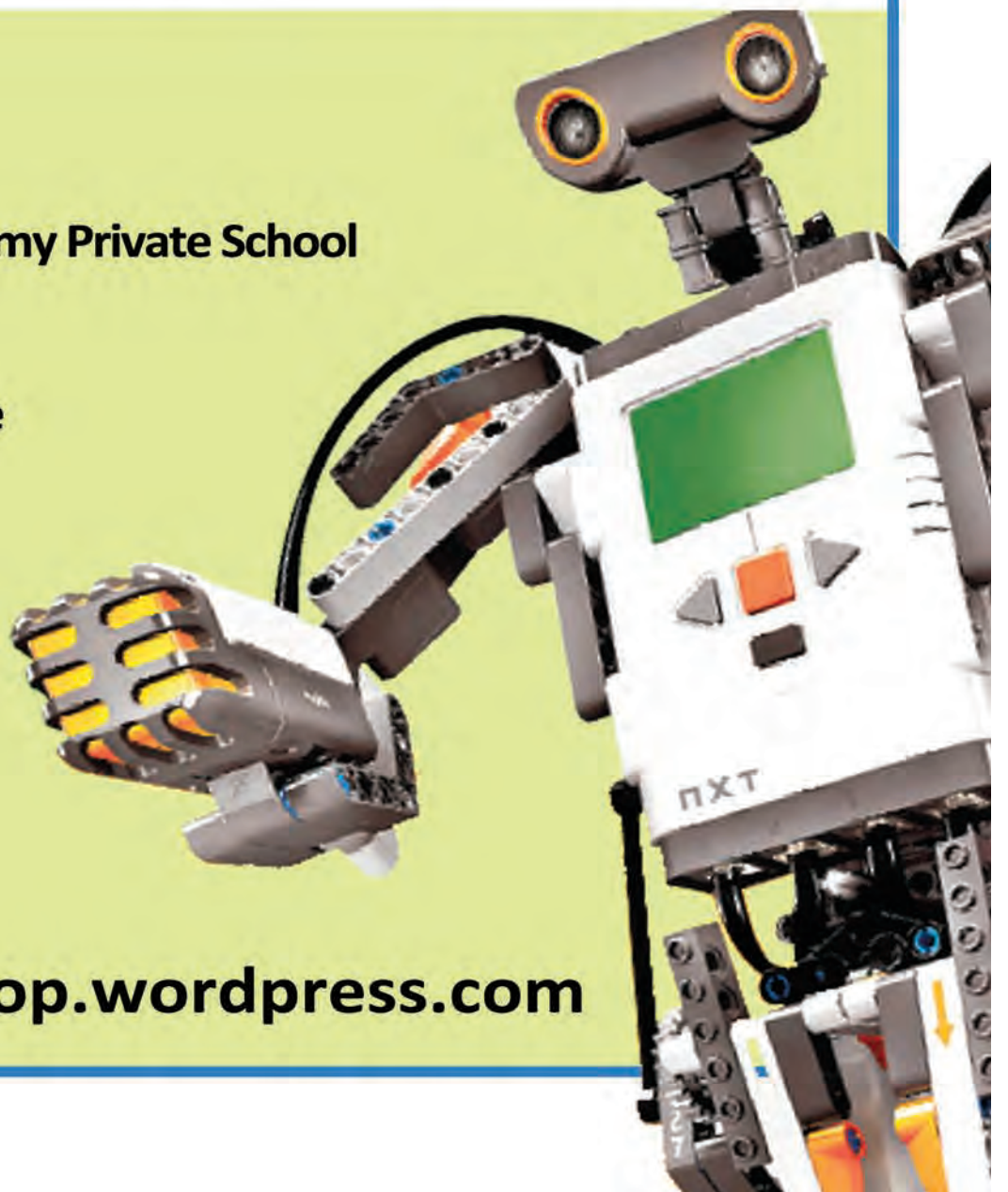
**Early Drop-Off and Late Pick-Up**

**Less than 7 campers per Instructor**

**AURORA & RICHMOND HILL  
FILL UP QUICKLY, **CALL NOW!****

**phone: 416-993-2503**

**website: [www.ctworkshop.wordpress.com](http://www.ctworkshop.wordpress.com)**





# Summer Program Offers Fun, Creative Learning Activities



**Two participants at icamp intently working on their stop-frame movies for the Animation Alive Adventure. After having taken many hundreds of still captures, the girls are using additional software to add music, movie titles and special effects to create a complete end product.**

Lead a crew to Mars to search for life on the Red Planet, or explore an Egyptian pyramid for lost artifacts. Dream up and film a blockbuster movie, design your own clothing or create the latest and greatest video game. This is just another regular day for a child at icamp.

icamp is not your ordinary computer-based learning environment. There are laptops everywhere, but the kids, instead of staring blankly into screens, are using their laptops to create something – movies, LEGO® robots that move, video-games and more.

Thanks to the Children's Technology Workshop (CTW), children today can explore these Adventures during their summer at icamp. icamp gives children the opportunity to develop creative skills in programming, engineering, video game design, storyboarding and problem solving.

On the first day of icamp, children individually select one of 10 theme-based Adventures. Examples of Adventures include Mission to Mars, Gamemaker Guru and Animation Alive. Each Adventure is made up of hundreds of individual projects focusing on Engineering, Robotics, Video Game Making, Movie Making or Digital Art. One of the first tasks that every icamper does is to create a story for their chosen Adventure. For example, a child who selected the Architect Adventure may be looking to engineer the tallest building. CTW's trained Instructors help children through their entire Adventure and guide them

towards fun and engaging projects.

"Children will build a wide array of skills which they then use for something creative for their Adventure - such as building a remotely-controlled robot to search life on Mars," says Nazar Hossain who operates CTW programs across York Region. "The fact that the children are in charge of their Adventure gives them a sense of ownership, which is very meaningful to them."

Watching a child work on their Adventure is highly gratifying. For example, during a recent workshop, a young girl was working on her Fashion Designer movie – a stop-frame based movie using props that she had fabricated. Her mom watched her reposition the props in careful detail to shoot the next frame of the movie. "It's incredible, she's completely immersed herself into her story and is learning about all this technology that honestly, we (my husband and I) would have a hard time teaching her about at home." The end result was a 3-minute long movie shot at 12 frames per second – for those of you doing the math, that means the girl shot more than 2,100 pictures to create her masterpiece.

icamp Instructors keep close tabs on each individual child and the progress they are making throughout the week. Progress Charts are kept of exactly what the campers do and the skills they learn so that parents and children alike can celebrate their achievements at the end of each day at icamp. Look through a typical Progress Chart and one will find entries

such as "built a LEGO® race-car and programmed it to avoid walls" or "added a new level to video game including 3 new characters".

"We want the kids to be really creative users of technology – that's the goal," says Nazar. The philosophy is that the computer should be an enabler – a tool to achieve a creative objective. CTW feels that one of their key differentiators from other technology-based programs is the focus on being creative with technology. "We like to focus more on getting kids to be creative with technology because we feel that it will help them embrace the technology around them and feel empowered."

Let's take a close look at one of the projects – for example, a Lego rover with a video camera mounted on it. That Lego rover was built by two children as part of the Mission to Mars Adventure. The rover is being used to drive around on a simulated Martian surface. The two kids are working together to control the rover remotely via a laptop – but they cannot see the rover themselves. They can only monitor where it is heading by watching the live video feed displayed on the laptop from the camera mounted on the rover. Just like NASA would do during a real mission to Mars.

The icamp environment is laid back – kids will walk around, checking out one another's projects and even offer unsolicited opinions. Physical activity and breaks are part of a regular day, where kids will go outside and play a healthy mix of camp games. "Time outdoors is just as important as the creative learning being done indoors – the last thing we want to do is sit a child down for the whole day," says Nazar.

In addition to operating icamp during the summers, Nazar also operates year-round programs across York Region including after-school workshops, birthday parties and weekend workshops. "Year-round programs are more focused in specific areas of our curriculum, such as movie-making, robotics or video-game making." This spring for example, CTW is offering an NXT LEGO Club workshop where participants work in teams of 2 to 3 to build an autonomous robot capable of completing a series of challenging mis-



**Testing an autonomous Lego robot can be a challenging task. Trial and error mixed with fine-tuning of the robot's sensors will eventually allow the robot to successfully find and retrieve the red ball.**

sions. The 8-week workshop culminates in a friendly, but intense, competition.

Another workshop, being offered at a private school, is teaching children aged 8 and 9 years old, how to create their very own video games. Children arrive promptly at 3.35 pm eager to continue creating their ideal video game that they can then take home and share with their friends. "Technology is so advanced these days, we are not looking to teach kids the rudimentary underlying code language – there are a lot of tools out there in the real world that will continue to abstract the code. We want to focus more on the concepts and logic that goes into something simple like making a character jump – for example, there has to be the concept of gravity so that the character falls back down. And the floor that the character lands on has to be solid, so that they don't fall through it. All these concepts that the kids need to think about while creating their video game are quickly translated into the real world around them."

Believe it or not, one of the most popular questions that CTW gets is from parents wanting to register themselves as well as their kids. Until CTW introduces workshops for parents, we will just have to live vicariously through our kids engaged in one of their many programs. This summer, CTW will mark 8 years of summer icamp in Aurora – icamp will be running from Aurora High School, as well as several other locations across the GTA.



**icamp is a fluid, laid-back environment where kids will walk around and provide feedback and help to their fellow icampers.**



**Kids can work individually or as part of a small team on their projects - here a group of boys are working together to figure out how exactly to construct a LEGO helicopter.**





# CHITTL HOCKEY ACADEMY SUMMER CAMPS

**August 23 - 27  
HALF DAY CAMPS**

|             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| Session 1   | Session 2    |
| Ages 11-15  | Ages 8 - 10  |
| 9:00 - 1:00 | 10:00 - 2:00 |

\$250.00 GST INCLUDED

**August 30 - Sept. 2**

|            |            |             |
|------------|------------|-------------|
| Session 3  | Session 4  | Session 5   |
| Ages 11-15 | Ages 8-10  | Ages 5 - 7  |
| 9:00-11:00 | 11:00-1:00 | 1:00 - 3:00 |

\$175.00 GST INCLUDED

Please phone Len/Janine  
905-939-7962  
www.chittlehockey.com

# AURORA DIGGERS GIRLS SOFTBALL

## Rep. & House League Softball

Ages 5 years – 17 years  
Cost \$75

# REGISTER NOW

For registration information call  
**Lois**  
**(905) 727-8089**

www.auroradiggersgirlssoftball.ca

# Play Tennis!

...Tennis Lessons & Camps  
by the Town of Aurora  
brought to you by...

Town of Aurora tennis programs by Total Tennis since 2001.  
Programs at Fleury Park

**AURORA PROGRAMS**  
*You're in Good Company*

- Spring, Summer and Fall Sessions
- Space Still Available in Spring Programs**
- Summer Camps (Full and Half Day)
- Adult and Junior Leagues
- Adult and Junior Group Lessons

To find out more about our exciting programs, or for additional information and questions Contact our Director, **BILL MARON**  
T. 416-565-8774 bill@totaltennis.ca  
[www.totaltennis.ca](http://www.totaltennis.ca)

# St. Andrew's College Summer Camp

An unparalleled summer day camp experience  
for boys and girls ages 4 to 15

# REGISTER NOW!

For more information and to  
register online visit [www.sacsummercamp.ca](http://www.sacsummercamp.ca)  
or contact us at (905) 727-6544

# MONTESSORI PRE-SCHOOL

To learn,  
play &  
socialize  
in **FRENCH**

(416) 801-3840

# SUMMER CAMP

[irinasfrench.com](http://irinasfrench.com)

# Summer Programs & Half Day Camps

## Summer Programs

- Skating Instruction on the Blade
- Shooting & Puck Handling Instruction
- Goalie Training with Chad Lang
- Video stride analysis free with every skating package

Train all summer for as little as **\$5<sup>00</sup>/day**  
**BOOK BEFORE MAY 15 & SAVE UP TO \$250**

## Half Day Camps

**"The Complete Hockey Package"**

- 4 hrs skating on the Blade
- 4 hrs shooting instruction
- 4 hrs dry land training

Weeks of July 12,19 & Aug. 16, 23, 30  
Mon-Thurs 9:00am-12:00pm

**\$295<sup>00</sup>** Plus tax

## HIGH SPEED HOCKEY

TRAINING FASTER. STRONGER SKATERS

**Register by May 15 for Special Summer Pricing**

200 Mulock Drive,  
Unit 3, Newmarket  
(2km west of Magna)  
[www.highspeedhockey.ca](http://www.highspeedhockey.ca)  
**905-836-8176**









### Appreciation

The weather wouldn't co-operate Saturday, so the Aurora Legion, with plans to appreciate its veterans at a cenotaph ceremony, moved the celebrations to the Legion Hall on Industrial Parkway North. Celebrating the 65th anniversary of VE Day, veterans gathered at the hall for this photo, above, accompanied by MP Lois Brown, left, MPP Frank Klees, right, and Aurora Mayor Phyllis Morris, centre. One of the oldest vets to attend, but not included in the group shot, was Aurora's Don Dempsey, right. The afternoon event was followed by a dinner, sponsored by the Legion and the Town of Aurora, later that evening. Dinner entertainment was provided by the 7th Toronto Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery Band.

Auroran photos by Ron Wallace



Understand what you can afford before house hunting.



Get pre-approved today!  
Lisa Tomlinson AMP  
Mortgage Planner (Agent #M08009145)  
905.898.4228 • 905.836.3904  
lisa.tomlinson@mtgarc.ca  
www.mtgarc.ca/lisatomlinson  
Mortgage Architects  
Brokerage #10287

Mike Bishop

Sales Representative  
Direct: 905.392.6587  
Office: 905.727.1941  
www.mikebishop.ca

RE/MAX  
York Group Realty Inc. Brokerage  
Not intended to solicit business or otherwise directly under contract



## General committee studies parking woes

From page 13  
hand experience of the issue, expressed her sympathies.

"So the residents have been expressing concern over the usage of this field because of the number of cars parked in the area," she said. "My daughter played on that field and I know what it looks like when there is a game going and absolutely, in a perfect world we would have it as a passive park area.

"But, as has been the case for the past 25 years, we haven't been able free up that piece of land to allow for that. Maybe moving forward, there will be some light at the end of the tunnel."

Councillor Wendy Gaertner said she too had first hand experience with the issue.

"I used to live there and I know it can be difficult for the residents," she said. "I

hesitate to even broach it, but the green space across from Craddock Field, is that an environmentally sensitive area? Is there any possibility of parking there during the soccer season?"

The Town of Aurora has not yet looked at alternative parking spots in the area, said Al Downey, Director of Leisure Services, but there may be an indication of alternative sports fields before the end of this council term.

"I was around when that field was created when the (adjacent subdivision's) basements were excavated and the dirt was dumped in that field, which was a swamp, to create a level that could be used for soccer practices, not intended to be used for soccer tournaments," said Councillor Evelyn Buck.

"My question is: are we looking forward at any point in the future to alternative facilities that will allow that

field to go back to its original purpose, that is soccer practices, not tournaments?

Mr. Downey said he was continuing "ongoing discussions on a number of fronts" regarding the creation of alternate facilities.

"(This) helps reduce our need for the number of

games we play on fields that are creating issues such as this," he said. "It isn't our desire to have (games) there, it's just that we have so few fields and so many people want to play.

"We're actively working in trying to provide alternative facilities."

THE GRANITE WORKS

Handcrafted  
Monuments  
Family Owned  
Since 1976

(905) 727 - 1643  
www.thegraniteworks.ca

Quality  
Is Our Mark Of Distinction

MONUMENTS & MARKERS Traditional & Natural  
ON-SITE ENGRAVING & RESTORATION  
CHINESE ARTWORK AVAILABLE

\$10 Off\*

Furnace & Humidifier  
Tune ups

Furnace & Duct Cleaning  
improve your  
home's efficiency

We Service All  
Makes...

OLIVER  
HEATING & COOLING

Service You Can Trust. Since 1924

905.727.4258

\*Limited Time Offer Expires May 15, 2010  
www.click4comfort.com

## BOOK CLEARANCE SALE !!

Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 10am – 4pm &  
Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 12pm – 4pm

R & R Used Books

95 Edward St., Aurora (next to Cook's Bee Supplies)  
905-727-3300

25 – 50% OFF ALREADY DISCOUNTED PRICES.

Popular Fiction, Classics, Romance, Westerns, Science Fiction, Cookbooks, Children & Youth, etc.





# Young Aurora filmmaker captures two awards

By **BROCK WEIR**  
Auroran staff

Nineteen-year-old Aurora filmmaker Jared Pelletier is riding high after the Toronto Student Film Festival recently, where his film, "The Haunted Soldier" captured two of the Festival's prizes.

The five-minute film follows a veteran of the Second World War, who is dogged by his experiences on the front and in the air.

Partially inspired by Mr. Pelletier's early admiration for the Steven Spielberg film "Saving Private Ryan", "The Haunted Soldier" was awarded Best Sound and Best Overall Film (Second Place) at the event.

Mr. Pelletier's film doubled not just as a means of telling a

poignant story but also as an experiment with visual effects.

"That's something I hadn't really tried before," he said. "I just wanted to do entirely computer-generated scenes. (My previous work) was more realistic, (Academy Award for Best Picture winner) No Country for Old Men kind of stuff. This was just a different style of shooting."

Mr. Pelletier, who is currently studying at Toronto Film and Media College, said he achieved this newfound style with the help of fellow student Ryan MZ who worked on the visuals, as well as Bob Forward who helped integrate the live action segments with the visual effects.

While Mr. Pelletier thanks both of these gentlemen for their work, one of his co-work-

ers holds a special place in his heart: grandfather Anton Wittmer.

Mr. Wittmer, an Aurora resident, and his grandson are frequent collaborators.

Hearing his grandfather's stories of growing up in Germany during the Second World War helped inspire Mr. Pelletier in creation of "The Haunted Soldier", he said.

"Just hearing stories from my grandpa about World War Two, I wanted to make something about him in that way," he said. "During the war, he was only 12 or 13 years old so he didn't really experience (combat, but he) had experiences during the war. He liked the idea of the story because it had a personal effect on him."

For Mr. Pelletier, the highlight of the film festival was

receiving recognition for his work, something he said will open up doors for him in the future.

"Putting so much time into something and to actually get recognized for it just opens a lot of doors in terms of résumé and being able to make contacts and everything," he said. "It's definitely more fun to be recognized than just screened at the festival, but it's a great experience to put so much time and effort into something and have people recognize it as being good. It's great!"

In the near future, Mr. Pelletier said he has plans to enter "The Haunted Soldier" in film festivals in Europe and North America, including the Ann Arbor Film Festival and the Newport Beach Film Festival.

At these events, organizers use screen shorts such as his before features in lieu of trailers, he said.

He is also readying "The Haunted Soldier" for a limited theatrical run.

Although opportunities to show independent short films in Aurora are rare, he said, there are still "a couple" of venues in the Toronto area, including the Regent Theatre, which screened "The Haunted Soldier" last week.

"There are a few little theatres down there that do show independent stuff," he said.

But actually finding the opportunity to get into theatres is the trick.

"I think it is just 100 per cent done by networking, really," he said. "I always notice there are a lot of really good people on YouTube and everything, but you have to make those contacts, get to know people and hopefully someone will be able to do you a favour, like these guys were able to do for me with "The Haunted Soldier" with the

effects.

"I find when you have contact with someone, everything just...one thing leads to another and you could end up with the possibility of getting screened in theatres."

Although Mr. Pelletier is hard at work trying to get screen time for his film, while also juggling his school work in Toronto, he does have a few additional projects in the pipeline.

The first is a one-minute long film on 9/11 which focuses on a man on one of the planes about to hit the World Trade Centre trying to call his wife.

The second project focuses more on the special effect skills honed during the making of "The Haunted Soldier".

"It's kind of science fiction movie to do with aliens, which is called Nibiru right now," he says. "I'm thinking about 20 minutes. I'm actually making it with a couple of people from my film class and we're going to try and pitch it to a few production houses. That's the goal with that one."

## Southlake expands menu options

Aurora patients, and others, admitted to Southlake Regional Health Centre are now able to choose from a larger selection of meal options, compliments of the Food Services Department's newly broadened menu.

Southlake has offered vegetarian, vegan, and kosher foods for many years, and has recently expanded its menu to include a larger variety of Halal meals designed to meet the needs of a growing multicultural community.

"Southlake has been and always will be sensitive to the needs of our growing community," said Dan Carriere, President and CEO at Southlake. "This initiative is about ensuring that patients are aware of the menu choices available to them when they find themselves admitted to the hospital."

The fundamental difference with Halal food is the technique used to end the life of the animal, using a process within Muslim dietary restrictions that is believed to show respect for

the animal.

In addition to expanding its Halal options, Southlake's Food Services Department continues to offer a variety of options to in-patients with specific dietary requests based on an illness, intolerance, allergy, or sensitivity.

Patients who have swallowing difficulties can receive a variety of texture-modified foods that can be combined with thickened liquids.

In addition to broader menu options, Southlake also recently launched a 'Spoken Menu'

process designed to simplify the process of communicating in-patients' requests.

"Being able to provide a way to communicate our vegetarian, kosher and Halal selections is an exciting initiative that we are proud to provide to our patients," said Tish Peirson, Manager of Food Services. "Our Spoken Menu clerks are able to ensure that patients' food requests are being fulfilled and their nutrition requirements are constantly tracked to make certain that they receive the proper foods."

**NORTH YORK**  
HEATING, PLUMBING &  
ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES  
  
**Gas & Oil Heating Equipment  
Humidifiers and Air Conditioners**  
  
Tel: (905) 727-6401      8 Industrial Pkwy. S.  
www.nyhp.on.ca      Aurora, Ontario



To All Aurora Residents:

**AURORA HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTS**  
**Issues Relating to Teen Mental Health**  
**...FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS**

Drugs and drugs awareness and education are important for students, parents, teachers and all community members. Aurora High School council is holding an evening, open to all to attend. The cost is free.

This event will be held:  
at Aurora High School,  
155 Wellington Street West, Aurora,  
this Thursday, **May 13**  
in the cafetorium  
from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

## Drug and Abuse Awareness Night at Aurora High School

The evening is set up to inform, to educate and to build strong networks with our youth, parents, mental health professionals and York Regional Police.

York Region Police will provide a presentation on drugs commonly used in the area.

CAMH: Centre for Addiction & Mental Health will discuss impact of mental health issues.

There will also be young speakers who have and continue to deal with mental health issues and substance abuse will share their information.

There will be break-out sessions with: AA, NA Alanon, Alateen and York Region Youth Justice.

This event is aimed at giving parents strategies to help with their children.

Some links for more general information

Alcohol, Drug and Other Addiction  
Alcoholics Anonymous - [www.aatoronto.org](http://www.aatoronto.org)  
Al-Anon/Alateen, Ontario South -  
<http://al-anon.alateen.on.ca>  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health -  
[www.camh.net](http://www.camh.net)  
DART (The Ontario Drug and Alcohol Registry of Treatment) - [www.dart.on.ca](http://www.dart.on.ca)  
Gamblers Anonymous -  
[www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org)  
Narcotics Anonymous - [www.torontona.org](http://www.torontona.org)  
OPP - [www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca)  
York Regional Police – [www.yrp.ca](http://www.yrp.ca)



## PACT

(Police and Community Together)  
New members are welcome.  
If you are looking please  
contact us by email at:  
[aurorapact@gmail.com](mailto:aurorapact@gmail.com)



### Police Liaisons

Dan Hunter – OPP  
Dave Service – OPP  
Malanie Moffatt – YRP  
Terry White – YRP (COR)

### PACT committee Members

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cyndy Skillins – Chair | Aliya Kumarova          |
| Marianne Mandryk       | Dwayne Loughheed        |
| Mike Omrin             | Ian McLellan            |
| Kim Rogers             | Peter McNeil            |
| Ron Wallace            | Christine Morrison      |
| Anwar Alomar           | Natia Muggler           |
| Jamie Baker            | Stephanie Ng            |
| Daniel Caringi         | Elliot Papacharaiambous |
| Lisa Cleary            | Jamil Saade             |
| Mario Conte            |                         |

This page is proudly sponsored by:



**Hartwell Thayer Financial Services Group**

Providing professional and personalized services  
to York Region for more than 50 years.

2 Orchard Heights Blvd., Unit 23  
Aurora, Ontario, L4G 3W3  
Aurora: 905-713-9870 Toll Free: 1-800-668-8976  
Fax: 905-727-5749 [www.hartwellthayer.com](http://www.hartwellthayer.com)



# Champ jelly maker returns to Market

**By BROCK WEIR**  
**Auroran staff**

The Aurora Farmers' Market, which opened Saturday, might mean different things to many different people.

It might be the reason you set your alarm clock on a day when you simply don't have to, just to get your pick of the freshest produce and baked goods.

It might be a meeting place to meet up with neighbours or catch up with old friends.

It might be the place where you get your first taste of what Aurora has to offer.

But for vendor Jan Freedman, the Aurora Farmer's Market has given her a new lease on life.

"The market has added a new and wonderful dimension to my life," she said in her living room in south Aurora, taking a break from bottling jams and marmalade in anticipation of the Saturday crowd. "I'm all about my farmers' market. Otherwise, I don't know what I would be doing."

"Getting ready for the market, being at the market, forces me to stretch myself which I'm not sure I would do otherwise."

Ms Freedman is a four-time cancer survivor. Surviving her first bout with bone cancer at the age of 13 made her want to live every day to the fullest.

"I can't afford to let an opportunity or a great day go by and do nothing about it."

Before transferring from a Vancouver Hospital to New York's Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre, Ms. Freedman said her prognosis was not good.

"(But) I'm a scrapper," she said. "I didn't want to be sick. I wanted to get home to my friends, my bike, and my dog. (Doctors) credited that to helping me pull through."

Although born in Montreal, Ms Freedman spent most of her youth with her mother and stepfather in Vancouver.

Always academic more than athletic, after a stint in private school, she enrolled at UBC before transferring to Carleton University to study sociology.

After graduating from Carleton, she worked for a year in Toronto, completed her masters through the London School of Economics and York University before finishing off her course work for a PhD in sociology.

Following school, she held down many jobs in

provincial and municipal government, but a combination of recurring illness and frustration with inevitable red tape prevented her from "really establishing a career."

She was able to stay home and take care of her daughter, Laura, but it is her experiences in motherhood - both hers and with her own mother - that set her on the path to preserving.

"In a way, I've done a lot of things I wish my mother had done but didn't," she said. "She worked, she wasn't home when I got home from school and I hated that. I wanted to be home for Laura. You only get one crack and being a parent and we were fortunate at that point that I was financially able to do that."

"My own mother was a gourmet cook, her food was fabulous, but I craved the old fashioned stuff the housekeeper used to make like stews and pot pies."

"She used to bake for me, and my mother hated sweets and she didn't bake, and she didn't preserve. It seems I have gravitated to all the things my mother didn't do, things that I would have liked, and that is where the preserving comes it."

The first time she preserved fruit was in her mid-20s, experimenting with tiny wild strawberries.

From there, her passion grew.

In her previous home in North York, Ms. Freedman had an extensive kitchen garden where she grew her own fruit for preserves, while indulging her passion for farmers' markets and country fairs.

She first became involved in the Aurora Farmers' Market four years ago, selling just a couple dozen jars of preserves from corner in another vendor's area.

"I remember my very first day I had a little card table that was my mother-in-law's and I might have had two cases or 24 jars, not much more than that, and I remember I made \$40 and I was ecstatic!" she said. "It just grew from there and then I moved over and developed my own space."

As her own space grew, so did the Aurora Farmers' Market.

She said the market has "grown enormously", but with the recent departures of both Councillor Stephen Granger and Sher St. Kitts from direct involvement in the event, she said the organization is in "very much a transition stage at the moment."



**Showing and selling her award winning jams and jellies, Jan Freeman had a booth in the annual senior citizens spring sale recently. She also sells her products each week at the Aurora Farmers' Market.**

*Auroran photo by David Falconer*

"We're growing, although our numbers at the moment might be slightly fewer than last year," she said. "I believe by the time we've accepted (all the potential vendors) for the season we'll be ahead of last year."

"We don't want to grow too fast. I'm not saying we did, necessarily, but it might have been an issue and we loaded up with special events with one or two each month."

That being said, Ms Freedman said she is a great supporter of the special events the Farmers' Market offers to patrons, adding the executive might be looking to Aurora resident David Heard to carry the banner forward in that regard.

"He made a presentation to us suggesting he would coordinate and be in charge of special events now," she said. "He suggested it might be a good idea for us to go in a slightly different direction from having almost exclusively music like we had with Sher."

"David suggested that perhaps there were some other kinds of cultural activities that we could have as special events. I thought the idea was fabulous and so did most of the rest of us."

The Farmers' Market executive is not the only body that might be going into this season with a different direction in sight.

In preparation for Saturday's opening, Ms Freedman was experimenting with integrating edible flowers to her already eclectic range of jams, jellies, and

herb mixes.

"I'm starting to use edible flowers in my preserves and that is very exciting to me because I'll be the only one doing it," she said. "I've already used hibiscus and violets in two of the preserves I've made, and that's what I'm concentrating on this week."

If you find mixing violets, hibiscus, and a variety of other flowers into traditional strawberry and raspberry jams a bit unusual, you must not be a regular customer of Ms Freedman's.

"I like to be different, I'm known for being different, probably a bit kooky," she said. "I do things in preserving that no one else does, but I probably do things in life that no one else does. I've known for a long time that there are edible flowers. I've seen them used in places as garnishes. It just sounded so exciting to me because chefs say you eat with your eyes first."

"If it looks beautiful you're hoping it tastes beautiful. (I've found) that is normally the case."

Her efforts to have her products stand out in the crowd have paid dividends, allowing Ms Freedman to set up her jam and jelly table this year with more gravitas added to her name.

Last November, Ms Freedman was crowned the 2009 Grand Champion Jam and Jelly Maker at the Royal Winter Fair, a ribbon which she displays proudly.

"I entered 17 (products) and 11 of them won ribbons and four of them (won)

firsts!" she said. "It's a national competition with slight international overtones in that they get some people from the States. Professionals are allowed to compete."

"I compete against farms

and bakeries and I'm absolutely stunned that in my second year competing I did so well."

"I have to be honest, I'm milking it for all its worth because it may never happen again!"

## Art exhibition opens at Centre June 4th

The Aurora Cultural Centre in partnership with Artcures presents the Artcures Art Exhibition Show and Sale starting June 4th and running through to June 13th.

York Region visual artists will display and sell their artwork in the recently opened Aurora Cultural Centre, also known as the Church Street School.

The Artcures Art Exhibition will include a variety of mediums including oil, acrylic, watercolour, pottery, encaustic, sculpture and more.

Artcures Inc. is a not for profit organization devoted to inspiring wellness through creativity.

Aurora resident Herbert Pryke founded Artcures Inc. as a result of personal experience when he began painting during his recovery journey with cancer.

Today, Herbert firmly believes visual art is a powerful healing tool, both for the creator and the viewer.

"Our emotional well-being and physical state of wellness are directly related," he said. "Art

impacts our emotions which can profoundly change our physical health."

Herbert's many accomplishments include leading Vision Labyrinth workshops, Cooking to Inspire Wellness classes and art instruction.

He is the author of "Connecting with Nature; Oak Ridges Moraine", a stunning collection of artists' interpretations of the moraine.

The show and sale begins with a "Meet the Artists" reception and awards presentation from 7 to 9 p.m. and is open to the public.


Show hours are Saturdays and Sundays, June 5 and 6 and June 12 and 13, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday June 8 to Friday June 11, 1 to 7 p.m.

Admission is free.

Proceeds from the event will be used to launch the "Passport to Wellness" event Saturday, September 18 at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

The centre is located at 22 Church Street, directly east of the Aurora Public Library and the building is fully accessible.

### FAMILY LAW LAWYER

|                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | <p><b>Patrick M. Gaffney</b></p> <p>Practicing all aspects of Family Law to resolve parenting, support, and property issues arising from separating families. A practitioner of Collaborative Family Law – a client controlled, lawyer assisted, out-of-court process focussing on achieving mutually acceptable solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1/2 hour free consultation</li><li>• accepts Legal Aid</li></ul> <p>#201 - 16610 Bayview Avenue, Newmarket<br/>PH: 905-953-0023 FX: 905-953-0023<br/>e-mail: pmgaffney@pmglaw.info</p> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



## Took Driver Training and still can't drive?

### We can help!

**For more information about our individual driving lessons (standard or automatic) and our road test packages call 905-726-4132 or email: [aurora@youngdrivers.com](mailto:aurora@youngdrivers.com)**

**Next Young Drivers course (in-class/in-car)**

## May 29 - 2 Weekends



**YOUNG DRIVERS® of Canada**



## Elect Roger Clowater For Mayor

[www.rogerclowater.ca](http://www.rogerclowater.ca) / 905.726.1899



# THE AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS

Special rates: non-commercial word ads: \$20.00 (+g.s.t.) four weeks or, \$15.95 (+g.s.t.) two weeks minimum 15 words (Applies to word ads only).  
**Got something to sell or advertise? Give us a call - 905-727-7128, fax - 905-727-2620 or go to [auroran.com](http://auroran.com) then click classifieds to send your advertisement.**  
**The deadline for all classified advertising copy and Garage/lawn sales is Friday at 3 p.m. each week.** More than 76,000 copies delivered to Aurorans each month!

## HELP WANTED AND LOOKING

**FREE-LANCE EVENT VIDEOGRAPHER** for publishing company. Must have a car and own video equipment. Students welcome. Please call 905-503-0420 to set up an appointment.

**4TH YEAR UNIVERSITY STUDENT** specializing in physical & recreation education. Looking for summer employment in child-care. Has G Licence & References. Email: d t h o m - s o 1 @ o k r a m a i l . t e l a s t a t e . e d u

## RESIDENTIAL CLEANERS WANTED

Looking for **MATURE INDIVIDUALS** to join our friendly team. FT/PT position required  
**Competitive wages, VEHICLE REQUIRED, kms paid.**  
**Aurora Newmarket area**  
 Please call **SPAR-CLEAN 905-967-0445** and leave a message

## FOR RENT

Beautiful 2 bedroom 2 **BATHROOM CONDO** on Wellington Street near GO Station. Call James 416-884-5296

**TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE...** Newly renovated, everything is brand new and updated. 1 Bedroom basement apartment occupies entire lower floor of a bungalow, lots of windows in quiet neighbourhood. Bedroom with walk-in closet and ensuite. New appliances, kitchen, carpet & paint. Eat in kitchen and large living area with pot lights throughout and gas fireplace. Parking for 1 car with own entrance. Separate laundry, utilities and snow removal. Suitable for mature professional person or retiree with extremely quiet lifestyle. No pets or smoking. Close to transit / shopping & 404. Application, proof of employment and reference required. Contact 905-713-1434 or icon-sultory-ou@hotmail.com

## MADVERTISE

## FOR SALE

**CARPET** - I have several thousand yards of new **Stainmaster** and 100% Olefin carpet. I will carpet your living room & hall for \$389. Price includes carpet, pad and installation (30 square yards). Steve 905-898-0127.

**DINETTE SET** for sale. Solid maple, 42" round, 4 chairs and extra leaf. \$40 o.b.o. 905-727-0441.

**RCA TV 37" COLOUR** \$600. 2 Plastic tables. 10' long & folding legs. \$50 ea. 905-726-1028.

## NOTICE OF LIEN

**NOTICE OF LIEN SALE** The personal property, household goods, and contents of the following rental spaces will be sold for cash or otherwise disposed of to satisfy rental liens for unpaid rent in accordance with Ontario Statutes Chapter R25 and our lease agreement on May 13, 2010 at 10am sharp at Northern Self Storage, Aurora. Unit Name: Barry Isaacs, Tara Wardrop, Blair Stanczuk, Antonio Marzilli, Ron Reardon, Scott Browning.

**MADvertise at theauroran.com**

## Own your own business?

Want to become a **MADvertising** member of theauroran.com?

Give us a call at **905-751-6013**

One of our representatives would be happy to show you all the features and benefits!

Only Marketplace members may **MADvertise** in tandem with **The Auroran, Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper.** Additional **FREE MADvertising** credits for current advertisers in **The Auroran.**

# HUGE NEW & USED BOOK STORE

If you would like us to search for a book visit us on-line at [www.auroran.com](http://www.auroran.com)

**R&R Revisited**

**BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!**

**HOURS:**  
MON. - FRI. 10 - 6  
SAT. 10 - 4  
SUN. NOON - 4

95 Edward Street  
905-727-3300

## BUSINESS SERVICES

## Clean water. Green future.™

SINCE 1925.

- Water Softeners
- Reverse Osmosis
- Iron Filters
- Point of Use Coolers

Ask about our Rental Options  
We offer Low Finance rates  
12 Mth. @ 0%

**2 FREE bags of salt**  
Guaranteed NEW stock;  
we never install used equipment.  
For more information call  
**Ron Butler, 416-818-5075**  
150 Hollidge Blvd., Unit C7, Aurora

## CRYSTAL CLEANING

Cleaning Service  
Commercial/residential  
any day any time  
**FREE ESTIMATE**  
**905-392-1589**

**ELITE HANDYMAN** Services Inc. Home alterations, small to medium home renovation projects, hardwood floor installation, interior and exterior painting and general home maintenance and repair. Seniors Discount Available Ph: 289-380-0056 email: [ehsi@rogers.blackberry.net](mailto:ehsi@rogers.blackberry.net) Web: [www.EliteHandymanServicesInc.com](http://www.EliteHandymanServicesInc.com)

You might not be able to do everything at once, but you can do everything in one place

- Fax Services
- Digital Printing & Copying
- Document Finishing
- Mailbox Rentals
- Courier Services
- Packaging Supplies & Services

**The UPS STORE® in Aurora**  
14845 Yonge St. Unit 6, Aurora  
**905-713-1632 Fax: 905-713-1633**  
Email: [store73@theupsstore.ca](mailto:store73@theupsstore.ca)

## Maid to Shine

## PROFESSIONAL CLEANING

with a personal touch

- Serving Aurora for 10 yrs.
- Customized Services
- Same Professional and Reliable Staff
- Insured & Bonded

Call for an in-home consultation  
**905-713-5636**  
Member of Aurora Chamber of Commerce

**YARD AND GARDEN CLEAN-UPS,** landscape work, grass cutting, gardening, general repairs and painting. Call Roy 289-231-3157.

**PRO PAINTING** Int./Ext fast, clean, professional & affordable, last minute no problem! [selectpropainting.com](http://selectpropainting.com). 905-751-3612 OR 416-878-1806

**A-Z HANDYMAN**  
905.392.9090 **FREE** Estimates

## LIST 4 LESS

List..sell..save

**Mina Sepehrifar (Kaltor)**  
**416.666.3221**

416-666-3221 Mina Sepehrifar (Kaltor) 416-666-3221  
Use according to notice, properties under contract with another Brokerage.

## HANDYMAN SERVICES



Handyman services available for all your household needs.

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Call Tom: 905-717-0517

## S & S PAINTING

**20 yrs. experience**  
Top quality guaranteed

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**905-841-8949**  
**416-520-6252**

## AIRPORT LIMOUSINE

(AURORA BASED)  
**York Region Limousine's "Eco-Limo"**  
Hire a hybrid for your next airport or downtown transportation.  
From only \$69.00!  
Call Alan @ Eco-Limo

**416-992-3811 or 905-727-8600**  
e-mail: [limousines@bell.net](mailto:limousines@bell.net)  
[www.eco-limo.ca](http://www.eco-limo.ca)

## Home Improvements by HARLEQUIN HOMES

WE SPECIALIZE IN NEW HOME PROJECT MANAGEMENT  
 FINISHED BASEMENTS • KITCHEN & BATH REMODELS  
 ADDITIONS • RENOVATIONS • FENCES & DECKS  
 ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES  
 Harlequin Homes is a Registered Reno Mark™ Company

**Call Mike 416 771 8597**

## Joe the Plumber

Repairs & New Installations  
**416-568-6928**  
 Licensed, insured 22 years exp.

# GARAGE SALE MAP

ST. JOHN'S SIDEROAD WEST

**SATURDAY MAY 15, 2010**  
**1) Parkland Court STREET SALE 8 a.m.**  
**2) 20 McLenny Drive 8 a.m - 11 a.m.**

**GARAGE SALE MAP**  
 Locator is FREE to Aurora Residents Only

Sponsored by:  
**Sean Herbinson Keller Williams Realty Centres**  
 905-895-5972

## CLASSES • SEMINARS • WORKSHOPS • COURSES

Advertise all year for as little as \$7 per week. (\*This section only) Call 905-727-7128, Fax 905-727-2620 or go to [www.auroran.com](http://www.auroran.com)

## ART CLASSES

**雲虹畫室**  
**DRAWING CLASS**  
 All level small group English and Chinese. Call Yunhong at 905-713-3650 <http://www.yhartstudio.com>

## SWIM CLASSES

**COMPETITIVE SWIMMING:** Children to adults. Aurora Selkies Swim Club. Register now for the 2010/11 season. [swimgym@sympatico.ca](mailto:swimgym@sympatico.ca) 905-841-3450.

**SWIMMING LESSONS**  
 In my backyard in Aurora. Call Leigh at 905-726-7940 for registration.

## SWIM

## TUTOR

**EXPERIENCED ELEMENTARY TEACHER** available for tutoring in the Aurora area. Primary Reading specialist grades JK-6. [erinmgill@gmail.com](mailto:erinmgill@gmail.com)

## FRENCH SCHOOL

**IRINA'S FRENCH MONTESSORI PRE-SCHOOL.** To learn, play & socialize in French. Small Classes, competitive fees. [www.irinafrench.com](http://www.irinafrench.com). 416-801-3840.

## CLASSES SEMINARS WORKSHOPS COURSES

Advertise for as low as \$7 per week in this section of The Auroran Classifieds

## LEARN HOW TO DRAW & PAINT... just like the Masters



- beginners to advanced
- ongoing classes
- drawing & painting techniques
- help students prepare portfolios for college and art school
- no artistic experience necessary

**905-726-8883**

Judy studied academic painting and drawing in Florence, Italy. She has appeared on City Line TV.  
[mi.design@sympatico.ca](mailto:mi.design@sympatico.ca)

# DANCE PARTY May 28

Only \$15

4,500 sq. ft. hardwood floor  
 Reserved seating available  
 Door Prizes 7:00 Doors Open - Dress code

Only \$15

7:30 p.m. **FREE Cha Cha**

Latin/Ballroom/West Coast Swing and Line dancing until midnight with desserts & coffee @ 10:30.

Location: **Royal Canadian Legion** in Aurora, 105 Industrial Parkway North  
 (Please park around back and enter through that door)

## Dance Lessons

**Dance Lessons start May 3rd, 2010 and continue until June 28**

**Level 1: Cha Cha and Social Foxtrot 8 - 9 p.m.**  
**Level 2: Jive and Tango 9 - 10 p.m.**

**Please call for advanced registration or pay at the door the first night**

The cost is just \$85 per person for 8 weeks. Do I need special shoes? No, but dance or leather soled shoes with non marking heels are best. Do not wear rubber soled shoes.

Please call or email for more information or to register for upcoming events



Site: [www.SteveMillerDance.ca](http://www.SteveMillerDance.ca) Call Steve Miller at 416-587-4125  
 Email: [Steve@SteveMillerDance.ca](mailto:Steve@SteveMillerDance.ca)



# This year's election will reduce hours for voting

The 2010 Municipal Election will once again bring reduced voting hours to Aurora's retirement and nursing homes, according to a bylaw placed before councillors at last Tuesday's General Committee meeting.

Although voters typically have the option of voting in polls from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., polls could open at times ranging from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and close between Noon and 5 p.m. in at least four identified retirement and nursing homes.

In the plan before council, the station at Park Place Manor is slated to run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Election Day, while the Sunrise Retirement Centre poll will operate between 2 and 5 p.m.

On the nursing home front, Aurora Resthaven will see their poll open from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and the Willow Estate Nursing Home poll will be open to residents from 10 a.m. to noon.

"Although normal voting hours on October 25 will remain at the traditional time of 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. the [Municipal Elections Act] permits reduced hours of voting for nursing homes and retirement homes," said Town Clerk John Leach in a report.

"The [reduced hours] are based upon typical

voting patterns and the number of persons voting at these locations, and are consistent with the hours that were provided in 2006," he said. "It should be noted that although the hours of polling are reduced in these facilities, polling staff ensure that all eligible electors residing there who wish to vote do so."

While the matter of actual reduced hours was not opposed at the table, Councillors such as Bob McRoberts had questions over the inclusions on the list.

He questioned whether residences such as the Hollandview Trail Retirement Residence, and the Cobblestone Lodge Retirement Home should be on the list as well.

According to Mr. Leach, however, these residences do not fall within the required ministry definitions.

Mayor Phyllis Morris though expressed her desire to see added polls in these various locations.

"I want to make sure there are going to be added polls which is always important because we want [voting] to be as convenient as possible," she said. "We're trying very hard to reach out to as many people in a cost effective way."

Safety and accessibility at polling stations at large

was also an issue.

"How are we going to ensure that voting stations are completely accessible?" asked Councillor Wendy Gaertner. "I have heard complaints over the years about them being accessible to wheelchairs and walkers. Those complaints came out of the George Street Public School because the polls were downstairs."

Mr. Leach, however, said all of the locations used in the 2006 municipal election were deemed accessible.

"I will be ensuring that every location is inspected and Ivy (Henriksen), our accessibility coordinator, will be doing that personally," he said. "We will ensure that all measures are taken so they are completely accessible to those that might be physically challenged."

The bylaw before councillors also outlined advanced polling dates.

Dates selected include: Saturday, October 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, October 10 from noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, October 16 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, October 17 from noon to 5 p.m.; Monday, October 18 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, October 19 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday, October 20 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

All advanced voting will take place at the Aurora Seniors' Centre.



Even though the weatherman failed to co-operate, M&M Meats on Yonge Street, still managed to raise more than \$3,000 to help the fight against crohn's and colitis disease. Prior to the event, Wayne Keilty, pictured here, sweeps away water while Emily Cooke and Emily Puccini get ready to assist while Greg Foster, M&M franchise owner, hopes for better weather.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

# Aurora looking for teen talent

While American Idol slowly winds down, whittling away contestants one by one, Aurora is gearing up for its fourth annual singing competition - Aurora Teen Idol.

Registration is now open for the competition, with registration forms available online from the Town's website ([www.e-aurora.ca](http://www.e-aurora.ca)), as well as from the Aurora Family Leisure Complex, and the Stronach Aurora Recreation complex.

The deadline to register is Wednesday, June 16. You must be between the ages of 11 and 19 to enter.

The Town of Aurora heralds the Aurora Teen Idol competition as an artistic forum for local youth.

"Aurora is a community that supports and appreciates the arts," said Mayor Phyllis Morris in a statement. "We encourage the youth in Aurora to register for the 2010

Aurora Teen Idol competition so they can showcase their creative talents and abilities."

The competition begins Tuesday, June 22, at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex at 5 p.m.

Both the semi-finals and the final competition will take place at the Town's Canada Day celebrations at Lambert Willson Park from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

"The final winner will

be chosen by a panel of professional artists looking for the best youth vocalist," said Jason Ballantyne, Manager of Corporate Communications for the Town of Aurora.

The winner will receive a \$100 cash prize, as well as the rights to perform at Town of Aurora events, a swimming or fitness pass, and a framed, signed certificate from Mayor Morris.

## Aurora Seniors' Duplicate Bridge results

Monday, May 3 - N/S: Anne White and Barbara Wittmer; Lucille Sequeira and Dave Legallais; Mary Oglanby and Joan Rotenberg. E/W: Noeen Hashem and Marion Warburton; Suzanne Nunn and Shirley Laurin; Audrey Robertson and Ev Dickie.

# FAN MAN

**Fabulous Lighting with 4,000 sq. ft. of showroom**



**New Shipments Arriving Clear Outs on Sale**

**Tues. , Wed., Thur., Fri. and Sat. – 10 - 5 or by appointment**  
**[www.thefanman.ca](http://www.thefanman.ca)**

**905-841-2832**  
**220 Industrial Pkwy. S**



**CHARTWELL**  
SENIORS HOUSING REIT

## SENIOR STAR COMPETITION

**Are YOU a Senior Star?**  
Here's your chance to shine with your musical talent. Be a star or be a fan!

**THURSDAY, JUNE 17TH • 2PM**  
Call any of our residences below for more details or to pick up an entry form.

**[WWW.CHARTWELLREIT.CA](http://WWW.CHARTWELLREIT.CA)**

|                                                                                                   |                                                                                             |                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PARK PLACE MANOR</b><br>RETIREMENT RESIDENCE<br>15055 Yonge St., Aurora<br><b>905-727-2952</b> | <b>BARTON</b><br>RETIREMENT RESIDENCE<br>17290 Leslie St., Newmarket<br><b>905-967-1331</b> | <b>AURORA RESTHAVEN</b><br>LONG TERM CARE RESIDENCE<br>32 Mill St., Aurora<br><b>905-727-1939</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|





Aurora's St. Andrew's College Pipes & Drums Band marched through the streets of Apeldoorn last week in honour of Remembrance Day in Holland. The group began its 2010 'Liberation Tour' on May 4th by leading a contingent of Canadian students and Dutch citizens on a 'Silent March' through the streets of Apeldoorn. Following a divine service in a local church, the band led the congregation and red-jacketed visitors to a memorial cenotaph, where the Mayor and other dignitaries laid wreaths to honour those who fell during the Nazi occupation of Holland during World War II. The band continued its tour all week with performances in communities throughout the area, which culminated in a huge parade of veterans in Apeldoorn Sunday. The band members returned to Canada Monday.

*Photo by Howard Seto*

## Senior Scape



By BRIAN WARBURTON

## Wood exhibition planned by ASA

The Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) will present an exhibition of the arts, crafts and other constructions in the medium of wood, produced with the dexterity of members in the Wood Shop.

These ladies and gentlemen present wood creations of every description, on Thursday and Friday, May 27th and 28th between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Wood Craft Display will present wood artistry in the Muriel Lanaway room next to the computer room, where everybody is invited to visit.

If you have an interest in woodworking, carving or crafting toys, furniture or household objects, including repairs in the medium of wood, this display should ignite your fire.

Join the ASA if you are not a member and if you are a member, go to the front counter and make arrangements to attend the Wood Shop, and get involved immediately.

If you would like to display your work at this exhibition, sign up in the Wood Shop and contact Lloyd McCabe.

The ASA Silver Stars Drama Club presents The Best of Broadway on two dates in June, and rehearsals are continuing.

Judy Buchanan is the director of this growing band of entertainers and interest is growing in what this next production will present. Dates and times will be announced as soon as they are available.

The Opera Club meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month, to listen to music and also to discuss the music and the composer's life and times.

Opera for May will be Othello, composed by Verdi and based on Shakespeare's play, which when first produced was in a new style endowed with energy and liveliness.

The Opera Club is founded on fun and the elegance of

beautiful music enjoyed by everybody enraptured with beauty. With fun comes the deep satisfaction that the impressive qualities of magnificent music, resonating through mind, body and spirit communicates profoundly to each and all of us!

Beverly Varcoe will address matters concerning homes including down-sizing, and modifications with the intention of improving the value of your home.

Her presentation will be held Thursday, May 13th, from 2 until 3 p.m.

The changing needs of seniors through time and circumstances will be addressed, and Beverly will answer questions in a plain and simple style.

Prepare questions ahead of time and bear in mind that good questions return good answers, so cover the points you would like addressed, clearly.

In addition, Debra Haggarty will talk about preparing and selling your home; Jim Abbott will talk about home modifications and Patti Dilworth will address the Canadian Home Income Plan-CHIP.

Attending such a presentation makes perfectly good sense, because buying and selling or renovating homes costs money; but this presentation is free.

Timely knowledge acquired regarding real estate, allows preparation for intelligent decisions when the time for action arrives.

While the time is available and clearly before events demand poorly considered action, acquire the knowledge you require, and lighten the burden of decision making.

Leave the meeting better prepared to deal with your real estate affairs will be a reward and will represent a personal triumph.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for all members is scheduled for Wednesday, June 2nd, from 2 until 6 p.m.

The nomination process is completed and the nominees are: Ron Coe, Jytte Gillies, Bill Higgins, Olga Kisch, and Barbara Stoecklin.

From a legal standpoint and from a practical standpoint, the AGM is of vital importance, because it is a legal requirement, and of equal importance is selecting by legal means members of the Board of Directors (BoD).

In the meantime, we, the members, need to recognize our responsibility and cast a plurality of votes to enable the AGM to vote decisively in establishing the BoD on a firm legal basis.

The election process will continue in the ASA lobby until Friday, May 21st.

The Gardening Club is into a busy time of the year and urgently needs willing hands.

If you can garden, or help with the front gardens, the new time to meet is each Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m.

The work is divided among many hands and is not difficult.

The Dance Committee has planned the next damce for Friday, May 21st.

These dances have continued successfully for many years and many friendships have been created and cemented over the course of time.

Charles Sequeira, ASA president and a prominent member of the dancing scene, invites everybody to attend the next dance and see what the fun is about.

If you have a yearning for particular music, approach Lucille or either Angus or Charles and they will be as interested as you in your preference.

## Feature Videos now playing

- Second Annual Pine Tree Potters Guild Sale at Church Street School in Aurora
- Aurora Art Show 2010
- Aurora Lawn Bowling Club's Open House

## Visit THEAURORAN.COM



## BUSINESS & EVENT Calendar

Looking for something to do?

Check out our Event Calendar with 100's of events

Go to the MarketPlace for  
**FREE DRAWS—enter to WIN!**

**FREE DRAW** **DRAWING AND PAINTING FINE ART CLASSES\***  
with fine artist Judy Sherman  
Trained by the masters in Florence, Italy,  
Judy's work is collected internationally.

**\$120\***  
Value

To enter go to: [www.theauroran.com](http://www.theauroran.com), click on this icon and select "ART"



**FREE DRAW** **Top quality 'Organic' European Facial\***  
Esthetic Services by Hilda is offering  
this **FREE DRAW GIVEAWAY!**  
products by PEVONIA

**\$120\***  
Value

To enter go to: [www.theauroran.com](http://www.theauroran.com), click on this icon and select "SALONS AND SPAS"



PRINT OUT THE ONLINE

*Save* **COUPONS** *Save*  
and use them at participating businesses

**COUPON**

**Sherman J Studio**

\$25 off Fine Art Classes (series of 4)

go to [theauroran.com](http://theauroran.com),  
click Marketplace  
-select Art

**COUPON**

**Timberlane Athletic Club**

2 week pass

go to [theauroran.com](http://theauroran.com),  
click Marketplace  
-select Fitness

**COUPON**

**Crystal White Cleaners**

Super Cleaning Special

go to [theauroran.com](http://theauroran.com),  
click Marketplace  
-select Cleaning Services

**Bringing the business community to you!**



# Celebrating 40 years in business in Aurora

Then



Omar Khamissa  
1970

NOW



Owners Raz and Mae Khamissa  
and their staff at Omars Shoes  
and 5 Below Jeans & More

For 40 years now, Omars Shoes has been the destination of choice for Aurora and area residents looking for comfortable, stylish footwear for the entire family.

It all began in 1970 when Omar and Amina Khamissa opened their modest 'Mom and Pop' outlet in a 1,200-square-foot store front.

Now operated by Raz and Mae Khamissa, Omars boasts a staff of seasoned, professional shoe-fitters, all busily and happily operating in a 7,000-square-foot centre for fashionable footwear that has sustained its leading reputation by offering outstanding customer service, knowledgeable staff, quality products and a great selection. And, their history of helping to ease common foot problems has added to their small-town, retail family tradition.

The secret to Omars success is simple - Service, Selection and Dedication to our Valued Customers.

Omars goes that extra step to ensure that children are carefully measured and fitted with good quality shoes that provide room to grow. The selection of shoes for men and women in medium, wide and extra-wide sizes is among the largest in the Greater Toronto Area.

Omars is known for its comfortable shoes and specializes in fitting shoes for orthotics. Omars' staff members are dedicated to providing the correct fit and shoe for your foot.

We want you to own quality shoes that look good, feel great and wear well. Shoes that will add flair to your wardrobe and comfort to your feet.

**As a special THANK YOU to all of our customers for your patronage over the years, we ask you to join us for our**



**new balance**  **aravon**

**SPECIAL WEEKEND**  
**\$40 OFF** every regular priced  
**NEW BALANCE, DUNHAM & ARAVON SHOE**  
*Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15 only.*

**Omars SHOES**  
**SINCE 1970**  
**905-727-9391**  
**14800 Yonge St., Aurora Shopping Centre**  
**www.omarsshoes.com**