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# THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 9 No. 27

905-727-3300

auroran.com

EREE

Week of May 5, 2009

# Police investigate why someone shot bullets into garage

York Regional Police are continuing their investigation to learn why someone pumped seven bullets into a garage door on Moffat Crescent last week.

The "drive-by" shooting has residents of the quiet street in Aurora's north end upset.

One resident told The Auroran her daughter, five minutes before the shooting, was walking a dog past the house, located at 30 Moffat Crescent.

Police immediately closed the street and continued their

investigation into the following day.

Witnesses said other cars were noted near the intersection of Fielding Drive, and one speculated they may have been watching to make sure no one was on the street at the time of the shooting.

Moffat intersects Fielding at two locations. Fielding joins Kemano Drive and Orchard Heights Blvd.

No one was hurt in the incident.



#### Briefly

#### Former councillor dies

Judith Ochalski, an Aurora Councillor for several years, died in her sleep last week in Ottawa.

A veterinarian, politician, educator, mother and wife, Judith was 85. Her hasband Jan predeceased her.

Further details may be found in The Auroran's classified section.

#### Put on a happy face

The Aurora Seniors Association's Evergreen Choir presents their Spring Concert, "Put on a Happy Face", at the Aurora Seniors Centre May 27 at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$5 for children 14 years and under , and are available at the Senior Centre Reception desk or from choir members. The program will include guest soloists Tom Rainsford and the Volk Family musicians. Refreshments will be served following the concert.

#### Time running out

In a month or so, the 14th annual Street Festival will take place in Aurora. The festival, started to celebrate Yonge Street's 200 birthday in 1995, became an annual event a year after it started.

Now, about 40,000 people jam onto Yonge Street for the festival that features upwards of 500 street vendors.

And space, according to the organizers, The Aurora Chamber of Commerce, is running out.

More than 400 booths have been rented for the event, slated this year for Sunday, June 7, along Yonge Street, from Murray Drive in the south to Wellington Street in the north.

If you wish to purchase booth space, call the Chamber at 905-727-7262.

#### Office open

Ontario Progressive Conservative leadership candidate Frank Klees, an Aurora resident. officially opened his campaign headquarters recently.

The headquarters is located in Richmond Hill at 45 V ogell Road.

Klees is the sitting member for the Tories for the riding of Newmarket-Aurora, and is once again seeking the leaderhship of the party, following the resignation of John Tory a few weeks ago.



The annual farmer's market opened without fanfare Saturday in the Aurora Town Park. On hand was the Neal family, top photo, Chris and Wendy and children Zoe, (left) and Sarah. In the photo below, part of the crowd that showed up for the first day of the market, which will continue every Saturday until October.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

## Yonge, Wellington corridor subject of two workshops

There has been a lot of talk about revitalizing the Yonge and Wellington corridor, and now if you have any ideas, the Town of Aurora wants to hear them

The town will be hosting two workshops to obtain input on stimulating economic development, encouraging intensifica-

tion, and enhancing the downtown area's role as a focal point for retail, service and special events.

Please see page 15





15105 Yonge St., Suite 100, Aurora (2½ blocks south of Wellington on the east side)

\* Based on IMS Statistics
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#### CONTINUING

The Probus Club of Aurora meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month at the Royal Canadian Legion on Industrial Parkway North Probus was sponsored by the Aurora Rotary Club in 1995 with an initial membership of 25, now 82, for retired and semi-retired professional and business men and women, former executives and others. The club is non-sectarian and non-political. For information call 905-841-3558 or 905-727-9344.

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.

The Adult Bereavement Support Group offers a chance to learn how to cope with the loss of a loved one. Fred Bullen has given the use of the Aurora Lions Club and Brent Forrester of Thompson Funeral Home will provide administrative cost so that this service is given free to the community. Contact mariesgriefjourney@yahoo.com to reserve a seat or get further information.

"Voice" is a creative writing collective for teens between the ages of 13 and 18. At the meetings, held at the Aurora Public Library, teens learn various creative writing techniques, give and receive constructive feedback on

#### **COMING EVENTS**

their writing and meet other like-minded young writers. Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month, September through May, from 7 to 8 p.m. Registration is not required.

"Louder" is a semi-annual young adult magazine created through the creative effort of teens and produced by the Aurora Public Library's Young Adult Services Department. Submissions of writing, poetry, art, graphic art and photography are accepted. E-mail your submissions to yamagazine@library.aurora.on.ca or drop it off to the Children and Young Adult Information Desk to the attention of Monika Machacek.

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.

On Thursdays until June, the Navy League has a Cadet program for children 9 to 12 years from 7 to 9 p.m. Contact Cliff Davies at 905-727-2244 for details

On Tuesdays, until June, a Sea Cadet program for youths 13 to 18 from 7 to 9 p. m. Leave message at 905-895-3038.

Aurora Opera Company's Children's Chorus is a new treble voice choir dedicated to educating, nurturing and providing opportunities for children to

express their musical abilities. The chorus is open to boys and girls in Grades 1 through 12 and consists of two choirs: Angel Choristers, a training choir for 6 and 7 year-olds and the Children Chorus, open to 8 to 17 year-olds. To audition, contact general director Sarah Kyle at keepsinging@look.ca.

CHAT'S Community Home Assistance to Seniors is looking for volunteers

Please see page 19



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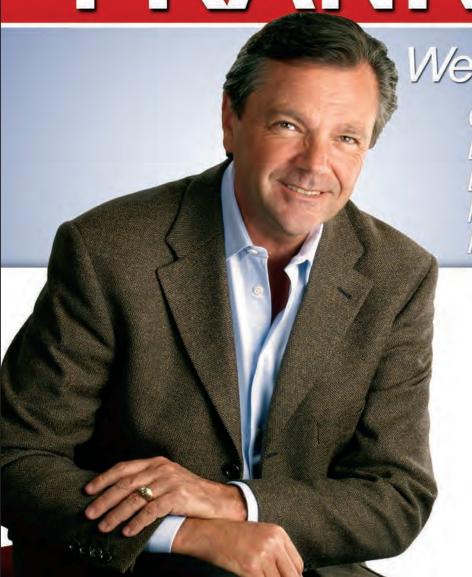
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# AW Shucks Bar & Bistro - Aurora hosts FRANK KLEES



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featuring Al Connelly of GlassTiger.

Aw Shucks Bar & Bistro 15474 Yonge St. Aurora 905.727.5100



One of Aurora's Baskin Robbins outlets teamed up with firefighters from the Central York Fire Services last week to raise funds for the restoration of a firefighter memorial in Toronto that was vandalized some years ago. Judging by the line-ups, the event was a huge success. Auroran photo by David Falconer

### Aurora Council endorses prayer breakfast initiative

Aurora Council formally recognized and endorsed the Aurora Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Initiative.

As described by Bob Callow, who appeared at council with two other representatives of the committee, the non-partisan group represents 14 churches in the area that are planning to host a Christian Celebration of Prayer for the community leaders serving Aurora and the surrounding municipalities.

Similar events held in Whitchurch-Markham. Stouffville and Richmond Hill have brought together hundreds of citizens to honour, recognize and pray for all community leaders, from elected politicians of all levels of government, to representatives of police and fire

### Aurora Seniors **Duplicate** Bridge

Monday, April Section L NS - Greta Ogden and Eva Guttman; Audrey Robertson and Kav Hack: Lucille Sequeira and Judy Salmon. Section L EW -Elaine Hunter and Carol Davidson; Frank LaBlans and Dennis McFadden; Joan Rotenberg and Mary Oglanby.

Monday, April 27: N/S -Judy Salmon and Lucille Sequeira; Kay Hack and Gloria Smith: Joan Rotenberg and Mary Oglanby. E/W -Frank Lablans and Dennis McFadden; Don Newman and Murray Sinclair; Mary McClennon and Pat Leeson.

departments, and local schools.

The Aurora initiative will be held Tuesday, October 20, from 7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. at Dinardo's Banquet

Mr. Callow confirmed the event would be open to everyone who wished to attend, no matter what their religious beliefs.

The breakfast meeting would be fully self-supporting through both ticket sales, and sponsorships.

Although prices haven't been set, it is estimated that tickets will be \$25.

The event is currently planned to include breakfast, a musical performance and an inspirational

Although Mayor Phyllis Morris confirmed she would continue to be involved, council also appointed Councillor Steven Granger to serve on the organizing committee, which has been meeting for several months.



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#### **Poor Ronnie**

By RON WALLACE

### Moving house proves to be an experience

I have not moved house since 1979.

That means I have been in the same location for about 30 years. Actually, 29 and change.

I am right in the middle of moving, and it, let me tell you, is quite an experience.

Of course, most of you know that I remarried in November, and Patricia, my wife, has been with me in a house that was simply too small to hold all our belongings.

We have stuff stored everywhere.

So, it was decided, we needed two things: more space with fewer stairs to climb. In other words, a big bungalow.

We have been looking for some time for the right place, so much so that our real estate agent, Sean Herbinson, and we are on a first-name basis.

I could imagine the thoughts going through his head every time I would phone and say "gee, Sean, there's a nice looking place that we would like to see."

I believe we looked at nearly every property for sale in Aurora in the last year or so, and always found something wrong somewhere.

Some time ago, before the economy hit the skids, we saw a nice place in the south end of Aurora, but before we could make an offer, the place was sold.

The successful buyers, whoever they are, probably thought much what we were thinking.

Which brings up another point.

Everyone I mentioned to that we were looking for a new house asked the same question: "You're not leaving Aurora, are

Nah, can't do that. Not with a daughter who is named Aurora. She is eternally grateful she wasn't born in Walla Walla, Washington, otherwise she might today be known as Walla

So, by the time you read this, we should be settled into our new abode, and frantically searching for the location of our super mailbox, since that is one of the benefits we had to give up when we moved.

As I said, I have not moved for some time.

As a matter of fact, I have been in one location for 11 years longer than I was in my hometown of North Bay, where I had moved around, with my family, more than half a dozen times.

And, of course, once I left home to find my fortunes in the big city (yes, I'm still looking) I moved around quite a bit, from Cranbrook, B.C., to Sudbury, to Trawna, to Scarborough, to

So, it came as a bit of a surprise to me when I realized I had not moved an inch from my last house in nearly three decades.

Mostly, it was due to the fact there was too much stuff in the house to be bothered moving it all.

That's why one of the requirements had to include all the appliances, so we could offer ours in the deal.

We wound up moving a freezer, but that was all, and because we have two huge refrigerators in the new place, we don't really need the freezer.

Everything else - stove, fridge, dishwasher, etc., stayed put. Made things a little easier, but not much.

There was still a pile of furniture to move, from several locations, and, should I survive all this, I'll report on it next week. And tell you the name of the company that moved us! In a

Letter to the Editor

### Tim's going for the whole ball of wax

To the editor,

Re: Jones would seek nomination, but not without competition- the Auroran. April 21 edition.

In the last federal election, after having the honour of serving the residents of Aurora for 28 years on council, the last 12 years as mayor and

proudly ran as the Liberal candidate.

I am very appreciative of those who supported me, and continue to be opposed to the Conservative record, especially on the econo-

It's with this in mind that I want the residents of Newmarket-Aurora to know that I have one

regional councillor, I focus only - federal politics.

> I am seeking the nomination to be your Liberal candidate for the next sign up on your home/yard federal election, with the goal of proudly representing you Parliament.

Tim Jones **Candidate of Record Newmarket-Aurora Liberal Party of Canada**  wins. After all...

McQuire. The coach, seen at right, we know. He's Rod Leonard.

Letter to the Editor

To the editor.

Public School.

Board (YRDSB) is recom-

mending the Board of

Town's historic Wells Street

School (located at Wells and

Mosley Streets across from

the Town Park) by 2010 and

divide our student popula-

sented Thursday, April 30 to

This staff report was pre-

The Board will also

review a community report

(the ARC), which recom-

mends keeping the school

between the YRDSB staff

need to make sure "Aurora"

Now it's a "battle"

tion into different schools.

YRDSB

trustees.

children.

It's time to speak up, work for and represent us: Hill, Newmarket and other Aurora, about the future of the taxpaying citizens of our historic Wells Street Aurora.

Time to fight for

 the Board has stated We all have the chance they are not in the business to make a difference for our of closing schools - let's Town, our citizens, and our hold them to that!

 with the future growth The staff of the York planned for Aurora, closing Region District School a school is very short-sight-

 our children have the Trustees vote to close our right to go through elementary school with the friends they've developed along the way - not be treated like numbers and divided based on the Board's whim.

> · our community needs this school to preserve our Town's rich history, keep elected families in the downtown core, host community activities, groups and events and maintain the uniqueness of Aurora.

We have the power to influence the Board. The decision has not been made. Please do your part and our community. And we to Save Wells Street School. How?

> · email your elected King/Aurora YRDSB Trustee Gord Kerr (gord.kerr@yrdsb.edu.on.ca ) and let him know Wells Street P.S. should remain open as a school in its current location

• attend the meetings discussing the fate of Wells Street - (all are listed on the website YRDSB www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

 post a Save our school (email me at address below to get one)

• share your favourite Wells Street memories and sign our on-line petition at (www.thepetitionsite.com/1/ Save-Wells-Street-Public-School)

Together we can show

the YRDSB that Aurora is • the staff and Board different from Richmond

This is the intermediate basketball team from Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School in 1970. Among the

players, because we don't know them all, are Tom Orton, Marcus Bryant, Andrew Farquharson, Brad

Gilbert, Larry Smith, Dave Daglish, Brad Simmons, Doug Waller, Brad Davie, Bob Keys, and Steve

school: reader says

communities in their region. We are small, we are unique, and we will fight to preserve the history of our Town and provide the best

possible education for our kids.

Jane Reeves **CAWS** (Community Action for Wells Street) reeves@aci.on.ca

#### \_THE AURORAN \_\_\_\_\_

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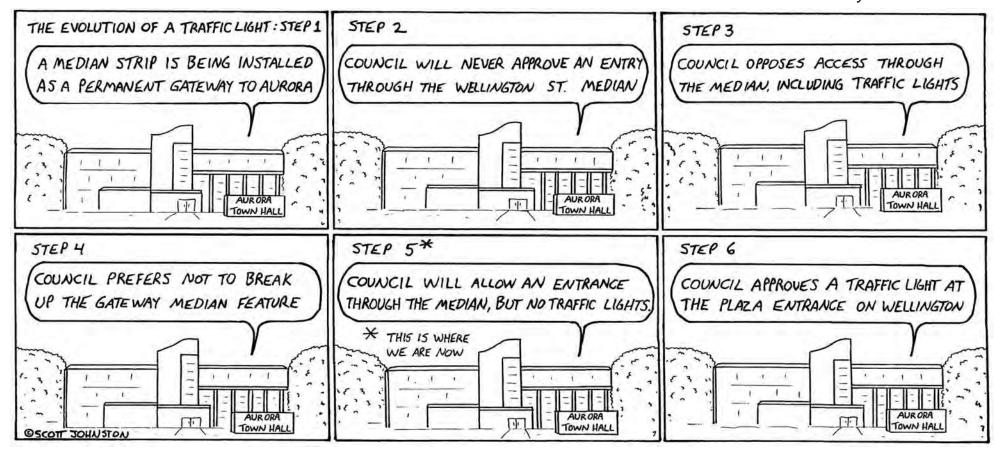
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Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran. Letters must include name and phone number, although number will not be published, and be limited to 600 words. Names may be withheld assuming a compelling reason to do so. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

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Machell's Corners \_\_\_\_\_\_ by Scott Johnston





### Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

#### Mayor's Annual Anti-Litter Day ———

Staying calm

This column is about two un-related conversations.

On a Friday afternoon a couple of weeks back, I interrogated (I mean interviewed) the subjects: my five-year-old son who is in senior kindergarten, my eight-year-old nephew who is in Grade 3 and my 12-year-old nephew who is in Grade 6. They all go to Devins Drive Public School.

I had each of them into my home office for a brief discussion. I positioned the energy efficient 1,000 watt lamp just right - so that it shone brightly on their little foreheads. I then posed the same question to each of the children: what did you learn at school this week?

My son: "I don't remember, Daddy."

Eight-year-old: "Nuthin, Uncle Steve. I'm hungry."

Twelve-year-old: "Not much."

While these same answers uttered by David Radler in a U.S. District Court during the Conrad Black case may be fine for the legal community, they certainly didn't impress me.

I quickly penned a letter to the provincial minister of education, the final paragraph summing up my position quite well, I believe: "The three children candidly admit that they have learned nothing...In the name of increased globalization and international competitiveness concerns, you need to relieve the administration and the teachers at Devins Drive Public School of their respective posts with utmost dispatch."

I will keep you abreast of further developments on this file.

The other interesting conversation started with my sister-inlaw, Cindy, but grew to include her two children as well as my own run rat

g rat. The partial transcript of the proceedings: Cindy: "Two weeks from now is the Mayor's 7th Annual Anti-Litter Day. Mike and I have to work those days, can you take the children to participate?"

Stephen: "Pardon?"

Cindy: "Two weeks from now is the Mayor's 7th Annual Anti Litter Day. Mike and I have to work those days, can you take the children to participate?"

Stephen: "That's what I thought you said. You wouldn't happen to be operating a Grow Op in your house and actually be consuming some of the product would you? Our monsters won't even pick up their own socks to get their allowance let along cleaning up garbage outside for free. You got to be kidding, right?"

Cindy: "They'll do it."

Then she called for the three boys and nothing happened. She then said that magic word "Lunch", and they miraculously appeared before us.

Cindy: "Guess what we are going to do two Saturdays from

Oldest: "Go to Disney World?"

Cindv: "No!"

Eight-year-old: "Go back to stay at the Great Wolf Lodge in Niagara Falls?"

Cindy: "No!!"

My son: "Go to Chuckie Cheese for lunch?"

Cindy: "No!!! Mike and I are away but the three of you will participate in the Mayors Clean up festivities!"

The collective look on their little faces was, as the credit card commercial goes, "priceless". I should also quickly add the adjectives "bewildered, stunned, heartbroken and saddened" to the

emotional mix.

The conversation continued for the next three or four hours (I left after the first hour of negotiations), but in the end the boys agreed to do it.

Then it came to the big day, and to my surprise, the boys were enthusiastic; the four of us, plus my wife, picked up some garbage at Machell Park.

It is amazing the types of things you will find. Mostly we recovered coffee cups and lids, lots of paper, but also to our chagrin, some broken pieces of glass on the baseball infield.

The Program that the mayor put on is first rate. In addition to the organization of the clean up itself, there was also a Children's Poster Contest and food for all participants.

According to the mayor "we had help from Environmental Advisory Committee volunteers and many others including: Trinity Anglican Church, Riveridge Community, YRP - Heidi and friends cleaned the cenotaph area and the Montessori school children on Industrial Parkway North also participated, as did many others."

After we were done, I was all set to go over to the Town Park and partake of the barbeque put on by the folks at M&M.

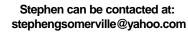
"We can't," my wife sheepishly replied. "We need to go to

"We can't," my wire sneepisnly replied. "We need to go to McDonald's for lunch - I promised them."

I now have a bit better understanding of their collective enthusiasm for collecting refuse that Saturday.

I guess the word "altruism" or "volunteerism" has not yet found

its way into the boys' vocabulary. Rome wasn't built in a day.





#### **Inside Aurora**

By Scott Johnston

Nothing infuriates drivers more than traffic calming. Kind of ironic, isn't it?

I'm the first to agree that speeding is a problem in town. Perish the thought that it take 98 seconds to drive to the corner store, when you could have gotten there in 92.

What a waste of time that would be.

There are more than 500 roads in Aurora, and it would probably not be much of an exaggeration to suggest that speeding occurs on every one of them - even the cul-desacs

The good news is there are a number of ways to calm traffic. The bad news is that these aren't always the answer.

That doesn't stop delegations of good-intentioned people from appearing weekly at council meetings requesting yet another set of speed humps, or that most popular of traffic calming devices in Aurora; the stop sign.

It may seem like there are a lot of these around town, but there is actually a formula that is used to determine whether an intersection merits a stop sign.

It's based on the number of cars and pedestrians that cross through the intersection in a certain time period, times the number of complaints received by local residents, divided by the number of months until the next municipal election.

Ironically, studies show there are already too many stop signs in Aurora for proper traffic flow, and we should take

We all know that a council member would more readily volunteer to remove a major internal organ without the aid of anaesthetic, than remove a stop sign from some voters' neighbourhood.

But the proliferation of all these traffic calming measures is getting out of control. The obvious example of this is the area northeast of Yonge and Wellington.

Through the recent addition of chicanes, and speed humps, and stop signs, and narrower lanes, and who knows what else, this has basically become a gated community. And it only cost the rest of us \$800,000.

So in order to affordably appease people honestly concerned about speeding and the safety of their kids, I think we need to start employing some new and less expensive weapons in the battle to slow down drivers.

An obvious answer is to look to Mother Nature, and take advantage of the many potholes and other bumps and dips that naturally appear in our roads after a long Canadian winter. These are nature's traffic calmers. By not repairing them, we would certainly slow people down, and save the town some money.

In fact, there are some roads in town - Wellington west of Yonge, for example - that are just so bumpy right now that it's physically impossible to speed along them without the aid of an off-road vehicle. I don't think the cops who occasionally set up radar traps along there have ever cracked open their ticket books.

If road disrepair somehow doesn't manage to deter speeders, then how about installing some original road signs? Sure, in theory, speeding drivers slow down for "Stop", "Yield", and "School Zone" signs, but there's no guarantee.

However, I expect most people would reduce their speed dramatically if they encountered a sign that said "Skunk Crossing, next 2 kms" or "Swimsuit Optional Beach ahead".

But for now, we may have to rely on people using common sense.

So please slow down. You'll get there. And perhaps keep the rest of us in one piece.

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

### Reader pleads with School Board to keep Wells open

To the editor,

Re: Staff recommends Wells Street close, The Auroran, April 28.

As a resident in the neighbourhood and a parent that has had four (that's right "4") kids attend Wells Street Public School, I am once again amazed that the community in the OLD PART of Aurora must stand up and fight to save a school.

I have to ask myself, if this was Markham or Kleinberg, would we need to fight to save this school?

After all, The School Board saw fit to spend millions of our dollars to build a sports school in the name of one of our "famous" Olympic athletes and oh yeah, isn't he the past Chair of the York Region Board of Education as in just last year. Holy cow!

BC (Bill Crothers) High

has artificial turf fields, state of the art gymnasiums and students from all over York Region. To develop athletes with public monies. That's awesome!

Or what about the financial concessions made in Kleinberg regarding the construction of the school there.

The people of that fine corner of the region pointed out that a school would fit into the community so much better if its façade matched the architectural design of the rest of the area. The board finally agreed. At what cost? No one knows.

Wells Street School is not just a 1970s type building, this is a historical "Jewel".

It's probably one of the oldest active schools in the

A building that has been ignored over the years because the board only fixes something when it is

broken or worn out. (And then looks for government handouts.)

mainte-Preventative nance or upkeep doesn't happen.

Staff has used the old argument that there will not be enough kids to attend to make it worth keeping open. (Where have I heard this argument before? G.W. Williams?)

Wake up people!

The homes in this area are big homes where people buy them to raise a family. There's a park, close to downtown, close to public transit, close to shopping and so on. (I sound like a real estate agent.)

The small homes in the area are being purchased and larger ones are being built to replace them.

Four bedroom homes that end up housing kids.

What I really do not

of Education has spent all this time on meetings and getting input regarding which plan to possibly take and then drop an anvil on all this by releasing this Staff Report that says, Close It and Bus the Kids to Portables at Aurora Grove. A school that is barely 10 years old and without the kids from Wells Street, would be grossly under populated, too.

I hope the staff who made those projections aren't the same ones dealing with Wells Street now.

No one has a crystal ball. But once again the York Region School Board has dropped the ball.

Either they have wasted everyone's time and the taxpayers' money by going through with the charade of giving the community input and the belief of a positive

understand is why the Board outcome or the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing.

> Regardless this report should have been released long ago, or better yet should never have been done in the first place.

Trustee Gord Kerr, please listen up. The people you represent want the school to stay open. Do your thing and make your fellow board members understand that this is as important to us as the Sports Development Training Centre in Markham or the circa 1930's rebuild in Kleinberg.

P. Cooke Aurora





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#### another ball diamond 'e need

To the editor,

So much for a caring community.

It appears our town council and mayor are turning their backs on a grass-roots success story and missing an opportunity that has already been financed through developer fees; that being the lack of council support for a senior sized baseball diamond.

#### Editor should edit letters: reader

To the editor,

I enjoy reading The Auroran but think the free-ranging rants the editor permits to be published need some editorial intervention.

Two letters published recently in The Auroran referred to councillors here and in another jurisdiction as, respectively, "idiots" and "otherwise unemployable".

Perhaps we could try and keep the discourse a little more

A little judicious editing would help and would create space for other community news instead of self-obsessed verbal tantrums.

**Rick Doust** Aurora

son Eric wanted to play baseball in Aurora, we were told we would have to go to Newmarket or Richmond Hill.

My wife and I could not believe that a town of then 35,000 people could not offer a baseball program, so we went into action.

With a few other parents, we started a grass-roots effort to revitalize baseball in Aurora by putting together a team of nine and 10-year-old boys to compete in the York Region loop, getting our own sponsors and working hard with the remaining few volunteers in the Aurora Baseball program to try to make this

At the time, baseball registration was fewer than 100 players at all levels.

Today, thanks to those grass roots efforts and the energy of many families in Aurora, we now have the fastest growing baseball program in Ontario, with registration increased to more than 600 from fewer than 100 ten years ago.

These 600 plus children and their families in Aurora choose this sport as a wholesome alternative to their kids

Ten years ago, when my being inactive and indoors, which is becoming a negative trend in our society. Without another senior

diamond in town, the decision not to support this diamond not only affects the 100 plus players and their families who currently play in the older age brackets, but it sends a clear, negative signal to the baseball families in Aurora that if they want a quality program, again, they must look to leaving the Aurora system and playing in a community with more interest in healthy youth than Aurora.

Kids in all age brackets make decisions to stay or join a program based on what they can look forward to as they move through the system.

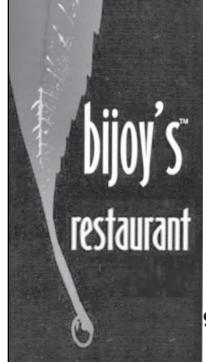
Today, they see the older teams having little or no practice times, and people

like Aurora Minor Baseball President Dave Giroux working 40 plus hours a week as a volunteer trying to patch together a program while the current council fiddles and watches the program burn.

While I realize that to support this diamond construction would take vision and courage, to not realize the error of their decision to not approve the construction of this already funded facility, the current council will witness the unraveling of the Aurora baseball program.

We will lose all the positive momentum built up over the past 10 years and fewer than 10 years from now it will be a shame to witness the demise of this success story in a so-called "caring community".

**Robert Seguin** Aurora



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#### Family impressed by anti-litter day

To the editor,

Re: Anti-Litter Day

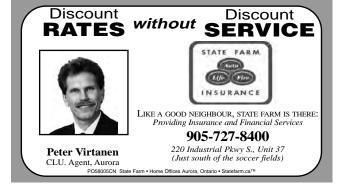
What a fabulous experience this event was for our family!

As we walked along Tamarac Trail, we had people in cars honking, joggers saying thank you,

home owners offering my husband beer, and girls offering our daughter popsicles and water. A great family outing for a great cause.

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The St.Germain Family Aurora



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### ME TO WE speaker



Michel is an accomplished motivational speaker for ME TO WE whose passion and belief in the possibility for change makes him a truly remarkable individual and humanitarian. Michel is a former child soldier who has overcome more pain and struggles than any of us could imagine, having grown up amid the terror of the Great War of Africa.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 AT 7PM

Aurora United Church 15186 Yonge Street Aurora Youth - \$5, Adults-\$10 Recommended for ages 14+ auroraunitedchurch.ca 905-727-1935

### Apartment building construction is reason most wildlife gone, he says

To the editor,

As the representative of the Aurora Environmental Advisory Committee on the Trails Committee, I have followed with interest the concerns expressed in several letters to the editor regarding the adverse effects the Nokiidaa Trail link through McKenzie Marsh will have on the marsh's wildlife.

I would agree completely with these concerns if this section of the trail had been located to the east of the McKenzie House (even if this land was publicly owned) along the northernmost section of the main marsh, as this is the only undisturbed section of the marsh which still provides habitat for several unusual migrating and breeding species of birds.

The proposed route to the east of Hadley Grange

was selected because it remains of the original will be located in the sec- wildlife population. tion of the marsh that has already lost its unusual wildlife species resulting from the senior citizens has the most varied vegeapartment building being constructed too close to its western boundary.

bird survey in 1975, before rather than a stone dust the construction of this building, I found in this area of the marsh nests of Virginia Rail, Wood Duck and Screech Owl but the only nesting wetland birds I have seen since the building was completed are Canada Goose, Mallard Duck and Red Winged Blackbird which along with other wildlife now found in this portion of the marsh are all tolerant can be found in the nationof human disturbance.

So any people walking along a boardwalk through the area will have little adverse effect on what

While this section of the marsh has lost most of its wetland bird species it still tation within the marsh complex.

This is the reason why a When I carried out a boardwalk is proposed path along the edge as boardwalks are acknowledged to be the most practical and environmentally sensitive way of protecting aquatic vegetation while allowing access through wetlands.

> These have been used extensively in many national and provincial

> A very good example ally important wetland at Point Pelee Park and can also to be found in several small, botanically rich marshlands owned and managed by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists.

These are the reasons why the members of the Trail Committee support and recommend this route.

The only other route that could be considered is along the sidewalk of St John's Sideroad then north on along Yonge Street but this route goes completely against the principles of Bob Hartwell, Tom Taylor and Ernie Crossland whose original idea was to establish a long distance off road traffic-free trail between Aurora and Lake Simcoe which has now almost reached completion.

A route along Yonge Street would be a very short sighted decision from the point of view of the citizens who already use the completed sections of the trail and would undoubtedly questioned as a very poor decision by future citizens.

**David Tomlinson Aurora** 



60 Industrial Pkwy. North, Aurora

905727-3121

#### Parking argument missed mark: reader

To the editor,

Re: Fewer parking spots not the answer, letter to the editor, The Auroran, April 27.

Angela Daust's criticism of my argument from the previous week, that town development bylaws need to stipulate parking maximum allowances instead of minimum ones, amounts to little more than conjecture based on her own limited experience.

To answer her question that she finished her letter off with; our family has two cars in our driveway, though we did manage for several years with only one.

Both the question and the answer however, are misleading and irrele-

multiple cars in our parking household would not strongly consider a home which does not accommodate these needs.

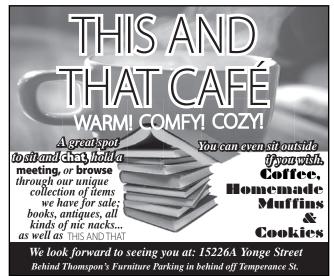
To do so would be foolish on our parts.

The development under consideration. however, is on a major transit line, and there would most definitely be people and families who's circumstances do allow for fewer vehicles.

These are the people who would consider such a residence and these are the people that the town needs to target to move into the old core if we are to have any hope of intensifying our town and improving transit.

If there is a developer who thinks he can target this market and in so doing help with our intensification goals, then our town council should be doing everything they can to help, starting with granting any parking variances they ask for, Both Ms. Daust and and continuing with the myself who have need for reversal of these harmful requirement bylaws.

> Darryl Moore Aurora





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**Teacher Bob McRoberts** is retiring from Williams. So, there's going to be a party to honour him.

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Thursday, June 4,

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> 5 p.m. with appetizers

Gift presentation at 6 p.m. Admission is \$30 for appetizers and gift; \$15 for gift only. You must RSVP by May 15

> For more information, contact Lynn Gardner at 905-727-3131 ext. 157

or Joe Pagniello at joseph.pagniello@yrdsb.edu.on.ca



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### Parade chair seeks info on town moniker

To the editor,

Birthday Town - Yes or Canada Day Parade).

Year 1967 Aurora became known as

July 1st was still officially known as Dominion Day, Re: Aurora - Canada's Aurora had its own little

As your Canada Day Parade Subcommittee Soon it will be July 1st - (CDPSC) Chairperson I the day Canadians stop to need more information on celebrate this great nation. the origins and authenticity Back in our Centennial of that moniker.

Therefore I'm sending Canada's this letter to the editor to Birthday Town (back when ask the following questions: history and/or around Aurora being named Canada's Birthday Town? If so, could you please advise?

2) Would you support a proclamation by the Town stating that Aurora is Canada's Birthday Town?

Canada's Birthday Town - I have a copy of a flag with a swirling windmill pattern

1) Do you remember the on it saying Canada's details Birthday Town.

I've heard that signs used to be up around the Town claiming Aurora as Canada's Birthday Town.

This is a very honorable title to maintain.

It could help preserve and grow our community sense of Canadian national pride!

l'd appreciate more information on the origins and background of this title.

Arts, Culture & Heritage is the theme of the Canada Day Parade for Aurora. Our heritage should be preserved and if indeed, this is Canada's Birthday Town then you may wish to preserve that, too!

Preserving past prac-

tices: Many citizens have recounted things done here in the past to celebrate Canada. CDPSC brought some of those things in the 2008 Canada Day Parade revival and this year we hope to bring the following back to you:

Sidewalk Chalking: Sidewalk Chalk drawings done by the kids on Yonge Street in front of the library in morning just before the parade. Rosemary Park and Janis Suderman are reviving this event for the children of Aurora to display their love of Canada! Please bring your kids out around 8.30 a.m. - help appreciated!

\* Windows for Canada where the businesses/residents along the parade route decorate their windows in honour of this great nation and in preparation for the parade! To revive this practice, we need a few volunteers please.

There are now only two months left before Parade morning! The Canada Day Parade Subcommittee needs you!

If you can help us recreate the Great Canadian Parade here in Aurora join

Please contact me directly at sher@stkittsmusic.ca or call 905-841-

Sher St. Kitts Canada Day **Parade Subcommittee** 

### Respondents missed my point, reader says

To the editor,

Well, as I assumed, several people responded to my injuries caused from all of letter in disagreement.

which they all seemed to miss, was that adults should friends, have the right to make deci- expressed in some of the sions regarding their own rebuttals. well being.

responses if you didn't gangsters...' understand the argument!

given of people they knew who had been injured or killed while not wearing seat-

I feel for anyone who has lost a friend or relative in an accident whether it could have been avoided or not.

People engage in dangerous behaviour daily, such as skydiving, downhill skiing, snowboarding, mountainclimbing, white-water rafting, boxing, smoking, and the list goes on.

#### Easy decision for council

To the editor,

Re: Nokiidaa Trail -**NIMBY** 

The town council has an easy decision to make on this issue, and, the decision should not be influenced by vocal citizens who live near the proposed route through the McKenzie Marsh. The environmental impact on the marsh should be investigated.

If there are no serious environmental issues and if the proposed trail is consistent with the Town of Aurora's long term plan, it should proceed.

Seldom are all citizens going to agree with any major or even minor decision taken by the council.

However, the council was elected to have the moral courage to make decisions that are in the best long term interest of the majority of the residents of Aurora living here today and those who will be living here over the next 50 years.

A. Smith Aurora

Should we now ban all these activities?

After all, the death and these things cost the tax-The point I was making, payers, not to mention the grief-stricken family and concerns all

As for B. Taylor who Some of the respondents responded by saying "there used terms like "is this per- are way more people on the son kidding?" and "his argu- road who don't wear their ment is horribly, horribly seatbelts than there are flawed", both predictable murderers, rapists and

I'd like to see the statis-Also, examples were tics to support that statement, some would say that information is 'horribly, horribly flawed!'

Either way, the response is pointless as I'm sure most citizens would rather see the police investigating criminal activity in their communities than searching our roadways looking for people to ticket who haven't buckled

Anyway, be safe my fellow Aurorans, be it behind the wheel of a car or zipping down a ski slope...etc.

M. Chisholm



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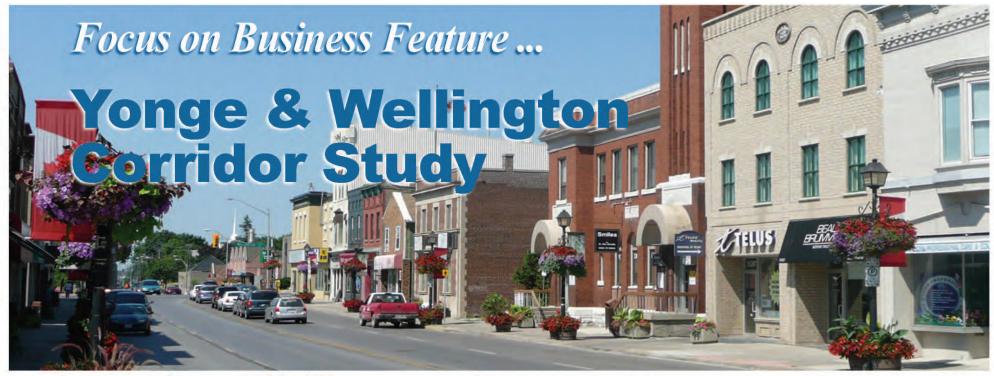
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### **Community Workshop #1**

Wednesday, May 13, 2009 7:00 p.m. at the Aurora Public Library, Magna Room

#### Residents & Business Owners

Have your say on the future of Aurora's Yonge Street and Wellington Street Corridor

We need to hear from **business owners and residents** on the future of Aurora's main streets. For example, what do you love best about having a business or living along the Yonge and Wellington Corridor (or surrounding areas), what do you value, what should change, what should be protected?

The Town has initiated an important study that will shape the character of Aurora. The Yonge and Wellington Corridor Study will set a new forward-looking vision for these two streets and the surrounding areas. The intent is to stimulate economic development, encourage intensification, continue to enhance the role of our downtown area as a focal point for retail, service and special events and to create vibrant and beautiful main streets that are great places to work, live, shop and invest.

The Planning Partnership has been retained to work with Town staff, Council and the community to prepare the study. The Planning Partnership will work in association with their strategic advisors from Poulos & Chung (transportation engineers) and ERA Architects (heritage architects).

The work program for the study is organized in four phases that will be completed through a process that engages the entire community. The study is expected to take one year to complete.

We need your input. The first of two workshops will be held on May 13, 2009, at the Aurora Library in the Magna Room at 3:00 pm for business owners and at 7:00 pm for residents. Please note that business owners who are unable to make the 3:00 pm session are welcome to attend the 7:00 pm session. The purpose of these sessions is to discuss the planning context for the Corridor Study, the key opportunities for change and the fundamental design principles that should guide the design exercise. The team will begin the workshop with a brief presentation that will be followed by small table group discussions on topics posed by the team.

More information is available on the Town's website at www.e-aurora.ca.

We look forward to seeing you on May 13th, to share in your vision of Aurora's main streets and the surrounding areas.



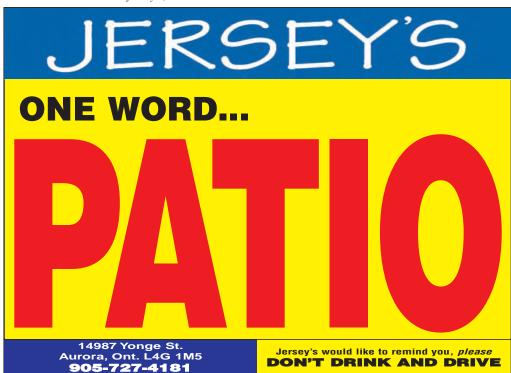
Proposed Study Area

For more information, please contact Jim Kyle in the Planning and Development Services Department 905-727-3123 ext. 4345 e-mail: jkyle@e-aurora.ca





### This Month's Restaurant Features



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2 Terrific Events to choose from:

### Mother's Day Buffet In the Terrace Café at Howard Johnson Hotel, Aurora

Sunday May 10, 2009 TERRACE



Breakfast items will be available at the 11 a.m. -2 p.m. Buffet Carved Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus, Stuffed Sole Chicken in a White Wine Mushroom Sauce, Medley of Vegetables and Potato of the Day, **Extensive Salad Table and Decadent Deluxe Dessert Table.** 

Coffee, Tea-Juice for the kids.

#### Plus...

A very special Matinee Performance



This Tony Award-winning sketch comedy review is a very funny show about some unlikely subjects, including a one legged actor applying for the role of Tarzan, an in-depth interview with an unimpressed shepherd who witnessed the Nativity, and a French singer who misunderstands an Anglo

**Reservations 905-727-1312** 15520 Yonge St., Aurora • www.hojoaurora.com

Saxon vulgarity and composes a song around it. Also showing Saturday May 9







### Dinner 5pm

We use extra Virgin olive Oil, Canola Oil, Jnsalted Butter and Non Hydrogenated/No Cholesterol Oil for Frying. Please Inform us of any Food Allergies

Mother's Day Brunch Menu 11am-3pm

Appetizers:

5.00 Baby Spinach leaves, Shaved Red Onion and Radish, White Balsamic Vinaigrette, Fresh Berries and Candied Walnuts 6.50 Herb Crusted Warm Goat Cheese, Organic Herb Greens, Citrus Vinaigrette and Candied Pecans 6.50 Heart of Romaine, Crispy Pancetta, Wafer Crouton, Parmesan Reggiano Lighe Caesar Dressing 6.50 Caprese Salad, Fresh Buffalo Mozzarella, Vine Ripe Tomato and Balsamic Reduction 12.00 Cajun Mussels or Steamed in White Wine & Herbs 8.00 Homemade Duck Liver Pate, Crustinis and Cumberland Sauce 9.00

-Mains-

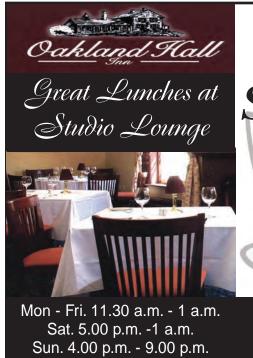
**Open Face Ravioli** — House Smoked Chicken, Spinach, Ricotta, Field Mushrooms and Light Tomato Sauce with Homemade Egg Pasta 13.00 **French Toast** — Fruit and Nut Bread, Pure Maple Syrup and Fresh Fruit 8.00 **Chicken Fingers** and Home fries with plum sauce 10.00 M.P. Risottro ΜP Fresh Fish

— Choice of Home Fries or Salad

**Eggs Benedict** — Poached eggs on English Muffins with Back Bacon and Hollandaise 15.00 **Eggs Florentine** — Poached eggs on English Muffins with Spinach, House Smoked Salmon and Hollandaise with Cucumber Yogurt Salsa Garnish 15.00 **Vegetarian Quiche** — Asparagus and King Oyster Mushroom with Cucumber 13.00 Yogurt Salsa Garnish **Seafood Quiche** — Atlantic Salmon, Leek and Dill with Cucumber Yogurt Salsa 14.00 **Vegetarian Omelette** — Mixed Field Mushroom and Triple Brie 13.00 **Seafood Omelette** - Crab Claw Meat and Shrimp 14.00 **Steak and 2 Eggs** – 6 oz Canadian AAA Striploin and Veal Jus 20.00

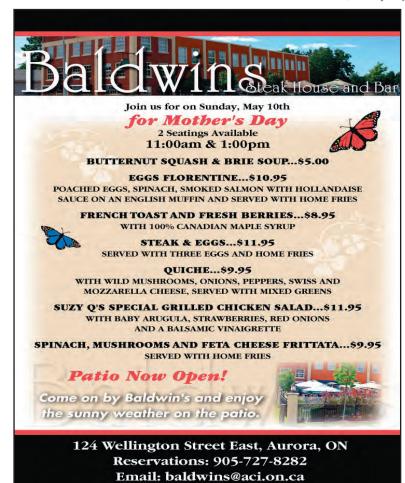
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There is the Hungry Man Breakfast and now for the first time: The Hungry Woman Breakfast!

A Belgian Waffle served with fresh fruit or strawberry/blueberry preserve three farm fresh eggs served with 2 choices of bacon or sausages or ham served with your choice of toast and jam

Reservation

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Week of May 5, 2009

auroran.com

### Sellers finishes walk of Oak Ridges Trail

Last week, Oak Ridges Sellers, completed his nine-Trail Association's (ORTA) Executive Director, Harold End walk of the trail.

#### High school girls fourth in track meet

Aurora High School's Midget Girls ranked fourth overall out of 93 schools at a recent Cardinal Carter Track Meet that saw more than 2,300 students taking

The meet was held at York University last week.

With her personal best jump of 10.61 metres, Lyndsay Batten placed first in the midget girls triple

She also finished in fifth place in the midget girls 100 metre dash with a time of 13.73 seconds.

Sarah Reynolds was second in the midget girls 400 metre run with a time of

In the four person midget girls relay, Galina Vujovic, Ellie MacDonald, Reynolds and Batten were second with a time of 54.35 seconds.

race was 100 The metres long.

Aurora High also scored from Sergiy points Grabovsky, who was third in the midget boys triple jump with a leap of 11.90 metres and sixth in the midget boys long jump, achieving a leap of 5.24 metres.

Kaitlyn Oliver placed first in the junior girls 3000 metre run finishing the course in 10.33:79.

Robert Denault was first in the junior boys 1500 metre run with a time of 4.08:80.

Katie Pettes was fifth in the open girls 1500 metre Steeplechase run with a time of 6.00.

Alex Denault was first in the senior boys 1500 metre run with a time of 4:13 and second in the senior boys 3000 metre run with a time of 9.14:93.

Darcy Eveleigh finished fifth in the senior boys 400 metre run with a time of 53.21.

day, 213.5 kilometre End to ers joining at various points Box 28544, Aurora , L4G during the day, Sellers hiked the final section of the Oak Ridges Trail from Garden Hill, north of Port Hope to finish at Gore's Landing.

Last week, he was in Aurora.

The final day's route was highlighted by the completion of the third of the three Ganaraska Forest sections, and a visit to the Bewdley waterfront and the Rice Lake Conservation Area.

Hikers then moved on to sections known for an abundance of wildflowers and an apple orchard.

History is also alive in this final section; Catharine Parr Trail lived near Gore's Landing between 1846 and 1857 and the Oak Ridges Trail passes close to one of her homes.

Sellers is retiring from his position and moving to British Columbia in August.

A celebratory dinner at Pitcher's Place on Lander Road ended the day.

Sellers took on the End to End as a farewell to

You can support ORTA by sending a cheque, payable to "ORTA", to Oak

Along with about 12 hik- Ridges Trail Association, 6S6.

> The Oak Ridges Trail Association is a volunteer, community-based organization that builds, maintains and leads a yearround guided hiking program on the Oak Ridges Trail, a 300-kilometre public hiking route across the Oak Ridges Moraine from Palgrave in the west to Rice Lake in the east.

> ORTA's goal is to secure an optimum corridor of natural surface trails across the length and breadth of the Oak Ridges Moraine.

senting across the Moraine keep the trail and the hiking program up to date and encourage the public to experience all the Oak Ridges Trail and the Oak Ridges Moraine have to

The Oak Ridges Moraine is a ridge of land that runs parallel to, and about 60 kilometres north of, Lake Ontario.

It extends about 160 kilometres from the Niagara Escarpment in the west to the Trent River in the east.

communities Lake Ontario and Lake Simcoe and is the headwaters to more than 30 rivers.





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#### Aurora Skating Club results

Following are the Aurora Skating Club results from a recent Scarborough Skate.

Pre-Preliminary B Gr. 2 - Eliana Neophytou, 6th. Preliminary A Gr. 5 - Stephanie Morawietz, 2nd; Emma Smith. 6th.

Preliminary B Gr. 3 - Sabrina Brochu, 6th.
Preliminary B Gr. 4 - Mackenzie Maunder, 4th.
Preliminary A Gr. 6 - Nicole McCausland, 3rd.
Preliminary B Men - Matthew Warner, 1st.

Pre-Prelim Starskate Gr. 2 - Jennifer Scott, 5th. Pre-Prelim Starskate Gr. 4 - Jasmine Biasi, 5th.

Pre-Prelim Starskate Gr. 4 - Jasmine Blasi, 5ti Pre-Prelim Starskate Gr. 5 - Julia Steiner, 1st. Prelim Starskate Gr. 2 - Nicole Marino, 4th; Taylor Piotrowski, 6th.

Jr. Bronze A Gr. 1 - Shauna O'Connor, 4th.

Jr. Bronze Starskate - Katherine Morawietz, 2nd; Marilena Perri, 4th; Savannha Hendy, 7th.

Sr. Bronze Gr. 4 - Hailey Riggs, 2nd.

Introductory Interpretive - Amber Ciolfe, 7th.

Bronze Interpretive Gr. 2 - Emma Laverty, 3rd; Jackianne Abbey, 5th.

Gold Triathalon Skills, Gold Triathalon Intpr., Gold Triathalon Free Skate and Gold Triathalon Overall - Maya Goldman, three firsts and a third.



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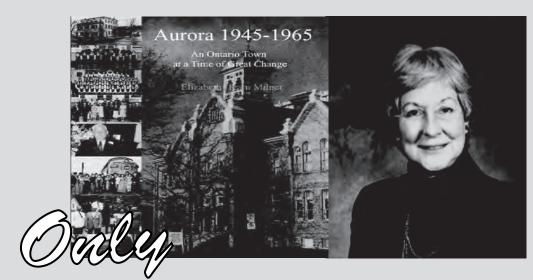
for the 2009 Season. Open to boys & girls born in 2003 & 2004.

For more information and to register, please visit our website at

www.auroraoptihockey.ca

### AURORA 1945-1965

It was written by former Aurora resident Elizabeth Milner and features numerous stories and photos relating to that 20 years of Aurora growth.

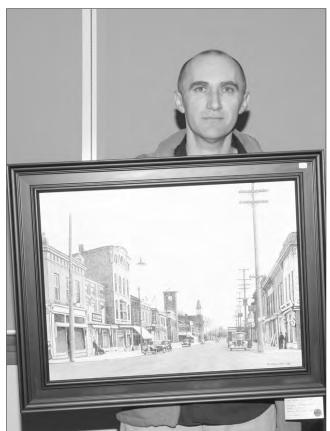


\$19.95 plus 637



We are located at the corner of Edward Street and Harrison Avenue





Two artists were honoured last week as the Society of York Region Artists (SOYRA) held its annual art show in Aurora. Photographer Rob Schuetze, top photo, scored well with his unique photograph of the Aurora Town Hall, while Zelimir Stanojev recreated a painting of Yonge Street that he took from an old postcard. The Town of Aurora purchased the painting for its collection.

Auroran photos by David Falconer





Tel: (905) 727-6401 8 Industrial Pkwy.S. www.nyhp.on.ca Aurora, Ontario



The recent Aurora mayor's anti-litter day brought out hundreds of people who picked up litter throughout the town. Cristina Valenta, fourth from left, was no exception. She did her part by sending out 150 flyers to residents on River Ridge Blvd. Some of them are seen in the photo. They collected garbage in their area southeast of River Ridge and Bayview. More than 65 teams were involved in the day-long event that culminated with a barbecue in the Town Park.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

### Aurora Lions Club plans "Meatball Madness" eve

The Aurora Lions Club the \$ are planning a "Meatball that is Madness" evening in June at their club headquarters on Mosley Street.

The event, which will feature Italian pasta, will take place Sunday, June 14, a week after the annual Chamber of Commerce Street Festival.

In addition to the pasta, there will also be refreshments and musical entertainment.

Doors open at 5.30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

Tickets are selling for \$20 each, and are available by calling 289-470-5102.

Proceeds from the event will go to support Operation TUSKA, a Canadian charitable organization dedicated to providing help to children in Kenya whose parents have succumbed to AIDS.

Meanwhile, the Aurora Rotary Club, planning its annual golf tournament, will hold the event at Westview Golf Club Tuesday, July 14.

Because the club does not have the room for dining, arrangements have been made to hold the dinner at the Graystone Tavern in Aurora, following the tournament.

Only 17 foursomes will be sold for the tourney, and only a few remain, according to Rotary President Ron Wallace.

Little time remains, he said, to take advantage of

the \$135 per golfer fee that is "the deal of a life-

The cost includes 18 further information.

cart, lunch and dinner.

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#### AURORA MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



The **AMHA** is currently accepting on-line registration.

To register on-line please visit our website at 
<u>www.auroraminorhockey.net</u> and click on the "registration info" tab and follow the instructions. We will also be registering players in the AMHA hockey office located at ACC1 during AMHA Rep tryouts.

In office dates are as follows:

#### Saturday May 9 from 10 AM-1 PM

ALL Players MUST be registered and paid for with the AMHA before they can attend any tryouts

Visa, Mastercard, Debit, Cheques and Cash are accepted

<u>Date</u>	Day	<u>Arena</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Team</u>	Birth Year
8-May-09	Fri	ARCE	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	Tyke Select	2002
9-May-09	Sat	ARCW	4:30 PM	6:00 PM	Tyke Select	2002
14-May-09	Thu		6:30 PM	8:00 PM	Tyke Select	2002
9-May-09	Sat	ARCW	3:00 PM	4:30 PM	Novice AE	2001
12-May-09	Tue	ARCW	6:30 PM	8:00 PM	Novice AE	2001
6-May-09	Wed	ARCE	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	M Atom A	2000
_7-May-09	Thu	ARCW	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	M Atom AE	2000
9-May-09	Sat	ARCW	9:00 AM	10:30 AM	M Atom AE	2000
13-May-09	Wed	ARCW	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	M Atom AE	2000
8-May-09	Fri	ARCE	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	Atom AE	1999
9-May-09	Sat	ARCE	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	Atom AE	1999
11-May-09	Mon	ARCW	6:30 PM	8:00 PM	Atom AE	1999
7-May-09	Thu	ARCW	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	M Peewee AE	1998
9-May-09	Sat	ARCW	10:30 AM	12:00 PM	M Peewee AE	1998
15-May-09	Fri	ARCE	7:00 PM	8:30 PM	M Peewee AE	1998
8-May-09	Fri	ARCW	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	Peewee AE	1997
9-May-09	Sat	ARCE	2:00 PM	3:30 PM	Peewee AE	1997
14-May-09	Thu	ARCW	8:00 PM	9:30 PM	Peewee AE	1997
6-May-09	Wed	ARCE	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	M Bantam A	1996
7-May-09	Thu	ARCE	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	M Bantam AE	1996
9-May-09	Sat	ARCW	12:00 PM	1:30 PM	M Bantam AE	1996
12-May-09	Tue	ARCW	8:00 PM	9:30 PM	M Bantam AE	1996
8-May-09	Fri	ARCE	9:00 PM	10:30 PM	Bantam AE	1995
9-May-09	Sat	ARCW	1:30 PM	3:00 PM	Bantam AE	1995
15-May-09	Fri	ARCE	8:30 PM	10:00 PM	Bantam AE	1995
6-May-09	Wed	ARCW	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	M Midget AE	1994
11-May-09	Mon		8:00 PM	9:30 PM	M Midget AE	1994
13-May-09	Wed	ARCW	9:00 PM	10:30 PM	M Midget AE	1994

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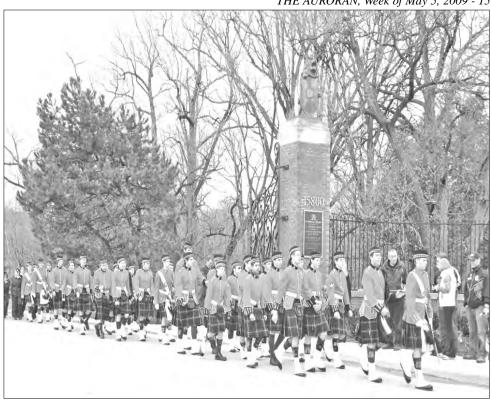


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Continuing with a tradition that dates back to Feb. 7, 1966, cadets from St. Andrew's College marched into downtown Aurora recently to renew the agreement between the Queen's York Rangers and the Town of Aurora. The resolution confirms and grants to all members of the Queen's York Rangers the freedom of the town "and the rights as long as Aurora means the dawn, to enter and march in the Town of Aurora at all times with colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed". The marchers were led by the school's pipes and drum band. Auroran photos by David Falconer

#### Duke of Edinburgh's awards

### Two Aurorans receive honour this Saturday

Ontarians, including two from help young people develop a Aurora, will receive an honour sense of responsibility to themfrom Lieutenant Governor David Onley this Saturday.

White, both of Aurora, will be ages of 14 and 25. among the group receiving the Silver Award of Achievement as two years ago, and has compart of the Duke of Edinburgh's award at a ceremony at Queen's Park beginning at 10.30 a.m.

achievement program, which

young silver and gold, tailor-made to selves and their community.

The program is open to all Jesse Proulx and Augusta young people between the

> Jesse entered the program pleted his silver award as an independent participant.

In community service, he visited seniors for companion-The award is an individual ship, assisted in a community garden for gardeners unable to includes the levels of bronze, perform maintenance, and

assisted a local theatre compa-dren with Down's Syndrome.

Jesse has also completed a 25-kilometre hiking trip through Algonquin Provincial Park.

He plans to achieve his gold award and pursue a degree in engineering.

Augusta, meanwhile, has completed her bronze and silver awards as an independent participant.

She has volunteered at a fundraiser for a regional cancer unit, a Breast Cancer

Her future plans include studying commerce at university and eventually becoming the chief executive officer of a multinational corporation.



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### Downtown corridor subject of workshops

From page 1

take place Wednesday, May 13, in the Magna Room at the library.

Input from business owners will be sought at 3 p.m., while members of the public are welcome at 7 p.m. Registration is not required.

At this session, the planning context of the study will be discussed, as well as opportunities for change, and the principles that should guide the design exercise.

There will be a brief presentation, followed by small table group discus-

Town staff members advised councillors last week that hundreds of letters had gone out to local businesses and residents in the downtown area advising them of the study and requesting their input.

Mayor Phyllis Morris said she hoped the town

would hear from as many The first session will residents as possible.

The corridor study is

organized into four phases that will be completed over the next year.





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### "Annie Warbucks" opens this month

Ever wondered what happened to Annie after Miss Hannigan left?

A large cast of Aurorans has been working for months on a delightful musical comedy for all ages.

"Annie Warbucks" is a production new to York Region.

The show is filled with swing and ragtime music, humour, singing and dancing.

It is a musical that is suitable for all ages.

It runs at the Newmarket President Roosevelt returning Theatre from May 21 to 24.

All the ingredients that made "Annie" so successful are here once again, with an old-fashioned romance, a gaggle of cute girls and

to take part in the shenanigans.

Child Welfare Commissioner, Mrs. Doyle, exerts her bureaucratic pressure on Daddy Warbucks to find a mother for Annie.

In this heartfelt show, the race to the altar is filled with a rousing new score as the plot twists and turns and leads the viewer on a merry and mysterious chase before Daddy

Warbucks finally finds a mother for Annie.

For tickets or further information, link to the Newmarket Theatre at www.newmarkettheatre.ca or call 905-953-



Daddy Warbucks is Joe Likuski and Annie is played by Rhiannon Kyle in the musical presented at the Newmarket Theatre later this month. Several Aurorans are in the cast, many in the gaggle of orphans (inset). Pictures by Caileigh Kyle.

#### **FREE DRAW WINNER**



Rob Schuetze, auroraonline.com, left, and Cynthia Proctor of The Auroran, right, present Kim Boland of Kibo.ca, a natural body care company (centre), with winning prize from theauroan.com free draw at the Aurora Home Show. The prize was a Canon digital Photo by James Fraser



#### **Getting to Know** York Regional Police Police Week May 9-May 16, 2009



Have you ever been curious about what the inside of the police helicopter looked liked or wondered about what goes on inside a police station? The week of May 9 to May 16 will be the time to get up close and personal with many police services and police personnel.

#### Canine Unit, CSI and more

Police week kicks off on Saturday May 9. There is an open house at the Community Safety Village located at 3291 Stouffville Rd. Admission is free for the numerous events. Donations to the York Region Food Bank Network will be accepted.

- At the Community Safety Village you can:
- Climb inside the Air 2 helicopter and Marine Unit boats.
- See displays from the Emergency Response and Traffic
- Meet the police dogs
- Learn about the real CSI and more.

#### Children's Activities

Children will be able to ride in miniature cars through the Safety Village and take part in a bicycle safety workshop, as well as many more activities. Children and seniors eat free at the barbecue.

#### **Tour Police Headquarters**

During Police Week each of the five York Regional Police District Headquarters will be open to the public for tours every week night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. This presents a wonderful opportunity to see how a police station operates and to meet police personnel. A list of the district headquarters and their locations can be found at www.yrp.ca.

#### **Police and Youth**

The Community Safety Village will host groups from Girl Guides of Canada throughout the week as they complete their Law Awareness Badge. Students from Devins Drive Public School in Aurora will attend a special tour of District 1 Headquarters as part of their V.I.P. (Values, Influence, Peers) program. The V.I.P. program is sponsored by the York Regional Police and takes place in elementary schools for grade six students.

#### For Seniors

On May 11 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. seniors will be treated to a performance by the York Regional Police Male Chorus at the Newmarket Seniors Meeting Place located at 474 Davis Drive in Newmarket. There will also be special tours for seniors at all District Headquarters scheduled each day from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Seniors are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to interact with police officers and discuss safety issues or other concerns. There will also be numerous displays geared toward seniors on display at the Community Safety Village.

#### Recruiting

During police week or any time, you are welcome to visit the York Regional Police recruiting office located at the corner of Yonge and Mulock in Newmarket. You do not need an appointment. You are encouraged to just walk in and ask questions. Staff Sergeant Shelley Rogers stresses that if you are interested in a career in policing, York Regional Police is interested in speaking with you. Individuals looking for a second career or individuals new to Canada are also encouraged to discuss their interest with the recruiting office.

The York Regional Police want you to get to know them tter. Police Week is intended to strengthen the bonds between the police and the communities they serve. Come out, learn more and enjoy yourself at the various activities offered

Many thanks to Staff Sergeant Shelley Rogers of the York Regional Police Community Services Bureau for her assistance in providing information for this article.

For more information about Police Week activities go to www.yrp.ca or call 905-927-1919 ext 21 or email 5475@yrp.ca

> Written by: Marianne Mandryk Co-Chair PACT



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#### PACT

(Police and Community Together) We are looking for new committee members. If you are looking to serve your community please contact us by email at: aurorapact@aci.on.ca





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Terry White – YRP (COR)
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## Take a walk through park

#### By BRIAN WARBURTON

The transition from a working life to a life of retirement is an exhilarating event on the one hand, and a sobering matter on the other.

Retirement on the one hand appears to herald a life of continuous vacation, but often reveals quickly, too many hours lacking sufficient involvement with anyone of interest or any meaningful purpose in life, which can be deeply disturbing.

The truth is, retirement brings freedom from work, and this truth is stubborn, and while stubborn may be difficult to deal with, if we accept the rationality and practicality of retirement, we can also accept, sadly perhaps, the senior years as a stage in life like any other, and with its own set of pleasures and possibly the adventure of different directions and pursuits in life.

If work is also a hobby, retirement begins seamlessly, although the hobby aspect will predominate. And for the majority who do not find that work is a hobby, pleasant ways to pass the retired hours, days and years should be in place.

The Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) can help.

The ASA is the community beacon in Aurora, always ready to welcome everybody 55 years of age or older, to join with similar generations and to spend pleasant hours in congenial company.

The more quality time the members spend in this recreation centre for seniors, the more successfully everybody builds a retired life of quality.

The returning sun has brightened and warmed enough to hasten the green grass of springtime; and the trees are also unfolding their leaves in hues of green and other assorted colours; the daffodils and tulips are adding colour together with wild flowers, wherever planting or chance provides opportunity, all confirming emphatically that spring has indeed arrived.

Members of the ASA, thankful winter is once more merely a memory, are established comfortably in their community building, on the margin of the Aurora Town Hall parking lot and the Holland River Valley which forms a park through which streams meander and ponds and small lakes form, and nature thrives.

The seniors who tend to be wrapped up in their varied activities are nevertheless aware that when they look south from the rear windows of the centre, the dominant vista is one of meadows planted with trees and bush, some by man and some by the natural forces of nature.

The park is alive with birds going about nest building and raising of hatchlings, ensuring the next feathered generation of birds will enhance this part of Aurora with their choral presence.

The park is a wonderful asset to Aurora and to the seniors who will soon be walking unhurriedly, beside these fertile meadows sprouting with lush green growth, and along tree lined trails and footpaths, as soon as the spring rains have dried sufficiently to leave the pathways fit to navigate on foot.

The ASA walking club will be walking these trails once the condition is safe and dry enough. The walking club meets at the ASA parking lot every Wednesday at 9.30 a.m., when the walking trail for the day is announced.

The walk is usually about one hour long, which is long enough and everybody is encouraged to join in.

Pre-registration is not required, just arrive on time and become an instant member of the walking club.

Aurora Community Arboretum members have invested heavily in volunteer hours and help from municipal funding has resulted in the development of an Arboretum in the park

The Arboretum is worth the attention and support of seniors and of all residents who find interest in this project to assist nature and, which beautifies the park, Aurora and our lives.

The Arboretum is luxuriant, lush green parkland of meadows and trees, young and old.

This is a wonderfully fertile patch of nature, which is assisted by man, and which delivers a snapshot of nature thriving in our midst, and as time progresses and the trees mature, the scene should be one of natural magnificence.

To the residents of Aurora and to all who care to visit this emerald green man assisted patch of nature, growing in the heart of bustling Aurora, it will appear to be nature's refuge amidst the hustle and bustle of the town.



Responsible for helping make this year's edition of Camp Enterprise a success were, left to right, Aurora Rotarians Jack Laurion and Eric Smith, and Aurora students John Cardella, Christin Park, Ameer Ashraf, Luca Ghegin, Carlson Lee, Jessica Beakbane, Mike Tersigni, Ryan Abushinov, George Marshall. At right is another Aurora Rotarian Amir Oveissian.

### Nine Aurora students attend Rotary camp

Nine Aurora high school students recently attended Camp Enterprise courtesy of the Rotary Club of Aurora.

Three students from each of Aurora High School, Cardinal Carter and Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School participated in Camp Enterprise at YMCA Cedar Glen, near Bolton.

A total of 55 Grade 11 and 12 students from 28 high schools were sponsored by 14 local Rotary Clubs.

Jack Laurion from the Aurora Club was Co-chair of Camp Enterprise this year.

Camp Enterprise is a three and a half day business camp for high school students that Rotary has been running since 1976.

The objective of Camp Enterprise is to expose students to the subject of business and private enterprise.

Students learn from a broad range of professionals and entrepreneurs about business careers and how to start a new business.

Camp Enterprise also emphasizes the importance for the individual to serve and contribute to the community.

In addition to the presentations, discussions and business games, the students had a generous amount of free time to socialize and participate in recreational activities such as hiking, ropes course and archery, along with a dance and disc jockey one night.

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Judith Maclean Ochalski

Veterinarian, politician, educator, mother, wife and devoted friend, Judith Maclean Ochalski died peacefully in her sleep in Ottawa on April 28, 2009 in her 86th year. She will be missed by her children, Joanna Cook and Andrew Ochalski and by her four grandchildren. She will be remembered as a person of remarkable courage and determination. There will be a memorial service at Victoria Hall, 27 Mosley St., Aurora, Ontario at 11:30 AM on Monday May 11, 2009. Interment will take place after the memorial at the Aurora Cemetery at 2:00 PM.

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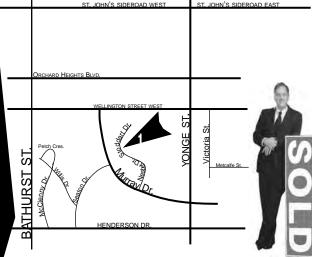
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#### **COMING EVENTS**:

#### From page 2

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 Tuesday from 9.30 to 11 a.m. it's Story and Playtime at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South for tots (age 0-4 years) and their caregivers for coffee or tea. Call 905-841-8883 for further details.

Every Wednesday from 6.30 to 8 p.m. the Pioneer Club for boys and girls, age 3 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 email Judy Hoffmann jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

Scottish Country Dancing every Friday morning 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 evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members are welcome. For further information call 905-841-1352.

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

Meet at Martha's Table, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert will be provided. Any funds raised go to local charities.

#### MAY 7-8-9

Theatre Williams at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School presents "Once Upon a Mattress", a musical comedy about the "real" story of the Princess and the Pea. Perrformances May 7 and 8 at 7 p.m. and May 9 at 1 p.m. at the school. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

#### MAY 7TO 9

Pine Tree Potters' Guild Spring Pottery Sale at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club, 368 St. John's Sideroad East. All proceeds from the charity table go to CHATS (Community Home Assistance to Seniors). For further information, call 905-727-1278 or click on www.pinetreepotters.ca.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 9

"Words and Music" is a concert to benefit the Aurora Writers Group. It will be held at Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora begining at 7.30 p.m. Live music will include selections from broadway shows, 60's folk music, and interspersed with the music.

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society holds a plant sale at the Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge Street, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Aurora Lawn Bowling Club, Club House and Grounds cleanup at 10 a.m. at McMahan Park, Maple and Fleury Streets.

International Migratory Bird Day. Bird Walk takes place today at 8.30 a.m. Meet at the Gazebo between the Leisure Complex and the Soccer Bubble. For further information. click

#### www.auroraarboretum.ca/birdw09.html. SUNDAY, MAY 10

The Aurora Historical Society hosts a luncheon in the Ballroom of Hillary House in honour of Mother's Day. Guests can enjoy a three-course meal in historic Hillary House. Two seating times are available: Noon and 1.30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 per person or \$16 for Aurora Historical Society members and must be purchased in advance. For tickets and more information call 905-727-8991 or e-mail ahs@aurorahs.com.

#### MONDAY, MAY 11

Aurora Film Circuit presents "The Necessities of Life" (Ce qu'il faut pour vivre). Canada's contender for the 2009 Foreign Language Oscar - this Canadian film about

a tubercular Inuit man confined to a Quebec sanatorium is rich in lump-in-the-throat moments, as he experiences both profound culture shock and uplifting human connections. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Aurora Public Library and R&R Revisited. All screenings take place at the Cineplex Aurora, with door prize at 6.45.

Trinity Anglican Church presents A Networking Breakfast, open to all who wish to connect and learn more about career transitions and development. Guest speaker is Philip Daniels, a career coach. He served as Board Chair of Newmarket Hydro Holdings Inc. and currently is a Director for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario. RSVP, 905-727-6101.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Aurora Lawn Bowling Club Spring Meeting 6.30 pm. at the McMahan Park, Maple and Fleury Streets. A pot luck supper will be served.

Women's Centre of York Region presents The Art of Change 7 to 10 p.m. at the Wellington Gallery located at 32 Wellington Street, Aurora. Proceeds go to programs and services for low income women and women who have experienced abuse. Tickets are \$100 with a \$50 charitable receipt provided. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact events@wcyr.ca or 905-853-9270, ext. 101.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 14

Wesley United Church Annual Roast Beef Dinner has two seatings at 5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. Adults are \$15; children 6-12 yrs \$8; under 6 yrs free, but they must have a ticket. The church is located at the corner of Woodbine and Aurora Road. For tickets call Sherry at 905-853-

Aurora Chamber of Commerce annual Networking Breakfast & New Member Trade Show at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North.

Amnesty International meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street. For further information, call 905-713-6713.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 16

Massive flower sale, including annuals and perennials, plus a bake sale will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 32 Mosley Street, Aurora, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 17

Aurora Lawn Bowling Club open house and beginning of the lawn bowling season at 2 p.m. Bowling Club is located at McMahan Park. Maple and Fleury Streets. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### FRIDAY, MAY 22

Board of Directors invites you to Hospice King-Aurora's 26th Annual General Meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Centre, 14485 Jane Street, King City (4 kilometres north of the King Sideroad).

#### SATURDAY, MAY 23

The Aurora Historical Society is looking for volunteers to participate in a garden clean up at Hillary House on Yonge Street from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring your own rake. For more information, call 905-727-8991 or click on www.aurorahistoricalsociety.ca.

Enjoy "From Savouries to Sweets," an afternoon tea in aid of the girls of Afghanistan, where their literacy rate is 18 per cent. Event starts at 2:30 p.m. in St. Andrew's Hall, at Mosley and Victoria. Proceeds go to a literacy initiative by Presbyterian World Service & Development. Tickets are \$15 each or two for \$25, and will be sold until Wednesday, May 20, only. Call 905-713-3203.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 4**

School teacher at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School Bob McRoberts is retiring. A party will be held today at the Howard Johnson Hotel on Yonge Street. For details contact Lynn Gardner at 905-727-3131 ext. 157 or Joe Pagniello at joseph.pagniello@yrdsb.edu.on.ca, If you plan on attending, you must RSVP by May 15. Appetizers and cocktails begin at 5 p.m. with presentations at 6 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Aurora Chamber of Commerce presents the 14th annual Longest Street Sale on the Longest Street beginning at 11 a.m. and continuing until 5 p.m. Call the chamber at 905-727-7262 for further information

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Longest lacrosse game in history, starts today at 5 a.m and continues until 6 p.m. Saturday, June 13 at the Aurora Community Centre, Rink #1. The game is being played to raise awareness and support for the Canadian Centre for Abuse Awareness (www.abusehurts.com) and the Spirit of the Stick campaign (www.spiritofthestick.com). In additon to the longest lacrosse game in history, a silent auction and a Family Fun day (Saturday) will be in full swing. Mayors and councillors from Aurora and Newmarket will play with lacrosse players from 5 to 6 p.m. Friday. For more information go to www.laxdove.ca or www.amll.ca.

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Board of Education trustee public meeting begins at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School at 7 p.m.

#### **MONDAY. JULY 6**

Revised staff report on the future of Wells Street School goes to the Board of Education in the Boardroom, Wellington Street West at 8 p.m. Public delegations must be booked in advance by calling Mrs. Lori Barnes at lori.barnes@yrdsb.edu.on.ca or 905-727-0022, ext.

#### TUESDAY, JULY 14

Aurora Rotary Club golf tournament at Westview Golf Club. Shotgun at 10 a.m. \$150 per golfer includes lunch and dinner. Call Ron at 905-727-3300 for details. Participation limited.

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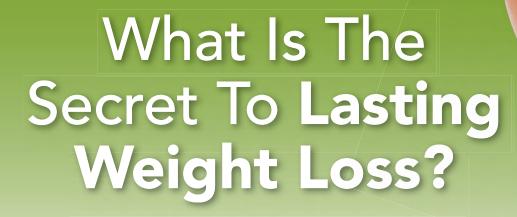
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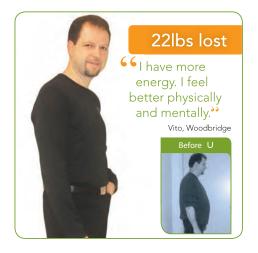
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