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Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Week of February 26, 2008

LSAC endorses July First parade, dance in Town Park

As long as Aurora Council agrees to recommendations from its Leisure Services Advisory Committee (LSAC) there will be a parade in Aurora on Yonge Street July First.

And a dance, held the night before July First, is expected to return to the Town Park, where it was held for many years before being moved to the east end of Aurora.

Several members of the newly-formed Canada Day Parade Sub-Committee (CDPSC) attended the LSAC meeting Thursday night, and most of their requests were

approved.

The recommendations now go to council for final approval, but given three councillors are on the leisure committee and all voted in favour of the parade, it's unlikely council will reject the recommendations.

Meanwhile, the dance scheduled for the evening prior to July First will move back to the Town Park, after it spent two years at Lambert Willson park, if council agrees with LSAC's recommendation.

Attendance at the east end location had declined and several Aurorans and organizations supported a recommendation to return

the evening's entertainment to the Town Park.

CDPSC chairman Sher St. Kitts was delighted at the outcome of Thursday's meeting.

"Together we achieved great things last night. We have begun a movement that's necessary for future health of our community volunteers," she told committee members through an e-mail. "There are still some little bugs - but given all we asked for we did extremely well. It's apparent that the LSAC and the Town councillors wish to give us the means to go ahead and get the

Please see page 13



Janine Fernandes, 13, of Aurora receives the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Individual Youth Achievement and the Young Heritage Leaders Scholarship at Queen's Park last week. The award was presented by Ontario's Lieutenant Governor David Onley.

Grant for old school higher than expected

They were expecting a grant of \$750,000, but Town of Aurora officials were surprised Thursday when the Honourable Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance and Minister responsible for the Greater Toronto Area, on behalf of the Honourable Josée Verner, Minister of Canadian Heritage, Status of Women and Official Languages, gave them \$775,000.

Flaherty was in Aurora Thursday to make the presentation.

The money will be used to make improvements to the Church Street School, which will hopefully open this year as the Aurora Heritage Centre.

"In the year that Aurora has proclaimed 2008 as the celebration of Arts, Culture and Heritage, it is a great honour on behalf of Council and the residents of Aurora to accept this generous grant which will allow our community to realize the long-held goal of revitalizing the Church Street School," said Aurora Mayor Phyllis Morris.

The Town of Aurora views heritage as a key component of a vibrant and healthy community.

The Church Street School has been a long standing part of Aurora history and has shaped the roots of Aurora's community.

Beginning in 1886, generations of young Aurorans passed through the doors of Church Street School during their formative years.

Many of these people were notable, such as Lester B. Pearson, who won the Nobel Peace Prize and served as Canada's Prime Minister during the 1960's.

Another is Bette Stephenson, one time Minister of Education in the provincial government, who currently lives in north Richmond Hill.

Church Street School has long held a special place in the hearts and minds of Aurorans. The municipal commitment to its conservation goes back 55 years, after the building's future became uncertain, when its original use as a primary school ended in 1952.

Town Council of the day had the vision and foresight to acquire the building, in recognition of its heritage significance because it was an attractive and functional building with the potential to serve a variety of community needs.

In 1969, the town rented the building to the newly formed York County Board of Education, and it was used as the board's headquarters for several years.

The building has housed the senior citizens, a museum, a scout store and Remington Rand used it in the 50s.

In 1980, Aurora made it the first building in the community to be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

By being stewards of this building, The Town of Aurora and its partners the Aurora Historical Society, the Ontario Heritage Trust and the Government of Canada have ensured that this inheritance of the past will be a valuable legacy for future generations.

Broken hip prevents McIntyre from getting Ont. Heritage Award

If they plan to present awards to Aurora Historian Dr. John McIntyre this week, they'll have to go to a hospital to do it.

Aurora resident McIntyre slipped on ice on his Yonge Street driveway and wound up in hospital with a broken hip.

In a special ceremony honouring Ontario Heritage Awards winners at Town Council this week, McIntyre was one of two individuals to receive recognition for winning two prominent heritage awards.

Dr. McIntyre, a life-long Aurora resident and sixth generation Auroran, was recognized for winning the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement.

The Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award recognizes individuals who have made contributions to preserving, protecting and promoting community heritage for 25 years

or more.

Dr. McIntyre was recognized for his contribution to the preservation and celebration of the heritage of Aurora.

He has been active in the preservation and celebration of Aurora's heritage for many years.

He is an active member, and past President of the Aurora Historical Society, as well as a member and leader of the Town of Aurora Heritage Advisory Committee for more than 27 years.

Dr. McIntyre has been active in the preservation of the Church Street School, working towards the establishment of an Aurora Museum in the building. He is also involved in the preservation and management of Hillary House National Historic Site.

He is a published author, his best known work being "Aurora: A History in

Please see page 13

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CONTINUING

For the rest of the month the Skylight Gallery in the Town Hall will feature the art work of Irene Hurdle presenting the many facets of colour from subtle tones to vibrant hues and moody darks. Regular viewing hours are from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Every Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. it's Story and Playtime at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for further details.

Every Second Friday, students in Grade 5 to 8 can gather at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information call 905-841-8883 or email jonathanturtle@gmail.com

Continuing until April 15 from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. Winter parking restrictions will be in effect.

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. It's open to all parents, grandparents and caregivers. For more information e-mail Judy Hoffmann at jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

Scottish Country Dancing every Friday morning at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m. No partners are needed and beginners are welcome.

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its third season. Every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. comfort food and a sense of community will be available at the hall at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Aurora. Any funds raised are directed to other community outreach projects.

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.

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. There is also a selection of interest groups. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir practice in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Seniors' Centre, every Wednesday from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. under the direction of Tom Rainsford and Enid Maize. For more information, call 905-841-9706.

Tots (age 0-4 years) bring your caregivers for coffee or tea while you enjoy story and playtime every Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. to 11a.m. at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for further information.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast at Featherlite Industries Ltd., 100 Engelhard Drive, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Featherlite will provide a facility tour.

Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society presents "Water for Tomorrow, Drought Tolerant Plants", with speaker Aileen Barclay at 8 p.m. at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Pkwy North. For more information, call Diane Cairns at 905-773-2695.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Canadian Landmine Awareness Week features an information session, 'Disarm' movie and silent auction at the Aurora Public Library from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Registration for baseball and softball in Aurora takes place at the Aurora Community Centre from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Online registration is underway at www.auroraminorball.ca For information, e-mail carolem-gir@aol.com.

MONDAY, MARCH 3

Blood donor clinic at Our Lady of Grace Church, 16 Catherine Avenue, from 2.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Aurora Firm Circuit presents "Emotional Arithmetic", starring Susan Sarandon, Christopher Plummer and Gabriel Byrne, at the Cineplex Odeon Aurora Cinemas, 15460 Bayview Avenue, Aurora. Tickets, at \$10, are available at the Aurora Public Library and R & R Revisited, 95 Edward Street. Doors open at 6.15 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with York Region Small Business Enterprise Centre, presents a free seminar for anyone planning to start a business. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493, Option 4. Seminar will be held in the Magna Room from 7 to 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Women's Centre of York Region, located in Aurora, day of celebration and inspiration for all enterprising women, at Cardinal Golf Club. Event will feature speakers, workshops, showcase tables and plenty of time for networking. For more information, contact Shelley Lundquist at 905-727-5837, extension 107 or e-mail at slundquist@wcyr.ca.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

A local World Day of Prayer will be held at Christ Lutheran Church, 7 Lacey Court at 7.30 p.m. Learn more about Guyana and its unique culture and heritage by joining Christians in more than 170 countries around the world and 2,000 across Canada who will gather on the World Day of Prayer to pray and act in solidarity with the people of Guyana. Call Erica Lamm at 905-727-5395 for more information.

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Blood donor clinic at the Town of Aurora municipal building, 1 Municipal Drive, 11.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Join David Tomlinson and other members of the Aurora Environmental Advisory Committee for the third annual Birdbox Build. Bring a hammer and help put together prefabricated birdboxes for placement around town. Takes place from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Aurora Seniors' Centre, 5 Municipal Drive. Register at Info Aurora, 905-727-8214 or infoaurora@e-aurora.ca.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Canada Revenue Agency, hosts no-cost income tax clinics with trained community volunteers. 6.30 p.m. in the Lebovic Room. Also March 25.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

A hands-on workshop to learn how to use the Aurora Public Library's electronic research resources will be held at 6.45 p.m. at the library. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or phone 905-727-9493. Seating is limited.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Blood donor clinic at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North from 2.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Blood donor clinic at the Aurora Legion. This is a special Good Friday clinic. Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Canada Revenue Agency, hosts no-cost income tax clinics with trained community volunteers. 6.30 p.m. in the Lebovic Room.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Start of an eight-week Bereavement Support Group session at Aurora United Church for adults suffering the loss of a loved one. Meetings start

at 7 p.m. There is no fee for this program. For more information and registration, call Mary Smith at 905-727-6984.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

The Cancer Killers team of Aurora citizens will hold a casino night at the Aurora Legion to help raise funds for their entry into The Ride to Conquer Cancer in June.

Aurora Skating Club 2008 Ice Show "Hooray for Hollywood" at the Aurora Community Centre at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. will feature Canadian Men's National Champion Patrick Chan. For further information, call 289-221-3774.

MONDAY, APRIL 14

Aurora Film Circuit presents "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly" at the Cineplex Odeon Aurora Cinemas, 15460 Bayview Avenue. Tickets, at \$10, will be available March 4 at the Aurora Public Library and R & R Revisited, 95 Edward Street. Doors open at 6.15 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Second installment of interim tax payment due.

MONDAY, MAY 12

Aurora Film Circuit presents "The Band's Visit" at the Cineplex Odeon Aurora Cinemas, 15460 Bayview Avenue. Tickets, at \$10, will be available April 15 at the Aurora Public Library and R & R Revisited, 95 Edward Street. Doors open at 6.15 p.m.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JUNE 6 & 7

Canadian Cancer Society 2008 Relay for Life at Lambert Willson Park and the Leisure Complex. Call 905-830-0447 for further information and to register a team.

TUESDAY, JULY 1

The return of the July First parade. If you would like to enter a float, or simply be in the parade, call Sher St. Kitts at 905-841-6489 or 905-841-6893. Parade starts at 10 a.m.

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Longo's request hits a snag in the street

Whether a Longo Food Market will come to Aurora or not depends on a council decision and members of Aurora's general committee consisting of all members of council are having trouble making up their minds.

Joe Longo was one of several delegates to appear before the general committee to request full Wellington Street access to the proposed commercial development at the northwest corner of Bayview Avenue and Wellington Street East.

He told committee members that a market survey indicated 65 per cent of customers would come from the west and without full access on Wellington Street it would be necessary for them to make a left turn at Bayview, another left turn into a plaza and

still another into the Longo store which, to him, was unacceptable.

Dan O'Kopniak of the Bank of Montreal who plans to open a drive-thru facility in the same general area made the same argument.

In a presentation to the general committee John McGovern of the Rice Commercial Group, developers of the commercial area, provided a timeline of the significant events dating back to May, 2006, when OPA 64 was approved.

It was pointed out that in a meeting that day with regional staff it was learned the region would accept full access to Wellington providing Aurora Council adopted a resolution that council supports in principle a break in the boulevard to allow for

full turns and that council requests the region to maintain the intent of the boulevard by retaining as much landscaping as possible.

Aurora Toyota, on the south side of Wellington Street, supports the signalized full access.

A staff report to the general committee did not support full turns or changes in the median on Wellington Street East and that a right-in and right-out access be from Bayview Avenue.

It was pointed out that the median was established by the region with the financial support of Aurora to create a gateway to Aurora.

Several staff reports were received and in October, 2007, the applicant presented an

updated submission and requested full turns on Wellington Street which the region had opposed previously.

It was pointed out that Longo Food Market, the intended anchor, required full access on Wellington Street as a condition of tenancy.

The presentation was referred to staff for a report and in November the region advised council the proposed intersection was not supported.

Council had previously approved the application with a right-in, right-out access on Wellington Street and a right-in, right-out on Bayview, but this presented difficulties due to the hydro lines on Bayview and the need to relocate hydro poles.

Following all the presentations at the general committee in

support of the full movement access, questions were asked about funding for the modifications to the median with the applicant responding that they would make a contribution when the details had been worked out.

After further questions and discussions Councillor Evelyn Buck moved that the full move-

ment access not be granted, but other members were in support of the project on the basis of new information that has been presented.

The debate raged back and forth and finally it was agreed to refer the presentations and comments to staff for a report to council as soon as possible.

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Bus service to be cancelled

Based on a survey, York Region Transit plans to cancel Route 34 along Industrial Parkway and replace it with a Dial-A-Ride service.

That was the information members of the Economic Development Advisory Committee received at their February meeting.

It was pointed out that the route category for the review was called a Local Standard which is met with a target of 30 passengers/hour.

Route 34 averages 4 passengers/hour.

YRT also has financial targets for its routes. On the entire system, YRT aims for a cost recovery of 40 per cent and Route 34 has a cost recovery of eight per cent.

There were 20 respondents to the survey with a reported 978 employees of which 56 took transit.

Last fall Aurora Council was warned that if riders didn't use it, they would lose it, and transit staff said they plan to recommend to regional council the route be cancelled.

Ms Irene McNeil, Manager of Service Planning for York Region Transit and Steven Baldo, Service Planner, appeared before Aurora's general committee to present the 2008 annual service plan.

In consultation with stakeholders there were notices on buses, a website, and meetings with people. Three public information meetings had been held with various groups in Aurora.

The draft plan was circulated to municipalities with comments received by October, 2007, but no comments had been received from Aurora by that date and that was one of the reasons for the visit.

At the time, Aurora councillors expressed concern about the loss of the Industrial Parkway bus as it was in place at the request of the employers and questions were asked if the service was being terminated too soon.

After further discussion it was agreed the representatives would attend a council meeting which was televised in order to reach a wider audience.

Mr. Baldo and YRT general manager Don Gordon appeared before council to repeat the presentation with emphasis on the impact on Aurora.

Mr. Baldo said the plans to cancel the route would go into effect in April.

It was also pointed out there were only four boardings an hour and a total of 38 boardings in the average day resulting in revenue on the route being eight cents on

the dollar with taxpayers subsidizing the balance.

Carla Adams, general manager of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, also appeared to oppose the cancellation of the Industry Street bus route.

She advised members that a quick survey of 20 Chamber members and non-members located on Industrial Parkway were opposed to the cancellation of the bus route as several workers depended on public transit.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said she was in agreement with the cancellation as the route was not paying its way.

Other councillors argued that the proposed cancellation of the route be reviewed following a meeting with Chamber members and the Catholic School Board concerning the opening of a new high school.

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Poor Richard

Does anyone know what's carried in student backpacks?

*A major mystery of today and the ages,
Are students with large backpacks;
It looks like they are leaving home
And they never plan to come back.*

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

The majority of Aurora students, both elementary and secondary, look as if they are about to leave home or depart on a month-long safari into the wilderness instead of going to school for the day...judging by the size of their backpacks.

Looking at the students as they travel around away from the school area, it almost appears as if there was a competition as to who could carry the largest and heaviest load in their backpack.

The issue of backpacks at Aurora's Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School was similar to the School Dress Code, as some students wanted to show their individuality, their freedom to dress as they wished, and the freedom to act and think for themselves.

Forget about the fact they were all dressed the same with the boys wearing grungy, baggy trousers with the crotch around their knees and a baseball cap turned backwards, while the girls seemed to challenge each other as to who could wear the shortest skirt or the briefest tube-top to show the most skin.

In 1997 there was a move towards the introduction of school uniforms at secondary schools to get rid of the grunge look and to detect strangers in the school, but most students resisted claiming that attending secondary school was when they found themselves and their identity.

Like backpacks, it appeared as if there was a competition as to could dress the sloppiest for boys and wear the most provocative attire for girls.

In March, 1999, Premier Mike Harris proposed province-wide standards of conduct and dress for students.

At that time all Catholic high schools in York Region and three out of 62 elementary schools had a mandatory uniform policy.

The Public School Board continued studies on the proposal.

In September, 1999, Education Minister Janet Ecker announced a Code of Conduct setting out minimum standards of dress and behaviour and said the Ministry was considering making it mandatory for schools to provide a uniform when parents requested it.

While the York Region District School Board supported the Minister in principle, it was pointed out that mandatory compliance could cause problems for some families who may not be able to afford mandatory uniforms and suggested voluntary compliance.

While there was never a public announcement of action being taken to enforce a dress code at Williams in Aurora, the dress habits of students have improved.

But backpacks are different as they seem to have taken over as a status symbol, as the larger and more fully packed seems to mean something, although no one seems to know what.

In addition, nobody but the student seems to know exactly what the backpack contains.

Studies and medical doctors have issued warnings that the heavy packs will cause future back problems and recommend that no student should carry a backpack weighing more than 10 to 20 per cent of the student's body weight.

In spite of all the warnings, there has been little or no action by parents, schools or school boards to control use of backpacks.

Even the Ministry's Code of Conduct is silent on the issue.

In former days, students carried a small school bag large enough to carry home the books needed to complete the day's homework, but it was nothing like the backpacks of today as other books and equipment were left in a school locker.

Now it appears as if the student is carrying everything, including his gym and sporting equipment as well as his or her lunch and books.

The mystery of what students carry in their backpacks will remain until someone holds a competition to find out what students carry around.

It could be very interesting.



The third in a series of three group photos showing members of the Aurora Fire Department is seen here. This photo was taken in 1971 in front of a fire hall that was once located on Victoria Street. They are, back row, left to right, Larry Sutton, Norm Harrison, Joe DeGeer, Dave Wright, Doug Rose, Norm Weller, Jack Oosterhuis, Ron Tulloch, Fred Bolsby, Len Foster and Bruce Tilson. Front row, left to right, are Chuck Cowie, Rube Long, Doug Knowles, Eric Eveleigh, Don Patrick, Tom Rank, Gord Burling, who was the chief, Stew Patrick, Stu Wilson, Hank Clubine, Don McCluskey and Herb Rolling. Missing when the picture was taken were Cy Holman and Ken Rose. All three photos appeared in a booklet prepared in the early 70s when the Aurora volunteers hosted a firefighters' convention here and turned Fleury Park into a huge trailer campsite.

Letter to the Editor

Stipulations put on land

To the editor,

The town has property for sale on Leslie Street.

It was purchased for a recreation complex seven or eight years ago. It cost \$4.6 million.

In the last year of the last term, staff was directed to do what was necessary to sell the land, in house, by an auction process.

The land has sensitive features and a site plan had to be developed to show the buildable sites.

The exact size, shape and location of the parcel had to be meticulously described, an essential factor to determine an appraisal to use against potential bids.

The task was completed and ready for the new council to hit the ground running. They had no such inclination.

For almost a year they argued and wrangled. First it was about whether or not it should be sold or kept for speculation.

The public was not in on that discussion - it was held behind closed doors.

Eventually, weeks later, it was determined the Town's best interest was to sell the property for development which would restore Capital Reserve Funds and provide jobs and assessment.

Then the argument was about how it should be sold.

Staff advice was disregarded and a decision was made to retain a real estate brokerage.

Their commission would substantially reduce the proceeds but that was no deterrent to our feisty and remarkable new council which was never at any time in need of advice from staff.

Several more weeks were spent choosing the right firm and creating a contract.

Documentation and a plan of how to sell the land was generated by the company.

The sale process has been underway for months. February 15 was the closing date for bids. The final step in the dance was almost complete.

But hold on there, not so

fast, on Tuesday, February 5, 10 days before the close of bids, a report was tabled to Council in Committee from the Citizen's Advisory Committee of Leisure Services.

They had previously received a report from a Citizen Subcommittee of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee recommending that 12 metres of land on two sides of the property should be retained for a trail system.

The Leisure Services Advisory Committee agreed. They recommended the action to Council in Committee.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner, a committee member, stated, "It's a good thing we thought about it in time to make it a condition of the sale."

We have a legal contract with a real estate brokerage company. They have promoted on our behalf at our cost a meticulously described parcel of land, divided into buildable lot sizes and setting out sensitive areas which are not for building. Potential purchasers have picked up specs which describes exactly what is being offered for sale and to prepare their bids.

Now, on the eve of opening bids, it is proposed we change the configuration of the land and the lot sizes.

Or alternatively, encourage the sale as previously described and hit the buyers after the fact, they will have paid for land the municipality intends to require for public purposes, namely a 50-foot wide trail system.

The sale and development will bring new assessment dollars, produce employment, both necessary to keep our economy stable and infinitely preferable to on-going tax increases and help replenish our plundered capital reserve accounts.

The price paid for the land will be multiplied many times in the sale.

We already turned down an offer for a parcel at the appraised value with the potential for 800 highly paid jobs to contribute to our economy. I have the documentation to prove it.

Had we followed through on the work done by the previous council in this matter, the funds from this sale would have long been realized and tucked away in the reserve accounts from whence they were taken in the first place.

There may well have been buildings already constructed, assessment flowing and new jobs for residents of the town.

But alas and alack ... things just don't happen that way in La La Land.

The money to pay for the Burnett Farm where the new recreation centre was finally built came from the following sources:

\$1,750,000 - from Cash taken in Lieu of Parks reserve account.

\$1,100,000 from Development Charges. That's money taken from builders when permits are issued.

\$525,000 - Municipal Capital Reserves, also called Tax Free Stabilization Fund. Taken from previous year end surpluses from taxes.

\$2,100,000 - Taken from the Water and Sewer Fund.

That's money collected with water and sewer bills for maintenance of water and sewer infrastructure.

When the debentures were issued for the building the cost of the land was not included. The reserve funds were never paid back. That's what I mean when I say the reserve funds were looted.

The Leslie Street land which we are now re-selling was purchased in the year 2000.

There appears to be no record of which reserve funds were raided to pay for it.

In effect, when it is sold we will not have surplus funds.

We will simply be replacing funds previously robbed from reserve accounts, money which could have been used to pay for capital projects which were in fact charged to the levy (annual taxes).

Staff do as they are directed by their political masters.

Who is watching? I wasn't there at the time.

**Evelyn Buck
Aurora**

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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

By the time that you read this column it will have been long over.

Let me explain.

Members of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario gathered in London, Ontario last weekend for their Annual General Meeting.

As a long time party volunteer, I was also in attendance.

Besides dissecting the entrails of the humbling provincial election campaign result from last fall, talking about policy development and selecting a new slate of executive officers of the party, members, according to the party's constitution, gathered to vote on the leadership of party Leader John Tory.

The question for each of the delegates was a straightforward one; "Do you wish to have a leadership election?"

Of course, because of when this column was written, I don't know the outcome of the question.

Each of the individual 107 riding associations in Ontario is allowed to send up to 16 delegates to the convention. In addition, the Youth, College and University associations also sent delegates.

Our riding of Newmarket - Aurora sent a full complement led by MPP, Aurora's own Frank Klees.

The 16 delegates were chosen at a meeting held at Timberlane back in the middle of January.

For what it is worth, I supported the continued leadership of Mr. Tory at the Convention.

Among a host of reasons for this is that, because the faith based part of the party platform basically sucked all the air out of the campaign, voters were not able to see the real

strengths of Mr. Tory or the rest of the platform and contrast these with Mr. McGuinty and the provincial Liberals.

Don't get me wrong - we ran on the faith-based issue and got the result that we deserved.

Although he has been mentioned in various media outlets as a potential leadership candidate, Frank Klees has made it clear to the riding association, people in the community and members of the media that he supports the leader.

From informal conversations with some of the other delegates, I believe that at least 80 per cent of the delegates from this riding are with Mr. Tory.

The question on most party members' minds: is 50 per cent+1 enough to lead?

In a general federal or provincial election, a 50 per cent share of the vote would constitute a huge majority, but a Leadership review or Leadership contest is a different beast.

Mr. Tory will most assuredly receive over 50 per cent, so that it is no problem.

And according to the party constitution, he only needs 50 per cent+1.

However, the precedent is there that he needs a much higher level of support.

Back in 1983 Federal Progressive Conservative Leader Joe Clark received 66.9 per cent of the vote, but did not feel this was sufficient support to continue, so he asked the national executive of the party to call a Leadership vote, and he became a candidate for that Leadership.

As you may recall, he was defeated in the subsequent Leadership convention that June in Ottawa by Brian

Mulroney.

As you know, I do love to make predictions.

And believe it or not, but I was actually right once, albeit a long time ago.

The year was 1987 and I picked the Indiana Hoosiers to win the NCAA men's basketball crown, and they did win. Haven't picked a winner since though.

My hope is that the Leader receives the support of at least 70 per cent of the delegates.

In this way, he can move on and do the things he needs to do - raising funds, nominating candidates and strengthening the internal resources of the party - to provide Ontario voters with a real alternative to the governing Liberals in 2011.

My gut, however, tells me something else. I have a feeling that the Leader will receive 63 per cent support of the delegates; way over the 50 per cent+1, but less than the Joe Clark line.

If he does receive anything less than 60 per cent, then my guess is he will resign.

If he does receive support in the low 60's, the question for him then becomes: can he survive the incessant grumbling from some members of the caucus and anonymous party backroomers who could make his day to day existence as party leader difficult?

I do hope I am wrong.

Like I said, by the time you read this, you'll know the answer.

**Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com**



Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

No matter who you are or where you come from, you probably have one or more amazing women in your life.

If you are one, you probably know dozens...perhaps even hundreds. Like attracts like...

What makes an amazing woman? Nobody knows...and everybody knows.

It might be the sacrifices she makes of herself for her loved ones.

Perhaps she put off her own career to whisper her belief in her husband's success into his ear and make it happen...and then put off her own dreams again to raise her children and hear them whisper their dreams to her, but what makes her truly amazing is that her own dreams live quietly in her heart and unfold in the achievement of others.

It might be that she is a leader, but what makes her amazing is that she is also a team player, a coach and a cheerleader.

She knows that true leadership is not about amassing followers but about giving birth and breathing life to the leaders of the future.

It might be her capacity to give, but what makes her amazing is that she never seems to run out of precisely what is needed.

She knows that giving and receiving are two sides

of the same coin...and her face is on that coin.

It might be her confidence - she knows what she feels, thinks and believes.

But she knows the difference between knowing herself and imposing herself on others.

It might be her creativity, but what makes her amazing is her ability to inspire others to create great things.

It might be her ability to walk into a room and light it up...without ever diminishing anyone standing next to her.

It might be her honesty...but what makes her amazing is her ability to be honest with herself and insist on standing for truth even when it is unpopular.

It might be her ambition, but what makes her amazing is how her aspirations serve the world and make it a better place.

It might be her character, but what makes her truly amazing is her ability to build character.

It might be her beauty, but what truly makes her amazing is that her beauty still shines through in her eyes, her smile and her spirit even when she is sweaty, dirty and exhausted after a full day of hard gardening.

It might be her natural ability to nurture, but what makes her amazing is her ability to teach. The amaz-

Amazing women

ing woman knows that to mother is to teach.

It might be her message: "Love me, appreciate me, support me", but what truly makes a woman amazing is that she wants and needs this so that she can be a role model to inspire and bring hope and success to the young women who will follow in her footsteps.

This is what International Women's Day is all about.

It is the global day connecting all women around the world and inspiring them to achieve their full potential.

Please don't forget to show your appreciation for the amazing women in your life March 8 - trust me, this means more than chocolates on Valentine's!

And if you're in the mood to connect with a whole flock of them, consider attending the Aurora based Women's Centre of York Region's "Enterprising Women" Conference Wednesday, March 5. You will be glad you did.

For more information or to register for the "Enterprising Women" event, please contact Shelley Lundquist, Women's Centre of York Region at 905-727-5837, ext. 107, or e-mail: slundquist@wcyrc.ca

**Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at:
ccaaurora@rogers.com**



BRICKBAT (submitted) Brickbats to the local area newspapers (Era-Banner) which will not allow customers to opt out of receiving the flyer enclosures sent every week. I take my stack of flyers out of the paper, place it in the bluebox and then begin reading the paper. With all of the energy not to mention cost, of enclosing these items, it's in the best interest of our local and global community to have the option of 'no flyers enclosed please'. (Nancy Hustis-Vloet - Aurora).

BOUQUETS to the Aurora Film Circuit for their donation of \$4,500 to the Aurora Public Library, the group's proceeds from 2007. The donation fulfills its mandate to support out-of-budget programming at the library while providing local film enthusiasts with an alternative film experience.

BRICKBATS to Members of Aurora Council for their inability to make a decision on some issues and continual practice of referring issues back to staff for more information. It's no wonder the meetings drag on and on.

BOUQUETS to Cody Unger of Aurora on capturing the 2007 Greater Peterborough Soap Box Derby Association Super Stock Championship recently. He was sponsored by Aurora's Ploder's Collision.

BOUQUETS to Ross Linton on his excellent memory, as he correctly named Lawrence Lawoska as the winner of the Centennial Beard-Growing Contest, held during Aurora's Centennial. Lawrence kept his long beard and was a fixture in downtown Aurora smoking his long-stemmed pipe.

BRICKBATS to Aurora Council's policy of bylaw enforcement by complaints and being reactive instead of pro-active, especially regarding the temporary sign bylaw. Few of the provisions of the bylaw are being enforced and some of the so-called temporary signs have become almost permanent and many present traffic safety hazards for motorists.

BOUQUETS to all the workers of PowerStream, Public Works, Police and Fire Departments, post office and all others required to work in adverse weather conditions like Aurora has experienced recently.

BRICKBATS to federal Members of Parliament for taking a week off during mid-February, without cause or providing an explanation of what the holiday was for and why it was needed.

BOUQUETS to the Red Barn Theatre in Jackson's Point for 60 years of providing the best in summer theatre for theatre lovers from far and wide.

BRICKBATS to the Ontario Liberal government for finding new ways to waste money by deciding to delete the periods from the abbreviation M.P.P. to MPP on all the doors to member's offices.

BOUQUETS to the 21 Aurora residents for allowing their properties to be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act and to Aurora's Heritage Advisory Committee and staff for their excellent work in protecting Aurora's heritage.

BRICKBATS to federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty for forgetting all the government's promises of transparency and accountability and doing away with patronage by hiring a former Mike Harris speechwriter on a \$122,430 contract without going to tender and while admitting it, he refused to apologize.

BOUQUETS to the swimmers from Aurora High School on placing first overall at the York Region Championships in a two-day meet in Vaughan with 37 Aurora swimmers participating.

BRICKBATS to Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty for considering the elimination of the daily reading of the Lord's Prayer from the traditional opening exercises of the Legislature.

Letters to the Editor

Proposal in Moraine a "litmus test", he says

To the editor,

I am writing to highlight a proposed development in Aurora.

Westhill Redevelopment applied to the Town of Aurora for an amendment to the town official plan, a rezoning, and draft plan for condominiums.

The proposal consists of 75 condominium units, a private water and wastewater treatment plant, an 18 hole golf course, several storm water ponds, and two reservoirs for treated waste water.

The site is entirely on the Oak Ridges Moraine, and it is within both the "protected countryside" and "natural linkage area" designations of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act.

The original application dates back to 1989, thus it is considered a transitional file.

An 18 hole golf course would require an abundance of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and fungicides.

It would also use a large volume of ground water.

There are already 17 golf courses in an eight-kilometre radius.

There is serious concern that development on an essential feature like the Oak Ridges Moraine will put significant strain on a potentially over-extended water supply in Aurora.

The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act stipulates that development and site alteration are prohibited on a key natural heritage area or hydrologically sensitive feature: however this development would negatively affect a number of such features.

The environmental assessments conducted in

regards to this development are insufficient, and there have been inadequate attempts to show the cumulative impacts this type of development would have on the Moraine.

I work for Earthroots, an Ontario based environmental organization working to protect wilderness, wildlife and watersheds.

We were part of a coalition of conservation groups that lobbied for a strong Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act, and a few years later, the Greenbelt Plan.

Both pieces of legislation received a great deal of acclaim.

This proposed development is the litmus test for the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act.

If it bypasses the legislation, it will set a dangerous precedent and potentially open the doors to detrimental

development in other areas across the Moraine.

Aurora Town Council has yet to make a decision whether to approve the project, but must do so by March 3.

I urge citizens to contact Mayor Phyllis Morris and encourage her to make the right decision about the Westhill development proposal by expressing concerns regarding the protection of the ecological and hydrological features of the Oak Ridges Moraine.

We also need to send the message to the provincial government to step in, and stand behind the ideals and measures spelled out in their own legislation.

This means to not allow this kind of development on something as important as the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Josh Garfinkel
Toronto

Customers should check references, snow plower says

To the editor,

I am writing in response to the letter by Steve McKenna in your paper dated February 12.

In his letter, Mr. McKenna warns about snow clearing companies that are out to make a quick buck.

I am a owner/operator of a lawn company/snow removal and I take great pride in the services I provide and this year it has been no quick buck.

It is disheartening when I hear about people being taken advantage of, but at the same time there are people not taking appropriate actions to protect themselves.

I have been doing this type of business for many years now and I have yet to have someone ask for a reference or a list of previous customers.

People are more concerned about giving me money.

If I could offer some advice to people in these type of situations in the future.

Always check with previous year customers (references), pay in installments (this year you would have known the quality of service at the first of December), get a contract listing the services (over three cm. of snow, plowed by 7 a.m., plowed within three hours of the storm finishing), the termination date (i.e. April 1), and pay with a credit card (this is added security that if the service is not provided you do not pay).

I am very proud to say that every customer I have has been plowed by 7 a.m., has been plowed after the street plow has gone by and has received the best possible service I can.

I am sure there are lots of other companies out there that can say the same thing.

Please do not group all the companies together and remember a little education goes a long way.

Tarry Benoit
Owner/Operator
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Letters to the Editor

What about artificial soccer field, councillor?

To the editor,

I read with interest Madame Evelyn Buck's historical account of gross expenditures of the past and previous town councillors

(Auroran, Vol. 8 No.16).

I must profess that I am not familiar with Madame Buck's "raison d'être" for her defense of Councillor Grace Marsh, nor the education of Mr. Galt for his criticism.

The included detailed list of all those expenditures would indicate that she is leading the charge of accountability for all of us poor constituents who can barely afford our ever

increasing property taxes.

We need justification for these expenditures and I welcome anyone bringing those past indiscretions into the light.

However, in Nigel Kean's Letter to the Editor (Auroran Vol. 8 No.16) I quote, "As usual, Councillor Evelyn Buck uses her selective yet one-sided memory to confuse issues and mislead the public."

I would add that she neglected to include in the aforementioned list her agreement with the purchase of a synthetic playing surface costing close to \$700,000.

This surface is not cleared of snow to allow usage into the winter months as she had argued, but instead is out of bounds except with permit, to those very citizens (taxpayers) who were intended to benefit from it.

Selective, misinformed?

I think in the recent words of Roger Clemens, she only

"misremembered".

I would be interested to see how much misremembering goes on when the question of pay increases

and flying business class comes to the table.

**Mark Warburton
Aurora**

Illingworth is congratulated

An open letter to Dick Illingworth

It was great to hear your voice on the CBC this morning.

Some really good memories flooded back and I smiled at your "crusty old man" comment.

I am delighted that you are as clear and forthright as ever and still driving the train.

You never were a passen-

ger type.

Congratulations on your Senior Achievement Award.

I have thought for years, especially when I have happened across an edition of The Auroran, that your unreduced and unalloyed enthusiasm, engagement and honesty is a model for all of us.

Well done and keep firing.

We have moved to Kingston where I am

involved with a mental health project and enjoyment of ever more active grandchildren.

I am as certain as you that retirement is an unhealthy state of mind, at least for me.

I, too, will never consider myself retired.

Bon chance, mon ami.

**Gardner Church
Kingston**

Aurora Cable subscriber "fears the worst" in sale

To the editor,

I am truly disappointed to read of the sale of Aurora Cable Internet to Rogers Communications.

I am a subscriber to all ACI services - cable, broadband internet, and "cablephone" - and have always been extremely impressed by the reliability of service, efficiency of support, and competitive pricing.

I seriously fear that all that will deteriorate once ACI is swallowed up by the Rogers behemoth.

Here are some specific concerns:

- What happens to "Cablephone"? This service is a direct competitor to Rogers Home Phone, and is around \$12 per month cheaper than the most basic Rogers offering, without the additional, and hidden, \$5 monthly "System Access Fee". Rogers does not even offer an internet telephone service (VOIP), offers less long distance bundles, and charges more per minute for long distance and international service.

- What happens to ACI's exceptional technical support? Calling the Internet Support line now gets you to a very knowledgeable agent, who asks for your address, and can then usually diagnose the problem immediately, and provide a solution. If this involves a modem replacement, just pop over to the office on Industrial, and swap the old for the new. I

am sure economies of scale will end this local service eventually, and after long wait times, we will be connected to far less knowledgeable service agents, located who knows where.

- Service level. In my experience, all ACI services are highly reliable. The broadband internet service in particular is exemplary, being extremely fast, and, with very rare exceptions, always available. No doubt Rogers will offer us "cheaper" rates for a slower level of service, which requires additional technology at the service providers end to artificially slow down the natural speed. Will Rogers invest in state-of-the-art equipment to the same extent that ACI appears to have done over the years?

- Presumably local community television (Channels 10 and 510) will be replaced by the Rogers channel which, notwithstanding the increase in Ontario curling coverage (every cloud has a silver lining!), will diminish a cohesive, neighbourhood force for the town.

- E-mail. Are we all going to have to transfer our aci.on.ca accounts to rogers.com (or, worse, Yahoo and thence Hotmail (if Microsoft has its way)? If so, will the old, local addresses still be supported at least for e-mail forwarding?

What of the plus side?

I can see benefits for Rogers from economies of scale, but very little for ACI subscribers.

The current owner, Jim Irvine, is quoted as saying, "This is tremendous opportunity for our customers and for our companies alike", but, if that was so, why would Mr. Irvine, to his great credit, I believe, have resisted selling out to Rogers/Shaw/Cogeco for so long? I am afraid I fear the worst from this change.

**Graham Batchelor
Aurora**

ED. NOTE: In all fairness, we received one other letter about the sale that was not very complimentary to Aurora Cable. As a matter of fact, the letter ended "Good riddance, ACI". However, there was no signature on the letter and no indication that it should be published anonymously, so it is not being reprinted here.

Pot calling kettle black?

To the editor,

Re: Councillor Marsh Knows What She Is talking About (The Auroran Letters to the Editor, Feb 19)

Evelyn Buck's defence of Grace Marsh's tax is like the pot calling the kettle black.

**John Galt
Auora**

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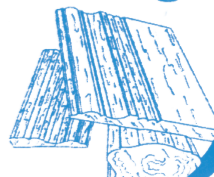
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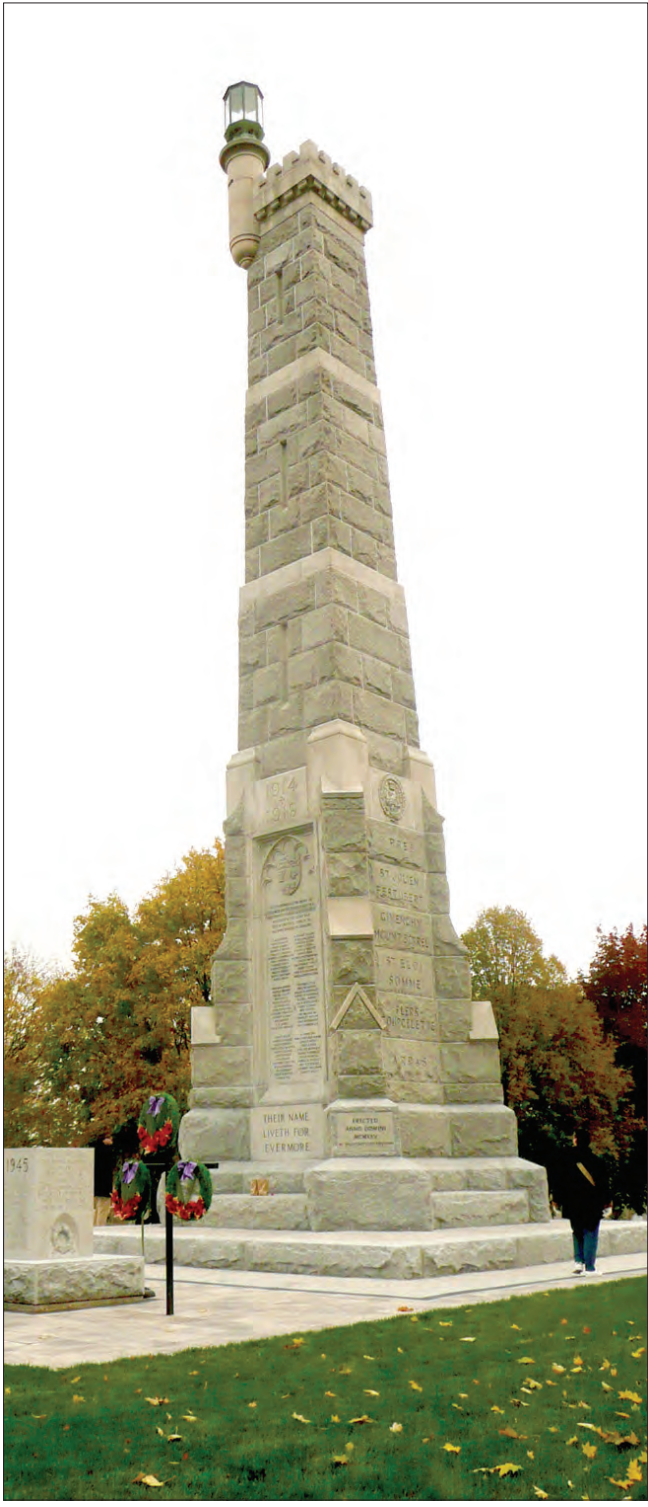
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Aurora Council recently passed bylaws confirming the designation of two more heritage properties in Aurora. They are “The Aurora-Whitchurch-King War Memorial and Peace Park”, home of the cenotaph, (above) and “Brooklands” - The Sheppard Estate House & Grounds, 93 Industrial Parkway South. (Interior and exterior shots, above right). Also added to the designation list is the Wells Street Public School, once Aurora’s high school (far right). Aurora now has 28 properties that have been individually designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. Designation makes it a little tougher to demolish the structures.





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Province is seeking nominations

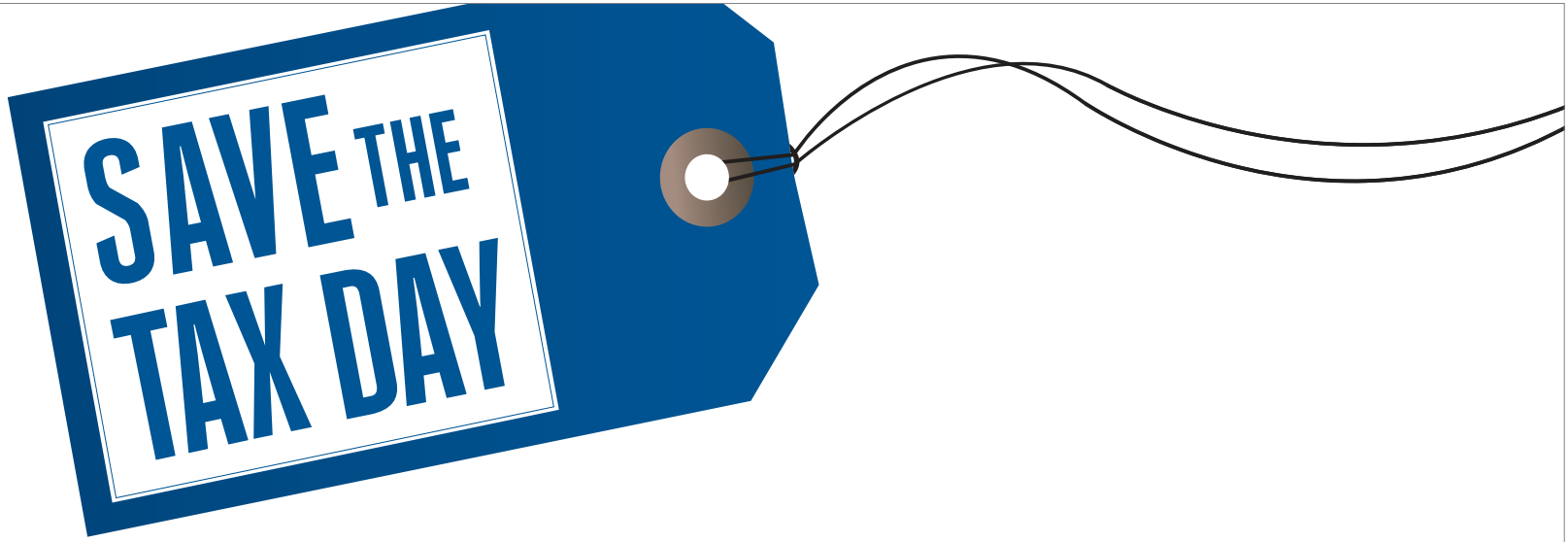
The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration is accepting nominations for the Newcomer Champion Awards.

The awards were established last year to recognize outstanding individuals or groups who contribute to the understanding and sharing of Ontario's cultural diversity and provide welcoming communities for the benefit of newcomers.

Any resident of Ontario may submit a nomination and nomination forms are available on the Ministry's website at <http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca>. Click on Honours and Awards or phone 416-314-7526. Nomination deadline is March 14.

Nominees may be individuals or groups who have demonstrated leadership and commitment in promoting cultural diversity and harmony through activities such as educational outreach, special events and the support of newcomers settling in communities across the province.

Aurora's general committee received the correspondence as information last week.



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THE AURORAN SPORTS

Tigers go one-up over Hurricanes

The Aurora Tigers and the Newmarket Hurricanes of the Provincial Junior A hockey league have been one-goal rivals all season. Newmarket would win by a goal or Aurora would win by a goal.

When the two met in the playoffs, the tradition continued through the first two games. Newmarket won the opener 4-3 in overtime, then Aurora squeaked out a 3-2 win at home Friday to tie the series.

All that came to a screeching halt Sunday

afternoon in Newmarket, when the Tigers went a game up courtesy of a 5-1 victory in front of more than 700 fans.

The fourth game in the series was played Tuesday night in Aurora, but results were not available at The Auroran's press time.

Fifth game is slated for Thursday in Newmarket, and the teams will return to Aurora Friday night if a sixth game is required.

Aurora opened a two-goal lead Sunday afternoon in the first period, then

coughed up a shorthanded marker in the second to set up what looked like another one-goal game.

But Tiger Conner McGarry scored twice in the final frame to put the match out of reach.

Aurora scored four of its five goals on the power play, but were two men short twice in the game.

Single goals went to Matt Thompson, Jordan Watts and Captain Mark Thorburn.

"The boys stayed the course and it worked out in our favour but it's only one game and Newmarket is an excellent team," said Tiger Coach Jerome Dupont.

Two unanswered goals in the third period gave Aurora its first win Friday at the Aurora Community Centre.

Trailing 2-1 going into the final 20 minutes, Aurora got singles from Jordan Watts and Sam Yearsley late in the frame to secure the win.

In Newmarket, as the series got underway, the Hurricanes needed overtime to secure a 4-3 victory.

NEWMARKET 4 AURORA 3 (Overtime)	Second Period N: Scott Voisin (Leveille, Hosmer) 0.51 N: Todd Hosmer (McClelland, Soso) PP 16.33	SH 15.56
First Period A: Jeff Harbach (Thorburn, Watts) 8.08 N: Brian Soso (Hosmer, McClelland) 18.56	Third Period A: Jordan Watts (Harbach, McGarry) 14.06 A: Sam Yearsley (Morley, Smith) 16.07	Third Period A: Connor McGarry (Thorburn, Harbach) PP 9.40 A: Connor McGarry (Smith, Dupont) 12.35
Second Period N: Thomas Patterson (Ventura) 2.41 A: Jordan Watts (Thorburn, McLaughlin) PP 7.14 N: Jake McClelland (Purves, Hosmer) PP 11.42	AURORA 5 NEWMARKET 1	
Third Period A: Mark Thorburn (unassisted) SH 15:27	First Period A: Jordan Watts (Harbach, McLaughlin) PP 2.00 A: Matt Thomson (McLaughlin) PP 16.40	
Overtime N: Todd Hosmer (Soso) 14.20	Second Period N: Chris Leveille (unassisted)	
AURORA 3 NEWMARKET 2 First Period A: Mike McLaughlin (Mayea, Dupont) 6.54		

Dudley Hewitt tickets on sale

Even if the Aurora Tigers don't win the Ontario Junior Provincial A Hockey league, they could still qualify for a berth in the famous Dudley Hewitt Cup competition in April.

Reason: the tournament is being held this year in Newmarket, and the Newmarket Hurricanes are automatically in the tourney.

So, if Newmarket wins the league title, the runner-up on the OJPJHL would get the nod to enter the tournament.

Currently, the Aurora Tigers hold a one-game lead on the Newmarket Hurricanes in play-off action this year, and even if they eliminate Newmarket, the Hurricanes would still be in, and Aurora would have to eliminate every other team it meets in playoff action.

No big deal for Aurora, a team that has played, and won, the Dudley Hewitt Cup twice since 2004.

And tickets to the tournament, whether Tigers win or lose, are on sale in Aurora.

Cup games start Tuesday, April 22 and continue until Saturday, April 26, at the 3,500-seat Ray Twinney Complex in Newmarket.

Tickets are \$12 for round robin games, \$20 for the semi-final and \$25 for the championship game. They are on sale now at The Auroran office, 95 Edward Street at the corner of Harrison.

Dudley Hewitt Cup ticket packages are also on sale for the entire eight-game event for \$89.

By purchasing a "DHC" ticket package, you are actually getting into the championship game free.

The Dudley Hewitt Cup Central Canada Jr. A Hockey Championship determines the Central Canadian representative for the RBC Cup Tier 2 Jr. A National Hockey Championship, which will be held in Cornwall, May 3 to 11.

Aurora has also won the RBC cup twice since 2004.

The "DHC" is a four-team round-robin event, featuring the champions of the Superior International Jr. Hockey League (northwestern Ontario), the Northern Ontario Jr. Hockey League and the Ontario Provincial Jr. Hockey League, as well as the host club, the Newmarket Hurricanes.

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The first goal is having fun.

Monday Night Hockey League Standings

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Priestly Demolition	11	4	4	85	53	26
Highland Chev-Cad	8	6	5	83	75	21
Rec Cycle N' Sports	8	6	5	81	86	21
Tom & Jerry's	7	6	6	67	62	20
Law Insurance Brokers	6	6	7	68	73	19
FPL Aggregates	6	8	5	67	73	17
Masterclean Contracting	6	9	4	77	93	16
Baldwin's	4	11	4	67	76	12

WEEKLY SCORES

Law Insurance	4	Baldwin's	5
Priestly Demolition	4	Highland Chev	5
Masterclean	3	FPL Aggregates	5
Tom & Jerry's	2	Rec Sports	2

SCORING LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	G	A	Pts
John Archibauld	Highland's	28	17	45
John Anderson	Rec Sports	24	15	39
Mark Sedore	Priestly	20	19	39
John Yaremko	Masterclean	15	23	38
Paul Clatney	Law Insurance	19	16	35
Tom Hussey	Masterclean	10	24	34
Scott Crabb	Highland's	13	20	33
Doug Adair	Rec Sports	12	19	31
Craig McConnell	Masterclean	19	11	30
Jason Muise	Priestly	17	13	30
Ed Jackson	Baldwin's	11	16	27
Brad McMillan	Tom & Jerry's	14	10	24
Steven McDonald	FPL	7	16	23
Steve Kavanah	Baldwin's	12	10	22
Pat O'Mahony	Baldwin's	15	7	22
Ron Van Noort	Rec Sports	7	15	22
Dave Caverley	FPL	12	9	21
Pat Davies	Priestly	9	12	21
Mark Swirla	Priestly	11	10	21
Bruce Chappell	Highland's	6	14	20
Tom Webster	Rec Sports	8	11	19
Frank Balkovec	Law Insurance	6	13	19
Ed Kilroy	Rec Sports	11	8	19
Steve Robertson	Highland's	6	13	19
Tom Webster	Rec Sports	8	11	19
Gerald Briand	FPL	10	8	18
Bruce Ing	Highland's	4	14	18
Dean Iwai	FPL	11	7	18
Ron Theson	Tom & Jerry's	7	11	18
Craig Donaldson	FPL	8	9	17
Mike Nisbet	Baldwins	2	15	17
Les Nip	Rec Sports	6	11	17
Darren Yaremko	Masterclean	6	11	17
Hugh Alcorn	Masterclean	4	12	16
John Leeder	Law Insurance	7	9	16
Brian McKenzie	Rec Sports	3	13	16
Ken Rumble	Highland's	5	11	16
Vince Greco	Tom & Jerry's	11	4	15
Mark Inglis	Law Insurance	7	8	15
Mark Lemon	Baldwins	7	8	15
Mike O'Conner	Baldwins	6	9	15
Vince Rochon	Tom & Jerry's	8	6	14
Murray Campbell	Priestly	5	8	13
Dan Cote	Law Insurance	3	10	13
Jerome Flanigan	Priestly	2	11	13
Dan Smith	Tom & Jerry's	4	9	13
Sam Speranini	Law Insurance	6	7	13
Raz Kahamissa	Law Insurance	5	7	12
Jerry Mackrell	Priestly	3	9	12
Larry Preston	FPL	2	10	12
Dwayne Smith	Baldwins	4	8	12
Rob Stroud	Law Insurance	4	8	12
Steve Bromley	Baldwins	3	8	11
Dave McQuestion	FPL	3	8	11
Scott Thomas	Tom & Jerry's	5	6	11

Aurorans fare well in tourney

If you think shooting darts is a dying art, think again.

The annual “Bachelor of Darts” tournament was held recently at the Aurora Legion, orgnized by Aurora’s Garry Glidden.

Enthusiasts will remember Glidden as the author of the book "180 Tips For The Dart Nut", that was released some years ago.

In the tournament, East Gwillimbury's Peter Scott emerged the winner defeating Sutton's Fred Morgenroth in a 9-game darts final.

Locally, Jayson Muir and Tom Stevenson finished in the final four, with Stevenson finally being eliminated by Morgenroth in the semi-finals.

Aurora's Bill Davis was eliminated in the quarter-finals by Muir.

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Former Toronto Maple Leaf hockey captain Wendel Clark, second from right, took time out from his Aurora Chamber of Commerce speaking engagement Thursday to meet with representatives from Aurora’s Howard Johnson Hotel. They are, left to right, Ulinette Monteith, housekeeing manager, Cheryl Oram, sales manager, and Vince Midolo, general manager.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Market site hits another deferral

A staff report to last week’s general committee meeting recommended that the proposed relocation of the Farmers’ Market from the Temperance Street parking lot to the parking lot in front of Town Park be supported and that council supports the continuation of the services in-kind by town staff to assist in the 2008 Farmers’ Market.

While approval was expected, a deferral occurred.

It was pointed out that the move to the Town Park would allow the Market to grow and accommodate both the number of vendors as well as the residents that frequent it.

In addition, the Park will potentially attract new clientele for the Market by being in a more residential area as well as having other amenities in the Park.

Staff members recommended the Market and the 20 to 30 vendors be set up on Wells Street between the existing street barriers and that the barriers be closed for the duration of the Market on Saturdays mornings providing a safe environment for vendors and their customers.

Staffers did not have any objections to the Market using the park provided there were no vehicles in the park itself.

Staff members also proposed a new fee structure for the market vendors with a single stall to be increased from \$60 to \$75 and a double stall from \$100 to \$150 to assist in cost recovery.

Last December council members had a long discussion about the proposed relocation as some councillors pointed out

the idea of the Farmers Market was to bring people to the downtown core, but finally agreed that staff bring back a report and amending bylaw at the earliest convenience.

What was expected to be routine approval at the general committee meeting developed into a controversial issue resulting in the deferral.

Councillor Evelyn Buck continued her opposition to the proposed relocation and the services provided by town staff estimated to cost more than \$6,000 which was only partially covered by vendors’ fees.

She also wanted to know if the residents around the Town Park had been notified of the proposed relocation.

In response to a question about the vendors using the park as outlined in the report, staff advised the reference was for special events, such as the Apple and Honey Festival and the Corn Roast.

In regards to the adjacent residents there had been lots of publicity in the local press about the proposed relocation and staff had not received a single phone call.

It was also noted that there was lots of activity in the park

such as the recent Arctic Adventure.

Concerns were also expressed that the vendors were not local or members of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

Staff members said they had solicited the help of the Chamber who surveyed their members with six responses

received and five in support of the proposed move.

Another concern was the reaction of the downtown merchants and while staff replied they had not received any comments from the merchants, the committee agreed to defer any action until there had been consultation and feedback from the merchants.

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Stronach's name is attached to complex

The naming rights and fundraising for the Wellington Street East recreational complex has been a controversial issue dating back to 2004 when Aurora Council and the fundraising committees couldn't find common ground on naming rights for the seniors' centre and recreation complex.

The controversy regarding the Aurora Recreation Complex came to an end at last week's general committee meeting when members approved the name Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex.

But it didn't happen without some controversy.

The controversy started in 2006 when, like a bolt out of the blue, then Mayor Tim Jones announced that after conversations with Frank Stronach it had been agreed Magna would donate \$2 million towards the capital fund-

ing of the facility.

As no details of the conversation were provided to members of council or if a commitment had been given, the general committee asked at that time that the Mayor provide a report of his conversations at a closed meeting of council.

In September, 2006, the general committee agreed to accept the donation of \$2 million with gratitude and negotiations for appropriate recognition for Mr. Stronach's donation to proceed in accordance with the Facility Naming Rights Policy and details of the draft agreement be presented to council in closed session.

Following a closed session in July, 2007, council approved the details of the agreement as outlined in March that year with Magna, that staff solicit a written response from Magna and to

coordinate an official ceremony to formally recognize the naming of the new complex.

In a report to the general committee staff reported that a written response had been received from Magna which was included in the report confirming the terms of the agreement.

Terms called for a payment in five annual installments of \$400,000 each and the first installment had been received by the town and the second was due May 1, 2008.

It was also reported that new signs had been made for installation and unveiling and it was suggested the unveiling be postponed until June when the new sidewalk, bike path and street lighting on Wellington Street would be completed.

Although Councillor Evelina MacEachern moved

the terms as presented be adopted, questions were asked as to the agreement to which staff replied that both letters were the agreement.

That was not acceptable to some members of council. Questions were also asked about the process being followed with staff replying the process had been agreed upon by former Aurora Mayor Tim Jones and Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor as Newmarket had received a \$5 million donation from Magna towards creation of their recreation centre.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner said she had served on the previous council and there had been no discussion in council about the process and it was all strange to her.

After further questions, the staff report as presented

was adopted and with council approval the facility will be the Stronach Aurora

Recreation Complex.

That approval is expected this week.



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Sunday, Feb. 24th, 2008



Tyke

Team 101 Tim Hortons Flames 8 - Logan Hoover 2G, Parker Boland 2G, Mark Batulis 1G 2A, Wayne Freeman 1G, Parker Lantz 1G, Max Lombard 1G. **Team 108 Tim Hortons Wild 0.**

Team 104 Tim Hortons Penguins 4 - Mathew Ronst 1G, Brandon Vaughan 1G 1A, Jack Hosmer 1G, Joshua Tambos 1G. **Team 105 Tim Hortons Avalanche 2** - Peter Chimienti 1G, Jack Snedden 1G, Finlay Reeves 1A.

Team 102 Tim Hortons Leafs 8 - Michael Thibeault 5G, Nate Legros 2G, Quinn Bruckner 1G, Jacob Levy 1A, Andie Therkildsen 1A, Mathew Hastings 1A. **Team 107 Tim Hortons Sharks 7** - Andrew Jorgenson 5G, Mathew Broad 2G, Dillon Verone 2A.

Minor Atom

303 McAlpine Ford White Senators 3 - Tyler Wilson 2G, Walter Karabin 1G, Collin Dyer 2A, Cory Brear 1A. **304 Pharmasave Burgundy Colorado 2** - Giorgio Venosa 1G, Anthony Loduca 1G.

306 Optimist Club Pittsburgh Black 3 - Ben Kissack 1G 1A, Tarek Koudmani 1G, Alex Sesto 1G, Jeremy Miller 1A. **301 Diamond Groundskeeping Red Flames 1** - Maxwell Jones 1G, Michael Dowling 1A.

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports Yellow Bruins 5 - Dustin Crossley 1G 2A, Alistair Johnston 2G, Jordan Reeves 1G 1A, Tristan Kuchar 1G 1A, Nicholas Hatzitolios 2A. **305 HS Financial Blue Leafs 0.**

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports Yellow Bruins 6 - Tristan Kuchar 3G, Liam Desouza 1G 1A, Alistair Johnston 1G 1A, Marc McCombe 1G, Dustin Crossley 1A, Alex Hoffman 1A, Jordon Reeves 1A, Daniel Della Rocca 1A. **303 McAlpine Ford White Senators 3** - Collin Dyer 1G, Walter Karabin 1G, Jordi Severini 1G, Blake Holtby 1A, Ryan Simmons 1A, Justin Nisbet 1A, Michael Montesanti 1A, Jake Schachter 1A, Mark Tait 1A.

301 Diamond Groundskeeping Red Flames 7 - Conor Braund 2G 1A, Nicolas Pearce 2G, Michael Jollimore 1G 1A, Christian Pearce 1G, Maxwell Jones 1G, Michael Dowling 3A, Jack Bishenden 2A, Bram Wood 1A. **304 Pharmasave Burgundy Colorado 3** - Tyler Williams 1G 1A, Connor Reilly 1G, Alex Carter 1G, William Ashton 1A.

306 Optimist Club Pittsburgh Black 4 - Alex Sesto 2G 1A, James McDonald 1G, Tarek Koudmani 1G, Giles Miller 1A. **305 HS Financial Blue Leafs 2** - Connor Tripp 1G, Jordan Screech 1G, Riley Callaghan 2A, Jayson Perkins 1A.

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports Yellow Bruins 3 - Tistan Kuchar 2G, Alistair Johnston 1G, Paige Crossley 1A, Lucas Bulmer 1A, Ryan D'Antimo 1A, Marc McCombe 1A. **301 Diamond Groundskeeping Red Flames 1** - Jack Bishenden 1G, Bram Wood 1A.

306 Optimist Club Pittsburgh Black 4 - Alex Sesto 2G, Christopher Aldis 1G, Andrew Daniell 1G, Ben Kissack 2A. **304 Pharmasave Burgundy Colorado 1** - William Ashton 1G, Connor Reilly 1A, Jordan Elliot 1A.

303 McAlpine Ford White Senators 6 - Lucas Ruscica 4G 1A, Adam Wilson 1G, Mark Tait 1G, Michael Montesanti 3A, Ryan Simmons 2A, Justin Nisbet 1A, Tyler Wilson 1A, Vincent Nguyen 1A, Jordi Severini 1A. **305 HS Financial Blue Leafs 5** - Connor Tripp 3G, Sam Speranini 1G, Jamie Finlay 1G, Matthew Ciancio 1A, Aidan Woolsey 1A, Austin Hendy 1A.

303 McAlpine Ford White Senators 5 - Michael Montesanti 1G 1A, Jordi Severini 1G 1A, Tyler Wilson 1G 1A, Cory Brear 1G, Mark Tait 1G, Blake Holtby 1A, Justin Nisbet 1A, Lucas Ruscica 1A, Vincent Nguyen 1A, Ryan Simmons 1A, Adam Wilson 1A. **306 Optimist Club Pittsburgh Black 3** - Ben Kissack 1G 2A, Mitchell Haak 1G, Harrison Jarvis 1G.

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports Yellow Bruins 3 - Tristan Kuchar 3G, Theo Meadows 1A, Jordan Reeves 1A, Dustin Crossley 1A. **304 Pharmasave Burgundy Colorado 2** - Alex Carter 1G, Jordan Elliott 1G, William Ashton 1A, Matthew MacDonald 1A.

301 Diamond Groundskeeping Red Flames 9 - Christian Pearce 3G, Michael Dowling 2G, Michael Jollimore 2G, Brett Diamond 1G 1A, Jacob Fenchak 1G, Jack Bishenden 1A, Conor Braund 1A, Maxwell Jones 1A, Bram Wood 1A. **305 HS Financial Blue Leafs 0.**

Bantam

Team 808 2 - James Phillips 1G, Matthew Bishop 1G 1A, Tanner Brewer 1A. **Team 802 Wait's Bathroom Plus 1** - Benjamin Pringle 1G, Jack Doty 1A, Mario Rotundo 1A.

Team 805 CAA 3 - Gianni Albano 1G, Justin Dickerman 1G, Kevin McCrudden 1G. **Team 806 Cosentino Produce 3** - Zach Andrews 1G, Jonathon Alcock 1G, Jonathon Boehmer 1G, Alex Payne 1A.

Team 803 Pizzaville 1 - Jordan Fera 1G, Tyler Jensen 1A. **Team 801 I.O.O.F 1** - Liam Martin 1G.

Team 807 Backyard Pool & Spa 4 - Thomas Gans 1G 2A, Michael Reilly 2G 1A, Christopher Follett 1G, Hayden Sands 1A, Dylan Jolivet 2A, Joel Piovesan 1A. **Team 804 Danny's Boys 2** - Kyle Ozols 1G, Brett Richardson 1G 1A, Taran McGowan 1A,

Minor Midget

904 Optimist Club of Aurora - Colorado Burgundy 5 - Julian Savosardaro 1G, Anthony Marsillo 3G, Colin Munn 1G, Brandon Rival 1G, Anthony Marsillo 1A. **902 Aurora Cable Boston Gold 3** - Neil Gaston 1G, Caleb Gould 1G, Liam Braithwaite 1G, Eric Seguin 1A, Michael Madigian 1A, J.J. Lam 1A.

901 Remax Barb Blazer Calgary Red 3 - Mike Gray 1G, Andrew Osmond 1G, Peter Durst 1G, Ben Crouse 1A, Mike Gray 1A, Kyle Marren 1A, Andrew Osmond 1A. **903 Manhattan Trophies Ottawa White 1** - Scott Cunningham 1G.

906 Wood Brothers Drywall Pittsburgh Black 3 - Matt Raponi 1G, Scott Parry 1G, Grant Wood 1G, Scott Parry 1A, Brendan Beatty 1A, Paul Duggan 2A, Jakub Sykora 1A. **905 Laurion Law Office Toronto Royal 2** - Connor Dinwoodie 1G, Dave Naccarato 1G, Evan Casselden 1A.

"In-Security" premieres

The romantic comedy "In-Security" by award-winning playwrights Gregory Argall and Todd McGinnis is being presented for the first time at the Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre at the Howard Johnson Aurora.

Most of the action takes place in the offices of Iron Network Security which has just been taken over by another firm and the company is in a state of transition.

Todd McGinnis is the boss Chad who tries to act like a boss without getting too much respect from his employees.

Enter Linda, played by Victoria Murdoch who had

been previously hired by an employee who had subsequently left the company so there was no paper trail of her hiring and Chad refuses to accept her employment.

Ted, the head security officer, played by David Merrick, overrules Chad and starts Linda to work answering alarms.

Gregory Argall plays Zeus, another security officer with a minor role and Tracy Rowland is Charlotte, the efficient secretary.

One of the many comedy highlights in the play is the appearance of Jake played by William Poulin as he responds

to alarms especially from a woman who likes to appear topless.

Linda has given her boyfriend money to get her an apartment but he disappears with the money and she is homeless and Ted takes her to his apartment where he sleeps on the couch in the living room, and an attraction starts to build between the two of them.

The play is not so much about the operation of the security company as it is about inter-personal relationships, although there are some hilarious moments in the operations room.

Interspersed between the various scenes are the familiar strains of the theme music from the TV series "Dragnet".

The final scene is at a wedding reception hall where Ted goes alone as he believed Linda had returned to her boyfriend, but she shows up and there is a happy ending.

In addition to the action on stage Chef Basil Fernandes produces a hot and cold buffet.

Doors open at 6 p.m. followed by the buffet at 6.30 p.m. and showtime at 8 p.m.

"In-Security" continues on selected dates until March 8. Call 905-727-1312 for reservations.

Two applications at planning meeting

Two planning applications are scheduled at a public planning meeting at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall March 26, 2008.

One is for a rezoning bylaw amendment for a residential property on Old Yonge Street, south of Oakland Hall Restaurant.

In March 2006 council had approved an application for seven townhouse units on the

property and a site plan submitted and adopted by council, but was not executed by the owner. Since then the property has been sold.

New owners wish to maintain the previous zoning permissions so as not to preclude the future development of the property and in the interim they are proposing to rezone the lands to permit business and professional

offices as an additional use and convert the existing building to an office.

The second application is for a property on Industrial Parkway South across from Industry Street leading to Sheppard's Bush.

Currently the lands are designated General Industrial in the official plan with permit business and professional offices and accessory uses

with the exception of medical offices.

The applicant has applied to develop the site for the national head office of Apple Self Storage and proposes a two-storey business and professional office building with 27 parking spaces of which six are enclosed.

To do so requires an amendment to the zoning bylaw.

Award winner slips, breaks hip

From page 1
Pictures", an out-of-print book which is one of the most complete histories of the community.

He has also published works on the Aurora High School, Trinity Church, Aurora's municipal buildings and the Sharon Temple. Currently, Dr. McIntyre is the curator at the Sharon Temple.

Living by example, Dr. McIntyre has preserved his landmark home "Horton Place"

as one of Aurora's first designated heritage buildings.

In recognition of his efforts, Dr. McIntyre was named Aurora's Citizen of the Year in 2003 and was winner of the Carnochan Award in 1999 from the Ontario Historical Society for his many years of service to Ontario Heritage.

Meanwhile, Janine Fernandes was recognized for winning the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage

Award for Individual Youth Achievement and the Young Heritage Leaders Scholarship.

Janine, 13, received her award at Queen's Park last week.

The Town of Aurora also honoured nine winners of Ontario Heritage Trust Awards for 2007 in seven categories.

The nine award recipients are: Dr. McIntyre, Lieutenant Governor's Award for Lifetime; Bill Devins, Lifetime

Achievement Category; Beth and Michael Egan, Built Heritage Category; Harry Lumsden, C.M., Natural Heritage Category; Susan Walmer, Cultural Heritage Category; Kristen Kontor and David Walker, Heritage Garden Category; and Janine Fernandes, Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Individual Youth Achievement and the Young Heritage Leaders Scholarship.

Event to return to Town Park

From page 1
parade going."

It is believed the parade this year will begin in the Yonge-Orchard Heights Blvd. area, then go south on Yonge Street, ending in front of Aurora's cenotaph and Peace Park.

Some committee members want the direction reversed, but road construction this summer makes that unlikely.

It was back in 1969 when the first July First celebration was held in Aurora. Prior to that, following Canada's Centennial in 1967, several smaller street parties were held to celebrate the event, and a committee, designed to bring Aurora together as a community, came up with the town-wide two-day celebration.

"Aurora then was split into three sections," said mayor at the time Dick Illingworth. "There was the south town (Regency Acres), the old town, and the north town (Aurora Heights). This event brought them all together."

The parade formed in the parking lot of Sterling Drug at Yonge and Murray, and led by hundreds of children, headed north on Yonge to the Aurora Community Centre.

Activities then stayed at the community centre for the rest of the day, including a huge beer garden that afternoon set up on the concrete floor of the rink.

Fireworks that night were set off from a nearby park.

Meanwhile, a fund-raising event and kick-off party is being planned for Friday, April 4, at the Aurora Legion hall.

"It has been suggested that the April 4th event target the Corporate market and offer the 150 seats at a price of \$100 per seat - marketed as giving "100 Loonies for Canada!", Ms St. Kitts said. "Corporate tables of eight can be sold for \$800 or upsold for

\$1,000 if we include their corporate logo displayed on tables and offer a few gift items and advertising. If the Corporations cannot fill the seats themselves, we will ask them to donate the tickets to our seniors or high school students."

Included in the event will be a silent auction.

Flyers announcing the event will be distributed by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce in March.

Sher St. Kitts, wife of famed musician George St. Kitts, became insensed when she learned last year's July First parade had been cancelled.

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Senior Scape



Seniors' centre is all grown up

By BRIAN WARBURTON

The former "Cinderella" Aurora Seniors' Centre has grown up, matured and morphed into the excellent Aurora Seniors Association (ASA), an association replete with a wide-ranging assortment of activities and programs, and supported and encouraged by everyone who sympathizes with people who dream of a profitable long life, crowned with a worthwhile and rewarding seniority.

Many of our members live lives of merit, well deserving of respect and acknowledgement, in that they volunteer their time to all kinds of initiatives and good works.

Some get into a raft of different activities crossing paths often, and cooperating with other volunteers involved in diverse activities.

I learned recently that Michael Varcoe assisted in the ASA wood-working shop with other seniors in the manufacture of approximately 70 bird houses for the Holland River Parkway, the success of which I hope to report on later.

This effort was in cooperation with the Aurora Leisure Services Department.

I have learned also that Mike is involved with the 2008 York Regional Youth Chess Competition, which is sponsored and presented by the Optimist Clubs of York Region.

My interest in the bird houses is in how effective they might be; what it does for the different bird populations, and how well the bird houses encourage bird populations that would benefit from nesting sites.

Very often, I find that what catches my interest is shared by other people including many seniors, so I hope to garner some information regarding the success of the breeding bird populations and anything else that I find of interest, and write about this knowledge.

The chess competition caught my attention because I was invited recently by councillor Steve Granger to get involved and I am about to do that

Thursday at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall on Industrial Parkway.

Among the characteristics of the seniors in the ASA, which I find interesting, is the blending and mixing of people from all walks of life with their different professions and expertise, a matter which enriches the ASA.

The recent total lunar eclipse brought this to mind as member Herb Koller, who has a passion for astronomy and member Tom Yates, who has a passion for photography, would certainly seize this opportunity to observe and record, all matters of interest.

For these two gentlemen, this total eclipse of the moon, on a clear night and in their own backyards, so to speak, would represent a rare opportunity to pursue their respective interests.

They would each be alert to record what happens and particularly, anything which might prove new, interesting or informative.

All members who attend Tuesday morning computer club meetings have opportunities to share knowledge and information with Tom and Herb, ranging over a wide range of interests, and with anybody else who can contribute.

Another passion pursued by Tom is creating and maintaining web sites, and he is engaged at this time in teaching members Lydia Schuster and Elfriede Gruepner web site maintenance and management.

The address of the ASA site is www.aci.on.ca/seniors and can be reached also through the Town of Aurora site at www.e-aurora.ca.

No funding for Aurora project

With gridlock on most of the arterial roadways, commuting to and from work can be time consuming and expensive, so many municipalities are adopting the Smart Commute Program.

It was founded by municipalities across the Greater Toronto Area and supported by Transport Canada.

The Town of Newmarket and the Newmarket Chamber of Commerce launched the Smart Commute Central York Program in partnership with York Region and Transport Canada two years ago.

Several presentations have been made to Aurora Council regarding the program including one from Carla Adams, general manager of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce who advised councillors that the Chamber had entered into a partnership with the Newmarket and East Gwillimbury Chambers of Commerce to deliver the program to area businesses.

A request was made to Aurora Council to support the initiative with a \$30,000 contribution to the Central York

Transportation Management Association.

Council agreed to consider including the \$30,000 contribution as part of the 2008 budget, but at a later meeting to review a draft of the budget, the \$30,000 for Smart Commute was deleted.

It was also agreed that the documentation pertaining to Smart Commute be placed on a future council agenda so that members could properly debate the merits of the program.

However town staff recently completed a Smart Commute Travel Survey with a 60 per cent response, well above the normal 20 to 25 per cent response level.

Smart Commute officials worked with town staff to introduce options such as the car-poolzone.ca user group and YRT/Viva programs to reduce single occupant vehicle trips wherever possible.

The results of the survey were received by Aurora's general committee last week.



Young Avery Worrall lost 11 inches of hair at Aurora's Yellow Orange Salon and Spa recently. The hair will be donated to Angel Hair for Kids, part of "A Child's Voice Foundation".

Avery also raised \$300 to donate along with her hair.



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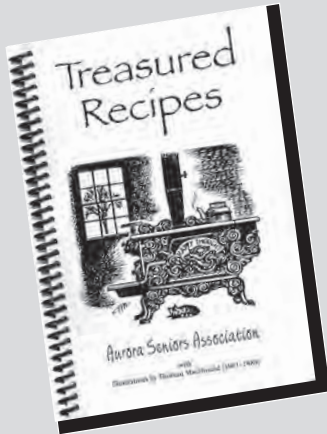
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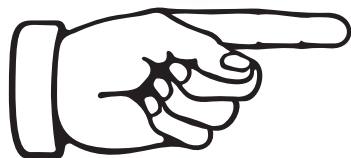
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