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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 8 No. 32 905-727-3300 auroran.com FREE Week of June 10, 2008

Walmer named citizen of the year

Every year since 1970 Aurora has selected one of its citizens as Citizen of the Year based on nominations submitted.

The award is presented by the mayor during the Annual Civic ceremony which was held Wednesday in the council chambers of the Town Hall.

This year's winner was Sue Walmer.

Please see page 17



SUE WALMER



They pulled an "all-nighter" at Aurora's Lambert Willson Park Friday night, but the effort was all for a worthwhile cause. Led by a musician playing bagpipes, several local members representing dozens of teams in the annual Relay for Life campaign walked the track, top photo, prior to starting their two days of walking to help stamp out breast cancer. Below, members of The Beaton Track team posed in front of their major sponsor's sign, The Auroran. Before the event got underway, team leader Heather Green announced that the group had raised more than \$12,000 for the campaign, and money was still coming in.

Auroran photos by Ron Wallace

Herbinson resigns from Chamber

An Aurora resident, who was in line to become president of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, has resigned.

Sean Herbinson, through a selection committee was destined to become the Chamber's first vice-president at their annual election meeting Thursday.

He tendered his resignation to president Sharon Culver Friday and said he would not attend Thursday's general meeting.

He told The Auroran his personal life was so intense it was important to pay attention to it.

"It's called life balance," the real estate salesman said. "I need to

pay more attention to my private life."

Mr. Herbinson said he had no problems with the Chamber when he submitted his resignation.

"I love the chamber," he said. "It has been a big part of my life. It's bittersweet in a way, but the things in my life that I must do, must come first."

Earlier, Mr. Herbinson had confided in The Auroran that when he became president of the group, he was looking to make several changes in the organization.

"I wanted to make some changes," he said. "But now, not this fellow."

BRIEFLY

Crossing open

Engelhard Drive, across the railways tracks in Aurora's south end, has been reopened to vehicular traffic, but if you've used the road, you may have wished you hadn't.

From Edward Street to Industrial Parkway South, Engelhard is a dirt road and is very rough on a motor vehicle.

However, opening the road, has relieved some of the pressure at Wellington and Berczy, where drivers needed to go to get to the closest level crossing.

Back again

Charles Siqueira, who has been president of the Aurora Seniors' Association for several years, was returned to the post at the seniors' annual general meeting last week.

The rest of the new executive looks like this: Virginia Bodnar, Vice-President; Ruth Church, Treasurer; Lydia Schuster, Secretary; and directors Bob Collard, Bill Higgins, Flo Murray, Barbara Stoecklin, and Bill Wharton.

New job

Lucas Hilts, who has been acting seniors co-ordinator for nearly a year, has accepted a position with the Town of Ajax.

Hilts was a member of the Town of Aurora Leisure Services Department.

The position will likely remain unfilled until Kelly Elliot returns from maternity leave in September.

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COMING EVENTS

CONTINUING

Thursday barbecue is back at the Aurora Seniors Centre from 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. at \$4.50 per person which includes a burger, drink, dessert and coffee/tea. No reservations are required. The ever-popular bingo is being played Friday afternoons.

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

Two local businesses offer a free seven-week Adult Bereavement Support course. Fred Bullen of the Aurora Lions Club has offered meeting space and Brent Forrester of Thompson Funeral Home will assist in the administrative cost. Contact mariesgrieffjourney@yahoo.com or phone 416-200-5665 for further information. Class started Thursday, May 8.

The Probus Club of Aurora meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Royal Canadian Legion, Industrial Parkway North, at 10 a.m. Men and women, retired or semi-retired, 55 years of age and over, are welcome to attend.

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

A drop-in centre operates 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.

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 11 a.m. at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for further information.

Deadline for submissions to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce for the 2008 Business Achievement Awards Celebrating Business Excellence in Aurora.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

Join Amnesty International for a "Taste for Justice" dinnner at The Cedar Grill, Newmarket, at 6.30 p.m. All welcome. For details and reservations, call 905-727-8671.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

A Coffee House will be held at Trinity Anglican Church at 7:30 p.m. featuring an evening of Trinity talent.

The Aurora Seniors Association will hold their first Silver Stars Variety Show featuring Association members. More details as they become available.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Merlin's Hollow open house. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 181 Centre Crescent. Free.

MONDAY, JUNE 16

The Aurora Writers Group presents guest Ms. I. Warren, speaking on travel writing for money, in the Leksand Room of the Aurora Town Hall at 7.30 p.m.

For further information on this event, or the Aurora Writers Group, call Malcolm at 905-898-5484.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

A Health and Information Fair will be held at the Aurora senior citizens' building from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

Aurora Seniors travel to Casino Rama and a 1.5 hour Cruise on Kempenfelt Bay. Trip includes

coach bus transportation, buffet lunch at Rama along with dinner and live entertainment. Cost is \$43 for members and \$47 for non-members.

JUNE 20-22

The Aurora-based Cancer Killers team takes part in The Ride to Conquer Cancer to benefit Princess Margaret Hospital from Toronto to Niagara Falls spending a night in Hamilton. Call 416-815 -7433 for more information.

MONDAY, JUNE 23

Aurora Chamber of Commerce annual golf tournament at Wooden Sticks Golf Club in Uxbridge.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society presents "Beauty or Beast - Plants That Need Space" with speaker Anna Leggatt at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. 8 p.m. Guests \$2.

The Aurora Seniors visit the Royal Alexandra Theatre in Toronto to see "Dirty Dancing". The trip includes transportation, lunch and orchestra seating at a cost of \$98 for members and \$105 for non-members.

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.

SATURDAY, JULY 5

Merlin's Hollow open house. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 181 Centre Crescent. Free.

SUNDAY, JULY 6

The Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society will hold its garden tour featuring seven Aurora gardens noon to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at R&R Revisited, 95 Edward Street; Caruso & Co.,15210 Yonge Street; Flowers by Terry, 14799 Yonge Street; and Pathways to Perennials in Pottageville. Call 905-727-5926 for more details.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

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Please call for upcoming seminar information



Vic Paraninfo, surrounded by press clippings, is retiring from Vic's Shoe Repair, a hole-in-the-wall business he has operated on Yonge Street since 1972. Final papers were signed Friday and while the shop's name will remain, someone new will take over the business. For more than three decades, with the help of area police officers, Vic has welcomed students from Wells Street School as they marched past his store displaying a multitude of Hallowe'en costumes. Paraninfo is 71 and promises to help the new owner during the winter when business is booming.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Infilling: it's on the way

Aurora is known as a community of mainly single family homes, semis and townhouses and that seems to be the way homeowners like it, but changes are coming with intensification and it will be hard to stop it.

With the development of the 2C lands (in the Leslie-St. John's area) and a little bit of infilling, Aurora will be completely built out, meaning that building permit fees and development charges on which the municipality is heavily dependent will cease.

That spells a corresponding increase in property taxes.

Studies have been carried out by York Region which promote a planned urban structure of centres and corridors, such as Yonge Street and strengthen the relationship among land use, transportation and transit.

The study entitled "Enhancing York Region's Urban Structure: A Guide to Developing Area Municipal Intensification Strategies" was designed to provide a framework for collaboration with area municipalities to guide the completion of their intensification strategies.

In this way the region and the area municipalities can approach long-term intensification in a consistent manner to meet the provincial Places to Grow targets.

According to the regional study the area municipal strategy should involve five objectives including identifying the locations and amount of intensification to be planned within the municipality's built boundary by 2031.

The strategy would identify key attributes in creating high quality, sustainable compact communities and promote communication to engage and raise awareness of intensification among stakeholders and the public.

York Region completed a preliminary intensification forecast which indicates that about 85,000 new units within the provincial proposed build boundary would be required to meet the 40 per cent intensification target as specified in Places to Grow requiring Aurora to plan for 2,800 intensification units.

The proposed intensifi-

cation locations include 1,520 units on Yonge Street and other major corridors, 140 units on Wellington Street between Bathurst and Bayview, 100 units by the Aurora GO station and 1,180 dispersed through other areas of the municipality.

Whether council or the residents agree, intensification is coming and developing a strategy for Aurora as suggested in the regional study is essential and the sooner it is started, with public consultation, the better.

The concept isn't new, as in 1991 provincial policy mandated that all municipalities address housing intensification in their official plans.

A start was made in April, 1992, with an intensification discussion paper, plus public meetings.

Residential intensification was defined as the creation of new residential units in existing buildings or on previously developed service land, including accessory buildings, rooming, boarding and lodging houses and infill development.

The project was to be completed in three phases with the first phase consisting of public consultation estimated to last two months at a cost of \$6,000.

The second phase was expected to last six months and involved the establishment of a task force at an estimated cost of \$29,000 and the final phase, the preparation of the final report at a cost of \$2,150 with the province contributing \$22,400 for the total project.

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Poor Richard

Several items have not been ratified in open

*What happened to transparent government?
As secret decisions continue to be made;
Council seldom provides any answers,
In hopes people's memories will fade!*
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

During the last election almost all candidates including the candidates for mayor promised open and transparent government, yet at almost every council and general committee meeting there is a closed session, which is seldom reported out in open session.

Even if it is reported out, a motion is adopted without discussion which fails to provide any details of the decision made in closed session.

Following a recent closed session when it was reported out the motion stated that it had been agreed that approval be granted to recruit the proposed incumbent to the position of Sponsorship/Special Events Assistant in accordance with the town's administrative procedures.

The report failed to provide a name, starting date, position on the salary grid or whether it was a full-time or contract position, and it is wondered why the details were kept secret.

At least it was reported out but several issues that go behind closed doors stay there and the public never hears the answer.

One such issue was a controversial memo from the Director of Leisure Services about the Special Events Sub-committee in May, 2007, which came to light after the committee members had resigned.

Committee members claimed his memo reflected negatively on the members' character and commitment to the community and contained inaccuracies, misinformation and gross omissions of fact.

Rebecca Beaton attended a meeting of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee and presented a letter signed by former members of the sub-committee which was received by the committee as information.

The Advisory Committee report generated considerable discussion at the general committee of council when Councillor Evelyn Buck expressed concerns about the contents of the letter as she claimed it was critical of a staff member and should be struck from the record.

In an effort to reach a compromise, Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas suggested the letter be referred to an "in-camera" (closed) session of council which was adopted by the general committee.

That was in November, 2007, and the sub-committee members and the media are still waiting for a report of what happened at the meeting, if anything.

Also in November, 2007, an angry Mayor Phyllis Morris obtained permission at the start of a general committee meeting to convene a special council meeting to discuss information published as fact following a closed session of council.

She said that council could no longer meet in closed session until the leak to the media had been investigated and council had a duty to the public to investigate.

She obtained council's permission to engage external solicitor George Rust-D'Eye, well versed in municipal law, to carry out the investigation.

Although the mayor refused to provide details of the leak, it was believed in a news story in The Auroran that council in closed session had rejected on a 4-4 vote for York Regional Police to build a new headquarters on the town-owned Leslie Street lands and no report was made in public session.

At a subsequent press conference, Mayor Morris was unable to provide any information about the cost of the external solicitor and promised to make the solicitor's report public when received plus the cost.

The public and the media are still waiting.

Granted there are certain issues that may be discussed at a closed meeting.

I'm aware of that as I co-chaired a provincial-municipal committee for almost a year to study open and closed meetings and access to information and most of the committee's recommendations were later adopted in legislation.

But in order for any decision made in a closed session to be enacted it must be ratified in open council and this very seldom happens at Aurora Council, so it is not the open and transparent government that several members promised.



This group of ladies, obviously suffragettes, took time out from their mission to give Aurora's upcoming July First parade a little plug. The photo was actually created by Aurora's Wayne Hemington, who remains tight-lipped about its source and the year the ladies were photographed. He did say, however, that no one in the picture was from Aurora. Meanwhile, the parade, which will form up at Yonge and Orchard Heights Blvd., will begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 1, and head south to the Aurora Cenotaph, where trophies will be awarded. Several events are planned in conjunction with the parade as a committee has been working on it every week for a couple of months. The parade will be part of several July First activities which started in 1969, when Aurora became known as Canada's Birthday Town. A night earlier, in the Town Park, festivities for the two-day event will begin, continue through July 1, and culminate with a fireworks' display that night.

Letter to the Editor

Quite a night as Aurora recognizes its citizens

To the editor,

Wednesday, June 4, in Aurora's council chambers, was a rich evening.

It was the Community Recognition Awards night for the citizens of Aurora and the room was packed with people from about 12 to 90 years of age, all who contribute generously to making Aurora a lively, interesting and caring place in which to live.

The reasons for the awards were remarkably diverse, including preserving and improving heritage buildings; germinating interest in children (and adults) for sports, history, drama, crafts and cooking; proactively preserving the present and creating the future environment not only for citizens but also the wildlife that share it with us; those who help in the Library, the Food Bank; Jane Taylor, who started the Aurora Film Circuit (that has been an excellent and thought-provoking addition to the Town) and many, many more.

There were many very active seniors present, including Flo Murray, who has been volunteering for decades.

She and her friend were great company while we waited for the ceremony to start.

Dick Illingworth was the recipient of the Ontario Senior Achievement Award and his many volunteer activities were lauded strongly.

A representative from the Lieutenant Governor's Office came to present John McIntyre with the Lifetime Achievement Award that he had been unable to receive earlier because of a fall.

The award was richly deserved.

Jo-Anne Bartholomew received a Citation of Bravery for alerting a family to a garage fire that quickly gutted their house. She led the whole family to safety.

The final presentation of Citizen of the Year was given to a surprised but very deserving Susan Walmer,

whose energy, ingenuity, encouragement and unassuming nature has achieved an incredible number of ongoing projects in Aurora and far beyond.

As each individual or group took centre stage for their award, many times they were greeted by one or more councillors who were friends or who served on the same committees and had shared the work in their "free time".

If the volunteer capacity in Aurora continues to grow as it has done over the years, we may need to book The Hummingbird Centre for the ceremony and Courtenay Field must come to sing again.

As the applause came strongly with each award, the room was filled with such positive energy and most people present realized that when you give of your time, your interests and energy to others it is far from a one-way street.

Dierdre Tomlinson
Aurora

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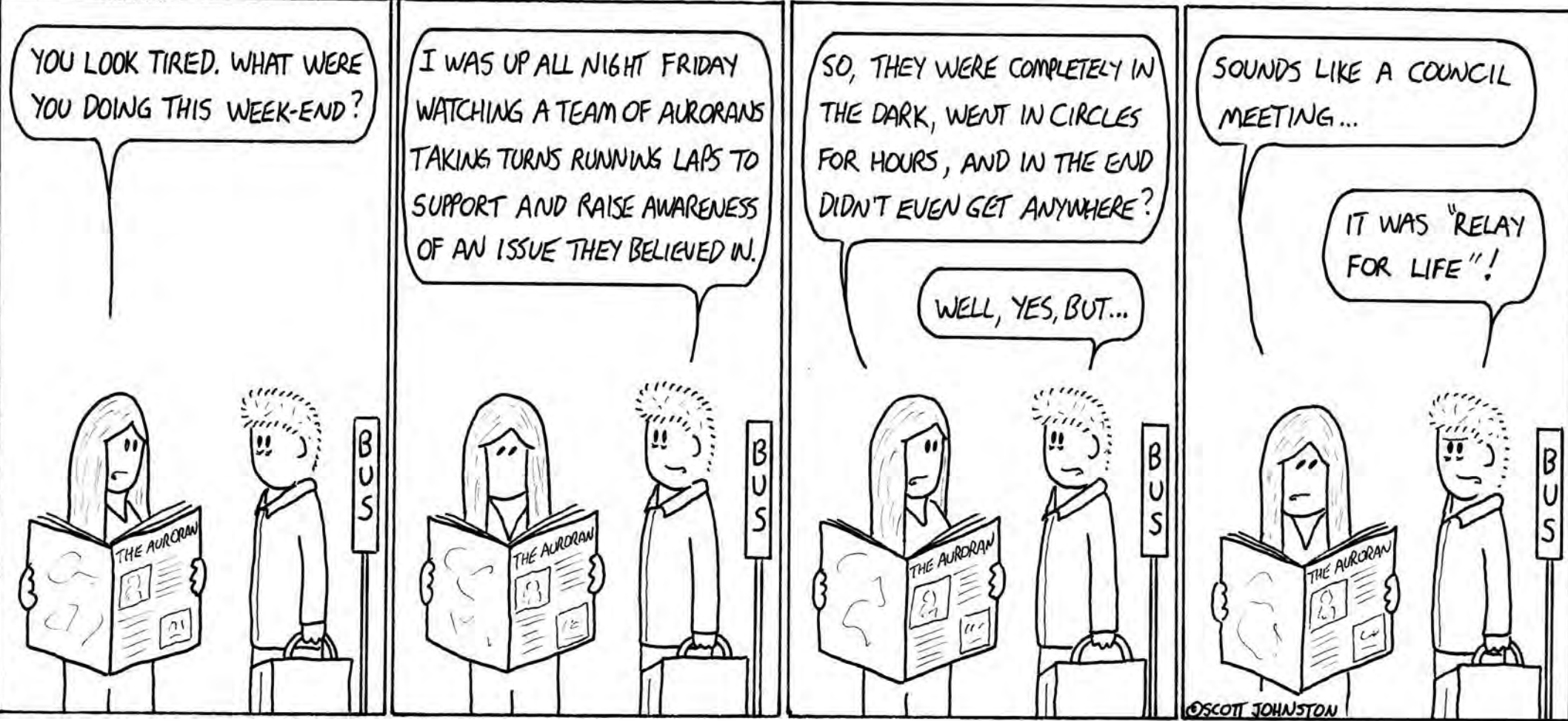
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

My columnist colleague Dick Illingworth wrote a very interesting column last week regarding the "Weak Mayor" system that is currently in place in Aurora.

He pointed out that "the head of council has very limited powers as outlined in the Municipal Act and in spite of what additional powers might be authorized by council, he or she has about the same power as any member of council."

He then goes on to catalog the various skill sets that a mayor requires in order to get business done under such a system.

He writes about building an "effective team out of a diverse group of strong-willed individuals" and that "it is also necessary to build a team spirit and trust in all workers in the civic administration along with the Chief Administrative Officer as they are the professionals".

He wrote that this system could be changed because Premier Dalton McGuinty may give in to Toronto Mayor David Miller's request and institute a "Strong Mayor" system.

Under such a situation, the mayor would be given more authority and power.

But what really got my interest was what he said at the end of the column.

"For a "Strong Mayor" system, there is need for a strong opposition and this could be the first step to party politics at the municipal level."

That is the 'jumping off' point for this week's column.

Should political parties enter the Aurora municipal realm by supporting philosophically like-minded mayoralty and council candidates in 2010?

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

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

Closer scrutiny of the issue does beg more questions however: Would a candidate even want a party endorsement if proffered? If a particular riding association did vote to support municipal candidates, then what type of support would be envisioned? Would it simply be a press release stating that they are backing a specific candidate? Would it be organizational assistance to the candidates? Would it, or could it, involve the utilization of some of the riders' financial resources in support of candidates? Are there limits under the Canadian Elections Act as to what can be done?

As well, by what internal party process is the decision made to support a specific candidate(s)?

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

In Aurora, where we have a nine person council (including the mayor), the mayoralty candidates could run - as a team - with a minimum of four other councillor candidates, clearly identifying a coherent and focused policy platform that they will seek the public's confidence on.

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

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

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

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

Having individuals run as a team may increase voter turnout, as people may be more likely to come out and vote for a person who is associated with a particular side.

It may even help in the recruitment of volunteers.

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

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

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

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

Electoral platforms and campaigning should matter.

Clearly drawn policy battle lines could engage and galvanize voters and volunteers alike in 2010.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

Did I mention that my "empty nest" has a "revolving door?" This could explain why it isn't "fully" empty, huh?

Last Saturday, Nadia moved out.

And yes, this is the second time she has moved out.

The first time was four years ago when she went off to Waterloo University in pursuit of higher education.

This time, she only went as far as Newmarket but it is expected that she and her fiancé, James, will live happily ever after, so we don't expect her to be back.

Just to make sure, I have redecorated her old room.

Then, the Wednesday following, Jennifer left to take a course down in Fort Lauderdale.

With both girls gone, our house was eerily quiet for a few days - a small sample of things to come.

I've got to say, this "empty nest" thing does have a certain allure...

But Tim will be back on Saturday.

For the past six weeks, he and Maranda have been enjoying the trip of a lifetime, meeting up in the Netherlands and touring Spain, Switzerland, France, Italy etc. and ending up in Croatia.

I can tell because of all the charges on the Visa...

People ask me if I miss my son.

Well, of course I do! But I am getting him back in a few days!

The outflow of cash over the past six weeks, however, is sadly NOT coming back anytime soon.

So, I guess it depends on what you mean by "missing",

doesn't it?

It is expected that Tim will fully repay the debt he has incurred...um, by the time he is 42...hopefully...

In the meantime, he will be back on Saturday and Jenn will be back on Monday and Nadia will probably miss my home cooking by then.

The house will be full and the driveway will look like it does every other summer: like any other parking lot in Aurora.

But only until August.

In August, Tim will move his guitars, amplifier, etc. to his apartment in St. Catharines and Brock University will be expecting a handsome ransom for the boy, a.k.a. a tuition payment.

Okay, so maybe 42 is optimistic...

At about the same time, the University of Windsor Law School will be expecting a payment that will bring Jenn's savings from her gainful employment over the past year to nil...and start neutralizing mine.

And we're not done with Nadia yet either...

Not to be outdone by the other two, she still has a few more years of Nursing School to go!

Does anybody know if it's possible to buy shares in Windsor, Ryerson and Brock?

I'm sure it would be cheaper to just buy one of these universities and send all three kids there, no?

On the bright side, my nest will be as empty as my bank

account...

People ask me: "What are you going to do?"

Well, first of all, I'm going to redecorate the bedrooms!

For the first time since 1984, I'm going to have "spare" bedrooms and "guest" bedrooms!

Next, I'm going to move a cozy chair into my laundry room where Nadia's huge sorting hamper once was.

Then I'm going to sit there with a glass of wine and make grateful and eloquent toasts to my washer and dryer. Yes, I really am!

"Here's to us," I'm going to say to the machines that will forever after stand in their naked glory having been stripped of the wrinkled, tangled heaps of laundry they've had draped over them since they were installed.

The machines, of course, will salute my uniqueness, for I have always been and still remain the ONLY person in this house who knows how to empty a lint trap and fold a fitted sheet.

Finally, I'm going to...um...well...invite the kids all home for the weekend!

In they'll file through the revolving door with their friends and their significant others and their laughter ...and their laundry...and pile it onto my washer, my dryer and my new cozy chair.

And it will be just like old times!

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

Party politics?

Revolving door

BOUQUETS to all the citizens who have taken the time to write to The Auroran to express their thoughts about how to replace the vacancy on council and everyone appears to want a by-election, so councillors had better pay attention. For Greg Reid, there's no recall procedure, the people elected them and are stuck with them until the next election.

BRICKBATS to Aurora's general committee for the recent debate over the 2007 annual report and objections to it because it was a staff report without council input. Members seemed to have forgotten that council sets policy and staff carries it out. The administration of the town should be "We" rather than "Them" and "Us"

BRICKBATS at the same general committee when Councillor Bob McRoberts gave Notice of Motion for Reconsideration of holding a by-election to fill the council vacancy and that it be on the next agenda. A vote was called on it by Councillor Evelina MacEachern who was chairing the meeting and it was defeated. Since when did council vote on a Notice of Motion?

BOUQUETS to anyone who can explain why travelling on the region's VIVA buses costs \$4 to go to Steeles Avenue when the TTC rate for a comparable distance is \$2.75?

BRICKBATS to what seems like 100 window and door companies who use telemarketing to try and obtain customers while they are working in your neighbourhood and who call at the most inappropriate times, especially during the evening.

BOUQUETS to Ron Groves of Aurora on being appointed Program Manager, Smart Commute Central York and it's hoped that he can convince Aurora Council to get on the ball by entering into a partnership with Smart Commute, which is supported by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

BRICKBATS to federal bureaucrats for letting the cost of cellphone and BlackBerry use get out of control as an audit found about \$500,000 was being wasted annually in Natural Resources as the department had not developed policies or guidelines. Employees were able to make their own deals for 900 BlackBerrys and 720 cellphones.

BRICKBATS to William Baker, Commissioner of the federal Revenue Collection Agency, for spending \$40,000 to \$45,000 for a new wash-room in his Ottawa office suite from tax dollars. The agency also spends more than \$500,000 a year in fees and travel expenses including expensive hospitality charges for its board of management. Another example of government waste!

BOUQUETS to federal Industry Minister Jim Prentice for his hard-hitting speech to the Council of the Americans Conference in Washington regarding the growing problems for trade and travel at the Canada-US border due to security measures which he said had become a "two-headed monster". His words were much more pointed than those expressed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper to President George Bush at a summit meeting the previous month.

BRICKBATS to the manager of the Tim Hortons store in London, Ontario, who fired an employee, a single mother with four children, for giving a Timbit, worth about 16 cents to a fussy baby of a regular customer. When the story hit the national press, officials at head office were quick to react by rehiring the sacked employee for another Tim Hortons outlet in the London area.

BOUQUETS to French President Nicolas Sarkozy for his kind words about One Canada, as he distanced himself from Quebec sovereignists during the visit of Governor General Michaëlle Jean during her recent visit.

BRICKBATS to large groups of people who go into a local restaurant for lunch and talk so loudly that no one else in the restaurant sitting near them can carry on a conversation. A group of 10 or 12 women having lunch in Jonathan's Restaurant on a recent Friday was one of the worst.



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Letters to the Editor

We need another artificial turf field, this reader says

Open letter to Nigel Kean,

Hey, Mr. Kean,

Why is it you are against the kids in this Town playing outdoor sport before the middle of May and after October 1st?

In case you were unaware of the Town policy, this is an issue that can only be resolved by this artificial turf field and the needed

addition of at least one more.

As a response to your tirade in last week's paper, I hardly think that the turf field is adding to global warming anywhere close to what the additional streets and parking lots in our wonderful town of urban sprawl is doing.

And as far as the spraying issue, you're right, they are infested with weeds and are as hard as concrete in mid-

summer, the grass is dead (so much for your grass cuttings), and that same scrape and blood is on the real grass.

The turf will only need to be repaired in spots, not entirely replaced and is made with recycled material as it is.

If you have ever had the opportunity to play on this surface you would realize that it is a wonderful surface and as a coach and a parent

I feel lucky that my kids have had the opportunity to use it.

In the rain it holds up very well.

The turf does not get damaged and drains exceptionally well, resulting in fewer injuries and less chance of infection.

As I stated in the beginning of this rebuttal, the kids can start practicing as soon as the turf is clear and it can be played on in any

type of weather.

The Town will not allow this on the grass fields.

We should be building another field.

Do you know why? Because the present one is always booked!

But according to you, it's a waste of money.

I'll tell you what is a waste of money, General Council meetings!

**P. Cooke
Aurora**

Two huge activities kicked off month

To the editor,

To me, the first weekend in June is the most amazing and exciting weekend in Aurora.

It starts with the Optimist Club's street dance on the first Saturday in June followed by the Longest Street

Festival on Sunday.

This year was no different.

Saturday night, Yonge Street was closed from Henderson to Murray, and the Optimist Club went to work moving everything into place including the stage for the band.

The tables and chairs

were quickly moved into place as were other necessities for a great night of dancing and fun.

It started slowly due to the weather but the crowds started to arrive and a cool but great night was had by all who attended.

This was another great

example of what the Aurora Optimist Club will do to raise money for all of the good that they do in Aurora.

Then, about eight hours later the volunteers began to mark out Yonge Street, from Murray to Wellington, so that the vendors could move onto

the street and sell their wares.

This event, started by Ron Wallace 13 years ago, and run by the Chamber of Commerce, has grown every year since it started.

This year, led by the very capable Kimberly Kerr and her assistants, the street was transformed into a giant market place.

Thousands of folks showed up and had a great time.

These events are held only due to the fantastic clubs and associations in Aurora with the many volunteers who love to make Aurora a great place to work and play.

Thank you, Aurora Chamber of Commerce and the Aurora Optimist Club.

You folks are amazing.

**Nigel Kean
Aurora**

ED. NOTE: Now if we can just teach the weatherman the difference between June and January...

Aurora's urban oasis is open for everyone

To the editor,

Since the snows cleared the area east of the Family Leisure

Complex parking lots, the raw soil was a sign of things to come.

Now arrived are 254 plants - the first phase of

Flora Aurora.

Over the next few years, the area will enlarge to be home for 1,245 flowering plants.

Homeowners need to adapt to our town

To the editor,

Move close to the forest. Live with the country.

What real estate slogans sell is the message - come see what houses we put where once was country.

In no time the new homeowners are wailing about wildlife sightings.

And they don't think it's a good thing!

They're afraid the coyote or fox will take their

dog or child.

The developers tore down their habitat so you could live in that new house.

And the train whistle! Oh, please. Next time you move, look at the map first and find the location of the industrial areas and where the railway tracks are.

They've been there for a lot longer than you'll live here.

Kwitcherbellyachin'.

She won the print

To the editor,

On behalf of the Aurora Historical Society, I would like to thank all those who stopped by our booth at the Street Festival on June 1st, browsed our display, and filled out a ballot for the Walter Campbell print

of Hillary House.

I'm pleased to announce that the winner of the print was Elizabeth Albert of Aurora.

Congratulations!

**Helen Roberts
President,
Aurora Historical Society**

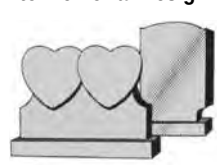
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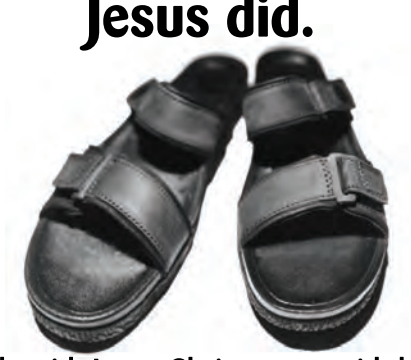
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**Sheila Cording
Aurora**

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Auroran’s review of 1967 missed important event

An open letter to Dave Johnson:

Dear Dave,

In my latest issue of the "Auroran" , a short history

appears of what happened in Aurora in 1967. They, of course, forgot to mention the most important happening!

Did you and Ruth not organize a class reunion

early that year?

I guess that a goodly number of the attendees have passed on but some of us are still around.

The Auroran mentioned in this same issue the passing of Bill Devins.

I remember going out to his Christmas Tree farm in Decembers to cut our own tree.

Hope you are in good health.

Gord Lee
Lasalle, Quebec

ED. NOTE: Dave Johnson is a son of Ada Johnson, who next month, will celebrate her 105th birthday at Park Place Manor, where she has lived since she turned 100. Ada has lived in Aurora longer than any other resident.

It’s time to discuss ward system again

To the editor,

RE: Aurora Council Resignation and Appointment

Now that the dust is settled surrounding the associated costs versus our democratic rights regarding the recent resignation of a council member and appointment of another individual, I would like to again advocate a ward system.

Over the years Aurora Council has been doggedly resistant to the merits of a ward system.

May I underscore my point that with a ward system in place, we

would have incurred modest costs in holding a by-election while at the same time maintaining our basic democratic rights.

With the growth we're experiencing, the electorate can no longer tolerate the continuing fiefdom control of the old town core of Aurora.

Gary Johnson
Aurora

Light problems have been fixed

To the editor,

Re: Rumours and Ramblings: "Has light trespass been corrected?"

Unfortunately, there is some inaccurate information in the above noted article; correctly, I first addressed the previous council regarding our situation and it was referred to staff.

However, I did not return to council because no action was taken.

I returned because the bylaw was being brought forward and I wanted to ensure that the new council understood my position, prior to making a motion on the bylaw.

Therefore, the answer to the headline question is "yes".

Richard Roylance
Aurora



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Dr. Craig Dingman



Too many children in second through fifth grades have been given the drug Ritalin, even though many of them probably don't have attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). That was the conclusion of researchers who published their findings in the **American Journal of Public Health**.

According to Dr. LeFever, doctors are over-prescribing Ritalin, a psychometric drug and a Class II narcotic. "It's hard to believe this many children have the specific brain-related problem called ADHD," stated Dr. LeFever, an assistant professor of pediatrics and psychiatry at the Centre for Pediatric Research.

Health care advocates say that doctors are routinely diagnosing children with ADHD even though there are no clinical tests for this condition. Instead, they find it easier to write a prescription for Ritalin than discuss diet, exercise, or parenting skills with the child's family.

According to Peter R. Breggin, M.D., director of the International Centre for the Study of Psychiatry and Psychology and faculty member at The Johns Hopkins University, "Ritalin does not correct biochemical

imbalances - it causes them."

In his book, **"Talking Back to Ritalin,"** he notes that there is evidence Ritalin can cause permanent damage to the child's brain and its function. "Pediatricians, parents and teachers are not aware of these hazards because the ill effects of this drug have been ignored and suppressed in order to encourage the sale of this drug," Dr. Breggin states.

Damaging effects of Ritalin can include:

- Decreased blood flow to the brain, an effect recently shown to be caused by cocaine where it is associated with impaired thinking ability and memory loss...
- Disruption of growth hormone, leading to suppression of growth in the body and brain of the child...
- Permanent neurological tics, including Tourette's Syndrome...
- Addiction and abuse, including withdrawal reactions on a daily basis...
- Psychosis (mania), depression, insomnia, agitation and social withdrawal...
- Possible shrinkage (atrophy) or other permanent

Ritalin; Over-prescribed and Dangerous

physical abnormalities in the brain...

- Worsening of the very symptoms the drug is supposed to improve including hyperactivity and inattention...
- Decreased ability to learn.

"Ritalin and other stimulants are currently prescribed to millions of children in the hope of improving their supposed hyperactivity, inattention and impulsivity," Breggin warns. He presents evidence that these drugs "work" by producing robotic or zombie-like behaviour in children. This enforced docility and obedience can produce a few weeks of subdued behaviour but has no positive effect on academic achievement and no positive long-term effects at all.

Contrary to claims by drug advocates, giving Ritalin to a child does not help to prevent future problems such as school failure or delinquency, he emphasizes.

Ritalin's lack of effectiveness has been proven by hundreds of studies but has not been revealed to doctors, teachers or parents. "Parents and teachers and even doctors have been badly misled by drug company mar-

keting practices," says Breggin. "Drug companies have targeted children as the new market"...

Breggin does not believe that mind-altering drugs are an appropriate approach to helping our children. Instead, he urges adults to learn to identify and meet the individual needs of the children in their care.

Most children receiving Ritalin have been identified for treatment by teachers who have been misled by Drug Company and government promotional campaigns for Ritalin and other stimulants. "Educate – don't medicate," should be the motto of every parent or teacher who is tempted to resort to Ritalin, Breggin urges.

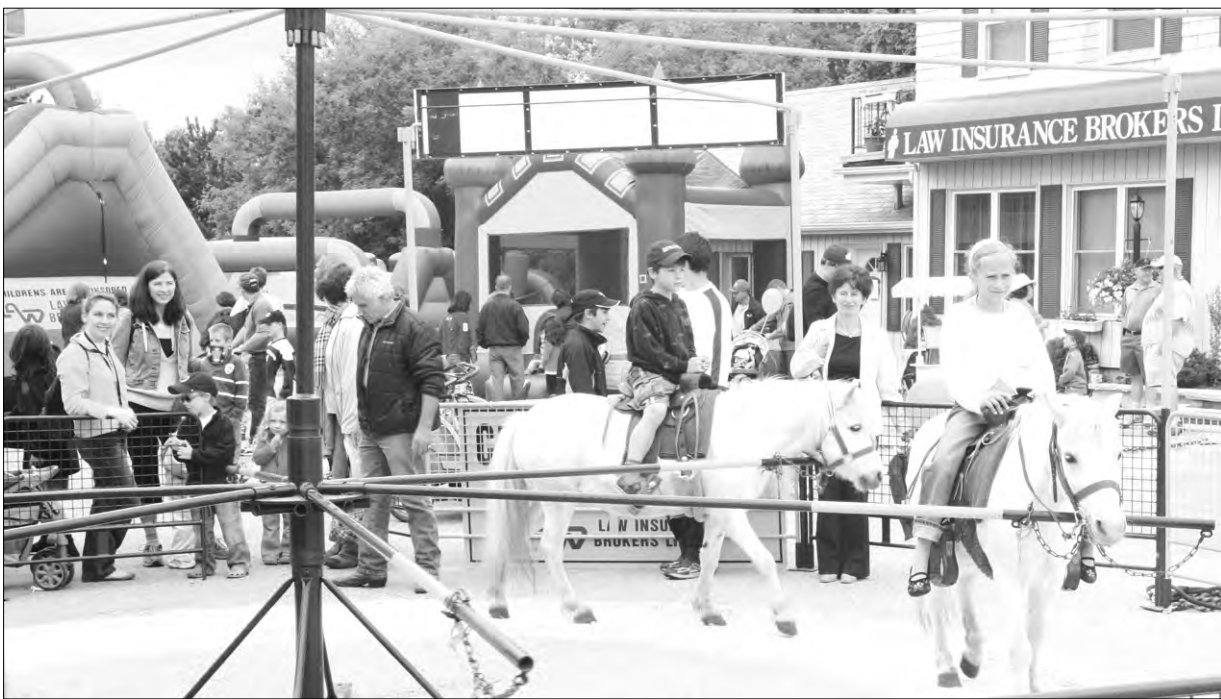
We have been able to help many children with ADHD without reliance on Ritalin. I am holding a lecture on alternative ways of dealing with ADHD on Wednesday June 11, 2008 at 7pm at Timberlane Athletic Club. Please call our Centre for additional information.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel very welcome to contact me at (905) 841-0400 or www.healinghandsaurora.com.



Even with weather threatening all day, thousands of people, above, jammed Yonge Street last week for the 13th annual World's Longest Street Festival on the World's Longest Street. At left, Susan and Steve Cavanaugh brought along their dog, Suds, to the event. Below, the children's section in the parking lot of Law Insurance was well attended, while street walkers on stilts were again a huge attraction. Aurora resident Klaus Wehrenberg once more entertained the crowd, estimated at close to 40,000. Event was started in 1996 to celebrate the 200th birthday of Yonge Street, and was so successful, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce took it over and has run it successfully ever since. The first year saw the sale continue north of Wellington Street, but in subsequent years, the festival ended at Wellington. Yonge Street is closed from Murray Drive for the festival each year, and remains closed for about seven hours on the first Sunday in June.

Photos by David Falconer and Ron Wallace



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Two Aurora students win excellence awards

Two students from Aurora schools are among the winners of the 2008 Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation Excellence Awards.

Victoria Clowater, from Aurora High School and Yun Xiao (Eric) Ma, from Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School were rewarded for their good citizenship, fresh ideas and academic excellence.

The award recognizes university and college bound students for their achievements in leadership, innovation, academic performance, and community service.

The two will join a community of more than 18,000 excellence award alumni who are making their mark in Canada and abroad.

On June 23rd in Toronto, Ontario's Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable David Onley, will honour the recipients at a reception in Toronto at the Liberty Grand.

The winners will receive a one-time \$4,000 award.

"An investment in the education of these outstanding citizens is an investment in the future of our society," said Norman Riddell, executive director and CEO of the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation. "These young individuals have already demonstrated their ability to change the world around them – they know how to make a difference. The

Foundation is pleased to recognize their past successes, but above all is proud to help them reach their future goals."

Aurora High's Victoria is a talented actress in both stage and film, and a passionate advocate for social justice and environmental awareness.

In 2004, she moved from Fredericton to Aurora to pursue her passion for drama and dance.

She is a competitive dancer with the York Dance Academy, has performed in numerous theatre productions and starred in a film that premiered at the Toronto Film Festival.

Victoria serves as deputy prime minister of the York Region's President's Council, and in this role she has organized leadership development conferences for her fellow teens and spearheaded an awareness campaign about the genocide in Darfur.

This last initiative involved organizing an event at Aurora High

attended by more than 200 students who learned how they can take action to stop the atrocities.

Spurred by her interest in environmental issues and social justice, Victoria is creating a website to promote fair trade and to encourage young people to adopt more sustainable practices, such as making their own clothing and growing some of their own food.

She plans to study international development in university and would like to work in foreign aid or international law.

Meanwhile, Dr. Williams' Eric is a leader and initiator.

In Grade 11, he became president of his school's small Science Club. He actively promoted the club to other students and managed to increase membership to 30.

He then developed a plan to prepare for upcoming science competitions, assigning team leaders to each particular event or problem.

With this strong foundation under its belt, the Dr. G.W. Williams team won the silver medal out of a field of 70 schools at the York University Science Olympics.

He achieved a similar level of success with his

school's DECA club, an entrepreneurial business group.

Eric advertised the club within the school to recruit new members and then helped train students for competitions.

Eric's entrepreneurial skills were put to good use when he decided to start his own summer swimming school.

With a \$3,000 grant in place, he advertised his business, found clients and conducted

lessons over the summer.

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Eric intends to study science or engineering in university.



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THE AURORAN

SPORTS

July 1st

RED HOT CANADIANS

Come out and watch the excitement at the Aurora Canada Day Parade 10 a.m.



CHRISSY BABIAK

Aurora Special Duck brings home medals

Chrissy Babiak, a member of the Aurora Special Ducks 11-member swim club, surprised her teammates recently by capturing four medals at the 2008 Special Olympics Spring Games in Pickering.

She was recognized for her abilities at Aurora's civic awards evening held last Wednesday night.

Babiak represented Region 6 of the Ontario Special Olympics at the 2008 Spring Games and was one of more than 720 athletes, 165 coaches and 12 team managers who attended.

She scored silver medals in the 25 free; 50 free; and 25 back, and scooped a gold in the 100 breast stroke competition.

The five Special Olympics spring sports that were represented at these games included 10-pin bowling, 5-pin bowling, basketball, power lifting and swimming.

In the final category, more than 200 swimmers raced at this semi-annual event.

This year's games were hosted by Durham Regional Police and the weekend activities got kicked off with the final leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

All funds raised through Torch Run events are aimed at program support that directly affects all com-

munity-based Special Olympics programs in Ontario.

This program is recognized internationally for raising in excess of \$1,000,000 for a number of years.

This is only the second year that the Aurora Special Ducks have been in existence so it was a surprise to the team to produce a Provincial Level athlete.

Understandably, Head Coach Hillary Richardson, the team's 20 plus volunteers and Chrissy's 11 teammates were all proud when she brought home four medals. On Wednesday, Chrissy, along with teammate Meredith Allen (who was unable to attend the games), received a civic award from the Town for their excellent accomplishments in sport - qualifying for Provincials.

Special Olympics Ontario (SOO) is committed to providing all individuals with intellectual disabilities access to SOO programs.

There are about 16,000 registered athletes and 7,000 volunteers registered in Ontario.

The Aurora Special Ducks Swim Club is the only SOO program available in town.

For more information, call 905-726-3825.

York outlines water initiatives

At a recent council meeting Tracey McLean, Acting Manager, Technical Support Environmental Services for York Region addressed council on their 2008 Water Conservation initiatives.

Her presentation included information on Water Conservation Messages, Toilet Rebates, Rain Barrel Dates, the 10th Anniversary of the York Children's Festival and Expected Objectives.

The Region partnered with Home Depot to provide instant rebates on efficient toilets and a truckload sale was held in April.

With rebates of \$60 and \$75 on different types of high efficiency toilets, 1,310 toilets were purchased and about 48,000 litres of water will be saved every day.

Posters, advertisements in local newspapers and on local bus shelters will spread the message to reduce the summer peak demand.

The water conservation message will include posters with the comment "Are You Odd? or Even?", which refers to your street address when watering is permissible under local bylaws.

Another poster asks the

question, "Are You Overwatering Your Lawn?" and the third poster will say "No Water to Fight Fires!"

Her presentation also included information about the Rain Barrel Sale which had been held in three

regional locations.

York's 2008 goal is 1,500 low flush toilets, 5,000 rain barrels and increased education around summer water conservation and municipal bylaws.



Dylan Kelly, starting pitcher for the Aurora Junior Jays, prepares to fire a strike in the opening game of the Wyoming Tournament recently. Kelly struck out four and received stellar defence via four double plays to earn the 1-0 victory over the Ilderton Chiefs. The Jays completed an excellent afternoon in the first ever Wyoming Junior tournament by blanking Windsor Riverside 10-0 behind the excellent pitching and hitting of Jesse Barker. The Jays return to Metro-Leaside action with games against Newmarket and East York this week.

Photo by Wayne Tamane

Midget Jays down Hawks

The Boland Howe Barristers Aurora Minor Midget Jays defeated the Newmarket Hawks 9-7 in YSBA action last week at Whipper Watson park.

Kevin Klinowski smacked a two-run home run in the top of the fifth inning when he sent the ball over the right field fence.

Meanwhile, Blair Stiver went two for three with a triple, double and a walk.

Leftie pitcher Brayden Jones picked up the win while Stiver got the save by pitching a scoreless last inning.



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AMBA Scores

May 31- June 7

SELECT

Peewee Select Jays

Saturday, May 31 - Aurora 8 Bolton Braves 8
Sunday, June 1 - Aurora 9 Vaughan Vikings 7
Aurora 10 Vaughan Vikings 11

Bantam Goodyear Select Jays

Mississauga Tournament

May 31-June 1

Aurora 4 Barrie 8
Aurora 5 Mississauga Twins 2
Aurora 1 Mississauga Tigers 11

REP

Aurora Junior Jays

Wyoming Tournament June 1 & 2
Aurora 1 Ilderton 0
Aurora 10 Windsor Riverside 0

HOUSE LEAGUE

Mosquito

Tuesday, June 3rd

Lakeshore Valumart - 11
Laurion Law Office - 1

PowerStream - 15
Re/Max Derek and Leslie Ho - 8

Aurora Home Hardware - 13
Priestly Demolition - 0

Thursday, June 5th

Laurion Law Office - 8
Aurora Home Hardware - 12

Priestly Demolition - 8
PowerStream - 2

Re/Max Derek and Leslie Ho - 5
Lakeshore Valumart - 24

Peewee

Monday June 2nd

Royal LePage - Larry Willert 10, Aurora Cable 9
Gabby's 11, McAlpine Ford 10
Rotary 15, Minto 14

Wednesday June 4th

Royal LePage - Larry Willert 16, McAlpine Ford 12
Aurora Cable 10, Greenpoint 10

Bantam Division

Tuesday, June 3

Goodyear 12, Canadian Mechanical Solutions 11
Scotiabank 7, Apsen Ridge Homes 6

Thursday, June 5

Scotiabank 6,
Goodyear 5



Several groups and organizations were involved recently in raising funds to purchase a modified special needs van for Spencer Bains. The vehicle arrived at Highland Chev Cadillac last week. Involved were, standing at back, Frank Mete, Aurora Rotary Club; Spencer's grandmother Stella, Susan Doyle, Welcoming Arms; Rachelle Bains, Beverly Wood, Welcoming Arms; Carol Bartlett, Aurora Optimists; Kevin Waint, Kino Mobility Inc.; and Gary Sleep from Highlands. In the front row is Spencer and Sher St. Kitts.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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Aurora Youth SOCCER RESULTS



HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B M/W - No Scores reported by coach/convenor

U8B TH - No scores reported by coach/convenor

U8G T - May 28 - Spain/Fuschia - R & J Concepts Inc. 2 (R. Whittaker 1, A. McCurdy 1) vs **Netherlands/Orange - Pizza Pizza** 1 (E. Ledrew 1); **Brazil/Gold - Meridian Credit Union** 5 (S. Pecora 1, O. Skinner 2, Z. Hipel 2) vs **Argentina/Sky - York Catholic Teachers** 0; **Portugal/ Forest** 5 (M. Lamoure 2, J. Lunn 1, R. Meehan 1, M. Bertola 1) vs **Poland/ Red - Prestly Demolition Inc** 2 (K. Manella 2); **Scotland/Royal - EMBA Inc** 2 (M. Lang 1, A. DeSilva 1) vs **Czech Republic/ Navy - York Catholic Teachers** 0;

U8/9G M/W - No scores reported by coach/convenor

U8B M/W -No scores reported by coach/convenor

U8B Th - Divisional Sponsor - Butternut Hollow - Scotland/Royal 4 (L. McGunnigle 2, C. Walker 1, A. Caruano 1) vs **Czech Republic/Navy** 2 (M. Hastings 1, T. Boisseau 1); **Netherlands/Orange** 2 (B. Fleischaker 1, N. Robinson 1) vs **Austria/Silver** 5 (B. Keeler 1, B. Vaughan 1, C. Venneri, K. Kasak 1, D. Hasson 1); **Brazil/Gold** 5 (L. Beauchamp 1, D. Kerkkamp 1, M. Fodero 1, J. Aben 1, M. Gissonni 1) vs **Argentina/Sky** 3 (A. Jorgensen 2, J. Stewart 1); **Poland/Red** 6 (A. Issaris 2, J. Jackson 4) vs **Portugal/Forest** 7 (A. Stalteri 1, L. Greco 1, N. Huxley 1, F. Reeves 2, N. Vamvakaris 1, K. Gillies 1); **U9/10G T - May 27- Divisional Sponsor - Michaelberger Orthodontics - Czech Republic/Navy** 4 (J. Stel 1, N. Mete 1, C. Peck 1, A. DeAngelis 1) vs **Netherlands/Orange** 3 (J. Colwell 1, B. Gibbons 1, A. Dover 1); **Brazil/Gold** 4 (V. Petinarelis, C. Tremblay 1, M. Shehata 1, J. Tiberio 1) vs **Japan/Maroon** 3 (S. Low 1, S. Steeles 2); **Argentina/Sky** 5 (L. Brock 3, C. Whelan 2, K. Dajia 1, F. Stewart 1, C. Ing 1) vs **Scotland/Royal** 0; **Portugal/Forest - Marwick Manufacturing Inc** 1 (N. Cipriani 1) vs **Spain/Fuschia** 3;

U9/10G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	0	0	0	0
Sky	0	0	0	0
Navy	0	0	0	0
Royal	0	0	0	0
Red	0	0	0	0
Gold	0	0	0	0
Forest	0	0	0	0
Fuschia	0	0	0	0
Kelly	0	0	0	0
Maroon	0	0	0	0

U9B M - No scores reported by coach/convenor

U9BM STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	0	0	0	0
Sky	0	0	0	0
Navy	0	0	0	0
Royal	0	0	0	0
Red	0	0	0	0
Gold	0	0	0	0

U9B T/TH - No scores reported by coach/convenor

U9B M/W STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	0	0	0	0
Sky	0	0	0	0
Navy	0	0	0	0
Royal	0	0	0	0
Red	0	0	0	0
Gold	0	0	0	0

U10B M/W - **Japan/Maroon** 3 (J.

Sangha 2, G. Dynes 1) vs **Austria/Silver** 1 (R. Pratca 1); **Portugal/Forest - Aurora Cable Internet** 3 (M. Montesanti 3) vs **Scotland/Royal - Aurora Orthodontics** 3 (C. Dyer 1, R. Simmons 1, C. Pearce 1); **Netherlands/Orange** 6 (O. Robinson 2, B. Kissack 2, S. Broad 1, N. Leontis 1, J. Chapman 1) vs **Czech Republic/Navy - Core Micro Technology** 3 (J. Eydt 1, N. McCabe 1, R. Walsh 1); **Argentina/Sky** 3 (V. Nguyen 1, D. Mettel 1, J. Morello 1) vs **Brazil/Gold** 1 (A. Scarsellone 1); **Russia/Kelly** 2 (J. Pickett 1, Z. Razak 1) vs **Poland/Red - HSBC Bank Canada** 5 (C. Trip 1, L. Verre 1, M. Tyndale 2, W. Lentze 1);

U10B M/W STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	1	0	0	3
Sky	1	0	0	3
Maroon	1	0	0	3
Forest	0	0	1	1
Royal	0	0	1	1
Red	0	0	0	0
Kelly	0	0	0	0
Gold	0	1	0	0
Silver	0	1	0	0
Navy	0	1	0	0

U10G - May 29 - Scotland/Royal - Wait's Bathroom Plus 1 (K. Robb 1) vs **Argentina/Sky - Open Road BMW** 2 (L. Finlay 1, A. Roy 1);

U10G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	1	0	0	3
Sky	1	0	0	3
Fuschia	1	0	0	3
Royal	0	1	0	0
Red	0	1	0	0
Gold	0	1	0	0

U11B M/W - May 28 - Scotland/Royal - Splash Car Wash 2 (S. Diaz 1, A. McManus 1) vs **Poland/Red - Hollidge Family Dentistry** 5 (A. Rival 2, R. Ouvroules 1, D. Franco 1, N. Gnon 1); **Portugal/Forest - SSL Chartered Accountants** 4 (G. Wood 1, E. Nisenbaum 1, J. Power 1, D. Drews 1) vs **Netherlands/Orange** 4 (D. Cooper 2, G. McDonald 1, M. Al-Kas 1); **Brazil/Gold** 2 (L. Camick 2) vs **Austria/Silver - AMG Metals Inc** 6 (J. Stobo 1, A. D'Agnone 1, T. Boston 3, G. James 1); **Czech Republic/Navy** 2 (M. Galajda 1, M. Bellerby 1) vs **Argentina/ Sky** 2 (C. Klinowski 1, I. Reid 1);

U11B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Silver	1	0	0	3
Red	1	0	0	3
Orange	0	0	1	1
Forest	0	0	1	1
Navy	0	0	1	1
Sky	0	0	0	1
Royal	0	1	0	0
Gold	0	1	0	0

U11G - No scores reported from coach/convenor

U11G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Royal	1	0	0	3
Red	1	0	0	3
Gold	1	0	0	3
Fuschia	0	1	0	0
Navy	0	1	0	0
Forest	0	1	0	0

U12B T/Th - May 27- Czech Republic/Navy - CIBC 5 (D. Marks 1, N. Nealon 1, L. Coll 2, C. Graham 1) vs **Netherlands/Orange - Dr. Steiner's Drillers** 4 (N. Steiner 1, M. Arnen2, A.

Remedids 1); **Scotland/Royal - Barb Blaser Remax** 4 (I. Moen 1, V. Murial 1, M. Slack 1, A. Walter 1) vs **Poland/Red - Wikoff Color Corp - Canada Inc** 2 (M. Tanel 1, R. O'Brien 1); **Brazil/Gold - HSBC Bank Canada** 3 (K. Strachan 1, E. Jackson 1, A. Bogdan 1) vs **Argentina/Sky** 0;

U12B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Royal	2	0	0	6
Red	1	1	0	3
Navy	1	1	0	3
Gold	1	1	0	3
Sky	1	1	0	3
Orange	0	2	0	0

U12G T/Th - May 27 - Argentina/Sky - White Pine Renovations 2 (J. Farquharson 1) vs **Brazil/Gold - Hartwell Thayer Financial Service Group** 1 (C. Pickett 1); **Netherlands/Orange - Forever Hair Studio** 3 (H. Foss 1, M. Jose 1, M. Quadrini 1); **Scotland/Royal - Innovative Fire Systems Inc** 3 (E. Fisher 1, N. Dusome 1, C. McGrath 1) vs **Poland/Red - Scotia Bank** 3 (L. Schilter 1, A. Roach 1, S. Macneall 1);June 3 - **Brazil/Gold - Hartwell Thayer Financial Service Group** 3 (L. Seminara 2, C. Danziger 1) vs **Scotland/Royal - Innovative Fire Systems Inc** 1 (S. Murray 1); **Poland/Red - Scotia Bank** 2 (A. Roach 1, M. Chick 1) vs **Netherlands/Orange - Forever Young Hair Studio** 2 (J. Macarthur 1, B. Richards 1);

U12G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	1	0	1	4
Gold	1	1	0	3
Sky	1	0	0	3
Red	0	0	2	2
Royal	0	1	1	1
Navy	0	1	0	0

U13B - No scores reported by coach/convenor

U13B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	0	0	0	0
Navy	0	0	0	0
Red	0	0	0	0
Sky	0	0	0	0
Royal	0	0	0	0
Gold	0	0	0	0

U13G M/W - May 28 - Netherlands/Orange 1 (V. Marando 1) vs **Scotland/Royal** 1 (S. Mester 1); **Portugal/Forest** 2 (J. Martin 1, M. Baile 1) vs **Czech Republic/ Navy** 0; **Brazil/Gold - Omars Shoes** 2 (K. Dagher 1, M. Karabin 1) vs **Poland/Red - Canadian Rite Rate** 3 (S. Young 2, S. Pacione 1); **Spain/Fuschia** 0 vs **Argentina/Sky** 3 (K. Brock 1, S. Berube 1, R. Razak 1);

U13G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Sky	1	0	0	3
Forest	1	0	0	3
Red	1	0	0	3
Orange	0	0	1	1
Royal	0	0	1	1
Gold	0	1	0	0
Navy	0	1	0	0
Fuschia	0	1	0	0

U14/15B T/Th - Divisional Sponsor Upper Canada Mall - May 27- Sky/Argentina 5 (R. MacFarlane 4, E. Cristillo 1) vs **Austria/Silver** 3 (T. Brewer 2, R. Wilson 1); **Portugal/Forest** 0 vs **Netherlands/Orange** 4 (J. Eberlin 2, T. White 1, D. McConnell 1);

Poland/Red 1 (C. East 1) vs **Brazil/Gold** 5 (J. Caruso 2, C. Boyce 1, S. Sirbovan 1, M. Garner 1); **Czech Republic/Navy** 4 (C. Annear 1, B. Strachan 1, L. Driedger 2) vs **Scotland/Royal** 3 (J. Bletcher 1, B. Abdel-Qader 1, D. Montgomery 1);

U14/15B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Gold	1	0	0	3
Orange	1	0	0	3
Sky	1	0	0	3
Navy	1	0	0	3
Royal	0	1	0	0
Silver	0	1	0	0
Red	0	1	0	0
Forest	0	1	0	0

U14/15G - No scores reported from coach/convenor

U14/15G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Kelly	1	0	0	3
Navy	1	0	0	3
Maroon	1	0	0	3
Sky	1	0	0	3
Fuschia	1	0	0	3
Red	0	1	0	0
Royal	0	1	0	0
Gold	0	1	0	0
Orange	0	1	0	0
Forest	0	1	0	0

U16/18B - No scores reported from coach/convenor

U16/18B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	0	0	0	0
Navy	0	0	0	0
Red	0	0	0	0
Sky	0	0	0	0
Royal	0	0	0	0
Gold	0	0	0	0

U16/18G - Divisional Sponsor Upper Canada Mall - May 28 - Czech Republic/Navy 0 vs **Scotland/Royal** 2 (T. Kizovski 1, K. Smith 1);

U16/18G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Sky	1	0	0	3
Fuschia	1	0	0	3
Navy	0	0	0	0
Red	0	0	0	0
Forest	0	0	0	0
Royal	0	0	0	0
Orange	0	1	0	0
Gold	0	1	0	0

U19/25G - No scores reported from coach/convenor

U19/25G T/TH STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	1	0	0	3
Royal	1	0	0	3
Navy	1	0	0	3
Gold	0	1	0	0
Red	0	1	0	0
Sky	0	1	0	0

COMPETITIVE STINGERS RESULTS -

GAME OF THE WEEK

One team, one club, one town. Come out and support our players. Enjoy the atmosphere and be apart of the AYSC spirit. The **GAME OF THE WEEK** runs throughout the summer.

UPCOMING GAMES:

Complete listings and the **GAME OF THE WEEK** results can be found on the club's website: www.aysc.ca .



The annual Bike and Board Rodeo, presented by PACT (Police and Community Together) draw a huge response recently. Held at Hickson Park in northeast Aurora, the event provided an opportunity for young cyclists to hone their skills and learn safely rules of the road. Among the visitors to the event was Councillor Bob McRoberts, left, who was joined by Joshua Franken and “Buddy”, the life jacket. Two participants, above, in the three-hour event were Matt Onorati and Hunter Gilpin-Maler.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

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Thank you, Aurora, for supporting the Yonge Street Dance!

The Optimist Club of Aurora organized the 4th Annual Yonge Street Dance on Saturday, May 31st, and even with the threat of thunder and cooler than usual temperatures, attendance was GREAT, especially from the people in OUT TOWN.

It is a pleasure to confirm that ALL profits from this dance will support various activities for the youth of Aurora.

We would like to extend a very special thank you to Steve Falk and The Thursday Night jam Band who have made this dance successful year after year. The band members are from all walks of like and have donated3ed their time and musical talents for the third year in a row to ensure that everyone got up and danced the night away!

The sponsorships we’ve received over the years to help fund the dance has been incredible and without them, we just couldn’t do it. Also, this popular event takes many volunteers from inside the club to family members and friends to run a smooth, fun event, and for this we are truly grateful. We offer a special thank you to the following for their dedicated support which contributed to the great succe4ss of the Yonge Street Dance:

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**The Optimist Club of Aurora
& the Opti Street Dance Committee**





Special guest at the showing of *The Stone Angel*, in which she played a role, was Aurora's own Christine Horne. She attended at the show, presented by the Aurora Film Circuit, marking the first time a member of the cast of a screened film was in attendance. This summer, Christine will be close to home again, starring in the *Twelfth Night* at the Resurgence Theatre in Newmarket. Following the screening last week, Christine answered questions from the sold-out audience.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Regional director outlines road plans

Dino Basso, Director, Capital Delivery Roads Transportation Services Department for York Region appeared before Aurora Council recently to present a regional Road Program Update for Aurora road projects, both underway and planned.

He referred to the Bathurst Street widening, reconstruction and water main installation from King Road to Wellington Street which was started last year at a cost of \$10 million and is now substantially complete with the exception of tree planting which is still outstanding.

Noise barriers are being designed.

Work is continuing on the widening and reconstruction of Bathurst from Wellington north to Mulock Drive at a cost of \$15 million.

It is now about 30 per cent complete with completion scheduled for the end of this year.

Final paving is underway at the subway on Yonge Street and the Industrial Parkway which was started in 2006 and is scheduled to be complete within one to two weeks, he said.

It was also noted that

GO Transit plans to replace the current railway overpass on Yonge Street.

The tender will soon be let for the resurfacing of Wellington Street from Yonge Street to Berczy Street with a start date in August and scheduled for completion in the early fall.

The reconstruction of Bloomington Road from Bathurst Street to Highway 404 at an estimated cost of \$34 million will be carried out in three phases with Bathurst to Yonge Street finished in 2010 and Bayview to Yonge finished in 2012.

The St. John's

Sideroad in the area of the 2C lands is scheduled for fixing in 2010, Leslie Street from Wellington to Mulock in 2015, and Bayview from Bloomington to Wellington in 2016.

Estimated value of all the projects is set at \$94 million.

Several questions were asked about noise barriers with response that under the region's new noise policy barriers would be installed where needed.

Some meetings had been held with residents, he said, and they appeared satisfied with the proposed plans.

MPP Klees' involvement in power plant sparks debate

In May, Newmarket Aurora MPP Frank Klees entered the on-going power debate with a letter to Energy Minister Gerry Phillips asking him to get a second opinion before committing to a 350-megawatt power plant in northern York Region.

While admitting there was a need for additional generation capacity, he pointed out there was no consensus about the size and type of the generation plant that was best suited to meet the needs and whether sufficient thought had been given to alternative options.

He suggested that rather than just forge ahead with the construction of a 350 MW gas-fired plant as proposed by the Ontario Power Authority, a broader strategy be considered that would include incentives for numerous small scale power plants.

He pointed to the small gas-fired unit in the Highland Green condominium in Aurora which provides heat as well as power.

He also requested that the Minister reconstitute the Northern York Region Working Group for the purpose of giving full consider-

ation to the alternatives to the current plans.

With regard to the location of the plant, he noted that it would be irresponsible to locate it in a residential area given the number of potential sites available where residential development is not affected.

When his letter came to Aurora Council at the request of the mayor, there was a recommendation from staff members that it be received for information purposes, however, Councillor Wendy Gaertner moved that council support Klees in his request to reinstate the Working Group.

That sparked a discussion as to whether council had previously rejected its reinstatement, but as records were not available, staff was unable to provide a response at the meeting.

According to records, last February, after almost two hours trying to untangle the complex issue of power generation for the northern part of the region, council finally reaffirmed its position that the Working Group be re-established.

Councillor Evelyn Buck pointed out that Hydro One had applied for permission to proceed with the overhead transmission line and

there was concern over timing and that the Ontario Power Authority had adopted the recommendations of the Working Group and there wasn't much time left for negotiations.

Other members stressed the need for the Working Group to discuss whether a 350-megawatt generator was the answer.

Mayor Phyllis Morris said considerable new information was available as several e-mails had been received including one from Aurora resident Richard Johnson in response to the Klees letter expressing concern about the Working Group.

None of the e-mails were made public

Following further discussion Councillor Gaertner withdrew her motion of support for the Klees letter and a motion

was made to refer the letter to staff members for more information and further discussion at a future general committee meeting.

Concern was also expressed about the process as no other information had been presented to members other than the Klees letter and it was necessary to have all information available in order to make an informed decision.

That resulted in council finally agreeing to refer the letter to staff members for more information and discussion at a general committee meeting.

At the end of the meeting Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas gave Notice of Motion regarding the privacy of some communications resulting in a problem experienced at the meeting.



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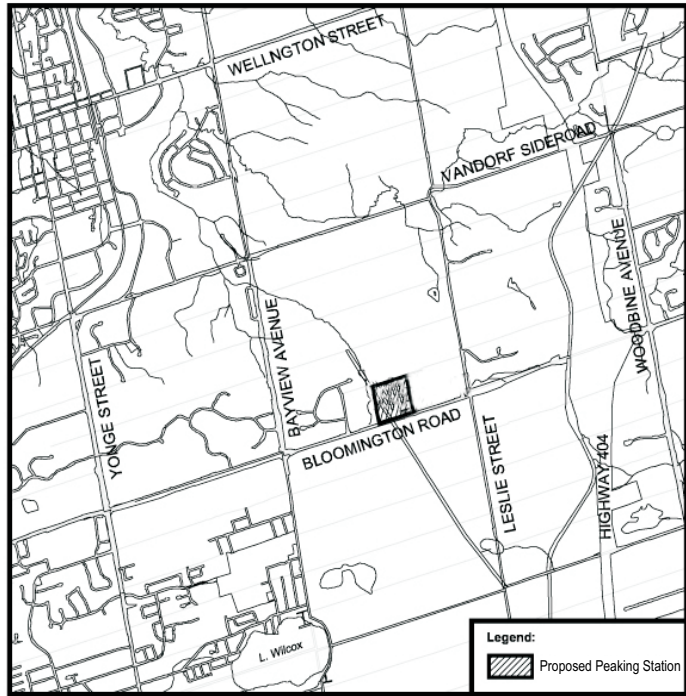
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NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FOR THE PROPOSED TOWN OF AURORA PEAKING GENERATION STATION

Northland Power Inc. is preparing a bid to the Ontario Power Authority ("OPA") to select Northland's proposed Town of Aurora Peaking Generating Station, a 340-400 MW gas-fired "peaking" station (the "Project"). The OPA has launched a competitive bidding process to respond to the need for electrical generating capacity in northern York Region identified by the OPA, in its Integrated Power System Plan released in August, 2007. Northland's site is located at 1166 Bloomington Road in the Town of Aurora (see map). Power generated from the Project would be delivered to a 230 kV Hydro One transmission line in southern Newmarket via 7.2 km of buried 230 kV cable, that will use an existing Hydro One transmission line right of way. The proposed Project will use state-of-the-art low emission, high efficiency technology.

The proposed Project is subject to the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (the "Act") and Regulation 116/01. Under this Act and its supporting regulations, the Project will be subject to an environmental screening (conducted in accordance with the environmental review stage) that requires: examining the Project's potential impacts on the environment including land, air, water, and noise; developing suitable measures to mitigate potential impacts; and conducting public consultation.

Northland Power is committed to consulting and working with the public and stakeholder groups throughout the development of the Project. The consultation process will seek public and stakeholder input regarding local environmental and socio-economic conditions, facility design, project benefits and impact management plans.



As part of the consultation process, Northland Power will hold an initial public information session, as follows:

Howard Johnson Hotel, Wellington Room (I,II & III)
15520 Yonge Street
Aurora, Ontario
Wednesday, June 25, 2008
4:00 PM - 9:00 PM

For more information about the need for electricity supply in northern York Region and the Ontario Power Authority's Northern York Region electricity generation procurement process, visit:
http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/gp/Page.asp?PageID=1224&SiteNodeID=182&BL_ExpandID=271

For more information about the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's Regulation 116/01, "The Guide to the Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects (March 2001)", visit: **<http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/gp/4021e.pdf>**

To obtain additional information or to advise Northland Power of concerns you may have, visit northern York Region link on our website at **www.northlandpower.ca/yr**, and/or contact:

Jim Mulvale
Environmental Engineer
Northland Power Inc.
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Phone: 416 962-6262 x 112
Fax: 416 962-6266
Email: jim@northlandpower.ca



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Information will be collected and used in accordance with the Environmental Assessment Act, and solely for the purpose of assisting Northland Power in meeting environmental assessment and local planning requirements. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. All comments will become part of the public record.

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Senior Scape



By BRIAN WARBURTON

Friday Variety Show tickets almost gone

This week the “Silver Stars” will strut their stuff, display their talents and generally prance, parade and frolic their presentations for our pleasure and entertainment and any other emotions they can wrest from an audience that craves good times filled with laughter.

This will be a truly special occasion for our performers, who will now have a real live audience instead of the bathroom mirror to perform before, and the show will be an unforgettable experience for each of them.

We can expect to see singers and musicians, actors, song and dance artists, comedy skits and who knows what else the show will consist of finally.

We will know when we see the show and we are available for the performers to massage our emotions in a way that entertains us any way they will.

The show is billed as a “Senior Variety Show”, to be presented Friday, June 13, produced and directed by Judy Buchanan, and be advised, the tickets are close to sold out.

The cost of the tickets is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children.

The evening starts at 6.30 p.m. with the show starting at 7.30 p.m.

The ASA computer club elected a new committee recently, with Tom Yates as chairman and it remains to be seen what initiatives will emerge to drive the senior world of computing forward, in a world where technology continues to evolve.

Without any doubt, computers have impacted powerfully on the lives of the many seniors who have seized upon the new technology and who employ it to their own advantage, and that includes me.

I got my start with computers approximately six years ago.

I do not know how many seniors have taken lessons at the seniors' centre successfully, but it is many hundreds strong or more, and continues.

“Wingfield on Ice” at Theatre Collingwood is available for booking at the front desk.

A coach will transport you to Collingwood, where apart from the show, plenty of time will be available to explore the centre of Collingwood and a delicious lunch will add flavour to a great trip.

The hilarious show is the fifth in a series written by Dan Needles and is highly recommended.

The Aurora Street Festival turned out to be a jaw dropping display of services and wares for sale by countless entrepreneurs on the one hand and the multitudes of people who strolled, ambled or even promenaded along Yonge Street in an ever flowing, never ending tide of pedestrian traffic, staring wide eyed at the profusion of tables, stalls, booths and so on.

I was at my post and on duty at the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) stand of tables and awnings and I was deeply impressed by the awesome and entertaining aspect of the whole event which can be described by the sheer number of people who attended as impressive without exaggerating in the slightest.

The crowds of pedestrians sauntering along the length of the Street Festival were never ending in spite of cool and cloudy weather.

Between the crowds of people and the uncountable booths of merchandise offering goods, services or information, nobody could hope to absorb the quantity of sights or hope to assimilate the magnitude of what was on display.

The merchants' stands were carefully apportioned and laid out along both sides of Yonge Street, and not even after several passes both ways, which is a very long walk even when unhurried, could anybody assimilate all that was on view.

The whole day was well organized and the allotments of space and arrangements to allow the stall operators time to set up, was well orchestrated and functioned effectively.

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce is to be applauded for an excellent outcome, and as a consequence should result in the name of Aurora resonating far and wide as a town of consequence, equipped with admirable Chamber of Commerce administrators, excellent in executing their responsibilities.

The ASA stand was well staffed and it was a pleasure talking to so many people passing by, sometimes just a greeting in passing and at other times a full blown conversation resulted, when it became clear that many of the people parading by, were from all over Ontario and Canada and also from south of the border.

Clearly, the festival is a great addition to the annual events in Aurora and is here to stay!

The Annual General Meeting was held last Thursday with at least 60 voting members in attendance, which is easily enough to form a quorum.

Charles Sequeira presided over the meeting which ran for about two hours.

The new board of directors for 2007/8 is as follows: Charles Sequeira, President; Virginia Bodnar, Vice-President; Ruth Church, Treasurer; Lydia Schuster, Secretary; and directors Bob Collard, Bill Higgins, Flo Murray, Barbara Stoecklin, and Bill Wharton.

Bill Wharton was welcomed as a new Board member – his knowledge of ASA operations through his volunteer service as Internal Auditor, member of Finance Committee and Chair of the 2005 to 2007 Nominations and Elections Committees will be a valuable resource to the Board.



The 60th anniversary of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Aurora Legion, Branch 385, was held last week. According to event organizer and long-time Legion Auxiliary member, Jean Anderson, (second from left) there were 120 members and guests in attendance. Of special significance, was the attendance of Mrs. Evelyn Murphy of Aurora, who is the longest surviving member of the Aurora Branch of the Ladies' Auxiliary. She's in the centre of the picture. Others include, at left, Judy Stinson, provincial ladies' auxiliary president; second from right, Glennis Bell, Zone E2 ladies' auxiliary commander, and right, Rose Green, provincial ladies' auxiliary secretary.

Photo by Ted McClenny

Sue Walmer named citizen of the year

From page 1

The prestigious award is given to a citizen of Aurora, who has made a significant contribution to all-round community involvement in the municipality.

In presenting the award Mayor Phyllis Morris said a good citizen is someone who is helpful, considerate and willing to put others first.

Walmer has been recognized for the difference she has made in the community and for the volunteer effort she continues to give.

The winner of the 2008 Citizen of the Year Award went to Walmer, who has been actively involved in many volunteer roles in the community over the years.

Walmer has been a resident of Aurora since 1996.

Her dedication to caring for the environment is evident in the many different Oak

Ridges Moraine protection groups she has been involved with and she is currently a volunteer member of STORM and serves on the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust with special responsibilities for fundraising and special events, the mayor said.

She is currently the citizen chairperson of the town's Environmental Advisory Committee championing such causes as public awareness and education as well as being co-chairperson of the Climate Change working group.

She has been the chairperson of the Historica Fairs, volunteer with the Magna Hoedown and the Aurora Highview Community Millennium Project, plus being chairperson of the Ratepayers of Aurora Yonge South.

"On behalf of the

members of Council and the residents of the Town of Aurora in a long line of deserving past winners, I am pleased to announce that Ms. Susan Walmer is Aurora's 2008-2009 Citizen of the Year," the Mayor announced.

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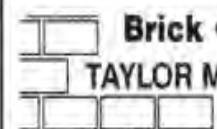
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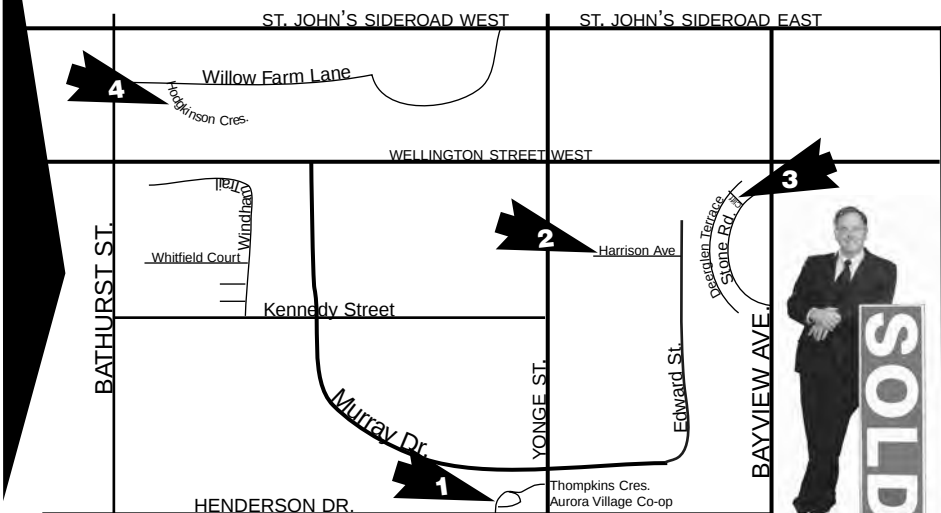
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Now playing

Mrs. Markham delights Aurora audience

If you are fed up with high gas prices, lack of action by federal and provincial problems and have the feeling your world is falling apart, pay a visit to the Factory Theatre and experience the problems of Mr. and Mrs. Markham in the comedy "Move Over Mrs. Markham".

Each of the four plays in the anniversary subscription series was dedicated, first to the media, then the town, the past presidents and this performance was dedicated to the members of Theatre Aurora.

As the last play in Theatre Aurora's 50th Anniversary season, the comedy written by Ray Cooney and John Chapman, masters of the British farce, was selected and it was a wise choice based on the reaction of the full house audience.

A farce has been defined as a comedic work with highly improbable plot situations, exaggerated characters and slapstick elements used for humorous effect, a prime example of timing, rapid speech and movement managing to cause havoc in the process.

Director Chuck Therrien has assembled a cast of strong performers with the talents necessary to produce a top notch performance that had the audience still laughing as they left the theatre.

The action takes place in Mr. and Mrs. Markham's top floor London flat on a summer evening and the set is divided between the living room and the bedroom.

Philip Marshall, played by Tom Ryan, a publisher of children's books, is asked by his business partner Henry Lodge, played by Jamie Hair, if he can borrow the Markham flat for the evening to gallivant with his latest girlfriend, knowing that the Markham's will be out for the evening.

Meanwhile, Joanna Markham, played by Diana Ryan, is being persuaded by Linda Lodge, played by Bev

Sotropa, to let her borrow the flat in order to entertain her new lover and with some misgivings, Joanna agrees.

At the same time the interior designer, Alister Spenlow, played by Mark Hayward, who has been working on the apartment for the past three months has plans to spend the evening with the Markham's au pair girl, Sylvie, played by Christine Randl, to try out the new oval bed.

Then the Markham's night out is cancelled and it is too late to let anyone know.

All sets of hopeful lovers converge on the apartment at the same time with the

bowler-hatted Walter Pangbourne, played by Thomas Coates, looking for Linda Lodge and the voluptuous Miss Wilkinson, played by Shelley Mathieson, looking for Henry Lodge.

In order to try to establish some sense of order, the interior decorator becomes Philip Marshall with Philip becoming the butler and the other cast members assuming different identities and the farce goes on.

There are so many humorous situations and witty dialogue that it is impossible to relate them all.

You have to see it for yourself for an evening

of excellent theatre with strong performers in all roles and fun and laughter.

"Move Over Mrs. Markham" continues at the Factory Theatre

June 11 to 15 and 18 to 21.

Call the box office at 905-727-3669 for ticket information.

You won't regret it as it's well worth seeing.

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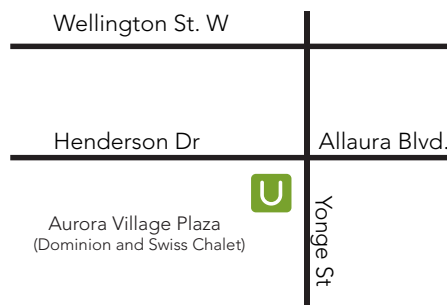
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