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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 8 No. 42 905-727-3300 auroran.com FREE Week of August 26, 2008

Briefly

Permanent markers

Probably one of the nicest evening attractions in Aurora is about to get better.

For the last several years, Aurora Legion members have placed candles on headstones of people buried in the Aurora Cemetery, who served in the armed forces.

It's a spectacular sight and this year, it will happen Saturday, Sept. 20, followed by a graveside service the next day.

However, in addition to the candlelight ceremony, the Legion's Ladies Auxiliary, headed up by Jean Anderson, will place permanent three-inch markers on the foundation or the side of all affected memorial stones.

Some 350 markers have been ordered and are expected to be in place for this year's ceremony.

Some estate representatives may not wish to have the markers permanently installed on gravestones.

If that's the case, they have until Saturday, Sept. 13, to make their feelings known, in writing, to the Legion's Ladies Auxiliary.

New blog

On the Internet these days is a new blog, dealing with the Town of Aurora.

It allows people to visit and present their thoughts - anonymously if they wish - about any happening in Aurora.

Subject matter is limitless...politics, sports, community events, you name it and you can write about it.

You can find it at www.auroracitizen.blogspot.com.

If you wish your comments to appear in The Auroran, that can happen, too.

The blog will also feature a question each week dealing with issues surrounding Aurora.

This week, the question asks if you like the size of the town.

Results of the question will be published each week in The Auroran.

If you don't get the paper on a weekly basis, you can find every issue on the internet at www.auroran.com.

Terry Fox Run

Once again, Aurora will participate in the Ontario Terry Fox Registered Run.

Aurora will be one of 230 runs in Ontario that will be a part of the 28th annual Terry Fox Run Sunday, Sept. 14.

Last year, provincial runs raised \$11.8 million that went to cancer research.

Hank Van Bakel is in charge of the Aurora run, that will begin at the Sheppard's Bush soccer field on Industrial Parkway South.

The Run will begin at 10 a.m.

The site is wheelchair, rollerblade, and bicycle accessible.

For further information, call Mr. Van Bakel at 905-822-4120 or e-mail him at hvanbakel@ortech.ca.

In addition to the standard 10 kilometre run, there will also be five and two kilometre runs.



A crowd, at times believed to top the 3,000 mark, jammed into the Town Park Wednesday evening to be entertained by Elvis Presley impersonator Roy LeBlanc. The award-winning impersonator wowed the crowd and even passed out a scarf to screaming fans, many of whom believed Roy was the real thing, including Little Elvis - Aurora's Nick Barnes (inset). The Wednesday Concert in the Park, sponsored by the Town of Aurora, was the last of the season, but if crowds matter, it's obvious this entertainer will be back next year.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

Long-time cable shows come to end of the line

It was with sorrow and deep regret that Dick Illingworth, host of "Our Town", one of the longest continuous Aurora Cable TV programs, was going off the air after 28 years.

He had to cancel a few shows during recent stays at Southlake Regional Health Clinic but looked forward to resuming the program in September.

With the takeover of Aurora

Cable Internet by Rogers Cable, he was invited by Rogers officials to carry on the program with slight modifications so not to conflict with other programs and to include Newmarket, which he accepted.

However, while his mind was willing, his body was weak and on second thought he decided he just didn't have the energy needed to carry on the weekly show and advised Rogers officials

accordingly.

Sportsbeat, another local show, has also been cancelled.

It had run for 26 years with Aurora Cable.

Co-host Lowell McClenny said he learned of the show's cancellation from a phone message he received when he returned from a goodwill tour in Newfoundland with the York Regional Police Male

Please see page 18

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COMING EVENTS

CONTINUING

Free Adult Bereavement Support Group starts again Thursday, Sept. 11, at 33 Mosley Street, from 7 to 9 p.m. Fred Bullen has given the use of Aurora Lions Club and Brent Forrester of Thompson Funeral Home will provide the administrative cost so this seven-week group is free to the community. Contact 416-200-5665 or maries-griefjourney@yahoo.com to reserve.

Aurora Opera Company Children's Chorus (AOCCC) is a new treble voice choir dedicated to educating, nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. It offers professional opportunities to sing with beauty, artistry, and joy. The AOCCC is open to boys and girls in Grades 1 through 12, and is made up of two choirs: Angel Choristers (a training choir for 6 and 7 year olds) and Aurora Opera Company Children's Chorus (open to 8-17 year olds). To audition, contact general director Sarah Kyle at keepsinging@look.ca.

Take a tour of Hillary House to relive the history of the families who lived there. From the old furnishings to the 19th century medical equipment, visitors will get a first hand look at the life of a doctor and some of the equipment used to cure common ailments in Aurora during that time period. Hillary House is open daily through August from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Call 905-727-8991 for details.

Thursday barbecue 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.

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 jonathan.turtle@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.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

Movie in the Park is "Horton Hears a Who" at Hickson Park beginning at dusk.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society presents speaker Glen Fidler talking about "New Trends With Glen" at 8 p.m. at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North.

Movie at the Town Park is "Casablanca" beginning at dusk.

The Ontario Power Authority presents an information session from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Aurora Town Hall to inform residents about new electricity solutions for Northern York Region.

From 7 to 10 p.m. Theatre Aurora will hold auditions for the Music Hall, a review of many of the musicals presented at Theatre Aurora over the last 50 years. Phone 905-727-3669 for information.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Movie at Confederation Park in Regency Acres is "E.T.". Enter that park from either Glass or Seaton.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Great Curbside Giveaway. Put unwanted items at the curb for others to take. Remove leftovers by 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Aurora Council meets in general committee at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall.

SEPTEMBER 3 AND 7

From 7 to 10 p.m., Theatre Aurora will hold auditions for the comedy "That Darn Plot". For further information call the Director, Lauren Ecclestone, at 905-727-8853. Four men 20-60 years are required and two women in the 20 to 40 age range.

SEPTEMBER 5-7

Aurora's Third Annual Ribfest will be held at Macell's Park.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

The Aurora Skylight Gallery Draw will take place at the Town Hall by the Leisure

Services Department. Twelve names will be drawn and the selected artists are invited to have a one-month art show in the Skylight Gallery. For further information contact Shelley Ware, Aurora's Special Events Coordinator.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Aurora council meets at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Aurora's Probus Club resumes meetings after the summer break at 10 a.m. at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North.

Ontario Power Authority presents an information session from 5 to 9 p.m. at the

Town Hall to inform residents about new electricity solutions for Northern York Region.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Magna Wild West Hoedown celebrates its 21st anniversary at the Magna property on Wellington Street East. This year the Hoedown will assist 15 local agencies. For more information call the Hoedown Hotline at 1-800-872-5803.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

The Aurora/Newmarket Superwalk for Parkinson's Disease takes place at Fairy Lake in Newmarket with registration, a Yoga demonstration and speeches starting at 9.30 a.m. with the walk beginning at 10.30 a.m. For more information call Kim Rouse-Parypa at 905-713-0774 or Paula Hambrook at 905-895-4217.

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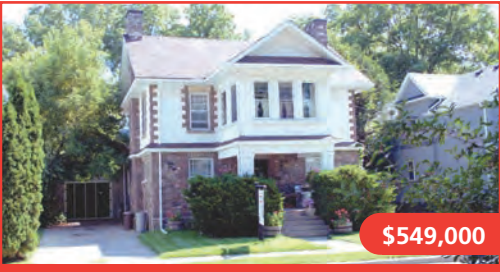
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MP 1123 (10/2007)

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Please call for upcoming seminar information



Gord Barnes, host of an annual tomato tasting in the backyard of his home, cancelled the event this year simply because there was too much rain. He used this method to advise people of his decision Saturday morning at the Aurora Farmers' Market.

Auroran photo
by David Falconer

Town loses another 'citizen'

Lorne Mason "Buck" McLarty, Aurora's 1991 Citizen of the Year, died recently at Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket.

He was 75.

Buck loved sports and was concerned that many youngsters were unable to participate due to lack of funding to purchase equipment and pay registration fees.

As a result, in the late 1970s and early 1980s he organized an annual Co-Ed Slo-Pitch Ball Tournament to raise funds to assist young sportspeople in need.

Later he organized a Slo-Pitch Tournament to raise funds for York County Hospital.

In May, 1988, he was back in action organizing a 32-team Co-Ed Slo-Pitch Ball Tournament with proceeds to the Newmarket and District Association for Community Living.

A celebration of his life was held at the Aurora Legion recently.



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Joanne Anderson
&
Allison Cooper

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Marjorie Saunders (left)
presenting the gift bag to winner
Joanne Anderson.



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Poor Richard

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

Council walks a narrow line

*Councillors walk a narrow line,
As a balance they must keep;
Between policy and administration,
By not causing the two to meet!*
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

New councillors and even more experienced members of council, including mayors, have a mistaken idea as to their role and authority.

Many believe they are elected to run all aspects of the municipality with a hands-on approach.

One of the most difficult lessons a member of council has to learn is that he or she has very little individual authority, not much more than they had as a citizen, except now they have a vote in the decision-making process.

They must learn, and the earlier the better, that it is only council as a corporate body at a duly constituted council meeting that can make decisions and set policy.

Unless they can convince a majority of members to support their pet project, the one they promised, it can't be implemented.

Municipal politicians must learn and accept their responsibility to set policy and at the same time ensure that they have the staff and the proper facilities in place to carry out that policy.

One of the major problems often experienced in a municipality occurs when politicians believe they are the administrators of the municipality and start interfering with staff in the carrying out of their responsibilities.

Councillors are the policy makers and should ensure the policy is carried out, but that doesn't mean becoming involved in the day-to-day operations of the municipality.

When everyone is responsible, no one is responsible.

When I first ran for mayor in 1969, I was employed at Queen's Park with the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

One of the comments made at that time by a citizen was that as I worked in Toronto I wouldn't be available if there was a sewer break.

My response was that I didn't intend to be at every sewer break, even if I was in Aurora, as I wouldn't know what to do and would only get in the way of the town's experienced staff who knew what to do.

I repeated that council sets policy, staff carries it out.

Usually when an issue comes before council, staff is asked to prepare a background paper on the basis of all the information available and provide options and a recommendation.

It should not include political or other considerations as that is the role of elected councillors.

In 1971, during my first term as a Regional Councillor, I was a member of the Engineering Committee and Denne Bosworth was the Commissioner of Engineering.

His reports were comprehensive so it was easy to understand the issue.

At one meeting for political reasons, the committee rejected one of his reports.

After the meeting I met with Denne and during our conversation, I mentioned that I was sorry about the rejection after all his hard work.

I've never forgotten his reply.

He said it was his job to provide the best professional advice possible and not allow personal or political considerations to be included.

At the end of our conversation, he said that if it would make me feel any better, he agreed with the committee's decision, but if he had let his personal opinion colour the facts, he would no longer be a professional.

Council appoints staff based on their qualifications and experience. They are the experts. It is their responsibility to prepare the best report possible.

It then becomes the responsibility of the elected members to consider the staff report based on their own research and knowledge plus political considerations and vote accordingly and be prepared to ride or fall on that decision.

It shouldn't be necessary to continue to refer staff reports back to staff for a further report in hopes of getting a report that members of council want as is the practice of the current Aurora Council.

Staff members provide the best advice possible and it is up to council to accept it, reject it or amend it, but not to defer it waiting for a better report.



This photograph, taken sometime in the early 20th century shows members of the Rising Sun Masonic Lodge, Aurora, 57 Mosley Street. The lodge still exists in the same location.

Letter to the Editor

Our July First Parade kept the 40-year tradition alive

To the editor,

I, too, was at the parade on Canada Day in Aurora and was so pleased with the show of colours in support of the best community gathering in this town, bar none.

A piece of 'Aurora, Canada's Birthday Town' history that I would like to share involves my father, Sam Strange and two great neighbours, Gerry Burke and Norm Stewart, who organized the beginning of the well-known event.

I grew up on Richardson Drive and every year the neighbourhood would get together to celebrate Canada Day by pooling funds for a dynamic fireworks display for us all to enjoy.

It was 1967 and with it being the big Centennial year, "Canada turning 100", it was to be different. Our parents wanted to go all out, so the above mentioned trio applied for and got a permit to close Richardson Drive between Davis Road and Lee Gate.

I can remember the anticipation of the day, getting ready for the parade, as there were to be prizes for the best decorated Canada bike, wagon, stroller, as well as best dressed, pets included.

Of course, the Master of Ceremonies was the wonderful Mrs. Christine Burke who marshalled and judged the parade.

The parade was followed by an afternoon neighbour social, pot luck and barbeque, with our hosts cooking up the fare.

We had a band playing live music for us on a flatbed trailer parked right along the front of the Bell's house and we danced and

sang in the street.

I specifically recall all us youngsters getting on this stage and belting out "Happy Birthday Dear Canada" and of course the famous Centennial Song...Ca-na-da.

Later for the fireworks display, the teens of our neighbourhood Trish Campbell, Elaine Bell, Jennifer Strange, Debbie Stevens, catered to us young ones with popcorn and drinks, blankets and cuddles; as we watched with excited glee the firework display on top of Porkchop Hill.

It was such an amazing day...all if it.

It was a joyous occasion and we celebrated Canada's 100th Birthday in style.

The following year it was a repeat, the pace had been set.

Then Aurora as a town wanted to get involved, most likely by the influence of Norm Stewart, a town councillor at the time.

I believe it was during this first year that they had registered the name "Aurora, Canada's Birthday Town" along with the red and black pinwheel motif as a logo.

The town had flags made that flew everywhere alongside the Canada flag.

The beer mugs that were gifted to everyone attending the beer gardens also had the logo along with the year...as I look at my collection of mugs over the many, many years.

The Parade would start at Sterling Drug, and included anyone who wished to be in the parade, then proceed up Yonge Street to the Community Centre.

Throughout the afternoon the Royal Canadian Legion did an absolute fabulous job of developing and overseeing events and races for all age groups of children

throughout the town, and tirelessly I might add.

When I think back to those days and just how encouraging and exciting these adults were in supporting all of us, I feel proud, proud to have had the opportunity to experience such a loving, caring community.

The Beer Garden was held inside the arena which I believe was hosted by the Lions Club.

There would be a large stage set in the centre back floor and each year there would be entertainment for the young ones, then followed by a German Ompapa band.

Everybody in Aurora

seemed to be there at one point or another.

As a kid, it was a lot of fun dancing and singing away with the adults.

As an adult, it was a lot of fun dancing and singing away with the kids.

Canada Day celebration in Aurora was a must do, for the most part out of respect.

I and many, many others in this town celebrated each and every one of these 39 birthdays.

The early celebrations were the best as we did our utmost to ensure that we were looked upon with pride to be "AURORA, CANADA'S BIRTHDAY TOWN".

Continued on page 7

THE AURORAN

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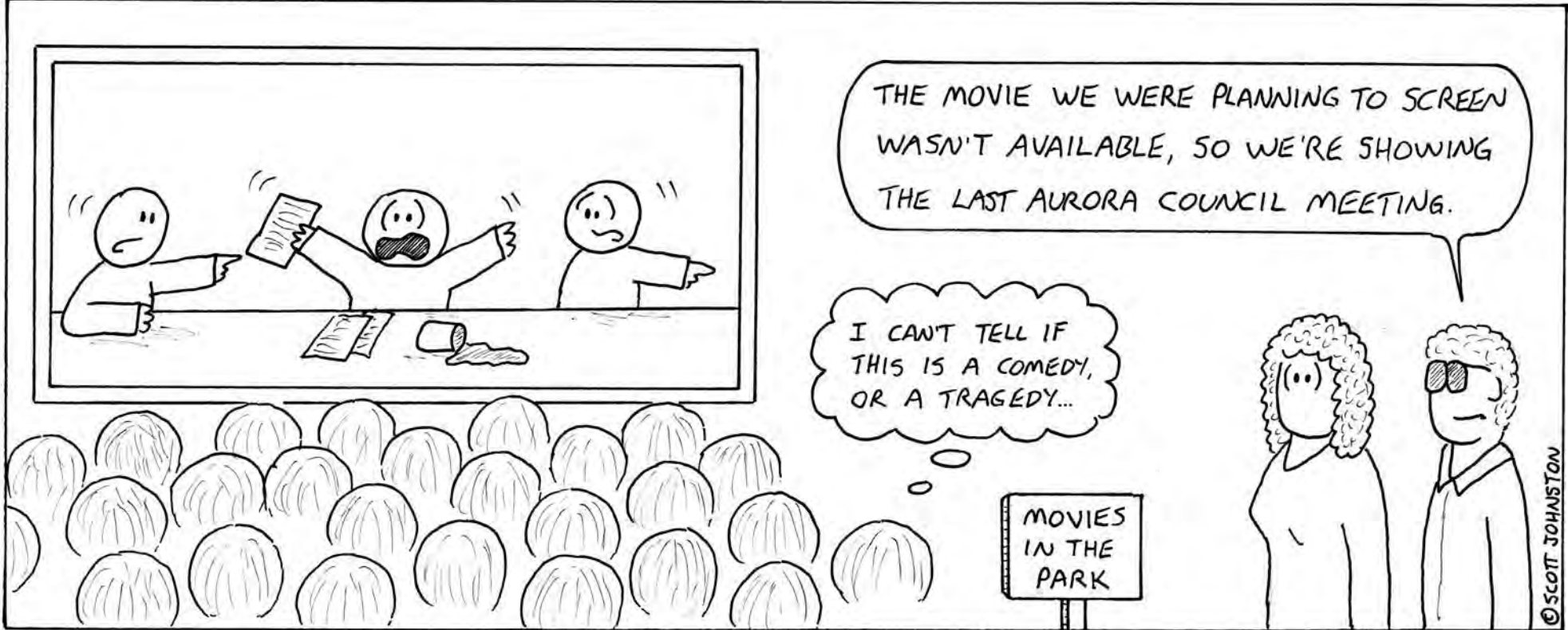
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Back to school

Last week I wrote a column about political polling with plans to write a companion piece this week examining the results of some local tracking done in 2007 for the Newmarket-Aurora riding.

It can wait.

There is something timelier and more important to write about. It's that time of year again.

No, it isn't the start of Toronto Maple Leafs training camp, and the daily soap opera of whether or not Mats wants to come back to lead the home town heroes for another year.

Instead, the kids are getting ready to go back to school. Where did the summer go?

It's also the time when Mom and Dad empty their wallets in order that little Johnnie and Julie have the latest fashions for the fall school season.

And judging by some rudimentary statistics and scant anecdotal evidence, it seems that most people in Aurora can afford these things.

Aurora abounds with lots of nice houses, flourishing summer children's sports programs, and according to Wikipedia, "average family income in the riding is higher than the national average at slightly over \$97,000 a year. Unemployment in the riding is lower than the national average at 3.6%."

So, on the surface, everything looks fine. But this veneer is deceiving.

There are considerable people in Aurora who cannot afford to purchase the back to school essentials like binders, pens, paper and a knapsack for their loved ones, let alone consider the acquisition of the newest and trendiest line of clothes and shoes.

These parents could be your next-door neighbour, your friend or your co-worker.

And sending their child back to school is a very large financial burden for them.

Thankfully, however, there is a group that, because of your donations, makes a tremendous contribution to making our community a better and happier place in which to live.

The group is called the Welcoming Arms Ministry.

They are an ecumenical outreach partnership serving those in need in Aurora.

There are four churches involved: Aurora United, Our Lady of Grace Catholic, St. Andrew's Presbyterian and Trinity Anglican.

After much discussion and many meetings over the years, they joined forces in October, 2006, according to a church circular, to "jointly continue what each had been doing separately in the way of benevolence and thus be able to offer more in services, resources, support, as well as providing connections to other community based help groups".

This group is overseen by a core committee of eight people - four clergy plus a layperson from each church. Welcoming Arms has approximately 30 volunteers.

All monthly donations are used to assist the needy in Aurora.

I spoke to Susan Doyle, Lay Team Leader for the group.

She told me that, at a basic level, the group "helps those who don't know where to turn".

"We help direct these individuals to the right resources or we provide actual assistance to them. We provide our 'visitors' with a warm greeting, a caring, listening ear, encouragement and hope wrapped in a sense of dignity."

I was astonished at some of the figures and the number of lives reached:

According to Ms Doyle; during the month of July alone, Welcoming Arms has:

- Had 63 visits from 89 adults with 79 children.
- Provided \$2,000 in food vouchers.
- Provided 82 bus tickets and also paid for utilities and rent.

This was "a pretty typical month", according to Ms Doyle.

And, she added, "August has already surpassed this, in terms of requests."

How did this particular back to school program get started?

"Originally, every month Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church collected toiletries and kitchen supplies, so that the food vouchers given out could be fully used just for food.

"At a meeting last summer, Kathleen Keswick, church secretary at Our Lady of Grace, suggested that assistance be made to families for back to school.

"So, in the last two weeks of August, 2007, in lieu of toiletries, people were asked to donate back to school items."

Welcoming Arms had "an incredible response - receiving backpacks, lunch bags, erasers, pencil crayons, you name it."

The other three churches participated through collection envelopes for benevolence.

The need is there again this year. Welcoming Arms is asking for your help.

When you are purchasing that binder, notebook or lunch bag for little Johnny or Julie, why not purchase an extra one for another family.

You can drop off your school supplies in a bin at any one of the four above noted churches.

A financial donation is also most welcome and greatly appreciated.

The Welcoming Arms Centre is open Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For those interested in volunteering, call 905-726-1483.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

Air apparent

There was a lot of talk leading up to, and during, the Olympic Games about Beijing's poor air quality.

We heard tales of reduced visibility, a skyline that was often a murky blur, grit that covered every surface, and air that you could sometimes taste.

It sounded awful. And I was glad we didn't live in such a municipality.

But the more I thought about it, the more I realized that maybe we do.

True, our town doesn't have the industrial pollution and vehicular smog that plagues major Chinese cities, but it does have one thing in its air that is much more insidious, and in much greater quantities: construction dust.

The main reason is that in the continued efforts to pave over Aurora, we have had a particularly productive building season here this summer.

The work being done on the major developments north of Wellington, for example, such as the townhouses being crammed in across from Magna, and Phase Two of the big box stores at Highway 404, has generated unending clouds of dust.

On a dry day with a light wind and an enthusiastic bulldozer crew, the ensuing haze can actually block out sunlight.

But perhaps more unsettling is that not only is this airborne grit composed of more than just dirt, its creation is

not restricted to one area of town.

Just think of all the road and sewer construction going on throughout Aurora.

There are also existing buildings being torn down and replaced as infill projects.

And don't forget all the pools, decks, fencing, landscaping and other outdoor home renovations.

Every day, vast clouds of atomized soil, sawdust, paint, asphalt, brick, pulverized building materials, and who knows what else (or maybe we're better off not knowing) are created and drift over our town.

But sooner or later, after a scenic aerial tour of Aurora, these particles all settle back to earth.

And where do they settle?

Everywhere.

On everything.

Patio furniture, roofs, barbecues, plants, mailboxes, garden gnomes and anything else that's outside, including your pets and kids, all get coated.

Why, if you leave your car in the driveway, eventually so much airborne debris covers it that the extra weight probably reduces your gas mileage.

This build-up is especially noticeable at this time of year, because with our usual summer water bans, it's harder to hose off anything.

And while you can sometimes blow the dust off of something small, it's much harder to do so with some-

thing the size of, say, a large picture window.

But if you don't keep after it, the dirt eventually accumulates, not just as a thicker coating, but in visible depth.

I expect that with the right conditions, it wouldn't take long for the Aurora cenotaph to get drifted over, much like the desert sands engulfing an ancient Egyptian obelisk.

In Beijing, where folks often have to wear breathing masks when they're outside, they tried to address their air quality problems during the Olympics by shutting down industry.

But you can't shut down construction equipment. Not in Aurora, anyway. Or at least, not until all the remaining green space is paved over.

Fortunately, we've received a bit of a reprieve from this airborne particle onslaught through our exceptionally wet summer, which has helped to cleanse the air, and to minimize the depth of the accumulated dust.

But it can't rain like this every year.

So if 2009 is drier than this year, and if construction continues at its usual frenetic pace, and if the water ban is issued, and if the clouds of debris continue to grasp our town in their dusty embrace, we may not just need face masks to breathe.

We may need shovels to dig ourselves out.

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



By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Aurora's Ted McClenny, a member of Rising Sun Masonic Lodge, on being appointed to the office of Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

BRICKBATS to the young man who called at the house at about 6:30 p.m. on a Sunday night trying to obtain orders for some unnamed company to seal the cracks in a driveway, and on a Sunday.

BOUQUETS to War Amps for developing the Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program which provided training in the Web development field with particular emphasis in creating Web sites all with the goal of future employment for the amputees, and to 15-year-old Morgan Frey of Aurora taking part in the seminar.

BRICKBATS to the motorists in Aurora who took the time to roll down their windows and shout rude remarks to a male resident of Aurora whom was out jogging. Good Aurorans don't behave this way.

BOUQUETS to Katherine Rustad of Aurora on being selected as the Miss Teen York Region candidate. She will represent the region in the Teen Canada Pageant 2008 to be held in the near future.

BRICKBATS to the federal government for its don't do as I do, but do as I say attitude by encouraging Canadians to buy green vehicles and then doing the opposite. Since 2004 more than 85 per cent of vehicles purchased by Environment Canada were gas guzzlers.

BOUQUETS to the Aurora students who were winners in this year's Give Back Awards, that are presented annually to graduating students who demonstrate exceptional commitment to their community and fellow students. They are Tori Clearwater, Lucas Cruickshank, Rachel Dicks, Danielle Gaudet, Hidetaka Ishii, Katie McNama, Roy Moufawed, Tyron Taiang, Patrick Yen and Anne You.

BRICKBATS to the Winnipeg construction firm who broke all the rules by hiring a 15-year-old boy who died after being buried in hot asphalt. The asphalt was being dumped from a truck for road repairs when the accident occurred.

BOUQUETS to Constables Anandvir Gill and Sebastian Cultrera of the York Regional Police who went to a Markham address to escort an ambulance to the hospital for the birth of a baby only to find themselves involved in a home birth of a 7 pound, 10 ounce girl.

BRICKBATS to the Ford Motor Company for offering jobs to 350 workers for a third assembly line shift at the Oakville plant, then scrapping plans for the shift a week later leaving the newly hired workers without any benefits or assistance, especially after getting \$100 million from the Ontario government to improve the Oakville plant.

BOUQUETS to the Canadian researchers who uncovered a genetic anomaly in people with a higher than normal risk of developing cancer, that could lead to a blood test for detecting their tumours early when the disease is most treatable. Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope may finally be paying off.

BRICKBATS to the persons responsible at the Bruce Nuclear generating facility for losing a metal part from a reactor last April and not telling anyone. It was found by an employee when it triggered an alarm on his radiation monitor.

BOUQUETS to Ontario Transportation Minister Jim Bradley for finally planning to introduce legislation this fall aimed at curbing electronic distractions while driving which could include cell phones, as well other gadgets. Better late than never.

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Peter Virtanen
CLU, Agent, Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

We need to assist our ombudsman, reader says

To the editor,

Re: Ontario ombudsman to investigate nursing home care.

For years desperate families and caregivers have pleaded for improved care in nursing homes.

Despite horrendous exposes and documentations by the media, all evidence has been to no avail.

Finally, Ontario ombudsman André Marin intends to investigate these appalling, despicable, deplorable substandard conditions that the government has allowed to persist.

But he needs our help. Now that we finally

have a voice that will listen, how many of us will be bothered to speak up?

To not do so is at our own peril.

We are next.

Is this how we want to be treated?

Now is our opportunity to improve treatment and conditions.

Call the ombudsman's office at 416-586-3523 or 1-800-263-1830 or fax the office at 416-586-3485.

You can remain anonymous, which is a great relief for those desperate families, victims and caregivers who are or have been intimidated and bullied.

Tell this to the ombudsman intake worker and they will tell you what steps to take.

All reports are confidential.

The ombudsman is very concerned about psychological coercion and abuse as well.

More than substandard physical care is at issue here.

Proper medical and dental care, administration of medicines, drug-ging (not the same thing), nutrition, properly trained caring attentive staff, hydration, adequate cooling and heating and hygienic practises are also of grave concern.

If we would not want to live in these conditions ourselves why do we denigrate our most vulnerable citizens to do so as disposable non-persons.

It is up to each of us to

put a stop to and report the various forms of elder abuse.

Our elderly risked their lives in world wars, lived through the depression and built this country into the freedoms, rights, dignity, privileges and indulgences we now enjoy and they are now denied.

Surely it is not too much to ask of us, after all they have done, to at least make a phone call.

Hopefully we are not too self-absorbed and selfish.

If for no other reason, think of your future.

There is more than one facet to "retirement planning".

**Shirley Shepherd
Aurora**

Aurora residents slapped again

To the editor,

Another slap in the face for the residents of Aurora.

First, a councillor resigns and now, the termination of the Town Chief Administrative Officer.

From day one this mayor laid the ground rules for her reign as head of Aurora Council.

Immediately the CAO and the Town Clerk were no longer welcome to sit at the same table as council.

When I was on council I always felt that the CAO, Larry Allison, and the Town Clerk, Bob Panizza, were welcome at the table as they added much needed information to the meetings.

Having them there was a show of faith that council and staff were working

together.

Well, Mayor Phyllis Morris changed that.

Her combative tone to staff showed that she was boss and don't cross that line and think that you are one of us.

Her lack of concern for the cost of the outside lawyers that she has brought in has cost Aurora tens of thousands of dollars.

The cost of these lawyers, who apparently were needed to give information on by-elections and other issues will come out of the Aurora residents' pockets as will the remaining amount on John Rogers contract.

How much more will the residents be saddled with as the mayor continues in her ways?

When will council realize what damage is being done to Aurora's reputation?

When will council, especially the block who continue to support the mayor, take a strong look at themselves and stop supporting this reign?

They have just over two years to go, but they must stop the damage now and get away from block voting.

When will this mayor

take a good look at what is really happening and stop the bleeding?

How many more positions can this town afford at \$60 an hour for 20 hours a week especially as an interim job, such as the one offered to Ken Whitehurst?

Can Aurora keep this farce going for two more years?

**Nigel Kean
Aurora**

Cathy will be missed

To the editor,

In July the Aurora Historical Society regretfully accepted the resignation of our Director-Curator, Cathy Molloy.

Although we will miss Cathy's contributions to the Society's future plans we congratulate her on achieving the senior position of Museum Manager for the Town of Markham.

The Aurora Historical Society's office is located at Hillary House, 15372 Yonge Street (905-727-8991).

Hillary House is open daily through August 31st then part-time until a curator-manager is hired in the fall.

**Helen Roberts
President
Aurora Historical Society**

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Letters to the Editor

Reader wonders what’s happening at Town Hall

To the editor,

Where have all the Town staff gone? Senior staff at the Town Hall are leaving at an alarming rate. Since our new council started, under the much vaunted open and transparent leadership style of Mayor Phyllis Morris, we have lost our Director of

Planning, Director of Legal Services, Director of Public Works, Director of Corporate Service (leaving this year), and now the Chief Administrative Officer. That's five of the e i g h t - p e r s o n Management Team. The years of experience lost are significant and the costs associated

with recruitment, re-training and lost opportunities without these people in place is immeasurable. The termination costs will also be considerable given the CAO had more than two years left in his contract. Of equal concern is the abrupt manner of the recent departure of the CAO, a well-respected

member of the municipal community who the previous council hired for a six-year contract to provide consistent leadership for the town. It has been reported he was "escorted" from the building. What may be more telling is that two councillors were unable to participate in the decision as

one was recuperating from surgery and one was on vacation. Given that council was informed in advance that the two councillors would not be present, why did council go forward so abruptly with a decision with such far-reaching implications without a full council present? Why the urgency?

Why not wait until all of council could be present and a "special meeting" be called. The mayor has called four "emergency" closed session meetings this summer so far, what difference would one more make? The implication is clear - a swift decision was made and executed. The impact on staff morale should also be of great concern. One has to wonder if this is a purge or is there some staff-wide malaise that has caused all these departures. At this point, the only members of the Senior Management team from last term still standing are Al Downey, Director of Leisure Services and John Gutteridge, Director of Finance/Treasurer. I guess we will just have to await their fate. Maybe I'm the only one concerned about the state of affairs at town hall.

Legion needs money to renovate

To the editor,

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 385 (Aurora) is committed to serving another generation of Canadians. We remember and honour the service of the men and women of the armed forces who sacrificed for Canada in the past and who today, at risk of their lives, represent our country, seeking

to make the world a better place. However, today we are challenged to pursue our mission with the same vigour, as our membership ages. We know the Legion needs to be more appealing to a new generation of Canadians, who care about keeping alive the spirit of service and sacrifice that has helped protect and build our coun-

try. The Legion's remembrance activities are highly visible, with Remembrance Day activities across Canada, support for Canada Day activities and the annual Poppy Campaign. But because the Poppy Campaign proceeds are held in trust to support the Legion's outreach to veterans and their families, its proceeds are

NOT spent on branch facilities. The Aurora Legion Hall has been an important gathering place for community groups of all kinds, hosting the meetings of other service clubs, non-profit organizations, youth sports leagues, etc. The Legion Hall is also accessed widely in the community as a reasonably priced place to hold social events and weddings. We are asking you to join us as we "Light Up The Legion" with a night of entertainment and fun in support of "Operation Renovation," our plan to rejuvenate this branch of the Royal Canadian Legion so it can carry on its mission of remembrance and community service into this Century. So we need you to join "Operation Renovation". There are three ways you can help the Legion carry on with its important mission. The first two are easy. • Join the Legion and ask others to join, too. Joining the Legion is inexpensive and we have open, accessible mem-

bership. • Make a point of attending and inviting others to attend our Fall season of Friday night entertainment that we're calling "Aurora Borealis" as we "Light Up The Legion". We're working toward the goal of renovating the facility in which we'll gather that night. Funds raised through our Friday night entertainment program will help us toward that goal. Still, we will need even more money and other kinds of help to get the job done. • Great Friday night music and entertainment open to everyone. • Food and beverages. • Starting September 19th featuring an evening of live entertainment with George St. Kitts and his band. Tickets for Legion Members are \$45 and general admission is \$55 and may be reserved by calling the Legion Clubroom at 905-727-9932.

• Ian Sweet Public Relations Officer Col Fred Tilston VC, Branch 385

Seniors say thanks to Belinda Stronach

To the editor,

The Aurora Seniors' Association would like to thank Belinda Stronach M.P. (Newmarket/Aurora) for her sponsorship of the June 26th "From the Hill to the Grill" barbeque at the Seniors' Centre. Not only does she provide all the food, drinks and decorations, but she comes in person, with her staff, to help and enjoy the occasion. Our thanks also go to

Greg Foster of M&M Aurora for barbecuing all the food, and to Steve Hinder and staff for working together with our volunteers and town staff to make this another successful event. This was the third barbeque that Belinda has supported in keeping with her promise to make this an annual affair. She does this as a fundraiser for the seniors, which always attracts a large attendance - and

this year's was exceptional with approximately 155 guests and members participating. Our members are grateful for her commitment to the seniors' community and her support of this annual event. On behalf of all our members, thank you, Belinda. Charles Sequeira President, Aurora Seniors Association

Aurora citizen Reader thanks Poor Richard

To the editor,

I would like to thank Poor Richard (The Auroran, week of July 28, "Yonge Street is no longer a trail") for pointing me in the direction of Peter Kuitenbrouwer's excellent series on Yonge Street in the National Post. Heck, he and the Post should grant permission to your paper to reprint the column he did on Aurora. But the whole series is worth reading if one is willing to take the time to dig into the cyber blue box!

Mark LaVigne Aurora

July 1st parade started on Richardson

From page 4

A mention in respect to all those who contributed initially throughout my great neighbourhood, and I'm truly sorry as I've missed some. The 'even' families Vangog, Hutchinson, McKague, Stevens, Cull, Bell, Madison, Cundell, Campbell, Allen, and the 'odd' families Morton, Sherwood, Figgi, Godschalk, France, Strange, Harman, Burke, Stewart, Russell. My dear father took ill and passed on last year after spending several years providing full time care to his wife of 60 years, our mother. It was to be the "40th Anniversary" of our parade turned community event to celebrate and honour Canada. Being the extremely proud Canadian that Dad was and instilled into each and every one of his children, the cancellation of this event just a couple of weeks prior to July 1 was a serious kick to us all. Thanks to our 'new' incoming

mayor, a longstanding celebratory event that put Aurora on the Canadian map was cancelled. Sorry to hear all the excuses, when all that had to be done was to get together as a community to walk, dance, run, jog, bike, or stroll up Yonge Street singing, laughing and showing of our proud Canadian colours. I would like to take this moment to personally thank Sher St. Kitts for taking up this task and literally running with it...blazing in Red and White...all through our great town. You and your committee are truly Red Hot Canadians and I thank each and every one of you from my Red Hot Canadian heart. Thank you, Bob Cooke, for last week's letter in support of the pinwheel logo. That was me at the parade proudly waving the "Aurora, Canada's Birthday Town" flag. Barbara Strange Aurora

ED. NOTE: When the Town started its July First celebration in 1969, there was some controversy about where the event actually began, and Richardson Drive was one of the streets mentioned. Certainly the late Councillor Norm Stewart played a major role in the town wide celebration and mayor of the day, Dick Illingworth, said the event brought cohesiveness to the community, linking the north town, old town and south town. We were for-

tunate to be part of the first town-wide July First celebration and tribute must also be paid to Aurora's late fire prevention officer Fred Bolsby who organized much of the parade in the Sterling Drug parking lot. However, in the 40 years since the event started, we have never heard the term "Porkchop Hill", and we wonder where it was. Sam Strange, by the way, was a true believer in the community of Aurora and he is still sorely missed.



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Elvis, alias Roy LeBlanc, thrilled reader below, when he appeared at Aurora's Town Park Wednesday night for the final Concert in the Park event for the season. It is believed more than 3,000 people attended.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Elvis impersonator kept place rockin'

To the editor,

My thanks to all those involved with providing yet another very enjoyable series of Aurora's "Concerts In The Park".

What a great way to spend a summer evening with family and friends.

The final concert was a tribute to the musical talents of Elvis Presley and what a fantastic way to end

the series.

The place was packed and it sure was a rockin'!!!

Elvis may be gone but...the music lives on!

Diane Hunt
Lifelong Elvis fan
Aurora

ED. NOTE: Early estimates place the crowd Wednesday night at more than 3,000.



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Letters to the Editor

Barriers block the vision of Orchard Heights drivers

To the editor,

I am writing this letter so that, when a serious accident occurs, there is a public record that the Town of Aurora and the Regional

Municipality of York have been notified about this problem.

At the west end of Orchard Heights Boulevard, at the intersection of Orchard Heights and

Bathurst Street, I note that there are newly-erected metal barrier-fences on the north and south corners of the boulevard.

The placement of these barriers fully blocks the

view of any westbound driver on Orchard Heights Boulevard who wishes to turn right or left onto Bathurst Street.

In order to see oncoming traffic, a driver must "nose" out into the northbound lane of Bathurst - at times, a genuinely hazardous move.

A driver of any regular-height car simply cannot see whether or not it is safe to turn onto Bathurst without entering the Bathurst-traffic lane.

Hydro right-of-way needs to be mowed

To the editor,

I live on Stone Road North in Aurora and my house is right next to the Hydro One right-of-way.

No one is taking responsibility as far as cutting the grassy mess.

It is now becoming a health hazard.

My wife and I can't even sit out in our own back yard because of the pollen blow-

ing around.

My whole family has allergies.

The area is bug-infested.

People are letting their dogs do their business and not cleaning up.

I am fed up with our people at the Town Hall.

What I told them to do is cut the mess and bill Hydro One, or PowerStream.

If something doesn't

happen soon I am going to take legal action.

I notice if you're late paying your taxes, they give you a hard time, and if I let that kind of mess grow on my property, the town would clean it up and send me a bill.

Town bylaw officer Chris Alexander told me Hydro One people say they don't remember ever cutting it, but I remember when it was Ontario Hydro and they cut the area regularly.

One can only imagine how much worse this will be in winter once the snow is piled against these barriers.

Unless this is corrected, it is only a matter of time before a serious accident occurs.

When that happens this letter will help form a public record that both the town and municipality had been alerted to the problem.

Unfortunately, that may be too late for some poor driver.

Spin-a-thon needs volunteers, donors for Sept. 26 event

To the editor,

We are holding a 12-hour spin-a-thon at Timberlane in Aurora from 9 p.m. Friday, September 26th through 9 a.m. Saturday, September 27th.

Proceeds from the event will go to support Southlake's Regional Cancer Centre.

A website is expected to be up and running by the end of the week as scheduled - one month before the event.

total hours available - with a fundraising goal of \$10,000 to \$15,000 (just \$50/bike/hour).

We expect between 50 and 100 people to be involved.

If you are interested in being a rider or a volunteer or assisting with donations such as water, energy drinks, fruit/cheese/power bars, t-shirts, printing etc. contact the undersigned.

Thanks very much and I look forward to hearing from you...

We have:

- the fantastic location
- the website and registration
- the posters
- the bikes
- the instructors
- the music and sound system
- some committed riders (rowers, family, friends)
- a core group of volunteers
- some printing and event services support from Southlake (including a letter of support).

But, what we need are volunteers and donors!

We have kept the event small - just 20 bikes and 240

Alison M. Collins-Mrakas
Aurora



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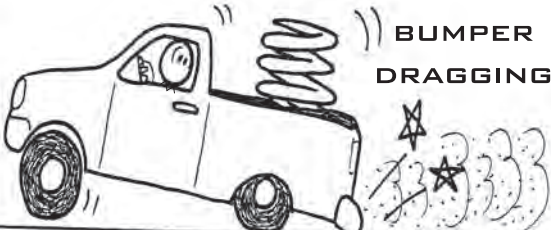
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44MPG

2008 G5

FINANCING

0%

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BI-WEEKLY/72 MONTHS

DOWN PAYMENT

\$0

FREIGHT AND TAXES NOT INCLUDED

2008 G5

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Ecotec® 2.2L 4cyl with 148 hp
- Automatic Transmission
- Air Conditioning
- Power Windows, Door Locks and Mirrors
- CD Player with MP3 Playback
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- Cruise Control
- Spoiler

DRIVE 935km

2008 TORRENT

FINANCING

0%

FOR 72 MONTHS*

OWN IT

\$169

BI-WEEKLY/72 MONTHS

DOWN PAYMENT

\$0

FREIGHT AND TAXES NOT INCLUDED

2008 TORRENT

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

- 3.4L 185 hp V6 Engine
- 5-Speed Automatic Transmission
- Air Conditioning
- Power Windows/Locks/Mirrors with Remote Keyless Entry
- StabiliTrak™ Electronic Stability Control System
- 4-Wheel Disc Brakes with ABS
- 16" Aluminum Wheels
- OnStar® includes 1 year of the Safe and Sound Plan

43MPG

2008 G6

FINANCING

0%

FOR 72 MONTHS*

OWN IT

\$138

BI-WEEKLY/72 MONTHS

DOWN PAYMENT

\$0

FREIGHT AND TAXES NOT INCLUDED

2008 G6

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

- 2.4L 164 hp Engine
- Automatic Transmission
- ABS with Full Function Traction Control
- Air Conditioning
- Cruise Control
- Power Windows & Locks
- Remote Keyless Entry
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DRIVE 891km

2008 MONTANA SV6

CASH PURCHASE PRICE

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2008 MONTANA SV6

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

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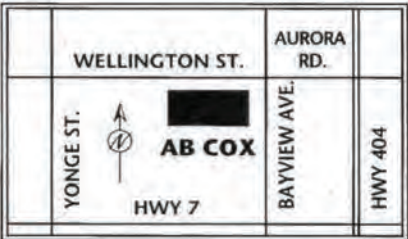
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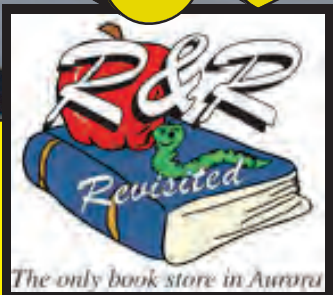
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Neighbourhood Network - a Magna sponsored event - acknowledged its clients and volunteers with a barbecue in the Town Park Monday night. In the top photo, Aurora real estate agent Sean Herbinson and public relations manager for the Women's Centre of York, Shelley Lundquist, right, share a moment with Town of Aurora employee Heather Green. Below, two volunteers responsible for the success of the project are former Aurora Mayor Tim Jones and former Newmarket mayor Tom Taylor. Also speaking on behalf of the volunteer organization was Newmarket-Aurora Member of Parliament Belinda Stronach.

Auroran photos
by Rob Schuetze

Aurora has always had strong swimmers

Long before Aurora had an indoor swimming pool, Aurora swimmers and swim teams were entering swimming competitions and bringing home medals.

In August, 1966, John Blanchard, competitor and coach of the Aurora Lions Swim team, won the Boy's Trophy for the highest individual points at a Newmarket Invitational Meet.

The Aurora team finished in third place behind Unionville and Newmarket and the strong point-getters for Aurora were Bob Graves, David Jenkins and Martha Straw.

In July, 1970, the Aurora Municipal Swim Team placed second in the overall standing at a Markham swim meet with Gord Weller leading the Aurora club with three first place finishes in various events.

John Walden won a pair of firsts and a second, Martha and Tina Straw had two firsts and a third each and Doug Weller scored two firsts.

Other Aurora winners included Brad Gilbert, Gail Knapton, Mary Ramore, Gary Knapton, Bill

Slykhuis, Eric Gilbert, Cindy Hutchinson, Jim Williams and Mike McMorrow.

Two relay teams swam to second place finishes with the first team of Eric Gilbert, Gary Knapton, Jim Williams and Gord Weller and the second team of Martha Straw, Mary Ramore, Gail Knapton and Tina Straw.

In September, 1970, Aurora's Swim Team placed third in the annual York County Swim Meet at the George Street outdoor pool with Richmond Hill topping the six-team event, followed by Thornhill.

Martha Straw, Gord Weller and John Walden led the Aurora team with a total of 14 place-finishes, with Straw having a first, two seconds and two fourths.

Weller had a first, second, third and fourth and Walden a third, fourth, fifth and sixth.

Aurora's boys' medley relay team of John Walden, Gord Weller, Doug Weller and Gary Knapton placed second and the girls' free style of Cindy Hutchinson, Mary Pedersen, Carol

Gwilliam and Judy Gwilliam finished fifth.

In July, 1976, Karen Salmon, coach of the Aurora Swim Team, accepted the Aurora Invitational Meet trophy from Councillor Pete Miller, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, at the town pool after defeating teams from Bradford and Ajax.

In August, 1977, the Aurora Swim Team captured its first York County Championship Trophy in 10 years at the Aurora pool.

In the final meet of the summer season, Aurora took its third consecutive first place finish to earn the trophy.

By August, 1979, the Aurora Swim Team enjoyed its third consecutive season in York Region as the team emerged as champions from all three region swim meets during the summer with 64 local swimmers taking part.

Aurora has maintained a good record over the years in developing competitive swimmers and now with three swimming clubs in town, more winners are expected.

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Karen, Brian Stemmler brought fame to Aurora

Their names may not be too well known in Aurora today but a few years ago the skiing Stemmlers were the talk of the town and across the country.

Back in February, 1983, one of the best-kept secrets in Aurora was 19-year-old skier Karen Stemmler.

In the past few years Canada had become a leading downhill ski-racing nation and the Aurora resident had become part of that movement.

A product of the elite Ontario Ski Team, and the national training squad, Stemmler was only scheduled to compete with the Ontario team circuit and a few overseas competitions.

Because of injuries to team members, she was called to join the Canadian National Women's Ski Team and competed in two World Cup events.

The Aurora High School graduate was the fourth top Canadian in the first event and was 51st overall in an international field of more than 80. In Sarajevo, the home of the 1984 Winter Olympics, she finished 46th and was the seventh fastest Canadian.

A product of skiing parents, she started skiing at age two and skied for fun until she was 12. As a 13-year-old she competed in the World juvenile championships in Switzerland and the Canadian juvenile championships in British Columbia the next season.

By the winter of 1983, both Karen and her younger brother Brian, also an accomplished skier, had hardly been in Aurora and didn't expect to be until the skiing season ended.

In March, 1983, Karen placed second in the Canadian Women's downhill event and sixth in the Husky World Cup at Mont Tremblant.

In January, 1984, Brian Stemmler began grabbing a spotlight of his own. At 17, he was the youngest member of the Ontario Ski Team. At 13, he was named to the provincial juvenile team and at 15 he was on the training squad of the Southern Ontario Division Team.

By February, 1984, Aurora could boast that one of town's residents was competing in the Olympic Games. Karen had been selected as a member of the Canadian Alpine Women's Ski Team.

By this time she was ranked the 15th best downhill skier in the world after a

fourth place finish in World Cup competitions earlier in the year. She retired from the Canadian Women's Ski Team in 1987.

Brian Stemmler broke onto the national team in 1985 when he finished third at a super giant-salom race in Furano, Japan, and was named to the Canadian team in 1986.

In December, 1987, Brian took to the slopes in Val Gardena, Italy and finished the World Cup downhill race in third place. He was in his fourth season on the Canadian Men's Downhill Ski Team.

He participated in the 1988 Olympics in Calgary. In January, 1989, he was the top Canadian finisher at a World Cup downhill race in Switzerland finishing 12th overall.

Later in the month he fell while tackling the treacherous Hanhenkamm course in Kitzbuehel, Austria, suffering a broken pelvis and numerous internal injuries.

Doctors kept him in a drug-induced coma for five days hoping he would pull through and perhaps walk again.

In March, 1989, he returned to his Aurora home after being released from Sunnybrook Medical Centre to recover from the high-speed crash.

In December, 1990, the 24-year-old Brian Stemmler, following his brush with death, was back doing what he loved best, rocketing down a mountain on skis.

Following a long and painful rehabilitation, Stemmler returned to the World Cup circuit with a 10th place finish in the first race of the season at Val d'Isere, France.

It was not good enough for a spot on the podium, but for Brian Stemmler it was the biggest victory of

his life.

A week later at Val Gardena, Italy, he took a tumble during his first training run for the double World Cup downhill. He claimed the tumble was a positive experience as it helped his confidence.

In January, 1992, with the Winter Olympics less than a month away, Stemmler decided to avoid skiing down the course that nearly took his life in order that he could concentrate on the Olympics.

By November, 1994, the Canadian veteran was racing with an ultimatum hanging over his head, to achieve two top-10 World Cup downhill results by February or lose his place on the team.

Following the near fatal crash at Kitzbuegel in 1989 he had only two top-10 finishes in four years. He was ranked 22nd in the International Ski Federation downhill ratings and 63rd in the more important World Cup downhill standings.

In February, 1996, Brian Stemmler's silver medal downhill performance at the World Cup had a golden lining.

The Aurora racer capped a miraculous comeback by finishing second on the difficult Kandahar track in Germany, seven years after he was nearly killed in a crash.

But more than showing his best show ever on the World Cup circuit, Stemmler won two bronze medals in 1985 and 1987, clearly establishing him as one of the top downhillers in the world. He stood seventh in overall downhill standings.

He thanked his parents, Wilf and Andrea, and his sister Karen for inspiring him to return. He also credited his teammates and his coach.

In February, 1996, in Championships and Spain, he finished fifth in although he tied the best the World Alpine Ski ever Canadian result he

wasn't celebrating as he wanted to be in the top three. He had been left off the 1993 Canadian World Championships and the 1994 Olympic teams.

The Stemmler name has disappeared from the sports pages but for many years Karen and Brian Stemmler of Aurora were the talk of the skiing world.

Aurora Minor Baseball Association

Senior Rookie Ball House League

Aurora Home Hardware represented Aurora in the York-Simcoe SR Rookie Ball Interlock Championships last week. In the semi-finals, Home Hardware beat Schomberg IGA bolstered by Christian Girodat's three-run triple to extend the game into extra innings. Andrew Negri scored four runs in the 11-10 win. Despite two key hits from Thomas Young and several defensive plays by Wesley Reid, Home Hardware lost the finals to Tile Source 9-3.

Mosquito House League

Tuesday, August 19:

Lakeshore Valumart 11, PowerStream 0
Laurion Law Office 14, Priestly Demolition 3
Aurora Home Hardware 11, Re/Max Derek & Leslie Ho 2.

Thursday, August 21:

Lakeshore Valumart 5, Aurora Home Hardware 5

Peewee House League

Wednesday, August 20:

Minto 7, Gabby's 5
Greenpoint 15, Rotary 2

Standings

Team	W	L	T	Pts
Gabby's	12	5	0	24
Rotary	11	7	0	22
McAlpine10	7	1	2	1
Greenpoint	9	7	2	20
Minto	8	8	3	19
Royal LePage	8	9	0	16
Aurora ACI	2	13	2	4

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Aurora Youth SOCCER RESULTS

HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B Thurs - Divisional Sponsor Butternut Hollow - July 10 - Royal/Scotland 1 (A. Caruano 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 1; **Sky/Argentina** 0 vs **Forest/Portugal** 5 (N. Campbell 1, F. Reeves 2, A. Stalteri 2, T. Hicks 3); **Silver/Austria** 2 (B. Vaughan 2) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 4 (R. Farewell 1, T. Boisseau 1, T. Morra 2); **Red/Poland** 3 (J. Jackson 1, A. Capraro 2) vs **Gold/Brazil** 2 (M. Gissoni 1, J. Aben 1); **July 17 - Sky/Argentina** 1 (E. Chow 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 1 (L. Beauchamp 1); **Silver/Austria** 5 (B. Vaughan 1, B. Keeler 1, J. Hosmer 2, D. Hasson 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 1 (B. Fleischaker 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 5 (T. Morra 3, M. Hastings 1, L. Campisi 1) vs **Royal/Scotland** 3 (A. Cerqua 1, J. Carcone 1, L. McGunnigle 1); **Forest/Portugal** 3 (N. Huxley 1, T. Hicks 1, N. Vamvakaris 1) vs **Red/Poland** 0; **Navy/Czech Republic** 5 (T. Boisseau 3, T. Morra 1, L. Campisi 1) vs **Red/Poland** 0; **Gold/Brazil** 1 (L. Beauchamp 1) vs **Royal/Scotland** 1 (A. D'Andrade 1); **Orange/Netherlands** 3 (A. Geoffrey 2, R. Charles 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 7 (F. Reeves 3, T. Hicks 1, N. Vamvakaris 3); **Sky/Argentina** 6 (A. Jorgensen 4, E. Chow 1, G. Travers 1) vs **Silver/Austria** 7 (B. Keeler 2, B. Vaughan 5); **Aug 14 - Red/Poland** 1 (J. Jackson 1) vs **Royal/Scotland** 0; **Navy/Czech Republic** 6 (R. Farewell 4, T. Boisseau 2, L. Campisi 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 1 (K. Duffy 1); **Sky/Argentina** 3 (A. Jorgensen 1, L. Patterson 1, L. Dicarlo 1) vs **Orange/ Netherlands** 3 (A. Geoffrey 1, N. Robinson 2); **Forest/Portugal** 2 (F. Reeves 1, A. Stalteri 1) vs **Silver/Austria** 1 (T. Ruscica 1); **Sky/Argentina** 3 vs **Orange/Netherlands** 3; **U8G Tues - July 8 - Fuschia/Spain - R & J Concepts** 1 (K. MacFarlane 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic-York Catholic Teachers** 4 (E. Bellerby 3, I. West 1); **Sky/Argentina - York Catholic Teachers** 2 (L. Toffolo 1, V. Carriere 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 2 (M. Bertola 1, I. Pennington 1); **Royal/Scotland - EMBA Inc** 1 (A. DaSilva 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza** 1 (M. Jolly 1); **Red/Poland - Priestly Demolition Inc** 3 (C. Bulmer 1, K. Mannella 2) vs **Gold/Brazil - Meridian Credit Union** 2 (Z. Hipel 1, L. Niblock 1); **July 15 - Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza** 1 (L. Hemburrow 1) vs **Fuschia/Spain - R & J Concepts** 0; **Gold/Brazil - Meridian Credit Union** 1 (N. Sir 1) vs **Sky/Argentina - York Catholic Teachers** 1 (V. Carriere 1); **Royal/Scotland - EMBA Inc** 4 (K. Bulgaretti 1, J. Kearney 1, S. Macleod 1, M. Herce 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic - York Catholic Teachers** 0; **Red/Poland - Priestly Demolition Inc** 3 (C. Bulmer 2, M. Tencinger 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - Meridian Credit Union** 4 (M. Bertola 2, R. Meehan 1, L. Peters 1); **July 22 - Red/Poland-Priestly Demolition Inc** 1 (K. Mannella 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza** 4 (M. Jolly 1, C. Finlay 1, F. Grassa 1, A. McGregor 1); **Fuschia/Spain - R & J Concepts** 3 (R. Megit 1, L. Flores 1, K. Chang 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Meridian Credit Union** 1 (K. Tsironikos 1); **Royal/Scotland - EMBA Inc** 4 (S. Issa 2, A. DaSilva 1, K. Bulgaretti 1) vs **Sky/Argentina - York Catholic Teachers** 1 (V. Carriere 1); **Navy/Czech Republic - York Catholic Teachers** 5 (K. Johnson 1, E. Bellerby 4) vs **Forest/Portugal** 2 (R. Meehan 2); **July 29 - Red/Poland - Priestly Demolition Inc** 2 (N. Manjarres 2) vs **Royal/Scotland - EMBA Inc** 3 (S. Issa 1, J. Kearney 1, S. McLeod 1); **Forest/Portugal** 0 vs **Fuschia/Spain - R & J Concepts** 5 (J. Sporul 2, R. Megit 2, L. Flores 1, K. Chang 1); **Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza** 0 vs **Sky/Argentina - York Catholic Teachers** 5 (V. Brochu 3, V. Carriere 2, A. Sandiford 1); **Gold/Brazil- Meridian Credit Union** 4 (Z. Hipel 2, N. Sir 1, S. Fanuzzi 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic -York Catholic Teachers** 0; **U8/9G M/W - July 24 - Forest/Portugal - Nantucket Woodworking Ltd** 4 (J. Hardy 3, M. Cantelope 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Homelife Cimerman Realty Brokerage** 2 (E. Butler 1, K. Turner 1); **U8B M/W - July 16 - Gold/Brazil** 3 (P. Klein 1,

M. Mitchell 1, N. Hubbard 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 3 (P. Chimienti 1, M. MacDougall 2); **Navy/Czech Republic - Laurion Law Office** 1 (C. Walsh 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 0; **July 30 - Sky/Argentina** 3 (L. Kleine 1, D. Clark 1, J. Levy 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 0; **Royal/Scotland - AIIM** 3 (N. Rountes 1, C. Gorrell 1, W. Karabin 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 5 (D. Kislev 2, B. Shennan 1, P. Klein 1, N. Hubbard 1); **Red/Poland - Priestly Demolition** 4 (B. Joynt 2, T. Duffy 1, B. Burke 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic - Laurion Law Office** 1 (T. Pryce 1); **Aug 13 - Orange/Netherlands** 1 (M. Ferry 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - AIIM** 6 (D. Bilousov 2, W. Karabin 2, N. Rountes 1, S. Giorgio 1, C. Gorrell 1); **Navy/Czech Republic - Laurion Law Office** 1 (C. Tyndall 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 1 (C. Sands 1); **Gold/Brazil** 4 (M. Messina 1, P. Klein 1, D. Kislev 1, R. Jahanfar 1) vs **Red/Poland - Priestly Demolition Inc** 3 (B. Burke 1, B. Spittle 1, T. Duffy 1); **Aug 11- Forest/Portugal - Nantucket Woodworking Ltd** 6 C. Kilburn 1, S. Murphy 6) vs **Sky/Argentina - AIIM** 1 (I. Buggiel 1); **U8B Thurs - Divisional Sponsor - Butternut Hollow - No scores reported by coach or convenor** **U9/10G Tues - Divisional Sponsor - Michaelberger Orthodontics - Sky/Argentina** 1 (L. Brock 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 0; **Navy/Czech Republic** 4 (C. Peck 1, J. Stel 1, D. Bova 1, A. DeAngelis 1) vs **Royal/Scotland** 4 (E. Clark 3, T. London 1); **Maroon/Japan** 3 (D. Mascarenhas 1, S. Low 1, S. Steeles 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - Marwick Manufacturing Inc** 1; **Kelly/Russia** 1 (L. Telizyn 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 0; **July 22 - Royal/Scotland - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 3 (E. Clarke 2, H. Perlmutter 1) vs **Kelly/Russia - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 0; **Maroon/Japan - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 5 (S. Steeles 4, R. Tutolo 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands -Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 4 (J. Colwell 2, B. Gibbons 1, M. Jakubas 1); **Sky/Argentina-Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 4 (L. Brock 3, K. Dajia 1) vs **Fuschia/Spain - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 0; **Navy/Czech Republic - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 2 (C. Peck 1, A. DeAngelis 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 2 (V. Petinarelis 2); **July 29 - Royal/Scotland - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 0 vs **Sky/Argentina - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 4 (K. Dajia 1, L. Brock 1, C. Whelan 1, G. Corsetti 1); **Gold/Brazil - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 3 (V. Lin 1, V. Petinarelis 1, J. Tiberio 1) vs **Maroon/Japan - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 3 (M. Tantalo 1, S. Steeles 1, R. Tutolo 1); **Kelly/Russia - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 1 (L. Dubeau 1) vs **Red/Poland - Aurora Landscape** 0; **Fuschia/Spain - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 6 (J. Scott 2, K. Melo 1, E. Lloyd 1, J. Rosano 1, P. Snider 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - Marwick Manufacturing Inc** 1 (G. DaSilva 1); **Orange/Netherlands - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 2 (J. Colwell 1, E. White 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 7 (N. Mete 5, J. Stel 4, S. Restivo 2); **Aug 12 - Orange/Netherlands - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 5 (A. DiMaio 2, M. Petit 1, B. Gibbons 1, C. Bonnano 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 2 (S. Cunningham 1, E. Clarke 1); **Kelly/Russia - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 0 vs **Sky/Argentina - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 3 (L. Brock 1, C. Whelan 1, F. Stewart 1); **Navy/Czech Republic - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 7 (C. Peck 2, N. Mete 3, K. Grekula 1, K. Belgue 1, D. Bova 1, A. DeAngelis 1, S. Restivo 1) vs

Forest/Portugal Marwick Manufacturing Inc 2 (H. Donkers 1, P. MacDonald 1); **Gold/Brazil - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 4 (M. Howe 1, V. Petinarelis 1, C. Tremblay 1, I. Graham 1) vs **Red/Poland - Aurora Landscape** 3 (H. Jowharian 1, N. Beauchemin 1, A. Walker 1); **Fuschia/ Spain - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 1 (P. Snider 1) vs **Maroon/Japan - Divisional Sponsor Michelberger Orthodontics** 3; **U9/10G STANDINGS**

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

U9B Mon - July 14 - Navy/Czech Republic - Envirocar Paint & Collision 0 vs **Orange/Netherlands** 5 (J. Phillips 1, J. Gonzales 2, R. Lewis 3, A. Rosales 1, R. Iervasi 4, M. Pare 1); **Royal/Scotland - Industrial Alliance** 4 (J. Woodcock 1, C. McGoldrick 1, T. Kostoff 1, K. Wulle 1) vs **Sky/Argentina - Clements Interiors** 3 (R. Carpenter 2, M. Carpenter 1); **July 28 - Sky/Argentina - Clements Interiors** 2 (S. Gable 1, J. Clements 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands - Pizza Pizza** 7 (A. Rosales 2, R. Iervasi 4, C. Sortino 1, J. Gonzalez 2); **Gold/Brazil - Aurora Celtic Supporters Club** 5 (R. Lidster 4, E. Pears 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 6 (J. Coker 1, A. Cogswell 1, N. Keizer 3, I. Hipel 1); **Royal/Scotland - Industrial Alliance** 4 vs **Red/Poland - SAC Summer Camps** 3; **U9BM 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

U9B M/W - July 21 - Royal/Scotland - Divisional Sponsor Open Road BMW 6 (C. Devogel 2, J. Fallavollita 2, A. Warner 2) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 4 (A. Zori 1, E. McGhui 2, A. Bumani 1); **Gold/Brazil - York Catholic Teachers** 2 (E. Lambert 2) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 1 (A. Clark 1); **Sky/Argentina - Divisional Sponsor Open Road BMW** 2 (M. Valvasori 2) vs **Red/Poland - Supreme Collision Centre** 7 (J. Samson 2, E. Turner 5); **U9B M/W 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

U10B M/W - July 9 - Kelly/Russia 5 (E. Faber 3, J. Kleine 1, Z. Razak 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Aurora Orthodontics** 2 (C. Dyer 2); **Silver/Austria** 2 (J. Schachter 1, M. Heese 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 0; **Maroon/Japan** 6 (B. Russel 2, D. McConnell 1, J. Sangha 1, G. Dynes 1, C. Smith 1, J. McKay 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 2 (J. Chapman 1, M. Gardner 1); **Navy/Czech Republic - Core Micro Technology** 5 (E. Woodhead 1, M. Tanel 1, J. Edyt 3) vs **Gold/Brazil** 5; **Red/Poland - HSBC Bank Canada** 5 (L. Verre 2, M. Dowling 1, M. Tyndall 1, N. Campbell 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet** 0; **July 16 - Kelly/Russia** 1 (E. Faber 1) vs **Red/Poland - HSBC Bank Canada** 3 (M. Tyndal 1, C. Tripp 1, N. Campbell 1); **Gold/Brazil** 1 (N. Hatzitolios 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 5 (J. Morello 2, V. Nguyen 1, D. Mettel 1, R. D'Antimo 1); **Maroon/Japan** 3 (J. Gardner 1, N. Rosati 1, E. Alterman 1) vs **Silver/Austria** 2 (J. Chapman 1, M. Gardner 1); **Navy/Czech Republic - Core Micro Technology** 4 (M. Tanel 1, C. Eby 3); **Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet** 4 vs **Royal/Scotland - Aurora Orthodontics** 4

(C. Dyer 2, E. Shennan 1, N. Pearce 1); **July 30 - Forest/Portugal - Aurora Cable Internet** 3 (M. Montisanti 1, S. White 1, J. Reeves 1) vs **Kelly/Russia** 2 (Z. Razak 1, J. Pickett 1); **Navy/Czech Republic - Core Micro Technology** 1 (M. Tavel 1) vs **Silver/Austria** 5 (J. Grelet 2, A. Kostakis 1, D. Taylor 1, K. Mellerchen 1); **Sky/Argentina** 2 (R. D'Antimo 2, B. Suominen 1, A. Bhasin 1) vs **Maroon/Japan** 4 (B. Russell 2); **Gold/Brazil** 5 (N. Hatzitolios 1, M. Stamatopoulos 2, M. Colucci 1, R. Smith 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 4 (O. Robinson 1, L. Garrell 1, J. Chapman 1, N. Loantis 1); **Red/Poland - HSBC Bank Canada** 6 (L. Verre 1, M. Tyndall 1, M. Nigro 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Aurora Orthodontics** 3 (E. Shennan 1, C. Zinner 1, C. Dyer 1); **U10B M/W STANDINGS**

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	8	0	3	27
Kelly	6	4	1	19
Silver	6	4	1	19
Maroon	6	4	1	19
Sky	5	5	1	16
Royal	3	3	5	14
Orange	4	6	1	13
Forest	2	4	5	11
Navy	2	7	2	8
Gold	2	7	2	8

U10G T/Th - July 10 - Fuschia/Spain - WOWIT 1 (R. Remedios 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Wait's Bathroom Plus** 4 (K. Palmer 2, K. Robb 1, C. Long 1); **Orange/Netherlands-Canadian Vascular Labs** 6 (E. Colin 4, B. Nunn 2, S. Nip 1) vs **Sky/Argentina - Divisional Sponsor Open Road BMW** 1 (L. Bondarewski 1); **Red/Poland - Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre** 3 (E. Velovic 2, E. McKay 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - AIIM** 1 (C. Gibson 1); **July 17 - Gold/Brazil - AIIM** 2 (S. Jamieson 2) vs **Fuschia/Spain - WOWIT** 4 (S. Nanos 1, S. Carmosino 2, T. Mikula 1); **Orange/Netherlands -Canadian Vascular Labs** 0 vs **Royal/Scotland - Wait's Bathroom Plus** 1 (C. Long 1); **Red/Poland - Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre** 5 (E. Velovic 2, E. McKay 1, B. Howell 3, J. Petsinis 1, B. Hallam 1) vs **Sky/Argentina - Divisional Sponsor Open Road BMW** 0; **July 24 - Sky/Argentina - Divisional Sponsor Open Road BMW** 6 (L. Finlay 2, H. Pryce 2, K. Devries 2) vs **Gold/Brazil - AIIM** 1 (S. Jamieson 1); **Fuschia/Spain - WOWIT** 5 (S. Nanos 1, S. Carmosino 2, M. Colasimone 1) vs **Orange/ Netherlands - Canadian Vascular Labs** 5 (J. Durbano 1, S. Pietrolungo 2, N. Iliadis 2); **Royal/Scotland - Wait's Bathroom Plus** 2 (K. Robb 1, C. Long 1) vs **Red/Poland - Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre** 4 (S. Corbett 1, J. Petsinis 1, E. Velovic 2); **July 31 - Fuschia/Spain - WOWIT** won by default; **Orange/Netherlands - Canadian Vascular Labs** 3 (N. Iliadis 1, S. Gupta 1, E. Colin 1) vs **Red/Poland - Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre** 4 (B. Howell 2, E. Velovic 2); **Royal/Scotland - Wait's Bathroom Plus** 6 (K. Palmer 3, S. McGee 3, K. Robb 1, C. Vanstipout 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - AIIM** 1 (S. Boisseau 1); **U10G STANDINGS**

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	13	2	2	29
Orange	12	3	3	21
Fuschia	13	5	2	20
Royal	13	5	4	16
Sky	13	7	4	10
Gold	12	7	3	9

U11B M/W - July 16 - Orange/Netherlands 1 (A. Santos 1) vs **Forest/Portugal - SSL Chartered Accountants** 6 (J. Maxwell 1, G. Wood 2, J. Sherwood 1, J. Power 2); **Red/Poland - Hollidge Family Dentistry** 1 (A. Rival 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Splash Car Wash** 6 (J. Laird 4, S. Diaz 3, D. Middleton 2); **Sky/Austria** 3 (D. Pierson 2, T. Boston 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 1 (L. Camick 1); **July 30 - Red/Poland - Hollidge Family Dentistry** 5 (C. Screech 1, K. Green 2, R. Owroules 1, N. O'Hearn 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 1 (A. Williamson 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 5 (M. Galajda 3, A. Bernier 1, T. Allan 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Splash Car Wash** 3 (S. Diaz 2, D.



Aurora Youth SOCCER RESULTS

Middleton 1);
Aug 13 - Forest/Portugal - SSL Chartered Accountants 5 (J. Maxwell 2, A. Grant 1, G. Wood 2, J. Power 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 0; **Red/Poland - Hollidge Family Dentistry** 5 (C. Screech 2, A. Rival 1, C. Campbell 1, T. Runco 1, N. O'Hearn 1, D. Kangas 1, N. Gnon 2, A. Movin 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 0; **Royal/Scotland - Splash Car Wash** 6 (J. Laird 1, S. Diaz 1, D. Middleton 1, D. Durant 1, S. Semenaro 1, Y. Kakush 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 3 (N. Budichuk 1, A. Petrossi 2);
Aug 13 - Royal/Scotland - Splash Car Wash 6 (J. Laird 1, S. Diaz 1, D. Middleton 1, D. Durant 1, S. Semenaro 1, Y. Kakush 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 3 (N. Budichuk 1, A. Petrossi 2);
U11B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	9	2	1	28
Navy	8	1	3	27
Silver	6	5	1	19
Forest	5	4	3	18
Sky	5	4	3	18
Royal	5	7	0	15
Gold	2	8	2	8
Orange	1	10	1	4

U11G - July 14 - Navy/Czech Republic 1 (S. Fusco 1) vs **Red/Poland - Summers & Smith** 1 (H. Kenea 1); **Gold/Brazil - Century 21 Martin Read** 6 (K. Walsh 2, K. Wood 1, J. Devries 2, E. Currie 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Dr. Weeden** 1 (C. Dusome 1); **Forest/Portugal** 1 (T. Issaria 1) vs **Fuschia/Spain - Royal LePage Cathy Stuart** 2 (S. Sabatini 1, A. Depiero 1);
July 21 - Fucshia/Spain - Royal LePage Cathy Stuart 3 (F. Logue 2, H. Mittertreiner 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 2 (H. Park 2); **Royal/Scotland - Dr. Weeden** 0 vs **Forest/Portugal** 5 (R. Bell 4, K. Gram 1); **Red/Poland - Summers & Smith** 3 (S. Fusco 2, K. Long 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Century 21 Martin Read** 2 (K. Wood 1, E. Thompson 1);
Aug 11 - Royal/Scotland - Dr. Weeden 1 (A. Pietrolungo 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 0; **Forest/Portugal** 2 (T. Issaris 1, M. Gans 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Century 21 Martin Read** 0; **Fuschia/Spain - Royal LePage Cathy Stuart** 2 (M. Baile 1, A. Depiero 1) vs **Red/Poland - Summers & Smith** 1 (J. Blasi 1);
U11G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	9	2	1	28
Fuschia	7	3	2	23
Royal	6	5	1	19
Red	5	6	1	16
Gold	3	7	2	11
Navy	1	8	3	6

U12B T/Th - July 22 - Red/Poland - Hollidge Family Dentistry 3 (L. Martineau 1, I. Hambrook 1, A. Harrison 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - HSBC Bank Canada** 2 (B. Osei 2); **Orange/Netherlands - Dr. Steiner's Drillers** 0 vs **Sky/Argentina** 2 (M. Pelkola 1, S. Taylor 1); **Nazy/Czech Republic - CIBC** 0 vs **Royal/Scotland - Barb Blaser Remax** 6 (M. Slack 3, C. Child 1, S. D'arcy 2);
U12B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Royal	10	3	1	31
Gold	8	4	2	26
Navy	7	5	2	23
Red	7	6	1	22
Sky	4	10	0	12
Orange	2	10	2	8

U12G T/Th - July 15 Red/Poland - Scotia Bank 1 (A. Cortese 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic- Gringler,Iskov, Lerner** 3 (C. Walker 1, M. Duguay 1, K. Dimatual 1); **Orange/Netherlands - Forever Young Hair Studio** 5 (H. Foss 1, M. Beltran 2, A. Giacomi 1, M. Quadrini 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Hartwell Thayer Financial Services Group** 1 (L. Seninara 1);
July 22 - Red/Poland - Scotia Bank 2 (P. Lau 1, J. Hookey 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Hartwell Thayer Financial Services** 2 (D. Pletsas 2); **Orange/Netherlands - Forever Young Hair Studio** 5 (B. Richards 2, M. Beltran 3) vs **Sky/Argentina - White Pine Renovations** 0; **Navy/Czech Republic** 7 (M. Duguay 3, R. Smith 2, C. Walker 2, T. Lerner 1, J. Kampen 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Innovative Fire Systems Inc** 2 (J. Vasilou 1, S. Murray 1);
July 29 - Red/Poland - Scotia Bank 4 (L. Schilter 1, J. Hookey 3) vs **White Pine**

Renovations 1 (D. Skolud 1); **Gold/Brazil - Hartwell Thayer Financial Services** 0 vs **Navy/Czech Republic - Gringler, Iskov, Lerner** 2 (M. Duguay 1, K. Dimatulac 1); **Orange/Netherlands - Forever Hair Studio** 2 (B. Richards 1, M. Quadrini 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Innovative Fire Systems Inc** 0;
Aug 12 - Navy/Czech Republic - Gringler, Iskov, Lerner 1 (K. Jones 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands - Forever Hair Studio** 1 (M. Beltran 1); **Royal/Scotland - Innovative Fire Systems Inc** 4 (S. Hendy 2, E. Fisher 2) vs **Red/Poland - Scotia Bank** 2 (A. Cortese 1, P. Lau 1);
U12G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	7	0	6	27
Navy	7	2	4	25
Sky	4	4	4	16
Red	2	5	6	12
Gold	2	6	4	10
Royal	2	7	4	10

U13B- No scores reported from the coach or convenor
U13B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Sky	11	1	1	34
Royal	7	3	3	24
Navy	6	6	1	19
Gold	5	7	1	16
Orange	4	9	0	12
Red	3	10	0	9

U13G M/W - July 2 - Gold/Brazil - Omars Shoes 0 vs **Orange/Netherlands** 2 (K. Nogueira 1, L. Hunter 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 1 (A. Iaboni 1) vs **Canadian Rite Rate** 6 (T. Mansillo 1, S. Pacione 1, T. Foote 1, I. Sortino 1); **Forest/Portugal** 5 (K. Camick 1, R. Lalsingh 1, K. McMullen 1, M. Luker 2) vs **Pink/Spain** 0; **Royal/Scotland** 0 vs **Sky/Argentina** 4 (R. Razak 2, K. Brock 2);
July 9 - Orange/Netherlands 2 (K. Nogueira 1, L. Hunter 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 1 (K. Camick 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 1 (K. Weller 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 3 (M. Mezza 2, S. Berube 1); **Red/Poland - Canadian Rite Rate** 2 vs **Royal/Scotland** 1;
July 16 - Gold/Brazil - Omars Shoes 0 vs **Red/Poland - Canadian Rite Rate** 4 (S. Pacione 1, I. Sartino 1, E. Scalise 1, H. O'Hara 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 4 (A. Iaboni 3, M. Sykula 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 3 (K. McMullen 1, L. Dynes 1, R. Lalsingh 1); **Royal/Scotland** 6 (J. Neudorf 1, S. Mester 1, C. Stupart 1, E. Topping 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 1 (N. Prsa 1); **Sky/Argentina** 3 (S. Berube 1, K. Brock 1, C. Debney 1) vs **Pink/Spain** 0;
U13G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	10	1	1	31
Sky	9	0	3	30
Royal	5	4	3	18
Orange	5	5	1	16
Navy	5	6	1	16
Forest	3	5	3	12
Gold	0	7	4	4
Fuschia	0	9	2	2

U14/15B T/Th - Divisional Sponsor Upper Canada Mall - July 8 - Sky/Argentina 4 (E. Cristillo 1, C. Freitas 1, G. Bauset 2) vs **Forest/Portugal** 5 (C. Hadley 5); **Gold/Brazil** 3 (C. Boyce 1, D. Perryman 1, M. Garner 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 3 (A. Partridge 2, C. Annear 1); **Orange/Netherlands** 7 (S. Glaysher 5, D. McConnell 2) vs **Silver/Austria** 7 (T. Brewer 5, J. Hudon 1, E. Abel 1); **Red/Poland** 0 vs **Royal/Scotland** 5 (L. Niblock 1, J. Bletcher 2, L. Judges 1, J. Custodio 1);
July 15 - Orange/Netherlands 2 (S. Glaysher 1, R. Evans 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 7 (A. Woodward 1, S. Dinning 3, B. Puskar 2, C. Hadley 3); **Navy/Czech Republic** 9 (C. Annear 2, B. Strachan 3, D. Melo 1, L. Driedger 1, A. Oliviera 3, R. Valvasori 1) vs **Red/Poland** 4 (D. Dilena 1, T. Nelson 1, D. Reil 1, L. Morra 1); **Silver/Austria** 10 (M. Zuber 1, R. Rival 1, A. Selski 1, T. Brewer 5, J. Schweinberger 2) vs **Sky/Argentina** 5 (E. Cristillo 2, A. Scott 3); **Gold/Brazil** 0 vs **Royal/Scotland** 5 (J. Bletcher 1, L. Judges 1, D. Kovacs 3, A. Pitura 1, S. Bromley 1, D. Montgomery 1);
July 22 - Forest/Portugal 8 (A. Woodward 1, M. Skoulikas 1, S. Dinning 4, B. Puskar 1, C.

Hadley 1) vs **Royal/Scotland** 5 (J. Bletcher 3, S. Fusco 1, D. Kovacs 1); **Sky/Argentina** 4 (E. Cristillo 2, G. Bauset 2) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 6 (C. Annear 2, L. Driedger 2, A. Oliviera 1, A. Patridge 1); **Silver/Austria** 1 (A. Kerezi 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 3 (C. Boyce 3); **Orange/Netherlands** 5 (D. McConnell 1, B. Long 4) vs **Red/Poland** 1 (D. Reil 1);
July 29 - Gold/Brazil 4 (M. Wooder 1, S. Sirbovan 1, M. Garner 2) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 4 (J. Eberlin 2, B. Long 2); **Navy/Czech Republic** 8 (C. Annear 4, A. Oliviera 3, B. Strachan 2) vs **Forest/Portugal** 3 (S. Dinning 2, A. Guimmarra 1); **Silver/Austria** 4 (E. Jones 1, J. Schweinberger 1, R. Rival 2) vs **Red/Poland** 1 (D. Reil 1); **Royal/Scotland** 0 vs **Sky/Argentina** 5 (K. Ozols 1, E. Cristillo 1, C. Freitas 2, A. Scott 1, G. Bauset 2, R. McFarlane 2);
Aug 12 - Gold/Brazil 10 (S. Sirbovan 4, C. Boyce 2, L. Battiston 2, J. Caruso 1, S. May 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 5 (P. Chung 1, C. Hadley 1, N. D'Souza 1, S. Castillo 1, A. Guimmarra 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 3 (L. Driedger 2, G. Bresani 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 4 (S. Glaysher 1, T. Cho 1, B. Long 2); **Red/Poland** 3 (D. Dilena 2, T. Nelson 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 4 (A. Scott 2, G. Bauset 1, J. Panopoulos 1);
U14/15B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	10	2	1	31
Silver	7	5	1	22
Forest	7	6	0	21
Sky	6	5	2	20
Gold	5	4	4	19
Royal	6	6	1	19
Orange	4	6	3	15
Red	1	12	0	3

U14/15G T/Th - July 10 - Fuschia/Spain - Dr. Weaver's Drillers 3 (C. Fulton 1, M. Nisbet 1, F. Ambrosie 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 5 (V. Partland 3, A. Rustico 1, C. Palandra 1); **Royal/Scotland - K.P Bronze** 0 vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 5 (A. Rulli 1, M. Masci 1, E. Wahab 1, S. Bilotta 2); **Gold/Brazil - Alutron Modules Inc** 2 (S. Cork 1, J. Arnew 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 2 (C. Faiello 2); **Sky/Argentina** 2 (J. Nerling 2) vs **Maroon/Japan** 2 (J. Staver 2); **Kelly/Russia** 2 (J. Bever 1, C. Layton 1) vs **Red/Poland - Chevlrier** 2 (D. Cantarutti 1, G. McIlraith 1);
July 17 - Sky/Argentina 1 (J. Nerling 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 2 (V. Partland 1, S. Yacoub 1); **Gold/Brazil - Alutron Modules Inc.** 0 vs **Royal/Scotland - K.P. Bronze** 4 (T. Dibartolanee 3, D. Oomen 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 2 (M. Bloom 2) vs **Red/Poland - Chevlrier** 3 (L. Rowbottom 1, D. Cantautti 1, G. McIlraith 1); **Orange/Netherlands** 3 (R. Knetsch 2, R. Swain 1) vs **Fuschia/Spain - Dr. Weaver's Drillers** 1 (F. Abrose 1); **Kelly/Russia** 0 vs **Maroon/Japan** 1 (J. Staver 1);
July 24 - Forest/Portugal 6 (S. Lerner 2, V. Partland 3, V. DelPlavignano 1) vs **Gold/Brazil - Alutron Modules Inc** 2 (A. Moffat 1, T. Askew 1); **Fuschia/Spain - Dr. Weaver's Drillers** 1 (M. Nisbet 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 2 (V. Cheung 1, B. Buckley 1); **Maroon/Japan** 1 (K. McGrath 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic** 3 (M. Blom 1, E. Wahab 1, B. Andrews 1);
July 31 - Sky/Argentina 3 (E. Wood 1, K. Hayes 1, V. Cheung 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - K.P Bronze** 1 (J. Costa 1); **Gold/Brazil - Alutron Modules Inc** 0 vs **Maroon/Japan** 2 (J. Stover 1); **Navy/Czech Republic** 1 (B. Andrews 1) vs **Forest/Portugal** 0; **Orange/Netherlands** 5 (R. Knetsch 4, A. Nikokic 1) vs **Kelly/Russia** 5 (C. Layton 3, J. McNamee 2); **Red/Poland - Chevlrier** 5 (L. Crowley 1, A. Morisani 1, D. Cantarutti 3) vs **Fuschia/Spain Dr. Weaver's Drillers** 0;
U14/15G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	8	2	2	26
Maroon	6	1	5	23
Forest	6	4	2	20
Sky	5	3	4	19
Royal	4	6	2	14
Fuschia	4	6	2	14
Red	3	5	4	13
Gold	4	7	1	13
Kelly	3	6	3	12
Orange	3	6	3	12

U16/18B Mon - July 7 - Navy/Czech Republic - Freshwave Chiropractic 8 (D. Bisogno 4, R. Joynt 1, M. Lerner 1, S. McCartney 1, D. White 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 3 (A. Colacitti 1, K. Nyithral 1, J. Russel 1); **Red/Poland - Port Royal Mills** 1 (M. Simeoni 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 5 (M. Mikhaili 3, M. Nealon 1, J. Pellarin 1); **Royal/Scotland - Dr. Orscel's Drillers** 5 (S. Biase 1, B. Cody 1, G. Iaboni 1, M. Kurktsci 1, G. Nych 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 2 (C. Iau 1, S. Park 1); **Sky/Argentina** 2 (I. Gasic 1, C. Lau 1) vs **Red/Poland - Port Royal Mills** 3 (H. Akbar 1, A. Silaev 1, M. Tocchet 1); **Gold/Brazil** 4 (M. Medieros 1, J. Russel 1, J. Gelder 2, N. Dinallo-Shut out) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 0; **Navy/Czech Republic - Freshwave Chiropractic** 1 (J. Uguccione 1) vs **Royal/Scotland - Dr. Orschel's Drillers** 5 (A. Cantarutti 1, B. Coady 1, G. Iaboni 1, R. Pizzurro 2); **Orange/Netherlands** 4 (E. DeRoos 1, M. D'Andrea 1, M. Mikhaili 1, M. Nealon 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 2 (K. Boettcher 1, J. Gonzalez 1); **Red/Poland - Port Royal Mills** 3 (M. Khamissa 2, K. Woods 1) vs **Navy/Czech Republic - Freshwave Chiropractic** 3 (D. Bisogno 1, M. Joynt 2); **Royal/Scotland - Dr. Orschel's Drillers** 3 (G. Iaboni 1, R. Pizzurro 1, T. Sandhaus 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 4 (M. Madeiros 1, K. Nyitrai 1, N. Whelan 2);
July 28 - Gold/Brazil 5 (J. Bentolila 2, C. DiVincenzo 1, M. Medeiros 1, N. Whelan 1) vs **Sky/Argentina** 2 (J. Gonzalez 1, M. Lamanna 1); **Navy/Czech Republic - Freshwave Chiropractic** 4 (D. Bisogno 2, J. White 1, M. Yeatman 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 3 (H. Kane 1, M. Mikhaili 1, M. Nealon 1); **Royal/Scotland - Dr. Orschel's Drillers** 2 (M. Kurkshi 1, G. Nych 1) vs **Red/Poland - Port Royal Mills** 0;
Aug 11 - Navy/Czech Republic - Freshwave Chiropractic 7 (D. Bisogno 4, M. Yeatman 3) vs **Sky/Argentina** 4 (T. Friars 1, J. Gonzalez 1, C. Lau 1, K. Town 1); **Red/Poland - Port Royal Mills** 4 (J. Sperduti 1, M. Tocchet 2, J. Yeung 1) vs **Gold/Brazil** 5 (M. Medieros 3, K. Nyithrai 1, J. Russel 1); **Royal/Scotland - Dr. Orschel's Drillers** 3 (B. Coady 1, F. Lenuzza 1, R. Pizzurro 1) vs **Orange/Netherlands** 6 (C. Charitou 1, E. DeRoos 1, S. Longhin 1, M. Mikhaili 3);
U16/18B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Royal	8	3	3	27
Navy	7	1	5	26
Gold	7	4	2	23
Orange	6	6	1	19
Sky	2	9	3	9
Red	2	9	2	8

U16/18G - Divisional Sponsor Upper Canada Mall- No scores reported from coach or convenor
U16/18G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	7	3	1	22
Navy	7	4	0	21
Royal	7	3	0	21
Sky	5	3	2	17
Fuschia	5	5	0	15
Orange	4	5	1	14
Forest	3	7	0	10
Gold	1	9	2	3

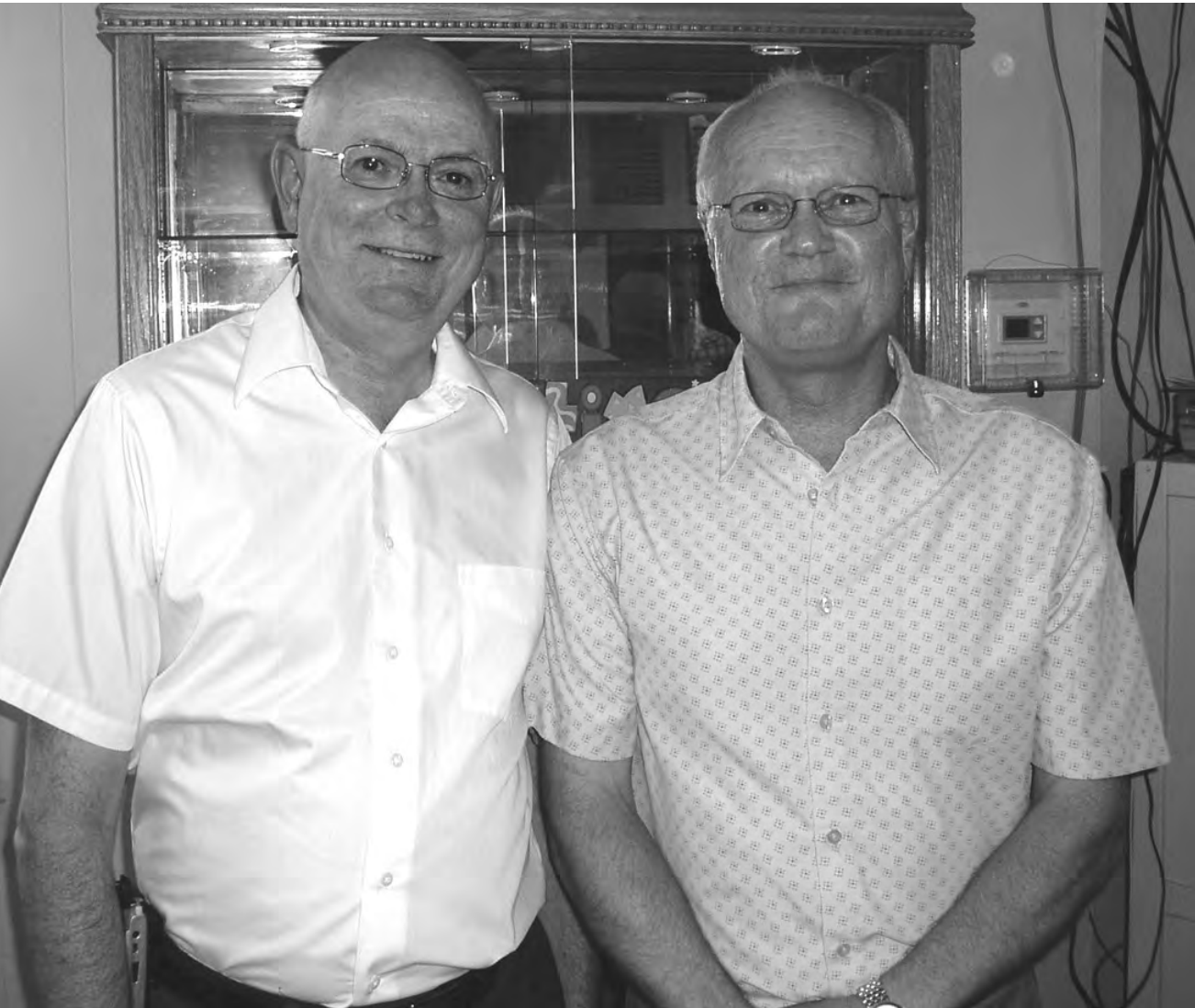
U19/25G - No scores reported from coach or convenor
U19/25G T/TH STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	11	1	0	33
Red	8	4	1	25
Sky	5	6	2	17
Navy	4	6	2	14
Royal	4	8	1	13
Gold	1	8	4	7

COMPETITIVE STINGERS RESULTS -

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Ken Bone, right, whose firefighting career started in July, 1975, was honoured Friday after he retired as deputy chief from the Central York Fire Services. With him is fire chief John Molyneaux. Ken started as a volunteer and became a full time firefighter in September, 1978. During his 33-year career he served as Aurora's deputy chief for a year prior to the amalgamation of the Aurora and Newmarket fire departments.

Photo by Grace Marsh

Centquar celebration honoured two events

In June, 1988, Aurora celebrated its 100th birthday as a town and 125 years as a village.

The event was known as the Centquar Celebrations.

A committee was established in 1987 with representatives from council, the Historical Society, the July First Committee and citizen members and was known as the Centquar Ad Hoc Committee for Aurora's "CENTury and a QUARter Celebrations".

The first event of the celebration was a picnic in the Town Park.

Citizens were encouraged to pack a picnic lunch and eat at the park starting at noon with music provided by a 31-piece military band.

A strawberry and ice cream dessert was available for 50 cents.

Aurora and District Historical Society members hosted tours of the town's historical areas.

There was an ecumenical service at 2.45 p.m. with participation by all town churches.

The following night the Centquar Ball was held at the Leisure Complex with participation by the July First Committee.

Aurora's Citizen of the Year, Norm Stewart, was introduced.

Other events included an exhibition of the Ontario Rhythm Cloggers and the appearance of the giant Town of Aurora Birthday Cake.

For the younger crowd there was the Battle of the Bands at the Community Centre.

The Town commissioned Aurora Artist Dorothy Clark McClure to prepare 500 limited edition plates with each plate

containing six original McClure watercolours depicting historical sites in Aurora.

Selected sites included Hillary House, Doane Hall, Church Street School, Aurora Railway Station, Old Town Hall and Downtown Aurora.

To wind up the anniversary year a Dinner Dance was held and for the first time in history all living Aurora Mayors were in attendance.

They included Ross Linton (1944-47), Dr. Crawford Rose (1948-1949 and 1952-1954), Keith Nisbet (1961-1963), Clarence Davis (1964-1968), Dick Illingworth (1969-1973 and 1982-1984), Evelyn Buck (1973-1976), George Timpson (1977- 1981) and John West (1985 -1991).

In carrying out research for the historic event, a question arose as to whether Aurora was celebrating its 125th or 134th birthday. Aurora was incorporated as a Village in 1863 and its first council elected.

But in 1854 Aurora was constituted as a Police Village under a bylaw adopted by the United Counties of York and Peel.

As a Police Village, Aurora was not an incorporated municipality but remained under the jurisdiction of Whitchurch and King Townships and three elected trustees administered the little hamlet.

Looking back over the years, Aurorans had much to recall and be proud about. Its glory days included welcoming the first steam train in Canada on May 16, 1853, and sheltering loyalists in McLeod's Inn after the 1837 rebellion.

Former Prime Minister

Lester B. Pearson got his educational start in Aurora when his father, Rev. Edwin Pearson, was minister at the Aurora Methodist Church.

National ski team members Karen and Brian Stemmler, and international Olympic equestrian Jim Elder call Aurora home.

The town also claims Joseph Fleury as the well-known manufacturer of the Fleury plow sold Canada-wide and acclaimed as best in the field.

In 1953 the Town celebrated the Centennial of the arrival of the first steam train in Upper Canada.

The Town celebrated its Centennial as a Village in 1963 with many special events.

An Aurora Centennial Coin was minted featuring a locomotive commemorating the first train and the flames of the rising sun to honour the Goddess of the Dawn.

As part of the Centennial Celebrations a Chain of Office for the Mayor was commissioned and was first worn by the late Mayor Keith Nisbet.

Then, in 1969, Aurora declared the municipality to be Canada's Birthday Town with a giant Civic Birthday Party to celebrate Canada's birthday which has continued to this date.

There have been many other memorable events over the years from hosting the Little NHL Tournament, the Firefighters' Annual Convention, the International Soccer Tournament of the Auroras and the friendship visits with Aurora's twin municipality, Leksand, Sweden.

There's no wonder Aurora is called "My Kind of Town".

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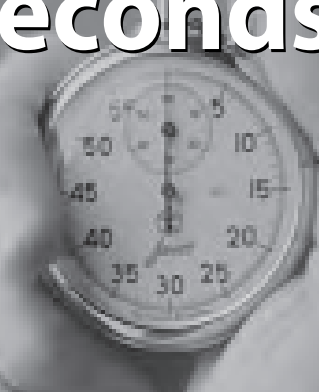
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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

Here’s an idea that’s worth considering

It has been said that local government is the closest to the people and is the grass-roots of democracy.

The people elected to local councils are neighbours.

They are seen on the streets or shopping in the stores and they are accessible.

Yet the voter turnout at municipal elections is dismal and the 2003 municipal election indicated a growing trend in voter apathy.

It hit a new low of 25 per cent in the Town of East Gwillimbury where the mayor was acclaimed and a high of 50 per cent in King Township where the battle over growth and the “Big Pipe” were major issues.

In Vaughan, Newmarket and Aurora where the incumbent mayors were challenged by newcomers the turnout was 31 per cent in Vaughan and Newmarket and 33 per cent in Aurora.

Following the election, then Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor established a committee to research and attempt to understand the problem of voter apathy in municipal elections.

The committee was comprised of four current or past politicians and about eight citizens with a schedule for a report to council prior to the 2006 municipal election.

The turnout for the 2006 election was 35 per cent, up four per cent from 2003 and there was a question if it was worth the \$25,000 cost of the research and study, but it was seen as a start.

There's still two years left until the 2010 municipal election and it might be a good idea for Aurora Council to follow the Newmarket example and create an Ad Hoc Election Task Force to investigate why seven out of 10 people don't bother to vote at municipal elections.

Just a thought.

LOCATING THE CHAMBER OFFICE

Over the years the office for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce has been in several locations and by June, 1985, it was located in the Old Town Hall on Yonge Street.

At the time, it was staffed by local high school student, Kim Murray.

During the fall of 1984 the developer for Lakeview Estates announced that their sales trailer would be donated to the town for use as a tourism office or possibly a home for the Chamber of Commerce.

The developer said he would pay the cost of moving the trailer to a site to be selected.

Some years earlier, the Ministry of Transportation had acquired property at the southeast corner of Vandorf Road and Yonge Street in order to shift the alignment of Vandorf Road to the south in order to provide adequate sight lines.

Arrangements were made with the Ministry for the town to use the unused por-

tion of the property to accommodate the development sales trailer as a home for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

By October, 1985, the sales trailer was in place at the intersection with a temporary sign announcing it was the new home of the Aurora Chamber.

Rosalyn Gonsalves was general manager.

The town-owned building was leased to the Chamber for \$2 per year.

Later the province downloaded the section of Yonge Street running through York Region to the region and in February, 2002, regional council agreed to the transfer of land on which the trailer was located to the town.

After spending 17 years in the deteriorating trailer, the staff moved into the old Victoria Street Library while the trailer was demolished to make way for a new 1,400 square foot office building which was ready for occupancy in December, 2002

In July, 2001, Aurora Council approved an expenditure of \$25,000 to purchase the property from the region which was then leased to the Chamber for 20 years.

The Chamber replaced the building at its cost as money had been set aside over the years, but it needed a long-term lease.

EXOTIC BIRDS IN AURORA

Aurora's Bert Post didn't have to travel too far to view exotic birds as he had a virtual United Nations of warblers in his backyard, including African love birds, Bengalese finch, Chinese quail, Indian diamond doves and Australian cockatiels and budgies in his menagerie of about 70 birds,

No stranger to the animal kingdom, the McDonald Drive resident was a policy development supervisor with the wildlife branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources, although bird species was not part of his responsibilities.

He is a bird fancier and has been for several years.

Born in the Netherlands, he was six years old when he took some sparrows under his wing, so to speak.

He moved to Aurora in 1968 and at first kept birds native to Ontario and then branched out to other world-wide birds.

Neighbourhood children and adults often dropped by to watch and even hold the birds and Mr. Post was only too happy to oblige.

Where are the birds today?

DID SWIMMING POOL WHEELCHAIRS EVER COME?

In May, 2005, the Accessibility Advisory Committee inspected a sample swimming pool wheelchair and was impressed with its versatility, which included removable and adjustable foot and arm rests, a comfortable seat and its mobility.

The committee agreed that staff mem-

bers should purchase one for the pool at the Leisure Complex and another for the Aurora Recreation Complex when it became operational.

Did that ever happen?

BEST 1978 CADET

The Queen's York Rangers Cadet Corps

held its annual inspection in May, 1978, at the Aurora Legion parking lot with Wing Commander Dick Illingworth as Reviewing Officer.

Warrant Officer William Nicholson was selected as the Top Cadet and received the trophy from W/C Illingworth as Commanding Officer of the Corps, Major Bert Jacques, looked on.

Cable shows terminate

From page 1

Chorus.

“They said our show was cancelled due to lack of resources - whatever that means - and something about not enough viewers,” he said.

“Our Town” started in 1976 when Mary Blackwell, then general manager of Jarmain Cable, now Rogers Cable TV in Newmarket invited Mr. Illingworth to participate in the station's live coverage of the 1976 Newmarket municipal election.

At that time he was employed with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and was asked to provide background about the Municipal Elections Act and other legislation dealing with municipal elections.

He was invited back for the 1978 municipal elections

and this time became more involved in the program to the extent of interviewing candidates, whether they won or lost.

Then for the 1980 municipal election he wondered why he was going to Newmarket when there was a cable station in Aurora.

At that time Ron Wallace was editor of the Aurora Banner and was very interested in the project as a joint effort between The Banner and Aurora Cable.

Aurora Cable owner Jim Irvine was also very interested and said the station could provide the equipment and technical staff if Wallace and Illingworth would be the on-air hosts, to which they agreed.

They also agreed that if they were going to telecast the election results, they should interview all the candidates before the election and a series of programs was arranged.

As a result of public support and with the encouragement of Mr. Irvine they decided to host a weekly show which they named “Our Town” designed to make citizens more aware of the people, the organizations and the events that helped to make up Aurora.

The first “Our Town” was telecast in November, 1980, and featured Bud Rodger, CAO of Aurora.

Shortly afterwards due to a transfer to an Etobicoke paper, it became necessary for Wallace to leave the show leaving Illingworth as the sole host and except for short breaks during the summer months, “Our Town” was telecast every week featuring local non-profit and charity organizations and their work in the community.



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For more information, please visit www.york.ca or call **1-800-215-4060**



By BRIAN WARBURTON

Centre gears up for autumn

September is almost upon us and as I look at the activities for September, I find the Dance Committee has scheduled Friday evening, September 5th and 19th, commencing at 8 p.m. to get the dance season underway.

We have had a good summer so far even if a little damp and I look forward to a good fall.

Dancing in the West-McKenzie Hall to big time dance music, presented by the accomplished Charles Sequeira, is a persuasive reason to accept the approach of fall and to enjoy life as it unfolds, one day at a time, and to make the most of it.

For those artistically inclined and seeking an outlet for hands-on activities with others who have creative talent also in need of expression, an introduction activity is offered titled, "Let's Create".

This will be offered in the craft room each Wednesday at 1 p.m., starting September 3rd and will focus initially, on easy and affordable projects.

If you have any desire and a little talent, please join us and show some of what you can do and enjoy seeing what others can do.

And then, just possibly, find yourself interested and excited beyond your imagination with new thought-provoking friends and the expression of more of your innate gifts.

Many people possess qualities from birth which unfortunately are neither recognized nor expressed ever, so even though you may be daunted just a little or even a lot, give yourself the opportunity and let good things happen.

For more information, call Carol at 905-713-2573.

"A Celebration of Culture" is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10th, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., which translates into a food festival involving the tasting of a wide array of food samples from around the world.

Great interest is always apparent where culinary delights are presented and allow the flavours and sophisticated food styles originating in far off cultures, to be fashioned specially for us and made accessible at the ASA.

The ASA, which is the preferred "Port of Call" to so many of us, will be a hot bed of seniors, where the art and appreciation for judging and savouring good food, is a gastronomic pastime beloved by all.

Two seminars will be available at this attractive and compelling food event, plus live entertainment.

Incidentally, the new Town Fall 2008 Leisure Guide is available and many of the programs listed are available at the ASA.

Early registration is always recommended.

You may obtain more information at the ASA or by calling Virginia Ciuffo at 905-727-3123, ext. 3610.

The ASA is equipped with a great commercial style kitchen, and Bill and Mary Higgins, who operate it, are gearing up for fall, after the summer holiday months.

They have a loyal, dedicated and reliable group of seniors to operate the kitchen and all of them deserve our respect for what they accomplish regularly and so cheerfully.

Now they invite us all to join them for barbecue lunches between 11.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. every Thursday, for something special from the grill.

The Book Club returns on September 8th.

The club, under the direction of Flo Murray, meets twice a month on the second and fourth Mondays at 1.30 p.m. in the reading room.

One book a month is reviewed and the Aurora Arts and Culture fund has assisted with approximately half the costs since 1998.

It is worthy of comment to note that the book club has been popular to the point of full capacity on occasion, so if books are of compelling interest, show up September 8th and ensure your place.

Each Friday afternoon starting at 1 p.m., the ASA offers Canasta, Bingo, Pickle Ball and in the pool room, Snooker and Billiards for women with instruction if required.

These are pleasant and enjoyable pastimes in which anyone can participate and it is incredibly easy to meet new friends and bond quickly.

The musical performance of a "Celtic Autumn Concert", scheduled for Sunday, October 19th, starring Sarah Kyle and Joe Likuski, is being created for the Aurora Seniors Association.

This is a concert filled with the beautiful rhythms and sounds of Celtic culture, and is sure to captivate all who have an ear for a style of music, whose origins are rooted deeply in Celtic customs and traditions from the distant past.



Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees, right, receives a "Bowl For Kids Sake" recognition plaque from Maddy Nichol, manager of fund development for Big Brothers Big Sisters of York. The MPP led one of three champion teams in the recent 2008 event which raised more than \$200,000 for children of York Region. The event was held at Aurora's Gateway Bowl, corner of Edward Street and Dunning Avenue.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Reading Buddies program looking for volunteers

The Aurora Public Library is now accepting applications from volunteers for the fall session of the Reading Buddies Program.

A Reading Buddy is a library-based program for children who have difficulty reading at their grade level.

Children between the ages of seven and 12 will meet with a high school volunteer once a week for a one-hour session, which continues for 10 weeks.

Reading Buddies will concentrate on reading for pleasure and together enjoy activities that promote reading and writing.

The high school volunteers can earn hours towards their community service while making a contribution to the life of

a child.

Applications for high school volunteers and children are available online and in the Children and Young Adult Department and applications are due August 30.

For further information click on www.library.aurora.on.ca or phone the Library at 905-727-9493.



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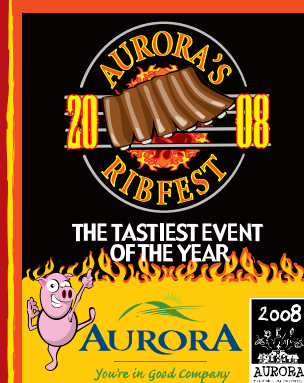
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Dr. Renate Grotzsch, General Medicine

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