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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 8 No. 47 905-727-3300 auroran.com FREE Week of September 30, 2008

Mitchell resigns

Twenty-five year veteran at Aurora Cable Internet, Steve Mitchell, has resigned.

Currently Rogers' supervising producer, Mitchell will stay with Rogers until Friday, October 17, so he can help provide coverage of the October 14 federal election.

In a note to The Auroran, Mitchell said, "I have decided to leave Rogers on my own accord. All is good...I have no hard feelings whatsoever. The timing was right for a change."

Mitchell started working as a volunteer doing camera work for Aurora minor hockey telecasts for Aurora Cable almost 30 years ago.

In 1981, while he was still in school, he was hired by the Jim Irvine-owned company to work in playback and master control, and two years later, after graduating from school, Mitchell was promoted to station manager.

That's the position he held until Rogers took over the operation of Aurora Cable in the summer.

An avid Aurora Tigers hockey fan, he was instrumental in bringing Junior A hockey to the Cablescreen, and covered many of Aurora's games as they marched to two national championships a few years ago.

Current station manager for York Region Rogers Television Lisa Stellick noted Mitchell's love for sports.

"He enjoys the adrenalin rush of live television and will miss covering the Aurora Tigers home games," she said.

"In the immediate future there will be some challenges as we plan and adjust for this change and we will do our best to ensure that our operation will continue to run smoothly," she told staff members when she announced Mitchell's resignation.



A graffiti clean-up day in Aurora, held last week, has been termed a huge success. Volunteers, ranging from students to seniors, attended the event and managed to remove most of the graffiti from walls and windows throughout the course of the day. In the top photo, youngsters from Aurora High School, work on the wall of Bacon Basketware on Temperance Street, near Wellington, while the bottom picture shows some of the people who showed up to work standing in front of equipment used to rid the graffiti from Aurora walls. York Regional Police sent helpers. Aurora councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas, second from right in the front row, chaired a graffiti committee that came up with the clean-up idea.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

Briefly

New column

Finally.

The Auroran has been, for the last eight years, offering space to the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion to submit a regular column.

This week, it starts.

The column, written by executive member Ian Sweet, appears on Page 12.

Sweet is Branch 385's Public Relations Officer and he agreed to try his hand at the column. It will appear monthly to start.

Now, if we can just convince the Legion to install a permanent flame to honour Fred Tilston, who the Legion is named after, our mission will be complete.

Colours of Fall

If you'd like to enjoy an evening of fiddling, pumpkin carving, live entertainment, accompanied by an old fashioned community corn roast, here's an idea.

The Town of Aurora will hold a Colours of Fall concert in the Town Park Thursday, October 9 beginning at 6 p.m. and continuing until 8 p.m.

Of course a nominal fee will apply for the corn roast.

Donations to the Aurora Food Pantry will be warmly accepted.

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Principal of Wells Street School, Barbara Nemoy, helps Aurora M & M franchisee Greg Foster flip burgers last week as the school, even though its students are at Aurora Grove on Stone Road, held its annual Meet the Teacher/Curriculum night. For 90 minutes, the school staff prepared and served a barbecue to parents and students. Students were moved from the old school on Wells Street while the York Region District School Board determines if it is safe to use. The building, originally constructed in 1892, served as Aurora's first high school.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Aurora high schoolers still accessing illegal cigarettes

According to a recent study by the Canadian Convenience Stores Association, 45 per cent of teen smokers in Aurora are getting continuous access to illegal cigarettes, while the provincial average is only 26 per cent.

Squadron plans biathlon event

The 166 Bulldog Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets have submitted an application for the use of Aurora's fitness centre for the squadron's first biathlon event to be held October 4.

A bad weather date has been set for October 25th.

The event will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the competition beginning at 8 a.m. on the day of the event.

It is planned to use the east side of the parking lot for the range and a running track will be set up behind the facility.

The use of two rooms inside the facility has been requested for competitors to store their equipment.

The study was conducted around 10 high schools in the region, including Aurora High School and Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School.

In York Region, a total of 1,244 cigarette butts were collected from the total of 10 high schools. 31% per cent the collected cigarette butts were found to be illegal.

"The school does as much as it can to provide notices and information about healthy life choices," said Williams principal David McAdam.

Information on the effects of smoking is provided in the student agenda book, special assemblies, and health and science classes.

All York Region schools ban smoking.

"We have to look at why there's as much supply and demand on something illegal and potentially fatal," he said. "These decisions are choices made well beyond the school."

The principal believes, "While the study is important in pointing to the behaviour of a segment of our society, it

doesn't matter if the cigarettes are legal or illegal. The question is how we can work together to promote good decision-making."

Contraband cigarettes sell for much cheaper prices, but with no government inspection.

Police still searching for two gem thieves

York Regional Police are still on the lookout for two men who robbed an Aurora jewelry store of more than one million dollars worth of gems last week.

Police said the two men accosted two employees who were opening Jewellery By Design on Bayview Avenue last Sunday morning.

The two suspects, both male, rushed the employees and forced them into the store where they were forced to open a safe.

"A large quantity of jewelry was taken," according to a police report, but The Auroran has learned the value of the missing jewels could top the million-dollar mark.

According to police, the suspects fled through the rear door in an unknown direction.

One of the victims suffered minor injuries but did not require medical treatment.

Opening the store were a 57-year-old man and a 24-year-old woman.

Police are asking for public assistance in locating the two suspects.

Both are white males,

between the ages of 25 and 35, and each is about six feet tall.

One wore a white long-sleeved t-shirt and jeans, while the other was wearing a long-sleeved dark t-shirt, black baseball hat, blue jeans and white running shoes.

Anyone with informa-

tion is asked to call York Regional Police hold-up unit at 1-866-876-5423, extension 6630, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS or leave an anonymous tip on line at www.1800222tips.com.

Jewellery By Design is located at 15340 Bayview Avenue, north of Wellington Street East.

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Poor Richard

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

You're only young once, editor learns

ED. NOTE: Back in August, when Dick Illingworth went into hospital, the editor wrote a piece to fill this hole. But Dick came out of the hospital, and had his own submission. Now, Dick is back in hospital again, so the editor resurrected the piece and presents it here. Keep in mind, it was written in August.

By RON WALLACE
Auroran editor

While Dick Illingworth is resting comfortably at Southlake Regional Health Centre ("frankly, I'm bored," he said), I get to fill in all his spaces this week.

So, I'll tell you a story.

Wednesday night, after we learned there were no seats left at a movie we wanted to see, four of us decided to go bowling.

They say the sport of bowling is a dying art.

They're right. Two games later, I was nearly dead.

We ventured into Gateway Lanes on Edward Street in Aurora and quickly signed up.

Now, I have to tell you...I'm a trophy-winning bowler...from my high school days.

Unfortunately, now I'm 64, and I couldn't, as we used to say when we were much younger, "hit the broad side of a barn door".

My second game was lower than my first.

Neither game - five-pin - was over 100 points...a far cry from a 450-point perfect score.

Things have obviously changed since the last time I went bowling.

"Where's the sheet to keep score?" I asked no one in particular.

"On the wall, above your head," came a response from somewhere.

Sure enough, there was my name, along with my three companions, and five frames laid out for all to see. When you filled that up, the scoresheet would automatically move over a frame.

All done by computer.

Every time you knocked down a pin - certainly not a regularity with me - the computer would count it on the wall...and everyone could see how badly you were doing.

At one time, I could throw a ball down the right side of the alley, with enough force and spin that just before it arrived at the head pin, it would "break" to the left, and I'd record yet another strike.

I tried that last week.

It didn't work.

The ball, once it hit the alley, "broke" immediately and usually wound up going down the left side gutter.

Once, many years ago, I would make a few extra pennies being a "pin-boy", and I would laugh at bowlers who threw "gutter balls".

Thank heavens the days of pin-boys are behind us, because had there been one, he'd still be laughing.

I say "he" with all due respect, because I never once saw a female set pins. Which, of course, doesn't mean they didn't.

I just never saw one.

Nor did I ever hear of any bowling alley hiring "pin-girls".

My biggest shock about bowling was the fact there was no "slide" to the delivery.

Once I had "form".

I'd take a couple of steps toward the foul line, slide a bit, and deliver the ball.

I tried that and nearly wound up doing a "face plant" on the alley.

I actually thought my bowling shoes came equipped with brakes.

At the end of the second game, with a score worse than the first, I quit and four of us found a patio on Yonge Street where the beer was cold and who cared if it was raining!!



In this photo, believed taken in the early 20th Century, tennis was played on the north lawn of Hillary House, 15372 Yonge Street. Some of the participants are shown here. The house is one of Aurora's national treasures and is currently owned and maintained by the Aurora Historical Society. The ink wasn't dry on last week's Auroran, when we learned who the unnamed boy in the bottom right of the photo is. His sister, among others, told us it was Bruce Kirbyson. Dave Watson, who is in the top row, second from left, sent us a note that said "according to the names that my mother put on the back of my copy of the class photos from Wells Street School, the boy in the bottom right corner is Bruce Kirbyson". We're convinced it's Bruce and we think the teacher - Miss Fyfe - is going to get plenty of mail.

Letters to the Editor

This riding is definitely a two-party reality: reader

To the editor,

Re: "Is Tim Conservative, reader asks", letter to the editor, The Auroran, Sept. 23.

Sorry, Mark Warburton, that you feel the way you do about Tim Jones, and the fact that he so willingly works with people of all political stripes.

It seems Mark would have preferred Tim to snub anyone with differing viewpoints.

As Mayor of Aurora, Tim Jones worked hard to build productive relationships with all who

could contribute to a better Aurora.

He has always impressed me with his openness, fairness and approachability.

Mark says he want to protest by voting Green.

The Green Party has much in common with the Liberal platform, but in this riding, the reality is we have a two-party race.

Hence a vote for Green increases the chance of the Conservatives here in Newmarket-Aurora.

Does Mark want to see more of the mean-spirited methods used by Steven Harper, et al?

Does he want to give a majority to a Harper team that developed and enforced a 200-page book on how to prevent Parliamentary Committees from functioning?

I don't know about Mark, but I want my representatives to work together with a spirit of

co-operation for the better good of Aurora and Canada.

I hope most voters will think through this issue, and see the dangers of inadvertently giving Harper's team a mandate.

Wendy Ellison
Aurora

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Advertising policy

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

She thanks many for season success of baseball league

To the editor,

On behalf of the Aurora Ladies Softball Association, I would like to say thank you to the fans who show up week after week and cheer for all the teams on Wednesday nights at the Town Park.

Thanks also to the people who organize the concerts as some of the concert goers do stop by and watch while listening to the music.

Also thank you to Judy Sherin at the Town of Aurora for her time spent scheduling diamonds and preparing the

permits and Kirk Corkery who arranges and schedules the umpires.

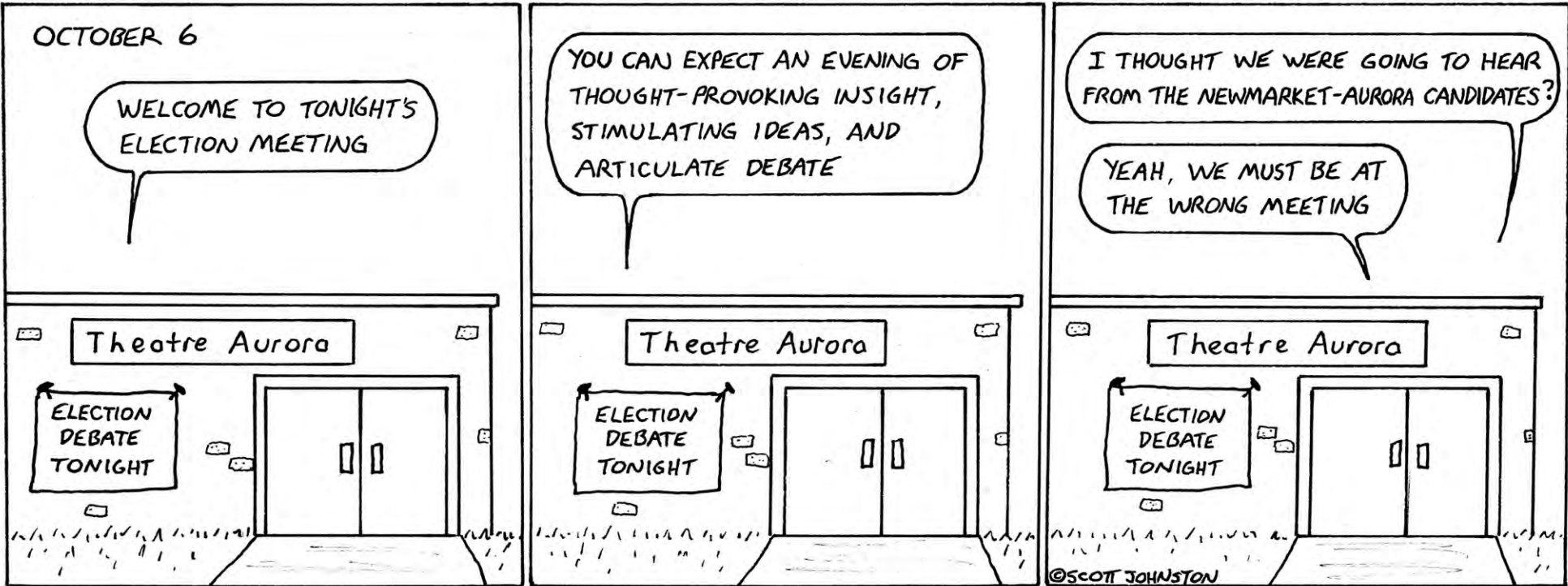
As well a thank you to Kevin Finch of the Aurora Farmers' Market who stayed open later to supply food to our players and fans for our final tournament on September 13.

It is greatly appreciated by all.

Hope to see you all in May, 2009, for another season.

Thanks again.

Sheila Tipton
Aurora



Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

There was an article in last week's Toronto Star about a Woodbridge school that has reinstated lunch bag checks to make sure food is nut and egg free because a number of pupils have life-threatening allergies.

The article talks about the fact that the six families who launched a human rights complaint last year argue that their children's severe allergies are a "disability" that should obligate their school to screen lunches for peanuts, eggs and any other food trigger.

The parents say there's still a "toxic environment" at the school and their children are still subject to intimidation and harassment there.

The story noted that "last school year, nuts were placed on the stairs of a portable during school hours and another was egged. All six students with the allergies had classes in portables."

This column is not about taking sides; rather it's to provide two personal perspectives on this issue.

Growing up, I couldn't even remember anyone in the school, let alone my class, who had allergies.

Oh sure, a couple of kids had asthma - and I would occasionally see them using the inhalers.

We were allowed to bring whatever we wanted for lunch, good 'ole peanut butter and jam was the mainstay of my diet.

I would take apart my sandwich and, when the lunch monitor wasn't there, compete with my fellow students to see who get their sandwich to stick to the ceiling for the longest time.

We would also trade our sandwiches for other sandwiches or better yet for different hockey cards.

I even tried to trade one of my brothers for a prosciutto meat and cheese sandwich!

Fast forward to last May.

My wife notices that our three and half year old son's face is becoming flushed, his skin is breaking into hives and his eyes are very red.

We weren't sure what was happening. Julie washes his face a couple of times and he seems fine.

She takes Ryan to the doctor the next day; my son is diagnosed with mild allergies to shellfish but has life-threatening allergies to peanuts and could go into anaphylactic shock if he comes into contact with them.

What is anaphylaxis?

According to a recent issue of Today's Parent, "Anaphylaxis is an extreme allergic reaction - the body's most vigorous defence against a substance it deems harmful. The immune system goes into overdrive, firing out a chemical cocktail that can produce anything from a relatively minor tingling and swelling of the tongue to vomiting, difficulty breathing, a drop in blood pressure, loss of consciousness and death.

"When anaphylaxis hits, an emergency shot of epinephrine will buy time until medical help arrives, and it can be administered by anyone who has had a bit of prior instruction and access to the allergic person's auto-injector (EpiPen is a widely used name brand)."

My son now wears a MedicAlert bracelet and we have a number of EpiPen's that go where he goes.

Even at this point, it did not really register with me how serious this situation could be, until I read about what happened to

a 40-year-old man who was on holidays with his dad in Acapulco.

The 65-year-old father and his son were on a holiday and having some drinks at the bar when all of a sudden the son had an anaphylactic shock to some remnants of peanuts that he ingested by mistake. The son died a violent and tragic death; all in a few minutes.

So, I am now totally engaged. Where I used to bring - if I was not going out for lunch - a peanut butter sandwich 90 days out of 100, the house is now empty of all peanut or peanut related things.

We also make sure we read the labels for anything.

Our hope is that Ryan would grow out of this as he gets older but the probability of this happening is not high.

So, we just try to make him aware that he can't just eat anything he wants - he needs to check with us first.

Back to the debate at the Woodbridge school.

The Today's Parent article framed the questions well: "Who is responsible for keeping allergic children safe? Does it take a total school ban on any food with the potential to kill, even those labeled "may contain" for the manufacturers' own protection? Or does the responsibility fall to allergic children and their families to find ways to cope with the ever-present danger?"

In my book, the best way to deal with this is by educating the teachers and the children as to what these allergies are all about and also pointing out the tragic consequences that can befall anyone having an anaphylactic reaction.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

People think that four-letter words are bad and I agree.

Words like "golf" and "work" can impede a couple's ability to spend quality time together doing important things like cleaning out the garage.

They are dangerous and should be banned, don't you think?

And while we're at it, let's not miss the forest for the trees.

When it comes to relationships, I am thinking some four-word sentences are even worse!

One of the most disappointing things that a woman can confess to a man is: "I forgot your beer"...while his buddies are on their way over.

Aurora is getting bigger but we still have only one beer store and isn't it odd that every road that leads to it is riddled with pylons, stop signs, traffic lights, pot holes, speed humps or all of the above?

These things are such a hazard for fire trucks and beer drinkers, don't you think? Somebody should do something...

In the meantime, back to the agony of four-word sentences.

Here's a biggie: "We need to talk".

Spoken by a woman to a man, this is probably the most dreaded and potentially devastating of all sentences in the English language - and marriage.

Men will do anything to avoid it, including golf for three days straight, work for seven days straight, and invite their mothers to visit.

Translated, it means I am about to tell you everything you ever did wrong in your entire life (from the age of two even though I wasn't born yet) and usually encompasses several other four-word sen-

tences like: "It's all your fault!", "You are always wrong!", and "I hate your mother!"

Sometimes the "We need to talk" conversation happens after the woman asks "How do I look?" and the man responds "Are you wearing that?" which, of course, is the wrong answer.

Ask any man who has ever made this mistake and he will tell you what it's like to sleep in a doghouse for a millennium. Very not good...

Other times, the dreaded conversation can be precipitated by the man asking the question, most notably "Did you gain weight?" Hello? You didn't notice when I made all those nice red meat dinners but you noticed I didn't go to the gym? How does that work???

Also to be avoided are:

Starting with: "Pass me the remote."

It will end with: "We need to talk."

Starting with: "Where is my wallet?"

It will end with: "We need to talk."

Do you really want to go there? Noooo....

So don't even think about asking: "How much was that?"

It will most definitely end with: "We need to talk."

For the record, when a sentence begins with "I bought a (fill in the blank)", the fourth word is different for women and men.

For women, it usually ends in minor items such as shoes (this is a storage problem and not a relationship issue, so don't get confused), furniture (a necessity) or perhaps a dog (vital for protection even if it weighs less than a cat and looks like a kitten when full grown).

All minor items...obviously!

For men, the sentence usually ends in major financial disasters such as boat, car, golf membership or fish finder.

When a woman says "I bought a (fill in the blank)", she will usually add "It was on sale", maybe even "it was half price".

If she says "I always wanted one" a man should immediately gush, flood or otherwise ooze approval because flattery will greatly improve his emotional and spiritual life and financial disaster really is a small price to pay, don't you agree?

Sadly, some men struggle with this and take it too far - far enough to elicit the "don't you love me?" response and the "it makes me happy" defence.

Very not good...he will suffer needlessly, poor soul! Clearly his mother didn't raise him right...

If a man dares speak the "I bought a (fill in the blank)" sentence to his wife, he can expect her full arsenal of four-word sentences in rapid fire fashion, starting with "what were you thinking?" progressing to "have you gone mad? And I married you? What was I thinking?" and concluding with "you are a (fill in the blank)!"

When she's done, the man will be fully informed as to how she really feels, but that won't stop her from telling him again...and again...and again.

And, of course, that means that he will be cleaning out the garage all by himself instead of golfing...for years.

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

Allergies at school

Four-word sentences

Letters to the Editor

Goodbye to the little guy, reader says

To the editor,

Response to K. Carter's letter to the editor, The Auroran, week of September 23

I read with great interest the letter of K. Carter ("Big Guy Gobbles Up Competition") and thought it was time to throw something out there.

I personally was saddened at the news of Aurora Cable Internet (ACI) being bought out by the Rogers Communications conglomerate.

Since the early '60s, Aurora Cable has been supplying the residents of Aurora with not only fine cable service, but also

local programming on Cable 10.

My parents' house was one of the first houses in Aurora to be hooked up to this fancy new way of watching TV in the '60s.

I have personally had affiliation with Aurora Cable for more than 25 years.

This family-owned business (Jim Irvine et al) has been loyal to this town for more than four decades and time had come for that era of Aurora's history to end.

The Irvines had been a "sty in the eye" of the Rogers empire for a very long time and Ted Rogers was finally victorious in rounding up another small, privately owned cable

provider to strengthen their stranglehold on the communications industry.

If anyone can remember Jarmain Cable in Newmarket, then you'll know that was purchased quite some time ago by Rogers.

And if you ask anyone from Newmarket where or when their local programming went, the answer would be the same for both questions.

It went out the door when Rogers came in.

The same thing is happening to ACI.

Rogers has already brought down the axe on a number of Cable 10 programs, with, I would guess, many more to follow.

For all the shut ins and elderly Aurorans that for years could watch the July 1st and Santa Claus parades along with numerous other local programs on Cable 10, I believe those days are numbered.

I have seen letters to the editor in The Auroran wishing ACI "good riddance" with the news of Rogers on the horizon.

Little do these wise individuals, so happy to see ACI go and Rogers come, know what is in store for them.

After a few months of "glad hand shaking" and hardy slaps on the back saying "Welcome to the family" and "everyone is doing a great job", the other shoe is going to fall

and Ted Rogers will make an application to the CRTC for a rate increase.

And he'll get it, too, stating that he must bring his new acquisition into line with all his other areas' pricing.

No more small town great pricing and fine customer service.

Nope, that has all been left in the backroom to gather dust.

When you called ACI for any reason, you got a local person, in Aurora.

That call will now go to a central call centre, most likely to someone that will have to look Aurora up on the map.

Will the service that was so loyally provided to residents of Aurora continue at the level it currently is?

I would think NOT! It's already been stated on the ACI (Rogers) webpage that the programming on the cable service WILL CHANGE.

Anyone with ACI internet service knows we have one of the fastest cable internet services in the country (nine megs per second).

Now check the Rogers webpage and see what is the fastest you can order up.

A little less than what we have now.

Do you think that is going to change?

Anyone who has the Aurora Cablephone will know it's a great alternative to Ma Bell.

Think that will remain in place for very long?

Even though Rogers offers up a VoIP service, try and find it on their Rogers webpage. (It's there, I know because I found it. But they don't want you to know it's available.)

They want everyone to sign up for Rogers Home Phone service.

The demise of a small locally owned cable company is now in the history books.

The giant in the communications industry has won again.

But there ARE alternatives out there, in all areas of the industry, cable, internet AND Cable Phone (VoIP).

These alternatives are far cheaper than what you will find once everything is switched over to the Rogers platform.

You can expect that to be sometime around December (nice Christmas present, eh?) or in January, 2009.

I would expect opportunities for those alternatives to be popping up anytime soon. Watch for them!

Mark Holmes
Aurora

Tuition expensive: reader

To the editor,

The cost of sending your son or daughter to university or college is soaring and the present day federal Conservative government is not

addressing this issue.

It costs approximately \$5,600 a year, to enroll into a general arts program and that cost could be much higher if the student is registered in engineering, nursing,

or law.

If a student has to move away from home and live in a residence to attend university, the cost of the whole year, with books, is approximately \$15,000.

Post secondary education is a responsibility for both the provincial and federal government to fund. However, Ontario has been severely underfunded by the federal government's transfer payments, while the Harper government has been in office.

In Ontario, OSAP, a loan program, exists to help lower income students finance their education. However, the cut off point for this loan program is not very realistic. Often middle income parents do not qualify. This social class, the bulk of our population, continues to face debt with mortgage payments, car loans and day-to-day living expenses and finds it difficult to pay the post secondary education fees for their children.

It is now time for the federal government to step up to the plate and fund post secondary education realistically.

The majority of our population needs post secondary education for the jobs today.

This should be an election issue and we need to get some action soon.

Graffiti clean-up event huge success, she says

To the editor,

This past Thursday, September 25th, on a

Culture only for wealthy, he wonders

To the editor,

I was disappointed to hear that Stephen Harper only thinks that all things cultural are only for the wealthy to enjoy.

Culture is an important thing for people of all ages and wealth brackets to enjoy.

This is the Stephen Harper and the Conservative party I worry about.

They've already slashed cultural funding, who knows what they'll do if they got a majority?

It reminds me of the last election where Lois Brown wouldn't answer the question on abortion...we deserve to know these things.

I fear what a Conservative majority would look like.

Shane Donaldson
Aurora

gorgeous fall day, nearly 70 volunteers came together to offer their support and hard work towards the first York Region Police and Town of Aurora Graffiti Clean-up Day.

It was a fantastic day as everyone came together to demonstrate their commitment to the community in which we live.

As a result of everyone's hard work, well over a third of the identified sites of graffiti in town were cleaned up in a space of just under three hours.

At the end of a morning of hard work, our volunteers joined together at the Town Park to enjoy a well-deserved barbecue courtesy of Greg Foster of M & M Meats.

The day was well received and covered extensively by Rogers TV, The Auroran, SNAP and Sing Tao Daily, Markham.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers from York Region Police, the Mayor and Aurora Town Council, Town of Aurora Staff, York

Region Police Auxiliary, Town of Aurora Ad-Hoc Graffiti Abatement Committee, the students of Aurora High, the students of Dr. G.W. Williams, Neighbourhood Network, Bell Canada, Bacon Basketware, and the numerous other residents who simply showed up to help.


Special thanks to The Auroran and to the Optimists Club for their very generous donations which helped make the day possible.


Finally, thank you to everyone for your support and for making the first YRP and Town of Aurora Graffiti Clean-up Day a huge success!

Alison Collins-Mrakas
Councillor
Town of Aurora

Jim Jackson
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Reader warns taxpayers “hang on to wallets”

To the editor,

I do not know Ken Whitehurst. The mayor says the staff recommended Ken for interim manager for the start up phase of the cultural centre. The mayor said Ken was knowledgeable for the job. Knowledge is a weasel word and tells you nothing about Ken Whitehurst. What has this man been doing the first 10 to 20 years of his working life? What is his profession? Does he have a current

job?

Helen Roberts, president of the Aurora Historical Society, thinks Ken is knowledgeable. Her vision of the year 2000 is coming true after the society dumped the project on a leaving council. I have lived in Aurora for 32 years and no council ever mentioned spending money on Heritage or Culture. The mayor, from behind closed doors, said “a lot of people know me.I wouldn’t hire people because they know me.We like to do

everything in the open”.

Every time the council makes an appointment, there is a controversy. The mayor never seems to recommend anything. It is a staff member, a lawyer, or one of her loyal councillors. It is nice to have friends who can hand out jobs worth \$60 an hour and work only 20 hours a week. I would hope with such a large project that someone from the town is watching the contractors on a daily basis to ensure materials are being used as specified

and drawings are being followed. Of course, maybe there were no drawings or specifications or an accountant from the town checking on the contractor. The taxpayers of Aurora have a three million dollar project to convert an old school into a cultural centre. There have been a few names given to the project since it began:museum, heritage centre, heritage cultural centre and now, the Church Street School Cultural Centre.

The mayor wants to create an independently-run operation so it would eventually be self-sufficient and self-funding. It will be another first if this project becomes self-sufficient. There has been no start-up costs budget.Where is this money coming from? The reserves? Taxpayers of Aurora, hang on to your wallets.

The mayor and the Heritage Cultural Committee committed \$500,000 to the operation of the Church Street School Cultural Centre on an annual basis. Ken Whitehurst was a member of the committee. A special interest group just hit a home run.

R.W. Hanes
Aurora

Election lacks punch, reader says

To the editor,

The 2008 federal election lacks exciting debates. When are the local Newmarket-Aurora candidates going to share their

views to the voters?

It seems that this election is a real sleeper, with the leaders of the two main parties of Canada exchanging personal cut-ups. Let’s debate gas prices,

tax policies, health care, public safety and the economy. Public debates are needed so that we can hear the local candidates speak about real issues.

Let’s judge them andsee them in action, rather than just see their cardboard signs, which are plastered all over the town.

Jim Jackson
Aurora

Reader liked ‘Jennie’s Story’

To the editor,

It was my pleasure to attend the opening performance of "Jennie's Story" at Theatre Aurora last Friday evening and to inform your readers about this very powerful and provocative Canadian play set in the 1930s.

This play explores such an emotionally charged topic with great depth and is so rich in visual detail, I felt as if I was taken back in time and experiencing this shocking subject matter first hand. Bravo to director Reg O'Brien and his very tal-

ented adult cast of five. With more shows until October 4th, don't miss this disturbing look at real events in our history and performed in a way that will stay with you for days. Irene Ilic
Aurora

ED.NOTE:The Aurora Chamber of Commerce and two local newspapers are sponsoring a candidates’meeting Monday, October 6,at Theatre Aurora.You’ll find an advertisement elsewhere in this paper announcing details.

Negative ads irk this reader

To the editor,

I just got a flyer in the mail from Lois Brown. Misnamed candidate

It’s the first thing I've received from her and it was so negative. When will politicians wake up and realize we're sick of the negative campaigning. The comparison of strong versus weak...how about good ideas versus bad ones? If only we could have a serious policy debate


in this country.I plan to reject the attack ads on election day, and I know many of my friends are planning to do the same. Shame on you, Ms Brown, for not running a campaign about ideas, but on fears. Marc Longhurst
Aurora

To the editor,

On Page 15 of September 23 edition, of The Auroran, you incorrectly idendified Lois Brown (candidate for the Conservative Party of Canada) as a "Progressive Conservative" candidate, which is Dorian Baxter's stance. Was this intentional?

Nancy Andrew
Aurora

ED.NOTE:No,it wasn’t intentional,and we apolo-gize.



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Letter to the Editor



Candlelight parade

Legion member Ken White leads an Aurora Legion colour party to the Aurora Cemetery site of the annual candlelight ceremony. Reader, below, believes turnout for the event was disappointing.

Reader is disappointed in turnout to honour vets

To the editor,

Sunday, September 21st was the Legion's "Candlelight Service" at the Aurora Cemetery and I was very disappointed in the number of poeple who turned out for the service. Why?

Do you feel it is enough to appear at the cenotaph, maybe once a year, or pause for two minutes' silence on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, to pay respect to those killed in action?

What about those who were lucky enough to return home?

Many had visible and invisible scars...are they not to be honoured, too?

The prisoners of war, as my father was in WW I, those in Hong Kong and Korea, or any other war, suffered atrocious treatment and are, in my opinion, still heroes.

Perhaps you say you don't know any veteran buried here.

Surely you know a vet somewhere who has passed on, or does that matter?

We have veterans buried here in the cemetery from the Fenian Raid, North West Rebellion, Boer War, Hong Kong, Korea, Peacekeeping Corps in Iraq as well as WW I and WW II.

Three hundred and fifty-three markers were placed this year.

November 11 can be a miserable day, but on a beautiful September day, you stay home?

Some have a legitimate excuse, I know, and I understand, but, come on, fellow

citizens, show your respect to all veterans.

They all offered their lives.

Will we see you next year?

Just to close, if anyone knows of a vet we have

missed honouring, please contact the Aurora branch, #385, Royal Canadian Legion, and your loved one will be included for next year.

Leona Watson
Aurora

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Weekly answer to blog question

This year I visited the Aurora Farmers Market:

0 times	14 (50%)
1 time	5 (17%)
2 - 3 times	3 (10%)
4 - 5 times	2 (7%)
6+ times	2 (7%)
Weekly	2 (7%)

To participate in questions about Aurora and its environment, visit www.auroracitizen.blogspot.com.

What's Happening at the Howard Johnson Aurora...

Thanksgiving Buffet

Sunday
October 12th, 2008

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Doors open @ 6:30 pm
Dinner @ 7pm
Show @ 8:30 pm

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"Little Theatre of Death"

October 4th, 11th and 18th
\$39.95 per person plus tax and gratuity
Doors open @ 6:30 pm
Dinner and Show 7pm

Yuk Yuk's Halloween Night!*

Friday
October 31st, 2008

\$35.00 per person, Dinner and Show
\$20.00 per person, Show Only plus tax and gratuity
Doors open @ 6:30 pm
Dinner @ 7 pm
Show starts @ 8:30 pm
Intended for Mature Audience (language may be offensive to some)



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Burnett area pond gets mixed reaction

As a condition of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's approval of the Wellington Street East fire hall on the Burnett lands, the removal of a nearby pond was required.

This was deemed necessary as such ponds pose a problem affecting water quality and fish communities and in the view of Authority officials the removal of the pond was critical to the overall quality of the downstream water course.

Council approved this project in the 2008 capital budget with estimated financing of \$66,700 with a contribution of \$52,350 from the federal government for a total of \$119,050.

Following the issuance of the Authority permit for the removal of the pond and channel restoration, staff had discussions with David Tomlinson and it was his position that the pond should remain in place as he believed the Burnett Pond could provide a hydrologic component to the future Wildlife Park.

Staff agreed not to proceed with the pond removal project until the matter was discussed at a Wildlife Park meeting.

There was considerable discussion at the meeting with Authority officials maintaining the position that the pond be removed but agreed to consider alternatives for a future meeting.

At a subsequent meeting Authority officials said they could not agree that the pond remain with Tomlinson continuing to take issue with the Authority position.

There was a consensus that the next step in the evolution of the Wildlife Park should be the commissioning of a Hydro Geological Engineering Study of the watershed area and how the hydro

geological conditions relate to the proposed functions of the Wildlife Park

It was also agreed to establish a Technical Working Group with wide representation and it was also agreed that the first item of business for the Group was the preparation of the terms of reference for the study and staff report back to council upon completion of the terms of reference and any course of action recommended by the Technical Working Group.

In preparation for the removal of the pond and restoration project a tender was issued and although six firms picked up documents no submissions were received and staff will re-tender in the spring of 2009 if so directed by council.

Council had previously approved the submission of an application for funding from the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund for the removal of the Burnett Pond, which was approved by the federal government.

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NOTICE OF SECOND PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PROPOSED TOWN OF AURORA PEAKING GENERATION STATION

Northland Power Inc. ("Northland") is preparing to bid its proposed Town of Aurora Peaking Generating Station, a 340-400 MW gas-fired "peaking" station (the "Project") to the Ontario Power Authority ("OPA"). The OPA has launched a competitive bidding process to respond to the need for electrical generating capacity in northern York Region identified by the OPA, in its Integrated Power System Plan released on August, 2007. Northland's site is located at 1166 Bloomington Road in the Town of Aurora (see map). Power generated from the Project would be delivered to a 230 kV Hydro One transmission line in southern Newmarket via 7 - 10 km of buried 230 kV cable, that will be aligned along either an existing Hydro One transmission line right of way or along regional roads in Aurora. The proposed Project will use state-of-the-art low emission, high efficiency technology.

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

A first public information session was conducted in June 2008. Additional studies and project information have been amassed through continued project development and agency, stakeholder, First Nation, landowner, and public consultation. As part of the Environmental Screening Process, Northland Power will be holding a second public information session to display information that has been collected for this Project to date, and provide the public, agencies, stakeholders, First Nations, and landowners with further opportunities to ask questions and comment on the project.

The public information session is scheduled as follows:

Howard Johnson Hotel, Wellington Room (I, II & III)
15520 Yonge Street
Aurora, Ontario
Monday, October 6, 2008
4:00 PM - 9:00 PM

For more information about the need for electricity supply in northern York Region and the Ontario Power Authority's Northern York Region electricity generation procurement process, visit:

http://www.powerauthority.on.ca/gp/Page.asp?PageID=1224&SiteNodeID=182&BL_ExpandID=271

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

Additional public information sessions will also be held in East Gwillimbury and King City. To obtain additional information about these sessions, the project proposal, or to advise Northland of concerns you may have, visit the northern York Region link on our website at www.northlandpower.ca/yr, and/or contact:

Jim Mulvale
Environmental Engineer
Northland Power Inc.
30 St. Clair Ave. West, 17th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M4V 3A2
Phone: 416 962-6262 x112
Fax: 416 962-6266
Email: jim@northlandpower.ca



David Wesenger
Senior Project Manager
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
361 Southgate Drive
Georgetown, Ontario N1G 3M5
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Information will be collected and used in accordance with the Environmental Assessment Act, and solely for the purpose of assisting Northland Power in meeting environmental assessment and local planning requirements. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. All comments will become part of the public record.

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THE AURORAN SPORTS

Page 10

Week of September 30, 2008

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Tigers split two games

The Aurora Tigers gave up a two-goal lead Saturday night and wound up on the losing side of a 3-2 score in Orangeville.

"You can't expect to beat the better teams with a sub par effort and that is exactly what happened tonight which is really too bad considering last night's effort" said a disappointed Tiger Coach Jerome Dupont.

Twenty-four hours earlier, Aurora came up with a 3-2 overtime victory against Couchiching in front of a hometown crowd.

It took 4.58 of overtime for Lucas Van Natter of the Aurora Tigers to seal a 3-2 win over the Couchiching Terriers last Friday night, but the Tigers couldn't continue that momentum on

Saturday against the Orangeville Crushers.

Friday's game was scoreless through two periods.

Then, 5.53 into the third period, Aurora opened the scoring on a point shot by Brandon Happeney.

Half a minute later, Aurora jumped in front 2-0 on a Phil Bushbacher goal.

However, Couchiching fought back and cut Aurora's lead in half at the 9.17 mark of the period.

The Terriers appeared to have tied the score with less than four minutes left in regulation, but the goal was disallowed.

Undaunted by the call, Couchiching tied the game for real less than a minute later, set-

ting the stage for Van Natter's overtime heroics.

The call-back goal evened things up, since at 10.32 of the first period the Tigers had a goal of their own waived off because of goaltender interference.

Saturday in Orangeville, the Tigers and the Crushers were tied 2-2 at the second intermission, but not before Aurora gave up a two-goal lead over the division-leading Crushers.

Nonetheless, the Crushers scored the only goal of the third period to finish with a 3-2 win.

Aurora's goals were scored by Jacob Mooney and Cody Smith.

The Tigers now have a record of 5-2 on the season.

The loss to Orangeville snapped a five-game winning streak.

Aurora is busy this week.

Tuesday, they met the Blues in Collingwood, but results of that game were not available at press time.

On Wednesday, Aurora is in the Herb Carnegie Arena to meet

the North York Rangers, then return to home ground Friday night to meet the Dixie Beehives.

That game begins at the Aurora Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

Next Sunday, in an afternoon encounter, Aurora meets the Icehawks, in a contest at the Milton Memorial Arena.



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Aurora rugby club cruises into semis

Last Saturday, the Aurora Barbarians Rugby Football Club secured a birth in the McCormick Cup final four with an emphatic 85-5 win over the Toronto Nomads.

The Barbs will play the Balmy Beach Rugby Club in the semi-final round at Fletcher's Fields in Markham October 18th at 3 p.m.

The Beach club surprised the favoured Oakville Crusaders 23-18 in a game played in Toronto.

The Aurora side scored in the first minute of play and despite the wet conditions kept up a relentless pace throughout the game.

The Nomads were confined to their end of the pitch and despite spirited tackling they simply could not cope with the speed and precision of the Barbs.

The Aurora club scored 13 tries in the effort led by newcomer Rob Brouwer with three, while doubles came from full-back Damon McLachlan, scrumhalf Bryn Davies and former Dr.G.W.Williams football standout Matt Prevoe.

Singles were added by Will Sorensen, Anton Alekseyenko, Andrew Ziricino and team captain Robert Carter.

Ten of the tries were converted, three by Davies and seven by Ziricino.

The lone Nomad score came off an errant pass from the Barbs that was intercepted for a try.

The other semi-final will pit second seed Toronto Scottish against the winner of Irish Canadians (of Toronto) versus Stoney Creek Camels, a game to be played this coming weekend.

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Master Ducks shine at Huntsville triathlon

The Aurora Master Ducks Triathlon team left a resounding impression at the Muskoka 70.3 Ironman event held in Huntsville recently.

So named for the 70.3 daunting kilometer distance that each participant is challenged to swim, bike and run to completion, the event attracted 1,400 national and international athletes from both professional and age group categories.

The event was made all the more intimidating by the relentless rain and unrelenting Muskoka hills. A full 30 members of the Ducks team competed side-by-side with athletes representing age groups from 25 to 64 to complete the gruelling 1.2 mile swim, 90 kilometre bike and 21.1 kilometre run.

To put this distance in Minor Atom A team opens with 3-1 win

Aurora's Minor Atom A Tigers hockey team came up with one victory last week when they defeated Innisfil 3-1.

Three players shared the scoring in the victory: Jordan Torres, Stewart Gable and Alexander Simardone.

This was the first home game for the Tigers and they were looking to start the season on the right foot.

It appears they did.

Midway through the first period, Christopher Pettit carried the puck over the blue line and fed a quickly moving Jordan Torres.

Torres made no mistake as he neatly tucked the puck past the Innisfil goalie.

Into the middle of the second period, just after Innisfil had killed a penalty the Tigers, working hard to contain the puck in the offensive zone, watched as Alexander Simardone found Stewart Gable who put the puck on the tape.

Gable made no mistake and wired a goal into the open side of the net.

With the period winding down, the Tigers had a commanding two-goal lead.

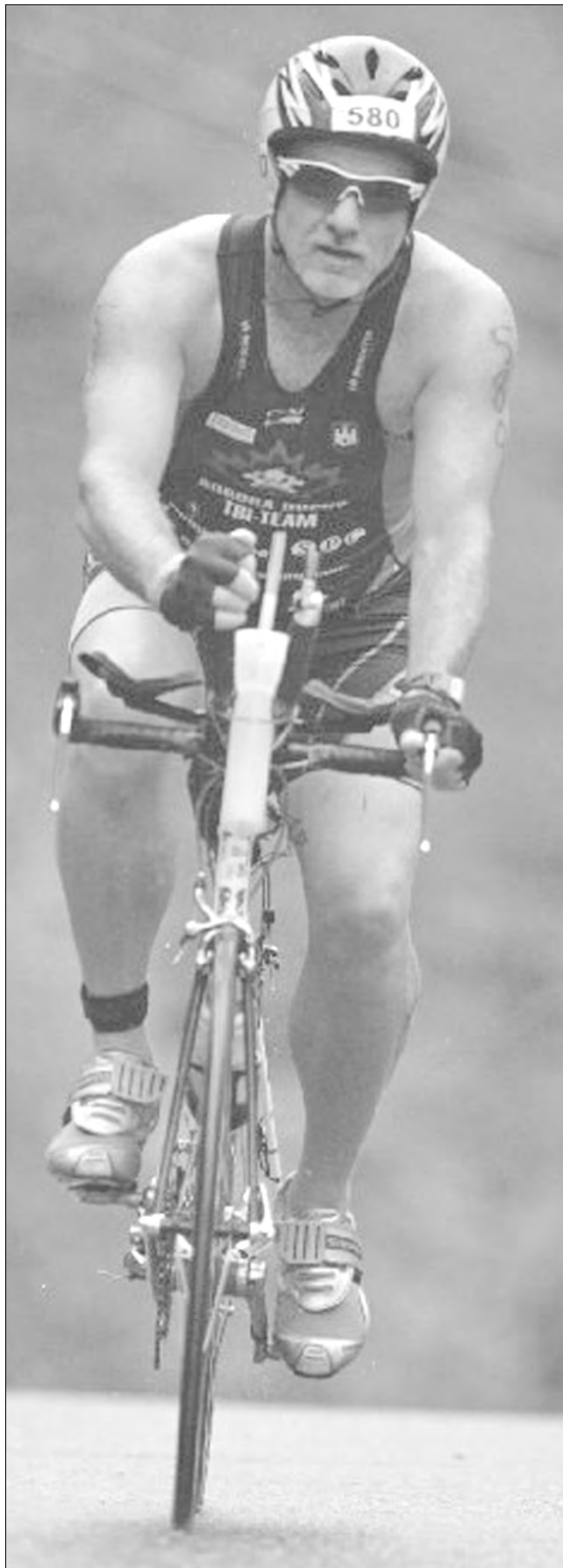
In the final frame, the Tigers made a few mistakes and Tyler Thomas needed to make several great saves to preserve the two-goal lead.

However, with under three minutes remaining, Innisfil closed the gap.

As Innisfil continued to press and attempted to pull their goalie, the Tigers broke out of their end. Gable passed to Simardone who finished off the play with a hard shot to ice the game.

Strong defensive play by Rhys Perry and Robbie Graham and superb goal-tending by both Tyler Thomas and Mark Carpenter helped to start the season strongly for the Tigers.

perspective, finishing four hours and ten minutes on the course ranged from as little as to an exhausting eight



Aurora Mighty Duck Spencer Lavis competes in the triathlon bike course (90 kilometres in length) as part of events held recently in Huntsville. Competitors also had to swim and run as part of the triathlon.

hours and fifty nine minutes for the final finisher.

Although this was an inaugural event in Muskoka it is but one of 40 Ironman events worldwide that are held as qualifying races for the world championships.

Crystal Drummond, Larry Bobbett and Steve Murray of the Ducks secured a spot at the 70.3 championships being held in Florida.

Other standout performances included Shannon Kemp, Paul White, Tom Mungham and Tom Hall who all placed first in their respective age categories.

Paolina Allan was the fastest Duck of the group with her overall place of 40/1400 athletes and John Ramsell clinched the number one spot in his age/weight category.

As a recognized sport, triathlon is 28 years old.

As a team, the Aurora Ducks Triathlon team is five years old.

Despite its youth, it is now the second largest triathlon team in the GTA and had the largest percentage of competing athletes at Muskoka.

Recognized as one of the fastest growing sports in the world, the surge of interest in triathlon competition can be attributed to the very nature of the challenge and the lifestyle that supports it. Athletes and athletic wan-a-bees from all walks of life have embraced the sport as a means of adding a competitive dimension to their lives.

To learn more about the Aurora Master Ducks Triathlon team, contact Nancy Black ducks@aci.on.ca

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The Aurora Legion- Why should I join?

By IAN D. SWEET
Public Relations Officer ~ Branch 385 RCL

When you think of a Legionnaire, what is the first thing that comes to mind?

For many folks, Legionnaire brings to mind a picture of a bunch of old guys in a smoke-filled room, drinking beer and swapping war stories. This still happens occasionally (except for the smoke filled part as all legions are non-smoking facilities).

Unfortunately those old guys, our Veterans, are passing away in greater numbers each year, so that they are now a minority within most Legion Branches.

Currently, the average age of a Second World War Veteran is around 80 and a Korean Veteran is 75.

Obviously, for the Legion to remain strong and to be able to continue with our community activity work, we need a continual influx of new members.

The Legion was originally founded, following the First World War, by Veterans in order to provide a strong voice for other First World War Veterans and to advise the federal government of the day on Veterans' issues.

During the Second World War, and again during the Korean War, the Legion continued to assist Veterans and returning service members by providing educational support and in-theatre comfort for serving personnel at home and abroad.

Since the Korean War, the Legion has become more involved in community service.

An athletics program for youth, established in the early 1950s has been one of the Legion's most successful programs, producing many top Canadian track and field competitors.

The Legion has launched many other programs since then, including National Unity and Seniors Programs.

Additionally, local Legion branches sponsor army, navy and sea cadet corps, scouting and guiding organizations and other programs to motivate and develop Canadian youth. The Legion annually spends thousands of dollars on bursaries and scholarships, conducts poster, literary and public speaking contests, and takes part in hundreds of Remembrance Day ceremonies at cenotaphs and schools throughout the country.

Many branches sponsor sports teams, leagues and tournaments. Throughout all of this community involvement, the Legion has not lost sight of the original reason for being, and that is the dedication to improving the conditions of life for our Veterans, ex-service members, and their families.

At the same time, the Legion continues to promote Remembrance to not only the youth, but to all members of the community, so that we may continue to remember the sacrifices that were made to ensure we can enjoy the freedom and prosperity we have today.

While Legion members volunteer much of their time to community and Remembrance events, the Legion Branches are also a source of camaraderie and social activities.

Members regularly participate in dances, barbeques, local entertainment and a host of

other special events.

Additionally, there is a very active sports program within the Legion involving darts, golf, cribbage, snooker, euchre, horseshoes, shuffleboard and curling, with competitions ranging from in-house tournaments to zone, district, provincial and national levels.

The two most popular misconceptions concerning membership in the Legion are that you have to be, or have been, in the military to join, or that you have to be retired from the military to join.

While persons who are serving, or have served, in Her Majesty's armed forces and the RCMP along with the relatives of those individuals can join, any Canadian or Commonwealth citizen who supports the aims and objectives of the Legion may join.

Your membership card from your local Branch allows you to enter more than 1,500 branches in Canada, the United States and Europe.

The Colonel Fred Tilston VC, Branch #385 is located at 105 Industrial Parkway North in Aurora. Included in our facilities is an air conditioned members' lounge, games room, a 4,500 square foot air conditioned banquet hall with a full service kitchen, as well as an outside, licensed patio and horseshoe pits.

For further information concerning membership, please visit or call the branch at 905-727-5642 or visit the Legion's Official website at: www.legion.ca.

Football coach says

It's not winning and losing...

By ROBERT REVINGTON

For Tom Norwell, assistant coach of the Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School Wildcats senior football team, the most rewarding aspect about coaching is seeing "the development of boys into young men of character".

"I played quite a bit of football when I was young," he said. "It had a profound influence on the decisions I made later in life."

He was partially drawn to coaching from an experience some 10 years after his playing days had finished, when he bumped into an old college coach.

"His influence and coaching had really helped me during a difficult period," he said. "Don't thank me. If you have the chance, do the same for someone else."

Norwell has been on the Williams coaching staff for nearly a decade, despite being neither a teacher at the school nor having any children on the team.

"This is a progression of my football life," he said. "At my age, I can't play anymore, so coaching is how I stay involved."

An enjoyable part of the experience is "seeing how these kids can come

in and be not very confident, and come through a football program over three or four years and develop into character young men. In general, we don't look at our program for wins and losses. We gage success by how well we turn out young men."

At times, particularly in Norwell's first few seasons with the program, the wins were few and far between, but even in those years, he believes, "every week the players individually and the team as a group got better...that's what keeps me interested and excited."

According to Norwell, this year's team already has "schemes in place we probably wouldn't have until halfway through the season. They're ahead of the curve."

The coach would like to "send five guys on to university that wouldn't have considered it before."

On the field, Norwell said, "we will play over .500 football. We'll be in the post-season and we'll vie for a championship."

Coach Norwell likes the game for reasons beyond the sporting aspect, because it is "people working for a common

goal and making sacrifices."

Like the other Williams' coaches, Norwell said the practice of letting all the players play has helped and resulted in "a much better team environment."

"We did progress our

team to win Tier Two. That was a great thing for the guys. There's nothing like finishing the season off with a win."

Even if that doesn't happen again this year, building character for the players will be a worthy consolation prize.

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Formal Debate

9:00 – 9:30 pm

Open Session with Candidates

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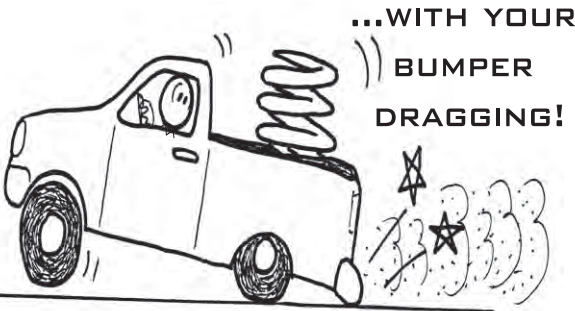
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Senior Scape



Vegas comes to the centre

By BRIAN WARBURTON

It is a pleasure to welcome seniors' coordinator Kelly Elliott back after a 12-month maternity leave of absence.

The centre continues with a capacity that never diminishes and Kelly, now a working mom of baby daughter Scarlett, will require a little time to get back into the swing of things, which is understandable.

And the Aurora Seniors' experience continues with an invitation to you to, "Welcome to Vegas" in Aurora, which sounds wild and we will probably make it more so, by cranking the good times up a few notches.

For those who enjoy the Vegas atmosphere and for those who would like to experience it, this is an event well worth dollars and time.

The date is Friday, October 10, from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. and is open to everyone 19 years of age or older.

The advertising offers various forms of gambling which will be played under "Canadian Charity Rules".

The \$22 entrance ticket will provide hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and \$1000 of Vegas play money, which is not to be confused with real money, but which will put you in play with the games of chance of your choice, excepting the poker tournament and any closed tables.

This night is not designed to be intellectually stimulating, it is an organized opportunity meant to provoke you to let your hair down, big time.

It is meant to be different and to satisfy healthy appetites to a Las Vegas style gambling approach to entertainment, which is enormously popular, and within the bounds of seniors ready to take advantage of an exhilarating event.

Real Vegas show girls will be present, decked out in costumes and feathers and they are very photogenic, so bring your camera and get your picture taken with them.

The event will be hosted by professionals who will supply the equipment and razzmatazz to create the excitement that will breach any barriers to serious senior fun and games, so come prepared to drop all reservations and be ready to whoop it up.

Beer and wine will be available at a cash bar.

The roulette, black jack and slot machines will be complemented with raffle prizes and a 50/50 draw.

Members of the woodworking shop met last Thursday, with about 20 members present and all with something of interest to say or discuss.

The result was a fruitful and worthwhile exchange of views and opinions.

Without a doubt, this group has a foundation of members whose interest and attention is captivated by the quality of artifacts created in the medium of wood.

They appear to regard themselves as craftsmen and women, and perhaps that is the correct description for them.

But there are artistic skills present in all of our wood workers manifested in what they create. Undoubtedly, art is possessed of the potential to be a powerfully influential force and will find a means to be expressed, and our wood shop members do just that.

The beautiful and practical artifacts the wood workers produce is the fun part of wood working, which is conducted in an environment requiring strict attention to organized use of powerful new equipment.

The correct equipment increases the capacity of everybody to produce excellent work, and even magnificent work on occasion but also it is equipment which has the unfortunate power to cause damage when misused.

So the meeting attended to the mundane tasks of scheduling "approved persons", one of whom must be on duty whenever the wood shop is used.

Equipment manuals are always available as is free advice and assistance.

Much more was discussed regarding operating procedures, but does not belong here except that room for more wood workers is available.

It is helpful but not a requirement that you have skills in wood working, only a latent wish is required to produce something of use and which occupies your mind and is flirting now with the opportunity to take those first steps into a place and atmosphere where you can render your imaginings to reality.

As a reminder, the ASA remains open until 9 p.m. Tuesdays with a variety of programs including a movie and refreshments, plus the darts club, the chess club and ballroom dancing plus other activities.



Aurora's Martin Sander, using no forks and no hands, was one of the contestants of the pie eating contest as part of the Farmers' Market Apple and Honey Festival held at the Town Park over the weekend. Messy job.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

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ANNOUNCEMENT

PUBLIC MEETING NO. 1
Wells Street PS Student Accommodation Review

On September 25, 2008, the Board of Trustees for the York Region District School Board approved the formation of an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) for the area served by Wells Street Public School. The Wells Street Public School ARC will study, report and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees on accommodation options related to the school.

As per the Board's Accommodation Review Policy #463 and in keeping with the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines, a minimum of four (4) public meetings will be held. The Board has scheduled the first public meeting as noted below.

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: The Education Centre
60 Wellington Street West
Aurora, Ontario
(Boardroom)

Purpose: Description of the ARC mandate
Outline of Student Accommodation Review Process
Brief overview of the data and issues
Description of the School Valuation Framework
Receive community input on the School Valuation Framework

Contact: Ross Virgo
(905) 727-0022 ext. 2380
ross.virgo@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

For additional information and details regarding upcoming meeting and activities, visit the York Region District School Board's website at www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

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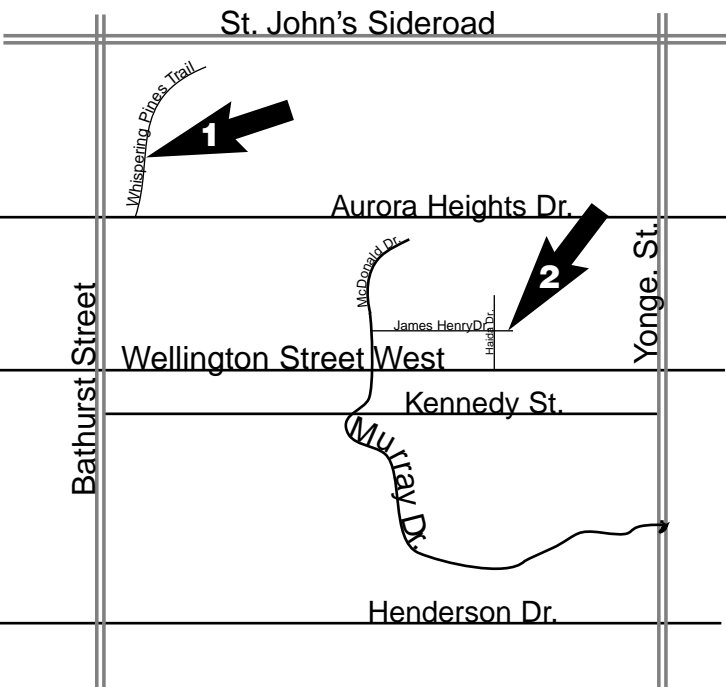
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MATH CLUB for grades 9 - 12. For registration call 416-309-0143. www.mathemagazine.com

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IF YOU TEACH CLASSES, SEMINARS WORKSHOPS OR COURSES ...let us know. You could be advertising in this section for as low as \$7 per week.

MATH

DANCING
DANCE CLASSES
Next series starts Sept. 8 through Nov. 3rd. No class October 13
8 pm class-Rumba Foxtrot 9 pm class- Cha Cha Waltz
No experience or partner required. Taught by the host of the "Start Dancing" series on ACI Cable TV

DANCE PARTY
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Free Dance Lesson: 7:30 P.M.
4,500 sq. ft. ballroom
Please call or email for more information or to register for upcoming events
Site: www.SteveMillerDance.ca
Call Steve Miller at 416-439-6557
Email: Steve@SteveMillerDance.ca

Oct. 11th

COMING EVENTS

From page 2

held at Aurora United Church, for adults experiencing the death of a loved one. There is no fee for this program which is open to all in the community. For information and registration, call Mary Smith at 905-727-6984.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

York Region Association for Volunteer Administration provides education and networking to support volunteer administration. Attend at the Aurora Public Library from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or click on www.pavro.on.ca/yra for more information.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

Aurora Film Circuit presents the film "Brick Lane", based on the book by Monica Ali. Tickets are \$10 and available at Aurora Public Library and R&R Revisited. All screenings take place at Cineplex Aurora, with door prize at 6.45 and film at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit out-of-budget programming at the library.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

Colours of Fall Concert will be held at the Aurora Town Park from 6 to 8 p.m. The park is located at the corner of Wells Street and Mosley Street

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

Fundraiser to raise money for Southlake's cancer program will feature Aurora's own Randy Skelcher, as Pauly and the Greaseballs lead the fundraiser at the Roman Palace, 1096 Ringwell Drive, in Newmarket. Tickets are \$30 each. Included in the event will be music from the 50s, 60s, and 70s, a 50-50 draw, snacks and door prizes. Call 905-836-7584 for further information.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

Aurora Chamber of Commerce presents the 2008 Business Achievement Awards at Carrying Place in King Township. The event will feature a "Roaring Twenties" theme.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

Harvest Fair at Wesley United Church 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., corner of Woodbine Avenue and Aurora Sideroad (Wellington St). Fair features crafts, baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves and an inexpensive lunch.

Eat locally, think globally. Enjoy "Harvest in Your Backyard," a dinner featuring duck and seasonal, local produce. Dinner begins at 6.30 p.m. in St. Andrew's Hall. Proceeds go to an Afghan mission. Purchase tickets in advance through the Presbyterian church office at 32 Mosley Street: call 905-727-5011. Tickets are \$15 for adults; and \$7.50 for children 14 and under.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

The Aurora Seniors Association presents a "Celtic Autumn Concert" featuring Sarah Kyle and Joe Likuski that will take place at the Aurora Seniors' Centre 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Have a howling good time filled with spooky stories, eerie activities and a creepy craft at the Aurora Library from 6.45 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Admission is free. Ages 6 to 8. Phone 905-727-

9493 for further information.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society presents Allen Foster talking about "Myths and Magic of Plants" at 8 p.m. at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

The Farmers' Market features Customer Appreciation Day.

A Sketching Workshop with artist Bill Lewochko happens at the Aurora Public Library from 10 a.m. until noon for ages 4 to 9. Pre-registration is required. Fee is \$10 per registrant.

York Chamber Ensemble at Trinity Anglican Church at 7:30 p.m.

Halloween carnival party from 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church (downstairs), 7 Lacey Court. It's free. For further information, call 905-727-3311.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Canadian Federation of University Women open meeting at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North. Guest speaker is David MacKinnon. Event begins at 8 p.m.

Explore the World of Art at the Aurora Library, for children ages 6 to 9, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Fee is \$6 per child. For further information, call 905-727-9493.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Murder mystery evening at Hillary House. 6 p.m. Wine, hors d'oeuvres, and a three-course meal will be served. This event, because of limited seating, sells out early. For tickets - at \$80 each - call the Aurora Historical Society at 905-727-8991.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Annual Christmas Bazaar sponsored by St. Andrew's Guild, beginning at 9.30 a.m. Stay for the "Spud Lunch," which begins at 11 a.m. Lunch tickets are \$8 for adults; \$4 for children. Everything happens in St. Andrew's Hall, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Trinity Anglican Church Women's Christmas Starlight Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Coffee House at 7.30 p.m. Experience the many talents of Trinity Anglican Church and support the Diocesan choir camp.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Canadian storyteller Jennifer Cayley will be at the Aurora Public Library from 7 to 8 p.m. to introduce heroes and heroines in the Optimist Room, for children ages six to nine. There is no charge if you book in advance. Call 905-727-9493 for further information.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Local artist and author Nancy Hallas will tell a tale about a clever mouse then offer children between the ages of six and nine the opportunity to model their own mouse character at the Aurora Public Library. Event begins at 2 p.m. and the fee



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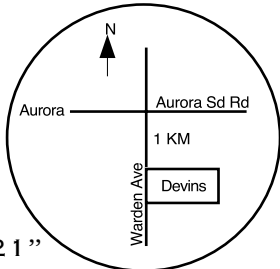
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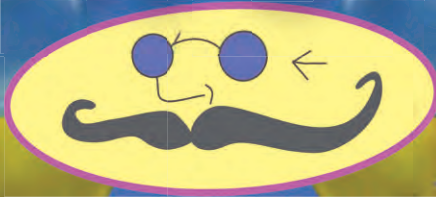
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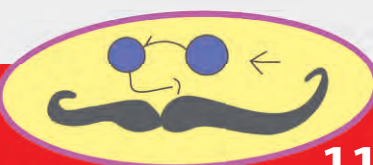
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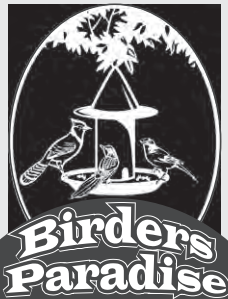
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