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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 16 No. 40 905-727-3300

theauroran.com

FREE Week of July 28, 2016



SHOPPING LOCAL – Progressive Conservative leader Patrick Brown picks up farm fresh raspberries from Oak Ridges Finest’s Meredith and Peter at the Aurora Farmers’ Market this past weekend. Saturday was the Market’s annual “Family Day” and Brown stopped to take it all in while touring the Downtown Core with Mayor Geoff Dawe and Councillor John Abel.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

PC leader Brown sees positive change after last election’s “unmitigated disaster”

By Brock Weir

“There will be an election in two years,” said The Auroran as we sat down with Ontario Progressive Conservative leader Patrick Brown at the Aurora Farmers’ Market on Saturday morning.

“One year and 10 months,” replied Mr. Brown as he zeroed in on the task at hand – not like he was counting or anything.

Mr. Brown spent the morning with Mayor Geoff Dawe and Councillor

John Abel as they toured some of the points of interest in Aurora’s Downtown Core, including the Aurora Cultural Centre, Aurora Public Library, and the Farmers’ Market.

After meeting with area residents, he sat down with The Auroran for a wide-ranging interview on where he would like Ontario to be two years – or one year and 10 months – from now. In the short term, however, Aurora’s provincial riding boundaries are set to follow the lead of the Feds in splitting Aurora into two ridings at Wellington

Street.

That means there will be two candidates to pick, and the field is already starting to take shape, said Mr. Brown.

“I would like to see a candidate in these ridings who are rooted in their communities, who have a history of public service and involvement,” said Mr. Brown. “I know there are a number of high profile candidates who have expressed interest and I am sure there will be large, active nominations

Continued on page 14

Student on the search for Aurora’s “Untold Stories”

By Brock Weir

Leanne Dimonte recently sat down with a man who knows her workplace all too well.

Pointing out a corner, he recalled there used to be a water fountain installed on the spot where, once upon a time, he was dragged over and had his mouth washed out with soap for swearing in school.

For students of a certain age – and a certain disposition – that may have simply been a day in the life, but for Ms. Dimonte, a Queen’s University student and lifetime Aurora resident, there is

a certain beauty in the ordinary that makes it extraordinary.

She is on a mission this summer to record all these “Untold Stories” in a new history initiative being undertaken by the Aurora Cultural Centre to compile a first-hand history of the Church Street School.

The Church Street School is a building Ms. Dimonte often passed as she grew up, one of countless historic local buildings that fired her imagination and now she has a chance to satisfy that singular itch in finding out what made this building, and the

Continued on page 10

\$15 million investment aims to make Southlake, York U an innovation hub

By Brock Weir

Astronaut and surgeon Dr. Dave Williams, President and CEO of Southlake Regional Health Centre, has seen a lot of the world from high above, but on firm ground, in recent years, he has seen rapid changes in the field of health care.

Now, thanks to a \$15 million Federal investment in a collaboration between Southlake,

Continued on page 7

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TOWN OF AURORA

Weekly Notice Board

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Email info@aurora.ca • Website www.aurora.ca

Accessible formats
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COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
No meetings week of August 1			
Tuesday, August 9	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Thursday, August 11	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of Adjustment
Friday, August 12	7 p.m.	Aurora Cultural Centre	Aurora Cultural Centre Board

Council meetings are open to the public and can be seen on Rogers TV, channel 10. For a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit www.aurora.ca

*Meetings can be viewed online by visiting www.aurora.ca/gcstream



PUBLIC NOTICE

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Textile Recycling Pilot Project

The Town of Aurora in partnership with the Regional Municipality of York and Textile Waste Diversion is pleased to provide Aurora residents with new, convenient options for re-purposing used clothing, textiles and household goods.

Our goal is to provide more convenient access to textile recycling and keep these items out of landfill. Material collected through this program will be sorted and processed through a local facility, and either re-sold, re-used or recycled. Proceeds from this collection will be used to support diversion programs for residents of The Town of Aurora.

Aurora residents can re-purpose unwanted clothing, textiles and household goods 24-hours a day at a number of Textile Waste Collection bins at Town facilities or arrange for home pick-up.

For more information about this pilot project or for the full list of locations and accepted items, please visit www.aurora.ca/clothingrecycling



e-PLAY

is being enhanced...

Get ready, Aurora!

We're working hard this summer to improve our e-PLAY online registration system. The future e-PLAY website will launch in August and will allow you to register and pay for parks and recreation programs, save programs to your online wishlist, manage your family's schedules and receive reminders from your computer, tablet or smartphone!

Create your new account now at www.aurora.ca/ePLAY
With a few easy steps, you can set up your profile and get a jump on the Fall Program registration rush in August.

Those who create their new account before **July 31, 2016** will be automatically entered to win a \$100 credit towards any registered Recreation program.

For more information, please call 905-726-4770 or visit www.aurora.ca/ePLAY

MOVIES

in the Park

Featured Movie

Thursday, August 4

The Divergent Series: Allegiant (PG-13)

Machell Park (2A Aurora Heights Boulevard)

★ Don't miss the first outdoor movie of the summer under the stars!

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Aurora

Inclement Weather?

For inclement weather-related inquiries, please call 905-726-4762. Please note, we reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities.

www.aurora.ca/moviesinthepark
905-726-4762

Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises!
All movies start at dusk.
Movies are FREE!
A food donation for the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciated.
For your seating comfort, please bring your own lawn chairs.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Aurora is accepting applications for the following positions:

- Building Operator
- Part-time Program Leader
- Recreation Supervisor, Community Programs
- Youth and Community Development Coordinator
- Youth Programmer

For more information, please visit www.aurora.ca/jobs or call 905-727-1375.

TD PRESENTS

Aurora's 2016

Concerts in the Park

7 p.m. to 9 p.m. • Aurora Town Park, 49 Wells Street

August 3: After Hours Big Band
Enjoy a romantic night of big band music under the summer sky.

Concerts are Free!
Food vendors on site (a nominal fee applies)
For your seating comfort, please bring your own lawn chairs

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Bring a food donation for the local Aurora food pantry and win a chance for you and three guests to sit in the TD Premium Concert Experience section complete with TD-preferred seating and complimentary snacks!

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www.aurora.ca/summerconcerts
905-726-4762

Please note, we reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities.



Civic Holiday Service Schedule

www.aurora.ca • 905-727-1375



MUNICIPAL OFFICE • 100 John West Way

Aurora Town Hall (100 John West Way) will be **CLOSED** on Monday, August 1 for the Civic Holiday. Regular business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. will resume on Tuesday, August 2.

If you would like to pay a water or tax bill, payments can be placed in the drop-off box 24-hours a day outside of Town Hall. Please do not place cash payments in the boxes and remember to include your payment stub along with your payment. Alternatively, you may pay your bills through your ATM or through your bank's online banking service. Parking tickets can be paid online at www.paytickets.ca



AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY • 15145 Yonge Street

The Aurora Public Library will be **CLOSED** on Monday, August 1. For more information, please visit www.aurorapl.ca or call 905-727-9494.



WASTE COLLECTION

Waste collection is **NOT AFFECTED** by the Civic Holiday. For more information on waste collection in Aurora, please consult your 2016 Waste Management Guide and Recycling Calendar.



RECREATION CENTRES

Recreation centres including the **Aurora Family Leisure Complex** and the **Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex** will be operating with **MODIFIED HOURS**. For a full list of hours of operation and program opportunities including fitness classes, pool, gymnasium, rock wall and The Loft hours, please visit www.aurora.ca/civicholiday

Please note, the **Aurora Seniors' Centre** is **CLOSED** from Saturday, July 30 to Monday, August 1.



Fall 2016 Parks & Recreation Guide

Available online July 28

www.aurora.ca/recguide

EMERGENCY SERVICES

For Town-related emergency situations such as flooding, watermain breaks or downed trees, please call 905-727-1375 or 905-727-3123 and follow the voice prompts.
FOR ALL OTHER EMERGENCIES, CALL 9-1-1





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www.aurora.ca/ribfest • #AuroraRibfest • 905-726-4762

Future hotel subject of renewed talks this week

By Brock Weir

Business and community leaders are expected to converge once again at Town Hall this Thursday to continue building their case that a new hotel in Aurora is indeed feasible.

The working group, brought together this past spring by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, last met in May outlining a series of strategies designed to build a good business case on why potential hotel developers should look to Aurora.

Focusing on incentives as well as occupancy rates, the springtime meeting was followed by a meeting of the Town's Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) which voted down a proposal by municipal staff to retain consultants to the tune of \$25,000 in the next budget cycle to construct a full feasibility study.

"We began to synthesize a way forward for Council to begin looking at developing an attraction strategy for the hotel," said Anthony Ierullo, Aurora's Manager of Strategic & Long Range Planning. "What we have done is we have broken it up into a couple of different phases, the idea being that phase one would set the context and at that point we could pause and look at all the various factors that might be involved, whether it is financials or marketing, or where are the real gaps and at that point we can look at what implementation strategies we could use.

"We didn't want to be in the position where we were recommending specific recommendation strategies without really understanding the context of where the issues are outside of what we have already framed for Council around some of the development charge issues we have talked about."

Committee members, however, said they were less than convinced this was the right way forward, preferring instead to look at in-house options rather than retaining a consultant.

"This type of dialogue and asking for money and doing more consultative work has been going on not for months, not for weeks, but for years," said Javed Khan, Chair of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Board. "I am just questioning are we going down that rabbit hole again? Should we not be looking at the work we have looked at already about this specific topic and look at what we have already collected and the data we can pull in-house rather than spending quite a bit of

money?"

Following the last meeting of the Chamber's working group, the consensus was they needed to develop a method of surveying local businesses to gauge how they can support the level of occupancy or "heads on beds" potential hotel developers are looking for in new communities to measure viability.

Mr. Ierullo, however, said that a survey to measure potential "heads on beds" might not be enough.

"What you see here really is the basis of a feasibility study," said Mr. Ierullo. "We can debate whether a feasibility study is required or not – and I have come to this committee at various times to highlight the interest around a hotel – and I believe there are a number of groups that believe this project is feasible, but if we are going to begin building a strategy around a hotel, feasibility is at its core and that goes beyond canvassing the business community to determine the interest and support for a hotel on the ground locally."

While a motion asking EDAC recommend to Council earmarking \$25,000 be considered for a feasibility study when they tackle the 2017 Operating Budget later this year, this was voted down. A subsequent motion to conditionally approve the money pending further reports already in the works was also voted down.

"It is possible by the time we finish our budget deliberations that the work that has been done currently, and to come as well, may resolve the situation," said Councillor Michael Thompson. "We may end up with a couple of people that have plans going forward and we really don't need that feasibility study because there is something concrete, or it might be the reverse: some of the things we know of today might have fallen through by the time budget is over."

For Councillors in attendance at the meeting, the issue was larger than "heads on beds", or even Development Charges for hotels levied by the Region of York, which Aurora lawmakers have often cited as the major roadblock to bringing a hotel to Town. It was about selling Aurora.

"No matter where you are locating a business – in Sweden or BC or the States – every Region has a different tax regime," said Councillor Harold Kim. "If you're going to make a decision based on just tax alone, I don't think those are the types of businesses we want on board

because they are short sighted and when times are tough, are these owners going to have different strategies to keep their businesses going or are they going to fold short term?"

Added Councillor John Abel: "Orangeville has three hotels.

Charlottetown is a fraction of that and they have 40 hotels. We will never accomplish anything if we don't look around to see where others were successful and therefore say we're not a sleepy bedroom community. We're going to the next step."


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Briefly

AFLC TO HOST "BIG BAM" YOUTH DAY

Youth Speak takes over the Aurora Family Leisure Complex next Saturday, August 6 for the Big Bam Challenge from 8 – 6 p.m. Focused on bullying prevention, addiction and recovery and positive mental health, the fundraiser for the Youth Speak charity (donations are welcome) will feature a Meet N' Greet with the Toronto Marlies and the Canadian Women's Hockey League. Activities include a baseball tournament, beach volleyball, a bike course, obstacle courses, a barbecue, Zumba, Yoga and Pound classes, local vendors and more. For more information on the family friendly youth event, visit bigbamchallenge.com.

CHARITY "BALL"

The Aurora Ladies Ball Hockey League are ready to suit up all in the name of charity. For the fourth year in a row, the Ladies are set to hit the floor of the Aurora Community Centre this Tuesday, August 2, to benefit the Aurora Food Bank, Get Rec'd, the Canadian Cancer Society, Autism Ontario, the OSPCA, the Alzheimer Society of York Region, SickKids, and the Canadian Mental Health Association. Game time is 7 p.m. running through 11 p.m. "For the fourth year in a row, the Aurora Ladies Ball Hockey League asked all teams to submit a charity they would like to play for," said the team. "In the event their team won the championship, the prize money would go to their charity. To encourage recruitment, the League also donates to the team's charity on behalf of their top rookie, \$5 per goal and \$5 per goalie shut out in the regular season."

**AURORA**

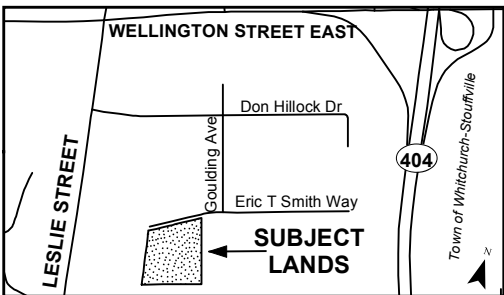
TOWN OF AURORA
PUBLIC NOTICE

**Notice of Intention to Pass By-Law Number 5888-16
to Declare as Surplus and Sell Municipal Lands**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora (the "Town") is providing notice of its intention to pass By-law Number 5888-16 on Tuesday, August 9, 2016, pursuant to Report No. PDS16-007, for the purpose of declaring as surplus and selling land municipally known as 21 and 33 Eric T. Smith Way, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York and legally described as: (a) Lot 8, Plan 65M4324; (b) Lot 9, Plan 65M4324; and (c) Part of Block 11, Plan 65M4324, designated as Part 2, Plan 65R-35964, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, all together having an area of approximately 7.98 acres, more or less, as illustrated for location purposes only below.

The final version of By-law Number 5888-16 will be available on the Town's website at www.aurora.ca/agendasminutes, on August 5, 2016 prior to the Council meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 7 p.m. at Aurora Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 100 John West Way.

PROPERTY: 21 and 33 Eric T. Smith Way, Aurora



CONTACT: Additional information may be obtained from Anthony Ierullo, Manager, Long Range & Strategic Planning at 905-727-3123, ext. 4742 or by email to aierullo@aurora.ca.

Town of Aurora 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1 | www.aurora.ca/publicnotices | 905-727-3123, ext. 4742



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Council should have followed Tomlinson plan

Aurora Town Council has chosen to delay submission of the master plan for the nature reserve; this in order to have Cole Engineering Group create a second amended version. Apparently both plans will be submitted to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority for approval.

One consequence of this will be to delay the start of the first phase of construction beyond the scheduled 2017 start date.

The main reason for the delay is the issue of adding several “on-line ponds.”

The Ivy Jay nature reserve already contains on-line ponds and would not exist without them. For that matter, the Mackenzie Marsh is an on-line pond. David Tomlinson proposed the construction of several additional on-line ponds in the nature reserve in order to increase the diversity of plant and animal life.

The drop-board dams, associated with this kind of on-line pond, are cheaper to construct than the alternative and make it easier for volunteers to control the water flow.

Suggestions for the amended plan apparently include replacing one on-line pond with that alternative, a by-pass pond. A by-pass pond is a modification of an on-line pond and is more costly both to construct and maintain. Strictly speaking it is not an off-line pond, since it still draws water from a water course beside it.

The Council concern is that currently the Conservation Authority policies do not favour on-line ponds. In this regard, the focus of the Conservation Authority has been on the possibility of promoting cold-water fish migration.

On the other hand, it’s also been noted that modern urban development is quite unlikely to promote cold-water fish migration (e.g. raised water temperatures).

Tomlinson’s orientation is to save and enhance the actual rich natural environment which currently exists in Aurora and put it, including all its interrelated parts, on a more secure footing for the future.

Personally, I trust David Tomlinson’s knowledge, experience and judgment in this matter. He’s been studying multiple aspects of the Aurora nature reserve for 20 years. I’ve also read of him described locally as a landscape architect and a horticulturalist.

This hardly does justice to his experience and achievements in these areas. For instance, he was the Senior Landscape Officer for the City of Manchester (Britain’s ninth largest city), a Principle Landscape Architect in the design and construction of Milton Keynes (UK) (a new town designed for a population of 300,000 people) and, in private business, he was commissioned to create the master plan for botanical gardens in Barinas, Venezuela (covering 130 hectares).

For better or worse, I think that the Aurora Town Council should have supported and submitted the Tomlinson master plan to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and then acted on the response. If that plan was not approved (and hence the cost of both construction and maintenance increased), the Aurora Town Council could then have considered remaining options.

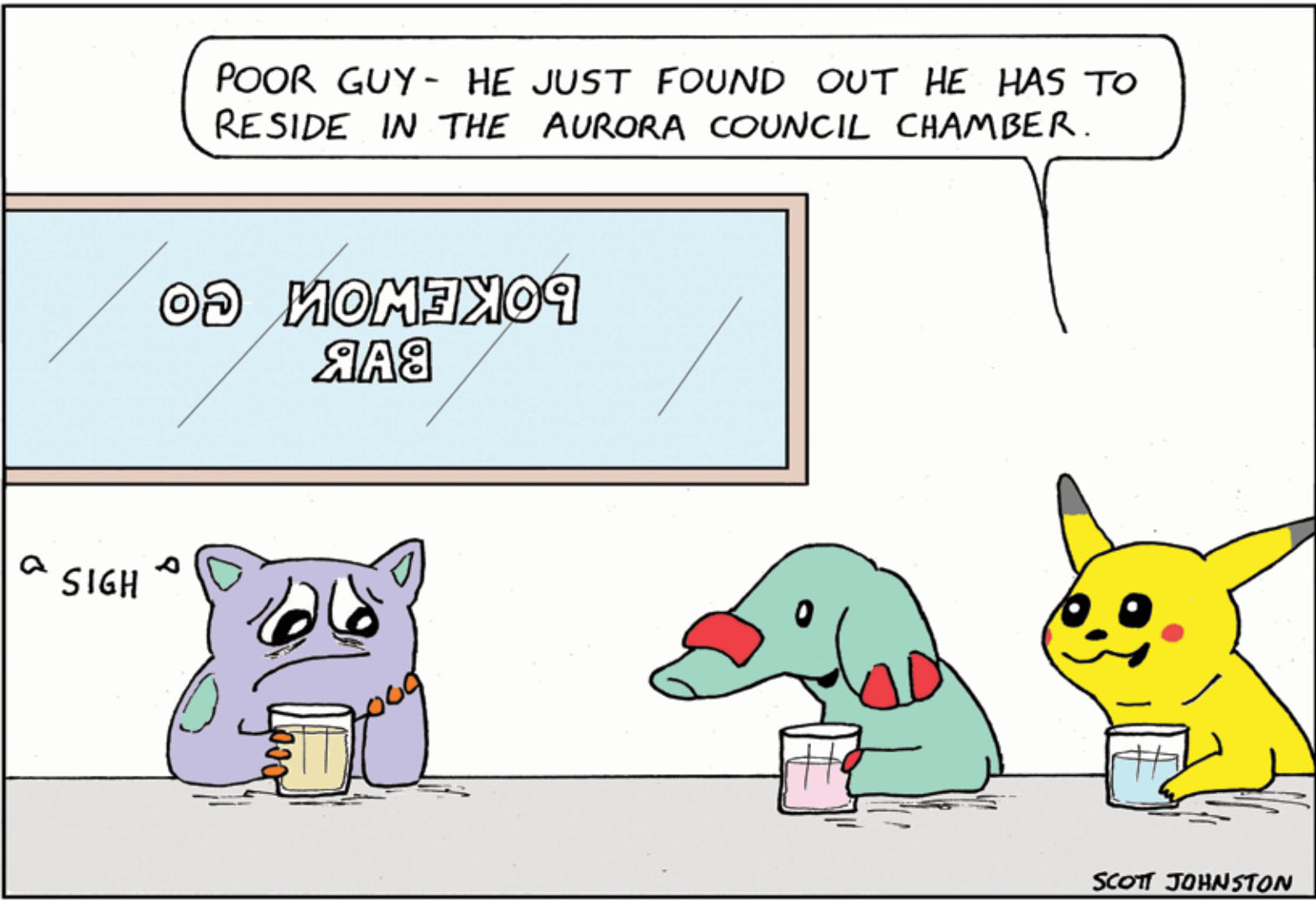
Charlie Street
Aurora

Dutch-Canadian caption had error: veteran

On the front page of your paper for the week of May 19, the picture of the Dutch-Canadian Friendship Garden was nice – with one small detail wrong. It was the 70th anniversary, instead of

Continued on page 15

Machell’s Corners



A good, strong palate cleanser



BROCK’S
BANTER
Brock Weir

One upon a time, in a land far, far away – Agincourt – I received a firm rebuke after making a passing comment about wanting to “kill some time.”

Said within earshot of a relative in his twilight years, I was lectured there would come a time when I would regret saying anything so foolish. I thought it was merely a figure of speech, not having considered what it meant from a philosophical standpoint and all the implications attached to it.

However, I quickly wised up and saw his point of view.

Since then, I never actively looked for ways to “kill time,” but the times they are a-changin’.

I’m sure many of you were overtaken by morbid curiosity last week to watch the Republican National Convention. I fully admit I was too. After all, it is always good to keep an eye on what our neighbours are doing every once in a while. Just in case of an emergency.

The convention started off innocently enough with the typical run-of-the-mill speeches one would expect in such a venue, quickly descended into comedic territory with the aspiring First Lady’s loving homage to the incumbent, the time the Stars-and-Stripes-washed Ted Cruz exposed his receding Canadian backbone telling fellow Republicans to vote their conscience, and various other talking heads coming forward to offer their takes on the proceedings which, to my mind, offered an insight into some alternate universe I have yet to crack.

Then came the big night, the grand finale, when the newly – and finally officially – minted Republican presidential nominee came forward to deliver his speech to rally his supporters and bring skeptics into step.

The general tone of this affair was everything one would expect as well: those blindly following him finding themselves in states of ecstasy, stopping just a couple of steps short of speaking in tongues so they couldn’t drown out words from their leader. (After all, they

have talking points they had to spout at the water cooler the next day, to the dismay of their reasoned co-workers.)

Those with a wider outlook on the world, however, received exactly what they expected to be delivered: the same blowhardery that has been offered by the candidate since he jumped into this race and the other Republican run-offs he dipped his petite foot into before pulling it out and shaking it all about, telling Republicans they weren’t yet ready for his greatness.

Ready or not, here he comes.

Personally, I zoned out for a chunk of the speech but I sat up and took notice when the Republican nominee said he was going to outline his plan to “make America great again.” Steeling myself, hoping to learn something, I warmed up some leftover tea and eagerly waited for a plank or two.

They’ve packed up Cleveland and gone home, but I’m still waiting as the Democrats move into Philadelphia, swanning into the place with their own scandal and merry band of Bernie-or-Busts who seem to have the same disconnect to reality as their Republican brethren.

Thankfully, in our 500 channel universe, there were no shortage of options to flip to as a palate cleanser once the sideshow shut down for the night, and I enthusiastically exercised that option, eager to stop my mind from reeling at what I just witnessed.

Indeed, the other options stopped the spinning but I was still dismayed.

I needed to find stronger stuff elsewhere.

A nice antidote came on Saturday morning on a trip to the Aurora Farmers’ Market.

Under the beautifully sunny sky, I was there to catch up with Ontario’s Progressive Conservative leader Patrick Brown as he toured some of Aurora’s cultural highlights with Mayor Geoff Dawe and Councillor John Abel. After stops at the Cultural Centre and Public Library, they were ahead of schedule, so we sat down on the bleachers to talk about some of Aurora’s burning issues.

The result was the most effective palate cleanser I’ve had yet from the nonsense dominating the American political landscape.

“We had become almost Republican in our positions, always voting against everything the Liberals did,” said Mr. Brown. “I say there is no monopoly on a good idea. We will vote for anything if it makes sense for Ontario. I am not going to be blindly ideological or blindly partisan.

“I don’t care who you love, where you’re born, the colour of your skin, how much money you have, if you belong to a union or not, you have a home in our party. People want to be fiscally responsible. They want an honest, transparent government. They don’t want something rabid and ideological.”

Regardless of whether one supports Mr. Brown, Ms. Wynne, or Ms. Horwath, or whether one writes off what he said as mere platitudes, after the divisive fear mongering and sheer hate stemming from Cleveland last week, and whatever comes out of Philadelphia this week, it is a refreshing change of pace, and one our neighbours would be wise to follow.

But, that ship has sailed.

And, with apologies to my late grandfather, I have no hesitation in daydreaming how nice it would be to go to sleep in a comfortable bed and wake up at the end of next January when whoever wins the fight for the White House is safely installed and we can move on with our lives.



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Music
Photography
Contest

The Auroran in partnership with OneBookOneAurora

Use your creative skills to bring your music experience to the viewer in this One Book One Aurora – inspired photography contest. Get close and intimate at a live performance or introspective with your art as you listen to a favourite piece. Winners to be announced at the Aurora Public Library’s Ontario Public Library Week Open House on Monday, October 17th. Winning entries will be featured in The Auroran.

Send your entries labelled “Music Photography Contest” to brock@auroran.com

- 1st Prize: two free passes for a movie night AND a hardcopy of Under the Visible Life
- 2nd Prize: a hardcopy of Under the Visible Life

Employees/Judges/Board members of APL and their immediate families are ineligible to win.

THE AURORAN
Aurora’s Community Newspaper

The Auroran Newspaper Company Ltd.
15213 Yonge Street, Suite 8

Main number 905-727-3300 • Fax number 905-727-2620

Founder Ron Wallace | Publisher Emeritus Rosemary Schumaker

Subscriptions available within Canada and U.S.
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INSIDE AURORA

Scott Johnston

Timely Perspective

It's been said that Rome wasn't built in a day. In fact it was constructed over hundreds of years.

Well, when you consider the delays in making any sort of decision on the future of Library Square here in Aurora, we may eventually be giving Rome a run for its money.

It's been extensively reported, and equally widely lamented, that discussions on what to do with the buildings and land that make up this area of Town have been ongoing for over 15 years.

To put this into perspective, this year's Teen Idol, Melissa Suma, wasn't even born when all the debate started, literally a lifetime ago.

Yes, we all agree that the right decision should be made, and we want to ensure that everyone's had a chance to have their say, but how long does that process have to take?

Consider the following activities that required some thought and follow-up that have been completed in Aurora since around the year 2000.

Magna's headquarters on Wellington was built. Ironically, with a move to King scheduled for next year, it will likely be vacated, as well, before anything happens on Library Square.

So, that's two major Magna decisions, while the Town is still pondering its first one on the downtown property.

That's not the only large construction project that's been completed in Town. While whatever becomes of Library Square will likely involve a significant build, it can't be much more than that of the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex, Joint Operations Centre, State Farm Headquarters, GO parking garage, Fire Hall, Library or Seniors' Centre, all of which were completed in the past decade and a half.

These buildings are just a fraction of the total amount of infrastructure that has been planned, approved, designed and set up in Aurora, including untold kilometres of roads, trails, sewers and hydro lines, plus playgrounds, traffic circles, storm water ponds, and all those much maligned cell towers, amongst other things.

Even Petch House, which had been a rotting pile of logs for years, was actually moved and reassembled after much debate.

The fact that there was no planned use for the structure did slow down the process somewhat, but in the end, didn't stop it.

As for transportation, GO train frequency has septupled, and many major roads such as Yonge, St John's, Bathurst, Bayview, and Bloomington have all been widened to some extent within our borders.

Whether through immigration or procreation, over the past 15 years thousands of decisions were made that have increased Aurora's population by almost 50%.

On the subject of matters that required some thought, at least 15 municipal, provincial and federal elections were held. For the local ones, reaching a decision on the future of Library Square was, and will likely continue to be, a recurring campaign promise.

The Canadian achievements mural at Yonge and Wellington, which seems like it's been up for ages, has been created. In fact, with discussions on the subject having already been ongoing for a few years by the time the artists started work, the original painting could have even included "Decision made on Library Square" as an achievement.

If only one had been made.

But, in the end, we live in hope. Some day a consensus will be reached, and we will finally move forward. It's an exciting prospect.

But whether the existing mural survives long enough to allow this achievement to be recorded on it remains to be seen.

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

NEW AURORAN POLL

Have you fallen under the spell of Pokémon GO?

A) Yes B) No
C) What's a Pokémon?

Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!

RESULTS TO DATE	JULY 26, 2016	A	B	C
		38%	50%	12%

The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating...

Uncommon Instrument Awareness Day
(Sunday, July 31)

This brass Circular Coronet was owned and used by Thomas Cosford, pioneer Aurora settler, who farmed the east and west side of present day Yonge Street, south of St. John's Sideroad (Cosford's Corners).



Welcome to summer



MP'S REPORT

Leona Alleslev, MP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

reserve forces, the need for a more robust Canadian Defence Industry and greater involvement by Canada in global alliances and peacekeeping operations.

Additionally, both reports will emphasize the need for more integrated care and support for our military personnel both while serving, and after they have left. If you wish to contribute your opinion on this matter, please email me (Leona.Alleslev@parl.gc.ca) before July 28.

Canada Post Review Town Hall

In my role as Parliamentary Secretary, I support the Minister of Public Services and Procurement whose portfolio also includes Canada Post. In the Minister's mandate letter the Prime Minister, he outlined that she was to conduct a full review of Canada Post. As part of that review we are looking to hear from as many as possible on the future of Canada Post. Please join me and other York Region Members of Parliament for a Canada Post Review to share your views. More details will be announced on my website www.leonaalleslevmp.ca in the coming days.

Canada Child Benefit

The first payments have now been made under the new Canada Child Benefit (CCB), putting more

money in the pockets of nine out of ten families, and helping them with the high costs of raising their children. The CCB is simpler, tax-free, and better targeted to those who need it most. More support means more opportunities for middle-class Canadians to save, invest, and grow the Canadian economy. If you believe you are eligible for the CCB but did not receive it, please contact my office.

Prime Minister's Youth Council

In Budget 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in his role as Minister of Youth, committed to creating a Prime Minister's Youth Council.

The Youth Council is a unique opportunity that will allow Canadians, aged 16 to 24, to have the chance to provide the Prime Minister with non-partisan advice on national issues such as employment, affordable housing, access to education, building stronger communities, climate change, clean growth, and more.

Youth can apply until August 12 to join the first wave of youth council members who will meet with the Prime Minister in early October 2016 or apply until October 7 to join the second wave of members who will meet with the inaugural members and the Prime Minister in 2017.

I encourage all interested youth to apply and be part of real change. For more information, please visit www.canada.ca/en/campaign/prime-ministers-youth-council.html Please Contact Me!

I would love to hear your thoughts on any and all matters that you feel are important at a federal level. Please email me: leona.alleslev@parl.gc.ca, phone me: 905-773-8358, or stop by my office: 12820 Yonge St. Suite 202, in Richmond Hill.

Family Day Fun



MARKET MUSINGS
Jan Freedman

time together is paramount.

The Rinne women are all very creative. Adrienne is a quilter. She finishes and repairs quilts and loves to make custom pieces and memory quilts for her customers. Her quilts have been exhibited in the Distillery District and at the One of a Kind Show. She and her friend, Shannon, made a quilt out of Red Bull cans for the Art of the Can Show in 2012. Their quilt, Toro Toro, made it to the finals and was displayed in Chicago as part of the show.

Mira has recently embraced the art of sewing as a creative outlet after working all day in the city. She creates beautiful receiving blankets in cozy flannels as well as useful wallets and pouches. Each piece is unique and features different thread, fabric, decorative stitching and buttons. She is always making new items for her collection. Mira's fresh style ensures her items work equally well in a modern setting or in a more traditional space, such as her 1903 Brampton farmhouse. She often uses reclaimed silks and novelty cotton prints in her pieces.

She thinks that she might actually have a sewing addiction.

Mom, Eleanor, rounds out the Rinne trio. She makes novelty scarves and pretty dishcloths. It seems that her knitting needles never stop moving, even during market time. Recently she chatted to some women about "arm knitting" and demonstrated to them how it was done including some tips. "Try it, you'll love it. Here's a YouTube demo that really shows how it works..." she suggests.

This occurs while she is knitting another dishcloth which is quickly picked up by a customer who needed it for the cottage.

Stop by their booth in the park to say "hi". They are there on Special Event days only.

Parking.

Undoubtedly you will have noticed that the Town has recently erected signs around the park indicated that several spots are now reserved for permit parking only. While we acknowledge that it can be very frustrating not to be able to find parking easily, the Farmers' Market Committee implores you to refrain from parking in the permit only spots and never to obstruct someone's driveway.

We do have a "Carry Out" service at the market in which one of our volunteers will help you carry your bags to your vehicle. Thank you for your co-operation.

See you at the Market!



There is so much going on and so much to do that I hope everyone is spending time with their families and relaxing in the beautiful warm weather. Summer is also the time when my team and I are able to work on our priority projects and engage more with each of you.

York Region Federal Government Public Consultations

Our government is strongly committed to ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to provide their perspective on the key issues that we are working on. Toward that end our Members of Parliament in York Region have committed to hosting Public Town Halls in which everyone is invited to participate.

Defence Policy and Veteran's Affairs Review Town Hall – July 7

Thank you to everyone who attended the Defence Policy Review and Veterans Affairs Town Hall on July 7th at the York Region Administrative Centre in Newmarket. I was honoured to host this consultation with my fellow Richmond Hill MP Majid Jowhari, and Senator Don Meredith.

Having attended Royal Military College and served in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), the future role of our Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) is an issue that is of significant importance to me. I was proud to be part of a discussion where many voiced their ideas and concerns.

I want to especially thank those who shared very personal stories. I will be submitting two reports; one to the Minister of National Defence and one to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. The Defence report will highlight the need for increased focus on northern sovereignty, better equipping of both regular and

Our third Special Event of the season, Family Day, is now history and it was a wonderful day in all respects. I hope you were able to sample the gorgeous and tasty cake baked by our new bakery, San Nicola Bakery, to help celebrate Family Day.

Our next Special Event will be our annual Community Corn Roast on August 20.

On that day, the Town of Aurora will be honouring several of our long-time volunteers with Community Volunteer Awards. As more details of the day's activities are finalized, I will elaborate in a future column.

Have you noticed a new booth in the park which is full of vibrantly coloured fabric creations? The booth is a collaborative effort on the part of two sisters, Adrienne and Mira and their mom, Eleanor Rinne.

The Rinne family first settled in Aurora in the 1980s and the children attended a number of local schools. Although the daughters have moved around Ontario, Aurora is their hometown where both Eleanor and Adrienne and her family live.

In 2015, Adrienne and Mira began a tradition of a Rinne Craft Day in order to schedule time together to pursue their passions of sewing, quilting and knitting. The day rotates among their three houses and involves crafting, good food and wine and many laughs. Sometimes, a project is completed but their

Neville-Lake Family memorial day planned

By Mark Pavilons

Hundreds of people are expected at Kettle Lake Park in King City on Sunday, August 14, to commemorate the three Neville-Lake children and their grandfather, who were victims in a fatal tragic drinking and driving crash in September 2015.

Organizers created the memorial for parents Ed and Jennifer so they would have a permanent place to honour their children and father.

Jennifer Neville-Lake grew up in King City, and her mother lives

close to the park. Through donations from the community, organizers have planted four trees with plaques dedicated to the deceased children Daniel, Harry, Milly and their grandfather, Gary Neville at Kettle Lake Park. A bench will also be dedicated in their honour.

The free event is open to the community and runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The day starts off at 11.30 a.m. with a dove release, with bubbles provided to children in attendance to blow during release.

Activities for children, including an interactive showcase from Reptilia, start at 11:45 a.m.

Donation boxes will be available

on-site with all funds going directly to Jennifer and Ed Neville-Lake. Kettle Lake Park is located at 50 Langdon Drive, King City.

Doors Open Aurora 2016 Event



By Jeff Healey
Town of Aurora

Doors Open Aurora 2016 will be taking place on Saturday, August 20 with most sites open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year Aurora is celebrating its eleventh annual Doors Open event.

This free event offers residents and visitors a unique opportunity to explore Aurora’s hidden treasures, many of which are not normally open to the public.

Visitors will enjoy 14 sites that offer a variety of historical and modern buildings, places of worship, natural sites, guided walking tours, special exhibits and displays during this single day festival.

Don’t miss the opportunity to discover our charming town, to explore cherished landmarks, to ask questions, and to encourage your child to participate in interactive cultural activities

This event is part of Doors Open Ontario, a community-based celebration that builds pride in Ontario’s heritage for residents and visitors alike. The first Doors Open Day took place in France in 1984. Soon after, it spread to neighbouring European

countries. In 2000, the City of Toronto launched the first Doors Open event in North America; and, in 2002, Doors Open Ontario, the first province-wide event of its kind in Canada, was launched by the Ontario Heritage Trust.

Aurora joined in 2006 and since then over 20,000 site visits have been made to Aurora’s most significant landmarks, historical sites, and natural sites.

Start your Doors Open day at the Aurora Farmers’ Market located at the Town Park.

This is a place to enjoy a taste of Aurora’s seasonal fruits and vegetables, baked goods, handmade jewellery and other crafts. Printed materials for all sites will be provided at the main event booth.

The Market is also the starting point for two special guided walking tours of historic Aurora as well as a storytelling time session. Come early, as the Aurora Farmer’s Market is only open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information about Doors Open Aurora, to volunteer for the event, and to print a copy of the Doors Open Aurora 2016 Map Guide, please visit www.aurora.ca and click on the Doors Open icon on the front page.

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“We live in a time where Google can predict a flu outbreak,” says Southlake President

From page 1
York University and the University Health Network, those changes are set to significantly increase.

“We live in a time where Google can predict a flu outbreak before the Centre for Disease Control, where a computer scientist like Dr. Carolyn McGregor and her Artemis project can diagnose sepsis in newborns with data streaming before clinicians can actually diagnose a clinical condition,” said Dr. Williams. “The world is certainly changing and, with the investment of the Canadian Government through FedDev (Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario), we are leaping forward to change with it, and we are at the forefront of leading that change.”

Dr. Williams was on hand to introduce Dr. McGregor, her Artemis project, and several other leading innovative researchers to Navdeep Bains, Canada’s Minister of Innovation Science and Economic Development, Newmarket-Aurora MP Kyle Peterson and a host of other dignitaries on Thursday as the Minister toured the local hospital ahead of his \$15 million announcement.

Artemis, and Dr. McGregor, were among a handful of innovations showcased to show the fruits of this collaboration, ranging from online programs to track the health and individualized care of patients living with chronic illness, including depression, and new ways to treat patients with heart failure and other organ ailments.

For Minister Bains, an investment such as this is one step towards making Canada a centre of global innovation and, in turn, a place where this innovation can be used to transform how Canada addresses healthcare across the board.

“The most innovative solutions often happen when people with diverse, yet specialized skills, come together for a common purpose,” said Mr. Bains. “That is why it is important for universities, health care providers, the business community and government

to work together. It truly requires a collaborative effort. The management of chronic disease has become a major challenge around the world. Three out of every five Canadians live with at least one chronic disease and the rates are rising steadily every year. We’re headed in the wrong direction and the cost of chronic disease is high in terms of the physical and mental toll it has on people’s lives and it also affects how much Canadians spend on health services both through their taxes and out of their pockets.”

Statistics show the treatment of chronic disease costs the Canadian health care system \$39 billion annually, or 42 per cent of all health care budgets across the country. That is why, he said, the Federal government needs “to invest in better ways to provide patients with the right information at the right time to manage chronic diseases more effectively.”

“This investment will support the development of better, more precise ways for providers and patients alike to manage chronic disease. It will fund 72 collaborations and commercialize up to 37 new technologies,” he added. “It will create nearly 130 highly skilled and well-paying jobs for Canadians working in the emerging field of personalized medicine while also helping to foster a thriving middle class here.

“These technologies help make use of the vast amounts of clinical data available to tailor health services to the needs of individual patients and I can tell you data is going to be so critical as we move forward in this area. With personalized medicine, the age of one-size-fits-all medicine is effectively over.”

The announcement was, of course, welcomed by Dr. Williams, as well as Mamdouh Shoukri, President of York University, who was also on hand for the announcement. For Dr. Williams, this collaboration is all about “technology transforming care” and the benefits it can bring to the economy.

“It is a story about how we can convert health care from being an economic drain to being economic



Navdeep Bains, Canada’s Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, announces \$15 million in funding at Southlake Regional Health Centre on Thursday. **Auroran photo by Brock**

gain for Canada, he said. “We have talked about entrepreneurs working in basements and garages, but what can be more exciting than thinking about

the types of technologies they are able to develop from a vision that starts in that environment and bringing it to the forefront of healthcare?”

27 Tips To Drive Up The Sale Price Of Your Aurora Home

York Region - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you’ll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here’s a way to help you to be as prepared as possible.

To assist homesellers, a new industry report has just been released called “27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar.” It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today’s marketplace.

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment,

reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible. In this report you’ll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

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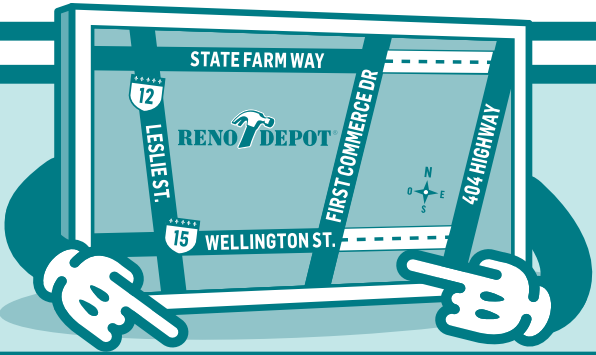
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THE AURORAN ARTS & CULTURE

Researcher finds the “ordinary stories extraordinary”

From page 1
people who went to school here, tick.
“I want to know everything about them, even what people would think are the most mundane things like what you thought when you came here,” she says of her project, which will come to

fruition in a so-called walking museum that will be part of Doors Open Aurora on August 20. “I want to know what this building really meant to them and that is the message I want to get across.”
“The little things like [getting your mouth washed out with soap at the water fountain] just amaze me. After you hear that, you come into this building and it just has a completely new life to it that wouldn’t have been attained if I didn’t hear the stories from people in the past.”
The bones of this project are the brainchild of Laura Schembri and Jane Taylor of the Aurora Cultural Centre, who have had something like this in the backs of their minds for quite some time, Leanne explains. They wanted to uncover the stories, but they were very open in terms of creative liberties.”
The initial idea was creating a brochure for people, but things took a turn when Leanne started to dig.
On a trip to the York Region Archives, she was able to uncover most of the attendance records from the former Aurora High School, which once called the building home, and the Church Street School. Coupled with the material in the Aurora Museum and Archives, she was able to match attendance with photos taken in each class each year.
She proudly points to a roll call of Room 6 from 1921 and a photo of a class full of eager young faces in that very



Lifelong Aurora resident – and Queen’s University student – Leanne Dimonte is looking for first-hand stories from local students who went to school on Church Street. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

room from that very year.
“It is like a puzzle where you find a new piece and take it in that direction,” she says, adding Cultural Centre Staff have taken down the names of those who attended the school as they happened into the revamped building since it opened, putting Leanne in touch with them to record their memories.
She knows there are many more stories to be uncovered – and more details on how you can share yours will follow – but there is less time in which to dig.
“I think as much as this is a condensed eight week project, it is just going to keep growing and growing because there are so many people who have gone here and so many people who are connected and still here,” she says. “Every single time I do an interview and just listen to the person talk about what interests them, things come out I never would have even talked of. The things that people think are their most treasured memories just add so much more colour than I ever would have thought.”
“We are hoping in the future there will be an interactive website or snippets online that people can listen to for interviews that have been conducted and it will just keep growing.”
Once the job is done, however, Leanne will be back in Kingston to undertake her Masters in English.

It might not seem a natural fit for a budding historian, but she says it is all about creating a narrative and telling a story.
Uncovering the stories of the Church Street School has lit another spark in her, this time much closer to home.
“After an interview I wonder why I haven’t asked my own family some of these questions and that is something other people need to start doing, too,” she says, noting she has talked with her grandparents all about the Second World War and the great milestones in their life, but there’s much more to find out.
“So many thousands of children came through [the Church Street School]. This may have shaped their life in a way we don’t know. A Grade 1 experience could have made one child become a teacher, or a Grade 4 experience may have made a child not want to pursue academics at all. We don’t know that kind of stuff and those are the things I would like to ask my grandparents: how did it shape your life and influence you. We focus on huge events, but the ordinary is much more extraordinary than we think.”
If you ever spent time as a student in the Church Street School building, contact Leanne at the Aurora Cultural Centre by calling 905-713-1818 or email untoldstories@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

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TWISTING THE BARD – The Humber River Shakespeare Company returned to Aurora this month for their summer tour. A regular feature of the Town’s Theatre in the Park programming, the Toronto-based theatre group brought their production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream to Town Park for three performances, as well as an acting workshop. The group traditionally performs in Aurora for one weekend each summer, often returning to the Aurora Cultural Centre in December for a holiday-themed presentation. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



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If you wait to join the Seniors' Centre, you're missing out says new President

By Brock Weir

One of the first things Carol Hedenberg hears when new members walk through the door is, "I'm finally old enough to be here – I'm 73!"

For the new president of the Aurora Seniors' Association, it is not something she's never heard before – but it is an attitude they often encounter at the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

Ms. Hedenberg, 69, succeeded Jim Abram as the president of the Seniors' Centre last month. A five year member of the Board, she was on the younger end of the senior spectrum when she first walked through their doors at the age of 61 looking for something to do.

"I felt a need," she says, of what propelled her to the John West Way building. "I needed to be out with people, I wanted to be useful and I wanted an outlet. This is the first place I came to and it was the best thing I ever did."

Ms. Hedenberg, who has lived in Aurora for the past 22 years, describes herself as a social person by nature. Before she retired, she was a tour director on a bus travelling across – and guiding tourists – the length and breadth of North America, but when retirement came she found herself in a slump.

"I was staying home far too much," she recalls. "When you retire, you're supposed to do things differently and that is not necessarily the case. I didn't know anybody at the Seniors' Centre but thought I would give it a try. I had excellent first impressions. The people were so friendly and welcomed me in. I was able to learn new things like bid euchre and it gave me a new social outlet."

Learning bid euchre, as it happened, was essentially a gateway to becoming more involved with the Centre. One of the instructors asked if Carol would be willing to serve on a committee and the ball just started rolling.

"Unfortunately, I am one of these



Carol Hedenberg, new president of the Aurora Seniors' Association, is pictured outside the Aurora Seniors' Centre on John West Way. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

people that never says no," she says. "It seems like somewhere along the line it became written on my forehead, 'Carol can help you do that.'"

But, she adds, that is not a burden. It is strictly a good thing and it helps fuel her forward.

"It fulfils what I am looking for. I am wanted, I am needed, I am appreciated, but I get to go home at night!"

Elected at the ASA's most recent Annual General Meeting, she is the second President of the Association since Charles Sequeira's 10-year term, and the second since the ASA found its new home on John West Way. When Carol looks ahead to the challenges facing the Centre over the next few years, she says there is always a need for a bigger new building but concedes that's not in the cards.

"That's not going to happen," she says. "Our needs now are small to what they were years ago when we just got into the building. Now, it is a matter of making sure everybody realises what their alternatives are and what there is to do, and making sure there is something for everybody."

As Ms. Hedenberg spoke to The Auroran following her appointment, there was a heated poker tournament going on in one room, Mah Jong in

another, and people reminiscing about their latest successes on the Pickleball courts.

A hugely popular sport in the senior community, this combination of tennis and badminton "is good exercise, everyone loves it and it is competitive," she said, before an athlete at the Centre weighed in: "It's the best thing ever invented. You just want to get better and better."

"I think seniors are looking to have something to push themselves for," says Carol, noting one of their more recent programs, adult colouring, is more her speed. "People think, 'well, this is a seniors' centre, but when you come through the door everyone is here for the same reason. They want to be out with people, be social and have something to do. They don't want to sit at home and be that vegging-type person."

"Just because your age says you're a senior doesn't mean you are. I think the mental stigma with it is not necessarily a good thing. If that is their attitude, they aren't going to come until they are darn good and ready. You never know until you try it. Come and at least look and give it a chance. There are more things to do here than sit and play cards."

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Aurora United stomped by North Miss on both sides

By Jake Courtepatte

Jose De Sousa doubled his goal production on the year with a hat trick in a 5 – 1 drubbing of Aurora United FC by North Mississauga on Saturday.

Aurora lost their second game in a row in the inter-divisional matchup, falling behind just three minutes in and never regaining their footing. The game was 4 – 1 heading into halftime.

“We went to the change-room and talked about the first-half mistakes,” said assistant coach Ramin Mohammadi. “Because the game was really changed in the first couple minutes.”

De Sousa completed his hat trick in extra time.

“We had asked them not to concede any goals, but in the second half they played more disciplined football,” he added. “I think in the first half they were all over the place. In the second half they were more disciplined, they listened to the information, and they played a better game.”

“However, I think players need to understand that it is much easier to play better when you are three goals behind, but it is important for players to play that way the entire game to avoid the initial breakdown in the first place.”

The only Aurora goal was scored by Simon Adjei who, in the 26th minute, took advantage of an opportunity where the North Miss goalie missed a diving grab at the ball.

On a positive note, Adjei received news that he was the top vote-getter for next week’s League 1 All-Star game in the forward position. Adjei has scored eight of Aurora’s twelve

goals this season, with Aurora sitting one point up on Masters Futbol for seventh in the East division in their inaugural season.

The weekend held a similar fate for the women’s side of the AUFC, who fell to North Miss 3 – 0 on Friday.

Former Canadian junior international Emily Borgmann scored twice in the shutout, topped off by a notch from Jamaica’s Oshay Lawes at the 70-minute mark.

Despite a lack of offensive output, Mohammadi, the head coach of the women’s squad, was pleased with his team’s efforts against a higher-ranked opponent.

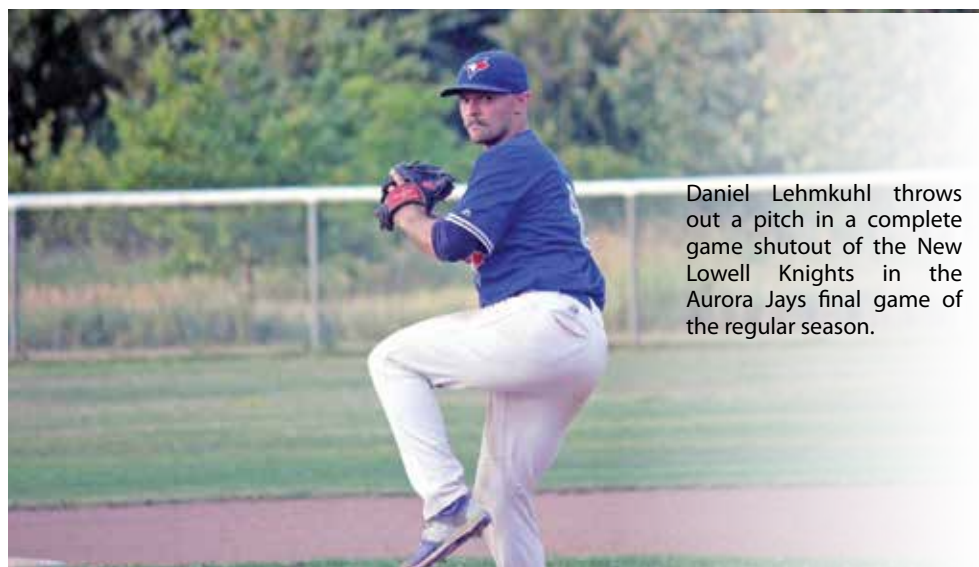
“It was a good game, back and forth,” said Mohammadi. “They are a very dangerous team to play on the counter attack. They have a lot of speed and talented players up front so they did end up catching us a few times.”

“But, for the most part, I felt we dealt with it, and we created our chances but we lacked the final ball. In the end that’s what you need to win games, right?”

“Credit to North Miss, they executed their plan well,” he concluded. “We had our chances, we played well so there’s nothing to say but to look forward to our next game.”

The loss, the second in a row for AUFC, drops the team to seventh in the nine-team women’s league with a record of 2-6-3.

Both sides will take a break for the Civic Holiday weekend, returning to action on Sunday, August 7. The women will host Vaughan Azzurri at 4 p.m. at Sheppard’s Bush, followed by a 7 p.m. game featuring the men and the Sanjazz Lions.



Daniel Lehmkuhl throws out a pitch in a complete game shutout of the New Lowell Knights in the Aurora Jays final game of the regular season.

Senior Jays to clash with Indians in NDBL playoffs

By Jake Courtepatte

A tumultuous season for the Aurora Jays has resulted in a first-round meeting with the Midland Indians in the North Dufferin Baseball League (NDBL) playoffs.

Closing the regular season on Thursday with a shutout of the league’s top team was a healthy warmup.

Pitcher Daniel Lehmkuhl gave up just five hits over a complete seven innings at Lambert Willson Park in Aurora, on his way to a 9 – 0 victory over the New Lowell Knights.

He was aided by five runs scored in the first two innings by his batters, as Stephen Vallee, Ian Rettie, Brad Crosby, Chris Fafalios, and Lehmkuhl himself crossed the plate early.

A three-run fifth inning, followed by one more in the sixth, earned the Jays the blowout victory over a Knights team that had lost just three games all season.

With the win, Lehmkuhl remained the team’s best pitching option. Through 25 innings this season, he has given up just thirteen runs, while striking out a team-best 36 batters, 14 more than his closest teammate.

The win vaulted the Jays two points past the Lisle Astros and Bolton Dodgers, setting up a first-round playoff series with the Midland Indians. Both teams are still in search of their first

championship in the NDBL, though Aurora came close in meeting with the Ivy Leafs in the final series in 2014.

“Given our up and down season, I’m sure we’re a tempting target for them,” said Rob Wilson, manager of the Jays.

For the first time in years, the Jays enter the postseason as the lower-ranked team in their first round matchup, having finished the season in sixth place with a record of 14-11-1. The Indians took the third position, posting a record of 17-9-0.

“It gives us a chance to be considered underdogs for a change,” said Wilson. “That’s a role I think we can thrive in.”

Despite the Indians holding the better record, the teams split the regular season series, having met just twice and each winning on home turf. Both games were one-run finishes.

As is usually the case, Aurora’s offence carried them to a winning season. Their 177 runs scored in the regular season was top in the 14-team league, a statistic they hope will carry them past the low-scoring Indians squad.

The Indians were third in the league in lowest runs against.

The postseason schedule will be finalized Thursday following a league meeting.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.ndbl.ca.



The Aurora Food Pantry got a \$500 boost from the Aurora Soccer Club recently as the Highland Park-based group hosted their annual charity event. This year’s festivities featured three games: Canada/Ireland vs. the Rest of the World, an open women’s game, and England vs. Scotland. Following the festivities, Mayor Dawe joined representatives from the Club and the Pantry for a formal presentation. **Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger**

New head coach brings a fresh face to Jr. A Tigers

By Jake Courtepatte

What were you doing at 27-years-old?

Nikita Poliakov, an ex-junior player, is the new head coach of the junior A Aurora Tigers.

Hired in March, Poliakov, who is on the ice almost every day, is preparing for August’s prospect camp to create the roster for the 2016-17 Tigers.

Poliakov’s relationship with Tigers owner and general manager Jim Thomson has been a long and detailed one, with Poliakov involved in almost every aspect of Thomson’s hockey ventures from private lessons to minor league involvements with Richmond Hill and York-Simcoe.

“I’ve been working with Jim for the last seven and a half years,” said Poliakov. “He was trying to get me on

board last year, but I was away from hockey for the year. This year, the timing was right, and here we are.”

At the age of 27, Poliakov is not that far removed from his own days as a player, beginning junior hockey with the North York Rangers in 2006-07 and continuing with the Upper Canada Hockey Club, putting up point-a-game numbers in 2009-10. He spent one year in the Federal Hockey League in the northeastern United States before turning his sights to coaching and teaching.

With only three players expected to return from the 2015-16 season to this year’s crop of Tigers, Poliakov has his work cut out for him. Yet, as he says, the job is made easier by his strong relationship with Thomson, who has almost completely overhauled the organization since taking over as

owner just over one year ago.

“It’s been great. We’ve been on the same page as far as how we envision the team, and what we want the team to look like. It makes everything a lot easier.”

While the organization is hoping to bounce back from a first-round ousting by the Wellington Dukes in 2016, the preseason schedule is set to begin in just over a month.

“Right now, we’ve got to take it day-by-day,” said Poliakov. “We’re planning to have 40 kids out for camp, so it gives us a good look at choosing the team. Then we can say ‘ok, this is what we have, and this is what we’re going to be going after.’”

Despite the large turnover, Poliakov has already seen potential in the organization, which has been a perennial powerhouse in the regular

season for the past five years.

“It’s exciting, we have really great people in the organization that are doing a great job scouting and bringing in all different kinds of players. It’s definitely made it a lot easier.”

As one of the youngest coaches in junior hockey, Poliakov is part of a new crop of young go-getters that has brought a fresh face to hockey and hockey analytics, following the likes of 29-year-old assistant GM of the Maple Leafs Kyle Dubas, and as Poliakov himself mentioned, 26-year-old Phoenix Coyotes GM John Chayka.

“Getting hired as a GM in the NHL is a bit harder to do, but I’m happy with where I’m at.”

The OJHL regular season kicks off in early September. For schedules visit www.auroratigers.pointstreaksites.com.



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Aurora Youth Soccer Girls win premiere international tournament

By Jake Courtepatte

The Aurora Youth Soccer Club was represented at the Under-12 Girls level last week at the Schwan’s USA Cup in Minnesota.

By the end of the weekend, they were the champions of the largest youth soccer tournament in the Western Hemisphere.

The 2004 Stingers met players from around the world in a week-long visit to the international tournament, featuring almost 1,200 teams from 19 different states and 19 countries. During the opening ceremonies last Tuesday, the team was given the opportunity to meet players from Japan, Argentina, Brazil,

and Hawaii, exchanging pins and taking pictures before the real action began.

That same day the Stingers opened the tournament against the Orono Thunder of Minnesota, dominating in a 5 – 1 victory. They followed up with draws against Minneapolis United and Blaine Fury, both also from Minnesota, to conclude an undefeated group play and finish at the top of their standings.

Entering the knockout rounds as the top seed, the Stingers first met with the eighth-ranked Maplebrook Impact, the 2015 Schwan’s Cup champions. The defending champs’ run was ended early.

“AYSC handled their Quarter Final game extremely well,” said Assistant

Coach Anna Bisogno-Coutts. “While showing off a very good brand of soccer that had to be one of, if not the best, in the tournament.”

A rematch with the Blaine Fury was scheduled for the semifinal matchup, who had finished the group stage tied with the Stingers but fell to second as a result of goals-for. This rematch was a cakewalk for the Aurora squad, who completely dominated a 7 – 2 game.

After five days, the tournament came down to the championship match on Saturday against Centennial Explosion from Lino Lakes, Minnesota. Poor weather conditions made the situation even tenser.

“Severe thunderstorms had tournament play suspended for long hours,” said Bisogno-Coutts. “The girls waited patiently in the team hotel to find out when or if they would be able to play their championship game. What was supposed to be a 3 p.m. kick-off turned to 5.45 p.m.”

The game kicked off with the weather improving, yet neither team could get on

the board in the first half.

With only six minutes remaining on the clock, Aurora was able to slide one in past the Centennial keeper, and held the lead for the remainder of the game.

“Centennial was the best team the AYSC came up against,” said Bisogno-Coutts. “A very similar brand of soccer. The game was fast, creative and free flowing from both sides. It was a nail biter right to the finish.”


The U12 Girls were the third Aurora team to bring home the award.

Bisogno-Coutts credits the Long Term Player Development (LTPD) program of the AYSC to the team’s success.

“In 2012 when the new LTPD – no scores and standings rules began, the 04’s were the first group to fall under this new system at the Aurora Youth Soccer Club, a system which was disliked by many but that the club continued to enforce. To watch how these girls play now at the age of 12 is proof that LTPD does work.”

To learn more about the program, visit www.aysc.ca.

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The AYSC Under-12 Girls won the prestigious Schwan’s USA Cup in Minnesota last week-end.

Photo courtesy of Anna Bisogno Coutts.

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THURSDAY, JULY 28

The Aurora Historical Society’s Speaker Series continues this evening with Karen Edwards. Join the Society and Ms. Edwards as she takes us through the history of Spadina House and the Austin family. The talk will focus on general information about the Austin family, the development of Spadina as a museum, and their restoration and reinterpretation to the era of the 1920s and 1930s. The talk runs 7 – 9 p.m. at Hillary House National Historic Site. Tickets are \$7 each or \$5 for AHS members.

SATURDAY, JULY 30

Grab your fresh produce and crafts today at the Aurora Farmers’ Market and Artisan Fair. The Market is open every Saturday through the summer and early fall on Wells Street and into Town Park from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

The Aurora Ladies Ball Hockey League will host their finals tonight at the Aurora Community Centre from 7 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. this evening in aid of the Aurora Food Pantry, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Alzheimer Society of York Region, the Canadian Mental Health Association, and more.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Aurora’s Concerts in the Parks series continues this evening with the After Hours Big Band, tonight at 7 p.m. at Town Park. Enjoy a romantic night of big band music under the summer skies of August. Sponsored by Investors Group – Patrice Graham-Brown. Donations to the Aurora Food Pantry will be gratefully accepted.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

DISCOVERY DAYS FOR KIDS AND THE AHS: Join the Aurora Historical Society for our summer children’s program Discovery Days for Kids! Each day will consist of a kid-friendly tour of Hillary House National Historic Site followed by a fun heritage craft or activity. Programs include Medical Detectives, Nature Seekers, Arts and Craft, Back to School, and our ever-popular Dig It! For more information, contact Leigha at 905-727-8991. 1.30 – 3.30 p.m.

MOVIES IN THE PARK – The Town of Aurora’s popular Movies in the Park series kicks off this week with a screening of The Divergent Series: Allegiant at Machel Park (2A Aurora Heights Boulevard). All screenings start at dusk. After the earth-shattering revelations of Insurgent, Tris must escape with Four and go beyond the wall enclosing Chicago. For the first time ever, they will leave the only city and family they have ever known. In order to survive, Tris will be forced to make impossible choices about courage, allegiance, sacrifice and love. The screening is free, but a food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciate. Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

DISCOVERY DAYS FOR KIDS AND THE AHS: Join the Aurora Historical Society for our summer children’s program Discovery Days for Kids! Each day will consist of a kid-friendly tour of Hillary House National Historic Site followed by a fun heritage craft or activity. Programs include Medical Detectives, Nature Seekers, Arts and Craft, Back to School, and our ever-popular Dig It! For more information, contact Leigha at 905-727-8991. 1.30 – 3.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

Aurora’s Concerts in the Parks series continues this evening with the Carpet Frogs tonight at 7 p.m. at Town Park: A quality Canadian Rock band that has been a cover band for Burton Cummings and Randy Bachman. Great music from a great band. Sponsored by Sport Clips Aurora. Donations to the Aurora Food Pantry will be gratefully accepted.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

DISCOVERY DAYS FOR KIDS AND THE AHS: Join the Aurora Historical Society for our summer children’s program Discovery Days for Kids! Each day will consist

of a kid-friendly tour of Hillary House National Historic Site followed by a fun heritage craft or activity. Programs include Medical Detectives, Nature Seekers, Arts and Craft, Back to School, and our ever-popular Dig It! For more information, contact Leigha at 905-727-8991. 1.30 – 3.30 p.m.

MOVIES IN THE PARK – The Town of Aurora’s popular Movies in the Park continues this week with a screening of Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice at Norm Weller Park (250 McClellan Way). All screenings start at dusk. Fearing that the actions of Superman are left unchecked, Batman takes on the Man of Steel, while the world wrestles with what kind of a hero it really needs. The screening is free, but a food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciate. Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises. Prizes for those who dress up as their favourite super hero!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

DISCOVERY DAYS FOR KIDS AND THE AHS: Join the Aurora Historical Society for our summer children’s program Discovery Days for Kids! Each day will consist of a kid-friendly tour of Hillary House National Historic Site followed by a fun heritage craft or activity. Programs include Medical Detectives, Nature Seekers, Arts and Craft, Back to School, and our ever-popular Dig It! For more information, contact Leigha at 905-727-8991. 1.30 – 3.30 p.m.

Legion Cookout – Come to the Royal Canadian Legion (105 Industrial Parkway North) tonight for some country cooking at the Western BBQ and Corn Roast featuring chicken and ribs with corn and baked beans. Wear your cowboy boots, hat and plaid. Entertainment provided by Still Kickin’ gets underway at 7 p.m. Ticket are \$20 and you do not need to be a Legion member to attend.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Leap from reality into The Balloon Tree, a play inspired by Phoebe Gilman’s children’s book of the same name at this free family theatrical event at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Two performances: 11.15 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are limited and should be picked up in advance. Allow your imagination to run free as we follow Princess Leora on a magical adventure through her village in search of the one object that will save them all: a balloon. Up against her evil uncle, the Archduke, and all the guards in the kingdom, she cannot make it without the help of the villagers and, of course, the audience! For more, call the Aurora Cultural Centre at 905-713-1818.

Aurora’s Concerts in the Parks series continues this evening with Gypsy Kings, tonight at 7 p.m. at Town Park: A tribute to the Gipsy Kings where “Spanish flamenco and Romani rhapsody meet salsa funk.” Sponsored by Canadian Blood Services. Donations to the Aurora Food Pantry will be gratefully accepted.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

MOVIES IN THE PARK – The Town of Aurora’s popular Movies in the Park continues this week with a screening of Kung Fu Panda 3 at Ada Johnson Park (60 Hartwell Way). All screenings start at dusk. Continuing his “legendary adventures of awesomeness”, Po must face two hugely epic, but different threats: one supernatural and the other a little closer to his home. The screening is free, but a food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciate. Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises. Prizes for bringing a stuffed animal to watch the movie with you!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Partagez le Français! This free French language conversation group welcomes adults from francophones to beginners looking to put their French language conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. 3 – 5 p.m. at Country Style Deli and Bistro (14980 Yonge Street).

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“I will not be blindly ideological or blindly partisan”: Brown

From page 1
here that will be fair, transparent and democratic.

“No candidates will be picked. It will be up to the membership, but we fully intend to win these ridings and we want community champions who will continue to build Newmarket and Aurora and help these communities with any challenges that we have.”

Mr. Brown said he was optimistic about the Progressive Conservative’s chances of winning back Aurora, after Newmarket-Aurora was won by Liberal MPP – and former Aurora Councillor – Chris Ballard, who beat PC candidate – and incumbent Newmarket Councillor – Jane Twinney the last time around.

According to Mr. Brown, Ontarians have an appetite for change, a sense he says is bolstered by “18 public opinion polls that have us across Ontario with significant leads in the 905.”

This is in stark contrast, he added, to where the Ontario PC Party was the last time around under the leadership of Tim Hudak.

“I think generally this riding is historically more conservative,” he said. “I think it is only in a complete, unmitigated disaster that the Conservatives have lost here – and the last election was an unmitigated disaster. The party ran on a ridiculous policy to cut 100,000 jobs. I think we were too narrow-cast.

“I think the reason we are in a better light today is we are building a more modern, inclusive PC party. I don’t care who you love, where you’re born, the colour of your skin, how much money you have, if you belong to a union or not, you have a home in our party.

“People want to be fiscally responsible. They want an honest, transparent government. They don’t want something rabid and ideological. The public is fed up. They are fed up with a government with five OPP investigations, they are sick and tired of the hydro rates. They want a reasonable and pragmatic alternative and I think we’re offering that now.”

To maintain the momentum, Mr. Brown said he and the party are going to “continue working hard” to craft and present policies focused on becoming the “building blocks” to return Ontario to prosperity and create a climate where Ontario is not a “have-not province” and turn fortunes to bolster Ontario as a leader in Canada.

But, it is also about framing the Progressive Conservative as a more compassionate party, something that had been lost over time, he adds.

“I thought the party before was out of touch,” he said. “I didn’t run to say nice things and say it wasn’t our fault

we lost. It *was* our fault. The party only had 10,000 members. It needed a complete overhaul. We had become almost Republican in our positions, always voting against everything the Liberals did. I say there is no monopoly on a good idea. We will vote for anything if it makes sense for Ontario.

“I don’t care if it is a Liberal idea or an NDP idea, if it makes sense for Ontario we will vote for it. I am not going to be blindly ideological or blindly partisan. Today, the party has over 80,000 members, of which I can tell you half of the membership is visible minorities. This is a very different PC party. I think what you’re seeing is the PC party is very much reflective of Ontario today.”

In the next installment of The Auroran’s interview with Patrick Brown, the PC leader weighs in on proposals to reform the Ontario Municipal Board, and Ontario’s Places to Grow legislation.



Mayor Dawe and Mr. Brown at the Library.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From page 5

the 60th.

I happened to be in Holland as a 20 year old Canadian soldier, so I remember it well.

I have also been back to Holland for the 50th anniversary in 1995, the 55th anniversary in 2000, and the 60th anniversary celebrations in 2005. I would have gone for the 70th, but for health reasons could not.

I think you owe an apology to our Dutch friends. They will never forget the date, nor will I.

Frank Young
Second World War Veteran
Aurora

(Editor’s Note: We apologise for the typographical error. Thank you for your service.)

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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48					49			50	51	52	53	54
55					56				57			58
59					60				61			
62					63					64		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Blackbird (Scot.)
5. Part of (abbr.)
8. Large fish
11. Of urea
13. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
14. Organized crime head
15. Bird genus
16. Curve
17. Greek sophist
18. Thick river fish
20. Negative
21. Young woman (French)
22. Extra features
25. Luckily
30. Pounced
31. Congressman
32. 92543
33. Flemish names of Ypres
38. Spherical body
41. Imply
43. Popular zombie TV show
45. Drink
48. Used to have (Scottish)
49. Former hoopster Heard
50. California graffiti artist
55. Managed
56. Irish military organization
57. Felt ill
59. Larkin, Rose, Bench
60. Used to catch fish
61. Jewish spiritual leader
62. Andahuaylas Airport
63. Google development expert
64. Cheek

CLUES DOWN

1. Central European river
2. Actor Bana
3. 20th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
4. Southeast Asian ethnic group
5. Celestial body
6. Investigator
7. Tangible
8. Type of television
9. Opaque gems
10. Portion
12. Carriage
14. Women’s undergarment
19. Of sound mind
23. Mentally ill
24. Office skill
25. Follicle-stimulating hormone
26. An obligation to repay
27. Read-only memory
28. The lower end
29. Billy knew a girl from here
34. Not the beginning
35. He wrote “The Raven”
36. When you’ll get there
37. Celtics legend Auerbach
39. Making fun of
40. Made dim
41. Heston character El __
42. Small integers
44. Unarmed combat
45. Made of wood
46. Rex and Sorenson to name two
47. Affixes
48. Wife of Zeus
51. Swiss river
52. Prejudice
53. Actor Idris
54. Runnin’ __: UNLV nickname
58. Criticize

Last Week’s Puzzle Solution

PUZZLE SOLUTION	B	I	B	B		I	G	B	O	S		B	O	M	B
	L	O	L	O		V	A	R	I	A		E	L	S	E
	A	N	I	L		A	N	E	L	E		D	E	E	T
	B	A	N	T	U		D	D	S		B	E	A	C	H
					I	N	T	H	E	K	N	O	W		
	E	T	A		B	A	I		I	A	N		B	M	W
	B	A	D	M	A	N		D	N	B		G	A	E	A
	B	L	U	E	R		B	O	S		S	A	L	A	D
	E	A	S	T		B	A	B		B	A	B	B	L	E
	D	S	T		B	E	D		R	A	T		O	S	S
				S	I	L	I	C	A	T	E	S			
	B	A	A	E	D		N	Y	C		S	A	B	E	R
	O	L	L	A		D	A	C	E	S		B	A	R	I
	B	A	E	L		N	G	A	M	I		I	B	I	S
	S	E	E	S		A	E	D	E	S		N	E	C	K

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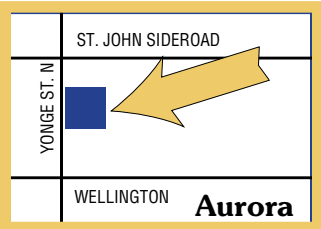
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