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Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 18 No. 5 905-727-3300

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FREE

Week of November 16, 2017 CMCA



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Aurora Remembers

Remembrance Day was marked with a flypast of an RCAF Hercules aircraft on Saturday to mark the placement of the Light Armoured Vehicle (LAV) just north of the Cenotaph paying tribute to veterans from the Afghanistan Conflict. The LAV was unveiled by veterans Cpl Morton Pompeil and WO Nemeth, below centre. Below Right: Second World War Veteran Carl Bedal greets students at Rick Hansen Public School. Below Right: Veterans and families paid tribute to comrades and loved ones at Saturday's Cenotaph

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger and Brock Weir



"Solutions don't come as a result of war"

By Brock Weir

Second World War Veteran Carl Bedal often spends this time of year in schools sharing his wartime experiences with students.

This Remembrance Day was no exception as he joined fellow veterans Jack Crone and Peggy Strange, all residents of the Hollandview Trail Retirement Community, at Rick Hansen Public School on Friday for a morning of Remembrance.

Greeted and farewelled with a flurry of handshakes from excited and thankful students, the veterans listened intently

as the students paid tribute to the fallen attentive group of youngsters. "It reminds and stirring video.

"It is very important for those of us who are veterans to be a part of youth celebrations such as this," said Mr. Bedal. "I feel a responsibility as a veteran to do this sort of thing on a regular basis as long as I am able."

These were sentiments echoed by Sergeant Carl Coney, a currently serving member of the RCAF who made his second Remembrance Day visit to the school.

"My experience has reinforced the value of veterans," Sgt. Coney told the

through spoken word, interpretive dance, me of the critical roles the Canadian uniform has played – and continues to play - in our country."

> Paying tribute to his forebears, Sgt. Coney shared with students the experiences of First World War veterans at Hill 70, Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge in the First World War, as well as the latter day battles, victories and losses in Dieppe, Hong Kong, the Battle of the Atlantic, D-Day, the Italian Campaign and more.

> "More than one million Canadian and Newfoundlanders served during the war,

> > **Continued on page 20**

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If you want to donate, think food over toys: Lions Club

By Brock Weir

It's a trend Jim Bondy would rather see be discontinued, but if the number continues to rise he and the Aurora Lions Club are ready to tackle it headon.

The Lions kick-started their 2017 Christmas Campaign on Friday by recognizing local accounting firm Millard Foster Thibeault Youell for their annual \$2,000 donation towards



HONOURED GUESTS - The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame welcomed four new members on Wednesday evening as the Class of 2017. Pictured here, from left, inductees Mike Palmateer, Bob Wall, Dan Thompson and, represented here by grandson David Fleury, William Fleury. For more on this year's ceremony, see Page 6. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Continued on page 7

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Notice Board

AURORA

Lipi Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Thursday, November 16	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee Rescheduled to Nov. 30
Friday, November 17	10 a.m.	Council Chambers	Trails and Active Transportation Committee
Saturday, November 18	9 a.m.	Council Chambers	Budget Committee (Operating Budget)
Monday, November 20	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Budget Committee (Operating Budget)
Tuesday, November 21	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, November 21	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee
-Wednesday, November 22	5:30 p.m.	Holland Room	Finance Advisory Committee Cancelled
Wednesday, November 22	7 pm.	Council Chambers	Public Planning
Monday, November 27	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Budget Committee (Operating Budget)
Tuesday, November 28	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, November 28	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Thursday, November 30	7 p.m.	Leksand Room	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee

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

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 aurora.ca.

Public Notices

Notice of service disruptions

Please see below for the scheduled service disruption at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex:

Skating times for Ladies Shinny from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and Adult Shinny from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be cancelled on Wednesday, November 22, 2017.

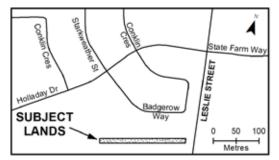
Please see below for the scheduled service disruption at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex:

The lane and swim and spa pool programs running from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. will be cancelled effective Monday, November 6 for the remainder of the fall season.

For more information, visit aurora.ca/news.

Notice of intention to pass a by-law to declare as surplus and sell municipal lands Part 5 on Plan of Reference 65R-142, Aurora

Take notice that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora (the "Town") is providing notice of its intention to pass a by-law on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, pursuant to Report No. PBS17-081, for the purpose of declaring as surplus and selling land legally described as Part of Lot 21, Concession 2, being Part 5 on Plan of Reference 65R-142, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being part of PIN 03642-4568 (LT), having a total area of approximately 0.48 acres, more or less, as illustrated for location purposes only on Figure 1 (below).



The by-law will be available on the Town's website, located at aurora.ca/agendasminutes on November 24, 2017 ahead of the Council meeting on Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 7 p.m. at Aurora Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 100 John West Way.

For more information, please contact Anthony Ierullo, Manager, Long Range & Strategic Planning, at 905-727-3123, ext. 4742 or by email at aierullo@aurora.ca.

Brookland Avenue construction

Please be aware that businesses located at Yonge Street and Brookland Avenue remain open during construction. Regular driveway entrances are still in use.

Hartwell Bridge expected to open on **November 27**

Good news for residents in the Bayview/Leslie and St. John's Sideroad area. The Hartwell Bridge is expected to open on Monday, November 27, 2017.

Temporary road closure for Santa Under the Stars Parade

Please be advised that vehicular traffic on the following portions of Yonge Street will be temporarily prohibited on **Saturday**, **November 25, 2017** for the Annual Santa Under the Stars

- 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Yonge Street from St. John's Sideroad to Orchard Heights Boulevard.
- 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Yonge Street from St. John's Sideroad to Wellington Street and Wellington Street to Batson Drive (northbound traffic only). All side streets between Wellington Street and Batson Drive will still be open. Southbound Yonge Street will be open until 5:30 p.m. when the full road closure
- 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Yonge Street from Orchard Heights Boulevard to Henderson Drive.
- 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m Englehard Drive from Edward Street to Industrial Parkway.
- 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Old Yonge Street (southbound only) from St. John's Sideroad to Twelve Oaks Drive. Northbound Old Yonge Street will be open for through traffic.

What's Happening



New resident information sessions

Have you recently moved to Aurora? Find out more about living in Aurora by joining us for a new resident information session.

Learn how to sign up for automatic billing for your tax and water bills, find out about your responsibilities as a homeowner and what general bylaws apply to residents, get garbage and recycling tips and hear more about the Town's exciting parks and recreation programs.

The next session is on **Thursday, November 23, 2017** from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Aurora Town Hall, 100 John West Way. To register, call 905-727-1375 or email info@aurora.ca.

Public Open House seeking feedback on Town of Aurora's Strategic Plan

Aurora's Long Range and Strategic Planning division is holding a public open house to ask for feedback on the proposed mid-term modifications to Aurora's Strategic Plan.

The open house will be held on **Wednesday**, **November 29**. There will be two sessions at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. held at Aurora

The strategic plan is a collaborative and inclusive community planning tool that identifies the desired future for the community; what it looks like, how it functions and how to achieve the vision for the future.

For more information about this public open house, please contact ecdev@aurora.ca or call 905-727-3123 ext. 4324.

To find out more about Aurora's Strategic Plan visit: aurorastrategicplan.ca.

Register now for winter programs & aquatics

The Winter 2018 Parks, Recreation and Culture Program Guide has been distributed to all residents via the Banner Newspaper. Registrations are open for winter programs and aquatics. To register, visit aurora.ca/recguide.



What's Happening AURORA'S PARADE SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2017 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Travelling south on Yonge Street from Orchard Heights Boulevard to Murray Drive. The Salvation Army will collect food donations and letters to Santa along the route prior to the start of the parade. aurora.ca/santaparade 905-726-4762 • #AuroraSantaParade **AURORA** Please note, we reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities. Proudly PF4FF O State Farm sponsored by ®State Farm and related trademarks and logos are registered trademarks owned by State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, used under licence by Certas Home and Auto Insurance Company and

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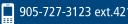












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AURORA





HONOURED CITIZENS

Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MP Leona Alleslev honoured two dozen area residents ranging in age from 13 to 100! - on Monday evening with special Canada 150 Citizenship Awards. Recognized in three categories ranging from Discovery & Innovation, Reflection of Canadian Values, and Thoughtful Leadership, honourees included (Discovery & Innovation) Bob & Steven Dengler, Robert Dugal MacDuff, Kayley Ting, Dr. Jan Oudenes, the Classy Cyborgs robotics team founded at Lester B. Pearson Public School, (Reflection of Canadian Values) James Wai-Hing Hui, now in his 100th year, Jim Chapman, Razak Damani, Hamida Merchant, Rosemary Park, (Thoughtful Leadership) Howard Doughty, Sean Cisterna, Olivia Railton, Robin Morrison Claus and Stephen Lanning. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



Shoulder Pain: New Approach Delivers Remarkable Results

If you suffer from Shoulder Pain (tendonitis/Arthritis) you need to be aware of effective advancements that can eliminate years of pain, suffering, immobility and frustration.

You may have told your doctor you suffer with one or more of the following: sore, stiff, painful shoulder, neck stiffness or pain, hand stiffness, and/ or elbow pain.

You may find that your pain or stiffness affects your work, housekeeping, leisure activities, exercise, sports or other activities. You go to the drug store or to your doctor and get pills to help relieve your pain. But you find the pain keeps returning. Alternatively, the doctor may refer you to a specialist who may tell you that surgery is needed or is an option for you.

However, many people are hesitant to have surgery given its invasive nature. It is important to know that although surgery is sometimes necessary, it is considered a last resort in most cases.

Also, you may have heard that there are serious health risks associated with chronic use (or overuse) of pain pills or anti-inflammatory drugs that include damage to the liver, kidneys and gut.

There is a new, natural, safe and highly effective approach that has helped many sufferers improve their lives dramatically: Laser therapy uses light to favor and accelerate the body's natural healing process-

"This new, natural, safe and highly effective approach has helped many sufferers improve their lives dramatically".

es. The innovative Multiwave Locked System (MLS) Laser produces a safe, efficient and simultneous effect on pain, inflammation, swelling and water retention, exceeding the limits of traditional LLLT (Low power) and concerns of HP (High power) laser therapy.

What does this mean for you?

Our patients have reported a 90-95% relief of their symptoms, more mobility, increased flexibility and vastly improved function!

It is the very latest in medical technology, with years of clinical studies supporting its safety and efficacy and we are very proud to offer our patients effective solutions to their recent or chronic conditions.

"This new, natural, safe and highly effective approach has helped many sufferers improve their lives dramatically".

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My name is Erica Vickerson, I have been working for

Highland GM for almost two years now. I am still new

to the automotive industry but am learning new things

everyday. I hope to grow and learn as much as possible

group of people that I enjoy working with. When I am not

here at Highland. Our service department has a great

working I enjoy spending my time at various different

educating them on preventative maintenance for their

or have any questions I would be happy to assist you.

vehicles, if you would like to set up a service appointment

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This is why we Hoedown

I have spoken before about how unique the Magna Hoedown is as a community event.

It requires commitment from many different entities.

Firstly, we have a large, local corporation, Magna International covering all the costs to put on the event. We have an army of volunteers stepping up to support and amazing array of groups, organizations, and charities that work every day to improve the quality of life for all of us in the community. Add to that a number of small, local businesses who donate goods and services in support of the cause.

All are pitching in, rolling up their sleeves and taking ownership.

They do this to be part of something special that has been giving back to this community for 29 years. Last night (Wednesday) I felt a sense of pride when I listened to the groups talk about where the money was going, what Hoedown meant to them and as they shared their memories of Hoedown. There was a great feeling in that room.

I believe that came from everyone rolling up their sleeves to complete their respective tasks and feeling good together.

Plus, we all had fun.

To me, that describes a proven, winning formula. As we all watched the cheques being presented to this year's recipients, we all collectively realized... THIS is why we Hoedown.

> **Steve Hinder** Magna For Community

Students suffer in college strike

The strike which is happening at the Ontario Community Colleges is now in the fifth week.

The students are in the middle between the College Management and the striking faculty. The issues are quite clear: the ratio of part-time to full time teachers is way out of proportion

In some departments at the Colleges, approximately only 30% are full-time professors. How can you plan courses with other teachers when they might be gone at the next term?

Does the government realize that over 500,000 students are learning a very negative lesson? They have paid significant tuition fees, bought books and many rent an apartment so they can live away from home to attend school. The students are about to lose their school term due to the stoppage in the term's classes.

Interestingly, the people with power at this moment are not really worried about the fate for the students' academic year. The Colleges are actually saving money due to the strike by the employees! The government views the students as not all that important politically, since they do not have high rates of voting participation at the election time. They do not own much wealth and they are not an essential group to win an election.

Can the Liberal government please take some responsibility and get the students back into the classroom? They have suffered enough!

> Jim Jackson Aurora

Governor General's remarks "out of line"

Last Wednesday the Governor General took on climate change deniers, occult practices and, unfortunately, people of faith.

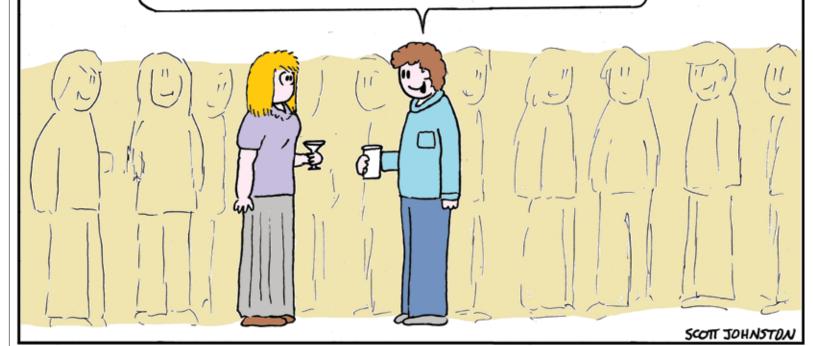
She said, in incredulous tones, "We are still debating and still questioning whether life was a divine intervention or whether it was coming out of a natural process let alone, oh my goodness, a random process."

Continued on page 13

YOU MIGHT BE FROM AURORA IF ...

... your knowledge of Canadian history is based on passing glances at the mural at Yonge and Wellington

THE SNOWMOBILE, INVENTED BY MARILYN BELL, WAS THE FIRST ROBOTIC TOOL ON THE BLUENOSE.



Change in the brisk air

As the grandchild and greatgrandchild of a raft of servicemen and women, Remembrance Day always has a special place in my heart.

It is a day I have always tried, regardless of where I am, to observe, whether it was at school assemblies when I was younger, taking the bus into the heart of the city to the National War Memorial when I was studying in Ottawa, or simply taking a stroll down Yonge Street to our own Cenotaph to take in the invariably moving services among scores of people united with that very same objective: to Remember.

This job allows one to take in such experiences from many different perspectives, oftentimes two different perspectives in the same year.

When Remembrance Day falls on any day other than the weekend, there are usually two services to observe, often on the nearest Sunday and Remembrance Day proper. When there's a Sunday service, I'm usually on duty covering the event off to the north side of the Cenotaph, with more or less a low-flying bird's eye view of the proceedings.

The weekday ceremonies, on the other hand, provide an opportunity to be amongst the hundreds of Aurorans who gather to pay tribute, affording the chance to seek very personal answers, and answers never anything less than unique, to the common question: why do vou Remember?

Over the years, their answers have run the gamut from a woman remembering her father, killed in action when she was a toddler, leaving her just a few fleeting memories, a handful of reminiscences passed down from her widowed mother along with an incalculable amount of

There have been parents still flying on air from the recent arrival of their son or daughter back from the front, and other couples weighed down with worry over what might come next for their children who were, at the time, still serving in Afghanistan or on training missions around the world.

Others, bowed by age, were there to remember the men they served alongside of in very real theatres of war, more leaving a poppy in memory of a spouse or sibling who had made the ultimate sacrifice.

Each story stood alone, each moving, each providing a life lesson from which we can all benefit.

This year, however, there was only one service - on Remembrance Day proper this past Saturday. As such, I was at my usual weekend post up by the Cenotaph.



BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

It is a scene which never fails to impress.

Given the cold snap, I was wondered what the crowds would be like. On sunny days which veer to the warmer ends of the thermometer, the place is teeming. Otherwise, the crowds are slightly thinner but impressive nonetheless. I predicted the latter before arriving on the scene, but the new LAV was the wildcard.

The LAV, or Light Armoured Vehicle, had recently been placed atop its long-waiting concrete pad just a few days previously to serve as a tribute – albeit a controversial tribute to those who served in the recent conflict in Afghanistan and, as such, there was set to be a bit more pomp and circumstances to the proceedings, promising a flypast from the RCAF to mark the tribute's unveiling.

While it was, for many attendees, a moving sight, I was pleased to hear from those I spoke to that it was not necessarily an added draw; our crowds and what a mightily impressive crowd it was! - were ready to be there regardless, whether or not the vehicle was finally ready for its close-up.

Before the LAV's plaque, explaining its meaning, was unveiled by two veterans of Afghanistan, I was moved by the slow but deliberate procession of honoured guests up the path leading to the Cenotaph to take pride of place on the dais.

As I anticipated, it was a smaller procession than usual – just a handful of men and women who had served King - or Queen - and country when they were needed most, at a time that is part of the historical record for many in the crowd, or distant personal memories for others.

Weather, of course, was a factor. It was a relief to see some faces who previously occupied those seats such as Frank Young – receiving the tributes they so richly deserve after the ceremony from the warmth of the traditional post-service luncheon hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary at the Royal Canadian Legion. Yet, it was a poignant reminder of how we need to cherish this generation while we still have the chance.

Two of our veterans from Afghanistan received a moment in the spotlight when they had the opportunity to unveil the plaque on a vehicle so closely related to their service in memory and tribute to people so near to their hearts, but that was just a moment. Whether they are still serving as active personnel or blending in with the crowd - and I know for a fact that this was indeed the case for a few – it would be nice if these heroes were able and willing to take a greater role in the ceremonies as the veterans they are.

For so many of us, the word "veteran" brings up images of a senior, a parent or a grandparent. But the face of the veteran is a changing one and should be embraced. Perhaps this gives more recent veterans pause before they embrace the fact they are indeed a veteran, but people would so dearly wish to salute them along with their predecessors.

The following morning was spent, as my Remembrance Sunday so often is, watching the broadcast from London where so many of my forebears served either during wartime or before departing for the thick of the theatre.

It too is an invariably moving service made extra poignant by the presence of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, the only still serving Head of State and Consort who proudly served in the Second World War, the Duke himself seeing active combat in the Royal Navy and being mentioned in dispatches.

This year's ceremony had an extra layer of poignancy as, for the first time, Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, did not take an active role in the ceremony, instead observing the proceedings from a nearby balcony with the rest of their family as their son, the Prince of Wales, laid a wreath on their behalf, followed by the rest of their children and Princes William and Harry.

It was a concession to age, and the recent retirement of the Duke of Edinburgh, but a sign that time is indeed marching on.

As the Royal Couple prepares to quietly mark their 70th wedding anniversary this Monday, November 20, it is high time to give thanks once again to this remarkable couple, veterans both, who still so admirably and faithfully serve the United Kingdom, Canada and the rest of the Commonwealth each and every day.

They are an example we can all be proud of and I, for one, will be raising a glass in their honour – both in thanks and for many years of health and happiness to come.

THE AURO Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Ron Wallace

Publisher Emeritus Rosemary Schumake

Subscriptions available within Canada and U.S. email: administration@auroran.com

EDITOR Brock Weir

Zach Shoub

zach@lpcmedia.ca

TODAYS NEW HOMES Zach Shoub

CLASSIFIEDS

905-727-3300 ex.102 cynthia@auroran.com

heather@caledoncitizen.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

cynthia@auroran.com

Cynthia Proctor

Diane Buchanan

diane@auroran.com

ADVERTISING

MOTORING

ADVERTISING Doug Sherritt

doug@lpcmedia.ca **ADVERTISING**

Chelsea Ertel chelsea@lpcmedia.ca

PHOTOGRAPHY

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To submit a letter to the editor, please send your email to letters@auroran.com Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 1 p.m.



The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating...

Entrepreneurs' Day! (November 21)

Visit our latest exhibit, The Plow in the Crest, to learn more about one of Aurora's earliest entrepreneurs, Joseph Fleury. Guest curated by Joseph's great-grandchildren, the exhibition delves into the personalities behind one of the largest manufacturing firms and employers in Aurora, and one of the most successful of the many agricultural firms established in Ontario. The Aurora Museum & Archives is located on the second floor of 22 Church Street.



Plan for "Real Change" is Working



MP's Report

Kyle Peterson, MP **Newmarket-Aurora**

The past few weeks in Ottawa have been full of exciting news as our government has been hard at work for all Canadians. I am proud to be working to represent our community in the House of Commons.

Parliament Hill has witnessed a flurry of activity in recent weeks as the construction of the first ever public skating rink is underway. From December 1st to December 31st, the rink on the lawn of Parliament Hill will play host to a number of exciting events in celebration of Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation.

As we mark the two-year point into our mandate, I am proud to share with the news that our plan for real change is working. Today more Canadians have a job, we have the fastest growing economy in the G7 and we are investing in our long-term future. With positive economic outcomes, we are re-investing into our economy to benefit the middle class and those working hard to join it.

In our government's Fall Economic Statement, we announced that we are strengthening the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) to make sure it keeps pace with the rising cost of living, making annual increases starting in July 2018 - two years ahead of schedule. Across our country, 3.4 million Canadians have benefited from more support with the CCB and locally over 10,000 families have received the CCB with an average payout of \$510 in 2017.

Beginning next year, a single parent making \$35,000 with two children will receive up to \$560 more, tax free.

I am a member of the International Trade Committee. We recently had the pleasure of speaking with Ukrainian

Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman at a special joint committee meeting of the International Trade, Foreign Affairs, and Defence Committees. I had the opportunity to ask the Prime Minister how the Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement will eliminate trade barriers and create economic opportunities for businesses in both of our nations.

While the previous weeks have been busy in Ottawa, the weekends have been full of important events here at home.

Recently, Roadhouse and Rose Funeral Home celebrated a significant milestone – their 175th anniversary. For 175 years, they have been an integral part of Newmarket and Aurora, providing full services to our community for their funeral needs. Congratulations and thank you for all the great work that you do!

On Saturday. October 21, I was pleased to attend the 6th Annual Hillary House Ball hosted by the Aurora Historical Society. One of Aurora's most significant landmarks, the Hillary House National Historic Site is an integral part of our community. Each year the event is an evening to remember. A sincere thank you to the Aurora Historical Society for their ongoing efforts and commitment to the preservation of Hillary House.

On November 4, I attended the Remembrance Dinner and Ceremony at the Aurora Legion Branch #385. The evening was an opportunity for us to reflect upon the sacrifice made by those who gave their lives for the causes of freedom, peace, and the values we cherish. It was great to see our community come together to honour

our brave women and men in uniform. Congratulations to all on a successful event. My wife Andrea and I were honoured to attend.

The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame held their annual Induction Celebration Dinner on Wednesday, November 8, at St. Andrew's College. The evening was full of celebration and joy as our community came together to honour our local sporting heroes for their outstanding athletic achievements. This year's inductees included Mike Palmateer (hockey), Bob Wall (hockey), the late William Fleury (cricket) and Dan Thompson. A special thanks to all those who worked tirelessly to make the 5th annual Induction Celebration a resounding success.

Finally, on a chilly Saturday morning, our community came together in tremendous numbers to pause in silence and remember those who have fought for our freedom. The Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremony in Aurora was held at the Cenotaph and saw a flyover of a C-130 Hercules during the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. A sincere thank you to the Aurora Royal Canadian Legion Branch #385, members of the Canadian Armed Forces, the Queens York Rangers, and Cadets who played an integral part in making the Remembrance Day events

As a reminder, you can reach out to my office and my staff at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need any information or assistance with Federal Matters. We are located at 16600 Bayview Avenue, Suite 202. You can reach us at Tel: 905-953-7515 or by email at Kyle.Peterson@parl.gc.ca.

Protecting our existing neighbourhoods.

I was reading last week's edition of the Auroran and spied editor Brock Weir's article about the issue of protecting the unique characteristics of our neighbourhoods and thought that I would weigh in on this topic.

We have seen three slightly different variants on this general issue play out in our communities over the last number of years.

First, we saw the issue with Glenway in Newmarket and with the Aurora Highlands Golf Course in Aurora. In both cases, private developers bought the club and existing land from the golf course owner with the intention of erecting town houses, single dwelling homes and in the case of Aurora, a 10 storey apartment complex.

In both cases, the home owners in the local area banded together to form rate payers association and in both cases, the private developers appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board. And again, in both cases, while cutting back slightly on the number of dwellings, the respective developments moved ahead.

Second, and although it is different, remember a number of years back when Aurora Council was dealing with the potential installation of a 400 MW natural gas generation peaking facility near Bloomington road in the southern part of Aurora?

The issue here was one of safety,

noise and property values. And now we have the third which is



FRONT PORCH PERSPECTIVE

Stephen Somerville

protecting the character of existing neighbourhoods from monster homes.

I can partially see where the provincial government is coming from in the first two instances.

Regarding the real estate development issue, the Places To Grow Legislation that the former McGuinty government put in place in 2005 ascribed intensification targets for our towns and cities.

This makes general sense as we need to accommodate further population growth in our province and every community has to do their respective share in accepting more folks.

But what I find different about this situation is that Aurora, from what I could tell at the time, was meeting

its mandated interim intensification targets and Highland Gate is a mature community. If the Town is meeting these targets, then locally elected officials should

have ultimate say over zoning and

planning within Aurora.

Regarding the placement of an energy project, as someone who has been developing various types of power projects across Canada and the United States (natural gas, land fill gas, and wind) as well as the transmission lines and natural gas pipelines associated with these power projects, I see a parallel.

The province ultimately is responsible for seeing that the lights stay on in the province.

The province has now put in place regional committees to dealing with electricity planning so that a coordinated approach can be made to ensure that communities have adequate energy supply. This also means ensuring that communities understand the resulting trade-offs - including cost - between alternatives, like having local generation or large local transmission

I do agree that something has to be done to protect the sanctity of our community.

We need to respect the ambience and character of our existing neighbourhoods. People who buy into these streets should be given some latitude if they are tearing down and building a new dwelling or enlarging an existing home, but not be given carte blanche to do what they like.

> Stephen can be contacted at stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



SENIOR SCAPE

Now that we're in November, thoughts will turn to Remembrance Day on the 11th and the gratitude we owe to so many veterans and their families.

Even if you're a peace loving, anti war aging hippie, like I am, vou must acknowledge how much thanks we owe to all the soldiers who fought so unselfishly in the wars our country has been involved in, particularly the two World Wars.

In those wars the enemy was clearly identifiable and defeating them so crucial to allowing us to have the freedoms we enjoy today.Wear your poppy with pride to acknowledge your gratitude to the brave men and women who sacrificed for us all.

With Halloween now behind us, thoughts will turn to the next big celebration—Christmas. This year the Aurora Seniors' Association will be doing something different by hosting our annual Christmas Dinner at the Aurora Royal Canadian Legion at 89 Industrial Parkway. This event is very popular and always sells out, so moving it to a larger venue where we can seat more people makes perfect sense. Tickets are \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members and available only until 4pm on Friday, December 1.

The extensive menu will include Caesar Salad, Roast Beef, Roast Turkey with Sage Stuffing, Gravy, Horseradish, Mashed Potatoes, Garden Fresh Vegetables, Penne (pasta) with a Tomato Sauce, Rolls and Butter, Dessert Squares and Tea and Coffee.

The bar will be open between 5:30-8:30 pm. This year's entertainer is Vivianna who will be bringing her Holiday Show. She is hugely popular and greatly in demand. She performed for us once during the summer and had people on their feet dancing. She is expected to include some all-time greatest hits too with a hint of Latin flair. Be sure to get your tickets early as they will sell out and you don't want to be disappointed.

The Christmas Dinner is but one of the Special Events that are planned and coordinated by the Centre's Special Events' Committee.

When I first joined this Committee several years ago, we had a Special Event almost every month. However, these events take a lot of time to organize and they require people willing to work on each event from the conceptualization stage and planning to organizing all the event details. We seem to be able to attract people willing to help, but are having difficulty finding people who will take the leadlots of drones but few Queen Bees.

We need leaders and facilitators to volunteer their time so that we can continue to have these events which wonderfully augment the many, varied programs offered at the Centre. If you think that you may be the leader(s) that we are looking for, please give your name to the wonderful ladies at the desk or to Carol Hedenberg. Thank

Keep your eyes and ears open throughout December as there are several extra activities planned for members only. We want to be sure that our members whose families are far away have lots of great activities to engage in during the holiday season.

HAPPENINGS AT THE SENIORS' CENTRE

CHRISTMAS DINNER — as mentioned above, will be held at the Continued on page 10

THIS WEEK'S POLL

Starting in the 2018 – 2022 term, Council will consist of a Mayor and just six Councillors. Should Aurora consider making these six positions full time?

> Yes No Unsure Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!





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cds.on.ca/holidayfair FOR INFORMATION CONTACT 905.833.3640 EVENTS@CDS.ON.CA



The Country Day School 13415 Dufferin Street

Aurora's finest lauded at **Sports Hall of Fame induction**



Mike Palmateer, right, receives the plaque honouring his induction into the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

By Jake Courtepatte

Add four more names to the growing list of Aurora sporting icons.

Mike Palmateer, Bob Wall, Dan Thompson, and William Fleury were welcomed into the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame on Wednesday as this year's inductees, four athletes who reached the pinnacle of their sports.

St. Andrew's College was the host venue for the third year in a row, where close to 300 guests packed into Cole Hall to see the class don the traditional green sweater now worn by a total of 25 members.

"It's been amazing to see over the last five years how important this sports celebration is to this community," said ASHoF Board of Governors Chair Ron

This year marks the first year when all four inductees found themselves landing in the Hall's "Athletes" category: though on three different surfaces.

While Mr. Fleury and Mr. Thompson earned their legacy on the pitch and in the water respectively, Mr. Palmateer and Mr. Wall were on the ice.

James Duthie, TSN hockey analyst and the night's Master of Ceremonies for a third year, is never one to shy away from telling a good anecdote. He shared one he has of Mike Palmateer, as many in the Toronto area do, of he and his best friend playing hockey in his basement as a child.

Though Duthie was not a Maple Leafs fan, where Mr. Palmateer played during the pinnacle of his career, his friend would always "be" Mr. Palmateer when playing in net.

"That's the kind of guy he is, everyone wanted to be him."

Mr. Palmateer was a fan favourite during his days with the Leafs from 1976-80, then again from 1982-84, though his path there was somewhat tumultuous.

He shared a story of his first call up to the Maple Leaf's top farm team in Oklahoma City in 1974, where he was so excited to get on the ice for his first warm up he had forgotten his jock.

"Seriously," said Mr. Palmateer to a room full of laughs. "...as I went back out, all my new teammates were coming off the ice, so I never got my warm up."

Mr. Palmateer went on to describe a disastrous first professional few periods, though he closed his speech out with a message for the young athletes in the crowd.

"I see there are some kids out there tonight, and I want to remind them to never lose sight of their dreams. When I was young like you, and lacking size, people said I couldn't make it in hockey. I also had some knee injuries that made my pro career a long shot. But I worked hard, and never lost confidence in myself.'

One final anecdote shared by Mr. Palmateer brought his induction full circle. Upon his retirement, the Palmateer family was looking for a place to settle down, and found Aurora.

Their first family home was on Fleury Street, named for fellow inductee William Fleury.

Bob Wall, the first captain of the Los Angeles Kings in 1967, was happy to share a couple gems of his own.

He told of how when he was drafted by the Detroit Red Wings, home of the legendary "Mr. Hockey" Gordie Howe, he came to know one of the greatest to ever lace his skates.

"It was Mr. Howe at first, than Gordie, than the last plateau to reach was Gord," said Mr. Wall.

It was Howe himself that assisted on Mr. Wall's first NHL goal.

"I was almost like 'pinch me, wake me up, my dream is here."

Mr. Wall called himself fortunate to be able to coach his sons in hockey in Aurora, as well as his daughter's baseball team with the Diggers.

"Let's just say life has been good."

Guests were also treated to a live fantasy auction after dinner, where bidders competed for once-in-a-lifetime opportunities like trout fishing with Mr. Palmateer and a tour of the NHL's war room.

Always the grandest night of the year in Aurora sports, the event went off without a hitch save for some technical problems: though guests were instead introduced to the dulcet tones of Duthie's singing during those brief periods, so no complaints could be heard.

This year's inductees will see their photos and bios brandished on the walls of the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame for a full calendar year, where the public is also free to see their collections of equipment, medals, and other memorabilia.

Next week, The Auroran will focus on the induction of Mr. Fleury and Mr. Thompson.



Hockey's Bob Wall was also on hand to receive his plaque, sporting the traditional green sweater donned by all inductees at the ceremony.

Aurora Lions begin 2017 Holiday Drive with a challenge

From page 1

the campaign.

In 2016, over 200 local families in need were served by the Aurora Lions Club at a cost of over \$12,000 to the club. Donations such as these go a long way towards making Christmas merry for those in Aurora who are struggling to make ends meet.

"I have been doing this for three years," says Mr. Bondy. "In the first year, we had 140 families, the next year 160, and last year we had 220 and I am hoping this trend doesn't continue - not so much about the money that it costs, but 220 people in a community like Aurora is very, very high."

This is a problem Tim Millard of Millard Foster Thibeault Youell knows all too well.

I think a lot of people think Aurora is a rich town, which it is, but they don't realise that along with that, you have other people who just live on the margin or just get by

A former member of the local Lions Club himself, Mr. Millard says they make their ongoing donations to what they know is a good cause.

"It is just a straight donation," he said. "Being on some boards, you do see some waste and a lot of people who believe they are giving to charity but a lot of it gets sucked away through administration, salaries, overhead, rent or whatever. We're accountants for a lot of organizations, we see that firsthand, and we know this is a good one."

For Mr. Millard, who, through this article, is issuing a challenge to other professionals within the Aurora community to match their \$2,000 donation, it is important to give organizations like the Aurora Lions a monetary donation rather than a truckload of toys because, with cash in hand, the Lions can seek out what the needs of local client families really are, and go to work to ensure those needs are

"I think a lot of people think Aurora

is a rich town, which it is, but they don't realise that along with that, you have other people who just live on the margin or just get by," says Linda Thibeault.

Adds Tim: "Probably the pain of being the have-nots in Aurora is even more acute because your kids have to rub shoulders with those who have and it can be embarrassing."

"When we give out the baskets at Christmas, we always run out of nonperishable food," says Mr. Bondy. "We have toys coming out of our ears because, for a lot of people, they feel better when they give toys rather than a jar of peanut butter or jam. I am trying to get across to a lot of our donors that we will take food rather than toys. At least give us a couple of years to use up the inventory of toys that we have!"

Each year, the Lions, in conjunction with the Salvation Army, work to supply non-perishable food baskets, toys, clothes and Christmas gifts to all in

The small recognition ceremony held by The Lions at the Yonge Street offices of Millard Foster Thibeault Youell was just the starting point for the hard task ahead.

Everything needs to be in place donations counted and sorted, grocery and gift cards bought, baskets assembled - by the time they start distributing to the client families beginning December 18 and 19.

To that end, the Aurora Lions will be stationed once again at the Aurora Shopping Centre (No Frills) next month collecting donations of all kinds through their Charity Gift Wrap program where, in exchange for a monetary donation, the Lions will wrap all your Christmas gifts on your behalf.

The Wrapping will take place December 15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and continuing at the same time December 16, 22 and 23 – and Santa will be on hand to watch his Lion helpers in action.

For more on the Aurora Lions Club campaign – or to take up Tim Millard's \$2,000 donation challenge issued to local professionals - email Lion Jim Bondy at iebondv@rogers.com.



Lion Jim presents a plague of recognition to Tim Millard, second left, who was joined by, from left, Linda Thibeault, Maryann Foster, Lion Michelle, Ryan Youell, and Lions Ed and Rula.

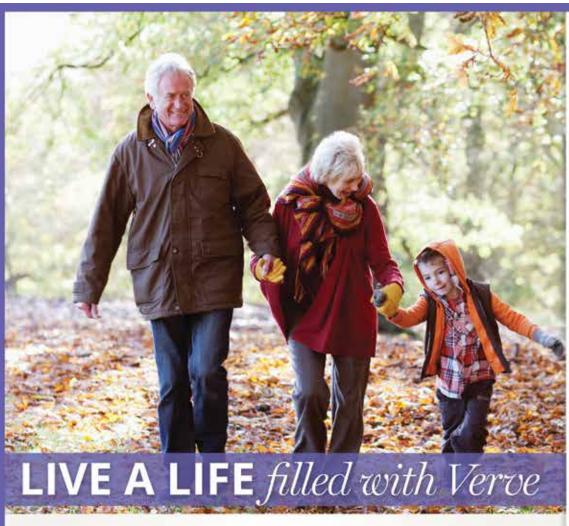
Auroran photo by Brock Weir



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SUPPORTING SENIORS – CHATS' Tim Jones and Christina Bisanz accept a cheque from Mayor Geoff Dawe last week. CHATS – or Community and Home Assistance to Seniors – was one of several organizations to benefit from this year's Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic held earlier this year.

Auroran photo by Diane Buchanan

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Road construction has led to a serious hit on downtown businesses: owner

By Brock Weir

Ongoing construction on Brookland
Avenue near Yonge Street has led to a serious financial hit for area business owners, leaving one to question whether the Town cares for the little guy.

Town of Aurora, responding to questions from Councillor Michael Thompson on what has, and could be done to address the challenges facing business owners in the Brookland area. "[The construction]

These concerns were raised at Council last week by Dennis Hurst, co-owner of the Yonge Street Winery, which helps patrons make and bottle their own vintage.

In approaching the podium in Open Forum, he told lawmakers he was not there to "throw insults" or "disrespect" anyone, but to act as an advocate for other small business owners in the area.

"People's livelihoods and personal wellbeing is at stake," said Mr. Hurst. "Starting tonight, the Town of Aurora, both on the political side, as well as the administrative side, need to recognize that major construction plans, as I believe has happened here, can have serious and devastating consequences on its citizens and, in this case, local citizens.

"I am going to be very direct here: our revenue in November of 2017 has declined to 55 per cent compared to the same period last year and the prognosis for November so far is not encouraging. This is the direct result of ongoing construction on Brookland and the lack of consumer access to our plaza. We know this because prior to commencement of road constriction our year over year revenues were increasing in a capable manner."

Town Staff on hand for last week's Committee meeting said there had indeed been a breakdown meeting residents' needs and talks were ongoing to rectify the situation.

"We have been trying to provide

some support to the businesses," said Doug Nadorozny, CAO for the Town of Aurora, responding to questions from Councillor Michael Thompson on what has, and could facing business owners in the Brookland area. "[The construction] has clearly been more disruptive than we anticipated and, at the same time, I think it is safe to say we could have taken a little more time before this project started to anticipate the kind of challenges we are seeing on the site, particularly as it related to the site disruption. At this stage, I believe the worst of the disruption for the business is over."

The CAO added he believed most of the work on the below-grade infrastructure was complete and while a gravel road will be in place for a little while before new asphalt can be applied, a total blockage of the plaza will be "minimized."

"In the future, we have committed to taking more time and thinking about the implications for businesses when these kinds of projects go on, both from a minimal and worst-casescenario and try to have a better plan because we were certainly doing this on the fly."

From Mr. Hurst's perspective, however, Council is not living up to its commitment to, as stated on the Town's website, to "serve the residents of the Town of Aurora in a responsive and effective manner through leadership and legislative action for the present and future wellbeing of the community."

"Tonight, as a small business owner, I have to be honest: I'm not feeling it, particularly the 'wellbeing' part," Mr. Hurst contended. "That marketing might make for nice window dressing on the Town's website, but the truth is, to me, not credible. Despite a well documented string of email and phone calls from my partner to the Town's administration office over the last six weeks, we have felt ignored. We have been humiliated and disrespected by the construction employees on site and, most of all, we felt abandoned by the Town - and this is the Town we have been proud residents of since 1995 and [where] we have built our business since 1996.

"Even though we have played by the rules for 21 years, paid substantial business taxes for 21 years, continuously supported the community through charities and kids' sports and hockey teams and the like, and paid for special fees for permits and signs all these years, we feel our rights have been completely violated simply because our company is not on the list of Fortune 100 companies Aurora seems to have preference for.

"Our conclusion is our company and other businesses in this plaza simply aren't big enough to matter."

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Service levels will be maintained through 2018 budget but no room for expansion: CAO

By Brock Weir

There will be little wiggle room when Council begins deliberating the 2018 Operating Budget this Saturday.

With a firm budget established so far resulting in a 2.9 per cent increase to the municipal portion of your tax bill, there will be just \$94,800 for Council to work with in addressing budget pitches made by community groups if they want to stay within their forecasted final budget increase of 3.1 per cent.

It is a lean budget, according to CAO Doug Nadorozny, one which will allow Aurora to maintain existing service levels in a rapidly growing community, but it doesn't leave any room for added services.

"Like any municipal budget, we have had to deal with some challenges," said Mr. Nadorozny at last week's General Committee meeting. "We have maintained service levels despite growth and demands on services in many of our frontlines."

Along with these challenges, there is a decrease in Aurora's reliance on supplemental tax revenues to shoulder any of the pressures on the tax rate and a driver to ensure tax increases are pegged to inflation.

"In June this year it was established the GTA inflation rate was 2.1 per cent, so added to the one per cent for the fiscal strategy (contributions to reserves, a decrease in reliance on supplementary taxes, and the interest from Hydro Reserves), this resulted in an operating budget direction of up to 3.1 per cent as a starting point for staff," he said. "Throughout the process, we have been constantly pushing for more accurate financial reporting which, in turn, leads to more accurate budgets and we have seen some gains as we have gone through the budget...this year where things are a little tighter or a little easier to bring accurate budgets.

"As CAO, I did a line by line review

with each of the directors and we have had some discussions about six weeks ago on the details of the individual budgets. We continue to work on KPIs (Key Performance Indicators)...and I will be the first to admit that more work is needed in this area to make sure we are tracking KPIs that are relevant, accurate and clear. We have fallen short of where I had hoped we'd be last year when I was talking about KPIs, but that remains our target list to improve significantly for the last budget."

You get well maintained infrastructure, you get sustained community service levels, you get award-winning community events, we have a great variety of recreational and cultural opportunities for all ages and all abilities. and at the end of the day I believe we have a well-managed and fiscally sustainable community

In addition to the above challenges, Aurora is anticipating another hit where it comes to salaries. Changes to employment standards, particularly wages, making their way through the Ontario Legislature, is expected to result in a \$600,000 tax pressure going into next year which is now accounted for in the 2.9 per cent tax

Building on an introduction from the CAO, Town Treasurer Dan Elliott said Aurora continues to move down the road from a suburban to urban community, one which is dependant not on greenfield builds but rather

intensification.

the residential build is progressing much more rapidly than we anticipated," said Mr. Elliott, noting the Aurora Promenade Plan, already in place, will help guide the infill slated to take place within the Yonge and Wellington corridors. "That is driving the future for us as we move towards this intensification stage. In the economic realm, it's pretty stable. We have some slowly increasing interest rates as the powers that be try to manage that inflation.

"We have an additional one per cent for fiscal strategies. This year, for 2018, this is the first time since 2005 when Aurora sold its hydro that we are not relying on interest from the hydro sale proceeds. We have reduced that reliance on supplementary revenues as part of our fiscal strategy and we are increasing our cash to capital contributions. We are doing what we said and I think we're on the right track.

"When we take the new revenues and we deduct all the pressures, truly there was nothing left for our departments to increase their spending, so they ended up with zero as their targets for their expenditure. The budget does not provide new services that we haven't had before. But it does provide an extension of our current service to our new and growing community.

"You maintained get well "[Within] our 2C Secondary Plan, infrastructure, you get sustained community service levels, you get award-winning community events, we have a great variety of recreational and cultural opportunities for all ages and all abilities, and at the end of the day I believe we have a wellmanaged and fiscally sustainable community."



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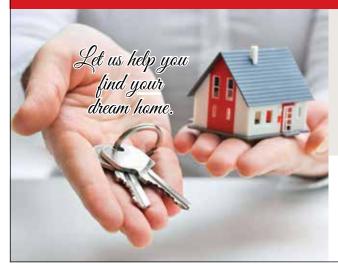
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Local houses get into festive fun for Holiday Home Tour

By Brock Weir

Two Aurora homes will be among the five York Region showplaces dressed up to the Christmas nines this week as Pickering College hosts its 13th annual Holiday Home Tour.

Featuring two homes each in Aurora and Sharon and one in Newmarket, this year's Tour, which takes place this Friday, November 17 and Saturday, November 18, will benefit Doane House Hospice.

"There is a lot of energy and excitement put into this year's tour," says Pickering College's Shelley Frank. "As a result of some feedback from our previous tour guests, we've limited the tour to five homes rather

than six this year. They just felt it was a lot to get around to see."

Although there is one less house on the tour this year, there will still be a lot to take in.

Each carefully decorated home will feature catering from companies ranging from chefs from Silver Lakes and Cardinal Golf Clubs, to Nature's Emporium to local bakeries, and live

In addition to the five tour homes, the two-day event will feature a new Concert Series in partnership with the Sharon Temple on Friday and Saturday showcasing the talents of Pickering College students - jazz combos, string ensembles and choirs – along with local bands, including



Area homes, such as this residence last year, will be dressed to the Christmas Nines this week as part of Pickering College's annual Holiday Home Tour on Friday and Saturday.

Photo courtesy of Pickering College

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a 45 piece ensemble, the Salvation Army Kettle Band and a steel drum band from Arcadia Academy of Music.

Over at Pickering College itself, the Newmarket school's Dining Hall will be transformed on Saturday into the popular annual Seasonal Boutique featuring over 40 vendors and a special "Designer's Hall" showcasing the work of the participating decorating firms which will undoubtedly provide plenty of ideas for patrons.

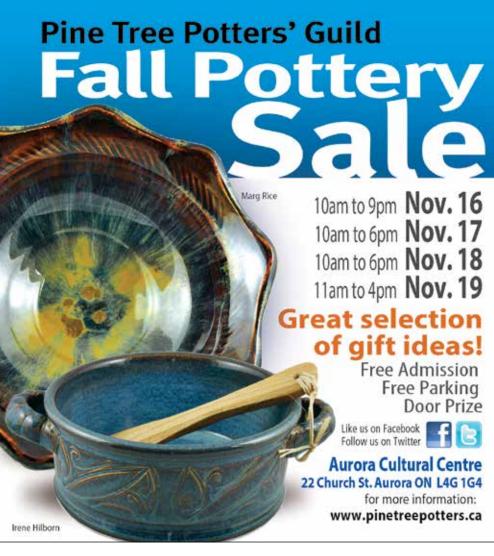
"We're excited to have a lot of big companies on board this year supporting us, including our title sponsor Buckley Insurance Brokers Newmarket, which is providing our VIP transportation. One of our ticket purchasers won the VIP Transportation so she and five friends will see the tour from the driver," says Ms. Frank.

Proceeds from this year's Tour will benefit Doane House Hospice, which provides care to residents of Aurora, Newmarket and beyond. They were selected through what Ms. Frank describes as "arduous" process of evaluation following pitches from six 905-895-1700. different charities

"Doane House was viewed as the charity most in need of our support," she explains. "We are really excited to be participating with Doane House for this year's event and hope that we can raise a great deal of money to support hospice programs.

"Many of our guests are longtime supporters and they really are enthusiastic about supporting the local charity. Homeowners (who have offered their homes up for the tour) are really proud of their property and are willing to feature it and invite people to come in and look around. The Tour committee has been working on this for over seven months – I cannot wait to get out Limited, and also Mercedes Benz there to see the homes and enjoy the performances at the Sharon Temple. It's is truly uplifting to see the event coming together and to be so well supported by the community."

If you want to be a part of the comfort of their Mercedes Benz and excitement, tickets for both tour dates are selling fast. For more information, www.pickeringcollege.on.ca/ events/hht. The Seasonal Boutique is free and open to the public on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Pickering College (16945 Bayview Avenue, Newmarket). For more, call



SENIOR SCAPE

From page 5

Royal Canadian Legion, Industrial Parkway North, on Wednesday, December 13. Tickets are available until December 1.

POSTURE CLINIC AND FALLS **PREVENTION** — November is the month for falls prevention and there will be a free posture assessment on Thursday, November 30 from 9:30 to 12:30 p.m.

I HEAR THE BELLS — this is the title of the Evergreen Choir's Christmas Concert on December 9 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and available from the reception desk at the Centre.

NEW YEAR'S DINNER AND **DANCE** — will be held on New Year's Eve, December 31 from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tickets are available from the reception desk at the Centre and cost \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES — Our weekly activities continue, activities such as pickleball, billiards, mahjongg, scrabble, etc. Come out and join in.

For more information on the Aurora Seniors' Centre and all it has to offer, drop by 90 John West Way, or call 905-726-4767 between 9 am and 4 pm Monday to Friday.





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Nominations close November 30, 2017. Forms and information are available from this newspaper. and the Ontario Community Newspapers Association at ocna.org/juniorcitizen.









Milestone Mural to be unveiled at community celebration



The Canada 150 Milestone Mural encompasses dozens of hand-painted leaves and was installed last week outside of the Aurora Cultural Centre. It will be formally dedicated at a community celebration this Sunday Auroran photo by Brock Weir

By Brock Weir

Talented professional – and amateur artists have been hard at work creating a lasting legacy and this Sunday the community at large will be able to take in the fruits of their labour as the Canada 150 Milestone Mural is unveiled outside the Aurora Cultural Centre.

The vision of artist Ted Hamer, a professional muralist by trade, and the Centre's Community Arts Facilitator, the work is the product of "the imagination and creativity" of hundreds of Aurorans who have had direct input on the finished product.

The Milestone Mural Unveiling Free Community Celebration will take place this Sunday, November 19, from 1 – 4 p.m. on the front lawn of the Aurora Cultural Centre.

With opening remarks from Aurora -Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MP Leona Alleslev and Mayor Geoff Dawe set for 1.30, the mural itself will be formally unveiled at 1.50, followed by a reception and refreshments inside the Centre from 2-4 p.m.

Since the start of the spring, Mr. Hamer, along with other members of the Aurora Cultural Centre team, have fanned out to various events throughout Aurora, along with numerous community hubs, armed with pencils, paper and a very simple question for those they encountered: What's your vision?

A simple enough question, but this was a question designed to get creative juices flowing as Aurorans brainstormed their vision of what Canada means to them and what it could be for the next 150 years.

They were asked, What makes Canada great? What visuals, words or feelings come to mind when you hear the word, "Canada?"

The collected answers fell into four key themes: Diversity & Inclusion. Truth & Reconciliation, Nature & The Environment, and Who We Are Today & Dreams of a Bright Future.

Mr. Hamer was brought onto the project thanks to a Federal grant, which provided for a community arts facilitator. Once he was in place, he hit the ground running.

"People have been very supportive," Mr. Hamer told The Aurora midway through the project.

"People are very excited to have something like this in Town and they have given me almost every idea possible for the Town, going from the historical persons who have lived here, to nature. Nature is a big thing here and I am very happy with that.

"The other thing I wasn't aware of was Aurora's commitment to volunteerism and especially the commitment to newcomers. I didn't know how many Syrian families were sponsored here initially, and that is a really neat thing to want included on the mural."

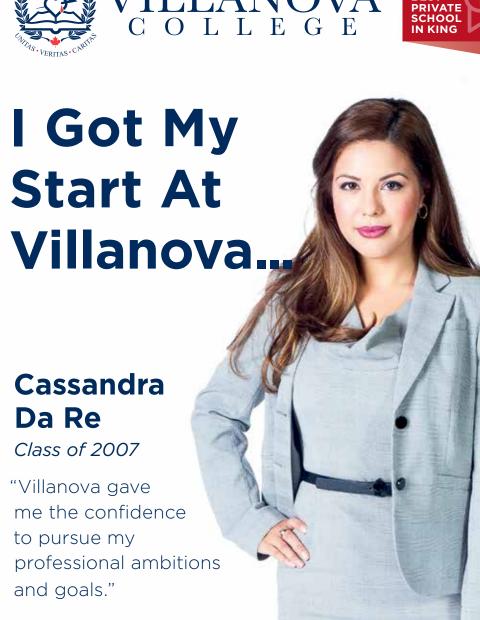
He likened Canada to "a big village" and this was the concept he wanted to translate into a mural form, which ultimately takes the shape of several interconnected maple leaves.

cohesive image, I want people to tell their story of what makes Canada great. It could be a memory they have of Canada, of their lives in the country, but we will have these

handouts where they can write or draw anything they want. From their ideas we will create a tapestry instead of a single image.

""I have travelled around the world a "Instead of coming up with one lot and I have seen areas where people are separated and alone. We are kind of all condensed around the border and the lakes and we seem to have formed stronger communities. My image of Canada is kind of a big village."





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Henderson neighbours continue fight for "forest"

By Brock Weir

Concerned Aurora residents filled Council Chambers Tuesday, signs in hand, continuing their efforts to preserve a piece of natural forest on the Town's west side.

Residents have banded together against a minor variance application currently under review at Town Hall regarding the properties at 672 and

needed.

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684 Henderson Drive, currently two different viewpoint. privately-owned, heavily forested lots in something of a grey area as far as legislation is concerned.

Currently designated as residential settlement lends within Oak Ridges Moraine Legislation, the unique characteristics of the land call this designation into question, neighbours contend.

The Town, however, has a very

Welcome

to Walt's

The concerns were raised at last week's General Committee meeting in Open Forum by Henderson Drive resident Steve D'Engeli, backed by a crowd of neighbours, who said they represented over 4,000 area residents.

"While we are a group that cares about the environment, we are not a group of dissatisfied extremists pushing for significant change," said Mr. D'Engeli. "To the contrary, we are a group of over 4,200 average residents from Aurora and the neighbouring communities that are very supportive of the Town of Aurora Official Plan and the current zoning bylaws, especially as they relate to green spaces and environmental conservation. We think the Town has got it right and I think that is very important here. We believe developing can be achieved in our fine town while still being environmental stewards of the environment."

land's designation as rural residential settlement lands, provisions Aurora's Official Plan (OP) counter this, he argued, adding that they are also "100 per cent covered by the Oak Ridges Moraine Endangered, Rare and Threatened Species" provisions under the local legislation.

Through this piece of legislation, development and site alteration is not permitted within the habitat of endangered, threatened or specially concerned species identified under the Species at Risk in Ontario registry and provincially rare species on the Moraine.

"We have snapping turtles, red-headed woodpeckers, we have the Ministry of Natural Resources informing the Town and the applicants that there are rare, threatened species on this property yet somehow we're at the point where we are considering applications to remove 34,000 square feet of this endangered and environmentally sensitive land," said Mr. D'Engeli. "In addition to that, the Town has four fantastic zoning bylaws which currently prohibit any development or site alteration on these sites if the applicant cannot maintain the significant woodland features: Tannery Creek, Salamander Pond, the minimum vegetation zones and finally the natural heritage features and land

"The question that we have here – and where we're perplexed as a community is how this got to be a minor variance?"

From his perspective, how "minor" this variance is subjective. They contend the application is not, contrary to the criteria that need to be met for a "minor variance", the application is not "desirable for the land in question" as the land itself is "sensitive" and, in the end, it does not conform to the general intent of established zoning bylaws.

"We know it doesn't because there are four bylaws preventing development on this land and the Town plan says it can't be developed," he said.

Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, defended the file's status as a minor variance application, but was questioned by Councillor Wendy Gaertner on how such a status is ultimately determined.

"They did ask a valid question that With that in mind, despite the I think Council could ask as well: How does staff decide whether something is a minor variance or not?" she asked. "It is really a question that is important in this case because I am assuming what they have presented is correct. If it is correct, it seems like it couldn't be a minor variance."

> In response, Mr. Ramunno said its status was "clear."

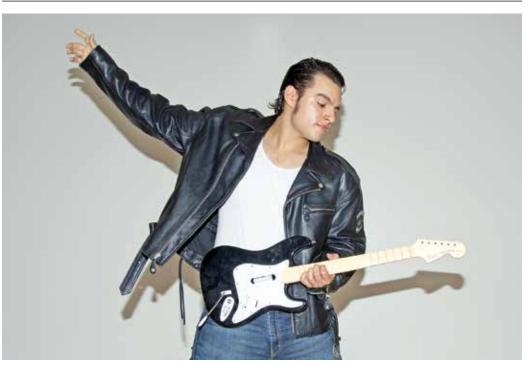
> "Our bylaw is very specific about that that," he said. "We have dealt with many of these types of applications. We understand the residents' concerns, but it is an alteration within the settlement area of the Oak Ridges Moraine and our bylaw specifically identifies the need for a minor variance application. It is not to permit the use itself, it is really to determine the appropriate building envelope and we essentially put them through a site plan process with the required background information that is expected. Our bylaw is clear. It is a minor variance application that needs to be processed for that proposal.

> "We are still waiting for additional information from the applicant prior to the new hearing being scheduled for the Committee of Adjustment to consider the application and that additional information will be provided through the [Lake Simcoe Region] Conservation Authority Staff for their review and comment."



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READY TO SHAKE IT UP – Aurora's Marquee Theatrical Productions ready to rock and roll this week with their musical production of All Shook Up, featuring the music of Elvis Presley. Performances will take place at Newmarket Theatre, November 16-26. Tickets: Adults - \$29, Seniors/children under 12- \$27, and groups of 10+ \$25. Order tickets online at Newtix.ca or by phone at 905-953-5122.

Contributed photo



Eleven charged in Kennedy **Street West** drug bust

Eleven residents of Aurora and Georgina have been charged following a drug bust on Kennedy Street West last week.

According to York Regional Police, the charges stem from an investigation which began in early October into "suspects who were believed to have been trafficking a variety of drugs" from a home at 320 Kennedy Street West.

"As the investigation progressed, officers determined that drugs were being stored in the residence and drug interactions were taking place inside the residence as well as in a park across the street."

Eight individuals were arrested on Monday, November 6 and Tuesday, November 7 after "interacting" with the residents of the home in question.

Shortly after 8 p.m. on the Tuesday night, a search warrant was executed on 320 Kennedy Street west and York Regional Police say they found three people inside along with more than 200 grams of cocaine, five pounds of cannabis, more than 1,300 Xanax pills, 28 Oxycontin tablets, two replica hand guns, more than \$17,000 in Canadian dollars and \$3,600 in counterfeit U.S. cash.

Charged in the home were Sammy Wehab, 21, Derek Kieback, 20, along with a 17-year-old female, all from Aurora.

Charges include possession for the purpose of trafficking cocaine, cannabis, oxycontin, and alprazolam; possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000, and possession for a weapon for a dangerous purpose.

The charges have not been proven in court.

Charged with possession of cocaine and cannabis are Debra Miller, 55, and Edward Stewart, 56, both of Aurora, along with Cody Wegg, 20, Bethany Morell, and a 16-year-male, all from Georgina. Charged with possession of cocaine is 21-year-old Owen Woodcock of Aurora, and charged with possession of cannabis are a male and female, both 17, and both from Aurora.

The charges have not been proven.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police Guns, Gangs and Drug Enforcement Unit at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7817, or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-tips, leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com or text your tip to CRIMES (274637) starting with the word YORK.

Festive R.I.D.E. launched

York Regional Police have kicked off the 2017 Festive Season Enhanced R.I.D.E. program and the MADD Project Red Ribbon Campaign to aggressively combat impaired driving during the holiday season. York Regional Police is not giving up. Continued efforts to prevent senseless death and injury on roads will include educating students and the community on ways to avoid impaired driving, including this festive season's campaign: "Don't go along for the R.I.D.E."

York Regional Police urges all drivers to take proactive measures if drinking by arranging for overnight accommodations, appointing a designated driver, taking a cab or using public transit.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From page 4

I now quote from Charles Darwin: "I have never denied the existence of God. I think the theory of evolution is fully compatible with faith in God. I think the greatest argument for the existence in God is the impossibility of demonstrating and understanding that the immense universe, sublime above all measure, and man were the result of chance."

Beyond Darwin, Galileo, Newton, Einstein, Collins (humane genome project) are just a few names of great scientists that come to mind who believed in God or a Higher Power.

Payette is free to believe what she chooses (i.e.: that nothing plus chance equals everything). But don't give us opinion as truth, told with a supercilious self-righteousness.

It isn't.

Look to the greats of science. And to the greats of faith. They are often the same.

> **Richard Doust** Aurora







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MPP touts new plan to help seniors "age in confidence"

By Brock Weir

Knocking on doors, visiting seniors' and adult communities, one thing was immediately clear to Newmarket-Aurora MPP Chris Ballard: "independence" tops the list of priorities for older people on the age spectrum.

As such, Mr. Ballard was at the Newmarket Seniors' Meeting Place on Friday to announce a range of new measures from the Provincial Government that will allow seniors to do just that: "aging in place in confidence."

The Aging in Confidence Action Plan is intended to "empower people to make the choices that are right for them when it comes to their care, their independence and how they access government services - whether that is finding ways to keep up an active lifestyle or getting the support needed to live at home longer."

The plan offers a new one-stop website where seniors can find information about drug coverage, tax credits, powers of attorney and recreation programs, an annual high-dose flu shot targeted to protect seniors free of charge via the OntarioUniversalInfluenzaImmunization Program, a \$15 million investment over two years in what are described as "naturally occurring" retirement communities such as housing developments or apartment buildings with a high senior population, and 5,000 new long term care beds over the next four years.

"Today there are more than two million seniors in Ontario and our government values and respects the tremendous contributions our seniors have made to the Province and continue to make to the Province," said Mr. Ballard. "These are people who have given Ontario so much and really deserve to live life to its fullest and continue to contribute to Newmarket, Aurora and the economy and embracing new opportunities – but they have to be supported and we need to be able to share the benefit of their wisdom and their experiences with all of us.

"Fundamentally, the action plan reflects how Ontario seniors have told us they want to live their lives. That is why we spend a lot of time knocking on doors, sitting down with seniors across Ontario to try and understand from a seniors' perspective what is important to them. Independence tops the list.

"People want to live independently for as long as possible and this holds true for seniors in Newmarket and Aurora as well. They want to age at home or in a community setting. They want to have choices to get around on their own, be healthy and safe. They want the best quality of life possible - and rightly so. They see retirement not as an end but rather the start of a new adventure."

The program, he said, is a "once in a generation investment" in long term care that will keep pace with the "changing needs of an aging population.

"I have heard time and again that Newmarket and Aurora both need new long-term care beds and I will continue to strenuously request and demand of the Ministry of Health that as many of these beds make it to Newmarket and Aurora. I encourage the Central LHIN and York Region and other long-term care providers to begin plans to secure more licenses for our communities," he said.

It is also important to recognize that the needs of long-term care residents are becoming more complex, he said. As such, Ontario will increase the Provincial average of per day per resident long term care to four hours of direct care each day. Once fully phased in, he said it will ensure older Ontarians will have the highest quality of care.

"Another concern we had with residents and people taking care of family in long term care was the amount of care they received each day just wasn't enough and so we're upping that, when this is rolled out, to four hours a day," said Mr. Ballard. "It will still provide the flexibility for care plans to be tailored to each person but certainly will allow for more care for those who need it. It is going to mean an additional 15 million hours of nursing, personal support and therapeutic care for long term care residents across Ontario.

"Social connection is as important as independence. Research tells us that being connected to people and activities is vital



Newmarket-Aurora MPP Chris Ballard announces the new seniors initiatives Friday at the Newmarket Seniors' Meeting Place. **Auroran photo by Brock Weir**

to seniors' health and wellbeing and that engaging through the arts. is also why our plan highlights fighting social isolation and helping seniors remain active and involved. Under our plan, Aging with Confidence, Ontario's network of seniors' active living centres, of which this is one, will grow to more than 300 hubs across the Province. There will be more local projects to help seniors get out and about in the community, whether volunteering, learning or meeting new people. New programs will support physical health, mentoring, and

"The action plan also recognizes that while seniors overwhelmingly want to age safely and independently at home, some will require assistance to do so. Home care is a key consideration for many. That is why our plan supports a wide range of actions from home care hours to greater consistency of homecare to supporting care givers. It helps people

with dementia and their families. It also

supports more training for health care

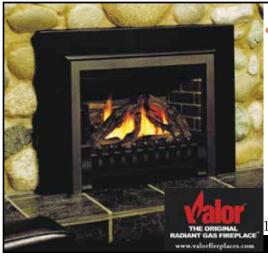
providers in caring for seniors."



100 YEARS YOUNG – Second World War Veteran Peggy Strange marked her 100th birthday with a packed party at her Hollandview Trail residence last Wednesday. Mrs. Strange received, left, a special gift from Mayor Geoff Dawe, and was, right, joined by a youngster as she prepared to cut her birthday cake.

Auroran photos by Brock Weir







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> Regards, Magna Golf club Maintenance Department

Rental apartments planned for Wellington and John West Way

By Brock Weir

Over 130 rental apartment units are planned for the northeast corner of John West Way and Wellington Street

Designs for the proposed six storey apartment complex were unveiled at Council last week, planned for a plot of land originally slated for a one storev strip plaza.

While the originally proposed plaza raised the ire of some Councillors who argued that it was not in keeping with the vision of the Aurora Promenade Plan while others argued it was "the best Aurora is going to get" after previous landowners said the land's soil wouldn't support anything larger, the new landowners have a much grander vision.

"The property is designated Promenade General and there are a range of uses permitted within that designation," said planning consultant Murray Evans on behalf of the landowners. "The essence of that designation, as it runs along Yonge Street and along Wellington, is to

encourage more intense or appropriate forms of development to activate the street and use that promenade location. A six storey rental apartment building would be more appropriate implementing the objectives you have in your OP (Official Plan).

> I think we are all concerned with what the benefit to the community is when we look at development applications. I know that rental units and certainly more affordable rental units are what we a lways come back to

"It is our objective to comply with the policies as far as height, density, unit counts, and also the design guidelines of how to create attractive streets, and connections to the valley systems. We believe we are reinstituting what was originally envisioned for this site."

The area is currently designated for five storeys, with an additional story possible through bonusing; that is, a bonus to the builder for amenities that benefit the whole community. These bonusing opportunities, from Mr. Evans' perspective, include connections into local valley lands as well as street

"There are 132 units and 80 per cent of the parking spaces will be underground, so we're trying to create a more attractive site," he said. "We have a range of one, two and three bedroom housing [units] and the proposed unit sizes now range between 800 and 1,500 square feet."

While other proposed zoning amendment applications were voted down by Council last week, including proposals for lands at 100 Tyler Street and 34-46 George Street, as well as 103,107 and 111 Metcalfe Street, pending a comprehensive Aurora-wide bylaw review, Councillors greeted this plan enthusiastically.

"Compared to [the plaza] this actually looks like a fantasy," said Councillor Wendy Gaertner, who was one of the most vocal opponents of the original plan, questioning whether soil testing has confirmed whether the land can support a building of this size.

Testing is ongoing, said Mr. Evans. Councillors as a whole, however, sensed an opportunity.

with those Along bonusing possibilities, lawmakers said they would like to explore an increased emphasis on affordable housing units within the plan.

"We have had many conversations around the table regarding affordable housing in Aurora and there is a need for more affordable rental units," said Councillor Michael Thompson. think we are all concerned with what the benefit to the community is when we look at development applications. I know that rental units and certainly more affordable rental units are what we always come back to."

Added Councillor John Abel: "I am looking for a groundbreaking rental unit. I am looking forward to something along those lines and getting a bit more detail."

In response, Mr. Evans said his client is always open to ongoing dialogue. It is a matter of how you achieve those units, he said, and what is affordable.

"Quite honestly, my client's vision is for the [downsizing] element of the Town," he said. "Certainly that would be on the table through any part of the discussion."

Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, assured Council that affordable rental units can "certainly" be on the table when discussions turn to the zoning and site plan stage, particularly if they indeed seek an increase in height.

"We could nail those down through the zoning bylaw and a special agreement," he said. "That would be tied into the zoning bylaw and future site plan agreement."

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Holiday marketplace benefits 360 Kids

The Toronto Montessori School talents of TMS students and include Holiday Marketplace will be a performances and activities that will celebration of Canada 150 and will attract and entertain all ages. feature artisans and entrepreneurs unique locally **produced** products on November 18.

Organizers have already recruited a number of great vendors, with a wide array of products that will appeal to all ages.

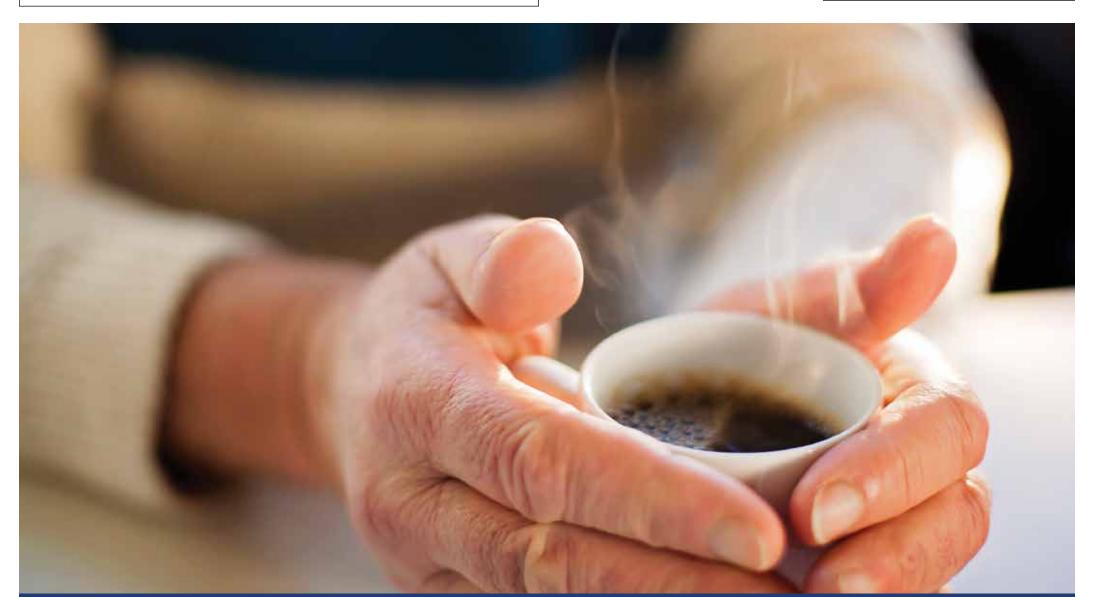
So far, they have vendors selling handcrafted cards, tasty jams and cookies, beautiful bags and scarves, unique bowties, candles, jewelry, games, organic soaps, artwork, clothing, and more.

The event will feature the artistic

All members of the community are invited to join TMS for a day to do some great holiday shopping, support local businesses, and give back to an important local charity -360°kids (www360kids.ca).

Toronto Montessori Holiday Marketplace will take place in the Upper School (500 Elgin Mills Road East) from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 18.

For more information, email advancement@tmsschool.ca or call 905-889-6882 x2248.



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Vol. 18 No. 5 905-727-3300

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FREE Week of November 16, 2017

Tigers beat up on Conference-leading Dukes

By Jake Courtepatte

A pair of losses to the powerhouse Wellington Dukes early in the

And they made a resounding point in a clash-of-thetitans type rematch at the Aurora Community Centre on Saturday.

After a tough 3 – 2 overtime loss to the Trenton Golden Hawks on Friday brought the conference rivals to within a point in the OJHL standings, Aurora was looking to close the gap when they hosted the

season left the Aurora Tigers with something to prove.

the NorthEast Conference.

Wellington got into penalty trouble early, giving Aurora a long 4-on-3 powerplay just over eight minutes in, when newcomer Brock Welsh tipped in a Jake Bricknell point shot from the top of the circle.

Dukes, a battle of the top two teams in

Two more Aurora goals found the back of the net late in the period, first off the stick of Chris Giroday with a wrister through a screen followed by a Luca Esposito shot that went in off the crossbar.

Captain Bricknell blew the game out of reach with back-to-back goals in the second period, the first of which prompted a change in the Wellington net.

At the other end, Bradley Van Schubert was a brick wall between the pipes, making a few highlight reel saves before Wellington broke the goose egg late in the period on a second rebound chance.

The conference's number-one offense, down 5-1 late in the middle frame, showed signs of frustration with a handful of penalties to prevent any more scoring chances

While Esposito notched the only goal of the third period, for a final score of 6-1 Tigers, the third period devolved into a brawl throughout most of the twenty minutes including a heavyweight tilt between Aurora's Eli Gordon and Wellington's Ben Evans.

Gordon, who earned a one-game suspension for the incident, was retaliating for a vicious elbow to the head by Wellington's Geoff Lawson that also saw both Duke players tossed from the game.

The teams combined for 110 penalty minutes, including Aurora's 41, close to one-tenth of their total for the season up to the game.

An exhausting weekend closed Sunday with another heavyweight matchup against the Kingston Voyageurs, where only one of Aurora's 46 shots found the back of the net in a 4–1 loss.

Kingston took a 3-0 lead before Evan Bidenti scored early in the third period.

Welsh, who found the back of the net on Saturday in only his second game as a Tiger, has been an effective addition to the team since being acquired from the Whitby Fury in notching four points in three games.

He and his veteran Tiger squad will host his former Fury teammates at the Aurora Community Centre on Friday, with a puck drop of 7:30p.m. Whitby is playing for the future this season in a rebuild that has them sitting last in the East division.

The Tigers then visit the Toronto Patriots (17-5-0-1) on Saturday for an inter-conference matchup.

With a

Aurora's Rizvan Mansurov chases down a loose puck in the Tigers' 6 - 1 win over the Wellington Dukes at the Aurora Community Centre on Saturday.

by Jake Courtepatte

pair of Newmarket Hurricanes wins over the weekend, Aurora maintains their position in second amongst the North division. Both teams trail only Wellington in the conference.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.auroratigers. pointstreaksites.com.



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Cameron Ormond, in the red and yellow Aurora singlet, won her third straight Cross Country OFSAA Championship last weekend in Petawawa County.

Photo courtesy of Timothy Ormond

Ormond one OFSAA win away from historic record

By Jake Courtepatte

Cameron Ormond is running like no one has seen in close to thirty years.

The sixteen-year old from Aurora remains unbeaten at the OFSAA Cross-Country Championships throughout her high school career, winning the girl's event last Saturday in Petawawa, ON. for a third-straight year.

Racing the senior level six kilometre route for the first time as a Grade 11 student, the Aurora High School junior finished the course in 22 minutes and 32 seconds, fifteen seconds ahead of her closest competitor.

Competing against Grade 12 students in arguably the toughest year of a high school athlete's career, her margin of defeat is equally as impressive as her sixteen seconds in Grade 10 and 28 seconds in Grade 9.

And the win has her chasing the record books.

Though a competitor by the name of Kathy Butler, a multi-time Olympian, accomplished four gold medals in OFSAA cross-country in the late 1980s, it took her five years to do so.

Ormond, with another win in 2018, could be the first female ever to go four-for-four.

Two male competitors have ever accomplished the feat.

Ormond, who has raced for the Huskies since Grade 8, trains with the club twice a week. She was also recently awarded the inaugural Future Hall of Fame Award by the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame.



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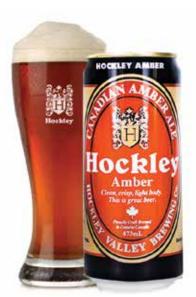


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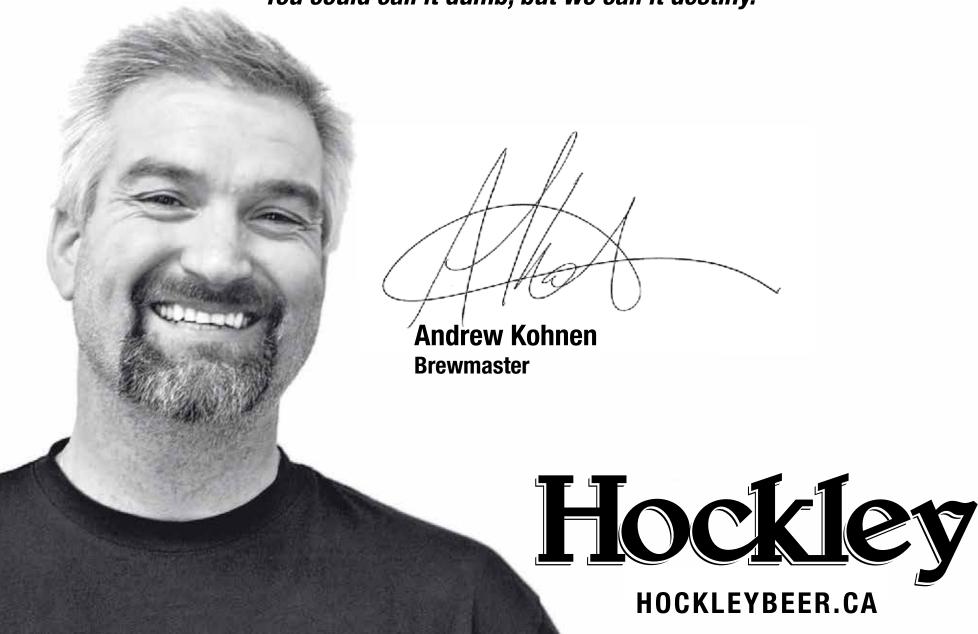


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You could call it dumb, but we call it destiny.



By Jake Courtepatte

The Aurora Panthers scored their second win of the Provincial Women's Hockey League season on Sunday with a dramatic 5 – 2 win over the Brampton Canadettes, matching their goal total from the previous four games in just three periods.

Hosting the Canadettes at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex on Sunday, the Panthers had seen three straight games head to overtime, an extra period they were determined not to reach against a team just four points

by the work of Taylor Beam between the pipes, who stopped nine Canadettes shots heading into intermission.

With little offense to help Beam in the first, it was Aurora who came out pressing in the second, with Jaclyn Kouleas earning Aurora's first true chance of the game heading in alone in the first minute and barely robbed by the glove of the Brampton goaltender.

ahead in the PWHL standings. A scoreless first period was highlight

Aurora's onslaught eventually led with puck drop set for 1:25 p.m.

to a powerplay just before the midway mark of the second, where Gracy Emmerton took advantage by banging home a rebound at the side of the net to make it 1 - 0 for Aurora.

Beam was solved just over three minutes later to tie the game, though Aurora quickly countered with two goals in the span of 21 seconds to take a two-goal lead, thanks to Emma Wilson and a textbook tic-tac-toe play between Kouleas and Jayden Thompson.

An unlucky bounce gave Beam no chance early in the third when Brampton made it 3 – 2, though Aurora restored the two-goal lead thanks to Julia Mitchell sending a rebound home with just over ten minutes to play.

Kouleas capped off the scoring with a late empty-netter to give Aurora the 5-2 win.

Aurora next pays a visit to Waterloo on Saturday for an important matchup with a Rangers team that sits just three ahead in the standings.

They return home on Sunday to face the powerhouse Stoney Creek Sabres,



Aurora's Julia Mitchell uses a Brampton defender as a screen in the Panthers' 5 - 2 win over the Canadettes at the SARC on Sunday. **Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte**

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Business After 5

Thursday, December 14th The Story of Love 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Reform Impact Your Business

Tuesday, December 5th St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Professional Headshots

Friday, December 8th **Aurora Public Library** 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Aurora Chamber Home & Living Show

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THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

NOVEMBER 15 - 18

St. Andrew's College presents one of the greatest musicals of all times - Cabaret - in the Wirth Theatre. Anyone familiar with SAC's Dramatic Society productions knows these are no ordinary high school plays. The sets, costumes, props, and lighting rival anything you are likely to see on the professional stage. Mature content may not be suitable for children under 14. Showtimes: 8 – 10.30 p.m. For more, visit www.sac. on.ca.

NOVEMBER 16 - 17

Tickets are now available for The Country Day School's fall drama production of S.E. Hinton's The Outsiders. Based on the a coming-ofage-novel first published in 1967, the story revolves around two rival gangs in the 1960s Midwest. Performances will take place on November 16 & 17 at 7:00 pm in CDS' Performing Arts Centre at 13415 Dufferin Street in King. Tickets are \$15 and available at www.cds.on.ca/tickets or at the

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Chefs from across Aurora will participate in the eighth annual Empty Bowls fundraiser at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Proceeds from the day will be donated to Welcoming Arms and Inn From the Cold. Patrons can enjoy gourmet soups and breads prepared by local chefs served in some of the 500 handmade soup bowls created by members of the Pine Tree Potters' Guild. After the meal, patrons will take home their chosen bowl. Tickets will be on sale on a first come first served basis the week of September 13 from Meridian Credit Union on Wellington Street West. Early lunch: 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Late lunch: 1.30 - 3 p.m. Tickets for are \$50 for each sitting. Organizers anticipate this will be a sold-out event.

NOVEMBER 17 – 18

Holiday Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. x2248.

(15055 Yonge Street). Enjoy handknitted items, baked goods, specialty crafts, raffle tickets, and a 50/50 draw. Proceeds from the sale will benefit charities ranging from Yellow Brick House to St. John's Ambulance Therapy Dogs. Refreshments served.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Shop in the Hillary House Gift Shop from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for gifts and decore. Unique china and glass items donated to raise money to assist the Aurora Historical Society in preserving Hillary House National Historic Site. Some used books, jewellery and Christmas items. Also new books about Aurora, Newmarket and King. 15372 Yonge Street. 905-727-

Trinity Anglican Church hosts its • annual Christmas Bazaar today from • 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Admission is \$2. Featuring baking, attic treasures, silent auction, jewellery, plants, knitting, sewing, kiddies' corner and more. Hot or cold luncheon served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. 79 Victoria Street.

Adult Beginner Painting Class: "A Sprinkle of Snow:" Today from 1 – 3 p.m., the Aurora Historical Society will host its final painting class of the year! Join artist Urszula, where you can add to your holiday décor with a one of a kind wooden wreath, decorated with holly and snowflakes! \$10.00 per person (materials included). For more information, or to register, call 905-727-8991 or email leigha.cooney@aurorahs.com. (15372 Yonge Street)

Toronto Montessori School will host a Holiday Marketplace today from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at TMS Upper School (500 Elgin Mills Road East). This free family event will include fun children's activities, student performances, food trucks, and much Chartwell Park Place hosts a more! For more info, call 905-889-6882

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LAV pays tribute to recent veterans

From page 1

and that is incredible when you think we had a population of only 11 million at the time," he said. "We must never forget the sailors, soldiers, and air crews who fought in the past, whether a century ago or a decade ago. On any given day, thousands of servicemen and women are deployed on missions or exercise, leaving behind the comfort of their civilian life.

"That is the fundamental link between the Canadian military men and women, and those who came before us who served to defend the safety of Canadians. We often ask what people can do to thank us for our service. A 'thank you' is enough. It is an honour and privilege to put on the uniform every day to defend our country and those we are remembering this week."

Veterans received more than a simple thank you, however, the following morning as more than 1,000 Aurorans joined scores of currently serving military personnel, veterans, cadets, and dignitaries at the Aurora Cenotaph for the traditional and moving Remembrance Day service.

This year's service had an extra layer of pomp and circumstance as Afghanistan veterans Corporal Morton Pompeil and Warrant Office Nemeth, accompanied by a flypast of a Hercules aircraft from the RCAF, officially dedicated the latest addition to the Peace Park: A decommissioned Light Armoured Vehicle (LAV) which will serve as a permanent tribute to the men and women who served in

Canada's most recent international conflict.

Before the parade and ceremony began on Saturday, the vehicle was a focal point for dozens of observers who came into the park for a closer look.

Among them was Master Corporal Kelsey McGregor of the Queen's York Rangers, along with her son Ethan. Master Corporal McGregor and her husband both trained in LAVs like the one now in place just north of the Cenotaph.

"It is very cool," she said. "Both Ethan's dad and I both qualified in this vehicle and it is shocking to see it up as a monument considering we are still using them! I think it is a very fitting tribute. This is what people think of [when they hear about] the armoured corps, especially what we do, and as a monument I think it is very nice."

Following the students' poignant tribute to the veterans in their presence, tributes filtered through lenses thankfully far removed from the very real experiences that were commonplace for Mr. Bedal, Mr. Crone, and Mrs. Strange, Mr. Bedal said events like these provide a number of valuable learning opportunities for the up and coming generation.

"I hope they realise war is not a very nice thing," he said. "It is terrible and solutions don't come as a result of war. It is important that they see us at this time of year, realise what our contributions were, and what the result of our contributions were as far as Canada is concerned."



(Top) Amidst the poppies placed on the Cenotaph by members of the public, Bill pauses with Abbigail. (Second Row) Local Girl Guides place a wreath. Veterans Dorothy Gummersall and Cliff Davies. (Third Row) Despite the cold, Saturday's ceremony attracted an overwhelming crowd. (Bottom Row) MCpl Kelsey McGregor of the Queen's York Rangers with son Ethan pose at the LAV. Second World War Veteran Frank Young takes part in the Remembrance Day lunch at the Aurora Legion after Saturday's service. Giving thanks.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger and Brock Weir

-THE AURORAN-



AURORA

Young students write messages to veterans



Remembrance Day has always been a very important day to Aurora resident Carolyn Reid, Head of Toddler and Children's House at TMS. Her family is from England and her ancestors were members of the military during both World Wars. Her mother was evacuated to Canada, at the age of eight, during WWII to ensure that she was safe and her father was a Royal Marine during the final year of WWII. Each year, the students at TMS are reminded of how fortunate they are and how to appreciate those that made these good lives possible. This year the three year old students at TMS made a bouquet of poppies and the five year old students composed and hand wrote letters to veterans and stories about peace to commemorate this important day. These special pieces of work were delivered to the Royal Canadian Legion, Aurora Branch in hopes that these small acts of kindness would remind our veterans and their families how much we appreciate the sacrifices they made for our benefit.

Photo by Ann Bianco-Harvey



David Heard spun records on Saturday morning for the first Aurora Farmers' Market of the Indoor Season. As the 11th Hour approached, Mr. Heard was ready to play the Last Post and patriotic music. He's pictured here with "Precious Men," an album produced by the Royal Canadian Legion billed as "a musical tribute to those who served and to those who died in World Wars I and II, and Korea.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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REMEMBERING THE GREAT ESCAPE - GranAurora, the local branch of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers initiative of the Stephen Lewis Foundation hosted award-winning journalist, broadcaster, educator and author Ted Barris with his book "The Great Escape: A Canadian Story." Pictured here are club members with Mr. Barris. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



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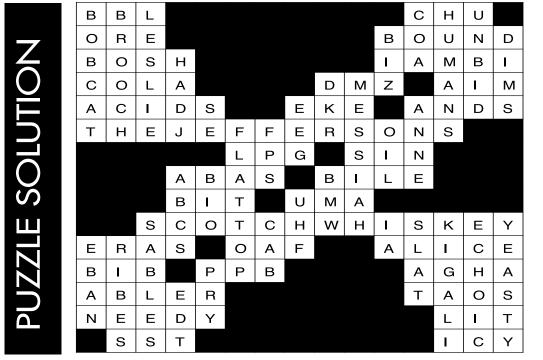
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Holds candles
- 7. In possession of 10. Rodents
- 12. Type of cofactor (Brit. sp.)
- 13. Hard candy on a stick
- 14. Animal of the weasel family
- 15. Things that should not be
- overlooked 16. "Silence" author
- 17. Dried, split lentils
- 18. People native to Ghana 19. Barros and Gasteyer are two
- 21. British thermal unit
- 27. Ethnic group in Asia
- 28. Holiday decoration
- 22. Large oblong hall
- 33. Milliliter
- 34. Open
- 36. Health physics concept (abbr.)
- 37. Tantric meditation
- 38. Where golf games begin 39. Birth swine
- 40. Rip
- 41. Remove
- 44. Puts together in time 45. Rotary engines
- 48. Skeletal structure
- 49. Member of a labor organization 50. Japanese classical theater
- 51. Undergarments

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "Snake Tales" cartoonist
- 2. Religious group 3. Singer Redding
- and tuck
- 5. Head honcho
- 6. Second sight
- 7. Composer
- 8. About aviation
- 9. Senior officer 10. Forecasts weather
- 11. Seasoned Hungarian soup
- 12. Town in Hesse, Germany
- 14. Thought to derive from meteorites
- 17. Hit lightly
- 18. Seemingly bottomless chasm 20. Title of respect
- 23. Warms up

- 24. Man and Wight are two
- 25. Type of scan
- 26. Atomic mass unit
- 29. Article
- 30. Incriminate
- 31. Passes by
- 32. Most nerve-inducing 35. David Alan Grier sitcom
- 36. Achieve
- 38. Freshwater fish 40. Beginner
- 41. Dark brown or black
- 42. A newlywed wears one
- 43. DiFranco and Vardanyan are two
- 44. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo 45. Ancient Egyptian King
- 46. Old name (abbr.)
- 47. Brazilian city (slang)





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DEATH NOTICE



May 25, 1915 - November 9, 2017 Parker, Kathleen Mulock O'Flynn

With heavy hearts we announce the death of Kathleen Parker. She was predeceased by her husband, Colonel Harry H. A. Parker (1989). Kay was much loved by a wide circle of family and friends during her long and accomplished life. Born in Toronto and educated at Branksome Hall, Kay also lived in Kingston, Oakville, Ottawa, London (Ont.) London (U.K.) and Paris. Kay was a talented pianist who studied at the Toronto (Royal) Conservatory of Music and gave a recital at the packed Conservatory Concert Hall in 1939. Kay lovingly raised three children and kept a beautiful home, but always had time for a cocktail party, a bridge or poker game, or her French club. For the past 50 years, Kay lived on her beloved farm near Kettleby, Ontario, where she tended her perennial gardens and took in many a stray cat. She capably kept the property in running order for years on her own. Kay may have become frailer with time, but let it be known that she was still playing piano at the age of 102. She will be deeply missed by her children, Stuart (Mary Thain), Ian (Lisa Bendall), and Kathryn (Wilson Markle), her grandchildren, Andrew (Jenna Charlton), Alex (Laura Baker), Ashley (Olivier Ruta), Clarke and Emily, and her great-grandchildren, Malcolm, Annie, Nicolas, Isabelle and Natalie. The family is very grateful to all those who brought her comfort and companionship, especially Shelley and the network of compassionate caregivers, and the Margaret Bahen Hospice team. We will remember Kay on Saturday, November 18, at 12:00 p.m., at the Thompson Funeral Home, Aurora. Memorial contributions may be made to the Margaret Bahen Hospice for York Region.



HELP WANTED

ABATE RABBIT PACKERS meat processing facility from Arthur immediately requires 16 Wholesale and Retail Butchers with a minimum of 2 to 3 years of direct hands on experience in meat cutting and processing. Duties include cutting and sectioning of meat, skinning and removing blemishes, deboning rabbits and chickens, cutting meat into specialized cuts and preparing for wholesale and retail sales. HS diploma or equivalent required. Positions offered are permanent full time and salary is \$16.00/hr for 42.5 hrs a week, OT after 44 hrs a week. Please apply in person at 7597 Jones Baseline in Arthur, via email at joea@abatepackers.com, via fax at 1-519-848-2793 or via phone at 1-519-848-2107.

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The ideal candidate will have a distinct willingness to cover local community events and issues.

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- Freelance reporting work for weekly community newspapers and special projects
- Will produce stories and bylines for the events they cover
- Will be paid on a freelance/contract basis per project/story
 - Generate story ideas and follow up on news tips
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QUALIFICATIONS:

- Diploma in journalism preferred
- Candidates should have experience working on the editorial side of the newspaper industry
- Excellent writing, editing and photography skills
 - Valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle
 - Reporting experience an asset
- An interest in local issues is a necessity, as the majority of the writing for this role will be local



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