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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 18 No. 34 905-727-3300 theauroran.com FREE Week of June 7, 2018 CMCA AUDITED

GETTING OUT THE VOTE – Many of Aurora's candidates hit Yonge on Sunday for the annual Aurora Chamber Street Festival. The candidates reached tens of thousands of potential voters at the favourite annual event. Clockwise from top left: Newmarket-Aurora NDP candidate Melissa Williams with supporter Vito Lozer, who had his face painted and beard trimmed just for the occasion. Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill PC candidate Michael Parsa with wife Valerie and supporters Silas, Titus, Alex and Mandy. Liberal candidates Naheed Yaqubian (Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill) and Chris Ballard (Newmarket-Aurora). For more on the Street Festival, please see Pages 20 and 21. **Auroran photos by Brock Weir**

Wynne concession changes conversation, but not strategy for local candidates

By Brock Weir

Liberal leader Kathleen Wynne "stunned" political observers on Saturday making an early concession speech that changed the conversation in the last few days of the 2018 election campaign.

It brought the Liberal campaign back into the public consciousness, one which has been dominated by the neck and neck positions of the Progressive Conservatives and the New Democrats.

Here in Aurora, however, despite the announcement being met with surprise by voters and candidates alike, all candidates are sticking to their game plans to get out the all-important vote.

Many of the candidates of all stripes were doing just that at the Aurora Chamber Street Festival with representation from Liberal candidates Chris Ballard (Newmarket-Aurora) and Naheed Yaqubian (Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill) at the northernmost part of the Yonge Street route along with, moving south, Denis Van Decker (Newmarket-Aurora)

Continued on page 3

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Continuing a storied tradition…

The White Pine Dancers brought First Nations culture back to Aurora on Saturday, hosting the second annual Aurora Pow Wow at Lambert Willson Park. For more, please see Page 14.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

and Starting a new one with stories

Dad Ash and daughter Serena stop to take a selfie with Eva Lasting on Saturday following the Aurora Public Library's inaugural Drag Queen Story Time. Planned to coincide with the start of Pride Month, it turned out to be a big hit with local families. For more, see Page 12.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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TOWN OF AURORA

Notice Board

AURORA

Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Monday, June 11	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Heritage Advisory Committee
Tuesday, June 12	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, June 12	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Wednesday, June 13	8 p.m.	Aurora Cultual Centre	Aurora Cultural Centre Board
Thursday, June 14	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Environmental Advisory Committee (Rescheduled from June 7)
Friday, June 15	10 a.m.	Council Chambers	Trails and Active Transportation Committee
Tuesday, June 19	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee
Tuesday, June 19	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Closed Session (if required)
Wednesday, June 20	4 p.m.	Holland Room	Accessibility Advisory Committee (Rescheduled from June 6)
Wednesday, June 20	7 p.m.	Aurora Public Library	Aurora Public Library Board
Thursday, June 21	7 p.m.	Holland 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. 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 Aurora Family Leisure Complex (AFLC):

• Please note that the AFLC gymnasium will be closed on **Thursday, June 14** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a York Region emergency mock exercise.

We apologize for any inconveniences. For more information, visit **aurora.ca/news**.

Rolling closure with York Regional Police escort on June 19

There will be a rolling road closure with police escort on **Tuesday, June 19** from 9 a.m to 5:30 p.m. for the Big Bike Ride presented by the Heart & Stroke Foundation.

The rolling closure is as follows: Orchard Heights Boulevard (St. Andrew's Plaza) to Yonge Street south (one lane) to Mosely Street to Wells Street to Wellington Street to Yonge Street and then to Orchard Heights Boulevard (St. Andrew's Plaza).

Temporary road closure on July 1

Please be advised that vehicular traffic on the following portion of Yonge Street will be temporarily prohibited on **Sunday, July 1** for Aurora's Canada Day Parade.

The roads to be temporarily closed are:

- Yonge Street from Wellington Strete to Mosley Street from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Yonge Street from Mosley Street to Allaura Boulevard/ Henderson Drive from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

What's Happening

Seeking Canada Day parade participants

The Town of Aurora is excited to be hosting Aurora's Canada Day Parade on **Sunday, July 1**. Community Services is looking for interested community groups, or cultural performers that would like participate in this annual event.

Anyone interested in participating in the parade should contact the Recreation Supervisor, Special Events at sware@aurora.ca by **Friday, June 15**. For more information, please call 905-726-4762.

Register now for summer aquatic programs

Starting **June 18**, Aurora residents can register online for our Summer 2018 aquatics classes. Please browse the Spring & Summer 2018 Program Guide for more specific details or visit **aurora.ca/recguide**.

Are you interested in becoming a candidate in the 2018 municipal election?

The next municipal election will take place on **Monday, October 22.**

2018 AURORA VOTES

If you're interested in becoming a candidate in the Town of Aurora municipal election, you can make an appointment with the Town Clerk to file your nomination paper and review forms and procedures using a nomination checklist. To make an appointment, call 905-727-3123 ext. 4237 or email ccurtis@aurora.ca. For eligibility requirements and more details about the nomination process, please visit **aurora.ca/vote2018**.

Seniors' Information and Active Living Fair on June 16

The Town of Aurora is hosting a free Seniors' Information and Active Living Fair for adults aged 55+. This event provides older adults with the opportunity to gather information about health services and supports in the community. The fair will be held on **Saturday, June 16** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Aurora Seniors' Centre located at 90 John West Way. For more information, visit **aurora.ca/activeseniors**.

What's Happening

Club Aurora wellness seminar - R.E.D. Warrior® Moving Meditations™

Register today for Club Aurora's R.E.D. Warrior® Moving Meditations™ on **Saturday, June 23** from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex. For more details on this seminar, visit **aurora.ca/fitness.**

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 exciting parks and recreation programs in Aurora.

Sessions will be held in Council Chambers at Aurora Town Hall, 100 John West Way on **Wednesday, June 20** from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information or to register, please email **info@aurora.ca**.

June's Skylight Gallery artist - Oksana Baczynsky

This month, the Skylight Gallery will feature the works of Oksana Baczynsky.

The exhibit is called *Exploring Nature*. Oksana's main mediums are transparent watercolours and acrylics. Watercolour allows her to achieve a luminescent spectrum of colours and values that captures the essence of her subjects which include floral, landscape and cityscapes.

Acrylics are used to capture the rugged aspects of the Canadian landscape by using the textural aspects the medium offers.

Regular viewing times are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Aurora Town Hall, 3rd floor in the Skylight Gallery.

Register now for summer camps

Register now for one of the Town's exciting summer camps. Camps include sports, swimming, technology, cooking, science and arts and crafts. View the program guide and the summer camps brochure online at **aurora.ca/campprograms.**

TOWN OF AURORA SUMMER CAMPS

Get involved and join the Youth Engagement Community!

Recruitment for the 2018/2019 Youth Engagement Committee is now open. If you are an Aurora teen, aged 12 to 17 years and would like to get involved please apply by **Tuesday, July 31**. For more information, please visit **aurora.ca/youth.**

Events at Aurora Public Library (APL)

Photography exhibit: *Age is Just a Number*

Age is Just a Number showcases seniors aged 80+ showing that beauty transcends age which, is after all just a number. This extraordinary print exhibit was originally created by the APL Camera Club in digital format as part of the OneBookOneAurora 2017 community initiative. The exhibit will be held in the Colleen Abbott Gallery at the APL from **June 11 to July 21.**

TD Summer reading club

Join the APL for another summer of amazing fun reading books, completing activities and winning prizes. Registration is free and starts on **June 16.** This course is deisgned for kids aged 12 and under.

OneBookOneAurora Writing contest

Alison Pick's opening line to Strangers with the Same Dream sets the stage for a journey into the magic of storytelling. Borrowing Alison's opening for your own story, submit your writing to the OBOA 2018 writing contest. Please visit **onebookoneaurora.com** for more details.

What's Happening

Aurora Town Hall
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Accessible Formats
905-727-3123 ext.4212 accessibility@aurora.ca

Voters are looking for change this Thursday, Aurora's candidates agree

From page 1

of the None of the Above party, Newmarket-Aurora NDP candidate Melissa Williams, Trillium Party leader Bob Yaciuk, and Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill PC candidate Michael Parsa.

Newmarket-Aurora PC candidate Christine Elliott was represented by a host of volunteers but was not present for the event itself.

By the end of the Street Festival, there were only three full days of campaigning left, leaving the Liberal candidates a bit of time to recalibrate before this week's vote after Ms. Wynne said there was no hope of her party forming government while, at the same time, urging voters to back her Liberal candidates to ensure a minority NDP or PC government this Thursday.

"We're feeling good, our numbers are strong, our volunteers are really energized," said Ms. Yaqubian. "This has been one of the most interesting elections I have seen in my lifetime. There have been lots of twists and turns."

Ms. Yaqubian reiterated many of the concerns outlined by Ms. Wynne the previous day, staying on message that a PC majority led by Doug Ford would be "disastrous" for the Province.

"Most voters in Ontario have come to the conclusion they do not want Mr. Doug Ford in government and, as a strong local advocate, I know we can win this and I will do everything in my power to make sure we hold him to account because a Doug Ford majority with unfettered power would be disastrous for the Province of Ontario."

While Ms. Yaqubian declined to comment on what impact Ms. Wynne's announcement might have on the local races, she said, "We, as Liberals, all support her and we were obviously sad there was no path for victory for us to…continue to serve in government."

"But I think in the Liberal party it is time for renewal, it is time for a new generation of voices to come forward, and I hope to be one of those voices," she said.

Mr. Ballard, however, said Saturday's events were "typical Kathleen Wynne."

"She was concerned about her colleagues, she was concerned about the party and frankly she had heard from enough people that she was an impediment to us getting elected as MPPs, so she stepped away," he said. "That's Kathleen Wynne. She is putting her party, putting her colleagues before her own personal goals, so I was quite proud she would do that – and quite sorry, too, because I don't think she has been deserving of the vitriol that has been hurled at her.

"I think in my riding I had some people say they were worried that the vote would move from Liberal to NDP and it is such a tight race that even a few hundred votes could shift that vote. If I had a concern it is her announcement that people believe they should be voting NDP to stop Doug Ford, in Newmarket-Aurora that is not going to happen. A vote for the NDP really is a vote for Doug Ford because it could take just enough votes away from me for Christine Elliott to come up the middle and give Doug Ford another seat."

Driving that message home, he said was his biggest challenge in the last days of the campaign – all the while continuing to door-knock.

Elsewhere, candidates from the poll-leading PCs and NDPs remain focused on their messages and getting out the vote.

"[The Saturday announcement] is really sad for her, of course, but it is an attempt to try and sway voters the other way and a lot of people see through that," said Ms. Williams of the Premier. "People are ready for change. I don't think that is going to make a huge impact. I think, if anything, it is going to sway people toward the NDP, which is what people need to be doing. Change.

"We're in it to win it. It has been a very exciting time with announcements that have been made yesterday, so I see us out in front and I am really excited to get to Thursday and we'll know then. The voters are very optimistic right now, they are looking for that change and that is what I am seeing and that's what I'm hearing. That keeps up everybody's optimism, encouragement and excitement."

Mr. Parsa had the same view that this election is about change and, in his view, he's the candidate to bring that about in Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill.

"Just going down to the wire, we're going to do everything we can and reach out to as many people as we can," said Mr. Parsa. "This is a great opportunity for us to be able to talk to people who are receptive. It's good, it's good times. I am keeping my focus here on the ground just talking to people. I am not paying too much to what is happening other than in this riding here. I don't know if the momentum has changed; people have wanted change right from the beginning. They said that. Now they are deciding where they are going to park their vote and I believe our party is the only viable option going forward for prosperity and I think people will see that on June 7 and people will support us."

Mr. Yaciuk, on the other hand, was bold enough to predict a PC majority this Thursday, but said he still hopes people will consider a vote for the Trillium Party.

"I am trying to figure out Kathleen Wynne's capitulation. That was a stunner," he said. "I have never seen that happen. She just quit. It is going to be one of the strangest elections that have ever occurred. I hope people will support the Trillium Party of Ontario just to add a little bit of conscience in there. They are going to win anyways, so why don't you support the Trillium Party just to make sure they know that you are waking up and know there are options available?"

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TOWN OF AURORA
PUBLIC NOTICE

AURORA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING

AURORA TOWN COUNCIL will hold a public meeting to receive input on the Town-initiated zoning by-law amendment for the Stable Neighbourhood Study Area.

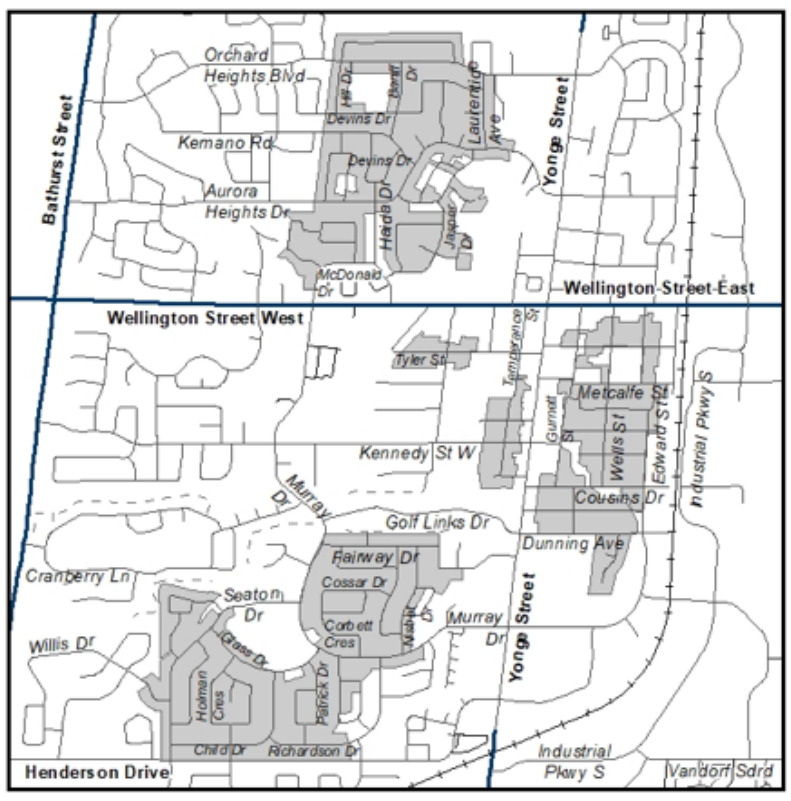
At the May 29, 2018 Special Council Meeting, Council directed staff to proceed to a Public Planning Meeting to consider changes to the existing zoning standards for properties within the Study Area (see map).

The following are some changes being proposed:

- **Reduce the current maximum building height for two storey dwellings from 10m;**
- **Reduce the maximum lot coverage for a two storey dwelling from the existing 35%;**
- **Reduce the maximum driveway width;**
- **Reduce the maximum lot coverage for accessory buildings from the existing 15% for lots area equal to greater than 460m²**
- **Introduce a new Stable Neighbourhoods (SN) Suffix to the Study area;**

Other planning tools are being considered, such as Site Plan Control and the use of Urban Design Guidelines for specific neighbourhoods.

Following the statutory public meeting, Town staff will prepare a report to General Committee/ Council that will respond to verbal and written comments received, and provide a final recommendation for the enactment of the proposed zoning by-law amendment.



LOCATION:	Aurora Town Hall, Council Chambers, 100 John West Way, Aurora Ontario
DATE:	Wednesday, June 27, 2018
TIME:	7:00 p.m.
STUDY AREA:	Refer to the attached map
CONTACT:	Any inquiries should be directed to Planning and Development Services at 905-727-3123 extension 4226, Monday to Friday between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. Comments may also be mailed to the Planning and Development Services department at the same address or emailed to planning@aurora.ca prior to the meeting.

To stay updated please visit **aurora.ca/stableneighbourhoodstudy.**

DATED at the Town of Aurora, this 7th day of June, 2018.

Town of Aurora 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1
aurora.ca/publicnotices • 905-727-1375

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Candidates deserve big thank you: former mayor

Unless there's a big problem on Election Day, when June 8 rolls around, the votes will have been counted and life will carry on (maybe differently, depending on who wins, etc.) but it'll carry on.

However, before then, as we head into the last stretch of campaigning, please would you join us in thanking every candidate who put forward their name to stand for election?

I believe it is their willingness to do that deserves the public's acknowledgment -- and gratitude; especially today when social media is often used by some to launch personal attacks.

Candidates (and their families and close friends) might or might not know exactly what they may face during their political run or political term (if elected). But, once declared, they soon learn.

It can be brutal and cruel, but without candidates from all political parties stepping forward, we will all lose.

Competition is what offers us choice. At the end of the day, we each get a chance to vote. That's where we get to make our individual choice speak loudest. It's where we get to make a difference quietly and privately.

Before, during and after an election, critiquing other party's ideas and vision is par for the course. But surely it can be done without name calling and pointedly degrading commentary.

Young children are watching and learning as they watch the TV adverts, listen to radio commentary and sound bites being aired, when reading print media and as they overhear conversations at home and elsewhere.

Spare a thought today: before you react to, or tweet or post a comment on a blog or on a Facebook page, consider the effect your words will have on the candidate, their family and volunteers and think how you'd feel if it were your name or a loved ones name on the ballot.

Express your opinions by all means – but, as Canadians, let's show the rest of North America how to do so with some class.

Bravo and a BIG THANK YOU to everyone running, or supporting a candidate!

Here's to June 8, and everyone in our local community working together to improve our quality of life.

Phyllis Morris
Aurora

Ballard would be best rep for riding, says reader

A great deal of the messaging from each of the Provincial Parties in our current election has been negative and focused on the party leaders and their history or mis-steps.

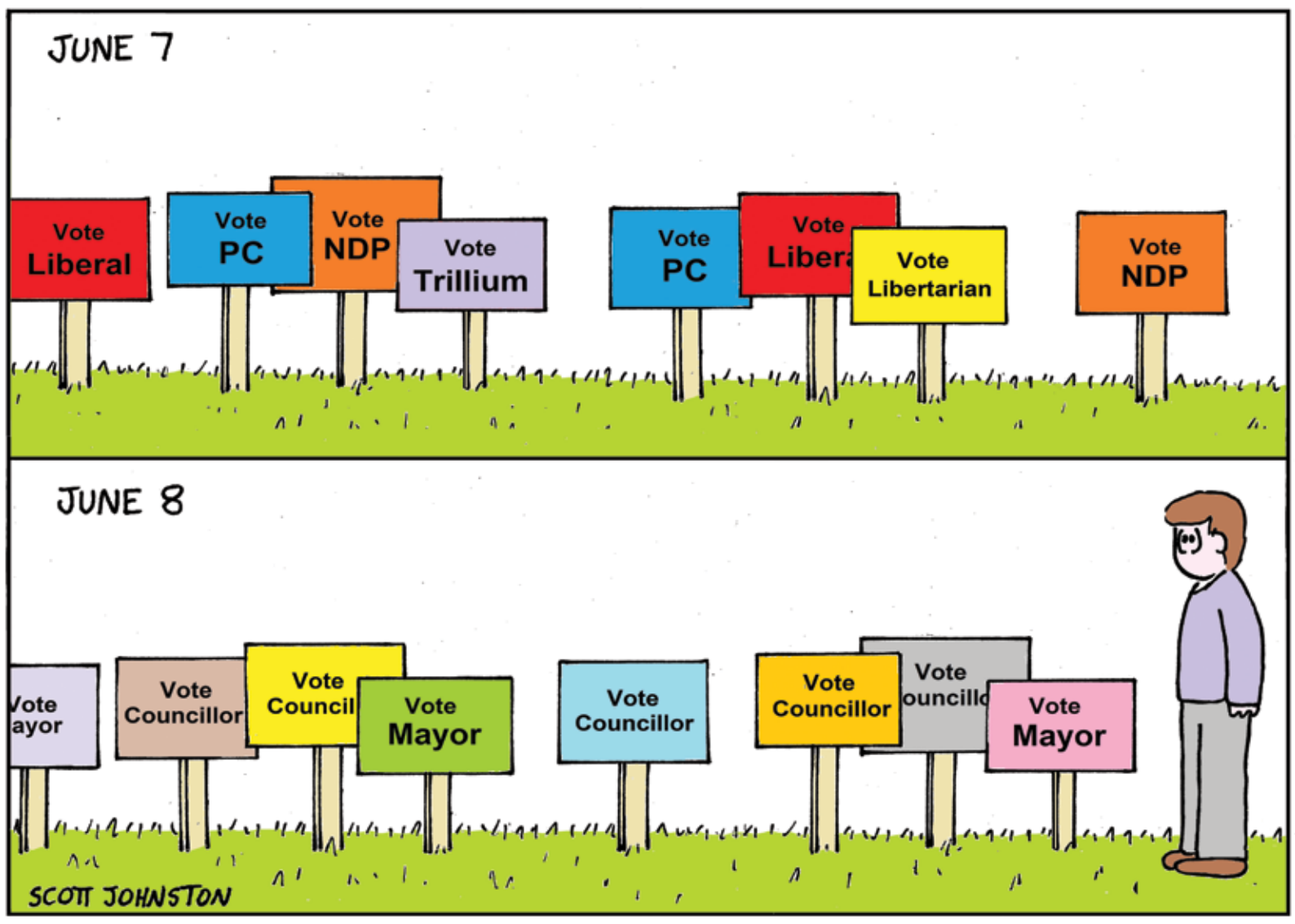
I will be voting in this provincial election for the local candidate who can best represent and serve Newmarket-Aurora, Chris Ballard.

Mr. Ballard has called this riding home for decades and served on the Aurora Town Council. Chris has shown and proven to our residents his dedication to local problems and local solutions.

His four years as our MPP was very productive for both the Newmarket and Aurora communities. In Chris' tenure we have achieved increased daily GO Train service, and two new stations are being built to serve our commuters.

Continued on page 10

Machell's Corners



But, wait! There's more!

BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

By the time many of you read this the deal will have already been done.

As of this writing, we don't know just yet what that deal will be, but we probably have a good shot of winning an election pool.

Province-wide, there are really only four or five options on the table now: a majority government led by the Progressive Conservatives or the Ontario New Democrats, or a minority government led by either of the two parties. Of course, in a minority situation, there is always the real possibility of a coalition government between the first and second runners up, and the inevitable hue and cry from the misinformed or wilfully ignorant that such an option is undemocratic, but that is not something that any of the major party leaders have openly considered at this point.

Many Ontarians have already gone to early polls to cast their ballots.

It seems, at least from my personal perspective of people I know, that people seem particularly motivated to cast their vote ahead of Thursday, with many lining up at their advance polling location to do exercise their democratic rights.

It is encouraging, from my point of view, that despite continual talking points that voters are (a) just not interested in the election, (b) dissatisfied or weary with the options available to them, or (c) a combination thereof, that there is a degree of engagement, perhaps a sense that their vote is more valuable than ever this time around, or even a motivation that they have the power, albeit with a single vote, to help bring in the change they want to see.

Few could have predicted at this time last year what a raucous election this would ultimately turn out.

Sure, back in June of 2017 there was a very clear sense among voters that Liberal fatigue was settling in. They were tired with mounting hydro prices, for instance, dissatisfied with Kathleen Wynne, but unsure where an alternative lay.

At the time, it was a three-person race between Ms. Wynne, PC leader Patrick Brown, and the NDP's Andrea Horwath.

As we all know, that roster was changed dramatically earlier this year, a move which set the tone for this very unusual – and very personal – campaign, a campaign which all but culminated on Saturday afternoon with a dramatic announcement from Ms. Wynne.

"We're in the homestretch of this election campaign and I just wanted to say a few words about what lies ahead and my perspective on the decision left to voters," she said. "On June 7, voters will elect a new government. I don't know who voters will choose, but I am pretty sure it won't be me. After Thursday, I will no longer be Ontario's Premier. And I'm okay with that. Because, as I have said many times before – it is not about me. It is about the people of this province. It is about their wellbeing. And their futures. It is about their jobs. Not my job."

While the statement was a concession, it was also an opportunity to tout her record and, in doing so, she outlined the Liberal government's boost to the minimum wage, support for tuition costs, expansion of GO Transit service, and programs to assist families helping their senior loved ones age in place.

It is a record she is undoubtedly proud of, one which she has taken from campaign stop to campaign stop, ultimately becoming the centrepiece for her unprecedented "Sorry, Not Sorry" campaign ad to try and help turn the tide.

It didn't, so enter Saturday.

"People want change but, by and large, they are confident about where Ontario stands and where Ontario's headed. For this reason, many voters are worried about handing a blank cheque to either Doug Ford or the NDP. With a majority government, Doug Ford would have too free a hand for the comfort of most people – they don't trust his judgement. They don't trust the choices he would make. I don't believe this is a man that people want to hand Ontario over to without putting him on the shortest of leashes.

"And the sentiment toward the NDP is much the same. People worry about what will happen to our economy if the NDP take power and form a majority government with nothing to hold them back. People worry that the NDP will raise taxes on small businesses, that they will take unemployment higher and job creation lower. So, it comes down to this: voters are going to pick a new premier, but they are generally worried about giving that person – whether it's Doug Ford or the NDP – too much power. They're worried about giving them too much of a free hand because they are concerned about what that might mean for our economy and our future."

Ms. Wynne closed out her statement by urging voters to cast their ballots for their local Liberal candidate as the best way to stop Doug Ford.

But, will they?

While the Liberals I spoke to over the weekend – that is, a few of those who are running for office on Thursday – said they supported Ms. Wynne's statement, I couldn't help but feel they must feel some of the wind has now been taken out of their already tattered sails.

People generally have a soft spot for the underdog, sure, but there is also a hesitation to try, as the saying goes, to rearrange the deck chairs on the Titanic.

I can't imagine what it must feel like to be a candidate who, as of this writing on Monday morning, still had just two full days left to knock on doors to make a new sales pitch that throws out a platform in favour of a "Vote for me because I am not [insert name of your opposing candidate of choice here]" position.

Party leaders vying for vote this time around have not exactly captured the public's imagination compared to, say, the way Justin Trudeau energized the youth vote in 2015 or the way Jack Layton steered his party through uncharted waters in the previous Federal election, but it is safe to say that despite what's going on at the top, we're fortunate to have very solid local candidates who have, by and large, solid track records of public service.

They have been generally able to stay above the fray, above the petty, and stick to their platforms – that is, where such a platform exists – and interact with each other in a respectful way with minimal mud slinging.

Perhaps a better solution to Ms. Wynne's last ditch-pitch, in what some consider to be a leadership vacuum, is to look at who wants to represent you and your interests at Queen's Park and decide which of the job applicants works best for you.

THE AURORAN
Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 1 p.m.

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The Aurora Museum & Archives is reminding you…

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Staging Women's Roles

(April 25 – June 9)

It's a curtain call for our exhibit on the Temple of Fame: Staging Women's Roles, which closes June 10. This is your last chance to experience women's roles during the 1918 production of The Temple of Fame. Framed against the backdrop of the struggle for suffrage, the campaigning for Temperance and the horrors of World War 1. Come and see the display of resilience and community in Aurora's history before it goes back into the archives for the next hundred years! Located at the Aurora Museum & Archives on the second floor of the Church Street School This exhibit is guest-curated by Kara Isozaki, Maeghan Jerry and Sarah Kelly, combined Master of Information/Master of Museum Studies students from the University of Toronto.

AURORA
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Response to American Tariffs

MP's Report

Kyle Peterson, MP
Newmarket-Aurora

On May 31, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced countermeasures in response to the American Tariffs on Canadian Steel and Aluminum.

These tariffs will harm industry and workers on both sides of the Canada-U.S. border, disrupting linked supply chains that have made North American steel and aluminum more competitive around the world.

As a member of the Standing Committee on International Trade, I support the countermeasures our government is putting in place in response to the unacceptable treatment of Canadian steel and aluminum producers by the United States. I have made it a priority to ensure Canadians stand to benefit from fair trade and will continue to fully support Canadian producers and manufacturers.

It sure is feeling like summer has arrived early and the community is a buzz with many great events and family fun activities. The Aurora Street Festival was held this past weekend and it was fantastic day with a fantastic turnout of residents and tourists enjoying the many vendors, local business and family fun and entertainment. Thank you and congratulations to the Aurora Chamber Commerce for another successful year! Thanks to all who participate in the NewRoads Bike for Southlake and the Upper Canada Easter Seals Run/Walk for Easter Seals on Sunday May 27. Our community support for these important organizations was commendable. Congratulations to all participants and volunteers!

On May 9, it was an honour to welcome Team Canada's Olympic and Paralympic athletes to Parliament Hill to celebrate Canada's sporting achievements. It was great to speak with Aurora's very own Derek Livingston who competed in the half pipe competition Pyeong Chang. All our athletes made us proud and continue to serve as great role models to our youth. I am pleased to announce that the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) 2018-2019 Call for Proposals for community-based projects are now open. From now until June 15, 2018 local organizations are invited to apply for funding for community-based projects that empower seniors to initiate and participate in activities that benefit the community.

Do you have an idea that promotes seniors' volunteerism, engagement, and networking? The NHSP Program Objectives are to promote volunteerism among seniors, engage community seniors through mentoring of others, support social inclusion and participation of seniors, provide capital assistance for community seniors projects and/or programs and to expand the awareness of elder abuse, including financial abuse.

To learn more or to apply, please visit: Canada.ca/funding-new-horizons-seniors-community or contact my office and my staff will be happy to assist you. This past weekend it was honour to join with members of local Muslim community for an Iftar breaking of the fast at Al-Albrar Centre in Aurora. Thank you to everyone for your hospitality and kindness and sharing your values of patience and community. With the school year coming to an end, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to all students in our community who are graduating this month. I extend my best wishes to you on all your future endeavours. On Saturday June 16, the York Region Pride Parade and Festival will be held at 3 pm on Main Street, Newmarket. Following the parade, the Pride Festival will continue at the Riverwalk Commons and the day's events will end with fireworks at 10:30 pm. All are welcome! Please visit www.yorkpridefest.com for full details.

As a reminder, you can reach out to my Constituency Office and my staff at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require information or assistance on any 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

Column #401

FRONT PORCH PERSPECTIVE

Stephen Somerville

This is my four hundred and first Auroran newspaper column.

My first column was published on May 3, 2006.

The time sure does fly. My son was three-years-old when my first column appeared; now Ryan is completing Grade 9.

Here is most of that first column:

This is the first of many – I hope – regular columns about people, politics and public affairs as it relates to Aurora.

I state my bias off the top. I am the current federal riding president of the Newmarket – Aurora Conservative party and the first Vice President (policy) of the provincial Progressive Conservative association. Don't hold this against me! Please keep reading!

I have been a member in good standing of federal and provincial Conservative ridings associations for 23 years and I have participated, solely as a volunteer, in at last count, 28 federal, provincial, municipal elections and leadership campaigns. And prior to the merger of the two federal Conservative parties, I served as the Chair of the Metro & Region President's Council, an organization that represented the forty-two riding presidents in and around the GTA and was the largest such Progressive Conservative organization in the country.

I start from the basic premise that I both admire and respect all those – irrespective of political stripe - who seek and hold public office. I think public life is fundamentally about the nobility and selflessness of public service. It is too bad that sometimes the noblest profession seems to have taken on the characteristics of the oldest profession.

I believe that I can offer readers a unique perspective on politics and public affairs as I have served in every volunteer capacity within a political party.

Like a lot of you, I have spent a considerable amount of my valuable time and modest financial resources in support of a particular political party because I believe that individuals in a democracy require and deserve real choice. Although studies suggest that less than two percent of Canadians actually hold membership in a political party, a great deal more people than this volunteer their services once the writ is dropped.

My political philosophy is neatly summed up in Robert Standfield's address to the 1967 PC Leadership Convention. He said that, "I want a Party that will be recognized not merely for its affluence, for its comfort, for its power – but for its humanity, for its compassion and for its decency." To this I would add, that I want a party that is inclusive believes in moderation, good governance and accountability and has the capacity to serve and protect all citizens.

I will not confine my written offerings to just politics. I look forward to offering future columns on such diverse topics as "the second most important reason I fell in love with Aurora – the Santa Claus parade" and "I'm angry – litter at the local war memorial."

I have always been interested in politics and in writing, and with this column I am able to combine two passions. I thank the good people at the Auroran for the opportunity. I just hope they are still happy when I weigh-in on some controversial topics!

I remember a number of years ago preparing remarks for a speech I was to give and my wife telling me, "don't try to be informative, engaging or humorous, and for god's sake, don't try to be intelligent - just be yourself". Keeping this sage advice in mind, my columns are simply intended to stimulate debate and discussion on some of the issues that affect our wonderful community.

I want to thank those loyal readers for their support and e-mails over the years and I look forward to continuing to write about events in our wonderful community.

Stephen can be contacted at stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

TIME TRAVELLER'S DIARY

Jacqueline Stuart

High Society in the Suburbs

Do you dress for the weather or for fashion? Such a dilemma!

The day of the Aurora Horse Show in June of 1937 was quite warm, with a high of 25 (77 in 1937). The spectator who wore her silver fox cape may have regretted it, but the numerous ladies in printed crepe frocks were probably comfortable. At the end of the day's events several hundred (according to a newspaper report: possibly actually only scores) of the smartly dressed spectators, invitations in hand, made their way from the Town Park up to "Meadowlea" at the north end of Aurora to attend a reception.

Meadowlea was, and is, a red brick house near the south-east corner of Yonge Street and St. John's Sideroad, at the top of a driveway curving up the slope from Yonge. It has also been known as The Red House and, most recently, as Oakland Hall Inn. It was built about 1845.

The owners of Meadowlea in 1937 were George and Mary Leacock. George was the younger brother of the humourist and political economist Stephen Leacock. Stephen acknowledged George's skills as a story teller, and he was much in demand as a public speaker. At one dinner there were no fewer than fifteen after-dinner speeches, the fifteenth by George Leacock. A reporter at the event noted that Mr. Leacock might have done even better as a comedian than as a businessman, and that it was not surprising that so many people stayed until the very end just to hear George Leacock.

Throughout his time in Aurora Mr. Leacock was the president of a company which manufactured electrical transformers. This provided him with a substantial income which could support his true loves: horses, fox hunting, cattle-breeding, and golf. Aurora provided scope for each of those interests. One Æmilius Jarvis may also have played an important role in persuading George Leacock to move here in 1928.

Mr. Jarvis owned the farm immediately north of the Aurora Cemetery. Here, in 1922, he had hosted what was in effect the first Aurora horse show and he remained involved after the move to the Town Park for the first official show in 1923. Mr. Jarvis was also a keen fox hunter and the land immediately south of the cemetery later became home to the Toronto and North York Hunt (the Beacon Hall golf course and residential area is located there now). George Leacock took part in both the horse show and the hunt even before his move to Aurora.

The Leacocks led busy social lives, frequently in the worlds of fox hunting and horse shows. However, Mr. Leacock's active participation in the Aurora show and in the local golf club, in particular, suggests that they were far from aloof from life in this community.

The Leacocks sold Meadowlea in 1952 and moved to Thornhill, where George died in 1958, aged 80.

The hunt club left Aurora in 1986. The last Aurora Horse Show took place in 2006. Meadowlea has had a few owners since the Leacocks, including local artist Dorothy Clark McClure and her family. Today it stands on a property ripe for redevelopment.

THIS WEEK'S POLL

Did you cast your vote on or before June 7?

Yes No

Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!

Previous poll results

Who do you believe won Sunday night's Leaders debate?

RESULTS TO DATE JUNE 5, 2018	FORD	HORWATH	WYNNE
	50%	38%	12%

Abuse Hurts "plunged into crisis" due to rail expansion

By Brock Weir

To the average passer-by, it doesn't look like very much.

Its bare white walls are peeling, weeds are overgrown here and there, and industrial noises hang in the air all around it.

But, on the other side of those whitewashed blocks, a certain degree of magic happens.

This magic, however, might soon come to a close as Abuse Hurts, an organization dedicated to providing resources for victims of neglect and abuse, looks for a new home.

Over the past three years, thousands of clients – primarily women and children – have come through their warehouse doors at the corner of Edward Street and Connaught Avenue, not only seeking services, but browsing the cavernous halls of the former munitions works and match factory for clothing, furniture, and other necessities to make a house a home and begin a new chapter in their recovery and their life.

This building, however, is set to meet the wrecking ball as Metrolinx looks to expand the Barrie – Toronto rail corridor to make way for all-day two-way GO Train service through the community.

Abuse Hurts founder Ellen Campbell is pictured outside their Aurora headquarters.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

The building is currently owned by Vic Priestly, who gave Abuse Hurts a very good rate for the use of the building. They might have to share space with a collection of antique tractors being held in the warehouse, but it has been a harmonious relationship that is coming to an end a bit earlier than Abuse Hurts founder and CEO Ellen Campbell expected.

"I thought we had about five years [to be in the space] because I was told from someone I know on Council that Metrolinx was looking for at least a five year [window]," said Ms. Campbell, noting it is looking increasingly likely they will need a new home and warehouse space in place by August.

Ms. Campbell and her team of volunteers have been exploring every opportunity they can find throughout northern York Region and South Simcoe that might suit their needs. Before moving to Aurora three years ago, they had a 4,000 square foot space in Newmarket.

When they moved to Aurora, they found themselves in a situation where they had additional space closer to Edward Street in which to open a retail space, selling heavily discounted donated furniture to raise further funds for the cause.

The furniture component is now in the process of being liquidated (see www.abusehurts.ca for further details), so they are setting their sights back on a 4,000 square foot space.

In their current digs, the upstairs floor and warehouse space is littered with holes blasted through the thick concrete walls, a remnant of the building's previous use as a paintball centre, but the spirit of the place is now about renewal and helping victims of abuse – women, children, and an increasing number of men – rebuild.

Downstairs, there is a beautiful living room space to meet with clients and referrals, a space for them to find clothes that suit their needs, and, in the back, a veritable salon of which women make full use of during "Makeover Mondays," which includes lunch and fellowship.

"The women come in here from Sandgate Women's Shelter in the morning and they don't know what they are going to get," said Ms. Campbell, showing off the salon chairs and mirrors. "They find out and they get so excited. They get their makeup, and then they all leave with a bag full of makeup and clothes for their kids. It's a great day and, for that day, they don't have to think about what they are going through."

But what they are going through is never far from Ms. Campbell's mind.

She is a survivor of abuse herself, a situation which she says left her feeling so down and abandoned that she sought help after becoming suicidal. She says she is heartened every day that "something good" came out of her own experiences.

"I know where these women are, I know where they are in their thinking and their soul and just to see them, even for a day, get out of that situation…," said Ms. Campbell, pausing to collect herself, "…then to know that after they get out into their own place, we can help them again and it is ongoing. I started this in the basement of my house 25 years ago, never expecting it to grow, but the need is huge. The number of women we've helped over the years is close to 100,000.

"Unless we get space, thousands of women and children are not going to get helped with the essentials they really need."

For more information on Abuse Hurts, the agencies that refer individuals to their services, and for any leads on potential space, visit www.abusehurts.ca or call 905-727-4357 (HELP).

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Michael Thompson to seek third Council term

Councillor Thompson filed his nomination papers at Town Hall on Thursday morning. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

By Brock Weir

Big issues are set to become the hallmark of the final months of this Council term, and Michael Thompson would like to see these projects through to completion in the years ahead.

Councillor Thompson formally registered as a Council candidate in this fall's municipal election on Thursday morning.

He is the second person to throw their hat into the race to claim six spots on the 2018-2022 Council after accessibility advocate Matthew Abas, who declared his intentions last month.

"It is a tremendous honour to serve as a Councillor in the Town of Aurora," says Councillor Thompson. "We have moved forward on a number of big issues this term – Library Square, Downtown Revitalization, brought in Niagara College as well – so, I would like to be a part of the continuation of those projects next term.

"There are also some big ones on the horizon: the Official Plan will be done next term and I would like to be part of managing that growth and add some input and involvement in that. Mostly, municipal government touches people's lives on a daily basis and I just want to continue, with the support of the residents to play a small role."

Councillor Thompson was first elected in 2010.

Focusing on the current Council term, he says he counts movement on Aurora's Cultural Precinct (the neighbourhoods encompassing the Aurora Public Library, Aurora Cultural Centre, Town Park, the future Library Square, the historic Armoury and other landmarks) as a particularly proud achievement of this Council, one which will be "tremendously important" for the future of Aurora in the years ahead.

"I think seeing it after so many years finally starting to move forward, albeit with challenges, is the thing I am most excited about continuing on and being a part of," he says. "[The role of a Councillor] is just about two things: it is about taking care of our residents today and making sure we're making good decisions for the residents of tomorrow."

Two terms as an elected official, however, can give one a unique perspective on the evolving role of local lawmakers. While Councillor Thompson says the Mayor might he the "head" of Council, each of the members has "the responsibility to be leaders and take those reins at times and lead in different ways."

"I think that is always an evolving

Continued on page 19

Advertorial

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Some people are born with a congenital form, but most develop spinal stenosis as part of the degenerative process. A few do not feel any effects of the narrowing, but as part of the aging process, most people will eventually notice radiating pain, weakness, and/or numbness secondary to the compression of the nerves or spinal cord.

In lumbar stenosis, the spinal nerve roots in the lower back become compressed and this can produce symptoms of sciatica—tingling, weakness or numbness that radiates from the low back and into the buttocks and legs—especially with activity.

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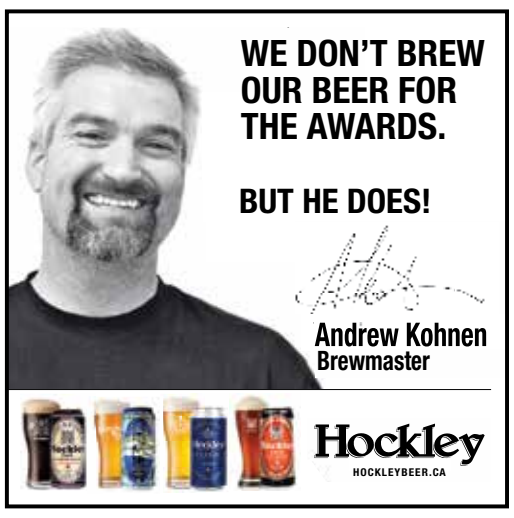

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Council seeks more answers as stable neighbourhood protections move to next level

By Brock Weir

The future of further protections on the size and scale of infill developments in Aurora's stable neighbourhoods is headed to the next level after a special Council meeting held Tuesday night.

Ways and means to protect established communities from what some residents describe as "monster homes" will be fleshed out at a public planning meeting later this spring or early this summer, but the move prompted questions from Council on just exactly what will be fleshed out, and whether they are under the gun to make a decision before this term runs out.

Nearly 200 residents packed Council chambers last week for the nearly three-and-a-half hour meeting to hear what local lawmakers had to say on the subject. It has been a hot topic for years, but picked up significant heat in the second half of the current Council term after Council initiated a study last fall.

The study earmarked specific stable neighbourhoods to be considered including large swaths of the Aurora Heights, Regency Acres and Town Park neighbourhoods for review.

A future public planning meeting will consider specific changes to Aurora's zoning bylaws, including modifying the municipality's site plan process and urban design guidelines to ensure that the massing, setbacks and lot coverage of future builds are in keeping with surrounding areas.

The public planning meeting, however, will cast a wider net, its scope expanded to include Temperance Street, as well as Tyler Street lying west of Temperance at the request of Councillor Wendy Gaertner.

For many Council members, with regards to whatever goes forward to planning, the devil is in the details and some thought the details going around the table last week were relatively slim.

"Which specific changes to the zoning bylaw are going to be proposed at the public planning meeting?" asked Councillor Jeff Thom. "I don't think it is helpful to go to a public planning meeting without a proposal for specific changes. It's hard to know how to frame our remarks when I don't know what specific changes are to the zoning bylaw and where they will apply.

"We haven't talked about the changes we're looking for. If we're looking to make amendments through the course of discussion tonight, that is fine, but I just think we have to be clear what specific changes we are looking for and where."

The "what", according to Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, could include notice to the public on "general changes to the zoning bylaw" based on any discussions that were had last Tuesday pertaining to "reduction in height, primarily, reduction in lot coverage" and the comments taken from nearly a dozen delegations to Council earlier in the meeting.

The "where" was the only thing clarified after Councillor Gaertner's motion, but for other Councillors the widened net didn't go far enough.

"There are many other areas in our Town that are designated stable neighbourhoods that, in our Official Plan, have no less protection from incompatible development and yet they are not being included as part of this discussion," Councillor Thom continued. "I know the challenge there is if you start restricting provisions in terms of height and lot coverages, etc., there might be a different perspective from someone who lives in the Kemanno Drive area west of Crawford Rose than east of Crawford Rose. I think we should be as specific as possible and know that further on down the road we might run into problems as well."

Concerns over the specifics – or lack thereof – were also voiced by Councillor Michael Thompson, but specifics, he said, would need to be ready to go ahead of the public planning meeting itself.

"At any public planning meeting we have, there's always at least a drawing or some sort of baseline at which to begin the discussion," said Councillor Thompson. "I think what would help this process is if staff would utilize their expertise and put forward a Made in Aurora solution to at least start the discussion."

Councillor Tom Mrakas was of a similar view, adding he believed the nitty-gritty of the changes necessary to protect Aurora's stable neighbourhoods would be fleshed out at the next session.

"What we're looking to do is for us to go to Public Planning and have those options presented to us and then, at that point, hear from the public and make those final decisions," said Councillor Mrakas. "If we include certain parts of the stable neighbourhoods, we'll never know if people within those areas would like to be included or not and we'd be missing the boat. [We're supposed to be] exploring all those options. I would like to see all those options when we move to public planning [so we] can make an informed decision.

"I think everyone around this table agrees: it is not the fact we don't want to see development… A lot of developers come into our Town and say they are helping to build a community. There is a big difference between building a community and building our community. I am always looking forward to putting forward things that help build our community and make it the best it could possibly be. At the end of the day, what we need to do is change our zoning so it meets the intent of our OP (Official Plan). At minimum, that is what we need to do."

While Councillors might agree that it is their responsibility to make Aurora the best community it can be, not all were on board with the speed with which Council is moving to get to that point.

There are just a few Council cycles left before the current 2014-2018 Council breaks for the summer and then for the municipal election campaign.

This, argued some lawmakers, has placed Council under pressure to make a decision.

"We started [this study] on October 24, now we don't have a choice: if we want to do this in this Council, we have to go to the planning meeting on June 27 and then we have to agree to have a GC (General Committee) and a Council meeting in July because, after that, we could be a lame duck Council. We're really under the gun and so the motion on the table is the only possible motion if we're going to try and complete this process and not go through it all over again in the next Council," said Councillor Gaertner.

Added Councillor Thom: "This is an immensely complicated issue and something that has immense impacts on the lives of everyone who owns a house in these neighbourhoods. In many cases, it is their retirement and it is massive. While I agree this could have been brought forward faster, as I sit here in this chair tonight, [I'm thinking] something of this magnitude, although we are coming up to the end of a term and who knows what will happen next term, we're still trying to agree on the area that we will be including going forward for public planning. That is not even clear based on our discussions tonight, let alone the changes.

"Just to move quickly because our term is ending would be a mistake."

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"The game is changing and you need to prepare yourselves"

Residents have pointed words for Council as they debate future of stable neighbourhoods

By Brock Weir

Developers aren't interested in Aurora's plans, they are interested in meeting the needs of their buyers and their own bottom line.

This, in the view of Aurora resident Steve Williams who came forward to Council last week to deliver a message on the future of the community's established "stable neighbourhoods."

"It is not business as usual," Mr. Williams told local lawmakers. "The game is changing and you need to prepare yourselves to deal with that new reality."

Mr. Williams was one of nearly 200 residents to fill Town Hall last week for a Special Council Meeting dedicated to the issue of stable neighbourhoods and how to protect them.

Aurora has been looking at possible changes to local zoning bylaws that would regulate the size an scope of infill developments – particularly tear-downs and renovations – to ensure they are in keeping with the neighbourhoods around them.

How to address this issue, and to what degree, has been a contentious issue within these neighbourhoods with some fighting to maintain the unique characteristics of the communities they have grown to love and, in turn, protecting what they feel are their property values, with others taking the opposite track, arguing that restrictions on what can or can't be built on their properties would keep them from realising the maximum sale price on their land.

While opinions have been more varied in letters to the editor and posts on social media, the nearly-dozen opinions expressed by neighbours at the podium last week were fairly consistent: they all agreed that something needed to be done, but just what that "something" is and how far it should go offered some grey areas.

Most delegates spoke on behalf of themselves and/or their families, but Neil Asselin, however, took to the podium on behalf of the Town Park Area Ratepayers Association, a group of homeowners in the streets surrounding Town Park and much of what has come to be known as Aurora's "Cultural Precinct" area.

He presented Council with a number of concerns including what he described as "excessive" lot coverage and height of new builds, "over-expressive and ostentatious" builds that are not in keeping with the simpler architectural styles of the existing neighbourhood, adequate yard setbacks to make sure residents can properly access and service their properties, garages that dominate the facades of new homes, and even suggested that new builds be encouraged to incorporate front porches.

New houses in this area, he said, should have a maximum height of 8.5 metres to the midpoint of the roof for a two-storey home, while a bungalow should be set at 6.5 metres to the midpoint. There should also be a minimum setback of 25 per cent of the lot.

"In general, we have been delighted with the support we have received from all of you through our one on one discussions," Mr. Asselin told Council members. "It appears we can all agree that we need a common sense set of bylaws that encourages compatible development for new housing. We have always, and continue to maintain, that we welcome new development and we welcome this opportunity to shape how new development can be undertaken.

"We residents are a passionate bunch. We support anything local. We gather in the park, on street corners and sidewalks, chat over fences and through hedgerows. All the while, we understand and respect the need for privacy on our own property. Some have grown up on these streets and continue to live here; some have lived here many decades or, like me, are newcomers. None of this can be measured in a metric or will ever appear in a report. There is a social infrastructure that hinges on this neighbourhood and many of us feel that insensitive development can unravel this precious fabric that has been woven over time."

These unique characteristics often attract new homeowners into Aurora's stable neighbourhoods, and while this was one factor which drew Kelly Citron to Aurora Heights three years ago, she is concerned that changes to the zoning bylaws could impact the plans she has for her dream home down the line.

"I currently live in my basement and rent my upstairs. It is my only way to get into the property market," she told Council. "When I bought in the Aurora Heights area I didn't just want to buy a starter home, I wanted to buy my forever home. By living in the basement and renting the upstairs, it kind of gives a win-win; it helps eventually as I grow, as my family grows, my fiancé and I will be able to rent the basement and live upstairs, but we also wanted to have future opportunities by possibly adding a second floor and a garage.

"That being said, I don't want to build an ugly monstrosity, which is an entire box that takes up my entire property. I want to be a good neighbour, but I also want that opportunity to be able to grow and be able to rent out my basement. … I just wanted to make sure I will have those future opportunities as well. Whether it is architectural or some restrictions-ish to provide a little bit of flexibility and still be a good neighbour, still be able to have a beautiful home in a beautiful neighbourhood, I think we just need to be careful that as we add restrictions, no matter what way that ends up being, we still can provide that win-win situation."

Advertorial

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

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible. In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

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Aurora's history comes to your fingertips with new On This Spot app

By Brock Weir

Tens of thousands of eager shoppers walked up and down Yonge Street on Sunday morning for the annual Aurora Chamber Street Festival – but, as they walked the length and breadth of the festival looking for deals, a tasty treat, or on-stage entertainment, how many of them paused to take notice of the area around them?

Well, quite a few, if they happened to stop in at the Aurora Museum & Archives' booth as they formally launched the Aurora "On This Spot" App.

Shawna White, Curator of the Aurora Museum & Archives was up late on Saturday eagerly taking in all the app has to offer before its public launch on Sunday.

Shawna White, curator at the Aurora Museum and Archives shows off the new app at Sunday's Aurora Chamber Street Festival.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Developed by On This Spot, the app incorporates over 100 historical photos of Aurora, a library of historical tidbits about each site, interactive historical tours, "then and now" photographs, and a chance to integrate your own photos and superimpose them on photos from the archives.

"We are always looking for new ways to tell the stories of this community and On the Spot provided an engaging platform that is appealing and user-friendly," said Ms. White. "I started thinking about doing an app about two years ago, but nothing really came from it. We have capabilities in-house, but the biggest problem with something like this is marketing and promotion and getting the word out.

"Just before Christmas, I was contacted by On This Spot, looked around and thought, 'This is it. This is what I wanted to do.' The developers came down [to Aurora] at the end of March and the beginning of April to take the photographs, and then we have been frantically putting content together and getting it all ready for the launch here. We have to tweak a few things but, for the most part, it is fantastic. They are constantly building functionality and what users want – that is part of this next stage with the augmented reality."

With similar apps launched in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Parry Sound, the platform is only set to grow, bringing history to your fingertips.

"Smartphones have the potential to make local history vastly more accessible and engaging," said Andrew Farris, CEO of On This Spot. "Now anyone with a smartphone can see their surroundings through the eyes of people a century or more ago, creating an exciting and tangible connection with the past. We've found this experience to be particularly popular with young people, and we believe interactive tools like this will become a necessity for heritage organizations in the years to come."

This is a philosophy shared by Ms. White.

"History is all around you, there are stories all around you, the spot that you're standing on now, people were there before you, and this shows just how the landscape has changed," she said. "History is not boring, it is exciting, really interesting, and this is a way to discover where you are.

"If people are coming into the Museum, great, we're programmed for them, but we want to go where they are – on their phones."

The Aurora "On This Spot" app can be downloaded from the App Store and Google Play, and more information can be found at onthisspot.ca/aurora.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From page 4

Chris has been instrumental in getting grants for local businesses to retain and expand much needed local jobs.

As the Minister for the Environment, Chris has been working hard for Green Initiatives to make our homes more energy efficient, all subsidized by the income from Ontario's Cap and Trade clean air initiatives. The GreenOn programs for energy efficient windows, doors, insulation and heating provide much needed grants to help save our environment.

Chris Ballard is the only choice for strong local representation at Queen's Park. I am voting for Chris Ballard.

David Hanna
Aurora

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Music and laughter will mark 60th anniversary of Canadian Federation of University Women

By Brock Weir

Women attending university a century ago were few and far between.

The movement was growing, but they found strength – and peer to peer mentorship – in numbers and the Canadian Federation of University Women was born.

The national organization celebrates its 100th anniversary this year and, closer to home, the Aurora-Newmarket chapter, which draws membership from across York Region and South Simcoe, is celebrating its 60th anniversary this month with a special celebration.

While the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Aurora-Newmarket is marking the milestone by presenting An Evening of Art, Music & Laughter at the Aurora Cultural Centre on the evening of June 14, they are also celebrating its evolving and growing mandate within the community.

Numbering 208 members as of this year, the CFUW has marked a number of important milestones over the last 12 months. They have partnered with the Children's Aid Society for a new "Stay in School" program benefiting young women who are wards of CAS who are going onto higher education, provided thousands of dollars worth of scholarships, and instituted new programs to encourage diligence in education across genders.

"Our group may be more active at the grassroots level than when it first started," says CFUW member Lynn Havard. "Yes, it was a place for women of like backgrounds to get together, but the mandate has always been to support women and girls, and their education. The basis of that hasn't changed, but the method and being out in the community has, I think, changed over the last little while."

Adds member Dawn Horsted: "We're not a 'university' club now. Anyone can join. It doesn't matter what education you have, it doesn't matter if you have an education; it is just a women's club and that is why it has developed into a real social atmosphere. A lot of women come for the social aspect of it. More women are becoming interested and involved in the activity part where we try to bring about social change and justice."

The Federation is cognizant that "every reputable global organization" ranging from the United Nations to the International Monetary Fund all recognize the education of girls as a "major benchmark of how society will progress in societal development and stability," says member Karen Strype, and that too is their mandate.

"We really want to emphasize that because we realise its importance," she says.

But they also realise the importance of their own anniversary and in this milestone year they hope to not only build awareness of the Federation itself, but also build and foster what member Angie Wickham describes as "allies" to their advocacy work.

"I think Aurora-Newmarket has been more of a social club, but we're getting out now into advocacy and we find that all the work we are doing is not out in the public and we want to do that. We chose the Art, Music & Laughter theme for our celebration because of the composition of our club: we want to bring a little laughter into the event.

"Doing that, we wanted to get out into the community, check with our corporate sponsors and also community businesses to let them know who we are and what we are doing. We do a lot of scholarships and bursaries. For example, we partner with the Children's Aid society, we work with York University and Seneca as well to give scholarships to those who are financially challenged. We want to build on that fund; we have our charitable trust, which was founded in 2016 and we're trying to increase that fund a little bit. That is what this event is all about."

The four women who sat down with The Auroran to discuss the anniversary each discovered the club at different times, each seeking out different things and being attracted to the organization for different reasons. For some of them it was networking, for others it was sharing a laugh. Now, however, they are equally passionate about their community advocacy.

"Even though we are a woman's club and we're advocating for women and girls and their education, we also added boys as well who are wards of Children's Aid and we did that with the help of the Lions

Continued on page 15

CFUW members Angie Wickham, Lynn Havard, Karen Strype, and Dawn Horsted.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

TOWN OF AURORA
PUBLIC NOTICE

AURORA

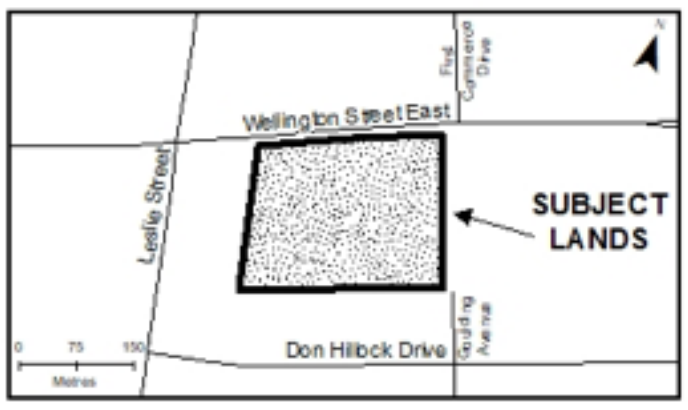
NOTICE OF COUNCIL'S INTENTION TO REMOVE A HOLDING 'H' SYMBOL

AURORA TOWN COUNCIL intends to consider an Amending By-law under section 36 of the Planning Act to Remove the "(H)" Holding Symbol on: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at AURORA TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS 100 JOHN WEST WAY, AURORA, ONTARIO

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of The Town of Aurora intends to consider an Amending By-law under section 36 of the Planning Act to remove the 'H' Holding Symbol for the lands described below:

1. An Application by 1623 Wellington Street East Developments Limited, File Number: ZBA-2018-03(H) has been submitted to Amend the Zoning By-law to Remove the 'H' Holding Symbol. The lands are located at Part of Lot 20, Concession 3, municipally known as 1623 Wellington Street East.

The conditions for Removal of 'H' Holding Symbol as set out in By-law 5447-12 have been fulfilled. The Removal of the 'H' Holding Symbol will allow for the development of the lands for retail and commercial uses. The Holding 'H' Symbol was established to ensure the Town of Aurora has approved a site plan for up to 11,000 square metres of retail and commercial uses.



CONTACT:

Any inquiries should be directed to Fausto Filipetto of the Planning and Development Services at 905-727-3123 extension 4342 weekdays, Monday to Friday between 8:30am and 4:30 pm. Comments may also be mailed to the Planning and Development Services at the same address, faxed to 905-726-4736 or emailed to planning@aurora.ca prior to the meeting. Please quote the File Name and Number.

Personal Information Collection Notice

The Town of Aurora collects personal information in communications or presentations made to Town Council and/or its Committees under the legal authority of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter c.P.13, as amended. Pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56, as amended, (the "Act") public feedback to planning proposals is considered to be public recorded and may be disclosed to any individual upon request in accordance with the Act. If you are submitting letters, faxes, emails, presentations or other communications to the Town, you should be aware that your name and the fact that you communicated with the Town will become part of the public record and will appear on the Town's website. The Town will also make your communication and any personal information in it, such as your address and postal code or email address available to the public unless you expressly request the Town to remove it. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Town Clerk, Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Box 1000, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1 905-727-3123.

Audio and Video Recording of Council and Committee Meetings

The Town audio and/or video records Public Planning Meetings. If you make a presentation to Town Council or its Committees, you may be audio or video recorded. Pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56, as amended, (the "Act") public feedback to planning proposals is considered to be a public record and may be disclosed to any individual upon request in accordance with the Act.

DATED at the Town of Aurora, this 7th day of June, 2018.

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Inaugural Drag Queen Story Time is a success for Library

By Brock Weir

The Aurora Public Library kicked off Pride Month on Saturday with its first-ever Drag Queen Story Time, hosted by Eva Lasting – and, judging by the success of this inaugural event, it will definitely not be the last.

Over 50 members of the public – kids, parents, grandparents – came out to dress up, dance, and hear Eva Lasting read a handful of specially chosen children's books, each with the message that it is okay to be yourself.

"I wanted them to be exposed to the idea of being different and being who you are," said mom Jeanan Al-Haddad, who brought her daughters Meryam and Maysa to the Story Hour. "I feel in this day and age, everyone is pushing for a cookie-cutter image. I just want them to learn, especially as girls, to be who they are, to be okay with that."

The same sentiment was shared by Darren and Barry Pamaya who brought their two sons to the event.

"We're a same-sex couple, we have two kids and we wanted them to see diversity," said Darren. "We think it is important [to have something like this in York Region]. We are both teachers and librarians and we thought it was perfect."

Added Barry: "We just like exposing our children to as many different things as possible. Diversity is important and it is important for them to see there are different types of families and different types of people out there."

The dads agree that here in York Region there is plenty of room to grow when it comes to events like these.

Eva Lasting dances with kids at the APL's first Drag Queen Story Time.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

"We do a lot of things in Downtown Toronto, but we know there are a lot of same-sex families [in the area] and lots of diversity, so we're really happy with the community," said Darren. "Our sons really enjoyed the stories and I don't think it seemed different to them – it was just part of life."

These perspectives are just three examples of feedback offered after the event, which was spearheaded by Polly Ross-Tyrrell, Children's Librarian at the Aurora Public Library (APL), and York Region teacher Allison Beattie.

Ms. Beattie brought the idea for Drag Queen Story Time to APL's attention following an In Conversation event held at the Library last year on issues facing the LGBTQ community in York Region.

"I was so incredibly proud of all the parents and grandparents who were out here today, who are raising a new generation of loving and accepting children and I think our world is in a better place for it," said Reccia Mandelcorn of the APL.

This was also the takeaway for Eva Lasting.

"I think it was fantastically positive," she said. "As expected, kids sort of were just kids and they asked questions. Things like: Is that a boy? What is that? And just being able to comment on what they saw. I think that is a natural and healthy way to go through life, so I was happy to be part of it and to encourage it. Sometimes kids can be stifled about asking questions and sometimes it is not considered polite, but in this situation I think it was fantastic just to talk to those kids and be honest and open with them – and just connect with them over stories they love and be able to sing and dance with them."

Such was the success that not only are future Drag Queen Story Times for kids in the offing, but the APL might kick things up a notch when Pride Month 2019 rolls around.

"I think this is going to be an annual event," said Ms. Mandelcorn. "It was a lot of fun and when you have a good thing you build upon it. I think adults need to have a Drag Queen Story Time too because adulting is hard and we need all the help we can get!"

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* * * *

John Sheard presents The British Invasion tonight at the Aurora Cultural Centre. From Beatles to Hollies, Stones to Kinks; Petula to Dusty, Animals to Peter and Gordon…take a musical ride down memory lane…on a double-decker bus. With David Celia (guitar & vocals), Mia Sheard (vocals), Ryan Graville-Martin (drumkit), Steve Briggs (guitar) and Dennis Pendrith (bass). For tickets and further information, visit www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818. 8 – 10.15 p.m.

* * * *

Creepy Tours presents Tales from the Aurora Pet Cemetery tonight at 7.30 p.m. at the Aurora Community Centre. This event was previously scheduled for last month but postponed due to the windstorm. All tickets purchased for the May event will be honoured. Tickets for this evening's event, which begins at 7.30 p.m., are on sale now for $15 at Aurora Antiques (15231 Yonge Street) or via auroraantiques.ca.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

AURORA FARMERS' MARKET: Seasonal fresh fruits & veggies, delicious goodies and unique crafts will be waiting for you at the Aurora Farmers Market & Artisan Fair today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Town Park. (49 Wells Street). Theaurorafarmersmarket.com.

* * * *

PUSH FOR YOUR TUSH YORK REGION -- Join us for the York Region Push for Your Tush as we raise funds for Colorectal Cancer Canada! We have a 1km, 5km and 10km run along with food, music and a silent auction! This is a great community event meant to raise funds and bring a community together of those affected by Colorectal Cancer. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lambert Willson Park (135 Industrial Parkway North).

* * * *

Classic Lightfoot Live, the Ultimate Canadian Tribute, will take the stage at Theatre Aurora tonight at 7.30 p.m. Proceeds from the concert benefit CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors). For more information, visit www.classiclightfootlive.com.

* * * *

The talented Waterdown Blues Band will perform at the Aurora Royal Canadian Legion tonight from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion (105 Industrial Parkway North). The event will be a fun musical night with dancing and socializing. Tickets are $15 each with event proceeds to the Aurora Royal Canadian Legion. To purchase tickets, please call the Legion Office at 905-727-5642 or the Legion Clubroom at 905-727-9932.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

The PROBUS Club of Aurora holds their monthly meeting today from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, Aurora. This month's entertainment will be: Joseph Thomson, singing & playing the guitar. For more information on this month's speaker please call Cliff White at 905-841-2421. New Members Welcome! Call Gary Gilbert at 905-895-2849or be our guest at the meeting.

* * * *

The Aurora Community Café is open today – and each Wednesday – from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Victoria and Mosley (Entrance off Victoria). Now serving lunch, along with fresh baked goods, lunch, coffee, tea, juice, a DJ and live music.

* * * *

ARE YOU AURORA'S NEXT TEEN IDOL? f you are between the ages of 12 and 17 and a resident of Aurora come join us tonight at the Aurora Community Centre to audition. Open to individual vocalists only. Auditions take place on Wednesday, June 13 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the final round will take place on Sunday, July 1. Register by June 8. Applications are available online at aurora.ca/teenidol or in person at the AFLC, SARC, or at Town Hall. Proudly sponsored by Royal LePage Your Community Realty.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Join the Canadian Federation of University Women Aurora-Newmarket tonight at the Aurora Cultural Centre from 6.30 – 9.30 p.m., for an evening of Art, Music & Laughter featuring pianist, Emanda Richards and motivational speaker, comedian, Ken Roche. wine and cheese, beer tasting from Arch Brewing Co., art sale, silent auction. For ticket information, visit www.cfuwauroranewmarket.com/Upcoming-Events.html.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

The Aurora Community Band will host their concert "An Uprising Built on Hope." Come enjoy the beautiful sounds of Aurora's band at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, beginning at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for students, and available at the door by contacting auroracommunityband@gmail.com.

* * * *

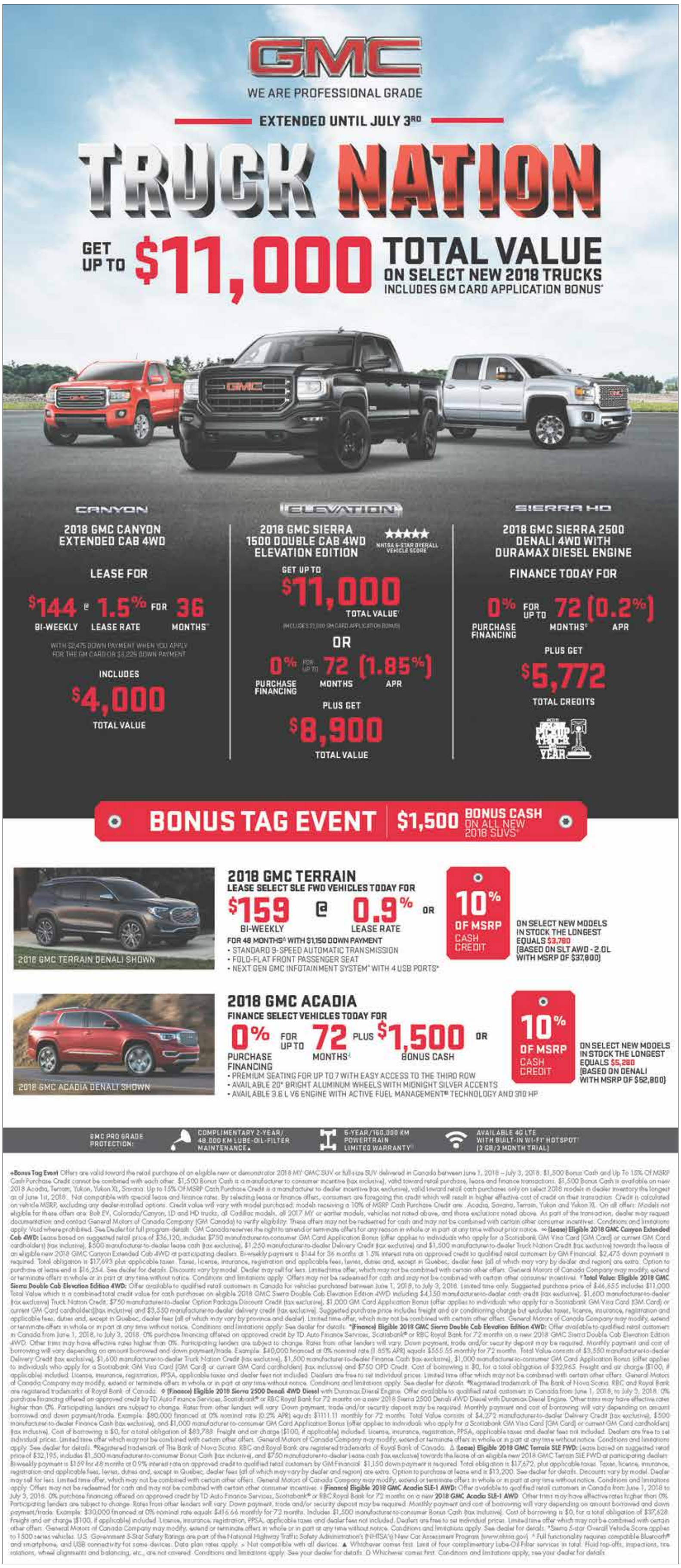
Veranda Gift Shop Extravaganza at Hillary House from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. More donations have come in. You never know what you might find! As always, new books about Aurora, Newmarket, and King. Some used books. Jewelry. Purchases help maintain and restore Hillary House National Historic Site. House tours and gift shop open Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 15372 Yonge Street, Aurora. 905 727-8991 aurorahs.com.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

The Aurora Community Café is open today – and each Wednesday – from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Victoria and Mosley (Entrance off Victoria). Now serving lunch, along with fresh baked goods, lunch, coffee, tea, juice, a DJ and live music.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Garden Aurora 100 Years! Garden Tour 2018. Celebrating 100 years in our community, the Aurora Garden Club presents our Annual Tour of Gardens. Our own members will be opening their private paradises to you and will be available to answer your questions. This is a self-guided tour from 12:00 Noon to 4:30 PM, rain or shine. Tickets are $15.00 at Caruso & Co. 15210 Yonge St. Aurora, Black Forest Gardens 15445 Keele St. King City, New Roots Garden Centre 17235 Yonge St. Newmarket and Aurora Farmers Market Saturday June 9, 16, 23. Same day tickets will be sold at Garden #1. More information at www.gardenaurora.ca or 905 713 6660.



Pow Wow Continues Storied Tradition

Lambert Willson Park was the scene for old traditions and "New Beginnings" as the Town of Aurora and White Pine Dancers hosted the second annual New Beginnings Pow Wow. The theme of this year's Pow Wow was "Our Future Generations" and the event featured traditional dance, drumming and food. Pow Wows promote cultural pride in an inclusive setting and play an important role in many Indigenous peoples' lives as a forum to share their heritage with non-indigenous attendees. Featuring a grand entry, which included Councillor John Abel, music, drumming, dancing, traditional foods and more, the event was hosted by Leo Linklater, Mawla Shawana, and the Little Creek Singers.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

"We knew this was going to be a tough election – and it hasn't disappointed"

Wynne begins last week of campaign in Newmarket-Aurora to support Ballard

By Brock Weir

It ends almost as it began, but now the outcome is almost certain.

Liberal leader Kathleen Wynne began her election campaign in Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill last month in it to win it. A lot has changed over the past four weeks and, with just three campaigning days left before what she admits is the end of her premiership, Ms. Wynne started the week in Newmarket-Aurora to shore up support for Liberal candidate Chris Ballard.

Ms. Wynne spoke to a room full of supporters at Newmarket's Cache Restaurant on Monday afternoon.

Flanked by Mr. Ballard and surrounded by party faithful, she defended her decision to concede the election on Saturday afternoon but said she's determined to cross the finish line spending her energy to support her local candidates.

She dismissed claims from opponents her early concession was a "ploy" as "cynical."

"What I was saying on the weekend was, to everyone who wants to vote Liberal but was worried because they also want change, there is going to be a different government," said Ms. Wynne. "I am not going to be Premier, so it is really important that people vote locally, vote for the candidate, that voice at Queen's Park, who will be the representative that they want at Queen's Park [to] ensure that we won't have a majority Doug Ford or majority NDP government. But, I'm not giving up. The opposite. I am working so hard, right up until we get to that finish line, because we need people like Chris Ballard at Queen's Park."

Liberal leader Kathleen Wynne made what was to be, at press time, her final stop in Newmarket-Aurora as Premier on Monday afternoon to throw her support behind Liberal candidate Chris Ballard.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Indeed, Monday's mini-rally was very much a mutual admiration society, with Mr. Ballard noting Ms. Wynne's leadership was what inspired him to make the leap from Aurora Council to the Ontario legislature.

"I thought to myself, 'I want to aspire to the vision Kathleen Wynne has before me,'" said Mr. Ballard. "I had in those days no aspirations to be any thing but a Town Councillor and really enjoy myself, then people started asking me if I would run and I thought to myself, 'I will run because Kathleen Wynne is a fantastic leader and has laid out a vision for Ontario, a vision for Newmarket and Aurora that is the best way forward' and I have not for a second regretted that decision to throw my hat into the ring. And, Premier, thank you so much for that."

Mr. Ballard dubbed Ms. Wynne "my leader, my teacher, and in many ways my mentor" who inspired him "to be better every day."

In turn, Ms. Wynne said Mr. Ballard was a "champion for people who haven't got as much as others," and this was reflected in her appointment of him as Minister of Housing and the Minister Responsible for Poverty Reduction and, later, as a promoter of protecting Ontario's Greenbelt, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change.

"Doug Ford we know went into a closed door room and was willing to open up a chunk of the Greenbelt and give it away, and only stopped and changed his mind on that because he got caught," said Ms. Wynne. "There are so many reasons that Chris Ballard is absolutely the right person to represent this community, to continue to represent it at Queen's Park. We knew this was going to be a tough election. We came into it knowing it was going to be a tough election and it has not disappointed. It has been a tough election, thank you very much. I hate it when you get disappointed by these things!

"We know as Liberals that people want change, we get that, and that is what we said on Saturday. Because people want change, we need to say that change is coming. But we need strong Liberal voices at Queen's Park, strong Liberal voices who want to solve problems in a practical way, who understand their communities, and understand what the solutions need to be in their communities. We need those people at Queen's Park because an unfettered Doug Ford majority government will not act in the interests of the People of this Province and that is clear."

Club's mandate expands

From page 11

Club," says Ms. Wickham of their social programs.

Over 50 per cent of CAS' wards, adds Ms. Horsted, are boys and that was an essential statistic in looking at how they, as a group can make a difference.

"By reaching out to the other partner organizations, we have been able to support the boys in 2018 and there were more of them that showed up than the girls," she says. "It is just a feel-good thing and a very good reach out to the community. It is an incentive program for young wards who need an extra push to stay in school so they could go on to higher education (university, college, or training program) because most of our work with higher education came through scholarships, but these kids weren't going to make it there if they didn't stay in school.

"Working with the child care workers and the supervisors at CAS, we came up with an incentive program where young wards who try at school will be an incentive award gift card as well as certificate and treated as if they are graduating and moving on just through their effort. It has been a really good, feel-good program and well-received by the kids as well."

Being a member of the CFUW, they agree, is feel-good in itself. Each meeting, they said, is a learning opportunity and that's what keeps them coming back for more.

"Have fun while you're making a difference and make a difference while you're having fun and be part of the community and learn," says Ms. Strype of the benefits of membership. "We're not a bunch of women sitting around gossiping; there is a purpose and a focus."

For more information on the Canadian Federation of University Women (Aurora-Newmarket), visit www.cfuwauroranewmarket.com. Tickets for An Evening of Art, Music & Laughter, which will feature pianist Emanda Richards and comedian Ken Roche, are on sale now by calling Angie at 416-846-6684 or Karen at 905-887-4277, or by emailing karenstrype@hotmail.com. Doors open June 14 at 6.30 p.m.

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Minor Mosquito Jays golden in Bolton tournament

The AA Minor Mosquito Aurora-King Jays brought home the trophy at the annual Bolton Braves tournament last weekend, sponsored by the JaysCare Foundation.

Photo courtesy of Michael Burdo

By Jake Courtepatte

It may still be spring, but Aurora-King's boys of summer have already picked up some hardware.

A monumental rally in the tournament semifinal provided enough of a spark for the Aurora-King Minor Mosquito Jays to earn the title of Bolton Braves tournament champions, in their first major test of the 2018 baseball season.

Entering play on Friday, the Jays quickly established themselves as contenders with a 16 – 1 win over Thornhill, though they returned to earth on Saturday morning after blowing a 5 – 0 lead over Mississauga to drop their second game 7 – 5.

Closing out the round robin schedule with an explosive 23 – 2 win over Whitby on Saturday afternoon, the Jays set up a meeting with Oakville on Sunday in the semis.

Falling behind 9 – 0, Aurora-King rallied late in the game to earn their third double-digit score of the tournament in a 12 – 9 win, setting up a date with the hometown Braves in the afternoon's final.

A back-and-forth affair left the Jays with the win, and the championship, by a score of 5 – 4.

Congratulations to Aaron Chiola, Cale Williams, Mack Stewart, Parker Bifolchi, Matthew Burdo, Luciano Montanaro, Luca Cutajar, Colin Ellsworth, Romeo Waghmare, Lincoln Glover, and Tyson Kushnir on the early season success.

Aurora Jays crack Ivy's unbeaten NDBL record

By Jake Courtepatte

A slow start to the North Dufferin Baseball League season has steadily improved for the Aurora Jays, who were able to do on Friday what no team has yet accomplished: defeat the Ivy Leafs.

It was a tough stretch of the schedule for the AA club, who opened the week against the heavy-hitting Bolton Brewers.

Thomas D'Andrade got the start on the mound for the Jays, giving up two runs on a walk and a pair of singles in the first inning before tossing three scoreless frames.

Stephan Valee, Chris Rettie, and Ryan Vanveen all crossed the plate for the Jays before the fifth inning, giving Aurora the lead before one run in the fifth ended D'Andrade's day.

Veteran hurler Andrew Bukavec came on in relief of D'Andrade, struggling in his second appearance on the mound this season, allowing nine runs in the sixth inning to put the game away for good in Bolton's favour.

Rettie and Vanveen both had multi-hit performances in the 16 – 3 loss.

Reconvening three days later to face the Leafs, winners of their first six games, Aurora rebounded with ace Devon Wu's first win of the season.

Despite a three-run home run from Ivy, as well as a solo shot, Aurora's eight runs topped Ivy's six when the game was called in the sixth inning.

After a lackluster start in May, the Jays have improved to a record of 2-3-2 with just one loss in the last three weeks, good for ninth in the 14-team AA league.

Following a Tuesday night meeting with the Lisle Astros following press time, the Jays meet with the struggling Mansfield Cubs for the first time this season in a road game on Sunday.

Mansfield is one of two clubs yet to find a win this season, along with the Alliston Athletics.

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

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ENGAGING GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN
— stay tuned for replay details —

MAY 16

Sabrina Razack is an Educator for the TDSB, with NCCP certifications in basketball, track and field, and has coached multiple sports.

Long-term athlete development (LTAD) is improving the delivery of sport and physical activity, but there are roadblocks for girls and young women. Sabrina will explore key issues in supporting them as athletes and leaders.

TEAM DRIVEN SPORT LEADERSHIP
— stay tuned for replay details —

MAY 30

Dave Cooper is a former international tennis coach, author, and sport consultant who currently works as a corporate leadership coach.

Having coached professional and Olympic athletes, Dave will present powerful new concepts that players, coaches and teams can use to dramatically improve performance while increasing mental toughness, confidence and leadership skills.

SPORT FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY
— stay tuned for replay details —

JUNE 06

Vicki Keith Munro is one of the most successful marathon swimmers in the history of the sport. She holds 16 world records, and was the first to cross all five Great Lakes. Vicki is also a Member of the Order of Canada.

Be inspired by this world-class athlete who has coached athletes with a disability at the highest levels, and has raised more than $1 million to support programs for children with disabilities.

COACH TRAINING - WHERE DO I START?

JUNE 13

Jeremy Cross is Director Coach Development at Coaches Association of Ontario, and has worked with Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, University of Waterloo, and the Orlando Magic.

Getting your coach development, training and NCCP education can seem overwhelming. Jeremy will take you through a variety of entry points for your coaching education, and set you on the right track.

EXPLORING RISK AND PLAY

JUNE 20

Brandy Tanenbaum is the Injury Prevention Program Coordinator at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

Safety in sport is essential, but must be balanced with risk. Growing evidence demonstrates that learning to successfully deal with risk is an essential life skill. Brandy will explore the connection between play, risk and physical literacy as part of healthy childhood development.

These are live webinars: 7:30 - 8:45 pm

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Aurora Youth Soccer grads commit to collegiate programs

By Jake Courtepatte

Aurora's developmental soccer program has long been considered a factory for collegiate talent, and this year's crop is no different.

Aurora FC's class of 2018 has produced commitments to both Canadian and American universities for six members of the women's program, ready to hit the pitch with their new squads come the fall semester.

Andrea Meneses, a midfielder and two-time Ontario Youth Soccer League champion, will represent the Queen's Golden Gaels in Canadian U-Sports.

"I selected Queen's University because of the reputation of the Commerce program, the small community campus environment, and the amazing soccer program," said the Richmond Hill native. "I believe throughout my four years at Queens, I'll better myself as an athlete and develop skills to prepare me for my future career."

Quinn Josiah, who spent time with Aurora's senior program late in the 2017 season, will join the Prairie View A&M University Panthers as the team's newest goalkeeper. She enters a program competing in the NCAA's top division, as members of the highly-competitive Southwestern Athletic Conference.

Joining Josiah in the NCAA Division I is Emma Milne, committed to Liberty University to represent the Lady Flames.

The Uxbridge native, another member of Aurora's back-to-back Ontario champion squad, brings her skills at midfield to the Virginia-based Atlantic Sun Conference school.

"Emma is an energetic midfielder who can run all day long," said her coach, Land Wedemeyer. "Her work ethic and skill make her a great complement to the players around her."

The three new recruits doubles the commitment signings for the Aurora program this season, joining Michaela Iacono (Eastern Kentucky University), Laura Marelli (Guelph University), and Jessica Marino (McMaster University) who committed earlier this year.

(back row) Queens University commit Andrea Meneses, AYSC Assistant Technical Director Marco Campia, Prairie View A&M commit Quinn Josiah,McMaster University commit Jessica Marino. (front row) Eastern Kentucky University commit Michaela Iacono, Liberty University commit Emma Milne, Guelph University commit Laura Marrelli.

Photo courtesy of AUFC

The Aurora FC men fell 3 - 1 to Toronto FC III in League1 Ontario action on Sunday.

Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte

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Ride for Styles raises over $20,000

By Jake Courtepatte

When cyclists from across York Region descended on the York Regional Police's Community Safety Village on Sunday for the annual Ride for Styles, some were sporting tops reading "life is a beautiful ride."

Unfortunately for Constable Garrett Styles, his was cut tragically short, though his legacy lives on through the charity cycle in his name.

Styles, a seven-year veteran with the force, was struck down by a minivan being driven by an underage driver in the early hours of the morning on June 28, 2011.

This year's ride raised just over $20,000 for the Canadian Tire JumpStart program, Victim Services of York Region, and the Aga Khan Foundation Canada, a non-profit that supports social development programs in Asia and Africa.

A donation was also made to the Canadian Police Memorial Ride to Remember.

With the motto "heroes in life, not death," the Ride to Remember will take place in September to remember those like Styles who have fallen in the line of duty.

"We've raised a lot of money, but we always need more," said Garry Styles, Garrett's father and a retired member of the force, who called his son "a good man".

"It keeps my son's legacy alive, and it's something my son would have supported."

With humble beginnings in October of 2011 as a group of eight YRP cyclists, this year's event featured both a 50km and 75km ride starting from Bruce's Mill Conservation Area in Stouffville.

Cyclists take off from the YRP Community Safety Village for the annual Ride For Styles on Sunday, in honour of slain officer Garrett Styles.

Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte

Now in its eighth year, around 150 cyclists came out in support of the event, many sporting the new 'Sockcess' YRP-themed socks, aiding in making this year's ride the most successful to date.

"I think it should be supported for a long time," said Mr. Styles. "There's no doubt it's helping a lot of people."

YRP detective and event chief organizer Ken Bardai called the continued support for the ride "proof of Garrett's impact on both his peers and the community."

Since its inception, the Ride 4 Styles has raised over $100,000 for charity.

Thompson focused on unfinished work

From page 7

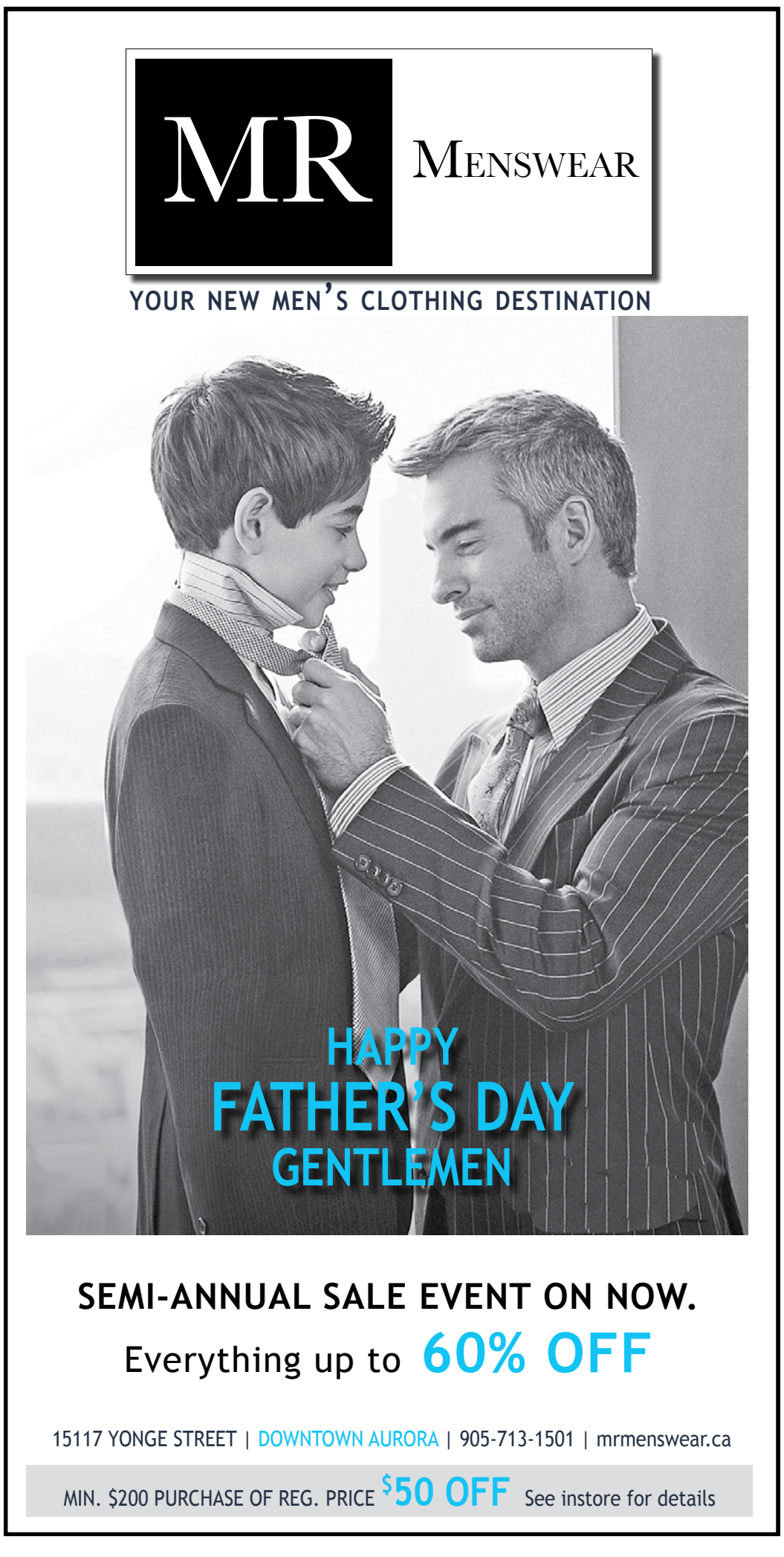
role. There is a bit of mentorship; you're always going to have new councillors come on board, and I think we all bear that responsibility," he says. "In terms of the community, I think the role is always going to evolve a little bit because legislation changes, there are so many this year. We have the changes with regards to the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board) and land planning and that is becoming more and more of a challenging issue as Aurora is past build out and we're looking at more infill. The decisions we make have a more resounding impact going forward."

Those changes to the OMB have come about in no small part due to the efforts of himself and Councillor Tom Mrakas who led a working group of colleagues from a wide array of Ontario municipalities to push for change. The momentum the working group generated bore fruit earlier this year when the OMB itself was scrapped by the Provincial government.

"Sometimes you go up to these larger issues and it is the old saying of, 'Can I make a difference?' Then you throw the pebble in the pond and the ripple effect has an impact," says Councillor Thompson. "There was some satisfaction at the end of the day that we helped make a difference and we helped gather like-minded communities to help move things along. To what degree we made a difference, we will never really know, but we certainly feel that it did help move the needle forward and make that change, and it exceeded what we wanted. When we first started, we didn't think that we would get a lot of traction to abolish the OMB and create something new, so we were really pushing for reform but, at the end of the day, they created something brand new."

At this point, however, while there is some room to look ahead to this fall's election, Councillor Thompson says his main priority at this point is finishing the work of this term.

"We have big items to deal with now and we'll worry about next term as we get closer to the date, if I am fortunate enough to get re-elected. I hope we all just focus on doing what is right for the Town."



Thousands attend

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

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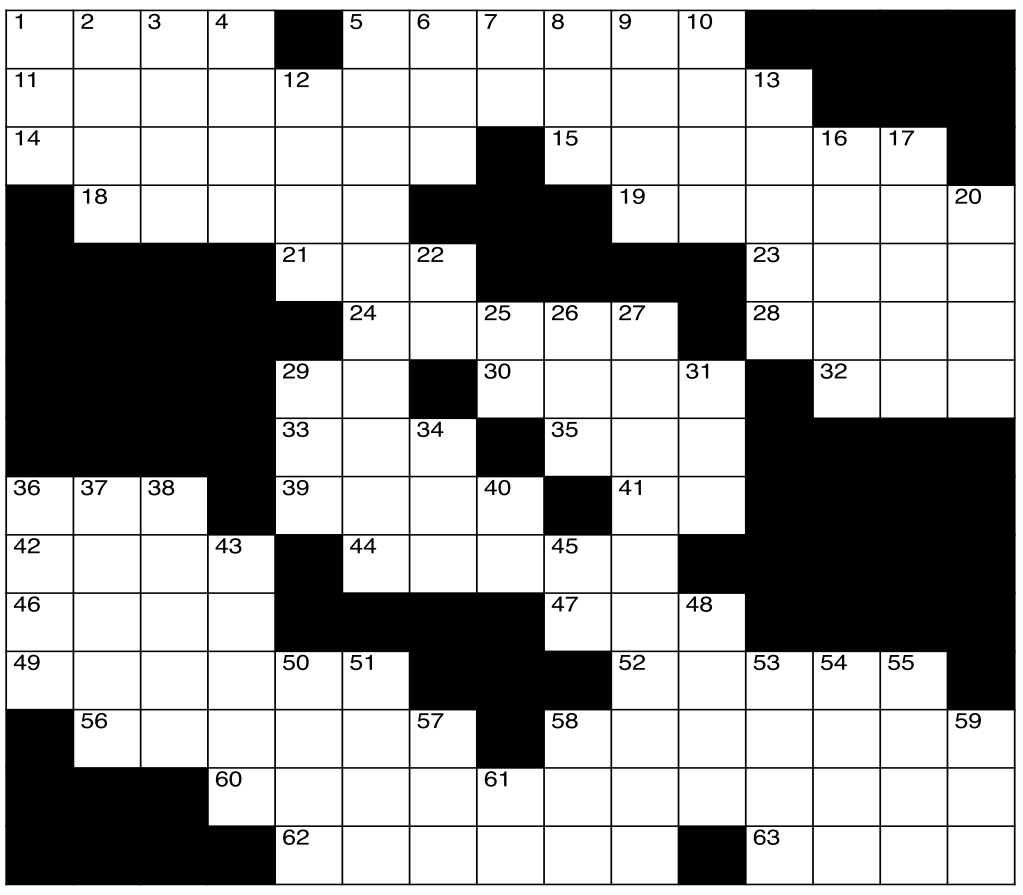

CLUES ACROSS

1. Absence of difficulty
5. Preserve a dead body
11. Gratitude
14. Grads may attend one
15. Less difficult
18. Visionaries
19. Fish-eating bird
21. Indicates near
23. '69 World Series hero
24. Scandinavian mythology source
28. Pop
29. Rapper __ Hammer
30. Senses of self-esteem
32. Hormone that stimulates the thyroid
33. __ Farrow, actress
35. Electronic data processing
36. Baby talk (abbr.)
39. Slender, snake-like fish
41. Air Force
42. Computers
44. Ecological stage
46. Wings
47. In the course of
49. Laid back
52. Jewelled headdress
56. In slow tempo
58. __ Falls
60. Corrections
62. Periods in one's life
63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

1. Body part
2. Large primates
3. Retch (archaic)
4. Sea eagle
5. Genetically distinct geographic variety
6. Category of spoken Chinese
7. Barium
8. Consumed
9. Chinese dynasty
10. NFL great Randy
12. Ireland
13. Palm trees
16. Fungal disease
17. Tall plants with slender leaves
20. Affirmative! (slang)
22. Potato state
25. Delaware
26. A way to develop
29. Woman (French)
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. One who leads prayers
37. Indigo bush
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Citizen (senior)
43. Scads
45. Morning
48. Straight line passing from side to side (abbr.)
50. S-shaped line
51. Small, thin bunch
53. Worn by exposure to the weather
54. Mars crater
55. Humanities
57. Of the ears
58. "The __ Degree"

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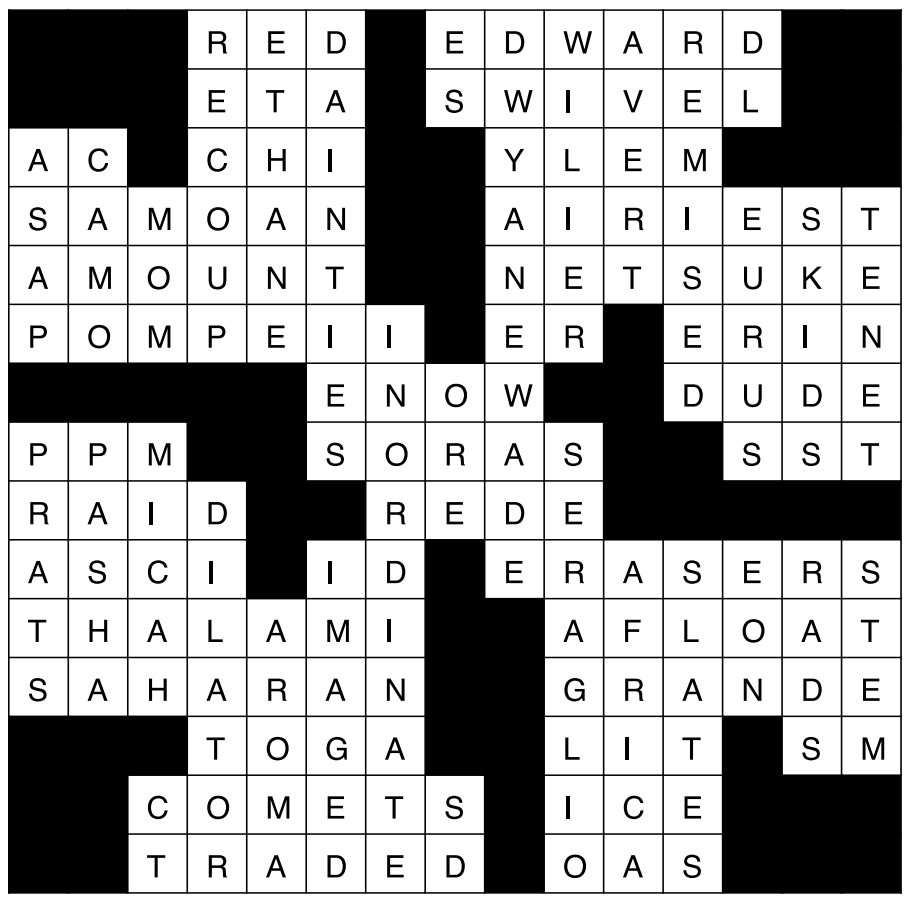

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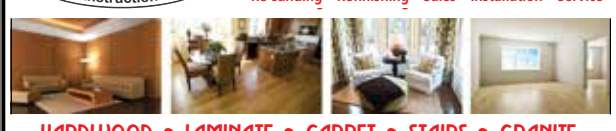

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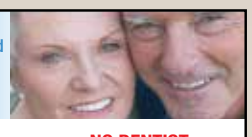

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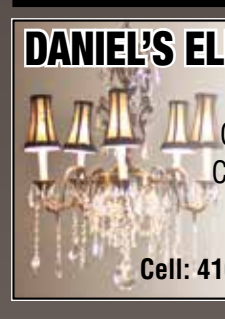

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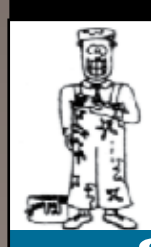

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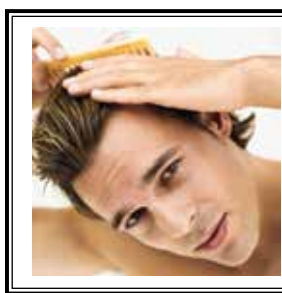

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All persons having claims against the Estate of Richard Ronald Wargalla, late of the Town of Aurora, who died on the 12th day of June, 2017, are required to file proof of the same with the undersigned on or before the 18th day of June, 2018. After that date, the Estate Trustee will proceed to distribute the Estate, having regard only to the claims of which he shall have notice.

DATED this 10th day of May, 2018.

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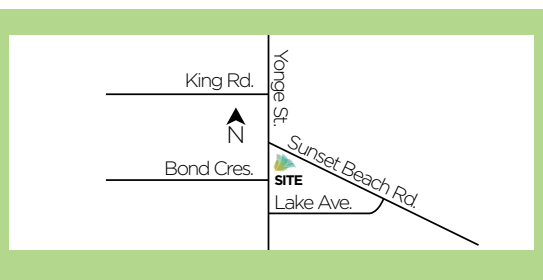

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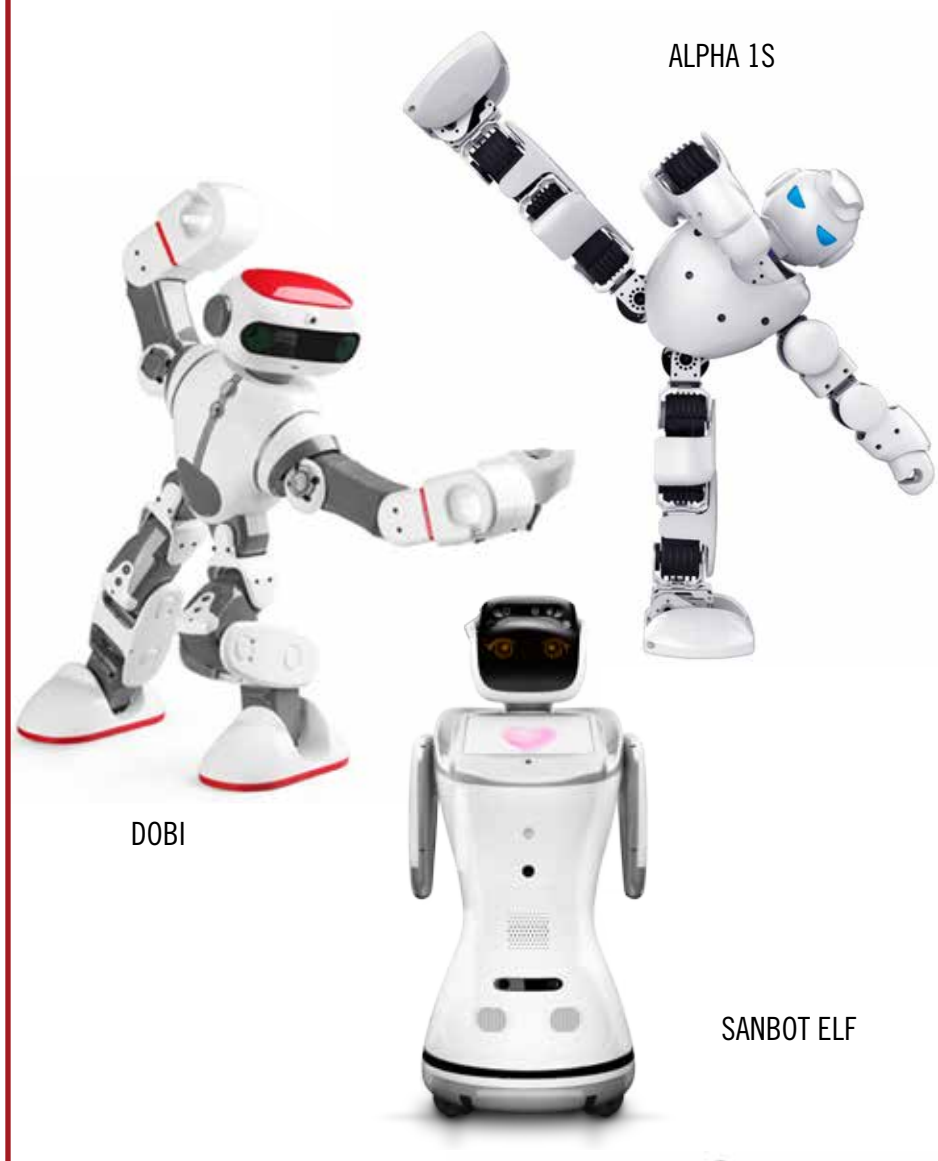

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