EDIE
BISTRO
297 Wellington St. E
905-841-1922 | ediebistro.ca

Beverley Varcoe 905-727-3154
Call for a SELLER or BUYER package
Highly Qualified to Handle Your Real Estate Needs with Over 25 years of Award Winning service!
ROYAL LEPAGE YOUR COMMUNITY REALTY BROKERAGE Independently Owned & Operated
THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
SRES Seniors Real Estate Specialist
BROKER, FRI, CRES, SRES
MVA Market Value Appraiser
Your Community Realty, Aurora
www.beverleyvarcoe.com
bvarcoe@royallepage.ca

Service with Trust and Integrity.
ERIC SKILLINS
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
DIRECT
416.988.0209
ROYAL LEPAGE YOUR Community REALTY

THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 20 No.9 905-727-3300 theauroran.com FREE Week of December 12, 2019 CMCA AUDITED

IN HER SHOES

Markham Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton, Lorris Herenda, Executive Director of Yellow Brick House, Councillors John Gallo and Rachel Gilliland, and Richmond Hill Councillor David West, are pictured in their fancy footwear at St. Andrew's College for Yellow Brick House's recent annual Walk A Mile in Her Shoes event, which raises awareness in the fight against domestic violence. Friday marked the 30th anniversary of the Montreal Massacre and the National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women, and the local shelter said more needed to be done to tackle the issue.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Education, government support key to tackling domestic violence: shelter

By Brock Weir

Friday marked the 30th anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, which saw 14 women killed simply due to their gender.

Much has changed in the country over those intervening three decades, but the statistics are still sobering, according to Yellow Brick House, the Aurora-based shelter for battered women and their children.

The anniversary, National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women, which was marked here in Aurora with a special flag raising at Town Hall, was an opportunity to not only raise awareness but underscore how far societies – including governments – need to go to make a substantive difference in the fight against domestic violence.

"We know that 30 years ago 14 women were killed at Ecole Polytechnique because they were women," says Lorris Herenda, Executive Director of Yellow Brick House. "Here we are, 30 years later, and we're still dealing with the same issues where a woman is killed every second day in Canada simply because she is a woman. Women are dying because of their gender and we, as a society, need to take some serious proactive actions to change that, to change our attitudes."

Such proactive measures, she says, include the investment in programs to support both victims of violence and foster prevention. Working in tandem with these initiatives is educating the

Continued on page 21

YOUNG INNOVATORS – Mayor Tom Mrakas and Aurora Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sandra Ferri recognize the team from Ecole Saint-Jean -- Suzanne Northrup, Danielle Northrup, Amelie Heng, Claire McWhinnie, Kaiash-Marie Sanderson and Thomas Patterson – with the Community Leadership Award (Grades 4 – 6) at the Town of Aurora's Youth Innovation Fair. The team presented a fresh vision for a new community space that addresses local needs. For more on the innovations presented, see Pages 22 & 23.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

DISCOVER
THE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
CDS The Country Day School
EDUCATION WITH BALANCE
Offering JK-12 on 100 acres in King.
Call today to book your personal tour!
www.cds.on.ca
905·833·1972

Save up to 30%* on your auto insurance
Richard Gong, Agent
15342 Yonge St
Aurora ON L4G 1N8
905-727-6333
richard.gong@desjardins.com
Contact me today.
Stop in, call or click.
Desjardins Insurance
*Certain conditions, limitations and exclusions may apply.
Desjardins, Desjardins Insurance and related trademarks are trademarks of the Fédération des caisses Desjardins du Québec, used under licence.
111007CN.1

M-F, 7-10am (Except Holidays)
BREAKFAST Special
Home Fries, Texas Toast, 3 eggs
Choice of 3pcs Bacon, Sausage or Turkey Bacon
$5.99
WIMPY'S diner
Cineplex Plaza 15480 Bayview Ave
(905) 503-1797

NOW OPEN
AURORA TILING CO.
300 Wellington St. E.
Aurora
$100 Coupon
Use this coupon to get $100 off your next Tile purchase
Redeemable at 300 Wellington Street East

FREE ZOOM! WHITENING
Join the Essence Dental Family and enjoy a FREE 30 minute Zoom! Whitening session
Conditions apply. Call us today!
ESSENCE DENTAL.ca 905-503-8686

THE LEXUS DECEMBER TO REMEMBER EVENT
THE TIME TO GET INTO A LEXUS IS NOW
LEXUS RX
2020 RX 350 AWD ALL-WHEEL DRIVE
LEASE APR 2.9%* 40 MONTHS
BI-WEEKLY LEASE PAYMENT FROM $248* DOWN PAYMENT $6,370*
DELIVERY CREDITS OF UP TO $2,000^
PAYMENT INCLUDES $2,000^ DELIVERY CREDIT
Executive package shown
Offers end January 2nd
LEXUS
LEXUS OF RICHMOND HILL
11552 Yonge St. Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4E 3N7
905-883-8812
lexusofrichmondhill.com
Dealers may charge additional fees of $0 to $1,368. Fees may vary by Dealer.
^Delivery Credits are available on retail purchase/lease of select new 2019/2020 Lexus vehicles from a Canadian Lexus Dealer and will be applied after taxes have been charged on the full amount of the negotiated price. Vehicle must be purchased/leased, registered and delivered by January 2nd, 2020. *Lease offers provided through Lexus Financial Services, on approved credit. *Representative lease example based on a 2020 IS 300 AWD sfx 'A' on a 40 month term at an annual rate of 1.9% and Complete Lexus Price of $45,956. Bi-weekly lease payment is $198 with $4,438 down payment or equivalent trade in, $0 security deposit and first bi-weekly lease payment due at lease inception. Total of 86 bi-weekly lease payments required during the lease term. Total lease obligation is $21,598. *Representative lease example based on a 2020 NX 300 sfx 'T' on a 40 month term at an annual rate of 1.9% and Complete Lexus Price of $46,556. Bi-weekly lease payment is $188 with $5,223 down payment or equivalent trade in, $0 security deposit and first bi-weekly lease payment due at lease inception. Total of 86 bi-weekly lease payments required during the lease term. Total lease obligation is $21,517. *Representative lease example based on a 2020 RX 350 sfx 'P' on a 40 month term at an annual rate of 2.9% and Complete Lexus Price of $58,256. Bi-weekly lease payment is $248 with $6,370 down payment or equivalent trade in, $0 security deposit and first bi-weekly lease payment due at lease inception. Total of 86 bi-weekly lease payments required during the lease term. Total lease obligation is $27,864. *Representative lease example based on a 2020 UX 250h sfx 'P' on a 40 month term at an annual rate of 3.9% and Complete Lexus Price of $42,206. Bi-weekly lease payment is $208 with $4,665 down payment or equivalent trade in, $0 security deposit and first bi-weekly lease payment due at lease inception. Total of 86 bi-weekly lease payments required during the lease term. Total lease obligation is $22,692. 48,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.20/km for excess kilometres. Complete Lexus Price includes freight/PDI ($2,075), EHF Tires ($20.70), EHF Filters ($1), A/C charge ($100), and OMVIC Fee ($10). Taxes, license, registration (if applicable), dealer fees (if applicable) and insurance are extra. Lexus Dealers are free to set their own prices. Limited time offers only apply to retail customers at participating Lexus Dealers. Dealer order/trade may be required (but may not be available in certain circumstances). Offers are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Offers are effective beginning December 3rd and expire on January 2nd unless extended or revised. Visit www.lexusofrichmondhill.com for details.

TOWN OF AURORA

Notice Board

AURORA

Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Thursday, December 12	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of Adjustment
Tuesday, December 17	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session
Tuesday, December 17	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council - Special Meeting on Library Square
Wednesday, December 18	5:30 p.m.	Holland Room	Finance Advisory Committee
Wednesday, December 18	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Public Planning
Week of December 23		No Meetings	
Week of December 30		No Meetings	

*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.**

What's Happening

Notice of service disruption

Please see below for a scheduled service disruption at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (SARC):

• The SARC pool will be closed on **Saturday, December 14** from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. due to a swim competition. Swim times will be available at the AFLC Pool.

Please see below for a scheduled service disruption at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex (AFLC):

• The public changerooms at the AFLC will be replaced from December 20 to Decmeber 27. Alternative areas for changing will be posted at the AFLC.

We apologize for any inconvenience. For more information, visit **aurora.ca/notices**.

Annual Toys for Tickets campaign is now underway

Aurora Bylaw Services has partnered with York Regional Police for our annual Toys for Tickets campaign. In the spirit of the holiday season, parking tickets issued from **November 12 to December 13** can be paid for by donating a new, unwrapped toy to the Holiday Heroes campaign.

For more details, please visit: **aurora.ca/toysfortickets.**

Aurora passes new smoking bylaw

On **November 12, 2019**, Aurora Town Council approved a new smoking bylaw that prohibits smoking on Town property. Town property includes Town Hall, the Joint Operations Centre, all Community Centres, parks, playgrounds, public sports fields, trails and town-owned land but excludes public sidewalks and highways. For more information on this bylaw visit **aurora.ca/bylaws.**

Register for Winter 2020 Recreation Programs

Registration is now open for our winter recreation programs. Please check out the Winter 2020 Program Guide for details by visiting **aurora.ca/recguide**.

Register for Winter 2020 Aquatics Programs

Registration is now open for the Town's winter aquatics programs. Residents can register online or in-person. Please check out the Winter 2020 Program Guide for details by visiting **aurora.ca/recguide**.

Club Aurora Wellness Seminar on Fitness Machines 101

Register today for Club Aurora's Wellness Seminar - Fitness Machines 101. Session dates are: January 5, January 18, February 23 and March 15. For more information, visit **aurora.ca/fitness**.

What's Happening

Register for Winterfest Camps

Keep the kids busy during the holiday season with our exciting Winterfest Camps. Register now for any of the following dates: **December: 23, 27, 30** or **January: 2, 3**. For more information, visit **aurora.ca/campprograms**.

Club Aurora open house on January 18

Please join us on **Saturday, January 18** at Club Aurora's Open House from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. This exciting event will include free classes and more. Visit **aurora.ca/clubaurora** for more information.

Thank you to the sponsors and volunteers of the 2019 Aurora's Santa Under the Stars Parade

Thank you to our corporate sponsors.

•Royal LePage Your Community Realty

•TD Bank Group

Huge thanks for the exceptional marshalling job done by the Optimist Club of Aurora, the crowd control done by the Don Valley REACT and the great traffic control assistance from the Safeguard, York Regional Police and York Regional Police Auxiliary Units.

A big thank you to the following groups who donated time, equipment and services:

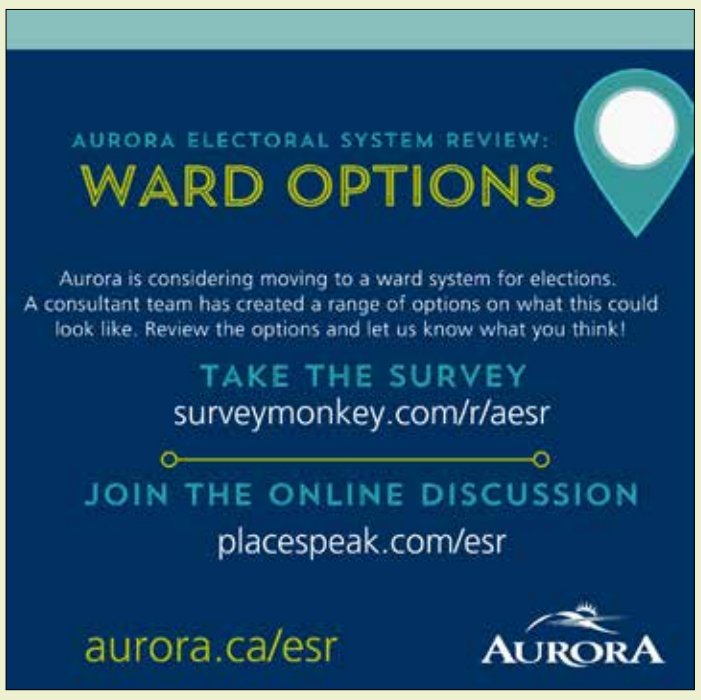
- Aurora Community Volunteers
- Canada Post
- Canadian Tire Aurora
- Central York Fire Services
- St. Andrew's Shopping Centre
- St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club

Thank you to all the participants in the parade who spent countless hours preparing their floats or groups to make the parade magical. Congratulations to our 2019 Santa Under the Stars Parade Winners:

- Best Commercial – New Roots Garden Centre
- Best Non Commercial – Aurora Diggers Girls Softball
- Best Service Club – Bradford Lions Club
- Best Decorated – Dynamic Dance Company
- Best School – Country Casa Montessori School
- Most Original – Aurora Montessori School
- Mayor's Choice – Powell Contracting

And the most important thank you is to Santa Claus for making a special trip to the Town of Aurora!

What's Happening



3.4 per cent tax hike up for Council approval this week

By Brock Weir

Council is set to approve a 3.4 per cent increase on the municipal portion of your tax bill, factoring in a 0.5 per cent increase to help fund the redevelopment of Library Square.

This week, local lawmakers are set to sign off on the 2020 Operating Budget as well as the budget related to water and wastewater services.

Council began the budget process sitting at a proposed tax increase of 2.9 per cent, leaving a half-a-percent on the table to manage debt related to Library Square.

Budget talks have continued throughout November and into December, resulting in the final figure up for consideration and approval this week. If the 2020 Budget gets the green light, projected budget figures for 2021 and 2022 will get a tentative green light as well, estimated to be at 3.4 and 2.9 per cent respectively.

"The Budget Committee is recommending that Council approve total tax increases of 3.4, 3.4, and 2.9 per cent for 2020, 2021 and 2022 respectively," said Jason Gaertner, Manager, Financial Management. "Each of these recommended annual increases include 1.9 per cent for inflationary pressures and 1 per cent for fiscal strategies. The 2020 and 2021 increases include a further 0.5 per cent as per the Town's planned phase-in of debt carrying costs relating to its new Library Square development.

"The one per cent tax increases in 2020, 2021, and 2022 for the Town's fiscal strategies will primarily support its ongoing strategy of increasing its contributions to infrastructure reserves in support of infrastructure renewal and the reduction in the Town's reliance on supplementary tax revenues."

Library Square is not the only initiative that provided a new funding pressure on the 2020 budget. Another factor was increasing operating costs related to the Aurora Cultural Centre, which asked for an increase in funding over the next three years.

"The total required investment for the Library Square project is presently estimated to be $47.9 million," said Mr. Gaertner. "The Town's proposed investment strategy for this project includes the use of debt as a source of funding. The debt's tolerance for this project was defined as the debt principle cannot exceed a point where its annual carrying costs exceed an equivalent value to a 1 per cent tax rate increase being 484,700 in 2020. The investment strategy for this project plans to use this maximum defined debt threshold. The debt is expected to be required in late 2020 or early 2022. This provides the Town time to phase in the annual carrying costs, principal and interest, of this debt. The Budget Committee agreed to phase in these planned requirements over 2020 and 2021 in two equal tax rate increases of 0.5 per cent.

> *The total required investment for the Library Square project is presently estimated to be $47.9 million*

"The Aurora Cultural Centre (ACC) operating pressures in each of the next three fiscal years totalling $67,000, $19,000 and $21,400 in 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively. Upon the application of the Town's already budgeted incremental amounts in support of the ACC, its net remaining funding requirements were $58,700, $10,500 and $12,800 for the next three years. The Budget Committee agreed to fund these net remaining pressures out of existing Library Square operating budget funding already included in the recommended operating budgets for the next three years, thus avoiding the need for any further incremental tax rate increases."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

10th Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser was success for Pine Tree Potters

On behalf of the Pine Tree Potters' Guild, I would like to express our gratitude to everyone who participated in our 10th Annual Empty Bowls event that took place November 21 at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

Empty Bowls events are held by potters in communities throughout North America with the objective to raise funds and awareness for local charities that work to relieve hunger and homelessness.

During the event, patrons select a handmade bowl from the hundreds on display and local chefs and bakers in attendance serve a ladle of their gourmet soup and artisan bread.

The handmade bowl guests take home with them serves as a gentle reminder that not everyone has a full bowl every day.

This year we raised over $20,000 to be donated to Welcoming Arms, Aurora and Inn From The Cold, Newmarket. Since our first event in 2010, Pine Tree Potters' Guild has raised over $174,000 for local charities.

We wish to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of the local chefs and bakers who donated their time, gourmet soup and bread; Meridian Credit Union for a very generous grant; Tucker's Pottery Supplies for donating the clay used by our potters for crafting the bowls; David Schembri Design and Allegra Print Aurora for donating our printed materials; and the Aurora Cultural Centre for all their support allowing us to host our event at their beautiful facility.

We also wish to thank Joy Gannicott, Dave Parsons and Sam Carothers for their contribution of great live music. Finally, we are so very grateful for all of our dedicated volunteers who donated their time and skills to ensure that everything ran smoothly.

The following is a list of the culinary establishments that participated in our 2019 Empty Bowls event:

Arthur's Landing
Aw Shucks
Catharina's Kitchen
Eva's Catering
Food in Motion Catering
Gabriel's Café
Graystones Restaurant
Hungry Brew Hops
Joia Ristorante and Wine Bar
La Brehandaise Catering
Little Red Catering
Lobo Iberico Restaurant
Luna Restaurant
Maunder's Food Shop
Nature's Emporium
PC Cooking School Aurora
Ristorante Orsini
Rockfords Bar and Grill
Romy's Restaurant and Lounge
Taste it Catering and Event Planning
The Hurst Bakery
The Pickle Barrel
Vintage Spice

Again, thank you so very much to all who participated. It is because of you that our event has been so successful year after year.

Looking forward to 2020!

Jacqueline Adamek,
Chair, 2019 Empty Bowls Committee
Pine Tree Potters' Guild

Machell's Corners

Of Pawns and Timbits

BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

Imagine for a moment having an informed opinion on something, but finding your input consigned to the backburner – or simply dismissed out of hand – simply because of your age or demographic circumstances.

It is a sobering thought.

Consider the comments made recently to the UK's Daily Telegraph by British actress Miriam Margolyes, perhaps best-known for her inspired casting in the Harry Potter film series. She's known for her bold and occasionally headline-grabbing opinions on myriad issues, but this latest interview focused on her age, as well as her perspective on our aging population.

Her comments struck a chord with many, myself included.

"Particularly at Christmas, when everything is [such] enforced jollity and family-focused, people who are alone and are old are fearfully exposed, and I just think it is a good thing to remind people," she said, plugging a confidential helpline for older people in the United Kingdom. "We're a heartless, callous bunch now, and old people are consigned to the scrap heap and sent off and put into homes, and I think it is very wrong. People should realise we have a responsibility to those who looked after us."

Ms. Margolyes arrived at her opinion with 78 years of living behind her. Those years have given her a wisdom that many people – and certainly I, at 34 – do not have. I haven't yet walked in those shoes, but even from my relatively youthful (don't burst my bubble) perspective, I can see that she is right.

But, in recent days, it is clear seniors aren't alone in being dismissed simply for their date-of-birth. Some might roll their eyes at what's to come, given the seemingly incessant Boomer vs. Millennial war we have apparently found ourselves in, but I think some youth are sometimes falling into similar circumstances.

This past Wednesday, to send a message to the Provincial government, public high school teachers walked off the job in a one-day strike. Their issues are clear. Whether you sympathise with their cause or side with the Provincial Government is your own business – and the subject for another column – but here I would like to focus on those who were, perhaps, most impacted by last week's job action: students.

Students invariably come into sharp focus in circumstances like these. For any reporter in the vicinity of a high school last week, there were plenty of students to approach in order to weigh in on the matter.

Each teen brought their own unique perspective to the mix, some more informed than others, but one that stood out from the crowd was one young man approached by CP24.

The student in question – as I am sure most of you have seen what ultimately turned out to be something of a viral video – opened with a bold opinion on the "stubborn" Premier, followed by his own personal opinion on where Mr. Ford should be (opinions are entirely his own), but the capper was his particularly unique response to the question of what educators told the students within school walls prior to the strike."

"They just told us there's going to be no school tomorrow," the student replied, before comparing Mr. Ford to an iconic Canadian baked good.

The comment had little relation to the question at hand, but it certainly struck a nerve in the online world.

"So sad that kids are being indoctrinated by teachers (who are completely brainwashed themselves by…unions)… kids are just pawns in this pathetic game being played by teachers and the unions," said one commenter.

"Way to go, teachers and your greedy unions… using a 9th grader as a pawn in your negotiations1 I'm glad that I grew up when people were taught respect for their elders, police, politicians, etc.," said another.

"Schools should be a place to educate, not indoctrinate," another comment continued, before reason kicked in in the reply section.

"Imagine thinking teenagers are so dumb that they can't form their own political opinions," was one response to the above comment. "Maybe your experience was different from mine, but I regularly kept up with the news myself, and talked to people outside the school about the state of the world. As for 'dumb and easily manipulated' I see plenty of adults on Twitter every day that easily fall into that category, regurgitating conspiracy theories, complaining about the stuff they have no clue about, and all sorts of other nonsense."

Regardless of what's going on at Queen's Park, I tend to subscribe to the above comment in the most general of ways.

From a personal perspective, when I was in high school, my peers and I regularly kept up with the news and talked to people outside the school – parents, friends, even political leaders – about the issues that had a direct impact on us.

We had to; students born in 1985 and thereabouts just happened to be part of that year that all sorts of newfangled – and now extinct – teaching techniques brought in by the Common Sense Revolution were tested upon and we too were caught up in an inordinate amount of job action demonstrations as we rose through the grades.

We took the time to find out what the issues were, how they impacted us, and, if we dared to venture our informed opinions we, like the students impacted on Wednesday, were told we either were too young to have an opinion, too young to offer anything of value to the conversation, and, yes, that we were being used as "pawns" by the adults fighting for the issue of the day.

It was frustrating and, seeing that it is still happening, is frustrating still. This is not a phenomenon that is limited to Ontario students. One only has to look as far as the heated rhetoric surrounding Greta Thunberg who is facing the stark reality of having her very valid opinions and passions dismissed out of hand by some politicians and adults at large simply because of her age, being waved away with a "Go back to school."

While Boomers and Millennials are fighting their own war of cultural dominance it seems that, once again, our youth and seniors are being left by the wayside.

All too often their opinions and contributions are being dismissed due to their age – youth for not having enough life experience to have an informed opinion, and seniors, perhaps, for spending their formative years in a time which might seem distant.

Neither factor – and there are other factors that can be added into this mix – has any bearing on the contributions they can make to the world around them and not only should we not forget that, we should encourage their contributions, now in the holiday season and all year round.

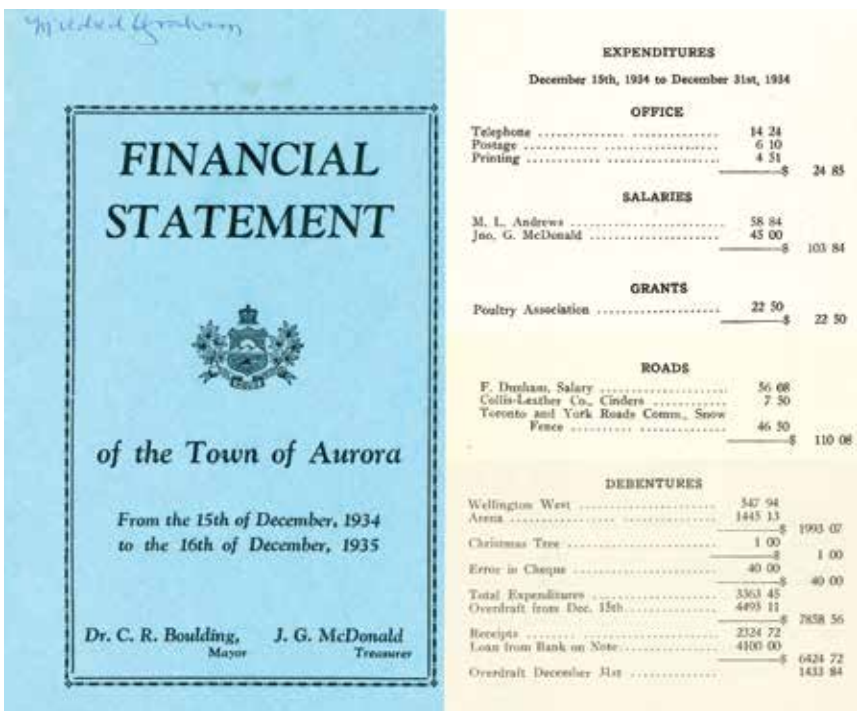
THE AURORAN
Aurora's Community Newspaper
The Auroran Newspaper Company Ltd.
15213 Yonge Street, Suite 8, Aurora, L4G 1L8
Main number 905-727-3300 • Fax number 905-727-2620
Founder Ron Wallace | Publisher Emeritus Rosemary Schumaker
Subscriptions available within Canada and U.S.
email: administration@auroran.com

EDITOR Brock Weir brock@auroran.com
ADVERTISING Zach Shoub zach@lpcmedia.ca
ADVERTISING Doug Sherritt doug@lpcmedia.ca
GENERAL MANAGER Zach Shoub zach@auroran.com
ADVERTISING Diane Buchanan diane@auroran.com
ADVERTISING Rachael Magee rachael@lpcmedia.ca
PRODUCTION MANAGER Cynthia Proctor cynthiap@lpcmedia.ca
TODAYS NEW HOMES Zach Shoub zach@auroran.com
MOTORING Heather Erwin heather@caledoncitizen.com
CLASSIFIEDS 905-727-3300 ex.102 cynthiap@lpcmedia.ca
PHOTOGRAPHY Glenn Rodger grodger@rogers.com

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

EDITORIAL POLICY
Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran. Letters must include name and phone number, although number will not be published. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

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



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

of the Town of Aurora

From the 15th of December, 1934 to the 16th of December, 1935

Dr. C. R. Boulding, Mayor — J. G. McDonald, Treasurer

EXPENDITURES

December 15th, 1934 to December 31st, 1934

OFFICE		
Telephone	14 24	
Postage	6 10	
Printing	4 51	
		$ 24 85
SALARIES		
M. L. Andrews	58 84	
Jno. G. McDonald	45 00	
		$ 103 84
GRANTS		
Poultry Association	22 50	
		$ 22 50
ROADS		
F. Dunham, Salary	56 68	
Collis-Leather Co., Cinders	7 50	
Toronto and York Roads Comm., Snow Fence	46 50	
		$ 110 08
DEBENTURES		
Wellington West	547 94	
Arena	1445 13	
		$ 1993 07
Christmas Tree	1 00	
		$ 1 00
Error in Cheque	40 00	
		$ 40 00
Total Expenditures	3363 45	
Overdraft from Dec. 15th	4493 11	
		$ 7858 56
Receipts	2324 72	
Loan from Bank on Note	4100 00	
		$ 6424 72
Overdraft December 31st		1433 84

The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating…

Sound Municipal Finances!

This Financial Statement for the Town of Aurora for 1934-35 (84.23.27) delineates the Town's expenses for the year. The specifics shown are for the final two weeks of 1934. Note the $6.10 cost for postage (stamps were 2 cents at the time), and $1 allocated for the Christmas tree. Snow fences came from the Toronto and York Roads Commission and the Poultry Association was important enough to secure a grant from the Town.

TIME TRAVELLERS DIARY

By Jeremy Hood
Museum Assistant
Aurora Museum & Archives

The Most Wonderful Time-Travelling Time of the Year

It is the year 2119, and the Guild of Temporal Excursionists has sworn me to secrecy on all impending technologies aside from the time machine itself. However, I desperately want to reveal to you as a holiday gift to my friends in Aurora, a brief glimpse of the future. But my tales usually begin in the past – and this is no different!

While I warm up my time machine and set it for 1919, I don my wool coat and felt hat, in an attempt to blend in with your ancestors walking down a snowy Yonge Street.

With a flick of a lever, I am off, watching the years swirl past. While I wait – time travel is not instantaneous – I like to listen to some music. I've encountered so much music in my travels, and at this time of year, I enjoy seasonal music the most.

Finally I arrive in 1919, and the streets of Aurora are decorated for the Christmas season. The businesses are bustling with shoppers compelled, perhaps, by the bold graphical advertisements in the local paper.

One business, owned by one Harry Hulse, sold to the citizens of Aurora the "Columbia Grafonola" – an early hand-cranked record player with its bell-like horn concealed inside a variety of rich wooden cabinets. One full winding would play up to two records…of six minutes each! The way to purchase these machines was through Harry's "Christmas Club" – the machine could be had for a simple $5 down-payment with weekly installments. They would start you off with five records, of course from the Columbia music label. Christmas selections from the time included The Kiddies Christmas Frolic, both morning and evening parts, the newly-released Christmastime at Pumpkin Center and the appropriate for post-war celebration The Santa Claus Patrol.

Advancements in sound technology were being made and outpaced at a rapid rate, but for the year, the Columbia Grafonola was the finest in music playback technology.

The snow began to fall more heavily, and I tore myself away from Hulse's front window, running back to the time machine.

I punched in another year: 1969. I found more favourable weather on the latter half of the century, so I ventured out – in 50-year old winter duds – to the commotion of the holidays. The season now had a solid soundtrack, with the best-known Christmas carols and songs already established as timeless classics: Winter Wonderland, Let it Snow! and Little Drummer Boy were already deeply ensconced into the season's traditions and being blared everywhere. The local paper even reported that some were displeased with the disrespectful use of traditional carols in advertisements and shops but this trend clearly did not abate!

Dodging bizarre looks from the Aurorans of the day, I ran back to the time machine and dialed up my own year: 2119. I was glad to be able to start up some our own classic carols: "Teleport me Home for Christmas," "Cyborg Santa," and "O Huge Megalopolis of Bethlehem," played through our own technology (and this is the future secret I shouldn't share!): In 2129, all children are implanted with bone-conductive speakers and wireless receivers. Upgrading can be expensive and painful – so parents must choose wisely, and try to get a newborn-baby price on a multi-decade subscription to the music service of their choice.

Reflecting on my experience today, perhaps four songs per winding isn't such a bad idea!

New Southlake Community Ontario Health Team

CHRISTINE'S CHRONICLES

Christine Elliott

I am pleased to tell you all about the transformation that is taking place with our public health care system.

I had the honour of announcing the Southlake Community Ontario Health Team as one of the first 24 teams in the province to implement a new model of organizing and delivering health care that better connects patients and providers in this community of Newmarket-Aurora to improve patient outcomes.

The first wave of Ontario Health Teams (OHT) are approved after an extensive readiness assessment process, which involved significant time, collaboration, research and effort from partners across the health care sector.

The transformation has only been made possible due to the excitement and ingenuity of our world-class health system partners like the ones we have here in our own community. These professionals are dedicated to delivering the highest quality care.

The purpose of OHTs is to deliver on our government's commitment to build a sustainable and connected public health care system. One focused on the needs of patients and ending hallway health care. These teams will better support patients and families by connecting care providers to work as a single team. For example, with hospitals and home care working as a single team, they can begin to plan for and coordinate a patient's home care as soon as admission to hospital has occurred. This model is a better approach to local patient care as it allows providers to find better ways to spend valuable health care dollars on the frontline – where they belong.

OHTs are part of our plan to end hallway health care. The plan has four important pillars:

- Prevention and health promotion –
- Goal is to keep Ontarians healthy and out of hospitals.
- Receiving the right care in the right place. The hospital is not always the best place to receive care.
- Integrating care to improve patient flow.
- Building capacity throughout the health care system by investing $27 billion over 10 years in hospital infrastructure projects, building more long-term care beds and increasing community-based services.

The Southlake Community Ontario Health Team will create a local health care system that provides coordinated care for patients, reduces wait times, and leads to better health outcomes for patients. In addition, the team will improve access to secure digital health tools, including online health records and virtual care options. It will also work to reduce clinician burnout and lay the foundation for a sustainable future. As it continues its work to integrate care, the team will put in place 24/7 navigation and care coordination services for patients and families. In the first year, the focus will be on supporting older adults with complex health care needs and adults with mental health and addictions challenges.

The Southlake Community Ontario Health Team will support a continuum of care with providers from across the region including Aurora, Bradford West Gwillimbury, East Gwillimbury, Georgina and Newmarket. This team represents local communities and will work closely within its communities to determine how best to provide care to meet the local needs and circumstances of the populations it serves. Patients will continue to have a choice in their care provider

OHT implementation will occur in phases and through a continuous intake process allowing other groups of providers to organize and complete the process. As part of the full application, groups of providers are to identify the population they intend to serve at maturity, and how they plan to expand their services, partnerships, and virtual care offerings to enable maximum population coverage.

Providers and organizations eligible to become an OHT include, but are not limited to those that provide:

Primary care (including inter-professional primary care and physicians);

Secondary care (e.g., in-patient and

Integrated Regional Resource Plan – York Region

FRONT PORCH PERSPECTIVE

Stephen Somerville

Work is going on in York Region that is not sexy and does not grab headlines but is extremely important.

I am talking about the work of the Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO") in York Region.

According to the IESO website: "A new regional planning cycle is underway for York Region. The first cycle of regional planning for the region began in 2010 and was completed in April 2015 with the release of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP). The next IRRP for the region is anticipated to be completed in Q1 2020."

"The York Region Working Group, a Technical Working Group consisting of the local distribution companies in the region, the local transmitter and the IESO will use this regional planning engagement initiative to consider input that will identify and meet local electricity needs. The Working Group consists of representatives from the LDCs in the area – Alectra Utilities Corporation, Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd., as well as the transmitter Hydro One Networks Inc., and the IESO."

The York Region Working Group hosted a second public webinar a few weeks back. Although I was not able to participate, I recently reviewed the slide deck.

Page two summed up the purpose of the webinar quite well:

"First, provide an update on the electricity planning and Integrated Regional Resource Plan ("IRRP") development underway for York Region and second, seek input on the range of potential options to be considered for meeting local electricity needs overs the 20-year plan period."

From Page 13:

"The electricity needs forecast in York Region are related to the capacity of the transmission system to supply continued growth and community expansion." This means that the energy system (generation and transmission) needs to be able to meet the peak electricity demand.

For context, according to the IESO website a plan has been released for our sub region:

"In the near-term, three transmission projects are recommended to address capacity and reliability needs; these projects are already under development by Hydro One and PowerStream. In the medium to long term, York Region's electricity system is expected to reach its capacity to supply growth in the early to mid-2020s based on current projections. If the growth materializes, there will be a need for additional new supply in the region. The Working Group will seek community input on possible solutions."

One of the key take-aways from this document is contained on page 24 under potential options:

First, Non-Wires Alternatives - e.g. distributed energy resources, energy efficiency measures, demand response, etc.

Second, Wires - e.g. step-down station, transmission line, etc.

Third, Generation – e.g. utility-scale storage, gas-fired peaking plant, etc.

A better understanding is required as to what extent can distributed energy resources be a cost-effective and reliable option to defer the longer-term needs in Northern York Region/Vaughan.

Examples of distributed energy resources include small gas-fired generators, micro-grids, energy storage, Combined Heat and Power for business, residential Demand response and renewable generation like solar.

But there is a lot of work to do to see if some or all of these potential DER's can work. Otherwise, either new large-scale generation in York Region or enhanced transmission / distribution line(s) running through Aurora may be in our future at some point.

After reviewing the power point slide deck, it is clear that York Region is expected to experience lots of growth for the foreseeable future.

As someone who has made a living in the electricity sector for the last 19 years and as someone who has watched the generation versus transmission line alternatives play out in other areas of this province, I have two pieces of advice:

First, to my fellow Aurorans, become engaged in this process, as the various options can have big impacts on our community. The Technical Working Group continues to do its work. They hope to post a final IRRP document during Q1 2020. There is time for your comments. You can visit the IESO website to learn more.

Second, to the Technical Working Group: you need to lay out the alternatives side by side – DER versus generation vs. transmission – in a clear, and easy to understand way. This comparison chart needs to include the costs, the various impacts and the timelines.

Stephen can be contacted at stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

THIS WEEK'S NEW POLL

Which ward system would work best for Aurora?

A) Three Wards B) Four Wards C) Five Ward
D) Six Wards E) Keep the "At Large" system

RESULTS TO DATE December 3, 2019

A	B	C	D	E
7%	13%	20%	27%	33%

Electoral system review prompts diverse feedback on ward systems

By Brock Weir

Members of the public will have their first formal chance to weigh in on four possible ward systems Aurora could adopt in time for the 2022 Municipal Election, but the road to a ward system has already prompted strong and diverse community feedback.

Ahead of the first of two public information sessions on four proposed ward configurations this Wednesday, December 11 – and a second to follow in January – consultants tasked with delivering a ward system of governance to Aurora had a variety of opinions at hand to inform their decisions.

Two community meetings were held in the lead up to the Town's Electoral System Review (ESR) report last week, giving residents the opportunity to have their say on a number of factors, including where lines should be drawn on a map and which neighbourhoods should stay all in one ward should the surrounding area be divvied up.

Many residents at these sparsely attended meetings said they would prefer no wards at all, but when pressed to weigh in on the details on ward systems themselves, said that natural and familiar boundaries – such as arterial roads – and long-established neighbourhoods should be given due consideration.

Additional comments informing the four proposed ward models were also received online through public surveys and PlaceSpeak, the Town's online engagement platform.

"The online survey was open between October 8 and 28 and was also available in hard copy at Aurora's Town Hall and at the public meetings," said the consultants in last week's report. "174 responses were received."

Additional conversations were also had with all members of Council, the Town's Governance Review Ad Hoc Committee, and members of the Aurora Seniors' Association.

"In addition to social media activities, a total of 312 individuals participated in Round 1 of the Aurora ESR in one way or another," said consultants. "Based on our experience, this number is quite impressive for a community the size of Aurora, especially considering that Round 1 was soliciting general input into the development of a ward system, rather than feedback on specific proposals. Like all other Round 1 activities, [the survey] was meant to elicit responses that provided information for developing wards for Aurora rather than statistically relevant data. As expected, respondents answered some but not all of the questions and did not necessarily relate their answers to one question to their answers or to other questions. Many survey participants wanted to receive project updates, but did not provide an email or other address where they could be contacted."

The first question asked in the survey was where each respondent lived. Survey results indicated that the vast majority of those answering the survey lived west of the railway tracks, with just 59 of 174 respondents hailing from the east side of the community.

"This is not surprising, since these areas have long-established residents' and ratepayers' associations, who are involved regularly with the Town's initiatives," found the Consultants.

The second question asked what specific boundaries – including roads, railway lines and natural features – would be suggested.

"A large majority of people who responded to the survey suggested Aurora's major arterials as ward boundaries, such as Yonge Street, Wellington Street, Bayview Avenue, as well as the railway tracks. Secondarily, Bathurst Street, Henderson Drive/ Vandorf Sideroad, St. John's Sideroad, and Leslie Street were mentioned. However, some respondents also thought about neighbourhood roads which might make good boundaries, such as Aurora Heights Drive, Orchard Heights Boulevard and Golf Links Drive."

> *Many [of the comments were] directed at the relative merits of whether or not to implement a ward system in Aurora. Comments were thoughtful, but emotions also ran high on both sides of the debate*

Next, respondents were asked which neighbourhoods and communities should remain together in the same ward. Responses included the historic Downtown Core, Aurora Heights and Orchard Heights, Town Park, Regency Acres, Aurora Highlands, and the larger lots in the south end of Town.

In addition to the geographic considerations, the survey was also a numbers game with residents asked to weigh in on the number of wards they would like to see the Town adopt, with options ranging from three to 12 wards. The majority of residents to cast their vote leaned on a six-ward system.

A call for survey respondents to provide any additional comments unsurprisingly elicited the most varied feedback, according to consultants.

"Many [of the comments were] directed at the relative merits of whether or not to implement a ward system in Aurora. Comments were thoughtful, but emotions also ran high on both sides of the debate. Of the 174 survey responses, 52 were strongly opposed to a ward system."

Some of the opposition, they note, stems from the referendum on the 2014 Municipal Election ballot at which residents voted against Aurora adopting a ward system. The number of votes cast, however, did not reach the necessary threshold of eligible voters to make the results binding on Council.

A further public information session on the ward options will be held Wednesday, January 15, from 7 – 9 p.m. at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

HosPall
Private Home Care
We Believe Life is a Gift
Providing Families with **peace-of-mind this holiday** and throughout the year.
We are a team of registered & certified staff who are passionate about the patient population. We provide **Consistent Compassionate Care** with a focus on **Elevating and Enriching Health and Wellbeing** while maintaining client dignity.
Michelle Frauley
CEO/Founder
For more information:
1.800.208.8480 | hospall.com |

ROMY'S
RESTAURANT + LOUNGE
NOW OPEN
Casual fine dining in the heart of Downtown Aurora.
Refined Classics and new flavours.
Open for Lunch & Dinner.
15218 Yonge St, Aurora, ON L4G 1L9
(905)503-7669 | www.romys.ca | eat@romys.ca

Cabinet Magic
www.cabinetmagic.ca
Holiday Draws!
Book an appointment for a no obligation quote...
if you sign a NEW KITCHEN or KITCHEN REFACING contract.
Between NOVEMBER 28 and DECEMBER 31, 2019 You Will Have A Chance To
Win!!!
1ST PRIZE: $500 towards your new or refaced kitchen
2nd PRIZE: $250 towards your new or refaced kitchen
3rd PRIZE: $100 towards your new or refaced kitchen
Draws to be held Jan. 2, 2020
Quartz Counters | Vanity Cabinets | Tile Flooring & Backsplash
Hardwood, Vinyl & Cork Flooring | Sinks, Faucets and Range Hoods
Servicing the GTA for 30 Years
PROMO 10% OFF
NEW KITCHENS OR CABINET REFACING
CUSTOM NEW KITCHENS
CABINET REFACING
PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES
PERSPECTIVE DRAWINGS
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
CANADIAN MADE
The bitterness of poor quality is remembered long after the sweetness of a low price has faded from memory
Visit Our Showroom
GORHAM ST.
LESLIE ST.
HARRY WALKER
N
1100 Gorham St., Unit #20 Newmarket
Call 905-954-0967 | 416-479-0415 | 705-797-4853 Follow us: Call or email us today info@cabinetmagic.ca

Gift drive overwhelmed by community generosity – but necessities are still in need

Neighbourhood Network's Maggie Palmer is pictured with some of the donations received so far as part of their annual Holiday Gift Drive.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

By Brock Weir

Somewhere in this community, a young mother is struggling to feed her six-month-old.

Living on limited resources, she's been facing tough decisions since she was told her baby had to go on an expensive formula for the next six months, resulting in a food bill of more than $40 a day for the baby alone. As such, the mother has made the necessary adjustments to her family's budget. She's cut back on anything that is not necessary and prioritized her bills, but that isn't enough to make ends meet at this time of year.

Enter Neighbourhood Network's Holiday Gift Drive.

The annual campaign, spearheaded by Magna for the Community, is working with its myriad non-profit partners throughout Northern York Region to make the holidays brighter for local families in need.

Through the campaign, partner organizations compile specific requests from their clients, and Neighbourhood Network takes on the challenge of collecting gifts, donations, and funds to make sure nobody is left behind.

With less than two weeks to go before the donation deadline of December 20, Neighbourhood Network says they are overwhelmed by the community's generosity this year, but notes there are still very simple requests they need help filling.

"This is one of the first years where, at this point, I had more sponsors and people wanting to help and contribute to our gift drive for people in need," Neighbourhood Network's Maggie Palmer told The Auroran on Monday morning. "I would have to place people on hold and tell them, 'Please wait because I know there is going to be an urgent request coming in.'"

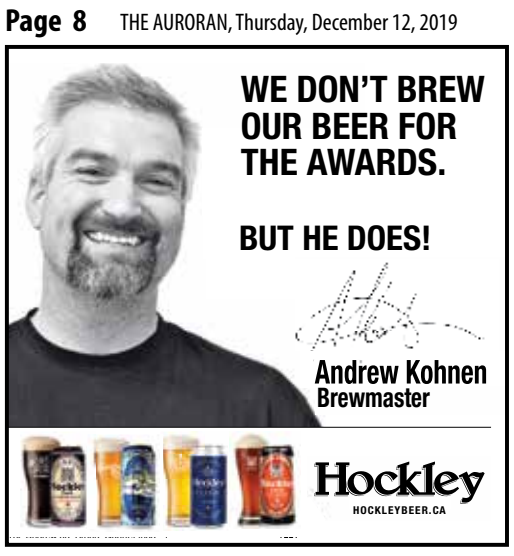
At the start of the week, just about everyone who Neighbourhood Network committed to looking after – whether an individual, family, or even a non-profit organization – had picked up their donations and some already have the community's contributions wrapped and around their Christmas trees.

"It makes me happy because normally I am scrambling to find sponsors and waiting to receive more donations," Ms. Palmer continues, noting the wish lists of nearly 45 families have been fulfilled so far. "We don't get a profile for every family, but the ones we do, we get a breakdown, almost a timeline, of how the family got to where they are and it doesn't take much. One bad accident kind of spirals. A lot of the times we find that food is the top of the list for everybody. The local food pantries do an incredible job and I know they serve a lot of people – it is just that their doors aren't always open to fit the schedule of the person in need. They fall through the cracks and when they fall though the cracks they typically come to an agency that we support or come to us through the Town because they know we can support."

AstheDecember20deadlineapproaches (that's the ideal, Neighbourhood Network will still accept donations through the morning of Christmas Eve), their biggest needs remain baby formula, diapers and wipes.

"For single parents, and there tends to be a lot of them out there – it's the infant and baby phase that people are struggling with," says Ms. Palmer. "Unfortunately, food pantries and agencies don't have a stockpile of these items. Winter gear for all ages is needed, right from newborns to seniors. Gently used is welcome, but new is preferred. The faster we get donations, the faster we can get them to people in need."

For more information on the Neighbourhood Network Holiday Gift Drive, including needs listed by partner organizations, and drop-off locations in Aurora, King and East Gwillimbury, visit nnetwork.org/program/holiday-gift-drive or call 905-726-3737.



BUSINESS & FINANCE

If You Are ...
Moving
Expecting a Baby
Planning a Wedding
New Business Appointment
Looking for a Career
Contact Welcome Wagon Today!

www.welcomewagon.ca
WELCOME WAGON SINCE 1930
It's absolutely FREE!

Hallmark baseball diamonds questioned after price tag increases by nearly $1 million

By Brock Weir

The transformation of lands just behind the former Hallmark building near Industrial Parkway South and Vandorf Sideroad into a complex of two baseball diamonds is being called into question after the price tag to make it happen has ballooned by nearly $1 million.

Questions were raised around the Council table last week after receiving a report from the Parks Department stating that a budget increase of $942,200, funded from reserves, would need to be approved to begin construction on the lands, which have been envisioned as a destination for local baseball players.

According to a report from Parks Manager Sarah Tienkamp the already-approved budget of $3 million would need to be increased due to the rising costs of earthworks and site servicing. Unstable soils on the site have proved to be a problem, as has drainage, both of which has resulted in increased costs of approximately $500,000 over the initial budget.

The potential budget increased raised alarm bells with Council members, who, at the Committee level, decided to delay their decision to proceed until January when staff present their Outdoor Fields Strategy report to Council, a report which could yield alternative uses for the Hallmark lands but Robin McDougall, Aurora's Director of Community Services, said a preliminary look at the upcoming report still indicates that Hallmark is the best location for the diamonds.

"You can see why some members of Council are upset and many stakeholders and residents as well," said Councillor Harold Kim. "We certainly feel like we're brides left at the altar. I feel like I planned a wedding for $20,000 and all of a sudden the wedding planner tells you it is going to cost $28,000 and that is the only alternative."

Councillor Kim made the motion to defer the matter until the report can be presented at the January 14 General Committee meeting, a move which was supported by Councillor Rachel Gilliland who said she would like to see the plan before making a decision.

"I find we are talking about [a] plan that none of us has actually had a chance to look at it," she said. "To go on just a quick glance or just a general conversation and not [know] what the report is going to say, what these professional consultants are going to recommend, if it is not going to effect the bottom line…why not wait to see what [the plan] says.

"I don't know what this report is supposed to bring back [but] I would rather have a fulsome read of what this report says and what it directs. If it comes down to the end where, yes, the Hallmark Diamonds…is the way to go, then we can have this conversation. If we're going to be revisiting this on the Fourteenth, it gives us time to move forward without delay and make a conscious decision on whether or not we want to go forward with this increase. It's a rather large increase in a budget and I would feel more comfortable knowing that I had…read everything…to make a sound decision."

Also supporting the deferral was Councillor John Gallo.

As a citizen-at-large before the 2018 Municipal Election, Councillor Gallo was a vocal critic of turning the Hallmark lands, acquired by the Town in the previous term of Council, from employment to recreational lands. Last week, he indicated his position remains largely the same but narrowly left the door open to the upcoming report changing his mind.

"I'll support [the deferral to January 14] with a really big caveat that I am not sure anything is going to change because, as we just heard, there is support for having these baseball diamonds at Hallmark," he said. "We're discussing price here. It has never been an issue of whether or not a report will tell us ball diamonds should go in that space. We're discussing a…significant overage in price. I am happy to do it, but I just don't think it is really going to change much in terms of the decision we have to make.

"Just so it is crystal clear…the only reason I would be in favour of the deferral is because out of a sheer miracle something might come out of that document to convince me to spend another 25 – 30 per cent on the budget. As it stands now, and I have a long list of reasons why we should not be moving forward with this, and it should come [as] no surprise to anyone on this side of the table. I am not hopeful, but I am willing to give that chance to review that document and have a second look at this."

Other Council members, however, said they were more comfortable moving forward with the budget increase as the upcoming report will likely say the Hallmark lands are still the best option for baseball diamonds.

Questioning the "value" of deferring the matter, Councillor Michael Thompson, for instance, questioned what a four-week wait would ultimately achieve. He asked Ms. McDougall whether or not the upcoming report was based on the premise that the Hallmark lands were earmarked for baseball, or whether they were included as empty space available for all manner of sports fields.

Ms. McDougall replied that the consultants' goal was to see what pressures the Town was currently facing in providing sports fields for residents and their process confirmed that the Hallmark lands were a good fit for baseball diamonds rather than rectangular soccer or multipurpose fields.

"I just don't see what we're going to get out of it at this point," agreed Mayor Tom Mrakas. "Hearing some of the conversations around the table, hearing from staff, hearing what the original comments are coming out of that field strategy report that Ms. McDougall is just pulling out…I don't see how it is going to change the conversation that [we're supposed to be] having and that is the cost of it: a 30 per cent increase to the budget. I think, preferably, I would prefer us make that decision tonight. Let's get it done and make a decision. We owe it to our residents, we owe it to the stakeholders, we owe it to the organizations to make that decision tonight.

"Normally I would probably say we could defer it and have that field strategy. From all the comments I am hearing, I don't see how it is going to change any of our perspectives as far as what we make a decision from a budget perspective. That's why I would be against a deferral at this point."

RBC Dominion Securities Inc.

Concerned about market volatility?
Get a professional second opinion on your investment portfolio

Brendan Black
MBA, CPA, CMA
Investment Advisor
905-841-8754
brendan.black@rbc.com

RBC Dominion Securities
14785 Yonge St., 2nd floor
Aurora, ON L4G 1N1

In volatile markets, there are three questions every investor should ask themselves:
1. Do I know the downside risks in my portfolio?
2. Does my financial plan account for uncontrollable risk like market corrections?
3. Will my income needs be met if my portfolio drops in value?

If you've answered "no" to any of the above or aren't sure, contact Brendan Black today for a complimentary consultation on your investment portfolio and financial plan.

Wealth Management
Dominion Securities

RBC Dominion Securities Inc.* and Royal Bank of Canada are separate corporate entities which are affiliated. *Member-Canadian Investor Protection Fund. RBC Dominion Securities Inc. is a member company of RBC Wealth Management, a business segment of Royal Bank of Canada. ®/™ Trademark(s) of Royal Bank of Canada. Used under licence. ©2018 RBC Dominion Securities Inc. All rights reserved. 18_90409_H7L_001

ACYP
AURORA CHAMBER YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the launch of its **young professionals** group! Learn more at:
www.aurorachamber.on.ca/acyp
Subscribe to the ACYP newsletter, **join** the ACYP Facebook group and **register** to attend the ACYP introductory event on January 23, 2020 at Artistica Ballroom Dance Studio.
All young professionals **under 40** who live or work in Aurora are invited to get involved.
For more info, contact Seanna Murray, ACOC Member Relations Ambassador, at 905-727-7262.

Highland GM
15783 Yonge St., Aurora Auto Campus
905-727-9444
www.highlandgm.com

Coppa's™ fresh market

GIFT CARDS
MAKE THE PERFECT STOCKING STUFFER!

Available in store at any Coppa's Fresh Market location.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FRESH SAVINGS FROM THURSDAY DEC 12TH TO THURSDAY DEC 26TH

HOLIDAY HOURS OPEN
CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC 24TH 7AM - 6PM
BOXING DAY, DEC 26TH 9AM - 8PM

CLOSED
CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC 25TH

2.99 /lb 6.59/kg — **SAVE $2/lb**
Foodland ONTARIO
FRESH ONTARIO BONELESS PORK LOIN ROAST

1.99 — **SAVE $1**
ANDY BOY
FRESH ANDY BOY RAPINI
Product of USA, bunch

SAVE up to $2.50/lb
2.99 /lb 6.59/kg
FRESH SEEDLESS GRAPES RED, GREEN OR BLACK
Product of USA, No. 1 Grade

Foodland ONTARIO

3.99 /lb 8.80/kg — **SAVE $3/lb**
FRESH ONTARIO PORK TENDERLOIN

Foodland ONTARIO

8.99 /lb 19.82/kg
FRESH ONTARIO LAMB
Whole or Half, Average Weight 40lb

Foodland ONTARIO

10.99 /lb 24.23/kg — **SAVE $4/lb**
FRESH ATLANTIC SALMON FILLETS

ORDER YOUR PARTY TRAYS OR GIFT BASKETS TODAY

ORDER ONLINE FOR YOUR NEXT GATHERING AT COPPAS.COM

NONNA FRANCESCA'S™ RISTORANTE

Bring the whole family in for a delicious meal at Nonna Francesca's™ Ristorante, where you'll enjoy the flavours of authentic Italian home cooking. Our friendly wait staff will ensure your visit is a relaxing and memorable experience, and our skilled chefs will prepare your meal just the way you like it. Choose from our meat grilling station or fresh pasta station. Everything is always made with fresh ingredients, just like in Nonna's kitchen.

VISIT OUR 4 GRAND LOCATIONS, OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

NORTH YORK
4750 Dufferin St.
(at Supertest Rd.)
416.736.6606
STORE HOURS
Mon - Sat 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. -8 p.m.

SCARBOROUGH
148 Bennett Rd.
(at Lawrence Ave.)
416.282.5759
STORE HOURS
Mon - Sat 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. -8 p.m.

KING CITY
King's Ridge Marketplace
1700 King Rd.
905.833.7035
NEW STORE HOURS
Mon - Thu 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri - Sat 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. -8 p.m.

MARKET 63 BY COPPAS DOWNTOWN
One York St.
(on PATH on Second Level)
416.777.0496
STORE HOURS
Mon - Sat 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. -8 p.m.
Ristorante opens at 11 a.m.

VIEW OUR WEEKLY FLYER AT **COPPAS.COM**

Although we strive for accuracy in illustration, copy and regulatory requirements, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Unauthorized reproduction or use of this advertisement without written consent of 2360083 Ontario Limited an d its marketing agency is strictly prohibited.

Celebrate the start of Hanukkah next Sunday at Menorah lighting

By Brock Weir

Celebrate the start of the Jewish Festival of Lights next Sunday, December 22, at a special Menorah Lighting Ceremony at Town Hall.

The start of Hanukkah will be marked with the lighting of a giant menorah in the forecourt of Town Hall on John West Way with family-friendly activities running from 4 – 6 p.m.

Festivities will include not only the lighting of the menorah itself, presided over by local dignitaries and officials from Chabad Aurora, but also live music, traditional celebratory foods, and children's crafts.

"At last year's Menorah Ceremony, we lit the first candle on the fourth day, but this year's celebration we're able to light the first candle on the first day of Hanukkah," says Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Aurora, who is co-organizing this year's event with Chabad Aurora's Rabbi Yossi Hecht. "We really want to emphasize this event is inclusive, so even if there are some people who don't have a Jewish background, we want everyone to feel comfortable in coming out, celebrating and learning – as well as ask any questions and settle any curiosity. As everyone knows, we just finished our Christmas market, so it is quite nice that we have another celebration that is widely celebrated at this time of year.

"Our main objective is to ensure this ceremony is authentic as possible. There will be more than 1,500 Hanukkah celebrations across Ontario that particular week and although we want to make it authentic, we want to have some unique things to it as well and, of course, make it a fun and inviting evening."

Paramount in achieving these goals, says Ms. Ware, is the participation of Chabad Aurora, which has been integral in the planning of these public ceremonies for the last three years.

"It has been an essential partnership," she says. "Rabbi Hecht has provided great leadership and [have brought in] authentic features. One of the elements is going to be the traditional foods available in samples at the event. It is through these partnerships that we're actually able to get the kosher-approved foods that are authentic to be served at a function like this."

Previous year's food selections have included authentic potato latkes and jelly donuts.

"Also, our crafts for children have been specifically sourced from a kosher provider as well so that authenticity fits with what the overall celebration is about. The fire guy will be doing his fire show. We have a Hanukkah based band that will be coming up to do the singing. There are indoor and outdoor activities. Whatever the weather proves to be on Sunday, December 22, we have offerings in both environments."

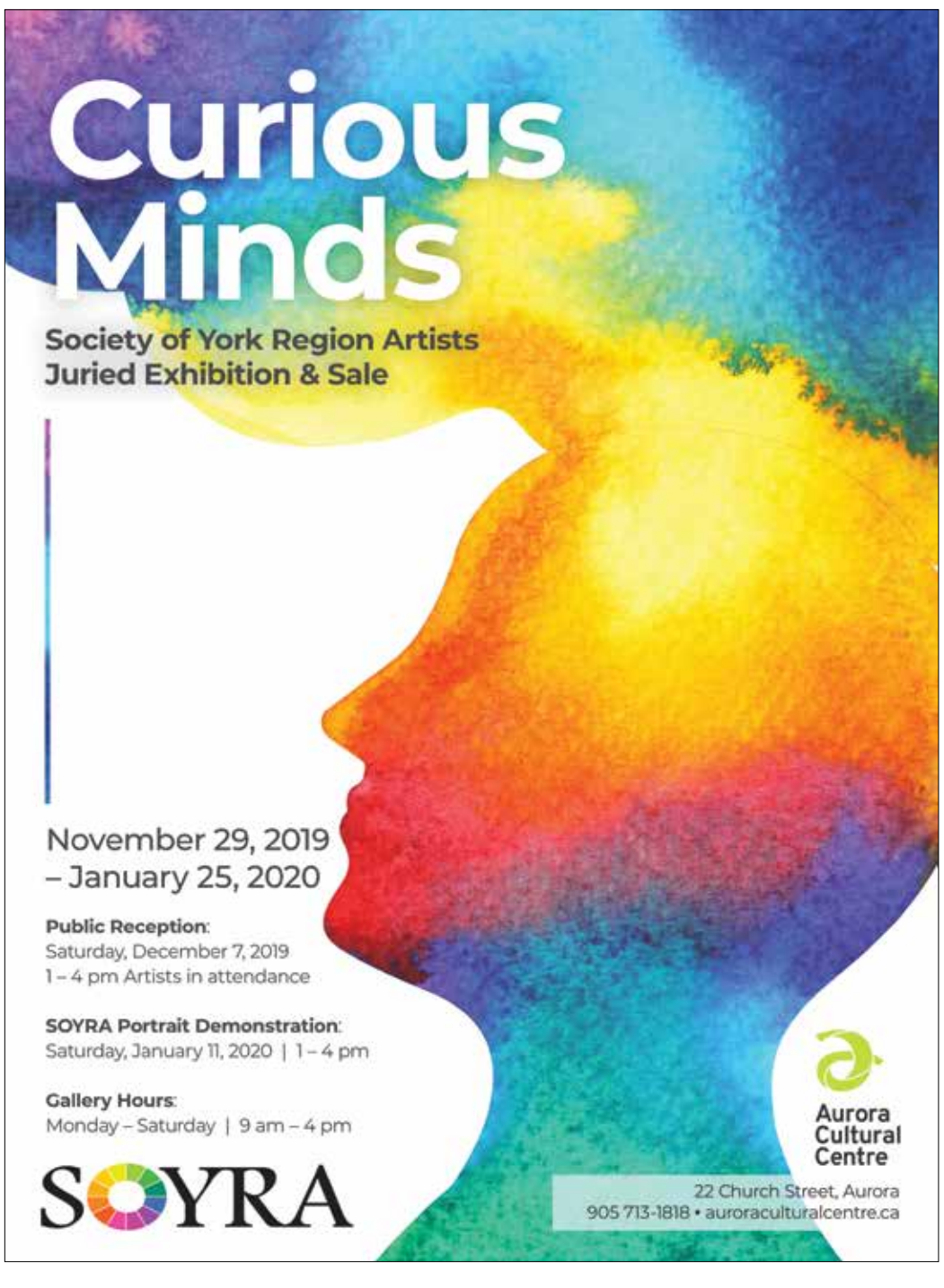
Over the years of helping to plan this seasonal gathering, Ms. Ware says her eyes have been opened to just how large the local Jewish community is and how important a menorah lighting ceremony is in bringing not just the Jewish community, but the many faith and cultural communities that make up Aurora, together in a festive, collaborative spirit.

"At last year's event, the real sentiment I got was an emotional one, that families were so happy and so touched emotionally that there was this kind of celebration offered in Aurora and they didn't have to go to other communities," says Ms. Ware. "It will be very interesting to see how much the event grows this year, now that there are two years where this has been done and awareness is growing with it."

For more information on Aurora's Menorah Lighting Ceremony, visit aurora.ca.

POP-UP CAFÉ – The historic Aurora Armoury, now home to Niagara College's Canadian Food & Wine Institute, opened its doors over the weekend for a pop-up café showcasing a menu of tasty light meals prepared in their kitchens. A further pop-up café will take place this Friday, Saturday and Sunday beginning at 11 a.m.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir



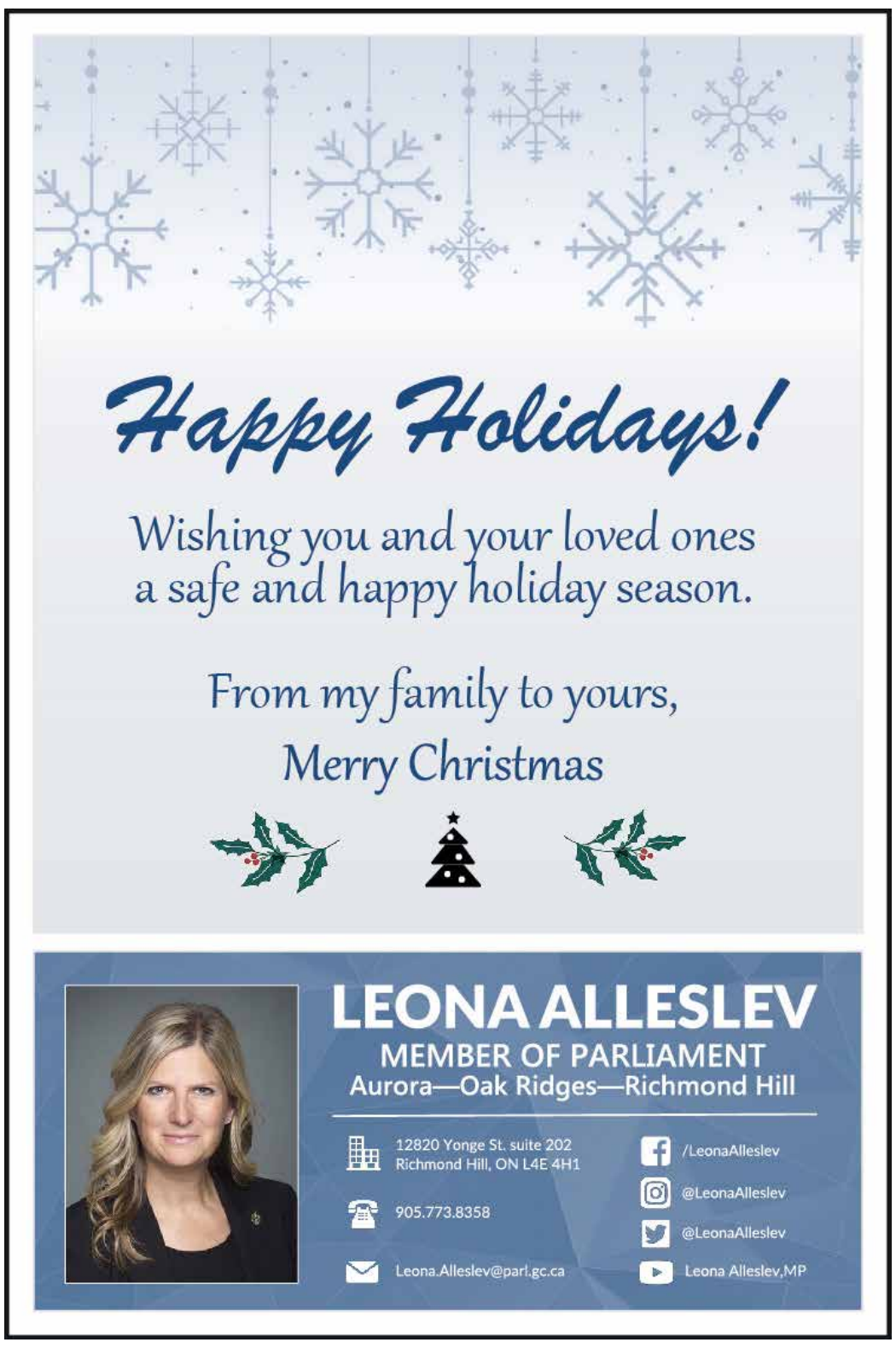
Christine Elliott
MPP - Newmarket-Aurora

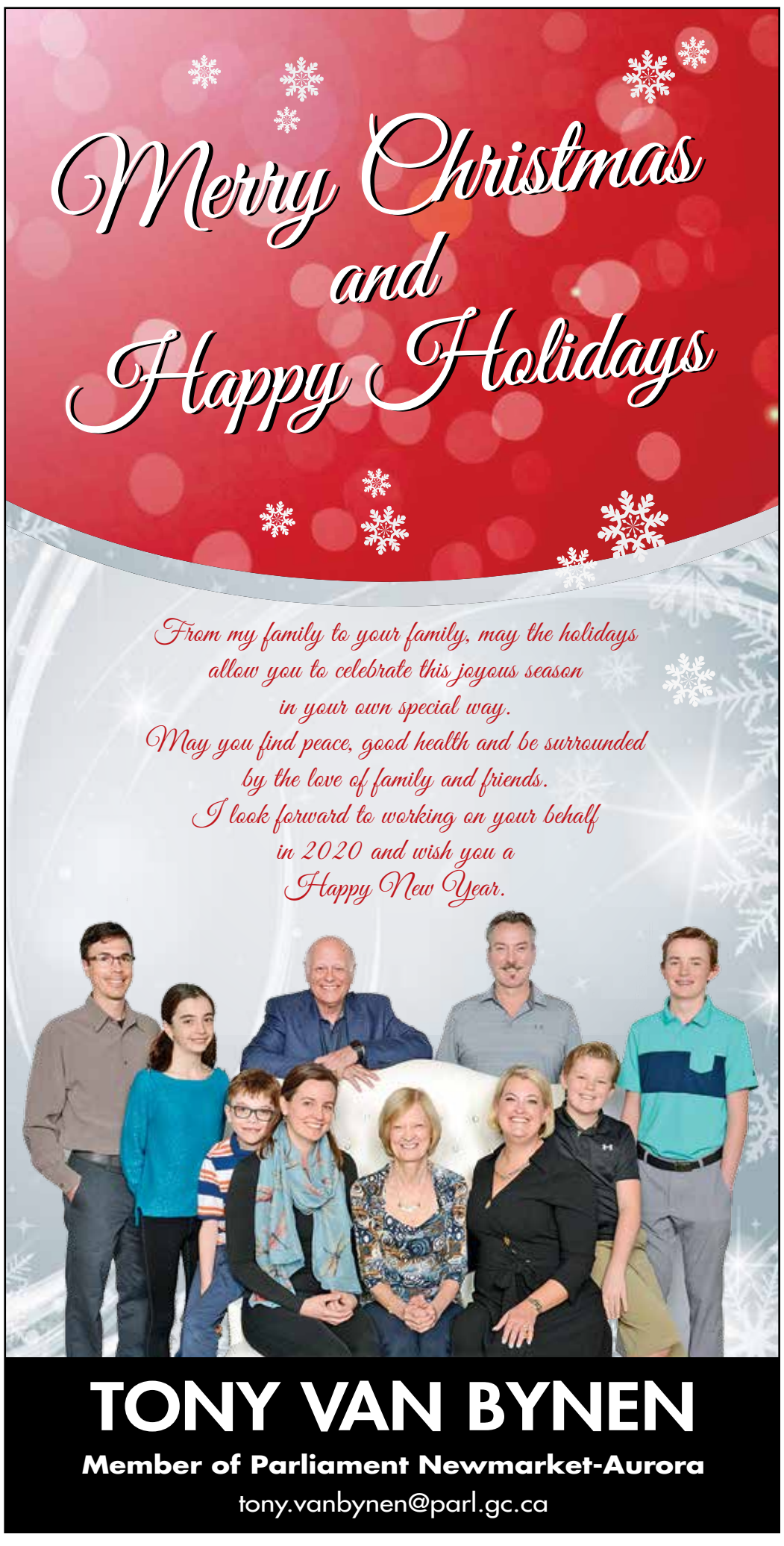
16635 Yonge Street, Unit 22, Newmarket, ON L3X 1V6
905-853-9889 1-800-211-1881 905-853-6115
Christine.Elliottco@pc.ola.org www.christineelliottmpp.ca

COUNTRY TOY TEA RAISES THOUSANDS FOR SHELTERS

The 15th Annual Country Toy Tea marked its milestone by raising more than $25,000 for local shelters – and collecting over 1,000 toys in the process. Hosted by Linda Brown, Leslie Ewing, Molly Fitzpatrick, Amanda Langston, Lori Masse, Andrea Marshall, Kim Nichols, Stacie Stanton, Judy Totten and Andrea Webb, this year's one-day event supported Blue Door Shelters – Leeder Place Family Shelter, 360 Kids, Sandgate Women's Shelter, The Rose of Sharon, Women's Centre of York Region, and York Centre for Youth & Family. Businesses helping to ensure the success of this year's event included The Artsy Baker, COBS Bread (Aurora), Longo's Supermarket, Nature's Emporium, Summer Fresh, Tim Hortons, Catered by the McEwan Group, Hurst Bakery, Maunder's Food Shop & Catering, Starbucks Coffee Company, The Roost Café, Bloomsbury Design, Continental Cosmetics, Five Faves, Hawk's Nest Jewelry Studio, injoy boutique, Jaxx and Marbles, Lindo F Fur, Spot On Beauty, Canadian Tire, Drake Custom Designs, Formula Brands Inc., Hempen Jewellers, James Dimitri Hair Atelier, Legs and Lace, Snapdragon Designs, and Tara Mcgrath Photography. The event included student elves, performances from the Country Day School Junior Choir, and a visit from Santa himself. Elves pictured above (top) include Tessa Burge, Maddy Ganzhorn, Holly Nichols, Nicole Damianidis, Anna Kuntz, Spencer Fullerton, Abby Boyd and Ella MacDonald.

Auroran photos by Diane Buchanan





SEASON OF GIVING – Newmarket-Aurora MPP Christine Elliott was at Upper Canada Mall on Saturday, displaying her gift-wrapping skills as she helped Community Living Central York in their annual Gift Wrapping Booth. Located inside of Market & Co., Community Living will be on hand through December 24, ready to raise awareness, wrap your gifts, and collect donations. Ms. Elliott was the first of several local dignitaries lending a hand, including Mayor Tom Mrakas. From left: Ms. Elliott, Jody, Debbie, Glenn, and Colleen Zakoor, Executive Director of Community Living Central York.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

DAWSONDENTAL®

New Patients Welcome!

50% Off ZOOM Whitening (reg. $399)

Not to be combined with other offers. Ends Dec 31, 2019.

289.216.4387

133 Pedersen Dr, Aurora www.DawsonDental.ca

Residents express opposition to Aurora Heights sidewalk plan – again

By Brock Weir

Last month, following delegations from residents in the neighbourhood surrounding Aurora Heights Public School, Council reversed its decision and put its plan to construct sidewalks on nearby Kitimat Crescent back on the agenda.

The vote to put the sidewalks back on the agenda followed a motion from Councillor Harold Kim to address residents' concerns after Council put the sidewalk construction on the backburner last year until the street is due for reconstruction in the next decade.

Their November decision was greeted with applause from residents sitting in the Council chamber that evening, but, at last week's General Committee meeting, this applause died down as residents addressed Council with their opposition.

"I am here on behalf of the residents of Kitimat Crescent to oppose this sidewalk that has been approved. Don't get me wrong, I am all for safety for everyone: children, parents, the residents of our street, but we all feel that the sidewalk is not going to be safer for anybody," contended resident Juliana Ciulla in her delegation to local lawmakers.

A sidewalk on the street, she said, would create "more problems" when, in her view, the actual problem was a parking issue at Aurora Heights.

"They use our street as a parking lot," she continued. "They park on both sides of the street, they drive fast, they don't care about where they stop to drop their kids off. They are still going to do that and now there's a sidewalk where parents are going to open their car doors.

"Despite what you may have heard with foot traffic, the only foot traffic that happens on our street are the parents and the students. Our street is dead. I ask you to do a road study to just come and see for yourself. There is nobody on our road. The kids play ball hockey, they ride their bikes, we all sit at the end of our driveway watching them. There's no cars. The sidewalk is not going to encourage pedestrians to walk on our street because no one is going to walk up Tecumseh, cross the street, walk on Kitimat to end up at Tecumseh to cross the street again on a sidewalk. They are just going to walk on Tecumseh."

Ms. Ciulla went on to state her view that residents were not consulted before Council ultimately made its decision, stating she and her neighbours feel they are "not being listened to."

"Seven streets near Murray Drive, you guys decided not to build sidewalks citing challenges with winter maintenance and loss of driveway parking, trees, greenery," she concluded. "Why is our street being treated differently than those streets? They look the same, detached, semi-detached homes… why were those streets not approved, but why is our street different?"

The residents' comments were received by Council with little discussion.

Councillor Sandra Humfryes, who chaired last week's General Committee meeting, stepped into the conversation. Before Council voted to reverse its decision on the sidewalk last month, Councillor Humfryes said she was hesitant to move forward with a firm decision as a working group had already been struck to take a broader view of the parking and traffic issues surrounding Aurora Heights Public School with the intent on finding a more wholistic solution.

"Staff is putting together a working group to look at all these issues," Councillor Humfryes told the delegate. "I know the sidewalk was passed at the last meeting, but [the working group is] going to look into exactly what you talked about [and] what different opportunities there are to make it more safe for the school. We're going to get a report soon enough on that."

Town of Aurora's

Menorah Lighting Ceremony

Sunday, December 22, 2019

4 p.m. to 6 p.m. | Aurora Town Hall

All are welcome to join in the festivities which include live music, the lighting of the menorah, traditional celebratory foods and children's crafts.

Don't miss the fire juggling show!

905-726-4762
aurora.ca/menorahlighting
#AuroraMenorahLighting
We reserve the right to cancel, amend, or change activities.

CHABAD Oak Ridges · Aurora

AURORA

Sensory Hallway helps ease kids' anxiety at SARC

Jodi Alexander, Community Programs Coordinator for the Town of Aurora, opens the door on the Sensory Hallway at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

By Brock Weir

A new sensory hallway is helping to give local kids a break from the sensory overload at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex with a quiet place to learn and grow.

Built in partnership with Paths 4 U, the hallway was introduced as an alternative to stimulating environments while helping "kids to build connections through sight, sounds and touch while encouraging kids to redirect overwhelming emotions or behaviours."

Designed for kids of all ages and developmental stages, the hallway is awash in activities for physical movements and challenges that promote the development of motor skills – and has already proved a success with local youngsters.

"We got this so kids could kind of have a space to do some physical literacy as well as have some intellectual stimulation to deal with behaviours and develop some confidence in physical literacy," explains Jodi Alexander, Community Programs Coordinator for the Town of Aurora. "You can use it for multiple purposes. Sometimes it can be overwhelming out there in the arena. It can be noisy with a lot of things going on – the whistles, the pucks, the swimming – and this is a space away from everything for everyone to just kind of get away."

As soon as you walk through the door, you're greeted by a floor of lily pads for kids to jump from one to the other. Next to that is another jumping obstacle, designed to let kids get the hang of jumping from side to side while maintaining forward momentum. Next is a hopscotch course with a twist incorporating various shapes and letters from the alphabet, while wall-mounted challenges encourage jumping and reaching to different challenging heights.

"Even in our programs [like pre-school] kids are getting a bit distracted and not focused, so we'll bring them out here, let them do a lap or two, and bring them back to their room so they are a little bit more focused when they go back in. We're already getting some great feedback. I had a parent at the (SARC) desk the other day who said when their son is playing hockey their daughter comes in here and plays almost the entire time and brings her little friends from the team. In terms of our programs we have good feedback that when the kids are kind of struggling to focus and struggling to pay attention, or it is just one of those days that is a tough day, they will bring them out here, let them run around, jump around, crawl around and burn some of that energy so it is helping them refocus. For camps, it is nice because we use it as a transition hallway. If they are going outside or they are going to be going back in, it is easy to get the kids focused because we can say, 'Okay, we're all going to jump!' and it gives them something to occupy them other than behaviours."

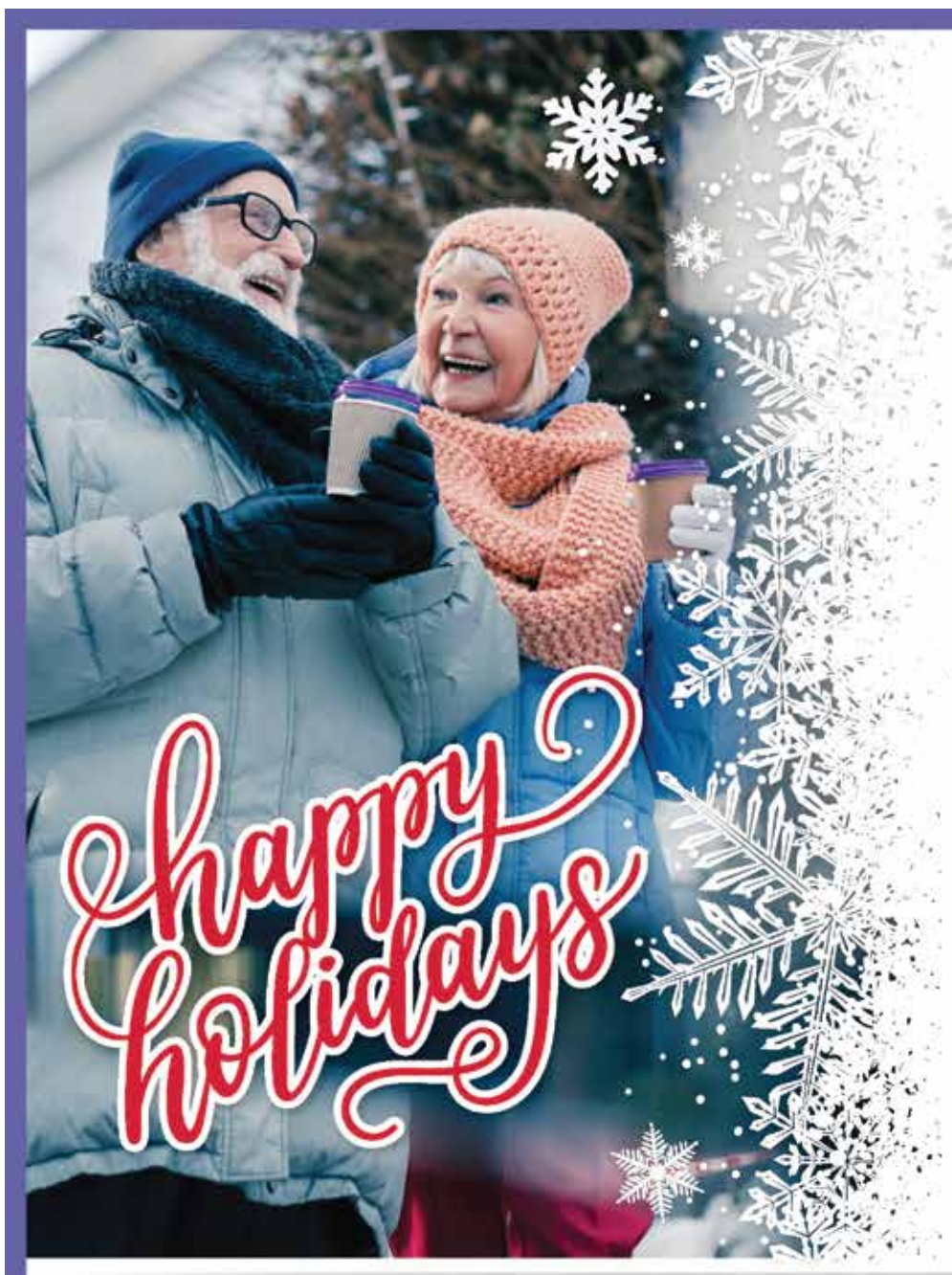
The SARC's sensory hallway has proved such a success that Ms. Alexander says the Town is looking for ways to bring similar concepts into other public spaces as needs grow along with the community.

In addition to the features already installed, the new year will bring a splash of colour to the sensory hallway as art students at St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic High School brainstorm designs for a mural spanning the length of the space with work to begin in mid-winter.

"When you're at the SARC, as a parent or patron, as an adult or child, if you're feeling like you kind of want to burn some energy or take your kids somewhere so they have something to do while you're waiting, it is just a space that is free to use and is here whenever we're here," she says.

Tanya, Joanne, Karen, Carolyn, Wendy and Damir
Wish You A Safe and Happy Holiday Season

DAMIR VRANCIC LAW OFFICE
21 WELLINGTON STREET EAST, AURORA, ONTARIO (905) 841-6411



Treat yourself to a
Winter Staycation
at Richmond Hill Retirement Residence

Three freshly prepared meals daily | Weekly housekeeping and laundry
Full calendar of social & recreation activities
À la carte care services available | And much more

RICHMOND HILL
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE
INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING WITH Verve

Miss FranTastic!
WEDNESDAY I DECEMBER 18
AT 2:30 PM
Join RHRR for a festive carolling performance by Miss FranTastic and her friends. Come cozy up with a warm beverage and feel the holiday cheer! Please call ahead to reserve your seat today, limited seating.

Movie Matinee: New Year's Eve
SUNDAY I DECEMBER 29
AT 2:30 PM
An American romantic-comedy directed by Garry Marshall. *New Year's Eve* celebrates love, hope, forgiveness, second chances and fresh starts, through intertwining stories set in New York City on the most dazzling night of the year.

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION! **905-770-4704** | 70 BERNARD AVE, RICHMOND HILL ON L4C 0W7 | verveseniorliving.com

"The Travelling Sisters" is quite the ride!

By Rod Urquhart

What if you dreamt up exotic vacations abroad, but just didn't have the cash? That's the premise of 'The Travelling Sisters', which appeared on stage at the Aurora Seniors' Centre and performed by the Silver Stars theatre troupe to sold-out audiences over the two days last month.

Zara Stuart-Jones as Beaulah Sanderson and Jane Kennedy as Myrtle Sanderson, Beulah's sister, basically steal the show as somewhat befuddled siblings, who despite a lack of financial resources, plan an exotic vacation every winter and spring.

Agnes Vallejo plays Edith Rogers, manager of the travel agency the sisters like to frequent and Ed Webster is Ned Parker, a newly-hired travel agent, who gets his first taste of the rather eccentric sisters.

Geraldine Smith as Lois Glover adds some intrigue to the whole play as someone with a baby and new suitcase and is mysteriously having to be in Brazil by 9 a.m. the next morning. As it turns out, this mysterious traveler who visits the travel agency while the Travelling Sisters are there, leads to some sleuthing by Myrtle (Jane Kennedy).

Photo by Rod Urquhart

Taking place in the mid -1960s, offering some funny comparisons to today, in the travel agency, Bank Guard Watkins, played by John Gillan has to nab this mysterious traveler due to an overflow of cash on her and in her suitcase.

Finally Mr. Prescott, the Bank President, portrayed by John Dowson, arrives on the scene. Takes into account everything that happened in the travel agency, sees the return of the bank's money thanks to Myrtle, and makes some wide-spreading gestures to the travelling sisters and this play ends with just about everyone being quite happy. (Not to give the ending away!)

The play opens with a song, "Side by Side" with Joy Gannicott excellent on piano and also ends with a happy song, sung enthusiastically by the audience, "Ain't We Got Fun." The Travelling Sisters was written by John Kirkpatrick, with special arrangement with Samuel French Inc. It's produced and directed with skill by Joan Brownlow.

Set design was by Joan also, and props by the cast and friends of the cast. Christine Leerdam and Bryony McCool handle the make-up. And thanks to Marlin Travel Agency, Aurora and Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. for the travel posters, giving the travel agency that 'worldly' look!

Stay tuned for the next production of the Silver Stars Theatre Group on May 30 and 31 in 2020.

All in all, The Travelling Sisters was just one joyful way to spend a Saturday afternoon with enthusiastic actors giving it their all. Congrats to the Silver Stars and Joan!

A&F Hair Elite

Special Holiday Hours on the Following Days:

Monday Dec 23rd 9am - 6pm (Usually Closed on Mondays)
Tuesday Dec 24th 8am - 4pm
Wed Dec 25th CLOSED
Thursday Dec 26th CLOSED

Monday Dec 30th 9am - 6pm (Usually Closed on Mondays)
Tuesday Dec 31st 8am - 4pm
Wed Jan 1st CLOSED

14800 Yonge St. Aurora Ont. L4G 1N9 Tel: 905-727-6212 ~ Since 1970 ~

PROMOTIONAL MARKETING.ca

Promotional Products Specialists

Premiums & Incentives | Trade Show Items | Staff Outfitting
Special Event Products | Recognition | Custom Clothing
Graphic Design | POP/ Display Signage | Direct Mail | Awards
Print Production | Employee Programs | Fulfilment

sales@promotionalmarketing.ca
905.841.0916

Cost recovery following road accidents implemented by fire department

By Brock Weir

At-fault drivers involved in vehicle collisions will now have to shoulder the cost of the emergency response to the crash, following the implementation of a new pilot program by the Central York Fire Services.

Beginning in January, the Central York Fire Services (CYFS) will launch a new two-year pilot motor vehicle collision cost recovery program which would see at-fault drivers of collisions invoiced by the CYFS for the cost of their response to the call – a switch from the previous practice where these invoices would be paid out by the vehicle owner's insurance company.

"This is a very common industry practice and it is about ensuring that we consistently have the resources available to respond to emergencies," said CYFS Chief Ian Laing. "The revenue generated from the cost-recovery program will be used to help offset the costs of services provided which range from the extraction of collision victims and on-scene medical assistance to the clean-up of hazardous materials and fluids at scenes."

The CYFS – which serves Aurora and Newmarket – is currently the only fire service within York Region that does not charge a service fee for attending these collisions.

According to the CYFS, the standard rates charged by fire services for responding to collisions on municipal roadways are typically in the neighbourhood of $480 per hour.

"Central York Fire Services responds to approximately 500 motor vehicle collisions on municipal roadways per year with approximately 83 per cent of those qualifying for the cost-recovery pilot project," said the CYFS. "The Joint Council Committee (a group of Aurora and Newmarket Councillors and municipal staff which oversees the fire service) also approved the hiring of a regular part-time assistant to support the program, which will launch in January 2020."

The Cost-Recovery Program was presented and received by Aurora Council last month.

KRESTON GTA

STARTING OUT IS EASIER WHEN YOU HAVE THE RIGHT PARTNER.

Where to begin? A question every entrepreneur asks. You have the vision, the drive and technical knowhow. But do you have all that's needed to really get off the ground? We can help with a full range of highly professional accounting, tax and consulting services. We've learned firsthand that with the right partner, there's no telling how far your business can grow.

Please call or email info@krestongta.com for a free consultation.

Kreston GTA, Chartered Professional Accountants

krestongta.com | 905.713.1173 | 66 Wellington Avenue E, Aurora, Ontario

A member of Kreston International | A global network of independent accounting firms

Getting Things Done

Mayor
Tom Mrakas

It's been one year –

365 days – since I had the privilege of being sworn in as the Mayor of Aurora. It has been an exciting year.

Council has strived to get things done this first year of our term. We have made a number of decisions that will continue to move Aurora forward, in a positive way, and enable our community to continue to grow and evolve while maintaining our small-town charm!

We have had some pretty incredible events that showcased our Town both nationally and globally … From Hometown Hockey to start off this term, to our very own Robert Thomas bringing the Stanley cup home and, of course, the CP woman's open at Magna. This Town showed why we are considered a sports Town!

When we took office, one of the first things that this Council was tasked with was to make a decision on how to better protect our stable neighbourhoods. Council got to work right away in addressing this issue by making the decision to implement changes to our Stable Neighbourhood bylaw, that are forward-looking and ensure that the infill zoning bylaws make sense for our Town. I believe the recommendations Council approved are fair and balanced. They meet the stated objective of achieving a balance between development control, and the flexibility to allow innovation and ongoing investment.

Council also moved forward with making a change to how our sport plan is delivered by bringing it in-house and having the Town work with all the sporting organizations to create more opportunities for our residents.

I reached out to all sports organizations and had the opportunity to meet with virtually all in this first year to get a first hand sense of the challenges that our organizations are having and what the Town can do to help support them.

Council recognized the important role that sport plays in building community vitality. And, building on the work of the previous Council, this Council implemented important elements of the Sport Plan – including the hiring of a Sport Development Officer. The role of the Sport Development officer will be to not only develop deliverables of the Sport Plan, but to work with all our sports organizations to ensure that their needs and wants are being addressed and that the identified goals will be realistic, achievable and efficient.

I am looking forward to our Town continuing the work of the Sport Plan and working together with all of our sport organizations to get things done.

Recently, we also saw The Armoury officially open.

This extraordinary repurposing of one of our heritage buildings is an important milestone in the revitalization of our downtown core, honouring our past as we build our future. This stunning project is one that took commitment and resolve of Council members – past and present – to see this vision come to reality. Right now, we are turning the page and starting a new chapter in the history of the Town of Aurora and the Aurora Armoury. It's a truly exciting time in Aurora.

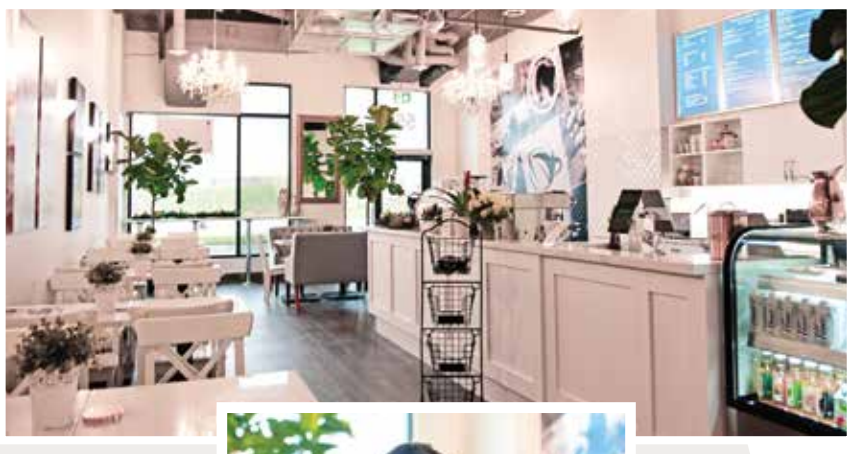
This week, we will be finalizing our second budget in this first year and – holding true to the budget principles that we set last term – have set the tax rate as inflation + 1% as the tax rate. Our Town is in a very healthy financial position.

However, to minimize any potential impact to our services and/or the tax levy due to the Provincial downloads, we took a serious look at what is a need and what is a want and eliminated duplications wherever identified. In this way we have worked to continue to ensure a budget that provides the best services that residents expect, at the best price.

The first year also saw the approval of our new Economic Strategic Plan. Too many times plans have been developed and afterwards just put on the top shelf where they collect dust. This plan is different; this plan is about action and getting things done, and we have the right mix of professionals on the Board that are eager and willing to move things forward so that our Town can achieve long-term employment growth. The Town has also renewed and strengthened our partnership and relationship with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. For decades, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce has been an important resource for businesses in our community and they play a key role in economic development efforts for our Town. A continued, strong relationship with the Chamber will be key to encouraging a positive business environment and revitalizing our downtown core – as this has already happened in this this first year!

From page 20

GRAND OPENING



CAFÉ ALEXANDRA
Loving the Organic Life

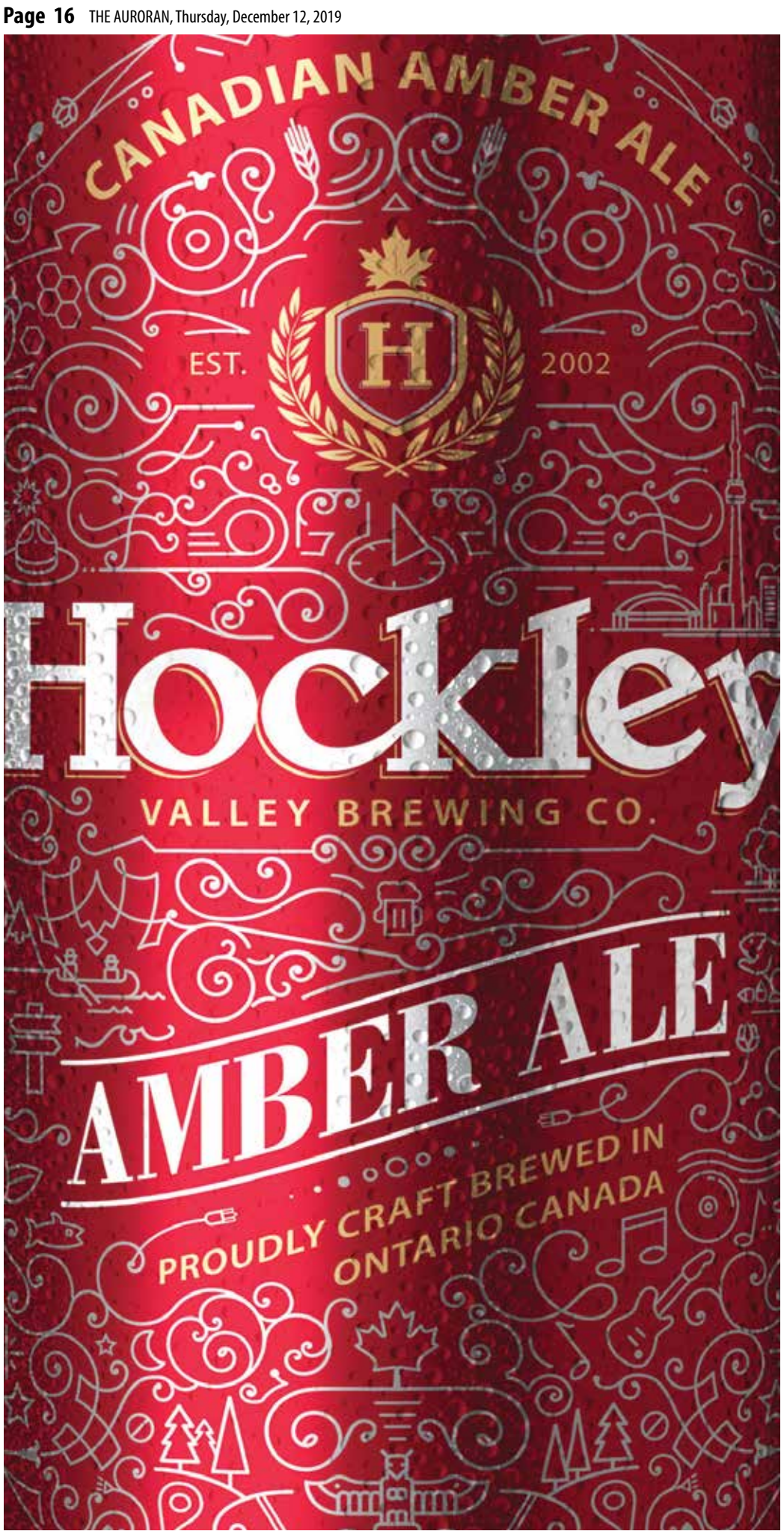
Date: Saturday, December 14th
Time: 6PM – 8PM
Location: 555 William Graham Dr. Aurora, ON
Phone: 905.841.3434
Special Guest: Mayor Tom Mrakas
Website: **cafealexandra.ca**

Please join us!

NORTH YORK
HEATING, PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

We sell all types of
Filters
Humidifiers
Air Cleaners
& Water Pumps

Tel: 905-727-6401
www.nyhp.on.ca
8 Industrial Pkwy. S.
Aurora, Ontario



Pros and cons of Ward systems should be considered: Committee

By Brock Weir

The pros and cons should be fully considered before Aurora adopts a "ward" system of governance, says the Town's Governance Ad Hoc committee.

While the incumbent Council has stated their desire to forge ahead with adopting a "ward" system where each Council member is elected to represent a specific area of Town, plus the Mayor representing the entire municipality, the Committee has recommended a step back to consider whether ditching the current "at-large" system where six members represent the community as a whole is the best way forward.

According to a report before Council this week from Town Clerk Mike de Rond, the Governance Review Ad-Hoc Committee (GRAHC) weighed in on the Town's Electoral System Review (ESR) process and "agreed it would be valuable to investigate the benefits and disadvantages" of both systems as these pros and cons were outside of the scope of work given to the ESR's consultants.

"The Committee agreed, by motion, to research the pros and cons of the Town's potential transition to a ward-based electoral system and provide a report to Council," said Mr. de Rond. "The research will run concurrently with the consultant's ESR work, and the report from the Committee will serve as a companion piece for Council when the final ESR report is brought forward for consideration.

"Staff support the Committee's initiative to research and report back on benefits and disadvantages of ward and at-large systems. The proposed report will serve as an important companion document that can be used to inform Council and the public of the 'why' behind a potential transition to a ward system. Though adopting a ward system has been discussed by Council in the past and proposed as a Question on the Ballot in 2014, no information has been provided to the public or Council outlining the benefits of one system over the other."

The current ESR is designed to propose a variety of ward models for the public and local representatives to consider and for Council to ultimately adopt. The pros and cons are, as noted above, outside of the scope given to consultants leading the study and are, according to the Clerk, "considered to be a subjective topic."

CHRISTINE'S CHRONICLES

From page 5

ambulatory medical and surgical services includes specialist services;

- Home care;
- Community support services;
- Mental health and addictions;
- Health promotion and disease prevention;
- Rehabilitation and complex care;
- Palliative care (e.g., hospice);
- Residential care and short-term transitional care (e.g., in supportive housing, long-term care homes, retirement homes);
- Long-term care home placement;
- Emergency health services;
- Laboratory and diagnostic services;
- Midwifery services; and
- Other social and community services and other services, as needed by the population.

I would like to thank all our health care partners for their enthusiasm, partnership and dedication toward reaching the goal of providing modern, sustainable, connected care for all.

If you would like additional information on the OHT, please contact me at my community office 905-853-9889.

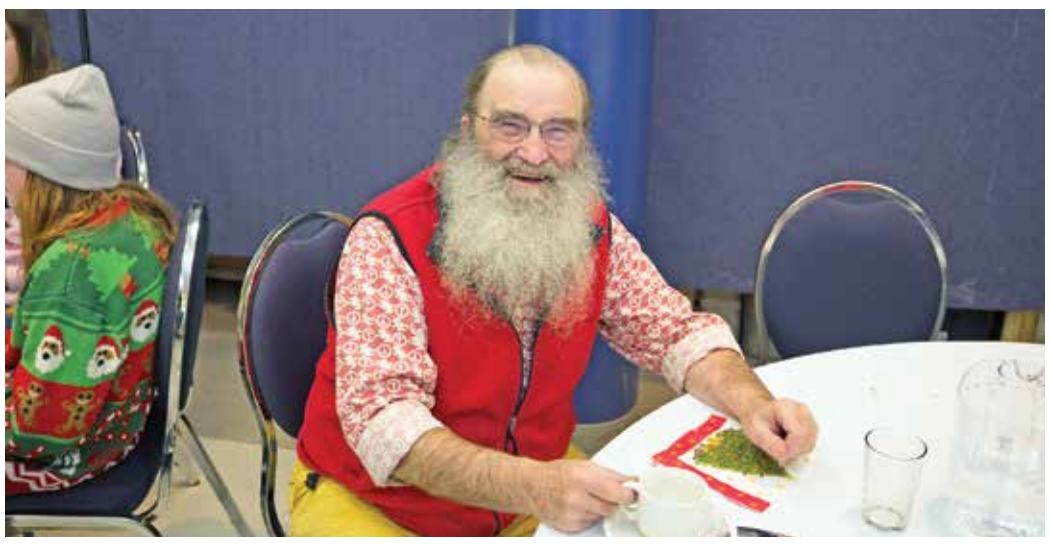
YORK REGION
WASTE DEPOTS
Holiday Hours

DATE	ELGIN MILLS Community Environmental Centre / MCCLEARY COURT Community Environmental Centre	MARKHAM Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) / EAST GWILLIMBURY HHW and Recycling Depot	GEORGINA TRANSFER STATION: Transfer Station	GEORGINA TRANSFER STATION: Household Hazardous Waste
Tuesday, December 24	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday, December 25	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Thursday, December 26	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Friday, December 27	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	CLOSED
Saturday, December 28	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, December 29	8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED
Monday, December 30	CLOSED	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	CLOSED
Tuesday, December 31	CLOSED	CLOSED	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

For waste depot locations, please visit **york.ca/wastedepots** or call 1-866-665-6752.

York Region

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas



Trinity Anglican Church was awash in holiday cheer as they hosted their annual Christmas Bazaar. (Clockwise from bottom left) Vendors and Trinity parishioners sold homemade preserves. Young volunteers put on a festive display. Klaus enjoys lunch in Binions Hall. Beverly, dressed in Christmas green, browses the Clothes Closet.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

GMC

2019 NEXT-GENERATION
SIERRA 1500
CREW CAB ELEVATION

WINTER CLEAROUT

0% FOR UP TO 72 FINANCING MONTHS + $7,000 TOTAL VALUE^

2019 SIERRA 1500 LIMITED DOUBLE CAB

GET 25% OF MSRP CASH PURCHASE CREDIT
ON NEW IN-STOCK 2019 MODELS◊

LIMITED AVAILABILITY. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

2019 ACADIA DENALI

0% FOR UP TO 84 FINANCING MONTHS^

2020 TERRAIN SLE FWD ELEVATION

LEASE FOR $185 BI-WEEKLY, THAT'S LIKE
$93 WEEKLY AT 1% FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN PAYMENT~

LOADED WITH FEATURES LIKE:
GMC PRO SAFETY¤ TECHNOLOGIES, HEATED FRONT SEATS AND REMOTE START, AVAILABLE SMART WATCH CONNECTIVITY AND AVAILABLE HANDS-FREE POWER PROGRAMMABLE LIFTGATE

GMC PRO GRADE PROTECTION:
COMPLIMENTARY 2-YEAR/ 48,000 KM LUBE-OIL-FILTER MAINTENANCE ON 2019 MODELS Ω
5-YEAR / 100,000 KM POWERTRAIN COMPONENT WARRANTY COVERAGE ON 2019 MODELS ∞
AVAILABLE BUILT-IN 4G LTE WI-FI® HOTSPOT (DATA PLAN REQUIRED)Δ

FIND YOURS TODAY AT GMCOFFERS.CA

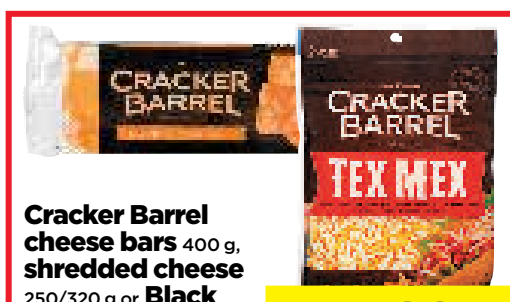
Limited time offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. Conditions and limitations apply. See Dealer for full program details. These offers may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Void where prohibited. General Motors of Canada Company (GM Canada) may modify, extend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time, without notice. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Credits vary by model. For a limited time only on select vehicles to qualified retail customers in Canada. On approved credit from select lenders. Participating lenders subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Some trims may have effective rates higher than 0%. ^Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada on select vehicles purchased and delivered from December 3 – January 2, 2020. 0%/0% purchase financing (0%/0% APR) offered on approved credit by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank for 84/72 months on eligible new 2019 Acadia Denali/2019 Next-Generation Sierra Crew Cab Elevation models. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $52,795/$51,475 financed at 0%/0% nominal rate (0%/0% APR) equals $629/$692 monthly for 84/72 months. The offer includes $650/$2,650 Cash Delivery Allowance (tax exclusive) and $1,750/$2,850 finance cash (tax exclusive), $0/$1,000 RST Bonus and $0/$500 Option Package Discount. Cost of borrowing is $0/$0, for a total obligation of $53,545/$51,475. Freight ($1,895/$1,895) and air conditioning charge ($100/$100, if applicable) included. License, insurance, registration, PPSA, applicable taxes and, except in Quebec, dealer fees not included (all of which may vary by dealer and region). Dealers are free to set individual prices. ®Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. TD Auto Finance is a registered trademark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank. ◊Offers are valid toward the retail purchase of an eligible new or demonstrator in stock 2019 Sierra Double Cab delivered in Canada between December 3 and January 2, 2020. Up to 25% Of MSRP Cash Purchase Credit is a manufacturer to dealer incentive (tax exclusive), valid toward retail cash purchases only on select 2019 models in stock. Not compatible with special lease and finance rates. By selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing this credit which will result in higher effective cost of credit on their transaction. Credit is calculated on vehicle MSRP (which excludes vehicle freight), excluding any dealer-installed options. Credit value will vary with model purchased: models receiving up to 25% of MSRP Cash Purchase Credit are: Sierra 1500 Limited. ~Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles purchased and delivered between December 2 – January 3, 2020. Lease based on suggested retail price of $34,288, towards the lease of an eligible 2020 Terrain SLE FWD Elevation. Bi-weekly payment is $185 for 48 months at 1% lease rate (1% APR) on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. The $93 weekly payment is calculated by dividing the bi-weekly payments. Payments cannot be made on a weekly basis. Equivalent weekly payments are for informational purposes only. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometer. $0 down payment required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is $19,175. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is $16,115. Factory order may be required. ¤ Safety or driver assistance features are no substitute for the driver's responsibility to operate the vehicle in a safe manner. The driver should remain attentive to traffic, surroundings and road conditions at all times. Visibility, weather, and road conditions may affect feature performance. Read the vehicle Owner's Manual for more important feature limitations and information. ΩWhichever comes first. Limit of four complimentary Lube-Oil-Filter services in total. Fluid top-offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc., are not covered. See the Warranty Booklet or your dealer for details. ∞ Whichever comes first. See your dealer. Δ Visit onstar.ca for vehicle availability, coverage maps, details and system limitations. Services and connectivity vary by model and conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. 4G LTE service available in select markets. Requires active connected vehicle services and a data plan to access the vehicle's built-in Wi-Fi hotspot. Accessory Power must be active to use the Wi-Fi hotspot. Data plans provided by AT&T or its local service provider. Credit card is required for purchase.

REAL CANADIAN SUPERSTORE

AIR CHILLED
PC® Free From® whole chicken
fresh
20093631
1.98 LB 4.37/kg

CLUB SIZE
5 LB clementines
product of Spain
20182566001
3.76 EA

PC® shrimp platter with mild cocktail sauce
frozen, 568 g
20147098
SAVE 7.00
12.98 EA



Cracker Barrel cheese bars 400 g, **shredded cheese** 250/320 g or **Black Diamond cheestrings**
pkg. of 12/16
selected varieties
20866813002/21171722
4.98 EA

Thurs. Dec. 12 to Wed. Dec. 18

25,000 pts when you spend $250† or more in-store
That's $25 in rewards.

†When you spend $250 or more in-store before applicable taxes and after all other coupons, discounts or *PC Optimum* points redemptions are deducted, **in a single transaction**, at any Real Canadian Superstore location, [excludes purchases of tobacco, alcohol products, prescriptions, gift cards, phone cards, lottery tickets, joefresh.com, all third party operations (post office, gas bars, dry cleaners, etc.) and any other products which are provincially regulated], you will earn the points indicated. Product availability may vary by store. We are not obligated to award points based on error or misprints.

Maple Leaf bacon
regular or low salt
375 g
20732366
3.98

Coca-Cola or Canada Dry soft drinks 24x355 mL or **Nestea iced tea** 20x341 mL, selected varieties
20308197001
6.48 EA

CLUB SIZE
Pampers or Huggies club size plus diapers
selected varieties, 84-180's
21101019/21190792
SAVE UP TO 2.77
29.98 EA

ALL CHECKOUT LANES OPEN GUARANTEED*
SATURDAY + SUNDAY 10AM - 6PM
*Unless we are unable to due to unforeseen technical difficulties

Holiday Prep

Sodastream flavours
selected varieties
21154079/21154080/21154083/
BUY 2 OR MORE
6.00 EA
LESS THAN 2 PAY 6.98 EA

Sodastream 1 L carbonating bottles
21154097
19.98 EA

Sodastream Fizzi sparkling water maker
available in black, white, blue, and red
21154093
SAVE 20.00
99.98 EA

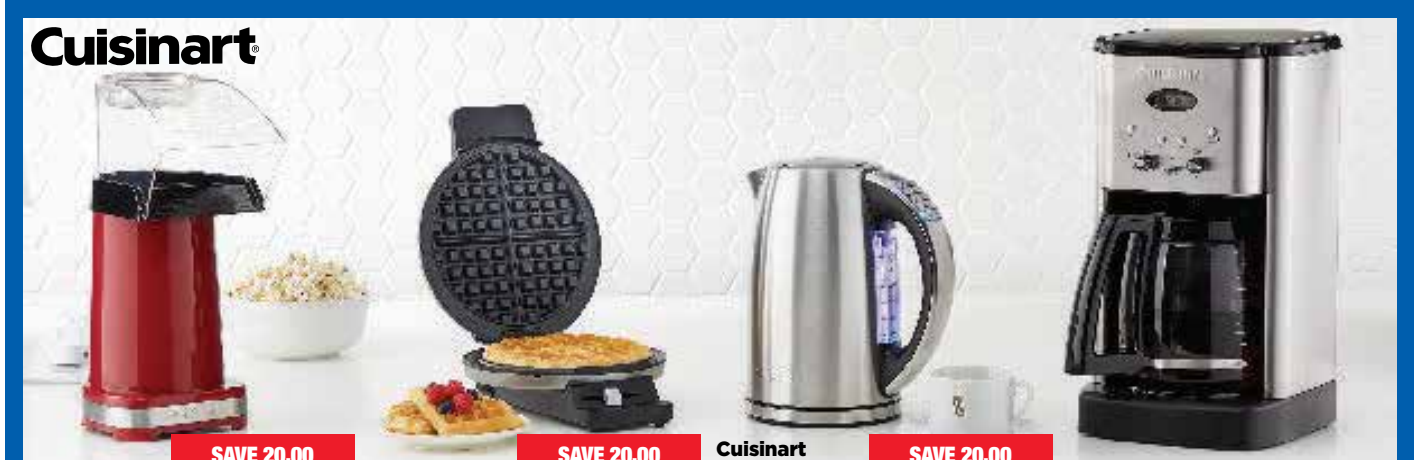
Sodastream CO2 cylinder exchange
save $15 on the purchase of a refilled CO2 cylinder when you return your used cylinder at Superstore
21128469
19.98 EA

Instant Pot Vortex Plus 10 quart air fryer oven
21205470
SAVE 30.00
149.98 EA

Instant Pot Zest Plus 20 cup rice, grain, and multicooker
21206676
SAVE 20.00
69.98 EA

Instant Pot 6 quart Duo Nova Programmable pressure cooker
21206996
SAVE 30.00
99.98 EA

Instant Pot Ace Plus cooking blender
21205472
SAVE 50.00
149.98 EA



Cuisinart hot air popper
21027929
SAVE 20.00
39.98 EA

Cuisinart waffle maker
20788112
SAVE 20.00
39.98 EA

Cuisinart PerfecTemp cordless electric programmable kettle
20787999
SAVE 20.00
89.98 EA

Cuisinart Brew Central 12-cup coffee maker
20099924
89.98 EA

T-fal Easy Fry XL air fryer
21109010
88.00 EA

T-fal EZ Clean deep fryer
20809296
99.98 EA

Lagostina Casa Mia 10 piece non-stick cookware set
21181877
149.98 EA

Starfrit The Rock 8 piece forged cookware set
20952965
99.98 EA

Starfrit openstock cookware
20952677
SAVE UP TO **20% OFF**
19.98-34.98

Starfrit gadgets
21004269/20065745/20959179
SAVE UP TO **25% OFF**
11.58-23.18

15900 Bayview Avenue
Aurora, Ontario, L4G 7Y3
905-726-9532

THE AURORAN

SECTION B

Sports • News • Coming Events
Classifieds • At Your Service

Vol. 20 No. 9 905-727-3300 theauroran.com FREE Week of December 12, 2019 CMCA AUDITED

York9FC secure Morey Doner and Diyaeddine Abzi through the 2020 Season

Morey Doner

Photo courtesy of York9 FC

By Robert Belardi

York9 FC sign fullbacks Morey Doner and Diyaeddine Abzi through the 2020 season.

After finishing in third place overall last year, York9 FC wasted no time securing the indefatigable fullback tandem that were important to last year's success.

Head Coach Jimmy Brennan stated, "both players had tremendous years and we're looking forward to working with both of them to get the best out of them. Their careers are on the upswing and we felt it was important to get them both back in York9 jerseys."

21-year-old Morrocan-Montreal native Abzi was nominated for CPL Fan Awards Team of the Year and Canadian Premier League Best Canadian U21 Player Award. Abzi totalled 30 appearances on the season tallying one goal and four assists.

A similar stat line follows the former Aurora FC player Morey Doner. The 25-year-old Collingwood native jumped right out of the gate this year tallying one goal, four assists and winning York9 player of the year voted by the fans.

Doner said he was delighted when he earned this reward.

"I was happy with myself and the progress that I made over the season," he said. "I told myself that whenever I would get the chance on the field, I would never take it for granted, because growing up as a boy, I never wanted to do anything else but be a footballer."

Moving into the second year of the Canadian Premier League, Doner said he's excited to be a part of York9 FC.

"I am most excited about having another consistent season and taking my all-around game to the next level. Last year I learned a lot about my game, more specifically how to be a pro in my first season."

The inaugural year gave young players a chance to become professionals. Canada's vision of enhancing its talent in soccer stems from this league. With the World Cup on the horizon in 2026, it is prudent this league continues to build. And build, it shall.

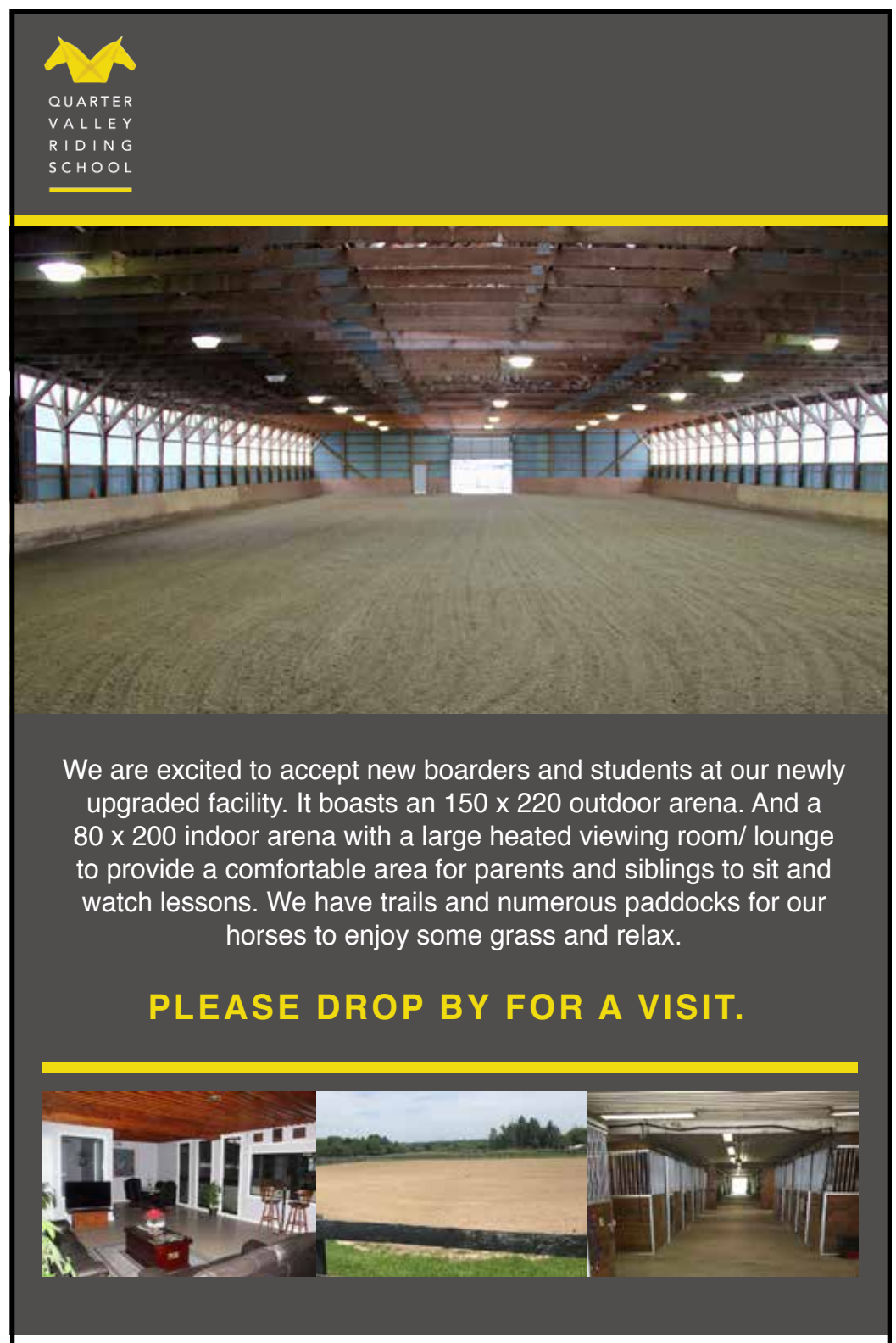
The first ever match of the Canadian Premier League hosted champions Forge FC take on York9 FC at Tim Horton's Field in Hamilton, ON. 17,611 attendees witnessed a gruelling 1-1 draw.

Since then, 27 more league matches by each club took place, including matches against the Canadian MLS clubs. You might say expectations this year exceeded previous doubts.

"It surprised a lot of people and was a really special year, with special moments," Doner explained. "Our series against the Montreal Impact and of course, Cavalry FC beating the Whitecaps, were great for everyone, supporting a league that we can now call our own."

Doner also went on to emphasize, "growth happens with time and you will see over the years until the World Cup and beyond that, soccer in Canada is here to stay."

According to The Guardian, the CPL has seen over 400,000 attendees, with an average of 4,279 per match. As a league, one might say this has been more than a success. It is a rendition for Canadian soccer moving forward. Signing contracts is part of the beginning.



Saints grad Merchant named USports player of the year

By Jake Courtepatte

Three straight undefeated seasons deserve a standing ovation: yet for Chris Merchant, it was tough to do so when he hobbled on stage in Quebec to accept the Hec Crighton Trophy, as the most outstanding player in USports football.

The Western Mustangs quarterback, who entered last weekend's Yates Cup championship against the McMaster Marauders as the winner of 29-straight games, suffered a severe ankle injury in the first quarter to dash his team's hopes of returning to yet another national Vanier Cup final.

Yet the St. Andrew's College grad has all the reasons in the world to hold his head high: he earned a Vanier Cup title in 2017, as well as a pair of Ontario Conference championships in his four years with the Mustangs.

He threw for 2,378 yards and 14 touchdowns, and rushed for 438 yards and six majors, in eight games this season.

"Chris has had an outstanding season and career as our quarterback at Western," said Mustangs Head Coach Greg Marshall in a press release. "He really is the ideal of what we want in our USports student athletes. His work ethic and competitive spirit has been an inspiration to our team. His record as our starting quarterback is an incredible 39-3. He is truly deserving of this award and will go down as one of the best student-athletes to ever play at Western.

"It really was a great way for him to cap off a tremendous career for him and for our football program."

A native Calgarian, it was in Merchant's junior year of high school that he first caught the eye of St. Andrew's Saints staff, especially that of head coach, Len Gurr. Gurr made a trip to London to scout Merchant while he dressed for Team Alberta in the Canada Cup.

After joining the Saints program, it was in his senior year that he turned heads both north and south of the border, in a Saints program that is billed as a top stop for both USports and NCAA scouts.

Under Gurr, he led the Saints to a 7 – 1 record in the CISAA, eventually falling just short of a championship in falling to the UCC Blues 30 – 25.

After earning a full ride scholarship with the NCAA's University of Buffalo Bulls, it was after his freshman year of college he decided on a transfer to Western, and the rest is history.

"The goal is always to be playing in a national championship, but to be given this honour and to be recognized as one of the greatest to play the game is something that I will treasure forever," he said.

"It feels amazing. It really is a dream come true. It's something I've been working toward for years and years and to finally achieve that goal is something that I am very proud of, but I couldn't have done it without my teammates."

SAC grad Chris Merchant won the Hec Crighton Trophy as the most outstanding Canadian university football player, after leading the Western Mustangs to a perfect season.

Photo courtesy of Ontario University Athletics/Mathieu Belanger

Merchant joins a handful of Western players and staff to earn the prize in the program's storied history.

"Ever since I first walked into the stadium, and saw those guys up on the wall, I wanted to be up there with them," said Merchant. "So, this is a huge honour, and I'm really humbled."

Warmth when you need it!
OLIVER HEATING & COOLING
95 YEARS ANNIVERSARY
Service You Can Trust. Since 1924
905.727.4258
12 YEAR PARTS LIMITED WARRANTY
DAIKIN AIR INTELLIGENCE
www.tholiver.com
1924 - 95 Years Serving York Region - 2019

AURORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors OPPORTUNITY

The Aurora Historical Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to heritage preservation, public education and enrichment. The AHS owns and operates Hillary House National Historic Site.

We are seeking interested individuals to join our passionate and dedicated volunteer Board of Directors who will use their skill and experience to help the organization move forward in a responsible and relevant manner. Business or volunteer experience in 1 or more of the following areas is an asset:
• General Business Management • Marketing • Governance • Human Resources • Finance • Property Management • Fundraising • Heritage Preservation

Directors are required attend monthly meetings and support various activities of the Society where available.

Applications must be received by the Nomination Committee no later than **January 10, 2019.** Directors will be installed at the Annual General Meeting in February.

Please send your resume to: patricia.wallace@aurorahs.com
For more information, you are welcome contact us at:
905-727-8991
www.aurorahs.com

Getting Things Done

From page 15

We also saw the first lecture of York University Scholars Hub.

When I spoke with Dr. Rhonda Lenton, the President of YorkU, back at the beginning of this term of Council, I indicated that I was looking for ways that Aurora could be home to some YorkU programming and asked how the Town could collaborate with the University.

Dr Lenton mentioned the possibility of bringing the York University Scholars Hub series here to Aurora and, potentially, growing that working relationship to include future collaborative initiatives. So, I am very excited that York University is bringing "The York University Scholars Hub" right here to Aurora at our very own Library. I believe this is a great first step that will lead to many more collaborations between YorkU and the Town of Aurora.

Council has also made a significant change that will help bring more major office development to our Town by exempting development charges for "major office development". I believe we need to use all the tools available to us as a municipality, working with the business and development community, to ensure the Town puts the optimal conditions in place to both attract new businesses and assist current businesses to thrive. This type of forward-thinking links land use planning with financial incentives for businesses and developers, making Aurora a desirable location. These initiatives will promote economic development opportunities across the Town and solidify Aurora as a place of business and investment.

I would also like to thank staff for the work they have done over this past year.

It is our dedicated Town employees who do their jobs – day in and day out – that makes Aurora a better place for all of us. They are the ones who really make this Town run. They respond to our many unpredictable needs – fires, weather-related needs from snow to flooding, trees down, street lights out, potholes, and everything in between.

Town employees also work diligently to provide, summer camps, swimming lessons, and fun for our kids. They keep our water flowing. They consider development proposals, issue building permits, strive to preserve our rich architectural history, and keep our trails and parks in shape for your stroll or family picnic.

To them I say, a very heartfelt thank you!

In closing, It has been a truly exciting year, and I am looking forward to the next three years and what we – Council, staff and community – can accomplish as we work together to get things done.

logoyou
BUILDING BRAND AWARENESS
DOES YOUR BUSINESS OR PRODUCT NEED PROMOTING?
GET 10% OFF YOUR FIRST ORDER! Code LOGOYOU
Cuff Pom Pom Toque
Custom Hockey Pucks
Custom PVC Flash Drives
Travel Drinkware
VISIT: logoyou.ca
519.307.1146
416.460.4670
info@logoyou.ca
screen printing
tech gear
drinkware
company e-stores
signage
golf accessories
posters
laser engraving
creative services
embroidery
graphic design
global sourcing
banners
pens
workwear
postcards
promotional products
logo design
business cards
incentives
print services
corporate apparel
awards
trade show products
personal service . quality . reliability

Friday was sombre anniversary and call to action

From page 1

young generation of the impact of "violence, respect, equity and fair treatment with each other."

"I think it's down to education and information, starting with the earliest at elementary schools and talking about healthy relationships, about equity, and [challenging stereotypical gender roles]," says Ms. Herenda. "We should all have access to equal opportunities to be the best that can be on our individual basis and not stigmatize girls and women to be less important or less of, or not capable of doing certain occupations, for example, that have traditionally been driven by a male workforce. The stigma still exists starting from our childhoods when we're given specific choices that are aligned with our identified gender, to being in school where girls are not encouraged to answer certain sciences or maths or engineering or technology for that matter. It really is about having those conversations about what it means to be equitable and equal. Continuing those conversations in elementary school and high school and post-secondary education – there has to be continuous emphasis on this matter."

2019 has been an important year in making these inroads for Yellow Brick House.

In addition to their education officers taking their message into the schools, the organization has forged important new relationships with educational institutions, including St. Andrew's College.

Earlier this fall, St. Andrew's College hosted Yellow Brick House's annual Walk A Mile In Her Shoes fundraising and awareness event which saw scores of individuals from the community – including students – don high heels for a hike around campus to show just how far we, as a society, need to go in order to reach gender equality.

Dignitaries and special guests presided over a special flag raising ceremony to mark the National Day of Remembrance & Action on Friday afternoon.
Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Elsewhere, Yellow Brick House is focused on challenging systemic issues which work to perpetuate the problem.

These systemic issues, says Ms. Herenda, include biases against victims of sexual and domestic violence.

"Usually women are put in the position where their behaviour is questioned that it is assumed to have led to that attack," she explains. "Women are asked what she wore and did she have anything to drink? Why did she find herself at such and such place at such and such time of the day or night? The question should be different: it should really be emphasizing why do men feel that they have the right to take advantage of another human being?

As a society, we're still not there. Our legal system is not there. Over 91 per cent of the sexual abuse cases are not reported to the police because women do not want to go through the legal system where they were victimized. We need to start changing that. When it comes to workplaces, there has been an increase of women in executive positions at workplaces and it is still not an equal percentage – women are still flighting for pay equity in this day and age. We're in 2019 and we're still talking about not giving Canadian [women] the same dollar value our male counterpart is."

Over the early weeks of December, Ms. Herenda and the Yellow Brick House team have raised the flag in just about every municipality in York Region. Their message, as it was in Aurora, is invariably clear: "We need a community, us individuals, corporations, community leaders who are elected, to advocate for ending violence against women and children."

"One way to do that is [to] support the sustainability of the existing infrastructures that deal with victims of violence on the one hand and, on the other hand, there has to be an investment in public education," says Ms. Herenda. "Currently there is no investment – it is done currently by agencies such as Yellow Brick House who fundraise dollars to support our public education coordinators going to school or going into the community to talk about this issue. There has to be an actual financial investment from our government and a commitment to address this issue and to address this systemically at all levels, starting from a young age and going all the way through senior adulthood.

"We have a new government, two-years-young government that we have been making aware of some of our system challenges and I am hopeful that we have their listening ear and I am hoping that they are going to take some measures in this upcoming budget for Year 2020 to invest in the violence against women sector."

For more information about Yellow Brick House and how you can become involved, visit www.yellowbrickhouse.org.

Every child has a future waiting to emerge. A passion ready to ignite. We offer the possibilities that make it happen. A place where they are known, supported and inspired. Track shoes, theatrical costumes, or robotics code? A song, a goal, or a speech? With us, students discover themselves. They find big, dreamy answers to the most important question of all:

WHO WILL YOU BE?
cds.on.ca/whowillyoube

Ask us about our EBERTS SCHOLARSHIP BURSARY for incoming Grade 9 or 10 students!

CDS
The Country Day School
EDUCATION WITH BALANCE

The Country Day School offers JK-12 in a co-ed, non-denominational environment located on 100 beautiful acres in King.
13415 Dufferin Street, King, Ontario L7B 1K5 ▪ T: 905 833 1972 www.cds.on.ca

JOIN US AT AN OPEN HOUSE | Saturday, January 11, 10am - 1pm

Young innovators share their ideas for the future

By Brock Weir

Shane Lajeunesse is fed up with the amount of greenhouse gasses being pumped into our air – as well as the lack of concrete action being taken to make it a thing of the past.

So, the Grade 7 student from Northern Lights Public School has stepped up to do his part to get more people to turn off their motors and lace up their walking shoes to get to where they need to go through the power of an app.

Lajeunesse presented his app, Walk It, at the recent Youth Innovation Fair presented by the Town of Aurora. Now in its third year, it is a chance for young people at local elementary and secondary schools to bring their big ideas to an even bigger audience and share their own concepts with their peers.

"Walk It is designed to get people to walk instead of drive because people are taking their cars on such short trips," Lajeunesse explained. "The app analyses over a dozen factors to determine if you should walk instead of drive, like distance, weather, traffic, current steps, the number of bags or heavy items you would have to carry, time constraints – and the points you would earn from this trip."

The points system is an essential component of the app. Not only can you collect points for making the smart travel decision, you can also earn through reporting various factors along your journey, including pedestrian issues and invasive weeds.

"Some sample tasks include how tall the grass is at the park, burnt-out lights, taking pictures of storefronts and more," he said. "The goal is to make people healthier, help save the environment and provide customers to partners and make sure Aurora is aware of what's going on. This idea appealed to me because I don't like the amount of CO2 that is going into the air. I am not saying people don't do stuff about it, but there are a lot more people who aren't taking action. This is a way to help reduce the amount of CO2 that is going into the air."

If part of Lajeunesse's goal was to increase awareness, it was mission accomplished at the Youth Innovation Fair where his innovation received recognition in the Intermediate Category (Grades 7 – 9), nabbing the Eco Friendly Award.

His innovation, and the innovations from nearly 30 other participants, were judged and evaluated by a host of dignitaries and industry professionals, including Mayor Tom Mrakas.

Joining Lajuenesse among the intermediate winners were Farah Baig and Kayla Titherington who were recognized with the Community Leadership Award for their innovation "Neuroglasses" and Jacob Leiher who was recognized with "Most Innovative" for his RC Mower.

Taking home top honours in the Senior category (Grades 10 – 12) was Matthew Mellery with his Robotic Arm.

Shane Lajeunesse displays his app at the Youth Innovation Fair.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Junior Winners (Grades 4 – 6) included Suzanne Northrup, Danielle Northrup, Amelie Heng, Claire McWhinnie, Kaiash-Marie Sanderson and Thomas Patterson with "A Centre for Us All", which nabbed the "Most Innovative" prize; Riley Hickling, Morhan Hine, Chloe Bell and Alannah Surgnor with their Eco Sort Recycling concept (Community Leadership); and Maddy Louhlin, Cait Uus and Jordan Fox with Save Our Oceans (Eco Friendly).

"Tonight, we saw a great demonstration of the innovative thinking and creative skills of youth through the ideas and inventions they showcased," said Mayor Mrakas. "I think we can all agree our future is looking great."

Matt Mallery said his idea for a robotic arm came to him when his sister broke her arm and understandably encountered challenges performing some basic tasks as she healed. His 3D robotic arm concept uses machine learning and computer vision to recognize a hand, follow it and move the arm in concert to the movements of the hand.

"The end goal of this is to add a virtual presence device or a robot that can be controlled remotely through the internet," he explained. "The arm is able to be controlled by a user to do simple tasks anonymously."

While an issue at home inspires Matt's innovation, the needs of the community as a whole inspired the students at Ecole Saint-Jean to develop their "A Centre for Us All" concept.

"A Centre for Us All" is a plan for a completely inclusive recreation centre that addresses population growth in Aurora's northeast quadrant, current needs among sports groups, and environmental innovations.

The team initially developed the concept as part of the FIRST LEGO League, but their ideas snowballed to the point where they took their initiative to individuals who can make their vision a reality – including Mayor Mrakas, who has highlighted their efforts in his weekly column in The Auroran.

"We read the whole Master Plan and it was a big document, but we read it," said Amelie of their research process, which also included interviewing stakeholders, such as the Master Ducks swim club, to see where current recreation facilities were falling short, and how their A Centre for Us All concept could help.

The results include a proposal for a 50-metre swimming pool and an additional dog park to serve the rapidly growing community.

Jordan Fox, Cait Uus and Maddy Louhlin presented their Save Our Oceans concept.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Bob's Plumbing Service
EST. 1972
• RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL
905-727-3210
www.bobsplumbing.ca

• WELL UNDER CONSTRUCTION •
Woodland Towers
75% SOLD
RETIREMENT LIVING IN AURORA
- a maintenance-free lifestyle in a caring community awaits you
A Christian Seniors Lifestyle Community
ATTEND OUR POPULAR "LUNCH & LEARN" SESSIONS
CALL TO REGISTER TODAY.
Visit our superb Sales Presentation Centre, hear all about living at The Meadows and find out why over 75% of our Woodland Tower units have already been sold. Call us today at 905 503-5560
Presentation Centre Hours
Monday-Friday
10:00am-4:00pm
Saturday
10:00am-3:00pm
400 William Graham Drive, Aurora
The Meadows of Aurora
themeadowsofaurora.com

PROMOTIONAL MARKETING.ca
Promotional Products Specialists
Premiums & Incentives
Trade Show Items
Staff Outfitting
Special Event Products
Recognition
Custom Clothing
Graphic Design
POP/ Display Signage
Direct Mail
Awards
Print Production
Employee Programs
Fulfilment
sales@promotionalmarketing.ca
905.841.0916

(TOP) Mayor Mrakas and Sandra Ferri of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, recognize the young innovators behind Eco Sort Recycling: Riley Hickling, Morgan Hine, Chloe Bell and Alannah Surgnor. (Middle) Matthew Mellery shows off his Robotic Arm. (Bottom) Jacob Leiher caught judges' attention with his RC Mower.

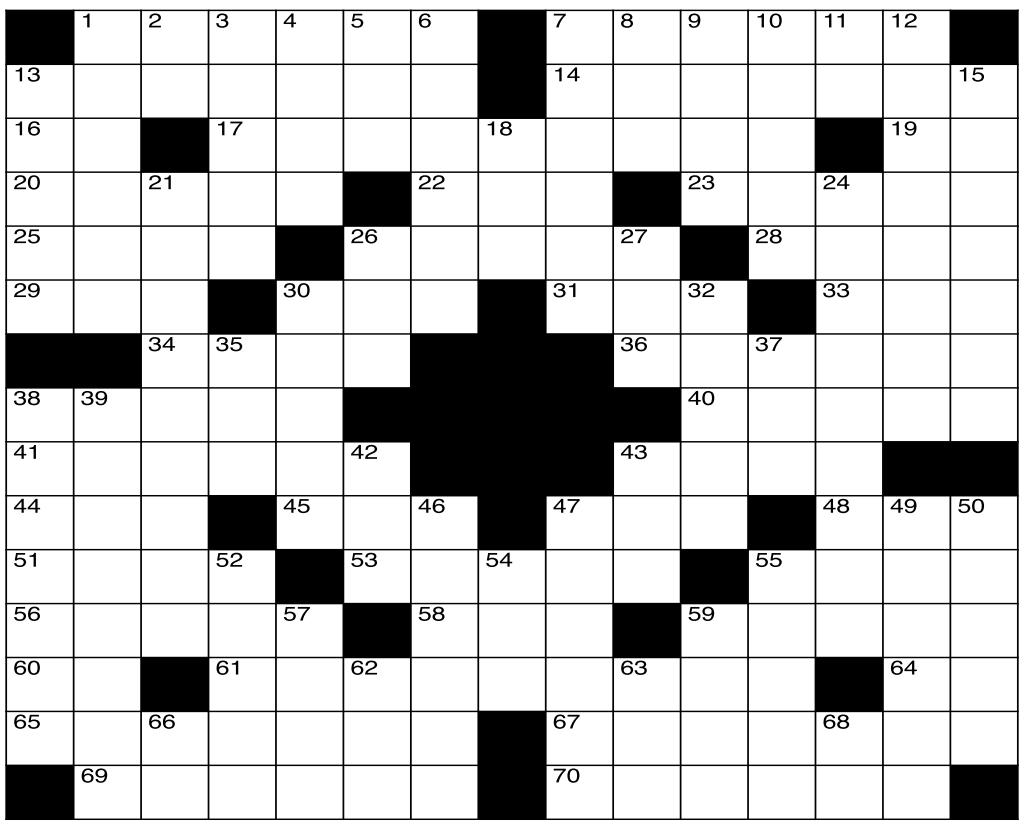
Auroran photos by Brock Weir

How do You want to be Remembered?

Each one of us is unique with our own story to tell. At Thompson Funeral Home we understand this and that's why you can rely on us to capture a person's essence with a service that's both a fitting reflection and a memorable tribute. Take the emotional and financial stress from your family, and guarantee todays costs with affordable monthly payment options.

THOMPSON Funeral Home
530 Industrial Parkway S., Aurora
905-727-5421
www.thompsonfh-aurora.com

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Rope used as a lasso
7. Lomb's partner
13. North African nation
14. Rounds up cattle
16. Densest naturally occurring element
17. Home of the Brewers
19. Atomic #44
20. Vetches
22. Moved earth with a tool
23. Cavalry sword
25. Supplements with difficulty
26. Encouraged
28. Speech defect
29. Periodical (abbr.)
30. Very cold
31. __ Paulo, city
33. Former OSS
34. Approves food
36. Cars need them
38. Sweden's dominant phone company
40. Long lock of a woman's hair
41. North American natives
43. Fly high
44. One type is fire
45. Nocturnal bird
47. More than one male
48. LOTR actor McKellen
51. Employee stock ownership plan
53. Tony-winning actress Daisy
55. Tennis star Kournikova
56. Pulitzer-winning composer
58. The opposite to pro
59. Safecrackers
60. Denotes past
61. Parrots
64. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
65. Reduce the importance of
67. Stiffly
69. In a sensible way
70. Signs

CLUES DOWN

1. Capital of Zambia
2. Article
3. Country star LeAnn
4. Egyptian goddess
5. Afflict in mind or body
6. Showy but cheap
7. Belgian urban center
8. Short-winged diving seabird
9. Deploys
10. Ballplayers can legally do it
11. Centiliter
12. Contrary beliefs
13. Type of pole
15. Distinguish oneself
18. 8th month of the year (abbr.)
21. One who monitors
24. Petty quarreling
26. Fiddler crabs
27. Touch lightly
30. American state
32. Pro wrestler Randy
35. Indicates spelling mistake
37. Macaws
38. Gradually narrowed
39. Installments
42. Female sheep
43. Politician
46. Servant
47. Said to facilitate concentration
49. California ballplayers
50. Once Toledo's tallest building
52. A type of pie
54. State of southwestern India
55. Principal member of Norse religion
57. Counterspy
59. Wellness practice
62. __-de-sac: dead end street
63. Used to cook
66. Type of hospital
68. Direct message

ALLAN LAW
— BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS —

allanlaw.ca

Real Estate Law
Estate Administration and Probate
Wills and Power of Attorney
Family Law and Divorces
Notarizations

15393 Yonge Street, Aurora, Ontario L4G 1P1 | Tel: (905) 726-3188 Fax: (905) 726-3098
www.allanlaw.ca |jason@allanlaw.com

TEEN RANCH
Since 1967

SAVE 10% ON SUMMER CAMP

Register by Family Day: February 17, 2020

Applicable for Soccer, Hockey, English / Western Riding, BMX, WHAM and Day Camps

Sports Camp & Year Round Retreat Facility
www.teenranch.com • 519-941-4501

PUZZLE SOLUTION

B	A	T	A				U	S	A			E	M	F
C	L	E	G	G			N	O	N		M	A	I	A
E	A	G	A	N			F	I	T		E	G	A	D
	S	U	S	U	S		A	R	E		A	L	O	E
					A	L	I	E	N	A	T	E	S	
T	R	A	N	S	P	A	R	E	N	T				
E	A	R	N	E	S	T		S	A	T				
E	M	B	E	D						A	L	O	H	A
				A	T	M		A	L	I	E	N	E	D
				T	H	E	A	V	E	N	G	E	R	S
	C	A	M	E	R	A	M	E	N					
B	A	B	A		E	S	P		S	A	B	E	R	
E	B	A	N		A	L	L			A	I	L	E	D
M	A	F	A		D	E	E			R	A	B	B	I
A	L	T			S	S	R				S	A	S	S

Since the 1970s, artist David Kempton has explored human emotions and longings in natural and urban settings through photography that plays with his subjects, both interactively and experimentally.

Recently, David has been branching out into exploration of art and text, with extended sequences for storytelling. His new exhibit, First Lines of Haiku, invites the viewer to experience photography and poetry with titles that are, or could be, the first lines of this poetic form.

Most of David's earliest influences were in the realistic tradition - crisp black and white images with an emphasis on composition. But as he moved from developing in the darkroom to digital format and new software, his work branched out into more contemporary and experimental forms.

David's process is fascinating; he plays with the camera, layering and manipulating colour, using collage and experimenting with time and movement. Much of this came as a result of his love of the traditional "wet darkroom" photography and the magic of watching an image appear – the anticipation in days or weeks between exposure and print.

In an era when cameras are ubiquitous, David reminds us of the role of the artist/photographer - their choice of subjects, framing, texture, layering or juxtaposition, choosing what they want the viewer to look at in that little window that invites you to really see their world and think differently.

SPEAKEASY

Jane Taylor and Reccia Mandelcorn

Many of David's photographs are titled by the deliberate use of five syllables – the beginning of the stylistic form of haiku. In this new exhibit, David invites visitors to express their relationship with his art through writing haiku on cards available at the gallery or by sharing their poetry online at pixsilver.com. For the artist, this exhibit is not only about what visitors take away from the experience, but equally important, what they will leave behind.

First Lines of Haiku is on exhibit in the Colleen Abbott Gallery, running December 9 – January 19, 2020.

The expanse and influence of creative expression continues to surprise and delight, adding to our enjoyment when we host our guests on The Speakeasy.

Joan Stonehocker, Executive Director of the York Region Food Network, dropped by to chat about The Culinary Traveller, a unique partnership between the York Region Food Network and Aurora Public Library that builds upon "Food Culture".

During this holiday season, many of us will be enjoying food that connects us to family memories, embodying cultural and symbolic meanings beyond what's on our plates. In fact, when we think about "Culture", there can be no greater alignment than in its relationship to food.

Food can also be the bridge that helps newcomers integrate in a new country, growing relationships when people "break bread" together.

The Culinary Traveller is a free, hands-on cooking class where participants create and enjoy delicious, easy to prepare dishes from around the world. Each month a different community volunteer leads participants in cooking a menu from their country of origin. More than just a cooking class, The Culinary Traveller is about sharing, learning, creating and building community.

The Culinary Traveller has launched its third cookbook featuring some of the fabulous dishes they created together. Featured at the Library event were some of the participants who spoke about the program, of the new friends they made and of how the Culinary Traveller has welcomed them to our community.

A limited number of cookbooks are available at the Library as well as online at aurorapl.ca under Newcomer Services.

Wrapping up 2019, we reflect on what a privilege it is for us to connect with the people who bring our community to life. We wish our readers a Happy Winter Solstice, a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas and a Happy Kwanzaa – and look forward to another great year bringing you the best of the Arts and Culture scene in Aurora.

Jane Taylor is Communications and Events Manager at the Aurora Cultural Centre and Reccia Mandelcorn is Manager of Community Collaboration at Aurora Public Library. They co-host The Speakeasy on the first Wednesday of each month on 102.7 CHOP-FM.

Who does what in our community

AIRPORT LIMO

ECOLIMO York Region
Private Car Service
Proudly serving Aurora for 16 years
Hire a local private car for your next AIRPORT transfer.
Very competitive rates from only $85.00
Call Peter 416-992-3811 or 905-727-8600
email: info@ecolimoyorkregion.com • ecolimoyorkregion.com

CLEANERS

Why take a chance... go with who you know!
MOLLY MAID
(905) 841-6243
www.mollymaid.ca

CONSTRUCTION/FLOORING

FLOORING SPECIALIST.CA
pearlknstructions.com
1.844.732.7575
1153 Canal Road, Bradford, ON. L3Z 4E2
info@pearlknstructions.com • www.pearlknstructions.com
Re-sanding • Refinishing • Sales • Installation • Service
HARDWOOD • LAMINATE • CARPET • STAIRS • GRANITE
PORCELAIN • TILES • WASHROOMS • KITCHENS
WE SELL & DELIVER FIREWOOD

CREMATION

SIMPLE cremation™
10% OFF goods and services if you bring in this ad
Dignified. Respectful.
Complete cremation service for $2,205.
This service is provided by Roadhouse & Rose Funeral Home
www.simplecremationaurora.com | 905.895.6631

ELECTRICAL

DANIEL'S ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION
Electrical Lights • Chandeliers
Ceiling Fans • Tracklights • Repairs
Cable Light • Clean Chandeliers, Etc.
Established 2001
Cell: 416-456-5336 | dagwtw5@gmail.com

LANDSCAPE /GARDENING

Zonta
Landscaping & Renovating
Fencing
Decking
Stone Work
Interlocking
Kwik Kurb
Basements
Flooring
Bathrooms
Kitchens
(647) 668 4949
zlr.ca

SUNSET BEECH
TREE CARE
Pruning • Removals
Consulting • Bracing • EAB
647-989-3509
irbryant@gmail.com

Charles Emerson Tree Service
ISA Certified Arborist
Free Consultation
Tree Removal & Pruning
Bucket Truck Service
Cabling & Bracing
Stump Removal
Emergency Work
Property Management
Arborist Reports
Year Round Service
Fully Insured
905-801-5891
www.charlesemersontreeservice.com
charlesemersontreeservice@hotmail.com

PAINTING

DALTON'S PAINTING
• Interior & Exterior Painting
FREE ESTIMATES
905-773-5811

PAINTING

S & S PAINTING
TOP QUALITY GUARANTEED
25 yrs. experience
FREE ESTIMATES
905-841-8949
416-520-6252

PROPANE

PROPANE AND APPLIANCE SALES
• RESIDENTIAL
• COMMERCIAL
• INDUSTRIAL
INSTALLATIONS
SERVICE • DELIVERY
Carling Propane Inc.
24 HOUR SERVICE
866-952-0146
CARLING PROPANE INC.
Toll Free 1-866-952-0146 www.carlingpropane.ca

SKYLIGHTS

WE FIX SKYLIGHTS!
• Skylights replaced?
• No mess in your home
• Leak-proof - Guaranteed!
• Licensed & Insured
• 10 year Guarantee
BRIGHT SKYLIGHTS INC.
Call Joe at any time 416-705-8635
www.brightskylights.ca

WATER

BENEFITS OF A REFINEOSOFT WATER SOFTENER
Water Depot
• Removes harmful chemicals & calcium build-up
• Reduces chlorine, prevents stripping hair colour & dry skin.
• FREE WATER TEST
FINANCING AVAILABLE
Call Today 905-751-0845
15483 Yonge St. Aurora

NOT EVERYONE
needs your services all the time, but if you want to be there when they do... Advertise in Aurora's
At Your Service Directory
905-727-3300
Ext. 102

THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Members, family and friends of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) are invited to a holiday meal at Cardinal Golf Club today from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are $50 – including a $10 donation in support of the CFUW's education awards programs. Cash Bar: 11.30 a.m. Buffet: 12.30 p.m. For more information, including tickets, email Rita Wieland at schimela@rogers.com.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Join STEM Minds for a night of holiday cheer from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. (212 Earl Stewart Drive, Unit 3) Enjoy some quality time as a family as you engage in fun STEM-themed activities like creating ornaments, exploring robotics, and taking holiday photos in front of the green screen! Activities are appropriate for ages 4 & up. Nut-free snacks and light refreshments will be provided.

Please note that a limited number of spaces are available. To book, email info@stemminds.com.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

The Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion will host its annual Christmas Luncheon today from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. at 105 Industrial Parkway North. Traditional Christmas dinner. $20 per person. For tickets, call Nancy at 905-727-9932.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

The York Symphony Orchestra (YSO) will host its holiday spectacular today from 3.30 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, Aurora. Come out for a YSO tradition. The annual holiday concert is filled with cheerful seasonal favourites and audience sing-a-long. Bring the family along for this delightful winter concert. For tickets and further information, visit yorksymphony.ca or call 647-849-8403.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

The Town of Aurora, in partnership with Chabad Aurora, will host this year's Aurora's Menorah Lighting Ceremony at the Aurora Town Hall on today from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Join in the festivities which include live music, the lighting of the menorah, traditional celebratory foods and children's crafts. This is one of the 15,000 public menorah lighting ceremonies worldwide that will be held this year.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Ring in the New Year at Family First Night, presented by Healthy Planet, on Tuesday, December 31 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex, located at 135 Industrial Parkway North. Celebrate the New Year with family and friends! Free activities include skating, swimming, reptile shows, crafts, face painting, inflatables, and a rock-climbing wall. Food donations for the Aurora Food Pantry are appreciated.

****

The Royal Canadian Legion (105 Industrial Parkway North) will host a New Year's Eve Gala starting at 7.30 p.m. this evening and featuring the Marion Drexler Band. Advance tickets are $30, or $35 after December 21. For more information, call Nancy at 905-727-9932.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

PARTAGEZ LE FRANCAIS – A free French language conversation group will take place this afternoon at the Aurora Public Library (Magna Room), from 3 – 4.30 p.m. This free group welcomes adults (from francophone to beginners with a good base) looking to put their French-language conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. For more information, visit bit.ly/partagez-fr.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

The PROBUS Club of Aurora holds their monthly meeting today from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at The Royal Canadian Legion,105 Industrial Parkway North, Aurora. The speaker today is celebrated author and lecturer Ted Barris, author of The Dam Busters. For more information on this months speaker. contact David Brisley 905-841-9338.New Members Welcome! Contact Brian Walsh brian.walsh1@sympatico.ca or be our guest at the meeting.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

PARTAGEZ LE FRANCAIS – A free French language conversation group will take place this afternoon at the Aurora Public Library (Magna Room), from 3 – 4.30 p.m. This free group welcomes adults (from francophone to beginners with a good base) looking to put their French-language conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. For more information, visit bit.ly/partagez-fr.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

PARTAGEZ LE FRANCAIS – A free French language conversation group will take place this afternoon at the Aurora Public Library (Magna Room), from 3 – 4.30 p.m. This free group welcomes adults (from francophone to beginners with a good base) looking to put their French-language conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. For more information, visit bit.ly/partagez-fr.

AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Think you can sell?

Come join a dynamic, fast paced, growing entrepreneurial company looking for young, enthusiastic sales representatives. A rewarding, lucrative opportunity for the right candidate.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Tour groups of students through houses and apartments to rent them out for the annual rental campaign.
- Plan, Prepare and Execute Advertising and Marketing Material for the annual rental campaign.
- Complete all necessary paperwork involved in lease signing and payment collection for newly rented units.
- Work with all current tenants in completing necessary paperwork for renewal units

EXPECTATIONS:
- Have a positive attitude
- Willing to work hard and enjoy rewards in a team environment
- Willing to take chances and learn from your peers

DESIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:
- Sales Driven
- Work well in results based environment
- Goal Oriented
- Great Personal Skills
- Some Sales Skills Preferred but would be willing to train the right candidate
- Marketing and/or Communication education would be a great fit

COMPENSATION:
Base + Commission

Let's Talk.

EMAIL RESUME FOR CONSIDERATION:
employment@londonprop.com

London Property Corp.

ADVERTISE IN
THE AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS
(905) 727-3300
EXT. 102

SERVICE

CARPET
I have 1000's of yards of new 100% nylon carpet. Will install livingroom & hall for as little as $389.00
(includes carpet, pad & install)
Call Steve
877.759.8179
carpetdeals.ca

HELP WANTED

DEATH NOTICES

KELLETT, CONNIE

Kellett, Connie; Peacefully in her sleep on November 30, 2019 at the age of 93. Beloved wife of the late Murray. Married for over 60 years. Wonderful mother of Scott (Vicki). Loving Grandma of Brittany and James. Will be greatly missed by her friend Margaret and many of her nieces and nephews. Funeral Arrangement have been entrusted to the MARSHALL FUNERAL HOME.

Freelance Reporter
for Local Community Newspaper

Come join a dynamic, fast paced, growing entrepreneurial company looking for an energetic Freelance Reporter with a passion for community news.
The ideal candidate will have a distinct willingness to cover local community events and issues.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Freelance reporting work for weekly community newspapers and special projects
- Will produce stories and bylines for the events they cover
- Will be paid on a freelance/contract basis per project/story
- Generate story ideas and follow up on news tips
- Take photographs
- Work some evenings and weekends, as required

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

LP LONDON PUBLISHING CORP.

Let's Talk.

Interested and qualified candidates should forward their cover letter and resume to
brock@auroran.com

PHASE 4 NOW OPEN

"GIVE THE GIFT OF HOME" IS BACK

URBAN NORTH
TOWNHOMES

BUY NOW, CLOSE IN 2024. A BIG STEP FOR THE FUTURE.

Due to popular demand, our Phase 4 is bringing back the "Give the Gift of Home" promotion. This is the opportunity for parents to help their children by spreading the deposit on a new townhome into easy payments over 18 months. Give your next generation a solid foundation.

URBAN TOWNS IN BARRIE from the upper **$400s**

LOW DEPOSIT STRUCTURE **$4,000** on signing + 18x **$2,000** /month*

Monthly payments are less than renting in the GTA

Buy in December or January and receive up to $25K in décor dollars from our Christmas tree

3 bedrooms
2 car parking
Steps to the GO

Closings in 2024
Barrie is growing. Lock in Prices now and watch your investment grow.

* Low deposit structure valid for Urban Towns only, totalling a down payment of $40,000 spread over 18 months after deposit of $4,000 on signing. See website for details. Offer valid until the product is sold out. Prices & specifications subject to change without notice. Renderings are artist's concept only. E. & O. E. © PACE Developments. All rights reserved.

TheGiftOfHome.ca

PACE DEVELOPMENTS