Lifestyle Oasis
WINDOWS INC. HOME PRODUCTS
✔ Windows
✔ Doors
✔ Enclosures
905.726.4349

Your local authorized Alliance dealer!
TOPFIRE
FIREPLACE & BARBECUE INC.
OUTDOOR KITCHEN REBATE EVENT
MARCH 6 - MAY 18 2020
SAVE UP TO $500*
*Online Rebate
NAPOLEON PREMIER DEALER
15483 Yonge St., Aurora | 905-503-2503 | TOPFIRE.CA

Barrons
CURBSIDE PICK-UP
Keurig K-Cups 24 pk.
Timothys $11.99
or Van Houtte $12.99
Bucket List • Wicked $9.99
Tullys • Green Mountain,
Lavazza • Marley
Orders $100+ free local delivery
905-751-0533 | 14-40 Englehard Dr.
NW. corner of Industrial Pkwy S.

THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 20 No. 29 905-727-3300 TheAuroran.com FREE Week of May 7, 2020 CMCA AUDITED

TEARS OF JOY

A SHOW OF GRATITUDE

Since March, Aurora's Dianne Harrison and her husband Brian have been showing their support for frontline workers, including first responders, by tying blue ribbons on trees and posts all around Aurora, often accompanied by hand-placed Canadian flags. For them, it is an effort to visibly send love and appreciation to everyday heroes leading the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and, last week, many of those at the receiving end of the Harrisons' gratitude had a chance to return the love. On Wednesday, members of the Central York Fire Services led the way as more than a dozen vehicles carrying her friends and family converged on Brookland Avenue for a birthday parade in honour of Ms. Harrison. "I am overwhelmed and in awe and still crying by the love and support that was shown by my surprise birthday parade," she shared.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

Ten residents lost to COVID-19 as long-term care outbreak continues

By Brock Weir

Ten Aurora residents have now lost their lives as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Aurora crossed this grim milestone into the double digits last Thursday as an institutional outbreak continues at Chartwell Aurora (formerly Resthaven).

As of Tuesday afternoon, Chartwell Aurora has experienced a total of 49 confirmed cases, 39 of which are among residents and 10 health care workers. Of these 39 residential cases, 8 individuals have died.

2 additional individuals from Aurora have also died as a result of COVID-19.

To date, the Region of York has reported a total of 84 confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Aurora, 30 cases of which have been marked resolved.

Of the 44 remaining active cases, four are among healthcare workers.

The vast majority – 54 per cent – of total Aurora cases are attributed to institutional outbreak, while 25 per cent are categorized as "close contact." 12 per cent are classified as travel-related cases, while 10 per

Continued on page 18

COVID-19 will have a "significant impact" on 2021 Budget

By Brock Weir

Losses of revenue on multiple fronts will have a "significant impact" on Aurora's budgets in 2021 and 2022, Council learned last week.

Should emergency measures put in place in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic be in place until the end of the year, the Town will see a loss of more than $2.1 million in

Continued on page 9

PICKERING COLLEGE
Learning For Life. Creating The Future.
Visit us ... virtually!
Online Admission Tours
Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Register now:
www.pickeringcollege.on.ca/auroran

Serving Aurora, York Region and surrounding areas for 25 years.
Terry Sherin
Sales Representative
905-727-3154
Your Community Realty
ROYAL LEPAGE
tsherin@trebnet.com

Santa Fé
GOURMET PIZZA
MEAL DEAL
2 Large 3 Topping Pizzas
only $27.99
WE DELIVER!
15480 Bayview Ave.
905-503-3300
Santafepizza.ca

RE/MAX TRENDS
RE/MAX HALLMARK TRENDS GROUP REALTY
Maria Ongaro, Broker
Office: 905-833-0111
Cell: 289-221-4564
Jasmine Smith, Sales Rep.
Office: 905-833-0111
Cell: 416-993-7173
maria@trendsrealtyinc.com • jasmine@trendsrealtyinc.com

LACEBY REAL ESTATE
King City 905·833·0033
Aurora 905·841·9090
Cookstown 705·458·8600
www.lacebyrealestate.com
LACEBY REAL ESTATE, BROKERAGE

A name you know... people you trust!
THANK YOU
To all the Health Care Workers
#stayhome
during this difficult time, we're in this together
Do You Need Help?
Deliveries? Pick Ups? Give Us A Call!
Keep Healthy & Safe!
Susan & Andrew COWEN Sales Representatives
Titan Club Circle of Legends
Susan Cowen & Andrew Cowen
Call us today and experience the difference!
905.727.1941 info@susancowen.com
www.SusanCowen.com
RE/MAX HALLMARK YORK GROUP REALTY LTD.
RAISING THE BAR
Continually Referred!

TOWN OF AURORA

Notice Board

AURORA

Council & Committee Meetings

*All General Committee and Council meetings will be held virtually as per Section 20.1 of the Town's Procedure By-law No. 6228-19, as amended, due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Wednesday, May 13	7 p.m.	Virtual meeting	Aurora Cultural Centre Board
Tuesday, May 19	5:45 p.m.	Video conference	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, May 19	7 p.m.	Video conference	General Committee
Wednesday, May 20	7 p.m.	Virtual meeting	Aurora Public Library Board

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

What's Happening

Online Skylight Gallery Exhibition Artist: Stephen Sloan

Consider This – It's Only Natural by Stephen Sloan is an online Skylight Gallery exhibition about our natural world; its beauty, its strength, and its diversity. It also depicts our responsibility as custodians to preserve, conserve and protect special places of interest. Stephen Sloan's work celebrates the play of colour and light in the manifestations of landscapes, nature and abstract photography on various media with the intent of invoking an appreciation for the subject.

View this online gallery at **aurora.ca/skylightgallery**.

Connected: Aurora's Online Art Show

Now is the time when social connections are so important for our health and wellness. One piece of art alone is beautiful, but having multiple pieces come together in a spectacular gallery show demonstrates the incredible force of strength and movement.

While enjoying the perfect cup of coffee, let's stay strong together and connect through art and technology. Each image has its own flavor; some soothing, some strong, but like our current circumstance these emotions will carry us through the colour palette displayed before us.

This online art show showcasing works from local artists will be on display at **aurora.ca/artshow** from **Friday, May 1** to **Tuesday, May 12**.

Enjoy, stay strong, stay connected with great art.

Visit **aurora.ca/covid19** for accurate, up-to-date information on COVID-19. Find answers to the most requently asked questions and update about what is happening in Aurora related to the pandemic.

What's Happening

Yard waste collection

Yard waste collection has started, with bi-weekly collection through to November.

For a quick refresher on yard waste do's and don'ts, please visit: **aurora.ca/wasteandrecycling**.

Help stop the spread of COVID-19

Medical masks and gloves should be disposed of in garbage bags only. Place all tissues and napkins in a closed bad to ensure safety of collection workers and help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

For more updates, please visit: **aurora.ca/covid19**.

Recreation at home

It's easy to stay actively engaged at home with more than 100 online resources available on our *Recreation at Home* webpage. These activities are for all ages. They contain a collection of games, activities and ideas to keep you and your family actively and engaged at home.

For more details, visit: **aurora.ca/recathome**.

Show your appreciation for our essential front line workers

Let's show Aurora's gratitude by decorating your window or front door. Pull out your craft supplies and fire up your imagination. A thank you to our *Community Heroes and Front Line Employees* that continue to care for us, and ensure that we have enough food and supplies.

Take a photo of your decorated window or door and have a parent or guardian post a photo to Facebook or Instagram using the hashtag **#AuroraEssentialThanks**. Deadline to enter is **Monday, May 11**. Tag us in your photo at Facebook **@Town_of_Aurora** or Instagram **@townofaurora**. Entries will be featured on Aurora's Facebook and Instagram stories on **Tuesday, May 12**.

What's Happening

AURORA

SHOP LOCAL

SHOP ONLINE • 150+ LOCAL BUSINESSES

Shop from the comfort of your home, helping to keep everyone safe while supporting our local Aurora businesses, and ensuring a thriving business community for the future.

shopfromhomeaurora.ca

If your business is in need of support, we are here to help.

AURORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

416-848-9105

aurorachamber.on.ca/covid-19

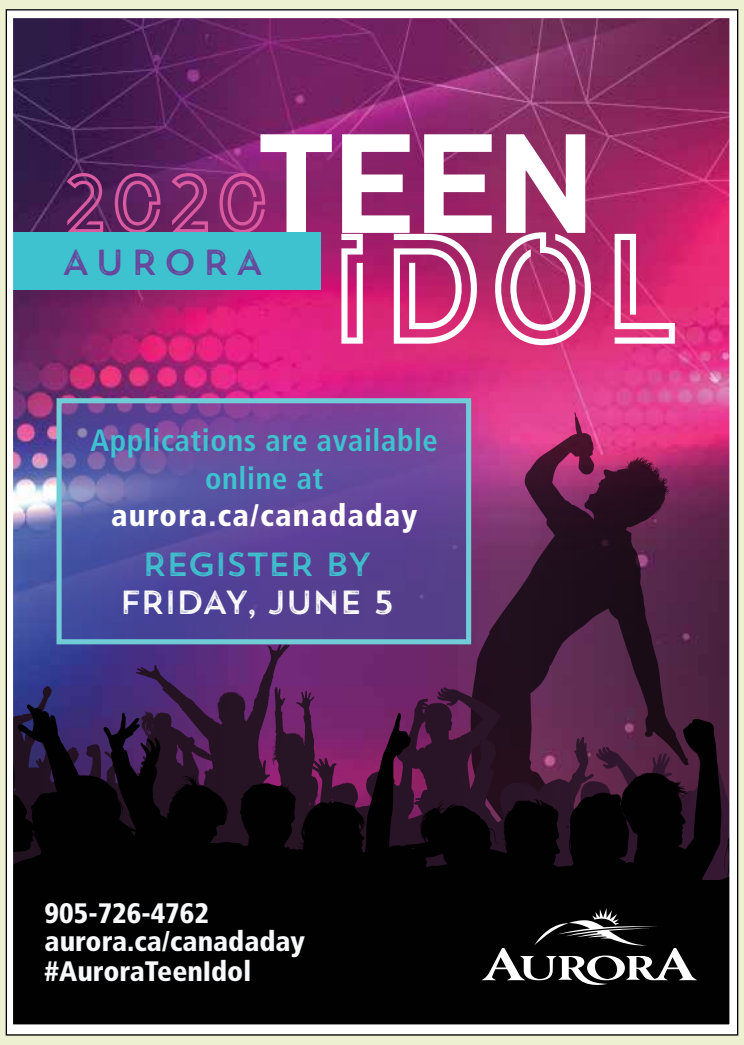
AURORA BUSINESS CONTINUITY TASK FORCE

aurora.ca/businesstaskforce

AURORA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

AND PROMINENT LEADERS FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

THIS CAMPAIGN IS SPONSORED BY MAGNA



DOCUMENTING A PANDEMIC

AURORA MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

As we navigate these challenging times, the Aurora Museum & Archives will be engaging in **Rapid Response Collecting** to document this moment in Aurora's history.

WHAT IS RAPID RESPONSE COLLECTING?

Rapid Response Collecting occurs when a museum, archive or gallery actively collects contemporary objects in response to a major moment in recent history.

WHAT CAN I DONATE?

The Aurora Museum & Archives is interested in collecting born-digital and physical items. Born-digital refers to photographs or documents that are created and published in digital formats. Physical objects refer to tangible items that were hand crafted or mass produced. If an item can help tell the story of Aurora's COVID-19 experience we are interested in having it.

HOW CAN I DONATE?

Reach out to directly to the Aurora Museum & Archives by emailing **mjohnson@aurora.ca**

Physical objects will be collected from the community when it is safe to do so and in accordance with public health guidelines.

auroramuseum.ca

Southlake Foundation thanks community for continued support during emergency

The Southlake Foundation released this montage of participant photos to mark what would have been the start of the 2020 Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake.

Contributed photo

By Brock Weir

This is the time of year where images of runners, joggers and walkers participating in the Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake grace these pages, along with good news of thousands upon thousands of dollars raised to purchase vital equipment for our local hospital.

While we don't yet know when the 2020 event, originally slated for April 26, will be rescheduled, participants are in the spotlight online.

Last week, marking the Run's original date, the Southlake Foundation launched the #SL5KTogetherApart challenge, a creative way to bring participants together virtually to celebrate their support and fundraising efforts for the cause.

Participants already registered for the run were encouraged to engage in an activity of their choice – whether an at-home workout or a 5K jog around the neighbourhood – and share their efforts online with the hashtag.

As images and videos rolled in, the Southlake Foundation cheered them on and each participant was entered into a draw to win one of five $50 gift cards for title sponsor Nature's Emporium.

"We didn't want to let the day pass without acknowledging the incredible support of our participants so far this year," said Susan Mullin, President & CEO of the Southlake Foundation on the launch. "Our communities have always been by our side, but particularly during this pandemic. We want them to know that it is not only deeply appreciated, but that we're all in this together."

Following the launch of the #SL5KTogetherApart campaign, Ms. Mullin shares that in the days since the launch of Southlake's COVID-19 Action fund, the community has raised close to $2 million in monetary and in-kind donations. More than 1,100 individual donors have stepped up to the plate with nearly 450 individuals donating to Southlake for the very first time.

"When we talk about fundraising, it is about building relationships with people and I think the COVID crisis has really made clear to people the importance of hospitals and making sure your local hospital has what it needs – not just in the good times, but in the challenging times we're in now," Ms. Mullin tells us. "Knowing there are 435 people who, perhaps, hadn't thought of giving to us before is a pretty special message and I am pretty excited about that."

In addition to monetary donations, valued and appreciated donations include the donations of masks and meals for frontline staff, and even lotion to help soothe the hands of doctors and nurses who are now washing and sanitizing their hands hundreds of times per day.

The need is still there for all of these items, but the Southlake Foundation, in particular, is looking for people to donate Level 3 and Level 4 gowns to keep the Southlake community safe during this time of crisis.

"For us, having flexible dollars for the COVID-19 Action Fund is helpful because we are doing things as they come up and it is everything from supporting tea and coffee for our staff during this time as a way to give back to purchasing ventilators," says Ms. Mullin. "Knowing we have flexible dollars is always the top priority but if people are thinking about some of the personal protective equipment, there has been lots and lots of talk about the need for masks. We're in pretty good shape these days on masks, but we are really looking for gowns, specific reusable gowns, that we can deploy. That is actually where we are running low at our hospital right now; the hospital is doing everything it can to get some from the government, but, until they are in our hands, we don't have them."

At press time, more than 600 people had registered for the Southlake Run. Until it is re-scheduled, Ms. Mullin reminds registrants they can continue to reach out to their friends and family to support their fundraising efforts.

"Our focus right now has been on raising dollars for the COVID response at the hospital," she says. "The reality is when we will come out of COVID and our needs will continue in the other areas of the hospital that do continue to need our support, whether that is our operating rooms…we have folks whose surgeries have been deferred. We want to make sure the equipment in the operating rooms is as current as possible so there is no downtime when we do get back up and running and we have old equipme nt that needs to be replaced. The Run, for us is, really an important message about the other things that are ongoing needs at the hospital."

For more information about the Run, visit runforsouthlake.ca. For an up to date list of material needs faced by Southlake and ways you can help, visit southlake.ca/foundation.

To our everyday essential Workers

Thank you

for keeping us all safe

Kingsway Place

905-841-2777

kingswayaurora.com

Kempenfelt WINDOWS & DOORS

Voted #1, "AGAIN"

20 Years in a ROW!

- 100% Financing
- Free Estimates
- 0 Down

GARAGA EXPERTS

SHOWROOM

kempenfeltwindows.com

905.895.1554

569 Steven Crt #6

Lowest Prices Everyday!

The Signs You See Everywhere!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A "glimpse of a scary future"

The current (once-in-a-lifetime?) situation provides plenty of time for sober reflection.

It occurs to me that we are experiencing what I imagine life would be like under a totalitarian regime.

We have a Federal government that operates without scrutiny, oversight or transparency.

Our National Leader makes occasional appearances issuing decrees, doling out government largess, fielding minimal softball questions from a compliant media then retreating into the country palace.

Our nation's government buildings, where the people's representatives would normally ask public questions, are mostly closed.

Opposition politicians are denied access or an opportunity to query the Leader about the various pronouncements and any criticism of the Leader is met with derision from sycophants and the media, who themselves are the recipient of government handouts.

The citizenry is submissive, obeying the laws contained in the aforementioned decrees.

They are subjectively denied the opportunity to work, operate a business, participate in recreation, congregate in arbitrarily numbered groups, meet in their places of worship and participate in a lawful protest.

Anyone in non-compliance is quickly scolded or even reported to the authorities by fellow citizens.

The police have powers to fine and detain for seemingly trivial activities such as a walk in a park.

Given the current situation, this may or may not be fully justified. It is however a glimpse into a scary future that without our vigilance and attention, might easily one day become our own.

Gordon Clarke
Aurora

Recognizing War Amps on V.E. Day anniversary

This May, we remember the Canadians who sacrificed life and limb to help liberate the Netherlands 75 years ago.

I had the privilege of growing up in The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program which was started by war amputee veterans. Through Operation Legacy, amputees like me pay tribute to the veterans who founded the Association and all those who have served our country.

One person I had the privilege to know and will be thinking of during this commemoration is the late Cliff Chadderton (1919 – 2013), former CEO of The War Amps and Chairman of the National Council of Veteran Associations. Mr. Chadderton lost part of his right leg while in command of a company of The Royal Winnipeg Rifles battling for the Scheldt Estuary in Belgium and Holland.

His story is told on The War Amps website. During the month of May, please take a moment to remember all of the Canadians, like Mr. Chadderton, who helped bring peace and freedom to the people of the Netherlands.

Jamie Lunn
Ottawa

Machell's Corners

They deserve a better debate

BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us have taken comfort in our leaders at all levels of government finally putting aside partisan bickering to tackle a common and invisible enemy.

By and large, bitter disputes over environmental measures were put on the backburner, politics of personality were put on pause for brighter days to come, and the incessant hand-wringing over small potatoes issues at the expense of the big picture for all Canadians was the subject of a ceasefire as we grappled with adapting to and addressing our new normal.

Alas, something had to puncture this cozy bubble.

In a time when so much of our personal bandwidth is focused on the pandemic, making sure we all stay well, individually and collectively, while addressing challenges, whether they be emotional, financial or both, other things that deserve our attention can sadly fall by the wayside.

Take, for instance, last month's attacks in Nova Scotia.

Between April 18 and 19, an individual armed with long guns, handguns and other implements of destruction went on a spree across the province, killing 22 people in the process, including Royal Canadian Mounted Police Officer Heidi Stevenson.

In our 24-hour news environment, this unspeakable tragedy dominated the news cycle for about two days before it largely returned to its regularly scheduled program of COVID-19, coverage which was punctuated by the stories of the individual victims of this crime as they became available.

Sadly, it was a tragedy which had started to fade into the ether until Friday when the Prime Minister announced measures to ban assault-style firearms.

"One Canadian killed by gun violence is one too many," said the Prime Minister's Office in a statement. "Violent crimes involving firearms continue to have devastating impacts on communities across the country, and on Canadians who have lost loved ones to these crimes. Events like the recent tragedy in Nova Scotia, the attack in 2017 at the Centre culturel islamique de Quebec, and the massacre that took place in 1989 at Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal should never have happened. That is why the Government of Canada is introducing measures to combat gun violence and keep us safe."

The PM's announcement includes a ban on over 1,500 models and variants of assault-style firearm and their components which can no longer be legally used, sold or imported.

"These measures will remove dangerous firearms designed for military use from our communities and help ensure that Canadian families and communities no longer suffer from gun violence," the PMO continued. "There will be a transition period of two years to protect owners of newly prohibited firearms from criminal liability while they take steps to comply with the new rules. This two-year amnesty order under the Criminal Code is in effect until April 30, 2022.

"There are exceptions under the amnesty for Indigenous people exercising Aboriginal or treaty rights to hunt, and for those who hunt or trap to sustain themselves or their families. These exceptions will allow for the continued use of newly-prohibited firearms in limited circumstances until a suitable replacement can be found…. The Government of Canada intends to implement a buy-back program as soon as possible to safely remove these firearms and to introduce legislation as early as possible, working with Parliament and through public consultation."

Naturally, as all matters related to gun control spark, public and political reaction was swift on all sides of the issue. While those who have been victimized by crime were quick to applaud the measures, other quarters were equally quick in their condemnation.

While I agree that legislation can only be strengthened through public consultation to ensure there is buy-in from the majority of Canadians, some of the criticisms levelled at the Government made me shake my head.

Our American cousins have a very different relationship with firearms than we do in Canada. In the United States, for better or worse, the right to bear arms is enshrined in their constitution. Here, being able to carry a gun is a privilege rather than a right.

Indeed, the overwhelmingly vast majority of Canadians who do own guns recognize this as a privilege and govern themselves accordingly. But, in any situation, there are those who don't – and that is why this conversation is sorely needed.

"In response to a convicted criminal committing a horrific attack with illegal weapons, Trudeau ignores illegal gun smugglers and is soft on criminals who commit violence which can tragically be a precursor to murder," said one candidate vying to be leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, with points he might be able to successfully argue but have little to do with the question at hand. "Instead, the Trudeau Liberals hope to confuse Canadians with misleading claims about law-abiding firearms owners and their property. To politicize a tragedy like this is beneath the dignity of the office of the Prime Minister. It is an insult to the victims and a disgusting attack on the rights and freedoms of all Canadians.

"Trudeau wants to divide rural versus urban Canadians. He wants to divide Canadians who hunt or enjoy sports shooting versus those who don't."

Personally, I don't see this as an attempt to divide rural versus urban, nor have I ever seen the validity of this argument whenever it is dusted off as a counterpoint for any further attempts on gun control. And it is dusted off with alarming regularity. It is a tired argument that has, in my view, little weight.

Legislation as offered by the Federal Government has yet to be seen in its entirety, but I hope any conversation that comes from it will finally dispel that hoary old chestnut and the misleading argument that banning military-style assault weapons is an attempt to divide Canadians; not taking it out of the conversation is, in my view, the real wedge.

It's a tired, threadbare trope which receives an inordinate amount of focus, usually at the expense of very real concerns on both sides of the aisle. This, in my opinion, is a significant barrier to the substantive and productive conversation this subject deserves. And, perhaps most importantly, gets in the way of "real talk" on finding that elusive balance between the needs and concerns of urban and rural Canadians.

Last month's victims in Nova Scotia deserve more. They deserve more than politicking over a very real issue. They deserve a healthy debate based on accurate information, wise and measured legislation, and a Made in Canada solution that recognizes who we are and what we stand for without looking south for talking points irrelevant for and to our own unique society.

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.

The Aurora Museum & Archives is commemorating…

The 75th Anniversary of VE Day!

Victory in Europe (VE) Day was the public holiday that commemorated the Nazis' formal surrender to the Allies. It was celebrated in Europe on May 8, and in Canada and other Commonwealth Nations on May 7. Of course, Town Park was chosen as the location for Aurora's celebration. To read more about how Aurorans celebrated VE Day, be sure to read this week's Time Traveller's Diary.

TIME TRAVELLERS DIARY

By Michelle Johnson
Collections & Exhibitions Coordinator
Aurora Museum & Archives

VE Day in Aurora

This week marks the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day, which was the public holiday that commemorated the Nazi's formal surrender to the Allies. In Europe, VE Day was celebrated on May 8, but in Canada and other Commonwealth nations it was celebrated on May 7. Curious to see how Aurorans would celebrate this momentous occasion, I ventured back to the morning of May 7, 1945.

Walking down Yonge Street it was obvious that the good news had reached Aurora: businesses were closing down, kids were out of school and decorations sprouted up everywhere.

After a morning service by the local churches, everyone began congregating at Town Park where a parade quickly formed. It was led by the St. Andrew's College Pipe Band and included Town Council, fire fighters, the citizen band, high school band, students and both the high school and elementary school cadets. Of course, no parade would be complete without decorated vehicles and some young children riding ponies.

Following the parade, was a drumhead service at VE Day headquarters, Town Park. I was standing in a crowd of thousands of people – this service was clearly a highlight. In 1945, there wasn't a permanent bandshell so a large temporary platform was set up and it was flanked by very loud speakers. Mayor Ross Linton walked up to the podium and spoke:

"We have gathered for a service of Thanksgiving for Victory in Europe. This is only a partial victory but let us hope it will not be long before Japan is defeated and we shall celebrate complete victory. At this time of rejoicing let us not forget those who will not come back" (Aurora Banner, May 11, 1945).

After the reading of psalms and singing of hymns, the band played O Canada and the crowd swelled with a jovial patriotic spirit.

To round out the celebrations a massive, and I mean an absolutely enormous, bonfire was built in the middle of Town Park and set ablaze. Now, I can't say for sure, because it was impossible to get very close to it, but on top of the pile it almost looked like there was an effigy of Hitler, although no one spoke of it. After the fire, I walked down the block with the crowd to Mechanics Hall where we danced the rest of the night away.

Before I returned to present time, I made a quick stop in 1960 to visit the Aurora War Memorial. In front of the World War I memorial stood the newly erected Altar of Sacrifice. I paused to read each one of the 55 names that were inscribed; names of brave individuals who wouldn't be returning from the Second World War and paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Supporting local businesses

CHRISTINE'S CHRONICLES

Christine Elliott, MPP
Newmarket-Aurora

Because of the collective efforts of all Ontarians, including everyone here in Newmarket-Aurora, to stay at home and stop the spread of COVID-19, we have dramatically reduced the number of cases in the province. Most importantly, together we have saved lives. It is because of the determination and resolve of the people and families in our communities that we are now able to consider moving into the next phase of our battle against this virus. I want to assure you that the government is doing everything in their power to support businesses and ensure they are ready to safely reopen their doors when the emergency measures are lifted.

Unveiling Guiding Principles to Reopen the Province:

Last week, the Ontario government released *A Framework for Reopening our Province*, which outlines the criteria Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and health experts will use to advise the government on the loosening of emergency measures, as well as guiding principles for the safe, gradual reopening of businesses, services and public spaces. The framework also provides details of an outreach strategy, led by the Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee, to help inform the restart of the provincial economy.

The government is planning a stage-by-stage approach to reopening the economy to ensure there are appropriate measures in place so workplaces can open safely. Public health officials will carefully monitor each stage for two to four weeks, as they assess the evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak to determine if it is necessary to change course to maintain public health.

The Chief Medical Officer of Health has outlined some criteria he will use to advise government on when we may begin to slowly and safely ease public health measures and restart our economy. To reopen the economy, the government will consider factors such as the risk of the spread of COVID-19 and the ability to implement protective measures to keep workplaces safe.

It is because of the collective efforts of all Ontarians to stay at home and stop the spread of COVID-19 that we are able to consider plans to move into the next phase of our battle against this virus. To be able to do so, we need everyone to continue their extraordinary efforts so that we can meet these thresholds and begin to move forward.

Extending School Closures to Keep Students, Staff and Families Safe:

For the students living in Newmarket-Aurora, you have likely heard, all publicly funded schools will remain closed until at least May 29th, 2020 as part of an effort to keep students, staff and families safe from COVID-19. For parents, please know that the government is taking steps to ensure learning can continue. This includes enhancing education supports and creating opportunities for educators to connect with students.

Through the Ontario Together web site, the province received more than 300 proposals from businesses, organizations and everyday Ontarians to provide solutions to remote learning while schools are closed during the COVID-19 global pandemic. Next steps will be shared soon.

We must remember that the threat of COVID-19 is not over yet. I would like to thank the residents of Newmarket-Aurora for doing your part in staying apart. You are making a difference in helping stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community. We will get through this together.

Providing Urgent Relief for Small Businesses and Landlords:

This period has been difficult and uncertain for all Ontarians, especially for small businesses. We know that small businesses are experiencing real financial pressures during the COVID-19 outbreak and struggling to pay rent as a result. I am happy to advise that on April 24, the Ontario government in partnership with the federal government announced urgent relief for small businesses and property owners. The province committed $241 million through the new Ontario-Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program (OCECRA). The total amount of provincial-federal relief provided is more than $900 million, helping to ensure small businesses are ready to reopen their doors when the emergency measures lift.

Helping Businesses Overcome the Unique Challenges Created by COVID-19:

The government launched the COVID-19: Tackling the Barriers, a website to help businesses overcome the unique challenges created by the global pandemic. Businesses working to retool their operations to produce health-related products, or those that want to continue their operations in this new environment of physical distancing, can submit any potential roadblocks to the website. The province is prepared to

Continued on page 6

This and That

FRONT PORCH PERSPECTIVE

Stephen Somerville

Before this column returns to the local themes of people, politics and public affairs, below are some unconnected, stream-of-conscious and (most likely) incoherent musings and observations regarding COVID-19.

First, growing up, we all have heroes.

In hockey, my first were Dave Keon and Brad Park, then followed by Ian Turnbull then Wendel Clarke and finally Alexander Mogilny.

In baseball it was Cincinnati Reds catcher Johnny Bench and New York Mets/Cincinnati Reds pitcher Tom Seaver, with former Toronto Blue Jay Jimmy Key as my favourite left-handed pitcher.

But my real heroes are volunteers – people who live the quiet dignity of everyday life, and also try to help others.

The attribute that stands out for these everyday heroes with me is selflessness and volunteerism.

As someone once said to me, "if you are all wrapped up in yourself, you are indeed a small package."

And it made me think about Aurora and how fortunate we are with all those folks who stand tall here due to their selflessness.

I am struck by the impressive nature of volunteerism that goes on around us here in Aurora. Many local groups support events such as the World's Longest Street Festival, the Aurora Chamber Home Show and the Ribfest. It is also great to see the number of children playing organized soccer, baseball and hockey in Aurora and they would not be doing so if not for the volunteer coaches and administrators.

These selfless people are, to borrow an expression from Richard Nixon, one of the "silent majority". Those people who quietly meet the challenges and commitments of everyday life and also find time to volunteer their time to others. They usually don't garner headlines, trophies or accolades, but their individual contributions are what make our community worth living in.

To this list of heroes, we surely add all those who are working in the front lines of the COVID- 19 pandemic.

A big thank you to them.

Second, going forward, there is no doubt that our province will want to ensure manufacturing capability in certain industries to make sure we are protected in case something like this happens again.

The way to do this is to keep a minimum stockpile of personal protective equipment. Probably best to procure a certain amount each year of what is needed and also provide the suppliers with a small financial retainer to keep their respective assembly lines ready and able to change over quickly if we have another outbreak.

Third, after a vaccine is eventually found and is distributed globally and as we get back to some set of normalcy, the world will turn its collective eye to China and begin to ask serious questions about the way in which information was disseminated (or not) during the beginning of this pandemic.

Fourth, when our province does open, how will it be done? I guess incrementally, probably both a combination of by sector and by region.

Fifth, the company which I work for produces electricity from hydro electric facilities in northern Ontario and the northeast U.S. We are therefore considered an "essential" service.

We are considering purchasing COVID test kits and the test cubes from an Ottawa supplier as part of a large electricity generation consortium order.

We are worried about delivery time. The maximum production capability of these test kits and cubes is expected to be reached in July, however, current estimates place delivery in the fall.

Sixth, and finally, stay safe.

Stephen can be contacted at stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

THIS WEEK'S NEW POLL

Do you support the Ontario Government's measured approach to reopening the province?

Yes No Unsure

www.theauroran.com

Previous poll results

Have you found new ways to support small business during the COVID-19 emergency?

RESULTS TO DATE May 5, 2020	YES	NO
	29%	71%

Wishing all of the moms in Aurora and Newmarket a safe and healthy Mother's Day.

Ontario

Christine Elliott
MPP - Newmarket-Aurora

My constituency office staff are available for your phone calls and emails. Please reach out if you have any questions.
905-853-9889 1-800-211-1881 905-853-6115
Christine.Elliottco@pc.ola.org www.christineelliottmpp.ca

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK SPOTLIGHT

We don't need to get an "A" for our downtime: Psychotherapist urges self-compassion in COVID crisis

By Brock Weir

Is it the fear of ourselves or our loved ones getting sick? Is it worry over our financial wellbeing? Perhaps it is just an overall feeling of nagging uncertainty?

Regardless of what is causing it, you might be feeling no small measure of anxiety in this present global emergency. For psychotherapist Adam Segal, everyone is feeling a "collective sense of anxiety" and, in his practice, some are struggling more than others.

"Clients who are struggling with depression, their depression is a bit activated right now, unfortunately magnifying and exacerbating some struggles that have been there already," Segal tells The Auroran. "There's a collective thing going on right now and a unique way people are being activated based on their histories. Some of my clients who struggle quite a bit with isolation already, for a whole host of reasons, they live on their own or they have difficulty with relationships, or they're estranged from their families, where isolation is already a significant challenge in their life, this has really upped the ante for that."

For many people in Segal's field, this is also uncharted territory.

A colleague, he said, likened the emergency to everyone going through "a traumatic divorce" in that many of the issues clients are bringing to their therapists are very much the same things being felt by those being sought to dispense help.

"We have to navigate this with a bit more nuance because I am also going through this, but all of my clients are experiencing this and I can't reassure my clients that this will pass in a certain amount of time," he shares. "There are other times when I am working with people where they have a car accident or are experiencing post-traumatic stress, I can give them a timeline of what they can expect. There is a lot around this that is so unexpected.

"What has changed is a lot of what I am offering my clients is just honouring and encouraging people to honour for themselves, that that this is such a scary and uncertain time and to give themselves permission to feel the feelings of sadness around it, of anger around it and of frustration around it. Something I have seen that is a little dangerous is there has been some online social messaging around, 'Use this time to write that novel, or use this time to craft or redecorate your home,' and people are reporting to me that they don't have a lot of energy and that they're feeling deeply effected by what is happening in the world and that pressure is making it worse. It's like there is this pressure to get an 'A' at their response to the pandemic."

Exercising self-compassion is key, he says. It's a question of how can we "cultivate compassionate relationships with ourselves and emotions" around what is happening at home and around the world and to validate for ourselves that it is "reasonable to feel some loss in being able to see our friends or a loss of our economic situation."

"It is a balance between how can I create space for [individuals] to create a space for them to speak frankly about the emotions they are having around this, balanced with some coping strategies they can employ that are not unrealistic – like writing a novel!

"Can they make sure they can go for a walk every day? Can they make sure they have some point of social contact every day online or by phone? We're spending so much more time thinking and being in our heads and anything we can do that is embodied… if it is doing a bit of an exercise video or yoga video at home, something that is shifting us out of a thinking, ruminating place into a more embodied place. Those are the kinds of things I am finding are helping people right now.

"What are some coping strategies versus this pressure that we should be able to use this free time in these amazingly productive and ingenious ways? I think there is a disrespect in that for people with what this is actually feeling like."

Next Week: Settling into the "new normal"

100 CN

COMMUNITY NOTICE
Annual Vegetation Management Program

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way from any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure.

As such, for safe railway operations, the annual vegetation control program will be carried out on CN rail lines in the province of Ontario. A certified applicator will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16-feet gravelled area). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be fulfilled.

At this time, we expect that the program will take place from May to October 2020.

Visit **cn.ca/vegetation** to consult the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

Safety is a core value at CN and in the actual context of the COVID-19 pandemic, our employees and contractors are taking all measures to stay healthy and to protect the communities in which we operate. For more information, please visit **cn.ca/en/stories/20200320-covid-19-update/**.

For more information, please contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at **contact@cn.ca** or **1-888-888-5909**.

cn.ca CN

CHRISTINE'S CHRONICLES

From page 5

allow temporary changes to provincial rules and regulations in order to remove any barriers that are hindering business and negatively impacting Ontario's supply chain.

Providing Additional Relief to the Province's Most Vulnerable:

The government also announced last week additional relief to the provinces' most vulnerable, including doubling the Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS) payments. Individuals will receive up to $166 per month and couples will receive up to $332 per month. These doubled payments will continue for six months and provide an additional $75 million to 194,000 vulnerable seniors who may need more help to cover essential expenses during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ontario is also investing $11 million to help deliver meals, medicines and other essentials to those in need, including seniors and persons with disabilities, during the outbreak of COVID-19. The province is working with the Ontario Community Support Association to launch a new program to expand existing Meals on Wheels services to reach low-income seniors and people with disabilities and chronic medical conditions across Ontario.

If you have a friend or neighbour who is a senior or a person with a disability, please reach out to them to ensure they have what they need and are doing okay during this very difficult time.

For the latest COVID-19 information, visit: Ontario.ca/coronavirus.

I also encourage you to visit my website for daily COVID-19 updates that impact our local community. www.christineelliottmpp.ca/covid_19

Please do continue to reach out to my constituency office by calling 905-853-9889 or emailing christine.elliottco@pc.ola.org.

Finally, a thank you to all the constituents who have reached out to my office with kind thoughts for me during this precarious time. I truly appreciate your kindness.

PROMOTIONAL MARKETING.ca
Promotional Products Specialists

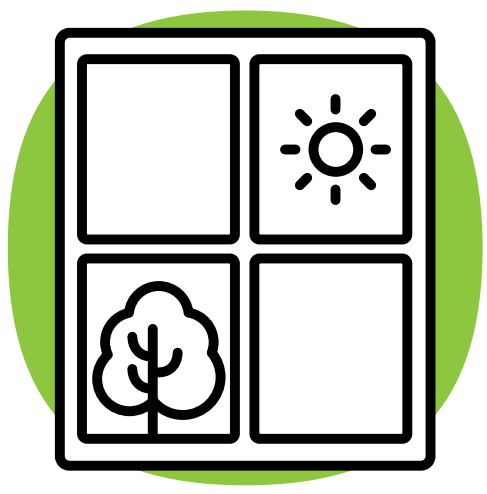
Premiums & Incentives | Trade Show Items | Staff Outfitting
Special Event Products | Recognition | Custom Clothing
Graphic Design | POP/ Display Signage | Direct Mail | Awards
Print Production | Employee Programs | Fulfilment

sales@promotionalmarketing.ca
905.841.0916

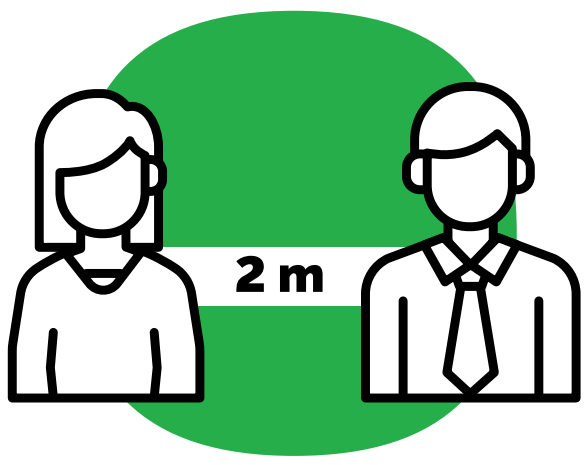
2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Ontario, your efforts to beat COVID-19 are making a difference.

To stop the spread, we need you to continue to:



Stay home when possible



Practice physical distancing of at least 2 metres

Wash hands thoroughly and often

We need your continued determination and cooperation to stop the spread.

COVID-19 can be deadly.

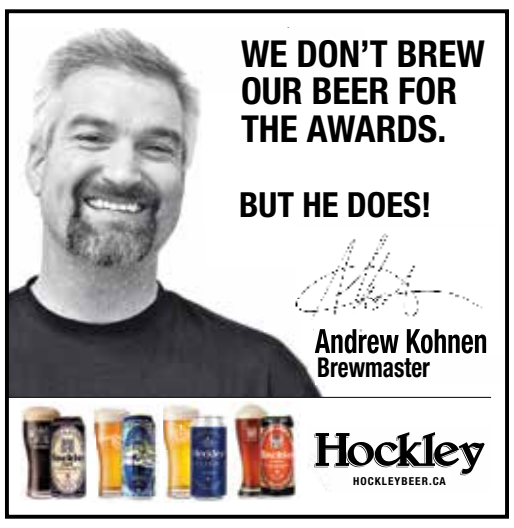
Don't put your family and friends at risk.

Stay home. Stay strong. Save lives.

Learn more at **ontario.ca/coronavirus**

Paid for by the Government of Ontario

Ontario



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!

Gym-goers keep spinning while giving back to help COVID-19 relief

By Brock Weir

The most avid of gym-goers are coming up with new – and, sometimes, tried and tested – ways to keep fit and healthy as the COVID-19 pandemic has seen gyms across Ontario close their doors until there's a return to some kind of normal.

For members of Aurora's Svelte Studios, however, the gym has come to them.

The St. Andrew's Village-based gym has taken the shutdown as a chance to disperse their equipment, which would otherwise be standing idle, to members to keep their personal fitness journeys going while, at the same time, giving back to the community.

"We are having to reinvent ourselves," says Svelte owner Dana Frost. "And we had to do it all in about 72 hours when it hit we were going to have to close our doors."

Svelte set out to establish a rental program. Once in place, they lent out their spin bikes so members could continue their cycle classes, their rowers to keep their rowing programs above water, and Pilates machines to participants.

"We were able to really be a little more specific and encourage some of our regulars with a way to stay in," says Ms. Frost. "Some people have stuff at home as well, so I lent out a lot of my own equipment, whether it was some weights or bands, or just small pieces of equipment to just help them be able to be creative in our classes as we present them."

Tim Loewen and Dana Frost load up gym equipment for Svelte members.
Contributed photo

They were creative right off the bat. Within those 72 hours of figuring out how to address the present situation, the Svelte team came together with a new roster of online courses, which they then pitched to the community.

Trainers donated their time, members took the time to learn and, in the process, all proceeds from these online classes were donated to local food banks and programs.

"We are all really super proud of that," says Ms. Frost, noting they raised more than $1,000 for local organizations. "Everybody felt they needed to do something and we didn't know what to do. This has all taken us a little bit by surprise and it has been interesting to say the least. We presented the idea to people who had already paid for certain classes and spots for the March Break Special week, which we do every year, and we said, 'We apologise we aren't able to keep our doors open and in lieu of doing classes inside the studio, would you be interested in donating that money?' Even members who hadn't pre-signed up were able to purchase a class through our app and everybody got on board."

As Svelte, like so many other local small businesses, adjusts to the present normal, they are also experiencing the same challenges as others in making ends meet.

While they have put together a program of 30 classes a week, they are doing what they can to make rent after trying to reach a deal with their landlords.

"We're working very hard to keep this momentum for our members, keeping them strong, supported and connected, and also just keeping the bricks and mortar of our community there for us when we can return," says Ms. Frost. "When we return, my best memory [of this situation] will be of the community coming together. For this to really work, it was for members to support me as a business, for the team to support our clients, for technology and everyone behind the scenes in the technology department, coming together and really helping us put this together. If you set your mind to it, anything is possible. We made it work, and I am super proud of that."

We are here if you need us.
OLIVER HEATING & COOLING
95 YEARS ANNIVERSARY
Service You Can Trust. Since 1924
www.tholiver.com
905.727.4258

Curbside filter pick up available call now!

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. © 2019 RBC Dominion Securities Inc. All rights reserved. 19_90409_H7L_004

Briefly

2020 HOEDOWN CANCELLED

It has been York Region's biggest annual party for more than 30 years, but COVID-19 has forced the cancellation of Magna's Wild, Wild West Hoedown. "With the uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Magna Hoedown," said Magna in a statement. "Our Neighbourhood Network team continues to focus on supporting the immediate needs in our community. Stay tuned for more information on how we will continue to provide assistance in the absence of this event."

MUZZO CAN'T VISIT AURORA AS PART OF DAY PAROLE

Marco Muzzo, convicted in the 2015 deaths of four members of the Neville-Lake family, received day parole from the Parole Board of Canada last week. The parole is for six months, and the board denied full parole at this time. Among his conditions are that he cannot visit King City, Brampton or Aurora, without permission from his parole supervisor. The victims' family lives in Brampton and that's where the deceased are buried. Aurora and King City have memorials to the victims. Further, he can't have direct contact with the victims or victims' families. He has to meet with a mental health professional to address his substance abuse issue and he cannot consume, purchase or possess alcohol. The children's mother, Jennifer Neville-Lake, shared the following in an Instagram post last week: "No matter what happened today, Daniel, Harry and Milly don't get to come back home. My dad isn't coming home to my mom. Nothing changes for me." Muzzo pleaded guilty in 2016 to four counts of impaired driving causing death and two counts of impaired driving causing bodily harm. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison. and given a 12-year driving prohibition. The collision claimed the lives of nine-year-old Daniel Neville-Lake, his five-year-old brother, Harrison, their two-year-old sister, Milly, and the children's 65-year-old grandfather, Gary Neville. The children's grandmother and great-grandmother were also seriously injured. For more, visit theauroran.com.

NEW ROADS, NEAL BROTHERS SUPPORT SOUTHLAKE

A new community initiative is doing double duty, thanking front-line workers for keeping the communities safe, and raising urgent funds to support Southlake's COVID-19 Action Fund. Lawn signs honouring front-line healthcare and essential workers have been produced by NewRoads Automotive Group in partnership with Neal Brothers Foods and are now available for purchase. Since the initiative launched on April 2, more than 200 signs are already displayed on front lawns of homes and businesses across the communities Southlake serves. Proceeds of the $50 signs are being donated to support urgent needs related to Southlake's response to COVID-19, with purchasers receiving a $35 tax receipt. To maintain safe social distancing practices, signs are being delivered and installed on front lawns by the NewRoads Community Crew. This incredible initiative is being led by NewRoads Automotive Group President & CEO, Michael Croxon, also a member of Southlake Foundation's Philanthropy Cabinet, as well as Chris and Peter Neal, co-owners of Neal Brothers Foods. For more information or to purchase your sign, visit www.newroads.ca/southlake/.

COVID-19 will have a "significant impact" on Budget

From page 1

revenue.

On April 28, Rachel Wainwright-Van Kessel, Treasurer for the Town of Aurora, presented a month-by-month impact of the financial fallout related to COVID-19.

As of the end of April, the Town is facing a loss of approximately $329,000. There is a bit of give and take, however, as the loss in recreational revenues resulting from cancelled events and facility rentals is expected to be offset through operational savings as most Town buildings are all but shuttered with minimal maintenance staff on site.

"[Lost Development Revenue and Lost Tax Penalties] are driving the greatest impact to the estimated deficits," said Ms. Wainwright-Van Kessel. "Lost development revenue…comes from development applications ranging from subdivision and site plans to Committee of Adjustment requests. As restrictions are lifted…and the economy begins to re-open, the revenue for this item may start to rebound, but it may also take some time."

Penalties collected on taxes are also on the wain. If fees on past-due accounts are waived until the end of the year, the Town will see a loss of just over $1 million, she noted.

To date, penalties on taxes have been waived until June 30 following orders issued near the start of the pandemic. A further report will be coming to Council later this month on related actions that will shape the rest of 2020.

"Should the Town have an overall deficit relating to COVID-19 and combined with any potential savings we could have through operations, it would be funded through the tax stabilization reserve [which] currently has roughly a $7 million balance."

Revenues will also likely be lost when it comes to water, wastewater and stormwater bills.

In response to the pandemic, the Region of York postponed the nine per cent cost increase they planned on the bulk purchase of water. Should the Town decide to forego any rate increases, Ms. Wainwright-Van Kessel said the Town would see a net loss of $914,000.

"Since the rate-funded budget does not have a separate stabilization reserve, the deficit will result in a lower contribution to asset management for these services," she said.

To date, Aurora has collected 77 per cent of taxes due April 21 due to tax deferral options previously announced by the Town. 155 of residential pre-authorized payments have been deferred, while 53 commercial property owners took the Town up on its offer for a tax referral, proving to the municipality in the process that they were passing along the benefits of the tax deferral to their tenants.

After the Treasurer confirmed that COVID-19 would indeed impact the 2021 and 2022 Operating Budgets, the portion of the budget with the most direct impact on tax bills, Council began its sweep of the financial forecast.

Lawmakers particularly focused on the retail rates for water, wastewater and storm water.

Council unanimously voted to revert the rates for three items to a break-even rate until the end of June.

"I wish I had a little more time on this to understand it better," said Councillor John Gallo on the report, adding he would have preferred the financial forecast to come to a General Committee meeting to allow Council an extra week to ask questions and seek answers before making a final decision on rates. "To come straight to Council, it is pretty big decisions in the impact or potential impact and help not only to the residents but also to the businesses. I just really don't have enough information to make a decision on whether I would want to move to remain at the 2019 rates and have a further discussion on how to mitigate that, because this is going to be a multi-pronged effort in terms of figuring out our finances, not only figuring out where our losses are going to be, how we can help the residents in various areas, but also looking internally and figuring out how or what are we going to do in order to mitigate all of these factors."

Harkening back to a question asked by Councillor Rachel Gilliland earlier in the meeting, he said he wanted more information on how the Town was looking "internally" to mitigate these impacts and hoped it would be part of the further report due in May.

Added Councillor Michael Thompson: "It is tough seeing the numbers and I think we're all concerned with trying to figure out ways to develop some mitigation strategy or blunt the impact."

This was also the view offered by Councillor Harold Kim, who said he did not anticipate coming out of COVID-19 in a standard manner.

"I don't think this is necessarily going to be a V-shaped recovery and not all the jobs are coming back," he said. "There is going to be a new normal. There is going to be a challenge not just for 2020, but also 2021. Anything we hold back on with regards to water, wastewater and late penalties is going to be exacerbated in 2021. I wouldn't want to make a decision at this point to waive or to maintain the 2019 fees for all of 2020, but let's play it incrementally and see where this next piece of information goes because, in the end, we don't have the deep pockets that other levels of government have. We're no different from Smart Centres or any other landlord because we only have one source of revenue. If you hold off this year and you look at the anticipated increase in 2021, it is going to be a huge increase that people are still going to have to live with. We can't keep deferring."

Town-funded organizations asked to tighten belts due to COVID-19

By Brock Weir

Facing a significant financial hit due to the fallout from COVID-19, Council is asking community organizations that receive taxpayer funding to tighten their belts.

Council last week passed an amendment put on the floor by Councillor Michael Thompson calling for financial figures as presented to lawmakers on April 28, be sent to the Aurora Public Library, Aurora Historical Society, Aurora Cultural Centre, Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, and the Joint Council Committee overseeing the Central York Fire Services, along with a request that they "do what they can to reduce expenditures and engage in discussions with the Town on how they may be able to assist the Town's potential operating budget deficit."

"We often hear the phrase 'we're all in this together' and that is certainly the case," said Councillor Thompson. "[These] are all organizations we provide…operating grants to assist them in delivering their services. I think it is imperative we all work together. As we have seen, the Aurora Public Library has already taken that initiative. Their Board recently passed a motion to return any surplus to the Town. I certainly think that is a wonderful, great step, but there might be organizations that aren't going to have a surplus…I still think it is important to work with them to pursue all avenues for grants or any relief measures that are available because they may have shortfalls too.

"I wouldn't want to get in a position down the road where some of these organizations approach the Town to make them whole when we're struggling for ourselves. There may be other ideas that staff and these organizations have, but it is a simple request to get them to look at their own budget lines as well as work with the Town going forward."

The Councillor's amendment was unanimously approved.

"I appreciate this motion being brought forward, I think it is absolutely the right thing to do in these times," said Councillor Sandra Humfryes. "I look

Continued on page 17

"We are here

"Your local businesses and services are available for you

SUPPOR

Good HEALTH MART
is OPEN
Call 905-726-3000
Place Your Order PICKUP at the door
14845 Yonge St.

AURORA TOYOTA
Exceeding Expectations
New Roads
SERVICE IS OPEN!
Drop-and-Go Contactless Service
Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30 am to 5:00 pm • Sat-Sun Closed
Book your appointment online or call 905-727-1948
OUR SHOWROOM IS OPEN BY APPOINTMENT!
or buy your new car from the comfort and safety of your couch.
See our website to find out how.
www.auroratoyota.ca

Flowers by Terry
Flowers by Terry has remained open as an *essential service*, to protect our customers and our staff we have closed our doors, but we are still
OPEN to take your orders ONLINE or by PHONE
Order today call 905.726.1549
Or place your order online at www.flowersbyterry.com

Master MECHANIC PROFESSIONAL AUTO SERVICE
Mon to Fri 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

WE ARE HERE FOR YOUR AUTO REPAIR NEEDS.
CALL 905-727-1323 or Email aurora@mastermechanic.ca FOR APPOINTMENT
To protect our customers and our staff we are asking you to leave your vehicle and we will contact you when it is ready.
Thank you and stay safe
www.mastermechanic.ca/locations/home.php?location=Aurora
5 Industrial Parkway South, Aurora, ON L4G 3V9

Allaura Medical
905-713-1717

Due to COVID-19 our doctors are offering phone consultations to continue to manage and care for your health needs. To book a phone consult please call our office.
#STAYHOME #STOPTHESPREAD

Keep it LOCAL
Proudly Serving The Community
Sparkle Pharmacy
Since 1984
Keep it LOCAL
Most Covid-19 related supplies in stock
Use physical distancing if IN-STORE
DELIVERY & CURB-SIDE PICK-UP AVAILABLE
OPEN Mon-Sat 9am to 5pm
Aurora Shopping Centre
905-727-2322
www.sparklepharmacy.com

DEAR CUSTOMERS

During COVID-19 we are limiting the amount of people in our store to help both our customers and employees practice social distancing, we thank you for your co-operation during this time.
Our hours are 8am – 8pm Monday to Sunday.
Seniors have priority Tuesdays and Thursdays 8am – 9am
Health care workers now have priority access to our store with identification of their role.
Thank you for all that you are doing.
14800 Yonge St. Aurora
nofrills.ca
NOFRILLS Ross'

We are here and ready to help you
with your heating or air conditioning needs through these difficult times!

Stay Home
Stay Safe
BESTCLIMATE Heating & Cooling Inc.
Mon. – Fri. 9am - 5pm
Call 905-713-3818
Mon. – Fri. 9am - 5pm
Or Visit our website www.bestclimateinc.com/visitors
Curbside filter pick up available for all filters
131 Elman Cres. Newmarket, ON L3Y 7W9

Thank

...to ALL of our front line workers, health care, nurses,
ALL the businesses going above and beyond during this difficult time. So
What an amazing community! **Thank Yo**

#WeAreALLinThisTogether #StayHomeSave

e to serve you!"

– email, phone, online orders, home delivery and more!

RT LOCAL

AURORA HYUNDAI

Our showroom is open to customers that book an appointment with our Sales Team.
Sales is available from Mon to Friday 9 am to 5 pm Saturday 9 am to 4 pm

To book an appointment please call 905-841-8190 or go to our Express Store-tab at top of our website and review all options.
www.hyundaiofaurora.ca, or email sales@hyundaiofaurora.ca

We are currently open in Service for emergency needs
Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am to 5 pm | Sat 8 am to 1 pm
Call 905-841-8190 or Book your appointment online.

Stay Home, Stay Safe
We're here if you need us.

New Roads Automotive Group | SUBARU Newmarket

OUR SERVICE IS OPEN!
Drop-and-Go Contactless Service
Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30 am to 5:00 pm • Sat-Sun Closed
Book your appointment online or call 289-366-4769

SHOWROOM IS OPEN BY APPOINTMENT
or buy from home, we are open to sell new and used vehicles for those that may need one at this time.
It's easy! See our website to find out how.

www.nrsubaru.ca

DOWNTOWN TASTE COMES NORTH

The Chicken Place
Portuguese BBQ

OPEN
Tuesday- Saturday
12:00pm- 7:30pm

For Curb-Side Pick-Up
Call Ahead to Order

www.thechickenplace.ca | 1 Industrial Parkway South | 905-900 0019

AURORA TIRE & WHEEL

We carry all tire and wheel brands

TIRES | WINTER PACKAGES | WHEELS | SUMMER TRUCK

HOURS
Monday to Friday 8:00 am – 6:30 pm
Saturday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

*As an essential service we remain **OPEN** to provide you service and keep you **SAFE** on the road.*

905-727-8473 | 180 Wellington St East, Aurora

SHOP LOCAL
SHOP ONLINE • 150+ LOCAL BUSINESSES
shopfromhomeaurora.ca

Campaign sponsored by: MAGNA Website sponsored by: addison

Support our local businesses by shopping online for products, services or gift cards.

Gift Certificate Program
fansaveshelps.ca

Contact us: (416) 848-9105 or info@aurorachamber.on.ca

AURORA Home hardware building centre

CALL FOR **CURB SIDE PICK-UP**
DELIVERY*
Also Available Conditions apply

Monday- Friday 8:00 - 4:30
Saturday- 8:00- 5:00, Sunday- Closed
905.727-4751
289 WELLINGTON ST. EAST L4G 6H6, AURORA

MultiCare Clinic . Pharmacy

Clinic: 905-503-6100
Pharmacy: 905-503- 5100
14987 Yonge Street
Aurora, ON L4G 1M5

Together We Will Win this

OPEN
7 days a week
to serve the community

WE HAVE A **DOCTOR ON SITE** *EVERY DAY*
WE HAVE A **VIRTUAL WALK-IN CLINIC** *EVERY DAY*

HOURS: Monday to Friday 9-6 Saturday 10-4, Sunday 10-2
@MultiCare We Care

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

Our no-obligation review process:

1. We listen to you.
We ask questions to understand your circumstances and objectives.

2. We create an investment plan.
We recommend a custom-tailored "blueprint" for your portfolio.

3. We analyze your current holdings.
We blend your objectives with our knowledge of current markets and the resources of RBC Dominion Securities.

4. We bring it all together
We take the results of our analysis and compare it to the criteria you outlined at our first meeting.

If your current portfolio is properly structured, we will tell you so. If we feel changes should be made, we will make specific recommendations to put you on the right path.

Contact us today to schedule your complimentary review.

Conor Ryan | Investment Advisor
905-895-4102 | conor.ryan@rbc.com | www.conorryan.ca

Wealth Management Dominion Securities

e You...

, doctors, PSW's, emergency response teams and also
many individuals and businesses are stepping up and we are so grateful.
ou – We are ALL in this together.

eLives #FlattenTheCurve #WashYourHands

Theatre Aurora keeping drama kids engaged remotely

By Kinjal Dagli Shah

While it seems like the sudden and widespread societal shutdown pulled the rug out from under children, Theatre Aurora is making every effort to not leave them rudderless.

Since the COVID-19-related closures were announced, the building had to close and the youth shows have been cancelled. But the resolve to keep their student members involved and engaged only strengthened.

"When the advisory came that we could no longer gather in groups at the theatre, I remember saying to Jo-Anne (Pulfer), our director of Youth Programming, that we would suspend (not cancel) the programs, and find a way to reinvent ourselves. I proposed that we create a program that could be delivered online in a workshop or master-class format. I didn't want a stop-gap. I wanted a first-rate experience that the students could look back on 5 to 10 years from now and think, 'Wow, that was a fantastic opportunity! I was really lucky to have had it'," said Jason Silzer, VP Productions at Theatre Aurora.

The Theatre Kids program (ages 10-13) and Young Company (ages 14-18) are both up and running, with online instruction and interaction with guest speakers from the industry.

"I wanted to do everything in my power to get a program of some sort to all the students. It gives them a schedule, something to look forward to and a sense of normalcy," said Ms. Pulfer. "A number of us have been meeting to play games or do script readings online, everything from Shakespeare to film. Many of our musical members are putting together songs – vocal or instrumental – and sharing them online too. It keeps us going and lets us showcase our creativity without us being together."

Silzer pointed out that in order to make the program unique, they are exposing students to topics in theatre that are often not even covered at university, and which they may not deal with until they are actually creating theatre. "We tossed around the idea of bringing in guest speakers who made their living in the theatre arts to come and talk about their own career paths, and answer questions from the students, and we started reaching out to our networks," said Silzer, who was humbled by the reciprocation.

"The responses to those calls have honored and humbled me, and I still can't believe how willing people have been to say yes, and volunteer to talk to us. We have people coming to talk about professional voice acting, film casting, script writing, festival performances, working as an in-house tech at a downtown theatre. We have an intimacy choreographer coming to talk about how to create and claim safe space and representatives from some of Toronto's most established professional houses coming to talk about the business side of show business," he said.

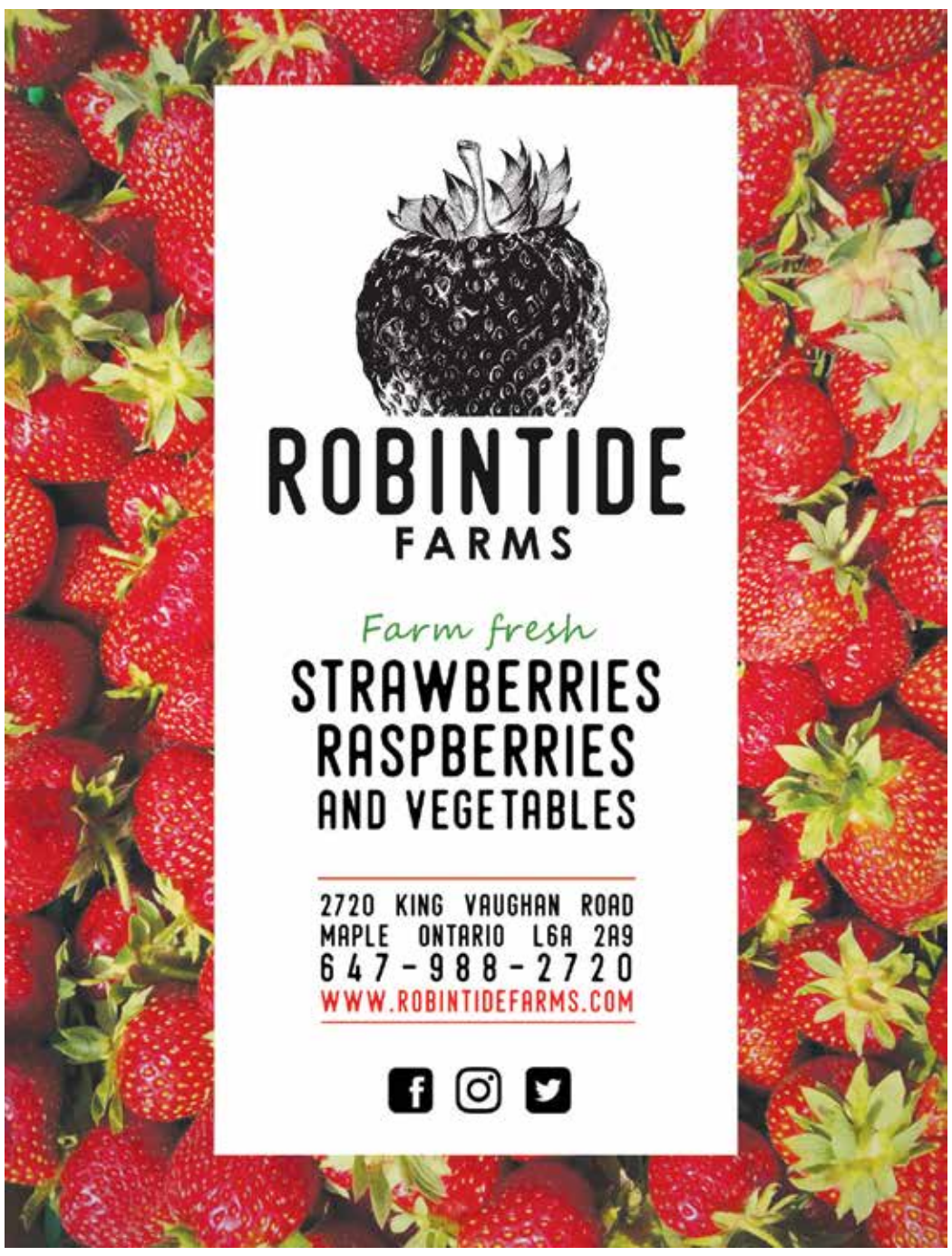
Their in-house instructors have been creating workshops and master classes on topics like forum theatre and approaching the technical design of a show as well, with little lead time.

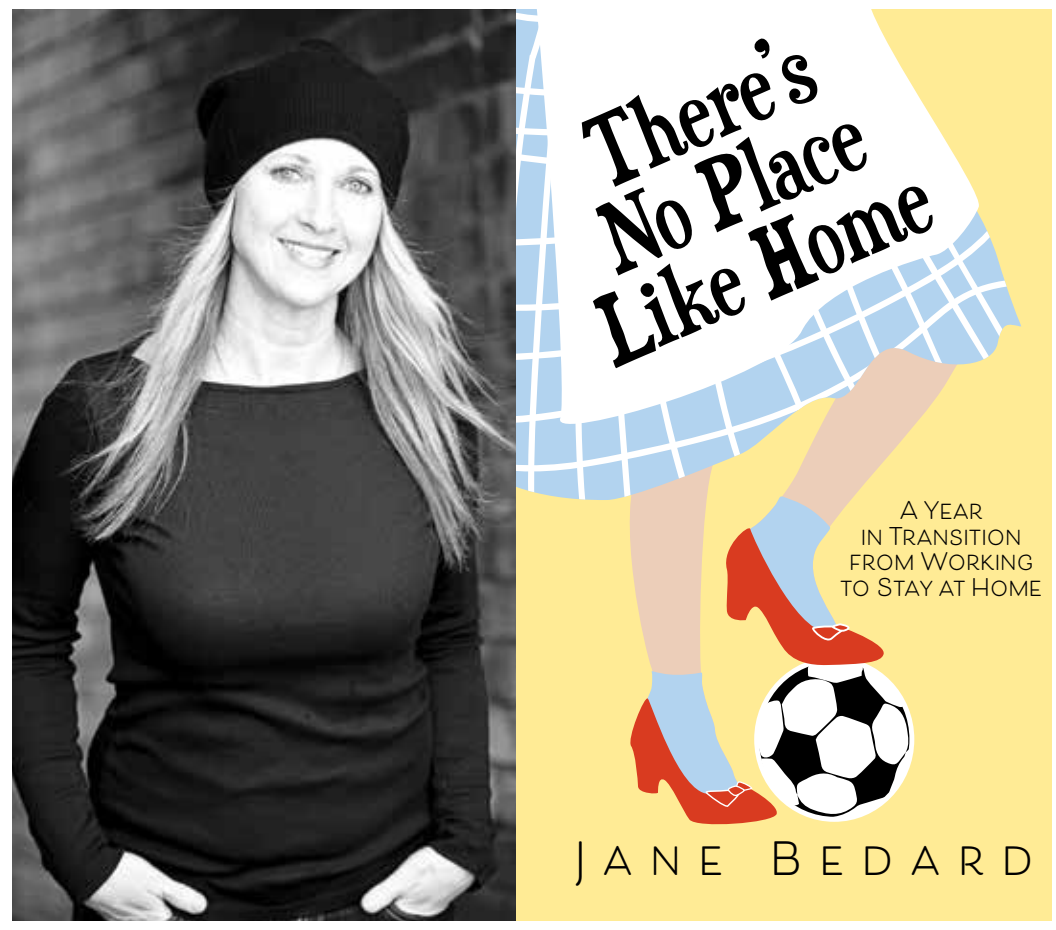
With their ongoing efforts, students have some semblance of being immersed in theatre.

"We seem to have struck a good balance of bringing in guest speakers from the industry – professional theatre, film and TV – and giving them online instruction. Our students let us know what works and what doesn't so the instructors have made changes to what or how they are teaching," said Pulfer.

The team at Theatre Aurora will continue delivering their new program up until mid-June. "We continue to plan for our AGM in June, and are starting to explore ways to engage both the public, and our members, in spite of restrictions that come from stopping physical co-location. Above all else, we are planning for that exciting day when we can reopen our theatre to audiences and fulfill our mandate to produce shows that stand up against Toronto's best theatres," said Silzer.

In the meantime, as they might agree, the show must go on.





(Left) Jane Bedard and (Right) her new book There's No Place Like Home.

Contributed photos

Life in the slow lane brought family closer together for local mom, author

By Brock Weir

Most of us are currently living our lives just adjacent to the fast lane.

It's not something most of us intended, but this new normal is prompting us to take stock – just like Jane Bedard.

A former teacher at St. Andrew's College, Ms. Bedard was used to juggling a hectic life. A wife and mom of three athletic boys, she says she and her family felt they were "just spinning out of control" trying to be where they needed to be and do what they needed to do. But, what if they hit pause on all of that and tried something different for twelve months?

The results are in Bedard's acclaimed book "There's No Place Like Home: A Year in Transition from Working to Stay-At-Home Mom."

The experience, she says, opened her eyes to a brand-new world, one in which she realized her life was, in some ways, on autopilot.

"Our lives were getting crazy," she says. "I thought maybe one of us can just be present for a year and try to tie it all together. I didn't want to fall into the stay-at-home mom trap where you drop the kids off, you do your yoga, you do your grocery shopping and it becomes very mundane. Giving myself only one year, I wanted to make sure we had a sense of adventure."

Jane started her ME Club (My Expedition) which functioned similar to a book club with fellow moms, only members would meet once a month to plan and create a local experience. Their time was flexible, so there were few limitations on what these local experiences could entail. Activities ranged from women's self defence classes to just getting together for fellowship.

"We didn't have the luxury to just travel wherever we want, but create something local to gather, feed each other's souls and learn something new along the way," she explains. "It instilled a sense of adventure within them and within their group of moms."

The ME Club was partly inspired by Jane's sister, Claire Kravchenko, a well-remembered member of the St. Andrew's College community who lost her battle with breast cancer. Throughout her fight, she never lost her zest for life and adventure and, in between treatments, took the time to explore such far flung locales as Australia and Cambodia.

Also helping drive Jane was a passion to write. Being at home, she sent her kids off to school each day, carving out time for herself to let the words come out – only, she wasn't sure just what she wanted to write.

"There is that old expression of, 'Write what you know,' and I thought, 'My gosh, I don't really know much!' Knowing I only had one year, I thought I didn't have time to research and I didn't have time to Eat, Pray, Love my way around the world but, like Elizabeth Gilbert, I will just use this adventure as one year away from what I used to be doing and journal it.

"Our family is pretty funny, but I wanted to tune in to some of the funnier things that happened in our lives and tied that in, as well as some of the tragic times because that makes us who we are. It became a running journal and an adventure to us. We had more time and less money, as opposed to less time and more money when I was working, we had to make a lot of adjustments, and it was really a crazy year. I thought, if nothing comes of this, it is a great diary of a year in the life of us and it will be great to look back on it and it worked out."

The book has become celebrated for its humour, posing such vital questions, as per the publisher on, "When is it a good idea to tell a stranger to stick a piece of garlic up her ass? Why is Batmom better than Supermom? If you unexpectedly find yourself in a Thai brothel for a massage, how much do you tip? Is it irresponsible parenting if a game of catch accidently lands your kids at the edge of the Grand Canyon?" and "How do you say goodbye to the people you love?"

"As women, we try and do it all and we know that," says Jane. "We shouldn't judge each other for the choices that we make, but we should support each other. Whether we choose to stay at home or whether we choose to go to work, it's just that: a choice. Sometimes there's angst between working moms and non-working moms and there's some resentment that goes around. Everyone is doing what we can, doing the best we can, and we need to support each other as women and cheer instead of putting each other down and celebrating each other's accomplishments.

"Take journeys together and keep those friendships strong."

Now Open Online Flooring Store.
Visit us at www.floorsdirectnorth.ca
Your friendly local flooring experts
Floors Direct NORTH
NEWMARKET SHOWROOM
105 Harry Walker Pkwy N.
Unit 1, Newmarket, ON L3Y 7B3
T: 905-235-4400 | @floorsdirectnorth
Inquiries@floorsDirectnorth.ca

THE AURORAN
SECTION B

Sports • News • Coming Events
Classifieds • At Your Service

INCOME TAX • ACCOUNTING
BOOKKEEPING • PAYROLL
CUMMINGS AND ASSOCIATES
10% DISCOUNT
Present this ad | Not in conjunction with any other discount.
Expires 30 days from May 7 2020
15199 Yonge St., Aurora, ON L4G 1L8 (905) 727-9177
238 Main St., S., Newmarket, ON L3Y 3Z5 (905) 895-0692
28 Barrie St., Box 84, Bradford, ON L3Z 2A7 (905) 775-0361

Vol. 20 No. 29 905-727-3300 TheAuroran.com FREE Week of May 7, 2020 CMCA AUDITED

Nine stripes stay active, re-sign manager Brennan

By Robert Belardi

York9 FC continues to remain active both on the market and internally within the club.

While waiting for the highly-anticipated green light to begin the Canadian Premier League season, the Nine Stripes signed 18-year-old prolific attacking forward from Toronto FC Academy Iljah Halley and re-signed the venerable manager Jimmy Brennan.

A Brampton native, Halley, earned himself a reputation with the Toronto FC Academy as being a dangerous attacker that dominates the right-half of the pitch.

The teenager becomes the second signing for York9 FC this year under 20 years of age, joining Aurora native Max Ferrari.

Halley is excited to join the club straight away on a multi-year deal and says he's ecstatic to be playing first-team football.

"The biggest thing I'm looking forward to is that opportunity to play first team football. To be able to have that and still stay local is something super special for me and my family. I really have my parents to thank, as well as my coaches, Jack Masserelli from Woodbridge Strikers and Raphael Bell at Erin Mills for helping me develop to be the player I am today," said Halley in a statement.

Much to the excitement of the player, Managing Consultant Angus McNab is pleased with the signing and praises Brennan and Paul Stalteri for their keen interest in seeking talent in the local area.

"Jimmy Brennan and Paul Stalteri have a great pulse on young talent in the GTA and York Region. Ijah is someone we have discussed for a while and it's a good move for him to take a step into senior football," said McNab.

Following this announcement on April 27, the club waited until May 1 to make public the signing of manager Jimmy Brennan to a new contract that will extend his stay with the club through 2021 with an option in 2022.

Brennan has recently completed his UEFA Pro License, the highest certification a manager can obtain, along with an overhaul of signings that were brought into the team.

The 42-year-old led the Nine Stripes to a third-place finish overall having finished in sixth in the Spring season and third in the Fall.

In a statement released by the club, Brennan said, "Coming into a new league last year with a completely new squad was a fantastic challenge. I really enjoyed working with our boys and putting in some positive results together as a unit.

"Our goal here is to win championships, and we've got ourselves a fantastic core that we've now added significant pieces to take us over the top."

The Canadian international went on to explain that he is filled with excitement for the future of this club. He has committed to the growth of young players and has also ensured the contract extensions of both Morey Doner and Diyaeddine Abzi in the past week.

McNab added that Brennan is a "winner."

"He proved it in his playing career and I have every confidence he can build a legacy and establish the club as the perennial championship contender that our fans and the Baldassarra family deserve."

Brennan did win the Gold Cup with Canada, alongside Stalteri, in 2000. Of course, the goal is to be able to lift another trophy alongside his compatriot here in Canada's domestic league.

Local realtors purchase meals for struggling All Kids Can Play families

Sport Aurora President Ron Weese, Aw, Shucks Executive Chef Alex Abate, Mauro Bucci and Angie Vallelunga ready to present families in need with a hearty meal.

Contributed photo

By Robert Belardi

All Kids Can Play sponsors and local realtors Mauro Bucci and Angie Vallelunga purchased and donated meals for less fortunate families last Wednesday.

The All Kids Can Play members visited Aw Shucks! Oyster Bar and Bistro to pick up their meals, consisting of pasta, garden salad and bread rolls.

Families were required to designate a specific pick-up time for the meal within a two-hour window. The package fed up to a family of four.

"In these difficult times, when everyone's lives are affected in one way or another by the COVID-19 pandemic, we wanted to make a difference and offer these families an enjoyable evening in their home, without having to cook a meal for one night," Vallelunga said via Sport Aurora.

"It is all about making a difference for families in need while supporting a local restaurant. We would like to thank Aw Shucks owner Benny Soscia, general manager Andrew Taranowski, and executive chef Alex Abate for providing us a discounted rate to make this happen," Bucci expressed.

Bucci and Vallelunga of MeandANG Real Estate (with Re/Max Realty Specialists Inc), currently have a program in place with a goal set to raise $25,000. With All Kids Can Play not currently in service to the community, these local realtors have stepped in to aid members of the All Kids Can Play program.

"They came to us and said, what about us helping out families; our All Kids Can Play families, and provide them with a meal," says Ron Weese, President of Sport Aurora. "We said, fantastic. They initiated it, out of their own generosity and their own interest in helping build the community."

According to Weese, 120 families have benefitted from this act of kindness.

It was treated like a take-out. Families did not stay. They grabbed their meals, expressed their thanks and went back home.

Weese went to add that Sport Aurora is investigating opening a GoFundMe page where the organization can continue to make this happen.

In the near future, a page will be created for the All Kids Can Play program.

"They not only need to play, but they need to eat," Weese said.

For further questions, Weese can be reached at president@sportaurora.ca

To reach Bucci and Vallelunga they can be contacted at angievallelunga@rogers.com or directly at 416-998-9891.

Enjoy the journey
I'll take care of the rest.
Contact me for an auto insurance quote today.
Richard Gong, Agent
905-727-6333
Desjardins Insurance

ALLAN LAW
— BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS —
Jason Allan and Leslie Allan
allanlaw.ca
Real Estate Law
Estate Administration and Probate
Wills and Power of Attorney
Family Law
Notarizations
15393 Yonge Street, Aurora, Ontario L4G 1P1 | Tel: (905) 726-3188 Fax: (905) 726-3098
www.allanlaw.ca | reception@allanlaw.ca

New Roads Automotive Group™
Caring for Our Community
CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep
newroads.ca

Young leaders recognized with 2020 Give Back Awards

By Brock Weir

It remains to be seen whether students will be able to get back into their classrooms before the end of the 2019-2020 school year, but 20 Grade 12 students preparing for post-secondary education this fall have been recognized for the enduring legacies they have left behind.

To mark National Volunteer Week last month, Neighbourhood Network announced the 2020 recipients of the Give Back Awards, an annual cash prize donated by Magna International to recognize students, regardless of their specific post-secondary plans, who have dedicated themselves to making their schools and wider communities better places to live.

Last week, The Auroran spotlighted five recipients attending Aurora schools, and this week we profile their peers:

KIANA MIRSHAHI
(Aurora High School)

"From a young age, Kiana had a burning passion to help people; specifically, vulnerable and marginalized groups that have trouble getting their voices heard. Within school, she has been actively involved in various clubs such as Mental Health Council/ Wellness club, Social Change Makers, Student's Global Issues Club and she has also been an active member in her school's Equity Club. Outside of school, Kiana is an active peer to peer supporter and founding member of a youth lead mental health initiative called Peerify and is a member of the Town of Aurora's Youth Engagement Committee. Kiana aspires to make the world a better place and she believes it's the act of volunteering that assures her she is working towards her dreams. An interesting fact about Kiana is that she is a music fanatic. She loves singing, writing songs, playing the piano and anything else music-related!"

CHRISTINA PARASKEVOPOULOS
(Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School)

"Christina believes volunteering is an important element in her school and community and finds fulfillment in helping others. She is part of her school's Peer Mentor Group, Art of All event, has assisted in elementary school track and field days, planned and ran the school's annual Swabbing Drive (to match bone marrow donors) and has volunteered at Parents' Night. In addition, Christina has taken on many leadership opportunities, such as being a leader of their We to We Team which holds monthly initiatives to help local and global communities, has led the team Sarah's Stars for the Light the Night walk and has been a dedicated member of the Wildcats Relay for Life team. Giving Back to Christina means sharing her time and skills with organizations to make a positive difference."

ELISE QUAIL
(ESC Renaissance)

"Elise is passionate about spreading positivity wherever she can. She has been a very active volunteer in both her school and community. She is Executive Pastoral Council President, leader of various Pastoral committees, Student Council Vice-President and Relay for Life leader, Grade 7 camp leader, Anti-Bullying Committee member, plus many more. She has been involved with many initiatives that support local charities such as Inn from the Cold, Blue Doors Shelter, and the Aurora Food Pantry. Elise believes that it is important to find joy in every moment and to make meaningful and long-lasting connections with people around her."

ABIGAIL REIST
(Aurora High School)

"Abigail has been committed to making her community better. She has made many positive contributions to students and has demonstrated significant initiatives and generous acts of kindness to those in need. She has dedicated a lot of her time at the Teen Challenge Ontario Women's Centre, a rehabilitation for women overcoming substance addictions. She volunteers at her church where she participates in the band, Sunday School program, summer day camp, and she also sits on the Mission Committee where she helps decide which organizations to support financially. On top of all the hours Abigail spends volunteering, she has had a story published by Polar Expressions Publishers."

AMANDA ROUND
(Aurora High School)

"Amanda is a hard-working student and a dedicated volunteer. Within her school, she founded STEM, a group of volunteers who create eco-friendly projects and educate others about environmental sustainability. She has led a co-ed team to program a weather station, started school-wide campaigns such as #donttrashtech and she has also fundraised for causes such as supporting rain forest conservation in Ecuador. Aside from volunteering Amanda loves singing, reading, and being a plant mom. She plays competitive soccer and has played the French horn in her school band for six years. After graduation Amanda is planning to attend McMaster University where she hopes to major in molecular biology and genetics with a minor in environmental science."

KRESTON GTA

Is COVID-19 affecting your business?

As accountants, we are an essential service and here to help.

The current fast changing landscape can make it difficult for business to navigate the various government subsidies and tax deferrals.

Our team of accountants and advisors are ready to consult with you on what your business is eligible for and how to make sure you don't miss out on these necessary subsidies to keep your business going.

Serving Aurora businesses for over 20 years

Kreston GTA, Chartered Professional Accountants

To set up a free consultation, please call or email us: info@krestongta.com

krestongta.com | 905.713.1173 | 66 Wellington Street East, Aurora, Ontario

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

Partners asked to help meet budget challenge

From page 9

forward to [hearing] what our partners will be looking into and coming back to us with. It is the right step. We had a meeting with the Public Library [and they] unanimously passed to return any reserves back to the Town that will not be used or necessary. Staff will continue to do that and come back with a better idea of what that might look like at our next meeting."

Councillor Harold Kim said it was a "timely amendment" and gave kudos to the Library for taking this step.

"We're all in this together," he agreed. "It only makes sense that other organizations are thinking in the same way because the last thing you want is, at the end of the fiscal year, [organizations thinking] the Town can bail them out when we have to look after ourselves. If they know up front they have to manage expectations, it might make the midterm view a nicer story."

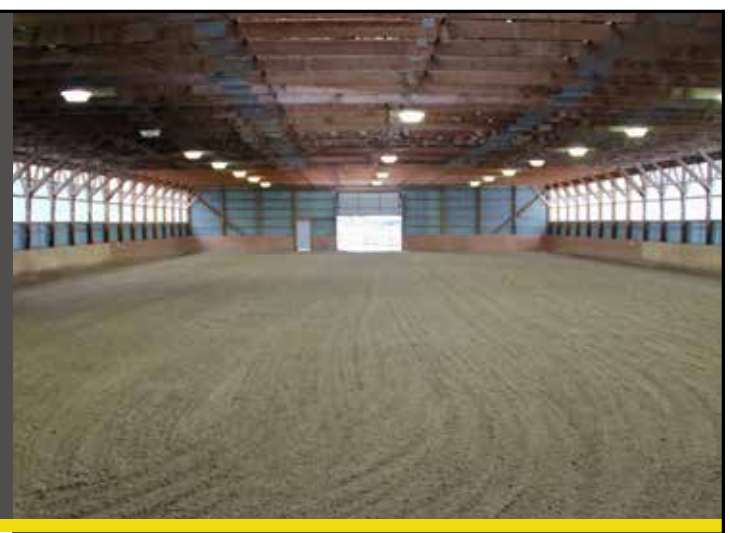
Councillor John Gallo, a member of the Aurora Cultural Centre Board, reported a similar success story, adding the Board is "looking at the finances in great depth."

"It is a totally moving target, they are very different than the Library, there are wage subsidizes they have qualified for, so it is the intent of the Cultural Centre to communicate to the Town on the financial status as best they can."

Mayor Mrakas said he felt everyone "is going to step up to the plate" on this.

"I was at that Library Board meeting and I sat in and listened to the conversation. It was great to have the conversation that we're all in this together from their point of view," said Mayor Mrakas. "At the end of the day, that money is going from the taxpayers to the Library and they see the need too that due to the fact they don't necessarily have the cost expenditures we do, they will actually have a surplus, depending on how long this lasts. They see the need to return those funds back to where they originally came from. It was a great conversation [and] it was unanimously supported."

QUARTER VALLEY RIDING SCHOOL



Quarter Valley Stables
15134 Dufferin Street,
King City, Ontario
L7B 1K5

We are excited to accept new boarders and students at our newly upgraded facility. It boasts an 150 x 220 outdoor arena. And a 80 x 200 indoor arena with a large heated viewing room/ lounge to provide a comfortable area for parents and siblings to sit and watch lessons. We have trails and numerous paddocks for our horses to enjoy some grass and relax.

PLEASE DROP BY FOR A VISIT.

Contact info:
416-527-4683
quartervalleystable@gmail.com

Look for us on Facebook and Instagram

Southlake's field hospitals transformed into COVID-19 assessment centres

Doctors prepare Southlake Regional Health Centre's new field hospital last week.

Photo courtesy of Southlake

By Brock Weir

Southlake Regional Health Centre moved COVID-19 testing into on-site field hospitals on Thursday, April 30.

These field hospitals, made possible by two generous community donors through the Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation, can house up to 30 patients and are fully equipped with heating, air conditioning and power.

Shifting the assessment centres to the field tents has helped free up Southlake's paramedic and ambulance garage which has, since the opening of a local assessment centre, been a hub for testing. It will also help Southlake's Emergency Department get back up to speed for non-COVID patients.

"One of the things we looked at back in early February was the potential of needing additional space and having that additional surge capacity and, in particular with infectious disease, do we have enough negative pressure environments where we can control the air and the environment?" says Stephen Trafford, Manager of Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, for Southlake. "These shelters were purchased not only for the fact it comes with negative pressure air and a number of other features, but it is really multifunctional and multipurpose.

"For now, we're using one [of the two tents] as an assessment centre. We knew we needed to come up with something a little more long-term. Since we don't know how long this is going to go on for, we decided to move the assessment centre right to the shelters. Having said that, they are multifunctional. If we decide a week or a month from now that we need them for something else, whether it is to have patients out there on stretchers or whether we use it for some other capacity, we have that option now to be able to use it and based on the operational need."

The tents look simple from the outside, but, as they are designed for a healthcare environment, they are far more complex than they appear. They are designed to be able to allow procedures to be performed and come equipped with everything to make that happen.

"Regardless of what we're doing today, tomorrow we might be doing some other medical procedure," says Trafford. "Having all of the amenities or as close as possible out in that shelter is really kind of what makes this thing work. It is really no different than some other industries like the military. I am a reservist and we operate in these types of facilities in remote areas and even though it is not a remote environment, we are only 50m away from the building and traditionally there can be no infrastructure [in military situations] that can help support something like this.

"We're going to be looking to see if it changes our rate or speed of testing. Certainly, with the drive-thru there are only so many cars that can get in the queue outside the emergency department. We're hoping that with this set up, people will get out of their vehicles and into the shelter. We have six pods set up right now. At any given point, we can have six people being tested and we believe that that will actually probably speed up the process for us a little bit.

"We want to reassure the community that Southlake continues to be a safe environment. We want people if they need our services to come and be confident that they will be safe in our environments and their medical conditions will be addressed. That goes for both the shelters and the actual hospital itself. You should feel comfortable and confident that if you need testing, you can come in, our staff will treat you, keep you safe, and whatever services are required you will get."

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

URBAN NORTH TOWNHOMES

AFFORDABLE PAYMENTS
ACHIEVABLE DREAMS

OWN A HOME FOR $4,000 down

and 18 payments of $2,000 /month*

URBAN TOWNS FROM THE UPPER $400s

Low deposit structure
$4,000 on signing +
18 x $2,000/month*

EXECUTIVE TOWNS FROM THE $600s

Low deposit structure
$2,500 on signing +
17 x $2,500/month*

It gets even better than you thought. With delivery set for 2022 and 2024, your property has time to appreciate in value - before you even move in. The Right Pace Deposit Plan gives you time to save for the future, see your biggest investment grow and achieve your dream.

* 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.

Register Now
MyUrbanBarrie.ca

PACE DEVELOPMENTS

BILD TARION Simcoe County Home Builders' Association

Wellington Street rental development could be appealed after Council indecision

By Brock Weir

The future of an infill development of stacked townhouses adjacent to two existing apartment buildings on Wellington Street West could be decided by Ontario's Local Planning Appeals Tribunal after Council reached a deadlock last week.

In early March, Starlight Investments came forward to Council requesting amendments to Aurora's zoning bylaws to pave the way for 60 new rental units at 145 and 147 Wellington Street, pitching their development as a step in the right direction for affordable housing in the community.

The development cleared the first hurdle at the Council's last General Committee meeting before the COVID-19 pandemic, but was subsequently put on ice after Council resumed remote meetings in April. The delay at that point came after nearby residents questioned how the infill development would impact parking for existing residents.

This was once again the case when local lawmakers met last Tuesday and these lingering questions left Council unable to reach a majority consensus on whether to approve or deny the application.

One such resident, Mitch McGuire, expressed his views in a virtual delegation to Council. Here, Mr. McGuire said the proposed parking spot to unit ratio was far short of what it needs to be.

"There is no way there is enough parking," said Mr. McGuire, citing the 265 spots proposed by Starlight. "In December of 2018, [the property owners] instituted paid parking for visitors, so all the visitors had to pay for parking at a rate of $1.50 per half hour or less to a daily maximum of six. They did eventually pull out the parking meters at the beginning of the year and put in new rules in February. We're only allowed the same visitor ten times and anything over 10 times will be rejected, so they won't be allowed to park and could be tagged and towed. That is just not right."

The resident's comments struck a chord with a number of Councillors, including Councillors John Gallo and Wendy Gartner, who counted the parking situation as one of the several reasons they could not support the application.

For Councillor Gallo, a sticking point was the number of new units proposed by the developers, which, he said, had gone up by three units since Council last took a pass at it.

Councillor Gaertner also looked at the matter from the perspective of affordable housing, stating that while current rental rates offered on site would be considered affordable, rents increase as the property owners refurbish existing units.

"We have decided, all of us, that 1.5 was the correct standard to provide residents…a quality of living or what they needed," said Councillor Gaertner of the parking spot formula. "It went down to 1.3 because this developer added subsidized rental units. They agreed to do it for 20 years, so they got the 1.3 standard. We've never reduced our parking standard below the 1.5, so I do not understand how it is possible that we will allow this developer to provide this decreased number of spaces. On top of that, we have so few affordable units in Aurora. We have two other apartment buildings. These affordable units will not be affordable when the new tenants move in, so we will be losing, at the end of the day, 204 affordable units."

Looking at the application, Councillor Rachel Gilliland said the 1.5 standard is "great" but studies provided by Council have shown what the applicants proposed was adequate and approving it would be "following the experts."

"If some of the residents were losing their parking spots, perhaps I would feel a different tune, but in this particular instance, I feel if everybody is given their spots and the units that are going to be developed also have one, I feel like there is a bit of win-win," she said. "I understand they are doing a lot of renovations and they are cleaning up the place and making it look really great, so I think this is a great advantage to the community – but I don't really want to sway in that direction too much because, at the end of the day, it becomes about the parking. Going forward [with the information I have today] I am okay with what is being presented by the developer, but in the sense that they are over compliant, in which the professional experts have brought to us today and the original residents aren't losing anything."

Of a similar viewpoint was Councillor Harold Kim who said his "default" was always in favour of more parking, but the developers did address many of the other concerns previously addressed by Council, including preserving existing on-site amenities.

"We have already identified that existing tenants are not going to be losing any of the parking spots, that stays the same. There is full disclosure, as was already mentioned…with the new tenants and the future townhouse development that they are only going to have one, Mr. McGuire had concerns over the future tenants, but the future tenants know what they are getting into, [but] I don't think that should be a concern.

"The merits of the plan, I think, are fine. I'm ready to go ahead with the staff recommendation."

But Councillor Gallo strongly disagreed with these assessments and said he was "shocked" at what he was hearing around the table.

"Our standards in many of your minds, from what I've heard, are trumped by a consultant that is paid for by a developer and nobody seems to have a problem with that. Nobody seems to have a problem with a multitude of residents bringing forward concerns that report was not accurate. It wouldn't have taken much for our own staff to go there and verify themselves," he said. "At the Public Planning meeting, we told [residents] that we're going to make sure the developer goes back and revisits this. We promised that. They have come back and added three units and only one parking spot. How can we tell those residents that we're doing a good job? I just don't understand it. It is not too late to change your minds. If you're convinced of this, you're convinced of this."

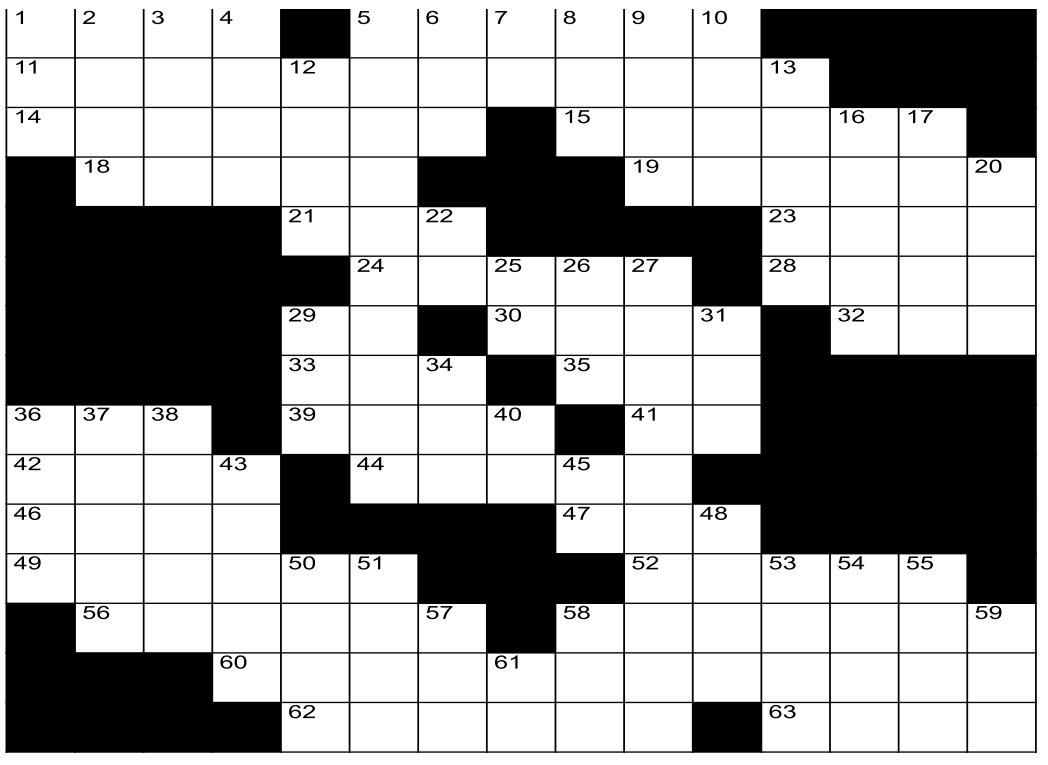
Mayor Tom Mrakas nevertheless reiterated his previously expressed view that Council should sign off on the application.

"By us denying this at this time and going to LPAT (Local Planning Appeals Tribunal), where we know that they're going to approve it and we'll lose the concessions that have been given to the Town and spending money at a time when we really shouldn't be spending money when we know we're just going to throw it out, we might as well write a cheque to LPAT right now and give it to them. We can do a lot more with that money in this difficult time than to just give it away to LPAT. That's a disservice to the residents of this community.

"We know exactly what is going to happen at LPAT and anyone who tries to tell anyone otherwise, that, 'no, we're going to win at LPAT,' if you want to throw away $75,000 - $150,000 for a hearing, by all means go ahead, but that's a disservice to the residents."

After several motions failed to gain a majority Council vote, Council ultimately voted to simply receive the report.

CROSSWORD



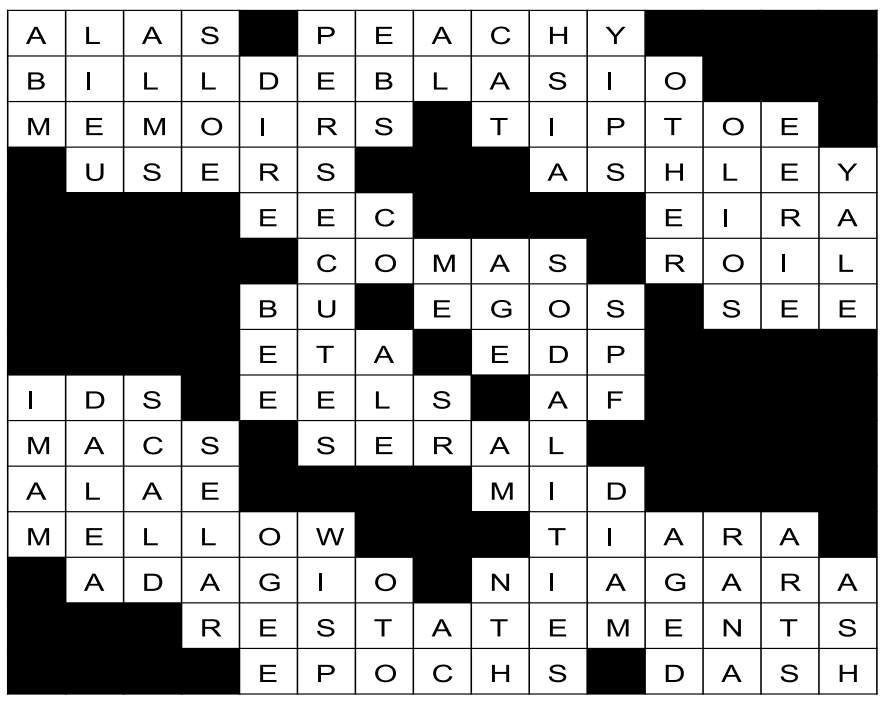
CLUES ACROSS

1. Expression of sorrow or pity
5. Not bad
11. NYC Mayor
14. Essays
15. Walk lightly
18. Those who utilize
19. Actress Judd
21. One-time community of nations
23. Norwegian river
24. Unconscious states
28. Make muddy
29. Unit of volume
30. Consciousnesses
32. Envision
33. When you aim to get there
35. Electronic data processing
36. Passports are some
39. Snakelike fish
41. Military flyers (abbr.)
42. Popular computers
44. Ecological stage
46. Wings
47. Used in combination
49. Laid back
52. Princess's headgear
56. Musical composition
58. Famed Falls
60. Reiterations
62. Eras
63. Track event

CLUES DOWN

1. Defensive nuclear weapon (abbr.)
2. Instead
3. Gifts for the poor
4. A type of gin
5. Torments
6. One point south of due east
7. Actor Pacino
8. Feline
9. Chinese dynasty
10. Short cries for help
12. Straits can sometimes be this
13. Further
16. Variety shows
17. Supernatural
20. A university in Connecticut
22. Atomic #27
25. Of I
26. We all have one
27. Religious guilds
29. This can sting
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Religious leader
37. Indigo bush
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Jr.'s father
43. Ray-finned fish genus
45. Morning
48. Straight line passing from side to side (abbr.)
50. S-shaped line
51. Small bunch of hay
53. Ripened
54. Crater on Mars
55. Humanities
57. Of the ears
58. To the __ degree
59. Wood
61. Cools your home

PUZZLE SOLUTION



DAMIR VRANCIC
LAW OFFICE
BUSINESS LAW,
REAL ESTATE,
WILLS & ESTATES
905-841-6411
Providing valued and trusted legal advice since 1983

Pickering College moves full speed ahead in "new normal"

By Brock Weir

Pickering College has marked many firsts over its 177-year history, but last week they marked a first nobody in the independent school's community anticipated just two short months ago.

Every two years, all independent schools need to be inspected by the Ministry of Education. This year, Pickering College's turn came and the Newmarket-based school was the very first in all of Ontario to be reviewed virtually by the Ministry.

Reviewers liked what they saw as Pickering College has embarked on a new journey to deliver its key programming from Kindergarten all the way through Grade 12 seamlessly online to its students at home and abroad.

In this regard, Pickering College had somewhat of a head start. The school initiated a Global Online Education Week in 2018, coinciding with March break and Easter. Instead of having boarding students return to the school early, they asked students to stay in their home countries to take part in four days of Global Education.

"We had some experience with this before, but we didn't anticipate this would ever happen long term, under these circumstances," says Janet Downer, Assistant Head of School.

Just before March break of this year, students and teachers were asked to bring home what they would need to get up and running should operations have to go virtual in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and, thanks to their experience in 2018, Pickering College teachers were able to get online the day after their scheduled return from March break after a day of training to make sure they could indeed hit the ground running.

"There has been a progression of synchronous lessons," explains Ms. Downer. "That first week when we were online, we started asynchronous lessons to give teachers the opportunity to develop and learn software and also to give students and families a chance, too, to get caught up with everything that is going on. As our teachers became more adept and comfortable with the technology, they started to increase the number of synchronous lessons.

"Our goal was to have a number of synchronous classes for the Junior School students to support parents – otherwise they become the home schoolers and that is a challenge to juggle everything else they are managing, as well as teaching their children."

Pickering College is not a school that relies on standard textbooks, adds Kim Bartlett, Senior Director of Teaching, Learning and Strategic Partnerships, and that also helped ease the transition.

"We have been teaching with a variety of tools for years," says Ms. Bartlett. "The difference [between the grades] is we tried to choose the most suitable tool for each division. With Grades 6 – 12, we're using Microsoft Teams which is actually a fabulous interactive platform and we're able to record our classes so when students are overseas, they can watch classes on demand. We have instant messaging with our students so we can quickly respond to any questions they have, and it is a pretty interactive platform. We're able to have discussions and white boards and debates, and all kinds of things using Microsoft Teams."

Indeed, Pickering College debating students recently took their verbal bouts online, covering such diverse topics as child beauty pageants to crimes committed over social media.

Ms. Downer served as a judge for this new approach to debating and said while students weren't able to feed off the energy and feedback from live audiences, they confidently stepped up to the plate. The same can be said for Grade 9 students who, as part of PC's Global Leadership Program, are plugging away on their Puma's Den projects – a uniquely PC spin on Dragon's Den.

"Each of us have been given a problem in the world to tackle and we're supposed to create a product that will help us tackle this problem," explains Aurora student Ella MacAlpine. "My group is looking at invasive species, so we're creating a product that will help the issue of invasive species.

Aurora residents Ella and Deanna MacAlpine are adapting to online learning at Pickering College. Contributed photo

"Getting settled in [to the virtual school] was the hardest thing, but once you got used to it, it was pretty smooth going."

Deanna MacAlpine, a Grade 11 student, agrees, adding that being able to keep the school's routine of morning meetings and advisory groups has helped to adjust to the new normal.

"It was a little bit difficult just to get adjusted to online learning and not seeing our friends every day, but because our school was mostly paperless to begin with and all of our classes and programs that we use have already been online, it was just getting used to talking to your teachers via video chat. It is good for us to still have our morning meetings and advisory groups, so things still feel familiar. We talk about how we're doing academically, our situation at home, and it helps make everything feel a little bit more normal."

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

Getting Things Done

Mayor
Tom Mrakas

Well, what can be said about last week's Council meeting other than "wow"?

Council had before it a planning application that had been before it a number of times over the past two years. The application sought to add rental townhomes over at 145 and 147 Wellington Street West.

This application has seen more twists and turns than any application we have dealt with at this Council.

When the proposal was first brought to Council, I stated that it required significant changes and that if it came back in its then-current form, I would vote against it.

Well, the applicant took Council's comments under advisement and came back with a significantly revised application. On March 4, when the application, in its penultimate iteration, was before Council, I stated, "What Council had in front of (us) was a proposal for 56 purpose built rentals, with the highly-used pool to stay, the setbacks were increased to give more room and a parking strategy for during the construction was laid out that would see construction vehicles as well as extra spots needed to use the Lutheran church parking 400 m away. The remaining issue of long-term parking was also addressed. It was guaranteed in the application that no current resident will lose a parking spot. And the applicant will also be giving all current residents the first opportunity to move into one of the new rentals." Last week, once again the application was on the agenda.

Council was to make a final decision on an application that is the outcome of two years of work between the applicant, the residents and the Town. There has clearly been a great deal of work done on this application; a great deal of effort on all sides to come to a compromise. This was a time for Council to make a decision. Unfortunately, that is not what happened. The vote on the matter proceeded as follows:

The vote to approve the application failed. As the motion failed, a motion was needed to deny the application – and, as this was a planning application, a reason for the denial was required. That motion was put forward. And that vote? It failed as well. That's right. The vote to approve failed and the vote to deny failed. Despite the votes happening literally minutes apart. As a result of this non-decision, this application will likely now go to LPAT (the province's new version of the OMB). Taxpayers will foot the bill for what will, in all likelihood, be an uphill battle. And what is also likely? LPAT could end up approving an application that will look far different than the compromise application that was before Council this meeting.

The applicant can appeal with the original application – that will see more units, less parking, and the swimming pool gone. How does that benefit the Town or the immediate residents in the area? It doesn't.

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO
This Employment Ontario service is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario
RNC Employment Services
905-727-3777 Aurora 222 Wellington Street East • info@rnces.ca •
Canada - Ontario Job Grant
COVID-19 SERVICE DELIVERY - We are here to support your training needs! RNC is delivering services and programs remotely.
Financial Support to Train Under and Over 25 Employees!
Financial support may be available for eligible small, medium and large businesses to purchase short-term training for existing employees and new hires.
EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO Ontario Canada
Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada Job Grant Programs delivered by the Government of Ontario
The views expressed in the publication are the views of the Service Provider and do not necessarily reflect those of the Province. The Government of Ontario and its agencies are in no way bound by the recommendations contained in this document
Email info@rnces.ca
Call 905-727-3777 press 0
www.RNCemploymentservices.ca
Or Employment Ontario contact
1-800-387-5656 or TTY 1-866-533-6339

EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO
This Employment Ontario service is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario
RNC Employment Services
905-727-3777 Aurora 222 Wellington Street East • info@rnces.ca •
Supporting Job Seekers and Employers
• Talk to an Employment Counsellor on-line or on the phone
• Attend on-line Workshops and Webinars
• View Job Postings on our HOT JOBS page
• Resume submission to our postings
• Attend Job Fairs remotely
COVID-19 SERVICE DELIVERY
We are here to support your JOB SEARCH needs! RNC is delivering services and programs remotely.
Please contact us if you would like to register for services at no cost to you!
Email info@rnces.ca
Call 905-727-3777 press 0
www.RNCemploymentservices.ca
The views expressed in the publication are the views of the Service Provider and do not necessarily reflect those of the Province. The Government of Ontario and its agencies are in no way bound by the recommendations contained in this document

Province announces new measures to coincide with National Mental Health Week

From page 1

cent are linked to local transmission. As of Tuesday, the backlog of cases marked as "under investigation" and "unknown" have cleared.

Chartwell Aurora is, thus far, the only institutional outbreak reported within Aurora. Region wide, 39 outbreaks have been reported in long-term care and other community care settings, six of which have been marked closed. 435 residents and patients have tested positive for the virus (with 89 deaths), while 357 cases are among healthcare workers, with one fatality.

As numbers in long-term care homes across the province grow, the Province has instituted new emergency orders related to the management of health care resources.

On Friday, a temporary emergency order was issued to address the immediate need of Ontario's hospital and healthcare workers to help them manage "critical health care human resources" during the pandemic.

These measures include giving hospitals the authority and flexibility to quickly appoint, reappoint and grant privileges to medical and other professional staff to address potential surges; authorize coroners, registered nurses appointed as coroner investigators and public health units, to access the provincial electronic health record to reduce demands on clinicians' time related to death investigations while, at the same time, reducing exposure to COVID-19-related death investigations; and allow registered nurses appointed as coroner investigators to complete medical certificates of death instead of a physician or nurse practitioner "giving these medical professionals more time to focus on patient care and helping to ensure that medical certificates of death" are being completed in a timely manner.

The stress many are experiencing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic was also recognized by the Province – including Newmarket-Aurora MPP Christine Elliott – to mark Mental Health Week.

"During this unprecedented time in Ontario, many people are facing great challenges as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. During Mental Health Week this year, we are dedicated to raising awareness around an issue that affects over one million Ontarians each year," said Minister of Health Christine Elliott, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services Todd Smith, and other MPPs in a joint statement. "Our government recognizes many Ontarians are experiencing increased anxiety because of COVID-19 and are worried about their health, the health of their family and friends, and the future of their livelihoods and are feeling anxious in physical isolation. We want to help those who need support and have taken immediate action to ensure everyone can access the high-quality care they expect and deserve.

"We know maintaining physical distancing can be stressful for many people across the province. Just as it is critical that Ontarians heed the advice of our public health experts to stay at home and maintain safe physical distancing, it is critical that we continue providing everyone with the supports they need to stay both physically and mentally healthy. Ontario's community mental health and addictions sector is working hard every single day to continue delivering services to people in need. We thank them all for their efforts and we will continue working collaboratively with them to identify further opportunities for investments to ensure all Ontarians have access to supports."

LEGION DONATION

The Royal Canadian Legion is helping support the Aurora Food Pantry in meeting demand resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Here, Legion President Lori Hoyes (left) presents a cheque to Sandra Seepaul, Operations Manager at the Aurora Food Pantry. The Aurora Food Pantry is one of the three community partners benefiting from the Legion's Catch the Ace draw.

Contributed photo

Who does what in our community

CLEANERS

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

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

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
Call 905-727-3300 Ext. 102 to book your ad

LANDSCAPE /GARDENING

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

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

PAINTING/CONTRACTING

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

PAINTING/CONTRACTING

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

THE AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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

SHERWOOD MAINTENANCE GROUP. Trusted Tree Maintenance and Removal. Free estimates. 647-400-6998 or 647-323-1913 Specializing in Aerial Pruning, Arborists reports, urban tree and stump removal and much more!

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

DEATH NOTICE

COUSINS, Hugh Morrow

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Hugh Morrow Cousins in his 92nd year. Beloved husband of the late Shirley. Dear father of Vicki, Don (Carole), Lisa (Bob), and Steven (Ardith). Loving grandfather of Brian, Carrie, Jennie, Laura, Diane, Dean, Jesse, Ashley and Melissa. Great grandfather of Taylor, James, Emma, Addison and Riley. Dear brother of Lorna and Carrie and the late Iona. Brother-in-law of Marion and Jim Stephenson.

Hugh was born on September 23rd, 1928 on his Dad's (Lorne) birthday in Aurora on Wellington Street East. The family purchased the summer home of a former mayor of Toronto and moved to Royal Road. The family farm was marked by the gates at Cousins Drive and Yonge Street that read Cousins Estate. Cameron Ave was named after Hugh's mother Erma. Lorne loved ponies and they built a racetrack on the property. Many long time residents of Aurora will remember Cousins Dairy. Families who traveled from Toronto to their cottages at Lake Simcoe would stop for the famous ice cream.

When the family moved to the east side of the railway tracks, the barn was dismantled piece by piece and rebuilt. Erma called their home and property, "My little piece of heaven." Hugh lived there for the rest of his life, building a home in 1967 that faces north onto Sheppard's Conservation Park. Hugh loved to share stories and memories of Aurora. As a friend recently said, "Aurora has lost one of its great historians."

Hugh loved his plane and would take off and land from a field on the farm. He would fly to Queenville to pick up Shirley for a date. Hugh and Shirley were the most gracious and beautiful dancers. Hugh always told his daughters, "When you dance, you need to feel as light as a feather."

Hugh owned a milk transport business for thirty years. He was tremendously hard working. For the first sixteen years, he worked seven days a week. Hugh was a devoted husband who was the primary caregiver for Shirley during the last decades of her life. He was a loving father who taught his children to have strong values, integrity and to work hard. Hugh was a man of routine. He loved his breakfasts with Don on Saturday mornings for the past 30 years. He followed Vicki from church to church and held her hand during the singing of "Go Now in Peace" at Aurora United Church. Hugh was so pleased that Steven stayed on the farm and appreciated his Sunday night dinners. Lisa gave him so much comfort, as they talked about everything.

Hugh's favourite hymn was "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." He listened to it several times during his last days and he said it gave him great comfort. Hugh missed Shirley and his Mom who died tragically when Hugh was only thirty-eight. May Hugh be filled with peace, love and healing, reunited with all his loved ones who have gone before him. May God's face shine upon and give him peace.

Due to global circumstances, there will be no funeral service. A private interment at the Cousins family plot in Maple Cemetery will take place in the coming weeks. In lieu of flowers please send donations to Ontariowildliferescue.ca in memory of Hugh Cousins. Hugh always dreamed of becoming a veterinarian.

IN MEMORIAM

In times like these we can't help but remember loved ones who have passed away.

Share the Love

Call Cynthia at The Auroran
905.727.3300 ext.102 to share your story.

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.

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

WEEKLY OFFERS

REAL CANADIAN SUPERSTORE

FREE*

when you spend $225 or more in-store or through *PC Express* online pick up

PC® ANNUAL JUMBO HANGING BASKET
ASSORTED VARIETIES
13 INCH
UP TO
$25.00 VALUE
20753924

*Spend $225 or more in-store or through *PC Express* online pick up before applicable taxes **in a single transaction** at any Real Canadian Superstore location and receive a free PC® annual jumbo hanging basket, assorted varieties, 13 inch. Excludes purchase 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. The retail value of up to $25 will be deducted from the total amount of your purchase before sales taxes are applied. Limit one coupon per family and/or customer account. No cash value. No copies. Coupon must be presented to the cashier at time of purchase. Valid from Thursday, May 7th until closing Wednesday, May 13th, 2020. Cannot be combined with any other coupons or promotional offers. No substitutions, refunds or exchanges on free item. 21301686

REAL CANADIAN SUPERSTORE

4 10000 01257 4

pork back ribs
cryovac package
$6.57/kg
20289672

2.98 LB

CLUB SIZE

2 LB strawberries
product of Mexico or U.S.A.
no. 1 grade
20069661001

3.48 EA

PC®, Free From®, Thick & Juicy® or Blue Menu® burgers
selected varieties, frozen
512 g-1.36 kg 20941230

9.98 EA

live or cooked Atlantic lobster
subject to availibility,
1-1.25 lb
20035376

9.98 LB
22.00/kg

Thursday, May 7 to Sunday, May 10

Buy Any PC® Delightful bouquet or 15 stem roses $20.00 + Lindt chocolate box 156 g $9.98 20821554

Get $5 OFF

Breyers Classic frozen dessert 1.66 L **or Popsicle novelties** 480-600 mL
selected varieties
20301305006/20950845

2.00 EA

Country Harvest bread or bagels
selected varieties
450-600 g
21178642
21178597

SAVE .98
2.00 EA

Kraft peanut butter
selected varieties
750 g/1 kg
20039581001
21217854

SAVE UP TO 1.51
3.77 EA

Real Canadian natural spring water
24x500 mL
20154975

LIMIT 2
1.68 EA

Coca-Cola or Canada Dry soft drinks 24x355 mL or **Nestea iced tea** 20x341 mL
selected varieties
20308197001
21021553

7.48 EA

Dear Customers

Due to the increased demand and pressure on product availability, and in an effort to enable all our customers and families to benefit from our promotional offers, select items have a limit of 2 per purchase.

Thank you for understanding.

Happy Mother's Day

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