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# AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Vol. 3 No. 34

Week of June 17, 2003

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## New Centre concept gets senior support

In a long and often bitter debate, council agreed last week to investigate construction of a new Seniors Centre on town-owned property south of the Town Hall.

At a general committee meeting held two weeks ago, members voted 5-4 to demolish the former library and seniors' centre to permit the investigation of a public/private five-storey, 30-unit seniors complex with the bottom two floors to serve as a seniors centre.

But last week, that concept was at the bottom of four suggestions to acquire larger quarters.

During the period between the general committee meeting and the

May 27 council meeting, several seniors contacted councillors to say they knew nothing about the idea and wanted time to study it.

Council agreed to a two-week deferral so the steering committee could present options to a general meeting of the seniors. Councillor John West made a similar request, which was approved by council.

At that time, the options were the restoration and renovation of the former library, already approved by council and replacing the existing buildings with a new complex with apartments.

A third option was to relocate the centre outside the downtown core

and into a new facility.

During the discussion Councillor West suggested the land on John West Way, south of the Town Hall.

His suggestion was not discussed in any way and council agreed to the two-week deferral as requested by the seniors, so the three options could be discussed at their general meeting.

Somehow when the presentation was made to the seniors there were four options, two of which had never been discussed by council, at least in open session.

The first two options were as previously presented to council, the third option became adding an extension to the new library for the seniors and the fourth option was a new facility south of the town hall.

Last week, Director of Leisure Services Al Downey outlined the four options discussed with the steering committee and later presented to the general meeting.

As a result of the seniors' vote, a new building was the first choice of more than half those attending. Using the old library was second, but the demolition and erection of a new seniors' apartment garnered only one vote.

Councillor Damir Vrancic was critical of the process as the fourth option had never been considered and questioned the role of staff as the issue was taking a life of its own without council's direction.

Councillor West insisted it had been discussed and presented some notes that he claimed he had presented at the meeting.

Vrancic read from the minutes of the general committee and council meetings and pointed out there was no mention of an Option 4, only that the issue be deferred two weeks.

Councillors MacEachern and Kean supported Vrancic by stating that Option 4 had never been discussed other than a suggestion by West about the site by the town hall.

The seniors' meeting was attended by about 10 per cent of the total membership.

West said he was surprised at the seniors' decision as he thought they preferred to stay downtown, but was pleased with the decision.

Please see page 15

## 300 Rotarians invade Aurora in September

More than 300 visiting Rotarians are expected to invade Aurora this September for the annual Rotary Foundation Walk, and you will benefit if you happen to live on the "parade" route.

The Foundation Walk, held in a different community of Rotary's District 7070 each year, is coming to Aurora for the first time in a number of decades.

Covering a distance of 2.5 kilometres, the walk will follow a route, touching Wells, Center, Walton, Catherine, Fleury, Maple, Yonge, Church, Victoria, Gurnett and Kennedy Streets.

Everyone who lives along those streets will be invited to hold a "garage sale" that day. Rotary will provide at least 300 customers.

The event is slated for Sunday, September 21st, and will begin at 8 a.m. The actual walk takes place between 9 a.m. and noon.

Rotarians will be served lunch in the town park at noon, and that will be followed by the presentation of awards.

Rotarians expect to raise \$130,000 for the club's

Foundation, which will be used for their primary purpose of eradicating polio by 2005.

District 7070 is bounded by Lake Ontario on the south and Alliston on the north, and extends east beyond Cobourg.



**Former NHL star Dennis Hull will be the guest speaker at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Awards night Oct. 24 at Kingbridge Centre in King City. Bobby's brother is a popular, humorous after-dinner speaker.**



Margaret McGhee

## Long-time employee turns 90

It was pure coincidence.

Last week's *Auroran* reported in its "Rumours and Rumbblings" column that company loyalty was alive and well in Aurora in 1977 when management at Sisman's Shoe Company honoured Margaret McGhee for 50 years' service with the firm.

The story set off several "thank-you" phone calls, including one that advised Margaret would turn 90, Sunday, June 15.

Neighbouring residents in her Orchard Heights Blvd. apartment held a tea in her honour Friday, while other friends honoured her at a luncheon at the First Baptist Church Sunday.

When she retired from Sisman's in 1982, she told company officials "working keeps me young".

Happy Birthday, Margaret.

## July 1 parade still highlights party

The loss of Scott Withers as a parade organizer has set the July First Committee back a step or two, but according to Special Events Chairman George Timpson, everything is back in step.

Withers announced he couldn't handle the parade this year because of job commitments, and he stepped down from the committee.

Councillor Timpson put out an appeal for help and was successful in getting more volunteers to aid in the organization of Aurora's July First party - an event that has been annual since 1969.

Town staffer Julie Geering said the parade is being organized,

and so far, has more than 20 float applicants.

It will happen at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 1, starting at Yonge and Orchard Heights Blvd., and proceeding south to Murray Drive.

Meanwhile, other popular activities of the two-day event are still on the schedule.

On Monday, June 30, the dance-in-the-park will take place in the Town Park with entertainment by Haight Ashbury.

Numerous activities are scheduled for the Leisure Complex area the afternoon of July 1 including a beer garden, horseshoe competitions, beach volleyball, a new exotic petting zoo, helicopter rides and children's games.

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## Coming Events in Aurora

### CONTINUING

Farmers Market, Temperance Street parking lot, every Saturday through Thanksgiving weekend 8 a.m. until 12.30 p.m. Contact Nigel Kean at 905-841-6776.

\*\*\*\*\*

Registration now taking place for Kids On the Move summer camp to be held at Highview Public School during July and August. Grades 1 to 3 and 4 to 6. Further information 905-841-1638 or 905-841-7742

\*\*\*\*\*

Gamblers Anonymous, every Tuesday night, Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria Street, 7.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

During the month of June the Skylight Gallery in the Aurora Town Hall will feature the artworks of Mercury Dougherly. Regular viewing hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

### JUNE 20

The Aurora Seniors will hold their Annual Picnic in Fleury Park as part of Seniors Week. Rain date is June 27th. Admission is \$3 and tickets must be purchased ahead of time. Starts at 11:30 a.m. Call 905-727-2816 for further information.

### JUNE 20-22

Polo for Heart, Gormley Polo Centre, Leslie Street, south of Bloomington. Game times each day noon and 1:30 p.m. Fields open from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### JUNE 21

Let's Keep Aurora Beautiful Day. Garbage bags and gloves will be provided to those who participate. RSVP to Mary McCluskey, 905 727-3123 ext 260, or e-mail mmccluskey@town.aurora.on.ca

\*\*\*\*\*

Annual charity BBQ and car wash fundraiser at Shoppers Drug Mart (Doane Hall) from 10.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. Proceeds to Southlake. Raffle, silent auction. Live music and facepainting.

### JUNE 23

Canadian Mental Health Association, York Region, Annual General Meeting, 7 p.m., Park Place Manor, Yonge Street, Aurora. Guest speaker is Robert Moore from the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care, Central East Region. To reserve call 905-841-3977 or 1-866-345-0183, Ext. 0.

### JUNE 24

Aurora Council meets in the Town Hall at 7 p.m. with Open Forum as the first agenda item.

### JUNE 25

Women's Centre of York Region, in Aurora, charity golf tournament in support of its various programs, at the Mandarin Golf and Country Club. Book a foursome, donate prizes or sponsor this event, call 905-727-5837.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seminar "Protect Your Money: Schemes, Scams and Flimflams", hosted by MPP Greg Sorbara, will be held at the Aurora Seniors Centre, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

### JUNE 30

Town of Aurora Yard Waste Collection. Waste must be in clear plastic bags or a clean, rigid, reusable waste container or a bushel basket. Call the town's works department for further information.

### JULY 6

Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society Garden Tour. Seven gardens are included on this year's tour. Tickets \$10 from Madge Ford at 905-727-5926 or Sheila Copeland at 905-830-0264.

### JULY 15

Seniors' cruise aboard the Wenonah II. This grand ship is in the style of a 1907 passenger vessel that cruised the Muskoka Lakes. Cost is \$74 for members and \$79 for non-members. Departure and return times to be advised. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

### JULY 26

Aurora Seniors Annual Garage Sale at the Seniors' Centre from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### AUGUST 7

Seniors trip to Port Colbourne and the Theatre-In-The-

Round to watch "Ivanka Chews the Fats". Trip includes a driving tour of the Port, lunch at the theatre and following the performance a stop at the Old Country Market. Cost is \$66 for members and \$71 for non-members. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

### AUGUST 16

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Abbotsford Animal Hospital on Yonge Street in Aurora will hold its 7th Annual Charity Dog Wash, rain or shine, with proceeds to the Southlake Regional Health Centre. Call 905-727-7379 for further information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Aurora Children's and Youth Fair in the Town Park with food, contests and games for all ages. There will be a juried Art Show for young artists in graphics, photography, fine art and fabric art. For more information call Info Aurora at 905-727-8241.

### AUGUST 22

Cardinal Carter Pioneer Class of 1993 Reunion. Pioneer students and faculty invited. For ticket information, call Joanna Jannetta 905-773-6717.

### SEPTEMBER 17

Aurora Seniors visit Stratford Festival to see "The King and I", with lunch at the Walper Terrace Hotel. Cost is \$89 for members and \$94 for non-members. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

### OCTOBER 25

Sterling Drug reunion, Aurora Legion, 7 p.m. Former employees invited. For tickets call 905-775-6761 or 905-775-6880. Also e-mail at sterling\_reunion@hotmail.com.

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Aurora's newest Citizen of the Year, John McIntyre, left, joins Guelph Museum Director Laurence Grant, as they prepare for a day long trip of historical sites in Toronto Saturday. About 35 people took advantage of the excursion, arranged in conjunction with the Toronto Historical Railway Society to mark the 150th anniversary of Aurora as "head of rail".  
Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

## New concept envisioned for Pathway

Donors and supporters will gather at Yellow Brick House's Pathway of Peace in Aurora June 27th to recognize the project's third anniversary.

Officials will unveil the logo of a new organization to help create a province-wide, and eventually, international network of Pathways of Peace.

Officially opened by then Ontario Lieutenant Governor Hilary M. Weston on June 29, 2000, one of the dreams for the Pathway of Peace co-founders was to see it develop into an international network of community initiatives to raise money for the issue of violence against women and children.

In response to interest from other women's shelters and groups from around the world after its initial two years, Yellow Brick House is in the process of creating a separate not-for-profit organization called Pathway of

Peace Incorporated.

This new entity will be licensed by Yellow Brick House with respect to its logo and the Pathway of Peace program.

The Pathway of Peace will continue to raise money for Yellow Brick House.

Shelters or similar-minded groups in Toronto, Thunder Bay, Oshawa, Kingston, Vermont and London, England, have all expressed interest in creating their own Pathway of Peace.

The Aurora-based

Pathway of Peace has generated about \$70,000 in revenue so far for Yellow Brick House, paying for itself in its first six months.

The Pathway of Peace is built through the centre of Temperance Park, just west of Aurora's main intersection of Yonge and Wellington Streets.

Bricks are being sold for \$25 (families and individuals), \$100 (small business) and \$1,000 (corporate). Contact Yellow Brick House at (905) 727-0930 Ext. 2241 to purchase a brick.

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## Hill being lowered

# St. John's closure still irks residents

As anticipated, Darlene Whyte appeared before council Tuesday to continue her objections to the closure of the St. John's Sideroad, which she first raised at a general committee meeting a week earlier.

Her major concerns expressed at the general committee meeting included the method of notification and the lack of opportunity for public input.

Last week she also dealt with the exemption from the noise bylaw granted by council.

In a well-prepared presentation she pointed out that by granting such an exemption the contractor could work 24 hours a day, seven days a week and that was not acceptable for a residential area.

The noise bylaw restricts construction from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. the next morning.

She asked how such an exemption got approved and if residents didn't have some protection, and asked council to do

what they could to protect the residents.

Alexander Di Mauro appeared on behalf of another resident and was critical of the town and the region for lack of advance notice regarding the closure.

He pointed out that his client had put his property on the market in April prior to notice of construction, and while local and emergency traffic was permitted, through traffic was prohibited, which would deter potential purchasers.

He also referred to the provisions of the Road Access Act, which covered road closures and said the provisions of the

Act had not been followed.

Mayor Tim Jones said that as St. John's Sideroad was a regional road, the presentations should be made to the region.

This led Di Mauro to ask about the process as the issue was being kicked around like a football between the town and the region.

Mayor Jones agreed to set up a meeting between the residents and the Region of York.

The sideroad, which is having the crest of a hill lowered, is currently closed, and expected to stay that way until early July.

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**Poor  
Richard**

## Sleek council not necessarily that effective

*Council meetings are different,  
As times and conditions change.  
Now they are very much shorter,  
For an old timer it's very strange.*

*-Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

Many old time members of council may have difficulty understanding today's council meeting with its consent agenda.

Previously, council dealt with every item that came before it, now staff deals with them and makes recommendations to council.

If council agrees with the staff recommendation or doesn't want to take the time to discuss it, it's approved by a blanket resolution that covers everything on the agenda, not lifted by a councillor for separate discussion or if staff is seeking direction on an issue.

Granted many of the items that come before council are primarily for information and don't require action, but I would prefer that council members made that decision rather than a staff member, regardless of how well qualified they may be.

Councillors are elected, staff is appointed.

At one time council appointed a standing committee for almost every issue. With only three members of council on the committee, the recommendations were fully debated by the other members of the council not members of the committee, at the council meeting.

It was thought that by eliminating standing committees and going to a council-in-committee or general committee with all members of council in attendance, the debate duplication would be eliminated.

It hasn't worked that way.

When the general committee report comes to council invariably the majority of items are lifted for further debate.

It wouldn't be so bad if the councillor lifting the item had some new information on the issue, but it's normally a case of rehashing the same arguments made in committee, but this time in front of the TV cameras.

Granted I wouldn't want to go back to council in the mid-1960s before Aurora had a duplicating machine and Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson read every bit of correspondence, as councillors or the media didn't have a copy.

Today, council members no longer approve accounts in public, whereas in January, 1983, council approved expenditures of \$141,509.30.

Today very few items of correspondence are listed on the agenda, but at the January meeting 52 items of correspondence were received or referred to the appropriate committee or staff department for action.

It used to be that council and media received as a part of the agenda package a list of all the accounts over a minimum amount at every council meeting for council's approval.

Questions were often asked about this or that account in public session.

Today, as nothing regarding the payment of accounts is done in public session, it is not known what authority there is for payment.

It is much the same with the minutes of the previous meeting. Although council adopts a resolution approving the minutes, there is no copy of the minutes in the agenda package, at least the package the media receives. Aurora is unique in this regard as other municipal jurisdictions, including the region, always include a copy of the minutes with the agenda.

The preparation of the annual budget has been controversial over the years.

It used to be that the standing committee would review the departmental budget with department staff on a line-to-line basis.

The committee reports and recommendations were forwarded to the finance and administration committee for consolidation.

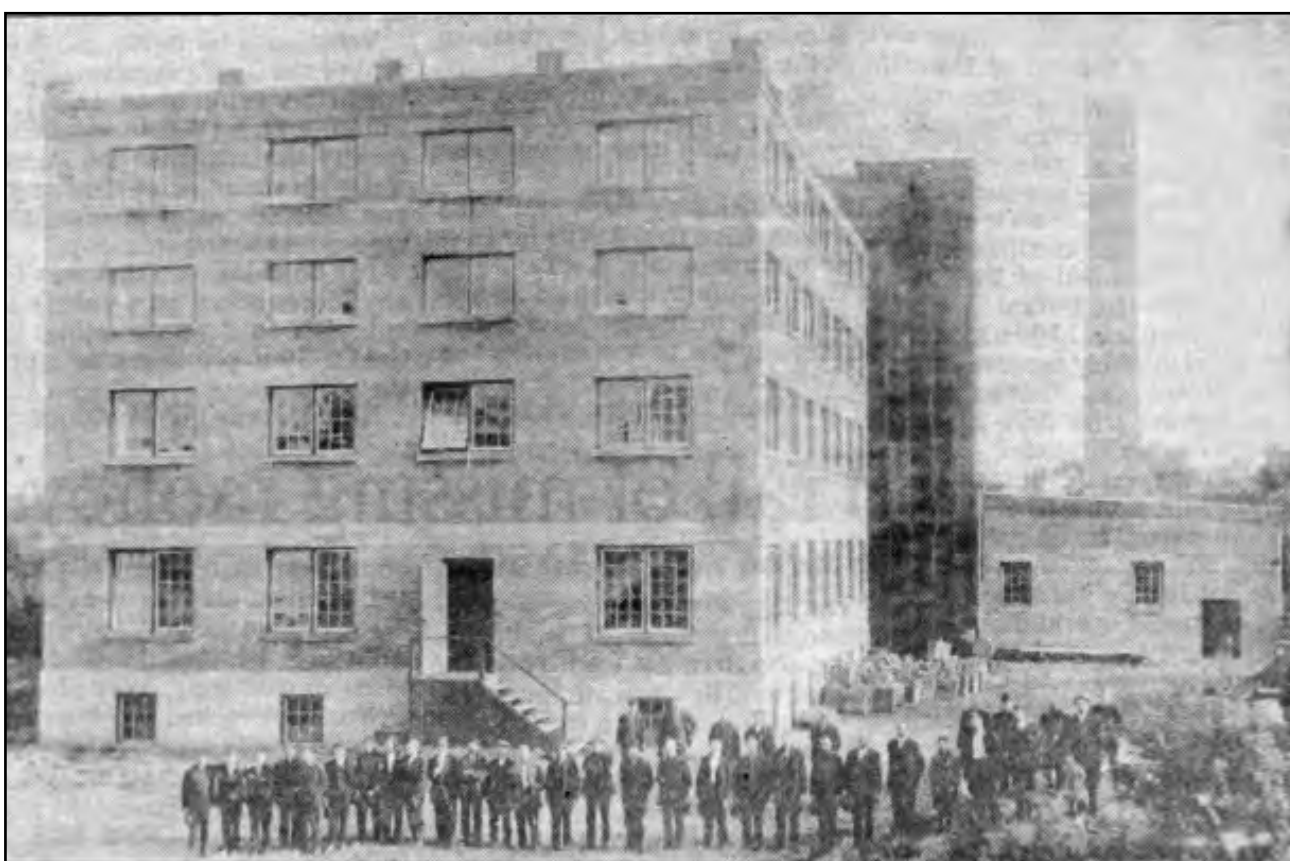
Some members of council believed that council in committee should carry out the consolidation process rather than the finance and administration committee.

They were successful in gaining the support of council in spite of opposition from Councillors Tim Jones, Len Ostick and Earl Stewart.

Today, council in committee in an all-day session prepares the draft budget for presentation to council, which appears to be working satisfactorily, but it is doubtful if department budgets get the same scrutiny as in the past.

In spite of all the efforts to make the meetings shorter and more efficient some of the meetings drag on and on with petty issues, nit-picking and repeating the same argument over and over again.

We don't seem to be any further ahead, just a little more confused.



It looked a lot different 90 years ago, but basically, the Aurora Collis Tannery on Tyler Street, is still there. Still referred to as Collis Leather, the building has not seen tannery activity since Canada Packers closed the operation in 1988. Since then the building has been home to a number of private enterprises. Shown above are some of the many employees who worked at the industry in 1913.

### Letters to the Editor

# Town wouldn't win this "green" award

**To the editor,**

Re: The TV Ontario Program "The Green Towns of Ontario Awards".

I watched with great interest this past week the discussion and awards for the "Green Towns of Ontario".

These are awards to towns who undertake a proactively serious approach to the issue of environmental protection and development within their communities.

The winning towns had the issue of environmental impact on the community as a pervasive issue, which had to be addressed by all town

departments.

In other words, there was an integrated approach between such departments as planning, roads, garbage collection, etc.

Looking at this very responsible approach to the environmental issue, I have watched with increasing disappointment the granting of development permits in Aurora.

A case in point is the Wycliffe development south of the Vandorf Sideroad.

Despite many presentations by concerned residents about the proposal by the developer to build a wide road allowance directly

through wetlands, the cutting down of trees and the destruction of fish spawning areas, this development was approved.

Residents expressed concern that the hilly winding road, which was allowed, would accelerate run off of salt, grease and other road residue directly into the wetlands.

The road has been built now for over a year.

And the run off is precisely what happened. All the rain this year has given solid evidence of it.

So much for the wetlands. This issue obviously has not

been monitored by either the Planning Department or the By-Law department.

**Richard Hunter  
Aurora**

### **AURORAN**

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# Picture likely from July 1 parade event

**To the editor,**

Regarding the picture in the June 3 edition of the Auroran, I think you're right with the assumption that it was judging at the Canada Day Parade marshalling area (bikes in the background).

Might I suggest a year?

Since Bill and Sandra

Dinsmore are in the picture, I would hazard a guess at it being the year that Bill was chosen as Citizen of the Year.

I'm sure you can find out which year that was easily enough.

I can tell you that it was prior to the 1977 Canada Day Parade, as I believe Bill passed away in January or

February of 1977.

I attended his funeral in Windsor and my eldest daughter Michelle was still a little tyke then.

Hope this helps with your quest for the year.

Keep up the great work with the paper.

**Mark Holmes  
Aurora**

# ***Ironic picture location***

**To the editor,**

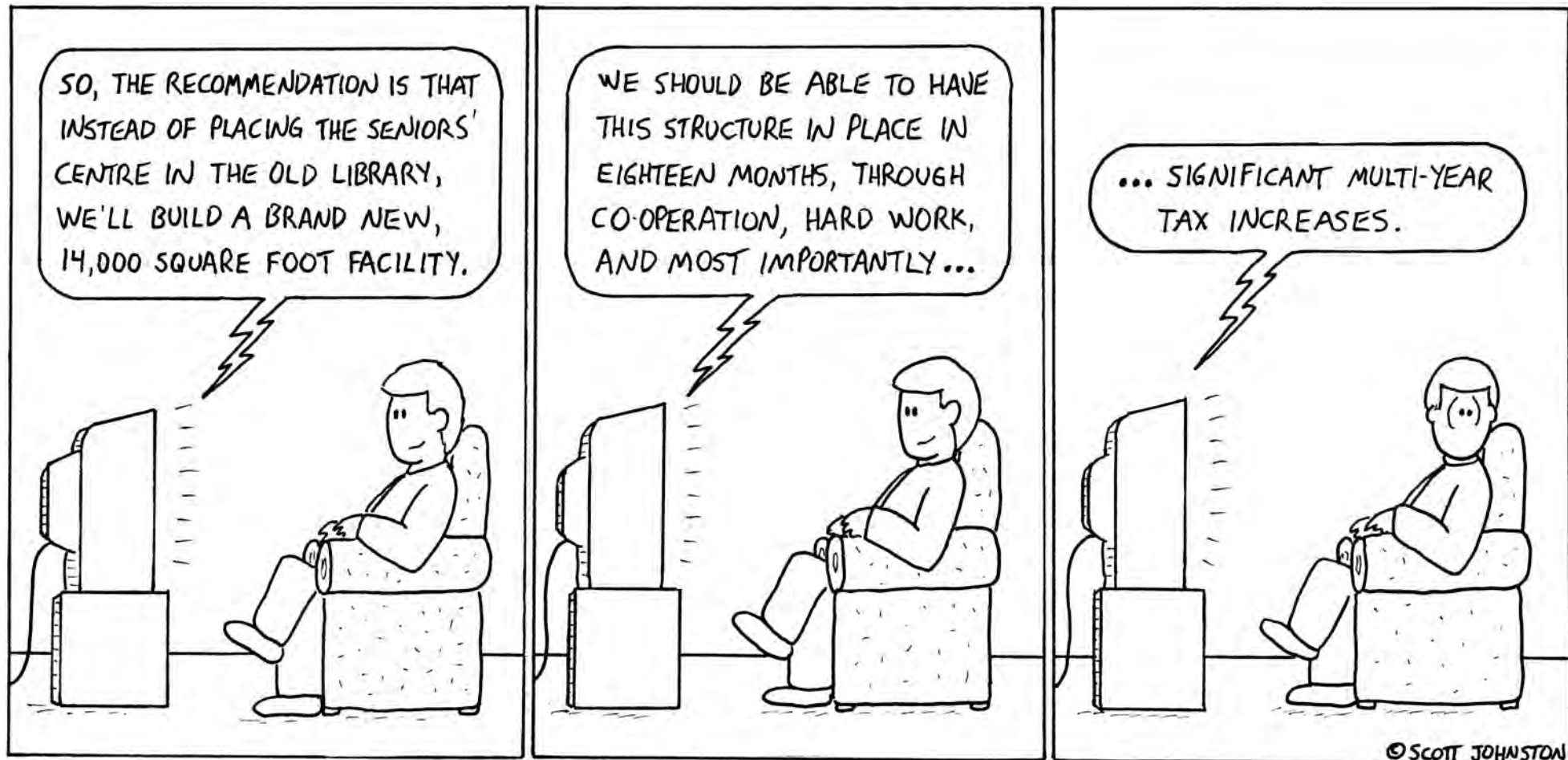
I couldn't help but notice the irony in the June 10 edition of the Auroran, a colour photo showing the release of a half dozen latex balloons into the sky to cel-

brate the Aurora Museum's leave in the Church Street School facility juxtaposed against the appeal for volunteers to Keep Aurora Beautiful on June 21.

The 'out of sight, out of

mind' thinking connected to such a display seems to be one of the reasons we need community awareness to reduce litter in the first place.

**Nancy Vloet  
Aurora**



## Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

# Partnerships: do they work?

Partnerships can be a great opportunity to initiate or bring forward projects in municipalities to meet the needs of future residents.

Examples of these projects include the Rapid Transit initiative in York Region where a consortium of private and public partners is moving forward with a regional rapid transit plan.

Other partnerships include developers working with municipalities to financially front end infrastructure servicing to enable municipalities to realize new business opportunities.

Aurora and the Region have entered into many such partnerships with developers of the current 2B building phase ongoing in Town to get water and sewer out to Leslie and Wellington.

That will enable State Farm Insurance to commit to locating and building in Aurora and to open up the business lands at the 404 and Leslie.

It will also allow other business development to commence and provide valuable tax assessment and jobs for Aurora and its residents.

However, partnerships can also be scary to some, depending on perceptions.

To go into partnership with someone may lead to the perception that the Town is making a deal that may include forwarding the partner's best interests in favour of those of the Town's.

This is why, in any partnership, it is absolutely necessary that both the Town and the partner be open and transparent about the terms and of any expectations that may exist as a result of the partnership.

Partnership terms and expectations need to be identified and written into an agreement prior to the commencement of the project.

Both sides must approve of that agreement and the terms made public as allowed under the Council rules of disclosure.

Recently, I was reminded of statements I made three years ago dealing with possible partnerships that I indicated at the time I was pursuing to move forward new ice facilities in Town to meet the growing need for hockey for all ages, for figure skating and other related users.

Following a presentation to Council from ice users for new facilities, I indicated that we needed to think outside the box to address these issues - this includes partnerships.

Partnerships normally start when either the Town or a representative of the Town, approaches someone or someone approaches us and we discuss each other's needs.

If there appears to be the potential of a partnership, staff may be asked to do a preliminary assessment so that Council could be apprised of the opportunity with information, (in private as there are normally items of confidentiality

involved at this stage) and Council would then determine if it wished to go forward.

If the interest is there, we would then commit staff to further develop a proposal to ensure that all is known and on the table.

A partnership normally involves benefit for both partners. It is normally during the identification of what the partners expect that the deal either moves ahead or stops.

Unfortunately, in some previous partnership opportunities I have been involved with, terms satisfactory to our Town or the partner could not be agreed upon and the partnerships did not occur.

As well, it has occurred in the past, members of council may reject a partnership because of the perception of being overly influenced by the partner, especially if it is someone who wishes to develop in our Town.

This is where members of council must be clear on the terms of the partnership, which should speak for itself, they must weigh and balance their personal integrity, honesty and courage against either perception and/or what is understood to be to the best advantage of the Town.

Council approved a partnership with Magna for the use of their fields for soccer based on a clear legal agreement.

Following a presentation and recommendation from the Town's Leisure Services Advisory Committee, council authorized staff to pursue a partnership with a developer of property where seven mini-fields disappeared to housing, however the developer offered to front end new soccer facilities.

The disposition of these lands has since changed and this project is no longer possible.

However the Town now has a partnership with the new owner to use the seven existing fields.

In a smaller way, the Town publishes a booklet that outlines several ways that anyone, community group, developer, business and individual can enter into a partnership with the Town to buy a bench or plant a tree.

Partnerships can be good for Aurora, but sometimes it takes openness, courage and a sense of self worth and trust in ourselves to move forward against the potential of negative or contrived perception, with a clear partnership agreement to make progress in these areas of opportunity for Aurora.

\*\*\*

If you see something in this column that you wish to respond to, I welcome your comments, either through the paper, to the Town Hall by mail - Box 1000, Aurora, Ontario, L4G 6J1 or e-mail at tjones@town.aurora.on.ca

## Letters to the Editor

# Tories are lost, reader claims

To the editor,

The Tories have lost direction.

Since 1995, conflict and unrest have swept through our education and health care institutions.

Hospitals have been understaffed and schools have been underfunded.

The poor have been pushed to the brink of poverty and several shelters for abused women have been closed.

Overall, taxes were scheduled to be reduced; however our municipal taxes and user fees have actually increased significantly.

We are no further ahead. In fact, many of us are falling behind.

The 'gap' between the rich and poor continues to increase in our society and the Conservatives now promise a tax deduction for the parents who send a child to a private school.

This policy is a sham since the public school system has been underfunded by the government and it is struggling to keep up to the demands of providing a quality education to our students.

Recent government information ads tell us about how teachers have "done a good job" by raising the bar in educational standards; yet their democratic right to strike now faces being taken away.

The Tories have become like a twin headed serpent...baiting labour out of one mouth and

bashing teachers out of the other mouth.

The recent election platform policy for senior citizens to gain a tax credit, for their share of municipal tax payments for education, has now been shown to be worthless.

Seniors' hopes have been dashed and this group has now also been used by the Conservatives only to prop up their popularity.

This is really an example of 'dirty politics', nothing else.

The Tories have lost their direction and are going off "the road ahead", nowhere else.

Jim Jackson  
Aurora

# She has computer pieces to donate

To the editor,

Is there anyone out there who would like parts of computers?

I know that somewhere they combine parts, of which we have many, for northern schools, other countries or the underprivileged and not just for resale.

If there is an organization or person who does this, I can be reached at bothm@aci.on.ca or 905-841-2725 before 9 p.m.

Margaret Both  
Aurora



**BOUQUETS** to Betty Reid for her letter to the Auroran about her frustrating year as a volunteer citizen member of the Five Year Official Plan Review Committee and the strong push for development of the 2C lands, the only undeveloped lands left in Aurora. What's the matter with green fields?

**BRICKBATS** to Aurora Hydro and other public bodies who continue to send return payment envelopes to customers who arranged to have their payment deducted automatically from their bank accounts. The unwanted envelope is a waste of money!

**BRICKBATS** to Aurora staff for recommending a variance to the town's sign bylaw for Sobey's on Bayview Ave., which council adopted without comment, but refused Hakim Optical a requested variance and the bull on the roof of a meat market is still a question mark. Where's the consistency?

**BOUQUETS** to members of the Spectrum North Baton Club on winning seven medals for the club's 10 competing teams at a recent Provincial Baton Twirling Championship. The Club also had 25 members competing in the individual events championships and all won medals.

**BRICKBATS** to the malicious vandals who threw rocks and shattered the large front window at the Humane Society's new building on Woodbine Avenue in Whitchurch-Stouffville. Vandalism must be stopped!

**BOUQUETS** to Aurora's M & M Meat Shops staff members and all their customers on raising \$2,700 for the company's nation-wide Charity Barbecue Day. All stores in Canada raised a total of \$1.2 million for charity.

**BRICKBATS** to those at the Aurora Town Hall for the sound equipment in the council chambers. It's an embarrassment as citizens appearing with delegation status are unable to be heard unless they evict a staff member and use another microphone. Some councillors still forget to turn on their mike. Spend some money and get a decent system.

**BOUQUETS** to former Aurora resident pro golfer Dave Morland on winning the SAS Carolina Classic, his first victory in 2003, and picking up \$90,000 to make him third on the current Nationwide money list with \$153,122 in winnings.

**BRICKBATS** to the Eves Progressive Conservative government for spending taxpayers' dollars like a drunken sailor by mailing out, first class, a letter bragging about their accomplishments and enclosing a copy of the Speech from the Throne. It's election advertising at the taxpayers' expense!

**BOUQUETS** to Theatre Aurora for receiving a total of 11 nominations for the productions of the comedy "Run for Your Wife" and the musical "Guys and Dolls". A coveted THEA was received as an Adjudicator's Award for a musical number of rare brilliance for "Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat".

**BOUQUETS** to members of St. Andrew's College newly formed Green Environmentalists Club (SAGE) for planting 90 trees in Aurora's Craddock Park, across Yonge Street from the school. Club members aim at helping the historic college become more environmentally friendly.

**BRICKBATS** to members of York Regional Council for not following up on a staff report on a review of municipal representation on regional council, which was requested last December and due by April 30th. It has never been received or discussed in open council. Where is it?

## Letters to the Editor

# Car show is highlight of the Street Festival

To the editor,

Sunday, June 1, 2003, up and dressed in shorts and golf shirt for our day in the sun in wonderful downtown Aurora, our home for more than 30 years until we moved away in 1999.

I went out to pick up the paper...WOW. Forget the shorts. It was COLD.

So on went blue jeans, sweat shirt and warm jacket before we left home.

The sun was shining brightly as we picked up John and Linda and headed for the Aurora Street Festival in our '65 Riviera.

For those of you unfamiliar with the aforementioned street festival, let me explain.

Eight years ago, Yonge Street celebrated its 200th anniversary and the street was closed in sections from Front Street in Toronto up through North Bay for people to party and vend.

Aurora has kept the tradition alive on their section of Yonge Street, renting 10 foot spaces along the curb and inviting local residents and other people to set up booths.

There is just about anything you can think of, corn on the cob, hamburgers, schnitzel on a bun, hot dogs, drinks, plus clothing, art work, sculptors, kids' games, singers and musicians, stilt walkers, mini-



Some of the nearly 100 autos that entered the Aurora Street Festival's car show are shown here. The car show has been a successful addition to the eight-year-old festival for the past three years.

trains and on and on.

Of course, we must not forget the best part of the street festival...the CAR SHOW.

About 100 cars show up each year for the event, sponsored and organized by Gary Nolan of Diamond Auto Trim, a local upholstery shop in Aurora.

He uses peer judging with no voting for your own car and only the car owners have a vote.

He awards three trophies based on total votes.

The only name that I recognized as winning was

Nate Salter with his gorgeous Plymouth sedan delivery.

There was a nice selection of cars, including a lovely Jensen interceptor - you do not see many of those around.

Another rare car was parked in the show, a

Rambler American Scrambler, plus the usual hot rods and mild customs along with some vintage restored cars, too.

For Wendy and me, it was nice to come back home,

and we were fortunate to see and speak to many old friends plus part with some cash during the day.

But it was COOL and windy, so thank the Lord for the bright sunshine.

Congratulations, Aurora, keep it up.

Keith Horsfall  
Alliston

**ED. NOTE: Actually, Festival Chairperson, Regina Brown, insists she was responsible for the bright sunshine**

## Oriental Diner impresses

To the editor,

Took your advice and followed the instructions in the advertisement on Page 2 of the Auroran last week.

Went to the Oriental Diner in the Wellington Plaza (Wellington West and Haida) for supper Saturday.

I have never tasted better Chinese food. Helpings were bountiful and the prices so low I'm not surprised they can't make a go of it.

Even if it cost more, I'd still go back. Hope they survive.

Food lover,  
Aurora

To the editor,

The second Saturday this year of the Aurora Farmers' Market just ended and I am pleased to report that there were at least twice as many people as last week.

In addition, two more vendors joined the sales force.

The Farmers' Market, for those who do not know, is held each Saturday morning from 8 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in the Temperance Street Parking lot that can be accessed by car off Temperance Street one block west of Yonge Street just south of Wellington

Street.

The original idea of having the Market was to attract people downtown and with any profit from the market we will buy extra garbage containers or benches to help improve the downtown historical area.

If you have not had time to attend please come at least once to check out the great vendors who we have attracted.

Also, if you have the time, walk up to Hillary House or see the many other historical homes that Aurora has.

Perhaps stop at a restaurant or one of the many shops in the area.

Aurora has a great downtown that we can all make better by shopping in Aurora.

Nigel Kean  
Aurora

# Population doubles at Farmers' Market

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# Electronic voting system to be purchased by town

At the last general committee meeting, Aurora Council members agreed to rent rather than purchase election electronic equipment, even though staff recommended purchase.

Councillor David Griffith had pointed out that with the ongoing advancement in technology, rental might be better than purchase to prevent the equipment from becoming outdated.

Councillor Ron Wallace quipped that if the Tories proceeded with their election promise of requiring a

referendum every time a municipality had to impose a new tax or increase an existing tax, the equipment could be used quite frequently.

When the committee report came to council last week, Councillor John West picked up on the Wallace comment and recommended the town purchase the equipment rather than rent it.

Wallace noted that he had received an E-mail item

about a hacker getting into the voting system and wanted some assurance that the recommended system was secure.

He was assured by staff that the system was safe, as the equipment was not used for electronic voting, but for electronic vote tabulation.

The West motion to purchase the equipment was adopted with Councillors Kean and Wallace in opposition.



Ontario Minister of Natural Resources Jerry Ouellette addresses a small group in the front yard of the Aurora Town Hall Thursday to announce a \$1 million investment, along with a similar amount from Ducks Unlimited Canada, which will benefit Aurora. The money will be used for a series of wetland interpretation and rehabilitation projects, including an addition to Aurora's Urban Wildlife Park, located north of Wellington, east of Bayview Avenue. The land for that park was originally donated to Ducks Unlimited Canada by Jean and Jim Spring. **Auroran photo by Ron Wallace**

## New residents to learn of a wider Bathurst St.

A 103-lot subdivision located on 61 acres is currently under construction at the northeast corner of St. John's Sideroad and Bathurst Street.

The development also includes two large open space blocks that will be conveyed to the town.

The site is located within the settlement area of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, but as

the application was filed prior to the adoption of the legislation, it is exempt from the Conservation Plan.

The subdivision agreement requires noise attenuation provisions along Bathurst Street and the St. John's Sideroad.

Councillor Nigel Kean expressed concern about the houses facing Bathurst Street with the proposed

widening and reconstruction of Bathurst.

He asked if any provision had been made to warn potential purchases of the future road widening.

When Planning Director Sue Seibert advised that she would have to check, Kean was successful in gaining council support in directing staff to ensure that a warning be included.

## Senior Games produce more local winners

The York Region Ontario Senior Games wrapped up a successful two weeks of events Friday morning in Richmond Hill and Aurora added to its list of winners.

In 10 pin bowling results, Bea Bikker, Myrtle Yeo and Mary Beukeboom, all of Aurora, shared a gold medal, in competitions are Pro Bowl in Richmond Hill.

Meanwhile, in Memorial Park in Stouffville, Al Ferguson, Douglas Shearer and Olive Shearer of Aurora hit a silver medal finish in lawn bowling.



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# Historic "Library Square" buildings edging on doom

Considerable discussion has taken place over the future of the town-owned buildings in what has become known as the Library Square on Victoria Street.

The buildings include the historic Church Street School, the old library building, the old fire hall and Victoria Hall.

The future of the Church Street School is assured as it is being rehabilitated and a lease is being arranged with the Aurora Historical Society and the Aurora Museum to have exclusive use of the building.

The future of the old library and fire hall is uncertain, as there are two options under consideration. One, originally approved by council, is to convert the old library building into the Seniors Centre.

Another option, which has been pushed to the bottom of the list, is to demolish the library building and the old fire hall and construct a 30-unit seniors' apartment complex with a Seniors Centre on the bottom two floors.

No matter what happens there is a serious shortage of parking for all facilities.

Omitted from all the discussions is the future of Victoria Hall and whether it might be included in the demolition plans to help provide much needed parking space, especially if the apartment complex was approved.

Victoria Hall was originally founded as a Disciples Church in the late 1800s by Andrew Yule and served as Aurora's Public Library from 1945 until the new, now the old, library was opened in 1963 on Victoria Street.

When librarian Marjorie Andrews and her books moved into the old church, it still had a vaulted ceiling, large baptismal and a stove that was picturesque but not very practical.

There was no plumbing in the building. Changes came slowly with a false ceiling, a washroom and finally a furnace.

On a recommendation from the Aurora Board of Trade, Aurora Council agreed to name the building "Victoria Hall" at the February 15, 1965, council meeting.

Councillors expressed a feeling of nostalgia as they remembered the old Queen, and as the street was named Victoria, the selected name was considered most suitable.

At that time the council chambers were located in a small room at 27 Yonge

Street, so Victoria Hall was used for public meetings and election night returns.

In May, 1968, tenders were called for an addition to the old fire hall and a small addition to the rear of Victoria Hall as a furnace room.

By December, 1975, council of the day was having trouble making up its mind as to what renovations should be carried out at Victoria Hall, resulting in a rumour that the old hall was to be demolished.

The Aurora Rotary Club put in a bid for the old building in June, 1976, as a means of saving it, if the town decided it was unwise to retain.

Victoria Hall still stands and continues to be well used by town organizations.

Which brings the town to the future of the old library building. While there was opposition to suggestion the building be torn down, no one really remembered how it got there in the first place.

Enter Rebecca Beaton with a sheath full of notes and photocopies.

The library, she said, was a gift - the only gift - to the Town of Aurora to celebrate its 100th anniversary as a town in 1963.

The event was so big, the town invited Prime Minister

John Diefenbaker, Leader of the Opposition Lester B. Pearson (and a former Aurora resident) and Ontario Premier John Robarts to the official opening. (While all of them accepted the invitations, none of them showed up.)

The library was officially opened by Senator Wallace McCutcheon, who lived near Westview Golf Club in Whitchurch Township.

He performed the task Friday, July 5, about two months after the new library was up and running.

But it was mayor of the day Keith Nisbet who showed remarkable foresight for the structure when he said: "This building and its contents will never be regretted. This may well be the nucleus of a civic centre in Aurora."

In the 70s that concept was still alive when an addition to the library was constructed with the idea of turning the building around.

The rear addition was designed to become the front entrance, a plan which never actually happened.

Critics of the plan to demolish the building are quick to point to the "gift" given to the town 40 years ago and will continue to oppose any suggestion the building be removed.



Addition to library in the 70s was designed to make the rear of the building the new front. But it never happened. Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

## The Regional Municipality of York NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION CENTRE ST. JOHN'S SIDEROAD (Y.R. 26) YONGE STREET (Y.R. 1) TO BAYVIEW AVENUE (Y.R. 34)

The Regional Municipality of York is proceeding with design improvements to St. John's Sideroad (Y.R. 26), from Yonge Street (Y.R.1) to Bayview Avenue (Y.R. 34), in accordance with the recommendations of the Environmental Study Report filed in August 1999 and approved by the Ministry of the Environment.

The proposed improvements include:

1. Widen and reconstruct St. John's Sideroad from two lanes to a four lane urban section from Yonge Street to Bayview Avenue.
2. Crossing of McKenzie Marsh, including retaining walls.
3. Traffic signalization and partial illumination at intersections

Construction is anticipated to commence in Fall 2003 and be complete in late 2004.

A Public Consultation Centre has been arranged to give members of the public, interested groups and agencies, the opportunity to provide comments and review the proposed design for the section of St. John's Sideroad through the McKenzie Marsh. The Public Consultation Centre will be held on:

DATE: Tuesday, June 24, 2003

TIME: 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Town of Aurora  
Holland Room  
100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario

Representatives of York Region's Transportation and Works Department, Town of Aurora and their consultant, R.V. Anderson Associates Limited, will be available at the Public Consultation Centre to discuss the project and receive your comments.

We welcome any comments you may have about this project. If you have any questions or are unable to attend the Public Consultation Centre, and wish to provide comments, please feel free to contact the following persons.

Mr. Brian Wolf, P.Eng.  
Project Manager

Mr. John Does, P.Eng.  
Project Manager

Transportation and Works Department  
Regional Municipality of York  
17250 Yonge Street, P.O. Box 147  
Newmarket, Ontario  
L3Y 6Z1 M2J 4Z8  
Tel: (905) 764-6345 x5075  
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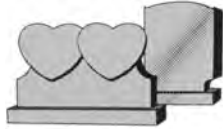
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Highlight of the school year is graduation day held at St. Andrew's College Friday afternoon. Above, some of the 132 graduates await the event. At left, student Tomi Jun, right, cleaned house with awards, including a 94.8% average, the Reeves Art, Chemistry, English, Physics prizes as well as the Yale University Book Award and the Louise Macdonald Sifton Prize for Mathematics. Lisa Picerno, head of Modern Languages, offers congratulations.

Photos by Tatiana Mitchell



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Front and centre with dozens of competitors in the dog show portion of the Aurora Horse Show and Fair, held at Macell Park last week, is main sponsor Lenard Lind. He's with Herb Williams of Williams Productions, who put on the Superdog Show every year.

## These judges rate picnics

Beth Egan and Paul Chapley, both of Aurora, judge picnic baskets.

It's not quite as bizarre as it sounds.

This weekend, the Gormley Polo Centre, just south of Aurora, will be filled to capacity as the annual Polo for Heart event gets underway.

Many combine the activities with a picnic.

They come in cars loaded to the sunroof with tables, chairs, awnings and tablecloths.

They come bearing baskets filled with gourmet goodies and uncork the finest wines and champagnes.

They picnic with flare.

Sumptuous picnics are a tradition at polo matches and at the Gormley Polo Centre, competition is fierce yet friendly.

While those in the corporate VIP tents on the south side of the polo field enjoy fine dining, families on the north side of the field try to outdo each other by staging the most elaborate picnics to win favour from judges.

Enter Beth and Paul.

Picnics are scored on a point system for aspects such as creativity, colour coordination, food and attire.

First and second place winners are selected each of the three days of the huge fundraising effort held on behalf of the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation.

"There is phenomenal creativity and it's amazing the lengths to which people will go," Beth, who judged the picnics in 2001 with fellow committee volunteer, Paul, said. "They bring blankets,

tents, umbrellas and decorations."

The 2001 winning entry was a Tuscan-style feast, complete with table, chairs and mussels, exotic meats and salads.

"The woman brought a big long table and the quality of her food and the entire ambiance was incredible," Beth added. "It was just like stepping into a backyard feast in northern Italy."

Egan said some people choose a theme based on colour, nationality or an activity such as a fox hunting. She recalls one creative group who mounted an entire black and white picnic.

"Everything was black and white, from the table settings to the clothes they wore to the dalmatian dogs they had," she recalled. "Even the food was black and white, with things like black olives, white rice and sushi."

"People do go to extraordinary lengths," agreed Val Boulton, also of Aurora, who with her husband, Alex, has been involved in Polo for Heart for 20 years.

She has served as a judge and packed picnics herself.

"You get people who stage Great Gatsby-style picnics that are very elegant. One year, a family did a British-style picnic and they came dressed in costume. They had a wonderful time with lots of inspired spirit."

Preparing for a Polo for Heart outdoor feast is quite involved, said Boulton, as there's more to it than throwing a couple of bottles of wine and sandwiches into a cooler.

For serious participants, it means bringing English tea pots, fine china, crystal glasses, linen, silver candelabra and great sun umbrellas.

She said she goes more for function than fashion when preparing her polo picnic, packing food that will "last a long time in the sun" such as smoked salmon and brie cheese, served with spritzers.

"We set up one year and just got up our new market umbrella when a storm blew in, picked up our umbrella and sent it dive-bombing into a nearby picnic," she said. "But the wind blew over, we retrieved our umbrella and spent a lovely afternoon in the country. It's a casual setting, yet you feel very elegant."

For those lacking the time, ambition and/or talent for an inspired gourmet picnic luncheon, the Aurora Lions Club will be serving up robust country fare each day, continuing a tradition that has spanned the last 22 years at the annual Polo for Heart tournament.

To date more than \$3 million has been raised at the annual tournament.

Polo for Heart opens Friday and continues through the weekend at the Gormley Polo Centre, on Leslie St. just south of the Bloomington Sideroad.

Game time each day is noon and 1:30 p.m. General admission is \$10 per person with children 12 and under free. Parking is included.

Gates open to the public at 10:30 a.m. and close at 4:30 p.m. all three days.

## Diggers lose tourney but dump Barrie 17-2

The Aurora Novice Diggers travelled to Barrie last weekend to participate in their third baseball tournament of the season evenly splitting four games, but it wasn't enough to get them to the medal podium.

The team got off to a good start defeating Newmarket 8-6 in a tight match after they breezed to a five-run lead in the opening frame.

Newmarket battled back in the second with three runs to tighten the score.

In the top of the fourth Aurora exploded for three more runs with Amanda Piron, Jenn Kates and Alyson Murphy each crossing the plate to ensure the win.

Offensively Piron, Alyson Murphy and Larisa Weissberger each went two for two at the plate for the Aurora win.

Defensively, Chelsae Lumley pitched the win with six strikeouts, allowing four walks and giving up six hits.

Game two, the wheels fell off as Aurora lost to Leaside 11-0.

In Game Three Aurora doubled St. Catharines 10-5.

Kathryn Cribbitt and Amanda Piron led the Aurora bats with two hits each while Jenn Kates, Alyson Murphy, Larisa Weissberger, Hayley Davies and Jamie Doige each contributed singles to the winning effort.

Defensively, Chelsae Lumley pitched the win with six strikeouts, allowing three walks and giving up seven hits.

In their final game of the tournament Aurora met Guelph who later in the day won the Silver medal. Guelph took an early lead by scoring two in the first inning.

Aurora rallied and tied the game in the bottom of the second.

The third inning was rough for Aurora as the team gave up six runs.

Aurora got back three of them as Kaylee McDonald, Amanda Piron and Jessica Murray crossed the plate.

In the fourth Guelph took extended the score to 9-5.

It wasn't until the fifth inning that Aurora got on a roll.

Guelph added two runs before Kaylee McDonald drove in two runs then Amanda Piron with a triple drove in two more to bring the score to 11-9.

Amanda Piron led the

Aurora bats going three for three with a single, double and a triple.

In league play, Aurora improved their record to 3-1-1 defeating Barrie 17-2.

Kaylee McDonald led the Aurora bats with four hits, Mandy Ince went three for five and Jessica Murray went two for four.

Defensively, McDonald pitched the win going four innings with seven strikeouts, allowing no walks and giving up only one hit.

Chelsae Lumley, in relief, pitched three innings with four strikeouts, no walks and gave up three hits.

Mandy Ince, in right field, had a great game catching two pop flies that extinguished a Barrie rally in the fifth inning. Kathryn Cribbitt at third base shut down all bunting attempts by Barrie by throwing four batters out at first base.

## Jaguar Gymnastics



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## Rumours & Rumblings

# When the Bathurst bridge was made of wood

Motorists using Bathurst Street north of Bloomington Road are used to whizzing along on the reconstructed roadway, which was officially opened in September, 1981.

They may not even realize they are crossing the CN tracks via an overpass.

Oldtimers will remember when the overpass was a one-lane wooden structure set at an angle in the roadway so that you crossed the tracks at a right angle.

It was a hair-raising feature and for more than half a century was the source of almost annual unexpected excursions by motorists into nearby fields.

The road took an abrupt swing at the northern end of the bridge and some motorists failed to make it.

It was replaced in the late 1950s or early 1960s at a cost of about \$161,000 with approximately half being paid for from the Railway Grade Crossing Fund with King Township putting up \$70,000.

That was before regional government and both sides of the roadway, then known as the Second of King, was in the township.

Now Bathurst is Aurora's western boundary.

### BUCK DUMPED FROM POLICE BOARD

After a long career in Aurora politics as the last Reeve of Aurora in the former county system and the first lady Mayor, Evelyn Buck accepted the NDP nomination in the 1988 federal election and was defeated.

In 1992, she was appointed by the Bob Rae NDP government to the York Regional Police Services Board for a two-year term and in January, 1994, was named vice-chairman of the board.

It came as a surprise in July, 1994, when the Solicitor General's office advised her that she would not be re-appointed in spite of a request from the board for her re-appointment.

Ministry officials said they wanted the all-white board to be more representative of the community. Buck didn't buy the ministry explanation, claiming she was dumped because she wouldn't toe the party line.

This was borne out with the appointment of Steve Pliakes, an NDP supporter and former candidate, to the board to replace Buck. With his appointment, the five-member board had four residents from Whitchurch-Stouffville as members.

### WHEN THE POLICE RAN OUT OF TICKETS

This should be a Ripley Believe It Or Not! In January, 1995, bad drivers in York Region, who normally would have been ticketed got off with a warning, because traffic officers didn't have enough tickets.

It seems the provincial Solicitor General Ministry sent out a new batch of tickets but York Region Police didn't receive nearly enough and officers saved the tickets they had for more serious offences until a new supply arrived.

It seems the government bureaucracy lacked foresight over the holiday season and not enough tickets for provincial offences were printed.

When the ministry introduced the new tickets on January 1, 1995, York Region received enough to supply each traffic officer with only two tickets.

### TRYING TO REMEMBER AN AURORA EATERY

Sometime around 1996 a restaurant named Tora Ristorante Trattoria was operated by Alex Sipsis and his wife Athena in a small strip plaza on Yonge Street in South Aurora.

It was said to present comfortable surroundings and a friendly atmosphere serving tempting Mediterranean food, including both Greek and Italian influences, and that patrons should save room for tasty desserts.

Does anybody remember the Tora Ristorante restaurant, where it was located and what happened to it or was a figment of a restaurant lover's imagination?

### A MUSIC HALL IN AURORA

During the 1980s Theatre Aurora closed the theatrical

season with a production of a traditional Music Hall featuring music, songs and patter by the master of ceremonies formally dressed and wearing the traditional white gloves.

For all Music Halls, the seats at the Factory Theatre were removed and it was set up cabaret seating with tables for four to six. The bar was open and it was just like a high-class nightclub.

Some were a variety show and others had a theme. One year it was a nostalgic trip down memory lane with the songs and music of George Gershwin and Cole Porter.

There was a cast of five males and five females, some veteran Theatre Aurora performers and some newcomers.

Veteran performers included Ross Bayley, Norma Busby, Barry Flynn, Cliff Copeland and Jo-anne Spitzer.

Newcomers were Janis DePellegrin, Danielle Dury, Janet Flynn, Mary Ridgley, Mike Walsh, and Dan Fraleigh. Too bad they were discontinued.

## Congratulations Heather!



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Having your cake and eating it, too, became a reality for Cheryl Walker last week as her store, Oakridge Outfitters in the Aurora Shopping Centre, celebrated its fifth anniversary. Helping with the celebration is Aurora Mayor Tim Jones.

## Ladies Ball Hockey League Standings as of June 1

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Charley Fitzwhiskey's	7	6	0	1	24	2	13
Tom & Jerry's	7	5	0	2	39	6	12
Arborvalley	7	5	1	1	30	5	11
Jersey's Bar & Grill	7	4	3	0	26	14	8
Purple Pigs	7	3	4	0	13	15	6
Soberman	7	2	5	0	7	33	4
Fairlanes	7	0*	7	0	1	32	0
Canadian Tire	7	0*	7	0	0	35	0

\*Defaulted Games

## New Sobeys sign is above roofline

Without comment or debate, Aurora Council adopted a staff recommendation granting Sobeys' on Bayview Avenue a variance to the town's sign bylaw.

Councillor Evelina MacEachern had asked that the item be lifted for debate, but left the meeting prior to it being introduced.

The variance will permit the installation of a new image signage on the south and east side of the store.

This will permit a maximum of approximately 47 square metres in sign area on any one wall and permit the proposed sign to project above the roofline, which exceeds the current bylaw.

The bylaw regulates the size of wall signs and restricts total signage to 19 square metres or 20 per cent of the total area of the wall whichever is greater.

While the request exceeds the 19 square metres, it is less than 10 per cent of the overall wall area on the south wall.

It was also noted that while the sign extends 1.2 metres above the roof, contrary to the bylaw, a prece-

dent was set when approval was given to Home Depot on Bayview Avenue.

## Aurora Minor Baseball results

### Mite (CoEd)

June 3 - Richmond Hill	4 - 12	Aurora	3 - 8
Oak Ridges	1 - 13	Richmond Hill	2 - 7
Oak Ridges	2 - 12	Richmond Hill	3 - 11
Richmond Hill	1 - 13	Aurora	1 - 12
Richmond Hill	5 - 9	Aurora	2 - 8
June 5 - Aurora	1 - 14	Oak Ridges	1 - 7

### Standings

	W	L	T	For	Against	Pts.
Little Caesars	1	0	0	12	8	2
Remington Medical	1	0	0	13	12	2
Bero's Tire & Auto	1	0	0	12	11	2
XNO3 Design	1	0	0	9	8	2
Colt Creek Driving	1	1	0	26	20	2
Toronto Star	1	1	0	20	21	2
York Pediatric	0	1	0	11	12	0
Aurora Canadian Tire	0	1	0	8	9	0
Greenham's Distinctive	0	1	0	8	12	0
Novex Pharma	0	1	0	7	13	0

### Squirt (CoEd)

June 2 - Richmond Hill	5 - 10	Richmond Hill	1 - 4
June 5 - Richmond Hill	1 - 19	Aurora	- 6
Richmond Hill	2 - 17	Oak Ridges	- 1
Richmond Hill	3 - 16	Richmond Hill	5 - 12
Richmond Hill	4 - 14	Richmond Hill	6 - 6

### Standings

	W	L	T	For	Against	Pts.
Richvale Lioness	1	0	0	17	1	2
LowePro	1	0	0	14	6	2
Al's Home Renovations	1	0	0	16	12	2
Fabricland	1	1	0	23	16	2
Powell Plumbing	1	1	0	22	20	2
WWW.RHMBA.CA	0	1	0	6	14	0
Aurora Home Hardware	0	1	0	6	19	0
Nolan's Transmission	0	1	0	1	17	0

### Squirt (Co-Ed)

June 9 - LowePro (RH4) - 13	Aurora Home Hardware - 13
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### Rookie

June 9 - Clearmeadow Camp (N2) - 12	Casey Transport (A1) - 9
June 10 - Casey Transport (A1) - 18	Royal LePage (K1) - 13
June 11 - Shoppers Drug Mart (Bradford) - 8	Aurora Jays (A2) - 6
June 12 - Casey Transport (A1) - 17	Pet Paradise (N1) - 13

### Mosquito

June 9 - Bradford Lions Club (B1) - 14	Aurora Cable Internet (A1) - 7
June 11 - Dr. Orschel's Drillers (A1) - 14	Kettle Chips (K1) - 10

### Peewee

June 9 - Young Drivers of Canada (N6) - 19	Nature's Emporium (A2) - 7
June 11 - Shoppers Drug Mart (N5) - 9	Nature's Emporium (A2) - 7

### Midget/Juvenile

June 9 - Aurora Men's Slo-Pitch League - 15	Silva Custom Furniture (N2) - 1
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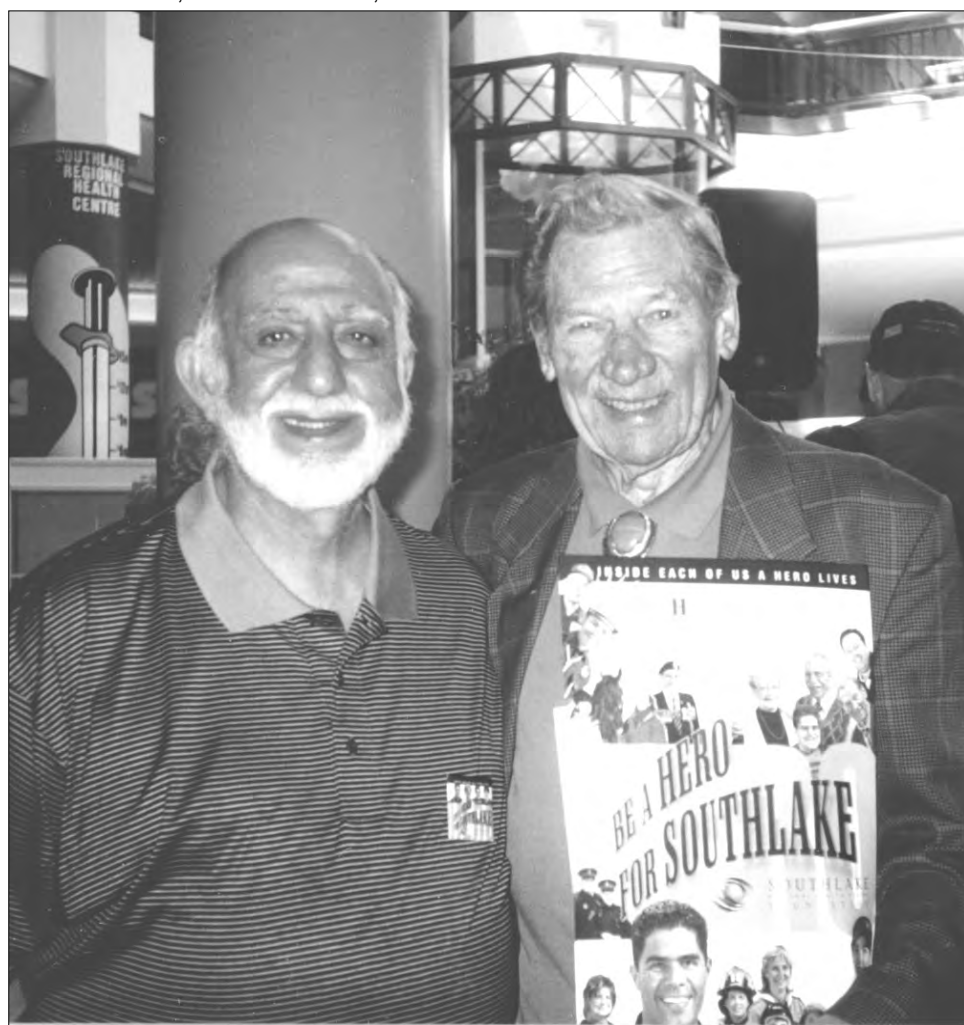
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A couple of heroes, Omar Khamissa and Dick Illingworth, (top photo) pose with the "Be A Hero" poster at ceremonies in Newmarket. Below, eight students from Aurora's Highview Public School, with leader Janine Fernandes on extreme right, entertained the crowd.

## Southlake introduces 'Be A Hero' program

Newmarket's Southlake Regional Health Centre has embarked on a \$149 million expansion and redevelopment project to meet the needs of its growing communities, including Aurora.

While the hospital looks a bit like a war zone these days, the project will not only increase the bed capacity and floor space, but patients and family members will benefit from the state-of-the-art development project.

There will be new space for all programs, particularly regional centres in child and adolescent mental health, paediatric and prenatal care, cardiac care and emergency services.

The Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation is committed to raising \$15 million for the purchase of patient care equipment to

support the hospital expansion, and to-date has raised two-thirds of its goal.

As part of the program, the Foundation recently launched its "Be A Hero for Southlake" Community Campaign.

The year-long campaign is designed to elicit support from all areas of the community, ranging from schools and service clubs to businesses and families to raise the remaining \$4.5 million.

Well known people from various communities served by the hospital, including the Auroran's Dick Illingworth, were invited by the Foundation to be photographed for "Be A Hero Poster".

Copies of the poster with room to advertise events are available from the Foundation office.

At the launch of the poster and the campaign in Newmarket several community groups and individuals participated, including eight students from Highview Public School, headed by Janine Fernandes, who entertained the audience with an original song and contributed a donation of pennies they had collected from fellow students.

Omar Khamissa, a long time supporter of the hospital, was in the audience in support of the campaign. Abbotsford Animal Hospital had a display of exotic pets, which captured the attention of those attending.

If you are planning a community event to assist in the campaign call the Foundation office at 905-836-7333 to receive an information kit.

## Individual has no power once elected to council

One of the more difficult things a member of council has to learn, especially a newly-elected councillor, is that an individual member of council has little more power than he or she enjoyed prior to the election.

It is only council acting as a corporate body that has that power, and even at that, councils are limited in their powers to that granted by the province.

Municipalities are truly creatures of the province because if the province doesn't say so, municipalities are unable to do anything on their own.

Aurora is no exception. Even the mayor of the municipality has limited powers.

The Municipal Act provides some poorly defined statutory responsibilities, and unless council specifically approves the delegation of certain duties and responsibilities to the head of council, the mayor has no authority to act without council's approval.

This can often result in friction between staff and council members, although both groups are working for the good of the municipality.

There is a need for the responsibilities of both staff and council members to be clearly defined.

Unless that's the case, there is a tendency for each to intrude into the other's territory. Some council members want to be administrators, and some staff members want to be decision-makers and set policy.

The normal and simplest division of responsibilities is that council members set policies

and staff administer and/or implement the policies.

This shared responsibility is easier to state than observe in practice.

With the growing complexity of municipal operations, there is a concern on the part of some council members that staff is dominating the policy-making process, making members of council merely rubber stamps, who approve what staff puts in front of them.

At the same time, some members of council, acting on their own, were becoming too involved in the administrative activities of the municipality, creating confusion among the staff as to who was responsible for what.

With the need to get re-elected, some members of council tend to take a short-term view and are more sensitive to public opinion, whereas staff take a long-range view, and stick to policy issues, as approved by council.

Trying to help a constituent get a favourable response from staff for something that isn't covered by a council policy, a councillor often tries to pull rank resulting in a further deterioration of the councillor/staff relationship.

In December, 1995, Aurora Council adopted a set of corporate values, applicable to members of council and staff.

These values form a

commitment among staff and council members to work together to protect and enrich the quality of life for all citizens.

The values focussed on quality service, being customer friendly, constantly being good ambassadors for the town, and using good common sense and judgement.

Both members of council and staff are encouraged to develop a strong working relationship, treat each other with trust and respect and openness and honesty in dealing with each other in the spirit of teamwork.

Office politics and gossip were discouraged as being counter-productive.

Managers are encouraged to communicate, be good coaches, appreciate and recognize good performance, provide feedback and understand the importance of obtaining staff input and advice.

Council members recognized the need to provide all staff with education and training opportunities to improve their skills.

Staff was encouraged to create and maintain a safe, productive work environment, to inject a positive attitude, and be creative, and resourceful.

The results are for the electorate to decide, as they can vote for or against members of council, but they have no say in the appointment of staff.

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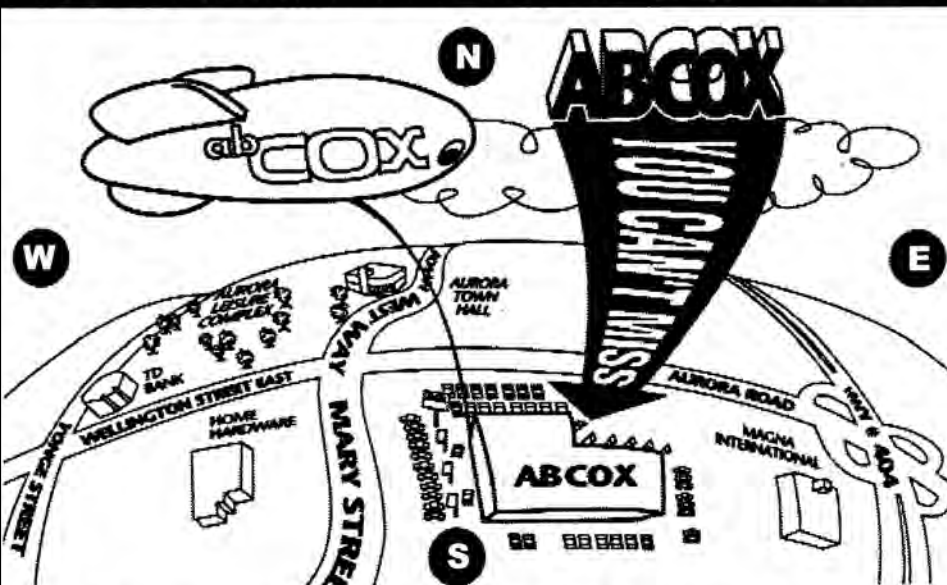
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# New option presented for seniors building

## From page 1

He recommended staff be directed to investigate and do everything possible to implement Option 4 and to bring a report to council.

Councillor Ron Wallace said he could only remember three options and while he would like to concur with Option 4, he was skeptical, especially with an 18-month time frame.

He agreed the seniors needed more space and suggested that in the short-term they move into the renovated old library, while planning was carried out for a new facility, possibly 4-5 years down the road.

Kean agreed with Wallace and said he didn't believe the facility would be available in 18 months.

He added that council had other commitments including new ice pads, but that the seniors deserve to get it their facility first, as they have

waited a long time.

Councillor David Griffith said Option 4 was a great idea that would not only provide a new facility but would free up space for other community groups.

Councillor George Timpson also supported the proposal noting the seniors would have a first class facility. He said the seniors were looking to the future.

Councillor Vrancic said the seniors have waited more than six years and are still waiting. While he agreed to explore Option 4 he did so with reservations. He expressed concern that a decision might not be made before the election.

Councillor MacEachern noted that just two weeks previous members of council gave strong support to the apartment complex on the Victoria Street side and changed like the wind. While she supported the investiga-

tion, she expressed concern that the existing buildings would be demolished.

West pointed out that the town hall was built in less than two years and council should have no trouble finding the money. He said it would be up to the next council to decide what to do with the Victoria Street buildings.

He sought a recorded vote. Mayor Tim Jones said that while he preferred a downtown location, there was no parking available and with a new facility a relocation of the seniors wasn't necessary. He suggested council proceed quickly.

Kean was advised it would cost about \$2.1 million to build the new facility.

MacEachern said that for council to make an informed decision it was necessary to know the pros and cons for each of the four options. Downey replied that this

information could be made available.

The amendment to include

the pros and cons was adopted on an 8-1 vote with Timpson in opposition. The

motion as amended to explore Option 4 was adopted unanimously.

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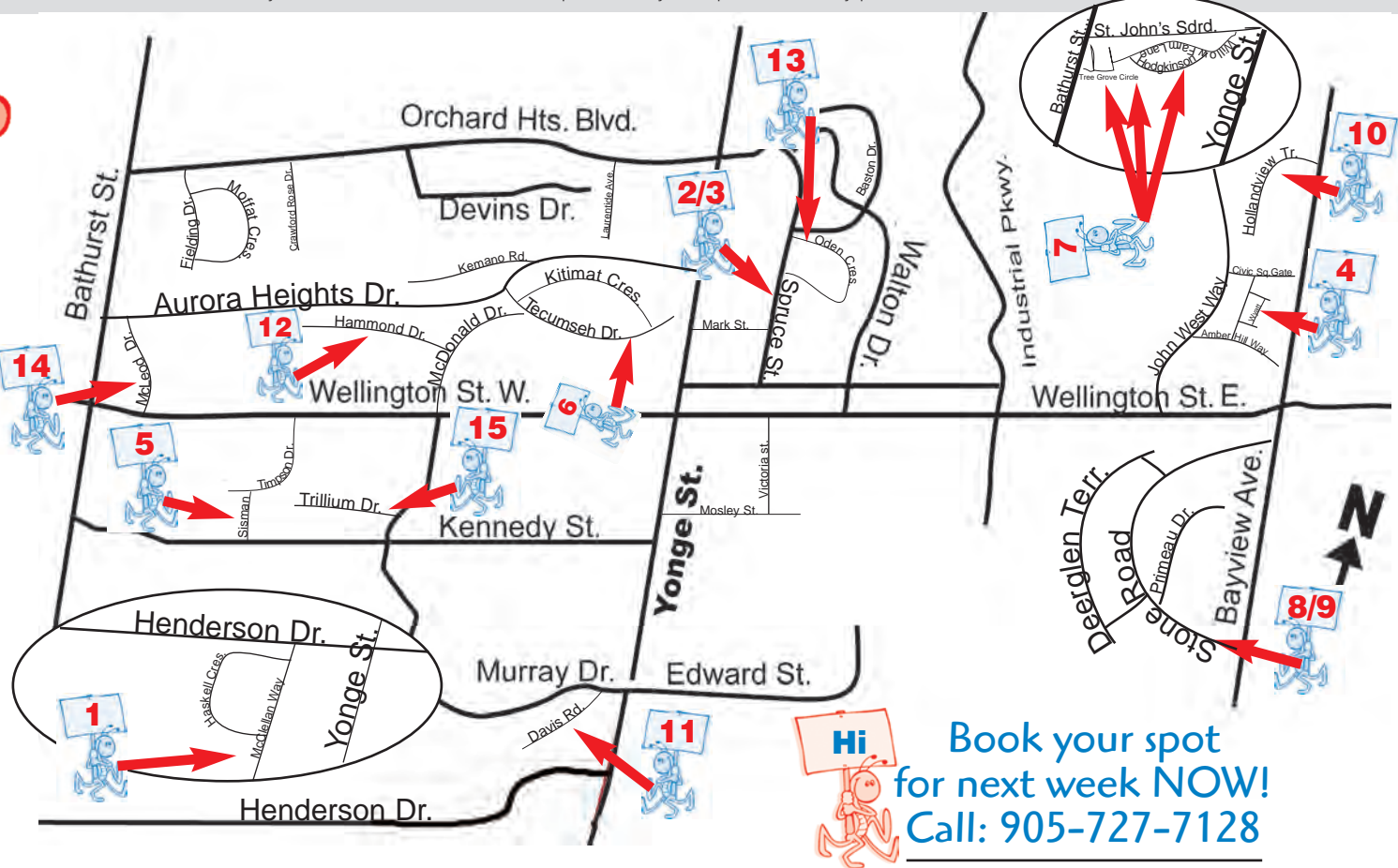
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6) Tecumseh Multi-Family Sale 9 - 2  
7) Hodgkinson/Treegrove Cres./Willow Farm Lane 8 - 2  
8) 368 Stone Rd. 8 - 2  
9) 207/211 Stone Rd. 8:30 - noon  
10) Hollandview Trail Street Sale 8 - 11  
11) 57 Davis Rd. 8 - 1  
12) 2 Hammond Dr. 8 - 1  
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Have above average computer skills?

Fax resume to 905-713-1633 or email to mbe73@mbe.ca

### FOR SALE

**NATURAL GAS FIREPLACE COMPONENTS** - including two glass fireplace doors and decorative logs. Best offer call Ron: 905-727-3300

**USED BOOKS** for sale - the only used book store in Aurora 75 Mary St. Unit. 3

### FOR SALE

**CARPET** - I have several thousand yards of new Stainmaster and 100% Olefin carpet. I will carpet your living room & hall for \$389. Price includes carpet, pad and installation (30 square yards) Steve 905-898-0127

Advertise your treasures for sale in the Classifieds  
**905-727-7128**

**Classifieds: 905 -727-7128**

### AUCTION

## AUCTION SALE

**Monday June 23, 2003 - 6 p.m.**

POTTAGEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE  
Hwy 400 to Lloydtown/Aurora Rd. west 3.2 km to the 7th concession, then south to Hall  
**Watch for Signs**  
To include: Furniture, Glass, China, Silver, Coins, Camera Equipment, Collectibles & Misc. Items.

**PREVIEW:** 5:00 p.m. Day of Sale.

**TERMS:** Cash or Cheque w/identification

**AUCTIONEER DAVID BEASLEY, ICMA, CPPA**

Phone/Fax (905)727-6585

Full Details At: [www.auctionsfind.com/beasley](http://www.auctionsfind.com/beasley)  
e-mail: cbeasley@aci.on.ca

### TRADE-IN FURNITURE

**TRADE-IN FURNITURE** Sofa & Loveseat \$100; Glider Rocker \$95; Sofabed \$125; 5 Piece Dinette \$195; Entertainment Centre \$135; Marble Coffee Table \$150; Many more items available. D-mac Furniture, Aurora 905-727-6403 or 877-663-6626

### JOB WANTED

**EXPERIENCED OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR** with advanced computer skills. Seeks p/t office position. Call Carole 905-853-9524

### HANDYMAN

**PROFESSIONAL HUSBAND** to do electrical, plumbing, carpentry, painting, etc., references available. Call Brad at 905-727-3397.

### PERSONAL

## Celebrating 50 years of Love and Laughter



Jim & Shirley Irvine

June 20, 2003

Congratulations, with love from the entire family!





# tilemaster

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**Ceramic Tiles ■ Porcelain Tiles**  
**Mexican Tiles ■ Glass Mosaics**  
**Natural Slates & Stone**  
**Tools & Setting Supplies**

**ALL  
IN  
STOCK!**



**Many Back Splash  
Tiles in Stock**

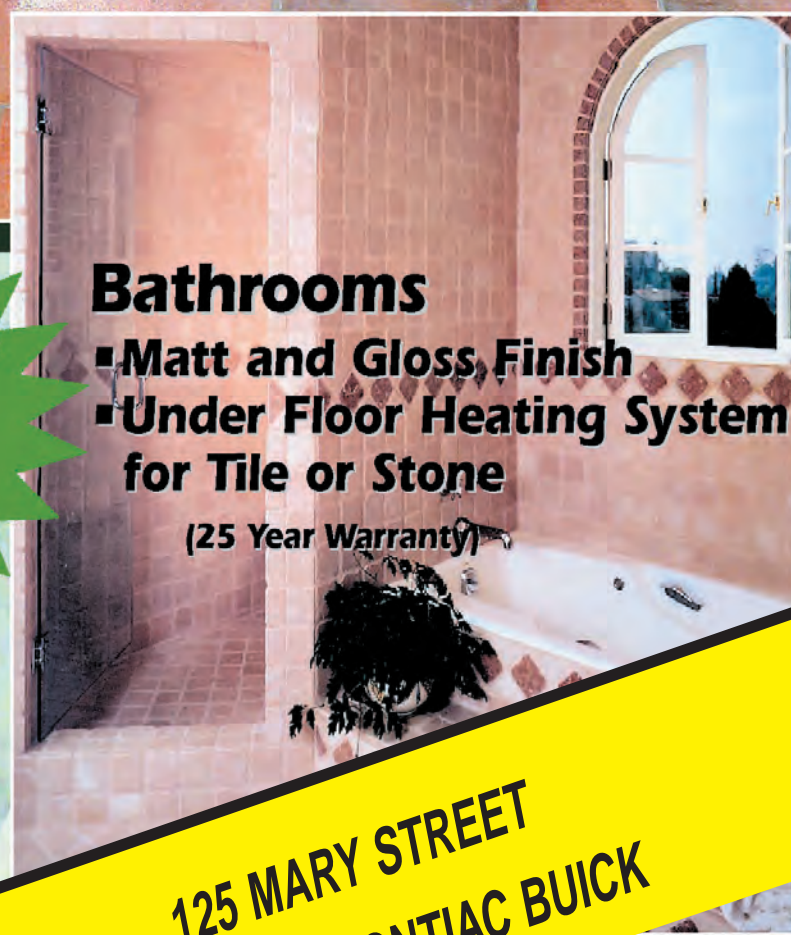
- Natural Slate
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- Ceramic - Matt and Gloss

**13" x 13"**  
**Ceramic Floor Tile**  
 99¢ sq. ft.  
 3 colours to  
 choose from



**Floor Tile**

- Ceramic
- Porcelain
- Residential & Commercial



**Bathrooms**

- Matt and Gloss Finish
  - Under Floor Heating System  
for Tile or Stone
- (25 Year Warranty)



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WATCH FOR DETAILS**

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 next to **AB COX PONTIAC BUICK**

**Showroom**



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Delivery**

**40 Industrial Pkwy. S., Aurora**

**Hours:** Mon.-Thurs. 8am-6pm  
 Friday 8am-9pm  
 Saturday 9am-5pm  
 Sunday 11am-3pm

**905-841-2333**

**\*SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS**  
[www.holtenimpex.com](http://www.holtenimpex.com)