

AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Before You Give Them The Keys... **Give Your Teens The Skills** They Need To Survive. Courses Start May 4th and May 29th of Canada

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Vol. 4 No. 22 Week of March 23, 2004



Pancakes in the bush; the tradition continues

Despite rumours to the contrary. the annual Lions Club pancake breakfast in Sheppard's Bush will continue this year.

And, it won't cost you anything to

For some years, the Lions have been teaming up with the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority to provide three weekends of food and demonstrations.

This year, the demonstrations will disappear, but the food will remain, and a couple of new attractions will be added, according to Lions past president Fred Bullen.

Free parking, pancakes and face-painting will happen this weekend, March 27 and 28; April 3 and 4 and three days of the Easter weekend, April 9 to 11.

In addition, the Lions are organizing an Easter Egg Hunt on the holiday weekend.

Face painting will occur on all three weekends.

Missing will be maple syrup demonstrations and horse-drawn rides, which had, in the past,

provided Conservation Authority.

"Some think because the authority isn't involved, we're not doing pancakes," Bullen told the Auroran Saturday. "That simply is

Sheppard's Bush is located at the end of Industry Street.

From downtown Aurora, follow Wellington Street East, cross the railway tracks, and turn right at the first traffic light.

Bear left at the top of the hill and follow the signs.



of Commerce Business Achievement Awards gala won't be unless the organization gets a few more nominations.

Chamber Manager Rosalyn Gonsalves said last week the deadline for business nominations is next Wednesday, March 31, and so far, only two have category.

The gala event is slated for Thursday, Oct. 21, at DiNardo's Mansion on Industrial Parkway South in Aurora.

Up for grabs are five categories, including Business Person of the Year; Extraordinary Business Achievement; Innovation; New

It is the last category that has generated the two entries. Gonsalves said.

Nominees do not have to be Chamber members, but they may be encouraged to join.

For details about the nominations, call the Chamber office at

On this subdivision land lived a memorable man

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

Pop quiz: Who lived on the Old Yonge Street property currently occupied by the Tara Hill subdivi-

If you said Timothy Craig Eaton, go to the head of the class.

Currently a fully developed subdivision, the land back in the 1970s was the estate of the least known member of one of Canada's most famous families.

Timothy Craig was the eldest son of Sir John Craig Eaton and Lady Eaton, but he found little joy in being the crown prince of the Eaton commercial empire.

After working for a short while in the store he was allowed to drift away and rumours that he was paid \$100,000 a year to stay

Please see page 16

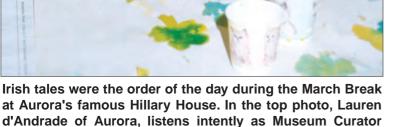
AURORA TIGERS' PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

After one game in their latest Provincial Junior A hockey series, the Aurora Tigers are trailing the Oakville Blades. Results of the game in Oakville Tuesday night were not available at press time.

Here is a summary of the remaining schedule:

Friday, March 26 in Aurora - 8 p.m. Sunday, March 28 in Oakville - 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 30 in Aurora - 8 p.m. Friday, April 2 in Oakville - 7.30 p.m. Sunday, April 4 in Aurora - 2.30 p.m.

All Oakville home games are being played in Streetsville. For details on the playoff opener Friday in Aurora, please see Page 10.



Jackie Stuart reads to a group of children. Below, Aurora's

Robyn McCormick seems pleased with her shamrock mas-



terpiece.

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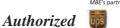
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John



Brian Hunters Gate Plaza

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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

Masons' Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at The Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7:30. For further information contact Bob Butler at h.butler@sympatico.ca or 905-713-3314.

Entrepreneurs. Network marketing is available in Aurora. Aurora-Business.com meets Wednesdays at 7.15 a.m. Group meets at Timberlane on Vandorf Sideroad east of Yonge. Contact Peter Rich at rich.p@mortgageintelligence.ca or 905-727-3800.

Helping Hands: Gently used clothing for women and children, at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. For more information, call 905-727-6101.

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

Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Corps camping, canoeing, first aid, orienteering in two to six week camps for males & females 12 to 18. Call 905-726-8600.

Co-Dependents Anonymous, every Tuesday, Aurora United Church, 15186 Yonge Street, Aurora. 7.30 p.m.

Until April 15th winter on-street parking restrictions in effect to enable snow plowing crews to clear the roadways.

Girl Guide Cookies - did they miss you at your door? Call 905-841-1170 to order the chocolate and vanilla cookies. (Until March 30).

The Canadian Cancer Society, Holland River Unit, is looking for Aurora residents to be part of their residential campaign in April. For information, call 905-830-0447 or e-mail mtaylor@ccsont.org.

During the month of March the Skylight Gallery in the Town Hall presents a multi-media art exhibit by Jan Pugh. Regular viewing times are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

MARCH 27

Aurora Public Library, with Canada Customs, hosts a no-cost income tax clinic from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Drop in clinic is income based (individual \$20,000 - family \$25,000).

Registration for softball and baseball with the Aurora Minor Ball Association at the Aurora Commununity Centre from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Programs are available for ages 5 to 21. Visit www.auroraminorball.ca or call 905-727-8461.

York Symphony Orchestra presents "Triumphant Spirit" at Trinity Church Aurora at 8 p.m. Call 416-410-0860 for ticket information.

"Loveboat" Theme Night at Aurora Legion. 7 p.m. Roast beef dinner & dj. \$12 per person.

MARCH 27-28

All Season Tennis Centre First Annual Polar Bear Tennis outdoor fundraising event for Bounce the Ball, a program to introduce tennis to local primary schools. McMahon Park tennis courts. To register call 905-841-8914 or visit www.astc.ca

MARCH 28

Aurora Optimist Recreational Hockey registration - boys and girls born 1998, 1999 - 8 - 11a.m. Aurora Leisure Complex lobby. For more information call Kim Downs 905-726-2906.

Progressive Euchre at the Aurora Legion. Register at 12.30 p.m. Play begins at 1 p.m.

MARCH 29

Aurora Rotary Club will host clubs in the 7070 district at a 'joint club' dinner meeting at DiNardo's Mansion, Industrial Pkwy S, Aurora, at 6 p.m. Open to the public.



Invest more in your future Less in your taxes

Get organized. Get a plan. Get ahead.

APRIL 3

Aurora Skating Club's 'Broadway On Ice' carnival. Aurora Community Centre. Two shows, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. For more information, call 905-713-1442 or visit www.auroraskating-club.com.

APRIL 5

Aurora Writers Club meets at Aurora Town Hall. 7:30 New members at all levels of writing welcome. Contact Malcolm Watts 905-898-5484.

APRIL 6

Free seminar, presented jointly by the Aurora Library and Aurora Cable Internet, studies who has access to your computer, your files and your personal information. 7 p.m. To reserve, call the library at 905-727-9493 or register on line at www.aci.on.ca.

APRIL 8

Easter Ham Dinner at the Aurora Legion, 6 p.m. Progressive Euchre \$3, live entertainment in the lounge with Ken Mann.

APRIL 10

Aurora Easter Egg hunt. 1 p.m. Aurora Leisure Complex.

APRIL 14

Aurora Probus Club guest speaker is Henry Shannon, CFRB traffic reporter. Aurora Legion, 10 a.m.

Last day for artists to submit paintings to the 42nd

Annual Juried Art Show and Sale. Call 905-726-4762 for further information.

APRIL 16-17

The Catholic Women's League of Our Lady of Grace Parish annual Spring Rummage Sale Friday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Lynett Hall, 16 Catherine Street.

APRIL 18

Hartwell Runners Challenge. Call 905-727-8755 to register.

York Regional Police Male Chorus presents the 2nd annual "Breath of Spring" concert, 7 p.m. at Madsen's Greenhouse, 160 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket. Tickets \$10, advance sale only. Call 905-727-9676 for further information.

APRIL 23

Deadline for nominations for the Town of Aurora Civic Awards. Have a say in the selection process by nominating someone who has won a championship, volunteered or made a significant contribution to the community by picking up a nomination package at the Town Hall or call 905-726-4762 to have one mailed to you.

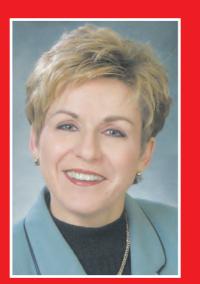
APRIL 23-25

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Home Show.

HOME OF THE WEEK



Marilyn Redvers



Top 1% in Canada - 12 yrs.

"Proud to be living and working in Aurora"



STUNNING HOME IN MINT CONDITION - LOADED WITH UPGRADES!

Fab. 5 bdrm. in west Aurora! Many recent improvements, including roof, reno'd kitchen & baths, ca pet, crown moulding, exterior & interior paint! Beautifully landscaped front & back! Pool-sized lot!

Other GREAT HOMES



A GARDENER'S DREAM IN "OLDE" AURORA!

Fabulous 19th century home...beautifully maintained & presented. Wood floors! 10' ceilings! Mouldings! Amazing 1/4 acre lot designed with specimen trees, bulbs & perennials! Walk to Yonge St., GO train, park!



SOUTHWEST AURORA WITH INGROUND POOL!

Sought-after crescent in great neighbourhood! Beautiful wood trim! Hardwood! Large principal rooms! Award-winning garden! Gorgeous 18' x 36' inground pool! Extra bedroom in basement!



FABULOUS BUNGALOW IN SOUTHWEST AURORA!

Bright & beautiful with neutral decor, soaring ceilings! Gleaming hardwood & more! Terrific open concept kit./fam. room with gas fireplace! Elegant living/dining room! Pool-sized lot! Move in & eniov!



ST. ANDREWS BUNGALOW WITH INGROUND POOL!

Quiet court in prestigious areal Reno'd master bathroom! Skylites! Wainscotting & crown moulding! New ceramic floor! Hardwood! Gorgeous pool! Basement has sauna, 3-pc. bath & walk-up to pool!

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Road reconstruction questioned by Buck

Last January, Aurora Council approved the reconstruction of Banff Drive, Bigwin Drive and St. Andrew's Court in advance of the approval of the 2004 capital budget and directed staff to call tenders.

The proposed project included the reconstruction or replacement of the watermain, roadway, curb and gutter, sidewalk, catch basins and the replacement of streetlights on St. Andrew's Court.

A letter was circulated to all residents and property own-

ers on the three streets, soliciting comments.

In addition a public open house was held and the general reaction of the public was favourable.

Significant feedback was received from the residents of St. Andrew's Court relating to the sidewalk. Twentynine of the 80 residents responded to the town's request for comments and 26 were in favour of retaining the sidewalk.

A total of 22 firms purchased the tender documents and 10 submitted bids ranging from a low of \$988,062.75 to a high of \$1.47 million.

The road portion was under budget by \$47,188.99 but the water portion was over budget by \$109,647.77.

Councillor Evelyn Buck questioned the need to replace the watermain as the designated streets weren't that old.

Director of Public Works Wayne Jackson responded that while the life cycle of watermains was about 50 years, replacing the watermain at the same time as the road reconstruction saved digging up the roadway a few years later.

Buck said she couldn't agree as streets in Regency Acres were much older and the watermains were standing up.

She also noted the additional costs for tunneling when the town was trying to save money.

"I'm not happy," she said. The low bid submitted by Direct Underground was accepted at the tendered price of \$988,062.75.

Colii A FULL SEI Bus

Colin Brown

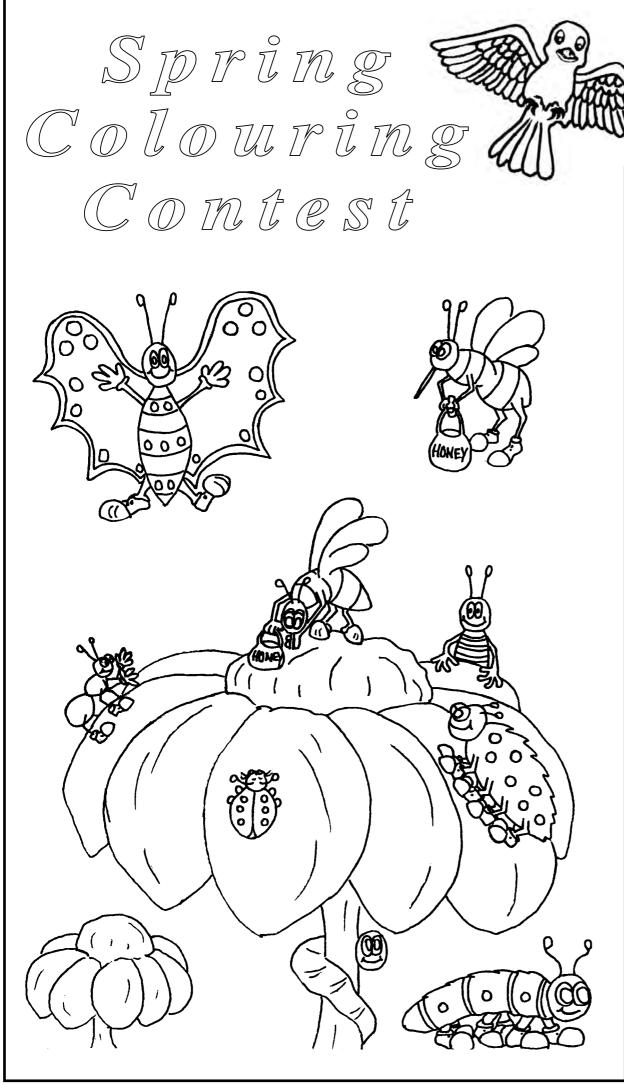
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4 CATEGORIES

3 Winners in each Category

- 5 and under
- 6 and 7 years old
- 8 to 10 years old
- 11 and 12 years old

Prizes - Gift Certificates

Winners to be drawn
Friday,
March 26,
2004

Deadline for entries Thursday, March 25th.

Drop-off points include:

• OMAR'S

Age:_

- CREATIVE COLOURS
- SPARKLE PHARMACY
- FABULOUS FLICKS

Name:______
Address:______
Phone:_____





Remember when interim tax payment simply didn't exist

Bigger is always better, So the politicians say; But when taxes increase, They live to rue the day!

-Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Citizens of Aurora are waiting anxiously to receive their municipal property tax bill for 2004.

Not only are they concerned about the tax increase for town purposes, there's also the tax hit from the region and the charge the provinces imposes for education.

In addition, they may also have to absorb an increase brought about by reassessment of their property to current value.

The value of their property may have increased if they want-

The value of their property may have increased if they wanted to sell, but if they have no intention of selling, reassessment merely means a potential tax increase.

A property tax bill from the town about 50 years ago wasn't much of a problem, even though salaries and the cost of living were lower at that time.

It's hard to believe now that you could mail a letter for three cents, newspapers were two or three cents, an ice cream cone was a nickel and a loaf of bread was five cents.

In 1958 before a development boom hit the town, the population was 4,386 soaring to 6,500 in 1960, 8,735 in 1961, growing to 13,546 by 1971.

It's also hard to believe that the taxes for the average home

in Aurora for 1959 were \$209.80, increasing to \$222.52 in 1960, \$247.60 in 1961 and \$255.30 in 1962.

For 1963, the taxes on the same property had increased to \$283.71 jumping to \$389.90 by 1967.

Granted residents have many more services today than they did then but life went on and nobody suffered and there were very few complaints from homeowners.

The total budget for Aurora in 1965 was \$1,487,235 of which \$35,363 was for administration and \$9,300 for the nine members of council.

At that time municipal council members' salaries were determined by the province based on population.

The salary for a member of council was \$250 per year with the mayor receiving double that amount.

There was also an allowance of \$250 per year for being a committee chairman and every member of council headed a committee.

The 1965 budget included \$8,000 for the upkeep of town property, which included the Town Hall on Yonge Street, the police station in the waterworks building, the works department on Wellington Street West, the fire hall on Victoria Street and the Town Park.

There was also \$6,500 for bank interest charges.

In those days there was no such thing as an interim tax bill or pre-authorized tax payments to provide a cash flow.

The one tax bill went out in September or October, after the crops were in, resulting in the town borrowing from the bank to pay the bills

The Aurora Police Department cost \$69,905, the Fire Department, mostly volunteer, cost \$23,753 and street lighting was \$13,700.

The levy from the Aurora School Board was \$395,965, the Separate School Board \$27,634 and the Aurora and District High School Board \$270,603.

In addition \$172,000 went to the York County Hospital and there was \$26,000 for social assistance, which was a town responsibility at that time.

A total of \$91,500 was included in the budget for maintenance of the roads and \$39,000 was earmarked for the sewage system and operation of the disposal plant.

There was no budget for the water system as users were charged a flat rate and it was a money-maker.

Grants for 1965 totalled \$23,597, which included \$14,100 for the library, \$5,132 for the Holland Valley Conservation Authority, \$3,200 for the 1967 Centennial Committee and \$25 for the Santa Claus Parade.

In presenting the 1965 budget, Mayor Clarence Davis warned members of council that unless the town was able to attract more industry, he didn't know what tax-payers would do in the future.

When you get your 2004 tax bill you might want to think back to what it was like in Aurora in the mid-1960s, but then at that time, most of you wouldn't be aware of the little community on Yonge Street.



The population was barely over 10,000 in 1967 when this picture was taken, but Aurora Council consisted of a mayor and eight others...exactly the same number today who serve Aurora's 44,000 people. They are, front row, left to right, Councillor Dick Illingworth, Reeve Jim Murray, Mayor Clarence Davis, Deputy-Reeve Jack Williamson and Councillor Walt Davis. Back row, left to right, Councillors Bill Trent, Evelyn Buck, Cliff Corbett, Peter Miller and Deputy-Clerk K.D. Gosbee. Clerk-treasurer William Johnson was absent when the photo was taken. See corresponding story page 16.

Letter to the Editor

I contribute regularly to Aurora's economy, basement dweller says

To the editor,

RE: Hidden population causing headaches (Auroran, March 9)

While not as antagonistic as some, Poor Richard falls right in line with all the other short-sighted curmudgeons frowning and grumbling about us hidden householders.

We cause so many headaches, do we?

A major problem, are we? Perhaps you should consider the following:

1. Overall, we are a benefit to the community. On a monthly basis, what kind of headaches do I cause? Let's see: I give several hundred dollars to the local grocery store, a few hundred more to the local gas station.

I make donations to local charities, and, how could I forget, last summer I caused real problems when I supported the local community theatre.

I give increased profit every month for the hydro and other utility providers, probably improving their bottom line enough that they are not as tempted as they probably were to raise your rates again.

Oh, and one minor thing, I boost the circulation of the Auroran, making your advertising space worth more money in your pocket!

With headaches like that to the local economy, it's a wonder they have not yet called in the army to take care of me.

Sure, I don't pay for the sewer system I use, but then again, neither do all the commuters stopping in all the public and commercial restrooms in town, and, if that's all you've got on me, you'd better stop frowning long enough to admit that I give more than I take, to this community.

2. The economy needs us. A conservative commentator recently complained that comparing Martha Stewart to scandals like Enron and ridiculous, because Enron was actually a false business, whereas Martha had a profitable and well-functioning company that was providing jobs and adding to the economy, until a bunch of bureaucrats decided to target it for

Whatever we feel about Martha, the columnist has a point; sure Martha might get what she deserves, but when most of her employees are out of work, maybe losing their houses, cars, and so on, is society, as a whole, really better off?

Likewise, my home might be illegal according to some bylaw, but thanks to my ohso-terrible apartment there are not one but two - my landlord and mine - functioning household economies which contribute, as described above, to the community of Aurora.

Is a bylaw really worth weakening the economy of the town?

3. It's about compassion. Only the most devoid of motivation would ever WANT to live in a basement apartment. Likewise, who would really want to give up half of their house to total strangers?

The only reason most people do it is simply financial necessity If I had the casino I would buy a nice new house, but I am not like Poor Richard, sitting fat and sassy at the tailend of a successful life, rather, I am still a student, and a newly-wed one at that.

My basement apartment is the most I could afford.

I live where I do because I have to, and my Landlord, a poor elderly lady whose husband left her, is likewise financially forced.

Why, oh why, would anyone choose to deliberately make life hard for people at the bottom of the social ladder who are doing nothing more than trying to make it any way they can?

Are the headaches really that bad? Is it that much of a problem?

Are we sending our dirty, poverty children into your school and infesting your good kids with our inferiority?

Are our old rusty cars dripping oil on your precious asphalt?

Well, so sorry that my pathetic not-rich-enough-foryou life has lowered your property value!

Glad to see that in your golden years you have gained an appreciation for what really matters in life.

I would normally never send a letter anonymously, but obviously I cannot afford to have my name out in the open when it is yet unknown how Council will settle the matter.

Name withheld Aurora

ED. NOTE: Our only concern is that you have an option to escape if the exit is blocked by fire. Most basements apartments are not so equipped.

AURORAN

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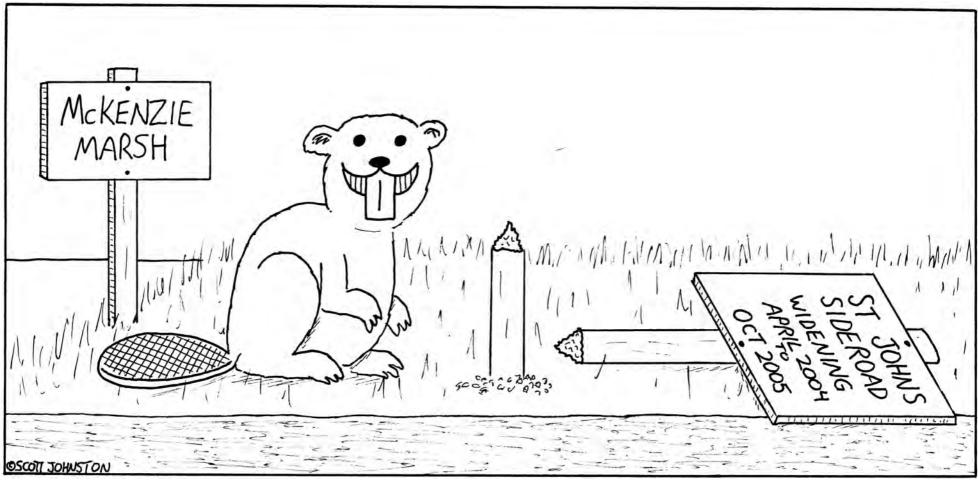
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AURORAN, Week of March 23, 2004 - 5





Mayor's Report **By Tim Jones**

Would you like to see an increase in morale and productivity, and a decrease in apathy and absenteeism in

Would you like to see demonstrations of respect, integrity, honesty and responsibility in your homes and community?

The "Building Communities of Character" conference being held at the Sheraton Parkway Hotel in Richmond Hill April 22nd and 23rd may be just right for you.

The Character Council of York Region, of which I have the pleasure to co-chair, is presenting this opportunity to learn more about Character Communities through testimonials, workshops and keynote speakers including Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, eldest child of Robert and Ethel Kennedy, the former Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, who created the first Statewide office of Character Education, as well as Gordon Cressy, President of the Canadian Tire Foundation for Families and fundraiser extraordinaire, and Bill Hogarth, Director of Education for the York Region District School Board whose Character Matters initiative has demonstrated positive results among our students and youth.

Ontario's Premier, Dalton McGuinty will also speak during the afternoon of April 22nd.

Workshop options are targeted towards many special interest groups including the business community; community groups; families; municipal sector areas such as Parks and Recreation, government, social agencies; educators; faith groups; as well the public at large who wish to gain more knowledge about this basic initiative that is gaining momentum in all that we

Character Community to me is simply "Applied Ethics" and it can be measured in every one of us in all that we do wherever we do it.

We hear great debates about codes of ethics and prescribed rules of conduct - Character Community initiatives are simply about who we are every day.

Workshop topics focus on the following: Media involvement in Character; How to get started- a case study; First Nations Character Education Strategies and Stories; Character Education in the Classroom; The Importance of Incorporating Character in the Business Environment; Character Solutions for Business; Character Family Workshops; Building Character Leadership through Recreation and Camping; Students at Risk - a Secondary School's Story; Policing with Character; The Ethics of Poverty; Resolving Conflicts with Character and many more.

The Conference starts Thursday, April 22nd from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Registration. There is an Education Pre-Symposium during the morning involving a bus tour of York Region Schools who are involved in Character Education.

At 1 p.m. the conference begins with speaker, Gord

Workshops follow from 2:20 p.m. to 5 p.m. From 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. there are displays, evening entertainment and

Building 'Communities of Character' conference

a Keynote Speaker. The Premier of Ontario will address the delegates in the afternoon.

On Friday, April 23rd, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend starts the day with a keynote address. This is followed by more workshop opportunities.

At 2:15 p.m. there will be a panel discussion on Character with representatives from education, government, police and business. And Bill Hogarth will wrap up the conference with his closing keynote address.

Hopefully you have heard about Character Matters or Character Communities.

If you wish to know more, this is an excellent, made in Canada Character Conference to do so.

I would encourage everyone to visit the York Region Character web site at www.charactercommunity.com to learn more about how to register and about Character Communities in general.

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



Cathy's Corner



Something to talk about

Auroran readers frequently ask me how I manage to find something to talk about every week.

It's easy: I'm a woman. Talking is my specialty.

So this week, let's talk about talking!

After all, talking is sure to be of great interest to all Aurorans, since there are only two kinds of Aurorans in Aurora: those who love to talk, and those who suffer at the hands of those who love to talk.

In other words, female and male.

According to the latest research, women speak an average of 6,000 to 8,000 words a day.

But that's only the beginning. We expand our expressive capabilities with an additional 2,000 to 3,000 vocal sounds. These would be utterances like "hmmm...", 'ahhh..." and "oooh...

Gestures, facial expressions, head movements and other body language signals elevate our daily output by another 8,000 to 10,000, "W.U.R.D.S." (What You Really Don't Say) making it possible for women to produce 21,000 verbal and nonverbal communication units per

Men, on the other hand, average a mere 2,000 to 3,000 words a day, issue only 1,000 to 2,000 utterances ("huh?", "um ..." and "oh-oh" are the male favourites, usually in that order), and exhibit a scant 2,000 to 3,000 W.U.R.D.S.

This brings their top end total to only 8,000 verbal and nonverbal communication units per day.

Notice the male maximum is half the female minimum!

That explains why, according to the British Medical Association, women are four times more likely than men to suffer from jaw problems.

It also explains why the words: "Honey, we need to talk" are the most dreaded known to mankind. Notice the royal

You see, at the end of the day, most men have met their quota of words, utterances and W.U.R.D.S.

They want food, a comfortable chair and the remote

Women, however, have needs...and expectations.

On a good day, we will have saved about 10,000 to 15,000 words, utterances and W.U.R.D.S. especially for

On a bad day, the count approaches 20,000. Which makes seat belts mandatory.

On a really bad day, that is, when a woman is stressed, men tend to prefer strait-jackets, and many request the room with the padded walls.

This is because women deal with stress by thinking out loud (talking to themselves), talking to others (including animals, plants and furniture) and talking nonstop.

Oh, and we don't like to be interrupted.

What men need to understand is that as long as a woman is talking, she likes you. The more she talks to you, the more she likes you.

The reverse is also true.

It takes the average man about nine minutes of silence to realize that he's in trouble.

For nine whole minutes, he is relieved, enjoying the peace and quiet. He spends the tenth minute yelling at Rover to move over.

What women need to understand is while both hemispheres of the female brain are wired for speaking, MRI scans show that the male brain does not have a specific centre for speech...anywhere.

It's a wonder men can talk at all!

Men evolved as hunters, warriors and problem-solvers.

All of these require focus, concentration, and with the exception of a few grunts, a couple of growls and the occasional "Eureka", silence.

So, to keep Aurora peaceful, tranquil and serene, Auroran women should talk, and Auroran men should relax, let their eyes glaze over, and go down for the count. By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Ron Wallace, editor of the Auroran, member of council and man about town on his 60th birthday which he celebrated Sunday, March 21st, the first day of spring. He's changed a little since the photograph of his school class was taken, but he still retains that youthful spirit.

BRICKBATS to Oak Ridges MPP Frank Klees for his ongoing vendetta against Vaughan/King/Aurora MPP Greg Sorbara over what he claims a conflict of interest committed by Sorbara over the Royal Group Technologies issue, after he had been cleared by the Integrity Commissioner. If you're looking for a conflict, how about the Mike Harris \$18,500 payment from Hydro One?

straight answer as to who are the shareholders of Aurora Hydro. As the taxpayers own the assets, it was assumed they were the shareholders, but according to a recent statement by Mayor Tim Jones, he says he represents the shareholders by sitting on the Hydro board of directors. Who does he represent? Explanation please!

BOUQUETS to the council member who will endeavour to get a

BRICKBATS to the person or persons who prepared the questionnaire for the reconstruction of St. Andrew's Court including a question as to whether residents wanted to retain the sidewalk. Town policy is to have a sidewalk on one side on residential streets, and on both sides of collector roads, so why the

BOUQUETS to Dave Watson of Aurora for suggesting that the Regions of York, Durham, Peel and Halton get together to petition Finance Minister Greg Sorbara to cancel the approximate \$250,000 subsidy they are required to send to Toronto every year. A united front may be the answer!

Belated BRICKBATS to the operator of the service station at Bloomington and Bathurst Street for posting the price of gas as 69.5 cents. But by the time J.H. got out of her car and got ready to fill the tank the price had jumped to 75.9 but as she was in a hurry and needed gas she filled anyway, but she's not

BOUQUETS to the good neighbour who took the time and trouble to come to the door and remind Poor Richard that he had left the rear door of his car open, which was parked in the driveway. Many thanks!

BRICKBATS to Don Cherry for his pro-fighting stance on Hockey Night in Canada, which he uses to extol the virtues of violence and fighting and seeing nothing wrong with encouraging young hockey players to mix it up. It's time CBC chopped him for his biased and insufferable comments.

BRICKBATS to both the federal and provincial governments for failing to conduct a thorough investigation of the insurance industry. When the industry came begging the Tories were quick to cap payments for minor injury claims, but for 2003 the companies had a record profit of \$2.63 billion. There's something

BOUQUETS to Finance Minister Greg Sorbara for relaxing for one year the unfair tax cap that the Tories imposed on municipalities by restricting them to increase taxes on commercial properties, but providing no relief to homeowners due to the current value assessment fiasco created by the same Tory govern-

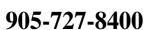
BRICKBATS to those in the educational system, at both the provincial and local levels, for allowing at least four high schools, including Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School, to deteriorate to such a condition that a significant amount of renewal work is required, which is false economy.

BOUQUETS to John Taylor, who was a candidate for nomination as the Liberal candidate for the federal riding of Newmarket/Aurora, for withdrawing from the race claiming the ever-deepening scandal surrounding government expenditures in Ottawa has caused him to back away from politics.

BRICKBATS to MP Dennis Mills and other federal MPs for attacking Auditor General Sheila Fraser and calling her report \overline about the sponsorship scandal a big lie. No wonder politicians are 14 per cent on the trust scale compared to used car salesmen at 19 per cent.

Like a good neighbour, State Farm is there.





PETER VIRTANEN, CLU



Letters to the Editor

Reception service a bargain, she says

To the editor,

Thanks to Dick Illingworth for giving a "Brickbat" last week to those who may not recognize the bargain town council is getting by formalizing a twoyear pilot project with Aurora Family Connections - Info Aurora to provide town reception services along with community information and referral services.

As an example, Info Aurora volunteers and its part-time manager last year helped more than 7,500 people with routine inquiries about town services ranging from garbage collection, meeting schedules, to council min-

Info Aurora assumed additional town responsibilities such as handling RFPs and RFQs, etc., so to increase town efficiencies.

With Aurora growing in size, Info Aurora introduced a "onestop" welcome package to assist more than 500 prospective and new residents of Aurora arriving at Town Hall learn about municipal services, regional services, and the Aurora commu-

And, in 2003 alone, Info Aurora helped more than 2,000 Aurora residents who dropped by the front desk, called or e-mailed questions and services, special events, neighbourhood groups, and/or other levels of government services using the most accurate and up-to-date online community information database in York Region.

It has York Link's 700 plus entries within the 3,000 date records which Info Aurora can

For \$25,000 a year, Info Aurora will continue to provide these services. If the Town returns to using

more just to cover their Residents may well see a return to fewer reception ser-

two part-time staff, it will cost

for new residents when they arrive at Town Hall; and a much reduced familiarity, accuracy, and speed when providing community informa-

Rather than a "Brickbat", Info Aurora might be considered a "bouquet" in representing the Town's creative use of a community non-profit organization and its trained staff and volunteers to reduce Town costs, add an enhanced service, improve efficiencies and help meet residents' day-to-day

Rosemary Park AFC President

Officials need to try this Yonge-Wellington system

To the editor,

I read with dismay and consternation an article your paper ("Yonge/Wellington right turn lane to be built in the Spring" - Auroran, Feb. 3rd) that the idea I had about solving the traffic problem at that intersection has been suggested by Councillor Ron Wallace for YEARS, but has NEVER been tried!

Being relatively new to Aurora, I thought that, surely, a traffic signal system that would allow one

Safety first only for some

To the Editor

I think it would be interesting to hear from anybody on Aurora Council or anyone else at Town Hall as to why everybody living in Aurora is not entitled to the same protection afforded to living in "Community Safety Zone-Fines Increased" neigh-

Anybody?

S. Ivol **Aurora**

move at a time - i.e. a left turn signal on ALL directions, at ALL times - had been thought of and rejected for a reason I ignored, although I couldn't understand why it would be.

After all, Davis and Yonge, which has to be one of the busiest intersections in York Region has this system and it works very well!

I assumed that some major problems were involved in applying this system in Aurora.

So hearing about the hazards of this intersection for the five years I've lived here, and finding out that this easy and probably cheapest way to solve the problem was never tried is beyond me, simply just unbelievable!

This solution would be too simple and not expensive enough...that's probably why it was never applied!

Lise Boily

ED. NOTE: Wallace's proposal for Yonge and Wellington would not mirror the system at Yonge and Davis in Newmarket, because there is no room for an exclusive left turn lane. on Yonge St. in Aurora. the light system currently However, he believes the answer is traffic movement in one direction only at a time, similar to

used at Highway 48 and the Bloomington Sideroad in Whitchurch-Stouffville.





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Tennis is still the game for Joyce

To the editor,

I lived in Aurora from 1959 until I moved to a condo in

Aurora was a wonderful place to bring up my three children - population in

rectly, was 4,000 and it is now 43.000.

My friend in Aurora saves

for me, and much to my surprise in the October 28, 2003, edition, under the

Rumblings", I found a subheading "She's a Master of Tennis and Squash" with my name, Joyce Jones, in

In case it might be of interest to you, here is an up-to-date follow-up on my tennis career.

tennis after I retired from Sterling Drug (26 years) in 1992. I have played every year in the Canadian Nationals

since 1995. In ladies doubles, my partner and I have won six titles, and have been run-

and will also be playing on the 70 team this year in the United States. Next year will be the big I started playing seniors 75, so I hope our health

I was also chosen to play

Team in

on the 65 Canadian

South Africa and the 70 team in Austria and Turkey,

AURORAN, Week of March 23, 2004 - 7

International

Keep up the good work on the Auroran - a great paper.

continues and we can still

play the great sport of ten-

Joyce Jones Toronto

Plenty of info advised of ID

To the editor,

RE: "No ID? No vote". letter from R. Schumaker (Auroran, March 16)

It is hard to imagine, after the deluge of letters, telephone calls and emails from nomination candidates, that anybody could have missed the information that two pieces of ID were required for the

Canada nomination meeting

Several of the messages even contained tables showing acceptable types of ID for both identity and proof of residence.

I find it coincidental that the author has the same name as a newspaper owner and publisher who would surely be reviewing all such information Canada's political evolu-

My personal feeling is that the event was better organized than I had anticipated with the lineup for admission being shorter than it looked from the outside and the voting lineup much

I would also suggest that, given the increase in automobile and identileaving one's ID in a vehicle, parked after dark in an area that is unusually busy and overcrowded, is not a good idea.

G. Andrew Aurora

ED. NOTE: Following purchase of the membership, no additional information or communication was received from either candidate.

Conservative Party of in detail at this point in ty theft in recent years, Be grateful your child is healthy, reader says

To the editor.

I would like to comment on the letter to the editor "Public health staff need children of their own" (Auroran, March 16).

I am the grandparent of a child with severe peanut/nut allergies.

My grandson has a severe reaction to peanut/nut products, and does not have to ingest them to have a severe response.

His parents and family members greatly appreciate the inconvenience and sacrifice you make to provide a peanut/nut free environment to keep him

The reason for store bought products is that home prepared foods could contaminated

peanut/nut products in the

As careful as the writer is with his ingredient list, not all households are the same.

Also, the liability factor is no doubt a concern.

In regard to the "toilet paper rolls", paper towel rolls make a good hygienic alternative for crafts.

As far as the toddler's bod-

ily functions after ingesting fruit, try a banana, In my experience, it satisfies the fruit desire and firms up the stool.

Take a deep breath, and be grateful when children do not have serious health problems, or life threatening allergies.

Audrey Bigelow Aurora

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Skating results

The following skaters successfully completed tests at the March 3rd (High) and March 10th (Low) test days:

Senior Silver Freeskate, Part 1 & Part 2: Carolyn Armstrong.

Junior Silver Skating Skills: Maya Goldman.

Senior Silver Skating Skills: Amanda Jamieson. Gold Skating Skills: Erin Thomas.

Keats Foxtrot: Emma Slimkowich, Emma Warburton.

Harris Tango: Ariel Kwan.

American Waltz: Emma Hayzelden, Mackensie Jordan, Jamie

Stephenson, Allie Sutton. Rocker Foxtrot: Tavish Armstrong, Paige Flanagan, Mackensie

Paso Doble: Maya Goldman.

Starlight Waltz: Heather Cole, Meaghan Jones, Chelsea Kerr, Jacqueline Miklovich.

Blues: Chelsea Kerr.

Viennese: Brinlee Brown.

Westminster Waltz: Tori Ellis. Erin Thomas.

Quickstep: Terra Ciolfe.

Argentine lango: Iori Ellis.

Preliminary Freeskate, Part 1: Christina Relke, Cierra Snell.

Preliminary Freeskate, Part 2: Cierra Snell.

Junior Bronze Freeskate, Part 1: Caden Armstrong, Jordanna Goldman, Emma Slimkowich.

Senior Bronze Freeskate, Part 1: Fayme Cockshutt, Emma Hayzelden.

Senior Bronze Freeskate, Part 2: Fayme Cockshutt, Maya Goldman, Emma Hayzelden, Meaghan Jones.

Preliminary Skating Skills: Jihyun Cha.

Junior Bronze Skating Skills: Emma Laverty, Christina Relke. Dutch Waltz: Zahra Rajan, Alexandra Rizzardo, Carley Steiner,

Sierra Thompson.

Baby Blues: Jihyun Cha, Nicole Miklovich.

Swing: Nicole Calvert, Sophia Perugini.

Fiesta Tango: Robyn Kosmidis, Kayla Mete. Willow Waltz: Melanie Althouse, Christina Kubiw-Kalashnik, Kendall

Mannella, Sophia Perugini, Tayler Sim.

Fourteen Step: Nicole Relke. European Waltz: Alanna Kelly.

Following interviews, Adjustment Committee members are selected

Last January, a bylaw was prepared appointing members to the Town's Committee of Adjustment, but when it was presented to council it was deferred until a later date.

The deferral was requested to allow all applicants appointment committee to be interviewed due to the planning powers that granted

committee.

Those powers are beyond the control of council, except by appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board.

Following extensive interviews recently, Aurora Council approved the appointment of Verna Ross, Michael Seaman, Roy Harrington, Frank McGrath and Tony Magliocchi to the committee.



Conservation Area, there are many other maple syrup festivals listed at www.ontariomaple.com to enjoy. Other events to consider include:

Bruce's Mills Conservation Area (Whitchurch-Stuffville) March 6-April 12. Visit www.trca.on.ca or call 416-661-6600

Kortright Centre for Conservation (Kleinburg) March 6-April 12. Visit www.kortright.org or call 416-667-6295

Tiffin Centre for Conservation (Utopia) April 3 & 4. visit www.nvca.on.ca or call 705-424-1479.

Plus...the Aurora Lion Club is hosting an All-Day Fundraising Breakfast for local charities at Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area, in

Aurora, March 27 & 28, April 3,4,9,10&11. Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

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Page 10

Oakville wins opener 3-2

Rare occurrence: A Tiger loss





If the prognosticators in the stands at the Aurora Community Centre Friday night are going to be correct, the Aurora Tigers have their work cut out for them.

The buzz through the crowd of 800 locals, and even another 200 visitors, was that the Aurora Tigers could handle the Oakville Blades in five games, max.

Which means Aurora must win the next four in a row.

No big deal when you consider the Tigers have swept three Provincial Junior A playoff series in the minimum of games...12.

And counting the regular season, Aurora has lost only two games all year.

Until Friday night.

Suddenly, it was a different poker game.

Aurora was, by far, the better team, but Oakville was noticeably bigger and every bit as determined.

At the final buzzer, it showed. Oakville 3 - Aurora

(The second game was in Streetsville Tuesday night, but results were not available at press

The third game is slated for the Community Centre this Friday night at 8 p.m.

But, back to last Friday.

With the Blades coming off an impressive series victory over the number two ranked team, Georgetown, (Oakville won the series four games to one) Tigers knew they were in for a battle during the North/West Conference.

Aurora goaltender Chris Whitley got the call for the locals, and despite one hiccup when he failed to clear the puck properly, played a

At the other end, however, Dan Giffen stood on his head to turn back wave after wave of Aurora players.

For example, after 20 minutes, Aurora had outshot Oakville 15-6, but the frame ended scoreless.

The second period was a copy of the first with the Tigers getting a number of great scoring opportunities, but coming up short.

Steve Mignardi finally broke the Giffen wall on a power play goal set up by Francis Walker and Jesse Olden.

Oakville, however, answered back a little over three minutes later when a bad clearing attempt was handed to the Blades deep in the Tigers zone while Aurora was shorthanded.

Both teams traded scoring opportunities, but the period would end deadlocked.

Aurora again outshot Oakville 12 - 6 during the period, running the 40minute total to 27-12. The Tigers seemed to fall

into the Oakville trap as the Blades did a great job of tying up every Aurora player, not allowing them to get much flow during the third period.

Oakville capitalized on a giveaway behind the Tiger net to take the lead, but Alex Lalonde scored the prettiest goal of the night when he was sprung free on a breakaway by Joel Kitchen and beat Giffen to the top corner while shorthanded to tie the game at 2-2.

The Blades fought back and on a goal mouth scramble deposited the puck in the back of the Tiger net to give them the 3-2 lead that held through the end of the match.

That, despite a disallowed Tiger goal by Jordan Brenner, which the official originally said was in, but after conferring with his linesman, called the goal off.

Final ruling was the puck had been directed into the net with a glove. Aurora kept all sorts of

pressure in the Oakville zone late in the period, but could not get the equalizer.

GAME SUMMARY

FIRST PERIOD

No Scoring **SECOND PERIOD**

A: Steve Mignardi (Walker, Olden) 9.10

Nicholas (Unassisted) 12.58

THIRD PERIOD

O: Rico Arnaldo (Kim) 2.14 A: Alex Lalonde (Gilbert, Kitchen) 4.01

Giffen

Charlie (Unassisted) 6.35

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Photos by Barry Bridgeford

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Action was fast and furious Friday night as the

Aurora hosts Oakville again this Friday night at

the Aurora Community Centre, for game three,

which begins at 8 p.m. The Tiger loss was their first of the playoffs, having run together a string of

12 victories, and only the third game the team has

Town buys back land as real estate dries up

In an agreement dated October, 1959, between the Town of Aurora and Aurora Heights limited, the company agreed to purchase the 14-acre Petlovany property on the future Industry Street for industrial purposes.

At that time residential developers were required to provide industrial or commercial assessment in order to proceed with their residential develop-

Council of the day made every effort to retain the residential/industrial assessment in balance. (What a novel idea!)

The selling price for the unserviced land was \$1,000 per acre.

The town agreed to put in the roadway and services to the property line and charge the cost as a local improvement against the property.

As the land was still vacant in 1963, the town stopped issuing building to Heights Limited.

Another agreement, dated October 19 that year was made between the town and the developer whereby the rest of the lots were released for building permits with the acquiring the Petlovany property and paying off the outstanding mortgage of about

The property was landlocked and unserviced and due to its topographical features was not suitable for any large industry.

In spite of many efforts to sell the property, there was little or no interest shown by potential developers.

The Aurora Development

1959

to council in January, 1967, reported that in spite of several good prospects, the clients were not interested in the type of rolling terrain, nor unserviced land.

They recommended the land be serviced to make it more saleable, but no action was taken.

Finally it appeared the land was completely unsuitable for industrial purposes, although some was given to developing the site as a park and recreational area, including an overnight trailer

It was at this time the illfated Railway Museum was introduced and the Petlovany property located next to the CN railway tracks, was considered to be the perfect site.

During December, 1967, it was learned that a developer was interested in the property and plans for the park and railway museum were discarded.

A bylaw was passed January 8, 1968, selling the property for \$2,500 per acre.

The servicing of the land to the limits of the property became a town responsibility at an estimated cost of \$35,000. The sale covered the cost of servicing, so that it was done at no cost to the taxpayer.

The services were installed and the property became much more attractive and increased in value. The original plan as presented by the developer was to subdivide the property into five or six small lots.

However an opportunity came along to sell the 14 acres to one buyer, and the property was re-sold at almost double the purchase price.

Conditions of the sale provided that the town would extend Industry Street and install services at an estimated cost of \$44,000.

In return, the new owner agreed to ensure that industries would be built on the property within six months of the completion of the roadway and services.

At the January 8, 1968, council meeting Reeve Jim Murray, then chairman of the Industrial Committee, council members three industries were committed and two more were almost certain.

By the time the road was built the property had been re-sold and then re-sold again with no industrial buildings on the site.

By this time the town's buildina work Wellington Street West had deteriorated to such a state that a new building was necessary and the preferred site was on Scanlon Court, part of the former Petlovany property.

Council approved the final design of the building on May 7, 1973, at an estimated cost of \$200,000 and by September 1974, it was well on its way to completion.

It is ironic that part of the land the town once owned had to be purchased back at a price of \$5,000 per acre for the works building.



If you have been fortunate enough to hold a winning ticket at a Tiger Junior A hockey game recently you may have found yourself sitting in the stands holding a fullfledged pizza from Aurora's newest pizzeria, Toppers, located on Yonge Street North. Here Aurora resident Renee Perdeaux lifts another pizza from the ovens, ready for delivery to the Aurora Community Centre, where they have become sought-after prizes.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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District teams being formed for CCS's "Relay For Life"

Teams and volunteers tions, groups, families and from Aurora are being invited to participate in the Canadian Cancer Society "Relay for Life" in June at Pickering College Newmarket hosted by the Holland River Unit.

The event is planned to cover a 12-hour period, June 18 and 19.

It's a tribute to the lives of people who have been touched by cancer.

Activity includes an overnight non-competitive relay involving teams of 10 to 12 people who take turns walking, running or strolling around a track.

The teams consist of people representing corporafriends.

Each team sets up a camp on the grounds and there are contests for the best-decorated tent, costumes, and fundraising.

Cancer survivors are invited to walk the first lap of the Relay for Life to acknowledge and celebrate their courage in their struggle with the disease.

The "Survivor's Victory Lap" provides survivors an opportunity to share and celebrate success in their battle against cancer, give hope to people living with cancer and their families and to thank everyone who helped them through their

Another highlight of the event is the "Luminary Ceremony" where candles are placed around the track to commemorate survivors and those who have lost their lives to cancer.

Relay for Life begins at 7 p.m. on Friday June 18 and continues until 7 a.m. the following morning

Money raised helps the Society fund research projects in the country

Aurora residents interested in forming a team should contact Sandra Kacszuba at 905-830-0447 for details.

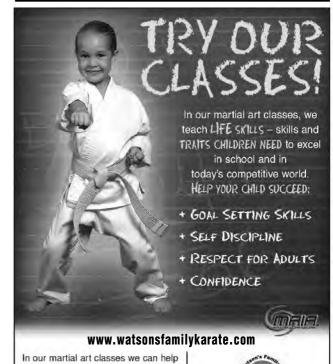


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House League Playoff Games

102 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Black) 4: Spencer Green 3G, Nick Baxter 1G, Mitchell Arnew 2A, Matteo Campea 1A, Oliver Jones 1A, Parker Baile 1A, James Johnston, shutout. 103 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Red) 0.

109 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Orange) 3: Austin Lane 2G, Branden Fennell 1G. 104 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Royal) 1: Paul Neophytou 1G, Robin Creighton 1A.

101 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Green) 4: Liam Coll 3G, Brayden Beswick 1G. 105 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (White) 3: Ian Dunlop 2G, Jamie Wilson 1G, Alex McDonald

110 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Teal) 9: Brenden Lukezic 6G, Tyler George 2G, Christopher Sanita 1G, Kristen Grasse 2A, Logan Blaser 1A, Joel Gouveia 1A. 108 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Maroon) 1: Keith

107 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Grey) 5: Konner McMillan 3G, John MacDonald 2G, Ian Reid 1A. Jake Anderson 1A. Kevin Wood 1A. 106 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Gold) 4: Jordan Nanos 1G 1A, Sean Foxwell 1G, Alex Remedios 1G, Graham Robinson 1G, Cody Child 1A, Adam de Roos 1A, Nicholas Scott

404 A.D.C. ALUMINUM 5: Egan Fennell 3G, Eric Abel 1G, Griffin Slimkowski 1G 3A. 402 JUNIOR TIGERS 1: Gianluca Sampieri 1G.

405 McALPINE FORD LINCOLN 7: Robert Anderson 2G, Tanner Brewer 2G, Chase Riddell 1G 1A, Adrian Tobin 2G, Brodie Royce 1A, David Scott 1A. 407 REC CYCLE N' SPORTS 4: Branden Bartolin 1G, Cameron Annear 1G, Jonathan Alcock 1G, Alex Dunn 1G, Stefan Pagura 1A, Brent Lockhart 1A, Charlie Still 1A.

401 MARY'S FLOWER SHOP 6: Jordan Gerace 2G 1A, Logan Weber 1G, Lucas Caistillo 1G, Tyler La Mantia 1G, Joel Piovesan 1G, Brandon Thompson 1A, Andrew Cosentino 1A. 403 SHOPPERS DRUG MART - AURO-RA 3: Rhys Gander 2G 1A, Joseph Lombardi

410 THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA CO. 2: Stephen Newby 1G 1A, Ethan Morice 1G. 406 LANGDON'S COACH LINES 2: Jake Hindley 1G, James Forrester 1G, Chris Waller 1A. Paul Andrews 1A.

409 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA 8: Michael Takahashi 1G 3A, Christian Davies 3G, Greg Lacroix 2G 1A, Sean Takahashi 1G 1A, Colin Sandquist 1G. 408 AB COX PON-TIAC BUICK GMC 6: Daniel Howie 4G, Mark Tanel 2G, Matthew Abel 1A, Thomas

409 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA 9: Sean Takahashi 1G, Michael Takahashi 5G, Spencer Brook 1G, Christian Davies 2G 1A, Slava Lobko 1A, Kirk Stevens 1A. 407 REC CYCLE N' SPORTS 5: Brent Lockhart 1G 1A, James Phillips 1G, Cameron Annear 2G, Stefan Pagura 1G, Brandon Bartolin 1A, Jonathan Alcock 1A.

406 LANGDON'S COACH LINES 4: Alex Pavne 1G. Christian Avolio 2G. Kyle Rojas 1G. Branden Drummond 1A. 408 AB COX PON-TIAC BUICK GMC 2: Daniel Howie 2G, Kevin Tree 1A, Ryan Hastie 1A.

401 MARY'S FLOWER SHOP 12: Tyler La Mantia 1G 2A, Jordan Gerace 4G 1A, Logan Webber 2G 1A, Brandon Thompson 5G, Andrew Cosentino 1A. 404 A.D.C. ALU-MINUM 6: Peter Collins 3G, Griffin Slimkowich 3G, Egan Fennell 2A.

5: Rhys Gander 2G 1A, Brett Richardson 2G

Aurora Minor Hockey Association Results to 9 AM Sunday, March 21st Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha

1A, Ben McConnell 1G, Jay McConnell 2A. 805 RAEDAN FREIGHT SERVICES INC. 3: Jensen 1A, Patrick Jones 1A Lennie 1A, Adrian Tobin 1A.

2G, Sean Maule 1G 2A, Troy Gouveia 2G 1A, Paul Tuck 1G, Thomas Gans 1G, Chris Follet 1A. 410 THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA CO. 1: Ryan Laird 1G, Rosari Arcuri 1A, 806 ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION 4: Keith Stephen Newby 1A.

506 THE SHREDDING COMPANY 5: Mike Moody 1G 1A, Alex Heintzman 2G 1A, Brandon Rival 1G, Elio Panaccione 1G, Scott Ashbourne 1A, Gianni Episcopo 1A, Michael Coggin 1A, Aaron Morrison, shutout. 502 DIAL TONE COMMUNICATIONS 0.

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Branden Fennell 1G, Spencer Green 1G, Konner McMillan 1G, Connor Graham 1G, Brenden Lukezic 1G 1A, Quentin Campbell 1G 1A, Jerryd Jensen 1G, Liam Coll 1G, Jordan Nanos 1A, Matthew Iwai 1A, Jack Caldwell 1A, MVP Brenden Lukezic.

Tyke 3 Ancaster Avalanche 1

Spencer Green 1G, Konner McMillan 1G, Quentin Campbell 1G, Liam Coll 1A, MVP Konner McMillan 1A.

Tyke 5 Ajax Red 3

Spencer Green 2G, Liam Coll 1G 1A, Brenden Lukezic 1G, Jerryd Jensen 1G 1A, Shannon Murray 2A, Quentin Campbell 1A, Sean O'Donnell 1A, Jordyn Thomson 1A, Jack Caldwell 1A, Konner McMillan 1A, MVP Spencer Green.

Tyke 3 Stoney Creek 2

Quentin Campbell 1G, Spencer Green 1G, Brenden Lukezic 1G, Liam Coll 1G, Connor Graham 1A, Jack Caldwell 1A, Konner McMillan 1A, MVP Liam Coll.

West Mall 5 Tyke 2

Spencer Green 1G, Jerry Jensen 1G, Jack Caldwell 1A, MVP Jerry Jensen. Tournament MVP Brenden Lukezic.

Rep Playoff Game

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Trevor Best 1G, Tanner Thiessen 1A, Andrew

Orillia 4 Minor Atom A 2

Brian Puskar 1G, Nick Heintzman 1G, Daniell Delbello 1A.

Orillia 4 Minor Atom A 2

Andrew Papousek 1G, Nick Heintzman 1G, Brian Puskar 1A.

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Atom A 1 Nobleking 0

Evan Carlisle, shutout, Tristan Miller 1G, Josh Beaton 1A.

Atom A 1 Nobleking 0

Cary Byron, shutout, Matthew Miller 1G, Tyler 1A.



Nobleking 4 Atom A 3

Danny McConnell 1G 1A, Brandon Pedersen 1G 1A, Josh Beaton 1G, Spencer George 1A, Blair Cuthbert 1A.

Nobleking 4 Atom A 1

Michael Bar 1G, Denis Casey 1A.

Minor Peewee Rep Sponsors AA: Gringler, Iskov, Lerner, C.A.'s A: FM Window's & Doors Manufacturing / Venture Steel **AE: Pembridge Insurance**

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Ajax 3 Minor Peewee AA 2

Justin Brown 1G, Jesse Cappell 1G, Joshua Herrington 1A.

Ajax 7 Minor Peewee AA 3

Kevin Zacharuk 1G 1A, Dillon Cappell 1G, Jesse Cappell 1G, Luke MacLeod 1A, James Mildon 1A, Andrew Whitley 1A.

Minor Peewee AA 3 Ajax 2

Spencer Arkell 2G, Justin Brown 1G, Dillon Cappell 1A, Jesse Cappell 1A.

Bradford 4 Minor Bantam A 3

Ben Sherritt 1G 1A, Ethan Davenport 1G, Jesse Coote 1G, Keegan O'Leary 1A.

Minor Bantam A 6 Bradford 1

Steven keane 2G, Spencer McCartney 2G 2A, Nick Crain 1G, Ethan Davenport 1G 2A, Mark McCrudden 2A, Ben Sherrit 2A, Chris Finlay 2A, Jamie Tuck 1A.

Bradford 6 Minor Bantam A 3

Josh Meron 1G, Jamie Tuck 1G, Ethan Davenport 1G, Nick Crain 2A, Steven Keane 1A, Mark McCrudden 1A.

Minor Bantam A 7 Bradford 2

Mark McCrudden 1G, Colton Horner 1G 1A, Greg Gianopoulos 1G, Ben Sherritt 2G 2A, Chris Finlay 2A, Keegan O'Leary 2A, Jamie Tuck 1A, Fraser Kegel 2G, Kevin Wheeler 1A.

Bradford 6 Minor Bantam A 2

Josh Meron 1G, Colton Horner 1A, Fraser Kegel 1G, Patrick McMurray 1A, Kevin Wheeler 1A.

Minor Bantam A 5 Bradford 3

Steven Keane 2G 1A, Ben Sherritt 1G 2A, Colton Horner 1G, Chris Finlay 3A, David Cigana 1A, Nick Crain 1A, Kevin Wheeler 1G.

Minor Bantam A 5 Barrie 3

Spencer McCartney 1G 2A, David Cigana 1G, Ben Sherritt 1G, Chris Finlay 1G 1A, Nick Crain 1A, Jamie Tuck 1A, Josh Meron 1A, Fraser Kegel 1G, Kevin Wheeler 1A.

Minor Bantam A 8 Barrie 3

Chris Finlay 2G 2A, Jamie Tuck 1G 1A, Josh Meron 1G 1A, David Cigana 1G, Ben Sherritt 1G 3A, Greg Gianopoulos 1A, Eric King 1A, Fraser Kegel 1G 2A, Kevin Wheeler 1G 1A.

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Birth of the snowmobile gave council headaches

Today's council has its own problems with speeding motorists on residential streets, requests for more and more stop signs, environmental issues and rampant growth, but councillors don't receive complaints from residents about snowmobilers, as they did back in the 1960s.

It was so bad that in April, 1967, council considered adopting a bylaw to ban snowmobiling on town property, especially parkland.

Existing bylaws at the time banned the operation of all motorized vehicles when appropriate signs were posted.

In addition to complaints about the noise from residents, council members were concerned about safety as some snowmobiles were being operated by children under 12, while other children were sleighing in the park.

Due to requests from snowmobilers in November, 1967, council amended its bylaw to permit snowmobiling on town-owned land in an unoccupied area in the northeast corner of town where the town's works building is currently located.

By January, 1969, snowmobiling in Aurora had become a major problem. They were on sidewalks, lawns, parks and streets, sometimes in control of children as young as 10 years.

Operators drove their powerful, speedy machines over sidewalks, around traffic and whizzed past pedestrians, increasing demands on council for more and more restrictions.

Council members met with Aurora Police Chief Bill Langman and officers to develop a strategy to provide greater controls and enforcement.

One of the suggestions was the formation of a snowmobile club, which police officers agreed to help organize.

On January 20, 1969, council directed staff to prepare a bylaw banning snowmobiles from sidewalks and on Yonge Street, Aurora Heights Drive, Wellington Street and Murray Drive except to cross at right angles.

The use of snowmobiles was also banned between midnight and 7 a.m., a requirement was passed that all operators had to be at least 16 years of age and all machines had to be insured.

In early February that year a group of private citizens, with the assistance of the parks and recreation committee, established the Aurora Snowmobile Club with a mandate to educate members on government and local rules, as well as to help eliminate complaints from citizens.

On February 17, members of the Snowmobile Club, headed by Les Jones, appeared before council to request that the club be consulted before any moves were made by council to limit the use of the machines in town.

They also asked the town to allow members access paths through town parks to meeting places. Council agreed for members of the police committee to meet with club members.

By that time the club had 23 members and was expected to have 59 within two weeks. It was pointed out that snowmobiling was the country's fastest growing winter sport.

Following a meeting with the members of the snowmobile club regarding approved trails through town parks, the police committee tossed the issue back to council claiming the use of parks was a contravention of the bylaw.

There was also some opposition from citizens about the use of access paths through town parks. By September, 1969, the parks and recreation committee recommended the bylaw be reviewed in the interests of safety.

Complaints about the use of snowmobiles within the municipality started again in November, 1970, and council directed that the bylaw restricting the use of snowmobiles on sidewalk and in parks where signs were on display be well publicized.

The complaints continued and snowmobile operators were soon named "snowbaboons" for their disregard of provincial and local legislation, including use of sidewalks, operating during late night hours and young children still operating the powerful machines.

In spite of the best efforts of members of the Aurora Snowmobile Club the madness continued.

Although the club's membership had increased to 120, there were still operators who refused to join, so in many cases club members were preaching to the responsible operators.

In October, 1971, the Aurora Snowmobile Club offered a \$100 reward for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of snowmobilers who caused property damage in excess of \$25 within the Aurora area.

Earlier that year, council gave permission to the Aurora Snowmobile Club to host snowmobile races in Machell Park as part of the Aurora Winter Carnival.

It was so successful another race day was authorized a month later on condition the club provide liability insurance.

By January, 1972, the members of Snowmobile Club considered disbanding due to the increasing number of irresponsible operators in the municipality and surrounding area.

Earlier, club members had stopped several operators who were operating their machines contrary to the town's bylaw, but they had no authority to enforce the legislation.

By January, 1972, citizens were demanding stronger laws to control the machines in residential areas and what was claimed to be a complete disregard for residents.

The Snowmobile Club asked council to designate selected club members as Bylaw Enforcement Officers for snowmobiles, without remuneration but with authority to bring snowmobile violators to justice, in cooperation with York Regional Police. That idea

was not supported by police officials.

In December, 1974, the Aurora Safety Council and the Aurora Snowmobile Club recommended to council that a bylaw be adopted requiring all snowmobile operators to wear safety helmets while operating their machines.

When it was learned the province was considering similar legislation, Aurora Council decided to wait for the provincial legislation. which would take precedence.

Also in December, 1974, the Aurora Snowmobile Club received a Safety Award from the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs for their ongoing work in safety.

As more and more operators purchased trailers to transport their machines to the open countryside, and the sport lost some of its initial glamour, the number of complaints to council lessened and today a snowmobile complaint would be a novelty.

But snowmobiles weren't all

In November, 1973, the Aurora Snowmobile Club mailed out letters to several Aurora residents, including Ron Wallace, the editor of another local paper at that time, inviting participation in Whipper Billy Watson Appeal for a Therapeutic Pool for the York County Hospital on February 3, 1974.

The letter went on to state the organizers were planning a marathon ride on snowmobiles from Bradford to Orillia and return, a distance of 100 miles, in hopes of raising \$25,000 toward the \$250,000 cost of the

At the time, Wallace had never been on a snowmobile and, in fact, didn't even like the machines and according to him, the club members knew it.

But they promised to provide the machine, a suit, helmet and accessories for his safety and comfort.

There was no way Wallace could back out.

He decided if he had to go through with it, he would need someone to suffer with him and he challenged Roy Green into joining him on the venture.

At the time Green was working for Jarmain Cable TV (now Rogers) in Newmarket and wrote

column for Newmarket newspaper.

Although he also had never been on a snowmobile in his life, he had no option but to accept the challenge.

By this time more than 500 snowmobilers had signed up for the charity ride. The Whipper Watson Appeal was scheduled to culminate on the weekend of February 16 with a 30-hour telethon on CKVR-TV.

Wallace and Green started out with a group of about 30 snowmobilers but by the time they reached the first bend in the Holland River leading to Lake Simcoe the other 28 machines had disappeared and they were on

They were soon lost and missed check points along the route, especially the one that indicated a left turn into Kempenfeldt Bay to reach Barrie. As a result they reached Checkpoint 5, the farthest point from Bradford, ahead of the 28 other snowmobilers.

But Wallace and Green didn't care and according to some sources giggled hysterically knowing the trip was half over and they made it back to Bradford safely, as they couldn't miss the mouth of the Holland River.

With some 600 riders participating in the ride, more than \$57,000 was raised for the pool.

The telethon was successful as the Whipper raised more than \$360,000 and the pool has been an asset to the hospital ever since.

The idea of the pool came about as a result of a serious car accident in which the Whipper had both legs severely damaged and it was thought he would never walk again.

Watson, a former professional wrestler, spent several weeks in a Toronto hospital where he used a therapeutic pool.

He was transferred to York County Hospital to be closer to home, saw

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the need for a similar pool and launched the appeal.

It was officially opened December 10, 1975, by Ontario Lieutenant Governor Pauline McGibbon.

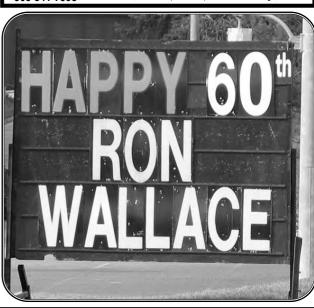
The successful snowmobile ride was the forerunner of a series of Snoweramas, organized by Whipper Watson to raise funds for Ontario's crippled children.

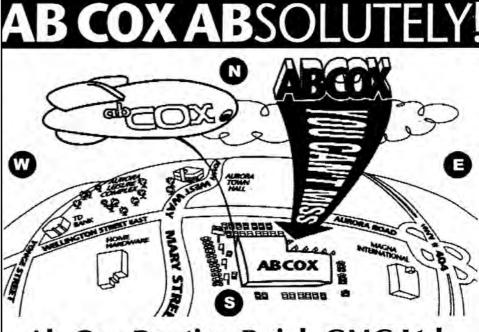
It is reported Wallace Green touched a snowmobile

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Students travelled free to recreational facilities

Starting in the summer of 1994, Aurora Council approved a free service on town buses for all school students on trips to and from municipal recreational facilities.

The town's leisure services department provided a variety of services and programs in different areas during the summer months and encouraged students to participate.

Passes were not required although high school age students were required to show proof of school attendance.

The free bus service was repeated in 1995.

Is it still available or did it get lost in the transfer to region-

al transit?

AURORA TEEN IN SPORTSGIRL OF YEAR FINAL

It was back in September 1995 when 14-year-old Krissy Christopulosz was selected as one of the 24 finalists in Teen Magazine's Sportsgirl of the Year contest, the only Canadian selected for the U.S. magazine.

More than 10,000 entered the contest.

The Aurora teen juggled several different sports while maintaining a 90-plus average at Aurora High School.

She played basketball, volleyball, badminton, was involved in track and field, swimming, skiing and fishing but her favourite was softball.

WHEN GEORGE STOREY COACHED THE TIGERS

Most hockey fans remember Red Storey, the colourful former NHL referee, but back in the early 1970s it was his brother George who was the favourite in Aurora.

He lived in Aurora and coached the Aurora Tigers

When the team was acquired by horseman John Sikura in the 1970s he offered to keep Storey on as coach, but Sikura had big plans for the club and planned to bring in former NHL Maple Leaf player Ron Ellis as assistant coach.

George didn't want any part of the new setup and declined

When Sikura's son, John, Jr., got too old to play for the Tigers, his father sold the club.

And George, who still lives here, dropped out of the Aurora sports picture.

WHEN YORK POLICE SOLD USED GUNS

It's hard to believe today but back in November, 1994, York Regional Police Service Board agreed to trade in old police revolvers, instead of destroying them.

The board had signed a deal with a Montreal gun dealer that allowed them to trade in 680 .38-calibre revolvers as part of a deal to purchase new semi-automatic pistols.

The company agreed to pay \$100 each for the old guns. saving \$69,000 on the \$610,000 contract.

The board went ahead with the deal even though the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards passed a resolution urging forces not to sell their old guns and the Ontario solicitor general passed a regulation forcing police departments to destroy their old guns.

York Service Board officials claimed their deal with the Montreal firm stipulated that the guns had to be re-sold to police or military agencies outside North America, not on the open market.

TOWN'S "HONEY WAGON" VANDALIZED

Aurora doesn't have a honey wagon today but prior to the coming of the Big Pipe, when Aurora operated its own sewage treatment plant at the north end of Machell Avenue, the town required a tank truck, called the honey wagon.

The vehicle was used to remove the sewage sludge from the plant and transport it to nearby farms as fertilizer.

In May, 1971, vandals broke into the grounds of the sewage plant, started the truck and crashed it into the town's new grader. The truck was a wreck and the grader damaged.

It cost taxpayers \$125 per week to rent another honey wagon until a decision was made to acquire a new one.

NEW TANK TRUCK ORDERED

In May, 1971, Aurora Council authorized the purchase of a new tank truck for the fire department.

The tank truck was required to fight fires in rural areas where fire hydrants or other sources of water, such as a fire pond, were not available.

The ancient chariot then in use was jointly owned by Aurora and King and Whitchurch Townships and had been unroadworthy for several years.

The new cab and chassis cost \$6,096 from Lawton Bros. and the 1,200 gallon tank mounted on the chassis cost

THE UNLUCKY \$2 BILL

It wouldn't happen today as the \$2 bill has disappeared in

Theatre at Howard Johnson

Marriage almost goes to this dog

Many stories have been written about a man's love for his dog, but none of them will top the strong relationship between Greg and Sylvia, a friendly dog Greg found in the park, with the name tag Sylvia, or who found him.

The delightful play "Sylvia" opened Friday in the Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre at Howard Johnson Aurora.

Greg and his wife, Kate, have moved to a Manhattan apartment after 22 years of child-raising in the suburbs. Both were successful in their careers.

Greg is played by Matthew Lawrence employed in the business world.

Kate, a rather haughty and austere academic, is played by Laura Halley. Everything was fine until Sylvia is brought home.

Just in case you wonder how a dog can be trained to take part in a live stage production, the role of Sylvia is brilliantly played by a talented young lady, Sabrina Aslan.

When Greg brings Sylvia home from the park, she is full of energy and wants to play, jumping all over the chesterfield and onto Greg's lap, licking his face and trying to make friends

with Kate.

Kate is not impressed and takes an almost immediate dislike to the dog, but reluctantly agrees to try it out for a couple of days.

Conditions worsen, especially when Sylvia wets on the floor beside the chesterfield. Kate, who calls the dog Saliva, says she has to

In hopes of impressing Kate, Greg takes Sylvia to have her groomed, but it doesn't help the situation. Kate wants to get rid of her, and Greg wants to keep her, claiming that he and Sylvia have bonded.

Greg takes Sylvia to a leash-free park where he meets Tom, a fast-talking macho-type, the owner of Bowser, a male dog.

It's hard to believe Tom is played by Kathryn Bosham, who has the challenging task of handling two other roles in the play.

Kate brings home Phyllis, a long-time friend, also played by Bosham, and Sylvia does not make a good impression by jumping all over her.

In an effort to separate Greg and Sylvia, Kate applies and is successful in obtaining a six-month scholarship in London, England, with a spousal allowance

but Grea refuses to go unless he can take the dog.

Their marriage is put in serious jeopardy causing them to visit Leslie, a marriage counsellor, also played by the versatile Bosham.

After a series of hilarious and touching complications, Greg and Kate learn to compromise and Sylvia becomes a part of their

While Sabrina Aslan may be new to Aurora theatregoers, the other three are well known through Aurora Cable Internet

Matthew R. Lawrence is seen regularly on Canadian Improv Showcase and Laura and Kathyrn have their own show "On the Arts".

"Sylvia" continues March 26, April 2, 3, 10, 16, 24, 30 and May 1 with the buffet starting at 6:30 and the

show at 8:30 p.m.

A special matinee performance will be presented Mother's Day, May 9. Call 905-727-1312 for reserva-



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favour of the "toonie", but at one time the \$2 bill was scorned by many as a bad luck omen.

The bill was said to be the wages of sin as it was the standard bet at the tracks and the starting point of negotiations with a prostitute.

The bad luck curse was said to be broken if a corner was torn off the bill.

This was also true in the United States, especially Texas. Dick Illingworth tells the story while flying with the Royal Air Force Ferry Command.

He was crewed up with a Texas co-pilot who refused to board the delivery aircraft unless Illingworth tore the corner of a \$2 American bill his American uncle had given him for

The corner was torn off and the trip proceeded.



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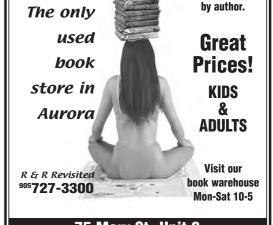
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16- AURORAN, Week of March 23, 2004

Aurora Council size has long debate history

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

An on-going debate facing Aurora Council members over the years has been trying to decide its right size.

It was never a problem in county council days as citizens elected a mayor, reeve, deputy reeve and six councillors.

The reeve and deputy reeve sat on county council as well as on the local council.

With the advent of regional government in 1971 came the elimination of the reeve and deputy reeve positions and councils had the opportunity to determine the size desired under regional

government.

As regional government was relatively unknown and not knowing just what the workload for a councillor might be, Aurora decided to remain with nine members, a mayor and eight councillors.

In 1974, Councillor Ron Simmons suggested council be reduced from nine members to seven.

This followed a previous suggestion by Mayor Evelyn Buck that council should be reduced to five members on the basis there wasn't enough work for nine council members.

With little or no debate, council decided to take no

action on either suggestion.

In March 1997, Councillor

In March 1997, Councillor Norm Weller requested a staff report regarding the implications and financial savings that would result if council was reduced to six councillors and the mayor.

At a special public meeting to obtain citizen input to which only five residents attended, council voted 5-4 to retain the status quo.

In June, 2000, a citizen's committee studied remuneration for council members and recommended that consideration be given to the size of council possibly reducing the number prior to the 2003 municipal election.

On a 6-1 vote in

September, 2001, council defeated a motion to reduce the number of councillors from eight to six.

It was the decision of most members of council that the saving of approximately \$30,000 was not sufficient to warrant loss of political representation.

This was after Mayor Tim Jones made his third attempt to decrease the number of council members from eight to six.

During his first two terms, Jones agreed with a citizen's committee who had recommended the size of council be reduced.

On the previous two attempts, council defeated

his proposal, on the basis of loss of representation. It was argued there would be more work and less representation.

At that time with eight councillors, there was one for every 5,500 residents. With six councillors the ratio would be one for 7,333 residents.

In October, 2001, the mayor wrote a column dealing with the size of council in which he was quoted as saying council made the wrong decision in not supporting a smaller council.

When some members said they would be overworked and citizens underrepresented with a reduction in members of council, Councillor John West stopped short of calling them babies and voted against the motion to retain eight members.

Other members of council argued that not only would the citizens be under represented, a reduction in the number of council members would limit the opportunities of newcomers to run for office.

The next time there may be a debate on council size would be when council considers a ward system, or when, if ever, Aurora gets a second representative on regional council.

At this point, neither option appears likely.

visiting

orphans who referred to

He later arranged for the

outdoor model railway to

be shipped from his Aurora

him as "Uncle Tim".

Timothy Eaton was a model train fanatic

From page 1

out of Eaton's have never been disputed.

Lady Eaton wrote in her biography "Memory's Wall" that there was great rejoicing for he was the first male Eaton of his generation and was named Timothy after his grandfather, the founder of the store, and Craig for his father.

He attended St. Andrew's College, but later, for health reasons, studied in California.

After college he visited Europe to study engineering and returned to Canada in 1922 on the death of his father.

He acquired the property in Aurora across Yonge Street from St. Andrew's College and used his engineering talents to construct two model railroads, one in the basement and one out-

The outdoor track was a replica, one-eighth of the actual size of the locomotive that pulled Sir Winston Churchill's funeral train.

The train was a familiar sight for passersby on Yonge Street or old Yonge Street.

There's another rumour floating around that Timothy, while mom was overseas, constructed a

model railroad in one of the towers of Eaton Hall on Dufferin Street (currently Seneca College).

When Lady Eaton returned she was not amused and had the layout removed.

Timothy also loved horses and was Master of the Hunt at the North York Hunt Club in Aurora, as well as a hunt club near his English estate.

He also had a summer home on Georgian Bay where he kept a 46-foot cabin cruiser.

He moved to England to live in the early to mid-1970s because he loved the atmosphere and the countryside, and as he said at the time because he was a royalist, and a great admirer of Winston Churchill.

In July, 1974, he returned to Canada and on July 7th was installed as Honourary Commandant of the Queen's York Rangers Cadet Corps, having served with the Rangers during World War II.

He was in ill health at the time and was accompanied by a nurse and a doctor.

About the same time a fire occurred at his Aurora home resulting in approximately \$100,000 damage.

The fire department was called out at 2:25 a.m. to battle a blaze which had apparently started in the home's sun room and spread into the kitchen. By this time the home was occupied by Mrs. Georgia Eaton.

The fire was similar to one that broke out in the same area in March, 1972, but was contained by the quick arrival of the Aurora Fire Department.

Two orphanages were

located near his English home in Tunbridge Wells in Kent. Married three times but

children. he

with

no

home to his English estate as he believed the orphans would get great delight from the trains.

Timothy Craig Eaton died

enjoyed

in England on April 24, 1986, at age 82. After a service in Tunbridge Wells, his body was flown to Toronto for a service at Timothy Eaton Memorial Church and a

final resting place in the

family vault at Mount

Pleasant Cemetery.

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