

AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Vol. 4 No. 24

Week of April 6, 2004

905-727-3300

Town Hall to get its own address?

Should Aurora's Town Hall be on its own street?

Aurora Council isn't sure.

Introduced by Councillor Nigel Kean, a recommendation that the town hall and the future seniors centre be located on a street called "Civic Way" resulted in council seeking further information.

As far as Councillor Bill Hogg was concerned, the whole thing was "silly", and suggested if he knew the item was going to be discussed, he might have stayed home.

Currently, the town hall's address is 100 John West Way, and while Kean has no objection to John West Way remaining in existence, he believes municipal buildings should have their own street names.

The Aurora Community Centre, located on Aurora Heights Drive, has its own address of 1 Community Centre Lane.

Kean suggested the town hall would become 1 Civic Way and

the seniors' building would be 3 Civic Way.

Civic Way would be a street from the laneway leading into the Town Hall curving around the parking lot in front of the Seniors Centre and exiting back onto John West Way.

Councillor John West, after whom the street is named, was quick to oppose the proposal.

He pointed out there was a big difference with the Community Centre as it never had an address on Aurora Heights Drive and when 911 was implemented an address was necessary.

He added that the proposal would make a driveway and a parking lot into a road and there would be a substantial cost to the town in changing addresses.

Others said they could see no advantage to the proposal.

A motion to take no action was defeated by a 5-4 vote and a second motion to defer until the required information was available was approved by the same margin.



Pioneer Life at Regency Acres Public School was evident last week when a classroom was transformed into a period in the 1800s. With her slate at the ready, student Clara Reeves has a question. Candlelight and a wood burning stove added to the environment.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Smith returns to run

There will be at least two elite entrants in the upcoming Bob Hartwell Runners Challenge.

Aurora's own Stephanie Smith, 14, will return to defend her title in the five kilometer race, which she won last year as a 13-year-old against all comers, and was sixth overall, including men, out of 188 competitors.

Stephanie is ranked first or second in Canada in her class at distances ranging from 1,500 metres to 10 kilometres.

She routinely wins her age class in all road races in Southern Ontario, and often wins or places in the open categories.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the age scale is Ed Whitlock of Milton who has entered the Half Marathon.

Whitlock is one of the most amazing athletes in the world.

He is the world record holder in the marathon for men over 70 years old, having just recently run in the Toronto Waterfront Marathon.

The second annual Hartwell Challenge is slated to begin at Aurora's Town Park early in the morning of Sunday, April 18, and it is expected more than 800 will compete.

So, you decide...

Should the Town Hall have its own street name?

YES



NO



WHO CARES?



Send or fax your answer to the Auroran, 75 Mary Street, Aurora, L4G 1G3 or 905-727-2620 (fax).

Briefly

Booth sales climbing

More than 350 booths have been reserved so far this year's Street Festival. Aurora Chamber of Commerce, responsible for organizing the annual event, also has a lengthy list of entertainment acts lined up.

Staffer Mary Lynn Stephenson said the sale of booths is on a par with last year's sellout show.

This year, the Festival will be held Sunday, June 6, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Yonge Street, between Wellington and Murray.

It will be another success, if the Chamber can make it stop snowing.

Go Tigers Go

The Aurora Tigers, possibly the best Junior hockey team in the country, took another giant leap forward Friday night, eliminating the Oakville Blades in six games, thanks to a double overtime 5-4 victory.

They open their next series against the St. Mike's Buzzers this Friday, Apr. 9 at the Aurora Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

The second game is slated for St. Michael's, St. Clair and Bathurst in Toronto, Monday night at 7.30 p.m.

A full report appears on Page 12.

Committee lack slows activities

Aurora Council has adopted a motion by Councillor Wendy Gaertner that a process will be established leading to a viable Youth Centre and the process will begin with the appointment of a Leisure Advisory Committee.

Whenever that might happen.

Gaertner asked when the committees would be appointed.

Town staff advised the application deadline for various committees was March 31st and a report was expected at a general

committee meeting Tuesday night.

The debate over the composition of advisory committees has been raging since January. Council couldn't decide whether committees should be citizens only or a mixture of citizens and council members as is the current practice.

The issue has bounced back and forth between general committee and council and every time agreement was reached, it

was re-introduced again until finally in late February it was decided to remain with the status quo and re-advertise for potential members.

Meanwhile, Councillor Ron Wallace suggested the lack of a "special events" committee could lead to July First festivities having no parade.

However, he has been assured a parade will be held, although the committee has yet to be selected.

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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

If you can sing, play a piano or tell a joke, Cliff Davies wants to hear from you. As part of the Seniors Travelling Entertainment Program (STEP) he is looking for volunteers to perform in this non-profit operation throughout York Region and Simcoe County. 905-727-2244.

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.

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.

Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre at the Howard Johnson Aurora presents "Sylvia", a modern romantic comedy about a marriage and a dog April 10, 16, 24, 30, May 1 and 9. Call 905-727-1312 for reservations.

During the month of April the Skylight Gallery in the Town Hall features the artwork of Marie Stevens with a reception and art show on April 27th from 7 - 9 p.m. Regular viewing hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

APRIL 8

Hot Spot is open this evening for an Easter party, but will be closed Good Friday, April 9.

APRIL 10

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

APRIL 13

Easter Luncheon at the Seniors Centre. \$5. Space is limited. Call 905-727-2816 to reserve.

APRIL 13 and 16

Seniors can register dogs or cats at the Seniors Centre from 1 to 4 p.m. Licence is free to seniors 60 plus. For more information contact Kim at the office.

APRIL 14

"Come, Read With Me", a free workshop for parents who want children to enjoy reading. Aurora Grove Public School (Griffon Hall) 415 Stone Road. 7 p.m. to 8.45 p.m.

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. Pick up a nomination package at the Town Hall or call 905-726-4762 to have one mailed to you.

APRIL 23/24

Aurora Opera Company Show for Seniors at 11 a.m. Friday. At 7 p.m. the children's operetta "HMS Pinafore" featuring youngsters from 5 to 13, will be presented, followed by the teenagers' youth operetta "Orpheus and Euridice" and repeated Saturday at 2 p.m. At 7 p.m. Saturday the adult company presents "Mad About Musicals". Call 905-953-5122 for further information on all productions.

Aurora United Church annual Spring Rummage Sale Friday from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Church is located at 15186 Yonge Street, south of Wellington, in Aurora.

APRIL 23-25

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Home Show.

APRIL 24

Join the anti-litter team and help keep Aurora clean by participating in the kick-off of the Anti-Litter Program with a barbeque at the Town Park from 4 to 6 p.m. Other pick-up dates are May 29, June 26 and September 25. For further information call the Mayor's office at 905-727-4741.

APRIL 30-MAY 1, 2

Annual Aurora Art Show and Sale. Aurora Town Hall.

MAY 1

Deadline for nominations for 2004 Citizen of the Year. Nomination are to be addressed to the mayor at the town hall.

MAY 4

"Mishaps and Mayhem of Canoe Trip Planning" is the subject of a workshop presented by the author of eight canoeing guides, Kevin Callan, at the Aurora Public Library. Seating is limited. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk. 905-727-9493. 7-9 p.m. Lebovic Room.

MAY 5

Genealogy workshop at the Aurora Public Library with J. Brian Gilchrist will instruct how to research family history from a variety of resources. Seating is limited. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk. 905-727-9493. 7-9 p.m. Magna Room.

MAY 29/30

Aurora Seniors Art Show and Sale at the Seniors Centre.

JUNE 2

Civic Award celebrations at the Town Hall including presentation of the Citizen of the Year.

JUNE 4-5-6

Aurora Horse Show, Machell Park.

JUNE 6

Ninth Annual World's Longest Street Festival. Call the Aurora Chamber of Commerce office at 905-727-7262 to book a spot.

JUNE 11

Aurora Grand Prix Horse Jumping Event. Machell Park. The public is invited to walk the course about 5:45 p.m., then watch some of Canada's top horses and riders jump. Followed by a wine and cheese reception.

JUNE 12

Family barbecue, part of the Aurora Horse Show, will be held at the Town Park. Wagon rides, beer garden and entertainment by Terry Harrison. 5 p.m.

JUNE 12-13

Aurora Fair (horse show continues). Machell Park. Superdogs, petting zoo, free pony rides, juggling, dancing, snakes and other exotic animals, mutt show, Clorox the Clown, and many more new and old favourites.

JUNE 25

Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic, Aurora Town Hall.

JUNE 30

Dance In The Park (Canada Day celebrations). 7 p.m. to midnight. Town Park.

JULY 1

Canada Day celebrations continue. Aurora Leisure Complex.

JULY 11

The Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society annual Aurora Garden Tour of eight gardens including Harry Lumsden's garden and ponds with his Trumpeter Swans. On the tour there will be opportunity to contribute to his cause of restoring the swans. Tickets available at Mary's Flower Shop.



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Aurora's Creative Connection found its way to Yonge Street last week when it relocated just north of Park Place Manor. It had been at Wellington and Industrial Parkway. Handling the official opening last week were, left to right, Liette van Niekerk, vice-president of Creative Connection; Mayor Tim Jones and Sheila Griffith. Their new address is 15105 Yonge Street.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Committee applications are now being processed

Normally the appointment to council committees is a routine matter.

An advertisement is placed in the paper and applications for the various committees invited.

The applications are reviewed, council makes the appointments and the committees get to work. But this is not a normal year, as the advisory committees are not yet appointed.

But, it appears to be getting close.

During the orientation session of the new council questions were asked about the committee structure resulting in town staff presenting a comprehensive report.

After considerable discussion it was agreed to maintain the status quo of the general committee, or committee of the whole concept, rather than reverting to standing committees.

The major dispute involved the advisory committees and whether the existing system of both citizens and members of council on the committee should stay or whether the membership should be citizens only.

Some members of council supported the citizen only committee structure on the basis some citizen members would not speak openly with councillors on the committee.

Others argued council members were able to provide insight into the committee discussion.

Due to the difference in opinion, the issue bounced back and forth from council to general committee and back to council where it was finally decided to stay with a council/citizen committee.

Finally in February, council approved the re-establishment of several advisory committees that were in existence during the previous term of office, with the addition of an Environment Committee and Finance Committee.

Council also asked the staff to provide the terms of reference for each of the committees for review.

The terms of reference were presented to last week's council meeting. In

addition, staff pointed out several issues that needed to be addressed by council prior to committee

approval.

Applications for committee membership are currently being processed.



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AURORA

Spring

COLOURING CONTEST

Winners

5 & under

E.E.J. McKenzie - 1st
Julia LeBlanc - 2nd
Stefanie Hebel - 3rd

6 & 7

Jonathan Rankel - 1st
Mitchell Cadenhead - 2nd
Amando Tschanz - 3rd

8, 9, & 10

Jennifer Rankel - 1st
Courtenay Field - 1st
Claire Layton - 2nd
Jamie Cherutti - 3rd

11 & 12

Adelle Miller - 1st
Laura Oleinik - 1st
Diana DiPoce - 2nd
Rewa El Dassouki - 2nd
Elizabeth Duff - 3rd

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STAPLES/BUSINESS DEPOT - 713-0367

VAN DE VEN CAR WASH

YORK MEDICAL - 713-0404



Poor Richard

More things change, the more they stay the way they were

*The world marches bravely on,
But problems remain the same;
If we didn't have politicians,
Who would there be to blame?*
-Poor Richard's Scrapbook

While cleaning out some odds and ends around the house that have gathered over the years, I happened across some old cassette tapes.

They were tapes of a 1981 radio show that Roy Green and I used to broadcast live every Sunday over CKAN (Remember CKAN? The last two letters stood for Aurora-Newmarket) called "York Simcoe Review".

We talked about problems and issues of the day.

Roy was news director of the radio station at the time and I was a bureaucrat in municipal affairs at Queen's Park. I can't remember just how the program started but it continued for a few years.

In listening to the tapes, many of the problems and issues of the day were still in the news several years later and some are still being discussed by our politicians.

In June, 1981, we discussed the 911 emergency phone system. I had just returned from St. Louis, Missouri, where a national conference on 911 had been held.

It was a hot issue in the United States and it was being introduced into Canada.

By 1981, the Ontario communities of London, Kapuskasing, Cambridge and Hamilton had already implemented the emergency service.

Toronto had announced that 911 would be operational by 1982.

We agreed this would put pressure on York Region but at that time there had been no discussions about it. It finally came to the region on September 15, 1994.

It was interesting to note that in Ontario the initiative for 911 was the politicians whereas in the States it came from the emergency services.

One issue that was the same in both countries involved who would control the system.

As the police received about 85 per cent of the calls, they wanted to operate it, but fire and ambulance services objected.

As a result an independent organization was established in several communities and in York Region Bell Canada operated the service until the region took it over April 2, 2002.

Another item on the broadcast was the progress of Highway 404.

Construction had been stopped south of Aurora due to a wrangle between the Ministries of the Environment and Transportation.

It seemed there was some environment flora and fauna in the way, including wild orchids.

Because the Ministry of Transportation proceeded prior to the environmental assessment, the Minister and Deputy Minister of Transportation were fined.

Land had been purchased for the highway as early as 1960 and provincial officials said at the time it would reach the Aurora area in the late 1960s.

Back in 1961, the Aurora Board of Trade expressed concern about the increasing traffic on Yonge Street and invited a traffic engineer from the Department of Highways to discuss the situation.

He told the members that their concerns would disappear when Highway 404 reached Aurora sometime after 1965. The only problem was he didn't say how long after 1965.

It was 20 years later when the section of Highway 404 between Bloomington Road and Wellington Street was finally opened.

The section between Davis Drive to Green Lane opened in 2002 and Georgina residents are still waiting for it reach Ravenshoe Road.

Another issue discussed on the broadcast was waste disposal. It was just as hot then as it has been over the years, although at that time it was the closing of the Whitchurch-Stouffville dump.

Dennis Timbrell, the health minister of the day, promised a health survey of the impact of the dump on ground water supplies.

Another issue was passenger rail transport and both issues are still with us.

Nothing much has changed over the years.

It's like going around in a circle and meeting yourself coming back.



It's hard to tell from this photograph that a world war was raging, but it was. The First World War was in its second year when this picture was taken in September, 1915, on the spacious grounds of "Inglehurst" in Aurora, the Yonge Street home of H.W. Fleury. The event was a fund-raising tea carried out by the Aurora branch of the Red Cross. Once again, the photo came from the John McIntyre book "Aurora A History In Pictures". The book is temporarily out of print.

Letter to the Editor

Non-profit incorporation suggested for new facility

To the editor,

As I read of escalating cost projections for Aurora's planned new arena and recreation centre, the more I feel that such facilities should not be a taxpayers' expense.

The special-interest facilities, while heavily used by certain groups such as sports teams, are also used by only a minority of Aurora's taxpaying population.

I would suggest that Aurora Council instead explore a quite different route for financing.

Look into separately incorporating all sports-arena-recreation facilities as a provincial non-profit corporation, perhaps named Aurora Recreation, Inc., with its own board of directors.

New capital projects, such as the current plan, should be financed, not by Aurora taxpayers, but through long-term mortgages or the separate issuance of Aurora Recreation Inc. bonds.

As an option, Aurora Recreation Inc. might issue equity shares, and owning stock in Aurora Recreation

Inc. could become very popular in Aurora.

User fee or membership costs should then be scaled to cover operating costs plus debt service, with debt to be retired over a 20 to 30 year period.

This approach would separate recreation complexes from the town's operating and capital budgets, and focus costs toward actual users.

Though Aurora Recreation Inc. might need an operational subsidy from the town, separate incorporation and mainly user-fee financing would still get

capital costs of sports and recreation facilities off the backs of already overburdened taxpayers.

Maybe I'm being naïve here, but there are numerous organizational options that council appears not to have looked at, and I think separate non-profit incorporation would work.

Donald Webster
Aurora

Another party stood outside at Aurora Bowl

To the Editor,

Re: "Would-be bowlers struck out at lanes". Auroran, March 30.

I was not at all surprised by the misfortune that befell the Jaguar Gymnastics Camp field trip to the Aurora Bowling Alley.

We had a similar experience six months ago.

Last October I booked my

son's birthday party at the same venue.

The event was booked some weeks in advance, and when we arrived at noon, the bowling alley was locked.

One by one the boys invited to the party were dropped off by their parents and left with my husband and I to wait in the rain.

Staff reported for their

shift, but did not have a key to open the building and they waited in the rain, too!

They were unsuccessful in their attempts to contact the keyholder.

Some 40 minutes after the party should have started, just as we were trying to think of an alternative way to entertain eight 9-year-old boys, someone (we never did discover who he was) arrived with a key.

My son did get his party after all, but our lane time was restricted because the lane had to be available for other parties who were booked later in the day.

Financial compensation was offered by the staff on duty, but I would never book a party there again, or recommend anyone else to do so.

On that day, another group of parents and children were also waiting outside, but left before the building was opened.

We never received an apology from the owner, or any explanation as to why we were inconvenienced in this way.

Ruth Ward
Aurora

WHO recognizes road safety

To the editor,

For the first time in the history of the World Health Organization, the Director-General has devoted a World Health Day specifically to road safety.

"Road Safety Is No Accident" is this year's theme.

World Health Day is an annual advocacy event hosted by the World Health Organization to mark the date of the organization's establishment.

Celebrated annually on the 7th of April, it is intended to focus attention on important health issues.

Young Drivers of Canada believes strongly in one of the key messages of the World

Health Organization "Road traffic injuries can be prevented, and their consequences can be alleviated".

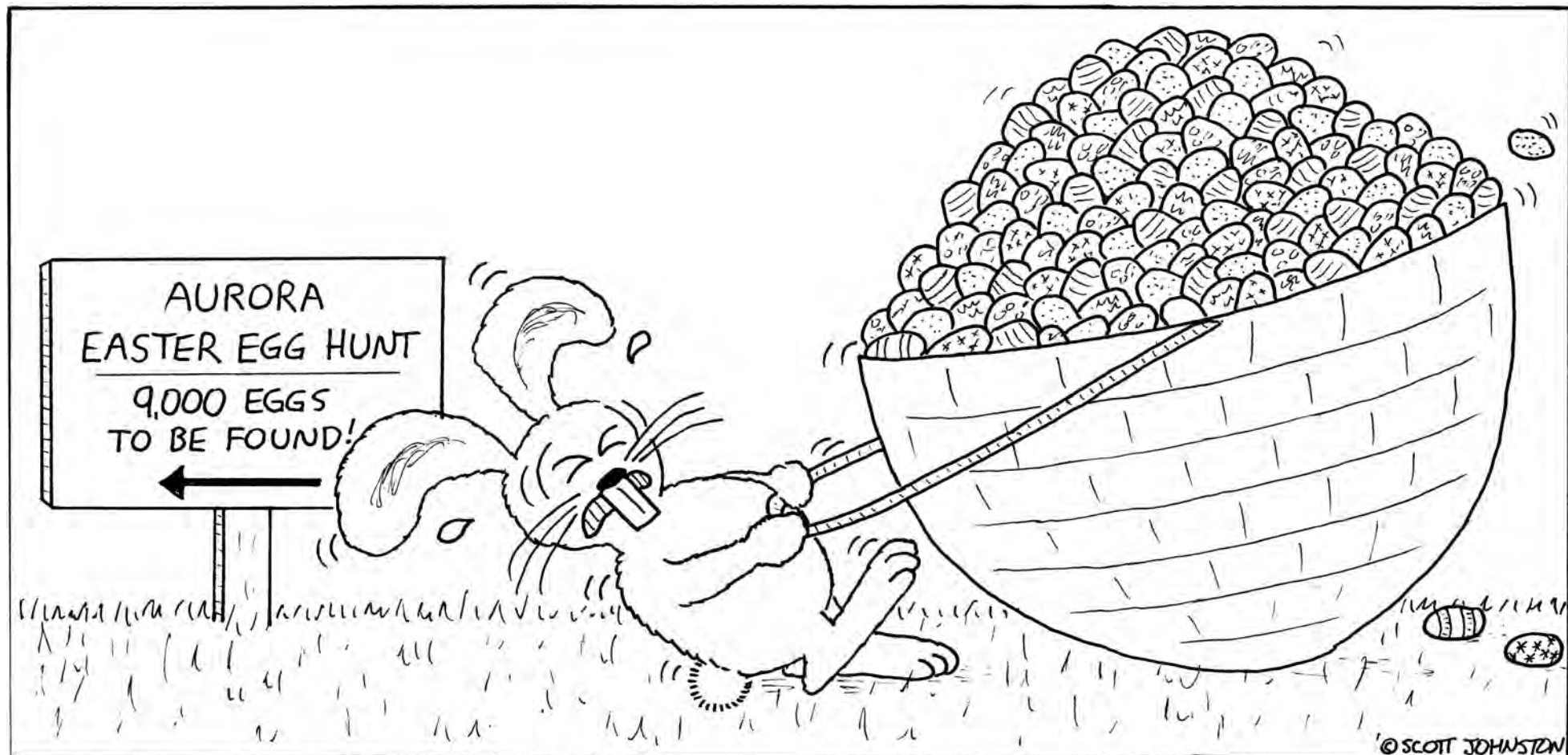
We are focusing on the risks for pedestrians and cyclists which increase at this time of year and we urge all drivers to be particularly aware of these road users.

As part of Road Safety Day, Young Drivers has prepared a list of tips for drivers to keep pedestrians and cyclists safe.

These can be obtained free of cost by contacting our Aurora office or by e-mail at ydnewmarket@bellnet.ca.

Pam MacDonald
Centre Director
Young Drivers of Canada

AURORAN
"Aurora's
Community Newspaper"
Published weekly by The
Auroran Publications Inc.
At 75 Mary Street, Unit #3
Aurora, L4G 1G3
Owner & Publisher
Rosemary Schumaker
Editorial
Ron Wallace
Dick Illingworth
Photography
David Falconer
Display Advertising
Bob Ince
Kathy Bitove
Diane Buchanan
Production
Cynthia Proctor
Classifieds
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Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

"Aurora Business - Bright Lights"

There's a new publication in Town entitled "Aurora Business - Bright Lights".

It was prepared by our Economic Development Officer Dino Lombardi and the Town's Marketing and Communications Coordinator Kristen Yemm.

It will be circulated in the Aurora Chamber of Commerce monthly newsletter in April and is available at the Town Hall.

This newsletter's purpose is to communicate economic development initiatives, activities and matters relating to the business community to our local corporate citizens. It will be published twice a year.

In the inaugural edition, there are seven business expansion and growth items plus pieces of the new Town marketing CD, York Region's Economic development strategy as well as four announcements around general and specific business situations we find ourselves in.

New development includes a progress report on State Farm Insurance Company - Canadian Regional Head Office location at the 404 and Wellington/Leslie area.

Final occupancy is expected in 2006.

As well, Council will be considering an application in the same area within the Aurora Gateway Business Park to allow for a Regionally Servicing Retail Centre anchored by a Wal-Mart Store, theatre and Food Club store among other establishments.

If approved, the project could generate as many as 2,000 new jobs.

Numerous studies are or will be underway to review the marketing, economic, planning and traffic impacts, not to mention an assessment of the implications on the existing commercial assessment base in Town.

There are also items on the new Loblaw's Properties Limited project at St John's and Bayview, a 125,227 sq ft development planned to employ 280 staff in a Superstore that includes other retail such as a pharmacy, photo lab, clothing and linens, home products, electronics, community kitchen as well as fitness and medical opportunities.

This project is planned to be open by the end of the year.

St. John's Bay Land Company Ltd. has recently had approved a 15,000 sq ft LCBO warehouse and Brewers Retail with a further 11,259 sq ft of additional commercial in the future.

This will be Aurora's second liquor store and one of the largest in York Region.

In the expansion area, Van Rob Stampings Inc. is adding 66,314 sq ft area for additional production and this will too offer added employment opportunities.

Other business news of note in this publication includes a congratulations to Avant Imaging & Information Management (AIIM) on Industrial Parkway North for being recognized as a Regional finalist in Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies Program.

And, Aurora has a new Marketing tool for attracting business.

The Economic Development Officer has completed a project started by the Business Development Committee of last term to market Aurora around the

world as a place to locate and do business.

In that one of our major initiatives for future growth in Aurora focuses on business development, this tool will be used extensively to market our Town for business opportunities, especially along the 404.

In the bigger picture, York Region is developing a new Economic Development strategy in which all municipalities will participate and the York Region Small Business Enterprise Centre has opened on the fourth floor of the York Region Administration Centre at 17250 Yonge Street.

Other informative pieces include the fact that Aurora has a real tax edge for business according to the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

It's great to be able to recognize and promote these kind of opportunities for our Town.

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



The village of Aurora

After we moved to Aurora in the 80's, our friends from Toronto had farther to travel, so, we extended our time together by inviting them for dinner early in the day.

One beautiful summer afternoon, they arrived to find our neighbourhood in a state of hyper-activity.

Here and there, clusters of adults chatted on driveways and sidewalks littered with tricycles, Tonka toys and toddlers in seemingly ceaseless motion.

Our friends had barely pulled into the driveway, when our children ran to fetch their children, Lia and Nick, absorbing them seamlessly into the fold of almost two dozen animated amigos.

As we guided our friends to the backyard, Bernadette paused uncomfortably and asked, "are we going to leave the kids out here all by themselves?"

"Bern, look around. They're not by themselves at all!"

She shook her head in awe and wonder.

"I want to live here!"

In Aurora, everybody watches everybody's kids, not just their own.

Everybody plays with everybody else's toys, and nothing ever goes missing.

We buy popsicles, sidewalk chalk and band-aids in bulk, and we bake a lot of cookies.

They say it takes one woman to bring a child into the world, and an entire village to raise that child.

We have been fortunate because our street has been our village.

Over the years, we looked after each others' kids, and as the kids grew, they became each other's babysitters.

We have car pooled, run errands for each other and provided safe shelter to anyone who has attained "locked out of the house" status.

At dinner time, I still automatically set as many extra places as there are extra kids in the house, and no one has ever sent a child of mine home with an empty belly.

In fact, the trouble is, nobody sends them home at all!

Parents always have to ask for their children back, kind of like you would ask for your hedge clippers or your power washer back.

"Um, are you done with..."

We've been swapping kids for so long that we sometimes forget what the original arrangement was.

Once, Rose called looking for her son, Michael. Except, what she asked was: "Can you please send Tim home?"

"So you want to trade for good, huh?"

Over the years, things have changed.

All the little kids on our street have turned into teenagers, and the big kids are now young adults.

One of them, Erin, is married with children of her own!

Families have moved in and out of the neighbourhood. Our friends from Toronto were drawn north, to Newmarket, and Bernadette works in Aurora.

We moved, too, except we loved the neighbourhood so much we moved two doors up the street. My former neighbour's fourth child, Nathan, was born in my bedroom.

We all came to this quiet little cul-de-sac in Aurora looking for the same thing.

But I don't think we found it here. I think we brought it with us.

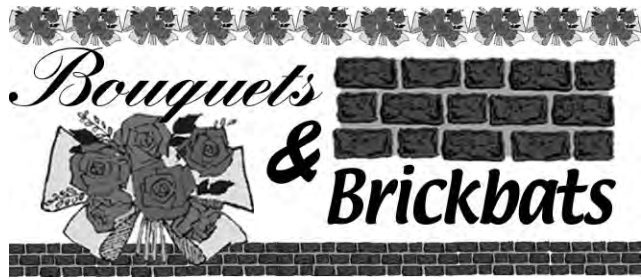
As Aurora grows, we can choose to live in fear, locking our doors and pretending we didn't notice each other go by.

Or, we can choose to live in faith, creating the sense of home that we came here to find.


One thing is for certain: neither the Region, nor the Province, nor even the Federal Government has any power to stop us from feeding each others' kids, plowing each others' driveways or borrowing each others' hedge clippers.


Aurora will always be what we make it.


**Cathy welcomes e-mails at:
laughingmatters@aci.on.ca**





By Dick Illingworth


 **BOUQUETS** to the staff at Staples Business Depot in Aurora for their excellent customer relations and service. On a recent visit, David stopped what he was doing and escorted a customer around the store to find all the required products. Other stores and staffs could learn a lesson here.


 **BRICKBATS** to the six members of Aurora council who supported spending time and money on a natural heritage study for the 2C lands when the lands are under a development freeze by Bill 27, The Greenbelt Protection Act, until next December. What's the rush to spend money when taxpayers are being hit with a big tax increase from both the town and the region.


 **BOUQUETS** and a Warm Aurora Welcome to Robert Skaf and the staff of the new Chefs and Grocers, which opened recently in the former Goodwill store on Yonge Street South. It's more than a grocery store as it has a kitchen making homemade meals ready to be picked up.


 **BRICKBATS** to the little gremlins or the careless drivers who crashed into Jonathan VandenBosche's jewellery store at the corner of Yonge and Centre Street twice in five months. Only in Aurora!


 **BOUQUETS** to Bill van Oorschot of SOYRA for setting the record straight as to who paid for the glossy, three-colour artist's application form for the art show. Thank heavens the poor, downtrodden taxpayer didn't have to foot the bill, but it was still a waste of money for the sponsor, especially when no credit was given to the sponsoring organization


 **BRICKBATS** to the same gentleman for confusing the issue of ownership of the display easels used for the art show. In one breath he wrote that SOYRA owned them and in the next they were co-owned with the town. Who does own them?


 A big **BOUQUET** will be given when SOYRA gets rid of the stupid art classifications for the Aurora Art Show. Art is art regardless of media used. Leonardo da Vinci wouldn't qualify under SOYRA rules as he didn't draw in black and white, and neither do most artists today!

 **BOUQUETS** to former Aurora resident Joyce Jones for her letter to the Auroran bringing readers up to date on her current activities after reading about her tennis prowess in Rumours and Ramblings. At age 74 she's still active and has played every year in the Canadian Nationals since 1995.

 **BRICKBATS** to whoever is responsible for the breakdown in communications between the Aurora Bowling Alley and Jaguar Gymnastics, which resulted in the March Break Campers, a group of youngsters from 3 to 13, who were locked out of the alley after a booking had been made. The Aurora firefighters came to the rescue of the cold campers and took them on a tour of the fire hall.

 **BOUQUETS** to the members of the Aurora Cable Internet Novice hockey team on winning the prestigious Newmarket tournament going undefeated in three games. The Aurora ACI team was the only local team to advance into the playdowns.

 **BRICKBATS** to the Liberal McGuinty government for continuing with their plans to close the coal-fired Lakeview generating station a year from now, which will have a major impact on hydro users in the GTA before developing any new generating stations. McGuinty has broken so many election promises that one more won't make a difference.

 **BOUQUETS** to Ontario Environment Minister Leona Dombrowsky for lobbying the federal government to close the tax loophole that allowed Canadian corporations to write off fines and penalties as tax deductions. The law was amended in the recent federal budget and now they have to pay like you and me.

Letters to the Editor

Illingworth was no "choir boy" - Buck

To the editor,

"Slovenly, indifferent and confused procedure is antagonistic to good will and the successful prosecution of business."

I lifted that straight off the page of Bourinot's Rules of Order. It perfectly describes the council meeting that Dick Illingworth complained about last week and many

others which preceded it.

Illingworth knows perfectly well why council is not functioning effectively. He knows the importance of observing the rules of order. He chooses to refer instead to the silly business of Code of Ethics and Strategic plan.

And by the way, he was no choir boy himself when he held elected office.

Former Mayor of

Richmond Hill, Bill Lazenby, a pharmacist and a member of regional council, used to refer regularly to Dick's "ugly pills".

He was always the same as a councillor. The only time he behaved was when he occupied the chair and even then I sometimes had to put a gentling hand on his arm to remind him to keep his cool.

I have been trying, in my

modest way, since January to persuade council there is advantage to abiding by rules of order.

And there have been signs of interest

Last Tuesday, I was sure there was hope.

Councillor Hogg recalled that "someone" had brought up the subject at the beginning of the term.

My hopes dashed again, though, when he and others said they were not interested in having a meeting to go over our current 39-page procedural bylaw and agreeing among us the rules which would best serve

It would be time well-spent...and it would make a world of difference to everyone's experience of council...we might even pick up some ratings with the people at home if they could make sense of what they are watching.

It isn't even as if they are hard to learn...the rules I mean...it's just a matter of practice...and good intentions...and a little humour is never out of place in a political debate.

Fewer, not more, parking spaces should be the rule

To the editor.

I noted with interest that council, at the prompting of councillor Damir Vrancic, has reduced to 42 the number of units being allowed to be developed on the old Yonge Street arena property.

This was in response to concerns raised about adequate parking being available. It is a concern which is often repeated. It is also a concern for which there is never any real solution.

A few points on this general parking issue:

First, parking is a relative issue. By that I mean that if you do not have any expectation of limitless parking, you will not be disappointed when it does not appear.

In this light, people moving into the new building would know what parking facilities are available and would take that information into consideration, if required, before moving in.

Therefore if available parking is reduced, almost magically so will the demand for it.

Secondly, and based very much on the first, if a business has deemed that they can get more value out of a piece of property in some use other than a place to store vehicles, why should the municipality complain?

The town should actually be encouraging more productive land uses.

Third, in accordance with the town's own master plan they should be striving to increase densities in this area, which necessarily means the removal of many of the parking restrictions that hinder this increase in

density.

Indeed, I would argue that rather than the town having minimum parking requirements, there should be a maximum in place.

Any business wanting to provide fewer should be encouraged.

The badly flawed provincial market value assessment system already gives too much encouragement for the construction of parking lots. There is no need for the town to do the same.

Darryl Moore
Aurora

Evelyn Buck
Aurora



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Letters to the Editor

The war in Iraq, one year later

To the editor,

One year later the war in Iraq shows no signs of coming to an end soon.

The end of major combat has not brought peace as it was hoped.

The insurgents have gone underground from where they launch attacks against the Coalition forces and the civilian population.

Acts of violence are a daily occurrence and they take a heavy toll among the military and civilians.

So far no effective means has been found to stem the violence.

This is a bleak picture, one that the planners of the war did not anticipate.

The military campaign was brilliant and brought a quick end to the major combat phase.

The phase that followed proved more difficult and called for changes in tactics and strategy.

To pacify the country and help it achieve responsible and democratic self-government became the primary objectives.

The Governing Council and the new Constitution which was adopted after much debate and some arm twisting by the Americans, are decisive steps on the road to creating a free and democratic Iraq.

Saddam Hussein is safe

in custody and it remains to be seen whether he will face justice in an American military court, an Iraqi court or the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

In its long history Iraq experienced war, civil strife, revolution and occupation many times. Ancient empires, Babylon, Assyria, Khalea and Sumer, grew and prospered on its soil before that declined and passed into history.

Mathematics, astronomy, and law flourished in Babylon long before the Persians, the Greeks and the Romans made their own contributions to these disciplines.

The conquests of Alexander the Great unified the Middle East and Iraq, or Mesopotamia as it was known then, became part of the Hellenistic world.

Roman conquest followed and Mesopotamia became a Roman province.

The Romans were followed by the Parthians, the Persians and finally the Arabs in 633 A.D.

The Arabs brought Islam and the Arabic language.

Baghdad as the capital of the Abbasid caliphate became a centre of learning and culture.

Mathematics, philosophy, astronomy, medicine and geography flourished and Arab scholars and writers became renowned for their skill and knowledge.

Ottoman rule came in 1639 and lasted until 1918. The British occupied Iraq in 1914 and again in 1941. It became a British mandated territory in 1920 with Faisal 1 as king. Full independence was achieved in 1932. King Faisal 11 was assassinated in 1958 and a series of coups d'etat followed that finally brought to power Saddam Hussein in 1979.

The war with Iran erupted in 1980 and the first Gulf War in 1990 when Iraq invaded Kuwait.

War is the ultimate violence that one country can inflict on another.

The innocent suffer along with the guilty and entire nations sink into a state of paranoia or hysteria and horrid acts of violence are committed in the name of patriotism, justice, punishing aggression and making the world safer for democracy.

Voltaire, the brilliant 18th century French philosopher

and historian, stated that the only war in history that was justified was the war of Spartacus, a Roman gladiator, who led a revolt of slaves against their Roman oppressors in 73 B.C.

The revolt failed and the slaves paid with their lives. Voltaire, of course, exaggerated in order to make the point of the futility of war.

There have been just wars in history and there will be others.

Chris Antoniou
Aurora

Library needs to be open longer, he says

To the editor,

Since our new library opened some three years ago, councils of the day have each year promised to find the money in the budget to open the library doors seven days a week.

So far, no success, in fact, a review of library hours throughout York Region, indicates that we have fewer public hours than most.

Taxpayers have made the investment in our library and it should be a priority for continuous improvement in the accessibility to this valuable facility.

A library is one service that is used by a majority of the residents. It is for everybody!

The best way to increase its usefulness is to improve the hours available to students, families and seniors throughout the day, every day!

Perhaps opening later in the mornings, initially opening part days (like Sunday) or utilizing volunteers would help in offsetting some of the burden.

Creative solutions may present staffing complications; today every business faces these challenges.

The fact remains, the facility is not fully utilized and that is a shame.

I would challenge the Library Board and Management and the Town Council to work together to find ways in order to expand the

hours, to effectively and efficiently provide residents with the best use of its library. It is possible!

Al Wilson
Aurora

Chamber gets OK to place six signs

Council approved a request from the Aurora Chamber of Commerce to place six mobile signs at various locations for the period April 12 to April 26 to advertise the Chamber's Annual and Lifestyle Show to be held at the Community Centre April 23 to 25.

Approved locations include the Chamber

office at Yonge Street and Industrial Parkway South; Wellington Street East at John West Way; Bathurst Street and St. John's Sideroad; Bayview Avenue and St. John's Sideroad; McClellan Way and Bathurst Street; and on Yonge Street North in front of McAlpine Motors.

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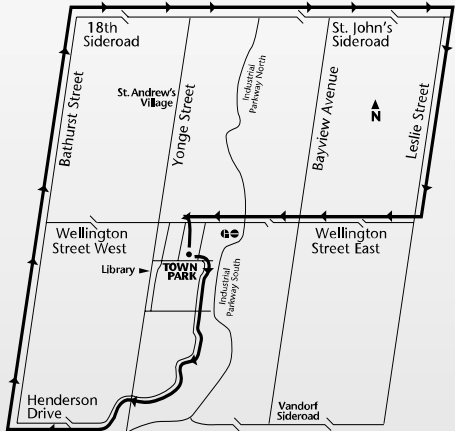
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The place was packed Saturday as Aurora's Bingo World held its official opening in its new digs on Industrial Parkway South. The huge location is attracting many from the bingo world as well as newcomers. Official scissor cutting duties were carried out by Mayor Tim Jones, while Perry Kereakou, Bruce French, Steve Kostopoulos and Aurora Horse Show ambassador Stephanie Bellows await the moment. The Aurora Agricultural Society, which organizes the annual horse show, is one of the charities benefitting from monies raised from the bingos. Perry and Steve run the operation while Bruce French is the president of the charity group.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Street sweeping, pavement marking contracts okayed

Two contract extensions were approved by council at last week's meeting; one for street sweeping and the other for pavement marking.

The three-year contract with Pavco Road Builders, which expired March 1, included a one-year extension at the same price of \$30,000.

The contract is for the supply and operation of street sweepers to remove winter sand and debris in the spring from the town's streets.

Spring sweeping normally commences during the first part of April with a targeted completion date by Victoria Day in June.

Start and completion times are influenced by the weather and the amount of sand used during the winter.

The work is carried out

by two contract sweepers and one town-owned sweeper. The town sweeper is used for additional sweeping during the year.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said while she supported the extension, she expressed concern about the condition of the downtown area and the front of the buildings facing Yonge Street.

Pavement marking operations begin shortly after the completion of the street sweeping program, usually around Victoria Day and are completed by the end of June.

The majority of the markings is done after 11 p.m. and completed by 6 a.m. on weeknights to cause minimal traffic disruption.

The original 3-year contract with K.D.N. Pavement Markings

expires May 1, but has a one-year extension clause at the same tendered price.

Council endorsed a recommendation the markings be reduced in low volume areas without adversely affecting traffic operations. This would result in a saving of approximately \$9,000 bringing the price down to \$27,000.



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Choirgirlz, from left, are, Mary Ellen Moore, Debbie Fleming, and Aurora's Dorothy McDonall. When she's not singing, Dorothy is a copywriter at Canada Law Book on Edward Street.

From Mendelssohn to bluegrass, Aurora singer takes the leap

By RON WALLACE

By day, she is a copywriter at Aurora's Canada Law Book.

Has been for three years. Young, quiet and very pretty, Dorothy McDonall goes about her daily business relatively unnoticed.

But, put her with her two friends, Debbie Fleming and Mary Ellen Moore, add a guitar and a stage, and look out.

Dorothy McDonall becomes a vibrant, very noticeable, entertainer.

She, and the other two, professionally known as The ChoirGirlz, also have a CD, entitled Angel Wings, to prove it.

Hard to believe this threesome became a unit after singing together in the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir.

Because what they do is anything but choir music.

While they agree they don't want to be "pigeon-holed" into any area of music, they really are bluegrass singers, and have performed on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.

"We were there the day Johnny Cash died," Dorothy said last week as the threesome rehearsed in her Aurora home.

Some of their music, while easy to listen to no matter what kind of music you like, is funny.

Take, for example, the Vacuum Cleaner Tango.

Written by Debbie, the song is a humorous look at a person attempting to clean the house, finding objects that have been missing forever, losing an earring, and finally seeking the number of Molly Maid.

Other humorous pieces on the CD include "The Cellphone Song", "Foodblooz" and "I'm A Woman".

Hardly the work of Mendelssohn Choir graduates.

Debbie, in addition to her writing abilities, also pro-

vides the accompaniment with her guitar, although a number of the CD pieces are simply the threesome singing without any help whatsoever; a cappella, it's called.

The ChoirGirlz (the "z" happened when Dorothy was "inspired" and wanted to create "something that was unique and hip in design but pretty much said what we are and do") discovered each other in a swimming pool.

Still with the choir in 2000, they were performing in Elora, Ontario, and the three were in a pool when they started singing together.

They were fully rehearsing by the summer of 2001 and shortly after that, began working on their CD.

There are a number of ways to hear this trio sing.

You will get teased on their website, [girlz.com - with snippets of every song on their CD, or you can reserve an evening out Saturday, April 17, at the Freetimes Café in Toronto, where they will perform from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.](http://www.choir-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

You MIGHT hear them at the Aurora Street Festival in June or at one of Aurora's Concerts In The Park this summer, but those details have not been finalized.

No matter how you hear them, one thing is reasonably certain. You'll want to hear them again.


"All of us love every kind of music," Mary Ellen said. "As do most people."

While none of them would balk at "hitting the big time", each is content to continue doing what she does so well.

"We want to put a song in people's hearts and a smile on people's faces."

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THE NEW LOCATION

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Monday to Friday

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April 1 to Nov. 30 Tuesday evenings only to 8:00 p.m.

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WHAT'S NOT ACCEPTED

- ✗ tree branches and brush larger than 152 mm (6 inches) in diameter and 1.8 m (6 feet) long
- ✗ stumps and root balls
- ✗ driveway and road sweepings
- ✗ kitchen and food waste
- ✗ animal droppings
- ✗ rocks and stones
- ✗ dirt and topsoil
- ✗ yard waste in plastic bags (must be emptied on site)

OTHER OPTIONS

Each municipality in York Region has a leaf and yard waste collection service in place. Watch for notices from your municipality or visit their website for further details. York Region residents can also access the City of Toronto's drop-off locations, however, a fee may apply. For more information, please visit their website at www.city.toronto.on.ca or call York Region at (905) 895-1200 and press 3 for waste management information.

QUESTIONS?

Visit the York Region website at www.region.york.on.ca or call York Region at (905) 895-1200 ext 5717.

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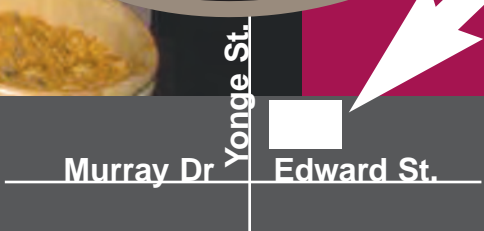
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PARMA

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SMOKED BONE IN

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Week of April 6, 2004

Page 12

Blades sliced in six games

It may have taken them two overtime periods to do it, but the Aurora Tigers did what their prognosticators thought they could do.

They eliminated the pesky Oakville Blades in six games Friday night, thereby preventing a sudden-death seventh match in Aurora Sunday.

But, it wasn't easy.

Tigers had a slim 4-3 lead late in the third period, but an extra Oakville attacker took care of that in short order.

Playing in front of a full house of mainly Oakville fans in a Streetsville arena, the Blades forced the game into overtime

Only a goalmouth scramble late in the second overtime frame advanced the Tigers to their fifth playoff round.

That series opens against the St. Michael's Buzzers Good Friday at the Aurora Community Centre at 7.30 p.m. St. Mike's eliminated Bowmanville in six games with a 3-1 victory Saturday.

The second game in the set is slated for Monday night on St. Mike's ice, St. Clair and Bathurst in Toronto.

Aurora lost the first two games to Oakville, their first losses after 12 consecutive victories as they stormed through the first three playoff rounds.

Among their victims was the Newmarket Hurricane team, the only club to defeat Aurora all season.

However, Oakville seemed to have Aurora's number,

and even though they were outplayed and outshot, the Blades wound up in the winners' column after the first two games.

Aurora had two choices - roll over and die or do something about it.

Both Oakville victories were one-goal wins, so it was evident Aurora needed to establish some control.

They bounced back with a 3-0 and 7-2 win to knot the series, then went a game up last Tuesday night with another 3-0 shutout.

For Whitley, it was his fourth shutout of the playoffs.

That set the stage for Friday's encounter in Streetsville.

Both teams came out flying in the first period, getting a number of great scoring opportunities and both goaltenders came up solid, keeping the game scoreless.

The second period was pretty much a carbon copy of the first with a number of great scoring opportunities for both teams.

Oakville opened the scoring at the halfway point of the period with a power play goal, but Aurora got that back when Michael Kostka's shot from the point found its way into the back of the net.

The flood gates opened in the third as each team capitalized on a number of great scoring opportunities.

Sam Skwarchuk, Corey LeClair and Sean Scully scored for Aurora in that frame, and the Tigers held a one-goal lead with under a minute remaining.

Oakville pulled the goalie and the strategy worked, sending the game into overtime.

The first overtime saw the Blades getting the best scoring chances as they seemed to hem the Tigers in their own zone.

Chris Whitley came up with a number of great saves to keep the game tied and allowed Aurora a chance to catch its breath for the second overtime.

The break seemed to be exactly what the doctor ordered as Aurora came back with a vengeance.

Both teams were extremely cautious, trying to avoid giving their opponent a good scoring opportunity.

The Tigers finally got their break when Alex Lalonde stole a puck off a Blade defenseman, broke in and after a goal mouth scramble, fired a rebound over Dan Giffin to end the exciting match.

Meanwhile, last Tuesday, Tigers knew they had to keep the momentum going in order to take the lead in the series.

Solid goaltending, staying strong on the forecheck and playing disciplined hockey had been the key to success in Aurora's earlier victories.

Whitley has come back to his true form, a form that has made him the Number 1 goaltender in Canada...and would continue the role as he racked up his second shutout of the series.

Aurora struck early, hitting the scoreboard before the game was two minutes old

when Scully scored.

Before the period ended, Aurora increased its lead when Francis Walker capitalized with a wrap around goal on a power play.

The Tigers seemed to go into a funk during the second period as they allowed the Blades to open up their game.

Whitley came up big, including a breakaway save on Oakville captain Nick Dodge to keep the Blades off the scoreboard.

The Tigers returned to their style of game in the third period as they were successful in hemming the Blades either in their zone or in the neutral zone throughout the period.

Jordan Brenner finished off the scoring for the Tigers.

A highlight for the capacity crowd was the fight late in the game between Aurora's Gabe Perreault and Oakville's Paul Dawson.

With Dawson's towering height at 6' 5" against Perreault's height of 5' 10", it would be a battle to the bitter end.

Both dished out a number of great blows and didn't disappoint the crowd, who gave the combatants a standing ovation.

AURORA 3 OAKVILLE 0

FIRST PERIOD

A: Sean Scully (Brenner, Bahen) 1.55
A: Francis Walker (Lalonde, Kitchen) 15.52

SECOND PERIOD

No Scoring

THIRD PERIOD

A: Jordan Brenner (Scully) 15.26

AURORA 5 OAKVILLE 4

FIRST PERIOD	O: Steven Pinizzotto (Richardson) 8.54 A: Sean Scully (Brenner) 12.04 O: Brent Franklin (Swinton) 16.30 O: Mark DiBiase (Arnaldo, Angelow) 19.42
SECOND PERIOD	
O: Steven Pinizzotto (Angelow) 9.58 A: Michael Kostka (Bahen) 12.40	
THIRD PERIOD	No Scoring
A: Sam Skwarchuk (Mignardi, Olden) 3.57 A: Corey LeClair (Brenner, Scully) 5.45	SECOND OVERTIME A: Alex Lalonde (Olden) 8.59



During the fifth game of the Aurora-Oakville series, which Aurora won 3-0, much time was spent deep in Oakville territory. Here Jordan Brenner (12) and Sean Scully (9) swarm around the Blades' net. Aurora went on to win the series, four games to two, and now meets the St. Mike's Buzzers. Photo by Barry Bridgeford

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Yesterday's cyclists ventured far afield

Bicycle riding by youngsters has been around since the early 1800s.

The early cycles had a large front wheel and a small rear wheel and were known as "bone-shakers" as they had solid rubber tires.

The cycle with two wheels of the same size with air-filled tires for a smoother ride and other improvements came later.

It is doubtful if bicycle racing or long distance trips would have been popular with the original bicycles, but in the 1900s bicycle racing and long-distance trips became a common occurrence.

Aurora's Mel Collins was a bicycle racer, or a sport cyclist. Back in 1973 out of 50 races during his six years in the sport, he won or placed in 30 of them.

Born in Edinburgh in 1937, he joined the Lothians Cycling Club at age 16,

which was a natural move as his father had been a champion cyclist.

But even before that, at age 13, he and a friend set off for a cycling tour of Britain, covering 1,000 miles in three weeks.

His cycling career came to an end when he enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps serving in the African theatre of war.

Back in Scotland, while on leave he met Evelyn Reid, a Canadian physiotherapist on a working holiday in Edinburgh.

They were married in 1962 and sailed for Canada. As Evelyn had lived in Ontario, they came to Ontario and wound up in Aurora.

Collins had been trained in the graphic arts and obtained a job with Universal Press.

As Aurora didn't have a proper camera store at that time, he and his partner Harry Vey, opened Photo-

Graphics in 1972. But his love of cycling in summer and skiing in winter continued.

Another Aurora cyclist was 19-year-old car salesman, Wayne Jenkins. On July 15, 1983, he started out on the ride of his life.

He planned to cycle non-stop to Montreal and back in three days to raise funds for the Kim Barber fund.

Barber was seriously injured in a car accident and his family was trying to raise funds to send him to a Centre for Neurological Rehabilitation in the United States.

This was the first long distance trek for the Aurora biker and to get in shape he rode hard for two hours each night. To raise funds he set up booths in Aurora shopping centres.

In September, 1983, Mike Moran, a 24-year-old Aurora native, returned home after a 15-month, 15,500-mile

solo bicycle tour of North America.

He left home in July, 1982, and cycled to Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. During the fall of 1982, he headed down the east coast of the United States to the warmer climes of Florida.

For the remainder of the winter, he travelled across the Gulf States and into Texas with brief crossings into Mexico. Then he cycled through the snow-swept mountains of New Mexico and Arizona during March and April, 1983.


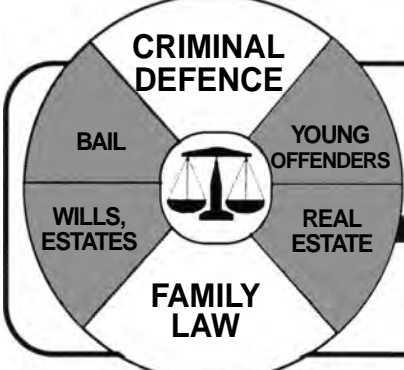
Within a week he was cycling in Southern California with temperatures in the 100-degree Fahrenheit range.

During the summer of 1983 he cycled across the prairies with a few diversions into Idaho and Montana and back to Aurora on September 3, 1983.

As the cycling trip was not sponsored the cost to Moran was in the \$5,000 to \$6,000 range, but said at the time he would do it again.

Cycling is still a popular pastime for Aurora resi-

dents, as more and more families are donning helmets and riding on the bicycle trails within Aurora and the region, but few, if any, venture too far, unlike our adventurous cyclists of the past.



Susan E. Tucker
Lawyer & Notary Public
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Hopeful high jumper has grant bid deferred

Twenty-eight-year-old Nicole Forrester, of Aurora, is a member of Athletic Canada's National Team.

She has been a three-time National Champion in the women's high jump and a member of 13 National teams. She is now preparing for this year's summer Olympics.

She will be representing Aurora as well as Canada and wrote to council asking the municipality to play a supporting role in meeting significant financial costs.

Town staff noted council had approved a \$500 grant in 2003 for her participation in the World Championships.

Mayor Tim Jones said he had received a call from

Richmond Hill Mayor Bill Bell who said his municipality would match any funds for Forrester approved by Aurora Council.

Council Nigel Kean suggested a grant of \$1,000 be made, entitling the town to become a Silver Community Sponsor, which includes the town's logo on her media package.

In response to a question as to where the money would come from, Councillor Damir Vrancic suggested that as each

member of council had a \$2,000 budget for training and conferences each year, which was not fully utilized, the grant could come from that budget.

Councillor Evelyn Buck asked if council had established a policy for making grants of this kind and if not, a policy was needed.

Staff replied that the town had a policy and funds had been included in the Leisure Services 2004 budget, yet to be approved.

Councillor Bill Hogg said

normal policy should be followed and the request should be considered like other requests resulting in the issue being deferred until the Leisure Services budget has been approved.

For the moment, Richmond Hill Mayor Bell is off the hook.


Stoddart Drive tender awarded

Ten tenders were received for the reconstruction of Stoddart Drive including the replacement of watermain, road, curb and gutter with prices ranging from a low bid of \$442,189.32 to a high of \$648,738.

Last February Aurora Council, following a survey of residents regarding the project, agreed to proceed in advance of the approval of the remainder of the 2004 capital budget and to follow the residents' request that the existing sidewalk remain as is.

The tender was awarded to PaveCo Road Builders, the low bidder. The tender came in well below what was included in the capital budget resulting in a saving of \$111,157.19.

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An Invitation to Community Residents


As Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket continues to plan for the opening of a new Regional Cancer Centre by the end of 2006, we are eager to share the many benefits that this state-of-the-art centre will offer to the over one million people who reside in York Region and south Simcoe County.

We invite you to attend one of the following Community Information Nights to learn more about the programs and services the centre will offer. A question and answer period will follow at the end of each session.

All sessions will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 13 Richmond Hill Elgin West Community Centre 1199 Bathurst St., Richmond Hill	Thursday, April 22 Markham Council Chambers - Town of Markham 101 Town Centre Blvd., Markham
Thursday, April 15 Aurora Council Chambers - Town of Aurora 100 John West Way, Aurora	Tuesday, April 27 Vaughan Council Chambers - City of Vaughan 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan
Monday, April 19 Bradford/West Gwillimbury Bradford & District Community Centre 125 Simcoe Road, Bradford	Wednesday, April 28 Georgina Council Chambers - Town of Georgina 26557 Civic Centre Road, Keswick
Tuesday, April 20 East Gwillimbury Council Chambers - Town of East Gwillimbury 19000 Leslie Street, Sharon	Wednesday, May 12 King King City Community Centre 25 Doctors Lane, King City

A Community Information Night was held in Newmarket on March 31, 2004.



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House League Playoff Games

506 THE SHREDDING COMPANY 2: Justin Killens 2G, Brandon Rival 1A, Neil Gaston 1A. **501 AURORA CABLE INTERNET 4:** John Haralampopoulos 3G, Brendan Beatty 1G, Grant Wood 1A, Mike Machin 1A, Max Jasniewski 1A.

505 ORR & FORSTER INSURANCE BROKERS 5: Daniel Crowther 2G, patrick Che 1G, David Naccarato 1G, Robert Fiorini 1G, Marcel Lamanna 1G, Chris Blumreisinger 1A, Caleb Gould 1A, Dylan Teacher 1A. **504 BARB BLASER - RE/MAX YORK GROUP 2:** Ryan Peddigrew 1G 1A, Johnathan Siery 1G.

503 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 7: Marco Santella 4G 1A, Matthew DeSousa1G 1A, Adam Gitto 1G, Brett Weeks 3A, Jordan Adams 1A. **502 DIAL TONE COMMUNICATIONS 3:** Nicholas Orsatti 2G 1A, Michael Orschel 1G, Mattheus Vloet 2A.

502 DIAL TONE COMMUNICATIONS 2: Michael Raponi 1G, Nicholas Orsatti 1G, Dylan Sutherland 1A, Andrew Coley 1A, Michael Orschel 1A. **504 BARB BLASER - RE/MAX YORK GROUP 1:** Dexter Speller-Drews 1G.

501 AURORA CABLE INTERNET 3: John Haralampopoulos 1G 1A, Carter Schaefer 1G, James Chappell 1G, Mike Machin 1A. **506 THE SHREDDING COMPANY 1:** Michael Moody 1G, Scott Ashbourne 1A.

503 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 9: Graham Cormack 1G 3A, Adam Gitto 2G 2A, Marco Santella 4G 1A, Dylan Lastuk 2G, Kyle Landry 1A, Matthew DeSousa 1A, Colin Munn 2A, Eric DeRoos 3A, Robert Horton 1A. **505 ORR & FORSTER INSURANCE BROKERS 1:** Carter Powis 1G, Keenan VanRooyan 1A.

Rep Tournament Games

Midget Rep Sponsors
A: Greyfield Construction

Midget A 5 Wasaga Beach 0
Pentii Paivio, shutout, Steven Black 1G 1A, Chris Statchuk 1G, Michael Jack 1G, PJ Speciale-Plouffe 1G, Matt Cleverdon 1G, Mark Jarman 2A, Bryan Osuszek 1A, Craig Waites 1A, Peter Nykyforchyn 1A, Marc Oppedisano 1A, Mark Smith 1A, Ryan Kines 1A, Mark Johnson 1A.

St. Catharines 3 Midget A 2
Chris Statchuk 1G, Matt Cleverdon 1G, Steven Black 1A, Bryan Osuszek 1A, Matt Cundari 1A, Michael Jack 1A.
Midget A 1 Newmarket 1
Chris Statchuk 1G, Peter Nykyforchyn 1A, Ryan Kines 1A.

Newmarket 2 Midget A 1
Mark Johnson 1G, Marc Oppedisano 1A, Ryan Kines 1A.

Rep Playoff Games

Atom Rep Sponsors
AA: Mike & Ike
A: Joriki Inc.

Newmarket 5 Atom AA 2

Dylan Kovacs 1G, Matthew Mears 1G, Kyle McCreedy 1A, Steadman Dinning 1A.

Newmarket 4 Atom AA 3

Kyle McCreedy 1G, Matthew Mears 1G, Eleeza Cox 1G, Steadman Dinning 1A, Brett Matthews 1A, Ben Hanlon 1A.

Newmarket 6 Atom AA 3

Eleeza Cox 1G, Jamie Hawkins 1G, Steadman Dinning 1G, Chris Piron 1A, Stephen DeMarco 1A, Kyle McCreedy 1A, Matthew Mears 1A.

Minor Pee wee Rep Sponsors
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A: FM Windows & Doors Manufacturing / Venture Steel
AE: Pembridge Insurance

Minor Pee wee AE 5 Ajax 2

Michael Delglavignano 2G, Matthew Pelegrini 1G, Tyler Tisdale 1G, Oliver Boettcher 1G, 2A, Patrick Lee 1A.

Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results to 9 AM Sunday, April 4th

Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha



2004-2005 Rep Tryouts

Tryout Fees

1.	hrs.	\$ 8.00
1.	25 hrs.	\$ 10.00
1.	5 hrs.	\$ 12.00
1.	75 hrs	\$ 14.00
2.	hrs.	\$ 15.00



TEAM	DATE	DAY	ARENA	START	END
1996 & 1997					
Novice AAA	13-Apr-04	Tuesday	EG West	6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Novice AAA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	EG East	5:30 PM	6:30 PM
Novice AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	7:30 AM	9:30 AM
Novice AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
Novice AA	12-Apr-04	Monday	ACC2	6:00 PM	7:15 PM
Novice AA	15-Apr-04	Thursday	ACC2	6:00 PM	7:15 PM
Novice AA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	1:00 PM	3:00 PM
Novice A	25-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
Novice A	2-May-04	Sunday	ALC	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
Novice A	9-May-04	Sunday	ALC	9:00 AM	11:00 AM

1995

Minor Atom AAA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	EG East	6:30 PM	7:30 PM
Minor Atom AAA	16-Apr-04	Friday	EG East	5:30 PM	6:30 PM
Minor Atom AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Minor Atom AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	10:30 AM	12:30 AM
Minor Atom AA	13-Apr-04	Tuesday	ACC2	6:00 PM	7:15 PM
Minor Atom AA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	2:00 PM	3:45 PM
Minor Atom AA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
Minor Atom A	1-May-04	Saturday	ALC	2:00 PM	3:30 PM
Minor Atom A	8-May-04	Saturday	ALC	2:00 PM	3:30 PM
Minor Atom A	10-May-04	Monday	ALC	6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Minor Atom A	11-May-04	Tuesday	ALC	6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Minor Atom AE	15-May-04	Saturday	ALC	11:00 AM	12:30 PM
Minor Atom AE	16-May-04	Sunday	ALC	2:30 PM	4:00 PM
Minor Atom AE	18-May-04	Tuesday	ALC	6:00 PM	8:00 PM

1994

Atom AAA	12-Apr-04	Monday	EG West	6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Atom AAA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	EG East	7:30 PM	8:30 PM
Atom AAA	16-Apr-04	Friday	EG East	6:30 PM	7:30 PM
Atom AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	11:30 AM	12:30 PM
Atom AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	12:30 PM	2:30 PM
Atom AA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	ACC2	6:00 PM	7:15 PM
Atom AA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Atom AA	24-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	6:00 PM	7:30 PM
Atom A	25-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	10:30 AM	12:00 PM
Atom A	2-May-04	Sunday	ALC	10:30 AM	12:00 PM
Atom A	9-May-04	Sunday	ALC	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Atom AE	15-May-04	Saturday	ALC	4:00 PM	6:00 PM
Atom AE	16-May-04	Sunday	ALC	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Atom AE	26-May-04	Wednesday	ALC	6:00 PM	7:30 PM

1993

Minor Pee wee AAA	12-Apr-04	Monday	EG West	7:00 PM	8:00 PM
Minor Pee wee AAA	15-Apr-04	Thursday	EG East	7:30 PM	8:30 PM
Minor Pee wee AAA	16-Apr-04	Friday	EG East	7:30 PM	8:30 PM
Minor Pee wee AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	12:30 PM	1:30 PM
Minor Pee wee AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	2:30 PM	4:30 PM
Minor Pee wee AA	13-Apr-04	Tuesday	ACC2	7:15 PM	8:30 PM
Minor Pee wee AA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	ACC2	7:15 PM	8:30 PM
Minor Pee wee AA	24-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	4:00 PM	6:00 PM
Minor Pee wee A	1-May-04	Saturday	ALC	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
Minor Pee wee A	8-May-04	Saturday	ALC	3:30 PM	5:00 PM
Minor Pee wee A	10-May-04	Monday	ALC	7:00 PM	9:00 PM
Minor Pee wee AE	15-May-04	Saturday	ALC	12:30 PM	2:00 PM
Minor Pee wee AE	16-May-04	Sunday	ALC	4:00 PM	6:00 PM
Minor Pee wee AE	25-May-04	Tuesday	ALC	6:00 PM	7:30 PM

1992

Pee wee AAA	13-Apr-04	Tuesday	EG West	8:00 PM	9:00 PM
Pee wee AAA	15-Apr-04	Thursday	EG East	8:30 PM	9:30 PM
Pee wee AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	1:30 PM	2:30 PM
Pee wee AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	4:30 PM	5:30 PM

TEAM	DATE	DAY	ARENA	START	END
Pee wee AA	12-Apr-04	Monday	ACC2	7:15 PM	8:30 PM
Pee wee AA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	3:45 PM	5:30 PM
Pee wee AA	24-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	2:00 PM	4:00 PM
Pee wee A	25-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	12:00 PM	2:00 PM
Pee wee A	2-May-04	Sunday	ALC	12:00 PM	1:30 PM
Pee wee A	9-May-04	Sunday	ALC	1:00 PM	2:30 PM
Pee wee AE	16-May-04	Sunday	ALC	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Pee wee AE	17-May-04	Monday	ALC	6:00 PM	8:00 PM
Pee wee AE	26-May-04	Wednesday	ALC	7:30 PM	9:00 PM

1991

Minor Bantam AAA	13-Apr-04	Tuesday	EG East	8:30 PM	9:30 PM
Minor Bantam AAA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	EG East	8:30 PM	9:30 PM
Minor Bantam AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	2:30 PM	3:30 PM
Minor Bantam AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	5:30 PM	6:30 PM
Minor Bantam AA	15-Apr-04	Thursday	ACC2	7:15 PM	8:45 PM
Minor Bantam AA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	5:30 PM	7:30 PM
Minor Bantam AA	24-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	7:30 PM	9:00 PM
Minor Bantam A	1-May-04	Saturday	ALC	5:00 PM	6:30 PM
Minor Bantam A	8-May-04	Saturday	ALC	5:00 PM	6:30 PM
Minor Bantam A	11-May-04	Tuesday	ALC	7:00 PM	9:00 PM
Minor Bantam AE	15-May-04	Saturday	ALC	2:00 PM	4:00 PM
Minor Bantam AE	16-May-04	Sunday	ALC	1:00 PM	2:30 PM
Minor Bantam AE	18-May-04	Tuesday	ALC	8:00 PM	10:00 PM

1990

Bantam AAA	12-Apr-04	Monday	EG West	8:00 PM	9:00 PM
Bantam AAA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	EG East	9:30 PM	10:30 PM
Bantam AAA	16-Apr-04	Friday	EG East	8:30 PM	9:30 PM
Bantam AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	3:30 PM	4:30 PM
Bantam AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	6:30 PM	7:30 PM
Bantam AA	13-Apr-04	Tuesday	ACC2	8:30 PM	10:00 PM
Bantam AA	15-Apr-04	Thursday	ACC2	8:45 PM	10:00 PM
Bantam AA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	3:00 PM	5:00 PM
Bantam A	25-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	2:00 PM	4:00 PM
Bantam A	2-May-04	Sunday	ALC	1:30 PM	3:00 PM
Bantam A	9-May-04	Sunday	ALC	2:30 PM	4:00 PM
Bantam AE	14-May-04	Friday	ALC	6:00 PM	8:00 PM
Bantam AE	17-May-04	Monday	ALC	8:00 PM	10:00 PM
Bantam AE	25-May-04	Tuesday	ALC	7:30 PM	9:00 PM

1989

Minor Midget AAA	13-Apr-04	Tuesday	EG West	9:00 PM	10:00 PM
Minor Midget AAA	15-Apr-04	Thursday	EG East	9:30 PM	10:30 PM
Minor Midget AAA	16-Apr-04	Friday	EG East	9:30 PM	10:30 PM
Minor Midget AAA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	EG East	4:30 PM	5:30 PM
Minor Midget AAA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	EG East	7:30 PM	8:30 PM
Minor Midget AA	14-Apr-04	Wednesday	ACC2	8:30 PM	10:00 PM
Minor Midget AA	17-Apr-04	Saturday	ALC	7:30 PM	9:00 PM
Minor Midget AA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Minor Midget A	2-May-04	Sunday	ALC	3:00 PM	4:30 PM
Minor Midget A	8-May-04	Saturday	ALC	6:30 PM	8:00 PM
Minor Midget A	9-May-04	Sunday	ALC	4:00 PM	6:00 PM

1988 &1987

Midget A	1-May-04	Saturday	ALC	6:30 PM	8:00 PM
Midget A	2-May-04	Sunday	ALC	4:30 PM	6:00 PM
Midget A	14-May-04	Friday	ALC	8:00 PM	10:00 PM
Midget AA	12-Apr-04	Monday	ACC2	8:30 PM	10:00 PM
Midget AA	18-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	7:00 PM	9:00 PM
Midget AA	25-Apr-04	Sunday	ALC	4:00 PM	6:00 PM

RUMOURS & RAMBLINGS

Remember when they raced ponies in Aurora?

On June 4, 1966, a new sporting venture got underway in Aurora as the Aurora Pony Racing Club held its first meet on the new quarter-mile track at Lorne Cousins' Pony Farm on Cousins Drive.

Ponies and drivers from all over Central Ontario participated in the event.

The track was sand and ideal for the trotting ponies and their carts.

For several years Cousins had done well with his show ponies and racing was a new venture for the 74-year-old.

He also planned to hold some chariot races for added interest and there were pony rides for the youngsters.

In July, 1966, Little Comet, owned and driven by Cousins, broke the track record with a speed of 1.46 for the quarter-mile track making him the fastest trotting pony in Canada and only one second off a world record.

But it was the last meet on the track for the Cousins stable as the entire stock was sold on July 30, 1966.

After years of showing and racing ponies, he said he was going to take a holiday and do some travelling without having to worry about his stable.

POSTAL RATE INCREASES

Canadians started to pay 49 cents to mail a first class letter in Canada earlier this year, so it's hard to believe that prior to May 21, 1976, the price was only eight cents.

Postmaster-General Bryce Mackasey announced a four-cent increase on May 21, 1976, with the price going to 10 cents on September 1, 1976, and to 12 cents on March 1, 1977.

At the time the Post Office deficit had climbed to \$626 million from \$500 million in 1975.

He also told Parliament that recent surveys indicated that the level of service was becoming more and more acceptable to the Canadian people, but many MPs disagreed.

It was also suggested that the government should re-open the question of turning the Post Office into a semi-independent Crown corporation to reduce its need to deal with the government bureaucracy.

It happened in 1982 with a mandate to operate on a break-even basis and rates have increased ever since.

SURPRISES ON A VIDEO TAPE

Back in April, 1990, an Aurora couple went to a store to purchase a blank videotape to film his son's birthday party.

But they got more than they paid for when they saw shocking sex scenes on the tape.

The tape, which showed no signs of tampering, was still sealed in plastic packaging.

York Regional Police viewed other tapes from the store but only found the offending scenes on the one tape.

The store stopped selling the brand and the police continued their investigation.

AURORA'S BAVARIAN GARDEN

Not many Aurorans will remember it now but back in the summer of 1973 Aurora opened its first Bavarian beer garden, a 56-seat outdoor patio in front of the Graystone Restaurant.

It was officially opened by Mayor Evelyn Buck who took the first sip from a Bavarian stein.

The Graystones opened under new management in November, 1967, with Max Wiedemann as the friendly innkeeper and soon the Graystones became the neighbourhood pub.

In 1976, when Max died, his wife, Anita, decided to carry on in spite of Max's recommendation that she sell it.

Instead she closed it for five months for extensive renovations including closing the beer garden and extending the dining room closer to Yonge Street.

The re-opening took place April 13, 1978, and today the Graystones is still operated by daughter Petra and son Randy.

A FREUDIAN SLIP

Back in June, 1973, a red-faced Jack Rettie admitted afterwards that he had made a Freudian slip.

As chief administrative officer for the region, he stood to address regional council and according to procedure, directed his comments through Chairman Garfield Wright.

"I'm not sure how we solve the chairman, Mr. Problem," he said as council members erupted in laughter.

AURORA OPPOSES COMPUTER PRICING

Today the bar code on items of all kinds is widely accepted by shoppers.

The check-out clerk passes the item over a bar code reader, the price is flashed on the cash register screen and printed on the bill.

But computer pricing wasn't always popular.

Back in November, 1975, Aurora Council launched a formal protest against the new pricing process, which was being introduced in some markets, especially food supermarkets at the time.

Council petitioned the Ontario government not to permit the computerized checkout system, as it reduced the customers' price awareness, but the system is here to stay.

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Sarah Lloyd, vice-president of the Girls Inc. board of directors takes time out with Mansion owner Joe DiNardo Saturday night prior to the start of the group's annual dinner and auction. The sold-out event attracted about 100 to the Industrial Parkway South Mansion, marking the 25th anniversary of Girls Inc. The Aurora contingent has been part of the group for about two years. They were Big Sisters of York prior to that. The event is one of the group's major fund-raisers of the year.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Committee of Adjustment gets town bylaw approval

A bylaw to appoint members to Aurora's Committee of Adjustment was finally approved at last week's council meeting.

Named to the committee were Verna Ross, Michael Seaman, Roy Harrington, Frank McGrath and Tony Magliocchi.

Last January a bylaw was prepared appointing members to the Committee of Adjustment, but when it was presented to council, council members refused to adopt it.

Concern was expressed

about the planning powers granted to the committee and the need for some training and an interview process.

It was pointed out the decisions of the committee are beyond the control of council except by appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board.

The issue came up when the former committee granted a minor variance to a developer to build a 15,000 square foot LCBO store near Bayview Avenue and St. John's Sideroad on lands zoned prestige industrial.

Council appealed the

committee decision resulting in the developer withdrawing the application and re-applying under the Planning Act resulting in a public meeting and a rezoning, which was approved by council.

Following the interviews in March, the five members were appointed effective April 1 to serve until such time as their successors are appointed.

A similar bylaw was also approved appointing the same members to the Property Standards Committee.

York speed report hits Aurora snags

Last year York Region engaged an independent consultant to review the region's policy for establishing speed limits on regional roads and to make recommendations for changes in the process including a warrant system.

Overall the report found that drivers travel at certain speeds based on the characteristics and design elements of the roadway and that reducing the posted speed limit below the 85th percentile speed has almost no effect unless the roadway receives constant police enforcement.

The proposed regional policy is to set the posted speed limit on a regional road at the 85th percentile speed to a maximum of 80 km/hr.

The proposed limit will be reduced by a maximum of 20 km/hr depending on such factors as driveway density, vehicle/pedestrian volumes and in some cases pavement condition.

Speed limits in school zones on a regional road take into consideration the listed factors but also include the collision history.

Under the proposed policy, a request to reduce a posted speed in the vicinity of a school will only be considered if coming from the school principal or school board.

As there are six regional roads in Aurora, the regional report was forwarded to the municipality for information and comments.

Aurora staff reviewed the report and expressed several concerns including the inclusion of cyclists, not including comments by municipal staff in school zones, lack of consideration of

streetscapes and traffic calming and the consideration of the collision history on all roads, not just school zones.

Council endorsed the report without discussion or comment.



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Some residents of Kennedy lived in King

Today all of Kennedy Street West is contained within the boundaries of the Town of Aurora, but it wasn't always that way.

Prior to the formation of regional government in 1971, the portion of Kennedy Street west of today's Murray Drive was in King Township.

At the time, Murray Drive and Kennedy did not inter-

sect.

Kennedy was a dead end short rural road ending in a field about half way between Murray Drive and Bathurst Street.

The only entrance for the few King residents living on the street was through Aurora.

Back in 1957, Aurora petitioned the Ontario Municipal Board to allow

annexation of that part of the township to allow the development of the Regency Acres subdivision and the proposed Sterling Drug plant move from Windsor.

On July 8, 1957, an agreement was signed between the two municipalities and the Aurora Public School Board in which King agreed to the annexation of the

southwest lands, subject to conditions, which were approved by the OMB.

One condition said Aurora was to maintain that part of Kennedy Street westerly from the west limits of Aurora, as if it were in Aurora.

The other condition was to allow children of the residents living on that part of Kennedy to attend, free of charge, Aurora public schools.

The agreement was to last until such time as that portion of Kennedy Street was annexed by Aurora.

Although Aurora initiated the process to annex that portion of King Township in 1966, action was delayed due to provincial plans to restructure local government by changing the county system to a regional government system.

In August, 1967, King residents living on Kennedy received notices from the Aurora Public School Board that they would be required to pay non-resident fees for their children to attend Aurora schools, which ignored the 1957 agreement.

The payment for the 10 children involved was protested by Aurora and King councils, the King Township Area School board and three sets of angry parents.

The school board's move of demanding \$30 per month per child was seen as a means of trying to force annexation. The amount was later dropped to \$19 per month per child.

A meeting was held September 14, 1967, with council members of Aurora and King councils and trustees of the Aurora Public School Board in attendance.

The solicitor for the school board argued that although the agreement had been signed, it had not been approved by the Minister of Education nor had it been written into the OMB approval of the annexation of the southwest lands.

Council members argued that it was understood the agreement was part of the approval.

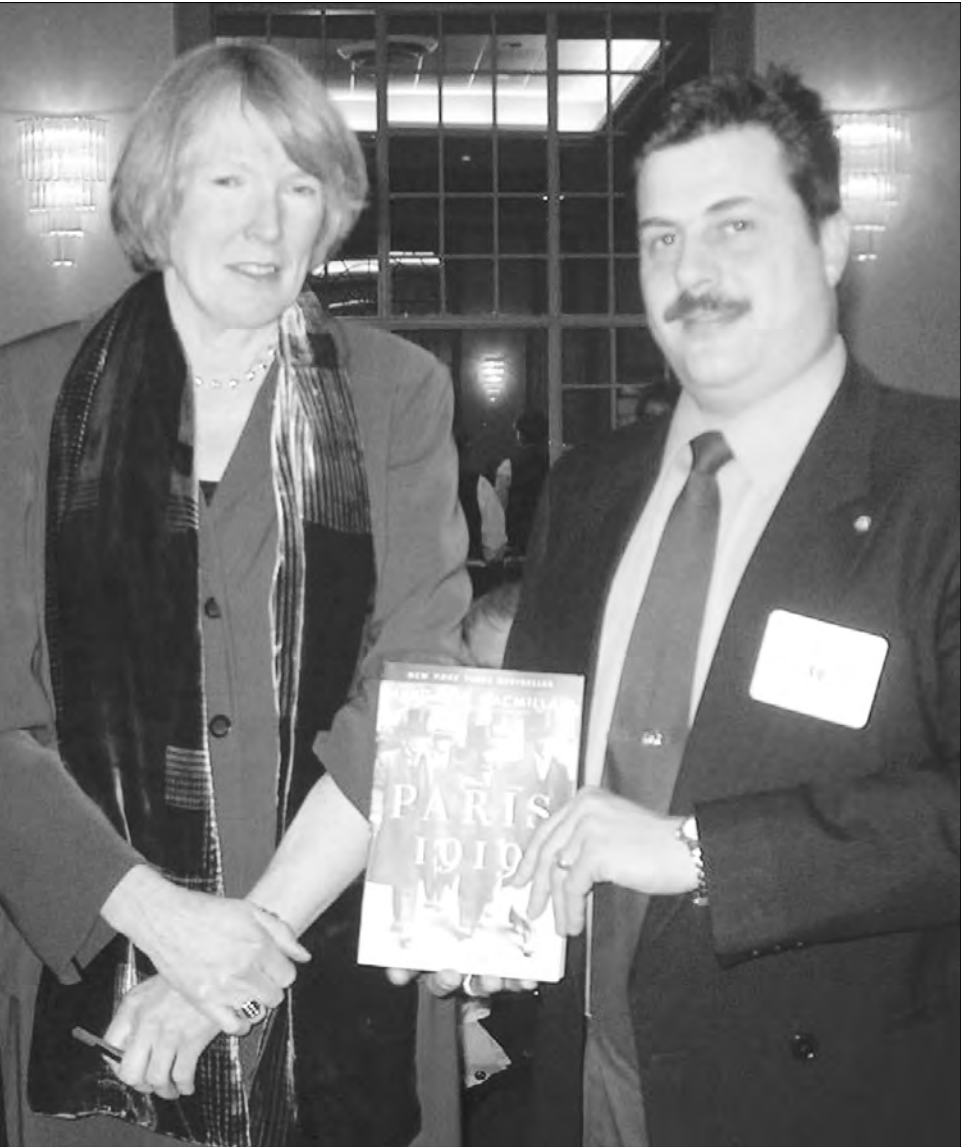
It was finally agreed by all present that no action would be taken to impose the out-of-town fees until clarification was received from the OMB.

In October, 1967, the OMB secretary advised

the town that the legality of the agreement was a matter for the courts to decide since it appeared the board did not have the power to declare whether or not the agreement was binding.

The issue died a quiet death and it wasn't long before the county school board took over the local school boards and then came regional government and the area in dispute became part of Aurora.

It may not seem as important as some of the issues facing council today but back then it was a major issue.



Author of the book "Paris 1919", Margaret MacMillan, left, was guest speaker last week as representatives from dozens of Rotary Clubs in the district showed up for dinner at DiNardo's Mansion in Aurora. The event was hosted by the Richmond Hill Rotary Club. Welcoming the speaker is incoming Aurora Rotary President Frank Mete.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace



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HOLY WEEK

April 8 MAUNDY THURSDAY
"TENEBRAE" 7:30 P.M.

"Do this in remembrance of me."
A service recalling the Last Supper

April 9 GOOD FRIDAY 10:30 a.m.

"When I survey the wondrous cross..."
Meditation: "Thank God it's Friday"

April 11 EASTER SUNDAY 10:30 a.m.

"Christ the Lord is risen today!"
A celebration of Holy Communion

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THURSDAY, APRIL 8TH
MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist ~ Trinity Church

Maundy Thursday recalls the institution of the Lord's Supper, the washing of feet and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH
GOOD FRIDAY

10:00 a.m.

Solemn Liturgy and Homily*

A solemn reflection on the Crucifixion of Our Lord.

**Nursery Care will be provided.*

11:30 a.m.

The Way of The Cross

Take a Prayer Walk in the footsteps of Christ to and through the Cross. Meet at the Town Park band shell (Mosley and Wells Street). An event designed for all ages – children welcome.

12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Sacrament of Penance
(Private Confession)

A Priest will be available in Trinity Chapel

1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Good Friday Choral Meditations.

You are invited to come and stay for this whole period, although you may leave between Ante-Communion and Evensong.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH
EASTER VIGIL

7:30 p.m.

Holy Baptism and
Family Choral Eucharist

This ancient Service begins in tomb-like darkness and includes the lighting of the New Fire (a symbol of Resurrection), Baptism, and the joyful celebration of the first Eucharist of Easter. A Resurrection Party will take place in the Common Room following the Service.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH
EASTER DAY

6 a.m.

Sunrise Holy Eucharist Service in
Trinity Church

led by Alan Ferguson, followed by a light breakfast in Binions Hall.

8 a.m.

Holy Eucharist ~ Trinity Chapel
9:15 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Holy Eucharist ~ Trinity Church*

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SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

8 a.m.

Holy Eucharist ~ Trinity Chapel

9:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist and Holy Baptism*

11 a.m.

Holy Eucharist and Holy Baptism*

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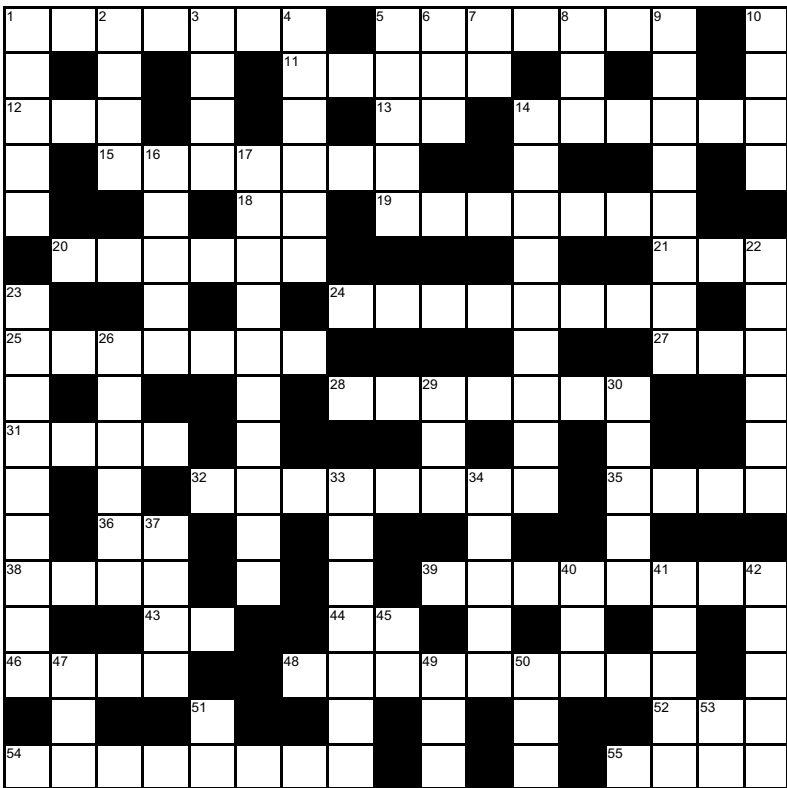
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by Scott Johnston



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- Safety Village location: ____ Mill
- "www.Town.Aurora.on.ca" is one
- Spring clean- ____
- Public Works' street
- Type of informal sale
- North end school (abbr)
- Skateboard park
- Illingworth alias: Poor ____
- Town motto: ____ Meus Testis
- Merlin's Hollow attraction
- Road edge
- April run
- Printing liquids
- Newspaper boss (abbr)
- Unit of area measurement
- Type of bike
- Aurora Grove, for example (abbr)
- Voting response
- Winter road leftover
- Home & ____ Show
- May hold a bike wheel in place
- ____ Marsh
- Team fund-raiser: car ____

Down

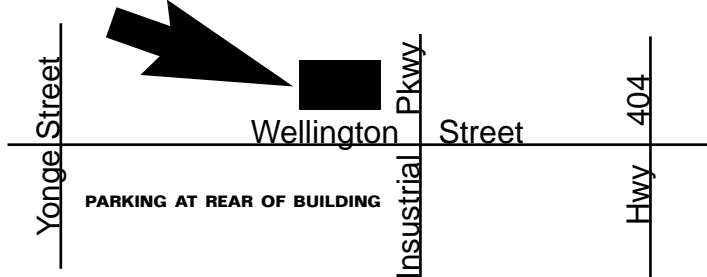
- McRoberts or Milgate
- Spring river widener
- ____ McKenzie Park
- Barber pole feature
- Some are due Apr 30th
- Bike chain lubricant
- Place (abbr)
- ____ Lady of Grace ES
- Town does this to taxis and dogs
- Henderson woodlot
- Town Park feature (2 wds)
- ____ worm
- Sheppard's Bush bldg (2 wds)
- Former Aurora co: ____ Leather
- Some of Dick's picks
- Cardinal ____ HS
- No of Aurora reps on Reg Council
- SAC hockey player
- Spring pond hazard (2 wds)
- Pancake breakfast sponsors
- Department (abbr)
- Negative vote
- ACC is one
- Direction of Holland River flow
- Chamber ____ Commerce
- "48 across" venue (abbr)
- Easter ____ Hunt
- Council meeting day (abbr)
- Railway near Leslie (abbr)
- A stamp to here is 80 cents (abbr)

Solution will appear next week



Road Mountain Triathlete
Bike fitting specialists

Cyclissimo Sports Equipment
160 Wellington Street East, Unit 3



Aurora, Ontario
(905) 727-2054

Sponsored by



Aurora Home & Lifestyle Show

Celebrating Food and Wine

2004



Featuring

Nik Manojlovich, host of *Savoir Faire* on W
Saturday, April 24th at 1:00pm & 3:00pm

Aurora Community Centre

Aurora Heights Drive, Aurora

April 23rd	2:00pm to 9:00pm
April 24th	9:00am to 7:00pm
April 25th	10:00am to 5:00pm