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# AURORAN

**Aurora's Community Newspaper**



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## Briefly

### Are you talented?

As part of the 9th annual Aurora Street Festival June 6, Marquee Productions and the Aurora Chamber of Commerce are planning a "Music Quest" featuring Aurora's best talent. Emceeing the event will be Punch Andrews from Mix 99.9 radio. Marquee is currently auditioning vocalists, instrumentalists and bands. Additional details may be found on Page 18.

### Street address

Boy, we struck a nerve with our absolutely non-scientific survey last week asking whether the address of the Town Hall should change. Some of you agreed to allow your comments to appear as Letters to the Editor, so we grouped them with the survey results (so far, 'cause they're still coming in) on Page 6.

### No cakewalk

It would appear the Aurora Tigers may have some difficulty in this round of Provincial Junior A hockey playoffs. They opened the series in Aurora Friday night, and breezed to a 10-1 victory, then travelled to St. Mike's Buzzers home territory Sunday, where they were handed a 5-4 setback. Third game was played Tuesday night, but results weren't available at press time. With any luck, the series won't go seven games, but, if it does, Aurora will have home ice advantage, but it won't be at home. The final will be played at the Elgin Barrow Arena in Richmond Hill, IF it's played at all.

### About those learners

Seems things have settled down a bit at the privatized site of the driver/testing examination centre in Aurora. The centre relocated from Yonge and Bloomington to a plaza on Henderson Drive and complaints about property traffic soon started. Since then, things have quieted down, but traffic is still heavy. One of the problems noted was that driving instructors like to use the same streets to teach their students as used by the examiners. Council had previously adopted a bylaw restricting certain streets for driving instruction and with the move of the centre to Henderson staff recommended the bylaw include neighbouring streets. The adopted bylaw includes Henderson Drive, Poplar Crescent, Murray Drive, Jones Court, Davis Road, Richardson Drive and Lee Gate.

### Keep your distance

Recently Councillor Wendy Gaertner proposed amendments regarding the terms of reference for the Environmental Committee and the Yonge Street Commercial Area Sub-Committee. Last week, she said she had the proposed amendments prepared. She proposed that any planning application on the Oak Ridges Moraine that are within 120 metres of a significant woodlot or hydrological feature be referred to the Environment Committee, who would have the authority to make planning policy proposals to council. During the discussion it was noted the proposed 120 metres was too great a distance and that only those applications referred by council should go to the committee. Gaertner agreed to meet with staff to refine the terms of reference but in the meantime an advertisement will be placed inviting applications for committee members. Regarding proposed changes to the Yonge Street Economic Sub-Committee, the general committee approved including cultural and social initiatives that would contribute to the revitalization of Yonge Street by encouraging people to frequent the area.



**Alana MacLennan and her daughter Taylor take time out from the Egg Hunt Saturday to visit with the Easter Bunny at Aurora's Leisure Complex. Hundreds turned up to search for some 9,000 hidden eggs.**  
*Auroran photo by David Falconer*

## Region meeting in Aurora attracts few local residents

York Region held a public consultation on its draft official plan amendment #43 intended to enhance growth in the regional centres and corridors including Yonge Street through Aurora at the Aurora Library last week and the public was conspicuous by its absence. Only one printed notice about the meeting appeared, and it encouraged residents to attend to learn about the regional official plan amendment and its possible impact on Aurora. Either citizens didn't see it or they weren't interested as fewer than 20 attended to hear the presentation and make comments. Two Aurora councillors attended along with Director of Planning Sue Seibert. Sean Hertel and Karen Whitney of the regional planning department made a visual presentation of the proposed official plan amendment and answered questions from the few in attendance.

Four regional centres are planned for Markham, Richmond Hill, Vaughan and Newmarket. Regional centres are planned to be vibrant, higher density mixed use communities, or the region's downtown. The centres will include office buildings, higher density residential, community and public squares as well as a wide range of restaurants, shops, cultural, institutional and administrative facilities, offering a pedestrian friendly environment. The planned regional corridors of Highway 7 and Yonge Street, through Aurora, are seen as areas to add new housing units, employment and services in a mixed use form that is supported by public transit and featuring a pedestrian oriented design. Benefits of the regional official plan amendment include strengthening the regional economy base, facilitating the housing supply strategy, supporting the financial viability of regional rapid transit

and helping protect rural countryside and agricultural lands. Insofar as Aurora is concerned are the key development areas (KDA), which will select spots along the corridor where more intensive development is

**Please see page 18**

### Private parking tickets working

A year ago last October, a spokesman for Machell's Corners Housing Co-op asked the town to allow the co-op to hire a private control operator to issue municipal parking tickets in their parking lot. Apparently it has worked. And the group wants to expand its services. At a general committee meeting last week, town councilors heard that no concerns had been expressed by the co-op regard-

**Please see page 7**

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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.

\*\*\*\*

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

### 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

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 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

The Annual Bob Hartwell Runner's Challenge has now received provincial Class A certification and has grown to be one of the best marathons in the province. It starts at the Town Park before heading to the outskirts for the half-marathon of 13.1 miles (half the distance of the Boston Marathon). Call 905-727-8755 to register, or volunteer.

\*\*\*\*

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.

### APRIL 20

Founding & General Meeting of the Progressive Conservative Association of Newmarket-Aurora will be held at 7:30 p.m., Aurora Legion, Canadian Room, 105 Industrial

Pkwy. North, to approve a Constitution for the Association and to elect an executive.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Seniors travel to the Stratford Festival to enjoy the musical "Guys and Dolls". Call 905-727-2816 to register.

### APRIL 21

Aurora Historical Society is holding its last general meeting of the season with a Pot Luck Supper and Penny Auction with Auctioneer Ron Wake. All proceeds support the society's activities. Hillary House beginning at 6:30 p.m. Call 905-727-8991 for details.

### 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 25

Volunteers needed to help organize the Alzheimer Society of York Region Euchre Tournament from 1 to 4 p.m. Call the Aurora Volunteer Centre at 905-727-3123 extension 4103 for details.

### 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.

### MAY 2

Aurora Historical Society 90-minute walking tour "From Collins' Hill to Nob Hill" starting at 2 p.m. from the York Region District School Board parking lot on Wellington Street West. No charge. Call 905-727-8991 for details.

### 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 of researching 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 6

York Young Singles Network, a social group for singles ages 20-30, meets at 8 p.m. at the Filly and Firkin, Yonge at Golf Links Drive). To RSVP, go to <http://yysn.cjb.net> or call 905-868-8793.

### MAY 19

Aurora Public Library, in association with Aurora Cable Internet, presents free seminar on hub/switch based options at

7 p.m. in the Lebovic Room at the library. To reserve, call 905-727-9494 or log on [www.aci.on.ca](http://www.aci.on.ca).

### MAY 29/30

Aurora Seniors Art Show and Sale at the Seniors Centre.

### MAY 30

Meet Queen Victoria. Her Royal Highness is coming to Hillary House to consult with Dr. Hillary and has consented to preside at a tea party and concert in her honour at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Advance reservations are required by calling 905-727-4015. Cost is \$10 and period costume dress is encouraged.

### 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 Haight Ashbury. 5 p.m.



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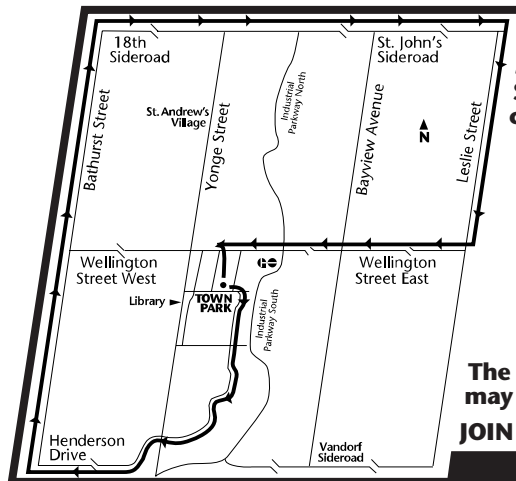
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## Upcoming Events

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April 24 - Jailbreak - Tribute to AC/DC

May 6 - Be Hypnotized by Sailesh

May 8 - "Julies" Reunion - 10 Year Anniversary

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Aurora Chamber of Commerce president Brian North, left, meets with Van-Rob Stamping president Bruce Johnson to inspect a cross vehicle beam manufactured by the Aurora company. It was part of a networking breakfast sponsored by Van-Rob last week and attended by scores of Chamber members. Event included tours through the massive Vandorf Sideroad plant, once the home of Tetra-Pak. Mr. Johnson happens to be the grandson of Aurora's Ada Johnson, who has lived in Aurora longer than anyone, more than 95 years.

*Auroran photo by Ron Wallace*

## Committee rejects restaurant licenses

Aurora restaurants and eating places can breathe easier as Aurora's general committee endorsed a staff report, which recommended Aurora's 61 restaurants and other food preparing premises not be licensed at this time.

The report was expected to be ratified by council this week, but results were not available at press time.

Last month a presentation was made to council by a concerned citizen regarding criminal charges being laid in connection with alleged drug offences at a local restaurant and the town not being able to take any action since the business was not licensed by the town.

As a result of these concerns town staff was asked to provide financial and other implications of licensing eating establishments in the town and report back to council.

It wasn't the first time that licensing of restaurants had been before council.

In June, 2001, members made it very clear that the licensing and rating of restaurants and food serving premises, as requested by York Region, wasn't necessary and the operations should be left alone.

Councillor Ron Wallace said at the time that restaurant operators had suffered enough with the region's anti-smoking bylaw.

The region did not have the authority to adopt restaurant licensing bylaws and asked the local municipalities to do so.

Regional health department staff pointed out licensing restaurants created greater public

awareness and a new dimension of safety through annual inspections by the fire department.

Aurora staff prepared a draft bylaw and recommended the regional report and draft bylaw be circulated to the Chamber of Commerce and food serving operators for comment, but council rejected the staff report and agreed to take no action.

In January, 2002, the region circulated a 100-page report of background information requesting that local municipalities adopt a bylaw to licence food serving establishments and once again Aurora council rejected

the request.

Some members of council expressed concern about the potential liability to the municipality if it failed to enact the regional request.

Other members of council argued that it was a regional responsibility to carry out health inspections of eating establishments whether the municipality licensed them or not.

Since that time the Municipal Act has been amended to introduce a number of restrictions and requirements that limit which businesses can be licensed and how they are regulated.

Based on the legislation

and the fact that one incident at one establishment warranted the licensing of all food serving establishments, staff recommended that no action be taken at this time.

Councillor Nigel Kean suggested a public forum be held to get comments from the public and the operators of the food eating establishments.

Other members of council argued that restaurant operators were quite capable of self-regulating themselves and there was no need for council to take action.

The Kean motion was defeated on a 5-2 vote and the staff report adopted.

Susan Talbot
Nancy Oxford



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**Poor  
Richard**

## Aurora Hydro secrecy needs to be stopped

*Aurora citizens are in the dark,  
About Aurora Hydro and light;  
It's time the whole story was told,  
So taxpayers know if it's right!*

-Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Long before former Progressive Conservative Premier Mike Harris decided to de-regulate Ontario Hydro and local hydro commissions, operating a local utility was relatively a simple matter, and the public was very much involved.

They elected two hydro commissioners during the municipal election and those two served with the mayor as the third commissioner by virtue of the office.

The two elected commissioners received about \$2,500 per year.

It was a wide-open, transparent process. Ontario Hydro supplied the power and the local utility usually operated in the black with few complaints.

It may be that it was this feeling of confidence or lack of advance information that resulted in the failure of any citizens to attend a public meeting in October, 2000, to learn about de-regulation or its impact on governance and hydro rates in Aurora.

The municipality decided to retain the utility in public ownership as a for-profit utility, rather than sell to Hydro One or the private sector.

To remain a municipal utility it was necessary for it to become two corporations and earn a return for shareholders, who were supposed to be the taxpayers.

Negotiations took place in 2000 with Markham, Vaughan and Newmarket to merge the four utilities and purchase Richmond Hill Hydro to become a \$580 million conglomerate, the fifth largest in the province but the deal fell through leaving Aurora on its own.

In November, 2002, the province provided municipalities the opportunity to return to a non-profit utility, but for some reason or other, council did not take advantage of it and confirmed its original decision to commercialize.

A board of directors was appointed by council, including the mayor, with a reported salary of \$5,000 per year plus \$400 per meeting, without any reports to council in open session or to the public.

It is doubtful if the general public has any knowledge of the identity of board members.

It was a major departure from the old days of elected commissioners who were well known to the public and served for half the annual honorarium and attended monthly meetings without remuneration.

In February, a councillor referred to a Hydro board meeting to which members of council had been invited and asked if they would be attending as shareholders or council members.

The councillor was advised by staff that it was a Hydro board meeting to which council had been invited but it was not a public meeting.

Prior to that, a so-called public meeting was convened, but after opening the meeting, council and the board went into camera for two hours based on a reported legal opinion, with little or no information made available to the public. It was a waste of time.

In March, Mayor Tim Jones said he represented the shareholders by sitting on the board of directors and the shareholder is defined as the Corporation of the Town of Aurora and citizens are defined as stakeholders,

Currently a study is being carried out as to a potential merger with Newmarket Hydro and originally this was to be discussed without any input from council members or the public.

Even though the mayor said it wasn't necessary as he was the shareholder's representative on the board, a councillor was successful in gaining council support to bring members of council into the discussion loop.

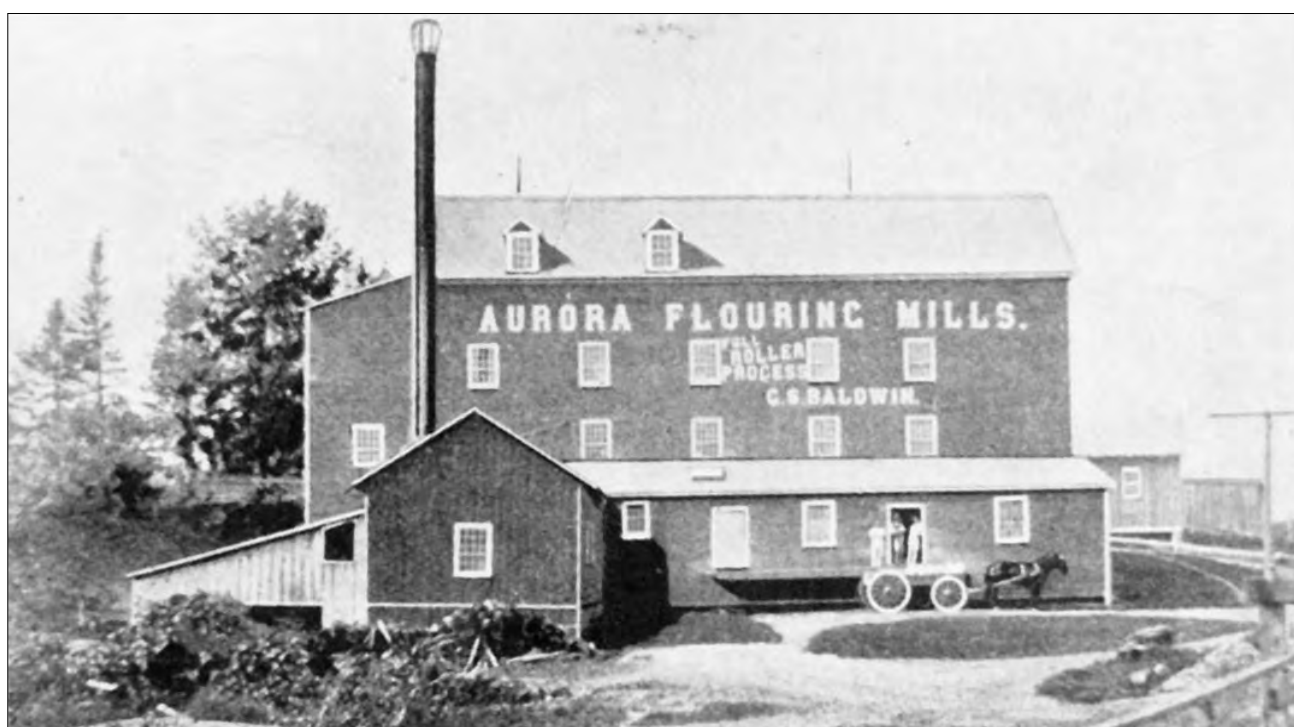
In August last year, Newmarket Council received the Newmarket Hydro dividend and proposed dividend policy and extended the period for public comment until September 22, 2003.

The secrecy at Aurora Hydro must stop.

The public has a right to know the financial state of the utility other than through the website; what the dividend policy is; how hydro is governed; names of the board members and how they were appointed; and how the utility is operated.

But more important, when will the public get to know what's going on in a public session about their utility and have the right to speak?

Answers are needed!



If the Aurora Flouring Mills, home of the "Aurora Belle" flour, was located on Wellington Street West, how come there's a Baldwin name on the wall, and why is Baldwin's now located on Wellington Street East? Simple. They moved. The building pictured burned down in 1920, forcing the Baldwin family to relocate to the existing building adjacent to the railway tracks, whose primary tenant is Baldwin's Restaurant. "Aurora Belle" flour, by the way, was advertised in its heyday as "Canada's Finest Pastry Flour". It is believed the above photo was taken sometime around 1900, and is one of scores of historical photos in the book "Aurora A History In Pictures" by John McIntyre.

### Letters to the Editor

# The Village of Aurora alive & well on Devins

To the editor,

RE: Cathy's Corner "The Village of Aurora"

I have just finished reading your article (Auroran, April 6) with a cup of tea; my house quiet as my youngest is in school this morning.

Thank you for re-affirming what I have always held true: you make your community what it is.

We moved from a very secluded community in Aurora to an older community here - on Devins Drive, almost two years ago now.

What we found were wonderful neighbours, one of whom, after knowing us for only 16 weeks, took in my oldest son (who was 5 1/2 at the time) at dinner time,

so we could take our younger son to the health clinic. (Remember when they closed the hospital due to the flu - norwalks?)

The younger one needed stitches in his head (playing Santa in the laundry basket does this!) and we were gone for hours.

Since then, we find our children in other's homes - playing, eating, and occasionally sleeping!

My older son even asked if we could trade his brother for our neighbour's daughter - he wanted a sister!

I love my street - most everyone is friendly ~ saying hello when they pass by.

Our kids play on the street - street hockey is still alive and doing well.

My next door neighbours are just as likely to cut my front lawn, as we are to cut theirs.

And our older neighbours love seeing the kids out playing - some of them decorate their homes and trees with Easter eggs - for the enjoyment of all to see. I have met more than one of my neighbours through my youngest who insists on talking to everyone.

I believe I know your neighbour (hey, how many people have four children, with two born at home?) I have been in your neighbourhood - and it is delightful to see what we can make of our communities by enjoying each other and sharing ourselves.

I am sure your article will strike a chord in many a parent's heart - and perhaps give some the inspiration and hope that they too, can make their communities a great place.

**Anne Shields  
Aurora**

**AURORAN**  
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Community Newspaper"

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**Editorial policy**

Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of the Auroran. Letters must include name and phone number, although number will not be published. Names may be withheld assuming a compelling reason to do so. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

**Advertising policy**

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

## Will the missing valedictorians please stand up

To the editor,

If you are a former student of the original Aurora High School (aka Aurora District High School, aka Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School), perhaps you could help us complete some missing information.

A few years ago, the alumni of the school purchased a large plaque to commemorate the valedictorians who have addressed their graduating classes at Commencement over the years.

We feel that we have an accurate list of the former valedictorians starting in 1923, but two of the names from the early years are

unknown to us.

We are missing 1925 and 1932.

Here are the names of some of the early valedictorians to help you remember who we already have: 1923 - Marjorie Whiteoak; 1924 - Bertha Andrews; 1925 - ?; 1926 - Louise Showalter; 1927 - Jean Cook; 1928 - Norris Legge; 1929 - Murray Downey; 1930 - Grace Johnston; 1931 - John Willis; 1932 - ?; 1933 - Ethan Hollingshead; 1934 - Marjorie Fleming; 1935 - Millie Umehara.

A complete list is nice to have.

If any Auroran readers, or their friends or relatives, can identify the valedictorians

for 1925 and/or 1932, it would be greatly appreciated.

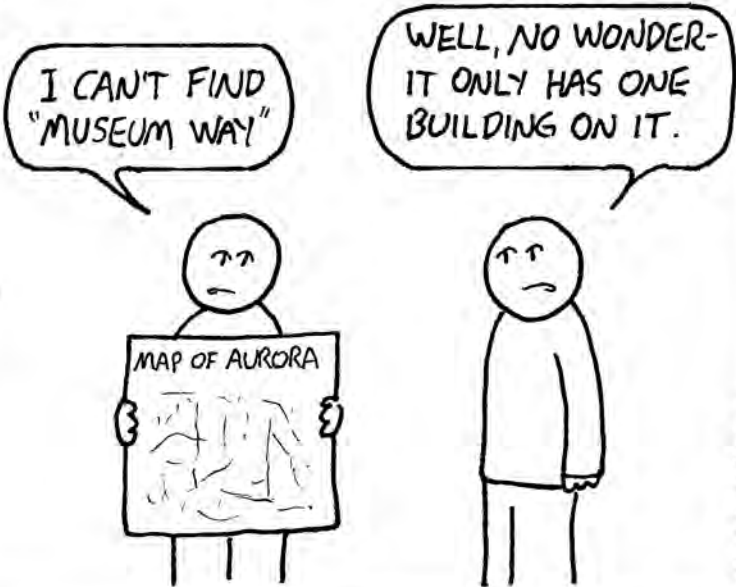
Please call the school at 905-727-3131 and leave a message at extension 445. Thanks for your help.

**Bob McRoberts  
Aurora**

*More  
letters  
see pages  
6 & 7*

LET'S SIMPLIFY THE ADDRESSES OF ALL MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS IN AURORA

Building	Current Address	Proposed Address
Aurora Town Hall	100 John West Way	1 Civic Way
Aurora Leisure Complex	135 Industrial Pkwy N	1 Complex Way
Aurora Public Library	15145 Yonge St	1 Library Way
Public Works Dept	9 Scanlon Crt	1 Works Way
Aurora Museum	22 Church St	1 Museum Way
Outdoor Bandshell	Mosley & Wells Sts	1 Bandshell Way
Aurora Seniors' Centre	52 Victoria St	1 Seniors' Way
Factory Theatre	150 Henderson	1 Factory Way



Mayor's Report  
By Tim Jones

GTA Mayors and Chairs

When I first became mayor back in 1994, the mayors of each municipality in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) used to meet on a monthly basis to share information and address issues of common concern.

Shortly after I became a member of this group, the chairman of each of the Regions was also asked to participate and the group became known as the GTA Mayors and Chairs.

I had the privilege of hosting one of these meetings in Aurora at the, then new, Magna International Headquarters.

Mayor Hazel MacCallion was the constant chairperson, with the mayor of the host municipality co-chairing.

We also had representation from the Province by way of an MPP or representative from Municipal Affairs and the Federal government designated an MP to sit with us.

Our issues then included taking on the Province in many areas of legislated jurisdiction, the Municipal Act, Development Charges and yes, even Photo Radar.

As well as the issues of the day, it gave all mayors the opportunity to interact with other mayors, to visit many municipalities and to discuss issues of common concern, in many cases requiring follow up individually as well as collectively with others.

I really appreciated the opportunity to be part of this group and to develop networks to address many issues important to Aurora.

The GTA Mayors and Chairs gave way to the Greater Toronto Services Board when it was formed several years ago and since the demise of the GTSB, there has been no general forum of this nature to discuss common issues.

On Monday, March 29th, Toronto Mayor David Miller invited the Mayors and Chairs to a meeting to consider a number of issues and to determine the revitalization of this group as one to address issues of common concern.

Every mayor but two in the GTA attended personally.

The meeting started sharply at 9:30 a.m.and ended on time at 12:30 p.m.

With the diversity in the room and the size of the meeting, it was terrific to see the high level the mayors held themselves to in speaking and representing their communities in areas of common interest.

The group actually re-established its base of issues to work forward with unanimously.

As you may have already seen or heard in the media, we have agreed to work with the Province to return development charges to 100 per cent so growth can once again pay for itself in tangible areas of infrastructure.

We will also work towards development charges for hospitals.

We advocated for permissive legislation to allow municipalities who wish to implement photo radar and red light cameras where needed.

We all agree on the need for Federal and Provincial funding for transit, infrastructure and roads, water and

sewer through existing revenue sharing opportunities.

We all denounce hate crimes.

We have requested the Province to refine the Municipal Act to allow municipalities to govern

We want police to ensure the safe storage of guns.

These for the most part are not new issues, but they are important issues that will allow municipalities to govern and to afford to meet the financial demands of the day.

On a similar note, I have also been invited to join the Countryside Mayors Alliance to discuss issues common to rural communities.

This group was recognized by the GTA Mayors and Chairs as one whose recommendations should be considered in the overall big picture.

I would reiterate that although a lot of any mayor's work is local in nature, it is very beneficial to take it up a notch when serving at the Region and even more educational and rewarding to participate at the GTA Mayors and Chairs level to lobby for those items that are so very meaningful to the collective group of municipalities.

I, for one, am glad we are back at the table in this forum.

**If you see something in this column 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



As far as I'm concerned: stuff it!!

Once upon a time, houses were for people, garages were for cars and sheds were for tools. Today, all that stuff is for stuff.

Stuff is all there is. Life is stuff, and stuff is life.

We say stuff, hear stuff, try stuff, make stuff, find stuff, lose stuff, wear stuff, break stuff, and borrow stuff. We think about stuff, talk about stuff, dream about stuff...we even eat stuff!

We stuff mushrooms, stuff turkeys, stuff peppers and stuff our faces with that stuff.

In Aurora, Dick writes his stuff, Cathy writes her stuff, the mayor writes his stuff, and Ron writes the rest of the stuff. Scott draws stuff.

The Auroran publishes stuff, and Aurorans read stuff. When people get stuffy, they write stuff to the editor.

There's good stuff and bad stuff, the right stuff and the wrong stuff.

Then there's the other stuff - her stuff, his stuff, the kids' stuff, the dog's stuff.

To confuse matters, there's your stuff, my stuff, our stuff, somebody's stuff, everybody's stuff and nobody's stuff.

There's summer stuff, Christmas stuff, winter stuff, Easter stuff, and stuff to keep the stuff in when the stuff is out of season.

They call that stuff "organizers", but we know it's just stuff to stuff your stuff into so that people don't sit on, step on or trip over your stuff when they come over...to do stuff.

Which brings me to my topic: Spring Cleaning - the process of cleaning stuff, rearranging stuff, and especially, getting rid of stuff. Because it can get pretty stuffy!

The trick is to get rid of bad stuff, old stuff, stuff you don't need, stuff you don't want, stuff you don't use - so that you have room for new stuff.

Bad stuff is stuff like dust bunnies, dust kitties, dust puppies, and most of the dead stuff behind the fridge and under the stove.

As gruesome as it is, pick through this stuff carefully.

Last Spring, I found two movie passes embalmed in a dust puppy.

Old stuff can give you a nervous breakdown. It's too crappy to keep, but too good to throw away.

It probably still works, even though you've broken fingers, toes and several perfectly good pick axes trying to break it. Never buy quality stuff. You'll be stuck with it forever.

Stuff you don't need is stuff you never should have bought in the first place, and never would have bought if it hadn't been such a good deal.

In future, when you see or hear stuff like "clearance", "ten easy payments", or "miracle" ask yourself: will it fit in the junk drawer?

That might save you from buying stuff like encyclopedias, surfboards, and the Anthony Robbins collection.

Remember, Aurora has a library, does not have an ocean, and is a small town where people are likely to notice that your brain has been fried.

Stuff you don't want would be easy to get rid of, except it probably isn't your stuff.

The consequences of chucking it may include marital breakdown, post disposal stress disorder and retaliation. Proceed with caution.

Stuff you don't use is just as hazardous.

It tends to stimulate guilt, because it is often stuff you got for Christmas, birthdays, etc. from loved ones who have inspired you to give an Academy Award winning performance.

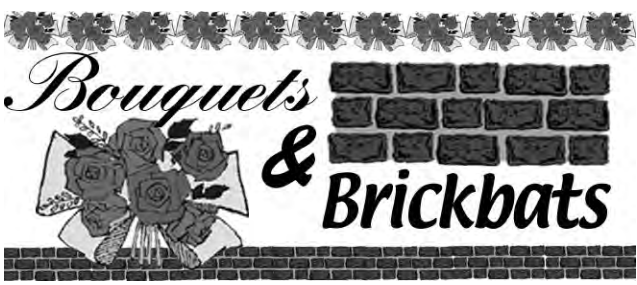
For Christmas, 1989, my mother-in-law gave me a bright pink track suit. As I had long blonde hair at the time, it made me look like "Incredible Hulk Barbie".

I had to wear it every time she came to visit...until the lawnmower accidentally ran over it.


As you can see, spring cleaning is an opportunity to stuff your stuff, and unstuff your life.


After all, houses are for stuff, garages are for stuff, sheds are for stuff, and lawnmowers are for shredding stuff.








By DICK ILLINGWORTH


 BOUQUETS to Cliff Davies, Kay Hack and Jean Anderson of Elder Connections for their efforts in organizing Seniors Travelling Entertainment Program (STEP) in York Region and Simcoe County. They are looking for talented seniors to entertain other seniors. Call Cliff at 905-727-2244 to volunteer.


 BRICKBATS to the City of Toronto politicians for continually begging for more money to meet their budget shortfall and to the Ontario government for bailing them out. Toronto gets \$79.5 million for York Region taxpayers, for pooling without even a thank you!


 BOUQUETS to Wanda of Aurora for being able to identify the Movie of the Day by listening to a brief sound clip on Gary Gamble's morning show on Foxy FM 88.5 Radio recently and winning a bunch of prizes.


 BRICKBATS to Aurora Council and Aurora Hydro for believing that all Aurora citizens have access to the Town or Hydro websites. Reports and correspondence of a public nature should be released in a public forum, not on a website!


 BOUQUETS to Vaughan/King/Aurora MP Maurizio Bevilacqua for raising more than \$90,000 during a 100 km bike ride he held last July First. He distributed funds raised during the ride to several charities including CHATS and the Yellow Brick House.


 BRICKBATS to those at CTV and entertainer Alanis Morissette for the unfunny takeoff of the Janis Jackson wardrobe malfunction during the Juno Awards. She appeared in a bathrobe and removed it to reveal a nude-coloured body stocking complete with nipples and pubic hair. Disgusting!


 BOUQUETS to those in Ontario Vinter's Quality Alliance for approving screw capped wines as legal and eligible for VQA designation. There's nothing worse than to have a good bottle of wine without a corkscrew to pull out the cork.

 BRICKBATS to former Prime Minister Jean Chretien for dismissing the sponsorship scandal, that happened on his watch as an accounting problem. He defended his years in power as a time when government integrity and competence were enhanced. What kind of a dream world does he live in?

 BOUQUETS to those at the LCBO for teaming up with World Wildlife Fund Canada in support of their efforts to save endangered species and to protect their habitats by selling T-shirts. The T-shirts are available only at the LCBO and they feature a colourful illustration of one of four endangered animals.

 BRICKBATS to those in the federal correctional services ministry for sticking the Canadian taxpayers for thousands of dollars to pay convicted criminals serving time for missing socks, cigarettes, designer sunglasses and stereos. They likely stole the objects in the first place.

 BOUQUETS and Welcome Back to Doris Murray, wife of the late Jim Murray, well-known local politician and businessman, who has returned to York Region to live and is now a resident of Jackson's Point and a regular reader of the Auroran.

 BRICKBATS to those at Statistics Canada for publishing the fact that if Canada's total worth was divided up as the end of last December every Canadian would be worth \$124,700, up from \$123,000 at the end of last September. Unfortunately, they forgot to send the cheque!

## Letters to the Editor

# Town Hall address: there must be better ways to spend cash

To the editor,

Re: Should the Town Hall have its own street name? NO!

This council can think of more ways to spend our tax dollars unnecessarily!

They are wasting time even talking about it. Are there not a few more serious issues that council can address?

On the same topic, something that has bothered me for years is the practice of naming streets after people who are sitting on council, or who have recently left council for one reason or another.

Examples: John West Way, Pedersen Drive, Evelyn Buck Lane, Ochalski

Road, Timpson Drive.

There are probably many more.

Isn't the practice of naming a street for a person an honour that is usually bestowed upon someone after they have retired from an exemplary career, or have contributed something of significance or made some substantial sacrifice for their community?

Simply being elected to town council does not rate having a street named after you.

If anything, the only purpose seems to be to feed the ego of the people involved.

Laurie Uetz  
Aurora

## Town Hall already has its own address

To the editor,

I'd like to say that the Town Hall already has its own address.

Why would someone invent yet another way to spend our tax dollars for such a frivolous thing?

Imagine the paperwork involved, the stationery, every instance where this building is mentioned from web sites to travel info, from pay cheques to rubber stamps.

Can the politicians in this town put their clever heads together and brainstorm some good ideas?

How about a wooden covered bridge for the section of St. John's Sideroad (east of Old Yonge)?

This could reduce the snow clearing/salting almost completely (for environmental preservation) and the thing could have a separate safe lane for cyclists/pedestrians.

It could also be a tourist attraction, as it would be unique, classic, very Canadian, and a good solution to the wetlands problem.

Catherine Strung  
Aurora.

# Classified Ad brings results to this reader

To the editor,

This is to thank the Auroran newspaper for the incredible results from my ad featured in your paper last month.

It has been so successful I am having problems

dealing with the number of calls.

Thank you so much. I am looking forward to a long term relationship with the Auroran.

Margaret Prosser  
Aurora

ED. NOTE: You're right about there being more streets in Aurora named after municipal councillors. Every member who sat on council when

Regency Acres was approved back in the late 50s has a street somewhere in that subdivision, including the mayor Jim Murray (Drive).

## Why is council wasting its time on addresses?

To the editor,

I would like to say that it is nice to have a newspaper that talks about our town. Thanks for sending us our news.

I was amazed to see that our council is expending time with this issue.

I think there are more important issues to discuss

like the environment, housing and safety.

So, please consider my vote as "NO". There is no need to change the Town Hall street name, in my point of view.

Thanks, and keep doing the good job you are doing.

Katia Picada  
Aurora

## SURVEY RESULTS

*Should the Town Hall have its own street name?*

YES - 67.9 PER CENT

NO - 26.8 PER CENT

WHO CARES? - 5.3 PER CENT

Percentages based on 74 ballots received before 6 p.m. Sunday. Any ballots received after that time will be added to the total next week.

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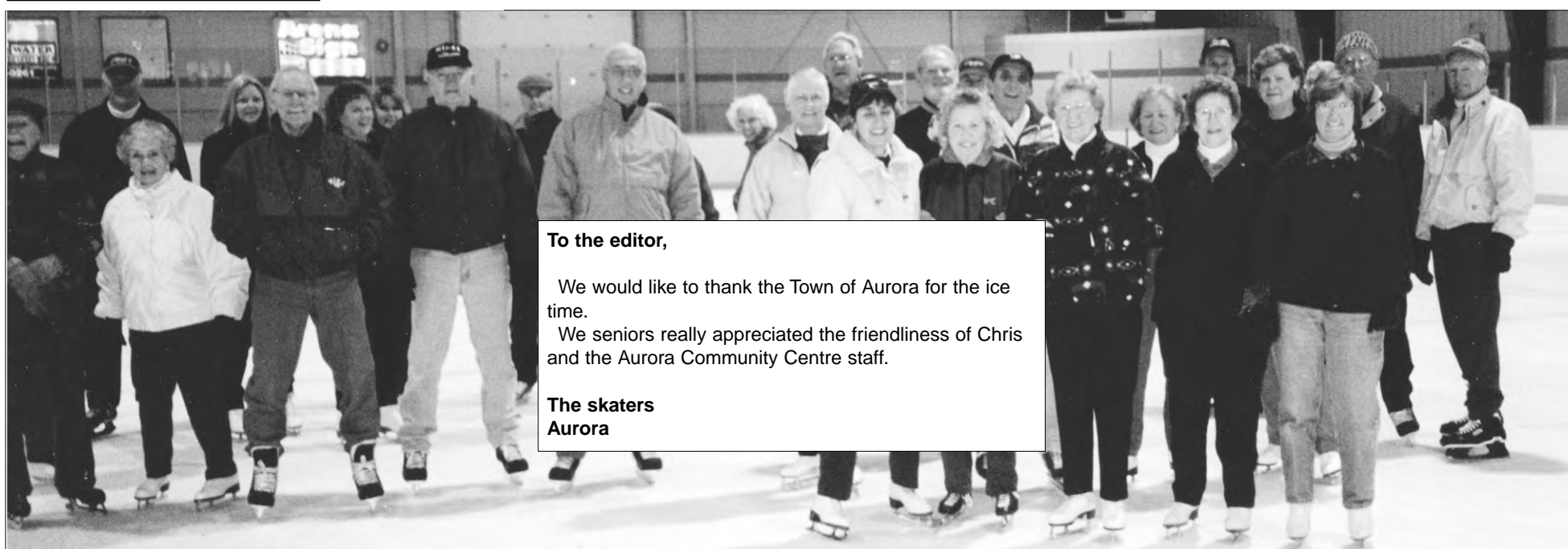
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# Letters to the Editor



To the editor,

We would like to thank the Town of Aurora for the ice time.  
We seniors really appreciated the friendliness of Chris and the Aurora Community Centre staff.

The skaters  
Aurora

## Kessler's Bakery offered 15 years' service

To the editor,

Thank you, Kessler's Bakery in the Aurora Shopping Plaza for 15

### Brickbat to Auroran staff members

To the editor,

May I recommend a "Brickbat" to Mr. Illingworth and to the Editor for continually referring to the fire service in our community as the

faithful years of excellent breads and pastries, great service and exotic imported European treats.

Aurora Fire Department.

It was formally changed due to a merger two and a half years ago to the Central York Fire Services.

You're right, Dick, the more things change, the

You have been a prominent business in the plaza with an immense drawing power for all of those years and yet your

more they remain the same!!!

P. Cooke  
Aurora

ED. NOTE: Any reference to the Aurora Fire

real worth in terms of future of the plaza has not been fully realized.

Many businesses have come and gone since you

Department would have been made while the fire department was still a "stand-alone" operation. Mr. Illingworth, and the editor, are quite aware of the merger that took place.

first opened your doors to the public.

It was always encouraging to see a family business that was actually thriving, as opposed to yet another store which had 'gone under'.

Obviously, some of those stores were not destined for greatness, due to the lack of demand for their products, but believe me, there was no such lack of demand for Kessler's wonderful pas-

tries.

Ever drop by on a Saturday morning?

The place is always bustling with customers.

Isn't there anything that could be done to entice you to stay?

Jane Morgan  
Aurora

ED NOTE: It is our understanding that the popular bakery will close its doors in May.

## Firm doles out parking tickets

From page 1

ing the security firm's performance and the co-op asked that the service be continued.

The security firm also asked to provide the same service to other private facilities, who had requested a similar service.

In addition, three other contractors interested in providing services to potential sites in Aurora have approached the town.

The co-op is a non-profit housing provider for 67 families in the southwest-

ern part of Aurora.

Over the past few years due to a shortage of parking spaces, some residents were using parking spaces reserved for visitors.

As the town had shortages of staffing in bylaw enforcement and there was some doubt as to what extent the town would be able to enforce the co-op's internal bylaws, the co-op's preferred option was to hire a private parking control officer.

The co-op representative

pointed out that the town would benefit from such an arrangement, as there would be no cost and all revenues generated from the parking tickets would go to the town.

It was later agreed to treat the request as a pilot project for the one property as it was the first time the municipality had entered into such an agreement.

The private security firm began enforcement patrols in February last year and municipal staff has been monitoring the project.

The committee approved a staff recommendation authorizing the expansion of parking enforcement on private property to independent security companies approved by the property owner.

The property owner pays for the service provided by the security company with all revenue generated from violations directed to the town.

Councillor Ron Wallace enquired how much the town had received from private property parking violations to date.

Town Clerk Bob Panizza said he was unsure of the amount but said about 25 tickets had been issued.

The up-side, he said, was that the private service allowed the town's bylaw enforcement staff to concentrate on public property.

## Noise bylaw exemption gets council approval

In spite of objections from Councillor Wendy Gaertner, council granted a request from the Leisure Services Department for an exemption to the noise bylaw for several locations and events this summer.

The exemption will be in effect at Lambert Willson Park from noon to 4 p.m. July First, as Aurora celebrates the country's birthday.

Exemption was also granted for the Town Park from 7 p.m. until midnight a night earlier, also as part of the July First celebrations.

An exemption was also granted for the Town Park from 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday evening from July 7 to August 11 for Music in the Park, and from 2 to 8

p.m. September 25.

Councillor Gaertner said she had no objections to the exemption when Music in the Park was held Sunday evenings, but was concerned about the Wednesday night concerts, especially for families with small children.

It was noted the change

had been made last year to increase the number of citizens attending the concerts, and that no complaints had been received from neighbouring residents.

In addition an information flyer will be distributed to local residents advising them of the event times.

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# Aurora was a hamlet of hotels

In 1863 when the little hamlet of about 500 people became the Village of Aurora, it was a hamlet of hotels.

There were several including the Northern, McLeod's, Graham, Arnold and the Barr.

Little mention is made in the histories of the day about the hotels in Aurora except for McLeod's Tavern, which played an important part in the Rebellion of 1837.

The tavern was located near the site of St. Andrew's College.

The coming of the railway

changed Aurora. Hotels were built on Wellington Street close to the tracks. This included the Railway Hotel and the Pig's Bar.

The Pig's Bar later became the home of the B. F. Davis coal business located at Berczy and Wellington Streets across from the station.

It was later demolished to make way for a real estate business, and later other businesses.

The other hotel was the Railway Hotel built around 1855.

It is now a private residence located on the north

side of Wellington Street, immediately east of the railway tracks.

It was constructed for travellers on the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railway, as in 1853, Aurora, then Machell's Corners, was the head of rail.

John Kersopp was a good businessman and saw a need and an opportunity to make money.

He designed the Railway Hotel and became its first innkeeper.

It is reported that it did a thriving business and at times broke the dry laws and was a house of ill

repute.

Since licensing and supervision of hotels became Aurora's responsibility following incorporation as a village, council moved quickly to regulate the facilities.

A village bylaw stipulated that each hotel contain at least four bedrooms for public use and a driving shed, stable and yard for the use of at least six horses.

A licensed hotelkeeper was required to be of good moral character and to prohibit gambling, disorderly conduct and drinking in other than the bar room.

Bar hours could be from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. with closing on Saturdays at 7 p.m. and closed all day Sundays.

Another early hotel in Aurora was George Lemon's Royal Hotel, located on the south corner of Mosley and Yonge Streets.

The Royal was one of several local hotels catering to out-of-town visitors and travelling salesmen, in the days before the automobile.

The former Queen's Hotel at Yonge and Wellington Streets, where the Toronto Dominion bank is now located, was the last of the age-old operating hotels in Aurora.

When the hotel was built, stagecoaches still travelled on Yonge Street, losing the race to the railway, but the hotel continued to flourish until the 1880s.

Then a slow death started with the loss of the town's pioneer industries including the Fleury Plough Works and the Aurora Belle Flour Mills.

In addition, the vast supply of lumber from the hills of King was exhausted.

The town entered a period of economic stagnation. By the time Sterling Drug opened in the 1960s, it was too late for the Queen's Hotel and it closed its doors in the spring of 1970.

The hotel was designed in the pseudo-Greek style with a stucco facing. The centre core was built in the 1850s.

The porch and verandahs on the front of the building

were added in the 1940s.

Archie Murray bought the hotel in 1928 at a time when today's parking lot was a horse stable.

He converted the hotel barn into a movie theatre, which provided entertainment for Aurorans until about 1955 when the theatre was demolished.

He turned the hotel over to his son, Jim, and his wife in 1945.

Jim Murray later became a municipal politician and served as Mayor of Aurora from 1957 to 1960. The Murrays operated the hotel until it closed in 1970.

In July, 1970, the Toronto-Dominion Bank bought the hotel property with plans to open a branch in 1971. In November, 1970, after 120 years at the corner, the Queen's Hotel was demolished.

For a long time, Aurora was without a hotel, although Cobblestone Lodge took in the occasional traveller.

Hotel Aurora opened in the early 1980s, but by the end of the decade it was in financial difficulties.

Prior to 1991, the town had been trying to collect taxes from the hotel owners dating back to 1988.

Numerous payment arrangements were made

but none was honoured resulting in the town placing collection in the hands of the bailiff and on April 11, 1991, the bailiff placed the goods and chattels of the hotel under seizure to the benefit of the town.

By June, 1993, Hotel Aurora had become part of the Howard Johnson chain, as a franchise operation.

The hotel was independently owned but managed by Howard Johnson, with manager Philip Walsh.

Close to \$1 million was spent on renovations including the front lobby, meeting rooms, corridors and guestrooms to shake the reputation the hotel had had for years.

For a few years the hotel was not considered economically viable and a proposal was submitted to convert it into a retirement home.

Howard Johnson sent in Tom Fisher as general manager to close the hotel down for conversion to the retirement home.

Fisher saw the potential of its retention as a hotel, convinced the owners, and the hotel has never looked back.

The hotel is now managed by Vince Midolo assisted by Garry Hook, Jennifer Miller and Debbie Soucy.



## Old and new

The old Railway Hotel (top photo), located on Wellington Street, just west of the tracks, is a private residence today, while the town's newest hotel, Howard Johnson's, has seen many changes in its 20-year history.

Auroran photos by David Falconer




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Look behind you. Puck squirts out behind St. Mike's Buzzers' goalie Friday night as the Aurora Tigers opened the next playoff round with a resounding 10-1 victory. The glow didn't last, however, as St. Mike's bounced back with a 5-4 win Sunday night in Toronto.

Photo by Barry Bridgeford

## Tigers and Buzzers win respective home games

For those who were thinking, following Aurora's 10-1 wipeout Friday night of the St. Michael's Buzzers, that this series was going to be a cakewalk, think again.

The Buzzers bounced back Sunday night on home ice to secure a 5-4 win over Aurora which will send the series to five games at least.

Results of Tuesday night's contest, played at the Aurora Community Centre, were not available at press time.

And, lest the unthinkable happens, if the series goes a full seven games, the final match would be played at the Elgin Barrow Arena in Richmond Hill, which would be considered Aurora's home ice, since ice here will be removed to make way for the annual Chamber of Commerce Home Show.

The winner of this series will advance to the Dudley Hewitt Hockey Tournament slated for North Bay later this month, and that winner will advance to Western Canada to play for the Canadian championship.

It has been the belief throughout the Provincial league this year that Aurora was the team going there.

But one step at a time. Obviously, St. Mike's, coming off a 4-2 series win over the Bowmanville Eagles, is not going to be the pushover everyone believed after Friday's

game.

Aurora knew the Buzzers were a young, fast skating team and if they could shut down their speed, they would have an excellent chance of coming away victorious in this best of seven series.

Friday, both teams came out flying, and into the second period, Aurora held only a one-goal lead.

Then, the Tigers turned it on, pouring five more pucks into the Buzzer net before the middle frame ended, and added three more insurance markers in the final 20 minutes.

The sell-out crowd was delighted, and most were

predicting an easy four-game sweep.

All that came to an end when Aurora wound up on St. Mike's doorstep Sunday night and found themselves on the wrong side of a 5-4 score.

However, there is no reason to panic.

Tigers trailed Oakville by two games in the previous series before bouncing back to win four in a row.

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Members of the Novice Selects are, front row, Andrew Stobbe, Lucas Hussey; second row, Scott Schmitt, Ryan Baskin, Heather Tillsley, Jake Martin, Eric Bulloch, Colton Lee, Zachary Ferry, Connor Moody; third row, Hayden Trask, Evan Romano, Quincy Ing, Liam Devlin, Zachary Kercz, Stuart Mattila, Matthew Pryse, Erik Kimmerer, Ben Hankins; back row, Joel Martin (Coach), Eric Hussey (Assistant Coach), Andrew Pryse (Assistant Coach), Statler Lee (Trainer).

# Selects lose heartbreaker, but cap a successful year

The Aurora Tigers Novice Selects lost the championship game of the Milton Invitational 'AE' Tournament last Sunday.

Calling it a heartbreaker would be underestimating the game.

With two of their players in the penalty box and six seconds left in the third period, Aurora scored to send the game into overtime.

However, with only 21 seconds left in a five-minute overtime, having only one

skater and a goalie for each team left on the ice, the Barrie Flyers won this exhausting, yet exciting hockey game.

But the story doesn't end there.

This was the third tourna-

ment championship game the Novice Selects had played this season.

And over the course of four tournaments the team has compiled an outstanding 10-4-1 record.

They won the St. Thomas Juniors Stars 'AE' Championship in February defeating the West London team on the eighth overtime shootout.

In December they won the Arthur 'AE' B Championship defeating the host team in a very loud and emotion packed game.

"The kids have played great," said coach Joel Martin. "This has been an amazing year. The whole season has been a wonderful experience and the tournaments have been a big part of that. I think the kids have had a lot of fun and we all have been given great memories."

What makes their results even more impressive is that in all the tournaments the Aurora contingent has entered the team has played clubs above their level.

"It's hard to find Select only tournaments that fit our house league obligations," said manager Thom Moody, "so we have played exclusively against 'A' and 'AE' competition. Every tournament we have entered the players have been able to rise to the occasion...they are real Tigers!"

## Minor Peewee AA hockey team captures OMHA championship

The Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AA hockey team capped a great season winning an Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship.

Under the leadership of head coach Stephen Lerner, the team set a lofty goal in the summer of 2003 to win the championship. Players made a pact to give 100 per cent commitment to the team in pursuit of their goal.

It worked.

The commitment began just after Labour Day with intense dry land training for six weeks to give the boys the early edge over their competition.

That part paid off as the team did not suffer its first loss until the ninth game of the regular season.

The team continued to develop through mid-season with an excellent record in league play and strong tournament results.

As the regular season came to a close, the effects of the heavy schedule were starting to show with a couple of tough league play losses and a disappointing tournament loss.

However, the team's resolve was not shaken. They still believed in themselves and they rekindled their desire to win the championship.

With a bye in the first round of the playoffs, the Tigers headed back to the gym to get tuned up for their opponent in the second round.

They made a last minute entry into the Toronto Penguin's tournament the

week before their playoff series would start. Though they did not win the tournament, excellent play reassured them they were playoff ready.

Their opponent in the second round was a strong, physical Georgina Blaze team.

The Blaze was the only team that had a winning record against the Tigers in regular season play.

The Tigers took control of the playoff winning first three games in the best of seven series with stellar goaltending performances by Peter Abels and Scott Smyth.

It appeared the Tigers would sweep the series, but a gritty effort by the Blaze earned them the next two games.

The momentum seemed to be turning against the Tigers, but the strong defensive unit of team captain Andrew Whitley, Josh Herrington, James Mildon, Nathan Brown, Kyle Murphy and John-Caleb Ross extinguished the Blaze to take game six and the series 4-2.

Round three pitted the Tigers against a very strong and improving Ajax Knights. This OMHA semi-final series started with two Tiger wins on consecutive five-goal efforts led by the powerful forward lines of Jordan Tripp, Max Lerner, Justin Brown, Luke MacLeod, Dillon Cappell, Louis Lamanna, Spencer Arkell, Kevin Zacharuk and Jesse Cappell.

The fast and skilled Knights would not give up

and won the next two games to knot the series at 2-2 and force the fifth and deciding game.

The game started with a scare for the Tigers as the Knights potted their first goal in under 20 seconds. The rest of the game was end-to-end action with spectacular plays and excellent goaltending at both ends of the ice.

Urged on by a large hometown crowd, the Tigers fought back to win the game and the series 3-2.

In the final, the Tigers met the Burlington Eagles to determine the 2003/2004 OMHA Championship.

The Tigers, who were coming off the emotional win over Ajax, never let the physical Burlington team get started and swept the series in three games.

Coaching the winners were Stephen Lerner, Bill Zacharuk and Kevin Whitley.

The trainer was Bob Smyth and manager was Elizabeth Murphy.



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# Aurora Minor Hockey Association



## 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
<b>1996 &amp; 1997</b>					
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

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

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

## 1992

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



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# 2004



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**Nik Manojlovich**, host of *Savoir Faire* on W  
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## 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



# Local artists designed real estate calendar

Back in the 1980s and early 1990s the York Region Real Estate Board was on the lookout for local artists to design its annual calendar.

A competition was held to select pen and ink sketches of buildings in the region.

In 1987 more than 25 local artists submitted sketches to the board from which selections were made and the artist asked to sketch a specific building in the region.

With more than 60,000 copies of the calendar distributed, the artists received wide exposure.

### AURORA SINGER HITS THE BIG SCREEN

Back in September, 1986, Aurora movie goers saw a familiar face on the big screen as 13-year-old Sean Collins of Aurora made his film debut in Judgment in Stone, a Canadian thriller.

His singing earned him several scholarships at the Lions Music Festival in Newmarket and in competitions at the Canadian National Exhibition.

He was no stranger to local theatre goers as he played the lead in Theatre Aurora's 1983 production of Oliver.

He also played Prince Philip in the Wells Street Public School production of Sleeping Beauty.

Then he auditioned for Oliver at the Royal Alex in Toronto and starred in 50 performances with an all-British cast.

He also played a street urchin in Cyrano De Bergerac at the Shaw Theatre.

### TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL

It's not widely known but occasionally the editor of the Auroran receives a letter criticizing his writing skills.

Back in April, 1988, before the Auroran was born and when he was editing another newspaper, he received a letter from a reader who took exception to his use of the word "ain't" twice in one of his columns.

She said that he, as a school trustee, was setting a bad example.

Always quick with a word, the editor quoted from the 1986 edition of Funk and Wagnall's Canadian College

Dictionary which stated "ain't is nonstandard, although users of standard English say or write it for amusing effect when they are sure it will not be taken as normal usage".

To the best of knowledge, he has never used it since. (ED. NOTE: And he ain't planning to, either...)

### THE RED RIVER OX CART

It was on May 7, 1970, when the Red River Ox Cart arrived in Aurora on its way to Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, as part of their Centennial celebrations.

The ox cart was built by Air Force personnel at the Portage la Prairie air base based on the design of the original ox cart used by the early settlers.

The cart was pulled by a one-eyed 14-year-old Manitoba workhorse named Dolly and her mate Lady, a nine-year-old.

The journey started in Jolliete, Quebec with RCAF Corporal Ron Strand and his brother Bruce.

The cart arrived at the Aurora Community Centre in mid-afternoon from Toronto and was on display for the evening.

Then Reeve Stu Burnett of the former Whitchurch Township put Dolly and Lady up for the night.

(Yes, it's the same Stu Burnett whose lands will be used for Aurora's new recreation complex. Then, the land was in Whitchurch. As a result of Regional Government, the land today is in Aurora, and Whitchurch is now officially known as Whitchurch-Stouffville.)

### WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SITE?

In November, 1972, Aurora donated a plot of land on Industry Street adjacent to what was then the Ontario Humane Society Aurora Shelter at the corner of Industry and Mary, near the entrance to Sheppard's Bush.

The land was to be used for the construction of a day care centre.

The site had 195-foot frontage with a depth of 200 feet

and was considered ideal for a day care facility.

It was requested that a day care similar to the regional day care centre in Newmarket be constructed.

The day care centre was never built leaving a question as to what happened to the plot of land.

### PROVINCIAL APPROVAL NEEDED

It's hard to believe today, but back in 1970 if Aurora wanted to erect a stop sign at an intersection to improve the flow of traffic or for safety reasons, it was necessary to obtain the approval of the Department of Highways to make the bylaw legal.

In spite of recommendations from the traffic safety officer, the safety council or the police committee, it was still necessary to obtain approval.

After council gave the bylaw two readings it was sent to the provincial department for some bureaucrat to ensure the "i's" were dotted and the "t's" crossed before the Minister signed it and it was returned.

When regional governments were established the approval process was downloaded to the region.

When regional staff tried to implement the same policy, regional council rebelled and as a compromise, staff's only comment came if the traffic control was within a specific distance from a regional road.

### STOLEN CARS IN YORK REGION IN 1986

Stolen cars and car hijackings are quite common today, but back in 1986 a total of 860 vehicles were stolen and in the majority of cases owner neglect contributed to the theft.

Police officials pointed out that 60 per cent of all stolen vehicles had keys left in the ignition at the time of the theft.

Seventy per cent of all vehicle thefts occurred after dark and 80 per cent of the stolen vehicles were not locked.

Although the majority of stolen vehicles were recovered undamaged, many were damaged, some beyond repair, and a few are never recovered.



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# Bingo makes another debut in Aurora

Saturday, April 3, was a very important day for several local charities as the Aurora Bingo World officially re-opened for business with a large number of players in attendance at the new facility at 240 Industrial Parkway South.

Aurora had been without bingo for about a month.

Currently, there are 34 charities serving Aurora who benefit from bingo games at the facility and during 2003 more than \$1.3 million was raised as a result of the bingo operation.

As you enter the building the floor space looks like a football field, with video terminals around the building displaying the numbers just called and several boards displaying all the numbers called in that game.

Another large room at the rear of the building was scheduled to open within a few days to

accommodate players who like to smoke as they play, however that hasn't happened yet.

And smoking bylaw regulations could throw a wrench into the owner's plans.

A snack bar is set up near the entrance and plans are to expand it to a full-fledged restaurant.

The atmosphere itself leaves the impression that one day the hall could become a casino.

Players were silent and intent as they listened to the voice of the caller rhyme off the various numbers.

Last September it looked as if bingo might disappear in Aurora as the building at the corner of Edward Street and Engelhard Drive was to be converted into a self-storage facility.

Sean Klady, vice-president of Willow Pond Services, owners of the building, attended an

Aurora council meeting to explain his firm's long range plans.

He also indicated he was willing to continue discussions for a temporary or extended lease on the building that originally started as a roller rink.

This was good news for Perry Kereakou, who held the bingo operating licence and needed a lease on the building until he could establish a bingo operation in a new location. The lease expired at the end of September.

Arrangements were made to extend the lease for approximately six months to the end of February to provide time to locate a new site, which was found in a building on Industrial Parkway South.

But the bingo operator ran into some problems, as there were insufficient parking spaces for the 1,000 patrons he hoped

to attract.

With only 177 available spaces it was necessary to reduce the seating capacity to 670 patrons resulting in a delay of approximately four weeks during which there was no bingo in Aurora.

Work is already underway to convert the former bingo hall and roller rink in to self-storage units.

Meanwhile, Perry called it right when he arranged a \$50,000 day on Good Friday, as players came from miles around.

Because it was a holiday, patrons used every available parking spot within walking distance of the building, and hundreds attended for a chance at the "golden ring".

It was in June, 1979, when retired Metro Toronto police officer and developer William Mitchell and his wife, Glenice, purchased an acre of land on Edward

Street to build the 24,000 square foot Canadiana Roller Rink.

The rink opened to the public February 21, 1980, with a special reception the night before for invited guests to view the facilities.

On opening night more than 3,500 people showed up to don skates

and take a few turns around the floor.

But by March, 1983, the roller-skating fad was on the wane. The hall was used for trade shows and other events and eventually a bingo hall and soon to be a storage facility.

But bingo continues to live in Aurora.

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Interior of Aurora's new bingo hall called Aurora's Bingo World, located on Industrial Parkway South looks like it could one day become a casino.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace



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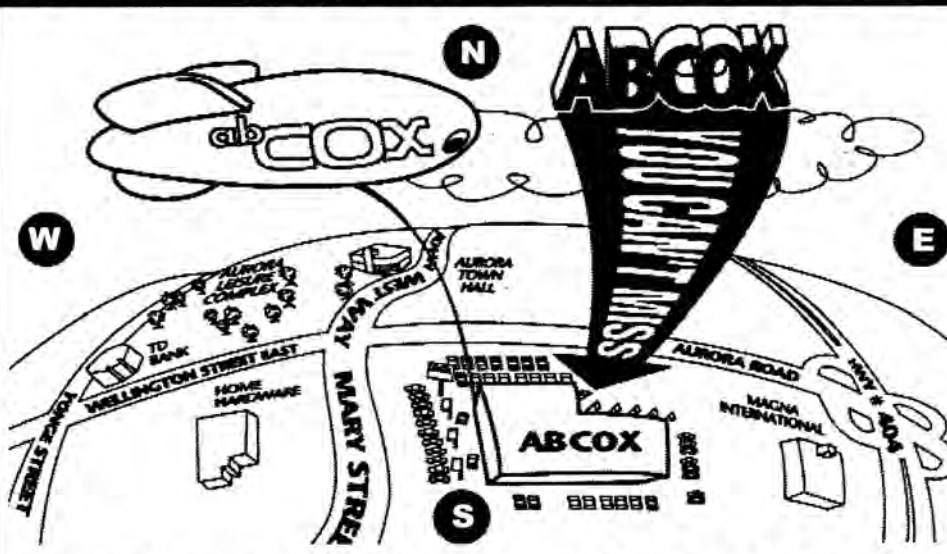


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**Aurora artist Dorothy Clark-McClure shows off some of her work that will be featured during a month-long show in Georgina starting May 2. Her work will be on display at the Georgian Art Centre and Gallery, 149 High Street, Sutton, until May 25, commemorating 50 years of versatile work by the artist from historic architecture to her most recent endeavours in intuitive art.**

## Few attend meeting

**From page 1**  
appropriate.

Due to the diversity of areas along the corridor in terms of existing development, development opportunities, natural environment and historical context, the region will assist area municipalities in defining corridors on a segment to segment basis.

KDAs are to be located within 500 metres of existing and planned conventional and rapid transit stops with the highest densities within 200 metres of the transit stops.

In order to achieve the densities contemplated in the plan, parking will have to be within the structure rather than at grade and

buildings pushed closer to the sidewalk since most of the site will be covered by building.

It was pointed out that this was a long range plan and the key to implementation would be the local secondary plan.

One of the major concerns of the citizens present was the question of density. It was pointed out that while the Aurora official plan supports a range of densities, the municipality has had no experience with densities as high as those proposed by the Region.

All questions and concerns were recorded and a further report will be submitted to Aurora Council at a future date.

*Latest play opens April 30*

Theatre Aurora presents *Moon over Buffalo*, a comedy/farce by Ken Ludwig and it opens at the end of this month at Factory Theatre on Henderson Drive.

A husband and wife are fading stars of a repertory theatre company in 1950's Buffalo.

A major Hollywood director might be giving them one last chance at stardom, assuming

they can sort out all the problems with their daughter and her forgetful fiancé-weatherman, and an almost deaf grandmother.

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It opens April 30 and continues on selected dates to May 15.

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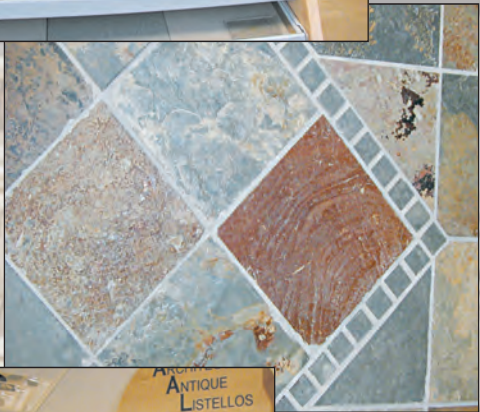
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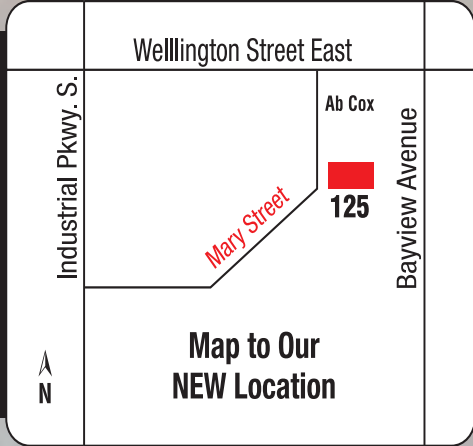
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