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AURORAN

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Vol. 4 No. 42

Week of August 17, 2004

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Briefly

Boat cruise

Aurora's Yellow Brick House is celebrating its 25th anniversary with a Mardi Gras Boat Cruise.

On the craft "River Gambler", the event will take place Monday, Aug. 30 from 7 to 11 p.m., sailing from Queen's Quay East on Toronto's waterfront.

Cost is \$80 a head, but that gets you a \$25 tax receipt.

Tickets are available by calling the Yellow Brick House at 905-727-0930, or if you are so equipped, there's further information at www.yellowbrickhouse.org.

Loonie Sale Saturday

Trinity Anglican Church's used clothing depot "Helping Hands" is holding a "Loonie Sale" this Saturday, August 21. Nothing you buy will cost more than a buck.

The "store" collects gently used women's and children's clothes which are available to those in need at no charge and it sells to anyone else at reasonable prices.

Revenue from sales is used to support the benevolent fund, so it goes back into the community.

Officials are hoping Saturday's sale, which runs from 9 a.m. to noon, will help introduce the community to the "store" which also operates Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

Trinity Anglican is located on Victoria Street, across from the Church Street School in downtown Aurora.

Missing...one boy

Marquee Productions is looking for a boy, about seven years old, to play two parts in its upcoming production of A Christmas Carol.

One part has lines attached, the second doesn't.

For an audition time on Sunday, August 29, call producer Jo-anne Spitzer at 905-727-3290.

The production is scheduled to run in November.



Larry Allison, an employee of the Town of Aurora for 22 years, cuts the cake Friday during a party in his honour. He leaves Aurora's top post as Chief Administrative Officer to begin a similar position in the Town of Innisfil. He was presented with a Dorothy Clark McClure sepia showing the original Aurora Town Hall, which once sat on the northeast corner of Yonge and Mosley Streets. Allison plans to continue living in Aurora. Meanwhile, Aurora Council was expected this week to ratify the services of Scott Somerville, formerly of the City of Vaughan, as an interim CAO until a replacement for Allison can be found.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Belinda selects Hinder

She may spend most of her time in Ottawa, but Aurora's Member of Parliament Belinda Stronach has not forgotten the Newmarket-Aurora voters who put her there.

Monday she announced that popular Aurora resident Steve Hinder would be her constituency office manager on a full-time basis.

The longtime Aurora resident will work alongside Newmarket resident and former Julia Munro staffer, Kylie Young.

Hinder is a former Citizen of the Year, former Director with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, and was once a member of Aurora Council.

He currently sits as a member of the Board of Directors for the soon-to-be-opened York Region Community Safety Village and is the coordinator for the Youth Justice Committee for York Region.

Having retired three and a half years ago from the Toronto Police Service where he held the rank of Staff Sergeant and was responsible for the coordination of recruit training, he is looking forward to continuing his service to the residents of

Please see page 3

Church St. School looks like a school again



Ancient tin ceiling tiles are still in place in most of the rooms at the Church Street School. They became visible recently when workers gutted the interior of the building.

By RON WALLACE

If it could talk, the Church Street School building would today say "thanks".

If it wore clothes, it would be grateful because its very tight girle has been removed.

Today, the Church Street School building is exactly what it started out to be in 1886 - a school building.

Of course there are no students running up and down the halls, playing in the boys' or girls' gym, studying by the windows' natural light, getting the strap for not behaving, or just being part of that eight-classroom building.

But if you listen closely, you'd

Please see page 14



Main staircase to the second floor of Church Street School has been stripped of its carpet which covered the maple wood steps for years.

Auroran photos by Ron Wallace



36"W, 20½"D, 36"H

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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

Aurora Farmers' Market, Temperance Street and Wellington, every Saturday morning until Thanksgiving. 8 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

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 John Patterson at 905-727-1941.

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 Aurora squadron meets every Friday. For more information call 905-726-8600, Tuesday evenings between 7 and 9 p.m.

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

Probus Club of Aurora meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of every month at the Aurora Legion. Club is for retired or soon to-be-retired business and professional people and guests are welcome.

During the month of August the Skylight Gallery will feature the artwork of Randell Neudorf. Regular viewing hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

AUGUST 20

Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Town Hall. Call 1-888-2-DONATE to book an appointment.

AUGUST 21

Second Annual Lifeguards on the Beach Volleyball Tournament to support the Lifesaving Society's Watersmart Drowning

Prevention Campaign. Call 905-727-3123 extension 3123 for details.

Helping Hands will hold a "Loonie Sale" featuring clothes for women and children from 9 a.m. until noon at Trinity Anglican Church. Nothing over a dollar.

SEPTEMBER 1

Aurora Cable Internet and the Aurora Public Library free internet seminar to learn how to find what you want on the world-wide web. 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Aurora Public Library. Register online www.aci.on.ca or call the library information desk 905-727-9493, Option 4.

SEPTEMBER 3

The draw for artists to exhibit their work for a month in the Skylight Gallery of the Town Hall takes place at 4:30 p.m. if the artist has not exhibited in the past 12 months. Fifteen names will be selected for the 12 months with three on standby. For details call Julie Geering at 905-726-4762.

SEPTEMBER 5

York Region Transit is adjusting and restructuring bus routes in the Aurora area. Route 31 Aurora North is one of the routes affected. Call 905-762-2100 for details.

SEPTEMBER 8

Cameron Hastings, President of Magna Services speaks to the Aurora Probus Club on "Fair Enterprise - The Magna Story" at 10 a.m. at the Aurora Legion.

SEPTEMBER 8-16

It's an East Coast Adventure for Aurora Seniors when they visit interesting sites in Halifax, Lunenburg, Peggy's Cove, Cabot Trail and the Bay of Fundy. Call the Seniors Centre for details at 905-727-2816.

SEPTEMBER 11

From 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. enjoy a Candlelight Tour of Homes to raise funds for Hillary House, sponsored by the Aurora Historical Society. Visit six private homes of the 19th and early 20th centuries, plus the historic Hillary House. Call 905-727-4015 for details.

SEPTEMBER 13

York Regional Police Male Chorus 12th annual Music For a September Evening fundraising concert. Crosslands Church, Millard Avenue, Newmarket. Berlin Police Chorus is special guest community choir. Proceeds to Big Brothers Big Sisters of York. For tickets call 905-727-1251, ex. 311, or e-mail at events@bbbsy.ca.

SEPTEMBER 18

Magna Hoedown. A night of entertainment and food with proceeds to 11 local non-profit organizations. It starts at 5 p.m.

and goes to 1 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 19

Terry Fox Run. Sheppard's Bush. Registration (8:30 a.m.) and start of Run (10 a.m.) at Sheppard's Bush Soccer Fields on Industrial Parkway South. Register online for the Aurora Run, Site 2, at www.terry-foxrun.org.

SEPTEMBER 20

Aurora Public Library, partnering with York Region Health Services, presents "Kids Have Stress, Too" in the library's Lebovic Room from 7-9 p.m. Pre-register at the adult information desk, or call 905-727-9493, Option 4.

SEPTEMBER 25

It's the Aurora Children's and Youth Fair in the Town Park hosted by the Town and Aurora Family Connections. A Showcase of Community and Talent for Youth starting at 11 a.m. For further information call Info Aurora at 905-727-8214.

SEPTEMBER 27

Aurora Public Library presents "Analyzing A Series Of Dreams" with Stephen Crowther, an Anglican minister and candidate-in-training at the Ontario Assn. of Jungian Analysts Training Program. Limited to 20 participants. 7-9 p.m. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, Option 4.

SEPTEMBER 30

Aurora Seniors visit St. Jacob's Market and visit the picturesque Village of Elora to view the falls and the gorge. Bus leaves Community Centre at 8:30 a.m. returning about 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$49 for members and \$54 for non-members. Call the Seniors Centre at 905-727-2816 to register.

OCTOBER 12

Seniors fall day trip to Ontario's famous Cranberry Harvest in Bala includes a scenic and informative wagon ride around the colourful marsh. Leave the Community Centre at 8:30 a.m. return around 6:30 p.m. Cost for members is \$57 and \$62 for non-members. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

OCTOBER 20

Aurora Seniors head to the Stratford Festival to see the Cole Porter musical "Anything Goes". Lunch at the Walper Terrace Hotel. Depart the Aurora Community Centre at 9 a.m. returning about 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$93 for members, \$98 for non-members. Call 905-727-2816 to reserve.

OCTOBER 21

Plans are underway at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce for the "Celebrating Business Excellence in Aurora" Awards. Nominate the Business Person of the Year Extraordinary Business Achievement, Innovation, New Venture and Young Entrepreneur.

OCTOBER 23

Wells Street Public School annual fall fair. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Games, prizes, music, food and fun for the whole family.

Gift Fair. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street. Local artisans exhibiting and selling handcrafted items. For more information call Linda at 905-727-5675.

NOVEMBER 2

Aurora Seniors visit the Stratford Festival to see the musical "Guys and Dolls" with lunch at the Walper Terrace Hotel. Depart the Community Centre at 9 a.m. returning about 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$93 for members and \$98 for non-members. Call the Seniors Centre at 905-727-2816 to register.

NOVEMBER 13

Trinity Anglican Church holds its annual ACW Christmas Bazaar at the church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the theme "Sugar-n-Spice". Tables will include attic treasures, jewellery and Christmas gift items. For more information call Laurie McLeod at 905-727-7617.

NOVEMBER 27

Santa Claus Parade, 6 p.m.

- With files from Info Aurora

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Soapsuds were flying Saturday as Aurora's Abbotsford Animal Hospital held its annual dog wash at its Yonge Street location. Left to right, Whitney Gardner, Renata Stickwood, Mike Trinerano and Laura St. Hilaire got right into it with these three dogs, Angus, Herschel and Cocoa. Funds raised went to the Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket.

Auroran photo by Dave Falconer

Hoedown selects 2004 headliners

Canadian country music artists George Canyon and Jimmy Rankin co-headline this year's "Wild, Wild West" Hoedown 2004, scheduled for Saturday, September 18, at the Magna Corral in Aurora.

Canyon placed second overall on this year's Nashville Star, USA Network's TV talent search for the next country superstar. He is scheduled to perform his top hits for Hoedown guests.

Three singles from his self-titled debut album – "Her Everything," "Enough Said" and "Way Too Much" – all charted in the Top 10 on Country Music Television in Canada.

Meanwhile, Atlantic Canada's Jimmy Rankin is also set to perform hits from his two CDs since going solo in 2001.

The singer-guitarist-songwriter has been in the music business for a decade selling more than two million albums and winning five Junos as a member of The Rankins.

Hoedown 2004 also features the country's hottest new duo Barnard and Brohm and rising country solo artist Karla Crawford.

Tickets for "Wild, Wild West" Hoedown 2004 are \$60 each and include a Texas-style barbecue din-

ner and dancing to live country music entertainment.

Additional features include a cash bar and a live and silent auction offering items such as platinum tickets at the Air Canada Centre for a Toronto Maple Leafs hockey game. Tickets will go on sale soon.

Back by popular demand is this year's Prospector's Raffle, which features some \$85,000 in prizes, including a 2005 Mercedes-Benz C230 Kompressor Coupe, a trip to Vienna, a Las Vegas getaway and six cash prizes ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Prospector's Raffle tickets are three for \$20 and are now available at selected retail outlets and Scotiabank branches in York Region and through the recipient charitable and not-for-profit organizations.

Proceeds from this year's Hoedown and Prospector's Raffle support the Aurora Minor Hockey Association; Aurora Skating Club Inc.; Bereaved Families of York Region; Big Brothers Big Sisters of York; Canadian Mental Health Association – York Region Branch; Community Home Assistance To Seniors; Community Safety Village of York Region;

Newmarket Soccer Club; Pathways for Children, Youth and Families of York Region; and York Region Food for Learning.

For more information about Hoedown 2004, call

1-800-872-5803, visit www.hoedown.ca or contact Meline Beach at Magna International Inc. by phone (905) 726-7332, fax (905) 726-7297 or e-mail meline_beach@mag-na.on.ca.



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Hinder gets nod

From page 1
Aurora.

"This is not only an honour but a tremendous opportunity. Everyone knows how passionate I feel about my community and I'm looking forward to working with the constituents of this great town as we work together to make Newmarket-Aurora the best riding in Canada," he said. "It's very rewarding to help people and I'm excited about the work ahead. Belinda Stronach is a very committed, sincere and talented person.

She has put together a great team both here and in Ottawa."

The next step is to confirm the location of the office, get it equipped and up and running.

"Right now we're located in the plaza at the intersection of Yonge and Mulock in the south end of Newmarket, he said. "We hope to be able to announce our permanent location within the next couple of weeks."

The constituency office may be reached at 905-836-7722.



Thanks to the hard work of Al White, Phyllis Cowie and Fred Rowe, many of the employees in the above 1951 Sisman Shoe Company photograph are identified. Here is what the trio provided. Front row: Bert Brooks, Ernie Eveleigh, Harry Burge, Charlie Penfold, Bob Brooks, ?, Doug Gilpin, Charlie Sutton, Bob Bull, Tommy McGee, Al White, Bob Bak, ?, ?, Benny Kloosterman, Bob Hodgkinson, George Wilkinson, Howard Bunn, Bill Colman. Second Row: Bill McGirr, Bill Hutchinson, Myrtle Long, Lina Holman, Harvey Gilpin, Mrs. Griffith, Joe Holman, Lib Mugford, Eli Corviere, Myrle Ingerdoo, Rosi Bain, Ernie Ferris, Rebba Simpson, Nellie Petterson, Mrs. Huchinson, Mrs. Lavelle, Oliver Judd, Tart Fluery, Bill Cameron, ?, Harry Jones, Norm Hope, Norm Egan, ?, George Teasdale, Rube Long, Harold Bush. Third Row: Jack Brown, George Chadburn, ?, ?, ?, Marg McGee, May White, ?, ?, ?, Betty Patrick, Doris Egan, Bess Atkinson, Ross Linton, John Sisman, Bill Stoddard, Charlie Milne, Art Ryman, Milt Graham, Alice Smith, Errla Seaton, Betty Phillips, ?, Nora Hutchinson, Vera McGann, Phyllis Hutchinson, ?, ?, Betty Smith, Ethel Gilpin, Margaret Saigle. Fourth Row: Jessie Ranson, May Cameron, ?, ?, Betty Knowles, Elda Hall, Elien McDonald, Betty Burling, Betty McKenzie, Marie Spence, Fern Preston, Gladys Wyatt, Vivian Neally, Mrs. Tom Smith, Myrtle Ball, ?, Grace Long, ?, ?, Velman Pugh, Bertha Egan, Mae Heath, ?, ?, Flo Dunham, Hilda Bull, ?, Susy Cosford, Vera Egan, ?, ?, ?, Josephine Matton, Mrs. Komar, ?, Ron Smith, ?, ?, Sis Griffith, Donna Smith. ?, ?, ?. Fifth Row: Les Martin, ?, Ted Rowe, Alfie Cooper, ?, Donny Hammond, Bob Wilson, Harold Stevenson, ?, Milt Graham, Charlie Billborough, Ross Collins, Fred Rowe, Herb McKenzie, Nobre Wright, Bob Walker, ?, ?, ?, Eli Wray, Sid Davies, Bruce Collins, Art March, Cy Holman, Henry Bird, Jim Rowe, ?, Ernie Dunham, ?, Percy Preston, Les Steadman, Clarence Doolittle. Top Row: Hank Clubine, Albert Ryman, ?, Ron Egan, Cecil Brown, ?, ?, ?, ?, ?, Doug Billborough, Allen Billings, Alex McLean, Jim Shore, Harold West, George Lloyd, Donny Egan, Bill Truelove, Pat Pattenden, ?, Bill Grounds, Bob Turan, Jim Krochter, Barney Wilson, ?, Bun Pattenden, Lorne Gilpin, ?, John Egan, ?, ?, Harold Stone, Jack Closs, Charlie Stone, Ernie Ellis, Jr., ?, Fred Browning, Bill Allen, Bobby McGee. ?, and Jim Raeside, Jr.



Poor Richard

*Citizens have a right to speak,
But controls there must be;
They can't take over the meeting,
Rules and regulations are the key!*

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Over the years Aurora Council has bent over backwards to provide citizens with the opportunity to address council on issues of concern, make comments or ask questions during Open Forum, in addition to applying for delegation status.

Back in the early 1970s when Aurora Council first introduced Open Forum for a 20-minute period prior to every council meeting, it was unique in Ontario.

Now other municipalities and public bodies have picked up the concept in one form or another.

Even though Open Forum has become the first item on the agenda as part of the council meeting, the major problem is that citizen comments do not always become part of the official record.

Unless a member of council picks up on the comments and introduces the issue under "Other Business", it's possible that no action will be taken.

A much better way to ensure your comments are noted is to register for delegation status and that must be done through the town clerk's office in advance of the meeting and your item to be discussed must be an agenda item.

The town's procedural bylaw sets out rules and regulations pertaining to a delegates' presentation.

These are made known to the presenter in advance, including a request for a brief outline of the topic of the presentation.

The time limit for a presentation is five minutes unless most council members are willing to waive the procedural bylaw and extend the period for a set period of time, and this should be arranged in advance, not part way through a presentation.

While citizens have a right to speak, they also have a duty to observe the rules and regulations of the municipality otherwise it becomes mob rule and interferes with the overall business of the municipality.

Council members are elected to represent the

Following rules at Open Forum

interests of all members of the municipality, not the specific interests of one small part of the community, regardless of how serious the issue may be.

Citizens have the right to present their case, but it's up to the elected representatives to make the decision in the best interests of all citizens.

If anyone is not happy with the decision made or the actions of members of council, and wants to become a decision-maker, they have that opportunity at the next municipal election.

But they must remember that elected members of council are representatives of all the people, not the delegate of one vocal single issue group.

On the other hand, members of council must learn that the procedural bylaw also applies to their conduct in dealing with delegations.

Following the presentation by the delegation, council members have the opportunity to ask questions for clarification or to obtain more detailed information, but not to get involved in a debate with the delegate.

Under no circumstances should a member of council join a delegate at the podium under the pretext of adding to the delegate's information.

Delegates have their time, councillors have theirs but the two should never mix.

It is, or should be, normal procedure for council following the presentation and questions to receive the presentation and have the delegate sit down.

Council then has the option of proceeding with the agenda or recommending that the issue under discussion be brought forward for debate and decision.

It is normal practice now for a member of council to recommend that the item be brought forward following the presentation while it is fresh in everyone's mind.

This is a courtesy, not a right.

The handling of issues brought forward by delegates can be a difficult time for members of council.

But they must remember that they are elected to represent all citizens, not what may be a hostile vocal minority in the council chambers, and make their decision accordingly, even if unpopular with those in attendance.

Letter to the Editor

Cigarette ads make him fume

To the editor,

In this society, when cigarette smoking is being discouraged by the government and health officials, why are several convenience stores allowed to break the local bylaws, by placing large poster sized sign ads, for smokes, on public fences and wired onto the town's street light standards?

You just have to drive by Henderson and Yonge, or Haida and Wellington intersections.

Cigarette ads dominate the view and are placed on the road's street light poles and on public property. They are out of place.

The Town of Aurora's bylaw department should be fuming mad about these blantant bylaw sign violations and ask the store owners to quickly remove them.

Teens do not need any more encouragement to start smoking.

Signs like these, right by the high schools, attract youths over to light up and get started on a career of puffing away their health and blowing away their parents' money.

Jim Jackson
Aurora

More letters
pages 5 & 6

AURORAN

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AURORA'S CONCERTS-IN-THE-PARK

2003



2004



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Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

People in Africa need our help

Early last spring I attended a morning presentation involving the York Region AIDS Committee which is comprised of a number of prominent residents whose goal is to raise \$1 million to contribute directly to the easing the pain of HIV/AIDS campaign in Africa.

The theme of this fundraising effort is "If I Had a Million Dollars".

A short time after this presentation, Steve Falk of Aurora made a similar awareness presentation to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce.

The facts speak for themselves - 6,500 people will die of AIDS in Africa today, 6,500 people died yesterday and 6,500 people will die tomorrow and every day thereafter.

Representatives of the York Region Committee have travelled to Africa and have seen first hand the tragedy continuing to unfold.

There are now generations of children with no parents, children who themselves are HIV positive trying to cope.

A number of weeks ago, I attended a meeting with Father Philip Poole of Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora who approached me on this same cause and asked if I would get involved in the "If I Had A Million Dollars" campaign.

His proposal included a "Twoonie for Africa" campaign with the hope that we could encourage all the citizens of Aurora to give a twoonie towards this project and to also involve the schools, service clubs, our Chamber of Commerce and all other charitable, business and community service clubs in the support of this cause.

We would also challenge other communities in York Region to do the same with the hope that we, as some of the wealthiest and healthiest places in the world, could help some of the poorest who are facing such an incredible challenge.

I will be asking all of the members of Council for their support in this cause as well as each and every resident.

More details to follow.

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

Letter to the Editor

Musings at a traffic light

To the editor,

So, I, live in Aurora because lots of nice people live here too.

I may be far away from Toronto, but the potholes, cemented surroundings and a hodge podge of construction causing mini traffic jams all work to revive my sense of the good old days.

I am cruising west on Wellington St. (must have been named after a councillor, right?).

No sooner do I pat myself on the back for making the

green light at Leslie that I see a red light at Magna Drive.

Since there are no cars coming out of that driveway there is nothing to watch other than the boulevard in the middle with its pathetic weeds and dandelions growing without much enthusiasm.

As I am sitting shaking my head and shedding some construction dust out of my head wondering aloud where all the trees have gone and swearing that you see more trees in downtown Toronto than in the streets of Aurora,

suddenly I am jolted back to reality by a continuous honk from the car behind me.

Tsk-tsk, must be a tourist or one of those "Measured Development" consultants who are always rushing to John West Way (must be named after a councillor, right?).

As he speeds past me I hear some environmentally friendly words from him that loosely translated could mean that procreation is good and having manure in your head is environmentally friendly, etc.

Lucky for me he managed to make the Bayview light, rushing to get his land rezoned for high density residential.

Surely he will be lambasted by the council and he may even be forced to put up a tree or two for every 20 units or so that will teach him not to mess with Aurora residents.

Even the ones who don't have a street named after them.

Homer Farsad
Aurora



Cathy's Corner



Golf is a fore-letter word

If you ask me if I am a golfer, I will say: "You wouldn't call me that if you saw me swing."

If you ask my husband if I am a golfer, he will say: "You wouldn't call her that if you saw her swing."

We agree, so we go our separate ways.

He goes to the golf course, and I head for the garden. That way, we get to stay married!

Golf isn't my thing.

I just can't get my head into a game that involves launching a tiny ball into outer space, hoping that it will land somewhere in Aurora.

Sometimes on somebody's roof, sometimes on somebody's head, but usually at the bottom of a pond.

The first time I was invited to golf, I thought it sounded like fun.

You need a set of clubs, my friends said.

Visions of cave women started running through my head, complete with animal skins and attitude.

Where do I sign up?

But these are not clubs! These are sticks with shoe horns on the ends of them!

I wanted to see what caused my husband to develop S.A.G.S. (Severe Addiction to Golf Syndrome), so I borrowed my mother's shoe-horn-sticks.

When my father saw me load them into my van, he got the wrong idea.

My father thought he had found somebody to keep him company in his old age.

He got ahead of himself, went out and bought me a set. He has a hopeless case of S.A.G.S.

If he had thought about it, he would have realized that making me promise never to return my mother's clubs would have been far better for his life expectancy.

My mother is not a golfer.

Pretending that my mother is a golfer goes something like this:

Mother hits a ball about 200...um...inches into the rough.

Not because mother has bad aim or a lousy swing, but because that's where mother wants the ball to go.

Because that's where mother wants to go.

Now that mother has a legitimate reason to take the garden tour, she disappears into horticultural splendour. For a long time.

In the meantime, father isn't the only one whose patience is in critical shortage.

He is joined by hoards of purple golfers demanding to play through.

For some reason, they think father can do something about mother.

Finally, mother emerges with a brilliant bouquet of wildflowers and a smile almost as wide as her hat.

Of course mother wants to go home now, to put the flowers in a vase before they wilt.

We're talking Hole Number 3.

Yes, father is still alive...but he is about to blow his last gasket.

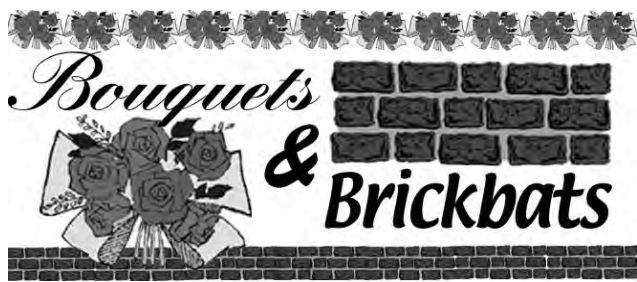
Mother tells father what a wonderful time she had, and how they should golf again, when the swamp irises are in bloom.

Mother points. The nine iron is sticking out of the ground, shoe horn up, surrounded by swamp iris foliage. Father is now out of gaskets.


Compared with me, my mother is a serious golfer, so I spend sunny days pruning, hoeing, and occasionally getting beamed in the melon by a golf ball that is trying to land somewhere in Aurora.


So maybe I do have my head in the game after all.


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





By DICK ILLINGWORTH


 BOUQUETS to Mara Jones and Steve Jorens who are representing Aurora and Canada in the Summer Olympics in Athens this month. Steve is entered in the Sprint Kayak event and Mara in the ladies double rowing event.


 BRICKBATS to the persons responsible for placing "A" signs on the boulevard too close to the roadway, as the signs block the view of oncoming traffic for a motorist trying to exit a parking lot. It's an accident waiting to happen and something that the town's bylaw enforcement officers should be on the lookout for as they drive around the town.


 BOUQUETS to the member of council who asks for a monthly report from the bylaw enforcement department as to the activities of bylaw enforcement officers, the number of tickets handed out for infractions and the revenue generated.


 BRICKBATS to the MPPs elected in the ridings within York Region for failing to take a position for or against the Hydro One proposal to increase the capacity of the transmission line running through the region. Your constituents are calling, where are you?


 BOUQUETS to the six members of Aurora's Watson Family Karate School for entering next month's 60-kilometre Weekend to End Breast Cancer Walkathon. They are Joan Watson, Denise Beaulne, Linda Collins, Anne Fund, Maureen Burleson and Arlene Weijers.

 BRICKBATS to the despicable sneak thieves who stole two wheelchairs last month, belonging to Aurora seniors. One was from a garage on Murray Drive and the other from a garage on Corner Ridge Road. If you have any information call York Regional Police.

 BOUQUETS to Trevor Lhiou, a local Scout leader, for offering the wheelchair he used to teach Boy Scouts disability awareness as a replacement. Also to Bill Chadwick, who refurbishes wheelchairs, and has offered help to the victims.

 BOUQUETS to the Town of Aurora for being able to obtain the services of Scott Somerville as Acting CAO for a six-month period until the municipality can hire a full-time CAO to replace Larry Allison. Somerville is among the most knowledgeable municipal officials in the province.

 BRICKBATS to the high-priced regional or town consultants who designed the reconstruction of St. John's Sideroad and made no provision for parking so visitors can use the boardwalk to view the marshlands, and provided no access to the ponds in winter for family skating. Councillors should get prepared for a blast from citizens.

 BOUQUETS to former Aurora Tiger forward Brock Radunske on signing a three-year contract with the NHL's Edmonton Oilers. He played for the Tigers in 1999/2000 before moving on to the Newmarket Hurricanes.

Letters to the Editor

Lawn spray opponent confuses this reader

To the editor,

Actually, I must admit that I am not a regular reader of your publication, owing to the fact that I am not even a resident of your town and as such was not even aware of the existence of said paper.

However as happenstance would, I found myself visiting friends who live in Aurora, and I came across the July 27 issue which contained a letter from one Anne Allen, pertaining to lawns and the people who own them.

If I do recall accurately, the letter in question was entitled: "Nice grass? You are a selfish idiot, reader says."

One hardly knows where to begin when commenting on such an obviously well thought out and researched epistle.

Ms. Allen refers to people who want a lush lawn as "social pariahs". Since this over-used term normally refers to a minority of people who engage in an activity that is frowned upon by the majority because said endeavour is deemed less than acceptable, it does seem odd that gardening, including lawn care, has become one of the preferred recreational activities for home owners in this country, and is a multi-billion dollar a year industry.

So much for being unacceptable.

She then asserts that the "GTA and York Region are banning spray". I was unaware that the "GTA" was some kind of governmental organization at all, certainly not one that had any sort of power to do anything legislative, much less create and or enforce bans.

As for York Region, I think they have done themselves well to allow the municipalities to wrestle with this issue on their own.

I say that only because the Region seems to be an expert at avoiding any tough issue other than spending taxpayers' money in a less than accountable fashion.

And what does she mean by "banning spray"?

Will we all need a special permit for personal showers, car washing, aerosol paints, and all that stuff people like to spray in their hair and on their bodies these days?

Continuing her pithy prose, she then berates users of pesticides for posting signs (mandated by provincial regulation for commercial applicators only).

I view these signs much

the same as "wet paint" signs, simple identification of use, not admissions of any real or perceived dangers.

She must realize that all of these products are legal and deemed safe for use by highly trained licenced and insured professionals, as well as the general public, by both the Federal and Provincial governments and are subject to more scrutiny than all other products available to the public, including our food, water and health care products.

I could go on, but it would, in all likelihood, not convince Ms. Allen of anything.

It is frighteningly obvious that she, like so many others of her ilk, centre their arguments, not on science, the facts or even common sense, but on fear mongering, misguided emotions, and name calling so prevalent among the wild-eyed-anti-everything-they-don't-like-environmental-zealot crowd.

In closing I will say this however, if you are so concerned about the children and their future, one thing you might want to consider is what life lessons those impressionable youngsters might learn in reading your letter.

They may find that reasonable arguments, science and the truth can seemingly only be overcome by calling your opponents "selfish idiots" or some other similar derogatory epitaph.

That tactic is evidently acceptable on Talk-Radio, the Jerry Springer show, or perhaps even in Aurora, but out here in the rest of the world, it just doesn't cut it.

ED. NOTE: A copy of this letter was sent to The Auran

Mr. Rick Milne,
Deputy Mayor Town of New Tecumseth,
P.O. Box 910,
10 Wellington St. E.,
Alliston, Ont. L9R 1A1

Dear Mr. Milne:

I am writing to you in your capacity as Chairman of the Potato Festival. First of all, congratulations to you and all the volunteers for a first-rate weekend. How did you arrange the weather?

My reason for writing is this; I was a participant along with more than 165 other members of the "Old Car" hobby at the car show held in conjunction with the Potato

Festival.

Questions were raised by participants as to the reason for the \$7 entry fee.

We sure did not receive anything for the registration fee other than a dash plaque and the right to park on Victoria Street.

There were, of course, awards in various classes, however, the cost of the awards, I am sure, did not come anywhere close to the amount of money collected, at least \$1,155 (165 X \$7). Where did the money go?

As you may or may not know, Aurora holds a "Street Festival" each June which includes a car show. They (organizers) tried to charge \$10 to enter and were politely told what to do, no

charge or no cars.

I think Alliston may face the same results if the entry fee is not discontinued.

We as vintage, custom, restored, street rod, truck and sports car owners invest a lot of money in our cars and it is unfair to charge us to display our vehicles as an attraction to bring people to an event.

This charging for participation in car shows, especially when the general public enters free, is becoming a great problem in the hobby and is one of the reasons for the increase in free cruise nights.

**Keith Horsfall
Alliston**

**Hugo T. Kroon
Bethesda**

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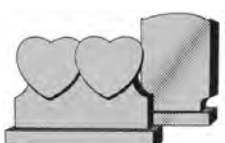
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Urban sprawl - can it be stopped?

Right across the Greater Toronto Area local and regional politicians are hearing the same message: contain urban sprawl.

They are hearing variations of the same theme such as growth is too rapid, traffic too oppressive, loss of green space too great and the threat to water too serious.

The battle to contain urban sprawl has been ongoing with little or no results over the years as government after government announces plans to stop the rape of farmland, but still it continues.

On May 5, 1970, the Bill Davis Progressive Conservative government unveiled its "Design for Development, The Toronto-Centred Region Plan" based on a Toronto Area Region Transportation Study.

The plan covered a 90-mile arc around Toronto with a central core along the Toronto lakeshore.

York Region was in a middle zone with limited development except along the Yonge Street corridor with a population target of 300,000 by 2000. The population at that time was 170,000.

The concept called for the retention of agricultural land, recreation space and greenbelt within the region.

A banana-shaped belt, north of Toronto from Guelph to Port Perry, was designated a commuter-shed and the plan was to prevent large scale development and excessive damage to the environment.

Beyond that was a third zone including such centres as Barrie, Collingwood and Midland where active growth was to be encouraged with provincial assistance in order to take some of the pressure off Metro Toronto.

To prevent urban sprawl the province said it would only encourage development in carefully selected centres along the Yonge Street corridor, such as Aurora, Richmond Hill and Newmarket.

By March, 1971, the region came under pressure from the province for its housing action program, which encouraged the region to absorb substantial

growth. Another issue was the growth needed to pay for the York Durham sewage system.

In August that year Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough provided a status report on the TCRP and established population targets, including 45,000 to 50,000 for Aurora and Newmarket to be achieved by 2000.

At the time Aurora had a population of 12,000 but growth was at a standstill due to lack of sewage capacity. Council requested a population ceiling of 35,000 by 2000.

By early 1973, Aurora came under heavy development pressures despite the restrictions placed on the municipality by the TCRP.

In April that year Premier Bill Davis was guest speaker at a fundraising dinner for York North MPP Bill Hodgson at the Aurora Highlands Golf Club.

Davis told the audience that while the population restrictions as outlined in the TCRP had not been well received by some, the government was committed in its fight to contain urban sprawl.

By January, 1975, barely five years after the TCRP concept had been introduced, the plan was in complete disarray and even government planners said it was close to death.

With the coming of the Big Pipe in April, 1976, the government announced a revision in the population projections and admitted that its plans to redirect growth away from Toronto had failed.

In January, 2001, Premier Mike Harris announced the Smart Growth Strategy with details to be unveiled at a later date. The concept was borrowed from the United States.

The Canadian Urban Institute sponsored a conference on Smart Growth in September, 2001, and speakers were critical of the government's pledge to rein in urban sprawl saying it was too vaguely defined and transit unfriendly.

They questioned the government's commitment to contain urban sprawl by pointing out the government had announced plans to

spend \$1 billion for new superhighways.

In early 2002, Harris announced the appointment of a Smart Growth Panel for Central Ontario with Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion as chairperson.

After a year of work and several interim reports, in March, 2003, the panel released its Shape the Future report with several recommendations. As it was a consensus report, there were many broad-brush statements without a clear cut plan of action.

The report pointed out that public investment should be concentrated in mixed-use urban areas called nodes. For York Region the paper identified Markham, Richmond Hill,

Vaughan and Newmarket as nodes.

One of the recommendations was for the province to make a significant investment in transit capital and suggested the dedication of a percentage of the provincial gasoline tax.

In October last year, the David Suzuki Foundation released a study on urban sprawl that called on the new McGuinty Liberal government to initiate steps to build higher-density communities that encourage walking and use of public transit.

The report recommended parks, ravines, natural areas and watercourses be preserved, town centres intensified, downtowns protected, and an urban bound-

ary established to protect agricultural and rural areas.

The report was timely as the McGuinty government had promised to battle urban sprawl with a long-term plan for the management of growth, especially in the Golden Horseshoe.

In December, the government gave first reading to the Greenbelt Protection Act as the first step towards the creation of a permanent Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt, designed to deal with the environmental issues of urban sprawl.

The bill established a moratorium that would temporarily prevent new urban uses outside existing urban boundaries in the greenbelt study area that includes lands in Aurora.

The Greenbelt Study Zoning Order applies until December 16 this year and all applications, referrals, hearings and appeals before the Ontario Municipal Board are on hold until that time.

In April, the government issued a discussion paper entitled "Places to Grow; Better Choices, Brighter Future" designed to contain urban sprawl by limiting growth to 26 key urban areas over the next 30 years.

For York Region, Markham, Vaughan and Newmarket were included.

All new infrastructure funding will be targeted at these centres with the goal

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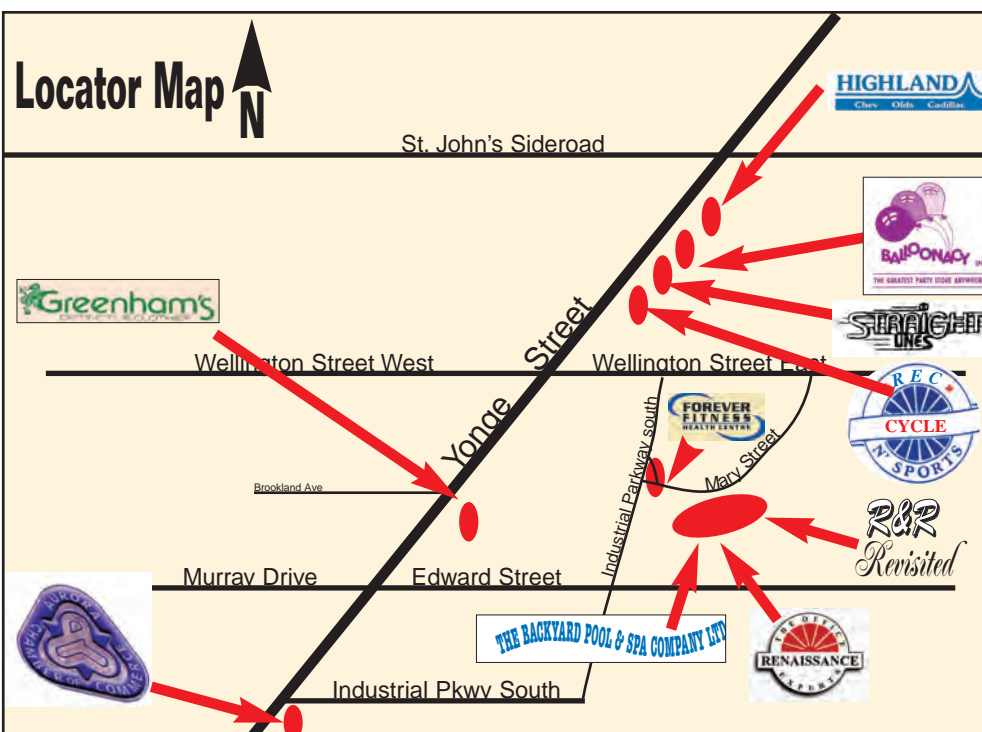
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Page 10

Week of August 17, 2004



Painted in Aurora Tiger hockey colours, the seats in the Aurora Community Centre have a brand new look this year. The 35-plus year old building has been given a facelift, casting off what was rapidly becoming a tired, old arena. Meanwhile, the Tigers, under new coach Jerome Dupont, are only weeks away from their next season, as they attempt to retain the national hockey championship they won last year.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

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Every year since 1996, the Magna Family Scholarship Program has provided financial assistance to children of full-time Magna employees pursuing a post-secondary education relating to the manufacturing process. Presentations were made Friday at the Kingbridge Centre in King City, with cheques handed out by Magna executive and former Aurora Chief Administrative Officer Marc Neeb, who is hiding in the above photograph. More than 30 youngsters received awards. *Auroran photo by Dave Falconer*

Urban sprawl in GTA

From page 7

of transforming them into compact communities where residents can walk or cycle to work, or use public transit.

Other tools in the discussion paper to contain urban sprawl include raising property taxes, land transfer taxes and development fees to deter rural property developers. Legislation to implement the plan is scheduled for this fall.

The plan may be too little, too late as much of the rural property has been purchased or optioned, and unless the government is willing to take a strong stand against the development and home building industries, the plan is doomed to failure like its predecessors.

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Ain't THIS the truth?

People over 35 should be dead

Here's why:

- * According to today's regulators and bureaucrats, those of us who were kids in the 30's, 40's, 50's, 60's, or even maybe the early 70's probably shouldn't have survived.
- * Our baby cribs were covered with bright coloured lead-based paint.
- * We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets, and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets. (Not to mention the risks we took hitchhiking.)
- * As children, we would ride in cars with no seatbelts or air bags.
- * Riding in the back of a pickup truck on a warm day was always a special treat.
- * We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. **Horrors!**
- * We ate cupcakes, bread and butter, and drank soda pop with sugar in it, but we were never overweight because we were always outside playing.
- * We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle, and no one actually died from this.
- * We'd spend hours building go-carts out of scraps and then rode down the hill, only to discover we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, we learned to solve the problem.
- * We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the street lights came on.
- * No one was able to reach us all day. **NO CELL PHONES!!!!** **Unthinkable!**
- * We did not have Playstations, Nintendo 64, X-Boxes, no video games at all, no 99 channels on cable, video tape movies, surround sound, personal cell phones, personal computers, or Internet chat rooms.
- * We had friends! We went outside and found them. We played dodge ball, and sometimes, the ball would really hurt.
- * We fell out of trees, got cut and broke bones and teeth, and there were no lawsuits from these accidents. They were accidents. No one
- * We had fights and punched each other and got black and blue and learned to get over it.
- * We made up games with sticks and tennis balls and ate worms, and although we were told it would happen, we did not put out very many eyes, nor did the worms live inside us forever.
- * We rode bikes or walked to a friend's home and knocked on the door, or rang the bell or just walked in and talked to them.
- * Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment.
- * Some students weren't as smart as others, so they failed a grade and were held back to repeat the same grade. **Horrors!**
- * Tests were not adjusted for any reason. Our actions were our own; consequences were expected.
- * The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke a law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law. **Imagine that!**
- * This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers and problem solvers and inventors, ever. The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas.
- * We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.
- * Give this to others who have had the luck to grow up as kids, before lawyers and government regulated our lives, for our own good!!!!

The above was shamelessly lifted from the internet - which we could not have done 30 years ago - and is brought to you by:

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Aurora Youth Soccer Club

Scores and Standings



HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B M/W- TBA

U8B T/TH- JULY 22- Forest 1 (T. Abushinov 1) vs **Sky-** Barb Blaser-Remax York 1 (T. Reiter 1); **Teal** 0 vs **Sage** 6 (M. Walker 3, M. Palmer 2, C. Forrest 1); **Lime** 1 (K. Locke 1) vs **Silver** 5 (B. Wilson 2, B. Lukezic 2, D. Gonder 1); **JULY 29- Sage** 6 (M. Walker 1, A. Perez 1, M. Palmer 1, S. Green 3) vs **Lime** 0; **Teal** 3 (J. Lentze 1, C. DiBartolomeo 2) vs **Sky-** Barb Blaser-Remax York 1 (L. Blaser 1); **Forest** 3 (J. Nanos 1, B. Thiessen 1, S. Robb 1); vs **Silver** 2 (B. Lukezic 1); **U8G M/W- JULY 26- Red** Laurion & Assoc. 0 vs **Royal** 3 (T. Miller 1, N. Boyle 1, D. Skolud 1); **Kelly** 0 vs **Gold** 3 (E. Rife 1, A. Raymond 1, T. Ranjbar 1); **U8G T/TH- JULY 15- Teal** 3 (B. Pedersen 1, L. Watt 1, M. Szwec 1) vs **Navy** 0; **JULY 22- Navy** 2 (C. McCarthy 2) vs **Sky** 2 (C. Danziger 1, S. Mason 1); **JULY 29- Orange** 5 (H. Shapiro 4) vs **Navy** 1 (C. McCarthy 1); **Sky** 0 vs **Forest** 2 (K. Bletcher 1, R. Marinac 1); **U9B M/W-JULY 21- White-** Dr. Steiner's Drillers 3 (G. Plunuu 1, J. Huynh 1, J. Chehade 1) vs **Gold** 1 (Z. Ferry 1); **Champagne** 9 (B. Hankins 3, R. Dowling 3, B. Tzonev 2, W. Reid 1) vs **Kelly** 0; **JULY 28- Kelly** 0 vs **Royal-** Highland Chevrolet 3 (J. Todd 2, K. McIntosh 1); **Red** 1 (N. Bender 1) vs **White** 5 (Y. Chohacle 3, J. Defina 2); **Champagne** 7 (B. Hankins 2, B. Tzonev 2, R. Dowling 2, T. Stevens 1) vs **Gold** 1 (A. McDonald 1); **AUGUST 11- Kelly** 4 (D. Marshall 2, S. Fanone 1, B. Casselden 1) vs **Red** 0; **U9B T/TH-JULY 13- Sky** 1 (K. Desouza 1) vs **Teal** 7 (P. Hess 1, J. McDonald 3, D. Sikura 3); **JULY 27- Orange** 4 (C. Prukner 3, D. Eveleigh 1) vs **Teal** 8 (J. McDonald 3, E. Bulloch 1, P. Hess 1, L. Robinson 1, T. Scougall 1, S. Wilkins 1); **U9G M/W-JULY 28- Champagne** 3 (A. Akiki 3) vs **Gold** 2 (N. Armstrong 1, D. Tonelli 1); **White-** Wall Savers Ltd. 2 (S. Pacione 2) vs **Red-** Priestly Demolition 0; **Royal** 8 (S. Andreacchi 1, M. Shapiro 1, J. Relke 1, T. Mansillo 1, B. Malczyk 1, K. Fleming 1, C. Debney 1) vs **Kelly** 0; **AUGUST 10- Forest** 1 (C. Roden 1) vs **Teal** 8 (E. Bullock 1, J. McDonald 1, L. Morassutti 1, L. Robinson 1, T. Scougall 2, D. Sikura 2); **JULY 28- Champagne** 3 (A. Akiki 3) vs **Gold** 2 (N. Armstrong 1, D. Tonelli 1); **White-** Wall Savers 2 (S. Pacione 2) vs **Red-** Priestly Demolition 0; **Royal** 8 (S. Andreacchi 1, M. Shapiro 1, J. Relke 1, T. Mansillo 1, B. Malczyk 1, K. Fleming 1, C. Debney 1) vs **Kelly** 0; **U9G T/TH-TBA**

U10B- JULY 19- Forest 3 (M. Yacoub 2, K. Lukezik 1) vs **Gold** 3 (L. Driedger 1, D. Dilena 2); **Yellow** 11 (J. Van Rooyen 2, S. Grabovsky 4, J. Imeneo-Brand 2) vs **Sky** 0; **Royal** 5 (D. Germinerio 2, J. Romano 3) vs **Teal** 4 (E. Cristillo 1, M. Tenuta 1, S. Rideout 1, S. Stevens 1); **White** 2 (N. Heintzman 1, J. Bentolila 1) vs **Red-** Aurora Shopping Centre 3 (M. Munding 3); **Kelly** 2 (E. Jones 2) vs **Champagne** 7 (A. Woodward 3, A. Pitura 1, J. Knox 1, B. Wilson 1, K. Neice 1); **JULY 26- Kelly** 2 (J. White 2) vs **Red-** Aurora Shopping Centre 5 (J.P Hudon 3, V. Duggan 1, C. Wilkes 1); **White** 5 (N. Heintzman 2, A. Papousek 1, T. Butler 1, T. Thiessen 1) vs **Yellow** 4 (M. Wood 1, S. Grabovsky 1, D. Reil 2); **Teal** 3 (R. Valvasori 1, M. Hart 1, G. Bresani 1) vs **Champagne** 1 (A. Pitura 1); **Forest** 11 (K. Cook 1, K. Lukezik 3, J. Eberlin 3, R. Eberlin 1, B. Kirsack 3) vs **Sky** 4 (C.

Beach 1, D. Farrar 2, R. Goessi 1); **Royal** 2 (J. Langford 2) vs **Gold** 4 (L. Driedger 2, D. Dilena 2);

U10B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
White	8	1	0	24
Yellow	7	2	0	21
Forest	5	1	3	18
Red	6	3	0	18
Gold	3	4	2	11
Teal	3	4	2	11
Champagne	2	5	2	8
Royal	2	5	2	8
Sky	1	6	2	5
Kelly	1	7	1	4

U10G- AUGUST 3- Purple- Dr. Mark Weedon 3 vs **Orange** 2; **Champagne** 4 (K. Nice 2, S. Bilotta 1, S. Byron 1) vs **White** 1; **Navy-** Dr. Weaver's Drillers 3 (K. Macciocchi 1, L. St. Germain 1, S. Bile 1) vs **Red** 1 (S. Thomson 1); **Royal** 3 (K. Fiorini 1, N. Kovacs 1, L. Vandervecht 1) vs **Kelly** 2 (E. Wood 2); **Gold** 5 vs **Silver** 1;

U10G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Navy	7	0	1	22
Red	4	1	3	15
Champagne	4	2	2	14
Royal	4	3	1	13
Gold	4	4	0	12
Purple	3	3	2	11
White	3	5	0	9
Orange	2	4	2	8
Kelly	2	5	1	7
Silver	1	7	0	3

U11B - JULY 22- Royal- Zavida 0 vs **Forest** 6 (C. Weese 5, J. Lombardi 1);

U11B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
White	7	0	2	23
Gold	6	1	2	20
Kelly	4	3	2	14
Forest	2	5	1	7
Royal	2	7	0	6
Red	1	6	1	4

U11G - JULY 21- Champagne 3 (B. Cackirovski 1, M. Spasopoulos 2) vs **Kelly** 0; **Orange** 3 (D. Gottschald 1, B. Wiemer 2) vs **Red-** Magna International 2 (A. Turco 1, M. Nisbett 1); **Forest** 1 (S. Storms 1) vs **Royal-** The Packaging Group 1 (S. Romano 1);

U11G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Champagne	6	2	1	19
Forest	4	3	1	13
Orange	4	4	0	12
Red	4	4	0	12
Royal	3	5	1	10
Kelly	2	5	1	7

U12B- JULY 19- Red 2 (M. D'Andrea 1, C. Muzlera 1) vs **Kelly-** Dial Tone Communications 11 (C. Flynn 2, A. Heintzman 1, Z. Langford 1, S. Alzamora 2, K. Blazer 3, B. Rival 1); **Royal-** Dr. Orschel's Drillers 2 (M. VanBakel 1, B. Crouse 1) vs **Gold** 4 (M. Tuck 2, T. Sikura 2); **Orange-** Wallsavers Ltd. 4 (J. Killens 3, M. Yeatman 1) vs **Purple** 7 (S. Facchini 1, M. Lamanna 2, F. McIlraith 2, G. Marshall 1, M. lauro 1); **JULY 26- Kelly-** Dial Tone Communications 7 (G. Iaboni 1, S. VanDisk 1, A. Heintzman 1, S. Alzamora

2, O. Boettcher 1, E. Panaccione 1) vs **Purple** 1 (G. Marshall 1); **Royal** 5 (M. McGolrick 3, P. Deluca 1, E. DeRoos 1) vs **Orange-** Wallsavers Ltd 2 (J. Killens 1, C. Lynch 1); **Red** 1 (C. Muzlera 1) vs **Gold** 14 (N. Fattore 1, R. Bonnick 1, M. Smith 2, M. Tuck 8, D. Crowther 1); **AUGUST 9- Purple** 1 (G. Marshall 1) vs **Gold** 7 (R. Bonnick 1, T. Sikura 1, M. Tuck 5); **Red** 2 (A. Coladni 1, M. Pellegrini 1) vs **Royal** 9 (M. Vanbaker 3, M. McGolrick 2, J. Chappel 2, R. Bagshaw 1, P. Deluca 1); **Kelly-** Dial Tone Communications 8 (C. Flynn 4, O. Boettcher 4) vs **Orange-** Wall Savers 4 (C. Munn 2, K. Mackowiak 1, C. Lynch 1);

U12B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Kelly	7	1	2	23
Gold	7	2	1	22
Royal	6	3	1	19
Purple	3	5	2	11
Orange	3	7	0	9
Red	0	8	2	2

U12G- TBA U12G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Maroon	5	2	2	17
Royal	5	2	2	17
Gold	4	0	5	17
Sage	5	3	1	16
Orange	4	2	3	15
Kelly	2	5	2	8
Red	2	6	1	7
Champagne	1	8	0	3

U13B- TBA U13B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Kelly	7	1	0	21
Royal	5	3	0	15
White	3	4	1	10
Forest	3	5	0	9
Gold	2	4	2	8
Red	2	5	1	7

U13G- JULY 29- Champagne 1 (K. Utez 1) vs **Orange** 2 (S. DiNaploi 1, E. Hayzelden 1); **Royal** 3 (D. Nasato 1, E. Boccia 1, K. Smith 1) vs **Red-** Kerrson Mechanical 1 (A. Kerr 1); **Kelly** 2 (V. Frappier 2) vs **Gold** 1 (M. Staniewski 1); **AUGUST 10- Red** 1 (J. Williams 1) vs **Orange** 2 (N. Bailey 1, S. Sendel 1); **Royal** 3 (D. Nasato 1, K. Smith 1) vs **Gold** 2 (T. Allison 1, C. D'Orazio 1) ; **Kelly** 5 (L. Pitts 2, D. Crowley 1, C. Haywood 2) vs **Champagne** 3 (K. Utez 3);

U13G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Orange	6	1	2	20
Gold	5	3	1	16
Kelly	3	2	4	13
Royal	4	4	1	13
Red	3	6	0	9
Champagne	1	6	2	5

U14/15B- JULY 19- Red 5 (N. Prescott 3, D. Kular 1, P. Braceland 1) vs **Ginger** 4 (T. Nardi 1, P. McMurray 1, A. Cho 2); **Royal** 4 vs **Champagne-** Johnson Financial Group Inc. 3; **Gold** 2 vs **Kelly** 5; **AUGUST 3- Ginger** 3 (A. Cho 2, K.

McBride 1) vs **Kelly** 2 (D.J. Roberts 2); **Gold** 3 vs **Royal** 2; **Red** 5 (N. Prescott 3, C. Lockhart 2) vs **Champagne** 3 (J. Smith 1, J. Tuck 1, M. Granger 1);

U14/U15B STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Ginger	7	1	0	21
Kelly	6	2	0	18
Red	4	4	0	12
Gold	3	4	1	10
Royal	2	6	0	6
Champagne	1	6	1	4

U14G- TBA U14G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Gold	6	2	0	18
Ginger	5	2	1	16
Kelly	3	4	1	10
Champagne	3	4	1	10
Red	2	4	2	8
Royal	2	5	1	7

U15/19G-JULY 14-Kelly 3 (S. Beer 1, N. Dale 1, K. Allen 1) vs **Orange** 1 (T. Sifton 1); **JULY 21- Royal-** Dr. Orschel's Drillers 0 vs **Orange** 2 (J. Munroe 1, K. Larkin 1); **Ginger** 5 (D. DiGiacomi 2, R. Liu 1, K. Schumann 2) vs **Sage#1** 2 (K. Smith 1, A. Cubitt 1); **Sky** 6 (A. DiGiambattista 3, K. George 2, C. Murphy 1) vs **Champagne-** 5 Below 0; **Sage#2** 1 (J. MacDonald 1) vs **Teal** 1 (H. Allison 1); **Purple-** Quality Integrators 0 vs Sean Herbinson Remax York Group 1 (L. White 1); **JULY 28- Orange** 3 (J. Davis 2, P. Horner 1) vs **Sky** 0; **Red-** Sean Herbinson Remax York Group 4 (S. D'Aguilar 2, L. White 1, V. Rayner 1) vs **Maroon** 2 (E. Devlin 1, D. Hamilton 1); **Sage#1** 3 vs **Purple-** Quality Integrators Corp. 0; **Teal** 0 vs **Ginger** 4 (K. Schurmann 1, K. Foss 1, R. Liu 1, M. Annear 1); **Gold** 3 (S. Bathe 3) vs **Champagne-** 5 Below 0; **Silver** 6 (K. Gray 2, B. Greenwood 2, V. Bain 1, W. Dale 1) vs **Royal-** Dr. Orshel's Drillers 4 (A. Camilleri 2, M. Camilleri 1, N. Leava 1); **Sage#2** 6 (E. Bergamin 3, A. Sackfield 2, H. Mitchell 1) vs **Kelly** 1 (G. Letourneau 1);

U15/U19G STANDINGS				
TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Sage#2	7	0	0	21
Silver	6	1	0	18
Kelly	4	2	1	13
Gold	4	2	1	13
Sky	4	3	0	12
Red	4	3	0	12
Sage#1	4	3	0	12
Maroon	3	3	1	10
Royal	3	4	0	9
Orange	3	4	0	9
Teal	2	4	1	7
Ginger	2	5	0	6
Purple	1	6	0	3
Champagne	0	7	0	0

U16G CGSL Premiere- AUGUST 4- Aurora Stingers 2 vs **Barrie Spirit** 1; Stinger Goals scored by L. D'Aguanno and G. Landry. **AUGUST 11- Aurora Stingers** 8 vs **Whitby Iroquois** 1. Stinger goals scored by M. Wiley 2, L. D'Aguanno, G. Landry, S. Johnston, D. King, S. Lena, and C. deWinter. With 9 straight wins to their credit (and 3 games still to be played), the Stingers have won the Premiere league for their age division. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

Remembering the "Good Old Days"

In these days of stress and turmoil, oldtimers might utter the words "Remember the good old days!"

They visit places like Black Creek Pioneer Village to catch a glimpse of life as they want to remember it.

They forget there were some dark sides to the good old days.

Children often died early in life due to illnesses such as diphtheria, a noted 19th century killer.

Adults often wasted away with tuberculosis from drinking unpasteurized milk.

Having a doctor or going to the hospital to deliver a baby was unheard of in those days.

It is reported that when Dr. Crawford Rose was Mayor of Aurora in the late 1940s, he would excuse himself from a council meeting to visit one of his patients to deliver a baby and return to council to complete the agenda.

The pioneer villages never dwell on the terrifying night journey to the outhouse in a thunderstorm or a blizzard, and keeping the house warm in mid-winter was almost a full-time job.

There was also the iceman who delivered blocks of ice in the summer to keep food from spoiling.

Even with all the hardships, for the people who lived it, life was very special.

There was peace and quiet, people respected each other, there was less government interference and a man's word was his bond.

THE PETERSON GOVERNMENT

Dalton McGuinty must be wishing he had the same honeymoon that the Liberal David Peterson government enjoyed in March, 1988.

Biking on sidewalks continues to be major pedestrian concern

Safety of children as pedestrians and cyclists was a major concern of the Aurora Police Department during the summer of 1966.

They introduced a Safety Violation Notice and recommended proper instruction be taken in all safety violation cases and brought to the attention of parents.

In June, officers started handing out reminders to youngsters violating pedestrian and cycling safety principles.

The ticket was part of a continuing campaign for children in and out of school. It was to be taken home and given to the parents, who were asked to acknowledge its receipt.

In January, 1971, Councillor Elmer "Doc" Henderson gained council support that consideration be given for licensing bicycles in Aurora. Council referred the request to the public safety committee to investigate the feasibility of establishing such a program.

The issue was reintroduced in 1972 when Councillor Peter Miller said children riding bicycles were ignoring traffic laws.

He gained support to ask York Regional Police to prepare a set of standard regulations for bicycles. It was also suggested parents had a responsibility to teach their children the proper way to ride a bike and that safety programs in the schools be improved.

In 1973 there was a

mounting demand from citizens for the licensing of bicycles. It was suggested that in addition to licensing, every cyclist be required to pass a strict test, set by the Ministry of Transport and supervised by York Regional Police.

But it wasn't to be. The public safety committee said licensing of bicycles was impractical and would be difficult to enforce. The committee recommended a Bicycle Safety Week to involve parents and children.

The problem returned during the summer of 1975 with children on bicycles rolling through stop signs, failing to signal turns and riding on the wrong side of the road.

This was in spite of York Regional Police and service clubs sponsoring bicycle clinics around the region.

Due to the number of complaints about cyclists riding on sidewalks in 1976, council gave first and second reading to ban all but the smallest bicycles from being ridden on sidewalks. The reason given for the bylaw was concern for pedestrians, especially the elderly.

In spite of his statement that he would be hitting the taxpayers with a tax increase in the spring budget Peterson's government had 54 per cent of the popular vote in the polls.

That was six per cent higher than the 48 per cent share of the popular vote the government received in their runaway election the previous September.

At that time, the New Democratic Party was at 24 per cent and the Progressive Conservatives were at 21 per cent.

There was also the broken Grit promises such a plan to lower auto insurance that became a 4.5 per cent hike and a \$300 million pledge to fund elementary education that became a \$60 million reality.

But Peterson was helped by a thriving economy and the antics of the Brian Mulroney's government in Ottawa.

Dalton McGuinty should be so lucky?

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SPELLING BEE?

The spelling bee appears to be a thing of the past.

It was once a common event in many classrooms across Canada, but you seldom hear of it today.

Girls were lined up on one side of the room and the boys on the other.

The teacher fired words at each side in turn and you sat down as soon as you made a mistake.

Then the education system adopted a whole language approach and teachers encouraged creativity which included spelling.

Today with computers and Spell Check, there is little need for a spelling bee, but it taught students to listen, think on their feet and attempt to spell the word.

Parents were quick to react to the proposed bylaw claiming they would tell their children to disregard the bylaw to keep from riding on the roadways.

Third reading of the bylaw was delayed as it was sent back for review. In addition to the many complaints from parents, it was learned the wording of the bylaw could restrict the use of wheelchairs and baby carriages on sidewalks.

In August, council agreed to withhold third reading until a program of bicycle safety clinics and greater police enforcement was evaluated.

One of the programs was a bicycle rodeo sponsored by the Aurora Rotary Club. Another was for police officers to stop cyclists riding carelessly and point out their errors.

It was also suggested parents assume the responsibility of instructing their children about the rules of the road.

By October, 1976, as conditions hadn't improved, Councillor George Timpson headed a delegation to meet with the York Region Police Services Board to seek

increased police action in controlling Aurora's reckless cyclists.

They were advised the police had no authority in controlling bicycles being ridden on town sidewalks and that police officers can only prosecute offenders under the Highway Traffic Act, when they use the roads.

That was then and this is now.

Cyclists are still using the sidewalks and pedestrians are still getting out of the way.

Complaints are now few and far between, possibly because of the fact, people realize there's not much can be done to change things.

WHEN THE TIGERS' FUTURE WAS HAZY

The Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey team are national champions, winners of the Royal Bank Cup in 2004.

Back in June, 1970, officials of the Aurora Tigers Junior B hockey club debated whether to discontinue operations or pay a higher fee for use of the Community Centre.

The Community Centre Board rejected the club's request for reduced ice rates for the upcoming season.

The board wanted \$135 per week for 4½ hours of ice time, plus 10 per cent of any gross gate receipts over \$500. The ice rate was the same as the previous year but the gate percentage was new.

Tiger officials asked for reduced rates due to their financial losses incurred during the previous season.

They asked for \$20 per hour for 90 minutes of practice time and \$30 an hour for game time. They pointed out the team had lost \$1,900 the previous year.

At the same time there were rumours that a group wanted to bring Junior C hockey to Aurora, but board members denied they were trying to get rid of the Tigers.

In spite of their problems the Tigers have remained in Aurora, although for a short period they were the Aurora Eagles.



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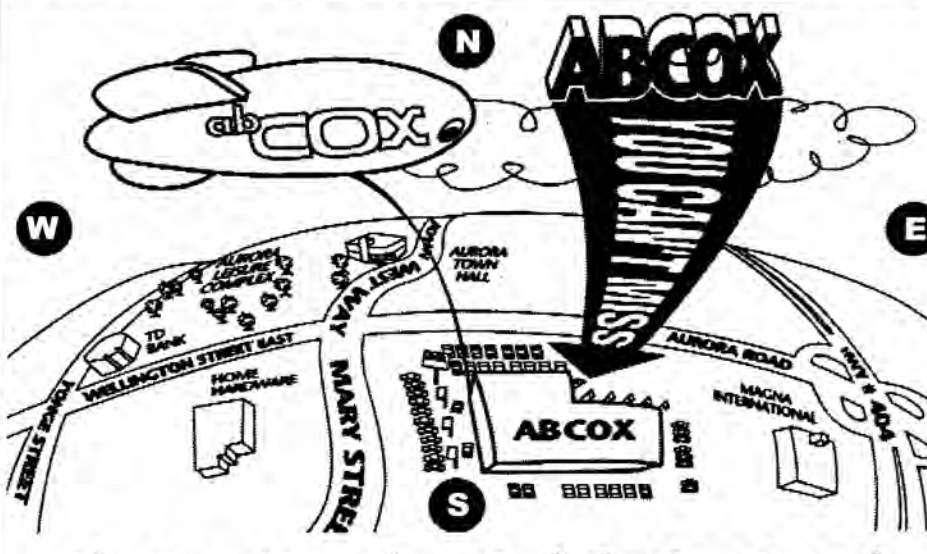
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 **BUY NORTH AMERICAN**

Church St. School loses partitions

From page 1

swear you can hear them.

Among them, former provincial Minister of Education Bette Stephenson, and former Prime Minister of Canada, Lester B. Pearson.

Church Street School, thanks to the Aurora Historical Society, has been stripped of everything and has been returned to its original self.

And what a difference.

From the wooden floors, oil on top of maple, to the 14-foot ceilings and the huge windows, accompanied by floor marks showing where the row desks were once attached, Church Street School is a school again.

Gone are the false ceilings, the partitions, the storage rooms, carpets and the myriad of alcoves that were created over the years as the building was transformed time and again.

Even though it's empty, it's beautiful.

One needs to actually see the old tin ceilings to truly appreciate the beauty of the interior. Although they're still covered by some ceiling tile, the tin is visible through many openings, and it's a tin ceiling unlike anything most people have ever seen.

Even the tin ceiling in the former Mary's Fruit Market is not as ornate as this one.

This interior "cleansing" comes on the heels of an exterior repair that saw, among other things, restoration of the foundation, installation of a drainage system, replacement of windows and installation of an elevator and a barrier-free entrance.

The exterior elevator, on the north wall of the building, is the only thing out of step with the historic structure, but current regulations say it must be there.

The renovation project received \$163,566 from each of the federal and provincial governments under the Canada/Ontario Infrastructure program, with Aurora contributing half the \$654,264 estimated cost.

Church Street School was built in 1886 at a cost of \$12,000 and served as both an elementary and secondary school until 1922 when a new high school was built, which is now Wells Street Public School.

Total area covered by the eight classrooms (four on each floor) would likely be enough to accommodate 20 classrooms by today's standards.

Of course, those early classrooms also accommodated up to 50 students each, something that would be unheard of today.

In 1953, the old school was sold to the Town of Aurora for \$1.

Soon after, the town rented the facility to Remington Rand as a training centre until the early 1960s. Students came from all parts of Ontario and boarded in local homes.

It is believed some steel girders were installed in the building to accommodate the weight of heavy machinery at that time.

Following Remington Rand, the building returned to its original use as an overflow school for Regency Acres and Aurora Heights Public Schools, in spite of strong protests from parents.

In 1996 council refused to sell the school back to the school board for the same \$1.

It continued as an educational centre as it became the first headquarters of the York County Board of Education from 1969 to 1975.

Ironically, one of the first Board of Education employees to move into the building in 1969, Ron McKnight, is today the project manager responsible to the historical society for returning the building to its original self.

The old building has since been home to the Seniors Friendship Circle, the Aurora Museum, the Pine Tree Potters, Boy Scouts, Big Brothers and other community groups.

Over the years the building has been controversial and called everything from an "old blister" to an "architectural monument".

The Ontario Heritage Foundation recognized the school in 1981, as a site of provincially recognized architectural significance, and the property is so posted.

In 1976, an engineering report advised it would cost about \$25,000 to bring the building up to acceptable standards.

In 1978, council commissioned a study of the building by architect A. J. Diamond. The report estimated restoration of the exterior and renovations of the interior would cost \$708,000.

The estimated cost of repairs created real debates in council and on the street. Councillors Earl Stewart and Ron Simmons raised the ire of some citizens in 1979 when they suggested the building be sold or demolished.

In November, 1979, council agreed to let A. J. Diamond Associates conduct open-wall

investigations. Council also agreed that if the projected costs for structural and engineering repairs and work on the school's roof and bell tower were within the estimated cost of \$146,000 the firm could proceed in the spring.

Work got underway in May, 1981, with some funding from the Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation.

The Aurora Historical Society started to make plans for the move of the Aurora Museum from the old water works building on Yonge Street to the second floor of the school.

Soon, the building will become a museum again.

But right now, Church Street School seems to be enjoying its freedom.

- with files from Dick Illingworth



One of the eight huge Church Street School classrooms (top photo) has now been returned to its near original state, after having spent many years divided into offices and rooms. Removal of false ceilings also revealed huge windows in the 14-foot high rooms. In the bottom photo, this was originally the boys' "gym" although the centre posts (which don't appear to be supporting anything) weren't there. This room is in the school's basement, and a similar-sized room, presumably the girls' "gym", is on the same level.

Auroran photos by Ron Wallace

The birth of an educational gem...

When wooden box-like rural schools were all the rage in the 1800s, the Aurora Public School Board wanted a different kind of educational facility for its students.

By 1886, the board had spent \$12,000 (a whopping amount of money then) to give Aurora not only a schoolhouse but the town's most impressive and controversial building.

Architect Thomas Kennedy designed the school.

It served basically as an elementary school until the 1950s and was only used as a high school from 1888 to 1892.

Wells Street Public School actually started out as a high school.

Why the board in the 1880s would construct a structure more in the style of a government building than a schoolhouse is difficult to guess, but their vision created an educational facility that has stood the test of time.

By the time the massive structure was built, students had been attending classes in a log building on Yonge Street and another behind the Methodist Church at Yonge and Tyler Streets.

For students used to simple facilities, transfer to the new school in September, 1886, was an exciting occasion, but the lessons were the same.

Details of subjects the teachers were to stick to and guidance for moral conduct were all laid out and not to be altered.

The teacher was seen as an example for the pupil and it was demanded that he maintain a high moral tone. The list of studies in the 1880s revealed that education was much more than reading, writing and mathematics.

Grade 4 students at that time took a course in British history in order to understand the background of where they had come from.

The school has had many noteworthy students

as past pupils, among them the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, who was known as "smarty pants" for his proficiency in Roman numerals.

In 1953 when the Aurora and District High School (now Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School) opened and Wells Street School became an elementary school, the old school was sold to the town for \$1.

Ongoing controversial discussions over rehabilitating and renovating the old building were nothing compared with the one that hit the town in the mid-1960s when the old school was reopened to accommodate overflow students from Regency Acres and Aurora Heights Public Schools.

The Aurora Public School Board held a public meeting on April 13, 1966, to meet with parents who had expressed concern about the transfer of some classes from the two schools to the Church Street facility.

The board planned to transfer four Grade 3 classes, three from Regency and one from Aurora Heights, plus one Grade 4 and one combined 3 and 4 from Regency.

It was pointed out that health, fire and building inspections had been carried out and the school found suitable for occupancy. Parents expressed concern about the transfer especially about the school basement, which would be used as lunchroom, gym and washroom facility.

They referred to the basement as a "dungeon" and said it created a fire hazard. As the school hadn't been used for a year and some renovations were required, parents suggested funds be used to buy portables.

They also expressed concern about transporting students along Yonge Street, which they referred to as the "suicide strip".

In July, 1966, council, by a split vote, refused to sell

the school back to the school board for the same \$1.

If the vote had gone the other way, council would not have become involved with the many controversies surrounding the building, but it's doubtful it would be still standing.

By June, 1967, the board made its decision.

Eight classes of Grade 3 and 4 from Regency Acres, Aurora Heights and George Street Schools were transferred to Church Street effective that September.

By 1969, although no longer used as classrooms, the old facility was still an educational institution.

In February 1969, council agreed to lease the Church Street School to the newly created York Region Board of Education for a three-year period as an education centre.

There was considerable criticism of council's action in leasing the facility to the school board for \$1 a year. The board agreed to pay all

operating expenses, maintenance, insurance and other costs, including renovations.

In addition, there were indirect benefits as the board brought 100 to 150 employees to town, and there were hopes they would make Aurora their permanent home.

In 1975, the town and the board built a joint administration/educational centre on Wellington Street West.

Later as both jurisdictions grew and needed more space, the town sold its share of the building to the board and eventually constructed a new Town Hall on John West Way.

The Old Church Street School, designated in 1981 as a provincial heritage site for its architectural and historic value, still stands proudly regardless of the ongoing controversy that swirls around it, and if the Aurora Historical Society has anything to say about its future, it will continue to stand for years to come.

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