AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper



Vol. 4 No. 47 Week of September 21, 2004 905-727-3300

Briefly

An adoption bridge

Children's Bridge, a federally incorporated, non-profit adoption agency, will present a free information seminar on "How to adopt your child from China, South Korea or Thailand", in Aurora this week.

The seminar will be held Thursday, September 23rd, at 6.30 p.m. at the Aurora Town Hall.

For more information or to register for the seminar contact Marianne Fedrigoni at 905-727-0514 or via e-mail at mariannefedrigoni@sympati-

Winners tied

At exactly noon Friday, two of The Auroran's telephone lines lit up. The editor answered one, the receptionist the other.

Both callers identified last week's front page picture contest as being 'reversed" and both were assured they were the first caller, according to

So both get a non-alcoholic dinner for two at Jonathan's, since it would be rude to call one back and say they lost when, in fact, they did-

Winners were Alvin Thompson and Vicki MacNeil.

Why the reversed picture? Well, since the photo was taken "from the street", (a clue to the answer) the reflection in the window of the store across the road revealed backward lettering.

The editor decided if it ran the way it was taken, it would "look wrong", so the production department reversed the picture, making the lettering

The woman in the window, Lisa Sproul of Aurora, is, in fact, facing the opposite way

Letters continue

Since the beginning of The Auroran some four years ago, the feeling around the office has been people's opinions are far more valuable than those of the newspaper.

That's why we have rarely touched Letters to the Editor, except to perhaps straighten out a little grammar or spelling.

Readers, we think, appreciate that, and as a result our letters section

has continued to flourish. But this week, our contributors got a bit wind. No fewer than four of

them submitted letters in the 1,000 word range. And so, we've extended the section all the way through Page 9, just

to get them in. We will never restrict nor refuse letters (unless otherwise advised by our lawyer), but we would ask that you try to be brief.

The fun starts on Page 4.

Town approves \$25,000 grant

After a long and often heated debate at Aurora's last general committee meeting a series of prospective purchasers of new recommendations relating to homes along the corridor, receiv-Hydro One's proposal to install an enhanced transmission line along the existing corridor through Aurora was adopted by a 5-2 vote with two members absent.

The recommendations were endorsed 7-2 by council last

They included warnings to ing the terms of reference of a Task Force set up to oppose the lines and confirming a grant of \$25,000 to the Task Force.

A resident from the area appeared before council to

Please see page 3





Ten Aurora and area charities will share more than \$400,000 thanks to another successful Country Hoedown held at Aurora's Magna headquarters on Wellington Street East. Officials gather round the huge cheque during ceremony Saturday night, top photo. Surprise guest was Don Harron, aka Charlie Farquharson, (who is a member of the Aurora Legion). Below, part of the crowd of thousands who attended the event.

Auroran photos by Rob Schuetze

Klees eliminated early

By RON WALLACE

When push came to shove, Frank Klees didn't do either hard enough.

The Aurora resident was first out of the race Saturday when the Provincial Progressive Conservative Party held its leadership convention in Toronto.

Polling 2,265 electoral votes, Klees was 1,000 behind Jim Flaherty, whose results were close enough to force a second

John Tory, frontrunner from the start, went on to win the race on that ballot, although it was a good battle.

Tory finished with 54 per cent

of the vote, while Flaherty had 46.

"We were right about forcing the second ballot," Klees told The Auroran Sunday, "unfortunately, it wasn't us who forced it."

Earlier predictions had Klees finishing second to Tory, then picking up enough Flaherty votes to win the race on the second bal-

Klees' bid to take over the leadership of the party - he has held two major portfolios in previous PC governments - certainly couldn't be blamed on the locals.

He was a clear cut winner in voting in the Oak Ridges riding where he serves as a Member of the Provincial Parliament and in Vaughan-King-Aurora

where he lives.

However, overall in the province, Klees doesn't have the visibility of the other two contenders, and only half the eligible voters cast ballots in the election.

"The turnout didn't help us either," he said. "I was expecting a larger turnout at the polls."

But, he added, "I am very proud of our campaign. We conducted an issue-based campaign, stayed above the fray when some of the typical sparring took place and established a province-wide organization from scratch within

Klees noted that Flaherty had the advantage of his previous

Please see page 17



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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 p.m. For further information contact Bob Butler at h.butler@sympatico.ca or 905-

Robertson Masonic Lodge meets the third Saturday each month at 57 Mosley Street at 10.30 a.m. Coffee club at 9 a.m., lunch at noon. Conact 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080.

Entrepreneurs. Network marketing is available in Aurora. Aurora-Business.com meets Wednesdays at 7.15 a.m. at Timberlane on Vandorf Sideroad east of Yonge. Contact John Patterson at 905-727-

Helping Hand: Gently used clothing for women and children, at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. Wednesdays 5.30 - 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, Oct.16 and 30, 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 905-727-

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-beretired business and professional people and guests are welcome.

Towns of York Toastmasters meetings are free and open to the gen-

eral public. The meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway N., Aurora. For more information see the club's web site at www.townsofyork.org or phone Roy Bannon at 905-853-0859.

Meditation classes in Aurora Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m. to Dec. 15. Above Needles & Knits Wool Shop, 15040 Yonge St., just north of Kennedy St. Further information, 416-762-8033 or info@meditationintoronto.org. No pre-registration required. Donations only.

Month of September, HOT SPOT Youth Club celebrates "Back To School" with prizes from Silver City.

Network marketing for entrepreneurs in Aurora. Aurora-Businesscom meets Wednesdays at 7.15 a.m. at Timberlane on the Vandorf Sideroad. For further information call John Patterson at 905-727-1941.

SEPTEMBER 24

Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre at Howard Johnson Aurora presents the female version of "The Odd Couple". It continues Friday and Saturday nights with some Sunday buffets until October 30. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

SEPTEMBER 25

It's the Aurora Children 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 2 p.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 28

Hospice King-Aurora hosts a trip to Stratford to attend the performance of King Henry VIII. Tickets, at \$150, available by calling 905-773-0155. Lunch is included.

SEPTEMBER 30

Aurora Seniors visit St. Jacob's Market and visit the 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 2

Women's Day Benefit in support of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Limited spaces available. Call Bruna to reserve, 905-713-3189 or 416-999-6289.



OCTOBER 6

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Aurora Cable Internet, presents SPAM, the second of a 10-part monthly series of free computer workshops. 7 to 8.30 p.m., Magna Room. Phone 905-727-9493,

OCTOBER 12

Seniors fall day trip to Ontario's famous Cranberry Harvest in Bala includes a scenic 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 13

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.

OCTOBER 19

Aurora Public Library presents Linwood Barclay, reading from his new novel "Bad Move". Admission free with ticket. 7 p.m., Magna Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk

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

Aurora Chamber of Commerce "Celebrating Business Excellence 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.

OCTOBER 30

Murder Mystery Dinner at Hillary House. This year's mystery takes place in 1897. The Hillarys leave the house in the hands of the eccentric Dr. F. Raud who is determined to turn Dr. Hillary's Tonic into a patent medicine phenomenon of the day. Tickets are \$60. Call 905-727-4015.



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As part of its commitment to the new Aurora Public Library, the Aurora Optimists presented a \$10,000 cheque last week to children's services representative Jackie Thornton, left. Making the presentation is Optimist president Ken McIsaac, while two "residents" of the library's children's section look on. Optimists committed a total of \$50,000 to the new building.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Town approves grant

From page 1

express concern about comments made regarding the proposal, especially by Councillor Evelyn Buck.

He said \$25,000 was not a large amount of money and Buck's comments about using kids as being reprehensible was beyond

He asked council not to put a limit on the \$25,000 as the safety of the children was worth the fight.

When the report was presented Councillor Phyllis Morris called for a recorded vote, but not before Buck had her say.

Buck said she opposed the grant as it was up to the families involved. She said a letter from the region's clusive evidence that EMF effects from transmission lines was a danger to children.

She also noted that one of the affected residents' concerns was loss of property values, yet the town sold four acres of land adjacent to the hydro corridor for \$1.6 million, about double what was expected.

She suggested councillors were hypocritical by using taxpayers' funds to aid residents to fight Hydro One, while at the same time selling land for residential development to enable more people to live next to the hydro corridor.

When the recorded vote was called to confirm report committee

of \$25,000, Councillors Buck and Ron Wallace opposed it.

Clean-up campaign ends this Saturday

In April the town held its first of four litter pick up days and more than 500 residents participated in litter pick up around the town.

It showed.

Nearly three tons of litter and debris were collected that dav.

The Grade 4 class at Highview Public School picked up the challenge and held a poster design contest, and the winning poster was by Sean Nishimura.

He came by his artistic talents naturally as his grandmother is an artist with the Aurora Seniors Art Group and the town purchased one of her paintings for its permanent collection.

Other pick up days were held May 29th, June 26th and the final one for this year will be held this Saturday, Sept. 25th.

Volunteers are needed to clean up Aurora for the winter. Call Info Aurora at the Town Hall at 905-727-3123 extension 4104, if you can help.

But this campaign isn't the first time efforts have been made to beautify Aurora

Back in 1971, Aurora Council received a letter from the Delta Psi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority advising councillors of the project being undertaken by the group to make people

more aware of the different kinds of pollution and how to help prevent it.

Council agreed the project had merit and endorsed and proclaimed a "Clean- Up Week" in Aurora, and requested all citizens to participate during a week to be determined.

The idea suggested by the sorority and proclaimed by the town started a chain reaction.

Skeeter The Aurora Feeders, a local chapter of the National Campers and Hikers Association, joined in the campaign by suggesting the Clean-Up start the first week in May.

It was pointed out that the National Campers and Hikers Association had proclaimed the first week of May as International Litter Pick-Up Week and local members declared May 1, 1971, as Litter Pick-Up day.

Both school boards participated by encouraging students not to litter and to assist in cleaning up the school yards.

It was hoped that if students were required to pick up gum and chocolate bar wrappers, etc., they wouldn't be so ready to throw them on the ground in future.



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Almighty OMB gets to rule before public sees plans

The OMB is all powerful, Its decisions affect us all; Government control is needed As developers have a ball!

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

It seems inconceivable that a development plan could be appealed to the all-powerful Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) before members of council or the public had seen the plan or were even aware of it.

But it happened and it took place right here in

Last December the town's planning staff received an application for a rezoning of 12.5 acres of land north of the Leisure Complex from industrial to residential to permit a seven-storey apartment building and 191 condominium townhouses.

Town staff normally obtains all the relevant information pertaining to the application and submits a report to council outlining the pros and cons of the application. They then schedule a public planning meeting as

required by the Planning Act. But in this particular application, staff had difficulty in

obtaining the required information. As a result council did not receive a report nor was a

public planning meeting scheduled. But the clock was ticking and as soon as the 90-day time limit had expired the developer launched an appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board, before council or the

public were even aware of the application. Council authorized staff to engage planning consultants and outside counsel to represent the town in fighting the application.

There have been two pre-hearings and a four-week OMB hearing is scheduled and the cost to Aurora taxpayers is mounting.

For this they can thank the Mike Harris Progressive Conservative government, who imposed the 90-day rule at the request of the developers, the Tory party's largest financial contributors.

The developers claimed municipalities were holding up development, which may have been true in some

For more than 100 years the OMB, a quasi-judicial board, originally in force since 1897, was established to protect citizens from foolish decisions by municipal councils, who often caved into developer pressures.

For many years, the OMB was seen as the court of last resort for the little man in fighting big development. In those days the OMB also kept a watch on munici-

The OMB members, usually with municipal experience, were appointed for life and were almost completely independent from the government.

Then the Liberal government, under David Peterson, amended the legislation to a three-year appointment, subject to reappointment.

That was the start of the loss of independence of board members.

By 1984 municipal officials repeated their calls for the abolishment of the OMB claiming the non-elected board members, by this time political patronage appointments, could overrule planning decisions by

It was pointed out that Ontario was the only jurisdiction in North America where a non-elected body had the power to make final rulings on local planning.

In 1994, the Bob Rae New Democratic Party go ment amended the legislation eliminating the right of appeal, making the OMB the supreme court of land use planning in Ontario.

Then, in 2001, the Harris government amended the legislation to insert the 90-day clause.

The amendment provided that if a developer did not receive a response to an application within 90 days, an appeal could be launched directly to the OMB.

As a result developers no longer had an incentive to negotiate with local councils, so they submitted incomplete applications to wait out the 90 days, knowing they would get a better hearing from the OMB than the local council and the public.

The developers can afford to spend thousands of dollars on hearings and write it off as a business expense or increase the cost of the homes.

The municipalities have no other source than the over-loaded taxpayer.

The McGuinty Liberal government promised to make radical changes to the controversial OMB and released a discussion paper.

But so far it's another broken election promise and taxpayers continue to pay and pay

Letters to the Editor

Pesticide debate continues...

To the editor,

Well, I don't know if I should be embarrassed that I caused such a stir in sleepy ol' Aurora, or if I should be pleased that I woke some of you folks from your lethargic slumber by commenting on the "controversial" subject of urban pesticide usage. I must reiterate that I am

not a resident of your beautiful little town (much deserving of that assessment especially in light of who is representing you in Ottawa now. In my neck of the woods, the member of parliament looks more like Ernest Borgnine with the gout), but I have kept informed of the situation owing to my previously mentioned Aurora residing friends (who wish to remain anonymous, imagine that) who have been forwarding copies of this very newspaper to me.

In all honesty, I had expected a rebuttal of sorts from Ms. Allen, but I was somewhat shocked, at the same time amused, to see others had taken time to reply (Aug 31). And since they took some time (well, a little time anyway) to craft a missive, I feel I should be fair and reply in turn.

To Mr. Davey, thank you for your approval of my use of "baroque" English. I do relish its application with great pleasure, for as I am often wont to say; if it ain't baroque, don't fix it! However, your assessment that I missed the target, depends on whether you, in fact, recognize what target I was aiming for. Apparently, you do not.

But I will humbly accept your thanks for giving the opportunity to extensively

quote my letter to provide much needed body to your letter so that you might be able to string together more than two dozen words to have published. And as an aside, it seems I was not the only one who didn't sleep through all those English Literature classes.

To Ms. Janet B., gather what you will, but if you reread my letter you will find that I did not say pesticides were safe. What I tried to point out was that since they are heavily regulated and controlled by the federal and provincial governments so that when used properly they are materials whose benefits outweigh the risks and are still legal to use.

And as you were wondering, I do work for a lawn care company. As a matter of fact, I own a lawn care company, and am the proud possessor of a multitude of pesticide licences courtesy of (and with the payment of several hundred dollars annually to) the Province Ontario. I been a licensed Operator/Exterminator for longer than I care to admit sometimes (yes, I am an old guy), and as such I am more than well aware of the controversy surrounding their usage in "well respected neighbourhood(s)" in Toronto, where my company primarily works.

And most lawns that are not treated for a single season will "look great" for a season or two, within a couple of years they will begin to resemble the urban wastelands that some still mistakenly refer to as "parks" in Toronto.

I also wonder why you moved away from there if things were so peachy.

As for your "environmen-

tal lawyer" neighbour hired to fight the use of "chemicals in lawn care" (boy that's a big job), I am sure he knows which side his granola loaf is margarined on. I would not expect a man of his obvious intelligence and integrity to bite the \$200 per hour hand that feeds him, would vou?

Finally, I must rejoin the ongoing exchange that I am enduring with Ms. Allen.

Ma'am, I am not entirely sure you have the proper depth of comprehension in this matter to determine exactly who is or is not confused.

You accuse me of several things in your letter that I patently did not say. Firstly, I did not call you a "freak", although that may be your own assessment, it is not mine. What I called you is a "zealot", which is not an disparagement as you inaccurately assume. It simply describes a person who shows zeal for any concept. philosophy or ideal. Not really far off is it? And certainly not an insult, unless you need it to be.

You then continue putting words in my mouth by accusing me of saying pesticides are healthy. I made no such claim. Please, you must give me some credit. I will admit that the compounds in question are designed to control the target undesirable organisms, and as such are inherently dangerous. Only a fool would say otherwise, and I am no fool.

But many pesticides are actually far less toxic than a lot of other compounds and products that people use every day, but wouldn't dream of doing without.

What I did say was that these products are deemed

sultant, for about \$25,000.

sultant ignored the option

response was that the yield

signs were not politically

palatable, and that the pub-

lic was not educated on

away with stop signs - when

consultants make political

judgements instead of pro-

viding the supposedly tech-

nical advice for which they

a backbone could have

I felt that I was wasting my

TSAB could provide some

written comments on the

issue of over-use of stop

signs in good old Aurora.

A committee chair with

I resigned mid-term as

So, maybe the current

No wonder we can't do

for vield signs.

their use.

are being paid.

made a difference.

In the report, the con-

When questioned, the

safe to use by those agencies entrusted with protecting the public, who in my opinion are doing an admirable job. It's not the function of local councils to second guess them.

Then you attempt to further muddy the issue by claiming the point of your original letter was simply pesticides unhealthy. Ms. Allen, you did not say that.

What you did was take great pains to insult those who dared disagree with you over the use of pesticides.

You thought it best to hurl unflattering epitaths like "selfish" and "ignorant" and "idiots", instead of attempting to make a reasoned and measured case in support of you hypothisis. I think I understood your point all too well.

Finally, I would be more than willing to continue debating this issue "like an adult".

Fortunately, it will not be with you or your ilk, as it has become blindingly obvious you may have difficulty fulfilling that qualification.

Hugo T. Kroon Bethesda

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Owner & Publisher Rosemary Schumaker

Editorial Ron Wallace

Dick Illingworth

Photography David Falconer

Display Advertising Bob Ince Diane Buchanan

Production Cynthia Proctor

All Departments

905-727-3300 Classifieds

905-727-7128 auroran@neptune.on.ca

Facsimile Machine 905-727-2620

E-Mail

Advertising Department auroran@aci.on.ca

Editorial Department rwall9999@aol.com

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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 copy-

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.

Multi-way stop sign in Aurora mis-used

To the editor,

RE: Multi-way stops they are everywhere.

Thank you, Poor Richard, for putting Aurora's forest of multi-way stop signs up for discussion.

Many of these stop signs could be replaced by YIELD signs.

When approaching a yield sign, a driver needs to slow down, but not stop unless there is traffic on either the intersecting sidewalk or roadway.

In that case, one must respect the right of that traffic to pass, before driving ahead (often without stopping altogether).

These yield signs could be placed at the intersections of local roads, where they intersect with collector or regional roads, and where the sight lines are uninhibited by structures or

vegetation.

Stop signs on collector and regional roads should not exist, except where collector roads intersect with regional roads, and where there are no traffic lights, but even there yield signs could be considered.

Using stop signs to control speeding is a misuse of the device.

The people who whine neighbourhoods who speed, about the prob-

overhead structures.

(No police needed - just a ticket in the mail).

the Traffic Safety Advisory Board (TSAB).

We had engaged a con-

about speeding in their should take the courageous step and talk to their neighbours Speeding on collector

and regional roads should be detected by speed traps which could be attached to poles and bridges or other

I have been a member

Klaus Wehrenberg **Aurora**

AURORAN, Week of September 21, 2004 - 5





Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

This Saturday, September 25th, at the Town Park in Aurora, Aurora Family Connections and the Town of Aurora have formed a partnership to present Aurora's first all day Children and Youth Fair.

This family community event is multi focused with activities planned for children and youth. Parents are welcome, too, with lots of entertainment, passive and participative for them.

It is a first for all ages to come out and enjoy numerous opportunities from basketball slam dunk contests to poetry at the Thought Wall.

This initiative began through a community service group, the Aurora Family Connections (AFC) who have two Youth and Children Networks made up of 32 government services, social services, and community agencies serving children and youth in York Region's central corridor.

I am advised that it actually started out with the goal to support Aurora but issues and agencies' catchment areas kept on involving other communities so the area is now described as central corridor.

Our Youth and Community Development staff member Chris Catania is in the Youth Network, and Dana Smith, our Community Program Co-ordinator is in Children's Network.

They share program ideas, resources and costs.

At a meeting in late 2002, Christine Stewart with Job Skills and a resident of Aurora said she was having trouble reaching Aurora youth who were on the margins.

"We should have a Fair," she said.

Rosemary Park of AFC agreed and the seed was planted.

Groups in the two Children and Youth Networks were contacted to participate, plus other community groups, local business, and government services on the basis of those who offered an interesting service, product, or message for children and youth e.g. Geraldine Heaney, seven times world champion, Olympic gold medalist who

Letter to the Editor

Signs hurting resale values by hydro lines

To the editor

Many people are not aware of this, but the presence of the yellow "STOPemf signs" is already hurting your resale value - (well in advance of the towers' construction).

It is also negatively impacting the resale value for your neighbours who are currently trying to sell their homes.

Fighting the towers is an

important issue.
It must be done.

Please sign the petition or call your local MP, Hydro

One, or STOP to try to fight

However, please be aware that the signs are causing a lot of stress amongst homesellers.

If you absolutely must display a sign, please do not put it on the town boulevard part of your property.

Please show respect for your neighoubrs by placing the sign closer to your house.

Thank you for your help.

York Region homeseller

Youth claims Town Park Saturday

runs her hockey school at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex.

University of Toronto will be sending undergrad engineering students who live in Aurora to run their interactive science experiments, etc.

The connection is always Aurora. (As it should be: ED.)

Children & Youth Fair objectives include acting as a showcase for parents and youth on the many children and youth services and programs available in Aurora, including the enormous talents of children and young people living in our community, and to have lots of fun!

The Children & Youth Fair is viewed by some as the not-for-profit equivalent event to the Chamber of Commerce Home Show that seeks to support local business.

This event is also aupported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Info Aurora and the Aurora Volunteer Centre.

Included in the festivity will be local youth bands including "Mail Order Bride", "One Time Too Many" and "Undecided Fate" as well as opportunities to meet elite athletes including Geraldine Heaney (Olympic Gold), Nathaniel Gery (recent winner of Canadian Under 14 Tennis championship), members of the National Cup Under 15 Aurora Youth Soccer team, and Stephanie Smith, provincial and National Track Champion.

The event will feature Aurora Cable Internet's own Brandon Lankar and Julia Bachelor as Masters of Ceremonies.

I also see where the St. John Ambulance Therapy Dogs are scheduled to participate.

(On that note, I am pleased to update you to the fact that Ruby, (subject of my column of last week), the therapy dog viciously attacked a few weeks ago is improving. It is unfortunate that no one has stepped up to take responsibility for this incident.)

Everyone who participates is asked to bring a nonperishable food item for the Aurora food pantry and throughout the event there will be locations where participants can donate a "twoonie for Africa". This is a fundraiser throughout York Region to raise

funds to address the AIDS crisis in Africa with a goal of reaching \$1 million dollars by November of this year.

Remember, the 25th is also the last Anti-Litter day

pick up - why not spend an hour or two on cleaning up and then make your way to the Town Park for this fabulous event?

If you see something in this column that you wish to

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



Cathy's Corner



Lost in Alter Aurora

Hey, what happened to my pen? It was right here a minute ago! Where did it go?

I swear there is a parallel universe that occasionally swipes things from Real Aurora and hides them in some Alter Aurora, complete with mischief makers that watch us go bonkers looking for our missing glasses, tape and car keys.

In Alter Aurora, we are the unsuspecting victims of a cruel and unusual reality TV show, probably called something like "The Snatchelor".

Every week, the Alter Aurora contestants are chosen randomly from the local demon registry.

Then, they spin a "Wheel of Torture" to determine which item will be targeted for confiscation this time.

The dreadful wheel has slots for things like: screw-

drivers, barbeque lighters and errant socks.

The imps line up at the gate, and when Regis Fill-A-

Bin says "Go!" they descend on Real Aurora in a fury.

The object of the game is to confiscate every one of the featured items in our reality, then return to Alter Aurora to watch randomly selected Real Aurorans cope with mounting evidence that we are losing our minds.

Suddenly, my can opener disappears.

One minute it is there on the counter, and the next...vanished!

I check every drawer in the kitchen. Nope. I check under things, behind things and inside things like the sink, the oven and my purse. Zip. I ransack the dog's bed. Not quilty.

After regressing to cave woman techniques in a futile effort to access my cream of mushroom soup, I am not only exhausted and frustrated, but starving. I begin to hallusington

I find myself in Alter Aurora, in the studio audience of

"The Disappear Factor"

It is the can-opener-confiscator's turn, and he...it...is jumping for joy atop a huge bin full of...can openers, what else?

The fiend is winning! I can tell because I am bigger than life, on the big screen, broadcast live from Real Aurora via a Russian satellite signal that has been missing since 1965.

The studio audience is highly entertained because I am about to have a nervous breakdown.

I just can't let it happen.

Remember to breathe, I tell myself. With enough oxygen to the brain, you can do anything...except maybe find a can opener.

But what if I don't need a can opener? What if I can enjoy a steaming bowl of cream of mushroom soup even if all the can openers in all of Real Aurora are in the canopener-confiscator's bin in Alter Aurora?

The strong, resourceful spirit of a Real Auroran suddenly bursts forth like the dandelions on my lawn.

In Alter Aurora, the studio audience gasps at the image on the big screen.

It is I, and I look like an oversized Olive Oyl, who just popped a can of Popeye's spinach.

With a cry of triumph, I grab a package of Knorr cream of mushroom soup from the pantry and...hey! What happened to my scissors? They were right here a minute ago!

ED. NOTE: Management thinks Cathy needs some me off...

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

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BRICKBATS to members of Aurora Council, especially Councillors Evelyn Buck and John West, for failing to activate trieff desk miles phones, which feed the Aurora Cable telefor failing to activate their desk micro-

cast, so that all viewers see is their lips flapping but nothing coming out. The same problem exists with all councillors on a recorded vote. It's frustrating!

BOUQUETS to 15-year-old Deborah Lawrence, a student at Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School, for pursuing her dream of becoming an actress and

being selected for a role in the Resurgence Theatre's production of "The Book of Miracles"

at Fairy Lake this summer.

BRICKBATS to members of Aurora Council who continpage ue to fight council issues through letters to the media, instead of dealing with them in the council chambers. Forget the per-

sonalities and deal with issues!

BOUQUETS to the member of Aurora Council who will to go through who wants to lay a complaint question what process a resident is supposed about violations to the noise bylaw by construction activity on a Sunday. If you call the Town Hall you can leave a message with Works, Parks or Municipal Services, which is actually Leisure Services. Nothing for Bylaw Enforcement! Why?

More BRICKBATS to Aurora Council and staff for conducting public business by internal E-mail amongst council members, which very seldom sees the light of day unless a

member of council casually mentions it. Public business should be conducted in public, not behind closed doors and internal messages.

BOUQUETS to the Magna Family Scholarship Program operated by Magna International. Since 1966 it has provided financial assistance for children of Ifull-time Magna employees to pursue a postsecondary career relating to the manufacturing

BRICKBATS to a society that permits hardened female riminals including killers to participate in a spa day in an Ontario federal prison, while poor single mothers on welfare in a spa day in an Ontario federal prison,

Ontario have difficulty in getting food and paying rent, thanks to the Mike Harris Progressive Conservative gov-

BOUQUETS to Aurora's Melissa Spence on winning a gold medal in the girl's division of the National Barefoot Water Ski Championships held in Montreal recently. The 15-year-old Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School student captured the gold medal for slalom, tricks and overall performance in

her first National event.

BRICKBATS to the Paul Martin federal government for

simple failing to eliminate the botched gun regstry, for which the cost has escalated from \$2 million to an estimated \$1 billion and climbing. As of August, it was estimated there are still

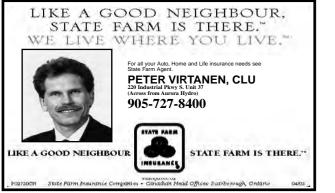
more than a million guns unregistered. Critics claim the registry has never been used to solve or prevent a crime.

BOUQUETS to Aurora residents Tyler Cattapan, Alex Stewart and Eric Wakeman for helping the York-Simcoe Baseball Association Bantam All-Stars Scapture the gold medal at the Ontario Summer Games in London.

BRICKBATS to cash-hungry universities who sell-out to tobacco companies by allowing them to market their products on campus as the

companies target post-secondary stu-

dents at a critical period in their lives.



Former councillor takes

To the editor,

We've all heard Evelyn Buck's bellyaching about the previous council's decision to apply environmental protection policies on large tracks of undeveloped land in Aurora.

pared a resolution on the run, council disregarded two legal opinions, council disregarded common sense and wasted taxpayer's money.

council, instrumental in amending the resolution, I offer a different viewpoint.

The modification to the staff recommendation was hardly "a resolution prepared on the run".

I spent many hours combing through reports, maps, legislation and other pertinent documentation assisting council to adopt a bylaw that provided environmental protection, as intended by the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act and Plan.

"Disregarding two legal opinions". We disregarded the legal opinion that was provided to staff. The legal opinion provided to council supported the council decision.

I quote "We have concluded that the Town's decision not to exempt...was in fact correct..."

A few pertinent facts: the legal opinion obtained by council supported the council decision. The Region had previously adopted a bylaw utilizing the same interpreta-

Most notably, the province agreed and supported council's decision overruling a previous decision made by the OMB.

"Disregarded common sense". The Oak Ridges Moraine Protection Act was to protect the functions of the Moraine. The recommendation, as provided by staff, exempted most of the undeveloped tracks of land from the protection area.

Staff's recommendation included the built-up areas of the town and the lands planned for development beyond 10 years. Yes, we did fail to see the "common sense" in that approach.

Ms Buck casts aspersions alluding to individuals strategically selecting the timing of the debate (during the height of the election) to

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veloped land in Aurora.

Thankfully the majority of council stood resolute in spite of behind-the-scenes lobbying and threats of personal lawsuit.

Mayor Jones voted against the bylaw and publicly criticized members of council of making a "decision in bad faith".

When asked to retract his comments, he refused.

A very serious accusation, no doubt, fueling the threats of "personal" lawsuit against the individual members of council who supported the bylaw.

Ms Buck attributes George Timpson's failed reelection bid on "those that supported environmental protection".

May I suggest, Mr. Timpson changing his vote within 24 hours after speaking passionately on the need to protect the Moraine, did not go unnoticed by the

Ms Buck refers to the residents who addressed council in support of environmental protection as the "cast of characters".

It should be noted the "concerned citizens" followed procedure and politely addressed council from the podium.

In contrast, Ms. Buck rudely shouted at council from the public gallery, disrupting deliberation.

It is common for elected officials to give the appearance of addressing public concern, when in fact nothing stands to be gained.

Obviously, it has been difficult for Ms. Buck, Mayor Jones and several others to accept the council decision.

The modified bylaw, if upheld by the municipality, will achieve the goals and objectives of the conservation plan and not just give the

to ensure their proposals will not have a negative impact on the functions of the Moraine. And the municipality will have to monitor these activities. By holding land developers to a higher standard of environmental protection, Aurora has contributed towards clean water for tomorrow

Ms Buck claims Aurora residents got nothing for the money spent on defending the council decision. Based on the costs bantered around by Ms Buck the share to each household amounted to approximately \$20.

What did we get for \$20? Forested areas will be protected, additional environmental and groundwater impact studies will be required. landform conserva-

tion policies will apply and land uses and best practices governed by the ORMCA &

Since monitoring began, the Yonge St. Aquifer has

tell us where the next generation(s) will get a new source of water supply for \$20? Mere drop in the

I quote from Ms Buck's latest letter, "from that noxious October 23, 2003, resolution passed by last year's council in the middle of an election campaign to "Save the Moraine".

Giving credit where credit is due, Ms. Buck's behaviour has been more "noxious" than any resolution passed by the previous council or any other council.

I would like to thank the concerned residents who attended the meetings and special thanks to former Councillor Dave Griffith, Councillor Nigel Kean, Councillor Damir Vrancic Councillor Wallace.

Tough battle but a great victory!

Evelina MacEachern Former councillor **Town of Aurora**

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SOYRA chairman responds to letter

To the editor,

Thank you, Dorothy, for the lengthy explanatory response.

I think it told us how this "beef" onaoina came about. It did remind me of a story a teacher told a class room full of children around 11 years old. The story was about a boy with a ball.

The boy said "If you don't play by my rules I go home and I take my ball with me".

The boy did not realize his was not the only ball around. And with an attitude like that nobody missed him. The game went on and the atmosphere amongst the group improved. And because of that the group grew into an even bigger group of friends.

For four to five years now, Dorothy, you and your husband have brought up the same "beefs" about SOYRA and Art Aurora.

I have attempted to answer your concerns in previous letters in this newspaper. It is obvious these answers did not satisfy you. Well, it appears they are satisfying the majority of the people, including those people who are directly involved, the artists who keep com-

ing back to exhibit every year in Art Aurora and who have turned this exhibit into a showpiece, which draws people from a big part of Ontario.

I've spoken to visitors from the east coast as well as people from the United

The only negative comments I've come across have come from Dick Illingworth and Dorothy Clarke-McClure. Could it be that all those people are wrong and Dick and Dorothy are right?

Dorothy, I have respect and appreciation for all art groups. They all have their ideals and I wish them all the very best. I happen to be a member of SOYRA because of a variety of reasons.

It is an organization based on decisions made by its members, not just the "executive" members or its chairperson. It is a community oriented organisation, which is forever looking for where they can be of assistance.

And yes, the Town of Aurora has been very cooperative. Why shouldn't they? By co-operation everybody involved bene-

Many SOYRA members from outside Aurora have a soft spot for our town. It is

was able to organize an art show last year for the benefit of the Aurora Public Library and handed over \$1750. Everybody enjoyed it so much, we did it again this year. This month SOYRA will be handing over a cheque for \$2000 to the library. And Dorothy and Dick want to keep these artists out of Aurora?

On October 15, 16 and 17 SOYRA will hold another art show in the Aurora Royal Legion complex. Profits will go to the new Cancer Centre Southlake Regional Health Centre.

This hospital Cancer Centre is to the benefit of Aurora residents as well. SOYRA has been making yearly donations to this hospital. SOYRA has been assisting the Town of Aurora for years by donating hundreds of hours by their volunteer members, many from outside Aurora, to organize the Town of Aurora owned Art Aurora.

Yes, there has even been financial support from SOYRA for this event. You tell me, Dorothy and Dick, what is wrong with such a healthy relationship? You have a problem with that? Unbelievable.

Because of its positive

attitude SOYRA is a growing group of friends, who are artists as well. To say it is a group of artists, who are friends as well, would also be correct. Are they "professional" artists?

Dorothy, you used that term in your letter and I have to admit I cannot answer that. When is an artist a "professional" artist?

One of the most famous painters in the world, Vincent van Gogh, sold just one painting during his life time. Actually his brother Theo bought it, because Vincent had run out of money once again. Was he a "professional" artist?

In the "Bouquets and Brickbats" column by Dick Illingworth as well as in the letter by Dorothy Clarke-McClure we read is art" and "Categories are ridiculous".

This is like saying music is music so why not put the works Beethoven and heavy metal in the same category. After all, both works are called music and music is art and, according to Dick and Dorothy, art is art.

Besides that, we also the categories because they are an opportunity to give out more awards. And what is wrong with giving recogni-

Now, let's address the last comment in your letter, Dorothy. You and Dick Illingworth believe it is time for Aurora artists to take back "their" Gallery and "their" Town Hall. Is this not like putting a fence around Aurora artists? If we keep out non-Aurora artists, why would other Aurora allow towns artists?

From your letter I learn you have been exhibiting in Sutton and in Markham. A good thing for you the artists in those towns don't have the same attitude as you have, Dorothy.

Dorothy and Dick, I think it is time to recognize the wishes of the majority, because by allowing the wishes of the majority to materialize we create con-

AURORAN, Week of September 21, 2004 - 7

We see the results of discontent around us every day and everywhere. These results are very tragic. In our own little way each and every one of us can keep these tragic results to a minimum by not first thinking about our personal benefits, but about the benefits for those around us.

Since we are in the middle of those around us, you can only benefit from the benefits that come to those around us.

Your TEAM wins, YOU are a winner.

Bill van Oorschot Chairperson Society Of York Region **Artists**

ED. NOTE: This debate is over.



More important issues than a name change, former employee says

An Open Letter to **Aurora Council**

Several months ago, I wrote a letter expressing my disgust with some members of council voting to change the address of our municipal building.

At that time it was stated that about \$5,000 would be the cost for the change.

Now, I wish to bring to your attention that if that front parking lot is classed as a road then it also comes under the Ministry of Highway classification which has set out specifica-

If you five who voted for this decision can bring that road up to highway standards within the \$5,000 then proceed, but if not, cancel it now.

In the last two weeks, two major maintenance problems have arisen.

1. The roof of the municipal office is leaking.

2. The flooding of the auditorium at the community centre.

These two items are far more important than the address of the municipal building.

There are some streets in the municipality that require major construction (Aurora Heights Drive) but instead, in your desire to show disrespect to John

West, you made a very poor decision and the money can be put to better

For the betterment of the town it would be a great improvement to see the council work in concert with the staff and each other as a group.

I worked for several councils in my 31 years with the town and may I say this council is the most disgusting I have ever known.

Clean up your act and start working for the betterment of the town, and not for your own ego.

Dorothy Wardle

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Letters to the Editor

Advice can wait for my young cousins

To the editor,

Five-year-olds are among my favourite people. I was five myself once...as were all my seven children...and my 17 grandchildren. Two of them are still five.

The dearest friend of my life I met when we were both five. For all the years and all the thousands of miles that separate us, she loves me still, as I do her.

If I arrive in Scotland Thursday she will be waiting for my knock Friday

The two little cousins

who are part of my life are Hayley and Ryan. She is a tall skinny fair-skinned typical Anglo-Saxon girl. Ryan is a beautiful round brownskinned boy.

She is the one who informed her mother after a preview of a new nursery school, she would only play with the "chocolate girl".

Last summer when she just stopped being three, it was decided they could swim after dark. The spotlight was on the diving board. She decided this was the night she would jump from the diving board.

She inched her way

towards it, elbows tight to her sides, hands clenched tight, close to her ribs.

She was whimpering with fear and giggling with anticipation at the same time. She climbed onto the board...

We assured her "you don't have to do this, Hayley girl" but she had blanked us out.

She inched her way to the end of the board, stayed there for a second. All ahead of her was black. No moon and not a star to be seen and then she jumped, and from behind her we heard a small thin voice cry out. "GERONIMO".

Another day, Ryan stood on my lap bones, resting his arms on my shoulders, he examined my face. He reached out a small finger and poked my

"Oooh," he said. "It's crinkly".

I heard his mother draw a breath in horror, this to the mother-in-law.

But I told Ryan, "that's because I have lived a long time and if you are lucky and live as long...your beautiful smooth brown

you will be happy about that because it means you will know all your grandchildren '

They have fun together, these two. They jump into the pool in unison. Ryan grabs the strap of Hayley's life jacket so she won't get to the ladder first. His legs are shorter so Hayley swims faster. When they get tired of that they sit cross legged on the deck facing each other...toes touching...and chat.

They amaze me...how much they have learned in the short time they have been here, how well they can engage in conversation, how easily they reveal their thoughts and the incredible extent of their vocabulary.

The extent and efficiency of their learning blows my mind.

But, when I see the need, I will fill in some essential details.

I will tell them about the cousin they never knew because he died before he was 15 and before they were born.

I will tell them something about the seven terrible years he fought to live. And I will tell them about the first year of his illness when he was misdiagnosed by two specialists.

I will tell them about the university course I took Modes called Reasoning. The professor told how he persuaded the governors to offer the course and how designed it.

He talked more about himself and his contempt for politicians than anything else. It was the time of Bob Rae when the government was trying to get control of spending without laying off the people at the bottom. Last hired...first

In the front row there were some full-time students picking up an extra credit. He made jokes only they could hear and they chuckled quietly on cue.

The course should have been called Dearth of Reasoning. It comprised a list of irrational things that unintelligent people use in place of logic such as: "don't pay attention to anything she says, she's a Catholic," or "consider the source" or "experience is a liability...inexperience (ignorance) is an asset" stuff like that.

You have heard them all, but for the purpose of this academic course there's a list, and each is identified with a Latin name. So if you hear someone using the term "ad hominem" you know that's like a secret handshake, where one grad tells another grad, "I have taken the course...I am educated...that's synonymous with intelligence...my argument must be valid.".

I talked to a friend about what I was learning. She said this particular professor was considered one of the best at his university

I talked to someone who teaches at a university and he said, "if the object is to get the credit...just feed it back to him...don't waste your time giving him a hard time.'

I did get the credit. If I had been grading him he would have failed in both intelligence and manners. and skill in human relations. And his course was a

Of course I would not tell this stuff to Hayley and Ryan in these precious days of their joy and innocence. But when I need to. I will. I will not tell them what to think...nor how to

I will tell them "listen carefully to everything you hear...read everything more than once...look for the contradictions between what you have heard, read and what you know from your own experience.

When it comes time to make a decision, let it be yours. If there is to be a mistake, and sometimes there will be, let it be yours, because the consequences will be yours to bear and the lessons will be yours to learn.

Evelyn Buck

Welcome back, Jane

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Reader has advice for councillors who write letters to the editor

To the editor,

I have a suggestion for when Aurora Council actually gets around to updating their procedural bylaws and code of ethics. Though I'm not holding

my breath for either despite the increasing evidence of the desperate need for both.

Too frequently these pages contain letters from individual councillors either

to promote their own views on town issues, or to dis other councillors for promot-

This is a practice which reflects very poorly on council as a whole, and on the letter writer in particular.

It illustrates a divisive council, spiteful and unable to function as team.

Councillors have considerable opportunity express their views during regular council sessions, and do not generally need to press them in the town

If councillors must talk about issues in a public forum such as this paper, there should be some basic rules to prevent some of the spiteful exchanges seen in the past.

For example councillors should avoid any issue which is currently before

If they absolutely must speak on issues before council the letters should be signed by more than one councillor.

This would ensure that there is at least a degree of consensus, and would therefore give the appearance of a more functional council.

Darryl Moore Aurora

Hotel excelled in anniversary planning

To the editor,

RE: Mitch and Lillian Watson's 50th Wedding **Anniversary**

On August 14, 2004, my brothers and I had the pleasure of hosting our parents' 50th wedding anniversary at Howard Johnson,

In my work as a comedian, I have experienced many events, both corporate and private.

However, I have never experienced what I experienced at my parents' 50th ... a perfect event.

We were in the hands of total professionals.

Our function was well thought out and meticulously planned with great attention

Our guests were very complimentary of a menu that was expertly planned and superbly prepared.

What really made our event perfect was the calm, cool and professional deportment of the hotel staff, from planning to execution.

Our party was delivered on time, on target and on

I strongly recommend to all of my family, friends and business associates that they trust their events, parties and meetings to the professionals Johnson, Aurora.

My particular thanks go to Jennifer Miller, sales manager, and Garry Hook, food and beverage director.

My parents loved their party and will always remember their 50th wedding anniversary.

Scotty Watson Former Auroran

Concrete can be poured within time slot

To the editor,

Councillor Evelyn Buck, what exactly are you trying to say? (Letter, Auroran, Sept.

It's as though you are trying to get readers to feel sorry for Canadian Tire for "proba-

bly" paying 10 times as much and "probably" paying \$500 in fines (great trail blazing).

Or, are you trying to suggest that, if you pay enough taxes or more taxes than your neighbour, you don't have to abide by the same bylaws.

Or, maybe you're just

angry with Councillor Nigel Kean for disagreeing with you and you didn't have a roll of paper to hit him with.

You left me scratching my head, especially about the concrete job not being able to

Concrete can be poured

and finished between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., it's not the CN Tower.

(My fact trail, I own a construction company and pour concrete all the time).

Vince Piron

Resident opposes Hydro One plans

I am opposed to Hydro One's expansion plans.

I moved to Aurora from Toronto seeking a better lifestyle and healthier environment.

Hydro One's expansion plans are a real concern to me.

they are planning to put higher towers and more of them.

I think council should back the residents, taxpayers, concerning health hazards from electromagnetic fields, real estate values.

I would like to see members of our elected repre-

Do you have an

investment portfolio

or a collection

of what used to be

good ideas?

I am in the line where sentatives and Hydro One a reasonable manner. work in order to find a reasonable solution that will meet our collective needs in

Irene Shandroski Aurora



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Vest Nile victim needs your help

To the editor,

Imagine being bitten by a mosquito and feeling very

Imagine changing from a healthy person to a quadriplegic IN SIX DAYS.

Imagine having endure almost four months of waiting for a heartless government lab to diagnose

Imagine learning that you're the worst case of West Nile who's managed

Imagine the next two years out of your life spent in a hospital - away from your husband and two little girls - facing neverending, daily, excruciating physiotherapy, paralyzed, wheel-

izing that, due to government cutbacks preventing daily home care, you can't afford to live at home.

That is the nightmare faced by Sue Harrison, my brother's wife.

My brother, Phil, a waiter, had to give up working Fridays so that he could bring Sue home at least for the weekends to be with him and their two young daughters - a loss of 20 per cent of his wages.

Now because of a slow-

new balance

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HAVE COME TO EXPECT.

Sorry, no kids club during sale.

down in restaurant business due to the depressed economy, he has been forced to give up Mondays as well another 20% gone.

After seeing television news interviews and reading several newspaper articles about their plight, a Mississauga woman, Angela Tunney, who is herself housebound by a medical condition, introduced herself to them by sending a cheque for \$500.

She initially wanted to help Phil buy a more portable wheelchair for Sue - and that was before there was even any talk of any kind of trust fund.

Now, she has been instrumental in convincing Phil to set up a trust fund in July for his family.

She started the ball rolling by immediately donating another \$500.

The Toronto Star's Debra Black was so impressed with Angela's gestures that she wrote an article (August 11) praising her efforts and announcing the establishment of the trust fund.

Now, I would like to appeal to the people of Aurora to try to find it in their hearts to donate whatever they can to my brother's loving but unfortunate fami-

Contributions can be made at any branch of TD Canada Trust. The transit number is 1968/2 and the trust fund number is 6283323.

Gerry Conetta



Time councillor hung up skates, this reader says

To the editor.

It comes as no surprise that John West is unhappy with the comings and goings at council meetings.

He is one of the most constant and vociferous malcontents on council.

Not only that but think of any major project, such as the library, the seniors' centre, the Town Hall, Leisure Complex and in no small part due to his influence has had location changes and cost over-

Also there is the question of inferior workmanship which cost millions.

I am referring to new roofs to the Leisure Complex and Town Hall, not nearly 20 years old.

I think it's time he hung up his skates.

He was also partly responsible for sending St. John's Sideroad to the Region. Something that will come back to haunt us someday.

It's a park but it has no parking. It's a road but has no load limits, allowing usage to tractor-trailers etc. It will have big time traffic and speed limits of 60 to 80 kms. an hour.

The only other park I know like that is Algonquin, but that is provincial.

Because of the nickel and diming there will remain a level rail crossing.

In the next decade we will see levitation magnetic induced trains and double tracking.

Because of the diamond mines at Wawa in northern Ontario and the housing projects that are moving north, I know this will be a reality.

As a citizen and taxpayer and an overseas veteran, I find it contrary and sickening that the Region should go back on its word to provide a traffic signal (lights) at this corner of St. John's Sideroad and Old Yonge.

Even worse that council (Aurora's) should concur in their deliberation.

Here is a street that has two bus lines, black ice at the corner and a senior citizens abode on the site.

When a council can spend a million bucks on speed bumps on Kennedy Road and a lot of money on a dog run and parking area it leaves me cold.

Ben Kestein Aurora



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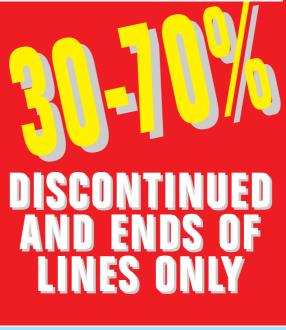
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10 - AURORAN, Week of September 21, 2004 AURORAN, Week of September 21, 2004 -11

e Aurora Children & Youth Fair September 25, 11am - 5 pm

Brandon Lankar

& Julia Bachelor

The AURORAN ommunity Newspaper proudly supports he Aurora Children & Youth Fair

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- Our Lady of Grace Child Care (Aurora) Inc.
- Business Depot Staples
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Please bring non-perishable food items for the Aurora **Food Pantry. Bring a Twoonie** for "Aurora Twoonies for Africa"

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invite you to attend

DANCE CONTESTS 11:30 am - 12:00

YOUTH ART DISPLAY

INTERACTIVE SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

FREE 'SUB' FOOD SAMPLES

MEET AND MATCH YOUR SKILLS WITH ELITE ATHLETES'

Sean Oosman BMX semi-pro stunt biker 11:45 am **Nathaniel Gery National Tennis** Champion and international tennis circuit 12:15 pm Geraldine Heaney World champion and Olympic gold medalist women's hockey 2:45pm U15 AYSC Ontario Soccer Finalists 3:15 pm

PHYSIOTHERAPY COMPUTER SPORT DIAGNOSTICS

CHILDREN AND YOUTH **COMMUNITY GROUPS' DISPLAYS**

"YOO HOO THE CLOWN" 11:00am - 12:00

CHILDREN'S SINGER -TERRY KELLEHER 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

CHILDREN'S ART MURAL

THERAPY DOGS

ST JOHN AMBULANCE

POLICE, EMS AND FIRE TRUCK DISPLAYS

> **CLOWNS** AND **FACEPAINTING**

GAMES CONTESTS AND PRIZES

including mini tennis, lollipop pull, duck pond, free T-shirts, 2-way walkie-talkie prizes, and more

12:45 pm

BRING YOUR BIKE FOR A FREE CHECK UP

YOUTH BANDS

"Mail Order Bride",

"Mob Mentality",

"One Time Too Many",

"Undecided Fate" 2 - 5pm

15' GLAM MAKEOVER

THOUGHT WALL

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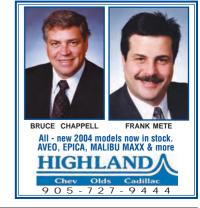
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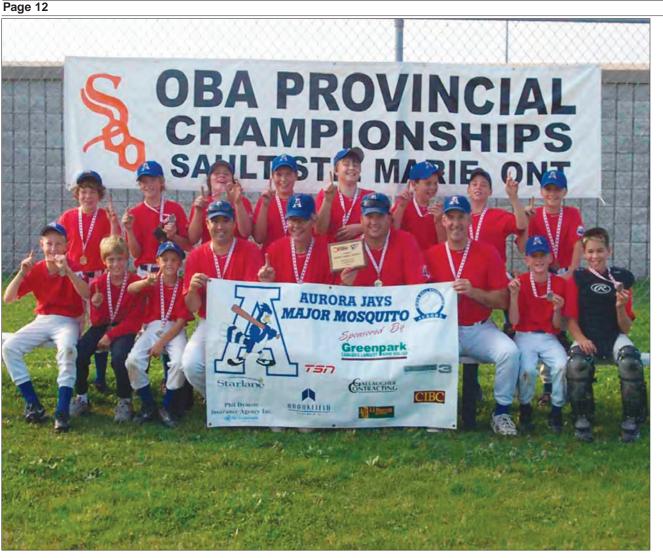
Proud Sponsor of The Aurora Children & Youth Fair!



AURORAN **SPORTS**



Week of September 21, 2004



Tigers, 'Canes meet Friday

between the Aurora Tigers Provincial Junior A hockey team and the Newmarket Hurricanes continues this Friday night at the Aurora Community Centre.

The new look Tigers, having lost some 17 players to age after the squad knocked off everything in Canada last season, is holding its own in play so far this season.

In four regular league games, Aurora has lost only one, dropping a 3-2 decision to Couchiching in Rama last Thursday night.

Less than two minutes remained in the game when Couchiching broke a 2-2 deadlock to claim the victory.

Aurora chalked up wins last

week over Markham and Vaughan. Friday, a big crowd is

expected as the Yonge Street battle resumes.

Newmarket is the team to watch this year, and, if you recall, was the only team to beat Aurora in league play last

Game time is 8 p.m., but the new Tigers lounge will be



Winners of Aurora's first Ontario Baseball Association championship, the Aurora Mosquito A Jays take time out for a team photo. They are, front row, left to right, Scott Bromley, Matt Leslie (batboy), Nick Skillins, Nigel Gouveia, Ric Skillins, Randy Jones, Mark Cherutti, Matthew Carter, Troy Gouveia, and back row, left to right, Craig Johnson, Jamie Cherutti, Taylor Russell, Matthew Miller, Patrick Jones, Josh Beaton, Travis Roberts, Christopher Leslie. Jays won the title recently in Sault Ste. Marie.

Mosquito Jays cap year with OBA championship

Continuing the strong performance that won them the elusive York Simcoe Championship three weeks ago, the Aurora Mosquito A Jays capped their season by winning the Ontario Baseball Association (OBA) A Championship at the Labour Day weekend tournament in Sault Ste. Marie.

An OBA championship is believed to be the first for an Aurora team.

The triumph came with three solid victories as they beat their feisty hosts, Sault Ste. Marie, in three straight games in a best of five final.

Jays Head Coach Randy Jones summed up the weekend success: "Great team defense, solid pitching and awesome hitting by the Jays guided the team to victory. The coaches and I are very proud of the play of each player on this team this weekend in addition to all of their accomplishments this season. They are true champions and a class act on and

off the field." On the team of players and coaches are Patrick Jones, Jamie Cherutti, Troy Gouveia, Nick Skillins, Craig Johnson, Matthew Carter, Travis Roberts, Matthew Miller, Taylor Russell, Scott Bromley, Christopher Leslie, Josh Beaton and coaches Randy Jones, Nigel Gouveia, Mark Cherutti and Eric Skillins.

The team received support from the players' parents and families, the AMBA Executive, Rob Seguin, Leo Spagnuolo, Brian Bates, and sponsors TSN, Green Park Homes,

Corporation, Homes, TECH3, CIBC, Phil Dymott Insurance Agency Inc. (the co-operators), Gallaugher Contracting Limited, and J.J. Barron Realty Associates Inc.

Tryouts for next year's team will take place near the end of September or the beginning of October.

Announcements on the tryouts will be posted in the paper and on the AMBA website -





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- Judge of the Republican Category (Ukraine)
- USA Gymnastic Member (Safety Certified)
- Coach of "Kallanetic" fitness sport

We'd like to welcome all participants to our pre-competitive and competitive try-outs September 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th

> Parent and tot classes, recreational, special needs program, pre-competitive, competitive, adult programs, and birthday parties.

AURORA MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

Rookie Ball

Champion: Aurora Esso / Finalist: MBS Steel

Peewee

Champion: Atlantis Digital 12 / Finalist: McDonalds Restaurant 10

Bantam

Champion: Fairplay 11 / Finalist: Home Hardware 5

Mosquito

Champion: Priestly Construction 9 / Finalist: Dr. Orschel Drillers 5

SOFTBALL

Jr TBall

Champion: Scotia Bank & Fair Play Champion: Jolly Video & Beros

Sr TBall

Champion: Colt Creek Diving / Baton Rouge Restaurant / Baton Rouge

Five Pitch

Steiners Drillers 14 / Finalist: Financialinx 11

Squirt

Champion: Nolan's 21 / Finalist: Interworld Overseas 13

Area women raise \$14,000 in walkathon

Aurora and area women Denise Beaulne, Maureen Burleson, Linda Collins, Peggy Taylor, Joan Watson and Arlene Weijers participated in last week's Walk to End Breast Cancer event in Toronto and raised \$14,000.

The money will go to Princess Margaret Hospital, a leader in the fight against cancer and the largest institution in Canada exclusively devoted to cancer treatment, research, and education.

"We are very proud of what we were able to accomplish last weekend," said team captain and co-owner of Aurora's Watson's Family Karate School, Joan Watson. "Each year more than 21,000 Canadians are diagnosed with breast cancer," she said. "With each step we took on the walk, we stepped closer to finding a cure for this devastating disease."

The walk began with opening ceremonies at Princes' Boulevard, Exhibition Place in Toronto.

Walkers embarked on their first 36 kilometres before camping at Downsview Park to rest up for the final 24 kilometres the next day.

In total, 4565 Walkers raised \$14,700,000, in the

The money raised surpasses last year's record making the event the most successful multi-day fundraising event in Canadian history.

The third annual Weekend to End Breast Cancer is planned for September 9 to11, 2005.

"We are already planning to be there," Watson said.

For more information contact Joan Watson at 905-727-7144.





A recent golf tournament organized by Aurora Cable Internet employees Linda Morrison, Rina Russell and Julie Dawson, attracted 108 golfers, mostly employees, family and friends, and raised more than \$2,700 for the Canadian Cancer Society. Linda Morrison, right, makes the presentation to Janice Hodgson, Holland River Unit Chapter President of the Canadian Cancer Society.

Wellington preferred for second fire station

Aurora's second fire hall, it appears, will be built on Wellington Street, next to the now under construction recreation complex, just west of Leslie Street.

Estimated cost of the facility has been set at \$1.6 million and funds were included in the 2004 budget for design work and in the 2005 budget for construction

Fire Chief Molyneaux considered two locations, the one preferred and a second on townowned land on Leslie Street, just south of Wellington.

Maps provided by the region outlining response times from the two locations indicated there was no significant difference from either location, and the choice was left up to Aurora Council.

Councillors agreed last week that the selected site be on Wellington East and directed staff to prepare an "Expression of Interest" based on the program and approved budget and report back with a recommendation.

Aurora Youth Soccer Club FALL REP TRY-OUTS SCHEDULE





DATE DAY TIME LOCATION

U9 GIRLS 1996 (need to attend 3 out of 5)

05-Oct Tue 6 – 7:30 pm Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 07-Oct Thu 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 18-Oct Mon 20-Oct Wed 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 22-Oct Fri 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6

U10 GIRLS 1995

07-Oct Thu 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 7 & 8 Sheppard's Bush 7 & 8 18-Oct Mon 6 – 7:30 PM 20-Oct Wed 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 7 & 8 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 7 & 8 22-Oct Fri

U11 GIRLS 1994 - TBA

U12 GIRLS 1993- TBA

U13 GIRLS 1992-TBA

U14 GIRLS 1991-TBA

U15 GIRLS 1990

25-Sep Sat 10 - 12 PM Fleury Park 26-Sep Sun 3 – 5 PM **Bayview Park** 02-Oct Sat 10 – 12 PM **Bayview Park** 03-Oct Sun 3 - 5 PM **Bayview Park**

U16 GIRLS 1989-TBA

U17 GIRLS 1988

05-Oct Tue 7 – 8:30 PM Bayview Park **Bayview Park** 07-Oct Thu 7 – 8:30 PM 12-Oct Tue 7 – 8:30 PM **Bayview Park Bayview Park** 14-Oct Thu 7 – 8:30 PM

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR **DAILY UPDATES WWW.AYSC.CA**

NOTE: SOME TEAMS MAY NOT BE RUNNING FALL TRY-OUTS. ALL TEAMS WILL BE HOLDING SPRING TRY-OUTS **IN FEBRUARY 2005.**

DATE DAY TIME LOCATION

U9 BOYS 1996 (need to attend 3 out of 5)

04-Oct Mon 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 06-Oct Wed 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 08-Oct Fri 6 – 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 19-Oct Tue 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6 21-Oct Thu 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 5 & 6

U10 BOYS 1995

Team 1 17-Sep Fri

7 – 9 PM Legion Field # 1 18-Sep Sat 9 – 11 AM Legion Field # 1 Team 2

04-Oct Mon 6 - 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 7 & 8 06-Oct Wed 6 – 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 7 & 8 08-Oct Fri 6 – 7:30 PM Sheppard's Bush 7 & 8

U11 BOYS 1994

18-Sep Sat 10 - 12 PM Sheppard's Bush Std. 19-Sep Sun 10 - 12 PM Legion Field # 1 26-Sep Sun 10 - 12 PM Legion Field #1 04-Oct Mon 6 - 8 PMSheppard's Bush Std.

U12 BOYS 1993 - TBA

U13 BOYS 1992

Team 1

4-Oct Mon 6:30-8:00pm Fleury Park 6-Oct Wed 6:30-8:00pm **Bayview Park** 8-Oct Fri 6:30-8:00pm Fleury Park Team 2

6:30-8:00pm 8-Oct Fri Fleury Park **Bayview Park** 19-Oct Tue 6:30-8:00pm 21-Oct Thu 6:30-8:00pm Fleury Park

U14 BOYS 1991 - TBA

U15 BOYS 1990

3-Oct Sun 10-11:30am Fleury Park 10-11:30am Fleury Park 9-Oct Sat

U16 BOYS 1989 - TBA

U17 BOYS 1988 - TBA

RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

At one time there were meters on Yonge Street

Not many Aurorans will remember when there were parking meters on Yonge Street, but former Mayor Keith Nisbet will.

He was mayor in January, 1962, when Councillors Bill Davidson and Alf Child recommended that the parking meters and standards be removed from Yonge Street.

They said they had discussed the proposal to remove the meters with the businessmen of the area and there was general agreement that they should be removed.

Some members of council wondered why they had been placed there in the first place.

So the parking meters were removed and guess what? They were purchased by Newmarket and put to use in that municipality.

OTHER 1962 HAPPENINGS

Aurora's Board of Trade reports Aurora industries provided 1,300 jobs with payrolls of \$4,750,000. There was \$50 million in merchandise sales and \$5 million in industrial assessment.

Building permits for the first half of the year totalled \$502,605. Aurora's St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church officials approved a \$100,000 building project at the church. Aurora Hydro announced a reduction of some hydro rates and at the time Aurora had one of the lowest rates

in Ontario. Mayor Keith Nesbit promised Aurora taxpayers that council would continue to hold the line on town expendi-

He also announced that plans were underway for Aurora's 1963 Centennial Celebrations and that Prime Minister John Diefenbacker, Opposition Leader Lester Pearson and Premier John Robarts had accepted invitations to attend.

THE STAVERT AWARD

In June, 1975, 10-year-old Phyllis Pugh, a Wells Street Public School student, was selected by Aurora Library staff as the recipient of the Byrtha Louise Stavert award.

The award was established as a tribute to Mrs. Stavert, who was actively involved with the children of Aurora as their first craft teacher and playground supervisor.

In 1963, a year after her death, the recreation committee established the award at the library in recognition of her contribution to the community.

Its purpose was to annually commend young people who take the most advantage of the library's facilities.

As the 1965 winner, Phyllis Pugh had her name engraved on a plaque which remained in the library and received a book of poetry "Nicholas Knock" by Dennis

AURORA ALMOST HAD A WINERY

By October, 1996, all the planning issues had been resolved and it looked as if Aurora was going to have a winery located at the northwest corner of Yonge Street and the St. John's Sideroad.

Some members of council expressed concerns about the drafting of the enacting bylaw relative to the ability of the applicant to ensure the winery was included in the development proposal and it was referred back to staff.

wording that would be mutually acceptable to the town and the applicant. The final draft was to the effect that all permitted uses

Staff met with the applicant in an attempt to create

on the lands could only take place in conjunction with the

Based on the final draft and a staff recommendation

council adopted the enacting bylaw giving the green light for the commercial development, including the winery to proceed.

Unfortunately, there must have been a red light somewhere as the Aurora Winery and the development was never constructed.

The property still sits vacant waiting for the next application.

LAKE SIMCOE STARTS DRYING UP

It was April 1, 1981, when Aurora Council received

the news that Lake Simcoe was apparently drying up. According to Ministry of Natural Resources officials the level of the lake had dropped dramatically during the past few days.

There was a sea of mud from Sibbald Point Provincial Park out to Georgina Island. The water had receded about four to five kilometers along the southern shore.

In a rare spirit of unanimity, Aurora Council pledged to do everything possible to assist.

In a special emergency council meeting, it was agreed to rent a portable generating station to speed the flow of Tannery Creek into the lake.

Mayor George Timpson and Councillor Evelyn Buck were appointed to the Lake Simcoe Task Force to assist in assessing the damage at the lake and report back to council.

Remember the date.

It was an elaborate April Fool's story in the local press pulled off by a fun-loving reporter.

Lake Simcoe may be weedy, but there's lots of

NOVICE

Novice AA 6 Markham 1

Jack Caldwell 1 assist; Sean Foxwell 1 goal; Jordan Nanos 1 goal; Konner McMillan 2 goals; Kyle Locke 1 assist; Connor Graham 1 assist; Branden Fennell 1 goal; Austin Lane 1 assist; Spencer Green - 1 goal, 1 assist.

Novice A 4 Richmond Hill 2

Lucas Pozzebon 1 goal; Brett Thiessen 1 assist; Connor Cowl 2 assists; Liam Beresford 1 goal; Nathan Nealon 1 goal 1 assist; Paul Neophytou - 1 goal 1 assist; Erik Balkovec 1 assist; Austin Persaud 1 assist.

MINOR ATOM

Minor Atom A 3 Georgina 2

Andrew McDonald 1 goal 1 assist; Greg Baskin 1 assist; Hayden Trask 1 assist; Quincy Ing 1 goal; Eric Archibald 1 assist; Peter Sandwell 1 goal.

Minor Atom A 1 Vaughan Rangers 0 Eric Archibald 1 goal; Eric Bulloch 1 assist; Peter Sandwell 1 assist.

Minor Atom A 5 Humber Valley Sharks 3

Andrew McDonald 1 goal 2 assists; Hayden Trask 2 goals 1 assist; Eric Archibald 1 goal 1 assist; Quincy Ing 1 goal; Stuart Mattila 1 assist; Daniel Jones 1 assist.

Minor Atom AA 3 Markham 2

Eric Ludwig - 1 goal; Stefan Lazzer 1 goal 1 assist; Trevor George 1 goal; Jody Nonnewitz 1 assist; Burke White 1 assist.

Minor Atom AA 4 Barrie Colts 4

William Reid 1 goal; Kiefer McIntosh 1 goal 1 assist; Jody Nonnewitz 2 goals 1

Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results to 9 AM Sunday, September 19 Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha

White 1 assist; Stefan Lazzer 1 assist; Collin Laird 1 assist.

Minor Atom AE 8 Barrie Colts 4

Liam Devlin - 1 goal 3 assists; Daniel Antoneil 2 goals; Zach Ferry 3 goals; Bailey Miller 1 goal 1 assist; Sam Steenhorst 1 goal 1 assist; Conner Moody 2 assists; Vincent Ruscica 3 assists.

ATOM

Barrie Colts 4 Atom AA 3

Kiefer McIntosh 1 goal; Brooke Webster 1 goal; Mackenzie Lemmon 1 goal; Trevor George 1 assist; Stefan Lazzer 1 assist; Kyle Zacharuk 1 assist; Jody Nonnewitz 1 assist.

Georgina 3 Atom AA 2

Andrew Papousek - 1 goal 1 assist; Adam Balaban 1 goal.

Atom AA 5 Markham 2

Trevor Best 1 goal; Nicholas Heintzman 1 assist; Andrew Papousek 3 goals; Tanner Thiessen 1 assist; Marco Ghegin 1 goal 1 assist; Devin Watson 1 assist.

MINOR PEEWEE

Pickering 5 Minor Peewee AA 3

Steadman Dinning 1 goal; Justin Nice 2 goals; Matthew Miller 1 assist.

PEEWEE

Peewee A 2 Oakville Rangers 2

Taylor Nuttall 2 goals; Paul Keilty 2 assists; Derrick Hamner 1 assist; J.J. lam 1 assist; Nathan Brown 1 assist.

Peewee A 2 Clarington Toros 2

Oliver Boettcher 1 goal; Paul Keilty 1

assist; Kevin Casey 1 assist; Burke goal; Shawn Clark 1 assist; Dylan Cross 1 assist.

Peewee A 6 Markham Waxers 2

Dylan Cross 1 goal; Justin Brown 1 goal; Derrick Hamner 3 goals; J.J. lam 1 goal; Evan Casselden 2 assists Paul Keilty 2 assists; Ryan Jones 2 assists; Stephen DiNallo 1 assist; Taylor Nuttall 1 assist.

Peewee A 5 LaSalle Sabres 4

Shawn Clark 1 goal; Ryan Jones 1 goal; Jeffrey Sanderson 1 goal 1 assist; Taylor Nuttall 1 goal 1 assist; Oliver Boettcher 1 assist; Dylan Cross 1 assist; Paul Keilty 1 assist.

MINOR BANTAM

Minor Bantam AA 4 Aeros 1

Tyler Hanlon 1 goal; Matthew Mikhaili 2 goals 2 assists; Adrian DiRosa

Minor Bantam AA 3 W. Park 0

Christian Stankiewicz 1 goal; Lucas Boyd 1 assist; Emilio Nafarrate 1 assist; David Roper 2 goals; Marcus Tochett 1 assist; Alex Denault 1 assist.

Minor Bantam AA 5 N. Stars 1

Connor McQueston 1 goal 1 assist; Emilio Nafarrate 1 assist; Christian Stankiewicz 1 goal 1 assist; Tyler Persaud 1 goal; Marcus Tochett 1 assist; David Roper 1 assist; Matthew Mikhaili 2 goals; Adrian DiRosa 1 assist; Brandon Galante 1 assist.

Minor Bantam AA 3 Null 1

Matthew Mikhaili 1 goal 1 assist; Tyler Hanlon 1 goal 1 assist; Adrian DiRosa 1 goal; Marcus Tochett 1 assist; Tyler Persaud 1 assist; Alex Denault 2



BANTAM

Bantam AA 3 Markham 2

Taylor Postill 1 goal; Karl Pelan 2 assists; Kevin Kryshka 1 goal; Johnathan Meikle 1 assist; Jordan Koen 1 goal; Steven Keane 1 assist; Daniel Curci 1 assist.

Bantam A 5 Caledon 1

Jake Hurlbut 1 goal 1 assist; Chris Finlay 1 goal 1 assist; Jeremy Cohen 1 goal; Nick Crain 1 goal 1 assist; Josh Meron 1 goal 1 assist; Greg Gianopoulos 1 assist; Ross Pizzurro 1 assist; Jamie Tuck 1 assist; Fraser Kegel 1 assist.

Bantam A 2 Port Credit 1

Chris Finlay 1 goal 1 assist; Jake Hurlbut 1 goal; Greg Gianopoulos 1 assist.

Beeton 3 Bantam AE 2

Cody Bastarache 1 goal 1 assist; Chris Hankey 1 goal; Shawn Gurney 1 assist; Harrison Kane 1 assist.

MINOR MIDGET

Minor Midget A 2 Ajax Knights 0

Neil Kileeg 1 goal; Robert Cote 1 goal; Chad Roberts 2 assists; Drew Jenkins 1 assist; Connor O'Grady 1 assist.

MIDGET

Midget AA 4 Islanders 4

Adam Hankins 2 goals; Kyle Robinson 1 goal; Daryl Osbourne 1 goal; Taylor Campbell 1 assist; Tom Keane 1 assist; Vinnie Davenport 1 assist: Micael Jack 1 assist; Brandon Steffan 1 assist.

Midget AA 5 Penguins 1

Micael Jack - 2 goals 2 assists; Vinnie Davenport 2 goals; Tom Hurley 1 goal; Kyle Robinson 2 assists; Brandon Steffan 1 assist; Michael Osbourne 1 assist.

Road to Aurora full of twists and turns

By CHRISTINE WOODLEY

Aurora is a sanctuary for Jaclyn Solomon, but the journey to the place she calls home has been full of turbulence.

Just over one year ago, this dynamo was living a storybook life in Los Angeles, California.

She was married to a Canadian "celebrity," bringing up their two children and enjoying all the trappings of la-la land.

Then, her marriage suddenly ended and she returned with her children to Toronto, where the family had lived before moving to the United States.

In an effort to make a new life for her and her kids, she looked at 72 houses in the Toronto area, but nothing seemed like home.

One day, she packed her kids in the car and just started driving.

She exited onto Bloomington Road and ended up in Aurora.

She then saw a forsale sign in a south-end neighbourhood, talked to neighbours and the principal at Highview Public School and that was it -Jaclyn Solomon was home.

"The house was more than ugly - it had ceramic tile everywhere, including the walls - but something about the space just felt right to me," she

More than the house though, was the feeling she got from the neigh-

"Everyone was amazing. They were already welcoming me, helping me. I'd never experienced anything like it before," she said.

After moving in, there

were more challenges.

The roof leaked, the furnace quit and even her closing was delayed due the big blackout of 2003

Undeterred, she focused on the positives and kept moving.

"I just kept telling myself, 'hey, we're all healthy and we're all together',"

As well, the friendly spirit of Aurora buoyed

"When the heater quit, I called Canadian Tire just as they were closing. The manager told me to come on over anyway. He gave me several possible "fixes" for the problem, and didn't even charge me. He just said to bring the rest back the next day and pay for the one that worked. I was stunned by his kindness."

One year later, Jaclyn Solomon's house is more than just a home - it's a showcase for her incredible design, colour and painting talents.

Upon entering, one is struck first by the incredible floor, made from melted sand encapsulated in epoxy liquid, and embedded with weathered limestone tiles from Tuscany.

But that is just the beginning.

Each room is adorned with paint effects, stone inlays and custom designed furniture, all bearing Jaclyn's signature style.

"I did everything myself and did it all on a budget," she explained.

Colour is the hallmark of the home.

Earth tones abound, and each living area flows into the next, leaving an impression of warmth, richness and Old World charm.

The main floor bathroom features a faux brick treatment that transforms it into a European piazza instead of a typical suburban room.

Jaclyn is now offering her services to others, hoping to create a small business and give back to the Aurora that has given her so much.

And, as all of our homes reflect our characters and personalities, Jaclyn Solomon's goes one step further, becoming a literal canvas for her own exuberance, optimism and resilience.

Everywhere you look there are words - beautifully painted script that she has carefully added to give her children, and herself, daily inspiration.

They seem to mirror the journey that Jaclyn has taken to her new and treasured home in Aurora.

"Believe in yourself, love like you've never been hurt, sing like no one's listening, dance like no one's watching, live like it's heaven on earth", one says.

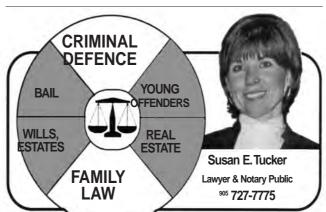
Another reads "A smile can calm any storm life may bring" while another says "The best gift I can give my son and daughter is enthusiasm."

For new Auroran Jaclyn Solomon, the writing is definitely on the wall.

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Auroran photo by Ron Wallace





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Heritage Conservation District closer to reality

years members of the Aurora Historical Society the Local and Architectural Conservation Advisory (LACAC), Committee now known as the Aurora Heritage Committee. have been attempting to get a heritage district recognized within parts

They're still working on it...but they are getting closer.

One meeting with residents has already been held, a second is planned next Monday.

It was agreed that a meeting be convened with the residents of Centre Street, Catherine Street, Maple Street, Spruce Street, Fleury Street and a few on Yonge Street to explore a proposal to establish a designated heritage area in their community.

At last week's council meeting, members were advised the meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. September 27th in Our Lady of Grace Church Lynett Hall for residents of the district.

The meeting will be a follow-up to one held last September at Hillary

"Establishing Heritage Conservation District could prove to be an important tool in shaping future development," Diane Fergueson, chair of the Aurora Heritage Committee said in a letter to the residents. "Our goal should not be to create another

layer of bureaucacy, but

For more than 30 to truly reflect the goals of property owners who wish to maintain the distinctive atmosphere of their community.'

> The northeast quadrant of the old part of town contains some of Aurora's oldest houses. she said, and is in an area where homeowners already have taken a strong interest in restoring and refurbishing their properties.

> "Other parts of Aurora could ecome Heritage Cnservation Districts as well, but it is important to start with an area which is relatively smal and where interest already is evident," she said.

> In May, 1973, Norm Jolly, then president of the Historical Society, urged the designation of downtown Yonge Street as a heritage area.

> He expressed concern over the increasing rate of destruction of older

> He stressed that the older buildings, especially homes, help to give the community its distinctive character and provide new residents with important links with the past.

He noted that the town's official plan included a section that residences of historic significance would be catalogued and it would be town policy to encourage their retention with suitable institutional or commercial use.

At that time the proposed area for designation included Hillary House, Horton Place, the Fleury home and Castle Doan.

Both the Fleury home and Castle Doan were demolished to make way for Our Lady of Grace Church.

In January, 1983, LACAC prepared a report on planning considerations for the redevelopment of the Yonge Street corridor, as a result of a series of studies on the Yonge and Wellington Street corridors initiated jointly by LACAC and the Aurora and District Historical Society in the spring of 1982.

The series intended to identify heritage elements, which contribute to the unique character of Aurora, and to suggest considerations for their preservation and enhancement.

The area along Yonge Street between Aurora Heights Drive and Orchard Heights Blvd. had emerged as an area of suburban sprawl.

It had a mirror image at the south of the Historic Business District between Cousins Drive and Henderson Drive.

Both areas were subject to a special type of commercial development related to the perceived needs of the period. Both ends of Yonge Street were rural approaches to the town until after the Second World War.

In the early 1950s they became the focus of growing development pressures.

These pressures led to a number of commercial enterprises servicing

largely the automobile, rather than the pedestrian trade.

For this reason alone, the areas stood in sharp visual contrast to the commercial urban infrastructure in the historic downtown core.

The LACAC report related to controlling urban development in the two areas and suggested planning considerations to upgrade and embellish the suburban strips so they could better integrate into the fabric of the town.

The report suggested the area north of Maple Street to beyond Aurora Heights Drive should be largely residential.

By allowing residential development to predominate, the tendency for strip commercial development would be lessened resulting in it being directed to the downtown core.

A number of smallscale existing buildings, mostly of a residential nature, exist in the area north of Maple Street to north of Mark.

It was suggested they be restructured for residential and limited commercial use.

A number of grand old homes and 19th century buildings were located in block between the Catherine Street and Maple Street. Some of the buildings had been demolished, while others survived.

It was stressed that it was important that a sense of neighbourhood surrounding these homes be maintained in order to reinforce the image of the town as a historically significant and mature community.

Of special concern was Hillary House, a national historic site.

It was also suggested that buildings in the area should be small in scale to harmonize with existing buildings on the Yonge Street corridor to

A portion of North Yonge Street passes through a natural marsh land area. Old Yonge Street to the east was built in the 19th century to provide safe passage around the area.

The report suggested that steps be taken to preserve the topography of the area as part of the natural heritage of the town and that steps be taken to acquire additional parkland area to maintain physical and visual access to the valley beyond.

Restriction of building heights, especially on the west side of Yonge Street was suggested. In addition a trail system linking Yonge Street with Fleury Park, and the greater park system of the town was suggested.

In June, 2001, council received a consultant's report on an urban design review of the Heritage Resource Area in the older part of Aurora.

The report recommended design principles and streetscape guidelines for the downtown business area, residential neighbourhoods and entrances and gateways.

At an October, 2001, LACAC meeting, staff were requested to obtain information on heritage districts from other municipalities and to have a representative from Markham attend a meeting to provide details of the Markham heritage

In April, 2002, council considered a request from LACAC that the consultant carrying out the five-year review of the official plan be instructed to expand the review to include a component dealing with a heritage area.

Council directed staff to work with LACAC, the Economic Development Committee and the Community Core subcommittee to define the heritage area. On May 13, 2003,

council considered a report from LACAC recommending the heritage district include the area between Maple Street and Centre Street from Yonge Street to the CN railway tracks. On June 18, 2003,

LACAC members discussed in detail the approach that should be given with respect to establishing a heritage conservation district in the historic area of the downtown.

Members identified a number of points that should be considered as part of the process including meetings with groups of property owners prior to a general public meeting.

Michael Seaman, an Aurora resident who is a heritage planner in Markham, attended the meeting to provide the committee with guidance based on similar projects in Markham.

Mr. Seaman has also been invited to Monday's meeting.

Aurora Diggers capture league championship

North Women's league playoffs were held in Newmarket and the first place Aurora Diggers were ready to defend their title.

Defend it they did, putting a Whitby team away twice to capture the top honours in the event.

In the first game Aurora defeated Markham 5-2.

Aurora started off the bottom of the first inning with a run and never looked back.

In the second, Aurora scored four more runs to solidify their lead and eventually the win.

Markham did not get on the scoreboard until the sixth inning where an error and a couple of hits scored their two runs.

McDonald Kaylee pitched the win going seven innings, recording 13 strikeouts, and allowing only three hits.

Offensively Kathrvn Cribbett and McDonald each had two hits for the winners.

In the second game, Aurora got its first look at the Whitby Eagles.

Again Aurora started

the game with two runs in the first and there was no looking back from that

Aurora added two in the third with Alyson Murphy and Larisa Weissberger each crossing the plate and Aurora added one more in the fourth and two in the sixth to give them a 7-0 win.

Again, McDonald pitched the win, going seven innings with 12 strikeouts and allowing only two nits.

Cribbett Weissberger were hot on the bats with three hits a piece while Amanda Piron, Murphy Alvson and McDonald contributed two apiece to the cause.

Since Aurora was undefeated they marched right into the gold game and, for the second time, met

Chelsae Lumley was the winning pitcher in the gold game going 5 innings five strikeouts. McDonald came in for relief in the sixth inning and added four strikeouts.

Offensively again, Cribbett, Weissberger and McDonald led the Aurora bats with two hits each, while Murphy, Jenn Kates and Mandy Ince each contributed singles to the winning effort.

When the dust had settled, Aurora was on the right side of a 7-5 score.

The coaching staff consisted of Cheryl Thompson, Bob Cribbett, Dale Doige and Barry Lumley.



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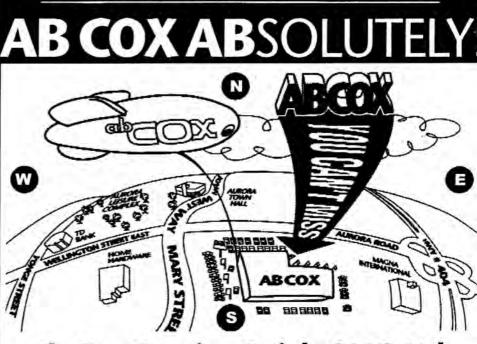


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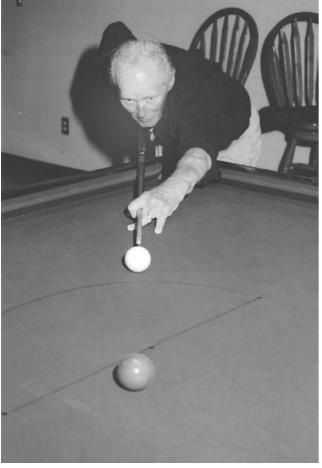
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B. U.M. APPLITIES



At a recent Aurora Senior Centre open house, members participated in a plethora of activities. Top photo, Ron Googh lines up a shot during a friendly game of pool, while Richard Galata, centre photo, and Al White, bottom photo, concentrate during a game of cribbage. Seniors' big project currently is fund-raising for their new home, planned to be built in the front yard of the Aurora Town Hall.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

Tenders let for centre, complex

Aurora Council has approved tenders to get construction underway on the controversial seniors' centre and new recreation complex.

It had previously been agreed that the contract for the construction of the seniors' centre would be carried out in two parts, pregrading of the site south of the Town Hall and actual construction.

Council authorized the calling of bids for the pregrading in July.

Four firms submitted bids with prices ranging from \$239,000 to \$512,000 with the contract being awarded to the low bidder, Gentile Construction. The bid was below the approved budget of \$300,000.

The second contract award was for the construction of the recreation complex, for which eligible contractors were pre-qualified. Five firms submitted bids ranging from \$16,595,000 to \$18,455,000.

The contract was awarded to Bondfield Construction, the low bidder, with a bid well below the approved budget of \$18,600,000.

As part of the tendering package the contractors were asked to provide alternative costing for the pool system and ice conversion mats and storage.

The alternative pool system, known as Myrtha, is constructed of plated aluminum panels with a bottom liner. Staff contacted other municipalities using the system and all comments received were complimentary.

Additional cost for the Myrtha system was \$100,000 which was approved by council.

Ice conversion mats will permit staff to place an insulated wood floor over the existing ice surface at any time of the year to accommodate alternative events. Council approved the extra expenditure of \$175,000 to include the

mats and storage facility.

The arena portion of the facility should be finished by next August.

Councillor Damir Vrancic noted the reduction in the tender bid from the approved amount and asked if this would result in a smaller debenture debt than originally proposed and was told the original estimate will remain for the first four months when it will be known if there are unknown circumstances to affect the cost.

After being assured that the contract bid included everything council had requested, the contract was approved unanimously.

Klees ousted in first round of election

From page 1

leadership campaign organization of two years ago, and Tory had the benefit of his city-wide mayorlty organization, when he finished a strong second in the last municipal election.

"It has truly been a privilege to be involved in this province-wide campaign and I am grateful to the hundreds of volunteers and Party members who supported me," he said.

Klees announced his intentions several months ago and appeared in four Ontario communities the same day to make it official.

Right from the start, pundits called him the "dark horse" in the race, and while he did pick up momentum with a bold health care plan, it wasn't enough to sway the voters.

"I was able to lead the debate on health care," he said, "and am convinced that by saying what no other politician has been

willing to say, namely that we have to be willing to put all the options on the table to eliminate the waiting lists in our health care system, and if that means making changes to the Canada Health Act, then we should be willing to do so."

Tory, meanwhile, will now take over a party after he finds a seat he can win - that was ousted in the last election by the Liberals.

Never elected to a political position, Tory is expected to direct the party to another election win, simply because he carries no political baggage.

"I will work with John Tory and I will support John Tory," Klees said. "I think he has enough smarts to put the PCs back in power."

For Klees, the race has been an exhausting experience

"I'm tired and I need a break," he said. "Jaine (his wife) and I are going to take a few days off."

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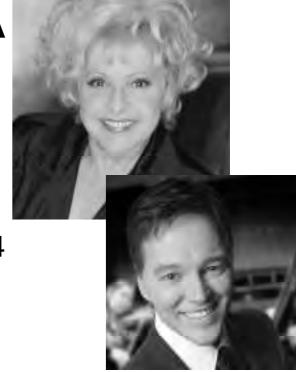
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Sunrise readies for its official opening

Highlands Golf Clubhouse on Golf Links Drive just west of Yonge Street, once

Aurora, has long gone and in its place an attractive, four-storey, 78-unit retireAurora, has taken its place. In 1997 ClubLink

ing of the clubhouse and two 18-hole courses at an lion as the Highlands club had gone into receivership.

In spite of considerable opposition and an offer to sell the clubhouse to the town for \$4.8 million, which the town rejected, the clubhouse was demolished in September,

Clublink submitted plans to build a sevenstorey, 195-unit condominium and a fast food restaurant on the clubhouse site.

Citizens and council members expressed concern about the piecemeal planning of the area and the potential traffic problems if the proposed development was allowed to proceed.

Then in February, 2001, ClubLink submitted a revised proposal for a seven-storey, 184-unit retirement home with a clubhouse to be located on the western part of the ground floor.

A public planning meeting was held in October that year to consider the revised proposal.

Again, residents expressed concern about density of the complex, traffic problems, property devaluation of adjacent residential homes, buffering, loss of privacy and lack of parking facilities.

to define the issues was scheduled but was postponed as ClubLink submitted another application to the town for a fourstorey, 78-unit retirement home to be operated by Sunrise Assisted Living, a well-established operator of retirement homes.

It was also proposed that the retirement home property stand on its own.

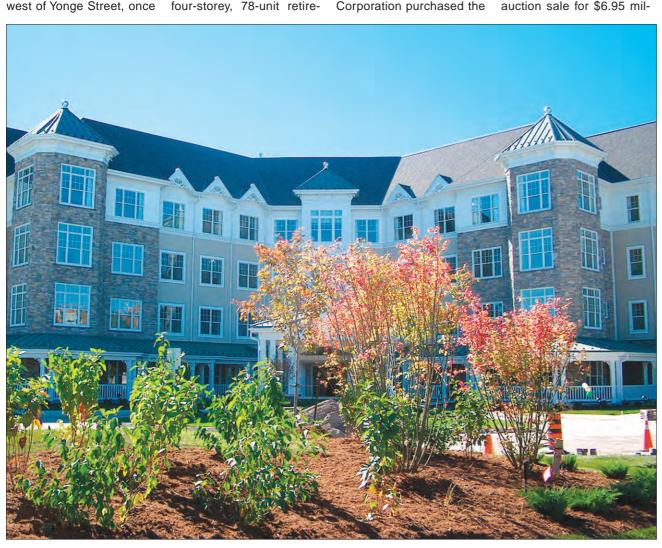
A public information meeting was held to present the new proposal and in general it was well received by the residents and received a green light from council.

Council agreed to support the ClubLink proposal at the OMB hearing, provided the Board order be withheld until an agreeable site plan had been signed and the Board ruled accordingly.

With the final hurdle being met with the signed site plan agreement, it wasn't long before construction started on the Sunrise retirement home.

In July, officials held a small ceremony opening several model suites for public viewing.

Sunrise of Aurora is now planning an official opening Thursday, Sept. 30 from 4 to 7 p.m. and the old clubhouse is but a memory.



Glorious home for senior citizens, Sunrise of Aurora on Golf Links Drive, prepares for its official opening. More than 70 units are available to area's seniors and officials report many of them have already been booked. Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

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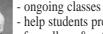
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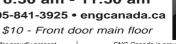
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